

January 2014



T SOUTHERN

TIDINGS



Ring in the New Year
with Public Affairs & Religious Liberty

Feeling Tempted?

“Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it,” 1 Corinthians 10: 12, 13.

This is a text that has spoken to the needs of many who have been enshrouded by temptation. Though temptation comes, many do not understand it and often are not prepared for it. Through Paul, God is giving us guidance to help us. There are four points suggested by the text regarding temptation.

We recognize here that God allows us to be tempted. “God is faithful; he will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able.” God suffers us to be tempted. This is a distinction that does not amount to a great deal, I confess; and yet, what is useful and helps us somewhat in relieving the dark mystery of evil in this world is that God permits evils of which He is not the author. We shrink back in horror from the idea of regarding Him as the author of evil. We cannot believe it; and it helps us a little to think that God permits evils of which He is not the author. He suffers us to be tempted. The apostle James says that God tempts no man. “Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man,” James 1:23. The word “tempt,” as we may know — and the same thing is true of the words in the original language — signifies “to test,” “to put to the test,” as when you test a gun. This testing may be done with a good or an evil design. A man may put a great fire-potential into a gun for the purpose of ascertaining whether it is strong and can stand the test! Or, he may do it for the purpose of ascertaining whether it is weak, with the intention of destroying it. So, human character may be tested with friendly feelings to try its strength, or with hostile feelings in order to show its weakness and destroy it. In the bad sense of the term, God tempts no one, but He allows us to be tempted.

Many inquire why He does this. We might say that temptation is one of the conditions of existence in this world. We cannot see how it would be possible to live here without being tempted. Jesus Christ Himself, Who was sinless, Who came into this world to live but for a little while and then to die, endured temptation — not once merely, but many times tempted to do what was wrong in the desert, tempted in the garden to shrink from what He had undertaken to do. Temptation is a condition of our existence.

We should be afraid of temptation. “Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.” It is peculiarly perilous that we should feel a self-confident presumption that we can overcome it.

We must not excuse ourselves when we are tempted. Temptation becomes temptation to us only as something within us rises up to meet the allurements from without.

Finally, trusting in God we can conquer temptation. For God will help us, the text implies, both by His providence and by His grace.

I’ve stopped praying for a life without trial and temptation. I should be afraid to ask it. It is the law of earthly existence that we will be tempted. But, I humbly ask for myself and the entire Southern Union membership that we may have grace to help us watch and strive against temptation, grace to trample it underfoot, and grace to conquer it.



Ron C. Smith,
D.Min., Ph.D.
*President of the
Southern Union
Conference*

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SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE
 3978 Memorial Drive • Mail Address
 P.O. Box 849, Decatur, Georgia 30031
 Telephone (404) 299-1832
 www.southernunion.com

Staff

Editor R. STEVEN NORMAN III
Managing Editor IRISENE DOUCE
Circulation BOBBIE MILLBURN
Advertising NATHAN ZINNER
Production COLLEGE PRESS
Layout BRIAN WIEHN

Contributing Editors

Adventist Health System RAINEY TURLINGTON
Adventist University of Health Sciences S. ERIC CADIENTE
Carolina RON QUICK
CREATION Health LYNELL LAMOUNTAIN
Florida MARTIN BUTLER
Georgia-Cumberland TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER
Gulf States NILTON GARCIA
Hispanic MARIEL LOMBARDI
Kentucky-Tennessee STEVE ROSE
Oakwood University GEORGE JOHNSON JR.
South Atlantic WHITNEY JORDAN
South Central MARVIN ALLISON
Southeastern ROBERT HENLEY
Southern Adventist University LUCAS PATTERSON

Conference/Institution Directory

CAROLINA (704) 596-3200
 P.O. Box 44270, Charlotte, NC 28215
 FLORIDA (407) 644-5000
 P.O. Box 2626, Winter Park, FL 32790-2626
 GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND (706) 629-7951
 P.O. Box 12000, Calhoun, GA 30703-7001
 GULF STATES (334) 272-7493
 P.O. Box 240249, Montgomery, AL 36117
 KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE (615) 859-1391
 P.O. Box 1088, Goodlettsville, TN 37070-1088
 SOUTH ATLANTIC (404) 792-0535
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 SOUTHEASTERN (352) 735-3142
 P.O. Box 1016, Mt. Dora, FL 32756-0056
 ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM (407) 357-2482
 900 Hope Way, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
 ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF
 HEALTH SCIENCES (800) 500-7747
 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803
 OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY (256) 726-7000
 7000 Adventist Blvd., Huntsville, AL 35896
 SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY (800) SOUTHERN
 P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370

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THE RELIGIOUS LIBERTY OFFERING IS JANUARY 25, 2014

Ring in the New Year

with Public Affairs & Religious Liberty

BY AMIREH AL-HADDAD

January is always an exciting month. It's a new beginning, and yet a time we also use to look back and see where we have been. In the world of religious liberty, the stories you see in the headlines today affect religious liberty in the future. In 2013, we saw religious liberty issues touching many different aspects of our society. Here are the top five:

Same Sex Marriages: The U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the **Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)** and California's Proposition 8 made the biggest headlines of the year, gathering many comments and lots of analysis. In two separate issues the U.S. Supreme Court heard cases involving same sex marriage issues. While making a ruling on both cases, it is important to note that neither of these cases brought forth a verdict that directly affirmed same sex marriages on the federal level. The court ruled that just because DOMA does not recognize same-sex marriages, it cannot be used to deny those couples federal benefits offered to heterosexual marriages, such as tax filing status or distribution of federal benefits. Just to make it clear, despite what you may have heard, the court did not make a ruling on same-sex marriage.

California's Proposition 8 Case This one may be more difficult to understand, but again the court did not rule on same-sex marriage. Instead, they returned the case to the lower court saying that those bringing the case had no standing to take the case to court. Complicated? Yes! No one really knows what the status of same-sex marriage is in California. One thing seems certain; there will

be more court cases on this issue in the future. While neither of these cases hinges on issues directly involving the First Amendment and our religious liberty rights, the concern within more conservative Christian communities is whether the state could compel churches to conduct same-sex marriages or force churches to employ those living a lifestyle outside the biblical precepts of marriage. So far the U.S. Supreme Court shows no sign of moving towards that kind of compulsion.

Kentucky Passes State Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA): In quite a legislative volley, the Kentucky State RFRA (HB 279) was passed by the both houses at the state legislature. The good news about this bill was that it was so bi-partisan in nature, it passed easily in both the Democratic House and the Republican Senate. However, Governor Steve Beshear vetoed the bill, stating he believed it to be too broad. Going back to the house, the veto was overridden. In layman's terms, the act created a balancing test. The government cannot make an arbitrary law that may restrict your religious exercise and enforce it upon you simply because it is the law. The government must provide a

compelling reason for doing so. With the passage of this bill, 18 states have RFRA's, and five of those are in the Southern Union territory.

Parsonage Exemption Ruled Unconstitutional: As 2013 came to a close, a case that should be of interest to all pastors is one that would put an end to pastoral housing exemptions. The Freedom from Religion Foundation filed suit against the Treasury Department and the IRS, claiming that the "parsonage exemption" was unfair and unconstitutional. Parsonage allowances have been a longstanding IRS exemption that pastors may take when filing taxes. Why so? Allowing a pastor to live in a church-owned parsonage was a way for the church to be able to more easily afford to have a pastor. Removing these exemptions for pastors is equivalent to a reduction in pay. The Freedom from Religion Foundation believes that the heads of their non-profit organization should be allowed to have parsonage exemptions too. They were denied, and filed suit. Their claim was that the federal income tax exemptions given to "ministers of the Gospel" violated the First Amendment (and part of the Fifth Amendment as well). The federal judge in the case agreed with

them and pronounced the exemption as unconstitutional. So why hasn't the exemption been struck down before now? Probably because it is not discriminatory in nature. The exemption does not help to establish religion, and therefore is not in violation of the establishment clause of the First Amendment; on this the judge is wrong. The exemption is given to all religions, not just some. We will be keeping our eye on this one in 2013.

Affordable Health Care Act:

Yes, the AHCA is affecting religious-free exercise claims in the court. Not only are religious institutions such as church-operated hospitals and universities claiming violation of religious beliefs with the mandatory contraceptive healthcare issues, but also some big corporations are claiming the same. So far the trend has been to grant protection from the mandate to religious organizations, but not corporate organizations. With about 40 such cases in the legal system, the U.S. Supreme Court recently agreed to hear the Hobby Lobby case. Hobby Lobby's owners claim that the corporation also holds their religious beliefs. So, at question: Can a corporation hold a religious belief? The courts will probably consider this question posed against the rights of an employee in that corporation. Should a corporation be allowed to impose its religious beliefs upon the employee? Hobby Lobby has been in violation of the mandate since January 1, 2013, and with the \$1.3 million fine per day of violation; these corporate owners are serious about their religious beliefs.

Free Speech Intrinsicly Tied to Religious Beliefs:

Finally, the most egregious loss of religious freedom is the story of Elaine Huguenin, a photographer and a Christian from New Mexico. In this incident nondiscrimination policies are pitted against an individual's religious freedom. In 2006 Huguenin was taken to court by a lesbian couple whom she refused to photograph during their commitment service. Huguenin has

repeatedly told the court that her photography is art in which she tells stories through pictures. She and her husband "object as a matter of conscience to creating pictures or books that will tell stories or convey messages contrary to their deeply held religious beliefs." Huguenin clearly stated that she was not opposed to photographing a gay or lesbian client, but was only opposed to the same-sex ceremony. While this case involves issues of same-sex marriage, it is not about that at all. What is troubling about this case lies more in the opinion of the court, who stated, "In the smaller, more focused world of the marketplace, of commerce, of public accommodation, the Huguenins have to channel their conduct, not their beliefs, so as to leave space for other Americans who believe something different. That compromise is part of the glue that holds us together as a nation, the tolerance that lubricates the varied moving parts of us as a people. That sense of respect we owe others, whether or not we believe as they do, illuminates this country, setting it apart from the discord that afflicts much of the rest of the world. In short, I would say to the Huguenins, with the utmost respect: it is the price of citizenship."

Applying this logic to the case seems in error, since the lesbian couple's rights were not infringed upon by Elaine Photography, and it did not stop or delay them from having their commitment ceremony. Even so, the New Mexico court now says the price of being a citizen in

the United States is that you have to compromise your religious beliefs to make space for others who do not believe as you do. This seems contrary to our national motto, *E Pluribus Unum* — one out of many. Our nation was founded on many different beliefs and ideas coexisting without having to be "channeled" for those who believe something different. The irony of the case at hand is that, unlike the state laws dealt with in the DOMA and Prop 8 cases in the U.S. Supreme Court, New Mexico has not passed a same-sex marriage law. The Religious Liberty Department continues to keep an eye on this case as it is expected to go the U.S. Supreme Court.

And, so we have it. Religious liberty issues are a part of so many facets of our lives besides just the ecumenical; they also touch on the social, individual, corporate, state, and even health care issues we are involved in today. The Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department has worked tirelessly for more than 100 years protecting this precious gift of liberty God has entrusted to us. We believe that not only our department, but individual church members must be ready to give a well thought out reason for defense of these freedoms so long enjoyed. ❖

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

The Southern Union Public Affairs & Religious Liberty Department puts out a bi-monthly newsletter, *Waymarks*. If you enjoyed reading about these issues and want to keep abreast of current religious liberty topics in the news, write to us and ask for *Waymarks*: ReligiousLiberty@southernunion.com.

“IMPACT 2013”

Together, We Are Stronger

BY MARIEL LOMBARDI

Michael Jordan, the famous basketball player, once said, “There are plenty of teams in every sport that have great players and never win titles....Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships.

The Hispanic ministries directors of the eight conferences in the Southern Union territory are focused on Jesus’ desire for unity, which generates a methodology of team work. The mission entrusted to the Church is a winning mission, and Jesus is the Expert among experts on victory. Speaking with His Father while on the Earth, He expressed: “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one — I in them and you in me — so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me,” John 17:20-23. Jesus knew that only through unity could the Church make Him known to the world, and the world would believe in Him and would experience His love.

In a joint effort, the Southern Union and eight confer-

ences launched the project “Impact 2013.” It was a soul-winning program that was divided in three stages: planting, growing, and harvesting. Hundreds of churches in the Union participated. During the Festival of Hispanic Laity, February 8-10, 2013, 1,100 delegates and lay pastors attended, and training was offered for evangelism and soul-winning. Fifteen days later, the participants presented the plan in their congregations, and all the Southern Union Hispanic churches joined in a day of fasting and prayer.

For the growing period between

initial planting and harvesting, various activities were organized to keep the motivation. Symbolically, a torch which was to be passed on during the months of this plan, traveled through all the congregations representing the hope that this objective remained alive in the hearts of the participants. Each church had an altar of prayer where the members put the names of family and friends whom they wanted to bring to Jesus’ feet. Prayer partners who maintained constant communication were formed, seminars were offered via the Internet which involved more than 100 individuals, and a Facebook page was opened with the aim of keeping the leaders and members informed and motivated in unity and mission.

Following the steps of planting and cultivation, harvesting took place October 5-12. Churches, members’ homes, and parks served as auditoriums for the 470 campaigns that members trained for during the February festival, and they preached the sermons prepared by Alejandro Bullón, pastor.

The joyous result of this teamwork was 1,500 baptisms and a spiritually enriching experience for those who worked to bring souls to Christ. ✠

Mariel Lombardi is Southern Union contributing editor for Hispanic articles.





KEN FORD

Revelation Today Reaches from Charlotte to the World

BY HASKELL WILLIAMS

The Charlotte, North Carolina, metropolitan Ovens Auditorium rang with gospel songs and forceful preaching of God's Word from October 11 through November 9, 2013. More than two years of planning with It Is Written, South Atlantic and Carolina conferences, and 3 Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN) culminated in an evangelistic outreach to the population of the greater Charlotte area, where more than 100 individuals committed their lives to Jesus Christ and united with the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

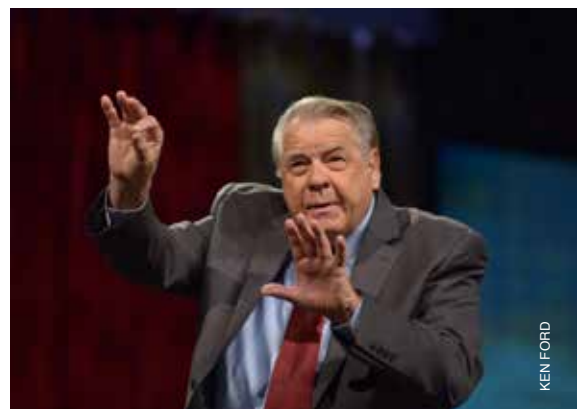
How did it happen? It began with a burden and a dream in 2010 when then-pastor of Charlotte-Sharon Church, Minner Labrador, approached then-president of the Carolina Conference, Jim Davidson, with a burning desire to reach the most populous city between Washington, D.C. and Atlanta, Ga. A brainstorming session surfaced the name John Bradshaw, recently appointed speaker/director of It Is Written.

This was to be an outreach from

all of the Adventists of Charlotte to all the people of Charlotte. Leaders of the Carolina and South Atlantic conferences invited their churches and pastors to the table for planning. It Is Written staff — John Bradshaw, speaker/director, and Yves Monnier, evangelism director — traveled to Charlotte to listen, share, and plan.

Two waves of tens of thousands of cards were mailed with an invitation to study God's Word. And, nearly 400 responded. The ministers, realizing the enormity of preparation, decided to meet the first Thursday of each month for planning and coordination. Teachers from the SALT program (Soul-winning And Leadership Training Institute) at Southern Adventist University led in lay-training dozens of members for following up interests and giving Bible studies.

A rally at Charlotte Central Spanish Church kicked off the 2013 New Year as Bradshaw rallied some 600 "troops." Congregations all around town shifted



KEN FORD

Ron Halvorsen, retired Southern Union evangelism/church growth institute director

into high gear — praying for their families, neighbors, and friends; responding to Bible study requests; and holding felt-need seminars.

Two teams of student literature evangelists from Georgia-Cumberland and Ouachita Hills College arrived in May, and took Gospel books to hundreds of thousands homes in the Charlotte area, along with invitations to

hear John Bradshaw come October.

Anticipation mounted in each of the churches as autumn drew near. Planning meetings with pastors and lay-leaders were now meeting weekly for prayer and directions. Then the shoe dropped...

Monnier broke the shocking news that John Bradshaw had been diagnosed with cancer of the tongue. "Of the tongue...?" How much more directly could

the enemy attack the evangelist than by hitting him with his instrument of speech? We were shocked, and it felt as if the wind had been sucked out of the room.

Local coordinator and Carolina ministerial director, Haskell Williams, remembers saying, "This

has taken us by surprise, but it hasn't caught God off-guard." The lesson we should have already learned was about to be repeated — the Message is larger than the man. The Conference president had changed, but the plans went forward. The pastor whose idea initiated "Charlotte 4 Christ" was called elsewhere, but the progress continued. Now, the speaker was not able to speak... and the presentation would proceed. Haskell's wife, Cindy, suggested, "Why not ask Ron Halvorsen?"

Ron Halvorsen, who had "been trying to retire for 10 years," was sitting in a boat on the Crystal River fishing when he got the call. His question was, "Can't you get someone better? I'm 75 years old!"

There was not a pause or a halt in the process; it just took a little detour as Halvorsen revised and developed new sermons, and Palmer Halvorsen spent hundreds of hours helping him update his graphics to broadcast quality. Friends of It Is Written, Maynard and Ellie LeBrun and Leroy and Edna Dockham, drove across the country to assist former associates of Ron Halvorsen, George Garrick, and Ken Blundell.

During rehearsal the night just before opening night, everything was set up, including the cameras and broadcast facilities of 3ABN, ready to spread Revelation Today across the continent and beyond via satellite and Internet streaming. Ezra Mendinghall, pastor at Charlotte Northeast, led all the volunteers in a prayer of dedication and beseeched God to bring people to the meeting.



neighborhood downlinks will report their results soon.

Wonderful stories of conversion were many. Sierra Hernandez approached the Bible School desk, concerned about missing the baptism. She had heard Halvorsen's presentation and was convicted, but was upset that she had a pre-arranged trip to Mexico City on the date of the announced baptism. She was assured that there



And they came! Opening night saw more than 1,300 individuals fill the seats. Night after night, they listened to questions answered by John Bradshaw (by recorded video), songs by Charles Haugabrooks, and messages of hope by Ron Halvorsen. While attendance varied between 550 and 1,500, interests came consistently. The water in the baptisteries was kept busy night after night. Pastors Brian Aalborg and David Graham (Charlotte-Sharon), Marvin Mclean (Gastonia-Ephesus), Julio Flores (Central Spanish), Ezra Mendinghall (Northeast), Casey Ricks (Trinity), Ryan Aalborg (University City), Christopher Whitaker (Pageland and Rock Hill-New Life), David Smith (Berean), and Tom Mills (Monroe) raised their hands in prayer as candidate after candidate was plunged beneath the waters of baptism. At last count, 104 individuals had joined one of the area congregations, with more than a dozen more planning for baptism by the holidays. And beyond those, 30 to 40 strong interests remained to be followed up. Reports from dozens of churches and hundreds of homes that hosted local Revelation Today neigh-

would be additional opportunities once she returned. Other than the five days abroad, Hernandez and her husband, David, didn't miss a meeting, they even watched those meetings via Internet streaming with David's mother in Mexico. They were beaming as they were baptized on the last Sabbath morning.

During the course of the meetings, friendships were developed with many members of the staff in Ovens Auditorium. They provided dedicated service night after night, and several were touched by the seeds of truth and kindness sown in their hearts.

The churches of Charlotte saw God's Spirit move on the hearts of hundreds, and they are convinced that it was because of the close harmony and cooperation of all of the pastors, leaders, and members across the Charlotte metropolitan area. Georgia Dixon, outreach coordinator of Berean, stated, "We've got to keep this going." ❖

Haskell Williams is Carolina Conference ministerial director.



CAMP KULAQUA CELEBRATES 60 YEARS OF MEMORIES

BY PHIL YOUNTS

More than 500 previous Camp Kulaqua staff members returned to the banks of Hornsby Spring located near High Springs in north Florida, September 22, 2013, to celebrate and reminisce. “We are thankful for all the staff who dedicated their lives to camp ministry, and for 60 years of God’s blessings on Camp Kulaqua,” said Phil Younts, administrative camp director since 1987.

From the original 273 acres purchased in 1953, the Camp has grown until it now encompasses more than 680 acres with housing for 1,000

people. More than 50,000 people use the facilities each year.

While developing into a year-round camp, the original purpose of bringing young people to the Lord in an outdoor setting has not diminished. During 2013, 75 young people were



This 1955 photo shows campers enjoying a swim in Hornsby Spring on the 273 acres purchased for \$18,000 soon after Wayne Foster joined Florida Conference as youth director.

baptized, and hundreds more made commitments to Jesus.

Camp Kulaqua continues to improve its facilities to accommodate an increasing conference membership with the construction of three Woodland Lodges. Each lodge can house up to 120 guests in hotel-style rooms. A Visitor Center is also in the building process.

“We provide the opportunities. You provide the memories,” says Younts.



Almost all of Camp Kulaqua’s past administrative and summer camp directors were present for the anniversary weekend. From left: Wayne Foster, Norm Middag, Phil Younts, Wally Welch, Bucky Weeks, Lewis Hendershot, Byron Voorbeis, Rick Faber, and Ray Queen.

Ward D. Sumpter, Retired Southern Union Executive Secretary, Passes 1935—2013

Elder Ward D. Sumpter was born on December 24, 1935, in Hemingway, S.C., to the late Ward and Celia Sumpter. He attended schools in Georgetown County, S.C., and later enrolled at Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in theology in 1965.

He was a successful student literature evangelist, and earned a full scholarship each summer to fund his college education. He served two years in the United States Army as a medical specialist, and received an Honorable Discharge for his distinguished service, and a Good Conduct Medal.

After graduation he became a full-time literature evangelist, and because he showed leadership skills he was asked to serve as an associate publishing director for the South Atlantic Conference under the mentorship of the late Silas McClamb. He served in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia for four years.

He met the love of his life, Mary Diane Merker-son, and they were united



RON QUICK

in holy matrimony on May 1, 1966. To this union, two children were born: one daughter, Shernanda “Sherry,” and one son, Cedric.

Sumpter’s pastoral and educational journey began to expand. He was assigned a pastorate in the South Atlantic Conference’s Tallahassee, Fla., district. He felt the urge to continue his education and attended Andrews University Theological Seminary in Berrien Springs, Mich., and Loma Linda University School of Health, Loma Linda, Calif. After these pursuits, he returned to the Atlanta area to serve as pastor of the Atlanta-Boulevard

district. The Lord blessed him with large baptisms in his evangelistic efforts. In 1975, he baptized 250 souls and founded the Maranatha Seventh-day Adventist Church. He served the Atlanta area for more than five years. The churches he pastored in the Tampa, Fla., district include Mt. Calvary, Town and Country, and Clearwater. While in Tampa, he planted the Progress Village Seventh-day Adventist Church.

His service in the Southern Union Conference encompassed numerous assignments and ministries. In 1979, associate evangelist, evangelist, associate ministerial director; 1981, associate executive secretary and then voted executive secretary, a post he held until he retired after 28 years of dedicated service in 2007. Sumpter served under the following presidents of the Southern Union: Harold H. Schmidt, who was president from 1965 to 1980; Alvin C. McClure, from 1980 to 1990; Malcolm D. Gordon from 1990 to 2003; and Gordon

L. Retzer from 2003 to 2011.

Evangelistic efforts during his years employed at the Southern Union included a 1980 evangelistic meeting in South Atlantic, baptizing 100 souls; and in 1982, he baptized more than 100 souls during an evangelistic meeting in South Central.

Other educational highlights and awards include: 1984, he received a Doctorate of Divinity Degree from Gulf Coast Seminary in Panama City, Fla.; 1995, he received the Distinguished Presidential Award from Oakwood University, named “Alumnus of the Year” by NAFEO, and listed in the International Who’s Who of Professionals; 1996, he received the coveted “Key to the City” awards from the cities of Birmingham, Ala., and Thomasville, Ga.

Possessing a special interest in working with and helping young people, Sumpter unselfishly rendered financial assistance to hundreds of students by giving scholarships for them to attend Adventist church schools and Oakwood University. He believed in investing his life in the life of others, and many students can thank him personally for his moral and financial support.

He had a “green thumb” and grew beautiful vegetables in his garden. He was known to share his goodies each week as he became very active in the community outreach program at Berean Outreach Ministry Center, which provided clothing and food to

needy families each week.

Elder Sumpter was called to rest during the early morning hours of November 8, 2013. Those who cherish numerous memories are his loving and devoted wife of 47 years, Mary Diane Sumpter; daughter, Shernanda (Berry) Peterson; son,

Cedric Sumpter; grandchildren, Brad and Trey Peterson; and Jimmy Walker Sr. of Detroit, Mich., Mary Lee Sumpter of Hemingway, S.C., Thomas Sumpter, Peter Sumpter, and James (Mary) Sumpter of Durham, N.C., Jimmy Walker Jr., Nakhesa Stewart of Detroit, Mich., Jonathan

(Irene) Walker of Hemingway, S.C., Dorian Burt, Jahleia Walker-Chieves of Hemingway, S.C.; several other relatives; and a host of friends.

Tom Carter Retires After 57 Years of Denominational Service

Tom Carter, director of Planned Giving and Trust Services Department at the Southern Union, retired after 57 years of denominational service — 46 years in the planned giving and trust services area. He started in trust services in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. He has served in four conferences and three union offices. He was the director of trust services at the General Conference, and served there for 20 years.

Carter is married to Janette Mullikin Carter, and they have two daughters, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren with another one on



the way. They are active members in the Douglasville, Ga., Church.

Ken Ford has been voted to serve as the new Southern Union director for the Planned Giving and Trust Services Department. Ford has served the denomination for 37 years — 25 as a pastor and 12 as planned giving and trust services director. He

has worked in the Potomac, Ontario, and Carolina conferences. He has a master of divinity and doctor of ministry degree from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., and has a CSPG (Certified Specialist in Planned Giving) from California State University.

Ford is a third generation Adventist, being born to a church

pastor's family. He is married to his eighth-grade sweetheart, Renee France Ford, R.N. They have two daughters (both graduates from Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, Tenn.) and one grandson. Stepha-

nie Powell is the dean of girls at Highland Academy in Portland, Tenn., and Jaclyn Knight is married to the dean of boys at Maplewood Academy in Hutchinson, Minn. Ford's hobbies include photography, creative writing, and music.



Everett Leslie Marley Jr., Former Kentucky-Tennessee President, Passes

Everett Leslie Marley Jr. was born in Kyle, S.D., on April 24, 1921, the only son of the late Everett and Ethel Marley Sr. He had two older sisters Anna Joy Clark and Ethel Mae Watson. He grew up on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota where his father, an Adventist minister, devoted 32 years to serving as teacher, doctor, federal agent, and friend to the Sioux Indians; attended Shelton Academy in NE, Plainview Academy in South Dakota, and Madison College in Tennessee; graduating valedictorian of his class with a degree in math and physics.

Right after his junior year in college, he married Anna Ruth Bryant on July 16, 1940. His plan after graduation was to attend Vanderbilt University and obtain a masters and doctorate in math. It was during this time while assisting in an evangelistic tent meeting that he started having questions and doubts about his career choice, and he asked God specifically to close doors on the fellowship offered by Vanderbilt University if he was not to pursue a



career as a math professor. Right after that Vanderbilt called and said that they were offering the fellowship to one of their graduates who had the same GPA as Marley.

The Marleys took this as a direct sign that God was pointing them in another direction. He took a job in Pensacola, Fla., working in property accounting at Fort Barancas, while waiting to be enlisted in the military. After passing his physical, getting registered and classified, he was never drafted. A couple of months later he was contacted by Howard Capman, president of the Alabama-Mississippi Con-

ference, and was asked to accept a call to pastoral ministry. After the Lord had directed in so definite a way over the last few years, the Marleys were convinced that this was what the Lord wanted them to do. So they began pastoral ministry in 1943. He pastored churches in Meridian, Miss.; Montgomery,

Ala.; Greenville, S.C.; and Columbia, S.C. While in Columbia he also planted churches in Anderson, Pickens, Orangeburg, and Sumpter. In 1956, he became pastor of the Nashville, Tenn., First Church, and a year later was elected president of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. He also served as president of the Iowa Conference, secretary-treasurer of the Northern Union, and president of the Northern Union.

He was a wise and astute church administrator, always focused on the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. In 1980,

he retired yet remained active in giving Bible studies, preaching, and leading Prayer Meetings.

On May 6, 2006, after 66 years of marriage, his wife, Ruth, passed away. On March 7, 2010, he married Arline Bracebridge, and they lived in Lexington, S.C., near her family. He and Arline enjoyed family get-togethers, their pets, and spending time together. He went to sleep on November 28, 2013, after complications from COPD. He was 92 years old.

He is survived by his wife, Arline Marley; three children: Barry (Lynne) Marley, Cheryl (Gordon) Retzer, and Marcia (Peter) Rappoport; four grandchildren: Carisa (Craig) Carr, Tim (Kyla) Retzer, Julia Rappoport, and Daniel Rappoport; four great-grandchildren: Cassie Carr, Christian Carr, Sydney Retzer, and Alexia Retzer.

New Technology Reduces Need for Blood Transfusions

Florida Hospital DeLand is offering a new advanced technology that allows patients to use their own blood during and after surgeries, rather than relying on blood transfusions.

The technology, called OrthoPAT, is the first autotransfusion system designed specifically for orthopedic patients. It is also the only system to continuously salvage a patient's blood that is shed during and after surgery.

Autotransfusion is the process of collecting viable red blood cells shed by a patient during surgery, processing them, and reinfusing them to the patient. The goal of autotransfusion is to reduce the amount of banked blood required by patients, thereby reducing the risk of infectious dis-

ease transmission or other complications of donor blood transfusion.

"With OrthoPAT, we've seen a significant reduction in transfusion rates for our orthopedic program," said Kem Castle, the hospital's orthopedic service line manager. "Our transfusion rate was as high as 30 percent, and now it is as low as seven percent."

The OrthoPAT system collects blood aspirated both during surgery, as well as postoperatively from the patient's wound drain. It continuously washes and concentrates the red blood cells collected, preparing them for reinfusion to the patient.



operating room to the recovery room, and then onto the patient floor. In addition, the OrthoPAT is highly automated and simple to operate, eliminating the need for a dedicated operator to monitor its operation.

Florida Hospital DeLand is the only Orthopaedic Center of Excellence in the area, and has been nationally recognized for ranking in the top 10 percent for quality in joint replacement surgery. The facility has also earned the prestigious Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval™, Disease-Specific Care Certification in Total Hip and Total Knee Replacement Surgery.

—BY LINDSAY REW

"You can definitely see a difference with patients, even the day of surgery," Castle said. "With our new OrthoPAT system, patients are more alert and awake following their surgery, and we've even been able to discharge some patients on post-op day two."

Similar to the size of an infusion pump, the OrthoPAT system mounts to an IV-pole and easily follows the patient from the

Jellico Community Hospital Receives Commitment to Excellence Award from Press Ganey

Jellico Community Hospital has been named a 2013 Commitment to Excellence Award winner by Press Ganey Associates, Inc. This award recognizes facilities with continuous improvement in patient satisfaction, employee engagement, physician engagement, or clinical quality during a two-year span. "Achieving this level of sus-

tained improvement reflects the organization's unwavering commitment to delivering outstanding service and quality. Ultimately, this accomplishment is a bold statement to the community

that Jellico Community Hospital is passionate about improving patient care and experiences," said Patrick T. Ryan, CEO of Press Ganey.

Jellico Com-

munity Hospital received the Commitment to Excellence Award in the category of Patient Satisfaction for their continuous improvement in patient experience scores from January 2011 to January 2013. It is one of only 20 organizations to win the Commitment to Excellence Award this year.

"We strive to extend the healing ministry of Christ to every patient, visitor, and employee we have," said Erik Wangness, CEO at Jellico Community Hospi-

tal. "To be recognized for continuous improvement in patient satisfaction is an honor and a result of our caring staff working diligently to meet not only our patients' physical needs, but their spiritual and emotional needs as well."

The award winners were recently recognized at Press Ganey's National Client Conference, and will be featured on pressganey.com.

—BY KATIE RICHARDSON



High Point Church Celebrates 100th Anniversary

In the late 1800s the Seventh-day Adventist message rang out from a little tent on the corner of Baker Road and Archdale Road in Archdale, N.C. Every night, Elder Sanford, an evangelist, preached the Three Angels' Messages to those who sat listening. One of those who listened and responded was B.J. Hicks. The seed planted in that tent meeting sprouted and grew into a church plant, with Hicks as a charter member. B.F. Purdam was sent to nurture the small group of seven, and the membership steadily grew. They even started a church school. This created a lot of interest from the small church in nearby Lego, N.C., so they decided to merge with the Archdale group.

In 1913, a lack of transportation made it difficult



Current and former pastors came to join in the celebration of 100 years at High Point, N.C., Church. Pictured with Leslie Louis (right), Carolina Conference president, are former pastor Jim Rochester and his wife, Phyllis; Dan Jarrard and his wife, Rebecca; and the current pastoral team, Lorentiu and Adrianna Serban (left).

for High Point residents to attend the church in Archdale, which led to A.B. Rogers and M.P. Woodall starting a Sabbath School and church school in their hometown. Thus, the High Point Church began.

One hundred years later, on October 19, 2013, the members of the High

Point Church celebrated the Lord's faithfulness in their past, present, and future. Lorentiu Serban, pastor, was excited to host former members, pastors, and other guests at the centennial homecoming. The special Sabbath was highlighted by thoughts from Leslie Louis, Carolina Conference

president, as the worship speaker. Other presentations included a plaque given to the church by Representative John Faircloth, North Carolina House of Representatives, 61st District in Guilford County, in recognition of their service to the community. Mildred Moring was given an engraved remembrance by the church to honor her faithfulness as a member of the church for more than 80 years.

With the first 100 years behind them, the High Point members can't wait to see what God has in store for the years to come. Hopefully, it will soon be the ultimate day of homecoming when the Savior returns to take many to Heaven!

—BY MILDRED MORING AND BECKY CARPENTER



Lorentiu Serban, pastor, presents a commemorative plaque to Mildred Moring, a member of High Point Church for more than 80 years, for her service and dedication to the church. Roy Dunning also stood to be recognized for his years as a member, almost as many as Mildred Moring's. It's a testament to the church to have such long-standing and loyal members.



Hendersonville Church Holds “Mad About Marriage” Seminar

“Are you mad about marriage, or just plain mad?” said seminar host Mike Tucker to the 100-plus attendees of the Mad



BECKY CARPENTER

About Marriage seminar, held November 8-9, 2013, at the Lelia Patterson Center in Hendersonville, N.C.

Tucker and his wife, Gayle, take this marriage ministry on the road each year with seminar dates in cities around the country. Tucker is the speaker/director of Faith For Today, and he and Gayle host the television program, Lifestyle Magazine, which is shown on cable and satellite networks all over the United States. In the Mad About Marriage seminars,

the Tuckers examine some of the issues that can derail marriages. They draw on current research and the expertise of a variety of scholars, authors, and psychologists to find solutions to the problems. And, they do it in a personal, thought-provoking, yet humorous way, putting you off your guard just enough to make it sink in and make a difference.

Among other tips and techniques to wade through marriage mishaps, the seminar teaches participants how to deal with the



BECKY CARPENTER

four negative patterns of communication: “Escalation (an argument begins with a small issue, but increases in intensity and negativity, with each partner upping the ante); Invalidation (a pattern in which one partner subtly or directly puts down the thoughts, feelings, or character of the other); Negative Interpretation (when one partner interprets what the other person says or does more negatively than it was intended); and Avoidance and Withdrawal (when one partner fails to deal with

difficult issues by avoiding the discussion or withdrawing altogether.)” “If you’re married, engaged, dating,

or thinking of dating, you need to hear this seminar,” said one attendee. “My husband and I thought what we were fighting about was unique to us. Turns out every couple deals with the same kinds of issues, and there are proven ways to deal with them. It’s so refreshing to finally have the tools we need to make real changes in the way we communicate.”

Learn more at www.madaboutmarriage.com.

—BY BECKY CARPENTER

New Bern Youth Worship in God’s Natural Church

Eleven children and three adults from the New Bern, N.C., Church camped at Flanners Beach, N.C., on Friday night, September 13, 2013, to celebrate “Sabbath in the Park.”

The group learned about Creation on



Friday night as they did a candle craft with a LED light. Then the campers prayed, sang songs around the fire, and walked the Neuse River at dusk. In the morning they studied about the

Sabbath as the memorial of Creation, sang more songs and prayed, and then walked the trails of the Croatan Forest. The children enjoyed it and suggested a camping trip once a month. The adults enjoyed every minute, too — a tradition in the making.

—BY DONNA HORTON AND SHELLY ETTERS

Three Church Facilities Dedicated

God is opening new doors in new facilities for His work to grow and prosper in Florida. During the month of October, three buildings were dedicated.

Bethsaida

On October 26, members and friends gathered for the dedication of this Creole-speaking church congregation that was born into existence on January 5, 2013, after the merger of Shiloh and Morijah Churches in Miami, Fla. The dedicatory sermon was presented by Duane Rollins, Florida Conference treasurer.

Lay pastor Wesle Pierre shepherds this flock of 158 members. The church building at 10185 NW 7th Avenue in Miami was previously occupied by another denomination and, before that, a funeral home.



Bethsaida Seventh-day Adventist Church



Fort Lauderdale Seventh-day Adventist Church



Jupiter-Tequesta Seventh-day Adventist Church

Fort Lauderdale

During the weekend of October 18-20, Fort Lauderdale members realized the fulfillment of a 27-year dream to dedicate

a new sanctuary. Since 1986, the adjacent fellowship hall has served the 297 members as a place of worship.

Jeffrey Thompson,

pastor, led the weekend celebration that included guest speakers George Brown, former Inter-American Division president; Henoc Paulicin, Florida Conference ministerial field secretary; and Conrad Duncan, Florida Conference vice president for general administration.

Jupiter-Tequesta

Jupiter-Tequesta Church dedicated its new facility on October 11 as the first step in a building program that will eventually include a sanctuary. Florida Conference President Mike Cauley was the speaker for the worship service.

Church members currently are meeting in their fellowship hall. The campus provides ample seating, parking, classrooms, and amenities for the 115-member congregation under the direction of Richard Moseley, pastor.

—BY GLADYS NEIGEL

5K Walk/Run Leads to Improved Health

For the past three years, Apopka, Fla., Church has partnered with Florida Hospital Apopka for a Let's Move Day 5K walk/run and health fair. On September 22, 2013, in addition to the main event with 130 participants, a Kids' Fun Run was offered to youngsters 12 and under. The goal of this event was to encourage healthy kids and families in the community.

One success story was that of Shermin Tao, a return participant from last year's race. Shermin did well in the race but was determined this year to win his age category. His

preparation included running a mile every day and playing tennis in the evening.

However, just weeks before the event, Shermin was diagnosed with high blood pressure and high cholesterol. He took the news in stride and promptly changed his



ROBERT BROOME

Shermin Tao made healthy lifestyle changes before winning his age category in the Let's Move Day 5K walk/run.

diet to improve his health. Changes included more plant-based foods, a reduction in meat consumption, and staying away from his favorite fast food restaurant.

Confirmation of the results from Shermin's efforts came just days before the race when both his high blood pressure and cholesterol numbers were lowered to within normal ranges. On September 22, a healthier Shermin Tao finished the 5K run and won his age category!

—BY ROBERT BROOME AND THOMAS BROOME

New Port Richey Pathfinders Learn CPR

The Pathfinder Club of New Port Richey received free CPR instruction from Tom Mazzant and Daryl

Sample, two certified CPR teachers from Florida Hospital of North Pinellas.

According to the

Pathfinder Club director, Carol Koch, 18 Pathfinders and staff members took the three-hour CPR course.

The teachers gave each Pathfinder a Red Cross booklet to remind them how to perform CPR. Instruction included a video and a how-to demonstration of each step in giving CPR to adults, children, and infants.

Pathfinders also performed hands-on practice with various-sized manikins loaned from the hospital, and they were instructed in Au-

tomated External

Defibrillator (AED) usage. After successfully completing the Family and Friends CPR course, each Pathfinder received a case containing an official CPR mask and gloves, and a certificate of course completion.

These Pathfinders are ready and prepared to act in a time of emergency. Koch has approached the Church board with this request from the Pathfinders: "Our church should look into obtaining an AED to have on the premises in case we should ever need one. They are simple to use and could save a life."

—BY LENNIE SCHIEFER



JOE VITAL

New Port Richey Pathfinders and staff received professional instruction on life-saving techniques of CPR and automatic defibrillators.

Standifer Gap Raises Funds Via Yard Sale

The Standifer Gap Church in Chattanooga, Tenn., celebrated Labor Day with its third annual yard sale. Bill Payne organized the event, while church members and friends donated items. More than 30 people helped set up tables and priced items.

"This event is a win-win situation, with both the community and the church benefitting," Payne said.

The yard sale gives those who are less for-

tunate the opportunity to purchase needed items at a fraction of the cost.

The previous two years' yard sales brought in around \$3,000 each, but this year's total was around \$4,800.

The funds will help to retire the mortgage on the



These tables are loaded with yard sale items at the Standifer Gap Church in Chattanooga, Tenn. Proceeds benefit the church. This year the sale raised \$4,800.

JESSICAASENJO

sale, a health screening team, led by Sonia Wrate, R.N., was busy checking blood sugar, blood pressure, and giving health-age assessments to visitors.

Dianne Fillman, D.D.S., also provided oral cancer exams, and the area blood drive van was there for those who wished to donate blood.

Women's ministries members offered baked goods and homemade bread to attendees.

—BY JUDY SCHERMERHORN

Family Center land.

In addition to the yard

Adventist Christian Fellowship Host Retreat

Each fall, Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF) hosts a retreat just for student leaders and their advisors at Cohutta Springs in Crandall, Ga. This school year, there are roughly 25 students who serve as leaders for their ACF chapter on one of 10 public/secular university campuses, and most of them joined for



Students leaders took time to come together at Cohutta Springs. Adventist Christian Fellowship has about 25 students who serve as leaders on 10 public/secular campuses.

the annual training.

Their theme for the 2013-14 school year is "Walk Then Grow," and they spent the weekend

of October 4-6, 2013, focusing on their relationships with Jesus, how they are walking and growing there, and how that relates to their relationships with each other.

—BY MICHAELA LAWRENCE JEFFREY

Ingersolls Celebrate 60th Anniversary

Herb and Dottie Ingersoll finished school at Washington Missionary College in Takoma Park, Md., and were married the following week, August 23, 1953. The next Sunday they were at Michigan's Adelphian Academy. Herb taught Bible and ran the print shop, and Dottie was the registrar.



Ten years and two children later (1963) they answered the call to Malamulo

Mission in Malawi, Africa, to set up a publishing house. A third child was born.

The family returned to the United States for academy, and worked in evangelism with academy-aged students in West Virginia. A call to work in health education at Malawi, resulted in the whole family returning.

In 1980, Herb and Dottie pastored in West Virginia

five years before accepting a call to the Pacific Island of Saipan to organize the first Adventist church in that location, ending a career of 36 years of denominational employment.

They are retired in Powell's Cross Roads, Tenn. They attend the Whitwell, Tenn., Mission Group, and travel for short mission trips.

CAD for Hope: Student Mission to Community

Collegedale Academy (CA) students piled into cars and dispersed among the surrounding neighborhoods of Chattanooga, Tenn., on November 5, 2013, to distribute bags for CA's annual food drive: CAD (Collegedale Academy Drive) for Hope.

Started by former CA teacher Richard Cadavero, CAD for Hope is responsible for restoring the Samaritan Center's Food Pantry every year, as well as the empty tables of less fortunate families.

When asked about her impression of the day's success, freshman Natalie Hamilton said, "I was impressed at the large amount of food that was donated by total strangers, and how our small service is making such a huge difference in the community."

The efforts of CA students largely impact the Samaritan Center's resources and ability to help others in different ways, in other words, the needs many outweigh the needs of the few. Every student must adhere to this idea of selflessness and embrace it before going out into the community.

That being said, doing selfless acts can be reward-



Collegedale Academy students sort through items donated to the CAD for Hope outreach. Supplies donated are given to the Samaritan Center in Ooltewah, Tenn.

ing in even the smallest of ways.

"We didn't encounter a lot of people, but those who were present greeted us. Everyone was polite and seemed happy to see us and help," says senior Andrew Suekert.

The goodness of CA's mission was evident even to residents of the community they had never met before, and those contributors have blessed not only the recipients of the food, but also the students themselves

by their kind actions.

As students collecting for the need of others, it is easy to overlook the importance of the impact this community service has on the students themselves, but there is a ripple effect of such an outreach throughout the lives of students who participate.

Tony Dahlberg, executive director of the Samaritan Center, believes strongly in the CAD for Hope can drive, and is an avid believer of the long-term affect

this outreach will have on the students.

"As the young people of this academy become adults, enter into their careers and professions, as they marry and start their families, as they spread out over this country and around the world, seeds of 'selflessly doing for others' will grow, and there will be many positive outcomes. I believe you (the students) will have stronger marriages and be example-setting parents for your children on living a giving lifestyle."

To carry out the same kindness shown and received through CAD for Hope to the rest of the world seems like it is too great of a task, but by putting their best foot forward and carrying a willing heart, the students of CA can achieve that and much more in the future through exemplary outreach programs like CAD for Hope.

—BY ALISSA COLEMAN



Students from Collegedale Academy prepare the bags for the CAD for Hope can drive. Proceeds benefit their community.

Laurel Members Raise Money, Build Friendships Through Rummage Sales

For the past several years, members of Laurel, Miss., Church have held two rummage sales each year. The proceeds from the sales help to finance the costs of sending youth to summer camp at Alamisco, supporting other church missions, and help with the building fund.

The sales are held in April and October. Volunteer members gather in the Family Life Center for a three-day-long sale.

This October a six-day sale was held during a two-week period. A typical sale cycle begins by receiving these donations delivered to the “Mansion on The



On opening day, many hours of volunteer work achieved the goal of excellence in presentation and appeal the public has learned to expect.

Hill,” a small house on the church property. Here the volunteer staff sorts, washes, cleans, irons, prices, and stores the items for the next sale time. Many hours, during a six-month period, are required to achieve the

goal of excellence in presentation and appeal that has become a trademark of the sale. “People are impressed by the organization, good will, and the result of the hard work as they shop and meet friend-

ly, helpful church members who exude the character of Christ. Much literature and good will are freely shared each day as people come in to shop,” says Shane Hochstellar, pastor. The project began with annual sales revenues of about \$400 to \$600, and with time grew to exceed \$15,000 in 2013. “God has blessed beyond measure, and we praise Him for allowing us to continue serving as His disciples,” concludes Hochstellar.

—BY REBECCA GRICE AND SHANE HOCHSTELLAR

Peter Trzinskif Accepts the Call to Serve as Conference Ministerial Director

Peter Trzinskif accepted the call to serve as the ministerial director for the Gulf States Conference.

Trzinskif returned to college after working as a construction foreman. There, he met his future bride, Sandra K. Parker. She was attending the same civil engineering degree program, seeking a career change. Sandra holds a nursing degree from Hinsdale Sanitarium



Peter and Sandra Trzinskif

and Hospital. Together, they have five children and six grandchildren.

Trzinskif met Christ during a crisis in his life, and with Sandra’s influencing beliefs, he opened a Bible for the first time

and found Christ’s gift of love and everlasting life. This relationship with Jesus moved him to desire to serve God in a formal ministry position.

Sensing a growing conviction to serve, he became a literature evangelist part-time and a lay pastor of the LaCrosse, Wisc., Church. The Trzinskifs found within themselves a deep calling to make a difference for God in a real mission field. They responded enthusiastically

to a call from Upper Columbia Conference in 1998 to become the Native American pastoral couple for the All Nations Center.

Next a call from Christ moved them to a three-church district in Washington State, where they served until they received the call to the Panama City, Fla., Church in 2012. Their goal wherever they go is to plant the seeds of the Gospel where they can, and to foster relationships with Jesus Christ as the first and most important step in seeking eternal life.

—BY REBECCA GRICE

Record Number Pathfinders Attend Camporee



REBECCA GRICE

The Teen Leaders in Training (TLTS) were recognized on Sabbath morning.

A record number of more than 380 Pathfinders and guests attended the annual Gulf States Conference Pathfinder Camporee. The Camporee was held at Camp Alamisco in Dadeville, Ala., October 17-20, 2013. Activities and worships centered on the theme #SWAG (Saved With an Amazing Grace) based on Ephesians 2:8.

Ron Whitehead, assistant professor of youth ministry at Andrews University and executive director for the Center for Youth Evangelism, was the guest speaker. Whitehead told the Pathfinders to be an example and to stand firm in their decision to follow Christ even when the world is going in another direction. He also encouraged them to attend the International Camporee which will be held this coming August at Oshkosh, Wisc.

Camporee activities included marching and drilling, and field events

such as Save the Children (a canoe race to save a doll which represented a child), Saving the Souls (Pathfind-

director. Ivan and Leslie Lugo from Panama City, Fla., were introduced as the new Pathfinder Council co-

Church, for their 25 years of service, and the Kimbros for their service.

Mangum says, "I thank



REBECCA GRICE

More than 380 Pathfinders and guests gathered in the outdoor gym on Sabbath morning at Camp Alamisco in Dadeville, Ala.

ers memorized Bible verses and had to find colored rocks in a bucket that represented the verse), a race on stilts, and a Sabbath afternoon scavenger hunt.

All Conference camporees and other Pathfinder events are planned and directed by the Pathfinder Council and James Mangum, Conference youth

ordinators. The Lugos are replacing Bob and Arlene Kimbro from the Milton, Fla., Church, who resigned from the position after 36 years of service. During the Sabbath morning worship service, Mel Eisele, president of Gulf States Conference, honored John and Deborah Gorecki from the Birmingham, Ala., First

everyone for all their effort in attending, and the Pathfinder Council for working hard to prepare and plan the camporee. There was a record attendance this year, and we are thankful for God's blessings."

—BY REBECCA GRICE

Gluten-Free Recipe Exchange Held in Portland

Each Sunday afternoon during the month of September, the ladies of the Portland Church and Better Living Center held a gluten-free recipe and information exchange.

Each presentation started with information sharing, then moved to three or four demonstrations of recipes, each explaining the peculiarities of using gluten-free flours in the recipes. The main categories



Gluten-free recipe exchange participants

were presented were breakfast ideas (granola, muffins, etc.), entrees, desserts, and breads and crackers. Everyone received a sampling of the end results of the recipes.

All the attendees were delighted with the recipes and information they received. They went home eager to put them into practice.

—BY GLORIA OPP

“Man Behind the Mask” Men’s Conference Held

Indian Creek Camp hosted the second annual Kentucky-Tennessee Men’s Conference, October 25-27, 2013. This conference was especially exciting because it was the first joint venture between South Central and Kentucky-Tennessee Men’s Ministries Departments.

There were 180 men in attendance, which exceeded the goal of 150. Men came from New York, California, Idaho, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Texas, as well as the representative conferences. The speakers were Mike Tucker from Faith For Today and Philip Willis, D.Div., from the Lake Region Adult Ministries Department.

Emmanuel Chester, a men’s ministries leader from South Central, said the event was a dream come true as he witnessed men from both conferences and different cultural backgrounds join together



MARK DENNAN

remove the mask of shame and accept the Father’s blessing of manhood on His children. Willis challenged the men to live a life of real manhood and honor the call in whatever capacity or situation.

Many of the attendees expressed how powerful the weekend was because of the diversity. They expressed their desire to join together again soon, and many gave testimony to personal barriers being torn down

in fellowship, prayer, and worship. He went on to say that he believed it was a fulfillment of Jesus’ prayer of John 17.

Tucker expressed God’s love for His creation. He shared it was time to

by the rich experience of a blended event. God’s handiwork surrounded the camp as men took walks in the woods and along the shore, paddled in canoes, or rode in the pontoon boat. Dar White

worked her magic in the kitchen, and the attendees commented on the quality, presentation, and taste of the food for such a large gathering.

Words cannot express how special the weekend was, the depth of friendships formed, and the commitments to living a life of integrity. The weekend would not have been complete without a special guest appearance of ‘Da Guys’ from the windy city! The music was such a blessing that more time for worship in song was requested for next year.

For more information about the Men’s Conference as well as a look at next year’s event, visit www.micahsixeight.com or click on the link at www.kytn.net. Plan to attend next year’s conference, October 24-26, 2014, at Indian Creek Camp.

—BY MATTHEW DEMAREE
MEN’S CONFERENCE
COORDINATOR

Project W.A.R.M. Links Decherd with Toluca, Mexico

Decherd's two Seventh-day Adventist congregations wrapped up Christmas gifts for families in Mexico. It all began when Marina Montes, a friend of both congregations, discovered an acute need this past summer while visiting friends there.

"Rural areas in Mexico do not have local access to sophisticated medical services found in the larger cities such as Toluca," she explained. "Thus, families are forced to make the long journey from their village to places where help is available for those most sick. The hospital only allows one person to stay in

the room with the patient. Though access to restrooms is not restricted, additional family members without financial resources have to set up makeshift outdoor camps using cardboard or whatever type of covering they can find. Cold weather and lack of adequate food for these waiting families is a constant challenge."

That's when the Decherd Church and First Church of Decherd decided to launch Project W.A.R.M.



The colorful fleece throws were re-packaged into space bags for the trip to Mexico.

(Wrapping Amigos Residing in Mexico). More than 75 fleece throws were purchased and packed for delivery by Montes to these at-risk families. Along with the warmth, they received

a gift card with a Bible verse offering encouragement, signed by individual donors, "your friend in the United States."

"It doesn't take a large church to make a big impact on the needs of others," explained Jay Prall, project spokesperson.

"Decherd's two congregations are strategic partners in unique projects that fulfill unmet needs, whether here in our community or abroad."

—BY JAY PRALL

Highland Academy Adds New Dual Credit Class

A group of 13 Highland Academy (HA) students and five sponsors traveled to northeastern Minnesota

earned an hour of college credit through Southern Adventist University while earning P.E. credit at HA

as part of the new dual credit program. The trip was more than just relaxing down a river. The students spent five days canoeing, camp-

ing, and learning about the ecology and human history of the more than one million acres of protected wilderness. Students were

able to see how traditional wood and canvas canoes are made, and they received the opportunity to port their canoes across

some of the same portages that have been in use for centuries. Andy Wade, physical education director, said, "When students spend a week in Minnesota canoeing while getting school credit, it is

a great way to get students hooked on a lifetime of being physically active."

—BY AMY CIRIGLIANO



Students canoeing

on the annual Boundary Waters Canoe trip as part of Highland's outdoor educational program last September. Nine students also



Students Tom Sberman and Brant Burns prepare their campsite.

South Atlantic Opens Satellite ABC Store



WHITNEY K. JORDAN

Participants prepare to cut the ribbon: Alton Scott (left), South Atlantic Conference IT director; Linsene Caines, ABC staff; Larry Johnson, Conference treasurer; Godwin Mitchell, pastor of Ephesus Church; Traverus Waller, ABC staff; Patricia Halyard, ABC staff; Sylvia Coleman, ABC manager; Rachel Sanchez, ABC staff; and Stephen Ruff, Conference executive secretary.

Many gathered for the grand opening celebration of the South Atlantic Conference satellite Adventist Book Center (ABC) in Winston-Salem, N.C., on October 27, 2013. The grand opening celebration featured a ceremonial ribbon cutting with members

of the Conference administration, product demonstrations, grand opening sales, and an opportunity to meet store manager Sylvia Coleman.

“There was such a great need for an ABC location in this area,” said Coleman. “South Atlantic covers

such a large territory, and we wanted a location that was convenient to those in this region. Even if you do not live in the local area, you can order merchandise and have it shipped to you.”

The surrounding churches are very excited about the new location, as there isn’t another in the area. The Winston-Salem location is one of the three stores within South Atlantic.

The store, which is located on the property of Ephesus Junior Academy, includes Christian music, books, gifts, DVDs, children’s products, and a wide range of vegan and vegetarian foods.

The store is open the first Sunday of every month from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and every Wednesday from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

—BY WHITNEY K. JORDAN



WHITNEY K. JORDAN

Customers peruse Winston-Salem, N.C., ABC store during the grand opening.

Praise Tabernacle Ordains Deaconesses



Elaine Lavender (left), Cheryl Mills, Nellie Martin, and Bettye Mills, deaconesses of Praise Tabernacle, were ordained.

It was a high Sabbath on November 9, 2013, at Praise Tabernacle in Whiteville, N.C. Not only was it Women’s Day, organized by the women’s ministries leader, Sheila Mills, but also on that Sabbath Praise Tabernacle was the first in the South Atlantic Conference to follow through with the ordination of deaconesses. “It was a serious and humbling experience,” said Bettye Mills, head deaconess.

In 1895, Ellen White recommended the ordination of women who would give themselves to a deaconess-type work. She said:

“Women who are willing to consecrate some of their time to the service of The Lord should be appointed to visit the sick, look after the young and minister to the necessities of the poor. They should be set apart to this work by prayer and laying on of hands. In

some cases they will need to counsel with the church officers or minister, but if they are devoted women, maintaining a vital connection with God, they will be a power for good in the church. This is another means of strengthening and building up the church," *The Review and Herald*, July 9, 1895.

A number of women were ordained as deaconesses during Ellen White's Australian ministry. On August 10, 1895, the minutes

of the nominating committee at the Ashfield church in Sidney, Australia, stated, "immediately following the election, the officers were called to the front where pastors Corliss and McCullagn set apart the elders, deacons, and deaconesses by prayer and laying on of hands."

Several years later, in the same church, W.C. White officiated at the ordination of the church officers. The minutes of the Ashfield Church for January 7,

1900, stated, "The previous Sabbath officers had been nominated and accepted for the current year, and today Elder White ordained and laid hands on the elders, deacons, and deaconesses," *Adventist Review*, January 16, 1900.

So, in accordance with the above and the blessing of the South Atlantic Conference, on November 9, 2013, four deaconesses were escorted into the sanctuary by the deacons. Darryl How-

ard, pastor of Praise Tabernacle, and David Hughes, retired pastor, prayed; and then, with the elders of Praise Tabernacle laying on of hands, the four were ordained, officially setting them apart for their ministry.

At the end of the ceremony each was presented with a certificate of ordination and also a Rosebud statue.

—BY RICHARD G. BERRY, M.D.

Berea Junior Academy Salutes Veterans

Veterans Day, November 11, 2013, was a regular school day for students of Berea Junior Academy School (BJA) in Sumter, S.C. However, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., the school ceased regular operations and gathered in the Sumter Berea Church sanctuary to conduct a ceremony to honor all veterans, especially those who attended the then historic Stone Hill Academy (the site that now holds BJA), parents of students who attend BJA, and the church.

The students defined veterans as being men of valor — heroism, tenacity, and courage. Two students, 12-year-old Kara Samuels, 7th grader, and 10-year-old Keion Brown, 5th grader, presented their writings about veterans. Samuels, in her poem entitled "Who and What is This Brave and Courageous Man of Valor," compares veterans to men of valor and also to Bible characters like Moses, Elijah, Paul, Queen Esther, and David. She ended it by

saying that veterans were her heroes. Brown spoke from a more personal perspective. In his presentation, entitled "Veterans," he spoke about losing his uncle in battle. This, he said, has motivated him in his decision to be a part of the United States Armed Forces in the future.

In Regrick Howard's, principal of BJA, address he reminded the attendees that Veterans Day is a celebration to honor American veterans for their

patriotism, love of country, willingness to serve, and sacrifice for the common good. He noted that, initially, Veterans Day was called Armistice Day, which excluded persons who fought in wars after WWI. Armistice was replaced in 1954 with the word Veteran to include troops who fought in all wars. He further noted that since WWI, 508,613 veterans have died and the number is still growing. Howard concluded with an emphatic reference to the

lyrics of the patriotic song, "God Bless the USA," by Lee Greenwood.

The ceremony culminated with the retirement of the old flag that flew over the Historic Landmark for the Stone Hill School. A new flag now flies over the historic site. Staff Sergeant Hal Rumsey, veteran and member of Maranatha Church in Manning, S.C., assisted the students in folding the retired flag and posting the new one.

In continuance with the Veterans Day celebration, and because of the concerns students have for the well-being of Veterans, students later had a Greeting Card Making Party. The greeting cards were made for the American Red Cross "Holiday Mail for Heroes" program.

This might be a small school, but the students are doing big things. Way to go, BJA!

—BY CARLINE SAMUELS



Berea Junior Academy students showcase cards made for veterans, military families, and active-duty service members at hospitals and installations around the world.

Gethsemane Members Hold “Let’s Move Day” Event

It was a very chilly morning in capital city Raleigh, N.C., on September 22, 2013. Nevertheless, the health and temperance team at Gethsemane Church planned a fun morning of events for anyone who cared to participate.

Adults came out to walk an invigorating 5k in the drizzling rain that morning. The camaraderie and fellowship was priceless. As each adult rounded the checkpoint mark, they took turns getting free massages from Willie McNeil, a member and deacon of Gethsemane Church. In addition, there were 12 young people who came out for fun. Sheri Fisher and Timothy Whonder, participants in Gethsemane’s young adult ministries, set up an obstacle course for the youth. The ages of the youth ranged from three to 18 years old. Each participant remarked they had a wonderful time and would like to do it again!

Youth Week of Prayer was held the same week, and each night featured a

health spotlight. On Sabbath evening, the drama team performed a skit on childhood obesity, and were praised for doing an excellent job. Stacy Fisher, registered nurse and health and temperance leader of Gethsemane, complemented the skit by doing a 15-minute talk on the same subject. After the discussion, the audience viewed a video from YouTube entitled “Heart Attack Grill.” Members and guests found the whole evening very informative.

Juanita Horton, who spoke on the dangers of consuming energy drinks, did Sunday’s health nugget. Tajuana Lordeus did Monday’s health nugget, and the topic was on over-eating. Tuesday’s topic was given by Shirley Spivey, and she covered dangers of smoking. Leslie Johnson delivered Wednesday’s topic, covering depression and suicide. Claudette Mckenzie did Friday’s health nugget, and the topic was on the dangers of using Facebook. Each of the health sessions provided tremendous



Let’s Move Day participants enjoy massages by Willie McNeil.

amounts of information for parents and the youth.

Fisher initially was a bit disappointed with the inclement weather on the morning of the “Let’s Move Day” Celebration. She was doubtful there would be good attendance due to the rain, but when she arrived at the park she was pleasantly surprised to see McNeil and his massage chair ready and waiting to do service. There were also some early walkers ready to walk, as well as some youth waiting anxiously to get started. The youth were

so eager to get started that they arrived earlier than the designated time allotted for the obstacle course. Fisher ended “Let’s Move Day” feeling that the health and temperance team’s activities had made an impact in the lives of the youth who participated. She was grateful for the opportunity everyone had to bond with each other despite age and physical appearance. Many are anxiously awaiting the opportunity to do it again!

—BY TAJAUNA LORDEUS



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South Central Holds First Generosity Symposium

“It was a blessing to experience the Generosity Symposium,” stated Alex Horton, pastor of Ephesus Church in Birmingham, Ala. “The Word of God, the presentations, workshops, breakout sessions, materials, gifts, and the special ASI (Adventist-Laymen’s Services & Industries) business luncheon were superb. It was organized by South Central stewardship ministries team, Michael Harpe, director, and James Lewis, associate. Event team members/presenters included Attorney Rick Hutchinson, Gulf States Conference stewardship/trust director; Larry Bailey, South Central pastor, and former Northeastern Conference stewardship director; and Theodore Brown Sr., Ph.D., Oakwood University associate management professor. Jeremy Anderson, author of *Prodigal to Prodigy* and four other works, was the speaker for ASI. The event was extraordinarily well put together and included the area churches. The Ephesus Church family was blessed. The New Life praise team from Huntsville, Ala., were the guest musicians, and they rendered melodious praise music for the morning worship experience. The Symposium ministered with practical and faithful instructions that were evangelistic and encouraging.”

On Sabbath morning, October 19, 2013, during Sabbath School, the Generosity Symposium began



Symposium presenter: James Lewis, South Central Conference associate stewardship director, and former Allegheny West Conference president, treasurer, and stewardship director.

with a workshop by James Lewis, entitled “Principles of Productivity.” Lewis shared practical financial information about money and the Gospel. Then a generosity spotlight by Larry Bailey, “Managers or Owners,” laid the foundation of the role as stewards. During the offertory, Michael Harpe highlighted the significance of returning God’s tithe, and the difference between the function of it and the local offering. Sabbath afternoon, Ted Brown dealt with “Financial Wellness,” and debt-free living. Bailey followed, sharing a breakout on

“Equal Giving vs. Equal Sacrifice,” the true spirit of giving and sacrifice.

Ron and Regina Ryan, photojournalists at Ephesus Church, shared their thoughts: “The spoken word by David Long, Southern Union stewardship ministries director, pricked the souls of so many who do not see the importance of returning a faithful tithe and offering and how those funds are used to further God’s work throughout the world. Many were inspired to make a change in thinking and take action. The title of Long’s message was, ‘Consider Your Ways.’ As we gleaned the points of the message, our lack of faith in what God can do for us, as a church family, as a Conference, as a nation, became evident. As Deuteronomy 8:18 states, ‘But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.’ Stewardship, in essence, is being

able to give of ourselves unselfishly and particularly as it relates to returning funds that are not ours anyway. God really desires our hearts and obedience, and, most importantly, we need Him, and what better way to make known our need for God in our lives than by surrendering total obedience to Him.

“When we visited the youth breakout session, Elder Harpe was sharing wonderful, fun filled, ‘Generosity 4 Youth’ stewardship lessons, the session was entitled ‘Livin’ 4 J.E.S.U.S.’ It was obvious this segment was designed for young people; the lessons were pointed and effective. It showed them the value of serving God in their living and giving. One of our youth said that she really enjoyed the ‘Generosity 4 Youth’ segment, she learned something new, liked the game, ‘Access 2 Success,’ and she was enjoying her gift, a gospel CD. We are very appreciative to the South Central team for bringing the Generosity Symposium to Birmingham.”



The New Life Praise Team from Huntsville, Ala., served as guest musicians and rendered melodious praise music for the morning worship experience.



PHOTO BY FON AND REGINA RYAN

Symposium presenters: Attorney Rick Hutchinson (left), Gulf States Conference stewardship/trust director; Alex Horton, pastor of Ephesus Church in Birmingham, Ala.; Larry Bailey, South Central Conference pastor and former Northeastern Conference stewardship director; David Long, Southern Union stewardship ministries director; Michael Harpe, South Central stewardship, trust, and ASI director; and Theodore Brown Sr., Ph.D., Oakwood University associate management professor.

From Sunday through Wednesday, October 20-23, the attendees experienced a generosity revival. The revival theme was “Last Day Events, Prophecy, and Generosity Stewardship.” It kicked off with a tasty snack at 6 p.m., sponsored by Gulf States Conference’s Debra and Rick Hutchinson. At 7 p.m. the worship service began. Each night different churches from the community were responsible for music and participants. Harpe kicked off the week with the message “Healing for the Sealing.” Harpe and Hutchinson tag-teamed and presented generosity concepts, estate planning options, and investment tips on Monday and Tuesday. James Lewis preached the final Wednesday evening message, titled “God Has Always Had a Plan.” It was riveting and concluded with an appeal that included the T4

concept personal commitment card. During the appeal, this card was given to each person to insert in their Bibles so that they may review the concepts, meditate on the principles learned, and renew their commitment to be faithful stewards.

At the Symposium the focus was on managing God’s goods in at least four ways through the “T4 Concept.” T1-TIME: beginning with the devotional life. T2-TEMPLE: proper management of the body temple, healthy living. T3-TALENTS: proper management of abilities, gifts, and talents. And T4-TREASURE: proper management of material possessions to the Glory of God — money, property, investments, estate planning, and care for the environment.

Clifton McMillan, pastor of Fairfield, Ala., Church, and First Church in Adams-

ville, Ala., reflected on the Symposium and shared, “We are exceedingly grateful for the ministry of the South Central stewardship team in the arena of wholistic stewardship ministry. The team’s ability to motivate and encourage the membership is refreshing. We also appreciate them for framing this Generosity Symposium in a way to engage those of all economic categories to be faithful to God and fruitful in life. Finally, Harpe has been able to organize a phenomenal team to leave one with a sense that, regardless of where I presently am in my stewardship journey, God is able to bless, sustain, and increase.”

“The Symposium held special relevance to our modern society. It also encouraged viewers to change the channel on how we view our finances. There is a special side to

all that we do, and that includes managing our money. The Symposium was inspiring. It encouraged me on a personal level to be more serious about managing God’s resources. It also encouraged me to be a conduit sharing how managing God’s resources can be a blessing,” stated James Harris, pastor of Mt. Olive Church in Anniston, Ala., and Ebenezer Church in Gadsden, Ala.

The Symposium was designed to be a catalyst of revival and renewal of the tender mercies God has given men and women to be generous, whether it is for the first time, or that it awakened the first love in others to give again of their time, temples, talents, and treasure.

—BY MICHAEL HARPE

Bethany Christian Academy Makes U.A.B. Hospital History

On October 24, 2013, the kindergarteners at Montgomery's Bethany Christian Academy made history at the University of Alabama (Birmingham) Comprehensive Cancer Center. This momentous experience was possible as a result of an invitation extended to Reggenia Baskin's kindergarten class by Callie Dunaway, program manager of Patient and Family Services for the U.A.B. Comprehensive Cancer Center. This year's visit allowed B.C.A.'s kindergarteners the opportunity to minister through prayer and songs to 36 cancer patients and their families,



and 40 nurses, doctors, and hospital administrators. The students presented each patient with "Sock It To Cancer" socks, and a beautiful pink wreath that will be hung in the C.C.C. waiting room. As an unex-

pected surprise, Baskin's class was invited to tour the Cancer Research Lab, and earned the historical status of being the first pre-collegiate students to ever tour the lab. The tour was conducted by

an energetic research scientist who applauded the kindergarteners for their attentiveness and obedience to directions. The excited five-year-olds were mesmerized by state-of-the-art technology utilized to study cells and explore treatment for the deadly disease that has touched so many of their young lives. Baskin is still praising God for the life-impacting, "hands on" experience that enhanced the annual October emphasis on Breast Cancer Awareness, and to receive an historical distinction will always be a memorable highlight.

South Central Conducts Historic Executive Committee Meeting Via Video-Conference

History was made on September 15, 2013, when an executive committee meeting was held via video-conferencing.

The administrative officers, Dana C. Edmond, president; Auldwin T. Humphrey, executive secretary; and Merkita Mosley, treasurer, assembled in the president's board room, and 20 executive committee members, as well as the Southern Union representative, Randy Robinson, treasurer, accessed the meeting from the comfort of their homes using their computers, iPads, iPhones, and other electronic devices.

The committee could see and hear the officers who were seated together. Any member seeking to ask a question or make a comment was recognized by the chair, and then the camera was turned on them so they could see who was speaking.

Typically, the executive committee meets quarterly. They come from as far as 500 miles by car or plane, housed in a hotel, provided per diem, and fed two meals at the Conference's expense. This time there were virtually no costs attached to this meeting, and it took half the time of a

normal meeting.

An attempt to have a video-conference was



South Central Conference administrative officers: Merkita Mosley (left), treasurer; Dana C. Edmond, president; and Auldwin T. Humphrey, executive secretary, conduct an historic online video-conference with the executive committee members on September 15, 2013.

made in December 2010, but it failed. A dry-run was held the Thursday before the meeting in order to work out any kinks in advance. With God's help and Jermaine Alexander, IT manager, the meeting was virtually kink-free.

Not every executive committee can be held online. Edmond shared his intention to hold the September meeting each year online. Other committees are planning to take advantage of the convenience and cost savings of video-conferences.

—BY DANA EDMOND

Accrediting Agency Approves Launch of “Oakwood Online University”

The Atlanta-based Southern Association of Colleges and Schools has approved Oakwood University providing adult learners a business degree completion online.

“Oakwood Online University,” a concept first spelled out by then-new Oakwood president, Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., in “Vision 2020,” his first address as its 11th president, on January 25, 2011, will start as a pilot program in January 2014, as “Organizational Management” (business), one of its five LEAP adult degree completion programs, will be offered both as fully online and continued as its onsite track.

“Through our LEAP program, Oakwood Online University will be able to reach adult learners all over the world who have

been wanting to complete a lifelong dream: to finish their college degrees and improve their standards of living, and the quality of life for themselves and their families,” summarized Hyacinth Burton, dean of the Oakwood School of Business & Adult and Continuing Education. “Additionally,” she continued, “OOU achieves one of the primary visions of our University strategic plans for academic offerings, enrollment, and more diverse learners.”

In his initial 2011 address, Pollard forecasted, “By 2020, OOU is launched: Oakwood Online University.... The lower-cost revenue from Oakwood Online University helps grow the amount of institutional aid to needy students in our residential program.”

In his annual presidential address at the school’s First Chapel program on Thursday, August 22, 2013, Pollard announced several of what he called “game changers”:

- “Recovering a base of industry at Oakwood University...that will employ our students and bring in non-tuition revenue...”;

- Breaking ground for the 11,700-square-foot Media Center and the Oakwood University Broadcasting Network, “to produce our own products, our own talk shows, our own dramas, our own editorials and religious news casts, and market them on our own terms, in our own voice,” — which occurred on Wednesday, October 9; and

- OOU, as “we (the President’s Council) voted to fast-track OOU’s de-

velopment process by buying into the HBCU Online Consortium, supported by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. This means we will immediately save hundreds of course-development hours by acquiring access to collaboratively-developed course content. Oakwood Online University will be a game changer. We will no longer be bounded by local geography, but can make Oakwood University accessible to students around the world.”

For more information on Oakwood Online University and its program offerings, call Hyacinth Burton at Oakwood School of Business, 256-726-7081.

—BY TIM ALLSTON

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

FLORIDA KEYS CAMP MEETING – Feb. 21-22. Camp Sawyer, Big Pine Key (Mile Marker 34). Speaker: Ron Halvorsen. Great music and Children’s Program. Bring food for a Sabbath picnic. Details: 305-743-5268.

UNION COLLEGE HOMECOMING – April 3-6. Honor classes: 1944, ‘54, ‘59, ‘64, ‘74, ‘84, ‘89, 1994, and ‘04. Special tribute to veterans and MCC. Details: Contact the alumni office at 402-486-2503, 3800 S. 48th Street, Lincoln, NE 68516 or alumni@ucollege.edu.

EASTER CONCERT – April 17. The Dalton, GA, Church will be sponsoring an Easter concert with Michael Card at 7 p.m., at the NW Georgia Trade and Convention Center. The concert will be preceded at 6 p.m. with

a lecture by Dr. Michael Hasel entitled, “Jesus in History and Archeology.” When they become available, all ticketing will be done through the Trade Center box office or online.

RAMAH SDA JUNIOR ACADEMY REUNION (formerly Ramah Parochial School) Celebrating 100 years of Christian Education – April 30-May 4. Savannah, GA. Students (present/former), teachers, principals, pastors, and staff are invited to the celebration. Join us on Facebook

for updates and news regarding the reunion: [facebook.com/ramahacademyalumniassociation](https://www.facebook.com/ramahacademyalumniassociation); email: ramah100years@hotmail.com.

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

Lifestyle Medicine Conference to Highlight Plant-based Diet

Southern Adventist University's School of Nursing, in association with the School of Physical Education, Health and Wellness, is hosting the Lifestyle Medicine Conference February 3-4, 2014.

Renowned scholar T. Colin Campbell (*The China Study*) and best-selling author and health activist Rip Esselstyn (*The Engine 2 Diet*) are keynote speakers for the event. Both were featured in *Forks Over Knives*, the popular DVD many Seventh-day Adventist congregations have been using to promote the Church's health message to an increasingly interested public.

Southern is the only university in North America to have a lifestyle medicine program at the doctoral level. This puts the School of Nursing in a unique position to offer its students — who are the primary audience for this



Rip Esselstyn, author of *The Engine 2 Diet*, is a keynote speaker for Southern's Lifestyle Medicine Conference in February.

conference, even though the public is invited — a world-class presentation by leading authorities on how diet directly relates to health. The first cohort of students in the doctor of nursing practice program will graduate in May.

"Lifestyle medicine has specific applications for diabetes and heart disease, but it is a holistic approach that encompasses all areas of wellness," said Jeff Gates, associate professor in the School of Nursing. "Our goal with this conference

is to reach out to our friends and neighbors and prove that a wholesome, vegetarian lifestyle is not just an Adventist thing. It's something that applies to everyone, regardless of religious affiliation."

Though this is not Southern's first health conference, the presenters have never been more prestigious or well known in health circles. During the 1980s, Campbell, a professor of nutritional biochemistry at Cornell University, was a lead scientist in the China-Oxford-Cornell study on diet and disease, which analyzed mortality rates from cancer and other chronic diseases in Asia. That research led to the writing of *The China Study*, one of America's best-selling books on nutrition.

Esselstyn, an All-American swimmer in college and well-respected triathlete, worked for a time at an Austin, Tex., fire department where he introduced his passion for plant-based foods. *The Engine 2 Diet* documents his success in helping co-workers lose weight and lower their cholesterol. Esselstyn recently left his job as a firefighter to team up with Whole Foods Market as one of its healthy eating partners to raise awareness about the benefits of vegetarian and vegan lifestyles.

Though Campbell and Esselstyn will be on campus for two days engaging with students in a variety of formats, the primary opportunity for the public to hear them speak is February 4 at 7:30 p.m., in the Iles P.E. Center. There is no charge for admission. For more information, email jgates@southern.edu.

—BY RACHAEL HANKINS

Sabbath Trail Planned for Campus

Southern increased its geographic footprint by nearly 25 percent as donors recently transferred 258 acres on Bauxite Ridge to the University, a gift worth several million dollars. The property, located on the east side of campus opposite White Oak Mountain, was a contribution from

two alumni who met as students at Southern in the early 1950s before graduating and getting married.

Plans for the acreage include new trails that will offer hikers and cyclists something less challenging than the Biology Trail, a popular 10-mile system of paths on campus that con-

tains some steep inclines and sharp turns.

Of even greater distinction is the fact that the Bauxite Ridge property will include a spiritual emphasis. Southern administrators are already working on details of the Sabbath Trail, a one-mile loop with stone markers along the

way that traces the history of Sabbath from Creation to the new Earth. Its design is based on a set-up by the same name at the Washington Church in New Hampshire. Trail construction will commence in 2015.

—BY RACHAEL HANKINS

IMPACTO 2013 La Unión Hace La Fuerza



Michael Jordan, famoso jugador de básquet, dijo una vez en una entrevista: “Existen muchos equipos en cada rama del deporte que tienen grandes jugadores, pero nunca obtienen títulos. El talento puede ganar juegos, pero el trabajo en equipo y la inteligencia, ganan campeonatos.”

Los directores del departamento hispano de las 8 asociaciones que forman parte del territorio de La Unión del Sur (Southern Union Conference) están enfocados en el deseo de Jesús respecto a la unidad, que genera una metodología de trabajo en equipo. La misión que fuera encomendada a la iglesia es una misión de victoria, y Cristo es por excelencia el Experto en este tema. Hablando con su Padre cuando estaba en esta tierra expresó: “No ruego sólo por éstos, sino también por aquellos que por medio de su palabra creerán en mí, para que todos sean uno.

Como tú Padre en mí, y yo en ti; que ellos también sean uno en nosotros para que el mundo crea que tú me has enviado. Yo les he dado la gloria que tú me diste, para que sean uno como nosotros somos uno: yo en ellos y tú en mí, para que sean perfectamente uno, y el mundo conozca que tú me has enviado y que los has amado a ellos como me has amado a mí.” Juan 17:20-23. Jesús sabía que sólo por medio de la unidad, el mundo le conocería, creería en Él y experimentaría su amor.

En un esfuerzo mancomunado, se puso en marcha el plan Impacto 2013, que consistió en un programa de ganancia de almas dividido en tres etapas: siembra, cultivo, y cosecha. Centenares de iglesias del territorio de la unión participaron del mismo. Durante el festival de laicos hispano llevado a cabo del 8-10 de febrero, que contó con una asistencia de 1,100



delegados laicos y pastores, se ofreció entrenamiento en el tema de evangelismo y ganancia de almas. Quince días después, los participantes presentaron el plan en sus congregaciones, y todas las iglesias de la unión se unieron en un día de ayuno y oración.

Para el período de cultivo entre la siembra inicial y la cosecha, se organizaron diferentes actividades para mantener la motivación: como parte simbólica, se pasó una antorcha por todas las congregaciones, que debió mantenerse encendida durante los meses que duró este plan, representando el deseo de que este objetivo permaneciera vivo en los corazones de los participantes. Cada iglesia tuvo un altar de oración en el que los miembros pusieron los nombres de familiares y amigos a quienes desean traer a los pies de Jesús. Se armaron parejas de

oración que mantenían una comunicación constante, se dictaron seminarios por internet de los que participaron más de 100 personas, y se abrió una página de Facebook con el objetivo de mantener a los líderes y miembros de iglesia informados y motivados en unidad y misión.

Luego de las etapas de siembra y cultivo, se llevó a cabo la cosecha, del 5 al 12 de octubre. Iglesias, casas de familia, parques, etc., sirvieron de auditorio para las 470 campañas en las que miembros laicos, entrenados en el festival de febrero, predicaron sermones preparados por el pastor Bullón. El gozoso resultado de este trabajo de equipo fue de 1,500 bautismos, y la experiencia de enriquecimiento espiritual que implicó para los participantes el haber trabajado en traer almas a los pies de Cristo.

—MARIEL LOMBARDI, EDITORA

Primer Congreso de Jóvenes de la Unión



El territorio de la unión cuenta con un número importante de jóvenes deseosos de participar en la salvación de otros. Es crucial que la iglesia incentive y canalice estos deseos y energía en actividades que ayuden en su proceso de crecimiento cristiano y en el de traer almas a los pies de Jesús. Con este objetivo, se organizó el primer congreso de jóvenes de la unión. La idea era que los asistentes trajesen a amigos o conocidos con los que estuviesen estudiando la Biblia, para compartir momentos espirituales y de camaradería. Dios bendijo este proyecto con una asistencia de 800 jóvenes de las 8 asociaciones que comprenden el territorio de la unión.

El orador principal fue Alejandro

Bullón, quien antes de desempeñarse como evangelista dirigió el departamento de jóvenes de la División Sudamericana. El Espíritu de Dios usó al pastor Bullón para motivar a la juventud a vivir vidas reales para Jesús, a soñar en grande, y ponerse en las manos de Dios para que Él cumpla sus anhelos.

Se ofrecieron seminarios de interés actual, al igual que instrucciones para evangelismo juvenil. Estos

seminarios estuvieron a cargo de los esposos Kathy y Roger Hernández, directores de los departamentos de evangelismo y ministerial de la unión, Adriana Perera, profesora de música de la universidad adventista Oakwood, Alvin Payne, capellán de la academia adventista de Miami, y Walter Castro, director del ministerio laico de la asociación de Florida. Los jóvenes tuvieron la oportunidad

de formular muchas preguntas sobre temas de su interés. Dieciséis de ellos participaron en un concurso sobre el libro de Marcos, que fue ganado por la asociación de Las Carolinas. El segundo premio se lo llevó Southeastern. Fue emocionante ver que al recibir este premio, los ganadores decidieron destinarlo para becas estudiantiles. El primer premio constituía de 800 dólares para cada participante, y el segundo de 400. Ellos tenían la posibilidad de optar por un viaje denominacional, la asistencia al congreso de jóvenes de la división norteamericana, y una beca para sus estudios.

Se retó a los participantes a armar un rompecabezas de 1000 piezas que tenía el objetivo de demostrar que si se trabaja en equipo, se logran las metas. Hubo actividades recreativas que se llevaron a cabo el viernes de tarde y sábado de noche. El evento fue bendecido con un ambiente espiritual de alabanza, oración, y camaradería. La sorpresa del congreso, fue que sin haber tenido planificado un bautismo, 5 jóvenes entregaron sus vidas a Cristo.

—IVETTE FIGUEROA,
ASISTENTE
ADMINISTRATIVA DEL
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO



El Trabajo Silencioso del Espíritu Santo

La iglesia Alpha, en Decatur, Alabama, trabajó en el proyecto “Llevando la iglesia al hogar, basados en Jesús.” El mismo consistió de una semana de oración llevada a cabo en diferentes hogares de los miembros, del 8 al 14 de septiembre. Como resultado, la familia Domínguez, constituida por



Gemina, Luis, y Christy, entregaron sus vidas a Cristo. Ellos habían asistido a diferentes campañas por varios años, sin tomar una decisión. No obstante, el Espíritu Santo había estado haciendo su obra silenciosa, y los resultados se vieron en la hermosa ceremonia de bautismo que se llevó a cabo al final de la campaña.

— JOSÉ PERNÍA, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO ALPHA-EPHESO

Carolina Noticias

La Esperanza es Jesús

El grupo Manteo originado como resultado del trabado de la iglesia de Greenville-NC, organizó una campaña evangélica de una semana que tuvo como lema “La Esperanza es Jesús,” y comenzó el 27 de octubre. El orador fue el pastor del distrito, Elías Sandoval.



Durante esta semana los miembros y visitas

disfrutaron de mensajes altamente espirituales que

llevaron a la reflexión y a la decisión de entregar sus vidas en manos del Señor. Todos los miembros del grupo trabajaron en forma armoniosa, y el Espíritu Santo se manifestó en un bautismo de 6 almas.

Luego del evento, el grupo no sintió que el trabajo había terminado; por el contrario, fue un incentivo para continuar trabajando en la zona de modo que al finalizar este año se pueda tener otra cosecha para el reino eterno.

— ELÍAS SANDOVAL, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

Evangelismo de Siembra en Dudley

Con enorme expectativa los miembros de la iglesia de Dudley, invitaron a más de un centenar de visitas para recibir la Palabra de Dios de parte del pastor Alejandro Bullón en la campaña titulada “La Esperanza es Jesús.” El evento tuvo lugar en uno de los auditorios de la ciudad de Dudley, del 3-6 de Julio, con una asistencia de más de 1,000.

Se contó con la



colaboración musical de José Gómez Jr, Eusebio Díaz y cantantes locales.

Decenas de personas, muchas de ellas asistentes a los diversos grupos

pequeños, respondieron al llamado de invitación a consagrar sus vidas y conocer más acerca de la verdadera esperanza que proviene de Cristo Jesús. Las iglesias del distrito han quedado altamente motivadas a dar estudios bíblicos, trabajar en grupos pequeños y testificar, usando el material preparado por el pastor Sandoval.

—ELÍAS SANDOVAL,
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

Universidad Andrews Entrena a Laicos del Distrito de Charlotte

El 17 de noviembre se transformó en una fecha inolvidable para 63 miembros de diferentes iglesias del territorio, que se graduaron luego de 8 meses de recibir clases dictadas por el Instituto de Ministerios Hispánicos de la universidad Andrews. Esta entidad, entrena a miembros laicos en las diferentes áreas que tienen que ver con el funcionamiento de la iglesia local. Comenzando

en febrero, las clases se ofrecían todos los domingos desde las 8:00 de la mañana hasta las 5:00 de la tarde.

El curso que se dictó este año fue de liderazgo



de grupos pequeños. Profesores especializados

de esta entidad académica enseñaron en forma intensiva. El currículum incluía entre los requisitos, ser miembro de un grupo pequeño por un mínimo de 7 meses, la lectura de 8 libros, y la creación de un nuevo grupo pequeño. En el 2014, se trabajará en el programa de instructor bíblico.

—JULIO FLORES,
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

Promesas Ante Dios



Fue un día de gozo; veintitrés parejas renovaron sus votos matrimoniales en la iglesia de Charlotte, luego de una semana para la

familia conducida por la doctora Antonieta Silva, de Venezuela, y organizada por los líderes del ministerio familiar, la familia Torrealba.

La iglesia fue testigo de varios milagros ocurridos entre familias asistentes que estaban atravesando por serios problemas y experimentaron la

reconciliación. Una de las parejas participantes ganó un viaje a Florida de 4 días para toda la familia. Dios continúa bendiciendo a cada uno de estos hogares, cuyos esposos renovaron sus votos pidiendo la guía de Dios.

—JULIO FLORES,
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

Quinto Congreso de Jóvenes del Distrito

El sábado 2 de noviembre, las iglesias del distrito liderado por el pastor Elías Sandoval se dieron cita en una reunión Cristo-céntrica organizada especialmente para la activa juventud, que se llevó a cabo en la iglesia

de Mt. Olive. Este evento fue el quinto congreso de jóvenes y se tituló “La Identidad del Joven Cristiano.” El conjunto Oasis fue invitado para impartir la Palabra de Dios. Cada presentación llevó a los asistentes a ver la

necesidad de una relación verdadera con su Creador. Se subrayó la importancia de un profundo estudio de la Biblia, de la oración, y la testimonio, que serán un resultado de esa relación, convirtiendo a cada joven en un canal de luz y en un ente entregado a Dios en forma integral.

Se llevó a cabo un concurso del libro de Eclesiastés, de cantos, de oratoria infantil, adolescente y juvenil. Hubo música, dramas, mesas redondas, y muchas actividades que hicieron del fin de semana algo para recordar. El sábado de noche se disfrutó de hermosos momentos de

recreación.

Una parte importante del evento, fue la preparación del mismo, en la que muchos jóvenes de cada iglesia del distrito dedicaron tiempo y esfuerzos unidos a momentos pasados en oración para que toda la programación cumpla su propósito. En la actualidad el comité trabaja en la organización del próximo congreso de jóvenes que se llevará a cabo el 14 de abril del 2014, en la iglesia de Faison.

—ELÍAS SANDOVAL
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO



Florida Noticias

Pareja de Evangelistas Laicos Conduce Campaña en Nicaragua

Con el lema “Rumbo a la Eternidad” los evangelistas laicos Ulises Vázquez y su esposa Nivia, de la iglesia de Sebring, Florida, condujeron el evento que culminó con un bautismo de 31 almas para el reino de Cristo en Nicaragua.

“Esta es la segunda vez que

estamos en Nicaragua, y nos sentimos agradecidos al Señor por darnos el

privilegio de ayudar a los pobres de lugares como estos, aliviando

su dolor con ayuda financiera, y mostrándoles el camino a la salvación.” dice Ulises. “Tenemos planes de conducir una campaña de evangelismo en Puerto Rico antes de que termine el 2013, y en marzo



del 2014, en Panamá y Costa Rica. Exhortamos a todos los hermanos laicos a predicar este evangelio por todo el mundo. Cristo está a las puertas, y debemos concluir la misión encomendada por el Señor.”

—IRMA GÓMEZ, EDITORA DEL
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Jornadas de Salud

El 29 de septiembre, la iglesia Canton, Georgia, dirigida por el ministerio de salud del Dr. Fitzroy Graham y su equipo, lanzó el proyecto “Salud para Todos.” El propósito fue atender las necesidades de salud básicas de los asistentes, y enseñar y fomentar un estilo de vida en armonía con las leyes naturales.

A través de ocho estaciones atendidas por personas calificadas, se ofrecieron exámenes médicos, consejos y orientación. En las últimas dos estaciones se evaluaba estadísticamente el riesgo

de cáncer, y se ofrecía una terapia espiritual presentada por el pastor Richard Urdaneta, capellán del proyecto.

Más de setenta personas, en su gran mayoría visitas, estuvieron en contacto con el mensaje de salud. Todos los asistentes fueron invitados a participar de las conferencias “Impacto 2013” que tuvieron su inicio el 5 de octubre.

Jesús en su ministerio terrenal enseñó por medio de su ejemplo, que la misión de la iglesia es tripartita: “Y Jesús recorría todas las ciudades y aldeas,



enseñando en las sinagogas de ellos, proclamando el evangelio del reino y sanando toda enfermedad

y toda dolencia”. (Mateo 9:35)

—RICHARD URDANETA,
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

Kentucky-Tennessee Noticias

Frutos de un Trabajo de Amor



Luego de un arduo y amante trabajo de preparación por parte de los miembros de las iglesias de Memphis Central y Sur, el pastor Roger Hernández y su esposa Kathy llevaron a cabo una campaña evangélica que trajo como fruto la conversión

de 16 personas. La atmósfera de alabanza fue bendecida por el ministerio musical de Hugo Yin.

“Sin temor a equivocarme, veo cómo Dios recompensó el esfuerzo de todos al estar enfocados en llevar a otros al reino de Dios.” Dijo uno de los participantes

—ARMANDO DE LEÓN,
DIRECTOR DEL MINISTERIO
HISPANO

Campañas en Warsaw y Smithfield

Durante la semana del 12 al 19 de octubre, las iglesias de Warsaw y Smithfield, NC, llevaron a cabo una serie de conferencias que en Warsaw se tituló

“La Familia un Diseño Divino” y tuvo como orador a Salomón Munguía, miembro laico. Munguía instó a los asistentes a seguir los consejos divinos

para la felicidad del hogar. Como resultado 4 personas entregaron sus vidas a Cristo a través del bautismo.

En Smithfield



las reuniones se enfocaron principalmente en la juventud, y el pastor Nimrod Acosta tuvo a cargo los temas bajo el título “Enfócate.” Dos almas tomaron la decisión de seguir a Cristo y fueron bautizadas.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE,
DIRECTOR DEL
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Maranatha Gainesville, de Grupo a Compañía

El sábado 19 de octubre el grupo que funcionaba bajo el patrocinio de la iglesia afro-americana New Gainesville, en Georgia, fue organizado como compañía bajo el nombre de Maranatha Gainesville. En el evento estuvieron presentes el Pastor Ralph Peay, asistente del presidente de la asociación, y el Pastor Efraín Poloche.

Los líderes de esta compañía fueron desafiados a trabajar duro para convertirse muy pronto en una iglesia organizada. El pastor de New Gainesville, Ronald

Wright, agradeció al grupo hispano por su participación en las diferentes actividades bilingües que se desarrollaron estos años en la iglesia, y fue quien organizó la hermosa

ceremonia. Laura Cevallos deleitó a los presentes con cantos de alabanza, y la ceremonia concluyó con un llamado a la acción y al trabajo misionero en favor de la ciudad de Gainesville,

cuya población hispana es una de las más grandes en Georgia.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE,
DIRECTOR DEL MINISTERIO
HISPANO



Vista parcial del templo



Oración por los líderes

Retiro de Ancianos y Diáconos

El 27 de septiembre, ancianos, ancianas, directores de diáconos y diaconisas se congregaron en un retiro organizado por la asociación. Entre los 400 asistentes, 100 eran delegados hispanos, y fueron instruidos por el pastor José Espósito de la Asociación Potomac.

Se dio inicio a las actividades con una ceremonia de santa cena y lavamiento de pies el día viernes por la noche. Los seminarios fueron presentados el sábado y el domingo. Los pastores Winston,

presidente de la asociación, Ruff, secretario, y Toussant, director del departamento

ministerial para los de habla francesa, se hicieron presentes en algunos de los seminarios, mostrando su apoyo a las actividades del departamento hispano.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE,
DIRECTOR DEL
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO



Southern Ofrece Becas Renovables para Estudiantes de Primer Año

La universidad Adventista del Sur, Southern Adventist University, anunció recientemente un cambio importante en el criterio de otorgación de ayuda financiera para los estudiantes. A partir de otoño del del 2014, las becas de estudiantes de primer año serán renovables por cuatro años. Esta decisión ayudará a los padres y futuros estudiantes en la planificación del aspecto financiero de su paso académico por Southern. La nueva política atiende a la preocupación por el aumento del número de jóvenes adventistas que asisten a universidades seculares, y están apartándose de la iglesia y rechazando a Cristo.

“El nuevo sistema de becas permite que el estudiante y su familia consideren la educación adventista como una de sus opciones en lugar de sentir que la única posibilidad financiera es el colegio comunitario, que a largo plazo representará una desventaja,” dijo Marc Grundy, vice presidente de Servicios de Matrícula. “Creo firmemente que el momento más definitorio para los estudiantes, está constituido por su primer y segundo año de universidad. Es cuando ellos necesitan estar en un ambiente seguro y enfocado en Cristo, rodeados de creyentes afines. Parte de esta buena noticia es que no sólo los

nuevos estudiantes serán los beneficiados. “Estamos planeando aumentar el nivel de fondos para estudiantes necesitados, que han estado asistiendo a Southern desde antes de que esta política hubiese sido implementada,”

Las becas renovables hacen que invertir en la educación adventista sea accesible, comparándola inclusive con las universidades públicas. Estudiantes que mantienen un GPA acumulativo serán elegibles para la renovación de la beca. Esto se revisa al final del primer semestre, estableciendo entonces lo que cada estudiante recibirá en el siguiente año escolar. La noticia ha despertado un notable interés por parte de padres y alumnos. “Me enteré acerca de este paso importante durante el seminario financiero y jornada de puertas abiertas que Southern organizó este año,” dijo Rick Anderson, principal de la Academia de Mount Pisgah, Carolina del Norte. “Estaba emocionada, y los padres también. Al recibir la noticia, se podía literalmente oír un zumbido en la habitación.



Carlos Lopez, consejero financiero de Southern, tratando el tema de la maximización de préstamos, becase, y otras formas de asistencia financiera.

Más familias comenzaron a considerar a Southern como la opción para enviar a sus hijos.”

La financianciación de esta propuesta proviene de fondos institucionales, ayuda de donantes, y de los ingresos proyectados a futuro teniendo en cuenta el incremento de estudiantes originado por esta medida.

Teniendo en cuenta los datos a nivel nacional acerca de la alta deuda que adquieren los estudiantes en general para recibir su educación, Southern desea hacer que esta no sea la realidad del estudiante adventista. Aunque la universidad ya presupuesta más de \$10 millones anuales para ayuda financiera, y \$5 millones para trabajos de estudiantes en campus, se necesitaba hacer algo más. El aumento del precio de la matrícula para el año escolar 2014-2015 se mantendrá en 2.4%. Este es un número debajo de lo esperado, y el

aumento más pequeño en los últimos 25 años. “Estamos haciendo todo lo que está a nuestro alcance para hacer de Southern una experiencia financieramente accesible, manteniendo la calidad que nuestros constituyentes esperan,” dijo Tom

Verrill, vicepresidente senior del Departamento Financiero. Una historia de crecimiento estable de la matrícula, demuestra que padres y estudiantes han considerado a Southern como un inversión espiritual y académica valiosa a través de los años. La nueva política de becas hace más fácil el compromiso con la educación adventista.

“Southern siempre ha sido la primera opción para la mayoría de nuestros estudiantes en la academia Mount Pisgah,” dijo Anderson. “La beca renovable ha reforzado en la mente de nuestro personal y de los estudiantes, la idea de que Southern se dedica a proporcionar una educación Adventista para todos.”

Para mas información, visite southern.edu/scholarships.

—LUCAS PATTERSON,
EDITOR EN JEFE DE LA
UNIVERSIDAD SOUTHERN

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S.I.M.P.L.E. LIVING SEMINAR: A Bible based approach to physical, mental, and spiritual health. Prevention and recovery of lifestyle disease, including obesity, hypertension, diabetes, osteoporosis, stress, depression, alcohol and tobacco. Cost: 12-day live-in program: \$840. Butler Creek Health Education Center. www.butlercreek.us. For more information contact Darlene Keith: Ph. 931-724-6706, email: darlene@butlercreek.us. [1]

BUTLER CREEK MISSION SCHOOL: Bible and health classes combined with practical skills, including literature evangelism, vegan cooking, and home gardening. An 8-month work-study program. Students earn their tuition by canvassing

and other practical work assignments. www.butlercreek.us. For more information contact Sharlene Reyes: Ph. 931-724-6706, email: missionschool@butlercreek.us. [1]

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

PLANNING AN EVANGELISTIC SERIES OR HEALTH SEMINAR? Have questions? Need affordable, professionally prepared handbills, brochures, signs, banners and mailing services? Call free, 800-274-0016 and ask for HOPE Customer Service or visit www.hopesource.com. You deserve the best with confidence and peace of mind. Your friends at Hamblin's HOPE deliver on-time. [1-6]

LOOKING FOR AUTHORS who have written a book on self-help for young adults (depression, suicide, eating disorders, dating, etc). Also accepting children's books, mission stories, biographies, and inspirational/doctrinal topics. Call TEACH Services at 800-367-1844. [1-4]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, nursing, religion, and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423.236.2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatestudies. [1-5]

EIGHT NATURAL REMEDIES online and correspondence courses for laypersons and professionals. Gift certificates available. Email education@jjohnsonmd.com. Phone/fax 615-523-2136. www.healthcare-online-education.org/8remedies.html. [1]


NORTH GEORGIA WELLNESS RETREATS – Starting January 2014, Blue Creek Cabins Wellness & Spa will be offering 5-day retreats and spa packages. Located near picturesque town of Helen, our program features health lectures, cooking classes, spa services, gardening etc. Contact us: 706-865-0455, 706-865-1405, www.bluecreekwellness.com, www.bluecreekcabins.com. [1-5]

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

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

TOUR ISRAEL with Andy Nash and Clifford Goldstein this summer! Tour dates: June 8-19 or June 17-27. Sites include: Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Bethany, the Dead Sea, Nazareth, Cana, Joppa, Mount Carmel, Megiddo, Joppa, Capernaum, the Jordan River, and the Sea of Galilee! Contact andynash5@gmail.com or 423-298-2141. [1]

CHURCH MOBILE CLUB – Need an easy way to communicate with your leaders, remind members of a church event and increase attendance? Church Alert allows you to contact members at a moments notice using a mobile text club. Contact Kareem Williams at 678-485-3900. [1]



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My House *is* God's House

While planning his estate, John Watson Jr., a member in the Carolina Conference, came to a conclusion that "There is nothing better I could do with whatever God has given me than to give it all back to Him, because it's His anyway. And now, I feel like my house is God's house, and everything in my house belongs to Him."

He went on to say, "As a result of believing that God led me to the right church, and having done everything that I ever wanted to do, and having everything that I dreamed I would ever have, I felt that I needed, out of appreciation, to arrange so it would go back to Him."

"I feel this is a burden off my shoulders because now I don't have to worry about someone else spending or wasting what I've worked all my life to acquire."

► To learn how you can have your legacy live on, contact your local Conference or University Planned Giving and Trust Services Department today!

Carolina Ken Ford (704) 596-3200	Kentucky-Tennessee Lin Powell (615) 859-1391	South Central Michael Harpe (615) 226-6500
Florida Phil Bond (407) 644-5000	Oakwood University Fred Pullins (256) 726-8278	Southeastern Brent Waldon (352) 735-3142
Georgia-Cumberland Mitch Hazekamp (706) 629-7951	South Atlantic Lawrence Hamilton (404) 792-0535	Southern Adventist University Carolyn Liers (423) 236-2818
Gulf States Rick Hutchinson (334) 272-7493		

SUSDAGift.org

Events Calendar

Carolina

ShareHim Mission Trip to Cuba – Jan. 24-Feb 8.

Carolina Adventist Christian Book Center – 800-366-1844; Charlotte area: 704-599-0699. Visit us on the web @ <http://www.adventistbookcenter.com>

Romance at Nosoca Pines Ranch – Feb. 14-16. Enjoy a romantic and fun-filled weekend at the ranch “Hawaiian style.” Visit <http://www.carolinasda.org/> to register.

Hispanic Romance at Nosoca Pines Ranch – Feb. 21-23.

Pathfinder Workbee – March 14-16. NPR.

Elders’ Retreat – March 28-30. NPR.

Adventurers’ Fun Day – April 4-6. NPR.

Education Face-to-Face – April 16-21. Conference Office.

Florida

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

Florida Pathfinder events – <http://www.floridaconference.com/iym/pathfinders/events/> or call 407-644-5000 x127.

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

Florida Keys Camp Meeting – Feb. 21-23. Camp Sawyer at MM34. Theme: From Street Warrior to Prayer Warrior. Guest speaker: Ron Halvorsen Sr., Southern Union Conference Evangelist. Meetings available for youth and children Sabbath morning. Potluck fellowship meals for lunch and supper. Details: Eugene Hamlin, keysake@aol.com or 305-872-5434.

Foundation of Faith Community Nursing Training – March 3-7. Florida Hospital Trickle Building, 900 Winderley Place, Maitland. 8:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. A course for nurses with active RN license that will empower you to view health through the CREATION Health

philosophy and integrate a practical understanding of theology into the role of Faith Community Nursing. Cost: \$649 or \$499 if registered by Feb. 28. Speakers: Greg Ellis, Todd Chobotar, Carolyn Ramsey, Louise Zeuli. Registration: <http://www.healthy100churches.org/fcntraining> Details: susan.miner@flhosp.org or 407-200-8278.

Pre-retirement Seminar – March 11. Forest Lake Church. March 12. Plantation Church. 1-5:30 p.m. This free seminar presented by Del Johnson, North American Division Retirement Administrator, is for those as much as 10 years away from retirement as well as those who will be retiring soon. Spanish translation available. Details: betsy.pena@floridaconference.com or 407-618-0268.

Greater Miami Academy 5th Annual Golf Tournament – March 30, 2014. Doral Golf Resort and Spa. Check-in: 12 p.m. Theme: Jump Start the Dream! Entry fee: \$185 for either golf or spa participant. Golf package includes green fees, golf cart, goodie bag, refreshments and award reception buffet dinner. Spa package includes all day spa, treatment (five choices available), goodie bag, and award reception buffet dinner. Details: <http://www.gma.edu/>, ctrevilcock@gma.edu, or 305-220-5955 x151.

Georgia-Cumberland

Elementary Band/Strings Festival – Jan. 23, 24. Georgia-Cumberland Academy. Calhoun, GA. Performance streamed live, www.gcasda.org, Jan. 24, 7 p.m.

High School Retreat – Jan. 31-Feb. 2. Cohutta Springs. Crandall, GA.

Leadership Training for Health & Personal Ministries Leaders/ Assistants

Feb. 1. 3-6 p.m. Douglasville, GA.

Feb. 1. 3-6 p.m. Ooltewah, TN

Hispanic Women’s Ministries Training Leadership – Feb. 2. Conference Office. Calhoun, GA.

Children’s Ministries Convention – Feb. 7-9. Cohutta

Springs Conference Center. Crandall, GA.

Social Media – The Good, The Bad, The Ugly – Feb. 9. 10 a.m. Conference Office. Calhoun, GA.

Prayer Conference – Feb. 14-16. Cohutta Springs Conference Center. Crandall, GA.

Register online at registration.gccsda.com.

Gulf States

Complete Calendar online <http://www.gccsda.org>

Literature Evangelists Year End Meeting – Jan. 3, 4. Ft. Walton Beach, FL.

Pathfinder Council Meeting – Jan. 10-12. Camp Alamisco.

Ministers’ Meeting – Jan. 12-15. Camp Alamisco.

Education Fair – Jan 26. Bass Memorial Academy.

Teen Invitational Caving, Tumbling, Rock Cave – Jan. 31-Feb. 2. Contact Bob Hill, 727-560-8023 or bobbeahil@gmail.com.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Ministers’ Meetings – Jan. 6-9. Pigeon Forge.

Highland Academy Board Jan. 2. March 13.

Conference Executive Committee – Jan. 28. Conference Office.

Evangelism Boot Camp – Jan. 31-Feb. 2. Indian Creek Camp.

Creation Health Workshop – Feb. 10. Conference Office.

Pathfinder 7Up Retreat – Feb. 14-16. Indian Creek Camp.

Board of Education – Feb. 20.

Conference Office.

Eastern KY Camp Meeting – March 7, 8. Prestonsburg, KY.

Conference Executive Committee – March 25. Conference Office.

Memphis Festival of Faith – March 28, 29.

Southern Adventist University

Orchestra Concert – Feb. 9. Southern’s Symphony Orchestra presents a concerto concert at 4 p.m. in the Collegedale Church. The event is free and open to the public. It will also be broadcast live at southern.edu/ streaming.

Archaeology Lecture – Feb. 11. Southern’s Institute of Archaeology presents “Tell Jalul: A Levitical City of Refuge in Jordan?” by Andrews University professor Randall Younker, Ph.D., at 7 p.m. in Lynn Wood Hall Chapel. The event is free and open to the public. Details: 423-236-2030.

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

Sunset

	Dec. 27	Jan. 3	Jan. 10	Jan. 17	Jan. 24	Jan. 31
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	4:48	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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