

February 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. A SPECIAL PRAYER FOR OUR SPANISH CHURCH FAMILIES, REFUGEES & IMMIGRANTS



At our recent Pastors Retreat and also at our last Executive Committee, the fears and anxieties of our un-documented Spanish brothers and sisters along with refugees and immigrants from other nations was brought into the discussion of issues that we are facing with the controversial immigration legislation that is marring many of our Carolina churches. Although they may not have been able to afford the opportunity of procuring legal residence in the United States, most of these members came here to simply find a homeland of better opportunities and privileges not available in their native country.

It is certainly a very complex issue and one that should evoke our empathy and heartfelt prayers for their plight. And if deportation orders are issued and enforced, what will happen to the children and adolescents of these undocumented church members who are by birth, and therefore legally, citizens of the United States? The North American Division has assured us of help through the Office of General Council to provide assistance in legal counsel needed for the transfer of guardianship to willing members of the church who desire to help in this tragic circumstance. Irrespective of such assistance, most of us will never know the trauma of separation and uncertainty that is facing many of these families. Let's pray for compassionate hearts and Divine wisdom as our government seeks to find a resolution to this very difficult matter.

2. A NEW VENUE FOR OUR FIFTH GENEROUS LIVING SUMMIT

This year our Generous Living Team of the Carolina Conference has taken our special event on the road! Rather than having the event at Nosoca Pines Ranch as it has been our custom in the past few years, we will begin a process of bringing it to selected area churches in North and South Carolina. You are invited to the 5th Annual Generous Living Summit on Sabbath, February 25, 2017, at the Lelia Patterson Center in Fletcher, NC, from 9:00 to 4:30 p.m. Our guest speaker is Elder Del L. Johnson, retired administrator at the North American Division Retirement office. Elder Johnson's messages will be not only be engagingly informative but also deeply inspirational.



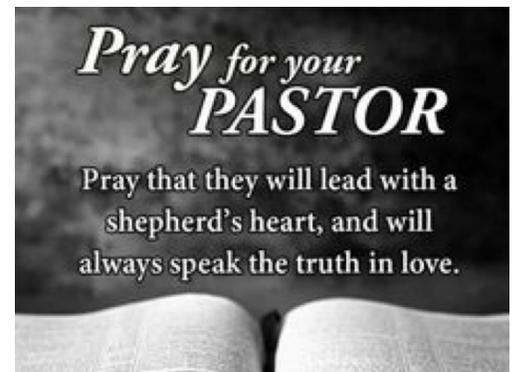
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED for a free vegetarian haystack lunch.

(Registration Deadline: February 15, 2017) You may register by email to Mrs. Rocio Roberts at the Carolina Conference office rroberts@carolinasda.org or by phone: 704-596-3200 at x5729.

Let's uplift this special upcoming summit in our prayers this month. Let's pray for all those who will join us for this special Sabbath with us as we seek to dedicate ALL of us in response to ALL of Him. Paul assures us that *"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."* I Corinthians 9:11.

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]



This was the experience of Christ's faithful disciples as they met in earnest prayer in that upper room as described in Acts 1:14. Let's pray for a genuine revival in these churches uplifting them and each pastor by name:

Fletcher SDA Church

Pastor James Reynart
Associate Youth Pastor

Fuquay Varina Lighthouse Fellowship SDA Company
Chapel Hill New Life SDA Church
Eden SDA Group
Wentworth SDA Group
Haw River SDA Church

Pastor Dexter Richardson

Rockingham Spanish SDA Church
Rockingham Cornerstone SDA Church
Biscoe Spanish SDA Church
Asheboro Spanish SDA Company

Pastor Jose (Fredy) Rivera

Columbia Midtown SDA Church
Batesville-Leesville Three Angels Group

Pastor Harry Robinson

Elizabeth City Harbor of Hope SDA Church
Manteo Spanish SDA Group
Nags Head Living Waters SDA Group

Pastor Eli Rojas, Jr.

Charlotte Unity SDA Company
Fort Mill SDA Company
Charlotte Myanmar SDA International Company

Pastor Christopher Rollins

4. COME OVER TO MOUNTAIN VIEW AND HELP THEM!



The smallest Seventh-day Adventist conference in all of North America is the Mountain View Conference encompassing West Virginia and western Maryland with less than a handful of office staff, 13 pastors and 33 churches. Beginning on September 8, they would like to hold an evangelistic campaign in every church of their conference. Because they have very limited resources, they are asking for help – much in the same way that Paul received a God-given vision that directed the route he took on his second missionary journey (Acts 15:39—18:22). In that vision Paul saw a man standing and begging him to come over to Macedonia and help them. The Mountain View Conference as one of our sister conferences is in need of 20 additional speakers – lay member-speakers or pastors who would be willing to come out there and join in their effort to reach this territory for Christ.

Please pray that from the Carolinas and across North America, both young and old – pastors (retired or active), lay members (especially those who've had the opportunity to participate on ShareHim campaigns) will respond to this sacred calling and be heralds of the gospel message for these end times in that part of God's vineyard. To find out more information regarding this opportunity to serve, contact the conference president: Elder Larry Boggess at 304-422-4581 or by email at: lgjfb@juno.com. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of responding to this call.

5. REMEMBER AND KEEP IN FOCUS OUR 2020 VISION

VISION VI: ENRICH ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL MINISTRY IN 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.



The first is a focus 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 of \$10,615, was raised for the African mission station.

Purposefully planning and including a focus on our world mission during Sabbath School time is an opportunity for our Carolina Sabbath Schools to focus and connect with other parts of the world, as well as learn about the diverse peoples and cultures in faraway places. 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 a called and consecrated Seventh-day Adventist leader from my former, boyhood homeland of 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.

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.

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-attendeers, 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-attendeers, members who are sick, etc. and getting as many class members involved as possible.

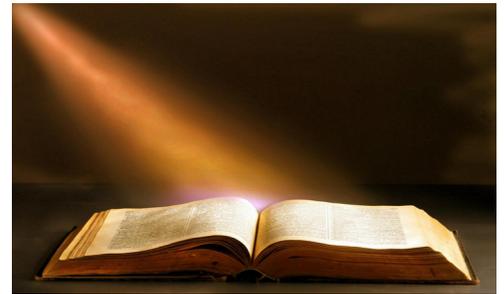
The fourth focus of our Sabbath School Ministry is the one we are most familiar with in the area of BIBLE STUDY (Through the utilization of teacher resources and young adults in an in-depth study of the Sabbath School Lesson Study). Following the weekly theme of the adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide with an intentional emphasis on the study of God’s Word, our Sabbath Schools should look for opportunities to open the Bible to discover 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.

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

“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

Beginning with this issue of the *President’s Prayer Partners*, 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 second set of 4 memory passages for this year to coincide with our second fundamental belief at Adventists. **Let’s place His Word prayerfully in our hearts each day of this month.**



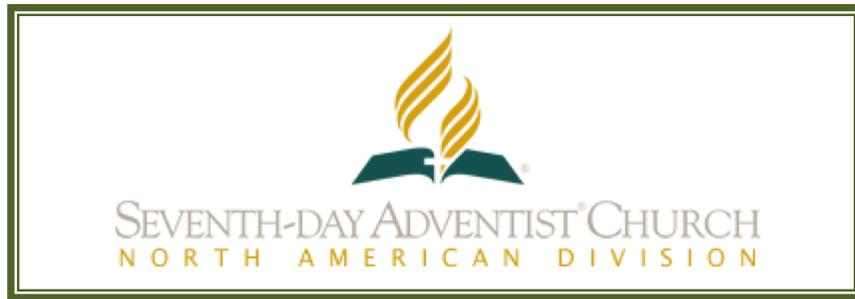
I carry a set of these passages with me in my car and repeat them aloud as I drive from place to place. My goal is to prayerfully say one verse at least five times a day for a week, thus embracing the promise of God’s Word – “*Thy Word have I hid in mine heart that I might not sin against Thee.*” Psalm 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 # 2: The Trinity: There is one God – Father Son and Holy Spirit, a unity of three co-eternal Persons. God is immortal, all powerful, all knowing, above all, and ever present. He is infinite and beyond human comprehension, yet known through His self-revelation. God, who is love, is forever worthy of worship, adoration, and service by the whole creation.

- A. **Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (NKJV)** - *“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.”*
- B. **Matthew 28:19 (NKJV)** - *“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”*
- C. **II Corinthians 1; 21-22 (NIV)** - *“Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.*
- D. **Ephesians 4: 4-6 (NKJV)** - *“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”*



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



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

Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists		Dave Weigley, President
a. February 5-11	Allegheny East Conference	Henry Fordham III, President
b. February 12-18	Allegheny West Conference	William Cox, President
c. February 19-25	Chesapeake Conference	Rick Remmers, President
	Mountain View Conference	Larry Boggess, President
d. February 26 – March 4	New Jersey Conference	José H. Cortes, Sr., President

Photos of each of these leaders is provided on the next page of this issue.



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