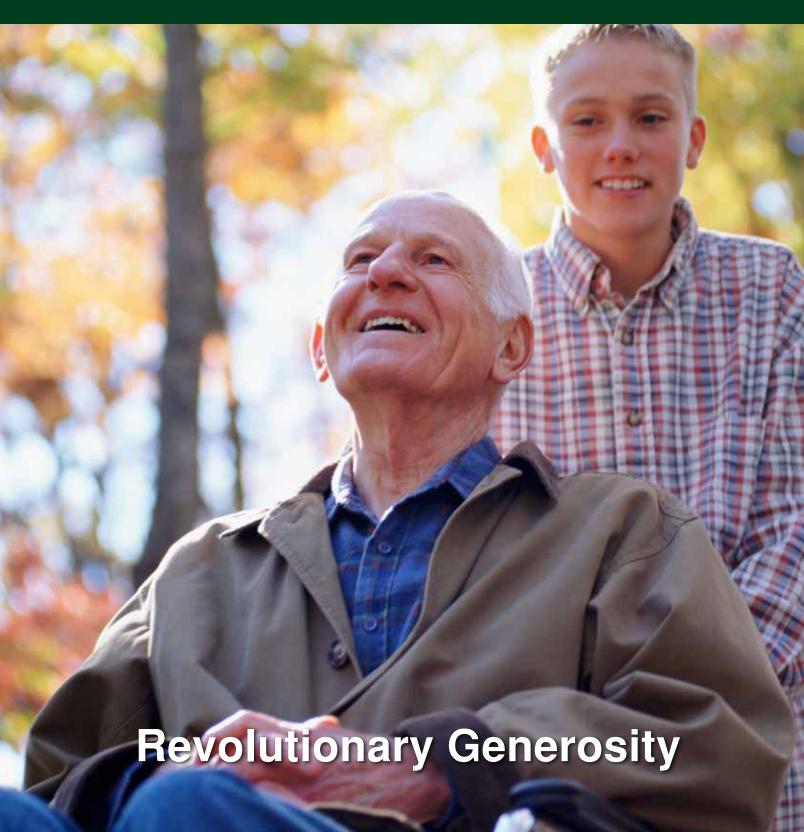
# SOUTHERN SOU



## Vantage Point

# The Lordship of Jesus

"And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father," Philippians 2:11.

The earliest creed of the Christian church contains four words only: "Jesus Christ is Lord!" The idea that Jesus was Lord was not reached at the end of a long theological discussion. To the disciples it was a given fact. The early Christians used the title Lord in referring to Jesus because they were convinced that in Him God had spoken in a unique way, that in some manner He had provided for their complete salvation from sin through Jesus. In the Resurrection, God had exalted Jesus. So when they said, "Jesus is Lord," they meant that He is sovereign Master of life, as well as Head of the Christian community. This simple creed embraces time and eternity, and sums up all that we know or need to know about Jesus. In Jesus, a new power entered the world, a power people had never seen before.

For example:

- They saw the demonstration of self-sacrificing love.
- They saw in human form the beauty of holiness.
- They saw the union of suffering and love at the cross for their redemption.
- They found their sins forgiven as they lived in His presence.
- They felt an intimate closeness to God such as they had never before experienced.

It is no wonder they cried out, "Jesus Christ is Lord!"

To say that Jesus Christ is Lord implies something very tender and personal. This creed may remain a creed, just words in a book. Until it becomes personal, it has no actual value. The very word, "Lord," means someone to be obeyed. Jesus said once to His disciples, "Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46). When we see what deep meaning the word has, and what it should mean to us, we feel ashamed at the glib way we have used it. Jesus gave stern warning at this point when He said, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven," Matthew 7:21.

To say that Jesus Christ is Lord is to make Him absolute Lord and Master of our lives, to follow Him in obedience, to serve Him in sacrifice by taking the crosses of the world's terror and sorrow in darkness, to bring release to people who are captive to anything that keeps them from being their best. This is what it means to say Jesus Christ is Lord!

Will you claim Him as Lord in your life this holiday season?



Ron C. Smith, D.Min., Ph.D. Southern Union President

## TIDINGS

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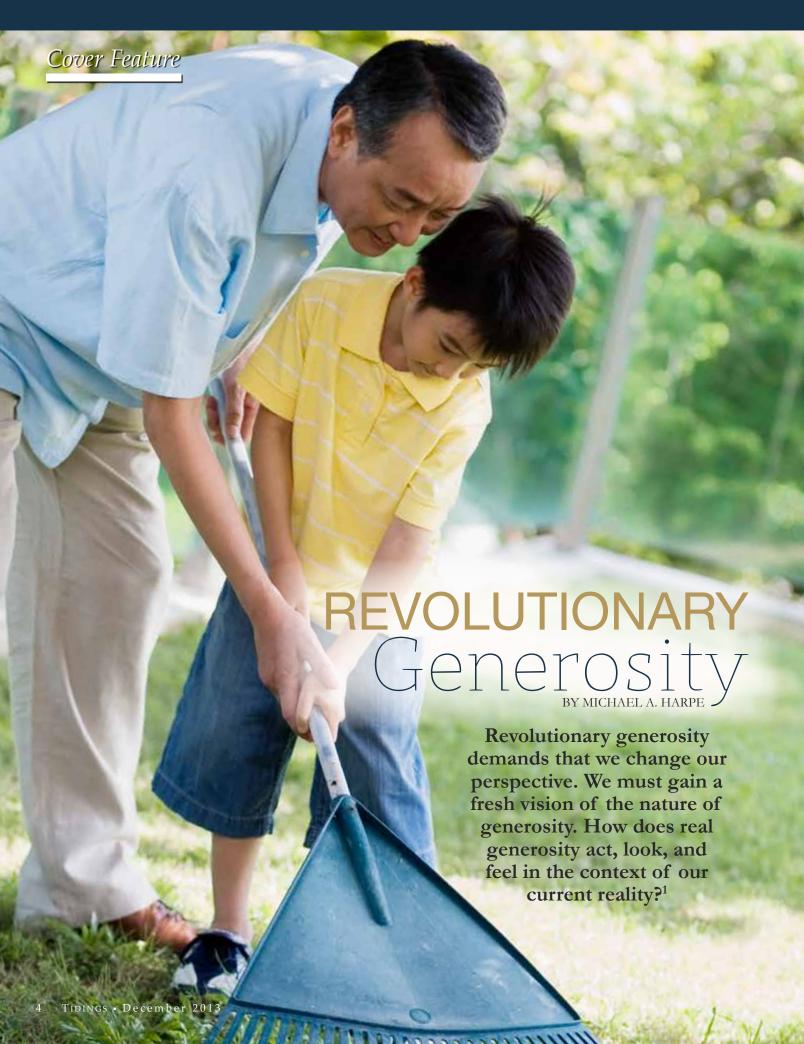
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## "Time, temple, talents, and treasure are to be given not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

hen thinking of generosity, many people look at the size of the gift or the nobility of the cause. But, Jesus looks beyond the outward appearance and measures generosity by a radically new standard: the condition of the giver's heart.<sup>2</sup> "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also," Matthew 6:21. Stewardship is a matter of the heart, a matter of the soul. This goes deeper than the value of a dollar. It is a spiritual matter.

Giving, then, is more than an obligation for followers of Christ; it is an exciting opportunity to lay up treasure which will last for eternity. "It is more blessed to give than to receive," Acts 20:35. Today, God has

positioned His people with unprecedented wealth and opportunity to glorify Him by emulating His generosity.<sup>3</sup>

A church group was getting kicked out of a park because of their interaction with the homeless. The police officer said, "You can't feed the homeless here; you need a permit!" The pastor replied, "We are not feeding the homeless, we are eating with them." This is the true heart of generosity, how it looks, acts, and feels.<sup>4</sup>

Often, generosity is about something we do *for* an individual or group, as opposed to something we do *with* them. In doing so, we perpetuate our sense of separation.<sup>5</sup> Revolutionary generosity means be-

ing *interactive Christians*. We must move beyond social programs, of which we are so proud, and move toward a hands-on, socially engaged lifestyle.<sup>6</sup>

Many seem to lean toward the easy way out, or the path of least resistance. For example, think of how much easier it is to care for the homeless by sending a check to the local shelter instead of planning to eat with them. And, think of how much easier it is to direct people to a few verses in the Bible in response to life's tough questions instead of working it out with them; or how much easier is it to complain about the inequality in the world as opposed to being involved in bringing equality to the world.<sup>7</sup>



What would Jesus do? What did He do? If Jesus wanted to simply do something *for* us, He could have done it from Heaven. Instead, He chose to do it *with* us. He became flesh and dwelt among us. He stepped into first century Palestine's culture. He invited people into His life, and allowed Himself to be invited into theirs.<sup>8</sup>

They were not the right people with which to be generous; they were what people of society considered the "unlikeables" and treated as untouchable. These were people that many would select "unlike" from their Facebook friend page. These people had nothing with which to repay Jesus. They were sick, blind, and lame, physically and spiritually, but these are the ones who Jesus kept putting at the head of the banquet tables. Are you ready for that?

Revolutionary generosity is spiritual and practical. It is an interactive stewardship principle. Imagine a

revolt against the generated norm of what is thought of stewardship, that it's about money only: An enemy hath muddied the truth. Generosity is at the heart of stewardship. So let's start a revolution, a complete revolution of generosity in the people of God to become faithful stewards. "...Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful," I Corinthians 4:1, 2.

How generosity looks, acts, and feels may be gleaned in the way we manage God's goods. There are at least four examples of how we may do this:

TIME: We must manage time for Christ, and balance time for daily endeavors. Time with Jesus comes first, the devotional life and personal commitment (a) to God, Matthew 22:37, 38; and (b) to each other, Matthew 22:39, 40. Out of the daily devotional life comes strength to make it through the day. How is this done? Designate quiet time for

the Creator — early morning is favorable; choose a passage from the Bible to read; meditate on it; then, in your prayer of needs, acknowledge and thank God for Who He is, pause, and allow Him response time (prayer is dialogue not just a monologue); then acquiesce to when He chooses to respond, via voice, another human, or circumstance. Some have stated that keeping a prayer journal is an inspiring, powerful look back at how God answers, and is a testimony to inspire others. Think of it this way: Before we can have financial peace, we must first have personal peace — seek ye first the kingdom of Heaven.

TEMPLE: Proper management of the body temple — mind, body, and soul via healthy living — is essential. Follow a daily health plan for the improvement of life. A good steward will practice consistently the eight laws of health: Nutrition, Exercise, Water, Sunlight, Tem-

perance, Air, Rest — the Sabbath is included in this, and Trust in divine power. Our bodies are His temples, and He expects us to manage and care for them to His glory.

TALENTS: "The special gifts of the Spirit are not the only talents represented in the parable [Matthew 25]. It includes all gifts and endowments, whether original or acquired, natural or spiritual. All are to be employed in Christ's service. In becoming His disciples, we surrender ourselves to Him with all that we are and have. These gifts He returns to us purified and ennobled, to be used for His glory in blessing our fellow men," *Christ Object Lessons*, 328.2.

TREASURE: Managing material possessions to His Glory — money, property, investments, estate planning, and caring for the environment — is to truly treasure them. Stewards will return tithe, the whole tenth, for the world work, and give a liberal offering to support the local church's mission to the community. A good steward will also learn and practice debt-free living. Getting out of debt is essential to being free from financial enslavement.

In the parable of the talents, the Bible says, "After a long time the lord of those servants came and *settled accounts* with them," Matthew 25:19. As we remember, two of the three were found faithful and invested the master's talents, "Well done" was pronounced on them. We remember what was said about the unfaithful one. This idea of settling accounts is similar to the activity relating to the investigative judgment of our day. In other words, God simply ask his servants,

stewards, managers of His goods, an obvious question: How did you do with My stuff? I left you in charge of it. Your life, employment, children, money, everything is in your care. Have you managed to My glory, or yours? Good stewards know that they have an advocate with the father, Jesus the righteous Judge, and are wearing the Judge's robe of righteousness. The robe covers because we give our cares to Him daily. We then are not anxious about the judgment, because we know the Judge.

Generosity stewardship is applicable to everyone of all ages. "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, [so let him give]; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver," II Corinthians 9:7. Time, temple, talents, and treasure are to be given, not grudgingly or of necessity, for God loveth a cheerful giver.

Let's become radical for Jesus, revolt from past selfish practices, and start a revolution — a complete Revolution of Generosity!

Michael A. Harpe is South Central Conference director of the Departments of Stewardship, Trust Services, and ASI

## Stewardship Resources for Pastors

Faith and Finances – G. Edward Reid

Counsels on Stewardship – Ellen G. White

*Beyond Blessings* – Nikolaus Satelmajer

*The Blessed Life –* Robert Morris

## Stewardship Resources for Church Leaders/ Members

*The Total Money Makeover* -Dave Ramsey

*Understanding the Spirituality* of Stewardship – Christopher Sealey

40-Day Spiritual Journey to a More Generous Life – Brian Kluth

Seven Steps to Wealth – Doris Gothard

## Stewardship Resources for Children

Stewardship Jack – Janice Matthews – www.igivesda.org

Teach Your Kids About Money – www.crown.org

Financial Peace Jr. – www.daveramsey.com

#### Website Resources

www.adventiststewardship.com www.igivesda.org www.adventsource.org www.crown.org www.daveramsev.com

<sup>1.</sup> Thomas Nees. *The Outlook* (bi-monthly newsletter), September-October 2007.

<sup>2.</sup> www.generousgiving.org/faq

Ibid.

<sup>4-10.</sup> Thomas Nees. *The Outlook* (bi-monthly newsletter), September-October 2007.



## Park Ridge Health is on a mission to help reduce prescription drug abuse in North Carolina.

Don and Julie Huneycutt stood on the steps of the Henderson County Courthouse on a bright fall morning surrounded by the sheriff and the district court judge to share their testimony.

Despite the setting and the cast of characters, the Huneycutt's greatest trial did not take place in a courtroom.

"Three years ago we lost our daughter, Anna, to a prescription drug overdose," said Julie Huneycutt. "She was only 20 years old."

The Huneycutts, along with other local officials, took part in a press conference to announce the formation of an innovative community-wide initiative designed to address the dangers of prescription drug abuse in Western North Carolina.

"We are humbled to partner with Henderson County leaders in addressing the issue of prescription drug abuse in our county," said Julie Huneycutt. "One life lost is one too many, and we believe with awareness and education we can make a difference that will improve the future of our entire community."

#### Hope for the Future

Park Ridge Health in Hendersonville has joined with families like the Huneycutts along with area health care providers, non-profits, churches, and government agencies to create Hope Rx, a communitywide initiative developed

to help reduce the increasing rate of prescription drug abuse in Henderson County and prevent overdose deaths in the community.

"Park Ridge Health is committed to sharing healing, health, and hope with our community," said Jimm Bunch, CEO of Park Ridge Health.



Survey data shows that more young people in the region surrounding Park Ridge Health are experimenting with prescription medicine than alcohol or tobacco.

"Hope Rx is a natural extension of that mission."

Hope Rx was a direct result of the recent community health needs assessment conducted in partnership with the Henderson County Department of Public Health. The community overwhelmingly identified prescription drug abuse as a top health concern in the county.

As assistant to the president at Park Ridge Health, I have never experienced an issue that touches so many lives in so many ways. I have heard so many heartbreaking stories of parents who have lost children and families who were destroyed by prescription drug abuse.

Hope Rx was designed to unite community leaders, parents, educators, students, health care providers, first responders, law enforcement, the judicial system, civic organizations, and faith groups throughout Henderson County to collaboratively raise awareness of prescription drug abuse and address the problem in the community.

The group has diverse members ranging from hospitals and public health to schools, community colleges, and universities. Even the local chamber of commerce recognizes that prescription drug abuse is more than just a health issue — it impacts the local economy and workforce development.

#### **Staggering Statistics**

Recent statistics show that the number of deaths from prescription drug overdose involving opioid analgesics and benzodiazepines has increased more rapidly nationwide than deaths involving any other type of drug.

Survey data has shown that more young people in the region are experimenting with prescription medicine than alcohol or tobacco. Our sheriff has described prescription pain killers as a loaded gun in the medicine cabinet.

"Parents, now is the time for us to address the problem of prescription drugs in our community," said Don Huneycutt. "Your social status, economic status, faith — none of these make your child exempt from the influences of prescription drugs."

Working through the Henderson County Partnership for Health, Park Ridge Health helped develop a steering committee of key leaders and create four impact committees — education, providers, law enforcement, and treatment — designed to focus



Anna Huneycutt lost her life as a result of prescription drug abuse when she was only 20 years old.

on specific facets of prescription drug abuse in the region.

Local schools have been tremendous supporters of Hope Rx and are committed to educating students about the dangers of prescription drug abuse. Physicians and dentists have also been extremely receptive to the concept.

#### A Multi-Faceted Solution

Since hospital emergency rooms and urgent cares are a common access point for drug seekers, they are a main focus for Hope Rx. The provider committee is working diligently with area hospital leaders to develop effective solutions to protect patient safety

and the public. One of these is the creation of a uniform Emergency Department policy for how certain types of pain medication are prescribed. The goal is to present a unified front to the community and send a clear, consistent message to individuals who would seek to abuse the system.

Diversion is another serious concern, with children and family members too often acquiring medication from parents or grandparents to use or resell. In this area, the committees' goal is to help the community protect its medication and dispose of unneeded prescription drugs in the appropriate way. Toward this end, Park Ridge Health offers disposal drop boxes and strong education programs to help keep these drugs out of the wrong hands.

Area churches are also sharing the message of Hope Rx through sermons, classes and support programs for individuals and families impacted by prescription drug abuse. The response from local pastors has been extremely encouraging, and we are grateful that churches are represented on the committees. Like Park Ridge Health, these churches recognize that faith is a key part of health and they are seeking to share the healing ministry of Christ with the community.

Hope Rx is planning a series of community conversations over the next year to engage the public and empower volunteers from the community.

"I sincerely believe that Hope Rx will save lives in our community," said Jimm Bunch. "I am proud that Park Ridge Health is a leader in this initiative and feels strongly that addressing addiction and mental health needs is a critical part of Christian health care."

Graham Fields is assistant to the president at Park Ridge Health.



Hope Rx community partners, including representatives from Park Ridge Health, join hands to combat prescription drug abuse.



## Communicating Christ in the Chaos

BY HEIDI MARTELLA BAUMGARTNER

The Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) Convention convened this year at the Sheraton Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah, October 24-26.

"Communicating Christ in the Chaos," the theme of this year's Society of Adventist Communicators Convention, addressed the chaos of our communication culture.

Chris Oberg, La Sierra University Church senior pastor, brought clarity to this challenge during the church service on Sabbath, October 26, and called communicators to sharpen the story in today's cultural context.

"Let me be clear: The Gospel does not need sharpening. It is clear," Oberg said. "We need to sharpen the telling of the story. We need to be residents of our communities and united in sharing the Gospel."

The Society entered a new chapter of its development and growth by welcoming the Inter-American Division (IAD) chapter. "Our vision is to expand from a regional to a vigorous international organization," says George Johnson Jr., SAC executive director and North American Division communication director. "The addition of an international chapter helps us meet our organizational goal to expand."

The Society voted to accept the IAD chapter on Friday, October 25, during a lunchtime business session. The following morning, IAD hosted breakfast and introduced Society members to their ministry region. In all, IAD brought nine representatives this year.

"We are very happy that SAC has welcomed us as an Inter-American

chapter," said Libna Stevens, IAD chapter liaison. "We attended for years and found inspiration, and wished we could take this home."

Benjamin García, IAD chapter president, spoke through translation. "By establishing this chapter in Inter-America, the vision of SAC is becoming a reality," he said. "We have a lot of professionals who were waiting for something like this. Now we can begin to fulfill the dream."

Two more chapters are preparing to launch in the European Union Division and South American Division.

SAC is structured to include media tours, professional development classes, keynote presentations, networking time, and social activities.

The three-day convention allowed Adventist communicators to talk about faith-based communication



Four hundred stuffed animals were completed for the SAC ministry project.

with leaders from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS). This interfaith interaction included tours of the Humanitarian Center, Welfare Square, LDS Conference Center, and Temple Square; attendance at a Mormon Tabernacle Choir rehearsal session; and four workshop sessions led by Mormon communicators on advertising, public affairs, multimedia marketing, and media relations.

Additional workshops on crisis communication, social media, communication education, graphic arts, broadcast media, fundraising, and community relations rounded out the training topics for Adventist communicators.

#### Media Productions

Adventist communicators previewed three media productions during the convention. Martin Doblmeier, filmmaker and friend of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, presented a viewing session of The Adventists 2. This documentary for PBS highlights the medical missionary work of the Adventist church in Haiti, the Amazon, Malawi, China, Peru, and the Dominican Republic.

The first documentary, The Adventists, began airing on PBS four years ago. The two-part series is now often featured back-to-back. Recently, The Adventists was accepted to the PBS world network for international viewing.

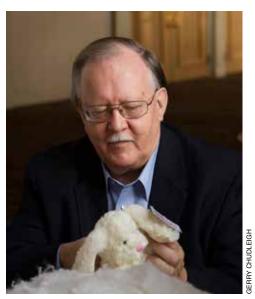
"It's been a humbling year to document this story," said Doblmeier. "The stories we tell as communicators have impact and transform lives."

Doblmeier is working on a third and final documentary about Adventists. The final documentary is called "Blueprint: the story of Adventist Christian Education." This documentary was just accepted by PBS and will be coming to public television in 2014.

Another production team, led by Jason Satterland and Garrett Caldwell, showed trailers, clips, and experiences from producing The Record Keeper. This multi-part web series tells the story of the great controversy through a steam-punk filter to reach a new audience with an age-old story.

Satterland and Caldwell tors p placed their presentation in the context of being faithful to God. They discussed three threats to faithfulness: fear, pride, and disbelief.

"Producing The Record Keeper from beginning to end has been a



Dan Jackson, North American Division president, helped with the SAC ministry project.

spiritual journey," said Caldwell. "We saw God leading us from the beginning. We desire to reach people [with the message of the Great Controversy] who otherwise would not be interested." The Record Keeper is scheduled to be debuted in February 2014

#### **Electing Leaders**

The Society of Adventist Communicators transitioned to a new group of leaders during the Salt Lake convention. Kimberly Maran, outgoing SAC president and *Adventist Review* assistant editor, welcomed



Kevin Krueger, Society of Adventist Communicators president, addresses SAC attendees.

Kevin Krueger as the new president. Krueger is the general manager of WGTS radio station at Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Maryland.

Additional leaders joining the team are Tamara Fisher, general vice president; Brian Weed, vice president for web and membership services; and Heidi Baumgartner, vice president for communication.

Representatives are elected in alternating years to give continuity. New representatives this year are Victoria Miller, broadcast/radio representative; Costin Jordache, broadcast/television representative; Beth Michaels, print media representative; and Jimmy Phillips, social media representative. Suzanne Ocsai was appointed as assistant to the vice president of communication.

Three creative and passionate student representatives are

also joining the team (versus the traditional two student reps). Steven Foster from Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska; Carlton Hanks from Walla Walla University in College Place, Washington; and David Rumsey from Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee, will be contributing their creative ideas to the board.

Dan Jackson, North American Division president, was a speaker and a hero at SAC this year. He went over and above the call of duty. The ministry project for SAC was to donate 200 stuffed animals to the Huntsman Cancer Hospital to commemorate Annual Cancer Awareness Month, which were donated by the NAD Women's Ministries Department (NADWM), and were dressed in T-shirts with the NADWM logo

and website on them. Another 200 animals were stuffed and given to the University of Utah Hospital maternity ward for parents of new babies. These were donated by the NAD Family Ministries Department (NADFM), and their T-shirts included the logo and website for NADFM's newest ministry, "Help, I'm a Parent!" SAC thanks Jackson for his shining example to others in stuffing a near-record number of 10 animals for these donations. Alvin Kibble, NAD vice president representing the NAD Building Block of Social Media, was also attending and helped by stuffing several animals while he and Jackson helped to encourage other "stuffers" by entertaining them with stories and duets. Larry Unterseher, president of the Nevada-Utah Conference, where the convention was located, won the

"stuffing championship" by stuffing 20 animals, and his wife stuffed an additional 10.

Follow the Society of Adventist Communicators on Facebook and Twitter (@AdventistComm); visit the newly redesigned website www. adventistcommunicator.org.

The next convention of the Society of Adventist Communicators is planned for October 16-18, 2014, in Jacksonville, Florida. The 2014 convention will mark the 25th anniversary of the society.

Heidi Martella Baumgartner is SAC vice president for communication and communication director at Washington Conference in Federal Way, Washington.

Suzanne Ocsai, SAC assistant to the vice president for communication, contributed to this report.

## Southern Union 2013 SAC Award Recipients

In 2005, the board of the Society of Adventist Communicators developed a way for professional recognition awards to be given out annually at the Society's convention.

The Society of Adventist Communicators Convention features awards for "best in class" projects and recognition for communication leaders. The "best in class" projects are eligible for the Society's Award of Excellence.

"Each year at our convention, awards are given out recognizing excellence in the field of communication," says George Johnson Jr., SAC executive director.

Nominations for awards are received by a specific date and then reviewed by a committee of communication professionals.

The Lifetime Achievement award is designed for a professional who has

worked in communication for at least 25 years, and has made a substantial contribution to the field.

Ron Quick, Carolina Conference communication director, received the **Lifetime Achievement Award** for his decades of dedicated, mission-driven service as an army medical photographer, newspaperman, literature evangelist, and Church communication leader. Many an inspiring story



Tammy Fisher (center), Georgia-Cumberland Conference communication director, received the Print Award.



Rebecca Anderson (center), Soutbern Adventist University student, received the Student Award.



George Johnson Jr. (left), SAC executive director and NAD communication director; Kimberly Maran, outgoing SAC president and Adventist Review assistant editor; pose with Tim Allston, Oakwood University director of public relations, who accepted the Award of Excellence for Oakwood, as well as several other awards.

would not have been told without his dedication and hard work.

"Quickly speaking: Thank You!" Quick said as he accepted the award amid a standing ovation. Quick plans to retire in July 2014.

Southern Adventist University student Rebecca Anderson received the **Student Award,** designed to recognize students who have demonstrated excellence not only in the classroom, but on the job as well. Anderson is a proactive student who pursued two internships in religious and corporate communication. She plans to work in corporate communication for the Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

#### PROJECT AWARDS

Adventist communicators submit projects from the last year for award consideration. "Best in class" projects are eligible for the Society's Award of Excellence.

Oakwood University received the **Award of Excellence** for their social media campaign to Retool Your School, a grant competition funded by Home Depot. The judges were very pleased with Oakwood's ability to generate media coverage, attention, and social media support among its constituents who united for a common cause.

## CATEGORY: CORPORATE COMMUNICATION CLASS: ANNUAL REPORT (PRINT)

#### Best in Class

United in the Community 2012 Annual Report for The Samaritan Center

Marcella Morales, marketing director

#### **CLASS: WEBSITES**

In the category of corporate communication in the class of website, judges looked at the following criteria: design, creativity, content, easy to navigate, technical (working links), up-to-date content, effectively conveys the organization's message, well-organized, clear target audience, audience appeal.

#### Best in Class

Southern Adventist University's "Be A Part" website at southern.edu

Jason Bryner, interactive development manager; Isaac James, eCommunications manager

#### **Honorable Mention**

Georgia-Cumberland Conference's website at gccsda.org

Britni Brannon, designer; Nick Clark and Lee Folkman, programmers

## **CATEGORY: NEW MEDIA**CLASS: BLOG/STUDENT BLOG

In the category of new media in the class of blog/student blog, judges looked at the following criteria: Significance of content/subject, engaging titles, frequency of postings, use of images and graphics, quality of writing, and responses to comments.

#### Best in Class

Kendraspondence blog from Southern Adventist University

Kendra Stanton Lee, assistant professor of journalism

#### **CLASS: NEW MEDIA**

In the category of new media in the class of use of social media, judges looked at the following criteria: demonstrates creative use of Facebook, Twitter, Barcodes, Foursquare, and/or YouTube, etc., for marketing/promotional purposes (must use two or more social media tools).

#### Best in Class

Oakwood University and its



Ron Quick (center), Carolina Conference communication director, received the Lifetime Achievement Award.



Martin Butler (center), Florida Conference communication director, accepted A. Lee Bennett Jr.'s Honorable Mention Award.

Home Depot Retool Your School Campaign

Kisha Norris, executive director of advancement and development; Lucy Cort, proposal writer; Debbe Millet, coordinator; Tim Allston, director of public relations

## **CATEGORY: PRINT**CLASS: NEWSLETTER (PRINT)

In the category of print in the class of newsletter (print), judges looked at the following criteria: Regularly published, judged on quality, design, logo, creativity, timeliness, well-organized content, audience appeal, effectively represents organization and conveys organizational messages.

#### Best in Class

Communique newsletter from Georgia-Cumberland Conference

Tamara Wolcott Fisher, managing editor; Britni Brannon, editor and designer

#### CATEGORY: MARKETING/ PUBLIC RELATIONS CLASS: EXHIBIT OR DISPLAY

In the category of marketing/ public relations in the class of exhibit or display, judges looked at the following criteria: design, creativity, information, audience appeal, effectively conveys organizational message, logo and contact info included.

#### Best in Class

Communications Wall by Adventist Health System

Kristopher Haughton, graphic designer

## CLASS: BROCHURE OR PRINTED PROMOTIONAL PACKAGE/KIT

In the category of marketing/public relations in the class of brochure or printed promotional package/kit, judges looked at the following criteria: design, creativity, content, information, audience appeal, effectively conveys organizational message, results.

#### **Honorable Mention**

Positioning for Vibrant Mission from Florida Conference

A. Lee Bennet Jr., associate communication director and desktop publisher

#### **CLASS: MEDIA PITCHING**

In the category of marketing/public relations in the class of media pitching campaign, judges looked at the following criteria: an intentional media pitch that led to coverage (submit the pitch letter or press release and the printed public newspaper article or a video clip of the television or radio story it yielded.

#### Best in Class

Oakwood University aims to win the Home Depot Contest

Tim Allston, public relations director

#### Honorable Mention

Oakwood University wins the

Home Depot Contest

Tim Allston, director of public relations

#### CATEGORY: DESIGN CLASS: MAGAZINE COVER DESIGN

In the category of design in the class of magazine cover design, judges looked at the following criteria: creativity, innovation, originality and use of color, photography, illustration, typography and other elements to tie it together and appeal to target audience, flag design in relation to chosen cover design.

#### Best in Class

Oakwood Magazine cover for Spring 2013

Kisha Norris, publisher; Jerry Ross, art director/designer

## CLASS: OVERALL MAGAZINE DESIGN

In the category of design in the class of magazine design overall; judges looked at the following criteria: creativity, logo, innovation, originality, audience appeal, use of color, photography, typography and other elements to draw readers and visually enhance and complement the content.

#### Best in Class

Oakwood Magazine Kisha Norris, publisher; Tim

Allston, executive editor; Debbe Millet, assistant editor; Jerry Ross, art director/designer



Suzanne Ocsai (center), Southern Adventist University student, accepted Jason Bryner's Website Award.



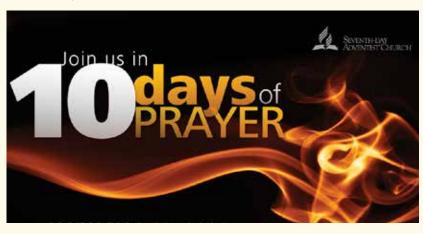
Kevin Edgerton (center), Adventist Health System corporate communications director, accepted Kristopher Haughton's Exhibit/ Display Award.

## A CALL FOR WORLDWIDE PRAYER JANUARY 8-18, 2014

Church members around the world are invited to participate in the upcoming 10 Days of Prayer, January 8-18. The theme is "The Lord's Prayer" taken from Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:1-4. Congregations of all sizes, small groups, and individuals are encouraged to sign up for the upcoming 10 Days of Prayer 2014, by going

to www.TenDaysOfPrayer. org. There, one can download guidelines for leaders, daily theme sheets, promotional materials, an e-book (Praying for Rain), and post requests or praises on Community Comments. The prayer guidelines enable the leader to easily walk a group through an hour of praying. The guidelines also contain a section of prayer requests that reflect personal needs, as well as the corporate needs of the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church. How exciting to be uniting together as a Church in praying for these requests and to see God work and pour out the Holy Spirit in even greater measure!

The 10 Days of Prayer is a time for individuals to saturate every aspect of their lives in prayer as they start the New Year. It will help fit them to proclaim God's last-day message of love and truth to the world (Revelation 14:6-12). If a person or group is unable



to meet during the designated days, choose an alternate 10 days and still participate in the blessing.

"Why should the sons and daughters of God be reluctant to pray, when prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven's storehouse, where are treasured the boundless resources of Omnipotence? Without unceasing prayer and diligent watching we are in danger of growing careless and of deviating from the right path," *Steps to Christ*, pp. 94, 95.

For the 10 Days of Prayer in 2013, thousands of individuals from 138 countries and territories participated and experienced the renewal of the Holy Spirit. Church elders, pastors, and lay leaders led out in prayer groups held in homes, schools, churches, online forums, and teleconferences. Below is a sampling of their testimonies:

As we gathered every day in this 10 days we experienced the visitation of the Holy Spirit like the Apostolic days. There was genuine repentance and brokenness as members gave up their grievances and forgave one another. It was really a time of refreshing for us here.

#### Ikenna Joseph Nigeria

Thank You so much!
We are already seeing the
results and power of united
prayer in our church members and youth. God is so
Good!

#### William Wolfgramm New Zealand

This 10 days of prayer was a joyful one for my family especially for my daughter (who studies overseas) whose prayer request during the 10 days was answered. I am so thankful for the opportunity to be part of this 10 days of prayer. Thank God and all the praise glory to His holy name! Amen!

#### Carole Ephraim Vanuatu

During the 10-days of prayer, we prayed for my

wife's father, Petraq.
He was a heavy smoker
(for almost 50 years),
but after we prayed
he got strength to
quit and in March or
April, he quit smoking
totally! He was tempted
a few times, but didn't
fall back. He was so
sick from smoking and
coughed heavily, but
now he is like a happy
and healthy man!

#### Jan Johansson Gothenburg, Sweden

Hope Channel and the General Conference Ministerial Association will once again partner to produce nightly live broadcasts of the program, *Let's Pray*. Each day a different guest speaker will join *Let's Pray* co-hosts Kandus Thorp and Pastor David Franklin to present the devotional thought on the theme for the day and participate in praying for requests that come in on the program.

God wants to pour out His Spirit on us now, just as He did for His disciples during Pentecost. Won't you join the World Church in praying for that blessing during January 8-18? Sign up today at www.TenDaysofPrayer.org, invite friends to the Facebook event at 10DaysofPrayer2014, and follow it on Twitter at #10DaysofPrayer2014.

-BY JACKIE O. SMITH SILVER SPRING, MD.

## Carolina News

#### Fletcher Academy Celebrates Alumni Weekend



Fletcher Academy's campus was a-buzz with a flurry of activity as alumni began returning to the place they once called home. Smiling faces and warm words filled the rotunda of the Leila Patterson Center on Friday evening, October 4, 2013, as current students and alumni greeted the returning family.

The theme for this year's weekend was "Picture This." As visitors and students mingled in the rotunda, images from Fletcher's past and present were displayed on the screen. Starting with just a handful of students in worn black and white photos, Fletcher Academy has grown to a

flourishing school which now educates 187 of the Church's youth.

Visitors enjoyed a welcome dinner before settling in for the Friday evening Vespers program. Sam Lenore ('88) spoke for the occasion, reminiscing about his Fletcher days. He reminded all, young and old, of the great blessing that Fletcher Academy is and has always been.

Fletcher Academy students were also able to participate in the festivities. On Friday evening the drama team presented a skit on the importance of letting God take control. The music department performed before the sermon on Sabbath morning. Choir, bells, piano, harp, and strings joined harmoniously for a powerful rendition of "You Raise Me Up." They struck chords in music, and in the hearts of the audience.

The worship speaker was John Neff ('63), who began by remembering Fletcher attendees who passed away. He then encouraged attendees to recognize the blessing Fletcher Academy has been, and to hold on to that spirit through the last days.

Alumni spent the afternoon enjoying the beautiful campus and visiting Fletcher's Heritage Room. Here, Fletcher Academy houses more than 100 years of history in the form of letters, photographs, and other materials dating back to the school's beginning in 1910.

After sundown, students and alumni joined forces for the annual football, basketball, and softball games. Though the alumni defeated the current students in each sport, everyone had a lot of fun.

This year's alumni weekend was a time of friendship, memories, and family. Students, staff, and alumni look forward to the biggest reunion of all on the great sea of glass in Heaven.

-BY COURTNEY GENTRY AND JESSICA STOUT

## Three New Members Baptized in Moncks Corner

Carolina Conference President Leslie Louis recently held evangelistic meetings in the Moncks Corner Church in South Carolina. As a result there were three individuals baptized. Pictured with Louis are Marija Baliei, Rita Young, Sharmane Ravenell, and Bill Underwood, church pastor. The meetings were held September 8 through October 4, 2013.

-BY RON QUICK





## Old Fashioned Camp Meeting Inspires Many

The "Old-Fashioned Camp Meeting" has been a source of encouragement, conviction, inspiration, and for many, a place of salvation. In the early days, Camp Meeting was a moving, evangelistic event. Wherever there was an area ripe for harvest, there was a call for a Camp Meeting. Hickory, Statesville, Lenoir, and High Point were some of the first Camp Meetings in North Carolina. The first Camp Meeting in South Carolina was near Spartanburg in 1905. At every Camp Meeting there would be a call and recruitment for colporteurs. Many church members in the Carolinas had their first contact with Adventism through the books and tracts of the colporteur.



Campers came from the Lowcountry of South Carolina and beyond to the community center of the Summerville, S.C., Church for Lowcountry Camp Meeting, October 5, 2013.

ing, in 1921, in a covered wagon. It took two days, with a stopover in Lincolnton, to make the 58-mile journey.

Today, there's still the encouragement and

J.C. Noggle, who was a member of the Hickory Church, shared his experience in a video report of traveling from Hickory to attend a Camp Meeting in Charlotte, N.C. Noggle recalled going to Camp Meetinspiration; the difference today is the convenience of speedy travel. Now many more people are able to come receive the blessings of Camp Meeting.

In the Carolina Conference there are three Camp

Meetings. The Conference-wide Camp Meeting is held in a beautiful mountain location in western North Carolina called Lake Junaluska. This spiritual event lasts for an entire week. There are also two one-day Camp Meetings: Eastern Carolina Camp Meeting, held near the coast in Greenville, N.C.; and Lowcountry Camp Meeting in Summerville, S.C., near Charleston.

Across the Carolinas, several Adventist churches have built family life centers or community centers in order to reach out to those in their community. This is the case with both the Greenville and the Summerville churches. They opened their hearts and doors to receive their brothers and sisters in Christ from around the Carolina Conference for a special Sabbath of fellowship and praise. At each church,

members volunteered to be a part of the service in some way, whether it was singing or Scripture reading, or just greeting and sharing a smile. This spirit of comraderie in worship is one thing that has not changed since the early days.

Ron C. Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., Southern Union president, was the presenter this year at the Eastern Carolina Camp Meeting, September 28, 2013. At the Lowcountry Camp Meeting on October 5, the featured presenter was Roger Hernandez, Southern Union ministerial/evangelism director.

Not only have these churches ministered to their neighbors with these wonderful buildings, but they have also provided a wonderful place to hold an Old-Fashioned Camp Meeting.

-BY RON QUICK

## Gardening for God is an "Entering Wedge"

Lloyd Babb, master gardener and member at Forest Lake Church, Apopka, Fla., hosted a Fall Gardening class at the church, featuring Tom MacCubbin, fellow master of Prophecy that the health message is the 'entering wedge,'" says Babb. "However, I have found that gardening can also be the 'entering wedge' to talk to others, as many people



Lloyd Babb (standing right) speaks to a capacity gardening class audience at Forest Lake Church's youth center.

gardener, who appears locally on media and writes a newspaper column for *Orlando Sentinel*.

Babb hosted and/or taught 12 lessons on various aspects of gardening during the past year. He calls this mission outreach "Gardening For God."

"We are told in Spirit

today are looking for ways to grow their own vegetables for several reasons:" Striking flowers can be found in the midst of the vegetable patch.

 Vegetable gardening is healthier. Gardening provides the benefits of exercise and fresh air, and vegetables

- will supply the grower with nutritious produce loaded with vitamins and nutrients.
- Edible gardens are picture perfect. Gardens can be designed to offer just as much beauty, color, variety, and interest to your landscape as any ornamental-only garden. Heirloom vegetables have been treasured and passed down for centuries, and many come with fascinating histories.
- Growing veggies can be profitable. Organic foods continue to rise in price, so a backyard vegetable factory may become a real moneymaker. A simple garden can incorporate all manner of vegetation from fruits and vegetables, to herbs and flowers. Let word slip out that gourmet treats are growing in your

- backyard, and your popularity is almost guaranteed.
- Growing vegetables fosters creativity.
   You'll be amazed at your ability to come up with new ideas for preparing loads of fresh produce.
- Cultivating independence. It is nice to know that your own two hands can put food on the table, reduce your dependency on the supermarket, and provide gourmet produce for your family's enjoyment.

"Let men and women work in field and orchard and garden. This will bring health and strength to nerve and muscle. If those who are sick will give nerves and muscles and sinews proper exercise in the open air, their health will be renewed," *Medical Ministry*, page 296.4

-BY GLADYS NEIGEL

## King's Heralds Announce New Member from Florida

The King's Heralds, the oldest active gospel quartet, has announced the addition of a new member. Hailing from DeLand, Fla., Jared Otto joins the group as their new lead singer.

Otto is 25 years old and single. Prior to



Jared Otto (foreground), a member of Deltona, Fla., Church and a 2007 graduate of Forest Lake Academy in Apopka, Fla., is the new second tenor/lead singer for The King's Heralds. Also pictured from left: Jeff Pearles, bass; Don Scroggs, first tenor; and Russell Hospedales, baritone.

coming to the Heralds, he was an IT professional for the State of Florida Health Department. Otto replaces Joel Borg, who came off the road to spend more time with his family.

The Herald's tenor, Don Scroggs, stated, "We are proud to welcome Jared to our ministry team. He adds some youth and vitality to the group. The King's Heralds is the first full-time group he has been with. He is very committed to the Lord and is excited about this opportunity to be in full-time music ministry."

Otto commented,
"This is certainly different
than working with computers, but these guys are
great men who love the
Lord and make traveling a
real adventure."

—BY AG PUBLICITY, NASHVILLE, TENN.

#### Five Florida Conference Workers Ordained in 2013

SIDNEY CHAMPAGNE — July 20



Sidney Jr., Sidney, Stephanie, Samantha, Martine, Sophia

Temple Adventiste de West Palm Beach Church, Temple Adventiste de Deerfield Beach Company, and Gethsémané Company

Born in Haiti, Champagne traveled in 1977 to Bronx, N.Y., and then to Port Saint Lucie, Fla., where he helped plant a church. He helped found an association to educate young adults in the Haitian community and began a weekly religious radio program called Bethel. He has a tender heart for the salvation of souls and always seeks for ways to share the love of God with others.

**ANDREW-CRAIG NUGENT** — February 2



Melissa, Andrew-Craig, Joshua-Ray, and Nathaniel-James

#### Cooper City and Margate Churches

A native of Kingston, Jamaica, Nugent grew up in St. Petersburg, Fla. He preached his first sermon on Josiah for Children's Day while he was a preteen. He began college studying in the field of science when he sensed a calling to the ministry. Through the influence of a teacher, his parents, and several tests, the Lord showed him that the ministry was God's will.

His favorite Bible text is Proverbs 16:9 (NKJV): "A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps."

**MATTHEW CHRISTO** — August 3



Matthew and Janice
Silver Springs Shores and Marion Oaks
Churches

Born in Trinidad, Christo's dying grandfather advised him to read the Bible. From his reading, he discovered the Sabbath before he heard of an Adventist. He knew at an early age he was called to preach the Gospel. He has been a pastor in Trinidad and Wisconsin, and a teacher in Illinois and Michigan. For many years, he was a counseling psychologist and family life educator.

Christo is passionate about preaching, nurturing members, and encouraging them to be ready for Jesus' return.

BENJAMIN SHURTLIFF — July 27



Benjamin, Trianda, and Gage Port Charlotte Church

God's call to ministry became readily apparent shortly after Shurtiliff graduated from academy and began working as a student literature evangelist in the summer while attending college. He began to realize that God had a plan for him to share the Gospel in a dedicated manner as his life's work, which he thought might be the full-time literature ministry. However, after another summer of canvassing, he began to realize that God was calling him to study pastoral ministry.

He felt God's hand leading the way through his education.

RON HOFFECKER — August 24



Patty and Ron — Lakeland Church

Bible studies with a literature evangelist led Hoffecker to the Savior, and he entered the literature work. He has served in mission service and classroom ministry; and as a youth leader, a church planter, and a lay pastor.

The mantra for his ministry is found in 1 Peter 4:11 (NIV): "If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen."

#### Pastors in Transition

Glenn Aguirre – New Port Richey
Harold Altamirano – Coral Springs
Daniel Amich – Fort Lauderdale Spanish/Tamarac
Spanish/Dania Spanish Co. district
Fricks Naar Annacius – Philadelphie French Co.
Vicmael Arroyo – Forest City Spanish
Abdiel del Toro – West Palm Beach Spanish
Abraham Guerrero – Poinciana Spanish/South
Orlando Spanish/Haines City Spanish Co. district
Demetrio Hernandez – Davie Spanish Co./Pembroke Pines Spanish Mission Group district
assoc.

Paul Kim – Orlando Central Korean Orlando Lopez Sr. – Westchester Spanish Philips Mompremier – Elim/Bethesda Corkscrew Co. district

**Abdias Montelus** – Hermon French Co./Sarepta French Mission Group district

Scott Moore – Lady Lake/Leesburg district Monte Robison – Ocala/Dunnellon district Bernardo Rodriguez – Miami Spanish/Bradmore Spanish district

Freddy Rodriguez – Westchester Spanish assoc. Jorge Rojas – Melbourne Spanish/Vero Beach Spanish district

Fred Saint-Fleur – Salem Co./Jerusalem Co. district Benjamin Shurtliff – Miami Springs Jefferson Tavares – Brazilian Temple Valtricts Binns – Ambassador

## Georgia-Cumberland News

### Carrollton Members Hold Sabbath Services in Knox Park

On a frosty October morning, members and friends of Carrollton, Ga., Church converged on Knox Park in the heart of Carrollton, taking church to the community.

Carrollton Church is located in the country outside of town — out of sight equals out of mind. The church family, excited about what God has been doing in their small church, decided they would gather at the park.

Chad, a former restaurant owner, willingly accepted the challenge of feeding a hundred people. A praise and worship band, Let Your Light Shine, from Peachtree City, Ga.,



Carrollton, Ga., Church members decided to spend an October Sabbath worshiping in Knox Park. It was a great way to witness as people came to the park and asked about where they worship.

Church, agreed to lead the music. William Bohannon, Carrollton member, volunteered to share his testimony about walking away from a secular music recording label, and letting God lead him into Christian music.

The local chapter of

Adventist Christian Fellowship, on the campus of the University of West Georgia, shared about their weekly Bible study and social gatherings. Loaves and Fishes, Carrollton Church's food bank, prepared bags of food for those who came. The church's young people joined in the program, sharing the Scripture reading from John 3.

With the grill cooking, music filling the air, children doing crafts, people came from the neighborhoods around. About 50 guests and visitors joined in worshiping God.

-BY NATE ELIAS

### Men of Valor Not Done or Gone



Several participated in the low ropes course at Cobutta Springs during the Men's Retreat. Ropes courses teach personal development.

The theme for this year's Men's Retreat, "Men of Valor: We Are Not Done or Gone," really inspired.

Men responded positively, with about 75 attending the event held at Cohutta Springs Youth Camp in Crandall, Ga. The featured presenter was Jorge Torres, chaplain in the United States Army since 2004.

"Men's

Retreat is an opportunity for men to meet with other men in an environment where they enjoy outdoor activities, and spend time discussing how they can become better spiritual leaders in their home, church, and community," said Jerry Fore, Georgia-Cumberland Conference general vice president and Men's Retreat coordinator.

Luis Alonso, a member from Pikeville, Tenn., said he attended to "find a better way of doing things." He enjoyed the presenters and sharing with the other men who attended, and advises others, "If you haven't tried it, you might find the answers that you have been looking for that you don't

find anywhere else."

Other presenters and topics include "Leadership," with Gary Rustad, Calhoun, Ga., Church pastor; "Health," by Jeffrey Gates, Southern Adventist University associate professor; and "Addiction," with David Wendt, pastor of Laurelbrook Academy, Dayton Ogden Road, and Pikeville churches in Tennessee.

"The retreat saw growth this year," Fore said, "There were many new men this year that came as a result of personal invitations of their friends, and because the theme and speaker captured their attention."

-BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

## Georgia-Cumberland News

## Unity and Miracles in the Sanctuary

Do you believe in modern day miracles? You've probably read and even pondered Psalm 77:13: "Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary," and like me, you know that the Sanctuary message is an important one. But, I will testify that I was in awe and amazement when the Messiah's Mansion came to Chattanooga, Tenn.

Behind the scenes of Messiah's Mansion, God performed one miracle after another. I caught a glimpse of the depth of His love and the urgency of His longing for us to come into perfect unity, to be of one accord so He can pour out His Spirit.

Messiah's Mansion was in Chattanooga for 10 days, and a little more than 7,700 people toured it. One of the most beautiful things to witness was the unified effort of four Adventist church pastors: Dale Tunnel of Chattanooga First; Mickey Mallory of Standifer Gap; Dave Ketelsen of Hamilton Community, and Michael Pettengill of Ooltewah. Each pastor led his congregation in praying and working together. And all "...moved in exact order, like a company of soldiers (CET 176.3)."

This all came about when the Lord impressed Tunnel, more than a year ago, to bring Messiah's Mansion to Chattanooga. This began an amazing series of miracles — the



first being the timing. Tunnel had no idea that the Sabbath School quarterly would providentially be the study of "The Sanctuary," and that it would begin the very day Messiah's Mansion was scheduled to begin, September 28, 2013.

Next miracle: I was asked a few months prior to the actual tour dates to head the media and public relations committee. When we had the media/ PR committee meeting, I was elated to learn that from this committee of five we had a graphics design professional, a web-design specialist, a communication director, a media expert, and writer. In a matter of days the website was designed, the Facebook page was up, a phone line designated, the printed materials designed, and the press release drafted.

A price quote was given for one billboard with a four-week display at \$2,500. The owner of one company, on learning what we wanted the billboard for, said he would give us a non-profit rate. For 11 digital billboards, each running consecutively for eight weeks, he quoted a price of \$5,500 total. God

intervened.

The Lord also arranged for Messiah's Mansion to be in Chattanooga at the exact same time that a region-wide Ministerial Fair for pastors of all denominations was going to be held.

Another miracle:
The number one rated radio station in Chattanooga happens to be a Christian station, and they hosted a Pastor's Appreciation Breakfast, yes, during Messiah's Mansion. God opened the door, and brochures were placed in ev-

ery single gift bag the radio station gave.

Beyond the miracles was the calls received from people both near and far, who are being led to study the Sanctuary.

The excitement among the majority of attendees was nothing short of amazing. Some of the more memorable attendees included a family who drove more than five hours to tour the Sanctuary, a group of Muslims, a group of Mennonites, a special group for the deaf signing throughout the tour, and a group of Messianic Jews.

More miracles: I received a call from the I-75

Welcome Center. I couldn't believe it. They said people had been coming into the Welcome Center from off the freeway asking about this "Messiah's Mansion."

This wasn't all. A call came from an International Christian Television Network, called Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN). Their local affiliate actually came out with their television host and taped a special "Tabernacle" segment for their "Praise the Lord" program.

The Times Free Press wrote a two-page feature



Several Chattanooga, Tenn., area pastors united to bring the Messiah's Mansion Sanctuary to town, including Mike Pettingill (left), Dale Tunnel, Mickey Mallory, and Dave Ketelsen. God blessed their efforts with more than 7,700 touring.

story with pictures in their Life section of the paper. As a result, many more people came.

The highlight was the 30-plus-hour prayer vigil that the churches held. Truly, unity is the miracle that binds the hearts of God's people together in Christian love, and we experienced both unity and miracles in the Sanctuary.

-BY MELISSA SUMMERS

## Gulf States News

#### Food Program Brings Happiness to Surrounding Area



Karen Boss helps pack the boxes with food which will go to more than 50 families.

Every Monday afternoon at 1:30, the Crestview, Fla., Church opens its doors for a food distribution program. Destin Harvest, an area food bank, receives donations from local grocery stores and delivers them to various churches and non-profit organizations in Okaloosa County. Crestview Church is one of the recipients.

Two team members receive boxes of food. At least two other members are inside the church at the tables, ready to organize and repack the food. It usually takes only 10-15 minutes to unload. Food is sorted and packed into cardboard boxes so that by 3 p.m. the back door is opened for the waiting clients. After a personal greeting, each person signs the registry and receives a food box containing breads, dessert, fruit, veggies, boxed goods, and

specialty items. Often there are other requests such as prayer or clothing needs. One woman asks for dog or cat food which is supplied.

Recently one of the helpers took two loaves of bread to neighbors who had not spoken to her for 30 years. The woman opened the door and accepted the bread. Later the helper returned with a large box of food. The woman fell to her knees and wept, saying that she had been praying to God for food to feed her five grandchildren.

One gentleman comes to pick up his box and takes 15 minutes to visit with the workers. Children come with parents and receive memory verse cards, as well as special toys that have been donated; their faces light up with happiness when they receive toys. One little boy kept saying, "For me, for



Lee Sammons brings in boxes of food from the Destin Harvest delivery truck.

me," as he bounced back and forth in the aisle.

A veteran comes in his wheelchair and loads his food in his backpacks hanging on the back of his electric wheelchair. In spite of being an amputee, he is very independent. Desserts are carefully held in his lap as he leaves.

About 50 boxes are distributed each week. By 4 p.m. the people have been served, and clean-up is completed. It's time to deliver boxes to church members who are shut-ins. Each worker has several boxes to deliver in various outreach areas. Everyone leaves with a joyful spirit and a song in their heart.

The program is such a success that Destin Harvest is planning on expanding. They have asked Crestview Church to be a drop-off point so they can be a hold-

ing center for the towns of Mossy Head and Crestview. The church will receive a refrigerator and freezer for this purpose, but the 47-member church has limited space to put these units in its current building. Because of this fact, and the growth of the Sabbath School and the Crestview community, they have plans to build a new church.

Crestview Church is asking God to touch the hearts of those who would like to contribute and help with this project. If you are interested in helping or in receiving more information, you may contact Crestview Church Building Fund, c/o Lottie Alford, P.O. Box 365, Crestview, FL 32536. Phone: 850-652-3631.

-BY KAREN BOSS

## Stan Hobbs Invited to be Conference Superintendent of Education

Gulf States welcomes Stan Hobbs as the new superintendent of education for the Conference. Hobbs was born on June 27, 1963, in Dothan, Ala., the firstborn child of Carl and Eva Hobbs. His family home was on what once had been his grandfather Thrower's 80-acre farm in rural Geneva County. He became a baptized member of the Dothan Church at the age of 12. Having attended Slocomb, Ala., elementary, middle, and high school, he transferred to Bass Memorial Academy for his junior and senior year, where he graduated with honors in 1981.

Hobbs enrolled at Southern Adventist University in the fall of 1981. Four years later he graduated with honors, obtaining a B.A. degree in both history and religion while also completing his teacher certification. Upon graduation in 1985, he began full-time employment in the residence life program at Southern, serving as assistant dean of men for one year, associate dean of men for seven years, and head dean of men for three years. During this time, Hobbs also served as a contract teacher for Southern Adventist University's



Barbara (left), Stan, Caitlin, and Colton Hobbs

Department of History. After 11 years of residence life and part-time teaching at Southern, Hobbs spent four years in teaching and administration at Bass Memorial Academy before accepting a call to Atlanta Adventist Academy where he has served as principal, vice principal, and history, government, geography, and economics teacher for the past 13 1/2 years.

In 2008, Hobbs was awarded the North American Division Excellence in Teaching award. He has been married to his best friend, Barbara, since 1985, and is the father of two children, Caitlin, 22, and Colton, 14.

-BY REBECCA GRICE

## Mapp Resigns as Prayer Ministries Coordinator

For the more than 120 attendees, the Gulf States Conference Fall Prayer Summit, held August 30–September 1 at Montgomery, Ala., First Church was a spiritual blessing, but also a time of sadness. During the Summit, Amy Mapp, Conference prayer ministries coordinator, announced she was resigning at the end of September.

Mapp has served, on a volunteer basis, as the prayer ministries coordinator since 2005. Thanks to her organization skills and vision for prayer ministries, the Conference now has a prayer ministries executive team which consists of coleaders Mapp and Larry Owens, pastor of the Tuscaloosa, Ala., district. There are also five district coordinators and more than 40 prayer coordinators. The ministry has two daily "virtual worship" teleconferences, and a Sunday morning confer-



Amy Mapp has served as Gulf States Conference prayer ministries coordinator for the past eight years.

ence call for prayer coordinators. The team sponsors two prayer conferences each year.

-BY REBECCA GRICE

## Kentucky-Tennessee News

## Bowling Green Centenarian Celebrated

Members of the Bowling Green, Ky., Church joined family and friends of Marguerite D. Johnson Carter in celebration of her 100th birthday which occurred on August 1, on Saturday night, August 3, 2013. Carter's son and daughter-in-law, Lee and Marilyn Carter, coordinated the event and provided a beautifully decorated setting for the occasion.



Natalie Gustafson (left), great-granddaughter; Elizabeth Carter, granddaughter; Marilyn Carter, daughter-in-law; Marguerite Carter; Jacqueline Carter, granddaughter; Anders Gustafson, great-grandson; Sarah Carter, granddaughter; Sarah Blackburn, niece; Kathy Johnson, niece; Lee Carter (back), son; Chad Gustafson, grandson-in-law

The celebration began with a Vespers program. Pictures and narrative joined to tell the inspiring story of her life which began in Elm Creek, Neb.

The Vespers was followed by a potluck dinner in the gym where everyone had opportunity to reminisce with Carter as they enjoyed salads, sandwiches, pizza, and, of course, birthday cake.

Carter, known affectionately as Margy, served as a teacher and a minister's wife in her younger years. Just a few years ago, she was still helping at the local community services center.

The Bowling Green Church family is blessed that she is still able to attend services.

-BY TERESA CARMICHAEL

## Bowling Green Members Benefit During Health Emphasis Month

Though it wasn't officially named as such, September 2013 was a month of health emphasis for September 18, Chef Mark Anthony presented his "Free Dinner and a Message." He prepared a meal



Chef Mark Anthony lectures during Bowling Green Church's Health Emphasis Month.

members of the Bowling Green, Ky., Church. Two special events contributed to this emphasis.

On Wednesday night,

while sharing his personal experience of losing weight and lowering his cholesterol level as a result of dietary changes. Those present were then served the meal they had watched him prepare. The presentation was well-attended, and guests expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to learn of a more healthful diet.

Just a few days later, on Sunday, September 22, the church held its first Let's Move Day. Anne Afton, health ministries leader, coordinated this special event.

Everyone registered upon arrival, and free blood pressure screening was provided. After registering, participants were free to complete the various activities.

Activities in the gym included basketball shooting, jumping rope, hula hooping, leg raises, jumping jacks, band stretches, and cornhole throwing. Out-

side, there was a one-mile walk; a short-timed run; a chip golf exercise; and for the children, an inflatable bouncy house/slide.

Those who completed all of the activities were rewarded with a stress ball in the shape of a heart. A number of door prizes were also given. Lunch was served to conclude the event, and everyone left feeling motivated to move!

Living healthfully is important. It's important for members of the church family. It's important for our neighbors. Plans are to build upon these events in the future as they strengthen connections in the community.

-BY TERESA CARMICHAEL

## Ridgetop Members Minister at Robertson County Fair

A larger-than-life image of Daniel 2 and free bottled water were interest-catchers for the booth Ridgetop, Tenn., Church secured at the Robertson County Fair. Another attraction was the drawing for a study Bible and a set of children's *Bible Story* books. Several people indicated on the sign-up sheet they had an interest in Bible studies and Chris-

tian education, as well as other choices. Follow-up on these interests has already begun. A rack with free literature and DVDs was on display, and many people selected or



requested them.

Janice Moseley stands by the statue. She joined Ridgetop Church last year during an evangelistic series by Jeremiah Smart, pastor.

-BY HELEN KELLY

#### **Decherd First Church Pastor Honored**

A joint
Sabbath potluck between
the Decherd
Church of the
KentuckyTennessee
Conference
and Decherd
First Church
of the South
Central Conference was
the perfect
cover for a



Participating in the event were Will Griffin (left), elder at Decherd First Church; Steve Haley, Kentucky-Tennessee president; Theodore Brown Sr., Ph.D., pastor; Nelson Mercado, pastor; and Leroy Wilkerson, deacon at Decherd First Church. surprise
pastoral
blessing for
Theodore
Brown
Sr., Ph.D.,
pastor of
Decherd
First
Church.
Orchestrated by
Annette
Martinez,
the church

asked Nelson Mercado, pastor of the Decherd, Tullahoma, and Murfreesboro district to conduct the service. But the event grew even larger as Steve Haley, Kentucky-Tennessee president, and his wife, Melinda, were visiting the Decherd Church family that Sabbath.

Members of both congregations shared personal tributes of how they had seen the Holy Spirit working through Brown. Then

gathering around, they laid hands on him and prayed that God would continue to bless his ministry in profound ways.

Brown is an associate professor of management in the School of Business at Oakwood University, Huntsville, Ala. In addition to his academic responsibilities, he pastors Decherd First and Fayetteville First churches in Tennessee.

-BY JAY PRALL

## London Church Hosts Prayer Seminar

London, Ky., Church hosted a unique prayer seminar on September 21, 2013. The speaker, Melodious Echo Mason, of Arkansas is a program director for ARME Bible Camps, a co-author of *Revived by God's Word* and *Praying for Rain!*, and a prayer warrior.

Mason is very passionate about prayer, and shared both her personal testimony and outstanding examples of the power of prayer she has witnessed in thousands of people who come to the ARME Bible Camps. The seminar was not only informational and inspirational, but also included practical components.

Mason led the church members in sessions of united prayer and intercessory prayer. Many individuals felt that praying together in this manner not only opened their hearts to God, but also to each other and it made them

feel more like God's family.

London members were happy to have guests from Richmond, Somerset, Manchester, and Williamsburg churches take part in the



Prayer seminar presentation

prayer seminar and enjoy the fellowship. Among the guests was a pastor from another denomination who found the training so inspirational that he preached on

the power of prayer the next day at his church!

The London members pray that the tools received during this seminar will bring them closer to God individually and as a church body.

-BY YELENA VERENCHUK

## South Atlantic News

## Praise Tabernacle Members Participate in "Unity in the Community"

One of the largest block parties for Jesus was held in Whiteville, N.C., on October 19, 2013. "Unity in the Community" was held in an underserved area of the Whiteville community. An estimated 700 people enjoyed the Sabbath afternoon event that involved

event that involved several churches in the area, including Praise Tabernacle Seventh-day Adventist Church, Northwood Assembly Church of Christ, and several area Baptist churches. Community resource groups such as the Dream Center, which offers an after school program for underprivileged children, also got involved.

Bo Shaw, yearly organizer who is a Christian businessman, admitted, "I can always depend on the Seventh-day Adventists. They cared and came when others were calling to cancel because of the rain." Yes, the weather forecast had called for rain: however, during the early morning session of prayer and preparation at the Praise Tabernacle Church, all of the members had prayed for God to stop the rain, and He answered mightily!

Darryl Howard, pastor of Praise Tabernacle, was emcee, and free groceries, devotional books, and family story CDs were given out. Leon Verrett, head



The Praise Tabernacle Church in Whiteville, N.C., Puppet Ministry performs.

elder and host of Morning Praise, a radio program sponsored by Praise Tabernacle which airs each Sabbath morning, was able to greet those longtime listeners and inform others of the program.

Community services, led by Doris St. Juste, gave out approximately 627 pieces of clothing, including shoes, men's suits, dresses, and children's clothing. Women's ministries was right there to offer crisis phone numbers to women in need. The personal ministries table overflowed with literature, and sign-ups for free groceries was next door. Signet Healthcare, one of two Adventist-run medical practices in Whiteville, provided free services, including blood pressure screening; onsite medical counseling on health issues; and a variety of health pamphlets dealing with stress, tips to quit smoking, hypertension, benefits of water and exercise, and much more.

The advice was well received, and Praise Tab-

ernacle even offered a vegetarian option to the fish and chicken served by other groups. Multiple varieties of vegetarian chili over rice and a fruit bowl was the option. "That was the best chili, and I tried all of them!" said an attendee. "And it didn't have a bit of meat in it," explained Charlene

Berry, a volunteer from Praise Tabernacle. "What?" was the surprised response. "You get to live seven minutes longer," was the reply, and with that both laughed and a new friendship began.

Praise Tabernacle Pathfinder Drum Corps opened the ceremonies, and was flawless in their execution. Several singing groups followed with praises to God, including Praise Tabernacle's praise team who sang a special number with Russell and Kim Honeycutt. Honeycutt is the pastor of Northwood Assembly Church, and has been a longtime friend to members of the Praise Tabernacle family. Other area churches such as House of Prayer and Deliverance presented gospel songs and praise performances.

The Pathfinder Puppet Ministry delighted the youth who attended, and many were seen smiling and laughing as the moral stories and rousing songs were presented in a creative way. Praise Taber-

nacle's family life leaders prayed with families and signed them up to receive free Christian story CDs and teenage devotional books. Crafts were done at their booth, which also was shared by Carolina Adventist Academy. Karen Taylor, principal, had a colorful display that attracted many to ask about the school, and school-age children were registered, and interest contacts were made, especially in light of next year's School of Choice program beginning in North Carolina. This program would assist those parents who want their children in an alternate form of education besides public school, but cannot otherwise afford Christian education.



Signet Healthcare Medical Team

It was supposed to have rained the whole day, but the few early morning showers gave way to a beautiful afternoon, beautiful weather, and beautiful sharing of God's love in action!

-BY CHARLOTTE VERRETT, M.D.

#### **Ebenezer Members Committed to Christian Education**

"It would be foolish for us to teach that Jesus is coming soon and then send our children to institutions for 40 hours per week that teach them that's not true." This quote by John T. Boston II, pastor of Ebenezer Church, Milledgeville, Ga., sums up a radical Christian education initiative in Milledgeville, Ga. Since July 2013, this small church of just a little over 20 members has been working toward a goal that many small congregations dream about: 100 percent of their students in a Christian school. Currently, 13 boys and girls are enrolled at the nearest Seventh-day Adventist Academy. This number represents more than half the active membership of the church.

The nearest Adventist academy is 40 miles away from Milledgeville in Macon, Ga. The distance didn't stop them. "Every day we see another miracle

as our young people get to school," said Valorie Dixon, a grandmother of one of the students. This project was born in the heart of Boston, a 16-year product of Christian education.

"My father would help

paint the school to offset our registration while my sister and I were enrolled at the Ft. Lauderdale Dis-



John T. Boston II, pastor of Ebenezer Church in Milledgeville, Ga., and Valorie Dixon, Ebenezer Church treasurer, review the registration process.

trict School. It took us two hours, two trains, and a bus to get to school every day while I attended Miami Union Academy in Florida," says Boston. "When I went on to graduate from Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy, I remember a mother selling her car to cover the tuition costs for her children to attend. This is all reasonable sacrifice

of initiative? "Prayer, faith, sacrifice, and hard work," said Sharion Havior.

The finance committee chairperson, LaJune May, and Boston met with each parent to determine how much they could individually raise and contribute. After that number was identified, Boston went into fundraising mode, and in the first five weeks

raised more than \$15,000 for the students via Facebook requests, friends, colleagues in ministry, Go-FundMe, and a wide host of supporters across the country.

This church has already begun to inspire

others with their passion for Christian education, and the families of those enrolled are ecstatic about the impact Robyn Young, principal of Bethany Christian Academy, and her staff has had on them.

Young indicated that she has never seen a church take on the responsibility of making Christian education available for all of their students like this. Every month, Ebenezer Church writes a single check for the tuition of the

students from their church funds. This unprecedented approach has already yielded beautiful results in the church working as a community for the salvation of their future. Malcolm May is the only father among all of the children the group that is a present, active member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He expressed his heart this way: "We want our children to be saved, and we believe God has given us a direction we should follow, and we are doing the best we can to get there."

This is the same small church that hosted an evangelistic meeting in June 2013 with more than 3,000 in attendance on opening night. "When the Lord returns, we will be accountable for two things — evangelism and the education of His children," said Boston.

-BY E.W. NICHOLSON



Children are registered at Bethany Christian Academy in Macon, Ga.

for a generation of God's children."

How does a church so small pull off this kind

## South Central News

#### Rolling Fork Church Members Conduct Revelation Seminar

Rolling Fork, Miss., Church members conducted a Revelation Seminar on September 22, 2013. Dorothy Leasy, medical missionary and Bible worker, assisted, and it was sponsored by a generous donor. Yazoo City/Rolling Fork's pastor, Billie Thompson, held a successful five-week

In organizing the event, they decided to use

campaign.



Revelation Seminar graduates with Billie Thompson, pastor (left): Danny Lane, Chalashia Webb, Viola Duckworth, Michael Lovette, Earline Watson, Teressio Haymon, Lillie Bell Barnes, Rossie Richards (Rising Star Church member), Leon Webb, Ulcus King, and Otarious Haymon.

a community-based location rather than an established church building. The meetings were held on Sunday, Tuesday, and

Thursday evenings from September 22 through October 27. The seminar concluded with a graduation, a banquet, and baptism. As a result of this campaign, the Lord added 10 new members to the Rising Star Church in Rolling Fork. Five became members through baptism, and the other five by profession of faith.

Thompson requests that all believers remember to pray for these individuals as the Lord continues to grow His Church in this part of His vineyard.

-BY WATSON CHILALA



Prior to her baptism, Lillie Bell Barnes was an ordained minister in a Sunday church.



#### Thrilling Stories: Churches Changing Lives

#### Palm Coast, Florida

If you ever travel through Palm Coast, Fla., on your way to Daytona Beach, you may wish to visit Robert Hayes, pastor. His church partnered with Florida Hospital Flagler to teach CREATION Health classes for the community. More than 70 people attended a recent seminar. Local government officials regularly consult with Pastor Hayes about county health initiatives.

#### Fort Walton Beach, Florida

Since January 2012, Martin Fancher, elder, has taught CREATION Health to three Sheriff Departments in his area. One sheriff has pledged to take CREATION Health to the 200,000 citizens of his county! And another sheriff has made CREATION Health a requirement in the department's new employee orientation process.

#### **Common Themes**

People appreciate how positive and balanced CREATION Health is, and how simple and easy it is to implement. They are losing weight, reducing medications, restoring relationships, and reconnecting with God.

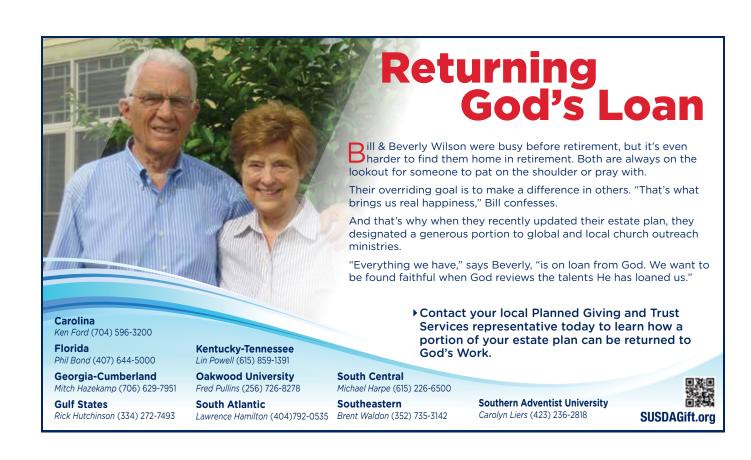
#### People Need You

As we prepare for 2014, let us show people how to add more life to their years and more years to their life. Let's extend the healing ministry of Christ, and help people live life to the fullest now and forevermore.

That's CREATION Health!

-BY LYNELL LAMOUNTAIN





## Central Florida Oakwood Alumni Chapter Honors 14 Pastors, Chaplains

There is a saying in Christian circles, "Only What You Do for Christ Will Last." That was the resounding theme of the inaugural Pastors and Chaplains Appreciation Dinner, held at the corporate headquarters of Adventist Health System in Altamonte Springs, Fla., on August 25, 2013.

The event, which was hosted by the Oakwood University Alumni Association Greater Orlando Chapter, honored 14 pastors and chaplains from the Central Florida area for their service.

The concept of honoring the pastors and chaplains originated from Eric Moore, M.D., who stated that he always had a concern on his heart that Seventh-day Adventist pastors needed to have a time of recognition and appreciation.

"This would be a time for individuals to reflect on their achievements and give them an opportunity to enjoy themselves in fellowship and be honored and appreciated for the many works that they do that go unseen and/or taken for granted," said Moore.

After formulating an executive planning committee that explored the feasibility of actually facilitating an event like this, the Oakwood Alumni Association-



Greater Orlando Chapter president, Daniel Smith, believed that the association — with the assistance of sponsors — could bring Moore's vision to life.

"We live in a time when Adventist believers can and should come together across conferences, cultures, and school affiliations to step out and acknowledge our clergy who sacrifice so much and ask for so little in return," said Smith.

When the concept was presented to Roscoe Howard, D.Min., vice president of mission and ministries at Adventist Health System, he was excited and eager to assist in any way that he could. Howard formulated the name of the event, "Selfless Service for the Savior."

When asked what was the inspiration behind the naming of the event, he stated, "As a pastor, we are always in the service of the Savior, ministering to the spiritual and emotional needs of the masses, sometimes at the expense of your own mental health and spiritual needs. The life of a pastor is lonely, but also one of the most rewarding professions to be called to into. So, it is a great joy and blessing when individuals or organization come together to honor our parishioners and chaplains without being prompted or

being prompted or reminded."

Attendees were blessed by the music of Christian recording artist Jennifer LaMountain, Christian saxophonist Courtney Fadlin, and the tropical sound of a steel drum played by John Smith. Conrad Duncan, Florida Conference community services director, delivered the opening prayer.

The mistress of ceremonies was Monica May, radio personality and community affairs director at Star 94.5 FM, a local radio station in central Florida. She also made listeners aware of Oakwood University and their many accomplishments on the air on her radio program.

Jeff Williamson, spokesperson for the Orange County Sheriff and Oakwood University Alumnus, was the keynote speaker. A special welcome was given by Ivan Williams, D.Min., North American Division ministerial director, and Ivan Allston, OUAA national vice president.

Several special service awards went to James Coffin, executive director of the Interfaith Council of central Florida; Russell Bates, retired pastor; Sherry Grace, spiritual ambassador at Florida Hospital; and Hubert J. Morel Jr., Southeastern Conference president.

Other award recipients included the following Florida pastors: Lewis W. Edwards, D.Min., Mt. Zion Church in Kissimmee; Samuel M. Dade Jr., Patmos Chapel Church in Winter Park; Herman L. Davis Sr., Mt. Sinai in Orlando; Isaac Ibarra Gordon, Genesis Church in Orlando; Andy McDonald, Florida Hospital Church in Orlando; Tony A. Taylor, North Orlando Church; and Carl E. Ware, Mt. Olive Church in Apopka.

Chaplains who were chosen by their peers included Donna Burske, Winter Park Memorial Hospital; and Ivan Omona, Florida Hospital Kissimmee.

Omona broke down in tears at being selected by his peers for such an award. He stated that he never thought that anyone would recognize something that he is passionate to do for Christ.

-BY DANIEL SMITH

## Stranger Gives Check to Bethlehem Church for Kind Deed

Jada Cuffy, 17, one of the youngest Adventist Youth Society leaders in the Southeastern Conference, and Gena Small were walking back to Bethlehem Church in Clearwater, Fla., from a local convenience store with some ICEEs®, a frozen carbonated beverage, for church members that were working on a special church project.

As they were walking they met a man from the community. He asked, half-jokingly, "May I have one?" "Sure," the young women replied. The man from the community was pleasantly surprised when they actually came back to bring one to him.

Jada and Gena had all but forgotten about their deed of kindness. About two weeks later, Roy C. Parham, Bethlehem pastor, and Jackie Filex, Bethlehem's administrative assistant, were in the office of the church when the man from the community showed up looking for the two young women who had been so kind to him.

He had a gift that he wanted to present to them.

Not knowing the names of the two young women, he described them to Parham and Filex. Reluctant to give him any information about them, even though they had a very good idea who they were, they invited him to church on the following Sabbath.



Jada Cuffy (left), Gena Small, and Roy C. Parham, pastor of Bethlehem Church in Clearwater, Fla., hold a check that was given to the church by a stranger because he was given an ICEE by Cuffy and Small.

The next Sabbath, the man who asked not to be identified, showed up during Sabbath lunch and presented the two young women with a check in the amount of \$500 to be used as the church needed.

It just so happened that the previous week at a business meeting, Jada Cuffy requested \$500 for an upcoming AYSsponsored Youth Day. The church could not give them all the money they re-

quested, so because of the donation, they were able to give them the full amount of the check for the AYS department. It pays to be kind!

-BY MARY ADAMS

## Pastor's Wife Conducts Crusade, Baptizes Six

From September 28 to October 2, Brenda Owusu, D.P.N., wife of Michael Owusu, D.Min., pastor of Perrine Church in Miami, Fla., conducted an evangelistic crusade at Perrine. On the first night of the

crusade, she introduced herself as "a nobody whom God has shown favor on to help somebody to be saved." Owusu is one of seven ministerial spouses who conducted an evangelistic campaign in their areas based on the North American Ministerial Spouses' Evangelistic Institutions.

Owusu preached the Word nightly to congregations using the Bible as the guide book. She focused



Michael and Brenda Owusu present six candidates for baptism.

on the increasing worsening conditions happening daily in the world. She pointed out how Satan has wrecked the world with lies and deceit, but Jesus is preparing a whole new world when all pain and

suffering will be eradicated. Those who are ready and waiting for His return will be given new bodies. Satan will be no more, and many will live forever with our Savior

Owusu showed hope through preaching on the following topics: "Why All the Suffering," "Disease and Violence," "A Better Day is Coming," "The Indestructible Symbol of Hope," and "Point of No Return." Each night people came to join in the inspiring music and feasted on the spirit-filled presentations.

On the final day of the crusade, six individuals were baptized by Michael Owusu.

-BY MILLICENT TAYLOR

## Adventist University of Health Sciences

## Author, Former Humanitarian Aid Worker Speaks at University Colloquium



Carl Wilkens, at Adventist University of Health Sciences Colloquium sbaring his experience as a humanitarian aid worker in Rwanda during the genocide

At the first Adventist University of Health Sciences Colloquium on September 16, 2013, Carl Wilkens shared his experience as a humanitarian aid worker in Rwanda during the 1990s with students, University employees, and community members.

When other aid workers fled the country, Wilkens refused to leave, and became the only American to stay in Rwanda during the genocide. By staying he was able to deliver food, water, and medicine to groups of orphans trapped around the city, and his actions

saved hundreds of lives.

Hearing Wilkens' story was touching and even eye-opening for students.

"It gave me a new perspective on that whole situation," said Kevin Creft, freshman pre-professional studies major. "You see stuff like that on the news, but to hear about it from someone who was there is different. It makes it personal."

Wilkens has a book and documentary titled *I'm Not Leaving*, and travels the world to speak about his experience. Wilken tells his story, not to highlight the terrible things that

happened, but to share the stories of sacrifice and courage in the face of genocide.

"It's not what you've lost that defines you, it's what you do with what you have," Wilkens said. "That's what you see again and again in Rwanda."

The University Colloquium is an interdisciplinary program designed to engage University students, faculty, staff, and community members in conversation. Each year, the University selects a theme and identifies two books to act as catalysts for conversation. The

theme for this year's colloquium is "Moral Courage."

The next University Colloquium speaker is Eva Fogelman, the author of *Conscience and Courage*. For more information regarding the authors, books, and dates for each presentation you can visit www.adu.edu/academics/university-colloquium. Each event will be held at the Florida Hospital Church and is open to the public.

-BY SARAH CROWDER

## Oakwood University to Construct \$4M Media Center

Oakwood University officials broke ground for one of its "game changers," an 11,700-square-foot, \$4 million Media Center on October 7, 2013, as part of its \$9.3 million capital campaign, according to Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., president of Oakwood University.

"Oakwood University Media Center will be a will produce our own shows, our own dreams, our own dramas, our own editorials, and religious newscasts — and market them on our own terms, in our own voice," Pollard declared in his annual presidential address at the University's First Cha-



Participants in the Oakwood University Media Center groundbreaking: Chris McNish (left), Oakwood Media Center production assistant; Roengsak Cartwright, Oakwood information technology assistant vice president; Timothy McDonald, Ph.D., Oakwood provost and senior vice president; Anthonye Perkins, Oakwood Media Center game changer for us. We director; Leslie Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., Oakwood president; Carlton Byrd, products — our own talk D.Min., Oakwood Church senior pastor; Ford Hall and the newly Stephen Foster, Oakwood trustee; and Amanda Pitt, Oakwood Media Center production coordinator.

> pel/Opening Convocation program, August 22, 2013, to the entire Oakwood campus, perhaps the state of Alabama's only K-18 community.

Oakwood University's first couple, Pollard and his wife, Prudence Pollard, Ph.D., Oakwood vice president for faculty development and research, and professor of management in the School of Business, made the capital campaign's first contribution of \$10,000 in April 2013; thus, the Media Center conference room 330 will be named in their honor.

"The Media Center will be set between renovated Cunningham Hall, on the campus mall," states Kisha R. Norris, Oakwood executive

director of advancement and development. "Not only will it be a learning environment for our communication students, but

we plan to begin telling 'our Oakwood story' by forming Oakwood University Broadcasting Network (OUBN)," she continued.

"The Oakwood story of God-ordained ministry is something that needs to be spread to the corners of the Earth. We believe that this is the first step in blanketing the Gospel message to places that others cannot reach. This ninemonth construction project should have this facility ready for use for the 2014-2015 academic year," she concluded.

For more information about donations and naming opportunities, visit ttp://www.oakwood.edu/ zPublic/advancement/ building-on-the-past-brochure.pdf#

-BY TIM ALLSTON

## Oakwood University Takes an "Agape Day" to Serve Local Non-Profits

With reference to the recent federal government shutdown, The Huntsville Times contrasted, "This [Agape Day] was a shutdown that did some good."

On Wednesday, October 2, 2013, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oakwood students put down their textbooks, faculty walk away from grading papers, and administrators and staff shut down their computers to go into the Huntsville community to embody the school's motto: Enter to Learn, Depart to Serve.

"The University shuts down all classes once every two years, for this 'Agape Day' of service," explained spokesman Tim Allston, Oakwood public relations director.

Roughly 2,000 Oakwood volunteers reached out to some 27 local schools, thrift stores, community centers, parks, shelters, and other non-profits; performed cleaning and small paint jobs; planted fruits and vegetables; and fed the hungry — as well as conducted computer research for the International Services Council.

-BY BRIANA FIGEROUX





## Southern Adventist University

## Southern Offering Renewable Freshmen Scholarships Starting in Fall

Southern Adventist University recently announced a big change in the way financial aid is being awarded to students. Beginning in the fall of 2014, freshmen scholarships will be renewable at 100 percent for up to four years. The new policy is intended to help future students and their parents better plan the financial aspects of coming to Southern.

There is a strong parallel between the fact that more and more Adventist youth are not attending the church's colleges and universities, and that an increasing number of these same youth are leaving the denomination and rejecting Christ altogether. Southern is taking a significant step toward remedying that.

"Our new scholarship policy allows a student and their family to be able to embrace Adventist education instead of feeling like their only option is the cheaper community college, even though they know there are many long-term downsides to that choice," said Marc Grundy, vice president for enrollment services. "I strongly believe the most transformative time for students is their freshmen and sophomore years in college. That is when they absolutely need to be in a safe, Christ-focused environment, and surrounded by like-minded believers."

The renewable scholarships make investing in a



Carlos Lopez, one of the finance counselors at Southern Adventist University, gives advice to a student about maximizing loans, scholarships, and other forms of tuition assistance.

traditional Adventist education from Southern more affordable than ever, even when compared with public colleges and universities. Students who maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA will be eligible for renewal, which is established at the end of each fall semester for the following school year. The news is already having an impact on parent and student interest.

"I learned about this important step during Southern's financial seminar and open house on our campus this year," said Rick Anderson, principal at Mount Pisgah Academy in North Carolina. "I was excited, and the parents were, too. You could literally hear the buzz in the room! More and more families are considering Southern because of these renewable scholar-ships."

The monies required to fund this bold new outreach

are coming from institutional funds, help from donors, and expected future revenue from the additional influx of students choosing Southern specifically because of this policy change and the peace of mind it affords. But, future students won't be the only ones benefitting from the university's careful and prayerful financial work.

"We are planning to increase the level of need-based funds that we award to non-freshmen students starting next year since they committed to Southern before this policy was in place," Grundy said.

In the midst of the current national dialog about historically high student debt, Southern administrators have a desire to make Adventist education available to everyone. Although the university already budgets more than \$10 million annually for financial

aid, and \$5 million annually for student jobs on campus, something more needed to be done. So along with the renewable scholarships, Southern also recently voted that the tuition increase for 2014-2015 would be held to 2.4 percent, a figure below that of expected inflation and the smallest increase in more than 25 years.

"We're doing everything within our power to keep Southern affordable, while maintaining the high quality experience our constituents have come to expect," said Tom Verrill, senior vice president for financial administration.

A history of steady enrollment growth points to the fact that students and parents have long regarded Southern as a valuable spiritual and academic investment. The new scholarship policy makes that decision to commit to Adventist education all the easier.

"Southern has always been the first choice for the vast majority of our students at Mount Pisgah Academy," Anderson said. "The renewable scholarships have reinforced in the minds of our staff and students that Southern is dedicated to providing an Adventist education for everyone."

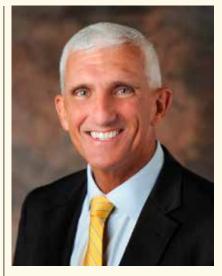
For more information, visit southern.edu/scholarships.

-BY LUCAS PATTERSON

## Florida Hospital Employee Appointed to President's Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition

Florida Hospital is proud to announce retired Lieutenant General Mark Hertling has been appointed to the President's Council on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition. Lieutenant General Hertling will join 17 other members who are dedicated to encouraging Americans of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to lead healthy, active lives.

Lieutenant General Hertling currently serves as the senior vice president of Global Strategy, Physician Leadership and



Healthy 100 initiatives at Florida Hospital in Orlan-

do. He retired from the U.S. Army after more than 37 years of exceptional service. During part of that time he served as the Deputy Commanding General for Initial Military Training, where he was responsible for the training of more than 160,000 officers and enlisted soldiers each year. He also revamped the Army's basic training program and

implemented a modern-

ized physical fitness and nutrition program to address the needs of current recruits. He has received the Distinguished Service Medal, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart.

-BY SARA CHANNING

## Researchers Examine the Link Between Vitamin D and Diabetes

The Florida Hospital-Sanford Burnham Translational Research Institute for Metabolism and Diabetes (TRI) is taking part in the first definitive, large-scale clinical trial to investigate if a vitamin D supplement helps prevent or delay type 2 diabetes in adults 30 or older who have prediabetes. Funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the D2d study is taking place at 20 sites across the United States.

"Vitamin D use has risen sharply in the U.S. in the last 15 years, since it has been suggested as a remedy for a variety of conditions, including prevention of type 2 diabetes," said Myrlene Staten, M.D., the study's project officer

at the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, part of NIH. "But we need rigorous testing to determine if vitamin D will help prevent diabetes. That's what D2d will do."

Researchers at the TRI are recruiting about 2,500 volunteers with prediabetes - blood glucose levels that are higher than normal, but not high enough to be called diabetes — to take part in the study. Half of the participants will receive a daily dose of 4,000 International Units of vitamin D, an amount greater than the typical adult intake of 600-800 IUs a day, but within limits deemed appropriate for clinical research by the Institute of Medicine. The

other half will receive a placebo, a pill that has no drug effect. Participants will have check-ups for the study twice a year, and will receive regular health care through their own health care providers.

The study will be double-blinded, so neither participants nor the study's clinical staff will know who is receiving vitamin D and who is receiving placebo. It will continue until enough people have developed type 2 diabetes to be able to make a scientifically valid comparison between diabetes development in the two groups, likely about four years.

Based on observations from earlier studies, researchers speculate that vitamin D could reduce the diabetes risk by 25 percent. The study will also examine if sex, age, or race affect the potential of vitamin D to reduce diabetes risk.

"An estimated 79 million Americans have prediabetes, and nearly 26 million more have diabetes," said NIDDK Director Griffin P. Rodgers, M.D. "With D2d, we seek evidence for an affordable and accessible way to help prevent or delay type 2 diabetes."

-BY SARA CHANNING

#### Advertisements

#### **How to Submit Your Advertising**

(1) Have your pastor or a local church elder write "Approved" and his signature on the sheet of paper containing the advertisement, (2) write your name and address on the same sheet, (3) specify how many times the ad is to run, (4) send the approved ad to your conference office 6 weeks in advance of the publication date and (5) don't forget to enclose payment in full for each month the ad is to run. Make checks payable to SOUTHERN UNION.

RATES: Southern Union: \$40 for 20 words or less, including address. \$45 for anything longer than 20 words up to 45 words. \$1.30 per word beyond 45. Out of Union: \$50 for 20 words or less, including address. \$55 for anything longer than 20 words up to 45 words. \$1.50 per word beyond 45. Accepted as space is available. Ads may run in successive months as space permits.

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#### PROPERTY AVAILABLE

COLLEGEDALE GUESTHOUSE: 1.5 bedrooms fully equipped condo w/kitchen and laundry, no steps, huge deck, secluded woodland setting. "Absolutely delightful" say guests. \$60/night for two (2-night minimum). Roger King, 423-236-4688. See pictures at www. rogerkingrentals.com. ©

SUMMIT RIDGE RETIREMENT VILLAGE is a place where you can live independently in your own home. Lawn mowing and maintenance provided. Church and nursing home on grounds. Make friends with Adventist neighbors, and enjoy the low cost of living in the Oklahoma countryside. Call Bill Norman, 405-454-6538. Website: www.summit-ridge-village.org. ©

## PISGAH VALLEY RETIREMENT COMMUNITY is tucked in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina-one of the most desirable retirement locations in the country. You'll be able to pursue an active, independent lifestly while enjoying our gentle four-season climate. Live the worry-free retirement you've imagined! Call to schedule a visit. 828-418-2333. Pisgahvalley. org. [12-2]

MOVING TO COLLEGEDALE, TN? Beautiful 5 bedroom home plus mother in-law suite on 6.5 acres with horse pasture and private pond only 6.5 miles from SAU for only \$499,000! Check out www.3804AlabamaRoad.com for the virtual tour and property information. Also "like new" 5 bedroom home in Wellesely with community pool and mountain views close to SAU for \$314,500. Go to www.4349Wellesley.com for virtual tour. Please call or text me with any questions: Jon D'Avanzo (Broker), Davanzo Real Estate. 423-834-4545. [12]

**CHURCH FOR SALE** – Ooltewah, TN with 3 acres! 2016 Ooltewah-Ringgold Rd. Call The Wendy Dixon Team, Crye-Leike Realtors/ask for Herby: 423-883-0656. [12]

LAND FOR SALE – Near Southern: Apison Pike, 1.58 acre building lot \$43,000; Beautiful 9.1 acres, Old Lead Mine Valley Rd \$94,500; Lake community 6.91 acre lot located in Espalier Bay/ Decatur only \$64,900. Call The Wendy Dixon Team, Crye-Leike Realtors/ask for Herby: 423-883-0656. [12]

HOMES FOR SALE – Collegedale 4 bed/2 bath/2 car garage, level yard, rancher plus upstairs bonus room \$199,900; Coltewah-Meadow Stream 4 bed/2 bath/3 car garage all on one level with level yard \$250,000; Coltewah on Sawtooth Dr. move-in ready home, 3 bed/2.5 bath/3 car garage only \$159,900. Call The Wendy Dixon Team, Crye-Leike Realtors/ask for Herby: 423-883-0656. [12]

GORGEOUS ACREAGE IN TENNESSEE with end of road privacy, water, hardwoods, views and much more. For pictures and details go to: http://kismetkennel.com/countryland.html or call 301-992-7472. [12-5]

#### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST GUAM CLINIC is embarking on a major expansion and is seeking physicians in Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, General Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Cardiology, Rheumatology, Pulmonology, Gastroenterology, OB/GYN, Urology, Pediatrics, ENT, Optometry, and Dermatology. Contact us to learn about our benefits and opportunities by calling 671-646-8881, ext. 116; emailing hr@guamsda.com; or visiting our website at www.adventistclinic.com. [12]

PRO HEALTH is looking for a female licensed Massage Therapist/Physical Therapist at the Hulsey Wellness Center at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, TN and in Calhoun, GA. Working in an excellent environment, flexible schedule, and a good salary. Please call Diego at 706-844-2142. [12, 1]

WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER is seeking a missionary minded registered nurse to work in its outpatient clinic. The RN will take patient medical histories, will provide nursing care for outpatients, and work closely with the physicians. Please send your resume to Trevor Louw at administrator@ wildwoodhealth.org. [12]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks dynamic professional for position of Research Services Librarian who is committed to providing excellent public service, reference, and information literacy instruction. Successful candidate will have a Master's degree or higher in library/information science or related field and will have an expressed commitment to Jesus Christ, and be a Seventh-day Adventist Church member in good and regular standing. Must be comfortable with instructional technology. Prior library and/or teaching experience preferred. Send résumé and cover letter to dmaxwell@southern.edu. [12, 1]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks an Assistant Professor of Accounting. Qualified candidates should have a Master's degree in Accounting with CPA. For more information and to apply visit: http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp\_jobs\_faculty.cgi. [12]

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for full-time, tenure-track faculty positions in

**Business, Computer Science and Nursing**. For more information and application process, please visit http://jobs.wallawalla.edu. All positions will remain open until filled. [12, 1]

SCHOOL OF RELIGION, LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY, invites applications for a full-time tenure-track position in its ethics area, to begin August 15, 2014. We seek candidates who have PhDs in theology or philosophy or a related area. Immediately contact gheinrich@llu.edu for more information. [12, 1]

CENTRAL VALLEY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY, located in central California with easy access to the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the east and San Francisco and the Monterey coast to the west is seeking an outstanding, well organized music teacher to oversee instrumental and vocal classes for grades 3-12. Our ideal candidate will have a track record of success in engaging students in music. A Bachelor's degree in music is required along with SDA denominational certification. [12]

NOW HIRING Children English Teachers to be based in Chengdu, China. Competitive salary package based on competence and experience. Native English speaker, hold a Bachelor's degree, preferably with some teaching experiences. Education center run by Adventist professionals. Visit http://sgg.com.sg/career/jobs.htm or email gateway@sgg.com.sg for more details. [12]

## MERCHANDISE FOR SALE IMMUNE AMMUNITION (Bon Herbals): A great Christmas gift. Arm your immune



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#### Advertisements

system with Immune Ammunition, a 5 herb blend to help fight virus, bacteria, fungus and inflammation in one capsule. Only \$23.00 per bottle. 423-238-7467. Bonnie Mattheus, R.N., PO Box 1038, Collegedale, TN 37315. www. bonherbals.com. [12]

ACTIVATED CHARCOAL POWDER: Food grade made from hardwood. Butler Creek Naturals. Price includes priority shipping: 1-2 lbs. 16.50 per lb; 3-5 lbs. 15.00 per lb; 6-8 lbs. 13.50 per lb. Shipped in 1 lb. packages. To order call 931-724-6706. www. wildwoodhealthretreat.org [12]

**NEED A PIANIST?** Hymns Alive, the Adventist Hymnal on 33 CDs. Quality accompaniment music to sing God's praises. Organ and piano. Kid's hymnals on CDs also. www.35hymns. com. Hymns on videos – 12 DVDs – *Creation Sings*, with words and beautiful nature photos & videos. Call 800-354-9667. [12]

PATHFINDER/ADVENTURER CLUB NAME CREST: Order your Pathfinder and Adventurer club name creast at www.pathfinderclubnames. com. For more information, call 269-208-5853 or email us at pathfinderclubnames@gmail. com. [12-5]

**LIVE STREAM** your church services with www.3AngelsLife.com. Visit our page today for pricing and information. [12-2]

IF YOU WERE A FAN of Sam Campbell's nature books, you'll be glad to know that his last and only narrated film, 'Come to the North Country,' is now available at your local ABC Bookstore or at www.samcampbell.com. This film is a beautiful invitation to come out into nature. [12]

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

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

#### SINGLE? WIDOWED? DIVORCED? Get

listed free, confidentially, no word limit! Ages 18-88. Reveal birthday, marital

status, race, occupation, year became SDA, hobbies, interests, goals...No computer needed to participate! Application: Send S.A.S.E., Current Catalog: \$25. SDA Friendship Finder, P.O. Box 673, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513. gamtnwmn@tds.net. [12]

#### ARE YOU MOVING SOON?

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

RELOCATING? Apex Moving & Storage has a national account contract with the General Conference for your moving needs. Take advantage of a volume rated discount. Be assured you are moving with the BEST! Call Marcy Dante' at 800-766-1902; or visit us at: www.apexmoving.com/adventist. [12]

RELOCATING FROM ONE STATE TO ANOTHER? The move counselors at Stevens Van Lines can help! With special pricing for all Adventist families, and recommended by the General Conference for over 14 years, quality is inherent. Call the Clergy Move Center direct for a no cost or obligation estimate at 800-248-8313 or contact us at www.stevensworldwide. com/sda. [12]

WILDWOOD HEALTH RETREAT S.I.M.P.L.E. LIVING SEMINAR: Prevention and recovery of lifestyle disease, including obesity, hypertension, diabetes, osteoporosis, stress, depression, alcohol and tobacco. Cost: 12-day seminar, 8840. Butler Creek Seminars, Iron City, TN. For more information call Darlene Keith: Ph. 931-724-6706. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org. [12]

THE WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER can help you naturally treat and reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, fibromyalgia, lupus, multiple sclerosis, chronic fatigue, cancer, depression and many more. Invest in your health, call 1-800-634-9355 for more information or visit www.wildwoodhealth.org/lifestyle. [12-5]

PLANNING AN EVANGELISTIC SERIES OR HEALTH SEMINAR? Have questions? Need affordable, professionally prepared handbills, brochures, signs, banners and mailing services? Call free, 800-274-0016 and ask for HOPE Customer Service or visit www. hopesource.com. You deserve the best with confidence and peace of mind. Your friends at Hamblin's HOPE deliver on-time. [12]

LOOKING FOR AUTHORS who have written a

book on self-help for young adults (depression, suicide, eating disorders, dating, etc). Also accepting children's books, mission stories, biographies, and inspirational/doctrinal topics. Call TEACH Services at 800-367-1844. [12-4]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, 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.

EIGHT NATURAL REMEDIES online and correspondence courses for laypersons and professionals. Gift certificates available. Email education@jjohnsonmd.com. Phone/fax 615-523-2136. www.healthcare-online-education. org/8remedies.html. [12]

southern.edu/graduatestudies. [12-5]

NORTH GEORGIA WELLNESS RETREATS — Starting January 2014, Blue Creek Cabins Wellness & Spa will be offering 5-day retreats and spa packages. Located near picturesque town of Helen, our program features health lectures, cooking classes, spa services, gardening etc. Contact us: 706-865-0455, 706-865-1405, www.bluecreekwellness.com, www.

bluecreekcabins.com. [12]

GUEST LODGING AT SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY – Newly renovated 2 bed/1 bath apartments. Some with equipped kitchens. Available year round. To reserve call 423-236-7000 or email guestlodging@southern.edu. [12-5]

EDEN'S PATHWAY can help you if you have diabetes, cancer, HBP, etc. to change your L.I.F.E.S.T.Y.L.E.S.. We offer the 10-day "Daniel Challenge" detoxification/cleanse program educating in lifestyle modification mentally, physically, and spiritually. For more information, visit www.edenspathwayhome. com, email: info@edenspathway.org, or call 423-338-4144. [12,1]

**50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** of Adventists in Mesa, Arizona the weekend of March 1, 2014 hosted by Mesa Palms SDA Church. Former members, pastors, friends

invited to celebrate with us. King Herald's concert Sabbath afternoon at 5pm. Information on special hotel rates, call 480-985-3140; Facebook: Mesa Palms SDA Church; Website: mesapalmschurch.com. [12]

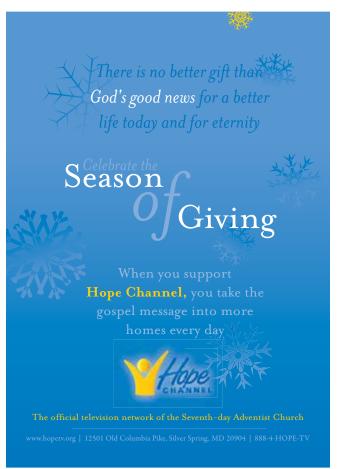
#### Train to be a **Certified Lifestyle Coach** (CLC)

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You could earn up to \$50,000/yr. working from home. Email: **CLCinfo@hipcare.org** or Call: **800-773-4871.** Register now to be trained at home via live webinars. Health Institute for Preventive CARE (HIPCARE) is a non-profit SDA Org.







#### Events Calendar

#### Carolina

Carolina Adventist Christian Book Center – Contact numbers: 800-366-1844 or

Charlotte area: 704-599-0699. Visit us on the web @ http://www.adventistbookcenter.com.

Ministerial Workers' Meeting – Jan. 5-8. Nosoca Pines Ranch. Generous Living Prayer

Summit – Jan. 5. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

Romance at the Ranch (Nosoca Pines Ranch)

Feb. 14-16. Liberty Hill, SC. Feb. 21-23. Liberty Hill, SC.

#### **Florida**

Complete calendar online – http://www.floridaconference.com/ calendar/

Florida Pathfinder events -

http://www.floridaconference.com/ iym/pathfinders/events/ or call 407-644-5000 x127.

Singles' Ministries events and mailing list information.

Spiritual study groups, fellowship dinners, outings, and more. http://www.floridaconference.com/iym/childrenandfamily/events/, djmiller4000@gmail.com, or 407-703-3050.

Singles' Ministries Annual New Year's Retreat – Dec. 27-Jan. 1. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Theme: "The Road to Restoration." Guest speaker: Andre Van Heerden. Guest musician: Carlos Silva. Cost: \$38.89-\$420.64 depending on accommodation/meal choice and number of days attending. Registration: http://www. campkulaqua.com/ or 386-454-1351

Planned Giving and Trust Services Clinic – Jan. 18. Orlando Spanish Church.

Greater Miami Academy 5th Annual Golf Tournament -March 30. Doral Golf Resort and Spa. Check-in: 12:00 p.m. Theme: Jump Start the Dream! Entry fee: \$185 for either golf or spa participant. Golf package includes green fees, golf cart, goodie bag, refreshments and award reception buffet dinner. Spa package includes all day spa, treatment (five choices available), goodie bag, and award reception buffet dinner. Details: http://www. gma.edu/, ctrevilcock@gma.edu, or 305-220-5955 x151.

#### Georgia-Cumberland

Family Ministries Council
– Dec. 3. Conference Office.
Calhoun, GA.

Association Board Meeting

– Dec. 4, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Conference Office. Calhoun, GA.

Finance Committee Meeting –
Dec. 4, 12-4:30 p.m. Conference
Office. Calhoun, GA.

Festival of Praise – Dec. 7, 5-8 p.m. Springfield Baptist Church, 1877 Iris Drive SE, Conyers, GA.

Women's Ministries Council

– Dec. 10. Georgia-Cumberland
Academy. Calhoun, GA.

GCC Office Closed for Holidays
– Dec. 23-Jan. 1. Calhoun, GA.

NAD Day of Prayer – Jan. 4.

10 Days of Prayer – Jan. 8-18.

Adventurer Directors' Council
– Jan. 4. Conference Office.

Calhoun, GA.

Pathfinder Directors' Council

– Jan. 5. Conference Office.
Calhoun, GA.

#### **Gulf States**

Complete Calendar online http://www.gscsda.org Elders'/Deacons' Retreat – Dec. 6-8. Camp Alamisco

Executive Committee – Dec. 9. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Bass Memorial Academy.

Bass Memorial Academy Board of Education – Dec. 11. 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Conference Office Closed – Dec. 23-Jan. 1.

#### **Kentucky-Tennessee**

Conference Executive Committee – Dec. 10. Ministers' Meetings – Jan. 6-9. Pigeon Forge.

Highland/Madison Academy Boards – Jan. 23.

Board of Education - Feb. 20.

## Southern Adventist University

Christmas Concert – Dec. 13. The School of Music's Concert. Collegedale Church. Features the Southern Choral Ensembles and Southern Symphony Orchestra. Watch the event live online at southern.edu/streaming beginning at 7:30 p.m. Details: 423-236-2814.

Preview Southern – Feb. 17. Interested students can explore campus, talk with professors, learn about scholarship opportunities, and enjoy a fun activity in Chattanooga. Southern provides meals and accommodations for students and their immediate family. Call 1-800-SOUTHERN to schedule a visit.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

ATLANTA FESTIVAL OF PRAISE: Georgia-Cumberland Conference unites with South Atlantic Conference on Sabbath, December 7, 5-8 p.m., to celebrate the biennial Festival of Praise at Springfield Baptist Church, 1877 Iris Drive SE, Conyers, GA. The keynote speaker is Pastor Dan Jackson, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. Featured performers: Atlanta West End Choir, Atlanta Romanian Choir, Georgia-Cumberland Academy's Sinfonietta, Korean Choir, Atlanta Adventist Academy's Adoramus, Atlanta Hispanic Choir, Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy Concert Choir, Atlanta Caribbean Choir, and more. Save the date and invite a friend. Details:

facebook.com/gccsda and twitter. com/gccsda.

MIDDLETOWN CHURCH 25th ANNIVERSARY – Feb. 15. Middletown Church, Louisville, KY. Details: www.friendlychurch. com or call 502-244-6997.

RAMAH SDA JUNIOR
ACADEMY REUNION (formerly
Ramah Parochial School)
Celebrating 100 years of
Christian Education — April
30-May 4. Savannah, GA.
Students (present/former),
teachers, principals, pastors,
and staff are invited to the
celebration. Join us on Facebook
for updates and news regarding
the reunion: facebook.com/
amahacademyalumniassociation;
email: ramah100years@hotmail.

LA SIERRA ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND – May 2, 3. Honor classes: 1954, '64, '74, '84, '89, '94, and '04. Friday evening reception, LSA Library; Sabbath morning alumni services; afternoon potluck; campus tours; and class reunions. Details: 951 351-1445 x 244; JNelson@ lsak12.com; LSA web site: www. lsak12.com



Sunset						
	Dec. 6	Dec. 13	Dec. 20	Dec. 27	Jan. 3	Jan. 10
Atlanta, GA	5:29	5:30	5:32	5:36	5:40	5:45
Charleston, SC	5:13	5:14	5:17	5:20	5:24	5:30
Charlotte, NC	5:11	5:12	5:14	5:17	5:22	5:27
Collegedale, TN	5:28	5:29	5:31	5:35	5:39	5:45
Huntsville, AL	4:35	4:36	4:38	4:32	4:46	4:52
Jackson, MS	4:55	4:56	4:59	5:02	5:06	5:12
Louisville, KY	5:23	5:23	5:25	5:29	5:33	5:39
Memphis, TN	4:48	4:49	4:51	4:54	4:59	5:04
Miami, FL	5:30	5:31	5:34	5:37	5:41	5:46
Montgomery, AL	4:40	4:41	4:43	4:47	4:51	4:56
Nashville, TN	4:32	4:33	4:35	4:39	4:43	4:49
Orlando, FL	5:29	5:30	5:32	5:36	5:40	5:45
Wilmington, NC	5:02	5:03	5:05	5:08	5:13	5:18



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