

TIDINGS

Southern



DECEMBER 2019

THE YEAR OF EVANGELISM:

WINNING SOULS FOR THE KINGDOM

MEMORIAL
MEDALLION:
CHAPLAIN EDWARD
EARL CLEVELAND

PRICELESS
MOMENTS IN
NATURE

HOPE ON A
PORCH IN
APPALACHIA

CREATING A MEGA
IMPACT ON SOULS

Our Challenge to Share



Gregory Mack
President of the
Southeastern Conference

Guest Editorial

Throughout the course of time, men and women have enjoyed the beauty of living and treasuring the sacred Word of God. The comfort of the Scriptures has brought peace, wisdom, and salvation. Only eternity will reveal the countless testimonies and lives that have been changed and redeemed as a result of reading the Holy Bible.

This is significant because the goal and purpose of God's Holy Word is to save fallen humanity from eternal destruction. When we read in the Scriptures about God sending His only begotten Son to die for our sins, we understand that it is God's intent to save us in spite of our past. John 3:16 states, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." Scriptures like this clearly remind us that the Scriptures themselves are given by God to help evangelize this world. God, through His Holy Word, is reaching out to all people of all nationalities.

The Word of God reveals that God has an all-out ministry to save lost humanity from sin. And, God's perfect will is to use every means necessary to reach our families, neighbors, co-workers, and, yes, even our enemies. To accomplish this goal, Heaven has enlisted Christians like you and me. The Scriptures tell us in Matthews 28:19, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost." One of our primary reasons for living the Christian life is to share our faith with others. When we do this, we assist God in helping to reach others with this soul-saving message of salvation.

As Christians, we are asked by God to use our influence and means to evangelize the world with this soul-saving Gospel of God's love. That means every member and every talent should awaken with the urgency of sharing this Gospel of hope and wholeness. Every day people are living in fear because of the destruction of the moral values of society. We, as Christians, must show them through our abilities that God is the answer for the woes of the world.

Our past reveals that others did their part in sharing the Good News of the Bible — men like James White, Joseph Bates, H. M. S. Richards, Earl E. Cleveland, and a host of others. These men devoted their lives to the proclamation of this saving Gospel of Christ. Now the mantle is placed in our care, and the challenge is more significant than ever before. Men and women are praying that God will send someone to share with them how to be free from the grip of sin.

We are challenged by God to assist in sharing our faith with others. We must recognize that people who are lost eternally need our help to find their way to God's plan of redemption. If we believe that this Gospel has improved our lives, then we must believe that it will improve the lives of others. Let us labor together to make a difference in the lives of all whom God brings into our lives. Moreover, Heaven will be a better place when we see the lives that God used us to touch. ❶

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COVER PHOTO: Shelly Bresbon came to the "A System for Survival" evangelistic meetings at West End Church in Atlanta, Georgia, homeless, and she gave her life to Jesus. She now has an apartment, and is looking forward to her heavenly home.

PHOTO CREDIT: R. Steven Norman III





PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III



Ron Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., speaks to some of the 122 individuals baptized at his evangelistic meeting, "A System for Survival," at West End Church in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Year of Evangelism: WINNING SOULS *for the Kingdom*

BY R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Every conference in the Southern Union made preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ a priority during 2019. Pastors, laymen, and church leaders of every conference in the Southern Union held public evangelistic meetings.

Here are some inspiring reports from the Southern Union conferences of how God has used men and women to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Carolina Conference

“Evangelism, the love of sharing the Gospel of Christ, is truly the life blood of the Carolina Conference,” says Haskell Williams, ministerial director for the Carolina Conference. “We believe evangelism begins in the heart of every member, so every year all of their churches, companies, and mission groups are encouraged to develop a “Seeking to Save” plan by developing saving relationships through acts of compassion. These relationships are nurtured with Bible studies and small groups with an evangelistic focus. Then reaping efforts are planned. Out of the 163 churches/companies in Carolina, 136 chose to be engaged in an evangelistic endeavor

or of Kingdom growth this year.”

A large-scale evangelistic effort took place in the Raleigh/Durham area of North Carolina. Shawn Boonstra, director of Voice of Prophecy, conducted “Revelation Speaks Peace” in a 30,000-square-foot tent at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds. A dozen churches from the Carolina and South Atlantic conferences joined forces, with the result of baptizing more than 50 individuals.

Additionally, the Hispanic churches across the conference conducted “Evangelism Caravans,” which are multi-church, traveling evangelism events that culminate in a one-day reaping meeting. This year for the first time, three English-speaking congregations joined nine Hispanic churches in a caravan. Jose Cortez, North American Division evangelism director, traveled from city to city, night by night, across both states, resulting in dozens of baptisms.

Gulf States Conference

“We in the Gulf States Conference believe we exist as a movement to share our faith and bring people into our Church,” says Dave Livermore,

Conference president.

“Every pastor, every year, is expected to do public evangelism. We help with training, materials, and budgets, and many of us from the administration have come alongside several of our pastors and held series with them. So far for 2019, we have baptized or received through profession of faith 421 precious souls. I praise God for each one and the families they represent.”

Florida Conference

The Florida Conference had numerous evangelistic meetings conducted in local churches throughout 2019, and three large evangelism events.

A “ReClaim Victory in Jesus” evangelistic series in May in south Florida had the participation of 21 churches and more than 200 baptisms.

A similar series was held in September in the west coast of Florida, from New Port Richey to Sarasota, with 11 churches participating and more than 100 baptisms.

There were Spanish ministries evangelistic meetings in 27 churches during the month of October, by guest pastors Alejandro Bullón and José Espósito. More than 100 were baptized.



Leslie Louis, president of the Carolina Conference, baptizes one individual who joined the Church at the conclusion of his evangelistic meeting.

In north Tampa, Tom and Jonelle (Jo) Johnston were looking for a Christian school, and were open to the idea of an Adventist one. Both Tom and Jo became very involved at the school, volunteering with sports and the Parent/Teacher Association. They also began attending Tampa First Church, and started small group studies with Brad Cassell, pastor,

in their home. Finally, during the evangelistic meetings, the children decided to give their lives to Christ through baptism. Their parents, being baptized Christians, joined their children in the baptismal pool and became members of the Adventist Church through profession of faith.

Kentucky-Tennessee Conference

“Jesse” and “Michelle” were attending evangelistic meetings in Taylor Mill, Kentucky, presented by Kieth Noll, Conference ministerial director. They shared with Noll and Byron Banos, pastor, what happened in Jesse’s life that totally turned him around.

Jesse did not really take God seriously, until financial burdens drove him to his knees, the couple said. He ran his own business, and ended up owing a very large sum to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). He had no way to pay, so the IRS provided a payment plan for him.

It looked as if he would never be able to pay for the debt with five children to raise. Jesse was discouraged, and turned to his wife, Michelle, a believer, agreed to pray for him, but told Jesse that her prayers would likely do little good unless

PHOTO BY: CAROLE LOUIS



Tom and Jonelle (Jo) Johnston, along with their children, Dallas and MyKenzi, were looking for a Christian school. They became involved at North Tampa Christian Academy in Tampa, Florida. During the evangelistic meetings, the children were baptized, and their parents joined by profession of faith.



Julio de la Rosa Vargas, pastor of three Georgia churches: Lawrenceville Central Hispanic, North Gwinnett Hispanic, and Winder First Hispanic Company, baptizes one of the individuals who attended his evangelistic meeting in Ooltewah, Tennessee.



PHOTO BY: RICK GREVE

SALT (Soulwinning and Leadership Training) students and their professor: Amanda McCraw, student; Zachariah Reich, student; David Hartman, Southern Adventist University School of Religion professor; and Ronnie Campbell-Stewart, student, conducted an evangelistic meeting in Ooltewah, Tennessee.



Orlando Lopez, vice president of Florida Conference for pastoral ministries, is shown at LifeSpring Church in Wesley Chapel, Florida, baptizing a young woman during "Reclaim Tampa."

he surrendered to Jesus, gave the debt to Him, and trusted Him to take care of it. Jesse went to his bedroom, fell down on his knees, and surrendered his life and debt to Christ.

A few months passed, and Jesse received a letter from the IRS that the total debt of \$150,000 was forgiven. Talk about rejoicing! Jesse now knows there is a God in Heaven who hears and cares about his children.

Jesse, Michelle, Jesse Jr., and Justin were baptized on October 12, 2019. They are warriors for Christ, and have a message for anyone willing to listen: Never doubt the power of God!

South Central Conference

About a month before the New Year, Benjamin Jones, Conference president, says souls have joined the Conference through several evangelism campaigns.

Roger Hernandez, Southern Union ministerial director, joined Debleaire Snell, senior pastor at First Church in Huntsville, Alabama, for a one-week reaping meeting. Forty-three people were baptized.

Carlton P. Byrd, D.Min., and the Breath of Life Ministry team from its home base at the Oakwood University Church in Huntsville, had a life-transforming meeting with 101 attendees saying yes to Christ.

Alvin Kibble, vice president of the North American Division, preached at Magazine Street Church in Louisville, Kentucky. He, along with George Thornton, Ph.D., D.D., senior pastor of Magazine Street Church, rejoiced to see 39 individuals baptized.

Michael Lewis, pastor of South Park Church in Birmingham, Alabama, serves an urban community where unemployment, affordable housing, and violence are real challenges. So, not only does the South Park congregation preach the Good News of Christ to those who hunger for a better life, they work to help new members find jobs, secure housing, stabilize family situations, and begin to experience life in Christ. This year they have seen 56 baptized.

At the conclusion of a one-week meeting at Oakwood Academy, 26 students

were baptized. One parent excitedly posted on Facebook that all three of her children were baptized.

Southeastern Conference

Net Evangelism (Net19) kicked off a chain reaction within the Southeastern Conference. Administrators and departmental directors joined the evangelism call by conducting evangelistic crusades to reach more people for Christ.

Youth ministries evangelized the immediate areas surrounding Camp Hawthorne before Camp Meeting. Community services held Revelation seminars; Haitian ministries did Haitian Net Evangelism meetings; the Spanish-speaking communities came together to have the annual Hispanic Camp Meeting, which also focused on evangelism; and the Women's Ministries Department continues to engage in soul winning through their nightly evangelistic meetings.

Through these meetings and the meetings held by pastors at 31 churches, 2,112 individuals were baptized during the first three quarters of 2019!

South Atlantic Conference

"The Lord has truly blessed the South Atlantic Conference evangelistic efforts this year," says Calvin Preston, Conference ministerial director. "We had over 30 evangelistic meetings throughout the states of Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, and have baptized hundreds of souls to the glory of God."

The West End Church in Atlanta, Georgia, hosted "A System for Survival" meeting in July with Ron Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., president of the Southern Union. With the evangelist and 12 Bible counselors, the evangelistic meeting resulted in 122 baptisms. Marcellus Howard, West End Church senior pastor; Daniel Hall, assistant pastor; Daniel Hall; and Roxanne McGraw, one of the Bible counselors, have continued with retention Bible studies on Tuesday evenings.

"Near the close of 2018, we challenged our pastors to make evangelistic outreach a priority in 2019," says William Winston, Conference president. "Having been designated 'The Year of Evangelism' by the Southern Union, South Atlantic wanted to rekindle the fervor and excitement that comes with seeing precious souls wrap their hearts and minds around the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This year has been nothing

short of amazing! Through the end of the third quarter, the South Atlantic Conference reports over 800 baptisms."

Georgia-Cumberland Conference

Numerous meetings were held in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference resulting in 804 baptisms through the first nine months of the year.

"We praise God for each decision for Him, as well as for each church member serving," says Gary Rustad, Conference president. "The book, Christian Service, page 121 says, 'When churches are revived, it is because some individual seeks earnestly for the blessing of God.' My prayer is that we all earnestly seek God's blessings. You can make a difference."

Lay Pastor Loses Sight, Baptizes Seven

Carmelo González, a volunteer lay pastor and ordained elder at Fayetteville, North Carolina, Spanish Church, together with his evangelistic team, started the evangelistic process of planting and cultivating during the months of May to September 2019. Their goal was to crown this effort with a harvest during the week of September 28 to October 5, and the baptism of individuals for the heavenly Kingdom.

They worked hard during the sowing and cultivation months. However, nothing foreshadowed what would happen to González. A few months before, he had eye surgery. The specialists said that the operation would not be risky, and after a few days his vision was in optimal condition.

However, three weeks before the beginning of the evangelistic campaign, González's vision started to diminish considerably, to the point of becoming totally blind. But, the darkness did not stop Gonzalez from seeing God's plan.

Aided by his wife, Doris, he rose to the pulpit during the eight days of the campaign, giving testimony about his life, and examples of Christ as the light of his eyes and life, his companion and friend.

On the last Saturday of the evangelistic meetings, González finished his message with a powerful call, and ended up baptizing seven people.

Southern Union Evangelism

The Southern Union administrators, departmental directors, and several administrative assistants also conducted evangelistic meetings during 2019.

A special evangelistic series conducted by Ron Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., president of the Southern Union, led to the



PHOTO BY: ELIAS SANDOVAL-MANTILLA

Carmelo González, a volunteer lay pastor, became totally blind three weeks before his evangelistic meeting. Aided by his wife, Doris, he preached anyway and baptized seven individuals.



PHOTO BY: SHAMEIKA SMITH

Twenty-six Oakwood Adventist Academy (OAA) students were baptized on Friday, November 8, 2019, during Family Chapel at Oakwood University Church. James North, pastor, conducted a Spiritual Emphasis Week which resulted in Bible study twice a week for six weeks. Julie Dent is OAA's principal.



PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III



PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Yaime Cordova (left), circulation coordinator for the *Southern Tidings*, and Mariel Lombardi, Southern Union Revolving Fund customer service and accounts manager, preached a one-week meeting at First Atlanta Hispanic Church in Tucker, Georgia, which revitalized the members.

baptism and profession of faith of 467 men, women, and youth. Throughout the year, the series called “A System for Survival,” or ASFS, visited four congregations. Three of the four series were blessed with marriage ceremonies that took place in the baptismal pools just before the new members were immersed.



PHOTO BY: KIMBERLIE LANGFORD

Roger Hernandez, Southern Union ministerial and evangelism director, preaches during the evangelistic crusade at Huntsville First Church, Huntsville, Alabama. Hernandez conducted 13 crusades during 2019.

“Families were strengthened and congregations were electrified by the restorative power of the Holy Spirit,” says Smith. “We thank the Lord for the precious souls that He has ushered into the fold.”

Yaime Cordova, circulation coordinator for the *Southern Tidings*, and Mariel Lombardi, Southern Union Revolving Fund customer service and accounts manager, preached a one-week meeting at First Atlanta Hispanic Church in Tucker, Georgia, which revitalized the members.

Roger Hernandez, Southern Union ministerial and evangelism director, says “2019, the Year of Evangelism has been a life-changing year in three ways.

“Personally. Our department had the privilege of conducting 13 evangelistic series from Huntsville to Orlando, Georgia to the Carolinas, and everywhere in between. The best part about it was seeing a surge in young people interested in evangelism.

“Participation. Evangelism was done in small churches of seven, to large churches of 1,700. Whether it was small or big, the message resonated with people, and the greatest joy we have is to see both clergy and church members engaged in the mission of God. Initiatives fuel

participation, and to hear the testimonies, — for example, of a sight-challenged lay evangelist who lost his sight two weeks prior to the series, but went ahead with it anyway, and God blessed him with fruit, — warms our souls. Every conference and most churches were engaged in reaching their communities for Christ.

“People. At the end of the day, evangelism is about people. ‘People Need the Lord,’ the song says. That is true all across our Union. The diversity of method and missionaries was exemplary. More people will be in the Kingdom because of the Year of Evangelism, and for that, we praise God!”

As of September 2019, 6,893 individuals were added to the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

“Through the end of September, our Union membership stands at 303,603,” says Ron Smith, D.Min., Ph.D. “There is strong evidence that we will finish 2019 with robust efforts across our constituency.” 📌

R. Steven Norman III is the communication director and Southern Tidings editor at the Southern Union Conference in Peachtree Corners, Georgia.

The First Jewish Adventist CAMP MEETING

BY RALPH RINGER AND TINA MUNSON



PHOTO BY: TOM VINCENT

Baptismal ceremony during the Jewish Adventist Camp Meeting

The congregation of Beth Shalom Community and Learning Center, led by Tina Munson, director, and Matt Munson, co-leader, hosted their first Jewish Adventist Camp Meeting in the Southern Union territory, October 14-21, 2019, at the beautiful Unicoi State Park in Helen, Georgia. There were approximately 75 people in attendance, with 30 to 35 attending daily workshops and teachings.

The cultural Adventist Camp Meeting/Sukkot (the celebration of “The Season of Our Joy”) was in pioneer style, with the majority of the meetings outside except the Sabbath services. Most attendees were able to enjoy the outdoors in tents, cabins, and RVs — many attending from places as far as France, California, Texas, Maryland, North Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Not only were there Jewish

Adventists in attendance, but they were joined by some of their Jewish and Messianic Jewish friends in the area.

There were outstanding Bible studies with the focus on “The Season of Our Rejoicing,” with prophecy teachings in Daniel pointing toward the Messiah, with Richard Elofer, General Conference director of the World Jewish Adventist Friendship Center. “The Remnant of Is-



PHOTO BY: TINA MUNSON

Ralph Ringer presents during the Jewish Adventist Camp Meeting.



Georgia-Cumberland Conference pastors attend the first Jewish Adventist Camp Meeting.

rael” and “The Everlasting Covenant” were presented by Ralph Ringer, director of Jewish ministries for the North American Division and Southern Union. There were many guest speakers, including Mark Hart, lay leader from the Allegheny East Conference; Arnold Trujillo, former vice president of the Pacific Union; and Jeff Zaremsky, director of Shalom Adventure Magazine.

There were cultural workshops, including Sukkah building, the Lulav, Challah making, Tzitzit and Tallit, and Davidic Praise. There was outdoor education with camp skills, wild edibles, and plants for health purposes. “The Heavens are Telling the Good News in the Stars” was presented as they enjoyed the beauty of the evening skies that God has given.

There was support from the Geor-

PHOTO BY: TOM VINCENT



PHOTO BY: TINA MUNSON

Attendees during the first Jewish Adventist Camp Meeting

gia-Cumberland Conference, including Richard Pinero, district pastor; Edgar Alquinta, Atlanta North pastor; and Neil Reid, D.Min., Conference central region ministerial director.

The highlight of their time together was watching seven members of the Baez family follow Jesus/Yeshua in baptism, and Matt Munson, congregational co-leader, being set aside in ordination as an elder. At the end of Sukkot in Jewish tradition they said, “Next Year in Jerusalem.” Their prayer is that next year they will all tabernacle with Jesus in the New Jerusalem for eternity, but, until that day, may the fellowship of all believers bring

fruit to celebrate the final harvest.

Next year, the second Jewish Adventist Camp Meeting will take place October 2-10. 🕊

Ralph Ringer is the director of church growth, evangelism training, and Jewish ministries at the Southern Union Conference in Peachtree Corners, Georgia, and the director of Jewish ministries for the North American Division in Columbia, Maryland.

Tina Munson is the leader of Beth Shalom Congregation Community and Learning Center in Cornelia, Georgia.

New Jewish-Christian Interdisciplinary Graduate Degree Offered by Andrews University

BY RAPLH RINGER AND DAVID GARDNER

A program never offered before by any Seventh-day Adventist college or university — a master of arts in Jewish-Christian studies — begins in May 2020. This degree explores the parallel histories of the Christian and Jewish communities from the birth of Jesus until today, and investigates the large body of Jewish literature that imparts a clearer interpretation of the Old and New Testaments.

Courses include Jewish Life and Thought; the Great Controversy; the Covenant, Law, and Sabbath; History of Jewish Experience; and seminars in Classical Jewish Literature from the Old and New Testament time frames. In addition, traditional Adventist topics such as the doctrine of the sanctuary and studies in Daniel and Revelation reflect overlooked ties to a Torah-based foundation. Designed for non-traditional students, rather than requiring students to live on campus, classes will be held on campus for four weeks each May, with the remainder of

class time being online. At the end of five years, students will earn their M.A. degree while remaining employed.

The vision for this degree arose as Alexander Bolotnikov, Ph.D., a Jewish rabbi turned Adventist pastor, with a doctorate in rabbinic literature, saw an alarming increase of Seventh-day Adventists converting to Judaism in recent years. “Many Adventists are drawn to the Hebrew roots of their faith, yet common misunderstandings about Judaism raise questions and concerns when many pastors are asked questions about Jewish topics. This is unfortunate,” said Bolotnikov of the North American Division’s Shalom Learning Center. “I decided I should learn what my heritage meant to be Jewish, because I was raised as a communist, not a Jew. So, I went to the yeshiva. When I became a believer in Jesus, the only Christian church I could join without compromising Scripture was Seventh-day Adventist. “What I learned in the yeshiva has anchored me within Adventism. Thus, my dream de-

veloped of bringing together instructors and a curriculum that equips Adventists to interact effectively with both secular and religious Jews, while also addressing the attrition of our people to Messianic congregations and Jewish communities like Chabad. The Jewish people are part of God’s family waiting to be introduced to their Messiah.”

“The time has come when the Jews are to be given the light of the last Gospel message,” Ellen White, *Manuscripts*, 87-1907.13. 🕊

Ralph Ringer is the director of church growth, evangelism training, and Jewish ministries at the Southern Union Conference in Peachtree Corners, Georgia, and the director of Jewish ministries for the North American Division in Columbia, Maryland.

David Gardner is the director of Jewish ministries for the Pacific Union Conference.

Memorial Medallion: CHAPLAIN EDWARD EARL CLEVELAND

BY WASHINGTON JOHNSON II, D.MIN.

On a picture-perfect autumn afternoon during a special ceremony, a bronze memorial clergy medallion was affixed to the grave marker of chaplain Edward Earl Cleveland (1921-2009) at Oakwood Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Huntsville, Alabama, to honor his service as a Civil Air Patrol (CAP) chaplain. The idea for a medallion was conceived by R. Steven Norman III, communication director at the Southern Union Conference in Peachtree Corners, Georgia, to acknowledge clergy and educators in memoriam who have dedicated their lives to service in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The officiant for the ceremony was Capt. Washington Johnson II, D.Min., United States Navy Chaplain Corp, who serves as an assistant director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries at the North American Division. The honor was most fitting for Cleveland.

Known as a legend in the field of public evangelism in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Cleveland conducted countless evangelistic crusades, authored 16 books, served as an administrator at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and Oakwood University, and was later inducted into the Martin Luther King Jr. collegium of preachers and scholars at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. In 2007, Oakwood University dedicated a building bearing Cleveland's name and those of two other distinguished leaders in the Seventh-day Church — The Bradford-Cleveland-Brooks Leadership Center.

While there is much more that can be written concerning Cleveland's numerous accomplishments, his role as a CAP



R. Steven Norman III (kneeling) prepares epoxy to affix the clergy medallion to the grave marker of Edward Earl Cleveland, while Washington Johnson II, D.Min., and James Melancon looks on.

chaplain is remembered with distinction, as it held a special place in his heart and ministry. He considered it a great honor in 1993 when he became a chaplain in CAP at the urging of his close friend and colleague James Melancon, who also served as a CAP chaplain in the rank of colonel. During Cleveland's 10 years of service, he was assigned to the Huntsville Composite Squadron and received several medals, ribbons, and unit awards. Cleveland was devoted to duty with the CAP, and showed great appreciation for all military service personnel, including special honor and endearment for his father's service in World War I. A handsome photo of Cleveland's father, William C. Cleveland Sr., could be admired on his home office desk at any given time.

In attendance for the historical occasion was Charles Bradford, former president of the North American Division. Other participants include Mervyn Warren, Ph.D., D.Min., who gave a heartfelt invocation; James Melancon, who passionately spoke of

Cleveland's role as a chaplain in the CAP; R. Steven Norman III, who shared the background of the medallion and affixed it to Cleveland's grave marker; Harold Lee, D.Min., former director of the Bradford-Cleveland-Brooks Leadership Center; and T. Marshall Kelly and Joyce Johnson, Ph.D., who led the congregation in a melodious, inspirational reminder of the second coming symbolized in part by the medallion, with a verse of the song "We Have This Hope":

We have this hope that burns within our hearts,

Hope in the coming of the Lord.

We have this faith that Christ alone imparts,

Faith in the promise of His Word.

We believe the time is here,

When the nations far and near

Shall awake, and shout and sing

Hallelujah! Christ is King!

We have this hope that burns within our hearts,

Hope in the coming of the Lord.

(Wayne Hopper, 1962)

The words of the song also portrayed Cleveland's strong belief in the imminent and soon return of Christ, as evidenced by his passionate work as a Gospel evangelist. The memorable ceremony that honored Cleveland's service to God and country concluded with a benediction of love, hope, and divine protection by T. Marshall Kelly. 🕊

Washington Johnson II, D.Min.,
United States Navy Chaplain Corp,
serves as an assistant director of
Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries at the
North American Division.

Adventist Communicators Meet for PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

BY KIMBERLY LUSTE MARAN AND IRISENE DOUCE



PHOTO BY: PIETER DAMSTEEGT

Society of Adventist Communicators 2019 attendees in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The annual Society of Adventist Communicators convention brings a diverse group together for the three-day event.

Just a few days after the annual Albuquerque, New Mexico, Balloon Festival, more than 200 seasoned communication professionals, college and university

students, and volunteers from across North America gathered October 17-19, 2019, for the Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) convention at Hotel Albuquerque. The participants attended communication workshops, a special AdventHealth rebrand session, area media tours, worship services, networking

meals, and a screening of episodes from a Sonscreen Films adapted web series.

The event concluded with a communication awards banquet. At the close of the awards ceremony, Dan Weber, executive director of SAC and communication director for the North American Division (NAD), announced that the 2020



PHOTO BY: PIETER DAMSTEEGT

Courtney Herod (second from left), Carolina Conference associate communication director, received the Young Professional Award from Bryant Taylor, D.Min., (left), SAC general vice president; Libna Stevens, SAC president and assistant communication director at the Inter-American Division; and Dan Weber, communication director at the North American Division.



PHOTO BY: PIETER DAMSTEEGT

Rachel Beaver (second from left), Southern Adventist University senior public relations major in the School of Journalism and Communication, received the Student Award from Bryant Taylor, D.Min., (left), SAC general vice president; Libna Stevens, SAC president and assistant communication director at the Inter-American Division; and Dan Weber, communication director at the North American Division.



PHOTO BY: PIETER DAMSTEEGT

Best In Class, Video: Web — Project Refresh: Tiny Chair Talks — “Doubt, what to do with it.” Chevon Petgrave (left), Carolina Conference communication intern; Becky Carpenter, Carolina Conference communication director; Courtney Herod, Carolina Conference associate communication director; and Kristina Pascual Busch, associate communication director at Southwestern Union, presents the award.



PHOTO BY: PIETER DAMSTEEGT

Honorable Mention, Spoken Word: Podcast — Project Refresh: Echo Podcast — “Contradictions in the Bible.” Ryan Becker (left), Southern Adventist University professor and lay pastor at Crosswalk Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee; Rachel Beaver, senior at Southern Adventist University; Chevon Petgrave (left), Carolina Conference communication intern; Bryant Taylor, D.Min., (center) Society of Adventist Communicators general vice president, presents the award; Becky Carpenter, Carolina Conference communication director; and Courtney Herod, Carolina Conference associate communication director.

convention will be held near Chicago, Illinois.

Araya Moss, communication specialist for the Communication Department in the Southern California Conference, and first-time attendee, said, “Sometimes we get so focused on our own conference, and our own territory and ev-

everything, that we forget there are other people out there doing similar things in their territory. It’s nice to have this experience where we can come together, and meet different people, and see what they’re doing, and get different ideas. Recognizing the value of the convention, Moss, who joined the conference in

March after working at a public relations agency, continued, “I’ve enjoyed my first SAC experience; I look forward to going in the years to come.”

Kristen Reid, an Oakwood University sophomore from the Cayman Islands, concurred. “I really like the conference,” said the film and television major, po-



PHOTO BY: PIETER DAMSTEEGT

Honorable Mention, Video: Short-film — “Panama City Church Miraculously Survives Michael.” Shane Hochstetler, Gulf States Conference communication director; and Kristina Pascual Busch, associate communication director at Southwestern Union, presents the award.



PHOTO BY: PIETER DAMSTEEGT

Oakwood University students and professors at the 2019 Society of Adventist Communicators Convention.



PHOTO BY: PIETER DAMSTEEGT

Southern Adventist University former and current students and professors at the 2019 Society of Adventist Communicators Convention.

litical science and theater minor. “My expectations weren’t that high, but experiencing how the North American Division does things — this is really good — and coming out to see all these people who think like me, are in the same career as me, older and my age, and being able to connect and talk with them is a beautiful experience.”

Reid, who recently started a podcast and attended the SAC podcasting workshops and panels at the convention, added, “Communicating is telling stories, and if you can tell the stories of people around you, they can relate to that, and I think that’s beautiful.”

Paola Mora Zepeda, junior at Southern Adventist University, shared, “SAC was a great experience because it reminded me of why I chose to go into the communications field. Just like our Church has a need for pastors, nurses, and teachers, there is also a huge need for passionate communicators who want to use their skills and technological knowledge to spread the love of Jesus to others. Evangelism, I found out, can come in the form of videos, articles, podcasts, social media, and so much more. It was great seeing that there is a community in our Church working with just that.”

Shannon Hill, senior at Southern Adventist University, added, “SAC was a wonderful experience to expand my knowledge and skill in communication. I loved meeting professionals that are currently working in the field. I was able to learn from and with them, while also networking with some of the best Adventist communicators around. This was an irreplaceable learning opportunity where I am so grateful I had the opportunity of attending.”

Kimberly Luste Maran is an associate director in the Office of Communication at the North American Division in Columbia, Maryland.

Irisene Douce is the Southern Tidings managing editor.

Priceless Moments in NATURE

BY DAVID SMITH, PH.D.



PHOTO BY: DAVID SMITH



PHOTO BY: DAVID SMITH



PHOTO BY: DAVID SMITH



David Smith, Southern Adventist University president, enjoys connecting with God's creation through wildlife photography.

One October night when I was a child, I was fast asleep in my grandparents' house when my grandfather unexpectedly woke me. He carried me outside and said, "Look up." What I saw and heard opened a new world to me. Canada Geese were flying across a full moon, their plaintive cries filling the night air. I was mesmerized. Ever since then, I have been drawn to the natural world.

Through the years, nature has held many surprises for me. Once, as I stood in the middle of a trail at night, two red wolves passed me, one on each side. Another time, a doe and her fawn walked with me as we avoided a large bear headed our way. Now when I enter the woods, I do so with an air of expectancy, excited to see what God will bring my way.

Capturing the Moment

A few years ago, I discovered the joy of photographing wildlife in their natural settings. This type of photography is particularly challenging because you cannot rely on the subject to pose or for

the environment to produce the right conditions. Yet, capturing a special moment in nature preserves it for years to come and gives a sense of satisfaction in recording some aspect of the wildness and freedom of God's creation.

One time I was taking pictures of a doe, and instead of running away, she moved toward me until she was too close for a picture. Spontaneously I said, "You want to lick me, don't you?" and offered her my hand. The deer licked me and then ran off, leaving me with a sense of wonder.

Living in the Southeast provides wonderful opportunities to connect with the natural world. I love spending time in the Smokey Mountains, where I've photographed wild boar, bears, red wolves, coyotes, deer, birds, and a myriad of other creatures. My travels have also allowed me to experience nature in other parts of the world, including Kenya, which dazzled me with its beauty and wide variety of wildlife.

Surrounded by Nature

I am privileged to serve as president of

a university surrounded by nature. Southern Adventist University is nestled in the foothills of the Smokey Mountains, and it is not uncommon to see deer feeding in the early morning mist. Our 1,300-acre campus — 800 of which are forested — offers many opportunities for not only our students and employees but also the community to enjoy being outside.

While the natural world is not what it was when God created it, being in nature reminds me of God's love, His majesty, and His goodness. I marvel at Earth's beauty, revel in its wildness, enjoy preserving it through my pictures, and praise God that He reveals Himself so powerfully and wonderfully through His created world. I praise God as the psalmist did long ago: "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!" Psalm 8:9. ①

David Smith, Ph.D., has been president of Southern Adventist University since 2016, and previously served as a professor there for 17 years.

YIELD MINISTRY DISCIPLES YOUTH

BY GEOFF STARR AND BECKY BROOKS

There's something new happening for the youth in the Collegedale, Tennessee, area. It's called YIELD, and it's a way for youth to feel more connected community-wide and gain a stronger sense of how to be a disciple of Christ.

"Our goal is to disciple the youth so that they will be drawn closer to Christ, but also to help them grow so they can lead others in a relationship with Him," shares Geoff Starr, youth pastor at McDonald Road Church in McDonald, Tennessee. "When they leave our program after graduating from high school, we want their relationship with Jesus to be seen in every area of their lives." YIELD stands for "Youth instructed Empowered Loved and Discipled." It's a multi-church youth discipleship program primarily for youth in grades 9-12, with some work also in grades 6-8. The program began in August 2019 with McDonald Road Church, Collegedale Church, and Collegedale Community Church partnering to provide a ministry to disciple youth in the Collegedale area. Leaders hope that more area churches will join as the program continues.

"We believe that coming together with one goal, and breaking down the 'walls' between churches, is best for our youth," says Starr. "The youth might go to different churches on different weeks. We want them to experience an environment that will point them to Jesus, and continue on what they may have studied at another church. This all leads back to discipleship so that they can continue to grow in Christ."



PHOTO BY: SUBMITTED BY GEOFF STARR

YIELD, or Youth instructed Empowered Loved and Discipled, is a new multi-church program created to disciple youth who live in the Collegedale, Tennessee, area. Three local churches, McDonald Road, Collegedale Community, and Collegedale, are partnering to bring shared curriculum in Sabbath School, a monthly Friday Vespers, and more.

"As the students realize we are here for them, not just as leaders but as churches, we believe that we will see a change in their hearts, as well as in our churches," says Starr. "When we commit to developing young people, we can come together and work alongside each other easily, and see more growth."

YIELD is focusing on four ministries to start with: 1) Sabbath School — at Sabbath School, each church will follow a shared curriculum and similar style, so youth can have a similar experience no matter which church they attend; 2) Vespers — on the first Friday of each month, a youth Vespers program is held at the Collegedale Commons at 7 p.m., and is a great time

for youth from the whole community to get together for a spiritual experience; 3) Training — there are plans to hold training events for youth and youth workers to help better-equip everyone for ministry; and 4) Missions — both international and local mission trips are planned for this community-wide youth group. Currently, a mission trip to Thailand is in the works for 2020. 📌

Geoff Star is the associate pastor at the McDonald Road Church in McDonald, Tennessee.

Becky Brooks is the communication director at the McDonald Road Church.

HOPE ON A PORCH IN APPALACHIA

BY ANDREW JAMIESON

Jason Grubb recently celebrated his one-year anniversary of drug free living and his baptism into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Grubb grew up in Manchester, Kentucky. As a teenager he became a drug dealer and eventually a drug addict. He spent time in jail and was known around town for all the wrong reasons. His marriage failed, his house burned down, and his truck was totaled. He remarried and tried to be a loving husband and supportive father, but the addiction kept him from being who he wanted to be. He knew there had to be a better way to live.

Fast forward to the summer of 2018. Tom Kyser, pastor at Manchester Church, and the members held a back-to-school bash. The church gave out school supplies, and Grubb saw an opportunity to save a little money on those supplies, so he took the family to the event. He did not know that this was a divine appointment. After speaking to Kyser for a little while, he and his wife, Candy, decided to enroll their daughter in the Appalachian Christian School and start Bible studies with Kyser. They were convinced of the truths being uncovered, but Grubb still could not shake his drug addiction.

Enter the Appalachian Outreach Power Team, a mission trip to the Appalachian area that dates back to the mid-1980s. Grubb's house needed work, a lot of work. There were holes in the floor, ceiling, and walls. The foundation was crumbling, and every time it rained, everything inside the house would get wet. Students from Madison and Highland academies worked on his house, along with a number of other homes in the area. The students repaired the holes, reinforced the foundation, and sealed the house to keep it dry inside year round.



Andrew Jamieson (left), Jason Grubb, and Raphan Ley speak to the Madison Academy and Highland Academy students.

As the work on Grubb's home was in progress, he had a conversation on the porch with Raphan Ley, a teacher at Madison Academy in Madison, Tennessee. He explained how he wanted to be baptized and follow God, but he could not shake his drug problem. Grubb tried everything he knew, but the demons kept coming back. Ley put his hand on Grubb's shoulder and said, "Your house is a disaster. It leaks, there are holes, and it is falling apart. However, you did something to change that. You let us in. You could not fix it yourself. You do not have the skills or the resources to do it. You simply opened the door and let us in. You need to do that with your life, except it is Jesus you need to let into your heart. He will clean up and repair your life, heart, and your drug addiction. You are right; you have tried everything and you cannot do it, but He can. Let Him come in." It is a conversation Grubb says he will never forget.

In September of this year, students

from Madison and Highland went back to Manchester, a year after that short conversation on the porch. The students worked on nine projects in and around the Manchester, Kentucky, area, one of which was to continue the work on Grubb's home. Grubb worked alongside the group and announced to the group that he was baptized and had been clean for a year. He credits that to the Bible studies with Kyser, and the "life changing" conversation he had with Ley. He says, "If I had known I would feel this free, I would have given my life and addictions over to God 10 years ago!" A short and simple conversation on a rickety porch in the hills of Appalachia opened the door for Jesus to restore a life. ●

Andrew Jamieson is the vice president for student life and a teacher at Madison Academy in Madison, Tennessee.

COMBATING CHRONIC DISEASE

With a Plant-based Diet

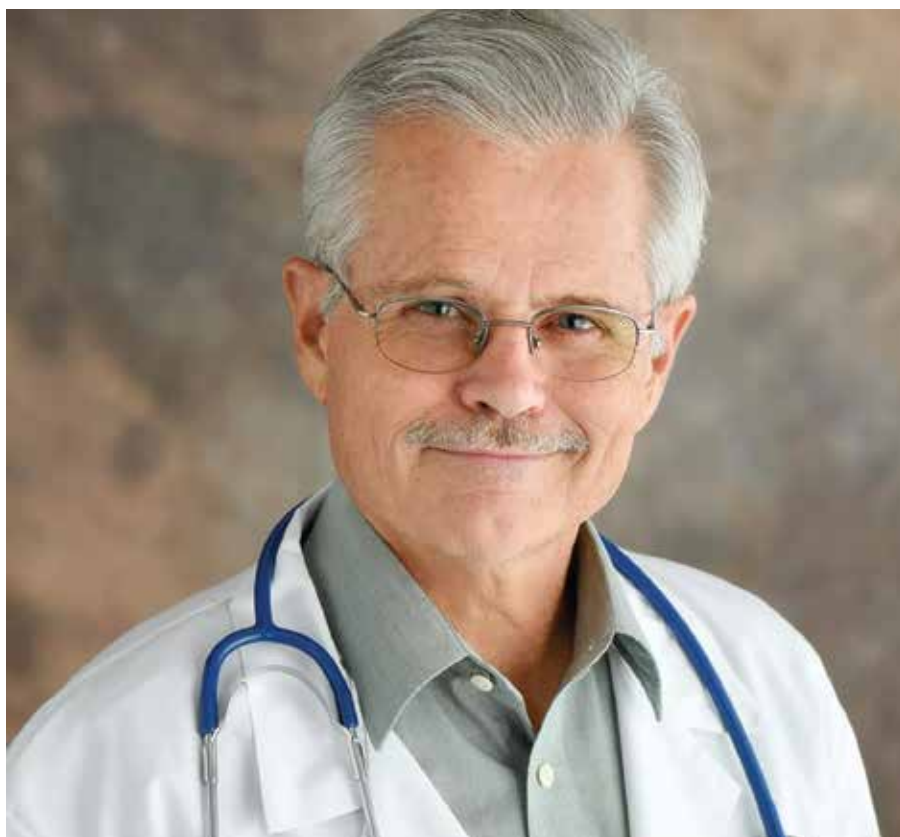
BY INGRID HERNÁNDEZ AND ERIC FARLOW

When Dane* was diagnosed with diabetes, the idea of taking pills and getting insulin shots depressed him. He still considered himself a young man with a lot of life left to live, but junk food was his weakness. As a person of faith, it was the knowledge of a loving God that led Dane to push past his food addictions and, with the help of George Guthrie, M.D., M.P.H., incorporate a plant-based diet into his lifestyle.

“Many people who embrace the plant-based lifestyle will need less medication, and more than a few may eventually not need medication at all,” said Guthrie. “In our Winter Park practice, over the last three years, we have had 24 individuals diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes who now have normal A1Cs [sugar measure] and no longer need any diabetes medications.”

Dane is a living testament of that transformation, and has said himself, “It is much better to be an evangelist than a diabetic.”

In the U.S., about half of deaths caused by Type 2 diabetes, stroke, and heart disease are the result of poor dietary habits, according to a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association. Guthrie, an AdventHealth physician who specializes in lifestyle medicine, is determined to help reverse this trend. His interest in the area began during his time serving in Guam, when he saw a high incidence of Type 2 diabetes on the island. It inspired him to earn a master’s degree in public health



George Guthrie, M.D., M.P.H., is a board-certified family medicine physician for AdventHealth.

nutrition from Loma Linda University, and eventually work with teams developing several lifestyle-change programs at AdventHealth.

Whole Food, Whole Health

Guthrie uses whole-food, plant-based diets as one of his most common lifestyle

prescriptions. Using scientific evidence and his years of expertise, he helps people understand what to eat more of and the reasons why.

“We now have enough evidence and science to understand the body’s miraculous ability to heal itself through whole-person health,” Guthrie said.



Quinoa salad is one plant-based food item George Guthrie, M.D., recommends.

“This includes proper nutrition emphasizing plants and whole foods, as well as movement and the social and emotional dimensions of life.”

Rather than prescribing only medications to manage certain health issues, Guthrie has found success in addressing the underlying cause of the disease, and in some cases, reversing certain chronic diseases. He uses an approach consistent with CREATION Life, which aims to find balance in eight key areas of whole-person health. Guthrie had the opportunity to assist the AdventHealth team in creating practical tools to apply the CREATION Life principles as a way to heal the body, mind, and spirit. The eight principles are Choice, Rest, Environment, Activity, Trust in God, Interpersonal Relationships, Outlook, and Nutrition. Together, these represent a modern expression of the health message made prominent by Seventh-day Adventist health pioneers in the late 1800s.

Focusing on the Good

Guthrie’s prescription of a plant-based diet is less restrictive than some may expect. Plant-based does not always equate to strictly vegetarian or vegan, but is instead guided by a focus on plants and whole, unprocessed foods as the majority of one’s diet. This back-to-basics way of eating is evidenced throughout the Bible in passages such as the story of Creation in Genesis, and the experience of Daniel and his friends in Babylon in Daniel 1.

“In the biblical narrative of diets, Adam and Eve’s original food was ‘every herb-bearing seed and ... the fruit of a tree yielding seed’ (Genesis 1:29),” Guthrie points out. “After Adam and Eve sinned, God added vegetables — roots, stems, and leaves, [and] after the biblical flood, God added this instruction: ‘Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you, even as the green herb have I given you all things’ (Genesis 9:3).”

Inspired by Romans 12:21, which tells

us to “not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good,” Guthrie hopes to encourage people to move more toward the good rather than build guilt around the bad and list what is forbidden. The focus of his message is to help individuals make positive, healthy choices.

“Choosing a whole-food, plant-based diet means choosing foods that are lower in calories and higher in water, fiber, and nutrient density,” Guthrie advises. “With this diet and other healthy behaviors, we avoid lifestyle diseases. Importantly, we also age more slowly, and live longer and healthier.” 📌

**Name changed for privacy.*

Ingrid Hernández is AdventHealth’s senior communications specialist for corporate communications.

Eric Farlow is AdventHealth’s communications specialist for corporate communications.

Creating a MEGA IMPACT on Souls

BY THOMAS DIXON

The 2019 “Mega Impact Southern Union” was a spiritual, strengthening event that took place at the Southern Union headquarters in Peachtree Corners, Georgia, October 11-12. The event brought attendees from three Southern Union conferences together to pull souls closer to Jesus Christ — South Atlantic Conference, South Central Conference, and Southeastern Conference, which included pastors, keynote speakers, and directors for the first “Mega Impact Southern Union.” Many traveled far to attend.

On day one, old friends were united and new friendships were created as they embarked on the spiritual event. Smiles surfaced as they heeded to the music of the saxophonist. Laughs were shared as guests enjoyed meals prepared by SLH Events, Inc. Many shared praises about their meals, and gave complements to Zellima Howard, owner, and chef Verne Williams.

After opening the Sabbath with prayer, David Long, Southern Union Conference stewardship director, preached a sermon entitled “I Can See Clearly Now.” In Long’s sermon, he explained that seeing clearly meant that we understand that we are servants of God. “We must keep the servant spirit.” After his sermon, Long sat down for a brief interview with Thomas Dixon.

He summed up the purpose of the event by saying, “Mega Impact is a time for us to come together to help our members to be more prepared to deal with the challenges that they face in

their churches as well as in their communities.”

The last session of the night was by the Children’s Ministries Department. Trina Ware, South Central Conference children’s ministries director, said it best, “This was children’s ministries boot camp.” The leaders of children’s ministries worked tirelessly as they trained attendees to better serve the children of their churches, so that they may develop stronger relationships with Christ. The entire weekend focused on children’s ministries leadership.

On day two, attendees engaged in seminars that mentored spiritual leadership, mental health, and what should be taught to the young people. Emerson G. Miller, Ph.D., presented the first Sabbath School workshop for the day. With his lesson “Rethinking Evangelism,” he challenged the attendees to adopt a new way of spreading God’s Word. He presented a survey conducted by The Institute for American Church Growth. They asked 10,000 people one question: “What was responsible for your coming to Christ and this church?” Seventy-nine percent of those individuals said that a friend or relative invited them to the church.

Benoit Petit-Homme, D.Min., author of *Seeking the Lost, Keeping Them, Making Them Disciples*, presented his Sabbath School lesson on evangelism after Miller. “God’s seeking is the foundation of evangelism,” Homme continued. “Prayer is the most important human factor in effective evangelism.”

The underlying message was that everyone can pray, which was the key to his message.

J. Alfred Johnson II, North American Division (NAD) director of adult ministries, was the keynote speaker of the event. It was crucial that he preached at this event because he is well-known among the conferences.

Before Johnson preached, the Maranatha Church’s, Atlanta, Georgia, praise team performed during praise time. During the worship service, Johnson shared the primary motivation for anyone who desires to serve God: “It’s when we realize and embrace a vision of His supreme divine holiness.” His sermon was one of the highlights that made the event a success. Johnson also conducted a stimulating training on growing the local Sabbath School. During the same time in a different venue, Sherri Uhrig, NAD children ministries director, continued with track 5 on developing leaders in children ministries. Justo Morales, and his wife, Rosa, Lake Region Conference children’s ministries directors, also conducted the 7-hour leadership course in Spanish for the Hispanic attendees.

The evening seminars started after lunch. Numerous speakers shared vital information from their ministries. Rosemary Graham, South Atlantic Conference (SAC) disabilities leader, raised awareness for the importance of mental health, stating that “Worship starts in the mind.” Al Freeman, SAC personal ministries director; and Pierre



PHOTO BY: THOMAS DIXON

Attendees at the first “Mega Impact Southern Union,” October 11-12, 2019, held at the Southern Union Conference headquarters in Peachtree Corners, Georgia.

Francois, Southeastern Conference (SEC) Sabbath School director, shared their appreciation for the staff members, and also for the attendees who left the event encouraged to exercise their spiritual gifts and talents that God has given them.

David M. Jones Sr., SAC health leader, stated that one of the contributing factors to mental health is diet. Mark Brown, SEC health ministries director, touched on the importance of exercise as a method for evangelizing to people outside of the Church. Sonia Wrate, from Southern Adventist University, and Eula Winston, from the South Atlantic Conference, presented two dynamic workshops on commu-

nity nursing. They put a new lens on how churches can serve their neighborhoods, viewing it as an opportunity for an outreach program to gather souls closer to Christ. Darryl Howard, SAC children’s ministries and Sabbath School director, commented on how important this conference was to bring three conferences with the Southern Union together to focus on a shift from membership to discipleship. Empowering Church members and pastors provides an avenue for getting non-church members curious to know more about the Church group, and interested in joining the group.

William Winston, president of the South Atlantic Conference, and his

wife, Eula, expressed their gratitude for the contributions and hard work that went into making the event successful. The 2019 Mega Impact Southern Union concluded with a prayer of commitment. Many participants stated that they are looking forward to Mega Impact 2021. 🕊

Thomas Dixon is a junior journalism student at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia.

Addictions Recovery Center Opening in Florida

The opioid epidemic has a new opponent in Seminole County, Fla. AdventHealth is teaming up with local law enforcement, fire rescue, and county commissioners to open an addictions recovery center that will provide clinically supported residential substance abuse treatment.

The addictions recovery center, set to open in Sanford in early 2020, is the first facility of its kind in the state of Florida.

“Unfortunately, people with opioid issues have been trapped in a cycle of ‘catch, treat, release,’” said Dennis Lemma, Seminole County sheriff. “This partnership and new model for using medically-based treatment to help those with substance abuse disorder will help us break that cycle. Expanding addiction treatment in the region will not only ensure people receive needed care and support after they leave the hospital, it will set them up for success after.”

When fully operational, the addictions recovery center will eventually house up to 40 men and 10 women, and will provide up to 30 days of overnight care. In addition to mental health and medication assisted treatment, patients will be supported with services that address their educational, vocational, behavioral, and housing needs upon discharge. Clients could be referred directly from AdventHealth, the local jail, or from the community.

Central Florida reflects the opioid crisis that has spread across the U.S. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), more than 47,000 deaths involving opioids were reported in 2017, a 45 percent increase from 2016. And according to the Seminole County Sheriff’s Office, about 650 people county-wide overdosed on opioids, and 82 of them died, in 2018 — a 32 percent jump in deaths from two years earlier.

At AdventHealth Altamonte Springs, located in Seminole County, clinicians



Tim Cook, AdventHealth Altamonte Springs CEO, announces new partnership between AdventHealth and Seminole County, Fla., that will bring the expertise of health care and law enforcement together to help break the cycle of addiction.

treated more than 100 substance-abuse patients in September alone. Across the AdventHealth system in the tri-county area, clinicians see about 17 opioid-abuse patients each day, up from 14 per day as recently as 2018.

Under the new partnership, a substance abuse coordinator will be based out of the AdventHealth Altamonte Springs ER to help navigate care for patients who need addictions treatment. The coordinator will track patients during their inpatient stay at the hospital, and then for 30 days after discharge, to ensure they are successfully connected with the appropriate treatment and community resources.

Additionally, the sheriff’s office is giving opioid-abuse training and education to ER staff at AdventHealth Altamonte Springs. As a result of that specialty training, first responders will bring opi-

oid-abuse patients to the hospital for care, if appropriate, so they can access these additional services.

“AdventHealth is committed to whole-person health — caring for the body, mind, and spirit. Substance abuse disorders need to be viewed and treated as vigorously as we do other areas of medicine, like diabetes or heart disease,” said Tim Cook, CEO for AdventHealth Altamonte Springs. “This partnership allows us to bring together resources and expertise from the public and private sectors, and we are honored to work with our partners in Seminole County to bring healing to our neighbors.”

BY CLAUDIA MAURY, EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST, ADVENTHEALTH CENTRAL FLORIDA DIVISION - SOUTH REGION

AHU Professor, Alumni Collaborate to Improve Community Wellness

Dorothee “Doro” Zulegur, M.O.T., is the founder of The Neuro Hub, an occupational therapy clinic in Altamonte Springs, Fla. Her clinic provides “hands-on, evidence-based, skilled occupational therapy for adults and children with a range of neurological conditions.” Zulegur attended AdventHealth University’s (AHU) occupational therapy assistant program and earned her degree to become a certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA). She then continued in the master of occupational therapy (M.O.T.) program, earning her degree in 2013.

Soon after opening her clinic in January 2017, Zulegur discovered an unmet need in the community. Patients were asking her for information about adaptive driving training services, and there weren’t any places in the city where she could refer them. Adaptive driving is an essential part of a patient’s healthcare journey and recovery after spinal cord injuries, strokes, and other ailments that prevent them from completing daily activities as they had previously.

Zulegur had many clients who wanted to be able to drive again, but she’s not certified in adaptive driving. Still, she said she “felt a responsibility to her patients” to ensure they could live a whole life. As an AHU graduate, Zulegur’s education emphasized the importance of whole-person care. Emotional needs, like the happiness that comes from being able to drive without assistance, are as important as physical recovery.

Since Zulegur wasn’t certified in adaptive driving, she reached out to Tia Hughes, Ph.D., chair of AHU’s occupational therapy program, to ask about adaptive driving. Hughes gave Zulegur course resources to get her started. Then, a few months later, AHU’s occupational therapy (OT) department hired Jennifer Radloff, O.T.D., who is a certified driver rehabilitation specialist (CDRS) through the Association for Driver Rehabilitation Specialists (ADED). At



Dorothee Zulegur (left) and Jennifer Radloff, O.T.D. (right), with one of the clients (center) who received his adaptive license thanks to the collaborative efforts of AHU’s M.O.T. program and The Neuro Hub

that time, Hughes reached out to Zulegur to bridge a connection.

Zulegur told Radloff her plans to learn and add an adaptive driving program to her clinic, and Radloff was happy to collaborate. Radloff became Zulegur’s mentor, training her to become a DRS while also helping to serve the needs of patients in Zulegur’s clinic.

This partnership adds a much-needed service to the community, and an opportunity for AHU to continue an educational relationship with one of their alumni. Additionally, Zulegur agreed to bring her adaptive driving van and some of her clients to AHU’s campus to educate OT/A students on adaptive driving services. OTs need to know how to address driving and community mobility, even if they don’t plan to become specialists.

“We can mentor and give back to our alumni while they give back to the community and our students,” said Radloff. Radloff gave a presentation about this unique mentorship program at an ADED conference in August 2019, exposing other driver rehabilitation specialists to their model. The goal is to get more clients driving again, improving their quality of life.

Zulegur and Radloff began working

together in the fall of 2018, doing their first drive with a client in January 2019. Initially, Radloff did all the driving training from the passenger seat while Zulegur shadowed from the back seat, taking client notes to observe their cognition and reactions during the drive.

Zulegur does the initial clinical evaluations for driving on her own, and then she works out a time and date with Radloff to do the actual driving assessment or training. Driving clients start in a low-traffic area like a park so they can get used to using the adaptations in the vehicles. They then progress to driving on residential, 2- and 4-lane roadways, working their way up to driving on the I-4 highway.

Some vehicle adaptations that patients might need training to use could include a gas pedal on the left side for stroke patients who have right side paralysis. Radloff and Zulegur help them re-learn to drive with only their left foot. A paraplegic patient would need training on using hand controls to operate their gas and brake pedals. They are taught hand coordination as they alternate between turning the steering wheel and activating gas and brake controls.

The experience has been positive for not only the patients, but for Zulegur and Radloff as well. “It’s cool to come and give back to my alma mater,” said Zulegur, adding enthusiastically, “I love the whole MOT Department.”

The role a university plays in a graduate’s life extends past their years in school. AHU professors like Radloff understand that education is a lifelong pursuit, and there are always ways to expand knowledge and continue to build relationships. By enabling its alumni to improve their community engagement, AHU continues the cycle of care and teaching far beyond its campus. ❶

BY LISA MARIE ESSER

Promise Pouches Show the Love of God

Teacher Becky Cain shares her class' experience.

It was an ordinary evening. The usual activities occurred, grading papers, preparing for the next day of lessons, texting my daughter to see how her day at academy had gone, and taking a quick glance at my Facebook news feed. Written there in big bold letters, on a friend's status post, were the words no one wants to read, "I've been diagnosed with breast cancer."

A flurry of thoughts raced through my mind as I tried to wrap my head around an important person in my life receiving this "life changing" news. Immediately, I went into prayer mode, but felt impressed that God wanted me to do more. But what?

He gave me the idea to start a ministry called "Promise Pouches" — a simple, yet encouraging, form of ministry.

The next day I gave each of my students an index card and Bibles. We then researched what Bible promises might bring encouragement to someone who just received the news that they have breast cancer. Each student was assigned a verse which they then wrote on one side of the



Tammy Vaughn, one of the recipients of the promise pouches

index card. On the other side they drew and colored a picture that they thought would bring a smile to the face of the recipient.

These cards, which were prepared with so much love, compassion, and kindness, were then placed inside a pink zipper pouch and mailed to my friend. A few days later she messaged me, in tears at the compassion displayed by my students. It was such a simple gesture, but such a source of strength.

This ministry did not stop with one person, but has been shared with people who have lost a loved one or received devastating medical diagnoses, or as encouragement to students at Mt. Pisgah Academy. One recipient, Tammy Vaughn, sent a note after receiving one of these Promise Pouches, saying, "The Myrtle Beach SDA Christian School is one of the most giving and thoughtful groups of people I have ever experienced! My Promise Pouch is kept by my bedside, and I read one each night to remind me that God is always there! This school knows what it is to be mission-minded, and reach out to others on so many fun levels!"

The letters of John, in 1 John 4:12, so perfectly reflect why we continue this ministry, "No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us." It is the desire of the students at Myrtle Beach SDA Christian School to love one another, so God may live in them and others may know this amazing God they serve. ①

BY BECKY CAIN

Fullness of Joy: Women's Ministries Retreat



Lynn Ortel, guest speaker

More than 650 women attended the Fullness of Joy 30th Anniversary Women's Retreats at Nosoca Pines Ranch. The first weekend, October 4-6, 2019, was for the Hispanic women, and featured guest speaker Albert Handal, M.D., who lectured on women's health issues and answered the many questions asked by the attendees. His wife, Darlene, also inspired the women with a personal testimony of her successful battle with cancer. The weekend was filled with inspiring music led by Giselle Rodriguez and Natasha Perez. Magaly Minaya presented devotionals

PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

Joni Bonotelia and accompanied by Jeanette McElroy and Carolyn Kendall, was a powerful time of worship.

The weekend was brimming with joy-filled moments like carriage rides, pontoon boat and canoe rides, Stretch Flex and Flow with Maria Touchard, painting with Kim Cove, smores by the lake, a photo booth with Colby Houser, an instant pot cooking class with Kerri Boone, breakout sessions by Susan Smith and Helen Faber, a Sabbath School lesson class with Erin Miller, and daily sunrise lakeside worship with Beth Grissom.

The weekend ended with a prayer breakfast, communion, and a blessing. The prayer breakfast was a feast for the eyes, mouth, and soul. Amy King and Grissom created an atmosphere for the weekend that was aesthetically stunning. "This was by far one of the happiest retreats I have ever been to," said JoAlyce Waugh. There is no question: fullness of joy was everywhere. ❶

BY BETH GRISSOM

which injected the women with a big dose of spiritual refreshment.

The overall atmosphere was one of joy, perhaps most noticeably on Saturday night when they had a friendly competition between churches for the best wedding dress design. Each church was given 20 minutes, a stack of newspaper, tape, and a pair of scissors. Together they had to design and create a wedding dress on one of their members. They then walked the runway as their creations were judged, and a winner was crowned. Attendees noted their pleasure in the teamwork and laughter that

continued the entire evening. Laughter is like medicine, and this fun evening was just what the doctor ordered.

The second weekend of Fullness of Joy was held October 11-13, 2019, this time for the English-speaking women, and was equally as spiritually fulfilling and joyful. Lynn Ortel spoke about the challenges of life that get in the way of inner happiness, but how God has promised all that in His presence is fullness of joy! She inspired all to accept the gifts He provides and to let Him fill them to overflowing with "uncontainable joy." The music, led by Carrissa Steen and

"Homesick for Heaven" is the 2019 Low Country Camp Meeting Theme

More than 500 church members, guests, pastors, and Conference officials gathered at the Summerville Community Adventist Church on October 19, 2019, to celebrate the Sabbath and focus on this year's Camp Meeting theme: "Homesick for Heaven." Fourteen church districts in South Carolina were represented, and the pastors of those churches set up for the one-day Camp Meeting, led the children's divisions, and carried out various responsibilities.

It was a rainy day, but that didn't dampen the spirits of the group assembled inside. Summerville Church members provided the music, and Leslie Louis, president of the Carolina Conference, started the day with a PowerPoint presentation of the Sabbath School lesson study. Richie Halversen shared his testimony during the church service in a sermon



PHOTO BY: N. RICK GARCIA

titled "Stand Up," in which he emphasized the importance of making a commitment to God and listening to the Holy Spirit. After the service, a hearty meal prepared by Summerville members was served in the pavilion.

The afternoon service began with a presentation by Halversen titled "We Will Be One." In this sermon, he considered the need of the Church to come together in worship, and to support each other in uni-

ty. A rousing concert by the Berean twins, Nancy Wallace and Betty Belamy, continued the afternoon worship time. The twins shared their personal testimonies and finished with a moving rendition of "The Midnight Cry." Jim Burr concluded the worship time with a presentation on astronomy with a biblical perspective, including a number of stunning photographs of galaxies and stars. A light supper provided by Summerville members wrapped up the day for those who stayed to the very end.

The sense of community shared by the attendees at this one-day Camp Meeting was only a foretaste of what it will be like to gather with the redeemed at the feet of Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus, we are homesick for Heaven. ❶

BY BILL UNDERWOOD

Faith Impacts a Community



During IMPACT Treasure Coast, Fort Pierce Church youth learned to serve others as an integral part of the life of the Christian, and a necessary component of spreading the message of Jesus' sacrifice and soon coming.

"And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to Me,'"

Matthew 25:40 ESV.

organizing and beautifying the classrooms and outside areas of the James E. Sampson Memorial School.

On Wednesday, attendees partnered with CareBags for the Homeless and Graceway Village. Both organizations are dedicated to serving low-income, homeless families and individuals on Florida's Treasure Coast. These experiences reiterated why, as Christians, it is important to be proactive in meeting the needs of the less fortunate in each community.

Victor Graham led a session on Thursday on how to share the Gospel with others everyday. Participants took trips to two local beaches where Adventist literature and Bibles were given out, and they were rewarded with some positive responses. The Bible states, "For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for His name in serving the saints, as you still do," Hebrews 6:10 ESV. ①

BY CAILYN COLLINS

Fort Pierce Church Youth Department, spearheaded by Shirley Barclay and Soyini Glover, organized IMPACT Treasure Coast to mobilize youth of the church to make a difference in the name of Christ in the local community, June 23-29, 2019. Fort Pierce members made up the majority of those in attendance, with the remaining attendees being from local Adventist churches or invited by friends. Several speakers volunteered time to teach life and decision-making skills and tips on strengthening faith.

Each day began with worship led by Matthew Christo, pastor. These talks acted as a reminder of the ultimate reason for being there — the mission to spread the love of Jesus by being of service to those who are in need. At the end of each day, the IMPACT participants gave back to the Fort Lauderdale Church by helping to make this year's Vacation Bible School a success.

Monday morning began with stocking the food pantry at the nearby Macedonia Church. The fun, fulfilling day ended in

Fort Lauderdale Church Food Pantry Receives Award

Fort Lauderdale Church Food Pantry received a 2019 Partner Agency of the Year Award for Broward County from Feeding South Florida (FSF)

during a special ceremony at Signature Grand Hotel in Davie on July 10, 2019.

Sheila Flynn, community services director, accepted the award from Eddie

Rivera, an FSF board member, amidst a rousing round of applause from a large gathering of pantry representatives from across south Florida. Most of the volun-



Celebrating the Partner Agency of the Year Award are volunteer Food Pantry team members of the Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Church.

teers from the Food Pantry team were also present.

Roy Roberts, Food Pantry statistician, reports 41,889 families were served during the 12-month period ending June 30, 2019. “I am so proud of our food pantry,” says Mary Hibbert, one of the volunteers.

Fort Lauderdale Church believes in

putting love into action. Every Tuesday, food is given to hundreds of people from the community. Pearl Manderson started the church’s Food Pantry. She was followed by George Edwards, Beverly Smith, Owen Flynn, and current director Sheila Flynn.

“I want to commend Sheila Flynn and her team for their enormous effort in pro-

viding felt needs of people every week,” said Jeffrey Thompson, Ph.D., church pastor. “We want to also thank the previous leaders of our Food Pantry for the pivotal role they played in making the pantry what it is today.” ●

BY JEFFREY THOMPSON



David and Glenda Bates

Glenda and David Bates Celebrate 60 Years of Marriage

David Bates served in the U.S. Air Force and was stationed at March Air Reserve Base in Riverside, Calif. It was in that town that he met Glenda in the summer of 1959. The couple married on September 16, 1959, in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Soon after their marriage they moved to Georgia. Glenda worked in clerical positions until the birth of their daughter, Tina. Later, Glenda was employed by an Atlanta-area insurance company where she worked in the accounting department for approximately 24 years. David was employed in retail management.

One of the highlights of their marriage was David’s baptism. Upon retirement, they moved to Florida and are active members at the Dunnellon, Fla., Church. ●

BY TINA HEINLEIN

Standifer Gap Hosts Fourth Family Fun Day

Being a light in the community is a precept that members of the Standifer Gap Church take very seriously, especially when it comes to having some serious fun! For the fourth year in a row, they hosted their annual end-of-the-summer Family Fun Day for the surrounding neighborhoods.

They offer this as a free event, and each year attendance has grown, and so has the fun! This year more than 200 people came on a beautiful Sunday afternoon to enjoy the colorful inflatables, slip-and-slides, pony rides, and water balloon fights. Prizes were awarded for winners of the cake walk, egg toss, duck pond, fishing game, horseshoes, hula hoop contest, and bean bag toss.

Local businesses also contributed in a significant way by donating pizza, chips, drinks, and Little Debbie snack cakes. And, to top it off, there was also freshly popped popcorn and Bruster's ice cream!

To prepare for this event, they needed



Around 200 attended the Standifer Gap Family Fun Day, offered for the fourth time this year. Friendships were created, and they remain prayerful as they reach others.

a large team of people. Several church members not only went door-to-door handing out flyers, but personally invited neighbors to join them for a wonderful day of fun! Others helped by obtaining the food donations, planning and running each event, decorating, working in the kitchen, cleaning up, and doing so much more.

The members know that if you want to share Jesus with others, you must first be a friend, and consider Family Fun Day to be friendship evangelism at its finest. This year they welcomed many new friends and were reunited with some old ones.

Their goal is to be friendly by being good neighbors, and to shine for Jesus. The huge attendance this year provided the perfect audience to share flyers for a "Prayer in the Park" experience that will be held right across from the church. Members ask for prayer that many hearts will be reached for Jesus. 🙏

SUBMITTED BY: MELLISA HOFFMAN

BY MELLISA HOFFMAN

Eastridge Church Collects Care Packages for Homeless

The primary Sabbath School class members of East Ridge Church of Chattanooga, Tenn., filled 100 gift bags with socks, bug spray, shampoo, hand sanitizer, toenail clippers, and copies of Steps to Christ, which were later dropped off at the Homeless Healthcare Center of Chattanooga, Tenn., on September 14. Though primary kids packed the parcels and co-led the project, the outreach involved the entire church, and even guests.

The primary Sabbath School class and personal care ministries team reached out to the Care Center and discovered the actual needs of homeless clients. They announced those needs during church, and assigned each Sabbath School class an item. Even visiting Southern Adventist University students donated items.

Dorothea Sarli, a member at East Ridge Church, said, "This outreach was unique in that it involved many peo-



The primary Sabbath School class from the Eastridge Church in Chattanooga, Tenn., filled 100 bags for the homeless.

SUBMITTED BY: OLIVIA HALE

ple who were personally involved in collecting (buying and bringing) items rather than just giving money.” Other participants elaborated that it increased their awareness of specific needs in the

homeless community, which they would have never known.

Babs Gresko, a case manager at Homeless Healthcare Center of Chattanooga, said, “Our clients do not have presents

given to them, which is exactly what these are! Thank you so very much for all your hard work, time, and money.”

BY OLIVIA HALE

Education Passes the Torch

To retain education majors as teachers for the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, the Education Department created the “Passing the Torch” scholarship in 2014. This year five education majors from Southern Adventist University received the scholarship: Taylor Anderson, Michaela Davis, Kaylan Hartman, Jesse Hoffman, and Daniela Trejos.

Kevin Kossick, vice president for education, said, “Just as the ancient Greeks passed a lighted torch to one another during competition, we educators are excited to pass knowledge, purpose, and mission on to the next generation of teachers. This initiative has been doing just that for several years, and we intend to remain committed to the best teaching candidates the Conference can produce.”

“Two years ago, I went to Kosrae, Micronesia, as a student missionary. While teaching third and fourth grade, I fell in love with my students and found that I could make my classroom a safe space for those students. I want to be a teacher because I want to continue to impact the lives of future generations,” says Michaela Davis, a junior liberal arts, elementary education major and member of the Georgia-Cumberland Academy Church in Calhoun, Ga.

Kaylan Hartman, junior elementary education major who attends the Collegedale Church in Tenn., hopes to emulate her grandfather. “I would hear my mother and other students talk about all the different ways he would make class interesting. It always made me want to be in his class.” Her grandfather’s legacy encourages Hartman and motivates her. “I hope to take after him and be a great teacher for my students; one that not only makes class exciting, but also creates lasting relationships with my students.”



PHOTO BY: TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Five education major students from Southern Adventist University, Jesse Hoffman (left), Daniela Trejos, Taylor Anderson, Kaylan Hartman, and Michaela Davis, were awarded the “Passing the Torch” scholarship given by the Georgia-Cumberland Conference Education Department. The students are bookended by Kevin Kossick, vice president for education, and Angela Walton, regional education director.

“God has been leading and guiding me through this program, when I was faced with tough decisions or hard times,” said Taylor Anderson, senior elementary education major who attends the South Bay Church in Chattanooga, Tenn. She adds that God guided her into the teaching profession, because she had thought she was going to become a nurse.

Daniela Trejos, junior liberal arts education major from the Brunswick Hispanic Church in Georgia, said teaching is her calling. “God has given me a soft heart for children, the patience to teach, and a caring personality to go the extra mile for others. Seeing that ‘aha!’ on a student’s face when they understand something fills

me with joy every time! Receiving this scholarship was definitely another sign from God that teaching is where He wants me to be.”

“When I officially changed my major to elementary education, I felt peace about my decision,” said Jesse Hoffman, senior liberal arts education, elementary education major, who attends the Collegedale Church in Tenn. “As I have progressed through my education in becoming a teacher, God has shown me (and is still showing me) where my strengths are, as well as my weaknesses.”

BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Parker Ordained to Gospel Ministry

Todd Parker was born in Bishop, Calif. Parker worked for Sam's Club, but the Lord was calling him to do His work. In 1990 he married Gina Withrow, and later they had two children, Colten and Jessica. While working full time, Parker became a colporteur and worked evenings. He loved telling others about Jesus. After two years, the toll of working two jobs was too much, and he quit the colporteur work.

After moving to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, to be closer to his parents, Parker had everything, a great job as a manager, and a wonderful home, but he was miserable. He felt the calling of the Lord even greater. After much prayer, Parker and his family knew it was time to move forward in faith. Parker quit his job and went to the Amazing Facts School of Evangelism and became a Bible worker. During his eight years as a Bible worker, he helped plant a Native American Church in Plummer, Idaho, organized an annual Creation Day Camp in the Park with over 132 children attending consistently, along with prison ministry and many other outreach programs to win souls for Jesus. In March 2014, Todd was called to become a pastor for the Gulf States Conference.

His mission statement has always been, "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The



Dave Livermore (left), president of Gulf States Conference, prays from the pulpit while other ordained elders gather around the Parkers.



Gina and Todd Parker (center) are joined by other pastors and Conference administrators in the Gilberttown, Ala., Church.

Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade

them, 'Follow Me,'" *Ministry of Healing*, page 143. ①

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Santini Celebrates 101st Birthday

On July 19, 2019, Bob Santini turned 101 years old. He spent time on this special day with his daughter, Judy Kendrick, and his granddaughter, Stephanie Sheehan, and her husband, Bill. During church fellowship lunch on Sabbath, July 20, Santini was thrilled to see his son, Jerre, along with Jerre's wife, Fern, arrived from Texas. His Roebuck Church family of Birmingham,

Ala. wished him another year of God's blessings.

Santini, the youngest of six children, was born in Hibbing, Minn. When he was 4 1/2 years old, he and his brother, Roland, both contracted measles and scarlet fever at the same time. They were hospitalized, and the doctor said their conditions were severe. The doctor told their mother that Santini would not

live through the night. Santini survived, however, though his brother sadly passed away from their illness.

After high school, Santini went to Madison College, became a nurse, met and married Dorothy Swanson, and served his country during WWII. After his discharge from the Army, he and Dorothy wanted to serve the Lord as missionaries. They accepted a call to

the Ile Ife Adventist Mission Hospital in Nigeria, West Africa, where Santini worked as an office manager and surgical assistant for six years. Following their return, they accepted a call from the Layman Foundation to work at one of their nursing homes, Pine Hill Sanitarium, in Chalkville, Ala. There they served the Lord for 30 years, Santani as the administrator and his wife as the director of nurses. Santini continues to serve through his involvement in prison ministries.

Santini has had a lifetime of consecration to God and His Holy Word, faithfulness to share the eternal light and love of Jesus, unwavering stance to fight the good fight of faith, and commitment to intercessory prayer. He gives God the glory for all the blessings of his long life. 🕊

BY JUDY KENDRICK



Bob Santini celebrates his 101st birthday at home with his family.

Beck Retires from Floral Crest School

After 40 years as a principal and teacher in Adventist elementary schools throughout the South, Wanda K. Beck is retiring this year from the Gulf States Conference.

Her commitment to Christian education began while a sophomore student at Southern Adventist University (then Southern Missionary College). She prayed, asking the Lord to show her where she could best serve Him. Immediately He gave her a firm conviction to teach, and she felt at peace. She never looked back or doubted her calling to the classroom. The goal of her life has been to encourage young people to pursue teaching as a career in the Adventist school system.

With a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction, she has taught in the Texas, Georgia-Cumberland, Kentucky-Tennessee, and Carolina Conferences.



Wanda and Charles Beck celebrate her retirement with 40 years in Adventist education.

Beck is completing her life's work this year at Floral Crest Adventist School, located in Bryant, Ala. in the Gulf States Conference.

Among her treasured accomplishments is receiving a six-year certification through Middle States Accreditation for the Floral Crest School. Additionally, she was featured in the July 2018 *Southern Tidings* as a "favorite teacher." And, in 2000, she was presented with the Innovative Teacher award from the Southern Union.

Beck is married to Charles Beck, assistant professor of engineering technology at Chattanooga State Community College's Volkswagen Corp extension campus. They are parents to three children. She plans to volunteer in community and church activities, travel with her husband, and occasionally serve as a substitute teacher. 🕊

BY MARIAN HUGHES

Cross Plains Church Members Sponsor Campers at Indian Creek Camp



The Vacation Bible School displayed pictures of an African jungle.



Cross Plains, Tenn., Church members recently held a community-wide "Trash and Treasures" yard sale.

The Cross Plains, Tenn., Church sent 14 children who were not Seventh-day Adventists to junior and teen camps during 2019. They all had a great time and asked to go back next year. Those who went to camp were chosen from the Cross Plains community. The members decided this year to step out in faith and sponsor up to 15 children. As a result, six gave their hearts to the Lord, and four are taking Bible lessons.

of Cross Plains has an event called "Trash and Treasures," a community-wide yard sale. Participants move their "treasures" onto their front yard to sell. There are also food booths, fundraisers, and crafts for sale. Cross Plains members gave away 900 bottles of water, and 200 frisbees that said "Jesus Loves Me." They also gave out literature and offered Bible studies to those interested. Fifteen Bibles were given away and several Bible studies were requested.

Cross Plains Church held Vacation Bible School, the first in three decades. As many as 32 children attended, with an average of 28. The theme was "Jami Kingdom." Pictures of wild animals adorned the walls of the church's basement, giving the illusion of a jungle. Each day there were songs, lessons, and crafts. The children crafted edible African cookie animals. Fun games were played outside on the church lawn each day. 📍

Water Giveaway

The last weekend of June, the community

Vacation Bible School

During the week of July 8-12, 2019,

BY JAY ROBERTS

Nashville First Holds First Men's Ministries Revival, Concert

Henry Bean, director of the Men's Ministries Department at Nashville First Church, Nashville, Tenn., had a vision for a men's ministries weekend that was different than just inviting guest preachers to speak.

Bean shared his vision with Kwabena Addison-Amponsah and others in the Men's Ministries Department. The men quickly caught the vision, and planned a four-day

revival meetings and a gospel concert.

The revival began on Wednesday, September 11, 2019, as 19 members heard Nate Hatcher urging them to follow Jesus. Daniel Alouch led out in a season of prayer, and Clyde and Pat Ward led a spirited song service. Nelson Mercado, pastor, sang a song of commitment to follow the plan of God.

Thursday evening, Richard B. Dickens preached a message encouraging humility

and spirituality, and Sherman Cox II led the season of prayer. Cox and Pat Ward led the song service. Bean concluded the evening service with encouraging thoughts.

Friday, Mercado provided special music, and his son, Jean-Luc Mercado, encouraged everyone to flee the love of money and pursue righteousness. Hatcher led in a spirit-filled song service. Orville Bignall led in the season of prayer.



The men at the planning meetings prayed together.

Sabbath morning started powerfully as Brooks Musangu preached, Earl Thomas led the season of prayer, and Cox led the song service.

During the 11 o'clock hour, John Baker preached a sermon that encouraged the men to answer God's call. In the afternoon, 47 were blessed by the gospel concert led by the men of the church, and guests Wayne Hayes, Teryna Edwards, the Miller Family, and Cyril McPhee.

Members of the Men's Ministries Department were encouraged by the program, and are actively planning next year's program with a hope to grow from this year's program. 📌

BY SHERMAN COX II

Lawrenceburg Members Participate in District Fair

Cooler weather brings fairs with their carnival rides, funnel cake, and booths from local entities. The Lawrenceburg, Tenn., Church incorporated an escape room into their booth at the Middle Tennessee District Fair.

Interested parties of up to four people were able to try their hand at the immersive puzzle. They were told that they were missionaries in a foreign country that was hostile to proselytizing. Their friends and fellow missionaries from the Lawrenceburg Church, the Johnsons, had disappeared. They would have 15 minutes in the Johnsons' hotel room to figure out what had happened before the police came to confiscate their belongings.

Throughout the course of the puzzle, participants would discover clues left behind by the Johnson family, which included a locked box behind a picture, a letter on the desk from a friend, and finally a note inside a Bible with a message that the Johnsons were safe.

Fairgoers seemed to enjoy the room, with nearly 200 attempting to escape over



Lawrenceburg Church members incorporated an escape room to their booth at the Middle Tennessee District Fair.

the course of the week. The goal of the puzzle was to raise an awareness of missions, and to share a little about a missionary family who are members at the Lawrenceburg Church.

Best of all, running the booth allowed

church members to meet people in the community, and remind them about the greatest Missionary of all, Who came looking specifically for them. 📌

BY JOEL SUTHERLAND, PASTOR

Southern Welcomes New Vice President for Spiritual Life

Southern Adventist University is pleased to welcome Joseph Khabbaz as the new vice president for spiritual life. Along with serving as campus chaplain, Khabbaz will help prioritize Southern's spiritual goals through this newly restructured position.

"For some time, I've hoped for an administrative position focused on spiritual life that would provide direct input into top decision-making processes," said President David Smith, Ph.D. "I believe spiritual life is at the heart of everything that is important to us at Southern, and that we are best served by waving the flag of spiritual life as high as we can. I know that the focus on spiritual life will be greatly enhanced through Joseph's ministry, and that our employees and students will be effectively ministered to through the work he and his team in the Chaplain's Office will provide."

Khabbaz was born and raised in Sydney, Australia, where he worked as an accountant before attending seminary at Andrews University. He has years of experience working with young people, including his most recent position as the youth and young adult pastor at Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church in Takoma Park, Md. His hobbies include international mission trips, basketball, and spending time with friends and family, including his uncle, retired Southern religion professor Philip Samaan, DMin.

"I'm excited to serve young adults as they matriculate through Southern," Khabbaz said. "This is a time of life where they will be making critical decisions that will set their future direction in areas of their career, finances, friendships, and spirituality. As faculty and staff go through life alongside students, I pray that both ourselves and the students will be transformed through a vibrant



Joseph Khabbaz began his role as Southern's vice president for spiritual life in October.

relationship with God."

Khabbaz assumed his responsibilities in the new dual role of chaplain and administrator in mid-October. ①

BY RACHEL BEAVER

Partnership with Carolina Conference Serves Young People



Echo is one of the Project ReFresh initiatives sponsored by Southern.

Southern recently partnered with the Carolina Conference to support the initiative “Project ReFresh.” This multimedia project aims to create spiritual and engaging content for young adults across various media platforms, including blogs, videos, and podcasting.

“The goal of Project ReFresh is to initiate discussions and answer questions about biblical and social issues, which is something that young adults have been searching for within the Adventist church,” said Rebecca Carpenter, director of communication at the Carolina Conference.

Since Carolina Conference launched Project ReFresh in 2018, several

Southern students and employees have been involved the initiative’s various media channels. This summer, the university officially joined in supporting the project.

“We believe in the content that Project ReFresh is producing, and their willingness to not shy away from the tough topics,” said Isaac James, director of marketing and university relations at Southern. “We see this as an opportunity to promote that idea and show that Southern is also supportive of young people and their thoughts about church issues.”

Southern sponsors three of Project ReFresh’s channels: The “Loop” video

series; the “What If?” vlog series soon to be launched; and the “Echo” podcast. Echo is hosted by Ryan Becker, ministry coordinator and admissions counselor at Southern. The second season of the podcast was recorded on Southern’s campus and featured students and pastors in the local area.

Visit theprojectrefresh.org for more information about Project Refresh and its content. 🎧

BY RACHEL BEAVER



ERHARD, ELDER JOHN PETER, 91, born March 17, 1928 in Gary, IN, died Oct. 9, 2019 in Collegedale, TN. He was the son of Owen Sebastian Erhard and Myrtle M. (Burr) Erhard. He spent his life as a Pastor and chaplain. He pastored from 1951 to 1970 in Michigan, in the Upper Peninsula at Iron Mountain and Escanaba, followed by Lapeer, Pontiac, Detroit, and Grand Rapids. He moved to Oklahoma City, OK, before transitioning to hospital chaplaincy at Hinsdale, IL, Hospital, followed by Florida Hospital. He retired in 1995. He was married for nearly 69 years to Barbara Earle (Tisdale) Erhard, who worked faithfully by his side until her death July 3, 2017 in Collegedale.

He is survived by his younger sister, Katharine Ann (Erhard) Turner; his five children: Linda (Allen) Snyder, Susan (Victor) Vosen, Debra Johnson, and Mark (Lisa) Erhard; 12 grandchildren: Brian (Amy) Snyder, Jeffrey (Shana) Snyder, Brook (Gregory) Johnson, Casey (Michael) Kepner, Janelle (Brian) Desmond, Deren Stocks, Joshua (Rebecca) Erhard, Zachary (Kyndle) Erhard,

Clayton Erhard, Christian Erhard, Natalie Erhard, Peyton Snyder, Preston Snyder, Tyler Rawson, Alyssa Rawson, Ava Johnson, Adalyn Johnson, Logan Kepner, Rylie Kepner, Austin Kepner, Braydon Desmond, and Emily Desmond. He was preceded in death by his parents; his older sister, Audrey Jean (Erhard) Hunt; and his younger brother, Owen Stewart Erhard.

RICHES (NICHOLSON), ROSEMARIE, 78, born Oct. 24, 1940 in Belfast, Ireland, died Sept. 27, 2019 in Collegedale, TN. She was a teacher and vice-principal at Stanborough Park Secondary School in England, and worked with her husband in the Sri Lanka Union and in Pune, India, in the Southern Asia Division.

She finished her career working at the Upward Adventist School and Salem Church School in the Carolina Conference. She retired to Collegedale in 2001. She is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law: Ann-Marie and John Reichert, Berrien Springs, MI; and Katrina and Michael McClung, Collegedale; and three grandchildren: Nic, Christian, and Karlen.



SHEPARD JR., HUGH M., 90, born March 23, 1928 in Hendry County, FL, died July 22, 2018 in Sebring, FL. He was a member of the Avon Park /Fort Meade churches for 59 years. He worked for Walker Memorial Hospital in Avon Park for more than 30 years in security and maintenance. He is survived by one son, Michael Shephard of Avon Park; two daughters: Durienda (Michael) Blaney of Maryville, TN, and Marcella Shepard of Avon Park; one brother, Winston (Joy) Shepard of West Palm Beach, FL; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife of 58 years, Marjorie.

The memorial service was conducted by Pastor Chuck Smith at the Avon Park Church.

SHEPARD, MARJORIE I., 78, born Aug. 28, 1937 at Arcadia, FL, died May 14, 2016 in Avon Park, FL. She was a member of the Avon Park /Fort Meade churches for 59 years. She was a registered nurse and worked for Walker Memorial Hospital in Avon Park.

She is survived by her husband, Hugh M. Shepard Jr.; one son, Michael Shephard of Avon Park; two daughters: Durienda (Michael) Blaney of Maryville, TN, and Marcella Shepard of Avon Park; one brother, Kenneth Lemacks of Avon Park; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The memorial service was conducted by Pastor Chuck Smith at the Fort Meade Church.

BORIA, GREGORY R., 68, born Sept. 16, 1950 in Brooklyn, NY, died Aug. 25, 2019 in New Port Richey, FL. He was a member of the New Port Richey Church for 16 years. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Esther; one son, Jason Boria of New Port Richey; two daughters: Stacie Boria of New Port Richey and Amanda Boria of New Port Richey; one brother, Robert Boria of Tampa, FL; and his father, Louis Boria. The memorial service was conducted by Pastor Jonathan Pawson and Pastor Tony Rivera at the New Port Richey Church. Internment was at Bushnell.

CHANDLER JR., JOE SANDERS, 71, born Dec. 11, 1947 in Nashville, TN, died Aug. 28, 2019 in Goodlettsville, TN. He was a faithful, supportive member of the Ridgetop Church in Ridgetop, TN. He trained as a radiology technologist at Madison Hospital and retired from the Adventist Health System with 47 years of service. He had several hobbies—boating, woodworking, camping, fishing, and spending time with his family. Joe is survived by his wife of 51 years, Linda Vanderboss Chandler; three daughters: Teresa Chandler, Melissa (Daniel) Young, and Bridget Thomas; two sisters: Denise (Wayne) McNutt and Zonda (Phil) Arthur; five grandchildren: Megan Chandler, Brittany Thomas, Jacob Heinrich, Adam Heinrich, and Sarah Young. He was preceded in death by his parents: Sarah and Joe Chandler Sr.

DANN, CORRINE YOUNG, 82, born May 19, 1937 in Gainesville, FL, died suddenly at home on Sept. 10, 2019. She and her identical twin sister, Lorraine, were raised in Lake City, FL. She graduated from Forest Lake Academy in 1955, and attended Southern Missionary College in Collegedale, TN. She worked in various occupations during her lifetime, but was primarily a mother and homemaker. She was a great piano player, collected small things she liked, and often helped people in need. She loved her church family, was strong in her beliefs, and a life-long member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. From her marriage to Texan Leonard Cole, she had four children who survive her: Fred Cole, Will Cole, Elizabeth Cole, and Lisa Fagan. From her marriage to Floridan Ralph Dann, she has one daughter who survives her, Stephanie Daley; and three step-children: Carol Quinn, Cindy Coats, and Andy Dann. She has 17 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. She sponsored a little Navajo Indian girl, and wanted any memorials in her honor directed toward bringing the message of Jesus to the Navajo Indians (www.lavidamission.org) or to the 3ABN radio network (www.3abn.org). A graveside service was held Sept. 16, 2019 at the Chattanooga National Cemetery near her father, a WWII veteran; her children's

father, a Navy veteran; and with her husband, Ralph Dann, an Air Force veteran.

DOVE, ROBERT J., 101, born Nov. 11, 1917 to William and Francine Paille Dove in Newport, RI, died March 30, 2019 in Daytona Beach, FL. He was a member of New Smyrna Beach Church. Robert served as sergeant in the Army during WWII. He was a retired registered nurse and former supervisor at Lapeer State Home and Training School. He moved to the New Smyrna Beach area from Lapeer, MI, in 1982. A devoted family man, Robert always enjoyed sports, especially golf, shuffle board, and horseshoes. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Marilyn; three sons: Robert of Bradenton, Guy (Janis) of Gresham, OR, and Dennis of Palm Bay; one daughter, Patrice Dove of New Smyrna Beach; one step-son, Brian (Betty) Karpovich of Brown City, MI; one stepdaughter, Coralee Johnson of Villa Ridge, MO; 11 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents; his first wife, Mary June, in 1964; one stepson, Tom Karpovich; one stepdaughter, Kay McClelland; four sisters; and two brothers. The service was conducted by Pastor John Gray at Settle-Wilder Funeral Home in New Smyrna Beach, FL. He was buried with military honors at Cape Canaveral Military Cemetery in Mims, FL.

DUNNING SR., ROBERT SAMUEL, 80, born Feb. 16, 1937 in Greensboro, NC, died Sept. 14, 2017 at Wesley Long Hospital, Greensboro. Robert was the son of James Wiley Dunning and Fleta Sue May Dunning of Pleasant Garden, NC. Robert was a member of High Point Church (then Thomasville Church) all of his life. He supported the church by faithful attendance, tithe and offerings, and by taking care of carpenter and plumbing needs. He was looking forward to the second coming of Jesus. Robert was dearly loved by his wife and children who are looking forward to being with him again when Jesus comes to awaken him out of his sleep. He is resting at a family gravesite at the Pinnacle Baptist Church in Pinnacle, NC. He is survived by his wife and childhood sweetheart of 62 years, Shelby Jean Wright Dunning (they were married when they were teenagers, 17 and 18 years old); two sons: Robert Samuel (Pansy) Dunning Jr., and Garry (Sheila) Dunning; one grandson, Christopher Dunning; and one step grandson, Casey Jones; one great-granddaughter, Cadence Aleigha Dunning; one step-great-granddaughter; and one great-step-grandson of Thomasville; two brothers: J.W. Dunning and Roy (Celia) Dunning Sr. both of Archdale; one sister, Juanita Dunning Conner of Cheraw, SC; and many nieces, nephews; and friends.

GLANDER, GENEVIEVE LEE (ANDRES), 97, born May 29, 1921 in St. Louis, MO, died May 9, 2019. Her loving family was with her. Genevieve was the daughter of Obed Fredrick James Benjamin Andres and Hilda Dagmar Nielsen. Two children came from this marriage, Genevieve and her brother, James Benjamin. She had one half-sister from her father's first marriage, Selma Andres Fenton. She also had three half siblings, Alice, Jack, and Jessie Edith, from her mother's first marriage to Brown McDonald. The third marriage brought three more half-siblings into Genevieve's life: Janet Beverly and Jean Betty (twins) and Florence Isabel, as well as a step-brother, Raymond Allen King, and step-father, Joseph Blackburn King. Genevieve taught elementary school for the Adventist church for 22 years in the Southern Union Conference, and before that she taught for about 10 years in the Pacific Union Conference. She retired from teaching in 1986 and moved to California. Genevieve was married to Oscar Hugh Lee on June 7, 1945 in Arlington, CA. They were married 25 years before he passed in 1970. They had two children, Daniel Meridith Lee and Barbara Kathleen Lee. Genevieve remarried on Dec. 21, 1986 to Nathaniel Alan Glander in Colton, GA. They were married for 29 years before he passed in 2015. There were no children from this marriage; however, Alan had two grown children at the time from his first marriage, Jerry Glander and Jean Glander Seigle. She is survived by her children, Daniel Lee of Monteagle, TN and Barbara (Larry) Lee Bearden of Rossville, GA; sisters, Janet King Georgette of Loma Linda, CA, and Florence King Bare of Sun City, CA; grandchildren: Aaron Lee, Peter Lee, Brooke Lee, and Stefan Lee, Stephanie Bearden Meyer, and Christopher Lee Bearden; one great-granddaughter, Taylor Meyer; two step-children, Jerry (Nani) Glander of Keeau, HI, and Jean (Gary) Steger of F. Walton Beach, FL. Genevieve was preceded in death by her parents: Obed Fredrick James Benjamin Andres and Hilda Dagmar Nielson McDonald Andres King; step-father, Joseph Blackburn King; two husbands: Oscar Lee and Alan Glander; four sisters: Alice McDonald Hensley, Edith McDonald Moyer, Selma Andres Fenton, and Jean Betty King; two brothers: Jack McDonald and James Benjamin Andres; one step-brother, Raymond Allen King; and one grandson, James Colby Bearden. A graveside service will be held at a later date in the Sequatchie Valley Memorial Gardens in Jasper, TN, and Genevieve will be laid to rest beside her first husband and father of her children, Oscar H. Lee.

HAROLD, BETTY ALICE PEEK, 97, born Nov. 12, 1921 in Indianapolis, IN, died Oct. 1, 2019 in Hopkinsville, KY. Betty was an active

member and officer of the Hopkinsville Church in Hopkinsville, TN. She was dedicated to showing God's love through her daily living. The connections and friends she made through her ministry in the local jail enriched her life, and was something she spoke of often. There is nothing she liked better than a lively conversation that allowed her to articulate the love and deep understanding she felt for Jesus as her personal friend Who moved in her life daily, and who she believed was there for everyone. She loved her family, church family, playing the piano, and singing around the piano at home. Betty is survived by four children: Joan (David) Boyadjieff, Ellen (Jim) Brodersen, Mary (Jeff) Goodwin, and James (Ramona) Harold; four grandchildren: Kelvin (Hallie) Harold, Travis Harold, Spencer Harold, and Eric Brodersen; and one great grandchild, Kovax Harold. She was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond; one daughter, Bethel Ray Harold; and her sister, Maxine Kablanow.

HENDERSON, MARY BENNETT, 94, of Traverse City, died Sept. 26, 2019 at her home, born Feb. 12, 1925 to Wesley Bennett and Holland Staples in Jeffersonville, IN. Mary was a registered nurse by profession and also an accountant/office manager for two businesses. She is survived by her son, James (Maria) Henderson of Altamonte Springs, FL; two daughters: Betsy Henderson (Brad Hokanson) of Edina, MN, and Anita (Paul) Riess of Traverse City; three grandchildren: Todd and Nathan Henderson, and Tamila Treber; and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband of 67 years, "Bill" Henderson.

KING, DAVID J., 38, born Feb. 25, 1981 in Somers Point, NJ; died Sept. 17, 2019 in Apopka, FL. He was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka for 26 years. He is survived by his mother, Janet Lynn King; and two brothers: Eddie (Nina) King of Imperial Beach, CA, and Caleb (Kim) King of Virginia Beach, VA. The service was conducted by Chaplain Tammy Harbour. Interment was at Cape May Court House, NJ.

LEARMAN, ARLINE, 90, born Feb. 2, 1929, died Aug. 14, 2019 in New Port Richey, FL. She was a member of the New Port Richey Church for 30 years. She is survived by two sons: Karl Learman of New Port Richey, FL, and Kenneth Learman of Youngstown, OH; one daughter, Karen Learman of Buffalo, NY; and five grandchildren. The services were conducted out of state.

MYERS, DR. RUSSELL EDWIN, 101, born Aug. 24, 1917 in Madison, TN, died July 31, 2019 at Alvin C. York Medical Center in Mur-

freestboro, TN, just shy 24 days until his 102nd birthday. Dr. Myers was a graduate of Madison College and graduated medical school from Loma Linda University. After graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force where he served two years in the Medical Corp. on Guam. During his college years, he met and became friends with Dr. William Bryant. They went to Woodbury and started Good Samaritan Hospital where they also had their medical practice from 1950 to 1986. Dr. Myers was a devoted member of the Church in Woodbury, TN, that he and Dr. Bryant built. He cared about his community as well as the patients who entrusted him with their care. After the Good Samaritan Hospital closed, Dr. Myers and Dr. Bryant funded the Bryant-Myers Scholarship that has helped numerous children attend college through the years. During his life, he enjoyed fishing with Harold Smith, working on his farm, and owning and participating in Tennessee Walking Horses. He is survived by his daughter, Linda Myers (Louis) Sanchez; three grandchildren: Charles "Chuck" William Smart II, Amy Smart (Aly) Iglesias, and Russell (Amber Bright) Sanchez; six great grandchildren: Charles "Chas" William Smart III, Lauren Iglesias, Matao Iglesias, Lindie Sanchez, Landon Sanchez, and Sophia Sanchez; one sister, Christine Ruschmeyer; and a dear friend, Pat Rosenthal. He was preceded in death by his son, Larry Edwin Myers; and his parents: Richard Myers and Emma Garrett Myers.

PORTER, CHARLES, JR., 87, born Nov. 5, 1932 in Mayfield, KY, died Oct. 4, 2019 in Madison, TN. He was a member at the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. Charles worked for the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association and for the Review and Herald Publishing Association. He is survived by his son, Kenneth (Debra) Porter; one daughter, Virginia (David) Medanich; two sisters: Wanda Jean McMullin and Linda Lloyd; five grandchildren: Stephen Charles Porter, Jameson Paul Porter, Matthew (Diane) Medanich, Jessica Medanich, and Stephanie Medanich; five great-grandchildren: Maiya Medanich, Chloe Medanich, Emmie Medanich, Mason Medanich, and Faith Porter. He was preceded in death by his wife, Beatrice M. Crowe Porter; and his brother, Paul Porter.

SCROGGS, LORRAINE, 70, born Feb. 23, 1948 in Seattle, WA, died Nov. 12, 2018 in Portland, TN. She was a member of the Highland Church in Portland for 11 years. She grew up in Seattle, Ferndale, and College Place, WA, and met her future husband while attending Walla Walla University. Upon marriage to Dale Ortmann, they moved to southern California and raised two daughters. Lorraine worked as an administrative assistant for It Is Written for

28 years. In 2000, she married Donald Scroggs and moved in 2007 to Portland, TN, where she became office manager for The King's Heralds. Lorraine's tremendous ability to see the good in others, her never-ending kindness, and graceful spirit is greatly missed by all who knew her. She loved Jesus and worked tirelessly for Him, and she awaits the call of our life-giving Savior. She is survived by her husband, Donald Scroggs; two daughters: Kelli Pellegrini and Missy (Eric) Barsam; one granddaughter, Ashley Barsam; two stepdaughters: LaVonne Scroggs and LeAnne Scroggs; one sister, Patricia Parker; and seven cousins.

SMITH, STANLEY W., 88, born July 26, 1931, died Aug. 16, 2019 in Shelbyville, KY. He was a member of the Shelbyville, Ky., Church. A native of Hatton, KY, Stanley was self-employed as a painter for most of his life. He also worked for LeCompte Johnson Taylor Funeral Home in Frankfort, KY, for many years. He is survived by one stepdaughter, Donna Kay (William Keith) Crim; one brother, Gene Douglas Smith; and one sister, Frances Vinson. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jean Quire Smith; and his parents: Iva Ellen and George Benjamin Smith.

WEBSTER, (RAWLINS) RAWLINGSTON K., 79, born April 25, 1939 in Anguilla, West Indies, died Jan. 11, 2019 in Orlando, FL. He was a member of the Kress Memorial Church in Winter Park, FL, where he served as a deacon. He worked at the Orlando Marriott Hotel for many years as a Bellman Manager. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Jasodra. He is survived by their children: son, Reudan, and daughter, Scythia, both of Orlando; his second wife, Pearline; one sister and brother-in-law; nieces; nephews; and cousins. A celebration of life service was held on May 19, 2019 at Kress Memorial Church. Words of comfort and hope were given by Pastor Eric Doran.

WINBURN, MARY ELLEN, 75, born April 16, 1943 in Urbana, IL, died April 7, 2019 at the Jackson-Madison County General Hospital in Jackson, TN. She was a member of the Lawrenceburg, TN, Church. On April 12, 1964, she married John Winburn. Mary retired from the Henry County Medical Center. She is survived by her husband of 55 years, John Winburn; one daughter, Tammy (Andy) Clayton; one son, Tony Eugene (Donna) Winburn; one sister-in-law, Lynda Winburn; one brother-in-law, Dale (Libby) Winburn; one niece, Kimberly Winburn; one nephew, Keith Winburn; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents: Mr. and Mrs. Zelderd E. Perkins; one sister, Daisy Mae Perkins; and one brother, Jerry Perkins.

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CAROLINA

AWAKEN YOUTH CONFERENCE - Feb. 1, 2. Sharon Church.

EVANGELISM IMPACT - Feb. 6-9. Myrtle Beach, SC.

ROMANCE @ THE RANCH - Feb. 14-16. NPR.

HISPANIC ROMANCE @ THE RANCH - Feb. 21-23. NPR.

VBS WORKSHOP - Feb. 23. Carolina Conference Office.

ALIVE YOUTH RALLY - March 7. Spartanburg, SC.

MPA SPRING BREAK / MISSION TRIP - March 12-22.

PATHFINDER WORK-BEE CAMPOUT - March 13-15. NPR.

HISPANIC CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP - March 15. 10 a.m. Charlotte Spanish Church.

COMMUNITY SERVICES RETREAT - March 20-22. NPR.

RE-GENERATE! CAROLINA SEEDS CONFERENCE - March 20, 21. Hendersonville.

COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARD MEETING - March 21, 22. NPR.

ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL RETREAT - March 27-29. NPR.

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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.

Jan. 5. Deltona Spanish, Daytona Beach, New Smyrna Beach, Titusville, Cocoa, Fort Pierce. (Southeastern Conference: Palm Bay.)

Jan. 12. Inverness, Homosassa, Brooksville, Spring Hill, New Port

Richey, Clearwater, St. Petersburg. Jan. 19. Leesburg, Lady Lake, Ocala, Perry, Tallahassee.

Jan. 26. West Palm Beach First, Pompano Beach, Margate, Ambassador in Lauderdale Lakes, Plantation. (South-eastern Conference: Port St. Lucie)

Feb. 2. Kissimmee, Winter Haven, Avon Park, Cape Coral, Fort Myers, Lehigh Acres, Naples.

Feb. 9. East Pasco in Zephyrhills, Tampa First, Brandon, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Sarasota, Port Charlotte.

Feb. 15. Florida Keys Camp Meeting at Big Pine Key.

Feb. 23. Palm Coast, Palatka, St. Augustine, Orange Cove, Jacksonville Southpoint. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)

March 1. Kendall, Miami Temple, Miami Springs, Maranatha in Miami Gardens, Sunrise, Midport.

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

PATHFINDER JUNIOR EVENT - Dec. 6-8.

PATHFINDER/ADVENTURER DIRECTOR APPRECIATION WEEKEND - Jan. 10-11. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

HISPANIC CHILDREN MINISTRIES REGIONAL TRAINING - Jan. 11. North GA & TN area, Entrenamiento del Ministerio Infantil - Norte de GA & TN - 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$20 per person (includes lunch). Register at registration.gccsda.com. Southern Adventist University, College Dale, TN.

MIDTERM REPORT--Hear reports on what is happening in your Conference, and ask questions of administration. Midterm Report sessions are open to everyone, and offered in several locations - Jan. 11, 4 p.m., at the Atlanta Korean Church, Duluth, Ga.; Jan. 25, 4 p.m., at the North Knoxville Church, Knoxville, Tenn.; Feb. 1, 4 p.m., at the Bowman Hills Church in Cleveland, Tenn.; and Feb. 8, 4 p.m., at the Georgia-Cumberland Academy Church in Calhoun, GA.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP TRAINING ENTRENAMIENTO DE DIRECTORAS DEL MIN. DE

LA MUJER - Jan. 12, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Cost: \$20 per person (includes lunch). Register at registration.gccsda.com. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.

PATHFINDER TLT CONVENTION - Jan. 17-19. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

MOBILIZE, YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE - Jan. 25. Helping churches attract, engage, and mobilize young adults for the Kingdom. Register by Jan. 15. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.

OASIS, A BIBLE CONFERENCE FOR ADVENTIST HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS (GRADES 9-12) WHO ARE NOT ATTENDING ADVENTIST SCHOOLS - Jan. 31-Feb. 2. The speaker will be Luke Steen, youth pastor for the Marietta, Ga., Church. The early bird deadline is Jan. 8, final deadline, Jan. 22. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

Register for events on the conference website, www.gccsda.com.

GULF STATES

ELDERS' AND DEACONS' RETREAT - Dec. 13-15. Camp Alamisco. Sung Kwon, director of Adventist Community Services for the North American Division, presents "Burst the Bubble: Finding Your Passion for Community Outreach." www.gscsda.org/events.

TEEN INVITATIONAL: CAVING - Jan. 31. Tumbling Rock Cave, Fackler, AL. www.gscsda.org/youth-ministry-events.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - Dec. 3. Conference Office.

ACROFEST - Jan. 30-Feb. 1. Highland Academy.

EVANGELISM BOOT CAMP - Feb. 7-9. Indian Creek Camp.

7UP CAMP - Feb. 14-16. Indian Creek Camp.

HIGHLAND ACADEMY BOARD - Feb. 27. Highland Academy.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES CERTIFICATION/VBX TRAINING - Feb. 28, 29. Highland Academy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SINGLES' MINISTRIES - Dec. 14 and 22. Hikes, Socials, Bible Study, Bowling, Banquets, Retreats, Healthy Cooking Class, and more! Christmas Party: Dec. 14. Christmas Banquet: Dec. 22. For a complete Calendar of Events: www.gccsda.com/singles-ministries/home.

ELIM CHURCH CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY - March 28. All are invited to this very special once in a century event. Please, clear your calendar of any scheduling assigned for this time; Save the Date!!! You would be doing yourself and us a disservice by not being here. The address is 4824 Second Avenue South, Sunshine City, St. Petersburg, FL 33711. Call: 727-350-3531 / www.elimfl.adventistchurch.org. Sabbath School - 9:15 a.m. Divine

Worship Service - 11:00 a.m. Guest speaker: U.S. Senate Chaplain Dr. Barry C. Black. Enjoy a sumptuous fellowship dinner, we would not be comfortable having you to attend the concert Sabbath afternoon on an empty stomach. It would be our pleasure to have you present during this auspicious occasion.

UNION COLLEGE HOMECOMING - April 2-5. Honor classes are 1950, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1980, 1990, 1995, 2000, and 2010. For more information, contact the alumni office at 401-486-2503, 3800 S. 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506, or alumni@uollege.edu.

IT IS WRITTEN CHILDREN'S APP - It Is Written's "My Place With Jesus" is excited to introduce a brand new mobile app designed to help children learn about Jesus and the Bible in a fun and interactive way. Players

can customize their character, enjoy fun Bible lessons, hang out in the tree house with friends, earn badges for their backpacks, gather collectibles that unlock fun mini-games, and so much more! Explore a world of fun and learning with "My Place With Jesus!" Download it now free. Available for both Android and iOS devices. Details: Cassie Matchim Hernandez, Development Assistant, 423-62-5827.

	SUNSET					
	DEC 6	DEC 13	DEC 20	DEC 27	JAN 3	JAN 10
ATLANTA, GA	5:28	5:30	5:31	5:36	5:41	5:47
CHARLESTON, SC	5:13	5:14	5:17	5:21	5:26	5:31
CHARLOTTE, NC	5:11	5:12	5:14	5:18	5:23	5:29
COLLEGE DALE, TN	5:38	5:29	5:32	5:36	5:41	5:47
HUNTSVILLE, AL	4:35	4:36	4:39	4:43	4:48	4:54
JACKSON, MS	4:55	4:56	4:59	5:03	5:08	5:14
LOUISVILLE, KY	5:22	5:23	5:26	5:30	5:35	5:41
MEMPHIS, TN	4:48	4:49	4:51	4:55	5:00	5:07
MIAMI, FL	5:29	5:31	5:34	5:38	10:04	5:47
MONTGOMERY, AL	4:39	4:41	4:43	4:47	4:52	4:58
NASHVILLE, TN	4:32	4:33	4:35	4:40	4:45	4:51
ORLANDO, FL	5:28	5:30	5:33	5:37	5:41	5:47
TAMPA, FL	5:34	5:36	5:38	5:42	5:47	5:52
WILMINGTON, NC	5:01	5:03	5:05	5:09	5:14	5:20

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