

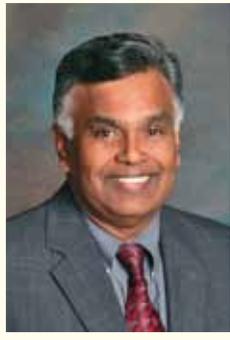
CAROLINA ACTION

ISSUE 2, 2013 EMBRACING CAROLINA WITH THE COMPASSIONATE CALL OF CHRIST



GENEROUS LIVING

page 2 What is Generous Living?
What does it mean to you?



From the President's Pen

by Leslie D. Louis, Carolina Conference President

GENEROUS LIVING

ALL OF ME IN RESPONSE TO ALL OF HIM

The days of 2012 are now just pages of our past. But what a year it has been for both Carole and me as we transitioned into our calling to serve His church in the Carolinas. It's been a year filled with outstanding memories and opportunities ...but to be perfectly honest, a year filled with its share of challenges and stresses, too. However, our greatest blessing has come from visiting our churches and schools and being introduced to the many wonderful people that make up our growing church family of 21,000 members!

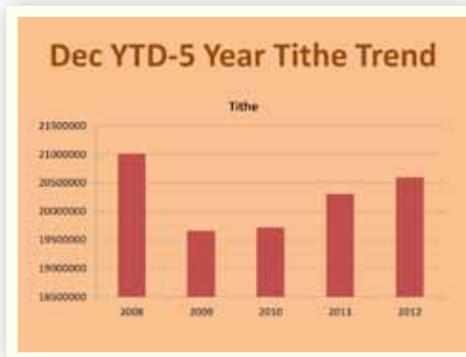
It's easy to fall prey to despair when we meet life's challenges and what may seem like overwhelming obstacles. That's why I cherish the Word of God and its precious promises. One of my favorites is in Philippians 4:6-7.

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus." (NLT)

In these times of economic uncertainty, I am so thankful for Heaven's blessings which provide the financial resources we need to continue the work Jesus has entrusted to us. As the storehouse for the tithes and offerings of our membership, the Carolina Con-

ference distributes these sacred funds to support a vast array of ministry functions that are part of God's work in the Carolinas, the Southern Union, the North American Division and the world field of our Advent movement.

In this economic climate, perhaps you are wondering what our financial challenges are? On this graph you can see the past five years of tithe return in the Carolina Conference. In 2008, our tithe reached an all time high of over \$21,000,000. Then, with the rest of the economy, we took an unfortunate plunge in 2009 and have been gradually climbing out of that dip. As you can see, we are managing God's church in the Carolinas with around



\$400,000 less tithe income than we did back in 2008. That's even with all the increased expenses over the past five years such as cost of living adjustments, medical expenses and insurance premiums. Obviously, this has developed a need to restructure programs and scale down expenses. This involves a degree of reduction in our personnel and reorganization of some of our church districts. However, that has proven to be a blessing as we transition to involving more of our lay members in the ministry of the church!

I invite you to read my State of the Conference message on our

Carolina Conference website to learn more about how we are meeting our financial challenges with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We, as humble servants of the Lord, desire to walk forward in faith knowing that He will provide, while also maintaining conservative appropriations as faithful stewards of His storehouse.

Approximately 35% of all the tithes received in the Carolina Conference are distributed to support the global work of the church. The relative prosperity that we enjoy in North America affords us the privilege of helping God's work to grow in other countries around the globe. In addition, some of these funds are used right here in North America to fund our educational system, our publishing houses and public evangelism. The remaining 65% stays right here in the Carolinas to support our pastors, teachers, conference workers, Mt. Pisgah Academy, Nosoca Pines Ranch, and a host of other ministries, including our annual camp meeting gatherings – both at Lake Junaluska and the Eastern Carolinas.

The Carolina Conference leadership has prayerfully developed a fresh new venture entitled Generous Living - All of me in response to All of Him. It has three goals: it spiritually encourages a deeper commitment and total surrender to the Lord Jesus; it educates our church family in how we can be faithful stewards of Heaven's resources; and it communicates the effects of living generously for the Lord with respect to the use of our time, talents, His temple and our treasure. In Matthew 6:21, Jesus gives this gentle counsel: "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Here in the Conference office we

Continued on page 4 . . .

Thoughts on Generous Living

gen·er·ous

[jen-er-uhs] adjective

1. liberal in giving or sharing; unselfish: a generous gift.

2. free from meanness or smallness of mind or character; magnanimous.

3. large; abundant; ample



Rich Lessons from a Poor Widow

I love the account of the widow's mite in Mark 12. It is so rich with lessons for life.

Our giving matters to Jesus. Our savior was right there watching as people put their offerings in the temple treasury. My financial life really is important to Jesus.

Jesus understands the circumstances of our giving – He recognized that she was “poor,” giving all she had. He knew that her “little” gift was huge, while others’ huge gifts were very little. The beauty of God’s system of tithing is that he considers our circumstances. If I earn more, I give more. If I earn less, I give less. He also knew that the widow was giving the last of her means to a corrupt church. He could have grabbed her hand and stopped her, but he didn’t. Her heart was in the right place, perhaps trusting that God could take care of His Church. Jesus was not about to rob her of the blessing.

Jesus commends sacrificial giving – In the multitude of “comfortable givers” our savior commended the poor widow in her hearing, before his disciples. He notices and commends us too, when we give from the treasure of our heart.

I just can’t help but to think that the poor widow serves as a reminder of the Ultimate Sacrificial Giver. When we give sacrificially, from the heart, we are being like JESUS. He gave it ALL for us. When He died on the cross for our salvation, God’s pockets were EMPTY. We are so rich!

by Gary Moyer, Carolina Conference Executive Secretary

He Just HAD to Help

“The materialistically oriented cannot fathom that it *really is* [emphasis mine] more blessed to give than to receive, and that life does not consist in the abundance of our possessions.” Ed Reid goes on to say in his eye-opening, heart-ripping 1993 [!] copyrighted book *It’s Your Money! Isn’t it?*, “World economic conditions have nearly everyone concerned. . . .”

Fast-forward to 2013. What else is new? There will always be another church program, more taxes, retirement fund shrinkage and, oh-yeah, that dentist appointment copay. The red light on the jitney dashboard needs a-lookin’ at, the roof is leakin’, the kids need doctorin’ . . .

Jesus was busy-booked, too. I mean, He had a universe to run! This pesky

Continued on page 4 . . .



Gary Moyer



Rick Russell



Ken Ford

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From the President continued from page 2

have developed a Generous Living team made up of nine individuals that meet each Monday morning to pray for the blessing and outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our resources. We also pray for wisdom and discernment in the use and appropriation of His sacred funds. This Team gathers again each month to collaborate and share ideas, develop communication resources, guide the Generous Living Teams developing in each of your churches, and plan annual inspirational and educational Generous Living summits. You will soon be hearing more about this Generous Living initiative through the coming month in your own church. As you listen to and read the materials that will be shared with you, know that through

much prayer, God's Spirit has guided the thoughts and ideas they contain, so please allow them into your heart. A generous Life is not without sacrifice, but can't you just imagine the joy and fulfillment we will have in giving "All of me in response to all of Him?"

I invite you to pause for a moment right where you are and reflect on the words of that well-known hymn of commitment:

All to Jesus I surrender,
All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.

I surrender all,
I surrender all.

All to Thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

My friends – is that the desire of your heart? When we commit our

lives fully to the Lord, God will move our hearts to trust in Christ completely, and He will bless our faithfulness beyond all measure. He can replenish our handful of meal and few drops of oil, He can break and multiply our simple five loaves and two fish, He can acknowledge and magnify our two remaining mites. Yes, my friends...I know He can take what we bring to Him in faith and bless it with His amazing, miraculous touch. And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

Your servant leader,



Thoughts on Generous Living

continued from page 3

planet was kicking a fit. We were in focused, flagrant rebellion. He knew that we would aim our high-capacity magazine rounds at Him!

It—was—personal...to Jesus!!! He just *had* to stop what He was doing. He just *had* to work us in, He just *had* to open heaven's wallet. He just *had* to help! He gave Himself.

Jesus, I give you all of me, in response to all of you! I just *have* to give...generously!

by Ken Ford, Stewardship Director

Blessings Above and Beyond

"I'm not sure how we're going to do this. The numbers just don't add up." I spoke these words to my wife as we pored over our finances. A few weeks earlier we had made a sacrificial pledge to our church's capital campaign. The challenge was to fulfill the pledge within three years while continuing to return tithe and offerings at current levels.

When we made our pledge, we didn't know that our local Adventist school would soon announce that they would not be offering ninth and tenth grades the following year. So our son, soon to graduate from eighth grade, would not have an Adventist education option in our area. Com-

mitted to Christian education, we made plans for him to enroll at Mt. Pisgah Academy. In addition, a few months earlier we had experienced the miracle of adoption by bringing our daughter Grace home from China. How would we be faithful with our pledge, our tithes and offerings, and pay the additional costs of boarding academy? As I said, the numbers just didn't add up.

In Malachi 3:8-10 God promises blessings above and beyond our ability to receive them in response to faithfulness in tithes and offerings. After prayer, we decided to put His promise to the test. This is when the principles of Heaven's mathematics began to take over.

When we prepared our tax return we learned the impact of applying the tax credit for adoption allowed by the IRS. With grateful amazement we praised God that our refund was enough to cover the additional tuition of boarding school with enough left over to fulfill our capital pledge several months early. Our faith had been smaller than a mustard seed, but His faithfulness brought blessings above and beyond what we had dared to imagine.

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my temple. If you do," says The

Lord of Heaven's Armies," I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!" Malachi 3:10 NLT

by Rick Russell, Carolina Conference treasurer



How to Have a Winsome and Winning Adult Sabbath School!

ONE-DAY SEMINAR
Summerville Seventh-day Adventist Church
Sabbath, May 4, 2013

(There will be a fellowship dinner. Please bring a covered dish or two.)

Inspiring Presentations and Music by
Pastor Charles and Sharon Ferguson

Charles and Sharon Ferguson have served as the Adult Sabbath School Ministries Leaders in the Carolina Conference for five years. They have also pastored the Hendersanville Seventh-day Adventist church for the past 10 years.

CAMP MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calling All Camp Meeting Choir Singers

This year we have a change for the camp meeting choir. Our invited musical guests, a men's chorus called inSPIRIT, will have the afternoon concert and present the music for the second worship service. In order to have only one group getting on and off the risers during that time, the camp meeting choir will only be singing for the Sabbath evening worship service.

We need your voices! Please plan to rehearse with us Wed.-Thurs. in the choir room behind the Stuart Auditorium stage from 2:00-3:30 p.m. and on Friday in the auditorium from 2:00-4:00 p.m. A final rehearsal will be at 6:00 p.m. Sabbath evening.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Russell at (704) 641-1167.

Pre-Register Your Child

Avoid the lines this year and pre-register your child for Junaluska Camp Meeting. Just go to the conference web page (www.carolinasda.org) and fill out the online form. It's that easy!

Junaluska Area Campgrounds:

- Lake Junaluska Campground (828) 452-2881
- Applecover Inn Motel & RV Park (800) 787-4788
- Creekwood Farm RV Park (800) 862-8110
- Rippling Waters Creekside RV Park (828) 926-3170
- Water's Edge RV Park & Motor Court (877) 429-5730
- Winnegrays Campground (828) 926-3170
- Hillbilly RV and Campground (828) 926-3353
- Hemphill Mountain Campground (828) 926-0331
- Riverhouse Acres (828) 646-0303



United AND IGNITED

LAKE JUNALUSKA CAMP MEETING
MAY 26-JUNE 1, 2013

SPEAKERS:



TED WILSON
President
General Conference



TY GIBSON
Co-Director | Speaker
Light Bearers Ministry



RON SMITH
President
Southern Union Conference



RUTHIE JACOBSEN
Prayer Ministries Coordinator
North American Division

SEMINARS:

AGATHA THRASH
Health
DON JACOBSEN
Parenting
TOM EVANS WITH DONNA & ROD WILLEY
Church Planting
TROY FITZGERALD
Young Adults
JOHN BRADSHAW & YVES MONNIER
Evangelism that Leads to Revival

JOHN EARNHARDT
The Book of Revelation
KELLY MOWRER
Reaching Out
SCOTT MOORE
Lay Evangelism
KEVIN WILFLEY
Experiencing the Holy Spirit
ROSCOE SHIELDS
Singles Ministries

MUSICAL GUESTS:



inSPIRIT
Men's Chorus

FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.CAROLINASDA.ORG

ACCOMMODATIONS WWW.LAKEJUNALUSKA.COM



Photos by Ron Quick



Rick Russell, Shirley Styron and Will Oosthuizen

A whole lot has happened in the past 55 years...

Shirley Styron was elected church treasurer of the Kinston church October 1957, fifty-five years ago. Dwight Eisenhower was the president. Now, eleven presidents later she's still on the job.

When the Conference treasurer, Rick Russell, traveled to Kinston on Sabbath, March 9, to present her with a special recognition plaque, he was amazed to learn that it was in the month of October, 1957, that she began her work as the church treasurer. This was the very month and year that he was born. Then when the church pastor, Will Oosthuizen, got up to give thanks for the work Shirley has done, he made the announcement that he too was born that very same month in 1957!

Think about it...Shirley Styron has been the local church treasurer as long as both her pastor and the conference treasurer have lived. That's true dedication.

by Ron Quick

Spartanburg member earns a Bronze Star for his service in Afghanistan last year.

Air Force 1st Lt. Brian Johnson of the 78th Medical Group stationed at Robins Air Force base in Georgia was presented with the medal, the nation's fourth highest combat honor, at a ceremony on Jan. 18, 2013.

He served as an administrator on a surgical team that operated during a six-month deployment at a forward operating base for NATO forces in the Ghanzni province. The team treated 250 wounded soldiers and civilians and delivered medical care to 5,000 people.

"I've just started to realize the magnitude of the medal," Johnson said. "I was just fortunate to be surrounded by a good team and we had a big impact on the community as well as the troops we were supporting."

Johnson, who will turn 29 in February, is the son of Dianne and Howard Johnson of Inman, SC. He is a member of the Spartanburg, SC, church.

After high school, Johnson attended Clemson University, where he earned Bachelor of Arts degrees in marketing and health care management. He went on to get his Master's degree in public health care management from the University of Tennessee.

Johnson has three younger siblings,



including Jessica Hastings, 26; Andrew Johnson, 24; and Sarah Johnson, 23. In 2008, he married Allison Townson-Johnson.

The family relocated to Spartanburg County from Dayton, Ohio, in 1987.

"It's pretty awesome," said Dianne Johnson, his mother. "He is very humble — he hasn't said a whole lot about it. He praises the Lord that he made it home safely."

Johnson joined the Air Force in 2010. He said he originally contemplated joining the Army after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and he would have enlisted had he not been accepted to Clemson.

"I still remember (9/11) vividly," he said. "I came very close to joining the Army. I knew what I wanted to do. If I didn't go to Clemson I was going to join the army. That desire to serve the country never left."

After college, Johnson said he was searching for a career. He found the Air Force was a place where he could be fulfilled vocationally and patriotically.

"I couldn't have found a better job," he said. "I was fortunate enough to be selected."

Dianne Johnson said she recently found out how perilous the conditions in Afghanistan were for her son and his team.

"He didn't tell me how furious and dangerous it would be. They were constantly under fire. Bombs blew up right outside their base," she shared. "When he came home, he told me things that he shouldn't tell his mother, at least until he's out of the service. He was on the front line frequently even though he was non-combat."

Johnson said it was his job to rally surgeons and nurses when an alert came that wounded were on the way.

Looking back on it, he said, there were times when he feared for his life, but his commitment to his duties helped him make it through.

Johnson was also awarded a bronze medal by the Polish Army for his service.

By Trevor Anderson

The Piedmont Community Service Federation weekend

met in High Point, NC, on Sabbath, March 9. Community service leaders from churches in the Piedmont area of Carolina, along with leaders from outside the district from as far away as New Bern, NC, and Spartanburg, SC, participated in this event. Dr. Ron Smith, president of the Southern Union, was the presenter for the Sabbath service.

Smith encouraged and inspired listeners to be faithful to God's call for loving service to hurting and needy people. Smith kept the congregation spell-bound while he opened hearts to the call for service, and at the same time, tickled funny bones with stories from his childhood.

At the conclusion of the service, Federation President Jo Williams presented Dr. Smith with a portrait painted by a lady who Jo has ministered to since she was a teenager. Then to Jo's surprise, Laurentiu Serban, High Point pastor, presented her with a plaque of appreciation for her many years of service to the community and her generous and selfless example.

In the afternoon the group gathered at the Triad Community Center where Elder David Peay, Florida Conference community service director, shared the secrets to a successful ministry for people in need. His message was clear: we must truly love people. He shared how the Lord had blessed his ministry when he empowered his members to exercise their God-given passions to meet the felt needs of others. The day concluded after supper with a charge from Elder Peay to go forth in service.

It was surely providential that in the 100th year of the High Point church, the president of the Southern Union was there to encourage and inspire—not just federation leaders—but the entire High Point congregation!

by Bob Self, Community Services Director for the Carolina Conference

Photos by Paul Smith



Photos by Paul Smith

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Two Carolina Churches Debut *Hell and Mr. Fudge*

In the late 1970s, Edward Fudge, a young preacher in Athens, Alabama, was hired to do research on a unique topic – find out what the Bible says about the punishment of the wicked. Fudge, who began his research believing in the traditional view of an everlasting torment in hell, ended his project concluding that hell fire consumes the wicked. The events surrounding Fudge’s research, including him losing his job and strained relationships within his family, are now being told in a full length feature film called *Hell and Mr. Fudge*.

The movie has been premiering all over the United States, largely due to individuals and churches sponsor-

ing screenings in theaters and other public venues.

The Columbia Midtown church rented the main auditorium in the downtown Tapp’s Art Center from February 24-28. Hundreds of people, half of whom were not of the Adventist faith, attended the screenings and left with a favorable reaction to the film. Each screening ended with a Q & A session with executive producer Pat Arrabito.

The Hilton Head church screened the movie at the Park Plaza Cinema twice on February 24 and one time on February 28. Each screening averaged 55 attendees



with 80% being non-Adventist. Attendance was increased through the local newspaper featuring the film in their religion section. Jim Wood, co-producer, answered questions and sold books on hell written by Fudge.

“These screenings are exciting because they give our churches an opportunity to expose unique truths to individuals whom will probably never darken the doors of our churches,” said Jason Belyeu, Hilton Head pastor.

To learn how to bring *Hell and Mr. Fudge* to your community, go to hellandmrfudge.com or contact LLT Productions at 1-800-558-4478.

By Susan Balcerzak and Jason Belyeu

Dr. Charles Knapp, first elder of the Warrensville church, was a guest at the 85th Academy Awards gala event held in Beverly Hills on February 24.

Knapp, a retired U.S. Army colonel, is consulting producer for the motion picture *Hacksaw Ridge*. The movie tells the true story of World War II Medal of Honor winner Desmond Doss, the first conscientious objector to be honored with Ameri-

ca’s highest military award for valor above and beyond the call of duty in the face of enemy fire.

Currently in pre-production, *Hacksaw Ridge* treats the story of Doss’s unlikely heroism “at the intersection of patriotism and personal faith,” Knapp said.

Knapp is chairman of the Desmond Doss Council of the Georgia Cumberland Association in Calhoun, Ga., which holds the life story, intellectual property, book and film rights and memorabilia in trust for the late Desmond Doss, who died in 2006.

Knapp previously was involved in production of the 2004 documentary, *The Conscientious Objector*, in which Doss’ story is told by the men of his company whose lives he saved — including his commanding officer and first sergeant.

Knapp has also overseen republication of *The Unlikeliest Hero*, a book by Booten Herndon. “Out of print since 1963, it is again available as a middle school book across America for curricula about American heroes and American men of faith.”

Private Doss remained with the wounded, and, according to his Medal of Honor citation, he refused to seek cover, carrying them one by one in the face of enemy fire. He lowered each man on a rope-supported litter he had devised, using double bowline knots he had learned as a youngster and tying the makeshift litter to a tree stump serving as an anchor. Every wounded man was lowered to a safe spot 35 feet below the ridgetop, and then Private Doss came down the ridge unscathed.

President Harry S. Truman presented Doss with the Medal of Honor on Oct. 12, 1945, for his actions on Okinawa. The citation credited him with saving 75 soldiers on *Hacksaw Ridge*.

by Ron Quick



Gabe Videla (pictured with Knapp above) is the representing agent for the Desmond Doss Council of the Georgia Cumberland Association and the Seventh-day Adventist Church between Walden Media and the producers of the movie, Hacksaw Ridge. Gabe, a Seventh-day Adventist, is also CEO of D’Artagnan Entertainment and co-owner of Special Effects Unlimited, Inc., the largest physical special effects company in the country. He was executive producer of the 2004 documentary, The Conscientious Objector.



Dr. Charles Knapp

Photos Contributed

THE CHURCH PLANTERS



Samuel Garcia



Susana Franco



Cathy Albert



Milton Aguilar



Photos by Ron Quick

Open hearts bring new beginnings in Rockingham.

It was in 1989 when Cathy Albert, a Seventh-day Adventist from the island of Micronesia, settled in the beautiful little community of Rockingham, NC, about an hour southeast of Charlotte. One of the first things she did was try to locate the Adventist church. She recalls having trouble finding it—there was no listing. Then one day she ran across a little white house with a faded sign that read “Seventh-day Adventist Church.”

Cathy was excited! On Sabbath she and her young children were in attendance. Even though less than 10 elderly folks were the only others in attendance that day, she was still very happy to have a church where she and her little family could worship. There were Sabbaths when only two others attended besides her family.

And it wasn’t easy, she recalls. Often she didn’t feel welcome, and one time she was even told to leave the church. Cathy longed to be part of a thriving church family, so she prayed daily for her little church to grow.

About four years later Samuel Garcia, a businessman, moved into town. Though happy to find the church, he and his family were used to attending service in the morning. The few that attended the Rockingham church met in the afternoon and didn’t want to change. Since Samuel was inviting his Spanish-speaking workers to church, it wasn’t helpful to have them attend English-speaking services. So a small group began the Spanish company across town, and it grew rapidly.

Milton Aguilar was one of the elders in the Spanish church. One Sabbath he went to the English church to assist with communion service. He noticed Cathy’s three young daughters and thought it would be good to begin a youth program. Perhaps this could help the English church grow.

About that time, Susana Franco and her husband moved to Rockingham and joined the thriving Spanish company. After talking with Milton Aguilar, she felt the need to help the Rockingham English church. Since the church services were in the afternoon they started a youth service in

the morning. It was well received and attendance quickly increased.

Milton Aguilar, Susana Franco and Samuel Garcia have been an answer to Cathy Albert’s prayers. The three have committed their time and talents to see that the English-speaking church flourishes and grows. Today they worship in their own beautiful church in the historical district of downtown Rockingham.

Today the original Rockingham church has been disbanded and the Cornerstone Seventh-day Adventist church in Rockingham is a new church plant in this thriving community. It is a witness to what God can do when you put self aside and let the Holy Spirit work.

If you are interested in church planting, contact Brad Cauley at bcauley@carolinasda.com or 704-596-3200. Scan this code with your smart phone or visit www.carolinasda.org to watch a video about this church plant.

by Ron Quick



Long View Appreciation Day in Hickory

Taking a different approach to community services, on October 21, 2012, the Hickory, NC, church hosted Long View Appreciation Day to show gratitude to the Long View fire and police departments for all they do for the church and community.

The plaques read, "In appreciation to the Long View Fire or Police Department for faithfully serving and protecting our community. by the Hickory Seventh-day Adventist Church." Accepting the plaque for the fire department was Captain James Strickland, and the police department was represented by Major Jim Worrell.

There were door prizes of gift cards, flowers, coupon books and homemade apple butter. Each officer and fireman received something.

Over 30 attended from the two departments, including family members. The "Cooking Class" made up of church teens also doubled as hosts and waiters for the restaurant-style meal. One guest said it was "better than Olive Garden."

The event's success was measured in the pleasure and appreciation felt by these civil servants as they accepted the church's unsolicited offerings of love.

by Sharon Kaylor/Pictures by Carolyn Cobb



Photo Contributed

A PATCHWORK OF MOMENTS

Southern Student Serves Year in Africa

Southern Adventist University senior Josianne Bailey, member of the Hendersonville, NC, church, had known since high school that she wanted to be a student missionary.

After enrolling in college, she was eager to serve the Lord and excited to put her developing skills as a pre-medical biology and music major to work helping others.

So Josianne, her sister, and two other student missionaries packed up and shipped off to the Riverside Farm Institute in Zambia, where they worked in a wellness center, maintenance and mechanics shops, a clinic, a garden, and building One-Day Churches and Schools. While overseas, Josianne assisted a lot of people infected with HIV, giving therapy, massage, dietary advice and other care.

All of the recipients were thankful for the assistance, but one woman in particular told Josianne that, because of her virus, there were days when she felt worthless and wanted to die. She said that it was not only the treatment that she received from Josianne, but the missionary's kindness which helped keep her going.

"She thanked me for treating her like a normal person even though I knew about her virus," Josianne says. "I had not realized that my attitude could have such an impact."

Along with attitude, prayer played an important part in the healing work Josianne was pursuing. One day, a man critically severed his finger while cutting metal in the maintenance shop. They were afraid it would need to be amputated because of the severity of the gash. If he lost his finger, he would not be able to keep working and providing for his family. After many prayers, they were told the finger could be saved. When Josianne left Zambia, it was healing nicely and returning to its normal functionality.

These moments, along with many others, made up a patchwork of rich, rewarding and challenging moments that year in Africa.

"My junior year was definitely the hardest in respect to my walk with God," admits Josianne, "but from those experiences I've learned how to praise Him through all the trials. It has been a beautiful journey."

Now back at Southern, Josianne is looking forward to enrolling in medical school in 2013. She eagerly anticipates a medical career which will allow her to continue helping people.

"I will never forget my time overseas," says Josianne. "As a missionary, you expect to be a blessing to the people you serve, but instead, you are the one who ends up receiving the blessing."

by Angela Baerg

**This is the time
of life to have
the time of
your life.**




PISGAH VALLEY
A Seventh-day Adventist Retirement Community

Pisgah Valley Retirement Community is a licensed Continuing Care retirement Community (“CCRC”) nestled in the mountains of Western North Carolina.

Located on approximately 40 acres just 10 miles from Asheville, the Community is in the cradle of the Blue Ridge. The community offers individuals 55 and older a full continuum of care—an integrated system that allows residents to move from one level of care to the next without the inconvenience of leaving the campus. This continuum includes:

- 72 cottages for an independent living lifestyle
 - A 24-bed assisted living facility
 - A brand new (May 2013) 118-bed 67,000 square-foot 118-bed skilled nursing and rehab facility
 - A 6,000 square-foot wellness center with a therapy pool, Jacuzzi, dry sauna and strength-training and cardio equipment
- Pisgah Valley Retirement

Community is currently the only Seventh-day Adventist state licensed retirement community on the East Coast, having received its license from the North Carolina Department of Insurance (NCDOI) in 2006.

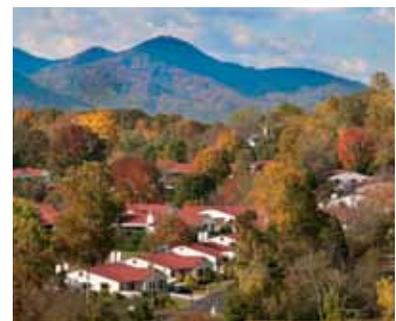
As a prospective resident or family member, you may ask, “Why is it important to me whether or not the community is licensed by the state?” There are many reasons, but a few of the most important are:

- All Residency Agreements (contracts) are reviewed annually by the state, making sure the contracts are consistent with the CCRC ACT.
- An annual disclosure statement outlining the legal structure of the organization, the types of contracts offered to residents and a 5-year financial forecast is required by the state.
- Oversight from the state, which provides residents with an attritional level of comfort that the community they have selected eliminates many of the inherent challenges of retirement, while at the same time provides

them an environment that is safe, financially secure and one that will meet their changing needs without having to relocate.

I encourage you to call for more information or stop by our campus for a tour and have lunch on us. Visit our web site at www.pisgahvalley.org or contact Carolyn Stevenson, director of marketing, at 828-418-2333 or send an email to cstevenson@pisgahmanor.com.

*by David Kidder, President/CEO
Carolina Adventist Retirement Systems,
Inc. (CARS)*





Photos courtesy of Beaufort Gazette

Basketball brothers take a stand for the Sabbath

Valerie Middleton (a member of the Beaufort, SC, Adventist church) has heard from her sons' teammates and other basketball fans about the religious convictions that keep Simeon and Michael Middleton from competing with the Whale Branch Early College High School boys basketball team in certain games.

Please let them play, they tell her. God will understand.

The Middletons, as Seventh-day Adventists, keep the Sabbath from sunset Friday to sunset Saturday. The brothers don't play basketball during this time.

"This is a conviction," Valerie said. "And a conviction you can't turn on



and off for your convenience. It's something that we really believe in."

The conviction has been tested before. When the brothers played junior varsity a year ago, the final game of the season fell on a Friday. Simeon and Michael played until the game went into overtime. But it was sunset.

They left. And the Warriors lost. "The boys understand and have comfort in helping the Warriors reach this point," Valerie said.

Simeon, a junior, first played organized basketball in ninth grade, on the Whale Branch junior varsity team. Michael, a sophomore, joined his brother this past season. They led the Warriors junior varsity to a 17-1 record. Varsity coach Linc Lyles knew he would have something special this season.

Simeon, a 5-foot-11 guard, leads the team in scoring, averaging 13.5 points per game. Michael, a 6-foot-2 forward, averages 9.7 points and five rebounds.

Lyles worked the schedule the best he could to allow Simeon and Michael to play as many games as possible, but there have been some conflicts, and the stakes are higher as they get closer to the championship games.

Join their family, church family and friends in praying for the positive witness and convictions of these two young athletes.

Scan the code below or go to www.carolinasda.org to view the news report about the Middleton Brothers.

Adapted with permission from the Beaufort Gazette: by Stephen Fastenau



Fred and Joyce Rimer celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on the 30th of December, 2012, in Greenville, SC, in the very church where they were married. Over 100 people attended the occasion at the Salem United Methodist church.

The Rimers were married December 28, 1962, and started their family of two children, Angela and Todd, in 1964. The family was called to Gulfport, MS, in 1980 where Fred began his



ministry and Joyce began her nursing career of 25 years. After four years they pastored in Jackson, MS, then on to Montgomery, AL, serving multi-church districts each time.

In 1989, Todd, in his first year at Southern Adventist University, tragically lost his life to an automobile/motorcycle accident. That same year Fred was called to the Gulf States Conference as their new ministerial director, where he would serve for the next 11 years. He then became

their vice-president for six years before his first retirement.

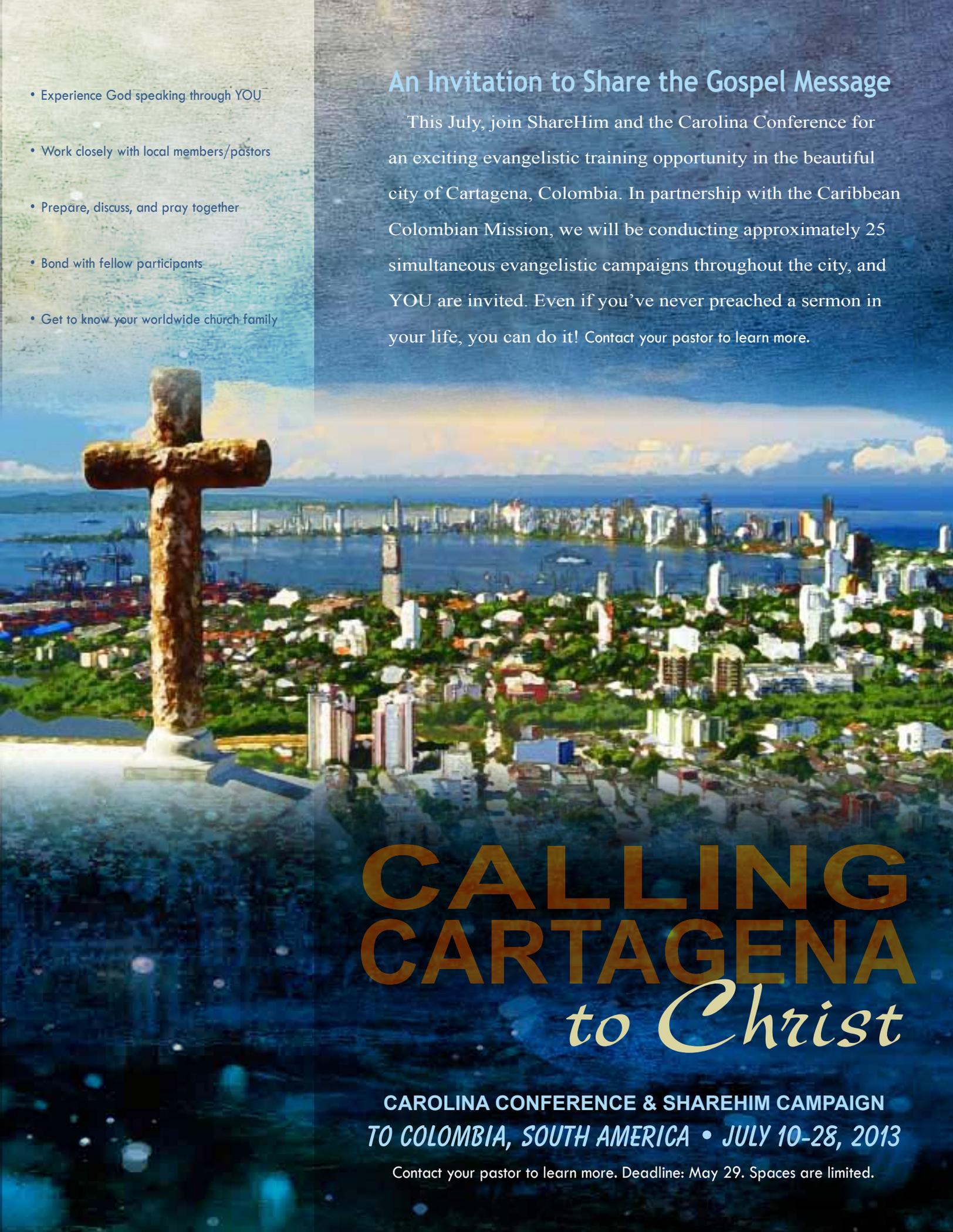
In 2006 the Rimers returned to Greenville, SC, area and began another five years of pastoral ministry in the Anderson/Pickens district before retiring for the second time. Though now officially retired, you will still find Fred preaching and singing and Joyce playing the organ in their home church of Westminster, SC. For the past 50 years of serving God, each other and their family, they give all the glory to Jesus for making it possible.

by Angie (Rimer) Williams

- Experience God speaking through YOU
- Work closely with local members/pastors
- Prepare, discuss, and pray together
- Bond with fellow participants
- Get to know your worldwide church family

An Invitation to Share the Gospel Message

This July, join ShareHim and the Carolina Conference for an exciting evangelistic training opportunity in the beautiful city of Cartagena, Colombia. In partnership with the Caribbean Colombian Mission, we will be conducting approximately 25 simultaneous evangelistic campaigns throughout the city, and YOU are invited. Even if you've never preached a sermon in your life, you can do it! Contact your pastor to learn more.



CALLING CARTAGENA *to Christ*

CAROLINA CONFERENCE & SHAREHIM CAMPAIGN
TO COLOMBIA, SOUTH AMERICA • JULY 10-28, 2013

Contact your pastor to learn more. Deadline: May 29. Spaces are limited.

Photo by Ron Quirk



Married couples enjoyed a great time together in prayer, worship and relationship-building at this year's Romance at the Ranch.

Couples came dressed in their finest cowboy and cowgirl duds for an exciting western-themed weekend. Love was definitely in the air! Claudio Consuegra and his wife, Pamela, were a dynamic team at the English retreat, February 8th-10th. Their message of communication and humility spoke straight to the heart. The Consuegras currently serve as the director and associate director of family ministries for the North American Division.

For the Spanish Romance at the

Ranch retreat, the forecast predicted a snowstorm for Sabbath afternoon. By the time the banquet started that evening, snow blanketed the entire area, transforming the camp into the perfect romantic wintery scene! An evening power loss darkened the entire camp with the exception of the dining hall, but still the happy couples continued with games and fellowship into the night. Most couples retired to their cabins by romantic candlelight. It seemed as if God was creating the perfect atmosphere for sweethearts to grow closer together. This also included wise marital insight from Pastor David Labrador and his wife, Merlyn, who serve in the Florida conference. They explored the boundaries of love and marriage using the Prepare-Enrich study.

If you have never had the "Romance at the Ranch" experience we invite you to join us next year! (See the advertisement below.) Even if you've attended before, there's always something new to discover. Make plans now to attend!

by Jacquie Pinder

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June 30 - July 5

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 (803) 273-8200
npr@carolinasda.com

Romance at the Ranch
Hawaiian Style
 February 14-16, 2014
 Nosoca Pines Ranch

Start Planning NOW!

Grant Spaulden, Male, Pastor
 President, Ministerial and Health Ministries Director
 Northern New England Conference

Grant Spaulden, Lane, Pastor
 Communication, Family Ministries, Ministry Mate
 and Women's Ministries Director
 Northern New England Conference

Chaplain Arthur Slagle recently assumed his position as the Assistant ACM Director, Southeast, for Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries replacing Les Rilea, field representative for the past twenty-five years.

Chaplain Slagle's responsibilities cover the eight states of the Southern Union where he is the liaison for Adventist Chaplains serving the military, hospitals, campuses and community.



Chaplain Slagle recently served from June 2003-June 2012 as the Director, Pastoral Care Department, for Park Ridge Health in Fletcher, NC. Park Ridge is part of Adventist Health Systems South.

Arthur is graduate of Walla Walla College, BA '75, Theology; Andrews University, School of Graduate Studies, MA '79 Religion. He attended Andrews University Theological Seminary and the Catholic University of America for post graduate studies. He received his teacher certification at Columbia Union College.

He pastored in the Greater New York Conference 75-84, the U.S. Navy 84-2000 as a Navy-Marine Corps Chaplain and Potomac Conference 2000-2003 as a teacher.

Chaplain Slagle is married to Genie Bata-Slagle, and they reside in the Asheville, North Carolina, area.

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 JULY 26-28, 2013 ~ NOSOCA PINES RANCH

For More Information and to Register
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CURTIS HALL
 Sabbath School Coach
 Author, Preacher & Coach

Carolina Obituaries

CAMPBELL, John Wayne, 73, born April 18, 1939, in Rutherfordton, NC, died Oct. 13, 2012. Wayne was a member of the Morganton, NC, church and a Vietnam veteran serving in the U.S. Army. In addition to his mother, he is survived by his wife, Mary Frances Campbell, and daughter, Lisa Midgett; and one granddaughter.

CAMPBELL, Mary Frances, 62, born Aug. 26, 1950, in Mecklenburg County, NC, died Dec 2, 2012, at her residence. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, church. She was preceded in death by her husband, John Wayne Campbell. Frances is survived by a daughter, Tammy Lovelace; four brothers, Wayne Barber, Jimmy Lamberth, William Anthony and Ray Craig Anthony; a sister, Vivian Taylor; seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

DAILY, Mary Jo Young, 90, born Sept. 15, 1922, in Davie County, NC, died Oct. 6, 2012, in Rockwell, NC. Mary Jo worked as a registered nurse in Collegedale, TN. She was a member of the Salisbury church for many years. She was preceded in death by her sister, Mary Lucy Young, her brother, Philip Samuel Young Jr. and her grandson, Donavan Daily. Surviving are her husband, James William Daily, Jr.; a brother, Harold Cope Young; a half sister, Mary Phyllis Mcgill; two sons, James William Daily III (Ruth), Richard A. Daily (Sherry); two daughters, Catherine Daily (William), and Elizabeth Shain Daily; eight grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

DENSKI, Henry, 83 born January 2, 1929 in Plymouth, MI, died Dec. 30, 2012, in Flat Rock, NC. Henry was a businessman and attended the Fletcher, NC, church. Surviving are his wife of 62 years, Shirley Townsend Denski; a son, Mark; a daughter, Laurie Snyman; and one granddaughter.

JETT, Harold Dean, 73, born Nov. 27, 1939, in Union, SC, died January 3, 2013, in Union, SC. He was a member of the Union, SC, church. Jett was the long time manager of Bi-Lo in Union. He retired as manager of Homestead farms in Fletcher, NC. Surviving are a daughter, Donna Smith (Michael); a son, Robbie Jett (Susan); four grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; and a brother, Bill Jett (Judy).

KOPPEL, Sara Elizabeth, 94, born on Feb. 27, 1919, in Edgewater Park, NJ, died Jan. 7, 2013, in Fletcher, NC. Betty attended Shenandoah Valley Academy where she met her husband Albert Koppel. She was one of only three girls accepted into the College of Medical

Evangelists in Loma Linda, CA. She graduated as an anesthesiologist in 1942. She was married on October 2, 1942, and celebrated her 70th wedding anniversary in 2012. She is survived by her husband Albert Koppel; two daughters, Karla Rae Koppel-Morrill and Marsha Fay-Koppell-Nagael; a granddaughter; and a grandson.

LIVENGOOD, Anne White, 89, born on June 3, 1923, in Surry County, NC, died Jan 22, 2013, in Mocksville, NC. She was a member of the Mocksville, NC, church where she taught Sabbath School. She was head of the Red Cross in Mocksville and also conducted cooking classes throughout the county. She is survived by her husband of 73 years, Archer D. Livengood Sr.; two sons, Archer Livengood, Jr. (Shirley), Dr. Melvin S. Livengood (Judith); a sister, Estelle White Hutchins (Gray); and four grandchildren.

MAULDIN, Margaret O., 97, born Nov. 15, 1914, in Staunton, VA, died April 4, 2012. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, church. In addition to the death of her husband, Howard Thomas Mauldin, Sr., she was preceded in death by her son, Howard Thomas Mauldin, Jr. and daughter, Sheryl Ann Chapman. Surviving are several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

MINNICK, Jean, 85, born Sept. 10, 1927, died Feb. 20, 2013. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, church. Jean is survived by her husband, Alden.

MUNDY, Charles A, 93, born on Sept. 3, 1919, in Thrasher, MS, died Dec. 5, 2012, in St. Helena, CA. He served in the US Army during WWII and following an honorable discharge, he joined his family in Asheville, NC. He was preceded in death by his wife, Mildred Hodges Mundy, who died in 1998. In 2009, he moved to Napa Valley to be near his son, Bill. He is survived by his son Bill (Susi); a daughter, Linda Murphy O'Neal; a brother, Carl Mundy; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

PARKER, Albert Roland, 85, born Sept. 12, 1927, in Bunnell, FL, died Jan. 16, 2013, in Fletcher, NC. He was a member of the Fletcher, NC, church. Ronald graduated from Madison College in TN in 1951 with a RN degree. He served as director of nursing and assistant business manager of Scott Sanitarium at Reeves, GA, now the location of Georgia-Cumberland Academy. In 1952, he graduated from Southern Missionary College with a degree in Religion and Spanish. In 1955, he received his Bachelors of Divinity from the Adventist Seminary in Washington, D.C. He served as principal of Bronx Community School in New York City and Southfield Junior Academy in Detroit, MI. He was

ordained to the gospel ministry in 1964. In 1979 he moved to Adrian, MI, where he established a branch Sabbath School in Tecumseh, MI, which grew to become an established church. Roland was preceded in death by his first wife, Genevieve (Hughes) and his sons, Robert Bruce and George Walter. Roland is survived by his wife, K.B. Myers Parker; a sister, Dorothy Virginia Parker Keppler; two daughters-in-law, Nancy McDaniel Parker and Rose Marie Parker; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

POOLE, Lila Ruth Edgmon Fletcher, 88 of High Point, NC, died Dec. 10, 2012. Lila was a native of North Georgia, and a resident of High point, NC, for 41 years. She attended Southern Missionary College, and served as a missionary in South America and Mexico before settling in High Point, where she retired from working as a secretary and bookkeeper. She was preceded in death by her sister Eunice Jenkins and her brothers, John Edgmon and Warren Edgmon. She is survived by her husband, Herman Poole; two daughters, Joyce Fleenor Carbajal and Nancy Fleenor Nelson; a son-in-law, Bloyce Nelson; three stepchildren, Tim Poole, Cynthia Slack and Vicki Walters; three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. Dot Fuller (Fred) and Mrs. Skeggs (Bob); and two brothers, Grover Edgmon and Deward Edgmon.

Carolina Conference Calendar

April

Women's Retreat..... 19-21. Lake Junaluska.
Carolina Spanish Children's SS Workshop21.
..... Charlotte Spanish Church

May

Adult SS Workshop4. Summerville.
Pathfinder Mountain Region Campout 3-5.
..... Briar Bottom Campground.
Pathfinder Piedmont Area Campout..... 3-5.
Hispanic Camp Meeting10-12. NPR.
MPA Graduation 18-19.
ACBC Closed (camp meeting setup)..... 19-25.
Lake Junaluska Camp Meeting26-June 1.

June

Pathfinder/Adventurer Award Ceremony1.
..... Lake Junaluska-Stewart Auditorium.
ACBC Closed (inventory) 2-4.
SIT Camp (Staff Week)..... 1-9. NPR.
Adventurer Camp9-16. NPR.
Junior Camp16-23. NPR.
Teen Camp23-30. NPR.
Family Camp 30- July 5. NPR

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

The Carolina Action

Carolina Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists
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GEARING UP FOR CAMP MEETING!

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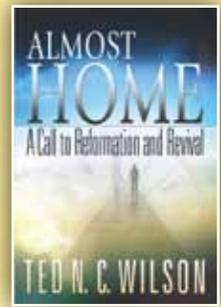
YOUR FAVORITE AUTHORS ARE COMING TO CAMP MEETING THIS YEAR!

Ty Gibson
John Bradshaw
Ted Wilson

Agatha Thrash
Don Jacobsen
Ruthie Jacobsen

In *Almost Home*, Ted N.C. Wilson, our General Conference president and weekend speaker at this year's camp meeting, identifies the spiritual essentials for those who will live through the end times and witness Jesus' return. He challenges us to live up to our name--Seventh-day Adventist. He calls us to launch a new reformation.

Regular—\$12.99 Sale—\$9.99 each



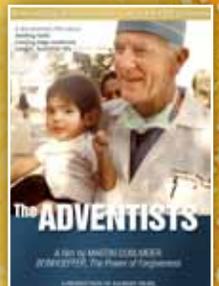
NOW AVAILABLE ON DVD!

Martin Doblmeier, award-winning filmmaker and director, has released a new documentary, *THE ADVENTISTS 2*, in April, 2013. The film is the sequel to *The Adventists*, an award-winning film seen on Public Television stations that became a national success.

In *THE ADVENTISTS 2* Doblmeier explores how Adventists are changing healthcare in communities around the world. Filmed on location in Haiti, China, the Amazon, Africa and Peru, *THE ADVENTISTS 2* is a collection of six stories that demonstrates the importance of the health message and mission to the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and its commitment to take both to the ends of the world.

For information on how to schedule an interview or special screening event, contact Karen Pearson at karen.pearson@pacificpress.com.

Both films are available at the
Adventist Christian Book Center.—\$19.99 each



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