



TODAY

@CAMP MEETING 2017

I had the privilege of sitting down with Chris and Shannon Sorensen and talking with them about their current mission field: Khon Kaen, Thailand. The Sorensens are currently partnering with Adventist Frontier Missions as church planting missionaries, but it is how they are reaching out to their community that is fascinating.

Khon Kaen, Thailand, is not what one might picture when first thinking of a mission field, being a fairly urban university town. It is one of the current “Centers of Influence” projects coordinated by the General Conference and supported by its division, union, and conference.



The Sorensens’ unorthodox approach is perhaps one of the more modern and innovative methods of relational evangelism: they work at a private music school. Peace Music Academy is the entering wedge for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Khon Kaen. Chris functions as its administrator and ukelele teacher, which he says was definitely not what he envisioned when he dreamed of doing missionary work. Shannon leans more toward a whole person approach—she has her hands in just about everything, including homeschooling their two children.

Over the past four years, the mission music school has seen many miracles and accepted many students. Currently, 50 students between the ages of five and 75 attend the school. However, the three full-time music teachers employed by the school are also hired out to various schools in the area, making the impact of Peace Music Academy that much more effective

in the community.

Music has a unique way of reaching hearts and involving families that has been lacking in many of the English schools, the Sorensens explained, and this further compounds their impact on the community.

They regularly welcome student missionaries and are working to encourage more music majors to take a year off to serve God where they are so desperately needed.

These missionaries are not content with the status quo though; they



“This is a great new mission approach that we really hope others can experience themselves, especially young people—adults too, if God is calling. Consider using your musical gifts for ministry. A lot

Mission to Thailand



have plans for a community center to bolster the Adventist presence in Khon Kaen. When asked what they really want people to know, the Sorensens responded,

of people think music is a nice side thing, but God can do so much more if we allow Him.”

For more information or if you’d like to get involved with their mission, email burningtummies@yahoo.com.

—CASEY VAUGHN



TAL@MPA

On Tuesday evening, Conference President Leslie Louis took time to highlight a special ministry of the Carolina Conference: Mount Pisgah Academy (MPA) and its Touch a Life program. Formerly titled “Worthy Student Fund,” the Touch a Life program gives scholarships and provides sponsorships for students who wish to attend MPA for their secondary education. He stressed to the audience the importance of Adventist education. It is Adventist education that furnishes opportunities for youth to form relationships with godly mentors. It provides a solid foundation for our youth as they venture out into the less-than-Christian world around them. Adventist education helps shape the future of our church by teaching youth to love Jesus and how to serve Him.

That is the objective of MPA: Nurture every heart to live for Jesus. Elder Louis told the congregation that when church members give to the Touch a Life program, they are choosing to support the future of the church. “Jesus lives at Mount Pisgah,” he affirmed.

Two students from MPA, Tiffany Paden and Bruno Caramel de Oliveira, shared their personal testimonies of how God led them to attend MPA. Through miracle after miracle, and the generosity of Conference church members in giving to the Touch a Life program, both students had the opportunity to attend MPA. They asked attendees to dig deep for the future of the church.

Each member of the Conference is further encouraged to invest monthly in the Touch a Life program. As Elder Louis said, “An investment in education is an investment for eternity.”

For more information or to donate to the Touch a Life Program, visit www.pisgah.us.

—CASEY VAUGHN



PHOTOS BY
COURTNEY HEROD

Fulfilling the Great Commission

After a riveting song service that “got the blood flowing,” Karl Haffner, teaching pastor at the Kettering Adventist Church in Dayton, Ohio, opened his seminar with the question, “What could undo our denomination, whether theological, missional, financial, or organizational?” He then gave the audience a few moments to discuss potential answers with their neighbors.

After the discussion, Haffner presented a short video clip that provided a different twist on the Great Commission of Matthew 28. The video explained that fulfilling the “Great Commission” can often seem to be a daunting, insurmountable task. The suggestion was made that we should consider the Great Commission as an “Everyday Commission.” This concept challenges believers to see living out the Great Commission as an everyday, doable, personal responsibility.

Haffner engaged the audience in considering what the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is and how effective we are in that mission. He explained that we may fulfill this commission in a variety of ways as appropriate to our particular situations, but the only way we can avoid drifting from our mission is regularly evaluating how effectively we are staying in line with Jesus’ mission. Haffner suggests that we do this by asking the question, “Do we beat to the original heartbeat of our Founder Jesus Christ?”

As his seminar came to a close, Haffner challenged the audience members to make a commitment to pray daily for their local church, for the pastor and his or her family, and for wisdom on how to fulfill the Everyday Commission in their lives each day.

—PAUL ANTHONY TURNER



PHOTO BY COURTNEY HEROD



Those Curious, Colorful Rocks

Women's Ministries

This Camp Meeting provides something extra special for the ladies. Each attendee has the opportunity to complete modules in Level I of the Women's Ministries Leadership Certification Program. Laura Smith, women's ministries director for the Southern Union Conference, related stories of great women leaders both inside and outside the Seventh-day Adventist Church. She sought to equip women with the tools necessary to be leaders in their churches.

Smith pointed out the tremendous need for women to take greater responsibility in the church, "Women's ministries is a vital department in the church and a vital position on the church board." Smith

encouraged women to actively befriend other women in their churches and strengthen the communities within their congregations. She also challenged them to take up issues in their church such as abuse prevention and family health.

Each day the women who attend are blessed with laughter and stories as they grow closer to Jesus and learn more about how to lead in Adventism. Contrary to popular belief, women's ministries is far more than tea parties. "Instead," Ms. Smith said, "it is empowering women in ministry to reach souls for Jesus." Women who desire to do more for Jesus are encouraged to attend this invigorating seminar.

—CASEY VAUGHN

Have you been wondering about the colorful rocks spread around Lake Junaluska? Our Earliteen class painted rocks and scattered them around the campus for you to post pictures of them on social media with #colorcampmeeting attached. We have been doing much more than painting rocks, though. Tim Cove is doing a great job entertaining us with his sense of humor and great activities. Luke Steen has been sharing how Jesus is greater than all of our barriers, problems, and worries, and telling his personal life-changing stories and challenges. We went tubing today and will continue to do fun activities throughout the week. I know my friends and I are having fun; are you? Tell us with #2017CarolinaCM.

—EMMA BOUGHMAN

Becoming a Gritty Man

Pastor Jose LaPorte Jr. led a fascinating discussion about what it means to be a "gritty" man. He pointed out that there is a dearth of gritty men in modern society, which has contributed to the breakdown of the image of a man's role.



To examine "grit" from a biblical perspective, Pastor LaPorte invited the audience to look at Hebrews 11, which he calls the "Grit Chapter." He explained that being a gritty man is not about how many times he falls, but whether he gets back up and presses on. Gritty men are not afraid to recognize their faults. To further demonstrate this point, LaPorte

led those gathered to look at a number of instances in Peter's life that demonstrate that grit. Then he compared Peter's life with Judas'. The difference between how the two disciples responded to their failures was their level of commitment.

To enhance understanding of the need for commitment in the fight of faith,

LaPorte and his father enacted a mock sword fight. Gritty men, he explained, are determined to fight no matter what comes their way. The meeting ended with a call to 100% commitment to the fight of faith.

—PAUL ANTHONY TURNER



PHOTOS BY CASEY VAUGHN

Bulletin Board The Stuff You Need to Know!

Carolina Evangelism Offering

Sunday	\$2,378.00
Monday	\$4,151.00
Tuesday	\$2,890.00
2016 Tuesday	\$2,839.00
2017 TOTAL	\$9,425.00

ACBC Book Signings

Meet and greet Jud Lake on Thursday at 8:30 p.m., and Brenda Walsh on Friday from 1-3 p.m.

ACBC Kids' Contest

Pick up contest at the Primary/Junior meetings Thursday evening. Winners will be announced Friday at 1 p.m. at the ACBC.

ACBC Special

Thursday: 10% off reg. priced Bibles and EGW books. Newsprint sharing books and sale items excluded.

Anointing Service

Make note of a special anointing service in the Stone Chapel after the main evening meeting each day. Bring your heavy burdens to the Lord and cast your cares on Him.

Attention Twitter Users!

Tweet a picture of yourself with our president, Elder Leslie Louis, tag #2017CarolinaCM and @lesliedlouis, then come by Terrace Hotel, room 211, for a Fruit Bar certificate (between 8-10 a.m. Thurs.).

Audio & Video Recordings

Recordings of meetings can be ordered in-store or online: www.carolinaacbc.com; they will be mailed out after Camp Meeting. You can also download free recordings (24-hour delay) from www.carolinasda.org/camp-meeting.

Dollar Club

Last chance! Bring a dollar to the evening meeting tonight to be a part of the newest thing at Camp Meeting. Turn your dollar into a life-changing moment for an unsuspecting person in Waynesville.

Headsets for Hearing Impaired

A limited number of headsets are available at the information booth in Stuart Auditorium. First come, first served. Note: No headsets will be available on Sabbath due to the Hispanic translation headsets using the frequency.

Media

Camp Meeting App: Find all Camp Meeting info on the app available in the Apple and Google Play app stores (Search: Carolina Conference). Remember to enable push notifications to receive further announcements. (If you have previously downloaded the app, you will need to update for current information.)

Facebook: "Like" us at [Facebook.com/carolinaconference](https://www.facebook.com/carolinaconference).

Live Streaming: Carolina Conference website www.carolinasda.org will stream all meetings in the main auditorium each day starting at 7:50 a.m.

Meeting Location Change

The Kelly Mowrer seminar at the Welcome Center at 4:00 p.m. has been changed to the Stone Chapel at 4:00 p.m. starting Tuesday and continuing through Friday.

Plants for Sale

Live plants used in the stage decor will be sold on Saturday evening after the last meeting. Cash only, pay at pickup. First come, first served.

- 10 FERNS - \$10 each
- 7 COMBO POTS - \$20 each
- 2 EVERGREEN TREES - \$20 each
- 4 YELLOW SHRUBS - \$15 each

Primary Class Pick-up

Parents of Primary-age children, you will be picking up your kids at Stuart Auditorium in the choir room behind the stage after the evening meetings Sun.-Fri.

Prison Ministries Seminar

Sabbath, 2:00 p.m., Terrace Hotel, room 316. Come and share with us regarding prison ministry.

Publishing Meeting

There will be a publishing meeting/instruction in the Terrace Hotel, room 316, on Friday 8:30 a.m. to noon, 6/2/17. All are welcome.

Retired?

Are you retired and a member of a Carolina Conference church? Then stop by the Carolina Retirees Association booth in the exhibit hall and pick up an application. They would love to have you as a member.

Run4Life 5K and 1M Fun Run

Runners and walkers...heads up! Changes and improvements have come to

the 2017 Lake Junaluska Friday morning Run4Life and Fun Run event. Pre-registration is Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at the Terrace Hotel, first floor small meeting room. Pre-race bib pickup is Thursday 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at the same location. *Walk-up registration will end at 7:30 a.m. Friday morning.* You can also register online at <http://my.raceresult.com/71017/>.

SAU Luncheon

There is a complimentary picnic lunch for alumni and friends of Southern Adventist University on Friday, June 2, at noon under the tents next to the lake and main auditorium. Maximum of 250 reserved tickets available on a first-to-respond basis. Tickets are available onsite at the Southern exhibit booth, or they may be reserved by emailing rsvp@southern.edu or by calling 423-236-2829.

Special Thanksgiving Service

The Pakula Family invites their friends and whoever else would like to join them for a thanksgiving service in celebration of the 5th anniversary of God's miracle of healing here at Camp Meeting for their daughter Isabella. It will be at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday at the Welcome Center.

Trust Services

CALL 205-574-9868 to make an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome; however, appointments have priority. For notary services, call 205-574-9868. Bring two witnesses for notary services. Trust Services is at 202 Harrell Center, Mon.-Fri., 9:00 a.m.-noon and 1:00-4:00 p.m. Appointments available Sun., June 4, from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Welcome Center.

2017 TODAY Staff

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Submitting Announcements

Any announcements you wish to post here must be submitted at the Terrace Hotel, room 211, no later than 10 a.m. daily to be published the following day.