



Vantage <mark>Point</mark>

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

Feeling Like an Orphan?

There is a wide collection of spiritual myths that contribute to the mass confusion surrounding the word "spirit" in our world. Television series embracing themes, primetime talk shows with the focus on New Age concepts, church communities with teachings on how to receive the Holy Spirit, and a broad spectrum of self-help motivational literature often heighten the ambiguity about who or what the "spirit" is. A type of mass hysteria, fueled by overpopulation, hunger, deteriorating marriage and family life, illicit drug epidemics, and violence has sent many in search of help from a higher power. This, more often than not, includes trying to make some sense of the spirit world.

Since God is my ultimate authority, I find value in pursuing the Holy Bible's perspective on who the Spirit is. One of the most referenced biblical passages is extracted from John 14:18: "I will not leave you as orphans." As Jesus spoke of His speedy departure, the experience of the disciples was like what children feel as they stand at the bedside of a dying parent.

What had Christ not been to them during their three-year association? How they had learned to look to Him, to lean on Him, to follow Him! How joyful had been their relationship! Each new day some further revelation of Christ's power, wisdom, or love had dawned upon them, until He had become all in all to them. The months and years by His side had fled on swift wings, and now the end was near. Yet a brief space and they would be left alone, orphaned spiritual children in an unsympathetic and hostile world. But, to their troubled minds came these words of comfort and promise: "I will not leave you as orphans." In the presence of life's vicissitudes, we are vulnerable to loneliness and desperation. The assurance that we are not alone in this world is encouraging when we contemplate who the Holy Spirit is and what He does. The Comforter whom Christ has promised to send after He ascended to Heaven is the Spirit in all the fullness of God the Father and God the Son, manifesting the power of divine grace to anybody who receives and believes in Christ as a personal Savior (see Ellen G. White, *Evangelism*, p. 615).

The Holy Spirit guides us in developing more fully the new perspective on life that being a Christian can give. From the new companionship that we can enjoy with the Spirit of God, problems look much different, and some of the solutions are a lot easier to see:

- We can discover a new freedom to love as we view persons the way Jesus saw them.
- We can more nearly accept our limitations and enjoy our strengths, since we know we are accepted by God Himself.
- We can weather emotional ups and downs, not by pretending they don't exist or by being ashamed of them, but by sharing our feelings with other Christians on the same adventure with God.
- We can find a place for personal renewal, watching what happens when love begins to change the way we worship God and minister to one another.

It is my hope that you as a constituent of the Southern Union will experience the joy of transcending orphaned and isolated lives into companionship with the comforting Spirit of God.



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HOLY BIBLE

Secularism's Backlash: **A THREAT TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM** BY AMIREH AL-HADDAD

s a little girl I remember watching "Circus of the Stars" on television. Actors like Lonnie Anderson took to the sky for a tightrope walk or swung from a trapeze. I was young, so a walk across a tightrope was amazing. Now, I'm slightly more sophisticated, so I know that to accomplish that tightrope walk, certain things (besides good balance) need to happen. Shoes need the proper soles, a pole needs to be held and balanced in the right place. Protecting and defending religious freedom in America is like being a tightrope walker, you have to hold the pole in the middle or else you become unbalanced. And, just like a tightrope walker, holding that pole at either end will throw you off.

Solemnly looking back on the events of 2012, I am still amazed at the news that flashed before us all and yet, at the same time, seemed to have made little impact on Adventist Church members as to the implications it would have on religious freedom. The balance between the fundamental elements that make our society so great is at risk.

Secularists seem increasingly opposed to religious expression, and religious communities seem increasingly put upon in terms of religious expression and in public and the freedom to practice their religious beliefs. No issue is better expressed by example than the contraceptive health care issue we first saw spring to life last January, when Health and Human Services (HHS) announced a new mandate in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) regarding the availability of contraceptives for employees through healthcare plans.

Was HHS purposefully trying to destroy the religious liberties of those religious institutions which object on a religious basis to contraceptives? I do not believe that was the intent. Rather the intent was to insure that everyone had access to contraceptive health care as a means of good public policy. Like so many issues that infringe upon our religious liberty, the intent was not to challenge the religious right of Catholics and others who are against birth control for religious reasons, but to ensure affordable contraceptive healthcare to women, regardless of where or for whom they worked. To prove the point, the Obama administration quickly proposed an alternative for those religious-run hospitals and universities who would have had their religious freedom imposed upon, but it was so narrowly tailored as to make it unacceptable to most in opposition to the originally purposed plan.

Secularism and religious beliefs

are growing more dangerously polarized. The long tradition of exempting religious hospitals and universities has historically been seen not only as acceptable policy and politics in our society, but also as a fundamental right of religion to run its own institutions. It matters not that those individuals who work there may not be of the same religious persuasion.

In response to secularism's attitude in the healthcare arena, the Catholic church and many others have come forward in droves, proclaiming religious liberty at an end here in America. The Catholic church, who since the mid 1970s, has been content to let protestant evangelicals do its heavy public speaking, has now come out to declare itself as a major contender in the stakes to establish its worldview. This writer believes this to be a crucial turning point for religious liberty in America.

Catholic bishops from every diocese in America have spoken out against the contraceptive health care issue. And so it has been at the Catholic church's leading that a new organization was announced at the beginning of October 2012. Claiming to be the first State Religious Freedom Caucus, nine states, including Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Missouri, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, and Tennessee, have been the first to sign on to the caucus. The organization claims these are but the first, and they intend to have all 50 states onboard by year's end. The

State Religious Freedom Caucus is made up of lawmakers who will help legislators set state-specific agendas for "strengthening religious liberties..."

What is troubling to traditional religious liberty advocates is the ultimate focus of the caucus, which states they are fighting to defend Americans' ability to live their religious liberty beliefs beyond the confines of their churches or places of worship.

Our concern in the Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department is that what they really want is to be able to enforce their religious beliefs upon society through legislative means, a concern also voiced by secularists.

So, how can religious liberty best be protected under such extremist conditions? The answer lies at the grassroots level. People of God should step back from these polarizing sides, and look at those issues that both sides can agree upon. Seventh-day Adventists are especially well equipped to engage in the conversation, since we continue to stand by the traditional views of separation of church and state. The balance is a delicate one that cannot be dealt with from far flung opposing sides, but that must bring both sides back to the balanced middle.

Amireh Al-Haddad is director of the Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department at the Southern Union Conference.

Religious Liberty Offering • January 26, 2013

Southern Union Feature

Saving Miracles in Nicaragua

BY R. STEVEN NORMAN III AND MARIEL LOMBARDI

Twenty-one pastors and evangelists from the Southern Union witnessed the liberating power of the Gospel during one-week reaping crusades held in the Central Nicaragua Mission. From the first night we saw the Holy Spirit snatch souls from Satan's grasp and lead them to find freedom in Christ. The meetings were held in Managua, Granada, Tipitapa, Maderas, and Masaya. More than 630 souls surrendered their lives to God and were baptized.

Many were the testimonies shared during the campaign. Danilo Cornejo, pastor of the Collegedale district in Tennessee, had the opportunity of listening to Alexander Baptist's, 30, testimony. Born in an Adventist family, he abandoned the ways of the Lord to follow a life of addiction and crime. He became a thief in order to be able to satisfy his addiction, stealing money even from his brother Fabio, an Adventist pastor.

After joining a gang, he participated in street fights. As a result, his brother Edwin was killed in a shooting, and Alexander was wounded and sentenced to serve 15 years in prison. It was in the solitude of his cell that his thoughts went back to God. He begged for help and promised that if He delivered him, he was going to surrender his life to Him. God made the miracle, and a few months later. he was released; but, he did not honor his promise. He got back on the same road that had led him to jail. However, this time he became very ill with cirrhosis. Once again he prayed, and merciful God healed him.

His parents never ceased to pray for him, but his father never got to see the works of the Holy Spirit in his son as he passed away. That was the turning point. Alexander then attended the evangelistic campaign and got baptized. His brother Fabio had the privilege of baptizing him. Alexander says, "I've learned that without Christ there is only sadness and pain. Christ fills your life with peace and happiness, as now I have in my heart."

The Hispanic Evangelism Outreach has held missions since 1999. These meeting have helped pastors become effective pastor-evangelists. Roger Alvarez, Southeastern Conference Hispanic Ministries Department director, said, "This overseas crusade helped me put into practice the very principles of public evangelism, and enlarged my ability to adapt to different social, intellectual, and religious contexts. It enriched my experience as a public and personal evangelist."

"Watching the way people from this culture respond to the calls makes me learn what to do to obtain better results. This was the testimony of Samuel Romero, Carolina Conference Hispanic Ministries Department director.

After working with the local pastor at the Villa Libertad district in Managua, Johnny Castro, Gulf States Conference pastor, said, "When going out on house calls with my pastor colleague, I realized that the more we adapt to Jesus' simple methods, the better results we get. The growth comes when, led by the Holy Spirit, we do what Jesus did."

In a letter to Jorge Mayer, Southern Union Conference Hispanic Ministries Department director, Juan Guevara, president of the Central Nicaragua Mission said, "My sincere thanks to the president of the Southern Union, his administrative team, and the local conference presidents for their evangelistic program to Latin America ... We are very grateful because this evangelistic experience has meant a renewal in the lives of many people who have learned that there is hope in Christ Jesus. It also helped the churches involved in their spiritual revival, as they witnessed the change in so many lives, and the different styles of preaching and leadership. I am impressed with the quality of ministers you have in your territory. I think each one was carefully selected. I can't wait until next year when I take some of our ministers to the Southern Union territory."

Mayer was very pleased with the work of the Southern Union team and said, "There was a notorious commitment in each participant — not only in the presentation of the topics that motivated the souls to decide for Christ and His Church, but also in the many hours devoted to personal work. We had set aside time for prayer and devotion every morning, but many of them could not participate because they were visiting people very early."

Preparation is being made for Hispanic outreach missions to Venezuela and Europe during the summer and fall of 2013.

Articulo de Southern Union



Milagros de Salvación en Nicaragua

BY R. STEVEN NORMAN III Y MARIEL LOMBARDI

Veintiún pastores y evangelistas de Southern Union Conference fueron testigos del poder liberador del mensaje durante la campaña de cosecha de una semana que tomó lugar en la Misión Central de Nicaragua. Desde la primera noche, vieron al Espíritu Santo arrebatando almas de las garras de Satanás y guiándolas para encontrar la libertad en Cristo. Los encuentros se llevaron a cabo en Managua, Granada, Tipitapa, Maderas, y Masaya. Más de 630 almas rindieron sus almas a Dios y fueron bautizadas.

Muchos fueron los testimonios que se expresaron durante la campaña. Danilo Cornejo, pastor del distrito de Collegedale, Tennessee, tuvo la oportunidad de escuchar el de Alexandre Baptist, 30. Nacido en una familia adventista, abandonó los caminos del Señor entregándose a una vida de adicción y crimen. Para poder satisfacer sus adicciones se convirtió en un ladrón e incluso llegó a robar dinero a su hermano Fabio, quien es un pastor adventista. Luego de unirse a una banda de delincuentes, participaba en peleas callejeras. Como resultado, su hermano Erwin fue matado en un tiroteo, y Alexander fue herido y sentenciado a servir 15 años de prisión. Fue allí, en la soledad de su celda cuando sus pensamientos se elevaron a Dios. Suplicó ayuda, y prometió que si el Señor lo liberaba, él cambiaría su vida. Dios hizo el milagro y pocos meses después él fue dejado libre, pero no cumplió su promesa. A cambio, volvió al mismo camino que lo había llevado a la cárcel. Esta vez no obstante, se enfermó gravemente de cirrosis. Una vez más oró, y Dios Misericordioso lo sanó.

Sus padres nunca dejaron de orar

por él pero su padre falleció y nunca pudo ver el trabajo del Espíritu Santo en su hijo. Este fue el punto de retorno en la vida de Alexander. Asistió entonces a la campaña evangélica, y fue bautizado. Su hermano Fabio tuvo el privilegio de oficiar la ceremonia. "He aprendido que sin Cristo, sólo hay tristeza y dolor. Cristo llena la vida con la felicidad y paz que ahora reinan en mi corazón," dijo.

El programa de evangelismo hispano ha llevado a cabo misiones desde 1999. Estos encuentros han ayudado a los pastores a convertirse en evangelistas. Roger Álvarez, director del departamento hispano de Southeastern, dijo: "La campaña de Nicaragua me ayudó a poner en práctica los principios básicos del evangelismo público, y aumentó mi capacidad de adaptarme a los diferentes contextos sociales, intelectuales y religiosos. Mi experiencia como evangelista público y personal fue altamente enriquecida."

"El observar la forma en que las personas de esta cultura responden a los llamados, me ayudó a ver qué debo hacer para obtener mejores resultados. Este fue el testimonio de Samuel Romero, director del departamento hispano en la asociación de las Carolinas.

Johnny Castro, de la asociación Gulf States, luego de trabajar con el pastor local en el distrito de Villa Libertad en Managua, dijo: "Cuando visitábamos a las personas en sus casas con mi colega, me di cuenta de que mientras más uno se adapta a los métodos simples de Jesús, se alcanzan mejores resultados. El crecimiento llega cuando guiados por el Espíritu Santo, hacemos lo que Cristo hizo."

El pastor Juan Guevara, presidente

de la Misión Central de Nicaragua expresó en una carta dirigida a Jorge Mayer: "Deseo agradecer al presidente de Southern Union y su equipo administrativo, como a los presidentes de las asociaciones locales, por el programa de evangelismo a Latino América... Esta experiencia evangelística ha resultado en la renovación de la vida de muchas personas, quienes aprendieron que hay esperanza en Cristo Jesús. Además ha motivado el reavivamiento espiritual de las iglesias que participaron, al ser testigos del cambio de tantas vidas, y escuchar distintos estilos de predicación y liderazgo. Estoy impresionado con la calidad de ministros que usted tiene en su territorio. Creo que cada uno ha sido cuidadosamente seleccionado. Estoy ansioso esperando el momento el año que viene, cuando pueda llevar algunos de nuestros ministros al territorio de Southern Union."

Jorge Mayer también expresó su satisfacción por el trabajo del equipo de Southern Union, y de la asociación local. "El compromiso de cada participante fue notorio, no sólo en la presentación de temas que motivaron las almas a decidirse por Cristo, sino en las muchas horas que dedicaron al trabajo personal. Se había separado un tiempo de oración y medicación bíblica cada mañana, pero muchos de los participantes no podían asistir, debido a que desde muy temprano se encontraban visitando a los interesados."

Se están haciendo los preparativos para que durante el verano y otoño del 2013, el programa de evangelismo hispano de la unión, llegue a Venezuela y Europa.



Meals Packed With Love BY MARTIN AND ASHLEY BUTLER

It was a sight to behold as 190 volunteers gathered in Apopka, Florida, at the Forest Lake Academy gymnasium to pack 30,000 healthy meals in 50 minutes. With enough ingredients to all ages — Pathfinders to great-grandmothers — wanted to make an impact on their community.

"I was so impressed with the level of energy and commitment in

> the volunteers who came to serve people," noted Anderson. "Their help will make a difference right here in Orlando, where the bulk of the meals will go to Lockhart Middle School. Here, students who are fed on school days will receive a healthy meal to share with their families on the weekend."

"Today, you're answering the prayers of children who are really hungry," said Feeding Children Everywhere event coordinator Jarrod Fucci. "Your love packed the meals. Now, Bernie and his staff will help us deliver them."

None of these efforts came free, even though the sum total was cheap enough. At a cost of only 25 cents per meal, it would still take \$7,500 to provide 30,000 meals.

"Have faith that God will help you reach this financial goal," encouraged Forest Lake Church member Laura Gonzalez to the young people who worked alongside Anderson in fund-raising efforts. Gonzalez not only mentored, she helped decorate baskets and, with her husband, Arnaldo, and several collegiates, took them to the lobby between church services to collect the appealed-for quarters.

Of course, it took more than quarters, even though one person turned in more than \$200 worth that were unwrapped. Children emptied their piggy banks. One donor gave an anonymous gift of \$1,000 in the closing days of the fund drive. When news came that more than \$10,000 was raised, a resounding "Thank You, Jesus!" was



Florence DuBosque "bad a wonderful time sealing meal bags" at the end of her volunteer line before carrying a box in her wheelchair to the loading area.



"Tve never seen people work so hard for a good cause," observed volunteer Kristine Young. "They were so happy when a box was completed, they'd high five each other and let out this amazing cheer."

serve a family of six, 180,000 hungry stomachs would be fed. "Incredible!" declared one participant when the staggering final numbers were announced.

Forest Lake Church Collegiate/ Young Adults, under the leadership of Bernie Anderson, pastor, partnered with the Orlando nonprofit organization Feeding Children Everywhere. Success happened because people of heard even as dreams were expressed that "we must do this again next year."

Reactions from those helping on the packing assembly lines and in other areas of this year's event clearly indicated the impact that Pack the Forest had on them:

"The powerful part for me was seeing people of all ages and backgrounds who attend Forest Lake Church do something for local kids, and the impact is now!" —*Alejandra Torres*

"I kept remembering all the times I get hungry, and I was thinking about the Lockhart kids who must be feeling that way, too." —*Kevin, representing one of the many young Pathfinder volunteers*

"It taught my kids to do something for someone else by helping other children." —Dana Williams

"It was especially heartwarming around



Someone described the scene as "a long parade of miracles" when 107 boxes, each filled with 288 packaged meals for hungry children, were carried to the waiting Feeding Children Everywhere truck.



Forest Lake Church Collegiate/Young Adult Pastor Bernie Anderson conferred with Ashley Butler, a member who had a part in bringing Pack the Forest together. "Ashley is a behind-the-scenes person;" observes Pastor Bernie, "yet, she is proof that when a mission and cause is close to your heart, you'll do things you never thought you would."

the holidays to see kids, parents, and the elderly working so passionately together for the good of others." —*Kristine Young*

"It was a wonderful opportunity to be reminded of all the things for which I'm grateful such as family, shelter, food, church fellowship, and, of course, Jesus, the Bread of Life Who will always provide." —*Ron Pasos*

"I can't wait until next year when we do this again, because it will be another wonderful opportunity to serve just as Christ served others." — *Tyler Sutton*

Learn more about the nonprofit organization at *http://www.feedingchildreneverywhere.com/* and view more photos from this event at *http://www. floridaconference.com/news/2012/12/ packtheforest/.*

Young and old worked together to pack the meals described by Feeding Children Everywhere as "simple, healthy, and delicious" with main components of lentils, rice, a blend of six dehydrated vegetables, and pink Himalayan salt.



Since moving to Orlando in August 2012, I've come to realize that hunger in this area is a very real issue. On the March 5, 2011, CBS television program, *60 Minutes*, Scott Pelly spoke of Central Florida's hungry children in his profile, "Hard Times Generation." This glimpse into the hearts of America's youngest victims of tough times revealed stories and faces of children living right here in Seminole County, Florida, which is home to Forest Lake Church.

In late September, I invited 25 young adults from our congregation to join me at Pack the Park in Orlando, where volunteers assembled 42,000 meals in 75 minutes for Feeding Children Everywhere. Our young people were so passionate about the experience, they asked if Forest Lake Church could partner with this nonprofit, Orlando-based organization in hosting an event. Thus, Pack the Forest was born, a December 1 date was set, and the rest

is history. You've read in this feature story how church members responded when invited to have a part in feeding hungry children. Forest Lake Church wants to be the leader in extending

the hand of God in our community. We've already seen Him at work when opportunities are created to reach beyond the four walls of our church. Pack the Forest 2012 was just a taste of more to come.

With God's blessing, the next goal is to host an event in 2013

where 100,000 meals will be assembled to feed 600,000 hungry children and their families. As the ministry of Pack the Forest moves forward, it is my prayer to never forget Jesus' words when He spoke of feeding the hungry: "...Inasmuch as ye have done it

unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me," Matthew 25:40 KJV.

Kentucky-Tennessee Feature

The Little Church That Could BY DAVID HARTMAN

You've probably read the children's book titled, *The Little Engine that Could*, about a little engine that successfully pulled a long train over a formidable mountain while chanting, "I think I can, I think I can, I think I can." Small churches (and larger ones too) often display a defeatism attitude because the population is too small, the membership is too elderly, the income is too scant, or the baptisms are too few. But in reality, small churches can make a big difference for God by exercising a positive attitude, sheer determination, and prayerful planning.

Lancaster Church is one of the smallest churches in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, with a book membership of just 29 members. But don't let the size fool you; it has a turbo power engine that is revved up for service. Lancaster, Tennessee, is an idyllic "Mayberry-style" community in Smith County with a population of only 363. The town doesn't have a stoplight and its post office was closed in 2011 due to the United States Postal

Service closing smaller post offices around the country. One of the town's main assets is its close proximity to the Caney Fork River, which is a haven for fishermen, kayakers and canoeers.

One way the Lancaster Church serves its community is by actively participating in the Lancaster Independence Day Parade. Since the church is located along the parade route, the church opens its doors for refreshments and use of its restrooms. Church members bake homemade apple tarts and donate them to the concession stand where they are then sold "like hotcakes." Members also hand out literature and get acquainted with



October 2012 community pizza party at the Walpers' bakery.





Run the River 4.5-mile foot race participants

Lancaster Church booth at the Independence Day Parade event.

individuals who stop by their table for snowcones and popcorn. Between 300 and 400 people attend this event every year. The church family engages in such events because they want the community to know who they are and what they're like.

The Lancaster Church also oversees a community garden where residents work the soil together, as well as share the produce with those in need. Last summer 15 low-income families enjoyed fresh vegetables from the garden all summer long. The garden produced 12 varieties of vegetables. Plans are already being made for the 2013 garden.

This past June 17 (Father's Day), the members also sponsored their first ever Run the River road race. The scenic route winds along a 4.5-mile stretch of the Caney Fork River just below the Center Hill Lake Dam. Another race is scheduled for April



Betty Proctor, local Methodist pastor, and her daughters, Cheyenne and Mackenzie, working with Leslie Walper in the community garden.



Lancaster community garden

scheduled for April 14, 2013. Check out the website for more details: http://www. runtherivertn.org. The proceeds from the race are donated to the Smith County Help Center in Carthage, Tennessee, which assists residents and transients with food, utilities, clothing, and other special services. The members

also sponsor about 150 *Liberty* magazine subscriptions, mostly to city and county government officials in Smith, DeKalb, and Jackson Counties. Other local mailouts include sharing books such as The Great *Hope*, and a monthly newsletter containing short articles on spiritual topics, a daily Bible reading guide, a "health nugget" page,

and a vegetarian recipe. Two hundred copies of the health page are also distributed every month through the Smith County Help Center to individuals who come in for assistance with their grocery needs.

Two of the many "spark plugs" in the Lancaster Church are Les and Ann Walper, both registered nurses. Besides spearheading community projects, they are personally involved in sharing Christ with their neighbors. A year ago they completed a wood-fired oven at their home in order to bake bread as a side income, but mostly to give bread away (http://www. cherokeefarms.com/wood_oven_gallery.htm).

Ann explains the reason why she likes to share bread with others: "The loaf of bread in my hands gets me in the door (or at least on the front porch), and softens people's attitudes. I don't often get to say much about what we believe, but people do learn that we care about them. The Lord will provide opportunities later for sharing our distinctive beliefs." The Walpers open their wood-fired oven bakery to the community twice a year and bake pizzas for everyone. In October, they hosted 42 guests.

Are you discouraged about the size of your church and its outreach? Think again! God can accomplish BIG things through His Church — whether small, medium, or large. Take courage from "The Little Church That Could." Determine to scale that mountain and reach your community for God. With His help, you can!

Adventist Health System

Dr. James McKinney Awarded for 52 Years of Service

James Ray McKinney, M.D., a family practice physician with Takoma Medical Associates, was honored for his 52 years of excellent service with the "Meritorious Service Award" from the Tennessee Hospital Association.

"We are all very excited

that Dr. McKinney has been

recognized with this special

award," said Daniel Wolcott,

president/CEO of Takoma

Regional Hospital in Green-

ville, Tenn. "Dr. McKinney

is an outstanding physician,

man who has dedicated his

and improving health care in

beloved friend and men-

tor to many, and a godly

entire career to providing



Greeneville and Green County."

McKinney arrived in Greeneville in 1960, fresh out of medical school at Loma Linda University

in California. He joined L.E. Coolidge, M.D., a wellknown surgeon and founder of Takoma Regional Hospital, then known as Takoma Adventist Hospital.

"Dr. Coolidge took Dr. McKinney under his wing and shared his expertise," Wolcott said. "Dr. McKinney jumped right in and worked all of the emergency room visits and all of the night shifts by himself for an

incredible seven years."

Since then McKinney's career has run the gamut. He has served as a general surgeon, delivered babies, performed C-sections and hysterectomies, set bones, and performed amputations. He is known to treat patients wherever they need to be seen, even in their homes.

"Dr. McKinney's leadership, clinical skills, and dedication to this community are a key reason Takoma enjoys a great reputation today," Wolcott said. "He has served Takoma faithfully as a physician, as our chief of staff, and is in his 52nd year on our operating board, where his opinions are greatly valued."

McKinney continues to practice medicine full time with no plans to retire. "Dr.

McKinney still has plenty to offer his patients through his clinical expertise and compassion," Wolcott said.

McKinney also was recognized for his passion for higher education, noting that he served for many years on the board of Southern Missionary College, now called Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn. He also is a strong supporter of his church, serving as an elder and board member, both locally and at the conference level. He is known as a tremendous Bible scholar and beloved teacher of God's Word.

In summary, Wolcott said, "Dr. McKinney is a shining example of all that a physician can and should be."

-BY TINA CHUDINA

CREATION Health

CREATION Health: God's Plan for Living Life to the Fullest!

How would you describe your life? Abundant? Or a daily struggle to survive?

God wants us to thrive. He embedded the principles for living life to the fullest in the Creation story.

The eight principles of abundant living engage the whole person because we are physical, mental, and spiritual beings. They are Choice, Rest, Environment, Activity, Trust In God, Interpersonal Relationships, Outlook, and Nutrition. We call them CREATION Health. CREATION

Health

health

is about creation for the whole person. But, CREATION Health is more than disease

prevention. Our annual physical might be perfect, but if our outlook is pessimistic or our relationships are crumbling, we might be disease-free, but we are not well.

How long we live is not as important as how well we live. But, by living the CREATION Health lifestyle, we gain an average of 10 extra years of quality life in this world.

Each month during 2013

we will cover a CREATION Health principle in this column. Next month is Choice. We will discover easy ways to live better and longer so that God's desire for us in 3 John 2 becomes our reality: "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers."

That's CREATION Health!

-BY LYNELL LAMOUNTAIN

Adventist University of Health Sciences

University President Receives Service Legacy Award

It was quite a surprise for David Greenlaw, president of Adventist University of Health Sciences, to receive the Thomas E. Gamble Service Legacy Award at Florida Campus Compact (FL | CC) Awards Gala on November 7, 2012.

FL | CC is comprised of more than 50 college and university presidents in Florida committed to joining education and service.

The awardScientrecognizes an indi-ecutiavidual's lifetime andComplegacy of service.TampDeeDee Rasmus-sen, executive directorof FL|CC, said Greenlawpromotes collegiate serviceand servant leadershipboth at Adventist University and through FloridaCampus Compact.

"Dr. Greenlaw models a service ethic that will inspire a legacy of servant leaders for generations to come," Rasmussen said.

Service has always played an important part in Greenlaw's life, especially after spending six years teaching at a college in Africa.

"No matter where you are, human beings are human beings. If there's an opportunity to help, then we ought to be doing that," Greenlaw said.



David Greenlaw, Adventist University of Health Sciences president, and DeeDee Rasmussen, executive director of FL \CC, at the Florida Campus Compact Awards Gala on November 7, 2012, in Tampa, Fla.

At the University, service is incorporated with classes through service learning, where academic objectives are met by contributing to community needs. There are also mission trips, grantfunded service initiatives, a clinic for patients with no insurance, and an annual employee service day. These traditions have created a culture of service on-campus that complements the University's mission of "Healthcare as Ministry."

22, in "With community engagement we want our students to adopt their profession as their ministry," said Ruby Gutierrez, director of community engagement.

Gutierrez said that the University's leadership makes all the difference with supporting the University's ongoing initiatives. Ultimately, the goal is not only to educate professionals that are good at what they do, but also live a life of service.

Greenlaw was honored and surprised at the award he received, which was encouragement to continue serving others. "Our hope is to provide things for the community that cannot be provided by anyone else. If we don't reach out to our community, who is going to?" -BY SARAH CROWDER



David Greenlaw (right) and University faculty and staff participate in an annual service day to help local causes.

Carolina <mark>News</mark>

Raleigh Children's Health Expo Draws Hundreds



Children and their families started streaming into the Raleigh, N.C., Church community center on September 30, 2012, for their community "Children's Natural Health Expo." There were more than 30 exhibitors on health and wellness from surrounding businesses and ministries.

Partnering with the Raleigh Church was Whole Foods Market, which shared free food samples and a





seminar on "Healthy Eating on a Budget." They promoted foods with no added sugar or extracted oil. They also read the book, *The Secret Life of Mitch Spinach*, to the children.

The keynote speaker, Pam Popper, presented the topic, "Optimal Nutrition for Kids: The Effects of Diet on Obesity, Behavior, and Academic Achievement." She said that in America there is an epidemic of food-borne illnesses in children. These diseases, which come from eating the wrong foods, used to affect only adults. Now their effects are reaching children, too.

Overweight children are almost three times more likely to have hypertension. Children are having problems with cholesterol. The CDC says that one-third of the children born this year will develop type two diabetes during their lifetime. The cause? Food! Popper stated that the ideal diet for all humans is a plant-based diet. Protein in dairy has been linked to juvenile diabetes. She proposes that at least 90 percent of your diet be selected from foods that don't "have a mother or a face."

Popper suggests to start by cleaning up our own homes. Lead by example. Set deadlines to remove bad food from the house ... gradually. And parents need to learn what their children eat in school lunch programs. These changes can be challenging when dealing with finicky little taste buds, but they will make a huge impact on your child's health.

The afternoon ended with MPA's AcroSports team giving an interactive gymnastics and conditioning demo. This was a great event to get ready for those new year resolutions.

-BY KEN FORD

Canosa Honored for 54 Years of Service

Louis Canosa was recently honored at the Southern Union Administrative Departmental Council for 54 years of faithful service in God's vineyard.

He started in August of 1957 as an elementary teacher in the Ohio Conference, later serving as a journalism, speech, and English teacher at Mt. Vernon Academy. His friendly, jovial ways were loved at the academy. Gary Dodge, General Conference planned giving and trust services director, was a student at the time.



Irene and Louis Canosa

Gary tells that one day he threw a tennis ball through an open upper-story

window into a full classroom being taught by Canosa. Canosa caught the unexpected ball by chance and, unphased, just kept on teaching!

After leaving Mt. Vernon he served as the superintendent of education for the Pennsylvania and Carolina conferences.

Finally, he served as the Carolina trust services director and later field representative (in his "retirement") for 27 years.

Canosa is dearly loved, and his kind ways will be deeply missed as he finally retires. Whatever the Lord has for him to do next, it will surely be done with a smile!

-BY KEN FORD

Carolina News

CREATION Health: Bringing Wellness Back to Basics



CREATION Health is a resource that your church needs. Lynell LaMountain recently presented this seminar at the Carolina Conference office in Charlotte, N.C.

CREATION Health is a faith-based wellness plan complete with lifestyle seminars and a special training program for those who want to teach and start their own wellness program. It's God's plan for living. This wellness program is based on biblical principles found in the



Lvnell LaMountain

Creation story, and supported by evidence-based science.

Participants enjoyed learning the best practices of whole person living —

mentally and physically — along with a strong focus on spirituality and faith. Practicing these eight principles could add up to 11 more quality years to your life.

For more information, go to www.creationhealth. com. To view more photos, visit facebook.com/ carolinaconference.

Some material quoted from www.creationhealth. com.

-BY KEN FORD

Greensboro Church Members Burn Mortgage

It was all smiles when Chad Grundy, Carolina Conference under-treasurer, Looking on is Artemio Gar-

set fire to the Greensboro, N.C., Church mortgage.



Artemio Garcia (left), Chad Grundy, and Tom Hall participate in the mortgage burning at Greensboro, N.C., Church.

cia, church treasurer, and Tom Hall, building committee chairman. This special celebration event took place on Sabbath, November 10, 2012. The dedication and church opening for the new church was a mere 10 years earlier on October 25, 2002.

The first church in Greensboro got its start when a tabernacle was erected to hold evangelistic meetings. This served as the place of worship until May 14, 1938, when

they moved into their new church on West Smith Street. Then in 1960 the congregation moved into the upstairs (first phase) of their new church on the corner of North Elm Street. However, the sanctuary was not completed until January 8, 1968. Construction for the present church at 1320 Fleming Road, was finished in 2002.

Greensboro members are excited to enter a new phase of their ministry. -BY RON QUICK

Florida <mark>News</mark>

Perry Church Members Embrace Differences

Perry, Fla., Church members and their youthfocused U-turn Ministries have joined forces under the direction of Patty Crouch, lay pastor, to bridge the generation gap within their own walls before reaching out to others.

"For effective evangelism to any community, the church family must first be completely in love with each other," says Crouch. "You don't just tolerate each other and your differences, you embrace them." In order to accomplish this, she believes members must spend time together beyond a weekly one-hour church service.



Young people lead praise music during the devotional segment that opens the Christ-centered Saturday Night Live activities.

the Perry Church family, along with young and old friends invited from the community, come together for a Christ-centered version of Saturday Night Live. The open mic program gives everyone an opportunity to sing, read poetry, perform skits, play an instrument, or present religious humor. Group activities, such as games and gatherings around a bonfire, complete the evening.

Half the fun comes in watching younger and older generations enjoying one another, laughing together, and learning from each other. "When we are no longer separated by the older and younger generation, but are together as the Jesus Generation," says Crouch, "then we will truly be effective in leading souls to the foot of the cross."

This ministry was featured as the Florida Conference In Mission video for November 2012. See the video at http://www.floridaconference.com/?p=4741. —BY PATTY CROUCH

On Saturday evenings,

One Hope NET Series Answers Questions

If Jesus is the answer, what are the questions? This supposition provided the basis for One Hope, an eight-night Florida Conference NET evangelistic series in October which was broadcast on the Hope Church Channel, streamed online, and shown live at 37 churches that registered participation.

Tampa First Church hosted the Saturday to Saturday series viewed throughout Florida and other parts of the country. Nightly programs included the pastoral message, music, and a testimony or outreach ministry capsule via Skype videoconferencing.

The question topics and pastoral presenters were: "Where Is the World Going?" by Brad Cassell;



Florida Conference President Mike Cauley gave the closing night sermon, "What Is Our Destiny?" followed by the closing appeal.

"How Does Jesus Change Us?" by Glenn Aguirre; "If Jesus Is Coming, What Do We Do Now?" by Juan Rodriguez; "Is There Meaningful Life Before Death?" by Stephen Stewart; "Can

> Broken Relationships Be Fixed?" by Marius Asaftei; "If You Want To Follow Jesus, Why Bother With the Church?" by Anthony Wagener-Smith; and "How Do We Find Time For What Matters Most?" by Henoc Paulicin.

Following the Friday service, Lehigh Acres Church, where Newton Hoilette is pastor, e-mailed the One Hope production team with news that their average attendance was 118 for the first seven nights. The message concluded with these words of encouragement, "Please keep doing what you do to further the work of the Gospel."

The series ended with a closing appeal by President Mike Cauley after his sermon, "What Is Our Destiny?" The complete series of sermons and testimonies are archived for online viewing at *http://www.floridaconference.com/media/ onebope/*.

-BY ABEL PAULÍN

Florida News

Frostproof Members Let Their Lights Shine

When Frostproof, Fla., Company members anchored their church plant more than five years ago in this rural central Florida community, they reaffirmed a commitment to follow the Holy Spirit's leading. A lighthouse mural in the sanctuary is a constant reminder to let their lights shine in this corner of the world.

Recently, crew members revisited their Captain's orders in Matthew 28:18-20 to assess if His Majesty's Ship was still on course. The crew did their utmost in 2012 to faithfully perform their duties, which included the following:

• Deepening a trust in their Captain during two 10-day Prayer Fasts.



A lighthouse mural painted by member Linda Hofmann in the Frostproof Company's sanctuary is a reminder for all who see it to shine as a beacon of hope in the community.

- Giving Bible studies to those seeking a safe harbor in the One and only true Captain.
 - Delivering food to those in need each month through a fruit and vegetable ministry. *This ministry was featured as the Florida Conference In Mission video for May 2012. See the video at http:// www.floridaconference. com/?p=3764*

- Sharing the Good News of their Captain's love with community children through the Fruits of the Spirit Vacation Bible School program.
- Responding to calls from distressed passengers of life who were drowning in despair or overwhelmed by waves of addiction.
- Continuing to work

- on their humble new church facility as funds became available. Various projects are yet to be completed.
- Serving hearty Sabbath fellowship meals where guests were invited to consider Frostproof Company as their next port of call.
 - -BY BRENDA WELCH



The Frostproof congregation celebrated the baptism of six individuals on two different occasions at the swimming pool of a member's home.

Students Conduct Health Evangelistic Series

A one-week. student-led CREATION Health Evangelistic Series was held at the New Port Richey, Fla., Church by Pathfinder Club members and 4th-8th graders at New Port Richey Adventist Christian Academy. Average attendance was 55-60 each night with 18 individuals attending all of the holistic lifestyle meetings.

Seven students led the one-hour video and



New Port Richey Pathfinders Markley Richard (left) and Kayla Jimenez, with Pathfinder counselor Jake Hecht, performed a puppetry skit at the CREATION Health Evangelistic Series.

PowerPoint presentations, while fellow Pathfinders, students, and friends participated in music, puppet, and greeter ministries. The puppet skits dramatized each of the eight CRE-ATION Health principles, and the scripts were written by Pathfinders and staff under the direction of the puppet ministry leader, Yvonne Suescun.

The seven student speakers were Alexis Dusel, grade 4; Bryan Lankston, grade 8; Franlis Simeoli-Montalvo, grade 4; Santiago Ortiz, grade 8; Markley Richard, grade 7; Brittany Rodriguez, grade 7; and Myranda Rodriguez, grade 9. Serving as adult advisors, Lynn and Leann Hecht, youth ministries; Carol Koch, Pathfinders; and Al Cruz, Adventist Christian Academy Principal, provided encouragement to the students.

Ten adults have registered for follow-up small group meetings that will include an in-depth study of the eight principles of good health.

-BY LENNIE SCHIEFER

Georgia-Cumberland News

Dalton Church Conducts Health Initiative

With a passion for whole person health and a burden for the obesity and diabetes crises in America, the Dalton, Ga., Church held a nine-week Better Health Initiative.

On September 6, 2012, the film, "Forks Over Knives" was shown twice at the local Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center, moderated by Chester Clark, pastor; 89 people attended.

The next morning, in line with the North American Division Health Ministries "Let's Move" Program, a Let's Move Walking Club was formed at the local mall. The participants were to walk at 8 a.m. Mondays through Fridays for two weeks. This was renewed for a four-week period (twice). In those segments, they were to walk 18 out of the 20-weekday mornings. There was an average participation of 10 walkers. At the initial kickoff on September 7, Chick-fil-A provided trays of fresh fruit, juice, and water.

Nutrition/cooking classes were also held at the Dalton Church September 10, 13, 17, and 20. The topics were "Building a Plant-Based Kitchen," "Healthy Enjoyable Weight Loss," "Look Good! Feel Good!" and "Cooking Well Gluten Free." Several church members assisted with preparing and serving samples. An average of 50 people attended. The teachers were Heather Neal, Jane Yoon-Clark, No-



The church in Dalton, Ga., offered a nine-week Better Health Initiative, inviting their community this fall. Here participants are taking home a loaf of bread to bake after attending a bread-baking class.

emi Monarrez, and Vivian Raitz.

The next portion of the endeavor was a six-week McDougall Program for Maximum Weight Loss, September 24 to October 30, coordinated by Raitz. Attendees met weekly at the church and viewed DVDs with lectures and cooking demos by John and Mary McDougall. Twenty-one diehards remained throughout the class - many of whom had lost numerous pounds, were walking more, eating healthier, and feeling better. An average of 35 people attended. Advance registrations were taken for the upcoming bread bake.

The church rented a large booth at the Northwest Georgia Agricultural Fair. It was beautifully decorated by Jere Henderson and Valerie and Larry Jackson.

"Five hundred bags

were given to those who visited our booth," states Bob Pepper, evangelism committee chairman. "The bags contained Christian and health literature, and in many of them we placed a CD of one of Pastor Clark's outstanding Sabbath sermons."

An apron with organs of the body velcroed on it, was used to teach children the importance of not smoking.

On Sunday, November 11, 50 people attended a two-and-a-half-hour bread-baking session at the Learning Tree School, the elementary school for Dalton Church. After the door prizes, each participant took home a loaf of bread to bake.

At the health events, each attendee was given a survey card to fill out; they could check for interests in different types of health classes, smoking cessation, religious seminars, and personal Bible studies. Developed by Clark, these were gathered at the end of the evening for door prizes and to be used in the future to invite people to more church events.

"We are pleased with the eight requests for Bible studies," states Clark. "Our part-time Bible worker, Valerie Crosier, is in the process of contacting those individuals."

Raitz also coordinates a Tuesday night health and supper club. For two-anda-half-years she has provided a light supper. The group walks, does stretching exercises, and watches a health DVD.

There are plans for a monthly Eden Supper Club starting this month, which will include a meal, followed with a lecture by a health professional. –BY VIVIAN RAITZ

Georgia-Cumberland News

Adventist Refugees Suffer in Silence

Bundled up in my jacket and boots, my body is warm, shielded from the elements. My belly is full after my morning meal. I open my car door on this cold and windy fall day, and more than 50 people swarm around. The chattering of their voices is in incomprehensible languages. It swirls around us. The beauty of different cultures represented here makes one feel like you are in a different place.

Grandparents with gray hair, parents with worried yet expectant looks on their faces, shy smiling children of all ages. Most are dressed in T-shirts and light summer clothing, sandals on their feet, shivering in the cold. They are here to see what we have brought them this Sunday morning. Something to fill their growling bellies? Something to protect their feet against the cold? Maybe a sweater to keep the body warm?

The groups tries to organize so they can distribute what they brought in an orderly manner, but with so many and so much need, it is difficult.

They bring food today — 100 slices of pizza. It is gone in five minutes. "More, more," the children cry. We have no more today.

They bring jackets, sweaters, pants, shoes, donated by church members, youth groups, students and friends everywhere, people who responded to the call, whose hearts were touched by the great need. These are handed out and received gladly even if the sizes are not exact. Shoes that are too small or too big are better

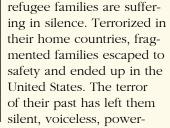
than no shoes at all. Clothes that cover the body replace the cold with warmth.

Some are disappointed today — even if they got a little to eat, they may not have gotten anything to wear. Maybe a child got shoes but her sibling did not. The need is so great. We have to do more.

Where is this you may wonder? In a remote village in Africa? Maybe a war-torn city in the Middle East, or a forgotten settlement in Haiti? No. This is happening right in our back yard. In the city of Clarkston, Ga., to be exact, about 10 miles outside the booming metropolis of Atlanta, Ga. Clarkston is ranked as the number one city for hous-



ing refugees in the United States. These families escaped their countries due to war, religious persecution, or ethnic cleansing. The Seventh-day Adventist



less. All they hold on to is their faith, government assistance, and those who are willing to help them.

I am Kelli Czaykowsky, the co-founder of F.R.E.E — Friends of Refugees providing Education and Empowerment.

F.R.E.E. is currently working with refugee children and families primar-

ily from Burma and Sudan. They provided 14 children with scholarships to attend Adventist schools. They organize food, clothing drives, and fund raising

> events to help provide for these families. But, there is still so much to be done. The goal is to provide for their immediate needs, then empower them so they can become self-sufficient and promote the same vision within their own communities.

Please take five minutes to familiarize yourselves with your fellow brothers and sisters. Read their stories at http://www.freerefugees/org. -BY KELLY CZAYKOWSKY



Refugee families in Clarkston, Ga., gather to look through donated items given by F.R.E.E. Clarkston is ranked as the number one city in the United States housing refugees.

Gulf States News

Women Open Their Hearts to Jesus

On the first evening of the annual Gulf States Conference Women's Retreat, a feeling of anticipation for the blessings that God would pour out reigned in the hearts of the more than 90 women who attended. The retreat began on Friday evening, October 5, 2012, and was held at the Springville Camp and Conference Center



Young friends, Savannah Hobbs and Hayley Halversen, enjoy the outdoors at the retreat.

ville Campof Birmingham, Ala.and Conference Center"It was the ideal set-located just 25 miles northting for spiritual renewal

and fellowship with ladies throughout the Conference," says April Hobbs, Conference women's ministries director.

The theme for the weekend was "Joy to the World," and focused on learning more about Jesus, the greatest gift given to us. The women listened intently as Chelsy Schauer, guest speaker for the weekend, brought new insights from the Word about His gift for them. "What a sacrifice all of Heaven made for us! I understand more fully and deeply God's love for me through the costliest gift He could give —

Jesus," said Tami Wilhelm, one of the attendees.

The CREATION Health program, presented by Chris Barr, Conference health director, was a huge hit with the women. Judy Reinshagen, featured musician, inspired the women with an evening concert and testimony. Their love for Jesus shone on their faces as Abbey and Casey Vaughn sang for some of the meetings. There were many hugs as the women left on Sunday. "I have made a spiritual decision this weekend," stated one woman as she left. "That is what the retreat is all about ... opening our hearts to Jesus," concludes Hobbs. -BY REBECCA GRICE

Roebuck Young Adult Lets Her Light Shine

Victoria Butler, a 23-year-old nurse and member of Roebuck

Church in Birmingham, Ala., directed Vacation Bible School (VBS) for the church this past July. This is not Butler's first time to be involved in outreach programs. She has been active in all phases of youth work. She has been an Adventurer, Pathfinder, Teen Leader in Training (TLT), teen mission trip participant, and

staff member. As a TLT, she directed the VBS and the Adventurer Club. This year Butler chose as the theme for VBS, "Shine God's Light," using 2 Samuel 22:29 as the memory verse. Twenty-five children attended. One

<image>

During Vacation Bible School, Sierra Findley (left), Victoria Butler, and Danielle Findley used puppets to teach the children.

child, who was not a member of the church, attended VBS, and as a result, her family became acquainted with the church members. One member invited the family to an evangelistic crusade that was to be held at the church. The family attended some of the meetings and is learning more about the Scriptures through Bible studies.

-BY REBECCA GRICE AND BEA HILL

Gulf States News

Acts of Peace Volunteers Help Those in Need

Early on November 9, 2012, 34 Acts of Peace (AOP) volunteers gathered in Montgomery, Ala., First Church's parking lot to help distribute 24,000 pounds of food to the needy. Volunteers included members of the Montgomery First, Montgomery Hispanic, and Bethany churches. AOP is a communi-

ty service outreach program that is sponsored by the Montgomery First Church.

Earlier, volunteers had walked street after street to register families for the food give-a-way. Amy Mapp, coordinator, says, "We saw the bare cabinets, empty refrigerators, and blank stares."



These volunteers handed out 24,000 pounds of food to 237 households.

Automobiles backed up on the highway in front of the church as carloads of families began arriving long before the scheduled time. The participants in each automobile stopped by the first check point to verify that they had already been registered. They drove slowly by the lines of volunteers, and then stopped at each station to receive their allotment of different food items. The volunteers greeted each recipient with a smile and genuine concern as they filled their cars with supplies. Jolene Kearns, who coordinates and operates a Mobile Pantry, said, "I have never seen such genuine love among so many volunteers working together, and I was impressed with the love and kindness shown to the recipients."

In all, 237 households were served which represented 500 people. For Thanksgiving, AOP gave 20 needy families whole turkeys with all the trimmings

For Christmas, five families, including 14 children and seven adults, will receive food and toys from AOP volunteers. Volunteers will also eat breakfast at a local homeless shelter for men, and present a Christmas program and distribute gifts. They will also donate gifts for female prisoners through the First Church's women's prison ministries.

-BY REBECCA GRICE

Olive Branch Hosts "Prepare to Preserve" Canning Classes

On Sunday, July 8, 2012, Pam and Robert Robertson of Robertson Farms instructed "Prepare to Preserve" canning classes at the Olive Branch Church, Olive Branch, Miss. Members and non-members alike signed up to spend two hours learning to can their harvest.

After Pam Robertson introduced the class to various equipment involved and explained the canning process, Robert Robertson showed products that were shelf-ready. Although the process is simple enough. Pam Robertson walked the attendees through the procedure stepby-step, moving at a comfortable pace, answering questions, and allowing class participation. All students took home one jar of the product made in class that day. "The class was a lot of fun," was the consensus of the class members.

-BY DWIGHT HENDREE



The class was informative and "a lot of fun," was the consensus of the attendees.

Kentucky-Tennessee News

Highland Academy Students Give, Receive

From the first day of the 2012-2013 school year, Highland Academy (HA) students have either given to the community or received many blessings themselves.

The blessings began as the year started with the computer lab under construction. Now fully completed, it has a total of eight new computers added to the 16 existing ones. The new computers are custom built to fit the school needs with third-generation Intel i5 processors, 8GB RAM, and solid-state hard drives. The lab also has new computer desks, which allows for better classroom management

In September, teachers Andy Wade and Shelly Miller took a group of students on the annual Minnesota Boundary Waters Canoe Trip. This week-long trip gives practical, outdoor experience on canoeing and camping. Students learned about the earliest settlers and inhabitants of the area. They were able to see Native



Gymnix students lift up a new friend met at a show.

American pictographs and learn the history of canoe travel in the area while taking in the beauty of God's nature.

Students joined the Highland Academy Church in passing out several thousand copies of the *Great Controversy* in the HA community. Pastor Roger Schmidt shared, "What a blessing it was for me, personally, to see so many of our members and students get involved with a door-to-door literature campaign."

In October, the junior class took their annual 12-

day American history tour to Washington, D.C.; Boston, Mass.; Gettysburg, Pa.; and New York, N.Y., under the direction of history teacher Steve Baughman. The tour offers students an opportunity to experience American history and culture firsthand.

The Gymnix team continues to present their acrobatic sports to many schools. Coach Watkins said, "It is our goal to make a difference in the lives of the people we come in contact with. We want to be servants to our community."

The music department has conducted several performances in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. Music professor Bob Schimp said, "Because I require choir members to memorize their music, I pick the music carefully with words that will draw them closer to Jesus." The music department is also preparing for a major tour during second semester.

HA is proud to announce senior Leah DeWeez was awarded a \$43,000 scholarship from Walla Walla University for academics and leadership. DeWeez



Students present a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

is a young lady who has been a big contributor to the student body. She smilingly said, "I've been blessed, and I'm excited about the future."

HA sits in a beautiful rural area approximately 35 miles north of Nashville, Tenn. Dual credit classes are offered which earn high school credit and college credit. HA's rigorous academics help students excel. If you would like to join the HA family or want more information on upcoming events, go to www.highlandacademy.com.

-BY AMY CIRIGLIANO



Students now have a newly remodeled computer lab.



Highland Academy Choir performs.

Kentucky-Tennessee News

"Thunder in the Holy Land" Leads to the Future

Virtually everything Jesus taught caused a storm of controversy. He certainly made the religious leaders angry when He claimed to be Lord of the Sabbath (Matthew 12:8). He even put off His own followers when He announced they could only receive eternal life if they ate His flesh and drank His blood (John 6:53). And, you can be sure there was some serious thunder in the Holv Land when He claimed to be one with God (John 10:30).

It has been some 2,000 years and the teachings of Jesus are still disturbing the status quo. For example, did you know Jesus taught that His chosen people will be lost if they are not winning souls to His kingdom (Matthew 7:19, 21)? In fact, Jesus taught that if they are not actively drawing people to Him, then they are actively driving them away (Luke 11:23).

Back in those days, they didn't have the tools used today to spread the Gospel, like the Internet or computers. They didn't have telephones or televisions. The only method they had was teleperson! And, that simple method was so effective that today people who claim the name of Christ now account for over half the people on the entire planet.

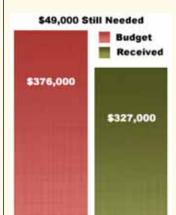
Before you get comfortable with that statistic, you need to know that the Christian community is a shrinking part of the growing world population. This is especially true in North America. Because the people are rich and increased with goods (Revelation 3:17), they have tried to mechanize soul winning just like they've done with farming. Thanks to technology less than five percent of the nation's work force works on the farm. Many Adventists are depending on 3ABN, Hope TV, the pastor, or the evangelist to fulfill the great commission (Matthew 28:19, 20). But God is calling YOU to be soul winners.

So, imagine using a Bible study series where 80 to 90 percent who start finish, and 70 to 80 percent of those make a decision for Christ and are still active in the Church a year later. Imagine a Bible study that is so simple to use that anyone, yes anyone, can do it. It's a study that is actually more caught than taught. Imagine a study that is so intuitive that as soon as someone has finished the series, they are ready and equipped to share that same study with their friends and family. That day is now, because "Thunder in the Holy

Land" is here!

Thunder in the Holy Land is an all new, highdefinition video Bible series with the look and feel of a National Geographic Special, or a Discovery Channel program including live reporters on the ground in the Middle East. This series is enjoyable to watch and a delight to share. You don't need a manual with lots of details to remember, just a relationship with Jesus and a desire to share His teachings.

But, the real miracle of this new study is not the engaging 30-minute video. It is the second half-hour where the study group answers a list of "Impression" questions. These questions aren't FACT questions; they are HEART questions designed to engage the right brain or the heart. What was discovered from the pilot series is that during this discus-



sion, each participant has time to voice their feelings regarding the truths they've just learned. The net result is, at a rate of well over 50 percent of the time, they talk themselves into embracing the new and precious life-changing truths the Holy Spirit is impressing on their hearts.

Great stuff — but there's more. This series was created from the ground up with the local pastor in mind. For a fraction of the cost of traditional evangelism, any pastor or church planter can replace the host of this series, making their own, local, professional Bible study series. This is why Steve Haley, Conference president, calls this a "game changer." And this is why 32 Conference pastors have already signed up to become hosts of Thunder. They are leading their churches back to the future — back to simple, effective small-group Bible studies, and into a bright future where thousands are prepared to meet the sooncoming Savior.

Learn more, watch the first episode, and help fund the completion of Phase I of this new series at www. QLP.tv

-BY CHARLES BYRD



South Atlantic News

West End Church Conducts Health Expo

West End Church members held their annual community health expo at The Mall West End, located in the historic West End district of southwest Atlanta, Ga. The project was spearheaded by Christine Boyd-Bassette, R.N., West End health ministries leader, and her health ministries team. It was an event supported by the entire church family, including Calvin B. Preston, senior pastor, and Ewart A. Carter, associate pastor. Plans for the event began in early 2012, and were based on Ellen G. White's directive to make health evangelism the "pioneer work of the gospel."

The event began promptly at 10 a.m., and ended at 4 p.m. Individuals entering the mall were given a gift bag containing



Volunteers for the West End annual community Health Expo

an invitation to visit the church from the pastor, a Bible question-and-answer booklet, and a bookmark depicting the Eight Laws of Health. Each person was invited to visit the 48 health stations. The stations, manned by healthcare professionals from the entire metro Atlanta area, offered an array of health screenings, tests, and lifesaving information. Blood pressure and blood glucose testing, as well as sickle cell, prostate cancer, foot, ear, eye, and dental screenings were among the examinations offered. Participants received information from the Breathe Free Smoke Cessation Program, disabilities services, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Food and Drug Administration, naturopathic professionals, nutritionists, dietitians, and women's health experts. Children's health emphasized the need for prayer in a child's life.

While participants were visiting different stations, the stage was abuzz with exercise demonstrations and discussions on heart disease, skin care, and getting the most out of your doctor visit. "Powerful Praise" and other talented artists uplifted the name of the Lord with music.

Total tests, screenings, and consultations equaled 1,451. Forty-five individuals enrolled in Bible studies. Seventy-one individuals enrolled in the Breathe Free Smoke Cessation Program. –BY CHRISTINE

BOYD-BASSETTE

"We've come this far by faith," sang Pastor Walter Gordon Jr., South Atlantic Conference officers, members, and friends as they entered the sanctuary of the new Trinity Church. After many years of praying, searching, and saving, the small congregation had finally located and purchased a lovely church on the west side of LaGrange, Ga.

To help celebrate the day and give glory to God, Atlanta-Maranatha Chalpelaires, Sacred Dance Angels, Willie Pearl Copeland, and

LaGrange Trinity Members Celebrate Grand Opening

Covin and Ruth Peters rendered special music. William Winston, South Atlantic Conference president, preached a powerful sermon reminding the members that God did not give them this beautiful building just to worship comfortably, but also to become a beacon and a light to the community, sharing God's love and preaching the Gospel to all in the city of LaGrange. Stephen Ruff, Conference executive secretary, offered the prayer of consecration and led the

congregation in the litany of dedication. Ralph Franklin, assistant to the Conference president, presided over the offering of thanksgiving and gave encouraging remarks to the members and guests. Wesley Jones, who had faithfully assisted the various pastors of Trinity for more than 18 years, reminisced over several historical events.

Special recognition was given to the Conference officials, their wives, and five of the original members of Trinity Church: Irene Ferrell, Fannie Sanders, John Todd, Tommy Roberts, and John Chelcy.

Gordon and his wife, and the members of Trinity are grateful to all who contributed to the success of this event, and are now "rolling up their sleeves" and getting busy with the work of sharing the Gospel so Jesus can come soon. They solicit your prayers and support as they move forward in this endeavor.

-BY N. EVALYNE DAVIS

South Atlantic News

Northeast Charlotte Members Raise the Ten Commandments

"With the whole world taking them down, we want to put them up," said Ezra Mendinghall to a young professional designer on the west coast. The "them" referred to are the Ten Commandments. The designer, Ryan Johnson, is a product of the Northeast Church in Charlotte, N.C., which Mendinghall currently pastors. Johnson was thrilled with the prospect of enhancing the worship atmosphere of his hometown church.

Johnson envisioned a uniquely designed display to highlight the distinctive Seventh-day Adventist doctrines. It would feature transparent tables embedded with three frosted "wing sets" representing the three angels of Revelation 14:6-12, along with depictions of the heavenly sanctuary. A three-point lighting system, symbolizing the godhead, would shine from above and

beam out through the words — etching them into the minds of the congregation.

This luminary law would be suspended 20 feet in the air, from a domed ceiling. Providentially, Johnson is married to a mathematician who would join the project to make

sure the measurements add up. Bring in Raphael Boyd, first elder, and his building contractor's experience, and you have a formula for impeccable symmetry and stability. Having poured himself into the production of the tables, Johnson refused to do less than personally deliver



The Ten Commandments designed and created by Ryan W. Johnson, president and CEO of Bellum Innovations, bang in Northeast Church, Charlotte, N.C.

them to Charlotte from his home in California. While he drove almost nonstop for 36 hours, the members in Charlotte were hard at work also. The majestic unveiling would be the focal point of their Community Guest Day on October 20, 2012, and they were determined to not keep this celebration private. The Lord blessed their outreach efforts, making it necessary to use the choir seats to accommodate everyone.

Members and visitors alike are impressed with an additional sense of reverence as they enter the sanctuary now. Pray that the Holy Spirit will emblazon this same law upon the hearts of all and empower to live it out daily. Then Mendinghall's words will reach their true fulfillment: "The whole world is taking them down; we are putting them up."

> -BY NORTHEAST COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

Wrens Members Participate in Health Evangelism Outreach

Once again, God has shown Himself strong in Wrens, Ga., with the "Right Arm of the Gospel." Health evangelism has been the outreach focus of Wrens Church for the past several years. The outreach includes a community-wide Eight Weeks to Wellness and Eight Weeks CRE-ATION Health Seminar with David Moore, M.D.; a weekend wellness seminar with the Wildwood Lifestyle Center team; and participation in the Augusta, Ga., district CHIP program and

vegetarian cooking classes.

This year the Wrens members were given the opportunity to have a health exhibit at the Annual Jefferson County Lions Club Fair. The exhibit displayed the Eight Natural Laws of Health under the title "Are You Ready for a NEWSTART?"

The members were confident in God's leading as the program came together within one week. God placed the visual display in the mind of Donyale Clark, and the spirit of motivation in the heart of Maria Scarlett. The team moved forward against the assaults of the enemy as various team members experienced illness, accidents, bereavement, out-of-town emergencies, work schedule interruptions, and family crises. But, God prevailed through them all!

The free tract racks displayed "8-steps to Healthy Living," and "What the Bible says about Health" in Spanish and English; and they prayed for the Holy Spirit to reach souls with the exhibit and 2,000 tracts. Each tract offered a free Bible Study and was stamped with follow-up information.

Above all, the health team wanted to honor God and witness for Him. In the words of Ephesians 3:20, God did "abundantly" more than they asked. The display, which remained in place for a full week, won first place. The members anticipate a harvest of souls as they continue sowing seeds of truth through health evangelism.

-BY CHRISTINE W. LEWIS

Oakwood Adventist Academy Breaks Ground for New Facility



The moment all waited for with shovels in band and camera shutters clicking: The participants symbolically broke ground for the new \$5.5 million-dollar multi-educational complex. Front row: Rachel Williams-Smith, Ph.D. (left), Huntsville Area Seventh-day Adventists (HASDA) School Board vice chair; J. Douglas Simons, Oakwood Adventist Academy (OAA) National Alumni president; Eunice Warfield, Ph. D., South Central education superintendent; Laura Hall, Alabama state representative; Delma Harvey, OAA, K-8 principal; Carlton Byrd, D. Min., M.B.A., Oakwood University Church senior pastor; Dana Edmond, South Central president; Gwendolyn Ward, widow of Eric C. Ward, Oakwood Church former pastor; Auldwin Humpbrey, South Central executive secretary; Merkita Mosley, South Central treasurer; Leslie Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A., Oakwood University president; Alex Bryant, D.Min., North American Division executive secretary and General Conference associate secretary; Sharon Lewis, OAA, K-12 principal. Back row: Toussaint Williams (left), Oakwood University Church associate pastor; Michael Ross, New Life Church pastor; Alfred Hill, First Church associate pastor; Benjamin Jones, South Central ministerial director; Alfonzo Greene III, First Church associate pastor; Damian Chandler, Madison Mission Church assistant pastor. Additional photos of the entire program can be viewed on South Central's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/SCCAdventist; and a video of

the program at www.scc-adventist.org, click the media tab on the home page.

The dream of a new facility for Oakwood Adventist Academy (OAA) became a reality on Sunday, December 2, 2012, as the ground was broken for the multi-educational complex. The processional was led by Pathfinder color guards and drum corps, who ushered in platform participants, including the Honorable Thomas Battle, mayor of the city of Huntsville, Ala.; Laura Hall, state representative; and G. Alexander Bryant, D.Min., executive secretary of the North American Division and General Conference associate secretary. The elementary and high school choirs and the middle school bell choir presented musical selections. Dana Edmond. South Central Conference president, announced

that the current elementary school building will be named in honor of the late Eric C. Ward, who was the pastor of the Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) Church during that time, and led in the plans and construction of the building.

The program portion of the event was held in the Oakwood University Millet Activity Center. The congregation was then led to the groundbreaking site by the color guards and drum corps. Conference officials, pastors, school board members, faculty and staff, parents and constituents, and students participated in the reading of the Litany of Dedication. Charles E. Bradford, retired president of the North American Division

and OAA alumnus, gave the dedicatory prayer.

In 1993, the elementary school building was constructed as part of a threephase master plan. Since that time, the HASDA School Board has explored other options for housing the K-12 program. In 2008, the school was granted 32 acres of prime land from Oakwood University to construct a new K-12 facility. However, the cost of site preparation, coupled with available funds limited to \$5.5 million, made construction on that site cost-prohibitive. In 2011, the school board voted to utilize the campus master plan originally proposed in 1993.

The new multi-educational complex will be located adjacent to the elementary school building, and

will include a regulation-size gymnasium with locker rooms, four classrooms with additional restrooms, a multipurpose room/cafeteria, and a commercial-grade kitchen. The current elementary and high school buildings will undergo extensive renovations, and four new classrooms will be added to the high school building. The anticipated opening date for the buildings is August 2013. OAA praises God that the dream, so long deferred, is now becoming a reality. The new facilities will make a positive impact on the school's mission to "Develop, Nurture, and Affirm" students for a lifetime of service to God and humanity.

-BY SHARON LEWIS

Michael Harpe Assigned New Post

Michael Harpe, South Central Conference communication director, begins serving as South Central's stewardship director on January 1, 2013. Dana Edmond, Conference president, with God's guidance, has focused on the receivables side of the Conference business to stabilize and enhance the finances, and now seeks under the direction of the Holy Spirit to highlight the revenue side, hence underscoring the principles of stewardship ministry with full time emphasis. James Lewis, former president/treasurer of Allegheny West Conference, and current director for Regional Conference Ministries, served as part-time interim stewardship director. With his expertise, he will continue to serve the department as a part-time associate with Harpe.

Harpe has served faithfully since 2006 as communication director. His responsibilities included photography; videography; journalism; news articles for the Southern Tidings press, and the web; public relations; crisis management; media/computer consulting; management of the Conference e-mail system and website, including launching a new site in 2010, as well as the Conference's Facebook and Twitter pages; 2011 SCC eNewsletter; graphic design of 2011 Constituency Session Booklet, Camp Meeting Program Book, newsletters, flyers, officers' convention promotional materials, and many other projects; training local leaders at officers' meetings, Camp Meeting, and the local church; workshops at officer, camp, biannual meetings to train communication leaders on the topics of writing articles and press releases, photography, church PR, basic computing, using Power-Point and MS Word, understanding social media, sound and video. understanding



Michael Harpe

copyright and the Church, using gadgets for the Gospel, and understanding crisis management for the Church; as well as the emphasis of using technology in ministry and evangelism, with the bi-annual Technology Ministries Caucus. And finally, he made available ministryarea-profile demographic reports for pastors through Percept.

Along with these duties, he has also served and will continue to serve as the director of Planned Giving and Trust Services Department and Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries (ASI). Harpe has been serving South Central since graduating from Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) in 1991 with a bachelor in theology and biblical languages, mathematics and business management, and in 2003 he received a master's in homiletics and preaching from Southern Adventist University. He has served in education, pastoral ministries, and as a departmental director. He has also served the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for 10 years.

Harpe praises God for the opportunity to serve in these areas and as director of the Communication Department. He thanks his wife, Selita, for her contribution to ministry, his administrative assistant, Ellowyn Bell, for her hard work, and wishes his successors well.



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Oaklands Park Members "Take it to the Streets"

The Oaklands Park Church members traveled to the Franklin Heights housing community in Murfreesboro, Tenn., on Sunday, September 23, 2012, for their bi-annual "Taking it to the Streets" community outreach ministry. Residents who ventured into the

community's courtyard and playground area witnessed a large carnival-styled tent filled with food, clothing, miscellaneous household supplies, live music, and tons of Christian love and fellowship. They also were able to take advantage of the prayer booth, legal services booth, and participation by



Residents who ventured into the community's courtyard and playground area witness a large carnival-styled tent filled with food, clothing, miscellaneous bousehold supplies, live music, and tons of Christian love and fellowship.

the Murfreesboro Fire Department, as well as a host of other activities for the children.

Regina Bowen, Oaklands Park community service leader, explained, "Taking it to the Streets' is a ministry that was launched over five years ago for the purpose of meeting the needs of the community through donations of food, clothing, and other household items." She says that over the years thousands have been helped through this event. "We are overjoyed when we hear expressions of gratitude and appreciation from

the neighbors," says Edward Harden, Oaklands Park Church senior pastor. "This even epitomizes Christianity in action, and it is a privilege for all of the ministries of our church to join together for this bi-annual event."

The event began with months of planning and reaching out to various community organizations. At 7 a.m., the men of Oaklands Park gathered to hoist into the air the large 40'x60' tent. Once it was up, it was filled with food, sound equipment, and other supplies for the residents. At 1 p.m., "Taking it to the Streets" began with prayer, food, and live music. There were children racing about, while parents gathered the items they needed and enjoyed a prepared hot meal. Families were prayed over, while others had their hearts lifted by the inspiring music. At 3:30 p.m., it was time to tear down the tent. By 5 p.m., all that was left in the hearts of Franklin Heights residents were the memories of a wonderful community event. -BY EDWARD HARDEN

Bethany Christian Academy Heralds the Heroes

At Bethany Christian Academy (BCA) in Montgomery, Ala., teachers are being inspired to design cross-curricular lessons that are both God-centered and community-based. This year the anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy conveniently coincided with the Pathways Reading theme, "Heroes!"

BCA teachers, students, and parents were joined by John Mosley, principal, and J. L. Watson, pastor, as they visited two lighthouses in the community: Fire Station #6 and Jackson Hospital. This special field trip was planned to commemorate the events of 9/11, but more importantly, to salute the heroes in their community. Students eagerly presented songs of appreciation, and distributed giant "Thank You" cards and baskets filled with healthy snacks, games for the fire fighters, and autographed copies of Steps to Christ. The BCA Eagles witnessed powerfully as they shared the "Five C's" of Christianity, and Watson offered special prayers of thanksgiving and blessings. The firefighters were excitedly grateful, and Thomas Frieden, M.D., Jackson Hospi-

tal's director of emergency



Bethany Christian Academy visited two lighthouses in the community, Fire Station #6 and Jackson Hospital, to commemorate the events of 9/11, but more importantly, to salute the heroes in their community.

medicine, was moved to tears as he accepted the gifts on behalf of the entire hospital staff. The students were also given the opportunity to minister to two discouraged families who were at the hospital visiting their seriously ill relatives.

What an awesome blessing it was to serve while remembering heroes who serve. Perhaps Watson succinctly captured the experience when he prayerfully expressed gratitude for Jesus, the Greatest Hero of all Who gave His life to rescue a dying world. The

BCA community is proud to serve this Hero through service and outreach to others. -BY REGGENIA W. BASKIN

First Church Receives Proclamation from Local Congresswoman

First Church of Fairfield, Ala., made their mark in history on Saturday, August 11, 2012, when they presented for the first time to the Fairfield Community the "Party With a Purpose and Health Fair."

Some of the vendors who participated were Hollis Johnson of Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity (JCCEO) [(West End Branch) Birmingham, Ala.]; Samuel Pugh & Ahmad Ward of Birmingham Civil Rights Institute; Natasha Byrdsong and Lillian Shoffner of Nursing Assistants Solutions; and Katrina Dudley,

recruiter for Lawson State College. All were set up on the church's parking lot. Other vendors contributing were the Birmingham Water Works Board, Greater Birmingham Convention and Visitors Bureau, UAB MHRC (Diabetes Division), Susan G, Komen Breast Cancer



Oscar Berry III (left), outreach coordinator for Terri A. Sewell, congresswoman of Fairfield, Ala., presented the Proclamation to Clifton J. McMillan Sr., First Church pastor.

Society, West End Public Library, and Bernadine Roby of Fairfield Housing Authority. All had a wonderful treat when Oscar Berry III, outreach coordinator for Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell presented the Proclamation to Clifton J. McMillan Sr., pastor, and read it to the attendees.

> As these activities were going on outside, there were other activities inside, such as eating all the delicious foods that was prepared, blood pressure screenings by firemen from Fairfield Fire Department and church members Waugh Hall and Glenda Dubose, and blood sugar screenings done by church member Faye Walker. Good food

was prepared and served by Sherrie and Chris Thompson, and Latoshala Rutledge. Some children's snacks and samples were prepared by Fairfield neighborhood volunteer, Laquita Jones. There were free massages as well by Tom Henderson Jr., certified massage therapist.

"Our hearts were truly blessed by the physical food, but also by the sSpiritual food from Java Mattison, South Central publishing director, and Clifton J. McMillan Sr., First Church pastor," says Hazel Meadows, event coordinator and health and temperance leader. Music and sound coordinators were Larry N. Meadows Jr., and Charles Rutledge.

As a result of the "Party With a Purpose" outreach and evangelistic meeting, 21 precious souls were baptized on October 1, 2012.

-BY HAZEL MEADOWS

Oakwood Elementary Students Compete in Huntsville Art Contest

Under the direction of Rosie Douglas, Huntsville, Ala., City Schools sponsored an art contest celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. A professional art company judged all the artwork.

The four winners from Oakwood Elementary were invited to a special Hispanic Heritage Month program on Tuesday, September 25, 2012, at the Sparkman Center Auditorium on Redstone Arsenal. The keynote speaker was A. R. Almodovar, a native of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico,

and co-founder and chief executive officer of Intui-



Teresa Johnson (back row, left), grade 4 teacher; A. R. Almodovar, keynote speaker; Adia Allen (front row, left); Jayda Caldwell; Chanel Manning; Maleab Rhem; and Delma Harvey, principal

tive Research and Technology Corporation in Huntsville. Parents of the winners were also invited to the program. Each winner received a certificate. Congratulations to the students who participated in the contest and won 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place: 6th grader Chanel Manning - 1st place; 4th grader Adia Allen - 2nd place; 7th grader Maleah Rhem - 2nd place; and 6th grader Jayda Caldwell - 3rd place.

-BY TERESA JOHNSON

South<mark>eastern News</mark>

Mayor of Miami Visits Tabernacle Church

For 35 years, one of the major goals of Tabernacle Church in North Miami, Fla., has been to make a major impact in Miami's Little River and Little Haiti neighborhoods.

During Community Service Weekend on September 15 and 16, Tabernacle shut down the streets after Community Guest Day on Sabbath, and a grand parade through the nearby streets a day later.

Among the dignitaries in attendance during Sabbath's divine worship were Miami Mayor Tomas Regalado; Ronald Brise, chairman and commissioner of the Florida Public Service Commission, a member of Tabernacle, and a representative of the Red Cross; and Cherry Salley, president of the South Florida Community Service Federation.

On Sunday, a parade showcasing the many services and departments the church has to offer marched in the area with police escorts as residents came out of their homes and businesses to cheer the members on.

"We wanted to make our community aware of the different services our church offered," said Deroy Moncrieffe, Tabernacle's community service director. "We are no longer strangers in our community. No longer do people ask, 'what is that big building on the corner?" That includes the businesses of our community."

Before the parade, community services (in conjunction with the Albert C. Pierre



Miami Mayor Tomas Regalado (right) and Olinto Groce, pastor of Tabernacle Church, prepare to participate in Tabernacle's Annual Community Service Day activities.

Community Service Center, a local non-profit organization) began the day with prayer and service. On the third Sunday of each month, the members come out to provide food for people in the community who are in need, an act that was not lost during the weekend's featured speaker.

Said Rajkumar Dixit, D.Min., an associate pastor at New Hope Adventist Church in Fulton, Md., and author of the book Branded Faith, "I appreciated all of the hard work that was put into feeding the community with groceries. It was a blessing to witness people standing around the church building for groceries. You are doing what Jesus did, fed others for the sake of God's love."

When the food distribution was completed, more than 200 people turned their focus to parade preparation. Members of seniors ministry hopped on the bus to follow the parade while other departments (representing education, children, music, Pathfinders, health, and many others) grabbed banners to walk throughout the parade route. A loudspeaker was placed on a truck to announce each department and their purpose. Handouts were also given throughout the neighborhood.

the ity resenting the HOPE summer camp, came out in full force. The camp, which provided care for six weeks for local children up to age 13, had as many as 35 children and five counselors return to show their support. They sang songs, handed out tracts, smiled, and waved as they passed friends and family during the parade.



Members of Tabernacle Church march in the Annual Community Service Parade with a banner that displays information about Tabernacle's food and health ministries.

Other Adventist organizations added to the fun as the Hebron drum corps and Miami Union Academy band marched as well. The community was excited about the parade, and that enthusiasm rubbed off on the participants.

"It was heartwarming to see the residents opening their doors, rushing to their balconies, peering through their windows, lining the sidewalks, and pushing inquisitive curious heads through car windows," Groce said.

Dixit, who walked the parade as well, said, "The entire parade was fantastic. I am surprised to see how many people came out of their homes along the parade route to see what was happening. I also appreciated the narrow focus of vision the congregation has in reaching out to the neighborhood surrounding the church."

Tabernacle's pastor put the weekend in a biblical perspective. Said Groce: "Like Joshua marched

> around the Jericho walls, we marched through the city and prayed that the walls of sin and disbelief, and the walls that separate us from the community would fall down. I have no doubt that as

a result of our parade we will be seeing more community traffic to our church, hence to Jesus."

Southeastern News

Three Southeastern Schools Awarded School of Excellence Status

Three schools from the Southeastern Conference were recently awarded the Southern Union School of Excellence Award. The award recognizes schools that have meet a specific criteria that has been established by the Southern Union Office of Education.

The schools that were rec-

ognized are the Mt. Olivet School in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Kalisha Waldon, principal, celebrated September 9, 2012; the Daughter of Zion School in Delray Beach, Fla., Audrey Wainwright, principal, celebrat-

ed September 29; and the Mt. Sinai school in Orlando, Fla., Betty Nugent, Ed.D., principal, celebrated November 17. During the celebration program, each school was awarded a School of Excellence plaque, trophy, flag, and a check for \$18,000.

"We are proud of the



Betty Nugent, Ed.D., principal of Mt. Sinai School, receives the School of Excellence plaque from Jim Ingersoll, Southern Union associate superintendent of education. Pictured are Debra Fryson (left), Southern Union superintendent of education; Gene Brewer, Ed.D., Southern Union education specialist; Jim Ingersoll; Betty Nugent; Cheryl Soriano, school board chair; Janet Floyd, assistant school board chair; and Herman Davis, M.A., pastor of Mt. Sinai Church.

excellent job that these schools have done. The principals, pastors, teachers, staff, students, parents, school boards, church boards, and church members are greatly appreciated for the part they played in making sure these schools reached their goal in attaining this high status of School of Excellence," said Carol Byrd, Conference superintendent of education."The ultimate aim of all schools in Southeastern is to reach the status of excellence." To qualify for the designation each school had to complete a rigorous certification process that examined all areas of the school's operation which included spirituality, academics, curriculum, extracurricular activities, public relations, and customer service.

The School of Excellence program is a part of the Southern Union Adventist EDGE initiative. The Adventist EDGE is a comprehensive school improvement program that is designed to enhance the quality of education in all areas of a school. Of the 222 schools throughout the Southern Union, 22 currently hold the School of Excellence Certification. —BY ROBERT HENLEY



Jim Ingersoll, Southern Union associate superintendent of education, presents Audrey Wainwright, principal of Daughter of Zion School, with the School of Excellence plaque.



Jim Ingersoll, Southern Union associate superintendent of education, presents Kalisha Waldon (not pictured), principal of Mt. Olivet School, with the School of Excellence crystal on September 9, 2012.

Oakwood Develops Leadership Academy

As Oakwood University expands on its record student enrollment of last year, the school is expanding its non-traditional offerings. Even with more than 2,000 students on campus, Oakwood is focusing on boosting education for adults and even its own employees.

Leslie Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., beginning his second academic year as president, has kicked off an in-house leadership academy for middle managers. While the academy, which held its first meeting earlier this month, is solely for Oakwood employees at this point, Pollard has visions of making it available to the community.

"The leadership academy grows out of an awareness that in every organization, there is a need for organizational development," Pollard said. "In every organization, if an organization is going to be productive and vibrant in its present, we need it to be developed. "If we're going to be sustainable in the future, we definitely need to be thinking about succession and how we are going to equip people to carry the torch into the future."

It's a special passion for Pollard, who has a master's degree in organizational management. He also headed a leadership institute while working at Loma Linda University in California before accepting the Oakwood position in November 2010.

In fact, school officials at the time of his hiring cited that leadership experience as the difference-maker when identifying the school's successor to longtime president Delbert Baker, Ph.D.

"The leadership academy addresses the middle layer of our organization; so we've got the executive leadership team, and then we've got all the directors at the middle layer," Pollard said. "The head can be no stronger than the rest of the body. "With that said, we now need to figure out, and we have through internal survey and internal research, what are the areas that need to be addressed that are needed in the middle laver."

Even with only one meeting of Oakwood's initial leadership class complete, Pollard said he can envision how the program could translate beyond the Oakwood campus.

"It's very easy to segue

this into the community, especially in the corporate culture of Huntsville," Pollard said, "because cutting-edge institutions are always looking for ways to spend their dollars on initiatives that are credible but also costeffective."

Oakwood is continuing to reach non-traditional students in another program, as well.

The LEAP program provides an avenue for students 25 years or older to complete their degrees in 18 months if they already have 60 hours of college credit.

The program has 125 students enrolled, and with tuition at a 50 percent discount from traditional students, "it's a tremendous incentive."

-BY PAUL GATTIS, THE HUNTSVILLE TIMES



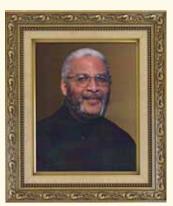
Oakwood University

Philip Nixon, Oakwood Student Services Assistant Vice President, Passes

Philip Byron Nixon was born January 11, 1953, in Brooklyn, N.Y., the third of five children born to the late Harry and Julie Nixon. He died August 29, 2012.

Growing up in New York, he attended Bethel Adventist Elementary School, and Thomas Jefferson High School. He earned his bachelor of arts degree in English and religion from Oakwood College (now Oakwood University), Huntsville, Ala, and his master of arts in organizational leadership from Southern Christian University, Montgomery, Ala.

In 1973 Philip met the love of his life, Margaret Lai Hing. They married on June 12, 1977, at Bethel Church in



Brooklyn, N.Y. To this union two sons were born, Marc and Andrew. In 1979, while a student at Oakwood, he and Margaret serve as student missionaries to Tokyo, Japan. The following year Philip was asked to continue his work in Japan as the acting director of the Japan SDA Schools headquartered in Osaka, Japan. Philip and Margaret especially enjoyed working in the mission field, and Philip often expressed his strong desire to return to Japan.

In 1986 Philip began his professional career as an employee at Oakwood College. He served as resident hall dean at Edward's Hall, and later became the assistant vice president of student services, where he served until he fell asleep in the Lord.

Philip loved good music and sang with the Oakwood University Church Chorale, Ambience Male Chorus, and various other groups around campus. He also volunteered in prison ministries by singing in a quartet with his brother, sister, and sisterin-law.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Margaret; two sons, Marc and Andrew; two brothers, John (Januwoina) Nixon, D.Min., and Timothy (Sandria) Nixon; two sisters, Marguerite (Alonzo) Pollard, and Elise (Frank) Wright; his fatherin-law, Cheetoy Lai Hing; several brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law: Hollister (Eva) Brewster, Courtney (Bonnie) Lai Hing, Burke (Lorna) Lai Hing, Lennox (Jacquie) Lai Hing, Leslie Lai Hing, Leroy Lai Hing, Jacqueline (Calvin) Lester, Kenneth (Jean) Lai Hing, Gillian Lai Hing; a host of nieces; nephews; other family; friends; and loved ones.



Southern Adventist University

Students in Personal Trainer Class Help Faculty, Staff Get Fit

The personal trainer course offered by the School of P.E., Health and Wellness is providing an opportunity most college students only dream of --the chance to tell faculty and staff exactly what to do (and how many times to do it).

But, this isn't a case of poor manners; instead, these fitness-minded upperclassmen are helping Southern employees get in shape by providing free advice and motivation through one-on-one training in the Hulsey Wellness Center twice each week. The goal is both to prepare students to pass the national personal trainer certification exam, and to provide some real-world experience.

"We want them to know what it's like to train someone so that when they go out into the field they

will have more than just book knowledge," said Mike Boyd, associate professor for the School of P.E., Health and Wellness.

The course requires each of the 13 students to complete 20 hours of observation and practical experience. In addition to this, they each must train two faculty or staff members using the principles they learn in class.

"I re-

experience," said Hubert Maitland, allied health



As part of his personal trainer class, Hubert Maitland (standing) instructs and motivates Southern employee Jeremy Moore in the Hulsey Wellness Center.

major. "Being able to see the positive transformation in the clients I'm working

helped me start to get back in shape!" For more informa-

men.

tion on the School of P.E., Health and Wellness, visit southern.edu/ physicaleducation. -BY LUKE EVANS

with for class is really

Jeremy Moore,

career services coordi-

his training sessions

nator for Southern, said

with Hubert have really

helped him get back in

shape after an accident

last spring left him with

"When I broke my

a busted exercise regi-

tailbone and rib, it was

exercising on my own

"But, after a few weeks

of training with Hubert,

I have seen a big dif-

ference. He has really

difficult to get back

again," Moore said.

exciting."

ally enjoy the hands-on

Program Promotes the Value of Volunteering

The annual Showcase of Service and Philanthropy took place October 25, 2012, in the Iles P.E. Center as students from all majors came to sign up for various volunteer opportunities in the Chattanooga area.

The event has been an initiative by the Student Association since its beginning, but this is the first year the Advancement Department and the Christian Service Program worked together on the project. As

part of this year's program, a panel of philanthropists from organizations such as United Way and World Vision shared with the students what inspires them to give.

Some of the organizations that set up booths were the Creative Discovery Museum, Collegedale Library, Samaritan Center, Life Care Center of Collegedale, Operation Christmas Child, and the Chattanooga Area Food Bank.

Students who volunteer at these organizations can help meet several needs, including reading, playing music, landscaping, sorting, helping with deliveries, and even social media marketing.

Savannah Maxwell. junior nonprofit administration major and community service director for the Student Association, described the joy and momentum that comes from volunteering.

"The more you get involved, the more you want to get involved!"

During the 2011-12 academic school year, Southern students significantly impacted the Chattanooga community by volunteering for 26,250 hours with 88 different off-campus organizations. The value of this time is calculated at more than \$500,000.

-BY INGRID HERNANDEZ

Southern Union News

Ten PR Tips for Your Church

The reality of life is that people judge. Perceptions are formed in moments. What does your facility "say" about you? Are you thinking about your public relations image? You might be surprised at the simple public relations tips that can readily improve your public image.

Let's look at the top 10 tips. 1. Curb appeal

- Does your overall facility look inviting?
- Consider the following...
- Lawn nicely mowed?
- Paint current, fresh?
- Bathrooms clean, smell nice (very important)?
- Signage current, clean?

2. Get involved in your

- community.
- What outreach are you doing?
- Health seminars?
- Cooking classes?
- Vacation Bible School?
 What unique ministry does your church enjoy sharing?
- your church enjoy sharing? One church I know teaches photography classes.

3. Who is your local media?

- What types of media are in your area – newspapers (print and online), radio, television, and online newsletters?
- Get to know the names of reporters who cover religion, education, health (or whatever you might have to share). Call and set up an appointment with them or ask when they have time to talk for a few minutes.
- Ask them what they need

 do they want articles
 written or just blurbs? Do
 they want you to take

photos, or do they want to send a photographer? When do you send the information? What are their deadlines?

• How do they prefer to receive their news?

4. Keep your church website current.

- Update web calendar daily.
- Post church bulletin/sermons.
- Post church newsletters.
- Keep pastor/contact information current.
- Post photos (people love photos) and stories.
- Include clear directions to your church.
- What are people asking for? (Your church secretary and pastor will know this.) Can you answer that need on your website?
- 5. Use social media.
- Create a Facebook page and/or Twitter account for your church.
- Ask church members to join your page.
- Post events/news and information similar to your church website.
- Post Bible verses.
- Link sermons.
- Facebook is about feedback. Ask people questions. For example, what is your favorite Pathfinder memory? What is your favorite potluck food?
- Be creative and have fun.
- Be sure the accounts are set up with the pastor having the user name and password.
- 6. Have a consistent image.
- Does your image look the same? Are your publications similar to the look of

your website?

- Are you using the Seventhday Adventist logo?
- Everything should have a consistent similar look, including website, church bulletin, church newsletter, brochures, and anything else you might produce. **NOTE:** *Work with a*

graphic designer to get a consistent look. Use the Seventhday Adventist logo. Branding is important. Keep the logo on everything you do.

7. Train and inform the "face" of your organization.

- Anyone who represents you needs to be kept current on events, pertinent information, and news.
- People who come to mind:
- Receptionists
- Greeters
- Information booth
- 8. Take lots of photos/video.
- A photo truly does tell a thousand words. Who takes your photos? If you are not comfortable taking photos, find someone.
- Post the photos on your website, on Facebook or Twitter, in your newsletters, anywhere you can.
- Record your sermons on video and share them on your website and on social media. When the conference office started sharing sermons online, they were pleasantly surprised at the number of people watching sermons.

9. Budget for advertising (if you can afford this – not that expensive).

• Plan to advertise your community outreach events.

- Purchase an ad in your newspaper or a radio spot. Online newspapers are hungry for ads also.
- Get creative with advertising, including Google AdWords, Facebook, or mobile advertising (right on people's smart phones).
- Make a plan to promote your churches outreach.

10. Brainstorm ideas. Create a plan.

- Each church is unique. Put together a team to brainstorm a PR plan each year. The plan could just be a monthly goal of things your church wants to accomplish. For example, repaint the fence in March, plan a cooking class in June, and offer stopsmoking courses in the fall. Once you have your plan, use your new PR tips to share the news.
- Once your church creates a public relations plan with monthly goals and gathers a team to make your goals a reality, imagine the results. Public relations is an amazing ministry. Mark 16:15 says, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation." You cannot do that effectively without PR.

It is truly exciting to see the potential of spiritual gifts that God has given. -BY TAMARA WOLCOTT

FISHER

tfisher@gccsda.com 800-567-1844, x394 Tamara Wolcott Fisher (Facebook me!)

Florida Noticias

Tuve Hambre y me Disteis de Comer

La familia Pozo, Altagracia, su esposo Arcadio y su hermana Maribel, desarrollaron un ministerio que se encarga de proveer alimentos a mas de 250 núcleos cada martes, y lo han mantenido junto a los hermanos de iglesia durante varios años.

La actividad no es sencilla. Ese día deben disponer de toda la mañana para recoger alimentos en una agencia. Este acto que parece sencillo, requiere de fe ya que cada semana deben conseguir un transporte. Milagrosamente, Dios siempre lo provee. Ellos están orando para poder adquirir un camión



pequeño.

En las horas de la tarde la hermana Ileana Díaz proyecta una película cristiana en el templo para las decenas que personas que esperan en fila desde temprano. A las 6:00 pm comienza el reparto de bolsas de alimentos, que culmina a las 7:20 con un culto de alabanzas que las visitas disfrutan, seguido de un seminario a cargo del pastor Eliezer Díaz. Algunos de los temas ofrecidos son: Salud, C.R.E.A.C.I.O.N y Familia Feliz. Actualmente, se está presentando el seminario sobre Daniel cuyo autor es el pastor Rolando de los Ríos, del programa radial "Revelación".

De las más de 250 personas que se acercan en busca de comida a nuestro templo, dos docenas participan en forma constante de los seminarios. Otros lo hacen intermitentemente. Sesenta llegan cada semana a ver las películas cristianas, y ya se comenzaron a cosechar los frutos para Jesús. Reinaldo Zubizarreta, por ejemplo, comenzó ayudando con su camioneta en la trasportación, se unió a la iglesia, y hoy sirve como diácono.

La iglesia pide oraciones fervientes a favor de este proyecto de amor, que supliendo de la necesidad de alimentos de los vecinos, intenta ganar almas para Jesús.

(Si alguna persona tiene información acerca de un camión pequeño, por favor llame al 772- 532 -3866)

-ELIEZER DÍAS, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

Grupos Pequeños en la Iglesia Central de Miami

El 3 de noviembre se celebró el festival de los grupos pequeños en la iglesia de Miami. El orador fue el pastor Oscar Tavera, y 17 grupos desfilaron con sus banderas llenando el recinto de entusiasmo y colorido. Todos dieron testimonio de la forma en que el Señor está obrando.

El grupo de la "Pequeña Habana", ganó varias almas para el Señor, y organizó un nuevo grupo que cuando se reúne, se conecta vía Skype con sus



familiares no adventistas en el Salvador, quienes participan desde la casa de los padres de uno de los miembros del grupo de la Pequeña Habana. Ambos grupos alaban a Dios como si no hubiese distancia que los separara. Cada vez que se reúnen, con alegría pueden ver que nuevas personas se han agregado al grupo, con el deseo de participar con sus familiares. El Señor tiene medios muy interesantes de atraer a las personas a Él.



Dios está bendiciendo en gran manera esta actividad, y esto ha servido de motivación para el resto de la iglesia, que está entusiasmada planificando abrir nuevos centros de reunión. Se escuchan testimonios de familias que estaban divididas por circunstancias especiales y luego de comenzar a estudiar la Biblia, han experimentado una reconciliación. Tito Sandoval, director de los grupos pequeños, el pastor Rodny, y Betsaida Giraldo, directora de obra misionera, así como toda la directiva de la iglesia, alaban al Señor por el espíritu que se respira en los miembros.

Recientemente se alquiló un templo en Coral Gables y a partir del 1 de diciembre, el programa de esa nueva congregación estará dirigido cada sábado por un grupo pequeño diferente. De esta forma no sólo participarán en su grupo, sino que comenzarán a desarrollarse como líderes participando y abriendo una nueva iglesia.

La iglesia Central de Miami, primera congregación hispana en Florida, está viviendo una hermosa experiencia misionera, y se respira un espíritu de amor y unidad entre los miembros, y el deseo de hacer algo en la obra del Señor.

-ORLANDO LÓPEZ, PASTOR DE LA IGLESIA CENTRAL DE MIAMI

<mark>Florida</mark> Noticias

La Red 2012, Desde Hialeah



Iglesia de Hialeah

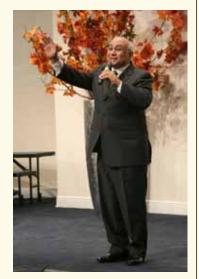
La campaña vía satélite/ Internet organizada por el ministerio hispano de la asociación que se transmitió desde la iglesia de Hialeah, FL, se llevó a cabo desde el 3 hasta el 10 de noviembre. El canal Esperanza T.V. llevó la señal a las iglesias y a cientos de grupos pequeños. Los que no accedieron a este tipo de transmisión pudieron hacerlo a través de Internet. El lema de la campaña fue "Jesús está a las puertas, recíbelo" y el orador fue el pastor Rolando de los Ríos, evangelista de la asociación. Raiza Fernández acompañó los llamados de cada noche con su canto. Un buen número de iglesias participaron también con su música.

Todas las congregaciones del área sur de Florida asistieron cada noche, trayendo candidatos para el bautismo.

Esta campaña de una semana fue la culminación de un esfuerzo de tres meses que involucró a los grupos e iglesias hispanas de toda la asociación. Alrededor de 500 grupos pequeños trabajaron en evangelismo desde el mes de agosto hasta fines de octubre. Recibieron material de estudio, libros, y folletos para repartir entre los asistentes. La lección de estudio estuvo basada en el libro Invitación del pastor Alejandro Bullón.

El 3 de noviembre, primer sábado de la campaña, las iglesias celebraron la terminación de los estudios de aquellos que participaron del esfuerzo previo. Las conferencias comenzaron en la iglesia, y en la mayoría de los casos se trasladaron a los grupos durante la semana, concluyendo el sábado 10 en el templo nuevamente.

El pastor de los Ríos presentó mensajes inspiradores, basados en el lema "Jesús está a las puertas, recíbelo." En cada oportunidad relataba un ejemplo bíblico en el que Jesús tocó la puerta de alguien o lo visitó en



Pastor de los Ríos

su casa. Las aplicaciones fueron claras, y los asistentes dieron testimonio de que los mensajes llegaron a sus corazones. Cada noche se estudiaba una lección antes del comienzo del programa. Los participantes tenían ocasión de contestar algunas preguntas, y había una tarjeta de llamado al final de cada lección.

Una vez terminada la campaña, se disfrutó al escuchar los reportes, ver los videos y las fotos de las iglesias y grupos que participaron. En Tallahassee, tres grupos contaron con una muy buena asistencia. Uno de ellos recibía diariamente a 12 visitas, 3 de las cuales tomaron la decisión de bautizarse. En el área de Ft. Myers, participaron 3 iglesias y 20 grupos pequeños estuvieron conectados a la campaña en los hogares. Hubo gran entusiasmo, buena participación, muchas visitas, y un importante número de bautismos el último sábado: 120. Con este número, el total de bautismos llegó a 724.

Damos gracias a Dios por esta experiencia y sus resultados.

-ABEL PAULÍN, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Georgia-Cumberland Noticias

Durante el mes de octubre, el distrito de Knoxville organizó un esfuerzo evangélico que se inició con una semana de conferencias en 8 grupos pequeños. La misma fue dirigida por los miembros de iglesia, y fue una demostración de la cultura de discipulado misionero que se ha formado en las congregaciones del distrito.

El 14 y 15 de

septiembre se celebraron los treinta años de ministerio de la Iglesia Hispanoamericana de Collegedale (IHC), TN. El programa del viernes se realizó en el templo, y el del sábado en el Gimnasio

de Collegedale Adventist Middle School (CAMS). Estuvieron presentes el pastor Manuel Mendizábal y su esposa, representantes de las iglesias que se organizaron por el ministerio de la IHC, estudiantes de Southern Adventist University (SAU),

un buen grupo de hermanos que fueron miembros de la iglesia en diferentes épocas de su historia, y los miembros y amigos actuales de la iglesia.

El viernes se llevó a cabo un culto de consagración y Manuel Mendizábal recordó a la iglesia la ayuda que Dios, Eben-Ezer, prestó a lo largo de todo el proceso. Las

Evangelismo de Otoño

Seguidamente los grupos pequeños y la feligresía en general se concentraron en las iglesia para participar de la bendición de un ciclo de conferencias públicas. Los evangelistas invitados fueron Joel Mayen, Hernán Zúñiga y Héctor Hernández, y presentaron fervientes mensajes de decisión. Un hermoso grupo de personas respondió a los llamados y se disfrutó de inspiradoras experiencias de conversión en una ceremonia bautismal donde 8 almas decidieron



unir sus vidas a Cristo por medio del bautismo.

Cuando la iglesia es formada y enviada con un claro sentido de misión el Espíritu Santo hará fértil los esfuerzos realizados por los miembros.

> -RICHARD URDANETA, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO DE KNOXVILLE, TN

Celebrando una Historia

actividades del sábado de mañana comenzaron con un desfile. Los representantes de cada país orgullosamente enarbolaron sus respectivas banderas vestidos con sus atuendos típicos. El pastor de la iglesia, Danilo Cornejo,



Parte de la exhibición de los diferentes países representados

tuvo a su cargo el repaso de la lección de escuela sabática. El culto divino fue presentado por el pastor Herman, quien de acuerdo al testimonio de los primeros miembros, fue quien animó a los estudiantes a reunirse para estudiar y adorar a Dios en su propio idioma. Habló sobre el poder de la Palabra de Dios. Por la tarde se disfrutó de música de adoración, y de una presentación de fotos históricas y anécdotas de los comienzos, con el mensaje del pastor Gabriel Ruiz, grabado en California.

A fines de la década de los 70 un grupo de

> estudiantes hispanos iniciaron una clase de escuela sabática en español en un salón de lo que ahora es SAU. El grupo creció, y la asociación asignó al pastor Iván Ruiz para liderarlo. En 1982, esta congregación fue organizada como iglesia. En

1985 se inauguraron las instalaciones el templo en donde actualmente se reúne. Once años después, en enero de 1993, llegó el pastor Gabriel y Ruiz quien fue utilizado por Dios para iniciar la obra hispana en Dalton, Calhoun, Rome, Chattanooga, Cleveland y Knoxville. En marzo de 2001 el pastor Manuel Mendizábal tomó este ministerio, y sirvió

hasta el 2007. Durante su gestión se organizó la iglesia de la Comunidad de Chattanooga y el grupo de Soddy-Daisy. En noviembre de 2010, se plantó una nueva congregación en Ooltewah, bajo el liderazgo del pastor Danilo Cornejo quien ministra IHC desde el 2008. Sin lugar a dudas, estos treinta años de historia son una buena razón para celebrar las bendiciones de Dios y continuar con la misión de la iglesia de llevar el mensaje de amor de Dios y suplir las necesidades del próiimo.

Se terminó el evento con el desfile de banderas, entonando los himnos nacionales de los países representados, en un despliegue de fuegos artificiales. La iglesia se propuso en el 2012, ganar un alma para Cristo por cada año de servicio. Hasta el día de la celebración, Dios bendijo la iglesia con 20 nuevas almas.

> -DANILO CORNEJO, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO DE COLLEGEDALE,TN

Gulf States Noticias

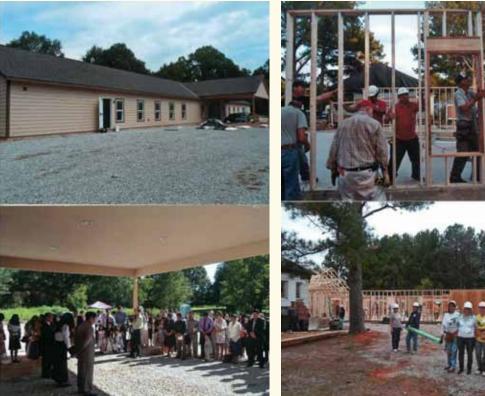
Evangelismo y Construcción de Dos Templos en el Distrito de Decatur

New Albany, MS

El 6 de junio comenzó la tarea de construcción del nuevo edificio para la iglesia de New Albany. Los miembros de esta congregación, liderados por Jairo Ordaz se esforzaron aportando horas de trabajo y ayuda financiera para poder tener un lugar donde adorar a Dios. La organización Maranata envió un equipo de trabajo que colaboró para que el sueño de esta iglesia se haga realidad, y los administradores de la asociación brindaron su incondicional apoyo. La presencia de Dios estuvo a lo largo de todo el proceso, y fue la principal fuente de fuerza y ayuda. El día 11 de agosto, se tuvo un almuerzo de inauguración y todos agradecieron al Señor por esta notable bendición.

Huntsville, AL

La congregación de Huntsville había adquirido con sacrificio el templo en el que se reunieron durante varios años hasta que el paso del tiempo y las inclemencias del clima hicieron necesaria su demolición. Con la promesa de dar una semana de salario por mes al Señor, la membresía se puso a



New Albany

trabajar en el proyecto de construcción de una nueva iglesia, bajo el liderazgo del pastor Huaringa. Para completar esta bendición, la organización Maranata envió 50 delegados para ayudar en el trabajo que comenzó el 11 de octubre. Muchos familiares y amigos de los miembros, al ver el sacrificio realizado, hicieron llegar donaciones. Por la gracia de Dios se está construyendo el santuario, un salón para madres, 4 salones para niños, baños, cocina, comedor, oficina pastoral y salón de audio y video, a un costo total de 185,000 dólares. Se planifica

Huntsville

la inauguración para el mes de diciembre.

El distrito de Decatur desea expresar un profundo agradecimiento a Dios por contar con 2 nuevos lugares de adoración. Estos proyectos han unido en gran manera a los miembros de iglesia que participaron, y se experimenta el gozo que proviene de trabajar para el Señor.

Evangelismo en New Albany

Estrenando sus nuevas instalaciones, la iglesia de New Albany organizó una semana de evangelismo dirigida por el pastor Milton García. Como actividades de preparación para el evento, los miembros se organizaron en parejas misioneras. Se dieron estudios bíblicos y se tuvo una graduación. Previo a la campaña cada grupo pequeño llevó a cabo una semana de oración.

El Señor derramó su Espíritu, y 16 personas se unieron a New Albany como resultado de este esfuerzo.

- DAVID HUARINGA ALARCÓN PASTOR DEL DISTRITO DE DECATUR

South Atlantic Noticias



Al culminar la semana de conferencias que se llevó a cabo desde el 25 de agosto hasta el 1 de septiembre, 4 personas entregaron sus vidas a Cristo

Bautismos en Durham

SAL en Warsaw

en las aguas del bautismo. La ceremonia se realizó en una hermoso lago de agua tibia y tranquila, y fue oficiada por el pastor Efraín Poloche. El orador de la semana fue Armando Sánchez, quien es anciano de la iglesia de Mount Olive, de la asociación de las Carolinas. Los

líderes de Durham, bajo el liderazgo de Carlos Cruz, se comprometieron a continuar dando estudios bíblicos y orar por los recién bautizados. -LADY URIBE. SECRETARIA **DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO**

El 18 de agosto se inició el programa SAL (Seminario Adventista Laico) patrocinado por Andrews University y el departamento hispano de la asociación. El pastor Ezequiel González fue el instructor, y participaron



mayormente delegados del distrito Este de Carolina del Norte, comprendido por las iglesias de Warsaw, Clinton, Wallace, Goldsboro, Seven Springs, Newbern, Smithfield y Wilson. Esta última prestó sus instalaciones para el

evento. Se contó también con la asistencia de las iglesias de Cary y Wilmington, lideradas por el pastor Efraín Poloche. director del

departamento hispano de la asociación. Algunas personas viajaron desde Tennessee para recibir instrucción. Más de 60 delegados apoyaron el inicio de esta actividad. Durante el evento, se llevó a cabo una ceremonia de ordenación de

5 ancianos y 4 diáconos.

Fue inspirador ver el deseo de adquirir conocimiento para trabajar para el

Maestro, de parte de todos los asistentes. Los próximos encuentros de SAL para esta zona, están programados para los meses de octubre y diciembre.

-ISMAEL URIBE, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO



Distrito De Silver Palms/Cutler Ridge/Kendall

Primer Congreso de **Grupos Pequeños** El pastor Roger

Álvarez, director del

departamento hispano, creó un programa piloto para establecer grupos pequeños. Se organizó un congreso para el



liderado por el pastor

distrito compuesto por las Rafael Ortelio. El evento iglesias de Silver Palms. tuvo como orador al Cuttler Ridge y Kendall, pastor Arnaldo Cruz, quien animó a la audiencia a



aceptar a Jesús y continuar cargando la antorcha del evangelismo en la comunidad. Los asistentes aceptaron el desafío, y se establecieron seis grupos pequeños con un total de 48 personas no adventistas participando de las actividades de los mismos.

-ESMERALDA GUZMÁN HARRIS, SECRETARIA DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Southeastern Noticias

Distrito Country Garden/Efeso

Jesús, el Agua de Vida La igle-

sia de Country Garden, organizó un reparto gratuito de agua para quienes transitaban por las principales intersecciones de Miami, en un caluroso día de sol. Cada

de sol. Cada botella tenía una etiqueta con la leyenda: "JESÚS EL AGUA DE VIDA" y el nombre de la iglesia. Los jóvenes que participaron en esta actividad, observaron con entusiasmo la reacción de las personas que recibían el agua, buscando oportunidades misioneras.



Retiro de parejas

Matrimonios Fortalecidos en Retiro Espiritual

El Pastor Arnaldo Cruz y su esposa Mencia instruyeron a las parejas sobre formas de mantener la llama del amor viva, animándolos a que se comprometan a poner de su parte, siempre teniendo en cuenta a Jesús como



Iglesia Efeso decorada como campo de batalla

centro del hogar y único ser capacitado para salvar a la familia.

Iglesia de Efeso, Campo de Batalla

La iglesia de Efeso organizó un ciclo de conferencias acerca de la batalla entre las fuerzas del bien y el mal que pelean por la lealtad de los habitantes de este mundo caído, mostrando a Cristo entronado y glorificado, prometiendo la victoria y la vida eterna. Para ilustrar el tema, la iglesia estuvo decorada como un campo de batalla. –PASTOR ARNALDO CRUZ

Southern Adventist University Noticias

Programa de Evangelismo Transforma la Vida de Estudiantes

Desde el 2001, los esfuerzos del Centro de Recursos Evangélicos (ERC) de la Universidad Adventista de Southern han resultado en más de 20,000 bautismos. Cerca de 700 estudiantes han viajado a países en todo el mundo para impactar vidas a través de este programa. El próximo verano no será diferente. Las oportunidades evangelísticas del 2013 incluirán viajes a la República Dominicana, Guatemala, Filipinas, Argentina, y Angola.

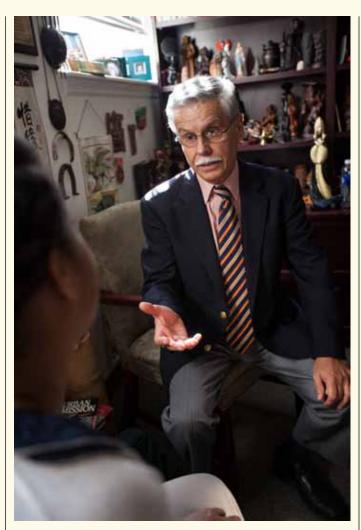
En vista de estos viajes, casi 400 estudiantes entregaron tarjetas de interés al principio de este año escolar. Esas 400 tarjetas de interés han resultado en 200 aplicaciones, cifras que sobrepasan las de años anteriores. Hasta la fecha, 100 de estos estudiantes han sido entrevistados para el programa y se han comprometido a participar. Uno de ellos es Vianca Torres, una estudiante de servicio y política global, que utilizó su sueldo completo para pagar su viaje a La Argentina. "Cuando era una estudiante misionera [durante el año escolar 2010-2011], tuve la oportunidad de ayudar a la gente," dijo Vianca. "Ahora quiero predicar el evangelio y profundizar en la preparación de otros para la salvación. "

Southern Adventist University Noticias

A lo largo de este semestre, el presupuesto de ERC se ha incrementado. Antes se podía enviar sólo 75 estudiantes. Esta vez, serán 83 los que podrán participar de este programa. Carlos Martín, Ph.D., no tiene planes de rechazar al resto de los que se postulen, confiando en que "Dios proveerá."

Este programa ha sido un sueño de Martín desde que llegó a Southern. Cuando le pidieron que formara parte de la facultad de la Escuela de Religión, puso como condición que se le permitiera entrenar a los estudiantes y profesores en evangelismo. De este deseo nació el Centro de Recursos Evangelísticos, diseñado para reclutar, preparar, y enviar voluntarios a predicar en diferentes países cada verano. Al principio, el programa consistió en una mayoría de estudiantes y profesores de teología, pero desde el 2005 ha estado abierto a todos los departamentos. El número de voluntarios comprometidos para el verano 2013 se ha duplicado en comparación con el número de hace dos años. "Para mí, esto es una indicación de que Dios está haciendo Su trabajo," dijo Martín. "Si proporcionamos las oportunidades, nuestros jóvenes las van a aprovechar."

Los estudiantes que deciden participar reciben los sermones y el equipo necesarios para predicar



Carlos Martín entrevistando a uno de los voluntarios

una campaña. Se organiza un fin de semana de entrenamiento que consiste en un sermón a cargo Greg King, decano de la Facultad de Religión, testimonios de estudiantes que han participado anteriormente, enseñanza bíblica, ensayo de predicación, y una sesión de preguntas y respuestas. Además del entrenamiento regular, los profesores asisten a una sesión especial de capacitación para supervisores.

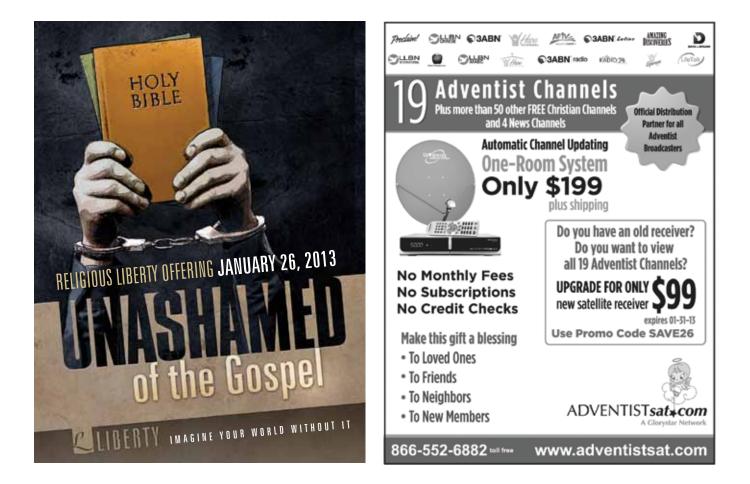
El costo del viaje oscila entre \$600 y \$1200, y los participantes no deben absorberlo en su totalidad. Durante las entrevistas de aceptación se les entrega cartas oficiales que pueden enviar a sus familiares y amigos para recaudar el dinero. La facultad también contribuye con donaciones. Jean Bay, estudiante del último año de educación de música, pudo ir a Colombia el año pasado, gracias a una donación de su hermana. Como

resultado, Jean tuvo la oportunidad de impactar a la gente de Barranquilla, Colombia, a través de sus sermones y música. "Con Dios todo es posible. Olvídese de las barreras del idioma, las diferencias culturales, el clima inesperado, o los desafíos físicos o emocionales," escribió Jean en su diario de experiencia estudiantil. "Sentí que Dios estaba en control. Él permitió que yo experimentara lo que significa ser Su testigo, a través de este viaje misionero."

Durante los años en que Martín ha dirigido este programa, ha escuchado a los estudiantes decir que al predicar sermones, han adquirido una mejor comprensión de las creencias fundamentales de los adventistas. También ha visto como muchos jóvenes se han reconvertido por medio de esta experiencia. El programa ha ayudado a ampliar su visión de la Iglesia en el mundo, y a conocer las necesidades de otros países. "Mi sueño es poder publicar un libro de devoción matutina con los diarios de experiencias que escriben los estudiantes después de sus viajes." Dijo Martín.

Si usted está interesado en patrocinar a un estudiante en un viaje de ERC, visite southern.edu/ erc/donation.

> -INGRID HERNÁNDEZ, EDITORA, SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY



Passing Values to Future Generations

95-year-old Priscilla Kyles established a revocable trust to ensure her values pass on to younger generations. A member of the South Atlantic Conference, Priscilla's estate can be passed without delay or probate costs to projects supporting the Lord's Work.

Priscilla says, "God has been good to me, I just want what I have to help some worthy child get a Christian education."

Contact your local conference or university Planned Giving and Trust Services representative today, and ask how you can pass on your values to future generations.

To read Priscilla's story, go to www.susdagift.org and click on her story.

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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.

SOUTHERN TIDINGS makes every reasonable effort to screen all advertising, but in no case can the periodical assume responsibility for advertisements appearing in its columns, or for typographical errors.

PROPERTY AVAILABLE

QUIET OAKS ADULT CARE HOME – exclusively servicing the post acute (outside the hospital) ventilator dependent patient. We offer attentive, nurturing management of ventilator dependent patients and specialize in providing progressive ventilator weaning. Located in Graysville, TN, our beautiful home environment is conducive to recovery and peace of mind with our licensed nursing/respiratory and trained staff. Contact Laura Morrison, RN Administrator, 423-775-7658 or quietoaks@comcast.net. [1]

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. ©

FLORIDA LIVING RETIREMENT COMMUNITY – 13.5 acres near Orlando, Florida set aside for the Conference owned retirement community. Independent living! Apartments and rooms available. SDA church on the premises. Programs, activities, van for transport and motel accommodations. 1-800-729-8017 or www.floridalivingretirement.com. [1-10]

BUYING OR SELLING PROPERTY IN TENNESSEE: Collegedale, Ooltewah, Chattanooga? When selling your home, it's important you're in good hands with an experienced and licensed realtor. When buying, information is power. Let me find your special home! Contact Vincent Lopez, Crye-leike, Realtors. Cell: 423-316-1880, email: vincent.lopez@crye-leike. com. [1]

TENNESSEE HOMES AND LAND FOR SALE: Near SAU in McDonald, TN - 2 acre lot with large, plantation style home, 2-car attached garage and 2-car detached garage, \$489,000. Ooltewah home on over 6 acres - bluff view with over 5000 square feet, \$700,000. 5 acre Apison home with country porch and sunset views for \$375,000. 5 acre building lot for \$69,000. Call The Wendy Dixon Team/Crye-Leike Realtors. Phone #: 423-883-0656; ask for Herby Dixon. [1] **COZY HOME** with 3500+ square feet. 2004 home, 4 bed, 4 bath, 2 kitchens, CH/AC, woodstoves, using year-round springs on 10 partly wooded private acres, DSL; hour north of Nashville. Churches, schools, academies 17 - 35 miles close. 859-333-0866. [1]

DUNLAP, TN MOUNTAIN PROPERTY & HOUSE – 32 acres, well, utility water, 2500 square feet, large metal workshop, mother-in-law suite, SDA church. See pictures online: cindygarner.com, MLS #1184195. \$349,000 or call Heartland Realty: 1-800-705-0583. [1]

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION #1: Move to the country. Resolution #2: Take a brisk walk daily. Having trouble with resolution #1? Check out this \$124,000 TN country home, 5 minutes from an Adventist church and school. Additional adjacent wooded acreage available. http://www.forsalebyowner.com/listing/23612946 or call 931-863-8196. [1]

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COUNTRY LIVING IN MANCHESTER, KY near Adventist hospital, church, and school. Modified Cape Cod includes 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, living, dining, and family rooms, full walk-out basement. 20+ acres with garden, orchard, barn, pasture, woods, gas well (free gas). \$197,000. Information: jfredcalkins@windstream.com, 606-599-1844, or http://tinyurl.com/bn52wqx. [1-3]

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LAURELBROOK ADACEMY NEEDS YOU: Positions open are RNs, LPNs, CNAs, Cooks, Greenhouse/Garden Manager, Construction Staff, Grounds/Landscaping Manager, Mechanic, Business Manager and Nursing Home Administrator. Housing and stipend provided. Located in the beautiful mountains of Dayton, TN and only 60 miles from SAU. Contact Roger Westfall at 423-775-0771; or email maudie.westfall@gmail.com. [1]

UROLOGY OPPORTUNITY IN NORTH GEORGIA. Gordon Hospital is seeking Board Certified/Board Eligible Urologist. Live within a beautiful southern community which offers a gorgeous Adventist hospital (www. gordonhospital.com), Adventist elementary school (www.cobleschool.com), and first class Adventist high school (www.gcasda.org). Southern Adventist University within a 45 minute drive (www.southern.edu). Contact Kelly.fitch@ ahss.org, 800-264-8642, option 1. [1]

INVASIVE CARDIOLOGY OPPORTUNITY located in North Georgia. Gordon Hospital is seeking Board Certified/Board Eligible Cardiologist. Outstanding opportunity! Excellent salary and benefits. Beautiful community to raise a family! Outstanding Adventist elementary (www.cobleschool.com) and high school (www.gcasda.org). Southern Adventist University within a 45 minute drive (www.southern.edu). Contact Kelly.fitch@ ahss.org, 800-264-8642 option 1, www. gordonhospital.com. [1]

HOSPITALIST (Internal Medicine) OPPORTUNITY IN NORTH GEORGIA. Seeking a new or experienced IM. Live within a beautiful southern community which offers a gorgeous Adventist hospital (www.gordonhospital.com), Adventist elementary school (www.cobleschool. com), and first class Adventist high school (www. gcasda.org). Southern Adventist University within a 45 minute drive (www.southern.edu). Contact Kelly.fitch@ahss.org, 800-264-8642, option 1. [1]

ORTHOPEDIC OPPORTUNITY IN NORTH GEORGIA. Gordon Hospital is seeking Board Certified/Board Eligible Orthopedic w/ sub-specialty. Live within a beautiful southern community which offers a gorgeous Adventist hospital (www.gordonhospital.com), Adventist elementary school (www.cobleschool.com), and first class Adventist high school (www.gcasda. org). Southern Adventist University within a 45



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minute drive (www.southern.edu). Contact Kelly. fitch@ahss.org, 800-264-8642, option 1. [1]

JELLICO COMMUNITY HOSPITAL is looking for physicians to work in our hospital. We are currently seeking the following positions: Family Practice, Family Practice/OB, Orthopedic, Nephrology, Internal Medicine. Please contact Jason Dunkel @ jason.dunkel@ahss.org or 423-784-1187 for more information. [1-8]

NURSE PRACTITIONER/PA/DO/MD – Well established rural family practice clinic without hospital obligations in beautiful Sequatchie Valley, 30 minutes northwest of Chattanooga, TN. Friendly SDA church with two-teacher school. Send resumes to: Office Manager, PO Box 1777, Dunlap, TN 37372 or dmc03@bledsoe.net. [1, 2]

ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM is seeking a law student for a 6 to 8-week summer clerkship in 2013. This position is limited to students who have finished only one year of law school. Ideal candidates would be in the top 25% of their class. Duties include legal research and other projects. Please send resume and transcript to david.gordon@ahss.org! [1-3]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks Dean for School of Business and Management. A Doctoral degree required. Will oversee the undergraduate and graduate programs. Priority given to applications received by January 31, 2013. The successful candidate must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ, and be a SDA church member in good and regular standing. Submit curriculum vitae and cover letter to Pat Coverdale, Director of Human Resources, plcoverdale@southern. edu or Human Resources, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37363. [1, 2]

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for a full-time faculty position focusing on Medical-Surgical Nursing on the Portland, Oregon campus to begin September 2013. For more information and to apply, please visit http:// jobs.wallawalla.edu. [1, 2]

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for full-time, tenure-track faculty positions in Art and Biology. For more information and application process, please visit http://jobs. wallawalla.edu. All positions will remain open until filled. [1, 2]

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST/ LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST AND PHARMACIST urgently needed. If you are qualified and feel called to serve, come join us in serving the Lord at Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital in Georgia. If you would like to know more, please email your resume to: administrator@wildwoodhealth.org. [1]

FAMILY PRACTICE & PEDIATRIC PHYSICIANS! 150 years ago Ellen White encouraged us to leave the cities and find rural homes to carry out our mission. If you feel it is time for a move, we hope you will consider joining a small group of mission-minded physicians in rural east Tennessee / east Kentucky in providing healthcare to the Appalachian region. Jellico has a thriving Adventist church, a wonderful elementary school, and state of the art electronic academy as an extension of Atlanta Adventist Academy. Call Steve Boone at 423-784-7269 to find out more about the opportunities in Jellico. [1-4]

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST GUAM CLINIC is seeking individuals in the following specialties: Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Orthopedic Surgeon, Nurse Practitioner, Rheumatologist, Dermatologists, Pediatricians, Hospitalist, Physician Assistant, Physical Therapist, OB/ GYNs, Urologist, Surgeons, Cardiologist, Dental Director and Professional Recruiter. Call now! 671-646-8881 x 102; email hr@guamsda. com; visit www.adventistclinic.com. [1]

OUACHITA HILLS COLLEGE is accepting applications for the following positions: Biology Instructor, Chemistry Instructor, English Instructor, Business Administration Instructor, Academic Dean, Construction Manager, and Director of Media Department. Our website: www.ohc.org. Contact Magda Rodriguez at info@ohc.org or call 870-342-6210 ext. 223 for more information. [1, 2]

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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. [1]

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. ©



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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. [1-12]

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

BUTLER CREEK SEMINARS (A division of Wildwood Health Retreat): Conquering Lifestyle Disease! Diabetes, hypertension, osteoporosis, & more. Jan. 20-27; Feb 10-24. Natural prevention/treatment for lifestyle diseases. Hands-on cooking classes (oilfree, total vegetarian, whole foods), exercise program, health presentations. Cost: \$370. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Contact Charene: 931-724-6706. www. wildwoodhealthretreat.org [1]

BUTLER CREEK SEMINARS (A division of Wildwood Health Retreat): Lose Weight, Feel Great! Seminar, Jan. 27-Feb. 10; Feb. 24-Mar 10. Change your life—eat healthfully, control stress, exercise for energy. Hands-on cooking classes (oil-free, total vegetarian, whole foods). Cost: \$740. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Contact Charene: 931-724-6706. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org. [1]

THE WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE PROGRAM 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. [1-5]

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit www. southern.edu/graduatedegrees. [1-5]

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in Venice, Verona, Ravenna, Bologna, Padua with Florence/Rome extension June 16-21. Australia/New Zealand Adventure: October 9-27. Visit Great Barrier, Reef, Sydney, North and South Island in New Zealand. Extension to Fiji, October 27-30. For information contact Merlene Ogden, 269-471-3781 or ogden@ andrews.edu. [1]

GRIZZLY BEAR, black bear, wolf, elk, moose, bison, geysers, lakes, rivers, waterfalls, mountains. At last, a tour designed by and for our Adventist brothers and sisters. Join your Adventist tour leaders to Yellowstone and Grand Tetons National Parks next summer. Structured toward Adventists. Geoffrey: 512-923-7230, www.EagleEyeNatureTours.com. [1-3]

RELOCATE TO MILDER CLIMATE in Lawrenceburg, TN. Friendly Adventist chuch, well-established two-teacher Bill Egly School, new gym. Manufacturing and healthcare opportunities. Nearby attractions inclue Meriwether Lewis, David Crockett, Helen Keller, Hermitage, Civil War, Amish country, NASA Center, and Oakwood University. Call 812-430-8833. [1]

Announcements

Sequatchie Valley Sabbath Conference – Sequatchie County High School Auditorium, 7067 SR 28, Dunlap, TN. Details: 423-949-6707 or www.dunlapsabbathconference.org.

Union College Homecoming – April 4-7. Honor classes: 1943, '53, '58, '63, '73, '83, '88, '93, and 2003. Special events to commemorate the students and faculty of Jorgensen Hall. Details: Contact the alumni office at 402-486-2503, 3800 S. 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506 or alumni@ucollege.edu.

Washington Adventist University Alumni Weekend – April 12-14. Visit www.wau. edu/alumni or call 301-891-4133 for more information.

Napoleon B. Smith Seventh-day Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend – April 12-14. For details, contact Franchis Cook at nbsmithalumni@gmail.com. Visit: www.nbsmithalumni.com.

La Sierra Academy Alumni Weekend – April 26-28. Celebrate our 91st year! We invite all former students, faculty, staff, and supporters. Golf Tournament Sunday morning, April 21; Friday evening Welcoming Reception, and Sabbath morning services on campus. Campus Potluck and Reunions (4/26-28), Ladies' Gala Tea Sunday afternoon. Honor classes 50+, '3's and '8's, 951 351-1445 x 244, jnelson@lsak12.com and LSA website, www.lsak12.com/alumni.

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Events Calendar

Carolina

Pathfinder Council Meeting – Jan. 11, 12. NPR. Romance at the Ranch English – Feb. 8-10. NPR. Spanish – Feb. 15-17. NPR. Pathfinder Work Bee – March 15-17. NPR. Alive Youth Rally – March 22-24. Spartanburg Church.

Florida

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

Florida Pathfinder events – http://www.floridaconference. com/youth/ or call 407-644-5000 x127.

Singles' Ministries events and mailing list information. Spiritual study groups, fellowship dinners, outings, and more. http://www.floridaconference. com/childrenandfamily/, djmiller4000@gmail.com, or 407-703-3050.

Planned Giving and Trust Services Clinics

Jan. 26. Jacksonville Mandarin. Feb. 9. Pine Hills in Orlando. Feb. 11 and 27. Forest Lake in Apopka.

March 2. Ocala.

March 9. North Miami. March 15-17. Pine Lake Retreat for Retired Denominational

Workers Retreat. March 23. Norland in Miami. Women's Ministries Retreats

- Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL. Theme: "Life Under Construction." Cost: \$19-\$178 depending on accommodation/ commuter/meal choice. Details: sheryal.vandenberghe@ floridaconference.com. Registration: http://www. campkulaqua.com/ or 386-454-1351.

Feb. 1-3. English-language. Feb. 8-10. English-language. Feb. 15-17. Spanish-language. Feb. 22-24. French-language.

Men's Ministries Convention – March 8-10. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL. Theme: "Walking With God." Celebrating 20 years of men's ministries. Cost: \$69-\$177 depending on accommodation choice. Free to commuters not purchasing meals. Registration: http://www. campkulaqua.com/ or 386-454-1351. Local commuter/meal registration: 407-508-2395. **Retired Denominational Workers' Retreat** – March 15-17. Pine Lake Retreat, Groveland, FL. Guest speaker: Dan Matthews. Details: 407-399-9091. Registration: mail-in forms sent to retired workers, or call 407-644-5000 x164.

Greater Miami Adventist Academy Fourth Annual Golf Tournament – April 21. Doral Golf Resort and Spa. Registration: 12:00-1:00 p.m. Shotgun start: 2:00 p.m. Complimentary range warm-up and practice. Scramble format shotgun start. Refreshments available throughout the course. Tournament closes with reception award ceremony and dinner. Cost: \$185 includes green fees, golf cart, and goodie bag. Details: http://www.gma. edu/html/pta.html, ctrevilcock@ gma.edu, or 305-220-5955 x151.

Georgia-Cumberland

Personal Ministries Rally – Jan. 5. Valdosta Park Avenue Church, Valdosta, GA. Adventurers' Directors Council – Jan. 12. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

Adventist Community Services Disaster Response Training – Jan. 12-13. Columbus, GA. Pathfinder Directors' Council – Jan. 13. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA. Hispanic Women's Ministries Leadership Training – Jan. 13. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.

Pathfinder Junior Event – Jan. 18-20. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA. Leadership Training, Health,

and Personal Ministries Jan. 19. Knoxville First, TN. Jan. 26. Atlanta North Church, GA.

GCA Student Week of Prayer – Jan. 21-26. Streamed live at http://www.gcasda.org/ article/194/computer-help-desk/ live-streaming Georgia-Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA. Elementary Band/String Festival – Jan. 24, 25. Georgia-Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA.

Prayer Ministries Day – Jan. 26. Kingsport, TN, Church. FREE Website Basics Seminar: Media, Video, and Photos Online – Jan. 27. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Featuring Adventist Church Connect. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA. FREE Photography Basics Seminar with Billy Weeks – Jan. 27. 1-3 p.m. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA. Online registration for events available: www.registration. accsda.com.

Gulf States

Complete Calendar online http://www.gscsda.org Pathfinder Council Meeting – Jan. 11-13. Camp Alamisco. Conference Executive Committee – Jan. 22. Academy Days – Jan. 26. Bass Memorial Academy. Education Fair – Jan. 27, 28. Bass Memorial Academy. Teen Invitational Caving – Feb. 1, 2.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Conference Association Board Jan. 22. March 26. Conference Executive Committee Jan. 22. March 26. Highland and Madison Academy Boards Jan. 24. March 14. Board of Education – Feb. 14. Evangelism Boot Camp – Feb. 15-17. Eastern Kentucky Camp Meeting – March 8, 9. Louisville Festival of Faith – March 15, 16.

Southern Adventist University

Phil Vischer – Jan. 10. The Veggie Tales creator will be on campus for morning and evening convocations at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. in Iles P.E. Center and Thatcher Chapel, respectively. Details: Call 423-236-2814.

Archaeology Exhibit – "The Battle Over King David: Excavating the Fortress of Elah" features artifacts from digs by professors and students during recent trips to Israel. The exhibit opened in November and runs through April 2014. Details: Call 423-236-2030.

Creations Ministries Speaker – Jan. 24. Robert Carter, a scientist with Creations Ministries International, will speak for convocation at 11 a.m. in the Collegedale Church. Details: Call 423-236-2814.

Sunsei									
	Dec. 28	Jan. 4	Jan. 11	Jan. 18	Jan. 25	Feb. 1			
Atlanta, GA	5:40	5:45	5:52	5:58	6:05	6:12			
Charleston, SC	5:24	5:30	5:36	5:42	5:49	5:56			
Charlotte, NC	5:22	5:27	5:34	5:41	5:48	5:55			
Collegedale, TN	5:39	5:45	5:51	5:58	6:05	6:12			
Huntsville, AL	4:46	4:52	4:58	5:05	5:12	5:19			
Jackson, MS	5:06	5:12	5:18	5:24	5:31	5:37			
Louisville, KY	5:33	5:39	5:46	5:54	6:02	6:10			
Memphis, TN	4:59	5:04	5:11	5:18	5:25	5:32			
Miami, FL	5:41	5:46	5:51	5:57	6:02	6:07			
Montgomery, AL	4:51	4:56	5:02	5:09	5:15	5:22			
Nashville, TN	4:43	4:49	4:56	5:03	5:10	5:17			
Orlando, FL	5:40	5:45	5:51	5:56	6:02	6:08			
Wilmington, NC	5:13	5:18	5:25	5:31	5:38	5:45			



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