

March 2010



T SOUTHERN

# TIDINGS

A photograph of a man and a woman dressed in white robes, standing in front of a light-colored wall with green tiles at the bottom. The woman, on the left, is holding a small white object in her hands. The man, on the right, has his right arm raised high and is smiling. The text 'Lift Up the Trumpet ... Jesus is Coming Again' is overlaid at the bottom of the image.

Lift Up the Trumpet ...  
Jesus is Coming Again

# Survival

Everywhere we face the provision for escape. The instinct to be saved is deep-rooted. Everyone has the desire for survival. So industry, research, medicine, government, and homeland security occupy themselves with salvation. I've noticed that quite a bit lately.

I sense there is a search for this today. More and more the question arises, "How can I survive?" You ask yourself, "How will this world end? Will we perish in the throes of nuclear holocaust, biological warfare, or other weapons of mass destruction?" and, "What one more act of godlessness must precipitate wrath? With less and less fear of God, everyone lives on the thin edge with an intuitive reflex. Can they get away with it?"

It makes me think of Noah and the Ark again. It is a long, long way back, but conditions have been brought forward with such an alarming similarity that one has to think in those terms.

It does us well to remember what Noah constructed was not a ship. It was not meant to be a ship. It had neither sails, nor steering gear, nor rudder. It was purely a "float" — a magnified and enclosed raft, made solely for the purpose, by floating, of preserving life until it again touched land. The Ark was big — approximately a tonnage of 32,000 in size. The storage capacity was immense.

The Ark is one of God's greatest illustrated sermons. It says everything that needs to be said in simple, plain, understandable language. This story tells us absolutely what salvation means.

The Ark was a miniature world floating safely through worldwide judgment to a new Earth.

Remember! No boat ever weathered such punishment. The fury of Heaven was unleashed. An avalanche of water fell. Ocean caverns were rocked by an earthquake. The picture Noah saw in vision, before he constructed the Ark, was enough to make a brave man tremble. Hungry floods searched relentlessly for the sinner! The force of it was directed toward the Ark itself. It tore at it. It tested it. The full revelation of wrath could not discover one weakness.

Either inside the Ark I have passed through judgment, or outside the Ark I must face it all alone. One provision guarantees safety — the design of God. It only is storm proof.

The year 2010 represents days that remind you of Noah's generation. There is a commitment to infidelity and iniquity. What makes international leaders turn from physical and material cleanliness to filth and excrement? What makes them turn from natural beauty to exhibitions of ugliness? What makes them turn from a commitment to peace to trauma and terrorism? These are directions which violate human instinct. Christ said there would be a generation like that. "And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man" Luke 17:26, KJV. What kind of days were they? "Every imagination of the thoughts . . . was only evil continually" Genesis 6:5, KJV.

The Ark had but one door. No picture develops the truth more clearly. Christ said, "I Am the door." He said, "By Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved" John 10:9, KJV.

The Ark had one window. It looked upward, heavenward. That is the way to survival. If you are not "caught up," you will surely be caught in the fear of this world's trauma.



**Ron Smith, D.Min., Ph.D.**  
*Southern Union*  
*Executive Secretary*

*Guest Editorial*

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Cover Caption: The year 2009 is the best year ever for evangelizing in the Southern Union. Carlton Byrd, D.Min., Atlanta-Berean Church senior pastor, and his team of workers, led the Conferences, the Southern Union, and the North American Division in baptisms in 2009. In this photo, Byrd baptizes Taj-ma Smith at Atlanta-Berean Church.



# LIFT UP THE TRUMPET... JESUS IS COMING AGAIN

By Dennis and Jacquelyn Ross



The year 2009 was an historic one for the Southern Union territory. Through God's amazing grace, the Southern Union found that the spirit of evangelism is still alive and well. As history was made, His Story was told over and over again.

Up and down the southeast corridors, all along the gulf coast, from the Mississippi Delta to the smoky mountains of Tennessee, the call was made. From Key West, Florida, to the heart of Atlanta, Georgia, the trumpet was sounding with power and enthusiasm. Through the Spirit of God, 11,066 individuals answered this great call.

This historic year was made possible through the efforts of our Union, Conference officers, directors, pastors, and most importantly, the members of the Southern Union churches. The following are reports from each Conference.

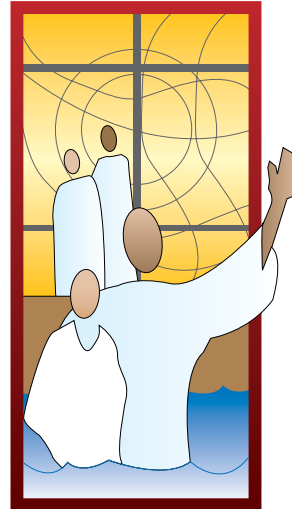
### Carolina Conference

Haskell Williams, Carolina ministerial director, stated, "2009 was the best year Carolina Conference has ever experienced in soul-winning, both in persons added to Christ's Kingdom, and the number of meetings held. Pastors, laymen, and Conference leaders alike joined in the shared privilege of proclaiming the Gospel publicly. We are thankful for what God has accomplished." He said that they are praying and planning to reach out again until every person has had an opportunity to hear about and accept eternity with Christ.

### Florida Conference

The Conference has embraced wholeheartedly the small group concept, and these groups are multiplying all over the state of Florida, especially south Florida. One lay pastor has developed 25 small groups. They are making

2009 Year of Pastor / Lay  
**EVANGELISM**



**Each One Reach One**  
SOUTHERN UNION



*Alan Parker, D.Th., preaches in Riley Center, Meridian, Mississippi.*





*Carlton Byrd, D.Min., preaches to the waiting candidates during the 2009 summer "Revelation Countdown" revival.*

disciples. Rudy, a young man, gave his life to Jesus, came to church, was baptized, and started a group in his neighborhood. Most of his family is now attending church. He has multiplied his group into several. This is not an isolated case, according to Abel Paulin, Florida Conference Hispanic director. Evangelism was making one small group after another, making disciples, and scores of individuals were baptized.

One evangelist on the west coast of Florida was teaching, preaching, and baptizing dozens and dozens of people, when his wife suffered a stroke in the middle of the year of evangelism. They had meetings planned, and

she told her husband, "Don't cancel the meetings. God wants us there. I still have a right hand, and I can still mix the videos." She was right; scores more were baptized, and she is doing well.

The pastors in the Broward County area have been so ignited by the Spirit of God that they want to birth 15 churches in two years.

Gerson Santos, Florida evangelism coordinator, also shared a marvelous report about Key West, southernmost tip of Florida: "By God's grace, men and women came into their fellowship looking for Jesus, and found Him. Their planning paled in comparison to what the Holy Spirit did without much help from them, and they were amazed as men, women, boys, and girls became disciples for Jesus." Santos rejoiced as he saw families and children get excited about sharing the love of Jesus, attend discipleship retreats, and return home on fire for evangelism. Some started small groups in their homes. More than 150 reaping meetings were held, and thousands gave their lives to Jesus.

## Southern Union Baptisms

Year	Baptisms/Professions of Faith
2005	8,000
2006	8,793
2007	8,918
2008	8,840
2009	11,066
<i>An increase of 2,226</i>	

### Georgia-Cumberland Conference

The concept of evangelism as a process, rather than an event, is embraced by Georgia-Cumberland. Greater Atlanta Church has put this idea in practice. After several years of building loving relationships, the church started to see family members come to Jesus. Recently, the sister of one of the baptized members finally made her stand for the Lord. It was five years earlier when she made the statement, "You will never get me to join that church." She joined. The process is ongoing, and if we are faithful, the fruit will come. David Penno, Ph.D., Georgia-Cumberland evangelism director, is committed to the process of seeking the lost.

### Gulf States Conference

Don Shelton, Gulf States ministerial director and evangelism coordinator, stated, "2009 was the greatest year in evangelism, as hundreds of souls were baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. All of the pastors contributed to this record-breaking total. The Southern Union Field School of Evangelism was a good part of this success; however, our pastoral team, church members, Spanish Youth Federation, all united under one banner and went forth like a mighty army, each in their own place. There were personal Bible studies, ShareHim series, the Spanish work, and much prayer — all were key ingredients in making this year of evangelism monumental for the Conference. Our goal is to see newly baptized members become disciples and well-connected to Jesus and the Church, as we love and care for them."

### Kentucky-Tennessee Conference

David Hartman, Kentucky-Tennessee ministerial director, was moved by the work that the youth did. This is just an example of the enthusiasm for souls in Kentucky-Tennessee, and the

wonderful experience with the youth. Twenty-four students from Memphis Junior Academy in Tennessee, ranging in ages from 10 to 15, conducted a four-week Share the Hope evangelistic initiative, entitled "eXtreme Faith."

This month, the students at Louisville Junior Academy in Kentucky, will conduct a youth-led evangelistic series. They will follow up on more than 1,000 Bible-study interests that were generated from a recent Generation of Youth for Christ (GYC) emphasis during New Year's weekend.

### South Atlantic Conference

Lawrence Hamilton, South Atlantic ministerial director, states, "There is so much to tell." The Conference had a tremendously productive year in soul-winning. Hamilton highlighted a young pastor in Georgetown, North Carolina, who turned the little town upside down for Jesus. Aalyiah Pyatt was 11 years old when she first came to the Georgetown meeting, heard the voice of Jesus calling her, and obeyed. This happened in the summer of 2008. From that meeting, the Georgetown Church began.



*In June 2009, as a result of the one-week "Orangeburg on Fire" revival during South Atlantic's Camp Meeting in Orangeburg, South Carolina, with speaker Carlton Byrd, D.Min., 123 individuals were baptized at the end of the week.*



*To facilitate baptizing 123 candidates, two swimming pools were used, along with the camp ground pavillion's baptistry. Pastors and laypersons assisted in the service.*



Subsequent to that meeting, Pyatt began working on her family. The Sunday after her baptism, her 17-year-old sister was baptized, and three months later her 14-year-old sister was baptized. She kept praying and working, and as the year of evangelism was ushered in, her mother was baptized; and, on February 20, 2010, her father was baptized. During 2009, Pyatt's grandparents started coming to church, along with two aunts and three cousins, who attend church faithfully. Hamilton praises God for the rich harvest of souls that God has brought into His Kingdom.

William Winston, South Atlantic executive secretary, shared an additional report:



*Miguel Tirado, pastor of the Hispanic churches in Marietta and Canton, Ga., baptizes Robin Alfredo Velazquez.*

The South Atlantic Conference took the "Year of Evangelism" to heart in 2009. Administrators, pastors, departmental directors, laymen, teachers, and students partnered in 84 evangelistic meet-

ings, which resulted in many new members added to the family of God. The New Year, 2010, and the anticipation of the General Conference Session in Atlanta this year, have helped to heighten the evangelistic spirit.

Carlton P. Byrd, D.Min., Atlanta-Berean Church senior pastor, and his team of workers, led the Conference, the Southern Union, and the North American Division in baptisms in 2009. Additionally, Byrd led a team of pastors and Bible counselors in a one-week evangelistic series in Orangeburg, South Carolina, entitled, "Orangeburg on Fire!" It was held during South Atlantic's Camp Meeting, June 7-13, 2009, which harvested additional baptisms.

Good News Atlanta, a partnership between the South Atlantic and Georgia-Cumberland conferences, has planned a city-wide evangelistic thrust one week prior to the General Conference Session. Calvin Watkins, South Atlantic personal ministries/inner city director, will lead out in this initiative. All of the pastors and churches in the



*Twenty-four students from Memphis Junior Academy in Tennessee, ranging in ages from 10 to 15, conducted a four-week Share the Hope evangelistic initiative, entitled "eXtreme Faith."*



Atlanta-metro area will participate in this massive endeavor. There will be English and Spanish-language meetings running simultaneously. It promises to be an event like none Atlanta has ever seen!

### **South Central Conference**

Alfred Miller, South Central evangelism coordinator, reports that through the agent of the Holy Spirit, a woman who was a member of a 5,000-membership church came to a knowledge of this blessed truth, and she shared, "The message caught my absolute atten-

tion, not the music, not anything else, but the message of Jesus' soon coming arrested me because I want to be saved."

### **Southeastern Conference**

Milton Sterling, Southeastern ministerial director, had an historic soul-winning year. Men, women, boys, and girls from everywhere heard that "Jesus is Coming Again." From south Florida, to central and the west coast of Florida, and south Georgia, the proclamation was given by pastors, evangelists, and women's ministries leaders, who

had 17 evangelistic meetings. Hundreds and hundreds of individuals came to the baptismal pool to be baptized.

Let's continue to lift up the trumpet during 2010 and 2011, until Jesus comes again!

*Dennis Ross is Southern Union ministerial director, evangelism coordinator, and global missions director. Jacquelyn Ross is Southern Union ministerial and evangelism associate director.*

# FALLEN TRUMPETEERS

In 2009, the Southern Union lost three outstanding evangelists: Earl E. Cleveland, Jim Cress, and Harmon Brownlow.

Earl E. Cleveland, for the past 60 years, has preached the Gospel not only in North America, but around the world. His legacy will no doubt last for several generations, and be told over and over again.

Cleveland began his ministry in the Southern Union, baptizing thousands in the many campaigns he held in major cities. One meeting was held in 1954, in Montgomery, Alabama, where more than 400 individuals were baptized — a tribute to what God can do when we dedicate our life to His service, and allow the Holy Spirit to use us for His glory.



*James Cress*

James Cress began his ministry in the Southern Union. He was not only an evangelist in his own right, but a caring pastor. He loved the Church and the people to whom he ministered.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church recognized the many gifts that Cress was blessed with, and invited him to become the ministerial director for the world Church. In this role, he was able to help train thousands of pastors around the world. His passion for ministry and the preaching of the Gospel was so strong that it was hard to slow him down. He is greatly missed, but will always be in our hearts.

Harmon Brownlow began his ministry in 1953 in Greenville, South Carolina, after graduating from Southern Adventist University (formerly Southern Missionary College). Not only was he called to the Gospel ministry, he was called to be an evangelist. His love for evangelism burned brightly, and many individuals came to know Jesus through His ministry. Even after retirement, he continued evangelizing and leading people to Christ, and organizing churches. He and his wife, Margaret, established a ministerial scholarship fund at Southern Adventist University to help train young men and women for ministry.



*Earl E. Cleveland*



*Harmon Brownlow*

# EVANGELISM PREPARES THE WAY

BY RALPH RINGER

The Southern Union Southern Adventist University Field School will be an evangelistic prelude to the General Conference Session, June 23-July 3, 2010. The field school will be May 14 to June 13, and 15 Atlanta-area churches will host the meetings. The Atlanta North Church will host the main site, with Ralph Ringer, Southern Union director of church growth and evangelism training, as speaker, and music by Charles Hauga-brooks. Additionally, 17 theology students from Southern Adventist University will be the speakers for the other 14 Atlanta-area churches. Alan Parker, D.Th., evangelism professor at Southern, will oversee the students in conjunction with the local pastors.

The field school uses a format of having every theology student preach an evangelistic series in the community before they graduate. They take evangelistic preaching classes before field school, so they are prepared.

The meetings in Atlanta will be held four days a week, Thursday through Sunday. There will

also be classes for the students on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday until noon. On Wednesday night, the students will listen to the sermon at the main site. This is the same sermon they will preach on Thursday night. Alan Parker, D.Th., Ralph Ringer, David Penno, Ph.D., and Joe Cirigliano will team-teach the classes. Mark Finley, General Conference vice president, will finish the field school, June 14-18, with some of the Oakwood University students joining them.

Finley will have meetings in the Georgia Dome, June 16-18, as a conclusion to field school, ShareHim, and many other meetings around the Atlanta area. At the same time Alejandro Bullón will conduct Hispanic meetings in the Georgia Dome. The culmination will be a baptism at the Georgia Dome on June 18. All of these meetings are part of the Good News Atlanta endeavor, a joint effort of the Georgia-Cumberland and South Atlantic conferences to bring the Gospel to everyone in the greater Atlanta area.

## FALLING IN LOVE WITH JESUS

BY CARLOS CIRILO, STUDENT  
EVANGELIST '09

"I have several experiences while participating in this field school, but one that sticks out the most is one that happened yesterday. I talked to a young lady that has been receiving Bible studies from one of the church members, and after asking her what she had studied so far, she proceeded to tell me. She was so excited about everything she has been learning, all these truths that are so new to her but so 'old' to me. I could tell that she was going through that 'first love experience,' and I was so happy to see how happy she was learning and studying more about the Bible.

That has to be my favorite part of doing evangelism, is to see people fall in love with Jesus and the Bible. It makes all the challenges and difficulties worth going through. And, it reminds me that we need to constantly pray for that first love experience on a regular basis."



# SEYC TO HOLD STUDENT EVANGELISM TRAINING

The South East Youth Conference (SEYC) will hold a student summer evangelism training program in Atlanta, Georgia, at Atlanta North Church from May 10 to June 13, 2010.

SEYC will hold a five-week summer evangelism training program for non-theology students. The program will provide students an intensive evangelism training

experience, emphasizing personal and public evangelism.

**Pre-training:** Participants will attend training the week before the field school begins, and also help with invitations to the evangelistic meetings.

**Classes:** During the field school, participants will attend field school classes on Tuesday to Thursday mornings, and in the

afternoons have separate classes focusing on Christian witnessing, Bible work, and other personal-evangelism skills

**Practical experience:** Participants will attend an evangelistic meeting site in the evenings to help with the meetings, meet contacts, help with visitation of attendees, etc.



*Ralph Ringer (right) stands with the Southern Union Southern Adventist University 2009 field school team in Meridian, Mississippi.*



*Charles Haugabrooks sings at the 2009 field school.*

## HOST CHURCHES

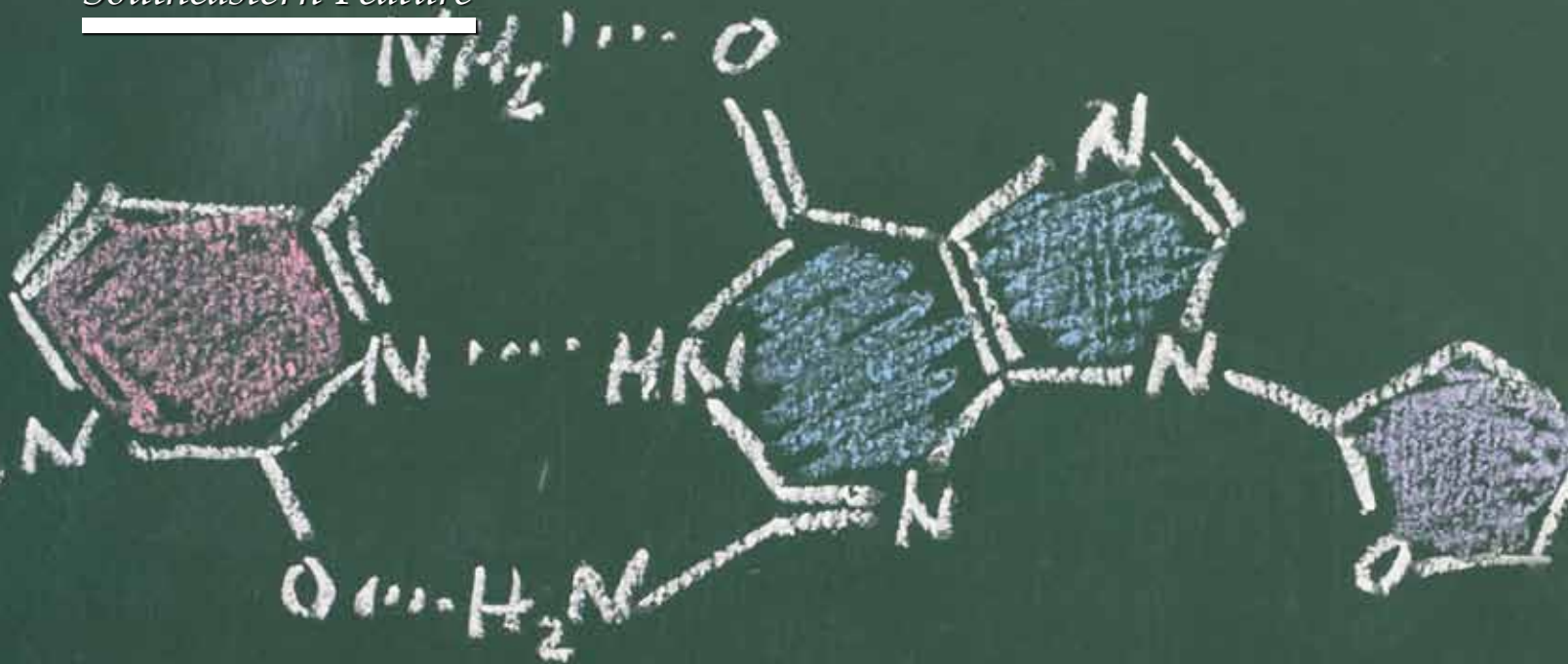
Acworth Hispanic	Duluth
Atlanta Metropolitan	Gainesville
Atlanta North	Hilltop (Griffin)
Atlanta Southside	Marietta Hispanic
Auburn	Thomaston
Austell (Grandview)	
Buford Family Church	
Canton Hispanic	
Conyers	
Douglasville	

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Pray
- Get involved in the pre-work of one of these churches
- Bring family and friends to the meetings
- Invite people to the meetings
- Attend as many meetings as you can
- Make friends with those attending
- Be part of the evangelistic team
- Help the pastor in the follow-up



*Jose Monzon, student evangelist*



# STRETCHING MINDS TO NEW DIMENSIONS

BY ROBERT HENLEY

With excitement, Belicia Gayle, an eighth grade student at Perrine SDA School, presented her science fair project to the judges during the first Southeastern Conference-wide Science Fair. Gayle's father has diabetes, and was not convinced that his diet, which included large portions of fruit, was the best for him. Thus, Gayle wanted to study the sugar content found in fruit served daily in many U.S. homes. Armed with her results, she was able to develop a diet that was low in sugar.

It is this type of ingenuity that Tamara Bowden, Conference resource teacher, wants to awaken in



*Students are having fun dissecting a frog during the hands-on section of the Science Fair.*

every student who attends a Conference school. Three years ago, her had a desire to see a Conference-wide science fair. Bowden's team includes Toni Drummond, Mt. Sinai

Junior Academy principal, Orlando, Florida; Pat Goffe, Ephesus Junior Academy teacher, Jacksonville, Florida; and Tiffany McNealy, Mt. Olivet SDA School teacher, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Conducting a science fair is one thing, conducting a Conference-wide science fair is quite another. Bowden began by conducting a science fair at Mt. Sinai Junior Academy, where she is assigned. The fair was a success. After the experience of running

that fair, she set her sights on a Conference-wide fair.

Bowden's dream was realized earlier this year when the first



Conference-wide Science Fair was held at the Ft. Lauderdale Science Museum. The two-day event began with museum instructors conducting science camp-like activities for the students, which included an overnight stay. The second day of the event featured the science competition, followed by an awards ceremony. Representatives from each of the 15 Conference schools participated in the event, which proved to be a tremendous success.

Bowden's recipe for a successful science fair: hands-on booths where everyone can enjoy science (edible and non-edible objects), a science show (where a presenter teaches science in a fun way), a project showcase (student work should be placed on decorated tables), and the inclusion of local community colleges instructors and science professionals for the students to interact with.

Bowden added an interesting twist to Southeastern's Science Fair. In addition to providing a real world connection, each student had to display a spiritual connection with their project. "The spiritual application dealt with how their experiments related to biblical concepts and stories," states Bowden. "Many may not think that is a huge addition, but on the elementary level, this allowed for students to connect their project to something real, and be able to use it as a witnessing tool. From kindergarten to eighth grade, this was the most exciting part of the project for me. It's easy to look up an experiment or test something out, but we know you truly understood it when you can connect it in these different ways."

According to Kenneth Lahing, Ph.D., chairman of Oakwood University chemistry department, "Students that don't receive a positive science experience in school by the fifth grade tend to avoid pursuing careers in the sciences," a trend that Bowden wants to reverse.

Six years ago, Bowden, who has a degree in biochemistry from Oakwood University, and has worked at a pharmaceutical com-

pany, was hired with the mandate of improving the quality of science education in Southeastern. The science fair represents the latest of several initiatives that Bowden has put into place.

She began her task of transforming science education in Southeastern by developing a monthly science newsletter that is designed to expose the students to science. The newsletter is full of science activities and profiles of individuals working in the science industry.

Her next initiative dealt with improving science education in the classroom. Science education in Adventist elementary schools face many challenges that often make it difficult to establish science education programs full of all the bells and whistles that are found in Adventist high schools. One such challenge is the absence of a dedicated science instructor. The other hurdle is the lack of a fully-featured science lab.

Due to the size of the majority of Adventist elementary schools, it is cost-prohibitive to employ an instructor that is dedicated to teach-



*A lab instructor at the Science Museum displays a snake that the students can interact with.*



*Belicia Gayle stands next to her project while it is being reviewed by a judge.*



*Tamara Bowden, Conference resource teacher, demonstrates how to dissect a frog with two young students.*

ing just science. That responsibility falls to the grade teacher who possesses a degree in elementary education. While these teachers do teach science in elementary schools, it is often not their area of expertise (usually it is language arts).



Every student who won their category received a lab coat with their name on it. During the awards ceremony Jarod McCullough received his lab coat from Elisa Young (from right), Conference superintendent; Tamara Bowden, Conference resource teacher; and Pat Goffe, Ephesus Junior Academy teacher, Jacksonville, Florida.



Belicia Gayle receives her trophy and lab coat during the awards ceremony. Pictured with her is Elisa Young (left), Conference superintendent, and her principal, Rosalee Carter.



Tamara Bowden (center) thanks her team for a job well done: Toni Drummond (left); Carol Byrd, Conference associate superintendent; Tiffany McNealy; and Pat Goffe.

Bowden felt that it was important to provide science education training for the teachers. To that end, she has conducted workshops

for science education during teacher in-service training programs. This summer she will be conducting a four-day science workshop for teachers. "We will take the textbook and do the experiments together," says Bowden.

Bowden is not done dreaming. She is currently dissecting the textbook, with the purpose of developing supplemental experiments for each unit that students will enjoy and love. She adds, "Sometimes the experiments in the books don't relate to the youth of today. They want something fun and mind-grabbing. I would also like to provide homework-type experiments teachers can give students to do at home. This will allow them to experience science in their own environment with their family."

Bowden is passionate about transforming science education in Southeastern. She is indeed stretching the minds of Southeastern students to new dimensions. "This year Southeastern's Office of Education continues to develop programs that will motivate our students towards excellence in science and math. We encourage

students to be thinkers and not mere reflectors of other men's thoughts. Science and math play a vital role in our everyday lives, and are directly correlated to the country's ability to successfully compete, prosper, and be secure in the world today. We want our students to believe they are creative and can bring bright ideas to these critical fields."

## Science Fair Winners:

### Kindergarten:

1st Place: Trey Christopher, Ephesus Junior Academy, Jacksonville, Florida

2nd Place: Joy Williams, Mt. Olivet SDA School, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

3rd Place: Ashlee Knights, New Hope SDA School, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

### 1st - 2nd Grade:

1st Place: Ayan Green, Mt. Calvary SDA School, Tampa, Florida

2nd Place: BriAnn Byrd, Miami Union Academy, North Miami, Florida

3rd Place: Jilaun Judge, Ephesus Junior Academy, Jacksonville, Florida

### 3rd - 4th Grade:

1st Place: Jarod McCullough, Perrine SDA School, Perrine, Florida

2nd Place: Savonya Marshall, Shiloh SDA School, Ocala, Florida

3rd Place: Jada Scruggs, Elim Junior Academy, St. Petersburg, Florida

### 5th - 6th Grade:

1st Place: Samara Bowden, Mt. Sinai SDA School, Orlando, Florida

2nd Place: Chelsea Henry, Ephesus Junior Academy, West Palm Beach, Florida

3rd Place: David Lewis, Ephesus Junior Academy, Jacksonville, Florida

### 7th - 8th Grade:

1st Place: Belicia Gayle, Perrine SDA School, Perrine, Florida

2nd Place: Alana Henry, Ephesus Junior Academy, West Palm Beach, Florida

3rd Place: Juduvanie Joseph, Miami Union Academy, North Miami, Florida



# Former Florida Conference and Southern Union Conference President Harold H. Schmidt Dies

Harold H. Schmidt, former pastor, chaplain, Florida Conference President, and Southern Union President, died January 2, 2010, in Altamonte Springs, Florida, one month shy of his 100th birthday.

As a boy growing up in Fort Collins, Colorado, Schmidt became an avid basketball and football player. His dream of earning a scholarship to play college ball was sidelined when a recruiter came to Camp Meeting and encouraged him to attend Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska.

After graduation in 1936, he began a ministerial career in the Missouri Conference where he interned under Elders F.E. Thompson and Fordyce Detamore in St. Louis and St. Joseph, Missouri. He also filled pastorates in Springfield and Peoria in the Illinois Conference; Minneapolis North Church in the Minnesota Conference; and Miami Temple Church in the Florida Conference.

In 1957, he became president of Florida Conference and served in this position until he was called to be president of Southern Union Conference in 1965. For 15 years, Schmidt communicated to his constituency with a monthly "State of the Union" message in each *Southern Tidings* magazine until he retired May 5, 1980.

During his leadership, evangelism and church development received major emphasis. Southern Union membership almost doubled, from 48,835 to 94,687, during his presidency, and the number of churches grew from 487 to 654. The increases were met with sound financial principles as well as encouragement for members to be faithful stewards, which resulted in a 384 percent tithe increase. Southern Missionary College and Oakwood College (now universities) doubled their enrollments, and encouraging reports could be listed for all the Union departments.

Upon his retirement, Schmidt and his wife, Doris Kirstein Schmidt, returned to Orlando, Florida, where he served as a part-time chaplain at Florida Hospital for another



*Tremendous man of God,  
proven leader, mentor,  
trusted counselor,  
and cherished friend.*

five years. Doris, his beloved wife of 60 years, passed away in 1996. He continued to live by himself and drive his car until a recent illness.

Sabbath mornings would find him attending the early service at Forest Lake Church in Apopka where he was a member for 28 years. He was dearly loved by the members, and his encouragement was appreciated by the pastors.

Pastor Barbara McCoy relates that when she first met Schmidt he said, "Barbara, you are my favorite female pastor." She replied, "Why, thank you, Elder Schmidt, and how many female pastors do you know?" And he answered, "Why, just you." Over and over from then on this conversation would occur as he extended his support to her ministry.

Senior Pastor Derek Morris included in his memorial homily one of the notes that he would frequently receive from Schmidt: "For a change, I attended the third service, not having done so for awhile. I was simply

overwhelmed with what I heard: music, prayer, preaching. I was wonderfully blessed. Cordially, Schmitty."

Morris related that when Schmidt could no longer speak, he wrote, with a frail hand, the number "1:18" as a reminder and encouragement to his family that Jesus was still in control in life or death. This verse was special to him, and five years earlier he had chosen Jesus' words to be read at his memorial service: "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." —*Revelation 1:18 KJV*.

"Rest well, man of God," said Morris at the homily's close. "Beloved, rest well until that glorious day when we see Jesus face to face."

Harold H. Schmidt is survived by his son, Lane and wife Darlene; twin daughters, Barbara Fowler and her husband Gary, and Beverly Garner and her husband, Julius; two sisters, Betty Beam and Florence Grose; seven grandchildren; and eleven great grandchildren.



# PREBIOTICS FROM THE GROUND UP

BY MARTA SOVYANHADI

## PROMOTING GOOD HEALTH AND PREVENTING DISEASE

Once again, it's National Nutrition Month, according to the American Dietetics Association, and the Family and Consumer Sciences Department Dietetics Club at Oakwood University is celebrating the theme, "Nutrition from the Ground Up." In keeping with that, let's talk prebiotics.

Prebiotics are non-digestible food ingredients that stimulate the growth and/or activity of bacteria in the digestive system which are beneficial to the health of the body. First identified and named in 1995, they are typically carbohydrates, though not always, and are considered functional foods.

Prebiotics are not digested by the small bowel; they are fermented by the good bacteria in the colon. As such, they stimulate the growth of healthy microflora that live in the human large intestine, and reduce triglyceride levels and harmful cholesterol levels to promote heart health. Prebiotics boost white blood cells and killer T cells to strengthen the body's immunity, and reduce colon polyps and cancer factors. They also discourage the growth of dangerous

pathogens, and treat irritable bowel syndrome, Crohn's disease, osteoporosis, and diabetes. Prebiotics also decrease flatus odors, regulate bowel movements, and control appetite and weight.

It is highly recommended to include a variety of prebiotics, such as asparagus, garlic, onions, leeks, Jerusalem artichokes, spinach, kale, dandelions, tomatoes, lentils, chickpeas, black beans, wheat, buckwheat, millet, apples, bananas, limes, lemons, berries, and flaxseed, in our daily diet to obtain better health. Some of the members of the Oakwood University Dietetics Club have compiled explanations on the benefits and usages of prebiotics to the consumer.

### **Stacia Whittaker, Dietetics Senior: Leeks, Onions, and Garlic**

These allium vegetables contain compounds called allyl sulfides, which have been shown to protect cells from cancer-causing hormones and chemicals. Garlic and onions, with their stronger taste and aroma, contain more of these sulfides than

their less bitter cousin, leeks. In addition, consuming these vegetables on a regular basis can guard against the build-up of arterial plaque, blood clots, and high blood pressure, all significant risk factors for heart attack and stroke.

### **Claudie Best, Dietetics Freshman: Asparagus and Jerusalem Artichokes**

As a springtime vegetable, asparagus is one of the unique and highly beneficial ones. In addition to containing an abundance of folate and acting as a natural diuretic, asparagus contains inulin. This makes asparagus a great prebiotic because it feeds on good bacteria that live in the large intestine. Jerusalem artichokes, also identified as sunchokes, do the same as well. Although their name would suggest it, they are not from Jerusalem, nor are they of the artichokes family. Nonetheless, they are a great source of potassium, vitamin C, and iron, and a great prebiotic. If you would like to avoid all of the body cleansing fluids that wash out the



good bacteria in addition to the bad, asparagus and Jerusalem artichokes are two vegetables you might want to consider adding to your diet.

### **Darlene Williams, Dietetics Registrar: Flax Seeds, Tomatoes, Kale, and Spinach**

#### **Flax seeds**

Recent studies have shown that flax seeds may have a protective effect against heart disease, diabetes, and cancer — particularly breast cancer, prostate cancer, and colon cancer. Flax seeds are rich in antioxidants, such as lignans (a phytoestrogen) and other phenolic molecules. Lignans also provide fiber. The high dietary fiber in flax seeds, due to its high water-holding capacity and low digestibility, increases the bulkiness and gastric emptying of stool. This, in effect, helps relieve constipation and other irritable bowel syndromes. Lignans are also associated with lower serum cholesterol, and may help reduce oxidative damage to cells and cellular molecules from free radicals. It is thought that lignan metabolites can bind to estrogen receptors, hence inhibiting the onset of estrogen-stimulated breast cancer. Lignans may help protect against cancer by blocking enzymes that are involved in hormone metabolism and interfering with the growth and spread of tumor cells. There is growing evidence that flax seeds are good for improving general health and preventing diseases.

#### **Tomatoes**

Tomatoes are a popular and nutritious fruit that is commonly considered and used as a vegetable. Tomatoes contain bioactive compounds such as vitamin C, vitamin A, potassium, iron, and fiber that have been proven to help prevent cardiovascular disease, cancer, cataracts, and many other diseases. The red pigment contained in tomatoes is called lycopene. Lycopene is a vital antioxidant

that helps in the fight against cancerous cell formation, neutralizing free radicals that can damage cells in the body. When choosing tomatoes, be sure to select those with the most brilliant shades of red, which indicate the highest amounts of beta-carotene and lycopene.

Although raw tomatoes are great for you, cooking them releases even more of their nutritional benefits. Lycopene is located in the cell wall of the tomato, so by cooking in a little oil, this healing compound is more fully released. In addition, cooking the tomato in olive oil allows your body to absorb the lycopene better. While other fruits and vegetables do contain this necessary health ingredient, no other fruit or vegetable has a higher concentration of lycopene than tomatoes.

#### **Kale and Spinach**

Research has revealed that cruciferous vegetables (those with four-petaled flowers) such as kale and spinach may provide significant cardiovascular and vision benefits as well as cancer prevention. The health benefits of spinach and kale are numerous, and their ability to help prevent disease is well known. Spinach and other dark leafy greens like kale, collards, Swiss chard, turnip greens, and bok choy are loaded with calcium, folic acid, vitamin K, and iron. Spinach is also rich in vitamin C, fiber, and carotenoids. The A and C vitamins in spinach, fiber,

folic acid, magnesium, and other nutrients help control cancer — especially colon, lung, and breast cancers. Folate also lowers the blood levels of homocysteine, a protein that damages arteries. The flavonoids in spinach help protect against age-related memory loss. The secret weapon in spinach, lutein, makes it one of the best foods in the world to prevent cataracts, as well as age-related macular degeneration, the leading cause of preventable blindness in the elderly. A member of the *Brassica* family, kale contains organosulfur compounds, and has been the main subject of phytonutrient research, and these include the glucosinolates. Kale is well known for its carotenoids — especially lutein and zeaxanthin. The combination of vitamins, minerals, and phytonutrients makes kale and spinach health superstars.

### **Heidi McNeal, Dietetics Junior: Wheat, Buckwheat, and Millet**

Prebiotics such as wheat help to promote a healthy metabolism. Wheat also aids in preventing risks such as breast cancer, gallstones, heart issues, etc., and works as a laxative. But for those who may be allergic to or do not prefer gluten products, buckwheat or millet may be an alternative option. Buckwheat is a fruit seed that is high in fiber, essential amino acids, and minerals. It has also been found to lower glucose levels, blood pressure, and manage diabetes. Millet, another gluten-free product, is packed with nutrients that help to reduce affects of migraines and heart attacks, and aids in the metabolism of fat and body tissue repair. Buckwheat and millet also help to reduce cholesterol. So, the next time you feel like trying something new in your diet, try any of these prebiotics for life-changing results.

*Marta Souyanbadi, Ph.D., RD, LDN, is department chair for the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama.*



*Students Stacia Whittaker (left) and Claudie Best add onions and garlic to their tasty and healthy garden vegetable soup.*

# Serving the Lord Together for 65 Years

BY MARVIN LOWMAN

This is more than just a story about celebrating 65 years of marriage. This is a story of two lives devoted to each other and to service for their Master. It is about 65 years of walking hand in hand with each other and their Lord, and serving others as they advance the cause of Christ. It is a story of two lives blended in faithful service for the glory of God, and for the encouragement of others.

Edwin and Mary Belle Martin were married in Denison, Texas, November 22, 1944, while Edwin was serving in the U. S. Army. Mary Belle had already graduated from Madison College as a registered nurse.

After being discharged from the Army, they moved to Florence, Alabama, where Edwin's parents operated the El Reposo Sanitarium. The Lord gifted Edwin and Mary Belle with a passion for people, caring hearts, and a desire to minister to others. Not surprisingly, Edwin followed in his parent's footsteps.

Edwin served as the administrator of the Lawrenceburg Sanitarium and Hospital in Tennessee from 1953 until 1962, and Mary Belle was the director of nurses. Mary Belle refers to those nine years as her wilderness experience. "We worked long, hard hours for a combined income of \$100 per month. It was only because of some additional benefits we received that we were able to make it financially," says Mary Belle. They returned a faithful tithe and offerings as well. By this time, they had two children in church school, which cost \$30 per month. "We didn't make much money, but we were doing what we thought the Lord wanted us to do, and we learned a lot of lessons," says Edwin. Those lessons would prove to be great benefit for them in the future.

They will tell you today that God is a good Pay Master. He can always be trusted to do what is best for you.

They worked for two years with the Mountain Sanitarium and Hospital and Fletcher Academy, where Edwin was the assistant administrator, and Mary Belle served as a clinical instructor in the school of nursing. These institutions were all "units of Madison," as Edwin puts it.

They were involved for a short time at the Walker Memorial Hospital in Avon Park, Florida, before moving to Dalton, Georgia, where they began their work in the nursing home business. After serving there for nine years, they started their own business, Care More, Inc., thanks to doctors McGhee, Raitz, and Bowers, who were the owners of the nursing home.

In 1986, they sold their business, which by then, had 17 facilities in five states, with about 2,000 beds. In 1982, Edwin received the "Distinguished Administrator of the Year" award from the American College of Nursing Home Administrators.

Edwin also served on the Georgia-Cumberland Conference executive committee, and served as the second president of Cohutta Springs Associates. During his tenure as president, Cohutta Springs' debt was relinquished.

Edwin's father, Neil Martin, was a charter member of Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI), and

Edwin and Mary Belle have been very involved in ASI for many years. Edwin served as ASI president of the Southern Union chapter for a number of years, and also on the national board of directors. He was also a member of ASI Missions, Inc.

The Martins have always had an interest in young people, and have helped with the development of both

Cohutta Springs and Indian Creek youth camps. Presently, they are looking forward to seeing the completion of the new meeting facility at Indian Creek Camp, debt free, which is under construction and scheduled for completion in May 2010.

Edwin and Mary Belle are members of the Martin Memorial Church in Centerville, Tennessee. They make the 110-mile round trip each Sabbath from their home at Rich-

land Place, a retirement community in Nashville.

The Martins have three children: Bobby lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Mary Ellen is married to Ron Hagen, M.D., director of the Williamson Medical Center emergency department in Franklin, Tennessee; and Judy is married to Bryan Wilcox, M.D., a heart surgeon at Baptist Hospital and chief of staff, Nashville, Tennessee. They also have eight grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.



*Mary Belle and Edwin Martin celebrated 65 years of marriage and service together, November 22, 2009.*





# GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER

BY DEBBIE MELITI



PHOTOS: DEBBIE MELITI

*Avon Park, Florida, Church members enjoy making new friends at Guess Who's Coming to Dinner events. Top photo: Oriana Frost (left), Cirilo Seralde, Trenton Frost, Mary June Seralde, and Virginia Bustilo. Above photo: Kameron DeVasber, associate pastor, and his wife, Emilie.*

When my husband, Dennis, and I became family life directors at Avon Park, Florida, Church, we asked, "What programs could we create or implement to bring our membership of nearly 1,000 together as a family?" One of our committee team members had participated in a Guess Who's Coming to Dinner hospitality event at a church in New York, and sold us on trying the program.

Six weeks before the first scheduled event, we dressed a table for dinner, and set it up in the church foyer with a framed flyer giving details of the program. Registration forms were distributed among church members, and returned by those who wished to participate. One week prior to the event, each participating member was assigned as a host or a guest, and the hosts were notified of

how many guests to expect the following Sabbath.

On the day of the dinner, guests reported to the table in the foyer for directions to the home of the host family. Guests enjoyed ringing the doorbell and greeting the hosts with, "Surprise! We are your guests today."

The church continues to hold these dinners with an average of 60 individuals participating in each gathering. "We count the hosting family as our new friends," said guests Kari and Donna Janetzko. "It's a unique way to see and feel God's love through His extended family right here in our own church."

"With Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, it is so easy, and simply delightful, to make new acquaintances of people I would not likely invite on my own," says Brenda Garza.



# NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE CAMP MEETING

BY FRED L. ROGERS

*SOUTHERN UNION NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES DIRECTOR*

A wise Indian elder once said, "When you arise in the morning, give thanks for the morning light. Give thanks for your life and strength. Give thanks for your food and give thanks for the joy of living. And, if perchance you see no reason to give thanks, rest assured the fault is in yourself." As I travel around the great Southern Union to speak in our churches, I am continually amazed by how many of our church members have Native American heritage.

About 15 years ago I began to learn what a rich heritage was given to us by our ancestors, and what a wonderful experience it has been. I believe it is time for us to celebrate that heritage and learn how the Creator gave guidance and great knowledge to our ancestors. Therefore we are planning a Native American Camp Meeting to honor the Creator by remembering the way the Creator blessed the Native People and led them through difficult times.

During this camp meeting we will spend time giving thanks to the Creator for the morning light, life and strength, for our food and the joy of living, and allowing God to remove any fault we have of not being thank-



ful to Him. You will be blessed by experienced and interesting speakers during this camp meeting. We will have seminars to teach the best way to reach the Native American community, by using the things that our

ancestors practiced long before the white man came. We will learn how to reach the indigenous people that have come to us from Central and South America. Most people do not realize that we have many descendants of the Maya and Aztec People living in the Southern Union. Indeed, this will be a wonderfully rich and rewarding weekend that you will not forget.

All are welcome to attend this camp meeting, but those that have native heritage or those that have an interest in reaching out to the Native Americans living in the Southern Union should not miss this event. If you have an interest in attending this camp meeting, please respond by going to the Southern Union Conference web-site ([www.southernunion.com](http://www.southernunion.com)), click on Ministries, and then click on Native American and complete the registration form. If you do not use the Internet, you may respond by writing to Native Ministries, P.O. Box 849, Decatur, GA 30031.

## NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE CAMP MEETING

**NOSOCA Pines Ranch,  
Liberty Hill, SC  
Carolina Conference Youth  
Camp**

**August 19-21, 2010  
Starts 7:00 p.m., August 19  
Ends Saturday night, August 21  
Depart for home  
Sunday morning**

**GOOD PREACHING**

**TRAINING SEMINARS**

**WONDERFUL MUSIC  
Singing and Native Flute**

**Respond on the Internet:  
[www.southernunion.com](http://www.southernunion.com)**

**Click: Ministries**

**Click: Native American**



## Park Ridge Hospital Joins Haiti Relief Effort

Park Ridge Hospital, Hendersonville, N.C., is joining the cause to provide much-needed aid to the people of Port-au-Prince and the nation of Haiti, and has asked their community to join them in supporting the relief effort. With a severe shortage of shelter, thousands of Haitians are left to sleep on the cold concrete of parking lots, roadways, and the overcrowded hallways of the few hospitals still standing, as they wait for treatment.

“After speaking with our sister hospital in Port-au-Prince (Hospital Ad-

ventiste d’Haiti), it became very clear what we needed to do,” said Park Ridge Hospital vice president Jason Wells. “One of the greatest needs expressed by a representative I contacted today is for any type of sleeping mats: yoga mats, roll-up camping mats, or other blow-up air beds — for the thou-

sands of survivors sleeping on the cold, hard ground in whatever space they can find.”

Park Ridge Hospital has collected more than 1,000 mats for the homeless people of Haiti. The mats were taken to Haiti by a team of physicians, nurses, and other support staff from Park Ridge Hos-

pital — along with a large shipment of medical supplies.

“We are enthusiastic, but humbled at the same time to have the opportunity to bring hope in the form of medical supplies and care to the survivors in Haiti who have endured so much,” said Jimm Bunch, Park Ridge



*Park Ridge Hospital's lobby was packed with generous donations from the local community, ready to be sent off to Haiti.*



*More than 1,000 mats were collected for the homeless people of Haiti.*

Hospital CEO. Bunch accompanied the team of physicians and nurses to Haiti, and is assisting with relief efforts there.

The Hospital Adventiste d’Haiti in Port-au-Prince, a 70-bed facility built in 1978, is one of the few fully-functional hospitals left after the 7.0 earthquake that rocked Haiti on Tuesday, January 12, 2010.

## Gordon Hospital Joins Spirit of Women

Gordon Hospital, Calhoun, Ga., has established a new partnership with Spirit of Women, an integrated partnership of hospitals and healthcare systems across the country that aim to drive health action for women and their families.

“We are extremely excited about this partnership with Spirit of Women,” said Amy Jordon, chief nursing officer. “Through this program, we will be able to offer many community-wide events that are exciting, fun, and informative for the whole family.”

As a Spirit of Women hospital, Gordon Hospital

has committed itself to a comprehensive list of National Standards for Excellence in Women’s Health. Because women make up to 85 percent of household healthcare decisions, the educational and motivational Spirit of Women efforts are expected to positively impact the well-being of the entire family and community as a whole.

Karen Shaw, market-

ing coordinator for Gordon Hospital, will coordinate the Spirit of Women program here. Along with Jordon and Sam Huenergardt, Gordon Hospital chief operating officer, Shaw completed the Spirit

University training program held recently in Boca Raton, Fla.

“This program fits perfectly with a lot of the programs Gordon Hospital has offered the community for many years,” Shaw

explained. “Using the Spirit of Women resources, we plan to build on those programs and add new ones that will help everyone in their healthcare decision-making.”

As only the second hospital in Georgia to join the Spirit of Women program, and one of more than 80 nationwide, Gordon Hospital plans to conduct a wide variety of events, including educational and recreational activities, health screenings, workshops, mentoring opportunities, and support groups that will reach women in all stages of their lives.



## Community Services Provide Compassion



RON QUICK

Steven Lombard, pictured with Kathryn "Kay" Durandetto, director of the Franklin Community center, continually witnesses the miraculous change in people that hope brings.

"In the Scriptures we read that to every man God has given His work. What does this mean? It means that every one of us has a work to do. All do not have the same work, but all are to act their part in the service of God," *Sermons and Talks*, Vol. 2, p. 241.

Not everyone can be a preacher or teacher or church elder. But all have something to give to God's work, including two men involved in community services in North Carolina.

Steven Lombard of the Franklin, N.C., Church, wants to give back. He and his wife, Sharalyn, spent years travel-

ing the country in search of secure jobs, peace of mind, and a place to call home. Lombard had a job making golf courses, but soon found himself out of work. They chose Franklin as their next stop, and along with their daughter, Deaven,



Aaron Dennis, and his wife, Lauren, share relaxing time together.

started attending evangelistic meetings at the Franklin Church. The members

immediately embraced the family, and through their community service ministry, the Lombards were able to get back on their feet.

Knowing how it feels to be out of work, Lombard dove headlong into community services, creating a "Job Bank" where he connects employers with those who need a job. He figured that if people donate items, why can't they donate a job? If they need their lawn cut, house painted, plumbing fixed, or other such tasks, they call up and pay for the service, then Lombard lines up someone to do the work.

"I feel it's a wonderful idea for our church to be involved in to reach out to the community, especially in these days," says Lombard. "If there's any way that the Lord can use me, I just pray that He does that."

Which is the same philosophy that Aaron Dennis of the Brevard, N.C., Church had one Sabbath 10 years ago when a representative from Sharing House, a local community services group, approached him about volunteering.

He and his wife, along with many other church members, immediately jumped into serving the community with a yard sale ministry, selling donated items as well as goods col-

lected by Sharing House. They have raised more than \$35,000 to help provide for the needs of local people. But it wasn't long before Dennis learned that there was a desperate need for firewood to keep people warm and fed.

"There are so many people out of work," he says. "At one point there were around 2,000 people living in Pisgah Forest."

So he mobilized the men of the church into a kind of men's ministries



Aaron Dennis

team, and they started collecting, chopping, and hauling wood. They have delivered more than 100 flatbed loads to Sharing House for people to come get what they need. This unique ministry has made such a difference for so many.

These two men are examples of how all should be willing to reach out and meet the needs of their brothers and sisters. Compassion for others reflects the incredible grace shown from above.

—BY BECKY CARPENTER



## Brookhaven Students Take Mission to Heart

Brookhaven Christian School students became enthusiastic about this year's Mission Maluti Project from the North American Division, which is endeavoring to raise money to build a new school at the Maluti Hospital in Lesotho, South Africa. The school there has two rooms, is too small, and has to turn students away.

Last year the Brookhaven school sent \$85 to meet the goal of \$5 per student. This year their 17 students were not content to have an individual goal of \$5 — they felt they should raise \$300 together.

So a bike-a-thon was scheduled at a local park,

and students began securing sponsors. The bikers began with a high level of energy fueled by a perfect day, and snacks of fruit and water each time they returned to the starting point. Some students had their younger siblings biking, too. One second grader was determined to do her part, even though she had owned her bike less than 24 hours, and was just learning to ride.

One of the busiest bikers needed nourishment after pedaling so many miles, and went with her family to an area restaurant for lunch. The owner of the restaurant asked what she had been doing, and ended

up giving a \$100 check for the project.

Thanks to eager students and generous donors, Brookhaven was able to send a check for \$1,000 to the Carolina Conference on

behalf of the Maluti Project.

Service opportunities are part of the curriculum in Adventist education, allowing each student to take part in serving others.

—BY ADELE MORGAN



## Kids First Aid and Fire Safety Day Held in Tryon

If you passed by the Tryon, N.C., Church on November 8, 2009, you may have been a bit worried. With the Fire Department out front and children roaming around carrying first aid supplies, the church may

have appeared in a state of emergency. But fortunately, fun-learning moments were abounding at the Kids First Aid and Fire Safety Day.

Melinda Champion from the Red Cross jump-started the day with a

session on choking. Parents and children alike learned how to save people's lives in everyday situations. The Tryon Fire Department was the star of the show with the red fire engine — a hit with children of all ages. Joey, the fireman, instructed the children on the points of stop/drop/and roll safety tip, and then gave a tour of every nook and cranny of the fire engine.

The other five learning centers included first response, minor cuts, bleeding, bandages, and sterilization. Each station was staffed by healthcare professionals who attend Tryon Church. As the nearly 40 children completed the training, they col-

lected pieces of their own first aid kits to take home. It was with pride that these children shared their new knowledge, and displayed their personally crafted first aid kits with supplies.

Adventist children joined in from around the region, including Upward, N.C., and Greenville and Spartanburg, S.C. Tryon pastor Arthur Gibbs, who organized the event, challenges all Adventurer Clubs to reach out to other clubs and rotate hosting these types of learning events. It's an investment in the future of the children!

—BY ASHLEY GIBBS, TRYON  
ADVENTURER CLUB  
DIRECTOR



ASHLEY GIBBS

## Ocala Church Salutes Military Veterans



Ocala veterans Chuck Fender (left), Jay DeWitt, Don Sykes, Albert Dorsey, Vivienne Nickerson, Jack Copeland, Bob Bullis, Robert Kvetko, Leonard Carr, Wendel Nickerson, and Joel Leonard. (Not pictured: John Kossick, Paul Coile, James Miller, and Joe Cross.)

On Veterans Day Sabbath, Ocala, Fla., Church members discovered there were heroes in the congregation. Through a program prepared by Sam Minosh and narrated by Keith and Cheryl Rilea, members got

a new look at the veterans who had served their country. Those who sacrificed their lives were also remembered.

Each veteran was presented with a red rose and congratulatory card created

by Dottie Massengill. By thanking the military veterans, the Ocala members' thoughts turned to Jesus, the real hero, who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

The message of Dave Swinyar, pastor, "Who is

Your Hero?" reminded the congregation that the cause of war started with one third of the angels rebelling in Heaven. Guest soloist Lamar Young fittingly sang, "The Lord is My Light."

—BY BETTY KOSSICK

## Sawgrass Adventist School Honors Police Department School Resource Officer



Derk Green (left), Sawgrass Adventist School Board vice chairman, presented a plaque of appreciation to Officer William Briody for the values he teaches to students in the classroom.

William Briody, a school resource officer for the city of Plantation, Fla., was presented an appreciation award by Sawgrass Adventist School during its Super Winter Festival.

Briody is no stranger to 5th- and 6th-grade students at Sawgrass. He visits the school as part of the drug education program, Gang Resistance And Drug Education (G.R.A.D.E.), a 10-week course for elementary students with information about self-respect, conflict resolution, drug awareness, and gang prevention.

"Officer Briody has captivated and motivated our students with thought-provoking discussions, which gives them confidence and trust in dealing with law enforcement officers," said Kathy McCullough, Sawgrass Adventist School administrator. "He has taught our children to see police officers in a positive light. It is a privilege to have Officer Briody reinforce the good morals and values that teachers, families, and churches try to instill in our children."

—BY ALVA JAMES-JOHNSON



## Gainesville Spanish Church Holds Health Fair



Patty Boyte (left), from Shands HealthCare at University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla., taught a CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) class that was popular with Community Health Fair attendees.

The Gainesville, Fla., Spanish Church held a Community Health Fair, directed by Lilly Rosales.

The Alachua County Health Department offered several health services, including the bloodmobile. Jose Abreu, M.D., from the Dominican Republic, presented health seminars throughout the day. Participants enjoyed free health services, as well as food, games, and music, which made it a fun day for the family.

—BY LIZETTE SANTIAGO

## Avon Park Church Members Celebrate Community Appreciation Day

Avon Park, Fla., Church celebrated their most recent Community Appreciation Day with expressions of gratitude for the dedication and service of the Fire and Police Departments, Avon Park city officials, and the Highlands County Sheriff's Department.

Pastor Paul Boling's sermon, "Honor, Respect, and Appreciation," included Bible texts to support the right of community leaders to expect coopera-

tion and respect, as they are appointed to help provide a safe, peaceful, and orderly environment for the town's citizens.

Matthew Doughney, Avon Park Chief of Police, was presented with a plaque that expressed appreciation for his service and that of others in his department. At the close of the church service, members had the opportunity to personally thank him.

—BY NAOMI ZALABAK



Paul Boling (right), pastor, conveys the gratitude of the Avon Park, Fla., Church to Avon Park Police Chief Matthew Doughney.

The 125-member **Palm Springs Church** in West Palm Beach, Fla., broke ground on November 8, 2009, for a new facility. The groundbreaking participants, pictured from left, included church founders, leaders, and Conference representatives: Hubert Picart, founder; Noel Shanko, Conference assistant to the president; Pastor Theo Roberts, founder; Rendel Forbes, founder; Dablia Forbes, founder; Keturah Chin, groundbreaking committee chair; Eric Ebanks, first elder; Victor Maddox, conference ministerial field secretary; Richard Daughterty, contractor; and Noel Rose, Palm Springs Church pastor.



## Diabetic Amputee Gains New Home



ANGELA BAERG

*Curtis Cordwell used his construction skills and contacts to build a new home for his friend, Tommy Biggs.*

As of January 6, Tommy Biggs, an elderly diabetic amputee, has a new home thanks to the vision of Curtis Cordwell, a big-hearted volunteer and member of the Collegedale Church who suffered a stroke himself just last year.

After Cordwell's stroke, he wasn't sure when he would be able to return to work. His wife is a school teacher, and they have three children, so without his income their finances were tight. Cordwell had been a contractor for 15 years and loved his work, but couldn't return right away because of the physical limitations

of the stroke. In addition, the slow economy made finding work difficult. Even so, Cordwell wanted to do something.

For a long time before his stroke, in addition to his paid job, Cordwell had volunteered for the Samaritan Center, building wheelchair ramps for the handicapped through the organization Kids in Discipleship. After his stroke, Cordwell learned of the opportunity to build a wheelchair ramp for Tommy Biggs. Biggs had to have part of his leg amputated due to diabetes, and he was now confined to a wheelchair.

This made it very difficult to get in and out of his home, and he desperately needed a wheelchair ramp. When Cordwell heard of this need, he jumped at this chance to help out.

In the process of constructing the ramp, Cordwell uncovered an even larger opportunity for him to give back: Biggs' house. It was in deplorable condition.

"The more I saw of the house, the more I realized I would never let anyone I knew and cared about live in a home like that, so I couldn't let Tommy live there either," Cordwell remembers.

That's when Cordwell became inspired — he would get someone to bulldoze it, design a new layout himself, and get volunteers to help him reconstruct Biggs' house from scratch. After prayerfully pondering the idea, he began to talk about his plans with Biggs.

"At first I didn't take him seriously when he offered to build me a new house," says Biggs. "I don't trust people, and he was a stranger just like anybody else." But Cordwell was determined to win his trust through friendship, and he kept visiting him, getting to know Biggs, telling him about God and about his plans to build him a new home.

About two months later, Biggs agreed. Immediately Cordwell launched his plans into action. Donating all of his own personal time on a volunteer basis, he began

to use his contacts from his years of contracting to get as many materials donated to the project as possible.

In addition to bringing on board many donors of building materials, Cordwell also got the Collegedale Church involved in donating \$7,000 to help with furnishing the house, purchasing kitchen cabinets, and buying appliances. The Samaritan Center helped purchase the sewer permit and assisted with some other aspects of the project.

After two and a half months of construction, Biggs returned to his home on January 6. Cordwell had the privilege of wheeling him up the ramp himself.

Building material sponsors and professional volunteers included Michael Bankston, Junior's Building Materials, Insulation Unlimited, Alexander Tile, Ledford Construction, AJ Plumbing, Donaldson's Plumbing, Eric Smith, Dan Ron Plumbing, Lain Moffitt, ABC Supplies, David James, Kids Center Construction Staff, Ryan Baxter, Ken Ojala, Mitchell Heat & Air, FM Russell, Collegedale Church, Steve Casteel, Sam Bostick, Ooltewah Baptist Church, and some anonymous donors.

"Curtis is the only real friend I've ever had," says Biggs. "I never would have thought something like this would have been possible. He has given me faith again."

—BY ANGELA BAERG



## Church Member Makes a Difference

Sometimes results are hard to see. Phyllis Jones definitely knows this, yet in faith she is hosting a Kids In Discipleship (K.I.D.) small group out of her little home in Austell, Ga.

Though it may seem trivial, this small group is slowly changing the lives of Jones (or P.J. as her friends call her) and the children in her community.

The group of 8-10 neighborhood children has been meeting since last November every week. Jones first heard about the K.I.D. small groups during a presentation at her local church by Sam Pomianowski, pastor, and his wife, Rebecca, on the K.I.D. City-Atlanta mission. K.I.D. City-Atlanta began in March 2009 as an evangelistic initiative to aid church families in reaching out to their neighbors. Using their homes as discipleship centers, families hold interactive small groups utilizing the K.I.D. curriculum and involving their neighborhood children.

Jones is passionate about ministry, and she knew that hosting a small group in her home would be the perfect way to bless her community for Christ. Her open-door policy and sincere persona have distinguished her as the go-to mother for many of the neighborhood children.

"I saw this as an excellent connection to encourage these kids spiritually

and have the opportunity to witness to them," says Jones.

With limited resources and little support, Jones boldly started her small group. Every Monday night, she prepares the lesson, opens up her living room, and the children begin to pile in.

Many of the parents have shared with Jones the differences they have seen in the way their children behave. One parent reported that even when his children are grounded he allows them to attend the small group because he sees the huge benefit the group is having on them.

The Pomianowskis usually lead out the lesson while the children try to hold back their energy and absorb all they can about Jesus.

"I have been blessed week after week in leading the group because of the interests of the kids," says Sam Pomianowski. "They are a rowdy bunch to say the least, but at the same time extremely interested in spiritual things. The questions they pose week after week reveal

their genuine need and desire to know more about Jesus."

Austell is one of four areas currently participating in the K.I.D.

City-Atlanta neighborhood initiative. Pastor Don MacLafferty, founder and executive director of K.I.D., hopes that through K.I.D. City, "every unchurched child will develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and the joy of sharing Christ with

their parents."

The results: Minor (for the time being). The impact: Tremendous.

—BY CHRIS MATEO



*Phyllis Jones of Austell, Ga., is making a difference. She started a Kids in Discipleship meeting in her home each week, led by Sam and Rebecca Pomianowski.*

**For details, go online:  
[www.kidsindiscipleship.org](http://www.kidsindiscipleship.org)**

The Kids In Discipleship ministry equips church congregations, parents, and key mentors to implement the Deuteronomy 6 model of discipleship that will help foster a family's ability to use their gifts for worship, ministry, and mission. Through interactive small groups using K.I.D.'s Footprints curriculum, families learn to reconnect with each other and build strong personal relationships with Jesus Christ.

## Fundraiser Brings in \$2,500 for Club, Charity



BEN CORRIETTE

*Valarie Roye (right), and her children, Catherine and Nathan, were excited when a gift from the Aquarium was presented to them for raising \$250.*

The Belvedere “Stars” Adventurer Club held a 5K (3.1 miles) walk/run fundraiser in November 2009. More than \$2,500 was raised, and the club chose to share the blessing with the American Heart Association. A \$500 check was presented on Sabbath, January 16, 2010, to Heather Stafford, a volunteer at the

American Heart Association. Stafford gratefully received the donation from the top two Adventurer finishers in the 5K fundraising race, Darius and Danielle Jones. Before leaving the podium, Stafford admonished the Belvedere congregation to live active lives, eat well, and sleep adequately, to maintain the most impor-



BEN CORRIETTE

*Darius and Danielle Jones presented Heather Stafford, American Heart Association volunteer, a check for \$500 to help support heart research at the organization.*

tant muscle in the human body — the heart.

Valarie Roye, an Adventurer parent and supporter, raised \$250. She and her two children, Catherine and Nathan, were recognized as the top fundraisers, and were given a Georgia Aquarium gift package from the Adventurer Club director, Andrew

Loiten, and his assistant, Phillis Dennis.

To reward the Adventurers for a successful fundraiser venture, the club enjoyed a fun-filled Georgia Aquarium sleepover. Each parent and child was asked to raise \$100, some turned in more than the goal.

—BY BEN CORRIETTE AND  
IRISENE DOUCE



CARVEL YORK

*Belvedere Adventurers watch intently as an Aquarium employee demonstrates, by using Enviroscape®, how the choices of many individuals affect the environment.*



CARVEL YORK

*Maya Forrest (left), Danielle Jones, Darius Jones, and Adventurer Club counselor Annette Gordon pause for a photo moment during the Georgia Aquarium sleepover.*





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## Literature Evangelist Finds His First Calling



*Errol McCladdie and his wife, Margie*

In the last nine months of 2009, Errol McCladdie, a literature evangelist (LE) in the Gulf States Conference, left \$52,000 worth of books in the homes of people in the Huntsville, Ala., area. His face beaming, he explains, "God has brought me back to the place where He intended for me to be from the beginning."

More than the sales, the transformation and revival

which has taken place in his life and heart reassures him that the joy of doing this work is reward enough. The benefits of sales made by placing truth-filled literature in the homes of the people is an added blessing.

His journey began six months after becoming a Seventh-day Adventist when he attended an LE rally held at the church he attended in Ohio. When the speaker gave an appeal for those who felt called to serve the Lord in the LE ministry, McCladdie felt compelled to go forward. "I knew little about the work of a literature evangelist, but I felt God directly leading me," he explains. His wife was surprised when he told her what he felt called to do, but gave her support. At the time he was working in a factory and had no experience in sales, but he quit his job and began

to work in the Allegheny West Conference, where he served successfully in the LE ministry for eight years.

One day during this time he heard a speaker from Oakwood University, and a hunger to attend Oakwood began to grow in his heart. After much agonizing over what direction to take, he and his family moved to Huntsville, Ala., and McCladdie began his education at Oakwood. He graduated in 1993 with a major in music and theology. After graduating his mother-in-law looked him in the eye and said, "God didn't send you down here to preach." She was right, but it would take several years for McCladdie to understand this.

Later he continued his education and attended Andrews University where he received a master of divinity. In 2005, he returned to the South Central Confer-

ence where he began serving as a pastor and started a music ministry.

But no matter what he did, he didn't feel fulfilled. One day he felt the Spirit of God saying, "You have lost your first love." The more he prayed, the more he knew it was true. His calling was to witness to people through the literature ministry. After more prayer and inquiry, he decided to work as an LE in Gulf States through the Southern Union Home Health Education Service.

McCladdie and his wife, Margie, are happy about his success, and he reemphasized, "I have joy and an inner peace in this work, even if I don't make a sell. When I pray in a home and leave a piece of literature, I know God is leading." He paused and then added, "I have finally come home to my first calling."

—BY REBECCA GRICE

## Bass Has a Mission on its Mind

Dave and Marlene Colburn presented a Vesper program at Bass Memorial Academy (BMA) to launch a fund drive to help support the school's planned Share-Him mission trip to Tuxtla Gutierrez, Mexico. Dave, BMA treasurer, is a pianist, and his wife, Marlene, plays the violin. The Colburns are well known recording artists who are associated with Chapel Music. They have been frequently featured on 3ABN. The spirit-filled

songs they presented were familiar hymns that made listeners want to sing.

Students have enthusiastically expressed an interest in participating in this evangelistic adventure. They will present prophecy seminars and conduct Vacation Bible School-type programs for the children. Gifts to Bass Memorial Academy assist students in raising their part of a \$7,000 goal.

—BY CLIFF KELLER



*Marlene and Dave Colburn*

## Record Number of Baptisms

With a 6.25 percent of baptisms compared to membership, the Conference continues to lead the Southern Union. And, 2009 was the greatest year in the history of evangelism for the Conference, with 635 baptisms (169 more than 2008). Don Sheldon, Conference ministerial and evangelism director, says, "We praise the Lord for His blessings."



## Teens Find Spiritual Lessons While Exploring Cave



*More than 87 teens and staff explored Tumbling Rock Cave in northern Alabama.*

More than 87 teens and adults explored Tumbling Rock Cave in Scottsboro, Ala., on January 23. The caving event began on Sabbath morning at Big Cove Academy, located near Huntsville, Ala. Pete Malanado, pastor and guest speaker, gave a dynamic talk focused on "Jesus, the Light of the World." He explained, "Spiritual darkness is the absence of Jesus." After

lunch the group headed for the cave.

A highlight of the trip occurred when at the back of the six-mile-long cave, everyone turned off their flashlights. The group stood in total darkness and listened to Maldonado explain what it means to have Jesus in their lives and then to share Him with others. At the end, Bob Hill, a member of the Pathfinder

Council, lit one candle and a tiny light flickered in the darkness. Then each person lit their candle from that small light until the whole area was illuminated. "It was an amazing time of fellowship and worship," says James Mangum, Conference youth director.

The event was one of the five teen Invitationals planned throughout the Conference each year. The

Invitationals are organized by the Conference Pathfinder Council and are open to all teens. The next one, a back-packing trip, is scheduled for March 5 and 6. Mangum invites church leaders and parents to bring their teens to one of the Invitationals and experience the presence of God, and the joy of His creation.

—BY REBECCA GRICE

## Students Hold Lunch Theater

The College Drive School, located near Jackson, Miss., held a "Thanksgiving dinner" lunch theater program on November 17, 2009. More than 100 parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and church members were served a meal with original Thanksgiving Day foods, which included corn, sweet potatoes, squash, green beans, okra, corn bread, baked bread, soup, apple and pumpkin pies, fruit, nuts, and other des-



*The students performed while guests were treated to an old-fashioned Thanksgiving meal.*

serts, while the students entertained them.

The lower grades performed in a play which was a 30-minute re-enact-

ment of the Pilgrims' story, beginning with the decision to leave England through the first year; and the Thanksgiving feast, includ-

ing befriending Squanto and other Native Powhatan tribe members. The play was written and directed by Beatrice Hill, lower grades teacher.

In addition to the play, the entire school presented a musical program under the direction of Joy Foster, upper grades teacher.

Twenty-two students attend the College Drive School, and it has two teachers.

—BY BEATRICE HILL

## Adventist Physician Recognized

Norman Henderson, M.D., was recently honored as Rural Health Physician of the Year. In a special ceremony held in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., in November 2009, Henderson was recognized for his service to the community by the Rural Health Association of Tennessee.

Henderson was nominated for the award by Derese Methvin, coordi-



Barbara and Norman Henderson

nator of school health for Lawrence County, Tenn. He was accompanied at

the ceremony by his wife, Barbara, and daughter, Cindy, who is a nurse at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville.

Henderson is a native of Seattle, Wash. He completed his medical training at Loma Linda University in 1956. Following an internship at White Memorial Hospital, he served in the U.S. Airforce at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California from 1957-1959. He moved to Lawrenceburg, Tenn., in 1959, where he practiced

medicine until his retirement in 2000. Since retirement, he has continued to volunteer in the community, serving on the board of God's Storehouse and the Lawrence County Health Council. He has been a member of the Lion's Club since 1960. During the last five years, he has presented the anti-smoking *Tar Wars* program to fifth graders in Lawrence County's public and private schools.

—BY MARVIN LOWMAN

## GYC Takes Louisville by Storm

Thousands of Adventist young adults were in Louisville, Ky., on December 30, 2009, for the Generation of Youth for Christ (GYC)

rick, and Sebastian Braxton. Attendees attended 20 different seminars from speakers such as Ron Clouzet, D.Min., Don Macintosh, Nicole Parker, and many others.

Attendance swelled to nearly 5,000 on Sabbath. A panel consisting of General Conference representatives responded to questions submitted by young people on topics like evolu-

tion center while attendees got on board. After every seat was filled, 400 young people remained without a place on the bus. The enthusiastic 400 stormed the streets of downtown Louisville searching for individuals with an interest for Bible studies. In a few short hours, more than 2,200 young people collected 960 Bible study requests, and gave out 34,000 pieces of literature.

Attendees left charged from this year's conference. During the final farewell, the executive committee of GYC announced next year's theme, "No Turning Back," to be held in Baltimore, Md., December 29, 2010. In a reflecting interview of this year's conference, McNeilus shared his view: "This

has been one of GYC's best conferences to date. We were able to showcase to our attendees our support and love for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, our church. The young people will leave here with a sense of urgency and humility of the magnitude of a life lived unashamed!"

For more information about GYC, visit [www.gycweb.org](http://www.gycweb.org).

—BY BRANDON SCHROEDER



Mark Finley spoke on Sabbath morning.

tion, women's role in the Church, and why there are not more Adventists around the world. The panel consisted of Don Schneider, Bill Knott, Ella Simmons, Mark Finley, Paul Ratsara, Ted Wilson, and Mike Ryan.

Speakers for the convention included GYC president Justin McNeilus, Mark Finley, David Assche-

tion, women's role in the Church, and why there are not more Adventists around the world. The panel consisted of Don Schneider, Bill Knott, Ella Simmons, Mark Finley, Paul Ratsara, Ted Wilson, and Mike Ryan.

The outreach effort was done on Friday afternoon. Thirty-eight buses staged around the conven-



More than 2,200 young people witnessed in neighborhoods, on the streets, and in businesses throughout Louisville, Ky.



## Hispanic Church Opens Community Center

The grand opening celebration was held Sabbath, December 19, 2009, for the new Church Fellowship Hall and Community Center at the Nashville, Tenn., First Hispanic Church.

The project was the fulfillment of a long-time dream on the part of the members.

General contractor Luis Alva, who coordinated the project, is a member of the Lebanon, Tenn., Hispanic Church. The original estimate on the construction was \$1,625,000. Total expenditure for the project at the time of the grand opening was approximately \$650,000. Alva admits there are a few things still to be completed, but

they are minor, including finishing the parking lot and landscaping, both of which will be done this spring when warmer weather permits.



Marvin Lowman (left), Conference executive secretary, and Carlos Pinto, pastor, prepare to cut the ribbon to officially open the new center.

The much lower cost was the result of much prayer and many miracles. Site preparation required about 300 truckloads of fill dirt at an estimated cost of \$150,000. But, miraculously,

the dirt was provided free. The only cost involved was for grading and compacting, which was done for about \$45,000.

Because of the economic climate, many subcontractors and suppliers were willing to negotiate large discounts for their services and materials. Many laborers either donated their time or were willing to accept lower wages because "it was for a church." Church members volunteered their time and energy to save on building costs.

The 100' x 120' building includes a 10,000-square-



The architect's depiction of the completed center.

foot auditorium, a kitchen, meeting/dining room, and men's and women's rest rooms with showers. The building will provide a place for the youth to enjoy recreational activities and other functions. The members plan to use the facility as an outreach to the community for recreation, seminars, and evangelistic meetings.

—BY MARVIN LOWMAN

## Pathfinders March in Local Parade

The Madison Campus Trailblazers Pathfinder Club marched in the Goodlettsville Christmas parade for the second consecutive year on Saturday night, December 12, 2009. Nearly all of the 30 members of the club participated in the event.

"There's something about the drum corps that really appeals to the spectators," says Pathfinder director Arlan Monroe. "It's really fun watching other kids and even the adults

getting into the rhythm."

The club has participated in at least five parades



in the last two years — one being the NAD Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wisc., where the drum

corps received a third place award.

"The kids just enjoy being out there," says Monroe. "The church has invested a lot of support in the Pathfinder club. Being able to march in parades is one way of giving back to the church." He sees it also as a witness to the community. Last year the drum corps marched in the Veteran's Day parade in Nashville, Tenn. The young people are proud to be part of the group and

represent the church. The drum corps works very hard under the direction of their leader, Robin Hooker, who is very diligent about practice, emphasizing accuracy and precision.

—BY MARVIN LOWMAN

**Highland Academy  
Annual  
Alumni Weekend  
April 2-4, 2010  
Honoring classes:**

1960, 1985, and 2000; as well as the classes of 1945, 1955, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1990, 1995, and 2005.

## Berea Winning Souls through Sports

If you ask the youth in Sumter, S.C., where can they go to boost their confidence and self-esteem, to find counseling and understanding, to get exercise and learn about health principles, and to just have fun and not have to worry about drugs, alcohol, and fights — they will tell you the best place is at Berea Church. Under the guidance of the church pastor, Robert Green Jr., James L. McCoy, Rebecca Dunham, and other coaching staff, the young people in Sumter will also tell you it is where you can go to learn about the love of God, and see His love in action.

They have learned joy and realize a sense of achievement when working as a team, whether playing basketball, doing community work, feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, or present-

ing Adventist Youth Society programs. They have acquired a greater knowledge of the Bible and God's will in their lives through Bible study and working with the coaching staff.

Through the church's basketball outreach program, these young people were invited to become a part of God's family. On December 30, 2009, seven accepted the invitation when they stepped into the water to be baptized. In 2008, two participants who are still actively involved, Nika Dennis and Rashard Dennis, gave their hearts to God and each other . . . first to God through baptism, then to each other through marriage.

Others in the Sumter-Manning district of South Carolina, who have also been baptized as a result



*Nika Dennis (left), Michael Pitts, Isaiah Hannab, Jabrod McLeod, Rashard Dennis (back row, left), Isaiah Smith Jr., Jacob White, Benjamin Wilson, Isaiah Tindal, Corey Myers, and Jeffrey Johnson: All, with the exception of two, who are currently taking Bible studies, have become baptized members of Berea Church.*

of their interest in sports and the associated church-related programs, include Lorenza Green, Desmond Lee, Anthony Officer, Tyron Wharton, Dawn Wharton, Olympia Dinkins, Rayven Pringle, and David Sims. Many members of the Pee Wee basketball team have also taken a stand for Jesus

and have been baptized: Dominique Gooden, Mikayla Dwyer, Derika Hamilton, Darionna Isaac, Shannon Isaac, Dessarae Isaac, Raymond "RJ" Pringle, Robert Matterson, Zacchaeus Sanders, Shante Turner, and Danielle Varence.

—BY ROBERT GREEN JR.

## Elementary Teacher Wins Award of Excellence

Austell Primary School, under the direction of Mamie Pruitt, was awarded the 2009 The Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, Inc. (GAHPERD) Award of Excellence in Physical Education. She was honored during the 2009 Convention Banquet in Atlanta on November 1, 2009.

Pruitt leads a program that involves many facets of the school family. In her application she made the comment that the community is the right arm of the success of the program at Austell

Primary. While this is true, no right arm knows what to do without a visionary brain. Pruitt keeps the parents involved in the program by providing information on expectations, programs that are being offered, and how parents can get involved with the programs. Her communication does not end there. She also sends home fitness results at least twice a year, has had her school family complete a survey to assess the value of the program, and has certified most of the staff members in CPR/first aid.

"Coach" Pruitt also offers a fitness walking program, tumbling team, and a jump rope team, all as extra-curricular activities. The school participates in Jump Rope for Heart and provides an annual Family Fun and Fitness Night for the community. All of this is done at a primary school of kindergarten and first grade with an enrollment of 320.

Pruitt is a member of Atlanta-Berean Church and regularly teaches CPR/first



*Mamie Pruitt (right) was awarded the 2009 GAHPERD Award of Excellence in Physical Education during the 2009 Convention Banquet in Atlanta, Ga.*

aid classes to the Conference office staff, church members, Pathfinder clubs, and staffs at the Conference schools in the metro Atlanta area.



## West End Church Holds 20th Homeownership Seminar



West End Church in Atlanta, Ga., was packed to capacity on Sunday, September 13, 2009. While this may be an ordinary occurrence for a Sabbath service, on this particular Sunday the church was filled with individuals who were not Adventists, who gathered for the Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America (NACA) Program. Rather than let this awesome witnessing opportunity slip through the cracks, the members banded together to provide the community with an up-close and personal view of the love of Christ.

NACA is a non-profit, community advocacy and homeownership organization. NACA has made the dream of homeownership

a reality for thousands of working people by counseling them honestly and effectively, enabling even those with poor credit to purchase or refinance homes with no down payment, no closing costs, no fees, no requirement for perfect credit, and at a below-market, near 0 percent interest rate. NACA also acts in an affordable mortgage advocacy capacity to assist people currently in foreclosure, or those needing a more affordable mortgage.

While program participants took part in the seminar, the church parking lot and lawn were busy with activities ranging from moonwalks, and Frisbee tosses, to horseback rides and a gospel DJ. In ad-

dition, health professionals were available to give blood pressure screenings, provide stroke awareness, diabetic education, and dental screenings for children. Church members, as well as community volunteers, served as hosts to usher in and direct the crowds and distribute literature, including *The Ten Commandments Twice Removed* and *Ministry of Healing* books. Attendees completed surveys which assisted the members in developing appropriate programs tailored to the specific needs of the community. The surveys also helped to develop a database of information to aid in providing food and clothing to the needy.

West End community

service leader and event organizer Damien Smith realized the witnessing potential of the event after securing his home utilizing the program in 2004, securing a 2.3 percent 30-year fixed interest rate. Previously NACA programs were only available on Sabbaths, but now attendees have the opportunity to attend on Sundays at West End. Calvin B. Preston, senior pastor, and Patrick Carter, associate pastor, were both avid supporters, and took a hands-on approach during the program. The members now host NACA quarterly, with this last program being the 20th session held at West End. The next workshop is scheduled for March 14, 2010.

—BY DAMIEN SMITH

## Revival, Baptism Held at Overton Park Church



*The candidates repeat their vows.*

Overton Park Church in Memphis, Tenn., held an evangelistic meeting in the fall of 2009, entitled "Nothing But the Truth Bible Revival." The three-week revival started on Sabbath, October 17, 2009, and ended on Sabbath, November 7, 2009. It was conducted by Marvin Whiting, pastor. Church members and guests attended for three weeks to hear clear and straightforward messages.

The revival series' focus was to help others better understand the Bible's real message, thus the first meeting commenced with the subject, "The Truth About the Bible." Other sermon topics were "The Truth About Prophecy," "Salvation, Sabbath, Dating, and Marriage," and "Health." On the last Sabbath, Whiting ended the revival series with "The Truth About the Truth."

The members were excited as they anticipated the baptism of pre-teenagers and teenagers. Most of them were in the Sabbath School junior class taught by Beverly Echols. The youth participated in the

Sabbath program by reciting the Fourth Commandment in unison. Echols then shared each young person's response to the statement, "Why I Want to Be Baptized."

Jaylan Bratcher, 10, said, "I want to be baptized because I want to be a Seventh-day Adventist, and I love the Lord." His brother, De-

Mario Bratcher, 12, said, "I want to give myself to the Lord, and I want to be born again." Nakiyah Morris, 11, said, "I want to be in the Church, and I want to know God more." Amira

Keita, 10, said, "I want God to forgive my sins, and I want to be a Christian." Her sister, Maiyisha Keita, 13, said, "I want to be close to God, and I want to go to Heaven." Danielle Echols, 11, said, "I want to know Jesus more and I want to follow Him, and I want to be a Seventh-day Adventist." Miracle Woods, 9, said, "I want to join the Church, and I want to know Jesus better, and I want to walk with Jesus in His pathway." Moriah Hampton, 11, said, "I want to go and live with the Lord, and I want my sins to be washed away." Shelley-Ann Griffith, 16, said with excitement, "I want to be a Seventh-day Adventist."

After these statements, the candidates were taken to the preparation room to change into baptismal robes. They returned and the congregation applauded and honored God for each one.

After the sermon, nine junior class students and one youth class student, Juwon Venter, 16, were baptized. Immediately after the baptism, each was presented with a baptismal certificate and a plaque. Each plaque had the candidate's name, the date, and the following inscription: "In Honor of Your Baptism, Overton Park SDA Church, Memphis, Tennessee."

—BY PATTY RANAIVO

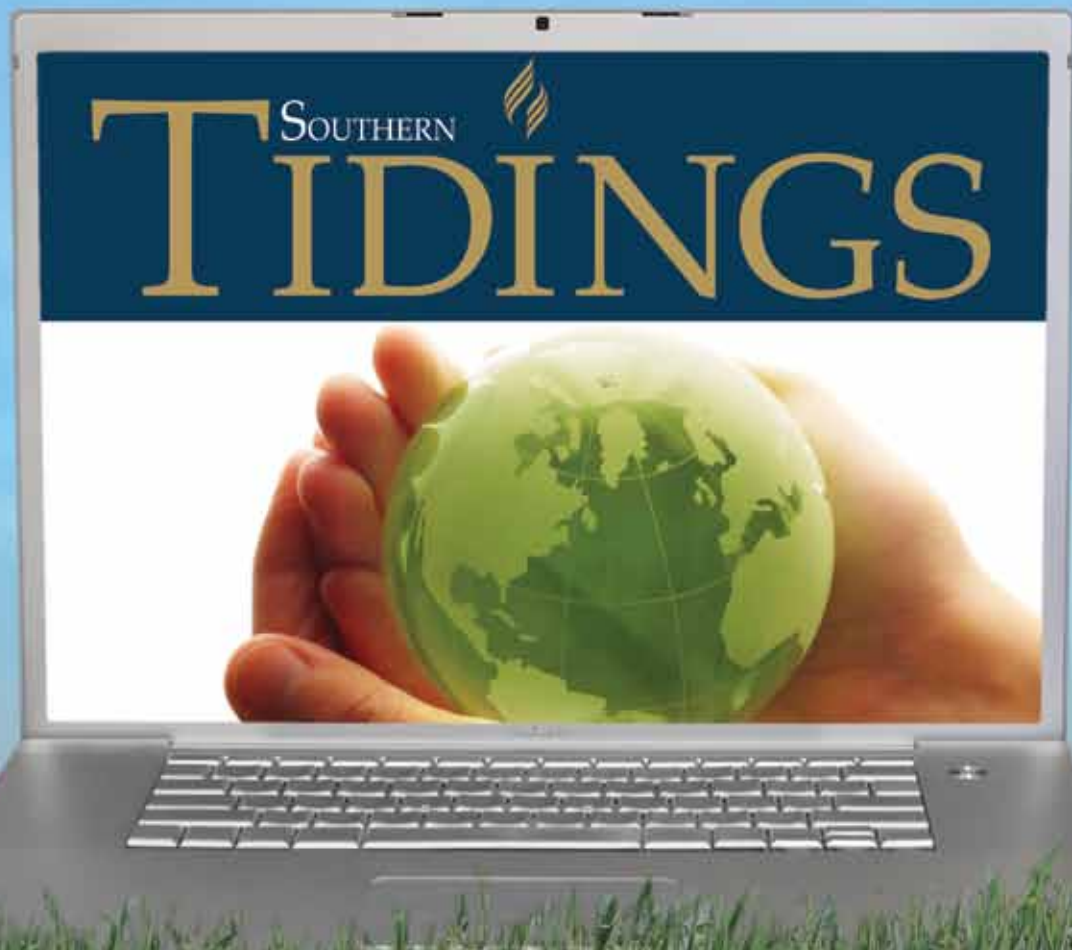


*Marvin Whiting, pastor, stands with the newest baptized members of Overton Park Church.*



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## Southeastern Sends Medical Teams to Haiti



*Surgeons must perform surgery without anesthesia.*

The Southeastern Conference sent three teams of medical professionals and a documentary film maker to aid in the rescue and recovery efforts in Haiti.

Commissioned by Hubert J. Morel, Conference president, and led by

Haitian-American Nicole Brisé, Conference women's ministries director, and David Peay, Conference Adventist disaster response director, each team spent a week in Haiti providing medical services to thousands of individuals that were affected by the earthquake that rocked Haiti on January 12, 2010.

Of the 41 doctors and nurses that made the trip to Haiti, 29 were Haitian-Americans. The first team departed to Haiti on January 26. The second team departed on February 1.

While in Haiti, both teams stayed on the campus of the Adventiste d'Haiti Hospital, a 70-bed healthcare



*Her home destroyed and no available rooms in the Adventist Hospital, this mother is forced to recuperate from her wounds on a bench outside the hospital.*



*Southeastern team members attend to the medical needs of an Haitian infant.*

facility located just outside of Port-au-Prince.

Southeastern did not act alone in this effort, but worked in conjunction with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), which has a 30-year established record in Haiti, and Florida Hospital. ADRA provided logistics support for the team.

Florida Hospital sent more than 23,000 (60,000 pounds) medical supplies that were used by the Southeastern medical teams.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY

### Pastor's Loss

As news of the earthquake that rocked Haiti was made known to the world, Gerly Germain, pastor of the Bethanie and Beracah French churches in Tampa and Bradenton, Fla., learned that his father, Joseph A. Germain, died from injuries sustained during the earthquake. Joseph Germain served the Adventist Church for more than 30 years as a pastor, conference president, ministerial secretary, stewardship director, and publishing director at the Haitian Union of Seventh-day Adventists. A memorial service to honor his life was held on January 24, 2010, at the Sinai Church in Plantation, Fla.

"Our members have lost wives, husbands, children, mothers, fathers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews in the earthquake," states Hubert Morel, Conference president.

Alah Monestime, Conference Haitian ministries coordinator, is making plans to provide long-term support in the way of mission trips to Haiti in the coming months and years.

Of the 188 pastors, teachers, and support staff that Southeastern employs, 24 are Haitian pastors who shepherd 36 Haitian congregations. There are also 18 Haitian teachers teaching in schools throughout the Conference.



*David Peay (center) and Nicole Brisé assess the immediate needs of the Adventist Hospital with Emmanuel Paul, pastor and hospital chaplain.*



## Relief Team Member Blogs About Haiti Experience



*Eddie Pollut, M.D. (left), discusses logistical support with members of the U.S. Military.*

### **From the blog of Yalena Packwood:**

"Today was a beautiful day in Haiti. Several of us visiting Haiti for the first time stood on the roof of the hospital and took in the beauty of the ocean, mountains, and greenery around us. The warm ocean breeze was calming and readied us to jump back into the chaos of the hospital below. Despite the fallen houses, it is

in our group. I've spent the past few days walking around the hospital grounds passing out food and water, following the chaplain, and listening to the stories of the people. The doctors and nurses have been operating, changing bandages, delivering babies, and working around the clock. Eight babies have been born in the past day. Tonight, there are more women ready to bring new life into the world in the next few hours.

"I find that many of us forget that individuals, not just a collective mass, have been affected by this earthquake. A young lawyer, at the beginning of a bright career, lost her arm, and is recuperating in the city of tents outside the hospital. The daughter of a diplomat lost 17 family members, including her only child, when their family home caved in. She pays people \$15 a day to use their hands to dig for the re-

mains before the street dogs foraging for food are able to reach the bodies of her aunts, uncles, and cousins.

"A man came to the hospital requesting a body bag for a person who had died in his home. A man sat on his cot, his leg bandaged where his knee should have been. He has two sons and is a construction worker. He is alive, but how will he take care of his family with one leg? Over 12,000 people are living on the grounds of the Seventh-day Adventist University. ADRA has set up a small out-patient clinic there and is giving out food as it becomes available.

"Every day the hospital receives life-saving medications and gets a little more organized. Two weeks ago, surgeries and amputations were done without anesthesia and pain medication. Now, there are two anesthesia machines and an anesthesiologist, even though most only get regular ibuprofen post-op to ease the pain. Today, the UN brought mattresses, and Marines brought two trucks full of food and clean water. One Marine said that the devastation he has seen traveling around the city has been hard for him, but it lifts his heart to see the resilience

of the people as they have already started rebuilding their lives.

"I realize that the media has made this out to be a poor country with poor people who are stuck without hope. But, Haitian-Americans have been returning in droves to help their people. Haitian professionals, many of whom are now homeless, have moved into the tent cities and are volunteering to help others. There is some looting. There is theft. There is even murder. No one has escaped this disaster



*A member of the Southeastern medical team visits one of thousands of injured people that live in one of the many tent cities.*

unscathed. Everyone has lost someone. Greater than that, there is a unity and understanding that they must work to make this city better than what it once was. Faith in God is strong, and people are constantly praying and requesting prayer. As the initial shock of the catastrophe begins to wear off, everyone in this group is beginning to feel the hope that this situation will get better somehow, someday."



*Despite the poor conditions in Haiti, the children are able to smile.*

impossible not to appreciate the beauty here.

"This experience in Haiti has been a life-changing experience for everyone

ily members, including her only child, when their family home caved in. She pays people \$15 a day to use their hands to dig for the re-

## Graduate Fills Vacancy in Yap

It was a month before graduation, and physical education major Alex Bolanos still hadn't finalized what he was going to do after his December graduation.

Then, on November 19, 2009, the campus was struck with grief as news spread that a student missionary in Yap, Micronesia, had been killed. Though shocked and saddened, Bolanos didn't consider how this event might affect his future until Gordon Bietz, Ph.D., Southern Adventist University president, stood

up to speak to a group of grieving students that Friday night.

"As soon as Dr. Bietz stood up and started talking, I felt the call," says Bolanos. That evening, he expressed his interest in Yap, knowing that if this wasn't a true calling, God would close a door somewhere. Yet, as he moved forward, doors only continued to open.

Even though raising enough money for an over-



*Having graduated from Southern last December, Alex Bolanos is now teaching on the island of Yap in Micronesia.*

seas trip so quickly could be an obstacle — God provided. Upon learning that Bolanos

was preparing to serve in Yap, his church committed to raising the money he needed.

Upon arriving in Yap in January, Bolanos filled one of the four spots that were left open in the aftermath of the tragedy. During the next six months, Bolanos will show the people of Yap that even in the midst of

tragedy, God still provides.

—BY LORI FUTCHER

## Construction Management Students Build Duplex

Although it may look like just a normal construction site on University Drive, the wooden frame of a house is a class project, teaching students in Southern Adventist University's Technology Department the principles and skills of construction and management.

The construction

management students have been building a duplex on this site since fall of 2008, enabling students to learn the realities and skills of the trades, such as masonry, footing, and carpentry, which will help them in the workplace once they graduate. They are building the house entirely on their own with the guidance of

the instructor and local professionals.

"We are learning everything that is needed to build a house, from the physical work to the mental work," says Jared Manasco, a sophomore construction management major. "The best way to learn something like this is to get out there and do it."

—BY BRITTANY RUSSELL



*Students are learning vital skills to be successful construction managers.*

## Market Research Institute Opens

Southern Adventist University opened a new Market Research Institute on its campus on January 12.

The non-profit institute is working in conjunction with Southern's School of Business and Management to administer market research and demographic analysis for businesses in and around the area.

Lisa Goolsby, assistant

professor of business and faculty administrator for the Market Research Institute, came up with the idea for a Market Research Institute while contemplating the question, "How can I make market research real to my students?"

Work from the Market Research Institute will provide classes with

real-world case studies.

In addition, students will have the opportunity to gain experience by working there under the close supervision of an experienced marketing professional. In addition to the experiences students will gain, they will also gain financially through scholarships that will be supported by profits from

the institute.

Services that the institute will offer include qualitative analysis through focus groups, one-on-one interviews, and telephonic surveys. In the long term, the institute plans to grow to support additional marketing services on a national level.

—BY LORI FUTCHER



## La Ventana: Hispanic Ministries Releases New Film

Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching people. The Savior mingled with men as one Who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then, He bade them "follow me" *The Ministry of Healing*, p. 143.

With this concept in mind, Alejandro Bullón, evangelist, wrote the movie script of a story about a family that was undergoing a painful situation. Their Christian neighbors began a relationship with them by offering help, and spending time together. As they did this, the Christian family naturally glorified God by sharing His love, which is so appealing to a thirsty soul. By gaining their trust, they did not have to "force" them into Bible studies or church attendance — it came gradually, and as a consequence of the love received and the trust developed through friendship.

These results can only be achieved when they are the consequence of an intimate relationship of love with the Lord — life becomes a mission when eating, drinking, relating to others, or doing anything else, because God is glorified. Therefore, the way in which people are brought to His feet flows naturally — it is a joyful experience. His followers see opportunities to share His love as they wash their cars,

shop at the supermarket, work, or do anything else. Witnessing stops being a rigid activity they program themselves to do only during certain days, in a specific time, in order to meet a requisite. It becomes a lifestyle.

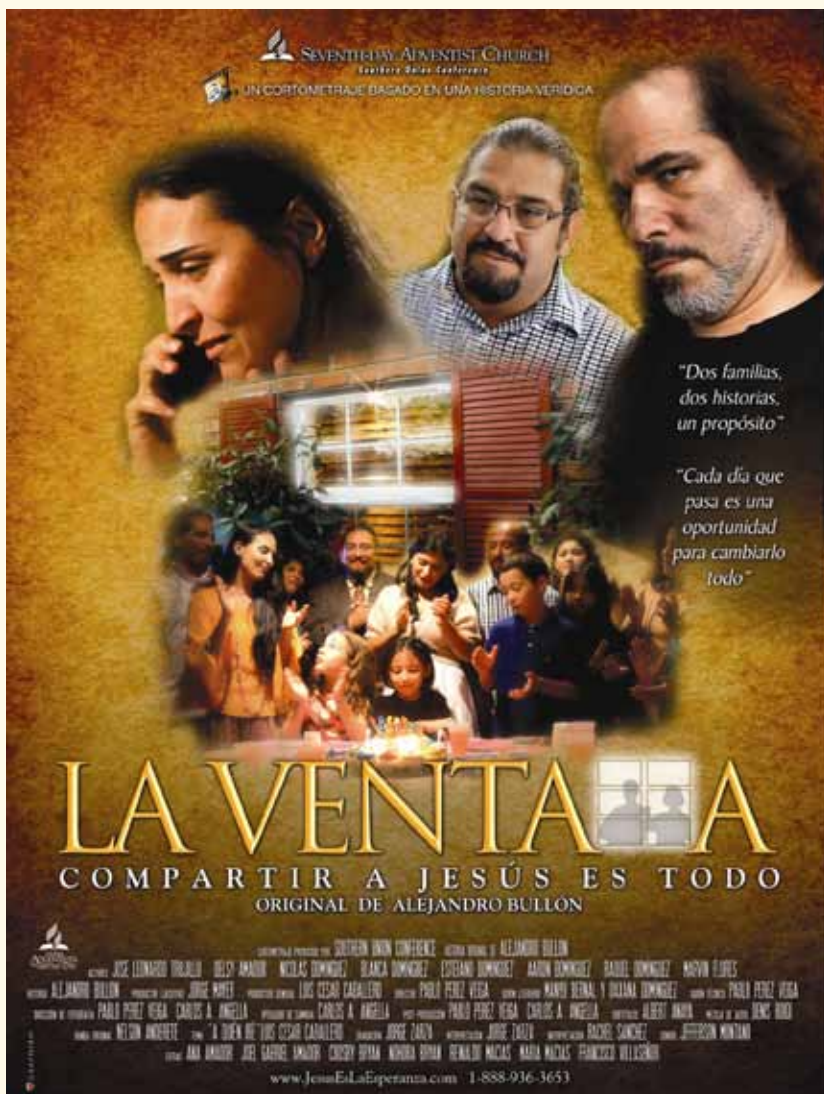
If you want your relationship with God to grow to this level, you can pray for help and be certain that your petition will be granted, because His main desire is to "dwell among us" Exodus 25:8. He has made this very clear since the beginning of time. The more you pray, the more you will learn to hear His voice in different ways. You will be eager to study the Bible more, and acts will be filled with His love, so appealing to the needy souls. His followers will always open their mouths to make known the mystery of the gospel (Ephesians 6:13-19). As a result, their lives will be blessed. "The only way to grow in grace is to be

interestedly doing the very work Christ has enjoined upon us to do" *Christian Service*, p. 101.

This is the message the movie *La Ventana* (The Window) is trying to reflect. It was filmed in Spanish, with subtitles in English and Portuguese, and produced by the Southern Union Conference Hispanic Ministries department. Its trailer can be watched on [www.jesuseslaesperanza.com](http://www.jesuseslaesperanza.com), [www.laventanafilm.com](http://www.laventanafilm.com), and YouTube by typing *La Ventana*. The website will also have details when the film will be shown in your area.

The creators of *La Ventana* hope it becomes a tool to help church members see the joyful and natural experience of sharing with others the unconditional love God has so graciously given to all.

—BY MARIEL LOMBARDI



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**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. Details: [kpergerson@yahoo.com](mailto:kpergerson@yahoo.com).

**Adventists and Islam** – March 12-14. What message do SDAs have for Islam? Find out during this special weekend at Southern Adventist University. Details: [NADAdventistMuslimRelations@gmail.com](mailto:NADAdventistMuslimRelations@gmail.com), or call 423-368-2343.

**Valley Grande Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend** – March 26-28. Honor classes: 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1985, 1990, 2000, and 2005. Details: Suzanna Facundo at [sfacundo@hotmail.com](mailto:sfacundo@hotmail.com).

**100th Birthday Celebration Honoring Mary Florence Cleveland-Custard** on March 27, 2010, 11 a.m., at Riverside Chapel, 800 Youngs Lane, Nashville, TN 37207. Details: [ls1697@att.net](mailto:ls1697@att.net).

**Union College Homecoming** – April 1-4. Honor classes: 1940, '50, '55, '60, '70, '80, '85, '90, and 2000. Details: Contact the Alumni Office at 402-486-2503 or [alumni@ucollege.edu](mailto:alumni@ucollege.edu).

**Washington Adventist University Alumni Weekend** April 9-11. (Columbia Union College, Washington Missionary College) Honor Classes: '30, '40, '50, '60, '70, '80, '85, '90 & '00. Details: [www.wau.edu/alumni](http://www.wau.edu/alumni), [alumni@wau.edu](mailto:alumni@wau.edu), or 301-891-4133.

**Jefferson Academy Alumni Weekend** – April 16-18. Details: 903-665-3973, or [brendawilson61@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brendawilson61@sbcglobal.net).

**La Sierra Academy Alumni Weekend** – April 23 and 24. Golf Tournament April 23. Vespers and Alumni Sabbath Homecoming, April 24, at LSA Gym; Potluck, Reunions, Alumni/Varsity Basketball Game. All welcome! Contact Alumni Office at 951 351-1445 x244, check website for details: [www.lsa12.com](http://www.lsa12.com).

**Broadview Academy Alumni Weekend** – April 30 and May 1. North Aurora Church. All alumni are encouraged to attend. Honor classes: 1950, '60, '70, '80, '85, '90, and 2000. Details: [www.broadviewacademy.org](http://www.broadviewacademy.org).

**"Ye Olde" Cedar Lake Academy Reunion** – June 3-6. For alumni and schoolmates of 1960 and earlier, at Great Lakes Adventist Academy (formerly CLA). Honor classes: 1930, '40, '50, and '60. Details will be forthcoming by postal service. Also, you may contact the GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5181 or visit [www.GLAA.net](http://www.GLAA.net) for further information.

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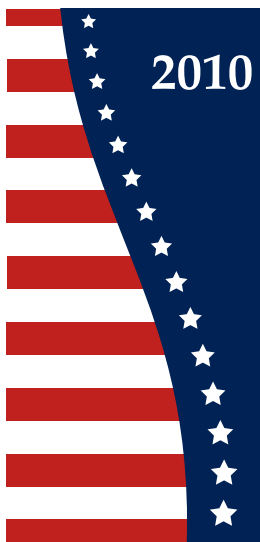
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**BOOKS** – More than 250,000 new and used Adventist books in stock at [www.LNFBooks.com](http://www.LNFBooks.com). Looking for a publisher? Free review of your manuscript. Call 1-800-367-1844 or visit [www.TeachServices.com](http://www.TeachServices.com). [3-9]

**ADVENTIST SATELLITE SYSTEMS** – For sales & installation in the Atlanta area, call Kaz Sanocki, 404-791-3093. [3]

**A REASON FOR HANDWRITING®** homeschool curriculum focuses on meaningful, daily practice. Each weekly lesson is built around a Scripture verse chosen for inspirational content as well as proper letter combinations. Now available at your local Adventist Book Center, online at [www.adventistbookcenter.com](http://www.adventistbookcenter.com), or by calling 1-800-765-6955. [3-9]

**IMMUNE AMMUNITION:** Beyond vitamins. 5 herbs blended to help fight virus, bacteria, fungus, and inflammation. We also carry vegan vitamin D and other vegan supplements. Buy now online or direct. [www.bonherbals.com](http://www.bonherbals.com) or 423-238-7467, E-mail: [bonnie@bonherbals.com](mailto:bonnie@bonherbals.com), Bon Herbals, PO Box 1038, Collegedale, TN 37363. [3]

**SAVE \$4.00 March 1-31, 2010!** ABC Deal of the Month: Finding the Father, by Herb Montgomery. Regularly \$14.99, Sale \$10.99. Confront long-held, though biblically unfounded, views of God—see Him for who He really is. Available at your ABC, at [www.AdventistBookCenter.com](http://www.AdventistBookCenter.com), or by calling 1-800-765-6955. [3]

## MISCELLANEOUS

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

**AdventistSingles.org** Free 14-day Trial! Join thousands of Adventist singles online. Free chat, search, profiles, match notifications! Adventist owners since 1993. Visit [www.ElliotDylan.com](http://www.ElliotDylan.com) for the Undercover Angels series of novels for Christian teens that build on Biblical principles and encourage integrity. Great Sabbath reading and gifts! ©

**www.AdventistContact.com** – successfully matching single Adventists since 1974. Adventist Contact is the original dating ministry for

Adventists. We endeavor to be the very best! Will you be our next success story? Still alone? Join now! Why? Join now! See what's free! Tell your friends. Married through Contact? Submit your story/photos: [success@adventistcontact.com](mailto:success@adventistcontact.com). [1-5]

**ARE YOU MOVING SOON?** Before you rent an U-Haul and do it yourself, check our price and save yourself the hassle. Plan now and reserve a time slot. Fast, direct, and economical. Contact Gary Erhard, Erhard Furniture, 610 South Mechanic Street, Berrien Springs, MI; 49103; 269-471-7366 or 248-890-5700, evenings 8-11 p.m. ©

**RELOCATING?** Apex Moving & Storage has a national account contract with the General Conference for your moving needs. Take advantage of a volume rated discount. Be assured you are moving with the BEST! Call Marcy Dante' at 800-766-1902; or visit us at: [www.apexmoving.com/adventist](http://www.apexmoving.com/adventist). [3-8]

**RV's!!** Adventist owned and operated RV dealership has been helping SDA's for over 30 years. Huge inventory of new and used trailers and motorhomes. Jayco, Newmar and Hurricane. Courtesy airport pickup and on-site hookups. Call toll-free 1-888-933-9300. Lee's RV, Oklahoma City. [www.leesrv.com](http://www.leesrv.com) or e-mail Lee Litchfield at [Lee@leesrv.com](mailto:Lee@leesrv.com). ©

**WILDWOOD HEALTH RETREAT SEMINARS:** April & May, 2010: Three seminars focusing on practical skills and healthful living. April 5-15: Home Construction and Gardening – Classes also include home hydrotherapy and natural remedies. April 25-May 9: Intensive Weight Management Seminar – Scientific, Biblical methods for appetite control and permanent weight loss. May 16-23: Country Living Seminar – Hands-on instruction on practical skills for independent Christian living; strategies to make the move from city to country living. For details on these and upcoming seminars visit our website at [www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org](http://www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org) or contact Lew Keith: 931-724-6706. Email: [lykeith@gmail.com](mailto:lykeith@gmail.com). [3]

### AUTOS and PASSENGER VANS NEEDED!!!

Looking for a "Tax Break?" The Southern Union Home Health Education Services (HHES) is looking for individuals or businesses willing to donate cars, vans, motor homes, or RVs in useable condition to its YOUTH SUMMIT student missionary program. These much-needed vehicles will be used by student literature evangelists and Bible workers, to do evangelistic work in various church locations throughout the Southern Union. Financial contributions are accepted as well.

For more information, please call Rocky Davis or Jim Wilson at: 404-299-1621

**PLANNING AN EVANGELISTIC SERIES OR HEALTH SEMINAR?** Have questions? Need affordable, professionally prepared handbills, brochures, signs, banners, and mailing services? Call free, 800-274-0016 and ask for HOPE Customer Service or visit [www.hopesource.com](http://www.hopesource.com). You deserve the best with confidence and peace of mind. Your friends at Hamblin's HOPE deliver on-time. [3-6]

**AdventistEvanglism.com** – your #1 source for seminar handbills and brochures. If you are considering a community outreach series in your area we can help you design, print, and mail your invitations. Call Color Press toll free at 1-800-222-2145 and ask for Janet or Lorraine. [3-7]

**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](http://www.kahilipark.org). Info: [info@kahilipark.org](mailto:info@kahilipark.org) or 808-742-9921. [3-6]

**AFFORDABLE WEBSITES:** Does your ministry need an affordable website? Does your current website need an updated look? We can design a professional looking site to meet your needs. Call George at 704-900-3015 or visit us at [GeoDenSolutions.com](http://GeoDenSolutions.com). [3-4]



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# Events Calendar

## Carolina

**Lay Bible Worker Training** – March 5-7. NPR.

**NAD Prayer Summit at the Cove** – March 7-10. Register at [Plusline.org](http://Plusline.org).

**Pathfinder Workbee** – March 19-21. NPR.

**Church Works Carolina** – March 26-28. Blue Ridge Assembly.

**Share Him Lay Evangelism Festival** – April 8-10. British Columbia, Canada.

**Hispanic Camp Meeting** – April 16-18. NPR.

**Mt. Pisgah Academy Alumni Weekend** – April 16-18.

**Welcome to the Family Retreat** – April 23-25. NPR.

**MPA Academy Days** – April 25, 26.

## 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](mailto: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.oakwoodalumninfl.org/>, [oakwoodalumninfl@gmail.com](mailto:oakwoodalumninfl@gmail.com), 888-719-7776, or 904-616-1896.

**Florida Hospital DeLand Support Groups** – Florida Hospital DeLand offers a variety of support groups. Details are available under the "Support Groups" link in the "Patients and Visitors" box at <http://www.fhdeland.org/>.

**Florida Adventist Book Center** – Winter Park: 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](mailto:FloridaABC@floridaconference.com)

**Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule**

March 27. Port Charlotte.

March 28. North Port, Venice-Nokomis, Sarasota, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.

April 3. Tallahassee.

April 4. Perry, Cross City, Ocala, Silver Springs Shores, Belleview, Inverness.

April 10. Maranatha in Miami Gardens.

April 11. Ft. Lauderdale, Lauderhill, Pompano Beach, West Palm Beach Spanish. Jupiter-Tequesta.

**116th Annual Florida Conference Camp Meeting** – March 4-7. New venue: Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: <http://www.floridaconference.com/campmeeting/>

**Planned Giving Clinics and Seminars**

April 4. Cocoa.

April 17. Campestre Hispano, Camp Kulaqua.

April 24. Gainesville.

May 1. Tampa Spanish.

May 15. Indiantown Spanish.

May 22. Treasure Coast Spanish.

**Campestre Hispano (Spanish-language Camp Meeting)** – April 15-18. New venue: Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: <http://www.floridaconference.com/campmeeting/>

**Greater Miami Adventist Academy Golf Tournament and Family Festival** – April 25. Details: [cleo.trevilcock@att.blackberry.net](mailto:cleo.trevilcock@att.blackberry.net), 954-254-9249, or 305-220-5955 x151.

## Georgia-Cumberland

**Complete calendar online** – [www.gccsda.com](http://www.gccsda.com)

**GCA Academy Days** – March 12, 13. Calhoun, GA.

**Midterm Report & Town Hall Meeting** – March 13. Atlanta North Church.

**3-Point Play Training** – March 14. Standifer Gap, TN.

**Adventurer Family Fun Day** – March 14. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp.

**South Georgia Camp Meeting** – March 20. Wimbish Adventist School, Macon, GA.

**Midterm Report & Town Hall Meeting** – March 20. Wimbish Adventist School, Macon, GA.

**KID University** – March 21-24. Collegedale, TN.

**Pathfinder Precision Drill Team Day** – March 21. Lee University, Cleveland, TN.

**Elementary Band Festival** – March 25, 26. Calhoun, GA.

**Spring Women's Retreat** – March 26-28. Cohutta Springs,

Crandall, GA.

**Teen Girls' Retreat** – March 26-28. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.

**GCC/SAC Evangelism Rally** – March 26. Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA.

**Youth/Young Adult Festival** – March 27. Cartersville, GA.

**Leadership Training (Health/Personal Ministries)** – March 27. Greeneville, TN.

**Prayer Ministry Day** – April 3. Crossville, TN.

**Pioneer Outreach Ministries**

April 3. Oglethorpe, GA.

April 10. Americus, GA.

## Gulf States

**Complete Calendar online** – <http://www.gscsda.org>

**Teen Backpacking Invitational** – March 5-7.

**Women's Ministries Retreat** – March 12-14. 4-H Center, Columbiana.

**View Bass Days** – March 12, 13.

**Cross Examination** – March 20.

**Conference Staff Meeting** – March 22.

**Pastors' Area Meeting**

March 23. Meridian.

Montgomery. March 25.

**Executive Meeting and Audit Review** – March 30. Conference Office.

**Mississippi Investiture** – April 3.

**Pathfinder Spring Fling** – April 9, 10. Gulf Coast, North and Central Alabama.

**Outdoor Education** – April 12-15. Camp Alamisco.

## Kentucky-Tennessee

**West Tennessee Festival of Faith** – March 6. Memphis, TN.

**Eastern Kentucky Camp**

**Meeting** – March 12, 13. Prestonsburg, KY.

**Conference Association Board** March 16. May 4.

**Conference Executive Committee**

March 16. May 4.

**Prayer Conference** – March 19, 20. Indian Creek Camp.

**Highland Academy Alumni Weekend** – April 2-4. Honoring classes: 1960, 1985, and 2000; as well as the classes of '45, '55, '65, '70, '75, '80, '90, '95, and 2005.

**Board of Education** – April 15.

**Camp Meeting** – May 28-June 5. Highland Academy.

**Hispanic Camp Meeting** – June 12. Highland Academy.

## South Atlantic

**Adventurer Family Fun Weekend** – April 23-25. YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, NC.

## Southern Adventist University

**Spring Break** – Feb. 26-March 7.

**Duo-Piano Recital** – Bruce Ashton and Peter Cooper – March 9.

**Adventist Robotics League Southern Challenge** – March 14.

**Symphony Orchestra Concert** – March 21.

**PreiewSouthern** – March 25-27.

**Gym-Masters Home Show** – March 27.

**Gym-Masters Home Show Matinee** – March 28.

## Announcements on page 42

## Sunset

	Mar. 5	Mar. 12	Mar. 19	Mar. 26	Apr. 2	Apr. 9
Atlanta, GA	6:38	6:43	7:49	7:54	7:59	8:05
Charleston, SC	6:21	6:26	7:31	7:36	7:41	7:46
Charlotte, NC	6:23	6:29	7:35	7:40	7:46	7:52
Collegedale, TN	6:40	6:46	7:51	7:57	8:03	8:08
Huntsville, AL	5:46	5:52	6:58	7:03	7:09	7:14
Jackson, MS	6:02	6:07	7:12	7:17	7:22	7:27
Louisville, KY	6:41	6:48	7:54	8:01	8:07	8:14
Memphis, TN	5:59	6:05	7:11	7:17	7:22	7:28
Miami, FL	6:25	6:29	7:32	7:35	7:38	7:42
Montgomery, AL	5:46	5:51	6:56	7:01	7:06	7:11
Nashville, TN	5:46	5:52	6:58	7:04	7:10	7:16
Orlando, FL	6:28	6:33	7:37	7:40	7:44	7:48
Wilmington, NC	6:12	6:17	7:23	7:28	7:34	7:39

# TIDINGS

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### Featured Speakers:

Stephen Bohr • Gordon and Waveney Martinborough • Lee Wellard • Chuck Stark • Dan Vis  
Agatha Thrash • Craig Newborn • Brian Bergherm • Al and Jane Sines

El seminario de Stephen Bohr estarán en español y las reuniones principales serán traducidas.  
Live streaming of this event is provided by Network 7 Media Center at [www.asisouthernunion.org](http://www.asisouthernunion.org)  
Children's programs available on Friday and Sabbath.  
There will be a youth choir and a variety of other talented musical guests.  
ASI Health Seminars in partnership with AMEN, the Adventist Medical Evangelism Network.



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