

# CAROLINA ACTION



ISSUE 1, 2020

## WHERE TWO OR MORE ARE GATHERED:

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## To Be a Seventh-day Adventist, Part V

I wish each of you a very happy New Year!

The prayer of my heart is that this year will bring us into



a closer walk with Christ. May you and your family experience an outpouring of Heaven's blessings

of health and happiness.

We have now crossed the threshold into a brand-new decade, and we are nearing home! During the Christmas season many of us sang that well-known Christmas carol "O Come, All Ye Faithful." My hope is that the message of this song will permeate our lives as we choose to remain faithful to Christ's calling and His passionate desire to have us home with Him.

A year ago, I began a series of messages in the *Carolina Action* about what I believe are non-negotiable essentials to being a genuine Seventh-day Adventist. This was never intended to be a comprehensive list, and the first four characteristics covered were:

- A true Seventh-day Adventist loves Jesus so much that he or she believes that generous living is "ALL of me because He gave ALL for me."
- A true Seventh-day Adventist embraces the eternal existence of each of the three persons of our triune God: our Heavenly Father, Jesus

as the Son of God and Son of Man, and the Holy Spirit as our omnipresent Counselor and Comforter.

- A true Seventh-day Adventist will always embrace the evangelistic mindset and mission of Jesus, which was revealed in His own words: "The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost," Luke 19:10, NKJV.
- A true Seventh-day Adventist will remain in a quest for holiness by intentionally seeking God's presence to separate us from a life of sin, darkness and evil through an abiding faith in the Lord Jesus.

Beginning with this issue and continuing on with the next three issues in 2020, we will explore four more standards of consecration and commitment to the church you and I love.

A fifth biblical banner test of being a true Seventh-day Adventist is that of choosing to honor God with our bodies as the temple of the Holy Spirit.

Let me be perfectly honest with you. I would much rather have a hot Krispy Kreme doughnut than a serving of boiled broccoli. Sadly, we have become creatures of bad habits that impact our lives with a host of health issues and reduced longevity. The health-related claims for our own Carolina workers and their families reached an unprecedented high cost in 2019, far beyond all budgetary considerations. Unfortunately, this compelled us to dig deep into our reserves to maintain the operation of our ministries.

As Carole and I considered our own physical fitness, we realized that we needed a fresh new start in how we cared for our health and wellbeing.

After all, isn't this what God would want of every member of His remnant church? So at the prompting of my dear wife, I took a leave of absence from my work for 11 days, and we submitted ourselves to a lifestyle treatment program at Wildwood Lifestyle Center at the beginning of December. It was a health boot camp for sure, and it would take far more space than this publication allows to express what we learned and unlearned during our time there. An amazing, godly team of dedicated staff guided and encouraged us in our desire to dedicate our bodies to honoring God. My cholesterol and triglyceride levels were significantly reduced, my elevated liver enzymes dropped significantly, my blood sugar levels with my diabetes are now at a normal level, and I even lost a bit of weight. Praise the Lord! We still have a long way to go, but every day Carole and I implement new changes as we depend on Christ for His guidance in our desire to honor Him by taking care of our health. I thank God for what I learned during my time at Wildwood Lifestyle Center and for the opportunity to re-focus on the fundamental principles of health advocated in His Word and the Spirit of Prophecy. Wildwood's program was clearly stated in an easy-to-remember acronym: NEW START.

**N Nutrition** – "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God," 1 Corinthians 10:31, NIV.

**E Exercise** – "Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall

...continued on page 7.



FROM THE  
PRESIDENT'S PEN

# Operation Christmas Child Conference Workers Join Shoebox Ministry

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) was created in 1990 by Dave Cooke and his wife, Jill, for children in Romania. Each November thousands of churches, schools, groups and individual donors prepare and collect shoeboxes filled with toys, school supplies, personal items, and other small gifts.

This year the Carolina Conference wanted to give back at Christmas and chose to volunteer at the OCC distribution warehouse in Charlotte, which is less than 20 minutes from the Conference office. This facility is the largest of eight warehouses located throughout the United States. A group of 17 Conference office staff members donned their Christmas raiment and gave four hours of their afternoon for this worthy cause.

After a brief orientation, the staff members were assigned to stations where they sorted, stuffed, taped and packaged the shoeboxes to be shipped around the world. On this particular day, the shoeboxes were being packed for children in “sensitive countries,” so special care was taken to ensure that the boxes for these countries did not include items that might be considered offensive or cause unintended consequences to the recipient.

The group’s OCC leader, Corrine, said: “Your entire group has been wonderful. Many groups come in telling us what jobs they are willing to do. All of you just went right to work doing whatever you were asked to do. You have been so awesome.”

Corrine was delighted to be able to work with the Conference group since some of her best friends in Michigan are Adventists.

Operation Christmas Child conducts a follow-up evangelism program called “The Greatest Journey,” and many of the children who receive the shoeboxes are invited to participate in this 12-week discipleship program. Some of these children have never heard of Jesus, so the program invites them to learn about His love and sacrifice, and encourages them to share this information with their friends. Since 2009, 14.9 million children have participated in the program.

“Seeing the organization of volunteers, time and supplies required to pack over 3 million gift boxes at the Charlotte facility going to children around the world was amazing,” said Deborah Hutchinson, HR director. “We packed boxes going to countries where Jesus cannot even be mentioned. Our time at OCC was humbling and made me thankful that I work for an organization where Jesus is the main focus of everything we do on a daily basis.”

In the United States, Operation Christmas Child has more than 9,000 year-round volunteers and



over 100,000 short term volunteers. Since 1993 more than 168 million Operation Christmas Child gift-filled shoeboxes have been distributed to children in more than 160 countries and territories.

—by Becky Carpenter



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RE-EVALUATE

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# Where Two or More are Gathered Fun and Fellowship at Women's Retreat

**M**ore than 650 women attended the 30th anniversary women's retreats at Nosoca Pines Ranch. The theme for both weekends was Fullness of Joy. The first weekend, held October 4-6, 2019, was for the Hispanic ladies and featured guest speaker Albert Handal, MD, who lectured on women's health issues and answered the many questions asked by the attendees. His wife, Darlene, also inspired the women with a personal testimony of her battle with cancer. The weekend was filled with inspiring music led by Giselle Rodriguez and Natasha Perez, and Magaly Minaya presented spiritually refreshing devotionals. The overall atmosphere was one of joy, perhaps most noticeably on Saturday night when they had a friendly competition between churches for the best wedding dress design. Each church was given a stack of newspaper, tape, a pair of scissors, and 20 minutes to design and create a wedding dress on one of their members. The ladies then walked the runway as their creations were judged, and a winner was crowned! It is said that laughter is the best medicine, and this fun evening was just what the doctor ordered!

On October 11-13, 2019, the English-speaking ladies also had a spiritually fulfilling and joyful weekend. Lynn Ortel spoke about the challenges of life that get in the way of our inner happiness and how God promises that in His presence is Fullness of Joy! She inspired the ladies to accept the

gifts He provides and to let Him fill us to overflowing with "Uncontainable Joy." Sisters Carissa Steen and Joni Belonio led the worship music accompanied by Jeanette McElroy and Carolyn Kendall. The weekend was packed with joy-filled moments, such as carriage rides, pontoon boat and canoe rides, Stretch Flex Flow with Maria Touchard,



Photo by Becky Carpenter



Photo by Becky Carpenter

painting with Kim Cove, smores by the lake, a photo booth with Colby Houser, Instant Pot cooking class with Kerri Boone, breakout sessions by Susan Smith and Helen Faber, Sabbath School lesson class with Erin Miller, and sunrise lakeside worship each morning with Beth Grissom. The weekend ended with a prayer breakfast, communion, and a blessing.

"This was the happiest retreat I have ever been to," said JoAlyce Waugh. Without a doubt, fullness of joy was everywhere.

—by Beth Grissom



Photo by Sarah Goodwin



# KEEPING A FOCUS ON OUR

# 20/20 VISION

## FOR THE CAROLINA CONFERENCE

### VISION VII: EXPANDING OUR PUBLISHING MINISTRY

**PRAY AND COMMIT** to expanding the work of our publishing ministry in the distribution of truth-filled literature by:

- Promoting a visible display of a GLOW tract rack in every Carolina church for members to utilize in sharing seeds of truth in every church community;
- Developing the Magabook program to include students from our church schools and academies in conjunction with an increased rate of annual sales;
- Supporting the work of our dedicated full-time literature evangelists by adding a full-time field district leader.

As I write this article, I am in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, at our literature evangelists' retreat, the theme of which is "Our High Calling." This amazing team of front-line Carolina workers faithfully responds to lead cards sent in by individuals whose interest has been piqued by displays at doctor's offices and other public venues. There are currently 12 literature evangelists who work territories across the Carolinas with what is regarded as the Big Book program. In 2019 they distributed more than 7,500 pieces of free literature and prayed in the homes of 848 non-Adventist contacts. Their efforts resulted in 23 Bible studies and 14 baptisms in 2019. Praise the Lord!

According to Lance Morrison, Carolina Conference publishing director, we now have GLOW tract racks in 90 percent of the

164 churches and companies across North and South Carolina. Thousands of these tracts go out every month throughout the Carolina Conference mission field. These tracts are being updated on a regular basis to keep up with important subjects that impact the lives of people every day. One recently released GLOW tract is entitled "Media and the Brain," which points out the dangers of the overpowering impact of the media. Astonishingly, by the time a child is six years old, he or she will have been exposed to more media-generated screen time than they will spend with their father during his entire lifetime.

Last summer 18 students participated in our 2019 Magabook program in Charlotte, North Carolina. At the end of the 2019 Magabook Retreat at Nosoca Pines Ranch, two individuals gave their lives to Jesus in baptism. Thousands of pages of truth-filled literature were distributed throughout the metropolitan area of Charlotte, and about half of the more than \$91,000 in donations was utilized as scholarships to send students to Seventh-day Adventist universities. Plans are currently being finalized for the location and leadership for our next summer Magabook program.

Of the 59 conferences in North America, there are only four that are engaged in the full publishing ministry that includes the work of literature evangelists: Carolina, Georgia-Cumberland, Gulf States, and Kentucky-Tennessee. Let's continue to pray for our literature evangelists and uplift these dedicated soldiers of the cross who are God's boots on the ground as they distribute publications that God's messenger, Ellen White, referred to as "streams of light that [go] clear round the world," *The Publishing Ministry*, p. 16.

My own family's Adventist heritage began with the faithful efforts of a pastor and colporteur who gave a copy of *The Great Controversy* to some devout Roman Catholics living in a little village in India. After reading this book, my grandfather became so convicted about the message it contained that he became the first literature evangelist on the island of Ceylon, now known as Sri Lanka. My parents passed on that heritage of truth and commitment to Christ to my siblings and me, and then Carole and I passed it on to our two children and to our granddaughters. For these five generations, Heaven's literature has truly been a stream of light shining "clear round the world" from India to the United States.

Ellen White penned these words for our reflection: "Success in any line demands a definite aim. He who would achieve true success in life must keep steadily in view the aim worthy of his endeavor. . . . The heaven-appointed purpose of giving the gospel to the world in this generation is the noblest that can appeal to any human being. It opens a field of effort to everyone whose heart Christ has touched," *Education*, p. 262.

For those whose hearts have been touched by Christ with a desire to take the gospel to the world through the written word, the Carolina Conference is currently accepting full- or part-time applications for the literature evangelism ministry.

—Leslie D. Louis

Your servant leader for the Lord

# The PLANK in Your Eye

“And why do you look at the speck in your brother’s eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me remove the speck from your eye’; and look, a plank is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.” Matthew 7:3-5

“What do you think of someone who knits in church?” The woman eyed me, waiting for an answer. Unfortunately for her, I had learned long ago to be wary of “What do you think of...” questions because they are often asked in an attempt to entrap the pastor. She obviously disapproved of someone knitting in church and was hoping I would say something to fortify her position, thus dragging me into the matter. I did not wish to be quoted as being against a woman I had never met. For all I knew, the supposed violator of sanctuary sanctity had a nervous disposition or an anxiety disorder that was mitigated by the simple act of knitting.



“I would imagine I would be glad she was in church,” I answered.

“I think it’s *wrong*,” said my disappointed questioner.

The curious thing about the question was the nature of the one asking it. People have often tried to drag pastors into their disputes, framing their questions in such ways as to make it “obvious” that the pastors

should take their side. But I also knew that for all her concern about decorum, the woman asking the question had issues of her own. She was an avid coffee drinker, had been heard encouraging young church members that coffee drinking was harmless, was known to consistently knock Adventist beliefs, and had also been known to drink wine. In fact, based on what I knew, I would have been obliged to bar her from holding

church office had she been *my* church member.

When Seventh-day Adventists pledge to live by the teachings of the Bible, some people seem to get the idea that they have been assigned to police the behavior of others, making sure that everybody *else* toes the line. In reality, each of us has far more than we can handle when it comes to

monitoring ourselves. Given the plank in our own eye, it is surprising that we can detect the specks of dust on others, but somehow sin warps our perception such that our pride easily

blinds us to our own faults. In light of Jesus’ teaching on specks and planks, when it comes to living biblically, we ought to be as generous as possible with others and as fastidious as possible with ourselves.

*Reprinted with permission from the 2019 devotional, Authentic, by Shawn Boonstra, Pacific Press Publishing Association.*

## PRESIDENT’S PEN

mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint,” Isaiah 40:31, NKJV.

**W Water** – “Whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life,” John 4:14, NASB.

**S Sunlight** – “Light is sweet, and it pleases the eyes to see the sun,” Ecclesiastes 11:7, NIV.

**T Temperance** – “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance [self-control]:

...continued from page 2.

against such there is no law,” Galatians 5:22-23, KJV.

**A Air** – “Let everything that has breath praise the Lord,” Psalm 150:6, NKJV.

**R Rest** – “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest,” Matthew 11:28, NIV.

**T Trust in God** – “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight,” Proverbs 3:5-6, NIV.

As a Seventh-day Adventist, I choose to honor Christ on a pathway

to healthier living. I desire to offer my body to Christ as a “living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God,” Romans 12:1, NIV. My prayer for each of us as God’s remnant church is found in the apostle John’s blessing: “Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul,” 3 John 1:2, NRSV.

Your servant leader,

Leslie Louis  
Carolina Conference President

# **ROMANCE** at the **Ranch** *Marriage Retreat*

**February 14-16, 2020**

*Prices starting at \$55!*  
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*Ruber and Ketty Leal*



# Christmas in the Mountains

The Christmas season is one of the busiest and most wonderful times of the year. The holiday spirit brings happy memories and traditions, and as do many families, our big family on campus also has traditions during the holidays. We enjoy many seasonal activities before everyone disperses for winter break. Since the holidays are different for everyone, we wanted to share what the holiday season is like for students at Mount Pisgah Academy (MPA).

One fun tradition that kicks off the holiday season at MPA is the Student Association (SA) Light Up Campus. Toward the beginning of the winter, the MPA maintenance department and other volunteers decorate the campus with Christmas lights. All the students then bundle up and head down to Fleetwood Park to light up



Photos contributed

campus together. SA makes sure the night is filled with fun. Students sing Christmas carols, drink hot chocolate, and make memories together. It is a great evening with classmates and an awesome way to appreciate all God has done for us.

Faculty Family Christmas parties are another fun way to celebrate the holidays. At the beginning of the school year, each staff member

at MPA “adopts” a group of students to spend time with throughout the year as a Faculty Family. This is a great opportunity for the staff and students to bond, and it shows the students what God’s love is like. During the holiday season, faculty families meet up across campus and have Christmas parties with food and fun games. Many staff members even give gifts to the students in their faculty family.

Another seasonal tradition at MPA is the dorm open house and Christmas banquet. The Girls’ Club and Boys’ Club officers take turns planning the banquet each year while the other club prepares for dorm open house. This

year the boys planned the banquet and the girls decorated their dorm for Christmas. Decorating competitions motivated the girls to decorate their rooms, doors, and halls. Once the boys arrived to escort their dates, laughter and conversation filled the dorm as everyone enjoyed the decorations. After all the decorations were evaluated, the winners were announced before everyone headed over to the cafeteria for the banquet.

For many students the Christmas banquet is a favorite holiday tradition at MPA. Planning takes place months in advance, and many hours



of preparation occur to facilitate an amazing night. The cafeteria is decorated beautifully, and there are often activities during and after a delicious meal. Some years there is even a movie toward the end of the festivities. It is one of the most exciting and fun holiday nights on campus.

One final tradition at MPA is the Christmas program. One weekend during the holidays, family and friends of students travel to MPA to enjoy the various musical and creative organizations as they perform. Each organization puts in a great deal of practice ahead of time to prepare for this special weekend. The vocal choir, hand bell choir, and band play joyful songs for the occasion, the acrosports team performs their routine, and the Creative Ministries and Drama teams showcase puppet shows and skits. This weekend is a highlight for many as it is a great time for families to come together in the mountains.

Christmas is a time to praise the Lord for all He has done for us. He gave up heaven without hesitation to become a tiny, helpless baby. No matter how you and your family spend the holidays, remember how much God loves you! We hope you have an amazing winter and that you will come visit us soon to tell us about your holiday traditions!

—by Emma Boughman, '22



# A Blessing the Size of a Bus

During the 2018-2019 school year, the staff at Mount Pisgah Academy (MPA) realized that the school was in desperate need of a new bus to transport students. Although MPA has been blessed to own three buses for the past several years, some of the older buses continue to have mechanical issues. Lucy Hall, director of development, was able to secure a \$50,000 grant for matching funds from AdventHealth. Leslie Louis, president of the Carolina Conference, heard about this issue and began encouraging constituents to donate to this worthy cause. As a result of many prayers and petitions, \$50,000 was raised and the grant was earned.

On October 14, 2019, a dedication ceremony for the newly purchased bus was held. Representatives of the Carolina Conference officers, pastors, and teachers attended as did the entire MPA student body. During the dedication, many thanks were given to the donors who gave generously to this fund, as well as to Piercy for his help in acquiring the vehicle. Following these recognitions, everyone was asked to place their hands on the vehicle while Louis offered a prayer of thanksgiving and dedication for the

features that are especially appreciated are charging outlets, enclosed storage compartments, and even game tables in the back. MPA staff and students were grateful for the opportunity to celebrate this milestone in the school's development and were especially pleased that so many could



Photos contributed

Additionally, MPA received a bequest from a Carolina donor's estate, which was a great help in the fundraising process. As of mid-October, MPA had received \$220,000 in donations toward the Transportation Fund.

Once the funds were raised, it was important to consider which vehicle would best serve the school's needs. With the help of alumnus Ryan Piercy ('97), who works at Prevost (Volvo), MPA was able to navigate the purchase of this huge asset. Vehicles of this nature are quite costly, even if previously owned, and Piercy was able to ensure that MPA was treated fairly during the purchase. John Knowles, director of maintenance and plant services, aided in the negotiation for and procurement of the bus.



new bus. In his prayer, Louis spoke of how God had blessed so greatly and requested that safety be upon all those who utilize the vehicle. After the prayer, Louis and MPA Principal Remy Guenin cut a ribbon on the door to the new bus. Visitors and students were then invited to view the inside of the vehicle. Some of the

be in attendance.

Since acquiring the new bus, MPA has been able to utilize it for transportation on the junior class history trip to New England, the View Southern trip for the senior class to Chattanooga, Tennessee, and the senior class trip to Florida. Additionally, parents of MPA students were able to enjoy the bus on a drive through the Blue Ridge Parkway to a hiking spot during Parent Open House Weekend in October. Although MPA has acquired this bus, they are still in need of two 15-passenger shuttles. If you are interested in donating to this fund, please make a donation via your tithe envelope or on Adventist Giving, using the inscription "MPA Transportation Fund."

—by Abby King

## Carolina Obituaries

ACUFF, JO ANN FRYE, 89, born October 20, 1930, to the late Jairus and Ethel Frye in Hickory, NC, died October 25, 2019, in Morganton, NC. She was a member of the Table Rock Church. Survivors include her children, Susanne (Ed) Maggart of Asheville, NC, Calvin (Lisa) Acuff, Jr. of Glen Alpine, NC, and David (Maxine) Acuff of Glen Alpine, NC, Lori (Roger) Jarrett of Sumter, SC, April (Hans) Enderle of Asheville, NC, and Gene (Patty) Acuff of Atlanta, GA; 10 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

DOOLITTLE, FREDRICK RICHARD, 93, born July 24, 1926, to the late Lloyd and Bessie Doolittle in Muncie, IN, died November 7, 2019, in Hendersonville, NC. He was a member of the Fletcher Church. Fred and his five brothers served in the military at the same time. He joined the navy in 1944 and served until 1946. He was a quartermaster on the LST-1075 (Landing Ship, Tank) ship. He then attended Ball State University, IN. In 1948 Fred married Madalynn Luzadder. He worked in the grocery business until moving to Madison, TN, in 1962, and then worked at the hospital in Madison until 1968. In 1962 Fred and his family were baptized into the Adventist church. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Madalynn Doolittle, of Hendersonville, NC; three sons, Frederick (Barbara) Doolittle Jr. of Walnut Creek, CA, Terry Doolittle of Silver City, NM, and Kirk (Carol) Doolittle of Chocowinity, NC; five grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren; and one sister, Barbara Mueller, of Muncie, IN.

JOHNSON, SIDNEY GRACE, 85, born August 14, 1933, to the late Franklin Coppage Singleton and Creola Blanche Roberts Singleton in Pitt County, NC, died October 8, 2018, in Easley, SC. She was predeceased by her husband, William Johnson; a son, Amos Lee Edwards; a daughter, Anita Edwards; a brother, Sonny Singleton; and four sisters, Judy Wade, Martha Singleton, Cora Lee West and Kathleen Royale. She is survived by her children, Dianna Gail Hall of Erwin, TN, Elizabeth (Barry) Collins of Greenville, Theo “Butch” Edwards of

Gatlinburg, TN, and Theda “Bunnie” Norris of Brevard, NC; 13 grandchildren; numerous great grandchildren; and one sister, Hilda McGraw.

MEISTER III, ADAM G, 68, born May 24, 1951, in Sarasota, FL, to the late Adam “George” Meister II and Edwina Meister Miller West, died June 12, 2019, at his home in Bluffton, SC. He attended the Hilton Head Church. Most of his growing up years were spent in Apopka, FL, where he attended Forest Lake Elementary School and spent his freshman year at Forest Lake Academy (FLA). He attended La Sierra Academy his sophomore and junior years because of a family move, but he returned to FLA to finish his senior year with friends and graduated in May 1970. He attended Southern Missionary College his freshman year and then transferred to Newbold College in England for his sophomore year. He is survived by his wife, Pamela Legere Meister of Hendersonville, NC; daughter, Ashley (Ty) Tumlin of GA; and two grandchildren, Madison Tumlin and Raymond “Chip” Tumlin, both of GA; three sisters, Joni (Howard) Andersen of FL; Jeannie (Terry) Dietrich of WA; and Jane (Don) Schmitt of IN; brother, Bob (Carolyn) Meister of CA; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Mabel and Joseph Legere of NC; and sister-in-law, Lisa (Ted) Legere-Struntz of MI.

NATZKE, NETA PRICE, 72, born November 13, 1946, in Little Rock, AK, died October 13, 2019, in Cowpens, SC. She was member of the Union Church. She is survived by her husband, Herb Natzke; two sons, Daniel (Betty) Natzke of Cowpens, SC, and Richard (Sue) Natzke of Chattanooga, TN; two brothers, Carl Price and Larry Price, both of Berrien Springs, MI; two sisters, Evelyn Willauer and Jane Kublick, both of Berrien Springs, MI; one grandchild, Houston Natzke; a step-granddaughter, Lasinda T. Gilbert; two step-great-grandchildren, Anna Grace Turner and Issac Turner; and numerous nieces and nephews.

TOWNSEND NORWOOD, CELIA, 93, born July 29, 1926, in Banner Elk, NC, to the late Joe and Geneva Townsend, died September 29, 2019, in Hendersonville, NC. She

was a member of the Fletcher SDA Church. She was a loving mother and mother-in-law who enjoyed spoiling her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was kind, thoughtful and very easy to love. Celia was preceded in death by her husband, J.B. Norwood; four brothers, Buster, Kenneth, Vernon, and Dayton Townsend; and two sisters, Lucy Sword and Mildred Ramsey. She is survived by one son, Bill (Annetta) Norwood of Hendersonville, TN; one granddaughter, Jennifer Norwood (Albert) Zepeda of Collegedale, TN; one grandson, David (Bethany) Norwood of Hendersonville, NC; three great-grandsons, Brandon, Benjamin, and Brody Zepeda; two great-granddaughters, Airlie Norwood and Brianna Zepeda; two brothers, Floyd (Edna) Townsend of Banner Elk, NC, and Jimmy (Ruby) Townsend of Wilson, NC; and three sisters, Ethel Norwood of Banner Elk, NC, Barbara Ann (Cecil) Ward of Banner Elk, NC, and Mary (Junior) Townsend of Piney Creek, NC.

## Carolina Conference Calendar

### JANUARY

**Prayer Line Mini-Retreat**—17-19. NPR.  
**AWAKEN Young Adult Conference**—31-Feb. 2. Charlotte.

### FEBRUARY

**Evangelism IMPACT**—6-9. Myrtle Beach, SC.  
**Romance at the Ranch**—14-16. NPR.  
**Hispanic Romance at the Ranch**—21-23. NPR.

### MARCH

**ALIVE Youth Rally**—7. Spartanburg.  
**Communication Workshop**—8. Charlotte.  
**MPA Spring Break and Mission Trip**—12-22.  
**Pathfinder Work Bee**—13-15. NPR.  
**Re-Generate Conference**—20-21. Hendersonville.  
**Community Services Retreat**—20-22. NPR.  
**Adult Sabbath School Workshop**—27-29. TBD.

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*For an online version of this calendar, visit the Carolina Conference website at [www.carolinasda.org](http://www.carolinasda.org).*

## The Carolina Action

Carolina Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists  
PO Box 44270  
Charlotte, N.C. 28215-0043



**MOUNT PISGAH ACADEMY**  
75 Academy Drive, Candler, NC 28715

**Jesus Lives at Mount Pisgah Academy,  
He Lives Within Our Hearts!**

# ENROLLMENT IS OPEN FOR WINTER 2020

Mount Pisgah Academy is a Seventh-day Adventist co-educational boarding school for grades 9-12 that has been providing quality Christian education for 105 years. MPA strives to provide a well-balanced spiritual, academic, physical, and social education in a Christ-centered environment. Through yearly mission trips, dual enrollment classes, a work-study program, varsity sports programs, and so much more, students who graduate from Mount Pisgah Academy go on to pursue and accomplish their goals.

For more information visit our website at [www.pisgah.us](http://www.pisgah.us)