

ACTION

CAROLINA



ISSUE 3, 2022



LOVING
GOD
SERVING OTHERS



43rd
Carolina
Conference
Session Report

2016
2021



Office of the PRESIDENT

What an honor and sacred trust you have so graciously bestowed on me as your servant leader for the Lord in the Carolinas these 10-plus years! Carole and I cannot begin to thank you for being such an amazing church family. The challenges and accomplishments, the opportunities and memories have been the richest treasures of our ministry. For all this I claim no credit. Not I, but Christ has been my constant Captain and Companion. I also owe an inordinate debt of gratitude to the amazing leadership at our Conference headquarters along with the consecrated workers in the field: our pastors, educators, literature evangelists, and camp staff. I have been blessed by them beyond measure.

During the weekend of August 18-21, 2022, delegates from each of our congregations will meet at Nosoca Pines Ranch to be the voice of the Church in the Carolinas. Although this body will be re-electing or electing the

Conference leadership for the next quinquennial term [2022-2026], this is not about me or any person. It is about God and His Remnant Church in the closing

moments of earth's history. What matters most is that this 43rd Constituency Session is marked with the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in guiding every decision.

Because of the unusual COVID-19 circumstances of the past two years, the session that had been planned for 2021 was moved to 2022, as was the case in many other conferences, the Southern Union Conference, and the General Conference World Session. Therefore,

the reports on this publication, rather than spanning a typical five-year period, include the six-year span from 2016 through 2021.

At our last Constituency Session in 2016, we focused on seven visionary goals for God's work in the Carolinas. As we reflect on what was accomplished, let us not forget that these goals are a journey we will continue to travel until we reach our Heavenly home. Here is a quick summary of those seven mission-focused goals and how your prayers have guided in their fulfillment:

1. Establish New Church Plants and Grow Existing Ones

PRAY AND COMMIT to a faith goal of raising at least 20 new church plants in South Carolina and 40 in North Carolina.

PRAY AND COMMIT to a faith goal of 90 total progressions or steps in congregational status [GROUPS to COMPANIES to CHURCHES].

RESULTS: As of September 30, 2021, we have established 12 new church plants in South Carolina and 21 new church plants in North Carolina. We have exceeded our expected goal with 97 progressions or steps in church plant development. Praise the Lord!

2. Welcome Traveling Pilgrims

LESLIE LOUIS
President



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PRAY AND COMMIT to placing attractive and updated signage with welcome greetings from the Seventh-day Adventist Church at every interstate entry point into North and South Carolina with our conference website information.

RESULTS: For the past five years we have contracted to maintain two attractive and up-to-date lighted welcome signs on interstate entry points, one into North Carolina and one into South Carolina.

3. Organize Houses of Prayer

PRAY AND COMMIT to developing a plan in which every church building of the Carolina Conference will be a church of HOPE (Houses of Prayer Everywhere).

This must include specific, publicized times in which our church sanctuaries may be accessed by:

- Members of the church individually and collaboratively united in prayer
- Youth and young adult prayer bands
- Individuals and groups from the community with specific needs

The primary function of this strategy is to realize our source of power by seeking the Lord in personal prayer and by reflecting on His Word.

RESULTS: I praise the Lord for the establishment of the Youth Prayer Line every Tuesday evening as well as our regular prayer line each Monday evening. Our numbers continue to increase with the 10,000 President's Prayer Partners. Prayer Ministry Weekend emphasis in local churches and Prayer Ministry retreats have highlighted both the need and power undergirding the church through a deeper connection of prayer.

But oh, how much we still need this counsel:

“Ask of me, and I will answer your requests.” The promise is made on condition that the united prayers of the church are offered, and in answer to these prayers there may be expected a power greater than that which comes in answer to private prayer. The power given will be proportionate to the unity of the members and their love for God and for one another” Ellen G. White, *Manuscript Releases Vol. 9*, p. 303.

4. Advance Adventist Education

PRAY AND COMMIT to increasing the number of our church schools to at least 25, with a 5 percent in-



crease in our overall K-12 enrollment. It is our desire to advocate and validate the counsel of God's messenger

that “In the highest sense the work of education and the work of redemption are one” Ellen G. White, *Education*, page 30.

RESULTS: During this six-year term we began with 20 church-operated schools plus our boarding school, Mount Pisgah Academy (MPA). We increased to 21 schools. Then, unfortunately, our school in Columbia closed after more than 100 years. It is a major investment and commitment on the part of our churches and the Conference to operate a church school. So, we began with 20 and ended with 20. We will continue our



quest to have 25 successful church school programs across North and South Carolina.

However, our current schools exceeded all our enrollment hopes and projections! Today we have a 22.7 percent increase in our overall K-12 enrollment. Praise the Lord indeed!

5. Foster a Culture of Soul Winning

PRAY AND COMMIT to lead at least 1,000 new souls every year to embrace Christ and His truth as members of God's Remnant Church. To accomplish this, every pastor received encouragement and support to:

- Develop, communicate, and implement an annual plan for kingdom growth in each church. This plan would intentionally include and involve the youth and young adults of the church.
- Host or personally hold at least one evangelistic/reaping effort annually in their church district. Opportunities should be explored to involve students who have participated in a ShareHim series.
- Follow with an extended plan of discipleship, leading converts to intentional involvement in the ministry of the church, and developing actively engaged disciple-makers.

We hold the conviction that the Holy Spirit will bring people into the church through the power of proclaiming the truths of God's Word. However, only the power of compassionate love will keep them connected.

RESULTS: Without a doubt both 2020 and 2021 have brought unique challenges. The pandemic

has impacted our homes, our workplaces, our churches,

our nation and our entire global community. However, I am so grateful that there is a God in Heaven who has revealed to us the end of the story. “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him” 1 Corinthians 2:9, NKJV.

In 2019 we added 873 members by baptism and profession of faith. In 2020 the number (significantly impacted by the pandemic) was 350 – a loss of 523 in kingdom growth from the previous year, yet still a miraculous praise! We can praise the Lord even more that at the end of 2021, we added 676 souls by baptism and profession of faith.

Prior to the pandemic, Carolina sponsored at least one overseas ShareHim campaign every year in places such as Peru, the Philippines, southern Africa, Mexico, Guatemala, and the Dominican Republic. The trips involved students from MPA, or other young adults with their pastoral mentors.

For over five years we have prayed and labored toward realizing a breakthrough of 1,000+ in Carolina soul winning in one year. My prayer is that, in our lifetime, we will witness the wonder of God’s miraculous power in reaching that special milestone. As we near the closing moments of Earth’s history, I am fully convicted that Holy Spirit-led and Holy Spirit-blessed evangelism can make us witnesses of Heaven’s power — the same power experienced by the early church.



6. Enrich Adult Sabbath School Ministry

PRAY AND COMMIT to enrich the Sabbath School programs of our Conference to include an intentional and inclusive focus on all four “heart chambers” of the Adult Sabbath School Ministry.

- **Mission** (Through a regular focus on mission stories and utilization of media such as Mission Spotlight or Mission Sonlight)
- **Fellowship** (Through a time for testimonials, prayer requests and praises)
- **Outreach** (Through an emphasis on witnessing opportunities and stories)
- **Bible Study** (Through the utilization of teacher resources and young adults in an in-depth study of the Sabbath School lesson)

To accomplish this, my desire is that we follow the guidance of the world Church and the North American Division to re-establish the term “Sabbath School” in place of “The Church at Study” in at least 50 Carolina churches that will serve as models for the four-fold function of

Sabbath School Ministry.

RESULTS:

Gradual and steady progress is being made in this area. A quarterly email newsletter has been created for Adult Sabbath School teachers, superintendents, personal ministry leaders, and elders to make them aware of upcoming events, resources, and tools that can help them be successful in their ministry. Sabbath afternoon seminars have been conducted around the Carolinas.

During this six-year term a challenge was made from my office, promising \$1,000 to the first five churches who would demonstrate their full commitment to the



The words of Jesus in Matthew 17:20 serve as the impetus behind our calling and mission, “Truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you” (NASB). Consider this mountain miracle: For the third time in the history of the Carolinas, we exceeded our goal of \$1 million for evangelism. It happened in 2014, in 2019, and again in 2020, even without the benefit of our largest evangelism funding event, our annual Camp Meeting at Lake Junaluska. We praise Him for these resources we can use to reach every heart for Heaven through the amazing power of the Holy Spirit.

Sabbath School ministry of their church by:

1. Electing a Sabbath School superintendent to oversee the Adult Sabbath School program.
2. Providing the superintendent's contact information to the Conference office.
3. Attending one of our Sabbath School workshops.
4. Using the terminology "Sabbath School" to describe their classes.
5. Demonstrating how the church has implemented all four focuses of Adult Sabbath School.

The first five churches who met this challenge were Batesburg-Leesville Three Angels, Arden, Hendersonville, University City, and Tryon.

We continue our challenge to create an atmosphere where Sabbath School is just as — if not more — important than the main worship service in the effectiveness of church ministry.

7. Expand 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 across North and South Carolina.
- Developing the Magabook program to include and demonstrate a growing number of students

from our church schools and academies in our conference territory in conjunction with an annual rate of increased sales.

- Supporting the work of our dedicated full-time literature evangelists by adding a full-time field district leader.

RESULTS:

HHES has new e-contracts; fhcb.com is reaching the nation/world; schoolsforjesus.com is raising funds for our schools; there are new books on cancer, diabetes and addictions; there's a new book on Daniel & Revelation; and *Bible Readings for the Home* is being updated as an addition to the new Conflict of the Ages series. These are only a few of the results and other accomplishments which are detailed in the Publishing Department's report. We praise the Lord for our publishing ministry!

"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" Ellen G. White, *Education*, page 262.

Office of the VP FOR ADMINISTRATION

YEAR	ENDING MEMBERSHIP	# COMPANIES ORGANIZED	# CHURCHES ORGANIZED	TOTAL CHURCHES & COMPANIES
2016	22,869	27	126	153
2017	23,235	25	128	153
2018	23,806	30	131	161
2019	24,339	34	132	166
2020	24,351	31	137	168
2021	24,604	32	138	170

Growth

God has truly blessed our Conference over the past six years. Despite the increase of alarming events in our world, the proclamation of the Everlasting Gospel has progressed unceasingly, and God has continued to prosper His church in the Carolina Conference.

We began with a membership of 22,312 and ended with 24,604, giving us a net membership gain of 2,292. This 10.27 percent average yearly net growth is evidence of God's continued blessing on His work in our conference.

Connecting

As our conference grows, churches are planted, and ministry gets busier, it becomes more challenging for

administration to connect with our members as often as is ideal. Desiring to strengthen relationships with the nearly 200 churches, companies and groups in Carolina, the conference officers began a five-year appointment rotation. By scheduling appointments to

preach at a different church or company each year, we ensure each congregation is visited, rather than waiting for an invitation to speak at the same ones each year. In addition to this intentional plan, each year our schools receive a visit from one of the officers, as we continually strive to support and connect with our teachers and young people.

GARY MOYER
VP for Administration/
Executive Secretary

Reconnecting

Efforts to reconnect with former and inactive Seventh-day Adventists in North and South Carolina resulted in reclaiming 30 precious souls by baptism or profession of faith. This program was the working of the Holy Spirit, along with the efforts of dedicated pastors and members who made this ministry a priority. Reconnecting Ministry leaders continue to receive quarterly calls from the conference office, along with information on any new reclaiming resources available. Along with God's angels, we praise God that our former and inactive brothers and sisters are returning to God's flock. "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents" Luke 15:10.



Diversifying

We continue to be blessed with great diversity among our churches, companies, and groups. In addition to the

many cultures, countries, and people groups represented in our English-speaking churches, we also have Hispanic, Korean, Cambodian, Hmong, Karen, African, and Haitian congregations, each worshipping in their native language. While we all share the same mission and doctrine, Carolina has urban and country; traditional and

more progressive congregations; congregations that specialize in community services, healthy living, small groups, music ministry, prison ministry, and so on.

Training

As a Ziglar Legacy Certified Trainer, life coach, and motivational speaker, Gary Moyer offers training to our local churches and schools in the areas of personal

development, winning relationships, goal setting and achievement, personal outreach, victorious living, and public speaking. Local churches and schools schedule these ongoing events for the benefit of their members, as well as for outreach to their communities.

Recap of Membership Changes

2016 to 2021

Carolina Conference, Inc.

Organization	Members Begin	Added by					Dropped by					Adjust	Members End	% Growth
		Baptism	Reclaim*	Prof of Faith	Letter	Letter in Conf	Letter in Conf	Letter	Death	Removed	Missing			
Aiken SDA Church	101	8	1	12	10	10	5	9	12	6	3	0	107	5.94
Albemarle SDA Church	101	5	0	2	1	7	6	3	16	4	1	0	86	-14.85
Albertson Spanish SDA Company	0	4	0	1	0	21	2	0	0	0	0	0	24	
Apex The Vine SDA Company	0	1	0	0	9	40	4	0	0	0	0	0	46	
Arden SDA Church	495	36	0	0	43	41	60	25	39	24	1	-1	465	-6.06
Arden Spanish SDA Company	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Asheboro SDA Church	77	0	0	0	2	3	7	0	7	0	0	0	68	-11.69
Asheboro Spanish SDA Church	44	29	0	8	6	2	10	0	0	15	7	-4	53	20.45
Asheville Evergreen Korean Company	67	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	66	-1.49
Asheville Foster SDA Church	535	13	0	13	32	39	19	9	27	17	-2	-2	560	4.67
Asheville North SDA Church	121	5	0	1	4	7	10	9	15	3	3	0	98	-19.01
Banner Elk SDA Church	150	6	0	2	11	3	1	4	35	0	0	-1	131	-12.67
Batesburg-Leesville Three Angels Church	16	9	0	5	8	42	7	3	5	3	0	0	62	287.50
Beaufort SDA Church	249	23	0	2	10	0	0	14	13	33	1	0	223	-10.44
Biscoe Spanish SDA Church	103	22	0	1	5	7	1	1	0	3	0	0	133	29.13
Bladenboro Spanish SDA Company	0	22	0	3	0	18	0	0	0	2	0	0	41	
Bluffton Spanish SDA Church	100	34	0	2	2	4	9	4	0	0	0	0	129	29.00
Blythewood SDA Church	91	3	0	0	4	4	1	1	9	29	0	0	62	-31.87
Boiling Springs Spanish SDA Company	0	14	0	8	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	59	
Boone New Life SDA Church	65	29	0	1	14	12	5	4	6	2	1	0	103	58.46
Brevard SDA Church	42	3	0	5	0	4	3	0	3	1	0	0	47	11.90
Bryson City SDA Church	14	10	0	4	4	12	1	2	1	0	7	0	33	135.71
Burlington Spanish SDA Company	79	3	0	2	9	0	8	0	2	8	11	0	64	-18.99
Burnsville SDA Church	52	5	0	3	13	8	6	4	7	1	5	0	58	11.54
Camden SDA Church	104	7	0	1	11	11	3	9	11	1	0	-1	109	4.81
Carolina Conference SDA Church	159	40	1	7	9	54	13	17	2	0	0	-2	236	48.43
Carrboro Sp. Pueblo Del Dios Viviente Co	0	9	0	5	1	24	0	2	0	0	0	0	37	
Chapel Hill - Karen SDA Church	191	35	0	6	0	0	8	3	1	0	0	0	220	15.18
Chapel Hill New Life SDA Church	149	2	0	5	10	13	9	3	0	0	0	0	167	12.08
Charleston SDA Church	256	16	0	9	31	3	20	23	19	1	0	-1	251	-1.95
Charlotte Korean SDA Church	111	4	0	0	6	6	1	10	0	0	0	0	116	4.50

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Charlotte Myanmar International Church	0	5	0	5	22	27	9	2	0	0	0	0	48	
Charlotte Safari SDA Company	0	5	0	14	2	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	
Charlotte Sharon SDA Church	856	58	0	15	60	48	61	36	20	0	0	-2	918	7.24
Charlotte Spanish SDA Church	619	162	0	10	80	25	168	27	2	57	0	-1	641	3.55
Charlotte Unity SDA Company- Disband	0	3	0	0	3	33	5	34	0	0	0	0	0	
Charlotte University City SDA Church	342	35	0	12	38	48	121	36	2	19	2	-3	292	-14.62
Clemmons SDA Fellowship Church	43	21	0	12	5	20	20	6	3	1	0	0	71	65.12
Clemson SDA Church	88	1	0	0	5	8	7	7	2	0	0	0	86	-2.27
Clinton-Laurens County SDA Church	36	3	0	0	1	5	1	1	8	0	0	0	35	-2.78
Columbia First SDA Church	802	30	0	11	44	22	118	52	22	6	0	-2	709	-11.60
Columbia Korean SDA Church	109	4	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	109	0.00
Columbia Midtown SDA Church	70	14	0	4	9	8	16	9	9	7	3	0	61	-12.86
Concord SDA Church	143	29	0	6	21	22	37	17	13	0	0	-3	151	5.59
Delco SDA Church	33	0	0	1	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	33	0.00
Dudley Spanish SDA Company	76	45	1	4	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	121	59.21
Durham Five Oaks SDA Church	229	29	0	8	27	20	18	20	5	5	0	0	265	15.72
Durham Spanish SDA Church	213	56	1	7	3	4	25	0	0	9	5	-2	243	14.08
East Wake Fellowship SDA Company- DISBAND	0	5	0	1	2	39	5	25	0	6	11	0	0	
Eden SDA Company	0	3	0	0	2	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	
Elizabeth City Harbor of Hope SDA Church	100	8	0	0	8	23	1	11	2	0	-1	0	126	26.00
Elizabethtown SDA Church	79	3	0	0	0	5	20	2	0	0	0	0	65	-17.72
Erwin Hills SDA Church	117	5	0	0	2	9	9	7	4	2	0	0	111	-5.13
Fairview SDA Church	65	2	0	1	5	6	14	5	6	0	0	0	54	-16.92
Fayetteville SDA Church	382	51	0	28	47	19	13	45	21	20	6	-6	416	8.90
Fayetteville Spanish SDA Church	121	73	0	3	24	5	11	8	5	18	31	0	153	26.45
Fletcher Seventh-day Adventist Church	844	49	0	10	90	89	59	62	94	4	0	-4	859	1.78
Florence Adventist SDA Company	17	0	0	0	8	3	5	3	0	0	0	0	20	17.65
Florence First SDA Church	104	19	0	1	10	7	18	6	11	1	17	0	88	-15.38
Fort Mill SDA Church	39	16	0	8	10	11	15	7	1	1	0	0	60	53.85
Franklin SDA Church	154	20	0	3	9	7	20	22	10	2	0	0	139	-9.74
Fuquay Varina Spanish SDA Company	0	24	0	5	7	91	15	0	0	0	0	0	112	
Gastonia SDA Church	50	3	0	3	1	6	6	6	0	0	0	0	51	2.00
Goldsboro SDA Church	76	7	0	0	4	0	4	6	0	0	0	0	77	1.32
Greensboro Korean SDA Church	56	0	0	0	2	2	6	0	0	0	0	-2	52	-7.14
Greensboro SDA Church	198	22	0	2	1	8	22	19	11	4	3	0	172	-13.13
Greensboro Spanish SDA Company	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Greenville NC Sp SDA Church	137	12	0	3	2	10	27	2	0	0	0	0	135	-1.46
Greenville North SDA Church	270	22	0	0	31	16	10	24	17	3	16	0	269	-0.37
Greenville SC Spanish SDA Church	82	21	0	3	12	1	13	2	0	2	12	-6	84	2.44
Greenville South SDA Church	194	8	0	5	9	17	15	14	22	3	37	0	142	-26.80
Greenwood SDA Church	72	2	0	2	6	1	2	0	5	1	0	0	75	4.17
Hamptonville Spanish SDA Company	36	15	0	1	3	20	14	2	0	0	0	0	59	63.89
Hanahan Spanish SDA Church	0	35	0	12	16	55	6	6	0	8	1	-1	96	
Hardeeville Spanish SDA Church	110	33	0	2	7	4	1	7	2	15	32	-1	98	-10.91
Haw River SDA Church	144	5	0	1	7	20	31	4	8	0	0	0	134	-6.94
Henderson SDA Church	97	10	0	14	9	1	13	13	0	0	0	0	105	8.25
Henderson Spanish SDA Company	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	48	-2.04
Hendersonville SDA Church	693	52	0	5	68	91	71	38	76	2	0	0	722	4.18
Hendersonville Spanish SDA Church	116	110	0	30	5	11	15	4	1	8	0	0	244	110.34
Hickory SDA Church	303	29	0	4	12	25	27	7	26	2	0	-1	310	2.31
Hickory Spanish SDA Church	181	80	1	12	5	20	94	2	2	3	16	-2	180	-0.55
High Point SDA Church	247	24	0	11	14	7	39	7	8	1	0	0	248	0.40
Hillsborough SDA Church	44	9	0	2	4	18	7	3	4	1	0	0	62	40.91
Hilton Head SDA Church	50	5	0	2	17	2	2	15	5	0	21	-1	32	-36.00
Huntersville Lighthouse SDA Church	46	18	0	4	22	11	3	10	3	0	0	0	85	84.78
Irmo Fellowship SDA Company	0	4	0	2	10	34	5	2	2	0	0	0	41	
Jacksonville SDA Church	168	22	0	1	16	6	3	24	3	0	0	0	183	8.93
Johns Island Spanish SDA Company	0	3	0	5	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	
Kernersville SDA Church	503	55	0	5	73	56	28	38	44	4	14	-3	561	11.53
Kinston SDA Church	47	0	0	0	2	0	7	0	6	0	0	-1	35	-25.53
Lenoir SDA Church	104	17	0	4	0	4	3	4	13	0	0	0	109	4.81

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2016 to 2021

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		Baptism	Reclaim*	Prof of Faith	Letter	Letter in Conf	Letter in Conf	Letter	Death	Removed	Missing			
Lexington Spanish SDA Church	0	25	0	6	1	39	2	0	0	0	0	0	69	
Lexington SDA Church	87	11	0	3	4	4	7	0	10	1	0	0	91	4.60
Lighthouse Fellowship Comp Fuquay Varina	28	18	0	4	11	10	1	4	2	0	0	0	64	128.57
Lincolnton SDA Church	99	13	0	3	4	7	18	5	10	0	0	-1	92	-7.07
Lincolnton Spanish SDA Company	37	24	0	7	2	18	6	0	0	0	0	0	82	121.62
Little Creek Adventist Fellowship Church	103	20	0	11	28	41	21	19	5	0	0	-2	156	51.46
Lumber River SDA Company	77	3	0	0	1	2	4	5	3	8	0	0	63	-18.18
Lumberton Spanish SDA Company	0	29	0	1	0	37	0	1	0	2	0	0	64	
Marion SDA Church	73	9	0	4	7	7	5	3	11	2	13	0	66	-9.59
Mills River SDA Church	162	15	0	4	33	44	37	14	18	2	0	-1	186	14.81
Mocksville SDA Church	56	6	0	0	5	8	6	0	6	0	0	0	63	12.50
Moncks Corner SDA Church	47	11	0	12	1	5	6	1	7	0	0	-2	60	27.66
Monroe SDA Church	127	12	0	7	14	12	19	9	6	2	0	0	136	7.09
Monroe Spanish SDA Church	142	28	0	4	3	2	15	4	1	11	14	0	134	-5.63
Morganton SDA Church	298	29	0	8	7	39	11	23	33	4	0	0	310	4.03
Mount Pisgah Academy SDA Church	485	30	0	8	40	22	37	51	25	3	0	-2	467	-3.71
Mt Carmel Mission SDA Company-DISBANDED	39	0	0	0	0	0	38	0	0	1	0	0	0	-100.00
Mt Olive Spanish SDA Church	340	68	0	10	1	3	19	2	1	186	0	-4	210	-38.24
Myrtle Beach SDA Church	143	62	0	13	42	7	4	16	9	12	6	1	221	54.55
New Bern SDA Church	115	10	0	5	24	12	7	14	6	2	2	-1	134	16.52
New Bern Spanish SDA Church	86	16	0	2	1	2	11	2	0	0	0	0	94	9.30
North Anderson SDA Church	110	8	1	5	7	9	15	11	6	1	0	-1	106	-3.64
North Augusta SDA Church	35	0	0	2	2	2	0	4	3	0	0	0	34	-2.86
North Charleston Spanish SDA Church	222	52	0	16	10	0	129	4	2	24	2	0	139	-37.39
Orangeburg SDA Church	77	3	0	0	5	5	4	2	1	0	1	0	82	6.49
Pickens SDA Church	46	3	0	0	14	5	8	6	3	0	0	0	51	10.87
Pittsboro SDA Church	105	1	0	2	9	13	58	6	9	1	0	0	56	-46.67
Raeaford Spanish SDA Church	85	47	0	9	5	6	3	1	2	5	17	0	124	45.88
Raleigh - Bethel Haitian SDA Company	0	5	0	9	15	23	0	0	2	0	0	0	50	
Raleigh Imani SDA Company	0	15	0	3	0	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	52	
Raleigh RTP SDA Church	40	14	0	5	7	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	63	57.50
Raleigh SDA Church	566	92	0	18	74	54	181	49	15	1	-2	-1	559	-1.24
Raleigh Spanish SDA Church	155	102	0	24	11	14	96	16	0	8	4	-1	181	16.77
Roanoke Rapids-Roanoke Valley SDA Church	51	14	0	10	6	1	1	1	7	8	15	0	50	-1.96
Rock Hill SDA Church	81	4	0	1	3	9	12	9	0	1	0	0	76	-6.17
Rock Hill Spanish SDA Company	0	2	0	2	2	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	
Rockingham Cornerstone SDA Church	76	9	0	0	8	3	3	12	2	0	1	-1	77	1.32
Rockingham Spanish SDA Church	177	60	1	1	3	1	4	7	1	1	0	1	231	30.51
Rocky Mount SDA Church	79	19	0	3	13	1	6	5	6	6	1	-1	90	13.92
Rutherfordton SDA Church	57	1	0	0	4	4	7	2	10	2	2	0	43	-24.56
Saint Pauls Spanish SDA Church	118	88	0	14	3	0	44	1	0	33	14	0	131	11.02
Salem SDA Church	82	7	0	3	4	5	8	3	4	1	-2	0	87	6.10
Salisbury SDA Church	124	12	0	1	12	13	17	2	12	0	0	0	131	5.65
Salisbury Spanish SDA Company	0	25	0	2	1	28	0	0	1	0	0	0	55	
Sanford Spanish SDA Church	90	32	1	1	4	3	17	3	2	6	0	0	103	14.44
SDA Company of the Sandhills	0	0	0	1	0	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	
Shelby SDA Church	86	20	1	3	4	1	26	4	9	8	6	0	62	-27.91
South Charlotte Spanish SDA Company	0	7	0	0	10	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	52	
Spartanburg SDA Church	680	58	0	2	47	53	32	39	61	8	0	0	700	2.94
Spartanburg Spanish Church	274	81	0	3	11	9	45	6	3	1	1	0	322	17.52
Statesville SDA Church	141	20	0	8	18	16	9	2	13	3	0	-1	175	24.11
Summerville Community SDA Church	192	8	0	2	9	12	7	14	8	0	0	0	194	1.04
Summerville Spanish SDA Church	0	22	0	5	14	77	0	2	1	0	0	0	115	
Sumter SDA Church	98	10	0	0	6	9	1	3	7	14	17	0	81	-17.35
Swannanoa Sp SDA Company	93	6	0	3	1	1	7	1	0	0	31	0	65	-30.11
Sylva SDA Church	57	5	0	0	7	4	6	3	4	0	0	0	60	5.26
Table Rock SDA Church	53	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	3	5	0	0	44	-16.98
Thomasville SDA Church	108	6	0	7	4	45	26	5	14	2	0	0	123	13.89
Triad Adventist Fellowship SDA Church	83	28	0	27	17	47	18	8	3	1	0	0	172	107.23
Tryon SDA Church	262	21	0	8	20	43	55	15	28	8	0	0	248	-5.34

Recap of Membership Changes

2016 to 2021

Carolina Conference, Inc.

Organization	Members Begin	Added by					Dropped by					Adjust	Members End	% Growth
		Baptism	Reclaim*	Prof of Faith	Letter	Letter in Conf	Letter in Conf	Letter	Death	Removed	Missing			
Umoja Central SDA Church	254	50	0	64	1	0	21	8	2	0	0	-4	334	31.50
Union SDA Church	52	6	0	10	4	6	5	0	12	0	2	0	59	13.46
Upward SDA Church	148	16	0	3	8	37	21	7	18	1	0	0	165	11.49
Valdese Spanish SDA Company	0	9	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	59	
Wake Forest SDA Church	82	2	0	0	12	2	3	4	0	0	0	0	91	10.98
Warrensville SDA Church	63	6	0	6	3	2	2	3	1	3	0	0	71	12.70
Washington SDA Church	68	1	0	1	4	1	5	2	4	1	0	0	63	-7.35
Waynesville SDA Church	131	8	0	3	13	16	10	7	20	1	13	0	120	-8.40
West Charlotte Spanish SDA Church	0	22	0	7	6	79	0	0	1	0	0	0	113	
West Columbia SDA Church	136	2	0	5	0	3	24	5	6	0	24	0	87	-36.03
Westminster SDA Church	162	14	0	5	21	12	10	27	9	6	2	0	160	-1.23
Whiteville SDA Church	45	3	0	0	9	3	1	5	5	0	3	0	46	2.22
Wilkesboro SDA Church	78	11	0	4	2	7	14	1	6	2	0	0	79	1.28
Wilmington SDA Church	217	8	0	3	24	10	18	19	21	1	20	-1	182	-16.13
Wilmington Sp SDA Comp	75	15	0	0	4	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	91	21.33
Wilson First SDA Church	44	24	0	9	13	24	1	4	6	0	0	0	103	134.09
Wilson Spanish SDA Company	66	66	0	1	0	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	128	93.94
Winston Salem First SDA Church	205	15	0	9	20	35	33	21	7	14	0	-1	208	1.46
Winston Salem Spanish SDA Church	91	72	0	9	14	14	17	1	1	1	30	-4	146	60.44
Woodruff SDA Church	43	1	0	1	3	2	8	0	5	0	0	0	37	-13.95
York SDA Church	79	16	0	1	3	10	6	1	6	0	0	0	96	21.52
Total	22,312	3,512	9	866	1,941	2,838	2,838	1,416	1,254	784	501	-81	24,604	10.27

Churches: 138

Companies: 32

Office of the VP for FINANCE

In these difficult times, amid a pandemic, wars, unemployment and inflation, God still acts. Even as the whole creation is groaning as in the pain of childbirth (see Romans 8:22), His mighty hand and generous care can be traced in the story of His church's finances since our last session. This report is submitted in prayerful gratitude to the Giver of all good and perfect gifts (see James 1:17).

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March of 2020, all levels of the church braced for what was thought could be a 15-20 percent decrease in giving. In the Carolina Conference, plans were made to cut travel, cancel events, and reduce personnel through attrition. Every expense was examined, and significant reductions were made. It seemed that a story of financial hardship was about to unfold. Two years into the pandemic, it is clear that God rewrote the end of the story to reveal His great power and love. When His members are faithful and generous in their giving, He writes us into His story of generous provision.

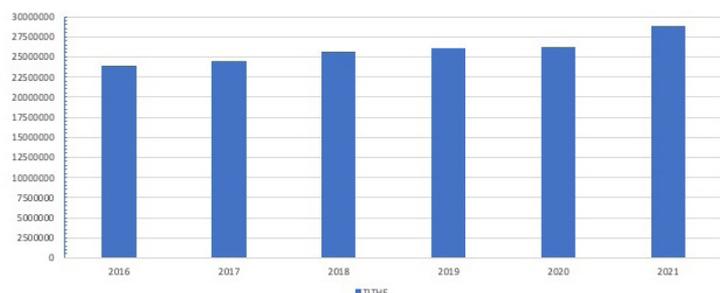
Tithes, Offerings, and Reserves

The graphs in this report tell the story. By the end of 2021, instead of dropping by 15-20

percent, tithe had increased by 10.13 percent over the prior year. As a result, financial reserves (working capital) grew to exceed the amount recommended by North American Division policy. Instead of dipping into reserves to meet operational expenses during this crisis, reserves have increased by \$2.7 million since 2016. This increase in reserves will provide a buffer against economic storms that are sure to mark the future.

After returning a faithful tithe, our members have had the privilege of giving freewill offerings. In addition to supporting the needs of the local church and world-

Tithe 2016-2021



Working Capital Reserves

% of Recommended by NAD Policy



wide missions, giving to the Carolina Youth Offering advances youth ministry in our territory. Giving to this fund averaged \$226,000 each year. The graph on this page portrays how this offering is spent in support of the youth of our Conference.

academy capital projects. The principal of these endowments will be left intact, with the return on investments being distributed to the benefit of the academy in perpetuity. In 2021, endowment distributions to MPA equaled \$914,729. These endowments are generating an amount that is significantly greater than the amount generated annually when the Conference operated the facilities. God is to be praised for the vision and foresight of the founders of CARS for developing and nurturing this asset over the years for the benefit of Christian education.

As we look back over these recent years, it is encouraging to recount the generosity of our members and the providence of God. As we look forward, it is almost

RICK RUSSELL
VP for Finance

CHAD GRUNDY
Undertreasurer

TERESA TAYLOR
REBECCA SORRELLS
NORMA SANDOVAL
CAROLE MARSDEN
ELLEN CASTRO
Assistant Treasurers

Carolina Evangelism Fund

The Executive Committee has embraced the goal of raising \$1 million for evangelism annually. While that goal was not met each year, the average raised per year was \$1,002,702. The Carolina Evangelism offering is channeled

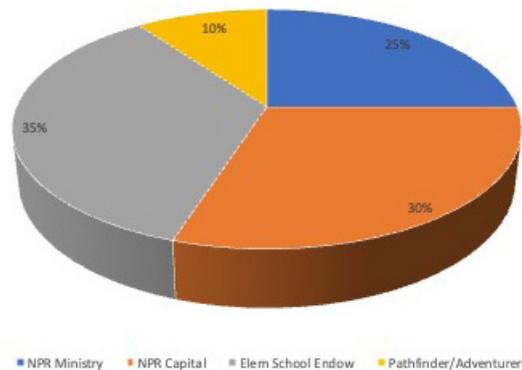
back to our local churches to support public evangelism and other forms of outreach in response to the Great Commission of Matthew 28:19-20.

Endowments

As a ministry of the Conference, Carolina Adventist Retirement Systems (CARS), has provided independent living villas, assisted living apartments, and skilled nursing care since the 1970s. For many years this ministry provided jobs for Mount Pisgah Academy (MPA) students, and a stream of income for MPA's operations and capital. In a significant financial development, the Executive Committee authorized the sale of CARS in 2018. The proceeds of the sale have been placed in two endowments, one for student aid, and another for

Carolina Youth Offering

Goal: \$250,000 Annually



certain that there will be economic challenges ahead. These are days that will require faith and dependence on our Savior. Our mindsets can be like that of Paul who wrote, "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus" Philippians 4:19, NIV.

Adventist Christian BOOK CENTER

Located at the Carolina Conference office in Charlotte, NC, the Adventist Christian Book Center (ACBC) is committed to carrying out the mission “Embracing Carolina with the Compassionate Call of Christ” by supporting the ministries of the members, local churches, and departments in the Carolina Conference. Our goal is to provide Adventist literature from the North American Division publishing house, Pacific Press, thereby supporting ministries and authors of the Seventh-day Adventist church, as well as promoting the Seventh-day Adventist lifestyle through the sales of vegetarian foods. This has been a significant outreach to the community through the years.

Continuing to supply the store at Nosoca Pines Ranch with current books and vegetarian food has been another means for our members to have access to books and foods. However, we serve the majority of our customers through mail order, Camp Meeting, the bookmobile, and delivery programs.

There are two websites available for customer use: the local website www.carolinaacbc.com operated by our store in Charlotte, and the national website www.adventistbookcenter.com operated by Pacific Press, with our store fulfilling the orders placed in Carolina. Our website provides information about our sales,

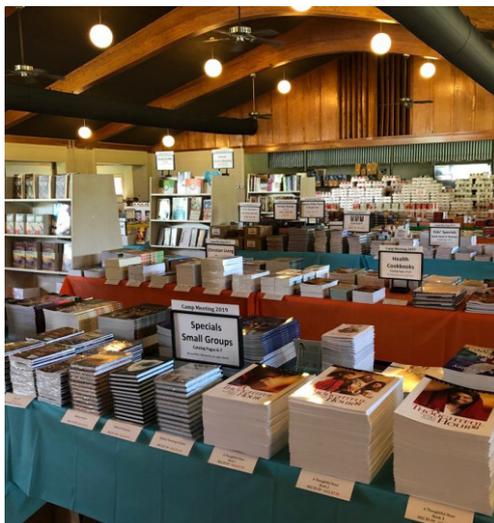
bookmobile, delivery program and events in which we will participate, giving customers the ability to order food, Glow Tracts, and used books. We send a weekly email to those who have subscribed through our website promoting current sales, new books and upcoming bookmobile locations, which also allows ordering for the bookmobile. We also have a Facebook profile: www.facebook.com/CarolinaACBC.

Due to COVID-19 and the cancellation of Camp Meeting 2020, we expanded our delivery program from 33 to 69 locations, which includes nearly all the districts, and continued to deliver to most of those locations though the fall of 2020.

The Ambassador Program offered through Pacific Press allows churches to raise funds while at the same time supporting their local Adventist book store. How it works: A church signs up one of its members as an ambassador for Pacific Press and the ACBC. The ambassador then receives new product information and a

code to share with church members. The members can then use the code to purchase products from www.adventist-bookcenter.com. By using the code, the church receives 10% of the profit to use as it chooses. In 2020 Carolina had 25 churches signed up for the program.

Regardless of all the uncertainty and challenges, God has certainly blessed us over the past six years, and we pray He continues to bless and guide as we look to the future, and more importantly, to His soon coming!



Camp Meeting 2019

STAN SHIREMAN
Manager

Adult SABBATH SCHOOL and Personal MINISTRIES

Regardless of a church’s size or their location around the globe, Adult Sabbath School connects us all to the global Seventh-day Adventist Church. Personal Ministries is everyone in the church doing something for Jesus. These are the two ministries of the church that every member can be a part of. Within the Adult Sabbath School program, it is such a privilege to study the same lesson with fellow believers around the world. However, Adult Sabbath School is by no means limited to the lesson and Bible study. While that is a significant part of Adult Sabbath School, we must remember that it is also the avenue through which we connect and fellowship with one another, reach out to our commu-

nities, and support world missions. In this way, Adult Sabbath School and Personal Ministries are linked and share many common goals.

Over the past six years, we have sought to strengthen our churches by building up and tapping into the full potential of Adult Sabbath School and Personal Ministries. As it relates more specifically to Adult Sabbath School, what are these four areas?

Bible Study

The best magnet for Adult Sabbath School attendance is a well-taught class with plenty of interaction.

Missions

By and large, the most effective promotion of the

Adventist mission is through the monthly Mission Spotlight® (formerly Adventist Mission DVD) which can be accessed online or downloaded to your device to share with your class. A few churches have a monthly or quarterly World Mission Sabbath program as well.

Fellowship

We have encouraged Adult Sabbath School classes to intentionally provide time for care-partnering, praying together, and enjoying Sabbath School luncheons and picnics several times each year.

Outreach

Ellen White observed, “The influence growing out of Sabbath School work should improve and enlarge the

church” *Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work*, page 29).

We have encouraged local Sabbath School leaders to “enlarge” or grow

their church by inviting

neighbors and friends to attend Sabbath School. Also, local churches are invited to multiply the number of Adult Sabbath School classes, a proven way to increase attendance.

Focus

During the past six-years the Carolina Conference Adult Sabbath School and Personal Ministries department has provided support in implementing this four-fold approach to Adult Sabbath School and equipped our personal ministries leaders to GROW their local church. A quarterly email newsletter has been created for Adult Sabbath School teachers, superintendents, personal ministry leaders, and elders to make them aware of upcoming events, resources, and tools that can help them be successful in their ministry. Sabbath afternoon seminars have been conducted around the Carolinas in Monroe, Tryon, Elizabeth City, and Charleston. During the COVID-19 crisis, the Adult Sabbath School department provided a live streamed Adult Sabbath School program for several months until churches were able to generate their own online Sabbath School programs.

The four-fold approach to Adult Sabbath School as well as the GROW cycle of evangelism has been fea-

tured at the annual, weekend-long seminars at Nosoca Pines Ranch. Featured presenters have included Jim Howard, associate director for Adult Sabbath School and Personal Ministries at the General Conference; Kameron DeVasher, director for Adult Sabbath School and Personal Ministries at the Michigan Conference; Mark Howard, associate director of Adult Sabbath School and Personal Ministries at the Michigan Conference; and Frank Bonderant, vice president for Ministries Development at the Columbia Union. We have had increased numbers at these events and people leave inspired and excited to put into practice the things they have learned.

Past Goals

Our past goals were to get all the churches in the Carolina to adopt and emphasize not just the church at study, but all four areas of Sabbath School. According to our most recent survey, only about one-third of our local churches implemented all four areas; one-third of our churches met three out of the four areas; and one-third of our churches met only two. Having one-third of our churches engaged in every area of Sabbath School is wonderful, but we would like to see 100 percent of our church members receiving the full blessing of Sabbath School.

Future Plans

Because the one-day seminars have been well-received, we intend to continue them in hopes that one will be offered within an hour’s drive of every church to make attendance more feasible.

We are committed to continue quality training weekends at Nosoca Pines Ranch that equip, train, and inspire our Adult Sabbath School leaders.

We will continue to update and equip our leaders through a quarterly newsletter.

We want to continue to challenge our churches to engage

in all four areas of Adult Sabbath School and help members see the potential of the Adult Sabbath School program in growing the local church.

We also would like to see a greater awareness of the GROW Cycle of Evangelism in the Carolinas, and for each church to evaluate areas of strength and weakness and strive to fill in the gaps, so that their church may grow for the glory of God in these last days.

May the Lord continue to give us strength and wisdom to accomplish much in His honor.

DAVID WRIGHT
Director



Carolina Adventist RETIREMENT SYSTEMS (CARS)

After careful consideration of regulatory changes and governmental reimbursement factors related to the long-term healthcare and senior living industry, as well as the market position of Carolina Adventist Retirement Systems, Inc. (CARS), the Carolina Conference Executive Committee found it appropriate and in the best interests of the Conference to divest itself of CARS in a market transaction.

Following the careful review of multiple proposals in response to the Conference Request for Proposals (RFPs), a decision was made by secret ballot to proceed with the transaction and accept the highest bid offer of \$19 million.

After closing costs, and fees associated with a multi-year close-down of the organization, the Conference placed approximately \$17,000,000 in an investment/endowment fund. An additional \$1,250,000 will likely be received over the next four years (following the regulatory timeframes of escrowed amounts) for a total of approximately \$18,250,000.

The Conference Executive Committee voted unanimously to place these funds in an endowment in which the investment earnings generated from these funds will be used, in equal shares, exclusively for student scholarships and capital needs of Mount Pisgah Academy (MPA). It is anticipated that over the next 2-3 years the investment income will be approximately \$200,000 - \$400,000 per year.

It is the clear belief of the Conference Executive Committee and the Conference Administration that God has led throughout this complex transaction and that His blessings will continue as the funds earned on this amount, administered in accordance with the endowment agreements and state law, will continue to benefit MPA and its students for years to come.

DAVID KIDDER
CEO

Children's MINISTRIES

Mission

Deuteronomy 6:5-6 says, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts" (NIV). The next few verses go on to state, "Impress them on your children," and then indicate that this is a daily, hourly work we are to do for our children. In response to God's command, the Children's Ministries Department exists:

1. To minister to the spiritual, physical, emotional and social needs of children at their most formative time in life by pointing them to their Savior and Friend, Jesus Christ .
2. To provide training, resources and ideas in English and Spanish for children's ministries leaders to support them in their ministry for children in

their churches and communities.

3. To encourage parents to be actively involved in the character development and spiritual growth of their children.

Programs for Children

By planning, preparing, providing and supporting programs that directly minister to children at regularly scheduled events such as Evangelism Impact, Adventurer Fun Day,

Lake Junaluska Camp Meeting, Eastern Carolina Camp Meeting, Low Country Camp Meeting and Hispanic Camp Meeting,

we endeavor to help parents take an active role by encouraging their child's spiritual growth. Except during COVID-19, special kids' programs have also been provided at yearly Ministerial Workers' Meetings and the combined pastors' and teachers' conference, as well as the Welcome to the Family Retreat hosted every two years for new Adventists and their families.

Training Workshops

We strive to equip leaders by providing Teachers' Toolkit Sabbath School Training, and Children's Ministries and Vacation Bible School (VBS) workshops. VBS has been a growing evangelistic outreach for children and parents, with exciting Adventist children's programs produced by the NAD and Advent Source. An

KATHY RUSSELL
Director



Evangelism Fund subsidy helps cover a portion of the VBS kit cost. This, along with our VBS loan program where we share VBS equipment, props, and decorations, helps to reduce expenses for the churches.

Our Children's Ministries Department has initiated valuable youth leadership and mentoring opportunities by utilizing local Charlotte and Mount Pisgah Academy students to help at Conference VBS workshops and local church VBS programs. Although the pandemic caused a decrease in the number of VBS programs being offered in 2020 and 2021, some churches still offered virtual or live VBS programs with good response from their church and community.

Kathy's Kids Storytime (KKST)

The KKST podcast, originally recorded at the Conference office studio, was first released in January of 2018. Social media, word-of-mouth and business cards have expanded the growth of Adventist and non-Adventist listeners to six continents, and downloads have reached nearly half a million. The stories are now being recorded in a bedroom of Kathy's home at her daughter's tiny table!

Virtual Programs

During COVID-19, our Children's Ministry programs took the form of online resources and virtual programs for Sabbath School, VBS and Camp Meeting. NAD Children's Ministries and Advent Source broadcasted a

worldwide virtual Heroes LIVE VBS program via Zoom and provided virtual Heroes VBS Home Edition and Heroes VBS for Churches (2020,) and the Cactusville VBS program (2021).

Our office, with the help of the Communication Department, conference staff and volunteers, prepared a virtual Camp Meeting 4 Kids in place of Lake Junaluska Camp Meetings in 2020 and 2021 and Eastern Carolina Camp Meeting in 2020. These creative programs are still available for download on the Carolina Conference website and YouTube channel for children and their families to enjoy.

New Staff Assistant

In August 2021, my administrative assistant, Jayme Rouse, and I were excited to have Yudith Flores join our Children's Ministries staff. With the support of Ricardo Palacios, Hispanic Ministries director, we have planned a quarterly Sabbath School training program for teachers and enrichment programs for parents and children that will be a blessing to our Hispanic church members.

Future Plans

Our marching orders are at hand. It is our plan to continue to provide virtual and in-person training events and programs for the spiritual benefit of our leaders, parents and children, preparing them to meet Jesus and live with Him in Heaven very soon!

Church PLANTING

I would like to thank our former director, Brad Cauley, for his amazing contribution to the church planting department in our conference. Most initiatives and activities in this report were accomplished under his leadership. On behalf of the Carolina Conference, we thank you and your family, Brad.

Motto

Enabling Conference churches to birth healthy new congregations for greater effectiveness in reaching North and South Carolinians.

Faith Goal

A Carolina Conference leadership team goal of 90 Steps was set for the five-year term 2016-2020. A step is counted each time a congregation moves up in status, starting as an approved Mission Group, then becoming a company, and finally a church. We also count a step each time a mother church plants a mission group. The previous 2011-2015 quinquennium goal was 50 Steps. Actual Steps realized during this period were 62, not including mother church steps.

RICARDO PALACIOS
Director

Totals Realized for 2016-2021

- New church plants: 33 Total (12 plants in SC and 21 plants in NC)
- Total Steps achieved: 102 (including 34 mother church steps)

Church Planting Committee

The Church Planting Committee approves new church plants for group status and recommends prospective companies and churches to the Executive Committee. It handles issues that arise within church plants and governs the Church Planting Guidelines and Strategy for Lay-led/Pastor-Coach Congregation(s) documents.



Global Mission

We applied for and received Global Mission funding from the GC, NAD, and Southern Union to sponsor new church plants with \$10,000 in start-up funds.

Church Planting Seminars

Seminars are held throughout the conference on request.

Volunteer Lay Pastors & Lay Leaders

The Church Planting Department coordinates all leadership of non-Hispanic lay-led churches, companies, and mission groups. Currently, there are 46 non-Hispanic lay-led congregations comprised of 14 churches, 12 companies, and 20 mission groups and

there are 46 Hispanic lay-led congregations comprised of 15 churches, 15 companies, and 16 mission groups.

Website

The Conference website includes many pertinent church planting documents, discipleship group resources, links and more: <https://www.carolinasda.org/church-planting>.

Publications

Church planting awareness is fostered through articles in the *Carolina Action* and *Southern Tidings*. The quarterly e-newsletter *The Exponential Exchange* provides church leaders with ongoing resources and ideas along with the latest news.

Communication DEPARTMENT

Getting the Word Out

One of the primary functions of the Communication Department of the Carolina Conference is to generate publications and media that bring news and updates to our constituents, such as the *Carolina Action* magazine—now an online, as well as print, publication. In 2017, we launched the “CarolinaSDA” mobile app (available for Apple, Android, and Amazon Fire de-

veloped, we send monthly e-newsletters offering tips and suggestions on how best to fill their role. We also hold workshops for training and instruction purposes, and in turn they provide stories about events that occur during the year at the local level.

Our department produces graphic design; social media; video; print and digital marketing; live streaming; and web support for all other departments in the Conference. Our in-house video production studio allows us to create promotional and informational videos as well.

Reaching the World

People around the globe are trekking to the Carolina Conference every day through our www.carolinasda.org website and our social media platforms. We are on Facebook (www.facebook.com/carolinaconference), Twitter (www.twitter.com/CarolinaConf), and YouTube.

The Kathy’s Kids Storytime podcast was launched in 2017. Hosted by Kathy Russell, children’s ministries director, this podcast shares life lessons and Christian values in story form for kids ages 3-12. In 2020, the website kathyskidsstorytime.org was launched to facilitate the podcast’s growth, now closing in on half a million downloads. The women’s ministry podcast, *Joy in the Weeds*, launched in 2020, now has nearly 15,000 downloads. This podcast for women is hosted by Beth Grissom, women’s ministries director, and Kim Cove. Our popular Carolina Conference and Carolina Conference Camp Meeting podcast channels host sermons from events around the Conference.



The Communication team for Camp Meeting 2018

vices). In 2020, we initiated the www.carolinaaction.org news blog, providing a central digital hub for our stories and a launching pad to share them on social media.

The *Southern Tidings* is distributed each month to the home of every member of the Southern Union. Each issue includes a two-page layout of news from our conference. We also provide feature stories for the magazine.

These media platforms not only keep us involved in following up on stories and taking photos at events around the Conference but also help us stay connected to our constituency and inform them of what’s happening around the Carolinas.

Supporting Others

To keep our local church communication leaders in-

REBECCA CARPENTER
Director

COURTNEY HEROD
Associate Director

HENRIQUE GOMES
*Assistant Director
for Media Ministry*

The Carolina Conference was the first conference in the denomination to have a Roku Channel. It hosts presentations from events and shows from Project ReFresh.

Project Refresh

In October of 2018, the Carolina Communication Department launched Project ReFresh, a multi-media initiative to bridge the gap between the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its young people (ages 18-35).

The Loop—a video series that takes the mystery out of things like dealing with insurance or buying a car.

What If?—Students from Adventist universities are encouraged to participate in the “WHAT IF” vlogs, a series that chronicles what happens if they experiment with positive life choices.

Echo—The Echo podcast/video series brings together various viewpoints to find a common ground.

Community SERVICES

The mission of Adventist Community Services (ACS) is “To serve the poor and hurting in Christ’s name.”

Moved with His compassion, Community Services gives God glory when serving their community needs. Lives of those serving and for those being served are changed for eternity! This is frontline gospel ministry. Meeting the many needs of people is an ever increasing point of service. A wide range of services are provided by churches and individual members in the Carolinas.

Community Service (CS) Centers

We now have 32 active Community Service centers in the Carolina Conference. Some of these provide food and/or clothing. Others provide services free to the public or at a minimal charge, which allows the poor to retain their dignity when they purchase what they need. Many of our churches get food on a weekly basis or provide other forms of assistance to those in need,

such as clothing, travel expenses, help with power or heating bills, firewood, or even furniture to house fire victims.

Some churches go to homes or public places to deliver assistance while others keep hours at their CS center on a regular basis, usually weekly.

Whether provided by a large CS center or a small one, CS ministry is personal. Individual needs are met one at a time with the love of God. Many churches may have one or two members meeting needs and helping, while some churches have staffed programs and facilities that offer a wide range of services. These include food for homeless or transient folks, counseling, medication, prayer and encouragement, job training, tutoring, shoes for underprivileged children, health fairs, food boxes to

Tiny Chair Talks—a video series intended to open conversations about difficult topics.

Forward—a blog that inspires young people to keep moving in their walk with Christ.

As I Am—a video series that highlights testimonies of real people in the church. The first season focuses on the Carolina Conference leadership.

Achievements

Since the last Constituency Session, the Communication Department has won three “best in class” and one “honorable mention” from the Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) for their media content. In 2019, Courtney Herod received their “Young Professional” award. In 2021, the department was the first in the NAD to be certified by the Institute for Crisis Management.

homes, food baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas, and gifts for orphans. The list of ministries in our confer-



ence goes on and on, and depends on the needs of their community.

Regional Leadership

The Community Service (CS) ministry of the Carolina Conference is grouped into six geographic regions called Federations, and each has its own elected officers who help organize and run the area meetings. This regional leadership provides fellowship, practical direction, spiritual encouragement, inspiration, beneficial resources, training and development. Every church in the conference is asked to annually contribute 75 cents per member to the CS Federation fund. These monies are used to operate the Federation program as well as provide information, conference-wide training and small grants to churches for new CS projects. The Carolina Conference CS Federations are Catawba Valley, East Palmetto Northeastern Shores, Piedmont, Skyland and West Palmetto.

The annual spring CS Rally at Nosoca provides

DAVID GRAHAM
Director

specific seminars and workshops intended to train and equip CS leaders from our local churches. The Federation leadership make this weekend memorable by connecting like-minded servants of God with others who have the same passion to serve and share His love with their communities.

Ministry Partnerships

Adventist Community Services Disaster Response (ACSDR) is one of our primary partnerships in ministry, with Phil Rosburg as outgoing director. This partnership provides resources to CS centers from the ACSDR warehouse during times of crisis, and when resources are available, during other times of need in the community. This invaluable partnership was very active when Hurricane Florence hit our coastal area as well as during the COVID-19 pandemic. ACSDR serves on the CS Board as well as the regional Federation Board. The Carolina CS full board meets annually and includes leadership from God's Closet, 2Serve and Senior Care ministries. Other partnerships are with Adventist World Aviation, International Critical Incident Stress Foundation for training certification, NAD ACS and Urban

Disability MINISTRIES

Sixty-one million people in the U.S. — 26 percent of the population — have been identified as having disabilities. While someone may have a disability, we prefer not to identify that person as “disabled,” because most are not completely disabled. Yes, they may have special needs due to certain disabilities, but they also



still have many special abilities that our churches need! Our churches can be the conduits of a message of hope to people with special needs; a message of inclusion that says we all are gifted, needed, and treasured.

While the number 61 million can seem overwhelming, it is also an overwhelmingly great ministry opportunity. This segment of our population is vastly

Ministry, NAD Spiritual and Emotional Care training, Adventist Development Relief Agency (ADRA), and Young Warriors - Mentorship.

No Greater Joy and Passion

There is no greater joy than serving Christ through serving a person in need. CS pleases God by sharing His love for all people! True compassion requires action. Songwriter Oscar Hammerstein II wrote, “Love in your heart wasn’t put there to stay—love isn’t love till you give it away.” The world is hurting and needs to feel the love of God in our churches. The promise of Jesus is sure to those serving Him,

“Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me” Matthew 25:34-36, NKJV.

Community Services is moved with the same compassion that moved Jesus. Thank you for supporting and loving your community!

unchurched, meaning that if we can provide church facilities that are accessible to people with disabilities, and church members who are sensitive to and welcoming of this underserved group and those who tirelessly care for them, we can reach more souls with the Everlasting Gospel — a message of hope and forever healing. This is the focus and goal of the Disability Ministries Department.

We encourage congregations to build or renovate church facilities to be handicap accessible, and to create church programs and services that are user-friendly to those with disabilities and special needs.

We also endeavor to provide information and training to help our members more effectively minister to this underserved, underutilized group. In return, we will find that they use their abilities to minister to and with us to reach souls more effectively for Jesus!

Regardless of any of our abilities or needs, Jesus provides strength, through His grace, to carry out his mission to the world ... together.

“And He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me” 2 Corinthians 12:9, NKJV.

GARY MOYER
Director

Disaster RESPONSE Hope for HUMANITY Mission SERVICE

This report was written by former director Phil Rosburg, who retired in July as head of these departments. We want to thank him for the tremendous work he has done for these ministries, and for creating the strong framework and team dynamic that makes it easy to keep moving forward.

Disaster Response

South Carolina Emergency Management Division continues to provide Carolina Conference Disaster Response with use of a 10,000 square foot warehouse in

Winnsboro, SC. This has included office space, 24/7 access, and use of their forklifts.

This is such a huge blessing to our ministry!

Following our practice of accepting donations we need and

keeping out items we do not need, we started receiving excess COVID-19 donations, including several hundred thousand masks. Many people thought that, like hurricanes and floods, COVID-19 would be here and gone in a month or two. Little did we know that over two years later, we would still be dealing with the same issues. We have been working closely with the state of South Carolina and various county emergency services groups to supply them with personal protective equipment from our inventory. We have supplied six emergency management services in South Carolina counties with masks, respirators, gloves, boots, and hand sanitizer. In partnership with Tabernacle Ministries in Marion, SC, we have supplied over 200,000 masks for the recovery work in Haiti. We have distributed vinyl gloves and 2,000 medical gowns to the South Carolina Baptists Association for use in their nursing centers in South Carolina.

In 2021, we distributed over 150 flood buckets for use in flooding recovery in Western North Carolina as a result of Tropical Storm Fred and Hurricane Ida. We will continue to need local churches to fill these flood buckets to have them ready for the next disaster. Thanks to every church that has done this in the past!

I want to thank Steve Stillwell, assistant director, for



both his expertise and willingness to spend so much time in volunteering with this ministry!

We stand ready to continue our ministry to North and South Carolina, the Southern Union and the North American Division whenever needed.

Hope for Humanity

Formerly called ingathering, Hope for Humanity is an annual campaign coordinated by our office. With goals set for each church, the monies raised are used for community service in our conference and throughout the world. The portion of the money that stays locally can be used by each church to embrace their part of the Carolinas with the compassionate love of Christ.

Mission Trips

During the past six years the Carolina Conference has been involved in many short-term mission trips, either sponsored and planned by the Conference, or a trip sponsored and planned by one of our local churches.

We continue to work with the Hogar de Ninos in Santa Barbara, Honduras. We enjoy the interaction with the orphans, perform medical work, hold reaping meetings, work on construction projects and hold VBS-style meetings with the children. Miracles take place on these trips as we help those in need — and the need is great. What a great opportunity to embrace not only the

Carolinas but also other countries with the love of Christ!

We had planned to make trips that would have combined mission trips and disaster response together to Haiti (after the earthquakes) and Puerto Rico (after the hurricanes) but COVID-19 travel restrictions put those on a hold.

We plan to resume these trips just as soon as we can — the funding is available and we are ready to help — in these areas and more as we look forward to the upcoming quinquennium.

If you can get involved in one of these trips, you will come back knowing how blessed you are, and keenly aware of how you have blessed others.



DAVID GRAHAM
Director of Disaster
Response (2022-)

Education DEPARTMENT

Mission

“With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Savior might be carried to the whole world! How soon might the end come – the end of suffering and sorrow and sin!” Ellen G. White, *Education*, p. 271.

The Carolina Conference Office of Education shows our children and youth what “Loving God, Serving Others” looks like by connecting students with the source of all knowledge, Jesus Christ. This is accomplished through Christ-centered academic programs that encourage them to use their talents and knowledge in His service.

Professional Growth

To ensure a strong, balanced educational program, the Office of Education conducts annual teachers’ conventions and teacher study groups that meet eight times a year to enhance professional growth.

Each of our schools is accredited through the NAD Accreditation process, which has been updated to be an



Carolina Teachers 2016

online program. We also visit each classroom annually for formal and informal teacher evaluations.

New Curriculums and Testing

We have introduced the new math curriculum, Big Ideas Math, as well as the new NAD Bible curriculum, Encounter Bible. STEM and Robotics have been incorporated in many of our schools. We have also replaced the IOWA Test Program (ITBS) with the much more comprehensive and teacher friendly MAPS (NWEA) testing program administered three times a year. Outdoor School was reestablished at Nosoca Pines Ranch, and each year more and more students were attending until COVID-19 temporarily paused the program.

Teaching in a Pandemic

One of the more exciting things that has been initiated is a combined educators and ministers retreat. It was beneficial to have pastors and teachers meeting together and finding ways to blend both ministries. The goal was to focus on how the church and school could work together in the Great Commission of spreading the gospel.

COVID-19 has had a drastic impact on our schools. Teachers demonstrated their dedication in 2020 as many forfeited their spring break to prepare an online classroom. Most schools hardly missed a day during lockdowns. The pandemic demonstrated the innovation of our teachers as they used online programs and software they were unfamiliar with before the stay-at-home time. They visited

GARY ROUSE
Superintendent

RICK ANDERSON
Associate Superintendent

students who were struggling with online learning and did car-to-porch, socially distanced tutoring. Teachers and parents discovered how important it is to work together as they navigated this new way of delivering school. There is not enough space to expound on the many innovative methods teachers were using to

remain connected with their students.

Enrollment

Over the past several years we have been excited to see the enrollment across the Conference increase each year. Including Mount Pisgah Academy, our enrollment has increased from 667 students in 2014-2015 to 947 in 2021-2022.

We continue to request that your prayers boldly ascend to God’s throne for our schools and teachers as they rightly train our young people to help finish the work of spreading the gospel to a world in need of a Savior. May God continue to richly bless those on the front lines instructing and investing in our youngest leaders!

Carolina EVANGELISM

Evangelism remains a major focus in the Carolina Conference — it is our mission and commission to reach lost souls for Christ. In the last six years, 800 series of reaping meetings were held throughout the Carolinas. An inspired team of evangelists (full-time and visiting, pastoral and laypersons, department directors and administrators) spread out across the 146

counties of the Carolinas to find the sheep who are “not of this fold” as well as those who may have wandered.

In 2016, Doug Batchelor came to Charlotte to follow up his “The Rest of

Your Life” magazine with

a series called “The Last Day of Prophecy” in Owens Auditorium. Over 1,600 attended. In the same year, Revelation Made Simple was held in over a hundred churches throughout the Conference.

Field Schools of Evangelism with ministerial students and teachers from Southern Adventist University took place across northeast South Carolina (2016, with Ralph Ringer), and in the Tri-City area (2021, with Roger Hernandez). In these meetings, students received instruction, attended the primary event, then each conducted a series in a church nearby.

Perhaps our largest evangelistic endeavor ever in the Carolinas was Revelation Speaks Peace, a partnership with Voice of Prophecy. Thirteen churches across the Raleigh-Durham area joined forces for a massive effort on the North Carolina State Fairgrounds. A tent as large as a football field was erected and a plywood floor was installed. Despite winds, rain and chilling cold, hundreds of people came to listen to the Word of God presented by Shawn Boonstra.

John Boston, associate director of North American Division Evangelism Institute (NADEI), held a series in Spartanburg in 2021, seeking broad community and civic engagement.

To rejoice in God’s accomplishments, to evangelize more effectively, and to be challenged in the work, the Evangelism Department organized the first Evangelism

Impact at Myrtle Beach in January 2016. Over 400 showed up, and each year that number grows, with well over 1,000 attendees in 2020. Leslie Louis stated, “This is the REAL Camp Meeting.” While COVID-19 prevented in-person meetings in 2021 and 2022, sessions of Evangelism Impact were conducted virtually.

The Carolina Evangelism Fund remains the funding source for outreach support. At the 2014 Lake Junaluska Camp Meeting, José Rojas issued the challenge, “You ought to ask for a million dollars!” In preceding years, \$200,000 was considered a great offering for Camp Meeting. However, accepting that as a word from the Lord, we have asked, and He has given ... through you. For the last five years (2017-2021), an average of \$1,000,587 has been received each year through offerings, gifts, and planned giving bequests. These financial gifts have enabled meetings to be held across the Carolinas. As a result, 4,378 individuals have joined the Advent movement in the preceding six years either through baptism or profession of faith.

But we are not done! Evangelist Steve Vail — along with evangelism veterans John Earnhardt, Dale Pollett, and Ralph Ringer — will be holding reaping meetings. Pastors, volunteer lay pastors, department directors, Conference administration, and members young and old will be proclaiming the Good News.

Beginning in October 2022, Harvest Impact will be

held in Raleigh every two years, and in Summerville, S.C., during odd-numbered years, with the same mission of Evangelism Impact. To prepare for this year’s Harvest Impact, John Boston will work with many Raleigh-area churches in a unique evangelism strategy.

The Franklin Church has laid plans to conduct a Good Neighbor Clinic this fall, provid-

ing medical and dental services to many uninsured citizens of Macon County. Other churches are planning meetings with experimental methods, others with tried-and-true ones. Using Paul’s philosophy, we try any respectable means to evangelize, “so that by all possible



GLEN ALTERMATT

Director

STEVE VAIL

Evangelist



means [we] might save some” 1 Corinthians 9:22.

The call that God has given us to evangelize and make disciples can only take place effectively in healthy churches. We desire for the coming years that the churches of Carolina purpose to be healthy, disciple-making centers for Christ.

Healthy churches:

- Cooperate with the Holy Spirit in establishing meaningful relationships with those attracted to Christ. We are called to provide opportunities for others to become acquainted with His Word, and then challenge them to become His disciples.
- Provide training and inspire leadership. We have pastoral and lay leaders that train the congregation to identify needs in our churches and our communities, clarify goals, gather the necessary resources and implement effective action. They follow Ellen White’s counsel in *The Ministry of Healing*, page 143, “Christ’s method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The

Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, ‘Follow Me.’”

- Nurture the members through connective worship, interesting Bible study, supportive friendships, and opportunities for significant service.
- Reach the community for Christ. Healthy churches discover the kinds of people who live in their area and strive to understand their needs so they can provide outreach programs and activities designed to meet those needs and create a strong public awareness of the church.

Our prayer is that as we look to the new quinquennium, all our churches may be healthy, disciple-making centers, and that your connection to Jesus will be a compelling reason for someone to connect with Him and His church.

Family MINISTRIES

Families that Reflect Christ

The objective of Family Ministries is to disciple families in their walk with Christ so that they reflect God to their friends and neighbors. As our families grow in His likeness, they will Embrace Carolina with the Compassionate Call of Christ. Ellen White stressed the evange-



listic impact of a Christian family when she wrote, “One well-ordered, well-disciplined [discipled] family tells more in behalf of Christianity than all the sermons that can be preached” *Adventist Home*, p. 32.

Activities and Resources

To reach our goal of strengthening and rebuilding Carolina families, Family Ministries provides the following: Romance at the Ranch (a marriage enrichment retreat), From This Day Forward, Camp Meeting seminars, Journey Toward Intimacy, divorce recovery,

marriage seminars, parenting seminars, family emphasis Sabbath, anti-pornography seminars, and more. At the conference level, we provide families with resources produced by the North American Division and the General Conference Family Ministries departments.

Library

Additionally, Family Ministries maintains an up-to-date library from which families and their pastors may borrow resources at no charge. We keep relevant materials on hand and available so leaders may hold small group sessions at the local level.

The more emphasis placed on our families to maintain a healthy outlook and keep them growing in God’s grace and mercy, the better off our church is collectively.

Biblical Counsel

In addition to providing scheduled activities, we pray for families in the Carolinas, and when requested, minister to them individually. Couples and families are given biblical counsel and are referred to other Christian professionals for additional ministry. Our intent is to help families thrive during the difficult times in relationships and life as well as the more peaceful seasons.

Keeping a Vision

Putting it simply, our vision is to nurture healthy families for eternity.

ERIC BATES
Director

Generous LIVING



Rick Hutchinson, center, was director of Generous Living until 2022.

Mission

A new stewardship initiative, Generous Living, was born at the Carolina Conference in September 2012. The mission of Generous Living is to creatively and prayerfully explore new ideas to touch a responsive chord within God's church family and assist them in fully embracing Christ and His end-time church. Generous Living has continually blessed and empowered all members of Carolina Conference.

DAVID GRAHAM
Director

Activities

Every Monday morning the Generous Living team members join together in corporate prayer for the members of our Conference and their dedication to living generously. We have also conducted several nine-week series of Financial Peace University at the Conference office and various churches. Other financial seminars and stewardship sermons based on biblical principles

have been presented at many of our churches. Each quarter the Generous Living staff produces weekly Sabbath offering appeals to be used at all churches. Generous Living materials have been prepared in English, Spanish, French and Korean. "Jack Gives Back" stewardship materials were given to children ages 4-10 at Carolina Camp Meeting, Hispanic Camp Meeting and Welcome to the Family retreats. Retired Carolina Conference Communication Director Ron Quick maintains the website and Facebook pages for Generous

Living. The monthly Stewpot publication, testimonials, member stories and other articles are distributed to many Carolina Conference members and friends by these social media platforms. We welcome your stories and articles to dgraham@carolinasda.org for consideration.

Results

One thrilling reward we have witnessed is seeing God work through our members. Starting in 2012, tithes and offerings have increased each year. Many of our members have shared their personal experiences through their stories of faithfulness and blessings as they have financially and prayerfully responded. God promises that when we are faithful to return HIS tithe and our offerings, He will bless. IT IS ALL OF US IN RESPONSE TO ALL OF HIM!

Commitment

It is the goal of the Carolina Conference Generous Living team to make available to every church member the tools they need to eliminate debt and stay "DEBT FREE" and become the faithful stewards that God has called us to be. Thank you for prayerfully partnering with us as a member of His Generous Living team.

GENEROUS | All of Me in
LIVING | Response to All
of Him

Health MINISTRIES

The Health Ministries Department seeks to empower Carolina Conference churches to embrace North and South Carolinians with the compassionate call of Christ through the Adventist Health Message. Health Ministry serves as an opening to share the love of Christ and the message entrusted to Seventh-day Adventists.

Website

Our website includes links to what the Adventist Church Manual says about the role of health ministry leaders and our resource library. Our resource library includes DVDs, books, magazines, websites, newsletters, handouts, Vibrant Life tracts, and so on. Visit us at: <https://www.carolinasda.org/health-ministries>

Carolina Health Ministries Facebook Group

For news, updates, and the latest health-related information, request to join by visiting: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/608977619231526/>

Train the Trainer Events

In the past few years we have held Train the Trainer events in various areas of the conference, mainly focusing on reversing diabetes. A Best Weigh (weight-loss seminar) training event was canceled due to COVID-19. A CREATION Health Fair event, with the intention of inviting all health leaders for training, was postponed to the spring of 2022 because of the pandemic.

Quarterly E-newsletters

Quarterly newsletters were sent to health ministry leaders, pastors, and members who have expressed an interest. They are filled with resources and ideas to provide effective health ministry outreach for the local

churches.

Health Fairs

Several churches have used this vehicle to touch lives and present health education. Our department has large stand-up banners for each area of NEWSTART available for local churches to utilize for health fairs and other health outreach events.

Online Health Talks

Due to the inability to meet in person during the pandemic, the Health Ministries department provided several online seminars on different topics.

CREATION Health Resource

This is one of our health seminar/small group resources. CREATION is an acronym much like NEWSTART. <http://creationhealth.com/>

Lifestyle Seminars on Health

Sabbath afternoon lifestyle seminars are held throughout the conference by request.

Publications

Health awareness is promoted by submitting articles for publication in the *Carolina Action*.

Camp Meeting

Various health professionals were on the agenda to conduct our five-day Lake Junaluska Camp Meeting health workshop, including the following:

- 2016: Connie Vail (cooking class), *certifications from Escoffier International Culinary Academy; co-owner of The Vegetarian Express*
- 2017: Lynell LaMountain, MDiv, *Southern Union director of Health Ministries & Adventist Community Services; CREATION Health developer*
- 2018: Dr. Hans Diehl, *DrHSc, MPH, FACN*
- 2019: David Meinz, *MS, RDN, FAND, CSP*
- 2020: (Canceled because of COVID-19)
- 2021: (Canceled because of COVID-19)
- 2022: Stephen and Karen Wickham

Health Professionals for Referral

There have been several local health professionals (MDs, PhDs, etc.) that have been utilized throughout the conference for seminars. Their services have been greatly appreciated. Their contact information is available by sending a request to the Health Ministries department.

CRIS CAZARINE DUTRA
Director



Hispanic MINISTRIES

On behalf of the pastors and church members in our Spanish Churches in the Carolinas, we would like to thank Samuel Romero and his right hand in ministry, Mary, for their loving contribution to the growth of the Hispanic churches in our conference for the last 30 years. This report reflects the development of this department under his leadership.

Church Growth

“...And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved” Acts 2:47. His promises are true and faithful. He has been adding more and more Hispanic souls to His kingdom. During this

six-year term, 19 new groups, 14 companies and five churches have been organized. By the end of 2021 we had 63 congregations and 16 full-time and one part-time Hispanic pastors.

Lay Involvement

Our laymen are very active giving Bible studies, conducting crusades, receiving instructions, and so on.

The Southern Union Hispanic Ministries, under the leadership of Pastor Jorge Mayer, was busy providing training seminars for our laymen. We continued having Evangelistic Caravans, and all of them have been very successful, but in 2018 the Southern Union changed the approach slightly.

Our laymen were trained at the beginning of 2018 to turn their houses into churches with the theme “My House, Your Church.” Pastor Alejandro Bullón prepared a series of Bible studies, and our members invited visitors to their houses to receive the studies via the internet. By the end of the week, when Bullón made several altar calls, many decisions were made to give their life to Jesus. That year we almost reached 500 baptisms and professions of faith, over 100 more than in 2017.

In 2019 the approach was changed again. Our laymen continued inviting people to study in their houses, and with permission from the Conference, these laymen were authorized to baptize their candidates. And many did! Above is a photo of the commitment and dedica-

tion of these faithful laymen.

Also, our laymen have been receiving training as Volunteer Lay Pastors (VLP) to assist their local pastors, as many have multiple church districts. So far, we have 50 VLPs in charge of new mission groups, companies and even churches.

Yes, the pandemic affected our growth a bit, including our tithes and offerings, but God has been faithful. He has provided enough for all our needs. We still have some churches closed and some of our members have passed away, but our pastors and laymen have been very active providing spiritual nurturing to our members by Zoom. Our VLP training has continued via Zoom as well. Pastors have been leading crusades and seminars with guest speakers from all over the world, and yes, they have had baptisms. God has blessed our Hispanic Ministries beyond our dreams.

Camp Meetings

We held two Camp Meetings annually the first four years of this six-year term because our numbers had greatly increased over a five-year period. Both events were filled to capacity. It would have been too much to have three, so in 2020, we planned only one Camp Meeting at Ridgecrest Convention Center in Asheville.

Our members were excited to have everyone united again in the larger venue for a little taste of heaven, but we had to cancel everything because of COVID-19. So disappointing! We look forward to that day when we will have our big Camp Meet-



ing with Jesus, our Lord and Savior!

Tithe and Membership Increase

As our membership has grown, so our tithes have grown, too. Throughout this reported timeframe we grew to almost 6,000 members; and a total of \$19,306,146.20 in tithes was received.

Baptisms and Professions of Faith

God greatly blessed our Hispanic ministries: we had 1,502 baptisms and 193 professions of faith. With God's help we hope to double our membership by the end of the next quinquennium! We know this to be true: With God, everything is possible!

RICARDO PALACIOS

Director

Human Resource SERVICES

Ministry

The ministry of the Human Resource Services Department is to assist the employees of the Carolina Conference and its local churches and schools in performing their ministries. We do this by onboarding and providing our employees with the information and resources they need to serve in the capacities for which they have been employed.

Providing Resources and Support

Human Resources facilitates all aspects of employee moving, transfers and onboarding processes at the direction of the Conference hiring committees, and does the same for local churches and schools. In addition, the department maintains all employee benefits, updates NAD employee service records, and assists employees with the retirement process at the end of their working careers. After several years of dedicated hard work by its staff, the HR Department is now providing the majority of its employee services online, allowing the department to become almost paperless. In the past year the HR Department performed the first employee evaluations of officers, directors, and associates.

Human Resources is also responsible for the background screening of volunteers and employees under

the guidelines of the NAD policies and selected providers. Updates are made to the eAdventist membership database to provide pastors and teachers with the eligibility dates of all volunteers working with children. The department also provides policies and procedures to other Conference departments, churches, and schools for complying with federal and state laws on various topics, including employment laws and mandatory reporting.

Striving to empower our employees to accomplish the mission and ministries of the Carolina Conference is paramount. Knowing that God gives each of us unique talents, perspectives and ministry opportunities is what gives us the desire to assist each employee in reaching their God-given potential.

DEBORAH HUTCHINSON
Director

JOALYCE WAUGH
Assistant Director

ANGELA PRIETO
Insurance Specialist

Medical/Dental RECRUITMENT

Enhancing the Gospel Work

Medical/dental recruitment continues to be an integral ministry of the Carolina Conference. Not only do the recruited professionals excel in their practices as models of Christian principles and standards in their community, they excel in their dedication to the Lord's work, often serving as leaders in our churches. The medical work has always been a valuable and fundamental element for Embracing the Carolinas with the Compassionate Call of Christ.

We are privileged to work in conjunction with the Southern Union, the only union that continues to carry on this ministry, as we visit Loma Linda to connect with and recruit medical and dental students on track for graduation. During the past six years our work expanded to include the recruitment of pharmacists along with the long-standing focus on physicians and dentists. We make these professionals aware of opportunities available in our area and inform them of church-provided incentive programs. Whenever possible, we have also connected them with Dr. Jeff Viar, our conference medical recruiter, and Dr. Scott Thomas, our conference dental recruiter, who serve as liaisons for the students should they decide to move to our area.

Our consistent participation in this program over the

past six years has resulted in the Carolina Conference becoming well-known among the students and staff at Loma Linda, and we have been blessed to have medical and dental professionals relocate to the Carolinas.

Emulating the Great Physician

Many of these professionals are interested in mission work and provide care and skills in regions where medical treatment is not available, or for cases in which patients have limited finances. Following in the footsteps of Jesus, these professionals not only minister to the physical needs of individuals but, in turn, minister to the heartfelt needs of their clients through their Christ-like example. What a blessing to have these professionals here in the Carolinas, aiding in the expansion of the kingdom of God.

“There are today thousands suffering from physical disease who, like the paralytic, are longing for themesage, ‘Thy sins are forgiven.’ ... They can find no relief until they come to the Healer of the soul” Ellen G. White, *The Ministry of Healing*, p.77.

GARY MOYER
Director

Men's MINISTRIES

As leaders in their homes, communities and churches, men are continuously wrestling with questions and challenges regarding their roles as husbands, fathers, and spiritual mentors. Many men struggle with questions such as: What is expected of me? Where do I fit in? How can I be a better provider for my family? Where do I go for counsel and help?

Real Challenges

Addictions such as pornography or substance abuse present great challenges. Some men suffer from emotional disturbances in their personal lives, and feel there is no way out. The giants these men face daily are real and emotionally exhausting, and many men question if there are answers to their problems and look for support within the church. The

Carolina Conference

Men's Ministries Department continues to introduce initiatives to address these relevant issues and meet the needs of the men in our territory.

Resources

Our department provides successful programs and resources for the local church men's ministries leaders. Manuals, DVD's, and books are also made available. Regardless of challenges, we continue to move toward conducting Men's Ministries Certifications.

Outreach

Starting in 2019, our goal was to travel throughout Carolina and visit as many churches as possible, conducting seminars and sharing resources, as well as encouraging, instructing and counseling at the local level.

With travel and physical gatherings postponed by the

pandemic in 2020 and 2021, our department initiated monthly zoom meetings in which we studied Every Man a Warrior, a curriculum designed to help men succeed in life.

Yearly Men's Retreat

The yearly Men's Retreat is a united event for both English-speaking and Spanish-speaking brethren held at Nosoca Pines Ranch. Speakers are invited to separately



present to each language group, but all other events are conducted together. This idea has been very beneficial, both spiritually and in developing camaraderie between the brethren. The men are challenged, encouraged, and drawn to the Bible. With attendance growing each year, it was truly a blessing to recommence this retreat in the fall of 2021.

Objective

The objective of Men's Ministries is to offer the brethren opportunities to grow in grace as men, fathers, husbands, brothers, and Christians. It is our goal to spiritually energize, equip and encourage them to truly become men of God.

Ministerial DEPARTMENT

These six years have been an exciting adventure. The very length of tenure gives a clue to part of that journey.

Since our last session, at the suggestion of Leslie Louis, the Ministerial Council was formed so several departments could work together to coordinate activities and initiatives to further God's work more efficiently here in the Carolinas.

The Ministerial Council consists of Haskell Williams, ministerial director; Glen Altermatt, associate ministerial director and evangelism director; Darryl Bentley, associate ministerial director; and Ricardo Palacios, director for Hispanic ministries, church planting, and church revitalization. Samuel Romero, the previous Hispanic ministries director (now retired) and Brad Cauley, the previous church planting/revitalization director served

much of the six-year term and were replaced by Palacios and Bentley. The Council meets weekly, often with the Conference officers in a joint council, to address the many ministerial needs across our territory. Some of the issues processed through the Ministerial Council are personnel placement, evangelism strategy, church revitalization, and pastoral training and enrichment. The Council also assists pastors and churches in addressing difficult and challenging situations.

Each director has a specific sphere of responsibility. Williams chairs the Council and serves as liaison to the Conference administration for all ministerial matters. Altermatt oversees evangelism and serves as pastor of the local congregation in West Columbia. Palacios directs the Hispanic pastoral team, Spanish-speaking Volunteer

TONY LAPORTE
Director

Lay Pastors (VLPs), and supervises church planting and church revitalization. Bentley supports the non-Hispanic VLPs and provides oversight for the progress of all ministerial interns. In addition, each member of the team provides pastoral oversight and support for a specific region of the Conference, but each team member is also available to meet the needs of the entire pastoral cohort as needed.

One of the most groundbreaking initiatives was the establishment of the VLP program. In coordination with the local congregations, these men and women serving as VLPs are trained to lead their local fellowship when new mission groups are established and in locations where pastors have multiple congregations that would benefit from additional support and attention. Since current Carolina Conference Church Planting guidelines require that all mission groups be lay led, training our lay pastors is a high priority. We have conducted training at Nosoca Pines Ranch, during Evangelism Impact, and via Zoom. Each VLP serves in their local church under a supervising pastor who is either a licensed, commissioned, or ordained pastor in the Carolina Conference. We are thankful for the more than 90 VLPs who work alongside their supervising pastor to provide leadership and pastoral guidance to their congregations.

The Ministerial Department also works closely with Southern Adventist University (SAU) and Andrews University. A team consisting of the Ministerial Department and Conference administration visits both campuses to interview and select dedicated ministerial candidates. Some students are invited to complete an internship in the Summer-in-Ministry program in our churches before their senior year at SAU. We sincerely appreciate the strong theological training that the professors provide students at our universities. It makes our job a pleasure!

Upon graduation, training transitions from the classroom to the field. Some students become assistants under senior pastors in larger churches, while others are placed as lead pastors in their own districts, mentored by experienced pastors and the Ministerial Department. Each fall, all ministerial interns participate in “Interns Boot Camp” along with the interns of the South Atlantic Conference. Every pastor eagerly looks forward to the day they will be ordained or commissioned, and we accept and relish the special responsibility and honor

of preparing them for the world Church’s acknowledgment of their pastoral calling.

The Ministerial Council and Carolina Ministerial Association also plan enrichment meetings throughout the year to maintain connection with the pastoral staff. Meetings at Nosoca Pines Ranch in the summer and winter provide practical in-service training in evangelistic methods and matters of pastoral efficiency. In addition, professors from across the denomination provide additional theological understanding of the precious Scriptures. One-day meetings in the six regions of the Conference, called Area Ministerial Associations (AMAs), support a coordinated effort for Conference-wide initiatives.

Ministers have studied church growth principles with Natural Church Development as well as peacemaking and mediation with the Institute for Christian Conciliation. In 2017 the pastors caucused with Conference educators to facilitate greater cooperation of

our churches and schools in training for service.

One of the greatest privileges of the Ministerial Department is to walk with pastors through difficult times, whether those challenges are within the ministerial family, in the congregation, or in community and civic affairs.

One of the most challenging situations our pastors and churches faced was how to maintain ministry and exercise safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been difficult for everyone, but our pastors have borne the brunt of threading the needle between safety and service, along with its heavy emotional stress. We tip our hats to our pastoral team.

The calling, skills, training, passion and commitment of the 93 Carolina Conference ministers in the field is second to none, and we are so very thankful for each one. Please pray for each of us as we press forward to “the high calling of God” and a completed work and soon return of the One whom we lovingly serve—Christ Jesus.

HASKELL WILLIAMS
Director

GLEN ALTERMATT
DARRYL BENTLEY
RICARDO PALACIOS
Associate Directors



Mount Pisgah ACADEMY

Mount Pisgah Academy (MPA) has been a ministry in Western North Carolina since 1914. Through the years there have been lean times and times of great abundance. Regardless of the challenges, the school continues to be a center of influence. In the last several years we have experienced some lean enrollments. However, we have experienced an abundance in the form of a strong

REMY GUENIN
Principal

endowment fund. This has helped not only to fund capital improvement projects but also to supplement our Touch A Life program, which helps financially challenged families afford Adventist

education. We are told to praise God in all things, and we certainly want to praise the Lord for His goodness and provisions for us!

Mission

MPA's mission is "TO LOVE, EDUCATE and DISCIPLE STUDENTS FOR GOD'S SERVICE." While students are here at MPA, we hope to help each one capture the essence of our reason for being, which is to teach our young people how to serve God and others no matter what career path they choose.

Spiritual Life

Each day at MPA begins with T.A.G. (time alone with God). Students are encouraged to spend a few quiet moments in prayer and the study of God's Word. We strive to make this communion an integral part of everything we do here at MPA, whether it be in classes, at work, at recreation, or at evening worship in the dormitories. On Friday evening, the start of the Sabbath is celebrated with a vespers program. On Sabbath morning the students attend Sabbath School and the divine worship service. It is our desire that each student experience a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and then, in turn, share Jesus with others.

Outreach

We have weekly Service Days in which students go out into the community to help others. We believe that this outreach teaches what it means to serve, and provide for someone else's needs other than their own. In that vein, the music groups, Acro team and Circuit Riders

go out once a month to minister to various churches throughout the Carolinas. Each year we also partner with ShareHim for a mission trip that includes student-led evangelism as well as the direction of a construction project. Every four years we emphasize school-wide missions where every student is involved in a mission project. This can include a trip to another country, another state within the USA, or local work here in our community. We want the students to understand that there is mission work to be done everywhere.

Work Life

Our ability to work comes from God and it is a tremendous blessing when we labor for Him. We offer a work program at MPA to instill the importance of being on time and doing your best no matter the task. The students are not only mentored in their job jobs but also have the opportunity to earn money towards their school bill. This partnership teaches them the value of work as well as the financial commitment it takes to attend MPA. A good work ethic is a life-long skill each student can take with them into a successful adult life.

Academic Life

As an educational facility, we take the academic success of our students very seriously. All subjects are taught from a Biblical perspective. Our teachers are caring individuals who do all they can to guide students to successfully complete their courses of study, even offering extra study periods. We also offer several dual-credit college courses, which helps students prepare for their college experience and gives the financial benefit of completing these college credits at a reduced rate. Many of our graduates tell us that they felt very prepared



for college, and their college professors agree.

Social Life

The ability to build strong friendships and interact with others who have similar beliefs is a huge part of what draws students to MPA. Our recreational program, banquets, clubs, and varsity sports are outstanding. Students look forward to the many events that allow the whole school to fellowship together. So many memories and friendships are created during these high school years. We encourage healthy, wholesome friendships that last a lifetime.

Improvement of the Physical Campus

We are working hard to continue building upon the years of care and improvement that have gone into our campus by renovating the girls' dorm rooms and common areas and building a much-needed bathroom facility at the sports field. We have a brand new S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) classroom that is designed to allow students to stretch their minds and find real solutions to real world problems. Robotics, computers, engineering, and other technology-driven opportunities continue to be an integral part of our society. This is a fantastic opportunity for students interested in learning about technology and how it influences and shapes the world in which we live.

Nosoca Pines RANCH

Year Round

Nosoca Pines Ranch (NPR) was purchased in 1971 and operates as a year-round retreat center. NPR is dedicated to providing a place where members of the Carolina Conference, as well as other groups, may come to know God. Located in Liberty Hill, S.C., on 200 beautiful acres by the shores of Lake Wateree, NPR provides housing, food service, meeting areas and activities for groups up to 300, with camping for up to 1,000. Activities offered include the following: swimming, canoeing, pontoon boat rides, horse rides, hayrides, hiking, basketball, tennis, volleyball, soccer, carriage rides, water-skiing, tubing, wakeboarding and frisbee golf.

About 80 percent of the year-round business consists of groups from the Carolina Conference and about 10 percent from the Southern Union and the other conferences in the Southern Union. Some of these events are as follows: Pathfinder Council, couples' retreats, Pathfinder Work Bee, Sabbath School workshops, community services retreats, elders retreats, academy class trips, Master Guide campouts, literature evangelist retreats, Pathfinder/Adventurer Leadership Conference, retiree retreats, men's retreats, women's retreats, pastoral spouses' retreats, and Outdoor Education. Many of these retreats are offered in Spanish as well.

Summer Camp

The goal of the NPR summer camp program is to show Christ to kids. We accomplish this by hiring about 75 summer staff who are unashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ. These staff spend a week connecting with campers by using exciting activities, worship and

MPA continues to strive to meet the various needs of our students and help them to develop into adults who are well prepared and able to meet the challenges they will face in life. We want them to have success as professionals and as upstanding citizens of society, but what we most want is to know that they will grow into Christ-centered individuals who will be able to withstand the final deception. These words written by Ellen G. White were never timelier than right now, "The greatest want of the world is the want of men—men who will not be bought or sold, men who in their inmost souls are true and honest, men who do not fear to call sin by its right name, men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole, men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall" *Education*, page 57.



programs that intentionally show them that you can take Jesus with you in everything you do. At the end of each week, a decision for Christ is called for and virtually every camper either dedicates or rededicates their lives to Jesus.

NPR has seen continued growth over the last five years, with 2017, 2018 and 2019 at full capacity. The summer camp program scheduled for 2020 had to be canceled because of COVID-19, but an on-line camp program was created and is available free on Nosoca's Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube accounts.

Rick and Helen Faber have managed NPR and run the summer camp program since October 2003.

RICK FABER
Director

Planned GIVING & Trust SERVICES

Mission

The Carolina Conference Planned Giving and Trust Services Department strives to provide constituents with the latest information on estate and gift planning and to assist with their stewardship responsibility for both present and future needs.

RICK HUTCHINSON
Director

With an effective estate plan, members are better prepared to care for family and others, as well as to provide for the advancement of God's cause, all in an environment of confidentiality.

Services

Statistics show that more than one-half of people die without a will. If you are a member of the Carolina Conference, there is no reason not to have an estate plan. Currently, preparation of simple wills and powers of attorney are FREE to our church members and their non-member spouses. The Conference pays licensed attorneys to prepare such estate documents for our church members who request them. Members may update or change/modify their wills and powers of attorney once every five years at no cost to the member.

God gives us wisdom and knowledge to prepare for our eternal lives, and to make plans for the blessings God provides to us. Our PGTS staff conducts will clinics to assist members with estate plans at churches, Camp Meeting, and other locations. Contact the PGTS department at trust@carolinasda.org to schedule a will clinic.

Documents We Coordinate

- Simple wills, financial and healthcare powers of attorney (includes living will provisions). At this time, the simple will and powers of attorney documents are cost-free to Carolina Conference members and their non-member spouses.
- Revocable living trusts, irrevocable trusts, and self-managed trusts
- Charitable remainder unitrusts
- Charitable gift annuities

Commitment

Our department is committed to making sure all our members have access to estate plans. There is no requirement that a member gift or donate any asset to the Carolina Conference or to your local church. However, many of our members have generously done so. Such actions allow them to fulfill the Great Commission to the best of their ability, making certain that funds exist for continuing the ministries of our church.

Prayer MINISTRIES

Prayer Ministries is a vitally important part of the overall mission of the Carolina Conference. We are reminded in scripture to “pray without ceasing,” “to come boldly unto the throne of grace,” and “ask, and ye shall receive,” to name only a few components of an effective connection with Heaven (see 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Hebrews 4:16, and John 16:24).

When you think about it, prayer is like a mobile phone. A dead phone is like no phone at all. It's just a block of metal, useless for anything other than a paperweight (and none of us ever say, “I NEED a paperweight.”) Yet when that phone is recharged, it can be used for communication and to access information and so much more. The power is available, but it needs to reach our phones! In the same way, each and every one of us is useless unless we are connected to God. And prayer is the conduit that connects us to His power. Therefore, Prayer Ministries is the MOST electrifying department in the Carolina Conference!

BETH GRISSOM
Director

In the last two years at the Conference office, we have not only been praying for all of our churches, schools and ministries at morning worship, but we now email the



pastors and teachers asking for requests. This gives us the opportunity to pray more specifically for the needs throughout the Conference, making our prayer time so much more meaningful!

The Carolina Conference Monday night prayer line is available for anyone to join. It is such a meaningful prayer family. We pray for the conference as a whole, and for each other! This family supports one another, shares encouragement, and rejoices together as we see God working in our lives.

The General Conference called on all of us to commit to 100 Days of Prayer leading up to the General Conference Session of 2020. Because of COVID-19, however, the Conference office, along with much of the country, had to close its doors, sending us all home to work. Not knowing how to proceed, we finally decided that prayer was needed now more than ever, and since the Monday night prayer line was not impacted by this safer-at-home period, it was decided to proceed with 100 Days of Prayer on the prayer line. People from across the conference, as well as department leaders in the our office, committed to leading out. Each night for the next 100 days we gathered on the phone to pray. We prayed for the church, both worldwide and locally. We prayed for each other, and any other items on our hearts. It was a powerful 100 days.

We have recently added Youth Pray. This is a Tuesday night Zoom call prayer line led by youth, for youth ages 12-18. A screened adult monitors the call and has the ability to block or silence anyone if needed. To join Youth Pray you must be personally invited or go

through a registration process. We try to keep this a safe place for the youth of the Carolina Conference.

Prayer events have also been an important part of our department, and we do our best to find ways to encourage more attendance at these events. The prayer retreat in 2021 was a wonderful time of learning and fellowship. The retreat was held at Nosoca Pines Ranch, where we prayed together, learned together from guest speaker Tamyra Horst, and played together. Many families attended; it was powerful watching families praying together. It was such a beautiful weekend, and everyone left inspired to make prayer a more important, active part of their daily lives.

We have also led out in several Week of Prayer events at our elementary schools. There is perhaps nothing more exciting than watching our children get really enthusiastic about prayer. Every Week of Prayer we don't just talk and sing, but participate in prayer together. The children are taught that prayer is a conversation between them and God! These events have been a powerful growing experience for our students.

Prayer is such an integral part of everything that is done at the Carolina Conference. This gives the Prayer Ministries Department a mandate to continually work hand in glove with other facets of the Conference, and to find ways to make sure that we as a conference are always keeping prayer front and center!

Prison MINISTRIES



Ongoing Outreach

Prison Ministries serves others by ministering to the needs of inmates in North and South Carolina. In preparation for ministry, volunteers are trained and continuing education is offered by Adventist Prison Ministries Organizations and Affiliates (APMOA), the Southern Union Conference and the Carolina Conference. There were 45 in attendance at workshops during the Prison Ministries Convention, which was held for the first time in July 2022 in Charlotte at the Conference office.

The 50-plus volunteers who serve in both North and

South Carolina provide various programs at Manning, Evans, Broad River, Tiger River, Craggy, Black Mountain and other correctional institutions. At the Mac-Dougall and Lieber correctional institutions, volunteers prepare and provide dinner on the July 4, Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

Correctional Facilities

For the first time, an Adventist chaplain serves at the Camille Graham Correctional Institution for Women.

Our first church plant inside a prison started in the South Carolina Department of Corrections at Lieber. Known as Freedom Through Christ, this service has 125 inmates attending.

Since COVID-19, some of the men were have been transferred to other institutions, but their relocation opened the door for our second in-prison church plant at Evans Correctional Institution. Three inmates are still waiting to be baptized at the Freedom Through Christ church in Lieber.

JIM WETMORE
Director

LARRY BARKER
Volunteer Area Coordinator

Released Inmates

An often-overlooked but very important aspect of Prison Ministries is ministering to the released inmates living in our communities. These battered souls need our continued friendship and mentorship. It is easy to lose touch with them, which is why we are building our first Transitional House in Gilbert, S.C. The land and building were donated by Bill Morgan, and LB Construction is doing the renovations. The North American Division gave \$13,500 to this project. Kitchen cabinets and countertops have been donated, and local churches contributed the remaining monies needed to finish the project. At the time of this report, we are 80 percent done with the Transitional House and only need to insulate the walls before hanging sheetrock, laying the flooring, and painting the interior. Praise Jesus! The board of directors for the Transitional House include Robert Dawson, Tony Bowers, Bill Morgan, David Dorn, Lori Strange, Larry Barker and Victor Gonzalez.

Creative Outreach

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 virus has literally shut down all ministry in the prisons and jails. Not even families have been allowed in to visit. Regardless, with God leading the way, volunteers have been getting creative. Instead of the annual prison staff appreciation dinner inside the women's unit, a drive through was organized. Prison volunteers were invited to come outside to receive an appreciation certificate and a bag of goodies. The grateful prison staff shared that the inmates really miss meeting with the volunteers for worship and Bible study, and are eager to have them come back in.

The only true problem solver for crime is Jesus, and it is an honor to watch Him restore our inmates to their families and loved ones. Please pray that the prisons will fully reopen so we can continue to share the Good News with "the least of these" (See Matthew 25:40).

It is a privilege and honor to be involved with Prison Ministries. When you give to an inmate, you truly give, because they have nothing to give back but love.

Publishing MINISTRIES

Literature Evangelists

For many years Publishing Ministries has been blessed to distribute thousands of books and tracts throughout North and South Carolina. Numerous baptisms have been the result of the Christ-centered contacts made through our 12 faithful literature evangelists. Carolina members hear of their stories throughout the year in the various Conference publications, and during Camp Meeting first-hand accounts.

Glow Tract Ministry

Our goal is to induce our church members in every possible way to reach the unsaved, and our GLOW tract ministry is doing exactly that. Many of our members are involved in the distribution of GLOW tracts on a daily and weekly basis. As one of the stated focus goals of

our Conference, we have made major gains in GLOW tracts being used in our churches by hundreds of faithful members with a wide range of ages. Our

records indicate that 40,000-50,000 GLOW tracts have been sown as seeds across this area of God's vineyard. We continue to be blessed by making this outreach an integral part of our ministry.



Magabook

The Student Magabook programs are going forward at amazing rates. Every summer we have 15-21 young Adventists out in the highways and byways distributing truth-filled literature. These students experience tremendous blessings and encounter divine appointments, all while earning funds to pay for their Adventist education.

During the past six-years, our literature ministry has generated at least 43 baptisms, 25,000-30,000 Bible studies, and over 4,000 pieces of free-literature-initiated face-to-face witness. Praise God for continuing to impress and lead our people to be involved in soul winning!

LANCE MORRISON
Director

Religious LIBERTY

As Seventh-day Adventists, we've always embraced religious liberty as an important part of our beliefs, history, and mission. Religious liberty is in the very DNA of our Church. For us, courageously standing firm for the freedom of conscience and religious liberty for all people is the only option.

The Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty (PARL) serves as the official voice of the Adventist Church on matters of religious freedom and human rights. PARL maintains offices in Washington, D.C. to allow for convenient access to the U.S. Congress; New



Carolina Adventist delegation with Kenneth Davis, South Carolina's Government Liaison Representative, and Kevin James, associate director of Southern Union PARL at the opening day of the 123rd Legislature of the State of South Carolina, January 14, 2020

York City to liaise with the United Nations; and at the Church's world headquarters in Silver Spring, MD. PARL also sponsors the International Religious Liberty Association (IRLA) on behalf of the Adventist Church. IRLA is a non-sectarian organization supporting religious freedom around the world.

In 2017, the Carolina Conference sponsored four pastors to attend the 8th World Congress of the IRLA held in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

During this six-year term (2016-2021) the Carolina Conference Religious Liberty Department has worked together in close partnership with the Southern Union PARL Department to assist members in both North and South Carolina specifically with respect to Sabbath and other accommodation issues. An enormous debt of gratitude is owed to Amireh Al-Haddad, director for the Southern Union PARL, and her associate, Kevin James, for their

tremendous support and assistance with this valuable ministry. Kevin James worked on most of the cases that had an impact on our Carolina members.

The first chart below indicates what transpired within these years (with the exception of 2021, which does not include specific accommodation tallies as most of the calls involved requests for vaccine exemptions):

- Of the two complaints that were filed from our Conference with the EEOC (Equal Employment Opportunity Commission), one was resolved with a \$40,000 settlement.
- 22 members received counseling, nine received other support, and 17 cases were resolved.
- One item not reflected in the chart is a 2017 unemployment case.

These totals include all the different types of cases/problems we work on, including workplace issues, unemployment, vaccine exemptions, testing requirements and immigration/non-combatant letters.

Last, but certainly not least, is our Carolina giving report of offerings that specifically aid in the ministry of public affairs and religious liberty (PARL) issues. These include the distribution of *Liberty Magazine* to key thought leaders and lawmakers in both North and South Carolina, as well as litigation funding. A portion of this offering is utilized by the Southern Union for education and outreach, such as our legislative watch program.

Thank you for your prayers, and for your steadfast and generous offerings as we work together to be faithful watchmen in these difficult times.

LESLIE LOUIS
Director

YEAR	FILED CLAIMS WITH EEOC	COUNSELING PROVIDED	OTHER ASSISTANCE PROVIDED	RESOLVED	TOTALS
2016	1	2	3	5	11
2017	1 (Settled)			5	6
2018		5	1	3	9
2019		10		2	12
2020		5	5	2	13
2021					
TOTALS	2	22	9	17	51

Carolina Conference Religious Liberty Offerings							
2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Six Year Average	Per Capita Giving
\$27,316.62	\$40,919.30	\$33,532.21	\$38,417.46	\$40,876.84	\$34,309.02	\$35,895.24	\$1.68

ShareHIM

ShareHim is grateful to be a ministry of the Carolina Conference ever since its founding by Robert Folkenberg, Sr. over 20 years ago. We are active around the world and right here in the Carolina Conference, and we are funded exclusively through direct donations.

JEREMIAH WEEKS
Director

The mission of ShareHim is to help inspire and equip Seventh-day Adventists to share

the hope they have in Jesus and His soon return. We accomplish this mission through our Young Evangelist program and through the creation and distribution of high-quality presentations to laymen and pastors for use in their home areas.

The Young Evangelist program seeks to instill in young people a heart for the lost, and a passion for sharing the gospel. Each young person travels to a church in another country as the guest speaker for an 11-message evangelistic series, using customizable ShareHim sermons. The experience of studying and presenting the Word—combined with strong mentorship during and after the mission trip—often has a transformational long-term impact on participants.

Great Support

The Young Evangelist program has been growing each year with young adults from more than a dozen countries participating. These include annual projects with Carolina Conference-organized young adult groups and MPA students. The program is made possible through the support of individual donors, the participants' home conferences, unions and divisions, and

Adventist Laymen's Services & Industries (ASI).

A total of 48 young people participated in 2016; 122 in 2017; 146 in 2018; and 155 in 2019. Despite a pause in 2020 because of the pandemic, ShareHim was thrilled to resume the Young Evangelist program in November 2021 with a team of eight young adults and pastors from the Carolina Conference traveling to the Dominican Republic.



Plans are to fully resume the Young Evangelist program in 2022 with an emphasis on inviting pastors to participate in overseas evangelism with young adults from their own churches, leading them to become more involved in ministry and leadership back at home.

ShareHim presentations include two series of evangelistic sermons — with a new series now in development — along with presentation software custom designed to help preachers present ShareHim sermons. These are made available for free for local use by members in several different countries, which augments this incredible, ongoing program. God keeps opening doors for His glory!

Singles MINISTRIES

We are grateful for the service of the many willing and talented people who have been involved in Singles Ministries the last few years. The volunteers have made it what it is today. The

newest director is Eli Rojas Jr. who first began as a helper and was appointed director in 2020.

There are many great opportunities in ministry and our commu-

nity for us in ASAM.

Implementing a Vision

Our vision is to build an effective Adventist Single

Adult Ministries (ASAM), organized to honor God and accomplish the Carolina Conference mission by encouraging, teaching, training, and helping support singles mentally, physically, spiritually, and relationally.

That vision will manifest itself in different ways. We have plans to:

1. Continue to have guest speakers, social outings and activities during Camp Meeting; (2) publish a regular newsletter that will go out to subscribers.
2. Maintain a Facebook page.
3. Explore options for a dating platform to help connect our interested singles.
4. Emphasize regularly scheduled Zoom meetings.
5. Continue Singles Ministries Sabbath where we have a sermon, seminar, and social activity.
6. Explore options for an annual retreat.

7. Partner with our neighbor conferences and union counterparts for events.
8. Improve our online connection.
9. Include programs in Spanish.

These plans are dependent on a strong and connected community. There are several different groups within the Singles Ministries umbrella. Our conference is also covers a large geographic area, and it is sometimes difficult to come together. So we need to work together to creatively accomplish the task of bringing us closer.

While ASAM may not be appropriate for every church, each area should have a coordinator and leader. We can plan and organize as a team that meets the needs of more people and ministers to them.

We need volunteers who are willing to help the ministry through planning, organizing, and coordinating ministry activities. The more of us involved in the process, the more impactful our program. It can even be a tool for discipleship and evangelism.

God willing, Singles Ministries should be so much



more than a dating service for Adventists. It has the capacity to be a ministry and community that will help us grow as we work together. May the Lord pour out His blessings on the singles in our territory and give them direction for the future.

Women's MINISTRIES

Supporting Women

The Women's Ministries department at the conference level strives to assist women at the local church level to develop their personal relationships with Christ, give them tools for service in ministry, and support them in any way possible.

Women's Ministries is more than a department at the Carolina Conference; it is quite literally women in ministry! In the Carolina Conference women make up over 52 percent of the membership. Women are working and serving in all areas of ministry at the local church and conference level. Women are giving Bible studies, running community service programs, teaching Sabbath School, cleaning our churches, organizing potlucks, visiting the sick, providing meals for those who need it, serving as church clerks, treasurers, elders, deaconesses, pastors and greeters, planning local church retreats, and so much more. Women's Ministries is, very simply, women doing ministry — and it is alive and well! Or maybe it is best said that Women's Ministries is women who are Embracing Carolina with the Compassionate Call of Christ.

Retreats

During the past six years, over 4,000 women have attended a Carolina Conference women's retreat. This doesn't even include all the local church retreats. At every event new members, non-Adventists, and former Adventists were in attendance.

In 2020 there was a virtual conference-wide retreat where women tuned in from all around the world. The first night over 100 women were on the Zoom call and hundreds more were watching on YouTube. Many

of those "views" were women hosting watch parties in their homes with as many as 20 women watching together. The view count is now in the hundreds. The theme of the virtual retreat was Deeper, and Gail McKenzie from the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, challenged us all to get excited about Bible study. As a result, many churches started women's small group Bible studies, getting together weekly and studying God's Word.

There have also been retreats at the local church level. These mini retreats have been instrumental in reclaiming members who had stopped attending church. Mini retreats have been a place where women feel comfortable inviting non-Adventist friends. Each retreat has proven to be evangelistic, bringing women to Christ!

Retreats, both conference-wide and at the local church level, often include some type of community outreach. At a 2019 mini retreat in Columbia, S.C., the manager of the local women's shelter was invited to speak about assisting women in abusive relationships. They also raised money for the shelter. In 2021, the Carolina Conference women's retreat invited attendees to write letters for women to read when they receive news of a breast cancer diagnosis. These letters were sent to an organization that supplies doctors' offices with letters for the newly diagnosed women. These are just two examples of the community service outreach that takes place at the retreats.

BETH GRISSOM
Director

Community Outreach

All over the conference women are starting, growing, and managing outreach programs at the local church level. Many of these programs start in the Women's Ministries department and then expand to become departments on their own. An example of this is God's Closet, which has grown so big that it is now its own ministry at the local church level and part of the Community Services department at the Carolina Conference. Bags of Love, another popular outreach, began in the Women's Ministries department at the Arden Adventist Church. This outreach provides necessities and comfort items to children who are in crisis due to neglect, abuse, poverty, or homelessness.

Since 2019 we have been hosting monthly Zoom calls for all the local church Women's Ministries leaders. The women share what they are doing in their churches so



they can learn from each other, encourage one another and get new ideas. This also gives us the opportunity to share what resources are available to the local church from the General Conference, North American Division, the Southern Union, and Carolina Conference.

New Podcast

Joy in the Weeds is our new podcast hosted by Beth Grissom, Women's Ministries director, and Kim Cove and produced by the Carolina Conference. On this podcast Beth and Kim explore how we can have joy and struggle at the same time. They have invited and interviewed many amazing guests, and the podcast has over 5,000 downloads.

Women's Ministries is alive and well! In a world that is uncertain and ever changing, women around the Carolinas continue to serve their families, their churches, and their communities. Truly, women are Embracing Carolina With the Compassionate Call of Christ.

Youth and Young ADULTS

Being part of the youth ministry of the Carolina Conference has been an honor for me since I arrived in 2004 and began my ministry as dean of boys at Mount Pisgah Academy. During that time, I was blessed to work with amazing youth who energized and motivated me to be the best youth leader I could be and to bring honor to

Jesus Christ. As well as working with amazing youth, I also had the privilege to work alongside many Christ-centered, dedicated youth lead-

ers who encouraged and mentored me on our journey to lead our youth to God's throne. In July of 2019, I was privileged to begin serving as Youth and Young Adult director for our outstanding conference.

Adventurer Ministry

This conference was one of the first to promote the Adventurer ministry, which has a rich history of dedicated, selfless leaders working with youth ages five to nine. Our leaders have a vast amount of experience and continue to grow in their knowledge and share their ideas. Led by our 10-member Adventurer Council, meet-

ings are held three times a year to help organize and plan for the promotion, training and execution of our events such as Adventurer Fun Day and the Annual Leadership Convention.

Annual Leadership Convention

The Annual Leadership Convention is a weekend event held at Nosoca Pines Ranch designed to prepare leaders in different disciplines for certification, allow them the opportunity to perfect their talents, and gain knowledge in various areas of youth leadership. An average of 200 leaders attend the weekend event in which 10 hours of training are offered. Along with training we also spend valuable time in worship and fellowship. Materials from AdventSource are made available, allowing the leaders the opportunity to return home prepared to begin their new Adventurer year.

Fun Days and Parades

The Adventurer Council members plan annual events such as Adventurer Fun Days and our parade/award ceremony held each year at Lake Junaluska. The Adventurer ministry of the Carolina Conference has grown to the point where two Fun Days are necessary, and the parade is well-attended by our children. It is a joy to see them marching their way to the auditorium with their beautiful, smiling faces. Pre-COVID-19 we had 49 clubs, 747

HECTOR GONZALEZ
Director

children, and 297 background-checked, certified volunteer staff members. In 2021, most Adventurer clubs paused their ministry due to the pandemic.

Bible Experience Program

Nothing else in our conference has shown more success in encouraging our young, future leaders to study the Word of God than the Pathfinder Bible Experience, which has experienced marked growth in the past few years. We have had outstanding representation of our conference teams at the Union and Division levels. With the success of our Pathfinder Bible Experience program, the North American Division is considering adapting a version for the Adventurer program, which we look forward to incorporating.

Pathfinder Ministry

The Pathfinder ministry was initially designed to serve our junior youth ages 10 to 15; however, over the years we have witnessed the evolution and growth of programs such as TLT (Teen Leadership Track), and Master Guide, which are keeping our older youth and young adults active and engaged in the Pathfinder ministry. Pre-COVID-19 we had seen the Pathfinder ministry grow to 60 clubs, with 950 youth and 447 background-checked, certified volunteer staff members. The Carolina Conference Pathfinder ministry is guided by an amazing team of 38 volunteer council members who meet three times a year to plan and promote events such as the annual Leadership Weekend, the annual Pathfinder Work Bee, the semi-annual conference camporee, and the parade/awards ceremony.

The Carolina Conference is divided into five areas, and five incredibly experienced and dedicated Pathfinder leaders volunteer to lead as area coordinators. They assist in visiting the many clubs in their areas to provide mentorship, training, and encouragement.

Youth Rallies

The Youth Rally programs have grown in just a few years to include even more sites around the Carolina Conference. Weekend evangelistic events for our high school-age youth are planned by the host sites and supported by the Carolina Conference. The rallies being offered annually are IMPACT in November at Mount Pisgah Academy; ALIVE in January at the Spartanburg Adventist Church; and the most recent, REVIVE, in July in Charlotte. We have discussed plans for a Spanish-language youth rally, and look forward to implementing it in the very near future.

Young Adult Ministries

Focusing on evangelistic opportunities for young adults in the Carolinas, we host the yearly AWAKEN Young Adult Rally. This weekend evangelistic experience is geared to our post-high school, collegiate, and non-Adventist young adults in our communities. In 2021 the Conference administration initiated the Young Adult Summits (YAS), where those age 18-35 are encouraged to join our four Carolina Conference officers for supper and an informal discussion of issues, concerns, ideas and strategies for their future growth and involvement in the church.



Officers, Department Directors, Associates and Assistants



Glen Altermatt



Rick Anderson



Eric Bates



Darryl Bentley



Rebecca Carpenter



Cris Cazarine-Dutra



Rick Faber



Henrique Gomes



Hector Gonzalez



David Graham



Beth Grissom



Chad Grundy



Courtney Herod



Deborah Hutchinson



Rick Hutchinson



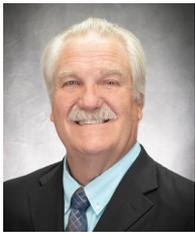
Tony LaPorte



Carole Louis



Leslie Louis



Lance Morrison



Gary Moyer



Ricardo Palacios



Eli Rojas Jr.



Gary Rouse



Kathy Russell



Rick Russell



Elias Sandoval



Norma Sandoval



Stan Shireman



Rebecca Sorrells



Teresa Taylor



JoAlyce Waugh



Jeremiah Weeks



Jim Wetmore



Haskell Williams



David Wright

Carolina Conference Office Personnel 2016-Current

Office of the VP of Administration

VP of Administration: Gary Moyer
Assoc. Exec. Secretary:
Deborah Hutchinson (2016-)
Robert Crux (Retired 2016)
Admin. Secretary: Laura Andrews

Adventist Christian Book Center

Manager: Stan Shireman

Adult Sabbath School and Personal Ministries

Director: David Wright
Secretary: Jayme Rouse

Children's Ministries

Director: Kathy Russell
Secretary: Jayme Rouse

Church Planting

Director: Ricardo Palacios (2021-)
Brad Cauley (-2020)
Secretary: Lorraine Gonzalez (2022-)
Courtne Hodgens (2019-2022)
Zuri Scroggins (2017-2019)
JoAlyce Waugh (-2017)

Communication

Director: Rebecca Carpenter
Assoc.: Courtney Herod
Assist.: Henrique Gomes (2021-)
Intern: Chevon Petgrave (2018-2020)

Community Services

Director: David Graham
Secretary: Lisa Moyer

Disability Ministries

Director: Gary Moyer

Disaster Response/Hope for Humanity/Mission Service

Director: David Graham (2022-)
Phil Rosburg (Retired 2022)
Secretary: Vanessa Arana (2022-)
Zuri Scroggins (2019-2022)
Nicole Stallings (-2019)

Education

Superintendent: Gary Rouse
Assoc.: Rick Anderson (2017-)
Tim Kripps (-2017)
Secretary: Courtne Hodgens (2022-)
Renee Earle (Retired 2022)

Evangelism

Director: Glen Altermatt
Secretary: Lorraine Gonzalez (2021-)
Michele Iglesias (Retired 2021)

Family Ministries

Director: Eric Bates
Secretary: Jayme Rouse

Generous Living

Director: David Graham (2022-)
Rick Hutchinson (-2022)
Secretary: Rebecca Deal (2020-)
Rocio Roberts (-2020)

Health Ministries

Director: Cris Cazarine Dutra (2021-)
Brad Cauley (-2020)
Secretary: Ellen Roberts (2022-)
Courtne Hodgens (2019-2021)
Zuri Scroggins (2017-2019)
JoAlyce Waugh (-2017)

Hispanic Ministries

Director: Ricardo Palacios (2021-)
Samuel Romero (Retired 2021)
Secretary: Lorraine Gonzalez (2021-)
Mary Romero (Retired 2021)

Human Resources

Director: Deborah Hutchinson (2016-)
Robert Crux (Retired 2016)
Assist.: JoAlyce Waugh (2019-)
Deborah Faulk (-2017)
Secretary: Ellen Roberts (2022-)
Norma Sandoval (2018-2019)
JoAlyce Waugh (2017-2019)
Brenda Garcia (-2018)
Statistical Clerk: Ellen Roberts (2022-)
Courtne Hodgens (2020-2022)
Rocio Roberts (2020)
Norma Sandoval (2018-2019)
Brenda Garcia (-2018)

Medical/Dental Recruitment

Director: Gary Moyer
Secretary: Laura Andrews

Men's Ministries

Director: Tony LaPorte
Secretary: Jayme Rouse

Ministerial

Director: Haskell Williams
Assoc.: Glen Altermatt
Darryl Bentley (2022-)
Ricardo Palacios (2021-)
Secretary: Lorraine Gonzalez (2021-)
Michele Iglesias (Retired 2021)

Mount Pisgah Academy

Principal: Remy Guenin (2018-)
Burney Culpepper (2017-2018)
Rick Anderson (-2017)

Nosoca Pines Ranch

Director: Rick Faber

Planned Giving and Trust Services

Director: Rick Hutchinson
Representative: Bob Self (Retired 2017)
Secretary: Rebecca Deal (2020-)
Rocio Roberts (-2020)

Prayer Ministries

Director: Beth Grissom (2019-)
Cindy Mercer (2016-2018)
Debbie Rapp (-2016)
Secretary: Ellen Roberts (2022-)
Courtne Hodgens (2019-2022)
Zuri Scroggins (2017-2019)
JoAlyce Waugh (-2017)

Office of the President

President: Leslie Louis
Admin. Secretary:
Ginger Bentley (2022-)
Babette Crofford (Retired 2022)

Prison Ministries

Director: Jim Wetmore
Volunteer Area Coord.: Larry Barker

Publishing

Director: Lance Morrison
Assoc.: Rubi Pimentel (-2018)
Secretary: Lisa Moyer (2018-)
Rebecka Louis (2017-2018)
Angeliqua Kripps (-2017)

Religious Liberty

Director: Leslie Louis
Secretary: Ginger Bentley (2022-)
Babette Crofford (Retired 2022)

ShareHim

Director: Jeremiah Weeks
Secretary: Jill Weeks

Singles Ministries

Director: Eli Rojas Jr. (2021-)
David Graham (-2021)

Office of the VP for Finance/Treasury

VP for Finance: Rick Russell
Undertreasurer: Chad Grundy
Assoc.: Marlene Morgan (Retired 2022)
Assist.: Norma Sandoval (2022-)
Teresa Taylor
Rebecca Sorrells
Auditor: Carol Marsden (2017-)
Ellen Castro (2022-)
Norma Sandoval (2019-2022)
Judy Schlicht (Retired 2020)
Admin. Secretary: Paola Alvarez
Grounds/Maintenance: Tank Brooks
Receptionist: Lisa Moyer (2018-)
Rebecka Louis (2017-2018)
Angeliqua Kripps (-2017)

Women's Ministries

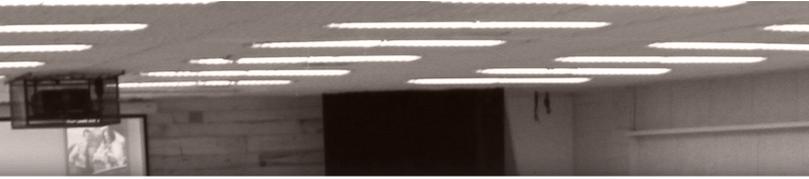
Director: Beth Grissom (2019-)
Cindy Mercer (2016-2018)
Debbie Rapp (-2016)
Secretary: Ellen Roberts (2022-)
Courtne Hodgens (2019-2022)
Zuri Scroggins (2017-2019)
JoAlyce Waugh (-2017)

Youth and Young Adults

Director: Hector Gonzalez (2019-)
Stanley Knight (-2019)
Assoc.: Henry Johnson (2019-2020)
Phil Rosburg (-2019)
Eddie Cornejo (-2017)
Secretary: Vanessa Arana (2022-)
Zuri Scroggins (2019-2022)
Nicole Stallings (-2019)

The Carolina Action

Carolina Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists
PO Box 44270
Charlotte, NC 28215-0043



Official Notice of Constituency Session



CAROLINA CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Notice is hereby given that the 43rd regular session of the Carolina Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc. will be held in the auditorium at Nosoca Pines Ranch in Liberty Hill, South Carolina.

The first meeting is called for 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 18, 2022, and will continue through Sunday, August 21, 2022. The session is called for the purpose of electing officers and formulating plans for the next quinquennium, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the session.