

TIDINGS



Southern



MARCH 2018

RESTORING HOPE AND WHOLENESS:

Happiness *Found in Healing*

BREAKING
THE CHAINS

FINDING
GOD'S CALLING

FLEXIN' THE
RIGHT ARM IN THE DELTA

Making Every Encounter a Spiritual Encounter



Terry Shaw

*President/CEO
Adventist Health System*

Guest Editorial

When God created the heavens and the Earth in all of their vast array, the world was perfect. Then He created the first two beings, in His very own image. These specimens were also perfect — mind, body, and spirit. I would have loved to have seen them. God was pleased with His creations.

But, it did not last long. Sin ruined this perfection. Once the apple was eaten, harmony was lost and a vicious cycle of sin, despair, falling out of favor with God, and praying for His return continued throughout the Bible's teachings — until the New Testament.

"The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth," John 1:9-14.

While He was here, Jesus spent most of His time healing. Jesus' miraculous healings had to be amazing. He preached, He taught, but He is recorded as healing more than anything else.

He healed people who were broken. He didn't care if they were good or religious. Every time you see God doing something in the New Testament, He is taking care of a physical need first. He gave people the opportunity to feel whole.

We are called to do the same every day, and that is the promise we aim to deliver every day to our consumers.

We are in a sin-filled world. It will probably get worse. It is our responsibility to reach people who are broken, and do something better or different to make them feel whole.

When we come to work every day at Adventist Health System, 80,000 team members have the privilege of providing a slice of health, hope, and healing to every person we come in contact with. That's why our mission of "Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ" cannot be contained in the four walls of our hospitals.

With 95 percent of our patient encounters taking place in our outpatient facilities — physician practices, labs, rehabilitation centers, and the like — we have to make every single encounter, wherever in our health system, a spiritual encounter.

We know from our Faith in Practice study and our own published research that a majority of providers are willing to assess the spiritual needs of patients, and that providers who receive training on how to engage patients on spirituality are twice as likely to regularly conduct spiritual assessments.

That is a great place to start. We will build on that this year through a major strategic initiative to deliver spiritual care to and through the lives of our employees, particularly in the outpatient setting. We are in the process of hiring clinical mission integration specialists. They will fulfill this mission strategy system-wide for all of our markets.

I believe this will be transformational for our company. But, more importantly, it will be transformational for the millions of patients who experience wholeness through Christ's healing ministry. What a privilege and responsibility we have to make sure every encounter is a spiritual encounter, every caregiver a spiritual caregiver. ❶

Volume 112, No. 3, March 2018

The *Southern Tidings* is the official publication of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

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

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

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM
Meghan Brescher Halley
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
Lisa Marie Esser
CAROLINA Rebecca Carpenter
FLORIDA Gladys Neigel
GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND
Tamara Wolcott Fisher
GULF STATES Shane Hochstetler
HISPANIC Mariel Lombardi
KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE Denise Pope
OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY
Kenn Dixon
SOUTH ATLANTIC
Carl McRoy
SOUTH CENTRAL
Roger R. Wade
SOUTHEASTERN
Christopher Thompson, D.Min.
SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY
Janell Hullquist

CONFERENCE/ INSTITUTION DIRECTORY

CAROLINA (704) 596-3200
P.O. Box 44270, Charlotte, NC 28215
FLORIDA (407) 644-5000
351 S. State Road 434, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714-3824
GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND (706) 629-7951
P.O. Box 12000, Calhoun, GA 30703-7001
GULF STATES (334) 272-7493
P.O. Box 240249, Montgomery, AL 36117
KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE (615) 859-1391
P.O. Box 1088, Goodlettsville, TN 37070-1088
SOUTH ATLANTIC (404) 792-0535
P.O. Box 1688, Decatur, GA 30031-1688
SOUTH CENTRAL (615) 226-6500
P.O. Box 24936, Nashville, TN 37202
SOUTHEASTERN (352) 735-3142
P.O. Box 1016, Mt. Dora, FL 32756-0056
ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM
(407) 357-2083
900 Hope Way, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES (800) 500-7747
671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803
OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY (256) 726-7000
7000 Adventist Blvd., Huntsville, AL 35896
SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY
(800) SOUTHERN
P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370

SOUTHERN TIDINGS | Volume 112

Number 3 | March 2018

Published monthly by the Southern Union.

Free to all members.

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



features

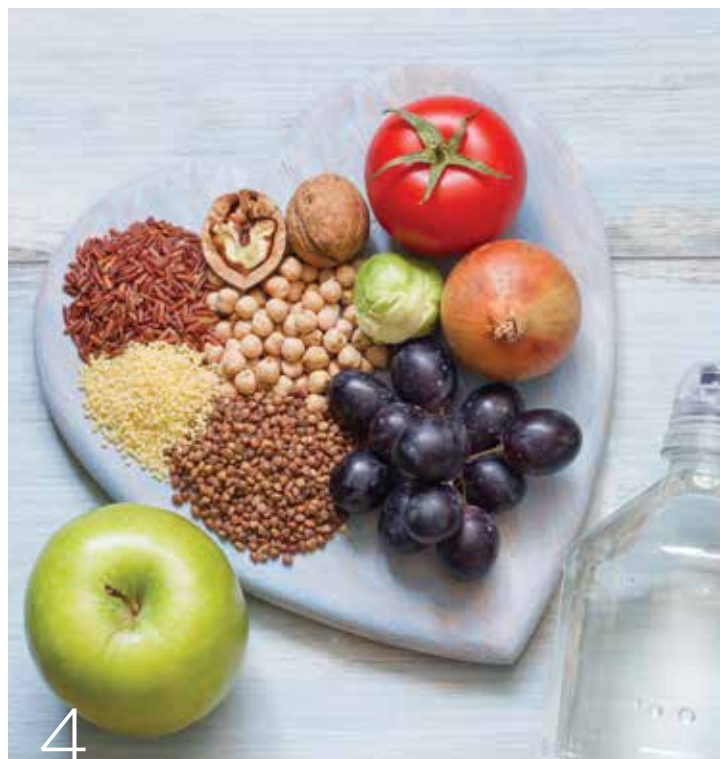
4
RESTORING HOPE AND
WHOLENESS:
HAPPINESS FOUND IN
HEALING

8
BREAKING THE CHAINS

9
FINDING GOD'S CALLING

10
FLEXIN' THE RIGHT ARM IN
THE DELTA

march 2018



news

- 11 ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY
OF HEALTH SCIENCES
- 12 ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM
- 14 CAROLINA
- 16 FLORIDA
- 18 GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND
- 20 GULF STATES
- 22 KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE
- 24 SOUTH CENTRAL
- 26 SOUTHEASTERN
- 28 SOUTH ATLANTIC
- 29 SOUTHERN ADVENTIST
UNIVERSITY
- 30 OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY
- 36 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
- 38 EVENTS CALENDAR
- 39 ANNOUNCEMENTS



FRONT COVER DESIGN: Licci Zemleduch

RESTORING HOPE AND WHOLENESS:

Happiness

Found in Healing



BY LYNELL LAMOUNTAIN

Hope and Wholeness in the Flesh

Jesus had a habit of going to places He shouldn't go and saying things He shouldn't say. He did what He shouldn't do and saw people He shouldn't see, especially on the Sabbath. Why? He cared more about their happiness than His own. He loved them.

Imparting hope and wholeness made Him smile; it was what He lived for. Making people happy made Him feel alive! Imparting eternal happiness made the daily grind of disapproval, and the sharp nails later on, worth it.

Christ's legacy stands for many things, but one in particular stands above all: He believed happiness is for everyone, even the sour legalists who hunted Him. He challenged their policies and disrupted their comfortable, miserable little lives in the sandbox. He was everything they were not — happy and alive. And, they

hated Him for it. But, nothing they did distracted Him from His mission of hope and wholeness.

It's About Happiness

Jesus wants people to be happy (Beatitudes). Still, talking about happiness makes certain Christians uncomfortable; they prefer we focus on joy. We theologians have added so many clarifiers and disclaimers to the word "happiness" that you need an aspirin and a magnifying glass to read the fine print.

Why so much hesitation about happiness? Is it because deep within we're unhappy? Do we believe happiness in this life is prohibited? Are we afraid of people becoming too happy in this world? Are we concerned they will abuse their right to be happy by living for the wrong things? Are we *postponing* our own hap-



piness for some far off day in the future?

Jesus was happy and cheerful. He gladly healed people so they could be happy, too. There is happiness in healing, and restoring hope and wholeness is a happy mission, *if* we trust Christ's and have faith in His method.

If Jesus truly abides in us, we will be happy on the inside and cheerful on the outside because He restores our hope and makes us whole.

Our very lives are a force for hope and healing! Because of His Spirit, our ministry is warm, cheerful, and inviting; we are outposts of grace in a grey, icy world.

By extending the healing ministry of Jesus Christ, we lead people to everlasting happiness. This is the role of health ministry. The result should be happier people who are whole in mind,

body, and soul. This is God's desire for us.

"Constantly and untiringly God is working for our happiness."¹

"He desired that the earth should be filled with joy and peace. He created man for happiness, and He longs to fill human hearts with the peace of heaven."²

The healing miracles of Jesus teach that we are not completely whole until we're completely happy. A favorite story is found in the book of Mark³; let's watch Jesus in action.

The Limestone Tombs of Gadara

The locals knew to avoid the area because it was the bad part of town, but Jesus went anyway. The graveyard was haunted by violence and death; hopelessness slithered over and around the bones. As Jesus walked along the seaside path, He gazed at the



limestone holes puncturing the hillside. They were tombs; some were sealed, others were open.

Jesus was in great need of rest and relaxation. He was so exhausted that He had slept through most of the storm last night on the sea before being roused by His disciples to do something. Three words were all it took, *peace be still*, and tranquility was restored.

Earlier, they had beached their boat a few yards back to find a place to rest before things got busy again, which would be sooner than they imagined. Jesus glanced at the tombs as they walked, knowing, *wanting* what was about to happen. A tender smile of amusement tugged at the corner of His lips.

Without warning, a ferocious man started running towards them, shrieking and screaming in terror, the sound of demons being burned alive in a cauldron of fire and brimstone.

He had matted hair, wild eyes, a grimy face, an infected soul; the foul stench of death clung to his beard that was sticky with blood. He was naked and his skin was covered with scabs and scars from cutting himself with sharp stones; pain was a companion that let him know he wasn't completely dead.

Although he was the legal owner of his mind, it was under the influence of another power. But, somewhere in the shadowy darkness, a flicker of choice stirred within. And, like a rabid bear foaming at the

mouth, he charged *toward* Jesus. The disciples were missing in action, having fled at the first shriek. Alone, Jesus remained; He didn't flinch. Last night the disciples saw Him tame a tempest, now they would see Him tame a man.

Jesus smelled the crazed animal long before it dropped to its knees in the dirt at His feet. He gazed into the glaring eyes of rebellion and saw a child, tortured and disfigured by the pit bulls of hell. It was a marvelous moment. Jesus smiled; his love embraced the demoniac from head to toe. His words of grace penetrated the ruins and broke the chains. He sent the demons packing, and restored the image of God within the man, making him whole and happy, granting him asylum in the family of God.

An unbelievable change came over the demoniac. His blood-smeared hands were calm, his mood was mild, and his expression was peaceful. He was free! His eyes were alive and his voice was filled with gladness as He thanked Jesus for the precious gift of abundant life.

Others had used chains and ankle irons to control the crazed fiend, but had failed in their efforts. He was a nuisance, a menace — a madman who put the community in harm's way, a threat to be taken care of before someone got hurt.

While others had tried to contain the graveyard monster with brute force, Jesus used a different method. He freed him. He

replaced satanic chaos with sacred calm, death with life, and misery with happiness. He saved his soul and saw to his immediate needs.

The man, formerly known as the Demoniac of the Gadarenes, ached to journey onward with Jesus, the One in whose presence he felt at home. But instead, he accepted Christ's commission to go tell others about what happened that marvelous day in the graveyard. He traveled throughout Decapolis telling people about the kindness and saving power of Jesus Christ. With earnest dignity and gladness, he lived out his mission.

The evidence of his transformation was irrefutable because it was undeniable. The people were amazed at the man who once danced with the dead; he was gone, along with his collection of skeletons. No more suffering, scars, or darkness, only light, life, and love.

How Much Do We Love People?

Darkness hunts us. It shoves us into the murky depths of scars and regrets where hopelessness abides. But, Jesus offers a different destiny. He reaches into the ruins and pushes the skeletons away, takes our hand and pulls us ever upward. He restores the image of God within us, making us whole and happy. All He asks in return is for us to share hope with others. We are to live out our mission as salt and light so

people can taste and see that God is good.

Christ's health message is a blueprint for happiness and vitality, a pathway to hope and wholeness. We are to go and share this wonderful message with the world.

It takes courage to leave our hermetically sealed sepulchers. But, we must go so we can bring.

You could become easily discouraged at what you find "out there," as well as by what you find back home in your church. Do not be afraid of the amount

of work that needs to be done, for it is Christ's work and He is not overwhelmed. And, don't be afraid of the spirit you might encounter back at church with its steely-eyed watchmen who are committed to guarding their traditions, or the potluck police and their cheeseometers. Press on and don't be deterred by the leaders and committees who preach health ministry is only worth our time and effort if it's a runway to the baptismal tank. Press on just as Jesus did and take the hill. Although He always wanted people to accept eternal life, He didn't "unheal" them when they said "no thank you." He kept healing and relieving human suffering even when the saints reduced His work to that of being little more than making "happy sinners."

We are on a mission to restore hope and wholeness, and to make people happy. "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."⁴

Christ took His time with people. He cared about their happiness more than His



own. He laid His life down for them by sacrificing His time and last breath. He relieved their suffering so they could be happy. He courted them into kingdom.

We are promised that if we trust Christ and have faith in HIS method, our labor will bear fruit because it will carry the blessing and power of the Holy Spirit.

What priority are we placing on health ministry and its *essential* role in fulfilling the Gospel Commission? Is it possible to complete the Gospel Commission without it? Is evangelism complete when it is missing? Without an intentional integration of health ministry, are our evangelism efforts and dollars maximized? We baptize thousands, but could we save hundreds from leaving by an effective integration of health ministry and discipleship, both of which are relationship focused.

The Spirit and Results of Health Ministry

If you ever wanted to see Jesus in action, this is what a day with Him looked like. The pen of inspiration paints a beautiful picture of Jesus and the Spirit of His work.

"Jesus worked unceasingly for the happiness of entire regions. Tidings of the work of Christ spread rapidly throughout Capernaum. For fear of the rabbis, the people dared not come for healing upon the Sabbath; but no sooner had the sun disappeared below the horizon than there was

a great commotion. From the homes, the shops, the market places, the inhabitants of the city pressed toward the humble dwelling that sheltered Jesus. The sick were brought upon couches, they came leaning upon staffs, or, supported by friends, they tottered feebly into the Savior's presence.

"Hour after hour they came and went; for none could know whether tomorrow would find the Healer still among them. Never before had Capernaum witnessed a day

like this. The air was filled with the voice of triumph and shouts of deliverance. The Savior was joyful in the joy He had awakened. As He witnessed the sufferings of those who had come to Him, His heart was stirred with sympathy, **and He rejoiced in His power to restore them to health and happiness** (emphasis added)."⁵

We might wonder how we can ever be like Christ. It starts with two things: prayer and a smile. A smile is the universal sign of love. And, if there's anything that will put a smile on your face, it is bringing hope and wholeness to your friends by extending the healing ministry of Christ so that they too may finally be *happy*. ☉

REFERENCES:

¹ *Signs of the Times*, January 2, 1901.

² *Christ's Object Lessons*, page 290.

³ Mark 5:1-20.

⁴ *Ministry of Healing*, pages 143-144.

⁵ *Desire of Ages*, page 252.



Lynell LaMountain
is the director of health ministries for the Southern Union Conference in Norcross, Georgia.

BREAKING THE CHAINS

BY ADONNA ADINO



Mark Reams, Forest Lake Church's pastor for youth ministries in Apopka, Florida, baptized Summer Anderson, a senior at Forest Lake Academy.

I felt new; I felt forgiven from everything," recalls Nia Forde, after her baptism. "In that moment, nothing else mattered. All my sins left me, and I was a new person."

Forde, along with five other Forest Lake Academy (FLA) students in Apopka, Florida, stood ready on Sabbath, October 14, 2017, to make a public declaration they had committed their lives to Jesus, and were striving to become more like Him. Each student made a decision to be baptized and be rededicated to Jesus Christ following a Week of Spiritual Emphasis at the Academy.

Ready to show their love of Christ

through baptism, one by one the six FLA students hopped into the campus swimming pool. Family and friends gathered around to support these young people in their decision.

Getting baptized is arguably one of the most important steps a young person can take in his or her personal walk with Christ — not necessarily getting dunked under the water, as anyone can do that. It is a time of publicly declaring that he or she is going to try to follow Jesus wholeheartedly, and resist the urges of sin.

"I just love it when the devil gets defeated," commented Sam Paschal, an FLA chaplain who was present at the baptism.



Six Forest Lake Academy students gave their hearts to the Lord on October 14, 2017, and were baptized in the campus swimming pool as friends and family shared in the special occasion.

"I get excited when I see a young person dedicate their life to Christ, because I get to personally witness God breaking the chains of the enemy."

Since August of 2015, more than 65 baptisms have taken place on the FLA campus. The school's mission is to encourage more young people to make the life-altering decision to follow Christ. ❶

Adonna Adino is a freshman student at Forest Lake Academy in Apopka, Florida.

FINDING GOD'S CALLING

BY NATALIE BOONSTRA

Aliana King found her career in modeling at the young age of 15. As a child growing up in Bermuda, she had struggled with self-confidence because kids made fun of her big, curly hair. Thus, King was surprised when a friend wanted her to enter a modeling competition in the Bermuda 2015 fashion week. At only 5-feet-4-inches tall, she was significantly shorter than the average model. However, during the fashion week, modeling agencies looked past her unconventional height and saw her confident smile and beautiful, natural curls. King's career took off quickly. At only 16 years old, she appeared on the cover of *Bermuda Fashion Festival*. She also did photo shoots for *Nylon Magazine* and *London Life Magazine*.

Then, in 2017, the Bank of Bermuda offered King a full-ride scholarship to any university of her choice.

"At first I wasn't certain because I knew there would be no time limit on attending college, but there would be on modeling," King said.

Eventually education won out, and as she explored her options, she was drawn to Southern Adventist University's beautiful campus and strong spiritual environment.

"I wanted to attend a college where I saw God's presence," said King, now a freshman at Southern. "I was looking for a relationship with God and a campus that would embrace me, and I've felt that here."

King is enjoying studying animation and graphic design, as well as dedicating her time to God through singing and playing piano on praise and worship teams.

"Southern is giving me all the tools I need to be successful," King said. "I know God is with me in my college experience."

More than a Job

It is common knowledge that college prepares students to find a job; yet, Southern digs deeper, recognizing the importance of



Photographers and modeling agents were drawn to Aliana King's striking looks, even at the age of 15.



Olympic ice skating teams considered Jade Deschamps before she decided to seek a medical career.

helping students identify God's calling in their lives. Rick Norskov, M.D., professor in the Biology Department, has spent the last semester researching the topic of God's calling in career. He explains that hearing and listening to God's calling is about finding meaning in your profession.

"Meaning is about using your talents and the work you like doing to focus on changing the world around you," Norskov said.

He emphasizes that God doesn't always use "burning bush experiences" to catch our attention — He uses the people around

us and everyday circumstances. Professors at Southern recognize this and integrate faith and learning into each class, tackling difficult topics from a Christ-centered perspective, and challenging students to think for themselves. They also make time for meaningful one-on-one conversations and prayer with their students, in addition to helping connect them to relevant internships and job opportunities.

A Higher Purpose

Jade Deschamps, senior biology pre-med major at Southern, also felt called to pursue her education instead of her early career. Deschamps began figure skating at 5 years old and spent hours every day perfecting her skill. Her efforts eventually led to being considered by Olympic teams. Yet, as the thrill of skating and the spotlight began to wane, Deschamps felt drawn to a higher purpose — improving lives as a medical doctor. After talking to friends and family and spending time with God through prayer, Deschamps made the decision to attend Southern.

"I had the opportunity to visit many schools like Duke and Yale, but I liked the campus at Southern the best," Deschamps said. "Plus, I could tell the professors really care about their students."

Deschamps appreciates the spiritual focus on campus, and fellowshiping with her peers at worship events. She is happy to have found friends and professors who strengthen her relationship with Jesus and push her to grow spiritually, even as she prepares academically to pursue medical school.

"I feel like God is working everything out," Deschamps said. "I'm glad He brought me to Southern." ●

Natalie Boonstra is a freshman public relations major at Southern Adventist University.

Flexin' the “RIGHT ARM” *in the Delta!*

BY CURTIS EAKINS



Paula Eakins' "Cooking on a Budget" cooking class culminated the Conference held at Ephesus Church in Greenville, Mississippi.



Shawn Moss (left), senior pastor at Ephesus Church in Greenville, Mississippi, stands with Curtis and Paula Eakins, South Central health ministries directors.



Individuals from seven towns and cities throughout west and central Mississippi attended the Health & Healing Conference.

When I saw the volume of individuals who attended the Washington County Convention Center in Greenville, Mississippi, I was floored with happiness,” said Shawn Moss, senior pastor of the Ephesus Church in Greenville, and Hollandale First Church in Hollandale, Mississippi. Through consistent, fervent prayer and effort, God truly opened up the avenues of publicity and ushered in individuals of diverse ethnic backgrounds, coming from cities and towns more than 40 miles away throughout the west and central parts of Mississippi, to attend the two-day Health & Healing Conference, January 20-21, 2018. The focus was on cardiovascular health, with an emphasis on normalizing blood pressure levels, using natural approaches to prevent and/or reverse heart disease and strokes, and utilizing a drugless approach — coupled with audience participation, incorporating God’s Word, humor, and a special prayer for healing by Moss. The Conference was presented by Curtis and Paula Eakins, South Central health

ministries directors.

Attendees arrived 20 minutes early, and were greeted by friendly little Miss Payton, as she handed them their Conference folder with their worksheet, 3ABN’s subsidiary Dare to Dream post card, and the Amazing Facts Bible Study Guide #13, God’s Free Health. Attendees were then directed to the blood pressure stations before entering the main venue for the Conference with a welcome by a representative from the mayor’s office. At the end of the Conference, as a bonus, a demonstration was performed on an attendee from the audience on how to apply a cabbage wrap for her painful knee. The next day at the cooking class, she shared her amazing testimony of having one of the best nights of sleep in years.

There were some really great recipes that were easy to make, and Paula Eakins explained them in a way that everyone would be able to reproduce them at home.

During the cooking class, more than a dozen individuals turned in their completed Amazing Facts Bible Studies.

Special thanks to John Brooks Sr., pastor of the Cleveland/Indianola churches, and Charlie Strong, district lay pastor of the Rolling Fork/Yazoo City churches for their support in this evangelistic endeavor.

Ellen White said, “Thousands need and would gladly receive instruction concerning the simple methods of treating the sick — methods that are taking the place of poisonous drugs,” *Evangelism*, page 525.

As Moss reflected over what transpired, she shared with all her initial desire “... that we would reach out into the community with the health message that would be beneficial and help change lives. My expectations were exceeded!”

The health message will open doors for the saving of souls as nothing else can. The next Health & Healing Conference will be at the Courtyard by Marriott in Columbus Phenix City/Riverfront, April 21-22. Register online at Eventbrite.com. 📌

Curtis Eakins is South Central Conference health ministries co-director.

Adventist University of Health Sciences Holds Presidential Inauguration of Edwin I. Hernández

In January, Adventist University of Health Sciences (ADU) inaugurated its second president, Edwin I. Hernández, Ph.D. Hernández served as ADU's provost for two years prior to succeeding the school's founding president, Dave E. Greenlaw, D.Min., in August 2017. Under his leadership as provost, ADU sharpened its standards, embraced innovation, and expanded its degree programs.

The inauguration brought together notable dignitaries from several universities, as well as members of the Seventh-day Adventist community, including Ella Simmons, general vice president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and Larry Blackmer, vice president of education of the North American Division.

The president and CEO of Florida Hospital, Daryl Tol, spoke and welcomed the audience to this "occasion of faith, heritage, and promise." Buddy Dyer, mayor of Orlando, was also in attendance to speak and greet the new president. Dyer spoke of ADU's importance in the Orlando community, stating that "...as demand for quality healthcare grows, so will the need for quality healthcare programs."

During the ceremony the ADU choir, led by Ndala Booker, was joined by Cantabile, the Forest Lake Academy choir, and guest soloists Chelauna Chin King, Angel Smith, Brandon Harris, and Dwayne Thompson, to sing a powerful rendition of "My World Needs You," by Kirk Franklin, the anthem chosen by Hernández for the special occasion.

Richard Rice, Ph.D., delivered the inaugural address. Rice is a professor of theology at Loma Linda University, as well as Hernández' mentor and friend. He described Hernández as one who in all matters "...looks for openings to God and invites Him in," and the University as "...an ideal place for students to prepare for their professional lives, and view their careers



Daryl Tol, president and CEO of Florida Hospital, hands Edwin I. Hernández, Ph.D., the ADU mace.



Artist Nery Cruz (left) and Edwin I. Hernández, Ph.D., reveal Cruz's commissioned painting, *Rising Together*, to ADU faculty and staff at the inauguration lunch.

as life-long vocations."

In his speech Hernández talked about "Rising Together" as the key theme of his leadership, intending to cultivate an environment of collaboration, innovation, and leadership on the campus during his tenure. He said, "At ADU, I see our role as educating students wholistically, but with a specific focus on the three dimensions that characterizes Adventist tradition: the mind, the body, and the spirit."

At the gala dinner following the inauguration, Hernández announced the Pres-

idential Scholars Award, which will be awarded to freshman undergraduates at ADU who exhibit extraordinary potential to be the transformational leaders of their generations. A specially commissioned painting, *Rising Together* by artist Nery Cruz, was also unveiled during the dinner. The art piece celebrates the divine force uniting ADU, Florida Hospital, and Adventist Health System. In the painting, the Cross of Christ extends its rays toward ADU's Garden of Miracles, the campus of learning, and the centers of healthcare, a visual expression of the shared mission to *extend the healing ministry of Christ*.

On his vision of ADU's future, Hernández affirmed, "ADU will be regarded as a singular place of academic learning and spiritual development, where young people come in as students, and they leave as exceptional practitioners who reflect and exemplify the extraordinary values of Christ." ●

BY LISA MARIE ESSER

Center for Health & Wellbeing Celebrates Topping Out Milestone

Leaders at Adventist Health System's Florida Hospital and the Winter Park Health Foundation celebrated a significant construction milestone at the Center for Health & Wellbeing, which will be the most innovative and comprehensive facility of its kind in central Florida when it opens late next year.

The 80,000-square-foot Center for Health & Wellbeing is designed to provide comprehensive services and opportunities for whole-person, whole-community care — a top priority for both the Winter Park Health Foundation and partner Florida Hospital.

Leaders from both organizations joined Duda|Paine Architects and Jack Jennings & Sons for the “topping out” ceremony, marking that the building has reached its highest point. Crews hoisted a tree — decorated by community leaders with ornaments representing wellness, fitness, and medicine — atop the structure.

“This is an exciting day for not just the Winter Park Health Foundation, our partners, and the teams that are building this stunning facility, but most importantly — our entire community,” said Patricia Maddox, president and CEO of the Winter Park Health Foundation. “We are one major step closer to helping our community make their health — physical, emotional, and spiritual — a top priority.”

The Center for Health & Wellbeing, located near Winter Park Memorial Hospital on Mizell Avenue, will focus on three areas: wellness, fitness, and medicine. The heart of the facility will be “The Commons,” which will include a healthy café and a conference center for educational classes and other activities.

The center's wellness offerings will also include...

- A “Nutrition Theater,” where activities such as cooking demonstrations will occur
- Children's wellness/child care
- Healthy Living Experience



A Christmas tree was placed on top of the soon-to-be Center for Health & Wellbeing, to mark that the building had reached its highest point.

- Outdoor gardens, terrace with patio seating, and indoor and outdoor walking paths

The fitness component will feature an all-new Peggy & Philip B. Crosby Wellness Center, which includes...

- Natatorium with two pools: a dedicated lap pool, and one for warm-water therapy and aquatic exercise
- Multipurpose fitness rooms for group exercise classes and yoga
- Modern fitness floor featuring the latest in equipment for cardio exercise and weight training

The medical component — 15,000 square feet of space anchored by Florida Hospital — will include...

- Sports medicine and rehabilitation
- Retail pharmacy
- Specialty and primary care physician offices
- Outpatient lab
- Chronic condition management and education
- Massage and acupuncture services

“The Center for Health & Wellbeing is not just a building, but a place that will facilitate health in an innovative way,” said Jennifer Wandersleben, administrator of Winter Park Memorial Hospital. “Florida Hospital has partnered with the Winter Park Health Foundation for nearly



The partnership between Florida Hospital and the Winter Park Health Foundation allowed for the building of this facility that will address whole-person care. Pictured are Patricia Maddox, president and CEO of the Winter Park Health Foundation, and Jennifer Wandersleben, administrator at Florida Hospital Winter Park Memorial Hospital.

two decades, and we are thrilled to bring these state-of-the-art health and wellness services to Central Florida, and make this one of the healthiest communities in the nation.”

For more information on the Center for Health & Wellbeing, visit www.wellbeingnetwork.org. 📞

BY FLORIDA HOSPITAL CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Florida Hospital Carrollwood's Emergency Department Meets the Homeless Basic Needs



Team members came together to fulfill Adventist Health System's mission of "Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ" by serving those in need.

A group of team members from Adventist Health System's Florida Hospital Carrollwood pulled together their donations, food, and time to feed the homeless in the Tampa Bay community. The project started out with a small group from the Emergency Department, and then branched out to include team members from multiple departments. Charity Carlisle, director of emergency services and interventional labs, described the experience as a great way to fulfill the mission of the organization and exercise a collaborative team-building activity.

Erick Davis, one of the nightshift nurses in the emergency department, was the one who put the idea together. He gathered a team of individuals to get the ball

rolling, and then opened it up to anyone who wanted to participate. As part of their efforts, the group went out to interact with the homeless on two occasions. On the second visit, Jill Mendez, emergency department manager, accompanied the team to deliver food in Brooksville.

Mendez said of the visit: "To me, this was discipleship at its finest. I am very fortunate to have my health and my job, and a family I love very much, so it was incredible giving back to the community and helping those who may not share these same blessings. The individuals were so humbled and appreciative that total strangers would go out of their way to prepare a meal and serve it to them."

In the same way that those who received

the meal were humbled by the experience, the team members who ventured out to deliver it were humbled by the opportunity.

"While we were not Jesus, in that we did not turn one loaf of bread and one fish into many, we were able to serve as the extension of His ministry, and feed one meal to people who otherwise would have nothing," said Meghan Nesselrode, Emergency Department nurse. "Jesus worked through us that day (as He does every day), and He worked through Erick so that we could open up our hearts and have an opportunity to demonstrate His love." 🙏

BY ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM
CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Radio Station Brings Listeners Through Church Doors



PHOTO BY: ELLIE GREEN

Donald Robinson (left), WGFY radio ministry director, and Tim Timmons, WGFY radio ministry elder overseer

In 2008 members of the Sharon Church in Charlotte, North Carolina, became involved in the operation of WTCG 870 AM, a local, daytime-only Adventist radio station. It was exciting when a listener occasionally walked into church on Sabbath morning, and soon the church members began dreaming about what God could do if they owned a 24-hour radio station. Research shows that listeners identify with radio personalities and respond to them as friends, so the members wondered what would happen if they owned a station and tapped into this listener phenomenon by broadcasting “personalities” who preached God’s end-time message to the community.

By 2012 specific prayers were being offered about purchasing an affordable radio station and finding a person with the skills to operate it. Within days, Tim Timmons, who has educational degrees and 30 years of experience in telecommunications, joined the Sharon Church. He was quickly made the

elder overseer of the radio ministry.

Two years later, in 2014, the 24-hour AM HD Disney radio station in Charlotte came on the market at a greatly reduced price. Timmons negotiated for a lower price, even though the sale included 10.8 acres of land with four 172-foot towers, two satellite dishes, a building that housed the radio apparatus, and all the broadcasting equipment. Amazingly, Disney accepted the offer. Since local churches cannot own entities, a separate corporation, Charlotte Advent Media Corporation, was formed to control and operate WGFY. However, the broadcasting studio is located inside the Sharon Church, and is daily operated by Jeff Swinton, station manager, and Donald Robinson, radio ministry director.

With local programming by volunteer personalities who did become familiar friends to listeners, the church began reaping evangelistic results — so many that they have lost count! A local builder walked into the church

three months ago after listening to the weekly prophecy seminars for three years. He faithfully attends church now, as does his family, and his construction crew listens to WGFY every day.

Michelle Duggan had never heard of a Seventh-day Adventist until she ran across WGFY while driving to work. She’s now a baptized member, and her husband, Phil Duggan, attends with her. Rarely does a Sabbath go by without a listener walking into the Sharon Church and asking to meet a personality they’ve been listening to on WGFY.

The Sharon Church’s new dream is that all the Charlotte-area Adventist churches will unite in evangelizing every WGFY radio listener. They invite all to join them in praying for this dream to become a reality so more people can come to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. ❶

BY ELLIE GREEN

Carolina Conference Launches Podcast Show for Young Men

Why is it so hard to engage young men with church or, for that matter, religion in general? This question haunts most men's ministries leaders across the North American Division (NAD). When Seventh-day Adventist millennial males are asked, they give several reasons for their lack of participation. One is that the material presented isn't interesting or isn't what they really want to discuss. Another is that they see men's groups as being a pancake breakfast or maybe a building project, but they don't want to sit around a campfire sharing their feelings and singing "Kumbaya."

According to Marty Miller, co-founder of Blueprint for Men, a men's ministry based in Chattanooga, Tennessee, "Trees grow taller, stronger, and straighter in a forest than on their own in the middle of a field." Men need each other in order to grow strong spiritually. On their own, they are likely to have a rather "wind-twisted" life.

Courtney Herod, associate communication director for the Carolina Conference, began looking at podcasts as a way to reach out to



Walking Free is a podcast about navigating this crazy world as a young, Christian man. Hosted by Evan Bujeker, it offers practical, Christ-centered advice and solutions from both peers and those who have spent time in the trenches and survived.

this demographic. A trend in secular podcasts for young men is to deal with topics they are struggling with in a straightforward manner. However, these popular podcasts are missing a biblical, or even spiritual, foundation. Young men in Adventist churches are dealing with the same issues, but often their pain is ignored or dismissed.

This urgent need sparked the idea to create a men's podcast show with a spiritual emphasis, which would be relevant

to the unchurched as well. The director of men's ministries for the Conference, Tony LaPorte, jumped on board. The next step was finding a young man to host the show who could connect with millennials and Gen Z'ers, see the vision for the show, and run with it. The associate pastor of the Arden Church, Evan Bujeker, was invited and came on board with lots of ideas.

Thus was born Walking Free, a weekly podcast talk show. Bujeker has lined up guests from all walks of life — pastors, young people, businessmen, Church administration, and media personalities — who have dealt with the same difficult issues that plague today's young people. Together, Bujeker and his guests are skillfully navigating these tough topics.

As this project continues moving forward, they solicit your prayers that these podcasts reach the young men who need to hear what is being shared. Adventist youth and young adults are not just the future of the Church — they are the NOW. 🙏

BY COURTNEY HEROD

Mount Pisgah Academy Provides Week of Prayer at Asheville-Pisgah Christian School



PHOTO BY: ERIN MILLER

Imagine a Week of Prayer that not only featured someone speaking to the entire student body, but also kept the students engaged and actively involved in the message. That is exactly what students from Mount Pisgah Academy (MPA) did recently when they presented a Week of Prayer at Asheville-Pisgah Christian School (APCS).

Each day the MPA students focused on different characteristics of Jesus' role in their lives: Friend, Teacher, Creator, Healer, and Savior.

Various activities, such as Bible skits, Pictionary, play dough sculpting, snowball prayers, swimming, jumping songs, and a game called "Two Truths and a Lie," reinforced the daily messages and helped the APCS students see Jesus as a real person who cares deeply for them.

APCS thanks Beth Grissom and her team of MPA students for leading their students in a wonderful and uplifting Week of Prayer experience! 🙏

BY ERIN MILLER

Pastor Revisits Church on Anniversary of Son's Birth



PHOTO BY: JEFFREY THOMPSON

Alejandro Rodríguez received a birthday cake and seven balloons to celebrate his birthday and unique connection with Ft. Lauderdale Church.

Freddy Eduardo Rodríguez, Florida Conference associate youth director, spoke for Health Day on November 11, 2017, at Ft. Lauderdale Church. He used 3 John 3:2 as the main text: "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

"Everyone should endeavor to live a bal-

anced lifestyle," said Rodríguez as part of a sermon entitled, "Strong and Healthy." To illustrate, he told how as a cyclist he rides his bicycle sometimes more than 50 miles a day. (Unfortunately, a few weeks before, he fell off his bicycle and damaged his left shoulder blade, so he came to the church service with his arm in a sling.)

Rodríguez incorporated into his sermon the unique birth of his youngest son, Alejandro, who was born "Strong and Healthy," even though he had health challenges in his mother's womb. He reviewed the day of his son's birth when he also spoke at the church. During his sermon seven years ago, October 23, 2010, Rodríguez received many text messages indicating his wife had intense pain, perhaps labor pains, and soon his new baby son would be born. At the culmination of his sermon, he sped out of the parking lot and made it to Mercy Hospital in Miami, Fla., in time to be the first to hold his new son.

"What a sermon!" said Jeffrey Thompson, Ph.D., church pastor. "There were many teary eyes; we should have had some Kleenex."

At the end of the sermon, the Rodríguez family ensemble played Amazing Grace, with father Freddy Rodríguez on saxophone, mother Rubelina Rodríguez on piano; and sons Eduardo and Alejandro on violin and violoncello, respectively. 🎵

BY JEFFREY THOMPSON, PH.D.

Baskets and Goodies Prepared for Shut-ins and Needy Members



PHOTO BY: RICHARD HODDER

North Lake Church members from Leesburg, Fla., are shown with 20 baskets of food and 20 bags of goodies they prepared and delivered to shut-ins and needy church families.

BY EVELYN HODDER

Florida Centenarians Celebrate Milestones



Harry Bennett celebrated his 100th birthday by riding in a 100-year-old 1915-16 vintage Ford auto.

Harry Bennett, 103, Avon Park, Fla.

Harry Bennett attended Adventist schools most of his life. He met his wife, Ercel, at Southern Junior College (Southern Adventist University), and they were married in 1940.

With a B.S. in nursing education from Washington Sanitarium and Hospital in Takoma Park, Md., service to God took the couple to South Dakota, Florida, Virginia, and Texas.

In 1945, Harry began serving for 13 years at Rwankeri Union Mission in Africa. Mission director, youth leader, Sabbath School director, education department director, secretary-treasurer, mission president, and conference president were all a part of Bennett's service. His last two years in Africa were spent as a professor at Heidelberg College near Capetown, South Africa.

Forty-five years ago, he and his wife moved to Avon Park, where Harry be-

came a chaplain at Walker Memorial Hospital (Florida Hospital, Heartland). Today, he lives in the same home and continues to be active at Avon Park Church. Three times a week he makes rounds at a local nursing home, and still enjoys bringing peace and comfort to patients, friends, and family.

What's the wonder of it all for Harry Bennett? It is 103 years of service to God, and the wonderful memories that a life-time of service provides.

Robert "Bob" J. Dove, 100, New Smyrna Beach, Fla.

Bob was born November 11, 1917, in Newport, R.I., and grew up on a farm in Bridgeton, N.J. A veteran of World War II, Sgt. Robert Dove received an honorary discharge from the Army on December 15, 1944.

After graduating as a registered nurse, his spirit of adventure took him to nursing positions in Maryland, Pennsylvania,



During a birthday celebration, VFW officers of Post #4250 presented former Sgt. Robert Dove with a commemorative hat and shirt in recognition of WWII service.

Aruba, and Michigan. After retirement at age 61, he became a snowbird, eventually settling in New Smyrna Beach.

During Bob's older teenage years, he and his mother joined the Adventist Church. He now serves as an honorary elder of New Smyrna Beach Church, his home church for the past 35 years. He was always active in church, serving as elder, deacon, Sabbath School teacher, and volunteering many hours in maintaining the physical building and grounds of the church.

At 100 years old, Bob has slowed down a bit from being active in sports activities. He enjoys relaxing, writing his memoirs, visiting with friends and family, singing with visitors on Sabbath afternoon, and occasionally eating out.

His family includes his wife of 44 years, Marilyn; four sons, Bob Dove of Bradenton, Fla., Guy (Janis) Dove of Portland, Oreg., Dennis Dove of Palm Bay, Fla., and Brian (Betty) Karpovich of Brown City, Mich.; two daughters, Patrice Dove of New Smyrna Beach, and Coralee Johnson of Villa Ridge, Mo.; 14 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren. His first wife, Mary; one son, Tom Karpovich; and one daughter, Kay McClelland, are deceased. ☐

BY WALTER MAIER AND PATRICE DOVE

Young Adults Play Together, Pray Together

East Ridge Young Adults (ERYA) take community beyond the walls of the church. Besides worshipping together at Tennessee's East Ridge Church, and participating in local volunteer opportunities, members rejuvenate minds and bodies through regular group adventures.

How is this assembly of people unique compared to a majority of the world? They keep Christ at the center of their activities. Whether camping or at Christmas socials, leaders make sure members get to participate in worship and music. After a day of hiking and exploring, a typical night around an ERYA campfire comes complete with heartfelt worship and hymns. Attendees have opportunities to get comfortable playing instruments and leading out in worship within smaller environments. With their mission statement, "Every young adult drawn into a community of Christ followers and empowered to use their gifts for His glory," it's not surprising that young people feel welcomed to enjoy healthy activities while enhancing their spiritual gifts.

Some of the official ERYA trips include camping, hiking, tubing, and rafting. Participants of the group enjoy the community so much that spontaneous adventures like skiing, ice skating, caving, climbing, and hiking transpire among its members throughout the year. Many of these activities allow new people to plan worship components, while creating a healthy network of spiritual and adventurous friends.

As churches look for ways to keep young adults consistently involved in the community of Christ, this is one model they could consider. Even when everyone is welcomed warmly by churches, there's something more sustainable about smaller communities within the church that develop the gifts of specific age groups.

The recipe for initiating an adventurous, spiritual, and service-minded group is simple: Where one or two motivated young people with leadership abilities are



SUBMITTED BY: OLIVIA HALE

The young adults from the East Ridge, Tenn., Church created a unique niche for themselves, a ministry where members participate in local volunteer opportunities, also refreshing their bodies and mind through regular group adventures together. This small group takes the time to worship together and play together while honoring God.



SUBMITTED BY: OLIVIA HALE



SUBMITTED BY: OLIVIA HALE

gathered together, there exists potential. It was not the older members who created ERYA, but its young adult members, seeing a need and an opportunity. Current leaders regularly update a Facebook site and send weekly church and group activity emails, making sure people don't get left out. The

East Ridge Church may look small on the outside, but the young adult community on the inside appears to be thriving alongside its adult members. 🙏

BY OLIVIA HALE

High School Retreat Brings Oasis for Youth

Public high schoolers gathered at Cohutta Springs Youth Camp on the first weekend of February 2018: 260 people total, 140 students. They arrived February 2 for an annual event, Oasis High School Retreat. This event, started 26 years ago by Rob Lang, youth ministries director, has been held by the Georgia-Cumberland Conference for 16 years. Lang originally started the retreat in the Iowa-Missouri Conference. Next he took it to Oregon, and most recently to Georgia-Cumberland.

When asked why he started this retreat, he said, “As a Church we want to focus very specifically on our Adventists that are going to public schools or are in home schools, and make sure they have a Bible conference experience.” The speaker, Cody Paige, is an intern pastor with the Atlanta Belvedere Church in Decatur, Ga.; attended Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala.; and graduated in 2015 with a degree in theology. The students in attendance were impressed with how he could relate his messages to young people.

Jordan Butler, a senior in high school, took away a nugget of wisdom from his sermon. She said, “Patience is not always on your time, but God’s time. Even when you think you are ready for something, you might not be, so just wait.”

Another student, 17-year-old senior Jhanaé Ming, was most impressed with her small-group volunteers for the weekend. She left the retreat with a better understanding of a Bible prophet. She said, “This weekend I learned the lesson of Nehemiah, the perfect story of how to be a good leader.” Her small-group leaders, as were other weekend staff, were recruited from Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn.

Hannah Wilson, a 21-year-old college student, has been involved in Oasis for three years. Her favorite part was also the small groups. She got involved because of her own high school experience, saying, “I attended public school, and I feel for you guys. That’s why I got involved.” She also recruited fellow small-group leaders, Elena



PHOTO BY: DON KEELE JR.

Cody Paige, intern pastor for the Atlanta Belvedere Church in Decatur, Ga., spoke at the Oasis High School Retreat in February. He advised the public high school and homeschool students, “Many of you are on a hill to your dream and are losing momentum, and Oasis literally saved you from losing your focus.” This was the first event held in the new Life Center at Cohutta Springs.



PHOTO BY: DON KEELE JR.

Cody Paige, intern pastor at Atlanta Belvedere Church in Decatur, Ga.



PHOTO BY: DON KEELE JR.

Jhanaé Ming



PHOTO BY: DON KEELE JR.

Hannah Wilson



PHOTO BY: DON KEELE JR.

Sabien Linda

Anunciado and Eveling Grajales. It was their first year being involved in this event.

Student Sabien Lindo was impressed by something Paige said. “The biggest lesson I learned is silence doesn’t mean ‘no.’ It is such a true statement and can apply to many different things.”

The weekend was also packed with activities. Saturday afternoon students could participate in one of three hikes, and Saturday night after worship there were games, movies, a bonfire, and snacks.

This was Terecita Martinez’s favorite part of the event. She, too, learned an important lesson. “We have to be careful to observe people before rushing into a relationship, and we must also be careful who our friends are.” Paige summed up this event best: “Many of you are on a hill to your dream and are losing momentum, and Oasis literally saved you from losing your focus.”

BY SHELBE JOHNSON

“Buddy” McElroy Remembered



James C. “Buddy” McElroy, and his wife of 56 years, Joy

James C. “Buddy” McElroy, 79, passed away on January 7, 2018, surrounded by his family. Buddy, as he was affectionately known, was born May 28, 1938, at Rush Hospital to James C. McElroy Sr. and Celeste Swain McElroy. He spent his childhood in Cuba, Ala., working with his father in the family farming business. In 1954, Buddy, along with his mother, attended an evangelistic series in Meridian, Miss. As a result, he was baptized and gave his heart to the Lord, joining the Adventist Church.

Buddy began attending the University of West Alabama in 1956, but decided to transfer to Southern Adventist University in 1958. While at Southern, Buddy fell in love with his classmate, Cynthia Joy Tanner, from Americus, Ga. He graduated in 1960 with a B.S. in business administration, and married Joy in 1961.

After graduating college, Buddy returned to Cuba and was hired by Rush Hospital as a management trainee, becoming assistant purchasing manager

in 1961. In 1968, he was named administrator of Rush Foundation Hospital and Rush Medical Group. Recognizing changing healthcare trends and the need for quality healthcare, especially in the rural areas of East Mississippi and West Alabama, Buddy was instrumental in founding Rush Health Systems in 1983, and became its first president and CEO. In 1992, he became chairman of the board of Rush Health Systems. Buddy retired from Rush in 1998, but continued to serve as chairman of the board for Rush Health Systems until his death.

Shortly after he began working for Rush in the early 1960s, Buddy realized a lifelong dream by starting his own business. In 1964 he purchased one pulpwood truck, a power saw, and a loader. The company grew throughout the 1960s, and was incorporated as Sumter Timber in the late 1960s. During the next 10 years, the company expanded into trucking. In the 1980s company operations were split, and McElroy Truck Lines was formed. During the next 25

years, both Sumter Timber and McElroy Truck Lines expanded, and new companies were added, including H&M Construction, Sumter Management, and most recently Two Rivers Lumber. Under Buddy’s leadership and vision, what started with one pulpwood truck, grew into one of the largest flatbed trucking companies in the country, with numerous related enterprises.

During his lifetime Buddy served on numerous boards, including Rush Health Systems, Southern Adventist University, East Mississippi Business Development Corporation, and The Bank of York as chairman.

Buddy McElroy had a deep faith and gave God the glory for all the blessings in his life, including his wife and three sons. Today, his sons could easily say that hard work was what epitomized their father, and what he thoroughly instilled in them. Each of them could share their own story of how Buddy taught them the importance of hard work and a job well-done. “He’d met lots of very smart people who were not successful because they didn’t know how to work,” reminisced his eldest son, Glenn. “Come early and stay late,” said Sean McElroy, referencing one of the many lines he heard his father say during the years. And, although work was important to him, so was compassion, and more than any line he gave at work or home, the one most frequently heard was, “If you need me, call me.”

His church was hugely significant to him; he was a lifelong member of the Community Church in Meridian, Miss., and was instrumental in multiple building campaigns during the years, serving in numerous positions in the Church. He visited others often, and was ready and willing to reflect the life of Christ to as many as possible. 🕊

BY ROGER BURKE

Panama City Members Shower Law Enforcement Officers with Appreciation

et's welcome the Panama City Police Department!" was the announcement given from the pulpit as the entire congregation gave a standing ovation to Scott Ervin, Panama City chief of police, and his team of uniformed officers making their way to the front. Greg Brunicki, Panama City mayor, also participated, speaking on behalf of the city and expressing his gratitude for the daily work and commitment of the men and women in blue.

As the children came forward to hear the exciting story given from Sergeant Billy Carstarphen, they were challenged and inspired as he reminded all that, "We don't have to reciprocate the environment we are in, we can be the change in our communities."

During prayer time, the police officers were invited to the front; as they knelt for prayer, two elders prayed for God's protection over them throughout their work. A moving video tribute to many of the fallen officers in the line of duty was presented. Jay Rosario, Panama City pastor, talked about the role in supporting law enforcement officers.

The mission to make all aware of God's love and the laws of Heaven will ultimately make them better citizens in obeying the laws of the land. When the church obeys the Great Commission, it makes the job of police officers much easier. The church clerk handed Ervin a special certificate of appreciation on behalf of Panama City Church. After the potluck, an afternoon presentation and Q&A session took place with the officers. The members hope to show the same appreciation next year, featuring a different police department. 📌

BY JAY ROSARIO



Participating in the appreciation event were Scott Ervin (left), Panama City chief of police; Tiphany Rosario; Jay Rosario, pastor; and Billy Carstarphen.



Sergeant Billy Carstarphen presents the children's story during the worship service.

Woodbury Church Participates in Numerous Community Projects



Pathfinders help with food distribution.



Bags of Love gifts are displayed.

The Woodbury, Tenn., Church had numerous community projects during 2017. Twice during the year the church school held a plant seminar, with local master gardeners giving tips on how to grow better plants and gardens. One of the events was featured in the local newspaper.

The Pathfinder Club, led by Perry and Becki Loudon, recently helped distribute commodities to local residents for the Upper Cumberland Human Resources Agency (UCHRA). They unloaded trucks of food, helped set up the distribution staging area, and carried the commodities to the clients' cars. Afterward the UCHRA director, Danielle Mosley, sent an email to Loudon saying, "Thank you! We couldn't have done this without your help. You have a good group of kids." The Pathfinders helped the community again by responding to a request for assistance from the Woodbury Methodist Church and the

Second Harvest Food Bank. In a Facebook post, the Methodist Church pastor, John Hembree, stated, "We were able to provide food for about 100 families today in spite of pouring rain! Special thanks to the ... fabulous youth group of the Woodbury Seventh-day Adventist Church!"

Bob Zollinger, head elder, leads a weekly food distribution called the Bread Program. Bread is given to local residents in need, along with other food items. Through this program Zollinger has become well-known throughout Cannon County, and can frequently be found praying with those he meets.

The weekly jail ministry, led by Diane Landon, visits the local jail to encourage the female inmates. They sing and have Bible studies, stories, and prayer. This has resulted in numerous people led to Christ and several baptisms.

Dennis Clark, Woodbury pastor, has a weekly radio spot on the local station,

WBRY. During airing, he gives a short sermon and Bible study. These radio spots have resulted in community recognition, interest in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and baptisms.

Bags of Love is led by Darla Wolf. Items are made, collected, and distributed to new parents and children in need. Each bag contains a homemade quilt, personal toiletry items, age-appropriate books, and toys. Bags are also created for destitute expectant women and new moms.

Celebrate Recovery, an addiction support group, meets weekly at the Woodbury First Baptist Church. Woodbury Church members regularly assist with this program, and support those in attendance.

The Woodbury Church, though small, is dedicated to reaching out to their community in Christ-centered love and service. 🕊

BY NANCY PIPER

Lobelville Church Launches Community Food Pantry Mission

It has been two years since the Lobelville, Tenn., Church launched the Community Food Pantry Mission. The road has been long carved in a path of challenges, with every month an act of love and faith. Results are finally being seen.

There have been many thankful words of gratitude, and stories of hope are being written in the hearts of the community, but more than that, souls are being reached by a practical Gospel that is too evident to be ignored.

"Gene" attended the Back Pack program, an extension of the food pantry mission, where students in need receive a back pack containing school materials. After Gene returned home, he called the pastor and started a 30-minute Bible study by phone.

Another couple are trying to get back on their feet. They came to the food pantry, and "Kristan" asked about the Sabbath. "Joseph" needed a job, so the pastor prayed with them for Joseph to find a job. As they left, Joseph's phone rang; it was a job offer. "I have no doubt it was your prayer," he said. They were so thankful they decided to start attending Prayer Meeting with their children.

Many more testimonies could be shared; this love story is not finished. Every day a blank page is opened to be filled with the warmth of the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. In the words of the Master, "...Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." 🕊



Community Food Pantry Mission

BY DANIEL SPENCER

Ridgetop Members Reach Out to Community



David Garner gets a car ready for winter.



Alex Bridges knows that some jobs require looking under the car.

William Little, pastor of the Ridgetop, Tenn., Church, recently posed a question to the church family: "If the Ridgetop Church closed its door and all the members moved away, would anyone in our community notice?"

The Ridgetop Church, just north of Nashville, wants to make a difference by reaching out to their community. Projects include welcome bags delivered to town newcomers; a *Signs* box beside the only grocery store; Your Story Hour on a local radio station; nursing home visitation; and, at the annual Christmas parade, several church members serve hot chocolate and cookies.

The Community Services Center is listed in the local shopper as a place for families in need of food and clothes. In 2017, the Pathfinder club, the Ridgerunners, collected about 2,000 food items which were given to the Community Service Center, and the club sponsored both 5K run-walks through town and chili cook-offs. They also have scheduled times to pick up trash on Highway 41, which runs through Ridgetop.

The annual Vacation Bible School offers child evangelism, as does the pre-K to eighth-grade church

school. According to principal Aaron Raines, 21 percent of the students are not from Adventist families.

Recently, the church sponsored a CAR-nival. The well-advertised free service focused on single mothers. Their cars received a free oil change, and other fluids and tires were checked. Things provided at the school gym for the children included a bounce house, face painting, games, cotton candy, veggie corn dogs, hot chocolate, and gift bags.

One mother drove more than an hour to come, and said, "I just started to cry when I saw your advertisement in the *Bargain Browser* (a weekly community paper). This is something I really need right now. It's amazing that your church is doing something like this. It has completely made my day!" Another mom told the men that she was very thankful for what they were doing. She bought her used car two years ago, and she had never had her oil changed.

If your church door closed and all the members moved away, would anyone in your community notice? 🕊

BY HELEN KELLY

South Central Pastors Share “Gospel Everywhere”



Hillcrest Church praise team, with pastors Nelson Stokes and Vandeon Griffin (third and fourth from left)



Touch 10K Witnessing Kit includes tracts, T-shirt, wristband, prayer cards, and an instructional guide.

Good evening and welcome to the Gospel Everywhere Worship Experience,” shared Vandeon Griffin, South Central personal ministries director. During the month of January 2018, Wednesday nights became electrified with music and the preached Word. South Central Conference personal and publishing ministries collaborated on this effort to inspire individuals to share their testimony. The experience was shared live on Facebook and the internet, doing what the title said, the Gospel Everywhere. The host of the program, Vandeon Griffin, remarked, “The Gospel is not an idea, the Gospel is Jesus Himself! We have been gifted an opportunity to share HIM wherever we go! It

is my hope that each person will be inspired to take the Gospel Everywhere.”

The preaching ministry of Nelson Stokes, pastor of Hillcrest Church in Nashville, Tenn.; Furman Fordham, pastor of Riverside Chapel Church in Nashville; and Benjamin Jones Jr., president of South Central Conference, were featured. The Holy Spirit power-filled the television studio, and messages were transmitted everywhere! With the pastors, each church shared their music ministry along with New Life Church in Nashville.

After the inspirational Word, Griffin and Java Mattison, South Central publishing director, challenged each listener to share their testimony to a stranger the next day. To help

with that, a Touch 10K Witnessing Kit was offered for anyone to purchase and use to share with their testimony. Each kit includes 400 tracks, a Touch 10K T-shirt, prayer cards, Touch 10K wristband, and an instructional guide. You can order the kit by calling South Central at 615-226-6500. Each kit is \$25, and includes shipping and handling.

“The Gospel can’t go anywhere until it goes everywhere,” states Benjamin Jones.

For more information: <http://www.scc-adventist.org/personal-ministries/the-gospel-everywhere-live-broadcast/>. 📞

BY ROGER R. WADE

South Central Youth, Young Adults Participate in Bible Bowl

Bible Bowl is a unique ministry. The ministry can summarize its mission as follows: To awaken the interest of the young people within our Church and strengthen their devotional life! Bible Bowl coordinator Lornette Stokes says her 21 years in the ministry have been both challenging and rewarding, but nothing compares to seeing the young and old compete against each other by answering questions from the Bible.

The Black Adventist Youth Directors’

Association (BAYDA) Bible Bowl Nationals took place in Albany, N.Y., October 27-28, 2017. Excitement was in the air, and the teams were anxious to get started. Teams gathered in corners or sat in chairs going over their material, while also listening for when their team would be called up to play. South Central was involved in full force. There were five teams competing from all age categories. The games began on Friday evening, with three teams winning their first



PHOTO BY: ROGER R. WADE

First Church in Huntsville, Ala., Bible Bowl team, with Roger R. Wade (left), South Central associate youth director and communication director; Lorenzo Shepherd (back row, far right), South Central youth director; and Lornetta Stokes (front row, far right), South Central Bible Bowl coordinator

game. They claimed Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Him who strengthens and empowers me," focused on the task at hand, and did their very best. They gave the other teams a challenge, and held on as best they could. Although they did not place this year, they left with a determination to go back next year stronger and wiser. I First Church in Huntsville, Ala., and Oakwood University are congratulated for representing South

Central well at the BAYDA Bible Bowl National Championships.

Bible Bowl is a great way for youth to learn what Jesus has to say, and retain that information not only for the competition, but for the rest of their lives. The books used and ages represented were Mark, Daniel — ages 6-9; Mark, Daniel, Malachi, 1 Peter, 2 Peter — ages 10-15; Mark, Daniel, Malachi, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, Romans — ages 16-22; Mark,

Daniel, Malachi, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, Romans, Numbers — ages 23-35; Mark, Daniel, Malachi, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, Romans, Numbers, Song of Solomon — ages 36 and up.

Your church is invited to join a team next year. Contact Lornette (Meecy) Stokes at 901-267-9991 or LStokes621@gmail.com for information regarding Bible Bowl. 📧

BY LORNETTE STOKES

OAA Students Serve During "Give Back Day 2017"

At Oakwood Adventist Academy (OAA) in Huntsville, Ala., the mission statement reads, "Oakwood Adventist Academy exists to provide a spiritual, academic, social and service-oriented environment to Develop, Nurture and Affirm (DNA) students for a lifetime of service to God and humanity." Last semester, December 2017, the administrators were faced with the challenge of implementing the principles that this statement heralds in an unconventional manner. The school's academic calendar had concluded, but there were still two school days left before the end of the semester. The administrators tasked the Spiritual Life Committee chair, Jameel L. Daniels, M.Div., chaplain, with the responsibility of planning service days that would give the students the opportunity to put hands, feet, and sweat on to the school's mission. It was time to make it all come together in a practical show of citizenship and empathy. The students were separated by grade, and assigned an outside entity to serve.

The first day of service saw approximately 60 students volunteering in various capacities around Huntsville.

The freshmen class spent the morning cleaning up a local theatre company's practice and education space. The space is designed to teach children of all ages acting techniques, costume design, staging, set design, and proper play production. The students and their chaperones spent four hours landscaping and picking up litter from a drainage ditch near the front of the building. It was a heartwarming experience to



Ninth-grade students stand with group leaders.



Group leader Brandon Dent with students Taniya Ward and Eden Blake clean debris.

see everyone working together and enjoying themselves. The students were tired and dirty when they finished, but they were also satisfied and appreciative for the experience.

The sophomore class went to a local rescue mission, where they prepared and served food. This service center for the less fortunate serves approximately 271,000 meals per year, and OAA students were there to be a part of this practical, lifesaving effort.

The junior class volunteered at a local Seventh-day Adventist-owned-and-operated thrift store. The students organized various sections of the store, sorted through various items for

resale, and cleaned. The students completed approximately 50 hours of individual labor during the four hours they were there.

The senior class volunteered at a nearby convalescent home. They sorted, cleaned, organized, and created gift bags for the residents.

The students returned to their campus where lunch was provided, and they spent time discussing their experiences. They shared their appreciation for the opportunity to spend time outside the classroom and be useful in helping others. It was quite an experience to share with them.

Additionally, 17 students and four faculty members donated 21 pints of blood to the LifeSouth Blood Bank on Tuesday, December 19, 2017, which services the Huntsville area exclusively. The donor recruiter, Andrea Dye, said that the event was a "great success," and that she was happy to have partnered with OAA. The students earned about six hours of community service for the two-day outreach, and all saw an attitude of service turn into a commitment to service. 📧

BY JAMEEL DANIELS

Southeastern Mourns Beloved Staff Member

After many years of service, Dorothy Priscilla Boone closed her eyes to rest on Monday, January 1, 2018, after a long struggle with cancer. Boone served Southeastern for more than 29 years.

Boone began working in the Publishing Department in July 1988. She served various departments as an administrative professional, including 10 years in trust services. While in trust services, she became certified as a trust services representative, and maintained her certification throughout her career. Boone served in nearly every department, until April of 2017 when her illness prevented her from maintaining full-time duties.

Boone matriculated through Adventist schools until receiving her bachelor of science degree from Oakwood College in June 1988. In August 2012 she received an M.B.A. in healthcare management



PHOTO BY: TYRONE COBB

D. Priscilla Boone passed away January 1, 2018. She was an administrative professional at Southeastern for more than 29 years.

from American InterContinental University.

She became a baptized member of the Miami Bethany Church in 1973. As a member she was actively involved as an usher and member of the Pathfinder Club, sang in the church choir, and worked with the youth ministries. In 1989 she became a member of the Patmos Chapel Church in Winter Park, Fla., where she held the positions of church clerk, deaconess, choir director, and minister of music. As minister of music, Boone exuded a love for music and a commitment to excellence.

One former administrator commented, saying, “We miss Priscilla greatly. Remember the good times, the fun times, the inspiring times, the meeting times. Remember the gift God gave us, and, if we are faithful, we will see Priscilla again.”

BY SOUTHEASTERN STAFF

Bon Samaritain Mission Service to Haiti

The first mission trip organized by the youth ministry team at Bon Samaritain Church in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., will reach their 10-year anniversary in December 2018. Caleb Buisson had been helping to build an Adventist church in his hometown of Les Cayes in Haiti, and that first trip by the Bon Samaritain youth marked part of the official inauguration. The team of five — Bid-Lose Olivier, Caleb Buisson, Jean E. Louis, Gary Louis, and Junior Ducheine — distributed toys, toiletries, snacks, and goodies in various locations, including Les Cayes Children’s Hospital, a local orphanage, the youth at Salem Church, and Vague (a small community outside the city). During the past 10 years, Buisson also helped build a second church. As a result of the initial mission trip, several subse-



PHOTO BY: BID-LOSE O. FRANCISQUE

The newly constructed Salem Church in Les Cayes, Haiti, and this mission continue to be supported by Bon Samaritain Church in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

quent mission trips have taken place in various parts of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Bon Samaritain Church contin-

ues to support both churches in Haiti.

BY BID-LOSE O. FRANCISQUE

Mt. Pisgah Welcomes New Pastor

Mt. Pisgah Church in Miami Gardens, Fla., welcomed their new pastor, Alex Royes, on December 9, 2017. Royes is no stranger to the south Florida area. He grew up in Ft. Lauderdale and, after pastoring on both the east and west coasts, has finally returned to the place he considers home. Royes returns with more than 15 years of ministerial experience. Royes and his wife, Shannon Royes, have been married for 19 years, and have two sons, Ian, 13, and Noah, 11.

Royes quickly sought to assimilate into the church by facilitating a question-and-answer forum for members to candidly express their hopes for the church, and to get to know the Royes family. In the weeks following, Roy-



Alex Royes, new pastor at Mt. Pisgah Church in Miami Gardens, Fla.: Royes' prayer is for "the lost to be saved, and the saved to be healed."

es participated with church ministry leaders in a special food distribution for community residents. Royes also spearheaded "10 Days of Prayer and Fasting," with special attention to the Wednesday night prayer services.

Royes demonstrates an energetic disposition and a passion for Christ that is palpable in his preaching, and in the way he cares for the members of Mt. Pisgah. Royes has been encouraging the church to have "walk-on-water faith," as he seeks to make the mission of the church primary at Mt. Pisgah. Royes recently commented that his prayer is for "the lost to be saved, and the saved to be healed." ❶

PHOTO BY: CLAUDETTE SMITH

BY DANIELA JEAN

Southeastern Pastor Takes on New Role

Pierre Francois is no stranger to Southeastern. Born and raised in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., he attended school and college in the Southeastern territory. And, he has spent the last 12 years of his ministry as a part of the Southeastern family. He has pastored churches in places like Fitzgerald, Ga.; Bradenton, Fla.; Tampa, Fla.; and most recently Miami Gardens, Fla.

Francois was recently appointed to serve as the Conference director of children's and Sabbath School ministries. Having received a bachelor of science in human resources development and a master of divinity, Francois brings with his academic preparedness a passion for strategic ministry development, a commitment to creativity and innovation, and a passion for effective ministry on the local church level. His first major task is a brand new Sabbath School ministry enrichment



Pierre Francois, shown with his wife, Erica, and their children, Nathan and Morgan, was recently appointed director of children's and Sabbath School ministries at Southeastern Conference.

initiative designed to equip churches with cutting-edge resources, and support pastors and ministry leaders who have established clear goals and objectives for improving their Sabbath School programs.

Francois is joined in ministry by his wife of 12 years, Erica Francois. They have two children, Nathan, 8, and Morgan, 2. Con-

cerning his new responsibilities, Francois commented that his focus will be to "support and inspire churches to contextually share Christ that [we] might by all means save some," 1 Corinthians 9:22, KJV. ❶

BY SEC COMMUNICATION STAFF

PHOTO BY: DUNCAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Berea Junior Academy on the Move

It is not unusual for Berea Junior Academy (BJA) in Sumter, S.C., to display their many talents, and November 16, 2017, was no different when they, along with other schools in the area, competed for the 2017 Festive Favorites in the Festive Five Competitions at Sumter Mall. This five-night event was held November 13-17, to kick off the holiday season. Because the public votes the winner, BJA was at a disadvantage from the beginning, because it is a smaller, private school of approximately 20 students, as opposed to the public schools, which outnumbered BJA by far. This did not deter BJA. They were not undaunted by this reality, but the students (neatly dressed in their blue and white with red ties) gave an astounding performance, filling the air with sweet melodies, and bringing life to the mall. Even though BJA was not chosen as the 2017 Festive Favorites, they were favorites to many, including people who attended all the presentations, and workers in the nearby stores. They all echoed the same sentiments that BJA shone brightly.

BJA always seeks for ways to be involved in missions and community activities in and out of state. It was therefore no surprise when they accepted the invitation by the New River Valley Church in Christiansburg, Va., to be their special guests, and to participate in their activities during the weekend of September 15-18, 2017. Under the leadership of principal Regrick Howard, BJA led out strongly in all aspects of the divine worship service. The speaker for the service was seventh-grader Regrick Howard Jr., who spoke eloquently and allowed the Holy Spirit to work as he presented the Word of God to the congregation. The title of his message was "It Is Better to Obey," and he used the story of Samson to present it.

In the afternoon, BJA was in the streets to invite the community to the Family Health Festival that would be held the next day. It was amazing to watch the students approach strangers with confidence, boldness, and enthusiasm as they recited their invitational pitch.



BJA students prepare to perform at the Festive Five Competition.



Nathaniel Howard (right) invites a young man in the community to the Family Health Festival which takes place the next day.

During the festival on September 17, the students went on a health walk, singing and bringing light to many, and they also served members of the communities at the eight booths that represented the eight laws of health. The day's program also included health screenings — blood

pressure and BMI checks, and a free consultation with a physician. The police brought their obstacle course to the festival, where the principal posted the fastest time of the day. The partnership between New River Valley Church and Berea Junior Academy served many people from the communities of Christiansburg and surrounding areas.

While this was a mission trip for BJA students, they also enjoyed camping at the Virginia State Church of God Campground, where they got to enjoy nature and bond with each other. They hiked the Cascading Water Fall Trail, and the events culminated with a bonfire that night. At the bonfire, a youth evangelist called for the students to dedicate their lives to God, and eight students and some of the parents accepted the call. Two students also requested Bible studies.

Berea Junior Academy is on the move, being a servant of God, and a friend to man. They may be small in number, but they're big in stature. Way to go, Berea! 🙌

BY CARLINE SAMUELS

Southern Honors Martin Luther King Jr. Through Service for 25th Year

Every January for 25 years, Southern Adventist University students and employees have given their time to serve the Chattanooga, Tenn., community on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. This year, nearly 1,000 participants took part in Southern's annual day of service, assisting community members and partnering with 34 organizations, including the American Red Cross, Samaritan Center, and the Salvation Army.

The City of Chattanooga had also coordinated a day of service in honor of King's legacy, marking the 50th anniversary of King's death, and Southern joined in to commemorate this milestone. As the finale for the city's kick-off event, Southern's a capella group, Voculus, and gymnastics team, Gym-Masters, gave a rousing performance. The Southern participants then had the privilege of coming alongside many other schools and Chattanooga residents to help local organizations.

"We want our students to learn the joys of serving their community," said Jennifer Carter, director of Christian Service at Southern. "We hope to instill a desire for service in them beyond their college career."

Knitted with Love

A special project that Southern has helped with on MLK Day for a number of years is the Street Store — a temporary store set up to provide free warm clothing to the homeless, in partnership with the Salvation Army. On the day of the event, Southern students help set up, organize clothes, and serve as personal shoppers for the homeless customers.

Before the yearly event, Annette Heck, associate professor in Southern's School of Social Work, helps prepare by collecting donations of winter clothing on campus and at local churches. It turns out that her spirit of service is contagious. Heck's grandmother, Grasi Suarez-Benitez, a retired resident in Florida, learned about Heck's efforts. Unbeknownst to Heck, last year Suarez-Benitez



Grasi Suarez-Benitez knit 110 hats to be given out to the homeless during Southern's MLK Service Day.



Dylan Gibbons, junior social work major, connects with a homeless woman as he helps her find just the right items during the MLK Service Day Street Store.



Nearly 1,000 Southern students and employees prepare to scatter across the Chattanooga, Tenn., community, offering their time and skills during the 2018 MLK Service Day.

began knitting hats for the Street Store because she wanted those in need to be warm and to know that they are cared for.

She sent them to Heck a few at a time, and before they knew it, the number of hand-knit hats filled several grocery bags — 110 hats in all colors and patterns, each made with love.

"My grandmother had no idea how many she had made," Heck said. "When I laid the hats out and counted them, she was quite emotional to see how her work all year long had made an immense impact."

Prioritizing Service

The same spirit of service is evident in Southern's students. For Alysia Wright, who recently completed a bachelor's degree in chemistry and is now pursuing a master's in clinical mental health counsel-

ing, her involvement in service began when she was six years old. She recalls her mother, a registered dietician, taking her and her brother to health fairs and school activities to volunteer. The spirit of helping others became ingrained in Wright, and when the time came to choose a college, she knew that it had to be one that prioritized service.

This ultimately led her to Southern. Wright has volunteered during every MLK Service Day since her freshman year, and spends her Sabbath afternoons in active service in her community.

"I love making people smile, knowing that I am making a difference in their lives," Wright said. "When I have the opportunity to help someone less fortunate, it warms my soul." ❶

BY OKSANA WETMORE

Oakwood University Expands Degree Programs

The holiday season brings family, friends, and good food together to enjoy great times. After the meal, many have felt the need to expand their belts to accommodate the joy of the seasons. At Oakwood University, they are expanding their “waistline” to grow programs, and are excited to introduce new degree programs that will launch in the spring of 2018. Now is the best time for aspiring students to think about expanding capabilities with a new focus and degree from Oakwood University. Student success begins here.

Undergraduate degrees:

- Bachelor’s degree in human resource management
- Bachelor’s degree in visual media (Concentrations: graphic design, photography, and photojournalism)
- Beginning Spring 2018:
- Bachelor of Arts in applied mathematics
- Bachelor of Arts in nutrition (Concentration: vegetarian culinary)
- Bachelor of Arts in sports management
- Bachelor of Arts in sports marketing

Graduate degrees:

- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Public Health
- Master of Arts in urban ministry and community development (MA)

For more information about these programs contact us at www.oakwood.edu/admissions. ①

BY KENN DIXON

CP-GEM Launched with Class of 2021

Oakwood University is excited about its United Negro College Fund (UNCF) Career Pathways Initiative (CPI) entitled “CP-GEM” — Career Pathways for Gainful Employment of Minorities. This program was launched with the class of 2021, and is designed to equip Oakwood students with the skills, knowledge, preparation, and tools needed for meaningful employment upon graduation.

As part of this initiative, the GEMConnect Mobile Application was launched during New Student Orientation. New and transfer students were introduced to the app which allows students to evaluate their career aptitude, build a digital career portfolio, discover professional certifications, communicate with a career advisor, discover internships and job opportunities, and get career advice from alumni. Oakwood is looking for alumni

who are interested in serving as mentors, and are willing to connect to current students through the use of the app. Please contact Richard Hodnett at rhodnett@oakwood.edu to participate. ①

BY KAREN BENN-MARSHAL, PH.D.

SOUTHERN UNION ANNOUNCEMENT

CELEBRATE YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER. The cover feature for the July 2018 *Southern Tidings* will highlight personal tributes to teachers Unionwide who had a lasting influence on their students. If there is such a teacher who made a difference in your life, please share your story at www.southernunion.com/teachers. In 250 words, answer the following: Who was your favorite teacher? Why?

MAKE US ONE

Romans 12:4-5

ASI
SOUTHERN UNION

April 5-8

2018 Spring Conference



MIKE TUCKER
Faith For Today
Speaker/Director



DR. THOMAS JACKSON
M.E.T. Ministry
Lifestyle Consultant/Director



DAVID GUERRERO
Rekindle the Flame Ministries
Pastor/Director



JYNEAN PALMER-REID
Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy
Chaplain/Instructor

Registration begins at 4:00 pm at the Stone Mountain Evergreen Marriott and the first meeting is with the main speaker – Mike Tucker 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.

Registration for the ASI Convention does not include lodging. Lodging reservations must be made directly by telephone with Stone Mountain Evergreen Marriott. No online room reservations are available.



SPECIAL MUSIC BY:

- The Emmanuel Quartet
- Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy Choir
- Dave & Marlene Colburn



REGISTER TODAY AT: www.asisouthernunion.org

Stone Mountain Evergreen Marriott
4021 Lakeview Dr
Stone Mountain, GA 30083
(770) 879-9900 or (888)-236-2427
<http://www.marriott.com>

Time-Tested

Fletcher Academy

Founded in 1910

ACADEMY DAYS: April 8-9 • *Register on-line at fletcheracademy.com*

- AdvancED Accredited
- ACT scores above the national average
- \$50,000 in scholarships to be awarded on Sunday
- Students can spend the night here – experience dorm life
- No qualified student turned away because of finances
- 3 student mission trips each year



Biblically Christ-centered



Real-world Work Experiences



College-preparatory Curriculum



Music Ministry

Fletcher Academy Where Christian Education and Work Combine to Build Character

185 Fletcher Academy Drive • Fletcher, North Carolina 28732
828-209-6800 • www.fletcheracademy.com

TEACHER'S PET



Want to find the edge of your comfort zone?

From the archaeological sites of the Holy Land to the laboratories in Hickman Science Center, Southern students are constantly applying their minds and talents to academic research. Last year, Southern provided funding in support of **108 research projects**. So even if studying spider webs isn't your thing, we're sure you'll find something that is.

Learn more about how Southern can expand your comfort zone.

southern.edu/teacherspet



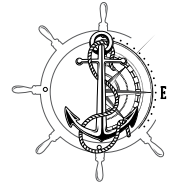
SOUTHERN
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Power for Mind & Soul



2018 PSI Conference on Philanthropy June 26-29, Fort Lauderdale FL

CHART YOUR COURSE TO SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISING



This NAD sponsored conference offers a unique opportunity for development officers, leaders, administrators and pastors who are actively engaged in seeking financial support through fundraising. Topics for workshops, sessions, and forums include:

**Fundamentals of Fundraising • Digital Fundraising • Board & CEO Giving • Free One-to-One Consultation with Experts
Networking • Strategic Donor Retention • Generational Giving • and more.**

Register today to secure the Early-Bird Rate, Group Discounts and a low-cost room for \$135 at psiconference.com.
Email RandyFox@nadadventist.org about the LEARN NOW-PAY LATER Program.



Contribute to God's Great Work **and Receive a Secure, Fixed Income for Life!**

Jim and Sharon were delighted to learn that they could help God's work and receive a fixed, guaranteed income for the rest of their lives by donating cash, stocks, or bonds.

You will receive a charitable deduction for the year of your contribution, and a significant portion of the annual payments to you may be income-tax free.

Most importantly, you can have the joy of knowing you are helping God's work in your conference and have a secure, safe income at the same time, higher than today's CD rates. Depending on your age, your rates could be between 5.1% and 7.6% or higher.

► **To learn more about securing your future with a charitable gift annuity, please contact your local planned giving and trust services representative today!**

Carolina

Rick Hutchinson (704) 596-3200

Florida

Phil Bond (407) 644-5000

Georgia-Cumberland

Ray Hartwell (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

Merkita Mosely (404) 792-0535

South Central

Sonja Crayton (615) 226-6500

Southeastern

Juan Gonzalez (352) 735-3142

Southern Adventist University

Carolyn Liers (423) 236-2818



SUSDAGift.org



Abundant Life

Adventist Health System takes a Christ-centered, whole-person approach to healthcare, serving more than 4.7 million patients each year. To do this, we look to the principles of Creation as the blueprint for helping others live an abundant life. Explore these eight principles of CREATION Health at [CreationHealth.com](https://www.creationhealth.com).

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ADVERTISING

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

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

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

PROPERTY AVAILABLE

SUMMIT RIDGE RETIREMENT VILLAGE - An Adventist community in a rural setting that offers affordable homes or apartments and caring neighbors, with a fellowship you'll enjoy. On-site church, planned activities, and transportation, as needed. Also, Wolfe Living Center offering independent living and nursing home. Website: <http://summitridgevillage.org> or Bill Norman 405-208-1289. ©

FLORIDA LIVING, INDEPENDENT RETIREMENT LIVING - celebrating 51 years of service. A small, relaxed, sunny and warm environment for SDA retirees. Affordable, lease only condos, efficiencies and homes. Located near SDA hospitals, medical offices, shopping and entertainment. Vegetarian meals and healthy living style promoted. 407-862-2646, www.floridalivingretirement.com [3]

ENJOY WORRY-FREE INDEPENDENT RETIREMENT at Fletcher Park Inn on the Fletcher Academy campus near Hendersonville, NC. Lovely, spacious apartments available now. Enjoy a complimentary lunch at our vegetarian buffet on the day of your no-obligation tour. Call Lisa for details. 828-209-6935 and visit: www.fletcherparkinn.com [3, 4]

COLLEGEDALE - McDonald Rd Acreage for sale, 6 acre tract for \$79,900. Apison area/Cleveland, TN luxury home \$585,000 on 2.5 acres, almost 5000 square feet, only 12 minutes to SAU. Visit www.DixonTeam.com. Wendy Dixon, Dixon Team, Keller Williams Realty, 423-602-7653. [3]

SOUTHERN TINY LIVING proudly presented by Southern Adventist University. The Tiny House features 300 square feet of living space, high ceiling with two lofts, fully equipped kitchen, full-size bathtub and shower, fully furnished. Offered at \$65,000. For more information call: 423-236-2537 or email: tprice@southern.edu [3]

SALE BY OWNER: Large brick 4-bed Collegedale home w/mountain views. Secluded, private gate; 6000+ sq. ft; rental apartment w/outside entrance. Surrounded by SAU wooded property. 5.5 baths; 18' vaulted ceiling/sunken living room; 2 big rock fireplaces; large recreation room. Was \$545,000, quick sale: \$395,000. 423-400-6369. [3-5]

1 BED CONDO IN HONOLULU, HAWAII - In Nu'ua-nu. Relaxing & affordable, minutes to beaches, Chinatown & hiking! Clean, comfortable, like new. Sleeps 6 comfortably. Furnished kitchen, washer/dryer and more. Free parking. Visit www.honcentralda.org or call 808-524-1352. [3-6]

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks an **Adjunct Instructor of German** for its Modern Languages Department. Must be an experienced educator, hold an MA in German (with 18 graduate credits hours in German) and be familiar with ACFTL National language guidelines. Must also be willing to participate in professional development activities ensuring awareness of goal-oriented and student centered instruction. Send CV to Dr. Adrienne Royo-Chair, Modern Languages Department via US Mail or email to: aroyo@southern.edu, PO Box 370 Collegedale, TN 37315, Att. Dr. Adrienne Royo. For full description of position visit: www.southern.edu/jobs [3]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **Director of Clinical Education (DCE)** for its Physical Therapist Assistant Program. The DCE holds a full-time faculty appointment and has administrative, academic, service, and scholarship responsibilities consistent with the mission and philosophy of Southern Adventist University. This individual demonstrates competence in clinical education, teaching, and curriculum development. In addition, the DCE's primary responsibilities are to plan, coordinate, facilitate, administer, and monitor activities on behalf of the academic program and in coordination with academic and clinical faculty. Minimum Qualifications: Must be a physical therapist (Master's or higher preferred) or a PT Assistant (Bachelor's required in a related field, Master's preferred); hold or be eligible for Tennessee state licensure; 3 years of clinical experience as a physical therapist assistant or physical therapist; 2 years of clinical teaching and/or clinical coordination experience; and strong communication, organization, interpersonal, problem-solving, and counseling skills. Must also be able to meet the faculty requirements as stated in the Standards and Required Elements for PTA programs. Preferred: teaching experience in a physical therapist academic program or equivalent coursework; active in clinical practice and professional activities; and an earned status as an APTA Credentialed Clinical Instructor. Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, and three references to Dr. Christopher Stewart: cbstewart@southern.edu, or to PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315 Att: Dr. Christopher Stewart. Position will be posted until filled. For full description of position visit: www.southern.edu/jobs [3]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S Department of Biology/Allied Health is seeking faculty member to join, beginning fall 2018. Prefer biology PhD who will be teaching upper and lower division classes and coordinating all Anatomy and Physiology in the

department. Desire Adventist biologist holding a short-term interpretation of creation and committed to involvement with undergraduate students in the classroom as well as guiding independent student research projects when appropriate. Send CV, statement of teaching philosophy, and 3 references to: Keith Snyder, Biology Search Committee Chair, Southern Adventist University, Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315, 423-236-2929; fax: 423-236-1926; email: ksnyder@southern.edu. For full description of position and application procedure, visit www.southern.edu/jobs [3]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks full-time faculty to join the **School of Nursing Graduate Program**. Candidate must be doctorally-prepared with an advanced practice nursing specialty. Acute care or pediatrics is preferred; other certification may be considered. Teaching responsibilities include graduate classes, practicum oversight, and Capstone (MSN) or Scholarly Project (DNP) guidance. Send CV or inquiries to Dr. Barbara James: bjames@southern.edu, School of Nursing, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. For full description of position and application procedure, visit: www.southern.edu/jobs [3]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks full-time faculty to join the **School of Nursing** to teach core classes at the undergraduate and graduate level. Doctorate preferred, MSN required. Requisite qualities include successful teaching experience, interest in research, flexibility, and commitment to nursing and SDA education. Send CV or inquiries to Dr. Barbara James, bjames@southern.edu, SAU School of Nursing, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. For full description of position and application procedure, visit: www.southern.edu/jobs [3]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S School of Journalism and Communication seeks faculty to begin June 1, 2018, to teach undergraduate courses and advise across a range of courses in the area of Mass Communication; if possible, also Communication Studies. Qualifications: Master's degree in mass communication, media studies, media technology, or a closely related Communication field required, and doctorate strongly preferred. Preferred: 5+ years of professional experience, 3+ years of teaching experience. Required: knowledge of/experience in one or more: video/multimedia production, photography, publication and web design, or web content management. Also desirable: knowledge/expertise in communication studies or speech. Send CV to: Dr. Rachel Williams-Smith, Dean - School of Journalism & Communication, Southern Adventist University P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370 or via email: rwilliamssmith@southern.edu. For full description of position and application procedure, visit www.southern.edu/jobs [3]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time faculty for the **History and Political Studies Department** to begin August 1, 2018. Must have a specialty in American history and politics, an ability to teach in the areas of American politics and international relations, with interests in the elements of American history that shine light on traditionally disadvantaged populations, would be especially valuable. Applicants should demonstrate facility in the classroom, provide evidence of scholarly activity pertinent to history or politics, and have a strong interest in mentoring undergraduates and contributing

to a robust interdisciplinary liberal arts program. Qualifications: Ph.D. in History or American Studies, Ph.D. in Political Science considered. ABD considered. *To apply, please send 1) cover letter, 2) cv/resume, 3) statement of teaching philosophy to the chair of the department, Mark Peach peach@southern.edu, along with three letters of recommendation (describing the candidate's teaching, scholarship and collegiality).* For full description of position and application procedure, visit www.southern.edu/jobs [3]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a part-time faculty for the **History and Political Studies Department** to begin August 1, 2018. Candidates must have the ability to teach American history in its world context, with interests in the elements of American history that shine light on traditionally disadvantaged populations, would be especially valuable. Applicants should demonstrate facility in the classroom, provide evidence of scholarly activity pertinent to history or politics, and have a strong interest in mentoring undergraduates and contributing to a strong interdisciplinary liberal arts program. Qualifications: Ph.D. in History is ideal. ABDs who want to work part-time while finishing their dissertation are encouraged. *Send 1) cover letter, 2) cv/resume, 3) statement of teaching philosophy to the chair of the department, Mark Peach peach@southern.edu, along with three letters of recommendation (describing the candidate's teaching, scholarship and collegiality).* For full description of position and application procedure, visit www.southern.edu/jobs [3]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time **Systematic Theology faculty member** for 2018-2019. Ph.D. preferred; master's degree considered. Successful candidates will have teaching and pastoral experience. *Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Amy Rosenthal, arosenthal@swau.edu* [3]

THE EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT at Southwestern Adventist University invites applications for a **full-time faculty position**. Preferred candidates will hold a doctorate in Educational Psychology or Secondary Education and have university teaching experience. Master's degree considered. Must have or be able to obtain a Texas teaching credential. *Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Donna Berkner, dberkner@swau.edu* [3]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S Nursing Department seeks a **full-time nurse educator**. Doctorate desired; MSN considered. Experience in medical/surgical or critical care nursing required. Must enjoy working with young people who are excited about service. Must have, or be able to obtain, an unencumbered Texas nursing license. *Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Amy Rosenthal, arosenthal@swau.edu* [3, 4]

UNION COLLEGE seeks an Adventist **OTA Academic Fieldwork Coordinator**. This faculty position is responsible for developing, implementing, and maintaining students' fieldwork education, and includes teaching responsibilities. An OTA degree with a minimum of three years of clinical experience required. *Send CV and references to Cami Hollins, cami.hollins@ucollege.edu.* Further information, www.ucollege.edu/faculty-openings. [3, 4]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks an Instructor of Architecture. The Instructor of Architecture holds a faculty

appointment and has academic, service, and scholarship responsibilities consistent with the mission and philosophy of the School of Architecture & Interior Design. This individual demonstrates competence in design studio education, teaching of construction technology, and curriculum development at the graduate and undergraduate levels. https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_2 [3]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks **Assistant/Associate Professor of Nursing**. The Assistant/Associate Professor of Nursing holds a faculty appointment and has academic, service, and scholarship responsibilities consistent with the mission and philosophy of the Nursing Department. This individual demonstrates competence in didactic, clinical education, teaching, and curriculum development at the graduate and undergraduate levels. https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_6 [3]

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES seeks **Faculty for the Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Program**, to be responsible for classroom, simulation, and clinical instruction of students. Qualified candidates must be CRNAs with an appropriate Doctoral degree and have three years of recent clinical practice as a CRNA with current NBCRNA Recertification and eligibility to obtain Florida ARNP licensure. The ideal candidate would also have experience in nurse anesthesia education. *Please send resumes to alescia.devasher@adu.edu* [3]

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE (GC) OF SDA'S Office of General Counsel is seeking a law student for an 8-10 week *paid summer clerkship*. This position is not a full-time, hire-track position and is best suited for 1Ls. Duties include legal research and other projects, emphasis is on religious liberty and First Amendment work. Must be SDA church member. Interview and/or relocation expenses will be applicant's responsibility. *Send resume, writing sample, and transcript to Karnik Doukmetzian at karnikd@gc.adventist.org* [3]

OB-GYN AND PEDIATRICIAN needed for Adventist owned/operated Rural Health Clinic on the campus of Weimar Institute at Weimar, California. Competitive pay. *Call Dr. Randall Steffens at: 615-604-0142.* [3]

CHILD IMPACT INTERNATIONAL, previously known as Asian Aid USA, is seeking a **CEO** with senior management experience and organizational skills to lead the organization based in Collegedale, TN. Applicants must have a passion for education, orphans and underprivileged children, a proven track record in international nonprofit management or related experience, the capacity to motivate a staff of young professionals, and the ability to lead this growing ministry in its mission. The preferred applicant will also have marketing and/or fundraising experience. Application deadline is March 31, 2018. Child Impact reserves the right to extend or close the application period prior to that date. *Contact support@childimpact.org for detailed job description.* [3]

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING in Nampa, Idaho is seeking an **Associate Editor** to join our Product Development team. Successful candidates will be creative, detail-oriented, and self-directed with the ability to work independently and exercise excellent judgment. Educational requirements are a graduate degree in Religion or Theology. Course work in Communication,

English, or Journalism preferred. To submit an application or for more information contact Michelle Sinigaglio, Human Resources Director at 208-465-2568 or michelle.sinigaglio@pacificpress.com [3]

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

STEINWAY 9' CONCERT GRAND PIANO - Excellent condition! Ideal for serious musician, church, or school. Looks, plays, sounds like new. We are selling our Collegedale home, downsizing, piano must go! Sacrifice: \$46,000. Cost new: \$150,000. Further discount for SDA Church or School. *Call for details: 423-400-6369.* [3]

MISCELLANEOUS

RELOCATING? Apex Moving & Storage has a national account contract with the General Conference for your moving needs. Take advantage of a volume rated discount. Be assured you are moving with the BEST! *Call Marcy Dante' at 800-766-1902; or visit us at: www.apexmoving.com/adventist* [3-12]

THE CLERGY MOVE CENTER™ at Stevens Worldwide Van Lines is The Way To Move™ from state to state! Through our national contract with the General Conference, we extend our moving services to all Adventist families. *Contact our dedicated Move Counselors for a no-cost/no-obligation estimate at 800-248-8313.* Learn more at www.stevensworldwide.com/sda. [3-5]

THE WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER can help you naturally treat and reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, fibromyalgia, lupus, multiple sclerosis, chronic fatigue, cancer, depression, and many more. *Invest in your health, call 1-800-634-9355 for more information or visit www.wildwoodhealth.com* [3-5]

AUTHORS of cookbooks, health books, children's chapter and picture books, Call 800-367-1844 for your free evaluation. We publish all book formats, distribute to over 39,000 bookstores in 220 countries. *Find our new titles at your local ABC or www.TeachServices.com, used SDA books at www.LNFBooks.com* [3, 4]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. *For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatestudies* [3-5]

SINGLE? WIDOWED? DIVORCED? Meet compatible SDA's from USA ages 18-98. Each provides: birthday, marital status, race, occupation, interests, goals, year baptized, lots more! Safe, confidential, effective, fun! *For information, application and current catalog, send \$25 to: SDA Pen-Pals, PO Box 734, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513.* [3-8]

OUACHITA HEALTHY LIVING CENTER in southwest Arkansas. This is where you need to go if you're wanting to change some habits, eat better, develop an exercise program, and do it in a natural setting with a Christian emphasis. Our first week-long, live-in program begins April 1, 2018. *Please contact us via e-mail at drsi@ohhealth.org or call 318 426-1843.* [3]

CAROLINA

PATHFINDER BIBLE EXPERIENCE TESTING - March 3. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

PATHFINDER CAMPOREE - March 15-17. Darlington Raceway, Darlington, NC.

MT. PISGAH ACADEMY MUSIC FESTIVAL - March 29, 30. MPA.

ALIVE YOUTH RALLY - March 30-April 1. Spartanburg Church, 1217 John B. White Senior Blvd., Spartanburg, SC 29306.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SUMMIT - April 7. Charlotte Spanish Church. Speaker: Dr. Phillip Samaan.

ADVENTURE FUN DAY - April 8. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

HISPANIC CAMP MEETING - April 20-22. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

MPA ALUMNI WEEKEND - April. 20-22. Mount Pisgah Academy, Candler, NC.

MPA ACADEMY DAYS - April 27-29. Mount Pisgah Academy, Candler, NC.

PATHFINDER COUNCIL - April 27, 28. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

ELDERS' RETREAT - May 11, 12. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

MPA GRADUATION - May 18, 19. MPA.

LAKE JUNALUSKA CAMP MEETING - May 27-June 2. Maggie Valley, NC.

FLORIDA

COMPLETE CALENDAR ONLINE - floridaconference.com/events

A BETTER CHOICE / FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER - Altamonte Springs: national toll-free number, 877-55-FLABC (877-553-5222). Miami: 305-805-9900. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: floridaconference.com/abc or order by e-mail: FloridaABC@floridaconference.com

FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE - Avoid shipping costs by placing an ABC order to be delivered to a location as scheduled below. Orders must be made by phone or e-mail before 5:30 p.m. on the Thursday before a scheduled Sunday delivery.

March 4. Inverness, Tampa First, Brandon, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Sarasota, North Port, Port Charlotte.

March 11. Kendall, Miami Temple, Miami Springs, Eden, Maranatha in Miami Gardens.

BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE RESUMES IN APRIL. Call 877-553-5222 for more information.

MEN'S MINISTRIES CONVENTION: 25TH ANNIVERSARY. March 9-11. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 202 Ave., High Springs.

Theme: Thy Kingdom Come. Guest speakers: Claudio Consuegra, Shian O'Connor, Ron Smith. Cost: depends upon meal/accommodation choice and early-bird discount.

HOPE FOR HURTING HEARTS RETREAT-TEENS. March 29-April 1. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 202 Ave., High Springs. Educational retreat for teens who've been sexually abused as children. Cost: \$125. Details/registration: floridaconference.com/events/hope-hurting-hearts-retreat-teens.

124TH ANNUAL FLORIDA CAMP MEETING. April 5-8. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 202 Ave., High Springs. Theme: Legacy of Hope. Cost: depends on meal and accommodation choice. Free to attend. Details/registration: floridaconference.com/campmeeting.

CAMPESTRE HISPANO (SPANISH-LANGUAGE CAMP MEETING). April 13-15. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 202 Ave., High Springs. Theme: Legacy of Hope. Cost: depends on meal and accommodation choice. Free to attend. Details/registration: floridaconference.com/campestre

PATHFINDER/ADVENTURER LEADERSHIP CONVENTION. July 27-29. Miami DoubleTree (Hilton Airport Hotel), 711 NW 72nd Ave., Miami. Cost: \$129 if registered by March 29, \$149 afterward or \$169 on site. Includes all meals. Accommodation fee additional (reserved directly with hotel). Details/registration: floridaconference.com/events/leadership-convention-0

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

ECUADOR 2017 REPORT SINGLES' MINISTRY - March 10. White Oak Room, Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN.

REGENERATE-YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT FESTIVAL - March 17. Get ready for a high Sabbath with academy choirs, a variety of music groups, and mission reports. Guest speaker: Iki Taimi, pastor of the Gardena Community Church in California. A highlight is the afternoon expression session; youth take to the stage to share their faith with their peers through music, drama, and personal testimonies. Meal ticket deadline is March 7. The Church at Liberty Square, Cartersville, GA.

PATHFINDER PRECISION DRILL TEAM DAY - March 18. Soddy-Daisy High School, Soddy-Daisy, TN.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES RE-

TREAT - March 23-25. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

PATHFINDER BIBLE EXPERIENCE UNION LEVEL - March 24. Georgia-Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA.

COLLEGEDALE ACADEMY NEW STUDENT PARENTS' NIGHT - March 28. 6-8 p.m. Collegedale, TN.

LEARNING TO LIVE GRATEFULLY: FIRST STEWARDSHIP RETREAT - April 6-8. Featured speakers: Bonita Shields and John Matthews. Register by March 22. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

REPURPOSED WOMEN'S & TEEN GIRLS' SPRING RETREATS - April 12-15. God in Shoes Outreach, April 12, 13. Speakers include: June Price, women's; April Hobbs, teen girls' (ages 14-17); Nyasha Dunkley, teen girls' (ages 11-13). Music with Gale Jones Murphy. Final registration deadline is March 19. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

PATHFINDER CAMPOREE - April 19-22. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

COHUTTA SPRINGS FOUNDATION WEEKEND - April 20-22. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

GULF STATES

TEEN INVITATIONAL: BACKPACKING - March 2-4. Talladega Forest.

CROSS EXAMINATION YOUTH RALLY - March 17. Big Cove Christian Academy.

BASS ALUMNI WEEKEND - March 23-25. Honor classes: 1963, 68, 73, 78, 83, 88, 93, 98, 03, and 07. www.bmasda.org.

HOMECOMING AT SHOALS CHURCH - April 21. Florence, AL. Guest speaker: former Pastor Barry Mahorney. Special music: Ashlyn O'Rourke, harpist.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES TRAINING - March 2, 3. Madison Academy.

EASTERN KENTUCKY CAMP MEETING - March 9, 10. Prestonsburg, KY.

MUSIC FESTIVAL - March 15-17. Highland Academy.

"LEAD LIKE JESUS" LEADERSHIP TRAINING - March 18. Madison Campus Church.

MEMPHIS FESTIVAL OF FAITH - March 23, 24. Memphis, TN.

"PRAYING FOR YOUR HUSBAND" SEMINAR - March 25. Conference Office.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - April 3. Conference Office.

BOARD OF EDUCATION - April 5. Conference Office.

CAMPUS CATALYST - April 7. Lexington Church, Lexington, KY.

HISPANIC PASTORS'/ELDERS' RETREAT - April 13-15. Indian Creek Camp.
PASTORS'/ELDERS' RETREAT - April 20, 21. Indian Creek Camp.

HIGHLAND ACADEMY BOARD - April 26. Highland Academy.

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT - April 27-29. Indian Creek Camp.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT - March 18. With Laurie Redmer Minner conducting, Southern's Symphony Orchestra will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Collegedale Church. This and many other musical events are also broadcast at southern.edu/streaming.

ARCHAEOLOGY LECTURE - March 26. Melinda Hartwig, Ph.D., curator of Egyptian, Nubian, and Ancient Near Eastern Art at Emory University, will give a talk titled "Ancient Egyptian Tomb Painting and Identity," at 7 p.m. in the Lynn Wood Hall Chapel. For more information, visit southern.edu/archaeology.

WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT - April 8. Southern's Wind Symphony will present a concert titled "World Tour," at 7:30 p.m. in the Collegedale Church. With Ken Parsons conducting, the ensemble will feature pieces such as Gustav Holst's "Suite No. 2 for Military Band," and Johan de Meij's "African Harmony: Songs from Mama Africa." This event may also be viewed at southern.edu/streaming.

SOUTHERN UNION

GC GLOBAL YOUTH DAY SABBATH - March 17.

SU PBE EVENT AT GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND ACADEMY - March 24. 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION DOWN WITH THE BARRIERS DISABILITIES MINISTRIES 7TH ANNUAL INCLUSION MINISTRY - March 9, 10. Northeast Church, 827 Tom Hunter Road, Charlotte, NC 28613. No registration fee. Lunch included. Interpreters will be available for the deaf.

UNION COLLEGE HOMECOMING - April 5-8. Honor classes: 1948, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1978, 1988, 1993, 1998, and 2008. For more information, contact the alumni office at

401-486-2503, 3800 S. 48th Street, Lincoln, NE 68506, or alumni@ucollege.edu.

ENTERPRISE/GREAT PLAINS ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND - April 13, 14. Enterprise SDA Church, Enterprise, KS. Honor Classes graduating years ending with 3s and 8s. For more information, email ea.gpa.alumni@hotmail.com, call 620-640-5740, or check school website: ea-gpa-alumni.com.

OKLAHOMA ACADEMY DAYS - April 13-15. If you are a student who is serious about your walk with the Lord and His mission for your life, Oklahoma Academy may be just the place for you. Come for our Academy Days weekend and find out. Call 405-454-6211 to make your reservations today! Also, visit www.oklahomacademy.org.

ATLANTA ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI REUNION - April 21. Save the date! Come reconnect and reminisce at the old Cascade campus. The program begins at 3 p.m. with memories, music, and featured speaker Harold Cunningham. We will be celebrating all graduates and especially the honor classes: '88, '93, '98, '03, '08, '13. For more information, call 404-699-1400 or visit our website: www.aaa.edu. We look forward to seeing you!

LA SIERRA ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND - April 27, 28. Honor classes: 3s and 8s.

Welcome reception, Friday at 7 p.m., LSA Library. Sabbath services: registration at 9 a.m. and Homecoming Service at 10 a.m., LSA Gym. Potluck, campus tours, reunions, and varsity basketball. Please update/email contact information to: JNelson@lsak12.com; www.lsak12.com; alumni office: 951 351-1445 x244.

BROADVIEW ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND - April 27, 28. Mark your calendars, call your classmates and start planning for this weekend now! Honor classes: 1948, 1958, 1968, 1978, 1988, 1993, and 1998. To be held at N. Aurora Church, N. Aurora, Ill. Friday night Vespers, Sabbath School, church, lunch, and afternoon musical program. All ideas and information welcome. For communication purposes, we need your email addresses. Send questions or information to Natanja and Kerry Hensley, bva.alumni.cte@gmail.com, or call Dale Rollins at 224-407-0233. For more information, visit: www.broadviewacademy.org.

CELEBRATE YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER. The cover feature for the July 2018 *Southern Tidings* will highlight personal tributes to teachers Unionwide who had a lasting influence on their students. If there is such a teacher who made a difference in your life, please share your story at www.southernunion.com/teachers. In 250 words, answer the following: Who was your favorite teacher? Why?

SUNSET

	MAR 2	MAR 9	MAR 16	MAR 23	MAR 30	APR 6
ATLANTA, GA	6:34	6:40	7:46	7:51	7:56	8:01
CHARLESTON, SC	6:17	6:23	7:28	7:33	7:38	7:43
CHARLOTTE, NC	6:19	6:25	7:31	7:37	7:43	7:48
COLLEGE DALE, TN	6:37	6:43	7:49	7:55	8:01	8:06
HUNTSVILLE, AL	5:43	5:49	6:54	7:00	7:05	7:11
JACKSON, MS	5:59	6:04	7:09	7:14	7:19	7:24
LOUISVILLE, KY	6:37	6:44	7:51	7:57	8:04	8:10
MEMPHIS, TN	5:56	6:02	7:08	7:14	7:20	7:25
MIAMI, FL	6:23	6:26	7:30	7:33	7:36	7:39
MONTGOMERY, AL	5:43	5:48	6:53	6:58	7:03	7:08
NASHVILLE, TN	5:42	5:49	6:55	7:01	7:07	7:13
ORLANDO, FL	6:26	6:30	7:34	7:38	7:42	7:46
TAMPA, FL	6:30	6:35	7:39	7:42	7:46	7:50
WILMINGTON, NC	6:08	6:14	7:20	7:25	7:31	7:36

MASTER'S DEGREE IN SOCIAL WORK

Facilitate Positive Change in People's Lives



Southern Adventist University's Master of Social Work program prepares you for excellent service and leadership in the social work profession.

It works.

Our evidence-based program equips you with effective intervention tools.

It's convenient.

Classes meet all day Sunday, twice a month.

You'll be ready.

Our approach is competency based. That means you get hands-on skills and experience in social work practice while you're in school.

Call or visit online to find out how you can get started.

Master of Social Work

With a multi-disciplinary approach and a variety of concentrations, a master's degree in social work from Southern prepares you to serve a wide variety of people in need.



1.800.SOUTHERN • southern.edu/graduatestudies

