

TIDINGS

Southern 

FEBRUARY 2016

EC3 *Evangelism Conference*



"OAKWOOD?
OH, YES..."

**DRILL OR DIE:
WHY YOUR
CHURCH
NEEDS SAFETY
SABBATH**

A TRIBUTE
TO ROBERT S.
FOLKENBERG
FORMER CAROLINA
CONFERENCE
& GENERAL
CONFERENCE
PRESIDENT

**COLLEGEDALE
ACADEMY:
CAD4HOPE
FOOD DRIVE**

**FREE
DENTAL
DAY IN
HOHENWALD**

The Power of Church Planting



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

Please allow me to introduce you to a highly effective minister, Matt Stockdale, who serves as assistant district attorney in Guilford County, North Carolina. Be inspired. — RCS

The concept for Triad Adventist Fellowship (TAF) began a few years ago in our young adult Sabbath School class as we discussed ways to help reach those who were no longer attending church, those who felt out of place at church, and those who'd had a negative experience with church in the past.

What we learned from this experience is there are many who want to be connected with the love of Jesus whom we will never reach using a traditional approach. We knew we had to change our methods to effectively reach them.

A core group of 11 passionate individuals began meeting weekly to brainstorm and strategize the outreach ministry that eventually became TAF. This core group met for more than nine months before any actual service started, and was key to organizing, setting goals, and putting their vision into action. Their prayers and dedication made TAF happen.

Church planting isn't for the weak and undetermined. We faced many challenges along the way, but we knew we were following God's leading to reach those who might never set foot in a traditional church setting. Many church members questioned our motives and discouraged our efforts. Our service is not traditional, our music is contemporary, and our style is casual. When something is different, it can cause some tension. But, we knew we were being led to this ministry, and we knew there was a need for it, so that kept us focused on the most important thing: creating an environment where we could share the love of Jesus with those who needed it the most.

To support us in our journey, we attended several church-planting conferences at the conference, union, and national levels. These were instrumental in helping us focus on what needed to be done in order to start a successful church plant.

As plans for TAF progressed, we were blessed to form a relationship with a local Sunday-keeping church that allowed us to rent their facility on Saturdays. They were centrally located in the Triad area (Greensboro, Winston-Salem, High Point), so that made it convenient for people to come from many areas to our church. They have a contemporary worship service, with a stage and worship theater set up in a warehouse facility, so it was the perfect setting for our church plant.

Our core group prayed for many months over our mission statement, vision statement, and core values for TAF. The vision statement we developed is, "To provide the Piedmont Triad with a Seventh-day Adventist community that presents Jesus Christ to the disconnected in a creative, authentic, and caring environment where everyone can grow to their full potential." Our mission statement is simple, "To present the love and saving grace of Jesus Christ." We want to encourage a community of grace-filled followers who are led by authentic Christians who help to unify their brothers and sisters in spiritual growth, while remaining culturally relevant to our community.

TAF officially opened its doors on July 5, 2014. The church-planting experts told us that lay-led church plants never reach 100 people in attendance. We were thrilled to be able to exceed those numbers for the first time on August 2, 2014. We've seen steady growth, with attendance consistently more than 120 since that time.

One thing that makes TAF unique is our fellowship. We want our members to feel connected and to have an authentic relationship with Jesus, as well as with each other. TAF provides breakfast each Sabbath from 10:15 a.m. until 11 a.m. for anyone from the community who wants to join us. We also provide a full fellowship meal each week starting at 12 p.m. Many people from the community, who would not normally attend a church, have come for the food and stayed because of the fellowship. Although this is sometimes inconvenient for those preparing the food, we have found that the fellowship is the glue that has helped to connect our members and visitors.

Another thing that makes TAF unique is our community service and outreach projects to our local community. TAF participates in monthly community service projects, such as distributing backpacks full of school supplies to underprivileged children, feeding the homeless at our local shelters, providing hygiene kits to those in need, and handing out scarves, gloves, hats, and socks in the winter to the homeless community and families in domestic violence shelters. These are just a few of the ways we try to show Jesus' love to those in our community who are in need.

We invite you to join us at TAF anytime you are in the area. We are sure that you will feel the love of Jesus through those of us at TAF who are committed to serving Him. — MS

We encourage you to keep TAF and their local leader in your prayers. God is doing an amazing work through their ministry. — RCS ①



Guest Editorial
Matt Stockdale

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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

EDITOR R. Steven Norman III
MANAGING EDITOR Irisene Douce
CIRCULATION Bobbie Millburn
ADVERTISING Nathan Zinner
LAYOUT Julie Burks
PRODUCTION College Press

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
Bryant Taylor, 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

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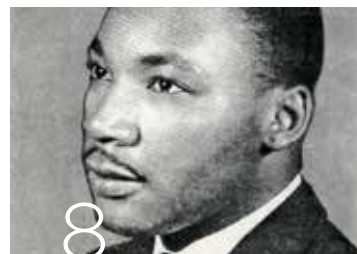
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COVER Photo
by R. Steven
Norman III

february 2016



EC3 *Evangelism Conference*

BY ROGER HERNANDEZ

I love evangelism. However, I have seen a decline in both the number of meetings and the amount of people coming to Christ. We have three options:

1. Declare that public evangelism is dead.
2. Continue to do it the same way.
3. Look for ways to enhance it without losing the essence.

I choose #3. Accordingly, the new EC3 (Evangelism Conference) has three main goals:

1. Engage the younger generation in evangelism.
2. Discover best practices.
3. Encourage each other to share Jesus with our world.

Why and What is EC3?

Nelson Fernandez, a young millennial pastor, says it this way, “I think we witnessed the rebirth of the Evangelism Conference (EC3 for short) in Daytona Beach, Florida.”

Ralph Ringer provides some background, “The Southern Union Evangelism Council (SUEC) was started in 1970 by Harold Metcalf for the evangelists of the Southern Union and North American Division (NAD) — more than 500 at that time. The SUEC inspired evangelists, trained them to be more effective evangelists, introduced the latest technologies,

and brought in professors and scholars to help evangelists be true to the Bible, and grow in their scholarship.

“Ron Halvorsen Sr. succeeded Metcalf, and led the Southern Union Evangelism Council until his retirement in 2003. Halvorsen opened the SUEC to pastors. I took over from Halvorsen in 2003, and continued what the SUEC had been doing, but expanded the audience to include evangelists, pastor/evangelists, lay-evangelists, and administrators. This was necessary because the number of full-time evangelists in the NAD had dropped from more than 500 to less than 50.”

The number today in the NAD hovers around 25 — 12 of whom are in the Southern Union, where I work. This is evidence of a deeper reality, namely, that the world that birthed the Evangelism Council is not the world we live in today.

Statistically, evidence tells us that our society is becoming more secular with every passing year, and in some cases hostile or totally indifferent to religion.

Anecdotal evidence tells us that traditional evangelism, while still enjoying a measure of success in the United States, is not reaching native-born populations of any racial background (white, black, Hispanic, and Asian) like it used to. This presents some challenges in reaching and



keeping the second and third generation children of immigrant families. Again, although there are still people in these mentioned groups that are being reached through traditional efforts, it isn't the only method that will give us success.

So, a committee was brought together to re-imagine and reinvent this event. We began by defining the end goal. We chose to expand the definition and scope of public evangelism for the 21st century.

For starters, we renamed EC3 *Evangelism Conference* because we eventually want this Conference to be the go-to Evangelism-specific event in the North American Division.

You might be thinking, “Why EC3?” Because, therein lies our new mission.





More than 200 attended the opening session of EC3 on "Cause Evangelism" presented by Roger Hernandez.



Melody Michalski, of the Wisconsin Conference, and Chloe Murnighan, of the Gulf States Conference, look at the 15 seminars offered to select the one they will attend.

PHOTO BY: BRYANT TAYLOR, D.MIN.

PHOTO BY: BRYANT TAYLOR, D.MIN.

We are committed to accomplishing three objectives — where the “3” in EC3 comes in. We want this event to help students, evangelists, pastors, lay pastors, Bible workers, and church administrators think of ways to **Prepare, Proclaim, and Propel** a culture of evangelism in their context.

Here are some of the other changes we implemented:

- We incorporated and highlighted successful church plants that are using innovative evangelism methods in reaching their communities. We highlighted The Ridge, Journey Fellowship, and Life Spring Seventh-day Adventist.

- We brought in speakers who were passionate and knowledgeable about modern evangelistic methods. We had a great group, which included engaging speakers like Mark Mittleberg, Debleaire Snell,

Ester Knott, Alan Parker, and many more.

- We introduced The Ron Halvorsen Sr. Lifetime Evangelism Award, which honors the service of those who have contributed greatly to evangelism. The recipient was Ralph Ringer, longtime evangelist for the Southern Union.

- We had seminar presenters give 15-minute TED Talk-style presentations on their topics. This turned out to be a double-edged sword because, although the talks were short and to the point, the audience wanted more.

- We incorporated a new initiative entitled Project Genesis. Each year the Southern Union will set aside \$10,000 of its evangelism funds for 10 pastors to try new, innovative, and intentional ways of reaching their community for Jesus.

In 2016, EC3 will be bigger and better. For starters, the event will be in

Chattanooga, Tennessee, near Southern Adventist University, to bring younger generations into direct contact with this Conference, in order to help them catch this new vision.

- We are doubling the registration limit to 500 people.

- We will do a service project in the community.

- We will bring back Project Genesis, as well as many of the most loved parts of the 2015 event.

- One important change to note is that we will begin charging for this event a nominal registration fee of **\$29**. A significant portion of all the registration proceeds will be used to give something significant back to the greater Chattanooga, Tennessee, area.

Do you want to learn how to make your church more evangelically-oriented, com-



PHOTO BY: BRYANT TAYLOR, D.MIN.

Roger Hernandez, Southern Union ministerial director, prays a prayer of commitment and dedication over pastors during the Evangelism Conference.



PHOTO BY: BRYANT TAYLOR, D.MIN.

Alan Parker, D.Min., teaches on changing the culture of your church for evangelism.

munity-focused, and culturally-relevant — no matter the size? Then come join us this year, November 6-9, 2016.

Why we need to combine service and evangelism?

One of the best ways to reach people in this century was suggested by Ellen White in the last century: “Christ’s method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, ‘Follow Me.’ There is need of coming close to the people by personal effort. If less time were given to sermonizing, and more time were spent in personal ministry, greater results would be seen. The *poor* are to be relieved, the *sick* cared for, the *sorrowing* and the *bereaved* comforted, the *ignorant* instructed, the *inexperienced* counseled. We are to weep with those that weep, and rejoice with those that rejoice. Accompanied by the power of persuasion, the power of prayer, the power of the love of God, this work will not, cannot, be without fruit,” *The Ministry of Healing*, pages 143, 144, (emphasis added).

How was Jesus, an unknown preacher with an unpopular message, so effective in reaching crowds of people? He served the people.

Service broadens your impact. When we serve, we have a positive impact on three groups of people: the ones who serve, the ones served, and the ones you serve with.

Service honors God, blesses people, and changes perceptions. “Servant evangelism softens the hearts of persons who are not yet Christians — people who often think the Church exists only for itself, or that it only wants people’s time and money. By doing a ‘low-risk’ activity that shows ‘high grace,’ those resistant to the faith may (now or in the future) become more open to the saving message of Jesus Christ,” *Servant Evangelism*, Northside Christian Church.

Service is more than an event. It is not something we do once in a while to placate the conscience, appease the leadership, or satisfy a requirement. In order to make this a priority in our churches, we must do four things: schedule it, fund it, model it, and speak about it.

Remember that your actions must be accompanied by the power of God. “Accompanied by the power of persuasion, the power of prayer, the power of the love of God, this work will not, cannot, be without fruit,” *The Ministry of Healing*, page 144.

I would like to address one more item, hoping that you will hear my heart on this. While it’s true that our job is not to combat the societal ills at the expense of

the Gospel, making people into healthy sinners devoid of salvation, we do have a social responsibility that is as much a part of the Gospel as understanding that God loves you. Ellen White, as she often does, puts it very eloquently:

“A religion that leads men to place a low estimate upon human beings, whom Christ has esteemed of such value as to give Himself for them; a religion that would lead us to be careless of human **needs, sufferings, or rights**, is a spurious religion. In slighting the claims of the poor, the suffering, and the sinful, we are proving ourselves traitors to Christ. It is because men take upon themselves the name of Christ, while in life they deny His character, that Christianity has so little power in the world. The name of the Lord is blasphemed because of these things,” *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessings*, page 137.

As I see it, there are three levels of community service:

- **Charity** ... focuses on immediate need. The focus is today.
- **Training** ... focuses on training for a better life. The focus is on tomorrow.
- **Systems** ... focus on changing systems that produce level-one need.

Many churches are mostly concentrating on charity, and sometimes training. Who is speaking truth to power? Who is engaging the powers that be on the systems level so that injustice is replaced



PHOTO BY: BRYANT TAYLOR, D MIN.

Ester Knott, North American Division associate ministerial director, teaches how to train the church to be “Contagious Adventist.”

by justice? How many of our leaders are seated at the table where systems decisions are made? I’m afraid that if we do not collaborate to influence change in the systems, we will continue the vicious cycle that keeps dysfunction as the fallback solution for many. Our greatest joy should come not from how many people we served, but how many people we helped get to a place where they did not need to come for help anymore.

Eliminate the Gospel from community service, and you end up with changed circumstances but unchanged hearts. Focus on a Gospel presentation without meeting the needs of the community you serve (in all three ways), and you have people who understand theology on an empty stomach.

It’s not just one or the other. It takes both. Always.

Come to EC3 this year. Let’s change the world together.

For more information, visit: southernunion.com/ec3. 

ROGER HERNANDEZ is the ministerial and evangelism director at the Southern Union in Norcross, Georgia.

RALPH RINGER HONORED FOR HIS SERVICE

In 2015, the Southern Union’s administration asked Roger Hernandez to lead the Southern Union Evangelism Conference (EC3), and the Southern Union/Southern Adventist University Field School for Evangelism. Ralph Ringer was asked to hold more Revelation of Hope evangelistic meetings and The Way of Hope from Parables to Salvation meetings (revival and decision meetings). He will also put more emphasis on church growth — especially on how to help small churches grow, and help to train elders and laypersons do evangelism.

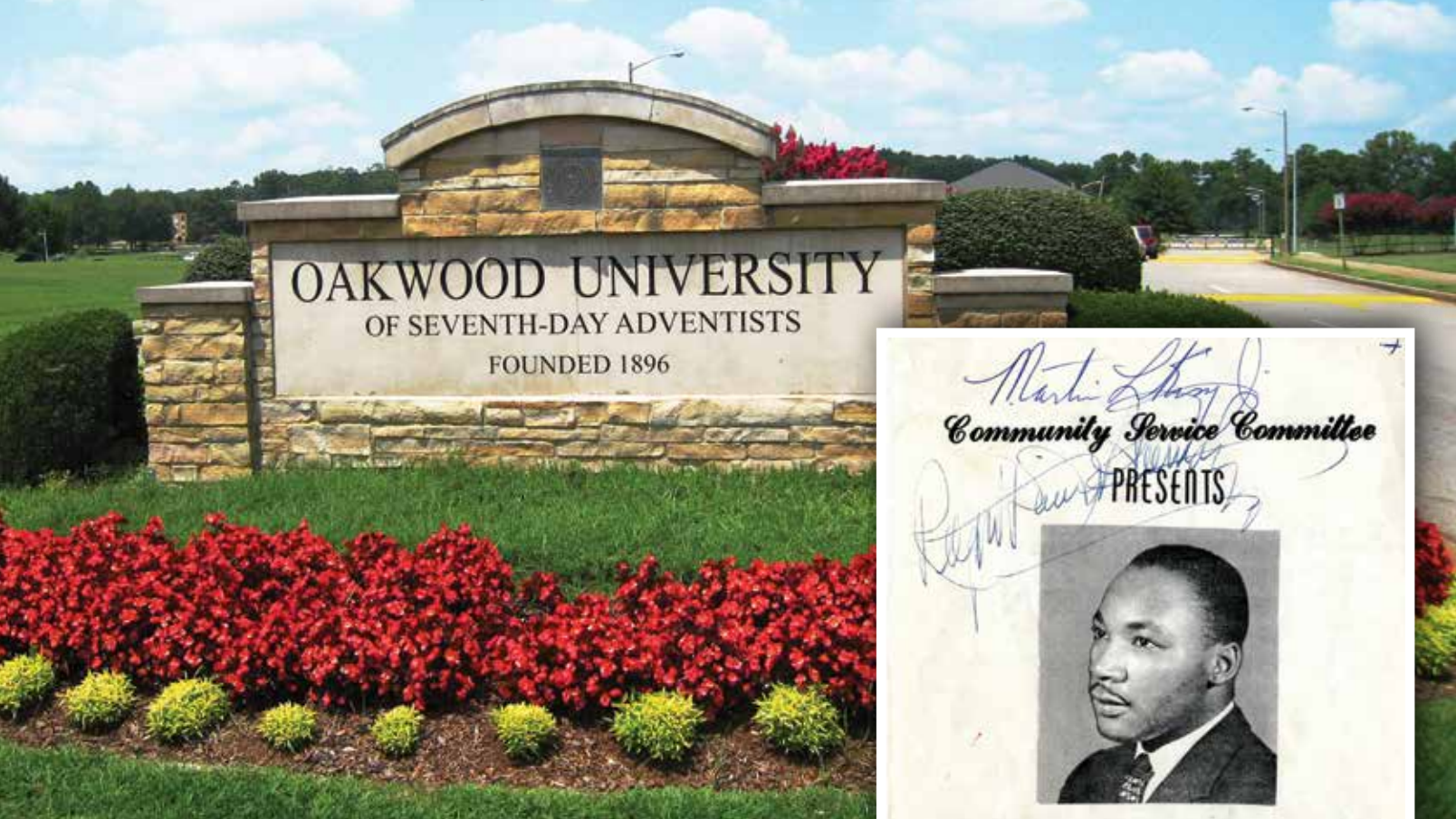
During this first EC3, the Southern Union Conference and the North American Division recognized Ralph Ringer’s more than 45 years

of evangelistic work and 191 evangelistic meetings with the NAD Evangelism Award and the new The Ron Halvorsen Sr. Lifetime Evangelism Award.

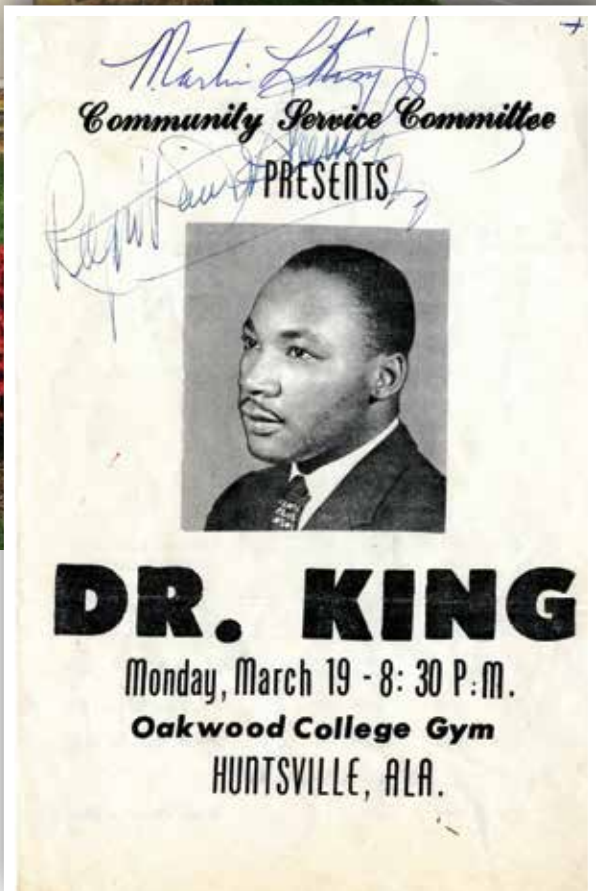
Ron Halvorsen Jr. presented The Ron Halvorsen Sr. Lifetime Evangelism Award in recognition of Ringer’s more than 20 years of evangelistic work in the Southern Union.

Jim Davison, Southern Union executive secretary, says, “Ralph’s ministry has exemplified a singular focus on evangelism. His passion and zeal and talents have brought innumerable people to Jesus. The Southern Union appreciates his unwavering commitment to the winning of souls and increasing God’s kingdom.”





“OAKWOOD? OH, YES...”



BY MERVYN A. WARREN, PH.D., D.MIN.

Chicago. Steamy, hot day. August 31, 1966. Motoring down the Dan Ryan Expressway. Crosscurrents of racial tension testing the “Windy City.” Attitudes as torrid as the weather greet civil rights crusade led by Martin Luther King Jr., Ph.D. Truth to tell, I’m nervous. My being in the car with him has to be nothing short of a distraction, so I’m thinking. But, he has a broader grasp of the moment. Allowing me to shadow him promises potential value to

the struggle for human rights and social justice. With Andrew Young, his assistant, at the wheel, King and I are talking about my research at Michigan State University, focusing on him as pastor and preacher, more than civil rights activist.

His first question: “What college did you attend?”

“Oakwood College,” my reply.

“Oakwood? Oh, yes, Oakwood. You all just appointed a new president, right?

What’s his name? Ahh, I remember. Hale. Dr. Frank Hale.”

Wow! How does he know that? Has he not a zillion other things to think about? Like what’s awaiting him here in the Chicago crusade or being Time Magazine’s “Man of the Year” (1964) or receiving the Nobel Peace Prize (1964)? Along the way in our conversation, he mentions having read the news about the Oakwood presidency in Jet Magazine.

Garland J. Millet: That Makes Two

Actually, my conversation with King did not introduce him to Oakwood College, nor was he hearing the name of one of its presidents for the first time. Four years before our 1966 Chicago connection, he had spoken on the Oakwood campus. That earlier Oakwood experience no doubt registered in his subconscious, which, after reading the news flash, tipped him off that the name “Oakwood College” had a familiar ring. Back in 1962, Garland J. Millet, Ph.D., (third African American lead administrator and fifth president of Oakwood, then Oakwood College) had bravely opened the doors for King to speak in the campus Ashby Auditorium for the civil rights program sponsored by the Huntsville Civic Community Service Committee. All other public facilities in the city refused even to crack their portals for fear of racial reprisals. King’s prominence notwithstanding, he was a controversial leader, though his only of-

fence was speaking truth to power and typifying “an apostle of love,” justice, and understanding among human beings.

I was present that March 19 night in 1962 when King delivered a most magnificent address at Oakwood. Interestingly, his message revealed something of a dress rehearsal for his famous “I Have a Dream” speech delivered the next year, August 28, 1963, at the March on Washington. Anyone who heard both speeches could not fail to recognize several bits and pieces of the 1963 discourse, which harkened back to what had already been heard on the Oakwood occasion.

What a testament to Oakwood presidential leadership that it bore such ties to King! First, the institution went on record as a participant for social justice causes in the setting of Christian education. Second, the fact merits serious reflection that the most significant figure for love and justice, Martin Luther King Jr., became personally acquainted with two Oakwood presidents.

Solon M. Jacobs: Patterns Old and New

When Solon M. Jacobs, the first lead administrator of what was then Oakwood Industrial School, opened the doors of the institution November 16, 1896, with three teachers (Arthur R. Hughes, H. S. Shaw, and Hattie Andre’) and 16 students, he was also blazing the path as an “apostle of love,” pioneering this Adventist project for blacks in the heart of an angry South. Their students and others to follow were courageously taught reading, ’riting, ’rithmetic, religion, and resistance, to be equipped for forging ahead through a wilderness of life challenges awaiting them.

Ellen White would soon craft an inspired definition of education, calling attention to more than a mere course of study and broadening the pursuit to cover “the whole period of existence possible” and “service in this world and ... the world to come,” *Education*, page 13. Decades earlier, even before the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment which freed



Garland J. Millet



Solon M. Jacobs



James L. Moran



Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min.

Leslie N. Pollard: The Time is Now

Since 2010, Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., president of Oakwood University, has been presiding over the affairs of Oakwood, following an immediate line of six presidents — Frank Hale, Ph.D., Calvin Rock, Ph.D., Emerson Cooper, Ph.D., Benjamin Reaves, Ph.D., Delbert Baker, Ph.D., and Mervyn Warren, Ph.D. — all of whom, like himself, are themselves graduates of “The Oaks.” Under the gallant leadership of Pollard, Oakwood continues the culture of Christian love and social justice dating back to its 1896 birth. And my, how the child has grown! The original student body of 16 is now a strapping 1,700 in 2016. Original faculty of three today numbers 200, plus 300 supporting staff, and a curriculum of 50 major areas of undergraduate programs and one graduate program. Pollard is privileged with the power of “now,” present tense, for making a decided difference in the lives of young people for this life and the life to come. His leadership enjoys the 120th anniversary of Oakwood University this year, and forecasts a brighter future as — like all 19 chief administrators preceding him since 1896 — he listens to destiny speaking her language of providence.

Visit southernunion.com to find additional resources regarding Dr. King’s visit to Oakwood, as well as the presidents of Oakwood. ❶

MERVYN A. WARREN,
Ph.D., D.Min., former dean of religion, provost, and interim Oakwood University president in Huntsville, Alabama.



black slaves on December 6, 1865, and before the controversial Reconstruction period of 1865 to 1877, Ellen White herself clothed her religious conviction with relevance and applied it to a situation of human injustice when she said, “When the laws of men conflict with the word and law of God, we are to obey the latter, whatever the consequences may be. The law of our land requiring us to deliver a slave to his master, we are not to obey; and we must abide the consequences of violating this law,” *Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1*, Pacific Press, 1948, pages 201-202. Christian education teaches us to measure the worth of all enactments and laws by the higher moral standard of God as summarized by Jesus Christ in Matthew 22:37-39, exemplified by Solon Jacobs, and stressed by Ellen White.

James L. Moran: A New Day

Thirty-six years and nine lead administrators after Solon M. Jacobs, Oakwood’s most historic moment up to that time took place in 1932: James L. Moran

was appointed the first black president of Oakwood (then Oakwood College). To trace the dynamics of that event is to recognize another outcome of practicing Christian social justice, this time in the workplace. I tried once to summarize the initial Moran years in these words: “If anyone doubted the wisdom of the board in making Moran president, such doubts dissipated rapidly when his aggressive style of leadership in otherwise menial tasks brought a refreshing emphasis perhaps best captured by the imperative, ‘Follow me, and we will take yonder mountain,’ rather than ‘Go thou, and bring me back a report,’” (*Sprucing the Tree: Saga of Oakwood University Presidents (1896-2015)*, Pacific Press, 2015, page 25). When Moran pointed the direction, he also led the way. His leadership’s standout achievement was in supervising the attainment of accreditation of Oakwood Junior College and also achieving four-year college status by 1944-45, during his term as president for 13 years.

DRILL OR DIE:

Why Your Church Needs Safety Sabbath 2016

BY ANNA BARTLETT

It's Sabbath morning at your local church, but one person in attendance did not come to worship. The gunman enters your sanctuary and pulls out a weapon.

When Carlos' mother comes to pick him up after Sabbath School, the other children say he left with a woman they had never seen before.

The church electrical system catches fire on Sabbath morning and most members and guests make it out, but Tessa is one of the last to exit because no one stopped to help her with her wheelchair.

Do You Know What to Do?

Responding appropriately in emergency situations is vital to minimizing loss. Does your congregation know what to do if an active shooter enters your church? Do your children know what to do if lost, or if someone attempts to abduct them? Is your church prepared for an emergency evacuation in the event of a fire?

"Every church member and every local church needs to be prepared for any emergency," says Daniel R. Jackson, president of the North American Division. "Unfortunate situations do happen, but we need to do our best to be prepared for them."

Safety Sabbath is a great way to get prepared for emergencies. Mark your calendar for March 26, 2016, as the final day to conduct your chosen drill. Sponsored by Adventist Risk Management, Inc., and the North American Division, Safety Sabbath will feature three drills you can use to prepare your church for emergencies:

- Active Shooter Drill
- Fire Drill
- Missing Child Drill

"Every church member and every local church needs to be prepared for any emergency,"

*says Daniel R. Jackson,
president of the North American Division.*



Safety is a Team Effort

Whether you are a local church leader, church member, or child, everyone should be involved in keeping themselves and each other safe in an emergency.

Local Church Leaders — Be prepared with a church emergency plan and crisis response team. Have a plan in place to help children and those with disabilities evacuate. Evaluate what risks your church may face, and practice your emergency response plans with your congregation regularly so everyone is

prepared to respond safely in an emergency.

Church Members — Study the emergency exit plans posted in your church and know two or more ways to exit the building. Know what you will do personally in an emergency, including how you will evacuate and help those around you evacuate. Participate in your church's emergency practice drills and be prepared.

Children — Parents, make sure your children know their full name, the full names of their parents or guardians, and emergency contact phone numbers. Talk with your child about what might happen during a drill and how they should act and respond. Make a plan with your child of what they should do and where they should go in an emergency so they are prepared.

Get Ready with Safety Sabbath 2016

Holding annual practice drills prepares your church family to respond to emergency situations in the safest way possible.

Get everything you need to hold your own emergency drill on Safety Sabbath, including emergency drill guides, cool posters, resources for children, and more!

Choose your drill and learn more at SafetySabbath.com. 📞

Anna Bartlett is the writer and education specialist for Adventist Risk Management, Inc.



A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT S. FOLKENBERG

Former Carolina Conference and General Conference President

BY LESLIE LOUIS

Surrounded by his loving family members, Robert S. Folkenberg Sr. peacefully entered his rest in Jesus on Christmas Eve 2015. Just a few days earlier, in waning health, he penned his heartfelt wish to all God's faithful followers: "I am preparing to rest in Jesus. It is thrilling to know that very soon, when I wake up, you and I will meet Jesus face to face, and be able to talk to Him and thank Him for what He has done for us."

Folkenberg was a champion servant leader for Jesus and His remnant Church. As a skilled pilot, creative artist, melodious vocalist and dynamic speaker, bilingually fluent in Spanish and English, proficient in technological advances and an innovative entrepreneur, "Pastor Bob" was gifted with talents and abilities beyond measure. Yet with all this wealth of imaginative and exceptional ingenuity, his soul's passion was to lead precious lives to Jesus and the truths of His Word.

The year was 1985. Malcolm Gordon had accepted the call from the Carolina Conference to the Florida Conference. I had left the Ohio Conference to serve as the principal of Kilgore Junior Academy (today known as Charlotte Adventist Christian Academy). Roy Dunn had just departed Fletcher Academy to become the new superintendent of education for the Carolina Conference. Bucky Weeks had left southern California to join the Carolina team as its new youth director. Crossing division lines, Folkenberg had just arrived in Carolina as its 34th president after having served as the secretary

for the Inter-American Division. The Advent movement was alive and well indeed!

For two, brief, wonder-filled years, we all had the opportunity of working together as colleagues in His service. One of my greatest memories was a time of crisis in Charlotte when some of the key leaders of the Church chose to leave because they rejected the gift of prophecy as evidenced in the life and writings of Ellen White. This impacted both the Church and the school profoundly. I remember praying together with my dear friend, Frank Ottati, pastor, during those dark days at the Sharon Church. Bob placed his arms around both of us to assure us that our faithfulness to stand by Christ and the messenger of the Lord would make the Church even stronger in the days to come.

I left to assume new responsibilities in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference in 1987. Ken Coonley came in that year as the new executive secretary. Those were some challenging days. Tithes and offerings were so low that funding for evangelism was static, and church growth was stagnant. Under the leadership of Folkenberg, a renewed emphasis was initiated called Carolina Breakthrough, and funds began to flow for soul winning. Evangelism and church growth flourished in Carolina. Out of a great concern for pastors to be held accountable, Folkenberg came up with a plan to encourage their spiritual growth. He bought 25 leather-bound sets of the Conflict of the Ages series, and offered to gift them to any pastor who would read

all nine volumes of *Testimonies to the Church*. All 25 sets were awarded!

Believing that the Lord could bless Carolina through innovative technology, Folkenberg determined to raise the standard, making our approaches to church growth truly state-of-the-art. During his leadership, Carolina became one of the premier conferences in the North American Division. He was truly a visionary, and often light years ahead of everyone. The challenge for some who worked with him was that he could run way ahead of you. According to Coonley, "You'd better hang on to his coat tail or get left behind!"

Desiring to embrace the entire Conference territory, he reached across to eastern Carolina and South Carolina with town hall meetings. The result brought God's people together in what we now call Eastern Carolina and Low Country Camp Meetings. Folkenberg truly loved the Lord, and was gracious with the team that he worked with. He never carried a grudge, and trusted his team by delegating responsibilities to each of them. He really didn't like dealing with conflict, and he gave everyone the benefit of the doubt.

In spite of the challenges and stresses of leadership and some of the heavy issues he was dealing with at the time, Folkenberg knew how to relax and have fun. He and his fellow officers — Ken Coonley and Benny Moore — and their families would take time for retreats and weekend camping trips. He loved to cook and sing and laugh with his leadership team. During the final



Robert Folkenberg makes an appeal during an evangelistic meeting in Kenya, Africa.

years of his service here, between 1989 and 1990, Folkenberg was being called for a number of meetings with Neil C. Wilson, who at the time was the president of the General Conference. The leadership of Carolina and the Southern Union realized that the handwriting was on the wall, and Folkenberg was being groomed for other, larger responsibilities within the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

On July 6, 1990, at the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis, Indiana, Robert Folkenberg was elected by the World Church to serve as the 18th president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and Ken Coonley was elected to serve as Carolina Conference's 35th president. During Bob's nine years of service at the General Conference, the Church grew exponentially from a world-wide membership of five million to more than 12 million.

After leaving the General Conference, Folkenberg returned to his beloved Carolina to initiate a new form of evangelistic ministry involving lay members. Initially referred to as Global Evangelism, and today known as ShareHim, this ministry has its mission in reaching lost souls for the Kingdom by engaging people in the pew to becoming people



Robert S. Folkenberg

at the pulpit. Heaven alone will note the tens of thousands of lives across the globe who will have been introduced to Jesus as their Savior and Lord through the vision of ShareHim and its founder, Robert Folkenberg.

As he rests in Jesus, I am reminded of the theme song that was heralded during the 1990 General Conference Session when Folkenberg was elected to serve our World Church as its leader:

We shall behold Him coming in His glory/We shall behold Him when praise lights the sky.

With saints victorious, we will sound His praises/Singing the chorus, Hosanna ever more!

Goodnight, "Pastor Bob." Rest safely in Jesus. We'll see you on that Golden Morning.

Your fellow colleague in HIS service, Leslie D. Louis. ❶

LESLIE D. LOUIS, a servant leader for the Lord, is the 37th president of the Carolina Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina.



Freshmen Caide Davidson, Cesiah Hernandez, and Madison Reinschmidt, with staff member and parent Chad Perry, sort the food received from the CAD4HOPE community.



Freshmen Dillon Wolf and Jeremiah Madrigal check expiration dates on the food items which are ordered chronologically for the earliest to expire to be used first by the Samaritan Center.

PHOTO BY: MITCHELL GRIFFEN

COLLEGEDALE ACADEMY: CAD4HOPE FOOD DRIVE

BY ANGI HOWELL

CAD4HOPE all started with a beloved, former, Collegedale Academy (CA) Bible teacher, the late Richard Cadavero — “Cad.” Cad had the vision of CA students making a positive impact on the community. And, that they have!

For the past 32 years, CA has served the area community with their annual CAD4HOPE food drive. In those three decades, 500,000 food items and \$75,000 for more food items has been collected to supply a large portion of the Samaritan Center’s food pantry for a 12-month span.

“This has become an event the students and surrounding community anticipate and appreciate. Community service is part of our curriculum at CA. CAD4HOPE is one of several ways our students participate in community service,”

says Chris Massengill, CA chaplain and CAD4HOPE coordinator. “Our administration and teachers all participate in the food collection drive. We realize this type of teaching has just as much impact as our daily academics.”

Massengill has worked with the class officers to coordinate 90 volunteer drivers to shuttle all 305 students to area neighborhoods. The students will drop off paper bags with a request letter of items the Samaritan Center needs. One week later, those same drivers will drive the students back to the same neighborhoods to pick up the non-perishable goods. “Food City and Publix partner with us by graciously donating thousands of bags each year,” notes Massengill.

“It amazes me that for so many years our students and this community have

supported this event. We have been blessed by the efforts of CA. CAD4HOPE food drive is the largest source of food for our food pantry, and for nearly 10 years has allowed our shelves to be well stocked for our clients,” stated Tony Dahlberg, Samaritan Center director.

Students at A.W. Spalding Elementary and Collegedale Adventist Middle School also help with this event. The week before Thanksgiving, they participate in CAD4HOPE with classroom competitions to see which class can bring in the most donations. The classes with the highest amounts receive a prize.

If the tradition holds, the amount collected will increase by the end of the drive. That will be more community members the CA students have been able to serve. ❶

FREE DENTAL DAY IN HOHENWALD

BY NANCY VASQUEZ

People began arriving early in the morning on Main Street in front of the Wellness Family Dentistry office in Hohenwald, Tennessee. This was no “business as usual” day at the office. Instead, it was the anticipated second annual free dental day offered to the community by Erik Andersson, D.D.S., and his staff.

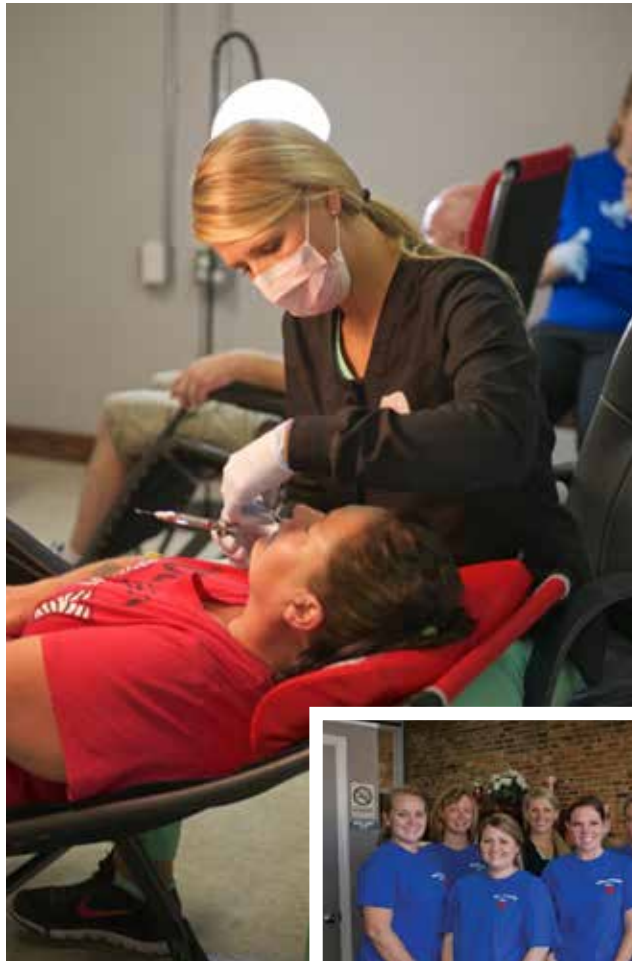
Everything was ready and organized. Staff members wore blue T-shirts with the logo “Dentistry with a Heart,” and greeted everyone with a smile.

Waiting patients were treated to fruit smoothies and healthy nachos while being instructed in healthful living principles through the CREATION Health videos, and a live demonstration on smoothie making.

“We recently acquired the adjacent suite to our office,” says Andersson. “This has not only allowed us to see more patients, but has also provided space to do more ministry outreach, such as today.”

Five years ago, Andersson, his wife, Sherri, and their then two-month-old daughter, Valentina, moved from Seattle, Washington, to Hohenwald. It was their desire to find a small rural practice in an area where they could raise their family, which now includes two more daughters, Giovanna, 3, and Carmela, five months, in a more simple setting. Through Providence, they found the Hohenwald dental practice, and God has blessed it.

“I believe in giving back to the community,” says Andersson. “That’s where



this idea of a free dental day came from. However, I care not only about the patients’ physical needs, but their spiritual needs as well. As Ellen White wrote, the ‘medical missionary work is ... to open doors for the entrance of the truth,’ Letter 81, 1904. So, we’re trying to fill both needs.”

The day before the event, a woman came into Andersson’s office with un-

bearable tooth pain. She told him she had tried to stick it out until the free dental day, but just couldn’t make it. When Andersson told her he was going to consider her his first free dental day patient, she could hardly believe her ears. She was so grateful and left with tears in her eyes.

In attending to the physical needs of patients on the free dental day, Andersson and his staff treated close to 40 uninsured people, providing more than \$7,000 worth of free services.

For the spiritual needs, each patient was given a missionary outreach book, an issue of *Vibrant Health* magazine, and GLOW tracts. A packet of den-



tal goodies was also provided.

However the patient might have come in that morning, he or she left physically equipped with a new smile, and spiritually equipped with literature, information on healthy living, and a feeling of goodwill. ①

Park Ridge Health Partners with Buncombe County Schools

Park Ridge Health is honored to sponsor all seven Buncombe County middle schools to fund programs and opportunities vital to the education and success of these students. This partnership with the Buncombe County Schools Foundation is the second year in an ongoing sponsorship in support of middle school teachers and students.

“Park Ridge Health is committed to creating opportunities for young people in our communities to experience overall health. A strong education is a key focus of that ef-

fort,” said Jimm Bunch, CEO of Park Ridge Health. “We see the benefit of this investment in young lives as we watch our next generation being equipped to take leading roles in improving our communities.”

“We are excited to see how middle schools have utilized these funds to benefit our students,” said Lisa Adkins, executive director of Buncombe County Schools Foundation. “Park Ridge Health began supporting Buncombe County middle schools last year for a variety of programs, including after-school clubs and sports. Their in-



vestment directly benefits over 4,000 students in our middle schools.” ❶

BY VICTORIA DUNKLE

Garden Brings Education to Students

From basil and oregano to lettuce and tomatoes, dozens of 4th-grade students planted their first garden at Rock Lake Elementary on December 8, 2015, as part of an innovative program to teach low-income children about science and nutrition.

The teaching garden is an American Heart Association school-based program, locally sponsored by Florida Hospital, and combines nutrition education with garden-based learning.

The real-life laboratory allows students to learn how to plant seeds, nurture growing plants, harvest produce, and ultimately understand the value of good eating habits.

“It was awesome to see the smiles on all these faces today, and we hope their enthusiasm continues as they watch the fruits of their labor grow,” said Verbelee Nielsen-Swanson, vice president of community impact at Florida Hospital. “It’s important that children, especially those who live in or near ‘food deserts,’ learn and apply healthy eating habits while they are young. With this program, kids can learn to make wise eating and lifestyle choices, and hopefully encourage their families to

grow their own gardens at home.”

Studies have shown that participating in school garden programs can improve students’ attitudes about fruits and vegetables. The Rock Lake Elementary students will tend to and harvest their garden throughout the school year.

Students learned about how they can use the herbs in cooking and eat the vegetables. Ten-year-old Darrius Grandison said he learned he could put the bell peppers they planted into a special recipe. “We can have fun while learning about vegetables,” Grandison said.

Keri Byrum, Harry P. Leu Gardens assistant director, joined the students and gave pointers on planting.

“It is so great to see these students excited about gardening and learning the importance of growing your own food,” Byrum said.

The Rock Lake Elementary garden is the third school in central Florida to receive a teaching garden through the American Heart Association.

“It is our mission to build healthier lives, free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke,” said Carrie Miller, executive director, Great-



er Orlando American Heart Association. “With the help of valued community partners like Florida Hospital, we’re able to bring our mission to life with programs like this Teaching Garden.” ❶

BY SAMANTHA KEARNS O’LENICK

FLORIDA HOSPITAL TEAM PERFORMS

500th Liver Transplant

Since the liver transplant program began at the Florida Hospital Transplant Institute in 2007, the physician team has given a second chance at life to hundreds of people, ranging from students and grandparents, to lawyers and fellow doctors.

The Transplant Institute is pleased to announce a milestone in the program — the physician team just performed its 500th liver transplant.

Edward “Adam” Frederick, a 24-year-old student, was the Transplant Institute’s 500th liver transplant patient. The medical team affectionately dubbed him, “Mr. 500.”

Frederick suffers from an autoimmune disease that attacks his bile ducts. He had his first liver transplant at Florida Hospital on January 1, 2012, and was feeling great for many months. But the autoimmune disease began to reoccur in the transplanted liver,



and he once more needed a new liver.

“The liver is a complicated and essential organ,” said Thomas Chin, M.D., director of the liver transplant program at Florida Hospital’s Transplant Institute. “Liver transplants are unique because there are no machines or procedures that can replicate its functions. Transplant is the only option,” Chin said.

After spending much of the past year feeling sick, Frederick received his new liver in December 2015, and is feeling healthy once again. “It’s a very liberating experience,” he said.

Frederick is looking forward to returning to his Spring Hill home and going back to college, where he is studying English.

For Florida Hospital’s physicians, seeing their patients return to a healthy, active life is one of the most gratifying aspects of their work.

“The most rewarding part of the job is seeing how well the patients do after transplant, and seeing how their lives are transformed by this miracle of life,” said transplant surgeon Michael Angelis, M.D. ●

BY SAMANTHA KEARNS O’LENICK

FLORIDA HOSPITAL HOSPICECARE INTRODUCES

New “Pet Peace of Mind” Program

Florida Hospital HospiceCare has introduced a new program to help hospice patients care for their pets during their care.

Called “Pet Peace of Mind,” this national program allows patients to complete their end of life journey without worrying about their pets’ current or future needs.

Offered to nonprofit hospices like Florida Hospital HospiceCare by Senior Pet Care Resource Network, the Pet Peace of Mind initiative provides volunteer pet care services for patients who are unable to care for their pets while receiving hospice care. Services include assistance with pet food, financial assistance with routine veterinary care, transporting the pet to veterinary or grooming appointments, emergency pet boarding, walking, and more.

“Many patients have expressed concerns to us about meeting their pets’ needs and everyday care,” said Barbara Cady, Florida Hospital HospiceCare Pet Peace of Mind coordina-

tor. “The program recognizes and supports the unique bond between hospice patients and their pets, and aligns with the Florida Hospital HospiceCare mission to care for both the patient and their family members with spiritual, psychological, and medical support. We wanted to find a way to help relieve our patients’ stress and fears about the care of their pet. The national Pet Peace of Mind Program offers us the tools and training to help care for our patients’ four-legged family members.”

Tomoka Pines Veterinary Hospital veterinarian K. Kelly Long, D.V.M., will serve as Florida Hospital HospiceCare’s Pet Peace of Mind consulting veterinarian and adviser to Cady.

“I am honored and humbled to be involved with this program. [For] families who are unable to focus on their pet’s health and care during hospice care, I look forward to easing their concerns as the Pet Peace of Mind consulting veteri-



narian,” Long said. “It will be a pleasure to not only serve those in need, but also to provide a service to the community that will assure a true peace of mind for all those seeking our assistance.” ●

BY LINDSAY REW

Columbia First Church Makes \$24K Christmas Gift to Wilton Hill Road Flood Victims

Christmas came early for Wilton Hill Road residents, who were given \$24,000 for home repairs after October's flooding. During their December 19, 2015, worship service, members of the Columbia, S.C., First Church presented one couple from Wilton Hill Road with a \$15,000 Christmas gift. This couple had been "adopted" by the church since October when the Adventist church's leaders realized that none of their members had experienced flood damage. "For everyone in our church to be spared, while so many suffered, that was an act of God's grace," said Jason Belyeu, pastor. "And, when grace is generously received, God expects us to extend grace generously to others."

Extending grace generously came in the form of helping the adopted couple whose home was inhabitable after saturated sheet-rock, wet flooring, and soaked furniture had been stripped from the building and piled in the front yard. Church members donated food to the homeowners, volunteered hours in cleaning and repair work, and made financial donations to the church's "Adopt Wilton Hill Project."

The culmination of giving resulted in not



PHOTO BY: RON QUICK

Jason Belyeu, pastor, presents the Wilton Hill Road couple with a surprise Christmas gift of \$15,000.

only surprising one couple with a \$15,000 Christmas gift of grace, but the church also gave the Wilton Hill family the opportunity to extend an additional \$9,000 worth of grace to their neighbors. The couple was asked by the church to provide the names and addresses of nine neighbors still in the process of repairing their homes, and each household would receive \$1,000.

"We give at Christmas because God so loved the world that He gave His only Son," said Belyeu. "Our hope is that through this Christmas gift, this family and their neighbors will experience God's love in a very special and memorable way." ❶

ARTICLE CONTRIBUTED

Bladenboro Spanish Fellowship Becomes Company

Church planting is one of the major goals of the Carolina Conference. In a society where many churches are closing, the Carolina Conference wanted to see a growth in church planting, beginning with a goal of 20 new churches planted in the past five years. Praising God, they blew past that goal and are just

one church plant away from reaching the heightened goal of 30 new churches!

One of these churches, planted by the Elizabethtown Church, is the Bladenboro Spanish Fellowship. On December 5, 2015, this thriving, growing group had a celebration service for their transition into an official company. Gary Moyer, Con-

ference vice-president for administration, presented a powerful message on where the Adventist church started, and how it is growing today — in Spanish, without the aid of a translator.

After the signing of the charter, Kenneth Lee, pastor, and Moyer commissioned and ordained the head elder of the new Blad-



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

Gumeciando Cipriano signs the charter list to form the new company.



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

Gary Moyer prays a prayer of dedication over Gumeciando and Silvia Cipriano.

enboro Spanish Company, Gumeciando Cipriano, and had a dedicatory prayer for both Cipriano and his wife, Silvia.

Following the services, the newly-formed company gathered around multiple tables to fellowship together by enjoying a sumptuous feast. As Moyer was preparing to leave, he saw small groups of people together praying. “That’s what I like to see —” he said, “people praying together outside of the service. Now that is inspiring!” ●

BY COURTNEY HEROD

Conference Updates South Carolina Disaster Response

In the time since the floods that devastated the state of South Carolina in early October 2015, the efforts of the volunteers have been vast and far reaching. They are still managing the donated goods warehouse in Lugoff, S.C., led by Steve Stillwell, Carolina Conference assistant director for disaster response, and his management team. These dedicated workers are in their fourth month of managing this warehouse.

The plan at this time is to close down the Lugoff warehouse by the end of January, and transition to the state-owned warehouse in Winnsboro, S.C., for long-term recovery efforts.

The Carolina Conference sincerely appreciates all of those who have donated their time to this worthy cause. Thousands upon thousands of hours have been given by these teams of volunteers, and hundreds of families in South Carolina have benefitted from their efforts. They have literally given four months of their lives to help other people get their lives back.

Stillwell has worked closely with the



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

Clockwise from bottom left: Phil Rosburg, director of disaster response; Terry and Ronda Haight; Robert and Mary Mitchum; and Steve Stilwell, assistant director of disaster response.

state of South Carolina in preparing for disasters like this one, and he has operated this warehouse so proficiently that the South Carolina Governor’s Office



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Steve Stillwell, assistant director of disaster response, and Governor Nikki Haley

has often thanked Stillwell and his team for all they have done. They truly are the hands of Christ to the victims of this “100-year flood.” ●

BY PHIL ROSBURG

Little Creek Church Celebrates Grand Opening

Members of the Little Creek Adventist Fellowship in North Carolina, had a lot to be thankful for this Thanksgiving, as they came together to celebrate the grand opening of their new sanctuary on November 21, 2015. Leslie Louis, Conference president, presented a Sabbath message that emphasized the need to be a loving church, and the entire service was punctuated by musical offerings of praise. Lee Griffin, elder, also shared the background of the Little Creek Church with those in attendance, exclaiming that “it is truly God’s story because it’s HIS-story.”

Nine years ago, the Little Creek Church plant was just an idea in the hearts and minds of a few members of the Raleigh Church. Both the Griffin and Massey families felt called to start an outreach in the Johnston County area, and soon they encountered other people with a similar vision. Once this faithful group received the blessings of both the Raleigh Church and the Carolina Conference, the Lord showed them a facility to rent, and they eagerly began spreading the Gospel in their new community.

Over the years the church grew, and the



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

Conference granted it company status in 2010. Thanks to a generous donation of land by John and Sarah Massey, the congregation finally had a place to build a permanent home, and Phase 1 of construction began in 2011. The first phase consisted solely of the fellowship hall and Sabbath School classrooms, and the church was able to move into its own building in 2012. Phase 2, which has just been completed, involved the addition of a permanent sanctuary. Dividing the project gave Little Creek time to raise the necessary funds, and it

also gave the group a place to meet temporarily until the sanctuary was complete.

Griffin remarked that Little Creek Fellowship is “a praying church,” and those prayers have been answered in a big way. Now, not only do church members have a truly beautiful place to worship together, but they are helping to spread the Good News of Christ’s soon return, both in Johnston County and around the world. ❶

BY AIMEE GARVER



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

“Soar Above” Theme for Ministerial Spouses Retreat

A very special retreat was held just for Carolina ministerial spouses at Nosoca Pines Ranch in Liberty Hill, S.C., November 6-8, 2015. The entire weekend was bathed with love and prayer as a dedicated committee prepared for months to make this a weekend to remember. The women are still talking about the event and sharing their pictures with each other.

You may be wondering exactly what happens at an event where you gather almost 40 ministerial spouses ... Well, to sum it up: a huge blessing! Many people are aware that the role of a pastor's wife often goes unnoticed and maybe undervalued, but it is a sacrificial role that comes with multiple rewards and memories like no other. It would be remiss not to say that there are also challenges and struggles that most would never imagine.

The theme for the weekend was “Soar Above,” and that is exactly the mindset they took back to their homes, congregations, and community. The inspired Word in Isaiah 40:31 reminds that, “they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. Wonderful seminars and messages prepared and provided by several of the pastors' wives imparted fresh perspectives and optimistic outlooks, and the challenge to “Soar Above.”

The women were treated to not only wonderful meals provided by the Nosoca camp staff, but beautiful and detail-oriented place setting arrangements at the dining tables that were changed for every meal. Special treats were left everywhere that made the women smile often. The grand finale provided no less, as the “spa night” proved to be a favorite of many.

The Carolina ministerial spouses would like to extend heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to fearless leader Carole Louis, the



Denise Rueda, Ann Marie Bates, Judith Flores

PHOTO BY: REBBECA CARPENTER



PHOTO BY: CONTRIBUTOR

planning committee, Nosoca Pines Ranch, and the operational officers at the Carolina Conference who made this awesome weekend possible. In addition, they thank their spouses, children, and church family for their understanding as they enjoyed a

much needed retreat that truly helped them to find new meaning as they “Soar Above” in the Carolinas! ●

BY CINDY MERCER

Sebring Missionary Baptized in El Salvador



Dubbed as the “crazy missionaries” from Lakeland Church, the participants responded, “Crazy for where we might be going? If Jesus wants us there, we’d be crazy not to go!”

*A missionary experience
as told by Ron Hoffecker:*

“I’m not an Adventist,” said Aldo from Sebring Spanish Church in Florida, “but I’ve been around the church for a long time, and I wanted to come on this El Salvador mission trip and help people.”

“What’s keeping you from being baptized and joining the church?” I asked, as a pastor from Lakeland, Fla.

“Nothing,” he answered. “I’ve just never done it.”

“Now’s the time, then,” I assured him.

“Yes...Yes, I think it is,” he concluded.

So, on Sabbath afternoon, thousands of miles from Florida, one of our own missionaries came down to the river. You see, there is very little in the life of a pastor (or anyone else) more wonderful than seeing someone come to the Lord. To know that someone has begun a new life in Christ, and to have the privilege of helping in that start, is something to live for.

We were on a mission trip from Lakeland, Fla., all the way to Suchitoto, El Salvador. Many people had worked and sacrificed long and

hard to get us there — so much prayer on the part of so many, and so many blessings from God.

My own personal highlights of this trip are shared in the following scenes:

- Daisy’s cheeks were already wet with tears of joy before plunging beneath that cleansing flood.
- Robert, who was very sick, would not go to the hospital before he had come to the Lord.
- Michael came with a wide grin pasted on his face.
- Rosa stood for her faith, even though it cost her a job.
- Aldo came in his own quiet way.

And here we were. All of our planned activities were a huge success. Many people helped in the clinics. Many children were blessed with their activities. Many decisions were made, with more to come. We had baptized more than 70 during the week as we reached the last Sabbath in El Salvador.

The moment sank in for me as I came down to the river. At this capstone of the

mission trip, I was privileged to personally baptize five individuals in a muddy river in far away El Salvador.

It doesn’t get any better than that. I can only humbly breathe, “Worthy, worthy is the Lamb.” God has done so much. ❶



PHOTO BY: PATTY HOFFECKER

Aldo Cendejas came on the mission trip to help people, and ultimately decided to be baptized.

BY RON HOFFECKER

Lamb Makes Debut in Live Nativity Scene

For two weekends every December, members and guests of Columbia City Company in Lake City, Fla., enact a live nativity scene for the surrounding community. Much earlier, work begins on props, costumes, assembly of buildings, special effects, music, and lights. The most important feature and greatest necessity, however, are the *live* performers.

While remembrance of the miraculous birth of Jesus would be enough, this year another miracle was observed. In an effort to add pastoral sights and sounds, three ewes were borrowed for the program.

During the Sabbath hours of Friday night on the second weekend, a white and brown-speckled lamb was born. Af-



The live performers were the most important part of the nativity production.

ter Sabbath morning worship, lay pastor George Worrell invited the church family to meet the newest addition to the live nativity. The congregation immediately fell in love with the baby lamb,

who was named Sabbath.

While admiring the lamb, they discussed God's perfect plan for each of His creatures. Human babies are so helpless at birth and for many months; yet, animal babies begin walking immediately and actively seek nourishment. The lamb continued to cheer the hearts of everyone, and energized them to their task. The members hated to give the baby back to the sheep farmer! Yet, the miracle remains in their hearts with memories of a tiny creation — a surprise from the

Creator — whose birth they are striving to share. ❶

BY MARTHA GETLINGER

Apopka Church Commits to Mission-driven Emphasis

Apopka, Fla., Church is determined to be mission driven, ever striving to share the Gospel message with the surrounding community. The commitment to this cause was evidenced by a recent church board/leadership retreat meant to inspire and guide the congregation toward accomplishing the goal.

Work began on articulating a mission statement that would be a catalyst to motivate each member. The Lord blessed these efforts as guest speakers Paul Brantley, North American Division vice president for strategic planning, and Bob Hayes, pastor of Palm Coast, Fla., Church, joined Apopka pastor Steve Jencks in sharing words of inspiration with the group.

The presentations served as a reminder

of how God provides His people with the wisdom, resources, and initiative to accomplish great things if they are willing to answer His call to service. Apopka Church recognizes that it is truly a privilege to participate in God's end-time work. ❶

BY ROBERT BROOME



Participants in the church board/leadership retreat established a mission-driven commitment for Apopka Church.

PHOTO BY LENORE BRANTLEY

The Well Becomes Official Church in Chattanooga

The Well, a church plant of the Collegedale Church, officially became the 167th congregation of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference on November 7, 2015.

A downtown Chattanooga initiative that began in 2008, The Well has grown to a membership of 181, with a weekly attendance of more than 200. The young congregation is deliberate and persistently engaged in the growing and blossoming community on the south side of the city.

"Place is very important to us," says Mike Fulbright, The Well pastor. "When we planted this church, we committed ourselves to relationships and making a difference in our local context. When we talk 'local church,' we're referring to two to three square miles. If we disappeared



Ed Wright, Conference president, delivers the sermon on the Sabbath The Well became an official church.

in two years, we hope we'd be missed."

Ed Wright, Conference president, delivered an inspiring message on Sabbath morning based on the story of Jesus' healing of the man at the Pool of Bethesda. He

challenged members to continue to create a place of healing, restoration, and transformation for people in the city of Chattanooga and the Hamilton County area.

Having outgrown its current location, The Well is planning a geographical move in January 2016. They will move two doors down in their current building to a new, 10,500-square-foot space. The move will provide an opportunity to expand their children's ministry and worship space, while adding kitchen amenities.

The next step is The Well 2.0, somewhere in Hamilton County. Here's to the expansion of the "Kingdom Among Us." ❶

BY MIKE FULBRIGHT

Six Elementary Schools Participate in L.E. Program

This fall six elementary schools participated in a fundraising program using MagaBooks. Children from all grades went with their parents and teachers to offer these books which are used in the regular summer canvassing program. Besides the experiences the youth have with God, the main purpose of the program is to share the wonderful news the books contain, and to raise some funds for their schools.

Children from Duluth and Columbus, Ga.; Murphy, N.C.; and Crossville, Morristown, and Deer Lodge, Tenn., had an opportunity to experience firsthand mission work when they carried the books on health, books from Ellen G. White, and also children's books. Children from these schools distributed a total of 401 books, and collected donations of

\$7,373.36 in their respective communities. Half of that money stayed at the schools for worthy student funds or similar support.

It was encouraging to see how these young children approached this new endeavor. They memorized the prescribed canvass, paid attention during training, and were eager to start when they received their bags of books. Some children were able to sell more books than they expected, while others were praying and searching for opportunities to sell a few. They all were striving not to fall short of expectations, and it was evident God blessed everybody's effort.

At the end of the three-week program, many children shared their experiences and what they had learned. They were all proud to be part of this important work, as well as

pleased that their church believes in them. This is exactly what they wanted to achieve by this fundraising program. ❷



Children from six Conference elementary schools sold MagaBooks this fall, working with the Conference literature evangelism program to raise funds for their schools.

BY VLASTIMIL HYBL

Kingsport Church Receives \$100,000 Anonymous Gift

The Kingsport Church in Tennessee is praising God because of an anonymous donation received in the amount of \$100,000. This brings their total amount raised to \$220,000 of an estimated \$300,000 needed to complete the church's expansion project.

Funds are needed to expand the church's Fellowship Hall with additional Sabbath School classrooms, and a kitchen expansion to accommodate the vastly growing congregation. These facilities will be used to support the current congregation and the church's active evangelism in the community.

Over 2015, the attendance at the King-

sport Church has grown by approximately 25 percent through transfers, professions of faith, baptisms, and growing families. The members will be the first to express their love and devotion for their church, their pastoral family, and their church family. A recent Thanksgiving service focused on "Giving Thanks." Twenty-five individuals gave a "Thankful Minute." The overall message? Everyone was most thankful for their church family and the love and community God has built.

According to Dave Ryder, pastor, "We are committed to spreading the three angels message in the community, and growing the kingdom of God." 📌



PHOTO BY: KIM BARNWELL

Another blessing: The pastor and church members prayed over Mark Mapes before his baptism on November 14, 2015. Several other adults joined the Kingsport Church on October 31, as part of a Happy Reformation Day celebration.

BY KIM BARNWELL

Alpharetta Church Members Engage in Christmas Evangelism

The Alpharetta Church had the unique privilege of receiving a free booth at the festive Alpharetta Tree Lighting Ceremony on the town square, December 5, 2015. The popular annual gala features local organizations, restaurants, musicians, and activities filling the streets and stage — all culminating in the lighting of the square's Christmas tree.

Upon arrival, the team setting up was disappointed to find the booth was the last one on a side street, but quickly realized they might have one of the best spots, as it was next to the event's real snow playground.

The mission of the group was to mark its presence in the community, and to help answer the question "Who are the Adventists?" generated by the nation's current political candidates. They also wanted to show that Adventists celebrate Christmas like everyone else, and to help break down misconcep-

tions. The group was pleased when occasional visitors mentioned they knew an Adventist.

To entice event-goers to the booth, group members stood in the street offering candy canes, and warmly invited families to enjoy the yummy free refreshments.

Enthusiastic members proudly handed them flyers promoting information for the church's annual Christmas concert with an overview of the Adventist faith on the back.

Overall, the Alpharetta Adventist Church members felt the booth was well received



PHOTO BY: MICHELLE FONTAINE

Alpharetta, Ga., Church members Nelson Fontaine, Brenda Moses, and her son Patrick (left), hand out fliers at the Tree Lighting Ceremony in Alpharetta Town Square, December 5, 2015.

and a smashing success, with more than 400 flyers in the hands of the community. This newfound evangelistic opportunity brings excitement in anticipation of Christmas 2016! 📌

BY MICHELLE FONTAINE

Cornwell, Murphy (MACS) Lauded in Cherokee County

Cherokee Scout readers voted Opal Cornwell “Best Educator,” and Murphy Adventist Christian School (MACS) “Honorable Mention” to “Best School” of Cherokee County, N.C. The *Cherokee Scout* has a circulation of more than 9,500 copies, and, along with the school, is based in the foothills of Murphy, N.C. Cornwell was a student of MACS in its first year of service, and has taught there for 22 years.

Amy Stephens, facilitator of the Murphy Adventist Christian High School, has been working alongside Cornwell for 10 years. Stephens realizes the “wonderful blessing” that Cornwell has been to the students. “She has a sincere love and dedication to the Christ-centered education that is taught at MACS,” Stephens elaborated. The head teacher of MACS, Cheri Jenkins, praises the “encouraging words and ready smile”

that Cornwell passes on to her students, while teaching in a “creative, hands-on, and professional manner.”

One of Cornwell’s kindergarten students from last year, who is presently performing at the 2nd grade level, remembers the “fun projects” she experienced in Cornwell’s class. A favorite lesson incorporated “dough and feathers” in teaching “science and art.” Another student, a 4th grader, eagerly contributed, “Mrs. Cornwell loves everyone, even people she doesn’t know, which is why she is the ‘Best Educator,’ for she ‘loves at all times,’” Proverbs 17:17.

It must be so, for Opal Cornwell has been known for her expressions of love: “Love this school and all it stands for; love all the precious children; love my job; love my God most of all.”

BY SHERRY PERSON



PHOTO BY: SHERRY PERSON

Amy Stephens, facilitator of Murphy Adventist Christian High School; Sherry Person, math, English, and publications educator at Murphy Adventist Christian School (MACS); Opal Cornwell, pre-K and K teacher at MACS; and Cheri Jenkins, principal and grades 1-8 teacher at MACS.

Children Raise Almost \$500 for ADRA Gifts

A Sabbath School teacher shares a personal account from her class: Wonderful things come in compact little packages. The Tellico Plains, Tenn., Kindergarten Sabbath School class consists of three children, Ronni, Abbi, and Rickie. They are full of love, energy, and the joy of life.

The class started the New Year searching through ADRA’s Really Useful Gift catalog for a project they could afford (thinking small). Filled with excitement, the children decided on two chickens for \$40. Next, a stove for \$35. By now ADRA was pretty impressed and sent the children ADRA Hero Awards, and some high quality activity books. They were starting to think big, and wanted to raise \$125 for a beehive. I hesitated because I didn’t want them to become discouraged. Stifling my

short-sightedness, I said, “OK, let’s go for it!” Who was I to stand in the way of three spirited little youngsters on a mission?

The class decided they could purchase more gifts for a lot more families if they enlisted the help of adults. As they presented their case during church outreach time, they were delighted to see the adults as excited as they were. Miniature beehives were constructed for collecting the offering.

From January to October, the children purchased two chickens (\$40), one stove (\$35), one beehive (\$125), four goats (\$160), a medical kit (\$75), and winter clothing for a refugee child (\$35).

The children are learning a wonderful lesson in generosity. Start a special project in your children’s class, and allow them to think BIG and pray! ❶



PHOTO BY: DEANNA BRASSINGTON

Kindergarten Sabbath School children Ronni, Abbi, and Rickie have raised almost \$500 providing many items for those in need through the ADRA Gifts Catalog.

BY DEANNA BRASSINGTON

Fifth Taste of Shiloh Festival Held

More than 50 members of Shiloh Church in Smyrna, Ga., took time from their busy Sunday, November 1, 2015, to participate in the church's fifth Taste of Shiloh Festival (TOSF). It was hosted by Comprehensive Health Ministry (CHM), under the direction and leadership of Pauline Cooke, R.N. TOSF is a community outreach festival with a health expo focus, and was established to reach the surrounding community, neighbors, and friends.

This year, 300 people attended the festival, with the majority being neighbors and friends from the community. There were approximately 60 vendors selling and/or giving away products, including CHM, which offered free health screenings for BMI, cholesterol, blood pressure, and diabetes from nurses and healthcare professionals.

The health screenings were a blessing, as the CHM team, which includes physicians, managed to give a preliminary diagnosis of a vascular-related problem to a particular woman from the community with no prior history. The woman was encouraged to get follow-up care at the emergency room, as her preliminary diagnosis indicated a potential medical emergency if left untreated. The CHM team did post-event follow-up with this woman to make sure she received her exact diagnosis and was managing her treatment plan. The unnamed woman was very grateful to the CHM and TOSF team for their prompt action and confidentiality.

There was similarly a heartwarming review from a chiropractor who was also a vendor. She remarked that TOSF was one of the most nicely presented health expos she had attended, and further stated, "I am blown away by the attendance of the community and the efficiency of this event, despite the rain outside."

Shiloh's Pathfinders and Mount Pisgah Church's mission group introduced their respective ministries. Vendors Dick and

Stephanie Stephenson of Omus Originals (wood creations) donated all monies collected from their sales back to TOSF, as did The Simple Gentlemen, a lapel-making company owned by Shiloh young adult Rashunda Alexander. This product caught the eye of special guest Chesley McNeil, 11 Alive news meteorologist. He was impressed by her lapels, and left with a gift from her company.

Unfortunately, the rain meant that the children were not able to enjoy their planned outside activities. However, they had a fantastic popcorn-and-movie time with David Smith, followed by story time with Jahaira Davis, Shiloh's children's

ministries leader.

Throughout the day, the American Red Cross blood drive was coordinated by Vevyette Constable, R.N. The drive received a donation of 38 units — including three people who donated two units each.

Additionally, various professionals gave 20-minute seminar presentations related to their respective professions. These seminars included "Brain Health" by John Patrickson, Ph.D. (neurophysiology), Morehouse School of Medicine; Edward Layne, M.D., gastrointestinal physician and founder of My Preventive Health, who provided insight in the preventive health arena; and Elicia Archer, B.A., M.P.H., who spoke on the "World of Wonder" in Nutrition, which flowed well with the many health food demonstration booths. Octavia Taylor shared information on breast cancer in the black community; Marilyn

Hall, D.N.P., gave an insightful seminar about preventing and managing diabetes; and Andrew Chung, Ph.D., M.D., spoke on cardiovascular health, which included a demonstration of simple exercises that can improve cardiovascular health. Andrea Gibbs-Brooks, M.A., L.P.C., N.C.C., presented a lively discussion on "Healthy Family — Successful Community"; followed by "HIV and Minority Population," by Ndidi Nwangwu-lke, M.P.H., P.M.P. Shiloh's Rose M. Heacock, M.O.T., O.T.R./L., provided an introduction into occupational therapy. Rose and the Praise4All Ministry were a part of the entertainment line-up, "Worship in Song and

American Sign Language." Praise4All is a ministry for children, youth, and adults, dedicated to helping the deaf and spiritually deaf be blessed by the glory of God.

As a follow-up to TOSF 2015, Drake Barber, pastor, and his pastoral team, alongside the TOSF team, donated *Message Magazine* subscriptions to registered community neighbors and friends who attended the Festival.

The success of Taste of Shiloh Festival 2015 is credited to the Lord, Who commissions believers to go into all the world and preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, along with the charge from the Spirit of Prophecy in *Ministry of Healing*, page 143: "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as One Who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence then He bade them 'follow Me.'"

Thank you to all neighbors and friends for attending this event. Check Shiloh Church's website at www.tasteofshiloh.com for the TOSF 2016 event, or email tasteofshiloh@gmail.com. ☛



BY NOMVULA-GRACE COX

North Bay Church Holds Unique Cooking School

The health ministries team in the North Bay Church in Southport, Fla., held a six-week cooking school, October 4 to November 8, 2015, in which participants had a hands-on cooking experience. Upon entering the church's fellowship hall, participants were offered five recipes from which to choose. Whichever they chose, they, along with a partner or two, would prepare and cook. After an hour or so, the meal was ready. The food was laid out, and students and instructors enjoyed a beautiful, healthful, and completely plant-based meal while they listened to a 15- to 30-minute presentation about healthful living and eating.

The students cooked a variety of recipes, such as oat burgers, roasted cauliflower, and sesame spread, and then they made a fresh green salad with a simple dressing. Some classes were themed, such as appetizers, breakfasts, and Thanksgiving. During the second class, they watched the movie *Forks Over Knives*, which was well received. The class took an intermission during the movie so they could fill their plates with haystacks prepared by the church members. Ingredients for the haystacks included a variety of beans, greens, and colorful vegetables to choose from, along



Patricia (right), a church member, helps guests Catherine and Claire prepare a dish.

with acashew and vegan ranch dressing. Dessert was a frozen banana and cherry "ice cream" with dark chocolate chips (think Ben and Jerry's Cherry Garcia ice cream).

The average attendance was 14, with half of those being community members. Jen Day, a North Bay member said, "The format of this class created great bonding and camaraderie. The students were disappointed to see the class end."

To keep the momentum, the ministry team has decided to start a community monthly potluck called HEAL (Healthy

Eating and Living). People are invited to bring a plant-based dish with 15 copies of the recipes to share. Families are welcomed and first-time attendees are asked not to bring a dish, but to just come, eat, learn, and enjoy. While eating, there will be a presentation or testimony related to healthful eating and/or lifestyle. The HEAL potlucks will be held the first Sunday of every month; the first one was held this past December. 🍴

BY JENNIFER DAY

Principal of Big Cove Christian Academy Retires

Rachel Thompson Wiegand, principal at Big Cove Christian Academy (BCCA) in Huntsville, Ala., retired at the close of the 2014-2015 school year. Wiegand taught for 34 years

and spent 25 of those years teaching in Seventh-day Adventist schools. Her last 14 years were spent at BCCA, teaching grades 3-6. During her tenure at BCCA, she became the principal and also spear-

headed the remodeling of the school's kitchen through fundraising and yard sales.

Wiegand not only served the school, but she invested her time serving Hunts-



ville Central Church as fellowship dinner coordinator, chair of the social committee, a member of the visitor/hospitality committee, and as a worship coordinator, among other positions. She was instrumental in starting a worship ensemble that played for the worship service once a month.

A few years ago, a new family was moving to the Huntsville area and called for information regarding the school. During the course of the conversation, Wiegand discovered that the mom planning to put her daughter into BCCA was a student that Wiegand had taught in Virginia. It was a wonderful experience for her to be able to teach two generations of the same family.

Wiegand grew up in Florida and Tennessee. She graduated from Southern Missionary College (Southern Adventist

University) in 1972. Her teaching career included teaching in the states of Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Alabama.

She and her husband, Heinz Jr., have two grown children, Misha Garey, a dentist in Chattanooga, Tenn., and Heinz III, who is currently serving in the U.S. Navy, stationed on a ship in the Mediterranean Sea. Wiegand and her husband are relocating to the Collegedale, Tenn., area to be near their daughter, son-in-law, Jason, and granddaughter, River.

The Wiegands will be greatly missed, and members of the church and school wish them all the best in their move and retirement. ①

BY KATHY AITKEN

Bible Worker is Answer to Father's Long Ago Prayers

Perspiration trickling down his back, Montgomery First Church's Bible worker Ken Girdner paused to pray before he knocked on the door of a lovely garden home located one block from his church. He was fulfilling a promise to his Lord and church to knock on every door around the church, and offer the residents the opportunity to study the Bible.

A diminutive, grey-haired woman with a gracious smile and loving ways invited him in. So began the weekly Bible studies with Naomi. Her immediate acceptance of any doctrine from the Bible as undeniable truth strengthened Girdner's faith and assured him that God *did* intend for him to be the church's Bible worker at this time.

Then came the Thursday that Naomi was not home. She had not called, nor did she leave a note on her door as she

had in the past. Girdner returned to her empty house several times in the next few weeks, and his telephone messages remained unanswered. Finally Girdner began to call the local hospitals, and discovered that Naomi had been a patient in a local hospital for the past three weeks. During the hospital visits that ensued, he learned that Naomi's intestine had ruptured when she was at home alone. God helped her to reach her telephone and dial 911. The attending doctor told her family that she had a two percent chance of recovery if she survived the surgery. Her recovery was so slow and painful, she confessed there were times when she asked God to let her die.

God had other plans, and she is home now. She insisted that her Bible studies be resumed. "Thursday is the best day of the week because of these Bible studies," she declares. Girdner feels he is an

answer to the prayers of Naomi's father, who was raised a Seventh-day Adventist, and his Adventist family. Naomi is already expressing her wish to attend church with Girdner when she is fully recovered. ①



Pictured are Naomi and Bible worker Ken Girdner.

Lobelville Church Member Organizes Community Food Pantry

The Lobelville Church is located in Perry County, Tenn., which has an unemployment rate of 9.5 percent, making it one of the poorest counties in the state. These statistics, coupled with Christ's method of evangelism, gave member Khristilyn Nichols a burden to spearhead organizing and planning the Lobelville Community Food Pantry.

The food pantry has created many inroads with the community that did not exist before. When the doors opened on November 22, 2015, volunteers included church members, community nurses, a local school teacher, the city librarian, and others.

Starting with a capability to feed 50 families, the the Pantry hopes to increase that number as word spreads and resources grow. Their mission is to be instruments in the hands of the Lord, assisting Him in filling the hearts of individuals and fam-



Lobelville Community Food Pantry

ilies with His love, by providing a little something to help fill in the gap. ❶

BY STEVE CAZA

Highland Academy Performs at Battle of the Boulevard

Highland Academy (HA) Gymnix performed the half-time show at the Battle of the Boulevard on December 1, 2015. Battle of the Boulevard is the college basketball rivalry between Belmont University and Lipscomb University. The two schools have only one road between them.

For more than 20 years, HA has been invited to perform at this event, giving them the opportunity to build community. Belmont University surveyed season ticket holders, asking what their favorite half-time shows have been. Consistently, the Gymnix team was rated in the top three choices of performers. Gymnix coach Ryan Irwin said, "I am so proud of our students. They represented High-



The Gymnix team performs at "Battle of the Boulevard" during the half-time show at Belmont University.

land and the program well. It's a great honor to hear what we mean to the Belmont University crowd and spectators by being rated as one of the top three performers." Gymnix team member Isabella DeWeez commented, "There is nothing

like performing for a packed house at Belmont's biggest game of the year. It was a privilege to be there."

Most Gymnix performances are at a variety of schools in Tennessee and Kentucky. After the performances, many students from the audience come up to Gymnix team members asking about HA. These performing events give Highland the opportunity to witness and share about Seventh-day Adventist education. Coach Irwin said, "One of our goals is to be involved in the community through the message of anti-bullying and anti-drugs." ❶

BY AMY CIRIGLIANO

London Church Members Remember Reformation

The London, Ky., Church invited the public to celebrate the courage, convictions, and legacy of Martin Luther and other reformers, on October 30, 2015, with a reenactment of Luther nailing his Ninety-five Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany.

The weather was sunny and cool, and as members and guests gathered in front of the church waiting for the reenactment, they were greeted and served hot apple cider and homemade muffins. Marc Lombard, pastor, spoke from the front steps of the church, giving a brief introduction of the Dark Ages and is-

sues of the Protestant Reformation. London Church member Danil Verenchuk, dressed as Luther, placed a copy of the Ninety-five Theses on the front door of the London Church.

Everyone went inside the church and watched the 1953 classic film *Martin Luther*. There was a drawing for several DVDs from the It Is Written series on the reformers, "After Darkness, Light." Copies of *The Great Controversy*, *The Vanishing Protestant*, and other literature were made available to guests. ❶



Danil Verenchuk, dressed as Martin Luther, nailed a copy of the "Ninety-five Theses" to the door of the London, Ky., Church.

BY JAN GRENTZ

Oasis Church Distributes Thanksgiving Boxes

The Oasis Church got together for their annual activity of distributing groceries for a full Thanksgiving meal, including dessert, to more than 125 families in the Portland, Tenn., area on November 21, 2015. The Oasis Church works in connection with a local community service organization called Portland Cares, which provides names and addresses of families who are in need of extra help.

The testimonies from the receiving families, as well as from the giving church members, made this a wonderful experience for everyone involved. Prayers were offered at each home, invitations were extended for future church events, and a personal invitation was given to come and worship with the members. This type of outreach unites the church in fellowship and love for one another. ❶



A large group gathered to distribute Thanksgiving meals in the Portland, Tenn., area.



Members carry the boxes of food to be distributed.

BY MICHAEL SMITH

ADU's Physical Therapy Doctorate Granted Candidacy for Accreditation

The doctor of physical therapy (DPT) program leads to the first doctoral degree offered at the University.

The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education has granted candidacy for accreditation to Adventist University of Health Sciences' (ADU) doctoral degree program, making this the first doctorate degree offered by the University. ADU has now begun recruiting applicants for its inaugural doctor of physical therapy (DPT) class that will begin in May 2016.

"It is a privilege to be the first doctoral degree program at ADU, and to provide yet another example of ADU fulfilling its mission to develop leaders in healthcare," said Jennifer Collins, P.T., Ed.D., M.P.A., chair of ADU's Department of Physical Therapy.

ADU began developing the DPT program from the ground up, with the hope that it would fill a need in the central Florida community, according to Collins, where there is only one other physical therapist education program in the area. "This program adds an excellent health professional degree to the community, that will, in three years, bring more physical therapists to the area."

The mission of the University is "Healthcare as Ministry," where a specific emphasis is placed on service learning in the community and providing whole person care to patients. The new doctoral program is dedicated to the same mission and committed to those values.

"We are proud to provide our students with a unique approach to healthcare, and with the addition of our first doctoral program, we now have the privilege to develop future physical therapists that will care for patients on a deeper level," explained David Greenlaw, D.Min., president of ADU.

The University will be accepting up to 23 students during its first cohort, all of whom will be required to participate in an international experience where they will learn and experience the challenges and rewards of working with a diverse group of individuals.

"We believe that an international experience is critical to the development of excellent, person-centered practitioners, because physical therapists are called upon to work with people from every conceivable background," added Collins.

ADU has collaborated with healthcare entities, like Florida Hospital, to give its DPT students world-class clinical opportunities and hands-on learning. Collins and her department designed the program with a focus on inter-professional education.

Collins noted, "As they learn together, students develop a respect for other professions and an appreciation for how vital a team of professionals is to maximizing the potential of the individuals they serve."

ADU's Doctor of Physical Therapy Department and the University are delighted to expand not only the degrees offered, but their impact on the community they serve.

Effective November 11, 2015, the Physical Therapy Program at Adventist University of Health Sciences has been granted Candidate for Accreditation status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314; phone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org). Candidate for Accreditation is a pre-accreditation status of affiliation with the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education that indicates that



ADU students receive hands-on learning inside one of the program's state-of-the-art labs with Jennifer Collins, P.T., Ed.D., M.P.A., chair of the Department of Physical Therapy.



Physical therapist students at ADU learn to work with patients of all ages throughout the program.

the program is progressing toward accreditation and may matriculate students in technical/professional courses. Candidate for Accreditation is not an accreditation status nor does it assure eventual accreditation. 📌

BY MEGHAN BRESCHER

Grant Funding, Preparation for Eternity Set Biomedical Sciences Program Apart

Oakwood University has developed a strong record of promoting the academic and professional development of its students, especially in the sciences. In the past 12 years, Alexandrine Randriamahefa, Ph.D., in the Department of Biological Sciences, has received 4.5 million dollars in grant funding from organizations such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), the Department of Education, and the Department of Defense to prepare students earning terminal degrees in biomedical sciences.

One of the department's most recent initiatives is the IMARI Program. The acronym IMARI stands for Increasing Minority Admission into Research Institutions. This federally-funded NIH/RISE program is designed to ensure that talented and motivated minority students are prepared academically and scientifically for future professional careers in biomedical and behavioral sciences.

Participants in IMARI are given the opportunity to conduct summer research at the following schools: University of Cincinnati, Cleveland Clinic, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Virginia Tech, University of Texas at San Antonio, Loma Linda University, University of Pennsylvania, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Johns Hopkins University, and Mayo Clinic. During their eight- to 10-week experience, students carry out independent research projects under the guidance of a mentor. Kohrissa Joseph, a senior psychology major emphasized, "I know without a doubt that God strategically placed me at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill this summer. I gained lab skills, insight on what it would be like working as a clinician, which is my ultimate goal, and invaluable connections.



I am beyond grateful."

From November 11 to 14, 2015, 18 students in Oakwood University's IMARI program also attended the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) held in Seattle, Wash. ABRCMS is one of the largest professional conferences for underrepresented minority students. According to their website, ABRCMS attracts approximately 3,600 individuals, including 1,900 undergraduate and postbaccalaureate students; 400 graduate students and postdoctoral scientists; and 1,300 faculty, program directors, and administrators.

At the conference, the IMARI students were given the opportunity to give oral or poster presentations of their summer research. Over the years ABRCMS has invited accomplished individuals such as Maya Angelou, Ben Carson, M.D., and Nobel Prize winner Linda B. Buck, Ph.D. to give talks designed to inspire the young scientists. Students networked with other ABRCMS participants and more than 200 professional and graduate schools. Although there were thousands of ABRCMS attendees, representatives from educational institutions noticed a difference in the IMARI students and sought them out. For example, the faculty and administration from the University of Illinois at Chicago

(UIC) College of Medicine were so impressed with the poise and potential from the Oakwood students, they treated them to a meal and discussed the Ph.D. and M.D./Ph.D. programs offered at their school.

In true Oakwood fashion, students used this occasion to share their faith. Two students, Avery Blockmon and Lemuel Hackshaw, spent their Friday evening praying with local residents, conference attendees, and other bystanders in downtown Seattle. There were also more unique opportunities. The session for Amal Taylor, a previous ABRCMS winner, carried over into the Sabbath. He sought to use this as a witnessing opportunity. After leaving the session early, Taylor posted a sign that read, "I apologize for not being at my poster. I had to leave before sunset because I observe the Seventh-day Sabbath."

Whether they are in Seattle, Huntsville, or a summer program, IMARI students utilize their resources and intelligence to share their passion for biomedical research and Christ across the nation. The dedication these students radiate, coupled with the support provided by Randriamahefa and Oakwood University, ensures that their success is imminent and merited. 🙏

BY JOY GULLO AND AMAL TAYLOR

Legislative Event Opens Door for Spiritual, Professional Growth

This past November, 17 students from Southern Adventist University traveled to Tennessee's State Capitol Building in Nashville, and showed they have what it takes to stand out among their peers while standing up for their beliefs.

The Southern group joined 400 students from more than 40 other universities for the 46th General Assembly of the Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature (TISL), a mock state government designed to provide students with hands-on experience in law. The annual event transforms students into delegates, and gives them a chance to debate bills, pass laws, lobby, and argue court cases.

"TISL is one of the most valuable extracurricular experiences I've had in my time here," said Christina Angel, a junior history major whose involvement in the organization has led her to meet the Governor of Tennessee, the State Treasurer, and multiple senators and representatives. "It provides tangible experience that helps you transition from college into the professional world."

Until three years ago, Southern students were unable to participate in the proceedings due to Sabbath conflicts. Delegates were required to attend every single vote,

and since some of the votes were held on Saturday, Southern was forced to leave its hat out of the ring. That changed in 2012 when an alumnus serving as TISL Secretary of State suggested the organization amend its constitution so Southern delegates would be able to miss Saturday votes without penalty.

Although delegates from Southern have since been able to participate in TISL, Sabbath conflicts are far from over. One of TISL's most competitive components is the Appellate Moot Court Collegiate Challenge (AMC3), a tournament-style program where teams argue legal cases with their peers. The first part of the finals is held on Saturday, and because the competition is based on elimination, no exceptions can be made. Southern's students have advanced to the semi-finals each of the last three years before forfeiting the next round in order to honor the Sabbath.

"The students view this as a form of witnessing," said Kris Erskine, associate professor in the History and Political Studies Department. "AMC3 is important to them, but they want to make it clear that their religious beliefs are more important!"

Although Southern students have only been attending TISL for three years, they



Southern student Hayden Palm leads a discussion during Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature. A bill he introduced was passed during the event and will be seen by Governor Haslam.

have already begun to make an impact. During November's session, junior history major Lauren Waegle became the first Southern student selected to serve on the TISL Supreme Court. In addition, two Southern students, sophomore marketing major Victor DeRose and junior financial management major Hayden Palm, had bills they wrote passed during the event. Laws passed during TISL are presented to the actual governor of Tennessee, who has the option of introducing them to the Tennessee General Assembly. Many have gone on to become state laws.

"The thought that legislation we wrote has a chance to impact our state made all the hard work worth it," DeRose said. ❶

BY MYRON MADDEN

Bietz to Kick Off SAU Centennial Celebration of Move

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Southern's move to Collegedale from nearby Graysville, Tenn., where the University was founded in 1892. To celebrate this milestone, Gordon Bietz, president, will share a presentation about the history and value of Adventist education — including Southern's important role both in the past and moving forward — on March 17 at 11 a.m. in the Iles P.E. Center.

"The significance of the move cannot

be overstated," said Ben McArthur, professor in Southern's History and Political Studies Department. "The limited grounds of the Graysville campus and the village's out-of-the-way location had contributed to the school's failure to thrive. The new location offered much more, not to mention being located right on a main thoroughfare of the railway. During this same transition time, what had been Southern Training School became Southern Junior College

of Collegedale. The institution was beginning its decades-long transformation into the doctorate-granting Southern Adventist University."

The convocation presentation, Bietz's last before retiring in May, is open to the public and may also be viewed live online at www.southern.edu/streaming. ❶

BY STAFF REPORT

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MAXSON, PASTOR GLEN ELWYN, 95, born to missionary parents in Puigari, Argentina on Dec. 22, 1919, fell asleep on Sept. 23, 2015 to await the trumpet call of his Savior.

He served in the Navy during World War II in the South Pacific Theater as a pharmacist mate on a seaplane tender being involved in three major offensives, and stayed on his ship for 18 consecutive months without docking.

He served his Lord as a pastor and missionary in Central and South America for 29 years. He returned to participate in the care of his aging mother-in-law, and moved his services to Canada and then to the Carolinas as associate stewardship director, and later he became director. He was a member and former pastor of the Columbia First Church in Columbia, SC.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Veda Maxson; parents, Orestes and Audrey Maxson; three brothers; and one sister. He is survived by his wife, Faye Harmon Maxson; two sons: David and Ben Maxson; and one daughter, Glenda Davidson and their spouses; two step-sons: John and Joe Harmon; and two step-daughters: Dixie Ricard and Rita Ballington and their spouses; many grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

ALLEN, CLARENCE B., 90, born May 20, 1925 in Spring Hill, TN, died Dec. 24, 2015 in Longwood, FL. He was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, for 55 years. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Lois; two daughters: Kathy (David) Riesen of Longwood, and Lynn (Richard) Ross of Apopka; two brothers: Fred of Arizona, and Emmett (Carolyn) of Apopka; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Floyd Powell at the National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.

BASKIN, CHARLES RICHARD, 89, born March 6, 1926 in Houston, TX, to the late Charles Todd and Elizabeth Heilig Baskin, died July 29, 2015. He was a retired civil engineer and physical scientist. He served with the U.S. Army from 1944 to 1947, and was a prisoner of war captured by the Germans at Gamsheim near the Rhine River in the vicinity of Salzburg on Jan. 6, 1945. He was taken to Stalag III – a huge prison camp at Luckenwalde Germany, 34 miles south of Berlin. He was liberated by the Russian Army on May 12, 1945 having lost 40 pounds. He holds a Combat Infantry Badge, and was a member of the American Ex-POW's. Baskin received a B.S.C.E. degree from Louisiana State University. He began his career working at the City/Parish Department of Public Works in Baton Rouge, and the City of Plaquemine, LA, from 1953 to 1958. In the fall of 1958 he embarked on a 25 year career with the State of Texas. He worked for four major water agencies becoming chief engineer of the Texas Water Development Board in 1965. During service with the state government, he was chairman of the Texas Mapping Advisory Committee for 15 years and chairman of the Texas Natural Resources Information

Task Force for 11 years. After retiring from state government in 1983 he commenced work for the U.S. Geological Survey; based at the National Center of the Survey in Reston, VA. He retired from the U.S. Geological Services in 1992. Honorary distinctions include: commissioned as an admiral with the Texas Navy in 1961; recipient of the John Wesley Powell Award from the U.S.G.S. in 1972; was a member of the Chi Epsilon, Tau Beta Pi and Phi Kappa Phi. He joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1954, and served as an elder. He was a member of the Columbia First Church. After retiring in late 1992, he and his wife, Peggy, moved to Asheville, NC, and in mid-1996 they moved to Columbia to be near their family. He is survived by his son, Richard K. (Gayle) Baskin of Charlotte, NC; daughter, Sheila (Woody) Kelly of Elgin; grandchildren, Sarah C. Kelly, Maria C. Kelly, Katy L. (Jordan) Douglas, Kelly R. Baskin, and R. Carson Baskin; and one sister, Mary McDonald of Monroe, LA. He was predeceased by his wife, Peggy H. Baskin. The family wish to thank Amedisys Hospice and a special thank you to his caregivers, Greg Balaam, Delaney Martin, Elmer Thomas, Mario Harrison, Eddie Howard of Retire Ease Senior Services, and Cathy Jeffcoat. Dunbar Funeral Home Northeast Chapel managed the funeral service with burial following at Fort Jackson National Cemetery with full military honors.

BECKER, AUDREY MAE, 84, born July 9, 1931 in Bennett, CO, died Nov. 30, 2015 in Apopka, FL. She was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, for seven years. She is survived by two sons: Mark (Becky) of Apopka, and Stacey Becker of Ardmore, OK; two brothers: Alvin (Betty) Young of Bennett, CO, and Arnold (Bet-

ty) Young of Arkansas; one sister, Betty Harney of Strasburg, CO; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. The service was conducted by Pastor Danny Hernandez at Olinger Chapel Hill in Centennial, CO. Interment is at the Olinger Chapel Hill Cemetery in Centennial.

BROWN, NOEL A., 82, born Jan. 28, 1933 in Kingston, Jamaica, WI, died Oct. 3, 2015 in Ocala, FL. He was a member of the Silver Springs Shores Church in Ocala. He is survived by his wife, Gertrude; one daughter, Jacqueline of Ocala; three daughters; and one great-granddaughter.

CARNEY, THOMAS EDWARD, 96, born July 23, 1919, died Aug. 17, 2015 in Columbia, SC. He proudly served his country during WWII in the U.S. Army. He was a member of the Columbia First Church. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Beulah Martin Carney; one daughter, Irene (Jim) McLaughlin of Orlando, FL; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

DIXON, WESLEY, 67, born Jan. 24, 1948, died July 28, 2015.

EATON, MARION JANE, 89, born March 28, 1926, died Dec. 8, 2015 in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. She was a member of the Fletcher, NC, Church. Her occupations were that of a seamstress and tailor. She was preceded in death by her parents: Carol Ronning and Isabel Greenhow; and two children: Mardell Love of North Carolina, and Dale Peterson of Minnesota. She is survived by her two sons: Maynard Peterson and Marshall Peterson of Minnesota; one daughter, Rebecca Eaton of North Carolina; 16 grandchildren; and 27 great-grandchildren.

FARRAR, RAYMOND MARSHALL, 67, born Jan. 19, 1948 in Rumford, ME, died Oct. 19, 2015 in Springfield, TN. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1968 to 1972 as an aviation inertial radar navigation system specialist, and was stationed at Korat Air Force Base in Thailand, eventually achieving the rank of sergeant. After moving to the Nashville area, he worked at Madison Hospital. During that time, he attended evangelistic meetings conducted by Kenneth Cox, and accepted Jesus as his personal Savior and joined the Church. He married Margaret Mustow in 1978. Later he enrolled in the physical therapy assistant program at Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin, TN, and graduated with an Associate of Applied Science degree. He served in his profession for 35 years. He was a faithful member of the Ridgetop, TN, Church. He was preceded in death by his parents, Richard Holman and Phyllis Farrar. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Mustow Farrar; one son, Geoffrey Farrar; one daughter, Gillian Farrar; one brother, Dick (Christine) Farrar; and one sister, Elaine (Bobby) Turgeon.

FOREMAN, JEAN P., 83, born Feb. 12, 1932 in Lubbock TX, died Nov. 22, 2015 in Asheville, NC. She was a member of the Fletcher, NC, Church. She loved to cook and enjoyed making crafts. She is survived by her daughters: Suzan Wilson of West VA, Jeannine Simmons (Larry) of SC, and Pamela (Mark) Wright of Asheville, NC; one brother, Virgil Prindle, and his four children of Fairview; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents: Ralph Virgil and Margaret Knight Prindle; and her husband of 63 years, Lewis Foreman.

GRAVES, BETTE JEAN, 78, born April 21, 1937 in Saint Louis, MO, died Sept. 9, 2015 peacefully in her apartment. Her death was unexpected, yet one to be envious of because she was healthy and energetically involved in many activities and plans. Active in the role of a pastor's wife for more than 35 years, her hope in salvation was that the next face she'll see is her Lord and Savior at the Second Advent, returning to take His children to glory. Her memorial service was held Sept. 12, 2015, in the Gospel Chapel of the Collegedale Church in Collegedale, TN. She is survived by her sister, Mary Cox; one daughter,

Kimberly Grace (Verlon) Maize; one son, James Y. (Patricia) Graves; and three grandchildren: First Lieutenant James, Drew, and Grace. She was the daughter of the late Clara Miller and Wick Seeba; and wife of the late Pastor Jimmie Graves.

HALLMAN, GLEN, 83, born Sept. 2, 1931 in Salley, SC, died Feb. 17, 2016 in Gaston County. He was a member of the Columbia First Church. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Bolin Hallman; six children; 13 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; five brothers; and sisters. He was preceded in death by two sisters; one brother; and one granddaughter.

HILL, MELINDA RUTH SUTTON, 47, born March 27, 1968 in Madison, TN, died Sept. 15, 2015 in Goodlettsville, TN. She graduated from Southern Adventist University with an associate of science degree in nursing in 1988. She then served as a student missionary on the island of Ebeye in the Marshall Islands where she met her future husband, David Hill. After returning to the States, she attended Weimar College and graduated with a bachelor of science degree in health ministries in 1991. She and David married in 1992, and returned to the mission school in Ebeye where they served five more years. Melinda was an active member of the Ridgetop, TN, Church, where her talents blessed the church in many areas including children's ministries, music, mission outreach, and hospitality. She is survived by her husband, David; two children: Jonathan and Kathryn Hill; her parents: Richard and Patricia Sutton; two brothers: Michael and Martin Sutton; parents-in-law: Glenn and Mary Alice Hill; brother-in-law, Glenn (Debbie) Hill; sister-in-law, Lucinda (Lee) Spencer; a host of other relatives; and friends.

JENNINGS, LINDA BIRLEAN, 58, born Sept. 9, 1957 in Augusta, GA, died Sept. 26, 2015 at her home surrounded by loved ones in Collegedale, TN. She married Bill Jennings on May 25, 2014 in Collegedale. She was a devout Christian and went on multiple mission trips to Ecuador to administer foot care and help build churches. She had a master's degree in outdoor education and was a teacher for 10 years in Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee. She is survived by her husband, Billy R. Jen-

nings; her father, Randel Forest Dodd; her mother, Annie B. Meeks; three children: Brandon Neutzling, Christi L. Blankenship, and Mary Anne Jennings; and one brother. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Julie Nicholas, and one brother. A celebration of her life was conducted Sept. 30, 2015 at the Collegedale Church with Pastor Tim Cross officiating.

LOPARDO, AUDREY, L., 76, born June 16, 1939 in Montserrat, West Indies, died Sept. 23, 2015 in New Port Richey, FL. She was a member of the New Port Richey Church for 13 years. She is survived by three daughters: Jillian, Jacqueline, and Jeanie of Staten Island, NY; one brother, Edson Buntin of Antigua, West Indies; four sisters: Mariel Kelly, Liniel Ambrose, Leona Midgette, and Dr. Delpha Charles; and three grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Glenn Aguirre at the New Port Richey Church. Interment was at Meadowlawn in New Port Richey.

MOORHEAD, JOHN E., 95, born Feb. 14, 1920 in New York, NY, died Dec. 30, 2015 in Altamonte Springs, FL. He was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, for 15 years. He was employed by the Review & Herald Publishing Association in Washington, D.C. for 36 years (1936-1972), serving as treasurer and then assistant general manager at his retirement. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Areta.

SMITHEY, GERALD C., 75, died Oct. 17, 2015 after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. He was a member of the Memphis, TN, First Church. He is survived by his loving wife, Bonita Smithey; one son, Wesley Smithey; three daughters: Darla Hindmon, Samantha and Nicole Smithey; one sister, Joyce Duncan; one brother, Bobby Smithey; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents: Robert and Vallie Smithey; two sisters: Barbara Smithey and Betty DeShazo.

TATE, WINFORD "BILL," 87, born Sept. 5, 1927 in Rome, GA, died July 8, 2015 at a local healthcare facility in Chattanooga, TN. He was the second oldest of six children. He graduated from Collegedale Academy and then Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) in Collegedale. He met his wife, Vir-

ginia, known by most as “Nancy,” when he went on a road trip from Tennessee to southern California. He and Nancy married at La Sierra College in Riverside, CA in 1949. He served stateside in the Army during the Korean War, and was based in San Antonio TX. Following the war, he attended and graduated from nursing school followed by anesthesia school. He worked as an anesthetist for 27 years at various regional hospitals. He was an active member of the Collegedale Church, Summerville Church, and most recently the Standifer Gap Church. He served in various capacities in all three churches, including usher, elder/head elder, deacon/head deacon, Sabbath School superintendent, Sabbath School teacher, music ministries, personal ministries leader, and church board member. He had a passion for helping others which he showed through his volunteer work and generosity. He was a strong advocate for education. He was an avid gardener, collector of antique cars, and loved to travel, domestically and internationally. In later years, he became a talented bread-maker which was appreciated by family, friends, and fellow church members. He is survived by his wife, Virginia; their children: Louise, Mike, and Gayle; three siblings: Geraldine, Betty, and Carl; and his extended, loving family. He was preceded in death by his parents: Marvin and Mary Tate; and two sisters: Edythe Watters and Vera Minton. The funeral service was held July 12, 2015 at Heritage Funeral Home in Chattanooga. A military graveside service followed at Collegedale Memorial Park.

THURMON, JIMMIE JOAN GOOD-BRAKE, 88, of Taylorsville, born Oct. 28, 1926 in Hutchinson, KS, died Oct. 13, 2015 at the Atlanta VA Health Care System. She was the daughter of the late John Goodbrake Sr. and Sarah Rexrod Goodbrake. She was an active member of the Cartersville, GA, Church. She was very involved in her community and enjoyed hiking. She is survived by her children: Jack Thurmon, Stanley (Carol) Thurmon, and Marsh Davie; six grandchildren: Todd Thurmon, Tracy Boulton, Wendy Paterson, Tina Green, Jared Thurmon, and Brittney Thurmon Nieto; five great-grandchildren: Austin, Jessica, Dustin, Carson, and Tyler; one daughter-in-law, Melonie Thurmon; and one sister, Penny Howe. In

addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Scott Thurmon, and her husband, Glen Purdan. Funeral services were held Oct. 24, 2015 at Cartersville Church, with Pastor Frank Sierra and Jared Thurmon officiating. Interment took place in the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton, GA.

UNTERSEHER, DENNIS DELMAR, 74, born Nov. 16, 1940 in Bowdon, ND, died July 29, 2015 at his home in Ooltewah, TN. He was the son of Albert and Alvina Unterseher. He graduated from high school in 1958, and on Oct. 16, 1960 he married Jeanne Hagel in Jamestown, ND. They made their home and farmed in the Bowdon area until 1998, when they moved to Mayville, ND. He worked part-time at Volla Farms until retirement late in 2013. He had been a resident of Ooltewah, TN, for 19 months after moving from Mayville. He loved visiting with friends and family, maintaining his home and yard, and bird watching. He enjoyed farming in North Dakota before retiring in 2013. He was a member and deacon of Adventist churches in Bowdon and Grand Forks, ND. Most recently, he was a member of Collegedale, TN, Church. Through the years, he participated in several church and school building projects in the United States and Mexico. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Jeanne Hagel Unterseher; two sons: Darin Unterseher of Bismarck, ND, and Craig (Molly) Unterseher of Philadelphia, PA; one sister, Marlene Page of Butte, MT; two brothers: Alden Unterseher of Lavoia, GA, and Arlo Unterseher of Bismarck. He was preceded in death by his father and mother; two sisters: Glynice Zielen and Karen Fike; and one brother, Loren Unterseher. A funeral service was held at the Grand Forks, ND, Church on Aug. 9, 2015. Interment followed at the Bowdon Seventh-day Adventist Cemetery.

WARD, LOUISE E., 89, born 1926, died Nov. 24, 2015. She was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, for 48 years. She is survived by two sons: Dennis (Theresa) of Maitland, and Michael (Felicia) of Apopka; one daughter, Patricia Manoucheri; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Her husband of 69 years passed away on Nov. 23, 2014. The memorial service was conducted by Pastor Barbara McCoy at the Florida Hospital Church.

WEISS, TITO W., 81, born June 17, 1934 in Libertador, San Martin, Argentina, died Aug. 13, 2015 in Altamonte Springs, FL. He was a member of Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, for 10 years. He was a financial officer for the Adventist Health System for more than 37 years. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Barbara; two daughters: Dilma Clements of Apopka, and Silvia McCray of Chattanooga, TN; two brothers: Arturo (Evelyn) Weiss of Libertador, San Martin, Argentina, and Edward Weiss of Loma Linda, CA; and three grandchildren. The memorial service was conducted at Forest Lake Church by Pastor Geoff Paterson.

WILKINS, BILLY, 87, born June 11, 1928, died Nov. 9, 2015. He was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and a member of Louisville First Church in Louisville, KY. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Mary Wilkins; two daughters: Kathy (Mike) Hartness and Mindy Wilkins; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

YOUNG, EDWIN “ED,” 74, died Oct. 6, 2015 at home in Ooltewah, TN, after an extended illness. He was born and raised in Natchez, MS. His wife, Pat, was his childhood sweetheart, and Ed was especially chosen by Pat’s mom. He was devoted to his church, and enjoyed greeting and singing in the choir. He also enjoyed being an elder and a deacon at the Ooltewah Church. While living in Natchez, he attended the small church where, on some occasions, he was even called to preach. Although he never liked to speak up front, he always carried a sermon in the back of his Bible: the Second Coming. He loved working in Pat’s kindergarten Sabbath School class and was known as the “light man” and “voice of God,” whenever they did the Creation story. He loved children. He always loved to laugh and see friends. A neighbor could hardly venture into their yard without him going out to visit with them. He loved people and never met a stranger. He was a devoted husband and father. Service was held at the Ooltewah Church with interment at the Collegedale, TN, Cemetery. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Pat; and one daughter, Kristin Young. 🕊

I came so that they may **have** and **enjoy** life, and have it in **abundance**.

— John 10:10

A close-up photograph of a middle-aged man with grey hair, wearing a tan baseball cap and a red and blue plaid shirt. He is smiling warmly at the camera, with his hands clasped in front of him. In the foreground, a wire basket filled with bright green apples is visible. The background is softly blurred, showing more produce and a red container.

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VERY NICE 2.5 ACRES of quiet, peaceful, wooded land 6 miles from SAU and 1.5 miles from the Ooltewah SDA church, with building site and utilities approved. Needs entrance road. Beautiful 3,000 foot house plans free. Original cost \$20,000, price negotiable, \$13,000. Contact Lamar, 423-827-9801. [2]

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SMOKEY MOUNTAIN PROPERTY - Sale: 20.72 beautiful acres near Franklin, North Carolina. Guest house, year round stream feeding a half acre lake. Lawn, meadow and forest with walking trail. Church nearby. Asking \$198,000. Photos available. 423-280-7925. [2]

CUSTOM SMOKEY MOUNTAIN STONE HOME on 13+ acres, 17 miles from Maryville, 100 miles from Collegedale. Year round spring-fed stream flows below great room under insulated 8'x16' glass floor providing endless water for home, water fall, and 1 1/4 acre garden/orchard. 5 bed, 4 bath, cathedral ceiling, huge stone fireplace, walk-in cooler. Pictures: Google 6850 Happy Valley Rd. 251-233-1331. [2-4]

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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.* [2]

PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM: Southern Adventist University is starting a new program to educate aspiring Physical Therapy Assistants, with the first class to begin in August 2017 and welcomes applicants to submit their resumes for review beginning November 1, 2015. The initial task for the Program Director will be to set up a program and facilities in harmony with the standards set out by Commissions on Accreditation in physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) and seeking accreditation from CAPTE. The Program Director will function both as a leader of the program and professor. Additional responsibilities include: develop curriculum framework and instructional materials, advising of students, evaluation of students and administration of selection process, and compile materials for CAPTE accreditation program. Qualifications: Graduate degree in physical therapy with current TN license or eligibility as a PT or PTA. Minimum 5 years of clinical and teaching experience in a CAPTE accredited program, with experience in administration in a variety of teaching areas (academic, clinical, in-service, continuing ed, community ed). Must be an SDA church member in regular standing. Submit cover letter including statement of teaching philosophy and research interest, curriculum vita, and unofficial transcripts (showing the physical therapy education) to Dr. Volker Henning, Associate VP for Academic Administration. Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370 Collegedale, TN 37315. *henning@southern.edu, 423-236-2912.* [2]

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY is looking to fill several full-time tenure-track faculty positions in the areas of **Educational Psychology, English Education/Children's Literature, Industrial Design, Nineteenth Century British**

Literature, Research Services Librarian, Music, Psychology, and Social Work. For a detailed description of each position and to apply, please visit: <http://jobs.wallawalla.edu> [2]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **Development Director**. Responsibilities include fundraising, special events and donor recognition. Exceptional communication skills are essential. Bachelor's degree and previous fundraising experience required. *Submit cover letter and CV/resume to Human Resources at denise.rivera@swau.edu* [2-4]

VICE CHAIR OF ONLINE NURSING - Adventist University of Health Sciences seeks a Vice Chair for the Online Nursing Program, responsible for supervising clinical students in the clinical environment, managing the educational process, and driving the program's initiatives forward to achieve positive outcomes. The ideal candidate must have an active state nursing license, a doctorate degree and at least four years of effective college-level work in the area of academic or professional expertise. *Please send your resume to Fred.Stephens@adu.edu* [2]

DIRECTOR OF ENROLLMENT - Adventist University of Health Sciences seeks a Director of Enrollment, responsible for all undergraduate General Studies admission and will also oversee all recruiting and international student operations. Candidate must have experience in strategic planning. Qualified candidates are required to have a Bachelor's degree and a minimum of five years of proven higher education leadership concentrated in recruitment, admissions, or enrollment. *Please send your resume to Fred.Stephens@adu.edu* [2]

ASSOCIATE CHAPLAIN - Adventist University of Health Sciences seeks an Associate Chaplain, responsible for providing spiritual care to students, staff, and faculty. The ideal candidate will foster a sense of mission that will enhance our culture and lead students to build a deeper relationship with God. A Master of Divinity degree is preferred. *Please send your resume to Fred.Stephens@adu.edu* [2]

UNION COLLEGE seeks **Vice President for Student Services** beginning in July 2016. The VPSS leads out in the vision, strategy, and execution of the college's student services goals. Qualified SDA candidate will be student-centered and an experienced leader in higher education. See <https://www.ucollege.edu/staff-openings>. *Send resume to Dr. Vinita Sauder, visauder@ucollege.edu* [2, 3]

OUCHITA HILLS COLLEGE is accepting applications for the following positions: **Construction Manager, Auto Mechanic,**

Food Service Assistant and College English Instructor. Our website is www.ohc.org. Contact Magda Rodriguez at info@ohc.org or call 870-342-6210 ext. 223 for more information. [2, 3]

ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM is seeking a **Summer Associate** to work in their Corporate Legal department for at least six weeks in 2016. Candidate must be in top 25% of class. Interest/experience in healthcare industry preferred, but not required. Duties include legal research and other projects, totaling 40 hours per week. Pay is \$20 - \$25 per hour; reasonable relocation expenses will be reimbursed. *Please send transcript and resume to Manuela. asaftei@ahss.org* [2]

COUNTRY LIFE Natural Food Store and Vegan Restaurant currently has staff positions available in the health food store and restaurant. Experience preferred. Join a health ministry that has been serving Columbus, GA for 46 years. *For more information, call 706-323-9144, or go to ucheeppines.org for application.* [2]

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS Office Of General Counsel is seeking a law student for an 8-10 week **summer clerkship** in 2016. This position is not a full time hire track position and would best be suited for 1Ls. Ideal candidates would be in the top 25% of their class. Duties will include legal research and other projects with an emphasis on religious liberty and First Amendment work. It is the policy of the GC to hire only SDA church members. *Please send resume, writing sample and transcript to Karnik Doukmetzian at Karnikd@gc.adventist.org* [2, 3]

PLANT SERVICES DIRECTOR: Shenandoah Valley Academy, New Market, VA, is seeking a person to be the **Director of Plant Services**. This person will be responsible for the maintenance of our campus facilities, grounds, and an active transportation department. The Director must have strengths in organization and project management, and enjoy being around teenagers. The successful candidate will have a trade knowledge of HVAC, electrical, mechanics, plumbing, and vehicle repairs. SVA uses local contractors to assist Plant Services personnel when necessary. Standard denominational salary and benefits are available. *Please send resumes to Principal Dale Twomley: dale.twomley@sva-va.com* [2]

NOW HIRING EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHERS to be based in Chengdu, China. Competitive salary package based on competence and experience. Native English speaker, hold a Bachelor's degree, preferably with early


MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

ADVENTIST SATELLITE SYSTEMS - For sales & installation in the Atlanta area, call *Kaz Sannocki, 404-791-3093*. Now accepting Visa and MC. [2]

BUTLER CREEK HEALTH CENTER Victorious Living Seminar: A live-in lifestyle change program for those seeking victory over depression, stress, smoking, alcohol, drug related dependencies, and lifestyle diseases. Included are hydrotherapy treatments, personal one-on-one counseling, cooking class-

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NEW TESTAMENT ALIVE TOUR June 1-12, 2016: Rome, Greece, Patmos, Turkey. Coliseum, Catacombs, Mamertine Prison, Vatican, Corinth, Athens, Mars Hill, Revelation's Seven Churches, and ferry to Patmos. Co-led by Southern Adventist University Professors Andy Nash and Greg King, Dean of the School of Religion. \$2150 plus flight. Email andynash5@gmail.com. (Israel tour June 12-22 also available!) [2]



SUNSET

	FEB. 12	FEB. 19	FEB. 26	MAR. 4	MAR. 11	MAR. 18
ATLANTA, GA	6:19	6:25	6:31	6:37	6:43	7:48
CHARLESTON, SC	6:02	6:08	6:14	6:20	6:25	7:30
CHARLOTTE, NC	6:02	6:09	6:16	6:22	6:28	7:34
COLLEGE DALE, TN	6:21	6:27	6:34	6:39	6:46	7:52
HUNTSVILLE, AL	5:26	5:33	5:39	5:45	5:51	6:57
JACKSON, MS	5:43	5:49	5:55	6:01	6:06	7:11
LOUISVILLE, KY	6:18	6:25	6:33	6:40	6:47	7:54
MEMPHIS, TN	5:39	5:46	5:53	5:59	6:05	7:11
MIAMI, FL	6:12	6:16	6:21	6:24	6:28	7:31
MONTGOMERY, AL	5:28	5:34	5:40	5:45	5:51	6:56
NASHVILLE, TN	5:25	5:32	5:39	5:45	5:52	6:58
ORLANDO, FL	6:13	6:18	6:23	6:28	6:32	7:36
WILMINGTON, NC	5:52	5:59	6:05	6:11	6:17	7:22

April 7-10, 2016 Cohutta Springs Conference Center

IN SEASON ^{AND}_{OUT} OF SEASON

2 Timothy 4:2



2016 SPRING CONFERENCE

Registration begins at **4:00 pm** at the **Cohutta Lobby** and the first meeting is with the main speaker - **Ty Gibson** and his first speaking appointment is at **7:00 pm on Thursday**.

We will have **mini-concerts, testimonies, great break-out sessions, round table topics, recreation, panel discussions and spiritual enrichment**.

Please note that everything isn't over until **Sunday at 2 pm** with a **Family Fun day, outreach and evangelistic effort** with **all ASI members** involved.

Registration for the ASI Convention does not include lodging. **Lodging reservations must be made directly by telephone with Cohutta Springs Conference Center.** No online reservations are available.

Cohutta Springs Conference Center

1175 Cohutta Springs Rd
Crandall, GA 30744
(706) 695-9093 or (800) 940-6789
sales@cohuttasprings.com
www.cohuttasprings.com

You may also contact **Elaine Cash** directly for your reservations:
(706) 422-4106
ecash@gccsda.com



Ty Gibson

Co-director of Light Bearers &
pastor of Storyline Adventist Church
in Eugene, Oregon.

April 7-10, 2016

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Legal Notice Special Meeting of Members

Notice is hereby officially given that the quinquennial meeting of the members of Oakwood University Inc., a Corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the state of Alabama, will be convened in the McKee Business and Technology Building Auditorium, on the Oakwood University campus, 7000 Adventist Blvd. NW, Huntsville, Alabama, 35896, on Sunday, April 17 at 8:00 a.m. (CDT) for the transaction of business that will come before the Corporation. The purpose of the meeting is to receive reports, approve amendments to the Articles and Bylaws of the Corporation and to transact other matters related thereto.

Dan Jackson, Chairman
Leslie N. Pollard, Secretary

Legal Notices

The Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the 32nd regular constituency session of the Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the Alabama State University in Montgomery, Alabama, on Sunday, April 10, 2016, at 10:00 A.M. The Organizing Committee will meet there on Sunday morning at 8:00 A.M. This constituency session is called for the purpose of electing its officers, its departmental directors, and the members of the Executive Committee for the next quinquennial term of five years. This meeting will also transact any other business that is warranted by the constitution of the Executive Committee. Each church is entitled to one (1) delegate for the church and one additional delegate for every 30 members or major fraction thereof. For the Organizing Committee, each church is entitled to one representative.

David O. Livermore, President
James Mangum, Executive Secretary
Brian Danese, Treasurer

The Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the 32nd regular constituency session of the Gulf States Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, a corporation, is called to meet at the Alabama State University in Montgomery, Alabama, on Sunday, April 10, 2016, at 10:00 A.M. The delegates of the Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will serve as the constituents of the corporation.

David O. Livermore, President
James Mangum, Executive Secretary
Brian Danese, Treasurer

"On Sunday morning, I wait for the time of your voice, telling us that Jesus is standing and knocking at our doors."

- Stephan, Listener in Ukraine

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MARCH 12, 2016

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 **ST**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BATTLEFIELD HOLLYWOOD - FEB. 5, 6. Dalton Church will be sponsoring "Battlefield Hollywood" at the Salem Baptist Church in Dalton, GA. Former Hollywood insider Scott Mayer will reveal different ways Satan uses the entertainment industry to infiltrate the mind. All are welcome to this free event, but parental discretion is advised. *Details available at BattlefieldHollywoodDalton.com.*

KEYS CAMP MEETING - FEB. 19-21. Speaker: Dr. Subodh Pandit. Theme: "Evidence Behind Truth." Sponsored by Key Largo and Marathon churches and WHNJ.org (95.7 FM). Contact Laura Saladino at Lcsaladino7@gmail.com for details and accommodations. Boy Scout Camp Sawyer, 33990 Overseas Highway, MM 34, Scout Key, FL 33043. Free to all!

MCDONALD ROAD PATHFINDERS REUNION - FEB. 27. Everyone who has been involved in McDonald Road Pathfinders is welcomed to attend the Sabbath church service and lunch. *Details: Pam Tuttle, 423-432-6014.*

OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY ALUMNI WEEK-END - MARCH 24-27. OU CELEBRATING 120

YEARS - 1896-2016. The OU family extends a warm invitation to all alumni and friends to attend this year's celebration. *Details: Visit www.oakwoodalumni.org.*

BASS MEMORIAL ACADEMY 2016 CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT - APRIL 1. It's an annual fundraiser for BMA and organized by the BMA Alumni Association. The tournament will be at the Canebrake Country Club in Hattiesburg, MS. *Details: David Crowson, 713-385-0863 or docrowson@aol.com for information about sponsorships and registration; or www.facebook.com/BMACharityGolfTournament/.*

LAURELBROOK ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEK-END - APRIL 1-3. Laurelbroad Campus, Dayton, TN. Honor classes: 1956, '61, '66, '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96, '01, '06, '11. Please update your mailing address and contact information: 423-775-9448, jean081246@gmail.com or alumni@laurelbroad.org.

STEVE GREEN CONCERT - APRIL 9. Dalton Church will host Steve Green in concert on Sabbath evening at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to this free event. Please join us as we close the Sabbath with worship to God in musical praise.

WALLA WALLA COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY SELECT (TOURING) CHOIR - APRIL 21-24.

If you sang in a Walla Walla College/University select (touring) choir, you are invited to attend the 50-Year Choral Reunion, featuring the Lickey years through the present, during WWC/WWU Homecoming. *For details/registration, access wallawalla.edu/touring_choir, [Facebook.com/WallaWallaUniversityMusic](https://www.facebook.com/WallaWallaUniversityMusic), music@wallawalla.edu or 1-509-527-2561.*

LA SIERRA ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEEND - APRIL 22, 23. LSA Campus. Please update your mailing address and contact info at JNelson@lsak12.com, 951-351-1445, x244. Honor classes: 1956, '66, '76, '86, '91, '96, '06, and pre-50 classes. *Details: www.lsak12.com.*

BROADVIEW ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION/BVA ALUMNI WEEEND - APRIL 30 & MAY 1. North Aurora Church, North Aurora, IL. All alumni are encouraged to attend. Honor classes: 1946, '56, '66, '76, '86, '91, '96, '06. There will be Friday night Vespers, Sabbath School, Church, lunch, and an afternoon music program. For communication purposes, WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESSES. *Send it to Ed Gutierrez, edjulie1@att.net; or call 630-232-9034. Checkout the BVA website.*

Fostering a Legacy

With a love for young people and a desire to foster their academic and spiritual development, Pastor Milton Young and his wife Ramona presented a substantial annuity and bequest to Oakwood University. These resources were used to establish nursing and ministerial student scholarships.

While Pastor Young and his wife have both passed, their love for young people will live on through the philanthropic legacy they have established.

- ▶ To learn how you can have your values live on, contact your local conference or university Planned Giving and Trust Services professional.



Carolina

Rick Hutchinson (704) 596-3200

Florida

Phil Bond (407) 644-5000

Georgia-Cumberland

Mitch Hazekamp (706) 629-7951

Gulf States

David Sigamani (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



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CAROLINA

ROMANCE AT THE RANCH – Feb. 12-14. NPR.
HISPANIC ROMANCE AT THE RANCH – Feb. 26-28. NPR.
ALIVE YOUTH RALLY – March 18, 19. Spartanburg, SC.
PATHFINDER WORK BEE – March 18-20. NPR.
MPA SA TALENT SHOW – March 26. MPA.
MUSIC FESTIVAL IN CAROLINA – March 31-April 2. MPA.

FLORIDA

COMPLETE CALENDAR ONLINE – www.floridaconference.com/calendar/youth/pathfinder/adventurer-events – Visit us online or call 407-644-5000 x2421.

www.floridaconference.com/iy/youth/
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FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE Feb. 28. Lauderhill, Plantation, Sunrise. (Southeastern Conference: Mt. Olivet.)

March 6. Silver Spring Shores, Ocala, Cross City, Perry, Tallahassee.

March 7. Belleview, North Lake, Lady Lake, Inverness.

March 13. Cocoa. Fort Pierce, Midport, West Palm Beach First. (Southeastern Conference: Palm Bay, Port St. Lucie.)

March 20. Winter Haven. Avon Park, Arcadia, Cape Coral, Fort Myers, Lehigh Acres, Naples.

March 21. Port Charlotte, North Port, Sarasota, Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.

March 27. Palm Coast, Palatka, St. Augustine, Orange Cove, Jacksonville First, Jacksonville Southpoint. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)

CATALYST CONNECT CONFERENCE – Feb. 26, 27. Inter-American Division office, 8100 SW 117th Ave., Miami. Friday: 6-9 p.m. Sabbath: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sponsored by Miami Temple Church. This missions and discipleship conference shares practical training to obey Jesus' command to go and make disciples. Adult and kids tracks available. Sabbath lunch provided. Speakers: Bonita Shields, General Conference Associate Director for Discipleship; Francini Reis, North American Division Children's Ministries Trainer; and Javier Diaz, Florida Conference Pastoral Ministries Field Associate. Cost: \$20. Details and registration: www.catalystconnectconference.com/

MEN'S MINISTRIES CONVENTION – March 18-20. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212 Ave., High Springs. Theme: Race to Win. Featured speakers: Everett Brown, Mike Cauley, Claudio Consuegra, John Earnhardt, Noel Rose. *Online registration: www.campkulaqua.com/*

122ND ANNUAL FLORIDA CAMP MEETING – April 7-10. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212 Ave., High Springs. Theme: Restore the Vision, Restore the Mission. Featured speaker: John Bradshaw. *Details and online registration for meals and accommodations: www.floridaconference.com/campmeeting/*

CAMPESTRE HISPANO – April 15-17. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212 Ave., High Springs. Featured speaker: Elizabeth Talbot. *Online registration for meals and accommodations: www.floridaconference.com/campmeeting/*

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES CONVENTION – Feb. 12-14. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

MASTER GUIDES' WINTER CAMP – Feb. 12-15. Cost \$270. Registration required. North Star Camp. Register at www.registration.gccsda.com. Brainerd, MN.

GCA ACROFEST – Feb. 13, 14. Georgia-Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA.

COLLEGEDALE ACADEMY DAY – Feb. 16. Collegedale, TN.

PRAYER CONFERENCE – Feb. 19-21. One Miracle After Another: The Pavel Goia Story. Early bird deadline (save \$10), Jan. 25. Final deadline, Feb. 4. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

PATHFINDER TEEN EVENT – Feb. 19-21. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

SHAREHIM HOMELAND LAY EVANGELISM TRAINING – Feb. 20, 21. Sabbath 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. Register by Feb. 1. Cost \$20. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.

WILL CLINICS – Feb. 20, Fayette GA, Church; Feb. 21, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Peachtree City, GA, Church; Feb. 21, 4-6 p.m. at Thomaston, GA, Church; Feb. 22, 4-6 p.m. at Pine Mountain Valley, GA, Church; Feb. 28, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Conyers, GA, Church.

CONNECT: ACF LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE – Feb. 26-28. Adventist Christian Fellowship, for young adults attending secular colleges and universities. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

PATHFINDER BIBLE EXPERIENCE – Feb. 27. Conference level.

ATLANTA ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI – Feb. 27. Atlanta Adventist Academy, Duluth, GA.

PERSONAL MINISTRIES RALLY – Feb. 27, 2-5 p.m. Atlanta Metro Church, Atlanta, GA.

HOW TO CONDUCT A REVERSING DIABETES SEMINAR TRAINING – Feb. 28, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wimlish Road Church, Macon, GA.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP TRAINING – March 4, 5. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.

HEALTH RALLY – March 5, 2-5 p.m. Cartersville, GA.

MASTER GUIDE BIBLE BOWL – March 12. Duluth, GA.

BOARD OF EDUCATION – March 17. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.

REGENERATE (YOUTH FESTIVAL) – March 19. Clarence Brown Conference Center, Cartersville, GA.

Some events require pre-registration; details at registration.gccsda.com.

GULF STATES

SABBATH SCHOOL TRAINING – Feb. 5-7. Camp Alamisco.

HISPANIC COUPLES RETREAT – Feb. 12-15.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Feb. 22, 10-11 a.m.

YOUTH RALLY BIRMINGHAM FIRST – Feb. 27.
BACKPACKING TEEN INVITATIONAL – March 4-7.

BASS MEMORIAL ACADEMY SPRING BREAK – March 7-11.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

CREATION HEALTH WORKSHOP – Feb. 9. Conference Office.

PATHFINDER 7-UP RETREAT – Feb. 19, 20.

HISPANIC PASTORS/ELDERS' RETREAT – March 4-6. Indian Creek Camp.

EASTERN KENTUCKY CAMP MEETING – March 11, 12. Prestonsburg, KY.

HIGHLAND ACADEMY BOARD – March 17. Highland Academy.

MUSIC FESTIVAL – March 17-19. Highland Academy.

CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – March 22. Conference Office.

MEMPHIS FESTIVAL OF FAITH – March 25, 26. Memphis First Church.

BOARD OF EDUCATION – April 7. Conference Office.

SEEDS CONFERENCE – April 15-17. Indian Creek Camp.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE SCHOOL FAIR – Feb. 24. Get face time with faculty and administrators running Southern's graduate school programs, some of which can be completed entirely online. The event lasts from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the university's Dining Hall. *For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit southern.edu/graduatestudies.*

ADVENTIST EDUCATION CONVOCATION – March 3. To honor the 100th anniversary of its move to Collegedale, Southern President Gordon Bietz will share a presentation about the history and value of Adventist education—including Southern's important role both in the past and moving forward—at 11 a.m. in the Iles P.E. Center. *The event may also be viewed live online at southern.edu/streaming.*

PREVIEWSSOUTHERN – March 24, 25. Students are invited to take a campus tour, discuss majors with professors, sit in on financial aid workshops, and enjoy a fun activity in Chattanooga. *For more information, call 1-800-SOUTHERN.*



Students are extraordinarily friendly, professors are exceptionally caring, and the whole campus is focused on Christ.

But don't just trust our word. Arrange your own free visit to Southern's campus, or join one of our special events.

See Southern for yourself.

Our next FREE* PreviewSouthern event:
March 24-26, 2016

*Includes free meals and lodging for students interested in attending Southern. Student families are encouraged to visit, too.

To arrange your visit, call **1.800.SOUTHERN**
or go to **southern.edu/enrollment**.


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