

TSOUTHERN IDINGS

 SAN ANTONIO 2015
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Arise! Shine! Jesus is coming!



General Conference 60th Session
The Experience of First-time Delegates

Life After the Loss

It is my privilege to introduce to our readership Vanessa Hanna from the South Atlantic Conference. Vanessa said her mission is to help people live a zesty, fulfilled life. An experienced corporate trainer, she is grateful for the close relationship she shares with her surviving son, Donovan. Here she shares her grief journey surrounding the loss of her son and husband, and her ultimate dependence on God to get her through. -RCS



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

Three years and three months have gone by since that horrifyingly painful, gut-wrenching day, March 23, 2012. It's amazing what minute details can be remembered even though years have gone by. I'm feverishly making arrangements to get to Huntsville Hospital in Alabama. I can't move fast enough. I'm packed, leaving the house, key in the deadbolt lock when the word came: "The accident was fatal. Your child, Justin, has passed away." My life changed dramatically.

My heart and mind did not want to believe what my ears were hearing. There was a battle going on between the flesh — what I wanted to be so — and a reality that I did not want to accept. Have you ever been disappointed about the result of a situation? My heart was shattered like glass, broken into too many pieces to count. Thoughts of disbelief were continuously ringing in my head. Who wants to believe that a parent's nightmare could actually be real? My husband had passed away in 2008, and now my baby! I didn't know how to effectively cope with my thoughts and emotions. It took every prayer, every effort to physically place one foot in front of the other. My body felt as if it were weighed down with cement. The questions came: How on Earth do I move forward? Pray? I am praying, but still weighed down. The weight of the world was on my shoulders.

I don't know where hurt ended and anger began. At some point, they just blended together. God could have said, "What do you think you're doing, young lady? How dare you have these emotions?" Instead, He accepted me and gave me His shoulder to cry on, and told me to cast all of my burdens on Him (1 Peter 5:7). Instead of an abrupt retort to my pain and doubt, He responded ever so gently, "Vanessa, it's time to begin looking from the natural to the spiritual. My child, the one Who you are so angry with is your only source of healing. I am the Way. Remember what has been one of your favorite texts? Proverbs 3:5: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not to your own understanding." This gentleness was like a refreshing breeze on a hot summer day. My response was, "Yes, Lord. You're right. You are Lord." He took me by my hand and said, "I will help you," Isaiah 41:13. Come see a Man, people! Come see a Man!

The road has not been easy, and yet I am thankful that Jesus cares about everything that concerns us. I am thankful for His matchless love, His restoring power, and for walking me through this process. There's been emotional and spiritual growth as I continue to heal. In addition to prayerfully looking at my situation through spiritual eyes, studying His word, and embracing support from family and friends, healing has come through various other venues. Some of those include singing, counseling, sharing with others through speaking opportunities, and journaling. My WordPress blog is entitled, "From Nightfall to Morning Light." It is the journey from the dark of night to a place of healing. God has given me the strength to move forward, and to inspire others along the way.

Join me in thanking Vanessa Hanna for her transparency, and for her careful rendering of this riveting, inspiring testimony. We trust that we within the Southern Union will continue to rely on God to help us through the life-changing experiences we may encounter on our Christian journey. -RCS



Guest Editorial
Vanessa Hanna

SOUTHERN TIDINGS

Volume 109, No. 8, August 2015
 The *Southern Tidings* is the official publication of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE
 302 Research Drive
 Norcross, Georgia 30092 • Mail Address
 P.O. Box 923868, Norcross, Georgia 30010-3868
 Telephone (770) 408-1800
 www.southernunion.com

Staff

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

Contributing Editors

Adventist Health System ANTHONY VERA CRUZ
Adventist University of Health Sciences MEGHAN BRESCHER
Carolina REBECCA CARPENTER
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 JAMES K. LAMB, ED.D.
South Central MARVIN ALLISON SR.
Southeastern HUBERT MOREL, D.MIN.
Southern Adventist University LUCAS PATTERSON

Conference/Institution Directory

CAROLINA (704) 596-3200
 P.O. Box 44270, Charlotte, NC 28215
 FLORIDA (407) 644-5000
 351 S. State Road 434, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714-3824
 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
 P.O. Box 1688, Decatur, GA 30031-1688
 SOUTH CENTRAL (615) 226-6500
 P.O. Box 24936, Nashville, TN 37202
 SOUTHEASTERN (352) 735-3142
 P.O. Box 1016, Mt. Dora, FL 32756-0056
 ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM (407) 357-2083
 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

SOUTHERN TIDINGS | Volume 109 | Number 8 | August 2015
 Published monthly by the Southern Union. Free to all members.
 Periodical number: 507-0000

POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to *Southern Tidings*,
 P.O. Box 923868, Norcross, GA 30010-3868
 idouce@southernunion.com

COVER PHOTOS: R. STEVEN NORMAN III



Contents

FEATURES



**General Conference
 60th Session** 4



**You Can Be an
 Ambassador for
 Education** 10



**Loving, Giving, and
 Believing like God** 11



**He Walked 600 Miles
 for Homeless Kids** 12



**Building Pathfinders in
 Mongolia** 14

NEWS

- 15 South Atlantic
- 16 Adventist University of Health Sciences
- 18 Carolina
- 20 Florida
- 22 Georgia-Cumberland
- 24 Gulf States
- 26 Kentucky-Tennessee
- 28 South Central
- 30 Oakwood University
- 31 Southern Adventist University
- 32 Obituaries
- 36 Classified Advertising
- 38 Announcements
- 39 Events Calendar

Cover Feature



Pictured are materials the delegates received for the General Conference 60th Session in San Antonio, Texas, July 2-11, 2015.

General Conference 60th Session The Experience of First-time Delegates

BY OLSON A. PERRY SR.

It is refreshing to hear and watch the infusion of energy into first-time, young adult delegates to the 2015 General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas, July 2-11.

“It takes your breath away,” says Debleaire Snell, senior pastor of First Church in Huntsville, Alabama, “I was impressed by the optics of tribes, nations, languages, and cultures merging for a worship experience to God. You get very excited about being a Seventh-day Adventist Christian. You hear about being a World Church, but it is something different about coming into the dome and seeing the reality. It gives you an idea of what Heaven is going to be like.”



Delegates and observers stream into the Alamodome to attend the 60th General Conference Session.

Tamika Simmons, a New Heights Church member in Jackson, Mississippi, and educator, was “struck by the enormous diversity of a worldwide audience of languages, cultures, and nations. It brings home the gravity of the position and responsibility of a delegate in a world context, and the importance of your presence and your vote in a world context.”

Matt Stockdale, a North Carolina attorney, says, “It is a lot bigger of a world than what I thought. It encourages us to become more mission-minded and reach out in the world and our local communities, and see my actions as to what I say and do. People should actually be seeing Jesus’ actions and not mine and what I do.”

“For me, it was the walk,” says John S. Nixon II, D.Min., senior pastor of Decatur Church, Decatur, Georgia. “Walking daily from the hotel to Alamodome, meeting and interacting with new people, and observing the beautiful tapestry of our Church was my highlight. It is wonderful to enjoy that.”

Snell, Simmons, Stockdale, and Nixon were among several young adult delegates representing the Southern Union during the 60th General Conference Session of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, under the theme “Arise! Shine! Jesus is coming.”

Delegates Responsibilities

The delegates were there to marvel at the spectacular, colorful pageantry of the 13 divisions and the General Conference attached territories as some 230 countries displayed their colors, costumes, and statistics. They were there to appreciate and enjoy, but painfully choose between, a wide variety of activities, programs, promotions, exhibits, concerts, and meetings, beginning with the daily morning devotion, and ending each evening with reports from the world divisions, which brought some of the most inspiring moments of the session.

However, as observers to the session enjoyed scenic tours and

historical presentations about San Antonio, walked the River Walk, caught up with old acquaintances, and dined at the vast amount of eateries which overnight became vegetarian specialists, the delegates chiseled away at an awesome agenda to be completed in 10 days — their prime responsibility.

The agenda included reports for General Conference officers and the world divisions; election of officers of the General Conference and divisions, and department directors and associate department directors of the General Conference; proposals to amend the Church Manual; and decisions on other matters of Church doctrine or Church order that were referred to the General Conference Session by the General Conference Executive Committee.

Delegates received copies of the agenda in advance of their arrival at the session. As stated in the instructions to the delegates: “A delegate is expected to evaluate prayerfully the agenda items in the interest of the entire Church family. After listening to the discussion, he/she is free to make up his/her own mind as to how to vote. Delegates from any particular union are not to be placed under obligation to vote as a group in order to advance a specific viewpoint. Delegates should not come to the session with the idea that they must represent only the interests or the thinking of their particular culture, nationality, or union.”

“I can’t help but



Debleaire Snell, senior pastor of First Church in Huntsville, Alabama

take this responsibility seriously,” says Simmons. “Each delegate represents 7,000 people. That emphasis to the delegates at the beginning drives home the importance of the position on thought on every issue that’s brought before the body for a vote. That makes me very careful and reflective in making votes. It makes me know that I represent not only my personal views, but the views of others and thinking in the context of what’s best for the World Church, and not just my personal views or church or region or conference, but what’s best for the World Church. And, that’s important,” she emphasized.



Barbara McCoy, associate pastor of Forest Lake Church, Apopka, Florida, served as a delegate.



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Matt Stockdale (left), an attorney from North Carolina, chats with Leslie Louis, Carolina Conference president.

Although being a few years beyond young adulthood, Southern Union delegate Kathy Aitken, a first-time delegate, stressed similar importance of representing her union, but at the same time realized she is voting policies on behalf of the World Church. She spent most of her time while in San Antonio attending devotions, business sessions, and going over items to be discussed.

Barbara McCoy, a pastor at the Forest Lake Church, Apopka, Florida, who served as a delegate previously, echoes Aitken's thoughts. "It's important to study and pray through the matters brought to the floor. Studying the material before coming provides a spiritual growth opportunity. We pray through issues which may challenge thinking, I hear other people's view which may impact my thinking, and then vote what I really believe is my conscience."

Young Adult Representation

Delegate Cheryl Simmons of Greenwood, South Carolina, who is a chaplain, referenced the importance of young adult representation for future Sessions. "It's their generation we are, today, making decision for. So, in another 20 years they are going to be back here at the drawing board making some of those changes we're voting today. To them, they see no difference between the male and the female preaching. They could care less. They see no difference between

black and white."

Snell would definitely like to see more young adults involved. "It allows a fresh perspective. It gives the next generation of leaders a voice, not an advantage or disadvantage, just a different perspective, a different vantage point to the conversation. We may process information a little differently. My interest is highly invested in the growth and health and wellbeing of this Church, so I just think it adds a different perspective; a different vantage point."

He asks the question, "Is it a threat to others?" then continues, "Some who are more traditional may see it as a threat or challenge, possibly due to the thinking process; if all of us are vested in the growth

and wellbeing of our Church, we won't see it as an us versus them; when we bring all the perspectives to the table, the different kinds of ideology, and vantage points, the whole Church grows and is strengthened as a result."

When topics of youth involvement surfaces in various church settings, concern is expressed about the youth. Therefore, delegates would like to see more representation under the age of 40. Snell said it is not something to be offended by, "but if we are going to continue to reach that next generation of leaders, and keep the young adult generation engaged in the life and machinery of the Church, it is important that we bring them, that we give them a voice, that we allow



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

John S. Nixon II, D.Min., senior pastor of Decatur Church, Decatur, Georgia



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Educator Tamika Simmons (right), a member of New Heights Church in Jackson, Mississippi, goes through the security checkpoint at the Alamodome with her mother, Debrah A. Michael.

Mission Emphasis

As part of their responsibilities, delegates are encouraged to return home as goodwill ambassadors for the Church. The delegate returns with a personal knowledge of the diversity, and unity of the Church, its progress, and its challenges.

Stockdale plans to return home with new zeal for his ministry as a church plant leader with renewed focus on former Adventists. He believes there is animosity among members due to treatment and behavior of individuals in the local church. There is danger in animosity causing people to leave the Church. Unity brings us together and will bring people back to the Church. He wants to reach out to some of those who have left, and encourage their return as demonstrated through some of the tense moments subsided by the Holy Spirit during the business sessions and a sense of unity prevailed.

“Very impressed!” says Nixon. “I love my Church even more by being involved and seeing it from the inside. I am impressed by the level of spirituality. People have disagreed, but not been disagreeable; a lot of good that I can take with me.”

Nixon expressed appreciation to be part of the most historical events

them to have a sense of ownership in the Church. I don’t know what that forum is, but that forum ought to be raised so that you have a higher participation from those in their 20s, 30s, and perhaps early 40s,” he said.

Simmons appreciates a platform for younger representation and would like to see an increase in that emphasis. She believes it provides an opportunity to appreciate differences without intimidation, and would like to see it continue.

Nixon expresses similar sentiments. As a matter of fact, his focus during his doctoral pursuits was on this subject: Youth Involvement. “Because of the way delegates are chosen, more than likely you would have more conscientious representation in that age category. An increase in young adult representation would provide quality youth who care about their Church; so an increase in youth representation would not necessarily present animosity.

“There is skepticism and perhaps negative thoughts about the way we do things in our Church from my age group. There is an unnecessary amount of bureaucracy that keeps us from getting to the bottom of things, and so in that way there may be a bit more frustration because those who

would be delegates would not understand the process as much, and the ones who would be in charge would not be young adults, so things would be more different, you might have a bit more friction.

“But, I do have a burden for that demographic because they are leaving the Church in droves. If more of them could see our Church from the inside like this, they would have a better understanding and probably would feel a sense of belonging, and that would create better young adult Adventists,” he says.



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Debleaire Snell sits with his wife, Gianna, and three children, Jaden, Brooke, and Braydon, during one of the general sessions.



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Matt Stockdale listens to the discussion intently with other delegates during a general session.



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

John S. Nixon II, D.Min., with his wife, April, and children, John III and Julia, juggled his delegate responsibilities to meet his family for meals at the Alamodome.

in the Adventist Church. “I pray for unity; for a miracle through decisions. I pray for unity in a way never seen before.” Nixon believes the Church is going to be unified more than ever before. “God can take the negative. God can take those situations no matter how bad it seems, and turn them into something that will glorify Him. That’s what I’m hoping for as a result of this Session.”

Snell is spiritually strengthened and refreshed, ready to go back and engage in spiritual warfare on a higher level. “Being here gives me a keen sense of what’s actually at stake; a better understanding of how the World Church operates, and the

role our local church plays into that larger context. I am able to explain how the Church works, so that where members may be a bit disgruntled or disenfranchised with the operations of the Church, I can share the pros and cons of how we work and how we can use our voices for change, and participate in subsequent meetings. It was a positive experience.”

“For me, being here brings home the importance of mission in my intimate spaces — local church, the people I associate with, the people we see all the time, and thinking about the Gospel message being shared with the world through those intimate spaces,” says

Simmons. She continues, “We think of the world and community at the spiritual loss of our family members and neighborhood through neglect. We need to become more sensitive to those close to us and be intentional so Christ can be seen through me; think of Christ seeing through me; and intentionally doing a work that is created through relationships with more emphasis on mission that should go out through me.”

Perspective of a Female Pastor Delegate

Barbara McCoy, an associate pastor of Forest Lake Academy Church said, “I want to be supportive of the World Church. We have different issues that come from different cultures. In North America, we are moving in a different direction as far as women in ministry. It would be beautiful if the World Church could say we see that each division has issues they need to deal with that don’t create disunity within the body, and instead allow us to unify the body in diversity. So I had hoped that the World Church would say, let North America and other divisions go free in making decisions that are not ungodly decisions, but simply decisions on what is needed in that particular division to move forward with the work of Christ.”



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Barbara McCoy sits with her husband, Les McCoy.

“Even if I don’t agree with everyone or have the same viewpoint, we are still brothers and sisters in Christ. I really enjoyed meeting people on the floor whom I didn’t know before, and in two days we are already bonding. And the most common thing is that we believe in Jesus Christ as our Savior, and we belong to the same Church. And, that itself is a bonding effect, whether or not we fully agree on all the issues. That is just a powerful part of this impact event.”

The Hope

It must have been exciting to watch the action and reports on the screen while sitting in a recliner at home. But, nothing can compare to the excitement of being in the presence with fellow Christians.

As the vast congregation of

60,000 believers culminated the final notes of the 60th Session in San Antonio, there was little remembrance of the high humidity mixed with the 90-degree temperature; the long hikes between hotels, Alamodome, and Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, which housed the exhibit hall and dining facilities; or the inconvenience of controlled security in the dome. It seemed as though all eyes, thoughts, and hope were found on the stories of missions, the drive for unity in the Church, despite differing opinions; and witness to what the Holy Spirit is doing in the lives across the globe as we await Christ’s return. ☯



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Ron C. Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., president of the Southern Union Conference, preaches for the Friday morning, July 10, worship service.

Additional Images, Videos, and News from the General Conference Session may be seen at the following links:

Photos: Southernunion.com/photos
[Flickr.com/photos/nadadventist](https://www.flickr.com/photos/nadadventist/)

Videos: See and hear some of the Southern Union delegates at Southernunion.com/delegatestory

Encouragement for NAD pastors
<http://vimeo.com/133202268>



DANIEL GALLARDO/INTERAMERICAN DIVISION

Ted Wilson, D.Min., Ph.D., president of the General Conference, reelected to serve the World Church for the next five years, gives a closing challenge during the conclusion of the 2015 Session to reach the World Church.



You Can Be an Ambassador!

A Brand New Initiative in Adventist Christian Education

BY ELISSA KIDO, ED.D.

A brand new initiative called Ambassadors for Adventist Christian Education (AACE), an organization created to recruit, organize, and support volunteers for the K-12 Adventist educational system, was launched by the Center for Research on K-12 Adventist Education (CRAE), in February 2015. The catalyst for AACE was the number of people who would approach me after my presentations on Adventist education and ask me what *they* could do to help. I realized that there were passionate individuals out there, committed to supporting Adventist education, who simply needed direction and guidance to channel their energy into helping one of our schools.

Upon receiving funding from Versacare to help with initial start-up expenses, I began working on building AACE from the ground up. AACE

has three different categories — local chapter ambassadors, ambassadors-at-large, and institutional chapters. Each of these categories have slightly different roles, but the goal remains the same for all ambassadors — championing the benefits of Adventist education to churches and communities, and using their specific skills and areas of expertise to support schools.

I have been delighted by the response already received; both La Sierra University and Pacific Union College are on board as institutional chapters, and the database of ambassadors-at-large continues to grow. The support for AACE has been impressive. People from all different walks of life — retired educators, successful professionals, stay-at-home parents — have said, “Sign me up! I want to help!”

The different ways that ambas-

sadors are volunteering are as varied as the individuals themselves. One is helping a school to create its own YouTube channel; another is an experienced grant writer and fundraiser, and has volunteered to help schools with their various projects to that end.

If you or someone you know would be willing to serve as an ambassador, please check out the AACE website at aace.lasierra.edu, or call 951-785-2997 for more information. ♪

Elissa Kido, Ed.D., is the director of the Center for Research on K-12 Adventist Education (CRAE), at the School of Education at La Sierra University in Riverside, California.



Loving, Giving, and Believing Like God

*A Church Treasurer's Testimony of
How Stewardship Works*

BY AUDREY NORMAN



Dana Edmond, South Central Conference president; Jacques Francois, pastor; Jeremie Mason, stewardship leader; and other New Life Church officers look on as the church's mortgage papers are burned.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life," John 3:16, NLT.

God used this verse to propel the New Life Church in Birmingham, Alabama, into a deeper trust and love relationship with Him. Members attending a stewardship Sabbath service were challenged to be like God — lovers, believers, and givers — revealing their Redeemer to the world. In response to the challenge, members submitted commitment cards.

Jacques Francois, pastor, and Jeremie Mason, stewardship leader, held a private prayer session regarding the commitments made by the members. The prayers were for spiritual growth to be manifested in the use of time, talent, temple, and treasure.

During the ensuing months, testimonies of the members revealed that for some it was a spiritual struggle to be faithful to their

covenant with God. However, the members clung to God's promise to pour out heavenly blessings which they would not be able to contain, as referenced in Malachi 3:10.

There were increases in the tithe and offering amounts given by those who were already in the habit of giving. However, tithe and offerings also were submitted by those who previously had rarely or only sporadically turned in a tithe envelope. There may be the temptation to think that the increases were seen mainly among the more "seasoned" members of the congregation. Not true. All ages evidenced an enriched life with God.

In June 2014, the 20-year church mortgage had been reduced to an amount where some congregants wanted to proceed with paying off the balance. There was hesitancy and resistance on the part of some to support this strategy. With greater dependence on God, the "fear"

stance was removed. A lump-sum payment was made 14 years and nine months ahead of schedule.

Other evidences of members becoming lovers, believers, and givers:

Tithe for 2014 showed a 14.57 percent increase in comparison to 2011-2012.

Tithe for 2015 shows a percent increase in comparison to 2014.

Servant attitude increased toward fellow members and visitors.

Number of Bible study groups tripled.

Attendance increased at mid-week prayer meeting.

You too can experience new life in Christ by falling deeply in love with Him. The closer you get to Him, the more you love your fellow man. The more you love God and others, the more you'll reach out to those in need of a Savior. ✨



Audrey Norman was the treasurer of New Life Church in Birmingham, Alabama, when this article was written.



He Walked 600 Miles for Homeless Kids

JEFF MOOSE

BY ESTHER SMITH

After reading an article detailing the high number of homeless children in the United States, Jeff Moose knew that he had to help in some way. What this Taylorsville, North Carolina, resident did not know, was how he would help. After tossing around ideas for years, he eventually put it on the back burner and became busy with other projects. He recently rediscovered his ambition to help, however, when he saw a homeless couple at a store in his area, and noticed that the woman was pregnant. That did it. "It wouldn't let go of my heart," he said.

Because he was unemployed, he had no money to give. "But," he said, "what I do have is time."

When Jeff came upon an article about a man who was walking from California to New York to raise money for a cause, he knew what he wanted to do. He named it the Walk for Homeless Youth, or WHY Project, and made plans to walk across the state of North Carolina. Looking for an organization to support, he visited A Child's Place in Charlotte, North Carolina, and learned that about 85 percent of its donated

funds are dedicated to ending homelessness for children. That sealed the deal for him. "It's not a shelter; they are working to break the cycle," Jeff said.

Upon finding out about the WHY Project, several Food Lion stores along his route sponsored his meals for the trip, and soon Jeff had received a promise of \$450 in gift cards from stores across the state.

He obtained other donations as well, such as walking shoes, clothes, and places to sleep.

With all the logistics of the walk worked out, Jeff was off. He had planned to walk the 600 miles from Mantoo to Murphy, North Carolina, in just 17 days, but the journey ended up taking

him two months to complete. He wasn't disheartened that it took longer than expected, saying, "It went way better than I expected. I felt very watched over." He went on to say that it rained 34 out of the 54 days it took him to walk the distance, but he only got wet once. "It was a miracle every single day. Sometimes within only a minute of me getting to a



JEFF MOOSE

place, it would rain, but it didn't rain on me," Jeff said.

In addition to dealing with the hardships of difficult weather, Jeff was forced to meet other challenges as well. His pack weighed 45 pounds, which put a strain on his knees and back. One week he had trouble with his left knee, and the very next week he suffered the same kind of pain in his right knee. When asked how he dealt with the problems he'd encountered, Jeff responded, "I prayed and kept walking."

Whenever Jeff met anyone on the road, or when he stopped to rest, he told them about his walk and the reason for it, inviting them to follow his walk on the WHY Project Facebook page. But, he didn't stop there. He would go on to tell them how they could go to desiretheruth.com and get immediate access to Bible studies on quite a few different biblical topics.

"For me," he said, "this was about helping kids and planting seeds for Christ."

Though the walk is over, you can still help with the WHY Project. To donate, visit the Why Project on Facebook, or go to the A Child's Place website, www.achildsplace.org.



JEFF MOOSE



JEFF MOOSE



JEFF MOOSE



JEFF MOOSE



JEFF MOOSE



SUBMITTED BY FERNANDO VERDUZCO

BUILDING PATHFINDERS IN MONGOLIA

BY FERNANDO VERDUZCO

The Pathfinder leaders from Georgia-Cumberland made a trip to Ulaanbaatar (which means “red hero”), Mongolia, May 31 to June 9, 2015, to help train pastors and Pathfinder leaders.

They learned some fun Adventist facts about Mongolia, home to around three million people.

- The first Adventist missionaries to Mongolia were Russians in 1926.
- In 1991, Adventist missionaries returned again, and two years later they reaped their first converts.
- Most of the Adventists in Mongolia are under 30 years of age.

This sounded like a great country to implement a strong Pathfinder presence. Sodbyamba Sodnompil, Mongolian Mission youth director, asked for assistance with training, and Fernando Verduzco, Georgia-Cumberland children’s/junior youth ministries director, was happy to accept. “It was interesting to learn about the people of Mongolia, and to be given the privilege of training their leaders. We have committed to helping them the next five years.”

There are only 10 Adventist churches in the country, with seven in Ulaanbaatar. They have already

established several Pathfinder clubs. Four were present for the Pathfinder Sabbath where Verduzco and team participated in an investiture. The team trained pastors, Pathfinder staff, and Pathfinders.

Ulaanbaatar has an Adventist mission building with five floors, consisting of offices for the local conference, a floor each for the men and women attending local schools and universities, child care, and apartments for pastoral families.

Dale Tunnel, pastor for the Chattanooga First Church, spent eight years in Mongolia as director for Mission Field from 1998 to 2006. Tunnel shared, “It was such a joy to return to Mongolia and see my spiritual children and grandchildren. It brought tears to my eyes to see some of the children of individuals baptized during my time there receiving their awards and honors. The church is truly growing up in Mongolia. The first baptism was in 1993, and now the church there needs help strengthening Pathfinders. There are so many children growing up without Christ and the personal discipline a Christ-filled life

brings. Pathfinders is an excellent way for the Church to fill that void. I was filled with joy to see many of my former members as part of the Pathfinder training.”

Verduzco thought he was there to train Pathfinders only, but was thrilled to encourage a college student named



SUBMITTED BY FERNANDO VERDUZCO



SUBMITTED BY FERNANDO VERDUZCO

Dash on the challenges of not working on Sabbath. “God places us where He needs us.”

“Koinonia!” is theme for Annual Convocation



Vincent Dehm, pastor from the Allegheny East Conference in Boyertown, Penn., shares God’s message of love and forgiveness.

Koinonia! A Greek word commonly translated as fellowship was the theme for the third annual South Atlantic Conference Youth and Young Adult Convocation. This was truly a momentous occasion that brought together more than 1,000 youth, young adults, and the young at heart to the Conference’s River Oaks Campground in Orangeburg, S.C., March 27-28, 2015. The theme was chosen that lives out the prayer of Christ for His followers in John 17:21, that all will be one in Christ as He and the Father are one.

On Friday evening, a worship experience was highlighted by Jedidiah Ayivor, pastor of the Summerville/St. Stephens, S.C., district, whose melodic, falsetto voice brought the attendees to the gates of Heaven. The speaker was Vincent Dehm, pastor from the Allegheny East Conference in Boyertown, Penn. His dynamic, engaging, and authentic messages of hope,

forgiveness, and restoration touched the hearts of the worshippers with the news that all can enjoy Koinonia with God and each other. As a result, 46 individuals were baptized!

Sabbath started with a wonderful Sabbath School presentation, followed by various seminars. The



Jedidiah Ayivor (left), pastor of the Summerville/St. Stephens, S.C., district, and Patrick Carter, South Atlantic Conference youth director, baptize two of 46 precious souls who responded to God’s call.

seminars included “Personal Branding,” by Andrew Davis; “How to Start Your Own Business,” by Malcolm May; “The Illuminati and the New World Order,” by Raymond King; “Conflict Resolution,” by James Artis; “Let’s Dance: The Cultural and Spiritual Influences of Music,” by Michael Miller, pastor, and Richard Morris; “Understanding Your Finances,” by elders Canute Birch and Jay Dedeker; “Reaching the Millennial Generation,” by Patrick Carter, pastor; and “How to Deal with Conflict and Disappointments in the Child/Parent Relationship,” by Tracey Carter, Ph.D.

Rosemary Graham, Conference disability ministries coordinator, conducted a joint meeting for disability ministries coordinators. Additionally, sign language services and a seminar were provided for those in attendance.

The Sabbath service was awe-inspiring. The

enjoyed by all, with many of the attendees expressing how blessed they were to be part of a ministry that involves them and their integral part of God’s master plan as well. Additionally, Calvin Watkins Sr., Conference ministerial director, closed out the weekend by sharing that God has a plan



Attendees at the Convocation give God praise.

youth and young adults, for whom this event was designed, showed up and showed out. Their talents were on display, and they were used mightily by God. The day did not end there. The youth prepared “Blessing Bags” to share with elderly residents in the Orangeburg community. More than 50 South Atlantic youth and young adults descended on the independent living community, sharing gifts and bringing smiles to the residents who were appreciative to see them leading out in outreach, and of their outpouring of love.

The Convocation was

and desires to use each one for His glory.

This Koinonia would



Youth and young adults share “Blessing Bags” with the Orangeburg, S.C., community.

not have been possible without the dedicated leadership of parents; Conference pastors; local youth leaders; Lisa Lee, Georgia Youth Federation president; Travis Williams, South Carolina Youth Federation president; Nicole Laurent, North Carolina Youth Federation president; and the South Atlantic Conference leadership.

—BY PATRICK CARTER

Adventist University of Health Sciences Awarded \$150K in Grants



ADU students, along with Ruby Gutierrez, former director of community engagement, give back to the community on a service-learning project at a furniture and clothing bank.

Adventist University of Health Sciences (ADU) has recently been awarded two grants totaling \$150,000 from the Florida Campus Compact for the 2015-16 academic year. The grants will help enhance ADU's community reach and service-learning on campus.

The AmeriCorps grant provides ADU with two full-time VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America) members who will work with underserved communities, specifically Parramore and Washington Shores, to combat poverty by leveraging higher education.

"It is a blessing to have two VISTA members here at ADU working with our local community to inspire children to stay in school, to live healthier lives, and to make their dreams a reality," said Ruby Gutierrez, former director of community engagement at ADU.

While on campus the VISTA members will be

working closely with current ADU students on service-learning and community service projects. This year they will be responsible for developing

two national days of service, coordinating a STEM fair on campus, hosting a financial series aimed at raising awareness of debt, updating ADU's Community Engagement website with inspiring stories, and expanding the University's community impact by developing new partnerships.

Students from underserved communities will have the opportunity to visit campus during the STEM fair to explore science, technology, engineering, and math. The goal is to give them exposure to a new environment, and spark interests that will highlight the importance of staying in school.

ADU students in the undergraduate and graduate healthcare administration program will host a financial series. The classes will be designed for first generation college students and will offer tips on how to stay out of high-interest debt.

Giving back to the com-

munity and those in need is part of the University's mission of "Healthcare as Ministry." Service-learning is incorporated directly into ADU's courses so that students, working to become healthcare providers, will be educated on the needs of their community and will be part of the solution.

"The reason why we have service-learning at ADU is because of our mission. We are here to educate and graduate students who practice healthcare as ministry," explained Gutierrez. "It's not just community service, the VISTA members create projects that are intentional and that are tied to the education our students are receiving."

Service-learning is embedded in all of ADU's professional programs. For example, a student taking a nutrition course could sign up to prepare meals for children living in the local community while also teaching them how to shop on budget and cook healthy meals.

The beauty of incorporating service-learning into ADU's courses with the help of VISTA members is that it allows those students to be

more engaged because they are giving back to a cause they are personally passionate about; it's a win-win for the student, the University, and the community.

"With the help of this grant and our two VISTA members, we are getting out into the community, getting to know organizations, getting to know their needs, and taking those needs and directly tying them to our University. We are able to live out our mission and help inspire young children to stay in school. It is a privilege, and we are so grateful to have received these awards," stated Gutierrez.



One of ADU's students takes the time to tutor a local child with the hope of inspiring them to stay in school.

For the past four years in a row, Adventist University of Health Sciences has received the VISTA grant from Florida Campus Compact. The University has also been honored for their continued civic engagement and service to the community.

—BY MEGHAN BRESCHER

All Nurse Anesthesia MS Graduates Gain National Certification on First Attempt



ADU's master of science in nurse anesthesia students receive hands-on training on state-of-the-art equipment.

One hundred percent of Adventist University of Health Sciences' (ADU) master of science in nurse anesthesia (MSNA) graduates of April 2015 have passed the national certification examination (NCE) on their first attempt. The graduating class was composed of 20 students who completed the program on April 20, 2015.

The NCE is required of every graduate in order to become a certified registered nurse anesthetist, and graduates of the MSNA program are eligible for state licensure as advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), upon successful

completion of the national certification examination.

"We are extremely proud of our graduates who worked hard to achieve these results," said Alescia DeVasher Bethea, Ph.D., chair of the nurse anesthesia program. "We take immense pride in selecting exceptional students and faculty, and these results help to demonstrate the high quality of graduates that our program produces."

DeVasher Bethea believes that in addition to God's blessings and having exceptional students, this success is attributed to the program's curriculum, high-fidelity simulation labs,

world-class clinical experiences — including specialty rotations within the Florida Hospital system, and hands-on learning from top-quality clinical professionals.

"ADU students are immersed in a real-world environment from their first year in the MSNA program," adds DeVasher Bethea. "We provide them with the tools they need to not only pass their certification examination, but go on to become some of the best CRNAs in healthcare."

The Nurse Anesthesia program at ADU consists of 80 semester hours, more than 28 consecutive months, leading to the

master of science in nurse anesthesia (MSNA) degree. The curriculum integrates health sciences with nursing sciences to prepare students as advanced practitioners in nurse anesthesia who can integrate research findings into their practice. Students are prepared to provide anesthesia care to patients in a variety of settings, including medically-underserved areas.

The MSNA program has already selected its next annual cohort, to begin in January 2016, and is currently accepting applications for the cohort to begin in January 2017.

—BY MEGHAN BRESCHER

Literature Evangelism Rally Held



REBECCA CARPENTER



REBECCA CARPENTER

Lance Morrison, Carolina Conference publishing director

Literature evangelism is a vital part of the work being done on behalf of the Lord. Being a literature evangelist is open to all. The Literature Evangelism Rally exists to inspire and train any interested member of the Church to be a literature evangelist.

The Rally is a two-day experience that takes place in various parts of the Conference two to three times per year. The most recent Rally took place May 2-3, 2015.

at the Monroe, N.C., Church.

“God can take the membership and use them in a mighty way in literature,” said Lance Morrison, publishing director for the Carolina Conference. “The purpose of the Rally is to help mobilize the Carolina congregations, assisting them in spreading the Gospel.”

The Literature Evangelism Rally employs a dual service — to encourage and train individuals who are already sharing the Gospel through the literature evangelism program (or who would like to be), and to encourage members to be involved in the Glow Tract Ministry. Learn more about Glow Tracts at www.glowcarolina.org.

On the second day of the Rally, Morrison; Keith Reid, associate publishing director for the Southern Union; and Louise Ven-

ables, district leader for the Carolina publishing work, conducted a training session for attendees. It covered critical areas of literature evangelism, like the importance of being friendly, asking for a decision on the spot, and the “door approach.” Morrison remembers the event as being “Holy Spirit-led.” There were quite a few testimonies from the evangelists detailing obvious divine appointments.

Husband and wife L.E. team Jabe and Pattie Morris attended the Rally, and shared, “We have been blessed to see many individuals get baptized throughout the years. There’s nothing a literature evangelist enjoys more than to share the great things that the Lord has done through the literature evangelism ministry.”

The Rally was a success, and the Lord’s work

continues. If you are interested in becoming a literature evangelist, contact the Carolina Conference at 704-596-3200.

“Then saith he unto his disciples, the harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest,” Matthew 9:37, 38 KJV.

—BY ESTHER SMITH



REBECCA CARPENTER

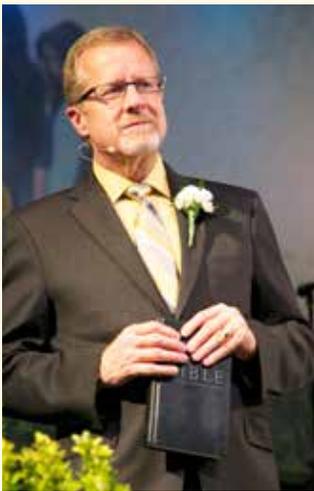
Keith Reid, Southern Union associate publishing director

Carolina Conference Camp Meeting Reviewed



REBECCA CARPENTER

Sabbath afternoon ordination ceremony for Kevin Pires



REBECCA CARPENTER

Randy Roberts, senior pastor of the Loma Linda University Church in Loma Linda, Calif.

From May 25 to 31, attendees of the 2015 Carolina Conference Camp Meeting at Lake Junaluska in Maggie Valley, N.C., were blessed to have an assortment of gifted speakers from all over the country.

Des Cummings, president of the Florida Hospital Foundation, served as the evening speaker in the main auditorium for the first part of the week; Randy Roberts, senior pastor of the Loma Linda

University Church in Loma Linda, Calif., took over as the weekend speaker. The theme was “On Our Knees,” and each presenter emphasized the value of prayer and putting trust completely in Christ.

Additionally, the week boasted a number of mentally- and spiritually-stimulating seminars focusing on such diverse topics as the Holy Spirit, finance/estate planning, and “Incredible Edibles,” a seminar on gar-

dening. Recordings of these meetings are available on the Carolina Conference website, www.carolinasda.org. The Conference also unveiled a new Camp Meeting app this year, available for both iOS and Android devices.

Camp Meeting was an exciting and rejuvenating time, and, as always, set a precedent for the rest of the year.

—BY AIMEE GARVER

Prayer Brings People Together

The following report is a personal testimony.

“Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much,” James 5:16 NKJV.

After pastoring the church in Blythewood, S.C., for several years, I became an associate chaplain in a local hospital. What a blessing it has been to pray with people who are suffering.

One evening I came to the room of a senior citizen named Betty. She asked, “Have you got a minute? I

would love to share a story about prayer with you.” The previous Friday she had gone to Walmart with her husband, Bernie. Out of the blue, a woman asked if they needed help. Betty explained what she was looking for and the woman said, “I’m going that direction myself. Follow me.”

During the trek Betty shared her situation. She had just celebrated her 65th wedding anniversary, her husband had been diagnosed with cancer, and she needed heart surgery. The woman asked, “Do you mind if we pray now?” Right then and there they

held hands and had prayer.

I interrupted Betty. “Was this a middle-aged woman with long, blondish-silver hair named Bobbie?”

Betty said, “Yes, how did you know?” I told Betty that Bobbie was a member of my church, and she had asked us to put Betty and

Bernie on our prayer list.

The following Sabbath, Bobbie and I visited Betty. We had a wonderful season of prayer together, praising God for her successful surgery, and for a life touched by the Holy Spirit through prayer.

—BY CHARLIE YOUNG



CHARLIE YOUNG

Congregation Celebrates Pentecost with Baptism

The Beth-El Shalom of New Port Richey congregation celebrated Shavout, the biblical holy day of the Feast of Weeks (also known as Pentecost) by reading the Ten Commandments in Hebrew. A special part of the day occurred when three individuals joined the congregation by baptism, and one by profession of faith.

Brenda Bowman, who is Jewish through her father, and her husband, Arnold Loomis, were baptized by Rabbi Pastor Jeff Zaremsky in the Anclote River. Several years ago, Bowman started attending services with the Beth-El Shalom of St. Petersburg congregation, and even attended a series of meetings held there with the help of Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries (ASI) youth before moving away. Recently, Bowman and Loomis, as well as Bowman's mother, who is preparing for bap-



ANDREAS CHODURA

Arnold Loomis was one of three people baptized by immersion in the Anclote River by Jeff Zaremsky.

tism, moved back into the area closer to New Port Richey.

Nelson and Irene Janice started attending

the congregation a year ago after he met Zaremsky at a Passover service. He was intrigued by how they viewed the Jewishness and

the Messiah as one. He was baptized and his wife was accepted into membership by profession of faith.

—BY JEFF ZAREMSKY

Florida Members Support Project Panda

Florida Conference is partnering with the Chinese Union Mission in Project Panda, which supports 40 indigenous two-person church-planting teams. These teams share the love

of Jesus in unreached areas of China. As a result, 1,822 people were baptized this past year.

Recently, one church-planting team shared this experience from their

ministry efforts.

“People finally seemed to be listening. They were not turning us away,

and a few had chosen to study the Bible with us. We had joy in our hearts, but suddenly, we faced another challenge! We had been reported to the local government as members of a cult. Leaders from the religious bureau came to our home, and banned us from sharing Jesus and worshipping there on Sabbaths.

“Desperately, we notified members from our far-away hometown of our plight. They fasted and prayed for us for several

days as we prepared, with sadness, to leave this unreached city. Then, a miracle happened. An official from the bureau showed up at our door and gave us a permit. He told us that we were free to invite others to our home to share about Jesus. Our hearts now leapt for joy.”

For updates of the Chinese church-planting teams, contact Project Panda staff at kingdom-growth@chumadventist.org.

—BY AUDREY FOLKENBERG



Bikers Ride to Benefit Disabled in Community

The rumble of motorcycle engines filling the air waves is not an unusual occurrence on a busy Florida highway, but when bikes turned into the Emmanuel Church parking lot in Orlando on Sabbath morning, May 16, 2015, people took notice!

The first part of this intentional mission outreach to the community began when three motorcycle groups, represented by bikers — some Adventist, some not — joined with church members in worship. Bikers shared heartfelt testimonies that blessed the congregation with their words.

After fellowship dinner, a charity ride took place to benefit The Russell Home for disabled children and adults. Bikers donated



JOSIE SANTOS

Adventist Motorcycle Ministry (AMM) was one of three groups participating in a community outreach event originating at Emmanuel Church in Orlando. AMM has chapters in several states, including Florida. Learn more at adventistmotorcycleministry.org.

more than \$200 for sponsoring the home that is dependent on the community for funding.

Members were blessed by the uniqueness of this outreach. “Our hearts were touched by The Russell

Home, the spirituality of the worship service, and the kindness of the motorcyclists,” mentioned several members. The Lord was seen in every step of the day, including beautiful weather previously pre-

dicted as rainy. The event was dubbed, A Little Bit of Hog Heaven II. The initial Hog Heaven program, held at South Orlando Church, resulted in two decisions being made for Christ.

—BY DANIEL FORBES

Quiet Heroes Lead Children’s Sabbath School

As you step into the Ocala Church kindergarten room on a Sabbath morning, the warm friendliness and winning smile of leader Margie Orem is contagious. For 18 years, she has brought Bible stories to life for children ages 4-7.

A featured part of the program is *My Bible Lessons* used as a teaching aid, with Scripture references, supportive details, and descriptive pictures. Each child is provided with a lesson quarterly, a memory verse book, and a copy of *Our Little Friend* magazine. “It is my wish that they learn about Jesus,” says Margie,



RICKEY COUCH

Ocala kindergarten Sabbath School leadership team: Sharron Miller (left), Margie Orem, and Kay Kayal.

“and keep His lessons in their hearts to share and to shine for Jesus.”

Assistant Kay Kayal has the same love for children on this team that works

in harmony to impact the hearts of the kids for God in their classroom.

While kindergarten pianist Sharron Miller’s specific task is music, she also enjoys organizing programs and helping with room decorations. Her interest in children’s Sabbath School has spanned 40 years, with the last seven at Ocala Church. “My greatest desire is to spark children’s interest in knowing more of Jesus and His love,” says Sharron. “My greatest hope is for them to learn things that will prepare them for life and eternity.”

—BY HERB PRITCHARD

Rustad Joins Georgia-Cumberland as General Vice President



Gary and Denise Rustad

Please join Georgia-Cumberland Conference as they welcome Gary Rustad to the position of general vice president. He will manage the numerous church ministries departments, serve as liaison for Cohutta Springs Confer-

ence Center, coordinate Camp Meetings, Adventist Community Services, and Disaster Response.

Ed Wright, president, says, "Gary is gifted with so many talents, but most importantly, Gary is a man of God. We are excited for

this new addition to our Conference administrative team."

Rustad most recently served as the senior pastor for the Calhoun, Ga., Church, and was previously at Duluth and Auburn churches in Georgia. He also helped plant the Buford Family Church, and was a chaplain for the University of Georgia in Athens.

"I am excited about the new position," said Rustad. "There will be a steep learning curve, yet I am eager to blend all that church ministries offers with the local ministries of pastors and churches."

He comes from a family of pastors; both his father and grandfather worked for the Adventist

Church. "My dad always told me we are not in the Church for the people; we are here for God," said Rustad.

Rustad is married to Denise, and they have three children, Ava, Elayna, and Heath. His favorite hobbies include LEGO bricks, sports (watching and playing), and cross-fit. Rustad has a bachelor's in theology from Southern Adventist University, a master of divinity from Andrews University, and is currently earning a doctor of ministry from the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies in the Philippines, with the focus in leadership.

—BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Bowers Named Executive Director for Cohutta Springs Conference Center



Gayln Bowers has been named as the new executive director for Cohutta Springs Conference Center in Crandall, Ga.

Gayln L. Bowers came to Cohutta Springs Confer-

ence Center in Crandall, Ga., as the new executive director, effective July 1, 2015. Originally from North Dakota, Bowers was raised on a farm with five siblings.

He attended Bottineau High School and then graduated from Union College in Lincoln, Neb., with a bachelor of science degree in accounting. He also earned an M.B.A. in global management from the University of Phoenix.

An international traveler, Bowers lived in Australia for several years working for IBM in accounting, and then served as a missionary in

Thailand for six years. Upon returning to the United States in 1998, Bowers became the human resources director for Pacific Union College.

Bowers met Lorena, his Australian wife (who happened to be in the United States on holiday), and they were married in 1979.

They have two adult children, Shea, a nurse who lives in Australia, and Savannah and her husband, Andy, who are moving to Minnesota where Andy will be the new principal for the Minnetonka Church School.

Bowers' hobbies include

woodworking, baking, reading, and golf. He loves working in the dirt and driving tractors.

This old saying is true of Bowers: "You can take the boy out of the farm, but not the farm out of the boy!"

"Church leadership is one of my gifts, and I have served as the head elder for the past 10 years at our local church. I look forward to new challenges and experiences that God is providing, and I am grateful for His providences," says Bowers.

—BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Plant Seeds Where God Puts You

Caryn Payne, Conference membership coordinator, recently received an email that got her excited. Payne loves to solve a good puzzle, and this email provided just that.

But first, looking back a few years.... Tim Quilter moved from Georgia to New York City. While on a subway ride one Sunday, he was sitting near a woman who was giving away books. “Tim Quilter was sitting to my left and asked what the book was that I was giving away. I offered him one and he accepted it. We had a short conversation, and he reached his stop and got off the train. About one month later he showed up in Sabbath School. Ten years later, we were married in 2013,” said Rennis Garner. Recently, Garner and Quilter had been talking about his spiritual journey, and he mentioned that there was someone he wanted to thank. Garner, being resourceful, found Georgia-Cumberland Conference and sent off an email.

Following is part of the email request that Caryn Payne received:

“I am writing to you from New York City where my husband and I are members of the Manhattan Seventh-day Adventist Church. I grew up in the Adventist church and my husband was baptized in 2008.

“One day as we were discussing his life journey, he mentioned that the first time he ever heard of Seventh-day Adventists was in

1984 when he was living in Decatur, Ga., and working in construction. There was a co-worker whose name was Dennis Morris or Dennis Morrison. He was from the area and at that time worked for H&S Masonry out of Duluth, Ga.

“We have not found Dennis the brick mason, but we would like for him to know before we get to Heaven how important his life example was. If you possibly know if he is still in the area, we would love to hear from him or have a way to contact him. Can you help us with this search? We believe he is 64 years old now. We are not absolutely sure of the last name, but Dennis is definitely his first name. He had a slender build and was around 6’2” with sandy-colored hair.”

Payne saw this email and really wanted to connect these people, if she could find them. She searched for, using her eAdventist skills, and found someone named Dennis Morris, who is a member at the Auburn, Ga., Church. She didn’t stop there. She personally called the Morris home and spoke with Denice, Dennis’ wife. Dennis was the mystery man that Tim had been searching for.

Garner, shared, “Denice emailed us and gave us her details, and when I arrived home from work we called them, and Tim spoke to Dennis for about 20 minutes. It was really a special and wonderful perk here on this Earth. I literally cried when I



SUBMITTED BY RENNIS GARNER



SUBMITTED BY DENICE MORRIS

It is so exciting how God built humans for connection. Top photo is Tim Quilter with his wife, Rennis Garner, at their wedding in November 2013 at the Manhattan, N.Y., Church. Bottom photo is Denice and Dennis Miller, members of the Auburn, Ga., Church.

received their email because they said that this communication came just when they needed it. God makes no mistakes.”

“This is something my wife and I will never get over,” said Dennis Morris. “We feel like there was a reason for this. We had been having issues with family. It really hit us. It made us realize what we needed to do at that time. It came at just the right time. God was trying to tell us something.”

“He told me it was the way I presented myself and talked about my religion,” said Morris. “He saw how

I was not working on Saturday and stuff like that. Tim had been trying to find me for some time, and didn’t know if I lived here or not.” Morris has lived in Georgia for 41 years.

“If I was able to bring one person to the Seventh-day Adventist Church it makes me feel good, just our intentions and talk and the way I presented myself really stuck in his mind,” says Morris.

You just never know what impact you can have by living your life.

—BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Five Men Ordained at Camp Meeting



NILTON GARCIA

Ordained during Gulf States Camp Meeting are David Sigamani (left), Conference publishing director; Todd Casey, Saint Elmo district pastor; Nicholas Henson, Conference treasurer; Steve Severance, Birmingham First Church pastor; and Karl Leukert, Community Church pastor.

The 2015 Gulf States ordination service was a blessed event resulting in five men being recognized for their service: Todd Casey, Nick Henson, Karl Leukert, Steve Severance, and David Sigamani.

The service began with Sharon Leukert reading a prayer written by her and Karl Leukert's son, who wasn't able to attend. He encouraged his father and the other candidates to remember that God called

them, and that they have and would continue to touch many lives for Jesus.

December Casey sang a moving rendition of "Your Grace Still Amazes Me," which carried the sentiment not only of keynote speaker Alex Bryan, but of each man to be ordained.

Bryan shared that true success in ministry can be summed up with the simple phrase, "Just get out of the way." Allow Him to do in you what He desires

to do. Bryan challenged each candidate to heed the words of 2 Timothy 1:6, "Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands." By getting out of the way, by allowing His gifts to fall on good soil and responding to the leading of the Spirit, a Christlike character will result.

Each candidate then responded to the ordination charge with the following

thoughts. Casey: Above all let us show love. Henson: I desire to extend Jesus' ministry. Leukert: All ... must be unabashedly centered in Jesus. Severance: My desire is to connect people with Jesus. Sigamani: Lord, open my eyes; I want to see Your heart.

May God richly and abundantly bless these pastors, and give them success as they use their gifts for His Kingdom.

—BY SEAN DAY

Six Generations Support Floral Crest School



DARCY HIGDON

Leon (left) and Damian Wade are third and sixth generation Floral Crest School graduates.

and ready to start kindergarten. All of a sudden, it became clear to Gail. "I know what God wants me to do with the money! The money is going for his registration and first month's tuition at Floral Crest School!" Using the monetary gift in this manner continued the previous generations of the Gass and Wade families' loyal commitment to God and a Christian education.

In the last 110 years, Damian has been the 36th descendant to attend, and the 21st Wade to graduate from the school. Both the Wade and Floral Crest School families have been

Since Floral Crest School began in 1905, six generations of the Wade family have supported the church school located in Bryant, Ala. Damian Wade is among the sixth generation of his family to attend. On May 20, 2015, the sanctuary was filled with family and friends to celebrate Damian's milestone event. His grandfather, Steve Wade, and great-grandparents, Leon and Gail Wade, participated in the graduation. Aunt Lynnne Price, 93, affectionately known as the matriarch of Floral Crest Church, also attended the program.

Christian education started early in this family as Damian's great-great-great-grandfather, Joseph Gass, at age 14, was one of the first students to register and attend the little mountaintop church

school in 1905. Of the same generation, Damian's other great-great-great-grandfather, William Wade, seeking a good church school to educate his children, moved his family from west Tennessee to Sand Mountain in 1932. Of the 12 children in the family, Hazel Wade and Lynnne Price are still living in the community.

At the graduation ceremony, great-grandmother Gail Wade recounted Damian's great-great-grandfather DeWitt's request. "Gail, I want to give you money for Damian to be used for a special purpose. I don't want this to be used for food, clothes, toys, or the usual things. I know you will provide those. I want this money to be for a special purpose." Perplexed,



ANN ARQUITT

Damian Wade (left) with five generations of his family who have attended Floral Crest School in Bryant, Ala.: Lynnne Price (front row, second from left); Zoey Wade, Steve Wade (back row, left); and Steven, Dustin, and Leon Wade.

Gail wondered what to do with the money. "What is so special? What is so valuable? What am I going to do with this money?" In a quandary, Gail held onto the money. After holding the money and praying about it for years, Damian was five years old

blessed by their combined partnership and devotion to Christian education. "Choose my instruction instead of silver, knowledge rather than choice gold," Proverbs 8:10 NIV.

—BY ANN ARQUITT, FLORAL CREST TEACHER

SEEDS Conference Held During Elder/Pastor Retreat



Wayne Krause

The annual Kentucky-Tennessee Conference elder and pastor retreat took on a transformation as Indian Creek Camp became the venue for the SEEDS Conference, April 17-19, 2015. Elders and pastors from Kentucky-Tennessee were joined by pastors and members from other conferences for the opportunity to learn various methods of church planting from experts.

The presentations of

the weekend reminded the attendees that the church exists not for people who are already members, but “for the ones who aren’t here yet!” The speakers included Elton DeMoraes, Tom Evans, Wayne Krause, Reed Richardi, and Rod and Donna Wiley.

A highlight of the weekend was the musical offerings provided by the worship team from Madison, Tenn., and the special music rendered by Jee Wong.

Many participants commented how meaningful and memorable were the discussion groups that met around fire-pots in front of the cabins in the evenings, where new lifelong prayer partners and friendships were made.

As the meetings concluded, attendees signed cards of commitment to try to establish “new work,” and prayed for the Lord to point the way.

—BY JOHN WATKINS

Bralley Joins Conference as Superintendent of Education

After many weeks of reviewing qualified candidates, the Conference Executive Committee, acting upon the recommendation of the Administrative Committee, has elected Stephen Bralley to be the new superintendent of education.

Bralley is presently the principal/7th-8th grade teacher at Shoal Creek Adventist School in Peachtree City, Ga., where he has served for the past five years. Before serving in Georgia, he was the principal at Great Plains Academy in Enterprise, Kans., where he contributed as boys’ dean, teacher, and as the head administrator for nine years.

He began his teaching career in the public school system of Putnam County, Tenn., and, in addition



Xander, Stephen, Katherine, and Tina Bralley

to his expertise as both a teacher and an administrator, is fully endorsed in elementary education, and on the secondary level in the areas of social studies,

history, English, and civics. His academic background includes graduating from Little Creek Academy, attending Southern Adventist University, and graduating from Tennessee Tech University

with his undergraduate degree. Bralley grew up in Cookeville, Tenn., where his parents still live.

He met his wife, Tina, while they were both serv-

ing as camp staff at Co-hutta Springs in Crandall, Ga., and would eventually become the youth camp associate director there. His love for youth, teaching talent, expertise in technology, and his devotion to Jesus and God’s Church, combined with his demonstrated ability to work well with educators and students, drew the attention of the search committee, and the Conference is pleased he is joining the team this summer.

He and Tina, an accountant, have two children; son Xander is nine years old, and daughter Katherine is six. Please join the Conference office family in welcoming the Bralleys to Kentucky-Tennessee!

—BY STEVE HALEY

Decherd Members Step Out in Faith



Interior renovations will include brand new wiring throughout, two new accessible bathrooms, refinished hardwood floors, and restoration of the beautiful tongue-and-groove ceiling.



Decherd First Church

The first Seventh-day Adventist Church in Decherd, Tenn., has been through a lot since 1856. It was burned down during the Civil War, and in 1909 it

was destroyed by a tornado.

This rural church has once again come alive with \$104,000 in debt-free structural and cosmetic renovations. Members and

friends of the congregation have pooled their financial resources with gracious gifts from as far away as Washington State. But, an additional \$50,000 was still needed to bring the old church to complete renovation.

They decided to plan a December 5, 2015 rededication service, and the Conference president was booked to be a part of the grand festivities. In April, the funding needed to complete the final projects had not been raised, so the congregation began to explore the possibility of borrowing the necessary funds. With church members prayerfully seeking God's guidance, it seemed the advice received was all pointing to a single solution. While reading the Bible, the church business administrator came across Romans 13:8, which admonishes, "owe no one anything." An Adventist

donor, not part of Decherd Church, strongly suggested that taking on debt would be a mistake. And, on a sticky note attached to a check from a nonAdventist donor were scrawled the words, "The debtor is slave to the lender." The church board felt an answer had been received, and unanimously voted to not take out a loan.

Prayer sessions continue, work on the interior of the church progresses as funds are available, and the future is marked by a holy expectancy. The December deadline remains penciled in on the church calendar; and the visit by the Conference president has not been rescheduled. But, the completion of Decherd Church will happen when God moves His hand to supply all the needs of a small church family whose mission to their community is on center stage.

—BY JAY PRALL

Pathfinders Called to Service



Pathfinders Andrew (left) and Bradley Paredes

Christians have the duty and privilege of a

lifetime of service. The Shelbyville, Ky., Pioneers Pathfinder Club is taking the role of service very seriously.

In May, the Pathfinders and staff joined a Maranatha Mission trip to help reconstruct a summer camp in Prescott, Ariz. The club also

helped a member of the local church cleanup her

small farm.

The farm owner was so happy to see her land clean. For more than two years, people had dumped garbage on her property. These good deeds were a reminder that God often allows His followers to be the answer to someone else's prayers.



Pathfinders work hard in service to clean a farm owner's land.

—BY GLORIA PAREDES

“Come, Holy Spirit” Camp Meeting Highlighted

“Come, Holy Spirit” was the theme of this year’s encampment. It was evident throughout the event — with the expanded prayer room, the all-night prayer service, nightly communion service, daily preaching, personal growth seminars, and enthusiastic singing of the theme song, “Sweet, Sweet Spirit” (Doris Akers [1962]) — that the Holy Spirit did indeed come.

South Central’s 69th Camp Meeting was met with the usual expectations: some wanted good preaching; some looked

for good music; and others expected officer training, times of prayer, fellowship, meeting old friends, and making new friends, all within 10 days of spiritual enrichment and physical refreshing.

Some questioned why in a General Conference session year, South Central would still run a full 10-day encampment.



Pastors Lola Moore and Shawn Moss are commissioned into the Gospel ministry.



G. Russell Seay, Ph.D., delivered the ordination message during the 2015 Camp Meeting.



P. STEVEN NORMAN III

Along with five ordinands, two women pastors — Lola Moore, the first hired female pastor, and Shawn Moss, the first female senior pastor — were commissioned as ministers of the Gospel. This was the first time South Central had commissioned any women as pastors. It was an emotionally charged service. G. Russell Seay, Ph.D., delivered the ordination message. It was the Spirit-filled finale to a Spir-

Myron Edmonds, D.Min., delivered the first Sabbath message, and the power of the Holy Spirit was evident.

Dana Edmond, president, provided a spiritual and practical response. “There are those saints who will come to Camp Meeting and never go to a GC session. Camp Meeting is for them. We will not take their time of spiritual blessing from them.”

Although it cost “a ton of money,” as Edmond put it, it was worth the time and effort of the Conference staff and pastoral team to provide for the constituents a wonderful, spiritual experience. The Conference team worked hard, and the membership was blessed. At the close of each service, scores of

people came to recommit their lives and service to Jesus.

Several services and weeklong seminars took place at the same time: the adult service, the young adult service, the youth service, and the children’s services. Each service and seminar centered on the Spirit of God.

On both Sabbaths, Oakwood University Church was filled to capacity, and the overflow filled two additional auditoriums. Close to 4,000 people flooded Oakwood’s campus looking for the blessing of the Holy Spirit, and they were not disappointed.

The Holy Spirit fell

heavily on the Youth Department. The youth were challenged, by pastors Roger Wade, Kyle Crawford, and John Coaxum, to believe they are covered by Jesus, covered by His blood, and covered in His protection. On the final Sabbath, the Holy Spirit led 41 youth to commit their lives to Jesus and be baptized.

The ordination service is always a highlight of Camp Meeting. It’s where select pastors are recognized for their labors and efforts, and are officially welcomed into the ministry. This year an historic ordination service was held.

it-filled Camp Meeting. Seay’s message closed the preaching segment, and left all who attended to look forward to 2016 with the theme “At the Cross.”

The theme “Come, Holy Spirit” recap: The hope — that the Spirit of God would fall as on the day of Pentecost. The desire — that participants would return home with a new awakening of the mission before them, and a renewed fervor to “go into all the world” (their particular world) “and make disciples.” The prayer — don’t just come, Holy Spirit; abide, Holy Spirit.

—BY MARVIN L. ALLISON SR.

Oakwood University Celebrates “An Enduring Legacy”



Oakwood University will celebrate 100 years of an enduring legacy from October 17 through October 23, 2015. This celebration highlights more than the passing of an American humanitarian whose work has been legendary. Oak-

wood will celebrate Ellen G. White's living legacy.

Born on November 26, 1827, in Gorham, Maine, White's prophetic ministry has spanned 70 years of American Church history. Although she died in 1915, the transforming power of

her writings and the uplifting impact of her ministry have created new hope and new life for hundreds of thousands in America. During the agonizing pain of slavery for Blacks,

Ellen White, an abolitionist, wrote that God placed the same value on the colored slave as He did on the Hebrew slave and declared, "Let My people go!"

Moreover, Ellen White supported the brainstorm of her son, Edson White, who built a vessel to sail on the Mississippi River, teaching newly freed slaves to read through the *Gospel Primer*. White was also instrumental in the establishment of a school in Huntsville, Ala., to train Gospel workers among Blacks. Eight of the first 16 students at the school in Huntsville were graduates of Edson White's Morning Star outreach. Those humble beginnings, however, have born the fruit of Gospel workers carrying out

Christ's Great Commission in medicine, education, sciences, pastoral ministry, administration, business, law, and evangelism all over the world. Today, Oakwood University's enrollment is approximately 2,000 students, with five established academic schools.

The Ellen G. White Research Center, in conjunction with the School of Religion and Theology and the Oakwood University Church, is the proud sponsor of October's Symposium on Social Justice. Some of the presenters include Leslie Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., president of Oakwood University; Carlton Byrd, D.Min., senior pastor of Oakwood University Church; and Mervyn Warren, Ph.D., religion/theology professor at Oakwood University.

—BY JONATHAN A. THOMPSON, D.MIN., DIRECTOR,
ELLEN G. WHITE RESEARCH CENTER

MOVING?

Need to change your address for *Southern Tidings*?

Mail in the label from the back of your last *Southern Tidings*, or fill-in the information below and mail it to: *Southern Tidings*, Address Change, P.O. Box 923868, Norcross, GA 30010-3868

Name: _____

Old Address: _____

New Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Home Church: _____

Summer Seminars Provide Evangelistic Training

Danise Taylor was already a veteran of evangelism and outreach efforts in her hometown of St. Louis, Mo., but after studying with Southern's Summer SALT program, she discovered there was still much left to learn.

"Like the lady at the well, I ran back home saying, 'Hey! You guys have got to hear this — this is some great information!'" Taylor said.

Taylor was one of the 63 people on campus June 17-21, 2015, for Summer SALT, Southern's weeklong evangelistic training event. Enrollment at Summer SALT (Soul-winning And Leadership Training) was the highest since it began in 2012. Part of this increase was due to "Impact Chattanooga," an upcoming evangelistic series organized by It Is Written.

The citywide series, meant to commemorate It Is Written's move from California to Chattanooga, is set for October,



More than 60 people attended evangelistic training at Southern, June 17-21, 2015.

and local churches used SALT to prepare members for taking part in the mission.

"Things are happening here in Chattanooga, and SALT got a chance to be in the middle of that," said Greg Wilson, SALT pro-

gram coordinator.

SALT equips lay people with the tools necessary for ministry through intensive

training on personal, health, and corporate evangelism. Participants in June were coached by Southern professors and treated to guest lectures from a variety of backgrounds, including staff from It Is Written and Wildwood

Lifestyle Center. Trainees also received an opportunity to practice their evangelistic skills through outreach. Armed with the lessons they learned, they knocked on doors, conducted health assessments, and offered Bible studies.

"This way, when you leave, it's not just head knowledge; you've done the work as well," Wilson said. "People went back home on fire for Christ. It only takes a spark to get a fire going, so we hope we're sending back a thousand sparks with bright ideas."

For more information about SALT — both the weeklong summer program and the full semester program held each fall — call 423-236-2034 or visit www.southern.edu/salt.

—BY MYRON MADDEN

New \$10,000 Scholarships Reward Students for Nonprofit Work

Beginning with the fall 2015 semester, Southern will offer scholarships which give freshmen and sophomores the opportunity to earn \$10,000 a year while gaining practical skills related to their major or career interests. The Promise Grant program requires only that students have access to reliable transportation, work 15 hours a week, and maintain a 2.75 GPA.

The program utilizes contributions from Chattanooga businesses to fund work by Southern students with local nonprofits. This allows companies to invest

in themselves — a healthy city is always good for business — and to be compassionate corporate stewards at the same time. Southern's reputation for high-caliber students completes this equation, as both the investors and the nonprofits have confidence in the level of work being accomplished.

The grant was developed and pilot tested last year, based on similar programs managed by Southern for high school and elementary students (ASSIST and Partnering for Eternity). Biomedical major Claude Delille was in her first year

of Adventist education and things were going well, but after the fall semester she wasn't sure if finances would allow her to continue. That same week, she received a call about joining the Promise Grant program and began working with READ 20, a local nonprofit advocating for increased early childhood literacy.

Social work major Annissa Montesso was also involved in the pilot. She helped at the Chattanooga Area Food Bank, and credits the experience with sharpening her career focus. While the scholarships and co-curric-

ular learning are a blessing for Southern students, the benefits of this program extend both ways.

"Annissa was a dream to work with, and we would definitely do it again," said Marisa Ogles, director of development and communications at the food bank.

The maximum amount of students admitted to the program each year will depend on availability of funds, but administrators expect at least 25 students to participate this year. To learn more about the program, call 423-236-2560 or email promise@southern.edu.

—BY CASSIE MATCHIM

Obituaries



FULLER, Dorothy "Dot," 85, born Sept. 4, 1928 in Ringgold, GA, died March 30, 2014 in Collegedale, TN. She was married to Fred W. Fuller of Collegedale for 66-plus years. Their devotion and love for each other was a wonderful example of a Christian marriage. A beautiful lady, she relished her role as a wife and mother.

She was well known in the Collegedale area as a wonderful cook and gracious hostess, a skill she used to bless many people. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Frieda Hood; her parents; and seven siblings.

She was an active member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church until her health declined. She served as head deaconess and church clerk for the Collegedale Church. She was a member of the McDonald Road congregation where her son Fred is the pastor. She longed for the Second Coming of her Lord. She was loved by many and will be missed.

She is survived by her husband, Fred W. Fuller; two sons: Pastor Fred R. (Rose) Fuller, and Kenneth (Jeannie) Fuller, all of Collegedale; eight grandchildren: Rebekah (Mike) Fisher, Fred (Renee) Fuller, Julie (Jason) Foster, Joey Tucker, Michelle (K C) Locke, Matt (Sarah) Tucker, Jennifer (Beau) Honish, and Kenny Fuller; and 18 great-grandchildren. The memorial service was held on Sabbath, April 5, 2014 at the Chattanooga, TN, First Church, with Pastor Dwight Herod officiating.

FULLER, Fred W., 86, born Oct. 14, 1928 in Madison, TN, died April 9, 2015 while on a vacation trip in Florida. He was a longtime businessman and State Farm Insurance agent, one of the founders and the first mayor of Collegedale, TN.

As a young man Fred was attracted to an outgoing, fun-loving little girl named Dorothy Edgmon, whom he met at the Collegedale Church Sabbath School when her parents started attending church in Collegedale. Students from Southern Missionary College had visited the Edgmon home and invited them to study the Bible and to attend services in Collegedale. Young Fred Fuller was forever grateful to those students for their mission work. He said that even though they were only eight years old, he fell in love with Dorothy immediately, but it took 10 years to persuade her to say "Yes!" to his proposal. Dot was attracted to the somewhat quiet and studious boy with the curly hair and big smile. Theirs was a love story and example for the community.

Dot and Fred did get married on July 27, 1947, in the garden of a cousin who lived in Ringgold. Shortly after their marriage, Fred and Dot moved to South Carolina where they lived for four months, and then came back to Collegedale briefly before moving to Nashville, TN, for Fred to work at Southern Publishing. Dot got a job as a proofreader for a bank, and before long her skills were needed at Southern Pub. They stayed in Nashville for three years, and then moved back to Collegedale where they remained for the rest of their 66 years of happily married life.

He was a life-long member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Most recently, he was a member of the McDonald Road Church where his son, Pastor Fred R. Fuller is the senior pastor.

He is survived by two sons: Fred R. (Rose) Fuller, and Ken (Jeannie) Fuller; eight grandchildren: Rebekah (Mike) Fisher, Fred R. (Renee) Fuller II, Julie (Jason) Foster, Jennifer (Beau) Honish, Kenny Fuller, Joey Tucker, Michelle (KC) Locke, and Matt (Sarah) Tucker; 18 great-grandchildren: Julia and Claire Fisher, Frederick, Lucas, and Caitlyn Fuller, Nicholas Fuller, Noelle, Nevin, and Nolan Lucas, Nyah Honish, Ally, Kenny III, and Kailey Fuller, Christopher, Nathan, and Abby Locke, Kayla and Zoie Tucker; one brother, Glen (Jeannine) Fuller; one sister, Georgene Meyer; and one sister-in-law, Sally (Virley) Fuller.

Fred was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 66-plus years, Dot Fuller, and he grieved for her every day after her death; one daughter, Frieda Fuller Tucker Hood; his parents: George and Myrtle Fuller; and two brothers: Forrest (Norma) Fuller, and George Virley Fuller. His memorial service was held on Sabbath, April 18, 2015 at the Chattanooga, TN, First Church, with Pastor Dwight Herod officiating.



HABADA, Dr. Patricia A.B., 86, born March 17, 1929 in Flint, MI, died June 18, 2015 in Addison, PA. She was a member of the Frostburg, MD, Church, and attended the Madison, TN, Church with her daughter.

Her years of service in the Seventh-day Adventist Church include service in the Pennsylvania Conference as associate superintendent of education; board member of Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg, PA; editor of the Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School Reading Textbook series; and editor of Grace Link, the children's Sabbath School curriculum produced by the General Conference Sabbath School Department.

She was one of the founders of TEAM (Time for Equality in Adventist Ministry), a non-profit organization advocating for the ordination of candidates to pastoral ministry regardless of race, social class, or gender. In 1991 she was instrumental in starting TEAM's scholarship program for women preparing for the Gospel ministry in the Adventist Church, which has distributed more than \$500,000 in scholarship funds to Adventist women globally.

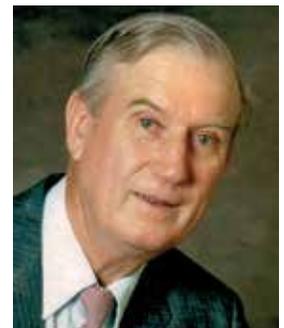
She is survived by her husband of 66 years, Joe Paul Habada; two daughters: Shirley (Donald) Harvey of Madison, TN, and Beverly Habada of Adelphi, MD; three grandchildren: Tammra Wear (Tony), Kevin Harvey (Kristin), and Ana Monroy (Jacob Velosco); six great-grandchildren: Paul, Julie, Isabella, Kayla, Reina, and Aaron; many nieces; and nephews. She was preceded in death in 1993 by her youngest daughter, Paula Jo. A Celebration of Life service was held Sunday, July 19, 2015,

at Sligo Church in Takoma Park, MD.

THOMAS, Joseph "Joe" Daniel, 92, died Jan. 2, 2015 at his home in Jasper, TN. He was a well-known, prominent businessman and builder of more than 900 homes, and owner of Thomas Building Supply in Jasper.

He was one of the founders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Jasper area, Rankin's Cove, which he donated to the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. He later donated the land and his labor for the development of both the current Jasper Church and School, Jasper Adventist Christian School. He served the Church as an elder and a deacon, and was a respected member throughout his life. Although he was an intense businessman, he never conducted any type of business, even accepting rental payments on Sabbath. Joe served as an excellent role model, instilling values of hard work, honesty, and humility. He led a full and prosperous life. His memory and legacy will not be forgotten.

He was preceded in death by his first wife of 33 years, Mary Lee Ross Thomas; two daughters: Donna Thomas Billingsley and Wilma Sue Thomas. He is survived by his second wife of 26 years, Barbara Gladden Thomas; one son, Danny (Cindy) Thomas; three daughters: Marilyn Hutchins, Judy (Danny) Sherrill, and Janet Jordan; two step-daughters: Lisa Gladden and Janet Caiazzo; 17 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren, several nieces; and nephews. Interment was in Rankin's Cove Cemetery.



Obituaries



TORKELSON, Laura Ann Jarnes, 94, born Jan. 16, 1921 in Sykelevn, Norway, died April 29, 2015 in Killeen, TX. She was a member at the Ridgetop, TN Church.

The Jarnes family immigrated to the U.S. and settled in Minneapolis, MN, when Laura was six years old. She attended Maplewood Academy and Atlantic Union College, later transferring to Union College where she met and later married Oscar Torkelson. Oscar's first position after graduation was dean of boys at Indiana Academy, and Laura taught part-time.

The couple's goal was to serve God through Adventist education which they did in several states. After retiring, the couple moved to Tennessee in 1983 and joined the Ridgetop, TN, Church where they both held many church offices through the years.

Laura enjoyed creative hobbies and was loved and admired by her church family. She lived with her daughter in Texas the final year of her life. She is survived by one son, Jack (Elizabeth) Torkelson; one daughter, Jill (Richard) Harbour; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Oscar; five brothers: Peter, Swen, Norman, Oaken, and Carl Jarnes; and two sisters: Betty Holbrook and Alice Ellstrom.

BOLARTE, Leonidas "Leo," 89, born Aug. 8, 1925 in Chiquian, Peru, died May 10, 2015 in Madison, TN. He was a member of the Madison Campus Church. He is survived by his wife, Celia; two daughters: Gladys (Bob) Davis and Sonia (Carl) Casler; six grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

BONDERCZUK, Joyce, 76, born June 9, 1938, died June 8, 2015 in St. Augustine, FL. She was a member of the St. Augustine Church for six years. She is survived by one son, Vince Bonderczuk of Gatlinburg, TN; two daughters: Dawn Bonderczuk of New York, and Tammy Edwards of Gatlinburg, TN; and five grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Jonathan Pawson at St. Augustine Church.

BRITTON, Louise, 87, born May 12, 1928 in Winston-Salem, NC, died May 23, 2015 in Sebring, FL. She was a member of the Avon Park Church. She is survived by one daughter, Linda Eston of

Tillamook, OR; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. The service and interment were in Winston-Salem, NC.

JONES, Georgia, 86, born Aug. 16, 1928 in Salisbury, NC, died June 1, 2015 in Avon Park, FL. She was a member of Avon Park Church. She is survived by one son, Charles Formy Dudal of Stewart. The service was conducted by Pastor George W. Brown at Avon Park Church.

KUNDIG, Mary Elizabeth "Betty" Clement Dixon, 91, born Dec. 1, 1922 in Bartow, FL, died Oct. 25, 2014. She was the seventh child of Willie and Mabel Clement, and twin sister of William Andrew "Bill" Clement. As a child, the family relocated to Arcadia, FL, where she was a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. She married Navy pilot Paul E. Dixon Jr., and five children were born to their union. The family eventually moved to Lima, Peru. While in Peru, Betty suffered the death of her husband in a plane accident. The family then relocated to Tampa, FL. Several years later she met

and married retired Air Force Lt. Col. Henry M. "Hank" Kundig, and they had one daughter. Betty was an active member of the Southside Church in Tampa, and then the Brandon, FL, Church serving throughout the years as the Children's Sabbath School teacher, deaconess, greeter, and on the social committee. She lived in her south Tampa home until her move to Dalton, GA, in 2007. She was a member of the Calhoun, GA, Church. She resided in Georgia and then Texas before her death. She is survived by her six children and their spouses: Sandra Dixon Sierra of Virginia, Paull E. (Sarah) Dixon III of Tennessee, Kenneth (Fran Fernandez) Dixon of Tampa, FL, Terry Dixon of North Carolina, Patti (Paul) Dixon Hoover of Washington, Ginger (Mike) Kundig Davis of Texas, and one step-daughter, Sally Kundig Carter of Orlando, FL. She was a devoted grandmother to 18 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. She was greatly loved and will be sorely missed. Her kindness, gracious hospitality, and faith in God are legacies she leaves behind to her family and friends.

THE SOUTHERN UNION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S UNANIMOUS ACTION REGARDING WOMEN IN MINISTRY

Following the 60th Session of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and the significant discussion surrounding women in ministry in the world church, the Southern Union President's Council recommends the following statement:

Whereas the Southern Union and its eight constituent conferences and other institutions enjoy the rich tradition of intentionally upholding, inviting, and enabling women in every dimension of pastoral, educational, and evangelistic ministry, as well as conference and union leadership, and

Whereas the Southern Union sustains its partnership as a key segment of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, it is therefore resolved:

In harmony with the Bible teaching of the priesthood of all believers, the Southern Union Conference is committed to its sustained support of enjoining women in pastoral (including lead pastor), evangelistic, administrative, and all ministry categories through encouraging, empowering, and celebrating their gifted leadership. However, we will continue to do so only in coordination with the world church of Seventh-day Adventists, as expressed by the actions taken by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in business session.

Panasonic

Projector Discount

Heavily discounted pricing available for the Southern Union
• Churches • Church Schools • Conferences



See the full lineup at:
www.panasonic.com/projectors

Discounts only available through the Southern Union Communication Department
770-408-2132 | nzinner@southernunion.com



Panasonic
ideas for life

INITIATE COUNTDOWN: **NOW**

LAUNCH DATE: **October 11-13, 2015**

OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY

OAKWOOD LIVE!
(formerly known as College Days)

...3...2...1... **Blast off into your future!**
Visit us for **Oakwood Live!**, formerly known as College Days. Experience campus life, check out the majors within the departments that interest you most, get acquainted with the campus cultures and activities, and meet new friends from all over. See how you can make the most of your university experience.
Experience Oakwood Live!

LAUNCH INTO YOUR FUTURE

CONTACT MISSION CONTROL:
(256) 726-7356

Ask us about our travel reimbursement policy!

OakwoodUniversity [@OakwoodU](https://www.facebook.com/OakwoodU) [OakwoodU](https://www.facebook.com/OakwoodU)



West Coast

California | Hawaii | Oregon | Washington

18 hospitals committed to sharing God's love by providing physical, mental and spiritual healing.

For job opportunities, visit
AdventistHealth.org

Adventist Health

System Includes New HD Receiver

Official Distribution
Partner for all
Adventist
Broadcasters



High Definition and DVR

Connect to any TV • Record your favorite shows*

Complete
Satellite System
Includes 36 in.
Satellite Dish
Only \$199
Plus shipping



*optional USB memory required for recording

Please ask us about
INTERNET options

No Monthly Fees
No Subscriptions
No Credit Checks
FREE Install Kit

21 Adventist Channels

Plus more than 80 other FREE Christian Channels and News Channels



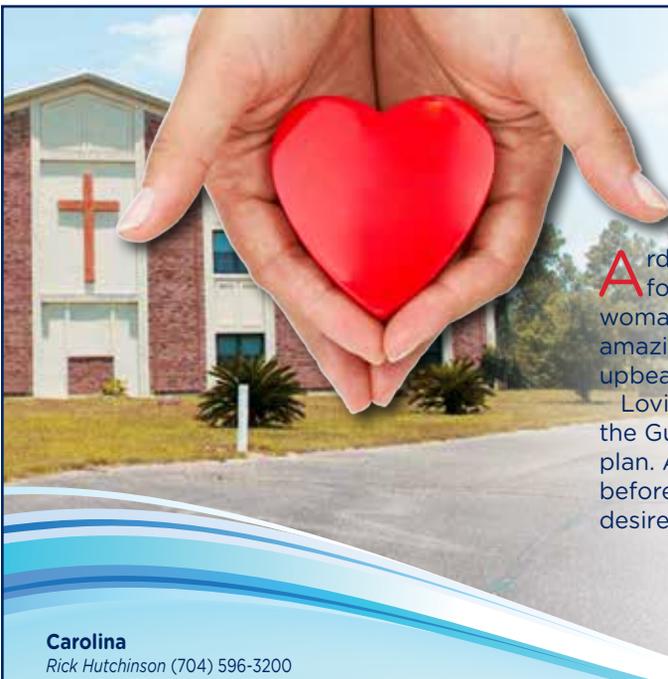
Bulk orders get discount!



866-552-6882 toll free
Local #: 916-218-7806

The #1 choice for Adventist satellite programming for more than 10 Years!

www.adventistsat.com



Small Woman: **BIG Heart**

Ardith Greer, a retired United States Navy employee and former member of Gulf States Conference, was a small woman with a big heart. A lady friend described her: "What an amazing woman she was. Interesting and interested, always upbeat, a survivor, caring, and a woman of true faith."

Loving her Church as a faithful Christian, she remembered the Gulf Coast SDA Church and its ministries in her estate plan. As a clerical worker herself, she started about 35 years before her death to update her documents, making sure her desires would be carried out.

To learn how you can receive continued
▶ income while benefiting the Church, contact
your local Conference or University Planned
Giving and Trust Services Department today!

Carolina

Rick Hutchinson (704) 596-3200

Florida

Phil Bond (407) 644-5000

Georgia-Cumberland

Mitch Hazekamp (706) 629-7951

Gulf States

Brian Danese (334) 272-7493

Kentucky-Tennessee

Silke Hubbard (615) 859-1391

Oakwood University

Lewis Jones (256) 726-7000

South Atlantic

Lawrence Hamilton (404) 792-0535

South Central

Michael Harpe (615) 226-6500

Southeastern

(352) 735-3142

Southern Adventist University

Carolyn Liers (423) 236-2818

SUSDAGift.org



Advertisements

How to Submit Your Advertising

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

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

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

PROPERTY AVAILABLE

COLLEGEDALE GUESTHOUSE: 1.5 bedroom fully equipped condo with kitchen and laundry, no steps, huge deck, secluded woodland setting. "What a find!" say guests, "Delightful!" \$70/night for two (2-night minimum). Call 423-236-4688 or 423-716-1298. See pictures at www.rogerkingrentals.com. [8]

SUMMIT RIDGE RETIREMENT VILLAGE is a place where you can live independently in your own home. Lawn mowing and maintenance provided. Church and nursing home on grounds. Make friends with Adventist neighbors, and enjoy the low cost of living in the Oklahoma countryside. Call Bill Norman, 405-454-6538. Website: www.summit-ridge-village.org. [8]

FLORIDA LIVING RETIREMENT COMMUNITY – 13.5 acres near Orlando, Florida set aside for the Conference owned retirement community. Independent living! Apartments and rooms available. SDA church on the premises. Programs, activities, van for transport and guest accommodations. 1-800-729-8017 or www.floralivingretirement.com. [8-3]

ENJOY WORRY-FREE RETIREMENT at Fletcher Park Inn on the Fletcher Academy campus near Hendersonville, NC. Spacious villa homes and limited rental apartments available now. Enjoy a complimentary lunch at our vegetarian buffet on the day of your no-obligation tour. Call Loretta for details. 1-800-249-2882 and visit: www.fletcherparkinn.com [8, 9]

COLLEGEDALE AREA HOMES AND LAND FOR SALE: 10 acres of land in Apison for sale, \$129,900. Homesite on 12 acres close SAU with 3 miles of horse riding trails within the subdivision, listed for \$350,000. Collegedale home, \$155,000 for 4 bedroom split level. Call Herby at Dixon Team Keller Williams. 423-602-7653. www.DixonTeam.com [8]

ADVENT HOME: PRICE JUST REDUCED – \$2,500,000. Featuring 225 acres of land with 1 mile of river frontage on the Hiwassee River. 7 staff homes, 4 townhomes, 12,000 square foot classroom building, 2 dormitories, 5 greenhouses, 4 townhomes, staff trailers, organic gardens, 4 miles of walking trails, fenced pastureland

and so much more! Take advantage of this amazing price and its amazing offerings! Would make a great church resort, corporate retreat or school campus. Call Wendy Dixon at 423-602-7653. Dixon Team Keller Williams. [8]

HOMES FOR SALE IN THE COLLEGEDALE AREA: New Listing, home with 5 acres of land near Collegedale for \$229,500! Check out www.2909ringgold.com. Also, 8.5 acre property with pond and 3,000 square foot home in Collegedale off McDonald Road (3 miles to SAU) with over \$60,000 in new remodeling, \$399,500! Also, beautiful 2,240 square foot home with basement on 1.2 acres of land, only 2 miles to the Harrison Bay boat launch area, for \$189,500, check out www.PossumTrail.com. Jon D'Avanzo, Davanzo Real Estate. 423-834-4545 or JDhelpingyou@gmail.com. [8]

COLLEGEDALE: Very nice 6000+ square foot all brick home. 6+ bed, 4.5 bath, 21+ acres, detached 2 bedroom caretakers quarters. \$750,000 accepting offers. Also 177 acre farm, 3000+ square foot home with pool. Creek, pasture, hay fields, woods. \$1.2 mil. 150 acres, 80 acres and 30 acres for development. Exclusive large lot subdivision lots. Lots and land to build your own. All within 15 minutes of Southern. Contact Lyle Spiva, Davanzo Real Estate. 423-421-3456. lylespiva@outlook.com [8]

COLLEGEDALE MINI-ESTATE – 6600+ sqft, gated, 5BR, 5.5BA, \$545,000. Quality construction, amenities, well-maintained, efficient Mitsubishi ductless HVAC. Pre-qualified buyers text "7491350" to 79564. Harrison: Island Point Estates, 2800+ sqft, 4BR 2.5BA, boat launch 1.8 miles, \$279,000. Collegedale: small rental, \$108,000. Contact Eppy, 423-432-3195. Crye-Leike Realtors, 423-238-5440. [8, 9]

DUNLAP, TENNESSEE – 24 acres for sale on Cagle Mountain. Spring acre, road access, water and electric by city, 1 hour from Collegedale. Price reduced. Call Jane Griswold at Remax, 423 949 4466. [8]

ARE YOU LOOKING for that perfect place in the country? Look no more. Beautiful building lots on the Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee. Views, water, hardwoods, pond and end of the road privacy. Go to www.kismetkennel.com/countryland for pictures, plat, and prices, or call Jeff at 301-992-7472. [8-12]

N. SAND MOUNTAIN, GA – App 3 county acres. 540 feet road frontage along Porter Road. SDA church and K-10 grade school 2 miles. SDA university 45 minutes. 25 minutes to Chattanooga, TN. 2-level home, 2300 square feet with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and full basement. \$175k. For more information call 931-316-7273. [8, 9]

65 ACRES – Beautiful wooded flat property, peaceful and secluded. Located in Wagener, S.C near Aiken and Lexington. Call 803-413-2858. [8-10]

BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAIN LAND for sale as one tract. 60+ acres, west of Murphy, NC. Springs, streams, timber; fertile, rolling not steep land with excellent paved road access. By owner: 828-837-6779 or 828-557-2254. [8]

SALE: Large 193 acre campus. Offices, classrooms, cafeteria, chapel, gym. Dormitories heated with free gas. 4-bay shop, homes, garden

grounds, greenhouse. Well water system, sewage plant. Private, 20 acres flat land, surrounded by beautiful wooded hills. Nearby great shopping. \$885,000. 304-782-3628/3630. Salem, WV. [8]

NORTH CENTRAL ARKANSAS – 3 bed, 2 bath, cathedral ceilings, new metal roof, large master suite. Gravity spring water, creek, waterfalls, cave. Mountain views, 40 acres hardwoods, organic garden. fruit/ nut trees, vineyard, solar greenhouse, workshop. Woodstove, 2-car carport, wildlife, church nearby. Call Philip Patrick, 870-504-1762, 870-447-6142. [8]

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY has an immediate opening for a full-time nurse educator to serve as **Chair for Nursing Department**. Doctoral degree required with three years of university/college teaching experience. Must have an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send cover letter and current CV to Dr. Amy Rosenthal at arosenal@swau.edu. [8]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY Advancement office seeks full-time **Vice President**. Responsibilities center primarily in development in addition to PR/Marketing & Alumni. Minimum bachelor's degree and 2 years advancement experience required, master's degree preferred. Submit cover letter and CV/resume to Human Resources at denise.rivera@swau.edu. [8]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S School of Social Work seeks professor to teach undergraduate/graduate courses focusing on generalist social work practice. Qualifications: Earned doctorate in social work or related field; master's in social work with two years' minimum post-masters practice; experience with/commitment to e-learning and integration of faith/social work practice; Adventist in regular standing. Submit cover letter, CV, statement of teaching philosophy, and three references to Kristie Wilder: kwilder@southern.edu, 423-236-2206. [8, 9]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **professor in Counseling Education** to teach graduate/undergraduate courses, provide advisement/clinical supervision. Requirements: doctoral degree in counselor education and supervision from a CACREP accredited program or doctorate in clinical/counseling psychology from an APA-accredited program and have work as full-time faculty in a counselor education program for one year before July 1, 2013. Licensed/eligible for licensure in Tennessee and two years' practicing clinical mental health or PK-12 school counseling. Send cover letter and CV (include teaching philosophy, research interest, unofficial university transcripts, three reference letters) to Dr. Ileana Freeman: ileanaf@southern.edu; 423.236.2960. [8, 9]

UNION COLLEGE seeks Seventh-day Adventist experienced in K-12 education and eligible for Nebraska teaching certification to teach **curriculum and instruction courses** and supervise elementary student teachers. Ten years elementary teaching experience and multi-grade teaching experience are essential. Doctorate strongly preferred. Email letter of interest and CV to Dr. Denise White, Chair of Human Development, dewhite@ucollege.edu. Effective summer 2016. [8]

Advertisements

MATHEMATICS PROFESSOR sought by **Union College**, Lincoln, NE. Doctorate or ABD required for tenure track position. Strong commitment to integrating Adventist faith, teaching, and scholarship essential. Submit cover letter and CV to Dr. Carrie Wolfe, chair, Division of Science and Mathematics, cawolfe@ucollege.edu. [8, 9]

UNION COLLEGE seeks SDA nursing instructor with teaching experience, excellent interpersonal and teamwork skills, and an MSN. Experience in Mental Health, Pathophysiology, and Pharmacology preferred. Please submit cover letter, curriculum vitae or resume, and three references to Nicole Orian at norian@ucollege.edu. [8, 9]

OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY (OU) is seeking a full-time faculty in the Allied Health Department who holds a DPD in physical therapy and current or eligible for PT Licensure in Alabama. Interested persons must submit application, resume, cover letter, teaching philosophy, statement of research interest, three recommendation letters and copy of degree(s)/transcript(s) to HR. For more information visit <http://www.oakwood.edu/campus-services/human-resources> or call 256-726-7274. [8, 9]

PRO HEALTH is looking for a **female Licensed Massage Therapist/Chiropractor** at the Hulsey Wellness Center at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, TN and in Calhoun, GA. Working in an excellent environment, flexible schedule, and a good salary. Please call Diego at 706-844-2142. [8, 9]

DENTAL OFFICE is seeking highly motivated dentist for established practice in Lawrenceburg, TN. Proficiency in all areas of general dentistry necessary. SDA church and elementary school in city. Contact Dr. Sheldon Blood at 931-244-6510 for more information. [8, 9]

ADVENTIST PODIATRIC SURGEON NEEDED IN MARYLAND, near Adventist world headquarters, rural areas and the Chesapeake Bay. Great area for families, excellent Adventist schools. Foot and ankle surgery performed at outstanding hospitals and surgery center. Immediate partnership leading to purchase of established practice within five years. Email CV to podiatry11@yahoo.com. [8]

BROWN, BROWN AND ASSOCIATES, a certified public accounting firm, is seeking staff accountants desirous of becoming office managers for our east TN locations. CPA with public accounting experience preferred. Please send resumes to bbarebecca@att.net or call 615-415-6036. Please visit www.brownbrownandassociates.com for more information about our firm. [8-10]

THE NAD'S ADVENTIST LEARNING COMMUNITY in Berrien Springs, MI is seeking an IT Manager. Requirements include either a BA/BS in Computer Science or related field, or equivalent work experience, as well as software development and technical skills. If interested, contact Johana Prestold-Dominguez, PHR at Johanna.prestol@nad.adventist.org. [8]

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

ATTENTION: Hymns Alive owners – Remastered. New Hymns Alive on 24 CD's. Short introductions,

shorter chord to end stanzas, and more. Call for upgrade price. Every hymn in the SDA Hymnal, organ, piano accompaniment music. \$259.00 & \$16 S&H. 1-800-354-9667. www.35hymns.com [8]

MISCELLANEOUS

AdventistSingles.org FREE 14-DAY TRIAL! Join thousands of Adventist singles online. Free chat, search, profiles, match notifications! Adventist owners since 1993. Visit www.elliottdylan.com for the Undercover Angels series of novels for Christian teens that build on Biblical principles and encourage integrity. Great Sabbath reading and gifts! [8]

RELOCATING? Apex Moving & Storage has a national account contract with the General Conference for your moving needs. Take advantage of a volume rated discount. Be assured you are moving with the BEST! Call Marcy Dante' at 800-766-1902; or visit us at: www.apexmoving.com/adventist [8-12]

RELOCATING FROM ONE STATE TO ANOTHER? The move counselors at Stevens Van Lines can help! With special pricing for all Adventist families, and recommended by the General Conference for over 15 years, quality is inherent. Call the Clergy Move Center direct for a no cost or obligation estimate at 800-248-8313 or contact us at www.stevensworldwide.com/sda [8]

NEED TO MOVE? Big or small, we can do it! Save yourself the time and difficulty of figuring out how to move. We do it all. We pack, we load, we can move you out of state, and we can even move you next door. Call Applewhite Movers or email us at 246-430-1198 or applewhitemovers@gmail.com [8]

VICTORIOUS LIVING LIFESTYLE 28-DAY PROGRAM for individuals challenged with addiction issues. Drugs, stress, alcohol, appetite, smoking, depression. Program dates are flexible. Cost: \$4800. Butler Creek Health Education Center, Iron City, TN. Register online or call: 931-213-1329. www.butlercreekhealth.org [8]

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.com [8-5]

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. Hamblin's HOPE delivers on time! [8-12]

AUTHORS of cookbooks, health books, children's chapter and picture books, Call 800-367-1844 for your free evaluation. We publish all book formats, distribute to over 39,000 bookstores in 220 countries. Find our new titles at your local ABC or www.TeachServices.com, used SDA books at www.LNFBooks.com [8-4]

GUIDE MAGAZINE wants to reach readers ages 10-14 with your true, character-building story.

Visit guidemagazine.org/writersguidelines to learn more. Call 1-800-447-7377 to subscribe. [8]

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 [8-5]

CONVENIENT ON-CAMPUS GUEST LODGING at Southern Adventist University. Lovely 2 bed, 1 bath apartments, some equipped with kitchens. Available year round. Call 423-236-7000 or email guestlodging@southern.edu [8-11]

GREAT MEETING SPACE FOR CONFERENCING at Southern Adventist University. Detailed, thorough one-stop-planning for successful events. Call 423-236-2555 or visit www.southern.edu/conferenceservices. [8-11]

ADVENTIST ISRAEL TOUR – Join Jim Gilley, Danny Shelton, and the 3ABN team for an unforgettable Bible Enrichment Tour. Fantastic buffets, fellowship, and guides. Affordable. Two departure dates—November 15-23 or November 18-29, 2015. Contact Jennifer at Maranatha Tours—602-788-8864, or Jill at 3ABN—618-627-4651. [8, 9]

DEMAND IS HIGH for Automotive Service Management with an expected job growth rate of 17 percent. Southern Adventist University offers both associate and bachelor degrees in automotive service management. Both programs feature hands-on-experience with ASE master mechanics and a focus on incorporating Christ-centered values. Southern students have an 85 percent pass rate on ASE certification exams. Part-time work opportunities are available in the on-campus auto-shop. Visit southern.edu/tech for more information. [8-10]

THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT JOB OUTLOOK is strong with an expected growth rate of 16 percent. Southern Adventist University offers both an associate and bachelor degrees in construction management. Students learn to unravel the complex components of commercial and residential construction projects and gain management techniques and leadership skills needed to supervise a job site. Southern's program features hands-on experience while incorporating Christ-centered value. Visit southern.edu/tech for more information. [8-10]

DOWNLOAD FREE SERMONS FROM AudioVerse.org! Access thousands of free SDA sermons, audio Bibles, Spirit of Prophecy audiobooks, and messages from your favorite annual conferences. (ASI, GYC, etc.) Also available in Spanish, German, French, and Chinese. Download the iOS & Android app. [8]

ADVENTIST HERITAGE TOUR – Come and join us on a tour to 17 pioneer sites and 16 states in the Northeast from October 4-14, 2015. Leaving & returning, Collegedale, TN. Call 423-802-9617 or e-mail tarriegeiger@gmail.com. [8]

Danny Shelton Yvonne Lewis
 Founder of Three Angels Broadcasting Network General Manager of Dare to Dream Network

Brenda Walsh Dr. Ron Smith
 General Manager of 3ABN Kids Network President of Southern Union Conference

John Lomacang Reggie & Lady Love-Smith
 Pastor & Host of 3ABN's A Sharper Focus Internationally Renowned Singers as seen on 3ABN and Galther's Home Coming Concerts

SDA Vacations Presents a **Family Fellowship Cruise**



on the **Allure of the Seas**
MARCH 6-13 2016

Marriage & Singles Seminar, Kids Program, Uplifting Music Inspiring Testimonies

Prices start at **\$1,092** per person
 all taxes, port charges & fees included
PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
\$50 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT

BOOK EARLY
MONTHLY PAYMENT PLAN AVAILABLE
REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDED

Ft. Lauderdale, FL. + Labadee, Haiti + Falmouth, Jamaica + Cozumel, Mexico

A Portion of the Proceeds will be donated to 3ABN KIDS NETWORK

REGISTRATION ENDS NOVEMBER 5, 2015

SDAVACATIONS.COM facebook CALL 1.800.933.3091



BIBLE ENRICHMENT TOUR OF ISRAEL 2015

OPTION 1 **OPTION 2**

November 15 – 23, 2015
\$3,295
 from New York or Chicago, Los Angeles or Houston
 With a post extension to *More of Israel*, November 23 – 25, 2015 for \$395

November 18 – 29, 2015
\$3,795
 from New York or Chicago, Los Angeles or Houston
 With a post extension to *7 Churches Turkey*, November 29 – December 4, 2015 for \$995

Join Pastor Jim Gilley, Danny Shelton, the 3ABN Team, and special guest host, Lyle Albrecht



Danny Shelton Jim & Camille Gilley J.D. & Shelley Quinn C.A. & Irma Murray Lyle & Peggy Albrecht

For more information, call Jennifer at Maranatha at **602-788-8864** or Jill at 3ABN at **618-627-4651 ext. 3013**.
www.3abntour.com

These trips, designed especially for Adventists, are self-supporting, and no 3ABN contributions are used for this tour.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MADISON COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION wants to include any graduates, attendees, or friends who may not already be on its mailing list to receive the quarterly newsletter and any other com-munications. Please write to: P.O. Box 1735, Madison, TN 37116, or send your contact information by email to: madisoncolleagealumni@gmail.com.

OAK PARK ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND – Sept. 18, 19. All alumni and former faculty and staff are invited to this special reunion weekend. 2015 Honor Classes: 1940, '45, '50, '55, '60, '65, '70, '75, '80. Details: 402-312-7368 or allaynemartsching@gmail.com.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN, GA, CHURCH HOMECOMING – Sept. 19. All former members of the Church and prior students of the School are invited to a special Homecoming Celebration, worship, dinner, and afternoon music program. Address: 5501 Hwy. 157, Rising Fawn, GA 30738. For more details, please visit www.lmsda.com.

MINOT, N.D. CHURCH 100th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – Sept. 19. Address: 17th Avenue SW, Minot, N.D., starting at 9:30 a.m. There will be special speakers, and a concert at 3:30 p.m. Lunch and supper will be provided. Details: Lenore Scheresky at 701-839-7701 or 701-340-3291.

GRAND LEDGE ACADEMY REUNION – Sept. 24-27. We are looking for all charter students, faculty, and alumni from 1959 to 1964 of Grand Ledge Academy, Grand Ledge, MI, to join us at the Adventist Frontier Missions

Training Center near Berrien Springs, MI. To be kept informed of plans as they develop send an email to claudiabahnmler@gmail.com with contact information or call Claudia at 360-793-1883. Join the Facebook group "Grand Ledge Academy – First Years," and pass the word along.

ATLANTA BELVEDERE 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – Oct. 2, 3. Decatur, GA. SAVE THE DATE! All are invited to the special communion program on Friday at 7 p.m., First Service on Sabbath morning at 9 a.m., Sabbath School at 10 a.m., Divine Worship at 11:15 a.m., Sabbath lunch, and an afternoon program. Details: 404-299-1359.

SHEYENNE RIVER ACADEMY/DAKOTA ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND – Oct. 2, 3. Dakota Adventist Academy, 15905 Sheyenne Circle, Bismarck, ND. Come renew your friendships. Honor classes: '41, '46, '51, '56, '61, '66, '76, '86, '91, '96, '01, '06, '11. Details: 701-258-9000, x236.

GREATER NEW YORK ACADEMY 95th ANNIVERSARY REUNION – Oct. 9-11. SAVE THE DATE! Honoring classes ending in 0 and 5. Friday night: Vespers and Welcome Table. Sabbath: Worship service, lunch, and "Music and Memories." Sunday: Breakfast and basketball. Send your name and contact info to alumni@gnyacademy.org, or friend us at Greater Nya (group page Greater NY Academy Official Alumni), or write to GNY Academy 41-32 58th Street, Woodside, NY 11377. 718-639-1752.

FLORAL CREST SDA CHURCH SCHOOL 110th ANNUAL HOMECOMING AND ALUMNI

REUNION – Oct. 10. Bryant, AL. Joining in the celebration is guest speaker Jerryyn Schmidt, former youth pastor now pastoring in Michigan. All services will be held in the school gymnasium. Contact Jane Adkins at 256-632-6504 for details.

SOCIETY OF ADVENTIST COMMUNICATORS 2015 Annual Convention – Oct. 15-17. Washington, D.C. SAVE THE DATE! Join Seventh-day Adventist communication professionals and university students from all around for training, networking, and spiritual renewal opportunities. Additional details: www.adventistcommunicator.org.

MT. PISGAH CHURCH 100th YEAR CELEBRATION – Oct. 23, 24. MPA. All current and former members of the Mount Pisgah Academy Church are invited to a centennial homecoming weekend Friday, Oct. 23, and Sabbath, Oct. 24. The celebration will kick off with Friday evening Vespers including music, church history, and testimonies. The Sabbath morning speaker will be Walton Williams, former MPASDAC pastor. Stay for lunch and fellowship on the grounds with friends old and new. You won't want to miss it! Please visit the church webpage at www.mpasda.org for coming details, or check out the MPASDAC 100th Year Anniversary Facebook group page to connect and keep informed.

MORRISTOWN, TN, CHURCH 90th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – Nov. 13, 14. For more details and to RSVP, please contact Pat Jones at 423-586-7748 or geopatjones@att.net.

Events Calendar

Carolina

Young Adults ROCK – Aug. 7-9. Raleigh Church.
 Welcome to the Family – Aug 14-16. NPR.
 Adventurer & Pathfinder Leadership Convention – Aug 21-23. NPR.
 Hispanic Camp Meeting – Sept. 4-6. NPR
 Sabbath School Workshop – Sept. 11-13. NPR.
 Carolina Youth Rally – Sept. 18, 19. MPA.
 Men’s Ministries Retreat – Sept. 25-27. NPR.
 Hispanic Women’s Retreat – Oct. 2-4. NPR.
 Women’s Retreat – Oct. 9-11. NPR.
 ECCM (Eastern Carolina Camp Meeting) – Oct. 17. Greenville North Church.
 LCCM (Low Country Camp Meeting) – Oct. 24. Summerville Church.
 Mt. Pisgah Church 100th Year Celebration – Oct. 23, 24. MPA. All current and former members of the Mount Pisgah Academy Church are invited to a centennial homecoming weekend Friday, Oct. 23, and Sabbath, Oct. 24. The celebration will kick off with Friday evening Vespers including music, church history, and testimonies. The Sabbath morning speaker will be Walton Williams, former MPASDAC pastor. Stay for lunch and fellowship on the grounds with friends old and new. You won’t want to miss it! Please visit the church webpage at www.mpasda.org for coming details, or check out the MPASDAC 100th Year Anniversary Facebook group page to connect and keep informed.
 Young Adults Mission Trip – Oct. 30-Nov. 9. Santa Barbara, Honduras.

Florida

Complete calendar online – <http://www.floridaconference.com/calendar/>
 Youth/Pathfinder/Adventurer Events – Visit us online or call 407-644-5000, x2421.
<http://www.floridaconference.com/iym/youth/>
<http://www.floridaconference.com/iym/pathfinders/events/>
<http://www.floridaconference.com/iym/adventurers/events/>
 Singles’ Ministries events and

mailing list information. Spiritual study groups, fellowship dinners, outings, and more. <http://www.floridaconference.com/iym/childrenandfamily/events/>, esalzmann@cfl.rr.com, 407-521-4751, or 407-721-3036.
 Planned Giving and Trust Services Clinics
 Aug. 22. Fort Lauderdale Spanish.
 Aug. 29. Margate.
 Sept. 12. Cooper City.
 Nov. 7. Avon Park.
 A Better Choice / Florida Adventist Book Center – Altamonte Springs: national toll-free number, 877-55-FLABC (877-553-5222). Miami: 305-805-9900. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: <http://www.floridaconference.com/abc/> or order by e-mail: FloridaABC@floridaconference.com
 Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule
 Resumes in the fall.

Georgia-Cumberland

First Day of School – Aug. 12.
 Pathfinder Leadership Convention – Aug. 14-16. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.
 Health Rallies
 Aug. 15. Woodstock-Cherokee, GA.
 Aug. 29. 2-5 p.m. Ladd Springs, Cleveland, TN.
 Prison Ministries Appreciation Dinner – Aug. 16. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.
 Atlanta Braves Family Game Day – Aug. 16. 1:30 p.m. Everyone welcome. Enjoy the game and support Pathfinders, Cohutta Springs Campership Fund, or Young Adult Ministries. Ticket prices: gen-eral \$10, upper box \$20, or outfield \$28.
 Atlanta, GA.
 Hispanic Men’s Retreat – Aug. 21-23. ¡Acércate! Confía en El (Get closer! Trust in Him). Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.
 Women’s Fall Retreat – Aug. 21-23. Villas by the Sea on Jekyll Island, GA.
 Single Moms’ and Kids’ Retreat – Aug. 28-30. Single moms, register for a free family weekend for you and your kids. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.
 Adventurer Ministries Convention – Aug. 28-30. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.
 Board of Education – Sept. 3.

Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.
 Conversations, Young Adult Retreat – Sept. 4-6. Historic Banning Mills, Banning, GA.
 Leadership Reboot, Adventist Christian Fellowship – Sept. 11-13. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.
 Master Guides Camporee – Sept. 11-13.
 Prayer Ministries Day – Sept. 12. Apison, TN, Church.
 Men’s Retreat – Sept. 18-20. Speaker: Pastor Fredrick Russell. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.
 Pathfinder Drill Instructor Weekend – Sept. 18-20. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.
 Most events require pre-registration; details at registration.gccsda.com.

Gulf States

Women’s Fall Renewal Retreat – Oct. 2-4. Springville Camp and Conference Center. If you need to be refreshed and find a booster for your relationship with Jesus, then this is the retreat for you. We are all so busy, and life is just zooming by. This moment in time is a time-out; a pause button on our busy lives, so we can be filled with news of God’s love for us. “Perfectly Loved” will remind and encourage us in the knowledge that God’s love for us is perfect, even though we are not perfect. The featured speaker is Becky Rogers, and she has a testimony that will leave you riveted in your seats, opening your heart to the blessings God has for you, and not wanting to miss a single meeting. The musician is Amanda Harden. You will love to sit and hear her as she sings and plays her guitar in her heartfelt style. She writes some of her songs as well. As you can tell, we are going to have

a full weekend, and the Holy Spirit will use this time to enrich our lives and bring us closer to our Redeemer. Please do not hesitate to register for “Perfectly Loved.” Go to Plusline.org today! Or call 1-800-328-0525. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Kentucky-Tennessee

50+ Camp – Aug. 4-9. Indian Creek Camp.
 Leadership Convention – Aug. 28-30. Indian Creek Camp.
 Highland Academy Board – Sept. 3 & Nov. 12. Highland Academy.
 Young Women’s Retreat – Sept. 11-13. Indian Creek Camp.
 Conference Executive Committee – Sept. 15. Dec. 8. Conference Office.
 Women’s Retreat I – Sept. 25-27. Indian Creek Camp.
 Board of Education – Oct. 1. Conference Office.
 Conference Pathfinder Camporee – Oct. 1-4. Salt Lick Campgrounds.
 Women’s Retreat II – Oct. 2-4. Indian Creek Camp.
 Hispanic Women’s Retreat – Oct. 9-11. Indian Creek Camp.
 Men’s Ministries Conference – Oct. 23-25. Indian Creek Camp.
 Adventurer Camporee – Nov. 6-8. Indian Creek Camp.
 Elders’ Certification Training – Nov. 13-15. Indian Creek Camp.

Southern Adventist University

Fall Classes Begin – Aug. 24. Southern offers a variety of bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral de-grees, some of which can be earned entirely online. For more information, visit southern.edu or call 1-800-SOUTHERN.

Sunset						
	Aug. 7	Aug. 14	Aug. 21	Aug. 28	Sept. 4	Sept. 11
Atlanta, GA	8:33	8:25	8:17	8:09	7:59	7:50
Charleston, SC	8:13	8:06	7:58	7:50	7:41	7:32
Charlotte, NC	8:21	8:13	8:05	7:56	7:46	7:36
Collegedale, TN	8:39	8:31	8:23	8:14	8:04	7:54
Huntsville, AL	7:43	7:36	7:27	7:18	7:09	6:59
Jackson, MS	7:53	7:46	7:39	7:30	7:21	7:12
Louisville, KY	8:47	8:38	8:29	8:19	8:09	7:58
Memphis, TN	7:58	7:50	7:42	7:33	7:23	7:13
Miami, FL	8:03	7:57	7:51	7:44	7:37	7:30
Montgomery, AL	7:38	7:31	7:23	7:15	7:06	6:57
Nashville, TN	7:47	7:39	7:30	7:21	7:11	7:01
Orlando, FL	8:12	8:06	7:59	7:52	7:44	7:35
Wilmington, NC	8:08	8:00	7:52	7:43	7:34	7:24

Change Service Requested



voice of prophecy

believe | you are called



Shawn Boonstra
Speaker/Director

Jean Boonstra
Associate Speaker

We invite our Voice of Prophecy Sponsors to join us for a Sponsorship Weekend.



"We have been busy this year and we can't wait to tell you—and even better, show you—how God is working through this ministry. Come and fellowship with us in a beautiful, relaxed setting as we dream about the future and remember just why we believe." — Shawn and Jean

Skamania, Washington



OCTOBER 16-18
(Greater Portland area)

Kingsport, Tennessee



NOVEMBER 6-8

Palm Springs, California



DECEMBER 4-6

Register for one of these inspirational Sponsorship Weekends

Call us at 1-800-429-5700 or register online at vopsponsors.com

Each of the tranquil, carefully-chosen settings is unique. Choose the one most convenient for you—we can't wait to see you!