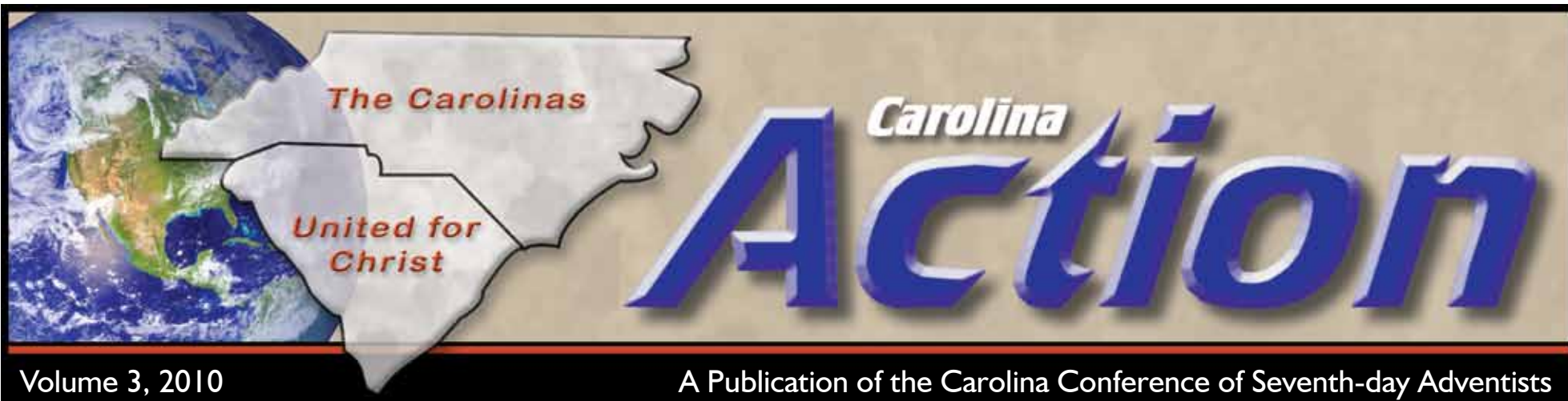


Featured
Inside

It Takes a Village: Organizing an International ShareHim Campaign



Carolina Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists
PO Box 560339
Charlotte, NC 28256-0339



From the President

James R. Davidson

What would you think if you went to church one Sabbath and the building was no longer there? It was simply missing...stolen! Well that happened to a church a couple of years ago. Here's the story from the *Seattle Times*, November 13, 2008.



"Last seen in July 2008, the two-hundred-year-old Russian church had disappeared just a few months later. Orthodox officials

in a village northeast of Moscow intended to reopen the abandoned two-story Church of the Resurrection and begin services again. Imagine their surprise when they came to the place where the church had stood and saw... nothing! It's a common occurrence in rural areas of Russia for vacant churches to have their gilded icons and other valuables stolen by thieves. But now the entire church building itself had been stolen! How did it happen?

Brick by brick. Nearby villagers dismantled the structure in October 2008 and sold each brick to a local businessman for one ruble each (which amounts to about four cents per brick)."

An entire church gone. Not by any calamity of nature such as a hurricane. Not by an act of war with bombs. Simply one brick at a time it disappeared. As I read this story I couldn't help but think, "Isn't this just what the devil does?" He attacks the church, usually not in seismic proportions that would cause people to sit up and take notice, but simply a little here and a little there...until there is nothing left.

He changes or blurs our focus until we have forgotten our reason for existence. In this fast paced, high energy, succeed-at-all-costs mentality of today, it is easy for the church to get caught up in the ways of the world. As the church continues to grow (as God intended that it should) it's tempting to concentrate on buildings and programs, seating and parking, choirs and offerings, staff and signs, etc. To the point that if we're not careful, we get so distracted by simply maintaining what we have that we overlook the more important issues. Issues such as personal revival. Bible study. Prayer. Or becoming more like Jesus both individually and corporately as a church. Too often we are tempted to take a page from Wall Street rather than a page from scripture as we strive to succeed.

Richard C. Halverson, former chaplain of the U.S. Senate, wrote these words:

"In the beginning the church was a fellowship of men and women centered on the living Christ. Then the church moved



What would you do if you won \$10,000?

"Are you serious? This is one of the best days of my life!"

Jason Belyeu, pastor of the Beaufort and Hilton Head Seventh-day Adventist churches, was excited after receiving a call from the host of the nationally syndicated "Dave Ramsey Show." And he had good reason to be happy—he had won the grand prize for Ramsey's "Real Estate Rescue" sweepstakes! \$10,000!

Belyeu, a fan of Ramsey's debt-free philosophy and his radio show, had not listened to the program in over three weeks. "After prayer meeting, I was discouraged over the stagnant giving to the Beaufort church's new building program. I turned on the radio, found Dave's show, and learned that he had been giving money away all month to help people buy or sell their homes. Dave was encouraging listeners to enter online to win several \$1,000 giveaways and a \$10,000 grand prize. I thought to myself, 'It would be great to win some of that money to put toward our building program at Beaufort.'"

The next day while doing chores, Pastor Jason entered the contest several hundred times over an hour. "My hope was to enter a lot to win \$1,000 that day. I wasn't focused on the grand prize."

The following morning Belyeu received a phone call from Ramsey's office telling him that he was one of five finalists who could receive a winning phone call for

either \$1,000 or \$10,000—as long as they answered their phones. "I began contacting prayer warriors requesting they call for the Lord's favor, because I would give the money to the building fund." The rest is history.

Belyeu states, "I learned of the contest on the last week, entered the contest on the last day of eligibility and after I won they told me I was the alternate caller. Apparently the person originally designated to



receive the grand prize didn't pick up the phone. So God's hand was all over this."

"There's no telling what this is going to spark," Ramsey said during his call with Pastor Belyeu. "You're incredible man. I really appreciate you."

Ramsey, a Christian, was so impressed with Belyeu's generosity that he gave Belyeu and two church members free enroll-

ments to Momentum, a three-day event valued at \$3,000, that teaches leaders how to create generous congregations. Ramsey also donated the \$10,000 to the church so Belyeu would not have to pay taxes.

The Dave Ramsey website states, "Three years ago, he (Belyeu) took a big step in front of his entire congregation. 'I actually cut up my credit card as a part of a sermon on the bondage of debt as a way of kicking off Financial Peace University in my church,' he said. 'It was called 'A Sermon Seven Years in the Making,' which was about how long it took me from when I first heard Dave's teaching to when I finally applied it radically in my own life and behaviors.'"

"Now Jason is in a position not only to live like never before, but to give like never before."

Belyeu's testimony is this: "As we manage God's 100% well (He owns it all, not just the tithe), then in following God's counsel on our finances we can be free to do remarkable things for God's kingdom when they come our way."

by Ellen Newcomb

Above, right: Jason and two lay leaders from Beaufort Church got to meet Dave Ramsey in person at his Momentum event. They gave him a card from the church and personally hand him a copy of *The Desire of Ages* and *The Great Controversy* as thank you gifts.

Carolina News Notes

Together from Elementary School to Medical School

Three former students of Adventist Christian Academy and members of the Sharon Church in Charlotte, NC, Matthew Rumsey (above, center), Tiffany Earle, and Jonathan Mills, were all accepted to Loma Linda University this Fall into the medical program. They are pictured above during their white coat ceremony. They each attended school ACA Charlotte as well as Southern Adventist University. Two other former ACA students have a connection with Loma Linda—Carson Baskin is attending the PT school and Christina Mills Birsan graduated in May '10 and is in Pathology residency at LLU hospital.



Healthy Lifestyle Another Tool for Witnessing

In the month of August the members of the Gastonia Church celebrated the second Healthy Lifestyle Seminar of 2010. Dana Bradford organized and directed the seminar as a result of a life changing experience she had when she attended the training program in November of 2009. Because of what she has learned from the program, and applied to her life, she now enjoys better health. As a result of the seminar, members of the church and visitors



decided to make changes in their lifestyle as well, and be better witnesses for Jesus.

Purposeful Parenting—Pastor Tim Cove and his wife, Kim, a licensed marriage and family therapist, conducted a parenting seminar called "Purposeful Parenting," Monday nights from Aug. 23 to Sept. 27 at the Fletcher church. Topics included creating a home atmosphere conducive to congruent communication, your child's temperament, developmental stages and Bible-based sex education. The seminar was based on the scripture, "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." The purpose was to educate parents on how to rear their children to be who God created them to be. Parents should set aside "wants" for their children and focus on what they need according to what God wants for them. The seminar was advertised in the community and both church and community members attended.

Getting Acquainted at Midtown

Pictured with his wife, Dick Pryor delivered the worship service message on the world mission of "Maranatha," Sabbath, August 14, 2010, at the Columbia Midtown Church in Columbia, SC. He gave valuable and inspired information and insight into this on-going ministry of constructing churches and Adventist schools in under privileged countries. He stressed the importance of supporting this most viable Christian



outreach, not only with monetary gifts, but also with our "Gifts of the Spirit," and with our prayers. Note the name tags worn by Elder Prior and his wife, as they were part of the church's "Get Acquainted Name Badge Day." This was one of two Sabbaths in which all in attendance wore a badge in order to put a name with a face. All had a chance following worship to gather, socialize and share during their bi-monthly potluck. *by Charlie Jones*

Victorian Tea Party and Brunch

The Albemarle Women's Ministries team held a Victorian Tea Party on Sunday, Sept. 12, 2010,



at their family life center. The hostess was Linda Smith, Albemarle Women's Ministry leader. The decor, organized by Tonette Gray and Linda Smith, reflected the classic Victorian theme, with every corner arrayed with beautiful flowers, lights and greenery. The featured speaker was Debbie Rapp, Carolina Conference Women's Ministry director. Devotions were presented by member Jean Belle, and the music was provided by Dianne Barringer, Elouise Davis and Frances Butler. The Tea was dedicated to the women of the church in appreciation for all the work they do. *by Linda Smith*

Carolina Obituaries

Ashley, Claude "Ted," 88, born July 28, 1921, in Wilkes County, NC, died July 15, 2010, in Monroe, NC. He was a member of the Monroe church. He was a World War II U.S. Army veteran in the European Theatre, Naples Foggia, Rome Arno, Southern France, Rhineland and Central Europe, where he received the Eamet Campaign Medal with five bronze stars and the good conduct medal. He is survived by his wife, Flora Watson Ashley; two sons, Roy Ashley and Anthony "Tony" Ashley; two daughters, April Ashley and Robin Jasinsky; two grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He is predeceased by his parents; his daughter Glenda Louise Ashley; and ten brothers and sisters.

Champ, James Lee, Sr., 79, born Sept. 25, 1930, in Arbyrd, MO, died July 10, 2010, in Fletcher, NC. He was a member of the Arden Church. Before moving to North Carolina he had lived most of his life in Missouri and Collegedale, TN, and was a member of the Collegedale Church. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Verba Lee Ice Champ; two daughters, Sharon Gail Lewis and Sandra Kay Van Lanen; one son, James Lee Champ, Jr.; one granddaughter, Dr. Amanda Lee Van Lanen; one grandson, Ryan Wayne Van Lanen.

Cook, Doris, 75, born Feb. 4, 1935, in Hahira, GA, died July 1, 2010. She was member of the Fletcher church. She was Food Service manager for Fletcher Hospital and Park Ridge Hospital for 33 years. She is survived by her mother, Esther Coward; one son, James; three sisters; one brother; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Cook, Roger Allen, 53, born April 20, 1957, died May 14, 2010, in Hendersonville, NC. He was member of the Fletcher church. He is survived by his parents Russell and Doris Cook; one brother, James; one niece, Patricia; two nephews, Charles and Russell; and five grandnieces.

Cook, Russell H., 81, born Oct. 7, 1928, in Kansas City, MO, died June 22, 2010, in Fletcher, NC. He was member of the Fletcher church. He is survived by his wife, Doris; one son, James, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Fulfer, James G., 88, born Dec. 6, 1921, in Akron, OH, died Feb. 8, 2010, in Hendersonville, NC. He was member of the Fletcher church. He was a Seventh-day Adventist pastor, and before that a dental technician in the US Army Air Corps during World War II. He attended Washington Missionary College, Southern Junior College and received a Masters of Divinity from Andrews University. He is survived by his wife of 66 years; Olive Tyson Fulfer, one sister, Mildred Fulfer, one son, Bob Fulfer; two daughters, Nancy Merz and Ellen Story; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

Gaertner, Nell Lucile, 96, born May 27, 1914, in Ridgeway, SC, died June 22, 2010, in Houston, TX. She was member of the Fletcher church. She was a registered nurse at Hinsdale Hospital in Illinois and Fletcher Hospital in North Carolina. She is survived by her brother, Fletcher Wilson; daughters Frances S. Graham and Linda Thompson; four grandchildren, Stephanie Casanova, Christopher Gillin, Kristina Mueller, and Rick Hume; seven great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her husband, Rudy; her brothers, Byron, Homer and Bert Wilson; and her sisters, Eva Maude Martin, Mildred Architect and Ethel Johnson.

Hodges, Rosa Ellen (Horney), 97, born Dec. 18, 1912, in Banner Elk, Avery County, NC, died Sept., 2010, in Hendersonville, NC. Rosa became a Seventh-day Adventist soon after marrying her husband, Lester Hodges, and joined the Banner Elk Church. She had only a sixth grade education, but served as treasurer of her church

for many years. She was a farmer's wife and worked on the farm while raising her three children. Rosa was the fourth of 10 children and outlived all her siblings. She was preceded in death by her husband, Lester Hodges, and her son, Floyd. Rosa is survived by her daughter, Margaret Tate; son, Lester Hodges Jr.; 10 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren.

Mercer, Clive A., 88, born July 14, 1921, in Mackenzie County, ND, died May 31, 2010, in Fletcher, NC. He was a member of the Fletcher church. He was a teacher at Sunnyside Academy in Missouri, and Valley Grande Academy in Texas. He was also a Navy Veteran of World War II. After WWII he received a degree in education from Union College, NE. Later he obtained his electrical engineer's license and worked in maintenance and as an assistant plant manager at several hospitals and schools. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Magdelene; three sons Chet Mercer, Tim Mercer and Walter Mercer; daughter Lore Seal; seven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

Tyson, Robert Aaron, 90, born Feb. 25, 1919, in Greenville, NC, died Dec. 23, 2009, in Hendersonville, NC. He was a member of the Fletcher church. He served as a pastor in Virginia and New Jersey, a Missionary Volunteer (Youth) and Education Secretary for New Jersey, Chesapeake, Nebraska, Pennsylvania and Gulf States Conferences, a Bible teacher at Blue Mountain Academy, Principal at Pisgah Academy and a pastor in New York before retiring to the family farm in North Carolina. He lived there for 21 years, still serving various congregations as a retired minister. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Elsie Tyson; sister Olive Fulfer, brother Jesse Tyson and many nieces and nephews.



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Schedule of Events

- January**
 Pathfinder Council 7-9. *Nosoca.*
 Women's Ministries Mini-Retreat..... 21-22.
 Lay Advisory Retreat 28-29. *Nosoca.*
- February**
 Carolina Teachers' Convention.... 4-8. *TBA.*
 Lay-Pastoral Assistant & Elders' Certification Program #4..... 4-6. *Nosoca.*
 Romance at the Ranch..... 11-13. *Nosoca.*
- March**
 Young Adult Retreat..... 11-13. *Nosoca.*
 Pathfinder Work Bee 18-20. *Nosoca.*
 Elder's Retreat..... 25-27. *Nosoca.*
- April**
 Hispanic Camp Meeting 1-3. *Nosoca*
 Women's Ministries Spring Retreat 1-3.
 MPA Academy Days 3-4.
 Adventurer Fun Day10.
- May**
 ACBC Closed 22-28
 Junaluska Camp Meeting29-June 4

From the President

... continued from front page.

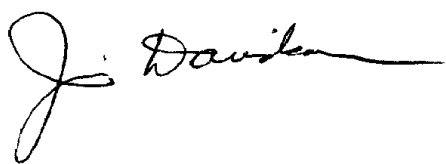
to Greece, where it became a philosophy. Then it moved to Rome, where it became an institution. Next, it moved to Europe, where it became a culture. And finally, it moved to America, where it became an enterprise."

Too often perhaps we try to emulate the marketing strategies of Wall Street (or the mega church down the street or on TV) to bring about what, in reality, can only be wrought by the power of the Holy Spirit. So what does the church need today? I believe we need to daily reaffirm that we are a people who believe in the Word of God and in prayer. For it is only from there that true and lasting power will come.

Well over a century ago these words were written by E.M. Bounds, a Civil War chaplain:

"We are continually striving to create new methods, plans, and organizations to advance the church. We are ever working to provide and stimulate growth and efficiency for the gospel. This trend of the day has a tendency to lose sight of the man (or woman). Or else he is lost in the workings of the plan or organization. God's plan is to make much of the man, far more of him than of anything else. Men are God's method. The church is looking for better methods; God is looking for better men...What the church needs today is not more or better machinery, not new organizations or more novel methods. She needs men whom the Holy Spirit can use—men of prayer, men mighty in prayer. The Holy Spirit does not flow through methods, but through men. It does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men—men of prayer!"

How even more true that is in our day. May we never lose sight of our indispensable need to be people of the Book and men and women of prayer. For it is here from which we shall gather strength. It is only as we ground ourselves and our churches in these two principles that we shall stand until that day when Jesus returns for His children.




Elias Sandora, Jr.

Eastern Carolina Camp Meeting 2010

Eastern Carolina Camp Meeting was a little different this year than it has been in years past. There were two! Yes, two mirrored one-day camp meetings were held in the month of October, one at the Greenville, NC, church and one in South Carolina at the Summerville church. Nearly 1000 people attended one or both Sabbaths, nearly overflowing the churches' capacity.

And who could blame them? With Ty Gibson, Associate Director/Speaker for Light Bearers Ministry in northeastern Washington State, as the main presenter, it was truly a spiritual feast. His sermons were centered around love for each other, for Christ, and especially the love He has for us.

A highlight this year was the portrayal of the Sermon on the Mount by Matthew, played by Kevin Shaw of the Charlotte Sharon church. He shared the words of Jesus in a dramatic style that made it come alive for those listening, almost as though they were hearing it from the lips of Jesus himself over 2000 years ago.

Rounding out the day-long event was the musical offering of the Blessing Trio,

who shared their talents in an afternoon concert. And they lived up to their name, as it was a blessing to hear their praise through music.

The theme this year was, "Reflecting God's Love," bringing to mind that it is ever more important in these last days that we reflect God's love to each person we meet. For those in attendance, it was wonderful to be together and fellowship with one another at Eastern Carolina Camp Meeting.

by Becky Carpenter



Rick Garcia



Rick Garcia



Rick Garcia

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Dr. Burnett Visits Lexington

Dr. Diane Burnett of Uchee Pines Lifestyle Center was a featured health presenter at the Lexington Church in the month of September.

Throughout the year the church made preparations to invite the community to attend her lectures. In conjunction with her visit, a food drive was organized for the Pastor's Pantry, which reaches out to the elderly in the community with the goals of friendship evangelism and awareness.

Opening night subject was "The International Health Crisis," where Dr. Burnett presented information on the health issues plaguing not only America, but the entire world, most of which are diet-related. Along with her lectures, her staff shared easy-to-prepare nutritious foods, and gave demonstrations of hydrotherapy.

Visitors came from surrounding Ad-

ventist churches as well as from the community. One non-Adventist couple who lived in Winston-Salem read the newspaper article and immediately made plans to attend.

The Lexington Church used Dr. Burnett's meetings as a springboard into a follow-up series called "Food for Thought," presented by Mark Kent, their Health and Temperance leader.

This church is beginning to realize that, in order to make their presence known in their community, it is necessary to organize outreach programs

that people are really interested in attending. Health is definitely one of those.

Every church has a tremendous witness facility for the Lord, and He is truly leading each of us in our pursuit to reach others with His final message to a dying world.

by Danny Pope, Lexington pastor



Photo Contributed



Rick Garcia

Summerville Evangelism

The Summerville Community Adventist Church held an evangelism event this Fall with an average attendance of 84 each night, with at least one-third being non-Adventists. John Earnhardt was their guest

evangelist. The seminar was being held in the Family Life Center in combination with a program for the children whose parents attended the main meeting. The church is excited about future outreach opportunities.



Rick Garcia



Photo Contributed

Fletcher Hosts 60th Korean War Anniversary

Young Lee, member of the Fletcher Adventist Church, recently organized a "thank you" dinner to honor 24 Korean War veterans (pictured above) living in western North Carolina. A total of 1,789,000 Americans served in the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953.

The Fletcher Seventh-day Adventist Church was honored to host the dinner, solely Korean cuisine, which included a program of tributes and music. James Jean (third

from right, front row), president of Korean War Veterans, introduced each honoree.

A younger generation of Koreans showed their deep gratitude to these heroes and demonstrated how Korea, who once received help, now is a nation of helpers. Present at the dinner was the priest of the Korean Roman Catholic Church and pastors from the Korean Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist and Adventist churches in the area.

by Ivan Blake, pastor of Fletcher Church

Community Event Held at Kernersville

On September 22, the Kernersville, NC, church hosted the Kernersville Community Appearance Commission awards brunch in the church's family life center. Kernersville pastor, Don Davis, was asked by the senior planner for the Town of Kernersville, Sharon Richmond, to have the opening prayer for this event. Over 150 community leaders, pastors and town officials attended. Keynote speaker was Allen Joines, mayor of Winston-Salem. The brunch was intended as a place to meet community leaders and hear the great things that people are doing to make their community a more inviting and attractive place to live.

This was an excellent opportunity for the church to open their facility up to a positive community event and turn their neighbors into friends.



Photo Contributed



Photo Contributed

Pictured above, left to right: Dawn Morgan, mayor of Kernersville; Alan Asbell, Kernersville Community Appearance Commission chairman; and Alan Joines, mayor of Winston-Salem.

Rockingham Cornerstone

The Rockingham Cornerstone Group recently held meetings with Conference Evangelist Dale Pollett. Many lives were touched by these meetings, but one story stands out from the others. It's the spiritual journey of Samuel (Sam) and Cathy Swinney. Bible worker RoseMarie Parker shares it with you from her perspective.

When I first started Bible work in the Rockingham area I was following up with the Focus on Prophecy Bible study interest cards that the Carolina Conference sent out early in 2008. With a prayer in my heart I mailed Sam, an ordained minister of another faith, a Bible study around the end of 2008. Sam started studying.

When he got about halfway through the Focus on Prophecy studies, I stopped by with a copy of *The Desire of Ages*. He met me at the door with news. He had called The Voice of Prophecy and ordered five more Bible study sets for the small group that had begun meeting in his home!

During that visit I was invited to join their small group, and in time I started attending. They followed up with the Discover Bible Guides. During this time

I also gave Sam other materials such as *The Great Controversy* and *Peace Above the Storm*.

When the prophecy series with Dale Pollett was coming up, I gave them a handbill and invited them to the meetings. They attended regularly and made their decision to join by profession of faith on September 11, 2010.

In their former ministry, Sam and his wife were very active in the Rockingham area, having held many tent meetings. He even owned his own tent! Sam and Cathy wanted to continue to be very active in ministry, so the Sabbath after they joined the Adventist church they were off to the ShareHim boot camp. I had the opportunity to go with them. It's exciting to see how quickly they are becoming involved in the Adventist ministry.

We are happy about the way the Lord has used the evangelism meetings to impact lives here in the Rockingham area. Many are seeking to follow Jesus faithfully, and the Rockingham Group is ready to help them.

by RoseMarie Parker

Morganton Focuses on Health

Earlier this year, Morganton Seventh-day Adventist Church held a health expo. Continuing with the goal of offering more health education events, a weekly one-hour weight-loss class was recently conducted at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at the Collett Street Rec. Center. Each week, vari-

ous health-related topics were discussed and suggestions were given on how to increase physical activity, reduce stress and eat well. Then ideas were shared for putting these methods to practice in the coming week.

There was even an article written about the event in the local paper, inviting the community to participate.

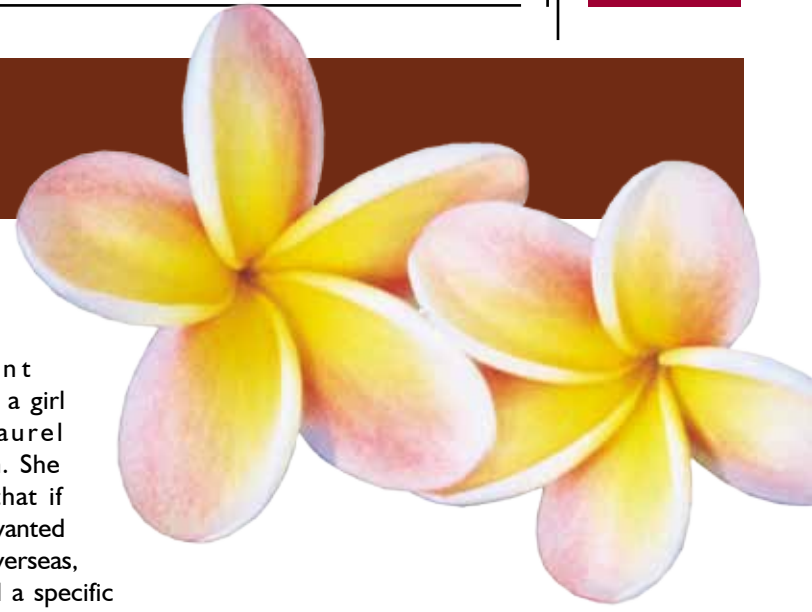
Pounds have been lost, miles logged and insight gained, but it's a healthier lifestyle that organizers were hoping participants adopted by the end of the program. The next 10 week seminar will begin Jan. 20, 2011.

Excerpts taken from the Morganton News Herald.



Photo Contributed

Halfway Around the World



Emily Lynes didn't want to go overseas as a student missionary. A member of the Fletcher Adventist Church, Emily had attended Fletcher Academy and was a freshman broadcast journalism major at Southern Adventist University. She was homesick and thinking about moving back home the next academic year. But even as she was telling God she didn't want to be living four hours away from home, He was preparing to tell her He had need of her halfway around the world.

A Calling

It was Week of Prayer at Southern,

and Emily felt like every meeting she attended was speaking directly to her, saying, "Go overseas as a student missionary!"

"I wanted to say, 'You've got the wrong person!'" Emily remembers.

Emily kept trying to ignore these feelings until one night when she was journaling in her room. She still felt like she could hear God's voice saying, "You've got to be a student missionary."

She responded to the prompting with, "Okay, I'll go, but I don't want to go by myself!"

That night in her room, Emily made a pact with God. She only knew one other person on Southern's campus who was

preparing to go as a student missionary, a girl named Laurel McPherson. She told God that if He really wanted her to go overseas, she needed a specific sign.

"If Laurel asks me, I'll go," Emily told God.

An Answer

"I never thought she would," Emily recalls. She barely knew Laurel and didn't spend much time with her, so she really thought the ultimatum she had given God had left her pretty safe. But then that weekend, she got together with a group of friends, including Laurel. Laurel's trip happened to come up in conversation, and then out of the blue Laurel turned and asked Emily if she would like to come as well.

"I have never been so shocked in my life," Emily says, "but I knew that I had to keep my promise. I started making arrangements for my trip that next Monday morning."

In the end, the arrangements for Emily's trip with Laurel fell apart, but looking back, Emily can see this is where things were actually falling together for what God had planned for her all along: for her to go on this journey alone. Emily ended up in the Marshall Islands for a year, teaching middle school

children English and reading, meeting amazing new people from all over the world, and growing more than she had imagined possible.

"I believe God called me to set that year aside not only to work with those children but also to spend some extra time getting to know Him," Emily says. "When you're put out of your comfort zone in a different country with no one that you know, it forces you to become more independent and also to create a new support system, one where He comes first."

Now back at Southern for her sophomore year, Emily, the girl who didn't want to go overseas, is a member of the Student Missionary Club, helping to get others involved.

"When you're called, mission work can be so beautiful," Emily shares. "You bring unique talents to your team, you get to help do God's work, and you have the joy of knowing you're right where He wants you to be."

By Angela Baerg

Left: Emily Lynes taught English and reading to middle school students in the Marshall Islands.



Photo Contributed

Little Acorns Grow

Who can predict the power of small things? Who can measure the impact of a divinely appointed meeting on a young heart, and the amazing blessings that follow?

Hunter and Nathan Penn are the 8-year-old sons of Dr. Robert and Esther Penn of Hendersonville, NC. The Penns are monthly supporters of Adventist Frontiers Missions (AFM) missionaries in India. Each month when Adventist Frontiers magazine arrived in the mail, Hunter and Nathan would search through it for their missionary family. The seeds of mission support were planted in their hearts and began to grow.

In May 2009, Esther and the boys attended the Carolina Camp Meeting. Greg and Molly Timmins, AFM missionaries to Southeast Asia, also happened to be there. Nathan and Hunter were delighted to meet the Timmins children, Hannah and Caleb, at the children's programs. Greg and Molly told mission stories to the children by day, and

described mission challenges to the adults by night. The Timmins' stories greatly impressed the boys, and Hunter decided to collect money for their mission project. Nathan was his first contributor—four dollars. During the next week or so, Hunter gathered \$45 for the Timmins' work.

Esther and the boys drove north to attend the Michigan Camp Meeting, planning to drop the donation off at AFM's headquarters in Berrien Springs. Imagine their joy when they bumped into the Timmins family again at Michigan Camp Meeting! Hunter was able to present his offering to Molly in person.

When Hunter and Nathan opened the October 2009 issue of Adventist Frontiers, they turned to Greg Timmins' article and read, "We were blessed to meet a young boy with a similar passion for missions who decided to visit several members of his church to raise funds for our project. The Lord blessed his efforts, enabling him to raise \$45. We wish you could have seen his beaming face as he handed over his sacred trust to Molly."

"Mom!" Hunter called, "I want to raise \$1,000 for the Timmins family!"

Hunter has some speech and muscular challenges and sees a therapist regularly. On his next visit, he told his therapist of his dream to raise \$1,000. She was impressed with his commitment and decided to help make it happen. Hunter's therapy consists of eight daily stretching exercises. They are painful, and it's hard for him to do them

faithfully. His therapist made an exercise chart on which he would get a star for each exercise he did. She suggested he send out letters inviting family, neighbors, friends, and church members to sponsor him for every star he earned in three months through January 2010. Responses flooded in, and Hunter soldiered through his exercises.

On March 3, 2010, the Penn family arrived at the AFM office in Berrien Springs. During AFM's morning office worship time, John Kent, the Timmins' field director, placed an Internet call to them, and Hunter beamed as he told them how much he had raised for their mission — \$2,751.89! Greg and Molly were utterly amazed.

And that wasn't all. That morning, Hunter got another \$100 donation. Also, an anonymous donor who had heard hunter's story pledged to top off hunter's total to an even \$3,000.

Just as important as the fund-raising was the answer Hunter gave on a school worksheet: "When I grow up, I want to be an AFM missionary." It has been said, "Giant oaks from little acorns grow," and Hunter's story proves it to be true.

Please follow Hunter's example. Consider what you can do today to bless the ministry of missionaries to the unreached. www.afmonline.org.

By Marilyn J. Bauer

Left: Hunter Penn presented a check for \$2,751.89 to Bruce Wickwire, AFM's CFO. Above: Hunter (left) and Nathan Penn



Photos Contributed

Community Fair Brings Church Together

The Hilton Head Island Seventh-day Adventist Church held its 1st Annual Community Fair on September 26th at Jarvis Creek Park on Hilton Head Island. The vision for the event was simply to be a blessing to the community—to let them know who Seventh-day Adventists are and that they care.

The fair was intended to serve several purposes. The first was to provide free social services that point people in the direction of medical care, food and shelter and an opportunity to learn to speak English. Free medical screenings were given by volunteers in medicine. The Deep Well Project, an organization whose purpose is to help those in need of food or shelter, and Low Country Literacy also participated.

The second purpose was to provide a fun, free, family-oriented afternoon for the community. To that end, a moon bounce, piñata's, face-painting, a fire engine, bean bag tosses, a putting green, a bowling alley, a masseuse (which was a big hit with the women) and dodge ball were among the festivities. There was also a watermelon eating contest, a water balloon toss, a potato sack race, tug of war and a donut-eating contest. They even had live music and a clown the entire day.

Members canvassed the neighborhood vendors beforehand and received many gift cards and gift baskets from restaurants and shops to use as door prizes. Several vendors also provided free, or at a great discount, all of the food and beverages that were offered to guests.

The third purpose, which of course is the ultimate one, was to speak of and represent Jesus. An Amazing Facts brochure was placed in the welcome bag that each family received, and there was a table full of literature. Another table was set out specifically to discuss the benefits of a vegetarian diet and included a cookbook. Members even wore bright red t-shirts with the Hilton Head Island church logo on them and a scripture verse on the back.

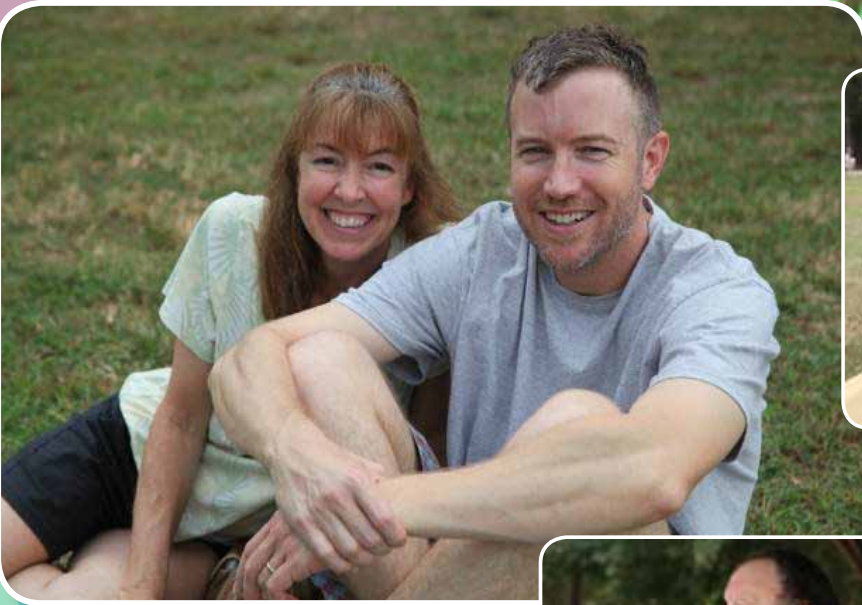
Even though there were posters all over town, it was advertised on four radio sta-

tions, and members invited everyone they knew, the organizers still weren't sure how many people would attend. There were between 250 and 300 people at the event!

As a result, there are hundreds of people who now know who the Adventists are. They received the church's hospitality, generosity and kindness. Hopefully the

literature they took home will be a comfort to them in their time of need. Or perhaps just the first seed was planted from God. The church will never know, this side of heaven, exactly who it touched or what impact it may have had. God simply tells us to go and do and be a blessing, then leave the rest to Him.

But even beyond all that was the impact that this effort had on the little island church. You know, God is never about accomplishing just one thing at a time....and this community fair was no exception. With all of their focus on be-



ing a blessing to the community, something magical happened within their own numbers at the Hilton Head church.

Eph 4: 1-6 says, "I therefore, the prisoner of the lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith you are called, with all lowliness and meekness and long suffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in bond of peace. There is one body and one spirit even as you are called in one hope of your calling; One lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in you all."

The group in Hilton Head feel that until you work with an entire congregation on a project that started as a drawing of stick men on a piece of paper and ended with a

successful Community Fair, you don't know what family is. Whether it was handing out pamphlets, inviting friends and neighbors, soliciting donations, advertising, running errands or welcoming guests, every member in the congregation gave something to the success of this project.

Even with all of that, no one can out-give God. The intention was to be a blessing to the community—to let them know that Seventh-day Adventists care about people. And in the midst of it all, he brought an entire church together.

One mind, one body, one spirit, one faith, one God.

by Annamarie Keen

They're Stepping Up to the Plate.

They've been cheering from the sidelines, but now they're ready for their turn at bat.

15 Carolina pastors' wives are headed to Nicaragua in April to preach the Gospel on a ShareHim international campaign. Most have never preached before, but their enthusiasm is unwavering. What will God do with their willing hearts?

The possibilities are endless!

Lend Your Support:



Make a tax-deductible donation that will help bring the gospel to the people of Nicaragua. Send a check to ShareHim, PO Box 43234, Charlotte, NC, 28215. Or visit www.sharehim.org, click on "Make a Donation" and indicate that your donation is toward the Nicaragua 2011 trip.



It Takes a Village



Dave Dobias tells what it takes to manage and organize a ShareHim international campaign in Tanzania, Africa.

A few years ago a book came out entitled *It Takes A Village!*, purportedly telling how it took many entities to accomplish a good thing. The idea is very true, especially in the evangelism that I find myself now doing. Take for instance...

In 1966, my wife and I received a call to establish a new mission station in Kibidula, Tanzania. In our ten years in Tanzania we had many varied experiences and assignments, one of which was to plan and build first buildings at what is now the University of Arusha. We held many evangelistic meetings. In 1968 one of the students in a Field School of Evangelism was William Nyambaso, perhaps the first Maasai pastor. In 1970, another Maasai pastor was trained in another Field School of Evangelism, Isaac Kipario. Both of these men ended up working in and establishing the work of God among Kenya Maasai and have since retired.

In the 1990's a Hungarian teacher, Laszlo Scabo, came and taught at our seminary, now the University of Arusha, and caught the burden of sharing the gospel in Tanzania and with the Maasai.

In 2009, I was assigned the responsibility of managing ShareHim meetings in the Dominican Republic. One of the student groups was from Friedensau University in Germany...led by Laszlo Scabo! One of the students in the group was Lemaraka Kibasisi, Maasai speaker for Adventist World Radio. During our time

together there, Laszlo and Lemaraka approached me with the idea: NEXT YEAR...an evangelism event in Tanzania for the Maasai! Now it is happening, and it is interesting to see how many entities have worked together to make this project possible:

General Conference—Youth Director Baraka Muganda (who worked with me as youth director when I was TGF president in the early 70's) went to his home country three years



ago and had a series of meetings among the Maasai, seeking to establish the work in a real way on the Tanzania side. God

blessed the meetings with a good number of baptisms.

January, 2010: preparation trip—I went to Tanzania and visited proposed sites in the bush and Maasai villages. I found two Maasai students at the University of Arusha, a Maasai pastor, translators and lay evangelists to prepare for our coming.



Tanzania and North East Tanzania Conference Union—This is their mission field! They agreed to add to the very limited ShareHim funds.

Adventist World Radio—They provided 150 "godpods," solar powered mp3 players with 60 pre-recorded sermons and Maasai music. These are being used house to house by the Maasai lay-evangelists working at the sites.

ASI—They provided One Day Church kits.

OCI (Outpost Centers International) Kibidula—They erected One Day Churches at sites for meetings.

The Quiet Hour—Were able to provide travel assistance and materials to Friedensau students coming to preach.

Euro-Africa Division—Provided funding of \$500 per site as seed money for expenses.

German laymen—Will be following up to complete the One Day Church buildings with doors, windows, etc.

Hungarian businessman Lestar Tamas—He made a preparation trip on his own to assist in lining up PA systems, generators and transportation in preparation for this project.

Lemaraka Kibasisi—Wrote a book in the Maasai language and 1000 were printed in Romania.



Speakers—They've come from the US, Czech Rep., Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Germany, China, Zimbabwe and Kenya and have provided their personal expenses, hotel, food, etc.

Friedensau University—Raised extra funding to assure that the meetings could be held, unexpected expenses met, and proper follow-up be done.

Local Churches—Each local church provided added funding as they are able, as well as contributed the use of vehicles, etc.

And ShareHim—ShareHim oversees overall planning, sermons, insurance for participants, volunteer orientation and site management during the meetings.

So you see—IT DOES TAKE A VILLAGE!
by David Dobias, ShareHim Campaign Manager and former Carolina Conference pastor.

ROMANCE at the Ranch

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LOVE is in the Carolina Air

Bacons' 60th Anniversary—James and Mary Bacon celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 17, 2010. The Bacon's, who met on a blind date, gathered with family at their Old Fort, NC, home on June 27th to honor the special occasion.



Today, James is retired after spending 26 years in publishing work for the Southern Union. Between 1954 and his retirement in 1980, James worked as a Literature Evangelist and then as an Associate Publishing Secretary. When asked how he felt about his lifelong career, James stated, "It was a thrill to place Christian literature in the homes of people."

Since his retirement, James has served as church treasurer at the Marion Seventh-day Adventist Church in Marion, North Carolina for 24 years.

Since 1946, Mary has worked from time to time as a telephone switchboard operator for several hospitals.

The Bacon's have two sons; James Richard and his wife Martha, and Daryl Gene and his wife Lynda; three grandchildren, Jessica, Rachel and Tammy; and one great-grandchild, Wesley.

Mattinglys' 65th Anniversary—On June 16, 1945, Ada Jackson married the love of her life, Curtis Mattingly, and 65 years later they are still in love.

They met when Ada was working at Rayliss Department Store in Fayetteville,

NC, and the handsome Curtis Mattingly came into the store and asked her a question. They can't remember now what the question was, but it sparked a whirlwind romance.

Every day, young Curtis would drive to the store from Ft. Bragg where he was serving in the army. It was during World War II and gas was rationed, but it didn't deter Curtis. He spent every cent he had for gas, so there was nothing left over for a movie or even a sandwich at the local drive-in. This didn't matter to young Ada. Ada's father worried that Curtis would move in if he spent anymore time at their house! Her father didn't want Ada to date a soldier so she didn't tell her family he was in the military.



One day, after seeing each other for two months, Curtis asked Ada to be his wife and she said yes. They drove to Dillon, SC, on a Sunday afternoon and got married. The young couple soon moved to Louisville, KY, where Curtis worked for 30 years.

One day in 1955 while reading her Bible, Ada discovered the Sabbath truth and set out to find a church that observed the Sabbath. She found the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Louisville and attended every Sabbath. Curtis was upset that his wife had found an interest besides him, so Ada told him he was welcome to come along. The

very next Sabbath, Curtis joined her. A few years later he was baptized.

The Mattinglys moved back to Fayetteville in 1975 to be close to their daughter. They have two children, a son and daughter, two granddaughters and five great-grandchildren.

The Mattinglys have been an important part of the Fayetteville Adventist church and are greatly loved there. He always takes her by the arm and escorts her to their own special spot in a certain pew. They are truly an example of love, not just for each other, but for everyone who knows them.

When asked what the secret to their long marriage was, Ada said, "Be on the same level. Don't try to make your partner feel inferior." What great words to live by.
by Sherry Williams and Geri Lockridge

Reifsniders' 70th Anniversary—On September 8, 1940, Eddie Reifsnyder and Eloise Holloway were married in Takoma park, Maryland.

They have two sons, Ed and Steve Reifsnyder. They have four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. They worked for many conferences over their



50 years of denominational work. A special celebration was held on October 3 to honor their 70 years of marriage and 90th birthdays. They reside in Pisgah Estates in Candler, NC.

Prime Time Living

Senior Life Weekend and Health Fair

"Aging is here . . . We need to promote and model purpose-centered living through holistic paradigms. In several areas, we are getting as many baptisms through wellness events as through traditional evangelism," said Sharon Pittman Ph.D. CSWM, Associate Dean and Graduate Director of Social Work at Southern Adventist University. Pittman was one of several who spoke at a recent Senior Life Weekend and Health Fair at the Mt. Pisgah Academy church. She continued, "Our social system can and should be the congregational family. Congregations are central to healthy communication today, as other social networks are breaking down."

Dr. Pittman capsulated Jesus' holistic perspective and the trajectory of the Senior Life Weekend. Christ worked for the restoration of the physical, mental, and spiritual person (MH 143). The Mt. Pisgah Academy church congregation, under the leadership of their health ministries, community services and family life director David White, answered His call to be the community hub for the healing of the whole person. They followed Christ's lead by showing sympathy for fellow members and the community, and ministering to the needs of the whole person. It was a major community networking event.

There were 27 health fair vendors and 12 break-out presentations covering fitness, nutrition, personal safety, fraud, volunteering, gardening, cardiac care, dental care and more. Cholesterol, glucose, BMI, fitness,

nutrition, bone density, glaucoma and dental screenings were offered. The county health department had an exhibit which offered free flu shots.

Most vendors and lecturers were actually non-Adventist. Liz Castillo, MD, Ph.D., director of the Geriatrics Fellowship Program at the Mountain Area Health Education Center, spoke about "Re-Framing Alzheimers." Amy Lanou, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Health and Wellness, UNC-Asheville, presented "Food for Living Well: Current Evidence on Eating for Cancer Prevention and Survival."

Jimm Bunch, CEO of Park Ridge Health was a panel member of a discussion group during Sabbath morning. He expressed that science is bearing out what we have believed for years: This is the golden age for the Adventist health message. "Wellness on Wheels," pictured above, does 11,000 screenings yearly. Studies show that 67% of adults are overweight or obese. The only Blue Zone in the United States is in Loma Linda, CA, among the Adventist population. They have purpose in life, they experience healthy fellowship, and they have good eating and exercise habits.

He went on to say that if we took God's

health message seriously, we would be living 20-25 years longer, not merely 10 years longer as in the Loma Linda Blue Zone study. For example, men can add seven years to

their life by drinking seven glasses of water daily. We can add two years to our lives by eating two ounces of nuts daily.

As the weekend was about caring for the whole person, it was brought to a close with end-

of-life issues. Ron Karolyi, JD, held an estate planning seminar on Sunday morning. He gave pivotal counsel relating to wills and revocable trusts, financial and health powers of attorney and health care directives, and took time to answer questions. Many people remained after to discuss matters and made appointments with Trust representatives.

Several attendees shared how much they appreciated the complete holistic approach to the weekend. A church member saw a gentleman wearing a cowboy hat who looked puzzled. When she asked if she could help, he replied, "This is so wonderful. I'm looking for someone to thank for all you've done to provide this service." A retired Baptist minister, who had recently lost his wife of 57 years to divorce, was experiencing loneliness and feelings of devastation. He came to the health fair and noon luncheon, and was befriended by several members.



He has asked the associate pastor to visit him in his home. The Oak Hill Methodist Church placed the health fair on their prayer list. Certainly, the church grounds had been a hub for healing for all peoples.

Tom Carter, JD, pictured far left, the Southern Union Planned Giving and Trust Services Director, was the keynote speaker Sabbath morning. He shared that Jesus came so that we can have abundant life! He has put in all of us the desire for prime time living!

Life at its best. Life is more than living long, having great personal health, and having lots of money for ourselves. Jesus whispers to us that even with all these things, if we don't have a purpose, life really doesn't have a meaning. We need holistic living—prime time living—now and for eternity!

Story and photos by Ken Ford



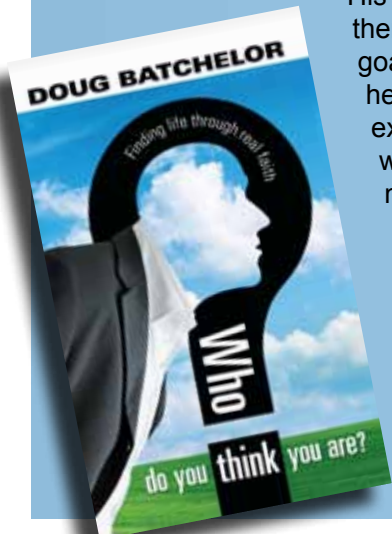
Christmas at the ACBC!

Who Do You Think You Are?

by Doug Batchelor

Do you know who you really are? Many people don't. Selfishness and pride camouflage the real person. It is obscured by popular culture and warped by the "cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things" (Mark 4:19). Only in the light of Christ's sacrifice can we begin to appreciate how much we are worth to God. The Father unlocked the vault of heaven and emptied it to save us and nothing will deter Him from His purpose to liberate the people Christ ransomed with His own life—and bring them safely home. The goal of this book is to help fan away the chaff, exposing the essence of who you really are—and more important—who you can really become through Christ! You will want to share this book with everyone you know.

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