

TIDINGS



Southern



SEPTEMBER 2023

REACHING SOULS for JESUS

HONORING THE LIFE
AND LEGACY OF
KEITH W. REID

FORMER
CONFERENCE
PRESIDENT,
JACKSON MICHAEL
DOGETTE SR.,
PASSES AT 92

INSPIRING THE NEXT
GENERATION OF
BUSINESS LEADERS

“FOR THE KIDS”
ENHANCES
TEACHING WHILE
FOSTERING
COMMUNITY

The Divine Quality Controller



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

“Unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God,” 1 Corinthians 1:24.

“When the chips are down” has taken on a new meaning. Once it meant that something was really at stake. Now it means that the computer has gone wrong, or some program has malfunctioned.

Quality control rejects more chips than it accepts. In fact, high memory and heavily programmed chips are very difficult to produce. The more one asks of a chip, the more likely that it will be thrown away.

Mankind’s condition parallels that of chips, except that things are far worse. The cross teaches that the One “rejected of men” is, after all, the perfect One, in whom we may fix our hope.

Two things are wrong about man. First, all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Not only do we each have a list of sins accumulated against us, but we also possess a depraved, basically sinful nature. It matters not whether one speaks of religious people, such as the Jews, or secular, pagan people, such as the Greeks. Self-seeking hostility against God permeates the whole race.

The second thing is perhaps more subtle. Salvation and grace flow from God to man. Salvation that comes wholly from God means that mankind is always receiving. Against this, we rebel. We want to have our religiosity accepted and then have God build on it. Or we would like our wisdom and education counted, and then that we’d be lifted to higher planes by the power of God. In other words, we say, “Look what I have done.” Now, Lord, carry me where I cannot go.

The cross stands over human power and wisdom. In it God provides power to save. He gives us life in Christ. The old nature dies on the cross, and the new nature takes over.

The God who sees us as we truly are will have none of our self-seeking, self-improvement plans. Our wisdom just will not do. Any life built on a foundation other than Christ and Him crucified will surely totter and fall. The divine Quality Controller knows us better than we know ourselves. This is hard for the carnal heart to accept, but nonetheless it has been tested against time and proven against any doubt.

“The spirit of Jesus Christ ever has a renewing, restoring power upon the soul that has felt its own weakness and fled to the unchanging one,” *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, pp. 264, 265.

Finally, as we quest to GO according to the Gospel Commission, and to GATHER through the strengthening and revitalizing the Church’s resources, we will GROW in our effectiveness when we showcase Christ to the world. “If Christ is presented as the Savior of the world, the seed sown may spring up and bear fruit to the glory of God. But often the cross of Calvary is not presented before the people ...,” *Gospel Workers*, pp. 157, 158.

Let’s submit our lives and ministry to the Divine Quality Controller. -RCS ①

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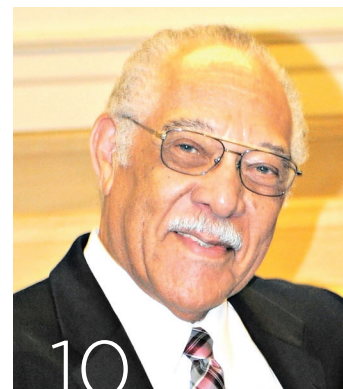
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REACHING SOULS for JESUS

BY ANN FREEDMAN

One of my favorite texts in the Bible is found in Psalm 139:14-16, “I will praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful; I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the Earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be.” We are all made in the image of God. He has a plan and a purpose for

each one of us. It is important for us to remember this, individually, and as a church body.

I remember when I was teaching first grade at Atrisco Elementary in Albuquerque, New Mexico. I was asked to include students from the special education program in my classroom. Our school offered general education as well as Profound Special Education Services in that area. This meant that special education students would be integrated into my classroom for part of the day. The students would come to the classroom

“In our ministries, we need to remember to include everyone. People need to feel welcomed, loved, and included in our churches, schools, and other ministries. The foundation of Christ’s ministry was love.”

Ann Freedman







“It is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

Ephesians 2:8-10

for read-aloud time, recess, morning circle time, and other parts of the day. The disabilities ranged from mild to severe. Most of the students were in wheelchairs, some were blind, and many had challenges communicating.

My students felt uncomfortable at first. They did not know how to communicate and interact with these new students. They called them “sick kids.” They asked various questions such as, “How can they like the stories when they can’t see the pictures?” and “How can they play at recess?” However, after spending more time together, the students realized how alike they all were. They could work and play together; some of them just accomplished tasks in a different way. With a few changes, we were all able to learn and grow together.

In our ministries, we need to remember to include everyone. People need to feel welcomed, loved, and included in our churches, schools, and other ministries. The foundation of Christ’s ministry was love. There are various ways we can show this love to members with disabilities. Sometimes even small changes are all it takes to make it easier for everyone to be able to worship together.

We need to make sure that we are pro-

moting a welcoming attitude toward people with disabilities. Pastors and leaders in church ministries need to promote and teach inclusion with their actions and their message. When leaders of the Church model Christ’s love and acceptance, it helps others follow this example. Ephesians 2:8-10 reminds us that, “It is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Everyone is included in these verses. We have all been created and called by God for the work He has planned for us.

We also need to think creatively about meeting the needs of all those in our ministry. The first thing people typically think about when envisioning ways to be more inclusive is physical access. While this is an important aspect of being more inclusive, we need to think broader and more creatively. Is there a sensory-friendly space in the building for those who need a quieter service? When we plan events, how do we adjust for those with physical disabilities? We can provide tablets for people in worship who have vision issues, and enhance

“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.”

1 Corinthians 12:1-6



their experience by providing them with the slides used in worship in a way they can more easily access. We can provide captions on the screen for those with hearing issues. We can make sure the activities in children's ministries, like Adventurers or Pathfinders, have options that will work for all children.

We need to recognize the needs of all those in our Church, so that everyone can be involved and active participants in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

Part of the ministry of Jesus is serving and, as such, it is important to provide diverse serving opportunities. Some-

times we get trapped in the mindset that we need to minister to those with disabilities instead of valuing their abilities and desire to minister to others. Everyone has gifts and talents. Part of including everyone in the Church means providing different ways to connect and serve. “There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work,” 1 Corinthians 12:1-6.

When we do not include everyone in service opportunities, we are saying to a group of people that we don't need or value them. Part of worshiping God is finding ways to live our faith in service. Opportunities like serving as welcome hosts, helping with preparation for events, collecting the offering, or singing in the choir are great examples of service opportunities that can be inclusive to all.

My prayer is that we continue to learn and grow as a Church family. Everyone should feel welcomed and loved as we all try to mirror Christ's love. Jesus was constantly breaking barriers that shut people out and including all in His plan of salvation. I hope our churches will continue to be a welcoming place for everyone to worship and grow closer to God. ①

Ann Freedman is the family and disabilities ministries associate director for the Southern Union Conference.



HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF KEITH W. REID

BY WILLIAM SMITH

Keith W. Reid was born September 29, 1957, and took his rest in Jesus on June 20, 2023, leaving a rich legacy of dedicated service for Jesus and love to his fellowman. He wholeheartedly served as the associate publishing director of the Southern Union Conference for the past 12 years. He thoroughly enjoyed literature evangelism (LE) ministry, and recruited, trained, and encouraged literature evangelists every chance he could.

He believed in it because God called him to engage in this ministry in 1982. In fact, Keith often testified that God had called him from a career as a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a trained chemical engineer with Dupont Corporation, to a full-time ministry in literature evangelism.

Keith grew up on Long Island, New York, in a wonderful family with a loving father and mother and three siblings. His parents believed in and promoted higher education, leading to Keith and each of his siblings attaining degrees. As professionals themselves, they wanted the best for their children.

After he embraced the call from God to wholeheartedly accept Jesus and His message of mercy for this generation, Keith later accepted God's call into full-time literature ministry, hitting the ground running.

The Family Health Education Service publishing director, Clarence Richardson from the Northeastern Conference, informed me that in the mid-'80s, Keith did so well selling Christian books as a full-time



Keith W. Reid

career literature evangelist/leader on stipend, that he did not want to take a full salary from the Conference because it would have been a significant pay cut for him.

As a promoter and seller of cutting-edge health books and resources, Keith developed a deeper interest in the medical missionary aspect of literature evangelism, and was certified at Uchee Pines Wellness Center in Seale, Alabama, where he also met the love of his life, Carolyn Rattliff. They were happily married for 34 years. To their union they had one beautiful daughter, Cassia, who has followed her dad's steps in participating in literature ministry.

While serving in Alabama, Keith was recruited by the Alabama associate publishing director of South Central Conference,

the late Eugene Anthony, another fully dedicated, high-powered literature minister himself. Keith worked so well and so successfully there with a team of other dedicated literature evangelists, that Alabama, one of the poorest states in the country at that time, became the top LE district in cash sales throughout the entire North American Division. It wasn't long before I asked him to serve as associate publishing director of Kentucky, while I was the publishing director of South Central Conference.

Keith was a wonderful blessing to the leadership team in South Central. His sharp mind was always looking for better ways to do literature ministry. God gave him wisdom to come up with "The Leaves of Autumn" literature distribution program, where local members would buy boxes of small literature to distribute in their community like the leaves of autumn. It was a very successful outreach endeavor. He always believed in and promoted "Total Member Involvement."

As one who was always seeking ways to do literature ministry better, he noticed how career literature evangelists in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference were doing extremely well with sales, and making a good living for themselves on the Home Health Education Service credit plan. Literature evangelists would run leads, seeing just a few people a day, and they would receive a weekly check in the mail for contracts they would write to on a weekly basis.

Keith trained and worked under Tim

PHOTO BY: O'LIVIA WOODARD

Leffew, Home Health Education Service (HHES) publishing director for the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, and Tim worked with him until he was successful with the new program. He loved it and did extremely well on the HHES credit plan, which is still blessing career literature evangelists today. (To learn more, go to www.literatureministry.com.)

Again, with a God-given track record of success behind him, Keith was called into leadership as the publishing director for the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. He served well in that position, building up a team that reached thousands of people in the Kentucky-Tennessee area.

After a few years of local conference ministry, when the Southern Union executive committee appointed me to serve as the publishing director of the Southern Union, Keith accepted the invitation to serve with me, as the Southern Union associate publishing director.

What a blessing it was to have Keith on the Southern Union team! It is so important, on a winning team, to work with people who have the same vision, passion, attitude, and motivation that you have to share the message of Jesus to millions. Keith came to the Union ready to reach the more than 62 million precious souls in the eight states with the printed pages.

The Southern Union publishing initiative called BLAST, an acronym emphasizing five key components of literature ministry (B-Books and Tracts, L-Linking Departments, A-All Members Involved, S-Student Fundraisers, and T-Technology), was partially developed by Keith, as well as myself and other team members.

I loved working with Keith Reid and Beverly Perry, Publishing Department administrative assistant, because we all wanted and worked for the same thing, which was to engage all church members in distributing hope-filled literature in the cities they lived in. By partnering with local conferences, we worked with a team of publishing leaders and BLAST event coordinators who were fired up about scattering Gospel literature like the leaves of autumn.

Along with preaching at churches



PHOTO BY: CHRISTINA COSTON

Southern Union and conference publishing directors and associates pose for a photo during the November 2022 Southern Union Departmental Meetings at Stone Mountain Park in Georgia.

while training local members to do Sabbath afternoon outreach using literature, you could find Keith at large sports gatherings with BLAST teams, distributing thousands of GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) tracts. You could find him at the universities recruiting students to do literature ministry. You could find him on the phone encouraging literature workers and leaders, or at his desk writing encouraging cards to those who were doing hand-to-hand combat with the devil.

Keith was filled with the Holy Spirit, and he was an all-around loving, kind, encouraging, and helpful leader, worker, and family man. Through the years, I loved watching Keith raise and mentor his beautiful daughter, Cassia. Like him, Cassia loved coming up with new and better ways to do things, whether it was a better way to pack boxes with tracts, a better way to navigate through Miami while dropping off hundreds of boxes at local churches for the big Super Bowl game there, or a better way to take pictures at HHES conventions. It was a great father and daughter relationship!

And of course, Keith was truly in love with the love of his life, Carolyn! They were powerful life partners in ministry, traveling and serving together every chance they got through the years. Their music ministry was very inspiring as well. It was a blessing to hear their melodic voices blending, singing praises to God, and it was a treat to hear the clear sound of Keith's trumpet playing at worships at the Southern Union office and various meetings throughout the Union.

He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Carolyn Reid; his daughter, Cassia Reid; his mother, Joyce Reid; his mother-in-law, Carolyn Rattliff; two brothers, Karl (Andrea) Reid, and Kendrick Reid; five brothers-in-law, Fred Berryhill, Frederick Rattliff, Fred Rattliff, Fernandus (Susan) Rattliff, and Freeman Rattliff; sister-in-law, Regina Rattliff; three nieces, Bianca (Ernesto) Rattliff Moseley, Jasmine (Michael) Reid-Silvernagle, and Sarah Berryhill; four nephews, Brandon Rattliff, Andrew Reid, Kenneth Berryhill, and Miles Reid; four grandnieces, Kassidy Moseley, Jada Rattliff, Jhene Rattliff, and Elisia Moseley; one grandnephew, William Moseley; and aunts, uncles, cousins, and other extended family in the United States, Canada, England, and Barbados. Other mourners include Southern Union coworkers, friends, church and community members, and publishing workers in the North American Division territory. He was preceded in death by his father, Kenneth W. Reid, and his sister, Monique J. Reid Berryhill.

God has called His son Keith to rest, leaving behind a path fragrant with the fruit of love from above. Let us continue to pray for his family and loved ones left to shine on for Jesus, until that day when we all will go home with Him!

To hear Keith's life story interview on *It Is Written*, visit the *It Is Written* Conversations: Keith Reid. 📻

William Smith is the publishing director for the Southern Union Conference.

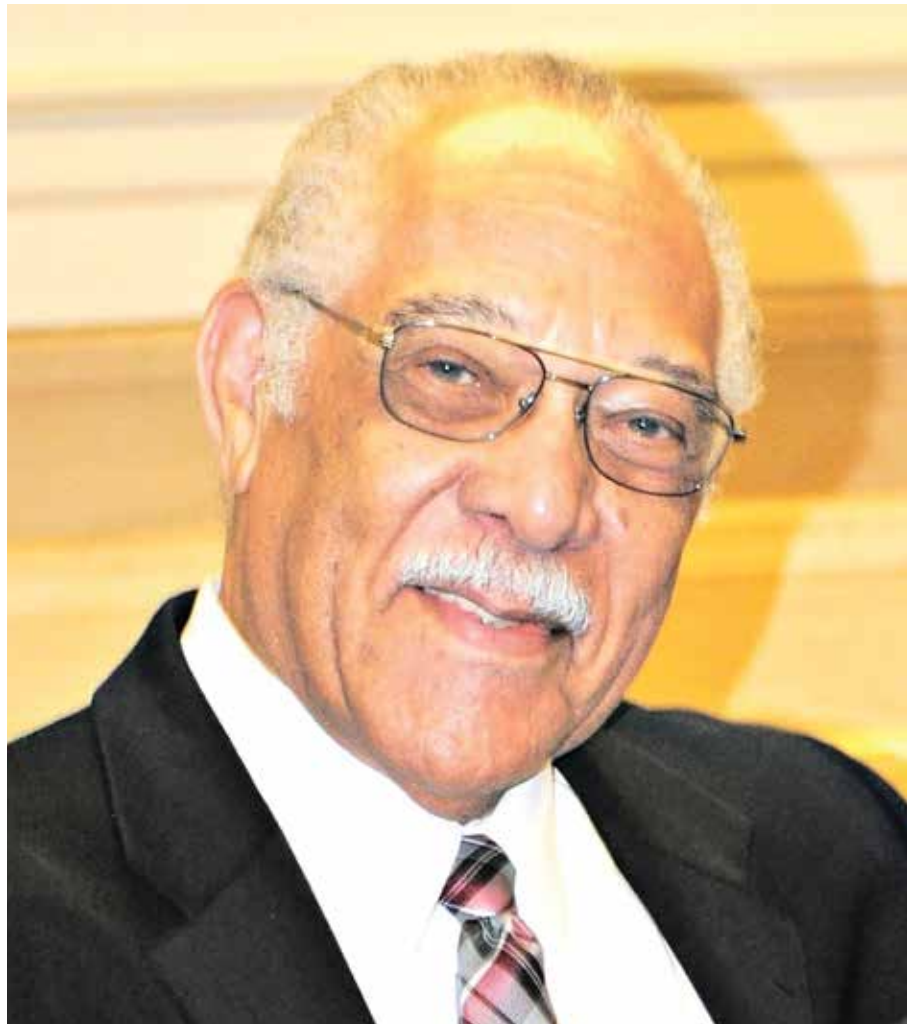
FORMER CONFERENCE PRESIDENT, JACKSON MICHAEL DOGGETTE SR., PASSES AT 92

BY **DEBBE MILLET**

Jackson Michael Doggette Sr., 92, was born December 11, 1930, in Chase City, Virginia, the second child born to the late Herbert Richard Doggette Sr. and Sally Blanche Robertson Doggette. After a prolonged illness, Doggette took his final rest on April 17, 2023, in Apopka, Florida. He was a wise, kind, humble man of integrity, and a shepherd, spiritual father, and mentor.

Doggette's family moved to the Bedford-Stuyvesant area in Brooklyn, New York. As a teen, he won a bet that he could not pass the entrance examination to the prestigious Brooklyn Technical High School. Determined and resolute, he passed the test and chose to concentrate on the first course of study listed, architecture.

After graduating from Brooklyn Technical High School in 1948, Doggette worked as a bicycle messenger riding through the streets of Brooklyn. He intended to stay in Brooklyn. However, the Lord had different plans for him. Members at his home church, Bethel Seventh-day Adventist Church in Brooklyn, took up an offering and sent him to Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) to study pastoral ministry.



While at Oakwood, he was smitten with the lovely Edythe Marie Young, an elementary education student from Los Angeles, California. Two weeks after Edythe's graduation, the couple married and began their ministerial life together. Nine months later, Linda was born. Four more children were born to their union: Jackson Jr., James, Joy, and Sylvia. Jack and Edythe were married for nearly 61 years at the time of Edythe's death on April 26, 2015.

Doggette's hobbies included golf and eating sweets, which he called "health food." During one of his early morning golf rounds, he achieved a hole-in-one. He was also very proud to have played in a foursome with Elgin Baylor, Bill Russell, and Maury Wills.

For 56 years he served the Seventh-day Adventist Church pastoring a total of 21 churches, including 13 districts in four conferences. His first ministerial assignment was pastoring a district that spanned 400 miles with three churches in the Southwest Region Conference (1954-1957). He also pastored in the Southern California Conference (1958-1965 and 1970-1985), the South Central Conference (1965-1970 and post-retirement), and the Southeastern Conference (1985-1998) where he served as president from 1988 to 1994.

In 1965 he accepted a call to pastor the Memphis, Eads, and Clarksdale, Tennessee district. The Memphis congregation was worshipping at a church building on Mississippi Boulevard that housed a small two-room church school. Seeing the need for expansion, he led the congregation to purchase a larger property on Alcy Boulevard for the church and school. The Lord blessed the church and school to grow.

During the time the congregation was at Alcy Boulevard, the civil rights movement was in full swing. The 1968 Memphis Sanitation Workers' Strike impacted the whole city, and Doggette was fully engaged. During the volatile marches, he could be seen in the crowd

with his camera around his neck as he helped injured protestors to the South Central Conference community services van for medical treatment. While he was attending a joint pastors' meeting between the South Central Conference and the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference on April 4, 1968, it was announced that Martin Luther King Jr. had been shot.

Doggette's leadership had a profound impact on his children, and particularly his two sons, both Seventh-day Adventist pastors. They carry on the tradition of being committed to social justice initiatives in line with Christ's method of winning people for God's Kingdom. Christ mingled with people as One who desired their good, showed sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then, He bade them "Follow Me," *Gospel Workers*, p. 363.

In 1969 Doggette and Calvin B. Rock, Ph.D., conducted an evangelistic tent meeting that led to 200 baptisms and the need for the congregation to move to a larger facility. That year the Longview Heights property was purchased, and the church and school continued to grow.

In 1985 Doggette accepted a call to the Bethany Church in Miami, Florida. Three years later he was elected president of the Southeastern Conference, and served until 1994. After his time as president, he pastored in the central Florida area until his retirement in September 1998.

In retirement he continued to work, and returned to Memphis to pastor the Word of Life Church for nearly 11 years. After a brief hiatus, he served one final time as the interim pastor of the New Covenant Church in Memphis. In full retirement, Edythe and Jack settled in Memphis to be near their progeny. After his wife's death in 2015, he made his final move to Orlando, Florida.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Al Lee Doggette and Edward

Doggette. He is survived by two siblings, Herbert (Betty) Doggette Jr., and Gereal (Bill) McCray; his five children, Linda Doggette Anderson, Jackson (Celia) Doggette Jr., James (Erin) Doggette Sr., Joy Doggette Peifer, Sylvia (Gregory) Darville; 18 grandchildren, Joseph (Shoshannah) Anderson II, Jason Anderson, Lorian Anderson, David (Nayshi) Richardson, Jacquelyn Doggette, Jackson Doggette III, Shawn Doggette, James (Demia) Doggette Jr., Austin (Aisha) Doggette, Milton (Erica) Doggette, Tatyana Davis, Masika-Joy Peifer, Michaela (Daniel) Foster, Gregory Darville II, Nia Darville (Armondi) Stokes-Hicks, Giana Darville, Laila Darville, and Ethan Darville; 12 great-grandchildren, Joseph Anderson III, Brendon Anderson, Jason Anderson II, Roman Anderson, Vivian Richardson, Charles Richardson, Noa Doggette, James Doggette III, Legend Doggette, Callee Doggette, Morgan Doggette, and Wesley Doggette; extended family, Barbara (Leon) Bryant, Lindsey Bryant, Leon Bryant Jr., and Leon Bryant III; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, parishioners, colleagues, and friends who expect, at Christ's return, Jackson Michael Doggette Sr. will hear the words, "Well done thou good and faithful servant ... enter now into the joy of thy Lord," Matthew 25:21. 🕊

Debbe Millet is the managing editor of Oakwood Magazine and Inside Oakwood, and communication services coordinator.

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF BUSINESS LEADERS

BY ELLEN HOSTETLER

It wasn't a hard job, not even for a 5-year-old: pruning the flower garden. But, the clippers were difficult to open and close for little fingers, and Ruth's grandson would have preferred to sweep. He pretended to finish his task quickly and told Grammie he was done. She inspected his work, then gently explained what needed to be corrected. The next day, Ruth assigned the same task ... with the same hasty incompleteness. Again, she patiently explained what was missing and then, while pressing a few coins into her grandson's hands for the work he had done, explained that he didn't need to return to work the next day. He had been fired — by Grammie!

That was Ruth McKee, and her gentle but firm approach left a lasting impression that continues to inspire that grandson, and all of her family members who lead McKee Foods Corporation today. Always a faithful educator, always a clear and kind businesswoman, education ran through everything that Ruth did, even if indirectly.

A 1926 graduate of Southern Junior College (now Southern Adventist University), Ruth left her career goal of being a teacher to run a manufacturing company with her husband, O.D. McKee, but she didn't leave her passion for teaching. Instead, she used their company as a platform for teaching principles of community and Christianity by example.



Ruth McKee made a lasting impression that continues to inspire and guide business leaders today.

When the company bought a building for manufacturing in 1954, Ruth immediately removed the segregation signs from the bathrooms; segregation wasn't happening at her company. The lesson rang loud and clear for her employees and the entire community. Another time, after executing a contract for flour at a certain rate, the weather turned and the supplying farm couldn't fulfill the agreement without sustaining a significant loss. Ruth renegotiated and paid the higher going rate, allowing the farm

to survive and supply McKee Foods for many more years.

While O.D. excelled in salesmanship, Ruth managed personnel, purchasing, transportation, and all other aspects of a growing business through the days of the Great Depression and while raising a growing family. At the time of her death in 1989, Ruth held the positions of director and senior vice president of the largest manufacturing firm in Tennessee's Hamilton County.

Ruth's faithful, kind, and acute busi-

ness acumen and leadership has inspired and guided the principles of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren who operate McKee Foods Corporation today by the same principles she instilled. And, they share her passion for Christian education and exceptional business leadership. It's to honor that commitment that the School of Business at Southern Adventist University will be renamed in Ruth's honor.

Plans have been finalized for the new 42,000-square-foot building at the entrance to Southern's campus and appropriately positioned across from the entrance to McKee Foods' corporate headquarters. The new Ruth McKee School of Business building will enable Southern to expand the number of students it serves, and provide space to foster innovative ideas across all departments on campus.

"It's time that the second largest program on campus has its own home," said University president Ken Shaw, '80. "We are so humbled by the opportunity to share Ruth McKee's legacy with our



Southern's new School of Business facility will bear Ruth McKee's name.

students and inspire the next generation of Christian business leaders."

Ruth's grandson never forgot the lessons she taught him in the flower garden about work ethic, kindness, and determination. It helped guide him as a business management and accounting student at Southern in the 1980s. Soon, in

the school bearing her name, Grammie Ruth's lessons will continue for the next generation of students. 📍

Ellen Hostetler serves as vice president for advancement at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee.



Members of the McKee family and Southern's business faculty gathered to announce the Ruth McKee School of Business renaming.

“FOR THE KIDS” ENHANCES TEACHING WHILE FOSTERING COMMUNITY

BY NEIL HAWKINS

In a groundbreaking initiative, teachers within Florida Conference Office of Education have come together under the leadership of Sabrina Miler to form subject-specific collaboratives that have revolutionized teaching methods and fostered a sense of community among teachers often confined to individual classrooms. The pre-K through 12th-grade teachers in all 30 schools across Florida work with For The Kids (FTK) collaboratives. The initiative has enhanced the effectiveness of instruction and enriched the overall educational experience for students and teachers.

Beyond educational advancements, subject-specific collaboratives have fostered a sense of community among teachers who traditionally work in silos due to demands of each classroom. Teachers have reported feeling more

connected, valued, and motivated knowing they are part of a larger team beyond their school walls. Michael Simpson, a multi-grades teacher at Deltona Adventist Academy, said, “The FTK collaboratives have been helpful to me because I get to connect with educators outside my normal bubble, giving me ideas and resources that help me become a better teacher for my students. Also, this is a place where I can get constructive feedback in a non-evaluative environment that makes it ‘safe’ to make mistakes. My fellow teachers have my back, give me support — and they expect the same from me.”

Theresa Martinez, homeroom teacher for grades 7-8 and math expert teacher for grades 3-8 at Osceola Adventist Christian School in Kissimmee, Florida, adds, “As a teacher new to the

profession or even just new to a school, you tend to feel you’re alone, and a lot of stress comes with that. With FTK collaboratives, we are a part of something bigger where we can help each other grow and stay encouraged. I have been able to develop some strong, personal relationships out of this initiative thanks to our regular virtual and in-person meetings.”

These FTK collaboratives represent a significant shift in the educational landscape, prioritizing collaboration and community-building among teachers. As the success of this initiative continues to unfold, other educational institutions across the state and beyond may look to emulate this model, ushering in a new era of collaborative teaching and learning. 📖



Theresa Martinez (third from left), Osceola Adventist Christian School, and Michael Simpson, Deltona Adventist Academy, are surrounded by fellow math collaborative educators.



Theresa Martinez teaches math concepts on a Promethean panel off screen.

AdventHealth Takes First Mission Trip to Ecuador

AdventHealth recently took its first mission trip to Ecuador to provide medical services to local communities. The team, which spent time in the capital Quito and in the nearby town of Machachi, was part of an international partnership between AdventHealth and Clínica Adventista de Quito, organized by AdventHealth's Global Missions program.

"It was a phenomenal team from multiple campuses in the West Florida Division," shared Joseph Rivera, M.Div., vice president of mission and ministry for AdventHealth in west Florida. The team consisted of 22 individuals, among them eight clinical workers including physicians who specialize in various areas such as neurology, oncology, and dermatology.

Over the course of the mission trip, the team served more than 1,400 people of all ages. The patients came from near and far with a variety of health conditions, including diabetes, heart issues, and trauma situations. The team also set up a small on-site pharmacy. "We were able to buy pharmaceuticals and hand those out to patients right there," said Rivera.

Although this was the first mission trip to Ecuador, AdventHealth's impact in the country has been evident for quite some time. Over the past few years, AdventHealth raised funds to help Clínica Adventista de Quito finish their imaging center, and funded two shipping containers with donated medical supplies.

"We stayed active," commented Rivera on the work AdventHealth has done in Ecuador over the years. "But, this past June was our first time being able to actually go there, which for me was very exciting."

In addition to the medical services provided, the mission team also tended to the spiritual needs of local residents.



PHOTO BY: ADVENTHEALTH

"Not only was their physical need met, but a blessing, a spiritual blessing was bestowed upon them," said Rivera. He shared how many of the physicians made it a point to ask patients if they could pray with them after every visit.

The spiritual blessings, however, were not limited to those on the receiving end in Ecuador. "Our team received a lot of blessings too," expressed Rivera. "I know people say that, but they were a different group on the way out than they were on the way in." The experience transformed the team in an incredible way, added Rivera, and they were all excited about the work they had done.

AdventHealth's mission is to extend the healing ministry of Christ, and the Global Missions program is a visible example of that mission being brought to life. Rivera emphasized the impact these trips can have on an individual when they experience this mission in action.

"There are so many different levels to what a trip like this does," Rivera explained. "It clarifies our mission to those who participate, but it also instills within them a passion for living out that wholistic care too."

The team plans to go back to Ecuador in the coming years to not only provide medical services, but also training support in areas such as marketing and accounting. "We're there to leave them in a stronger place," said Rivera, continuing, "to be a bigger impact in their community."

For more information on AdventHealth Global Missions and upcoming mission trip opportunities, visit AdventHealth.com/GlobalMissions. 📌

BY KEITH BARROW, CORPORATE
COMMUNICATIONS INTERN AT
ADVENTHEALTH.

Retired Pastor Preaches Revival in Gold Hill Methodist Church

The former United Methodist Church (UMC) in Gold Hill, N.C., faced a tough year, leading them to disaffiliate from the UMC after irreconcilable differences. However, they celebrated the church's 175-year history in historic Gold Hill and sought a revival to move in a new direction.

Ken and Cindy Wiseman moved to Gold Hill due to a job transfer, and joined community leaders in opposing the destruction of pristine forest land for solar panels. Their efforts brought them close to the Gold Hill community and the historic Gold Hill Methodist Church, where they started attending and became involved in various church activities.

When the church's pastor, Beverly Mauldin, expressed the need for a revival, Ken Wiseman thought of retired Adventist pastor John Earnhardt, who had connections to Gold Hill. After com-



PHOTO BY: CRYSTAL EARNHARDT

mittee meetings, Earnhardt was invited to conduct revival meetings throughout the year. In March, he preached four sermons, emphasizing accepting Jesus as Savior and Lord.

Realizing the importance of sustaining the Holy Spirit's impact, the Wisemans began a weekly Daniel Bible study with

in-person and online attendees. In July, Earnhardt returned, teaching the congregation about the authority of the Bible and the soon coming of Jesus.

Earnhardt's favorite outreach method was through car shows, and he concluded the July service with a community event, which faced a threat of rain. However, prayers were answered, and the rain dissipated, resulting in a successful gathering that strengthened community bonds.

Earnhardt plans to return in November for 10 nights of revival, aiming to introduce people to the Word of God and the book of Revelation. Prayers are requested for blessings in these upcoming meetings. The church looks forward to a renewed sense of purpose and unity as they navigated the challenges of the past year. ❶

BY CRYSTAL EARNHARDT

Asheville Pisgah Christian School Accommodates Rapidly Expanding Student Population

After months of planning, plotting, and praying, Asheville Pisgah Christian School (APCS) broke ground for its new gymnasium on May 18, 2023. Students, parents, and church members joined APCS board and teachers in the celebration. Builders provided hard hats, and pictures were taken of every class moving dirt. Jonathan Michael, pastor, reminded everyone that God is the only foundation that lasts.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Artem Dmytriiev, pastor, engaged both Ukrainian and American students, teaching them to say "God is good" in both languages. The 2023 school year ended with hope and excitement.

During the last 10 years, the school has grown from 53 to 170 students. It welcomes its 10th teacher in the upcoming school year. While emphasizing spiritual and academic excellence, the school's physical space is unable to accommodate its growth.

Last year, dry storage rooms were converted into classrooms for grade 5 and pre-K. However, these spaces have already become inadequate. Breakout classes took place in a hallway, and students had to go to Mount Pisgah Academy Church and Mount Pisgah Academy for chapel and band. The tiny kitchen also serves as a piano lesson room and office space. The multi-purpose room is used for lunch, classes, before-school care, and music. During inclement weather, recess and lunch are a challenge, as students are forced to have lunch and PE in classrooms or crowded hallways.

The school urgently needs additional space. A new area is required for seventh-graders and their new teacher. A sepa-



PHOTO BY: CONTRIBUTED

Illustrated rendering of what the final gymnasium will look like

rate classroom is needed for the growing fifth-grade class. Musicians need a dedicated space to work without disrupting other classes. An indoor area is necessary for play during bad weather.

Phase one of the project is the construction of a new gymnasium, which will free up the multi-purpose room for

two additional classrooms. It will provide a protected space for play, meals, exercise, and music and worship. The school asks for prayers as they move forward with this crucial project. ❶

BY ERIN MILLER, ASHEVILLE PISGAH
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

University City Church Unites Community

Situated along a prominent highway in the Charlotte, N.C., University area, the University City Church hosted an unmissable spectacle on Sunday, June 11, 2023. Colorful inflatables, games, and a myriad of enticing activities, including a giant slide, mechanical bull, and rock climbing wall, adorned the church grounds, captivating the attention of passing drivers.

Dubbed the “Community Fair,” the event was brought to life through the collaborative efforts of the Children’s Ministries Department, spearheaded by Norma Bethancourt, in conjunction with the evangelism, community service, and social committee. Aiming to foster outreach, unity, and fellowship, the fair aimed to acquaint church members with their neighbors and embrace the spirit of togetherness.

As a church that operates a pre-K to eighth-grade school, it was only natural to involve the local children in the



PHOTO BY: RON QUICK

festivities. Bethancourt explained that the Kids & Community Fair marked the perfect kickoff to the summer season, solidifying the church’s commitment to serve the community.

Remarkably, all the enjoyable attractions, except for the food trucks, were offered to the community completely free of charge. To ensure the safety and smooth functioning of the event, dedicated church volunteers took on various roles, including first-aid responders, parking attendants, and activity supervisors.



PHOTO BY: RON QUICK

The overwhelming success of the event has sparked discussions within the University City Church about making it an annual tradition, allowing the community to anticipate and partake in the joyous affair year after year. The Community Fair has not only enlivened the church premises, but has also served as a testament to the vibrant spirit of a church united in action. ❶

BY RON QUICK

Dunnellon Members Share Great Commission of Jesus

Dunnellon, Fla., Church held a celebratory service on July 15, 2023, when this group of believers were transferred from a company to an official Florida Conference church. These administrative employees contributed to the day's program: Tim Goff, executive secretary; Orlando Lopez, vice president for pastoral ministries; and Walter Castro, field associate for Volunteer Lay Pastors (VLP).

"Becoming an official church today after several years of hard work and miracles is the cause of an astonishing emotional celebration," stated Castro.

Program

John Ryals, one of the first original elders who still serves as an active member, presented the church history. Glenda Bates read the roll call of original founding members of the church.

Goff brought congratulations and best wishes from Florida Conference administration. Lopez presented the divine worship message for the church service. Castro presented the framed church recognition certificate from Florida Conference.

Dedication of Volunteer Lay Pastor

Robert Ramoutar, first elder, was commissioned as a volunteer lay pastor. His wife, Karima Ramoutar, is the church treasurer. The pastors laid hands upon the couple, dedicating them to the Lord.

History

When the idea of having an Adventist church was only a dream, Art Swaningson, pastor, decided to hold an evangelistic meeting in Dunnellon. The Lord blessed with several baptisms, and the small group began to meet on a regular basis. A place was rented to



PHOTO BY: GLENDA BATES

Tim Goff, Florida Conference executive secretary, extends congratulations to the Dunnellon, Fla., Church on behalf of the Conference.



PHOTO BY: GLENDA BATES

Walter Castro, field associate for Volunteer Lay Pastors, presented the framed church certificate.



PHOTO BY: GEORGY VEGA RODRIGUEZ

Orlando Lopez, Florida Conference vice president for pastoral ministries, presented the divine worship message.



PHOTO BY: GREGORY VEGA RODRIGUEZ



PHOTO BY: GLENDA BATES

Program participants include Walter Castro (left), Florida Conference pastoral ministries field associate for Volunteer Lay Pastors (VLP); Orlando Lopez, vice president for Florida Conference pastoral ministries; Robert Ramoutar, Dunnellon head elder and new VLP; Kevin Messina, Ocala/Dunnellon district pastor; Monte Robinson, previous pastor; and Daryl Curry, elder.

investigate the possibilities of acquiring it. A study was done to see what immediate repairs were required. The price was lowered since the building required a new roof, and two A/C units had been stolen and had to be replaced in addition to other repairs. It sat on the market for a number of months, and the price went down as extensive repairs had to be made. The attorney representing the Conference made an offer which was accepted. All the members went to work to get the church ready to receive a Certificate of Occupancy for Dedication Day on November 11, 2017.

worship on Sabbath. Not long after this, Swaningson held a second series of meetings and several more were baptized.

While renting from Community Fellowship Baptist Church in October of 2001, that church offered to sell the facility to the Dunnellon Adventist mission group. After many prayers, Ocala Church agreed to be co-signers for a loan, and Florida Conference agreed to donate the rest of the money needed for the down payment. With generous gifts of many members and a couple of larger donations, the mortgage was burned on May 21, 2005.

With such a small group of members, all regularly attending members had a church office. The Ocala treasurer kept the books, and Ocala elders preached several Sabbaths a month. Dunnellon has always been mission-minded, serving the local community and abroad. Members invited neighbors and local town residents to attend cooking classes, and soon the first Vacation Bible School was

held. One of the first outreach projects was to help build a church in Bolivia.

As the group continued to grow, the need for a larger facility became a necessity. After looking at different properties, the funeral home just a block away was put on the market at a non-affordable price. Florida Conference became aware of the property and sent someone to in-

Great Commission

Over the years, people with special talents have come at just the right time to help the Dunnellon group thrive with a passion to carry out the Great Commission of Jesus — to share with people in the community the knowledge of Christ. 🕊

BY GLENDA BATES



PHOTO BY: GEORGY VEGA RODRIGUEZ

Prayer of dedication for the new volunteer lay pastor, Robert Ramoutar, and his wife, Karima.

Spiritual Guardians Honored at Fort Lauderdale

Barry and Carol Hill were honored by Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Church for being model spiritual guardians. For more than 20 years, this couple, who has roots in Jamaica and Costa Rica, took particular care and interest in new converts to their church. Several times each year, they would open the doors of their lovely home to all new believers after the worship church service on a typical Sabbath day. The new converts would enjoy nicely seasoned Jamaican and Costa Rican food and, more importantly, fellowship.

"I have attended several of these Sabbath luncheons and observed new believers telling their conversion stories with joy and enthusiasm," said Jeffrey Thompson, Ph.D., senior pastor. "Can you imagine what the retention rate of the new believers would be like if every family in the Adventist Church would emulate Barry and Carol Hill?"

The Hills started this mission of caring for new believers when they were members of the Mount of Olives Church in Brooklyn, N.Y., in the mid-1980s. "We noticed that new members were not given enough hospitality, so we decided to welcome the newly baptized members to lunch at our home, so they could feel loved, wanted, and appreciated," said Barry Hill. "We don't do this for show. God impressed us to do it."

Evangelism is alive at Fort Lauderdale Church. During the pandemic years, 2020-2022, more than 20 new believers joined the Church by baptism and profession of faith. Barry Hill provided an excellent example because he held a Bible study with Debbie Spencer Dacosta, his next-door neighbor, which spanned about 12 months and culminated in her baptism. "One

day, I received a telephone call from Barry Hill saying, 'Pastor, I am happy to inform you that I have one candidate ready for baptism,'" said Thompson.

Fort Lauderdale Church also honored Linda Fraser, a veteran Bible worker, and Fay Reynolds, who have worked as a team for more than a decade in evangelism. "We owe a debt of gratitude to Linda Fraser and Fay Reynolds for their amazing evangelistic work. We can never pay them for their Herculean efforts," said Thompson. 📌

BY JEFFREY THOMPSON, PH.D.



PHOTO BY: JEFFREY THOMPSON, PH.D.

Carol and Barry Hill show their evangelism award.



PHOTO BY: GARFIELD LASHINGTON

Jeffrey Thompson, Ph.D. (left), senior pastor for Fort Lauderdale Church, stands with Carol Hill, Fay Reynolds, Linda Fraser, and Barry Hill, as they display their awards on the church's lawn.

Youth Participate in Annual YiELD Alaska Mission Trip

Forty-three young people participated in the YiELD Alaska Mission Trip from June 30 to July 10, 2023. YiELD is a multi-church youth discipleship ministry of the Collegedale, McDonald Road, Collegedale Community, and Ooltewah, Tenn., churches. This is the third mission trip offered.

Camp Pioneer in Palmer, Alaska, was their home for the week. The main project for the trip was to focus on 12 of the cabins and insulate them.

On Sunday morning they emptied the cabins of beds and personal items the Alaskan families had left in their cabins for the yearly Camp Meeting. Once down to their bare shell, the team began cutting and placing a total of 144 bags of insulation.

Other projects for the week included mowing and weed-whacking more than two feet of grass, painting, removing brush, replacing shingles, repairing steps, installing cabin windows, fixing the tractor and forklift, building three fire pits, working in the kitchen, and more.

Thursday was excursion day with a two-hour tour of Matanuska Glacier. Af-



PHOTO BY: SHERRIE WILLIAMS

ter donning helmets and shoe spikes, the team was taken out on the glacier where some did a glacial facial (glacier mud makes your skin soft), and drank glacier water while enjoying the views.

Friday held extra pressure in getting the cabins completed. The plywood was mostly mounted, but many cabins still needed it installed on either end where the windows and door were, and trim had to be cut and placed over each seam.

Friday it was misting, but all the projects, even painting, continued. As the end

of the work day came, there were two more hours needed to complete the trim work.

For most it was a new experience to be where the sun did not completely set. Sunset was around 11:40 p.m. and sunrise at 4:20 a.m., but that in-between time was a dusky light. While recounting daily accomplishments, the catch-phrase “and the sun was still shining” was established.

While in the “Land of the Midnight Sun,” the team learned that families often celebrate the Sabbath hours differently. Some choose to honor the Sabbath



PHOTO BY: SHERRIE WILLIAMS



PHOTO BY: SHERRIE WILLIAMS



PHOTO BY: SHERRIE WILLIAMS

sundown to sundown, which could make your Sabbath very long or short depending on the time of year. Other families choose a time from 8 p.m. to 8 p.m. The team leaders had chosen the latter, which would work well in giving them time on Saturday night to finish the cabins. Late Friday, it was learned that one of the camp residents celebrated Sabbath the literal sundown to sundown, so the team decided to respect his Sabbath hours and not work Saturday night.

On Sabbath the team joined the Palmer Church in worship and a potluck. That afternoon they visited Byron Glacier and enjoyed playing on the glacier, sliding down it, and snowball fights.

A small group got up at 5:30 a.m. on Sunday to finish the cabin trim work before heading to the airport and home.

What were some things learned? In the words of the youth:

1. Roofing
2. How to use a can opener

3. Not everything goes as planned
4. Where the air filter is on a Thomas school bus
5. Continue to persevere
6. How to measure correctly
7. How to frame a cabin and install a window
8. Perfection is not always required

9. How to play volleyball
 10. Trust your gear and you won't fall
- All this happened while the sun was still shining ... and the Son shone through the youth and their work. ①

BY SHERRIE WILLIAMS



PHOTO BY: SHERRIE WILLIAMS

Conference Staff Pick Up Highway Litter

Georgia-Cumberland Conference office staff collected nine bags of trash, along with damaged signs, bumpers, and other items along Red Bud Road, which leads to the Conference office, on July 31, 2023. The Conference recently signed up to participate in Keep Calhoun Gordon Beautiful, part of the federal Adopt-A-Mile program.

"This is a way we can contribute to the community," says Rick Claus, Conference associate treasurer. "Participating in this opportunity not only makes our surrounding areas look better, but also benefits our property," he adds.

"It's easy to get caught up in the dizziness of the regular stuff," says Carin Bartlett, children's and junior



Nathan Hillebert (left), summer IT intern; Wesley Statler, associate IT director; Rachel Beaver, associate communication director; and Cristian Rodriguez, young adult ministries secretary, pick up trash along Red Bud Road. The Conference has adopted a section of the road as a way to contribute to the community.

youth ministries secretary, “[and realize] that other parts of ministry are also important.” Bartlett sees serving the community as another way of doing ministry.

Bartlett isn’t alone in this belief. Other Adventist entities in the area, including churches and schools, are also adopting

roads near their properties, further expanding the visibility of the Adventist church in the community.

While there is public relations value in being involved and in drivers seeing the Adventist name on highway signs, Claus is hopeful the involvement has a benefit many people can appreciate.

“I’m hoping that when people see us picking up litter, they’ll throw less litter out there.”

BY NATHAN ZINNER

Macon Church Addresses Mental Health Crisis

Approximately 300 people from at least six states gathered at the Wimbish Road Church in Macon, Ga., for a weekend to learn more about the mental health crisis in America. The presentations by Neil Nedley, M.D., covered topics including how to recognize certain behaviors demonstrated in individuals which can lead to suicide, how they can make a difference in their approach to this reality, and what they can do to stop a person from going through with suicide. He also gave excellent biblical examples of men and women who demonstrated these kinds of behaviors, and how a loving God drew them to Him and got them back on course.

“I didn’t realize that suicide was so prevalent,” said one attendee. “I am thankful I got to hear Dr. Nedley’s entire seminar.”

While many attendees were from the surrounding area, several traveled from as far away as Maryland and Michigan.

“It was worth our coming the long distance to hear Dr. Nedley’s presentations. This was truly inspiring,” said an attendee.

Nedley, a full-time practicing physician in internal medicine, with emphasis in gastroenterology, mental health, lifestyle medicine, and the difficult-to-diagnose patient, also presented on how nutrition and various



John Strickland (left), pastor of the Wimbish Road Church in Macon, Ga., and Neil Nedley, M.D., seminar presenter, take a break between seminars. Nedley presented a series of seminars addressing mental health, recognizing behaviors that can lead to suicide, and how diet and other treatments can impact mental health.

therapies and supplements can impact mental power.

Organized by the Wimbish Road Church and held June 23-24, 2023, attendees also enjoyed Sabbath lunch prepared by the church’s meal committee.

The church also plans on implementing a depression and anxiety recovery program for the community. “Our goal,

with God’s help and guidance, is to provide an avenue for continuing education, and to develop a support group for our community,” said John Strickland, pastor of the Wimbish Road Church.

BY JOHN STRICKLAND

Appalachian Christian Academy Unveils New Chapter with Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

School officials, board personnel, and community members attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the Appalachian Christian Academy (ACA) on May 11, 2023, at 5 p.m., signifying a new chapter for this small school.

As part of a building project that has been in the works for five years, ACA has moved out of the basement of the Manchester, Tenn., Church and into a recently remodeled medical building that was provided by AdventHealth Manchester. It was a project that cost roughly \$120,000.

The new building has more space for both the teachers and students to work, holding anywhere from 32 to 40 students. In the space they had previously occupied, ACA could only take 22 to 24 children. Students and parents say that the new school building was a blessing from God.

“I was very excited because we are moving into the new building, and it’s a



PHOTO BY: DANIEL MCFEETERS

Matt Pacer, Conference associate education superintendent, welcomes the audience to the inauguration of the Appalachian Christian Academy’s new school building. Previously, students would meet in the basement of the Manchester Church. Moving out to the remodeled medical building, provided by AdventHealth Manchester, gives the school the opportunity to accommodate more students.



PHOTO BY: DANIEL MCFEETERS

Sign outside of the new Appalachian Christian Academy school building: The idea to find a bigger facility started five years ago, and the project cost roughly \$120,000 to complete.



PHOTO BY: DANIEL MCFEETERS

School officials, board personnel, and Conference staff join together in the ribbon-cutting ceremony of Appalachian Christian Academy on May 11, 2023.

much bigger space,” said Amber Hughes, a third-grader at ACA.

While the basement of the Manchester Church provided the basic necessities for running a school, it was limited in space and function. The new building will not only have larger classrooms, but also dedicated space for subjects such as science and art.

Attendees of the ribbon-cutting ceremony included Sissel Jacob, AdventHealth Manchester CEO; Chuck Kriegal, ACA school board chairman; Matt Pacer, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference associate superintendent; the students and teachers of ACA; and some of the local pastors who are associated with the school.

To start the ceremony, students performed a couple of songs. After they were finished, audiences heard from representatives of donors who shared about their involvement in helping the school. The

program ended with the ribbon-cutting and an open house. Kriegel says the new school marks steps of growth for ACA.

"You have to start somewhere and to me, this is it," said Kriegel.

ACA expects to start the school year with more than 20 students. ACA will continue to function as a ministry to the children of the Clay County community as it has in years past, looking forward to a bright future. 📍

BY AMBER KYSER



PHOTO BY: DANIEL MCFEETERS

Inside one of the classrooms in the new Appalachian Christian Academy school building: The new building will not only have larger classrooms, but also dedicated space for subjects such as science and art.

Devastating Tornado Inspires Local Church to Equip, Train for Disaster Response with CERT Classes

In the aftermath of the tornados that struck Middle Tennessee this past April, members of the Woodbury, Tenn., Church had a heartbreaking realization: they were not adequately equipped or trained to provide the necessary assistance to their devastated

neighboring communities. This realization became the driving force behind their decision to create a new ministry for their church, called the Advent CERT and Disaster Services.

Determined to be better prepared for future disasters, Woodbury Church



CERT training participants practice extinguishing fire. The Woodbury Church wanted to take a disaster relief training course after they realized they were not properly equipped to help their communities following the tornados that hit them this past April.



PHOTO BY: PERRY LOUDEN

The CERT training includes simulations to teach volunteers how to better respond during a disaster. While the Woodbury Church hosted the training event, some of the participants were members of the Murfreesboro, Tullahoma, Nashville First, and Fayetteville Church.

members, with the support of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference and guidance of the Collegedale-based disaster training team, 2Serve, hosted a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)



PHOTO BY: PERRY LOUDEN

Participants learn the basics of first aid. Following this CERT training, 24 individuals were certified by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as a CERT volunteer.



PHOTO BY: PERRY LOUDEN

This house was affected by the tornados that hit Rutherford and Cannon, Tenn., counties back in April of 2023. As a response to this disaster and following the July trainings, the Woodbury Church formed Advent CERT and Disaster Services, a ministry dedicated to supporting communities in times of crisis.

seminar from June 28 to July 2. The seminar was attended by members from the Woodbury, Murfreesboro, Tullahoma, Nashville First, and Fayetteville Church. In total, 24 individuals were certified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as CERT volunteers.

Following the training, the Woodbury Church formed Advent CERT and Disaster Services, a ministry dedicated to supporting communities in times of crisis. The newly established initiative held its inaugural meeting on July 16, 2023, during which they outlined their mission and objectives.

“The motto is to be the hands and feet

of Jesus, and do the greatest good for the greatest number of people,” said Perry Loudon, Woodbury Church elder and CERT manager. “So, as long as we can reach people and help them out when they need it, then we’ve fulfilled our mission.”

The primary focus of the Advent CERT and Disaster Services team is to connect with the community’s Emergency Management Services and provide essential assistance during emergencies. Their tasks include aiding with clean-up operations, offering support to victims, facilitating evacuations, and collaborating with official emergency services.

“When the tornado took place [last April], the emergency management team had everything blocked off, and we couldn’t even get in there to help,” said Loudon. “We realized that unless we have trained people that can get in there at the initial disaster, then we would be left on the sidelines.”

Additionally, the Advent CERT and Disaster Services also aims to open the doors so that other church members can aid with later initiatives, such as food services and Points of Distribution (PODs).

Mike Hewitt, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference vice president for administration and disaster relief director, says the establishment of the Woodbury Advent CERT and Disaster Services reflects the resilience and love of these local church members to make a positive impact in their community.

“As Christians we can make a difference by helping those who cannot help themselves in their darkest hour,” said Hewitt. “People are stunned when we come to their homes, work hard to help them, and ask for nothing in return. The fulfillment that disaster relief provides is incredible, and it blesses us as much as our work blesses those we are helping.”



PHOTO BY: PERRY LOUDEN

Jim Ingersoll, 2Serve director, shares some of his experience helping communities during natural disaster.

BY PAOLA MORA ZEPEDA

Student Missionaries Share Jesus Through Connections

Two Southern Adventist University student missionaries (SMs) had a unique opportunity in Hong Kong last year. Theology majors Edvan Benitez and Mauricio Jaldin attended Hong Kong Adventist College, where most of the enrolled students are not Seventh-day Adventists. They served as “friendship evangelists,” studying parttime while working as assistants for the practical missionary training program, and organizing events and other occasions for social interaction while making friends.

Benitez said it wasn’t easy at first; some of the students were reserved, but once trust was established in the relationships, he and Jaldin were accepted and loved unconditionally.

As the weeks in Hong Kong flew by, Benitez and Jaldin noticed a gap in the spiritual programming available to the college students. With support from the president of the college, the SMs organized Connection, a student-led church



Southern theology majors Edvan Benitez (second from left) and Mauricio Jaldin (right) were thrilled to help lead a number of classmates to Jesus while serving as student missionaries at Hong Kong Adventist College.

that met once a week and provided fellowship and spiritual enrichment, followed by a potluck meal. On average, 35 students participated each Sabbath.

The friends shared communion, went on spiritual retreats together, and learned about Jesus. Six members, including three who were roommates of the SMs, committed to baptism.

Benitez and Jaldin also spent a week serving in the Philippines, focusing on humanitarian work with low-income families, and leading out in children’s programming and an evangelistic series. Both SMs preached, and 12 people accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior and were baptized.

“Serving in Asia was the highlight of the past few years for me,” said Jaldin. “It was especially meaningful to see how God led in the friendships we made.”

Benitez added, “I will never forget the students’ farewell to us — so many gifts, so many letters. In the end, I know that God helped us to fulfill our purpose there.”



The two student missionaries held week of prayer and started a student-led church, as well as arranging other events for meaningful engagement with their fellow college students.

BY VICTORIA MILLS

Southern Students Again Win Gold in National Competition

For the second consecutive year, two brothers attending Southern Adventist University received gold medals during SkillsUSA's National Leadership and Skills Conference held this summer in Atlanta, Ga. Allen and Brandon Gustrowsky, junior and senior computer science majors, participated in the collegiate division for web design and development.

The national competition for web involved completing a series of challenges while creating a website for a client and a specific target audience. Judging focused on meeting the client's needs, usability and accessibility, and industry-standard best practices as well as process and teamwork.

"SkillsUSA has taught me that you build momentum as you accomplish things," said Allen Gustrowsky. "One achievement opens doors for another, and performing well in competitions has facilitated additional opportunities, for which I am grateful. Placing first in nationals for two years in a row increases our chances of going to WorldSkills championship next year in Lyon, France."

"At the state level, Southern fielded three teams of students majoring in computer science who swept the podium for Tennessee!" said Rick Halterman, Ph.D., dean of the School of Computing. Along with the Gustrowsky brothers earning first place and qualifying for the national championship, Caeden Scott and Daryl Illangovan took second place, and

Abishur Moses and Sam Tooley, third. Dakota Cookenmaster, '22, a graduate student and adjunct instructor at Southern, coached the teams at both levels.

Empowering students to meet the demand for expertise in trades and technical competence, SkillsUSA hosts an annual multifaceted convention to showcase skilled workforce education across the nation. Approximately 240,000 members compete at local, district, regional, state, and national levels in thousands of events. More than 6,000 state champions vied for medals in this summer's 110 artistic, leadership, technical, and trade fields. 📍

BY TINA SMITH



Abishur Moses (back row, left), Sam Tooley, Brandon Gustrowsky, Allen Gustrowsky, Caeden Scott, and Daryl Illangovan, all computer science majors at Southern Adventist University, swept the podium as two-man teams at the state level for SkillsUSA web design and development. Southern alum and graduate student Dakota Cookenmaster (front), adjunct instructor at the University, coached the teams.

Engage Worship Teams Honor Christ While Promoting Southern

Engage Worship, a traveling music program through Southern Adventist University, creates opportunities for connection through programming and fellowship while also showcasing the best of what Southern offers.

Shared social experiences with like-minded believers, which are foundational to the University and its students, are modeled to high schoolers at youth rallies, academies, and church youth programs in the region. Last school year, student-led teams participated in 30 events spanning from Maryland to Miami, fostering Spirit-filled living during pivotal moments in formative teen years.

Student bands meet weekly during fall and spring semesters to practice

songs and bond as they plan upcoming trips and performances. Some participate as singers and worship speakers, and others play instruments and serve as technicians for sound equipment. A dedicated Spanish-speaking team now serves Hispanic youth.

“Coming together as a group provides an avenue for God to work on the members themselves,” said staff sponsor Leticia Chaparro, admissions counselor and ministry coordinator. “Some participating students have changed majors because they felt a stronger call to mission. The ultimate purpose of serving communities also becomes an investment in the spiritual education of our members.”

Junior English major Gam Reyes joined Engage his freshman year after noticing the program when he was applying to Southern. By the following year, he was leading a team and learning even more about the nature of worship.

“It’s taught me to reorient the way I view my relationship with ministry,” he said. “We’re not worship performers; we’re trying to shepherd people into an authentic encounter with God.”

To learn more about Engage Worship or to book a team for a church or school event, visit southern.edu/engage. 📍

BY VICTORIA MILLS





ABBOTT, DOROTHY ANNE DORTCH, 91, born Jan. 26, 1932, in Atlanta, GA, to Virginia Veach Dortch and Frederick Hayward Dortch, died Dec. 30, 2022. She moved with her family to Birmingham, AL, where she grew up with her three brothers: Teddy, Joel, and Randy. She attended Collegedale Academy beginning in the ninth grade and attended Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University), where she met the love of her life, Maurice. They enjoyed a marriage of 65 years and had two children: Sheree and Jeff. Dorothy also shined in her career. She was an administrator at Hillhaven Convalescent Home in Nashville, TN, for 12 years. When she and Maurice moved to Atlanta, GA, she served as administrator of Symrna Towers, a high-rise retirement home for 35 years. Her commitment to her employees and residents was a highlight of her life. As a pastor's wife, she was an integral part of Maurice's ministry. Dorothy was a terrific cook, and she loved to travel and was always an active member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Her beautiful family grew over the years to include her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, whom she loved dearly. She is survived by her son, Jeffrey (Jane) "Jeff" Abbott; her daughter, Sheree (Kenneth) Hutchinson, six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and her brother, Joel (Donna) Dortch.

CARTER, BETTY FROW, 96, born Aug. 30, 1926, Hull, England, died Dec. 4, 2022, Greenbrier, TN. Due to the death of their father and the dangers of World War II, her mother moved the family from Hull to Watford. While there, she met and married her husband, Bert Carter, on May 14, 1948. They were blessed with 66 years together. The pair worked for the denomination most of their lives and had a daughter and son. Betty loved music, singing, and playing the piano and organ. In 1976, the family moved to Ridgeway, TN, and Betty and her twin Audrey were neighbors for a few short years when members of both their families worked at Southern Publishing Association in Nashville, TN. When it closed, the couple moved to Maracle Press in Ontario, Canada. After they retired, they were invited to continue their denominational work in Russia to help set up the printing press at the Adventist seminary. When Betty and Bert returned to Ridgeway, she started a church choir, played the piano, and organ. Betty always liked to be busy, reading, knitting, gardening, emailing, studying her Sabbath School lesson, or writing daily in her diary. When Bert passed away in 2014, Betty moved in with her daughter and son-in-law. Everyday Betty emailed her son Nigel in England, and they Skyped regularly. His last visit just three months before her death was especially precious to her. Betty is survived by her daughter, Julie (Tony) Estella; and son, Nigel; her twin sister, Audrey Mustow; three grandchildren: Kate Walter, Cariad Estella, and Tony Estella, and their spouses; two great-grandsons: Alex and Ethan. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bert Carter; and her sister, Dorothy.



HARPER, ALICIA G., 89, born May 5, 1934, in Zulueta, Las Villas, Cuba, died May 31, 2023, in Zephyrhills, FL. She was a member of the Forest City Spanish Church, Orlando, FL, since 1984. Alicia worked for the Adventist Church in several countries and in different positions, and was fiercely loyal to the organization as she served as: Women's Dean at Montemorelos University, Mexico; 12 years at Antillian University as secretary to two college administrators and as an office administration professor; six years in the Dominican Republic as chairwoman of the Office Administration Department and secretary to the president at Colegio Adventista Dominicano; Mexico: secretary to the hospital administrator of a hospital affiliated with Montemorelos University and then secretary to two presidents of the University; Miami, FL, secretary to the division secretary of the Inter-American Division; Orlando Spanish ministries secretary at Florida Conference and then Spanish translator until her retirement. She was an accomplished pianist. In addition to her official work, she served as church pianist in Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Mexico, and at Forest City Church. Alicia is survived by her loving husband of 69 years, Nildo J. Harper; her children and their spouses: sons: Nildo A. Harper of Kissimmee, FL, and René J. Harper of Augusta, GA; daughters: Marggie Pittman of Zephyrhills, and Alicia (Lizzie) Harper-Nash of Altamonte Springs, FL; and eight grandchildren: Austin, Arthur, Devin, Alex, Angeline, Skylar, Annabelle, and Nadine. A service was conducted by Pastor Bernardo Rodriguez at the Orlando Filipino Church.

HENSON III, JOHN WILLIAM (J.W.), 92, born Nov. 30, 1930, in St. Joseph, MI, died March 13, 2023, after a short illness. He was born near Southern Missionary College to John William Henson II and Lucy Eula Henson (née Edgemon). As a boy, John worked for John Pierson on the College farm and at the College Press in Collegedale, TN. John went to Spalding Elementary, Collegedale Academy, and Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University), where he earned a bachelor's in chemistry and minored in German (in which he became fluent). In 1951, he married Audrey Gackenhimer, a musician from a missionary family, who became an R.N. They raised three children and were married for nearly 72 years. John taught science and mathematics at Sunnyside Academy in Missouri, and was a printer at Starkey Printing Company in Chattanooga, TN, and Preston Company in Cleveland, TN. He served as president of Starkey Printing Company until his 1992 retirement. In 2011, he and Audrey moved to Michigan. He was a deacon at Pioneer Memorial Church in Berrien Springs. John loved learning and had numerous interests, from beekeeping to travel and genealogy. His children pursued graduate studies and research careers due to his influence. John loved Jesus, his wife, his children, and his neighbors. He was honest, fair, and compassionate. He actively opposed segregation in Chattanooga, and encouraged/helped many people pursue an education. He is survived by his wife, Audrey; son, John (Lily) William Henson IV; and daughter, Shandelle (James) Hayward. He was predeceased by his parents; and daughter, Brenda.



BOTTOMLEY, FLORENCE LOUISE, 91, born Jan. 11, 1932, in Memphis, TN, and raised there as the only child to Charles and Florence (Frisby) Johns, died May 9, 2023. Her dad worked at the Firestone tire factory and her mother was a registered nurse. During her high school years, Florence Louise would ride the train from Memphis to Chicago to attend the Broadview Adventist Academy. After graduating there, she continued her education at Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) in Collegedale, TN, and the Florida Sanitarium in Orlando, FL, graduating in May of 1954, with her nursing degree. While attending her hometown church in Memphis, Florence caught the eye of Daniel Bottomley who was at the University of Tennessee finishing his dental degree. They were married on December 19, 1954, and moved to Greeneville, TN. It was in Greeneville that they settled down for many years to raise their family of five children. Her first and only son, Daniel Rae, was followed by four daughters: Dee Louise, Debra Lynn, Diane Laverne, and Doris Lovell. Each of the siblings will always be grateful for the life they experienced growing up here, being raised on the farm, the house on the hill and the cabin. Florence enjoyed traveling. She was always there to transport her children to boarding academies in many different directions. She loved flying with her husband Dan to many of his dental fly-in meetings and family trips. She would then put on her black Harley-Davidson vest, loaded with pins, and jump on the back of their Harley motorcycle, and head off to ride the mountain roads, take long trips down Highway 66, skim along the Blue Ridge parkway, head down to Key West, Florida, up along the coast of Maine, and out to the outer banks of North Carolina. Didn't matter where, if the wheels were spinning, she was ready to go. After the motorcycle phase, came the motorhome that took her many, many miles: trips to California, Alaska, Maine, Texas, New Mexico, across the Queens Highway to Vancouver. After the motorhome came the boat cruises through the Panama Canal and the Ohio/Tennessee river boat. Florence's hobbies were knitting, crocheting, and beautiful needle work. She was a member of the Hoe'en Hope flower club. She loved making flower arrangements and entering them into local competitions. She eventually rose to be a flower judge herself. She was an active member of the Andrew Johnson Club and the American Dental "wives" gatherings. In her later years, she suffered

from macular degeneration and slowly lost most of her eyesight. She still loved to ride along with us if she was home before dark. She loved to visit and have visitors. She could tell who it was by their voices, with many grandchildren to keep her company and entertained. In addition to her children, she is survived by 12 grandchildren: Danielle, Rachel, Chuck, Brianna, Linsey, Morgan, Mikey, Daron, Ashley, Dustin, Devin, and Dixie; nine great-grandchildren: Ian, Rance, Isabella, Kali, Layla, Odin, Kaylee, Hunter, and Harper. Dan and Florence recently left their hometown of Greeneville and moved to Michigan. The extended family, over many miles, stayed by her side until her death. She was well attended to by many and those who honored her. Her faith was strong, and she believed in the hope that we share of the resurrection at the soon coming of Christ, as we anxiously wait on the voice of the Lord. What a wonderful day that will be. "For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus," Ephesians 2:6.

KNELLER, DAVID, 84, born Aug. 30, 1938, at the New England Sanitarium, died Feb. 23, 2023, at his home in Dunlap, TN. He graduated from Atlantic Union College and became the first registered College of American Pathologists, Medical Technologist in Maine, and worked at Parkview Adventist Hospital in Brunswick, ME. David retired in Dunlap, where he could visit with family and watch his grandchildren grow up. Survivors include his wife, Faith; twin daughters: Jennifer (Dennis) Negron and Janine (Terry) Barnett; two brothers: Ben (Ginny) and Jerry (Patricia); several grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

LABRADOR SR., MINERVINO, 86, of Charlotte, NC, born Dec. 31, 1936, in Pinar del Rio, Cuba, to Dionicio Labrador and Rosa Cruz, died April 30, 2023, surrounded by his family and loved ones. In 1954, while working at the Panamerican Hotel and Resort, he met the love of his life, Eva Sosa. Together Minervino and Eva raised four children: Loida Rojas, Eunice Williams, Minervino Labrador Jr., and Daniel Labrador. Minervino was a deeply spiritual man who loved God and dedicated his life to serving others. Many people affectionately referred to him as "Pipo," a Cuban term of endearment for father, rather than as pastor. While he successfully developed several businesses, ministry remained his priority. He found joy in visiting, counseling, mentoring, and helping others draw closer to God. The impact

of his life will be felt for years to come. He is survived by his children: Loida (Eli) Rojas, Eunice (Scott) Williams, Minervino (Evelyn) Labrador Jr., and Daniel (Margarita) Labrador; 10 grandchildren: Jahnil (Andres) Ancheta, Efrain (Katherine) Murillo, Minervino Labrador III, Eli Rojas Jr., Nico (Amanda) Labrador, Eileen (Joseph) Williams, Jasmine (Joshua) Gibson, Mario (Cambria) Labrador, Kayla Labrador, and Sabrina Labrador; eight great-grandchildren: Kylee and Lexie Ancheta, Noah Murillo, Ziya Gibson, Lucas and Levi Labrador, Lyla Labrador, and Nora Labrador; eight siblings: Carmen, Dionicio, Clara, Eugenio, Humberto, Silvia, Joel, and Orlando. He was preceded in death by his parents: Dionicio Labrador and Rosa Cruz; as well as his beloved wife of 57 years, Eva Labrador.

LEIFERMANN, MILADEAN, 90, born June 1, 1933, in Trenton, NJ, to Clarence "CJ" and Milie (Bush) Sumner, died July 20, 2023, in Alma, MI, after a brief illness. Miladean attended Platte Valley Academy and later Union College in Lincoln, NE. Her career included work as an operator at both Michigan Bell Telephone and AT&T. In 1958, she married Benedict Leifermann. She became an active member of the Dunnellon, FL, Church and was known for her pleasant personality and musical talents. She is survived by her sister, Lorene Henderson; three nieces: Lori Jones, Lynette (Todd) Gardener, and Sandra Brewbaker; stepdaughter, Bonnie Kendig; and stepson, Paul Leifermann. She was preceded in death by her husband and parents. Miladean's final resting place will be at Munger Cemetery in Eaton Rapids, MI.

WYCHE, LYDA, 93, of DeKalb County, died May 16, 2023, at Mississippi Care Center of DeKalb. Lyda loved nature and especially gardening. She was a very active member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, where she held many roles, including playing piano and teaching children's classes. Lyda had a servant's heart and loved to help anyone in need, oftentimes helping in ways no one knew about. Lyda is survived by her children: James Albert "Jimmy" Wyche Jr., and his wife, Jayne; and Kim Lovette, and her husband, Greg; two grandchildren: Nick Wyche, and his wife, Suzanne; and Betsy Brown, and her husband, Justin; four great-grandchildren: Griffin Brown, Adelyn Brown, Lochlan Brown, and Corinne Brown; many nieces; and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, James Albert Wyche Sr.; parents: Carey and Mittie Merrill; and one sister, Barbara Goodman.

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a purpose. Call to find out more about our apartment and villa homes 828-209-6930 ask for our marketing department or visit www.fletcherparkinn.com. [C]

KY LAND FOR SALE: Surveyed into 5 different lots. Each lot is 3± acres. Griffin community. Low gentle slope. Mtn. views. Close to Little South Fork River and Daniel Boone National Forest. City water, electric & garbage pick up available. If you like peace and quiet and having a garden, this land is perfect for you. 865.982.2555. [9-10]

GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY! DUPLEX FOR SALE less than 3 miles from Southern Adventist University, this income-producing property offers 2 Bedrooms, 2 baths on each side and is situated on almost a half-acre level lot. For more information, contact: Tammy Thayer (423) 645-9621 or Realty Specialists (423) 238-7325. [9]

QUALITY COUNTRY LIVING featuring two houses that adjoin on a 220+ acre property. The main residence is an exquisite custom craftsmanship built home with 9,500 sq ft +/- with 6 bedrooms, 7 full baths and 2 half baths. The second home has 3,500 sq ft +/- with 3 bedrooms 3 ½ baths. The grounds feature attractive landscaping, hardwoods, saltwater pool, a spring, 3 barns, a canning kitchen, a fenced garden area, pastures, and an alluring orchard. Conveniently located in Adairsville GA, 15 minutes or less to three church's, GCA, conference office, SDA hospital and 45 minutes to SAU. dmpem@gmail.com. [9]

COLLEGEDALE-Vacant land to build quad plex units next to Southern Adventist University housing. Offering 3.5 acres of R-3 Townhome zoned land w/sewer electric and water available. Call Wendy Dixon Team - (423-702-2000) or visit dixonteam.com [9]

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current openings at www.fletcheracademy.org/career. [C]

WANTED — missionary minded teacher to help start a church school in southern Alabama-Troy SDA Church. Please call Lewis Norwood at 334-735-0277 or cell at 423-957-1777. [9-10]

UNION COLLEGE, Lincoln NE, is searching for a Payroll Accountant. This position oversees and supervises the payroll functions of the organization, ensuring pay is processed on time, accurately, and in compliance with government regulations. This is a full-time, non-exempt position. Please see the full job description and instructions for application at ucollege.edu/employment. [9-10]

UNION COLLEGE seeks applicants for a boiler plant operator. This is a full-time position. This role is responsible for the operation and repair of HV/AC systems, transmission lines, and associated controls. See full job descriptions and instructions for application at ucollege.edu/employment or contact Paul Jenks at paul.jenks@ucollege.edu. [9]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time Engineer teaching faculty member for Physics and Engineering Department in the areas of mechanical, electrical, and computer engineering. The ideal candidate will be proficient in developing and teaching undergraduate engineering courses, including both lecture and laboratory components. Master's degree in mechanical, electrical, or computer engineering or related area required. Doctorate preferred. Prior higher education teaching experience and/or relevant industry experience preferred. For a full job description and desired qualifications please visit www.southern.edu/jobs [9]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time faculty in the area of Counseling for School of Education/Psychology. A 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. For a full job description and desired qualifications please visit www.southern.edu/jobs [9]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time teaching faculty member with pediatric expertise to join a cohesive, mission-focused team for the School of Nursing. Teaching responsibilities include undergraduate pre-licensure child health and simulation. Requisite qualities include pediatric RN experience, flexibility, and commitment to Adventist nursing education. Teaching experience and an earned doctor-

ate are preferred. For a full job description and desired qualifications please visit www.southern.edu/jobs [9]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time program director to launch a new Doctor of Physical Therapy degree program. The ideal candidate will be proficient in managing the CAPTE accreditation process, new program development, and teaching graduate physical therapy courses as well as clinical practice. In addition, the successful candidate will be committed to mentoring advisees, nurturing student learning both in and out of the classroom, and disciplining students in Jesus Christ. For a full job description and desired qualifications please visit www.southern.edu/jobs [9]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time teaching faculty member for the School of Religion. The position would involve assisting in the Institute of Archaeology, including with its publications. Applicants should have a PhD (or have made significant progress in a PhD program) in the areas of archaeology and biblical studies and should be prepared to teach courses in archaeology, biblical studies, and biblical Hebrew. For a full job description please visit www.southern.edu/jobs [9]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks qualified candidates for the following staff Salaried positions— Marketing & University Relations Editorial Manager, Online Campus Teaching Technology Specialist, Academic Administration DHSI (Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions) Project Manager, Academic Administration DHSI Community Outreach Coordinator, Academic Administration DHSI Retention and Resilience Coordinator, WSMC Radio Account Manager. For more information go to Southern.edu/jobs. [9]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks qualified candidates for the following staff Hourly positions— S.A.L.T. Outreach Coordinator for School of Religion, Evangelistic Resource Center Office Manager for School of Religion, Alarm Technician, Deli Part-time Salad Supervisor. For more information go to Southern.edu/jobs. [9]

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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 is available. For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatestudies. [C]

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JOIN HIS ORCHESTRA: An Official, Volunteer, Music Ministries Organization of the Ooltewah Seventh-day Adventist Church in Ooltewah, Tennessee. Orchestra players consist of volunteers, whose purpose is to glorify God playing sacred music for worship services at their home church and at other local churches upon invitation. If you live near the Collegedale/Ooltewah area, String players, (1st and 2nd Violin, Viola, Cello and Bass) Woodwind, (Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, and Bassoon) and Brass (French Horn, Trumpet, Trombone and Tuba) players and Harpists are all encouraged to join. For more information, send a text or voice message to Mary Wilcox, Conductor, at 423-505-0208 leaving your name, your instrument, and experience playing. Remember, you don't have to be a professional player. Whether you are young, old, or have prior experience, you can learn, improve, and praise God by playing in HIS Orchestra. [9]

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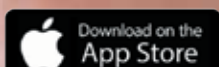


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has resources just for **YOU!**

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Hiking and Mountain Biking Trails

Free and highly rated, Southern's nearly 40 miles of on-campus hiking and biking trails are open to everyone. The trails are suitable for everything from a peaceful Sabbath walk to a muscle-toning endurance workout.

For more information and trail maps, visit southern.edu/trails.

Peace and War Exhibit

Southern's on-campus Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum features an exhibit with more than 80 artifacts unearthed by the students and employees from Southern and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem during the Fourth Expedition to Lachish in Israel (2013-2017). The historical findings help bring to life the Assyrian conquest of Judah and Jerusalem's deliverance.

For more information, visit southern.edu/archaeology.

Scheduled Visit

The university welcomes visitors all year long, and we invite you to come and experience our beautiful campus for yourself. If you know of someone looking to attend a Christian university, prospective students have several options for a scheduled visit to Southern.

For more information, go online to southern.edu/visit.

JOIN US ONLINE

Southern's Symphony Orchestra and Various Ensembles, including Choral, Horn, Steel Band, and Wind

Opportunities abound to enjoy the musical talents on our campus through the School of Music. Visit southern.edu/musicevents to find details about scheduled performances, many of which are livestreamed. In addition, the university's weekly vespers programs, held in the Collegedale Church sanctuary, are broadcast live each Friday evening at 7:30 p.m.

To view online, visit southern.edu/streaming.

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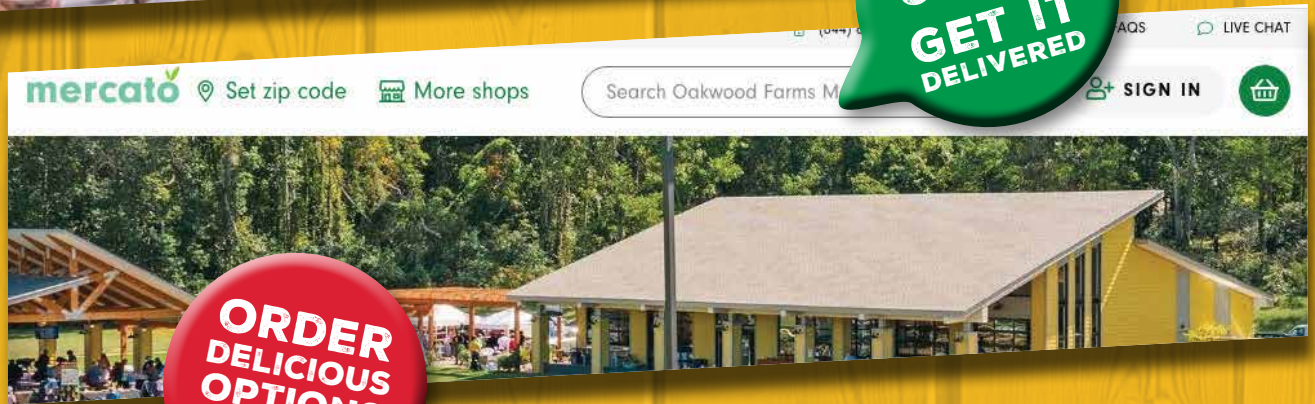
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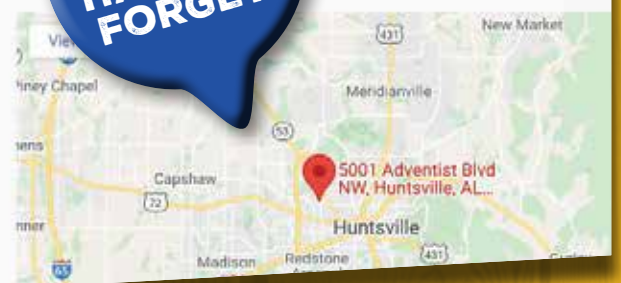


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**FROM OUR FARM
TO YOUR BROWSER**

CAROLINA

Retiree Retreat – Sept. 17, 21. Nosoca.
Carolina Men's Retreat – Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Nosoca.
Low Country Harvest Impact – Oct. 6, 7. Summerville.
Hispanic Women's Retreat – Oct. 6-8. Nosoca.
Carolina Women's Retreat – Oct. 13-15. Nosoca.
Let's Talk Young Adults
 Oct. 21. Greenville North.
 Nov. 18. Hendersonville Spanish.
 Dec. 9. Greenville, NC, Spanish.

FLORIDA

Full and Detailed Medicare Workshop – Registration: planned.giving@floridaconference.com or 407-644-5000, x2246 or x2241.
Part I – Sept. 5.
Part II – Oct. 24.
National Camps for Blind Children – Sept. 17-22. A ministry of Christian Record Services, it is proud to partner with Camp Kulaqua in High Springs, FL. The camp will provide confidence-building opportunities for individuals ages 18-65 who are blind and visually impaired as they participate in a variety of summer camp experiences. For more information about summer camp programs, visit www.blindcamps.org.
Jesus Psychology Summit – Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Sponsored by Abide Network and hosted by Jennifer Schwirzer at Markham Woods Church, Longwood, FL. Addresses mental health from a faith-based perspective. Friday evening and Sabbath activities are free and open to the public. Please register at JesusPsychology.com.
Camp Kulaqua's 70th Anniversary – Oct. 13-15. Tell Your Camp Story: Invited are all previous camp staff, volunteers, and those connected to camp to come and join the celebration! Visit website: www.campkulaqua.com.
One Day Marriage Retreat for English Speakers – Nov. 4. Featuring Dr. Dion and Dr. Dilyn Henry at Florida Conference Office, Altamonte Springs.
Young at Heart 50+ Retreat – Nov. 6-9. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL.
One Day Marriage Retreat for Spanish Speakers – Nov. 11. Featuring Dr. Consuelo Romera at Florida Conference Office, Altamonte Springs.

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

Young Adult L.I.F.E Retreat – Sept. 1-3. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp.
Adventurer Ministries Convention – Sept. 8-10. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp.

Hispanic Couples Retreat – Sept. 8-10. Cohutta Springs Conference Center.
Northeast Tennessee Camp Meeting – Sept. 15, 16. The Oaks Retreat Center, Greenville, TN.
TLT Kickstart – Sept. 15-17. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp.
Marriage Retreat 2023: Rekindle the Flame – Sept. 22-24, Cohutta Springs Conference Center.
Engage Youth Leadership Convention – Sept. 29, 30.
Sabbath in the Smokies – Sept. 29-30. Cades Cove, Great Smoky Mountain National Park.
 Please check our website for the latest information, www.gccsda.com.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Blue Zone Documenter David McLain – Sept. 21. Southern invites the community to an engaging evening as photographer David McLain presents "The Blue Zones: Unlocking the Secrets of Longevity" at 7:30 p.m. in Iles P.E. Center. McLain has spent 15 years working alongside author Dan Buettner to study the habits and rituals of centenarians around the globe living in Blue Zones. Through personal anecdotes and scientific research, he will share how adopting certain practices can add 8-10 quality years to life. Tickets are required at the door; \$10 per person.
Symphony Orchestra Concert – Oct. 1. With Laurie Redmer Cadwallader conducting, Southern's Symphony Orchestra will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists. This and many other musical events are also

broadcast at southern.edu/streaming.
Wind Symphony Concert – Oct. 8. Southern's Wind Symphony, with Ken Parsons conducting, will present an evening of music at 7:30 p.m. in the Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists. To learn about more School of Music events, visit southern.edu/musicevents.
Homecoming – Oct. 26-29. Mark your calendar and join fellow alumni and attendees for the ultimate Southern family celebration. Honor Classes include: 1943, '53, '63, '73, '83, '93, '98, '03, '13. Check out all the weekend activities at southern.edu/homecoming or call 423.236.2827 for additional details.
PreviewSouthern – Nov. 2-3. Interested students are invited to take a campus tour, discuss majors with professors, sit in on financial aid workshops, and enjoy a fun activity in Chattanooga. For more information, call 1-800-SOUTHERN, email visit@southern.edu, or visit southern.edu/preview.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISABILITY RETREAT – Sept. 22-24.
 Florida Elks Youth Campground, Umatilla, FL. Details: 407-644-5000.

THE SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT is seeking seven mini vans, late or new models, in full working condition for its student literature and community outreach programs. If you are seeking to give to the Lord's work and can donate a van that you are not utilizing, please contact Pastor Lucious Hall, publishing director at 786-402-7074.

SUNSET

	SEP 8	SEP 15	SEP 22	SEP 29	OCT 6	OCT 13
ATLANTA, GA	7:55	7:46	7:36	7:26	7:17	7:08
CHARLESTON, SC	7:37	7:27	7:18	7:08	6:59	6:50
CHARLOTTE, NC	7:41	7:31	7:21	7:11	7:01	6:51
COLLEGE DALE, TN	7:59	7:49	7:38	7:28	7:19	7:09
HUNTSVILLE, AL	7:04	6:55	6:44	6:35	6:25	6:16
JACKSON, MS	7:17	7:08	6:59	6:49	6:40	6:32
LOUISVILLE, KY	8:04	7:53	7:42	7:31	7:20	7:09
MEMPHIS, TN	7:18	7:08	6:58	6:48	6:38	6:29
MIAMI, FL	7:34	7:26	7:18	7:11	7:03	6:56
MONTGOMERY, AL	7:02	6:53	6:43	6:34	6:25	6:16
NASHVILLE, TN	7:06	6:56	6:45	6:35	6:25	6:15
ORLANDO, FL	7:40	7:32	7:23	7:15	7:07	6:59
TAMPA, FL	7:44	7:36	7:27	7:19	7:11	7:04
WILMINGTON, NC	7:30	7:20	7:10	7:00	6:51	6:41

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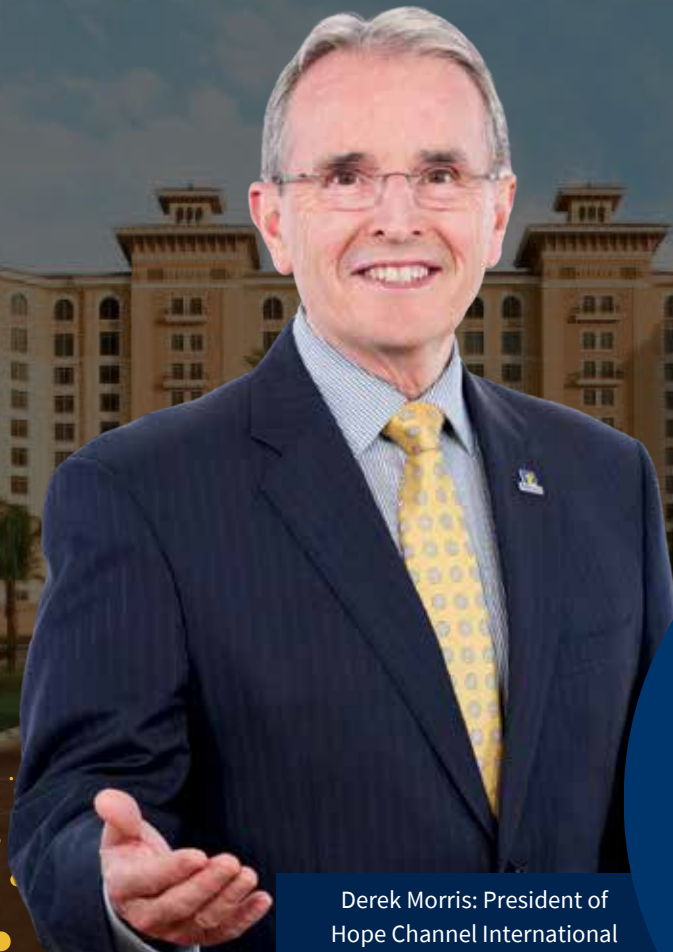


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