

September 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



Our church schools opened their doors to another brand new school year a few weeks ago. 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 prayer for our excellent education team here at the conference office along with the dedicated Carolina educators and their assistants. This tremendous team is a valuable part of God's work in preparing the hearts of our children and youth to know Jesus, to love Jesus, and to 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

Adventist Christian Academy (Charlotte, NC)

Terry Tryon – Head Teacher & Grades 6-8
Becky Barclay – Grades 3-5
Cathy Carlton – Grades K-2
Wendell Carlton – Office Administrative Assistant*

Adventist Christian Academy (Raleigh, NC)

Sonja Eberhart – Head Teacher & Grades 6-8
Elizabeth Phyers – Grades 1-5
Lizette Trawick – PreK-Kindergarten*
Leonor Santos-Wolfkil – Pre-K-K Aide*
Justin Peterson – Assistant to the Head Teacher*

Asheville-Pisgah Christian School (Candler, NC)

Erin Miller – Principal & Grades 7-8
Eileen Fuller – Grades 5-6
Beth Belensky – Grades 3-4
Susan Newsome – Grades 1-2
Ashley Michael – Kindergarten*
Jane Wade – Office Manager*

“These schools were intended to serve as a barrier against the wide-spread 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

*Locally-Funded Employee

2. A PRAYER FOR GOD'S INTERVENTION THROUGH THE SEVERITY OF SATAN'S STORMS

THE STORM OF HARVEY

On August 25 Hurricane Harvey slammed into the southern coast of Texas, leaving a path of devastation in its wake. The areas surrounding Galveston, Corpus Christi, Rockport and Houston have been greatly affected by the damaging winds and rising flood waters.

Please join us as a conference family in praying for all those who have been affected by this tragedy, and consider making a donation to Adventist Community Services – one of the many agencies of God's compassion - whose help is necessary to heal this open wound in our nation.



Let's reflect on the precious promise of Jesus when he said "Assuredly, I say to you, in as much as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to Me.: (Matthew 25:40 NKJV). To partner with Christ in His calling for compassionate hearts, the greatest blessing we can be now is to:

- Make a donation directly through your local church on your tithes & offerings envelope labeled as "ACS Disaster Response
- Call 1-800-381-7171
- Make an online donation at: www.communityservices.org



THE STORM OF IRMA

Hurricane Irma has been an extremely powerful tropical cyclone causing severe damage to many islands of the Caribbean and Florida. It is the strongest Atlantic hurricane since Wilma of 2005 in terms of maximum sustained winds and the most intense in terms of pressure since Dean in 2007. Irma is also the first Category 5 hurricane to impact the northern Leeward Islands on record. It is the ninth named storm, fourth hurricane, and second major hurricane of the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season.

As I write this, Irma's raging storm is turning north and west of Florida and is impacting the Gulf coastline of that state. Southern Florida has already implemented evacuation plans. It's too soon to know exactly what impacts to expect in the U.S. or where they will occur. It is time for us to "Watch and Pray" as Jesus cautioned us to do in Matthew 26:41. Furthermore, it would be well for us to call on all Carolina Churches who are out of harm's way to consider becoming **CHURCHES OF SHELTER & REFUGE** -- especially for our Adventist families who may be displaced from their homes or unable to access hotels as a result of the looming crisis.

THE STORM OF NUCLEAR WAR THREATS

With the often referenced “rogue countries” of Iran and North Korea developing or having access to a nuclear arsenal, the world is in a more dangerous position than we have ever been in our lifetime. It is time for us to pray fervently for the leaders of our Nation and our allies as diplomatic measures are carefully weighed in the balances. Pray for peace to prevail and lives to be spared an incomprehensible holocaust.



It is in times like these that we, as Adventists, need to be aware that we are living in the very closing moments of time. I am reminded of this everytime I read this inspired counsel from God’s special messenger to His remnant church:

“The calamities by land and sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war, are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude. The agencies of evil are combining their forces and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones.”

— 1909 [Testimonies to the Church, Volume 9, Page 11]

Oh my dear friends and prayer partners, Let us watch and pray!

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. 2 Cor 9:8.....*Let all grace abound toward our pastors, having sufficiency in all things,*
2. 2 Cor 9:8.....*and an abundance for every good work.*
3. 2 Cor 9:6.....*Because they have sowed bountifully, they will reap bountifully,*
4. 1 Cor 3:6.....*and whether they plant or water, Father, You give the increase.*
5. 2 Cor 2:14.....*I pray that they continually triumph in Christ.*
6. 2 Cor 2:14.....*That they diffuse the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.*
7. Deut 28:2.....*That all blessings come upon them and overtake them.*

PASTOR

CHURCH(ES); COMPANIES & GROUPS

1. Ron Davis

Pastor

**Marion SDA Church
Rutherfordton SDA Church**

2. Scottie Deal

Pastor

Lumber River SDA Company

3. Jeffrey Donaldson

Pastor

**Orangeburg SDA Church
West Columbia SDA Church**

4. John Earnhardt

Pastor

**Fairview SDA Church
Upward SDA Church
Asheville Korean SDA Group**

5. Jonathan Edwards, Sr.

Pastor

**Washington SDA Church
Greenville North SDA Church
Robersonville Mission of Hope Group**

6. Josias Flores

Pastor

**Swannanoa Spanish SDA Group
Forest City Spanish SDA Group
Hendersonville Spanish SDA Church
Salisbury Spanish SDA Company**

7. Julio Flores

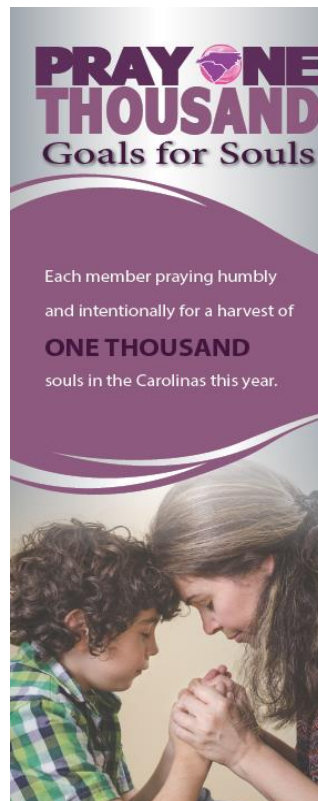
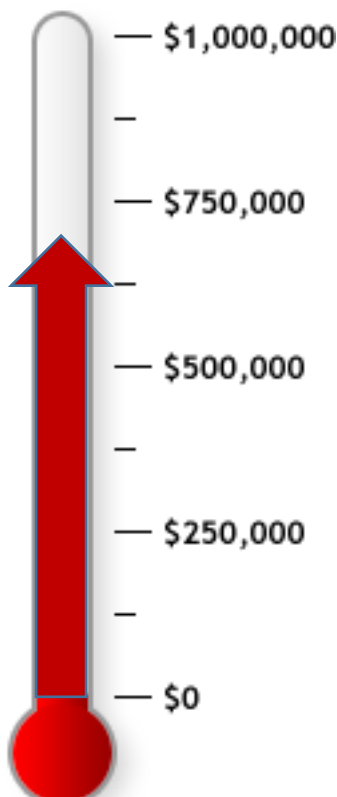
Pastor

**York Spanish SDA Group
Monroe Spanish SDA Church
Charlotte Spanish SDA Church
West Charlotte Spanish SDA Group
Salisbury Spanish SDA Company**

4. PRAYING FOR  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 againsoon and very soon! ~~1,000~~ 999 (*Count me in!*) Carolina Adventists 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 to be invested in the ministry of evangelism.

Now that most of our GOALS FOR SOULS plans have been developed by each of our churches, join me in uplifting these plans for God's direction and blessing as we labor for lives to reach for Christ and His kingdom.

"If the members of the churches would but put to work the powers of mind that they have, in well-directed efforts, in well-matured plans, they might do a hundredfold more for Christ than they are now doing. If they went forth with earnest prayer, with meekness and lowliness of heart, seeking, personally to impart to others the knowledge of salvation, the message might reach the inhabitants of the earth." — (Ellen G. White [The Review and Herald, April 11, 1893](#)).

So how is it that we've come up with the above number of 309? As of the end of July, we have raised \$691,161.19 for evangelism in 2017. That's 691 giving units in Carolina of \$1,000 each! So we are praying for least 309 more generous hearts before the end of the year. Our July totals (along with a special and very generous gift from a heart for evangelism) indicate an increase in support for evangelism by over \$69,000 in funds from what we had at this same time last year. *Praise the Lord!!*



Soul Winning Praise Notes ---

Pastor Johnny Castro, one of our newest pastors to the Carolina, had the joy of baptizing four people. The Holy Spirit has been operating extraordinary miracles on the members and in the community that surrounds his Spanish church district near the Raleigh area. From July to this past Sabbath (September 9) they had two evangelistic meetings, thirteen people were baptized and they now have around 200 people attending their activity of evangelism.

Pastor Ross Knight tells the neatest story of a retired pilot named Luis and his wife Tamara who were baptized in the Elk River as members of the Banner Elk Church. They now want to dedicate their energies and their home to serving the Lord. This is the 2nd family in the last 2 years that decided to make Banner Elk their "church return" after having been away for several years. Pastor Ross says:

"It's truly amazing to see God use our little congregation, made up of mostly elderly people, to still be the witness of Christ's love to those who just simply were coaxed to walk through our doors on Sabbath for the first time in many years."

More great news! In September 3 more young people, who attend the Boone Seventh-day Adventist Church, approached Pastor Ross with the desire to be baptized.

Be sure to share your Soul Winning Story so we can join together in praising God for His wonderful touch in reaching precious lives for Christ.

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. REMEMBER AND KEEP OUR 2020 VISION IN FOCUS

We continue our second cycle of remembering our seven-fold 2020 vision and how Heaven is blessing and the Lord is guiding in our quest to accomplish these goals. This month we focus on our fifth vision of the seven.

VISION V: FOSTER A CULTURE OF SOUL WINNING IN THE CAROLINAS

PRAY AND COMMIT to leading at least 1000 new souls every year to embrace Christ and His truth as members of God's remnant church. To accomplish this, every pastor will receive encouragement and support to:



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

Jesus had one mission, and that must be the mission of His end-time church. That one mission is embodied in His recorded words of Luke 19:10 – *"For the Son of Man came to seek and save the lost."*

Evangelism and Discipleship must always reflect the beautiful balance of the compassionate care of Christ reflected in Matthew 25 and the compassionate call of Christ commissioned to each one of us in Matthew 28.

Let's pray and hold fast to the conviction that the Holy Spirit will bring people into the church by the power of proclaiming the truths of God's Word. However, let's also pray for the power of compassionate love in our churches to keep new believers connected to Christ and the mission of His church.

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

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 that are foundational to each of our fundamental beliefs. Here's our next set of 4 memory passages for September, to coincide with our ninth fundamental belief as Adventists on the Life, Death and Resurrection of Christ. **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 # 9: The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ

In Christ's life of perfect obedience to God's will, His suffering, death, and resurrection, God provided the only means of atonement for human sin, so that those who by faith accept this atonement may have eternal life, and the whole creation may better understand the infinite and holy love of the Creator. This perfect atonement vindicates the righteousness of God's law and the graciousness of His character; for it both condemns our sin and provides for our forgiveness. The death of Christ is substitutionary and expiatory, reconciling and transforming. The bodily resurrection of Christ proclaims God's triumph over the forces of evil, and for those who accept the atonement assures their final victory over sin and death. It declares the Lordship of Jesus Christ, before whom every knee in heaven and on earth will bow.

- A. Isaiah 7: 14 (NKJV)** – *“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign; Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”*
- B. Isaiah 9:6, 7 (KJV)** -*“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end.”*
- C. I Corinthians 15:3, 4 (NKJV)** -*“For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.”*
- D. Philippians 2:5-11 (NKJV)** -*“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. ⁹ Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*




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.	Aug 27 – Sept 2	Alberta Conference	Gary Hodder, President
b.	September 3 – 9	British Columbia Conference	Wesley Torres, President
c.	September 10 – 16	Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conf.	David Ripley, President
d.	September 17 – 23	Ontario Conference	Mansfield Edwards, President
e.	September 24 – 30	Quebec Conference	Kwai Ansah-adu

Photos of each of these leaders is provided below for your reference:

					
Mark A. Johnson	Gary Hodder	Wesley Torres	David Ripley	Mansfield Edwards	Kwai Ansab-adu

You are Invited to Join!
Every Monday evening from 7 to 8 PM

***Circle Carolina in
Prayer***

Simply call 712-770-4010
Enter code 205023# when prompted

**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