

T Southern IDINGS

JULY 2019

Living GOD'S LOVE



REMEMBERING
A SPECIAL 175TH
ANNIVERSARY

HE HEALED
THEM ALL

GOD'S PLANS
EXCEED
DREAMS

WHERE TWO
OR THREE ARE
GATHERED

"YES, LORD,
YES!"

Varied Gifts are Essential



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

The year 2019 has been declared by the leadership of each of the eight conferences of the Southern Union as the Year of Lay and Pastoral Evangelism. It has not been suggested or intended that this year should be the only year that we will intentionally introduce Jesus to people, and/or summon them into a saving relationship with the Master. However, it is to sustain the posture of executing the Gospel Commission perpetually through the overall operation of the Seventh-day Adventist Church here in this area of the North American Division of the World Church.

I strongly appeal to you and urge you, my fellow believers, to avoid being victimized by a single person's method for reaching people. Utilize what God has given you to fulfill the Gospel Commission through your personal zeal and innovation. You may be unable to conduct a full-fledged evangelistic series due to varying circumstances; however, daily point people to Jesus as you are led by Him.

It has been a most exciting journey this year for the Southern Union administration to partner in our quest to evangelize the cities of Athens, Georgia, and Fayetteville, North Carolina. Pastors Frank Harrell of the Snellville-Athens, Georgia, district, and Sherwin Callwood of the Fayetteville (Abney Chapel), North Carolina, church, prepared their congregations to minister to their surrounding communities through the "System for Survival in the 21st Century" evangelistic series. One hundred and eighty-eight beautiful men, women, and children were added to the Seventh-day Adventist Church through baptism and profession of faith. Both congregations were revitalized and strengthened in their individual and composite journeys with Jesus.

The Atlanta West End Church of the South Atlantic Conference, the Lauder Hill Church of the Florida Conference, and the Market Street Church in Greensboro, North Carolina, also of the South Atlantic Conference, are the next three evangelistic sites for the System for Survival series this year.

Beyond the Union-wide schedule of public evangelistic activity are a battery of meaningful personal-journey stories of persons who transitioned from challenging life circumstances without Christ to a joyful, liberated life with Christ. The greatest outcome of all is to experience the restorative power of God in one's own life as she/he leads another to Jesus Christ. My salvation is borne out of my quest to introduce others to Jesus Christ. Wow, what a deal! I find my own healing, material blessings, family wellness, spiritual breakthroughs, and eternal life when I engage in the Christian industry of leading others to Jesus Christ.

Finally, as Ellen White stated, "In our association with one another we are to remember that all have not the same talents or the same disposition. The workers differ in plans and ideas. Varied gifts, combined, are necessary for the success of the work. Let us remember that some can fill certain positions more successfully than others The various talents that the Lord has entrusted to His servants are essential in His work. The different parts of the work are to be brought together, piece by piece, to make a complete whole Let not one man feel that his gift alone is sufficient for the work of God; that he alone can carry through a series of meetings, and give perfection to the work. His methods may be good, and yet varied gifts are essential....," *Evangelism*, 103.2,3. ①

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SOUTHERN TIDINGS | Volume 113
Number 7 | July 2019
Published monthly by the Southern Union.
Free to all members.
POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to
Southern Tidings
P.O. Box 923868
Peachtree Corners, GA 30010-3868
EMAIL: idouce@southernunion.com



july 2019

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COVER PHOTO: Students and teachers in Morocco were enthusiastic about the project Southern Adventist University students and employees participated in.

PHOTO CREDIT: Ryan Pierce



Adeline Piotrowski (green shirt, right) and other Southern team members interact with school children beside the in-progress wall mural in Morocco.

Living GOD'S LOVE

BY ANGELA BAERG

Around the world and close to home, members of the Southern Adventist University family are following God's calling to serve Him.

The children rushed up to Adeline Piotrowski and the other volunteers, embracing them enthusiastically and showering their faces with kisses. Their innocent eyes shone with gratitude and love, and Piotrowski felt her heart swell in response. It had been a wonderful week in Morocco where the group from Southern Adventist University had put on a health fair, painted a beautiful mural, and celebrated God's love with their new friends.

There are many ways to connect meaningfully with people; some we take for granted as common place, and others, like Piotrowski's "relationship-building" trip to Morocco, are more nuanced but important and powerful. We all have gifts

that we have been called to share. God's Word tells us that "each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms," 1 Peter 4:10 NIV.

It is our calling in life to figure out how God wants us to serve Him. For some people, this involves helping individuals through social service organizations; others change lives simply through their daily interactions with those around them. Although serving God can take many different forms, all are an attempt to reflect His character.

Relationship Building

Sometimes the simplest of interactions can leave a huge impression. When Sonya Fisher, a student who is not Adventist, came to check out Southern's nursing program, she was immediately impressed by the kindness she encountered.



Friendships form as the Southern team learns how to eat traditional Moroccan couscous from college student Salma Sadiky.

son who is not Adventist, came to check out Southern's nursing program, she was immediately impressed by the kindness she encountered.

PHOTO BY: RYAN PIERCE



PHOTO BY: BARRY DALY

Southern alum Kristen Robinson meets with an HIV-positive client to provide helpful resources and a healthy dose of God's love.



PHOTO BY: BARRY DALY

Beyond his role as a psychology professor, Matthew Tolbert benefits the community by serving on the boards of local social services agencies.



PHOTO BY: BARRY DALY

When nursing major Sonya Fisher first visited Southern and asked where the nursing building was, she was surprised to have an employee cheerfully walk her there in person.

When Fisher first arrived on campus, she asked where the nursing building was. Rather than give her directions, an employee walked her all the way there. The next person who helped her was equally courteous, warm, and knowledgeable. The loving atmosphere on Southern's campus was palpable, and right then Fisher knew that she wanted to be a part of it. She enrolled that day, and is now on course to graduate with her associate degree in nursing this December. She has also recommended Southern to multiple friends, suggesting they follow in her footsteps.

"I like how I'm not just a number here. My professors at Southern truly have their students' best interests at heart," Fisher

said. "My son has a lot of health problems, and they have been so flexible and understanding. It's more than just a job to them. I know I can talk or pray with them any time."

Kindness is kindness, whether it occurs on Southern's campus or across the sea. Morocco is a Muslim country, but while it is very different from the United States, foreigners are welcome to visit, and the people are very hospitable. During Spring Break this year, 15 Southern volunteers — including senior international studies major Adeline Piotrowski — traveled there for a special project. They helped present a children's health expo for a public school of 500 stu-

dents, grades K-8. Working with local organizations, the team emphasized health principles such as the importance of nutrition, water, exercise, sleep, and not smoking. They also painted a large mural on the school grounds, with the school children enthusiastically joining in. The volunteers' efforts were warmly received by the entire community, and they have been invited to return again next year.

"It was a special opportunity to learn about Moroccan culture and share important values we have with the community there," said Polina Kadatska, a faculty member at Southern and one of the trip's coordinators. "We focused on the things we have in common instead of our differences."

The Least of These

By day, Matthew Tolbert, a Southern alum, is an associate professor in the University's School of Education and Psychology. In his free time, however, he serves on the boards of two local social services agencies, United Way of the Ocoee Region and Karis Dental Clinic.

"I take seriously what God asked of each of us — to feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, and clothe the naked," Tolbert said. "These organizations allow me to be a part of something bigger than myself."

At the United Way, Tolbert chairs a committee that focuses on finding the

CLOSING THE GENERATION GAP

In 2006, a private donor launched a program through Southern called Assist. Assist offers Adventist academy students the opportunity to earn a scholarship by pairing them with a local elderly mentor in their community. Students spend up to 10 hours a week with their mentor visiting, studying God's Word, or doing light housework or yardwork. In the beginning, only a handful of academies participated. Today more than 500 students from 44 academies are part of the program, and there is even a junior version for elementary students called Partnering for Eternity (PFE).

"It's like a big brother/big sister program, but just going up a few generations," said Mariana Salter, a Southern alum and director of the Assist and PFE grant programs. "Students spend so much time with their mentors that, by the time they graduate and go to college, it feels like they have another grandparent. For example, Upward Adventist School student



PFE participant Alex Castro (right) happily served as best man in his senior mentor's wedding.

Alex Castro and his mentor, Tom Lawrence, grew so close that Lawrence asked Alex to be his best man at his wedding."

Collegedale Academy student Wesley Spicer is another student who has been deeply involved with Assist. For the past four years, he has faithfully worked with two different mentors, helping with any-

thing from cooking to yardwork. His mentors adore him, and the feeling is mutual. Although he is now wrapping up his time with the program, Spicer plans to stay in touch with his mentors as he enrolls in Southern as a freshman this fall.

One of the fundamental principles of Assist and PFE is the importance of cross-generational partnerships. Both the mentor and the mentee benefit from their weekly fellowship as they "spur one another on toward love and good deeds ... encouraging one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching," Hebrews 10:24-25.

"I learned a lot of things from this program, including the importance of being responsible, showing up to work on time, and doing jobs thoroughly," Spicer said. "It was a very positive experience, and I highly recommend it. It's a great opportunity to help the elderly and build a relationship that will last a lifetime."

PHOTO BY: CONTRIBUTED

true impact an organization is having. They look not only for the crisis it is addressing, but more importantly for how it is attacking the root of the problem itself.

Tolbert explains that Karis Dental Clinic is an example of an organization that is making an impact first by meeting crisis needs, and secondly by addressing the root of the problem. Karis provides low-cost dental care to those in need, with a full-time dentist helping to run the clinic. Along with a second dentist, the team begins by treating emergency issues. Their goal is to offer an experience that reduces fear and will lead to educating clients about the importance of good oral care and regular check-ups. Karis has helped nearly 3,000 patients to date.

"God said, 'Whatever you do for the least of these, you do unto Me,'" Tolbert said. "That is part of our calling, and

through my board service, I have an opportunity to spread God's love."

God's Children

Another Southern alum with a big heart for social services is Kristen Robinson, who graduated from Southern in 2015 with her master's degree in clinical mental health counseling. Since then, Robinson has worked at Cempa Community Care, an organization in Chattanooga, Tennessee, that helps HIV-positive individuals obtain needed services. At Cempa, a doctor and two nurse practitioners see clients for their primary care and infectious disease needs. They also offer testing and prevention programs, along with community education. For example, they want to raise awareness that if an HIV-infected patient is taking medication daily, the copies of HIV in his or her blood can become so low that they

are undetectable by lab instruments and therefore are not transmittable.

Robinson is the lead medical case manager for support services at Cempa. She is in charge of providing client services, such as in-house financial assistance and referrals. Last year Cempa helped more than 750 clients.

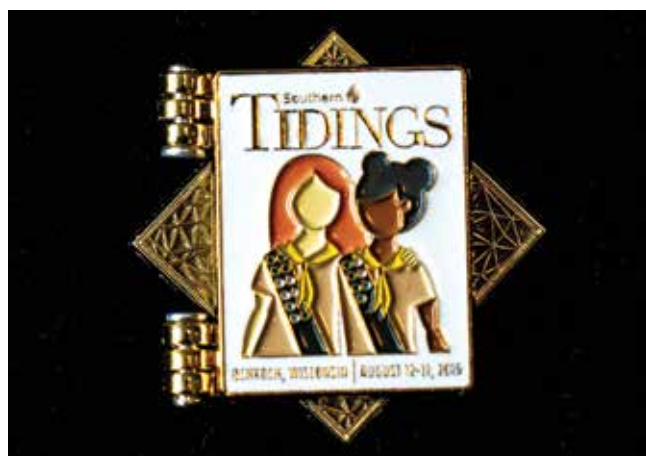
"My favorite part of my job is being able to help people in a measurable, concrete way," Robinson said. "My clients have a lot of needs, but sometimes as much as anything they need someone to treat them as humans. God's Word provides the example for me to follow, to treat them as God's children. In everything I do, I want to be like Him." ●

Angela Baerg is a Montessori preschool teacher who graduated in 2006 from Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee.

EXPERIENCE OSHKOSH!

Share and Follow Camporee News Online

BY R. STEVEN NORMAN III



Pathfinders who share their story during the Camporee can earn a *Southern Tidings* trading pin.

We are just weeks from the International Pathfinder Camporee! Nearly 10,000 Pathfinders and volunteers from the Southern Union are checking tents and buying last-minute supplies. Drill teams are practicing their drill routines, cooks are reviewing their recipes, and parents are driving their Pathfinders to club meetings. Almost everyone is focused on getting to Oshkosh. It is Oshkosh or bust!

It is exciting to see what Pathfinders are experiencing as they prepare for the Camporee. Julianna Lawson, director of the Pathfinder Decatur Defenders Club in Decatur, Alabama, says, "A chance encounter led to an awesome opportunity to raise funds for the Chosen Camporee." This encounter enabled the club to turn trash into money! Read their story and see pictures on Facebook, Instagram @SouthernTidings and on Twitter @SUCTidings.

Or, visit www.southerntidings.com/camporee where you will see a section dedicated to Camporee news.

Pathfinders going to Oshkosh and family and supporters who will be at home, will have a unique opportunity to follow the action on four platforms — Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and a special Pathfinder SouthernTidings.com.

Share Your Oshkosh Preparation Pictures

Most Pathfinders are proud of their club! Why not showcase your club and what you are doing while preparing for the camporee? Post your pictures or stories and use the hashtag #myChosenStory.

Limited Edition Southern Tidings Trading Pin

We are happy to announce the first ever *Southern Tidings* Pathfinder trading pin.

This limited-edition pin features Pathfinders on the front, and opens to reveal two inside pages complete with pictures. Pathfinders will want to be sure to add this coveted, first ever *Southern Tidings* trading pin to their collection. To qualify for this pin, Pathfinders must take a short class in photography and writing, and then submit their pictures and story for publication on Facebook, Instagram, or SouthernTidings.com.

Follow Your Club on Facebook and Instagram

You can follow your Pathfinders as well as the sights and sounds by joining Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter and clicking follow or like. You will also want to bookmark SouthernTiding.com 📌

R. Steven Norman III is the Southern Union communication director and Southern Tidings editor.

HE HEALED THEM ALL:

AdventHealth Sculpture Series Illustrates Christ's Healing Ministry

BY INGRID HERNÁNDEZ

As they drive up to work, or walk to and from their meetings, the employees of AdventHealth's corporate campus in Altamonte Springs, Florida, may be found pausing in their tracks and reflecting before returning to the rush of the day. Their rest stops often include the ponds, flowers, and water features of the 30-acre campus, and other times the biblically-inspired, two-part bronze sculpture series located throughout the property.

The sculpture series, by artist Victor Issa, includes the installations *Healing at Bethesda*, located on the campus' roundabout with a final scene in its headquarters building, and *The Master Healer*, which sits on a walkway by the campus lake. Each one exemplifies Christ's healing ministry on Earth — very similar to what AdventHealth's mission aims to do.

"We are so blessed to come to work every day and have an artistic expression of our faith, our ministry, right here on campus, and to have something that symbolizes what our organization stands for: whole-person healing," said Sandra Johnson, executive vice president and chief administrative officer for AdventHealth.

AdventHealth, a national system of care sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Church, is made up of nearly 50 hospital campuses and hundreds of care sites. The system shares a single mission, "Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ," and a focus to provide whole-person care — body, mind, and spirit. This sacred calling is directly modeled after Jesus' own wholistic healing ministry, and inspires team members to form healing relationships with the people they care for, including those team members who serve at the corporate campus instead of at the bedside.



Sculptor Victor Issa talks about *The Master Healer* with Ted Hamilton, M.D. (right), AdventHealth's chief mission integration officer.



Two bronze sculpture installations at the AdventHealth corporate campus, *Healing at Bethesda* and *The Master Healer*, draw from biblical inspiration to portray Jesus' desire to make people whole.

"I consider it a great privilege to work with Christ-centered institutions like AdventHealth to bring a distinct and meaningful three-dimensional representation of their mission and vision into existence," said Issa. "On a personal level, working on major liturgical compositions offers me the opportunity to dig deeper into Christ's ministry."

The first AdventHealth statuary, *Healing at Bethesda*, represents the different manifestations of illness: The Anguished Woman, the mental; The Self-Righteous Man, the spiritual; and The Mother and Her Child, the physical. There is also a character known as The Sick Man, the man who embodies all characteristics of illness — the one who is asked by Jesus, "Do you want to be made well?" John 5:6. The final scene of the installation, located inside the headquarters lobby, expresses restoration and new life after the healing by the Savior.

The second statuary, *The Master Healer*, was dedicated during a special ceremony with the AdventHealth Board of Directors in February 2019. Like *Healing at Bethesda*, *The Master Healer* beautifully depicts Christ's desire to make others whole, except

this installation does so by drawing from several healing stories of the Bible. The characters include a centurion, an outcast leper, a young child, Nicodemus, and a young mother and child accompanied by their lamb.

"That entire sculpture series serves as a physical reminder of Christ's healing ministry," said Ted Hamilton, M.D., senior vice president and chief mission integration officer for AdventHealth. "It demonstrates to our team members that the work they do has meaning; and to our visitors, community leaders, and partners, that they are in a place that has a unique brand promise of whole-person health."

This AdventHealth brand promise is for every patient who walks through its facility doors. And, it's one that points back to a Savior who offers radical healing and restoration to all those who dare to believe: "And the whole multitude sought to touch Him: for there went virtue out of Him, and healed them all," Luke 6:19. ●

Ingrid Hernández is the senior communications specialist for corporate communications at AdventHealth.

Remembering a Special 175TH ANNIVERSARY

BY ALICE VOORHEIS

Adventist Heritage Ministries (AHM) invites you to attend a very special anniversary weekend, October 17-19, 2019, to be held at the 1815 home of William Miller located off U.S. Highway 4 between Whitehall, New York, and Fairhaven, Vermont. This event, the 175th Commemoration of October 22, 1844, will help you to recall and recapture the passion, purpose, and power of those long-ago committed pioneers who experienced what is now referred to as the Great Disappointment.

Millerite Adventists (spiritual forerunners of Seventh-day Adventists) met frequently in homes, schools, barns, tents, churches, and even out under a tree, to fervently study their Bibles, enthusiastically sing inspiring songs of hope, listen to powerful preaching, earnestly pray, and then go out to share with others the exciting news that Jesus is coming!

It is so easy for us today to forget what the Millerites actually experienced. It definitely was not an easy time to be an Adventist. The ridicule and scorn that was heaped upon them from every direction proved overpowering to the faith of some. Family and neighbors thought their loved ones were insane, and they most assuredly did not mind telling them so! Many popular preachers denounced the Millerites from their church pulpits; newspapers included every scandalous story or tantalizing bit of gossip they could find, followed by newsboys hawking on the street corners of large cities the printed newspapers containing the hostile, anti-Millerite comments. But, not everyone succumbed to all the negativity. Others prevailed and remained faithful to their beliefs, including those who eventually founded the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It is



Young visitors standing on Ascension Rock during their visit to William Miller's home anticipate the second coming of Jesus.



Tourists visit the 1815 home of William Miller year-round.

a story that inspires, encourages, warns, and must be kept alive — especially now when, for many people, it seems that everything in the world is spiraling out of control. For Adventists, what we see going on around us assures us that God is still in control — He has forewarned us regarding what will happen just before Christ's return. Our courage is good because our future is so bright!

Weekend programs will begin Thursday evening, October 17, and continue until the

following Sabbath afternoon. The weekend will include children's meetings; powerful preaching, stories, and enthusiastic singing of early Advent hymns in the big tent; heritage seminars; bus tours of area sites where Miller preached; tours of the Miller home, barns, Maple Grove, Ascension Rock, Miller Chapel, and Cemetery; and Communion Services in the Miller Chapel. Also available will be an opportunity to purchase materials that will enable you to share your Adventist heritage with family and friends.

Please visit the AHM website for upcoming additional information, including directions, speakers, seminar titles and presenters, area motels, handicap accessibility, and registration for the Communion Service in Miller Chapel on Friday and Sabbath afternoons.

AHM website: www.adventistheritage.org; click on the "175th Anniversary" link. ①

Alice Voorheis is the editor of *Adventist Heritage Ministries magazine*.

Evangelistic Crusade Leads Youth to Proclaim: “YES, LORD, YES!”

BY LUCAS L. JOHNSON II



Teacher Shellie Freeman (right) prays with her students.

Youth at Ephesus Junior Academy in Birmingham, Alabama, recently got a chance to say “YES” to Christ.

Principal Nikkia Hampton, pastors Larry Bailey and Tyler Buford, the Academy’s school board, and members of Ephesus Church united for the Truth 4 Youth evangelistic crusade at the school during the final quarter of the academic year.

Each day students were anxious to hear the evangelistic messages presented for more than two weeks, said Diane Ruff, associate director of education for the Southern Union Conference and the crusade’s facilitator.

She said the students enjoyed the music ministry of the school’s youth chorister team, as they led the student body in songs of praise and the theme song, “I’ll Say Yes, Lord, Yes!”

“They sang that song with so much feeling,” Ruff said. “I would ask them to think about what they were singing, ‘think about

what you’re saying to Jesus, what kind of commitment you’re making to Him.”

One of the main objectives of Adventist education is to provide an opportunity for students to accept Jesus as their personal Savior, while at the same time allowing them to discover enjoyment in the study of God’s Word.

In today’s society, by the time most youth become teenagers, they are bombarded with distractions that can turn them away from God. So, just when is the best time to try to direct youth to Christ? According to the Barna Group, a Christian polling firm, children between the ages of 5 and 13 are more than five times more likely than adults to make a lifelong commitment to Christ.

Truth 4 Youth embraced this stat, and students responded.

“I believe God sent you here to teach us about His word and His ways,” “Jayla” said of the evangelism program. “He has shown us so many things, but most of us don’t be-

lieve Him. Some of us just ignore all of the signs and warnings!”

“Ashley” proudly proclaimed: “Truth 4 Youth made me want to really change my life’s choices and be a better person. This program really had a big impact on my thoughts and on my life.”

Said Detrick Jackson, “I learned that God is coming back to this Earth. I am so thankful you came to Ephesus Academy so you can teach us about the wonderful things God has done for us and this world. I also learned that the dead don’t know anything!”

Topics during the program included what happens when people die, foods that should and should not be eaten, the special day God wants man to remember, and the second coming of Christ.

As Truth 4 Youth approached its ending, students expressed their love for Jesus by giving their hearts to Him through baptism. They began to pray and speak of their desire to surrender all to Him.

A baptismal service was held on Sabbath, May 4, 2019, at Ephesus Church, and parents and others witnessed several students proclaim, “I’ll say yes, Lord — yes to your will and to your way.”

The church and school are working together to nurture these youth as they become trained in service for the Master. Students are already actively participating in community service and other outreach projects that will allow them to witness and share their faith with others.

Several faculty members have also expressed interest in becoming equipped to launch Truth 4 Youth meetings in their church and school. Training is scheduled to be held before the end of the year. ❶

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

God's Plans EXCEED DREAMS

BY RACHEL BEAVER



During an internship at AdventHealth, Gabriel Hernandez (right) connected with individuals throughout the company.



Gabriel Hernandez, new college graduate and a new AdventHealth employee

Attending Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee, was not originally in Gabriel Hernandez's plan, but looking back, he sees that God's plans for him exceeded his dreams. After graduating from Southern this past May with a bachelor's degree in business administration, Hernandez is putting his passion for leadership and healthcare into practice in his new position at AdventHealth in Orlando, Florida.

Hernandez was raised in Orlando and attended Forest Lake Academy (FLA). He originally planned on studying business at a university in Florida, but after a recruiter visited FLA and spoke about the opportunities at Southern, Hernandez was intrigued — particularly by SmartStart, the free summer class available to incoming students. He and his friends decided to try it out.

"I ended up loving it," Hernandez said. "I signed up for all of my fall classes during the last week of SmartStart, and it was one of the best decisions I've ever made."

While at Southern Hernandez began earning valuable career experience serv-

ing as a project manager for Southern's Enactus Club, an international student entrepreneurial program. His professors quickly noticed his dedication and strong work ethic; more than that, they saw his caring heart.

"Gabe went above and beyond what was required of him in order to help others," said Michelle Doucoumes, assistant professor in the School of Business and Enactus adviser. "He worked on a project to help local military veterans, and went out of his way to find out what issues they were facing, met with potential community partners, and brought his team together to look for ways to create positive change."

Last summer, Hernandez landed an internship at AdventHealth back home in Orlando. It gave him a taste of the career he hoped to pursue while establishing many connections with people within the company. That paid off once he began job hunting.

"I reached out to an executive at AdventHealth who replied, 'We really enjoyed having you here over the summer, and we definitely want you to work here,'" Hernandez said. "They offered me a job

in physician enterprise, which runs all of the doctors' offices and private practices under AdventHealth."

Throughout college Hernandez had been drawn to the business side of healthcare. During his internship, physician enterprise had particularly attracted his attention.

"Seeing how you can have a direct connection with families and kids is one of the things that really touched my heart while I was working there," he said. "I knew I wanted to be a part of that after I graduated."

Even when there were times in his college experience that tested his faith, Hernandez always knew that God had a plan for his life.

"The most valuable thing I have learned as a student here at Southern is that no matter how hard life gets, how stressed or tired you are, you need to focus on God and trust that, whatever comes, He has a plan for you, and it is better than you could ever imagine." 📌

Rachel Beaver is a senior public relations major at Southern Adventist University.

OBED O. GRAHAM,

Former President of Florida Conference, Passes

Obed O. Graham, 90, was born September 10, 1928, in Ashland, Georgia, to the late Elzie and Amanda Graham. He was number eight of nine children. Graham passed away on April 14, 2019. A memorial service was conducted at North Lake Church in Leesburg, Florida.

The family moved to Chattanooga, Tennessee, where Graham attended Graysville Academy (now Collegedale Academy). He was baptized at age 15 by W. C. Webster in 1943.

While Graham was at Southern Adventist University, students from all over came to attend a colporteur rally. He met Coretta, who was attending with a friend, and they began writing to each other. They were married on July 31, 1949, in Dade County, Georgia. They finished college in 1954 with Obed receiving a B.A. in theology and Coretta graduating as a Bible worker.

His denominational work encompassed many positions: educator, singing evangelist, pastor, departmental director, and secretary in five conferences: Gulf States, Texas, Georgia-Cumberland, Chesapeake, and Florida.

The Graham children remember singing in the car while traveling to churches for their dad to preach. He loved being contacted for his creative abilities for building schools and churches, and his plans were used for the Tampa First and Miami Temple churches in Florida.

In 1990, Graham became president of Florida Conference. Under his leadership, churches were encouraged to design their local evangelism program, and own it rather than implement and operate a Conference-designed plan.



PHOTO BY: DALE CLARK, PHOTOGRAPHY

At the beginning of his presidency, the membership was 29,900. Through the work of the Holy Spirit and under Graham's leadership, Florida pastors and laity worked to bring the membership to 40,090 in 1996. More than 14,000 were baptized during his term of service.

After he retired in 1997, he remained involved in ministry. He and his wife donated the land and assisted in the building of the North Lake Church in Leesburg, Florida. The church he dearly loved was dedicated free of debt just one month before his death.

Through the years, Graham conducted marriage ceremonies, baptisms, committee meetings, special meetings, nu-

merous sermons, and used his musical talents whenever needed. He always had a warm smile, willingness to help, and a love for all those he came in contact with.

He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Coretta; two sons, Chester (Ivy) Graham, and Randy (Angela) Graham; two daughters, Karen (Gary) McFadden, and Cindy McMillan; one sister, Corrine Young; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. ❀

STEWART JOHNSON CROOK,

Retired Director of Trust Services, Passes

Stewart Johnson Crook, 85, was born May 6, 1933, in Alton, Kentucky, to Silas and Gotha Crook. He passed away on February 18, 2019, in Suwanee, Georgia.

Stewart met the love of his life, Martina Martin, at Collegedale Academy, and they were married on August 19, 1951. He began a music degree at Southern Missionary College, finished the degree in 1957 at Madison College, and later would obtain a master of music education degree at the University of Tennessee.

He began his denominational career as dean of men at Madison College. From there he began teaching music at Mt. Pisgah Academy, Shenandoah Valley Academy, and Southern Missionary College, where he started the first SMC men's chorus, called the Encomium Singers.

Stewart and Martina's love for teenagers and young adults and a desire for helping them led Crook from teaching music to accepting calls to enter administration: principal of Jefferson Academy and principal of Mount Pisgah Academy. He became the youth director for the Carolina Conference and was instrumental in the initial development of Nosoca Pines Ranch. In 1974 he returned to teaching music at Georgia-Cumberland Academy.

From 1977 to 1981, the Crooks served together as he pastored several churches in the Georgia-Cumberland and Kentucky-Tennessee conferences. He enjoyed this ministry immensely, but his career took a completely different

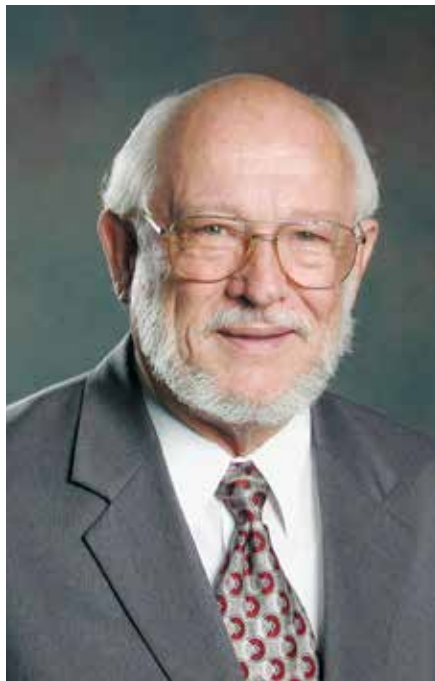


PHOTO BY: LEE BENNETT

direction when he was called to be the assistant director of trust services for the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, and eventually became the director. He also served as director of trust services at Southern College and then at the Southern Union Conference. He enthusiastically embraced learning, achieving the Certified Financial Planner certificate and designation, and becoming an expert in planned giving and trust services. Crook retired in 1997 after 40 years of service for the Adventist church.

Soon, he discovered he was not really suited for retirement, and took a position with Georgia State University in

planned giving, followed by a stint with St. Jude's Research Hospital. After several years, he retired for the second time.

Stewart and Martina began to experience health challenges, and they moved to Altamonte Springs, Florida, to be closer to family. They quickly acclimated to the weather and never considered moving again. He couldn't really stay retired, so he worked for several years on a part-time basis with Florida Conference trust services, where his expertise and marketing skills were sought after.

Crook never lost his love for music and was always involved with choirs, choruses, quartets, instrumental groups, and giving private lessons. He could play every brass and woodwind instrument, and made a hobby of collecting used instruments which he often loaned to his students until they could get an instrument of their own. He lived a life dedicated in ministry to others.

He is survived by his two daughters, Delby (Ken) West and Marciann (Jay) Robertson; son-in-law, Rick Makatche; one brother, Don Crook; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Stewart was preceded in death by his parents, Silas and Gotha Crook; brother, Joel Crook; daughter, Jodi Crook Makatche; and his wife of almost 67 years, Martina Martin Crook. The memorial service was conducted by James King, pastor, at the Florida Living Church in Apopka, Florida. ❶

Where Two or Three are GATHERED

BY RACHEL BEAVER

Soul-winning and evangelism can come in a variety of shapes and sizes. Henry Johnson, pastor and young adult director at the Carolina Conference, makes it a personal mission to reach those who wouldn't normally attend or interact with church.

"I had lived in an apartment complex before moving here where I was one of the few Christians, let alone Adventists," Johnson said. "So, I tried to make it a point to, wherever I could, engage with them in some way. They knew what I did, but I think they were taken aback that I wasn't picking on them for drinking or smoking. I had to wash the smoke smell off of me afterward, but I wanted them to know that I cared."

Johnson spent five years building friendships and talking about God with this community. After moving to Charlotte, he wanted a way that he could continue doing this for young adults. The idea for a home church came up and was quickly confirmed almost as soon as it was spoken. He first voiced this idea to a colleague at the Awaken Youth Conference.

"I was telling him about how I was praying about starting something, and I said, 'maybe I should even start like a house church, or something,' and just as I was finishing explaining, an individual who had been attending my seminars came up to me and said, 'hey, some of us were talking, and we would like to do something where we can meet up again. You should start a house church, or something,' with that exact wording."

He had a similar encounter a few hours later when another individual approached him and said, "I hear you're doing a home church," and gave Johnson his contact info. Later that day, Johnson was at a restaurant with some friends



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

and was again talking about the ones who approached him wanting to come to a home church. As Johnson was talking, a police officer at the next table overheard the conversation and told Johnson that he also would be interested in coming to a home church. Lately, he'd felt the desire to return to church but he always worked on Sundays, but since this home church would be on a Saturday afternoon, he would be able to come.

For the last five months, Johnson has been having monthly meetings in his home on Saturday afternoon. The group that attends is diverse both religiously and culturally. He wants this home church to be a safe place for people to ask sincere questions without fear of shame.

"We want a place where questions can be answered among a community

of faith and where we use the Bible to find the answer. We call it the three F's: founded on Scripture, focused on Jesus, and facilitate sincere inquiry."

Johnson offers his encouragement to anyone who might have a desire to start a ministry like this.

"If you have at least one friend who isn't a member of your church, there's no reason why you can't bake brownies or a microwave dinner, and open up your house and say 'let's look at the Bible.' If I can do it, anyone can." 📌

Rachel Beaver is a senior at Southern Adventist University majoring in public relations in the School of Journalism and Communications. Currently, Beaver is interning in the Communication Department at the Carolina Conference. Beaver is a member of the Bowman Hills Church in Cleveland, Tennessee.

STEM Expo Held in Research Triangle

Three Adventist elementary schools from the Carolina and South Atlantic conferences partnered to hold a Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) Expo and Regional Triangle Science Fair weekend in February 2019. Adventist Christian Academy of Raleigh (ACAR), which hosted the event, Five Oaks Adventist Christian School (FOACS), and Gethsemane Christian Seventh-day Adventist Junior Academy (GCS-DAJA) teamed up to give their students the opportunity to participate in a multi-school science fair.

Ben Roy, presenter for The Science Zone and for Kids' Time on 3ABN Kids, wowed the crowd on Saturday night with amazing interactive, hands-on science experiments and demonstrations that emphasized the greatness of Creator God and His amazing designs.

On Sunday, the students displayed their science projects, each aligning with one of four categories: technology, life, environmental, and engineering. The judges selected for the event included STEM professionals from a wide variety of disciplines:

- Ben Roy, presenter, The Science Zone
- Debra Rivera, animal scientist
- Lucas Aponte Collazo, Ph.D. candidate, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Cedric Taylor, engineering product management director, Trilliant
- Denise Hunter, M.D., board-certified



PHOTO BY: LAFAYETTE TRAWICK



PHOTO BY: LAFAYETTE TRAWICK

in internal medicine and lifestyle medicine

- Karis Graves, elementary science teacher, Sallie B. Howard School's 2017 Teacher of the Year

Ninety-four projects were judged, and a total of 10 projects were awarded first, second, or third place in the categories of

grades 2, 3/4, 5/6, and 7/8. The K-2 grade class projects earned group awards. "The kids from every school did an exceptional job," said Ijeoma Nwannanu, GCSDAJA principal.

The FOACS principal, Steven Champion, commented, "(The projects) are always student-initiated and led. They research a question that they want to know more about, and really exercise their brains."

"I hope the students are enthusiastic about science, and that they think outside the box and try new things," said Dewald Coetzer, ACAR principal. "This is one way students can find out if they enjoy science, continue with it throughout their school years, and possibly pursue it as a career." 📱

BY LAFAYETTE TRAWICK

Pathfinders Participate in Annual Work Bee

Every year at Nosoca Pines Ranch in Liberty Hill, S.C., Pathfinder clubs come together for a campout of fun and community service at the Pathfinder Work Bee. This year from March 15 to 17, more than 30 clubs participated in the event.

The weekend was not all-work-and-no-play, however. Friday and Saturday were full of exciting and fun events for the Pathfinders to take part in. The children had the chance to earn many honors, including antelopes and first air. Other activities

included canoeing, swimming, and a fire building challenge.

More than 700 Pathfinders and staff helped with the work bee on Sunday. The clubs brought equipment with them such as rakes and leaf blowers, and they

worked hard painting fences, raking straw, cleaning the cabins and cafeteria, and much more.

“Fayetteville had the pleasure of taking six new Pathfinders who had ever been camping to Work Bee at Nosoca,” said the Fayetteville Pathfinder Club. “The Pathfinders had a blast learning new things about camping and doing honors and activities.”

“The Arden Aviators enjoyed their time at the Work Bee this year,” said the Arden Pathfinder Club. “It was a spiritual weekend of fellowship, fun, and, of course, work! The honors on Sabbath afternoon were fun. We especially enjoyed Whistles and Orienteering. Our job assignment was to paint the fences around the horse barn. It was a lot of fun and not too much paint ended up on things other than the fences.”

Pathfinder Work Bee is important to Nosoca as they prepare for the incoming campers this summer. It also gives Pathfinders the chance to earn hours for outreach and community service, while also having fun along the way. 📌

BY RACHEL BEAVER



PHOTO BY: NICOLE STALLINGS



PHOTO BY: NICOLE STALLINGS



PHOTO BY: NICOLE STALLINGS

APCS Fifth- and Sixth-graders Give Back to Community

During the month of April, Asheville-Pisgah Christian School fifth- and sixth-graders teamed up with a local company, AeroFlow Healthcare, and Diaper Bank of North Carolina to collect diapers for families in need. After hearing that the childhood poverty rate in neighboring McDowell County is 25.9 percent, they wanted to do something to help out.

Under the leadership of their teacher, Allie Faber, the students were able to fill a large box with diapers to contribute to the diaper drive efforts. Students were thrilled to give to families in need, and in the process learned more about how they can help



PHOTO BY: REBECCA GRISSOM

their local community.

“Something as small as a diaper can significantly impact families in need,” said Michelle Old, executive director for Diaper Bank of North Carolina. “Our research shows that when families receive diapers, they experience less emotional distress; have healthier, happier babies; and can better afford other essentials such as food and utilities. We’re incredibly thankful to Asheville-Pisgah Christian School for supporting our work to distribute dignity to North Carolina families.” 📌

BY REBECCA GRISSOM

North Lake Church Presents Vegan Food Demonstration

North Lake Church in Leesburg, Fla., recently hosted a three-hour vegan cooking demonstration by Chef Mark Anthony. He prepared and cooked all of the food right in front of the audience, while sharing many health principles.

"It was worth coming," and "The food was great," were comments voiced by the more than 70 people in attendance. A drawing was held for free books, and Anthony's cookbooks were available for sale.

The program information was placed several times on Facebook, announcements appeared in the church bulletin, and emails were sent to members. The church radio station also aired information on the program. Plans are underway for attendees to be invited to other health programs offered by the church.

Anthony is a frequent guest on 3ABN television, and has traveled throughout



PHOTO BY: JANICE GALAMBOS

Attendees at North Lake Church in Leesburg, Fla., interact with chef Mark Anthony as he demonstrates eating a healthy vegan diet.

the United States giving more than 1,000 demonstrations at no charge for the program or his travel. He is a firm believer in the vegan way of life, and has written

two cookbooks relating to the "science" of his cooking. ①

BY JANICE GALAMBOS

Churches Collaborate to Host Dinner



A small group of grades 4-8 students from Osceola Adventist Christian School's Chorale participated in the special Thanksgiving program.

On a Thursday evening a week before Thanksgiving, the staff of Pleasant Hill Elementary Public School and members of the Kissimmee, Fla., Church, collaborated to get ready for the third annual Thanksgiving dinner in the school cafeteria. The flavorful aroma of vegetarian dishes mingled with traditional Thanksgiving dishes filled the air. Each year, the students, their families, and people from the neighborhood of the school are invited to this special event.

This outreach was created by Cynthia Card and her husband, Wayne Card, personal ministries and prayer ministries directors from

Kissimmee Church. When God inspired Cynthia Card with this idea three years ago, she felt impressed to share it with Lewis Edwards, senior pastor of Mt. Zion and Poinciana churches. Edwards eagerly lent his support, and so did Ronaldo DaCunha, senior pastor of the Kissimmee Church.

Shelby Pagan, principal of Pleasant Hill Elementary School, opened the program with a warm welcome and a little talk about what sharing meant to her, followed with a spectacular performance by Mt. Zion Church's Pathfinder Drum Corp. Questions from the audience opened the opportunity for church members to explain Pathfinders in



Mt. Zion Church's Pathfinder and Drum Corp, under the direction of Joanne Meyers, performed at the Thanksgiving dinner to a standing audience.

a positive way. Musicians from Poinciana, Mt. Zion, and Kissimmee churches, and Osceola Adventist Christian School in Kissimmee also participated in the special musical program. The principal, teachers, and staff were impressed by how everyone was just so genuine and giving.

Another special element was the fact that people from two local conferences — Florida Conference and Southeastern Conference — as well as AdventHealth in Kissimmee, members from three area churches, and Osceola Adventist Christian School staff and board members, came together with so much love and energy to fellowship and serve the community in a local public school!

"We thank God for this wonderful opportunity to serve our community," said Wayne Card as all left with goodie bags from Publix. "We hope this is something our churches can replicate, and be a blessing to others in their communities." ❶

BY DAVID LAROCHE

Howard and Diane Peth Celebrate 65 Years of Marriage

Howard and Diane Peth of Apopka, Fla., celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on April 25, 2019, with a dinner given in their honor by members of Plymouth-Sorrento Church.

Their long-lasting relationship began in West Los Angeles, Calif., in the early 1950s when Howard volunteered to drive a friend to church one Sabbath and met Diane Munyan, who was staying with the friend. Howard began giving Diane, who was raised Episcopalian, Bible studies. She soon realized why she had struggled with reconciling Sunday as the seventh day mentioned in the fourth commandment, and was baptized.

At a Camp Meeting, the Peths made their first purchase together as a couple — *The Adventist Home*, by Ellen G. White. He proposed, and the two were joined in marriage during a private ceremony at their pastor's home on Sabbath afternoon, April 25, 1954. They have since dedicated their lives to serving in many positions in the Church. Diane also served as an administrative assistant in two churches.



2019

Howard and Diane Peth

1954

Howard retired as a professor from Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, Calif., as chairman of the Speech and English Department. He established the College Radio Station — KSAK, and founded the Campus Christian Club, where he led students in Bible studies during the lunch hour. He is the author of books about Adventist religion and doctrine, including *Seven Mysteries*

Solved and soon-to-be-published *Profiles in Faith*.

Howard and Diane have three children, Howard Jr., Margaret Cullen, and Deborah Alward; and six grandchildren. They are thankful for the blessings God has provided throughout their lives together. ❶

BY DEBORAH ALWARD

Men's Ministry Leaders Get Together to Create Vision



PHOTO BY: SUBMITTED BY MARTY MILLER

Leaders of men's ministry from across the Southern Union met at the end of April for a Leadership Summit to create a shared vision for building a strong and cohesive men's ministry program.



PHOTO BY: SUBMITTED BY MARTY MILLER

A few men from the Leadership Summit took to the air Sabbath with Matt Demaree, men's ministry coordinator from Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

A small group of men's ministry leaders from across the Southern Union convened at Cohutta Springs Conference Center for the first ever Men's Ministry Leadership Summit, April 26-28, 2019, to create a shared vision for men's ministry.

Planned and spearheaded by Marty Miller, Georgia-Cumberland Conference men's ministries coordinator, the impetus for the weekend came out of a collective desire for building a stronger men's ministry ... together! Together they gathered to pray and seek God's leading for this important, yet least emphasized, ministry.

After a short welcome by Miller, Ronaldo DaCunha, Florida Conference men's ministry director, shared the history of men's ministry in the Southern Union, and urged the men to "Make More Noise!" to raise awareness.

As the evening moved on, Vince Miller, with Resolute Men, guided the group to discuss the challenges men's ministry is facing in America.

On Sabbath they met, resolved to stay focused on the "Summit." Bernie Ritterbush with Men's Ministry Network, enlightened

the men with a lengthy history of men's ministry in America. Chris Ackerson, of Every Man a Warrior, shared how to make men's discipleship the focus of men's ministry, and taught the basic skills of "Quiet Time." Jim Herman, retired Collegedale Church pastor, followed up with an "Anti-Quiet Time" by leading in prayer, worship, singing, and confession.

After eating lunch, nine men took a private airplane flight around Cohutta Springs. Taking off from a grass strip. Matt Demaree, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference men's ministry coordinator, piloted his Cessna high above the camp.

Later in the day, Vince Miller led his men's leadership training workshop. It reminded the men that solid leadership must be the foundation of their ministry. The team did weather a "storming" session as different perspectives were aired. Yet, that's how disconnected men become a band of brothers!

As the Summit came to a close on Sunday morning, "Base Camp" was established as Miller led the team to adopt VISION 2020, a working document to serve as the foundation for building men's ministry into the next decade. The seven key ingredi-

ents of VISION 2020:

1. Build TEAMWORK by bringing positive attitudes and talents together.
2. Provide LEADERSHIP development through training and certification.
3. Create a media-rich WEBSITE that will inspire, educate, and connect.
4. Generate RESOURCES that will help men succeed at every stage and area of life.
5. Expand men's ministry through DISCIPLESHIP, mentoring, and recovery groups.
6. Promote and ADVERTISE men's ministry through digital and print formats.
7. Plan MAJOR EVENTS such as a Southern Union Men's Ministry Convention.

The summit concluded with the delegates committing to build a stronger men's ministry, creating stronger men throughout the Southern Union.

To learn more about conference men's ministry or to get involved, visit <http://blueprintformen.org>. ①

BY MARTY MILLER

SonRise Changes Rachel's Life



PHOTO BY: GRANT TUTTLE

Rachel Beaver played the role of Mary, mother of Jesus, during this year's SonRise, an interactive, put-you-at-the-scene trip through Christ's final days on earth. For Beaver, SonRise set the stage to change her entire life. It all started when she and her mom were given tickets.

I'm in front of Pilate's house."

It was the only way I knew how to explain where I was to my Adventist friend the first time I attended Camp Meeting.

Before I even knew what a Seventh-day Adventist was, I knew and loved SonRise. SonRise is an interactive, put-you-there-at-the-scene trip through Christ's final days leading to His death and resurrection. The cast consists of more than 500 Southern Adventist University students and church members. Five or six years ago, my mom somehow got tickets to this immersive Easter pageant. Neither of us can remember how she got those first tickets, but we went together, and what I witnessed was life-changing. I saw Jesus cry and pray in Gethsemane, I saw Him die on the cross for my sins, and I saw him rise from the grave. I openly wept harder than I had ever wept from a spiritual experience.

After that, we continued to go almost every year. Even during a time in my life when I didn't know what or who to believe when it came to the idea of faith, I still went to SonRise, and I still cried when Jesus rose from the tomb. I knew I wanted a relationship with Him, but I didn't know how to get

it. I was afraid of being hurt in church again.

I did not know during that first experience or in the years following that that would become my church. The very path I walked so many times following Jesus in His last days would become the campus where I received my education. God knew, though. I like to think that every time I walked through SonRise, God looked down on me and thought, "You don't know it yet, but I have big plans for you here, plans that will shape you into the woman of God that I created you to be."

This year, after so many years of watching and wishing I could be a part of the story, I decided to audition for SonRise. I was offered the role of Mary, mother of Jesus. What shoes to fill, indeed! I was beyond blessed to have the opportunity to give back to a ministry that made such a difference to me as a non-believer. I had my reservations about committing. After all, I was a busy student with multiple jobs and obligations, but I felt in my heart that this was something I needed to do, even if it meant going home completely worn out. However, that was never the case at all. It was as if every source of stress and exhaustion from

the rest of the world melted away, and I left every rehearsal with a smile on my face and a sweet sense of peace and rejuvenation. I became very close with many fellow cast members. Even now that it's over, I see them in the hall and we stop and speak — people I never would have known if I hadn't decided to participate.

On the day of, the weatherman called for rain. It was supposed to be cold and stormy all during SonRise day. There was some talk of a contingency plan, but the weatherman was no match for hundreds if not thousands of prayers. My bare feet were cold, but a light drizzle was the worst weather we saw all day. And, by the end of the day, several individuals gave their hearts to Jesus.

It was no coincidence that my mom was given tickets that first year. I know that it was God setting the stage for my own transformation. Even though SonRise didn't play a direct role in my reacceptance of Jesus, it serves as a precious reminder that God will never leave us, and He has a plan for us even in the darkest times. 🙏

BY RACHEL BEAVER

Church Members Meet Tornado Victims' Needs



Auburn-Opelika Metro members provide tornado relief by distributing food, personal hygiene, and cleaning supplies.

Beauregard is a small rural community in southern Lee County, Ala. The town experienced a tragedy on March 3, 2019, like nothing seen before there, when an EF4 tornado ripped through a swath of land 1,600 yards wide and more than 27 miles long, destroying nearly everything within its path — property, homes, and, sadly, 23 lives.

Twenty-three people woke up and crawled out of bed that morning with no way of knowing they would have only a few hours left to live. For Alabama Adventists, even after seeing the devastation firsthand, and having known some of those who were lost, it was still difficult to imagine what it must feel like to be one who experienced this horrible tragedy.

The community is vulnerable and hurting, but strong. They are pulling together, bonding, and becoming closer to one another, forging new relationships with their neighbors, churches, community leaders, and organizations. Help is coming from all sides, including the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Gulf States Conference's Adventist Community Services Disaster Response (GSC ACS/DR) and the local Adventist churches are reaching out and becoming known in this small community. Adventists responding to the disaster feel the blessing of being able to share the love of Jesus by becoming His hands and feet.

There will be many blessings to share about the relief effort in the little community of Beauregard. A couple of weeks after the storm, Reba Smith of Sparta, Tenn., who had heard about the tornadoes, wanted to send money designated for tornado victims. A couple of days later, a sizable check arrived in the mail. Shortly after the check arrived, Smith called Briana Sherrer, women's ministries leader at Auburn-Opelika Church, to say that a dear friend of hers who was terminally ill was in the process of liquidating all his assets, and wanted to designate \$200,000 toward zip code mailings of *The Great Controversy*, via *The Great Controversy* Project. He was asking her advice on where to have the books mailed, and thinking of this devastated community, she asked him to please include the Beauregard and the greater Opelika area. The church members were grateful for the sacrificial donation at such a time as this.

Members of Pioneer Memorial Church on the Andrews University campus in Berrien Springs, Mich., were kind and thoughtful as they sent 40 little teddy bears for the children who lost all their toys. Many of the children's little eyes lit up as members distributed them. Those little bears received some great big hugs. Local members remarked on what a precious, wonderful thing that their brothers and sisters in Michigan did for them.

The day after the tornadoes hit, March 4, Ray Elsberry, director of ACS/DR for the Gulf States Conference, surveyed the devastation. Elsberry and his team, Tommy and Denise Warren of Fairhope, Ala., and Corrine and Ronnie Garrett of Opelika, Ala., began operating a 40,000-sq.-ft. warehouse and donations center. Both donations and volunteers come from all over the state of Alabama, and from all around the country. The outpouring of love and support has been almost overwhelming to the members. The Phenix City and Mt. Moriah churches are two of the distribution centers in Phenix City, Ala., primarily serving the people of Smiths Station, a community which also withstood damage.

Community services touches hearts for Jesus. Serving the needs of the communities will cause people from other denominations, or even those with no religious affiliation, to say, "I can't believe what I've seen here. I want to know about your church." You can't always walk up to someone and share the Gospel with them, but when you begin to serve their needs, they'll start to ask questions.

In partnership with the Food Bank of east Alabama, the Auburn-Opelika Metro Church has been able to obtain food, personal hygiene items, and cleaning supplies for tornado victims at no cost to the church. In the care packages, they include *Steps to Christ* and a personal, handwritten note with the name and number of someone they may call if a need should arise, or just to have someone pray with them. The church has been able to go into the community to meet and interact with those who were affected.

Please join the members in praying that the Holy Spirit will be able to reach hearts, and impress upon these individuals to pick up their *Steps to Christ* or *The Great Controversy* and read. Pray that they will seek Jesus with all their hearts, and find Him. 🙏

BY BRIANA SHERRER

Students Thrive at Outdoor School

Under the leadership of Wesley Genick, principal of Mobile Junior Academy, the Gulf States Conference provided the annual outdoor school for the fifth- and sixth-grade students of all Conference schools. The event was held April 8-11, 2019, at Camp Alamisco.

According to a recent article published in the Independent School Parent, there are 10 benefits to outdoor learning. High-quality outdoor learning experiences are proven to develop reflective and inquisitive thinking along with problem-solving approaches in “real” situations; encourage holistic development of children; develop resilience and adaptability in occasionally adverse circumstances; allow children to become more able to identify hazards and risks; develop a love, appreciation, and respect for nature and all that is living; develop an understanding of how they can look after the environment; develop self-awareness, confidence, and self-esteem; develop collaborative-working and communication skills; provide positive health benefits —



Students participate in a live demonstration at the outdoor chapel.



Students walk from one activity to another at Camp Alamisco in Dadeville, Ala.

both physically and mentally — and assist gross and fine-motor development; and develop a lifelong love of the outdoors.

For the students, the four days and three nights are a fun adventure, as Aaliyah Brevig of the Floral Crest School attests: “I had fun on the night walk and riding in a speed boat. Canoeing and dissecting owl pellets were a blast.” Learning in a fun environment makes outdoor school a very popular event.

Several students mentioned Ben Roy’s

unforgettable science lessons and cool demonstrations as their favorite outdoor school activity. Trent Burgan of Mobile Junior Academy appreciated the spiritual impact of Roy’s science-based chapel presentations as well, “The outdoor chapel programs were my favorite part of outdoor school. I love how Ben Roy blew up a trash can and taught us how God interacts with us in our daily lives.”

BY STAN HOBBS

Continuing Education Lifestyle Encouraged

Healthcare providers in the Southern Union can now receive continuing education while learning how to apply lifestyle interventions and natural remedies in the treatment of their patients. This is a result of a new partnership between Uchee Pines and Loma Linda University Health.

Ervin Davis, M.D., of Healthy Lifestyle Choices Global Institute, has joined with Uchee Pines Institute to offer the lifestyle interventions with Natural Remedy Therapies Conference on Uchee Pines’ campus. This seminar offers continuing education credits to physicians, nurses, allied health professionals, and non-health-related professionals (teachers, pastors, and others). This program is available twice a year, in February and August.



Scott Grivas, M.D., presents one of the classes for the continuing education program.

Healthcare providers from inside and outside of the Southern Union met at Uchee Pines, February 13-16, 2019, to earn 14 hours of continuing education credits while learning about dietary interventions in chronic kidney disease, changing genes through lifestyle, the

power of plants, and treating high cholesterol naturally, among other topics.

There was also a strong spiritual component to the seminar, as Scott Grivas, M.D., shared with the group about the development of the health message in the Adventist Church. Various speakers also shared testimonies of how the Lord called them to a specialized work of combining their medical skills with the proclamation of the Gospel message. All enjoyed being educated and inspired while at the same time earning continuing education credits.

More information about these continuing education programs is available at www.ucheeprines.org.

BY MARK SANDOVAL, M.D.

Kentucky-Tennessee Commissions One, Ordains Two Pastors

Professional ministry in God's Church can take a variety of forms, as became evident at last month's Kentucky-Tennessee Conference Camp Meeting. The Conference administration publicly recognized three individuals on Sabbath afternoon, May 25, 2019, who have given evidence through their service to the Church of their calling to ministry.

Gail McKenzie, Conference women's ministries leader and prayer coordinator for nearly two decades, was commissioned, and she was joined by Kevin Shearer, pastor of the Owensboro, Ky., district; and Mark Bondarenko, chaplain at AdventHealth Manchester Adventist Hospital, who were both conferred ordination.

While each of them serves God and the Conference in very different capacities, all three make a powerful, measurable difference in blessing those they minister to, and in building the Kingdom of God. The Conference congratulates McKenzie, Bondarenko, and Shearer! 🙏

BY STEVE HALEY



Pictured are Patty and Kevin Shearer (left); Gail and Mike McKenzie (center); Mark and Tatiana Bondarenko (right) and their children, Christian and Regina; Kieth Noll (second row, center), Conference ministerial director; Steve Rose (third row, left), Conference vice president for administration; Aaron McNulty, Conference vice president for finance; and Steve Haley, Conference president.

Conference Hires Four Southern Graduates



Steve Haley (left), Conference president, stands with the fourth newly hired pastor, Pedro Gonzalez, and his wife, Mely, and their infant son, Josue, on the occasion of his first Sabbath in his new district in Morehead, Ky.

The Kentucky-Tennessee Conference is pleased to have recently made an unprecedented commitment to hire four new pastors, all of whom recently graduated from Southern Adventist University, Class of 2019.

The circumstances which contributed to this hiring decision arose from Southern's School of Religion hosting a Field School for senior theology students in the summer of 2018, and which was based in the metro Nashville, Tenn., community. As the students contributed their evangelistic efforts in various churches in the area, the Conference administration chose to take the op-



Pictured are three new Conference pastors: Izzie and Christopher Langston (left), assigned to the Columbia, Ky., district; David and Sandra Fagre, assigned to the Memphis, Tenn., Hispanic district; and Jacob Strang, who will be sponsored to the seminary this fall.

portunity to interview, reference, and observe the students as they served in support of the congregations they were assigned. Combined with experiencing the retirements of five valued and long-serving pastors, it seemed clear that God was providing for the pastoral leadership needs well in advance of recognizing the timely challenge to identify exceptional individuals for the churches. ❶

BY STEVE HALEY

Highland Student Moves From Refugee to Graduate

Highland Academy graduate Thang Lian, Class of 2019, smiled from ear to ear as he received his graduation diploma and scholarship to Southern Adventist University, Sunday, May 19, 2019! He and his family greatly rejoiced, as this is a complete miracle in all their lives.

Lian and his seven siblings, along with their parents, escaped tremendous religious persecution in Burma, now Myanmar. They escaped from Myanmar to New Delhi, India, the nearest safe location with 8,000 other Zomis (people from Myanmar), with many more Afghanistan refugees. In 2014, after living there for more than three years, and after many prayers, tears rolled down Lian's face in pure joy and thanksgiving as the entire family was chosen out of all the refugees to immigrate to Bowling Green, Ky., where a large group of Zomis have also relocated. "God is so good. Our prayers were answered. We knew we would have a better future," shared Lian.

This past school year, another miracle happened when Lian and younger sister Deih Lian joined the Highland family. "I couldn't believe this was happening," shared Lian. He plans to study theology at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn., this coming fall.

Highland rejoices with Lian and his sister for their newfound freedom and for having them as students. They, along with other



Thang Lian is a graduate of the Highland Academy Class of 2019.

Highland students, continue to outperform the national test scores across the nation. Highland students continue the preaching initiative, "Spread the Word," and have gone to more than 80 church services in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

In addition to these blessings, many renovations have taken place during the last four years in the girls' dorm, boys' dorm,

music department, front campus, and the administration building. Highland continues to receive blessing after blessing. The greatest, though, is watching a student give their heart to Jesus Christ. Seventeen students have given their lives to Jesus through baptism during the last four years. ❶

BY AMY CIRIGLIANO

Retired Educator, Lorraine D. Henri, Passes at Age 96

Lorraine “Delores” Davis Henri, 96, born June 30, 1922, to James and Viola Davis of East St. Louis, Ill., died May 7, 2019, in Atlanta, Ga. She was the third child and first daughter of nine children. Lorraine came from a home of God-fearing parents who instilled a love for Christ. She completed Oakwood Junior College and married her “Honey,” Pastor C. Dunbar Henri. Dunbar said that he would marry the first woman he saw on campus, and it was Lorraine who walked in his direction. They married in 1943, and began their life together.

In 1945 they became one of several black couples to represent the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Liberia, West Africa. At the young age of 23, Lorraine was quite courageous and adventurous to live in the back bush of Bassa, Liberia, often alone while her husband traveled on the Lord’s business. Her first home was a tin house on stilts, where she learned to make a home out of little.

They served 19 years in West Africa in Liberia, Nigeria, and Ghana. During that time, Lorraine raised three children (Burdetta, Patricia, and Dunbar), taught cooking classes, directed choirs, provided office support to her husband, and accompanied him on ministerial duties. Once she even officiated during a funeral service. Every two and a half years they returned to America, and for six months Dunbar and Lorraine traveled to Camp Meetings and churches, and visited family and friends around the country sharing about their experiences in Africa.

The Henri family returned to the U.S. in 1964, and spent a year at Andrews



University where Dunbar completed his master’s degree.

The couple joined the South Atlantic Conference in Atlanta, and began their work in Orlando, Fla., and then Dunbar pastored the Berean Church, and Lorraine taught at Berean Elementary School. After several years working in South Atlantic, they received a call to return to the mission field in 1970, this time to Kenya in East Africa. Lorraine worked in the office with Dunbar, and traveled with him extensively while their children were away at school in Beirut, Lebanon. Dunbar and Lorraine returned to America (Washington, D.C.) in 1973, where Dunbar was called to the General Conference to serve as a general vice president.

Lorraine worked as a secretary, hostess, and tour guide for the General Conference. She enjoyed her job, and loved meeting people from around the world. Lorraine and Dunbar officially retired in 1980, and then returned to work for the South Atlantic Conference.

Lorraine entered Morris Brown College in her 60s, and completed a degree in education. She taught several grades in elementary school; participated in choirs; served as Sabbath School superintendent; led the senior ministry; and enjoyed entertaining, cooking, gardening, and bargain shopping.

Lorraine always had a sense of humor and a beautiful smile, even throughout her illness. She will be missed. She leaves to cherish her memory three children: Burdetta Henri, Atlanta, Ga.; Patricia Henri Simmons, Huntsville, Ala.; C. Dunbar (Deborah) Henri Jr., Beltsville,

Md.; three grandchildren: Cara D. (Brian) Wright, San Antonio, Tex.; Christopher D. Henri, Greenbelt, Md., and Charles H. Simmons, Denver, Colo; two great-grandchildren: Carter Wright, San Antonio, Tex.; and Camryn Wright, San Antonio; five siblings: Charles Davis, Chicago, Ill.; Lovey Verdun, Huntsville; Frank (Alma) Davis, Chicago; Doris Joyner, East St. Louis; and Grace Phipps, New York, N.Y.; a host of nieces; nephews; and friends. 🕊

Boulevard Church Distributes 22,000 Tracts



Boulevard Church members worked together to assemble 22,000 tracts to be distributed on Super Bowl Sunday in Atlanta, Ga.

The Boulevard Church in Atlanta, Ga., agreed to receive 22,000 tracts for distribution on Super Bowl Sunday in Atlanta. Daryl Anderson, newly assigned pastor, wanted the members to take advantage of the opportunity to share the Gospel during the Super Bowl.

The task was daunting with only three weeks to organize. The church's publishing director made an appeal to the members, and 35 volunteers responded. An

assembly line was set up in the church foyer for tracts to be stamped and then stuffed.

It was a beautiful picture to see seniors, young adults, youth, and children participate in their "mission for Jesus!" In two short hours, approximately 12,000 tracts were stamped and stuffed. The following week, all preparations were completed. The work was peppered with laughter and praise, which made the task seem easier, and the time it took flew quicker.

On the Sabbath before the Super Bowl, the tracts were distributed to members and visitors, and in one hour, all 22,000 tracts were picked up for distribution!

The next day the organizing committee heard one complaint: "I wish I had taken more; I ran out so fast." 📖

BY YVONNE PONDEXTER

Shiloh Church Members Hold Annual Community Christmas Party



Shiloh Church members came together to provide Christmas gifts and a hot meal for individuals in their surrounding communities.

Shiloh Church members in Smyrna, Ga., held their second annual Christmas party for the community, December 2018.

Preparations for the event began some

months earlier. Members went door to door leaving door hangers at the homes of the communities surrounding the church; they were also distributed to those who come to the weekly food pantry.

Children's gifts were donated by church members, and the volunteers from the Shiloh Cares ministry wrapped and labelled each gift. Approximately 100 individuals, adults and children, attended the event from the surrounding community. Harold Thomas, Shiloh's pastor, was present to express his appreciation for the Shiloh Cares ministry.

The Christmas party began at 9 a.m. with the blessing of the food, and many sat with their families while some church members kept the guests engaged. Pictures were taken and participants were given their portraits. There were virtual reality games for the children to play, which for many was their first experience with this type of entertainment technology.

The event ended at 4 p.m. All the toys had found their place in every child's hands who attended.

Shiloh Cares continues to spread the Word of God to the surrounding communities by meeting the people's needs. 🕊

BY BRANDERLY MALIWA

Gethsemane Pathfinders Win First Place in National Pathfinder Bible Experience

The Gethsemane Cougars Pathfinder Bible Experience (PBE) team was formed in 2014 when four young Pathfinders decided to be the first team from South Atlantic Conference to compete in their area. In March 2018, after failing to advance in the Southern Union competition, the team regrouped with greater determination.

These young people were reminded to

trust in God and discovered the power of prayer as the team captain prayed before each round. Additionally, their parents saw the value of their children studying the Word of God as they dropped their tablets and phones and picked up the Bible.

This year the Southern Union competition was held at Southern Adventist University. There they earned first place among 35 of 38 aspiring teams across the

Union. This was the first time a South Atlantic Conference team had advanced beyond the PBE Union competition.

The North American Division PBE national competition was held in Rockford, Ill. This was the first time in PBE's history that 200-plus teams took part at the Division level. Getting to Illinois was going to be a challenge, but Larry E. Johnson, pastor of Gethsemane Church

in Raleigh, N.C., was determined the team would make the trip. After consulting with the Conference president, William L. Winston, and through the prayers and financial support of the members of Gethsemane, the team was able to participate. As a result, the Gethsemane Cougars earned first place recognition among the more than 200 Pathfinder teams. 📍



BY REGGIE TAYLOR

The Gethsemane Cougars Pathfinder Bible Experience team won first place at the North American Division PBE national competition in Rockford, Ill.

Charlotte-Berean Hosts Celebrity Chef Mark Anthony



Chef Mark Anthony gives a cooking demonstration with a “cheese” sauce made from potatoes and carrots, and a salad dressing made with bananas at Berean and Northeast churches in Charlotte, N.C.

When celebrity Chef Mark Anthony decided to fully surrender his heart to the Lord, he had no idea where it would lead. As a casino owner earning millions of

dollars, he was part of the environment that gave Las Vegas its nickname “Sin City.” Anthony recently shared his conversion story during divine worship at the Charlotte-Berean Church in

Charlotte, N.C. His Sabbath message was part of a weekend program he presented as a guest of Berean’s Health Ministries Department.

One day as he was flipping through television channels, he happened across 3ABN. A year or so later, he started attending a Seventh-day Adventist church, and was baptized in the Adventist Church 17 years ago. Since then, his ministry of healthful eating, motivation, and inspiration has taken him around the world.

One Sunday Anthony presented a cooking demonstration at Berean’s sister church, Northeast, with more than 100 in attendance. He shared his success in losing 70 pounds; the impact of healthful eating versus disease; and how companies design certain foods to be addictive, using a combination of sugar, oil, and salt. He also prepared a delicious meal for the audience using some of his favorite vegan recipes. 📍

BY BARBARA HALL

Mt. Pisgah Members Serve, Love, Give to Miami Homeless



PHOTO BY: NANCY WELLS

Mt. Pisgah Outreach team members gather for prayer at the Miami Rescue Mission before serving more than 300 homeless men, women, and children. Mt. Pisgah volunteers have been the hands and feet of Jesus in that community since 2004.

Since 2004, Mt. Pisgah Church in Miami Gardens, Fla., has been feeding the homeless at the Miami Rescue Mission. Once a quarter the Community Services Department delivers and serves food prepared by church volunteers. It is not unusual for 300 homeless to be fed at the Mission on the Sundays Mt. Pisgah is there. It is also common knowledge that when the word gets out that Mt. Pisgah is at the Mission providing their delicious food, the number of individuals served can easily double. The volunteers feel blessed to share a homemade meal with the men, women, and children who arrive for Sunday dinner.

However, needs of the homeless are more than food, and Peggy Joseph, new director of community services, saw that for herself on a recent visit to the Mission. Their new motto is, "OUTREACH –



Outreach team members Judith Cornely (left) and Ruth Williams are prepared to put their faith into action at the Miami Rescue Mission in Miami Gardens, Fla. The team offers food and friendly conversation to those being served.

Serving, Loving, Giving," and the 23 volunteers who came with her not only provided food to the homeless, they made a point of offering friendly conversation. In the coming months, Joseph plans to provide the homeless with hygiene kits, and has arranged for other church departments to take turns ministering in their own way to the homeless at Miami Rescue Mission.

Fifteen years ago when Mt. Pisgah started volunteering at the Mission, 24 churches from the Miami area participated in homeless feeding; now Mt. Pisgah is one of three churches left that do the feeding. Joseph wants those who are served at the Miami Rescue Mission to remember Mt. Pisgah, and know that they care. "If we are to be the hands and feet of Jesus, we need to act more like Him," Joseph said. ①

BY NANCY WELLS

AHU Online Welcomes First Family Nurse Practitioner Cohort

AdventHealth University (AHU) Online welcomed the inaugural class of the new track in their master of science in nursing (MSN) degree, family nurse practitioner (FNP). During a five-day intensive on-campus visit, students learned advanced nursing assessment abilities, had the chance to further develop critical thinking skills, and participated in FNP-focused expert presentations. Students completed hands-on lab simulation to assess, examine, and make diagnoses on standardized patients, played by live actors.

“You are the pioneers of a brand new, innovative program; leading the path for those in your footsteps,” Edwin I. Hernández, Ph.D., AHU president and CEO, stated while greeting the students.



Family nurse practitioner inaugural cohort and program faculty members

“Being the inaugural class, this is a huge step for AdventHealth University.”

On the final day of the intensive, Arlene Johnson, Ph.D., M.S.N., FNP coordinator, spoke, “The inaugural cohort for the master’s FNP program will be a force to be reckoned with. They are intelligent, have a

commitment to mission, recognize Christ as their strength, and are willing to work hard for success. What more could a professor ask for? I am very impressed with our new FNP students.”

The online degree program seeks to prepare today’s RNs for leadership roles and to take their nursing careers to the next level. Lynelle Callender, D.N.P., vice chair of online nursing, explains, “The AHU FNP program is a Christ-centered, quality, and innovative fully-online graduate program.”

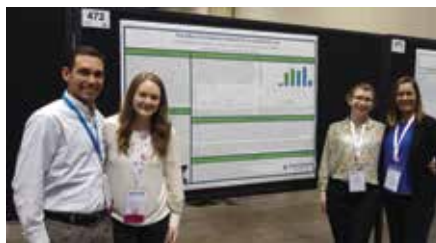
AHU strives to inspire its students to embrace the mission of AdventHealth and become the best version of themselves, serving their community. ●

BY SIERRA HACK

AHU Faculty, Grads Present Research at Experimental Biology Conference

Members from AdventHealth University’s (AHU) Healthy & Biomedical Sciences (HBS) Department were present at this year’s Experimental Biology (EB) Conference in Orlando, Fla. EB gathers more than 12,000 scientists and 25 guest societies to present from various disciplines, including anatomy, biochemistry, pharmacology, and more. The Conference welcomes all scientists interested in “advancing the latest research impacting life sciences.”

AHU faculty Anael Santos, Ph.D., professor of biochemistry and genetics, and Fernanda Santos, Ph.D., professor of microbiology, pathophysiology, and genetics, were in attendance. Along with fellow research authors Amanda K. Johnson, Victoria R. Adams, and Brittany L. Walker, all graduates of the HBS program, they presented findings from five research



Anael Santos, Ph.D. (left), Victoria Adams, Amanda Johnson, and Fernanda Santos, pose in front of one of their presentation boards at the Experimental Biology Conference.

projects which were published as articles at the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB).

Four of the studies were focused on nutraceuticals and performed in the biology lab at AHU. According to Santos, “We study nutritional strategies to improve health, specially looking at the microbi-

ome of the intestinal track.” These studies included researching the effect of cinnamon essential oil on both beneficial microorganisms and human pathogens such as salmonella; E. coli; and the digestive “friendly” bacterium, lactobacillus, which is found in some fermented foods like yogurt.

Johnson is a safety officer at AHU while working on her M.S. in nutrition, and Adams has been accepted to the Ph.D. biochemistry program at North Carolina State University. Walker is now an employee at AdventHealth.

At AHU, advancing research in healthcare, particularly whole-person care, is a priority. Faculty, students, and alumni are encouraged to pursue innovative studies to continue serving as leaders in healthcare. ●

BY LISA MARIE ESSER

Aeolians Survive Fiery Crash

Early Sabbath morning, May 4, 2019, administrators at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala., were informed of a bus accident that took place in San Francisco, Calif., involving 18 students and two staff members. The students are members of the Oakwood University Aeolians who were scheduled to perform in the Bay area on May 5.

The bus transporting the students and staff was involved in a multi-vehicle accident on Highway 101, just south of Sierra Point, around 12:25 a.m. PDT, on May 4, while traveling from the San Francisco airport. Students and staff members were checked onsite by EMTs, and initial reports revealed no life-threatening injuries.

The University is grateful for the role played by first-responders, and for the prayerful support and encouragement from local alumni, the Board of Trustees, and support personnel from the San Francisco area who aided the students and staff. Just hours after the accident, the Aeolians worshipped with the members of the Philadelphia Church in San Francisco.

“Geeta,” a friend of Oakwood at the Leicester Central Church in the United Kingdom, heard parts of the live-streamed concert at San Francisco’s Third Baptist Church on Sunday, May 5. She commented, “Our God is awesome. He saved His own ... I heard their singing ... and they were declaring the glory of God. Their singing sounded awesome. Continue to praise Him.” The choir members’ experience was covered by several outlets of the media.

The choir members returned to Huntsville safely, albeit shaken up, following this last tour of the school year and the aftermath of the accident. They were welcomed at the Huntsville International Airport on the night of May 7 by members of the Oakwood family and local media. The next day, the Department of Health & Counseling Service offered the Aeolians an afternoon of self-care, pampering, and healing. From 1 to 5 p.m., counselors from the Office of Spiritual Life and massage therapists were available to offer trauma



Members of the Aeolians were greeted with warm hugs and smiles when they returned from San Francisco to the Huntsville International Airport on May 7, 2019.



The Aeolians ministered to congregations in the San Francisco Bay area on May 4 and 5, testifying of God’s mercy and protection.

and spiritual counseling, massage, and quiet time in the tranquility room.

While many are extremely grateful for God’s protection and mercy, they are saddened by the fact that a precious life was lost. Please continue to pray for the victim’s family and the healing of Oakwood students. Your support during this time means a lot to them.

For any who would like to aid members of the Aeolians, visit give.oakwood.edu to help with the Aeolians Relief Fund.

The Aeolians’ final performance of the 2018-2019 academic year was a mini-concert on May 11, at the Von Braun Center, just before Commencement. 📺

BY STAFF WRITER

Oakwood University Shares Commencement Results

Oakwood University hosted its 2019 Commencement Exercises, May 9-11, 2019, for 328 students who entered to learn and have now departed to serve. During the program, the Philanthropy Award was presented to Walter and Christine Ince. Honorary doctoral degrees (doctor of humane letters) were awarded to Lois Peters and Ed Zinke. An additional four guest graduates participated in the Commencement ceremony on Saturday night. Guest graduates are defined as those who chose not to march at their respective institutions because of Sabbath observance and other scheduling concerns. Judge Greg Mathis was the Commencement speaker.

The oldest graduate in Oakwood's Class of 2019 was 69 years old, and the youngest graduate was 20 years old. There were 193 females and 135 males. The countries of origin for the Class of 2019 include Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Canada, England, France, Haiti, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Trinidad, United States of America, and the Virgin Islands.

Here are some other interesting statistics about the Class of 2019:

Graduate Honors

- Summa Cum Laude - 9
- Magna Cum Laude - 18
- Cum Laude - 50
- Honorable Mention - 50

Schools

- School of Arts & Sciences - 123
- School of Business - 112
- School of Nursing & Health Professions - 84
- School of Education & Social Sciences - 42
- School of Religion - 34

Top Majors

- General Studies - 51
- Dietetic Internship - 31
- Biology - 29



Jonathan Johnson, and his mother, Paula Johnson, graduated together. Jonathan began as a freshman at Oakwood University in 2011. He returned to Oakwood and restarted his educational journey, and graduated with his mother, Paula, who marched with the class of 2019, some 47 years after she started matriculating at Oakwood.



Conrad Fletcher and Eliza Jane Francis expressed exuberance during the Consecration service on Friday night.

Specialty Degrees

- Masters - 10
- Adult & Continuing Education (LEAP) - 52

Number of Graduates - Top Five States

- Alabama - 120
- California - 42
- Florida - 32
- Georgia - 32
- New York - 29

- Organizational Management - 18
- Nursing - 18
- Ministerial Theology - 17

BY STAFF WRITER

Southern Student Receives Top SonScreen Film Festival Award



Southern animation major Christin Smolinski (center) receives an award from North American Division communication staff Georgia Standish (left), editorial assistant; Mylon Medley, news producer; Kimberly Maran, associate director; and Julio Muñoz, associate director of communication and director of the SonScreen Film Festival.

During the annual SonScreen Film Festival this year, a Southern Adventist University senior received the top award for her animated work. Christin Smolinski, an animation major, was one of approximately 25 students from Southern's School of Visual

Art and Design who participated in the festival.

Smolinski tied for Best in Festival and also received Audience Choice Award and Best Animated Short for her work titled "Beep Bop Symphony." The short explores the power of working together

in harmony through a humorous, musical animation.

Two other Southern students also were honored for their work: Joshua Trevilcock, senior film production major, received Best Comedy Short for his piece, "Missing Sock"; and Brittany Danese,

junior film production major, received Honorable Mention, Comedy Short for her piece, “Writer’s Journey.”

Nick Livanos, assistant professor in Southern’s School of Visual Art and Design and 2007 graduate of the university’s film program, accompanied the students. He enjoys witnessing their creative ideas become a reality through many long hours of work, and finally appearing on screen in front of a live audience.

“It is so meaningful to watch as stu-

dents craft every part of their film,” Livanos said. “The fact that the SonScreen participants have the experience of hearing the audience gasp, laugh, and jump at appropriate moments is very satisfying.”

The festival, which is sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Church, had a record number of participants this year, with a total of 265 student filmmakers, professionals, and professors. The event provides young Christian filmmakers with the opportunity to network, brain-

storm, and dialogue with others who share their interests and values.

“I am remarkably proud of all my students,” Livanos said. “They each showed a tremendous amount of professionalism as they answered questions, received compliments, and engaged the audience well.”

BY SOUTHERN STAFF

Professor Recognized by National Association

This spring, the Associated Church Press (ACP) recognized one of Southern’s religion professors for his outstanding writing. During its Best of the Church Press Awards, the national association awarded Martin Klingbeil, D.Litt., professor in the School of Religion, with the Award of Excellence in Devotional/Inspirational (short format) for his article, “When Failure Is (Not) an Option,” which was published in *Adventist World*.

Klingbeil has been a professor at Southern for nine years and is a regular contributor to publications such as *Adventist World*, *Adventist Review*, and the *Journal of the Adventist Theological Society*.

With no knowledge of the ACP or its awards, Klingbeil was surprised when he heard that the Adventist World team had submitted his article for the competition and it had won. In the article, published March 1, 2018, Klingbeil addresses the important role of failure in growth.

“It’s important to learn how to fail,” Klingbeil said. “I have three sons, and I have seen that there’s so much pressure on young people to succeed. They grow up with this idea that they have to always get better, and if they don’t, there is something wrong with them. It is sociologically and psychologically dangerous, and at the same time I think it’s also a theological question.”



Religion professor Martin Klingbeil was surprised to receive a national award for his writing.

An excerpt from his article explains: “When I fail, I realize that I need to trust less in my own achievements and more in the power of God’s grace (2 Corinthians

12:9 ESV). Failure is a step toward forgiveness and strength in Christ.”

BY TRISNEY BOCALA



DININNY, LEWIS, 76, born Jan. 26, 1943 in Elmira, NY, died March 27, 2019 at his home in Casa Grande, AZ.

Lew was the son of the late Farrell "Luke" and Florence (Buchanan) Dininny. He married Velma Mckibbin in 1965. Velma and Lew lived in the Tampa, FL, area for 26 years, raising their three children there. He was an active member of the Brandon Church, where he was a literature evangelist for 40 years. He loved nothing more than sharing the love of Jesus everywhere he went. Velma predeceased Lew in 1992; he later married Nancy Reader. Lew and Nancy retired and moved to Casa Grande in 2006 where Lew enjoyed sharing humor and smiles while working at Home Depot for more than 10 years. He enjoyed visiting his children and grandchildren in Florida and Hawaii, and cherished those special times.

Lew is survived by his wife, Nancy Reader Dininny; one son, David (Nikki) Dininny of Riverview, FL; two daughters: Brenda Dininny Gigliotti of St. Petersburg, FL, and Dianne (Ben) Dininny Taylor of Ewa Beach, HI; one brother, Rich (Sylvia) Dininny of Pine City, NY; and nine grandchildren: Dakota, Koryn, Holly, Kallie, Autumn, Mason, Logan, Jackson, and Erin. Preceding him in death was his brother, Tom (Deborah) Dininny.

GARRICK, LORIE KAY, 54, born Nov. 24, 1964 in Avon Park, FL, died Jan. 28, 2019 after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Lorie is survived by her son, Dylan Moody; her father, Pastor George (Charlotte) Garrick; her mother, Hazel Garrick Sdao (Kenneth) Blazer; one sister, Vickie Clay (Steve) Klumb; one nephew, Sheflon Clay; two step-sisters: Paula Howerton, and Renata Ballard; many aunts; uncles; cousins; and friends whom she loved and cherished.

In the early 80s she worked for the Fletcher Hospital and Medical Center in Fletcher, NC. Her last employment was by CarePartners of Asheville, NC. She was a member of the Asheville Church.



GEARHART, LETITIA DIANE, 68, born March 10, 1951, died April 9, 2019. She was the daughter of the late C.J. and Bernice Gearhart. She graduated from Little Creek Academy, Southern Missionary College, and then the University of Western Georgia with a master's degree in education. She went on to teach at Tiger Creek Elementary for many years. She enjoyed reading and putting together child development aids. She was a member of the Collegedale Church. She is survived by her loving brothers: Joel W. Gearhart and Jon M. Gearhart; five nephews; one niece; three grandnephews; and one grandniece. A funeral service was held April 12, 2019 in the Heritage Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Dwight Herod officiating. Burial followed at Collegedale Memorial Park.

GOODALL, RONALD E., 92, born Jan. 11, 1927 in Houlton, ME, died March 31, 2019 in Sebring, FL. He was a member of the Avon Park Church for 27 years.

Ron served his country as an army medic and received a minor league contract with the Boston Red Sox, but he decided to give his life to God and service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. A dynamic speaker, he was called on to serve Adventist churches throughout New England. He also served as dean of boys at Union Springs Academy, principal of Greater New York Academy, director of the Adventist Book Center for Northern New England, principal at Pine Tree Academy in Freeport, youth and educational superintendent of Northern New England Conference, and head of the business and economics department at Atlantic Union College.

He is survived by his son, Wayne (Jen) of Norway, ME; one daughter, Diana (Anthony) Pirro of Lancaster, MA; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his first wife and mother of his children, Colleen Philbrook. Following her death, Ron married Dorothy Ragsdale who also predeceased him.

The memorial service was conducted by Pastor George Brown at the Avon Park Church. Interment was in Pownal, ME.





HAZEN, RALEIGH A., 76, born Sept. 12, 1942 in Lebanon, NH, died April 5, 2019 in Altamonte Springs, FL. He was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, since 2016, when he transferred from Powder Spring, GA, Church. He was denominationally employed at Richmond Jr. Academy in Richmond, VA; Vienna Jr. Academy in Vienna, VA; and Cascade Jr. Academy in Atlanta, GA. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Carol; one son, Christopher (Leslie) of Longwood, FL; one daughter, Lori of Apopka; one brother, Wayne (Rockie); and three grandchildren. The service was conducted at the Forest Lake Church by Pastor Harold Cunningham, ministerial director for the southern region of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference.

HOOPER, DONNA MARY WINELAND, 100, born July 28, 1918 in Hinsdale, IL, died April 4, 2019 in Calhoun, GA. She was the daughter of Charles and Bertha Wineland. At 8 months old, the family moved to a farm in Missouri. Donna, her mother, and the family's furniture went by train, while her father and older sister went by a team of horses and buggy camped each night. When Donna was 2 or 3 years old, her father went back to Hinsdale to work and pay for the farm. A divorce soon followed, and both parents remarried. At age 4, Donna and her family, including her step-father, Paul, went by train to St. Louis, MO. Four years later, the family moved to Michigan in a Model T Ford. She lived in Michigan until she was 11 years old. At that time, her step-father left, and Donna and her mother were alone, as her older sister had gone to live with their father. Donna and her mother went to live with Ms. Mary H. Moore in Nashville, TN, where Donna finished the sixth grade. She had been in three different schools that year. Following that school year, her mother obtained a teaching job at what is now Highland Academy. Donna lived there six years and then went to Fletcher, NC, to graduate her senior year. After graduation, she went to Madison, TN, to work so she could start her college classes that fall. But in August of that year, her mother became ill, and Donna took her by train to Oklahoma to her brother's home to care for her. They spent a year in Oklahoma, and her mother got better. Donna's mother moved back to Tennessee, and Donna went to Keene, TX, for six weeks to learn how to teach. Her first year of teaching, she had grades 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, and 9. When that year was finished, her educational superintendent sent Donna to the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. During the next three years, she went to school during the summer in Collegedale and worked as a teacher during the autumn, winter, and spring. She taught in Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and finished her teaching program at Washington Missionary College, graduating in 1945. That year, she met up with a grade-school and academy friend named George, and they were married on Nov. 10, 1946. Shortly after marriage, they moved to Ohio, where Donna taught school. While in Ohio, they adopted five children. In 1958, the family moved to Tennessee. They lived there until it was time for their oldest daughter to be in academy. In 1961, they moved to Calhoun, GA, where George helped with building Georgia-Cumberland Academy. Donna worked a few extra jobs, like picking up eggs at a chicken house and working at a nursing home for a bit. She took LPN training and became a nurse, a career she pursued for 23 years before retiring. The family moved into a cute home on Lover's Lane Road, where they lived for 44 years before George passed in 1989. Donna lived 30 more years in that home. She lived 100 wonderful years!



INGERSOLL, HERBERT D., 91, born July 23, 1927 in Norwalk, OH, died Feb. 4, 2019 at his home in Whitwell, TN, surrounded by family. Herb was the youngest of four boys belonging to Marshall and Gladys Ingersoll. Though he grew up during the Great Depression and had to put cardboard in his shoes each night to cover the holes, his parents sacrificed to make sure that he received an Adventist education from first grade on up.

In the fifth grade, he decided that one day he wanted to be a missionary in Africa. That dream followed him into adulthood, and after graduating from Mount Vernon Academy in Ohio, he enrolled in Washington Missionary College in Tacoma Park, MD, majoring in theology so that he could one day be a missionary.

Through academy and college, he worked at the local print shop to earn money for school fees. Upon graduation, he was offered a job teaching Bible and running the print shop at Adelphian Academy in Holly, MI. He and his new bride, Dorothy (Dottie) Ritter, took their honeymoon en-route to the job. At

the end of 10 years at Adelphian, the General Conference gave them a call to Nyasaland (now called Malawi), Africa, to help save a dying press at Malamulo Mission.

Their third child was born on the mission soon after they arrived. After eight years of dedicated, diligent work, the press's physical plant had tripled in size and 40 workers were employed. It became the 44th publishing house of the Adventist denomination.

Herb and his family then moved to Beckley, WV, where he worked in dark county evangelism and started a small academy. He returned to Blantyre, Malawi, Africa, in 1977-1980 where he was pastor of the Kabula Hill Adventist Church, and was chaplain of the hospital. From 1980 to 1985, he pastored several churches in the coal mining area of West Virginia. In 1985, he was invited to the island of Saipan, where his daughter, Holly, and son-in-law, Ron, had helped start a new Adventist mission school and were teaching. While there, he was pastor to the small church company that, under his leadership, would become the first organized Adventist church on the island.

Four years later, he and Dottie returned to the States and settled in the beautiful Sequatchie Valley. He retired and built his house and began growing and selling strawberries and blueberries. He became known as the "Strawberry Man" in the Valley, picking and selling up to 2.5 tons of berries a season. He started the Whitwell Church Company in 1995, and was still very active in the church until his death.

He never lost his love for missions, and after retirement, he made dozens of mission trips to Belize, the Dominican Republic, Guiana, and Ecuador, and taught English in China. Herb loved God above everything else, but a close second was his love for people. He also dearly loved plants of all kinds, and his "Jungle Room" at the house gave him such joy as he tended to his plants and flowers. He also loved fish, and his tanks are still running. He played the harmonica beautifully and shared his talent all around the world. He loved adventure and always wanted to keep learning. He was a scuba diver, loved to sail hobby cats, went hang gliding, rock climbing, backpacking, and did a triathlon to celebrate his 72nd birthday. He was still running 5Ks at 89 years of age. His life was full and his enthusiasm for life was contagious.

Still celebrating the life and legacy of Herb is his wife of 65 years, Dottie; and his children: son, Scott Ingersoll; and two daughters: Holly (Ron) Abrams, and Starr Arthur. He had seven grandchildren, three great-grandchildren (with two more on the way), and nephews and nieces. A celebration of life was held March 17, 2019 at the Jasper, TN, Church.



MCKENZIE, LILIA B., 79, born Nov. 28, 1939 in Panama, Central America, died May 2, 2019 in Clermont, FL. She was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, for 15 years.

Her denominational employment include the following: Washington Sanitarium, White Memorial Hospital, Loma Linda Hospital, La Sierra University, Oakwood, and missionary in Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Kenya.

She is survived by her husband of 56 years, Ronald; two sons: Rolaant (Mildred) McKenzie of Hazel Park, MI, and Dr. Mark McKenzie of Orlando, FL; two brothers: Dr. Rolando Newland of Jackson, MS, and Gerry Newland of Panama; two sisters: Yvonne Newland of Panama, and Argilia Newland of DeRosas, Panama.

The service was conducted by Pastor Dennis Ross at the Forest Lake Church. Interment was at the Highland Cemetery in Apopka.

MERCHANT, ROBERT, 97, died Sept. 2018 in Tennessee. He was born and raised on a family farm in the upper Midwest that had been homesteaded in the 1850s. He was a devout, life-long Adventist. He and his wife of almost 73 years, Agnes, worked at the Muskegon Junior Academy in Michigan; Ozark Academy in Arkansas; Southwestern Junior College in Texas; and Southern Adventist University in Tennessee. Robert was a CPA with an MBA degree and served as accountant and treasurer of Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) in Collegedale for 25 years.

He and Agnes were active in the Collegedale Church, school, and community for 55 years, including leadership in the Marriage Encounter and Marriage Enrichment programs. He was the first person to vote in Collegedale after the town became incorporated, and did volunteer work for the church and credit union. Robert had many good character qualities, including generosity, humility, and an almost unheard-of level of honesty, kindness, and respect for everyone, including the less fortunate.

He was a life-long Democrat and always admired and talked about FDR, since he grew up during the Great Depression and WWII. He followed the news and current events and loved to watch the political conventions. He even rented a TV for a week to watch the 1960 convention before owning a TV. In his last years, he still often asked his family if they had heard any news that day.

Robert is survived by his wife, Agnes; two daughters: Judy (Kris) and Rita (Gordon); two sons: Jerry and Dan (Amy); one grandson, Michael (Christina); two granddaughters: Emily and Abby; and two great-grandchildren: Meraiah and Canaan. He was preceded in death by his brother, Clifford; sister, Marion; and granddaughter, Valerie. A memorial service was held on Nov. 10, 2018 at the Collegedale Church with words of comfort and hope given by Dave and Cherie Smith. Robert had spoken often of the Resurrection in his later years, and of how much he was looking forward to it.





WEATHERALL, (ARDYE) ARDYCE C., 83, born July 16, 1935 in Holyoke, CO, to Clarence and Louise Kuhnke; died April 9, 2019. She was a member for six years at Florida Living Church in Apopka, FL. Ardyce was denominationally employed as follows: 1964-1968 – office secretary at Enterprise Academy; 1969-73 – office secretary at Highland Academy; 1974-1979 – librarian at Forest Lake Education Center; 1979-81 – Southern Union education registrar; and 1982-1999 – NAD Office of Education, manuscript processing new textbooks. (She typed thousands of pages of transcripts which included 16 academy textbooks covering subjects such as literature, history, and religion.) In Nebraska and Kansas, she was always a leader in the children's Sabbath School divisions. She took Bible stories and made felt figures to illustrate them. She and a friend started a silk screen company that made felt story illustrations and sold them all over the United States.

She always had a piano and organ in her home and played both with skill even though she never read music. She was most famous for her cooking. She looked at cooking and serving food to people as

her way of loving and appreciating them.

She never met a stranger. She was always the life of the party.

Ardye is survived by her husband of 65 years, Don; three daughters: Cynthia Buckingham of Martin, GA, Kristy Williams of Lilburn, GA, and Lori Asbury of Alpharetta, GA; two sisters: Pat Schaeffer of Ooltewah, TN, and Audrey Ponaski of Kila, MT; and four grandchildren.

The service was conducted by Pastor James King at the Florida Living Church in Apopka. Interment was in Holyoke, CO.

BRACKETT, CLYDE HARRISON, 94, of Morganton, NC, born March 4, 1925 in Burke County, NC, he was the son of the late Ben Harrison Brackett and Nettie Flynn Brackett, died May 6, 2019. Clyde was a member of the Morganton Church where he served as a deacon and a Sabbath School teacher. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of WWII, and an active pilot. He was the founder and owner of Southeast Lumber and Brackett Brothers Corporation. He was a wonderful husband, father, and grandfather who loved Jesus and was awaiting his return. Clyde is survived by his sons: Ted Harrison (Jeanette) Brackett of Morganton, and Steve Carroll (Peggy) Brackett of Colfax, NC; one daughter, Theresa Brackett (Mike) Lyles of Morganton; one daughter-in-law, Sheila Brackett of Anderson, SC; 12 grandchildren: Angela Veness, Chad (Cheryl) Brackett, Wayne Brackett Jr., Bryant (Stacy) Brackett, Kristin (Chris) Johnson, Thad (Joyce) Brackett, Pastor Michael (Dawn) Brackett, Stephanie Brackett, Christina Brackett, Lauren (Jeremy) Reed, Lindsey (Adam) Seefong, and Dr. Ben Lyles; and two sisters: Clara Andrews and Ellen Hardin. In addition to his parents, Clyde was preceded in death by his wife, Hazel Lucille Bollinger Brackett; son, Wayne Tilman Brackett Sr.; brother, Fons Brackett; and four sisters: Edna Manz, Edith Maples, Margie Brown, and Blanche Serra. The funeral was held May 9, 2019, with Pastors Michael Brackett, Barry Mahorney, and Steve Dietz officiating. Burial followed in the Brackett Family Cemetery with military honors provided by the U.S. Navy.

DAVIS, CREIGHTON HUNTER, 36, born Nov. 17, 1982 in Fort Worth, TX, died April 8, 2019 in Mandan, ND. He was a 2001 graduate

of Georgia-Cumberland Academy and attended Southern Adventist University and Newbold College. Creighton spent most of his childhood and teenage years in Tyler, TX. During the summer, Sunday mornings found him with family and friends at the lake, where he developed a great love and proficiency for water skiing. Fireworks were another passion, and he often choreographed his own New Year's Eve and Fourth of July shows. Attending school in England opened to him the world of travel, and while at Newbold it was his privilege to visit many countries in Europe and the British Isles, an experience which helped define the person he was. Like his grandfather, he found satisfaction and fulfillment in physical work, rising to the challenge of often working long, hard hours in extreme weather conditions. After returning from Newbold, he moved to Cincinnati, OH, where he worked in construction. Several years later, he moved to the Collegedale, TN, area, working as an irrigation systems installer and as a driver for FedEx Ground. He moved to North Dakota in 2013, again working as a driver for FedEx Ground and then FedEx Freight in Bismarck, ND. Regardless of where life took him, he was first, foremost, and always a proud Texan. The Texas flag which he took with him to England continued to hang in a prominent location in his home as a tribute to his home state. He is survived by his son, Alden Louis Davis of Mandan, ND; parents, Phil and Kathy (Miller) Davis of Ooltewah, TN; brother, Brad Davis of Keller, TX; sister and brother-in-law, Jennifer and John Hammermeister of Corinth, TX; and three nephews: Jared and Josh Davis and Carter Hammermeister. He will be remembered for his strong work ethic, sense of humor, quick wit, and kind heart. He was a loving father, a

devoted son and brother, and a faithful friend; he will be forever missed.

HUSKINS, ALICE L., 87, born Feb. 15, 1932, died May 20, 2019 in Brunswick, ME. She was member of the Arden, NC, Church. She's survived by her husband, Cicero (CD) Huskins.

KLINE, EMMA POLK (BURKE), 99, born Feb. 22, 1920 in Covington, GA, died March 10, 2019 in Cedartown, GA. She was the daughter of the late Clint Polk and the late Florrie Ragan Polk. Emma was a member of the Adventist Church for 80 years, having been introduced to the faith by her father-in-law, C.B. Burke Sr. Since 1956, she'd been a member of the Cedartown Church, which was built by Mr. Burke Sr. Although her husband of 51 years, C.B. "Pete" Burke Jr., never attended church, Emma rarely missed a Sabbath in church. She regularly attended even until a couple of months prior to her death. Through the years, she served the Cedartown Church as adult and children's Sabbath School teacher, and was active in the Dorcas Society. Prior to her retirement, she was co-owner of the CB Burke Plumbing Company and worked in accounting. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Lester Polk; first husband, C.B. "Pete" Burke Jr.; and her second husband, Robert L. Kline. Emma is survived by her sons: Bobby (Glenda) Burke and Clyde (Rita) Burke; and one daughter, Bobbie "Jeannie" (Bobby) Harrington; three grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; a number of nieces; and nephews. A memorial graveside service was held on March 16, 2019 at the Lawnwood Memorial Park in Covington, GA.

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Port Charlotte Adventist School, Port Charlotte, FL
Sawgrass Adventist School, Plantation, FL
Tallahassee Adventist Christian Academy, Tallahassee, FL
Walker Memorial Junior Academy, Avon Park, FL
West Coast Christian Academy, Bradenton, FL
West Palm Beach Junior Academy, West Palm Beach, FL
William A. Kirlew Junior Academy, Miami Gardens, FL
Winter Haven Adventist Academy, Winter Haven, FL
Z. L. Sung SDA Church School, Gainesville, FL

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND CONFERENCE ACADEMIES

Atlanta Adventist Academy, Atlanta, GA
Collegedale Academy, Collegedale, TN
Georgia-Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

A.W. Spalding SDA School, Collegedale, TN

Adventist Christian School of Maryville, Maryville, TN
Algood Christian Elementary School, Cookeville, TN
Atlanta North SDA School, Atlanta, GA
Adventist Christian School, Augusta, GA
Bowman Hills SDA School, Cleveland, TN
Carman Adventist School, Marietta, GA
Collegedale Adventist Middle School, Collegedale, TN
Columbus SDA School, Columbus, GA
Douglasville SDA School, Douglasville, GA
Duluth Adventist Christian School, Duluth, GA
Dunlap Adventist School, Dunlap, TN
Faulkner Springs Christian School, McMinnville, TN
Gainesville Adventist Christian School, Gainesville, GA
Greeneville Adventist Academy, Greeneville, TN
Inez Wrenn SDA School, Crossville, TN
Jasper Adventist Christian School, Jasper, TN
Jellico SDA School, Jellico, TN
John L. Coble Elementary School, Calhoun, GA
Josephine Edwards Christian School, Ellijay, GA
Knoxville Adventist School, Knoxville, TN
Learning Tree Elementary School, Dalton, GA
Lester Coon Adventist School, Apison, TN
Living Springs Christian Academy, Gray, TN
Meister Memorial SDA School, Deer Lodge, TN
Misty Meadows SDA School, Ringgold, GA
Lighthouse Christian Academy, Morristown, TN
Murphy Adventist Christian School, Murphy, NC
Oglethorpe SDA School, Oglethorpe, GA
Ooltewah Adventist School, Ooltewah, TN
Savannah Adventist Christian School, Pooler, GA
Shoal Creek Adventist School, Sharpsburg, GA
Standifer Gap SDA School, Chattanooga, TN
Valdosta Christian Academy, Valdosta, GA
Wimbish Adventist School, Macon, GA

GULF STATES CONFERENCE ACADEMY

Bass Memorial Academy, Lumberton, MS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Adventist Christian Academy, Panama City, FL
Bass Christian Elementary, Lumberton, MS
Big Cove Christian Academy, Owens Cross Roads, AL
College Drive SDA School, Pearl, MS
Community Christian School, Meridian, MS
Emerald Coast Christian School, Fort Walton Beach, FL
Faith Christian Adventist Academy, Summit, MS
Floral Crest Junior Academy, Bryant, AL
Hoover Christian School, Hoover, AL
Mobile Junior Academy, Mobile, AL
Pensacola Junior Academy, Pensacola, FL

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE CONFERENCE ACADEMIES

Highland Academy, Portland, TN
Madison Academy, Madison, TN

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Appalachian Christian Academy, Manchester, KY
Bill Egly Elementary School, Lawrenceburg, TN
Centerville Christian School, Centerville, TN
Highland Elementary School, Portland, TN
Lexington Junior Academy, Lexington, KY
Louisville Adventist Academy, Louisville, KY
Madison Campus Elementary, Madison, TN

Memphis Junior Academy, Memphis, TN
Ridgetop Adventist Elementary, Ridgetop, TN
Taylor Mill SDA Church School, Latonia, KY
Tulahoma SDA Elementary, Tullahoma, TN
Woodbury SDA Elementary, Woodbury, TN

SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE ACADEMY

Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy, Atlanta, GA

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Atlanta Adventist International School, Tucker, GA
Berea Junior Academy, Sumpter, SC
Berean Christian Junior Academy, Atlanta, GA
Berean Junior Academy, Charlotte, NC
Bethany Junior Academy, Macon, GA
Carolina Adventist Academy, Whiteville, NC
Decatur Adventist Junior Academy, Stone Mountain, GA
Ebenezer SDA School, Augusta, GA
Emanuel SDA Junior Academy, Albany, GA
Ephesus Junior Academy, Winston-Salem, NC
Gethsemane SDA School, Raleigh, NC
Greater Fayetteville Adventist Academy, Fayetteville, NC
Lithonia Adventist Academy, Lithonia, GA
New Bethel Christian Academy, Columbus, GA
Norma D. Richards Adventist Christian School, Pageland, SC
Ramah Junior Academy, Savannah, GA

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE ACADEMY

Oakwood Adventist Academy, Huntsville, AL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Alcy Junior Academy, Memphis, TN
Avondale SDA School, Chattanooga, TN
Bethany SDA Academy, Montgomery, AL
E. E. Rogers SDA School, Jackson, MS
Emma L. Minnis School, Louisville, KY
Emmanuel SDA School, Mobile, AL
Ephesus Junior Academy, Birmingham, AL
F. H. Jenkins Elementary School, Nashville, TN
University Elementary School, Knoxville, TN

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE ACADEMY

Miami Union Academy, N. Miami, FL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Bethel Elementary SDA School, Florida City, FL
Bethel Junior Academy, Riviera Beach, FL
Broward Junior Academy, Plantation, FL
Daughter of Zion Junior Academy, Delray Beach, FL
Elim Junior Academy, St. Petersburg, FL
Ephesus Junior Academy, Jacksonville, FL
Ephesus Junior Academy, West Palm Beach, FL
Mt. Calvary SDA School, Tampa, FL
Mt. Olivet Jr. Academy, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Mt. Sinai Junior Academy, Orlando, FL
New Hope SDA School, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Palm Bay SDA School, West Melbourne, FL
Perrine SDA School, Miami, FL
Shiloh SDA School, Ocala, FL

UNIVERSITIES

AdventHealth University, Orlando, FL
Oakwood University, Huntsville, AL
Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN



Your *Camporee* Your *Journey* Your *Story*

Join the conversation
#myChosenStory



For more information, go to www.SouthernTidings.com/Camporee

Benefiting from Planned Giving and Trust Services

Elder Ralph Franklin has been involved with the South Atlantic Trust Services Department for more than 30 years. He believes that everything he has is entrusted by God, and should be used to glorify and honor Him.

Elder Franklin has told many people about the benefits and services of Planned Giving and Trust. These include being a better steward, estate planning, and planned giving and trust, just to name a few.

A number of churches and families are now benefiting from life income gifts, gift annuities, and other plans.

- Call your local conference or university Trust Services Director today, to see how you can leave a legacy to your local church and help others come to know how Jesus saves.

Carolina

Rick Hutchinson (704) 596-3200

Florida

Phil Bond (407) 644-5000

Georgia-Cumberland

Ray Hartwell (706) 629-7951

Gulf States

David Sigamani (334) 272-7493

Kentucky-Tennessee

Silke Hubbard (615) 859-1391

Oakwood University

Lewis Jones (256) 726-7000

South Atlantic

Merkita Mosely (404) 792-0535

South Central

Sonja Crayton (615) 226-6500

Southeastern

Juan Gonzalez (352) 735-3142

Southern Adventist University

Carolyn Liers (423) 236-2818



SUSDAGift.org

CAROLINA

CAROLINA SHAREHIM YOUNG ADULT - July 17-30. Mexico.

REVIVE YOUTH RALLY - July 19, 20. Sharon Church. Charlotte, NC.

LE RETREAT - July 26-28. NPR.

FLORIDA

COMPLETE CALENDAR ONLINE - floridaconference.com/events

A BETTER CHOICE / FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER - Altamonte Springs: 407-644-4255. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: floridaconference.com/abc or order by e-mail: FloridaABC@floridaconference.com

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.

July 28. Daytona Beach, New Smyrna Beach, Titusville, Cocoa, Fort Pierce. (Southeastern Conference: Palm Bay.)

Aug. 4. East Pasco in Zephyrhills, Brooksville, Homosassa, Spring Hill, New Port Richey, Clearwater, St. Petersburg.

Aug. 11. Lady Lake, North Lake, Ocala, Cross City, Perry, Tallahassee.

Aug. 18. Midport, West Palm Beach First, Pompano Beach, Margate, Ambassador in Lauderdale Lakes, Sunrise. (Southeastern Conference: Port St. Lucie, West Palm Beach Ephesus.)

Aug. 25. Winter Haven, Avon Park, Arcadia, Cape Coral, Fort Myers, Lehigh Acres, Naples.

Sept. 8. Inverness, Tampa First, Brandon, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Sarasota, North Port, Port Charlotte.

Sept. 15. Palm Coast, Palatka, St. Augustine, Orange Cove, Jacksonville First, Jacksonville Southpoint. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)

Sept. 22. Kendall, Miami Temple, Miami Springs, Eden in Miami, Maranatha in Miami Gardens.

UNQUENCHABLE LOVE COUPLES' RETREAT - Sept. 20-22. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212nd Ave., High Springs. Cost varies depending on married or unmarried attendee and

accommodation choice. Details: campkulaqua.com or 386-454-1351.

LIFE STYLE HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE RETREAT - Oct. 11-14. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212nd Ave., High Springs. Special guests: Willy "Ghetto Preacher" Ramos, Nicole Stallings, Justin "That Christian Vlogger" and Emily Khoe. Cost: \$200. Details: floridaconference.com/lifestyle

YOUNG AT HEART RETREAT - Oct. 20-23. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212nd Ave., High Springs. Fellowship for ages 50+. Cost varies depending on married or unmarried attendee and accommodation choice. Details: campkulaqua.com/kulaqua-s-summer-camp/year-round-programs/young-at-heart

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

TEEN II AT COHUTTA SPRINGS YOUTH CAMP - July 14-21. More details at www.cs-yc.com. Crandall, GA.

COHUTTA SPRINGS YOUTH CAMP, TEEN I - July 7-14. For information, check www.cs-yc.com. Crandall, GA.

3 POINT PLAY IN WINDER - July 8-11. A free basketball camp to learn fundamentals, skills, and values. Winder, GA.

3 POINT PLAY IN THOMASTON - July 15-18. A free soccer and basketball camp to learn fundamentals, skills, and values. Thomaston-Upson Civic Center Soccer Complex and Gym, Thomaston, GA.

REVERSING COGNITIVE DECLINE - July 20. 6-9 p.m. Q & A session from 9-10 p.m. Wes Youngberg, DrPH, MPH, CNS, FACLM, presents strategies to prevent Alzheimer's disease and reverse memory loss. Collegedale Community Church, Ooltewah, TN.

3 POINT PLAY IN MARYVILLE - July 22-25. A free soccer and basketball camp to learn fundamentals, skills, and values. Montgomery Ridge Intermediate School, Maryville, TN.

FAMILY CAMP AT COHUTTA SPRINGS YOUTH CAMP - July 23-28. More details at www.cs-yc.com. Crandall, GA.

EQUIPPING FAMILIES FOR THE FUTURE - July 27. A free seminar that explains the cultural issues of living in America and shares Christ-centered budgets for living, saving, and giving.

Chatsworth Hispanic Church, GA.

3 POINT PLAY IN DOUGLAS - July 29-Aug. 1. A free basketball camp to learn fundamentals, skills, and values. Douglas Coffee County Parks & Rec, Douglas, GA.

PERSONAL MINISTRIES RALLY - Aug. 3. Discover the power God has promised for your life and for witnessing. Hear life-changing ideas for reaching your community for Christ. Everyone invited. Cherokee Church, Woodstock, GA.

EQUIPPING FAMILIES FOR THE FUTURE - Aug. 3. A free seminar that explains the cultural issues of living in America and shares Christ-centered budgets for living, saving, and giving. Calhoun Hispanic Church, GA.

SOUTHERN DEAF CAMP MEETING - Aug. 7-11. The speaker is H. Schubert Palmer, M.D., Interventional Cardiologist at White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles, CA. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

HEALTH RALLY - Aug. 10. 2-5 p.m. Be inspired and motivated by scientific research in support of God's natural laws of health. Everyone invited. Hiram, GA.

INTERNATIONAL PATHFINDER CAMPOREE - Aug. 12-17. Oshkosh, WI.

LIVING YOUR STRENGTHS LEADERSHIP - Aug. 23-25. Discover your God-given talents and learn how to use them for growth and service. Invest in yourself. Take the time and energy to discover the God-given potential that already resides within you. Learn to live the life that God always intended for you. Find a sense of significance and purpose, and a new set of lenses with which to encounter the life-changing message of the Word of God! Registration deadline is Aug. 7; early bird deadline is July 15, save \$15. There are a limited number of reservations taken. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA. Register for events on the Conference website, www.gccsda.com.

GULF STATES

TEEN INVITATIONAL: CANOEING - Sept. 8. www.gccsda.org/youth-ministry-events

"FACE TO FACE" YOUTH RALLY - Sept.

28. Cody Road Church, Mobile, AL. www.gscsda.org/youth-ministry-events

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

MINISTERS' MEETINGS - July 21-24. Indian Creek Camp.

HISPANIC YOUTH RETREAT - July 25-28. Indian Creek Camp

50+ CAMP - Aug. 6-11. Indian Creek Camp.

MEN'S RETREAT - Sept. 6-8. Indian Creek Camp.

YOUNG WOMEN'S RETREAT - Sept. 8. Kentucky Castle.

WOMEN'S RETREAT - Sept. 13-15. Indian Creek Camp.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - Sept. 17. Conference Office.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S RETREAT. - Sept. 20-22. Indian Creek Camp.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

WELLKIDS AT SOUTHERN - July 15-19. Keep your children moving and exploring the great outdoors this summer with "WELLkids in the Wild," a summer day camp program at Southern Adventist University. Each weeklong session offers outdoor adventures facilitated by graduate students in the Outdoor Leadership program. Activities include rock climbing, hiking, canoeing, ropes course, caving, rafting, and more. Available for ages 10-16. Spots are limited, so don't wait! More information and registration is available at southern.edu/wellkids.

SMARTSTART BEGINS - July 29. New students at Southern can earn three credit hours for free during the summer (a savings of more than \$2,000). To learn more, visit southern.edu/smartstart.

FALL CLASSES BEGIN - Aug. 26. Southern offers a variety of associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees, some of which can be earned entirely online. For more information, visit www.southern.edu or call 1-800-SOUTHERN.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLAINVIEW ADVENTIST ACADEMY, SHEYENNE RIVER ACADEMY, AND DA-KOTA ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND - Oct. 4-5. Dakota Adventist Academy, 15905 Sheyenne Circle, Bismarck, ND. Come and renew

your friendships. Honor Classes: '45, '50, '55, '60, '65, '70, '80, '90, '95, '00, '05, '10, and '15. For more information, call 701-751-6177, x 212, or visit our website at www.dakotaadventistacademy.org.

SOCIETY OF ADVENTIST COMMUNICATORS 2019 ANNUAL CONVENTION - OCT. 17-19. SAVE THE DATE!

Celebrating 30 years of communication excellence! **SAC's Tagline:** "Purpose. Passion. Partnership." **Location:** Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Join Seventh-day Adventist communication professionals and university students from all around the North American Division for training, networking, and spiritual renewal opportunities. Additional details for the hotels and more at: www.adventistcommunicator.org.

SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE WOMEN'S MINISTRIES CONVENTION - Oct. 24-27. Myrtle Beach, SC.

A weekend for great preaching, music, on-the-beach Vesper, praise and testimony, educational workshops, community outreach, vendor tables, and good ole fellowship with women throughout South Atlantic and beyond. Hotel accommodations will be at Embassy

Suites/Queensway Boulevard. All rooms are 2-room suites with adequate amenities and ocean views. Everything starts Friday morning, so make plans to arrive Thursday, so you won't miss anything. Workshop and vendor opportunities are available, but are moving fast. To register for the convention: www.Advent-Source.org. To make hotel reservations: <https://tinyurl.com/2019-SDA-Coonference>. For more convention information, contact Currine Harris, 404-792-0535, or charris@sacsda.org.

IT IS WRITTEN ANNOUNCES NEW 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, 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

	JUL 5	JUL 12	JUL 19	JUL 26	AUG 2	AUG 9
ATLANTA, GA	8:51	8:49	8:46	8:42	8:36	8:30
CHARLESTON, SC	8:31	8:29	8:26	8:22	8:17	8:10
CHARLOTTE, NC	8:41	8:39	8:36	8:31	8:25	8:18
COLLEGE DALE, TN	8:57	8:55	8:52	8:47	8:42	8:35
HUNTSVILLE, AL	8:03	8:01	7:57	7:53	7:47	7:40
JACKSON, MS	8:11	8:09	8:06	8:02	7:57	7:50
LOUISVILLE, KY	9:09	9:07	9:03	8:58	8:51	8:43
MEMPHIS, TN	8:18	8:16	8:12	8:08	8:02	7:55
MIAMI, FL	8:16	8:15	8:13	8:10	8:06	8:01
MONTGOMERY, AL	7:55	7:54	7:51	7:47	7:41	7:35
NASHVILLE, TN	8:07	8:05	8:02	7:57	7:51	7:43
ORLANDO, FL	8:27	8:25	8:23	8:19	8:15	8:09
TAMPA, FL	8:30	8:28	8:26	8:23	8:18	8:13
WILMINGTON, NC	8:27	8:25	8:22	8:17	8:12	8:05

SEE FOR YOURSELF

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

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

See Southern for yourself.

Upcoming **FREE*** PreviewSouthern events:

July 18, 2019

October 10-11, 2019

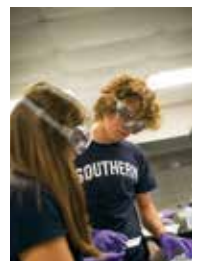
October 31-November 1, 2019

February 17, 2020

March 26-27, 2020

April 24-25, 2020

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



Collegedale, TN

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