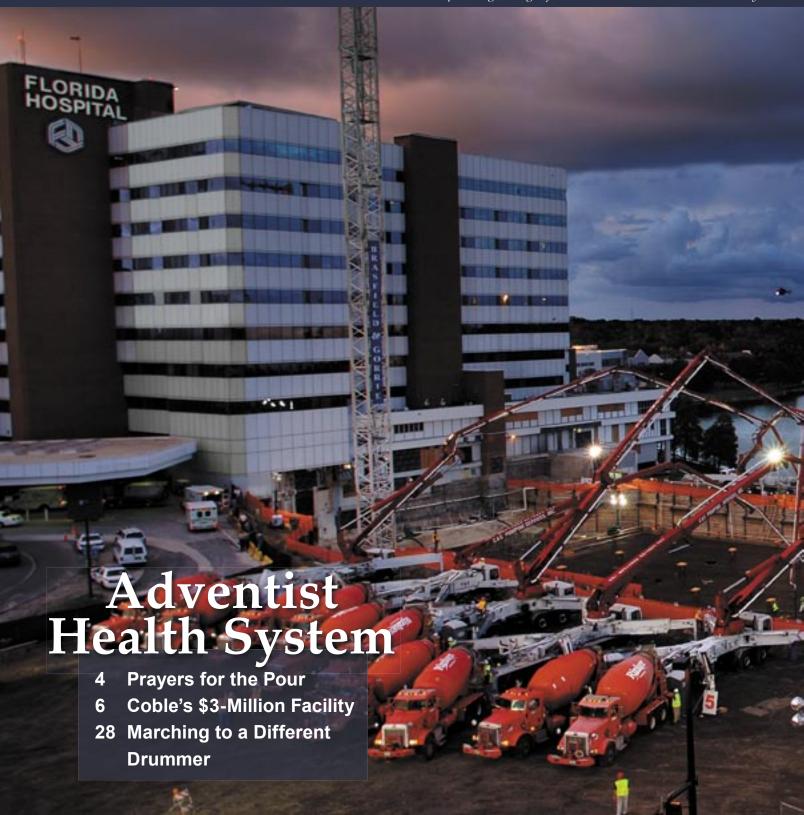
SOUTHERN SOU

Spreading Tidings of the Southern Union Adventist Family



Growing Up Together Lead Device A Lucia Certain TIDINGS

When I read this article by Grant Graves in the Adventist Review, I was certain TIDINGS readers would enjoy his perspective. He has just graduated from Southern Adventist University with an English degree and will be teaching fifth and sixth grades in Saipan, Guam-Micronesia Mission.

Gordon Retzer
Southern Union President

Church. It's a word that stirs many emotions. We all have different ideas of what church is, what it was, and what it should be. But, we all share most of the same memories. We sang the same songs. We read the same Bible, loved the same God, and felt the same tingle of joy during the last verse of "Amazing Grace." We grew up at church.

I grew up in the Dunlap Adventist church. I remember getting into trouble when I was three or four years old. After repeated warnings from my dad, he would pick me up and walk down the long aisle. My family sat near the front, so this solemn march was always witnessed by the entire assembly of holy saints. One Sabbath, just as I was almost out the door, I called out, "Please, pray for me!" During the long walk back to the front, through tear-fogged eyes, I saw smiles and felt warm acceptance. I grew up a little. I learned that people at church loved me—red-faced, rebellious, repentant me.

I remember the stormy night when Shannon, our family dog, was hit by a car. The pastor dropped whatever sanctified chore he was doing and helped my dad wrap our whimpering friend in an old blanket. The wet-dog smell, the broken leg, and the deep, hurting eyes tore into my seven-year-old heart. This was my first brush with the horror of this world. And there sat the pastor, holding my soggy, dirty dog, stroking her hair and gently telling her that it would be all right. I grew up a little that night. I learned that the best sermons are not preached, but lived.

I remember JP and Marie Lewis. These old patriarchs of the church adopted our little family into their great big love. Between Sabbath school and church, I made it my habit to always stop by, shake JP's rough hand, and hug Marie's petite shoulders. They loved me, hard and true. Something in their eyes, in their worn-out chuckles, told me that no matter what I did, or how big I messed up, they would be sitting in the fifth row up from the back on the right side, loving me. One Sabbath, for one reason or another, I didn't go and shake JP's hand. I don't remember why I didn't say hello to JP that day, but I do remember that his usual spot was empty the next Sabbath. Death had stolen my old friend, and I had missed my last chance to say goodbye. I grew up a little. I learned to never be too busy to shake a hand, share a smile, and just love.

I grew up in that old church. It was there that I preached my first sermon, played my first guitar solo, and was baptized. I have seen babies dedicated, lovers joined, and funerals held. I guess that's what church is all about. It's not a place to walk in perfect, talk perfect, and leave even more perfect. It's a place to be real, to kneel before the Almighty. In this holy sanctuary, in which we pick up Cheerios before they are crunched under tiny feet and listen to an eight-year-old stammer through a verse in Romans, we encounter the Creator of children, the Lord of love, and the Savior of sinners. We come to church to worship, to grow, to learn. I have. And, I thank God for my church family. We have grown up a little . . . together.



Grant Graves
Guest Editorial

Southern

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Prayers for the Pour

BY GREGORY ELLIS

In late June, Florida Hospital witnessed the amazing power of prayer and faith during the pouring of the foundation for its new 15-story patient tower. While laying a solid foundation for a building is important, this event proved to be a marvelous testimony to the solid foundation of faith upon which Florida Hospital is built—faith in our all-powerful God.

Preparing for the pour was an immense task. Plans called for 13,000 cubic yards of concrete, delivered in 1,444 loads and recorded as one of the largest pours in central Florida history. One challenge facing the project was that the concrete needed to be poured in a continuous, seamless flow. To facilitate this, streets would need to be closed, back-up trucks made ready to take over if needed, and contingency plans prepared. The construction company estimated the project would take 26 hours to complete, allowing for these and other challenges. Furthermore, Florida is known for its daily afternoon thundershowers. Significant rain could interrupt the pour, jeopardizing the success of the entire project.

Construction officials proposed a very logical plan. They advised that the pour should be undertaken on a weekend when traffic would be minimal, and to allow a margin of error for the 26-hour pour, it should start on Friday afternoon. Hospital leaders were faced with an opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to the Sabbath. After much prayer, they stepped out in

faith. They informed the officials that as a Seventh-day Adventist organization, committed to the heritage of faith entrusted to us, the schedule for the pour needed to be adjusted to honor the Sabbath.



"This was not a difficult decision for our executive team," said Des Cummings, Jr, executive vice president for Florida Hospital, "because we believe that our mission is the reason we exist, and this foundation must be an expression of our beliefs. Sabbath is one of the key concepts of health that God built into the foundation of the earth. To base the foundation of the new tower on honoring Sabbath by placing our faith in God to deal with all of the problems that could affect the pour, is simply concrete manifestation of our trust in Him."

A Plan of Faith

A new plan was formulated. Preparations for the pour would be completed before sunset on Friday afternoon, and the job site would remain at rest during the Sabbath

hours. Then, after a Sabbath vespers, prayer, and dedication service, the pour would begin on Saturday night, June 24. The potential challenges still loomed-weather, mechanical breakdowns, logistics, and Monday morning rush-hour traffic snarls. But, this foundation was committed to God, anchoring a sacred structure dedicated as a sanctuary of healing.

During the week before the job began, Adventist Health System and Florida Hospital employees and church members throughout Florida and beyond were invited to "Pray for the Pour," that the operation would run smoothly as a testimony to the power of God, and that Jesus Christ would truly be the Cornerstone of this foundation.

As Friday approached, a large weather system loomed menacingly along the Florida coast, threatening to develop into a tropical depression. The forecast for Saturday and Sunday called for widespread, saturating rain across the entire state—but thousands were praying to God.

It had rained throughout Orlando for much of Sabbath, but as evening drew near the storms cleared, and the setting sun bathed the resting worksite in exquisite color. A large group of employees, church members, and construction worker families gathered on top of the garage adjacent to the foundation site. With a gorgeous sunset at their backs, and the massive pieces of equipment waiting expectantly before them, this group closed the





Sabbath with readings of Scripture and prayers of commitment. As the service concluded, Florida Hospital Orlando administrator Randy Haffner waved a giant green flag and called out over the loudspeaker, "Gentlemen, start the pour!"

Engines rumbled to life, horns honked, and a parade of shiny red cement trucks began to make their way, two-abreast, down Rollins Street. Guided by dozens of flag-waving workers, they backed their way up to the waiting pumper trucks. The tentacle-like arms of the pumpers extended, and the concrete began to flow. On and on they came, in an unending procession. Yet, no one could have imagined how God's blessing would flow during this night. For with God, "joy cometh in the morning." (Psalm 30:5)

A Quiet Morning

On Sunday morning, many individuals came in person to the job site or logged on to the hospital webcam to check on the progress of the pour, which should have

reached its midway point. Instead, they were greeted with a strange scene—the site was completely clear of all equipment, serene and calm. On closer inspection, something else was noticed—the glistening surface of freshly poured concrete. By God's grace, the planned 26-hour pour had been completed in an astounding 10 hours. All throughout the day, the story unfolded from the testimony

of construction workers:

"It is unbelievable how perfect this pour went. It will never happen again in my lifetime."

"It rained softly two hours before the pour and then several hours after the pour. You could not have planned more ideal conditions. It is just amazing."

"You guys made a believer out of me."

No weather problems, no mechanical hiccups, no back-up trucks or replacements needed, and no injuries. The cement pour was flawless, an incredible testament to God's power and blessing. He choreographed every aspect perfectly, as only He can. In fact, the final step in the pour required placing a sheet of water on top of the concrete to cool it as it hardened. God even provided this needed water in a most perfect way, as the rain gently returned several hours after the pour was completed.

"Look what happens when we take God at His word," commented a Florida Hospital spiritual ambassador. "There is no job too small or too large that He cannot handle.

Another employee reflected, "There's just no way, other than that God did it." In the words of Randy Haffner, "We have seen the hand of God at work in a foundation of faith."

Tim Burrill, assistant vice-president, Florida Hospital Orlando, is coordinating the construction project for the new tower. He states, "I've worked on this project for three years now. Intellectually, I knew that God was overseeing it all, but it wasn't until sunrise on Sunday morning, when I saw the whole miracle play out, that I realized how involved He really is."

In ten incredible hours, Florida Hospital received an amazing outpouring of God's blessings. During the Sabbath evening service, a plaque was read, which will be placed on the cornerstone of the foundation. It reads:

"On this 24th day of June 2006, we pour the foundation for this patient tower as a testament to the founding principles of Seventh-day Adventist health care. We renew

our dedication to God's original design for health and healing exemplified in the principles of Creation. This firm foundation symbolizes our commitment to being true as we move forward in faith. We believe 'God's solid foundation stands firm.' 2 Timothy 2:19"

Gregory Ellis is the director of pastoral care at Florida Hospital Orlando.



COBLE BREAKS GROUND FOR NEW \$3-MILLION FACILITY

BY KEN WETMORE

Coble Elementary School in Calhoun, Georgia, is getting a new school facility. More than 120 community members attended a ground-breaking for a new educational facility on Sunday, June 11, 2006.

In recent years, Coble Elementary has had a waiting list for those wishing to attend, and has had to cap class sizes. Deborah Theus, Coble Elementary board chair, says the current facilities are inadequate, and the new facility is long overdue. "What it means to the school is an expansion of our mission and our outreach to this community," said Theus. "We



Phil White, pastor of the Calboun Church, says a prayer alongside Matt Hibberts, coowner of Momon Construction Inc., and Harold Zacharias, project advisor, during the groundbreaking ceremony.

don't have to have waiting lists. We can truly have a ministry for all in this community, not just serve Adventist students."

Gordon
County Board
of Commissioners Chair Alvin
Long attended
the groundbreaking and told
those present
he appreciated

what the project represents. "I think what's more important is that we focus on what the mission of this school really is, and that's to provide not only an education, but to feed the young people in the ways of the Lord," said Long.

Coble Principal Ric Stitzer said when he accepted the job as principal of Coble it was "in spite of the school's facilities." "However, it has been the community that has driven this project. "This has not been pushed by the administration of the school. "This has been pushed by the church as a whole, and we are working as a team, and that's what makes it special," said Stitzer.

The Calhoun Adventist church has committed to funding the three million-dollar project, and Phil White, senior pastor, and his church feel the new facility is long overdue. "It has been talked about for a long time, and the church has finally come



Church and school officials dig their shovels into the site where the addition will be located.

to a place where it realized it was something they could no longer put off—that it was an absolute priority, that our children really matter to us. So, we are just delighted that it has happened," said White.

Cynthia Gettys, Ed.D., Georgia-Cumberland Conference vice president for education, was present at the groundbreaking. "This is an exciting day for the children of Coble, for the parents of Coble, for the grandparents of Coble," said Gettys. "It has been a long time coming, but the Lord is blessing, and I can hardly wait until we're ready to move into that new building."

The 26,000-square-foot facility will house pre-kindergarten through eighth grade, and will include a new chapel, gym, and office space. The project is slated for completion during the summer of 2007.



Motivated by the mission to "Extend the Healing Ministry of Christ," Adventist Health System touches the hearts and lives of more than 4 million patients each year through the care and commitment of more than 44,000 employees and nearly 7,000 physicians.

Adventist Health System serves communities large and small through 38 hospitals, 19 extended-care facilities, and numerous home health and hospice agencies.

When one-day's pay amounts to one-day's meals, the fear of illness or injury is eased by the compassionate care of a hospital's free community health clinic.



Carolina Welcomes New Executive Secretary

The Carolina Conference Executive Committee unanimously voted to appoint Gary Moyer as Conference executive secretary. He began his new position the first week of July.

Moyer has a long history with the Carolina Conference. He began pastoring in the Carolinas 15 years ago. His education includes a B.A. in religion ('91) and a master of divinity degree from the seminary at Andrews University in 1996. He was ordained in 1997.

Moyer is a first-generation Seventh-day Adventist. He grew up in the Lutheran church, but was only a nominal Christian. He never really knew Christ as his personal Savior until the summer of 1986, after listening to a Christian motivational speaker give his testimony.

In later years his mother joined him in his faith. While he was in the seminary, his father also made his decision to join the Church. Moyer flew home to Allentown, Penn., to enjoy the privilege of baptizing his father into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Moyer and his wife, Lisa, and son, Michael, age 6, will be moving to the Charlotte area from Greensboro, where he was recently the senior pastor.



MPA Students Present Evangelism Series

In March, two students from Mount Pisgah Academy helped lead a series of evangelistic meetings at the Academy church.

Colton Stollenmaier, a junior, and Melissa Blake, a senior, shared the preaching duties during the two-week series with two other teens from the Academy church, Scott Cronin and Zach Wetmore.

The series brought many to make a decision for Christ, including several who decided to be baptized or re-baptized. Following are some thoughts about the series from the two young evangelists.



Colton Stollenmaier—
"Participating in the evangelistic series was an exhilarating experience. Although it
was completely exhausting,
I now see why people
make it their entire career. I
absolutely loved it.

"The feeling you get from touching someone's life is absolutely incredible. The strongest experience I had of this incredible feeling was at the baptism of Johnny Harris.

"Johnny asked Brian Hindman, MPA Bible teacher, to read his testimony while he was in the baptismal pool. In it, Johnny said, 'the message Colton gave us influenced me so much.' He felt the Holy Spirit calling on his heart to be rebaptized.

"I have seen God in my life and the lives of others through these meetings. I want to go wherever God calls me. Helping others



through missions is what I want to do as my career."

Melissa Blake—"I entered into the endeavor praying that God would use me to reach out to my peers. Even though we attend a Christian school, it doesn't mean everyone is experiencing Christ.

"I'll never forget the excitement I felt on opening night. As church members, students, and people from the community filled up the sanctuary, I couldn't help but shed tears of joy.

"With each evening, more and more people began attending. The devil was working overtime trying to hinder our efforts, especially when it came to the world of technology. But, God is stronger than Satan, and we overcame his frustrating schemes with prayer.

"My wonderful comrades and I would pray together before each meeting, and wow! Talk about having your faith reinforced.

"I had a fabulous time and I'm very thankful to all of those who supported us."

Many young people are stepping up to participate in this kind of evangelism. And, talk about results. Where a typical teenager might spend days cultivating a knowledge of the latest music and fads, these youth are cultivating their relationship with Christ. And, it is really obvious to those who hear them speak about their faith.

Adventist Aviation Visits Carolina Conference









"It's a big challenge." says Bob Roberts, missionary pilot. "My only reason for flying is supporting Global Mission volunteers." He continues, "Our volunteers move into villages so remote that their only contact with the outside world is through the aviation ministry."

Bob Roberts is chief pilot and base manager for the General Conference aviation program in Indonesia. He and his daughter, Stephanie, were guests at the Carolina Conference 2006 camp meeting. Each night they shared stories from their adventures in this remote province of Indonesia—a place where cannibalism was practiced not long in the past.

Recently, ShareHim, formerly Global Evangelism, was in their area to hold evangelistic meetings at various sites. With little hesitation, Stephanie decided to present one of these campaigns. Despite being ill to the point of nearly collapsing on the platform, she gathered her faith and strength and continued preaching. At the

conclusion of her meetings several people were baptized.

Roberts and his aviation team have other challenges to meet as well. The Adventist Church gives \$48/day to the aviation ministry—a program that costs \$2,160/day to run. Some of this shortfall is offset by hauling commercial air freight, but the donations of generous people back home really makes this mission work possible.

The lay pastors, affectionately called "Barefoot Pastors," appreciate a 50-pound bag of rice, some oil, and salt to help round out their limited diet, but the other parts of this ministry are not so easily paid for. Roberts spends about \$200,000 a year to fuel and insure the two planes that are regularly battered and bent by the rough and tumble landing strips. He's placed an order for a newer and tougher plane built just for missionaries. It will cost more than \$1,000,000 and may be available in 2007.

Many who attended this camp meeting event became "missionaries" through their financial support of this unique ministry. While most don't have piloting skills or the desire to live in remote mountain villages, all can assist someone who will.



OGRAPHY BY RON QUICK

Trio of Centenarians Celebrate

Florida's vacation paradise brings sunny skies, azure blue water, and sun-kissed beaches, as well as longevity to three Florida members who recently turned 100.



Emma Clark reads a request at the Florida Living, Apopka, church's Monday morning prayer group.

Emma Clark was born on June 22, 1906. In her early adult life, she was a colporteur and also taught school in Virginia and Maryland. She was married and had two sons.

Emma came to the Florida Living Retirement Community 24 vears ago and became known as "Miss Hospitality." She readily shared her home and her love for the Lord with others. Under her direction, a prayer group met in her home every Monday morning until about a year ago. She still takes part and continues to praise God and join in pray-

ing for others. She attends the Florida Living church almost every Sabbath.

-BY MARIE BRANDSTATTER



Grace Rutt was born on March 30, 1906, in Bethlehem, Penn. At 14 years of age, she was allowed to quit school and work in a hosiery mill on condition that she attend school one day a week. She was married at 18 years of age and, with her husband, raised five children on a farm.

Later the family would increase to include an adopted child from China, 16 grandchildren, 32 greatgrandchildren, and three great, great-grandchildren.

The Walker Memorial, Avon Park, church member is very healthy—though she uses a cane for a little support—has a good sense of humor, and has volunteered in the Florida Hospital Heartland cafeteria for the last six years. She enjoys traveling and baking, and she does most of the cooking at her daughter's home where she lives.

She attributes a love for God, a cheerful spirit, and plenty of good farm food as the source of her long life.

-BY MONICA PREDDIE



Martha Norris was born on June 19, 1906, in Attalla, Ala. She was a nurse and practiced her profession until the age of 80. She was married to J.D. Norris for 57 years until his death in 1994. He was a literature evangelist for 40 years in Alabama–Mississippi Conference (now Gulf States

Conference). They had one daughter. Martha's family also includes one grand-daughter, one grandson, two great-grandsons, two step-grandchildren, and four step-great-grandchildren.

In 1944, J.D. and Martha decided to become vegetarians, and she has followed that lifestyle for 62 years. Her health is excellent, her wit is quick, and her mind is clear. She reads her Bible daily and is particular about her reading material and the types of television shows she watches. The Melbourne church member attributes her long life to the Lord's care and blessing, not to anything that she has done.

-BY CAROL HEARN

Victory Company Holds Health Fair

Victory Company in Port St. Lucie, Fla., hosted a successful health fair in the city's community center on Sunday, April 30, that attracted 200 guests. Lorna Scharschmidt, R.N., company health director, coordinated the event made possible by the volunteer doctors, nurses, and healthcare workers.

Screening services included blood pressure, blood glucose, cholesterol, and osteoporosis. Health presentations covered heart disease, colon cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, diabetes, HIV, and kidney disease. Literature on spiritual and health topics was distributed throughout the day.

Prior to the health fair, Victory members celebrated health day during the Sabbath services. Guests joined regular members and Victory's lay pastor, Theophilus Roberts, in welcoming Edward Kankam, D.O., from Southeastern Conference's Ephesus church in West Palm Beach to the pulpit for the morning worship service.

-BY EARL CAMPBELL

Singles Attend Special Invitation Weekend

An invitation for a weekend of fellowship, joyful singing, tasty and healthy food, and reflections was sent to each single adult in the Pine Hills church in Orlando, Fla.

On Friday evening, April 14, 26 singles attended the progressive evening program held at the home of Alton and Marie Lake, family life ministries directors, and then at the home of Claudia Steele.

Barbara Babcock, North American Division Adventist single adult ministries coordinator and a talented musician, closed the evening. Babcock called the singles to be involved in Christ ministries, suggesting they use their talents to the glory of God, no matter the pains and scars of the past.



Barbara Babcock (second from left), North American Division, visits with singles at the Pine Hills church fellowship weekend.

Sabbath morning, the program expanded to include entire families of the congregation. The importance of daily worship in the family was presented during Sabbath school, under the direction of the Griffiths and Harry families. Babcock also presented a mini seminar detailing what singles' ministries can do to enhance the spiritual life of the church. Lucious Hall, pastor of Southeastern Conference's Bethel and

Mission Station churches, was the keynote speaker for the divine worship service. He challenged parents to fulfill their role and to be watchful since the enemy has declared war to launch an attack on the families of God and to destroy them.

Five seminars were held in the afternoon:

- Children's seminar by Elvis Epps—Children, You Are So Precious.
- Teen girls' seminar by Tameka Preston—

- Are You Tuned to the Right Station?
- Teen boys' seminar by Tony Shaw— Generation X.
 Facts or Myths?
- Singles' seminar by Barbara Babcock—Singles with a Passion for Life.
- Couples' seminar by Lucious Hall and Betsy Hall—Building Meanings, Memories, and Romance Into Our Marriages.

On Sunday morning, Babcock met with the family life ministries committee during a breakfast buffet to share advice on the coming year's program and to discuss innovative fund raising ideas.

-BY MARIE AND ALTON LAKE

Umatilla Church Members Celebrate 65th Anniversary



Frank and Dorothy Turner celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary, June 29, in Altoona, Fla., where they live near their only daughter. They also have two sons, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Thirty years ago, the Umatilla church members left Indiana to work at Florida Hospital, where they were employed until retirement. During this time, they helped build the Deltona church and are honorary charter members.

While living in Indiana, Frank worked as a freelance photographer specializing in baby and family portraits. Dorothy assisted him by tinting thousands of portraits with oil.

-BY SUANN ANDERSON

In Transition

- Steve Adessa—Clearwater
- Roger Anderson—Forest Lake administrative pastor
- David Bravo—Palm Coast Brazilian
- Eliseo Broche—Brandon Spanish
- Nelson de Oliveira—Temple of the Advent Hope/Hollywood
- Manuel Fernandez— Avon Park Spanish
- Timothy Jemly—Key West
- Chung Tae Kim— Jacksonville Korean
- Orlando Lopez Jr.—

 Winter Carinese Sanda Alexander
- Winter Springs associate
- Luis Moreno—Tampa Spanish
- Denison Moura—Brazilian Chapel
- Frank Ottati—DeLand
- David Pires—Orlando Brazilian
- David Swinyar—Ocala/Dunnellon
- Andre Van Heerden— Orange Cove/Starke
- Anthony Wagner-Smith—
 Punta Gorda/North Port

Ranzolins Celebrate 50 Years of Marriage

Leo and Lucila Ranzolin celebrated their 50th anniversary on February 20. They were married in Rio, Brazil, and are now members of the Fort Myers church.

Georgia-Cumberland News

Publishing Director Gene Juhl Retires

After 40 years of serving in the publishing field, Gene Juhl retired on May 1, 2006. He has served as the Georgia-Cumberland Conference publishing and religious liberties director for the past 22 years.

"There's only one reason why you become a witness for the Lord, and that is to watch Him working through you," said Juhl. "He uses us and gives us that privilege, and that's why I became a literature evangelist. I wanted to see God using me."

Ed Wright, Conference president, feels that God has worked though Juhl in many ways over the years. "Gene has had a profound impact on the publishing work in our Conference and building it into the premier publishing department sion," said Write beyond that, the ture in homes have been the we are able to sales, but our the potential of lives, and there measure that."



Gene Juhl receives a plaque honoring him for his years of service from Georgia-Cumberland Conference President Ed Wright.

in the North American Division," said Wright. "Even beyond that, there's literature in homes that wouldn't have been there otherwise. We are able to measure sales, but our literature has the potential of changing lives, and there's no way to measure that."

The new publishing director, Tim Leffew, said, "Gene has worked very hard and built a tremendous program. Gene has had a great vision of what it takes to make a publishing program. He understands the fundamentals and the foundation....It's a

tremendous heritage that he's left, and not only a heritage in books out there, but also in souls that have been baptized as a result.... I hope to follow in the same tradition. As the Lord leads, we will expand the program, but Gene's got a firm foundation going, and we hope to continue that tradition and see the Lord continue to bless."

Juhl said that his work in the publishing ministry has been his life, and he will definitely miss it. "While I'm not walking away from that today, in a sense, I'm laying part of it down," said Juhl. In his retirement, he plans to work with his wife, Eleanor, at her job and to work around their house and yard.

—BY REBECCA BAERG BROOKS

Hiram Church Burns Mortgage

Through the generous donations of its members, the Hiram, Ga., church family reached its goal of



Mitch Hazekamp (left) Conference stewardship director, and church treasurer Robert Francis burn the mortgage note.

paying off the mortgage balance burning ceremony, and it was a day filled with rejoicing in the Lord. The Hiram church choir sang selections led by choir director, Linda Harris. Guest included former pastors and their spouses: Chuck and Sharon Jenkins, Jan and Joy Leffers, John and Nani Hulse.

Steve Haley, Conference vice president for administration/secretariat, led the adult Sabbath school class. The sermon was given by Paul Hoover, Conference ministerial director for the central region.

The note burning was

performed by Hiram church treasurer Robert Francis and Mitch Hazekamp, Conference stewardship director.

On October 22, 1987, a small group of Adventists desiring to establish the first sister church in the Hiram area met at the Pethel home and planned their steps of faith. Before the church family was able to obtain the property on Main Street, it met at the Flint Hill and Primitive Baptist churches. The groundbreaking for the Hiram property was a community event held March 21, 1992, with Hiram mayor, the late Dewey Pendley, and Conference official

George Powell, along with 11 members of the thennamed Paulding County church.

It has been more than 18 years since the meeting at the Pethel home. The Hiram church keeps growing, but the purpose and focus remain the same—reaching the lost, the hurting, and those outside the Church. You will receive more hugs there than anywhere else. It is their prayer that all who come through the doors will see Christ-centered members who desire to share God's message of love and salvation.

-BY DWANNA V. FALCONER

Techniques Developed to Evangelize Postmoderns

More than 75 people from across Georgia attended a recent seminar hosted by the Wimbish Road church in Macon, Ga. Miroslav Pujic, Ph.D., a



Miroslav Pujic, a leading Adventist expert on evangelism to postmoderns, speaks at the Wimbish Road church.

leading Adventist expert on evangelism to postmoderns, presented basic principles on how to understand postmodern culture, why traditional evangelism is less successful among postmoderns, and how to develop genuine friendships with postmodern acquaintances.

Pujic is the creator of LIFEdevelopment.info (LDi), a set of evangelism resources that have been taking churches in the Trans-European Division by storm. Hundreds of new LDi centers and small groups are springing up across Europe. LDi materials include cutting

edge DVD sets, magazines, and lay training materials available soon in both the United States and Europe.

Rather than presenting a specific worship style or playing down core Adventist doctrines to make membership more "appealing" to postmoderns, LDi seeks to train lay members in how to build friendships and gradually present important truths the way Jesus did—within the context of trust and relationships.

"I'm so glad to see our own church members, joined by enthusiastic Adventists from the surrounding area, learn how we can reach out more effectively to the people around us," said Marius Asaftei, associate pastor at the Wimbish Road church. "I'm looking forward to seeing the principles of friendship evangelism put to work in our local community."

LDi resources will soon include a step-by-step guide to help lay members navigate each aspect of witnessing.

Pujic is returning to the Georgia-Cumberland Conference this month for another LDi conference in Atlanta.

-BY SARAH K. ASAFTEI

Adventist Students for Christ at Georgia-Tech

Adventist Students for Christ (ASC) on the University of Georgia campus is a student group dedicated to spreading the Word of God. It arranges weekly Bible studies on campus and brings speakers for "campus weekends" once a month.

The ministry has been growing during the past two years, and is continuing to expand with the beginning of a new chapter at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Called "Operation SDA," the new Georgia Tech chapter began ministering in the fall semester of 2005 and was officially recognized by the institute during the spring semester of 2006.

Emanuel Indrei, the president of the Georgia Tech chapter, said, "I started attending the campus weekends at ASC at the University of Georgia, and they suggested for me to maybe start a campus ministry at Georgia Tech, and that's how it pretty much started."

"Georgia Tech is a public institute, and we feel that it's very important to have an Adventist presence on secular campuses in general," said Indrei. "We feel that Georgia Tech is especially important just because it's one of the top engineering schools, and a lot of the people who attend this school have questions about religion in general....A lot of the people there are atheists, and so we're sort of questioned about our beliefs."

Benjamin Ng, pastor, is the chaplain for the two groups, and he feels that Adventist Students for Christ is an excellent ministry. "We've met a lot of people who are hungry for Christ on these campuses," he said.

He shared that the program also benefits the Adventist students. "I know that in order for us to grow as Adventists, we need to outreach, so it's a good tool for the students there to outreach to their fellow peers," he said. "It has

spiritual life a lot as well.... Sometimes, we know how to reach the Christian mind and we know how to preach the Bible to people who know the Bible, but this is a totally different setting where you've got to know how to reach them where they are."

-BY REBECCA BAERG BROOKS AND KEN WETMORE



Benjamin Ng (left), pastor, and the student leaders for Adventist Students for Christ on the University of Georgia and Georgia Tech campuses are making a difference by reaching out to the people they meet at school.

Gulf States News

Edwin Cook Ordained

Through the influence of his grandfather, Edwin Cook learned about the Sabbath as a child, but did not follow it until years later. In his senior year of high school, he sensed an urgent need to study the Bible and began attending a Seventh-day Adventist Church. After graduating from high school, Cook attended Texas A&M University, studying electrical engineering. He continued attending church and was baptized in 1988. By this time, he sensed God's call to the gospel ministry and responded by transferring to Southwestern Adventist University, where he began studying for the ministry.

Cook worked as a pastoral intern and participated in mission projects to other countries during his ministerial training. After graduating from Southwestern in 1992, he served

as a student missionary in Mexico for one and a half years. After returning to the States, he pastored in several conferences and then served at Uchee Pines Institute as chaplain and Bible teacher for four years.



Edwin Cook (front right) is surrounded by some of the individuals he baptized. Standing beside him is Wayne Brenneman, pastor, who baptized Cook.

Cook received a call to pastor in the Gulf States Conference in 2003. He currently serves the Olive Branch, Water Valley, and Greenwood, Miss., churches.

He has been blessed to baptize many individuals, three of whom have pursued ministerial or Bible worker training. His greatest joys have been participating in the baptisms of his mother and younger sister, and seeing family members grow in their relationship with the Lord.

Leader Receives Hancock Award



Bob Kimbro, Pathfinder council chairperson, presented the award to Amanda Thompson.

This year the John Hancock Award of Excellence was presented to Amanda Thompson, a member of the Huntsville Central church.

The purpose of the John Hancock Award is to recognize Pathfinder directors for their excellence in leadership. To receive the award the directors must have at least three years of service as leaders of active clubs in the Conference. They must be Master Guides, and their club must attend two out of three Conference events. The award includes a plaque and a \$300 check.

Churches Celebrate Adventurer Family Fun Weekend

Adventurer family fun weekend was held April 21-23, at Camp Alamisco. The threat of foul weather kept some clubs away, but seven clubs were represented. Though the number of attendees was lower than in the past, the enthusiasm was not dampened.

The theme this year was, "Women of the Bible." Each club learned about many women in the Bible, while concentrating on one particular woman. There were a variety of ways these particular women were pre-

sented to the other clubs.

The Panama City club performed a skit about Rahab and the walls of Jericho falling down. A skit about Mary and Martha was presented by the Laurel Adventurers. Huntsville Adventurers told stories of Miriam as a child and as a leader in Israel. The Meridian Spanish Adventurers acted out the parting of the Red Sea and the song of Miriam after the Egyptian army was destroyed. The Fairhope Adventurers focused on the woman in II John.

The Dothan club taught through a drawing exercise about Jesus and the woman at the well.

Each club led in a craft or game. There were pictures to color of activities

of families, making tambourines, painting wooden maracas, creating hands and ears with Play-Doh, assembling a picture of the wall of Jericho and the scarlet cord, and a water relay



Each club led in a craft or game.

game. The entire group also completed most of the requirements for a new award called Buttons. The weekend officially ended Saturday night with Investiture.

-BY AMANDA THOMPSON

Weight Management Seminar Brings Results



The attendees lost a total of 122 pounds in 10 weeks, and they walked 473 miles.

Amy Mapp, seminar coordinator, greeted the attendees of the Life Long Weight Management Seminar, held in the Gulf States Conference office auditorium and sponsored by the Montgomery First church, on Thursday night, April 6.

When Mapp asked Betty Anderson to help her out of her blouse because she was hot, they discovered that she was wearing a vest weighing the equivalent of 20 pounds of fat. Seminar members were shocked as they donned the vest and experienced their instant 20-pound weight gain.

Weighing-in is not what most seminar attendees wanted to do. After they were introduced to the special scale, which allowed each participant to hold the weight recorder in their own hands as they stepped on the scale, their first stop when they arrived was the scale.

The attendees were seated at tables and became supporting buddies to one another in their weight loss goals. Weight loss, miles exercised, and goals reached were reported nightly. Final totals recorded: 122 pounds lost and 463 miles walked by the participants during the 10-week seminar.

The course started with the goal of achieving and maintaining a healthy weight. The importance of physical activity was stressed, as was drinking water. Participants were challenged to choose healthier protein and carbohydrate foods. Limiting calories and choosing healthy fats was stressed. Many were introduced to the glycemic index and its importance in choosing foods for the first time. The attendees learned how to choose healthy, lowcalorie food, daily, when eating out, and at celebrations. Special emphasis graphs stressed the benefits of weight-management by healthy eating. Lots of fruits, vegetables, water, and exercise will aid in the reduction of heart disease and cancer.

Healthy low-calorie food samples and recipes

were provided nightly by April Hobbs, Sharryn Mahorney, Amy Mapp, Jessica Belcher, and Joan Beck. Presenters were Bernell and Amy Mapp, Barry and Sharryn Mahorney, Norm and

April Hobbs, and Joan Beck. Betty Anderson was the registrar and contacted each participant weekly to encourage them.

Graduation night, June 8, was a sad/glad time. "I have always heard that we need to eat lots of fruits and vegetables and exercise, but I never knew why until I attended this seminar," said Diane who traveled 100 miles round-trip every week. "Thank you."

Willie, who came to support his wife, enthused as he reported that he had lost eight pounds, and was walking everyday and felt better. His wife, Joan, rejoiced over the 12 pounds she had lost, and said for the first time in her life she was in control and knew what she should do to become a healthy person. She lamented that she could not exercise as much as she would like, but ended with the positive note, "the more weight I lose, the more I will be able to exercise."

Christina, in the hospital for chest pains the week of graduation, thanked

everyone and related how surprised the doctors were that a "woman of her size" was in such "good" health. "I have all of you folks to thank because I have been practicing everything I learned here, and cooking all of the recipes you have shared. Along with the 12 pounds I lost, I have improved my health to the point that some of my medicines were reduced by the doctors."

Her husband, Greg, a member of the Air Force, compared the seminar with the fitness programs in the Air Force that were compulsory and coercive. "What a pleasure it has been to come here and be educated and encouraged by people who genuinely care about us and want to see us healthy and happy," he said.

-BY JOAN BECK

Restoration and Rebuilding to be Celebrated

Friends of Bass Memorial Academy are invited to attend this special occasion on October 14. Don Schneider, North America Division president, will be the guest speaker.

This will be a time to reflect on the past year since Katrina, to remember and give thanks to the hundreds of volunteers who came to help, and rejoice for the way God has led.

Kentucky-Tennessee News

Pewee Valley Re-inventing Sabbath School

It's 9:30 a.m. and the opening song echoes throughout the sanctuary. You've planned a great program, but the congregation has only swelled to eight people. As a Sabbath school superintendent, it can be frustrating. What can you do?

The Pewee Valley church decided to try to turn Sabbath school attendance around. A group got together and read the book, *Re-Invent Your Sabbath School*, by Chris and Yolanda Blake. The book suggests dividing Sabbath school into small groups which focus on five basic ministries: praise and share, time, money, social, and

lesson study time.

As a result, no longer do they meet "with a faithful few" and then divide into classes. Sabbath mornings find members going directly to their classes. Some classes start with song service, others use the mission story, while another group enjoys a longer, more in-depth study of the lesson.

This idea took some getting used to, but it has given the members more opportunity to be involved. Each class has taken a different track, which has spurred on quite a few projects in the church.

One class is sponsoring Bibles for Africa and has two active missionaries in their group making trips to Africa, England, and South America. Their current project is raising money to mail *Steps to Christ* to all the homes in the Pewee Valley/Crestwood and LaGrange areas -more than 15,000 homes.

Another class has taken on the task of contacting missing members. Missing members are invited to fellowship, attend social events, and outings planned by the class.

A third class focuses on the local community. Members have adopted several subdivisions, totaling more than 500 homes. Invitations and newsletters have been given out informing residents about special events and opportunities at the Pewee Valley church and school.

Sabbath school classes have given people a support group to work with and bounce ideas off. Many projects have come from the brainstorming in these small groups. Because members are now involved and supported, these projects come to life and are quickly accomplished.

The fellowship hall was in need of a makeover. Members organized and money was raised. The fellowship hall now has fresh paint, new tile and a modern look.

The largest project by far has stretched all classes to their limits. It started as a brainstorming idea in one



Yesudhas Pauliah helps paint the fellowship hall at the Pewee Valley church as part of the Sabbath school class project.

class and has grown to a city-wide evangelistic tool. Messiah's Mansion, a lifesize model of the Mosaic Sanctuary, will be available at the end of the summer. The Sabbath school classes have united and are now working as a unified church which has spread to other churches in the area. It is anticipated that 10,000 people will come through this exhibit and hear the message of salvation told through the sanctuary model.

The Sabbath school classes will never be the same and everyone is now reaping the blessings. With small groups that encourage active participation and creativity, the Pewee Valley church is on the move.

-BY RENEE OTTS

Ridgetop Sabbath School Helps Blind Camps



The kindergarten department of the Ridgetop, Tenn., Sabbath school, with the help of adult church members, this spring raised \$294.50 in quarters for Christian Record Service's National Camps for Blind Children (one of which is held each year at Indian Creek Camp). CRS provided the quarter coin holders which, when full, contain ten dollars. This is a project that Pathfinders or other church groups can participate in to help raise funds and awareness of the camps for the blind.

-BY HELEN KELLY

Correction

Our apologies to Megan Jewell and her family for the misspelling of her name in the June, 2006, issue article, "LJA Sponsors Science Fair."

Fire Damages Madison Academy Laundry

Madison Academy Linen Service sustained significant damage when lightning struck during a storm May 31. Electrical storms that moved into middle Tennessee that evening also caused a power outage at Highland Academy just as the evening meeting at camp meeting was getting underway.

Madison Campus church member Tim Prow, driving near Madison Academy, saw fire trucks. Out of curiosity, Prow followed them, only to discover that the fire was at the laundry service at Madison Academy. He immediately called Douglas Hilliard, the Conference treasurer. When Hilliard arrived on the scene about 30 minutes later, he found the manager, Jerry Mangrum, already on the phone working

on ways to continue the laundry's operations so that customers could be served.

The loss has been estimated to be about \$2.7 million. This estimate includes the structural damage to the building, equipment, linen, and loss of revenue. In the ensuing days and weeks, Hilliard and the laundry management team have been working with Adventist Risk Management, who insures the property. "The cooperation of ARM has been incredible," says Hilliard. "They have worked hard to accommodate our needs and assist us in getting the laundry up and running as soon as possible."

Although the fire was confined to the ironing and folding area of the Linen Service, intense heat caused irreparable damage to equipment in all parts of the building. The heat from the fire caused the steel beams supporting the roof to buckle and sag. Structural damage will be repaired, and some building code-required

upgrades added. All of the damaged equipment will be replaced. Although plant operations have been suspended for the time being, two other commercial laundry facilities in Tennessee are being used to fulfill contracts. Operations are expected to resume sometime in August.

Madison Academy



Fire began in the ironing-folding area of the Madison Academy Linen Service when lightning struck the electrical service.

Linen Service is owned and operated by Madison Academy, a day academy of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, located in Madison, Tenn. The academy has operated the industry since 1964, and provides employment for 17 full-time adults and up to 50 students of the school.

-BY MARVIN LOWMAN

Ridgetop Couples Celebrate 65 Years of Marriage

Vera and Herb Hewitt (left) were married June 8, 1941, in Nashville, Tenn. They met as students at Madison College, from which they both graduated. Hewitt later received his master's degree in education administration from the University of Arkansas.

The couple spent more than 40 years in denominational work. Herb has served as a teacher, principal, educational secretary, and pastor. He retired in 1982.

Vera has been a sec-



retary in conference, union, and division offices, and has been an academy registrar and teacher. She is also an accomplished pianist and organist.

The couple has two children: Fred (in California) and Carol Sleeth (in Ohio), three grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

Joseph and Marie Malmede (right) were married in Birmingham, Ala., June 9, 1941. He served in the U. S. Army for two years and eight months.

He then attended college for four years before beginning his employment in the art department of Southern Publishing Association in Nashville, 1954 to 1975, and as plant engineering supervisor from 1975 to 1981. He served one more year for the denomination in literature sales, and then retired in October, 1982.

In 2005 he was awarded an honorary degree from Southern Adventist University.

Marie has been a faithful homemaker and church worker. She also worked at the publishing house at various times in the periodical and production departments setting (cold) type for books and magazines.

The Malmedes have five daughters, 20 grandchildren, and 23 greatgrandchildren.

-BY HELEN KELLY

South Atlantic Opens New Youth Center

Nearly 3,000 converged on the South Atlantic camp ground in Orangeburg, S.C., for the last Sabbath of camp meeting. From June 8-17, 2006, members enjoyed ten days of spiritual revival. Each day at 7:00 a.m., noon, and 7:00 p.m., the Word of God was presented as each speaker carried the camp meeting theme, "Lord, Change Me!"

The first weekend speakers was Joe Grider, pastor of the Longview



Melvin W. Warfield, Jr.



Pennie Lister-Smith and Ted R. Smith

Heights church in Memphis, Tenn., and retired president for the North American Division, C.E. Bradford was the speaker for the second Sabbath.

Roscoe Howard, executive secretary for the North American Division, spoke on Tuesday evening and held seminars for conference workers. Also, Catherine Black-Jackson was the speaker for the Shepherdesses' program.

However, the highlight

of camp meeting came on the first Sabbath when the drum corps led the way as the members, Pathfinders, and Conference officials marched from the adult pavilion to the

new youth worship and recreation center. The 12,000square-foot facility, including gymnasium and meeting rooms, was finally ready for the youth of South Atlantic. "No More Tents!" was the word the youth were happy to hear. The youth and Sabbath school deparments partnered together for the camp meeting programs. The gymnasium also is used as an auditorium and, with bleacher-seating, can house more than 1,100 people.

Also, during the first Sabbath, the Conference conducted an ordination and commisioning service. Melvyn Warfield, Jr., was ordained to the gospel ministry. Warfield is the son of Melvyn Warfield, Sr., and Eunice Rock-Warfield. Warfield, Jr., is currently the pastor of Emanuel church in



Vanard Mendinghall, president of the South Atlantic Conference, raises the cut ribbon as he stands next to Ralph Hairston, former South Atlantic president.

Albany, Ga.

Pennie Lister-Smith. Ed.D., was commissioned to the gospel ministry. Smith is currently the vice president for education and superintendent of schools for the Conference. She also serves as the associate pastor of the Mountainside church in Decatur, Ga., with her husband, Ted R. Smith, senior pastor.

-BY JAMES LAMB

A Dream Becomes Reality



David Richardson was searching for answers pertaining to the will of God for his life. As

a young man he joined a Holiness church, but there were still questions in his mind to which he needed answers. He didn't know the Word of God for himself and was depending on others for knowledge and salvation. He felt his life was in a downward spiral with no end in sight.

After five kids out of

wedlock, no friends, no wife, no Savior, nearly drowning in a boating accident, and three accidents on the job, he realized he needed help. He ran from church to church, but still was not content with what he found. He prayed to God to show him where He wanted him to go.

One Friday night he stayed up most of the night reading the Bible. When he finally fell asleep, he had a dream where he saw himself sitting in a church service talking to a man. As he started to awaken, he saw the word "Sabbath." Upon awaking he could still see

the word "Sabbath." Richardson remembered in his traveling from Kingstree to Andrews, he had passed a church with the word "Sabbath" on it. He got up, dressed, and headed for the church. That was a life-changing experience for him.

When he got there, he parked just as he had dreamed, went inside and sat down, and found himself looking in the face of the man in his dream. He began to praise God for this: the Lord had heard his cry for help. After service, he was invited to stay for dinner. As he looked out the

back window, he saw the very trees that were also in his dream.

Today, he is a member of the Andrews church in Andrews, S.C. He thanks God for His Son, Jesus, and for his new found brothers and sisters. His only focus is to continue following Christ, knowing at the end of this life awaits everlasting life with the family of God.

He now serves as a deacon in his church and has begun to witness to his family members. The results of his changed life has already reaped two individuals, with others studying.

-BY WILLIE DUPREE

Newlyweds Celebrate at Eighty

The congregation at the New Covenant church in Savannah, Ga., waited expectantly to get a glimpse of the bride and groom. The church was filled to capacity to witness the wedding ceremony of Mary Lee Robinson, age 86, and Issac Mazick, age 83, on December 6, 2005.

After their ceremony the couple joined the wait-

ing guests, and the newly wedded couple entertained the attendees. Laughter and cheer permeated the room as the couple assembled to cut the cake. Soon after, the single women scurried to get into position to catch the bride's bouquet.

Since their wedding, the Mazicks not only joined lives, but also their love of witnessing for the Lord. The two work actively together in their community, visiting the sick, praying with them, and sharing the Word of God. Who would have thought–newlyweds in their 80s.

—BY BETTIE F. WEST



Returning to a Healthy Lifestyle



Bernard C. Williams, Jr. (center), with elders and deacons of Emmanuel church

"God's Way - Returning to a Healthy Lifestyle" was the theme for Health and Temperance Day, April 1, 2006, at Emmanuel church in Loris, S.C. The guest speaker was former pastor Bernard C. Williams, Jr. He spoke about the importance and need for Christians to get back to God's way of a healthy

life. The presentation included a balanced meal guide, what to eat and not eat together, eliminating pasta and refined products from the diet, eating more vegetables, the need for daily exercise, drinking at

least a gallon of water a day, and eating the proper portions of food. Margaret Foster, health leader, and those in attendance found the health message informative, and many made a commitment to change their eating lifestyle permanently.

-BY GERALINE DAVIS



Margaret Foster (left), health and temperance leader, with Geraline Davis and Luester Davis

Charlotte Drill Team Wins Second Place



The Charlotte Berean Cougars Elite, a newly formed drill team, accomplished a goal that no one thought possible. Just six months before the United Youth Congress in Atlanta, Ga., April, 2006, this drill team was started.
Under the leadership of Jerome Miller, along with his Pathfinder staff, and the instruction of Duane Pettus, all of the necessary pieces came together for what would become a shining moment for everyone involved.

Getting to the Youth Congress took much prayer, perseverance, and parental sacrifice. It was because of the cooperation of everyone that the drill team was able to earn the second place trophy in the Junior Drill Team Division—the first trophy the team had ever won. This was an accomplishment that came much to the surprise of all who were present, to see a newly formed team perform at the level of teams that had been together for years.

This experience for the Charlotte Berean Cougars Elite Drill Team reassured them that, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

As they continue to work hard and stay focused, they look forward to even greater accomplishments in the future in representing their Berean church family in Charlotte, N.C.

-BY SHELIA FAISON

South Central News

Camp Meeting Highlights

Sixty years ago, the South Central Conference began its ministry in Nashville, Tenn., on Hawkins Street in the home of Louis B. Reynolds. During that year, the Conference purchased its first office on 1900 Charlotte Street and was or-

ganized with 42 churches. Herman R. Murphy, former State man and Conference evangelist for the Alabama-Mississippi Conference, served as the first president, 1946-1954.

Today, the Conference serves 155 congregations. Session reports for 2006 declared a membership of 32,300, and tithe of more than \$14,000,000.

The current president, Benjamin P. Browne, shared, "The Lord has granted us the privilege to worship the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and to have fellowship with one another. During this camp meeting, we are going to take a journey together in partnership with God. Our theme is, 'Creation to Re-Creation.' We are going to begin our journey at the creation in Genesis, and end the week at the re-creation in the Book of Revelation."



Hundreds respond to the altar call at South Central's 60th anniversary camp meeting.

And, that is what occurred. Each day the adults-morning, noon, and evening-were energized and blessed by the preached word. The first Sabbath, Kenneth Mulzac pierced the hearts of campers with his testimony of how God miraculously healed him of cancer. The journey continued during the week, examining the fall of humanity, the flood, and Mt. Sinai, and then focus moved to the coming of Christ and His sacrifice. The study continued with the event of Pentecost and concluded at re-creation in the Book of Revelation with Craig Newborn, whose message captivated thousands. (Newborn has recently been assigned as pastor of Oakwood College church.

This camp meeting was inspirational for the whole family. There were spiritual and social events planned for all ages. There were a host of workshops, seminars, and activities. The children were enthused with Agapeland 2006. Their theme was, "Angels–God's Agents." The first Sabbath, Ben Roy amazed everyone with the gospel and science. The second Sabbath, Mason West thrilled everyone's heart with the love of Jesus. Pastors John Trusty and Nelson Stokes electri-

fied the youth and young adults. The theme was, "No More Chains."

The participants revisited 60 years of Conference history with Charles E. Dudley, former president. He shared enlightening insights, heart-warming stories, experiences, and challenges that helped shape and develop the Conference.

The 60th anniversary made history with the largest camp meeting attendance

on Oakwood's campus. Advanced technology was used to web cast the adult services. This is a first for South Central. Downlink sites around the Conference joined the live web cast, and viewed the services at www.scc-adventist.org. Each camper and guest, whether present or via the web, experienced re-creation in Christ.

-BY MICHAEL HARPE



Benjamin P. Brown, president of the South Central Conference, greets campers.

Four Ordained at Camp Meeting

Jackson Dogette, ordination speaker, revealed practical experiences of life in ministry. He charged the ordinands to energize their spiritual relationships by partnering with God; and admonished, "While serving as shepherds, don't forget the first flock, your family." He also emphasized dedication and commitment to the Gospel call.

Vandeon Griffin felt God's call on his life and attended Oakwood College where he received a bachelor of arts degree in theology.

He accepted a call to the South Central Conference and attended Andrews University Theological Seminary in Berrien Springs, Mich., where he received the master of divinity in July, 2003. In August, Griffin was assigned to the Ebenezer and Mt. Olive churches in Gadsden/Anniston, Ala. On April 30, 2006, Griffin was asked to serve as the youth director of South Central. He is married to the former Kimberly Tinson.

Curtis Hall heeded the call of the ministry. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in theology at Oakwood College.

Hall received a call from South Central in October of 1997, to pastor the Owensboro, Ky., Immanuel church under the district lay assistant pastor program, and pastored there for four years. In December of 2001, he pastored the Triumphant church family in Natchez, Miss., and the New Life



Ordinands and wives: Sharon and Theodore Weegar (left), Gianna and Debleaire Snell, Bertha and Curtis Hall, and Kimberly and Vandeon.

church family in Fayette, Miss. Hall has been married to the former Bertha Ann Turner for 17 years.

Debleaire Snell felt the call of God on his life at the age of 17, and accepted. As a freshman at Oakwood College, he quickly distinguished himself as a leader. In 1999, he received a bachelor of arts degree in theology and attended Andrews University where he received the master of divinity degree.

In January, 2003, Snell was assigned as the pastor of the Salem church in Columbus, Miss., and the Lee Memorial church in West Point. Miss.

Just before graduation, he began courting the former Gianna Norman, and they were married on November 2, 2003.

On February 25, 2006, Snell was installed as the pastor of the Lima Drive church in Lexington, Ky., and the Capitol City church in Frankfort, Ky., where he presently serves.

Theodore Weegar

received and accepted his

call to the gospel ministry

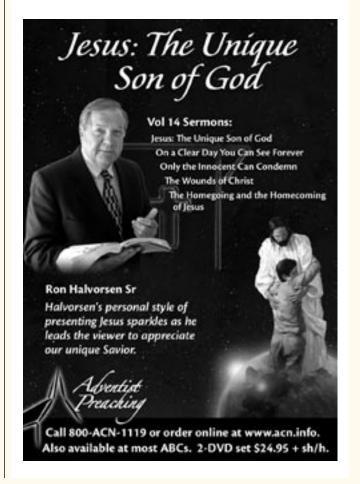
later, he enrolled at Oak-

in August of 1991. One year

wood College and received a bachelor of arts degree in theology in 1998. Later he attended Andrews Theological Seminary and received a master of divinity degree with emphases in homiletics and preaching.

April, 2001, he began ministry in the Harriman-Morristown district. In April, 2004, Weegar was introduced to the south Mississippi district of Gulfport/Moss Point, where he is presently serving. He is married to the former Sharon Claudette Christie.

-BY MICHAEL HARPE



Southeastern News

South Florida Hosts First Men's Convention

The men of Southeastern Conference and other invited guests gathered on Saturday, May 27, 2006, for the first south Florida men's conference. The



Earl E. Cleveland addresses the men of south Florida.

theme for the day was, "Jesus! Empowering Men to Lead."

It was inspiring to watch the men from the various churches use their talents to glorify God.

During the morning serveral speakers spoke about leadership in the home, church, and community.

Earl E. Cleveland, former field secretary for the General Conference and adjunct professor at Oakwood College, with his powerful and arresting voice, addressed the men on the subject, "A Question of Identity," Genesis 2:7. He reminded the men that they should not lose their identity by forgetting who they are and Whose they are.

The conference continued in the afternoon with Elvis Epps, who addressed the young men, ages 12-21, on the topic, "What it Means to be a Godly Man."

The conference climaxed with a concert by



Thomas A. McNeally (left), pastor, and Lewis Edwards, men's ministries director, share a few words.

various performers and a vesper thought by Cleveland.

-BY CHARLES CUNNINGHAM

First University Church Launches Fitness Program

The health ministries, men's ministries, and women's ministries departments at the First University church in Tampa, Fla., joined forces to launch a year-long fitness program for the entire congregation on March 25, 2006.

In February the health ministries department, in an attempt to assess the health needs of the congregation, sent out a survey of topics that members felt they needed more information on. Exercise, diet, nutrition, and weight loss scored the highest, and thus an educational model was born.

Through monthly seminars and a little friendly rivalry between the genders, the program was off the ground. During AYS the members of the health ministries team—which includes nurses, pharmacists, a medical student, and a

personal trainer—presented a seminar entitled, "Diet, Nutrition, and Exercise."

The community was invited to this seminar to also gain valuable information on how to make appropriate food choices, read food labels, and exercise to lose and maintain weight, as well as on the benefits of water, fiber, and exercise outside of weight loss.

March 25 was the continuation of this kickoff in which the health personnel took baseline assessments of blood pressure, fasting blood glucose, body mass index, and hip-to-waist circumference ratio.

After the tests, teams were formed, and the participants were given a fitness challenge. Men's and women's ministries provided breakfast and the spiritual focus of the challenge.

The spiritual message was based on Joshua 6, which focused on breaking down strongholds in life that prevents the achievement of spiritual and physical goals.

The program will last for the entire year, with the teams determining how often they will meet individually, and all the teams meeting monthly for a challenge.

Teams will receive points for their performance in the monthly challenges, as well as for weight loss over the random weigh-in periods. The gender that performs the best will win a prize, as well as the individual in each gender, whose health improves the most.

-BY LORNA GORDON



Lorna Gordon (left), Elizabeth Suttle, Shakina Denny, and Linda Davis

Elim Junior Academy Conducts Education Day

On Saturday morning, May 13, the students, the principal, Delores Smith, and the staff from Elim Adventist Junior Academy in St. Petersburg, Fla., were in charge of Elim's annual education day program. The program started with Sabbath school and continued to divine worship.

The parents were asked to share with the congregation the importance of a Christian education. One nonAdventist aparent said, "True Christian values have been instilled in my children at home and at school. We tried the public school system, but I knew my children would not survive without God being placed first in their lives."

Four students in grades one through four shared the word during the divine worship service.

Deontae Thompson, a fourth grader, entitled his speech, "Double Trouble." Thompson encouraged everyone to always tell the truth.

Demir Baker, a second grade student, shared his views on, "-The Right Time to Pray." Baker reminded everyone not to wait until they are in trouble to pray, just whisper a prayer at anytime. You should talk to Jesus as if He is your best friend.

Demaya Everett, also a second grader, spoke about, "Hiding God's Word in Your Heart." She informed the group that they don't have to take their Bibles when they go bike riding or to the beach, but they can always take the Word in their hearts. She encouraged all to read and memorize God's Word.

Davina Payne, a first grade student, spoke about, "The One Thing Jesus Cannot Do." She shared with the audience that Jesus cannot sin. He is perfect in every way. He exchanged His perfect life for our messed up lives. Payne encouraged everyone to walk in that perfect life through Jesus Christ.

Two students, Sasha Webb and Kenshara Cunningham, received the "President of the United States Education Award."

Sasha Webb, an eighth grade student, was commended on her perfect attendance and her 4.0 grade average. Webb says her goal in her professional life is to become a pediatrician, and her overall goal is to go to Heaven.

Cunningham, a fourth grade student, has never made a grade below an "A," and she also had perfect attendance for the school year.

-BY MILLIE PHILLIPS



Kenshara Cunningham (left), Delores Smith, principal, and Sasha Webb

Districts One and Five Host Annual Camporee

May 5-7 was a busy weekend for Pathfinders in the Southeastern Conference. Both district one and district five had their annual camporees.

This weekend was also made memorable because it marked district one's first campout. Both districts had distinctive and imaginative themes.

District one's theme was, "Celestial Camping... Where Pathfinders and Adventurers Reach for the Stars." District five's theme was, "Igniting the Torch



Pathfinders gather for evening worship.

for Eternity."

Pathfinders from both districts attended their respective campouts where they participated in several worship services, honor workshops, and recreational activities.

The highlight of district one's campout was a neighborhood parade that allowed others in the community to see the youth in action.

District five's campout is known for its campsite inspection, drill competition, and tent relays. The



Pathfinders joyously participated in all aspects of their camporees, and when it all came to an end, it was a bittersweet parting.

Friendships were made, honors were earned, but above all, the name of the Lord was praised.

-BY SHERRIE BARTON

CHALLENGING JOB OPPORTUNITIES

ADRA International is looking for individuals who seek to work in an international agency.

DIRECTOR FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The Director for HR Development coordinates the ADRA Professional Leadership Institute. This competency-based workplace learning program promotes organizational excellence and continuous professional development throughout the ADRA global network. The Director for Human Resource Development works in a manner consistent with the directives of the ADRA Professional Leadership Institute (APLI) Management Committee and the Human Resource Bureau Chief to conduct training needs assessments; provide continuous development of the competency-based curriculum, and evaluation tools; classroom and electronic delivery of APLI training; administer the ADRA Network Internship Program and staff development activities for ADRA International employees, MA/MS in Education or a related discipline. EdD or PhD preferred.

- \$54.0 K to \$63.9 K - Travel 25%

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR RECRUITMENT

The Associate Director is responsible for identifying high quality professional and executive-level candidates for position vacancies at ADRA International and ADRA network offices and must work with stakeholders throughout the recruitment and selection process. This individual will perform and/or supervise all recruiting functions including position vacancy marketing, headhunting, management of ADRA's applicant database, interviewing, background and reference checking, applicant and stokeholder communications, contracting and relocation. A wide degree of creativity, near- and long-term recruiting vision, business understanding, and personal organization are required. MA/ MS in Human Resources, Communications, Marketing, or related discipline required. \$53.4K to \$62.7K — Travel 25%

STREET, BELLEVIEW

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Assistant Director (AD) for Information Technology (IT) supports ADRA's computer networks and implements network-related projects. The AD also provides support to Macintosh users, backs up the technician providing primary support to personal computer employees using all other personal computers, and assists the IT director with managerial responsibilities. BA/BS in Computer Science, Information Technology or a related field.

- SS1.7 K to S60.4 K - Limited Travel

DIRECTOR FOR HEALTH

The Director for Health plans and develops new health programs, provides technical support and guidance for current health programs, sets the direction for all health programs initiated by ADRA and directly supervises the entire health team at ADRA's headquarters office. The director ensures that health programs are operating as designed by traveling to various countries to conduct on-site program and administrative evaluation and to provide technical assistance. MA/MS in health or a related discipline required; PhD or MD preferred.

-554.0 K to \$63.9 K – Tavel 40%

SENIOR FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE ADMINISTRATOR

The Senior Financial Compliance Administrator (SFCA) provides day-to-day support to ADRA implementing field offices on financial management processes, financial compliance, and adherence to donor regulations and ADRA policies. The SFCA serves as facilitator and communication link within ADRA headquarters [HQ], between ADRA HQ and field offices, and between ADRA HQ and US donors. The SFCA provides support to the ADRA network, with primary emphasis on implementation of U.S. federally-funded activities, through manitoring activities, development and implementation of training activities, and problem resolution and supports ADRA HQ activities through participation in working groups, committees, or other venues as designated by ADRA HQ Administration. \$53.4K to \$62.7K — Travel 25%

COMPUTER SOFTWARE/HARDWARE TECHNICIAN

The Computer Software/Hardware Technician assists the IT Director in determining hardware and software needs and assists in the implementation of department initiatives. Responsibilities include installation, configuration, preventive maintenance, and hardware/software support for all PC and Mac laptops and desktops, printers, scanners, fax/copiers, and PDA-enabled phones. Candidate should have strong experience in the latest Microsoft Office and Server technologies, and the latest Mac OS. MCP, A+ and/or Net+ certifications are desirable. AA. degree in Computer Science, Information Technology or a related discipline and over three years of related experience; or equivalent combination of formal education/training and experience. This fulltime position is available beginning July 2006.

- S44.7K to S56.3K - Limited Travel



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Or, e-mail:

Sisi.Cruz@ADRA.org

Only those applicants who meet the specific basic requirements and whose applications pass initial screening will receive a reply.

Resumes will be accepted on a rolling basis until positions are filled.



Groundbreaking Held for New EMS Substation at Takoma Adventist Hospital



A groundbreaking ceremony was held on Thursday, June 15, at Takoma Adventist Hospital, future site of a new Greeneville-Greene County Emergency Medical Service substation. The new branch will serve south Greene County

residents and those who live along the Newport Highway, according to Robert Sayne, EMS director.

"This new facility will significantly decrease our

response time for these residents and, therefore, save lives," Sayne said. The new substation, which will have three ambulances, will also serve all of downtown Greeneville, he noted.

Sayne praised Takoma

for "giving back to our community" by providing a viable facility. "We're all very excited about the move," he said.

Carlyle Walton, president/CEO at Takoma, said he is equally pleased to participate in the project. "At Takoma, it is our passion to become a healing sanctuary for our community, and we are truly honored to be a part of this project that will significantly decrease EMS response time for many citizens of our community."

The project originated with Greene County Mayor

Roger Jones, who approached Takoma about a year ago with the idea of a public-private partnership for the new substation.

Takoma's role includes executing a long-term lease with Greene County at one dollar a year for use of the renovated property as an EMS substation, and partnering with community volunteers who serve on the alessly give their time, talents, and treasures to enhance our community by raising the funds needed for this project," Walton said.

Florida Hospital Nurses Provide Different Kind of Care to U.S. Soldiers

Florida Hospital nurses are used to caring for their patients in the hospital, but now these nurses are extending their compassion to soldiers overseas. The nurses recently gathered in their units to pack up the items they donated and collected for the U.S.

troops in Iraq. Nurses from the cardiovascular progressive care unit, the cardiovascular intensive care unit, and the cardiovascular intervention unit have spent the last month colleting supplies to include in a care package for U.S. soldiers in Iraq.

have pray our in or meet real warr some more Characteristics.

have always prayed for our soldiers in our staff meetings, but realized we wanted to do something more," said Charla Albury, Florida Hospital assistant nurse manager.

The nurses decided that sending a care package was an easy and simple way to show appreciation and support to the troops in Iraq.

The care package arrived in Iraq just in time for Fathers' Day. Included in the package were Fathers' Day cards, gifts, magazines, DVDs, U.S. troop phone cards, cookies, ramen noodles, candy, gum, chapstick, sunscreen, and miscellaneous items.



"This opportunity has given us a chance to extend the Florida Hospital mission overseas and take care of those who are taking care of all of us here in America," said Albury.

Southern Adventist University

Southern Recognized as a Technology Innovator

Southern Adventist University received national recognition for its use of interactive gaming as a learning tool in *Campus Technology* magazine's August 2006 issue. The university was selected as one of 16 institutions to be listed as a Campus Technology 2006 Innovator.

Under the direction of Dan Lim, dean of online learning, several classes at Southern use interactive gaming as a way to help students of various learning styles grasp and retain important information.

This gaming concept is being used in Southern's traditional classes and is also being applied to online classes. Southern's online program is ideal for students who want a head start on their college education and adults who want to further their education.

"All online courses have learning games and/or simulations," states Lim. "These games help engage distance students and assist in the self-learning process."

-BY LORI FUTCHER

Students can enjoy the outdoors while "in class" with Southern's new online courses



Students Preach with Finley

This summer, student evangelists spread the good news in meetings throughout Chattanooga and surrounding areas in conjunction with *It Is Written* evangelist Mark Finley and the Revelation Seminars.

Fourteen junior theol-

ogy majors from Southern Adventist University held concurrent seminars at 13 churches, several days a week for about two months.

"The series has really changed my view of ministry," says Matt Smith,

junior theology major who preached in Ider, Ala. "I now know for sure that I can succeed with Jesus in control. But, the thing that impacted me most is [realizing] that working for God is the best job in the world."

During the evangelistic series, students also attended classes taught by Finley and two Southern professors, Ron Clouzet and Doug Jacobs.

-BY REBEKAH BISSELL

Website Launched for Student Orientation



PowerStart's website is helpful for new students and parents coming to Southern in the fall.

Students have a new web resource for PowerStart, Southern Adventist University's four-day, new student orientation program.

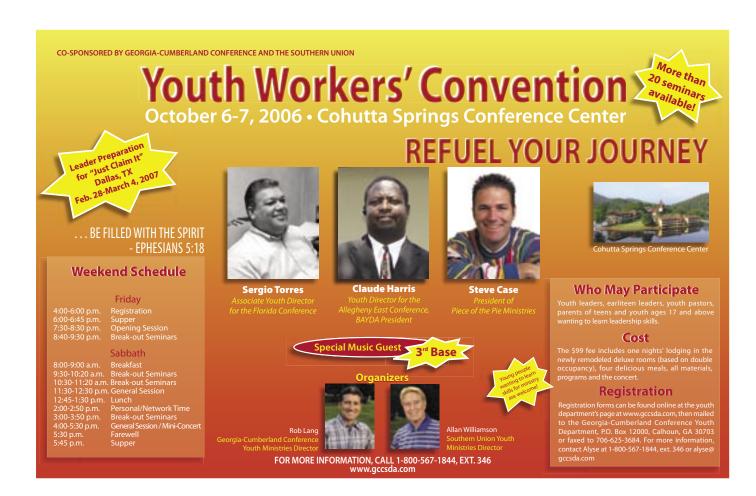
Students can view a complete schedule for the fall orientation, including detailed daily activities and pictures of last year's events. Students can also read answers to frequently asked questions about PowerStart and get important contact information.

"Students will have

the program schedule available before they come, and be able to plan their trips based upon it," says Liane de Souza. De Souza, transition services coordinator, helps students adjust to college life and assists with the website's development.

Visit the website at www.southern.edu/pow-erstart.

-BY KATIE MINNER



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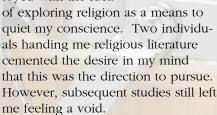
Southeastern: Herman Davis, 407-869-5264



IVORY DOTSON: MARCHING TO A DIFFERENT DRUMMER

BY FRED PULLINS

When your closest associates are arrested for the same activities in which you are engaged, it is evident that it is time for a change. After years of dedication to the world and its pleasurable vices, I grew restless with my lifestyle and reluctantly toyed with the idea



Next, I developed an interest in television. One day, while flicking channels, I noticed my usual stations were off the air. I did find an unfamiliar station, so different from the others that it piqued my interest. The differences—lack of makeup, non-pious presentations, and belowthe-knee dresses-were what first arrested my attention. I thought I was viewing re-runs from some past era. Then Mark Finley's prophecy program aired, and my attention was riveted to the television. I was amazed to hear such new and profound Bible teaching presented without theatrics and in such convincing sincerity. I felt I was finally on to something, and I was determined to learn the name of the denomination in which Mark Finley was a minister. He was a Seventh-day Adventist.

The following Saturday I was up early and ready for church. I timidly entered the sanctuary, and was instantly relieved to realize that I was the first worshiper to arrive. Sud-



denly, I heard a sound and realized that I was not alone. I turned to notice a well-dressed man, flashing a welcoming smile, approaching me. He greeted me warmly and introduced himself as Pastor Andrews, pastor of the New Life church, located in another part of the city. In his next breath, he

explained that he had come early to the Ebenezer church to borrow a few supplies. I would later be convinced that Pastor Andrews' visit to the church, just when I was present and alone, was another of God's providential workings on my behalf.

I attended the Ebenezer church for a few weeks, where the people were really loving and accepting. However, I wanted to learn more about evangelism and actively spread the gospel. I was on fire with my emerging belief, and I wanted to run with others who had a kindred desire to do community witnessing. Pastor Andrews' congregation fit the bill perfectly. After completing a series of Bible studies, passing out tracts, inviting people to church, and helping anyway I could, I was baptized and put to work as a deacon. I was accepted and trusted.

It's really amazing how God can turn negative experiences into potential blessings. My life of drinking and drunkenness, unhealthy relationships, and their associated vices and loose living had taken its toll, but putting regrets and consequences aside, I must testify of my blessings. First, I am saved and a prime candidate for eternal life. Second, I have been given another chance

to better my temporal life here on earth. Presently, I am a student at Oakwood College, studying to be a pastor/evangelist. Again, this opportunity did not come by coincidence. I know it was, again, through Divine providence. One Sabbath at church, I overheard several young people engaged in a conversation about returning to college for the fall semester, and they mentioned Oakwood College. I became interested, but dismissed the idea because attending Oakwood would require money, and I thought I had no hope of securing the funds in the short time remaining before registration.

However, because I had been in the military, I was able to receive independent status. This has enabled me to secure loans and federal grants to finance my first year at Oakwood. The Lord honored my determination not to let anything stop me in my pursuit to obtain an education. He had delivered me from smoking and drinking, and I just know He was able to get me into college.

When I look back on my life, I have many regrets, but I quickly start reciting the many positives I have experienced. One thought stands out more than others. It is God's patience, mercy, and acts of love toward His wayward children. This prodigal son has "come to himself" and is home to stay and serve his Father and Lord throughout eternity.

My mother, grandmother, and aunt are now attending a Seventh-day Adventist Church. In fact, it is the same church were my pastor attended in his youth. Also, I have learned that my dad recently attended a Revelation Seminar. God is answering my prayers and calling my family into His refuge.



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Obituaries

ABERNATHY, **Brandon Alexander**, **15**, born Sept. 17, 1989, died Sept. 2, 2005. He was a member of the Orchard Park church and the junior class of Collegedale Academy.

ADAMS, Ronald, 67, born Aug. 2, 1938, died Nov. 14, 2005. He was a member of the North Lake church in Tavares, FL. His almost 40 years of teaching and administration at the elementary and secondary levels began in Pensacola, FL. He was also employed by the Southern, Columbia, Lake, and Southwestern unions. He was very involved with Pathfinders. At the time of his death, he was working as a chaplain for Florida Hospital - Waterman, FL.

ANDERSON, Tom, 54, of Hendersonville died at his home on April 22, 2005. He was a member of the Hendersonville, NC, church.

ANSON, Dorothy, 82, born Feb. 26, 1923, died July 26, 2005. She was a member of the Silver Springs Shores, FL, church.

ASSAM, Anthony, 88, born Jan. 28, 1917, died Aug. 7, 2005. He was a member of the Silver Springs Shores, FL, church.

BRITTON, Iris, 96, born Oct. 29, 1909, died Sept. 13, 2005. She was a member of the North Port, FL, church.

BROWER, Paul, 72, born Aug. 10, 1932, died Oct. 5, 2004. He was a member of the Plant City, FL, church.

BUCKNER, Eldon Ezekiel, Jr., 77, born Nov. 25, 1927 in Dickson County, TN, died Aug. 28, 2005 in Clarksville, TN. He was a member of the Clarksville church.

BUNTON, Evelynne, 82, born March 28, 1923, died Jan. 9, 2006. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, church.

CENTER, Euphie Deverell, 93, born Jan. 22, 1911, died Jan. 6, 2005. She was a member of the Dalton, GA, church.

CLARK, Alvina L., 91, born Oct. 15, 1914, died Oct. 6, 2005. She was a member of the Highland church in Portland, TN.

DERTING, Artie Robinson, 100, born Aug. 17, 1904 in Dayton, TN, died Dec. 27, 2004 in Candler, NC. She was a member of the Tryon church.

DEVERELL, James, 82, born Oct. 13, 1922, died Feb. 11, 2005. He was a member of the Ringgold, GA, church.

DIXON, Jean, 67, born April 24, 1938, died Dec. 20, 2005. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, church.

DOMOCMAT, Canuto, 98, born Jan. 19, 1907, died Dec. 1, 2005. He was a member of the Walker Memorial church in Avon Park, FL. He was employed for 42 years from 1926-1968 as a linotype operator and machinist at the Philippine Publishing House.

DOWNING, Alva, 78, born Oct. 8, 1927, died Dec. 14, 2005. She was a member of the Walker Memorial church in Avon Park, FL. For 15 years, she was the secretary to the president of Union College in Lincoln, NE.

EMSER, **Edra Clauding Hefner**, **68**, born April 4, 1937 in Lando, SC, died Dec. 25, 2005

in Rockwell, NC. She was a member of the Charlotte Sharon church.

EPLEY, Callie Roxanna Lane (Curley), 93, born Nov. 9, 1912, died Dec. 7, 2005. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, church.

ESTLE, Margaret McCollough, 63, born Oct. 10, 1941 in Mobile, AL, died Oct. 16, 2005 in Vestavia Hills, AL. She was a member of the St Elmo, AL, church.

FRANK, Rachel B., 95, born Aug. 22, 1911 in Eufaula, NC, died Jan. 5, 2006 in Pewee Valley, KY. She was a member of the Pewee Valley church.

FRANTZ, Edythe Ruth, 96, born Sept. 26, 1908

in Lafayette, TN, died Aug. 23, 2005 in Murray, KY. She was a member of the Murray church. FREY, Thelma P., 89, of Verbena, AL, died March 31, 2005. She was a member of the Clanton, AL, church. She faithfully assisted her

pastor/husband, Reed Frey, for many years. **GOLD, Carolyn, 74,** born March 6, 1931, died Sept. 23, 2005. She was a member of the Leesburg, FL, church. She was employed for 11

years at Florida Hospital Employee Health. **GRESHAM, Beatrice, 82**, born Dec. 26, 1922, died Sept. 18, 2005. She was a member of the Jacksonville First church in Jacksonville, FL.

HALE, Doris, 91, born July 26, 1914, died Sept. 1, 2005. She was a member of the Florida Living church in Apopka, FL. Doris and her husband, Melvin Hale, served in churches and conference offices in New Jersey, Cuba, Chesapeake, West Virginia, and South Dakota.

HALLMAN, Ralph, 78, born March 27, 1927, died June 20, 2005 in Hendersonville, NC. He was a member of the Upward, NC, church.

HANCE, Jeremy Nathaniel, 31, born Sept. 5, 1974, died Nov. 15, 2005. He was a member of the Greenville, SC, church.

HOLDREN, Gene, 76, born April 14, 1928, died June 14, 2004. He was a member of the Plant City, FL, church.

HOOPINGARNER, Julia, 87, born Aug. 17, 1917 in Detroit, MI, died June 18, 2005 in Hendersonville, NC. She was a member of the Hendersonville, NC, church.

HUNT, Vernon, **64**, born Nov. 9, 1941, died Feb. 16, 2006. He was a member of the Walker Memorial church in Avon Park, FL.

JACKMAN, Evelyn, 84, born Oct. 11, 1921, died July 14, 2005. She was a member of the Punta Gorda, FL, church.

JARRETT, Frances, 80, died June 26, 2005 in Hendersonville, NC. She was a member of the Hendersonville, NC, church.

JORGENSEN, Peter, 84, born March 14, 1921, died Sept. 3, 2005. He was a member of the Florida Living church in Apopka, FL. He was employed by the Seventh-day Adventist Church for 42 years. 1948-1950, treasurer, West Danish Conference; 1950-1961, administrator, Empress Zawditu Memorial Hospital, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; 1962-1963, sec'y/treasurer, Sierra Leone Mission in Africa; 1963-1968, administrator, Ile-Ife Hospital, Nigeria; 1968-

1973, business office, Hinsdale Hospital, IL; 1973-1976, sec'y/treasurer, Nigerian Union; 1976-1977, administrator, Monument Valley Hospital, Utah; 1977-1985, administrator, Adventist Hospital, Curacao, Netherlands Antilles; 1985-1988, administrator, Andrews Memorial Hospital, Jamaica; 1988-1989, Volunteer administrator, Scheer Memorial Hospital, Nepal; and 1990, volunteer administrator, Karachi Hospital, Pakistan.

KOVALSKI, Marguerite, 88, born Dec. 6, 1916, died Sept. 9, 2005. She was a member of the East Pasco church in Zephyrhills, FL.

LONG, Dr. Russell Clemons, 88, born March 29, 1917 in Zanesville, OH, died Jan. 18, 2006 in Charlotte, NC. A member of the US Army Medical Corp, he was attached to the 101St Airborne and spent two years as a Major MC at Fort Campbell, KY. He was a member of the Charlotte Sharon church.

LONGSTREET, Irene Frances, 96, born Nov. 3, 1908 in Atlantic City, NJ, died July 8, 2005 in Florence, SC. She was a member of the Columbia, NC, First church.

MARQUES, Joe, 70, died Aug. 15, 2005. He was a member of the St. Augustine, FL, church.

MCLEAN, Margaret Edwards, 82, born Oct. 14, 1923 in Chesterfield, SC, died Jan. 22, 2006, in Charlotte, NC. McLean was an elementary school teacher, and taught in the Charlotte/Mecklenburg school system for 37 years. She was a member of the Charlotte Sharon church.

MCMILLIAN, SR., Robert, 85, born Nov. 1, 1919, died July 21, 2005. He was a member of the New Smyrna Beach, FL, church.

METCALFE, Robert, 84, born Feb. 12, 1921, died July 5, 2005. He was a member of the East Pasco church in Zephyrhills, FL. From 1939-1944, he served as a singing evangelist and pastor in the Florida Conference and from 1946-1949 in the Canadian Conference. From 1964-69, he was an associate field representative in the Florida Conference. In 1979, he joined Florida Hospital where he managed property acquisition for 20 years. From 1999-2000, he pastored churches in Sebring and Wachula, FL.

MILLS, Charles Gilbert, 87, born Aug. 5, 1918 in Houston, TX, died Nov. 19, 2005 at home in Byhalia, MS. He was a member of the Memphis First church.

MOJKOWSKI, Mike, 81, born Oct. 13, 1923 in Providence, RI, died Sept. 16, 2005 in Dyersburg, TN. She was a member of the Dyersburg church.

MULLINS, Clyde, 88, born Sept. 17, 1917, died Sept. 21, 2005. He was a member of the Lake Placid, FL, church.

NICKELSON, Lavonza, died Jan. 20, 2006. She was a member of Orchard Park church in Chattanooga, TN.

PATTERSON, Buford, 84, born May 14, 1921 in McNairy County, TN, died Dec. 11, 2005 in Henderson, TN. He was a member of the

Obituaries

Jackson, TN, church.

PETROVICH, John, 71, born July 8, 1934, died Feb. 17, 2006. He was a member of the Walker Memorial church in Avon Park, FL.

PRICE, Norris, 82, born May 25, 1921 in Cleveland County, NC, died June 3, 2003 at his home in Morganton, NC. He was a member of the Morganton church. He was a singing evangelist in many Adventist crusades.

RUCH, Raymond S. Sr., born June 8, 1927, died Nov. 19, 2005 in Benton, KY. He was a member of the Murray church.

SALTER, Nelia A., 72, born Dec. 10 in Tampa, FL, died Nov. 25, 2005 in Hot Springs, NC. She was a member of the Waynesville, NC, church

SCOTT, Thomas L., 64, born Aug. 19, 1940 in Vidalia, GA, died Sept. 17, 2004 in Smithville, TN. He was a member of the Smithville church.

SEVERSON, Vivian Victoria, 79, born May 24, 1925 in Birsay, Saskatchewan, Canada, died April 27, 2005 in Fletcher, NC. She was a member of the Hendersonville, NC, church.

SHELTON, Martha Jane Blanton, 62, born April 8, 1943, died Jan. 22, 2006. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, church.

SIMMONS, Nina, 91, born Aug. 26, 1914 in Warren County, KY, died Oct. 27, 2005 in Bowling Green, KY. She was a member of the

Sandhill, KY, church.

SMITH, Gladys, 90, born June 10, 1915, died Dec. 6, 2005. She was a member of the Jacksonville, FL, First church.

SMITHSON, Beulah, 94, born Jan. 19, 1911 in Hart County, KY, died Aug. 6, 2005 in Louisville, KY. She was a member of the South Louisville church.

STURGIS, Jr., Logan, 79, born Feb. 20, 1927, died Feb. 27, 2006. He was a member of the Arkansas church.

THOMPSON, Leona, 90, born Oct. 23, 1915, died Nov. 24, 2005. She was a member of the Jacksonville, FL, First church.

TODD, Harry, 93, born Aug. 19, 1912, died Sept. 21, 2005. He was a member of the East Pasco church in Zephyrhills, FL.

TODD, Roella, 80, born Oct. 22, 1924, died Sept. 22, 2005. She was a member of the East Pasco church in Zephyrhills, FL.

TURNER, Robert, 82, born May 27, 1923, died Sept. 20, 2005. He was a member of the Punta Gorda, FL, church. He was a volunteer at 3ABN in Frankfort, IL.

VENTURELLA, Vira, 86, born Feb. 21, 1919, died Jan. 29, 2006. She was a member of the Florida Living church in Apopka. FL.

WARD, Frances, 75, born Aug. 7, 1930, died Nov. 15, 2005. She was a member of the Walker Memorial church in Avon Park, FL.

WENTWORTH, Mary Bottoms, died Nov. 21, 2005 in Chattanooga, TN. She was a member of the Standifer Gap church.

WHICKER, Ronald Lee, 67, born April 17, 1938, died Jan. 29, 2006 in Lake Norman, NC. He was a member of the Charlotte Sharon church.

WHITE, Seth Elwin, 86, born May 14, 1917 in Changsha, Hunan Province, China, died March 28, 2005 in Boise, ID. He was employed by the Seventh-day Adventist Church for 42 years. He worked as treasurer in InterAmerica, North Dakota, Kansas, Ontario/Quebec, in development at Canadian Union College, and the trust department at the Michigan Conference before retiring to Hendersonville, NC.

WILSON, Barbara, 73, born Aug. 21, 1931, died July 11, 2005 in Hot Springs, AK. She was a member of the Upward, NC, church.

YARBER, Sharon Rupard, 62, born April 5, 1943, died June 30, 2005. She was a member of the Greenville, SC, church.

YATES, Clarence W., 89, born Jan. 19, 1916 in Milldale, TN, died Aug. 2, 2005 in Portland, TN. He was a member of the Cross Plains church.

ZUBER, Mabel, 86, born June 8, 1919, died Feb. 17, 2006. She was a member of the Walker Memorial church in Avon Park, FL. She was employed for 10 years as a teacher missionary in Hawaii and in the New Jersey Conference.



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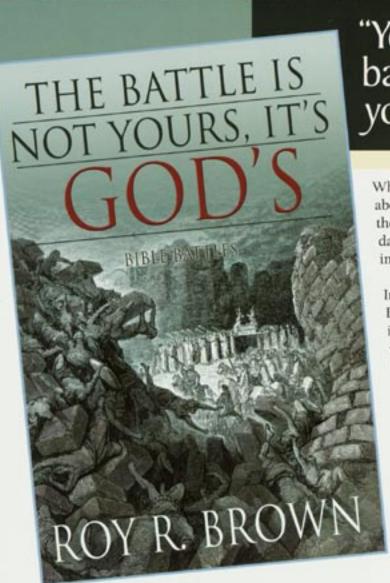
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SOUTH ORLANDO SDA CHURCH is celebrating its 55th anniversary on Sabbath, September 16, 2006. We invite all former pastors and members. If you have any stories or photos you would like to share, please call or send them to us. Please contact the church at 407-855-8722 or email: so7day@yahoo.com (8)

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING FOR ELDERS. Don't miss special presentations by James A. Cress and Jonas Arrais from the General Conference Ministerial Association. All local church elders and their spouses are invited to training event jointly hosted by Georgia-Cumberland and South Atlantic conferences. Sabbath, September 16, at Marietta Church. (8)



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Events Calender

Carolina

Pathfinder Leadership Convention --- Aug 18, 19. Nosoca

Quinquennial Constituency Session --- Aug 24-27. Nosoca. Young Adult Retreat --- Sept. 15-17. Nosoca.

Pathfinder Camporee --- Sept. 22-24. Midland.

Hispanic Women's Retreat ---Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Nosoca.

Florida

Florida Adventist Bookmobile

Aug. 26. Maranatha in Miami. Aug. 27. Fort Lauderdale, Lauderhill, Pompano Beach. Sept. 9. Naples.

Sept. 10. Ft. Myers, Ft. Myers Shores, Arcadia, Lakeland, Lakeview, Winter Haven.

Orange Cove, St. Augustine, Palatka, New Smyrna Beach. (SEC: Jacksonville Ephesus.)

South Orlando Church 55th Anniversary—Sept. 16. South Orlando Church. All former pastors and members invited. Details: so7day@yahoo.com or 407-855-8722

West Coast Convocation — Details: 813-933-7505.

Sept. 22. Tampa First Church. Sept. 23. Mahaffey Theatre at Bayfront Center, St. Petersburg.

Florida Conference Regular Constituency Session—Oct. 1. Forest Lake Academy.

Georgia-Cumberland

Women's Conferences

Aug. 18-19. Cordele, Ga. Speaker: Brenda Walsh

Sept. 16. Kingsport, Tenn. Speaker: Sylvia Mitiko.

Pathfinder Leadership

Convention—Aug. 18-20. Cohutta Springs. **Hope for Hurting Hearts**

Retreat—Aug. 25-27. Women's/Family Ministries

Abuse Prevention Emphasis
Day—Aug. 26.

Single Parent and Kids

Retreat—Sept. 1-3.

Elders' Certification—Sept. 8-10. Cohutta Springs.

Retired Workers Retreat—Sept. 14-17. Cohutta Springs.

GC Elders' Training—Sept. 16. Marietta, Ga.

Young Adult Retreat—Sept. 22-24. Cohutta Springs.

Gulf States

Literature Evangelists Retreat - Aug. 10. Camp Alamisco.

Home School Retreat - Aug. 14-18. Camp Alamisco.

Youth/Pathfinder/Adventurer Leaders' Convention - Aug. 18-20. Camp Alamisco.

Kentucky-Tennnessee

Conference Association Board Sept. 20. Nov. 8. Conference Executive Committee

Sept. 20. Nov. 8.

South Atlantic

Hispanic Choir/Music Festival – Aug. 25-26.

Haitian Federation – Aug. 25-26. **K-12 Board Meeting** – Aug. 27. Atlanta, GA.

Singles' Retreat Cruise – Sept. 1-3

Hispanic Children's Festival – Sept. 8-9.

Taste of Shiloh Festival – Oct. 1. Smyrna, Ga. Details: 770-434-4548.

Southern Adventist University

We-Haul—Aug. 20.
PowerStart, new student orientation—Aug. 21-24.
President's prayer breakfast—Aug. 21.

Classes begin—Aug. 24. ViewSouthern—Sept. 25-27. PreviewSouthern—Oct. 12.13.



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Notice is hereby given that the next regular meeting of the membership of the Southern Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at the Marriott Atlanta Airport, located at 4711 Best Road, Atlanta, GA, at 4:00 p.m., September 10, 2006, for the purpose of electing a board of directors and the transacting of such other business as may properly come before the membership. The members of this association are the accredited delegates in attendance at the regular session of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (unincorporated).

Gordon L. Retzer, President Ward D. Sumpter, Secretary

REGULAR SESSION OF THE SOUTHERN UNION REVOLVING FUND, INC.

Notice is hereby given that the next regular meeting of the membership of the Southern Union Revolving Fund will convene at the Marriott Atlanta Airport, located at 4711 Best Road, Atlanta, GA, at 4:00 p.m., September 10, 2006, for the purpose of electing a board of directors and the transacting of such other business as may properly come before the membership. The members of the scorporation are the accredited delegates in attendance at the regular session of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (unincorporated).

Gordon L. Retzer, President Ward D. Sumpter, Secretary

REGULAR SESSION OF THE SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Notice is hereby given that the next regular meeting of the seventeenth regular session of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at the Marriott Atlanta Airport, located at 4711 Best Road, Atlanta, Georgia, at 4:00 p.m., September 10, 2006, for the purpose of electing officers and the transaction of such other business as may come before the membership. The regular delegates to this session are appointed by the local conferences of the union on the basis of one for each 1,000 members or major fraction thereof, plus one for the organization.

Gordon L. Retzer, President Ward D. Sumpter, Secretary

REGULAR SESSION OF SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Notice is hereby given that the next regular session of the membership of Southern Adventist University will be held in conjunction with the Southern Union Conference Session to be held at the Marriott Atlanta Airport, 4711 Best Road, Atlanta, Georgia, at 4:00 p.m., September 10, 2006.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect a board of trustees, to revise or amend the charter and bylaws, and to transact any other necessary business. The members of this corporation are the accredited delegates in attendance at the regular session of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (unincorporated).

Gordon L. Retzer, Chairman Steve Pawluk, Secretary

Sunset							
	Aug. 4	Aug. 11	Aug. 18	Aug. 25	Sept. 1	Sept. 8	
Atlanta, GA	8:32	8:25	8:17	8:08	7:59	7:49	
Charleston, SC	8:13	8:06	7:58	7:49	7:40	7:31	
Charlotte, NC	8:20	8:13	8:04	7:55	7:45	7:36	
Collegedale, TN	8:37	8:29	8:21	8:12	8:02	7:52	
Huntsville, AL	7:42	7:35	7:27	7:18	7:08	6:58	
Jackson, MS	7:53	7:46	7:38	7:30	7:21	7:12	
Louisville, KY	8:46	8:37	8:28	8:18	8:08	7:57	
Memphis, TN	7:57	7:49	7:41	7:32	7:22	7:12	
Miami, FL	8:02	7:57	7:51	7:44	7:37	7:29	
Montgomery, AL	7:37	7:30	7:22	7:14	7:05	6:56	
Nashville, TN	7:46	7:38	7:29	7:20	7:10	7:00	
Orlando, FL	8:11	8:05	7:58	7:51	7:43	7:35	
Wilmington, NC	8:07	8:00	7:51	7:42	7:33	7:23	

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FEATURED SPEAKER

MARK A. FINLEY

General Conference Vice President Director, Center for Global Evangelism Speaker Emeritus, It Is Written Telecast

PURPOSE

The purpose of this conference is to review medical and dental advances occurring in the past year which are pertinent to primary care and general dentistry practices. The participants should be able to utilize the latest information on the topics presented by the lecturers.

> Individual lecture objectives will be in your registration packet or call 678-420-1442.

Park Vista Hotel • Gatlinburg Tennessee

SOUTHERN UNION

MEDICAL/DENTAL RET



GEORGE GUTHRIE. MD

Medical Director Lifestyle Center of America Sulphur, OK

TOPICS:

- · Lifestyle Medicine "A New Paradigm"
- The Pathophysiology of Type 2 Diabetes • The Metabolic Syndrome "Cause and
- Lifestyle Treatment" • Reversing Insulin Resistance "A Practical Clinical Primer"
- · A Hormone for All Seasons "Vitamin D"

LEIF K. BAKLAND, DDS

Professor and Chair Department of Endodontics School of Dentistry, Loma Linda University

TOPICS:

- Endodontic Complexities In Diagnosis and Treatment: Practical Solutions to Everyday Problems
- Current Recommendations for Traumatic Dental Injuries



JIM A. WILLIAMSON, OD

Veterans Affairs Medical Center Memphis. Tennessee

TOPICS:

- Glaucoma Discussion and Case Analysis (2 hours) (COPE pending)
- Dry Eye Update (1 hour) (COPE pending) Ulcer or Infiltrate? Causative Agents and Treatment (1 hour) (COPE pending)

OB

ACCREDITATION

MEDICAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

MEDICAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

Loma Linda University School of Medicine is accredited
by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical
Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Loma Linda University School of
Medicine designates this medical continuing education
activity for six hours AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™.
Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with
the extent of their participation in the activity.

DISCLOSURE

DISCLOSURE
This program has been planned and implemented in accordance with ACCME essentials and standards. The Lome Linda University School of Medicine Office of Continuing Medical Education relies on its CME faculty to provide program content that is evidenced-based and free of commercial bias. Therefore, in accordance with ACCME standards, any faculty and/or provider industry relationships will be disclosed and resolved.

DENTAL CONTINUING EDUCATIONLoma Linda University School of Dentistry designates up to six hours of continuing dental education of Category 1.

OPTOMETRY CONTINUING EDUCATION COPE Pending. (4 hours total)

RESERVATIONS Park Vista Hotel - Gatlinburg, TN In the Great Smoky Mountains October 12-15, 2006
You are responsible for making reservations. To make reservations, call Park Vista Hotel direct: 1-800-421-7275.
Identify yourself with the Southern Union Medical/Dental Retreat to receive the special conference rate of \$122.00 per night. Reservation deadline: September 8, 2006

Conference Registration for Continuing Education, Sabbath Services						
Name						
Specialty						
Medical License Number						
Spouse's Name						
Conference	Conference					
Address						
City	State	Zip				
Phone						
E-mail address						
Please fill out and return by mail or fax no later than September 8, 2006.						

I would like to register for the following CE classes:

☐ Dental* Thur., 7-10 p.m., Fri., 2-5 p.m.
☐ Medical* Thur., 7-10 p.m., Fri., 2-5 p.m.
☐ Optometry Thur., 7-11 p.m.
Registration fee is non-refundable \$50

*6 credit hours of continuing education for both physicians and dentists given through Loma Linda University.

Will you be attending Sabbath services? ☐ Yes* ☐ No

* If yes, please list names and ages of children attending if under 18:

Special Sabbath school and church services will be provided for all children and youth. Child care will be provided Friday evening for ages 1-5.

Please mail registration and check to Medical/Dental Retreat, Southern Union Conference, PO Box 849, Decatur, GA, 30031; fax 404-299-9726; or phone 678-420-1442.



P.O. Box 849 Decatur, GA 30031

Address Services Requested