

T Southern IDINGS

NOVEMBER 2018



'TIL HE COMES:

*Special Memorial
Medallions Honor
Service of Seventh-day
Adventists*

CONNECTION
WITH GOD

LEWIS STOUT,
RETIRED
SOUTHERN UNION
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AND RELIGIOUS
LIBERTY
DIRECTOR,
PASSES

NORWIDA
MARSHALL,
ED.D., RETIRED
SOUTHERN
UNION EARLY
CHILDHOOD
DIRECTOR,
PASSES

FREED.O.M.
FROM
SICKNESS,
DISEASE

CHANGING
LIVES ONE
SMILE AT A
TIME

People of (Dis)Ability



Jim Davidson
Executive Secretary of the
Southern Union Conference

Guest Editorial

There are many minority groups in America — ethnic minorities, religious minorities, socio-economic minorities, and more. However, larger than any of these is a group that makes up nearly 20 percent of the American population. This is the group commonly called those who are disabled. In fact, in the Southern Union territory alone, there are more than 9,275,000 disabled citizens. What a wonderful opportunity the Church has to minister to this large, dynamic group of people.

As we approach 2019, the Year of Evangelism in the Southern Union, it is important that we are intentional in reaching this large population. Surveys have recently shown that those with disabilities are more receptive to the Gospel than others. Many are simply waiting for someone to invite them to come to church with them.

Of course, we need to make sure that our churches are ready and user-friendly for people of all disabilities. Perhaps now would be a good time to take an assessment of our facilities and programs, to look at ourselves from the vantage point of one who has a disability. For instance, if you project songs or Bible texts on the screen, are the fonts large enough for easy reading? Is the print in your bulletin large enough for a vision-impaired person to read? What about your sound system? Can a person with a hearing deficiency hear the speaker with clarity? Are all of the rooms — sanctuary, rest rooms, classrooms — easily accessible by someone in a wheelchair or walker? Do you have individuals or a team of people prepared to provide transportation to someone who needs it? These are just a few of the issues of which each church needs to be cognizant. They are each important as you prepare to invite the community into your church during the Year of Evangelism emphasis. We need to make sure that the Gospel is accessible to all.

Not only do the disabled need the Gospel, as do all of us, but they have so much to offer. When we turn to the Bible, we discover that some of the greatest heroes of Scripture were those who had a disability:

- Jacob limped after wrestling with an angel.
- Miriam had leprosy.
- Moses stuttered.
- Isaac was blind in his old age.
- Mephibosheth couldn't walk.

Of course, there are many contemporaries who had a disability, but achieved great things:

- Franklin Roosevelt had polio.
- Helen Keller was blind and deaf.
- Stephen Hawking was diagnosed with ALS when he was 21.
- Ellen White suffered an injury at age 9 which affected her the rest of her life.

The list could go on. The world has been greatly enriched by those with disabilities, and so has the Church. I remember the words of Jesus, who said, "As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind? Neither this man nor his parents sinned,' said Jesus, 'but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him,'" John 9:1-3.

There are many people through whom God desires to display His works. May we as a Church become avenues through which the world sees the power of God as He works through this special group of people. ❶

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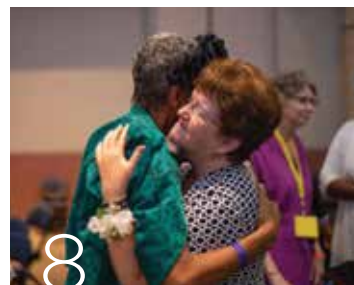
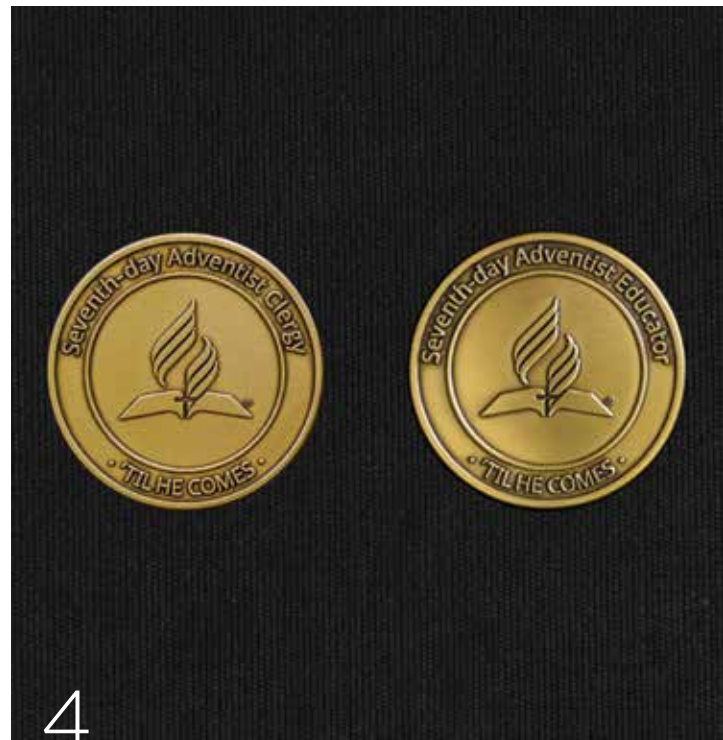
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'TIL HE COMES: SPECIAL MEMORIAL MEDALLIONS HONOR SERVICE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

BY LUCAS L. JOHNSON II

God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them,” Hebrews 6:10 NIV.

In just about every war, individuals who have defended our nation have been recognized for their service. Many times that recognition has come after they are deceased, and it is more than deserved.

What if there was something to recognize Seventh-day Adventists who have served on the spiritual battlefield winning souls for Christ? Just like men and women in the U.S. Armed Forces receive medals, what if there was something like a medallion that could be placed on the grave markers of Adventist clergy and educators in recognition of their service?

R. Steven Norman III, Southern Union communication director, came up with the idea for such a medallion.

“I was walking in a cemetery and noticed a medallion for Methodist clergy,” Norman said. “There are also medallions for U.S. military veterans. I decided to develop a medallion that can be placed on the grave markers of Seventh-day Adventist clergy and

educators who give so much of their lives building the Kingdom of God. It is a tribute to their service and a way to express the Church’s gratitude to their families.”

The Seventh-day Adventist Clergy Memorial Medallion was developed by the Southern Union Communication Department in collaboration with Roger Hernandez, Southern Union ministerial director, and Debra Fryson, Southern Union education superintendent.

Inscribed at the base of the medallion is the phrase, “’Til He Comes.” Norman explained how that inscription came about. He said Charles E. Bradford, former retired North American Division president, mentioned including a reference to the second coming on his mother’s grave marker.

“I began to look through cemeteries everywhere, and saw angels, crosses, and lambs, but no mention of the second coming. So the medallion says ‘’Til He Comes’ to commemorate the hope of every educator and minister who died in Christ Jesus. It is a silent witness.”

Hernandez said that one of his hardest moments as a ministerial director was “participating in the funeral of a pastor.”

“When we are able to give the medallion to a grieving family, and we are leaving the place of rest, the medallion will stay as a testament that death is not final, for we have a blessed hope,” he said.

Fryson agreed.

“The memorial medallion provides a way for the Church to acknowledge the dedicated service teachers and pastors have given to ministry,” she said. “Families value knowing that the toil and sacrifice of their deceased loved one is appreciated and has not gone unnoticed.”

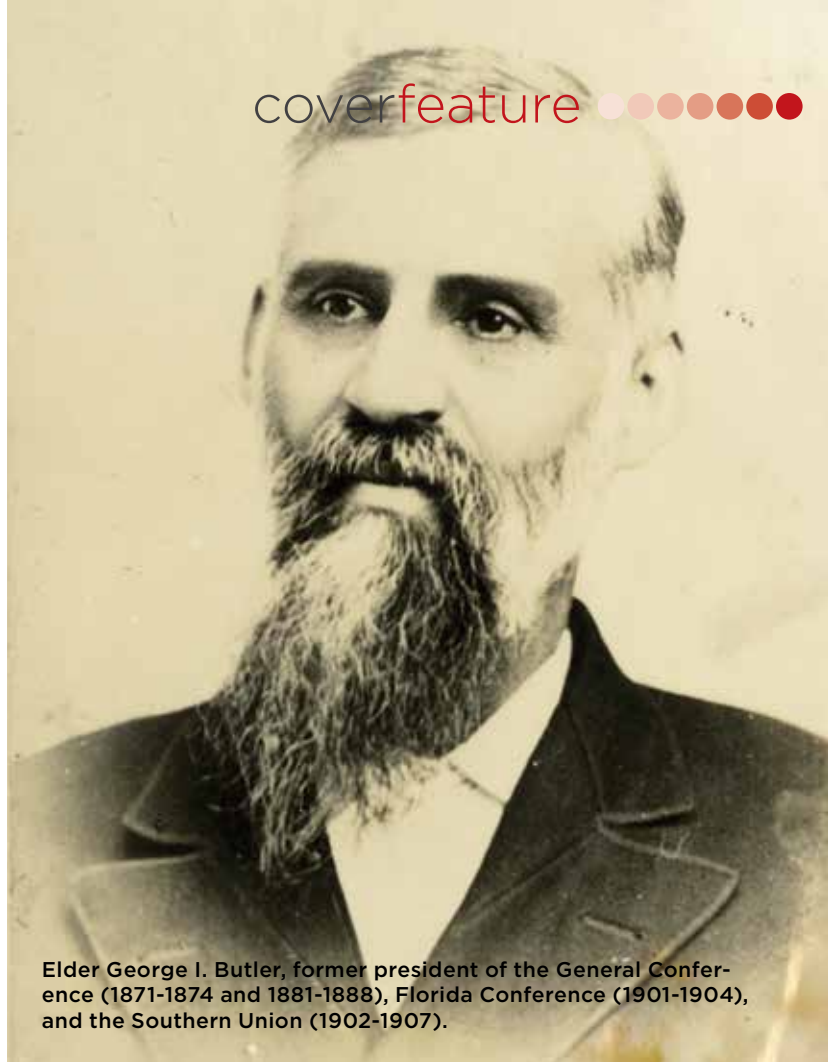
Medallions will be presented at the funerals or memorial services of all clergy and educators who served the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Families will then arrange to have the cemetery or funeral home affix them to the deceased’s grave marker.

Two of the first medallion installation ceremonies were held recently to recognize George I. Butler and Anna Knight. Butler died on July 25, 1918. After his funeral in Oakland, California, his body was shipped to Bowling Green, Florida, where he was buried that August. One hundred years later, church leaders from the Florida and Southeastern conferences, along with



Clergy Medallion attached to Elder George I. Butler's headstone.

PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III



coverfeature ●●●●●●●●

Elder George I. Butler, former president of the General Conference (1871-1874 and 1881-1888), Florida Conference (1901-1904), and the Southern Union (1902-1907).

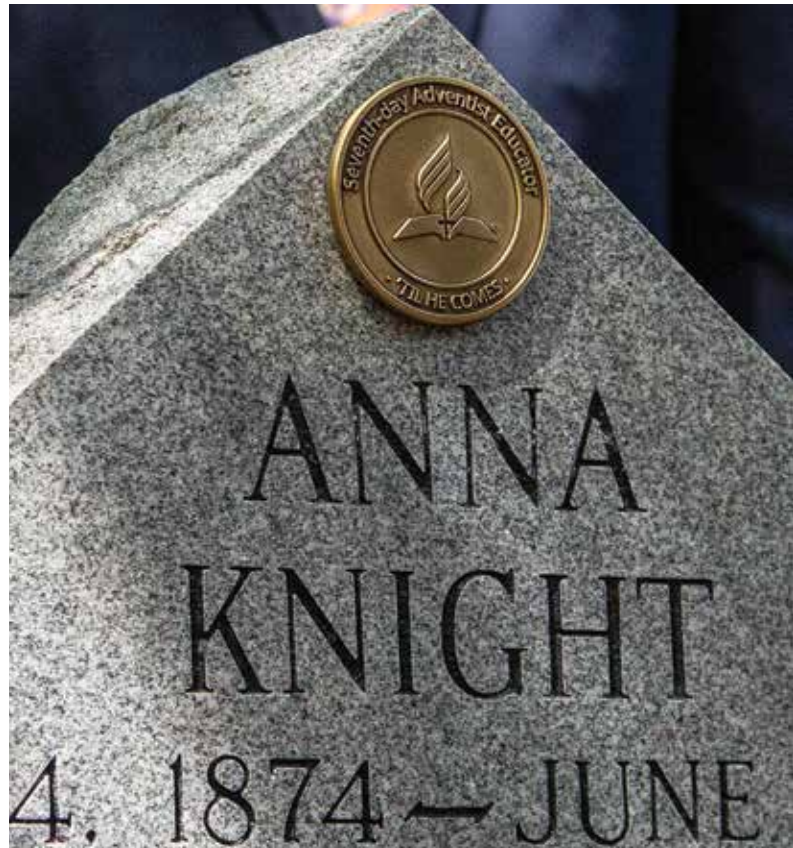


Clarence Wright (left) led participants in singing, "We Have this Hope," after Roger Hernandez affixed the Seventh-day Adventist Clergy Memorial Medallion on the headstone of Elder George I. Butler in Bowling Green, Florida. Clarence Wright, Southeastern Conference ministerial director; Gregory Mack, president of Southeastern Conference; Allan Machado, president of Florida Conference; Roger Hernandez, Southern Union ministerial and evangelism director; Kathy Hernandez, Southern Union assistant ministerial and evangelism director; Tim Goff, Florida Conference ministerial director; and R. Steven Norman III, Southern Union communication director.

PHOTO BY: CHRISTOPHER THOMPSON



Miss Rachel Anna Knight was the first female missionary to India, teacher, assistant director of education, Young People's Missionary Volunteer, and home missionary secretary for the Southeastern and Southern unions from 1909 until her retirement in 1946.



Anna Knight's headstone

the Southern Union, gathered at his grave at 11 a.m. on August 28, 2018, to pay tribute to Butler's service to the World Church as president of the General Conference (1871-1874 and 1881-1888), as well as to the Southern Union and Florida Conference where he was president of the Florida Conference (1901-1904), and Southern Union (1902-1907).

Tim Goff welcomed the visitors, and a biographical profile was presented by R. Steven Norman III. Then Gregory Mack, Allan Machado, and Roger Hernandez placed the newly minted Seventh-day Adventist Clergy Memorial Medallion on his grave marker. The brief but historic service concluded with everyone joining Clarence Wright in singing "We Have This Hope."

The following month a medallion ceremony was held at 11 a.m. for Miss Knight on September 17, 2018, in Soso, Mississippi. Knight died June 10, 1972.

She was the first female missionary, teacher, assistant director of education, Young People's Missionary Volunteer, and home missionary secretary for the Southeastern and Southern unions from 1909 until her retirement in 1946.

Those who attended Knight's ceremony included Benjamin Jones, South Central Conference president; Meshach Mauia, pastor of the Soso Church; and Dorothy Marsh, one of Knight's nieces.

"My sister Florence and I express our sincere appreciation and thanks for recognizing our aunt Anna with the Educator Memorial Medallion," Marsh said. "It is truly a testament to her legacy."

Families that would like to receive a medallion for a deceased loved one who has passed away since January 1, 2017, may request a medallion from their conference ministerial or education department. Families who would like to receive a medallion

for clergy or educators who died prior to January 1, 2017, may order one from *AdventSource* starting January 20, 2019.

"Imagine walking through a cemetery and seeing 'Seventh-day Adventist Educator' or 'Clergy' and 'Til He Comes,'" Norman said. "What a testimony to Christian service and a witness to Christ's second coming!"

Additional photos will be available on the southernunion.com website soon.

Quick Facts about George I. Butler

1834 – Born to Ezra and Sarah Butler on November 12, in Waterbury, Vermont.

1856 – Accepted Christ and baptized by James N. Andrews.

1865-1872 – President of Iowa Conference.

1867 – Ordained with James White and Elder Bourdeau officiating.

1871-1874 – President of General Con-



PHOTO BY: RONALD HENRY

Those who attended the Anna Knight Medallion service include: JoAnna Newcomb and Lee Graham of Jones County Junior College Foundation; relatives of Anna Knight, Olga Watts, Dorothy Marsh, and Florence Blaylock; David Livermore, president of the Gulf States Conference; Benjamin Jones, president of the South Central Conference; Stan Hobbs, Gulf States education superintendent; Johnny Holliday, South Central education superintendent; Debra Fryson, Southern Union education superintendent; R. Steven Norman III, Southern Union communication director; Barbara Stovall, Anna Knight Women's Leadership Center director; and Diane Ruff, Southern Union assistant superintendent for elementary education.

ference. Established Battle Creek College and Pacific Press Publishing Association.

1884 – Laid groundwork for publishing houses in Switzerland, Norway, and England.

1901-1904 – Succeeded L.H. Crisler as the second president of the Florida Conference in December 1901.

1902-1907 – Elected second president of the Southern Union and the Southern Publishing Association in January 1902.

1915 – Attended Fall Council at Loma Linda and influenced future of Loma Linda University.

1918 – Died July 25.

Quick Facts about Miss Rachel Anna Knight

1874 – Born to Newton and George A. Knight in Jasper County, Mississippi.

1891 – Learned about Sabbath and Seventh-day Adventists from Ida Em-

bree, an employee of the *Signs of the Times* office in Oakland, California, and W.W. Eastman, a colporteur in Texas.

1892 – Prepared for church membership and baptized by Dyo Chambers of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

1898 – Graduated from Battle Creek Sanitarium Training School for Missionary Nurses in Battle Creek, Michigan.

1901-1907 – Volunteered for missionary service to India in May of 1901, while attending the General Conference session in Battle Creek. Worked in Calcutta as a nurse, Bible worker, and teacher.

1907-1909 – Returned to Mississippi in 1907, and employed by the Mississippi Conference as a Bible worker, and teacher at the Gitano School.

1909 – Purchased 40 acres of land from J.H. and Candis Knight. Also moved to Atlanta, Georgia, to take charge of the colored sanitarium and serve as its med-

ical matron. Taught night courses at the local church school.

1915-1920 – Went to Southeastern Union Conference where she served as home missionary leader, Young People's Missionary Volunteer secretary, and education secretary. Became a member of the Oakwood College Board under the presidency of J. Tucker.

1922 – Became first president of the National Colored Teachers Association, a position she held for 27 years.

1952 – Published her autobiography, *Mississippi Girl*, which became a reading book for the members of the Young People's Missionary Volunteer Society.

1972 – Died June 10. ☉

Lucas L. Johnson II is a former reporter for *The Associated Press*. He is also author of the book, *Finding the Good*, which was featured on *National Public Radio*.

CONNECTION WITH GOD

BY GIANNA SNELL

More than 700 women attended the 2018 Southern Union CONNECTIONS Women's Convention in Chattanooga, Tennessee, September 6-9, which was packed with prayer, praise, community outreach, seminars, uplifting sermons, and opportunities to connect with God and other women.

Walking into the convention hall, the stage was lit with colorful moving lights, and praise music was playing softly. And, instead of the typical setup of chairs facing the stage, the huge room was filled with round tables and chairs, so that each woman could interact with those seated at her table.

"We wanted to call women back to the vital connections that support their spiritual walk: God, friends, and service to others," said Shirley Scott, women's ministries director at the Southern Union Conference in Norcross, Georgia. "We realize that women often find themselves so busy with life that their connection with God and the people who really matter in life sometimes suffer. Inspiring them through seminars, speakers, panel discussions, community service mixed with praise and worship, and preaching of the Word helped to facilitate the work of the Holy Spirit in igniting a desire to continue to connect."

CONNECTION with God

One of the primary ways to connect with God is through prayer. "Prayer is the connection that makes all things possible," added Scott.

One of the things that Scott made a priority was to provide a quiet, sacred place for women to pray during the convention.

The prayer room was a small room



PHOTO BY: GIANNA SNELL

Judy Hawkins (left) and Donna Crandall, who were strangers to each other before this moment, have a tearful embrace after singing "I Need You to Survive" to each other.

across from the large ballroom that provided "a sanctuary where women could come aside to spend time in His presence, experience His peace, and feel His love as they pour out their hearts to God," said Scott.

The prayer room was a blessing to many women.

"One of our speakers, Loreal McGinnis, told of how she had been seeking God's peace throughout the weekend, and was still unsettled in her spirit, when the thought of the prayer room came

to mind," recalled Scott. "She went in and discovered women praying on their knees, and laying prostrate before the Lord. One of the ladies grabbed her hand and prayed for her, and the peace she sought came."

As the photographer for the event, I also went in the prayer room to capture images of it. But, I also wanted to tell God, "thank you," for answering a prayer I had prayed 10 years earlier.

In 2008, I attended the same quinquennial Women's Convention in Atlan-



PHOTO BY: GIANNA SNELL

Shirley Scott (center, left), Southern Union women's ministries director, and Yolanda Smith (sixth from left), Southern Union women's ministries advisor, stand with conference women's ministries directors.



PHOTO BY: GIANNA SNELL

Karen Tilstra, Ph.D. (on the stage), and her team from Florida Hospital Innovation Lab, take a selfie with all of the attendees who are showing off their finished paintings that were created in their teams.



PHOTO BY: GIANNA SNELL

Lola Moore Johnston, pastor from the Potomac Conference, delivered dynamic, life-changing messages on Thursday evening and Sabbath morning.



PHOTO BY: LYDIA ROSE

Kyle Koszuta of the Florida Hospital Innovation Lab takes a group selfie with the excited women who attended the innovation workshop during the 2018 Southern Union Women's Ministries Retreat.

ta, Georgia. On the last day of the event, I went to photograph the prayer room. And, as I moved around the room, looking at the Bible promises on the wall and prayer request boxes surrounded with candles, pens, and paper, I began to feel my own heaviness well up inside of me.

Having just experienced my third miscarriage, disappointment had left me with little desire to pray. But, I couldn't leave the room without making my request known. "God, please bless me with a baby," I wrote on the paper and tucked it deep inside the prayer request box.

Now, 10 years later, I returned to the prayer room as a grateful mother of three miracle children to write my answered prayer on the wall of praise! God had heard my prayer!

CONNECTIONS with Others

Friday, hundreds of women participated in God in Shoes and W.I.N.G.S. (Women in God's Service), which allowed them to connect through community outreach and service. From cooking

meals to cuddling abandoned babies to organizing resources for schools, the women spread out through Chattanooga to connect with those in need.

On Saturday night, the women were able to have some fun connecting with each other. Karen Tilstra and her team from the Florida Hospital Innovation Lab presented, "Embracing Creativity with Magic Saucer," where women had fun using teamwork to draw them out of their comfort zone, and make beautiful artwork and great memories.

In one of the final presentations on Sunday morning, Beth Anderson gave a moving sermon filled with practical tips on how to connect with others.

1. Be friendly. Be willing to step out of your comfort zone.
2. Rejoice in successes and support in sorrow. Be the kind of friend who uplifts and encourages — who completes, not competes.
3. Relate intentionally. Look for others who are lonely, and be the bridge that Jesus can come across.

4. Develop a relationship with Jesus. "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you," John 15:12.

As the event came to a close, a beautiful flash mob was performed as various soloists in the audience rose to their feet, singing words to the hymn "How Great Thou Art." Each of the singers, along with the women's ministries leaders for the convention, joined hands and led the congregation into an exuberant praise while singing the chorus. Many women were in tears as they raised their hands and voices in harmony. The connection to God and to each other was tangible.

"Our hope and prayer is that each woman would go home and ignite a fire in the women whom they serve and fellowship with, and continue to connect others to the Kingdom of God," said Shirley Scott. 🙏

Gianna Snell is a freelance writer and photographer from Huntsville, Alabama.

CHANGING LIVES ONE SMILE AT A TIME

BY GLENDA BATES

Night had still not given way to morning's earliest rays. Cars were streaming into Dunnellon Adventist Church at 5 o'clock on a warm summer Sunday morning. If you were a traveler on Highway 41, you might have commented about the absurdity of the hour. A local, however, might remember the flyers posted around town and online for several weeks announcing FREE DENTAL service for cleanings, fillings, and extractions on July 15. The clinic at this location ended up helping 51 people who were either uninsured, underinsured, or homeless in Marion County.

Monte Robison, Dunnellon pastor, together with Ocala elders and members, participated in this clinic as well as many other clinics held in the county. FreeD.O.M. Clinic USA, sponsored by the Marion County Hospital District and working in collaboration with the University of Florida College of Dentistry, adds as many medical professionals as necessary at a host's site to provide a clinic, depending on the size of the facility and available professional volunteers.

"My husband has been living in pain for years because of his teeth," a woman wrote on social media on July 15. "What you're doing is life changing. Thank you so much."

Dunnellon members also opened their community service center and helped 48 families to be fed that Sunday from the food bank. In addition to ongoing member involvement in community service outreach, the church cooperates with Marion County to provide a location for a senior meals program each Monday through Friday at noon. Seniors have expressed thanks for a place to play



PHOTO BY: GLENDA BATES

During the FreeD.O.M. Clinic, 51 individuals received dental care.



PHOTO BY: GLENDA BATES

Dunnellon member Phyllis Brooks helped in the community service area.

games, sing, and visit.

When the church recently had a water line break, repairs necessitated the carpet being stretched and put in place. The carpetman came and carefully stretched the carpet back in place and reglued it. When asked what the charge was, he said,

"Nothing! No charge! Your church is always helping the community, and I just want to do my part to help."

There are many ways to serve the Lord if we are only willing! Is there something you or your church could be doing to be a blessing? ❶

LEWIS STOUT,

Retired Southern Union Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director, Passes



Lewis Stout

Lewis Alan Stout, 88, was born in Washington, D.C., on May 27, 1930, and died June 30, 2018, in Upland, California.

Stout attended Washington Missionary College (now Washington Adventist University) in Takoma Park, Maryland, and graduated with a degree in theology in 1953. His first job was as a pastor/teacher in Konnarock, Virginia. He later became an ordained minister of the Seventh-day Adventist church. He attended seminary in preparation for his subsequent four-year mission service in Peru.

During his pastoral career, he pastored churches in Virginia and Mississippi, served as Bass Memorial Academy

principal from 1969 to 1974, and was the secretary of Gulf States Conference (formerly known as the Alabama-Mississippi Conference) from 1974 to 1986. His final position, prior to retirement, was as the director of public affairs and religious liberty (PARL) for the Southern Union Conference from 1986 to 1997.

Under his leadership and vision, the Southern Union PARL Department re-configured the way religious liberty was done in the territory. By moving the main work of religious liberty out of the conferences and into the Southern Union, the Church is able to provide a more knowledgeable and consistent source of assistance for church members who had

issues with their employers forcing them to work on Sabbath. In the mid-1990s, he started the current Government Liaison Representative program that serves as a watchdog for each state, overseeing legislative activity affecting the Church. He also started a religious liberty newsletter for members while director of the department. His love and passion for religious liberty continued even after he retired. He continued as the editor of *Waymarks* until his death.

Stout was not content to rest in retirement. He and his wife, Betty, moved to the Blue Ridge, Georgia, area and started attending the Fannin County Church in Georgia. While there, he actualized his vision for the Fannin County Church to build a better living center that would be open to the community for health seminars, community services, and church activities. He was very involved in the planning and building of the center, and was so pleased when his vision became a reality. After that task was completed, he worked with the group in Blairsville, Georgia, helping and leading that congregation. He continued to preach and teach Sabbath School, even giving Bible studies in the area until he moved to California in 2010.

He is survived by two children, Dr. Alan (Julie) Stout and Sandra Stout (Dr. Nan Wang) Wang; four grandchildren, Jennifer Stout (Matt) Smith, Trevor (Wyntre) Stout, James Stout, and Michael Stout; and two great-grandchildren, Caffrey and Canaan Smith. Funeral services were held in the Fannin County Church on July 21, 2018. His wife, Betty, preceded him in death in 2015, after 65 years of marriage. ❶

NORWIDA MARSHALL, ED.D.,

Retired Southern Union Early Childhood Director, Passes

Norwida A. Marshall, Ed.D., 82, of Lithonia, Georgia, formally of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, was born on July 20, 1936. She was the daughter of the late Thomas and Edna Marshall. Marshall grew up in Pittsburgh, and at an early age was baptized at the Ethan Temple Church in Pittsburgh. She was a faithful member of the Mountainside Church in Decatur, Georgia.

She was a graduate of Schenley High School. In 1958, she earned a bachelor's degree in education at Tuskegee University in Tuskegee, Alabama, and began her extensive career as an elementary teacher and supervisor in Pennsylvania. She received her master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh. Later, she obtained a doctoral degree at the University of Tennessee, and amassed credentials in the fields of teaching, writing, curriculum, and program development.

Marshall served a professor of education at Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) and Alabama A & M University, both in Huntsville, Alabama. She held the distinction of being both the first woman and first woman of color to be named associate director of education at the Southern Union. There she developed an impressive array of innovative curricular materials for both elementary and childhood education. When reading scores needed improving Union-wide, Marshall was the key developer of ARMS (Adventist Reading Management System), and assisted in developing 15 levels of K-8 reading books that are used not only in the Southern Union, but in the North American Division as well.

Marshall was esteemed for promoting an initiative and providing leader-



Norwida A. Marshall, Ed.D.

ship and policy development for 72 early childhood education centers. Herein, she created procedural manuals, curriculum materials, handbooks, and advisory and steering committees.

She was voted Outstanding Educator in America, and was given the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist "Award of Excellence." As a consummate professional for more than 36 years, Marshall significantly improved the quality of education in Adventist schools.

She is survived by her sister, LaVerne McHarris; two nephews, Samuel "Butch" McGinnis and Richard "Ricky" McGinnis; one niece, Linnie (John) Hunt; three great-nephews, Matthew, Ethan, and Jonathan Hunt; and a host of other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Olivette McGinnis; and brothers-in-law, Sam McGinnis and Lawrence McHarris. ①

FREED.O.M. FROM SICKNESS, DISEASE

BY WILLIEMAE PETERKIN MUSGRAY

You know how the tip of an iceberg is only the beginning of something huge and amazing? Well, the same is true about the FreeD.O.M. Clinic (Free Dental, Optical, Medical care).

When husband and wife team, Don Bovell, M.D., and Ann Burnett, executive director, started this ministry more than 20 years ago as “United Hands,” they could not see the massive impact their love for Christ would have on so many people. In recent years they’ve extended the services to include mental and behavioral healthcare.

Although located in Ocala, Florida, the FreeD.O.M. Clinic is a mobile clinic, bringing services to other cities or counties once per month. Burnett said they even take FreeD.O.M. Clinic to migrant workers.

This summer, the FreeD.O.M. Clinic set up to serve the community and constituents for the second consecutive year at Southeastern Conference Camp Meeting, pouring an estimated quarter of a million dollars into the nearly 300 people who showed up and registered this year.

One patient, we’ll call him George, was one of the first people in line. At age 42, George had “never been to the dentist,” and had been in pain for years, with several teeth that needed to be extracted. But, he was without dental insurance and had no extra income. Knowing that these free valuable services are offered on a first-come, first-served basis, George wanted to make sure he took advantage of this blessing. So, he arrived at 5 p.m. — 12 hours prior to the clinic opening at 5 a.m.

The next morning, after receiving an hour of labor of love in his mouth of pain, George exited the dental chair with his gums packed with gauze and as big a smile



FreeD.O.M. Clinic enlists trained health professionals from around the country to provide free healthcare services for community residents. Southeastern has decided to make the free clinic an annual event to begin Camp Meeting as an effort to show goodwill and love to the residents of Putnam County and the surrounding area.

PHOTO BY: C.C. THOMPSON



PHOTO BY: LAURA CRUZ

An ophthalmologist performs a thorough eye examination. During this FreeD.O.M. Clinic, more than 60 eye exams were done, and 59 pairs of prescription eyeglasses were given away.



PHOTO BY: LAURA CRUZ

FreeD.O.M. Clinic attendees access user-friendly, hand-held devices to complete the health assessment. Technology assists in maintaining confidential patient information.



PHOTO BY: C.C. THOMPSON

Ann Burnett (right), FreeD.O.M. Clinic director, and Sharon Maharg show off their matching manicures. Maharg has been helping a special family friend who doesn't have health insurance to receive care by bringing her to every FreeD.O.M. Clinic that is held in the Ocala, Florida, area.

as he could manage. "They made it seem so easy," he said, being careful to keep the gauze in place. "It didn't even hurt like I thought it would. I'm so grateful for this service." With tears in his eyes, he added, "I don't know when I would ever have been able to afford to get my teeth fixed."

More than 80 professionals, who traveled at their own expense from as far as California and New York, were on hand to minister to the large, well-organized crowd. A staff of medical doctors, nurses, an ophthalmologist, an optician, many dentists, dental assistants, and nearly 40 volunteers opened their hearts to those in need. Services included 60 eye exams, 49 medical consultations, 200 dental exams and services, and 59 pairs of prescription eyeglasses.

Another key person to this ministry is Grace Daley, director of health education, and former WNBA basketball player. One of Daley's roles is to interact with the people. "She makes them feel loved and

welcome. She serves them with love and compassion," Burnett shared. Gregory Mack, president of Southeastern Conference, also offered full support as a part of his mission-driven program. "This administration gets it, and the previous one did, too," Burnett said. "We're committed to providing these services. And, the church is, too."

Although started as a self-funded ministry, held only once a year, the local and mobile monthly clinic is mostly funded by the Marion County Hospital district. The organization recognized that the need was year-round, and changed the model from yearly to monthly.

Burnett has a message for the local church — especially for the smaller churches where members don't have the resources to do a free clinic. She reminds the church that they all have the health message, and they need to communicate it to people who desperately want to reverse

their chronic diseases, and receive clarity in their thoughts and peace in their hearts.

"Even smaller churches can develop and maintain programs like NEWSTART and CREATION. They can develop friendships in the community, and become like a health club. It only takes time, commitment, and very little money," she advised. Some other ideas include offering a free exercise class, free cooking classes with samplings, a walking club, and a weight loss program. "Many people may not come to your church service, but they will feel welcomed to come to your programs. This is relationship evangelism," she added.

Like the FreeD.O.M. Clinic that started as the tip of an iceberg, a small outreach to a few people, it has become the big iceberg of love and healing — ministering in 2015 alone to more than 5,500 people, with an estimated value at \$3 million. Start with the tip! ●

Carolina Conference Involved in Hurricane Florence Relief Efforts

The Carolina Conference has been working with government and church agencies to rapidly mobilize relief to devastated areas near their coastline. Within a few days of Hurricane Florence making landfall, truck and trailer loads of water furnished by the Carolina Conference, and food from Charlotte, N.C., food banks, obtained with the help of the Charlotte Spanish Church, were sent to the New Bern, N.C., area. Other trailers were delivered on Saturday, September 22, 2018, with donations from High Point, Raleigh, Kernersville, and Charlotte churches.

Ric Swanington, president of Adventist World Aviation and pastor of the Wilson, N.C., Church, worked with Conference leadership and the North American Division Adventist Community Services (NAD ACS) to organize an emergency supply flight to New Bern. Two planes carrying 1,200 pounds of food and supplies were met at the New Bern Airport by the New Bern Spanish Pathfinder Club. With these supplies, they made 40 large boxes for people in the community.

“Several churches have sustained major damage, and many members have lost everything. The Spanish Church in New Bern has been gutted due to water damage,” explained David Graham, director of Adventist Community Services at the Carolina Conference. “And, it was recently learned that members are still flooded in the Lumberton, N.C., area.”

Federal and state government agencies called for large centralized warehouses, and local counties sought Carolina Conference Disaster Response leadership to assist in setting up smaller warehouses to receive and distribute supplies in the localized areas. Phil Rosburg and Steve Stillwell, director and assistant director of disaster response at the Carolina Conference, were engaged in receiving donations for those warehouses. Rosburg also loaded a truck on Thursday night, September 20, and delivered supplies to Charlotte and High Point to be sent to the disaster areas.



PHOTO BY: RIC SWANINGTON



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

Church members share with Leslie Louis, president of Carolina Conference, and his wife, Carole, about the storm damage to the New Bern Spanish Church.



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

Students from Tri-City Academy clean up one of the many storm victims' homes in New Bern, N.C.



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

Phil Rosburg (third from right), associate pastor of the Foster Church in Asheville, N.C., and the Carolina Conference disaster response director, made an appeal in church for Hurricane Florence relief. Church member Deyanira Schmidt told her husband, Jorgen Schmidt, that the Conference was renting a truck every time they took supplies to disaster sites. Jorgen not only donated a truck, but also contributed \$500 to assist victims and help pay for the gas used in transporting goods. Pictured are Leslie Louis (left in yellow), and his wife, Carole; David Graham (second from right), Carolina Conference community services director; Steve Stilwell (far right); Nancy Ruiz (center), New Bern Church community services director, and her husband, Samuel; and Roberto Ramirez (left), New Bern Spanish Church head elder.

The Carolina Conference partnership with 2 Serve Ministry and its director, Jim Ingersoll, mobilized to the New Bern English Church on Sunday, September 23. 2 Serve was in the New Bern area for three weeks. The first week, assistance came from educational groups from outside the Conference. During the second week, Tri-City Academy from High Point, was there to work. The third week, Fletcher Academy students from Fletcher, N.C., arrived. Southern Adventist University also volunteered in the area during that time. Mount Pisgah Academy and other regional schools moved to engage with future activities.

Leaders in the South Atlantic Conference established a distribution center in



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

This pile of wooden parts are what is left of the church pews of the New Bern Spanish Church.

Fayetteville, N.C., which is active through their county and state. They established a distribution site in Wilmington, N.C.

With funding from NAD ACS and ADRA, the Carolina Conference hosted volunteer teams from the New Jersey Conference on Wednesday, September 26, in Wilmington. They helped with cleaning

and debris removal from damaged homes. Additionally, ADRA donated funds to give gift cards worth \$350-\$500 to those in the direst need. Derrick Lea, associate director of NAD ACS Disaster Response, met with the mayor in Wilmington, and then traveled to New Bern and Fayetteville. Spotting the distribution locations and enlarging the warehouse capacity to provide greater assistance were the objectives in these areas.

If you have teams who wish to volunteer, please contact the Carolina Conference Disaster Response Department. Donations can be made at <https://www.carolinasda.org/acs-response-volunteers>. 📞

BY REBECCA CARPENTER

Carolina Holds “No Man Left Behind” Retreat

Carolina Conference men’s retreat this year took a military approach with the theme “No Man Left Behind.” Both English and Hispanic men’s ministries met at Nosoca Pines Ranch simultaneously in two different locations on September 28-30. Attendance and support for each were outstanding, which could be attributed to the two dynamic speakers: Major Jorge Torres, chaplain, who shared with the English-speaking group, and Manuel Moral, pastor, who presented to the Spanish-speaking group.

The rainy Sabbath afternoon delayed but did not prevent a fantastic concert by Paco Rodriguez, a member of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. Rodriguez wove his personal testimony throughout his song selections. “He could give Pavarotti or Andrea Bocelli a run for their money,” one attendee commented. “I was truly blessed by his music and his story.”

Before the rain began, the men attempted to get together for a group picture, and most of them managed to make it in the photo. The remainder of the weekend was filled with great advice and presentations, impromptu musical jam sessions, hiking, canoeing, and boat rides around the lake. A few brave souls may have even taken a hayride or visited a horse or two.



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

The 2018 men’s retreat was held at Nosoca Pines Ranch.



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

Paco Rodriguez was the special musical guest.

Tony LaPorté, pastor and Carolina Conference men’s ministries director, wants the men to not only step up and take an active role in their family and church, but come together and learn from one another. The point of these retreats is not to sit around a camp fire singing “Kumbaya” and sharing feelings. It is to strengthen one another as men of Christ.

Look for the 2019 men’s ministries weekend dates to be posted, and think of a young man that you might be able to mentor to attend. 📞

BY COURTNEY HEROD

Winter Haven Holds Evangelistic Youth Bible Camp



PHOTO BY: FRANK E. SCHLAGEL

The morning begins best with prayer groups and friends.

Ray Stephenson, Winter Haven church elder, loves to hold an evangelistic youth Bible camp program like no one else. This past June 8-16, 2018, 32 youth from the Winter Haven and Lake Wales churches and surrounding area attended the camp at Pine Lake Retreat in Groveland, Fla.

His first Bible camp was held in 2003, when he was a member of West Palm Beach Church. Since then, “Brother Ray” or “Pastor Ray” as the children call him, has held 12 evangelistic youth Bible camps, all at Pine Lake Retreat. He has a burning desire to bring young souls to Jesus.

To support Stephenson, seven young

adults attended who were baptized when they were teenagers at one of his earlier camps. One couple who attended camp as young people are now married and participated this summer.

Frank Gonzalez, pastor, and Stephenson provided several daily messages to the campers. This year’s theme song was “Jesus the Light of the World.” Special topical guest speakers spoke about important life issues, including sex, manners, drugs, safety, and education.

When not hearing the Gospel preached or attending a topical seminar, the campers enjoyed swimming, a bounce house, basketball, volleyball, touch football, Frisbee, walking, reading, and napping. On the last Sunday afternoon, a trip to Universal Studios was the grand finale. ❶

BY FRANK E. SCHLAGEL

Fort Lauderdale Church Holds Dedicatory Prayer for Newest Judge

Elders of Fort Lauderdale Church joined Jeffrey Thompson, Ph.D., pastor, in forming a circle around The Honorable Judge Phoebee Francois on Sabbath, July 7, 2018, as she was presented to God in prayer. Judge Francois, who has served with distinction as a magistrate in Broward County for several years, was recently appointed by Rick Scott, governor of Florida, as Broward County’s newest judge.

Gervais Francois, 94, the judge’s father who is a former attorney in Haiti, was also in attendance. He became a member of the Adventist church two years ago. “When Phoebee was just nine months old,” said Gervais, “I brought her from Haiti to the USA.”

“The board of elders joins me in



PHOTO BY: TREVOR GRIFFITHS

The Honorable Phoebee Francois (center) was presented to God in prayer at Fort Lauderdale Church, shown here with Elaine Roberts (left); Jeffrey Thompson, pastor; Gervais Francois, her father; and member Roy Roberts.

commending Roy Roberts for inviting Judge Francois to our church for prayer. This is personal evangelism,” said Thompson. ❷

BY JEFFREY THOMPSON, PH.D.

Joan A. Cornejo Jaramillo Commissioned at Florida Hospital Kissimmee

Joan A. Cornejo Jaramillo was commissioned on August 24, 2018, at Florida Hospital Kissimmee, where she serves as head chaplain.

Born in Caracas, Venezuela, Jaramillo grew up with her parents, Marcos and Raquel, and her younger brother, Marco. She was blessed spending the first four years of her life close to her paternal grandmother, Ana, who instilled in Jaramillo a passion for Scripture at a very young age.

At age 15, Jaramillo felt God's call to the Gospel ministry. After several months of soul searching and much prayer, she committed to go wherever God may lead. At age 16, two months after her high school graduation, Jaramillo left her family and her country to begin a new chapter

of her life in the U.S. She went on to earn degrees in religion and Spanish studies at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., and a master of education in professional development at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

Jaramillo envisioned herself as a school chaplain, but, at her pastor's insistence, she applied for one unit of clinical pastoral education at Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center in La Crosse, Wisc. This led to a total of seven units as Jaramillo found in healthcare chaplaincy her passion and calling. She has had the pleasure of being part of the Florida Hospital family for the past seven years.

Jaramillo's ultimate life desire is for the day when, together with her husband, Isaac, and sons, Daniel and Jonathan, she



will see Jesus face to face, and be reunited with all her late loved ones, especially her grandmother, Ana, and baby boy, Abel. ❀

Fred Saint-Fleur Ordained at Bethel French Church

Fred Saint-Fleur was ordained to the Gospel ministry on August 25, 2018, at Bethel French Church, Orlando, Fla., where he serves as pastor.

He was born in Gonaives, Haiti, and grew up in L'estere, where his parents raised eight children. Saint-Fleur has participated in church activities since he was six years old, and he was baptized in 1982. He's been involved in playing the accordion, singing in six church groups, and directing four groups.

Saint-Fleur graduated from the Adventist University of Haiti with a bachelor degree in theology in 1996. He went to Corail-Pestel Haiti as district pastor, 1997 to 1999, and at the end of 1999, he came



to the United States. In 2005 he received a master in business administration degree from Bellevue University in Texas.

He has worked for Florida Conference since 2000: as an official assistant pastor in 2006, a part-time pastor in 2013, and a full-time pastor in 2017. He pastored the district of Temple of West Palm and Salem of Tampa.

He is married to Vena Saint-Fleur, and they have five children: Ashley, Fredna, Fredenks, Frederks, and Sara.

During his ministry, Saint-Fleur hopes he can always be inspired by the Holy Spirit to lead others to love God and stay connected. His wish is to help everyone and every church solve their problems through the power of the Holy Ghost. ❀

Schepers Receives Teaching Award of Excellence



PHOTO BY: NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

Congratulations to Stacie Schepers (holding award) on receiving the Award of Excellence of Outstanding Educators in the North American Division by the Alumni Awards Foundation. The award reads, "Demonstrating outstanding professionalism, creativity, and dedication in the classroom of an Adventist School." There are more than 9,000 Adventist teachers in North America, with only six or seven receiving this honor.

Stacie Schepers received the Award of Excellence for outstanding educators in the North American Division (NAD) at the 2018 NAD Teachers' Convention in Chicago, Ill. Schepers is A.W. Spalding's (AWS) beloved teacher, and has been teaching for 22 years. She is currently teaching first grade at the Collegedale, Tenn., School.

Tom Fogg, principal at A.W. Spalding, confirms that this award is well-deserved due to the "incredible feat of Mrs. Schepers' determination and teaching excellence."

Awarded by the Alumni Awards Foundation, Schepers was publicly recognized and received a certificate and a monetary gift.

Schepers says, "Being a teacher is very rewarding. I get to see so much academic, spiritual, emotional, and physical growth of my students each year. Teachers must be thinking and doing all day long; there isn't much 'me time.' We put in a lot of emotional and physical investment into our students and they're learning, both inside and outside of the classroom."

One of the biggest contributions

Schepers has made to the Greater Collegedale School System is her introduction of a Montessori program, which has transitioned into the AWS Early Childhood Education Center. She helped create an environment where three-year-olds can learn and grow within a school setting, even at such a young age. Schepers' commitment to successfully launch this unique program at AWS left a strong imprint on the entire community.

She is a tremendous inspiration to all of her students, and "has an uncanny ability to set a climate for learning in her classroom," says Fogg.

When asked about her reaction to being chosen, Schepers admitted she was "shocked." With more than 9,000 teachers eligible for the award, she could not believe she was one of the few selected.

However, Schepers goes on to explain that this honorable award cannot compare to the many she receives every year in the classroom. "When I hear first-graders reading at the end of the school year, watch them writing paragraphs and being able to do more difficult math problems, those

are the best, deep-in-my-heart awards." The idea she hopes her students remember most is simple — the assurance of their salvation in Jesus.

Schepers added, "There are so many wonderful Adventist teachers in the North American Division, many of them here in Greater Collegedale School System. I hope to live up to this 'excellence' award. I thank God for continuing to work on me to bless the children that I am privileged to have in my classroom each year."

She adds, "There is nothing more important for students to learn about than their salvation in Jesus Christ. I am so privileged to teach in an environment where I can speak about our Creator and our Savior freely with my students, and pray with them when they are having a hard day."

Schepers has a bachelor of science in education, and master of arts in early childhood education from Central Michigan University, as well as NAD certification through Southern Adventist University. 📖

BY CAROLINA SMITH, COLLEGEDALE ACADEMY JOURNALISM STUDENT, CLASS OF 2020

Georgia-Cumberland Holds Annual Young Adults Retreat



PHOTO BY: DON KEELE JR.

For the fourth consecutive year, the Conference has offered an event just for young adults called Conversations. Led by Don Keele Jr., young adult and ACF ministries director, the event encourages young adults to ask questions concerning their faith and religion in a safe place.

Young adults of the Georgia-Cumberland-Conference recently met for the fourth consecutive year. Their minds were of one purpose: to fellowship and support one another in Christ-centered conversations about things that truly matter to this generation.

A secluded retreat tucked in the woods of north Georgia once again served as safe ground to discuss topics that need deeper spiritual insight, but rarely receive enough honest discussion.

Don Keele Jr., Georgia-Cumberland young adult and ACF ministries director, and his ministry team planned and led the annual Conversations retreat. To encourage more honest, unintimidating discussions, they limited attendance to 40 or fewer. This year 30 adults participated,

ranging in age from 18 to 35. Keele guided in-depth conversations, intermixed with healthy recreation, in the natural setting of historic Banning Mills. The group opened up as they worshipped, adventured, and ate meals together during the weekend.

Some conversations were structured and specific, like those led by two guest speakers, who fostered questions on the tremendously important areas of finance and relationships. Other meetings were less structured, like the powerful “Conversations Potluck,” where attendees placed anonymous questions in a basket, raising some of the most frank, authentic discussions of the weekend. Whatever the topic, as first-time participant Krista Mattison pointed out, “The content was taken to the Scriptures.”

Several young adults reflected that the most refreshing aspect of the weekend was the realness of the conversations. Arielle Scalioni, who attended for her third year, put it best when she said, “Part of discipleship for me is being able to learn how to communicate well with people, and to work better with a group. What brings me back is that there are many topics that the Church doesn’t talk about. But, as young people we have these questions, and there isn’t really a safe place where we can discuss these. This retreat offers us an environment where we can talk about these controversial topics and get answers to them. That is what makes me come back.”

BY OLIVIA HALE

First Interconference Meeting Held in Mobile



Craig Newborn, Ph.D., presents to the crowd composed of eight different area churches.



Yvens Melidor (right), pastor of Gethsemane Church, moderates the panel discussion.



Many attendees returned Saturday evening for sundown Vespers.

More than 400 people attended the first Gulf Coast Convocation, September 14-15, 2018, in Mobile, Ala. The event was organized and presented by pastors and local leaders of Adventist churches from the Gulf States and South Central conferences. The idea for the event started several months before, after a couple of area pastors began a conversation on unity and expanded it to their area colleagues. Rather than leaving “unity in the mission” as a discussion item, the group decided to put the idea into action, and plans began for an interconference convocation. Area pastors met in person and over the phone several times, ironing out the details of which churches would host on a given day, who the presenters would be, and how Sabbath meals would work.

With the plans set in place, the pastors worked with their conference offices, advertisements were distributed, and chairs were brought from several churches to the Mobile Junior Academy (MJA) gymnasium. The convocation began Friday night at the Emmanuel Church, and featured a

praise team made up of members from several churches. Craig Newborn, Ph.D., was the featured speaker, and presented that, while God did separate people at the Tower of Babel, it was done because they were united against Him. Then he posed the thought, “Could we be one again if we were united with Him?”

The event continued Sabbath morning at the newly renovated MJA gymnasium, where services began with a traditional Sabbath School led by Martin Fancher, executive secretary of Gulf States Conference. A panel discussion on unity followed, featuring representatives for each conference, age group, and gender of area Adventist churches, and was led by Yvens Melidor, pastor of Gethsemane Church. One of the panel members, Matthew Reed, member of Cody Road Church, stated that an essential component of unity is to “not stop looking at our line of ancestors when we get to our grandparents or great-grandparents. They may not have set the best example.” Instead, we should “continue looking all the way back to the Father of us all, God, as our

example of true unity.”

Newborn concluded the morning worship with a sermon titled “Cross-eyed,” and transitioned the meeting to an afternoon lunch where attendees were encouraged to sit with someone they didn’t already know. Later in the evening, a portion of the group reconvened for a sundown Vespers service of music and testimony sharing, and then capped with dinner and games in the gym.

The response from those who attended was positive, and many look forward to holding similar events in the future. As a result of this collaboration, the group of organizing pastors has created the Gulf Coast Federation, a means by which each area church can share their schedule of activities, and work together on accomplishing the mission God has sent them on. The working motto they have adopted for their group is “One church, many locations.” To learn more about this movement and listen to the panel discussion and Sabbath sermon, go to gscsda.org/gcconvocation. ①

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Auburn-Opelika Church Burns Mortgage



Participating in the mortgage-burning ceremony were Alan David (left), local elder; Venso Akingbemi, local elder; Pavel Kulakov, pastor; Derek Akins, local elder; and Patrick Jones, local elder.

God's light shone in Opelika, Ala., when Henry L. Solomon, and his wife, Lucille, moved there in 1941. Sabbath services were held in their five-room home for years as Solomon invited his community to worship with them. The first Opelika Church was completed in 1984, and members expanded their vision to include an elementary school in 1986. As the church grew, that building was sold, and in July 2005 seven and a half acres were purchased for building a new church.

On the morning of August 25, 2018, members of the Auburn-Opelika Metro Church gathered for a memorable Sabbath service after years of prayer. After Sabbath School, the members gathered in the sanctuary as the students from Auburn University campus ministry led the group in singing the hymn of preparation, "To God Be the Glory." The congregation praised God for a debt-free church, and celebrated together as Pavel

Kulakov, pastor, and the local elders set the four corners of the mortgage on fire, destroying it.

Dave Livermore, president of Gulf States Conference, and Brian Danese, Conference vice president of finance, joined in the celebratory Sabbath activities. Livermore spoke about being called to be a witness, and left the members with a challenge for total involvement in service to their neighbors and community. "Reach out and touch someone who needs prayer or Bible study, and connect them to God," Livermore stated. "We need to come out of our comfort zone and ask the Holy Spirit to open our eyes, and God will empower us with the strength we need," he concluded. Livermore left the members this thought from 1 Corinthians 9:22-23: "To the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be par-



With the church mortgage eliminated, this congregation stands ready to be used for mission.

taker of it with you."

A dedicatory prayer was offered by Danese, followed by a special thanksgiving fellowship luncheon. The members offer all praise and honor of this occasion to God. 🕊

BY SAUNDRA KROMMINGA

Memphis Junior Academy Pre-K/K Classroom Highlighted

Memphis Junior Academy (MJA) is a small school. When first entering the building, you pass the office and, if not paying attention, the science classroom tucked in next door might be missed. To the right are three other classrooms. But, at the very end of the corridor lies something special.

Upon entering it is evident that this room is not just any classroom. It has been designed with a specific purpose and audience in mind. The tables are shorter, with chairs that accommodate the smallest of bodies. The room is splashed with happiness and wonder. This is not a regular classroom. This is the pre-K/kindergarten classroom.

MJA is one of five schools in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference that have a pre-K/K classroom. This may not be the class where big tests are given, but it is the class where children fall in love with learning. Many of the students at MJA began their school experience in this classroom,



Emiliano Ordaz (left), Rohan Balmores, and Lila Baughman dissect rotisserie chicken.

including three graduating eighth-graders.

For many children this classroom is their first experience outside of their homes. Their teacher will be the first person, besides their family, to have an opportunity to shape and influence them. This is the first time that they will become part of a “tribe” with peers rather than relatives. These are the years where children learn to “do school.” Pre-K/K is about discovery — this incredi-

ble world, how it all works together, and the Father in Heaven who created each child.

Rather than learning from textbooks, much of the learning is done in quick, hands-on segments. This audience does not have a very long attention span, and the teacher often feels like she is putting on an eight-hour variety show. When learning about dogs, it is no surprise to see the teacher’s Labrador has come for a visit. When it is time to explain what bones are for, don’t be surprised to see the budding biologists gloved up and dissecting rotisserie chickens. There is also singing, laughing, and downright silliness that comes out of this room. Listen closely: That is not just a silly song about Noah ... those little voices are actually counting by twos and not even realizing it. ❶

BY KAYLEE BAUGHMAN, PRE-K/K TEACHER

Madison Campus Church Hosts Evangelistic Series

This summer Madison Campus Church (MCC), located in a suburb of Nashville, Tenn., hosted an evangelistic series from July 21-28, 2018. The speaker, Roger Hernandez, ministerial and evangelism director at the Southern Union, spoke on the theme, “We All Have Problems Hope.”

Each night before Hernandez’s message, the audience was blessed with beautiful music from guest singers and bands, including Jason Gray, Jonny Diaz, Committed, Chris August, and the Talleys. “The music was truly wonderful,” said Karen Hamberger, a member of MCC. “I was especially touched on Sabbath by the Talleys. Their songs of hope were very encouraging for me after the recent loss

of my father.”

The average attendance of the eight-night series was 402, with the highest attendance of 626 at the final meeting. Throughout the meetings, there were 209 visitors.

Ken Wetmore, senior pastor at MCC, commented, “I think that the meetings were fantastic! The message Roger Hernandez shared was relevant, meaningful, and uplifting. I feel that the meetings were a huge success.” The series resulted in 10 baptisms, one profession of faith, and more than 16 individuals expressing an interest in baptismal studies with the goal of baptism. During the meetings, more than \$6,500 was raised for local charities.

The series was made possible by fi-



nancial support from Southern Adventist University, the Southern Union, and the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. ❶

BY KRISTEN WHITLEY MCC

Gold Leaf Outreach Continues to Bless Wilson County Fair Attendees

Meeting the public at their award-winning, blue-ribbon booth was once again a successful week for Gold Leaf Outreach (GLO) at the 2018 Wilson County Fair. Through the efforts of the GLO team and Rocky Davis' carpentry expertise, the booth won "Best of Show" for the entire fair. The booth continues to be a blessing for GLO, Rocky Davis, and his literature evangelists, while witnessing to others.

This was the fourth year GLO sponsored a booth, and, as in years past, God continues to bless with books and literature to share. This year 1,565 Spirit of Prophecy books, 200 *Daniel and the Revelation* books, and *Days of the Lord* magazines were shared. In addition, 460 coloring books and magazines for the youth, as well as a popular book on prayer, were handed out. Bags were provided to carry books and fair freebies. Each bag contained 10 pieces of miscellaneous litera-



Jim Sajdecki (left) and Sam Small at the award-winning fair booth

ture, making a total of 4,000 pieces of literature shared. Members of GLO prayed with those who came to the booth with an open heart. Literature evangelist Clive Hayles, and his wife, Tetrienne, worked tirelessly witnessing, and were successful in getting leads for future contacts. The six-piece wooden cross puzzles given out each year

were still a big hit with yearly fair attendees and vendors. Several teachers wanted extra crosses for their classrooms.

Gold Leaf Outreach is looking forward to the blessings of a booth at the 2019 Wilson County Fair. 📖

BY JACQUE SMALL

Howard and Betty Gohde Celebrate 70 Years of Marriage

Howard and Betty Gohde met at junior camp at the Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. They attended Sunnydale Academy in Centralia, Mo., for two years as pioneer students. On October 17, 1948, they were married in South Attleboro, Mass. After working there through the winter in 1949, the Gohdes moved to Nashville, Tenn., where Howard worked in the print shop at the Southern Publishing Association. He learned printing at Oak Park Academy in Iowa, and liked it so much that it became his life's work. He has worked in print shops at Atlantic Union College, and at Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University), and then 24 years in Orlando, Fla. Betty worked 22 years at Florida Hospital.

While living in Florida, their home and church, where they were active in many of



Howard and Betty Gohde

the church programs, were near Forest Lake Academy. Howard was also a well-known photographer and member of the Orlando Photography Club. After serving faithfully in Florida, the Gohdes retired to Cleveland, Tenn. After retiring, Howard continued to work as a printer at the College Press in Collegedale, Tenn. When he officially retired in April 2007, the Press celebrated his 78th birthday.

The Gohdes now have a home in Woodbury, Tenn., near their daughter and her husband, and are members of the Woodbury Church. They have three children, Glenn (Winnie) Erwin, Bruce Warren (deceased), and Joyce (Tory) Arlene Kimbel. 📖

BY ANN WALPER

More Than 50 Inmates Experience Freedom in Christ

Daniel Fleurancois is a former Bible worker from Seal, Ala., who has been attending the New Bethel Church in Columbus, Ga. About two and a half years ago, he and a team began visiting and giving Bible studies to inmates at the Muscogee County Jail in Columbus, Ga., and the Russell County Jail in Phenix City, Ala. After a while Fleurancois began solo visits two times a week. As he visited from cell to cell, he found many young men hungry for the Gospel truths emphasizing the end time prophecies of Daniel and Revelation.



Standing with Daniel Fleurancois (left) is Crawford Humphrey, retired South Atlantic pastor.

Crawford Humphrey, retired pastor after 37 years of service as of June 30, 2018, is the former pastor of New Bethel Church. He continues to voluntarily assist Fleurancois by baptizing inmates on the first Sabbath of each month. Fleurancois and Humphrey have baptized more than 20 inmates from May to September 2018. More than 50 men have been baptized during the past two and a half years through prison ministries. ①

BY WESLEY B. JONES

Georgia Master Guides Build Teamwork, Trust



Georgia Master Guides take time out for a group photo.

It was a warm day on July 8, 2018, when nearly 50 Master Guides converged at Bethany Church in Macon, Ga. The event, “Building Teamwork and Trust,”

was sponsored by the State of Georgia Master Guide Club. The purpose was to better define the role of the Master Guides, and how the Pathfinder and Adventurer

ministries can effectively be supported by the churches.

The day began with devotional speaker Master Guide Walter Campbell. He quoted



Comedian LaQuitcha “Lady Q” Washington provided comedy for the Master Guides.

from Isaiah 41:10, and reminded the group to tap into the strength God has promised. Master Guide Michael Spann, club president, and Master Guide Frances Butler, club secretary, and other event organizers kept morale high by combining intensive

breakout sessions with comic relief.

Consultant/trainer Curtis Hall facilitated the breakout sessions. The Master Guides were challenged to review the mission statement, the club’s constitution, and its goals and objectives to consider if they re-

ally help support youth ministries. Helpful insights gained were the need for better communication between local chapters, more joint programs between chapters, and better support for Master Guide in Training (MIT) classes. The Master Guides dedicated themselves to live the maxim, “Where you see a need, do the deed.”

Comedian LaQuitcha “Lady Q” Washington provided comedy for the Master Guides. She preached about the challenges of working with “church folk.” Tears of laughter were visible throughout the room as Washington’s “truth anyhow” message resonated with the crowd.

Donovan Washington, D.Min., South Atlantic Conference youth director, was present to express his appreciation for the Master Guide ministry, and he encouraged all to be faithful in developing tomorrow’s leaders through youth ministry. ❶

BY MICHAEL SPANN

Maranatha Builds Community, Baptizes 10

Austin Humphreys shares his personal testimony.

When I arrived at Maranatha Church in Washington, N.C., I met a congregation of 13 people whose youngest member was around 65. The church has experienced minimal growth during the last 25 years.

In the fall of 2017, I went door to door introducing myself as the pastor of the red brick church down the street. My purpose was not to invite people to a program, but to let them know that the congregation cares about them. A common need people shared with me was for canned goods at the end of the month to hold them until payday.

Maranatha responded by starting “Community Saturdays” once a month, where the members dressed casually and condensed the worship service. Afterward, large bags of food were given to every family who came. Each family provided their contact information to Maranatha to stay in touch via letters, flyers, and postcards about rele-



The single parents in the community appreciated the haircuts.

vant events and services.

Developing consistent relationships formed the outreach methods. Through community partnerships, Maranatha provided free haircuts, homework assistance, family portraits, resume writing, and more. The haircuts were especially appreciated by the single parents in the community. Ministering to practical needs has been drawing many to regularly attend worship services.

Special evangelistic funds from the Conference empowered the members to launch a major two-week “Key’s 2 Life” revival. One hundred percent of the members attended every night. Joyce Thrower, lead Bible worker, along with two student Bible workers, was instrumental in gaining decisions from the community contacts that the members collected. As a result, Maranatha baptized 10 individuals between July 28 and August 4, 2018 — the largest baptism in its church history. ❷

BY PASTOR AUSTIN HUMPHREYS

South Central Hosts Family Ministries Tournament

This past summer during Camp Meeting, the Family Ministries Department at South Central Conference (SCC) hosted a unique take on family fun: a Family Feud tournament to which all SCC families were invited. The four-day tournament featured two families each day responding to unique questions related to Christianity and Adventist culture. Januwoina Nixon, Ph.D., family ministries co-director, spearheaded the event by giving surveys to Adventist pastors, church department heads, church members, and academy students. Nixon gathered the results, and her team created the presentations in true Family Feud style.

Each day's participants were given prizes. The team that didn't win was given a Family Feud card game as host Paul Nixon gently teased the family into using it to practice and trying again next year. The winner of the day's game won a family prize — a family picnic kit, a sound bar, a new set of pots and pans, or a flat screen TV. The winner was also a potential finalist to compete for the grand prize. On the last day of the tournament, the two winning teams with the highest scores played for a chance at a \$2,500 travel voucher to any destination in the world. In the end the Thomas fami-



PHOTO BY: GIANNA SNELL

The Thomas family, grand prize winners, stand with Paul Nixon (left), host, and Januwoina Nixon, Ph.D., South Central family ministries co-director (second from left).

ly won the grand prize. Led by Theron L. Thomas, the family included Gwen Thomas, Duane Thomas, Leon Thomas, and Crystal Thomas.

All prizes were sponsored by different Family Ministries departments, including General Conference directors Willie and Elaine Oliver, and North American Division directors Claudio and Pamela Consuergra. Ron Smith, D.Min., Ph.D.,

president and family ministries director at the Southern Union, sponsored the grand prize. By all accounts, the Family Feud game was one of the most fun events during South Central Camp Meeting. It served as a wonderful reminder that godly family fun is some of the best fun many can have! 🙌

BY PAUL D. NIXON

First Church Sponsors 5K Run to Help End Homelessness, Hunger

First Church in Huntsville, Ala., sponsored its first 5K Run to help end homelessness and hunger on Sunday, September 9, 2018. The event organizers were volunteers of the Community Services Center committee, chaired by Donna McCrary. Currently, the Center provides food, clothing, and mental health counseling.

The 5K event drew approximately 100

participants ranging in age from 9 to 90. According to McCrary, several individuals did not run, but gave donations to support the cause. More than 10 major sponsors supported the event to make it possible. The funds raised will help the Community Services Center provide additional services to those in need. McCrary expressed, "We would like to expand our services to help people pay their rent, mortgage, util-

ity bill, and so forth. There are so many people hurting. We want to help fill that gap for those who are in need."

Debleaire Snell, First Church senior pastor, was excited that the event turned out so well. "The cause is what drives everything. You have people who don't necessarily run or walk, but believe in the cause of just trying to serve the homeless and those who suffer from hunger." Snell also



Runners who won their age categories

mentioned that when the church moved to 1303 Evangel Drive, they wanted to be in a community where they could serve more closely. The church is only a stone's throw away from Downtown Rescue Mission in Huntsville, whose residents have often been recipients of First Church's compassion for mankind.

Not only was the event an avenue for exercise, it provided an opportunity for families, friends, and others to fellowship together. Eric McCrary, Donna's husband, shared, "When we give to our community, the community always gives back." Next year Eric plans to help promote the event earlier and more often, in hopes of having more participants and sponsors. 📍

BY PHYLLIS JONES

South Park Church Holds Healthy Heart Conference

The South Park Church in Birmingham, Ala., with Michael Lewis, senior pastor, and Curtis and Paula Eakins, South Central health ministries co-directors, held a two-day Healthy Heart Conference, July 14-15, 2018.

Advertising was conducted through a local Seventh-day Adventist radio station that offered PSAs leading up to the conference. In addition, Birmingham TV station that host the daily show "Talk of Alabama" granted a five-minute interview the Thursday before the start, which immediately increased registration.

On day one, community guests and members from all over Birmingham and surrounding cities packed into the Birmingham Marriott Ballroom. Friendly South Park members welcomed the guests, and handed them their conference folders while the nurses provided blood pressure screenings. Based on the evaluations, attendees thoroughly enjoyed the conference, discovering biblical and lifestyle strategies on how to reduce high blood pressure and cholesterol, and pre-



Attendees for the two-day Healthy Heart Conference at the Birmingham Marriott Ballroom

vent and even reverse coronary heart disease. On day two, the vast majority of the registrants came to South Park Church. First on the agenda was to go over their "homework" assignment, which was the Amazing Facts study guide (#13 God's Free Health Plan). The Bible worker collected the summary sheets to enroll them with the other remaining study guides.

Upon conclusion, commitment prayers

was made, and Lewis and his team followed up with personal contacts of the community guests.

To harvest the moment, evangelist Alfred Miller started an evangelistic meeting the following week, resulting in baptizing many new souls into God's Kingdom. 📍

BY CURTIS EAKINS

First Southeastern Female Pastor Assigned Church District

History was made in Southeastern Conference on July 14, 2018. Lindsay Syeh became the first female pastor to be assigned a church district, and to serve as its senior pastor. She comes to her new assignment with three years experience as the assistant pastor of the Patmos Chapel Church in Winter Park, Fla., under the leadership of Samuel Dade, and later James R. Doggette, D.Min. She was able to hone her skills of preaching and conducting church business, and led admirably before its more than 900 members.

Matriculating at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala., was a rich experience for Syeh. The Lord showed her the work that women were doing for Him in the area of pastoral ministry. It was then that she realized God was calling her to that very same ministry. When asked about her first church district, she remarked, "I'm excited to get started, and also curious as to what God has next in store for me." She firmly believes that God has something great to accomplish in her life.

She realizes that she did not come to this moment alone. There are many indi-



Lindsay Syeh became the first female pastor to be assigned a church district, to serve as its senior pastor, in Southeastern. She firmly believes that God has something great to accomplish in her life.

viduals who have inspired her. Her mother, Linda Syeh, elder; Hyveth Williams, D.Min.; Rebecca Davis, pastor; Lola Moore-Johnson, pastor; the aforementioned pastors she worked with at Patmos Chapel; and Michael Polite, chaplain.

This list is not exhaustive of the countless people who have been an inspiration to her ministry.

She knows how to handle herself. Growing up in Liberty City and Little Haiti in south Florida, has given her backbone and unbounded courage. When she stands tall in the pulpit and speaks with the authority of Heaven and the gift of articulation that she possesses, people listen. After graduating from Oakwood University, Lindsay attended Andrews University Theological Seminary in Berrien Springs, Mich. She has had the privilege of traveling the world spreading the Good News of salvation, and expanding the Kingdom of God.

Her greatest desire is to continuously model the Gospel commission as all have been commanded to, “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age,” Matthew 28:19, 20, NIV. ❶

BY CLARENCE L. WRIGHT, MINISTERIAL DIRECTOR

Southeastern Hires New IT Support Specialist Intern

isaac Dixon is the new IT support specialist intern at Southeastern Conference (SEC) headquarters. He is an honor graduate of the class of 2018 at Oakwood University, with a bachelor of science degree in computer networks.

Dixon's position represents a strategic effort of the Southern Union and the North American Division to identify talented young leaders, and enlist their services to establish long term commitment



Isaac Dixon, new IT support specialist intern at Southeastern Conference. Dixon is an honor graduate of the Oakwood University class of 2018, with a B.S. in computer networks. Dixon's position represents a strategic effort of the Southern Union and the North American Division to identify and enlist talented young professionals to serve the Church.

of serving the Church in a professional capacity. The program allows for a two-year subsidy from the Union and Division levels, with the expectation that the local conference will then assume full financial responsibility. The internship should result in full time employment with the local conference.

The son of a pastor (who doubled as a chaplain), Dixon has lived all over the United States, including Hawaii. Fluent in several computer programming lan-

guages, he is passionate about computer programming and has hopes of one day creating his very own video game. In his spare time, he enjoys playing the classical guitar as well as the piano. He is also an avid gamer and Nintendo enthusiast.

SEC office staff were shocked on August 15, 2018, when they received a call from Orlando Regional Medical Center that Dixon had been airlifted to the trauma center after a collision with a bus on his way to the office that morning.

SEC staff, along with family and friends from around the country, prayed earnestly for his recovery. After seven days in ICU, several surgical procedures, and a one-month hospital stay, Dixon was discharged September 15, 2018. While the recovery process continues, Dixon looks forward to getting back to work as soon as possible. ①

BY SEC COMMUNICATION STAFF

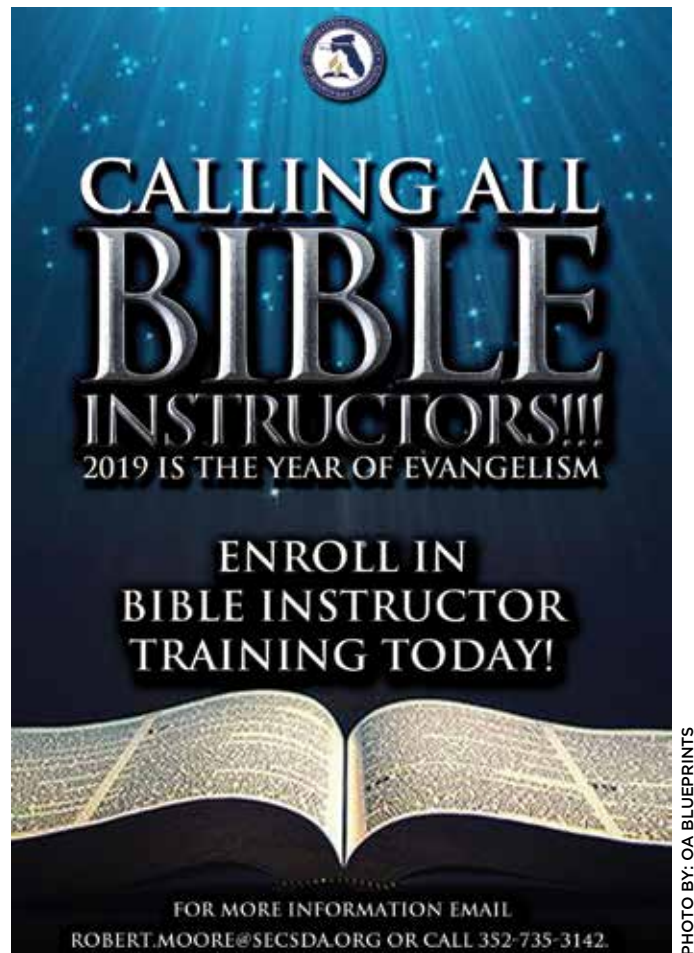
Southeastern Develops Bible Instructor Team

Southeastern Conference (SEC) personal ministries has adopted the theme, “Finish the Mission.” Finish the Mission is an initiative where the Conference is very intentional about doing the work that God has placed in its hands. Southeastern desires all the members throughout the Conference to use the spiritual gifts God has given them, believing this work will only be finished when the lay members are empowered to do the work of evangelism. The members are ready, and SEC wants to give them an avenue where they can share their faith.

As part of the Finish the Mission initiative, SEC members are invited to learn how to do soul winning, how to do Bible work, how to get in the homes, and how to gain decisions. This desire is coming from Gregory Mack, Conference president, who wants the laity to be self-sufficient. When achieved, the Conference will be able to send a team of members to a dark county, where there is no Adventist presence, to preach at a church. Those members will be equipped to go to a church that is in decline, and breathe life into the church.

Members from across the Conference who have the gift of evangelism, who have the thirst to win souls for Christ, are being asked to become part of this team. Already 10 people have signed up. Workers are needed who are willing to step out, aided by consultation with trained Bible workers, to do more than just attend church to be preached to, but who also want to get on the battlefield and win souls to Christ! ①

BY ROBERT MOORE



The Southeastern Conference is calling members with the gift of evangelism and a thirst for souls to enroll in Bible instructor training. SEC is empowering lay members to do the work of evangelism.

Oakwood University Shares Healthy Campus 2020 Initiative With Community

Health status” is a descriptive term used to denote the physical, mental, and social well-being of any individual. Oakwood University, founded in 1896, in Huntsville, Ala., by its moral standards, has focused on its mission of improving lives through education, and service to God and man. For more than 122 years, Oakwood has been committed to its seven values, including one of service, to “provide assistance, aid, help, care, outreach, and ministry in response to human need.”

Oakwood strives to positively influence the lives of all who can be reached. Bridging the gap between the University and the community is critical as a response to those in need, as well as sharing information that can impact one’s health and ultimately his or her life. To know is to understand, and to be informed is to be aware. Oakwood has thrived on the promise of its mission of changing lives.

Extending its commitment to wellness by addressing the burden of productivity-limiting yet preventable and/or manageable diseases such as obesity and diabetes, in September of 2015, Oakwood partnered with Partnership for a Healthier America (PHA) to embrace 23 initiatives which focus on food/nutrition, activity/movement, and overall planning to be implemented as a comprehensive wellness program on Oakwood’s campus, called Healthy Campus 2020®.

As an organized health intervention, HC2020® was designed to identify potential risk factors, and improve outcomes in the health status of those who applied to their life the eight STAND OUT® principles of health, a model original to Oakwood’s campus. Christ says, “Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth,” 3 John 1:2, KJV. It is Oakwood’s duty as an institution built on God’s foundation, to be of service to all mankind, and impart this knowledge to others.

As an initiative to specifically target the



Oakwood University’s Healthy Campus 2020®/STAND OUT® table was on full display to distribute information to all who attended the recent Community Health Fair at First Church in Huntsville, Ala.

University’s population, HC2020® was launched to investigate the presence of metabolic syndrome seen in a much younger demographic than in past years. African Americans lead the nation’s incidence of preventable diseases such as obesity, diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular diseases. The problem of poor health has been seen to be the greatest in the southern United States, particularly within Region IV of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Initiatives such as Healthy Campus 2020® create awareness, and allow for intervention measures that can assist with positively impacting health, and positively changing lives. The question is then asked, “How can these changes be made?” The answer is straightforward: by maintenance of a proper diet, increased exercise, stress management, and illness prevention.

The eight principles of STAND OUT® are Sunlight, Temperance, Adequate rest, Nutrition, Drink water, Outdoor activity, Use physical activity, and Trust in God. Adaptation of these principles into lifestyle practices has shown evidence-based results to reverse the adverse effects of unhealthy lifestyle choices. Partnering with churches and numerous other entities has allowed for the Seventh-day Adventist’s health ini-

tiatives and the teaching of the eight health principles to stretch beyond the four corners of Oakwood and reach the masses. “Depart to serve,” as all are perpetually reminded, should be engraved in the hearts and minds, as it is on the cornerstone pillar of Oakwood’s campus.

First Church in Huntsville hosted its annual Community Health Fair on Sunday, September 16, 2018. Oakwood’s Healthy Campus 2020®/STAND OUT® table was on full display at the Fair to distribute information to all who attended. Church and community members were engaged, and visibly enthused to have valuable health information readily available. Materials covering each of the eight principles were made available. Information ranging from the benefits of getting enough exposure to sunlight, which is required for the inherent process of vitamin D synthesis in the body, simultaneously covering the importance of precautions of sunlight exposure, to the inevitable trust that all must have in God to live an optimal well-balanced life.

With continuous changes in funding available for health care treatment, critical information needed for prevention and/or managing of common and most often preventable diseases, are not met. Proactive measures such as developing health initiatives to share on Oakwood’s campus, as well as within the community, is highly recommended.

Oakwood was recognized by the PHA as the healthiest university in the country in May 2018, and was bestowed the prestigious Crystal Apple Award for exemplifying completion of initiatives to create a healthier campus. As Oakwood moves forward with educating and transforming the lives of future doctors, nurses, dietitians, lawyers, and engineers, it must also continue to leave a footprint of hope in the community, serving those in need. ❶

BY LISA DALRYMPLE, PH.D. AND
PRUDENCE POLLARD, R.D., M.P.H., PH.D.

Oakwood Students, Staff Participate in ADRA Amazon Project

Oakwood University chaplains Kimberly Mann and Andrew Pileggi began recruiting students in October 2017, for a mission trip organized by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). This mission trip was planned on a scale that had never been done before — to build an entire school campus in the Amazon jungle.

ADRA invited every college and university in the North American Division to take part in the “ADRA Connections Extreme: The Amazon Project.” Each school would send up to 30 students, for approximately 350 volunteers. Historically, mission projects include the building of a church or school building, but the Amazon project would include an entire campus of 12 buildings — a 40-room dormitory, five missionary houses, two classroom buildings, two office buildings, a library, and a cafeteria.

During the school year, Dwayne Cheddar, professor of communications at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala., began sharing with the Hope Channel that Oakwood planned to participate. As a result, the Hope Channel fully funded the expenses of Cheddar and a team of videographers to document the entire project. Kenn Dixon, Oakwood director of integrated media and public relations, also supported documentation of the project by sending a photographer. Nineteen from Oakwood participated, including 13 students, two chaplains, and the media team.

Oakwood’s missionaries arrived safely in Brazil on July 7, 2018, and at ADRA’s base in Manaus the next day. At 5:30 p.m., they boarded a riverboat on which they would sleep for the duration of the mission trip. During the 24-hour ride down the Amazon River, the group experienced a taste of the extreme weather of the Amazon as rain poured down, and they were simultaneously engulfed by the extreme humidity. The group remained drenched



Oakwood’s group stands in front of the completed library, which is affectionately called “Eva B. Dykes Library,” named after Oakwood University’s library.

either by rain or sweat, but that did not stop them from working hard.

The missionaries were up by 5:30 a.m. every day. Worship began at 6 a.m., followed by breakfast, and a four-hour morning shift in intense heat. The afternoons consisted of lunch, a brief rest period, and an afternoon shift until around 5 p.m. Every evening the team of more than 200 missionaries gathered for worship before returning to their boats to sleep by 10 p.m. It was a grueling schedule, especially because of the intense heat, but the sacrifice was more than worth it. Sixty students in a remote village along the Amazon River would be able to receive a quality education if the missionaries reached their goal.

The first few days of the trip were full of challenges due to language and cultural barriers. More than half of the group of volunteers were from Brazil. Missionaries worked, but not as one. It was at that point that Oakwood’s team began to shine. Through Oakwood’s sweetness of attitudes and harmonies, the Holy Spirit began to create a “bond of peace (Ephesians 4:3).”

One day in particular, the entire campus stopped to cheer Oakwood’s students after hearing them sing while working. The other missionaries were moved by the mu-

sic and the spirit of the occasion. It wasn’t long before Oakwood became the first American group asked to lead praise and worship.

Oakwood’s chaplains and students, led by Mann, went to the stage and lifted the worship service to another level. The next night, missionaries from Brazil gathered to hear Oakwoodite Jewell Thomas sing original songs as she beautifully strummed her guitar. An unplanned concert began, and by the end of the night, most of the missionaries sang “Total Praise” by Richard Smallwood. Groups on other boats began cheering, “Oakwood! Oakwood! Oakwood!” as Oakwood’s team pulled off shore to head to the next community to spend the Sabbath in ministry.

The next day, Oakwood arrived in another village along the Amazon River. Mann led the children’s Sabbath School, the entire group offered special music, and then Pileggi delivered a sermon. Later that day, the group walked through the village to share the encouragement of the Gospel, and the night ended with a social for the children in the community.

The second week was marked by the Holy Spirit, evidenced by increased unity and morale, and new vigor. Oakwood’s group completed the construction of the library — affectionately called “Eva B. Dykes Library” — and two classrooms. The campus was completed by the end of the second week. The students of the new campus presented a beautiful program in honor of all those who sacrificed their time, money, and energy.

The entire experience was captured on film by Cheddar and his team, including Oakwood employees Themar Pericles and Teymi Townsend, and student Elijah Leftridge. The entire 13-episode documentary will be ready to view via the Hope Channel in 2019. 📺

BY ANDREW PILEGGI, SENIOR CHAPLAIN

AdventHealth University Challenges Campus to Commit to Whole-Health

What does a healthy community look like? What does it mean to be healthy?

These are questions driving AdventHealth University's (AHU) theme for the year, "Healthy: You, Campus, and Community." As a University advancing the practice and innovation of whole-person health, it's important to cultivate a campus that exemplifies that ethos.

"It's easy to take our health for granted," said Edwin I. Hernández, Ph.D., president of AHU, at the University's Convocation in September. Hernández spoke to the assembly of employees and students about the choices, big and small, many make every day about health — whether deciding between taking the stairs or the elevator, or between salad or pizza for lunch.

But, these choices aren't exclusive to physical health. Whole-person care means focusing on spiritual and mental health too. A video that played during the Convocation showed students answering the question of what being healthy means to them. They emphasized the importance of caring for the mind, body, and spirit. A balance of all three is the key to leading a healthy lifestyle. "Eating properly ... exercising, but it also means having a great relationship with God," said Marielle Griffiths, AHU OTA student.

Hernández challenged each person to make their own health a priority. "We want to be part of a vision of life that is flourishing. We want you to be healthier. We want our community to be healthier ... anywhere we may be."

This healthy campus initiative is being carried out as a series of monthly challenges. Each month introduces a new theme with a daily goal for participants to complete. The challenge themes cover physical, mental, and spiritual health, which reinforces the importance of whole-person care.

For October, AHU challenged its campus to eat one veggie salad a day. The salad challenge team sent out daily emails



Maritza Burgos-Cuevas (left), Ita de Oliveira, and Elizabeth Spinella after a salad prep demonstration in AHU's Campus Center.

with recipes, as well as more resources for people to find salad prepping tips. The team behind the challenge even partnered with local restaurants to offer discounts to AHU employees and students.

To further engage the campus, a live salad-prep demonstration was held in the lobby and streamed live over social media. The intent is to reach a wider community, not just AHU's campus. Social media hashtags are utilized; there are giveaway contests; and departments are encouraged to create their own challenges to complete, post photos on social media, and engage students in activities.

For November, the challenge is "Gratitude" — perfect for a time of year when many reflect on all the blessings they are

thankful to receive. Other planned challenges include exercise, prayer, self-care, and more.

AHU's campus has been developing skilled professionals who *live* the healing values of Christ for more than 25 years. As Alexia Stewart, an AHU nursing student, said in response to what a healthy community looks like, "... It kind of looks like AHU — everyone's happy, everyone's always supporting each other." Healthy faculty, staff, students, and graduates are better equipped to provide whole-person care that extends the healing ministry of Christ. 🙏

BY LISA MARIE ESSER

Southern Responds to Devastation Caused by Hurricane Florence



By meeting physical needs, Southern students and employees were able to connect with individuals impacted by Hurricane Florence.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Florence, students and employees from Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn., jumped into action. As flooding receded in the Carolinas, teams of trained individuals deployed to help, with groups taking turns serving in New Bern, N.C.

This quick response was possible thanks to a partnership with 2Serve Disaster Training and Response, that helped train and prepare students and employees for just such a natural disaster. 2Serve partners with Adventist academies, universities, and conferences to carry out the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church through Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. The first formal CERT training was offered at Southern this past August, followed by a disaster response simulation in September, and training in how to organize a shelter and ensure the safety of those affected.

“Being ready is very important because

it is a matter of when another disaster is going to happen, not if it is going to happen,” said Jennifer Carter, director of Southern’s Christian Service program.

As Hurricane Florence touched down, Southern’s team was able to mobilize and recruit students and staff for relief assistance. Three groups deployed over the span of two weeks. Those who participated came back to campus tired and sore, but inspired.

“After we had ripped out soggy carpet and put furniture back in place on the swept concrete floor for an older couple, we prayed with them and then shared hugs,” said Elaine Hayden, who works in the School of Education and Psychology and volunteered with one group. “The reward of seeing tearful people thanking us after seeing young people and others give so cheerfully to help them out of the ditch, so to speak, is something I will carry with me forever.”

Laura Racovita-Szilagyi, associate pro-



Some flood-damaged houses needed to be gutted, including ripping out carpet and cleaning away debris.



The Southern groups worked alongside other volunteers to help clear away fallen trees and debris in yards.



Trash piles grew as the teams made progress clearing away damage from flooding.

fessor of social work, and other campus leaders in emergency preparedness are focused on growing the program at Southern and responding locally to needs within the Southern Union.

“However, we are not ruling out deploying to help wherever God calls us,” Racovita-Szilagyi said. “Ultimately, we model Jesus’ love for a hurting world; He took care of the needs of the people first, and then invited them to follow Him. These trainings and experiences will remain with students, staff, and faculty participants, and they will take their skills and knowledge wherever they go.”

BY STAFF REPORTER



JAECKS, LENARD DALE, 85, born March 21, 1932 in Wausau, WI, died June 25, 2017 at the Hospice Care Center in Chattanooga, TN, with his wife, Lois, by his side. He was a resident of Ooltewah, TN, and was a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church.

Jaecks graduated from Wisconsin Academy in 1950. He met his wife, Lois Lattoni, during his senior year at the academy, and they were married June 7, 1953. Their eldest son, Steven, was born in Niles, MI, and their second son, Ronald, was born in Portage, WI.

He graduated from Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) in Berrien Springs, MI, in 1955 with a B.A. degree. He then taught at Milwaukee Jr. Academy for two years before beginning pastoring in Wisconsin in 1957. In 1961, he received his M.A. degree from Andrews University and was ordained to the Seventh-day Adventist ministry. In 1976, he earned his D.Min. degree, also from Andrews.

In addition to pastoring many churches in Wisconsin, Jaecks also pastored in Illinois, Maryland, and California. In 1997, at the time of his retirement, he was the president of the Washington Conference. Additional church-appointed administrative duties include directorship of the Adventist Heritage Ministry, while directing the restoring of Historic Adventist Village in Battle Creek, MI, after his retirement.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Lois; two sons: Steven (Carmen) Jaecks and Dr. Ronald (Kelli) Jaecks; three grandchildren; one sister; brothers-in-law; sisters-in-law; many nieces; and nephews.

A memorial service was held at the Collegedale, TN, Church on July 29, 2017 with Pastors Cherie and Dave Smith officiating.

JUHL, EUGENE, 80, born Aug. 7, 1937 in Takoma Park, MD, died July 22, 2018 in Longwood, FL. Gene loved the Lord and offered his life in service first as a literature evangelist and district leader, then as publishing director for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Carolina, Florida, Alabama-Mississippi, Kansas, Potomac, and Georgia-Cumberland conferences, as well as the Columbia Union. While he was a skilled salesperson, it was his love and enthusiasm about sharing the Good News of the love of our heavenly Father, exhibited through the gift of His Son Jesus Christ that made Gene successful beyond any earthly reward.

From the time he and Eleanor were married in 1960 until 1984, they lived in nine states. In 1984, they decided to call Calhoun, GA, home. In their retirement years, Gene and Eleanor traveled the world, from California to Czechoslovakia. A highlight was a trip to Denmark, as Gene's family was originally from there. After Eleanor's death in August 2013, Gene remained in Calhoun where he met Teena Armstrong. They were married in February 2016. In July 2017, he moved to Orlando, FL, to be closer to the physicians who were treating him for pulmonary fibrosis.

He is survived by Tim and Karen Juhl Shields; Cody and Alyson Shields Herndon; Chris and Regan Juhl; Nathan and Jyssica Juhl; Sam and Natalie Juhl Moan; Jacob, Jessica, and Jillian Barnett; Keith and Alicia Juhl; Ian and Elliott Juhl; Kim Juhl Thedford; Julian Thedford and Aidan Juhl Fisher; Irv and Dru Juhl; Albert and Faye Juhl; and Teena Armstrong Juhl.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Adolph and Gladys Christensen Juhl; and his wife of 53 years, Eleanor Juhl.



LITZENBERGER, D. RUNETTE, 71, born Nov. 22, 1946, in Savannah, GA, died Aug. 8, 2018, in Apopka, FL. She was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka for five years.

She served for 25 years in denominational work as an administrative assistant at: Portland Adventist Hospital, North Pacific Union Conference, Columbia Union College, Loma Linda Hospital, Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Ohio Conference, and as a coach/trainer at North American Division Evangelism Institute.

She is survived by her husband of 42 years, Lyle; one son, Brian (Leticia) of Altamonte Springs, FL; two daughters: Amy and Stacy of Altamonte Springs; and four grandchildren.

The service was conducted by Walt Williams at the Forest Lake Church.



PRATT, LESTER D., 75, born July 5, 1943 in Takoma Park, MD, died July 15, 2018 in Altamonte Springs, FL. He was a member of the Florida Living Church in Apopka, FL.

Lester graduated from Washington Missionary College (now Washington Adventist University) in Takoma Park in 1967, and began his ministry in Birmingham, AL, in 1969, followed by Tupelo, MS, and Meridian, MS, before coming to Florida in 1973. He worked as an evangelist for the Florida Conference from 1973 to 2015. Although he retired in 2015, the passion he had for the Good News of the Gospel could not be contained, and he continued to touch the lives of everyone around him.

He is survived by his wife, Zula; one son, Ted (Tomi Cope) Pratt of Altamonte Springs; one step-son, Paul (Jill) Horton III; one step-daughter, Debi (Sean) Elliott; one brother, Stacey Lindsey of Florida; three sisters: Yvonne Eller of Montana, Beth Zeffis of Tennessee, and Barbara Strength of Florida; and four grandchildren. He was predeceased by his daughter, Lezlie Dawn in 2015. The service was conducted by Pastor James King at the Florida Living Church in Apopka.

ROWE, MARY LOU VORNHOLT, 82, born Jan. 17, 1936 at home on Cottage Avenue in Columbus, IN, died July 16, 2018 at her home in Collegedale, TN, after an extended struggle with cancer and Alzheimer's. She was the daughter of the late Carl and Lucille Vornholt.

During her elementary years, she attended Columbus Adventist Elementary in Columbus, IN, and later spent her high school years at Indiana Academy near Cicero, IN, graduating in the class of 1954. After attending Emanuel Missionary College in Berrien Springs, MI,

Mary Lou dropped out of college to marry her high school sweetheart, Kermise Rowe. They were married in the Indiana Academy Chapel on Dec. 8, 1955, with Ruth Anne Barr, sister of the bride, serving as the matron of honor and Berlin Rowe, brother of the groom, as best man.

Mary Lou spent her career working as a professional administrative assistant, serving the last 25 years at Southern Adventist University before her retirement in 2001. She was an active member of the Collegedale Church, and attended the Open Circle Bible Study.

She is survived by her two daughters: Susan (Mark) Brown of Georgetown, TN, and Sandy (Don Jr.) Keele of Calhoun, GA; two sisters: Ruth Ann (Gene) Barr of Lakeland, FL, and Carol (Darrel) Renshaw of Collegedale, TN; one brother, John (Loa) Vornholt of Clarkston, WA; four grandchildren: Kelly (Greg) Shipp of Chattanooga, TN, Andrea Keele of Beltsville, MD, Jill (Bryce) Reading of Spangle, WA, and Donnie (Rachel) Keele III of Berrien Springs, MI; two great-grandchildren: Clara Mae and Bryson Reading of Spangle, WA; numerous nieces; nephews; and many friends. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 54 years, Kermise Rowe; and her parents, Carl and Lucille Vornholt. Mary was buried beside her husband, Kermise, at a graveside service on July 23, 2018, at Collegedale Memorial Park to await the resurrection morning.



STOCKS, TERESA L., 57, born Sept 6, 1960 in Hinsdale, IL, died Jan. 23, 2018 in Casselberry, FL. She was a member of the Avon Park, FL, Church for three and one half years. She was employed for 21 years by Adventist Health Systems.

She is survived by her parents: Joseph and Eleanor Stocks of Avon Park; two sons: Daniel Wolf of Middletown, NY, and Dustin Wolf of Hinsdale; one brother, Timothy Stocks of Riverside, CA; and one sister, Tammy Stocks Goodrich of Avon Park. The service was conducted at Avon Park Church with the homily by Pastor George W. Brown. The interment was in Memorial Garden in Sebring, FL.

BOELTER, INEZ (MARTELLE), 88, born June 14, 1930 in Mattison, MN, died Sept. 15, 2018 in Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, for 57 years. She is survived by one son, Vincent E. Boelter Jr. of Altamonte Springs; and one daughter, Cynthia Boelter Davis of Mt. Dora, FL. Interment was in the Highland Memory Gardens in Apopka.

CELESTIN JR., GRATIEN, 64, born Jan. 10, 1954 in Cap-Haitien, Haiti, died Aug. 17, 2018 in Port Charlotte, FL. He was a member of the Port Charlotte Church for more than 21 years. Gratien was a medical-surgical nurse and also a nurse for the Department of Juvenile Detention before his early retirement. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Marie; one son, Patrick of Port Charlotte; one daughter, Jessy of Port Charlotte; three sisters: Nina, Rosette, and Nelly; and four grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Brian Cassell at the Port Charlotte Church. Interment was in Port Charlotte.

CHASTAIN, ANDREW FITCH, 91, born March 3, 1927, died July 6, 2018. He was the son of the late Chalmer and Elma Chastain. Andrew lived in the Ooltewah, TN, area the majority of his life and was active in the Church, being involved with the Collegedale, Ooltewah, and Bowman Hills churches. Andrew was a family man who loved his family unconditionally. He and his wife and children owned and operated Chastain Construction, Chastain Poultry Farm, and Grindstone Estates. He worked hard his whole life to provide for them. He and his wife particularly enjoyed spending time in their mountain get-away home. He is survived by his four children: Bettie (Ric) Griffin, Don (Lucia) Chastain, Ken (Karen) Chastain, and Jeannie (Marty) Hefner; four grandchildren: Tara Hills, Mandi Gane, Bekki Wade, and Tyler Hefner; eight great-grandchildren; one sister, Freda (Fred) Price; as well as numerous extended family members; and friends. In addition to his mother and father, he was preceded

in death by his wife, Shirley Chastain; and three brothers: Elmer Chastain, Dr. Chalmer Chastain, and Robert Earl Chastain. A graveside service took place on July 8, 2018 at Collegedale Memorial Park.

CLARK, HAROLD V., 91, born May 20, 1927, died July 13, 2018, in Winterset, IA. He was a member of the Florida Living Church in Apopka, FL for ten years. He was a graduate of Union College with a B.S. degree in 1949 and at Stanford University in 1955 with a M.S. degree. He was an engineer for Ampex Corporation and had several patents for that company. He is survived by two step-daughters: Delories Gilliland of Niles, MI, and Cheryl Simpson of Loma Linda, CA; one sister-in-law, Ellen Clark of Apopka, FL; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Lorraine; and a brother, Carl Clark of Apopka, FL. A graveside service was held in Redding, CA.

DALTON, M.D., WILLIAM (BILL) E., 88, born Jan. 16, 1930 in Wilmington, OH, died Sept. 15, 2018 in Apopka, FL. He was an Adventist since 1950 and a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka since 1984. He is survived by one son, Bill Jr. (Patty) of Apopka; two daughters: Dorothy Dalton and Yvonne (Ren) Carder of Apopka; one brother, Sam (Marilyn) Dalton of Kenton, OH; one sister, Naomi Holderbaum of Lebanon, OH; and five grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife of 57 years, Betty. The service was conducted by Pastor Steve Sherman at the Forest Lake Church in Apopka. Interment was at Baldwin Fairchild in Apopka.

ENGEN, DAVID L., 47, born Nov. 16, 1970, died Aug. 18, 2018. He was a member of the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. He spent his school days at Madison Campus Elementary, Madison Academy, and Georgia-Cumberland Academy. For the last five years, David bravely fought throat cancer. He is survived by his wife, Debbie Engen; mother, Barbara Engen; father, Allen Engen; two sons: Jared (17) and Brandon

(10) Engen; one daughter, Alyssa Engen (13); one brother, Michael Engen; two half siblings: Frank Grider and Yolanda Grider; a host of family; and friends.

FISHER, DELBERT DELOS., 99 of McDonald, TN, born Jan. 8, 1919 in DeKalb County, IN, died July 25, 2018 peacefully in his sleep after a long life well lived at the home of his youngest daughter, Catherine. Delbert was always drawn to adventure whether it was riding his Indian motorcycle as a young man, flying in airplanes, fishing, or winning the heart of a sassy young woman. The heart he won was Betty Grover, who hitchhiked from Indiana to Galveston, TX, to marry her beau on Oct. 11, 1941. Sadly, their 65-year love affair ended when she lost her battle with Parkinson's disease in December of 2006. Delbert still spoke of Betty with a twinkle and tear in his eye until the day of his death. He was a devoted husband caring for his wife, along with their daughter, Catherine, during her long battle with Parkinson's. He was a loving father to four children: William D. (Barbara) Fisher, Rodney L. (Marsha) Fisher, Candice A. (Don) Hagar, and Catherine S. (Ed) Demaree. He was a doting grandfather to many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren. "Grandpa" was always ready to dole out frozen snicker bars, root beer, or chocolates to the children. He even served as the best man at several of his grandsons' weddings. Delbert spent time in China and Burma, as well as other places in the Indian theatre while serving in the Army during World War II. He received several medals and commendations for his service. Delbert lived primarily in Indiana, but promotions did move the family to Harrisburg, PA, and Canton, OH, during his many years with the railroad. After his retirement, Delbert and Betty move to Avon Park, FL, where they were active in the local church. After spending 17 years in Florida, they moved to the Collegedale, TN, area to be near family. He was a member of the Ooltewah Church for the past 18 years. In addition to his wife, Betty, he was pre-

ceded in death by his four younger siblings. A private graveside service with honor guard was held in Amboy, IN, on Aug. 26, 2018. He was laid to rest next to Betty, to sleep until the soon coming of our Lord.

GILLISSE, ROBERT PAUL, 62, of Ooltewah, TN, was killed in a tragic plane crash at the Collegedale Airport on April 20, 2018. He served in the U.S. Army for 20 years. In October 2017, he retired from government service and was planning to retire in Florida with his wife of 31 years, Jeannemarie. His passions were flying planes and hang-gliders, kayaking, scuba driving, and mountain biking. Robert's biggest passion in the last 10 years was to tell anyone he met that "God is a God of love." When talking about Scripture, Robert had the ability to paint a beautiful picture to the listener while revealing a God of love. His notorious comment when he got into his preaching mode about God was, "Don't get me started."

KRUGH II, EUGENE V., 68, born Nov. 11, 1949, died July 6, 2018 in Gainesville, FL. He was a member of the Gainesville Church for 20 years. Gene had a heartfelt need to serve the Lord and to show the love of God to others. He did lay preaching in the Michigan, Indiana, Tennessee, Texas, and Florida conferences. He was the Gainesville Pathfinder director from 1993 to 1996, prison ministries director from 2017 to 2018, and a volunteer at Camp Kulaqua summer camp from 1990 to 1993, where he was known as the blob's "Master Blaster." He is survived by his wife, Denise; one son, Eugene V. (Tyke) Krugh III of Chattanooga, TN; two brothers: David Krugh of Lakeland, FL, and Thomas Krugh of Bethpage, TN; and two sisters: Sue McCoy of Westmoreland, TN, and Norma Burton of Westmoreland, TN. The service was conducted by Pastor Daniel Graham at Gainesville Church.

MITCHELL, TOM LEWIS, 74, born June 11, 1943, died March 17, 2018. He was the son of the late Troy Mitchell and Fannie Mae Hudgins Mitchell.

He was a member of the Thomaston, GA, Church. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Lorine Whitman Mitchell; one daughter, Christi (John) Dixon of Ellerslie, GA; three grandchildren: Brett (Laura) Dixon, Seth Dixon, and Jaycie Dixon; one great-grandson, William Patrick Dixon; one sister, Ellen Mitchell (Al) Larson of Flowery Branch, GA; several nieces; and nephews.

PICHLER, LAVERNE BYRD GOODBRAD, 96, born Oct. 2, 1921 in Savannah, GA, died March 26, 2018 at NHC Place in Gallatin, TN. She was a member of Highland Church in Portland, TN. Her early years were spent in Savannah, where she studied and became an accomplished pianist. She attended Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) and then graduated from Washington Sanitarium and Hospital (now Columbia Union College) as a registered nurse in 1943. She was very active in the Greenville, SC, Church as a pianist, organist, and working alongside her husband, Burgess Goodbrad, in various church activities and leadership roles. After her husband's death in 1969, she moved to Jacksonville, FL, where she married Floyd Pichler. Together, they were active in the Jacksonville First Church and later helped support building the Mandarin Church. After Pichler's death on Aug. 18, 2012, LaVerne moved to Portland, TN. She is survived by two sons: Donald (Heather) Goodbrad and Dan (Clara) Pichler; three daughters: Janet (Daniel) Bagshaw, Deanna (Walter) Borges, Bonnie (Randy) Bryn; 11 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; many beloved nieces; nephews; relatives; and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband: Floyd Pichler; parents: Benjamin Byrd and Ruth Tomlinson Byrd; three brothers: Benjamin Byrd, Carleton Byrd, and Bernard Byrd.

PIERCE, WALTER WOODARD, 88, born June 19, 1930, in Montrose, GA, he died peacefully on Sept. 3, 2018. He was the youngest of six children born to Isaac Hall Pierce and Annie Porter Pierce. When he was six

years old, the family moved to Stone Mountain, GA, where Walter enjoyed living the rest of his life. From 1951 to 1953, Walter served his country in the Army during the Korean Conflict. On Sept. 16, 1956, Walter married Barbara Couch. They would have celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary this year. Walter graduated from Southern Technical Institute where he received an Associate Degree in Mechanical Technology in 1958. He worked at Link-Belt Company doing drafting. Following that, he worked for an insurance company for 23 years before he retired. He then was an entrepreneur, which included being a landlord. His hobbies included playing the guitar and singing, camping, and gardening. He was known to all as a loving Christian, good neighbor, and fun-loving friend. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Pierce of Stone Mountain; daughter, Patti (John) Shanko of Jacksonville, FL; daughter, Debbie (Mike) Golden of Ocala, FL; granddaughter, Kelsey Golden of Altamonte Springs, FL; grandson, Kolby Golden of Altamonte Springs; many nieces; and nephews.

POE, ALLISON BRAY, 66, of Hampstead, NC, born May 29, 1951 in Greensboro, NC, to the late Edgar A. Poe and Ruth Bray Poe, died March 23, 2017 at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington, NC. She was an organist at Wilmington Church for many years and the Greensboro Church. She volunteered for the Hampstead Women's Club for many years. She was a waitress and bookkeeper for Darrell's Restaurant in Greensboro before moving to Hampstead. She is survived by her three sisters: Doris Campbell of Westerville, OH, Shirley Leach of Homestead, FL, and Jeanette (Jan) Denton; brother-in-law, Lester of Bolton, NC; many nieces; nephews; great nieces; great nephews; her uncle, James Poe, and his wife, Jeane; and her aunt, Mary Wilson, all of Greensboro. A memorial service was held April 7, 2018 at Wilmington Church. Interment is at Guilford Memorial Park in Greensboro.

SKIDMORE, BETTY S., 83, born Oct. 13, 1934 in Cranks, KY, died Aug. 27, 2018 in Bowling Green, KY. She was a member of the Ridgetop, TN, Church. She worked for many years at Uniroyal in Naugatuck, CT. She was a dedicated gardener, and enjoyed watching her grandchildren grow up. She is survived by three daughters: Brenda (Dennis) Rodgers, Judy (Earl) Beloin, and Donna Bresky; three grandchildren: Melissa (Jeremey) Perkins, Judi Bresky, and Kevin Rodgers; and five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband: Ralph Skidmore; one daughter, Shirley Guerrero; two grandsons: Craig Dylan Bresky and Glenn Rodgers; seven brothers; and one sister.

SMITH, HAROLD FOSTER, 100, born March 25, 1918 to the late Harry D. Smith and Myrtle (Sherrin) Smith in Glen Lyon, PA, died June 3, 2018 in Fletcher, NC. While Harold was a member of Berwick Church in Pennsylvania, in the 1960s, he served as a literature evangelist. Known as Foster to his friends, he grew up in Summer Hill, PA, and spent most of his life on Berwick Heights, PA. He worked for the Wise Potato Chip Company for 32 years, before retiring to Hendersonville, NC. Foster served his country in World War II; landing on Omaha Beach on D-Day with the 29th Infantry Division. Sgt. Smith was awarded a Bronze Star for bravery and a Purple Heart with an Oak Leaf Cluster for wounds received in battle. Foster is survived by four children: Brian (Bonnie) Smith of Lake Wales, FL, Dianne (David) Bremmer of Decatur, TN, Craig (Debbie) Smith of Manchester, KY, and Fonda (Brian) Lynes of Hendersonville, NC; nine grandchildren: John (Valerie) Frey, Barbara (Ronald) Adams, Derrick (Tracy) Bremmer, Darren (Megan) Bremmer, Dawn Bremmer, Amy (Kevin) McQueen, Denise (Jeffery) Hughes, Eve (Nate) Moretz, and Emily (Steven) Green; six great-grandchildren; numerous nieces; and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife of 71 years, Jane (Jean) Morrison Smith; and one daughter, Heather Smith.

TEMPLE, NANCY, 53, born Aug. 31, 1965, died Sept. 6, 2018 in Apopka, FL. She was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka for six years. She was baptized by Pastor Sabine Vatel on Feb. 25, 2012. Nancy always maintained a sweet and simple demeanor, living a life of grace. To know her was to love her. She radiated joy and kindness, and never met a stranger. She had an unwavering faith in God no matter what battles she was up against. The most important thing to her was living her life for Jesus, and that's exactly what she did. Many hearts were changed by her example of courage, nurturing, love, and faith. Her legacy will live on in the hearts and minds of all who were fortunate enough to know her. She is survived by her brothers; one sister; and an extensive list of family and friends. The service was conducted by Pastor Geoff Patterson at Forest Lake Church in Apopka. Interment was at Highland Memory Gardens in Apopka.

VADIL, EUSEBIO, 92, born Dec. 29, 1926 in the Philippines, died Dec. 2017 in the Philippines. He was a member of the Dunnellon Company in Florida. He is survived by two daughters: Cynthia Aranca of Dunnellon, FL, and Luzviminda Geiger of Parrish, FL; and two grandchildren.

WESTBURY, ROOSEVELT, 93, born March 14, 1925 to the late Arthur and Leslie (Shepherd) Westbury in Holly Hill, SC., died Sept. 25, 2018 in Murrells Inlet, SC. A celebration of his life was held Oct. 18, 2018 at The Palmettos Assisting Living facility. Interment was held Oct. 19, 2018 at Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery.

WESTFALL, ELIZABETH M., 88, born July 21, 1930 in Battle Creek, MI, died Aug. 29, 2018 in Apopka, FL. She was a member of Florida Living Church in Apopka for three and one-half years. She was a laundry supervisor at the Georgia-Cumberland Academy in Calhoun, GA, for two years. She is survived by her husband, J.D. Westfall; four sons: Ron (Jelane) Westfall, David (Greta) Westfall of Berrien

Springs, MI, Robert (Judy) Westfall of Napa, CA, and James D. Westfall; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor James King at Florida Living Church in Apopka.

ZALABAK, NAOMI, 95, born in Dickson, TN, on Jan. 23, 1923, died June 22, 2018 in Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of the Florida Living Church in Apopka, FL. Before this, she was a member of the Avon Park Church in Avon Park, FL, where she served her church as communication director for many years. She was employed with the denomination for 35 years at: Wisconsin Conference, Emmanuel Missionary College Elementary School, N. Philippine Union Mission, Southeast Asia Union College, Far Eastern Academy, Korean Union, Hinsdale Sanitarium and Hospital, Far Eastern Division Elementary School, General Conference Home Study Institute, and Hadley Memorial Hospital. She is survived by three sisters: Edith James and Helen Palmer of Milo, ME, and Genevieve Hook of Apopka. She was predeceased by her brother, Wilbur Zalabak of Marshfield, WI. The service was conducted by Pastor James King at the Florida Living Church in Apopka. Interment was at Bougainvillea Cemetery in Avon Park.

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks full-time **teaching faculty for the School of Music**. This position will provide curricular oversight to and teach lower- and upper-division courses in area of primary expertise – either music history or music theory. Master's degree in Musicology, Music History, or Music Theory required, doctorate preferred. *Full job description:* www.southern.edu/jobs [11]

UNION COLLEGE invites applicants for a **Management teaching faculty** position. Qualified applicants will have a master's degree in a related field and should be a committed member of the SDA Church. A doctorate is preferred. *Find more information at* www.ucollege.edu/faculty-openings *or contact* Lisa L. Forbes *at* Lisa.L.Forbes@ucollege.edu [11, 12]

LICENSED MESSAGE THERAPIST needed for the ProHealth Wellness Center at the Hulsey Wellness Center. Flexible schedule, good salary, friendly environment. New graduates welcomed, no experience required, willing to train. Part time and full time positions available. *Email resume to* dkch7@yahoo.com *or call us at* 706-625-3585. [10-12]

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION is seeking an **Editor** for Guide magazine. This person will be responsible for planning, assembling, editing and sometimes writing for the magazine. Candidates must have editorial experience of at least three years, as well as proven writing abilities with knowledge of English grammar and magazine style. A degree in communication, journalism, or English; M.A. preferred. *To apply, contact* Michelle Sinigaglio, *Human Resources Director at* Michelle.Sinigaglio@pacificpress.com [11]

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION is seeking a **Human Resources Director**. The HR Director develops & maintains programs for recruitment, retention, benefit administration, compensation, wellness, and staff development. Candidates must possess effective communication

skills and demonstrate experience in leadership. A bachelor's degree in Human Resources Management or related field is required. SPHR or SHRM certification preferred. *To apply contact* Robert D. Hastings, *Vice President of Finance at* 208-465-2536 *or* Robert.Hastings@pacificpress.com [11]

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 [11, 12]

AUTHORS OF COOKBOOKS, HEALTH BOOKS, CHILDREN'S CHAPTER AND PICTURE BOOKS, Call 800-367-1844 for your free evaluation. We publish all book formats, distribute to over 39,000 bookstores in 220 countries. *Find our new titles at your local ABC or* www.TeachServices.com, *used SDA books at* www.LNFBooks.com [11-4]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. *For more information, call* 423.236.2585 *or visit* www.southern.edu/graduatestudies [11-5]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY Department of Sustainable Agriculture offers you a \$5,000 Scholarship! Feed the world with a degree in Agribusiness. Change the world with a degree in International Agriculture Development. Beautify the world with a degree in Landscape Design. *For more information:* <https://www.andrews.edu/agriculture>, agriculture@andrews.edu, 269-471-6006. [11-1]

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. [11-3]

2019 ADVENTIST TOURS – Bethlehem to Rome (including Revelation's 7 Churches) June 2-19; Israel in Jesus' Steps June 2-10; New Testament Alive (Revelation's 7 Churches/Patmos/Greece/Rome option) June 6-19; African Safari & Service July 18-26. Tours led by Dr. Andy Nash and Dr. Greg King. \$1990+/person. *For full info, contact* tabghatours@gmail.com *or* www.facebook.com/TabghaTours [11]

ITALY: 12 DAYS OF DISCOVERY – Southern Adventist University Alumni Association Tour May 26 – June 7, 2019. Join alumni and friends of Southern on this unique tour of Italy. Explore lakes, mountains, and cities with Dr. Bill Wohlers, Ph.D. history, and leader of 25 previous tours. Current price of \$3,995 includes air fare. *Contact:* Evonne Crook, alumni@southern.edu, 423-236-2830. [11, 12]

2019 GREAT CONTROVERSY TOUR, June 21-July 3, with Dr. Gerard Damsteegt. See prophecies of Daniel and Revelation come alive! Visit Rome, Italy, and Reformation sites in the Waldensian Valleys, Switzerland, Germany, France. A most exciting experience! *Call* 269-815-8624, *email* gctours@mac.com. [11]

NAD HEALTH SUMMIT 2019 – “Healing of the Nations.” Designed to provide training, networking, and inspiration for anyone involved with or interested in health ministries. January 20-26, 2019, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Register at www.nadhealth.org. *For more information contact* 443-300-8845 *or* summit@nadhealth.org [11-1]

I HAVE A BOOK MINISTRY in which I send a quality hardback Great Controversy to pastors. My goal is to send one to every pastor in the U.S. I've been working on this for several years. There are a number of different ways that you could be involved. *If interested, contact* Gary Pyke, *evenings, at* 931-582-6669. [11-1]

EQUIPPING YOUR HEALTH MINISTRY



HEALING OF THE NATIONS

NAD HEALTH SUMMIT 2019

NAD Health Summit 2019
Coming to Albuquerque, New Mexico
January 20 - 26, 2019

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After December 31, 2018 Fee \$ 475
Register at www.nadhealth.org

For more information contact
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Seventh-day Adventist Church
NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

HEALTH MINISTRIES



Life and Service of **A Dedicated Couple**

In 2002 LaRue and Erma Jane Cook moved to Columbus, Mississippi. Elder LaRue served the Lord in multiple responsibilities, including trust services director for the Michigan Conference. He, and Erma Jane, who taught and shared her passion of music, loved their family and local church.

Following the advice learned as trust director, LaRue and Erma Jane established a Revocable Trust through the Gulf States Conference Trust Department. Their love and dedication for God shined through as they planned accordingly, providing for their family, and the mission work in Gulf States!

► **To learn how you can provide for both your family and the mission of the Church, contact your Planned Give and Trust Services Director.**

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Florida

Phil Bond (407) 644-5000

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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

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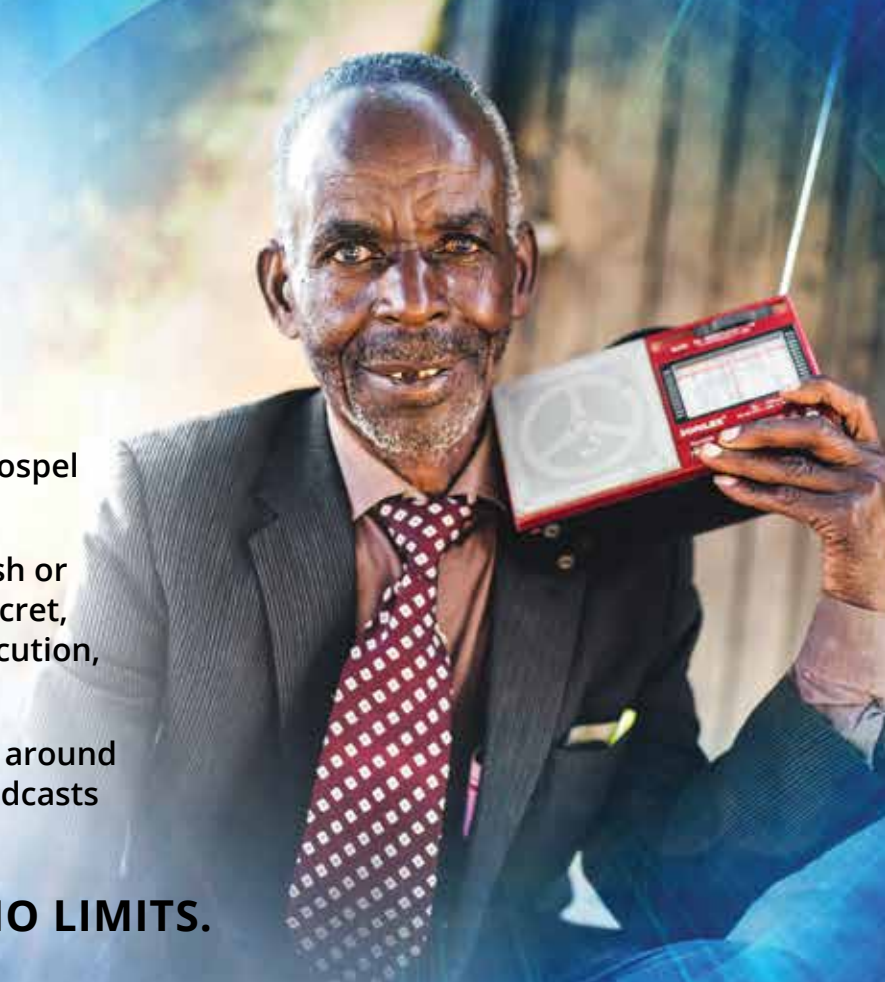
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DECEMBER 8, 2018

Sabbath service & afternoon program

For more information, please contact
AWR at **800-337-4297**.

Chattanooga First Seventh-day Adventist Church

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CAROLINA

VOLUNTEER LAY-PASTOR TRAINING - Nov. 9-10. NPR.

PATHFINDER WINTER COUNCIL - Jan. 4-5. NPR.

GENEROUS LIVING SUMMIT - Jan. 19. Raleigh.

FLORIDA

COMPLETE CALENDAR ONLINE - floridaconference.com/events

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FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER EXPRESS DELIVERY SCHEDULE - Avoid shipping costs by placing an ABC order to be delivered to a scheduled location. Orders must be made by phone or e-mail before noon on the Thursday prior to a scheduled Sunday delivery.
Nov. 4. Lady Lake, North Lake, Ocala, Cross City, Perry, Tallahassee.
Nov. 11. Midport, West Palm Beach First, Pompano Beach, Margate, Ambassador in Lauderdale Lakes, Sunrise. (Southeastern Conference: Port St. Lucie, West Palm Beach Ephesus.)

Nov. 18. Winter Haven, Avon Park, Arcadia, Cape Coral, Ft. Myers, Lehigh Acres, Naples.

Dec. 2. Inverness, Tampa First, Brandon, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Sarasota, North Port, Port Charlotte.

Dec. 9. Palm Coast, Palatka, St. Augustine, Orange Cove, Jacksonville First, Jacksonville Southpoint. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)

Dec. 16. Kendall, Miami Temple, Miami Springs, Eden in Miami, Marantha in Miami Gardens.

HOPE FOR HURTING HEARTS - Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212nd Ave., High Springs. A healing, educational retreat for those who've been sexually abused as children. Cost: \$150, all inclusive.

Nov. 8-11. Spanish language. Details: floridaconference.com/event/esperanza-para-corazones-dolidos/

March 28-31. Teen Track. Details: floridaconference.com/event/hope-for-hurting-hearts-teens/

LEGACY OF HOPE-FORT MYERS - Nov. 17. Fort Myers Church, 3451 Ortiz Ave., Fort Myers. Details: floridaconference.com/event/legacy-of-hope-ft-myers/

DELIVERANCE 2019-WOMEN'S CONVENTION - Jan. 4-6. Caribe Royale Resort & Convention Center, 8101 World Center Drive, Orlando. Cost: varies depending on accommodations/commuter and meal choices. Details: floridaconference.com/event/deliverance-2019/

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

PATHFINDER TEEN CHALLENGE - Nov. 2-4. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

HEALTH RALLY PRESENTER: EW DEMPSEY - Nov. 3. Cohutta, GA.

SOUTH GEORGIA BLITZ - Nov. 10. Administrators and directors from the Conference preach and present at our churches in south Georgia.

PATHFINDER JUNIOR EVENT - Nov. 30-Dec. 2. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

MINISTRIES TRAINING - Dec. 1. 3:00-8:30 p.m. There will be a wide range of trainings held from ACS/Disaster Response, ACF, Audio Visual, Children's Ministries (including several Sabbath Schools), Church Treasurers, Communication, Deacon/Deaconess, Family Ministries, Health Ministries, Human Resources & Safety, Men's Ministries, Pastors & Elders, Personal Evangelism, Prayer Ministries, Prison Ministries, Stewardship, Women's Ministries, Young Adult Ministries, and Youth Ministries. Calhoun, GA, Church.

FESTIVAL OF PRAISE/GCC AND SAC JOINT EVENT - Dec. 8. Speaker: Pastor Henry Wright. Theme: "A Love Undeniable." St. Philips AME Church, 240 Candler Road SE, Atlanta, GA.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

ADVENTURER CAMPOREE I - Nov. 2-4. Indian Creek Camp.

HIGHLAND ACADEMY BOARD - Nov. 8. Highland Academy.

ADVENTURER CAMPOREE II - Nov. 9-11. Indian Creek Camp.

ELDERS' CERTIFICATION TRAINING - Nov. 9-11. Indian Creek Camp.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - Dec. 4. Conference Office.

MINISTERS' MEETING - Jan. 21-24. Pigeon Forge, TN.

KYTN ACROFEST - Jan. 24-26. Highland Academy.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT - Nov. 11. 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.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING - Nov. 27. Southern invites the community to usher in the holiday season with a special evening of music and warm, tasty treats, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in front of Wright Hall.

CHRISTMAS POPS CONCERT - Dec. 1. Under the direction of Ken Parsons and Laurie Cooper, Southern's Wind Symphony, Jazz Ensemble, and Ringtones will present their annual Christmas concert at 8 p.m. in Iles P.E. Center. Admission is free. For more information, visit southern.edu/musicevents or contact 423-236-2880.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC CHRISTMAS CONCERT - Dec. 8. This holiday season, the School of Music presents the classic "Amahl and the Night Visitors" at 4 p.m. in the Collegedale Church, with Julie Penner as director and Laurie Redmer Minner as conductor. Admissions is free. The event will also be broadcast at southern.edu/streaming.

MOVING?

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEIMAR INSTITUTE 40TH HOME-COMING - Nov. 2-4. We are celebrating 40 years of God's blessings at Weimar Institute this year! If you attended academy or pursued higher education here, please join us. Honor classes: '83, '88, '93, '98, 03', '08, '13. For more information: 530-422-7964 or <http://weimar.edu/alumni/>

SUNSET

	NOV 2	NOV 9	NOV 16	NOV 23	NOV 30	DEC 7
ATLANTA, GA	6:44	5:38	5:33	5:30	5:28	5:28
CHARLESTON, SC	6:27	5:22	5:17	5:14	5:13	5:13
CHARLOTTE, NC	6:27	5:21	5:16	5:13	5:11	5:10
COLLEGE DALE, TN	6:45	5:39	5:34	5:31	5:29	5:29
HUNTSVILLE, AL	5:51	4:45	4:40	4:37	4:35	4:35
JACKSON, MS	6:09	5:04	4:59	4:56	4:55	4:55
LOUISVILLE, KY	6:42	5:35	5:29	5:25	5:23	5:22
MEMPHIS, TN	6:04	4:58	4:53	4:50	4:48	4:48
MIAMI, FL	6:38	5:34	5:31	5:29	5:29	5:29
MONTGOMERY, AL	5:53	4:48	4:44	4:41	4:39	4:39
NASHVILLE, TN	5:49	4:43	4:38	4:34	4:32	4:32
ORLANDO, FL	6:39	5:34	5:31	5:29	5:28	5:28
TAMPA, FL	6:44	5:40	5:36	5:34	5:33	5:34
WILMINGTON, NC	6:17	5:11	5:07	5:03	5:02	5:01



FIELD TRIP



Ready to explore what the world has to offer?

Travel. Absorb. Experience it for yourself. Come with us beyond the classroom and learn by living. Throughout the year, our students travel to Israel, China, Puerto Rico, Indonesia, and more, to explore archaeology, business, music, biology—you name it. Others spend time growing through mission service abroad, whether for a few days or a whole year. Over the last two years, **933 Southern students participated in international learning opportunities.**

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The Tropical Biology class
in the Indonesian rainforest
of Tangkoko



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