Sept. 17-19—Wildwood's Annual Medical Seminar Rescheduled

Sept. 17-20—Southern Union Academy Leadership Conference—Camp Kulaqua

Sept. 19-21—Pathfinder Leadership Convention—Cohutta Springs Conference Center

Sept. 19-28—Evangelistic Series—Calhoun Church

Sept. 20—Prayer Ministry Day—Valdosta Church

Sept. 20—Health Rally—Conyers Church

Sept. 20-27—Evangelistic Series—Knoxville Convention Center

Sept. 21—Let's Move Day (click to see some of the many events)

Sept. 21—Lakeview 5K—Powder Springs, GA

Sept. 25-28—NAD Women’s Convention—Orlando, FL

Sept. 26—God in Shoes Outreach—Orlando, FL

Sept. 26-27—Youth Ministries Convention—Cohutta Springs

Sept. 27—Adairsville Church Grand Opening—Adairsville Church

Sept. 27-28—Will Clinic (Jeff Wilson)—Chattanooga First Hispanic Church

Sept. 27-Oct. 4—Strategies for a Pure Life Seminar

Sept. 28-Oct. 3—Health Seminar—McMinnville Church

Oct. 3—Day of Prayer and Fasting

Oct. 3-4—Northeast Tennessee Camp Meeting—Greeneville, TN

Oct. 3-4—Bible Conference of Prophecy—Albany Community Church

Oct. 3-4—Atlanta North Church 25th Anniversary—Atlanta North Church

Oct. 3-5—Southern Union Men’s Prayer Summit—Atlanta, GA

Oct. 3-5—Pathfinder Drill Instructor Training—Cohutta Springs

Oct. 3-5—Hispanic Men’s Retreat—Unicoi State Park

Oct. 4—Personal Ministries Rally—Graysville Church

Oct. 4-12—Messiah’s Mansion—Savannah First Church

Oct. 5—Sunbelt Cohutta Springs Sprint Triathlon—Cohutta Springs

Oct. 9-10—Preview Southern—Southern Adventist University

Oct. 10-11—Revival Weekend—Hiram Church

Oct. 10-12—ACF Student Leader Reboot—Cohutta Springs
Oct. 11—Steve Green Concert—Collegedale Community Church

Oct. 14-19—Hydrotherapy Seminar—Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital

Oct. 16-18—Association of Adventist Women’s Annual Conference—Southern Adventist University

Oct. 17-19—Men’s Retreat—Cohutta Springs

Oct. 18—Health Rally—Jamestown Church

FOR YOUR BULLETIN...

Camp Meeting 2014
Oct. 3-4—Northeast Tennessee Camp Meeting—The Oaks, Greeneville, TN

Rescheduled Wildwood’s Annual Medical Seminar—September 17-19
This event has been rescheduled to March 25-27, 2015. For more information, please visit www.wildwoodhealth.org/seminars/home or call 800-844-1099, ext. 1019 or 423-521-5058.

Lakeview 5K, Fun Run, and Back to Health Expo—September 21
The Lakeview Church will host their 4th annual 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run and Back to Health Expo on Sunday, September 21, in Powder Springs, GA. Online registration is available on www.active.com until September 14. Race-day registration will also be available. This race is a Peachtree Road Race qualifier. The free health expo will offer tests for blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol, weight, and BMI. To learn more, visit www.lakeviewbacktohealth.com.

Youth Ministries Convention—September 26-27
Attention lay youth workers, youth pastors, and chaplains: Gather together with youth directors Rob Lang and Don Keele for inspiration, vision, and encouragement for the important calling of reaching and retaining our youth for Jesus. Steve Case—author, speaker, and experienced youth worker—will be our guest speaker. The event will be held Sept. 26-27 at Cohutta Springs. For more information, contact Alyse at 706-602-7346 or alyse@gccsda.com.

Adairsville Church Grand Opening—September 27
The Adairsville Seventh-day Adventist Church invites you to the grand opening of our new church facility at 1193 Hwy. 140, Adairsville, Ga., on September 27, 2014. Be our guest for a fellowship meal immediately following the worship service. Sabbath School begins at 9:30 a.m., followed by the worship service at 10:45 a.m.

New! Amateur Radio Class—Begins October 1
The Greater Collegedale Amateur Radio Club announces its Technician amateur radio license class, taught by Dean Saunders, AA4XL. There will be two groups. Group A will meet for six Tuesday evenings at 7:00 at the McDonald Road Seventh-day Adventist Church, 5440 McDonald Road, McDonald,
Tennessee, beginning September 30. Group B will meet for six Wednesday evenings at 7:00 beginning October 1. For pre-registration and/or information, e-mail Jim Hoffer, KW8T, at kw8tjim@catt.com, or call him at 706-965-2425. There will be a small charge for registration and textbooks.

**New! The Art of Marriage—Begins October 1**

Each session weaves engaging stories, real-life testimonies, man-on-the-street interviews and humorous vignettes to help couples fully experience and understand God's design for marriage. This six week seminar starts October 1 at 7 p.m. at the McDonald Road (Tenn.) church. Join us for a food and fellowship, 5 to 6:30 p.m., for a small donation.

**Southern Union Men’s Prayer Summit—October 3-5**

All men are invited to attend "Blessed is the Man..." with presenters like Dr. Ron Smith, Southern Union Conference president; Roger Hernandez, Southern Union ministerial director; Dr. Barry Black, United States Senate chaplain; Mike Tucker, Faith for Today speaker/director; and many more! The weekend will be held Oct. 3-5 at the Renaissance Waverly in Atlanta, Ga. To learn more or to register, visit [southernunion.com/prayerministries](http://southernunion.com/prayerministries).

**Sunbelt Cohutta Springs Sprint Triathlon—October 5**

It's been said that "triathlons are 90% mental and the other half physical." Come challenge yourself with the Sunbelt Cohutta Springs Triathlon on October 5. The sprint-distance race features a half-mile swim, 18-mile bike, and 4-mile run. To learn more or to register, visit [www.southerntriathlon.com](http://www.southerntriathlon.com).

**S'more Camp: Single Moms' & Kids' Retreat—October 24-26**

Save the date for S'more Camp! This free weekend is for single moms and their kids. Come ignite your bond with Jesus, your kids, and with other moms. The weekend will include a scavenger hunt, spa day for moms, children's programming, spiritual renewal, and much more. Held at beautiful Cohutta Springs, moms and kids will both enjoy the retreat. For more information, contact Donna in Family Ministries: 800-567-1844 ext. 342 or dcrandall@gccsda.com

**Marriage Retreat—October 31-November 2**

Save the date for this awesome weekend for couples! Special guests will be Jorge and Evelyn Torres (back by popular demand!) and musician Chad Mutchler. The retreat will be held at beautiful Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, GA. Don't miss this great opportunity for you and your spouse! Registration is now open! For more information, visit [gccsda.com/events/marriageretreat14](http://gccsda.com/events/marriageretreat14).

**Reversing Diabetes Seminar Training—November 1**

The Georgia-Cumberland Conference invites you to their conference-wide training, “How to Conduct a Reversing Diabetes Seminar.” The event will be held Sabbath, November 1, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the conference office in Calhoun, Ga. Presenters will be Stephen (MPA, RN) and Karen (RN) Wickham, who have been doing these seminars in their community. The Wickhams’ seminars have been so successful that they received the 2013 Governor’s Volunteer Stars Award for Grundy County. They were also invited to share about their work at the national Together on Diabetes Summit in Atlanta this past February. You will come away from this seminar with a better understanding of diabetes and how to offer hope to your community that this disease can be reversed. This training is designed for health
professionals and health educators. Pre-registration is required to attend. Registration deadline is October 15. Cost is $12 (includes lunch). For more information and to register, call 800-567-1844, ext. 348.

Sandy Erickson Race for Christian Education—November 2
Join us for our 3rd annual race on Sunday, November 2! Events include a 5K and kids’ 1-mile fun run, both held at Collegedale Adventist Middle School in Collegedale, TN. Race proceeds benefit the Greater Collegedale School System Worthy Student Fund and educational improvements for the school system. For more information, visit www.sandyericksonfunrun.com.

ShareHim Homeland Lay Evangelism Training—November 7-8
Come learn how to be an effective lay evangelistic speaker at the ShareHim Homeland Lay Evangelism Training. This event will be presented by Ralph Ringer, Southern Union director of Church Growth & Evangelism Training. It will be held November 7-8 at the Georgia-Cumberland Conference in Calhoun, Ga. Cost is $25 (which includes catered lunch and supper on Sabbath). **Pre-registration is required**; registration deadline is October 13. To register or for more information, call 800-567-1844, ext. 348.

John L. Coble Elementary 50 Year Reunion—November 8
John L. Coble Elementary, in Calhoun, Ga., is celebrating 50 years of quality Christian education. Founded in 1964 on the campus of Georgia-Cumberland Academy, this school has provided the foundation of Adventist education for hundreds of students. A special alumni and friends celebration is planned for Sabbath, November 8, 2014. This special day will be filled with praise, worship, fellowship, music, history, pictures, tours of both the old and new buildings, and memories galore! Guest speaker will be Brennon Kirstein, chaplain of Southern Adventist University, and former youth pastor of Calhoun Church. Lunch will be provided after the church service. If you plan to attend and stay for lunch, please RSVP at coble50th@gmail.com. If you have pictures from when you attended Coble, please email them to the same address. Also, if you want updates and to reconnect with old friends, please join our Facebook group page, John L. Coble Elementary School Alumni & Friends or follow on Twitter @Coble50th. If you attended or supported Coble Elementary in the past 50 years, please plan be at John L. Coble Elementary on Sabbath, November 8, 2014, at 10:00 am, celebrating how far God has brought this little school!

Bel Canto 20 Year Reunion—November 8
Bel Canto, the fifth-eighth-grade touring choir of John L. Coble Elementary in Calhoun, Ga., is 20 years old this year! Since 1994, this select choir has been sharing Jesus through the gift of music. If you were ever in Bel Canto, or are a parent or supporter of Bel Canto, you are invited to a fun-filled afternoon of memories and music. We will celebrate Bel Canto’s past 20 years with a slide show, mass choir concert, fun, and fellowship. Please make plans now to be at Coble Elementary School on Sabbath, November 8, 2014. The Bel Canto events will be in the afternoon following the morning celebration of John L. Coble Elementary School’s 50th anniversary. A brief rehearsal will be held at 2:30 pm for the mass choir concert. The program will begin at 3:30 pm. We need your help with pictures for the slide show and old Bel Canto uniforms. If you have pictures to include in the slide show, please email them to belcanto20th@gmail.com. And, if you have old dresses or other Bel Canto attire to include in a fashion show, please email us at the same address and let us know what you have and what size it is. Even if you don’t have pictures or uniforms, please RSVP to belcanto20th@gmail.com and let us know you’re planning to attend. You will then be on our email list for updates and other communication. For updates and to reconnect with old friends, please join the John L. Coble Bel Canto Facebook page and you will receive an invitation to the Bel Canto reunion event page. We can’t wait to see all of you!
New! Arts, Crafts, and Hobbies Fair—November 16
Sponsored by Adventist Retired Workers, this event will be taking place on Sunday, Nov. 16, in the fellowship hall of the Collegedale church. At this time we still have a few openings for crafters/hobbyists to display their wares. If interested, please contact Jim Hoffer at kw8tjim@catt.com or by phone at 706-965-2425.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Telephone Prayer Chain
Join the telephone prayer chain! Held each Sunday evening at 8:00 pm, its purpose is to uplift all of the ministries happening throughout the conference and the people involved in sharing Christ’s love. They also focus on at least three churches each week and take prayer requests. Visit gccsda.com/prayer-ministries/31115 to learn more about or take part in this ministry!

RECENT NEWS STORIES

GCA Offers Summer Science Camp
Summer included many fun-filled activities, including a science camp hosted by Georgia-Cumberland Academy science teacher, Marty Briggs. Read the story

One Plants, Another Reaps, But God Gives the Increase
Tom Pennington was baptized in the beautiful waters of Watauga Lake on Sabbath afternoon, June 21, with about 40 friends from the Johnson City and the Banner Elk churches. Read the story

Season of Service in Knoxville
Eleven area churches representing both the Georgia-Cumberland and the South Central conferences gathered at the World’s Fair Park Amphitheater in Knoxville, Tenn., to celebrate a 40-day “Season of Service” Aug. 2. Read the story

Buford Family Health Expo
The Buford Family Church teamed up May 18 with the Natural Food Center, an Adventist owned health food store located in Buford, Ga., to present a Health Expo to the community. Read the story
To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to gccnews+unsubscribe@gccsda.com.
Summer included many fun-filled activities, including a science camp hosted by Georgia-Cumberland Academy science teacher, Marty Briggs. The event was open to 5th-8th graders who showed any passion and curiosity to learn more about science. The four day program gave children a chance to advance and develop their skills in the area of science by learning about different branches of science through hands-on experiments, discussions, and worship.

On Monday, the campers got to show what they were made of as they experimented with the acidity and basicity of numerous household products.

“Making the purple cabbage water was my favorite part” exclaimed one camper. Tuesday was a shocker as they explored the science of electricity. Another student stated “Electricity day was my favorite, because I made light.” Wednesday was a hit with the kids as they played with polymers. “I liked making polymers, because it was really cool to see the two liquids react” another camper said. The last day (Thursday) they learned about momentum as they dropped eggs off of the girls’ dorm balcony.

The program was a blast for kids and parents alike. The camp gave parents a time to relax and catch up on things while their kids were in a safe, fun packed environment.

“The kids had fun, it gave them some educational fun that was also affordable.” The fact that worships were held every morning did not hurt as Briggs expressed her love for God and science. “I like science because it gives us an insight into God’s mind and lets us understand his love for us a little bit more,” said Briggs.

by Lizzie Williams & Willow Chen
Georgia-Cumberland Conference

Tom Pennington was baptized in the beautiful waters of Watauga Lake on Sabbath afternoon, June 21, with about 40 friends from the Johnson City and the Banner Elk churches. His journey from a non-believer to a converted Christian shows the way God often works by using a variety of people.

About two years ago Charles Hindman (now deceased), the pastor of the Banner Elk and Boone, North Carolina churches, and his wife, Wanda, personally send out hundreds of copies of the book, *The Great Controversy* to those who requested them in response to a newspaper ad. Debbie, Tom’s wife, recognized it from her Adventist upbringing, sent for the book and then visited the Banner Elk Church. Charles and Wanda visited Debbie and Tom in their home. They started Debbie in Bible Studies. Desiring to work with the CHIP health program (now named *Complete Health Improvement Program*), Charles referred Debbie to our Johnson City Church. Here she found a warm welcome and a place to serve.

Gary Zintak, one of the Johnson City church elders and a Sabbath School teacher, studied with Debbie and Tom. Debbie made her decision and was baptized in 2013. From time to time, Tom came to church, but frequently had to work on Sabbaths. After finishing the lessons, Tom said, “I’m just not ready to get baptized yet.” He started attending Gary’s Sabbath School class when he could and also came to some of the *Tracing the Footsteps of Jesus Seminar*.

After Tom had been attending church off and on for about a year, Paull Dixon, Johnson City pastor, felt strongly impressed after a worship service to stop by the pew where he was sitting and to ask in a whisper, “Tom, have you been thinking about baptism?” His reply was spontaneous, “Yes, I’ve made my decision but I don’t want Debbie to know it yet.”

Tom and Dixon ate lunch together and then spent a couple hours reviewing and clarifying the key doctrinal teachings of the Bible and discussing the dynamics of conversion and a walk with Jesus. Several weeks later, Tom stood up in front of the church, and gave his personal testimony for Christ and his decision for baptism. Debbie was shocked and in tears.

What a joy for this couple to now be united in Christ and in the church.

by Paull Dixon, Johnson City, Tenn. Pastor
Volunteers prepare to hit the streets inviting neighbors to HOPE Central.

The College Hill Church choir blessed the group with a performance.
The World’s Fair Park, where the Celebration of Service took place Aug. 2.

Eleven area churches representing both the Georgia-Cumberland and the South Central conferences gathered at the World’s Fair Park Amphitheater in Knoxville, Tenn., to celebrate a 40-day “Season of Service” Aug. 2.

The 40-day period began on June 21 with a challenge to churches to the area counties in Knox, Loudon, Sevier, Blount, Anderson and Cocke seeking ways to serve the needs of their respective communities in whatever capacity they could. In addition to local corporate and personal projects, the churches of the area came together for a Season of Service weekend, July 19-21.

Over this weekend, members of the various churches combined their efforts to work with HOPE Central, a neighborhood ministry house; Water Angels, a church for the homeless; Operation Backyard, landscaping for shut-ins; Clean Up America, trash pick-up; and the Medic Blood Mobile. Several teams spread notes of thankfulness to police and fire stations as well as to local hospitals.

At the Celebration of Service, representatives from a variety of service organizations in the Knoxville area shared about their ministry and how volunteers can be involved. Representatives from the Knox County Sheriff office and the University of Tennessee police were recognized for their efforts to provide a safe community. Local musical groups and choirs from area churches filled the amphitheater with sounds of praise. A special music duo, Rick Metcalf and Ashley Krohn, from Crossville, Tenn., shared songs from their new album “What About Jesus?”

The goal of the event was to provide information and inspiration for the church members to engage with local community service organizations. By coming alongside those who are already doing the ministry of compassion and care, let's build networks of mutual sharing and develop relationships of trust and understanding.

Celebration of Service provided an ideal prelude to an evangelistic series that will be held at the Knoxville Convention Center, September 20-27, featuring guest speaker, Roger Hernandez, Southern Union ministerial director. This series will be the culmination of a year of planning and preparation by the churches of the greater Knoxville area.

by Rick Greve, northern region ministerial director
The Buford Family Church teamed up May 18 with the Natural Food Center, an Adventist owned health food store located in Buford, Ga., to present a Health Expo to the community.

Under the leadership of Cyndi Keiser, all the teams of church members were prepared to serve, including doctors and nurse practitioners. They helped to diagnose ailments, take blood pressure, and assess general body health. Massage therapists treated each person to a few minutes of relaxation. Breathe Free presenters, Juice Plus presenters, and cooks gave out healthy food samples. A group of young people presented the eight laws of health. As the sun rose on May 18, the church members were greeted with soggy clouds and heavy raindrops, which initially discouraged them because this was to be an outdoor event. After moving inside and setting up tables around the store, they prayed and asked God to bring the people that He wanted to be there.

People from the community started to pour in through the doors to see what was going on. Over 100 from the community came, and they came all day long. As they entered the store, they registered and began to check out the different tables. Many stood around and chatted asking who was offering the event.

One lady, Bonnie, said that she had been searching for a church that worshipped on Sabbath. She had discovered Amazing Facts, but did not know about the local Buford Family Church. She lives just a few miles from their church and has been attending church with her grandson. She even came every night to VBS.

Keiser has also been teaching a healthy cooking class every other week at the Natural Food Center and had fantastic attendance including 15+ visitors each week. Many are people that initially came during the Health Expo, and the church members are continuing to build relationships.

The Lord is using the health message, the Natural Food Center, and the Buford Family to lead people to Him. It is an awesome feeling to know that God can and does use church members to teach others about Him... rain or shine!

by Matt Smith