

October & November 2017

Carolina's 10,000 President's Prayer Partner Petitions & Praises

The 10,000 President's Prayer Partners is a fast-growing group of Carolina Conference constituents who take matters such as these to their knees. We invite you to join us, and make this monthly list a matter of prayer. Together we seek the Lord for His answers and provisions to every need we bring before Him.

1. PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH SCHOOLS



This is the second listing of our church schools for the 2017-2018 academic year. Our children are a heritage from the Lord (Psalm 127:3). During the next few issues of our *President's Prayer Partners*, let's spend some morning moments in praying for our excellent education team here at the conference office along with these dedicated Carolina educators and their assistants who are a valuable part of God's work in preparing the hearts of our children and youth to know Jesus, love Jesus, and serve Jesus as His faithful disciples:

Our Conference Education Team:

Elder Gary Rouse – Superintendent of Education
Rick Anderson – Associate Superintendent of Education
Renee Earle – Secretary of the Education Department
Anna Marie Doying – Early Childhood Liaison

Blue Ridge Adventist Christian School (Waynesville, NC)

Sue Dasher – Head Teacher & Grades 1-8

Brookhaven SDA School (Greenville, NC)

Sandi Spady – Head Teacher & Grades 5-8
Mindy Meadows – Grades 1-4

Charleston SDA School (Charleston, SC)

Terry Lee – Head Teacher & Grades 7-9
Jeanette Gillard – Grades 3-6
Jacquelyne Baker – Grades K-2

Columbia Adventist Academy (Lexington, SC)

Denise Marshalleck-Smith – Head Teacher & Grades 1-8

“These schools were intended to serve as a barrier against the wide-spreading corruption, to provide for the mental and spiritual welfare of the youth, and to promote the prosperity of the nation by furnishing it with men qualified to act in the fear of God as leaders and counselors.”

Education, Page 46

A SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST: Our School at Adventist Christian Academy (Raleigh) has experienced a wonderful surge in enrollment; it is somewhat of a challenge to find a much needed, additional teacher in the middle of a school year. Please pray for God's provision in this matter.

2. A PRAYER FOR GOD'S INTERVENTION THROUGH SATAN'S ATTACKS ON THE FAMILY OF MANKIND

THE STORM OF MARIA

As human beings, we confess our limitations by understanding God's mysterious work and recognizing that God's wonders are incomprehensible to our humanly limited gaze. A few weeks ago Hurricane Maria slammed into Puerto Rico — the first Category 4 storm to directly strike the island since 1932. Within hours Maria had fully engulfed the 100-mile-long island as winds, shattered palm trees, peeled off rooftops, and cut electric power to nearly the entire island. More than three million Puerto Ricans remain almost entirely without electricity, not because of the power plants, but because roughly 80 percent of transmission lines are down. The hurricane has left the island wholly crippled as residents struggle to pick up the pieces. Please pray for and engage in your support for the dear people of the island that is a precious part of our United States family.



THE TRAGEDY OF LAS VEGAS



American flags across the country have been flying at half-staff to honor and remember the victims of the Las Vegas tragedy that took place at the beginning of October. At least 59 people were killed and more than 500 injured, making it the deadliest mass shooting in modern American history. It is the enemy of mankind that desires to steal, kill, and destroy. Let's continue to pray and uplift those who are suffering incomprehensible loss and heartache as they try to put their lives back together after this horrific catastrophe.

THE FURY OF CALIFORNIA'S FIRES

Unrelenting wildfires broke out in the beautiful Napa Valley of California north of San Francisco on October 8. These devastating flames have already destroyed over 8,400 homes & buildings, and that number is expected to climb higher. There are 42 confirmed deaths with hundreds still missing.

Fires also raging through Santa Rosa destroyed Redwood Adventist Academy on Monday, October 9, 2017.



What was once a vibrant school, now lays in ruins. Principal Angie Weems, upon being alerted that the fire was headed toward Santa Rosa, decided at 4:00 that morning to cancel school. Thankfully, because of her decision, no children were on campus when it burned down. Truly an enemy has done this. Let us pray for and support our brothers and sisters in the west coast as they rise from the ashes of destruction and rebuild with the hope of a day when all pain and suffering will be no more.



A HOUSE DIVIDED



Never in the 53 years that I have been in America have I seen a nation that has been so divided over so many issues. From the President of the United States to the Senate and the House of Representatives -- from the news media to the social media, have we forgotten the basic principles of kindness and courtesy, of civility and graciousness in how we work harmoniously in the midst of diversity. Let's pray fervently for our beloved nation

that we cherish as our homeland. Let's remember that no matter how bad things may be here, there's no other place that we would rather be on earth than our America. May the prayer of our hearts be reflected in prayer of that beautiful song – *"God bless America, Land that I love. Stand beside her and guide her through the night with a light from above."*

A CHURCH DIVIDED

We stand at the crossroads of a crisis facing the church centering on the issue of the ordination of women to the gospel ministry. The position of some union conferences, both in the North American Division and the Trans European Division, have elected to stray from the voted actions of the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The proposed disciplinary actions for non-compliance came in the form of a document entitled, *"Procedures for Reconciliation and Adherence in Church*

Governance: Phase II." The votes taken at the General Conference Session of 2015, the Annual Councils of 2016 and more recently in 2017 reflect a very divided church on this issue. It is truly sad to watch the adversary of God's remnant church attack the unity of resolve in Christ's commission to reach lost souls. It is an inconceivable tragedy to witness such an inordinate expenditure of time and resources being invested in debate over this matter. How desperately we need to be pleading with God for Heavenly wisdom to bind us together so we can fix our thoughts on Jesus matchless love and grace and our hope of Heaven and home.

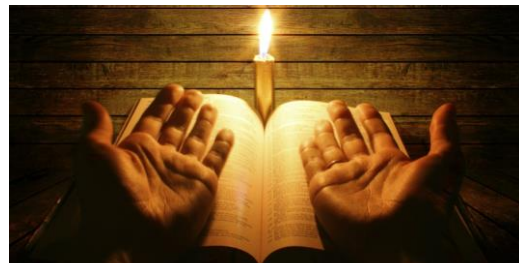


"Unity is the strength of the church. Satan knows this, and he employs his whole force to bring in dissension. He desires to see a lack of harmony among the members of the church of God. Greater attention should be given to the subject of unity."

Selected Messages -Book 2, Page 159

3. PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH DISTRICTS & PASTORS

Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, these words of encouragement were penned for our churches: “Ask of me, and I will answer your requests. The promise is made on condition that the united prayers of the church are offered, and in answer to these prayers there may be expected a power greater than that which comes in answer to private prayer. The power given will be proportionate to the unity of the members and their love for God and for one another.” [9MR, 303]



Praying for our pastors is very important. They are serving God and the attacks of the enemy are relentless. They must be covered in prayer on a daily basis.

Our prayers should be personalized by saying the title of *pastor* along with their name since they hold a position of sacred trust for God’s remnant church.

Here’s a suggestion for this month: Why not pray for our pastors by name using these seven scriptural passages:

1. *Ps 32:8.....Instruct them and teach them in the way they should go;*
2. *1Cor 2:10.....reveal the deeper things of God to them by Your Spirit.*
3. *2Tim 2:21.....Let them be vessels of honor, sanctified and useful for the Master,*
4. *2Tim 2:21.....prepared for every good work.*
5. *1Pet 5:2.....Shepherding the flock willingly, eagerly, and being an example to them.*
6. *1Cor 2:4.....Their speech and preaching is in demonstration of the Spirit and power.*
7. *2Tim 4:2.....And they are instant in season and out of season to preach the Word.*

PASTOR

CHURCH(ES); COMPANIES & GROUPS

1. Glen Garver

Pastor
Greensboro SDA Church
Greensboro Montagnard SDA Group
Wentworth SDA Group

2. David Graham

Pastor
Asheville North SDA Church

3. Robert Grant, Jr.

Pastor
Westminster SDA Church
Salem SDA Church

4. Eric Hagan

Pastor
Anderson SDA Church
Clemson SDA Church

5. Thorn Hean

Pastor
Gastonia SDA Church
Cambodian Sharon SDA Group
Cambodian Lexington SDA Group
Charlotte Hmong SDA Group

6. Ralph Henderson

Pastor
Brevard SDA Church
Mills River SDA Church

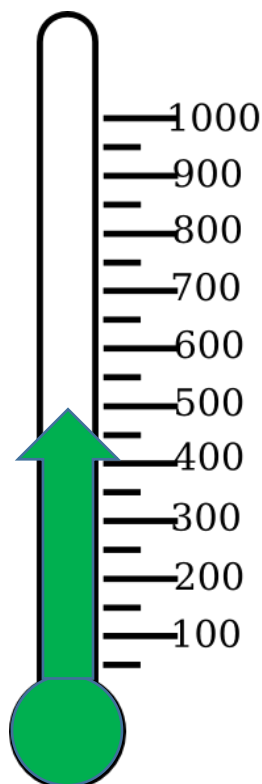
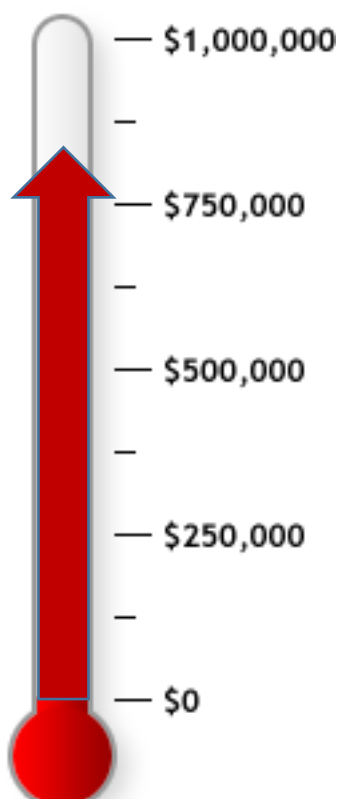
7. Brian Hindman

Associate Pastor
Hendersonville SDA Church

4. PRAYING FOR **213** MORE CAROLINA ADVENTISTS WHO ARE WILLING TO COMMIT TO OUR MILLION DOLLAR EVANGELISM INITIATIVE!

By God's grace, we are close to our goal!! We can reach it! I believe with all my heart that we have at least 1,000 Seventh-day Adventists in the Carolina Conference who truly believe that Jesus is coming again....soon and very soon! ~~1,000~~ 999 (*Count Carole and me in!*) Carolina Adventist couples who are willing to dedicate at least \$1,000 every year for evangelism till Jesus returns. For those who have such a passionate conviction, we invite you to prayerfully consider investing in the mission Jesus has entrusted to each of us –

TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST!



In our GOALS FOR SOULS initiative of reaching 1000 precious lives with the beautiful message that God has blessed this church family, join me in praying that we will continue to have the resources needed to reach our goal of at least ONE MILLION DOLLARS that can be invested in the ministry of evangelism.

Most of our GOALS FOR SOULS plans have been developed for 2017 and new plans are being developed for 2018 by each of our churches. Join me in uplifting these plans for God's direction and blessing as we labor for the lives we seek to reach for Christ and His kingdom as we strive to reach our faith goal of 1000 souls for Christ's kingdom in His vineyard of the Carolinas. As of the end of August we have **480** precious new members that have been added to His remnant church in North and South Carolina. Let's pray for a Latter Rain outpouring of His Spirit as we serve as His faithful witnesses during the final four months of 2017.

So how is it that we've come up with the number of 213 as noted on the previous page? As of the end of September, we have raised \$787,353.17 for evangelism in 2017. That's 787 giving units in Carolina of \$1,000 each! We are praying for least 213 more generous hearts before the end of the year. Our September totals (along with a special and very generous gift from a heart for evangelism indicate an increase in support for evangelism by over \$60,000 in funds from what we had at this same time last year. Praise the Lord!!



CAN WE REACH THE TOP AND MEET OUR GOAL WITH THE RETURNS FROM THE NEXT THREE MONTHS? LET'S PRAY FOR HIS CONVICTION AND BLESSING TO REACH HEARTS FOR HEAVEN!

Let's do something amazing in Carolina for Jesus this year and every year till we see His face and hear His voice resoundingly say – *“Well done, good and faithful Carolinians!”* **Let's pray for an amazing victory for evangelism in 2017! One Million Evangelism Dollars and One Thousand Priceless Souls for Christ's Kingdom in the Carolinas! Oh what glory that will be for HIM!**

5. REMEMBERING AND KEEPING IN FOCUS OUR 2020 VISION

We continue our second cycle of repeating and remembering our seven-fold 2020 vision, and how the Lord has been guiding us in our quest to accomplish these goals that we have asked for Heaven's blessing. This month we focus on our sixth vision of those seven.

VISION VI: ENRICH OUR ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL MINISTRY THROUGHOUT THE CAROLINAS

PRAY AND COMMIT to enrich the Sabbath School Programs of our Conference to include an intentional and inclusive focus on all four dimensions of the Adult Sabbath School Ministry:

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

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



FOCUSING ON MISSION: In 1885 the first Sabbath school mission offering was taken in Oakland, California, for the Australasian Mission. Two years later in 1887 the first general Sabbath school mission offering, \$10,615, was raised for the African mission station. In so doing, we develop an appreciation for something that is not focused on self, but rather on the needs of our global church family.

Because of a focus on Sabbath School mission, I have the blessing of serving you as your servant leader for the Seventh-day Adventist Church from the homeland of my heritage in India. Because of a focus on Sabbath School mission, my heart was closely knit to Jesus and His love for me on the campus of a mission school on the island of Sri Lanka.

FOCUSING ON FELLOWSHIP: The second focus of our Sabbath School Ministry is in the area of creating a climate of fellowship (Through a time for testimonials prayer requests & praises). I believe healthy Sabbath Schools will constantly explore creative ideas of how they can create a warm and inviting environment of nurture and support for Sabbath School members – such as: (1) Developing a hospitality plan that includes warm, smiling and helpful greeters; (2) or providing cards in the pews for members to write such notes as “I appreciate you” or “I missed you!” Then collecting and mailing them to members (3) or planning a weekend retreat, a picnic, or a Thirteenth Sabbath potluck featuring foods of the division receiving special emphasis during the quarter. The ideas are limitless to what God can do through the bonds of fellowship in our Sabbath Schools.

FOCUSING ON OUTREACH: The third focus of our Sabbath School Ministry must involve Outreach (Through an emphasis on witnessing opportunities and stories of changed lives). There are all kinds of outreach activities a Sabbath School or a Sabbath School class can put into practice. Such as (1) Putting together a prayer list of non-attenders, friends, relatives, work associates, etc., and have the class pray over the list on a regular basis. (2) Giving Bible studies. If even one class member is willing to do this, it will produce results. (3) OR Setting up a visitation schedule to visit non-attenders, members who are sick, etc. and getting as many class members involved as possible.

FOCUSING ON BIBLE STUDY: The fourth focus of our Sabbath School Ministry is *the one we are most familiar with in the area of Bible Study* (Through the utilization of teacher resources and young adults in an in-depth study of the Sabbath School Lesson Study). Following the weekly theme of the adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide with an intentional emphasis on the study of God’s Word, our Sabbath Schools should look for opportunities to open the Bible in an attempt to find God’s plan and purpose for their lives. It also connects us nationally and globally as a church with a united topical focus in God’s word.

“Success in any line demands a definite aim. He who would achieve true success in life must keep steadily in view the aim worthy of his endeavor... The heaven-appointed purpose of giving the gospel to the world in this generation is the noblest that can appeal to any human being. It opens a field of effort to everyone whose heart Christ has touched.”

6. SATURATED WITH THE WORD

As a *President's Prayer Partner*, we again invite you to truly be a people of the Word. As Seventh-day Adventists we embrace 28 Fundamental truths that are based on the Bible alone. During the coming months, we will focus on four passages of scripture each month that are foundational to each of our fundamental beliefs. Here's our next set of 4 memory passages for September to coincide with our tenth fundamental belief as Adventists on the Experience of Salvation. **Let's place His Word prayerfully in our hearts each day of this month.**



I carry a set of these passages with me in my car and repeat them aloud as I drive from place to place. My goal is to prayerfully say one verse at least five times a day for a week, thus embracing the promise of God's Word – *“Thy Word have I hid in mine heart that I might not sin against Thee.”* Psalm 119:11 Repeat these passages over and over till they become a part of your very being. Of course, you can always choose to do more. Prayerfully consider how you can saturate your soul and make His Word a part of your heart every day.

FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF # 10: The Experience of Salvation

In infinite love and mercy God made Christ, who knew no sin, to be sin for us, so that in Him we might be made the righteousness of God. Led by the Holy Spirit we sense our need, acknowledge our sinfulness, repent of our transgressions, and exercise faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord, Substitute and Example. This saving faith comes through the divine power of the Word and is the gift of God's grace. Through Christ we are justified, adopted as God's sons and daughters, and delivered from the lordship of sin. Through the Spirit we are born again and sanctified; the Spirit renews our minds, writes God's law of love in our hearts, and we are given the power to live a holy life. Abiding in Him we become partakers of the divine nature and have the assurance of salvation now and in the judgment.

- A. **Jeremiah 31:33-34 (NKJV)** – *“But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, say the Lord: I will put my law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ³⁴ No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”*
- B. **Ezekiel 33:11 (NKJV)** – *“Say to them: ‘As I live’ says the Lord God, ‘I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?’”*
- C. **Romans 3: 23-24 (NIV)** – *“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.”*
- D. **Galatians 2:20 (NIV)** – *“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”*

7. GOD’S LEADERS IN THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER:



Be part of God’s praying church across North America for the leaders who guide God’s work in the following territories:

Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada

**Mark A. Johnson,
President**

a.	October 1-7	Maritime Conference Newfoundland/Labrador Conference	Paul Llewellyn, President Ken Corkum, President
-----------	--------------------	---	--

Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists



**Ron C. Smith
President**

b.	October 8-14	Carolina Conference	Leslie D. Louis, President
c.	October 15-21	Florida Conference	Michael F. Cauley, President
d.	October 22- 28	Georgia-Cumberland Conference	Edward Wright, President
e.	October 29 – November 4	Gulf States Conference & Kentucky-Tennessee Conference	David Livermore, President Steve L. Haley, President
f.	November 5-11	South Atlantic Conference	William L. Winston, President
g.	November 12-18	South Central Conference	Benjamin Jones, President
h.	November 19-25	Southeastern Conference	Gregory Mack, President



					
Ron C. Smith	Leslie D. Louis	Michael F. Cauley	Edward Wright	David Livermore	Steve L. Haley

		
William L. Winston	Benjamin Jones	Gregory Mack

	<p>You are Invited to Join!</p> <p>Every Monday evening from 7 to 8 PM</p> <p><i>Circle Carolina in Prayer</i></p> <p>Simply call 712-770-4010</p> <p>Enter code 205023# when prompted</p>	
---	---	---

**SHARE THIS INVITATION TO BE A
CAROLINA 10,000 PRESIDENT'S PRAYER PARTNER**

REGISTRATION OPTIONS:

- **ONLINE:** www.carolinasda.org – at the bottom of the page in the “Welcome from the President” section.
- **CALL:** 704-596-3200; Extension 5743
- **EMAIL:** bcrofford@carolinasda.org