

T SOUTHERN TIDINGS



Southern Union Souvenir Edition

**We Have the “Courage to Stand!”
International Pathfinder Camporee**

Sección En Español

Elder Edward Earl Cleveland — Gifted Evangelist March 11, 1921 – August 30, 2009



Gordon Retzer
*Southern Union
President*

Much of the membership growth in the Southern Union during the past 60 years is a result of the gift of evangelism and teaching, given by God, to Elder E. E. Cleveland. Not only did Elder Cleveland hold major evangelistic meetings in cities throughout the Southern Union and the world, but he inspired hundreds of young pastors to preach public evangelistic meetings. As a young pastor I had the privilege of attending one of his evangelism classes taught for a week at the camp in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. I can trace much of my belief in, and love for, evangelism to his unashamed passion for seeking souls for Jesus. Elder Cleveland's influence at Oakwood University is felt throughout the Southern Union.

His first pastoral assignment was in the Carolina Conference — seven small churches with a circumference by road of 287 miles! The young intern had no car, and rode the bus. In 1942, Elder Cleveland held his first evangelistic meeting in one of those churches, Asheboro, and baptized 83 new members. The next year he held a meeting in Fayetteville, and baptized 84. Soon after, he started a radio ministry in Fayetteville, N.C., and then added radio stations in Raleigh and Durham, N.C. He held two evangelistic meetings in Greensboro, S.C., baptizing more than 225 new members. In city after city, he pitched his tent, preached, and baptized.

In 1946, Elder Cleveland became evangelist for the South Atlantic Conference, and in 1950, he was called to be the evangelist for the Southern Union. He preached major 12-week and longer meetings in St. Petersburg, Orlando, Charleston, Miami, and other cities. As Southern Union evangelist, he planned a major evangelistic meeting for Montgomery, Ala. Just before that meeting began, Elder Cleveland, at the age

of 34, was elected associate secretary of the General Conference Ministerial Association at the General Conference Session in San Francisco, Calif. Immediately following the GC Session, he began preaching in Montgomery and held meetings from July to December 1954. The Lord gave him more than 500 baptisms, and a new church was built, Bethany, to accommodate the tremendous growth from 42 members to more than 600 members.

Elder Cleveland stayed and preached in Montgomery until the new church was built and opened for services on Christmas Eve, December 24. A teenage girl, Laura, was baptized during those meetings. Today she is Mrs. Laura Smith, who is the women's ministries director for the Southern Union. A few Sabbaths ago, I was at Bethany Church in Montgomery, and two long-time members showed me pictures of the 1954 campaign. "This is the church that Elder Cleveland built," they told me. In cities across the Southern Union and throughout the world, thousands of individuals praise the Lord for new life in Christ, having been introduced to Jesus and the Seventh-day Adventist Church through the preaching of Elder E. E. Cleveland.

Sometimes we are tempted to believe that people who are baptized don't stay in or contribute to the mission of the Church. Yes, it sometimes happens that way. But it is not the norm. Ron Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., Southern Union executive secretary, shared that his family is a part of the Seventh-day Adventist Church because of Elder Cleveland. You see, Dr. Smith's parents were baptized by Elder Cleveland. Dr. Smith's father became a pastor/evangelist, and then Ron Smith became a pastor/evangelist and church administrator. And Dr. Smith's son is now studying at the Andrews University Adventist Theological Seminary in Berrien Springs, Mich., and will be a pastor/evangelist in the Southeastern Conference.

Praise the Lord for the gift of public evangelism expressed through the incredible Holy Spirit-anointed ministry of Elder E. E. Cleveland.



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Cover Caption: Brianna Cheever (left), Dalton Defender Pathfinders, Dalton, Georgia; Abigail Luiz, Chattanooga Eagles, Chattanooga, Tennessee; Rachel Dunn, Memphis First SunSeekers, Memphis, Tennessee; RayShawn McCoy, Berea Eagles, Berea, South Carolina; Kianna Bermudez, Spartanburg Pathfinders, Spartanburg, South Carolina; and Keeley Twomley, Huntsville Spacewalkers, Huntsville, Alabama; are Southern Union Pathfinders who attended the 2009 International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.



We Have the “Courage to Stand!”

BY ALLAN R. WILLIAMSON



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Up, Up, and Away! Jeffrey Hand flies down the zip line on the obstacle course.

More than 6,500 Pathfinders from the Southern Union attended the “Courage to Stand” International Pathfinder Camporee, August 11-15, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The Southern Union had the largest attendance of Pathfinders camping at the EAA Airventure Campground.





NATALIA LOPEZ-THIMSON



NATALIA LOPEZ-THIMSON

Julio Reyes (left) and Jessica Hernandez from Westchester Spanish Church Drum Corps in Miami, Florida, were trained by George Nelson, interim director and captain, who composed the routine this year.



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Stacey Frazer (left), Atlanta, Georgia, and Samantha Schmidt, Winston Salem, North Carolina, help raise one of the flags that flew over the camporee.



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Is it Abraham Lincoln? No, it is Chester Damron from Berrien Springs, Michigan, marching in the Southern Union Pathfinder Parade.

Our Pathfinders had the privilege of singing, worshipping, making new friends every day with believers from around the world, and enjoying many activities.

Pin trading was one of the most popular activities. Even Don Schneider, North American Division (NAD) president, was involved. He offered to give a special prayer pin to any Pathfinder willing to pray with someone they didn't know. My wife, Susan Williamson, had the privilege of having a young Pathfinder pray with her.

Frank Tochtermann, president of the Southern New England Conference, and his wife, Sally, coordinated the prayer tent for the camporee. Tochtermann reports, "Pathfinders and their leaders are true believers in prayer. My wife and I had the privilege to pray with numerous Pathfinders, and later learned of immediate answers to prayer! God is faithful, and He hears the prayers of our Pathfinders."

There were many choices for activities and events, both on-site at the camporee and off-site at locations in the community. These included activities such as golfing, inflatables, archery, water balloon cannons, ice skating, a petting zoo, sailing, Frisbee golf, and a full-size model of the Sanctuary. The EAA air museum, with its rich heritage of airplane history, was open to the Pathfinders each day. One of the most popular exhibits was the Pathfinder Museum, directed by Dixie and Arnold Plata. This exhibit features Pathfinder memorabilia from more than 50 years of Pathfinder history. The Platas, along with Terry Dodge, have a dream of establishing a Pathfinder



STACY GRIGGS

Colleen Johnson observes an extreme example of the trading pin fever that spread among the campers throughout the week—some cases were more intense than others.



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Tony Brown, Pathfinder director of the Riverside Regal Eagles, Riverside Chapel Church in Nashville, Tennessee, teaches computer science honors to eager Pathfinders.



TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

John Swafford, children's ministries, junior youth, and church ministries director, stands with his daughter, Lisa Swafford.

Museum and Learning Center in Battle Creek, Michigan.

The Pathfinders had an opportunity to earn honors for their sashes, and also to participate in the talent tent. The winners each day provided the special music at the evening program. The obstacle course, Native American Village, and daily afternoon parades featuring each Union were a highlight of the camporee.

Taylor Scurry, of the Atlanta-Berean Crusaders, says, "I had a blast! My club went on a field trip to the EAA Aircraft Museum. There we learned all about the first flights, the first planes created, planes from World War II, and people who flew across the world. . . . At the end of the day, my club attended the evening service. I loved those. My favorite part was the puppet named Toby."

Pathfinders were also very involved in community service projects. A group of Pathfinders from the Southern Union and other unions, along with some football players from a local high school, helped clean out

a mile-long stretch of Honey Creek, and removed obstructions from the water. The town residents were having difficulty with water drainage issues because of the debris in the creek. Whenever it would rain, instead of the water flowing toward Lake Butte des Morts, it would back up into residents' yards, and end up in their basements. Now, thanks to our Pathfinders and the football players, the water flows freely. An interesting note: the materials removed from the creek were enough to fill 15 40-yard trash bins.

Shortly after the camporee began, the search was on for the oldest Master Guide present. It was soon discovered to be Donna Hooper, a 91-year-old Master Guide from the Calhoun Cherokees of Georgia. She has worked with young people for more than 73 years, even before Pathfinders was officially titled.

On Sabbath morning, more than 400 Master Guides were invested. They were challenged to be lifetime teachers and leaders of youth.

But the "Courage to Stand" Camporee is more than activities — it is all about Jesus Christ. Each evening the story of Esther was portrayed by a 24-member cast and approximately 40 extras and guards. At the close of each evening's story, Murray Hunter, chaplain, challenged the Pathfinders to be like Esther and have the "Courage to Stand." The

Pathfinders responded with decisions for baptism and commitment. They warmed to the thought that God has a special plan for their life, and each evening they determined to have the "Courage to Stand" just as Esther did.

FUN FACTS

More than 36,000 Pathfinders from North America, and more than 1,975 international guests from more than 100 countries around the world, attended the camporee. The North American Division Pathfinder clubs hosted 1,500 international Pathfinders.

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION UNIONS REPRESENTED:

• Atlantic Union	4,414
• Columbia Union	4,707
• Lake Union	3,422
• Mid-America Union	2,100
• North Pacific Union	1,929
• Pacific Union	4,315
• SDA Church in Canada	2,123
• Southern Union Conference	6,560
• Southwestern Union Conference	4,430
• National Total	34,000

INTERNATIONAL DIVISIONS REPRESENTED:

• Inter-American	933
• Trans-European	281
• South America	204
• South Pacific	167
• Euro-Africa	130
• Northern Asia Pacific	76
• Southern Asia Pacific	67
• Southern Africa	51
• East Central Africa	27
• Southern Asia	2



TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Jordan McKee from Collegedale, Tennessee, played Esther; and Ken Rogers, former chaplain at Southern Adventist University and currently vice president of student services at Walla Walla University in Walla Walla, Washington, played Mordecai.

Lauren Corcino from Athens, Georgia, said, “My favorite part of the evening program was the pantomime act. It showed me that there are more ways to praise and glorify God than just listening to a sermon or singing.”



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Dalton Dickson and Tommy Sberman of the Lawrenceville Lions, Lawrenceville, Georgia, work on their model train honors under the direction of Michael Vest of the White House Patriots, Whitehouse, Tennessee.

The Southern Union played an important part in the story of Esther. The script and music score were written by Andrew Strong and Brian Sitler, both graduates of Mount Pisgah Academy in Candler, North Carolina. Jordan McKee from Collegedale, Tennessee, played Esther; and Ken Rogers, former chaplain at Southern Adventist University and currently vice president of student services at Walla Walla University in Walla Walla,

Washington, played Mordecai.

On Sabbath afternoon a beautiful baptism was held in two large swimming pools. The baptism was organized by the North American Division unions. As the Pathfinders stepped into the pool with their pastor, their names were read. Families and friends gathered to take pictures and affirm the Pathfinders. After the Pathfinders were baptized, they were handed helium-filled balloons with their names on them, which were released toward Heaven together — a symbol of their commitment to Jesus. There were 518 Pathfinders baptized. Starling Eargle from Columbia, South Carolina, said, “I want to be baptized because I want to make it official. I want to show that Jesus Christ is my Savior, and that I am willing to do anything for Him.”

Proverbs 3:6 describes the commitment of Pathfinders: “In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.” At the closing night’s program, suddenly you could feel excitement among the people in the audience. Off to the left, high in the sky was a beautiful cross created by an airplane’s exhaust that intersected a vertical cloud formation. The cross was visible for several minutes. It was an



NATALIA LOPEZ-THISMOM

Performing an outstanding drill routine, the Conquerors Pathfinder Club (CPC) Drum Corps from All Nations Church, St. Petersburg, Florida, tied for first place among 52 clubs participating in the Courage to Stand International Drum Corps competition. Shown are CPC Drum Corps members Osbane Elliott (left), Tristan Foster, Annisba Parks, and Leo Sawyers. The Corps is directed by Darrell Edwards, All Nations associate Pathfinder director.





PHOTO BY STEVEN NORMAN III

assurance to Pathfinders and staff that Jesus will continue to direct our paths and give us “Courage to Stand.”

A lot of people make great sacrifices so that the youth of our Church can participate in these camporees. Parents sacrifice for their children, Pathfinder staff led fundraisers to pay for camporee expenses, and churches add to their budget to help the Pathfinders go to Oshkosh. Many Pathfinder staff were taking vacation time so they could give the Pathfinders an experience they will never forget. We are deeply appreciative to these volunteers who also washed dishes, cooked meals, washed clothes, hauled water, and served in many other capacities.

The “Courage to Stand” camporee was a city of 36,000 with its own newspaper and radio station; law enforcement officers, public transportation, and a medical unit; and sewer, trash, and water departments. The

camporee covered 260 acres — 150 acres for camping, 50 for parking, and 60 for activities.

“This was my first trip to an international camporee,” says Lashawn Barnet of Charlotte, North Carolina’s Northeast Stingers, “and it was just amazing at Oshkosh. I met friends from all over the world, and even traded pins with a few other peers. I don’t think you would want to miss the next camporee in five years.”

The next camporee in North America is scheduled for August 12-16, 2014, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. “Forever Faithful” will be the theme and will focus on the life of Daniel, a courageous Hebrew boy who

remained faithful to the Lord through much adversity in his life. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if Jesus would come before then, and we could have our camporee reunion in the Kingdom of Heaven with Jesus, our Master Guide, as our speaker throughout eternity. ✨

Allan R. Williamson is Southern Union Conference Pathfinders and youth ministries director.



Mike Meadows, and his son, Peyton, share a relaxing father/son moment amidst the myriad of Pathfinder activities.



Chris Ranjo (left) and Benjamin Rivero wave from the Tony the Tiger Hot Air Balloon sponsored by Kellogg’s.



Zuleyma Ortiz and Tony Lopez of Nashville, Tennessee, enjoy the view riding high above the International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. They are members of the Soldiers of the King Club at Iglesia Adventista del 7 dia Church in Nashville.



Fred Rogers, Southern Union Native American ministries director, tells Pathfinders how Native Americans observed the Sabbath, and that they have many other beliefs that are found in the Bible.

International Camporee Changes Lives

BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

A typical day at the International Pathfinder Camporee could start with breakfast and camp worship, maybe some pin trading as you walk to the restroom or shower, followed by a long walk to the activity area where you could choose from 120 honors and spend the morning earning one or two. Eat lunch, and then head out to a local community service project for the afternoon. Come back to camporee, eat dinner, and head directly to the evening program that features praise singing, a play on Esther, and a sermonette.

The top three reasons why the Georgia-Cumberland Conference (GCC) strongly supports going to the International Pathfinder Camporee, according to John Swafford, children's ministries, junior youth, and church ministries director, are "expanding the horizons of a young person with the understanding of their church as well as their world; cultural experience; and spiritual experience with fun. It connects people with their church. It's really the General Conference for youth."

Out of the 36,000 attending camporee, Georgia-Cumberland Conference sent 1,627 Pathfinders and numerous volunteers, placing the Conference at number four with the most Pathfinders out of 59 conferences. GCC also hosted 110 international Pathfinders with clubs from Brazil, Columbia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Latvia, and Romania. Sabbath was a high day where 400 Master Guides and TLT's (Teen Leaders in Training) were pinned, and more than 500 youth gave their lives to Jesus in baptism.

Jonathan Dubreuio, Auburn Church, Georgia, chose to be baptized at the camporee. He had completed his baptismal studies but had not taken the next step. "I came here for different reasons," says Dubreuio,

and added that when he came to camporee he started to feel close to God. When asked what he might tell his friends in Georgia about the experience, he said, "You need to join Pathfinders. It will change your life big time."

Eight honors were also offered through GCC at the International Camporee in the Whitman Regional Airport hangars, including Geocaching, Paper Quilling, Pin Trading, Make Your Own Rope, Water Balloon Launch, Other Sses for GPS, Local Area Geocaching Information, and Geocach Treasure Hunt.

Turning 91-years-old this past July, Donna Hooper, of Calhoun, Georgia, was the oldest Pathfinder attending the camporee.

"I have attended every one of the International Camporees from Camp Hale in Colorado, to Pennsylvania, to here at Oshkosh," says Hooper who wears a vest with patches on the front from all of the international camporees, and patches on the back with patches from Southern Union and Georgia-Cumberland Conference camporees.

Hooper completed her Pathfinder honor number 91, Indian Lore, at camporee and is working on honor number 92. For the past 75 years Hooper has participated in one form or another of Pathfinder life, including teacher, director, and counselor. She earned her Master Guide (then called a master comrade) at the age of 16.

Jah El, Oxford, Georgia, says, "Camporee helped me get closer to God [and] with people I did not know existed. Esther made me think of the Bible. I thought she was all calm and she wasn't. She got scared and that's okay, because sometimes I get scared." ❖



Pathfinders were excited to take part in the popular Paper Quilling Honor, an English art where different shapes are made from one piece of paper. The Paper Quilling Honor was popular, averaging 32 people per session. The honor was created by Judy Amos (left), Knoxville First Church in Tennessee, about seven years ago.



There was nothing better in the 85-plus-degree heat than launching water balloons across the field by hangar. C. Isaac Morenings (left), Bristol, Tennessee Church, and Bryan Townsend, Faith Church, Hartford, Connecticut, prepare to launch their balloons at the opposing team across the field.



Ninety-one-year-old Donna Hooper of Calhoun, Georgia, was the oldest Pathfinder attending the Oshkosh camporee.



RACING FOR A HIGHER POWER

BY SCOTT BROWNLOW

The sun was warm and low in the Gainesville, Florida, morning sky as it glistened off my racing goggles. The cool, clay-packed dirt track lay before me as I intently sat in the gate beside some of the nation's best C class racers waiting to qualify for the Winter National Mini Olympics.

With this chance to race in a national meet less than 100 miles from my home, I decided to venture into the unknown. I felt I had gained enough experience and confidence to possibly qualify for the main event.

My heart pounded as I anticipated my first qualifying race. The gate dropped as 30 riders fought for the hole shot into the first corner. Lap after lap, I held a qualifying position in both the stock 250 class and modified 250 class.

I was ecstatic about making the two C classes. Sadly, however, I would never participate in the biggest race of my life, because the race was scheduled for Saturday.

Yes, I qualified for the main event, yet I knew I had to obey the Higher Power in my life. I know God enjoys seeing me succeed, but He also wants me to obey Him. My family would not be staying for the Saturday race; however, I did not

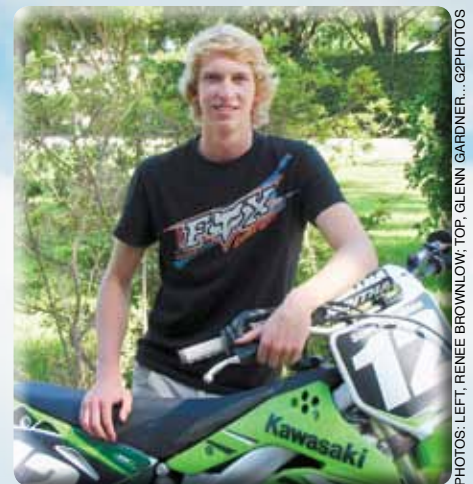
realize how difficult it was going to be to leave the excitement of the racing atmosphere.

On Friday, we packed the trailer and bikes before heading home. It was tough rolling through the pits, especially when my name was on the Saturday race rosters. In spite of leaving the action behind, I knew this was the right decision.

Caught in the middle of this situation, I realized that God can use any circumstance as a tool for learning. Sometimes these tools can contradict what I want to happen. These are the times when my relationship with God is put to the test. Leaving the Winter National Mini Olympics was not what my human flesh wanted to do, but I knew in the grand scheme of life motocross is not that important. My relationship with God is!

That cold November day taught me I can go against the status-quo even when it's hard, and making choices ahead of time before coming face-to-face with a decision helps in difficult situations. The decision to leave on Friday, so as not to desecrate the Sabbath, was made before I qualified for the main event.

Yes, the Winter National Mini Olympics was the biggest competi-



PHOTOS: LEFT, RENEE BROWNLOW; TOP, GLENN GARDNER... ©PHOTOS

Scott Brownlow, a senior at Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, Florida, wrote this testimony as an Honors English class assignment.

tion of my life, but my relationship with God is bigger. I had accomplished everything I could by making it to the main event, and that was enough to satisfy me.

Facing Sabbath head-on and keeping it holy, combined with my intense desire of motocross, was actually a blessing in my life, as I can truly say it strengthened my connection with my heavenly Father.

The main event in my life was truly tested, and my relationship with God was the winner. ♣

Nicaragua Mission

BY BENJAMIN B. STITZER



Benjamin Stitzer (orange shirt, right) stands in prayer as the pastor (green shirt, center) calls for baptism.

Towards the end of the campaign, I preached about baptism. After the sermon, I called the pastor forward to help me offer baptism to the visitors. The pastor began the call. I heard the strain in his voice as he asked people to come forward. He reminded each person of the words from my sermon. My eyes began to water as individuals came forward. I thanked God for the opportunity to be a part of His reaping. At first, 10 came forward. I was filled with joy because I knew these individuals had made a decision that would spill into eternity. Several more came forward. The pastor continued. I stood and prayed for the Holy Spirit to be present. More came forward. We had 15 individuals standing in the front ready for baptism.

My hands began to tremble as I took in a deep breath. Tears filled my eyes when I witnessed the most beautiful sight on Earth: a person giving their life to God.

For three weeks this summer, I preached with a group from Southern Adventist University. We lived in Managua, Nicaragua, and baptized more than 200 individuals at 12 different churches. We left our mark on Nicaragua, but Nicaragua also left its mark on us.

My mark began with a church that was 45 minutes from my hotel. Broken roads bounced me inside the backseat of the old Honda that took me each evening. The car stopped, but I didn't see my church.

The state of my church surprised me. I am used to seeing lush carpets, long pews, and high ceilings, but my church in Nicaragua had a dirt floor and plastic lawn chairs. Down the aisle I saw a string of bare bulbs attached to the frame that held up the metal

roof. I quickly found that the people contrasted the barren church. Joy filled each person I met. The church was filled with spirit. During song service, the sound system startled me. The music boomed through the open air, and I thought all of Managua could hear them. Each person in the congregation sang with all of their heart. I felt blessed to hear them sing.

My experience in Nicaragua gave me a glimpse of God's mighty power. I am able to reflect on how I got there, what happened while I was there, and what resulted from being there. I know God has magnificent plans for everyone. We just have to be willing to accept His call, and walk through the doors that He opens. ✨



Individuals are baptized as a result of the evangelistic meetings held in Nicaragua.

CHRIST-CENTERED CARE

BY JENNIFER PEREZ

“Welcome to Park Ridge Hospital, is there anything I can help you find today?” Each visitor to Park Ridge Hospital in Fletcher, North Carolina, is greeted with a warm smile and genuine welcome. Not a typical hospital greeting. This gesture is often met with a mixture of surprise and disbelief, but more often than not, a face that previously held a look of worry and trepidation is replaced with a look of relief and a smile in return.

The Ambassador Program at Park Ridge Hospital is a relatively new addition to the hospital's focus on customer service and overall patient experience, but has already shown incredible results.

“I think what makes the Ambassador Program such an asset to our organization is the fact that we are able to share the true meaning of Christian compassion and healing with everyone who walks through the door,” said Jason Wells, vice president at Park Ridge Hospital.

For the program to succeed however, it requires the support of a number of caring individuals to share this message with visitors. Each member of the Park Ridge administrative team and leaders of every hospital department, commit an hour each week to welcome visitors and lead them to their destinations. Time to greet hospital guests is scheduled in appointment calendars alongside conference calls and executive board meetings, because patients are what matters most at Park Ridge Hospital. If anyone is unable to attend their hour, they find a stand-in, so no hour is left without a friendly face.

Once a week, visitors can count on being greeted by six-foot-eight-



Nick Creech, director of radiology at Park Ridge Hospital in Fletcher, North Carolina, extends a helping hand to a guest in need of assistance.

inch Park Ridge Hospital CEO, Jimm Bunch. Those who are familiar with Bunch are often surprised to see him standing at the front entrance greeting each guest, but are also impressed and comforted by his presence.

“For me the best part of the Ambassador Program is the idea that our entire organization, even our CEO, is out front welcoming everyone — including those who most need a smiling face and a kind word. This truly brings meaning to sharing the healing ministry of Christ,” said Camy Horrell, manager of patient and guest relations.

Part of the Ambassador Program includes guiding visitors to their intended destinations which, like at most hospitals, can be a daunting experience for those visitors who have never before been a guest. Sometimes

the simple act of leading a family member to where their loved one is recovering from surgery makes all the difference in helping to ease their stress and uncertainty.

Hospital visitors are also not the only ones to benefit from the Ambassador Program. Those who get the opportunity to participate in the program find it a uniquely rewarding experience. Whether it's bringing a waiting room visitor a glass of ice water, or helping to locate a loved one's patient room, each Park Ridge ambassador experiences first-hand what it means to be a part of the healing ministry of Christ, and in turn brings his or her own distinctive personality to the role.

“I've met some very special people in my role as an ambassador,” said Nick Creech, director of radiology. “Sometimes just a simple smile and greeting will cause a guest's face to brighten and their nervousness to dissipate. I've learned so much more about the other areas of Park Ridge by stepping out from radiology once a week, helping to provide a positive impact that will hopefully shape our guests entire experience at the hospital.”

In the months to come, the Ambassador Program at Park Ridge Hospital will continue to positively impact each hospital guest and hospital team member. It is the hope of everyone in the organization that through extending compassion and generosity to every visitor, they will in turn know Christ's healing ministry and endless compassion. ❖

Jennifer Perez is business development director at Park Ridge Hospital.

Gordon Hospital Patients Benefit from Cath Lab

Robert Simeon was proud of the fact that he had never been a patient in a hospital; that all changed this year. He and his wife, Georgia, were working in their vegetable garden, when suddenly he began experiencing pain in his middle back.

After being examined at Gordon Hospital's Emergency Center, Calhoun Ga., Simeon was admitted into the hospital where he spent the next three days undergoing a battery of tests to determine the cause of his pain.

"I was scared to death," he said, "but I was treated just great. The room was terrific and everyone I met was so kind."

Ultimately, it was in

Gordon Hospital's new high-tech diagnostic Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory (Cath Lab) that the answers to Simeon's problems were revealed. He had a 30 percent blockage in one of his arteries. His doctor also informed him that he had indeed suffered a heart attack. Fortunately for him, the Cath Lab had just opened at Gordon Hospital, alleviating the need to transfer him to an out-of-town medical facility for the test.

Gordon Hospital's Cath Lab uses the latest technology and advanced clinical procedures to diagnose blockages and the narrowing of arteries; evaluate the pumping ability of the heart and the function of



Robert and Georgia Simeon are all smiles back in their garden after Robert was cared for at Gordon Hospital.

heart valves; and measure internal pressures within the heart.

An integral component

of the Cath Lab is having the latest interventional X-ray technology — Siemens Artis Zee®. In fact, Gordon Hospital is the first hospital in north Georgia to offer patients access to this state-of-the-art equipment.

"The system's modular design makes upgrades easy and affordable," says Raina Sanford, director of radiology at Gordon Hospital. "This means that Gordon Hospital can remain on the cutting edge of the technology curve due to the expansive upgrade path of this system. The community we serve can be confident in our commitment to remain on the forefront of cardiac medicine."

—BY KAREN SHAW

Florida Hospital Provides 2,554 Backpacks to Kids in Need

At the start of another school year, many families found themselves under continued financial strain and unable to buy their children necessary school supplies. Recognizing the needs of their local community, Orlando area Florida Hospital employees held their annual "Backpacks for Kids" campaign.

The "Backpacks for Kids" campaign started more than 10 years ago. Each year, Florida Hospital doctors, nurses, and employees come together to assist families struggling financially. Due to the cur-

rent economic situation, the need was great this year.

Florida Hospital employees collected and filled backpacks for children in kindergarten through fifth grade attending school in Orange, Osceola, and Seminole counties.

"We just want to let the kids have a great start to their new school year," says coordinator Stephanie Jones.

Each backpack includes grade-appropriate supplies ranging from crayons and glue sticks, to binders and flash cards. This year, Florida Hospital



A volunteer at Florida Hospital Orlando adds to the growing pile of backpacks donated to needy kids in the local community.

collected and delivered 2,554 backpacks. That is equivalent to providing backpacks and school supplies to every student at Forest Lake Academy — multiplied by six.

"We might never know the kids who end up with our backpacks," says volunteer Eulanie Rodgers from financial planning at Florida Hospital Orlando, "but just the knowledge that we were part of something that helped create something better for someone else is just awesome."

—BY JULIE ZAIBACK

Spotlight Shown on Silver Creek Adventist School



Kim Nicholson teaches K-2 math at Silver Creek Adventist School.

Summer ended and learning started when 34 students went back to school at Silver Creek Adventist School. The school on Jamestown Road was built nearly five years ago. It includes a gymnasium, classrooms, library, art room, and office.

Principal Wanda Beck said, "We are a very small school, but we have almost doubled in size since the beginning of last year when we had 18 students." With growth comes an opportunity to expand educational services. The growing school is also reinstating a ninth grade class. Its curriculum includes health and physical education, English I, earth science, algebra I, computer applications, and Bible study.

The school has three teachers for three multi-age classrooms. Kim Nicholson teaches kindergarten through second grade; Heidi Kneller, third through

sixth grades; and Wanda Beck, seventh through ninth grades. Kneller is new to the staff, but brings six years of teaching experience. "I like the relationships between the children in a multi-grade classroom," she said. "They help each other."

The tuition-based Christian school offers a safe environment, a low student-teacher ratio, and a Bible-based curriculum. The Bible is taught in every grade. "The curriculum we use is an approved, Christian, Bible-based curriculum. We get our math books from Saxon, and the literature is taught more with Christian morals," Beck said.

Hayley, a student in Kneller's class, said, "I love learning about Jesus, and we read the Bible every day. We write in our journals to answer questions about the Bible."

"We teach according to

the student's natural cycle of learning, and we will teach to all learning styles in every lesson," Beck said. "We have students with special needs, and we do accept students with special needs on an individual case by case. We see if we can meet the needs of the child.

"Students who don't fit into the regular classroom due to academic needs can be served, as well as those with gifted needs," she said. Students are also required to take standard achievement tests. The Adventist Accreditation Association (AAA), whose standards are in line with those of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, accredits Silver Creek. AAA will evaluate the school this year.

"Due to this evaluation, we have taken on some new projects, including our school newspaper and completion of our art room," Beck said. Silver Creek offers a band program beginning with the third grade. An introductory music program provides basic musical concepts to students in K-2. "We have a band teacher who comes from Hendersonville one day a week," Beck said.

Nicholson plays flute and teaches music one day a week. "We have a beginners band and an advanced band. Once the students master (an) instrument, they move into the advanced band," Nicholson said. Beck said the school

also offers a drama club, a puppet ministry, a student association, and gymnastics.

"For the most part we try to have these as part of the school day, but some may have to meet after school," she said.

The school day is 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and there is no after-school program. The school needs at least five students in order to start it. Students bring their lunches everyday except Friday when the school provides a hot meal.

Silver Creek has a basic uniform dress code: cotton twill pants and polo shirts. The school began as an elementary boarding school with a farm and dairy in 1921, one year after Frank C. Port purchased the land. Still on the same property, Silver Creek Adventist School continues as a ministry of the Morganton Church.

The school is one of 6,000 Adventist educational institutions worldwide, making it part of the largest unified Protestant system of education in the world. Beck said Silver Creek is accepting new students. Application forms are online at www.silvercreekadventistschool.org. She said they also welcome visits from parents interested in enrolling a child.

—BY TRACY FARNHAM

Reprinted with permission from The News Herald in Morganton, N.C.

Carolina Pathfinders Have Courage to Stand

The Carolina Conference Pathfinders journeyed hundreds of miles to witness camping at its finest. They went to Oshkosh, Wisc., with high expectations, and this year's camporee met every one. Emulating the story of Esther and her courage to stand, each camper took a pledge to represent Christ in every aspect of their lives.

Along with 36,000 other Pathfinders, they also enjoyed a plethora of recreational choices, from

ice skating, to sailing, to golfing, and even a petting

zoo. Perhaps one of the most dynamic experiences



Conference headquarters at Camporee 2009 in Oshkosh, Wisc.

included a full-size model of the sanctuary where young people learned about worship, sacrifice, and obedience.

When it came time for the clubs to march during the parade, Stanley Knight, Conference youth director, led his marchers and enjoyed every minute. Praise God for the lessons in spiritual growth and the knowledge each new badge of honor brings to these young leaders of tomorrow.

Pathfinders Share Stories: “A Servant to God Are We”

One Pathfinder leader found the “Courage to Stand” through his ministry. Throughout the week, Derf Seitz, Pathfinder director for Charlotte University Church, visited other camp sites to make new friends and present them with a gift.

The gift, a “Jesus Nail,” tells the story of what it means to be apart of God’s family. It is shaped like a “J” for Jesus, and represents His nail-pierced hands and feet. Each bead on the nail reveals the mystery behind Jesus’ unconditional love for us. This unique artwork was a great witnessing tool for Seitz and his Pathfinders. Each color represents an important message that encouraged and sparked interest in the hearts of believers and non-believers alike.

Gold - He is King of the universe.

Black - Spiritual dark-



ness is because we turned away from God.

Red - God sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins.

White - Jesus’ righteousness makes us white as snow.

Blue - As a public declaration of faith we are baptized.

Green - As we walk each day in the Spirit, we grow.

Gold - We must help others grow spiritually, so we can

all wear crowns of glory in Heaven, and live with Jesus forever!

Taryn Johnson also experienced something that in her opinion was way better than pin-trading! Everyone remembers the tornado miracle from Discover the Power in 1999. At this camporee, Johnson’s parents and grandfather were invested as Master Guides. And what about the surprise “winter” for Faith on Fire in 2004?



Taryn Johnson with her parents

This is when Johnson’s brother received his Master Guide.

While school had replaced Pathfinders for the last few years, Johnson decided it was time to follow in her family’s footsteps. When the morning of the ceremony finally came, it was a feeling like no other. She felt blessed to be a part of this timeless tradition. As Johnson’s parents placed the new scarf and pin on their daughter, they were proud she had gladly accepted God’s call on her life.

“We are the future, and God has let us Discover the Power to keep our Faith on Fire, receiving the Courage to Stand for Him so we will be Forever Faithful (2014),” shared Johnson.

Port Charlotte Church Opens Counseling Center

Port Charlotte, Fla., Church recently opened a counseling center on campus staffed by three church members who are qualified counselors. The center's mission is to help others through quality counseling, therapy, or coaching to resolve problems, maximize their potential, and enable them to live life to the fullest (John 10:10).

The umbrella organization, Life Coaching and Counseling Centers, is directed by founder James Fry, M.A., LMHC. Fry says, "My desire is for children, adolescents, and adults to reach their fullest poten-

tial by living lives that are relationally, emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually healthy."

"The thing so encouraging about being a Christian counselor is being able to combine the principles of counseling with the power of prayer and our reliance on Christ," says Lucinda Lang, M.A., member of American Association of Christian Counselors, and one of the three counselors on staff.

The other two counselors, Adell Claypool, M.Mus. Ed., MSPR, BCBC, and Brenda Gonzalez, M.S.W., LCSW, are also members



BARBARA HUFF

Counselors Adell Claypool (left), Brenda Gonzalez, and Lucinda Lang are introduced to Port Charlotte Church members.

of American Association of Christian Counselors. Collectively, the skills of the women include counseling for grief and divorce recovery, anxiety, depression, and women's issues,

with services for children, families, and the elderly.

More information about the counseling center: adventistsatportcharlotte.org or 941-613-1426.

—BY BARBARA HUFF

Richard and Carol Hearn Celebrate 60 Years of Marriage

Richard Hearn, O.D., and his wife, Carol, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary August 15, 2009, at the Melbourne, Fla., Church along with 25 other couples in a vow-renewal ceremony.

Richard and Carol attended church and church school in Ferndale, Mich., where their families were friends. At age 13, Carol wrote in her diary that she planned to marry Richard, which occurred six years later when she was 19 and Richard was 24.

They both attended Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., and Richard went on to become an optometrist,



RICHARD BOSKIND

practicing for most of his career in Berrien Springs. Carol worked as a computer analyst and directed choirs in Adventist and other denominational churches. She is pres-

ently Melborne Church music director, directing the Chancel Choir, Treble Choir, A Capella Choir, and Junior Choir.

The Hearn have three children: Hazel, Douglas,

and Jeffrey. They also have four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

After retirement, they spent two years in Cambodia preparing a church hymnal in the Cambodian language. It contained approximately 300 hymns, worship aids, and original illustrations by a local artist. On the weekends, the Hearn held vision clinics in villages, examined eyes, and dispensed more than 4,000 pairs of glasses.

The Hearn prayerfully remarked, "We are beginning our second 60 years together, hoping that many of these will be spent in Heaven."

Seven-year-old Honored at Community Guest Day



JAMES COOKE

Joshua Williams stands with Jeffrey Thompson, D.Min. (left), Fort Lauderdale Church pastor; Fay Reynolds, Sabbath School superintendent; and Nancy Vega, Sabbath School secretary.

Seven-year-old Joshua Williams, president of Joshua's Heart Foundation, was honored at the Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Church, for his work to end hunger in Miami-Dade County. The special recognition came during the church's Annual Community Guest Day on April 11, 2009.

When Joshua was only five, he established the Foundation out of his passion to assist people by collecting food for those

who struggle daily for basic survival. The main focus of his vision is to "Stomp Out Hunger" among the indigent in underprivileged communities.

Fay Reynolds, Sabbath School superintendent, coordinated the Guest Day program. "I Can't Keep Silent" was the challenge for action in the sermon presented by George Williams, Kendall/Homestead district pastor.

—BY JEFFREY THOMPSON

Churches Report from Around the Conference



PHOTOS: LESLIE LONCHARICH

Midport — The Midport Church in Port St. Lucie, Fla., was dedicated May 16, 2009. Mike Cauley, Florida Conference president, presented an address on God's plan for the church. Dennis McOmber is the pastor. The new church facility is the home of the former Jensen Beach congregation.

The Eternal Hope Radio Broadcasting Corporation's studio is located at the Midport Church. WEHR-LP 100.1 FM reaches a population of 150,000-200,000 in a 15-mile area. This frequency is used for Adventist programming from 2:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m., and a Catholic church, which had applied for the broadcast license at the same time as Midport, uses the station from 2:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.



Sebring Spanish — Rolando González (center), pastor, cut the ribbon to open the new Sebring Spanish, Fla., Church on December 6, 2008, and led the congregation into the 300-seat sanctuary. Former Sebring Spanish pastors Jorge Rojas and Orlando López Jr. were present for the occasion.



JACOB SALCEDO, JR.

Victory — During the Victory congregation's Health Fair in Port St. Lucie, Fla., Brian Roberts went to Anthony Lewis', M.D., booth. After a short examination, Lewis recommended that Roberts see his primary physician immediately. The physician discovered that Roberts had four blocked arteries to his heart. The quadruple bypass surgery was successful, and Roberts, who is doing very well, thanks God for impressing him to attend the Health Fair.

Kelley Honored as Best in Georgia

Congratulations to Stephen Kelley, district attorney for the Brunswick Judicial Circuit, who was named

ing Attorney's Council of Georgia.

Kelley is a member of the Brunswick, Ga., Church where he serves as elder. He has been serving as a prosecutor for more than 20 years, and sees his job as a mission.

"The justice system needs good Christian people, and

politics needs good Christian people," says Kelley. "In my particular job we are dealing with crime victims.

"People a lot of times have lost a loved one

through a drunk driver, other homicide, or murder. We deal with abused children. There are hundreds of abused children that come through our system every year. It is a ministry."

Elected as the district attorney in Brunswick, Ga., in 1996, he took office in 1997. "It is a challenge sometimes to be a Christian and be in the judicial system, but it's not incompatible," says Kelley. "Being a Christian and being in my position is really more of a joy than anything else, and has taught me to treat everyone with respect."

"The award appropriately recognizes Mr. Kelley's outstanding success in representing the people of Appling, Camden, Glynn, Jeff Davie, and Wayne counties in our criminal justice system," says Bryan M. Cavan, president of the State

Bar of Georgia on Kelley's DA of the Year award.

"I've actually used Ellen White in my closing arguments sometimes," adds Kelley. "Many a jury has heard 'The greatest want of the world is that men and women will not be bought or sold'."

Kelley is married to wife Dianna. They have three children: Ann, Cathleen, and Joe. Some other awards Kelley has received include the Eagle Award for Prosecution from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council of Georgia in 2007. He is also a former president of the District Attorney's Association of Georgia, from 2005-2006. In this position he was influential in creating the Victim Assistance Program for the Brunswick Judicial Circuit.

—BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER



TERRY DICKSON / THE FLORIDA TIMES-UNION

Stephen Kelley, District Attorney for the Brunswick Judicial Circuit, was named 2009 District Attorney of the Year.

2009 District Attorney of the Year for the District Attorney's Association of Georgia in July. Three weeks prior, Kelley was also named chairman of the Prosecut-

Historic Mission Trip Visits Haiti

A team of eight from the College of Health Evangelism in Wildwood, Ga., along with a pastor from the Bahamas, spent June 15 to July 12, 2009, off the remote northern coast of Haiti reaching individuals on the Island of Tortue. They were warmly greeted by a large assembly of people, and were told that theirs was the first American church delegation to have arrived in the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on that island.

Thus began a four-week mission adventure that included two LIGHT

schools (combining health and evangelistic training for lay people), two evangelistic efforts, community

health ministry, and street preaching. The group even heard voodoo drumming several nights.

One of the most successful features of the trip was the Health Expo, which drew more than a hundred people. They overwhelmed the various booths set up to accommodate the guests. It was necessary to repeat the Expo the following day and, once again,

the interest was high.

You, too, can experience the adventure of public evangelism and medical missionary work right here and internationally. The College of Health Evangelism at Wildwood is offering a new four-month program called "PROCLAIM Training in Evangelism."

PROCLAIM provides training and experience in actual public evangelistic meetings in the Southern Union, plus an optional mission trip. Learn more at <http://proclaim.netasi.org> or www.healthevangelism.com.

—BY STEVE COOK



STEVE COOK

Steve Cook stands with a Haitian woman who attended the Health Expo.

Cohutta Offers “Fun Day” for a Dollar

As a ministry to the community, Cohutta Springs Conference Center, located in Crandall, Ga., hosted a “Fun Day” where people could enjoy the new zip line, the blob, the water slide, and a free meal for

only one dollar.

“I believe God planted in our hearts to reach out to our community and let the residents of Murray County know that Cohutta Springs is a place of ministry — a place where the staff and the

guests are experiencing the life of Jesus Christ,” shares Olivier LeMaitre, director of the Conference Center. “It was important for us to find a way to let our local population discover our facility and the various activities we offer year-round.”

Peggy Hallman,

director of mission development, led in coordinating the Fun Day. They contacted the local Chamber of Commerce for partnership and promotion, and many Chamber delegates came to help out.

To make the event financially feasible, they offered staff members an opportunity to volunteer running various activities. Their response was overwhelming in support of this ministry. They also asked their regular food services vendors to donate.

On Sunday, August 23, from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m., more than 200 residents came and enjoyed the beauty and fun of Cohutta.

“Many residents came to me and told me that it was the best day of their summer,” shared LeMaitre. “They want to talk to their pastor and organize a retreat at Cohutta Springs.”

“Our team of volunteers was so blessed as we served our community,” continues LeMaitre. “The blessing came watching the kids and the parents laughing, playing, and forgetting their difficult life situations. Our goal was reached as Murray County residents now understand better that Cohutta Springs is the place of peace, fun, and ministry.”

—BY OLIVIER LEMAITRE AND REBECCA BROOKS



SUBMITTED BY OLIVIER LEMAITRE

More than 200 people attended Fun Day at Cohutta Springs.

AAA Names La Ronda Forsey Principal

Atlanta Adventist Academy (AAA) is far from quiet this summer. The 2009-2010 school year is exploding with excitement, change, and activity.

One change is the many new staff members on board. David and Celia Denton (principal and math teacher) received a call from Madison Academy in Nashville, Tenn., at the end of last school year. The Conference officials and school board quickly selected La Ronda Forsey for the vacant principal position. “I think it’s a privilege to be able to carry on the vision that was started with AAA a few years back. I think it’s also a big responsibility because it is a unique school,” says Forsey.

Forsey’s dedication to

Adventist education spans more than 20 years. She has worked at Forest Lake Academy, Florida; Maxwell Adventist Academy, Nairobi, Kenya; and Champion Academy, Colorado; and served as vice principal at AAA for four years.

AAA has eight satellite campuses, a total of 25 staff members, and around 130 students. AAA’s unique system allows for students across the metro Atlanta area (Duluth, Marietta, and Peachtree City) and even more remote areas such as Augusta and Macon, Ga., or McMinnville, Greeneville, and Jellico, Tenn., to have access to Adventist education while staying home and attending their own constituent churches. Mondays,



ALYSA DARMODY

La Ronda Forsey is the new principal at Atlanta Adventist Academy.

Wednesdays, and Fridays, the students are in their respective classrooms, learning in a live satellite class while their teacher is at one of the main three campuses.

“Tuesdays and Thursdays all the Atlanta kids come together so we can do things like sports, music, and drama,” says Forsey. “And at the beginning of each

semester, even the satellite kids come, and we do different bonding activities. Even though [the partner campuses] are so far away, we get to be really close to them because we see them everyday on the screen, and we interact with them.”

La Ronda is married to David Forsey, principal of Duluth Adventist Christian School. They have two boys: Drew, a freshman at Southern Adventist University, and Dillan, a junior at AAA.

Other new AAA staff members include Tim Knowlton, math and science; Marlene Jackson, treasurer; and Alysa Darmody, director of development and enrollment.

—BY ALYSA DARMODY AND TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Carolyn Neece Culpepper June 11, 1949 - August 20, 2009

“To everything there is a season . . . a time to laugh and a time to mourn.” For the Gulf States Conference family, and the family and many friends of Carolyn Culpepper, the past few days have been a time to mourn. On August 20, 2009, Carolyn, an assistant treasurer for Gulf States, passed away as a result of injuries she sustained during an automobile accident on August 6. Carolyn, a faithful and beloved worker who had served the Conference for 28 years, was on her way home from a Conference pastors’ and teachers’ meeting at Bass Memorial Academy, when a truck broad-sided her on Highway 98 in Lucedale, Miss. She was airlifted to

a hospital in Mobile, Ala., where she remained in critical condition until her death. The hundreds of calls, visitors, numerous acts of kindness, and prayers for Carolyn were a testimony to her life and the influence she had on others.

On the day of her funeral, more than 350 individuals, from across the country crowded into the Ellison Funeral Home in Wetumpka, Ala.

In his eulogy for Carolyn, Mel Eisle, Conference president, told about her passion for her work. To Carolyn, accounting — doing the payroll and all the other things involved, was her ministry, and she loved it.

Tui Pitman, Confer-

ence stewardship and trust director, and a former pastor for the Montgomery First Church where the Culpepper family attended, gave the homily. He explained that this life is a

dash between the date we were born and the date we die. “Some people’s dashes are long and some are short, but it’s how we live the dash we’re given that counts. Carolyn lived her dash to the fullest,” he said.

There were many things Carolyn loved — her family which includes her husband, Burney; daughter, Christina Culpepper; sons and daughters-in-law,



Burney Culpepper Jr. and wife Jennifer, Jason Culpepper and wife Kirsten, Cory Culpepper and wife Denise; and six grandchildren. She loved her church where she was a

pianist for many years; and Bass Memorial Academy — she was an alumnus, and was serving as treasurer of the alumni association.

All who knew Carolyn are left with an empty spot in their hearts, but with the Blessed Hope that all will see her in the morning.

Even so, come Lord Jesus!

—BY REBECCA GRICE

Student Workers Needed at Bass Academy

Financial woes are challenging many families, and yet the need for young people to receive an Adventist education is more evident than ever before. Bass Memorial Academy’s (BMA) philosophy is that good work ethics creates a holistic educational curriculum. With this in mind, leaders began prayerfully searching for an industry that would allow students to work and earn money to help pay for their tuition.

With the search came a solution, and now a new recycling center, which

involves sorting plastic bottles and CD cases, has been opened. The industry will provide work opportunities for students so that they can work off a sizeable portion of their bill, and it also provides income for BMA. In addition, the industry will be opened next summer for students to stay on campus and earn money against their tuition for the new school year.

With this blessing, a new problem has arisen — there are more work opportunities than students to fill them. This opens the

door for those who desire a Christ-centered, Adventist education for their youth, but who are struggling with the financial aspect of Christian education. The doors are still opened for registration at BMA. “We encourage all families with academy-age youth to seek a Christ-centered education for their youth at an Adventist school,” explains Jon Arroyo, BMA pastor and recruiter. “There is neither distance too great nor price too high when it comes to the salvation of our youth,” he adds. For



Students prepare the facility for new industry.

more information, call Bass Memorial Academy, 601-794-8561.

—BY JON ARROYO AND REBECCA GRICE

Members and Friends Walk Through Ancient Rome



JOHN BLACK

The children enjoyed their evening meal at the Food Shop.



JOHN BLACK

Each night began and ended with songs of praise.

The members and friends of the Community Church in Meridian, Miss., traveled back in time this summer to ancient Rome. The school gym was transformed into an ancient Roman marketplace as part of the Vacation Bible School (VBS) program. Fifty-two children took a walk through Rome during the course of the week. Each night attendance soared to 40 children, with 20 of them being visitors from the community. God also blessed with 40 hard-working volunteers.

Each night the children visited with Paul, who was under house arrest. He read to them the letters he was writing to the first Christians at that time. The children met Brutus, the Roman soldier chained to Paul, and watched as he asked questions and ultimately decided to become a Christian himself. They visited the underground church each night,

where they worshiped in secret with fellow Christians. They experienced what it was like to be a Christian in ancient Rome where Christians could be jailed for their beliefs.

Another nightly event was the games station where the participants engaged in games such as chariot races, knuckle bone toss, and shot put. Here they worked as Roman firefighters to save a burning building, and became Roman army recruits who transported 90-pound packs on their backs.

In the marketplace, they were fed a healthy vegetarian meal, and learned about the NEWS-

TART program at the Food Shop. They revisited the Food Shop later for dessert and authentic Roman snacks. The children discovered how the food in ancient Rome differs from the foods they are accustomed to eating today. For instance, instead of ketchup, the Romans used a sauce made from the intestines of decaying fish — yuk!

While in the marketplace, they visited the Carpentry Shop where they constructed and painted a wooden top; the Grammaticus School where they made an abacus and learned about Roman numerals and constellations; the Scribe Shop where they used bamboo styluses, ink, and wax seals to make scrolls; the Wreath Making Shop where they made a beautiful leaf laurel and a garland strand of flowers and leaves; and the Architecture Shop where they constructed an aqueduct.



JOHN BLACK

The children learned how the ichthys was used to identify fellow Christians.

A different Bible verse from the book of Romans and a new song of praise were taught each night. The topics for the week were: “God’s Love is a Gift,” “God’s Love Changes Us,” “God’s Love is Always With Us,” “God’s Love Saves Us,” and “God’s Love is Worth Sharing.”

The VBS program ended on Sabbath morning with a short program during the worship service so the congregation could witness what had been happening all week. The children sang two special songs and recited their Bible verses and Bible points from the week. The program ended with a PowerPoint presentation showing images of the exciting experience. Fifteen visitors attended the service that morning. Based on the children’s response when asked if they had a good time, the VBS program was a success. What a fun way it was to reach out to the community, make new friends, and spread the Gospel.

—BY KIM BLACK

Pathfinders Bring Home Unforgettable Memories



More than 240 Gulf States Pathfinders attended the camporee in Oshkosh, Wisc.

Sixteen Pathfinder clubs from the Gulf States Conference joined the more than 37,000 Pathfinders and staff who attended this year's "Courage to Stand" International Camporee. "With youth there from 100 different countries, it was for some a once-in-a-lifetime experience," explained James Mangum, Conference youth director.

Earning money and getting to the camporee was the first challenge the clubs incurred. Several clubs had flat tires en route. The Montgomery, Ala., Master's Brigade, forgot to get a spare tire for their chuck wagon and, of course, they had a flat. "God worked it out perfectly," says Joan Beck, assistant director. The tire went flat while they were spending the night at Battle Creek, Mich., and just across the street from where they were staying was a very nice tire dealer who fixed their tire and gave them a spare. "We didn't

know how badly we were going to need that spare, but God did," says Beck. On the way home from the camporee, they had a flat on Sunday morning around one o'clock. Because they had been given a spare, they were able to fix it and continue on their way.

Marcie Strobel, deputy director of the Panama City, Fla., Club, relays this incident: "On our way to Oshkosh, we experienced a flat tire on our chuck wagon. We pulled over at the next overpass and our three strongest men changed the tire in about five minutes. I happened to notice that on the overpass column, someone had written the words 'TRUST JESUS' in blue spray paint. What a neat thing! Here we are changing a trailer tire, and this reminder for what we should do all the time, even during the frustrating times, was right there!"

The Madison Hawks Pathfinder Club at Grace

Fellowship Church in Madison, Ala., is one of the newest clubs in the Conference. They had their first meeting in September 2008, less than a year before the camporee in Oshkosh. They averaged 20 Pathfinders during the year, and nine of these Pathfinders attended the camporee. They raised money for Oshkosh by passing out M&M Mini Tubes. The church members filled them with quarters and returned them to the club. Each tube holds \$14 worth of quarters, and they collected more than \$600 in quarters. They also raised \$2,000 to buy an enclosed trailer by direct appeal and writing letters. While at the camporee one of their Pathfinders, Tatiana Lopez, was rebaptized.

Casey Billingsley, from the Fairhope Beacons Club in Fairhope, Ala., also decided to be baptized during the camporee.

Numerous other highlights occurred. Two girls

from the Fairhope Club, Casey and Abby Vaughn, placed third in the Thursday night talent show.

Some Pathfinders had fun earning honors, while others enjoyed field trips and outreach activities. Then there were those who enjoyed trading pins.

The program each evening was a spiritual treat for all. Amy Smith and Ashlyn Riley, Pathfinders from the Huntsville, Ala., Spacewalkers club, enjoyed the story of Esther which was acted out each night. "It helped us realized we must stand for God, no matter what happens," both girls agreed. These girls also enjoyed meeting friends from everywhere.

"Seeing 37,000 Pathfinders and leaders shine for Jesus, made 'Oshkosh 2009 Courage to Stand' an experience we shall never forget," concludes Mangum.

—BY REBECCA GRICE



Casey Billingsley decided to be baptized while attending the international camporee.

President Shows Servant Leadership

This summer Gordon Bietz, president of Southern Adventist University, decided to walk a day in the shoes of a service department worker.

Bietz cleaned carpets and bathrooms, and learned how to remove gum from the women's bathrooms' floor. In previous summers, he has worked for plant services,

doing building renovations, and for landscape services, trimming trees and sawing dead trees.

As president of a University that believes in service towards others, Bietz also strongly believes in servant leadership.

"I am convinced that I need to model what I believe," says Bietz. "My responsibility is to make

those around me successful, and I can best do that when I have a better understanding of their work."

Although Bietz's job usually consists of meetings, proposals, and conventions, the opportunity to serve is just as important, and so he tries to make it a priority. To him, all work is important and every

member is valuable.

"If I am gone for a month attending meetings, or doing fundraising, I am not missed much on campus, but if the person who picks up the garbage is gone for a day, they are missed," says Bietz. "Everyone is important to this University."

—BY CRISTINA HERNANDEZ-PERSIA

Southern Hosts Nursing Students from Japan

Southern Adventist University hosted 19 nursing students from Japan for a cultural enrichment program in English and nursing.

While at Southern, the Japanese students experienced a bit of American culture while also building their nursing skills. In their English-as-a-second language class, the students were not only taught English language skills, but also the small nuances of cultural expression. In one class

period, they learned about American body language, and how to act out common reactions, such as surprise by gasping and covering their mouths with one hand. Through their nursing assessment class, the students were able to visit two hospitals, one in Chattanooga and one in Nashville, to gain insight into American medical practices.

"Southern and the people planning this



The nursing students from Japan went sightseeing while visiting Tennessee.

event have done a good job of giving the students more than just a medical experience," says, David Mullins, a graduate nursing student who helped instruct the Japanese nursing students during their visit to Southern. "I think what the students will take back and pass on to their friends is a broader cultural experience in America."

—BY SUZANNE OCSAI

Young Author Publishes Scientific Research

Debbie Beihl, junior nursing and biology major, recently published her study, "Sleep Duration as a Risk Factor for Incident Type 2 Diabetes in a Multiethnic Cohort," in the *Annals of Epidemiology*, a journal that is examined by nationally recognized epidemiologists.

This study included 900 participants, of which 146 developed Type 2 diabetes. Beihl's research

found that short sleep is a risk factor for diabetes, and that whites and Hispanics who sleep seven hours or less are at an increased risk of getting diabetes.

This is the first study to investigate the effect of insulin in relation to diabetes and sleep. The study is also the first to include the multi-ethnic component.

—BY CRISTINA HERNANDEZ-PERSIA



Debbie Beihl (second from left) recently published her diabetes study in the *Annals of Epidemiology*.

Adventist Conducts Symphony Orchestra

Joseph Choi was recently promoted to associate conductor of the Owensboro Symphony Orchestra. Born in Korea, Choi has been with the Owensboro Symphony Orchestra since 2005, and previously served as assistant conductor and music director of the orchestra.

Choi was also recently chosen as the 2009 Alumnus of the Year by South-

ern Adventist University, where he completed his undergraduate studies. He received his master of music with emphasis in orchestral conducting at the University of Hartford's



Hartt School of Music in Connecticut.

During his graduate studies, he served as an assistant conductor of the University of Maryland Chorus and Chorale for three years.

There he studied choral conducting while working on his doctor of musical arts degree.

Choi has conducted orchestras and ensembles in many cities across North America and overseas. He and his wife, Angela, and their son, Nathaniel, live in Owensboro, Ky., and attend the Owensboro Church.

—BY MARVIN LOWMAN

Trophies for the Kingdom Witnessed in Oshkosh

The Madison Campus Trailblazers, 40 Pathfinders and staff, were among the more than 36,000 Pathfinders from around the world at Oshkosh, Wis. The Pathfinders worked on honors; participated in drill team and drum corps competitions; exchanged pins; and made new friends. The common bond of "Pathfinder" was apparent.

The theme, "**Courage to Stand**," was based on the story of Esther and the courage and faith she exhibited to stand before King Ahasuerus to appeal for her people at the risk of her life. The evening programs were spiritually mov-

ing, but even more so on Saturday night, when in the western sky as the sun was setting, appeared a cross formed from clouds. Who could doubt the actual presence of the Lord?

Pathfinders Leslie and John Carrillo, and Donnie Underwood were baptized by Allan Williamson, Southern Union youth director, in a moving ceremony where hundreds of Pathfinders from around the world were also baptized. The Madison Campus Drum Corps was awarded third place among the national and international teams.

—BY ARLAN MONROE



The Madison Campus Drum Corps received a third place award for their performance.



Pictured are Louise Hoover (left); John Carrillo; Tom Hardin; Leslie Carrillo; Allan Williamson, Southern Union youth director; and Donnie Underwood, just before the baptism.

Louisville Church Holds Serve Fest 2009

The Louisville First Church members set a goal to contact 20,000 individuals during a seven-day period during the week of July 4. Groups went daily to various locations, and each member wore a T-shirt in hopes that many would recognize the church members throughout the city. Free activities included face-painting, family photos, car washes, snow cones, and bottled water.



Many waited in the face-painting line for two hours.

The long line of adults and children waiting to have their face painted or picture taken during the 4th of July celebration on the Ohio River waterfront attests to the popularity of these two activities. During the course of the day, the line was a two-hour wait.

While people waited, there was opportunity for questions such as “Why are you doing this?” or “What’s the catch?” But the actual statement was, “It’s

so nice that your church is doing this for the community!” Each person the members came in contact with received a card saying, “God loves you ... with no strings attached!” It also included the church’s contact information.

All the activities were designed to show God’s love to the city of Louisville in a practical way. People found it

difficult to believe that the services were free. A man who lives near the church took advantage of the free car wash. After learning that it was really free, he went home for his other car. While his second car was being washed, he told Tim Madding, pastor, that he had noticed the peri-

odic Revelation Seminars notices, and wanted to know when they will be presented again. Because he said that he was studying Revela-

tion, Madding gave him a set of DVD’s that contained the information from the previous series.

Madding received a call from the Louisville mayor’s office on July 15 — they wanted to know more about the

church’s free face-painting activity, and requested that the Louisville members plan to set up at an upcoming event in the city.

The members are committed to making a difference in Louisville.

—BY CLIFTON KELLER AND PAULA BURGIN



A Louisville member displays the Free Car Wash sign.



Face-painting was the most popular free activity.

Columbia Church Celebrates 40 Years

The Columbia, Ky., Church held its 40th year celebration on April 25, 2009, with more than 100 individuals in attendance. Former pastors attending included Jim McConnell and his family; Mike and Geraldine Foraker; Robert Chase and his family; Dwayne and Janet Toppenberg; and



current pastor and his wife, David and Andrea Sagan.

Foraker delivered the message for the worship service on Sabbath morn-

ing. Following a meal, the afternoon was spent sharing music and memories.

The Columbia Church was organized in 1968 with 30 charter

members. After years of witnessing and holding reaping meetings, a parcel of land was purchased and the church was built. Prior

to the construction of the church, worship was held in various members’ homes and rented halls.

Construction of the church began in 1977. Construction was completed in the early 1980’s and became debt free in 1991. By 1997, the congregation outgrew the space for the church school, and a large classroom and Sabbath School rooms were added.

—BY CAROLE THOMAS

First Pathfinder Abstinence Education Honor Class Held

The first Pathfinder Abstinence Education Honor class was held during the 2009 camp meeting, under the leadership of Stephen Brooks, Conference youth director.

The five-day course was taught by Raymond King, who also wrote the curriculum that was used as the foundation for the class. The curriculum consists of 10 subjects: Establish the Biblical Concept of Sexuality, Establish the Meaning of Virginity,

Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Other Adverse Affects of Sex, Why I'm Important, A Second Chance, The Gift for One, My Second Most Important Decision, Keeping the Vow, and My Ministry. As a result of the class, 15 teens not only earned the Abstinence Education Honor, they also made vows to remain abstinent until marriage. One of the teens was also baptized during camp meeting after an appeal was made following the last class.

The youth who participated were Lisa Williamson, Cassandra Murphy, Nicole Wongk, Sharnelle Williamson, Colee Mitchell, Evelyn Smith, Ki'Shawn Pettus, Brendon Davis, Caleb Fisher, Ceron Joyner, Taylor Scurry, Tori Allen, Xzaviar Solone, and Cicily Stone.

It is the goal of William Cameron, South Atlantic coordinator, to expand the honor training for both staff and Pathfinders who want to teach and/or earn the honor.



William Cameron (left), Conference Pathfinder coordinator, with Stephen Brooks (far right), Conference youth director, and the Pathfinders who completed the honor pledge to put into practice what they had learned.

Whiteville Physician Receives Seniors' Certification

Seniors in the area of Whiteville, N.C., have a new resource to help them age successfully. Richard G. Berry, M.D., F.A.C.P., C.S.A., and a local elder at Praise Tabernacle Church, recently completed a comprehensive course through the Society of Certified Senior Advisors (SCSA) and earned the designation of Certified Senior

Advisor (CSA)®.

SCSA is the world's largest membership organization engaged in training professionals to meet the changing needs of a growing senior population.

"The health, financial, and social needs of seniors



are different, and more complicated, than those of any other age group. SCSA keeps professionals from a wide variety of fields abreast of all these issues by providing educa-

tion, training, support, and communication resources

to those of us dedicated to serving seniors," Berry said.

As a CSA, Berry will participate in continuing education that emphasizes ethical selling, business practices, and volunteer service specific to seniors.

—REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM THE CSA MAGAZINE

Literature Evangelists Receive Laptop Computers

During August 2009, the South Atlantic Conference publishing department launched an evangelistic stimulus initiative called "Insane Incentives." This initiative provides material rewards to top-selling literature evangelists (LE's) for their spiritual service.

The month of August was a race to \$3,000 in sales in which the first-place winner was to receive a free, brand new laptop. Just two

weeks into the month, there was a two-way tie. The husband and wife LE team, Laneau and Leonne Jerome, of Douglasville, Ga., qualified for the prize the same day as Drake Barber, pastor of East Market Street Church in Greensboro, N.C. The publishing department is planning more "Insane Incentives" in the upcoming months.

—BY CARL MCROY



Carl McRoy (left), South Atlantic publishing director, presents a laptop to Laneau and Leonne Jerome, along with their son.

Dublin Church Holds Summer Enrichment Program

The First Church in Dublin, Ga., hosted a summer enrichment program reminiscent of the old inner city programs. The program was conducted during the whole month of July. It ended with a community Luau on the last day.

The activities took place from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday. On average, 20 to 25 children attended daily. The largest attendance was usually on Thursdays, which were the water balloon days. On those days, the lessons were shortened, and a half hour for water fun was allowed.

The goal of the program was to prepare the children to return to school by helping them to memorize the multiplication table, help them memorize one Bible verse every week; and to

teach them to respect each other by modeling respect in their presence.

During the closing Sabbath program, six of the children were able to repeat all of their memory verses, and several more were able to repeat three of the verses.

One of the main reasons why the program was successful was because dedicated workers came for the entire month of July, and gave of their time, energy, and talents. Other members donated funds for the purchase of supplies. The volunteers included Earnestine Outland, Malela Rozier, Doris Lyken, Latrone Rozier, Kim Williams, Mr. Martin, and three generations of the Axson family. Chris Knight, 17-year-old grandson of the Axsons, taught ages six to eight. Knight volunteered

for the position, and was a faithful worker. At the end of the program, he won the "Pieta Dixon Award of Excellence" and \$100.

Other contributors to the success of the program were John, David, Colin, and Wendy Wongk, program coordinator. Some parents from the community also came to bring their children, and volunteered to assist with the activities.

The church members assisted with donations; however, there were two major contributors to the program, Teresa Lewis and the Dixon family. When the late Pieta Dixon, long-time member of First Church, passed, she



Children, parents, and volunteers, participated in the community enrichment program in Dublin, Ga.

left funds in her will to be used for ministry. The Dixon family donated those funds to assist in this community outreach effort.

At the end of the program, in addition to the community party, there were enough funds to purchase school supplies for the children who attended the program. More than 200 pieces of school supplies, as well as backpacks, were distributed.

Washington Church Holds Vacation Bible School

The Washington, Ga., Church held a successful Vacation Bible School (VBS) this past summer. The theme for the week was, "It's All About Jesus."

Children in attendance

received facsimile passports and visas to Mexico, China, Africa, Brazil, and American Indian villages.

There were two countries represented with their respective natives — Emma Zhang from China; and Ann Rogers, a Cherokee Indian, with her husband, Barry Rogers, a Kiowa Indian.

According to Rachel Moreland, VBS director, there were spiritual blessings and excitement. The children were given healthy snacks representing

the countries they studied. The stories of Ruth, David, Esther, the first disciples chosen, and Paul, were studied to help the children understand the aim: "Be Loyal, be Ready, be Changed, be Brave, and be Real."

The faithful and caring volunteers, artists, instructors, and presenters included Esther Turman, Lamar McLendon, Vincent Reid, Emma Walker, Jessie Barksdale, Brietta Walker, Fernanda Mills Jr., Ashley Turman, Wynesisea Hilliard, Jochabed Mortinez, Elzinnia Shorter, Jermaine Jones Jr., Udia Foster,

Jynean Turman, and John Wallace. Walter Gordon Jr. serves as the pastor.

The graduation program was held on Sabbath morning during divine worship, which parents and community guests attended. Benjamin Moreland, M.Div., culminated the day with an inspiring Vespers.

A social activity was planned with various games for the children and parents. Appreciation was expressed to parents who allowed their children to participate, and to parents and volunteers who assisted with VBS.



Pictured are the children, staff, volunteers, and presenters who participated in the Washington, Ga., Church's Vacation Bible School.

Mt. Pisgah Church Food Pantry a Success

The community services department at Mt. Pisgah Church in Miami Gardens, Fla., can hardly believe the success of the food pantry they started four years ago.

In 2005, when the pantry first opened, an average of 137 families received a 35-pound box of food on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. The distribution days have remained the same, but an average of 217 families receive a 35- to 40-pound box of food, including dry goods and fresh produce.

Every Wednesday when the food pantry is open, community service committee members and volunteers from the surrounding area are in the fellowship hall at Mt. Pisgah helping to sort,



Members of Mt. Pisgah community services department prepared food boxes for distribution.

box, and distribute food.

The committee volunteers are pleased that so many of their helpers come from the neighborhood, not only for a box of food, but also to lend a helping hand.

The line for food assembles early on “Pantry Wednesday.” Community services volunteers always take time to greet each person in line, and extend an

invitation to weekly church services or upcoming special events.

Mt. Pisgah purchased a 16-foot box truck for community services in 2007. This vehicle makes it possible to pick up the tons of food required to satisfy a growing need for food in the local community. The bulk of food distributed at the pantry is acquired from

The Daily Bread Food Bank and Farm Share — two non-profit distribution centers in south Florida.

A special effort is made at Thanksgiving and Christmas by Hazel Davis, community services director, to give food boxes containing items for a holiday dinner. These distribution days are especially popular in the local community.

The Mt. Pisgah community services department is a strong and enthusiastic committee dedicated to Christian service in its neighborhood. God is definitely using them for distribution of food for body and soul. Mt. Pisgah is indeed serving the community.

—BY NANCY WELLS

Women’s Ministries Crusade Results in 31 Baptisms



ROBERT HENLEY

Nicole Brise, Conference women’s ministries and prayer ministries director, holds appeal open for one more individual.

On the final day of the “In Troubled Waters There is Hope” crusade, Nicole Brise, Conference women’s ministries and prayer ministries director, exclaimed during the closing moments of her appeal, “The

Holy Spirit will not let me close this appeal until you come down front.” At that time two individuals made their way to the platform, making their decision to be baptized. Later that day, 20 individuals were baptized.

From August 8 to August 29, Mt. Zion Church of Kissimmee, Fla., hosted the crusade that featured the powerful preaching of Brise. Thirty-one individuals decided to accept Christ as their personal Savior.

After the baptism, Maxwell Berkyl,

pastor of Mt. Zion, welcomed the newly baptized individuals, and admonished the members, “Let us pray for the newly baptized members as they begin their journey with Christ.”

Maise Harry, who had been struggling with the decision to be baptized for years, was the last individual to take her stand for Christ during the appeal. “After I came out of the pool, I knew that I had made the right decision,” stated Harry.

Hubert Morel, Conference president, stated,



ROBERT HENLEY

Hubert Morel, Conference president, closes appeal with prayer.



ROBERT HENLEY

Maxwell Berkyl, Mt. Zion pastor, prays before he baptizes Maise Harry.

“This is why we exist: to win souls for the Kingdom.”

The Mt. Zion crusade is the sixth of 13 scheduled crusades Brise and the women of Southeastern have scheduled for this year. To date 160 souls have been baptized by the SEC women’s ministries.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY

Perrine Church Holds Celebration of Love Service

The Perrine Church recently conducted a unique Celebration of Love service, where 26 couples renewed their vows.

Every activity of the day was administered and directed by the couples. Just before divine worship began, the couples walked in and were presented to the church. Many of the couples were married for more than 40 years, and a few less than five years.

The sermon was presented jointly by Antwoyn Mells, Perrine pastor, and his wife, Carmitta. Their

sermon was based on myths of marriage, such as marriage is intended to make you happy, men expect women to take care of them the way their mother did, love is a feeling, some women believe they will lose their independence when they get married, weddings are for women, and the man is the head of the household and should rule.

Mells maintained that God has made each person



Antwoyn Mells, pastor, and his wife, Carmitta, deliver the sermon.

unique. Marriage involves two individuals who voluntarily enter into a union, and each must be careful that one personality does not overtake the other.

He emphasized that only couples who have reached separateness will be able to last a long time.

Mells stated that marriage demands sacrifice. He declared that it takes a lifetime to know the person you have married. As a team, Adam and Eve were to exercise authority over the animals God had created.

Later the couples attended a workshop entitled, "Fireproof Your Marriage."

—BY MILICENT TAYLOR

Lighthouse Community Services Feeds the Hungry

An exhortation was given by Jesus in Matthew 25:35, 36, 40: "I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in . . . I was sick and you looked after me . . . Whatever you did for one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did also for me."

The community services department at Lighthouse Church in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., continues to feed the hungry in an ongoing food drive. This ministry services the church and community year-round — providing

food, clothing, and personal items for more than 70 families every month.

As the members continue to feed the community, they are cognizant of the fact that these individuals are not only



Petrinella Young, community services leader, gives a box of food to Alton Bryant.

hungry for physical food, but are also starving from the lack of spiritual food. In addition to the majority of families that are served, there are also dedicated Spanish speakers who are seeking to find a Seventh-day Adventist church where they can worship. The community services department and other members of Lighthouse are praying that God will find a solution for these families to attend the worship services, and make a decision to accept Christ as their Savior.

—BY JULIET DUNKLEY

Church Leader Honored



Wellesley Standbury (left) receives an appreciation gift from Lloyd Burrows, pastor, and Louise Thompson.

Lighthouse Church members in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., recently recognized Wellesley Standbury for 16 years of outstanding service as treasurer.

Standbury, a true and committed soldier for the Lord, was recognized for the way he managed Lighthouse's finances during his tenure.

—BY JULIET DUNKLEY

North American Division Holds Second ASAM Convention

The theme embodied a challenge: Go Deeper! To almost 300 single adults, the second North American Division (NAD) Adventist Single Adult Ministries (ASAM) Convention held answers, fellowship, and fun. Ranging in age from 25 to 86, they gathered in Newport Beach, Calif., from 36 of the 58 NAD conferences, Australia, and the British Virgin Islands. For many, the group's diversity, in both age and ethnicity, was among the most positive aspects of the weekend.

The attendees came for a variety of reasons. Some came because, after experiencing 2007's "Pursue Your Passion," the first NAD ASAM convention, they knew what blessings were in store. Rob Dummett from Southampton, Bermuda, noted that because the speakers and seminars were great in Orlando, he knew as soon as this year's convention was announced that he would attend.

Zsa-Nai Long, an assistant ASAM leader from Houston, Tex., said she learned the true focus of ASAM at the first convention. She explained that she, like many others, had believed that the goal of such conventions and of single adult ministries was to try to "hook up" with someone, and because of that perception, she did not want to go. "But once I got there, I was so happy," she

said. "It was actually useful and relevant for my life."

Others came for personal reasons. For Carmen Torres of Orange County, Calif., it was "to get out of my shell, socialize with others, and do something for myself."

Joy Villegas of Colton, Calif., said, "It gave me a chance to make friends with people in the same situation as me." As a recent divorcee, she simply wanted to make more single friends. Jean-Paul Heldt, a native of France who now resides in Redlands, Calif., said that it was good to come and reconnect, explaining that he had spent a little over six years in China with no organized Seventh-day Adventist church in the city where he lived.

Whatever the reason for coming, all were pushed to Go Deeper! Andrea D. Hicks, NAD ASAM coordinator, explained, "In the first convention, we asked people to pursue their passions. Now it is time for them to go even deeper. They need to assess how their passions are helping with their relationships with the Lord and with other people."

"The planners," Hicks continued, wanted people to explore what it would take to move them to the next level of their experiences spiritually, socially, personally — in all aspects of life.

The easiest places

to discuss going deeper spiritually were the main sessions. Four powerful keynote speakers challenged singles to focus on their relationships with God. Jose Rojas, director of the Office of Volunteer Ministries for the North American Division, gave the opening night keynote address, detailing various aspects of light from a scientific perspective and relating those to God.

Jesse Bevel Jr., family ministries director for Northeastern Conference, spoke Friday morning with the intent of helping "God's people to make appropriate choices." Entitling his message "Dating and Communicating with a Clean Sinner," he detailed three types of people who influence our lives, making clear the importance of relationship decisions.

Friday evening's speaker, Hyveth Williams, senior pastor of Campus Hill Church in Loma Linda, Calif., pointed out the Church doesn't discuss singleness enough. She commented that the traditional view is of "singleness as an evil" and then expounded on both the blessings and burdens of singleness.

The final speaker, John McVay, president of Walla Walla University, spoke for the two Sabbath services. For divine worship, McVay detailed what happens when Jesus calls your name. In the evening service he

continued, challenging all present to be courageous and vocal for the Lord, claiming His promise never to leave nor forsake.

The music also enhanced the spiritual aspect. At each service, a dynamic praise team set the tone for worship. Musical guests included, among others, Jaime Jorge and Adrian Pressley.

Even so, it wasn't just the speakers and musicians who promoted the spiritual aspect. The whole experience was bathed in prayer. "I prayed with so many people," said Fredericka Duggan of Miami, Fla., "and with each one, I got more strength, more power."

This focus on prayer was intentional. Terri Leen, a NAD ASAM committee member from the North Pacific Union Conference, led out in the promotion of the prayer wall, a place where singles could post prayer requests. At each prayer time, the petitioner read and prayed for one request specifically. On Sabbath, all of the requests were passed out, and singles were given time to pray for the request given to them. In addition, people were asked to take the requests home and continue in prayer.

The spiritual lessons that people received were varied. According to Marce Williams of Salem, Ore., "the convention was Christ-centered and applicable to life." She explained that



Group shot, taken after divine worship on Sabbath

she learned “how important it is to take a spiritual journey and go deeper with God — to spend more time and be able to draw upon his wisdom through His Word.”

Grayson Sorrels, a member of the Christian Missionary Alliance Church in Paradise, Calif., commenting on the theme and spiritual aspect, said, “It’s easy to fall into a rut of just playing church, but when you think outside the box and realize that being a Christian is an adventure and you go deeper with God, He will surprise you.” He noted that the planners did a good job of creating an atmosphere where it was possible to go deeper in a spiritual way.

Going deeper socially was addressed in two ways;

the first was through social interaction. The opportunities for social interaction abounded, but were most evident at meal times and during speed-networking. During meals, the more extroverted singles went from table to table introducing themselves. Others simply sat with people they didn’t know.

Speed-networking, according to NAD ASAM committee member Barbara Babcock of the Pacific Union Conference, allowed everyone to meet several new people in a structured, non-threatening environment. Participants were paired, provided with suggested questions, and given five minutes to talk, but could not ask “what do you do for a living?”

Over half of the attendees participated. Some reported being apprehensive at first, concerned about the perception of dating, but in the words of Karen Brown of Patterson, N.J., the activity was an “awesome experience.” The biggest complaint, voiced by several, was that five minutes went by too quickly. While finding a mate was not the idea behind speed-networking, that possibility did exist. Trevor Schluter of Flint, Mich., and Jennifer Hicks from Trenton, N.J., met in the second session of speed-networking in 2007; this year, in September, they will be married.

The second way going deeper was addressed socially, as well as personally, was through 17 different seminars, all of which NAD

ASAM committee member Delores Richardson said were “highly relevant and acceptable to the conference attendees.” For example, Cheryl Simpson, professor of counseling and family sciences at Loma Linda University, spoke about wholeness, realities and challenges, and relational health for singles. Linda Hyder Ferry, Mihran Ask, and Ricardo J. Whyte, physicians, gave singles a glimpse into hidden addictions in the Adventist communities. Willie Oliver, NAD director of family ministries, informed the group on “Why Men Won’t Commit” and “10 Things U Need to Know B4 U Get Married.”

Richardson, who is from the Atlantic Union Conference, is in a position to know what is relevant

North American Division News

for single adults. She has been involved with NAD ASAM for many years and this year received the NAD Distinguished Service Award for her dedication and hard work.

Anyone who missed this convention, according to those who were there, also missed a great opportunity for spiritual and social blessings, not to mention a fabulous location with “a first-class facility,” the combination of which, Sorrels said, “Made you feel like you were in a special place.” Rob Dummet had a message

for those who were not in attendance. “Unless your life is 1,000 percent awesome and can’t be improved,” he said, “you should have been there.”

Perhaps some who did not attend have not yet learned what Chris Burrows of Flint, Mich., did: “how vast singleness was.” For Burrows, it was a process of “realizing that you’re a part of a much bigger thing, and people are still being supportive of the Church, and doing a lot of things in their communities,” a fact of which Church leadership is

well aware.

According to Oliver, “Single adults are a growing population integral to the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church today.” He further stated, “The body of Christ needs every organ utilized in synergy to help disciple people for the kingdom of God.” Oliver went on to explain that in holding conventions such as the one in Newport Beach, Church leadership is sending a clear message “that every member is valued in the family, and encouraged to take their rightful place

at the table.”

This message is not a one-time deal. Throughout the year, local conferences and churches plan singles events, and the next NAD gathering is already being planned for 2011. Start making plans now. Embrace your passion for life. Go deeper into your relationship with God. And don’t miss the next ASAM convention. For details on Adventist Single Adult Ministries, visit their website at <http://www.adventistsingleadultministries.org>.

—BY R. RENNAE ELLIOT



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OSHKOSH BEREAN CRUSADERS

BY COLLEEN JOHNSON

After two years of washing cars, selling Smencils, and riding two 20-mile bike-a-thons for fundraisers; after a 16-hour bus ride, the Atlanta Berean Crusaders arrived at the Courage to Stand camp site in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.



Monica Tate, drill team instructor, takes her team through their paces at the drill team competition.

The 14-foot archway flanked by two seven-foot knights, marked the entry way to the Atlanta Berean Crusaders camp site. There were gasps and grins, clapping and high-fives, as 92 travelers climbed off the buses and got into formation before Stephen Mascoe, Atlanta Berean Pathfinder director, who had arrived a few hours early to begin setting up the camp site. As he greeted the group, he pointed to the dark clouds forming miles away, and gave orders to grab tents, form groups, and commence setting up camp as planned and practiced during Pathfinder meetings.

Just when the last stake was hammered into the ground, the rain began to fall. Screams rang out, and everyone grabbed their bags and ran for cover in their assigned tents. By Tuesday morning, there were neatly lined tents as far as the eye could see, and Oshkosh was teaming with Pathfinders from as far as the tiny island of Nevis to Brazil, and as far north as Canada. It was a magnificent sight!

During the first official night, the Crusaders set out early to find a spot close to the stage for the nightly performance of Esther. Everyone made their way through thousands and

thousands of Pathfinders who also arrived early to get a good spot. The group stopped and paused to watch in astonishment as green space vanished

under an assortment of red, blue, yellow, orange, green, black, and brown tee-shirts worn by Pathfinders who spoke Spanish, French, Korean, and African dialects, among others.

The group was challenged to find a Pathfinder they did not know, and pray with them. A prayer card was initialed, and given to them so they could pass it on after praying with someone they did not know.

The group walked for miles, and stopped to admire extravagant entry ways like the large teepee marking the Oklahoma camp site. There was also the honors pavilion, which was a must-visit, as well as the obstacle course, which was so much fun it required a two-day visit.

The Double-Dutch team from Brooklyn, New York, was a virtual blur between the jump ropes. The bikers suspended in mid-air left many screaming and clapping in appreciation. Every afternoon there was a parade

representing various conferences. The international parade was a major attraction. Thousands of spectators lined the parade route.

The Pathfinders exhausted themselves in the summa-wrestling ring and at the rock-climbing walls. The one event that transcended language barriers, and drew young and old, was trading pins. Some were novices, but quickly learned the technique to a good trade and what pins were sought after the most.

One of the biggest highlights for the Crusaders was when the drill team and drum corps placed second in competitions.

One of the most remarkable memories for the counselors and parents was to see the Crusaders sit in a circle during supper with the young Pathfinders they hosted from Columbia, South America. Through gestures and broken English, they managed to laugh, pose for pictures; and trade pins, flags, and email and home addresses.

The glimmering lights of the fireworks on Saturday evening was a fitting ending to a remarkable Sabbath, with a rousing sermon from the world youth director, Baraka Muganda; and fellowshipping with old friends and family not seen for many years. The week of experiences was one many will never forget. ✨

Colleen Johnson is a counselor for the Atlanta Berean Crusaders.



Crusaders' director Stephen Mascoe prepares to lead the club in the parade.

Siembra y Cosecha

Isaac Suarez, Iglesia de Vero Beach, FL

El 28 de junio, 31 almas entregaron sus vidas al Señor dando testimonio público por medio del bautismo. Esta bendición fue el resultado de la obra del Espíritu Santo a través del trabajo misionero de los grupos celulares, las clases de instrucción bíblica para niños y adultos, de dos semanas juveniles, de un mes dedicado a los débiles en la fe, y 40 días de oración intercesora. Como culminación de esta serie de actividades, se invitó al pastor Manuel Moral a dirigir la campaña de "Poder Pentecostal" que duró 10 días, y terminó con una ceremonia bautismal.

Con estos eventos la iglesia continúa apoyado el plan de discipulado propuesto por el ministerio hispano de la asociación.

Campaña en Deltona Servicio a la Comunidad

Oliver Mastrapa, pastor del distrito

El sábado 11 de abril, coincidiendo con la apertura de las nuevas facilidades de la iglesia de Deltona, el pastor Rolando de los Ríos evangelista de la asociación, inició una semana de conferencias. La asistencia fue una bendición ya que todas las noches completaba la capacidad del templo. El miércoles de esa semana, se llevó a cabo la primera ceremonia bautismal, y muchas personas se levantaron luego del llamado a entregar sus vidas a Cristo. El sábado por la tarde, más almas dieron el paso de bautismo completando un total de 12 personas que se unieron a la iglesia como resultado de este esfuerzo, y 20 que manifestaron su deseo de hacer lo propio en un futuro cercano.

Maríel Lombardi, editora

Con el objeto de transmitir el amor de Cristo, la iglesia de West Palm Beach organizó una feria de la salud durante la temporada alta de turismo, en la que ofreció servicios gratuitos a la comunidad como examen de glucosa, de colesterol, de HIV, visión, etc.

Muchas personas que de otra forma no hubiesen sabido de la iglesia, se pusieron en contacto por este medio, y se esperan resultados de salvación.

Georgia-Cumberland Noticias

Enriquecimiento Para Parejas

Nancy Ortiz, secretaria de la presidencia de la asociación

La compañía de Chatsworth organizó seminarios para parejas, con el objetivo de ayudar a los asistentes en su búsqueda de la felicidad. El evento estuvo a cargo del pastor Neftaly Ortiz y su esposa, y contó con una asistencia de 10 parejas que renovaron sus votos matrimoniales al final del mismo.



Primeros Resultados del Ministerio Radial en Atlanta Primera

Joel Barrios, pastor del distrito

Luego de algunos meses en el aire, el programa Fuerza para Vivir en radio Luz (1190), está comenzando a arrojar los primeros resultados. Cien personas se inscribieron al programa, pagando una mensualidad para recibir CDs y libros. Se reciben donaciones para solventar esta obra, y muchos han venido a la

iglesia para participar de las reuniones. Lo que más nos ha llenado de felicidad, es que Ruth, una oyente que trabajaba en la radio, ha tomado su decisión de bautismo. Este es uno de los tantos ministerios en los que está trabajando la iglesia, y estamos agradecidos a Dios por sus bendiciones a través del mismo.



A la derecha, Ruth en sus horas de trabajo en la radio.



Ganadores del Concurso de Apocalipsis Viajan a Washington

Nancy Ortiz, secretaria de la presidencia de la asociación

Con el objeto de incrementar el conocimiento del libro de Apocalipsis en las iglesias de Georgia, el ministerio hispano de la asociación organizó un concurso sobre este libro, que canalizó a través de la Federación de Jóvenes. Al finalizar el mismo, se premió a los ganadores con un viaje a Washington DC, en el que aparte de visitar las tradicionales atracciones turísticas, se recorrieron las oficinas de la asociación general y el edificio White. Muchas otras personas se unieron a esta excursión.



En el Lugar Indicado, en el Momento Indicado

Richard Urdaneta, pastor de distrito de Knoxville, TN

Armando había sido detenido por problemas de estatus de inmigración. Su deportación estaba pedida, y tenía la última audiencia con el juez. Al llegar la hora de la misma, se presentó ante la corte pero surgió un “inconveniente”: el detective que lo había arrestado no se hizo presente, y cuando la jueza pidió información acerca de los cargos, no había nadie para acusar ni responder. Ante esta situación la magistrada se dirigió a los presentes y dijo: “no tengo tiempo para buscar el reporte. Cuando se trae un caso a corte, éste debe estar respaldado por la información necesaria, por lo tanto el señor Armando se puede ir a su casa, y yo a la mía a comer”. Así se cerró el caso ante la corte

terrenal, pero no ante la corte celestial. Aun sin recuperarse del asombro, Armando regresó a la celda para recoger sus pertenencias, y mientras recorría los pasillos escuchó a uno de los presos predicando a sus compañeros de suerte. Este hombre era Margarito, un miembro de la iglesia de Morristown, TN, quien ese mismo día había sido detenido también por problemas de inmigración. Al llegar, este hermano comenzó a extender palabras de ánimo a quienes estaban en esta deprimente situación, y el mensaje de la Palabra de Dios. Armando se detuvo a escuchar, y sintió que había encontrado el camino a todas sus respuestas y al vacío espiritual que lo había acosado por tanto tiempo.

Pidió a Margarito que le diera el teléfono de la iglesia, y esa misma semana se hizo presente. Comenzó a estudiar la Biblia, cambió totalmente sus costumbres, manera de vestirse y todo lo que lo relacionaba con su antigua vida, y solicitó ser bautizado.

El distrito de Knoxville se vio bendecido por esta experiencia en la que se pudo ver claramente que Dios dirige las circunstancias por más negras que parezcan para el bien de quienes lo buscan, y que en todo lugar debemos dar testimonio de nuestra fe.



Kentucky-Tennessee Noticias

Hermandad Comprometida

Armando de León, coordinador hispano

El pastor Alejandro Bullón tuvo una emotiva predicación en la que instó a cada hermano a traer tres almas a los pies de Jesús durante el año en curso. El salón estaba repleto, y los presentes se comprometieron con la propuesta.



South Atlantic Noticias

Congreso de Mayordomía

Lisette Rivero, los Peregrinos II, Charlotte, NC

Bajo el título “Preparados Para Servir Mejor”, se llevó a cabo un congreso de mayordomía en el hotel Patrimonio de la ciudad de Concord, del que participaron las iglesias del distrito dirigido por el pastor Juan Rivero. Se ofrecieron diferentes seminarios, y el orador principal fue el pastor Roberto Herrera, director de los departamentos de Mayordomía y Libertad religiosa de la división Inter-americana.

Caravana

Efraín Poloche, coordinador hispano

La Caravana de la Esperanza tuvo lugar desde el 29 de abril hasta el 9 de Mayo. El pastor Alejandro Bullón visitó varias iglesias de la asociación, sembrando semillas que sin lugar a dudas traerán una abundante cosecha. El sábado 2 de mayo por la mañana, dictó un seminario para los laicos en Doraville, GA. En la tarde un representante de ASI

(sigla para la organización que agrupa a los laicos adventistas propietarios de industrias y servicios) equipó los presentes con sermones en DVD y tuvo una presentación de orientación misionera.

Una gran cantidad de personas fue bautizada, y muchos escucharon por primera vez el mensaje de salvación.



Iglesia de Mount Olive empaca materiales para la Caravana

Campamento de Guías Mayores

Efraín Poloche, coordinador hispano

El fin de semana del 29 al 31 mayo se llevó a cabo el primer campamento conjunto de guías mayores del que participaron jóvenes de las asociaciones South Atlantic y Georgia-Cumberland.

El pastor Luis López quien dirige a los jóvenes y guías mayores en una de las asociaciones de Puerto Rico, fue el orador principal e instó a los líderes a ser conquistadores espirit-

uales y misioneros.

El evento fue organizado por el coordinador hispano de actividades juveniles, profesor Antonio Pereira, quien mantiene una agenda completa con reuniones de entrenamiento en especialidades, campamentos, seminarios, e investiduras en Georgia, y las dos Carolinas.



Ministerio de la Mujer

Esmeralda Guzmán, secretaria del coordinador hispano

El evento organizado para las damas que se llevó a cabo en agosto, contó con un testimonio muy especial que demostró a las asistentes el valor que Dios da a cada persona, y la fuerza que le otorga para salir adelante y servir a los que la rodean, a pesar de las circunstancias.

Hace dos años, cuando Teresa Ventos fue a Cuba a visitar a su familia, conoció a Bárbara Barroso Hernández, quien es la mujer más pequeña del mundo debido a una enfermedad que no permite el desarrollo normal de los huesos. Barbarita, como la llaman, vivía escondida de la sociedad, lamentándose por su situación hasta que conoció el amor de Dios a través de la iglesia Adventista, y sintió el valor que Él da a cada uno de sus hijos. A partir de ese momento su

vida cambió. Se convirtió en un testimonio viviente de ese amor y una líder de su iglesia. Como sólo puede asistir al templo cuando alguien la busca en bicicleta, organizó una casa culto donde reúne amigos y familiares para adorar a Dios. Su sueño era visitar los Estados Unidos. Teresa hizo los trámites para que este sueño se hiciera realidad, y así es como pudo dar su testimonio en esta reunión. Durante su charla a las hermanas, Barbarita comentó acerca de su asombro al ver la variedad de herramientas de evangelismo que existen en este país, y cómo ella se imagina usándolas en su lugar de origen para hablar de Jesús. Instó a las hermanas a salir de la tibieza y entablar una relación con Dios que las lleve a sentir fervor por las almas.



Southeastern Noticias

Prueba de Fidelidad Para Chary

Esmeralda Guzman, secretaria del coordinador hispano

Chary es una brillante alumna. Terminó sus estudios con notas sobresalientes, y como consecuencia recibió dos becas completas de instituciones educativas de renombre, más la que ofrece el estado de la Florida, "Florida Pride."

Todo marchaba como en un sueño, hasta que debió tomar el examen ACT, ya que estaba programado para un sábado. Inútiles fueron sus esfuerzos por conseguir una fecha especial. Sus familiares le aconsejaron que hiciese una excepción y que por única vez, no prestara atención a sus creencias, ya que Dios entendería. Su respuesta fue: "No iré a tomar ese examen el día sábado. Si pierdo las becas, será porque tengo que perderlas. Dios tiene poder para cambiar el resultado final,

y aún si no lo hace, permaneceré fiel."

Chary perdió las becas, y en lugar de asistir a universidades de renombre, asiste a un colegio comunitario. Tanto allí como en su iglesia, formó un grupo de oración y estudios bíblicos. Ella dice: "Me resultó muy difícil renunciar a mis becas, pero ahora veo que de no haber asistido a esta escuela, estos jóvenes no hubieran escuchado del amor de Jesús. Siento que Dios tiene un propósito en todo esto, y aunque no puedo entenderlo por completo, sé que hará lo mejor para mí y para el avance de su obra. Los tiempos en que vivimos requieren que seamos como Daniel o como Ester, manteniéndonos firmes en medio del fuego de las tribulaciones."

Increíble testimonio de fe.

A Place for Personal Petitions

BY ASHLEY BATISTE

Under the direction of Celestine Robinson, administrative assistant and student missionary director of the Office of Spiritual Life, and Rupert Bushner, chaplain, Oakwood University students now have a comfortable and quiet place in which to pray when the church is closed. The Prayer Room, located in the Office of Spiritual Life, is the first of many planned for Oakwood University's campus, and will be available to students, faculty, and staff. During certain hours of the day and evening, the Prayer Room will be open for students, faculty, and staff to sign up for the opportunity to engage in prayer for 15 minutes. The room is designed to be an intimate place where a single person can pray, or a group of four people can pray together. Although prayer is the main focus of the Prayer Room concept, it will also be a place for grieving, and by appointment with Bushner, communion. Though not yet open, a ribbon-cutting ceremony is planned and will be announced at a later date.

This is no ordinary room, but a consecrated, holy, and reverent place. While entering, one may notice a welcome sign on the door that reads, "Bless all who enter," which reminds everyone who enters that before prayer it is imperative to claim the blessing they ask for. Shoes are



Joanna Mack (left), assistant financial aid director, and senior education major LaKeisha Lowe offer prayer for the success of the new Prayer Room concept that begins on Oakwood University's campus as an attempt to offer a place of solace to faculty, staff, and students when life's journey gets challenging.

removed to show reverence, and to help adopt a mind-set of humility before entering into prayer. The warm colors, prayer stools, candles, and calm sounds of nature evoke a sense of serenity; and demand all attention be placed on Jesus Christ alone. It is a place where one can meditate on life, study God's Word, develop closeness with God, and witness the presence of God, all without distractions. The Prayer Room forces one to give up on all of the stresses of life, and simply relax in Jesus.

"Ask, seek, knock, and the door will be opened unto you," Luke 9-13, is showcased on the wall to encourage and emphasize the importance and power of prayer. A computer is also a part of the Prayer Room, where students, faculty, and staff will

be able to leave prayer requests and share answers to their prayers. It is the goal of Robinson and Bushner to have a designated time during each Tuesday's student chapel for anyone who has witnessed God's answer to their prayer to present their testimony.

When it comes to prayer, Bushner encourages everyone to remember how important it is. "The darkness of the evil one encloses those who neglect to pray. The whispered temptations of the enemy entice them to sin; and it is all because they do not make use

of the privileges that God has given them in the divine appointment of prayer. Why should the sons and daughters of God be reluctant to pray, when prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock Heaven's storehouse, where are treasured the boundless resources of Omnipotence? Without unceasing prayer and diligent watching we are in danger of growing careless and of deviating from the right path. . . ." *Steps to Christ*, page 94.

As placed on the wall of the Prayer Room, the goal is simple — "When life gets too hard to stand ... kneel." ❖

Ashley Batiste is a student writer for the Office of Public Relations at Oakwood University.

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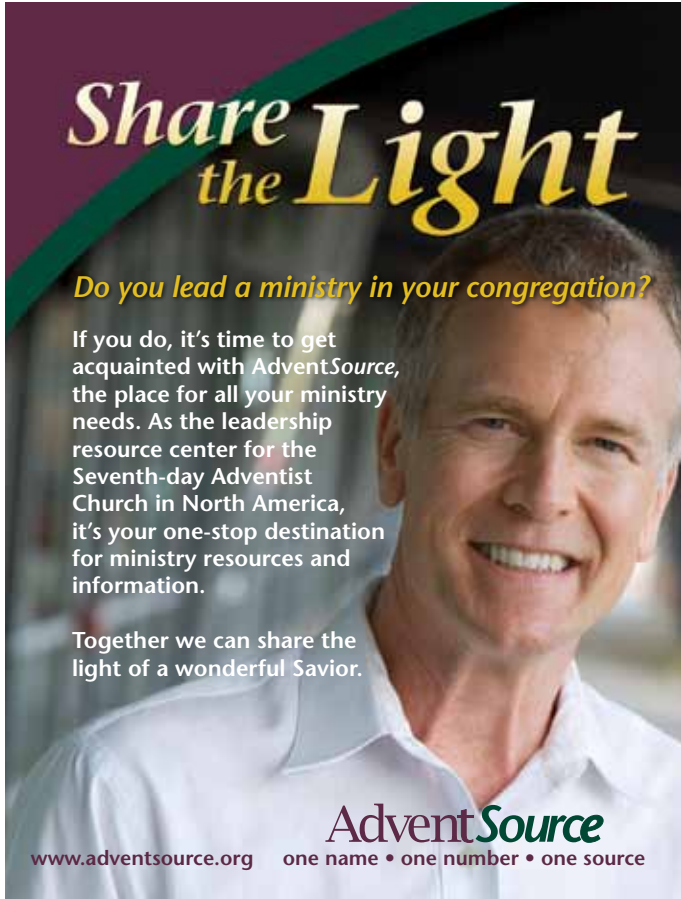
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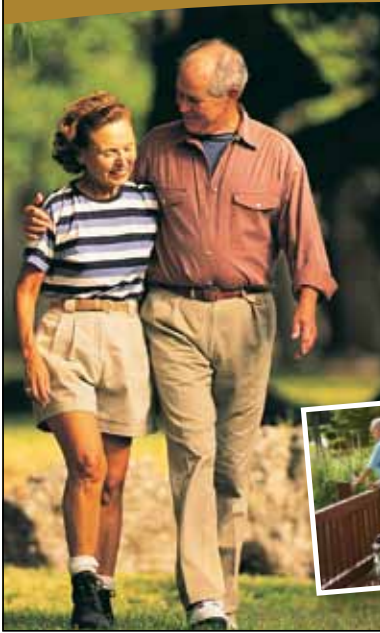
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The Board of Trust is seeking both nominations and materials from applicants for the position of President. The anticipated date of employment is July 1, 2010. Application materials will be received until December 15, 2009, with the review process beginning in January 2010. The President serves as the Chief Executive Officer and institutional leader, and will be responsible for the operation of all areas of the School. He/she reports to the Board of Trust.

Expected qualifications include: (1) an earned doctoral degree, (2) previous higher education leadership, at the executive level, as well as teaching experience/scholarship, (3) the ability to work with both internal and external constituencies which include the local medical community, health care facility administrators, and external accreditation agencies, (4) have higher education curriculum building experience, and (5) have high energy and the ability to focus and lead the institution internally. The salary will be commensurate with both experience and qualifications.

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HOME ON 1 ACRE – one level rancher in Chattanooga. 15 minutes to Southern Adventist University. \$189,000. Call Wendy Dixon, 423-883-0654, www.wendydixonhomes.com. [10]

GREAT BUILDING LOT IN COLLEGEDALE only \$28,000. Call Wendy Dixon, 423-883-0654, www.wendydixonhomes.com. [10]

ENJOY FISHING IN YOUR BACKYARD! Situated on over an acre lot that borders a private 2 acre lake. Only \$365,000. Plush, custom home built in Collegedale, one mile to

SAU. Call Wendy Dixon, 423-883-0654, www.wendydixonhomes.com. [10]

RANCH STYLE HOME IN COLLEGEDALE 3-car-garage, indoor pool, 3 bedrooms, 2.25 acres of wooded, sloping property. \$239,000. Call Wendy Dixon, 423-883-0654, www.wendydixonhomes.com. [10]

CUSTOM HOUSE, ACREAGE, NEAR SAU. Approximately six acres, picturesque 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bath, 3000 square foot house, built 2008, 18 minutes from SAU. Kitchen with granite counters, island center and bar, home has hardwood floors, crown molding and more. \$312,900. Call Vincent Lopez, Crye-Leike Realtors, 423-316-1880. [10]

FOR SALE. 2700 sq. ft. rancher with 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, great room, family room, formal dining, hardwood, 3 miles from Southern Adventist University. \$298,900. Call Bob Roach, Crye-Leike Realtors: 423-503-4196, 423-238-9090. [10]

BUYING OR SELLING PROPERTY IN TENNESSEE Collegedale, Chattanooga, Cleveland, or North Georgia? Contact Bob Roach, ABR, CRS, GRI at Crye-Leike, Realtors. Cell: 423-503-4196, Home: 423-326-0199, Office: 423-238-9090 or e-mail: bob.roach@crye-leike.com. [10-11]

TONS OF HOMES FOR SALE in Ooltewah, Collegedale, Apison at affordable prices! Now is the time to buy near SAU. Check my website at www.wendydixonhomes.com or email me at wendy.dixon@crye-leike.com for your real estate questions or interests in the Collegedale area. [10]

TENNESSEE CALLING? Moving to Highland Academy/elementary school area? I can help! Call Pat Briley, realtor, ERA Martin Realty & Auction. Cell: 615-426-2992, office: 615-325-5933, email: pbriley@realtracs.com. [10, 11]

20 MILES FROM GORDON HOSPITAL IN Calhoun, GA. Beautiful home in country. Gorgeous view of lake across street! One minute to I-75. \$149K; For more information see <http://saddlezone.com/house> or call 423-236-4637. [10]

BRAND NEW CHALET FOR RENT. Spend a weekend, spend a month! Adjacent to Wolf Laurel Ski Resort (near Asheville). Sleeps 9, fully furnished, hot tub, yards from ski lift, year-round long range views of the Smokies. Call 423-443-5808 or see www.bearsviewnc.com. [10]

CUSTOM BUILT COTTAGE, FRANKLIN, NC. 20 acres for sale by owner. Trout stream. Large garage/barn. One hour from Asheville, NC; two hours from Atlanta, GA. Ideal for individual, church group, horse farm. Beautiful views. Lower taxes. Mary Keller, 407-257-2950; 407-616-2070. For pictures, email FranklinNCProperty@gmail.com. Also available, one acre near Franklin, NC. [10]

Advertisements

FOR LEASE NEAR HUNTSVILLE ALABAMA. Furnished 3 bedrooms, 6-year-old ranch home for \$850/month. Call Pauline at 256-665-8728. [10]

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BEAUTIFUL ADVENTIST HOSPITAL located in North Georgia is seeking Board Certified/Board Eligible OBGYN. Join a highly respected, busy private practice. Excellent income guarantee. Excellent benefits. Outstanding Adventist schools within community. Southern University within a 45-minute drive. For more information contact bonnie.shadix@ahss.org,

or call 800-264-8642. www.gordonhospital.com. [10-12]

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S Department of Biology/Allied Health seeks professor for Fall 2010. Prefer Ph.D. in Biology with emphasis in Anatomy and Physiology. Desire scientist committed to involvement with undergraduate student learning and research. Desire scientist committed to involvement with undergraduate student learning and research. The successful candidate will be a member in good and regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Send CV, statement of teaching philosophy, and three references to: Keith Snyder, Chairman, Biology Search Committee, Southern Adventist University, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. Phone: 423-236-2929. Fax: 423-236-1926. Email: kasnyder@southern.edu. [10-12]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time faculty member to teach **English as a Learned Language and Basic Writing**, including intermediate and advanced reading, writing, and grammar skills. The top candidate will hold at least an M.A. in English, with emphasis on teaching English as a learned language, or, better still, a Ph.D. in linguistics. He/she will have a record of successfully teaching ELL students, will show commitment to integrating faith and learning, and will be a Seventh-day Adventist Church member in good standing. Please send CV to Jan Haluska, Chair, Department of English, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370, or haluska@southern.edu. Deadline: November 15, 2009. [10-12]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks professor in the **Mathematics Department** beginning August, 2010. Candidates will hold a doctoral degree in mathematics or mathematics education. Applicants with expertise in real analysis and/or geometry, and are qualified to direct secondary mathematics teacher education program. The successful candidate will be a member in good and regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Send letter of application, curriculum vitae (including a statement of teaching philosophy), and at least three references to Kevin Brown, Mathematics Department, Southern Adventist University, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370. [10-12]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks an instructor in the **School of Journalism & Communication** to teach public relations, advertising or new media. Candidates must have at least a master's degree, and preferably a doctorate, in the field, as well as professional

work experience. They must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in good and regular standing. Send CV to Dr. Greg Rumsey, rumsey@southern.edu, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. [10]

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY is seeking a Dean of the School of Business to serve as strategic academic leader with a zeal for enriching the lives of students academically and spiritually. Position requires a terminal degree and demonstrated success in managing and working collaboratively with others. Must be able to work effectively with faculty, other departments and external entities to meet the goals of the School. Previous teaching experience strongly preferred. WWU is a religiously qualified EOE. Employees are recruited with specific attention to their membership in the SDA Church and their commitment to SDA higher education. To learn more about this opportunity and to apply visit our website at: <http://jobs.wallawalla.edu>. [10, 11]

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BOOKS – More than 250,000 new and used Adventist books in stock at www.LNFBooks.com. Looking for a publisher? Free review of your manuscript. Call 1-800-367-1844 or visit www.TeachServices.com. [10-9]

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ADVENTIST SATELLITE SYSTEMS. For installation in the Atlanta area, call Kaz Sanocki, 404-791-3093. [10]

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MISCELLANEOUS

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NEWSTART LIFESTYLE PROGRAM at Weimar Institute of Health & Education: Our 18-day NEWSTART Lifestyle Program reduces the risk of and reverses obesity, high cholesterol, hypertension, diabetes, neuropathy, heart disease, fibromyalgia, stress & other degenerative diseases. For more information, call 800-525-9192 now! Read testimonies on our website: www.newstart.com. [10-1]

WILDWOOD MEDICAL MISSIONARY TRAINING. Intensive 26-day course combining

Bible and Health Classes. Dates: Oct. 27-Nov. 22, 2009. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Tuition, room, and board: \$825. For more information: Lew Keith 931-724-6706, lykeith@gmail.com, Internet: www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org. [10]

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BLUE CREEK CABINS EVENT HALL IN NORTH GA. The perfect gathering place for all types of occasions: weddings, receptions, reunions, church retreats, family gatherings or other events. It features a large presentation screen and a PA system. For more information visit www.bluecreekcabins.com or call 706-865-0503. [10]

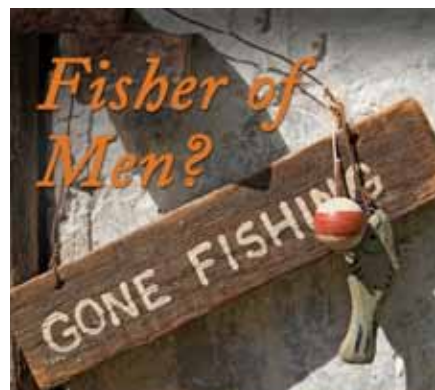
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SEE YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK in winter with skilled SDA snowmobile guides! Experience pristine beauty and amazing animals! Enjoy good fellowship, inspiring devotions, deluxe accommodations, and fine cuisine. Don't miss this unique experience – the only snowmobile tours traveling throughout Yellowstone Park. Limited openings for January 2010. Call John at 509-235-8531 (pacific time). [10]

RAIN FOREST & PANAMA CANAL CRUISE with Christian Group. December 10-20, 2009. New MSC Poesia Ship: George Town, Grand Cayman; Cartagena, Columbia; Cristobal, Panama, Panama Canal; Puerto Limon, Costa Rica; Playa Del Carmen, Mexico. Bob & Kathie Foll, 863-453-7196 or bobkatfoll@embarqmail.com. [10]

OGDEN ADVENTIST TOURS. Springtime in the Netherlands, Belgium and France, April 18-May 6, 2010. Includes tulip-time in Holland; historic Brugge, Belgium; the French Normandy Coast, Mont-St-Michel, and Paris. Contact Merlene Ogden, 269-471-3781, ogden@andrews.edu or Judy Zimmerman 269-471-7004, zim41634@aol.com. [10]

VACATION ON KAUAI, HAWAII - "THE GARDEN ISLAND" – Kahili Mountain Park is a scenic mountain getaway located at the base of Kahili Ridge. Just minutes from popular Kauai attractions, the park has an assortment of 1-4 room cabins with sleeping for 2-6 persons. See pictures and rates at www.kahilipark.org. Info: info@kahilipark.org or 808-742-9921. [10-6]



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Events Calendar

Carolina

Eastern Carolina Camp Meeting – Oct. 16-18. Oak Island, NC.
Hispanic Men's Retreat – Oct. 23-25. NPR.
Couples at the Beach – Oct. 30-Nov. 1. Myrtle Beach, SC.
Men's Ministries Convention – Oct. 30-Nov. 1, NPR.
Community Service Workshop – Nov. 13-15. NPR.

Florida

Complete calendar online – <http://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@gmail.com, or 386-789-3235.
North Florida Oakwood University Alumni Chapter – membership information and event listings for Oakwood alumni in Florida. Details: <http://www.oakwoodalumniinf.org/>, oakwoodalumniinf@gmail.com, 888-719-7776, or 904-616-1896.
Florida Hospital DeLand Support Groups – Florida Hospital DeLand offers a variety of support groups. Details available under the "Support Groups" link in the "Patients and Visitors" box at <http://www.fhdeland.org/>.
Evangelism Series
 Nov. 7-14. Hialeah Spanish/ Miami Springs Spanish. Rolando and Rebeca de los Ríos.
Planned Giving Clinics and Seminars
 Oct. 24. Palm Coast Portuguese in Bunnell.
 Nov. 7. Lake Placid.
 Nov. 14-15. Daytona Beach.
Florida Adventist Book Center – Winter Park: new national toll-free number, 877-55-FLABC (877-553-5222). 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

Oct. 24. Jacksonville Southpoint.
 Oct. 25. Jacksonville First, Orange Cove, St. Augustine, Palatka, Palm Coast, New Smyrna Beach. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)
 Oct. 31. West Palm Beach.
 Nov. 1. Midport Road in Port St. Lucie, Ft. Pierce, Cocoa, Titusville. (Southeastern Conference: Port St. Lucie, Palm Bay.)
 Nov. 7. Maranatha in Miami.
 Nov. 8. Ft. Lauderdale, Lauderdale, Pompano Beach, West Palm Beach Spanish, Jupiter-Tequesta.
 Nov. 14. St. Petersburg.
 Nov. 15. Clearwater, New Port Richey, Spring Hill, Brooksville, East Pasco in Zephyrhills, Plant City.
 Dec. 5. Port Charlotte.
 Dec. 6. North Port, Venice-Nokomis, Sarasota, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.
Singles' Ministries Annual New Year's Retreat – Dec. 30-Jan. 3. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: <http://www.asamcf.org/>, djmiller4000@gmail.com, or 386-789-3235.

Georgia-Cumberland

Complete calendar online – www.gccsda.com
Health Rallies
 Nov. 7. Smoky Mountain Church, Sevierville, TN.
Men's Congress – Oct. 16, 17. Cohutta Springs.
Pathfinders Fellowship Events
 Oct. 16-18.
 Oct. 23-25.
Northeast Tennessee Women's Conference – Oct. 17.
Un Nuevo Dia – Reunion de Demas – Oct. 17. Sur de Georgia.
Fall Break (No School) – Oct. 23.
Jovenes Makeover 2009 – Oct. 23-25. Cohutta Springs.
Creation Sabbath – Oct. 24.
Pathfinders Teen Challenge – Nov. 6-8.
K.I.D. University – Nov. 8-11. Collegedale, TN.
Marriage Conference – Nov. 13-15. Rome, GA.

Prayer Ministries – Nov. 14.
Personal Ministries Training – Nov. 21. Murphy, NC.

Gulf States

Complete Calendar online <http://www.gcsda.org>
Pathfinder Camporee – Oct. 15-18. Camp Alamisco.
Marriage Enrichment Weekend (celebrating the year of the family) – Oct. 23-25. Embassy Suites, Montgomery, AL. Motivational speaker Joel Kibble of Take 6 will address marriage and family issues. Registration open now through Oct. 9. Details: 850-774-8644.
Conference Executive Committee – Oct. 20. Montgomery.
Elders' Certification Training – Nov. 6-8. Camp Alamisco.
Teen Rock Climbing Invitational – Nov. 6-8. Details: Call Conference Youth Dept.
Celebrating 10,000 Plus Members – Nov. 14. Birmingham, AL. Speaker: Gordon Retzer.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Conference Association Board
 Dec. 1. Jan. 12.
 March 16. May 4.
Conference Executive Committee
 Dec. 1. Jan. 12.
 March 16. May 4.

Southern Adventist University

Preview Southern – Oct. 8, 9.
SEYC Weekend – Oct. 9, 10.
Organ/Symphony Orchestra Concert – Oct. 11.

Wind Symphony Concert – Oct. 18.
Midterm Break – Oct. 22-25.
Alumni Homecoming – Oct. 29-Nov. 1.

Announcements

Adventist Attorneys and Law Students: Membership in the Southern Society of Adventist Attorneys is open to all Seventh-day Adventist Attorneys and Law Students. For membership enrollment and additional information, please contact: Southern Society of Adventist Attorneys, PO Box 849, Decatur GA 30031-0849.

Invitation to Teach in Thailand: Missionary teachers needed to serve God in the wonderful country of Thailand. Please answer God's call! Matthew 9: 37-38. Details: kpergerson@yahoo.com

Madison Academy Alumni Homecoming Weekend – Oct. 9, 10. Honor classes: 1934, 1939, 1944, and every 5th consecutive year through 2004. Details: www.madisonacademyalumni.com

Oak Park Academy Alumni Homecoming – Oct. 9, 10. Gates Hall in Nevada, IA. Honor classes: 1934, 1939, 1944, 1949, 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1981, 1982, 1983. Details: www.OPAinIowa.com

Sunset

	Oct. 2	Oct. 9	Oct. 16	Oct. 23	Oct. 30	Nov. 6
Atlanta, GA	7:20	7:11	7:02	6:54	6:47	5:41
Charleston, SC	7:03	6:54	6:45	6:37	6:30	5:24
Charlotte, NC	7:05	6:56	6:46	6:38	6:30	5:24
Collegedale, TN	7:22	7:13	7:03	6:55	6:48	5:41
Huntsville, AL	6:23	6:19	6:10	6:02	5:54	4:48
Jackson, MS	6:44	6:35	6:27	6:19	6:12	5:06
Louisville, KY	7:24	7:13	7:03	6:54	6:45	5:38
Memphis, TN	6:42	6:32	6:23	6:15	6:07	5:01
Miami, FL	7:06	6:59	6:52	6:46	6:40	5:36
Montgomery, AL	6:28	6:19	6:11	6:03	5:56	4:50
Nashville, TN	6:29	6:19	6:09	6:01	5:43	4:46
Orlando, FL	7:10	7:02	6:54	6:48	6:42	5:37
Wilmington, NC	6:54	6:45	6:36	6:28	6:20	5:14

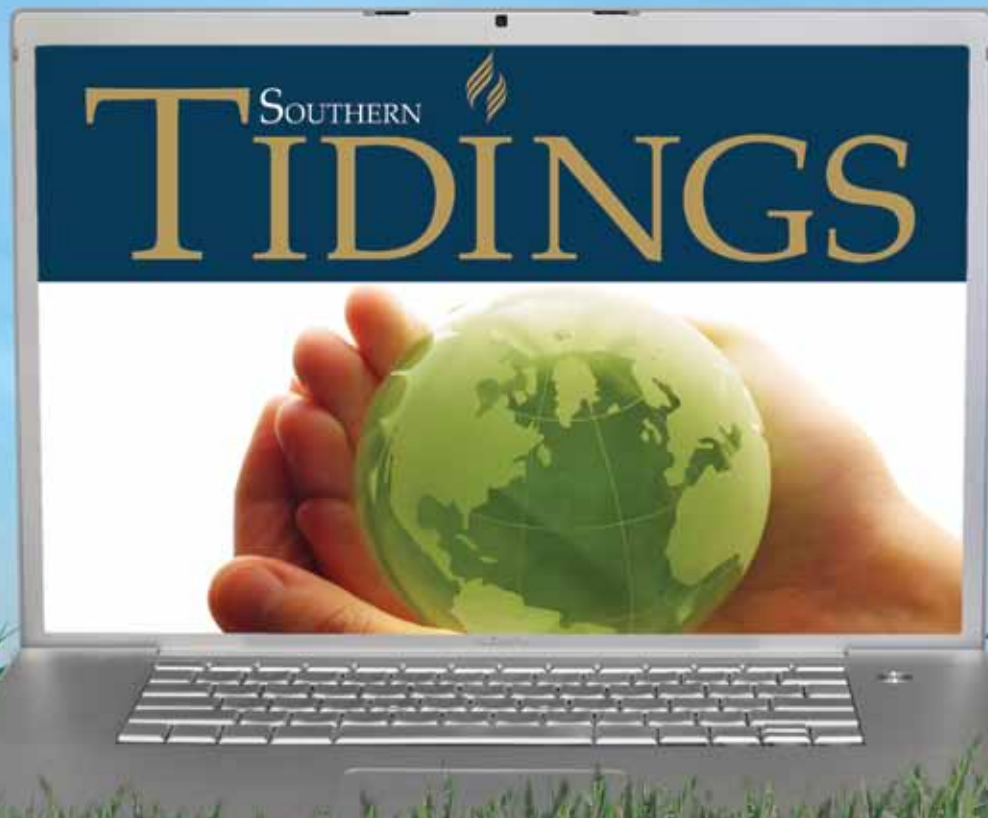
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