CONFERENCE CALENDAR

Nov. 22-23—Will Clinic (Jeff Wilson)—Ogden Road Church

Nov. 27—Thanksgiving Day (office closes at noon on Nov. 26)
Dec. 6—Health Rally—Waycross Church
Dec. 6—Stewardship Sabbath—Maryville Church

CHURCH/SCHOOL CALENDAR

Nov. 17—Archaeology Lecture—Southern Adventist University
Dec. 2—Southern on the Promenade—Southern Adventist University
Dec. 5-6—Bethlehem Live—Georgia-Cumberland Academy Church
Dec. 6—Bible Study Training—Collegedale Church
Dec. 6—Meet Me at the Manger—Bowman Hills School
Dec. 6-7—Evangelistic Series—Calhoun Church
Dec. 13—Merry Christ-Mess! Beyond Time...—Macon Wimbish Road Church
Dec. 13—Christmas Concert—Atlanta North Church
Dec. 13—Total Praise—Hiram Church
Dec. 13-14—Drive-Thru Nativity—Augusta First Church
Dec. 14—Christmas Concert—Collegedale Academy
Dec. 14-21—Cruise with a Mission—Caribbean
Dec. 20—Peace on Earth—Calhoun Church
Dec. 20-21—One Bethlehem Night—Collegedale Community Church
Dec. 22-Jan. 4—Year-End Holidays (office closed)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & BULLETIN BLURBS

Abundant Life Seminars—now through November 22
The Advent Hope Church is hosting their Abundant Life Seminars from Oct. 25-Nov. 22. For more information, please contact the church at 770-843-2475.

Amazing Facts Series—now through November 24
The Griffin (Ga.) Church is showing the Amazing Facts series starting Nov. 2 and going through Nov. 24. Anyone in the area is welcome to attend! For more information, contact the church at 770-467-4894.

Free Prison Ministries Training—November 17
If you're interested in possibly getting involved in ministering to those in prison, a free training class will be held Monday, Nov. 17, from 6-8:30 p.m. at 302 Spruce Street, Chattanooga, TN. Sponsored by Prison Prevention Ministries (PPM), a non-denominational organization. For more information, call Glen Turner, PPM coordinator, at 423-622-5768 or 585-307-7715. Or you may contact John Holley, Adventist
Archaeology Lecture—November 17
Jon Seligman, head of excavation for the Israel Antiquities Authority, will present “Villages and Monasteries in Jerusalem’s Hinterland During the Byzantine Period” on Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. in Lynn Wood Hall Chapel on the campus of Southern Adventist University. This event, part of the school’s yearly archaeology lecture series, is free and open to the public. For more information, call 423-236-2027.

Bethlehem Live—December 5-6
This holiday season, experience the joy of the first Christmas by bringing the whole family to Bethlehem Live, the walk-through live nativity, at the Georgia-Cumberland Academy Church. Dec. 5 and 6, 6:30-8:30 pm. The program is free and everyone in the community is invited to witness the true meaning of Christmas. One of the largest outreach projects each year, Bethlehem Live will feature more than 100 costumed actors, including students from Georgia-Cumberland Academy and John L. Coble Elementary. Live animals will bring the Christmas story to life by portraying scenes from the night of Jesus’ birth in the town of Bethlehem. Most of the scenes will concentrate on the Christmas story from the book of Luke in the new testament of the Bible. These actors, and the countless other volunteers behind the scenes, take this outreach project seriously. “We make sure everything in our production sticks to what was said in the Bible,” said Judy Cusick. “We do not want to misrepresent the Christmas story.” For more information, contact Judy Cusick at 706-625-5069 or ricusick@gcasda.org.

New! Total Praise—December 13
Hiram Music and A/V Ministries present “Total Praise” on Saturday, Dec. 13, at the Hiram Church in Hiram, Ga. You are invited to come worship God in spirit and in truth through music from our very own. Enjoy an entire day of uplifting music from the divine worship hour, fellowship lunch, homecoming-style music evangelism program at 4 p.m., and musical social fun for the entire family starting at 5:30 p.m.. Invite your friends for a unique opportunity to witness through song and plan to spend the entire day enraptured in heavenly music and fellowship. Email Getzie Lamar at hiramsdamusic@gmail.com for more info.

Cruise with a Mission 2015 (Alaska)—July 26-August 2
Are you a young adult looking for a service opportunity without having to travel far distances? If so, Cruise with a Mission may be just the right opportunity for you! Cruise beautiful Alaska in 2015, recharge your spiritual batteries, and share a heart for service during this annual meaningful adventure. Cruise with a Mission offers an opportunity to release the tensions of life in the context of Christian community. Join other young adults during our return to the Alaska. The ship sails from Seattle, Wash., July 26-Aug. 2, 2015. Currently registering guests at www.CruiseWithAMission.org. Register before January and save!

Wanted: Artists of All Stripes
Poets, painters, authors, playwrights, photographers, sculptors, musicians, dancers, young and not-so-young, you name it, we want you! Adventist Today Web Edition has made a name for itself as the place where Adventists and those interested in the Adventist faith can freely and safely state diverse, even controversial opinions and beliefs. We would like to increase the reach of our Poetry and Arts section. We are open to short writings or excerpts, as well as digital pictures of visual or 3-D artworks. Musicians and dancers, send press releases or fact sheets with a link to Youtube, Vimeo, etc. We are also interested in announcements or flyers concerning opportunities for shows, contests, projects, etc. Send all submissions to artseditor@atoday.org.

Urgent! Ebola Crisis—Adventist Partners Saving Lives
More than 5,000 people have lost their lives to Ebola. But there is help and hope! You can make a big difference by going to www.hope4.fundly.com/ebola-crisis. There you can make a donation, learn more about what's needed, or join the campaign through Facebook, Twitter, or email.

**Campaign Resources**
Flyer (updated)

**New! "The Blueprint" to Air in December**
Martin Doblmeier's documentary "The Blueprint" on Adventist education will be shown almost 800 times in close to 126 markets across the United States. This film has recently been picked up by PBS World, which could give us a viewing market of up to 60 million viewers. Click here to see the airing schedule. Please spread the word with your students, church members, family, friends, and community!

**New! Secrets and Mysteries of the Lost Ark Book Now Available**
Please see this poster for more information about this "Bible adventure" resource.

**New! Adventist Chris Picco's Heartbreaking and Sweet Video**
A heartbreaking video of a grieving father singing the Beatles’ "Blackbird" to his dying newborn son after the mother died in her sleep following childbirth has been shared across the world. Baby Lennon didn't make it, and a memorial service for both mother and son was held Nov. 15 at the Loma Linda University Church. During the service, Chris performed a beautiful rendition of "This is my Father’s World." A video of his song and more of the story can be found here. Please continue to keep Chris in your prayers.

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**NEWS**

**Savannah Adventist School Blessings and Breakfast**
Savannah Adventist Christian School (SACS) has started another school year on a strong note with 85 students registered in their preschool-to-8th-grade program. Read the story

**Adventist Community Services (South Georgia) Report**
An end-of-the-year report by Carolyn and Hew Lipscomb, ACS/South Georgia directors. Read the story

**Men's Ministry Leader Steps Up for Church School**
It was almost time for the annual Columbus (Ga.) First Church yard sale, but no one was donating items or rallying the congregation. So three weeks before the Labor Day event, Andy Bowden stepped up to the pulpit and announced that, "Yes, there will be a yard sale this year." Read the story
Update on Pioneer Teams in China
The Georgia-Cumberland Conference currently sponsors a pioneer team that is focusing on gospel work in a city in China. Read the story
Savannah Adventist Christian School (SACS) has started another school year on a strong note with 85 students registered in their preschool-to-8th-grade program. Several other community families have toured the school since the first day, considering enrolling their children at the seven-teacher school, located in the Godley Station section of Pooler, Ga. Pooler is considered the third-fastest growing city in the state, with many apartments, restaurants, and retail shops opening in the past year alone. A water park and outlet mall are among other business currently slated to open in Godley Station in 2015-2016.

This year is the first year the school has used RenWeb to track inquiries and ask parents how they learned about the school. They received 36 inquiries for a total of 46 possible students over a six-month period, and these were almost evenly split among internet, school sign (drove by the school), and word of mouth. Almost 20% of those inquiries resulted in new enrollments for the school. Additionally, the school receives requests for information from other private school search engines, from church members, and from people simply stopping by and knocking on the front door. In other interesting statistics, 40% of the student body is new to the school this year, and 60% is from the community with no known prior connection to the Adventist church. Ten families do not claim to be Christian.

The school is reaching families for Jesus in the community.

Adventist parent Leticia Chaparro told recently of an experience in her university classroom where the psychology professor “went on and on about a wonderful little school they had found for their daughter. The more she talked, the more I thought it sounded like our school.” In the end, Leticia found out that, indeed, the school this well-respected psychologist was praising is indeed SACS!

A grandmother attended some meetings at the church and enrolled her younger granddaughter in preschool at SACS while the mother was deployed overseas with a military assignment. In 2012, she was able to enroll an older granddaughter, Viviana, in sixth grade. Although the grandmother regularly attends church services, she has not yet taken her public stand for Jesus through baptism; however, Viviana made that decision at the end of last school year and celebrated her new birth in Christ—with the blessing of both mother and grandmother—on May 10, 2014.

Another mother and father sat in the principal’s office with tears in their eyes as they recounted how their daughter chose SACS as her school before the little girl could even read. The family often drove by the school on their way to buy groceries, and Sophia would sit up in her car seat, pointing out the window, declaring, “That’s my school.” Of course, as soon as she was old enough to start preschool, they enrolled her at SACS! She is now a second grader. The parents are leaders at a small non-denominational church in town, and often receive criticism for supporting the Adventist church by sending their daughter to the school, but the mother said she wants both of her children to attend SACS “all the way to 12th grade, if you decide to add it”, and doesn’t even care if they become Seventh-day Adventists. She just wants them to follow Jesus all the way to heaven!

The local church and school boards and SACS teaching staff are very intentional about inviting the community to experience the strong spiritual tone that is present in each classrooms. One example is the annual Blessing the Children & Prayer Breakfast sponsored by the church’s Social Ministries and school’s Home and School Association.

Sunday, August 24, found approximately 120 children and their families gathered in the Savannah First Adventist church sanctuary, while several ladies were busy in the kitchen, with decorated tables prepared in the school gymnasium. The simple Christ-centered program started in the church with a short slide show and a simple song service, and then church pastor Mark Piotrowski presented a short talk about the blessings children bring to our lives. The service culminated with all the children gathering in the front of the sanctuary, while parents, grandparents, and other adults gathered around them for a special prayer of blessing. The breakfast was served promptly after the Blessing service, with a gorgeous spread of breads & muffins, fruit salad, and several breakfast casseroles.
by Esther Martinez, principal/teacher at Savannah Adventist Christian School
Fall is here—that means that it’s almost the end of the year. And fall means we have experienced another year of the Sunbelt Expo. What an experience it was this year, with the heavy thunderstorms the first day. We finally had to just close up and go home. But Wednesday made up for it. We were very busy on Wednesday. Thursday was also a good day, but not quite as busy as Wednesday. All in all, we screened a total of 248 people. Could have done more, but thankful for those who came. As usual, we saw several with high blood sugars who had no idea they had a problem. This seems to be more and more common. We are so very thankful for all the volunteers who gave of their time. Without volunteers we would NOT be doing what we do. We also had three new computers and printers which proved to be a wonderful blessing.

Sept. 27, was a good day at the Plains Peanut Festival. The weather was perfect, and people turned out. 125 people were screened. Dr. Chase arranged for three student nurses to work with him, and that was really a blessing. The next weekend we were at the Andersonville Festival. This event is never as busy, but good contacts were made.

The Food Bag ministry continues to touch lives. We are now providing 1,467 food bags each month, and receiving notes of appreciation regularly.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS: >> Three Batteries for the 24’ box van truck. At a cost of $115 each. The current ones are DEAD!! We have to charge them every time the truck is used. >> A forklift to unload the truck when we get it back to the truck barn. Currently a neighboring company is allowing their forklift driver to come with their machine to unload our truck.

YOUR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED. Without your help, this ministry would no longer continue.
by Carolyn and Hew Lipscomb, ACS/South Georgia executive directors
Men’s Ministry Leader Steps Up for Church School

Head deacon Julius Jones at the yard sale. Photo by Shelbe Johnson.

Head deaconess Connie Brown serves baked goods. Photo by Shelbe Johnson.
Men's Ministry Leader Adam Bowden and Monika, his wife.

It was almost time for the annual Columbus (Ga.) First Church (CFC) Yard Sale, but no one was donating items or rallying the congregation. So three weeks before the Labor Day event, Men's Ministry Leader Andy Bowden stepped up to the pulpit and announced that, "Yes, there will be a yard sale this year."

The response from the church family was immediate and donations started coming in the very next day.

Bowden's motivation was based on a desire to help the Columbus First Adventist School, which had a new principal and 13 students. The school year was just beginning and money was needed for the Worthy Student Fund and an aging playground.

Bowden's wife, Monika, prepared the fellowship hall for the big sale, receiving help from Brenda Horne, Julius and Lucy Jones, and other volunteers who organized and priced all donated items. The hall was soon filled with electronics, clothes, books, toys, kitchen gadgets, and furniture.

The church put a sign on the front lawn announcing to the public that the yard sale would be held Sunday, August 31, and Monday, September 1. But when the weekend arrived, people from the community came looking for the yard sale on Sabbath morning. That provided members with an opportunity to witness about their faith.

Later that evening, the church held a pre-sale for church members, who showed up in large numbers to support the church school. The next day, the yard sale opened to the public and the response was great.

Rick Person, a neighbor, said he learned about the sale through a newspaper advertisement. "I go to yard sales two or three times a week," he said, while checking out some of the electronics. "You never know what you'll find."

Head Deaconess Connie Brown sold brownies, cupcakes and other goodies to help raise money for the school, with the help of her deaconesses and some CFC students. Pathfinders Taylor Trumbo, Rhett Seitz, and John Haynie helped customers bag their new found treasures and assisted them to their cars. Joshua Daly, a volunteer with the church’s Health Ministry, provided free blood pressure screenings and health information to visitors.

Overall, the sale was a great success for Columbus First Church, raising more than $2,300 dollars over the Labor Day weekend.

"Not only were we able to raise funds for our church school, but we were able to watch as God brought together a team of church members to accept His mission," Bowden said. "We moved forward in the Spirit of the One who has already given us His all, but continues to bless us as individuals and as a church family."

by Columbus First Church staff writers
The Georgia-Cumberland Conference currently sponsors a pioneer team that is focusing on gospel work in a city in China. This is a beautiful and materialistic city where people are focused on their money, properties, and cars. They love to talk about wealth and social status. But, they do not naturally ask questions or talk about their spiritual lives or eternity, so this pioneer team, as all others, truly needs your prayers.

They report that they have been focusing specifically on some church members’ relatives. Since these family members knew something about Jesus through their Christian families, it has been very natural for them to reach and share the Gospel with them. This has been very rewarding for them and they have visited these families weekly and enjoyed studying the Bible.

The pioneers you support often share their personal testimonies of how Jesus changed their lives and the way we think, for they are committed to helping people know that there is a Heavenly Father who changes lives and loves His children so much.

On Sabbaths, they have a discussion group and help those that come learn to use their Bible. People ask many personal questions and answers to their questions are found in the Bible.

Please also pray for your team as they connect with a leader of another very small group of believers in a town nearby. Pray that they will be able to work together and encourage one another and plant a church in this city so that they can meet on Sabbaths and can accommodate more people and be more visible than their small home.

When you pray for the pioneer teams in unreached areas of China, please keep these two Bible verses in mind:
"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." Ephesians 6:12

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Psalm 91:1-2

**Through the faithful work of pioneers in unreached areas, 34 have attended Sabbath service, and 80 have received Bible studies.

by Chinese Union