Adventist Education

Sección En Español
How to be Faithful with God When Money is Tight

“When you make a commitment to God, He will either send you a blessing or test you to see if you meant it.” That is what a local elder told me many years ago after a stewardship revival.

It is wonderful when God opens the windows of Heaven and pours out blessings as we give. At the conclusion of a stewardship revival, Sadie made a vow to increase her giving. The next day she testified, “When I got home, a check for $500 was in the mail!”

But what about when we make a vow and then experience financial challenges? Shortly after a couple committed to give their children an Adventist education, the unthinkable happened: the husband was laid off. Money was tight, but they had made a commitment. What were they to do? It was a test. They prayed and decided to stand by their commitment. God showed them some resources to help, but they needed more. Fortunately, God placed a teacher at the school with a sympathetic ear and heart. She felt if parents make a faith commitment to give their children a Christian education, educators should make a faith commitment to help them. She joined the parents in prayer and began to actively raise money on their child’s tuition. Together they prayed. Together they worked. And together they watched God provide every dime. They passed the test.

Sometimes we make commitments to increase our giving and then run into financial problems. How does one win the battle to remain faithful to your vows when money is tight?

Recently, my wife and I decided to increase our giving during a time when unexpected expenses made money very tight. But God saw our situation and gave us Psalm 50:14, 15 to encourage us while we watched Him prove His faithfulness again and again:

Make thankfulness your sacrifice to God,
and keep the vows you made to the Most High.
Then call on Me when you are in trouble,
and I will rescue you,
and you will give Me glory.

These two verses provide four tips that can help believers be faithful and steadfast during a commitment test. First, give thanks to God for Who He is. He is Jehovah-Jireh, our Provider. We can also give thanks for what He has done, is doing, and will do to care for us. Second, determine to keep your vows. Third, call on God for help. His unfailing promise to every struggling believer is, “I will rescue you.” Finally, when God answers, give Him the glory. Your testimony of God’s goodness will give glory to God, strengthen your faith, and encourage someone else who is struggling. In fact, “don’t wait ‘til the battle is over, begin to praise Him now!”
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It’s true! Our children give very little latitude when it comes to adults getting along. One of the last prayers of Jesus in John chapter 17 was for the unity of His people and His Church. Our children notice when we cannot get along. In fact they told us in the Valuegenesis study, if my home, my school, and my church work effectively together, there is a 99 percent probability that I will develop an intrinsic faith in Jesus. The exodus and/or disengagement of more than 50 percent of our youth from the Seventh-day Adventist Church, however, gives us a pretty good indicator as to how effective these three entities are in working together. It also gives us pause to reflect.

Satan realizes that the Great Controversy is a battle for the mind. In fact, in the book The Great Controversy, p. 488, Ellen White says, “Satan invents unnumbered schemes to occupy our minds, that they may not dwell upon the very work with which we ought to be best acquainted .... He knows that with him EVERYTHING depends on his diverting minds from Jesus and His truth.” In this fast-paced, ever-changing 21st century, Satan is bombarding their minds through music, technology, movies, billboards, magazines, and a myriad
of other distractions while they are trying to make life decisions. Albert Meyer says, “Education is a conversation between the older and younger generations on what is important.”

For the youth of the Seventh-day Adventist Church to have any chance at all, it is time their homes, schools, and churches have unified and consistent conversations with them on what is eternally important!

When the unity of the home, the school, or the Church is broken, and when parents, teachers, pastors, and Church members fail to mentor, train, and involve young people as workers for Jesus, the odds of our youth staying in the Church, much less working for Jesus, drops correspondingly. The sad fact is home values many times conflict with those of the school and Church. Schools and churches many times compete for the same dollars. Church members, age 40-plus, many times don’t even know the names of the youth and young adults who attend their church.

When you read the Southern Tidings, there are two to four pages of obituaries per quarter. Do you ever wonder how many of those who passed away left a vacancy in the Church because they never took the time or had the interest to mentor a young person to take their place? The facts that average age of the Seventh-day Adventist Church member in North America is 57, and that more than 1,000 Seventh-day Adventist churches in North America have no young people should alarm every Church member. If one out of every two Church members in the Seventh-day Adventist Church were dropping dead from some unknown disease, would we not spend our last dollar and every waking minute searching for a cure? But it appears that when more than 50 percent of our youth are dying spiritually, many Church members seem to be at peace, while others wring their hands but do not seem to be interested enough to administer the antidote.

The prevailing thought tends to be, “I have paid my dues to the Church, now it is time for me to be served,” or, “The youth of today intimidate me, I don’t know what to do or say around them,” or even, “This generation today drives me to distraction with their music, jewelry, tattoos, dress, and off-the-wall thinking, and I don’t want anything to do with them.” Thankfully Jesus does not take that position with us, or none would get off this planet alive. Just sayin’...

For an overview of the work being done to prepare students to excel in faith, learning, and service in elementary schools and academies across the Southern Union, see the special insert in this issue of the Southern Tidings.

Jim Ingersoll is the Southern Union associate director for secondary education.
Honoree Chris Juhl, the English and Bible teacher at Louisville Adventist Academy, was presented with a national award on Saturday, May 26, 2012. Juhl is among 10 teachers selected this spring by the Alumni Awards Foundation (AAF) to receive a 2012 Excellence in Teaching Award. AAF is a foundation that supports Seventh-day Adventist schools in North America.

The award ceremony was held at 9:15 a.m. during the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference Camp Meeting at Highland Academy. The award includes a $2,000 gift and medallion. Juhl has a natural ability to relate to his students. "They absolutely love him," said Williams. "No matter where he goes, he always seems to have a trail of students behind him."

In addition, he has established a five-day hot lunch program, music lessons, and P.E. uniforms. Juhl also coaches the basketball, volleyball, soccer, and track teams, and takes the teams to tournaments. Setting up agreements with various organizations to rent the gymnasium, Juhl helps bring in $7,000-$9,000 for the school each year. This additional income has made it possible to update computers, science equipment, and make facility improvements.

Juhl was also asked by the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference to write literacy programs for 5th-8th grade. He wrote nine literacy units complete with activities, assignments, and tests for each grade level.

In the classroom, Juhl brings literature to life with interactive activities and personal stories. "For most of the upper grade students, literature is their favorite class," said Pam Williams, associate superintendent for the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

Juhl originally chose to teach because of his son. "I wanted him to receive the very best of everything an Adventist education could provide: spiritual, emotional, academic, social, and physical," Juhl said. Now, 24 years later, Juhl has become a father figure to many of his students.

Juhl has a natural ability to relate to his students. "They absolutely love him," said Williams. "No matter where he goes, he always seems to have a trail of students behind him."

One student shared, "He cares for his students as if we were his own children…he never gives up on us."

Nominated by principals, superintendents, colleagues, and former students, 10 teachers will be celebrated across the nation for the impact they have had in their local Seventh-day Adventist schools.

AAF is a nonprofit organization working to improve Adventist K-12 education. It has awarded grants totaling more than $2 million to Adventist schools and educators. Since its establishment in 1995, the organization has recognized 106 exceptional teachers with an Excellence in Teaching Award. In 2011, AAF refocused and created the Renaissance Network, an initiative that improves the level of excellence in Adventist schools by providing leadership expertise, vision, resources, and training. AAF aims to awaken the Adventist community to the full potential in Adventist education. Learn more at AlumniAwards.org. For more information, please contact Kaleigh Benge: kbenge@alumniawards.org.
LEGAL NOTICE FOR FLORIDA CONFERENCE CONSTITUENCY MEETING

October 7, 2012

Notice is hereby given that the 70th regular Constituency Meeting of the Florida Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held on October 7, 2012, Sunday, at 10:00 a.m. in the Forest Lake Academy main auditorium, Apopka, Florida. This Constituency Meeting is called for the purpose of electing officers and Executive Committee members for the ensuing term and the transaction of such business as may properly come before the meeting. Each church in the Conference is entitled to one delegate, plus one additional delegate for each 75 members or major fraction thereof.

Delegates chosen to the Organizing Committee shall meet at the Regional Orientation/Organization meetings listed below. One Organizing Committee delegate from each church, plus one additional delegate shall be chosen for each full 500 members. All delegates are to attend their Regional meeting as well as the Constituency Meeting. The Regional Orientation/Organization meetings are an official part of the triennial process and will be held as follows:

Regional Orientation/Organization Meetings for 2012 Triennial Constituency Meeting

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Michael Cauley, President  M. Carmen Rodriguez, Secretary

LEGAL NOTICE FOR ASSOCIATION CONSTITUENCY MEETING

October 7, 2012

The triennial meeting of the members of the Florida Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, a Florida corporation, will be held on October 7, 2012, Sunday, at 10:00 a.m. in the Forest Lake Academy main auditorium, Apopka, Florida, for the purpose of electing the Association officers and Board of Trustees for the ensuing triennium and for consideration of such other matters as may properly come before the meeting. The members of this corporation are the members in regular standing of any church of the Florida Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and all active members of the Florida Conference Board of Trustees and Southern Union Conference Executive Committee. Only those members present who are duly elected and accredited delegates of the Florida Conference of Seventh-day Adventists shall be entitled to vote at their Regional meeting and at the Constituency Meeting.

All delegates are to attend their Regional meeting as well as the Constituency Meeting. The Regional Orientation/Organization meetings are an official part of the triennial process and will be held as follows:

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Michael Cauley, President  Jose LeGrand, Secretary
Men, women, and children of all ages and religious persuasions walked around an enclosed 150’ x 75’ courtyard set up at Lawnwood Stadium in Fort Pierce, Florida, while waiting to enter the replica of a sanctuary built by Moses in 1400 B.C. Inside the canvass walls, each sanctuary symbol was brought to life through interpreters at five stations regarding basic structure, courtyard, holy place, most holy place, and description of a priest’s garment.

The Fort Pierce Church prayer ministries team envisioned Messiah’s Mansion, as the sanctuary is called, coming to St. Lucie County after viewing it at General Conference 2010 in Atlanta, Georgia. Members of this ministry visited 26 churches of various denominations in the area. They rallied God’s people together for the common cause of sharing Jesus with those who do not know about His love and message of salvation as seen through the sanctuary. Five Adventist churches joined the effort: Fort Pierce Church; Victory Church, Port St. Lucie; Macedonia Church, Fort Pierce; Port St. Lucie Church; and Vero Beach Church.

More than 4,000 people visited Messiah’s Mansion. At the end of the nine-day exhibit, 1,138 people requested Bible studies. “We were all amazed as we witnessed the Spirit touch our neighbors’ hearts as they saw Jesus and His salvation in the symbols of the sanctuary,” says Phyllis McColister, project coordinator and Fort Pierce Church prayer ministries leader.

Students from the University of Florida, Gainesville, also benefited from the Fort Pierce visit as they were granted permission for the sanctuary to appear on campus prior to its stop in St. Lucie County. Messiah’s Mansion, with its 15-foot walls, presented a commanding appearance on the north lawn of the University’s Reitz Union Building.

“The religious museum allowed students to experience what life was like during biblical times,” says Thomson Paris, vice president of Baby Isaac, the Adventist presence on the Gainesville campus. It also provided a vehicle to introduce this Adventist ministry to students, staff, and guests of the University.

Messiah’s Mansion has toured the United States and several countries following its creation in 2003 at Oklahoma Academy, Harrah, Oklahoma. Since then, the sanctuary has traveled to 80 sites, and has been viewed by more than 230,000 people. Learn more about the traveling sanctuary at http://www.messiahsmanison.com/.
Southern Union News

Southern Union Hires New Directors

David A. Long Sr. serves as the Southern Union director for stewardship and personal ministries. He is the fifth of six children born to Herbert C. and Vivian Long of Miami, Fla. Long attended Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) in Huntsville, Ala. After three years of study, he responded to an appeal to serve as a student missionary in Bandung, Java, Indonesia, where he led Bible studies, taught conversational English, and established a prison ministry. Long returned to Oakwood after 12 months, and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in theology. He also has an M.B.A. in finance from Clark-Atlanta University in Atlanta, Ga.

Long began his ministry in 1983, and served four years as the Adventist Book Center manager for Southeastern Conference. He and his wife, Francine, have pastored in Florida in the Pompano Beach/Fort Lauderdale area, the space coast cities of Palm Bay and Cocoa, Florida City/Key West district, and the city of Jacksonville. Long believes in edifying and strengthening Church members and community residents. Churches where he has served have sponsored blood drives, community-wide employment fairs, and health seminars.

From 2000 to 2004, Long served as director of stewardship and trust services for the Southeastern Conference. He served as pastor of Patmos Chapel in Winter Park, Fla., from 2004 to 2008 where, under his tenure, Patmos Chapel became the first church in the Conference to reach and surpass $1 million in tithe. Long returned to his former position as director of stewardship and trust services at Southeastern in April 2008.

Francine, his wife of 30 years, is a senior administrator at Winter Park Tech in Winter Park. The Longs have two sons, David Jr. and Derek. David is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, and currently practices medicine at Cooper University Hospital in New Jersey. Derek is a 2010 finance graduate of Oakwood University, and works in Huntsville, Ala. They also have one beautiful granddaughter, Dallas, who has brought more joy into their lives.

Roger Hernandez, Southern Union ministerial and evangelism director, has served in ministry for more than 20 years. Some of his passions have included church plants, small groups, youth ministries, and evangelistic conventions, and evangelistic crusades; and was a speaker at SEEDS — the church-planting conference managed by the North American Division Evangelism Institute (NADEI) in Berrien Springs, Mich. Hernandez is fully bilingual, and the author of five books. His most recent book is titled, Epic Fail. He was born in Cuba.

His wife, Kathy, is Southern Union ministerial and evangelism special services coordinator. She has a bachelor’s degree in elementary education, and a master’s degree in youth ministry. Her life’s calling has been to nurture her children and anyone else who needs the love of a family, and works alongside her husband in ministry. She has worked in youth ministries for 20 years, and especially enjoys working with teen girls. She loves working for the Lord, and feels honored every time He chooses to use her. She says, “I am nothing without my God.”

Roger and Kathy are parents to four children: Yes-senia, Deisy, Vanessa, and Jonathan.

Dennis and Jacquelyn Ross will assist Roger and Kathy Hernandez until the end of 2012.
Baby Hears Mother’s Voice for the First Time

There was not a single dry eye in the exam room as one-year-old Jaely’s double cochlear implants were turned on for the first time. Parents Tadzia and Jorge smiled as they watched their little girl respond to their voices and the sounds around her, knowing their year-long journey to help her hear was finally coming to an end.

Joshua Gottschall, M.D., medical director of the Ear, Nose, and Throat Program at Florida Hospital for Children, performed central Florida’s first double cochlear implant on Jaely Jorge on March 14, 2012. The small, electronic devices ushered Jaely into a new phase of her life.

“Today, I was able to tell my little girl ‘I love you,’ and I know she was able to hear it for the first time,” Tadzia said.

“Bilateral cochlear implant surgery has only recently become widely accepted,” Gottschall said, “but is a great option for children who qualify.” Unlike single implants, they give people functional advantages such as sound localization, sound discrimination, and the elimination of head shadowing, a phenomenon where sound coming to the “deaf” ear has to pass through the head to be heard.

As soon as Jaely’s cochlear implants were turned on, she started to cry. “It was overwhelming,” her mother said. “Jaely had never cried like that before. I know she was crying because she could hear herself for the first time. It was amazing.”

During the next several weeks, parents Tadzia and Jorge will have to slowly acclimate Jaely to the sounds around her. She will also need regular audiology therapy.

“We are so grateful to Dr. Gottschall and the entire Florida Hospital team,” Tadzia said. “The moment her cochlear implants were turned on, I knew Jaely’s life would be changed for the better.”

—BY SARA CHANNING

Digital Process Improves Patient Safety

Ushering in Earth Day on April 23, 2012, Florida Hospital Tampa said goodbye to paper-laden medical charts, and hello to a new digital system. It is the most recent of Adventist Health System’s 43 campuses to make the transition, placing it in the top 5.5 percentile nationwide for having a fully integrated electronic medical record in place.

With electronic medical records and computerized provider order entry (which allows physicians to order medications via a computer), the hospital is cutting down on wait times, errors, and paper waste.

According to a study by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, more than half of medication errors in the United States occur during the ordering process, often as a result of illegible or incomplete orders. These errors can be reduced up to 88 percent by using a computerized system, a study by David Bates, M.D., chief of general medicine at Boston’s Brigham and Women’s Hospital, shows. Yet, only 30 percent of hospitals nationwide have integrated such a system.

“Everyone at Florida Hospital Tampa — employees and medical staff — worked tirelessly during the past year to help us implement this new technology,” said John Harding, president and chief executive officer of the Florida Hospital Tampa Bay Division. “It’s rewarding to know that our investment…will enable our clinicians to provide safer and more accurate care.”

—BY PHOEBE OCHMAN
Maranatha Makes Repairs at Nosoca Pines Ranch

Nosoca Pines Ranch underwent a major construction effort from April 18 to May 8, thanks to Maranatha Volunteers International, a non-profit Christian organization that implements the construction of urgently needed buildings all over the world.

Maranatha currently has more than 140,000 requests from around the world for churches and schools to be built, said Roger Hatch, Maranatha project manager. Hatch was appointed to find worthy projects in the United States, specifically in the east.

Nosoca Pines Ranch was chosen as one worthy project, and Hatch organized a group of 84 volunteers, ages ranging from 12 to 87. Volunteers travelled from all over the country, and several travelled internationally to assist with the project.

The group redid 25 roofs, painted the outside of all buildings at the camp, built 100 picnic tables, performed major electrical work on multiple buildings, and more.

A lack of funds and time prevented the camp from making these necessary repairs previously. Rick Faber, camp manager and summer camp director for Nosoca Pines Ranch, said the assistance has allowed the camp to catch up maintenance wise.

“The talent and willingness of people to come help out has been tremendous,” Faber said. “I’ve been amazed at what they’ve been able to do.”

—BY SARAH CROWDER

Carolina Camp Meeting Brings Great Blessings

This year, Lake Junaluska Camp Meeting was a bit different than it has been in the past. With the Carolina Conference’s current emphasis on evangelism, church leaders recognized the importance of extending the invitation for Camp Meeting to the community.

Handbills were sent out to homes around the area; and radio, television, newspaper, and Facebook advertising invited the public to join. This decision allowed all to join in the atmosphere of spiritual refreshment experienced yearly at Lake Junaluska Camp Meeting.

Mark Finley, retired vice president of evangelism for the Center for Global Evangelism, was the featured speaker at the evening meetings from Sunday to Wednesday. From Thursday to Saturday evening the featured speaker was Doug Batchelor, president and speaker for Amazing Facts Ministries. Their sermons, along with numerous other speakers and seminar presenters, are available on recording by calling 800-366-1844.

—BY SARAH CROWDER
Church is Lighthouse in Picturesque Neighborhood

The more than 100-year-old historic Methodist Church located on the corner of 831 Maple Street in Columbia, S.C., is now Midtown Seventh-day Adventist Church. On Sabbath, April 21, 2012, Walter Fry, Midtown pastor, led the dedication service that featured the fascinating history of the church and its congregation. Leslie Louis, Carolina Conference president, presented the Sabbath message for this special service.

Although there are many Adventist churches in the Columbia area, not a single church existed within Columbia’s city limits until Midtown was organized in 2004. The first services for Midtown were held on the University of South Carolina campus. Later they moved to a senior center in a place called Maxcy Gregg Park. It was on February 10, 2010, that the growing congregation signed up to rent the Maple Street Southern Methodist Church building. For the past two years the Adventist Midtown group shared the historic church building with the small Methodist group. In just two years Midtown members were able to accumulate funds to buy the church. Today they own it outright, mortgage-free, and are devoting their resources to renovating the charming, early-20th-century structure.

Along with the sanctuary building, there’s also a church-house next door that went with the property. Presently Midtown uses this for their Wellness Center and Fellowship Hall. Plans call for them to renovate the structure to accommodate larger groups.

The Maple Street Midtown Adventist Church will be a real lighthouse in this quiet, picturesque neighborhood in Midtown Columbia.

—BY RON QUICK

Age Chapel of Prayer Dedicated

The Age Chapel of Prayer is in memory of Sarah and Nathaniel Age, brother and sister and long-time dedicated staff members of Nosoca Pines Ranch, and in honor of the countless young people who have dedicated their summers to nurture and share God’s love with the campers at Nosoca Pines Ranch.

The Age family raised the money for this beautiful structure with the desire that it would be a place where campers and staff alike could find a peaceful and sacred experience to worship and connect with God. They hope that, like Sarah, other young people will continue to give their lives to Christ during their summer camp experience.

Pictured is the Age family along with Conference Treasurer Rick and Kathy Russell (left), and Carolina Conference President Leslie Louis (far right).

—BY BECKY CARPENTER
Florida News

Retirement Community Residents Prepare Bags of Love

Florida living Retirement Community residents in Apopka recently assembled 15 Bags of love for children removed from their homes because of abuse or a parent or guardian who has run into trouble with the law. Often these children are taken away from their homes late at night after witnessing an arrest by police.

As the children enter a Seminole County Child Protective Services (CPS) vehicle that will take them to a safe place, they are given one of the Bags of Love which carry an inscription, “It’s My Very Own.” Inside the bag is a handmade quilt, pillow with case, towel and washcloth, a small bag with age-appropriate personal toiletry items, toys, puzzles, coloring books with crayons, story books, and stuffed animals.

When Melissa Kreinbring, CPS representative, visited Florida Living Retirement Community to pick up the 15 Bags of love, she showed her gratitude with expressions that included “awesome” and “terrific.”

—BY CAROL JANSSEN

Vissers Celebrate 60 Years of Marriage

Conrad Visser and Eda Bertolo were born and raised in Argentina, South America. They met at River Plate Adventist College where Conrad graduated with a theology degree in 1951. After a wedding on March 13, 1952, they taught at J.B. Alberti Academy in the Northern Mission of Argentina. Five years later, Conrad became director of the youth and education departments.

In 1958, he was called to be director of youth, education, and public relations at North Central Conference in Santiago, Chile. While there, he finished his master’s degree in education and counseling and later became vice president and director of the Teacher’s College at Chile Adventist University in Chillan, Chile.

In 1965, the Vissers arrived in the United States where Conrad became pastor of Broadway Church in New York, N.Y. for nine years and finished his master’s in education at Columbia University. In 1976, both Conrad and Eda were called to work in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico — Conrad as president of Antillean Adventist University, and Eda as translator for the Nursing Department. Later, he served as vice administrator of Bella Vista Hospital.

In 1976, both Conrad and Eda were called to work in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico — Conrad as president of Antillean Adventist University, and Eda as translator for the Nursing Department. After working for ADRA in public relations, they moved to Florida where he was employed at Hialeah Hospital to complete his 40 years of denominational service. In retirement, Conrad taught Sabbath School for 14 years at Markham Woods Church in Longwood, Fla.

The Vissers have three children: Hernan, Claude, and Vivian, as well as eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

—BY EDMOND VISSER

Florida Living residents donated all items in the Bags of Love, including handmade quilts, pillows with cases, towels and washcloths, an assortment of personal toiletry items, toys, story books, and stuffed animals.
Forest City Adventist School Teacher Receives National Award

Joan Waite, seventh- and eighth-grade teacher at Forest City Adventist School, Altamonte Springs, Fla., is among 10 teachers selected from across North America this spring by the Alumni Awards Foundation (AAF) to receive a 2012 Excellence in Teaching Award. This year’s award includes a medallion and a $2,000 gift sponsored by Union College, Lincoln, Nebr.

Waite brings classroom lessons to life at Forest City Adventist School with an immersion approach to teaching. For example, during their study of the Civil War, students draw lots to side with the North or South. After conducting research, they make flags for their side, create canteens and cooking equipment, and set up an outdoor camp. Battles from the Civil War are then reenacted.

Helping students realize their full potential, Waite guides them in the discovery of their gifts while encouraging them to be leaders around the school. Each week, students visit the kindergarten and first-grade classrooms where they participate in “reading buddy sessions.”

After studying the Scriptures in Bible class, Waite’s students lead a Week of Prayer for younger children. Students and parents have requested Bible studies as a direct result of Waite’s impact. Following an invitation for students to attend evangelistic meetings at Forest City Spanish Church, two were baptized.

When students graduate from Forest City Adventist School, many become tutors in math and reading for fellow ninth graders. Waite also serves as a mentor to new teachers in Florida Conference and often leads monthly teacher in-service training.

Nominated by principals, superintendents, colleagues, and former students, the 10 teachers selected from across the nation to receive a 2012 Excellence in Teaching Award are celebrated by peers, the local church, and community for their impact on Seventh-day Adventist education. AAF recognized Waite on May 20 during Forest City Adventist School’s eighth-grade graduation ceremonies.

AAF is a nonprofit organization working to support and improve Adventist K-12 education throughout North America. It has awarded grants totaling more than $2 million to Adventist schools and educators. Since being established in 1995, the organization has recognized 106 exceptional teachers with an Excellence in Teaching Award.

This past year, AAF refocused its mission and created the Renaissance Network, an initiative that improves the level of excellence in Adventist schools by providing leadership expertise, vision, resources, and training. AAF aims to awaken the Adventist community to the full potential in Adventist education. More information is available at http://www.alumniawards.org/—BY KAILEIGH BENGE
It happened on Monday, Presidents’ Day, February 20, 2012. As in past years, I had previously worked the woods, cutting several dead trees and burning brush piles at each corner of our property. There was one large dead pine tree that I had avoided because it was close to the driveway, and had the potential to take out some of the trees across in the yard. I had some apprehensions about cutting it; however, this was the day that I decided to put that tree down.

I had everything in readiness, the chain saw was sharp and full of gas, and with a ladder I had climbed the tree and tied off a large rope with a come-along. Unfortunately for me, I don’t remember much of what happened after that. The tree did not fall as I had carefully calculated; but it broke off at the top and fell back toward me.

As a result of the tree hitting me, I suffered two crushed vertebra, collapsed lungs, a broken nose, and numerous fractured ribs. My wife rushed from the house and initially thought that I was dead. She called 911, and the Gordon EMS determined that I needed the Life Force helicopter. I was airlifted to Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga, Tenn., where I underwent major surgery and spent seven days in the trauma unit. After two days in the IMS unit, I was transferred to Health South for rehabilitation. Several days had disappeared from my life. In a flurry of time, my life had changed; I was now in the hands of God and a multitude of medical caregivers.

I’m not sure when I first became conscious of my surroundings. I had awakened in a strange place, a life punctuated by oxygen tubes, medications, bandages, and wheel chairs interspersed with occasional hospital food trays. In the midst of all the doctors, nurses, and other medical personnel, the daily visits from my wife, Vivian, had become the highlight of my day.

Every day I suffered through four breathing treatments in order to be released from the oxygen tube that adorned my nose. Nearly every day I was required to participate in rehab. I had to learn to walk again, to rebuild my strength, to recover my thinking processes, and just learn to function.

My inability to maneuver very well and my ever-present brace, called a “turtle shell,” was a continual reminder of my broken back and impaired condition. The significant pain experienced while getting up from the hospital bed was a constant reality.

Visitors came and went: our children, pastor, and friends. I vaguely remember my mother, my brother, and my sister when they were here. I have been told that countless thousands were praying for me from across the nation. Many have stated that it is a miracle that I am alive. Others suggested that God has a reason for saving my life. It seems to me that I have been snatched from the grip of death, given another chance.

“The Lord protects those of childlike faith; I was facing death and then He saved me,” Psalm 116:6, NCV.

It is now summer. I have been released from the doctor to return to work part time. In my early days at rehab I could only walk short distances with a walker and a rehab specialist. I have undergone treatment at Health South and Gordon County Hospital during the last several months, and am now walking up to two miles at a time. Many competent healthcare professionals have examined and treated me.

I have a new appreciation for life, and a renewed thankfulness for my family and how precious they are to me. I am indebted to my neighbors who cleaned up my property, mowed my grass, transported me to rehab, and have assisted Vivian and me in numerous ways. My gratitude extends to my colleagues at work who have stepped up to the plate in my absence. Additionally, I am very grateful for the many who have been praying for me and have expressed concern through cards, letters, and calls. Most importantly, I am thankful for a loving God and His willingness to deliver me from certain death, and give me another chance at life.

—BY MITCH HAZEKAMP

Mitch Hazekamp, Conference stewardship and trust services director, wears his “turtle shell” during rehab. Hazekamp was almost killed by a falling tree in February 2012.
Joan Garnand Gets a New Home

Joan Garnand already felt like she was at the end of her rope when the April 2011 storms ripped across the southeast and damaged her home. Already in poor shape from previous flooding, the house was suddenly uninhabitable.

Garnand had lost her job a few months earlier, due to extended illnesses, and she was fighting to get some compensation and applying for disability. In the meantime, she had no income and, suddenly, no place to live.

Afraid her home would be condemned if she got any of the agencies involved, she decided to make the most of a bedroom that was not leaking and had not yet been breached by the snakes and other vermin that kept creeping into the first floor. It was difficult for her to climb the stairs because of her disability, but once in the bedroom, she had a microwave and a small refrigerator, so she could take care of most of her needs from her desk chair.

As the months passed, black mold seeped further and further into her home, making her feel more and more sick. She had been selling her art to keep herself afloat, but Garnand didn't think she could stay afloat much longer, especially if she had to go to the hospital. She reached out for help from Eastwood Church, a non-denominational church in Ooltewah, Tenn.

After visiting her home, church members could see it would require more than a work bee to fix up the house. They called The Samaritan Center, who stepped in to provide Garnand with a safe and healthy home.

The process began last November by finding a used mobile home that was in good condition. Garnand's home was damaged by the tornadoes of April 2011. Her old home is pictured below.

The team overcame one setback after another, and, though later than planned, Garnand was able to move into her new home on May 16, 2012.

Garnand loves her new home and is excited to have a fresh start and the opportunity to live in her whole house without fearing for her health.

—BY CHERYL TORRES
Phenix City Members Take Virtual Hike with Real Benefits

At the beginning of 2012, the Phenix City, Ala., Church members decided to take a hike – a virtual one, that is. Shortly after the new year, Lee Whitman, pastor, and Elma Newsome, health ministries leader, started an exercise program called the “Grand Canyon Adventure,” a 1,788-mile journey. Seven different teams signed up, with names like the International Hikers, the Blueberry Bunch, the Jolly Jumpers, the Chafun Girls, the Stepping Saints, the Remnant, and the Whitman Samplers — more than 40 participants in all, with young children as well as grandparents involved.

With help from Florida Hospital’s Creation Health program, each “hiker” received a pedometer to help them keep a daily record of their steps. The exercise part of the program was to culminate on September 23, which is the North American Division’s “Let’s Move Day.” On that day the Phenix City members are sponsoring a 5K race, with all the proceeds going to the local fire department.

The teams became so involved, that by April many of them had already made it to the Grand Canyon, so it was decided to make the journey round-trip. We will all be “home” soon, but will still continue to encourage each other to stay active.

An added blessing was to see most of the new members, who joined the church last fall through an evangelistic seminar, participate in this health adventure. One family in particular, the Mercers (Jerome and Alma, and their children), who were a part of that seminar, is involved in this and other activities the church is sponsoring and promoting.

This journey has created enthusiasm and as a result has developed a camaraderie among the members that is catching. The journey becomes especially meaningful when one looks back just three years ago, and sees a church that was about to close its doors. The attendance had been declining, with only about 10 to 15 people attending weekly. Whitman says, “As with Adam of old, God has breathed new life into His church, and we are praising Him for what He is doing.”

—BY LEE WHITMAN

Conference Hires New Publishing Director

David Sigamani accepted the call to serve as the director of publishing in the Gulf States Conference. Sigamani has worked as a literature evangelist and a literature evangelist trainer for 28 years. He began his life’s calling in India. From India he went to Sweden, and then to Florida. After working in the Florida Conference for four years, he received a call to the Carolina Conference where he has been working as an assistant publishing director.

He is passionate about literature evangelism. “I enjoy talking and sharing the Gospel with others, and I like training others to be literature evangelist,” he says.

His goal for Gulf States’s publishing ministries is focused on the following: 1. Recruitment of new literature evangelists should be active and ongoing, 2. Training should be personal and consistent, and 3. Evangelism should be focal, by instilling in each literature worker that sales are important, but leading people to Jesus is more important.

Sigamani and his wife, Binu, have one son who is attending Southern Adventist University, and one daughter who is 10 years old.

—BY REBECCA GRICE
Three Ordained at Camp Meeting

Sabbath afternoon, May 26, 2012, of Gulf States Camp Meeting was the ordination service. Three pastors, Jeffrey Marshall, Johnny Mosquera, and Victor Vaughn were set aside in the sacred act of ordination to the gospel ministry.

Marshall and his wife, Jerlanda, live on the campus of Bass Memorial Academy (BMA). He teaches Religion II and IV, preaches the Gospel, is the chaplain, and recruits students for BMA. He is also on the General Conference Revival and Reformation Committee, and is the vice president for evangelism for Generation of Youth for Christ. He’s a graduate of Southern Adventist University.

Mosquera and his wife, Lori, minister in the Conference as the evangelistic team. Mosquera was educated in Adventist elementary and secondary schools, but he rebelled against God’s Word and spent the next 33 years away from the Lord. During this time he worked in executive management with Sears Roebuck and Co., and he had a life-changing experience when Jesus called him back to His fold. Mosquera came back with an unquenchable appetite for the Word of God, a passion to serve the Lord, and a love for lost souls. He was accepted in the master’s program at Southern Adventist University, and received his master’s degree in religious studies in March of 2003.

Vaughn and his wife, Pamela, are the pastoral couple for the St. Elmo, Ala., Church district. He enjoys helping and connecting with people he can share the Message of Hope with. Victor attended Southern for two years, and then after marrying Pam, they moved to Mobile, Ala., where he began a career in law enforcement that lasted more than 20 years.

After participating in several mission trips with ShareHim, he knew God was calling him to be totally committed to sharing the Gospel. Several months later, the opportunity arose for an interim pastorate in the St. Elmo district. Eight months later, he retired from the police force and became a full time pastor.

—BY REBECCA GRICE

Beatrice Hill Recognized for 22 Years of Service

During Camp Meeting, Beatrice Hill was recognized for 22 years of service as Gulf States Conference Adventurer Club Coordinator.

In 1989 the Conference was asked by the North American Division (NAD) to be one of the pilot conferences for the newly organized Adventurer program, and Hill was asked to be the coordinator on a volunteer basis. Hill says, “I always thought God was calling me to be children’s pastor, and I saw this as a way to fulfill that calling.”

The first year she visited every church in the Conference, promoting and recruiting potential Adventurer Club leaders. The first Adventurer Family Fun day was held in April of 1990. There were six active clubs. Today there are 14 active clubs, and Adventurer Family Fun Day is still a highlight of the year every April.

According to Hill, “In the beginning it was difficult to recruit helpers because it was a new program and no one knew what to do.” Hill’s experience as an elementary school teacher was useful, and while serving on the NAD Adventurer Council she helped write the Adventurer leadership and advanced leadership manuals. For four years she also taught three to four classes at the NAD Adventurer Leaders’ Training Convention.

“The best thing, though, was being with the children,” says Hill. “When I attended the Fun Day, investitures and other programs, I enjoyed seeing how they had grown both physically and spiritually.” She concludes, “I love to help prepare the children for the ultimate adventure — Heaven.”

—BY REBECCA GRICE
**Torch of Leadership Passes to Steve Rose**

Steve Rose was introduced as the new executive secretary of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference on Sabbath, June 2. Steve Haley, Conference president, introduced Rose and his wife, Doreen, to the congregation at Camp Meeting. Rose was elected at the recent Conference Session, held April 29, 2012. At the session, Marvin Lowman announced his retirement after serving as executive secretary for nearly 15 years. Rose assumed his new role as of June 1.

Rose grew up in Kentucky and pastored churches in Kentucky-Tennessee in the past. Since that time, he served in the Gulf States and Georgia-Cumberland conferences, and was serving as an area ministerial director in Georgia-Cumberland when he accepted the call on April 29 to be executive secretary.

In addition to his role as the executive secretary, Rose will serve as the communication director, as well as direct the Adventist Community Services and Disaster Response program of the Conference.

—BY MARVIN LOWMAN

**Hulin Accepts MTSA Dean Appointment**

Christopher P. Hulin, C.R.N.A., D.N.P., A.P.N., will become dean/program director of the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia (MTSA), effective July 1, 2012, announced Ken Schwab, MTSA president. Hulin will replace current vice president/dean/program administrator, Mary Elizabeth “Ikey” DeVasher, C.R.N.A., Ph.D., A.P.N., who leaves the dean position June 30, 2012, after nearly 40 years of service to MTSA.

The appointment of Hulin follows an extensive national search by the School’s appointed search committee. Candidates were interviewed on the MTSA campus by the search committee, students, administrators, and trustees.

“I am fully aware of the significant responsibility and trust that has been placed with me,” says Hulin. “Our trustees, faculty, staff, alumni, and anesthesia professional community should be assured that I am committed to the mission and core values of MTSA, and wish to see the institution progress forward as the doctor of nurse anesthesia practice degree unfolds, opening a new chapter in the future of the School.”

Hulin’s academic interests are broad, including the following degrees: doctor of nursing practice with a focus in education (Samford University, 2010); master of science with a focus in nurse anesthesia (MTSA, 2006); master of business administration – emphasis general/financial (Regis University, 2001); master of science – nursing administration (Vanderbilt University, 1995); bachelor of science – nursing (Cumberland University, 1994); and associate of science – nursing (Southern Adventist University, 1991).

He has a most varied and broad background, including teaching, nursing administration, hospital administration, and academic administration. He has served as MTSA’s assistant program administrator since October 2009. Hulin has extensive nursing and administrative experience in a number of states and institutions.

Hulin said, “I respect the commitment and legacy of my predecessor, Dr. DeVasher, for it’s on her shoulders that the development of MTSA stands, including the transition from a certificate to a master’s program, and the regional accreditation status the School has achieved. It is to her credit and commitment that MTSA is the institution it is today.” He continued, saying, “I look forward to working with our students, faculty, and staff in my new role at MTSA.”

Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia exists to provide a Christian, Seventh-day Adventist learning environment that fosters the pursuit of truth, excellence in and access to graduate nurse anesthesia education, and a life of service.

—BY JAMES CLOSSER
Special Camp Meeting Baptism Held

A very special baptism took place at Kentucky-Tennessee Conference Camp Meeting on Sabbath, May 26, 2012. Thirteen-year-old Tito Hernandez was baptized by Jon Weigley, pastor of Murfreesboro, Tenn., Church. The baptism was special for Weigley, Tito, and his mother for several reasons.

By the time Tito was about two years old, doctors confirmed that he displayed autistic behaviors. This was devastating news to his mother, Teresa Santiago. Rather than put Tito on medication, she decided to research everything she could find on autism. After about six months of intense research, she decided to use natural remedies. She prayed earnestly for God's guidance.

She put Tito on an all natural, vegetarian diet. As Tito grew, she often read to him from The Desire of Ages as he sat on her lap “to fill him with the goodness of the Lord,” she says.

Tito is now 13 years old. Last year he placed second in the sixth-grade state-wide math competition for the state of Tennessee. Almost all of the symptoms of autistic behavior have vanished, and Santiago believes this is due to the healthy lifestyle and prayer.

Santiago was excited when Tito requested baptism. The Murfreesboro Church had done “Kids in Discipleship.” The program stresses that parents have a responsibility to disciple their own children. At the suggestion of the pastor, Santiago led her son through the Bible studies.

Since Tito was planning to spend the summer in Puerto Rico, he wanted to be baptized before he left. It seemed that the best time for Tito’s baptism would be at the Conference’s annual Camp Meeting. Tito seemed calm and assured as he stood in the portable baptistery, in front of hundreds in attendance from around the Conference, to make public his decision to follow his Lord.

“He’s a very bright, intelligent kid,” says Weigley, “and academic achievement is great, but when you look at a young man who has given his life to the Lord at this young age, that’s incredible.”

—BY MARVIN LOWMAN

ACS Labor of Love for More Than Half a Century

The Adventist Community Services (ACS) clothing bank is a principal outreach of the Savannah, Tenn., Church. This program was originally launched under the name Dorcas by Mable Neilson in 1960. It was established and operated initially from a small room at Harbert Hills Nursing Home.

In 1972, Anna Pettigrew stepped up to carry the torch. With the assistance of Ed Kier and his wife, Maxine, who together became an instrumental part of the program in the early 1980’s, the operation has continued until now. Kier took responsibility for many of the basic operational needs.

Through the years, the generosity of the community has resulted in the need for more space to sort and organize efficiently. Since the Dorcas outgrew its tiny space at the nursing home, it moved to the Savannah Church in the 1980’s, where the growth has steadily continued.

Last year alone, ACS in Savannah assisted more than 200 families in need of clothing with more than 10,000 garments, plus shoes and miscellaneous household items. All factors considered, those assisted through this outreach program during the years cannot truly be estimated.

What is impressive is the growth rate during the past couple decades. Records indicate that the support to the community has tripled during the past 20 years. ACS has a group of sincerely devoted volunteers under the direction of Maxine Kier, who works tirelessly to help the people in the community.

The Savannah Adventist Community Services volunteers are pleased and honored to serve the community in this capacity as they see the evidence of how the Lord has truly blessed the program, and bestowed the opportunity to clothe those in need just as the Lord has commanded.

—BY MARY ELWELL
Southeastern Delegates Reelect Officers

The delegates also reelected the following individuals to return as ministry directors:
- Carol Byrd, education superintendent.
- Nicolle Brise, women’s ministries and prayer ministries director.
- Robert Henley, communication director.
- David L. Peay Sr., personal ministries, inner city ministries, and community services director.
- Caesar A. Robinson, youth, Pathfinders, and national service organization.
- Milton W. Sterling, ministerial director.
- Clarence L. Wright, Sabbath School, children’s ministries, prison ministries, and ASI.
- Theus Young, publishing director.

The delegates elected the following individuals to serve as first-time ministries directors:
- Dolphy Cross replaces Lewis Edwards, D.Min., as family ministries director.
- Lesly Jacques replaces Allah Monestine as Haitian ministries coordinator.
- Maria Packwood replaces Anthony Lewis Edwards, D.Min., as family ministries director.
- Theus Young, publishing director.
- Brent Waldon replaces David Long as stewardship and trust director.

The Hispanic ministries position, which is an appointed position, will be addressed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY

Mt. Olivet Members Conduct Health and Temperance Day

This event culminated with Mt. Olivet’s annual Drug Awareness Parade, which was held in memory of Jerome E. Gray, Esq. The theme of the parade was “Say No to Drugs.” Parade founder Ansel McIntosh served as grand marshal. The parade featured the drum corps of Ambassador Church.

Other participants included Brent D. Waldon Sr., Mt. Olivet pastor; Bobby B. DuBose, City of Fort Lauderdale vice mayor and commissioner; and Lewis W. Edwards. The parade was geared to all people, especially the youth of the community — educating and empowering them to the dangers of drug abuse, including prescription drugs. It was evident that the audience was blessed as they enjoyed the parade.

“This event was a resounding success,” said Patricia Rigby, Mt. Olivet’s health ministries leader. “Look for the Mt. Olivet ‘Say No to Drugs’ Community Workshop coming soon!”

—BY CYNTHIA MURRAY
Mt. Sinai Hosts “Biggest Loser” Competition

On March 19, 2012, the Mt. Sinai Church in Orlando, Fla., hosted the “Bible-based Biggest Loser Awards.” The Bible-based weight loss challenge was put on by Community United Outreach, a faith-based entity dedicated to making churches and communities healthier. The program, which ran for six consecutive weeks, is composed of: exercise, healthy eating, team support, and daily spiritual rejuvenation.

Anthony Winston was dubbed the Biggest Loser, taking the prize of two personal health coaching sessions, courtesy of Body Harmony Solutions, and an additional surprise cash prize of $500, courtesy of Minimally Invasive Solutions, Inc.

During the six weeks, Winston lost 18 pounds and 4½ inches off his waist, which reduced his body mass index by three points. “Eat healthy, drink lots of water, exercise, be consistent, and never give up,” said Winston as he encouraged others to lose weight.

Mattie-Mae Jenkins won second place, receiving a one-hour massage session, courtesy of Florida Hospital Eden Spa. Herman Davis, pastor of Mt. Sinai, was the third place winner of a dinner for two, courtesy of Seasons 52 Restaurant.

Other winners: Dorian Sparks, a sponsorship for personal training, courtesy of Kenneth and Amanda Foderingham and Health Coaching; and Karen Winston, a half-hour detoxification session, courtesy of O 2 B Healthy, Inc. All participants received free appetizer cards, courtesy of Seasons 52 Restaurant.

Season II of the program is now being held at Mt. Olive Church in Apopka, Fla. For more information about the program or to establish the program at your church, contact Community United Outreach at 516-510-5736 or cking@communityunited.org.

—BY KATHLEEN WILLIAMS

Vento Retires After 50-plus Years of Service

After working for more than 50 years as an Adventist pastor, Charles Vento recently retired as the longest tenured Hispanic pastor in Southeastern.

A native of Pinar del Rio, Cuba, Vento joined the Adventist Church when he was 19 years old. He holds a bachelor of science in religion from the Adventist Seminary in Havana, Cuba. He began his career in ministry as the pastor of the Santa Damiana Church in Pinara del Rio. As an evangelist for the Western Association of Cuba, he established 10 churches and baptized hundreds of individuals. In 1980, Vento came to the U.S. and officially joined Southeastern in 1982. As Southeastern’s second Hispanic pastor, he started the Hispanic work in south Florida by establishing Pilgrims Church, Southeastern’s largest Hispanic church. He would later serve as Southeastern’s first Hispanic ministries coordinator.

Vento pastored the following Southeastern Hispanic churches: Miami Beach, Epheso, Country Garden, Pilgrims of Cutler Ridge, El Buen Redil (The Good Shepherd), Boca Raton, Hialeah West, and Sheela Oaks (La Verdad Presente).

“I dream for a revival within the Hispanic church. And to see us take the Gospel to every Hispanic person in the state of Florida,” says Vento.

Vento served on the Advisory Spanish Committee for the North American Division. He also served as a religious analyst on international news and its connection to prophecy TeleMiami, a Hispanic television network located in Miami, Fla. He represented the Adventist Church for the Conselent of Israel.

Vento is married to Teresa Rodriquez, and they have two daughters and four grandchildren.

Vento loves young people and founded the Pilgrims Orchestra, El Conjunto los Peregrinos, to provide the youth with something to do. He plans to stay in Miami and continue to serve in any capacity that he is called to.

Southeastern has 22 Hispanic congregations serving 3,036 Hispanic members.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY
In April of this year, the Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences (FHCHS) Board of Trustees voted to rename the College to Adventist University of Health Sciences. The name change will become official in August of this year. David Greenlaw, D.Min., College president, stated, “We feel that the name Adventist University of Health Sciences is representative of the College’s continued growth while still preserving our past. Our new name doesn’t change who we are, it simply better defines us.”

Earlier this year, FHCHS announced the planned addition of four new graduate programs: Master of Healthcare Administration, Master of Physician Assistant, Doctorate of Nurse Anesthesia Practice, and Doctorate of Physical Therapy. In April 2012, the College broke ground on a new 90,000-square-foot addition to the campus that will house many of these graduate programs. Greenlaw asserted, “The name Adventist University of Health Sciences is a name that will not only fit us now, but is a name we can grow with as we continue to develop new programs, new degrees, at all educational levels over the years to come.”

Adventist University of Health Sciences understands the necessity to educate highly trained healthcare professionals to meet the needs of the nation’s aging population. In addition to the current on-campus offerings, the University offers three distance education programs that help meet the needs beyond central Florida. The distance education programs are bachelor completion degrees in diagnostic medical sonography, radiologic sciences, and nursing. Many nurses, radiologic technologists, and sonographers currently hold diplomas or associate degrees and look to complement their existing education by enrolling in one of the programs. The University’s distance education programs have students and graduates in nearly every state of the Union and overseas as well.

In 2012, Adventist University of Health Sciences reached 20 years of service to the community. In addition, the student population has grown from 243 students in 1992, to nearly 3,000 students in Florida and across the nation. Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences offered only associate level degrees and certificates in 1992. By late summer of this year, Adventist University of Health Sciences will submit the application paperwork to its accrediting body to offer doctorate degrees.

“With the physical and academic expansion on our campus, the time was right for this name change,” said Greenlaw. “I couldn’t be more pleased with the decision of the Board of Trustees.”

—BY ERIC CADIENTE
Adventist EDGE, creating a culture of excellence where GREAT education is experienced everyday.

GREAT Education

God-centered
Team Effort
Aligned
Results-oriented
Environment
More than 10 years ago, Jim Collins in his number one best seller, *Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap... and Others Don’t*, challenged us with the thought that, “Good is the enemy of great.” He went on to say, “We don’t have great schools, principally because we have good schools.” Educators in the Southern Union agree that “good” is not enough for the students and parents we serve, nor is it enough for the God we serve. Because we share this sentiment, teachers and administrators have embarked upon a journey to excellence. Our goal is to create a culture of excellence that equips students to excel in faith, learning, and service; that empowers teachers to excel in the art of teaching as did our example, the Master Teacher; and that produces schools of excellence that deliver GREAT education.

The Southern Union is home to 50 early childhood centers, 158 elementary schools, and 12 senior academies. This past school year, these birth through grade 12 centers and schools educated 12,059 students. More than 1,200 teachers and administrators accepted the challenge to become co-laborers with God to guide students, both academically and spiritually, to prepare for the “joy of service in this world and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come,” *Education*, page 13.

The vignettes that follow share how centers, schools, and academies across the Southern Union partner with the Master Teacher to provide GREAT education.

—BY DEBRA FRYSON, SOUTHERN UNION DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

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Carolina Conference — \textit{EDGE Impact in the Carolinas}

The Adventist EDGE is a wonderful initiative that keeps our teachers and schools in the Carolinas focused on the important issues.

The one I enjoy seeing the most is how the God-Centeredness anchors our children to the truths of the Bible. As one student put it, “My whole life I have been taught that God created the Earth and everything in it, He came to Earth as a baby, He died on the cross to save us, then He rose from His grave and went to Heaven, and now, we are waiting for His return. I went through baptismal studies and got baptized last year.” Not only are the students joining our Church because of what they learn in our schools, sometimes whole families have joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church because of the things their child shared with them at home that they had learned in a Seventh-day Adventist school.

Florida Conference — \textit{More Than the 3 R’s}

In the Florida Conference, we value every child as a unique individual, created in the image of God with distinctive gifts, talents, and abilities. As Seventh-day Adventist educators, we seek to provide every opportunity for the spiritual, emotional, physical, and intellectual growth of every student entrusted to our care. Here you’ll find the latest in technology, coupled with hands-on learning and research-based practices all wrapped up in a warm, Christian environment. In caring for the whole child, we endeavor to minister to the family as well. The following shares an example of how this is done.

The Maranatha Child Development Center, established in 1979, not only cares for children and prepares them for academic success in school, but also fosters spiritual growth for the entire family. The Jean-Baptiste family is a living example of the center’s mission. After enrolling their first child at the center, both parents were invited to church by staff who studied and prayed with them. Everyone experienced great joy when Oliver and Ingrid were baptized. Priscilla was baptized after she became a student at our elementary school, and younger sister Isabelle soon followed in her footsteps.

Georgia-Cumberland Conference — \textit{Meet Mishala Mundall}

Mishala Mundall is the grades 5-8 teacher at Lester Coon Adventist School in Apison, Tennessee.

This is Mundall’s first year teaching, and she loves the family-style, small classroom where she shares Jesus. Meeting Mundall you would never guess that she owns eight snakes. Two of her snakes, Pandora and Sprite, are in her classroom, much to the delight of her students.

“I love sharing Jesus with the kids,” says Mundall. “Anything I can tie in to a biblical lesson or turn into an object lesson, I will do. There is so much to learn in nature and everything has Jesus in it.”

Growing up in Asia with her missionary family, Mundall watched her teacher-parents, and thought what a great way to share Jesus. Now in her classroom, she says, “Some days I think I am teaching my students, but most days they are teaching me. In little ways they show Jesus to me.”

Students enjoy petting their teacher’s pet snake, “Sprite.”
Gulf-States Conference — New Student Finds Friends

Recently, one Gulf States Conference teacher shared the following story: The boy transferred from public school to our school in the seventh grade. Due to a genetic disorder, he was short for his age and had other challenges as well. At his previous school, he had been bullied quite a bit, and now his parents were hoping this change would be a positive one.

One day after school as his parents talked with his teacher, the boy stood quietly near them. Finally, he broke into the conversation.

"Mom, may I go out in the hallway and talk to my friends?" he asked. When they agreed, he left quickly.

The teacher turned back to the parents and was surprised to see tears in their eyes.

“What’s wrong?” she asked in a concerned voice.

“Oh,” they exclaimed. “This is so nice! He’s never had friends before!”

What better place to make friends than in a Seventh-day Adventist Christian school. And better yet, to meet the greatest Friend of all!

South Atlantic Conference — We Are Family

The ultimate purpose of Adventist Education is to impact the lives of the families, students, and parents enrolled in the school. What does it mean to impact? How do Adventist educators make this impact? God-centered, high academic standards, technologically advanced classrooms in a safe and secure environment? Absolutely! However, it must involve so much more. True impact creates a Christ-like heart in the families at the school. Our schools attempt to make such an impact. Two families at one of our schools in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference were so impacted.

Due to uncontrollable circumstances that had affected his financial situation, a father came into the office in October needing to redo his financial agreement. With a lump in his throat, he expressed doubt that his children could return to the school. Upon hearing of his situation, another family came forward and anonymously left an envelope of money for the first family. How many were impacted? The financially strained parent? His children? The donating parents? Their children? Yes, all of them and more.

“Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me,” Matthew 25:40. We are all impacted.

Kentucky-Tennessee Conference — We Are Family

Each day in the South Atlantic Conference, more than 100 teachers, in 19 schools, prepare to interact with more than 1,000 students. The goal is to prepare each student for “the joy of service in this world and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come,” Education, page 13.

Teachers are studying and discovering new ways to engage the minds of their students, and provide instruction that addresses each learning style in the classroom. Whether it is a field trip to Washington, D.C., science fairs, or student media presentations, instruction is delivered with an infusion of Christ across the curriculum.

Events like Outdoor School help children to make friends with their peers and get acquainted with Jesus.
South Central Conference — *Nothing But Vanity*

“Association with learned men is esteemed by some more highly than communion with the God of Heaven. The statements of learned men are thought of more value than the highest wisdom revealed in the Word of God. But, while infidelity is proudly lifting up its head, Heaven looks down upon the vanity and nothingness of human reasoning; for man in and of himself is vanity,” *Fundamentals of Education*, page 331.

Every day, in classrooms across the vast South Central Conference territory, boys and girls are gaining that higher “wisdom revealed in the Word of God.” Consecrated teachers, who have dedicated their time and talents to Jesus, touch lives for now and eternity.

While our schools are continually and successfully preparing future leaders, they are also producing young people who now revitalize stagnant and morose churches. Seventh-day Adventist Church schools, with home and church, form a fortified bond to protect, train, and develop God’s precious young ones. Each parent has been given the key to his child’s future and success, but each teacher has been given a spare key that can unlock the child’s magnificent future.

Won’t you cooperate with Divinity in preparing your child for the future? Provide for the present and the future. Provide Adventist Christian Education for a child or youth!

Southeastern Conference — *Delivering GREAT Education*

In Southeastern we maintain a culture of learning that is God-centered, Result-oriented, in an Environment that is safe and nurturing, Aligned with Adventist and national standards, and excellent Team effort (G.R.E.A.T.).

We are proud of our schools that are recipients of the “School of Excellence Award,” Mt. Olivet SDA School and Daughter of Zion Jr. Academy. We are also proud of Amber Willis who was awarded the 2012 Excellence in Teaching Award from the Alumni Awards Foundation. We celebrate Willis’ accomplishment!

Southeastern hosted its annual Conference-wide Spelling Bee in the month of February. Mt. Calvary Jr. Academy in Tampa, Florida, won first place. Southeastern also held an annual Conference-wide Science Fair at Busch Gardens. Bethel SDA School, Mt. Calvary Jr. Academy, Mt. Olivet SDA School, and New Hope SDA School won first place in their respective categories. Southeastern is the place where learning is an epidemic!

Southeastern’s Science Fair encourages students to be critical thinkers.
Atlanta Adventist Academy — *Education That Connects*

AAA offers education that connects! Innovative technology connects students on multiple campuses from all over the Southern Union to daily, live, interactive classes preparing them for advanced studies and successful careers. Students connect with compassionate, qualified Adventist teachers. Our diversity connects cultures, backgrounds and experiences, and unites them as one community. An active calendar keeps our students connected with the world around them through travel, performances, service opportunities, and social events. Ultimately, AAA aims to connect students to the ultimate source of knowledge — a God Who loves them. [www.aaa.edu](http://www.aaa.edu)

Bass Memorial Academy — *Rightly Trained*

Speak with leaders at BMA and you will discover a program grounded on principles from the book *Education*. Speak with students, and you are likely to hear comments such as, “Bass has helped me understand what a relationship with God really means,” or, “The atmosphere at Bass helps me guard my spiritual life better than any other place.” We strive to become a turning point in young people’s lives. This year, our 1-1 iPad initiative has positioned us on the forefront of Adventist education. Our constant goal is to develop youth, rightly trained!

Collegedale Academy — *Finding God at Collegedale Academy*

Having grown up in an agnostic family surrounded by many atheist friends, I came to Collegedale Academy from South Korea totally uninterested in God. During a week of prayer, one student talked about how he forgave his dad, an alcoholic, who had assaulted him. This testimony sparked an interest in a very new power that I knew I didn’t have, so I started to study what Christians believe. The Holy Spirit worked on me, slowly, but surely. Recently, as a senior, I accepted Christ as my personal Savior as well as the Seventh-day Adventist message, and I was baptized on December 31, 2011. —Jeff Jongchan Paik

Forest Lake Academy — *A Family Community*

For more than 75 years, FLA has built its reputation on academic excellence. Committed to providing students a first-rate college preparatory education, FLA offers four honor diploma tracks, and six different college dual enrollment classes. Educational achievements, however, simply do not tell the whole story.

Our goal is to guide students through rigorous academics and thoughtfully developed extracurricular activities so they become adults who can successfully lead a family, business, or government with a Christ-centered worldview. This goal permeates our daily lesson plans, athletics, music, and creative arts programs.

FLA is more than a school. We are a family community in an academic environment where students are invited to learn about and experience the love of Jesus, and then share it with their neighbors and the world.
Georgia-Cumberland Academy — *To Know, To Love, To Serve*

GCA is a Seventh-day Adventist Christian boarding school located between Southern Adventist University and Atlanta, Georgia, on 510-acres. The faculty work together in creating an environment that helps students live the motto, “To Know, To Love, and To Serve.” Each year the school sponsors three mission trips. In addition to a strong emphasis on spiritual growth, GCA maintains a commitment to academic integrity, and provides opportunities for a balanced lifestyle. GCA has active music, gymnastics, sports, drama, and work programs. Our one-to-one laptop program integrates technology in the classroom with new computers for 2012-2013. GCA makes friendships that last a lifetime, and skills that will prepare them for college and beyond.

Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy — *Flying High*

GAAA delivers GREAT education, and is a family where teachers work hard ensuring that students have a balanced education. Every attempt is made to prepare them for college and beyond ... ultimately, to become citizens of Heaven. Many classes were added this year to ensure continual rigor, and also help students qualify and be successful in dual credit courses. Also, graphic arts and aviation were added to the curriculum, and two flight simulators for aviation students. Two students have taken their initial flights. Understanding that perseverance and trust in God yields great benefits, a graduating senior, Ashley Thornhill, will become a Gates Millennium Scholar. As a Gates Scholar, Thornhill will receive a 10-year renewable scholarship. Thornhill is one of 1,000 students chosen out of an application class of 24,000. We are elated that there are 44 seniors who will attend college with scholarships and grants. We praise God that GAAA delivers GREAT education!

Greater Miami Adventist Academy — *One Hundred Years of Quality Learning*

This year marks GMAA’s 100th Anniversary Celebration. GMAA continues to move forward as a quality learning institution placing greater emphasis on engaging technology. Promethean boards are being installed, and plans are in process to replace textbooks with tablets. Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences is providing a three-year instructional program for students interested in health care degrees. GMAA has also added the A+ Certification program which allows those completing this two-year course to demonstrate competency as computer technicians.

GMAA continues its mission-centered vision with annual mission trips and outreach organizations. Most rewarding has been the baptism of 34 students during the past three years, and 15 at their respective churches. By abiding in Christ in complete surrender and trust, we can move ahead with certainty for He has led and blessed us immensely for 100 years and beyond!

Highland Academy — *Lifelong Love to Serve*

At Highland Academy, education goes beyond the classroom. This year, the classroom extended to Puerto Rico for the Class of 2012, who chose to spend their senior trip helping others. The students worked hard painting on both the Bella Vista Academy and Antillian University campuses, and in the process made lasting connections with those they served. Highland Academy’s goal is that through service learning activities like yearly mission trips and local outreach projects, students will develop a lifelong love of helping others.
Madison Academy — *Living Out God’s Will*

Madison Academy is the school of choice for students who want to be loved unconditionally, challenged academically, and encouraged unceasingly in their walk with Christ. We provide frequent opportunities, both locally and abroad, for students to live out God’s call to love our neighbor. Additionally, we emphasize teaching to all students regardless of learning style, and adapt teaching methods to learners in the classroom. Students are prepared to be competitive in their future plans with the use of iPads, and our AP and dual enrollment courses provide opportunities to advance academically. Come and join our family!

Students journey to San Francisco, California, during spring break to work with and minister to the homeless.

Miami Union Academy — *Darius’ Story*

Although his older brother attended MUA, Darius was not looking forward to leaving his public school setting to become a student at the local Adventist academy. He couldn’t help feeling as though he would “miss out” because of all of the things MUA did not offer. As he started his freshman year, Darius was reluctant but cooperative. After two years of doing just what was required, Darius realized that God wanted him to enjoy a much richer experience. As a junior, Darius turned the page and focused on improving academically. He became involved in class activities, basketball and flag football teams, and participated in Y2Y Community Outreach events. He even agreed to be a speaker for the Spring Week of Prayer, where He encouraged his peers to choose Christ. Today, this confident, involved high school senior, proudly claims MUA as his school family.

MUA students enjoy Spring Week of Prayer.

Mount Pisgah Academy — *Jesus Lives at MPA*

MPA is located in the beautiful mountains of western North Carolina. Many opportunities are provided for students to succeed in their educational journey, and to build a foundation for spiritual leaders. We believe in nurturing our students’ gifts by providing roles in leadership and service.

Our motto is “Jesus Lives at MPA,” which is frequently demonstrated with student testimonies, the summer recruiting team, school-wide mission trips, and the daily lives of the student body. “I’ve seen Jesus live at MPA through the amazing staff, friends, and the beautiful nature of the mountains on campus,” says Rachell Jordan, MPA junior.

Teacher and student work together.

Oakwood Adventist Academy — *Develop, Nurture, Affirm*

The OAA “experience” has been positively impacting the lives of its students since 1896, producing leaders in numerous professions and creating a rich legacy that is embraced by both past and present generations. Freshman Ha Eun Lee came from Korea in eighth grade and says, “At OAA, I made friends who helped me with my English, introduced me to another culture, and let me share mine with them.” Senior Che’ Price, a second generation Mustang, has attended OAA since kindergarten and says, “OAA is a tradition in our family, one that I hope to continue with my own children.”

We are committed to providing an environment that fully embodies our slogan: “Develop, Nurture, Affirm.” Our goal is that every student will leave here saying, “I am BLESSED to have OAA in my DNA!”

OAA students
Southern Students Showcase Socially Responsible Business Ideas at National Competition

After being named champions at the Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) Regional Competition in Atlanta, Southern’s SIFE team had the chance to present at the National Exposition in Kansas City, Mo., May 22-24, 2012.

SIFE is an international nonprofit organization that works with leaders in business and higher education to mobilize university students to make a difference in their communities, on campus, or internationally, while developing the skills to become socially responsible business leaders. This is the fourth consecutive year Southern’s SIFE team made it to this level of competition. This time, the Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport covered much of the team’s travel fees in honor of its work leading out in the recent installation of 832 solar panels at Southern.

To learn more about that specific project, visit southern.edu/green.

“The Chattanooga Airport has taken a strong stand for sustainability, and we believe it is critical for organizations like the airport and Southern Adventist University to provide thought leadership in pushing our industries to recognize our impact on the environment and to find common sense solutions to mitigate those impacts,” said Tarry Hart, interim president and CEO of the Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport Authority. “Southern’s SIFE team did just that, and it was an honor to recognize the student leaders for their work on this project.”

During the exposition in Kansas City, they and about 150 other teams were divided into 20 leagues that competed to get into the semi-finals and then finals round. Christina Whary, SIFE president for this last academic year, was one of the students who traveled to the competition. She said one of the reasons she joined the team in the first place is because SIFE’s mission relates to Adventist beliefs on stewardship. Southern’s team even incorporates their Christian beliefs by taking on projects prayerfully.

“[Competition] encourages us to do the best we can because we know we’ll be representing our team, our university, and our God.”

The SIFE team presented four projects at the national exposition: the installation of solar panels on campus, single stream recycling, GenLink, and Dream Discover Do. GenLink creates temporary jobs in the community for students, and Dream Discover Do provides workshops where students can meet with various entrepreneurship experts.

“We have devoted team members who work hard to get the projects and results we can present on,” Christina said.

Some of Southern’s sister institutions also qualified for nationals. La Sierra University, after being named champions at its regional competition, qualified for the semi-final round at nationals. Andrews University, who sent a student representative to nationals, was named champion at its regional competition as well.

And while none of these schools won the national competition, Southern is proud of its team, and the sister schools’ teams, for earning the chance to compete at such a high level.

For more information about this valuable educational opportunity, visit southern.edu/SIFE.

—by INGRID HERNANDEZ
Relaciones

Cuando Jesús estuvo en esta tierra, se refirió a la iglesia como un cuerpo; una unidad. En una de sus oraciones más conocidas, pidió al Padre que su iglesia fuera una en unidad, como Él y su Padre eran uno. Es decir, las relaciones eran un tema primordial en la vida de Jesús. Para que la iglesia funcione y cumpla su misión, debe estar fuertemente unida. La relación de cada miembro con La Vid, Cristo, debe ser fuerte. Las relaciones dentro de cada familia que la constituye deben ser de santidad, como la de Cristo con su iglesia. La relación entre los miembros, debe ser como la de Jesús con su Padre.

Todas las relaciones se basan en principios; ignorarlos, malinterpretarlos o descuidarlos es la causa de relaciones débiles o rotas. Es por eso que la iglesia de Conyers, GA, dedicó el primer fin de semana de mayo a profundizar sobre este tema, en un retiro llevado a cabo en las afueras de Atlanta. Los oradores fueron Joel Barrios, pastor del distrito, y Marco Larumbe, quien se desempeña temporalmente como pastor asistente mientras concluye sus estudios de teología en la Universidad Adventista del Plata, Argentina.

Uno de los temas que se subrayó fue la necesidad del perdón. Para esto hay que entender el profundo significado del mismo. Manejando tantos conceptos morales como los que se maneja en la iglesia, a menudo sus miembros se convierten en jueces severos, dejando de lado su condición de hermanos, miembros de un mismo cuerpo que debe estar unido y amándose con el amor que una relación íntima con la Fuente del Amor puede dar. La falta de comprensión de este tema, puede acarrear aislamiento, y perpetuación de relaciones abusivas. Perdonar es la herramienta que permite al amor seguir viviendo.

Durante el fin de semana, se percibió la presencia de Dios en medio de todos, y los asistentes regresaron a sus hogares renovados.

—MARIEL LOMBARDI, EDITORA

Distrito de Louisville

Crecimiento
En el mes de marzo, bajo el título “Aún hay Esperanza” se llevó a cabo una campaña evangélica a cargo del pastor Valery St. Nathos, en Louisville, KY. El Espíritu Santo obró en los asistentes, y diez personas entregaron sus vidas a Jesús por medio del bautismo. La experiencia fue altamente motivadora para la iglesia. Sus miembros renovaron el compromiso con la misión que el Señor encomendó.

Compromiso
Catorce parejas renovaron sus votos matrimoniales al concluir la semana de matrimonio y familia “Unidos para Triunfar” que se llevó a cabo en febrero. La misma fue organizada por el Ministerio de la Mujer de la Primera Iglesia Hispana de Louisville, y el pastor Fredy Rivera fue quien presentó los temas. Se contó con la presencia de varias parejas de la comunidad.

Toda la experiencia fue una bendición, y se experimentó el gozo de celebrar un bautismo.

—SERGIO MONTERROSO
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO DE LOUISVILLE, KY
Ministerio Infantil

La División Norteamericana otorgó los certificados a los maestros de escuela sabática que completaron el curso de capacitación en la enseñanza de esta parte importante de los servicios del sábado.

Representantes de varias iglesias del área metropolitana de Atlanta se dieron cita el 10 de Marzo para recibir sus respectivos diplomas. La ceremonia fue coordinada por Daylet Espinosa, quien también tuvo a cargo la preparación de las clases. Fue un esfuerzo importante, y todos estuvieron agradecidos por su valiosa participación. El tema central estuvo a cargo del pastor Efraín Poloche, y los diplomas fueron entregados por la Doctora Cabán y Xiomara Poloche, quienes también colaboraron como instructoras de los cursos.

—LADY URIBE, IGLESIA DE WARSAW, NC

Resultados de la Testificación

El sábado 10 de marzo, dos almas entregaron sus vidas a Jesús por medio del bautismo en la iglesia de Douglasville, GA. Una de ellas, llegó a Cristo como resultado del trabajo que el Espíritu Santo hizo a través de una pareja recién bautizada. Ellos están dedicados a predicar de Jesús dando testimonio de lo que ha hecho en sus vidas.

La ceremonia estuvo a cargo del pastor Poloche. A su culminación el extendió un llamado de entrega a Dios, y una persona expresó públicamente su deseo de hacerlo.

—LADY URIBE, IGLESIA DE WARSAW, NC

Graduación en Wallace

La iglesia de Wallace, NC, sigue creciendo. El sábado 10 de marzo, se realizó la graduación de 22 personas que culminaron el curso “La Fe de Jesús”, gracias al trabajo misionero coordinado por Luis y Eduardo Saavedra, quienes trabajan y apoyan en forma voluntaria en esta congregación.

El evento fue acompañado por el grupo mariachi cristiano “Alfa y Omega.” El tema central fue presentado por el pastor de la iglesia, Ismael Uribe, quien se basó en la historia de Pablo. A su término se ofició un bautismo en el que cinco personas sellaron su pacto con Dios. El pastor Uribe hizo un llamado para aquellas personas que aún no se hubiesen entregado a Cristo, y cinco personas respondieron que desean prepararse para ser bautizados muy pronto.

—EFRAIN POLOCHE DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO
El 17 de febrero se llevó a cabo un retiro que contó con la participación de 36 parejas, y la presencia del doctor Ángel Fuentes quien vino desde California para compartir temas que cubrieron todos los aspectos de la relación familiar.

Como es costumbre, se organizó un banquete al que se denominó “Una noche bajo las estrellas.” Esta parte del evento fue muy emotiva. Las parejas testificaron acerca de milagros que Dios hizo en su relación para mejorarla y enriquecerla. Cuatro parejas no adventistas quedaron gratamente impresionadas y se preparan para unirse a la iglesia en un futuro cercano.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE
DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Mostrando Agradecimiento

El departamento de servicio a la comunidad de la iglesia Génesis en Orlando, FL, bajo el liderazgo de la hemana Carmen Toledo, visitó la estación de bomberos #40 del condado Orange, para entregar una canasta de víveres como muestra de agradecimiento por su labor en favor de la comunidad.

—AMANDA D. RODRIGUEZ
DIRECTORA DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE COMUNICACIONES DE LA IGLESIA

Profesor de Español Reconocido por Servicios Comunitarios

Carlos Parra, jefe del Departamento de idiomas modernos de la universidad Adventista Southern, recibió un reconocimiento público de parte de “La Paz”, una organización líder en la comunidad latina de Chattanooga, por su vasta participación en servicios comunitarios. “La Paz” trabaja para crear un ambiente de tolerancia y entendimiento mutuos entre los latinos.


Además de esta reciente nominación, en el 2011 Parra fue reelegido por el alcalde del condado de Hamilton, Claude Ramsey, como miembro del Concilio de Salud.
Profesor Carlos Parra

Viviendo en Balance

Todo comenzó con la aparición de carteles misteriosos exhibidos en el campus de la universidad, que mostraban el código de Respuesta Rápida (QR). Luego se vieron fotos en tamaño natural del presidente Gordon Bietz en ropa de ejercicio. Poco después, un grupo de profesores y estudiantes comenzaron a usar camisetas de color verde neón con códigos QR y QEP.

QEP es una organización que tiene como lema la frase “Viviendo en Balance,” y dedicará los próximos cinco años a mejorar la actividad física del alumnado. “Queríamos un “zumbido” que se escuche,” dijo Mark Walters, estudiante de mercadeo, encargado de comunicaciones en el QEP. “Los resultados me han sorprendido. Es probable que al principio se haya debido a los premios que ofrecimos,” agregó. Estos premios incluyeron tarjetas de regalo para la tiendas Dick’s Sporting Goods y Rock Creek Outfitters y se les daban a los estudiantes que mejor respondían preguntas sobre el plan y sus objetivos. Aparte, por el simple hecho de responder, recibían un zalamero. Se creó un sitio web, y folletos que se repartieron por todos los departamentos, dormitorios, y lugares del campus.

La Asociación de Colegios y Escuelas del Sur (SACS) visitó el campus para hacer una inspección y verificar que la universidad estuviese al día con las normas de acreditación. Durante esta visita, los miembros de SACS entrevistaron a varios estudiantes y comprobaron que tenían un buen conocimiento del plan de mejora del plan de mejora de la calidad de vida (QEP) y lo vieron como una visión a largo plazo, que mejorará la experiencia colegial de los alumnos. “Estamos haciendo grandes esfuerzos para involucrar a los estudiantes,” dijo Judy Sloan, profesora de Educación Física, Salud y Bienestar.

Para más información sobre “Viviendo en Balance,” visite southern.edu/qep.

—SARA RUF
EDITOR, SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Regional Chattanooga-Hamilton, e invitado como miembro asesor del Concilio Internacional en la Cámara de Comercio de Chattanooga.

Parra trata de contagiar su pasión por el servicio en el ministerio que ejerce en las aulas de la universidad, animando a los estudiantes a que participen en la feria de salud cada año. La vida de Jesús fue un ejemplo de servicio. En la última cena que tuvo con sus discípulos en esta tierra, su más destacada enseñanza fue relacionada con el servicio, y esto es lo que él trata de inculcar en los alumnos.

“El profesor Parra ha sido un buen líder promoviendo el servicio en el campus de Southern,” dijo Brenda Aparicio, estudiante. “siempre nos ha animado a participar en programas de voluntariado.”

—INGRID HERNÁNDEZ
EDITORA, SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Grupo de alumnos haciendo ejercicio
Entrevista Sobre La Película “El Regreso”

Steve Norman (SN):

Pastor Mayer, quisiera que nos cuente el propósito con el cual Alejandro Bullón escribió el guión de la película “El Regreso” que estará disponible para la compra en el mes de junio.

Jorge Mayer, Director del Departamento Hispano de Southern Union Conference (JM):

El pastor Alejandro Bullón, evangelista muy respetado en la comunidad adventista hispana en latino américa, tenía el sueño de llevar almas a Cristo de una manera que apele a la mente contemporánea. Una película es una forma de llegar a la gente donde está. El departamento hispano de nuestra unión fue el canal para llevar a cabo este sueño.

SN:

Cuéntenos un acerca de la película

JM:

El contenido trata la vida de un joven que llega a la iglesia gracias a un compañero de trabajo que lo lleva, y le muestra el plan de salvación. Poco tiempo después, este amigo pierde la vida en un accidente automovilístico. Este fue un golpe muy duro para el protagonista, quien comienza a cuestionar la actitud de Dios en este evento, y a plantearse cosas que hasta ahora no se había planteado desde su entrada en la iglesia. Se dio cuenta de que para él, la iglesia estaba constituida por su amigo y su familia, ya que sentía que eran los únicos que habían mostrado interés en él. En ese momento, en su trabajo, conoció a una joven que distrajo su atención de todos estos planteos, y se alejó de la iglesia, volviendo a su antigua forma de vida. Paulatinamente comenzó a transitar un camino cuesta abajo que lo llevó a una profunda crisis. Al llegar al fondo, sintió deseos de retomar el camino que su amigo le había mostrado. Allí es donde comienza la parte más importante de la trama. Este es sólo un pantallazo general de lo que sucede en la película.

SN:

Es entonces “El Regreso” una película orientada a personas que pertenecieron a la iglesia y se alejaron?

JM:

Exactamente. Cabe destacar que Alejandro Bullón hizo un trabajo muy fino antes de escribir el guión. Entre otras cosas, llevó a cabo una encuesta en toda la división sudamericana, orientada a descubrir las causas más comunes por las que la gente deja la iglesia. Como resultado, se destacaron cinco razones. Todas estas razones están representadas en algún momento de la película. Los espectadores se sentirán conectados con al menos una de ellas.

SN:

Es esta la primera película que Alejandro Bullón y su departamento hicieron juntos?

No, ya hicimos otra titulada “La Ventana”, que es completamente diferente. Está orientada hacia nosotros, los miembros activos de la iglesia. Desarrolla la historia de una pareja adventista que quiere traer a sus vecinos a Cristo. Muestra cuánto más sencillo es usar el método de Cristo para atraer a la gente, conectándose con sus necesidades y sufrimientos. A diferencia de “La Ventana”, “El Regreso” apunta a aquellos que han dejado la iglesia, y apela a los miembros, en su actitud hacia ellos.

En este país, por ejemplo, existe la realidad de que muchos inmigrantes que pertenecían a la iglesia en sus países de origen, al llegar aquí pierden
la conexión. Aparte, su atención está enfocada en trabajar la mayor cantidad de horas posibles a los efectos de reunir fondos para enviar a sus seres queridos, o regresar a sus tierras con lo necesario para construir un futuro mejor. Esto se convierte en su misión, y lo demás se pone en un segundo plano, o desaparece. Nosotros somos los instrumentos de reconexión con la iglesia.

SN: Estadísticamente, ¿Cuál es la proporción de gente que deja la iglesia en relación al número de miembros activos?

JM: Comparando estadísticas, pude ver dos resultados diferentes: en el más conservador, las proporciones son iguales. En el otro, que es más alarmante, se ve una relación de 3 a 1. Es decir: de 3 miembros que se convierten, 2 dejan la iglesia. Es un resultado triste.

Otra de las cosas que saltan de esta estadística, es que la mayoría de los que se alejan, se siguen considerando adventistas, e incluso conservan el estilo de vida. Están a un paso de la puerta, deseando volver, pero asustados por lo que sucederá si lo hacen; el potencial es enorme, por lo tanto, es nuestra intención que este material prepare a la iglesia para amar a estas personas incondicionalmente. Ellos estarán muy sensibles, por lo tanto tenemos que estar preparados para recibirlos.

Bullón comentó en una oportunidad que su esposa, cada sábado que asiste a su iglesia tiene como misión observar quiénes están asistiendo por primera vez, para invitarlos a comer a su casa ese día. Ella aprendió esto de su madre, y pasó esta costumbre a sus hijos, quienes también hacen lo propio. Nunca sabemos si aquellas personas que no conocemos son personas que se han alejado de la iglesia, y como punto de retorno usan una congregación en donde nadie los conoce, o si se trata de personas que están asistiendo por primera vez, o buscando algún tipo de ayuda. Imaginemos qué sucedería si cada iglesia tuviese al menos 5 familias que practicaran esta costumbre. Las visitas sentirían el amor, y por lo tanto tendrían el deseo de volver. Si se trata de personas que están regresando al redil, una vez que adquirimos la película, tenemos un gran porcentaje del trabajo hecho. Cada iglesia puede preparar una lista de personas que se alejaron, y animar a los miembros a que trabajen en ella.

Se les puede obsequiar o prestar la película para que la vean a su tiempo. Esto proporciona una buena razón para llamarlos y preguntarles su opinión sobre la misma, y decirles que se los extraña; que la iglesia no es la misma sin su presencia. Visitarlos, pedirles disculpas por haberlos ignorado, es algo que también surte efecto. Se les puede invitar no sólo a sermones, sino a los almuerzos o “pot lucks”, que son una forma de socializar y atraer a las personas. De paso, cuando vamos a una de estas reuniones sociales, qué bueno sería que en lugar de sentarnos sólo con a aquellos con quienes tenemos amistad, buscásemos a alguien que está asistiendo por primera vez, tratando de entablar una relación con esa persona. Creo que todo esto haría un impacto. Las estadísticas en las que se trabajó mostraron que la mayoría de los que se fueron no lo hicieron por problemas teológicos o doctrinales, sino por malas relaciones, o falta de relaciones. Sería maravilloso que al regresar, estas personas vieran que esta no es la iglesia que dejaron, sino una que ha experimentado una renovación.

SN: Esta película es entonces es un excelente recurso para llegar a más personas de las que normalmente tenemos la capacidad de llegar. Es algo que mi esposa, mis hijos y yo podemos hacer. ¿Cuál es el procedimiento para adquirirla?

JM: La película se puede adquirir en el departamento hispano de cada asociación. Casi todas las asociaciones en el territorio de la división norteamericana compraron el derecho de duplicación la misma. Si en su asociación local no la tienen, llame al departamento hispano de Southern Union Conference, o búsquela “on line” en el sitio elregresomovie.com

SN: ¿Cuál es el costo?

JM: La producción de esta película costó mucho dinero a la iglesia, y sabemos que la iglesia no es una entidad que existe para hacer dinero; simplemente trata de dar a los miembros la mayor cantidad de herramientas para la ganancia de almas. Por lo tanto, el costo existe para cubrir los gastos. En el sitio de internet, es un poco más alto que si se la adquiere en las asociaciones locales, ya que estas entidades, al haber hecho una inversión pequeña comprando los derechos
de duplicación, tienen la capacidad de ofrecerla a precios muy accesibles.

Una campaña de evangelismo pequeña de baja inversión, puede costar como mínimo 1,500 dólares. Esa inversión podrá traer a lo mejor 10 almas al Señor.

Los derechos de duplicación de la película tienen un valor considerablemente más bajo, y la posibilidad de traer a cientos de personas que se han alejado de la iglesia y están deseosos de volver. No puedo hablar de precios específicos, porque dependerán de cada asociación.

SN:
Cualquiera sea el costo, es mucho menor de lo que pagó Jesús por nuestra salvación. Yo aprecio el precio que Él pagó por mi, por lo tanto estoy deseoso de pagar lo que fuere para alcanzar a otra persona para el reino.

JM:
Seguramente el gozo que sentiremos en el cielo será enorme cuando veamos que lo poquito que se invirtió, trajo consecuencias eternas para las familias a las que hayamos traído de vuelta al redil. Una inversión mínima, para una ganancia eterna.

SN:
Supongo que la premier que tuvieron en San Antonio, Texas, sirvió en cierto modo de termómetro para evaluar las reacciones de aquellos ex adventistas que fueron invitados a asistir y escuchar el llamado que realizó el pastor Bullón al finalizar. ¿Cuáles fueron los resultados?

JM:
Durante la película estuve caminando y observando las expresiones, y me impresionó el ver tantos rostros cubiertos en lágrimas, como si de alguna forma se sintieran identificados con la historia. “Este es mi hijo, mi hermana, mi amigo, o este soy yo.” Al finalizar la película no hubo sermones, simplemente un llamado. “La película fue un sermón sin palabras”, dijo William Costa Jr., director del departamento de comunicaciones de la Asociación General. “Predica en forma efectiva para la mente contemporánea.”

Al menos doce personas acudieron al llamado. Una de las personas ex adventistas, no podía hablar por la emoción. “Esto es exactamente lo que necesitamos”, dijo. Otra señora que observaba a quienes acudieron al llamado, confesó que se sintió sorprendida cuando vio pasar a algunas personas que ella no sabía que habían dejado la iglesia, a pesar de haber sido quien les había dado los estudios bíblicos. “Necesito abrazarlos” dijo.

SN:
Creo que la película cumplirá su misión, y tan pronto como esté lista, voy a adquirir una para mi familia.

—R. STEVEN NORMAN III
DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE COMUNICACIONES SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE

Announcements

New Members’ Sabbath School Resources – The New Members’ Bible Study Guide has been prepared to assist in the task of making disciples. It is a valuable resource for assisting recently baptized members in understanding how to follow God’s Word. All the fundamental beliefs of the Adventist Church are covered several times during the year, reinforcing basic doctrines. Other special features include stories from people who grappled with learning truth, a glossary of key Bible terms, and frequent “Adventese” sidebars to acquaint new members with terminology and culture unique to the Adventist community. The series can be started with a new members’ class at any time and is not limited to the calendar year.

First NAD Adventist Muslim Relations Training & Networking Weekend – July 26-29. Heritage Academy, TN. Interested in reaching out to Muslim neighbors? Ever wondered how our Adventist theology of mission applies to the Muslim context in North America? Want to be trained by practitioners who will present field-tested, fruitful practices they’ve discovered? If so, this event is for you! Contact Heidi Guttschuss at Heidi.NADAMR@gmail.com or 404-558-4682.

Southern Society of Adventist Attorneys 35th Annual Fall Retreat – Sept. 14-16. Email: SSAA@southernunion.com for details.

Oak Park Academy Alumni Weekend – Sept. 28, 29. Gates Hall, Nevada, IA. Honor classes: 1937, ’42, ’47, ’52, ’62, ’67, ’72, and ’77. Details: Contact Mary Dassenko Schwantes at 636-527-0955 or email: maryl schwantes@sbcglobal.net; Warren Woledge at 402-570-0346 or email: warrenw2u@gmail.com. We need your email.

**CAROLINA CONFERENCE ACADEMY**  
Mt. Pisgah Academy, Candler, NC  

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**  
Adventist Christian Academy, Charlotte, NC  
Adventist Christian Academy, Raleigh, NC  
Asheville-Pisgah School, Candler, NC  
Brookhaven SDA School, Winterville, NC  
Camden Adventist School, Camden, SC  
Charleston SDA School, Charleston, SC  
Columbia Adventist Academy, Lexington, SC  
Edisto Adventist School, Spartanburg, SC  
Elizabeth City SDA School, Elizabeth City, NC  
Fayetteville Adventist School, Fayetteville, NC  
Five Oaks Adventist Christian School, Durham, NC  
William Johnston Elementary, Hickory, NC  
Myrtle Beach SDA Christian School, Myrtle Beach, SC  
Poplar Springs SDA School, Westminster, SC  
Silver Creek Adventist School, Morganton, NC  
Sunnymove Community Christian Preparatory, Summerville, SC  
Tri-City Christian Academy, High Point, NC  
Tryon SDA School, Lynn, NC  
Upstate Christian Academy, Greenville, SC  
Wilmington SDA School, Wilmington, NC

**FLORIDA CONFERENCE ACADEMIES**  
Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, FL  
Forest Lake Distance Learning Academy, Apopka, FL  
Great River Adventist Academy, Miami, FL  

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**  
Beryl Wisdom Adventist School, Orlando, FL  
Brevard Adventist Christian Academy, Cocoa, FL  
Deltana Adventist School, Deltona, FL  
East Pasco Adventist Academy, Dade City, FL  
Forest City Adventist School, Altamonte Springs, FL  
Forest Lake Education Center, Longwood, FL  
Gateway Christian School, Mt. Dora, FL  
Greater Miami Adventist Academy, Miami, FL  
Guilford SDA Elementary, St. Petersburg, FL  
Indigo Christian Junior Academy, Daytona Beach, FL  
Jacksonville Adventist Academy, Jacksonville, FL  
James E. Sampson Memorial School, Ft. Pierce, FL  
Living Springs Academy, High Springs, FL  
Miami Springs Adventist School, Miami Springs, FL  
Naples Adventist Christian School, Naples, FL  
New Port Richey Academy, New Port Richey, FL  
Okeechobee Adventist Christian School, Okeechobee, FL  
Orlando Junior Academy, Orlando, FL  
Osceola Adventist Christian School, Kissimmee, FL  
Port Charlotte Adventist School, Port Charlotte, FL  
Sawgrass Adventist School, Plantation, FL  
Tampa Adventist Academy, Tampa, FL  
Walker Memorial Junior Academy, Avon Park, FL  
West Coast Christian Academy, Bradenton, FL  
West Palm Beach Junior Academy, West Palm Beach, FL  
William A. Kirlew Junior Academy, Miami Gardens, FL  
Winter Haven Adventist Academy, Winter Haven, FL  
Z. L. Sung SDA Church School, Gainesville, FL

**GULF STATES CONFERENCE ACADEMY**  
Bass Memorial Academy, Lumberton, MS  

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**  
Adventist Christian Academy, Panama City, FL  
Bass Christian Elementary, Lumberton, MS  
Big Cove Christian Academy, Owens Cross Roads, AL  
College Drive SDA School, Pearl, MS  
Community Christian School, Meridian, MS  
Corinth SDA School, Corinth, MS  
Emerald Coast Christian School, Fort Walton Beach, FL  
Faith Adventist Christian School, Summit, MS  
Floral Crest Junior Academy, Bryant, AR  
Hoover Christian School, Hoover, AL  
Mobile Junior Academy, Mobile, AL  
Montgomery SDA School, Montgomery, AL  
Mount View Adventist School, Peti City, AL  
Pensacola Junior Academy, Pensacola, FL

**KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE CONFERENCE ACADEMIES**  
Highland Academy, Portland, TN  
Madison Academy, Madison, TN  

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**  
Appalachian Christian Academy, Manchester, KY  
Bill Eggy Elementary School, Lawrenceburg, TN  
Columbia SDA Elementary, Columbia, KY  
Dickson Adventist Elementary, Dickson, TN  
Highland Elementary School, Portland, TN  
Hines Memorial Elementary School, Jackson, TN  
Leach Christian School, Cedar Grove, TN  
Lexington Junior Academy, Lexington, KY  
Louisville Adventist Academy, Louisville, KY  
Madison Campus Elementary, Madison, TN  
Martin Memorial Elementary School, Centerville, TN  
Pee Wh Collection Academy, Memphis, TN  
Pee Wee Valley Junior Academy, Pee Wee Valley, KY  
Ridgetop Adventist Elementary, Ridgetop, TN  
Taylor Mill SDA Church School, Latonia, KY  
Tullahoma SDA Elementary, Tullahoma, TN  
Woodbury SDA Elementary, Woodbury, TN

**SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE ACADEMY**  
Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy, Atlanta, GA  

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**  
Abney Chapel Christian School, Fayetteville, NC  
Atlanta Adventist International School, Atlanta, GA  
Berea Junior Academy, Lumpkin, GA  
Berean Christian Junior Academy, Atlanta, GA  
Berea Junior Academy, Charlotte, NC  
Bethany Junior Academy, Macon, GA  
Carolina Adventist Academy, Whiteville, NC  
Decatur Adventist Junior Academy, Stone Mountain, GA  
Ebenezer SDA School, Augusta, GA  
Ephesus Junior Academy, Winston-Salem, NC  
Emanuel SDA Junior Academy, Albany, GA  
Geithsemane SDA School, Raleigh, NC  
Jack J. Hanna SDA School, Florence, SC  
Lithonia Adventist Academy, Lithonia, GA  
Napoleon B. Smith SDA Academy, Greensboro, NC  
New Bethel Christian Academy, Columbus, GA  
Ramah Junior Academy, Savannah, GA  
Vanard J. Mendinghall Junior Academy, Orangeburg, SC

**SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE ACADEMY**  
Oakwood Adventist Academy, Huntsville, AL  

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**  
Alocy Junior Academy, Memphis, TN  
Avondale SDA School, Chattanooga, TN  
Bethany SDA Academy, Montgomery, AL  
E. E. Rogers SDA School, Jackson, MS  
Emma L. Minnis School, Louisville, KY  
Emmanuel SDA School, Mobile, AL  
Ephesus Junior Academy, Birmingham, AL  
F. H. Jenks Elementary School, Nashville, TN  
Oakwood Elementary School, Huntsville, AL  
University Elementary School, Knoxville, TN

**SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE ACADEMY**  
Miami Union Academy, Miami, FL  

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**  
Bethel Elementary SDA School, Florida City, FL  
Bethel Junior Academy, Riviera Beach, FL  
Broward Junior Academy, Plantation, FL  
Daughter of Zion Junior Academy, Delray Beach, FL  
Elin Junior Academy, St. Petersburg, FL  
Ephesus Junior Academy, Jacksonville, FL  
Ephesus Junior Academy, West Palm Beach, FL  
Mt. Calvary SDA School, Tampa, FL  
Mt. Olivet SDA School, Ft. Lauderdale, FL  
Mt. Sinai Junior Academy, Orlando, FL  
New Hope SDA School, Ft. Lauderdale, FL  
Palm Bay SDA School, Palm Bay, FL  
Penne SDA School, Miami, FL  
Shiloh SDA School, Ocala, FL

**COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**  
Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, Orlando, FL  
Oakwood University, Huntsville, AL  
Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN

**NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**  
The Seventh-day Adventist Church, in all of its church schools, admits students of any race to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at its schools, and makes no discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, country of origin, or gender in the administration of education policies, applications for admission, scholarship or local programs, and extracurricular programs.
ABENCHUCHEAN, Delores, 90, born March 18, 1921 in Mexico, died Jan. 13, 2012 in Jacksonville, FL. She was a member of the St. Augustine, FL, Church for 15 years. She is survived by three sons: Isaac and Jose of Jacksonville, FL, and Maurice of St. Augustine. The service was conducted in Jacksonville.

ALLEN, Kristian Xavier, 41, born Feb. 3, 1971 in Sumter, SC, died April 6, 2012 in Charlotte, NC. He was the youngest of four born to James and Lila Allen. He graduated from Sumter High School in 1990 and shortly thereafter moved to Charlotte. In 1993, he was baptized into Sharon Church in Charlotte. His love for photography, graphic design, and film sent him out west to California. He pursued a degree in animation and graduated from Los Angeles City College, where he graduated in 1999. He loved his job as a videographer. He traveled around the world doing video production with ShareHim, a ministry of the Carolina Conference, and with the Quiet Hour, a worldwide Christian television and mission organization. He was a talented writer, director, and producer. He completed many video productions and movies for clients ranging from the Discovery Channel to the General Conference. His completed works include Seasons of Life, the 3 Angels’ Messages, Old Man New Man, and Bible Breakthrough. He was the owner of his own production company, New Earth Pictures. He had recently written two movie scripts, “The Wilderness” and “The Different People.” He was always looking for ways to use his talents to reach people for Christ. He is survived by his father, James Allen; two brothers: Timothy and Michael Allen; one sister, Teresa Maxwell; numerous nieces; nephews; his girlfriend, Jacquette Pinder; and an unending number of brothers and sisters in Christ who are looking forward to seeing him again on that Great Day.

ASBURY, Lorraine, 86, born Feb. 1, 1925, in Two Buttes, CO, died Dec. 20, 2011 in Hendersonville, NC. She was a homemaker, and worked for many years as a nurse’s aide. She was a member of the Fletcher Church since 1965. She is survived by one son, Lenny Asbury; and one granddaughter.

BARBER, Lorraine, 86, born Feb. 1, 1925, in Two Buttes, CO, died Dec. 20, 2011 in Hendersonville, NC. She was a homemaker, and worked for many years as a nurse’s aide. She was a member of the Fletcher Church since 1965. She is survived by one son, Lenny Asbury; and one granddaughter.

BARR, Olive, 91, born Aug. 26, 1921 in Chattanooga, TN, died May 28, 2012 in Chattanooga, TN. She was a member of the General Conference. Her completed works include many video productions and movies for clients ranging from the Discovery Channel to the General Conference. His completed works include Seasons of Life, the 3 Angels’ Messages, Old Man New Man, and Bible Breakthrough. He was the owner of his own production company, New Earth Pictures. He had recently written two movie scripts, “The Wilderness” and “The Different People.” He was always looking for ways to use his talents to reach people for Christ. He is survived by his father, James Allen; two brothers: Timothy and Michael Allen; one sister, Teresa Maxwell; numerous nieces; nephews; his girlfriend, Jacquette Pinder; and an unending number of brothers and sisters in Christ who are looking forward to seeing him again on that Great Day.

BARMET, Richard, 60, born June 24, 1952 in Mobile, AL, died Feb. 20, 2012 in Peterborough, NH. He was the owner of his own production company, New Earth Pictures. He had recently written two movie scripts, “The Wilderness” and “The Different People.” He was always looking for ways to use his talents to reach people for Christ. He is survived by his father, James Allen; two brothers: Timothy and Michael Allen; one sister, Teresa Maxwell; numerous nieces; nephews; his girlfriend, Jacquette Pinder; and an unending number of brothers and sisters in Christ who are looking forward to seeing him again on that Great Day.

BERGHERM, Dr. Bruce A., born in Manila, Philippines, to missionary parents, died May 7, 2012 in Alpharetta, GA. He graduated from Washington Adventist University, University of Nuevo Leon, and did a residency at George Washington University. After serving as anesthesiologist at Piedmont Hospital for 25 years, he practiced at Newton General Hospital and Baptist Hospital in Cumming, GA. He served for many years as chairman of the board for Atlanta Adventist Academy, and was also chairman of the board for Smyrna Towers. He served as an elder in the Church. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Bernice S. Bergherm; three sons: Bruce (Ellen), Brent (Leigh Ann), and Brian (Debbie); seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. Services were held May 10 at the Roswell, GA, Funeral Home, and interment at Arlington Memorial Park in Sandy Springs, GA.

BURDICK, Paul B., 80, born May 29, 1931 in Stoneham, MA, died March 6, 2012 at his home in Ooltewah, TN. His career as an educator and with IBM and Wang Laboratories spanned several states. Following retirement from Information Management Forum in Atlanta, GA, he joined Vikus Corporation in Chattanooga as chief operations officer for six years before retiring again in 2009. He was a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church for more than 35 years, serving as a deacon most of those years. As a Korean War veteran, he also was a member of the FVF. Later, he earned his private pilot license. One brother, David, predeceased him. He is survived by his wife, Bille (Kelly) Burdick; two sons: Rich of Montrose, CO, and Gary of Berrien Springs, MI; two sisters: John of Dunfries, VA, and Al of Lincoln, NE.

BUSH, Counce Mills, 96, born May 23, 1915 in Chipley, FL, died Aug. 7, 2011 in Pensacola, FL. He was a faithful member of the University Parkway Church in Pensacola. As a young man, he served 3½ years in the Civilian Conservation Corps in the state of Wyoming for nine years before moving to Lafayette, IN, Columbus, WI, and finally Collegedale, TN, where he lived for 39 years. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Palama Tillman Chalker of Collegedale; one daughter, Donna Ruckgaber of Collegedale; two sons: Elder Byron Chalker Jr. of Livingston, TX, and Dr. Donald Chalker of Templeton, CA; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

CHALKER, Pastor Byron K., 89, of Collegedale, TN. Born Feb. 14, 1922 in Parkersburg, W.VA, died Sept. 24, 2011 in Chattanooga, TN. He earned a bachelor of theology from Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University) in 1945, and worked as a pastor and singer evangelist in the state of Wyoming for nine years before moving to Lafayette, IN, Columbus, WI, and finally Collegedale, TN, where he lived for 39 years. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Palama Tillman Chalker of Collegedale; one daughter, Donna Ruckgaber of Collegedale; two sons: Elder Byron Chalker Jr. of Livingston, TX, and Dr. Donald Chalker of Templeton, CA; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

CLAYTON, Lt. Col. Wofford G., 89, born in Ehrhardt, SC, died July 11, 2011 in Aiken, SC. He was a member of the Air Force. He served in the US Army Air Corps, 20th Air Force, flying “The Hump” in the Chinese/Burmese Theatre as a navigator and bombardier in the first group of B-29’s that were placed into service. Completing active duty, he continued to serve his country in the reserves, attaining the rank of Lt. Colonel. In addition to his military service, he was an E-3 mechanic at the Savannah River Site from 1953 until his retirement in 1980. In addition to his parents, Benjamin Ryan Clayton and Minnie Catherine Clayton, he was preceded in death by one brother, Wilmot Clyde Hiers. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Gloria Dowtin Clayton; three daughters: Pamela (Gregory) Hamilton, Cynthia Clayton, and Carol Clayton. He is also survived by three step-grandchildren: Meghan Hamilton Schultz, Benjamin Hamilton, and William Hamilton; and one step-great-grandson, Hayes Hamilton.

COCHRAN, Myrtle S., 88, born May 27, 1923 in Alto, TX, died April 17, 2012. She is survived by four daughters: Carolyn, Jeannie, Nancy, and Laurie; five grandchildren: Jennifer, Heather, Keely, Savannah, and April; three great-grandchildren; three brothers: Don, Gary, and Kenneth Spears; numerous nieces; and nephews. A memorial service was held May 19, 2012 at the Talley Hall Chapel on the campus of Southern Adventist University, where she was assistant dean of women for three years and an associate professor of office administration for 22 years.
CROWDER, Ellen, 97, born in 1914 died Jan. 31, 2012 in Goodlettsville, TN. She was a member of the Madison, TN, Campus Church. She is survived by three daughters: Barbara (Richard) Doolittle, Karen (Darrell) Baker, and Linda Crawford; 10 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

ELLER, Barbara A., 81, born Sept. 1, 1930, died April 16, 2012. She was a longtime resident of Collegedale, TN, a member of the Collegedale Church, and had retired from being a CRNA at Erlanger Hospital. She is survived by her husband, Joseph (J.O.) Quentin Eller; two sons; Edward (Tracy) Eller of Clemmons, NC, and Jimmy (LuAnn) Eller of Collegedale; two daughters: Barbara Aileen Eller of Chattanooga, TN, and Ann Arquitt of Camden, SC; three brothers: Donald Jacobs of Pagoa Springs, CO, Daniel Jacobs of Alexanderia, VA, and David Jacobs of Ringgold, GA; two sisters: Budehia Erwin of OakRidge, TN, and Pat Page of Albeamarle, NC; and seven grandchildren. The grandchildren served as pallbearers. Funeral services were held on April 19, 2012, at Heritage Funeral Chapel with Dr. Douglas Jacobs and Pastor Jim Herman officiating. Interment was held at Collegedale Memorial Park.

EPPELY, Ellen Eason, 99, born in 1913 in Troy, NC, died Feb. 3, 2012 in Hattiesburg, MS. She was a member of the Hattiesburg Church. She is preceded in death by her husband, Leonard Eppeley, and one son, Brian Eppeley. She is survived by one son, Leonard Eppeley; one sister, Billie Clark; three grandsons; three granddaughters; 10 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

EVANS, Mildred Jane Baxley, 92, died April 20, 2012. A devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Nana loved her family and friends unconditionally. She took exceptional care of all children, especially those in her family, for the majority of her life. She was a faithful member of the Columbia, SC, First Church for more than 65 years. She was preceded in death by her husband, S.E. Evans; and one son, Larry Wayne Evans. She is survived by her son, Frank E. (Mildred) Evans of Columbia; one daughter, Audrey Evans (Alvin) Landers of Columbia; five grandchildren: Panamela Jane Landers-Helms (Craig Fletcher) of Lexington, Rhonda Evans (Craig) Dukes of Knoxville, TN, Jason Landers (Amy White) of Cayce, Stephanie Evans (Jerry) Greenhill of Gilber, and Amy Landers (Jon) May of Columbia; and nine great-grandchildren: Victoria, Chandler and Logan Dukes, Allison and Ashley Helms, Cameron and Karynn Greenhill, and Finnegan and Landon May.

FULFORD, Quinicia Ethel, 70, born July 1, 1941, died Feb. 17, 2012. She confessed Christ at an early age and joined Rhodes Chapel Presbyterian Church in Selma, AL. She later joined the Temple Gate Seventh-day Adventist Church where she served faithfully as a deaconess. After courtship, she married Dave Fulford Jr. on March 27, 1971, and to this union 10 children were born. She moved to New York in 1977, and there she served as deaconess and Sabbath School teacher at Beacon Light Tabernacle, and as usher while attending Newburgh Tabernacle Church. She returned to Selma in 1993 and continued serving in the church until she passed. She worked for the Marriott Corporation in Fishkill, NY, until an accident caused her to become disabled. Prior to her employment at Marriott Corporation, she worked at Second Baptist Daycare and Coastal Manufacturing. She was a loving, kind, and compassionate Christian. She would put everyone’s needs before her own. Her husband was the love of her life and she was his Queen. To her children, she was like a mother hen, defending and watching over them—always teaching them about God’s love and how He wanted them to live. She was the second youngest of five sisters and four brothers. She had two nieces who were adopted by her parents when they were babies, Vivian (James) and Cynthia, whom she affectionately called sisters. She loved her brothers and sisters, and did her best to keep in touch with phone calls and visits. She is survived by her husband, Dave Fulford Jr.; five daughters: Pamela Heaven (William) McBride, Yvonne (Harvey) Mitchell of Selma, Gwendolyn (Charles) Hunter, Euriee Fulford, and Roselynn Fulford of Madison, AL; three sons: Dave (Christine) Fulford III and Clifton Fulford of Portland, OR, and William (Freda) Fulford of Huntsville, AL; two brothers: Willie (Ruby) Rhodes and Solomon (Carolyn) of Selma; four sisters: Annie (James) Lee and Rebecca (Johnnie) Jackson of Huntsville, Dorothy (Alfred) Harris and Lucille Whitt of Philadelphia, PA; 30 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren; a very dear and cherished friend, Henrietta “Gee” Gilchrist; a host of nieces; nephews; friends; and loved ones. Two sons: Bennie and Timothy Pauldin, and two brothers: Loveless (Shellie) and Arthur (Shirley), preceded her in death.

HARRIS, George I., 97, born July 4, 1914 in Georgetown, British Guyana, died July 17, 2011 in Queens, NY. He was a faithful member of the Silver Springs Shores Church, Ocala, FL, for 17 years and participated in all the church programs as long as he was able. He is survived by four sons: Herman, George, Robert, and Phillip; four daughters: Rita, Rhoda, Joan, and Elsa; two sisters: Marjorie and Edna; 38 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor James Asere in the St. Bonaventure Church, Queens, NY. Interment was in Jamaica, NY.

HARRISON, George (Jack), 80, born March 7, 1931 in Danville, IL, died Feb. 3, 2012 in Fletcher, NC. He was a member of the Inverness, FL, Church, and attended the Hendersonville, NC, Church. After college, he first taught Church school in a one-room country school in Minnesota, which started his teaching career. He met his wife, Neda Kingman, at Hylandale Academy in Wisconsin. As the Lord called them, they moved to Florida, then California, and then back to Wisconsin, where he taught school and then served as personnel manager for the Mid-America Nursing Homes. Later, he served as personnel manager for the Branson Hospital in Toronto, Canada, and Neda served as the nurses’ resident dean. He was called back to teaching as principal of the Joliet Church School in Illinois. He then served in Corpus Christi, TX, before going to Bethel Jr. High in Wisconsin, and then teaching fifth grade at Captain Gilmer School in Fletcher, NC. He also served as principal of Pine Forest Academy in Mississippi, principal of Laurelbrook Elementary School, vice principal of Laurelbrook Academy in Tennessee, and then was administrator of Smithville Academy in Georgia. Later, he was principal of the Upward Church School and taught art at Fletcher Academy in North Carolina. Before retiring he was supervisor of the adolescent department of Park Ridge Hospital. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Neda; three children: Sharon (John) Metcalf, Sandy (Ed) Sanders, Shawn (Beatriz) Harrison; four granddaughters; Erin Sarcona of Berrien Springs, MI, Robin Sanders of Kingsport, TN, Megan and Morgan Metcalf at Fountainview Academy, B.C., Canada, and one great-grandson, Filippo Sarcona; one brother, Ben Harrison of Hendersonville; many nieces; and nephews. He was preceded in death by one daughter (Susan), four brothers, and 10 sisters.

JORDAN, Everett Warren, 61, born Sept. 27, 1950 in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, died Feb. 19, 2012 in Houston, TX. He joined the Job Corp where his focus was electronics. He married Lynda Preddie on Sept. 1, 1974, and they began their 37-year relationship. To this union, three children were born: Sheldon, Tasanea, and Whitney, who became brother and sisters to Barry and Monte. He worked for Broward County Mass Transit as a bus operator for more than 25 years. The Jordans moved to Miami in 1980, he retired to Huntsville, AL, in 2002, and later they relocated to Houston in 2010. He was a member of several churches: Mt. Olivet Church in Ft. Lauderdale, Miami Bethany Church in Miami, FL, New Life Church in Huntsville, and Fondon Church in Houston. He was easygoing, giving, down-to-
earth, and enjoyed a good laugh. His interests included fishing, hunting, cooking, and taking part in good food. He especially enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, Lynda Preddie Jordan; five children: Barry (Esi) Robinson of Nashville, TN, Monte Jordan of Ft. Lauderdale, Sheldon (Odessia) Jordan of Huntsville, Tasaene Jordan of Birmingham, AL, and Whitney Jordan of Atlanta, GA; one brother, Dennis (Gail) Jordan of Palm Beach, FL; one sister, Joyce (Russell) Giles of Ft. Lauderdale; eight grandchildren; uncles; nieces; nephews; cousins; and friends. His brother, Johnny Jordan, preceded him in death.


KEELE, Virginia (Jennie) Lee Duncan, 93, born March 12, 1919 in Carroll County, TN, died March 16, 2012 in Walton County, TN. She was preceded in death by her husband, Arlie William Keele; two sons: Don R. Keele Sr., and Rodney William Keele. She was a long-time resident of Collegedale, TN, where she worked and later retired, from working in food services at Southern Adventist University. An excellent wife, mother, and grandmother. “Grandma,” as everyone called her, had a great listening ear, a home-spun wisdom, and a compassionate heart. She is survived by one sister, Maxine Hammette; two daughters: Barbara Keele (Allen) Olsen, and Linda Keele Durham; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; great-great grandchildren; multiple nieces; and nephews. The funeral service was held March 22, 2012 at Heritage Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. John Cress and Elder Don Keele Jr. officiating. Interment followed at Collegedale Memorial Park.

LAMB, Janelia Kaye, 51, born May 23, 1960 in Atlanta, GA, died Feb. 23, 2012. She gave her life to the Lord at an early age and was baptized at Atlanta-Berean Church. She attended Berean Junior Academy, Forest Lake Academy, Mt. Pisgah Academy, and Oakwood College (now Oakwood University). She loved reading, crossword puzzles, and music. She is survived by her sister, Jeanette Lamb; her brother, James (Dallacie) Lamb Jr.; four nieces: Lauren and Laurie Hastings, Jenae’ and Ariane Lamb; one aunt, Ronella Lamb; four godparents; the Harris and Evans families; extended family; and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents and her eldest sister.

MCINTOSH, Genevieve “Jenny,” 92, born 1920, died Feb. 28, 2012. She was a faithful member of Pensacola, FL, University Parkway Church since 1942. She was preceded in death by her husband, James Hampton McIntosh. She is survived by her daughter, Judy (Dr. Ira Dushoff) McIntosh Dushoff; one son, Jim (Becky) McIntosh; five grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and one brother, Bill (Maggie) Battle.

MCLAMB, James “Jim” Hiram, 82, born Nov. 9, 1929 in Johnston County, NC, died Dec. 8, 2011 in Wilmington, NC. He was the son of the late Robert V. McLamb and Lessie Temple McLamb. He was a member of Wilmington Church, and served the congregation as head deacon and head elder, as well as assisting in the Pathfinder club and church choir. McLamb served his country honorably in the US Marine Corp, and was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War. He then served in the US Marine Corps Reserves. McLamb also operated several local service stations before opening McLamb’s Auto and Service Center. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Marie McLamb; five children: Sherrie McLamb, James H. (Annette) McLamb Jr., Joan (James) Kelly, Brenda (Troy) Dixon, and Patricia (Jerry) Hickman; nine grandchildren: Sherrie Lynn Hardman, Jamie Judeck, Ricky McLamb, David Kelly, Michael Kelly, Jason Kelly, Travis Kelly, Holly Hickman, and Neil Dixon; and nine great-grandchildren.

MORELL, Margarita, 84, of Knoxville, TN, died Jan. 16, 2012. She was preceded in death by her husband, Pedro Morell, her son, Pedro Morell, and her daughter, America Morell. She is survived by two daughters: Hermice Morell and Margarita Hawkes; six grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

NABORS, Rubbye Eileen Bradburn, 92, born Oct. 3, 1919 in Union, SC, died March 11, 2012. She was a resident of Ooltewah, TN. She was an educator. She taught high school business in a multitude of schools including Moultrie, GA, Atlanta, GA, Philadelphia, PA, Enterprise, AL, and Dillingham, AK. While living in Chattanooga, she volunteered at the Samaritan Center and was a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church. One younger brother, Hay Fant Bradburn, preceded her in death. She was the wife of the late L. Paul Nabors and mother of Paula N. (Leon) Graham of Chattanooga, TN; and Virginia (Dick) Gromer of Ft. Bragg, Ca, and Dorothy Huenegardt of Apopka, FL; three grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

NERICH, Frances R., 77, born June 9, 1934 at Detroit, MI, died Jan. 22, 2012 at Belleville, IL. She was a member of the Dunnellon, FL, Church. She is survived by her husband, Carl; two sons: Carl and Bradley; four daughters: Linda Innes, Wilma Lane, Fran Bell, and Roxanne Genovese; 17 grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

ROUSE, Raymond, 81, born in Elm Creek, NE, died March 7, 2012 in Avon Park, FL. He was a member of the Avon Park Church. He served the denomination as treasurer in Oklahoma, Indiana, Illinois, and Minnesota conferences. He was co-founder and manager of the Heartland Granary in Avon Park for 10-plus years. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Darlene; one son, Arden of Aubumdale, FL; one daughter, Darla (Jeff) Erhardt of McDonald, TN; two sisters: Wilma (Dick) Gromer of Ft. Bragg, CA, and Dorothy Huenegardt of Apopka, FL; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. The memorial service was held on April 20, 2012, at Collegedale Church, Collegedale, TN.

SANGER, Erna F., 92, born Jan. 3, 1919, died Dec. 22, 2011 in Colorado Springs, CO. She was a member of the St. Augustine, FL, Church for 25 years. She is survived by two daughters: Tina Zimmerman and Mittie Pedranza. The memorial service was held at Fayetteville, GA, Church.

SCHOMBURG, William M., 88, born Dec. 9, 1924 in Columbus, GA, died April 17, 2012 in Lawrenceburg, TN. He was a pastor in West Virginia; teacher in Potomac Conference; and librarian at Cedar Lake Academy, Newbold.
College, and Southern Adventist University. He is survived by two sons: Walter Schomburg and Lloyd Schomburg; four grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

SOUCY, Susan Jane “Suzi,” 64, born Oct. 21, 1947 in Clifton, WI, died Feb. 9, 2012 in Douglasville, GA. She graduated from New Lisbon High School in 1965 and met her husband, Dick, in 1969. They were married on May 15, 1970 in Madison, WI. She and her husband of 42 years were led to Jesus by evangelist Lynn Martell during Mission ’72, and were baptized together by Pastor Joe Ray in Madison. Her love for Jesus was felt by all who knew her. She was dedicated to serving her Lord as a home-school mom, deaconness, Sabbath School teacher, school board member, choir member, and church gardener for 37 years. She loved sharing the Gospel by example, walking, gardening, and cooking “veggie-style.” She worked as a bookkeeper for Schioep’s Ice Cream in Madison, WI, then Rockledge, FL, and was the office manager for Versa-mount in Douglasville for several years before retiring in 2008. She is survived by her husband, Dick; her mother, Muriel McCumber of Camp Douglas, WI; two daughters: Angela (Scott) Petersen of Anchorage, AK, and Malena Soucy of Douglasville, GA; one son, Justin (Annie) Soucy of Monona, WI; and two sisters: Judy (Lenny) Yearwood of Monona, WI, and Joanne (Ron) Ruzicka of McFarland, WI; one brother, Henry (Donna) Hansen of Camp Douglas, WI; five grandchildren: Tyler Stennett of Douglasville, GA, Edolie, Ada, Garrett, and Rafe Petersen of Anchorage, AK; nieces; nephews; cousins; and many friends. A memorial service was held Feb. 14, 2012 at Douglasville Church with Pastor Hal Peggau presiding.

STEWART, Ervin Benjamin, 90, born March 12, 1921 in Des Moines, IA, died Oct. 21, 2011 in Rogersville, TN. He was a biochemist and director of the Laboratories for the Veterans Hospitals in Lake City, FL, St. Petersburg, FL, Salisbury, SC, and Johnson City, TN. He married Eleanor Jean Spencer in 1942 in Chattanooga, TN. They had three children: Richard Ervin, Janet Kay, and Myrtle Elaine. He was a lifelong member of the Adventist church, and served as treasurer and elder. He enjoyed walking, good music, reading, and sunsets from his porch in Rogersville. His wife of 62 years, Eleanor, preceded him in death in 2004. Soon after her death, he moved to Rogersville to live near his sister Velma and brother-in-law Robert Smith, for the past seven years.

STRICKLAND, Frank Edwin, 86, born May 30, 1925, in San Bernardino, CA, died March 2, 2012, in Spartanburg, SC. He served in the US Navy from 1943 to 1946. He graduated from Pacific Union College in 1950, and from Kansas City College of Osteopathy and Surgery in 1956. He married Faye Mixon in 1958, and to this union was born Peggy Sue, his pride and joy! When he finished his 10 years of general practice, he answered the call to the mission field (his passion), and spent a term in Rwanda, Central Africa. He taught medical subjects to the nurses in the French language, and helped to graduate the first four-year nursing class at Mugonero Mission Hospital. When they returned from the mission field, he took a residency in anesthesia and worked in Grandview Hospital in Dayton, OH, for 12 years as an anesthesiologist. In 1984 he retired, and they moved to Spartanburg, SC, and joined the York, SC, Church, where he was active for more than 25 years in church leadership. He is survived by his beloved wife, Faye Mixon-Strickland; one daughter, Peggy Sue (Jim) Norton; one granddaughter, Bethany; one grandson, Brian Horton; two brothers: John Strickland and David Strickland; two sisters: Ruth SIPKENS and Mary Pieratt; nieces; nephews; cousins; and a host of friends.

SWISTEK, Lawrence Paul, 47, born Jan. 16, 1965, died Jan. 28, 2012 in Meridian, MS. He was a member of the Meridian Community Church. He is survived by his wife, Kimberly Swistek; two sons: Luke Swistek and Nicholas (Libby) Swistek; his parents: Tony and Joseph Swistek; one sister, Lisa Zeller; and two brothers: Robert and Richard Swistek.

TRIMBLE, Robert Earl, born February 26, 1926 in Denver, CO, died March 21, 2012 in Orlando, FL. His family returned to their home state of Indiana shortly after his birth where he spent his youth at the railroad village of Indianapolis. He attended Indiana University before being drafted by the US Navy and assigned to the battleship North Carolina. He moved to California to be with Callie Sims who was in nursing training in Glendale, CA. They were married on September 29, 1946, and after their wedding he began to pursue a career in hospital administration. He spent most of his professional life with the Adventist Hospital System in Florida, Oklahoma, Texas, and Georgia before he retired. His wife, Callie, preceded him in death on February 24, 2010. He is survived by three daughters: Teresa Herrmann, Kennesaw, GA; T.L. Trimble, Lake Mary, FL; and Terry Denise, Sulphur, LA; four grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

VADEN, Jr., Kenneth Michael, 35, born Sept. 9, 1976 in Sheffiel, AL, died Jan. 25, 2012 in Florence, AL. He was a member of the Shoals School Church. He is survived by his wife of five years, Sandra Vaden; his parents: Kenneth and Sharon Vaden of Knoxville, TN; Chris Vaden of Birmingham, AL; and four nephews: Silas, Bradley, Joseph, and Brandon. The service was officiated by Pastor Kurt Thrakeld; burial at Tri-Cities Memorial Gardens in Florence.

WILL, Stanley, 94, died May 6, 2012 at NHC Healthcare of Scott in Lawrenceburg. He was a native of Perry, OK. He was a retired pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and member of the Collegeedale, TN, Church. For many years he worked as a Trust Services representative for the Carolina Conference. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Bennie Beth Will; second wife, Thelma Will; and granddaughter, Lindsey Will. He is survived by two sons: Ken Will and Cliff Will; one sisters Lynne Lohman Scott; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

WILLIAMS, Marjorie L., 97, born Oct. 24, 1914 in North Liberty, IN, died Jan. 27, 2012 in Apopka, FL. She was a member of the Florida Living Church, Apopka for seven years. She is survived by one step-daughter, Tina Irwin of Altamonte Springs, FL. The service was conducted by Pastor Gus Scheuneman at the Florida Living Retirement Center in Apopka. Interment was at the Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, FL.

WOLTER, Sr., James William, 85, born Oct. 19, 1926 in Ann Arbor, MI; died Feb. 21, 2012 in Asheville, NC. He grew up along the Huron River three miles outside of Ann Arbor. He was baptized into the Lutheran faith at birth and re-baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1943 after Bible studies and listening weekly to the first coast-to-coast radio broadcasts of HMS Richards and the Voice of Prophecy. During World War II he served as a non-combatant medical technician at the 17th Ordnance Battalion in Honolulu, advancing to Staff Sargent-1945 to 1946. After his discharge he went to Emmanuel Missionary College and in 1948 married his sweetheart Doris Mae Brown. They honeymooned by going to the Carolinas to canvass (colporteur) at the invitation of Elder C.H. Lawarda (Carolina Conference President). They began their ministry Oct. 1, 1951, and intermarried Elder E.L. Marley in Columbia, SC. Their first church was in Orangeburg, SC. Then on to Morganton, NC, where they pastored three churches. Born during this time were James “Jimmy” Wolter Jr. and Judy Wolter. He was ordained in Charlotte, NC, July 11, 1954. He then pastored two churches in Brained, MN; Seventh Avenue Minneapolis, MN; Church; the White Memorial Church, Los Angeles, CA (with fellow associate Pastor Morris Venden); Oxnard, CA; Hawthorne, CA; and Ontario, CA. Here they started a work-study Adventist elementary school and experienced the death of their son Jimmy (age 25). Then to Chula Vista, CA. He conducted 125 baptisms, and the marriage ceremony of Royce Bailey and their daughter Judy in 1985, and he experienced the near death of Royce in 1993. He and Doris decided they needed to “retire” and help homeschool their two granddaughters, Jillionna and Josianne, in Fletcher, NC. He was the interim pastor in the Carolinas for Blythwood, Mt. Pleasant, Summerville, Westminster, and Greenville. For the last 17 years, he has been an active member of the Hendersonville, NC, Church.

YORK, Elizabeth Ann Larson, born in Virginia, died Nov. 18, 2011 in Huntsville, AL. She was a member of the Huntsville Central Church. Her parents, Lewis and Mary Larson, were missionaries in India. She is survived by one brother, Carl Larson.

YOUNG, Thomas H., 82, born July 23, 1929 in Hudson, FL, died Feb. 7, 2012. He was a member of the New Port Richey, FL, Church since 2010. He is survived by his wife, Margo Cesa of Hudson, FL.
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ENERGY EFFICIENT, LOW MAINTENANCE HOME on 28 very private, mostly wooded acres. Columbia, KY. $325K, built 1998, 3500 square foot ranch, 2 wood burning fireplaces, geothermal heat/ ac, city water, cistern, dsl, paved road, 24x30 metal barn, 13 miles from Walmart. Call 270-378-4890, jimappleman@yahoo.com. [7, 8]

CUSTOM HOME for long term rental on 46 acre wooded lot, 5-year old brick, over 5,000 square feet. 6 bed, 6.5 bath, open floor plan. Full daylight basement. 10 minutes south of Ashsville, GA. $2100/month, negotiable. Call 678-549-7433. [7, 8]

OCALA, FLORIDA – Custom 4-2-2 home on 0.4 acre. 4,000 square feet; 3,000 living. Workshop with electricity. Well, sprinklers, security, curbing, soften, fenced back. Wheelchair ready. Minutes from schools, grocery, library, church, senior activities. 6 rooms of furniture. $261,000. 352-347-0820. [7]
ministry of Christ. Centrally located at the foothills of the Appalachian mountains, excellent church and K-10 school. Visit www.TopRatedHospitals.com or call Lynn at 423-620-1733 for more information. [7, 8]

FLORIDA HOSPITAL COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES is seeking a Curriculum Coordinator to work with both the academic departments and faculty on curriculum, mapping and course development in a blended learning environment. Qualifications: Ph.D. in Curriculum Development preferred with ten years of successful teaching in higher education. Send inquiries to Dr. Don Williams, Sr. VP Academic Admin., Florida Hospital College, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; 407-303-5619; don.williams@fhchs.edu. [7, 8]

FLORIDA HOSPITAL COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES is seeking applicants for the position of Program Director for a new Physician Assistant Program. A master’s degree is required; doctoral degree is preferred. Florida Hospital College is a faith-based institution which seeks candidates who fit the unique culture and mission of the college. Please email CV to: Dr. Len M. Archer, Associate Vice President for Academic Administration, Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; len.archer@fhchs.edu. [7, 8]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY is searching for a qualified candidate for the position of Institute of Church Ministry Director. A doctorate degree is preferred plus significant experience in applied research. For additional information and to apply please visit: http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_salaried.cgi. [7]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY is searching for a qualified candidate for the position of Assistant Herd Manager located at Indiana Academy in Cicero, Indiana. For additional information and to apply please visit: http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_hourly.cgi. [7]

UNION COLLEGE is seeking tenure track faculty member to teach foundational level courses and clinical in BSN program. Prior teaching experience and minimum of MSN in nursing required. Qualified candidates will possess a commitment to Christian Adventist values. Email cover letter and resume/curriculum vitae to thstimson@ucollege.edu. [7, 8]

BIOLOGY PROFESSOR sought by Union College, Lincoln, NE. Terminal degree strongly preferred; deep commitment to integrating Adventist faith, teaching, and scholarship essential. Several specializations acceptable. Submit vita and cover letter to Dr. Carrie Wolfe, Chair, Division of Science, cawolfe@ucollege.edu. Deadline is September 30, 2012. [7]

ELTENHAUS – 23-bed, practicing SDA assisted living home in Maryland, seeks single, female, live-in volunteers as assistant “House Mothers”. Be a friend, to every resident through conversations, counseling, eating together, activities, crafts, games, exercises, walks, music, drives, Bible studies, vespers, church, reading, flower gardening, pets, videos, etc. Helpful: pscy nursing, hospital nursing experience essential. Essential: practicing SDA church member, patient, loving, outgoing personality, teachable in new skills. Provided: room, board, parking space, and stipend for 1-year commitment. Call Diane Crane: 410-6707-7071, email: harrelhousecircia1987@gmail.com. [7]

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE


VITAMIN D DEFICIENCY is related to an increased risk of many cancers. We specialize in vegan/vegetarian nutritional supplements and old fashioned caring. Check out our web site www.bonherbals.com or call 423-238-7467 for free price list and brochure about Immune Ammunition (an herbal alternative to antibiotics.) [7]

NEED A PIANIST? “Hymns Alive”, The SDA Hymnal on 33 CD’s. Quality accompaniment music to sing God’s praises. Organ and piano. Also “He Is Our Song” and kid’s hymnals on CD’s. Also hymns on videos - 12 DVD’S - “Creation Sings”, with words and optional song leader. www.39hymns.com or call 800-354-9667. [7-12]


MISCELLANEOUS

SINGLE AND OVER 40? Stay home and meet new friends in USA, only interracial group for adventists over 40. For information, send large self-addressed stamped envelope to ASO-40, 2747 Nonpareil, Sutherland, OR 97479. [7]


ARE YOU MOVING SOON? Before you rent a U-Haul and do it yourself, check our price and gifts! ©

DIABETES, CANCER, HBP, WEIGHT LOSS: Many success stories from Home for Health Lifestyle Center. Offering hands-on healing. Experience great for anyone desiring a lasting health improvement and deeper Christian walk. Sessions last 1-6 weeks, are quality, empowering, and family friendly. For more information, visit www.HomeForHealth.net or call 606-663-6671. [7-12]

AUTHORS WANTED – If you’ve written your life story, want to tell others of God’s love, or desire to
share your spiritual ideas and want it published, call TEACHServices.com at 800-367-1844, x3, for a FREE manuscript review. [7]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423.236.2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatedegrees. [7-5]

RIDGETOP ADVENTIST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – An AdventistEDGE School of Excellence, offering caring Christian teachers and a strong technology component to students in grades K-8. Call 615-859-0259 for more information. Come join us! [7, 8]

SEEKING STUDENTS – One room conference elementary school in rural setting with small conservative church in Umpire, Arkansas. Active Pathfinder club and outreach programs. One hour from: 3 hospitals, mountain, lakes and rivers. Call Jonathan Baylon School Board Chairman at 870-584-2442. [7]

FREE SIMPLE SOLUTIONS NEWSLETTER – What can you do to prevent a fire? How can you make sure your children are safe from predators? How can you avoid destructive spam when you use Facebook? Sign up to receive a free monthly electronic newsletter filled with Simple Solutions to help minimize risks and prevent accidents at your home, school, church, or place of business. Produced by the risk management professionals from Adventist Risk Management, every edition of this resource has something for you. E-mail subscribe@adventistrisk.org for your free subscription. Adventist Risk Management, providing risk management solutions for the Seventh-day Adventist Church. [7-11]

WANTED TO PURCHASE: 1 copy of “Christ Conquers / Why Christ Rose on Sunday” authored by Luis F. Were. Please contact Tim Tillman, 423-637-5250. [7]

100th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – October 5 & 6, 2012. Frederick Seventh-day Adventist Church, Frederick, Maryland, Friday, October 5, 7 pm: Supper, Fellowship and Communion with God. Sabbath, October 6, 11 am: Worship Service with Guest Speaker, Elder Lonnie Melashenko. 3:30 pm: Organ Concert, Dr. Van Knauss. For further information, email: fredericksda@gmail.com or online: www.fredericksdachurch.org. [7]

## Events Calendar

### Carolina

**Family Camp** – July 1-5. NPR.
**Pathfinder/Adventurer Leadership** – Aug. 24-26.
**Hispanic Men’s Retreat** – Aug. 31-Sept. 3.
**Hispanic Young Adult Retreat** – Sept. 7-9. NPR.
**Retiree Retreat** – Sept. 16-20. NPR.
**ECCM North** – Sept. 29. Greenville, NC.
**ECCM South** – Oct. 6. Summerville, SC.

### Florida

**Complete calendar online** – http://www.floridaconference.com/calendar/
**Florida Pathfinder events** – http://www.floridaconference.com/youth/ or call 407-644-5000 x127.
**Singles’ Ministries events and mailing list information**.
**Florida Hospital DeLand Support Groups** – Florida Hospital DeLand offers a variety of support groups such as attention deficit disorder, bereavement, brain injury, celiac disease, diabetes, sleep disorders, and more. Details are available under the “Support Groups” link in the “Patients and Visitors” box at http://www.fhdeland.org/
**Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule**
**Services Clinics**
- **Aug. 4. Tampa First.**
- **Aug. 11. Kress Memorial in Winter Park.**
- **Aug. 25. North Lake in Leesburg.**
**Camp Kulaqua Family Camp** – Aug. 31-Sept. 3. High Springs. Details and registration: http://www.campkulaqua.com/, summercamp@campkulaqua.com, or 386-454-1351.
**Go Fish Children’s Ministries Leadership Convention** – Sept. 14-16.
**Florida Hospital Creation Conference Center. Workshops and seminars for all classes from Beginners to Earlifeen. Details: frrillr@cftr.com, rhoda.burrill@floridaconference.com, or 407-644-5000 x138.
**Spanish-language Marriage Retreat** – Sept. 21-23.
**Daytona Beach Resort. Details: rebecca.delosrios@floridaconference.com or 407-644-5000 x138.

### Georgia-Cumberland

**Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.**
- **Teen I – July 1-8.**
- **Rock Solid I – July 8-15.**
- **Rock Solid II – July 8-15.**
**Family Camp** – July 17-22.
**Health Rallies**
- **July 7. Gainesville, GA. Hispanic.**
- **July 21. Whitwell, TN, Mission Group.**
**Disaster Response Training** – July 8, 7. Dowdy Family Resource Center, Cordele, GA.
**Family Ministries Leadership “Charting Our Course”** – July 14, 15. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.
**Personal Ministries Rally** – July 28. Athens, TN.
Online registration for events available: www.registration.gccsda.com.

### Gulf States

**Complete Calendar online**
http://www.gccsda.org
**Teen Mission Outreach** – July 7-27.
**Pastors’ Retreat** – July 22-25.

### Kentucky-Tennessee

**Conference Association Board**
- **July 24. Sept. 18.**
**Conference Executive Committee**
- **July 24. Sept. 18.**
**Ministers’ Meeting** – Aug. 5-8.
**Indian Creek Camp.**
**Hispanic Youth Retreat** – Aug. 16-19. Indian Creek Camp.
**Hispanic Women’s Retreat** – Sept. 7-9. Indian Creek Camp.
**Young Women’s Retreat** – Sept. 14-16. Indian Creek Camp.
**Women’s Retreat I – Sept. 21-23. Indian Creek Camp.**
**Women’s Retreat II – Sept. 28-30. Indian Creek Camp.**

### Southern Adventist University

**SmartStart** – July 30.
First-time Southern students can take a three-credit-hour class in the summer for FREE. You pay for books, food, and residence hall rent, and the tuition is on us! That’s a savings of more than $1,750. Details: southern.edu/smartstart.

### Announcements on page 32
The Southern Union Conference

Medical + Dental Retreat

September 27-29, 2012 Gatlinburg, Tennessee

Sabbath Speaker:
Neil Nedley, MD Nedley Health Solutions, Ardmore, OK

Guest Presenters:
David DeRose, M.D., M.P.H. Physician, Newstart Medical Clinic Health Sciences Faculty, Weimar College
Charles J. Goodacre, D.D.S., M.S.D., Dean and Professor, Restorative Dentistry Loma Linda University School of Dentistry
Jim A. Williamson, O.D., Staff Optometrist and Supervisor of Residence Program, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Assistant Professor, Southern College of Optometry, Memphis, TN

To get your special rate, make your reservation today!
www.ParkVista.com or 865.436.9211 or 1.800.421.PARK

For registration, go to: www.SouthernUnion.com/MedicalDentalRetreat or call 678.420.1419