

# T Southern IDINGS

DECEMBER 2020

EVANGELISM IN

## TIMES OF DISRUPTION

A GLOBAL  
PERSPECTIVE  
IN STUDENT  
LEADERSHIP

STUDENT  
MINISTRY  
KICKS OFF AT  
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SOCIETY OF  
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2020 VIRTUAL  
CONVENTION

SUCASA BREAKS  
GROUND FOR  
FUTURE CHURCH  
HOME

# Ministering in the Midst of COVID-19



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

*I'm inspired to present Sister L'Tonya Jackson from the Gethsemane Church in Raleigh, North Carolina, with an inspiring testimony that reinforces our assurance of God's care for us during this, a challenging time in culture. - RCS*

I remember the day clearly when the doctor called, informing me that I had tested positive for COVID-19. I thought, "How could this be? Why me and why now? Is this a death sentence? I have two children depending on me; this really can't be happening." I remember watching television that night in March 2020; the news was reporting 34 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our county. I couldn't believe that I was one of the 34.

It was early during the spread of the virus when the information wasn't clear and there were many unknowns. How did I even contract the virus? Did I get it touching the gas pump, punching in my pin at an ATM, shaking hands with someone? There were so many questions and very few answers.

I had been quarantined for 17 days. It felt as if God had sentenced me to solitary confinement. The worst part of the sentence was that I wasn't guilty of committing any crime, other than just functioning in everyday life. Who knew that just going through daily life could be such a risky business?

I had no sense of taste or smell, but never at any point had a fever. My body ached with pain. In my sickness, I cried out to the Lord, "I have to be here for my children; please don't let me die!" I prayed, and I cried, and I prayed. It was a cycle I couldn't seem to break. My breath was short, and I was extremely fatigued. At this point, all I could do was get my Bible and pray. I played the Bible on Audible and listened to God's Word day and night. It brought me comfort and strength.

I remember saying to God, "I know, according to Romans 8:28, 'all things work together for good to them that love God,' but where is the good in this? What good could come out of this for me or anyone else having this virus?" The question was answered for me when I had a very intimate moment with God. In listening to God's Word, my faith increased, and I said, "God, if this sickness is unto death, please have mercy on me and save me in Your kingdom and save my children. If You choose to heal me, I promise to shout it from the mountain tops and give You glory. Lord, save me one way or another, in life or death." I now understood what it means to have a peace that passes all understanding the moment I reached that place. A calm came over me. Within a few days, my physical strength began to return. The Lord spared my life and protected my children.

I shared my testimony on Facebook, and three hours later received a call from a young woman in New Jersey who shared she was a wife and mother and had recently been diagnosed with COVID-19. She stated that she was fearful and thought there was no hope for recovering. All she had seen on the news were hospitalizations and deaths. They were all just statistics until she saw my testimony. She now had hope. I prayed with her right then. I could have kept my diagnosis to myself as if it were something to be ashamed of. But, because I shared how God delivered me, someone else was encouraged and had hope. God allowed me to do ministry in the midst of COVID-19. I am not ashamed of the God I serve, and I praise Him for all He brings me through. ①

*L'Tonya M. Jackson is a businesswoman and member of the Gethsemane Church in Raleigh, North Carolina.*



*Guest Editorial*  
**L'Tonya M. Jackson**



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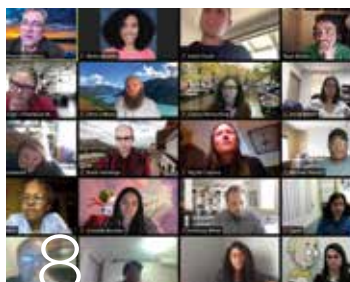
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# *Evangelism in* TIMES OF DISRUPTION

BY JULIO CHAZARRETA AND ROGER HERNANDEZ

What happens during times of disruption? 2020 has been a strange year. When you have a worldwide pandemic, wrapped in an economic shutdown, and racial unrest, it's the perfect definition of a disruptive world. In times like these, what is the Church to do? Is the mission in quarantine, or do we adapt, adjust, and look for innovative, creative ways to share the Gospel with even more people?

What you're about to read are two accounts of the Church not being limited by structures, but being fueled by mission. These are their stories.

## **STORY #1: Connected**

If there was a time when we have to be connected, this is it — connected to God through a living relationship with his son Jesus Christ, connected to each other in the love of the Lord, connected to others who do not know Jesus in order to connect them to him.

This is why the Southern Union Hispanic Ministries Department and the coordinators of each conference in this territory drew up the “Conectados” plan. Conectados is a virtual caravan that would pass through the eight conferences in eight days, live streaming from an Adventist church in each conference field with a different preacher

and singer. All of it would happen virtually. That's how we planned the strategy, organized the logistics, and finally carried it out. How does a virtual caravan, in the midst of a pandemic result in more than 500 baptisms?

Let us take you behind the scenes of the preparation and execution of this initiative.

## **Phase One: Planning**

We organized several meetings with the coordinators to achieve our goal. Preachers and singers that represented each conference in the Union were chosen. A young adult, Alex Espinosa, a Christian singer and church member from Forest City, Florida, composed the song that matched the title and theme of the caravan: “Conectados” — Connected.

## **Phase Two: Production**

We travelled to the eight states to record preachers and singers. We recorded them in the same church from which we would host the live stream on the assigned day. It was an intense week of production, but very rewarding. The recordings were made by our production team of three people. Preachers and singers were recorded at different times to avoid contact. We took incredible precautions, and thanks to God no one contracted the novel coronavirus as a result of the production.

“These were intense days of happiness and victory, though full of obstacles and fatigue.”





PHOTO BY: DAWIN RODRIGUEZ PHOTOGRAPHY

Arnaldo Cruz, pastor at Peregrinos Church in Hialeah, Florida, presents one of the messages for MiGPS3, a virtual evangelistic series conducted in partnership with the North American Division. The series was streamed from the Peregrinos Church, and has so far attracted more than a quarter million views.





PHOTO BY: DAWIN RODRIGUEZ PHOTOGRAPHY

Julio Chazarreta (left), Southern Union Conference Hispanic ministries director; Arnaldo Cruz, pastor at Peregrinos Church in Hialeah, Florida; and Roger Alvarez, Southeastern Conference Hispanic ministries director, offer prayer during the MiGPS3 virtual evangelistic series.

As part of the production, everything recorded was edited and prepared. It consisted not only of preaching and music, but also of videos with short one- to two-minute messages from the Southern Union officers and the presidents of each host conference. The theme song was recorded by four members of our territory in open spaces in downtown Atlanta, Georgia.

We also wanted to make sure that all the equipment was configured and working correctly, and that church members knew how to connect and watch the stream. As a trial run, we did a test a week before the event where our president, Ron Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., in a short 12-minute message, urged leaders and members to connect. We had almost 10,000 views that night! Now, with more confidence, we moved to the third phase.

### Phase Three: Execution or Transmission

Several weeks after recording the sermons and music, we traveled the same route, but this time to broadcast from the places where we had recorded. Each night the local Hispanic ministries director shared their vision and told us what they were doing in their

territory in the midst of the pandemic, all streamed to Facebook and YouTube. Every conference learned about what the others were doing. Most churches connected and supported the Caravan.

These were intense days of happiness and victory, though full of obstacles and fatigue. However, the long hours of road travel could not dampen the many moments of laughter and reflection during the journey to the eight territories of our Southern Union. The Lord helped us!

Thanks to Him we closed the Virtual

Caravan “Conectados,” Saturday, August 8, 2020. And thanks to the cross-posting with most churches throughout the territory of the Southern Union and many others of the North American Division, we reached more than 100,000 views. We also managed to connect through the Esperanza TV signal, which was added to the broadcast via its Facebook page and YouTube channel. Other ministries, such as “Light for Today” radio, pledged to share messages every night in order to reach more people.

“Conectados” led us to achieve our goal: for each member to connect two people with the good news of salvation. Thanks to this, hundreds and thousands watched every night. The comments and messages of encouragement for the whole team, the prayers that accompanied us during those long nights and days of travel, were a sign that, if we join in preaching the Gospel, God will give us His great victory.

When we planned this event amid the pandemic and confinement, we understood that baptizing 50 souls was a huge challenge. Dreaming of 100 baptisms was a madness of faith. We never imagined that God would surprise us with 534 souls even in the midst of a pandemic. Praise His name forever! If we join our hands with His strength and



PHOTO BY: DAWIN RODRIGUEZ PHOTOGRAPHY

Kathy and Roger Hernandez (left), along with Arnaldo and Mencia Cruz, participate in a Q&A portion of the MiGPS3 virtual evangelistic series. The nightly meetings were streamed from the Peregrinos Church sanctuary.



PHOTO BY: DAWIN RODRIGUEZ PHOTOGRAPHY

Part of the team involved in presenting and producing the MiGPS3 evangelistic meetings are pictured. Several members of the Peregrinos Church joined the team from the North American Division to help facilitate the production.

the power of His Holy Spirit, nothing will be impossible. Better yet, everything will be possible!

Therefore, my dear brother and beloved sister, stay connected to Jesus!

## STORY #2: MiGPS3 Groups, Purpose, Service

In 2019 Tony Anobile, North American Division vice president for multilingual ministries, challenged us to create an initiative to reach youth and young adults, and MiGPS3 was born. MiGPS3 is based on three clear principles: Groups, Purpose, and Service.

For a whole year, a small-group bilingual curriculum was used. You can download it for free at [www.migps3.com](http://www.migps3.com). More than 1,300 small groups were formed. The original intent was to visit 10 cities in 10 days by bus. Because of the pandemic, we made the Peregrinos Seventh-day Adventist Church in Southeastern Conference our studio.

For nine nights we combined practical biblical sermons by Arnaldo Cruz and Roger Hernandez, which were related to our purpose. You can watch a replay at [www.youtube.com/pastorrogerhernandez](http://www.youtube.com/pastorrogerhernandez). Specially invited guests shared that you don't have to compromise your faith to fulfill your purpose. One quar-

ter of a million views later, something amazing happened.

A mother was watching the program and invited her daughter. She was reluctant at first, but every night she came closer and closer to the TV until she was fully engaged. That's the power of the Gospel.

A couple in central Florida were convicted, and decided to get married and baptized.

Two young adults who had disconnected from the Church decided to return before the week was even over.

A young woman who had experienced some hurt at church recognized that she needed God and asked for help.

Whether it's in Spanish or English or Spanglish, these last few months have shown that evangelism can "thrive even when we can't drive." 📻

**Julio Chazarreta** is the director of Hispanic ministries at the Southern Union Conference.

**Roger Hernandez** is the ministerial director at the Southern Union Conference.



Maria Acosta is baptized by evangelist Herb Orellana at Peregrinos Church. Acosta is one of more than 500 individuals who made a decision for baptism and profession of faith during the Conectados virtual caravan.



PHOTO BY: DAWIN RODRIGUEZ PHOTOGRAPHY

Roger Hernandez, Southern Union Conference ministerial director, directly addressed the participants who joined the MiGPS3 meetings via Zoom. The meetings were also streamed to Facebook and YouTube, and have so far attracted more than a quarter million views.



# *Society of Adventist Communicators* 2020 VIRTUAL CONVENTION

BY MYLON MEDLEY

The 2020 Society of Adventist Communicators Virtual Convention expands the community among professionals within the North American Division and overseas. A record-breaking, diverse interest supports the advancement of aspiring and professional communicators for the denomination.

Since 2000, when the Southern Society of Adventist Communicators became the Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC), the annual convention has drawn professionals and students from across the North American Division (NAD) to a multiple-day event featuring keynote addresses, dynamic presentations and workshops, networking opportunities, site visits to media outlets, and award ceremonies. However, the realities of the COVID-19 pandemic forced the convention's organizers to take the 2020 convention online to Zoom, a widely-used video conferencing program.

"I'm extremely grateful to the SAC board of directors, and the NAD studio production and communication teams who were able to pull this off within a few months. This would not have been possible without their hard work. It's truly awe-inspiring," said Dan Weber,

executive director of SAC, and communication director of the North American Division.

This year's convention was condensed to fit into the evenings of October 14 and 15, with two keynote addresses, by Sylvie di Giusto and Kim Lear, and eight workshops scheduled over the two days. With consideration of the effects of the pandemic, including widespread financial hardships due to job loss across the country, organizers made registration a "pay-as-you're-able" system, allowing registrants to attend for free or choose to donate an amount up to \$100, which would help the organization fund next year's convention and offer student discounts.

One unexpected surprise from making the event virtual the registration fee optional was receiving a record-breaking amount of interest in the convention with 726 registrants — nearly triple the number of attendees of past SAC conventions. The online format paved the way for people who have been interested in the convention over the years, but were unable to attend for various reasons, including conflicts with work or school, or limited travel budgets. Despite some technical glitches, many breakouts had

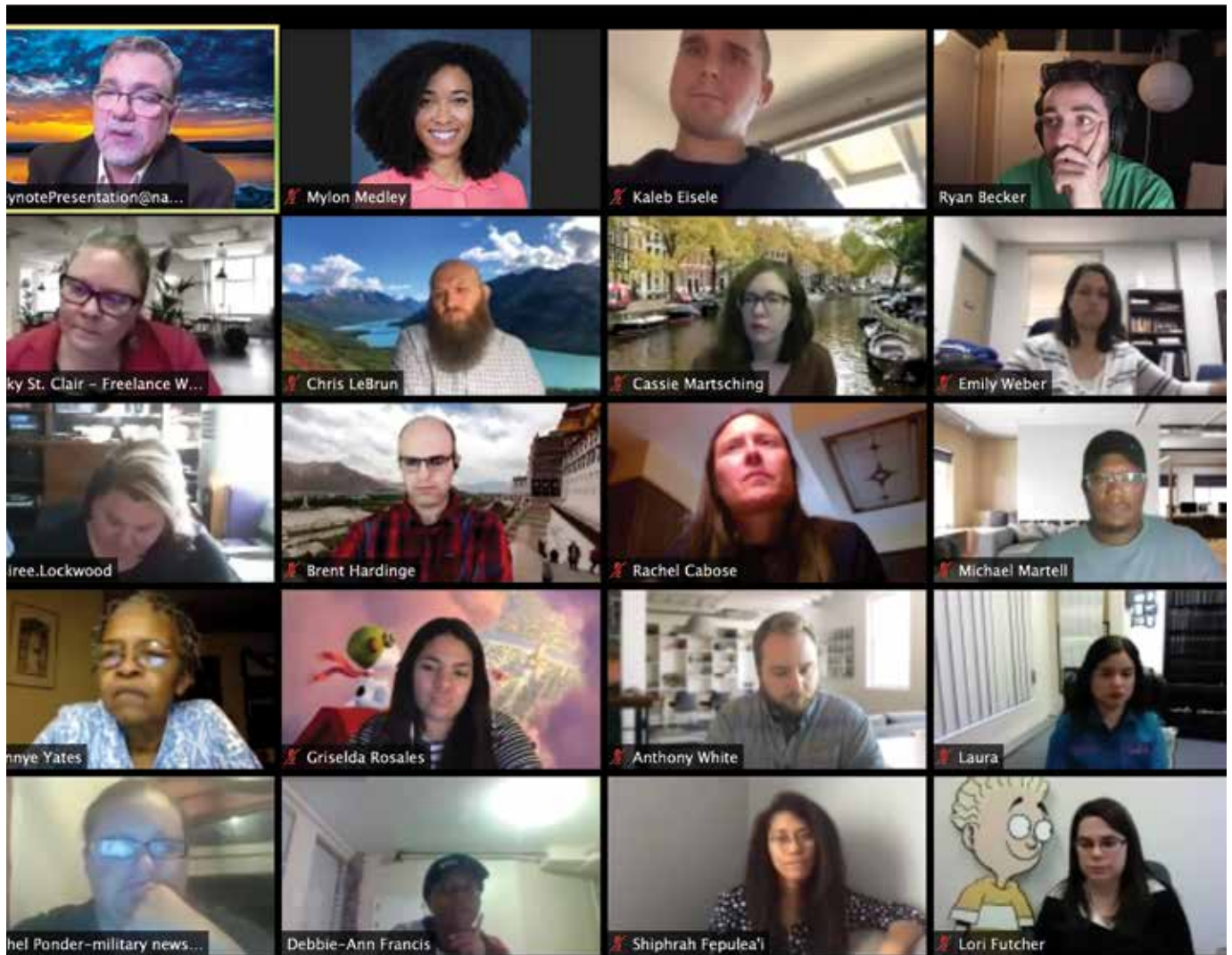
more than 100 attendees each, and both keynote presentations' attendance was in excess of 300.

"I am the communications director at my local church, and this is my first year at SAC! I'm really glad I was able to join," wrote Trenette Donovan in the Zoom chat. "Thank you for all of your hard work. I learned a lot and I'm excited for next year!"

In addition, many attendees joined from countries located outside the Division territory of the United States, Guam-Micronesia, Canada, and Bermuda. Represented countries included Ethiopia, Australia, New Zealand, The Bahamas, Jamaica, Virgin Islands, Guatemala, Iceland, Philippines, and the United Kingdom.

"I think [this virtual format] will need to become a permanent part of SAC as it allows more access to international communicators who are not always able to afford the travel expenses," said attendee Desrene Vernon. Her sentiment was echoed by numerous attendees who expressed deep appreciation for the opportunity to connect with colleagues from other divisions and countries. Organizers say the virtual addition would supplement the in-person convention experience, not





replace it.

Another added bonus of the convention's virtual accessibility and flexible registration fee was providing professionals in various Church institutions who are not in the communication field — leaders who may work in conjunction with colleagues in public relations, news production, and social media — the chance to look into the world of communication to get a better understanding of the work involved behind the scenes.

"There's sometimes a disconnect between an administration and communication. Being able to have someone such as [a conference president] listening in to the breakout sessions

and being able to actually say, 'Here is the value of my communication person' is important," said Enno Müller, communication director of the Southeastern California Conference. "This year's format lends the ability for some of these conference leaders to be able to attend, to come in and watch — and that in itself is a value. I think if this could be done more often, it will enable the communication work to be more effective in our entities."

For those who were unable to attend the 2020 SAC Virtual Convention, recordings of the workshops will be available on the SAC website in the coming weeks. Topics including "Streaming for Pastors," "Communi-

cation + Social Justice," "Seventh-day Adventists and the Movies," "Thou Shalt Not Steal: Copyright Law and the Boogeyman," and "Process of Releasing a Corporate Statement," will be available on the SAC website in the coming weeks. ●

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**Mylon Medley** is the assistant director for news at the North American Division in Columbia, Maryland.

# *Student Ministry* KICKS OFF AT UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Andrew Otanes recently moved to Tuscaloosa, Alabama, from Orlando, Florida, to attend the University of Alabama. What made him choose to leave his hometown and local university options? Because God told him that “there’s work that needs to be done up there,” says Otanes.

Otanes is a political science and management double major, and a member of the university’s ROTC program. His goal is to become a judge advocate in the United States Army. But, what drives him most as an Adventist at a secular university is to make genuine connections with people on behalf of the Church. “I see what other churches are doing [on secular campuses] to bring people in and make them feel accepted, and make people feel loved, and I’m dissatisfied with the amount that the Seventh-day Adventist Church does to accomplish the same.” Otanes’ natural response to his dissatisfaction is to do something about it and make it better.

At the beginning of October 2020, Otanes teamed up with Marcus Harden, pastor of the Tuscaloosa Skyland Church, and Josue Sanchez, youth director of Gulf States, to start an Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF) chapter at the university and host their first event at the church. Twenty people showed up. Otanes believes that marketing is key to success, and his strategy was word of mouth, meeting people face-to-face, and leveraging his personal connections.

Other Adventist students from an area



PHOTO BY: SHANE HOCHSTETLER

**Andrew Otanes felt God’s call to attend the University of Alabama because of the evangelistic work that is needed on campus.**

community college came to the event, but many who were not Adventists and even non-Christians attended too. “We played games, we talked about surviving the struggles of being a college student and the difficulties that come with it,” said Otanes. They also offered free food to attendees: “That was a big thing, saying there’s free food.” But more than free stuff, Otanes offered a genuine invitation. “An honest man has nothing to fear,” he said. “I’m not trying to throw any gimmicks... I was

just honest. I said, ‘I care about you, guys. I want to see you through, and I think you’re going to enjoy this.’” Several people from Otanes’s ROTC group came to the event and new people outside of his regular acquaintances. “We met a guy at the park,” Otanes explains, “and we were just playing football. And he’s like, ‘Can I play with you?’ And the first thing I said was, ‘yeah, of course, man.’ And then, like 30 minutes later, I was like, ‘by the way, there’s an ACF event coming up this Friday at the Tus-





The University of Alabama is home to more than 35,000 students, the majority of which come from outside of the state.

caloosa Skyland Church ...' I sent him all the information, and he showed up." Just being friendly and willing to make new personal connections goes a long way.

Otanes believes that part of keeping a solid connection with God while attending a secular university is to get involved in a local church. While there aren't many Adventist churches in the Tuscaloosa area and young people's attendance is slim, Otanes is determined not to be discouraged and participates wherever he is able. It was shortly after he arrived that he met Harden and shared his previous experience with ACF. In response, Harden offered him an opportunity to preach, and connected him to the Gulf States Conference Youth Department.

Sanchez offered to sponsor some ACF events, and brought Otanes onto his video podcast on Facebook to announce the new ministry initiative. Combining the willingness of Otanes with opportunities from the local church and re-

sources from the Conference is proving to be a winning combination.

When asked what advice may help Adventists at other secular universities, Otanes suggests, "Find a really good church group .... And if there isn't an Adventist group around you, find Christian friends, good influences .... Try to remain in good places; don't expose yourself to temptation .... And keep yourself busy, find things that make you happy, and be passionate about those things.

"The best part about coming to a secular university as an Adventist is just the fact that there is a mission field. I remember when I first came up here, I spoke at the church and said something like this, 'We should have as great a faith as Joshua did, and understand that there is a Jericho in front of us. All we need to do to take that thing down is just call upon the Lord's name, and that city will be delivered unto us.' So my thing is this, I think that the University of Alabama itself is a Jericho where there's a lot of people who need to be reached.

"Let's just call — collectively as an ACF and as an Adventist community — upon the Lord's name. There's nothing that will stop us from getting to the kids here at the university, and making meaningful, impactful, long term, sustainable change for the better."

Watch the video interview at [www.gscsda.org/acfalabama](http://www.gscsda.org/acfalabama). 📺

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**Shane Hochstetler** is the communication director at the Gulf States Conference.

# *A Global Perspective* IN STUDENT LEADERSHIP

BY TRISNEY BOCALA

Until she headed to Collegedale, Tennessee, to attend Southern Adventist University, Sheryl Kambuni had never left her home continent of Africa. In fact, aside from a Pathfinder trip to the neighboring country of Tanzania, she had never traveled internationally at all. A descendent of the Kisii tribe, Kambuni was born and raised in Nairobi, Kenya, and has lived in the same house for most of her life. During her senior year at Maxwell Adventist Academy, recruiters from Southern visited, and she applied.

“My parents and I felt like Southern was the right place for me,” she said, “and I became the first in my family to attend this University.”

Now a junior psychology major, Kambuni is the current Student Association (SA) president. She describes her cultural heritage as her “context for the world,” and it has helped her to connect with Southern’s diverse student body and to address issues and concerns, particularly in relation to international students. For example, like many of her peers, she has been unable to go home since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“As a campus leader, I can’t risk leaving the U.S. for fear of not being able to get back in if countries close their borders,” Kambuni said.

“My African background and experiences shape how I view people, how I make decisions, and every aspect of my life,” she explained. “I know what it’s like to be in a different place, to have



Sheryl Kambuni’s international perspective helps her lead as Southern’s Student Association president.

traveled far to go to school, to not be able to go home easily; being an international student gives me a better understanding of my peers.”

Kambuni is one of several international students holding leadership positions on campus this year. Another is Isaac Abraham, junior nursing/pre-med





As leader of the University's Asian Club, Isaac Abraham is proud to celebrate a wide range of cultures.



Serving as Latin American Club president has given María José Morán a new appreciation for the beauty of diversity.

major and president of Southern's Asian Club, one of the largest student organizations on campus.

Abraham identifies himself culturally as Indian, since both of his parents are from India, even though he was born in Oman and grew up there and in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Having been emersed in a mix of Indian and Middle Eastern cultures, he speaks three languages fluently and can read and write Arabic as well.

While in high school, Abraham traveled to the U.S. to visit family and realized that, if he could afford it, he wanted to study there. He researched Adventist universities in North America and decided to pursue an education at Southern.

As a campus leader, Abraham has learned the importance of preserving one's cultural identity.

"Asian Club is like a home away from home," he said. "In Oman, I didn't notice the differences. Then I came to the

States and realized that cultural diversity is huge! It's great because people are curious about other cultures, and I actually understand the value of my heritage here more than I did there."

María José Morán, senior mass communication major, leads another of Southern's large student organizations: the Latin American Club (LAC). Born in Honduras, Morán and her family also lived in El Salvador and Guatemala before moving back to Honduras in 2010. Growing up, Morán visited the U.S. occasionally for vacation, and during one of the trips toured Southern's campus.

As club president, Morán has been able to connect with students from a variety of cultural backgrounds.

"LAC has broadened my understanding of the meaning of Latino and/or Hispanic, and it has put into perspective the true beauty of diversity," she said. "Lots of different people know me as the LAC president, and it makes me

proud when those who have no ties to Latin America are interested in learning about my culture."

Despite the challenges imposed by the current pandemic, Southern continues to have a large international student population, representing more than 35 countries.

"We are blessed to have a diverse student body on our campus, which provides a rich cross-cultural experience," said Lisa Hall, dean of students. "Interacting with students, faculty, and staff who have different backgrounds broadens our perspectives and gives each of us valuable experience for the future." ●

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**Trisney Bocala** is a junior mass communication major at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee.

# *Global Missions in a Global Pandemic:* REVAMPING INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH IN AN ERA OF LIMITED TRAVEL

BY INGRID HERNANDEZ

While AdventHealth's experts focused on supporting its 50 hospitals across the United States, the organization's Global Missions team took on the challenge of re-thinking international mission work in a global pandemic.

At this time in an average year, the Global Missions team would be deploying AdventHealth team members for mission trips to footprint hospitals in countries like Peru, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Honduras, and Rwanda, among others. 2020 has, however, not been an average year, and the cancellation of flights, border control restrictions and lockdowns, along with the all-hands-on-deck need for team members at the health system's own facilities, did not allow for these mission trips to go on as usual. With this unexpected change of plans, Global Missions shifted to supporting these hospitals in new ways: lifesaving personal protective equipment (PPE), curated pandemic response education, and critical fundraising to meet ongoing needs.

This focus on international mission work is not new, and had been embedded into the organization since its inception.

"The work of Global Missions aligns with our mission statement and our commitment to whole-person care," said Monty Jacobs, director of AdventHealth Global Missions. "It's also about wanting to en-



The staff of Mugonera Adventist Hospital in Rwanda take COVID-19 precautions.

sure a strong culture of service, generosity, and compassion. It connects our employees to a broader global health ministry beyond the communities we serve."

## **A Critical Need for PPE Outside of Haiti's Capital**

One of the first footprint institutions to receive supplies during the pandemic was Haiti Adventist Hospital, located about a half-hour outside of Port-au-Prince. Ad-

ventHealth sent donations of PPE, EKG machines, and surgical supplies.

With an unprecedented demand for PPE, the hospital found itself in need of more lifesaving equipment than ever before, said Irma Henry, DPT, physical therapist at Haiti Adventist Hospital.

"AdventHealth was instrumental in keeping our hospital functional during the pandemic," she said. "Without the PPE donated by AdventHealth, we may not have



been able to adequately protect our staff, which could have been very detrimental, not only physically, but also to our morale.”

While the primary focus for AdventHealth remained to protect its team members at home, strong inventory levels allowed the health system to partner with Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) to ship more than 30 pallets of PPE from donation-eligible stockpiles – providing much needed face masks, gowns, sanitizers, and more to Haiti and nine other countries.

### **Pandemic Response Education for the Hardest Hit Country**

Aside from the supplies, a major need has also been pandemic response education. As the world grasped for understanding about the virus and how to best prevent and treat infections, Peru fell behind as the hardest hit country with the highest mortality rates in the world, according to an analysis by Johns Hopkins University & Medicine.

To help meet the need for education and support in pandemic response planning, the Global Missions team organized a clinical roundtable with partner hospitals in Peru, which connected Peruvian physicians with AdventHealth doctors instrumental to the system’s own COVID-19 response.

“The roundtable was an opportunity to get into the details of what’s going on at these Peru footprint hospitals, and share stories and experiences,” said Jacobs.

In the middle of the meeting, hospital leaders from Peru’s Clínica Americana de Juliaca sent an enthusiastic text message that they had just received their ventilator donation from AdventHealth.

### **In High-Elevation Regions of Peru, Oxygen is Hard to Find**

The respiratory effects of the novel coronavirus have led to a dramatic increase in demand for oxygen in the mountainous country of Peru, leaving many hospitals like Clínica Americana with limited options in their high-elevation area.

According to a report by ForeignPolicy.com, the sudden demand has caused the price of oxygen to rise tenfold. Many Peruvian hospitals “do not have their own oxygen generators and instead have to source it from outside.”

On past medical mission trips, volunteers from AdventHealth have experienced altitude sickness and resorted to oxygen tanks during their time there.

“The need for oxygen has been a huge factor for Clínica Americana during COVID-19,” said Shelby Houmann, communications specialist and event coordinator for AdventHealth Global Missions. “They are currently having to go and wait at a private plant and pay for oxygen by the tankful.”

With contributions from ADRA, the South American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, and other potential donors, AdventHealth is raising a significant portion of the \$200,000 cost for an oxygen plant project that would give Clínica Americana its own oxygen supply.

“Our eternal gratitude will always go to our AdventHealth friends,” said Boris Alomia Padilla, M.D., director-general of Clínica Americana de Juliaca. “It is in dark times like these where there is a greater need for us to work together ... not only to represent an institution, but the heart of Christ.”

AdventHealth Board members and executive leaders made contributions to four additional Global Missions initiatives in early August: community projects in Manchester, Kentucky; a sterilizer replacement for Centro Médico Vista del Jardín, Dominican Republic; the installation of a donated CT scanner for Hospital Adventista Valle de Ángeles, Honduras; and a new maternity ward for Mugonero Adventist Hospital, Rwanda.

Excess funds from this special offering will be used to support ongoing COVID-19 relief activities in the footprint hospitals. 🕊

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**Ingrid Hernandez** is the stakeholder communications manager for AdventHealth.

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Personal protective equipment arrives to Iquitos, Peru, from AdventHealth.



Haiti Adventist Hospital nurse wears personal protective equipment.



In addition to the 10 formal footprint hospitals, Global Missions has made donations to institutions in Guyana, Curacao, Ecuador, and Mexico. Just recently, the staff at Hospital del Sur-oeste in Villahermosa, Mexico, unloaded PPE and a C-arm donation from AdventHealth.

# SuCasa Breaks Ground for FUTURE CHURCH HOME

BY CAROLINA BONILLA



PHOTO BY: FRANCIS RIOS

Sixteen golden shovels held by church officials are primed and ready to dig at the SuCasa, or Collegedale Spanish-American, Church groundbreaking ceremony on Sunday, October 12, 2020. The new church will be located at College Drive in Collegedale, Tennessee, next door to Collegedale Academy.

The Collegedale Spanish-American Church (SuCasa Church) held its groundbreaking ceremony for a new church building, right on the land where the future church will stand, on Sunday, October 12, 2020. “Today is a very special day. We finally get to see what we had been planning for over 10 years. Our dream is now a reality,” said Jonathan Liriano, project construction assistant.

David Smith, president of Southern Adventist University, shared that for the 20 percent of Hispanic students enrolled at Southern, “this will continue to be a home away from home for these young students who have been received as members of a loving family.”

SuCasa Church has been working with Southern Adventist University providing ministry opportunities for students to get involved in the community, as well as caring for them through a “student adoption program,” with local families involved in

students’ lives and caring for them during their time at Southern.

“I have been a member of the Spanish-American Seventh-day Adventist Church since I moved to Tennessee in 1979,” said Omaira Marulanda, the oldest church attendee at the SuCasa Church groundbreaking. She remembers when there were few area Hispanics and those present would meet in the girls’ kitchen. “For many years we jumped from building to building to meet on Sabbaths,” she said, adding that the Hispanic students’ group was so small everyone fit at a single lunch table.

Once the 120-seat church was built, they never imagined it wouldn’t be enough space. “It’s exciting to see the growth throughout the years,” added Marulanda.

The Collegedale Spanish-American Church is mother church of eight other Hispanic church plants, including some in Georgia. It has always maintained the

vision of preparing future students as ministers to preach the Gospel around the world. High Point Chinese Church, led by Dennis Li, pastor, is one of the latest church plants located on Camp Road in Collegedale. This is one of the first Chinese congregations in the entire Southern Union. Every week they reach out to thousands of people through their online ministry.

“Now that construction has officially started, the plan is to complete the new SuCasa Church building by the end of 2021,” said Danny Garcia, construction supervisor. The new facility will house a 450-seat synagogue, a 350-seat fellowship hall to serve as a second church where members can train and create more church plants, and a daycare as an outreach and service to their community. “It will also include a soccer field for students from Collegedale Academy to use,” said Garcia. The church will also have a recording studio allowing the current online ministry to expand. Since many members have been unable to attend services due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the online streams of the Sabbath School and worship services have greatly benefitted local and online followers by providing encouragement and spiritual support.

It is a brand new day for SuCasa. They give glory to God for what He is doing and for allowing them to be part of His dream. This is the beginning of a new mission, both locally and globally. Please keep this project in your prayers. For more information, visit [sucasachurchproject.org](http://sucasachurchproject.org). 📞



# AdventHealth Gordon to Open New Cancer Center



center, all parts of AdventHealth Gordon's entire comprehensive Cancer Care program will be located on the main campus. Surgical oncology and urologic oncology are in the medical office building that is connected to the hospital. The Edna Owens Breast Center is located across the lobby from the medical office building, and the AdventHealth Harris Radiation Therapy Center is located across the parking lot.

"Our program will be completely streamlined with the opening of the new cancer center," said Karen Steely, chief operating officer for AdventHealth Gordon. "Providing easy access to care is one of our top priorities, and it leads to better outcomes for our patients."

AdventHealth Gordon's Cancer Care physicians, nurse navigators, and team members work together seamlessly to coordinate treatments between all areas of the Cancer Care program to elevate the level of care patients receive. In addition to treatment, the program also offers nutrition counseling, emotional and mental health counseling, support groups, and weight management programming to cancer patients. 📞

Scheduled to open in December 2020, the AdventHealth Gordon Cancer Center will be the final piece in bringing all cancer services on campus at AdventHealth Gordon to create a truly comprehensive cancer program. AdventHealth Medical Group Hematology Oncology at Calhoun and Advent Health Infusion Center Calhoun will relocate to be housed in the new cancer center. Patients will experience the benefits of receiving chemotherapy, immunotherapy, iron infusions, and fluid replace-

ment treatments on campus, which will provide maximum collaboration and coordination of care throughout a patient's cancer care journey.

The cancer center will feature an expanded number of clinic rooms and a 50% increase in the number of private infusion bays to accommodate more patients. An outdoor healing garden will provide patients with the physical, emotional, and spiritual benefits of nature and the outdoors.

With the completion of the new cancer

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BY CHELSEA ETHERIDGE

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# Ordination Attended Online, In Person



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

Interesting times demand interesting solutions. With an ordination scheduled and a limit on the size of gatherings, Eli Rojas Jr. and the Carolina Conference Ministerial Department collaborated to meet the challenge. Family, Conference officers, and church members all wanted to be present, so the service was relocated from Rojas' local church in Elizabeth City, N.C., to Charlotte, N.C., Central Spanish Church where there was space to distance and internet to stream the service to everyone who wanted to join.

This was of significance because Rojas' father, Eli Rojas Sr., had served as pastor at Charlotte Central, where Rojas had spent many of his teenage years. Just blocks away, a horrific automobile accident had led Rojas to make a serious commitment to Christ and his direction in life, resulting in a call to ministry.

Rojas has a rich heritage of ministry in his family — his father (Rojas Sr.), maternal grandfather (Minner Labrador Sr.), and paternal great-grandfather (Ananias Gonzalez) all served as pastors — with the most recent three generations work-



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

ing in the Carolina Conference. Eli Sr. delivered the message of the hour, alternately in English and then in Spanish with each paragraph. Before Leslie Louis, Conference president, and Haskell Williams, Conference ministerial director, placed the mantle of responsibility on Rojas Jr., his grandfather, Labrador, shared pertinent advice. The most memorable and touching part of the ceremony was when Labrador gave to Rojas Jr. his personal baptismal robe. The respect and affection the younger man has for his grandfather was abundantly evident.

Meanwhile, Minner Labrador Jr. (former pastor of Charlotte Sharon Church), was watching with great interest from the West Coast via internet streaming.

Rojas Jr. will continue ministry with the validation of his call to ministry from the World Church. He also takes up the additional responsibility of serving as director of singles ministries within the Carolinas. ❶

BY HASKELL WILLIAMS, CAROLINA  
CONFERENCE MINISTERIAL DIRECTOR



# Food for Body and Soul Accepted



PHOTO BY: CONTRIBUTED

Vicente Manuel Gonzalez had been sick for many years, and doctors advised him to stop drinking and smoking. For awhile he had stopped, and his health became slightly better, but like any other addiction, after awhile he started to abuse his body with bad habits again. For years, his Christian family had asked him to accept Christ, but he simply refused. One of his sisters noted that he would get upset and leave family meetings if religion was brought up. He was hard as a rock.

Eventually, he started to get sick again. The family was concerned. After some tests, the news came that he was in such bad health that there was nothing that could be done. He received a death sentence — two weeks to live.

Earlier, a family member had asked him to make peace with God, but he had refused; he really didn't want to make changes in his life. While in the hospital, Gonzalez reunited with one of his former doctors. Dr. Kim, who attends the Fairview, N.C., Church, remembered him and contacted the head elder of the local Spanish church group. The dilemma was



PHOTO BY: CONTRIBUTED

how to start the visit, though, as Gonzalez really was not interested in religion.

One year ago, the Spanish congregations in that area had started a food bank. Therefore, it was decided that the church would bring a box of food to help Gonzalez's family due to the pandemic. Every week he got a visit with a box of food,

and he was able to hear stories about Jesus. On one of those visits, Cesar, the head elder, talked about Nicodemus and how he had to be born again. All of a sudden, Gonzalez said, "I want to give my life to Jesus." It was a wonderful shock.

His fragile state of health was a concern, despite his having stayed alive beyond what the doctors had predicted. He was not able to stand for long. But, his desire was to be baptized, so he chose a river that flowed near his house. The pastor, with the help of the elders, baptized Gonzalez for the glory of God on Sabbath, July 18, 2020.

That day, his family witnessed the joy of a soul surrendering to Jesus. His wife and son accepted the call to join soon. Sadly, three days later, and two months beyond what he'd been told he would live, Gonzalez began his final rest until the Resurrection. Even in the midst of a tragedy, God reached out and used a food bank to open a door to eternal salvation. ①

BY RUBI PIMENTAL

# Dot Bostian Fulfills Quest to Swim 1,000 Miles



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**D**ot Bostian believes in an awesome God, a God Who wants to be involved in every aspect of her life. When she set a goal to swim 1,000 miles, she knew He would be with her every stroke of the way.

While pastoring at Kettering Memorial Church in Dayton, Ohio, her husband, Don, had a medical issue that caused them to improve their lifestyle and exercise program by walking two or more miles most days of the week. This change put them on a pathway to better health, and years later, when they retired to New Market, Va., they continued to walk several miles most days of the week. It was at that time that Bostian was able to add swimming to her exercise program with a one-mile swim three or four times a week.

In 2010, the couple retired to a villa at Fletcher Park Inn (FPI) in Hendersonville, N.C. One factor in this choice

was the swimming pool at Lelia Patterson Center (LPC) and its fitness center for her husband. Bostian decided that she would swim 100 miles each year. It was a challenging goal, but with extra swims the next year, she kept on track. In 2019, the yearly challenge was on shaky ground. Her husband was diagnosed with colon cancer. Although his surgery was successful, the chemo treatment did not go well, and left him with many side effects and a weakened body. They both had the sense that Jesus was walking with them every step of the way, and that without these issues, they would have missed something in their spiritual walk with Christ.

During this time, Bastian needed to give her husband a lot of care, which interfered with her swimming. Then LPC closed the pool from February 13, 2020, to the end of March to put in a new ceiling. Even so, by February 13, she had finished 65 miles and felt that it would be easy to finish the last 35 miles from April to August 7. Then along came the coronavirus, and the pool was closed until June 1.

“Thirty-five miles of swimming over the next 68 days would be a real tough feat for me,” said Bastian. She persevered, and by July 17, she had completed 25 miles and felt certain she would be able to complete her 100-mile swim for the year — making 1,000 miles since moving to FPI. Her goal was in sight!

Then, the next day, 10 years to the day since coming to North Carolina, she came down with the coronavirus. Three days later Don Bastian was diagnosed as well. While they didn’t have any serious symptoms, Bastian was quarantined, and losing her chance to make her swimming goal.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



PHOTO BY: DOT BOSTIAN

Then, with 10 miles to go, she realized something: God had given her 11 days after her quarantine to complete her last 10 miles — with a Sabbath day’s rest in between! She appreciated God’s sense of humor.

“As I began a mile swim every day,” said Bastian, “I told God that He would have to push me up and down each lap that I swam.” By the grace of God, she finished her 1,000th mile on her 85th birthday on August 7. “All I could say,” Bastian shared, “is that I believe in an amazing God that takes joy in seeing all our dreams and desires come to fruition.”

BY DOT BOSTIAN



# Salem, Lee Memorial Churches “Fall In” to Serve the Community



Mark Hyde, pastor, (who is also known as “Bible Patrol Man,” when he is out going door to door to spread the Gospel), shares produce and literature with the community.



Many gather to share the fresh produce.

As September 2020 opened its doors to fall, the Salem Church in Columbus, Miss., and Lee Memorial Church in West Point, Miss., district had to “fall in!” The members opened their doors to service to the Mississippi community. It all started with a little gleaning.

For several years now these churches have partnered with local agriculture programs to bring food into the community. One of the members will receive a call to come to the fields and gather what’s left, or to pick up whatever produce is available that week or that day. The pick-up is made and then brought to the churches to share with the community.

The members started with gleaning sweet potatoes, and they were some of the sweetest they’d had in a long time. They could be popped in the oven until tender,

and were dig-in delicious — no sugar, cinnamon, or butter needed. Next came the cucumbers. These were not just any cucumbers; they were a conversation piece because they were extra long with prickles. Most were not familiar with the English cucumber, so they were able to talk about God’s goodness through cucumbers.

They took a short break from food, and helped the Community Services team set up shop at Lee Memorial Church for the drive-by uniform give-away. The youth and several volunteers from the community came to assist in this yearly event. Individuals donated funds in excess of \$700 for brand new uniforms to distribute.

Parents were encouraged to register online so that their bags would be ready when they arrived. Because of COVID-19, there were no games, waterlides, nor food as had been done in years

past, but, with God’s help, the members were able to serve more than 25 families which had one to five children. Each child received two uniform shirts and one pair of pants. The members were also able to connect with at least three individuals who wanted prayer and Bible studies, and there was one sorority that promised to volunteer for next year’s event. ①

BY ANGELA HYDE

# Lehigh Acres Church Members Give Away Food



Young people of Lehigh Acres Church prepare food each Sabbath for needy people in disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Lehigh Acres Church members in southwest Florida are giving out free food every Saturday. Because of reduced income due to the novel coronavirus, there are many needy people in disadvantaged neighborhoods that need a helping hand.

It started the Friday before Easter. Some of the members of Lehigh Acres Church were reflecting on how, because of Covid, many people would be stuck at home, could not go to church, or spend time with their family. Then came the idea: they could take Easter to people who were probably bored and lonely. The plan was to get some candy and some books, maybe write a nice note, and drop it off at people's houses.

It was suggested that instead of junk food, which is expensive and unhealthy, it might be better to deliver real food. The next day, members arrived at a

low-income neighborhood with a pickup full of produce: beans and rice, tomatoes, onions, corn, and potatoes. They planned to go door to door giving out food.

What happened instead was truly amazing! A grandma came over and eyed the pickup truck. She was encouraged to take some food, and she ran inside to grab a bag. By the time the kids finished preparing food, a line of about 50 people had formed. Volunteers began to fill boxes with food as fast as they possibly could, but when they looked up, it seemed like the line hadn't even moved. People would come and get food, be wished a Happy Easter, and be prayed for with Lehigh Acres members. It was evening before everyone was served.

The next Saturday the same members, joined by others, decided to do it again. The experience was much the same. Soon, it became a weekly activity. "God

miraculously opened a series of doors like the idea, transitioning to locally available economic food, and a peer group eager to serve. All we did corporately was walk through the doors God opened," commented one of the participants.

That was Easter; since then the Lehigh Acres ministry of giving out food has expanded. Different groups rotate on a Sabbath-by-Sabbath basis, and a previous Bread Ministries has been expanded to send food to this project. The mission of Lehigh Acres is Open Hearts, Open Arms, Open Hands. "We would love to see what God could accomplish everywhere," wished a member, "if there were more people who were willing to give five loaves and three fish." 🙏

BY GRACE EISELE



# Florida Conference Ordains Two to Ministry



Kathy, Angelo, Emma, and Eliah Grasso

## Angelo J. Grasso

Angelo Joseph Grasso was born in Santiago, Chile, to Joseph and Maria Grasso, and spent most of his childhood in New York City, N.Y. At the age of 13, Angelo's parents enrolled him in Garden State Academy in Tranquility, N.J., where he deepened his relationship with God through Christian teachers and mentors. There he also met his future wife, Kathy Reyna, whom he married in September 2002 and with whom he shares two wonderful children, Eliah and Emma.

Grasso accepted his calling to ministry at the age of 17 during a summer of literature evangelism. Since then, he has traveled throughout the United States and abroad, sharing the love of Jesus Christ and God's plan of redemption through preaching, teaching, campus ministry, and, most recently, as pastor of Gainesville Church. Kathy Grasso has pursued her calling in the healthcare field, earning a master's degree in public

health and serving as a physician assistant in the pediatric surgery department at Nemours Children's Hospital.

Grasso's journey in ministry has been shaped by teachers, pastors, mentors, and friends. But, those who have formed his ministry the most have been the students and church members he was honored to serve, and his own family — especially his wife — who have encouraged him through all of the ups and downs of his calling with grace and love.

## Juan Enrique Martinez II

Juan Enrique Martinez II was born in Worcester, Mass. Soon after this his family relocated to Apopka, Fla. He was raised attending Forest Lake Church and

his beautiful wife, Vanessa Martinez, who grew up in Chicago before attending college.

After interning at several churches in the Chattanooga area, he accepted a call to be a chaplain. Martinez then attended Andrews University to fulfill his M.Div. There is where his heart for pastoral ministry began to grow. He later accepted a call to become a youth and young adult pastor in Atlanta. While there, he received a call to be the young adult pastor at Forest Lake Church.

He now serves at the church where he was baptized, and has the opportunity to work alongside pastors McCoy and Mark Reams, who both served him as a youth.

Martinez attributes a lot of his success



Vanessa, Juan, and Adeline Martinez (daughter Ila born since photo)

was baptized by Barbara McCoy, pastor, at the age of 11. Martinez also attended Forest Lake Elementary Center and Forest Lake Academy, where his calling to ministry began with large investments by his Bible teachers and youth pastor at the time. In 2006, Martinez attended one semester at University of Central Florida before heading to Southern Adventist University, where he fully committed to his call to ministry. At Southern, he met

in ministry to his parents and wife who invested so much in him. Vanessa Martinez has taken upon the calling in ministry as well, to support and connect with others in whatever way she can. They have two daughters, Adeline, 4, and Ila, born October 30, 2020. ●

# Don and Dolly Fillman Celebrate 70 Years



Dolly and Don Fillman

Dolly Darbo and Don Fillman met at a Fourth of July picnic on the campus of Southern Missionary College (SMC) in 1949, in Collegedale, Tenn. He was 20 and she was 17. She had just finished her junior year at Collegedale Academy, and he had a year of college behind him.

The two were married 11 months later in the Chapel of Lynn Wood Hall on the campus of SMC, now Southern Adventist University.

Dolly Fillman later graduated with an elementary education degree from SMC, and Don Fillman received his doctor of

dental surgery degree from the University of Tennessee, practicing many years in Ringgold, Ga.

They raised six children, and now have 25 great-grandchildren. They feel blessed to have lived in Collegedale, making a temporary home for many students and others for various lengths of time.

The Fillmans like to serve the Lord in the Collegedale Church, and SMC, or Southern Matrimonial College as it is was jokingly referred to, worked out well for them. ❶

# Connect Worship Serves Others on Service Sabbath

COVID-season has created many opportunities to change the way churches have always done things. Connect Worship Service, a part of the Collegedale, Tenn., Church, recently has been integrating a new rhythm into the way they worship and engage. As part of their new plan, they have designated the first Sabbath of each month as "Service Sabbath."

Among the various options for participating in acts of service for their community, this month Camrie Ackerman chose to be a part of the group who drove downtown Oct. 3, 2020, to help serve lunch at the Chattanooga Community Kitchen.

Each day dozens of people begin to line up to receive some warm food. Several members of the group served pre-assembled lunches indoors, while a large group of post-collegiate young people served fresh fruit, popcorn, and



Members of the Connect Worship Service, part of the Collegedale, Tenn., Church, recently went to the Chattanooga Community Kitchen to serve those in need.

hot chocolate outside. After receiving food, the people milled around the area and church members were able to talk with many of them. Some of them talked about what street they ended up sleeping on last night, or voiced concerns about trying to stay warm as the weather continues to get cooler. Some of them declared their own theories on life and shared part of their story. Ackerman felt so grateful to be able to see life from a perspective so different from her own.

She noticed how naturally she tended to view everything from a personal, and possibly selfish, perspective. Her daily schedule revolves around her job, her to-do list, and trying to fit all the miscellaneous things in accordance to her own preferences. Going to the Community Kitchen was a refreshing reminder that Jesus has called all to live a life of service — to recognize and meet the

PHOTO BY: KRIS ECKENROTH



needs of the people around them.

Those serving at Community Kitchen invite all to look outside their own lives and search for opportunities to intentionally serve others. This is a reflection

of God's heart towards his children.

"We will show mercy to the poor and not miss an opportunity to do acts of kindness for others, for these are the true sacrifices that delight God's heart,"

Hebrews 13:16 TPT. ❶

BY CAMRIE ACKERMAN

## Cleveland Fellowship Feeds the Hungry



PHOTO BY: VICK LANEY

Elsie Roy, Julie Roy, Lukas Roy, and Kaiya Laney prepare the meal bags, adding *Signs of the Times* to each one.



PHOTO BY: VICK LANEY

Members of the Cleveland Fellowship Company in Cleveland, Tenn., provide about 75-100 meals each month with their "Feeding the Hungry" mission to help families.

It's nice to offer praise and thanksgiving to God for blessings daily and for food. However, there are hungry and hurting people approaching shelters and soup kitchens in record numbers. In response, the members at Cleveland Fellowship Church in Cleveland, Tenn., have been providing approximately 75 to 100 meals each month to help meet the needs of struggling families who look forward to nutritious meals.

To launch this ministry, Cleveland Fellowship — with a membership of only slightly over 50 individuals — had to find a kitchen with a dining area, funds to buy food and supplies, and volunteers for the task, as well as a way to locate the people in need. God provided an incredible resource in Albion Johnson, who, with her faithful team from another Christian church, serves two meals a month at the

local Salvation Army office. She generously coached Cleveland Fellowship Church volunteers, teaching how to organize and serve guests as they serve the second Saturday of each month.

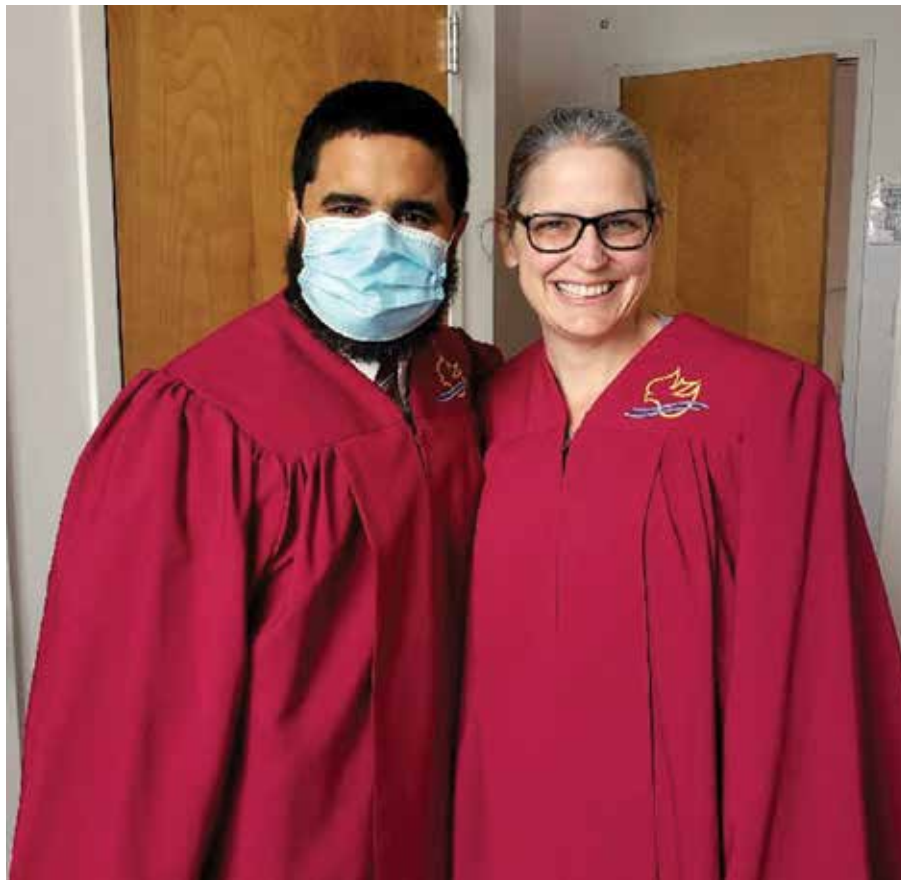
Cleveland Fellowship volunteers quickly came to love the guests attending their "new mission." As operating costs grew, the church members trusted in the Lord to help them discover additional funding. In answer to their prayers, Bowman Hills School in Cleveland held a Turkey Trot fundraiser that got the whole school involved. The students set a goal for the food drive of raising \$5 a person to feed 100 people for a total of \$500, but as God's Spirit was working, their sponsors shared \$3,000! Those funds were donated to Cleveland Fellowship's "Feeding the Hungry" mission, and Bowman Hills students contin-

ue to help by serving meals on designated Sabbaths. The dining room is closed due to COVID-19, so meals are served in to-go bags.

Many guests who attend these Cleveland Fellowship lunches may not yet realize it, but their souls need food just as much as their body. Jesus said, "My food is to do the will of Him Who sent Me, and to finish His work," John 4:35 NKJV. The members at Cleveland Fellowship follow His example by putting a *Signs of the Times* tract in each meal bag, then praying that God will lead their guests to find rest for their souls by feeding on Jesus' words for their hungry hearts. ❶

BY PHIL BENSON AND VICK LANEY

# Longtime Visitor Becomes Member in Panama City



**Katie Danielson appreciates the family-like acceptance she has received over the years, and that was a key factor to her decision to be baptized by Jay Rosario, former pastor for Panama City.**

**K**atie Danielson was baptized and joined the church membership at the Panama City, Fla., Church on September 19, 2020. Her journey to this point was many years in the making. Her experience with the Seventh-day Adventist Church began when her family moved to Yap, an island in the South Pacific Ocean between the Philippines and Guam. Danielson was 15 years old, and although her parents weren't Adventists, they enrolled her at the Adventist school because it had a strong reputation for educational excellence. "It was

almost like coming home because there were Americans there," says Danielson. The students and teachers "just showed me the love of Jesus, and made me feel welcomed." Following her time in Yap and at the school, Danielson went about life as usual in the United States, without connecting to the Church.

Later, in 2012, while working at a medical facility in Panama City, Fla., she befriended Sandy Ellington, a member of the Panama City Church. During their workplace discussions, they discovered that each of them had attended an Adven-

tist Academy growing up. This discovery allowed for other talks, and ultimately Ellington invited Danielson to attend church with her in 2013. The two became very good friends, and Danielson continued to participate in church intermittently until 2015, when she left for graduate school. Danielson returned to the area in 2017 after receiving an offer to work as a nurse practitioner in the same facility she worked at before. Upon her return, she began attending church more regularly.

In time, she realized she needed to make a more substantial commitment to God, and asked about baptism. Jay Rosario, pastor of the church at the time, started baptismal studies with Danielson. It was here that she was informed about church membership and its connection with baptism. She was all for it.

As Danielson thinks back over the last 20 years and her experience with Adventism at the island school, and then Adventism in friendship and at the church, the thing that appealed to her most and kept her close to the Church was the acceptance she felt. "It is like family," she says, continuing, "there is love here." She also appreciates the diversity of the Church and its global reach. She was accepted as a teenager in one place, then accepted as an adult in another: "To me, that was huge." 📌

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER



# Adventist Community Services Adds Service Trailer



PHOTO BY: SHANE HOCHSTETLER

A pre-production image of the new trailer: The final product will have a different door layout and overall size.



PHOTO BY: DARRY SEMILLANO

The trailer was brought in to aid the volunteer cleanup efforts in Fairhope, Ala., following Hurricane Sally.

It became apparent that Conference-sponsored service vehicles would be well-received by churches and their communities. The Shower+Laundry trailer made its debut at the Dothan First Church in Dothan, Ala., and was well received by the church and local community services representatives. Since that time, the trailer has been in use at numerous churches for various events, including homeless ministry outreach, and disaster response.

Because of the support from constituents, the North American Division, and AdventHealth, another service trailer is being manufactured and slated to go into use at the beginning of 2021. The new trailer is smaller and serves a different purpose, to transport organized tools and equipment for yard cleanup. The Home+Care trailer will be fully stocked with tools, rakes, mowers, gloves, and other safety equipment to make clearing debris as easy as possible. Most of the equipment will be accessible from outside doors, allowing more volunteers to work simultaneously rather than getting clogged in one

rear door or needing to shift unnecessary gear to reach what they need.

“We want to see these trailers in use at all times,” says Martin Fancher, Gulf States Adventist Community Services (ACS) director. “It would be a shame to have them just sitting somewhere, collecting dust.” By launching these mobile units, the Conference intended to shift the ACS ministry in its territory from purely disaster response to community service. The units would be something visible and useful in communities throughout the Conference year-round. Local churches can request to borrow these vehicles from the Conference to advance community ministry near them.

One way the Shower+Laundry trailer is being utilized to advance the local ministry is by offering a shower and laundry equipment to canvassing students staying at local churches who don’t have those facilities. This opens up new territory for publishing ministries, allowing students to work in an area for several days instead of just passing through.

When asked about adding other vehicles or more of the same type to the Con-

ference fleet, Fancher said, “We’ll add more as constituents indicate the need, and donate to the ministry along with our partners, like AdventHealth.” The Conference has recently added a suggestion box to the ACS web page to gauge what needs may be arising.

Another new addition to the web page is a volunteer form. “We’re building a database of local volunteers that we can call upon when in need,” says Fancher, “If a disaster strikes or something else comes up, we want to be able to reach out for help from people that aren’t in the affected area.” Partnering with the Conference Department of Communication, Fancher will have access to a mapping of the volunteers, and will quickly be able to assemble a list of people to help in the given situation. ❶

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER

## Ed Lynn Serves 50 Years



Ed and Cheryl Lynn

Ed Lynn is a humble man who, unless he is asked, would not easily acknowledge his 50 years of service to the Adventist Church. In 1971, he, together with his wife, Cheryl, and their two children, moved to southern Missouri and entered the literature evangelist/colporteur ministry.

Recognized for his leadership abilities, in 1978 Lynn was invited to the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference where he became the Conference publishing assistant. His duties would eventually include supervising the literature ministry in west Tennessee, and in 1984, providing leadership for the literature evangelists serving in the state of Kentucky.

After 30 years of service in the publishing work, in the year 2000, Lynn's ministry transitioned into a new area of

leadership. For the last 20 years, in his role as administrator, he has expertly provided support to the residents of Highland Rim Terrace, a Conference-owned and operated H.U.D. facility located in Portland, Tenn.

As the year 2020 comes to a close, Lynn is officially retiring and looking forward to spending more time in one of his hobbies, traveling throughout the United States. After serving in professional ministry for half a century, Lynn is most grateful that God has given him opportunity to have encouraged hundreds of individuals to know and love Jesus. ①

BY STEVE HALEY,  
CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

## Highland Supports Community

The Highland Church in Portland, Tenn., is actively involved in serving their community. On Sunday, Oct. 18, 2020, the men's ministries sponsored a golf tournament. More than \$1,500 was raised that benefited the Highland Community Services (HCS).

Some of the projects supported by HCS help a Portland food program, "Pay it Forward," giving hundreds of free food boxes to Portland residents. Highland Community Services also gives 50 to 60 food baskets out during Thanksgiving, and gifts for needy children during Christmas. The thrift store is open two days a week to serve the Portland area.

"Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good," *Ministry of Healing*, p. 143. ①



Some of the golfers enjoy a light lunch after nine holes of golf.

BY ELAINE CANTRELL



# Appalachian Christian Academy/ Early Learning Center Has Growth

The rural Appalachian area is growing with opportunities to provide faith-based education to the economically challenged communities.

The mission of Appalachian Christian Academy (ACA), located in Manchester, Ky., is to “show children Jesus, nurture their love for Him and others, teach them to think, and empower them to serve.”

ACA has two main programs in Manchester, their school and their childcare center. The academy provides education for children in grades K-8, while the childcare center is an early learning center for children ages 2-5 years old. Each program consists of a Bible-centered, integrated learning experience.

Educators and caregivers at ACA Early Learning Center are dedicated to maintaining an environment that encourages discovery, promotes development of the whole self, and allows students to pursue a love for knowledge while training the students for eternity. ●



Brayden Gregory, fourth grade, and Emily Hubbard, third grade, helped with community service pre-COVID.

BY NIKKI PATTERSON



Airivyn Walling (front), Briley Griffiths (back), Jace Gambrel, and Lilah Davison are students at the early learning center during snack time.



Shannon Escobar teaches the class.

# AHU Celebrates Nursing Graduates



As this tumultuous year comes to a close, many will be breathing a sigh of relief with prayers for a more peaceful and healthier 2021. Despite the setbacks, this year also saw many communities rise together and support one another. At AdventHealth University (AHU), faculty, staff, and students pivoted as courses went fully remote, meeting new challenges along the way. Fortunately, AHU's long history of innovative online education helped the transition.

However, the question of how to handle other important campus events remained. Life achievements that students have been looking forward to were canceled or postponed. AHU's faculty and staff worked to organize safe celebrations that still captured the feeling of joy when people were unable to meet in person.

Graduation was streamed virtually on YouTube, allowing friends and family to tune in and offer congratulations as their loved one's name was read aloud. Students were invited to submit photos shown on screen as names were called.

For graduates of certain programs, there are other meaningful events to celebrate the end of their college journey. In April, AHU Online hosted a virtual white coat ceremony for its family nurse practitioner (FNP) students. The official donning of the white coat symbolic of those in the medical profession signifies

the students' readiness as they transition to patient-focused practice immersions. "The white coat ceremony is a milestone of the nurse practitioner profession," stated Lynelle Callender, D.N.P., vice chair for online nursing. "It symbolizes professionalism, integrity, honesty, excellence, compassion, and sacrifice to unconditionally care for others."

The Department of Nursing collaborated with staff from AHU Online and AHU's Center for Educational Technology (CET) to hold the ceremony virtually. Using a combination of an online video-streaming platform and live-streaming on social media, faculty, staff, FNP students, and loved ones gathered to celebrate this achievement. Each student appeared on camera to put on their white coat as congratulatory messages were shared via chat features.

These rites of passage are often anticipated as much, if not more than, the graduation ceremony itself for students. Full of symbolism and steeped in the legacy of those who came before them, these ceremonies are deeply and personally meaningful to graduates and to the faculty who have been with them each step of their college journey.

The World Health Assembly designated 2020 the "International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife" to honor the 200th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth. The fact that this timing ended up coinciding with the start of the COVID-19 pandemic is far from serendipitous, but its effects do exemplify the vital role nurses fill in health care. Nurses world-wide have put their lives at risk to save so many others.

Kimberly Forbes, M.S.N., R.N., assistant professor of nursing, said, "While we think every group of students we graduate is special, this year's group of nurses have demands placed on them unlike any other. Not only do they have to end their studies remotely and do without the normal pomp and circumstance that

celebrates their achievement, but they do so during a time of unprecedented need."

Like the white coat ceremony, graduating nursing students have a pinning ceremony as their initiation into the profession. They receive pins representing their nursing school, presented by a faculty member while the student is usually accompanied by a person or people significant to them.

"For all of the nursing students, the pinning ceremony ... it's very meaningful because it ties up all the nursing core values that we learn through our nursing career. And, it shows us that we can continue to be the light of many of our patients not only in the hospital, but also in the community," said Andrea Betancur, AHU nursing graduate.

The program decided on a drive-through pinning ceremony after. Nursing faculty waved streamers and pom poms, applauded, and cheered for graduating students who rode up in their cars to receive their bags filled with special gifts, including their nursing pins and plaques.

"The school wanted us to feel like we were still celebrated and still special. To see the teachers there in the hot sun, still cheering for us, was really great ... it felt special," said Jackie Otera, AHU nursing graduate.

As much as this was a year of challenge, uncertainty, and fear, 2020 has shown the resiliency of people. Approximately 1,800 students enrolled in AHU's fall trimester, many of them in nursing. Despite the difficulties, new and returning students are showing up, trying to make a difference as healthcare providers. AHU supports those who share its mission to live the healing values of Christ. Alexis Taylor, AHU nursing graduate, said, "I have never felt more capable of glorifying God with my life than ... in healthcare, and I can't wait to get out there and be that nurse that shows people Christ's love." ●

BY LISA MARIE ESSER



# Southern Leaders Share Insights on It Is Written Broadcast

This October, representatives from Southern Adventist University joined John Bradshaw, *It Is Written* president, via Skype to discuss the Seventh-day Adventist Adult Bible Study Guide. This quarter's study guide is composed of lessons on the topic of education, written by various Adventist college and university presidents. David Smith, Ph.D., president of Southern and one of the authors, and Joseph Khabbaz, vice president for spiritual life, provided insights on the first lesson, "Education in the Garden of Eden."

"I was amazed at how many principles of Adventist education are found in the experience of Adam and Eve in their



John Bradshaw (left), of *It Is Written*, discusses "Education in the Garden of Eden" with Southern leaders David Smith and Joseph Khabbaz.

garden home," Smith said. "In particular, the revelation of God's amazing love in Eden provides a focus for any educational institution that would model itself after that first school."

Although the lessons were originally written a number of years ago, their release now is relevant amid complex decision-making concerning education during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"While many people are wondering how to make education happen, *It Is Written* is able to strongly endorse Adventist institutions of higher learning by featuring college representatives teaching meaningful, spiritual material," said Tibor Shelley, associate director of production and media for the religious broadcast. "The timing seems divinely appointed." 📌

BY TRISNEY BOCALA

# School of Social Work Supports Eviction Prevention

Southern's School of Social Work is partnering with the Chattanooga Eviction Prevention Pilot Project to provide free legal assistance to those in the local community who are facing eviction. The COVID-19 pandemic has made it increasingly difficult for people to afford housing costs due to loss of work or unexpected expenses. This advisory service, funded by the 2020 CARES Act, helps individuals and families obtain financial resources to stay in their current residences or find new places to live if they have already been evicted.

In May 2020, the program reached out to the University's School of Social Work for help with social services and case management. Graduate students Elizabeth Riley and Susan Yates began serving as case manager interns for the project.

"One of the first clients I worked with

had a daughter on hospice with a prognosis of six months," Riley said. "When they were evicted, they had to live at an extended-stay hotel. Walking through that process with her and seeing the struggles that this mother faced was an eye-opening and heartbreaking experience. These cases serve as a continual reminder of how far we have to go in reforming issues in the system. I love working for these families, and I am amazed by their tenacity, perseverance, and grit."

In addition to providing the interns, the School of Social Work is tracking the effectiveness and experiences of the Prevention Eviction program through a research project. Professor Kristie Wilder, J.D., is working with Riley to conduct and analyze qualitative interviews with tenants, landlords, and court watchers who take notes during the cases. Goals include

a better understanding of the barriers to gaining housing security and the difference it makes when someone has both an attorney and a social worker on the case. Ultimately, Wilder and team will make policy recommendations for better housing both locally and statewide.

"The program is a tangible way for Southern to spread the Gospel in the community and live out our values," Wilder said. "This is changing the court experience for people and allowing for their voices to be heard. It is important for our University to continue building these positive relationships with the greater Chattanooga community, so that we can demonstrate how a faith-based institution cares deeply about the lives of others." 📌

BY MADISON REINSCHMIDT

# Oakwood University Public Relations Program Granted National Charter



A 20-year dream was realized when Oakwood University, Huntsville, Ala., became the 20th Historically Black College and University (HBCU) in the nation, and the second HBCU in Alabama, to be granted a charter to form a chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) on its campus.

PRSSA is the foremost organization for students interested in public relations and communications fields, composed of nearly 375 college and university chapters, including 20 HBCUs. Founded in 1968 by its parent organization, the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), PRSSA includes nearly 9,000 student members and advisers. Oakwood University will be the 10th school sponsored by the Alabama PRSA Chapter.

Dawnette Chambers, an assistant professor in the Communication Department at Oakwood University and coor-

dinator of its public relations program, shepherded the process to this milestone.

"As an alumna of the Oakwood PR program, I am grateful for the opportunity to make our dream of a PRSSA chapter a reality," says Chambers, who will serve as the chapter's faculty adviser.

The dream began from the vision of Patrice Thomas Conwell, A.P.R., former associate professor of communication at Oakwood. During her tenure, she expanded the PR curriculum to position the program for chapter eligibility. Unable to realize the dream before she resigned, she's delighted to serve the new chapter as its professional adviser.

Establishing a PRSSA chapter at Oakwood will open doors to many more resources for its public relations students. This includes greater networking and internship opportunities, participation in national competitions, and job placements. For Rennae Elliott, Ph.D., chair

of the Communication Department, these benefits for students are the best part of achieving the dream.

"The Oakwood PRSSA charter is the latest evidence of our unrelenting efforts of the past 20 years to deepen resources for our communication students," said Elliott. "We embrace the opportunity to leverage PRSSA resources for greater benefit as we embrace our school mission, 'to transform students through biblically-based education for service to God and humanity.'" ❶

BY PATRICE T. CONWELL, A.P.R.



# SHOW THEM THE WAY

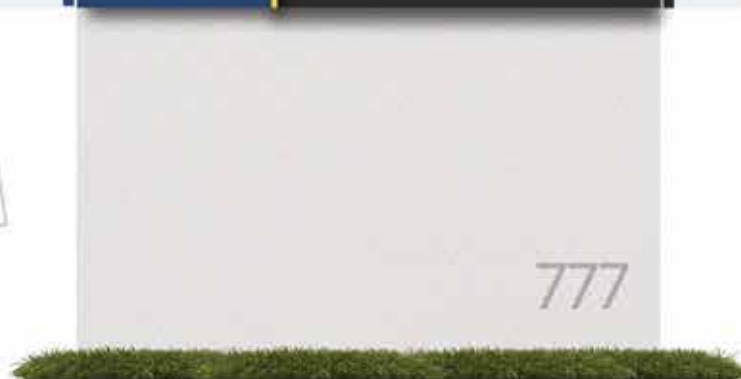
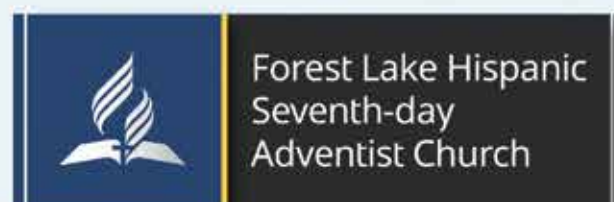
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**ANDERSON SR., PASTOR PAUL EDWARD "ANDY,"** 88, of Hendersonville, NC, born Oct. 17, 1931 to Hattie Parker and Henry Anderson in Birmingham, AL, died Aug. 31, 2020.

He graduated from Hume-Fogg High School in Nashville, Tennessee, then from Andrews University (Emmanuel Missionary College). Andy served as a United States Marine, then as a minister with the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. He served in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, Alabama-Mississippi Conference, Florida Conference, Iowa Conference, Carolina Conference, and Georgia-Cumberland Conference, and then again with the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. Andy was a Hamm Radio Operator and a bread baker.

He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Elizabeth Ann Weaver Anderson, two children: Paul E. Anderson Jr., and his wife, Amanda, of Nashville, TN; and Cheryl A. Griffin of Columbus, NC; grandchildren: Chelsea Anderson of Denver, CO, P.J. Anderson and Claire of Nashville, TN, Ricky Owen of Columbus, NC, Sheri Gordon along with her husband Robert and sons Tré, Eli, and Owen of Flat

Rock, NC, Randall Sanderson and Kelsey; great-granddaughter, Frankie; granddaughter, Anna Pacheco and husband Crithian; great-granddaughter, Gianna; and great-grandson, Daniel; many nieces; and nephews. Andy was preceded in death by his daughter, Tammy Sanderson; and sisters: Ruth Lemmox and Esther Flatt. Interment is at Mt. Olivet, TN.

**BECKFORD, DELSIE R.,** 72, born May 8, 1948, in Clermont, FL, died Aug. 1, 2020 in Clermont. She was a member of the Clermont Church for nine years.

Delsie was a retired registered nurse who worked at AdventHealth, South Lake, and Orlando Regional Health. She also taught nursing at the University of the West Indies Hospital.

She is survived by one son, Andrew Peart; two daughters: Pauline Williams of London, UK, and Michelle Wright; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by one son, James Peart Jr.

The service was conducted by Pastor Ronald Hoffecker at the Clermont Church. Interment was at the Oak Hill Cemetery in Clermont.



**BEAVEN, PASTOR MARC JEFFREY,** 77, of Griffin, GA, born March 18, 1943 in Clinton, MA, died Aug. 25, 2020 at WellStar Spalding Hospital. He was a member of the Thomaston, GA, Church.

He graduated from Columbia Union College (now Washington Adventist University) in Takoma Park, MD, in 1965 with a B.A., and from Andrews University with a M.Div. degree in 1968. He also attended the National University of Mexico for two summers in 1962-63.

Pastor Beaven served in the Chesapeake, Florida, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia-Cumberland, and Carolina conferences as a pastor and teacher. He also held four evangelistic series in Romania. He was active in evangelism holding more than 30 campaigns with more than 500 baptisms.

He was active in Pathfinder work, communication, stewardship, and designing and building churches. In retirement, Pastor Beaven was a substitute teacher and tutor, a security guard, as well as helping to build churches.

He is survived by his best friend and beautiful wife of 39 years, Phyllis Ann Volk Beaven; his twin adopted sons from Romania: Michael Jeffrey and Gabriel Marc; his older children: Rebecca Sue Boszko of Seattle, WA, Bonnie Marie Dorsey of Hagerstown, MD, William Emerson "Web" Beaven, and Gerald Geoffrey Beaven of Laurel, DE; and four grandchildren: Duncan and Moira Boszko, Tessa Dorsey Velasquez, and Joshua Dorsey. He was preceded in death by his parents: Dr. Winton and Dr. Barba Beaven.





**BOLARTE, CELIA**, 89, born Nov. 25, 1931 died May 8, 2020. She was a member at the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. She was born in Chiquian, Peru, South America. Celia married the love of her life, Leo Bolarte and they had three daughters: Gladys Victoria, Vilma, who died in a tragic car accident in 1970, and Sonia Elisa. Celia attended college in Peru with emphasis on education and religion. They became missionaries traveling every two years to Chili, Bolivia, Argentina and back to Lima, Peru.

They moved to the United States in 1966, and lived with friends in Chicago for a few months. Those friends told them about the Seventh-day Adventist school, college, and hospital in Madison, TN. They moved to Madison to provide a Christian education for their daughters. Celia attended Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) in Collegedale, TN, and received a degree in nursing in 1970. As a dedicated registered nurse, she cared for each patient as if they were family. She was well loved and admired by coworkers and doctors. Celia was a

great example of a Christian woman. She was an inspiration to anyone she met and loved everyone unconditionally. She worked in the critical care area, then became a nurse manager on a medical floor of Madison Hospital and TCMC. She was a devoted wife, beloved mother, generous grandmother, great grandmother, and great-great-grandmother, five generations. She is survived by two daughters: Gladys (Bob) Victoria Davis and Sonia (Carl) Elisa Casler; six grandchildren: Scott Steven Hudgens Sr., Victoria Renee Holder, Landron Lee Hudgens Jr., Julia Catherine Glisson, Anna Marie (Marcus) Clayborne, and Rachel (Orry) Sofia Vanns; 12 great-grandchildren: Caleb and Noah Glisson, Gavin Gomez, Mason Vanns, Hayden, Kendall, Caylee Clayborne, Kelly Renee Wakefield, Darren Duncan, Travis Harmon, Scott Steven Hudgens Jr., Melissa Fuston, and Blake Davis; nine great-great-grandchildren: Jacob Ray, Allissa and Vanessa Wakefield, Tilaya and Shawn Hudgens, Isiah Fuston, Wade, Mailjah, and Zayne Davis. She was preceded in death by her husband, Leo Bolarte; one daughter, Vilma Bolarte; one great-granddaughter, Kimberly Hudgens; one great-great-granddaughter, Brooklyn Hudgens; one great-great-grandson, Noah Hudgens.

**BULLOCK, BRENTON LEE**, 88, born Nov. 27, 1931 in Fair Play, MO, to Harold and Beatrice (Burson) Bullock joining his big sister, Betty; died April 23, 2020. The family moved to Maple Hill, KS. Benton graduated from Enterprise Academy in 1949, and started working in the building trade. During that time, his faithfulness in attending church paid off. It was at the Topeka Church that he met and married the love of his life, (Neva) Joyce Seamens, in 1956.

The couple moved to Tennessee where Brenton started nursing school at Madison Hospital School of Nursing. While there, he was asked to be the assistant administrator of the Madison Sanitarium and Hospital. In 1958, they had their first son, Brenton Lee Jr. Two years later in 1960, they had their second son, Richard (Dick) Lynn. In 1961, the little family moved to Highland, TN, so Brenton could be the administrator of the Highland Sanitarium and Hospital. His goal was "service" to the community, continual progress in the hospital facilities, and quality medical care for all the guests. In 1962, Cynthia Joyce was added to their family. Later, they fell in love with Brenda Harvey, and made her a part of the family. Brenton loved his family dearly. He served his country in the United States Army during the Korean War as a medic stationed in Japan.

Much of his life was devoted to managing Seventh-day Adventist youth camps in Tennessee, Indian Creek Camp 1967-1971; Kansas, Broken Arrow Ranch 1971-1982; and Michigan, Camp Au Sable 1982-1998. Brenton loved being a camp manager, and helping guests have a wonderful stay. Upon retiring, he and Joyce moved to Cedar Lake, MI, to be the caretakers of the Michigan Conference Camp Meeting grounds which were being built.

Following retirement from the camp meeting grounds in 2008, Brenton and Joyce settled in Edmore, MI, where he led out in renovating the Edmore Church and Fellowship Hall. Throughout his life he found great joy in working with young people, teaching them a strong work ethic balanced with a sense of humor and fun. He was a loving husband, a wonderful father, a kind grandfather, and a friend to many. His life was motivated by his strong love for God.

Brenton is survived by his wife, Joyce; two sons: Brenton Lee Bullock Jr., Dick (Donna) Bullock; two daughters: Cynthia (Alio) Santos, and Brenda Harvey; one sister, Betty Ables; numerous grandchildren; great-grandchildren; nieces; nephews; cousins; and many friends. He was preceded in death by his parents: Harold and Beatrice Bullock.





**CARTER, BETH**, 81, born July 10, 1939 in Belcher, KY, died Oct. 4, 2020. She was born Mary Elizabeth Gober to the late Alfred and Alice Gober. Beth attended Laurelrook Academy in Dayton, TN, and graduated from Little Creek Academy in Knoxville, TN, in 1957. She went on to attend Madison College outside of Nashville, TN, where she received a degree in nursing (1961) and anesthesia (1962).

She was married to C.D. Carter in 1970. It is impossible to capture her essence in writing but, chances are, if you met Beth, you were not likely to forget her. She was larger than life and always in motion. She never backed down from a challenge and loved adventure. Her love for people and her desire for them to know about Jesus took her all over the world. Beth and C.D. spent six years as missionaries in Belize, and they continued to build churches all over Central and South America for almost 30 years. Beth loved working with young people and stayed young by being active.

She rock climbed into her 70s and marked her 80th year by paragliding and waterskiing. If you wanted to be where the action was, all you had to do was follow Beth. Hardworking and generous, Beth would help anyone—anywhere, anytime. She was the epitome of the Golden Rule. She loved God with all her heart and her neighbor as herself.

Without her mischievous smile and infectious enthusiasm, the world seems suddenly still and a little too quiet. But take heart! She may be done with this life, but she would invite you to lace up your hiking shoes and go adventuring with her in the next.

She is survived by her husband, C.D. Carter; and three children: Greg Carter of Centerville, OH, Keith Carter of Kamloops, British Columbia, and Rita Plunkett of Selmer, TN; her brother, Eddy Gober; numerous grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

**DAWKINS, JACQUELINE (JACQUI) ELLEN**, 84, born Oct. 18, 1936 to the late Reverend John Henry Dawkins and Theresa M. Freeman-Dawkins in Birmingham, AL, died Oct. 19, 2020 at her home. She was the baby sister to three brothers: Andrew Dawkins, John H. Dawkins Jr., and Roy L. Dawkins.

Jacqui was a bright, smart student. She attended Booker T. Washington Elementary School, graduated from Samuel Ullman High School, and received her Associate Business degree from A.G. Gaston Business College, all in Birmingham. Always anxious to learn more, she received various certificates to enhance her desire for learning. She was a talented writer and a published poet. Later in life, Jacqui acquired the design bug and began designing greeting cards, which she lovingly shared with her loved ones and friends.

While in Birmingham, Jacqui was involved in the Civil Rights Movement and met many of the Civil Rights leaders.

She was married to Osborne C. Carter Jr., and the proud mother of three sons: Andre Lamar Dawkins, Ruebin Gerard Carter, and Osborne Charles Carter III. She loved her role as mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, sister, family relative, and friend, and her family was always first in her heart.

In 1981, at the age of 44, Jacqui attended evangelistic meetings conducted by the late Dr. Earl E. Cleveland in Birmingham. After attending the first meeting, she was led by the Holy Spirit and attended the remaining meetings. She accepted the Three Angels' Message and was baptized in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Years later, she moved to the Atlanta, GA, area and joined the Atlanta Belvedere Church in Decatur, GA. She loved her church, and was a faithful member and very active until her health began to fail.

Her employment history includes about 21 years at the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Decatur, where she worked as the *Southern Tidings* circulation clerk, secretary in various departments including Stewardship, Communication, Southern Union Association, Publishing, Home Health Education Services, and Computer Services. Following her retirement in 2002, she remained in the lives of her Southern Union family by assisting from time to time with receptionist duties at the office in Decatur, and when the Southern Union office relocated to Peachtree Corners, GA, in March 2014.

We were saddened when we learned of Jacqui's battle with cancer, but she fought a brave fight. She was a kind, loving person, and her smile was a ray of sunshine that brightened the lives of everyone she met. Her courageous, bubbly personality was fueled by her love for Jesus.

One day after her 84th birthday, October 19, Jacqui peacefully went to sleep, and is now resting in Jesus. She is survived by those who cherish her memory:

Son, Andre Lamar Dawkins; and his six daughters: Andria Alexis, Madison Daneil, Maia Alana, Jazmin Jacqui, Lyndsi Alexandria, and Lauryn Nicole; and his six grandchildren: Taylor Alexis, Cayden Lani, Joshua Christian, Ethan Scott, Milan Alexandria, and Malachi Alexander.

Son, Ruebin Gerard Carter; and his five children: Bonisha Amina, Tawanda LaShea, Kenneth Gerard, Jacqueline Kishawn,





and Lashondra Tanisha; and his nine grandchildren: Marlon Jermaine, Jordan Amari, Caileigh Nicole, Jayden Alexander, Chloe Michelle, Aidan Lee, Nadia Ellen, Kendrick Gerard, and Miles Rashaad.

Son, Osborne Charles Carter III; and his three children: Bessie Lynette, Osborne Charles, and Destiny Gabrielle, and his two grandchildren: Bria and Kaden; and one great-grandchild, Elijah.

Also, two nieces: Theora Dawkins-Powell and Gloria Carter; two nephews: Andrew Dawkins and James Dawkins; a host of cousins; and grand and great nieces and nephews.



**FOSTER, REBA MURIEL**, 96, died Sept. 2, 2020 at home in Sarasota, FL, after a long life of generosity and service. For many years she was organist, choir director, and minister of music at Sarasota Church, where she planned music for worship services, festivals, and organized vocal and instrumental groups for adults and children. Often on Sundays she played the organ and piano at other churches, making friends, to her delight, with musicians and members throughout the area. Reba began her musical career at 12, playing for the men's Bible study group in her south Georgia church. In college, the young pianist met Wayne Foster, a ministerial student and fine baritone. Wayne, in love, worked through his vacation to buy Reba a case he filled with classical music. Reba married Wayne, kept his gift all her life, and made music with him wherever they ministered from Maryland to Florida. She nurtured their two daughters, taught piano, and over time found her calling in church music.

Reba ably assisted Wayne at the founding of Florida's Camp Kulaqua, once stepping in on short notice as director of food service. For their vision and work, Reba and Wayne were presented architectural drawings of Camp Kulaqua's welcome center to be named in their honor.

In her last years, Reba continued to enjoy the outdoors, alert for every bird and butterfly on her neighborhood walks. She loved reading and having friends over to visit, make music, or share dessert. Her family and friends will cherish memories of her special touch at the piano and her sweet spirit and dedication.

She is survived by her two daughters: Faye Foster and Patricia Eastep, son-in-law, Wayne Eastep; granddaughter, Layla Eastep; nieces; nephews; and many friends. Reba was predeceased by her husband of 71 years, Wayne Foster. A service to honor Reba's life will be held at a future time.

**GOHDE, HOWARD ARTHUR**, 91, born April 6, 1929 in Cleveland, OH, died peacefully on April 18, 2020 at his home in Woodbury, TN. He was a member of the Woodbury Church. After elementary school in North Carolina, Howard attended Oak Park Academy and Mount Vernon Academy for 9th and 10th grades. At the age of 16, he took a position as a camp counselor at a Missouri junior camp. That brief summer assignment forever changed his life, for there he met his future wife, Betty Jean Milham, from Kansas City, MO.

Howard and Betty completed their last two years of high school at Sunnysdale Academy in Centuria, MO, as charter members, and graduated in 1948. The couple married Oct. 17, 1948 at the Fuller Memorial Sanitarium in South Attleboro, MA. Howard was naturally an exceptionally creative craftsman with an eye for beauty, order, and harmony. He used those talents as a printer, photographer, musician, woodcrafter, and multi-talented artisan. He started as a printer at the Southern Publishing Association in Nashville, TN. During their time in Nashville their first son, Glenn, was born. Howard and Betty moved many times. Their moves took them to printing presses at Atlantic Union College in Lancaster, MA, where their second son, Bruce Warren, was born, and then to Boulder, CO. Their daughter, Joyce Arlene, was born in Boulder. Howard then took a call to Andrews University in Berrien Springs, MI, but after two hard winters he moved his family to Forest City, FL, where they lived for the next 24 years.

In Florida, Howard worked in printing as well as doing wedding and school photography. As a photographer for the Orlando Chamber of Commerce and the Orlando Sentinel newspaper, he photographed notables such as President Gerald Ford and comedian Soupy Sales. Retirement found Howard and Betty in Cleveland, TN, where he worked at the College Press on Southern Adventist University campus for 15 years. He retired again at age 79. Howard and Betty moved to Woodbury, TN, to be near their daughter and son-in-law.

Creativity and service were so much in Howard's DNA that even during re-retirement he was serving the nearby Woodbury Church, volunteering in the county food distribution program, helping neighbors, and constantly crafting wood projects in his workshop. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Betty Jean Gohde; one son, Glenn Erwin (Winnie) Gohde; and one daughter, Joyce Arlene (Tory) Kimbel. He was preceded in death by his parents: George and Gatha Gohde; one sister: Eleanor Bicknell; and one son: Bruce Warren.





**HALL, JANICE ADAMS**, 63, born Jan. 24, 1957 to Joseph Adams and Omelia Martin Adams in Madison, TN, died Sept. 19, 2020 in Nashville, TN. She attended Ridgetop Adventist Elementary, Madison Academy, and Southern Adventist University, and graduated Summa Cum Laude with a bachelor's in business administration from the University of Memphis.

She married Earl Hall, from Ridgetop, TN, on Sept. 2, 1979. She served as the accountant at the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference in Goodlettsville, TN. Her love for God, her family, and friends was evident in all she did. Her greatest passion was serving God through evangelism and Adventist education, and was very involved in both. She wanted to hasten Jesus' soon return.

Janice enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, traveling with her husband, reading, and playing the piano. She loved animals and was always an advocate for them. She is survived by her husband, Earl Hall; her mother, Omelia Isabell; two sisters: Linda (Truman) Raines and Terrie (Lynne) Jenks; one brother, Wally (Karen) Adams; two nephews: Stephen (Mackinsie) Jenks and

Michael (Rachel) Jenks. She is greatly missed by her husband and family. We all cannot wait to see her again when Jesus returns at the first resurrection.

**HAYWARD, ANN (VanArsdell)**, 93, born Aug. 20, 1927 in Lexington, KY, died Sept. 19, 2020 at her home in Owensboro, KY. She was a life-long Adventist and a member of the Owensboro, KY, Church at the time of her death. Her career included 30 years in denominational hospitals in Tennessee, Florida, and Ohio. The last 22 years were at Kettering Medical Center.

For many, she was active in various community services. Ann is survived by two daughters: Diane Proctor of St. Petersburg, FL, and Becky Anderson of Thompsonville, IL; five grandchildren: Rob (Christine) Proctor, Jim Anderson, Kristen (Jonathan) Carter, Daren Adkins, and Tom Hayward; and eight great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by one son, Thomas Hayward.



**MILLER, WILLIAM EDWARD**, 89, born June 17, 1938 in Brooks, KY, died April 12, 2020. Bill married Thelma L. Barnes on May 28, 1955. Bill was drafted into the U.S. Army on Aug. 6, 1951, and was honorably discharged May 5, 1953. He served in the 3rd infantry division in Korea, Jan.-Dec. 1952. Bill joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church on Nov. 23, 1956. On Jan. 1, 1957, he became a literature evangelist (LE). He worked as an LE for 3½ years at which time he was called to be an assistant publishing director for the Florida Conference.

In Dec. 1962, he moved to the Publishing Department at the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, where he stayed until May 1966. Gulf States Conference called Bill to be their publishing director, a position he held until Oct. 1969, when he moved to the Carolina Conference as their publishing director. In Nov. 1976, the Southern Union Conference called Bill to be their associate publishing director. He remained with the Southern Union until July 1985. Bill served in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference as their associate publishing director from July 1985 to Dec. 1989. He wanted to

be an LE again, so in Dec. 1989, he returned to Florida Conference to serve as an LE. He remained there until June 1993. After 36½ years of continuous service in the publishing work, Bill retired.

Bill is survived by his wife, Ana Mills Miller; one son, David Miller; three grandchildren: Colton, Kiera, and Candace; one stepson, Graig Mills; one step-daughter, Susan Lafever; and eight step-grandchildren. Bill is preceded in death by his parents: William Miller Sr., and Myrtle Mae Taylor Miller; and his first wife, Thelma Lou Barnes Miller.

**PEDERSEN, VICKY**, 68, born Oct. 15, 1951 in Montgomery, AL, died peacefully on April 29, 2020. She was a member of the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. Vicky loved babies and children. She taught second grade for 30 years at Madison Campus Elementary School. She enjoyed creating photo scrapbooks for members of her family.

She was a loving wife, mother, and aunt who will be missed dearly by her family. She is survived by her husband of 48 years, Carl Pedersen; one daughter, Karla Pedersen; one sister, Sharon Nero; one brother, Steve Johnson; sister-in-law, Jennifer Johnson; one niece, Riley Johnson; sister-in-law, Erin Nero; and one nephew, Christopher Nero. She was preceded in death by her parents: Howard M. Johnson and Frances Pitts Johnson







**SHEPHERD, PASTOR GARY**, 81, born Dec. 20, 1937 in Smithtown, KY, died Feb. 14, 2019 at his home in Bronston, KY. When Gary was newly married, he was trained in painting by the Lawrence Brothers in Broadview IL. He went on to form the Shepherd Brothers Painting Company, with his brother Norman, after moving to the Collegedale, TN, area in the late 1960s.

They worked together for more than 20 years. Gary served as a lay preacher for the church from the age of 21, and was ordained in 2002 into the ministry. He served as a full-time pastor in many churches in eastern and western Kentucky, and was pastor of the Stearns Church at the time of his retirement. Gary also had a nursing home ministry locally for many years. He was a lover of animals, the outdoors, and the Kentucky Wildcats.

He is survived by his wife, Glenda Shepherd; one sister, Elaine Morris of Stevenson, AL; two daughters: Sherry Steele of Chattanooga, TN, and Sandra (Mario) Colangelo of Bronston, KY; one son, James (Debbie) Shepherd of Ringgold, GA; 13 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents: James M. Shepherd and Bessie Ann Owens Shepherd; two brothers: James Donald Shepherd and Norman Wendell Shepherd; and an infant sister, Jean Ann Shepherd.

**TITUS, JESSE EDWARD**, 91, born May 1, 1927 in Linton, IN, died April 23, 2019 at The Alvin C. York Veterans Hospital in Murfreesboro, TN, from an extended illness. An Indiana native and a resident of Van Buren County (Baker Mountain Community) for more than 30 years, he was a member of the Spencer Church. He was the son of the late Olla Jesse and Iva Steele Titus. Jesse was a World War II Veteran, having served in the Army.

After a stint in the Army, Jesse graduated from Indiana Academy in 1947, then spent time at Southern Adventist University, Madison College, Pacific Union College, and Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) in Berrien Springs, MI. He worked in printing first at Emmanuel Missionary College, and later transferred to The College Press in Collegedale, TN. He developed serious lead poisoning but recovered through much time, attention, and effort on the part of his wife to seek out anything that would help. He later worked for McKee Bakery until his retirement in 1989.

He is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Juanita Grimm Titus, of Spencer; two sons, Reuben and Daniel Titus of Spencer; one brother, Glen Titus of Battleground, IN; and one sister, Thelma Titus May of West Point, IN. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Pauline Titus; and brother, Everette Dale Titus. Funeral services were held May 1, 2019, at the Spencer Church with Pastor Harley Roth officiating. Burial followed in the Hillis Cemetery. Military honors were provided by the American Legion Post 207 of Spencer. The family buried him on what would have been his 92nd birthday. They dug the grave themselves and constructed a solid wood casket from milling a red cedar tree from their property.



**WEBB, PASTOR WILLIAM R.**, 73, born Nov. 3, 1946 in Birmingham, AL, fell asleep in Jesus on Aug. 5, 2020. He was a beloved husband, father, brother, papaw, uncle, and cousin. After the family move to Texas, he graduated high school in Sherman, TX.

Following high school, he attended Southern Adventist University (formerly Southern Missionary College) in Collegedale, TN, where he prepared for ministry as a Seventh-Day Adventist pastor. After graduation in 1968, he and his wife, Sharon, moved to Florida where he pastored several churches during his 44½-year career. His churches included Jacksonville, Gainesville-Cross City-Jennings Lake, Boynton Beach, Naples, Plantation-Pompano Beach, Cocoa, and New Port Richey.

His retirement years were enjoyed in New Port Richey. He was a family-oriented man of God. During his formative years in Alabama, he was surrounded by a large extended family. He was thankful for his close relationships with his siblings and his first, second, and third cousins. It was

no secret that God was most important to William, but that his family was the second most important to him. William had a contagious laugh that was easily recognized by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Sharon Webb; three daughters: Rebecca Webb; Renee Webb (Hugh) Greek; Rachel Webb Shear; his brother, Robert (Sue) Webb; his sister, Katherine Webb (Mason) Beale; his grandchildren: Lauren Greek, Alyssa Greek Lopez; grandson-in-law, Hecmer; many nieces; nephews; and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents and an infant brother. The services were held privately by the family.

**AYERS, BEN LEE**, 90, born Jan. 27, 1930 to the late Bascombe and Maggie Ayers in Price's Creek, Yancy County, NC, died Sept. 29, 2020 in the North Carolina State Veterans Home in Black Mountain, NC. He was member of Fletcher Church in Hendersonville, NC. Ben is survived by his wife of 58 years, Carmen (Dietzie) Delores Ayers; two children: Marla (Tom) Johnson, Marcella (Edwin) Sampayan; five siblings: Bobby Joe (Susie) Ayers of Weaver-ville; Royce (Kathy) Ayers of Micaville; Ernest (Jackie) Ayers of Burnsville; Jimmy (Nancy) Ayers of Burnsville; and Paul (Nancy) Woody of Burnsville; 4 grandchildren - Anna, Emily, Andrew, and Kayla; and one great-granddaughter, Jane; numerous nieces; nephews; and cousins. He was preceded in death by two brothers: Charles Ayers and Edward Ayers; two sisters: Joyce Ayers Watts and Wilma Ayers Woody; and one great-grandson, Oliver.

**BAGWELL, BRITTANY ROSE**, 31, born April 26, 1989, died Aug. 8, 2020. She was a member at the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. Brittany is survived by her parents: Jeff and Karen Bagwell; paternal grandmother, Zulene Bagwell; two aunts: Sandra (Jeff) Hudspeth, and Janice Crawford; two uncles: Ken Crawford, and Kevin (Trina) Crawford; numerous cousins; friends; and loved ones. She was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents: Kenneth and Rosalind Crawford; paternal grandfather, Raymond A. Bagwell; and her uncle and aunt: Erland and Helen Butterfield.

**BASS, MADA PRINCE**, 60, born Aug. 1, 1960, died Sept. 8, 2020 in Davidson County. Mada was a member of the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. She loved playing music and was a talented musician. She played several different instruments. Mada had a wonderful sense of humor and a big sweet tooth. She was a caring person and was always going out of her way to

help others. She loved all animals, but her cats especially. Mada is survived by her loving husband, Albert T. Bass Jr.; one brother, Bobby; one nephew, Bryan Edging; and a life-long friend, Laura Lee Vaughn Nadell. She is preceded in death by her parents: Ulysess Calvin Falkner and Marjorie Troup Falkner; and her sister, Lesha Falkner.

**BOLLINGER, JAMES (JIM)**, 88, born Nov. 2, 1930 in Jackson, MO, died March 27, 2019 in Nashville, TN. He was a member of the Ridgetop, TN, Church. He served in the U.S. Army for 17 months. He was in the car business for more than 50 years, and served on the St. Francis County, MO, Fair Board for many years. He was involved in the horse and mule community, and judged horses and mules at shows around the state. James, and his wife, Peggy, enjoyed riding in their wagon with his mules. He donated his remains to science research. James is survived by his wife of 38 years, Margaret "Peggy" D. Bollinger; six children: Jayme (Terry) King, Laurie (Lynn) Horton, Patricia Wright, Diane (Dave) Kehm, Douglas (Bonnie) Armantrout, and Jeffery (Cindy) Armantrout; 14 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; many more family; and friends. He was preceded in death by one grandson, Aaron Armantrout.

**CREEL, MILBERD**, 97, born Aug. 5, 1922 in Orangeburg, SC, died July 15, 2020 in Madison, TN. Milberd was an all-around great guy. He had a wonderful sense of humor and enjoyed the outdoors. He especially loved golfing, fishing, and mowing his grass. He was also especially fond of western movies and John Wayne. He is survived by two sons: Ted Creel and Mike (Lisa) Creel; two grandchildren: Michael Creel, and Aimee Mayo; and five great-grandchildren: Ella, Easton, Evie, Koby, and Knox.

**CREEL, TED MYERS**, 53, born Dec.

22, 1966 in Orangeburg, SC, died Oct. 10, 2020 in Cartersville, GA, due to injuries received in an automobile accident. Ted was a maintenance engineer for the TriStar Hospital Network in middle Tennessee. In his spare time, he enjoyed riding his Harley Davidson. He is survived by one brother, Mike (Lisa) Creel of Old Hickory, TN; one nephew, Michael Creel; one niece, Aimee Mayo; several great-nieces; and great-nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents: Milberd Creel and Gertrude Darlene Myers Creel.

**DAWSON, SALLY JO**, 74, born March 22, 1946, in Kalamazoo, MI, died Oct. 12, 2020 in Longwood, FL. She was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, during several times in her life. She was the first person to be married in the current Forest Lake Church at age 19 in 1965. She was a caregiver. She is survived by one son, Chris (Jennifer) Wenke of Astatula; two daughters: MaryJo Aziz of Davenport, and Becky Jean Lynn of Longwood; one brother, Jim (Kaye) Illick of Altamonte Springs, FL; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

**DICKMAN, RANDALL LEE**, 64, born July 25, 1955, died April 15, 2020 surrounded by family. His battle with life and cancer was over, and he now rests safely in the assurance of a day soon to come. Randall was the first born to the Dickmans, but in May of 1957, he was joined by a brother, Stephen, and a sister, Pam, in May of 1960. Randall's life was mostly spent at Harbert Hills Academy (HHA), where he grew into dedicated and joyful service to God. The entrepreneurial spirit of Randall and his brother, Steve, was encouraged by their father. From garden projects to mowing lawns, the boys learned to earn their part of the family living. In July 1973, they had an accident while traveling for their lawn mowing business. Randall was left a quadriplegic at the age of 17. He bravely and cou-



rageously faced the challenge. He graduated from HHA in 1974, then completed a degree in secondary education through Southwestern Adventist University. In the early 1980s, Randall studied and trained to become a licensed nursing home administrator and in 1985, filled that position at the HHA Nursing Home. His passion for teaching, helping the elderly, and assisting those with disabilities was demonstrated in his life of service. Under Randall's capable leadership, HHA Nursing Home achieved and has maintained a 5-star rating. Residents and families come to benefit from and enjoy the loving attention provided by a caring and compassionate staff. Many individuals who met Randall, say that his positive attitude and can-do spirit were a contagious inspiration. Randall's first wife, Pamela, died suddenly in April 2006. In 2014, the Lord blessed him with Rhonda, a precious life companion. Their joy in the Lord and in marriage were both evident as they led and encouraged others. Randall's father, Louie, had a life philosophy: "True happiness is the by-product of unselfish service to others." Randall's life was a testimony to that philosophy. He demonstrated a humble, grateful attitude each day that the Lord gave him. Randall is survived by his wife, Rhonda Clark Dickman; daughter, Kara Dickman; his mother, Geraldine Dickman; one brother, Steve (Brenda Rau) Dickman; one sister, Pamela Dickman (James) Biggers; nieces and nephews: Renata Biggers (Andy) Maxwell, Conn (Isabel) Biggers, Eva Rose Biggers, Heather Dickman (Jared) Hoewing, Julia Dickman (Rylan) Lehman; two great-nephews: Stephen Hoewing and Daniel Hoewing. He was preceded in death by his father, Lester Louis Dickman; and first wife, Pamela Garrard Dickman. The impact of Randall's life is not over. His influence and Christian life will yet result in the salvation of others.

**GETRIDGE, ROBERT A.**, 79, born March 23, 1940, died Sept. 1, 2019 in Hartford, KY. He was a member of the Ohio County Church in Beaver Dam, KY. He was a U.S. Army Vietnam veteran, and was a prisoner of war on three occasions and was awarded several Purple Hearts.

**GORDON, ETHLYN M.**, 102, born March 3, 1917 in St. Mary, Jamaica, W.I.; died Oct. 17, 2019 in Miami, FL. She is survived by one son, Roy Stafford Davis of St. Catherine, Jamaica; one daughter, Valerie Woolfolk of Miami, FL; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Laton Smith at the Kendall Church in Miami. Interment was in Graceland Memorial South.

**HART, DOROTHY STACKS**, 96, born Oct. 28, 1923 in Red Oak, GA, died Feb. 12, 2020, peacefully at the Pruitt Healthcare in Fairburn, GA. She was the daughter of the late Sam William Riley Stacks and Leola Edith Lemon Stacks. She was a member of the Fayetteville Church in Fayetteville, GA. She became a church member when she joined the old Kirkwood Church. She was married to Howard M. Hart, and they, along with other members, wanted a church on their side of town. Dr. Schneider lived on a large parcel of land off Cascade Road, and offered them and the Georgia-Cumberland Conference the front part to build a new church. Within a few years, the church established the Cascade Road School. Dorothy drove the school bus that her children and many others rode. She was committed to making the school a success and helped out in many capacities. The school later became Atlanta Adventist Academy, where many of her grandchildren went to school. Dorothy loved Jesus and looked forward to being in Heaven. She is survived by her husband of 68 years, Howard; three daughters: Carole (Fletch) Lewallen, Linda (Stanley) Ab-

ercrombie, Joan (Randy) Haugen; two sons: Gregory and Gordy; eight grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

**HOPKINS, NANCY**, 88, born Feb. 14, 1931 in Nashville, TN, died March 15, 2019. She was an office assistant for Dr. Albert Dittis in Portland, TN. She also worked for the Portland Adventist Hospital. She was a member of the Portland Church. She was a faithful church member all her life. Once while out Ingathering in the 1940s, she went to a bar to solicit donations, and met a man just discharged from the military by the name of Rainey Hooper. She was instrumental in his joining the Adventist church, and later going to Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) in Collegedale, TN, to study for the ministry. Nancy also had a big part in the reconversion of the late Police Chief of Portland, L.A. Dillard Jr. She had known him as a school mate at Nashville Junior Academy when they were students. After her retirement, she did volunteer work for the Red Cross, Adventist Disaster and Relief, and represented her church in Battle Creek, MI, and the William Miller Farm. She is survived by two daughters: Elizabeth Simms and Diana Hopkins-McGuire both of Portland; two sisters: Kathe Anderson and Patsy Tobey both of Ft. Smith, AR; 10 grandchildren: Nathaniel, Dakota, Waylon, Colin, Tyler, Stephanie, Kwanna, Heather, Eric, Andrew; and several great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents: Herman and Elizabeth Bryant; her husband, Louis Hopkins; one son, Stephen Hopkins; two daughters: Sandra Lamberth and Kimberly Rose; five siblings: Herman "Buddy," Judy, Carolyn, Dora, and Mary; and one grandson.

**HURSH, FLORENCE E.**, 86, born June 26, 1933 in Newark, NJ, died June 3, 2020 in Apopka, FL. She was a member of the Spring Meadows Church

in Sanford, FL. At the age of 18, she married Douglas Earl Hursh Jr., and had four children: Robert, Douglas III, Patricia, and Deborah. She loved people and the God she served. She used her beautiful singing voice in church as well as took on many church leadership roles. Her children called her blessed and looked forward to her raising her melodious voice in song at bedtime. After years of living in the city, the family was able to move to the rolling hills in the northwest corner of New Jersey. In all the years while her children were growing up and through financial challenges, she believed that returning a faithful tithe was a requirement. She believed God rewarded her faithfulness by seeing her four children in Christ-centered parochial schools every year from elementary through high school and beyond. As her children went to and graduated from college, she was finally able to fulfill her own dream of going to college herself at the age of 44, and becoming a registered nurse. It suited her heart, for her life was a living example of Ephesians 4:32, "And be kind and compassionate to one another." She is survived by her son, Douglas III; two daughters: Patricia and Deborah; two sisters: Marilyn Solan, and Ellen Klim; two cousins: Shirley Hoffman, and Marcella Anderson; and four grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband in 1992 and her son, Robert, in 2008. Services were conducted at the Chapel Hill Cemetery in Orlando, FL.

**JOHNS, EARL**, 75, born Nov. 17, 1944, died Aug. 16, 2020. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Mary Johns; and two sons: Ricky and Randy. He was a beloved member of the Waycross, GA, Church.

**KOVALSKI, JOAN**, 88, born Sept. 1, 1932 in Passaic, NJ, died Sept. 4, 2020, with her daughter Linda at her bedside. Joan had been under

the care of Hospice for the last three months. Joan was the daughter of the late John Haliniak and Agnes Szymanski. Joan was a registered nurse and loved gardening, cooking, and her cats. She was a member of the Hightstown Church in New Jersey for years until she and her husband, Paul, retired to North Carolina and attended Mt. Pisgah Church. They then moved to West Virginia and were members of the Martinsburg Church. After Paul passed away, Joan moved to Tennessee to be with Linda. She is survived by her daughter, Linda Peck; son, Paul Kovalski; four grandchildren: Rebecca Mills, Jessica Peck, Paul Kovalski, and Joanna Kovalski; and one great-granddaughter, Adelaide "Adi" Mills, who affectionally called her "Bopchi." A memorial service was held on Sept. 8, 2020, at the Chattanooga Funeral Home Valley View Chapel in Chattanooga, TN. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Paul; and her two sisters: Virginia and Audrey.

**NAIL, CORNELIA "CONNIE" H.**, 75, born Sept. 22, 1944 in Jesup, GA, died April 10, 2020 in Orange Park, FL. She was a member of the Starke, FL, Church for 40 years. She was a retired nurse, and she was the director of the Starke Adventist Food Pantry. She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Russell "Rusty" Nail Sr.; one son, Lieutenant Colonel Russell "Rusty" (Diana) Nail Jr., of Homestead, FL; one daughter, Betsy (Shane) Greene of Lawtey, FL; one sister, Lynda Gardner of Spring Hill, FL; and four grandchildren. Service will be held at a later date.

**POPE, RICHARD ALLEN**, 61, born April 4, 1959 in Cleveland, MS, died April 16, 2020 at his home in Goodlettsville, TN. He graduated from Southern Adventist University in 1985, Magna Cum Laude, with a Bachelor of Science in accounting. He was a member of the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. Richard was a loving

husband, father, and grandfather. He was kind and generous to all he met and became a friend quickly. If he saw someone in need, he always tried to help. He loved helping with the video on Sabbaths. In Nashville, he worked at HCA, Ardent Health, and Quorum Health. He was baptized on May 22, 2004. His first experience with Pathfinders was when his daughter became Pathfinder age. He took part in all the activities. Camping was one of his favorites. He thought attending an Oshkosh Camporee was great and quickly picked up the art of trading pins. He loved to trade pins and shopped for good "trading pins" everywhere he went. He had the privilege of attending two Oshkosh Camporees. Richard is survived by his wife of 41 years, Denise Gibson Pope; his mother, Margaret Busby Sumrall; one daughter, Deanna (Zach) Smith; grandson, Eli Smith; one son, Bradley (Samantha) Smith; grandsons, Owen Smith and Tristan Flynn; granddaughter, Marleigh Flynn; one sister, Sylvia Pope; four brothers: Mike (Brenda) Pope, David (Ginger) Pope, Shannon (Susan) Holland, and Wade Holland; numerous nieces; nephews; and his in-laws: Dan and Faye Gibson. He was preceded in death by his father and stepmother: Garland and Anne Pope; and stepfather: William Sumrall.

**PRICE-CLARKE, DIANE C.**, 54, born July 28, 1964 in Claredon, Jamaica, died Nov. 27, 2018 in Miami, FL. She was a member of the Kendall, FL, Church. She is survived by her husband of 19 years, Raymond Price; one son, Christopher Price of Miami; one daughter, Reanne Price; one brother, Michael Clark of St. Patrick; and two sisters: Dorothy Clarke-Bramble and Shirleen Clarke-Anderson. The service was conducted by Pastor Laton Smith at Kendall Church in Miami. Interment was at Caballero-Woodlawn in Kendall.

**ROBERTSHAW, BARBARA E.**, 87, born in 1933 in Jamaica, WI, died April 15,



2020 in Nassau County, NY. She was a member of the Port Charlotte, FL, Church for 14 years. She was a unit secretary at Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center in New York. She is survived by three daughters: Veronica Quail of Mastic, NY, Sandra Brown of Rochester, NY, and Audrey Green of Sarasota, FL; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Fred Robertshaw in 1994. She was laid to rest in Washington Memorial Park in Mt. Sinai, NY.

**ROGERS, JAMES E.**, 95, born Sept. 25, 1923 in Butler County, KY, died Dec. 2, 2018 at Ohio County Hospital. James was a United States Army Veteran of World War II. He also worked construction. He is survived by one daughter, Lynn (Bill) Burgess of Cromwell; one son, James Darryl Rogers of Cromwell; eight grandchildren: Dennis (Jan) Rogers, Denise Rogers (Al) Gleason, Teresa Rogers, Tara Burgess (Joe) Armstrong, Trina Burgess (Mark) Armstrong, Trent Burgess, Sarah Rogers, James "Corey" Rogers; one brother, Robert Rogers of Bowling Green; 14 great-grandchildren; six great-great-grandchildren; several nieces; and nephews. He is preceded in death by his wife, Claudie A. Rogers; parents: Archie Rogers and Pearl Keown Rogers; one son, Gerald Rogers; one great-granddaughter, Courtney Rogers; one great-grandson, Joe Lowell Armstrong III; one brother, Junior Rogers; three sisters: Margie Morphey, Hazel Coots, and Lorene Greer; and one daughter-in-law, Katherine Butler Rogers.

**SMITH, HAROLD WALDON "SONNY,"** 85, born Dec. 24, 1934 in San Antonio, TX, died Aug. 27, 2020 in Goodlettsville, TN. Sonny was a generous, kind-hearted man, who was always happy. Growing up as an only child, he was overjoyed to be welcomed into a large family when he married Mary Ellen in 1957. He made family his primary focus

his entire life. He loved nothing more than just spending time with his family. He also proudly served his country in the United States Air Force in the 1950s, and worked as an Oil Scout for Luling Oil and Gas for many years afterwards. He is survived by two daughters: Shannon (Tim) Prow and Kimberly (Donald) Allen; three grandsons: Caleb (Emily) Prow, Ethan Prow, and Donovan Allen; a host of extended family; and dear friends. He was preceded in death by his wife of 62 years, Mary Ellen Young Smith; and his parents: Harold and Beatrice Smith.

**STOKES, TERRY LEE**, 76, born May 5, 1953, died April 21, 2020 in Madison, TN. He was a member of the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. Terry retired from Ford Motor Glass Company after many years of service. He is survived by his wife, Martha Stokes; two daughters: Nicole Stokes and Lesa (Brian) Welcker; two granddaughters: Riley and Ella; one sister, Mayrene Sircy; nieces; and nephews.

**SUTTON, DROTHA NELL**, 47, born Jan. 1, 1973, died March 23, 2020 at the Owensboro Health Regional Hospital. She was a member of the Ohio County Church in Beaver Dam, KY. Drotha was very active in her church and enjoyed spending time with her family, gardening, and riding her bicycle. She is survived by one daughter, Samantha (Caanan) Cain of Central City, KY; her father, Harold Wallace of McHenry, KY; two sisters: Lois (Mark) Wortham of Centertown, KY, and Martha (Wally) Ingersoll of Joshua Tree, CA; several nieces; and nephews. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Ashley Nicole Sutton; her mother, Naomi Faye Ford Wallace; and two infant siblings.

**WILLIAMS, GLADYS MARSHALL**, 84, born April 25, 1935 to Alice and Walter Marshall in Edwards, MS, died peacefully on April 11, 2020 in Vicksburg, MS,

with her son by her side. Gladys and Estes Williams Jr., met while attending the Southern Christian Institute in Edwards, MS. They later reconnected while teaching together in Rolling Fork, MS. After love blossomed, they were married in Rolling Fork on December 10, 1960. Gladys attended Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins, TX, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1957. She earned her Master's degree in elementary education at Jackson State University in 1976. Gladys worked as a teacher in Mississippi for more than 30 years. Twenty-five years were dedicated to the Vicksburg-Warren County School System. Gladys' life of service was evident in her love for Jesus Christ, her family, and church. She was a member of the historical Morning Star Seventh-day Adventist Church in Vicksburg, where she served as church treasurer, church clerk, head deaconess, and Sabbath School Superintendent. In recent years, you could regularly find her at the Salvation Army preparing and serving between 75 and 150 lunches on the second and fourth Monday of the month for more than 18 years. Gladys is survived by her son, Estes Dewayne Williams of Houston, TX; two grandchildren: Justin Dewayne Williams of Houston and Eva Williams Johnson of Loma Linda, CA; one sister, Alma Jean Banks of Edwards, MS; four sisters-in-law: Mary Marshall of Vicksburg, Lena Marshall of Flint, MI, Altha Williams of Chicago, IL, and Shirley Williams of Vicksburg; a host of other family; and friends. Estes Williams Jr., preceded Gladys in rest after 33 years of marriage. A public viewing was scheduled on April 24. A private family graveside committal ceremony was held April 25, at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Vicksburg. As Pastor Reginal Robinson shared at her graveside ceremony, "Sister Gladys Williams' life of service to Morning Star Church and the surrounding community of Vicksburg-Warren county, spoke for itself. All that is left to be said is Amen."

## HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ADVERTISING

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

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

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

### PROPERTY AVAILABLE

**COLLEGEDALE GUESTHOUSE:** 1.5 bedroom fully equipped condo with kitchen and laundry, no steps, huge deck, secluded woodland setting. "What a find!" say guests, "Delightful!" \$80/night for two (2-night minimum). Call 423-236-4688 or 423-716-1298. See pictures at [www.rogerkingrental.com](http://www.rogerkingrental.com) [12]

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

**FLORIDA LIVING RETIREMENT** independent living is owned by the Florida Conference and is right here in the Central Florida area. Sunny beaches, golf courses, the best medical care and shopping are all close by. Renovations and upgrades are constant in our units. The 13.5 acres of property are well maintained and give you the open, country style of living. Call Nancy today: 407-862-2646. You will be glad you did! [12-3]

**ENJOY WORRY-FREE RETIREMENT** at Fletcher Park Inn on the Fletcher Academy campus near Hendersonville, NC. Spacious apartments available now. Ask about our limited rental units

and villa homes. Enjoy a complimentary lunch at our vegetarian buffet when you tour. Call Lisa at 1-800-249-2882 or 828-209-6935 or visit [www.fletcherparkinn.com](http://www.fletcherparkinn.com) [12-7]

**HOMES AND LAND FOR SALE** - 4 bed/3 bath home located in East Brainerd, large corner lot \$277,500. Collegedale home with 1.7 acres 3 bed/plus den, 2 car garage, detached utility garage \$315,000. New inventory weekly, call for an updated list of active homes for sale. Wendy Dixon Team-Keller Williams Realty 423-664-1800, ask for the DixonTeam.com, or call direct, Wendy Dixon Team, 423-702-2000. [12]

**TN SDA REALTOR** - Looking to buy or sell a home in the Middle Tennessee/Nashville area? Josh McCoy with Parks is a local experienced realtor who knows the market and community. Contact Josh with Parks Realty: 615-826-4040 or direct: 615-484-6817 (call/text), [joshmccoy@parksathome.com](mailto:joshmccoy@parksathome.com). [12]

**ADVENTIST REALTOR** - I can help your dreams become reality. If you want to buy or sell give me a call. Pierre Potgieter 423-987-0831 or 423-664-6644 @ ReMax Rec. Let me give you a comparative market analysis on your property. Licensed in Tennessee and Georgia. [12-3]

**ADAIRSVILLE, GA HOME FOR RENT** - 6,000 square foot home approximately 15 minutes to AdventHealth Gordon, 20 minutes to GCA and Coble Elementary.

Wooded property with private driveway and security gate. Open floor plan. 5 bedrooms and 5.5 bathrooms on main level. Safe room and bathroom with reinforced walls and steel door in basement. 80% hardwood floors, granite countertops, custom cabinetry in kitchen and baths. For additional information call Marcia Neilly at 678-549-7459. [12]

**CHOICE MOUNTAIN LAND** inside Cherokee National Forest in beautiful East Tennessee. Four tracts ranging in size from 10 - 50 acres. Large creek, cleared land, mixed forest with mature trees. On County maintained road, utilities on site. 50 miles to Southern Adventist University. 60 miles to Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Near scenic rivers, lakes, trails. Ideal retreat, country living, retirement. Call, text, email for more info and pictures. 301-332-8237 or [kathyr777@gmail.com](mailto:kathyr777@gmail.com) [12]

**FLORIDA SDA REALTOR** - Are you interested in buying or selling in Orlando, Florida or surrounding cities? I look forward to helping you! Sandra Da Silva, Realtor: 407-840-8500 (call/text). Service provided in English & Spanish. [12, 1]

### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks full-time **faculty member for the School of Computing**. The ideal candidate will have an earned doctorate in computer science, information technology, information systems, or a related area. Qualified candidate would teach graduate and undergraduate courses, develop course materials, advise students academically, serve on university committees, and perform other duties expected of full-time faculty. For a full job description and desired qualifications please visit: [southern.edu/jobs](http://southern.edu/jobs) [12]

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY**



seeks full-time **faculty member for the School of Visual Art and Design.** Looking for a professor of film production to teach cinematography, lighting, sound design, documentary directing, and producing. M.F.A. in film production and current teaching experience preferred. *For a full job description and desired qualifications please visit: [southern.edu/jobs](http://southern.edu/jobs)* [12]

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks **Pathways Coordinator for the School of Business.** The Pathways Coordinator facilitates full-circle engagement by serving as a touchpoint for prospective and current students as they navigate to and through higher education to the workforce. *For a full job description and desired qualifications please visit: [southern.edu/jobs](http://southern.edu/jobs)* [12]

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks full-time **Director of Adult Degree Completion.** The ideal candidate will have experience in adult degree completion programs, enrollment services, or new academic program development. Master's Degree required; Ph.D. preferred. *For a full job description and desired qualifications please visit: [southern.edu/jobs](http://southern.edu/jobs)* [12]

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S** School of Education and Psychology seeks a **full-time teaching position in Counseling**, available for summer 2021. Earned doctoral degree in counselor education from a CACREP-accredited program is required. Doctoral degrees in clinical or counseling psychology from APA-accredited program could be considered if applicant has been employed as full-time faculty member in a counselor education program for a minimum of one full academic year before July 1, 2013. Additional requirements include but are not limited to 3+ years'

experience in clinical practice, licensed or eligible for licensure in state of residence, minimum of 2-year teaching experience at the graduate level with preference toward those with experience in face-to-face and hybrid learning environments, and experience in clinical supervision at master's or doctoral level. The successful applicant must be a member in regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. *Qualified applicants should submit cover letters and curriculum vitae to: Tammy Overstreet, Ph.D., Dean, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315, [toverstreet@southern.edu](mailto:toverstreet@southern.edu), 423-236-2444.* For a full job description and desired qualifications please visit: [southern.edu/jobs](http://southern.edu/jobs) [12]

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

**SEEKING A SDA FEMALE CNA or nurse** to sit with and provide assistance to widow in Rogersville, Tennessee. Housing and utilities provided along with weekly compensation. *Call or email Tim Luttrell: 423-754-3004, [tluttrell@lstaff.com](mailto:tluttrell@lstaff.com).* Background and reference check required. [12]

**NEW/USED ADVENTIST BOOKS:** TEACH Services helping authors publish their book, including editing, design, marketing, and worldwide distribution. Call 800-367-1844 for a free evaluation. *Visit [www.infbooks.com](http://www.infbooks.com) for used books and your local ABC or [www.TEACHServices.com](http://www.TEACHServices.com) for new book releases.* [12-4]

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. *For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit [www.southern.edu/graduatestudies](http://www.southern.edu/graduatestudies)* [12-5]

**SINGLE? WIDOWED? DIVORCED?** Meet compatible SDA's from USA ages 18-98. Each provides: birthday, marital status, race, occupation, interests, goals, year baptized, lots more! Safe, confidential, effective, fun! *For information, application and current catalog, send \$30 to: SDA Pen-Pals, PO Box 734, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513.* [12-2]

**SEEKING A COUNTRY ADVENTIST SCHOOL** with an emphasis in Forest School? Algood Christian Elementary and its friendly constituent church are located on 30 beautiful, wooded acres near Cookeville, TN. Forest School is a vital, year-long part of the Christ-centered curriculum. *Call 931-854-0259 or visit [algoodchristian.org](http://algoodchristian.org)* [12-2]

## MISCELLANEOUS

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



**CHRISTMAS  
SPECIAL**

# Glory!

*T*his ABC Television Special, in collaboration with the Interfaith Broadcasting Commission (IBC), will feature a Christmas message from Dr. Carlton P. Byrd, Speaker/Director of the Breath of Life Television Ministry and Senior Pastor of the Oakwood University Church in Huntsville, Alabama. This special will also feature Grammy Award-winning Musical Artists, Michael W. Smith, Erica Campbell, and Kirk Whalum, along with the International Choir of the World, the Oakwood University Aeolians Concert Choir.

Dr. Carlton P. Byrd,  
Speaker/Director



Michael W. Smith



Erica Campbell



Kirk Whalum



Aeolians Concert Choir

Breath of Life

## Watch on ABC on December 25, 2020

For a list of stations and times, call **256.929.6460** or visit **breathoflife.tv**

## I Don't Need the Income

**W**ayne knew he would have to take the required distribution from his IRA when he turned 70½. He really didn't need the extra income and was concerned about the impact it would have on his tax rate and Medicare premium.

He called his Conference's Trust Department director who told him he could "roll-over" that distribution to the Church to return tithe or to support his favorite ministry. Doing so meant that he never received the money, and therefore did not have to deal with the negative consequences. It was a blessing to him and his local church.

► To learn more about financial tools such as distribution rollovers, contact your local conference or university Planned Giving and Trust Services Department.

### 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

Kimberly Bobenhausen (423) 236-2818



**SUSDAGift.org**



## CAROLINA

**Prayer Ministries Virtual Meeting** – Jan. 1. Carolina Conference Website.

**“Fullness of Joy” Virtual Women’s Seminar** – Jan. 2, 3 p.m. Carolina Conference Webs

## GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

**Interview with Dr. Sandy Roberts, president of the South-eastern California Conference, with moderator Mickey P. Evans, president of the Georgia-Cumberland Adventist Elders’ Consortium** – Dec. 12. 4-5:30 p.m. Online.

**Watch an online conversation with Kyoshin Ahn, executive secretary for the North American Division, with moderator Mickey P. Evans, president of the Georgia-Cumberland Adventist Elders’ Consortium** – Jan. 23. 4-5:30 pm. Online. Please check the website for the latest details, [www.gccsda.com](http://www.gccsda.com)

## SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

**Classes Begin** – Jan. 19. Southern offers a variety of degrees, some of which can be earned entirely online. For more information, visit [southern.edu](http://southern.edu) or call 1-800-SOUTHERN.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ALUMNI OF HOOVER CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, BRAKEWORTH JUNIOR ACADEMY, AND BIRMINGHAM JUNIOR ACADEMY** – April 3. Please join us to celebrate 73 years of Adventist education in Birmingham, AL. Call 205-987-3376 or email of-

[fice@hooverchristianschool.org](mailto:fice@hooverchristianschool.org) for more information.

**SAVE THE DATES!!! SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE WOMEN’S CONVENTION – Sept. 8-11, 2022.** Orlando, FL.

**SINGLES:** Bible study, hikes, socials, banquets, retreats, bowling, cooking classes, and more! Check out the Calendar of Events at [www.gccsda.com/singles-ministries/home](http://www.gccsda.com/singles-ministries/home).

**IT IS WRITTEN CHILDREN’S APP** – It Is Written’s “My Place

With Jesus” is excited to introduce a brand new mobile app designed to help children learn about Jesus and the Bible in a fun, 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!” Down-load it for free now. Available for both Android and iOS devices.

## SUNSET

	DEC 4	DEC 11	DEC 18	DEC 25	JAN 1	JAN 8
ATLANTA, GA	5:28	5:29	5:32	5:35	5:40	5:45
CHARLESTON, SC	5:13	5:14	5:16	5:20	5:24	5:30
CHARLOTTE, NC	5:11	5:11	5:14	5:17	5:22	5:28
COLLEGE DALE, TN	5:28	5:29	5:31	5:35	5:39	5:45
HUNTSVILLE, AL	4:34	4:35	4:38	4:41	4:46	4:52
JACKSON, MS	4:55	4:56	4:59	5:02	5:07	5:12
LOUISVILLE, KY	5:22	5:23	5:25	5:29	5:33	5:40
MEMPHIS, TN	4:48	4:48	4:51	4:55	4:59	5:05
MIAMI, FL	5:29	5:31	5:33	5:37	5:41	5:46
MONTGOMERY, AL	4:39	4:40	4:43	4:47	4:51	4:56
NASHVILLE, TN	4:32	4:33	4:35	4:39	4:43	4:49
ORLANDO, FL	5:28	5:30	5:32	5:36	5:40	5:45
TAMPA, FL	5:34	5:35	5:38	5:41	5:46	5:51
WILMINGTON, NC	5:01	5:02	5:05	5:08	5:13	5:19





# STAY HOME AND EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS

Online Graduate Options from Southern Adventist University

**As the world changes and adapts to a new normal, Southern is keeping pace. Many of our master's degree programs are now online, providing students with peace of mind and increased convenience.**

Whether you are looking to enter a new profession, take your career to the next level, or fulfill a long-held dream, now may be an ideal time to explore a graduate degree. Select online options are available in:

**Business, Counseling, Education,  
Nursing, Social Work**

For more information, visit our website at [southern.edu/graduatestudies](https://southern.edu/graduatestudies) or give us a call at 423.236.2585. Our goal is to help you reach yours!

