

CAROLINA ACTION

ISSUE 3, 2015



ON OUR KNEES

What are the essential ingredients of a great camp meeting?

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EMBRACING CAROLINA WITH THE COMPASSIONATE CALL OF CHRIST

PHOTO CREDIT: JOHN NEFF



From the President's Pen

Two Prayer Warriors Now at Rest

March and May of this year were both heavy, difficult months that deeply affected my heart.

Both months brought a Friday of solemnity and sadness before we entered into the hours of God's Sabbath rest. On Friday, March 13, my dear mother, Ruth Leela Rajendram Louis, went to sleep in Jesus. Then on Friday, May 15, the great evangelist Ron Halvorsen, Sr. also entered into His rest in the Lord.

My mom took her last breath peacefully at home, with my dad at her side, just 12 days from reaching her 89th birthday. Mom was truly a prayer warrior. She faithfully read her Bible through many times and lifted up so many in her heartfelt prayers. This precious little lady was the one who cuddled and kissed us as babies, held our hands as little children, guided our footsteps through childhood and uplifted us in persistent and earnest prayer through our adult lives. By her example, my brother Lester, my sister Lorraine and I have committed our lives to be stars in her crown because of her ardent prayers for each one of us and our families.

The prophecy of Daniel 12:3 tells us that "Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever." The Hebrew meaning behind that expression, "Those who are wise," really can be more accurately translated as those who teach. Mom was my teacher, and the most valuable lesson she taught

me was that of the power of persistent and prevailing prayer, and confident trust in Jesus. Without a doubt she will truly be the star of my heart through all eternity.

Ron Halvorsen, Sr. was born in a tough neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York, and joined a gang as a teenager in the 1950s. But his life changed drastically when a teenage friend, Jim Londis, helped lead him to Jesus when he was just 17. After accepting Jesus, Halvorsen went on to serve as a pastor in churches in Connecticut, Tennessee and Takoma Park, Maryland, as well as at Southwestern Adventist University in Texas. I first met Ron in the summer of 1968 when I was a senior in academy and he was the youth speaker at our Chesapeake Conference camp meeting. I was moved by his messages and his connection to Christ.

But he will no doubt be best remembered as a powerful evangelist (who led over 10,000 souls to Jesus) with a remarkable personal testimony and an active prayer life. He never forgot how God changed his life as a young gang member on the streets of Brooklyn. He continued that passionate preaching in our Conference in 2013 when It Is Written asked him to step in for John Bradshaw during the Revelation Today series in Charlotte, NC. There, hundreds of lives were transformed with the power of the gospel of Christ.

I saw him for the last time in April at Florida Hospital in Altamonte Springs.

He was in bed beside his wife Carol and their daughter, Dianne. Even then, the passion of his heart was to be preaching and praying at the pulpit – leading more people to Jesus.

Two prayer warriors, gone from this earthly life. But their passion does not die with them. They have passed the torch to me, and to you, too. God is calling for Carolina prayer warriors! Time alone with our Savior, Jesus, is the greatest source of daily strength. May these two lives remain as a living testimony—a reminder that complete dependence on Christ is our only source of power. It is what enables us to finish the sacred work entrusted to His church:

If My people in Carolina, which are called by My name as Seventh-day Adventist Christians, shall humble themselves by a genuine example of generous living, and pray earnestly and passionately for at least 1000 new souls, and seek My face to honor Me at home, at work, and in My church,

and turn from their wicked ways by being My faithful and loving disciples then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land, and bless My people in Carolina with an outpouring of the latter rain. I Chronicles 7:14 (With revisions in bold.)

Leslie D. Louis, President
A servant leader for the Lord





Above left to right: Rick Garcia, Ron Riegel and Ralph Ringer.



2015 Field School of EVANGELISM

Since 2001, the School of Religion at Southern Adventist University has partnered with the Southern Union each summer to host an evangelism field school.

All theology majors beyond their junior year are required to hold a full-scale, six-week evangelistic series in order to graduate. To help accomplish this, the field school matches each student with a church.

This Summer the field school was hosted in the Carolina Conference from

May 15-June 13. In addition to providing venues for the students, the program also offered training sessions with seasoned evangelists during the week. Conference Evangelism Coordinator Glen Altermatt organizes the field school for the Carolinas. When asked about the course, he said that it “gives [both churches and students] the opportunity to see God work in ways they haven’t seen before.”

Not only do theology majors get to put their studies into action, but they also have the privilege of being mentored by local pastors and interacting with real people who have been touched by their meetings. Nine churches participated in

the field school this year: Myrtle Beach, SC; Florence, SC; Summerville, SC; Moncks Corner, SC; Blythewood, SC; Lumber River, NC; Rockingham and Rockingham Spanish, NC; and Whiteville, NC.

The whole program is remarkably efficient. Seminary students gain real-world experience, while spreading the word and accomplishing evangelism at the same time. “The idea here, again,” Altermatt said, “is that a lot of churches that haven’t had the opportunity . . . engage in evangelism; they engage in the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist church—making disciples.”

—Aimee Garver

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Randy Roberts, senior pastor of the Loma Linda University Church, spoke Sabbath morning about the peace that comes from walking with Jesus.



Chester Dameron, also known as Uncle Dan of Your Story Hour and an Abraham Lincoln impersonator, poses with the Generous Living team, Rick Hutchinson and Rocio Roberts.



Pastor Kevin Wilfley engaged attendees of his morning session on prayer, encouraging them to "Unlock Heaven's Storehouse."



Carolina Conference pastors and administration gathered around Kevin Pires to offer a prayer of dedication during his ordination service on Sabbath afternoon.

The Blessing of CAROLINA CAMP MEETING

The main focus of Lake Junaluska Camp Meeting this year was the power of prayer, and that theme flourished throughout the week in a variety of ways. Monday through Wednesday, Des Cummings, president of the Florida Hospital Foundation, served as the evening speaker in the main auditorium. He shared spiritual insights drawn from the Lord's Prayer. Randy Roberts, senior pastor of the Loma Linda University Church, took over from Thursday to Saturday evening, and his sermons explored what it

means for Jesus to walk with us. Morning sessions by Kevin Wilfley and Ivor Myers continued what the evening meetings began, inspiring attendees while emphasizing the value of getting "On Our Knees" and putting our trust completely in Christ.

Evangelism was another key component of this camp meeting, as it has been for the last several years. Each night Catherine Riley-Bryan, or "Momo Cat," shared mission stories from her Bamboo School in Thailand during the Global Vistas report, and GLOW tracts were handed out at the

evening meetings. The youth also had an opportunity to do community outreach on Thursday, and were blessed with good weather for handing out literature. At the end of the week, Conference President Leslie Louis announced a new evangelistic initiative called Operation 7, which will be taking place in February in partnership with Amazing Facts.

Additionally, the week boasted a number of mentally and spiritually stimulating seminars, focusing on such diverse topics as the "Holy Spirit," "Finance/Estate Planning,"

Courtesy Herod



Military officers were honored for their service Monday evening during the Memorial Day celebration.

Courtesy Herod



Runners participated in the annual 1 mile Fun Run and 5k race that circles around beautiful Lake Junaluska.

Courtesy Herod



“Momo Cat,” aka Catherine Riley Bryan, daily greeted people with a ready smile throughout the week. The New Zealand native traveled a great distance to share what God is doing for the orphanage she runs in rural Thailand.



Becky Carpenter



Charles Ferguson, pastor of the Hendersonville church and director of Sabbath School for the Carolina Conference, has been serving for decades as the music leader for camp meeting. He announced his retirement at the Sabbath evening service and was presented a plaque in appreciation for his ministry. His wife, Sharon, was also recognized and presented with a beautiful large plant as an expression of thanks.

and “Incredible Edibles.” Seminar recordings and handouts are available on the Carolina Conference website, www.carolinasda.org. The Conference also unveiled a new camp meeting app this year, available for both iOS and Android devices, which made it easier for people to keep track of their busy schedules and even share photos to the conference’s Facebook page. Overall, camp meeting was both exciting and rejuvenating, and as always set a precedent for the rest of the year.

—Aimee Garver

Becky Carpenter





“This will be the largest evangelistic initiative the Carolinas have ever experienced.”

—Glen Altermatt
Evangelism Coordinator

Early next year, Amazing Facts plans to host a major social media blitz in order to start a nation-wide conversation on the seventh-day Sabbath. The working title for this initiative is “Operation 7,” and it was started in response to growing interest in a Sabbath rest outside of the Adventist movement. They even developed a special sharing magazine called, “The Rest of Your Life,” to kick-start the program.

A few weeks before camp meeting at Lake Junaluska, marketing professional Desiree Magnant brought this project to the attention of Elders Leslie Louis, president, and Glen Altermatt, evangelism coordinator. The idea grabbed their interest and rapidly evolved as the men, joined by Haskell Williams, ministerial director, communicated with Amazing Facts’ marketing director, Dean Dennis.

Dennis explained that, following the media blitz, Doug Bachelor would host a week of presentations—in the Carolina Conference—to clarify various aspects of the Sabbath, broadcast over satellite television. Then, churches would be given resources for an eight-week Bible marking class, culminating in an evangelistic series. This Carolina-based uplink

would have a strong thrust in major cities across the Carolinas. Thus, Operation 7 Carolina was born.

Before pastors at camp meeting could be briefed about the plan, there was another exciting development. Dennis and Brenda Silva, visitors to Carolina Camp Meeting from Tennessee, introduced a brand new witnessing tool—a USB drive in wristband form that contains a three minute video (to kindle one’s interest) and *The Forgotten 7*, a book consisting of the first chapter and final nine chapters of *The Great Controversy*. This innovative device is easy to share with large crowds, and eliminates the need for recipients to call in or write to request study materials.

Thrilled by all the possibilities that this tool presented, Pastor Glen Garver suggested that the wristband data be customized to promote the Operation 7 Carolina initiative. What had seemed before to be completely unrelated ended up fitting together like the pieces of a puzzle. Everyone involved was amazed and humbled as they realized the part they had played

in God’s grander plan.

While this project is still in the development phase, Altermatt has said that church members can expect a conference-wide launch in September, complete with resource packets and a video introduction. Each church will have the opportunity to form a small outreach leadership team, and these teams will attend a rally in

Charlotte on October 25. In addition, churches will be asked to hold a “bridging” event before the year is over to reach non-Adventists in their community. All of this preparation will culminate in Doug Bachelor’s live series on the Sabbath, streaming from February 15 through 20, as he shares the message of Operation 7 with the Carolinas.

Anyone can get involved in the beginning stages of this exciting venture for God, both through earnest prayers and financial support. Your generosity, with God’s blessing, will bring this dream to reality. Let’s watch what God is going to do. Better still, let’s join Him in His miraculous work!

—Aimee Garver, Haskell Williams, and Glen Altermatt



God ALWAYS Answers



Isabel Baker

Scripture tells us to “Wait on the Lord.”

One woman did just that, and received an answer to prayer 40 years in the making.

When Steve and Pat Mozynski first got married in the 1970s, Steve began attending his bride’s church in Sligo, Maryland. Although he did not officially join the church, he offered his time and energy wherever needed, doing maintenance work, landscaping, and helping to manage potlucks. He even served as Pathfinder leader and VBS athletic director. However, despite his faithful attendance, Steve never made a full commitment.



Isabel Baker

praying for her husband to surrender his life to Jesus. This spring, the couple attended the Revelation of Hope Seminar hosted by the Myrtle Beach Adventist Church. Led by Pastor Ralph Ringer, the meetings tugged at Steve’s heart and he could feel the Holy Spirit urging him to take a stand.

One night when commitment cards were handed out to the audience, Steve managed to fill one out but still didn’t sign it. Pat remained patient, but gently reminded him that he really wasn’t making a commitment in spite of all that he had heard and learned. The next morning, Steve showed his wife the card that he had finally signed—he was asking to be baptized.

On Sunday, June 7th, Pat and the entire Myrtle Beach congregation rejoiced as Steve stepped into the waters of baptism and publicly dedicated his life to Christ. This couple stands as a testimony to the fact that God always answers prayers, whether His response comes after two days, six months, or yes, even

40 years.

—Aimee Garver

Over the years, Pat never gave up on

Evangelism IMPACT 2015

In His last moments on Earth, Jesus commanded His followers to “go and make disciples of all nations.”

Here in the Carolinas, pastors and lay people labor daily to share the Good News about our heavenly Father. This year, the Carolina Conference is planning its first ever Evangelism Impact event, which will be held January 8-10 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

The summit aims to ‘Encourage’ participants and teach them to ‘Encounter and Engage’ people for Christ. Guests will be presented with a vision for evangelism in 2016, and challenged to see what they can do to help spread the word of Jesus’ soon return. The weekend will

also celebrate the evangelism triumphs of 2015, looking back on individual testimonies and thanking the donors whose gifts made each success story possible.

Glen Altermatt, conference evangelism coordinator, said that another goal for Impact is to motivate and inspire attendees, filling them up so full that they “can’t help but go home and tell someone.” Seminars will be available throughout the weekend to train and equip participants. Potential topics include how to conduct an evangelistic series, praying for and planning a revival, and creative witnessing techniques.

Impact is open to anyone with a heart for missions, so keep an eye out for further details about this exciting event as the date gets closer!

—Aimee Garver



CAROLINA
Evangelism

GOAL: \$1,000,000
GIVEN: \$391,694.39

HOW CAN I HELP?

WITH YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for evangelism in Carolina—pray for our churches, the pastors, our people who support evangelistic meetings, AND our friends, neighbors and community. Ask God to move in a mighty way.

WITH YOUR CONVERSATION, PLANS AND ACTION

Please talk about evangelism—in your Sabbath School classes, at your church board, at fellowship meals. Make it a point of planning and action. But don’t let it be all talk, make sure your plans are carried out.

WITH YOUR FINANCES

God has laid a great burden on our hearts. And yours, too, we trust. With the tremendous challenge that has been placed before us, let’s move forward, knowing that what God asks us to do, He provides the strength to accomplish.

GIVE TODAY:

704-596-3200
CAROLINASDA.ORG
OR SCAN CODE:



News from AROUND THE CONFERENCE



Contributed

Hillsborough 25th Anniversary

Hillsborough's first Sabbath service was held in June, 1989, in Claude and Naydene Ray Walker's basement. The group was very interested in having an Adventist church building, however. At the Ray family reunion, Naydene told her daddy, Belford Ray, and the rest of the family about some land she had seen for sale. Belford was the eldest of eleven children who had grown up in Hillsborough without a home church. The nearest Adventist congregation met in Durham, which was 12 miles away—a long trip in a Model T Ford.

After Naydene raised the issue, 11 members of the Durham church that lived in Hillsborough decided to start their own church group. Ralph and Brenda Cool helped get things started, and Pastor Gerald Mobley preached the first sermon.

During the first few years, the Ray family donated thousands of dollars to get the church started. Dr. Claudis Ray and Mervin Ray specifically donated large sums. Claudis himself bought the sanctuary furniture and paved the parking lot, and later on gave money to pay off the mortgage debt. The mortgage was burned on March 18, 1995.

The church family celebrated its 25th year anniversary on June 7, 2014. Ten of the very first members are deceased,



Contributed

and the Walkers have remained active until very recently. Despite obstacles that the Hillsborough congregation has faced over the years, the church has continued to grow and will have to enlarge the building soon.

—Claude & Naydene Walker, Vivian Dixon

Building a City at Asheville Pisgah School

In Isaiah 26:1, we are reminded that “We have a strong city; God makes salvation its walls and ramparts.” At Asheville Pisgah Christian School they had the opportunity to apply that concept to an architectural art project. Artist Angela Blehm directed the project and brought a large supply of building materials. Each class was able to take a section of the city to build.

Kindergarten through second graders made a lake that had boats and ducks



Zach McDonald

on it and a backdrop of sky and clouds. Fifth and sixth graders worked on a residential neighborhood that also had shops, a church and a school. Seventh and eighth graders built a park, a zoo, a roller coaster, hotel and a few restaurants. Then they collectively worked to build and name roads.

Building a city is much more difficult than many of them initially thought. It takes a lot of hard work and careful planning. Fortunately, thought, by the end of it they all had places to live and work, learn and worship. Paul, the writer of Hebrews, reminds us to look forward to a better city that has eternal foundations whose architect and builder is God. It is waiting for us!

—Erin Miller



Courtesy Herod

Two Carolina Educators Retire

The Carolina Conference Education Department is saying farewell to two of its teachers, Carl Acker and Chester Caswell.

Acker is retiring after 36 years of service to the education of others. Over the years, he's taught grades K-8. After retirement, Acker has plans to be a substitute teacher in Walla Walla, WA, where he and his wife, Jennifer, will be moving to be close to their children and grandchildren. When asked to describe his career as a teacher, Acker quickly replied, “We must remember that Jesus died for each and every one of those young people and they are His. He has called us to lead them to the foot of the cross. What better job is there?” Acker and his wife, Jennifer, attend the Durham Five Oaks Church in Durham, NC.

Caswell has also dedicated many years to Christian education. For 32 years he taught grades 5-8. His plans for retirement include using his musical talents to travel and present concerts, as well as giving music lessons. Caswell and his wife, Donna, also a school teacher, have three daughters and two grandchildren. They attend the Charleston, SC, church.

“The Carolina Conference Office of Education would like to thank both Carl and Chester for their many years of service in the education of our children,” said Gary Rouse, superintendent of education. “We pray that they will continue to be a blessing to those around them in their retirement years as they were a blessing to the schools and students they served.”

—Esther Smith

On Our Knees

TWO MORE GREAT CAMP MEETINGS THIS YEAR!

OCTOBER 17, 2015

EASTERN CAROLINA CAMP MEETING

Greenville North Church, Winterville, NC

10:00 A.M. to Sundown

FEATURED SPEAKER: IVAN WILLIAMS
AFTERNOON PRAYER SEMINAR: IVAN WILLIAMS
ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL SPEAKER: RICK RUSSELL
• BRING A PICNIC LUNCH AND AFTERNOON WATER/SNACK



IVAN WILLIAMS
*Director of Ministerial
for the NAD*



RICK RUSSELL
*Carolina Conference
Vice-President for
Finance*

SPEAKERS

OCTOBER 24, 2015

LOW COUNTRY CAMP MEETING

Summerville Adventist Church, Summerville, SC

10:00 a.m. to Sundown

MAIN SPEAKER: PAVEL GOIA
MUSIC ARTIST: MICHAEL HARRIS
FEATURE PRESENTATION: RICHARD GAREY—TO PORTRAY JOSEPH BATES
ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL SPEAKER: LESLIE LOUIS
• LUNCH IS PROVIDED
• BRING YOUR AFTERNOON WATER AND SNACK



PAVEL GOIA
*Pastor of the Lexington
Adventist Church*



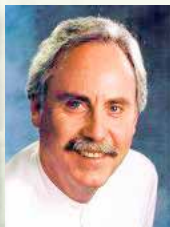
LESLIE LOUIS
*Carolina Conference
President*

MUSIC ARTIST



**MICHAEL
HARRIS**

DRAMA FEATURE



**RICHARD
GAREY**





Moving on Up

Church Planting Report

Areas that have expressed an interest in planting:

1. Kannapolis, NC
2. Brunswick County, NC
3. Lumberton/Pembroke Span., NC
4. Raleigh, NC, Downtown
5. Matthews/Mint Hill/Indian Trail, NC
6. Red Springs, NC, Spanish
7. Greensboro, NC, Swahili
8. Charlotte, NC, Downtown
9. Lancaster, SC
10. West Charlotte, NC
11. Goose Creek, SC
12. Cary, NC
13. Hanahan/Goose Creek, SC, Span.
14. Irmo, SC
15. North Durham, NC
16. South of Myrtle Beach, SC

For more information on these opportunities, or to be added to the quarterly church planting e-newsletter, contact Brad Cauley: bcauley@carolinasda.org.

At the 2011 Carolina Conference constituency session, a faith goal of 50 steps was set for the 2011-2015 quinquennium. Each time a congregation moves up in status—from idea to group, from group to company, and from company to church—it constitutes as a step. Thus far, the Carolina conference has moved a total of 42 steps—a record—with 22 being brand new church plants.

With religious liberty waning, we must advance the mission entrusted to us now! One of the most effective

way to do such is in planting new churches.

“The last message of mercy is to be given to the world by the proclamation of gospel truth. Truth, Bible truth—this is what the people need...asking that we may receive pure, unadulterated truth, and that we may realize the necessity of giving this truth to others. Then men and women will be converted. The hand of God will be recognized in the raising up of new churches.”
EGW, *Lift Him Up*, p. 123.

—Brad Cauley

Ready to Launch

Here are three groups that are planning on launching later this year. If you are interested in finding out how to join them in their efforts for the Lord, contact their pastor coaches.

Church Plant	Mother Church	Pastor Coach	Contact Email
Charlotte Unity	University City	Ryan Ashlock	rashlock@carolinasda.org
Beaufort Sp.	Hilton Head Sp.	Israel Mora	imora@@carolinasda.org
Moore County	Pittsboro	David Cook	dcook@carolinasda.org

Member of the Carolina Conference is the co-author of the position paper of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics on vegetarian nutrition.

Roman Pawlak, Ph.D., RD, an associate professor in the Department of Nutrition Science at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC, is one of two co-authors of the newest position paper on vegetarian nutrition issued by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. This position paper emphasizes the advantages of

vegetarian diets for disease prevention, and adds that a vegetarian lifestyle is beneficial for the environment. Dr. Pawlak has previously worked as a member of the expert panel on vegetarian nutrition on the evidence analysis project. He is



a member of Greenville North Seventh-day Adventist Church in Greenville, NC. The new position paper has been published in the Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics 2015; 115:801-810.

—Article Contributed

Creation

H E A L T H

Despite advances in medical treatments and explosive technology gains, millions of Americans suffer from preventable chronic diseases linked to lifestyle choices. For many of us, our lives are so wildly out of balance we can't remember what it feels like to be calm, rested, and clear-headed. CREATION Health breaks the "never-ending cycle" because it captures God's balanced and exciting plan for enjoying whole-person health. Here is a review of the eight universal principles we find embedded within the Genesis story of Creation:

C – CHOICE. Choice is the first step toward improved health. Positive choices might include creating a personal mission statement, forming healthy habits, setting meaningful goals, and finding better balance. Research shows that people who believe they have more control over their lives tend to be healthier and live longer.

R – REST. Rest comes with both a good night's sleep and taking time to relax. It includes a weekly day of rest and enjoying a regular vacation. Research indicates that relaxation techniques, when practiced regularly, can lower blood pressure, change one's mood, and counteract the everyday effects of stress.

E – ENVIRONMENT. Environment is what lies outside of us, but affects what takes place within us. Everything—sight, smell, sound, touch, and taste—influences our health. Research shows the health benefits of our larger environment (air and water quality) as well as one's immediate environment (light, sound, aroma, and touch).

A – ACTIVITY. Activity includes

our mind and body. The goal is to be active physically, mentally, and spiritually. Activity should be enjoyable and a key part of our lifelong health. Research indicates that an increase in activity translates directly into improved health.



T – TRUST. Trust in God ensures that our life is filled with purpose. Our faith, beliefs, and hopes all affect our health. Research demonstrates that people who have an active trust in God experience a host of health

benefits, including a stronger immune system, less heart disease, lower blood pressure, and higher life satisfaction.

I – INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS. Interpersonal relationships are important to our health and happiness. Social support fortifies our resolve and improves our health. Conversely, loneliness or toxic relationships can contribute to a downward spiral in overall health. Research has demonstrated the importance of family, friends and support groups in recovery from illness.

O – OUTLOOK. Outlook colors our life perspective and influences how we view our world and the people in it. It also affects the amount of hope and joy we experience. Research indicates that a positive attitude influences our health in powerful ways and can impact the progression of disease.

N – NUTRITION. Nutrition is the fuel that drives our bodies. Research shows that a balanced diet produces energy and overall health. Take time to evaluate your food intake and remember even small improvements, done on a regular basis, can multiply the health benefits many times over.

These eight universal principles form a blueprint for the health we yearn for and the life we are intended to live. As the pieces of the picture come together, you'll begin seeing a simple, yet profound unifying theme. You'll soon discover your own potential to break out of the "never-ending cycle" and live life to the fullest! That's CREATION Health.

— By Lynell LaMountain, Southern Union Health Ministries Director; The article originally was published in the October 2010 Vol. 10, No. 110 of the Southwestern Record. Used with permission.



GENEROUS LIVING

ALL OF ME IN RESPONSE TO ALL OF HIM

Sowing Generously, Giving Generously

Wanda Hodges Hindman is a life-long member of the Banner Elk Adventist Church.

She is a fourth generation Adventist. In fact, her great-grandfather, Larkin Townsend, helped start the Seventh-day Adventist Church at Valle Crucis, the first Adventist Church in the South.

Wanda lost her husband in an automobile accident in 1999. She had been a widow for more than seven years when Charles Hindman came into her life. She never imagined that, at her age, God still had a special purpose and plan for her life.

Pastor Charles had served the ministry of the Carolina Conference in various capacities from colporteur to pastor. It is most unusual for a pastor to serve their entire ministry in the same conference, but Charles was not just any pastor. Carolina Conference Ministerial Director Haskell Williams says that Charles was one of the most dedicated servants of God that he has known. According to Williams, “[He] seemed to take everything in stride.” Haskell quoted a former conference president who said, “If there is a church in the middle of rough waters, send Charles there and he will smooth out the problems like oil on water.”

Charles was serving as pastor of the Columbia First Adventist Church when his wife, Linda, was diagnosed with cancer. The disease took her life in February of 2002, and Charles’s world turned upside down. He now had to adjust to life without his wife—a path he had never imagined having to travel.

On May 1, 2006, Charles became pastor of the Banner Elk Church.

When he met the church treasurer, Wanda, God graciously blessed him with another chance at happiness. They married on June 8, 2008.

Wanda’s son, Larry Hodges, says, “My mother may have done many



Pictured above are Ross Knight, pastor of Banner Elk Church, Wanda Hodges Hindman, Ken Hodges, head elder, and Rick Hutchinson, director of Generous Living and Planned Giving & Trust Services

things in her life, but I have no doubt that she was born to be a pastor’s wife.”

After marrying Wanda, Charles sold his residence in Columbia. He also contacted the Trust Services Department of the Carolina Conference to request preparation of new estate documents. He provided for his new wife and children; but, he had special plans for the remainder of his estate. With the sale of his home, he had a unique opportunity to plant many more seeds in his community. He also planted seeds by giving generously of his financial resources to those in need and to the church. But the seeds he was now preparing for planting would not be sown until after his death.

On April 27, 2014, Pastor Charles

died unexpectedly of a heart attack. His death was a terrible loss to his wife, Wanda; his children, Brian Hindman and Kriston Vardiman; his church members; the community; and the pastors of other denominations in Banner Elk and Boone. Approximately 150 bible studies are being given by church members today because of contacts and studies that Charles initiated.

Because of Pastor Charles’s love of God and dedication to the ministry of the Adventist Church, he knew that living generously required giving generously. On May 23, 2015, a check was delivered by Rick Hutchinson, director of Generous Living and Planned Giving & Trust Services for the Carolina Conference, to the Banner Elk Adventist Church representing the funds Charles had designated in his Will. Gasps were heard around the church when Rick announced what Charles had done. A similar check was also delivered to the Carolina Conference.

God blessed Charles with a generous and loving heart and the financial ability and desire to help spread God’s message. God also blessed Charles with an urgency to see people saved. Charles’s generous gifts to the Carolina Conference and to Banner Elk Adventist Church will continue the planting of seeds in the hearts of people by providing necessary funds to help spread the good news of God’s amazing grace, abundant love and eternal salvation.

—Story and photo by Deborah Hutchinson

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



A New Place of Worship IN CHAPEL HILL

New Life Fellowship Groundbreaking

“Come as you are—Be transformed” is the motto of the New Life Fellowship Church in Durham, North Carolina. This year the church itself is in the process of being transformed, as the congregation looks forward to the construction of a brand new church campus in Chapel Hill, NC. Following months of fundraising, New Life Fellowship held a special groundbreaking ceremony on Sabbath afternoon, June 13, to signal the start of the project.

Carolina Conference President Leslie Louis was in attendance, as well as Conference Secretary Gary Moyer, and Vice-President of Finance Rick Russell, who delivered the message. Also in attendance were Elder Terry Clem, former pastor of the New Life Fellowship for ten years, and Chapel Hill’s mayor, Mark Kleinschmidt. A sizeable group of church members gathered alongside these special guests to show

their support.

The building process will take place in two phases. Phase one is the Rainey Buscher Fellowship Hall, named in honor of a beloved praise team leader who passed away from cancer two years ago. Head Pastor Dexter Richardson explained: “We’re starting with the fellowship hall first because it is multipurpose. To meet on Sabbath, to run ministries, to allow local groups to use on Sunday if they want—it allows us to do many things, rather than starting with the church sanctuary.”

Construction on the fellowship hall will officially begin July 1st, and Pastor Richardson said that Maranatha volunteers are going to help put up the structure in October. The church is very excited for this development, and “the plan is for the building to be completed next June.” The final phase of the project is, of course, the sanctuary, but there is no firm date set for that part of the construction process.

—Aimee Garver

Come as
You Are...Be
Transformed



Photos: Becky Carpenter

Below, L-R: Boyd Gibson, head elder; Andrea Crane, elder; Mark Kleinschmidt, mayor of Chapel Hill; Terry Clem, former pastor; Jack Lamberton, chair of the building committee; Leslie Louis, Carolina Conference president; Gary Moyer, Carolina Conference VP for administration; Dexter Richardson, current pastor; Rick Russell, Carolina Conference VP for finance; Keith Shaw, church member and architect of new church campus; and Eme Beecher, member.



What's New at NOSOCA PINES RANCH?

Since January, there has been a lot of change around Nosoca Pines Ranch and a few new projects have made the to-do list—a Pioneer Village, an Indian Camp and revamping the Miner's Camp. Several families that were asked to pitch in and help coordinate met with Rick Faber, NPR director, in March to discuss the projects.

Upon finding an old tobacco barn that was slated to be torn down, they disassembled it and brought it back to Nosoca to be recycled into the first of several log cabins for the Pioneer Village. Already partially up at Pioneer Village are a woodworking shed and the new road that leads to the new Indian Camp, and eventually to the newly-refurbished Miner's Camp. There has been work done in the Indian Camp as well—paths to different areas, a council fire and a partial Wikiup hut

have already been started.

The Pioneer Village will include a woodworking shed, three to four different



style cabins, an inn/trading post, barn, blacksmith shop, church, grist mill and saw mill. The Indian Camp will include a council fire, traditional-style homes, Archery range, and Tomahawk range. The Miner's Camp, which will be available for camp this



summer, will have new buildings and a set of flumes for the kids to wash rocks and gems in, as well as a new entrance.

There is still a lot more to do. They are looking for help to construct buildings and clear land. They also need materials that can be repurposed (treated lumber, five-groove tin, log buildings, etc), along with tools and furnishings.

If you would like to help or provide supplies, please contact Betty Pennington at (828)758-7214 or Lynette Downing at (828)302-2628 for more information.

—Lynette Downing

Young People Spreading the GOOD NEWS

The annual Magabook Program is being held this summer in Raleigh, NC. The Magabook Program is a 10-week program dedicated to doing missionary work in different cities each year. Those who participate are involved in literature evangelism, conducting bible studies, praying for whom-ever they encounter and simply helping out in the community wherever needed. The majority those who participate are students, and although most of the students who participate are from the Carolinas, some come from different areas. This summer there are 14 students, some of whom are from Fletcher and Mount Pisgah Academies.

The Magabook Program is dedicated to spreading the good news of the Gospel and God has truly blessed the efforts that are being put forth. Below is an e-mail that was received from Carlene Byron telling of how

she came to encounter some of the students and of the power of prayer.

"I met some of your young people



at a shopping mall in Cary yesterday. I want to thank you as an organization, first, for distributing The Bible Story books, which were my first introduction to Christ as part of a non-believing family. The boys can tell you more detail, but I did spend part of my life in dedicated service through the Evangelistic Association of New England (now Vision New England). Yesterday happened to be part of a crisis time in my life,...and

they promised prayer. What I can say for certain is that I've mostly cried and watched 'Ugly Betty' reruns for the last three days. Today I have awakened feeling human and competent again. So thank you for your publishing service and for your prayerful young evangelists. An aside: a doctor at the Adventist hospital in Brunswick, Maine helped my mother make dietary choices in her last years that allowed her to live the end of her life as she chose. She became a vegan at age 79 (!!) and died at home two years ago at age 83. And converted five family members to a vegan diet! So another thanks."

The work that God is doing through these young people is truly remarkable. Continue to pray with us for the efforts that are being made as we work to go about the great commission of our Lord. "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." Matthew 28:19 KJV

—Esther Smith



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CAROLINA OBITUARIES

HANNA, Glenda Shirley Rolfe, 91, born July 1, 1923, in Brunswick, Maine, died April 6, 2015, in Mills River, NC. Glenda, who was a member of the Fletcher church, graduated in 1946 as a missionary nurse from New England Sanitarium and Hospital, today known as Washington Adventist University. She also received a Masters degree in Nursing Education from Loma Linda University in California. She worked at the Florida Sanitarium and Hospital and was director of the school of nursing in Taiwan, then also in Puerto Rico and Singapore for a total of 25 years. She retired in 1985 to Hendersonville, NC, where she served for ten years in the Park Ridge Hospital Auxiliary. Glenda is preceded in death by her parents, Elder Herbert Raymond Rolfe and Shirley Louise Stevens; and her husband, James 'Ray' Hanna. Surviving are several cousins.

SMITH, Richard J., 80, born August 10, 1934, in Massachusetts, died January 30, 2015, in Hendersonville, NC. He was the son of the late Phillip and Lolita Smith. Richard's wife, Shirley E. Smith, preceded him in death. Dick attended Greater Boston Academy, and later attended Atlantic Union College in Lancaster, MA, where he met his future wife, Shirley. When called to military service,

Dick became one of the Seventh-day Adventists who were part of Operation Whitecoat. At Fort Detrick, Maryland between 1954 and 1973, the program pursued medical research using volunteer enlisted personnel who were eventually nicknamed "Whitecoats". The stated purpose of the research was to defend troops and civilians against biological weapons. After being discharged, he and Shirley were married. Dick and his wife moved to California, where he earned a law degree. He became a supervisor of juveniles and adults who were on legal probation. It was Dick's desire to make a difference in the lives of these men. The Smiths, with their son, moved to Fletcher, NC, where they both began employment at Park Ridge Hospital. In 1981, Dick and Shirley relocated to Kentucky to work at Manchester Memorial Hospital, where Dick worked as the human resource director. In 1996 the couple retired and returned to the Fletcher/Hendersonville area to be near family and friends. Dick and Shirley became valued, hard-working members at Mills River Adventist Church, where he served as an elder. Richard is survived by his son, Richard B. Smith (Lori) of Pisgah Forest, NC; and one granddaughter, Christina Smith.

Carolina Conference Calendar

August

Young Adults ROCK --- Aug. 7-9. Raleigh Church.

Welcome to the Family --- Aug 14-16. NPR.

Adventurer & Pathfinder Leadership Convention --- Aug 21-23. NPR.

September

Hispanic Camp Meeting --- Sept. 4-6. NPR.

Sabbath School Workshop --- Sept. 11-13. NPR.

Carolina Youth Rally --- Sept. 18-19. MPA.

Men's Ministry Retreat --- Sept. 25-27. NPR.

October

Hispanic Women's Retreat --- Oct. 2-4. NPR.

Women's Retreat --- Oct. 9-11. NPR.

ECCM (Eastern Carolina Camp Meeting) --- Oct. 17. Greenville North Church.

LCCM (Low Country Camp Meeting) --- Oct. 25. Summerville Church.

Mt. Pisgah Church 100th Year Celebration --- Oct. 23-24. MPA.

All current and former members of the Mount Pisgah Academy Church are invited to a centennial homecoming weekend. Sabbath morning speaker will be former pastor Walton Williams. Stay for lunch and fellowship on the

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

The Carolina Action

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