

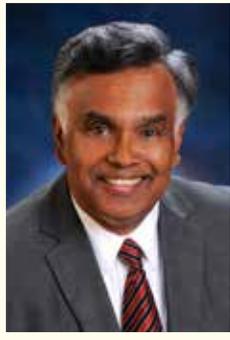
CAROLINA ACTION

ISSUE 3, 2014 EMBRACING CAROLINA WITH THE COMPASSIONATE CALL OF CHRIST

Just the BEGINNING

Page 3





From the President's Pen

by Leslie D. Louis, Carolina Conference President

Thinking "Outside the Box" The Million Dollar Mission!

A catch phrase that has been widely used in businesses and successful models of creativity, "thinking outside the box" has become a common metaphor that means to think differently, unconventionally, or from a new perspective.

God's remnant church has been called out of the status quo to rise with renewed urgency and passion to proclaim the Everlasting Gospel. It is time for us to think outside the box with renewed enthusiasm, imagining the unimaginable!

Camp meeting at Lake Junaluska has always served as the springboard to launch our yearly Carolina evangelism fund, known as Carolina Evangelism. In recent years we have set a goal of \$130,000 to be raised during the week. Then, over the course of the year, this usually grows to well over \$450,000 to fund a variety of evangelistic initiatives across North and South Carolina.

At Lake Junaluska this year there was an incredible turn of events when we stepped *way* outside the box. Pastor Jose Rojas challenged us to raise our vision to a faith goal of \$1,000,000 for evangelism! Could that really be possible? We praise God for the faithful commitment of those who gave generously and sacrificially—a record

amount of over \$220,000 for evangelism during that one week. Since then, \$100,000 more has been received. We are a third of the way toward what we never envisioned before – a million dollar mission for evangelism!

What an amazing blessing it would be if we, as Carolina Adventists, embraced the message and mission that Jesus entrusted to us, rallying like never before to make this happen in 2014! What's a million dollars in a church family of 22,000 members who believe in and long for Jesus soon return? Consider these possibilities:

- One Thousand members giving \$1,000 a year (or \$83.34 a month)
- Two Thousand members giving \$500 a year (\$42.67 a month)
- Four Thousand members giving \$250 a year (\$20.84 a month)
- Every member bringing a gift for His great faithfulness in your life.

Definitely "Out of the Box," but absolutely doable!

As Carole and I prayed about this, we desired to lead the way

by our own example. We've stepped out in a new venture of faith and trust in God. Carole retired from nursing so she can accompany me as my partner in ministry, and we are basically living on my salary (which is not much more than the average ordained pastor). However, we chose to make a sacrificial commitment, knowing that

God would provide. Decisions like these can be difficult, no doubt. But how can we expect God to show His power when we continue to live under our own power?

Two years ago my daughter and her husband moved to the Charleston area. As Carole and I were helping them unpack their boxes and get settled in their new home, my then one-year-old granddaughter climbed into one of the unpacked boxes and looked up with hopeful eyes at her new surroundings. (See picture inset)

Are we looking with hopeful eyes? Hebrews 11 tells us that by faith Abraham lived as an alien in the land of promise, "...for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Heb. 11:10).

My dear Carolina friend, are you truly looking for that city? As you spend some quiet moments with Jesus, it is my earnest prayer that you will join me in an investment for eternity. Bring your special faith commitment to this "out of the box" faith goal. Join me in your support of Carolina Evangelism, and let's hit a homerun for Heaven this year—a million dollars to make millions of disciples for Christ and His kingdom, right here in the Carolinas.

Leslie D. Louis

President – A servant leader for the Lord



Isabella is very good at thinking outside the box.



Leslie Louis, Carolina Conference president, and his wife, Carole, shepherdess ministries director, give words of inspiration and encouragement to the ordination candidates.

Just the Beginning Pastors Ryan Hodgins, Art Randall and Jeremiah Weeks were ordained on Sabbath, May 31, at Carolina Camp Meeting at Lake Junaluska.

Canadian-born Ryan Hodgins lived a very worldly life until, through many miracles, God saved him. Ryan said his greatest desire now is to help others fall in love with the Christ who saved his life. Ryan graduated with a degree in Theology from Canadian University College in 2005, and from seminary at Andrews University in 2013. Currently, he pastors the Concord and Salisbury churches with his wife, Courtnie, and their three daughters. Ryan co-organized the annual Alive Youth Rally in 2009, and said one of his missions is to make sure young people stay close to God with a heavenly passion.

Art Randall spent 30 years working in hospital finance until his passion for Jesus pushed him into ministry. Art was so engaged as an elder in his local church in Pennsylvania that

the conference asked him to be a lay-pastor. When he moved to New Jersey, the same thing happened. After five years as a lay pastor, Art became involved in full-time ministry and then received a call to the Carolina Conference in 2012.

Art now serves as pastor of the Hickory church with his wife, Beth, and their two sons, and said he can't see himself doing anything else.

After graduating from Southern Adventist University, Jeremiah Weeks was beginning a career as a lawyer when he realized this didn't fulfill his passion of preparing people to share Jesus. Now the associate director of ShareHim, a Carolina Conference evangelism ministry, Jeremiah has helped equip others from over 40 different conferences for public evangelism. His wife, Jill, also works with ShareHim and they have two children. Jeremiah said his



Jeremiah and Jill Weeks



Art and Beth Randall



Ryan and Courtnie Hodgins

passion is to encourage God's family to make witnessing and evangelism a way of life right where they live.

The ordination service took place in Stuart Auditorium and included the song "Are You Ready?" by Celestial Praise, as well as a message by Jose Rojas. Haskell Williams, ministerial and evangelism direc-

tor of the Carolina Conference, led the ordination charge, and Conference President Leslie Louis and his wife Carole welcomed the three men and their families into the ministry.

—Anna Bartlett

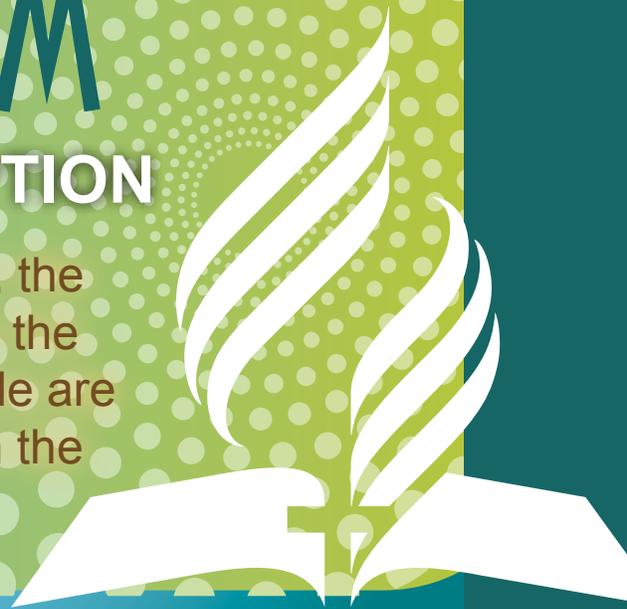
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Carolina EVANGELISM

STORIES OF REDEMPTION

Through an invitation in the mail, the kindness of a neighbor or simply the prodding of the Holy Spirit, people are joining God's Remnant church in the Carolinas.



Photos by Ron Quirk



Ever since his introduction to Christ at age 18, Cody Haynie served the Lord in every way he could.

He was active in his Baptist church, leader of the youth group and did some preaching. While attending Pentecostal Holiness College in Northeast Georgia, he played baseball and even acted as the baseball chaplain. Outwardly Cody lived a godly life, but he was "spinning too many plates" and ultimately burned out.

In 2007 Cody turned away from God and left ministry altogether. Three years later, he felt the Lord compelling him to surrender his life. Feeling that this was the last appeal God was going to make, he finally stopped running and gave his life back to God, promising to follow wherever the Lord led him. This experience rekindled Cody's interest in spiritual matters, so he bought concordances and dictionaries and began to delve deep into scripture. During his studies, he learned that

the dead were not in heaven or hell, but asleep.

When Cody tried to share this discovery, he was rebuked by his pastors and mentors. They told him he was crazy; some even called him a false prophet. Still, he was convinced that what he was studying was true, and felt like he was the only person God had shown this to. Through further study he stumbled across the Sabbath, which raised a lot of questions in his mind. All the same, he was determined not to stand by what he had been taught or what a pastor preached, but by what scripture said.

Cody asked God for a sign that he was on the right path. Two days later he was at a minister friend's house. After discussing doctrine with him for a while, his friend said, "You sound like a Seventh-day Adventist." Cody thought that was strange; he didn't know what a Seventh-day Adventist was, but he wanted to find out.

After some searching, Cody located a Seventh-day Adventist website and was blown away by what he found. Everything God had been showing him through the Bible was listed on that website. Realizing he wasn't alone in his beliefs, Cody started looking for an Adventist church nearby. In February of 2011

he visited the Westminster, SC, church, prepared to walk out if anything was said that contradicted the Bible. Cody has attended there ever since.

—Aimee Garver



The story of Ed and Ann Huffstetler spans two decades and three evangelistic series.

In 1995, with their interest ignited by a brochure received through the mail, Ed and Ann Huffstetler attended an evangelistic series presented in Shelby, NC, by Dale Pollett, conference evangelist. This was the first time the couple had heard the Adventist message, but because Ed worked nights, they were unable to attend the majority of the meetings.

In 2006 they moved to Myrtle Beach, SC. Soon the Huffstetlers received a familiar-looking brochure for another Revelation seminar. Again, Dale Pollett was presenting the seminar, but again, because of Ed's work schedule, Ed and Ann were unable to attend many of

the meetings. This time, however, the Huffstetlers purchased DVDs of some of the seminars. They attended the church a couple times, and that was the end of the story . . . until six years later.

“In 2012 I was going through some videos of some vacations that we had taken, and I happened upon those videos that I purchased at the Revelation seminar,” Ed said. “I brought them in and I watched them, and there was only four or five of them. So I told my wife I’d really like to have the whole set.”

The next day Ed called the local Adventist church to ask where he could get more DVDs of the seminar. The head elder called back and said: “You know what? Dale is actually coming for a seminar right here in Myrtle Beach in January.”

“We went to the seminar in 2013 and Dale answered all our questions,” Ann stated.

After 18 years, through three separate evangelistic series, Ed and Ann finally got to hear a full Revelation seminar and made the decision to join the church.

“They are [now] happy members there in the Myrtle Beach Seventh-day Adventist Church,” Pollett said. “Thank you for your continued giving to evangelism, because it results in souls being saved for God’s kingdom.”

—Anna Bartlett



Marilyn Nater grew up in the Pentecostal movement in Puerto Rico, but she wasn’t feeling the love.

Her father was a Pentecostal pastor, and every week Nater would go to church and listen to him preach. But it wasn’t a relationship with God that brought her there; fear drove her to the church steps.

Nater shared, “It was like I didn’t have another choice. Either I go to hell or I go to heaven. So I went to church. But a lot of things didn’t make sense to me, and I didn’t agree with it.”

When Nater became an adult and

moved to the United States, she began exploring other denominations. She saw a sign advertising a seminar on Revelation at a Seventh-day Adventist church in Fayetteville, NC, and decided to attend it with her mother.

“It was just awesome,” Nater said. “For the first time in my life [religion] made sense. I never forgot about it, because when I started visiting other denominations, none of it made sense.”

Although she found a religion that cleared her confusion, it took Nater 10 years to return to the church. When she did, she started taking Bible studies.

“That’s when I fell in love with God,” Nater said.

Bible studies were making such a difference in her life, Nater decided to start a study in her home. Meanwhile at the church, Nater’s mother attended a meeting on how to invite people to church in preparation for another evangelistic series. Nater’s mother invited all her friends to the series, and those who came also joined Nater’s Bible study.

“My daughters and I were the only ones in the Bible study, but a week later we had a big group,” Nater said.

Pastor Jose Rivera asked Nater if she would share with the church what she was doing to draw others in, but Nater felt unqualified.

“I said, can I do that? I’m not even baptized,” Nater recalled.

Pastor Rivera then asked if Nater would like to answer the calling that started 10 years ago and get baptized. Nater said yes, and told her Bible study group in case they would like to join her. Initially two said yes, but when the lessons were completed, all nine Bible study members got baptized.

“What really impressed me [about this story] was that if a person who is not Seventh-day Adventist can do that for the Lord, what is the message that we who are Seventh-day Adventists receive from that?” said Rivera. “Can we do the same?”

—Anna Bartlett

Through her neighbors, Mary Miller received an invitation to a new way of life.

The Waynesville, NC, church is blessed to have retired pastoral couple Don and Gloria Eckenroth in attendance. This pair takes the gospel commission to heart by befriending non-Adventists and going the extra mile to invite them to church. One such individual was their neighbor,



Mary Miller. In all their interactions with Mary, Don and Gloria used their subtle, soft spoken way to plant spiritual seeds.

At the time, Mary had lots of questions in her heart. Although she had attended first a Baptist and then a Methodist church, she never felt like she fit in anywhere.

One day Don handed Mary a brochure for a prophecy seminar presented by Pastor Tim Sheridan. Immediately Mary knew she wanted to attend. As she sat through the first class, all she could think was “wow!” Mary learned many new concepts, and appreciated the fact that everything Pastor Sheridan said had scripture to back it up. During the second class she took notes, not wanting to miss a single word. “The more I heard, the hungrier I got,” Mary said.

After attending several meetings Mary decided to tell her husband, Marvin, about what she was hearing. To her surprise he responded positively, and asked her to keep sharing what she learned with him. While Mary went to the classes, Marvin did some searching of his own. Out of curiosity he ordered a book that seemed to have information about Biblical prophecy. When he showed it to his wife, she was amazed to recognize it as *Patriarchs and Prophets* by E.G. White. Marvin had no idea the book was affiliated with Adventism.

Eager to put her newfound knowledge into practice, Mary decided to join the Seventh-day Adventist church. Once again her husband responded positively, and completely supported her desire to be re-baptized.

Today Mary Miller loves to share her story, which would not have been possible without the one-on-one personal contact of church members like Don and Gloria Eckenroth. One does not need to have evangelism experience to share Jesus; if seeds are planted, God will bless and the harvest will be plentiful.

—Aimee Garver

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...continued from page 5.

Faced with seemingly unbeatable odds since childhood, Shane and Amanda Kramlich have an amazing testimony of God's healing in their lives.



Today this young couple share their faith with others by going door to door as literature evangelists for the Carolina Conference. One would never guess by looking at them the sadness that the Lord delivered them from.

Growing up in Wisconsin, Shane was surrounded by the destructive influences of drugs and alcohol. Torn by his parents' divorce, he encountered another shock when his mother died while he was in high school. In college, Shane used drugs to escape his inner anguish. He became so desperate that he even once begged the devil to give him peace, but nothing happened. Finally he cried out to God: "If you are real, please send someone in my life to help me!" Two weeks later, he met Amanda.

Amanda also grew up in a broken

in the way she expected.

Feeling that something was wrong, Amanda's stepmother came home early. She found Amanda and called for help. Emergency personnel rushed her to the hospital, and miraculously there was no lasting damage!

Following that experience, Amanda spent about a year and a half in a treatment center before moving to Wisconsin. There she met Shane, and started a journey that would change her life forever.

After meeting Amanda, Shane realized that God did exist, and truly cared about him. This made him anxious to learn more. While perusing a thrift store, the couple found a box of Signs of the Times magazines. One of the articles outlined Bible verses revealing the Sabbath truth. Shane was convicted that they needed to find a Sabbath-keeping church, but he had no idea who Seventh-day Adventists were.

Some months later Amanda visited a chiropractor and noticed a Signs of the Times magazine in the office. The man who left it there was offering weekly Bible studies, so Shane and Amanda went.

Miracles began to happen. The Lord removed marijuana, alcohol and all love of partying from their lives. Nearly a year after finding the Signs of the Times article, Shane and Amanda were married; a week later they were baptized. Now the couple wants to share their story and

more for herself she started to question why she was confessing her sins to someone else when she could go right to God. Things were just not making sense and she never felt truly connected.

This questioning led her to search for something more fulfilling...something that would help her grow in her faith. At a Presbyterian church she felt the warmth of the message and a sense of connection.

A job transfer brought Sierra to Charlotte, NC, where she and her family joined another Presbyterian church. But it was different this time. The church was very large and the Hernandezes never felt the connection that they had before.



Sierra started to pray very earnestly that God would show her what to do and where to go. She loved to study the Bible and wanted to understand the book of Revelation more deeply, so she was praying that the Lord would send her a Bible study on that topic. Three days later David and Sierra received a flier in the

He was convicted that they needed to find a Sabbath-keeping church, but he had no idea who Seventh-day Adventists were.

home. Her father was depressed, addicted to drugs and suicidal. To cope with the trauma, Amanda started cutting herself, drinking and using drugs. When she turned 16 she could not bear the pain of her existence and decided to commit suicide. Praying for God to let her die and be free from her miserable life, Amanda went down to the garage and hung herself. Unbeknownst to her, God had plans to answer her prayer—just not

help others find the peace and hope that a relationship with God brings.

—Aimee Garver

The testimony of David and Sierra Hernandez starts when Sierra was a little girl.

She grew up in the Catholic church, was baptized, confirmed and attended communion—"the whole works!" she said. However, as she grew and studied

mail inviting them to Revelation Today, a series of meetings in Charlotte sponsored by It Is Written and the Carolina Conference.

"I was so shocked," Sierra said. "I didn't know God answered your prayers by mail!"

She started to pray for a sign if they were supposed to attend. She didn't want to be led astray. One day they were driving back to Charlotte from visiting

her son and she saw her sign—and it was a big one! There on the side of the road was a billboard with “Revelation Today” on it...just the confirmation that Sierra needed.

They came to the first meeting and were completely drawn into the message that Elder Ron Halvorsen was sharing. They wanted to know more and couldn’t wait to come back. By the time they realized that the meetings would continue for weeks, “we were already drawn in,” Sierra shares. “We had heard so many truths and new information that I just had to keep going. I felt like if God had led me to it, I was going to go through it!”

Soon the Lord answered another long-time prayer. David’s mother, who lives in Mexico City, Mexico, is a Seventh-day Adventist. She has been praying earnestly for her son. He shared with his mother the good news of his and Sierra’s upcoming baptism, and she was able to watch it through the 3ABN live broadcast.

“It was very exciting for me to know that she was going to see her son get baptized in the church,” said David.

This amazing story of how God is working in the lives of those around us can be summed up in three words: God is good!

—Savannah Brantley



After several weeks of attending a new Sunday-keeping church, Karie Scheffield noticed that her husband, Justin, wasn’t satisfied, but she didn’t understand why.

“It was one of those real upbeat, rock concert every Sunday morning churches,” Justin remembers.

Justin was good friends with Brad Williams, whose father Don is first elder of the Kernersville, NC, Adventist church. The two often visited in Don’s office, and usually talked about their shared interest in cars. One day, however, their conversation took a different turn.

“There was a book laying on my desk, and Justin was looking at it and [asked] ‘Do you mind if I take this?’” Don re-

calls. The book happened to be *See With New Eyes* by Ty Gibson.

“[Reading that] totally changed my life,” Justin said. “It sparked an intrigue... inside me that I yearned to have quenched.”

Inspired, Justin began attending a new Sunday-keeping church with his wife, Karie. Though he thought the music was cool, Justin especially appreciated the pastor’s claim to teach verse by verse, chapter by chapter. As the weeks wore on, though, Justin began having second thoughts.

“I noticed that [the pastor] was interjecting a lot of opinion, not really what it said in the Bible,” Justin said.

Karie noticed that her husband wasn’t satisfied, but she didn’t understand his frustration. She was used to a church with loud music and lights, and she didn’t know enough about the Bible to catch that the preacher wasn’t staying true to scripture.

The true eye-opener came when the church hosted a prophecy seminar. Listening to the guest speaker’s lecture on Revelation, Justin could not help but compare it to what he had learned by watching evangelist Walter Veith’s *Total Onslaught* series. He decided to do his own research to find the truth.

“The more studying I did, the more it solidified that the message that the Seventh-day Adventist church was preaching was the right one,” Justin said.

“Justin started sharing with me what he was learning, and I was a little hesitant at first,” Kari shared. “It didn’t sound farfetched, but it went against some of the things that I had been grounded in.”

Justin started visiting the Adventist church whenever he could, and eventually Don began studying with the couple. They covered prophecy and the church’s fundamental beliefs, and finally the couple found a faith consistent with what the Bible teaches.

“It just kind of all made sense. It all came together,” Justin said.

Karie started going to church with him, and immediately realized that she wanted to recommit her life to the Lord. Shortly afterwards the two were baptized, and they have played an active role in the church ever since.

“They have become like family to us,” Don said.

—Aimee Garver

Carolina EVANGELISM

IT DOESN'T STOP HERE

The hundreds of people who have joined the Carolina Conference this year through Carolina Evangelism aren’t just new members—they’re new disciples who are ready and willing to share what God has revealed to them. When you give to Carolina Evangelism, your dollars have far-reaching effects that will only fully be seen in the Kingdom!

GIVE TODAY:

704-596-3200

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OR SCAN CODE:





Photos by Ron Quick

In 2012, over salad and breadsticks at Olive Garden, representatives from the Carolina Conference to the Southern Union Evangelism Council discussed the soon-to-exist 2014 Southern Union Southern Adventist University Field School for Evangelism.

Led to the local Olive Garden by Haskell Williams, ministerial and evangelism director for the Carolina Conference, the group of Carolina pastors and leaders asked Ralph Ringer, director of church growth and evangelism training for the Southern Union, how they could bring the field school to the Carolinas.

Ringer responded that the headquarters church should have over 200 members, and that at least six other churches within an hour drive also have to want to be part of the field school. All churches involved would

have meetings in their church, and would benefit from group advertising, networking with area churches, training from Southern Ad-

ventist University and the Southern Union and the opportunity to train future pastors.

Jonathan Edwards, pastor of the Greenville, NC, district, immediately said he wanted the field school in his area. Later, area pastors Will Oosthuizen and Bob Fekete, who had been part of the field school in their districts before moving to eastern North Carolina, said they were excited participate again. It was decided that the field school would come to East Carolina in the Summer of 2014.

Alan Parker, professor of mission and evangelism at Southern Adventist University (SAU), Michelle Doucoumes, SALT (Soul-winning And Leadership Training) program coordinator at SAU, and Ringer held

several training events and student evangelists held a revival in each church during their spring break in March of 2014. Other preparation work and advertising through media such as flyers, TV, radio and newspaper ads was enacted by the hosting churches. Finally in May, the students and pastors arrived.

Evangelistic meetings took place at the Goldsboro, Jacksonville, Jacksonville Spanish, Kinston, New Bern, New Bern Spanish, Robersonville, Umoja and Wilson churches, and about six Carolina pastors were involved in mentoring the 15 student evangelists. Meetings were held four nights a week, May 9 through June 7. The student evangelists held their meetings four nights a week and had classes with Parker and Ringer two days a week. Parker was the Greenville speaker, while Ringer traveled to other church sites to coach the student evangelists. As of June 7 there have been 29 baptisms and professions of faith, and more are expected in the weeks to come.

—Anna Bartlett

FIELD SCHOOL OF EVANGELISM

Pathfinder Bible Experience

It was an amazing weekend in the DC area this past April when over 600 pathfinders from the U.S. and Great Britain participated in the final competition of Pathfinder Bible Experience.

The Arden Pathfinder Club had not one, but two teams representing the Carolina Conference in the division round. Pathfinder Bible Experience is a team-based challenge which tests the young people on their knowledge of Scripture. A book of the Bible is chosen each year and Pathfinders eagerly commit themselves to intense study of that book. After months of preparation, they publically test their familiarity of the passages with other teams in their area.

Stanley Knight, director of the Carolina Conference youth department, explains that the Pathfinder Bible

Experience comes from a long line of Adventist Bible Quiz programs, but was developed to minimize the fierce competition that plagued previous programs.

“If a team reaches 90 percent they are in first place,” Knight said. “The highest scoring team becomes 100 percent, and all other teams are scored accordingly.”

Teams can participate on four



levels: area, conference, union and division. The topic for the division finals was on the book of II Samuel, and the Arden Pathfinders set such a high score that other clubs were hard-pressed to keep up! They were thrilled to score in the 90th percentile

and be called International Champions. Many other teams placed first as well, which shows that anyone who studies the Bible is a winner.



Pen Braister-Sturgis

With Oshkosh right around the corner, many Pathfinders are busy making plans for a trip to Wisconsin in August. The Arden church Pathfinders are looking forward to this “Forever Faithful” Camporee, but they have already had an exciting year.

Programs like the Pathfinder Bible Experience are paving the way for the Lord’s last day church, and it is clear that He is blessing their efforts.

—Aimee Garver & Pen Braister-Sturgis



Fletcher Church Remodels Sanctuary

On Sabbath, May 24, 2014, the Fletcher church in Western North Carolina celebrated the completion of the first phase for its “Space for Grace” renovation project. With the long awaited restoration of the sanc-

tuary and narthex complete, the Fletcher church held a special afternoon dedication service. Several of those who applied their skilled craftsmanship to the project were in attendance. Some former members of the church also returned to see the completed work, giving the dedication an air of homecoming.

Some of the changes that were made include all new pews and new carpeting, as well as repaired portions of the subflooring. Fourteen new stained glass windows depicting the life of Christ



line the walls of the sanctuary. The audio-visual equipment also received a much-needed upgrade to high-definition digital quality, greatly enhancing the overall worship experience. Stepping inside the sanctuary for the first time, one would think they had entered an entirely new church.

Part of the significance of ‘Space for Grace’ is that it was done without entering into debt. Like the children of Israel in the building of the tabernacle, free-will offerings were taken up by the church to build the House of the Lord. Elder Leslie Louis, president of the Carolina Conference, gave the closing dedicatory prayer, praising God for His hand in making “Space for Grace” such a success.

—Andrew Kerbs





Photos Contributed

GOD SAID, “WILL YOU GO?” SHE SAID YES

Karyn Davis, a member of the Kernersville, NC, church, was pursuing her graphic design degree at Southern Adventist University when in January, 2013, she felt the call to serve God as a student missionary.

“I wanted to experience Christ in a whole new way,” Karyn remembers. “I was restless for meaning and purpose.”

After praying and seeking the advice of her parents, Karyn went to Southern’s student missions office and interviewed with Julie Norton, the Student Missions coordinator. Together they decided that Pohnpei, Micronesia, was the place for Karyn to serve. In August 2013, Karyn found herself zooming across the Pacific Ocean to the tiny island where 26 third graders eagerly awaited her.



Karyn loved working with her class of third graders, even making coloring sheets for them to enjoy.

Stepping off the plane, she was welcomed by the sweltering heat and the thrilling adventure of the unknown.

Teaching six subjects and figuring out classroom management would have been enough to keep Karyn busy, but she encountered additional unexpected challenges as well. Strep



throat, kidney stones and a dog bite ravaged her health. At the same time, daily opportunities to share her faith and one close encounter with demon possession opened her eyes to the intensity of the spiritual warfare going on around her. Karyn recorded her adventures on her blog, www.overseasunderskies.tumblr.com.

“Every trial brings a humbling awareness of how powerful God is and how hard He rages on my behalf,

...continued on next page.

but He has yet to lose a battle,” Karyn said.

Ten months later, Karyn is home again and continues to serve young people as the pool director at Nosoca Pines Ranch, where she is thankful to have access to hot showers, air conditioning and abundant fruits and vegetables—all luxuries by missionary standards. When Karyn returns to Southern’s campus this Fall, she is looking forward to joining the campus ministries team where she hopes to inspire others who visit the student missions office and make the choice to serve and to support them in their adventures.

“If I hadn’t abandoned the comforts of home, I would never have experienced the challenges that enabled me to discover amazing things about God, His Word and who I am in Him,” Karyn says.

“In the time that I’ve been at Southern, I’ve been able to truly see God working in my life. I’m so glad He called me and that I listened when He said, ‘Go.’”

—by Angela Baerg



**Knowing
the
Peacemaker**

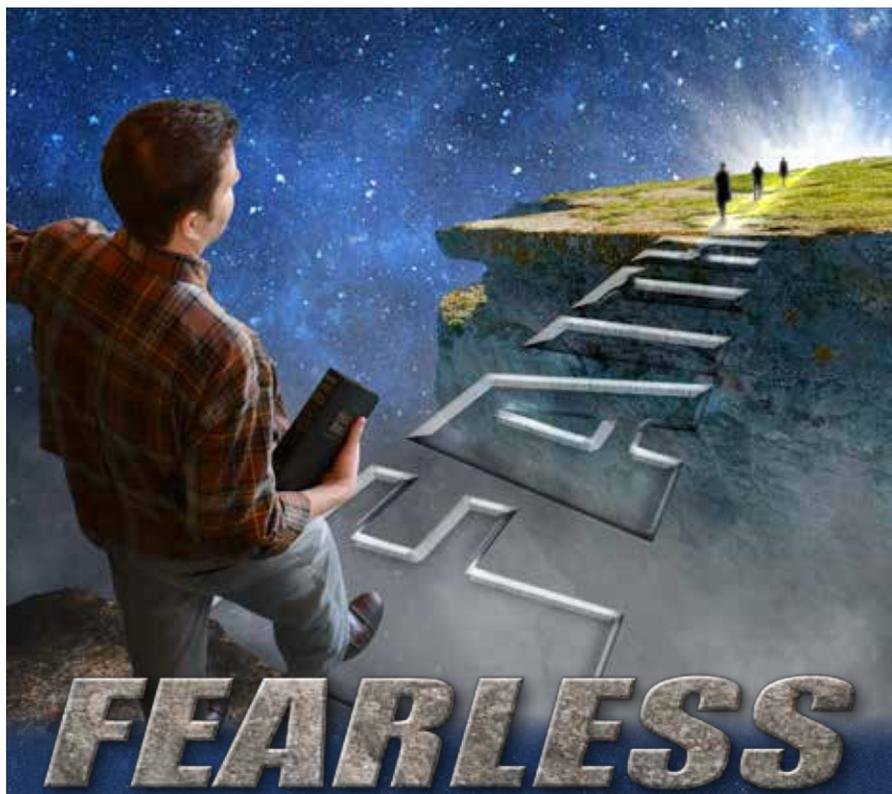
October 10-12, 2014
at Nosoca Pines Ranch

**2014 Carolina
Conference
Women’s
Retreat**



Featuring:
*Dr. Janice Johnson
Browne
and Celia Waller*

Design by Kayla Fraulman



FEARLESS

THE BATTLE BELONGS TO THE LORD

LOW COUNTRY CAMP MEETING
SUMMERVILLE CHURCH, OCT 18, 2014
520 GAHAGAN ROAD, SUMMERVILLE SC 29485-5826

SPEAKERS:



DEREK MORRIS
Senior Pastor
Lake Forest Church, NJ



RICK RUSSELL
Treasurer
Carolina Conference

EASTERN CAROLINA CAMP MEETING
GREENVILLE NORTH CHURCH, OCT 25, 2014
4658 REEDY BRANCH ROAD, WINTERVILLE NC 28590-8924

SPEAKERS:



JAMES NIX
Director
Ellen G. White Estate



GARY MOYER
Vice President
Carolina Conference



BRAD CAULEY
Director of Church
Planting
Carolina Conference

MUSICAL GUEST:
CHARLES HAUGABROOKS

The ACBC will be available after sundown
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED (No additional snacks/drinks provided)

FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.CAROLINASDA.COM

GENEROUS LIVING

ALL OF ME IN RESPONSE TO ALL OF HIM



A Generous Monopoly An allegory

Many people found themselves in Redemptionville for one reason or another. Its population was a varied group of individuals, much like you would find in any city: the wealthy and less fortunate; seniors, children and everything between; and a broad mix of cultures and ethnicities.

From the time it was founded Redemptionville had borne the nickname “City of Light,” though its reputation far exceeded its luminosity. Fact is, it had been mostly dark for many years, with the exception of pockets here and there. It wasn’t as if the city was so remote that power could not reach it. An Investor had established a power plant on the rise just north of town, and for years it had been the subject of conversation. A legend was widely told of the first settlers, who were fully connected and powered.

Though there were no visible power lines to the city, many individuals still claimed to have service. The power was supposedly available through a ‘T-Grid’ to those who applied. Others were highly suspicious of the assertions, avowing that no scientific tests could substantiate the

claims as valid.

You see, no one knew anyone who worked at the power plant, and none of them had been inside it. There were, however, written accounts that the Son of the Investor had come to town representing the plant—to tell the residents about the power that was available to transform and energize their lives.

Clients, the avid supporters, declared that the power plant supplied Three-Phase rectified power for their lives through the ‘T-Grid.’ Some residents showed interest, noting the glow that was perceived where clients lived and worked.

Others were hesitant or even resistant to joining the ‘T-Grid.’ On any given street corner, one could hear some of the following comments:

- “It sounds too good to be true. What’s the catch? I think it’s too much trouble to get connected.”
- “I’m a practical scientist myself. If it can be done, I can figure it out and do it myself.”
- “I just don’t trust them. Isn’t power dangerous? I’ve heard some scary things about that ‘T-Grid.’”
- “I don’t have the time for such stuff, and I hear it’s really expensive.”
- “I wouldn’t want to be dependent on Someone else. I can take care of myself.”
- “I don’t like it when Someone has a monopoly on anything,

especially power.”

Besides the excuses, others just wouldn’t put forth the effort. Needless to say, they continued to live without power and without light.

Meanwhile, the Son’s slogan was regularly repeated by His clients: “Come buy power, buy light without money, without price.” They gladly gave word-of-mouth recommendations to friends and neighbors, but they couldn’t share the power or help others plug in ‘daisy-chain’ style. It had to be a direct personal connection.

Oh, and the rumors about a monopoly turned out to be true! Despite all attempts by other inventive citizens of Redemptionville to duplicate the power and avoid connection, nothing ever worked. Solar collection, ecological ‘green power’—they were all failed attempts. Simply put, there was no other source of rectified power, no competitors!

And the jingle was true, too—the power WAS available without cost. It was abundant; it was free. It was a monopoly, but... a generous monopoly. The catch? Joining the ‘T-Grid’ was only possible with the ancient currency of Trust, and Trust was lacking.

But for those who really wanted power, it was there, brightening and transforming their lives.

—Haskell Williams

To learn more about
Generous Living, scan
this code or go to
www.carolinasda.org.





Moncks Corner Celebrates Mortgage Burning

A wonderful celebration occurred May 17, 2014, as the Moncks Corner church joined together with the Carolina Conference to burn the mortgage for their church.

Supporting this ceremony was Chad Grundy, undertreasurer for the Carolina Conference, and Leslie Louis, president of the Carolina Conference. Also present was Mario Munoz, who was the church's first pastor.

The church started in 1999 when people began meeting in a member's living room. Their group expand-

ed until they outgrew their small quarters, then moved to a middle school library where they continued to worship for more than five years.

The worship services and administrative duties were all managed by lay members from November 1999 until October of 2001, when the assembly received their first pastor. Soon after forming a company, the group was excited to be recognized as an official church on May 18, 2002, with 33 members signing the charter.

Their next goal was a church building. Although they had very little money, they had monumental faith that God would provide them with



Photos by Ron Quick

a place to worship. They soon were able to purchase ten acres, which facilitated their dream. On December 10, 2005, they dedicated their new church building to the Lord.

Over the years the church has become a model of spiritual leadership. They recently dedicated Hope Center, a service ministry which

provides food, clothing, and furniture to members of their community. As the center's name implies, this church is dedicated to "helping others for eternity."

Moncks Corner has claimed and will continue to claim the promise that "with God all things are possible." As they gathered to burn the mortgage and celebrate this milestone, all praise was given to our Heavenly Father for the "great things He has done!"

—Savannah Brantley

Pickens Church "Welcome Table"

Reaching the Community for Christ

Despite limited funds, time and manpower, the Pickens, SC, church has committed itself to the community in a new way, with wondrous results.

On the first Tuesday of each month, the church sponsors the "Welcome Table" to any and all members of the Pickens community. Working in concert with the food bank next door, the church serves a hot meal between 12 noon and 1:00 p.m. to anyone who comes to the church.

"God has blessed this effort beyond our wildest dreams," said Becky Ford, leader of the Welcome Table team. "We stepped out in faith, and He answered at our very first meal."

The first event, held on February 4, 2014, drew 52 hungry neighbors from the surrounding area. Following their initial success, the Welcome Table team is expanding their efforts and hopes to partner with local grocery stores in order to feed



more people.

Becky's husband, Steve, described the feeling of feeding the hungry: "We know the truth of Matthew 25:40 that tells us '...whatever you did for the least of these my brothers, you did likewise for me'. But actually doing so gives one a blessing beyond description. When

we are serving others, we are truly serving Christ."

—Steve Ford



Biennial
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CONVENTION**

GATLINGBURG, TENNESSEE | OCTOBER 9-11, 2014



DIRECTOR, MEDICAL/DENTAL/HEALTH PROFESSIONAL DEPARTMENT,
SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE **Jim Davidson**

Welcome to the 25th consecutive biennial Medical/Dental/Health Professional Convention. We invite you to fellowship together in the beautiful Smoky Mountains. We know your participation in the weekend will refresh your faith, renew old friendships, and reconnect you with your family and loved ones. Continuing education for physicians, pharmacists, dentists, nurses, and allied health professionals are also part of this special weekend. We look forward to seeing you there.



WEEKEND GUEST SPEAKER **Karl Haffner, Ph.D.**

Karl Haffner has spoken extensively to healthcare organizations on topics ranging from leadership issues to soul fatigue. His humor and enthusiasm are infectious, delighting audiences around the world with his passion and perspectives. His B.A. and Master's degrees in business administration, combined with his B.A. and Master's degrees in theology, along with a Ph.D. in leadership, make Karl a forceful and credible voice. Karl currently serves as the Senior Pastor for the Kettering Adventist Church in Kettering, Ohio, and also serves as the Mission Strategist for the Kettering Health Network.

SPEAKERS



Leif K.
Bakland



Eileen J.
Brantley



Willie L.
Davis



Naomi Florea



Holly Gadd



Henry Garcia



Barbara
James



Frances
Johnson



Michael
Liedke



David
Markoff



Philip Mills



Lilly Tryon

MUSICAL ARTISTS



Charles
Haugabrooks



Carolina
Heart-Song

GOLF TOURNAMENT

A Golf Tournament will be held at Gatlinburg Golf Course on Friday, October 10, at 11:30 p.m. Advanced registration is required by September 30, 2014.

"As challenging as it is beautiful, Gatlinburg's Golf Course features one of the most dramatic golf holes in America. Golfers say the 12th hole and the scenic beauty of the course is the reason they keep coming back year after year."

**For more information or to register online go to,
WWW.SOUTHERNUNION.COM/MEDICALDENTALRETREAT**

Carolina Obituaries

CHERRY, JOHN ELMER SR., 88, born in 1926 in Vassar, MI, died April 13, 2014, in Flat Rock, NC. Cherry taught for five years at Fletcher Academy and was a member of the Fletcher church. He was preceded in death by his parents, Theodore and Alexandrene Vasselkovsky Wazdatskey; and siblings, Mary Wazdatskey, Paul Wazdatskey, Joe Wazdatskey, Anna Brown, Sophie Oles, Phillip Wazdatskey, Pete Wazdatskey and Leo Branson. Surviving are his sister, Lillian Rauch of Altamonte Springs, FL; sister-in-law, Barbara Wazdatskey of California; children, John Cherry, Jr. of Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Jeanne Lynn Watts of Watkinsville, GA, Jimmy Cherry of Loma Linda, CA, and Kay Gordon of Saluda, NC; seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

DALE, LOIS K. WIIK, 82, born May 14, 1931, in Duluth, MN, died May 7, 2014, in Morganton, NC. She was very active in all areas of church life and especially enjoyed serving as a Cradle Roll teacher. Lois loved flowers, crafts, sewing, reading and caring for children. She was preceded in death by her brothers, Albin and Roy Wiik; and a sister, Geraldine Henson. Surviving are her husband, John "Sug" Dale; brother, Alfred Wiik of Fletcher, NC; sister, Harriet Wiik Merrell of Morganton, NC; three children, Diatra Washburn and Vonda Killen, both of Morganton, and Craig Killen of Glen Alpine, NC; four grandchildren, Michael Washburn, Kristofer Killen, Tiffany Taylor and Curtis Killen; and a great-grandson, Caleb Aidyn Washburn.

HESS, JERRY GENE, 85, born Nov. 14, 1929, in Battle Creek, MI, died Feb. 15, 2014, in Wilmington, NC. He served as a literature evangelist for 25 years. Hess never knew a stranger and never spoke unkindly of others. He had an infectious sense of humor that often caused him to reach for his beloved hanky. He deeply treasured his family and friends, and had an eternal desire to bring others to Jesus. Surviving are his wife, Suzy; his stepson, David; and three daughters; Shirlee Crowson of Danbury, NC, Shireen Henson of Pearisburg, VA, and Debbie Throop of Tampa, FL.

JUSTUS, EDNA SILVIA, 86, born Dec. 25, 1928, in Henderson County, NC, died April 17, 2014, in Fletcher, NC. Edna worked for 30 years as a registered nurse at Mountain Sanitarium and Hospital in Fletcher, assisting with the delivery and care of hundreds of newborn babies throughout Henderson County. After retiring, Edna served the Fletcher church and community with kindness and meaningful ministry. She was preceded in death by her parents, Edgar Sevier Justus and Cora Ward Justus; her twin brother, Edgar Sevier Justus II; and four sisters, Blanche Justus, Florence Erwin, Ethel Smith and Charlotte Terry. Surviving are her four nephews, Tommy Smith of Charlotte, NC, Albert Erwin of Lyman, SC, Edgar S. Justus III of Virginia Beach, VA, and Mike Justus of Richmond, VA; two nieces, Barbara Wensus of Columbia, MD, and Mary Ellen Knott of Naples, NC; and several great nieces and nephews as well as great-great nieces and nephews.

Carolina Conference Calendar

July

Master Guide Training—25-27.

Nosoca.

Sabbath School Workshop—25-27.

Nosoca.

Pastoral Family Retreat—27-30.

Nosoca.

August

Carolina Teachers Convention—1-4. Gatlinburg, TN.

Parenting Seminar—8-9. Arden.

Prayer Rally—9. Arden.

Pathfinder/Adventurer Leadership Convention—22-24. Nosoca.

September

Carolina Retiree's Retreat—1-4. Nosoca.

GLOW Tract Training—5-8.

Kernersville. Please contact Publishing Director Lance Morrison for additional information.

Crisis Care Class—6-7. Asheville North.

Hispanic Camp Meeting—12-14. Nosoca.

Crisis Care Class—13-14. Spartanburg.

Prayer Summit—19-20. Raleigh.

Lay Leader Appreciation & Training Meeting—21. Nosoca.

Hispanic Women's Retreat—26-28. Nosoca.

October

Women's Retreat—10-12. Nosoca.

Community Service Retreat—17-19. Nosoca.

Elder's Certification—24-25.

Charleston. This session focuses on visitation.

This is part two of a four-part series in our Elder's Certification Training Program. Ralph Ringer, director of growth & evangelist training for the Southern Union and Haskell Williams, ministerial director of the Carolina Conference, will be presenting.

Low Country Camp Meeting—18. Summerville, SC.

ECCM Camp Meeting—25. Greenville, NC.

Honduras Mission Trip—31-Nov. 9. Visit www.carolinasda.org for more information.

For an online version of this calendar, visit the Carolina Conference web site at www.carolinasda.org.



Photos by Becky Carpenter

Baptisms at Hispanic Camp Meeting

Jesus is coming very soon! We as church members have to be ready to be used as instruments in God's hands to "Prepare the Way." This was the main focus of the Hispanic camp meeting held May 16-18, 2014. The main speaker, Ricardo Norton, came



from Andrews University to encourage members to spread the Gospel. Almost 500 people listened to his messages and

Sabbath evening, four souls gave their lives to Jesus through baptism: Ramón Reyes, Regina Hernández, her husband, Edgar Lazo and their son, Edgar Hernández. They are all members of a new group from Salisbury.

Pastor Ruben Bullón was the guest speaker for the young adult program. They were delighted with his presentations.

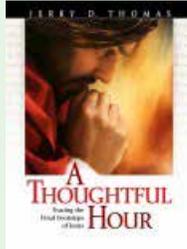
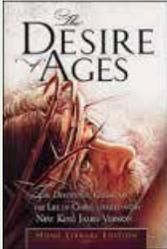
—Mary Romero

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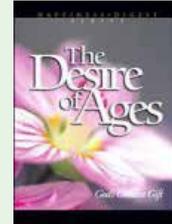
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