## 

## **Good News Atlanta**





## One of the Best Sermons I've Seen

It was a second grade community service class assignment and our son Tim was excited. He had adopted a grandparent at the nursing home and instantly found a soul mate. Clyde was in his 90's and whenever Tim would come by to visit him, Clyde recited ancient boyhood history with stories that went back before airplanes and cars and Nintendo. Tim loved Clyde. He even made cookies with a little help from his mother to help celebrate Clyde's birthday. He reported to the family that he and Clyde sat on the bed and almost finished off two-dozen chocolate chip cookies that afternoon, noting that he wasn't sure how much longer Clyde would live so they had to eat them right away.

I was curious about Tim's newfound friend, so at Christmastime our family visited the nursing home and looked forward to singing and praying with Clyde. Tim led us down the hallway to Clyde's room, and as we turned into the semi-private quarters I immediately noticed a gentleman seated next to the door and, assuming it was Clyde, introduced myself. Tim was already on the other side of the room sitting with the real Clyde on his bed. This is not easy to admit, but the truth is I was drawn to Clyde's roommate because he seemed more like me. It was an instantaneous judgment. In a flash my mind categorized these two men based on outward appearance. Clyde's roommate was clean, dressed sharply, and his side of the room was organized. On the other hand Clyde was a mess, and, sorry to say, my mind quickly formulated a "cleanliness is next to Godliness seminar" for my wayward son as soon as our little visit was over.

It was impossible for me to comprehend that given a choice; my son would opt to adopt the slovenly old man. Where had we failed? Tim was oblivious and proudly introduced Clyde to his family. Couldn't he see that Clyde needed to brush his teeth? Didn't he notice that Clyde's shirt had drool and last week's dinner on it? Now, we all believe hygiene is important. And, keeping things clean is a very good idea. I am not depreciating the important role parents have in helping our children keep themselves and their rooms clean. What I had missed was that just because an old man was disheveled was not a reason to judge him less of a human worthy of love than the non-disheveled. How could a preacher miss that?

Since we had planned to sing and pray, I dutifully went through the motions now, feeling a little more pressed for time and anxious to get in the car and quiz my son on his choice of nursing home grandparents. When I finished praying the unbelievable unfolded. Little Tim wrapped his chubby arms around Clyde as they sat on his bed; then, before my very eyes, he gave Clyde a big kiss right on the lips. The Holy Spirit grabbed me and I knew my son was the preacher and I was the disciple. It's one of the best sermons I've ever seen. I've never been quite the same since.

My God looks not on the outward appearance, but on the heart.



Gordon Retzer Southern Union President



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Staff Editor R. STEVEN NORMAN, III Editorial Assistant IRISENE DOUCE Circulation BOBBIE MILLBURN Production COLLEGE PRESS Layout BRIAN WIEHN

#### **Contributing Editors**

Adventist Health System AMANDA MAGGARD Carolina RON QUICK Florida MARTIN BUTLER Florida Hospital College DAWN McLENDON Georgia-Cumberland TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER Gulf States BECKY GRICE Kentucky-Tennessee MARVIN LOWMAN Oakwood University MICHELE SOLOMON South Atlantic JAMES LAMB South Central MICHAEL HARPE Southeastern ROBERT HENLEY Southern Adventist University LORI FUTCHER

#### **Conference/Institution Directory**

CAROLINA (704) 596-3200 P.O. Box 560339, Charlotte, NC 28256-0339 FLORIDA (407) 644-5000 P.O. Box 2626, Winter Park, FL 32790-2626 GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND (706) 629-7951 P.O. Box 12000, Calhoun, GA 30703-7001 GULF STATES (334) 272-7493 P.O. Box 240249, Montgomery, AL 36117. KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE (615) 859-1391 P.O. Box 1088, Goodlettsville, TN 37070-1088 SOUTH ATLANTIC (404) 792-0535 P.O. Box 92447, M.B., Sta., Atlanta, GA 30314 SOUTH CENTRAL (615) 226-6500 P.O. Box 24936, Nashville, TN 37202 SOUTHEASTERN (352) 735-3142 P.O. Box 1016, Mt. Dora, FL 32756-0056 ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM (407) 975-1400 111 North Orlando Ave., Winter Park, FL 32789-3675 FLORIDA HOSPITAL (407) 303-6611 601 East Rollins St., Orlando, FL 32803 FLORIDA HOSPITAL COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES (800) 500-7747 671 Winyah Drive., Orlando, FL 32803 OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY (256) 726-7000 7000 Adventist Blvd., Huntsville, AL 35896 SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY (800) SOUTHERN

P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370

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## **FEATURES**









Preaching Stopped ... Yet, 1,200 Baptized





Sabbath in Africa

A Beacon of Light



It's About Serving the People

- Adventist Health System 8
- 10 Carolina
- 12 Florida
- 14 Georgia-Cumberland
  - 16 Gulf States
- Kentucky-Tennessee 18
- 20 South Atlantic
- South Central 22
- 24 Southeastern
- 25 Southern Adventist University
- 34 **Classified Advertising**
- 37 Calendar
- Camp Meeting/Summer Camp Schedule 39

Cover Caption: Vanard J. Mendinghall (left), South Atlantic Conference president; and Ed Wright, Georgia-Cumberland Conference president; joined efforts in the Habitat for Humanity project in Atlanta, Georgia.

g

26

28

29

Contents

#### Cover Feature

# "Good News Atlanta"

Builds Momentum for General Conference 2010 BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER The Georgia-Cumberland and South Atlantic conferences are working together in practical ways to share Christ's love with the more than 5 million people living in the metro Atlanta area.

Recently, 285 church members from the two conferences worked together to build a Habitat for Humanity home in Atlanta. Each Sunday for seven weeks, volunteers met to raise the walls, hang sheet rock, paint, and put the finishing touches to the house. On the final Sunday, Ed Wright, president of Georgia-Cumberland, and Vanard J. Mendinghall, president of South Atlantic, met to help present the home to Angela Kendrick, a deserving single mother of three daughters.

"One of the most rewarding things about 'Good News Atlanta," according to Bill Winston, executive secretary of South Atlantic, "It has forged a strong bond with our sister conference, Georgia Cumberland. We worked together in cooperation with Habit for Humanity and built a beautiful home for a deserving family. What a joyful and rewarding experience that turned out to be!"

Good News Atlanta was founded in 2005 by churches from both conferences joining forces to meet the challenge of reaching the more than five million people living in the metro Atlanta area. With only 12.4 percent of this population attending church, the harvest is ripe but the laborers are few (Matthew 9:37).

"A disturbing set of figures shows that more than 450 new people move into Atlanta every single day, 365 days a year," says Bill Levin, director of Good News Atlanta, church planting, and global missions for Georgia-Cumberland. "Last year, Georgia-Cumberland baptized 1,171 individuals. While I praise God for these people who have given their hearts to Christ, I had to come to terms with this other figure. In any given three-day period, more people move into the Atlanta metropolitan area than all the people who were baptized in all of Georgia-Cumberland during 2007. Frightening!"

"We have already experienced many blessings as I have worked with leaders and members from both conferences, such as working side by side on the Habitat house with complete unity to show God's love," says Chris Donovan, global evangelism, and church planting assistant for Good News Atlanta. "For me, Good News Atlanta means participating in a 'new' evangelistic work that incorporates and models revolutionary steps which will help our Church return to the soulwinning results we had when we began. The biggest challenge I think we face is limiting God by allowing our fears to paralyze us, so we become unwilling to risk everything for the sake of a lost world."

Members and leaders from the two conferences share other exciting activities associated with Good News Atlanta.

#### Georgia-Cumberland's Initiatives

#### Church Planting

"Two days after Christmas, my family and I moved into an apartment complex in the most crimeinfested area in Atlanta," says Rustin Sweeney, Good News Atlanta community life coordinator. Sweeney and his wife, Stacy, intend to plant



Rustin Sweeney, Good News Atlanta community life coordinator, and bis wife, Stacy, moved into an apartment complex in the most crime-infested area in Atlanta so they could befriend and minister to their neighbors.

a church at their new apartment home. They have a deep interest in intentional community as described in Acts 2 and 4, opening their home to be a place of hospitality. It is estimated that 95 percent of people who live in apartment complexes don't attend church.

"After visiting over 60 apartment communities, we felt that God led us to the one He wanted. After only six days in our new apartment, our Jeep and other items were stolen, but God turned it into a blessing." Here is Sweeney's follow up email:

"Just wanted to praise God... Our Jeep was found and we were able to get it from impound tonight. I had asked God to somehow show my wife that, despite the things going on, He was in charge and protecting us. The \$40 in quarters for laundry and the new stereo were still in the car.... and we are closer to Christ now than at the beginning of the day! ... When we got home tonight a bunch of guys were sitting in the gazebo, so my son and I went over and invited them all to Friday night dinner (and hopefully an encounter with the Father!)."

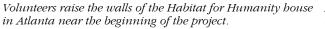
#### **Reaching Postmoderns**

Rhoda Lapp, postmodern coordinator for Good News Atlanta says, "Postmodern ministry helps Seventhday Adventists build relationships with people of today's generation by sharing key elements in lifestyle, philosophy, and approach to the postmodern mind. A postmodern ministry is also very attractive to our young people who are interested in exploring alternative ways of connecting people to church life." LIFEdevelopment is a ministry specifically to postmoderns, primarily young people of today's culture, by being involved in building authentic friendships with unchurched, secular people, and in the process, lead them to Jesus, and provide them hope through support and nurture.

#### Fusion Sponsors Weekly Prayer Walks

"Weekly prayer walking in downtown Atlanta, Fusion, one example of postmodern ministry, goes





out in search for lost souls on the streets. For the past eight months, this group has grown as a 'Search and Rescue' endeavor," says Chris Bullock, pastor of the new church plant, Fusion. "Relationships have been formed with street, business,

and residential dwellers. Drug addicts, the homeless, and prostitutes are valued as children of God. Homes have been entered. Worship takes place on street corners. Fusion believers know they are the Church, not a building. They take church to where life happens."

#### Carrying Good News to Muslims

"As the Adventist Muslim relations person for The Quiet

Hour, and one of the main educators for the North American Division Adventist Muslim Relations Center, yet living close to Atlanta, I am excited to share a picture of God's love that includes Adventists being loving and lovable people and actually befriending Muslims," says Bryan Gallant, assistant for Muslim relations, Good News Atlanta. "Within the scope of the Good News Atlanta team, my work is trying to help local Adventists learn how to share that picture of God in the most effective way so that individual Muslims can hear it and be blessed by it." If you think the Three Angels'

Messages includes the mandate to share with EVERY people group, including Muslims, then maybe you should have a training program at your church or study group.

#### Doing Greenhouse Ministry in Crystal Cove

A cornerstone of Good News Atlanta is the little community of Crystal Cove, Georgia, approximately 35 miles north along Lake Lanier. Good News Atlanta as-

sistant Jan Levin says, "Several years ago, Bill and I were compelled to put the 'Greenhouse' (see sidebar) principles to the test. Using its simple principles, we prayed for God's leading and entered a community (Crystal 'Meth' Cove), where we did not know anyone, or have any connections. We have since been meeting every Friday evening with more



than 30 people from this troubled community. There are currently five older teenagers attending a baptism class every Monday night, and several "Life Transformation" groups going. God is working, doors have been opened, and life transformation is taking place."

#### South Atlantic's Initiatives

There is "Good News" for Atlanta from the South Atlantic Conference as well. In anticipation of General Conference 2010, and of the soon return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, several initiatives have gained spiritual traction during 2007. Positive results give testimony to the power and goodness of God.

Under the leading of the Holy Spirit and the dedicated efforts of pastors and laity, evangelistic efforts added more than 600 individuals to metro Atlanta in 2007. In addition, new congregations were planted and organized in Acworth, Adairsville, Lawrenceville, Roswell, and Stone Mountain.

Women's ministries raised more than \$7,000 last year, which will be used for an "extreme home makeover" to bless some family with much needed repairs and upgrades. Disability ministries kicked into high gear plans to make each worship facility accessible for all who are physically challenged, and to provide interpreters for the hearing impaired at each of our services.

The prison population is one of the fastest growing segments in



Candles in the shape of a cross help people focus on sharing the word about Jesus at Fusion, a ministry for young people reaching out in unique ways.





Ed Wright (left), Georgia-Cumberland president, and Vanard J. Mendinghall, South Atlantic president, meet with Angela Kendrick, a single mother of three daughters for whom the Habitat for Humanity house was being built.

American society. South Atlantic has one of the more active prison ministries within the Church. Pastors are aided by a large contingent of laypersons, each ministering to inmates and their families, and to the staffs who work in these tense and stressful environments. Currently we have access to all jails and prisons in north Georgia.

#### Southern Union Women's Conference

Nearly 2,000 women who will attend the South-

ern Union Women's Conference, September 4-7, 2008, will help carry the good news to Atlanta. Hundreds of women will share Christ's love by getting involved in practical projects around the city.

Bill Winston says, "As God intended, working together we can help hasten the day when Jesus will break through the clouds to take us to our Heavenly home. And that, my friend, is the best news of all!"

Goods News Atlanta is working hard to carry the good news of Christ to Atlanta. Contact your conference office or visit www. goodnewsatlanta.net if you sense God calling you to help reach out to the people in Atlanta.

**Ministry Opportunity** If you would like to be a part of Good News Atlanta, please contact your local conference office.

#### **Turn Your Church into a GREENHOUSE**

Greenhouse teaches what constitutes biblical DNA and how crucial it is for spiritual life. The main purpose is to teach people how to reach those who don't know Christ, and provide simple and practical tools anyone can use to connect with family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers for Jesus. All who are interested in reaching people for the Kingdom will come away from this weekend enriched, challenged, blessed, and with hands-on tools to access their world for Christ!

Spend one day learning how to turn your churches into Organic Greenhouses. This event is a weekend training experience based on biblical principles that serves to naturally build relationships.



Lay people meet at Cohutta Springs Conference Center for a Greenhouse conference where they learn how to build churches through building relationships with people who don't know Christ.



Bill Levin, Georgia-Cumberland director, Good News Atlanta, global evangelism, and church planting, with his wife Jan, Georgia-Cumberland evangelism assistant, and an artist and musician who works with Bill as a partner in ministry

#### Presenters

- Bill Levin, Georgia-Cumberland director, Good News Atlanta, global evangelism, and church planting
- Jan Levin, Georgia-Cumberland evangelism assistant, and an artist and musician who works with Bill as a partner in ministry
- Chris Donavan, global evangelism and church planting assistant, Good News Atlanta

Call to schedule your seminar: 800-567-1844 or www. goodnewsatlanta.net.

## Adventist Health System

## Called to Community: Adventist Health System Hosts 18th Annual Conference on Mission

More than 200 delegates attended Adventist Health System's 18th annual Conference on Mission, held February 28 through March 1 in Lake Mary, Fla. Delegates to the conference included leaders from Adventist Health System facilities, as well as representatives from Seventh-day Adventist churches, conferences, and colleges.

The conference centered on the theme of "Doing Good and Doing Well."

"Mission is the core of our existence, and we take the responsibility of enhancing mission very seriously," said Donald Jernigan, Ph.D., president and CEO of Adventist Health System.

A highlight of the opening session was the inaugural Benjamin F. Reaves, D.Min., keynote address, designated to honor Reaves, vice president of ministries, for his contributions in fostering a culture of mission within Adventist Health System. Monica Reed, M.D., CEO of Florida Hospital Celebration Health, delivered the address. Reed shared examples of how the wholeperson "Creation Health" message is being woven into the fabric of Adventist healthcare.

"Jesus' approach to healthcare was holistic and revolutionary," said Reed. "Jesus calls us to a level of social responsibility that is creative and groundbreaking."

In the annual awards ceremony, several individuals were honored for their dedication to extending the healing ministry of Christ.

Adventist Health System's Crystal Angel Award was developed to recognize outstanding leadership in specific mission-related achievements, as well as overall spiritual leadership. This year, Crystal Angels were presented to Gary Jepson from Central Texas Medical Center, San Marcos, Texas, and Carlyle Walton from Takoma Regional Hos-



Florida Hospital Chaplain Linda Lynch is bonored by Lars Houmann (left), Don Jernigan, and Walter Wright.



Carlyle Walton (second from left), CEO of Takoma Regional Hospital, is recognized by Jimm Bunch (left), Don Jernigan, and Walter Wright.

pital, Greeneville, Tenn.

In recognition of their compassionate service to others, two individuals were honored with the Adventist Health System Christian

Service Award. The recipients this year were Leroy Otter from Shawnee Mission Medical Center, Shawnee Mission, Kans., and Linda Lynch from Florida Hospital, Orlando, Fla.

In acknowledgment of the positive impact they have had on improving the quality of life in their community, Sher Fox from Hinsdale Hospital, Hinsdale, Ill., and Shauna Ferguson from Shawnee Mission Medical Center received the Adventist Health System Community Service Award.

Sabbath's worship services included a message from Karl Haffner, Ph.D., D.Min., as well as musical performances by Jennifer La-Mountain and Rudy Micelli. Derek Morris, D.Min., first-time delegate and senior pastor of the Forest Lake Church in Forest City, Fla., enjoyed the focus on mission at this year's confer-



ence. "This annual conference is a time to refocus and reaffirm our mission. I am proud to be part of our worldwide Church family that is serious about extending the healing ministry of Christ. With God's blessing, we can make a difference as we join Him in His work." —BY AMANDA MAGGARD

### Georgia-Cumberland Feature

## Preaching Stopped Yet, 1,200 Baptized

It began as any short-term mission trip would, but by the end this mission team would see the powerful impact of the Seventh-day Adventist message. A group of 42 people, 15 of them from the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, were preparing to hold evangelistic meetings in India, January 17-February 20. Sponsored by The Quiet Hour and ShareHim, they would preach at 29 sites centering around the cities of Vellore and Tiruvannamalai in the southern part of India.



Women study the Bible at one of the meetings.

According to Mitch Hazekamp, Conference trust services director, as the meetings began, the missionaries were able to present health lectures each night, pray and study with the local villagers, and share the Adventist message. The people were interested and many requested baptism at each site, even though choosing to become Christians could negatively impact their status in the community, and possibly even endanger them.

"I really felt welcomed and ac-

cepted by the local village I was working in," says Mickey Bankhead, Conference information technology services director, who was a presenter in a village near Vellore. "One person told us we were not going to be permitted to continue our meetings. However, the local Bible worker and conference officials worked with the village elders, and the village elders pledged their support for our meetings. One of the elders attended every night. Each night saw an increase in attendance."

The good response continued for 13 nights of the 16-night series — then the news came. Near Tiruvannamalai, radical Hindu leaders were upset with the response to the meetings. They had begun inciting mobs and wanted the missionaries arrested. Four of the missionaries who had been preaching in the area were held by police for questioning.

The mission team in Vellore heard about the disturbance, and the local Adventist conference leaders advised them to leave their hotel during the middle of the night. At around 3 a.m. the missionaries packed their bags and boarded three buses for Hosur and the Adventist headquarters, where they spent the night.

The group from Tiruvannamalai also boarded buses and had a police escort to Hosur. The police then advised them to immediately cross the border into the next state.

According to a report from Bill Tucker of The Quiet Hour, even though the meetings were cut short, 1,200 people have been baptized so far in Vellore and Tiruvannamalai.

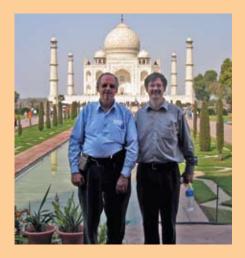
In spite of all that happened,"



The children's Sabbath School class poses for a group picture in Karasamangalam, the village where Mitch Hazekamp worked during the mission trip.

shares Hazekamp, "many people responded to the messages of God's Word, and much seed was sown."

To help cultivate the villagers' interest and knowledge of God's Word, The Quiet Hour has provided training and funding for local Bible workers to continue with follow-up studies in each of the villages for three to five years.



Mitch Hazekamp (left) and Mickey Bankbead visit the Taj Mabal in India after the conclusion of the evangelistic meetings.

## Carolina <mark>News</mark>

### ShareHim TV Newsmagazine Comes Home



It was just over one year ago when Robert Folkenberg Sr., ShareHim director, approached the Carolina Conference communication department about producing a television show for ShareHim. As this evangelistic ministry was expanding, more and more people wanted to get involved with ShareHim and learn what happens during the many evangelism campaigns held around the world.

Within a few months the first episodes of Share-Him TV Newsmagazine were recorded with hosts Robert Folkenberg Jr. and his wife, Audrey. Soon, the new television show was on its way to Illinois to be aired on the Three Angels Broadcasting Network.

The 30-minute program features interviews and reports from some of ShareHim's most enthusiastic evangelists. Each week viewers are invited to visit global locations and hear volunteers share their thrilling experiences.

All of the post-production and editing takes place in the Carolina Conference communication department, as well as script development and production scheduling. Until recently, the portion of the program featuring the Folkenbergs was shot at LifeTalk Studios in Collegedale, Tenn., but the program now has a new home at ShareHim Studios, with a set customdesigned and built for ShareHim at the Carolina Conference office.

Tune in to the program on Sabbath at 12 a.m., or Sunday at 8:30 a.m., Eastern time. Also, log onto the 3ABN website and view the program from there. Past episodes are available at any time by going to the ShareHim website at www.sharehim.org. —BY BECKY CARPENTER



## Carolina News

## Swahili-Speaking Church Organized in Raleigh

The Swahili-speaking congregation in Raleigh, N.C., is now officially a church of the Carolina Conference. The new church of 120 members appropriately called themselves the "Umoja" church — Umoja is a Swahili word which means unity.

Gary Moyer, Conference secretary, encouraged the group to continue reaching out to the community. "At the rate they are growing," Moyer mentioned, "it won't be long and they'll realize their goal of a 500-member church."

The group began meeting back in February 2006. The worshipers knew of an African pastor who they hoped could help them grow and establish a church. In June 2006 they called Enock Omosa, an Adventist minister from Kenya who had moved to the United States to escape the political problems in his home country.

After arriving in Raleigh, Omosa reached out to various African associations in the Raleigh area. As a result of this, the membership grew. On September 30, 2006, Moyer had the honor of organizing the East African worshipers as an official company of the Conference. That same day there was a baptism where 53 people joined the church.

The five-year goal for this rapidly growing church



Gary Moyer (left), Carolina Conference executive secretary, received the bonor of organizing the members of the Umoja Company into an official church. He and Enock Omosa, pastor, were on hand to witness the excitement of the worshipers as they signed the charter.

is to acquire a church building that will care for the 500 members they plan to have. At the rate these worshipers are growing, and with the Lord's continued blessing, they will most likely meet and perhaps exceed their goal. —BY RON QUICK

## "Locks of Love" Given at Asheville North

It is estimated that 80 percent of all hair donations come from children who wish to help other children. Chelsea Campbell, 13, of the Asheville, N.C.,

North Church is one of those.

Chelsea chose February, the "love" month, to stand before her church congregation and have her 10-inch ponytail cut off, bagged, and mailed to Locks of Love.

Locks of Love is a nonprofit organization committed to providing the highest quality hairpieces to every



financially disadvantaged child suffering from long-term or permanent medical hair loss, usually due to alopecia, cancer, or medical trauma. Each hairpiece retails

between \$3,500 and \$6,000. While children under age six would outgrow their hair piece too rapidly, those between ages six and 18 are eligible.

A plastic custom-fitted cap is made from a plaster cast mold of the recipient's head. The hair prostheses are crafted from donated hair, each requiring between six and 10 ponytails no shorter than 10 inches. Up to 150,000 strands of hair are hand injected into the silicone base. Individual styling allows the child to compliment their own facial features.

Because of the vacuum seal formed by the custom cap, no tape or glue is required. They can even swim and shower with it. This sense of security allows the child to regain self-confidence and be a kid again.

Much deserved applause, and a new shorter haircut, went to Chelsea for her unselfish act to help other children in need. —BY FLORIE ROGERS

## Homecoming in Columbia

The Columbia, S.C., First Church held its Homecoming 2008: Family Reunion on Sabbath, March 29.

A variety of festivities were planned for the day, including a time to relax and reminisce, an afternoon musical program, and a picture party with memories of past years.

Homecoming 2008 at Columbia allowed a peek into the future heavenly reunion. —BY CHARLIE JONES

## Florida <mark>News</mark>

## Plantation Church Ministry Witnesses a Miracle

The Plantation Church's HOPE Ministry Team (Helping Oppressed People Every day) prepared to feed 100 homeless people on December 25, 2007, with 160 hot dogs, 106 buns, 100 bottles of water, 100 snacks, 24 homemade muffins, and orange slices. Jessie Guillaume, the director, also brought a cash gift of \$5 for each person.

Imagine the team's surprise to find nearly 300 people waiting for their Christmas meal. Some of the homeless had slept in the parking lot in order to be first in line. It seemed inevitable that many would not be fed, so volunteers gathered to pray for a miracle. The tables were set up, the blessing was offered, and the volunteers began to serve the food. Even though each person was served one hot dog with a bun, one bottle of water, one snack, a piece of muffin, and three orange slices, there was still food left over. Every homeless person received one \$5 bill, and the director still had \$135 in her pocket at the end of the day.

Members of the HOPE team truly believe God answered their prayers to accomplish His purpose on Earth and multiplied the food as He had done with the five loaves and two fishes.

-BY JESSIE GUILLAUME







For four years, members of HOPE bave driven 40 miles every Sabbath afternoon to the same overpass in Miami to feed approximately 120 homeless people. Curtis Martin, retired New York Jets football star running back, and his girlfriend, Shakira Leddard, a well-known model, have graciously contributed time and money to this ministry.

# Senior Class Touches Young Lives



The Forest Lake Academy senior class touched young lives from several Orlando-area children's homes through their class play, "*The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up: The Adventures of Peter Pan.*" The children were invited to attend the Sunday matinee performance and a cast party in the cafeteria afterwards to interact with the student characters. "It was a great opportunity for our class to make new connections with the community," said Anthony Bosman, senior class president.

#### Umatilla Church Breaks Ground



More than 100 people attended groundbreaking ceremonies for the Umatilla Church on February 3, 2008. The proposed church site is located on 6.4 acres on Highway 19. Participants included Roy Chang, M.D., (left), treasurer; Edith Tokics, personal ministries leader; Jim King, former pastor; Bonita Dixon, mayor of Umatilla; Scott Dambrose, building committee chairman; Jim Appel, pastor; and Noel Shanko, assistant to the president of Florida Conference.

Florida News

### Churches Report from Around the Conference

**Brazilian Chapel, Pompano Beach**—A new Adventurer Club was started February 2007, under the leadership of Cleandro Viana, director, and Lislene Moura and Valderis Davis, associate directors. The Bears P.A.W. was chosen as the name for the Club, because the bear, one of God's creatures, has **P**ower, **A**bility, and **W**isdom. One unique feature at club meetings comes in hearing the lessons taught in both English and Portuguese.



**Silver Springs Shores**—Happy Fingers presented its seventh annual piano recital under the direction of Evelyn Powell, who moved to the Ocala, Fla., area from New York City where she was director of a children's choir. Recognizing the need for young people to be involved in the worship service, she started the Happy Fingers program, which continues in Ocala, where piano students participate in the worship service each week by taking turns playing for the children's story time.



**Avon Park**—Aristarco and Elizabeth Martinez celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 28, 2007.

Avon Park—Seminars on health and the Sabbath were conducted by father and daughter team Samuele and Loretta Bacchiocchi. Loretta Bacchiocchi, a instructor at Florida Hospital School of Nursing, lectured on CREATION health, an acronym for the eight basic health principles: Choice, Rest, Environment, Activity, Trust, Interpersonal, Outlook, and Nutrition. Samuele Bacchiocchi, a noted author, presented seminars on the Sabbath. Music was given by Cristina Piccardi, a student at Andrews University, who left the opera world to sing Christian music.

**Fort Lauderdale**—Jeffrey Thompson, senior pastor, put on his work clothes and joined the men's ministries team, under the direction of Jay Francis, in a "Flower Planting Day" to beautify the grounds surrounding the church. The men donated funds for the flowers, shrubs, soil, fertilizer, and mulch that were purchased for the project. Sonia Francis, head deaconess, led a team of women in the preparation of a buffet lunch for the men.



**Winter Springs**—Sale of the church property at the Moss Road campus necessitated a search for a suitable rental location that was found in a church facility owned by The Master's Touch International, 555 Markham Woods Road, Longwood.

Two years ago, the Seminole Meadows Church on Ronald Reagan Boulevard in Sanford merged with the Winter Springs Church. The combined church membership anticipates being in its new facility in Sanford in two years.

## Georgia-Cumberland News

## Bulletin

Richard Urdaneta, pastor of the **Knoxville Hispanic Church,** reports a total of 10 evangelistic campaigns last year with 86 new baptisms. The last effort in October had a result of 36 baptisms. They also opened a new congregation in Lenoir City.

About 255 were present at the New Members Retreat in February at Cohutta Springs. "It gave new members a broader understanding of how each member and each local congregation is connected to a mission-driven. world-wide church." says Ed Wright, Conference president. "We help them see how their local conference is organized to support this mission, from finances to Christian education to ministries of all descriptions."

Clark's Bakery (operated by James and Heike Clark and James III) of Dunlap, Tenn., provided food for more than 100 people at a recent Dunlap and Sequatchie County Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting. The Clarks are interested in helping people have better health in the here and now and assisting them get ready for the hereafter. Each loaf of bread they sell gets a printed health nugget in the package with a short Bible study on the back.

### Students Perform at Hand Bell and Strings Festival

Students who play string instruments, hand bells, and chimes came together Feb. 8-9, 2008, for the Georgia-Cumberland Conference Festival for Hand Bells/Chimes and String Orchestra. Approximately 120 students in grades 5-10 met at Georgia-Cumberland Academy in Calhoun, Ga., for the event. Lettie Mae Bragg conducted the bells, and Rhonda Burnham conducted the strings.

While a bells festival has been held in the past, this year marked the first time a strings festival has been held at Georgia-Cumberland Academy. According to Ken Scribner, director of enrollment services for GCA, it was a great time to get home school families, public school students, and Georgia-

Cumberland Conference school students to perform on stage together in an Adventist concert setting. —BY REBECCA BROOKS



*Rhonda Burnham conducts students playing stringed instruments at the festival.* 

## **Doctor Honored for Service**

Dalton, Ga., Church member Joy Nwadike, M.D., practices obstetrics and gynecology in the northwest Georgia city of Chatsworth. She is one of four recent recipients of the Davies Health Technology Award for 2007 in the State of Georgia. Sponsored by the Physicians' Institute for Excellence in Medicine, the candidates are chosen from primary and specialty care physicians across Georgia and given to doctors who implement technology solutions in their practice.

Nwadike runs the Immanuel Women's Center in Chatsworth and was also recently chosen by Wachovia Bank for the Dalton, Ga., "Resident of the Week."

"It's an honor for the center," said patient Freda. "Dr. Nwadike is not only dedicated to her work, but



Joy Nwadike, M.D., received the Davies Health Technology Award for 2007 for the State of Georgia.

it's the personal care that makes it so special. She's really dedicated to people. When I was faced with a serious unexpected problem, I was apprehensive.

She led me and helped me. I went into the hospital with ease and received excellent care. I now enjoy Dr. Nwadike as a friend. She's a very caring person."

Nwadike said, "My patients are also my friends. Their appreciation and kind words help me get through the challenges of the day. It's gratifying when they say that they appreciate my taking time to listen to them."

-BY VIVIAN RAITZ

## Georgia-Cumberland News

## All Nations Church Supports Lifestyle Center

During the summer of 2007, the members of the All Nations Church in Norcross, Ga., rallied around New Beginnings Lifestyle Center, Inc., a supporting ministry



Rusty Williams (left) and helpers unite in pledging their support for the New Beginnings Lifestyle Center.

of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. New Beginnings Lifestyle Center is a live-in facility that uses the principles of NEWSTART to support recovering alcohol-

> ics, smokers, and drug addicts. Church members have donated their time, effort, and limited funds to the ministry.

Financially unable to do more, the church board,

led by Rusty Williams, pastor of the All Nations Church, enthusiastically supported the efforts of its members, Daniel Santiago and Esther Green, in their creation of the lifestyle center. Church members have helped in a number of ways, including purchasing groceries, cooking meals, providing employment, and sharing Bible studies.

For Sharon Gray, the driving factor for becoming involved was the chance to "follow the Master's call of helping those who are in need."

Others, like Pervis Tavlor and his sister Loanne, felt it was "a means for people in the church to get actively involved and put their faith in action."

The results of this level of support have been tremendous. Beyond lifestyle changes and recovery, all residents voluntarily requested doctrinal Bible studies. So far, four of the seven residents have been baptized.

-BY ESTHER GREEN

#### Missions on Your Mind?

Want to be a missionary to Uganda, Africa? Georgia-Cumberland Conference is sponsoring a mission trip to northern Uganda (Gulu area), July 11-26, to conduct evangelistic meetings. Still needed are medical personnel: especially doctors, nurses, and dentists, as well as support personnel (registration helpers, temperature and blood pressure assistants, etc.). Needed are evangelistic teams with speakers, health presenters, children's ministries, support team members, etc. They are also constructing a church building and need construction workers, and helpers. The trip is open to any Conference member in good health who has a valid U.S. passport. Contact Jan Levin at 770-361-7623, or email jmlevin@gccsda.com.

## **Convention Equips** Hispanic Children's Leaders

"Guiando Nuestros Niños al Cielo," which means "Leading our Children to Heaven," was the theme for this year's Georgia-Cumberland Conference Hispanic children's ministries convention. The convention was held February 15, 16 at the Atlanta Hispanic Metropolitan Church.

The convention was a big success, with more than 130 participants in attendance, representing most of the Hispanic congregations. The guest speaker was Norma Rocio Jacquez of New Mexico. There were several interactive seminars covering topics such as teaching kids with nature, children's church, and teaching children to think. The event was coordinated by Nancy

Ortiz and Karen Gonzalez, with the help of a number of pastors' wives.

During the same weekend, a convention was also held in Portuguese at the Atlanta Brazilian Church. The speaker for the Portuguese convention was Daleth Feitoza of Boston, Mass., and there were 10 Brazilian teachers in attendance.

-BY REBECCA BROOKS



Seminars and training sessions at the convention allowed participants to get hands-on experience with the activities.

## Gulf <mark>States News</mark>

## Pensacola Pastor Weighs in on Evolution Controversy



James Mangum's busy schedule was interrupted when a FOX News crew unexpectedly stopped by his office.

James Mangum, pastor, was sitting at his desk preparing to teach a Bible study when he noticed a WALA FOX 10 news van circle the church parking lot and stop in front of his office. Two men got out of the van, knocked on his office door, and asked him if he would like to share a religious point of view about the new ruling in Florida allowing evolution to be taught in the public schools as "scientific theory." (Previously the State standard referred to "change over time.")

Mangum, who pastors the University Parkway Church in Pensacola, Fla., told the television news crew that an interview would be fine, and asked when could they schedule a time for it. The men replied "right now." They had just been to the nearby University of West Florida to interview a biology professor and were on their way back to their station in Mobile, Ala. They decided to try to get a religious viewpoint and had spotted the Seventh-day Adventist Church sign along the way.

After asking his Bible students if they minded

a brief delay, Mangum agreed to the impromptu interview, and the FOX 10 news team set up their camera. For the next 10 minutes, the interviewer proceeded to ask him what he thought about evolution and if it should be taught in schools. Mangum responded that he didn't see the advantage in teaching evolution, but he did see an advantage in teaching creation. "I see the effects on kids when they realize that a loving Creator has a purpose for us, even though there are times when we don't understand why things happen in our lives."

The basis of evolution is shaky, Mangum added, while belief in God is solid. "There is a God, a Creator, versus the idea that there's a theory that this is how it happened."

Back at the television studio, the interviews with both Mangum and the University of West Florida biology professor, Christopher Pomeroy, were combined into a feature video clip which aired that evening. (WALA FOX Channel 10 broadcasts to a wide television audience from Mobile, Ala., to Pensacola, Fla.) For his part, Pomeroy said that many people don't understand that a scientific theory is more than a hunch. He pointed out that in science, a theory is an explanation based on fact. "If you want to believe in God, or you don't, this is a biological process," he said.

In switching back and forth between Mangum and Pomeroy for the differing viewpoints, the last word on air was that of Mangum, who observed: "The idea of a Creator is a big part of Christianity, as opposed to the idea that it happened on its own, without a reason."

The reporter concluded the news feature with the comment that nobody gets the last word on creation versus evolution at this time because the debate "won't end anytime soon." For Christians who believe God's Word, however, there really isn't a debate. Regarding his unexpected media exposure, Mangum noted, "It was a great opportunity for our church to be seen on television with what we teach about our Heavenly Father as our Creator, and the First Angel's message.

-BY GLENDA HASS

## Pastor Dedication Held at Bonifay



Mel Eisele (left), Conference president; Jeff Westburg, pastor; Cyrus Medcalf; and Dean Andrus

Mel Eisele, Conference president, met with the members of the Bonifay, Fla., Church, for a special dedication service for their new pastor, Jeff Westburg, on Sabbath, January 19.

The small church family had prayed and waited patiently for a pastor and were grateful when Westburg agreed to serve the Bonifay, Mariana, and Northbay churches. The members are benefitting from the leadership of Westburg and also enjoying the addition of Karen, his wife, and two children, Erin and Joel, to their church family.

-BY JANE JUSTICE

## Gulf States News

### **Athens Prayer Garden Invites Visitors**



With Janet Arnett's (right) perseverance, and the artistic talent of her daughter, Beth Campell, the Prayer Room has become a beautiful place for prayer.

The Athens, Ala., Church wants every member in 2008 to give top priority to increasing his or her prayer time. This emphasis

on increased prayer time began last year with a series of meetings on Prayer Warrior Ministry, followed by the election of Janet Arnett as prayer ministries director. Under Arnett's leadership, prayer

was promoted as a powerful tool for personal growth. She, along with other leaders in the church, also concentrated on prayer as essential to outreach ministry. One of Arnett's major goals was to locate a place in the church that could be set aside for personal prayer and meditation — a place where members could come early on Sabbath mornings or before Prayer Meetings and spend time alone with God

An under-utilized room in the church was found, and Arnett transformed it, at her own expsense, into a dedicated Prayer Room.

On Sabbath morning soft music is played, highlighting God's gift of nature with sounds of waterfalls and birds. When Arnett's daughter, Beth Campbell, visited her mother, she saw how important the Prayer Room was to her mother and the church members. Campbell has been painting murals for more than 12 years, and with her artistic skills, she transformed the Prayer Room into a peaceful garden scene with a beautiful Eden-like mural.

One member expressed: "Prayer is the most holy exercises of the soul (5T201), and the Athens Church is exceptionally blessed to have such a beautiful place to approach God's throne throughout this coming year."

-BY SANDRA PRICE

#### Montgomery First Goes 'Round the World



Bob (right) and Anita Kane stand with their two exchange students – one from Austria, the other from Holland.

During the afternoon of February 10, more than 70 members and friends of the Montgomery, Ala., First Church enjoyed foods from around the world during an international food fair. Cuisines representing many continents were available.

The attendees sampled food and drinks from Russia, Ukraine, Germany, Austria, Holland, Turkey, Nigeria, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, and Indonesia. They also enjoyed Cajun food from southern Louisiana.

Norm Hobbs, a church elder, and his wife, April, organized the food fair. "We had so many people who came from other countries or who descended from people from across the globe," Hobbs commented. "We thought that an in-

ternational food festival

would be a great way to get to know more about them, their countries, cultures, and each other."

In addition to the food and drinks, many brought

items from their countries, posters, and pictures. Some dressed in native costumes, such as Ngozi Ajaegbu who comes from Nigeria; Anita Shelton who, with her husband, Don, conducted a mission trip to Ukraine; and April Hobbs, who spent time in Turkey as a child, and her two children, Savannah and Nelson.

"We were so glad we could celebrate the unity of God's family through such diversity in this way," commented Barry Mahorney, pastor. "After all, the Scriptures tell us that all who believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God who died for our sins are joint heirs to the kingdom of God."

-BY BOB KANE

## Kentucky-Tennessee News

#### Disaster Response Becomes an United Effort



Volunteers from ROTC assisted with donations collected at Titan's stadium, managed by ACS.

Severe thunderstorms with high winds and numerous tornados struck middle and western Tennessee on February 5, 2008, leaving 33 fatalities and 192 injuries. More than 700 homes and businesses were destroyed or damaged across 14 counties.

Adventist Community Services (ACS) was asked by the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) to manage a resource staging center to receive and disperse donated goods to the affected counties in Tennessee. The facility opened on February 14.

In addition, the City of Nashville asked ACS to manage a collection site in the parking lot of the Tennessee *Titans* football stadium in Nashville to serve the disaster response needs of the greater Nashville area, as well as to contribute to the needs throughout the state. ACS provided the management team to direct this operation; the City of Nashville provided the volunteers. ACS also provided a management team to open a distribution center in Lafayette, Macon County, Tenn., one of the areas hardest hit by the storms.

Madison Academy students were deployed to

Jackson, Tenn., where they assisted with debris removal and clean-up. Alan Craig, the maintenance director from Madison Academy, was able to get work gloves and hard hats from Home Depot at a discount for the students to use. With donated money they purchased two chain saws, which were invaluable when they arrived on scene.

Carrying armloads of debris, branches, and logs, the students moved literally tons of trees and rubble from the yards to the street to be picked up. Michael Durocher says, "I must have cut 200 logs today

and hauled away a thousand pounds of wood."

Andrew Jamieson, chaplain of Madison Academy, said, "The hardest part of the clean-up was carrying toys, broken trophies, and other personal items to the debris pile. Lives had been changed forever. People lost everything." Madison Academy was blessed to be able to lend a hand and make a small impact in the lives of the victims. Ryan Tomlin said, "I'm glad we could go and touch the lives of

some of the people who lost so much in the disaster." Student volunteers and staff stayed at the local Adventist church in Jackson which was not damaged.

Meanwhile, in Macon County, a local warehouse was being used as a center for the tornado victims to come and receive immediate help with food, clothing, and from other supplies. The building was soon filled with donated goods, and the nearby County fairgrounds buildings were opened to receive the overflow donations.

During a three-day period, shifts of 25 students and staff members from Highland Academy worked at



Jackson Mayor Jerry Gist thanked the students for their hard work.

the fairgrounds to sort, fold, and stack the mountain of clothing into sizes and categories. In another building, thousands of cans, boxes, and packages of food were sorted, categorized, and re-boxed to be sent to other



KAREN SCHIME

Martin Hauge and Amber Arthur from Highland Academy belped sort clothing in Macon County.

distribution centers where families could get immediate help. The students responded to the challenge with hard work and determination. They did not stop until all of the huge bins of food and clothing items had been organized.

> Perhaps as important as the help given by the students is the blessing they receive from helping. Bradley Newmyer, said, "It made me realize that I take everything for granted." Ari Guindon added, "I liked being able to show Christ through actions and not just words."

-BY MARVIN LOWMAN

## Kentucky-Tennessee News

## New Company Formed in Frankfort



Ed Hoffman, head elder of the Frankfort Company, signs on as a charter member of the new organization.

A company of believers was organized in Frankfort, Ky., Sabbath, February 9, 2008. Marvin Lowman, Conference executive secretary, spoke to a nearly full church in his sermon titled "Called Out, Sent Out." After explaining the significance of becoming an organized company, Lowman challenged the congregation to make a difference in the community by fulfilling its role as a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and God's special possession based on 1 Peter 2:9.

Maintaining a Seventhday Adventist presence in Frankfort, has been elusive. Adversity of one kind or another has plagued Adventist congregations in Frankfort for decades. Under the leadership of James Byrd, a Bible worker who also serves as the pastor, attendance and membership have grown. Authorization to be organized as a company was granted at the Conference Executive Committee meeting in November 2007. Twentyfive people indicated their desire to unite with the Frankfort Company. Byrd continues to study with others who will soon be members as well.

-BY MARVIN LOWMAN

## Church Opens in Lebanon

Wilson County, Tenn., is no longer a dark county. For more than 10 years church members in Lebanon, Tenn., have dreamed members and friends came to share the occasion.

Some months later the congregation could actually see the building going up in



spite of delays caused by resistance from the city. Every heart was filled with happiness on December 8, 2007, when the first church

of having a church of their own. They were grateful to be able to rent the Primitive Baptist Church, but it wasn't like having their own church.

On February 2, 2007, their dreams began to become a reality. It was a very cold winter day when the groundbreaking took place, but a number of



service was held in the new church. Each member has worked, prayed, and liberally given so this could happen, and God has blessed. —BY JEAN MILLER

## Ohio County Youth to be Student Ambassador



Samantha Sutton, a member of the Ohio County Church in Beaver Dam, Ky., has been nominated to participate in the *People to People Student Ambassador* program. Samantha is 15 years old, attends the Ohio County High School, and is in the 10th grade. The purpose of this program, created by former President Dwight Eisenhower, is to bring together cultures from all over the world and build relationships between the countries. Samantha will travel to Europe and visit France, Italy, and Malta.

-BY MARVIN LOWMAN

## South Atlantic News

## Mt. Olive Church Holds Super Bowl Social

A few years ago a football game was just that, a football game. Today it is a ministry opportunity. Super Bowl Sunday became a super witnessing opportunity. There were many Super Bowl parties across metro Atlanta, Ga., but probably none welcomed by its guests more than the one at Mt. Olive Church in East Point, Ga.

Mt. Olive hosted its fourth annual Super Bowl party for the homeless. On Sabbath, twice each month, the community services department picks up about 30 men and women to bring to church for Sabbath School and worship service. They are given access to a shower, hair cut, a meal, clothing, and goodie bag. This has been a ministry of the church for more than 10 years.

But on Super Bowl Sunday, the church picked up 30 men and women from a downtown Atlanta shelter and shuttled them in two vans to the church, where they were treated in style. Not only were they given the usual special care, but a seat near the television where they could watch and enjoy the Super Bowl.

"Watching the game really was a big thing," said Dwagne Haskins, the director of the Mt. Olive community service department. "So is the personal care and food distributed. What sets the night apart, however, is the good feeling imparted upon a group of people who rarely experience the care or concern of others. It's not so much about the game as it is about the fellowship. It's saying to them that there are people who do care and who can help. It isn't just the Super Bowl; it's our super bowl of helping others."

Volunteer cooks, servers, and communication staff, prepared food, arranged chairs, and set up the projector which displayed the game on the widescreen television. The guests were treated to hot veggie chili, pizza, veggie sandwiches, and hot drinks.

Betty Weston, a member of Mt. Olive, reported that their guests also benefitted from "spiritual food" that was served during game breaks.

Many of the guests expressed a desire to return to the Mt. Olive Church. Drake Barber, pastor, stated that ministry is about sharing God's love to everyone, which means living to evangelize each day.

-BY PAULA MORRIS

## Berean Honors Community African-Americans



Brenda Wood shares with the congregation the promise of Isaiah 58:13, 14: If you honor the Sabbath, God will "cause thee to ride upon the high places of the Earth."

February is "Black History Month" and, in conjunction with the month, the Atlanta, Ga., Berean Church honors African-Americans from past and present who have made major contributions to society. Four persons were honored during the month: the Honorable Andrew Young, Brenda Wood, Edgar Scott, M.D., and Xernona Clayton.

Andrew Young is renowned for his contributions during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950's and 1960's as he worked beside the late Martin Luther King Jr. He also was elected to Congress for three terms as a state representative for Georgia, and, in 1977, President Jimmy Carter named him Ambassador to the United Nations. He also served two terms as mayor of Atlanta and played a major role in bringing the Centennial Olympic Games to Atlanta in 1996.

Brenda Wood is the primary news anchor for the NBC affiliate, WXIA-TV, 11 Alive, in Atlanta. Throughout her 30-year career as a broadcast journalist, she has received numerous honors and awards, including 15 Emmy awards from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. She credits her success in the broadcast industries to her unwavering stance of not working on the Sabbath. Because of her excellence in news presentation, she has been chosen to represent NBC at the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China.

Edgar Scott is a physician who blazed the trail for African-Americans in Tennessee, where he was awarded privileges to operate as the first African-American surgeon in an all-white department of surgery at Erlanger Hospital.

Another civil rights pioneer was honored in

the person of Xernona Clayton. Clayton was intricately involved with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), and worked for Martin Luther King Jr., and Coretta Scott King to end social injustice. She became the first black woman in the south to host a regularly scheduled television primetime talk show.

-BY JAMES LAMB



Vanard Mendingball (center), Conference president, greets former U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young as Carlton Byrd, D.Min., senior pastor, looks on.

## South Atlantic News

## Zion Temple Teams Up for a Special Delivery



Pictured are the members of Zion Temple's community service team with the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8694 just before they distributed food boxes prepared for various families in the community. The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 8694 joined forces with the Zion Temple Adventist community services in Greenwood, S.C., to feed the needy in December 2007.

Boxes were packed with food items that were collected, donated, and purchased by the VFW and the church's community services department.

The food boxes, which overflowed with collard greens, were delivered to many homes. The community services team also issued household products and personal items to numerous families.

The VFW has been involved in a food distribution project for nine consecutive years. This was the first time the veterans partnered with Zion Temple to use the facility as a collection and distribution center. Anne Parks, state representative for South Carolina, was in attendance as well.

Zion Temple's community services department regularly open its doors to the community to distribute food, clothing, and other items. They also make deliveries to the sick and shutin members of Zion Temple and the community.

-BY ARLENE MORGAN

## Mission Possible with GAAA Students



Recently, the Mission Possible Team joined Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy (GAAA) on an adventure that would change and impact their lives forever. The project was to beautify the local Seventh-day Adventist church and to share Jesus with the community of Griffin, Ga.

With support from the local police department,

community activist, and the community services department, it was a success. Dickerson Memorial Chapel Church was host to the Mission Possible Team, under the direction and leadership of Darryl L. Howard, pas-

tor; Sylvia Wilson, GAAA instructor; and Nickey Baker, community services leader. Thirteen seniors and two juniors from GAAA went to Dickerson Memorial and the surrounding community to participate in a weekend of community services activities. The students ranged in ages from 15 to 18.

The activities included, but were not limited to,

beautification of the church and grounds, where trees were trimmed and the grass was cut. Signs, windows, doors, and steps all received a brand new coat of paint, as well as some interior walls.

The community participated in a block party, featuring local talent, as well as the distinguished voices of the GAAA students and the Tri-City Church from McDonough, Ga. Also, the block party focused on the distribution of ap-

proximately 700 articles of clothing, shoes, and other miscellaneous home furnishings.

Renewed interest in church fellowship was generated by this effort, including comments such as, "What church is doing this?" "Where do you go to church? I want to come."

The event was a success by any standard — a community services outreach that reached more than 100 people. This one-on-one contact allowed volunteers to link individuals to the Savior an experience of a lifetime. The plan is to make this outreach project an annual event.

-BY DARRYL HOWARD



## South Central News

#### Church Musician Still Playing at 102

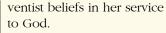
Witnessing Mary Tacoma Taylor Maupin's 102nd birthday has been an uplifting experience at Magazine Street Church in Louisville, Ky. Maupin, born in 1905, turned 102 on November 9, 2007. She continues to play melodious chords of harmony at the church, where she served for more than 60 years as organist and pianist, and currently serves as one of the Sabbath School pianists. Maupin credits her long life to God's mercy and practicing God's health message written by Ellen G. White. Maupin states, "Drinking

plenty of water has been beneficial to my health." As a child, she taught herself to play songs on a neighbor's piano and later received formal musical training.

In 1926, Mary Taylor married Miller Maupin, who passed away at the age of 99 years old. To this union, seven children were born, which increased to grandchildren, greatgrandchildren, and greatgreat grandchildren. Before she became an Adventist, she attended the famous Wilberforce College (now University), an institution previously opened in 1856 for freed slaves, where she met her late husband.

Throughout her Adventist life, Maupin has served in various church

offices and now helps the church school with fundraising activities, including taking citrus fruit orders and hosting the Cecil and Ruth Ray Scholarship special event. Maupin, previously an educator, serves as a role model to both young and old as she promotes Ad-



-BY DIANA WASHINGTON-KENSLER



Mary Maupin currently serves as one of the Sabbath School pianists at Magazine Street Church. She faithfully served more than 60 years as church organist and pianist.

### Ephesus ACS Partners with Community

Ephesus Adventist Community Services (ACS) is on the move and has an outreach program in the Smithfield, College Hill, Enon Ridge, East Thomas, and Graymont communities of Alabama. An ACS worker is assigned to each neighborhood and attends



Every fourth Sabbath cooked meals are prepared for more than 100 individuals and taken to Linn Park to feed the homeless. This work is accomplished by the church members and volunteers.

the monthly meetings to hear concerns and plan how Ephesus can be of assistance.

Ephesus community services is also in partnership with JCCEO, networking with non-profit faith-based organizations and the United Way Food Bank. They part-

ner with JCCEO to provide energy assistance to low-income residents of Jefferson County. This Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded program designed to help eligible lowincome homeowners and renters meet their home heating and/or cooling needs.

The Energy Assistance Network is a partnership of local faith-based organizations working together to better serve the energy needs of Jefferson County. The amount of assistance is based on income and is given twice per year to any one applicant, once in the summer and once in the fall. Wilma Pride is the facilitator.

Every fourth Sabbath, cooked meals are prepared and taken to Linn Park to feed the homeless. Church members and volunteers accomplish this work and more than 100 individuals are served the meals. Hattie Moore, Yolanda Spencer, and Stephanie Dingome are the facilitators. Upon requests, food is given to the needy from the food pantry. A new partnership has been formed with the United Way Food Bank to provide food for the community. Jane Blanding and Wilma Pride are the facilitators.

Care packages, lap covers, and quilts are made by the Wednesday sewing class and taken to adopted nursing homes periodically. The facilitators are Florence Shorter and Mary A. Calhoun.

Sewing and flower arrangement classes meet each Wednesday from 3 to 6 p.m. The items are given to the needy in the neighborhood. Lillie Parker and Mattie Swanson are the facilitators. —BY EVELYN H. DILL

## South Central News

## Adventists Respond to Pisgah Tornado Disaster

An EF-4 tornado with an estimated peak wind of 180 mph hit Jackson County, Ala., killing a woman as her home was demolished on February 6. The twister cut a path three-eighths of a mile wide. The tornado that hit Lawrence County was an EF-3, with an estimated peak wind of 150 mph, and left destruction along a 19-mile path that was as much as a half-mile wide. There were



Since the opening of the distribution center, two to four semi-truck loads of donated goods have arrived daily.

three other less-powerful tornadoes reported to have touched down in areas of Lamar, Marion, Fayette, Tuscaloosa, Walker, Coosa, and Talladega counties in Alabama. The total devastation from the tornado left six known dead, six hospitalized, and more than 150 residential areas including mobile homes destroyed or heavily to moderately damaged.

Wayne Blanding, Barbara Barnes, and several other members of the Central Alabama Adventist Community Service (ACS)

> Federation immediately went to Pisgah, Ala., on February 10, and began setting up the warehouse in the Office Furniture Outlet store on County Road 58.

Blanding, the warehouse manager, and his team worked on Monday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., sorting

and categorizing 65 pallets of food, clothes, personal hygiene items, household goods, bottled water, paper products, and cleaning supplies. By Tuesday morning the distribution center was opened to families displaced by the storm. Twelve

members of the North Alabama ACS Federation, along with Evelyn Oates, the local disaster response leader, served

as escorts in helping to take care of all the basic needs of the survivors. "Being here is very rewarding, and one of the survivors invited me to her home. They are pleased to have us here," said Oates. Robert Spencer, federation president, served as the certified forklift operator.

Since the opening of the distribution center, two to four semi-truck loads of donated goods have arrived daily. So far 350 individuals



A total of 350 individuals have been served, and more than 18,000 items of donated goods have been distributed to the survivors in the Pisgah and Rosalie communities.

have been served, and more than 18,000 items of donated goods have been distributed to the survivors in the Pisgah and Rosalie communities.

There is a continuous flow of local volunteers and ACS volunteers from north and central Alabama of South Central Conference Adventist Community Services and Disaster Response. Total number of volunteer hours so far is 1,485.

-BY LILLIE BUCKINGHAM AND BARBARA BARNES

### **Disaster Relief Certification Held at Ephesus**

A Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) class was held in the fellowship hall at Ephesus Church from September 10 to November 5, 2007. Twenty-seven trainees attended weekly and graduated with Emergency Management Agency (EMA) certification, which is recognized nationwide.

The four instructors who providing the training from the Jefferson County EMA were Michael Harter, Tyrone Walker, Joan Ratchford, and Don Roybal.

The final examination consisted of a "mock

disaster," staged by the instructors, which involved the Ephesus Church. The staged



*Twenty-seven trainees graduated from the Emergency Management Agency certification program.* 

disaster stated, "A tornado devastated the Ephesus Church facility. Many persons were injured, some seriously, by flying debris and fires. Four people were killed in the incident." The CERT students were required to coordinate and facilitate this event according to EMA guidelines. The instructors were pleased and satisfied with their achievement, and all graduated with above average performance.

-BY EVELYN H. DILL

## South<mark>eastern News</mark>

## Couple's Marriage Saved by Marriage Conference



Kathy and Daniel Abonkbai share their story with the marriage conference attendees.

On the verge of leaving her husband, Kathy Ahonkhai was desperate to save her marriage. Fighting back tears she stated, "I was not getting the support that I needed from my husband. He was married to his job."

A member of the Baptist faith, she eventually turned to her husband's brother, Emmanuel Ahonkhai, for help.

Ahonkhai, family life director at the Mt. Sinai Church and a member of Southeastern Conference's marriage conference planning committee, had invited the couple to attend the marriage conference for years.

Unfortunately, Kathy Ahonkhai's husband, Daniel, was not interested in attending. He was in denial and always found an excuse to avoid attending the conference. That type of behavior is typical of many men, expresses Lewis Edwards, Conference family life director.

In an act of desperation, Kathy Ahonkhai took a leap of faith and registered the couple to attend the 2007 marriage conference. She informed her husband that she would be attending the conference with or without him, and he decided to join her. Their attendance saved their marriage, and they returned for the 2008 conference.

"Marriage is a school from which you will never graduate. There is always something to learn that will improve your marriage." states Kathy Ahonkhai. Fifty percent of all marriages in the United States end in divorce or permanent separation. According to Barna Research, divorce is more prevalent among Christians. Twenty-seven percent of born-again Christians have been divorced. That compares with 24 percent of adults who are not born-again. Sadly, the Adventist Church is not immune to this trend.

Willie Oliver, North American Division family life director, estimates that one in four Adventist marriages end in divorce.

"The purpose of the marriage conference is to divorce-proof marriages by building stronger ones," adds Edwards.

The majority of the more than 70 couples that attended the annual conference, which was held in Orlando, Fla., did so for a "tune up," as one couple puts it. Married five months ago and baptized just one week before attending the conference, Bob and Judith Gabriel of Sacramento, Calif., decided to attend the conference because they wanted to build a strong foundation that would help their marriage stand the test of time.

Conference presenters Paul and Debra Anderson believe that the key to a successful marriage is to put God first.

You can view streaming video of the testimony of Kathy and Daniel Ahonkhai, as well as selected seminars, at http://www.secsda.org. —BY ROBERT HENLEY



Bob and Judith Gabriel are looking forward to enjoying a long and healthy marriage.

### Oakwood Student Makes INROADS

Last summer, Tiffany Silvera, a senior at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala., was one of 15 summer INROADS interns to participate in training workshops in Lakeland, Fla.

INROADS is a national database of students seeking summer internships.

Publix provided INROADS with specific information and requirements regarding available summer internships. She was chosen from a pool of 20 students.

Silvera was truly elated by the offer and felt honored to be selected, but on the other hand she said, "I felt nervous because it was my first time working in a corporate environment." Silvera is working on a

double major in finance and accounting.

> She is a member of the Perrine Church in Miami, Fla. She is the daughter of Gloria Edwards and has been a

Seventh-day Adventist since birth. Silvera stated that her summer internship in the Publix business analysis and reporting department was worth the experience.

She continued, "I was able to participate in team meetings and worked on a major project involving Publix. I was introduced to so much during the internship."

-BY MILLICENT TAYLOR

## Southern Adventist University

#### **Groups Aid Tornado Victims**

In the wake of the deadly tornadoes that ripped through the South. Southern students and faculty organized three relief groups to help those affected by the tornadoes.

The Student Association and Campus Ministries co-sponsored two groups to Savannah, Tenn. The groups helped a family clear their land and

salvage what they could



Southern students helped a family in Savannah, Tenn., clear their land following the tornados that hit the south in February.

of the wreckage, including finding important documents.

"It was heartbreaking to watch the people suffer," says Kelsey Belcourt, senior nursing major. "Picking up people's small personal items impressed me with the reality of the lives the storm had forever changed. The storm reinforced the idea in my mind that material goods are not of any real consequence in the grand scheme of life." Denise Dunzweiler.

dean of the School of Education and Psychology, organized a 24-hour relief trip with members of the Hamilton Community Church, including Southern students, alumni, and faculty. They took donations of food, water, toiletries, clothes, and toys to Huntersville, Tenn. The group also helped clean two houses that were damaged by a tornado.

-BY JAIME MYERS

### Academy Students Participate in Honor Choir Festival

Southern Adventist University hosted nearly 150 students from eight Southern Union academies for the Honor Choir Festival, February 20-23.

"The Honor Choir Festival is designed to give the students the opportunity to experience rehearsal and performance at a level that will challenge their abilities and give them the tools to return as stronger leaders

for their ensembles," says Gennevieve Brown-Kibble, music professor and festival facilitator.

The weekend came to a culmination with a performance at the Collegedale Church, under the direction of guest clinician David Gardner, director of choral activities at Southwestern College in Kansas.

"I really liked the festival," says Jordan McKee of Collegedale Academy.

"I got to meet a lot of new people and have a lot of fun and learn musical techniques that I haven't learned before."

"I've learned a lot of things," adds Laudney Charles of Forest Lake Academy. "I know that I'm going to be a student at Southern next year."

-BY SUZANNE OCSAI



Students from eight Southern Union academies gave a performance at the end of the Honor Choir Festival at Southern Adventist University.

## Tom Verrill Named Financial Vice President

Dale Bidwell, who has served as Southern's vice president for financial administration since 1989, retired on March 1.

He will be replaced by Tom



Verrill, treasurer of the Florida Conference.

Verril has a master's degree in business administration and has been serving the financial needs

of the denomination since 1986. He is certified in trust services and as a public accountant.

"He will bring a strong educational background to this position, in addition to a distinguished reputation of leadership and management illustrated by his

work in the Florida Conference," says Gordon Bietz, Southern president. "He will enable us to continue strong financial management as well as the important relationships that we have with our local supportive conferences." -BY JAIME MYERS

#### Southern Union Feature

## abbath in Afri

"It was extremely liberating for an African-American congregation to learn that Christianity on the continent of Africa actually pre-dated the arrival of the European missionaries," says Furman Fordham, pastor of the Riverside Chapel Church in Nashville, Tennessee. The learning resulted from presentations by Charles Bradford, D.D., Litt.D., and the Sabbath in Africa (SIA) study group on Sabbath, February 23. Riverside Chapel was the second congregation in the Southern Union to host a seminar on 2,000 years of Christianity in Africa and the Diaspora during the past six months. The Atlanta Berean Church welcomed the SIA team on September 21-22, 2007.

The SIA scholars are dedicated to advancing understanding of Africa as a historic center of the Christian faith, in which observance of the seventhday Sabbath has been remarkably widespread. This is particularly true in Ethiopia, where Christianity took root more than 1,00 years before the era of European missions and colonialism, and in the numerous African-initiated movements that powered the explosive growth of Christianity on the continent during the 20th century.

The SIA project, however, aims at being much more than an intellectual exercise. "We believe that Psalm 68:31, 'Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God,' is a scriptural Word whose time has come," says Bradford. "Sometimes I am reminded of Rip



The Saturday evening book signing at Riverside Chapel included authors Kofi Owusu-Mensa (left), Bertram Melbourne, and Charles Bradford.

Van Winkle, who went to sleep for so many years that he missed out on a great revolution," he adds. Bradford points out first-rate scholars such as Thomas Oden (How Africa Shaped the Christian Mind, 2007) and Philip Jenkins (The Next Christendom, 2002) who are drawing attention to the centrality of Africa in the Christian story, and asks, "Shouldn't we be even more excited? We see far greater meaning in these developments as part of the final unfolding of God's plan of redemption."

In his sermon at Riverside Chapel, "No Child Left Behind," Bradford put it this way: "When you see the sons and daughters of Ham, in the Diaspora and on the continent,'turn from their idols to serve the living God, when you see them multiply-

#### BY DOUGLAS MORGAN

ing by the millions in the great army of the Lord, when you see that seismic shift of Christianity from the north to south, 'Lift up your heads, for your redemption draweth nigh." In other words, he says, what is happening in Africa is a part of that the great worldwide proclamation of the Gospel that is "the ultimate sign of Christ's return." It is, he stresses, a message of inclusion, about a God who leaves none of his children behind, but gathers them from every nation, race, and ethnic group.

Riverside Chapel devoted the traditional Sabbath School hour to

a light breakfast, followed by the first session of Sabbath in Africa presentations. The innovation proved successful as the church's fellowship hall filled to overflowing for "From Jerusalem to Johannesburg," a presentation by Bertram Melbourne, Ph.D. Melbourne, an administrator and professor



ship hall.

The Sabbath morning presentation was given by Bertram Melbourne in Riverside Chapel's fellow-



Keith Burton expounds on the historic struggle in Ethiopia over fidelity to the Sabbath commandment.

at Howard University School of Divinity in Washington, D.C., discussed linguistic evidence and oral traditions suggesting that the Gospel message spread widely throughout the continent in the centuries before European contact, presumably as an extension of the witness of the Ethiopian royal official referred to in Acts 8. Fortuitously, Melbourne is also the principal author of the current quarter's Sabbath School lessons, "Called to Discipleship," and he led the reassembled church in the lesson study at the beginning of the afternoon session.

Kofi Owusu-Mensa, Ph.D., a Ghanaian scholar, spoke on how the Akan people of Ghana became custodians of the seventh-day Sabbath, giving Saturday the day-name for God – "Kwame." Because it was European missionaries who introduced Sunday as the weekly day for worship in the 15th century, the Akan people subsequently applied their day-name for Sunday to all Europeans, calling them "Akwasi" or "Kwasi Bronii" (Sunday red-man).

Keith Burton, Ph.D., author of the recently published book *The Blessing of Africa* (InterVarsity Press, 2007), gave an indepth study on the history of Sabbath-keeping in Ethiopia, describing how the Ethiopian Christians ultimately sustained the heritage of seventh-day Sabbath observance despite the efforts of European missionaries who tried for more than a century to compel them to submit to the authority of Rome.

In addition to similar presentations, the seminar in September at the rapidly growing Atlanta Berean Church, pastored by Carlton Byrd, D. Min., opened on Friday evening with tributes to Lawrence Edward Carter Sr., Ph.D., dean of the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel at Morehouse College. Carter's many achievements include creating opportunities for Christians of varying denominational persuasions to interact and enrich each other. Tribute came from Ralph Peay, D.Min., executive secretary

and chaplain of the Concerned Black Clergy of Atlanta and past president of the South Atlantic Conference; and from Godwin Mitchell, president of the Atlanta Seventh-day Adventist Pastors' Fellowship. On behalf of the Sabbath in Africa Study Group, Harold Lee, D.Min., chairman, presented to Carter a plaque honoring his "untiring service to people of all faiths and unrelenting endeavors to bring peace to a troubled world."

Also, *Ministry* magazine editor Nikolaus Satelmajer, Ph.D., and associate editor Willie Hucks III, D.Min.,were on hand to provide complimentary copies of the magazine's October issue, which was devoted to Africa, and off the press just in time for the Atlanta seminar. Satelmajer also announced that 6,000 copies of Charles E. Bradford's book, *Sabbath Roots: The African Connection*, and the accompanying study guide were on their way to Africa for distribution to all English-speaking pastors and other church workers.

The SIA project evolved after Bradford retired from the presidency of the North American Division in 1990. Reports he had heard from Adventist missionaries about encountering African peoples who already knew about the Sabbath sparked a desire to find out more and promote further research. Projects that grew out of a planning session at Oakwood University (formerly Oakwood College) in 1991, along with Bradford's own research, led to his book, *Sabbath Roots: The African Connection*, published by the General Conference Ministerial Association in 1999.

A major scholarly movement toward a new awareness of the importance of the Global South (Africa, Asia, and Latin America) in the history of Christianity, as well as the contemporary outlook, was also building in the 1990's. But the publication of *Sabbath Roots* in 1999 preceded a rapidly widening stream of works by influential scholars such as Jenkins, Oden, Lamin Sanneh, and Andrew Walls, adding further confirmation to Bradford's work.

The SIA study group has presented seminars throughout the nation during the past decade, including "Conversations on 2,000 Years of Christianity and the Diaspora" at Andrews University on February 7-9.



Harold Lee (right), SIA study group chair, presents commendation to Lawrence Edward Carter Jr. of Morebouse College during the seminar beld at Atlanta, Georgia, Berean Church, September 2007.

To Bradford, one of the most important goals of SIA is to help young people of African descent to find "their ultimate affirmation in God" by seeing how directly God has been at work in their heritage through the centuries, even millennia.

For information regarding SIA seminars and publications, visit www. africanchristianity.org.

Douglas Morgan, Ph.D., serves as the secretary for the Sabbath in Africa group.

## A BEACON OF LIGHT

BY REBECCA GRICE

The Camp Alamisco lighthouse, situated on a rocky ledge overlooking Lake Martin, is a familiar site to the many boaters and residents who live near and play in the clear sparkling waters at the lake. During the day, the lighthouse is visible from many directions and is a reference point to boaters and other recreational watercraft users. At night the lighthouse's signal shines across the dark lake like a welcoming beacon.

Just as the lighthouse is well known to many, so is Camp Alamisco. Not only do Gulf States Conference members appreciate the camp, but also numerous other families who choose to send their children for summer camp or who spend time at the camp themselves with their own church groups.

During the summer months more than 600 campers experience the joy of summer camping. Among this group last year were 90 Native Americans and 120 family campers. Fifty percent of the campers are not connected to the Adventist Church. When Jeff Wood, Conference youth director, was asked what he wants campers to take home



*Campers of many faiths develop new skills that will become a life-long habit.* 



The goal of Camp Alamisco is to point everyone to Jesus.

with them after a week of camp, he responded, "There are three things. I want them to have a better understanding of who Jesus is and how He wants to impact their lives. I want them to develop a new skill that will become a life-long habit; and to meet someone new, whether it is another camper or staff member, that they can have a positive relationship with."

During the seven weeks of camp last summer, there were more than 100 decisions for Bible studies and baptism.

For the campers not affiliated with the Adventist Church, the goal is for them to know our faith as a Church that opens its arms to everyone, and which loves and puts Jesus first in all things.

The 46 staff members who choose to spend their summer ministering to children at camp are mostly college students from the southeast. For these young adults the objective is similar. Wood explains, "The goal is for them to develop better leadership skills, to have acquired a new, positive relationship with a camper or another staff member, and to know Jesus better."

When the last camper and staff member leaves Alamisco at the end of

the summer camping season, Jason and Stephanie Dorris, the camp ranger and his wife, gear up for another busy time. A look at the calendar will confirm that the camp is booked for almost every weekend during the year. Thirty percent of the groups who use the camp are not a part of the Adventist Church. These groups, along with members of the Conference, appreciate the rustic beauty of the camp and the friendly service. One Methodist group rents the camp for 10 weekends every year.

A gentleman who spends several weekends at camp with his church group explains it this way, "Alamisco is a peaceful place where I'm able to leave behind the normal stress of life."

Another person says, "When I'm at Alamisco I feel as though I'm in a sanctuary."

The goal of those affiliated with Camp Alamisco is that it continues to shine in a dark world with a warm, welcoming beacon — a beacon that invites both young and old of all faiths to come aside and gain a better understanding of Jesus.



Camp Alamisco wants all campers to know that we are a Church that opens its arms to everyone, and which loves and puts Jesus first in all things.



with friends; plan

It's About Serving the People

BY REBECCA GRICE

A woman who was given a copy of Steps to Christ by a literature evangelist was so impressed with the book; she researched and found the Adventist Book Center (ABC) located in Montgomery, Alabama. When she came by she ordered seven cases of the book to give to the inmates at a women's prison.

An elderly man looked unsure of himself as he entered the ABC. Linda Anderson, ABC manager, greeted him with a friendly, "May I help you with something?"

"Before I moved back here, I was watching the HOPE Channel on television," the man explained. "My son told me you would know about the literature they mentioned." Anderson helped the man find what he was looking for, and before he left she invited him to the local Adventist church. "He hasn't attended yet, but I'm praying for Him," says Anderson. "We won't know until Jesus comes again how many people the



Linda Anderson, ABC manager, greets customers with a smile and a food sample.

Adventist Book Center has been instrumental in reaching!" Anderson says with conviction.

The success of the Gulf States Conference ABC could be measured in this year's five percent profit increase and the impressive increased



Jane Haney keeps the store going while the manager is away at book sales.

availability to the members. The spring and fall book sales found Anderson unloading books and setting up displays in 11 different locations throughout the Conference. The book sales occurred in church fellowship halls, school gyms, or wherever it was convenient for the members. The 11 sales included the Hispanic camp meeting and the women's retreat at Camp Alamisco. The ABC also set up a store during the annual 10-day camp meeting at Bass Memorial Academy, was back at Bass during ministers' and teachers' meetings, and then remained there until the next weekend for student registration. In addition to the book sales, there were 24 trips to supply vegetarian food to Bass, several other schools, and health food stores in the Conference.

However, if you talk to Anderson or Jane Haney, the part-time ABC assistant, you quickly realize that the Center's success is about much more than facts and figures. "It's about the people," explains Anderson with enthusiasm. "The Book Center is a place where members can shop; talk



tion of the ABC, with a Wal-Mart and other shops just across the street, makes it easy for the public to drop in. "People come in and ask what we believe," Anderson says. "Some



Cheryle and Charlie Debardelaben look through a display during the Christmas open house

people feel impressed to drop by and ask for prayer. They are always given literature to take home."

The goal for the Adventist Book Center for 2008 is to continue with a full schedule of events during the year. Its success is centered in serving the people.



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#### Announcements

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#### Shenandoah Valley Academy Centennial Celebration – April 18-30. On the campus of SVA. Details: 540.740.2202 or go to wave

540-740-2202 or go to www. shenandoahvalleyacademy.org

Broadview Academy Alumni Weekend – May 2-4. All alumni are encouraged to attend. Mark you calendars. Call your classmates and start planning for this weekend now. Honor classes, 1948, 1958, 1968, 1978, 1983, 1988 and 1998. Friday night Vespers, Sabbath School, and Church. All ideas and information welcome. For communication purposes, we need your e-mail addresses; send them to: scross@ broadviewacademy.org or call Shona Cross at 630-677-4387. Don't miss it!

Mid-America Union, Rocky Mountain Conference, and Centura Health – May 31-Aug. 30. Will be providing Sabbath services at Yellowstone National Park. Please plan to join these services if you will be visiting the Park this summer. Details: 303-282-3670

Cruise with the Aeolians and Alma Blackmon to Cozumel, Mexico – June 19-23. See our website at www.aeolianalumni. org or call Tanja Spohn at 800-777-9529 EST, or email Tanja @ ClassicWorldTravel.com Discover the world of information that the new improved Advent*Source* can provide.

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**COLLEGEDALE.** Brick rancher on 2+ acres, 5 miles from SAU, 4300+ sq.ft., 3 large bedrooms and 3 baths upstairs, nice 2-bedroom motherin-law living area in walkout basement, office, den with fireplace, 3-car garage, small orchard. \$295,000. Additional 1 acre with 36'x 60' barn available. 423-503-9882. (4)

**COUNTRY HOME** for an older gentleman to share with another older man. Large private bedroom with bath, and walk-in closet. Kitchen, dining, living room. Neat, References. Close to three SDA churches. \$425/month. 770-548-8781. [4]

COLLEGEDALE, TN AREA: TWO HOMES, EACH WITH ACREAGE AND MOTHER-IN-LAW LIVING AREA. Horses permitted. Home #1 has five acres, pond, 2500 sq.ft. home, plus apartment, 30x70 workshop – priced at \$329,000. Home #2 has 10 acres, privacy, 3,000 sq.ft., mountain view, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths (including apt) for \$359,000. Call Loretta for details 423-718-8191. [4]

#### **POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

**OB/GYN – North Georgia:** Overwhelming practice needs BE/BC OB/GYN for partnership or an associate. New building will be complete in summer, 2008. Local Adventist Hospital, Churches, and Academy. Community of 50,000 is a wonderful place to raise family and practice medicine. For more information contact Debbie at 706-629-7380, or email: dowens@4womenscare.com. [4,5]

**COLUMBUS, NE, OB/GYN PHYSICIAN NEEDED.** Solo Ob/Gyn physician in Columbus, Nebraska, is seeking a committed and compassionate partner to join rapidly expanding practice. Please submit CVs and/ or questions to cwhc@frontiernet.net. www. columbuswomenshealthcare.com [4] GORDON HOSPITAL is currently seeking a physical therapist for home health. Candidate must be able to be licensed as a physical therapist in the state of Georgia and have at least one year of previous physical therapy experience. Relocation expenses would be covered for this position. Gordon Hospital, owned by Adventist Health System, is located in Calhoun, GA, approximately one hour south of Chattanooga, TN and one hour north of Atlanta, GA. To apply, contact Jeni at 706.602.7800 x2321 or jeni.hasselbrack@ahss.org or apply online at www.gordonhospital.com. [4]

GORDON HOSPITAL is currently seeking a Director for ICU. Candidate must be able to be licensed as registered nurse in the state of Georgia and have at least three years of nursing and management experience. Relocation expenses would be covered for this position. Gordon Hospital, owned by Adventist Health System, is located in Calhoun, GA, approximately one hour south of Chattanooga, TN and one hour north of Atlanta, GA. To apply, contact Jeni at 706.602.7800 x2321 or jeni. hasselbrack@ahss.org or apply online at www. gordonhospital.com [4]

HOSPITALIST OPPORTUNITIES in North Georgia. Gordon Hospital is seeking board certified physicians with 5+ years experience practicing classical IM medicine. New Hospitalist program starting summer 2008. 65-bed facility. 8 ICU beds. 79 physicians on active staff. Avg census 20-22 patients. Employment with starting salary 205K. Bonuses, benefits, etc. Outstanding Adventist elementary and high school within community. Southern University with 45 minutes. To learn more contact bonnie.shadix@ahss.org, 800.264.8642. www.gordonhospital.com [4] **GROUP HOME STAFF NEEDED.** Supervise, mentor teen boys with ADHD, special learning/ behavioral needs. Duties: wake up, put to bed, worship, work, recreation, meals. Rewarding opportunity for service, leadership. Love for teens desirable. Advent Home, Calhoun, TN. FAX Resume to Blondel Senior: 423-336-8224; or call 423-336-5052. info@adventhome.org bsenior@adventhome.org [4]

HANDYMAN NEEDED. General maintenance skills: Light repairs in carpentry, electrical, plumbing, AC, etc. small, non-profit ministry, Advent Home, Calhoun, TN. FAX Resume to Blondel Senior: 423-336-8224; or call 423-336-5052. info@adventhome.org bsenior@ adventhome.org [4]

VEGAN COOKS NEEDED. Prepare/serve vegan meals for small, non-profit, ministry in Calhoun, TN that provides remedial schooling, residential care for boys with ADHD and special learning/behavioral needs. Rewarding opportunity for service, leadership. FAX Resume to: Blondel Senior: 423-336-8224; or call 423-336-5052. info@adventhome.org bsenior@adventhome.org [4]

**ENJOY ACTIVE RETIREMENT LIVING** and daily share your faith, by joining the Adventist Heritage Ministry Team. AHM is looking for applicants for site directors and Heritage Shoppe managers at the boyhood home of Joseph Bates, Fairhaven, MA, and Historic Adventist Village, Battle Creek, MI. For additional information, please visit www. Adventistheritage.org or call Thomas Neslund 949 581 5513 for applications. [4]

time positions in the School of Journalism & Communication. Course subjects may include speech, public relations, media production, photography and new media. Candidates should have demonstrated success in college teaching, and/or professional work experience, with a strong commitment to Seventh-day Adventist education. A master's degree in the field is required, and a doctorate is preferred. Send CV to Dr. Greg Rumsey, rumsey@southern.edu, School of Journalism & Communication, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. [4]

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**DAY CARE DIRECTOR.** Clearwater Seventhday Adventist Church is opening a Day Care, and is looking for a Director. Please call Jamie Winfield at 727 364-7956 or the Church office at 727 446-6427. [4]

LAURELBROOK ACADEMY seeks missionminded staff. Beautiful mountain location; sixty miles from SAU. Housing and stipend provided. Many positions open in healthcare and agriculture as well as Science, English, and Math teachers. Call Roger Westfall at 423-775-0771; or email: chsape@cs.com ©

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#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

SINGLE AND OVER 40? Stay home and meet new friends in USA interracial group for all singles over 40. For information, send large self-addressed stamped envelope to ASO-40, 2747 Nonpareil, Sutherlin, OR 97479. ©

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**RVs!!!** Adventist owned and operated RV dealership has been helping SDAs for more than 30 years. Huge inventory. Courtesy airport pickup and onsite hookups. Satisfied SDA customer list available. Call toll-free: 888-933-9300. Lee's RV City, Oklahoma City. Visit our website: www.leesrv.com or Email: LeesRVs@ aol.com ©

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EIGHT NATURAL REMEDIES with James Johnson, M.D. Phone/fax 615-523-2136. Also online instructor-led NCLEX-RN® review nursing courses every month. www.geocities.com/ jjohnsonmd/nclex.html [4]

**EXCLUSIVELY FOR HOME SCHOOLERS.** You are personally invited to preview Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska, during Home School Sneak Peek, April 17-20. It's FREE (call for details). Experience Union's unique spirit. Reserve your place today. Call 800.228.4600 or email preview@ucollege.edu or visit www.ucollege. edu/sneakpeek [4]

**MOVE FORWARD** and enter into God's rest. GO Ministries is a teaching ministry that helps people develop a more profound awareness of Christ, His love, and His call for us to GO forward in our lives with Him. For speaking engagements, call Esther at 678-267-1803 or visit www.go-ministries.net [4]

**MISSIONS MADE POSSIBLE.** Non-profit ministry providing air transportation at no charge for sick and ill individuals to Southeast USA medical treatment centers needs your help with donations to this ministry. Contact Ken Guill, President, Missions Made Possible (501 C 3 Corp) 407-423-1025, and cell# 407-929-8559. www.missionsmadepossible.com missionsmp@aol.com [4-6]

MUSIC ATTHE 2010 GC SESSION in Atlanta, June 23-July 3. Needed: high-quality sacred music from vocalists, instrumentalists, choirs, ensembles, etc. Please visit www.gcsession. org for details and application. Send all requested materials to NAD Music Coordinator, Attn: Ron Christman, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600. Deadline for application: January 31, 2009.

#### Adventist Satellite System

For Installation in the Atlanta Area, Call

Kaz Sanocki - 404 791-3093

\*ADRA has prepared a packet of special materials for this year's Disaster, Famine and Relief Offering (DFRO) May 10 with a complete sermon, colorful poster, children's Sabbath School activities, offering call/bulletin sheet, and more. DFRO kits will be mailed to church pastors, head elders and/or worship coordinators in mid-April. Watch for them. Materials will also be available at www.adra.org.

## Events Calendar

#### Carolina

Women's Spring Retreat-April 4-7. NPR. Academy Days at MPA-April 5-7. **Education Development** #7-April 7,8. Charlotte. ShareHim Festival-April 10-12. Phoenix, AZ. Adventurer Fun Day-April 12-14. NPR. Outdoor Education-April 15-19. NPR MPA Alumni Weekend-April 18,19. Hispanic Camp Meeting I-April 18-21. NPR. Pathfinder Council-April 25-27. Charlotte. Elders' Retreat-April 25-27. NPR. Mother/Daughter Banquet-April 27,28. Charlotte. Hispanic Young Adult Retreat-May 2-5. NPR. Education Development #8-May 5,6. Charlotte. ShareHim Leadership Council-May 12-15. Oregon. Hispanic Camp Meeting II-May 16-19. NPR. MPA Graduation-May 18. S. Carolina Women's Retreat-May 23-26. NPR. Florida Complete calendar onlinehttp://www.floridaconference.com/ calendar.html Florida Pathfinder Events-

http://www.floridapathfinders. com/ or call 407-644-5000 x127.

Singles' Ministries Events and mailing list information. Spiritual study groups, fellowship dinners, outings, and more. http://www. asamcf.org/, djmiller4000@ embarqmail.com, or 386-789-3235.

Florida Adventist Book Center—Winter Park: 800-765-6955. Miami: 305-805-9900. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: http://www. floridaconference.com/abc/ or order by e-mail: FloridaABC@ floridaconference.com

Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule

April 26. Naples. April 27. Ft. Myers, Ft. Myers Shores, Arcadia, Lakeland, Lakeview, Winter Haven. May 31. Jacksonville Southpoint June 1. Jacksonville First, Orange Cove. St. Augustine. Palatka. Palm Coast, New Smyrna. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.) June 7. Naples. June 8. Ft. Myers. Ft. Myers Shores, Arcadia, Lakeland, Lakeview, Winter Haven. June 21. St. Petersburg. June 22. Clearwater, New Port Richey, Spring Hill, Brooksville, East Pasco in Zephyrhills, Plant City. June 28. Sunrise. June 29. Plantation, Lauderhill, Temple Adventiste in Deerfield Beach. (Southeastern Conference: Mt. Olivet.) **Planned Giving Clinics and** 

April 26. Brazilian Temple in Oakland Park.

May 3-4. Apopka. May 17. Communities West in Loxahatchee.

Evangelism Series May 3-24. Rolando and Rebeca de los Ríos. Deltona Spanish. July 5-Aug. 16. Lester and Zula Pratt. Homestead. July 6-Aug. 26. Bill and Sunshine Waters. Northwest Dade. Aug. 2-9. Rolando and Rebeca de los Ríos. Tallahassee Spanish. Aug. 30-Sept. 4. Lester and Zula Pratt. Melbourne. Hispanic Youth Retreat—May 23-26. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: 305-225-0528.

#### Georgia-Cumberland

Complete calendar online www.gccsda.com Festival of the Family April 5. Harrison, TN. May 10. Austell, GA. May 17. Atlanta Southside Church. Crisis Intervention Training -April 7,8. Atlanta North Church. **Pastor-Teacher Team Ministry** Meeting – April 8. Knoxville, TN. Collegedale Academy Alumni Weekend - April 11-13. Collegedale, TN. **Regional Health Rallies** April 12. Morristown, TN. April 19. Harriman, TN. April 26. Athens, GA. May 17. Georgetown, TN. May 24. Stone Mountain, GA. GCC Pathfinder Camporee -April 18-20. Cohutta Springs.

Athens Church in the Park – April 19. Athens, TN.

Kids in Discipleship Training – April 20-23. Collegedale, TN. Collegedale Academy Day – April 22. Collegedale, TN. CSDA Retreat – April 25-27. Cohutta Springs. Executive Committee – May 22. Academy Graduations May 24. AAA & GCA. May 25. Collegedale. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp Training – May 29.

#### Gulf States

Complete Calendar online – www.gscsda.org Pathfinder Spring Flings April 4, 5. Gulf Coast. April 11-13. Alabama. April 18-20. Mississippi. **Outdoor School** – April 14-17. Camp Alamisco. **Adult School Training Workshop** – April 18-20. Camp Alamisco. **Adventure Fun Weekend** – April 25-27. Camp Alamisco. **Bass Memorial Academy Graduation** – May 16-18.

#### Kentucky-Tennnessee

Conference Board of Education – April 10. Soul Impact Prayer Conference – April 11-13. Indian Creek Camp. Speakers: Jerry and Janet Page. Pastors' and Elders' Conference – April 18-20. Indian Creek Camp. Highland & Madison Academy Boards – May 8. Conference Association Board May 13. July 22. Sept. 30. Conference Executive Committee May 13. July 22. Sept. 30.

#### South Atlantic

South Carolina Youth Federation - April 12. **Executive Committee Meeting** April 13. Family Ministries Curriculum -April 18-20. Orangeburg, SC. Georgia Youth Federation -April 19. **Adventurer Family Fun** Weekend – April 24-27. Health Conditioning Retreat -April 25-27. K-12 Board Meeting - April 27. Atlanta, GA. Lay Advisory Meeting - May 4. Orangeburg, SC. **Eastern North Carolina Youth** Federation – May 17. Western North Carolina Youth Federation - May 31.

#### Southern Adventist University

PreviewSouthern – April 10,11. Adventist Robotics League Southern Challenge – April 13. Wind Symphony Concert – April 13. School of Music Concert – April 26. Home Show – March 29, 30.

#### Announcements on p. 33

Sunset						
	Apr. 4	Apr. 11	Apr. 18	Apr. 25	May. 2	May 9
Atlanta, GA	7:59	8:05	8:10	8:15	8:21	8:26
Charleston, SC	7:41	7:46	7:51	7:56	8:01	8:06
Charlotte, NC	7:46	7:52	7:57	8:03	8:09	8:14
Collegedale, TN	8:03	3:03	3:14	8:20	8:25	8:31
Huntsville, AL	7:09	7:14	7:20	7:25	7:30	7:36
Jackson, MS	7:22	7:27	7:31	7:36	7:41	7:46
Louisville, KY	8:07	8:14	8:21	8:27	8:34	8:40
Memphis, TN	7:22	7:28	7:34	7:39	7:45	7:51
Miami, FL	7:38	7:42	7:45	7:48	7:52	7:55
Montgomery, AL	7:06	7:11	7:16	7:21	7:26	7:31
Nashville, TN	7:10	7:16	7:22	7:28	7:34	7:40
Orlando, FL	7:44	7:48	7:52	7:56	8:00	8:05
Wilmington, NC	7:34	7:39	7:44	7:50	7:55	8:01

## The North American Division with Mark Finley presents ...

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#### **Camp Meeting 2008 Schedule**

#### CAROLINA

English	
May 27-June 2	Lake Junaluska, NC
Hispanic I	
April 20-22	Nosoca Pines Ranch
Hispanic II	
Aug. 17-19	Nosoca Pines Ranch
Korean	
Sept. 21-23	Nosoca Pines Ranch
Eastern Carolina	
Sept. 21-23	Oak Island, NC
•	

#### FLORIDA

Florida Keys Camp Meeting English-language May 23–25...Theme: "Revive Us Again"..... ... Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, FL [Portions broadcast live via satellite on the Hope TV network. Details: http://www.

floridaconference.com/campmeeting/] Speakers: Karl Haffner, Mike Cauley, and annual Florida Hospital feature.

Campestre Hispano [Spanish-language]

...... Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, FL June 6-8 .. Speaker: Ed Schmidt

#### GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

Korean	
May 16, 17	
English	1 0 0
May 28-31 So	outhern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN
Hispanic	,
June 13, 14	Georgia Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA
Olde Time	
June 26-28	Deer Lodge, TN
Sabbath in the Smokies	
Sept. 5, 6 Caves Cove C	ampground, Smoky Mountain National Park
Southern Deaf Fellowship	
Sept. 25-28	Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. FL
Northeast Tennessee Church Retreat	
Sept. 26, 27	

#### **GULF STATES**

May 23-31 ...... Theme: "Heaven is our Real Home" ...... Bass Memorial Academy, Lumberton, MS Speaker 1st Weekend: Jim Gilley Evenings: Michael G. Hasel

Speaker 2nd Weekend: Dwight Nelson

#### KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

#### English

Bill Tucker

...... Highland Academy, Portland, TN

Seminar Presenters: Gordon Botting, Edwin de Kock, Vicki Griffin, Evelyn Kissinger, David Klinedinst, Marquita Klinedinst, and Judd Lake Special Music: Micheff Sisters and Vonda Beerman

Hispani June 6, 7 ..

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC

Youth Speaker 1st Sabbath: Keith Gray Youth Speaker 2nd Sabbath: Jonathan Rolle Youth Ministries Presenters: "Lyrics & Melodies

#### SOUTH CENTRAL

Hispanic Camp Meeting	
May 22-25	Oakwood College, Huntsville, AL
Pathfinder Camporee	-
June 6-8	Oakwood College, Huntsville, AL
June 6-14 Theme: "The Revelation of Jesus Christ"	Oakwood College, Huntsville, AL
Speaker 1st Sabbath: Freddie Russell	-
Speaker 2nd Sabbath: Dedrick Blue	
Youth Speakers: TBA	
Women's Ministries Speaker: TBA	
Ordination Service 2nd Weekend	

#### SOUTHEASTERN

TO BE DECIDED		. Hawthorne,	FL
Hispanic Camp Meeting	. TO BE DECIDED	. Hawthorne,	FL

#### 

CAROLINA		
Nosoca Pine	s Ranch, Liberty Hill, SC	)
[Register onli	ne at www.nosoca.org]	
S.I.T. (ages 16	6-17)	June 1-15
Mt. Bike (age	s 13-16)	June 8-15
Horsemanshi	p I (ages 11-13)	June 8-15
Basketball (a	ges 11-16)	June 8-15
Wheels (ages	s 13-16)	June 8-15
Water Sports	(ages 13-16)	June 8-15
Adventure (a	ges 7-10)	June 8-15
Jr. I (ages 10-	12)	June 15-22
Horsemanshi	p II (ages 13-16)	June 15-22
Sports (ages	13-16)	June 15-22
Horse Campi	ng Trip (ages 14-17)	June 22-29
Jr. II (ages 10	-12)	June 22-29
Tween (ages	12-14)	June 29-July 6
Horsemanshi	p III (ages 13-16)	June 29-July 6
	p IV (ages 11-13)	
Teen (ages 13	3-16)	July 6-13

#### GULF STATES

Camp Alamisco, Dadeville, AL	
[Details: www.Alamisco.org]	
Adventure Camp (ages 7-9)	June 8-15
Junior Camp (ages 10-12)	June15-22
Teen Camp (ages 13-16)	June 22-29
Family Camp I (all ages)	June 29-July 6
Family Camp II (all ages)	July 3-6

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC

River Oaks Campground, Orangeburg, SC
Summer Camp (ages 8-17)July 13-20
Basketball Camp (ages 8-17) July 20-27

#### FLORIDA a Llich Caringa

Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL
[Details: http://summercamp.campkulaqua.com/]
Friendship Camp (ages 8-16) May 26-June 1
Cub Camp (ages 8-10) June 1-8
Junior Camp (ages 9-12)June 8-15
Teen Camp (ages 9-12)June 15-22
Horsemanship I - Intermediate (ages 11-13) May 26-June 1
Horsemanship II - Beginner (ages 11-13) June 1-8
Horsemanship III - Intermediate (ages 13-16)June 8-15
Horsemanship IV - Advanced (ages 13-16)June 15-22
Basketball Camp I (ages 9-12) June 1-8
Basketball Camp II (ages 13-16) June 1-8
Soccer Camp (ages 11-15) June 1-8
Wheels Camp (ages 11-15) June 1-8
Teen Mountain Adventure (ages 13-17) June 29-July 6
Family Water Sports Adventure (all ages)July 6-13
Cowboy Adventure (ages 13-17) July 13-20

Summer Camp 2008 Schedule

#### **KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE**

Indian Creek Camp, Liberty, TN	
Blind Camp (mixed ages)	June 8-15
Cub Camp (ages 7-9)	June 15-22
Junior Camp I (ages 10-12)	June 22-29
Family Camp I (all ages)	July 1-6
Tween Camp (ages 12-14)	July 6-13
Teen Camp (ages 14-17)	July 13-20
Family Camp II (all ages)	July 20-27

#### SOUTH CENTRAL

Camp Lee, Annision, AL	
Friendship Camp (ages 7-16)	luly 6-12
Super Sports Camp (ages 7-17)Ju	uly 13-19

#### GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

Cohutta Springs Adventist Center, Cranda	II, GA
[Details: www.cs-yc.com]	
Junior Camp I (ages 10-12)	June 8-15
Golf Camp I (ages 13-17)	June 8-15
Paintball Camp I (ages 13-17	June 8-15
Rock Climbing Camp (ages 13-17)	
Junior Camp II (ages 10-12)	June 15-22
Cycle Tour (ages 13 and up)	June 15-22
Paintball Camp II (ages 13-17)	June 15-22
Skateboard Camp (ages 13-17)	June 15-22
S.I.T. Camp (ages 15 and up)	June 15-22
Adventure Camp (ages 7-9)	June 22-27
Horse Pack Trip (ages 13-17)	
Paintball Camp III (ages 13-17)	June 22-29
Wakeboard Camp I (ages 13-17)	June 22-29
C.I.T. Camp (ages 15 and up)	
Tween/Pathfinder Honors Camp (ages 12-13	
Gym-Masters Camp (ages 13-17)	
Ultimate RAD Camp (ages 13-17)	
Wakeboard Camp II (ages 13-17)	
Teen Camp I(ages 13-17)	
Basketball Camp (ages 13-17)	
Whitewater/Kayak Camp (ages 13-17)	
Teen Camp II (ages 13-17)	
Golf Camp II (ages 13-17)	
Wakeboard Camp III (ages 13-17)	
Surf Camp (ages 13-17)	
Family Camp (all ages)	
Ultimate RAD Camp West (ages 13-17)	
W.I.T. Camp (ages 15 and up) Every week	
Marine Life Camp (ages 13-17)	Dec. 28-31

#### SOUTHEASTERN

Southeastern Conference Campground, Hawthorne, FL	
Pee Wee Camp (ages 5-8)TBA	
Summer Camp (ages 8-18) TBA	



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ENTERTAINMENT Gale Jones Murphy Valerie "Tyger" Hazlett

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