

T Southern TIDINGS

NOVEMBER 2023



NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION'S EDUCATORS' CONVENTION 2023:

SOMETHING BETTER

STRENGTHENING THE CORE:
BREATH OF LIFE YOUNG ADULT RALLY

FELTS FOR CHILDREN IS A
CHURCH PROJECT

God Will Provide



Allan Machado, D.Min.
*President of the
Florida Conference*

Guest Editorial

“By which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus,” 2 Peter 1:4 and Philippians 4:19.

A construction crew was building a new road through a rural area, knocking down trees as it progressed. A superintendent noticed that one tree had a nest of birds that couldn't yet fly, and he marked the tree so that it would not be cut down. Several weeks later the superintendent came back to the tree. He got into a bucket truck and was lifted up so that he could peer into the nest. The fledglings were gone. They had obviously learned to fly. The superintendent ordered the tree cut down. As the tree crashed to the ground, the nest fell clear and some of the material that the birds had gathered to make the nest was scattered about. Part of it was a scrap torn from a nearby church pamphlet. On the scrap of paper were these words, “God careth for you.”

“And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” The context of this promise concerns material provisions. “Now you Philippians know ... no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. For even in Thessalonica, you sent aid once and again for my necessities,” Philippians 4:15-16. The saints at the church in Philippi regularly gave of their financial resources that the Apostle Paul might concentrate on ministering the Gospel. “Indeed, I have all and abound. I am full,

having received from Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God,” Philippians 4:18. Paul was abundantly supplied through their gifts. This generosity was also a pleasing spiritual sacrifice in the eyes of the Lord. God cared for His itinerant preacher and servant.

As He did with Paul, the Lord promises to meet the physical needs of all of His children. We can rely on His promised care for us. We do not need to worry or fret. “Do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things,” Matthew 6:31-32. Our faithful and loving Father is fully aware of our material needs, and He has committed Himself to supplying them. “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you,” Matthew 6:33. Our heavenly Father wants us to give our attention to seeking after Him, not after our needs. He wants us to be on a quest to know Him. He desires that we seek after His holy rule and His righteous ways. He will be faithful to “supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” He may typically use a paycheck to fulfill His promise, but He will supply our needs. Even if we are flat on our backs and unable to work, God is our faithful source.

Audrey Mieir was the composer of many gospel songs, probably best known for her song, “His Name is Wonderful.” She wrote the following poem praising God’s carefulness for his children.

Be not troubled with thoughts of the morrow,
Of duties you surely must do.
On the Lord cast your burden of sorrow;
It matters to Him about you!

Be not weary when trials are given,
But trust Him to carry you through.
He will make all a pathway to Heaven;
It matters to Him about you!

Then be patient until His appearing,
‘Tis dawn almost now on your view;
For the mists of this dark age are clearing.
In love He is planning for you!

Let our prayer be this: “Dear heavenly Father, we thank You for Your faithfulness in supplying according to our needs. Forgive us for doubting You at times, when it looked like the provision was not coming. Help us to seek your Kingdom first because all things will be provided by You. It matters to You about us! Amen.” God bless you always! 🙏

features

4

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION'S
EDUCATORS' CONVENTION
2023: SOMETHING BETTER

8

STRENGTHENING THE CORE:
BREATH OF LIFE YOUNG
ADULT RALLY

9

FELTS FOR CHILDREN IS A
CHURCH PROJECT

news

10 CAROLINA
12 FLORIDA
14 GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND
17 KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE
20 SOUTH ATLANTIC
24 SOUTH CENTRAL
28 ADVENTHEALTH
29 SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

30 OBITUARIES
34 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
38 EVENTS CALENDAR/ SUNSET
SCHEDULE

COVER PHOTO: BRYANT TAYLOR, D.MIN.

november 2023



NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION'S EDUCATORS' CONVENTION 2023:

SOMETHING BETTER

BY ROSE THOMAS, PH.D.

The North American Division (NAD) Office of Education held its Educators' Convention from August 7-10, 2023, in Phoenix, Arizona, a city that is breathtaking — for both its hot temperatures and its huge talents for the arts. Every five years, thousands of educators all over North America and beyond gather to celebrate the great commission to educate, learn, and fellowship together as one. This year, close to 6,000 individuals attended the “Something Better” convention.

The Southern Union Office of Education, along with its eight conferences, Southern Adventist University, and Oakwood University, eagerly responded to the invitation to join in the throng of educators as we collaborated with others for the success of the convention. We left the

gathering armed with new joys, hopes, and insights, and we are inspired to carry the work of education into the future in a strategic and focused manner that will impact our Southern Union territory for the better.

Invitation

The Educators' Convention is an exercise in eternity where people of all cultures, colors, and customs gather to celebrate the work of redemption through the process of education. Carlton Byrd, D.Min., president for the Southwest Region Conference in Dallas, Texas, was the opening speaker for the convention. He offered the greatest invitation from the Holy Spirit that we all might connect our will to God's purpose, so we can understand our worth in the work that God has ordained for educators. Our success

as Adventist educators is etched into God's heart and in His perfect plan for our lives. Byrd declared that God's purpose for each educator is “creative, customized, comprehensive, and connected” to the heart of the living God, which gives us the power to work faithfully and tirelessly for the cause of God.

Donnett Blake, D.Min., pastor and director of women's ministries for the Northeastern Conference in Jamaica, New York, served as our morning devotional speaker. Blake raised the congregation of educators before the throne of God daily, and invited us to connect to the Holy Spirit so we might obtain power as we work to transform our schools into spaces of protection, restoration, and inclusion for all children.

In addition to connecting our will to the



PHOTO BY: BRYANT TAYLOR, D.MIN.

Murray Cooper (second row, far right), director of education for the Southern Union Conference, poses with educators from across the Southern Union territory.

heart of God, other speakers entreated us to refine our skills and create conditions that are healthy and happy for students and teachers to succeed in our schools. Mario Acosta, Ed.D., author and associate from the Marzano Resources Team, shared that the quality of the classroom teacher determines the outcome for students. To that end, educators must build, sharpen, and focus their expertise to guide our students to be successful in faith and in life. Discipline and consistency are keys, according to Acosta. Educators must have the support necessary for them to connect students to their teachers and their peers in a safe and caring environment; to ensure that each student learns the most critical parts of the curriculum; to measure the impact of the teachers' work; and to make adjustments that support students' and teachers' improvement.

Tina Boogren, Ph.D., author and associate from the Marzano Resources Team, continued the urgent invitation for teachers to work within a framework of effective teaching practices. Boogren underscored the proven principle that teachers' actions drive students' achievement; and, when teachers instruct within a framework, they have a model by which they can evaluate themselves, receive feedback from their peers and leaders, change, adjust, and grow in their practices — for the benefit of all students.

Our educators will be connected to the heart and purpose of God who grants teachers the heart to love and the skills to teach, assess, intervene, and give feedback to students as they progress and grow academically, spiritually, physically, and social-emotionally.

Collaboration

The work of education is extensive and expansive. Our Adventist education system is connected at all levels, so that everyone must labor in cooperation for the work to be successful. While the NAD planned and invited educators to the convention, many hands worked together to bring about programs and processes that were uplifting and transformative for all.

In the Southern Union, more than 900 educators attended the convention, and many of them collaborated in numerous ways to train, model, present, and encourage others in the field of education. Some, such as Jonathan Sumner, northern regional director of education/associate superintendent for Georgia-Cumberland Conference, and Eder Marski, IT director for the Southern Union Conference, provided technological support, while Bryant Taylor, D.Min., communication director for the Southern Union Conference, served in photography. Luberta Biggs, certification registrar for the Southern Union Office of Education, took time during the convention to meet with teachers to inform and support them in their quest to maintain their teaching certification. Many educators from the Southern Union territory presented in breakout sessions. Quite a few of them offered several successful sessions to rooms full of participants.

NUMBER OF SUC PRESENTERS FROM CONFERENCES AND UNIVERSITIES	
Florida	18
Georgia-Cumberland	27
Gulf States	2
Kentucky-Tennessee	3
Oakwood University	1
South Atlantic	3
South Central	8
Southeastern	2
Southern Union	3
Southern Adventist University	7

Inspiration

The Educators' Convention had uplifting music by musicians and recording artists such as Micah Tyler, Nicole Mul-

len, CYIZA, and Laura Story; unbounded messages by powerful speakers; and unforgettable memories that provided a refreshing atmosphere and time of reflection. The Office of Education has been inspired to continue the work of education in a focused and strategic way so that schools within our territory might continue to 1. Build safe, supportive, and collaborative school environments; 2. Grow effectively in teaching practices; and 3. Streamline the content of the curriculum to teach those concepts that are critical for students to learn at each grade level. These three concepts formed the foundational elements of Standards-Based Education (SBE). Additionally, we will place emphasis on recruiting and retaining teachers, and we will focus our energy and resources in collaborating with conferences to support their schools in tangible and meaningful ways.

Toward a Standards-Based Education

There are three foundational principles as designed by Marzano Research: Level 1 – Safe Culture, Level 2 – Effective Teaching, and Level 3 – Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum. They are levels of commitment, or what schools must do and be, as they journey toward Standards-Based Education. Together with levels 4 – Standards-Referenced Reporting, and 5 – Competency-Based Education, the five levels form the required elements needed for schools to be High Functioning or High Reliability Schools (HRS). These levels are tightly connected to our Adventist Edge (Educators Designing GREAT Education) initiative which commits that, in all schools across the Southern Union, we would design education that is **GREAT**:

- G**od-centered
- R**esult-oriented
- E**nvironment that Nurtures
- A**ligned with Standards
- T**eam Effort

The Southern Union is focusing its efforts and resources on the three foun-

dational levels (1-3) of HRS at this time, as those levels are the bedrock of standards-based teaching and learning. Levels 4 and 5 support and complete the process. The five HRS levels, which culminate into Standards-Based Education, are not a departure from the Southern Union Adventist EDGE. Rather, the five levels provide a concrete and common language that the Southern Union educators can share and practice as we design GREAT education for all students in our schools.

ingly simple gesture has been life-changing for those students who attended and has secured their commitment and respect for the educational field.

Below are some testimonies from the pre-service teachers and a chaperone who attended the convention:

“I would like to extend personal thanks and gratitude to Mr. Murray Cooper for making this trip to the convention possible. I am grateful for the opportunity and will cherish the infor-

RELATIONSHIP OF GREAT TO HRS

GREAT Education	High Reliability Schools (HRS) Levels
God-centered	Level 1: Safe, Supportive, and Collaborative Culture
Result-oriented	Level 2: Effective Teaching in Every Classroom
Environment that Nurtures	Level 1: Safe, Supportive, and Collaborative Culture
Aligned with Standards	Level 3: Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum Level 4: Standards Referenced Reporting Level 5: Competency-based Education
Team Effort	Level 1-5

Efforts to Recruit and Retain Teachers

The Office of Education is also focusing its efforts and resources to the recruitment and retention of teachers. Under the leadership of Murray Cooper, education director for the Southern Union Conference, collaborative plans between Education and the universities, Southern and Oakwood, are under way in the form of Aspiring Teacher Clubs at the High School level, as well as sponsorships and scholarships at the university level. Education sponsored a group of pre-service teachers and their chaperones to attend the Educator’s Convention. This seem-

mation and lessons learned on the trip.”
–*Samuel Brand, Oakwood University*

“I am very appreciative to the Southern Union for helping me go to the convention even before I start my teaching career. I was able to see some of my own teachers from elementary school who really impacted my life and helped me to make the decision to follow in their footsteps and work in education. The community that encompasses the Adventist education system is amazing!” –*Hannah Guenin, Southern Adventist University*

“It was amazing to see all the wonderful educators who made the trip to Ari-



PHOTO BY: BRYANT TAYLOR, D.MIN.

Pictured are Lashante Phillips, F.H. Jenkins Elementary School in Nashville, Tennessee; Naomi Carlyle, Ephesus Junior Academy in Birmingham, Alabama; and Autumn Lewis-Washington, assistant principal at F.H. Jenkins Elementary School in Nashville.

zona and to understand that this career is so important. It definitely caused me to realize that I made the right career choice, where I can truly make a difference in the world.” –*Nicole Rodriguez, Southern Adventist University*

“The NAD teacher’s convention was an amazing, memorable, and educational experience that I will never forget! I will take the information presented to me to the classroom. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to experience the convention!” –*Abbey Knowles, Southern Adventist University*

“It was a blessing to be a part of this experience. I met new people from various conferences all over the country! It felt so surreal to know that everyone in the vicinity had a common interest: the love of education. I learned a lot of information that I plan to take into my future career as a teacher. I was truly inspired to keep God first in all that I do!” –*Sydonni Davis, Oakwood University*

“One of my favorite parts of the convention was the breakout rooms, especially the New Teacher Panel, and how to support students’ mental health. I am truly grateful and blessed for this opportunity which will help me once I graduate. Also, it was my first time on the west coast which was cool!” –*Avelina Cipion, Oakwood University*

“After attending this convention, I

feel much more confident in my calling to be a teacher, and cannot wait to graduate and see where God leads me in my teaching career. Thank you so much for making this possible!” —*Brianna Trott, Southern Adventist University*

“Thank you is a simple term, but it is not meant to undermine our gratitude. We appreciate that you would consider and think of us. We extend our gratitude to Mr. Cooper and Mrs. Thrower. It was a pleasure to see your welcoming smiles!” —*Noraj Jean-Louis, Oakwood University*

“I want to give a big thank you to Mr. Murray Cooper for making my visit to the North American Division’s Educators’ Convention possible. I left the convention feeling very confident that I will be able to use my God-given gifts and talents to serve in our Adventist schools, because my help comes from the Lord!” —*Crystal Akama, Oakwood University*

“On behalf of the Department of Education at Oakwood University, we thank you for sponsoring both faculty and teacher candidates to the North American Division’s Educators’ Convention. We had a phenomenal time. We are blessed to partner with you!” —*Dana Wilchcombe, Ph.D., associate professor for Oakwood University School of Education.*

Collaboration with Conferences and Universities

From the NAD’s invitation to gather as a people, to the Southern Union’s collaboration for the success of the convention, we are inspired to move toward something better. Education is committed to devoting all its efforts and resources to support the conferences and universities in our territory. We will lay our plans before God, and we will hold confidently to the formula that Alexander Bryant, D.Min., president for the North American Division, shared at the closing of the convention:

God’s Plan + God’s Favor = Something Better!

Our Office of Education will support our conferences and universities in areas such as:

- Standards-Based Education training.



PHOTO BY: BRYANT TAYLOR, D.MIN.

Murray Cooper (left), director of education for the Southern Union Conference; **Rose Thomas, Ph.D.,** associate elementary education director for the Southern Union Conference; and **Carla Thrower,** associate secondary education director for the Southern Union Conference

- Support for teacher certification and school accreditation.
- Recruit and retain teachers.
- Build capacity of new principals.
- Assist in the efforts to meet the Division directive that all Seventh-day Adventist Early Childhood Education (ECE) centers obtain accreditation through Adventist Accreditation Association and National Council for Private School Accreditation by the summer of 2026.
- Support the growing desire of our ECE’s to operate at higher standards.
- Provide necessary help as more teachers add the early childhood endorsement to their certification.

- Support the acquisition of educational resources.
- Facilitate learning opportunities for teachers in the integration of educational resources and technology into lesson planning.
- Assist in building technology infrastructure and develop an educational IT services team to foster greater technology equity and accessibility to support teaching and learning. ●

Rose Thomas, Ph.D., is the associate elementary education director for the Southern Union Conference.



PHOTO BY: BRYANT TAYLOR, D.MIN.

Carla Drake, teacher at Oakwood Adventist Academy in Huntsville, Alabama, wins second place with her pitch on Spark Tank.

Strengthening the Core:

BREATH OF LIFE

YOUNG ADULT RALLY

BY **GIANNA SNELL**

On the opening night of the Breath of Life Ministries Young Adult Rally, the atmosphere was charged with excitement and anticipation as attendees gathered in the windy city of Chicago, Illinois.

Co-sponsored by the Lake Region Conference Young Adult Department, under the leadership of James Doggette Jr., D.Min., the rally drew young adults from all over the country to experience the second annual rally, with the theme, “Strengthening the Core.”

On Friday night at Shiloh Church, powerful praise and worship led by Anthony Bolden paved the way for Eric Bell, pastor, who challenged attendees to remember that the challenges of life are “just cardio” strengthening faith and building endurance for this journey called life.

Performers took center stage in a full-length stage play, “The Christian Zone,” a parody of the popular show, *The Twilight Zone*. The play, written and directed by Danita Jones, made the audience think, cry, and laugh.

The second day of the rally was held at a brand new worship center, Greenwood Oasis, and was packed with workshops, each designed to help attendees strengthen their core in various aspects of life. Workshops on health, financial strength, emotional intelligence, and best dating practices were among the highlights. Participants left the sessions armed with practical tools to enhance their core strength.



Attendees gather at a rooftop brunch overlooking Chicago, Illinois.

During the main session, Koryn Hawthorne, gospel recording artist, led the congregation in a powerful worship experience, and Debleaire Snell, pastor and speaker/director for Breath of Life Ministries, delivered a transformative message that left attendees inspired to allow God to order their steps. At the end of the message, dozens of young adults came forward for prayer, rededication, and baptism. After a catered lunch, and two more rounds of core sessions, a concert featuring gospel singers closed out the evening.

The final day of the rally, September 3, 2023, was dedicated to reflection and celebration. Attendees gathered for a rooftop brunch overlooking Chicago. With stunning views, delicious food, and good music, the rally ended on a high note, as participants made new connections and recommitted themselves to the transformative power of strengthening their core.

“The Young Adult Rally was truly amazing,” shared one attendee. “The food was amazing, the event was very well organized, and the core workshops weren’t fluff, it was really good information. I can’t wait for the next young adult rally, because no matter where it is, I’ll be there!”

“The goal of our Young Adult Rally was to re-engage our younger population in spiritual things,” said Snell. “The pandemic has been crippling to this age group. Many have disconnected from church and have found false religious outlets online. We wanted to empower young adults to, with God’s help, fortify their inner selves, and equip them to navigate the challenges of life with resilience and determination.”

The rally, in partnership with Lake Region Conference, was a resounding success. It encouraged young adults to look inward, ensuring they were equipped to face the complexities of life with unwavering strength. Plans are already in motion for the third annual Young Adult Rally, which will be held in 2024. Visit www.breathoflife.tv for the latest news and updates regarding the ministries geared toward young adults. 📌

Gianna Snell is the communications and marketing director for Breath of Life Ministries.

FELTS FOR CHILDREN IS A CHURCH PROJECT

While working at the Orlando, Florida, Adventist Book Center (ABC) for many years, Debbie Varsubsky came in contact with missionaries and people going on mission trips. She asked if they had room in their suitcases for a three-year Bible felt set. This could be left with the school to give them a Bible class each day for the school year, and also could be used for a Sabbath School lesson every week for three years. The felts were happily received. People sent back pictures and letters of gratitude.

Varsubsky retired from the ABC in 2020, and started connecting with missionaries from many booths at the Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) Convention in Orlando. The Lord now gave her a larger picture, impressing her to speak to her Plymouth-Sorrento Church family and have them make this a church project. Members agreed and gave the ministry the name, "Felts for Children."

The first appeal was in November



Gavin (left) and David help place donations for Bible felt sets on the Christmas tree.

2022, when the idea was promoted for a Christmas project. In writings from the book *Adventist Home*, page 480, Ellen White explains how wonderful a Christmas tree is in the sanctuary and a blessing with gifts for Jesus upon it — gifts that would help the less

fortunate. If we give gifts for our children and loved ones, shouldn't we give Jesus the best gift?

More than \$2,600 in checks were placed on the tree to purchase 27 felt sets for Peru, Kenya, Ukraine, Haiti, and Eswatini (Swaziland). Now, 22 Adventist organizations have been contacted to take the Bible sets to the children. Monthly donations this year have enabled the purchase of another 43 sets of felts, making a total of 70 sets as of September. They have now reached more than 50 countries.

"Let's not forget the Great Gift Giver since we are celebrating Him," said Varsubsky. "We hope other churches will start a project this season to gather funds to support a new well, build a church, support an orphanage, help a Florida Adventist ministry called 'Restore a Child,' and many other ministries." Varsubsky may be reached at FeltsforChildren@gmail.com. ①



Plymouth-Sorrento Church family members (from left) Sayuri, Azumi, Courtney, and Ariana help display Bible sets.



Ethan (left), Matthew, Michael, and Debbie show Bible felt sets at Plymouth-Sorrento Church, Apopka, Fla.

Pathfinder Journeys Through Faith, Service in Palawan

Emory Kelley, a dedicated member of Winston-Salem, N.C., First Church, dedicated eight months of his life to a transformative mission on the picturesque island of Palawan in the Philippines. His journey was characterized by service and a deep commitment to his faith, marked by his involvement in various facets of missionary work.

During his sojourn on Palawan, Kelley undertook a multifaceted role. He diligently served at a local clinic, providing essential healthcare services to the community, and simultaneously took on the role of an educator in a humble one-room school. Additionally, Kelley seized the opportunity to collaborate with a group of Pathfinders in the village of Kemantian, further solidifying his bond with the organization.

Kelley's affiliation with Pathfinders began at the tender age of 9, and his fervor for this youth ministry remains unwavering. As an active participant in the Carolina Conference Pathfinder Council, he is diligently working to bolster the Teen Leadership Training (TLT) program. Kelley firmly believes that this initiative is pivotal in engaging and retaining young members within the Church, fostering mentorship opportunities, and nurturing leadership skills



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

among high school-aged Pathfinders, with invaluable guidance from adult staff members.

The cornerstone of Kelley's missionary experience was his extensive involvement with the Pathfinder club in Kemantian. Here, he imparted his knowledge by teaching drilling and marching techniques, actively contributed to the club's area campout, and delivered inspirational worship talks on Friday evenings. His dedication extended further as he dedicated four months to working in the clinic in Kemantian, followed by residing in the remote village of Merma during the latter half of his mission. In Merma, Kelley op-

erated a small clinic independently, often embarking on difficult journeys on foot to reach patients in dire need.

Kelley's devotion to the Pathfinders in Kemantian extends to his dream of affording them an opportunity he cherishes deeply — attending the "Believe the Promise" International Pathfinder Camporee in Gillette, Wyo., scheduled for August 5-11, 2024. This camporee represents a once-in-a-lifetime chance for youth worldwide to connect with God's creation, strengthen their faith, and forge lasting friendships. To turn this dream into reality, Kelley is actively raising funds.

Kelley's mission to Palawan started as a pursuit of his lifelong aspiration to be a student missionary. He chose Palawan for its lush natural beauty, aligning with his passion for hiking and the outdoors, as well as the prospect of employing his medical skills acquired during paramedic school in a meaningful way. Little did he anticipate that this journey would lead to a new mission — one of hope and empowerment.

For further information about the TLT program or to learn more about Kelley's inspiring mission, please feel free to contact him at thepathfinder629@gmail.com. 📧

BY REBECCA CARPENTER



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From Mountains to Coast: Bike for Life N.C. Tour Begins Epic Journey

In the early morning hours of July 16, 2023, the Bike for Life North Carolina Tour commenced, embarking on a thrilling 420-mile cycling expedition from the picturesque mountains of Boone, N.C., to the tranquil coast of Elizabeth City, N.C. The atmosphere buzzed with anticipation as participants readied themselves for this exhilarating adventure.

Bike for Life, a cycling ministry initiative proudly sponsored by the Carolina Pathfinders and the Carolina Conference, has been organizing such tours since 1999, with only two years of hiatus in their extensive history. This year, a group of nine cyclists, accompanied by two dedicated drivers and a skilled cook, set off on this transformative journey. The support team ensured the riders' well-being, allowing them to focus solely on their demanding trek.

Gerald New, director of the group, emphasized the crucial roles each member plays, from worship leaders to ride leaders. Beyond cycling, the primary goal of the Bike for Life tour, according to New, is to instill leadership skills in young Pathfinders. Along their challenging journey, they hone effective communication, master signaling techniques, and cultivate unwavering perseverance.

Yet, this tour serves a broader evangelistic purpose as well. Adorned in vibrant shirts, the riders attract inquisitive onlookers, sparking conversations about their mission. Armed with informative brochures, they willingly offer prayers to those they encounter along their route.

Vanessa Arana, administrative assistant for the Youth, Young Adult, and Pathfinder Department at the Carolina Conference, embarked on her first Bike for Life tour this year. She diligently



PHOTO BY: HENRIQUE GOMES



prepared for seven months, transitioning from stationary bike training to road cycling to meet the challenge. Arana passionately explained her motivation, stating, "This is more than a cycling tour; it's a ministry on wheels. It's a way to forge new friendships, and, beyond the physical exertion, it's an enriching mental and spiritual experience."

Looking ahead to the next adventure, the group plans an ambitious 34-day trip to the International Camporee in Gillette, Wyo., next year, having ventured to Osh-

kosh, Wisc., four times since their journey began in 1999.

While Bike for Life actively encourages participation from Pathfinders and teens, their invitation extends to anyone interested in this extraordinary endeavor. To be a part of this life-transforming experience, contact Vanessa Arana at the Carolina Conference office, or email varana@carolinasda.org. 📧

BY HENRIQUE GOMES

Midport Women's Ministries Events Highlighted

Anointing, "Wrestling with God in Prayer," and Health Seminar

Blessings abounded at Midport Church in Port St. Lucie, Fla., during the annual Women's Ministries Day events in June, led by Selma Bennett, director.

An anointing service ushered in the Sabbath on Friday evening. Participants listened as Joan Gibran, Ph.D., from Southeastern Conference's Port St. Lucie First Church, spoke of the practices of anointing and provided time for individual silent prayer. Paul Campoli, pastor, and Gibran then prayed individually with each person attending, followed by prayer with

each other. Attendees went away with a new sense of service for Jesus.

Sabbath morning began with a panel discussion on the Sabbath School lesson. Activities and events of the past year, such as the "Moms in Prayer" group; baby showers; health walks; and "It's My Very Own" (IMVO) volunteers, an outreach to displaced children, were shared via a slideshow created by Kayla Brown.

The Sabbath message, entitled, "Wrestling With God in Prayer," was given by Gibran. All in attendance were given food for thought regarding Jacob's life and the night of wrestling with God before coming face to face with Esau. The message of Jacob's

wrestling and the transformation from going his own way to a change of heart was well received.

The men of Midport served a fellowship luncheon, followed by Sheryl Timol, nurse practitioner, leading a seminar on women's health.

Contributions for Sarah's Kitchen (a local community outreach to the homeless and needy) and the Midport chapter of IMVO were requested and brought in by members and visitors.

Participants said they felt a special renewal and refreshing.

Opportunity to Show God's Love in the Community

Matthew 5:16, "Let your light so



Friday evening, attendees sought anointing and prayer at the Midport Church women's ministries event in Port St. Lucie, Fla.

shine before men; that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven,” is the guide for IMVO at Midport Church. The Midport chapter of IMVO, operating under women’s ministries, recently received the Diamond Award from a local agency, Communities Connected For Kids (CCFK). The award cites the Midport chapter’s commitment to service for the community. CCFK serves children of the Treasure Coast in Indian River, Okeechobee, Martin, and St. Lucie Counties.

Every four to six weeks, the Midport chapter puts together donations of homemade Bags of Love containing handmade quilts, stuffed animals, toiletries, toys, school supplies, diapers, and other needed items for infants to 17-year-olds to keep as their very own. The bags are given to the local agency and then distributed to children removed from unsafe home situations.



Every four to six weeks, Port St. Lucie members put together Bags of Love for those removed from unsafe home situations.

Often, the children leave home with only the clothes on their backs or a few belongings in a trash bag or backpack.

Midport Church supports the IM-

VO work with donations and dedicated volunteers. The chapter put bags together even during COVID and, to date, has provided more than 200 bags to be distributed.

The Holy Spirit continues to lead in amazing ways. Funds, volunteers, quilts, material for bags, and donations are just a few of the things that are provided just when needed. Midport praises God for being able to serve the community in this special way. As a bonus, it provides joy to each volunteer.

The original IMVO ministry began under the leadership of Barbara and Jack Neher, Adventists in Kentucky. There are now chapters in the United States, Canada, and Australia. Visit IMVO.org for further information. ⓘ

BY KAYE M. JONES, MIDPORT
IMVO COORDINATOR.

Florida Living Church Member Turns 100

Evelyn Louise Platt celebrated her 100th birthday on July 17, 2023, in Apopka, Fla. She was born in Pittsfield, Mass., to Arthur and Alice Platt as the oldest of three children. She attended Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, Mass.

Platt took a secretarial position with the Northern New England Conference in 1943, and served the denomination 45 years as a secretary, accountant, and executive assistant in several state conferences, including Florida, Georgia-Cumberland, and Gulf States. During her career, she also worked as a missionary on the island of Guam in the Far East Mission; at the Inter-American Division headquarters in Miami, Fla.; and the General Conference headquarters in Silver Springs, Md.

Platt has lived in Florida since she retired in 1988, and is a member of Florida Living Church at Florida Living Retirement Community in Apopka, Fla. ⓘ

Editor’s Note: During final preparation of this edition, it has come to our attention that Evelyn Platt has passed away. A full obituary will appear in a later edition of the Southern Tidings.



Evelyn Platt celebrated her 100th birthday on July 17, 2023.

BY ROBERT C. SCHWAB

Jasper Members Share “Love in a Box”

If it wasn't for this food, I am not sure how my family would make it," said "Joanie." She had arrived two hours before the Jasper, Ga., Church food pantry opened up, just to ensure her family had food to eat for the month.

This is a primary way that the church

members and Jasper Christian Adventist School (JACS) students work to meet the needs of the community. The students work alongside the adults in unloading the food trailer, and filling the boxes the day prior to distribution. What a blessing it is to have a team of

dedicated volunteers that range in age from elementary school to retirees.

Sharon Garner, Jasper Church community services leader, took over this church ministry before COVID-19, and has seen the food pantry's demand double since then. Now they are regularly giving out 60 boxes the third Wednesday of every month.

She and her team strive to build relationships with the people too. For shut-ins or those who have transportation issues, they will personally deliver the boxes and even do follow-up visits to help the most desperate situations, including delivering hygiene items and toiletries. The greatest struggles they are seeing is for the elderly and families.

Opportunities for prayer open ways to minister also. For instance, some elderly people have shared with Sharon that they garden and can food to "stretch" their dollars. Noticing that seeds are expensive, the Community Services Department is turning a new corner to implement teaching people how to "fish" by sharing seeds, so people can learn to grow their food. This approach will make a huge difference in the lives of the community members since the large food bank in Chattanooga is overtaxed by many organizations and churches, and has limited produce and fruit.

Many lives are impacted by this outreach through the personal touches of the volunteers, literature shared in each box, prayer, and encouraging recipients to share with their neighbors too.

The Lord is truly blessing as He pours His love through the boxes to each person. 🙏



Jeremiah Appleton (back, left) and Alex Leach unload boxes of food for Cree Nicholas to carry into the Jasper, Ga., Church. Every month, students from the Jasper Christian Adventist School assist church members in packing and distributing food boxes for families and the elderly in the community.

BY DIANE HOOKER

Atlanta North School Students Show Jesus Cares

While Sophia Soler, grades 5 and 6 teacher at Atlanta North School, was looking for a mission opportunity for her students, she heard about the refugee community in Clarkston, Ga. Clarkston, located on the east side of Atlanta, is home to a large number of refugees from more than 50 countries. Learning about the needs in this community, Soler realized an opportunity for her students to see other cultures while being able to help others in need.

The first project the students participated in was collecting food items by designing cardboard collection boxes, and then presenting their project in front of the Atlanta North Church. Before leaving for Thanksgiving break, students sorted and prepared 10 large bins of food. As students carried these bins to front doors of homes in Clarkston, they were met with faces of children from Thailand, Africa, and the Middle East.

Leading up to Christmas, students wanted to help more families and start-

ed sharing their vision with several area churches: to provide gifts for the students and 100 blankets to families in Clarkston. With financial support from the churches, students were able to collect wish lists from children in the community. The students then personally selected items from the wish lists and purchased the items through Amazon. As the packages arrived, students opened boxes with anticipation. They were excited, not to receive for themselves, but to give to another child. The students then wrapped the gifts, and hopped on the bus to Clarkston to set up a donated Christmas tree and leave the gifts for the children. Before leaving, the students again went door-to-door, handing out blankets and wishing individuals a happy holiday.

Throughout the school year, students continued reaching out to the Clarkston community by assisting a literacy center and planning a picnic in the park. But, the support didn't end there. During the summer, Soler garnered support from

the pastor, coworkers, and church members to provide art, health, safety, and nature classes to the children in Clarkston. To end the summer classes, the children were taken on a field trip to the Slime Museum in Atlanta, Ga. "This was the best field trip I have ever been on," said one child.

During Atlanta North Church's Vacation Bible School (VBS), students brought school supplies and filled backpacks for the children in Clarkston. "I was touched as I saw VBS attendees get excited to show me bags packed full of school supplies," said Soler.

Reflecting on the past year of serving the Clarkston community, Soler said, "I guess you never know how a pack of rice, a Christmas gift, a book, a kind word, or a backpack can affect someone else." But most importantly, she prays, "It shows that Jesus cares." 🕊

BY SOPHIA SOLER



Fifth- and sixth-graders from Atlanta North School distribute boxes of food to residents in Clarkston, Ga. The students adopted the community last school year, providing food at Thanksgiving, blankets, gifts at Christmas, a spring picnic, and more.

Tellico Plains Members Provide Food for Children, Prayers with Strangers

Every other Thursday during the summer months, Tellico Plains, Tenn., Church members arrive in their fluorescent green shirts. Like busy bees, they pack bags and set up a canopy and chairs. Outside cars begin to line up. What's all the activity? It is kid's food giveaway day.

The Tellico Plains Church partners with Second Harvest Food Bank to make sure the children of Monroe County have something to eat. This is a free program available to every child ages birth-18. Each child receives a bag of kid-friendly food they can prepare for themselves, if need be. Usually, 75-150 children are served each giveaway day. Each car also receives a piece of literature. It may be a child's book, a book for the caregivers, or a Bible study enrollment card.

Church members also have prayer request cards ready when people ask for prayer. The prayer requests vary each week. Many people ask for prayer to help them raise their grandchildren or even great-grandchildren. Other prayer requests are for medical needs or financial needs.

One request that really stands out hap-



Ronnie, Rickie, and Ron Michaels prepare bags of food for children ages birth-18. Every Thursday during the summer, the Tellico Plains, Ga., Church meets the physical needs of people by giving out food that assists between 75 and 150 children. These interactions with people often lead to opportunities to reach their spiritual needs as well.

pened near the end of the summer. A woman pulled in, and as she was being registered, she asked, "Does your church pray for people?"

The reply came: "Absolutely. What can we pray for?"

"Ever since my husband and I decided to go back to church, the devil has

been attacking us," replied the woman. "I am getting ready to have a hysterectomy. There is a 50/50 chance that I have cancer. On top of that, yesterday, I was cooking and accidentally spilled boiling water on my belly. My belly is covered in blisters. And my grandma is in the hospital. And my basement is flooded from all the rain we've had in the last 24 hours."

Right there, on the spot, right in the pick-up line, the church member asked if she could pray. Together these two women who a few minutes before had been strangers, bowed their heads and prayed together that God would rebuke the devil and be with this precious woman with all that she was facing. As the amen was said, both of these new friends had tears in their eyes.

"This is what it is all about," said Annette Michaels, outreach coordinator for the Tellico Plains Church. "Meeting people's physical needs gives us an opportunity to reach their spiritual needs, too." ①

BY ANNETTE MICHAELS



Kentucky-Tennessee Conference Appoints Anton Kapusi as New Church Growth Director

The Kentucky-Tennessee Conference administration is pleased to announce that, after a long search and extensive prayer, the Executive Committee extended an invitation of employment to Anton Kapusi to be the new church growth director, effective September 1, 2023.

Kapusi was born in Yugoslavia, now

known as Serbia. He received his B.A. in religion from the Adriatic Union College in Croatia in 1990. It was at seminary that he met his wife, Erika, and the couple got married on August 19, 1990.

Kapusi holds an M.A. in pastoral ministry from Newbold College in the UK. He completed a master of divinity and a

doctor of ministry with a concentration in church growth and church multiplication from Andrews University. Kapusi also speaks multiple languages, including English, Hungarian, German, Croatian, Serbian, and other Slavic dialects.

“My biggest passion is to empower our leaders,” said Kapusi. “I’d like to help our churches and pastors know themselves better. Once you do that, you can start with the work of revitalization.”

Kapusi’s ministry began amidst the turmoil of Yugoslavia’s civil war, when he served as a pastor and a regional director for ADRA. His global ministry continued when he was called to minister in Ireland from 2003 to 2007, and subsequently to New York from 2007 to 2019. During his tenure in the Greater New York Conference, he also took on the role of stewardship director for two years.

Most recently, Kapusi had been pastoring in the Rocky Mountain Conference in Colorado, contributing to the spiritual growth of the community. Throughout his ministry, Kapusi has planted seven churches — five of them in Europe and two in New York. He says his greatest passion is bringing others to know Christ.

“My favorite thing in ministry is seeing the people around me change their lives because they have found Jesus,” said Kapusi. “There is no better news. In this world, nobody can give better hope than Jesus.”

The Kentucky-Tennessee Conference family is happy to welcome Anton and Erika Kapusi. 🙏



PHOTO BY: PAOLA MORA ZEPEDA

Anton Kapusi, and his wife, Erika, pose in front of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference office building. Effective September 1, 2023, Kapusi has taken the role as the Conference’s new church growth director.

BY PAOLA MORA ZEPEDA

Reversed Mission: Kentucky-Tennessee Conference Welcomes Irish Friends for Inspiring Retreat

More than 260 women were blessed during this year's Kentucky-Tennessee Conference Women's Retreat. Among that number was a special group of nine women who traveled all the way from Northern Ireland to join the event.

The connection between the Irish visitors and the Kentucky-Tennessee group began after Gail McKenzie, Conference women's ministries director, led a spiritual online retreat with the Irish women in June of 2021. She had been contacted by Pamela Petersen, wife to a local pastor in Northern Ireland. Subsequently, McKenzie led an online Bible study in October and November of 2021. The Zoom meetings sparked a friendship, and on June 15, 2022, 36 Kentucky-Tennessee women traveled to Northern Ireland to meet with 30 Irish women for an unforgettable retreat.

"We really bonded with the women [during this trip]," said McKenzie. "So, we thought, 'Wouldn't it be neat if they could experience our Conference's women's retreat?' Because they do not have these kinds of events in Northern Ireland."

This ambitious project was aptly named "Reversed Mission." With McKenzie and Petersen's leadership, as well as the financial support of the Conference, this dream became a reality when nine Irish women and two men landed in the Nashville, Tenn., International Airport in early September 2023.

During their stay, the group had the opportunity to visit a few tourist attractions, such as the Ark Encounter, Mammoth Cave, Broadway Street, and Dollywood. In addition, they also visited some Adventist institutions in the area, including



PHOTO BY: PAOLA MORA ZEPEDA

Nine Irish women joined this year's Kentucky-Tennessee Women's Retreat. The connection between the Irish women and the Conference women originally sparked online in June of 2021, meeting for the first time in person in June of 2022 in Northern Ireland.

Highland Academy, Madison Academy, and Southern Adventist University.

"We didn't believe that we would be able to come, but God opened the doors," said Gosia Geslak, member of the Londonderry Church in Northern Ireland. "We are definitely very grateful for this experience."

The journey ended at the Kentucky-Tennessee Women's Retreat at Indian Creek Camp, which took place September 8 to 10. This event was an opportunity not only for the Irish women to reconnect with old friends, but also for them to make new ones.

"The Adventist community in Ireland is very small that sometimes you feel isolated," said Petersen. "This trip was important because it helped the Irish ladies

realize that they are part of something bigger ... we belong to a bigger family."

Though it was difficult to say goodbye, the Irish women shared they have been inspired to take this experience at Kentucky-Tennessee to be a light in their communities.

"I have always wanted to live near [an Adventist community]," said Ann McMally, member of the Londonderry Church. "I wanted it for me and my children. Coming here has made me realize that, while I love this environment, I'm meant to be where I am. That's the mission God gave me."

Now the friendship and mission continue as McKenzie and Petersen plan a prayer conference in Scotland for next year. ❶

BY PAOLA MORA ZEPEDA

Louisville South Hispanic Church Hosts ‘End It Now’ Event to Combat Domestic Violence

The Louisville Southside, Ky., Hispanic Church took a powerful stand against domestic violence Sabbath, August 26, 2023, by hosting a day-long event as part of the global Adventist initiative End It Now. The event brought together the congregations of two other churches, the Louisville West Hispanic Church and La Grange Hispanic Church, to address the critical issue of domestic violence in its various forms, including physical, sexual, verbal, and financial abuse.

End It Now provides resources, raises awareness, and advocates for the end of violence worldwide. The event, planned by the church’s Women’s Ministries Department, served as a platform to discuss the importance of recognizing and addressing domestic violence.

“We wanted to bring a message of hope,” said Karen Alcántara, Louisville Southside Hispanic Church women’s ministries director. “You are not alone. In



PHOTO BY: LUIS GUARINI

A group photo was taken following the End It Now event at the Louisville Southside Hispanic Church. The event was also attended by the Louisville West Hispanic Church and the La Grange Hispanic Church.

God there is healing. So, no matter what you have experienced or no matter what you are living in, Christ offers hope. As a church, we are here to support you.”

The program featured seminars, testimonies from survivors, Q&A sessions with legal experts, and powerful illustrations that shed light on the devastating

impact of domestic violence. The church aimed not only to educate its members, but to extend its message of hope to the broader community.

What set this event apart was the active participation of the entire church community. This inclusive approach highlighted the importance of engaging all members in the effort to combat domestic violence, as it affects individuals and families regardless of gender.

“We want to tell the world that we are part of that church that cares for children, that cares for women, that cares for men, that cares for the elderly,” said Alcántara. “It does not matter what weight we carry; we can take all of that and place it on the cross.”

One of the event’s core objectives was to provide information that is often inaccessible to those who need it most. For next year, the organizers want to offer these seminars to their community as well. ①



PHOTO BY: LUIS GUARINI

Karen Alcántara interviews Maria Perez and Gabriela Perez, who were lawyers in Venezuela, and spoke about the legal aspect of domestic violence at the local End It Now seminar. End It Now is a global Adventist initiative that provides resources and advocates for the end of violence worldwide.



PHOTO BY: LUIS GUARINI

Event attendees listen to the discussion. This one-day program featured seminars, testimonies from survivors, Q&A sessions with legal experts, and powerful illustrations that shed light on the devastating impact of domestic violence.

BY PAOLA MORA ZEPEDA

Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy Strives for Excellence

Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy (GAAA) provides an outstanding academic, spiritual, and cultural education built upon the foundation of excellence and upon the principle of integrating faith and learning. The Academy first opened its doors in 1981, and has been at its current location since 2004. At GAAA, there is always an expectation of excellence, and by God's grace, the Academy was successful in reaching several milestones of excellence during the 2022-2023 school year.

The faculty, staff, students, and parents rallied together from the start of the school year with focused determination to prepare for the accreditation visit that was scheduled for March 26-28, 2023. Upon review of the programs, campus facilities, and prepared documentation, the visiting evaluation team, led by Ruth Horton, Ed.D., granted GAAA the maximum six-year term accreditation status. The only words of celebration were "praise God from whom all blessings flow."

Driven by the vision of showcasing a school where students live by faith, strive for excellence, and serve with honor, GAAA also charted an academic course of outstanding opportunities for the students.

For the past three years, the Academy has offered the course "Introduction to Emergency Medical Responder" (EMR), as an elective. Students who have already completed the anatomy and physiology prerequisite will be introduced to training in critical life-saving skills which include assessing patients, handling medical emergencies, managing poison and substance abuse cases, dealing with behavioral troubles, and addressing



The Efficacious Class of 2023

bleeding, shock, and soft-tissue injuries, among other vital topics.

The course is taught by GAAA's highly qualified science instructor, Tomesha Smith, who is a state and nationally certified emergency medical technician, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certified, holds a bachelor's degree in biology and master's degree in curriculum and instruction, and is currently a doctoral candidate.

Upon the successful completion of this course and passing the certification exam, students receive the American Heart Association (AHA)/ Basic Life Support (BLS) healthcare provider training and CPR certification. With this training and certification, students are afforded the potential opportunities of earning an income in one or more of the fields of childcare provider patient sitter, lifeguard (with additional lifeguard training requirements), disaster relief/response volunteer, law enforcement (with further law enforcement training), and firefighter (with further firefighting training).

During the school year, two students were successful in enrolling, completing, and passing the EMR certification exam. Randy Sanders II, a rising senior, plans on attending Oakwood University

or Clark Atlanta University, with the hopes of becoming a physical therapist. Sanders commented that he highly recommends taking the course and that it was "a great experience." He further asserted that "most of the concepts learned in the EMR course were also taught in the pre-med/biology camp," which he was enrolled for the summer of 2023. Upon receiving his certification, he stated that he can now feel that he can save lives. Elijah Brown, also a rising senior, plans to attend Oakwood University, with the aspiration of becoming a veterinarian. He also strongly recommends taking this course, and said and that receiving his certification caused him to "appreciate how all the hard work paid off in the end."

The school year ended in the same manner as it began, with faculty, staff, and students pressing toward the mark of excellence. The culmination of their quest was realized on May 28, 2023, when the Academy and the members of "The Efficacious Class of 2023," celebrated GAAA's 40th commencement ceremony. The ceremony marked the fifth consecutive year in which GAAA achieved a 100% graduation and college acceptance rate.

As these graduates leave the sacred halls of their beloved alma mater, the Academy's prayers are that they continue to live by faith, strive for excellence, and, above all, serve God and man with honor. 🙏

BY **DELMAS F. CAMPBELL, PRINCIPAL**
FOR GREATER ATLANTA ADVENTIST
ACADEMY.

Savannah West Broad Celebrates Seniors' Day



Seated are Anthony Gadson (left), Senior Social Club co-leader, and David A. Smith, executive vice president for the South Atlantic Conference, with the Senior Social Club Choir behind them.

Advancement in age sometimes tends to slow us down. However, at West Broad Church in Savannah, Ga., the Senior Social Club (formerly the Golden Agers) is one of the most active organizations in the church. The only criteria to become a member is you must be 55 years of age or older.

Having its beginning under the leadership of the late Gladys Davidson, the members of this club intentionally do not let any grass grow under their feet. Activities such as out-of-town trips, bowling, annual Christmas galas, quarterly birthday breakfast or lunch, sick and shut-in visitations, consistent monthly meetings, secret pal name exchange, fellowship

gatherings, contributing to worthy causes, and annual seniors' day Sabbaths, are a part of their yearly itinerary. In July, an all-white attire Gospel River Boat Cruise took place on the Savannah River on the Georgia Queen Riverboat.

In September, the Annual Seniors' Day Celebration was held with the guest speaker being one of the former pastors, David A. Smith, executive vice president for the South Atlantic Conference. Music was provided by the Senior Social Club Choir, and seven of the seniors were honored with gifts for having lived 80 years or more: Lucy Brown, Merry Clements, Florence Dailey, Anthony Gadson, Shirley Hall, Julia Jones, and Marjorie

Williams. After the worship service, a delicious dinner was served to the entire church, followed by an adult and youth trivia session conducted by David Smith.

The seniors of West Broad are appreciative to all the former Senior Social Club (Golden Agers) leaders for starting and keeping this active organization alive. Currently, the organization is under the faithful and capable leadership of co-leaders Anthony Gadson and Herman DeLoach. 🕊

BY BEATRICE BANKS,
COMMUNICATIONS SECRETARY

Hinesville First Church Holds Veterans Appreciation Sabbath

The South Atlantic Conference churches in close proximity to where military bases are located serve an additional responsibility of providing spiritual support to all of the men and women who are currently active, as well as those who are veterans who have served but are now discharged from active duty. The Hinesville, Ga., First Church is active in providing that spiritual support.

Monte Newbill Sr., district pastor in South Carolina and South Atlantic National Service Organization (NSO) director, along with Caroline Prospect, NSO leader and Army retired sergeant first class, recognized 18 veterans

with a combined 156 years of service. Among those honored was a visitor who had not attended a church in person or virtually in three years. With the appreciation, love, and recognition shown, the young man committed to God to potentially be baptized and rededicate his life to Christ.

Newbill was the speaker for the service, and delivered a message of comfort and courage. After a well received message, the church provided a meal for the attendees. ●



Monte Newbill Sr. (left), district pastor and South Atlantic Conference NSO director, gives a token of appreciation to one of Hinesville First Church deacons who currently serves in active duty at Fort Stewart, Ga.

BY MONTE NEWBILL SR.

Praise Tabernacle Church Holds Women's Day Program

Sheila Mills, North Carolina State women's ministries leader, planned a Women's Day Program for April 22, 2023, at Praise Tabernacle Church in Whiteville, N.C.

The day started with an informative Sabbath School lesson taught by Vida McLeary. At the beginning of the worship service, Bettye Mills, patriarch of the church, led the procession of women who were accompanied by Portia Davidson on the piano.

The theme chosen for the day's activities was "Women Inspiring Souls to the Lighthouse."

Program participants included Sheila Mills, hostess; Rosie Parker, guest speaker and former women's ministries director for South Atlantic Conference;



Pictured are Sheila Mills (left), Rosie Parker, April Smith, Joyce Hairston, and Joan Moore

Joan Moore, North Carolina State treasurer; Joyce Hairston, former North Carolina State women's leader; and April Smith, current South Atlantic Conference women's ministries director.

A musical selection featuring an African dialect song, was presented by the

Carolina Adventist Academy students, under the direction of Aisha McLeary, Adventist youth leader. Another musical selection was presented by Trinity's Grace, composed by Diyana Mills, Alexis McLeary, and Atheena Swindell. Charlene Berry, Praise Taberna-

cle health ministries leader, gave the prayer after the sermon. A meal was served to all who attended the services and activities. ❶

BY RICHARD G. BERRY, M.D.

Praise Tabernacle Creates Unique Ministry on Two Wheels

Praise Tabernacle Church in Whiteville, N.C., has joined a unique ministry, Adventist Motorcycle Ministry (AMM). Jessie Davidson, who rides a Harley-Davidson motorcycle, is the president and founder of the North Carolina chapter of Soldiers of the Cross Christian Bikers.

On a recent Sabbath, the members of the chapter rode their motorcycles to church. This was not a show-off meeting, but was "Bikers Blessing Sabbath." The members gathered to ask the Lord for protection for the bikers as they ministered to the surrounding communities.

The ministry is affiliated with the worldwide biker's organization, Adventist Motorcycle Ministry, whose motto is "Where every ride is a mission." This ministry emphasis is on uplifting Jesus through the three angels' messages, healthy lifestyle living, and ministering to an individual's physical and mental needs.

On one occasion, the Soldiers of the Cross Christian Bikers Club teamed up with the Praise Tab Tigers Pathfinder Club and travelled to Myrtle Beach, S.C., to minister to the homeless. There they distributed essential care packages. The members have participated in various bike rallies, sharing the Gospel by using *Steps to Christ* and healthy lifestyle booklets. ❶

BY RICHARD G. BERRY, M.D., HEALTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR FOR THE SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE.



Soldiers of the Cross Christian Bikers Club from Praise Tabernacle Church in Whiteville, N.C.



Smyrne French Church's "God's Closet" team

United in Prayer: Prayer Thrives at Oakwood University Church

The house of God is to be a place of prayer,” said Debleaire Snell, senior pastor for the Oakwood University Church, during the Oakwood University Church’s prayer emphasis weekend, July 15 and 16, 2023. “United in Prayer,” the church’s congregation (local and on-line) experienced a spirit-filled weekend. Shirleyann Cherry, prayer ministries director, reminded the church family and community that God admonishes each person to “pray without ceasing.” The weekend included prayerful activities.

Attendees were able to stop at prayer stations located around the church. Each person was given thematic Bible promise cards. Prayer intercessors were present to pray with people requesting prayer.



David Person (center) is honored for his service to the Church and community.



Attendees pray at the Prayer Breakfast.

An intergenerational online panel discussion was “United in Prayer: Baptism of the Holy Spirit.” The six panelists, Stephanie Johnson-Dingome, Taylar Johnson, Akivah Northern, Gabe Taylor, Marsha Miller, and Lenroy James, answered pivotal questions about the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The panel ended with prayer. Participants were able to place their prayer requests in the chat or share their prayer requests verbally.

A prayer breakfast was held on Sunday, July 16, 2023. Joyce Vernon and David Person were honored for their service to the church and community. In addition to a delicious breakfast

and musical contributions by Janice Johnson Browne, Gwen Shepherd, and Jedidiah Ayivor, attendees were blessed to experience a soul-stirring, spirit-filled testimonial presentation by Judy Dent, Oakwood Academy principal, who reminded the audience that “this is God’s world; [we] are just living in it Understand, God will always come through.”

Prayer is thriving at Oakwood University Church. “Our hope is that the body of Christ would see a strong prayer life as something that is attainable for all,” said Snell. 🕊

BY RAMONA L. HYMAN

Three-Church District Holds All-Night Prayer Meeting

How long has it been since you’ve spent all night in prayer? As a three-church district, Mt. Pisgah Worship Center, First Tuskegee, and First

Union Springs, Ala., Adventist churches united for their first All-Night Prayer Service. About 30 minutes prior to sunset on Saturday, May 6, 2023, members from the

district began to fill the sanctuary of Mt. Pisgah Worship Center in Troy, Ala. The district came together with the purpose of individual and corporate spiritual renewal.


“Renew Me, Oh Lord, Then Renew Us” was the theme of the All-Night Prayer Service. The 11-hour event included hourly prayer focuses, sermonettes, devotional thoughts, testimonies, and inspiring music. The service ended at sunrise on Sunday, May 7, 2023, with a fellowship breakfast.

Nathan Cook, district pastor stated the service was inspired by the 10 Days of Prayer that occurred earlier this year in January. The sixth day of the 10 Days of Prayer was the inspiring catalyst for the prayer service with the intent to imitate the life experience of Christ as He, too, spent whole nights in prayer.

A custom Prayer Box sat at the front of the church where attendees placed

personal prayer requests throughout the night. During breaks, members signed cards that were mailed to missing members of the three congregations the following morning. First responder agencies received calls during the night from elders who thanked them for their services, and prayed for their protection as they served the three communities.

Many in attendance stated the night of prayer was the first they ever attended. Several persons in attendance came planning to leave early and ended up staying longer than intended because God was working on their hearts, and they didn’t want to forfeit answers to prayers that were wrought. There was a strong virtual pres-

ence. Viewers stayed connected until sunrise from as far west as the state of Oregon, along with others from Texas, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Michigan, North Carolina, Georgia, and Mississippi. As the sun rose early Sunday morning, an unspeakable joy filled the atmosphere as members felt remarkably rejuvenated while singing “Side by Side We Stand.” The All-Night Prayer Service was a success. The district is prepared to receive the fruit of answered prayer, and anticipation is already building for the next meeting, which is scheduled for the fall this year. 

BY TONJIA R. COOK

OAA Organizes ‘God Squad’ for Random Acts of Kindness

What do you get when you put together random acts of kindness and God? The God Squad! In harmony with the mission of Oakwood Adventist Academy (OAA), the God Squad exists to support the school’s mission by providing community service opportunities that help students, families, and constituencies of OAA to develop spiritually, academically, and socially.

It’s composed of the entire middle school — 54 in grades 7 and 8 — and is designed to equip students to minister to their peers, faculty, staff, families, and the surrounding community by sharing God’s Word with random acts of kindness.

Middle school teachers Thomasa Henry, Shellie Freeman, and Anita Collins organized students into the God Squad to teach students how to live out their Christian faith in practical and life-changing ways, and support the school’s efforts to “Develop, Nurture, and Affirm” scholars for a lifetime and eternity.

Since its debut in January 2023, the God

Squad has performed random acts of kindness each month. For Valentine’s Day, the Squad delivered “Love of God-grams” which were homemade paper hearts with more than 30 Bible verses attached inside each one that expressed God’s love and care. Members delivered the grams to students, parents, and staff at dismissal in the car line and the classrooms.

In March, as students prepared for spring break, the God Squad prepared and distributed small snack bags of candy with scripture to K-12 students and faculty, praying for them to have a “Sweet Spring Break.”

And, the God Squad “showered” the OAA sophomore class with nearly 90 personal care items and socks in support of the class’s supply drive for ShowerUP, a nonprofit organization that provides mobile showering services to the homeless in Madison County. Items collected included shampoo, conditioner, body wash, Q-tips, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, towels, washcloths, feminine products,

shaving cream, and lip balm.

The activities are already having a powerful impact on Squad members. “I feel very happy knowing that I was able to help someone who really needed it,” said seventh-grader Saige Allen. “I also feel excited because I know the person who will receive my [donated hygiene] items is going to be very happy. I also feel proud of myself for being a part of something that actually benefits my community.”

“This experience has reminded me of how grateful I should be for the little things,” said Ciara Davis, seventh-grader and class chaplain.

Seventh-grader Carson Patterson felt his participation is a way of following Jesus’ example. “I feel good because Jesus told us to give and not receive,” said Patterson. “God sent Jesus to die for us because we didn’t have any hope. So, I hope that in the future, we can grow and contribute more than we did before.” Even those who did not donate items felt grateful for the Squad’s involvement, and for extra items that were donated to

represent each student. For one eighth-grader, the God Squad's work is confirmation of the Lord's soon return.

"It feels good [being involved] ... it feels like I matter even though I didn't do my part [by donating]," said Andrew Parsons, eighth-grader and class treasurer. "It also feels like I have been forgiven from my mistakes as a person. This whole God Squad thing helps me know that God is real, and that He is coming back one day." Seventh-grader Zeniyah Dulan, who is preparing for baptism following the OAA Week of Prayer, stated that her involvement in God Squad is helping her build a relationship with God. "It's helping me learn more about Jesus and understand Him better, that He does things for a reason and that He allowed sin to happen for a reason — so we can have a choice to choose Him or Satan."

"It helped me get closer to God because it's like He's telling them [the donations] are gonna help them feel better," said seventh-grader Donell Morgan. "Some people may not have a strong belief in God, and [sharing the Love of God-grams] could help them understand the Bible more so they can see that God really loves them."



God Squad team

Eighth-grader Mekhai Andrews said, "It inspires me and motivates me to give and be more thankful in providing for people in need."

Another eighth-grader and new OAA student, Preston Claybrooks, said, "It makes me feel good doing these activities. It makes me feel a fraction of the miracles Jesus did and how He was living at that time."

Jaxson Dalrymple said it changed how he thinks about giving to others.

"Sometimes you want to keep stuff for yourself, but it gave me joy to see the smiles on the kids' faces."

Aniyah Crummie, seventh-grader and

class vice president, felt the benefits of participating went both ways. "It made me feel good. I'm glad I could help someone out. I really like volunteer work, so I was happy to donate. As for helping a classmate, I was also happy to help because it made me feel good about myself."

God Squad's next event will be to prepare celebration gifts for fellow students who responded to the baptism call during the April 2023 OAA Week of Prayer. 📌

BY ANITA E. COLLINS, M.ED., OAA
GRADE 7-8 BIBLE AND SOCIAL STUDIES
TEACHER, AND GRADE 8 CLASS SPONSOR

Birmingham Youth Experience Unforgettable Vacation Bible School

Ephesus Church in Birmingham, Ala., recently hosted a successful Vacation Bible School (VBS) program after a four-year hiatus. The theme of this year's VBS was "Fiercely Faithful," and aimed to instill the unwavering love and faithfulness of God in the hearts of young participants. The program, led by children's ministries assistants Ethelyn Lusain and Wendell Timothy, left a lasting impact on the children.

The central Bible verse for VBS was Deuteronomy 7:9, reminding partici-

pants that God is faithful and will show His constant love to those who love and obey Him. The program ran from July 17 to 22, 2023, and prioritized the safety of the children, thanks to a well-organized registration process led by Annie Dailey, Charmeretta Timothy, and the registration team.

From 6 to 8 p.m. each evening, the children experienced different Bible lessons at various stations designed to engage their minds and hearts. The Mazan Oasis offered uplifting songs, skits, and

Bible promises, while the House of Peace provided interactive Bible stories led by Lisa Carpenter and Jourdan Elliott. The Yeshua Gate focused on prayer activities guided by Clementine Collins, and the Olive Branch Café provided nourishing meals prepared by Willie Mae Whatley and her team. The Cabana Shop allowed for creative expression, and the Sand Pit engaged the children with Bible stories in a unique way, led by Victor and Geneva Long.

Each night the program concluded

with a closing program in the Mazan Oasis, where the children reviewed what they had learned and contributed to the ADRA mission project, raising an impressive \$271 during the week.

The success of the VBS program can be attributed to the exemplary leadership of Ethelyn Lusain and Wendell Timothy, as well as the dedicated team of volun-

teers, supportive parents, and generous donors. The church prays that this year's VBS will impact the lives of the participants for years to come; that they left with a stronger connection to their faith and a deeper understanding of God's love; and that the memories of laughter, songs, and life-changing lessons will linger in their hearts, making Ephesus

Church's "Fiercely Faithful" Vacation Bible School 2023 a cherished memory. Their wish is that the seeds of faith sown during VBS will continue to grow and flourish in the hearts of the young believers until next year. ①

BY WENDELL TIMOTHY

Oakwood Pathfinders Partner with NACH to Feed Homeless People

Worldwide, billions of people cannot cherish the innate warmth of home. "The homeless" are people who experience grueling hardship, inducing homelessness. Definitely, homelessness means having no home or permanent place of residence. To help their community tackle this apparent impasse, Oakwood University Church's Christian Crusaders Pathfinder Club in Huntsville, Ala., partnered with the North Alabama Coalition for the Homeless (NACH) on March 12, 2023, to complete "Operation Feed the Homeless" for Global Youth Day. Assuredly, the Christian Crusaders responded to God's Great Commission, which calls Christians to "go and make disciples of all nations," enthusiastically saying, "I will go."

The Pathfinders aimed to collect \$4,000 in bulk food supplies and assemble 1,000

individual food packages for distribution to the homeless community of north Alabama. Their companionable actions and hefty undertaking display how they shouldered a problem in their community.

NACH required more space and personnel to complete this task, so the Pathfinder leaders and NACH directors decided to utilize OUC's Family Life Center and its 65 Christian Crusaders, gifting the club a third opportunity to serve the coalition. The club's recurrent willingness to engage exemplifies its love for its community. In summary, the Crusaders' companionable actions, hefty undertaking, and readiness to engage permitted them to address a need in their region.

Engaging in "Operation Feed the Homeless" for Global Youth Day, and personifying theme "I Will Go" allowed the Pathfinders to contribute to proclaim-

ing the Gospel, finishing its work, and ushering in the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Even after packaging \$4,000 in bulk food supplies, the Crusaders had still not assembled 1,000 food supply bags. To remedy this, they selflessly donated their refreshments, allowing them to surpass that goal and assemble 1,030 bags.

The Crusaders' eager invitation to other church and family members to participate and their celebratory spirit exemplified the operation's inclusivity, while their selfless choice to donate their refreshments for other peoples' benefit blessed them with the chance to share the love that Jesus had when He gave His life for humanity's benefit. ①

BY AZARIA A. REED



Oakwood University Christian Crusaders with their directors.



Oakwood Pathfinders pack supply bags.



Oakwood Pathfinders collect various items to pack in supply bags.

Care Coordination Program Streamlines Journey for AdventHealth Patients

In Florida, an 86-year-old patient arrived at the emergency department (ED) suffering from severe abdominal pain. When initial assessments indicated a hospital admission was possible, an ED care coordinator with AdventHealth's Population Health Services Organization (PHSO) intervened, offering a more efficient solution.

The ED care coordinator collaborated with the hospital team to facilitate care through an in-home urgent care provider, arranging a same-day visit that provided the care and relief that the patient so desperately needed.

In 2022, the AdventHealth PHSO unveiled its ED Care Coordination (EDCC) Program across its Florida footprint in an effort to avoid unnecessary hospital admissions and make the care journey easier for patients. Within a year, the program successfully prevented approximately 400 avoidable admissions through proactive care coordination.

"I'm always thinking about what I can do to make the journey easier for the patient as well as the provider," said Chrissy Kucharski, an ED care coordinator who has been a registered nurse for 10 years. "I'm reviewing charts for information that might help me when it comes to the resources and assistance I can offer. When you are successful, it's pretty exciting because as a nurse you know you are that liaison and advocate for the patient."

Kucharski is part of a team that includes nurses and a social worker that uses technology and real-time data to identify potentially avoidable admissions early on, and provide alternatives that range from prompt primary care



AdventHealth nurses

appointments to visits from in-home urgent care providers.

To date, the EDCC team has reviewed more than 14,000 cases and conducted more than 800 ED provider consultations intended to identify ways to help streamline a patient's care.

"When you look at where health care is headed, especially value-based care, it's important to innovate our processes to make the often-complex care journey easier," said Jill Piazza, vice president of operations for the AdventHealth PHSO. "The ED Care Coordination Program is helping bridge the gap for patients as well as providers, and I am thankful for the ingenuity, expertise, and commitment of the team members who continue to impact our patients and improve the value of the program."

The program's success in its first full year has been poised for potential expansion beyond Florida and further across AdventHealth's nine-state network.

Behind the scenes, Kucharski continues diligently working to ensure smooth patient transitions. The patients never see her, and most will never know she is there working on their behalf. She doesn't mind because she finds joy in the opportunity to be an advocate for patients, whether they know it or not.

"I'm behind the scenes working for somebody and they don't even know it," said Kucharski. "AdventHealth is striving to make their transition smoother, and that patient may not even know, but the doctor can go into that room and tell them that a coordinator has already made them an appointment, and the patient can rest without feeling stress or anxiety about it." 🎧

BY MARIO ROBERTS, SENIOR
MANAGER PHSO COMMUNICATIONS AT
ADVENTHEALTH.

Southern Adventist University Celebrates Historic Freshman Enrollment

Newcomers abound at Southern Adventist University this school year with a freshman class of 758 students — the University's highest freshman enrollment ever.

"We are so excited to welcome the largest freshman class in our history," said Ken Shaw, Ed.D., president of Southern Adventist University. "Our enrollment team has done a remarkable job sharing the good news about Southern. I also believe that as young people visited our campus over the past year, they sensed the genuine friendliness of our community, and experienced our mission being lived out in their interactions with staff, faculty, and students."

Fall 2011 set the last freshman enrollment record at 652, meaning this semester is the first time a freshman class at Southern has not only reached but also exceeded 700 students. At 2,827, the institution's current undergraduate class is one of its largest ever, second only to 2,896 in 2012.

"I praise the Lord for blessing our team to be able to share Southern's story



across the country and the world," said Jason Merryman, vice president for enrollment management. "It is an honor to contribute to the University's mission of equipping students to embrace biblical truth and embody academic and professional excellence. I'm thankful every day that God allows us to do this work."

The University's annual "Southern



Serves Day," previously known as "Freshman Service Day," immediately engages new students in a variety of projects in the local community, and this fall's event saw more participants than ever before. Cheryl Craven, Christian Service director, was deeply impressed by students' dedication to serve from dawn to dusk.

"Some individuals persevered past 4 p.m., helping out at the Samaritan Center and cranking out bunk beds for Sleep in Heavenly Peace," she said. "They completed 74 beds for local children ages 3-17 who would otherwise be sleeping on couches, blankets, or even floors."

"I'm thrilled about high enrollment because it means more students now have an opportunity to grow in their relationship with the Lord and discover how their individual talents can ultimately serve Him," said Merryman. "I believe there is no better place on Earth to accomplish these things." ①

BY AMANDA BLAKE





DIXON, SARAH (DOLLY) E. W., 68, of Jonesborough, TN, born in Crossville, TN, passed away at her home on May 26, 2023. She graduated from Collegedale Academy and Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University). After teaching for six years in Adventist academies, Sarah moved to Florida where she worked at Florida Hospital and later took classes at the University of Florida to fulfill her life dream of becoming an occupational therapist. She moved to Johnson City, TN, in 2000, and worked at Bristol Regional Hospital where she brought love and smiles along with her hands-on skills to her patients and co-workers until her retirement in 2021.

In 2004, Sarah married Pastor Paull Dixon. She was energized by working for Jesus in many positions in the Church. She often led the hymns on Sabbath morning and began her musical career at the unbelievable age of 19 months, singing with her older siblings in three-part harmony. She enjoyed using her building skills in her own house and church projects.

Sarah placed a premium on a friendship with Jesus and the Word of God! She is survived by her husband, Paull Dixon; three siblings: Carol (Vic) Swayze, Stephen (Karen) Wickham, Tamara (Dwight) Barnett; stepdaughters: Kim (Zach) Mazone, Dori (David) Jacaban; six grandchildren; seven nieces; and nephews. A Celebration of Life Service was held June 24, 2023, at the Johnson City, TN, Church. She was preceded in death by her parents, Harry and Ella Wickham; and an older brother, Harry (Gloria).

GUNDERSON, DAVID LEE, 84, born Oct. 11, 1938, in Eau Claire, WI, died Aug. 9, 2023. He was a son of the late Benhardt Oliver Gunderson and Ruth Mae Hill Gunderson. David is survived by his wife of nearly 64 years, Marilyn Campbell Gunderson; his children: Eric (Stephanie) Gunderson, Kelley (John) Hassencahl, and Jill (Kevin) Mayberry; grandchildren: Coley (Jenn) Gunderson, Caleb (Kaitlen) Gunderson, Lacey Hassencahl, Katelyn (Bret) Hassencahl-Williams, and William Hassencahl; one great-grandchild, Anne Hassencahl-Williams; several nieces; nephews; and cousins. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Ben Gunderson.

HARDEN, FRANCES D., 82, born to Katherine and Douglas Head on June 16, 1941, in Warm Springs, GA, died Aug. 9, 2023. She was one of the charter members of the Dunnellon, FL, Church. She was a devoted and loving wife, mother,

and grandmother. She is survived by her daughters: Lynn Politte and Kelly Savage; her grandchildren: Renee Giunta, Brandy Clark, Michael Lincoln, and Jesse White; her great-grandson, Colton Giunta; and one sister, Darlene Bryan. She was preceded in death by her husband, Russell; her mother and father; her stepfather, Charles; and her sister, Mary.

JENNETTE, DORIS JEANNE, 87, of Louisville, KY, born June 25, 1935, in the Astoria neighborhood of Long Island, NY, she was the daughter of the late Norman Collier and Regine A. Tieffrey, died June 8, 2023, at Baptist Health of Louisville. Doris graduated from Shawnee High School, Class of 1953. She was so proud of her loving and thoughtful husband and three precious children: Janene, Ron, and Dale. Her small dog, Truffy, who passed away Dec. 2022, filled the void when the children made their own homes. Doris was also a member

of the Louisville Church where she helped to run a school and serving as a leader in the home school program. Left to cherish her unforgettable memory is her husband, Clarence Edward Jennette Jr.; children: Janene (Bill) Tidwell, Ronald (Bern) Jennette, and Dale Jennette; eight grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; sisters: Suzy Carroll and Sandy Kovalski; and aunt, Juanita Rapp. Doris was preceded in death by her parents: Norman and Regine A. Collier; and her grandmother, Suzanne Clemence Martinaud.

LORREN CUTSHALL, DENISE M., 61, born Nov. 6, 1961, at Monument Valley Mission Hospital, died April 14, 2023. Denise attended Southern Adventist University, graduating with an A.S. degree in home economics, continuing to Loma Linda University and graduating in 1986 with a B.S. in occupational therapy. She is remembered by friends and family for her passion for help-

ing others, being a ventriloquist, her percussion talent, and creative cakemaking skills. She was predeceased by her parents, Robert and Clymera Lorren. She is survived by her husband, Ken Cutshall of 11.5 years; sister, Katrina Bisson; stepdaughter, Kendra Cutshall; stepson, Kendrick Cutshall; one step-granddaughter; and two nephews.

LORREN, DR. ROBERT (BOB/BOBBY), 87, born March 29, 1935, in Chattanooga TN, passed away Dec. 11, 2022, in Ooltewah, TN. He was a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church. His wife, Clymera Lorren, first noticed him while his family lived in Berrien Springs, MI. Both their families moved back to the Collegedale area where they both graduated from Collegedale Academy in 1954. He attended SMC working at the College Press to help support his education along with his sister's, Southern Memories photographer, clarinet player in the band, and volunteering as charter member of the Tri-Community Fire Department. He married his high school sweetheart in June of 1958 in Loma Linda, CA. He then went on to graduate from Loma Linda School of Dentistry in 1961, where he started his dentistry in public service with the Navajo Reservation. Following a move from Santa Cruz, CA, he then taught at the Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry in Augusta, GA, and then moved to the Collegedale area where he practiced dentistry in Powell's Crossroad, TN, until his retirement. Dr. Lorren was president of Southern College of Alumni from 1985-1987. After 54 years of marriage, his wife, Clymera Lorren '58 passed away in 2013. His memorial service was in Collegedale, with Pastor Dwight Herod officiating. He loved

to spend time outside gardening, mowing his yard, keeping up with local politics, and helping neighbors. His daughter, Denise Lorren Cuthall, passed shortly after him on April 14, 2023. He is survived by his sister, Barbara Lorren Moore; daughter, Katrina Lorren Bisson; and two grandchildren. Bob's greatest prayer and wish is that all his family and friends decide for Christ. Just as he will search for everyone in Heaven when Christ returns, and he wakes up from his rest, he hoped each one of you will look for him. He was interned at the Collegedale Memorial Park awaiting Christ's return.

NELSON, RONALD PATTERSON, 89, born July 31, 1933, in Pittsburgh, PA, the first of five children born to Lily and Patterson Nelson, died April 30, 2023. He first attended school in the basement of Ethnan Temple SDA Church. He and his cousins all attended that one-room school in the basement of the church, from first grade through high school. He insisted on leaving that school to attend Oakwood Academy in Huntsville, AL. He always had fond memories of how his mother had made the suit he wore on the trip to Huntsville. She was a very talented woman and a wonderful seamstress. After his high school graduation, he joined the U.S. Army and served two years at Fort Sam Houston as a medic. Ron served from July 1953 to July 1955 when he was honorably discharged with a National Defense Service Medal. While he was at Oakwood Academy, he met Eunice. Their friendship continued to grow, and they were eventually married. They soon became the proud parents of their only child, Angela. Ron began working as a self-employed drywall contractor

in San Diego, CA, where he and his family were living. He became quite well known as a very skilled tradesman in that field. Ron helped many young men learn the trade, Darryl Murphy and Jerry Pool, to name a few. To this day many are thankful for the experience and training they received from him. He enjoyed watching sports, especially basketball. He was very competitive at bowling and used to be great on roller skates. Most of all, he loved photography. He took individual portraits, did wedding photos and school photos while living in San Diego. He did things the old way, using film and developing the film himself. He also sang in different groups and choirs and sang solos with his beautiful tenor voice. The group he reminisced about mostly was the Velvetone's Quartet formed in the early 1950s. The group included him and his brother, Wayman, and their childhood friends Ronnie and Darryl Murphy. They were the most popular quartet of the time throughout the Adventist churches in the northeastern states. They even won a talent show which gave them even more fame. Then there was his talent of playing his vibraphone. From back in the 1950s, when he purchased it and taught himself how to play it, he played from California to Alabama and Florida. Everyone loved to hear and see him play. His music was beautiful and unmatched. Ron and Olga married in Hattiesburg, MS, in March 1997. During the years in Mississippi, and to his death, Ron was known to have a strong work ethic. He thanked the Lord every day for being able to work at his age. He continued to work despite failing health. He was thankful for all the help of Curtis Watts Jr. and Julius Hadley on jobs. Ron loved the Lord and

was looking forward to His second coming. He was a faithful member of the South Columbia Church. He held the offices of Sabbath School superintendent, Sabbath School teacher, and minister of music until his illness kept him from continuing. Those who look forward to seeing him at the second coming of Christ are his wife of 26 years, Olga Watts Nelson; one daughter, Angela (Ramon) Broomfield; two sisters: Grayce Grant and Linda Taliaferro; two brothers: Wayman and Herb (Lilly) Nelson; five nieces; three nephews; five grandnieces; one grandnephew; many cousins; numerous friends; and acquaintances.

SIRCAR, SURAJIT K., 80, born March 13, 1943, in Bangladesh, to Rabindronath and Bidyutlata Sircar, died May 26, 2023. Surajit lived there with his family until he left for college in Choorkana, Pakistan. At that time, his three sisters were attending nursing school in Karachi, Pakistan. This is where he met his future wife. She was also attending the Seventh-day Adventist School of Nursing with his sisters. The young couple waited until they both graduated from college to marry. They had two daughters: Diana and Lisa; and one son, Robin. In 1978, the family moved to Nashville, TN. Surajit worked at Madison Hospital then went to work for Metro General Hospital until his retirement. His greatest conviction was telling others that this life is short, and that we must always keep God close to us through prayer. He is survived by his wife, Erin Sircar; three children: Diana Buzby-Soto, Lisa Asta, and Robin Sircar; and six grandchildren. Surajit was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters: Mithra Din and Suchitra Sircar; and one brother, Gilbert Sircar.

STEWART, CARLTON BRADFORD "BRAD," 67, born May 5, 1957, in New Port News, VA, died April 29, 2023, in Greenbrier, TN. Brad was a faithful, loving member of the Ridgetop, TN, Church. He graduated from high school in 1975 and enlisted in the U.S. Army shortly after. During his nearly 17 years in the military, he served in many parts of the world, including Korea, Germany, and in the First Gulf War. During those years he met and married Beth, his wife of 36 years. After an honorable discharge from the military, the family settled in the Nashville, TN, area. He was predeceased by his parents: William and Nellie Stewart. He is survived by his wife, Laura Elsbeth Stewart; son, Shane (Brittany) Bradford; daughter, Sarah Lynn Gonzales; three grandchildren: Elizabeth, Luke, and Emma; three brothers: William (Denise) Stewart, Brian (Connie) Stewart, and Barry (Barbara) Stewart; and eight nieces and their families.

SWENSEN, PATRICIA MARTIN HARE (PATTI), 87, born June 6, 1936, in Lacombe, Alberta, Canada, to Hubert and Gladys Martin, and her life was a testament to love, faith, and service, she peacefully passed away July 20, 2023, in Hendersonville, NC. After completing her education at Columbia Union College, Patti dedicated herself to work for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and Columbia Union College. However, her true passions extended beyond her professional achievements. Patti found solace and wisdom within the pages of the Bible, and her artistic talents shone through her beautiful quilting and knitting projects, bringing warmth and beauty to those fortunate enough to receive them. Patti's faith was deeply ingrained, as evidenced by her

active involvement in the Fletcher, NC, Church. Within her church family, she found both a sense of community and spiritual nourishment, sharing her kind heart and generous spirit with others. She is survived by her loving husband of 14 years, Raymond "Bud" Swensen, and her cherished children: Carol (John) Pack of Milton, DE, Calvin (Leslie) Hare of Winter Park, FL, and stepson, Reginald (Wanda) Swensen of Weimar, CA; her legacy lives on through her grandchildren: Stacey Pack (John Myers) of Baltimore, MD, Brian (Samantha) Pack of Beltsville, MD, and step-grandchildren: Alexander (Sarah) Swensen of Nashville, TN, and William (Rechelle-Lee) Swensen of Boise, ID; great-grandchildren: Audrey Myers of Baltimore, MD, Hailey Pack of Beltsville, MD, Peter Myers of Baltimore, MD, and David Pack of Beltsville, MD, all brought immense joy to her life; her sister, Lenore (Charles) Combs of Laguna Woods, CA; numerous nieces; one nephew; and dear friends who will miss her dearly. Services to celebrate Patti's life were held at Fletcher Park Inn, Upper Room on Sept. 23, 2023, where her warm spirit and cherished memories were honored by those who loved her most. Patti was preceded in death by her first husband, Peter Edgar Hare; and her parents, Hubert and Gladys Martin.

Deliciousness: Diced, Dipped, Delivered.



Catering

Hand-Crafted Fruit Platters & Snack Bundles Delivered To Your Next Event

Get healthy, creative catering options for corporate functions, lunches, or parties.

Call today to learn more about our next-day catering & fruit delivery.



Call toll-free to order! **We deliver throughout the U.S.**

1-844-FRUIT-OU

1 - 8 4 4 - 3 7 8 - 4 8 6 8

Share
Love,
SUPPORT
STUDENTS.



AN OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY INDUSTRY

Containers may vary. Edible Arrangements®, the Fruit Basket Logo, and other marks mentioned herein are registered trademarks of Edible Arrangements, LLC. All rights reserved.

Proceeds from all sales placed by calling 1-844 FRUIT-OU go to support Oakwood University.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ADVERTISING

(1) Have your pastor or local church elder write "Approved" and his signature on the sheet of paper containing the advertisement, (2) write your name and address on the same sheet, (3) specify how many times the ad is to run, (4) send the approved ad to your conference office 6 weeks in advance of the publication date and (5) don't forget to enclose payment in full for each month the ad is to run. Make checks payable to SOUTHERN UNION.

RATES: Southern Union: \$40 for 20 words or less, including address. \$45 for anything longer than 20 words up to 45 words. \$1.30 per word beyond 45. Accepted as space is available. Ads may run in successive months as space permits.

Southern Tidings makes every reasonable effort to screen all advertising, but in no case can the periodical assume responsibility for advertisements appearing in its columns, or for typographical errors.

PROPERTY AVAILABLE

FLORIDA SDA REALTOR Would you like to BUY or SELL in Orlando, Florida or surrounding cities? I look forward to helping you! Sandra Da Silva, Realtor: 407-840-8500 (call/text). Service provided in English, Spanish & Portuguese. [C]

YOUR REALTOR IN FLORIDA & EASTERN TENNESSEE Are you ready to BUY or SELL your home? Maybe you want to trade hectic urban life for peaceful country living? Want to build a homestead? I can help you make it all happen. Contact Osvaldo "Ozzy" Ferrer 423-457-9057 or 407-285-2510. Call, text, WhatsApp, or email ozzyferrer@outlook.com. [C]

REFINANCE YOUR MORTGAGE TODAY! Looking to lower your interest rate, consolidate debt, get cash out for home improvements, or get pre-approved to purchase your home? We have the nation's top lenders. FHA/VA/USDA/Conventional/First Time Home Buyers welcome. Licensed in AL, NC, TN, FL, and other states. Call 411-MORTGAGES...Ozzy 407-285-2510 / 423-457-9057. [C]

FLORIDA LIVING Conference owned independent living community near Orlando, Florida. SDA Church on the property. AdventHealth medical care, shopping, beaches very close. The sunshine is free and plentiful. Start your new life with us!! 407-452-4243 Nancy (Admin), Katty (PR). [C]

SUMMIT RIDGE RETIREMENT VILLAGE An Adventist community in a rural setting outside Oklahoma City that offers affordable homes or apartments and caring neighbors, with a fellowship you'll enjoy. On-site church, planned activities, and transportation, as needed. Also, Wolfe Living Center offering independent living and nursing home. Website: <http://summitridgevillage.org> or Bill Norman 405-208-1289 [C]

DON'T JUST RETIRE.... Live with purpose at Fletcher Park Inn. An Independent Living Retirement Community, located on the campus of Fletcher Academy near Hendersonville, North Carolina. Join our family, take part in the many opportunities for staying active, volunteering, mak-

ing new friends and living with a purpose. Call to find out more about our apartment and villa homes 828-209-6930 ask for our marketing department or visit www.fletcherparkinn.com. [C]

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

UNION COLLEGE, Lincoln NE seeks applicants for Director of Student Financial Services. The director is responsible for maintaining compliance with institutional, federal, and state regulations and administering and managing a highly personalized financial aid process. Excellent benefits package and tuition assistance for dependents provided. See full job description and instructions for application at ucollege.edu/employment. [11-12]

UNION COLLEGE, Lincoln NE seeks applicants for Vice President for Enrollment Management. The individual is responsible for meeting the enrollment goals of the college and for strategically managing financial aid monies to achieve the college's enrollment goals and overall financial goals. Oversee the functions of recruitment, admissions, student finance, and the visit experience. Excellent benefits package and tuition assistance for dependents provided. See full job description and instructions for application at ucollege.edu/employment. [11-12]

UNION COLLEGE, Lincoln NE is searching for a Program Director for the Public Health Graduate Program. A doctoral degree in public health is required. This individual will be responsible for the implementation of and teaching within the graduate program. Please view the job description and instructions for application at ucollege.edu/employment or contact Debbie Eno at Debbie.eno@ucollege.edu for more information. [11]

CAREGIVER Free apartment rent in country setting 3 bedrooms 1 bath on one acre near Uchee Pines Institute in Seale, AL. Must oversee complete care of two disabled ladies who have no physical limitations or health issues and live in their own home nearby. \$3000 monthly must have verifiable church affiliation. More details, 334-855-0733. [11]

HOME AND CAREGIVER needed in a rural setting for a mentally challenged adult female or caregiver to live in a house near her home in rural Alabama. Free rent in a three-bedroom home and a salary of \$2500 monthly or \$4500 for two individuals working in the same family. Verifiable church affiliation and background check needed. 334-855-0733. [11]

JOIN SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY as our new Payroll Manager. This position is directly responsible for processing accurate and timely payroll for various employment types and across all payroll cycles, ensuring compliance with tax regulations, denominational policies, and best practices while collaborating with our dedicated HR and Accounting teams. Open immediately; this is a full-time, exempt position with comprehensive denominational benefits and a supportive and dynamic work environment. See www.southern.edu/hr for the job description and application instructions. [11]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks qualified candidates for the following staff Salaried positions— Academic Administration DHSI (Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions) Project Manager, Academic Administration DHSI Community Outreach Coordinator, Academic Administration DHSI Retention and Resilience Coordinator, Associate Vice President for Academic Administration and Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies. For more information go to Southern.edu/jobs [11]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks qualified candidates for the following staff Hourly positions— S.A.L.T. Outreach Coordinator for School of Religion, Landscape Supervisor, Head Cashier/Interdepartmental Invoicing, Salad Supervisor (part-time), Cafeteria Supper Cook, Alarm Technician. For more information go to Southern.edu/jobs [11]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time Associate Vice President for Academic Administration and Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies. Candidate should have a PhD with a minimum of five years of successful full-time graduate teaching experience at the higher education level. Applicant will assume a leadership role in all aspects of graduate education and provide academic, administrative, and strategic direction to Graduate Studies, Online Campus, and the Adult Degree Completion (ADC) Program. For more details, visit southern.edu/jobs. [11]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time Engineer teaching faculty member for School of Engineering and Physics in the areas of mechanical, electrical, and computer engineering. The ideal candidate will be proficient in developing and teaching undergraduate engineering courses, including both lecture and lab-

oratory components. Master's degree in mechanical, electrical, or computer engineering or related area required. Doctorate preferred. Prior higher education teaching experience and/or relevant industry experience preferred. For a full job description and desired qualifications please visit www.southern.edu/jobs [11]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time faculty in the area of Counseling for School of Education/Psychology. A doctoral degree in counselor education from a CACREP-accredited program is required. Doctoral degrees in clinical or counseling psychology from APA-accredited program could be considered if applicant has been employed as full-time faculty member in a counselor education program for a minimum of one full academic year before July 1, 2013. For a full job description and desired qualifications please visit www.southern.edu/jobs [11]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time program director to launch a new Doctor of Physical Therapy degree program. The ideal candidate will be proficient in managing the CAPTE accreditation process, new program development, and teaching graduate physical therapy courses as well as clinical practice. In addition, the successful candidate will be committed to mentoring advisees, nurturing student learning both in and out of the classroom, and disciplining students in Jesus Christ. For a full job description and desired qualifications please visit www.southern.edu/jobs [11]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time teaching faculty member for the Department of Biology/Allied Health, beginning fall 2024. PhD in Biology who will teach upper and lower division courses and labs. Candidate should be committed to involvement with undergraduate students in the classroom as well as guiding independent student research projects. Additionally, candidate should be a practicing Seventh-day Adventist believing the Biblical record of the creation of life on earth in six literal days. For more details, visit southern.edu/jobs. [11]

MISCELLANEOUS

RELOCATING? Apex Moving + Storage has a national account with the General Conference for your moving needs. Take advantage of a volume rated discount. Be assured you are moving with the best! Call Marcy Dante' at 800-766-1902; or visits us at: www.apexmoving.com/adventist. [C]

TEACH SERVICES HELPING AUTHORS: Publish your book, including editing, design, marketing, and worldwide distribution. Visit www.TEACHServices.com to submit your manuscript for a free evaluation

or call 800-367-1844. Shop for NEW/USED ADVENTIST BOOKS at www.TEACHServices.com or at your local ABC. [C]

NC & SC Allstate Insurance Agency. SDA owned and operated. Call today for a free quote for auto, home, renters, boat, motorcycle or life insurance. Agent is UCSDA church Treasurer & Elder. Exclusive Agent, Brian King 704-844-2572 or bjbranking@allstate.com or visit us at www.allstate.com. [C]



SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, nursing religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on campus programs. Financial aid is available. For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduate-studies. [C]

MEDICARE INSURANCE QUESTIONS? Get them answered by Grant Dorough RPh, an agent licensed in North and South Carolina. He can present at group meetings or schedule in-person consultations or Zoom meetings. Call 704-251-7649 or email doroughinsurance@yahoo.com. [11-1]

WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER Residential Program. Suffering with a physical or mental health issue? Come away and receive healing from the Great Physician, regaining your health through natural remedies. Join our residential programs, and learn principles of healthful living by calling 706-820-1493 or visit wildwoodhealth.com [11-12]

PARTNER WITH ASAP MINISTRIES in serving the marginalized and reaching the unreached in Southeast Asia with the wholistic gospel. What you do today can change a life for eternity! Please remember to visit www.asapministries.org to make your tax-deductible donation before December 31, 2023. [11-12]

DON'T MISS THE INSPIRATION, instruction, and connection waiting for you and

your family at the 10th Annual Adventist Agricultural Association Conference! It is designed to help you implement God's plan for an agrarian lifestyle (gardening, market farming, homeschooling and country living), no matter where you live. January 16-21, Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL. Registration is now open at: www.AdventistAg.org. [11-12]

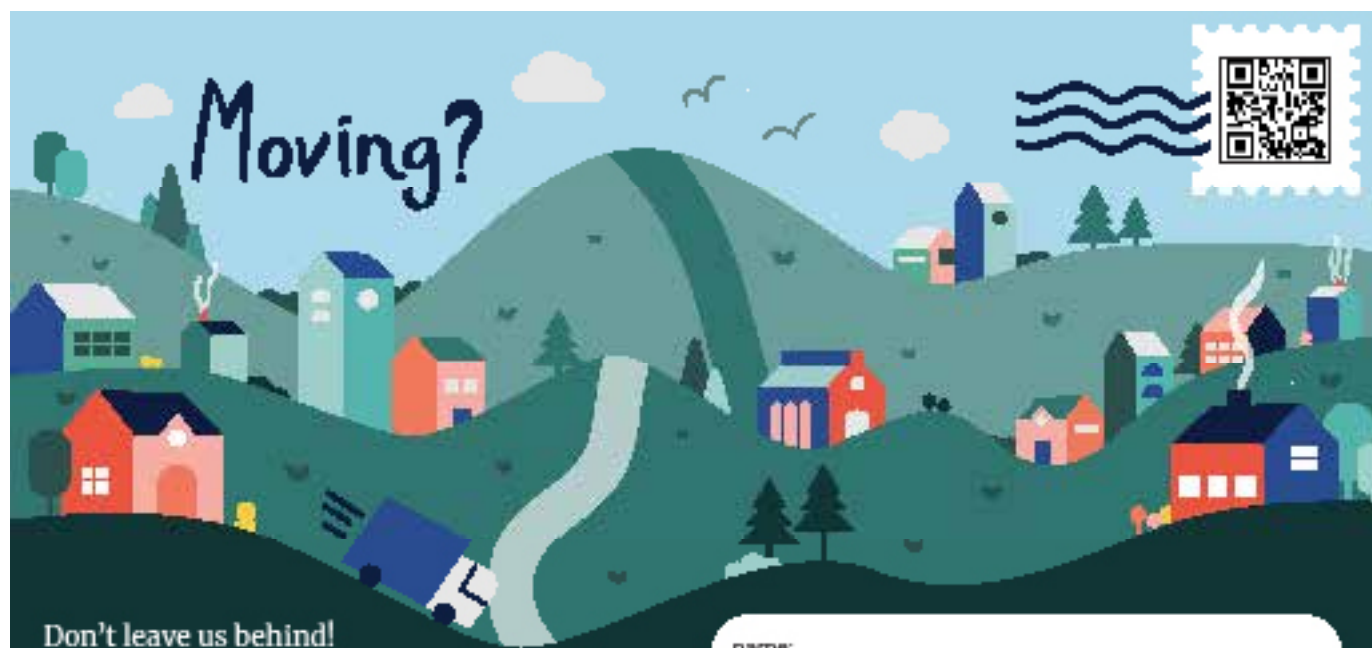
ADVENTIST TOURS 2024. Israel March 10-19 with Dr. Andy Nash (optional Jordan & Egypt); British Reformation June 9-18 with Dr. Greg King; Germany-Austria: Martin Luther to WWII June 18-28; Thailand June 17-26. From \$1950/person plus airfare. (Customized group tours also available.) Contact tabghatours@gmail.com or tabghatours.com for full info. [11]

FILL YOUR LIFE and home with a Christian spirit of Christmas. LifeTalk Radio plays Christmas music all through December with special concerts nightly at 8 pm ET, from December 21 through 25. Enjoy Christmas music 24/7 at LifeTalk.net [11]

BENEFITS OF JUICING (without the mess) (greens, carrots, beet powder) chocolate powder (with 6 different greens) KIDS LOVE IT! Pea protein powder, fiber (powder or capsules). More nutritional supplements (wholesale, retail). Try these for better health. Request testimonies. Yoder's Nutritional Products c-302-264-1325. [11]

UNION/CONFERENCE JOB OPPORTUNITIES





Moving?

Don't leave us behind!

To change your address for *Southern Tidings* scan the QR code above, or email yourdove@southernunion.com

This form can also be filled-in and mailed to:
SOUTHERN TIDINGS, P.O. BOX 923868, PEACHTREE CORNERS, GA 30010-3868

name: _____

old address: _____

new address: _____

phone number: _____



ARE YOUR INVESTMENTS SECURE?

Marion Louise Williams, an alum of Oakwood University, was born in Jamaica in 1929. She was a lover of education and hard work, and as a result completed a bachelor's in history, a master's degree in social work, and an associate degree in nursing. Marion raised a family, worked as a psychiatric social worker, and small business owner while remaining active in the Church. She served as a trustee on several Seventh-day Adventist entity boards. Marion designated Oakwood as a beneficiary for her IRA to provide scholarships for high need/high performing students. Her thoughtful generosity is such a blessing.

If you are interested in a Deferred Gift Annuity to support God's work, please contact your planned giving office.

Carolina
Rick Hutchinson
(704) 596-3200

Georgia-Cumberland
Roy Hartwell
(706) 829-7951

Kentucky-Tennessee
Silke Hubbard
(615) 858-1391

South Atlantic
Merita Mosely
(404) 792-0535

Southeastern
Juan Gonzalez
(352) 735-3142

Florida
Phil Bond
(407) 844-5000

Gulf States
David Sigamani
(334) 272-7493

Oakwood University
Miriam W. Battles
(256) 726-7508

South Central
Sonja Crayton
(815) 226-8500

Southern Adventist University
Kimberly Bobenhausen
(423)-236-2832

LAUNCHING LEADERS

Enroll in one of Oakwood's graduate degree programs:

- Master of Public Health
- Master of Arts in Urban Ministries
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies
- Master of Social Work

**APPLY
NOW**



gradadmissions@oakwood.edu



graduate.oakwood.edu



256.726.8091



OAKWOOD
UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF
GRADUATE STUDIES

FLORIDA

A Better Choice / Florida Adventist Book Center – Altamonte Springs: 407-644-4255. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: myfloridaabc.com or order by e-mail: FloridaABC@floridaconference.com

Young at Heart 50+ Retreat – Nov. 6-9. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs

One Day Marriage Retreat for English Speakers – Nov. 4. Featuring Dr. Dion and Dr. Dilyn Henry at Florida Conference Office, Altamonte Springs.

One Day Marriage Retreat for Spanish Speakers – Nov. 11. Featuring Dr. Consuelo Romera at Florida Conference Office, Altamonte Springs.

Florida Keys Camp Meeting – Feb. 2-4. First Camp Meeting of the 2024 season to be held at Camp Sawyer, mile marker 34, on the Oceanside. Speaker: Mark Finley. Jennifer LaMountain and the Family and Friends Septet will provide special music. For reservations, housing, or more information, please contact Lynn at 734-796-3733.

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

ACF Leadership Reboot – Nov. 3, 4. **Teen Challenge** – Nov. 3-5. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp.

South Georgia Camp Meeting & Church Ministries Training – Nov. 10, 11. Warner Robins, GA, Church.

Junior Event – Dec. 1-3. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp. Please check our website for the latest information, www.gccsda.com.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Michel Martin: Making Sense of a Polarized World – Nov. 9. The School of Journalism and Communication at Southern Adventist University welcomes Michel Martin of NPR's Morning Edition for a discussion on "Making Sense of a Polarized World." Join us in person or online at 7 p.m. in Iles P.E. Center for this free event. Registration is required for those without a current Southern ID. Visit southern.edu/truth for more details.

Ceramic Art Exhibit – Nov. 16. Alumni from the School of Visual Art and Design will showcase ceramic works in the John C. Williams Art Gallery within Brock Hall. The free exhibit opens to the public at 6 p.m. and will remain on display through Jan. 19.

Irish Christmas in America – Nov. 28. The community is invited to Southern to enjoy the family-friendly Irish Christmas in America show in its 18th season, featuring cultural traditions, vocals, and tunes on fiddle, flute, uilleann pipes, and harp at 7:30 p.m. in Iles P.E. Center. For more information, call 423-236-2814.

Christmas Pops Concert – Dec. 2. The Wind Symphony, Jazz Ensemble, and Steel Band from the university's School of Music will perform at 8 p.m. in Iles P.E. Center under the direction of conductors Ken Parsons and Keith Lloyd. This and many other musical events are also broadcast at southern.edu/streaming.

School of Music Christmas Concert – Dec. 9. The University's Bel Can-

to, Die Meistersinger, and I Cantori choirs, under the direction of Gennevie Brown-Kibble, will be joined by the Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Laurie Redmer Cadwallader, for a sacred seasonal performance at 4 p.m. in Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists. For more information, visit southern.edu/musicevents or call 423-236-2880.

European D-Day Commemoration Tour – May 6-17. All are invited to join the Alumni Association in honoring the 80th anniversary of D-Day through a tour of Holland, Belgium, France, and Germany. This adventure is highlighted by the Dutch tulip fields and Keukenhof Gardens, the beaches of the Normandy invasion 80 years later, Paris, and a cruise on the Rhine River. The tour director, Bill Wohlers, Ph.D., has led 25 previous tours. The current price of \$4,995 includes airfare, two meals each day, lodging, ground transportation, and sites. Visit southern.edu/alumni-tour

SUNSET

	NOV 10	NOV 17	NOV 24	DEC 1	DEC 8	DEC 15
ATLANTA, GA	5:39	5:35	5:32	5:30	5:30	5:31
CHARLESTON, SC	5:23	5:19	5:16	5:14	5:14	5:16
CHARLOTTE, NC	5:22	5:17	5:14	5:12	5:12	5:13
COLLEGE DALE, TN	5:39	5:34	5:31	5:29	5:29	5:31
HUNTSVILLE, AL	4:46	4:41	4:38	4:36	4:36	4:38
JACKSON, MS	5:05	5:00	4:58	4:56	4:57	4:58
LOUISVILLE, KY	5:36	5:30	5:27	5:24	5:24	5:25
MEMPHIS, TN	4:59	4:54	4:51	4:49	4:49	4:50
MIAMI, FL	5:35	5:32	5:30	5:30	5:31	5:33
MONTGOMERY, AL	4:49	4:45	4:42	4:41	4:41	4:42
NASHVILLE, TN	4:44	4:39	4:36	4:34	4:33	4:35
ORLANDO, FL	5:35	5:32	5:30	5:29	5:30	5:32
TAMPA, FL	5:41	5:37	5:35	8:55	5:35	5:37
WILMINGTON, NC	5:12	5:08	5:05	5:03	5:03	5:04



SEE FOR **YOURSELF**

Students are extraordinarily friendly, professors are exceptionally caring, and the whole campus is focused on Christ.

But don't just trust our word. Arrange your own free visit to Southern's campus, or join one of our special events.

See Southern for yourself.

Upcoming **FREE*** PreviewSouthern events:

February 19, 2024

March 21-22, 2024

Call **1.800.SOUTHERN**
or go to **southern.edu/visit**.

**Includes free meals and lodging for students interested in attending Southern. Student families are encouraged to visit, too.*



Power for Mind & Soul



Collegedale, TN





Southern Union Conference
P.O. Box 923868
Peachtree Corners, GA 30010

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
COLLEGE PRESS



World-Class Care, Close to Home

AdventHealth's nationally recognized network offers a wide range of services, including primary and specialty care, urgent and emergency care, imaging, rehabilitation, home care and much more.

Experience care for the body, mind and spirit designed to help you feel whole.

Find care close to home at
[AdventHealth.com/Find-A-Location](https://www.adventhealth.com/Find-A-Location).

