

# A CAROLINA ACTION

ISSUE 2, 2017

## EVANGELISM IMPACT 2017

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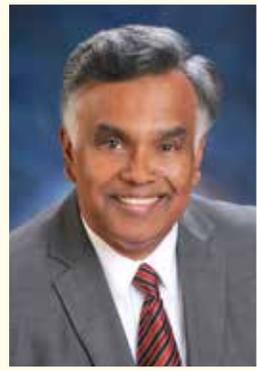
Courtesy Herod

Courtesy Herod

Becky Carpenter

Becky Carpenter

EMBRACING CAROLINA WITH THE COMPASSIONATE CALL OF CHRIST

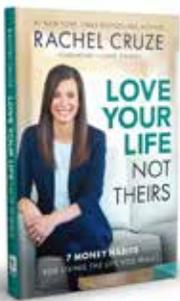


# From the President's Pen

## Grateful Generosity

In her book *Love Your Life, Not Theirs*, Rachel Cruze penned these profound words:

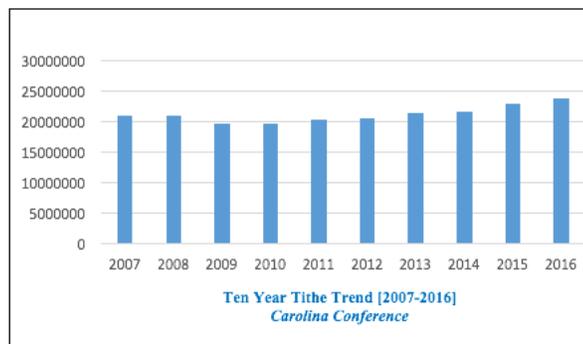
“Generosity is the most attractive character trait you can imagine. People who freely give their time, energy, attention, sympathy, encouragement, and yes, their money, are the kind of people you want to spend time with. Generosity makes us so much more of who we really want to be!”



Five years ago my colleagues and I prayerfully developed a plan for the Carolina Conference to emphasize faithful stewardship of God's sacred resources. We named it Generous Living. We formed a team in our office that (1) dedicated a specific time for earnest prayer every Monday morning; (2) endorsed a prayer ministry known as The President's Prayer Partners; (3) developed stories, video testimonials and printed resources such as posters, bulletin inserts and creative offering appeal messages from our own team of workers, students and members; (4) promoted the development of Generous Living teams in every local church; and (4) planned the programming for five wonderful, inspirational Generous Living Summits.

As I look back over the past few years, I can see our path of recovery from the valley of recession in 2009. I praise God for the steady progress we have seen in God's tithes and offerings. Consider for a moment the

graphic below. It illustrates the return of God's tithe by the faithful Remnant who make up the 153 Seventh-day Adventist churches and companies of the Carolinas.



It would seem that the more we give, the poorer we become, but just the opposite is true! Generosity to God, His church and others brings meaning and fulfillment to our lives in a way that wealth, power, possessions and self-centered pursuits can never match. As Jesus said, “For if you give, you will get! Your gift will return to you in full and overflowing measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for

**“Real Generosity is when we share what little we have WITH THOSE WHO HAVE LESS.”**

more, and running over. Whatever measure you use to give—large or small—will be used to measure what is given back to you” (Luke 6:38, TLB).

We live during a time when the enemy of God's Church has planted seeds of selfishness and discontentment. It is so easy to find fault with just about everything

under the sun. From time to time, I receive some wonderful letters of gratitude for the service of a pastor, a teacher or a worker in our conference headquarters. My heart is truly

warmed by such expressions of gratitude. There is no room for a spirit of discontent in a heart that is filled with gratitude. I once saw this perfect one-liner, “It's hard to be hateful when you are grateful!” How true, indeed!

I'd like to challenge you to do something throughout the remainder of this year. If you are on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or any other mode of social media, why not post a

note of gratitude for someone who has blessed your life, or for the joy you've experienced in answer to prayer? You can do it once, or once a week! If you're not into social media, make it your goal to be generous through a phone call or a kind note.

Actually pausing to think through the blessings of your life, and how you can be a blessing, can transform your entire outlook. As George Zimmer, the American entrepreneur and founder of Men's Wearhouse, would say, “You're going to love the way you look. I guarantee it!”

Your servant leader,

Leslie Louis  
Carolina Conference President

# KEEPING A FOCUS ON OUR

# 20/20 VISION

## Organize Houses of Prayer Across the Carolinas

The third of our seven visionary goals for this quinquennial period is simple but vital to the health of our congregations. The goal is for every church in the Carolina Conference to become known as a house of prayer in their community. It's my heartfelt desire that we become more intentional about prayer, and create a climate in our churches where prayer can become a priority.

Five years ago I was in the Muslim country of Turkey.

Although I don't advocate their belief system, their example of regular prayer times is one I believe we can learn from. In Scripture we see

another example of intentional times for prayer in the life of Daniel, and the results of these daily petitions.

Our first focus is to encourage our members to adopt an intentional and passionate prayer life.

Providing a time and place where our youth and young adults can engage in heartfelt prayer bands is our second focus. When they discover the amazing power of prayer in their own lives, their hearts will be connected to Christ and compelled to remain faithful to His church.

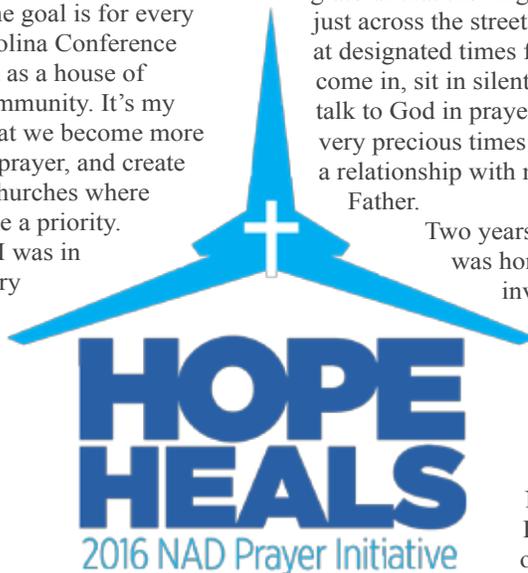
Our third focus is for our

churches to open their doors to their communities, inviting them to participate in specific times of prayer. Several years ago, when I was a student at Newbold College in England, there was no church or chapel where I could go and spend some time alone with God. I was so grateful that the Anglican Church just across the street was open at designated times for people to come in, sit in silent reverence and talk to God in prayer. Those were very precious times as I formed a relationship with my Heavenly Father.

Two years ago I was honored to be invited to the Spartanburg church as they hosted an event for their community leaders on the National Day of Prayer. One state official said that was the first time

he had ever set foot in an Adventist Church, and indicated that it would certainly not be the last.

This goal is primarily to help us realize that seeking the Lord in personal prayer, and listening to His voice as we reflect on His Word, is our greatest source of power. As Jesus told His disciples shortly before He returned to His Father, prayer will be the power that enables us to be effective witnesses for Him to those whose lives we touch each day (see Acts 1:8).



## FOR THE CAROLINA CONFERENCE

HOPE is an acronym for Houses of Prayer Everywhere. Here in the Carolinas, it's our desire to partner with the North American Division to experience what we all long to see in our lifetime—the outpouring of the Latter Rain across the vast territory of North America.

Let's cherish the appeal and the assurance of Psalm 100, "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations."

I pray that every church board meeting in the Carolinas will devote a segment of its agenda to planning ways to accomplish this goal and its three areas of focus, so every Carolina sanctuary will truly be known as a house of prayer.

—by Leslie D. Louis, Conference President

**H**ouses  
**O**f  
**P**rayer  
**E**verywhere

## Carolina Action is a publication of the Carolina Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

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Courtney Herod

# EVANGELISM IMPACT 2017

The second annual Evangelism IMPACT took place this past January in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. In addition to an increase in attendance, the length of the meetings increased by an additional day. Launching the event Thursday evening, Shawn Boonstra from Voice of Prophecy sparked a fire which grew throughout the entire weekend. That fire was also fed by Roger Hernandez, Brad

Cauley and the other seminar presenters.

Behind the scenes, as with many evangelism-themed events, the devil was at work creating obstacles—from a speaker cancellation to technology issues to Hurricane Matthew damage. The Lord prevailed, however, and navigated the way through those challenges. In his final message, Boonstra shared story after story of Voice of Prophecy meetings where the devil had tried to interfere or shut them down. Each time the Lord had counteracted every challenge with an overflow of interest, support and attendance. To paraphrase the old saying, what others meant for harm, the Lord turned to good.

Evangelism IMPACT's purpose is to Encourage, Encounter and Engage. This theme was evident in each of the meetings, whether a main meeting

or a breakout session. The breakout sessions focused on areas where local churches can grow, highlighted what they are already doing well and shared ways to make their evangelism impact greater. Because the platform of social media, which has such an impact on the relationship between a church family and new or potential members, especially millennials, is always changing, there is never a point at which a church can stop improving in that area.

One of the breakout sessions was organized by Samuel Romero, Carolina Conference hispanic ministries director, specifically for the Hispanic brothers and sisters who attended. And did they attend! For the first time there was not enough translation equipment for the main meetings at a Conference event.

Make plans to attend the next Evangelism IMPACT in January 2018!

—by Courtney Herod

## We're not just talking ..WE'RE DOING.

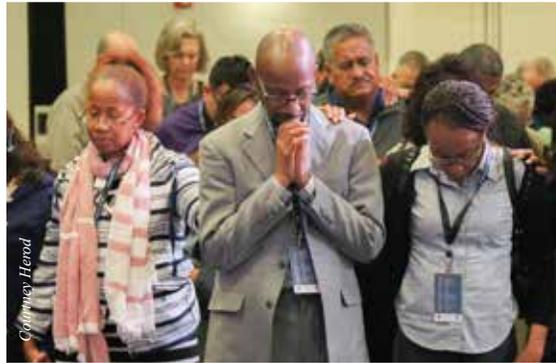




Becky Carpenter



Becky Carpenter



Catherine Herold



Becky Carpenter



# Sharing HIM

CAROLINA CONFERENCE  
LAKE JUNALUSKA  
CAMP MEETING

HIM

## SPEAKERS:



**MIKE TUCKER**  
Thurs-Sab Evening  
Speaker/Director  
*Faith for Today Television*



**DON LIVESAY**  
Sun-Wed Evening  
President  
*Lake Union Conference*



**KARL HAFFNER**  
Mon-Fri 11am  
Senior Pastor  
*Kettering College Church*

## VARIOUS SPEAKERS

Mon-Fri 8am  
*Carolina Conference Ministers*  
Haskell Williams, Glen Altermatt, Jason Belyeu, Henry Johnson & David Wright

## SEMINARS:

**BRAD CAULEY**  
*Church Growth*

**LYNELL**

**LAMOUNTAIN**

*Creation Health*

**GEORGE GARRICK**

*Personal Evangelism*

**RUBER & KETTY LEAL**

*Family*

**KELLY MOWRER**

*Growing in Prayer/  
Intercessory Prayer*

**JOSÉ LAPORTE JR.**  
*Men's Ministries*

**KEN BRYANT**

*Matching Personality*

*with Spiritual Gifts*

**GERALD**

**BABANEZHAD &**

**GRANT AGADJANIAN**

*Muslim Outreach*

**JEREMIAH WEEKS**

*ShareHim Bootcamp*

**ERIC FLICKINGER**  
*Start a Fire for the*

*Lord in Your Church*

**KEVIN WILFLEY**

*Stewardship*

**JUD LAKE**

*Spirit of Prophecy*

**JIM WETMORE**

*Prison Ministries*

**LAURA SMITH**

*Women's Ministries  
Certification*

LIVE STREAM  
OF AUDITORIUM  
MEETINGS  
AVAILABLE ON  
OUR WEBSITE.

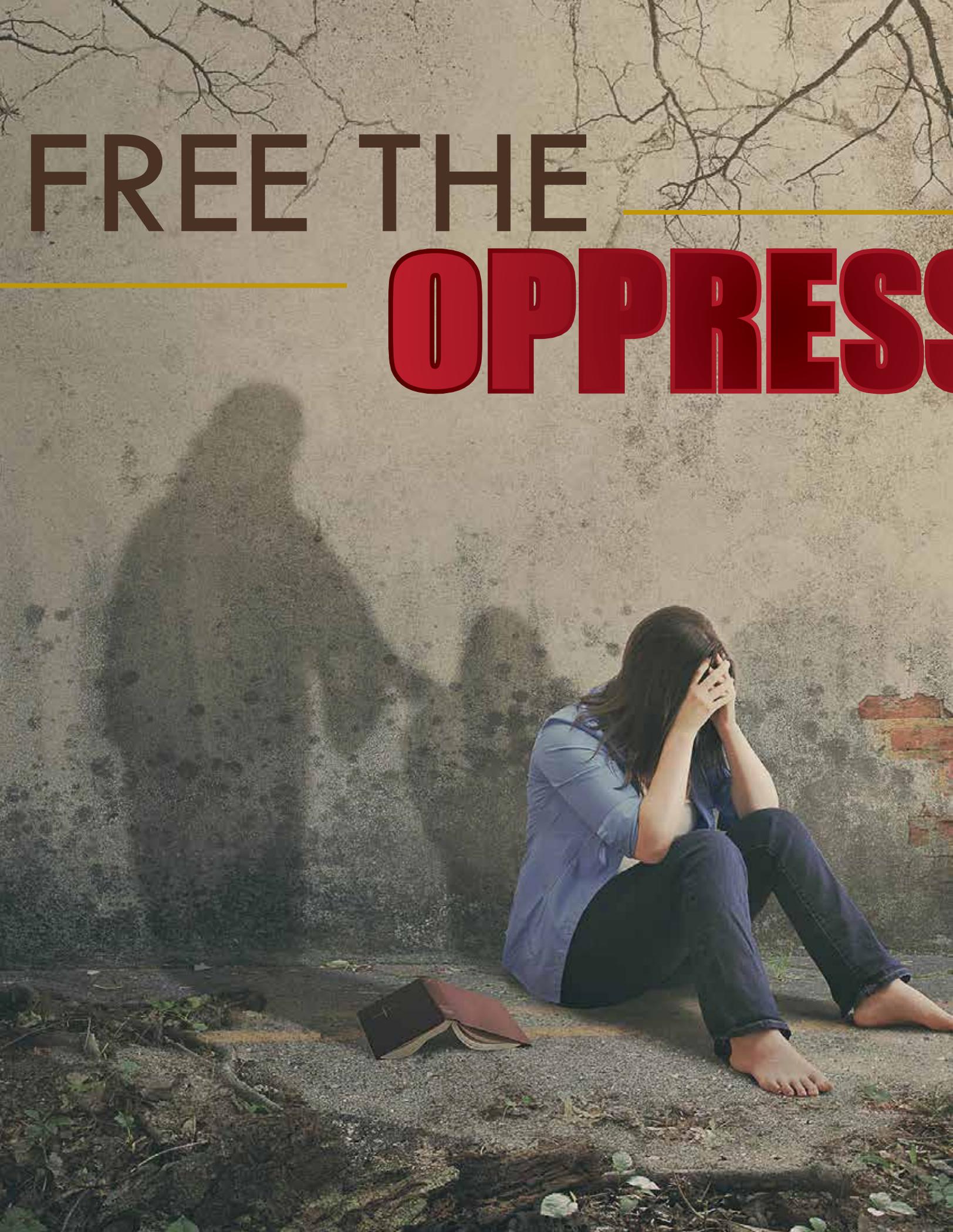
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## MAY 28-JUNE 3, 2017

FREE THE

**OPPRESS**



# SED

Were you aware that North Carolina is one of the top 10 states in the U.S. for sex trafficking, and that Charlotte is the top-offending city in the state? On average, 78 victims are sex trafficked each year in the state. Five hundred new ads are posted to solicit sex in Charlotte every day. Many of the females offered in these ads are teenagers and young girls who are forced to have sex with multiple men each day, exploited as a profitable commodity to be used and reused.

Question: Can Seventh-day Adventist Christians, who seek to vindicate the true character of our God as a loving, compassionate Father, remain silent and seemingly unconcerned while Satan, as a roaring lion, is mauling the lives of God's children? Last year the Carolina Conference responded, "NO, this has got to stop, and God is calling us to help!" Since then, the Conference has been regularly donating to "Market Your Mind, Not Your Body (MYM)," a Charlotte-based, non-profit organization run by

young women in becoming business owners. Nationally recognized, she has even been to the White House and met with former President Barak Obama.

My wife, Lisa, and I first met Neet when we delivered a personal donation to her at her bakery, "Neet's Sweets," where she employs former sex trafficking victims. I learned about Neet through Adventist attorney Robert Forquer, who has a passion for and deep involvement in humanitarian causes. Since that time I have also had the opportunity to provide a personal development workshop for Neet and some of her team, all former trafficking victims. It was truly a moving experience and a great privilege.

Quoting from Isaiah, Jesus proclaimed a very important humanitarian aspect of His ministry when He said: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free" Luke 4:18, NIV. Our Savior calls His Church

## Can Seventh-day Adventist Christians remain silent while Satan is mauling the lives of God's children?

Antonia ("Neet") Childs, a survivor of sex trafficking.

MYM provides short-term crisis care, court advocacy, holistic case management, transitional and supportive housing, and mentors. MYM is partnering with the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department, the Department of Social Services and other Charlotte organizations to prevent sex trafficking and help victims to live positive, productive lives. Neet will be heading a nationwide survivor entrepreneurial platform that will assist

to be His hands and feet in this work. The North American Division's "Compassion 10 Million" calls Adventists to engage their communities with acts of compassion in 2017. Why not ask our Lord in what way He is calling you personally, as well as your local church, to "set the oppressed free?"

—by Gary Moyer, Vice President for Administration



**EMBRACING CAROLINA WITH THE  
COMPASSIONATE CALL OF CHRIST**

# TOUCHING HEARTS and Reaching Souls

Michael Odiam is a full-time literature evangelist serving Greenville, S.C., and surrounding areas. The following is his inspiring testimony from the field this last month:



*The week was going rough. Even though it was only Tuesday, my leads were running low and very few new leads were coming in. It seemed that one person after another*

*was turning me away. Therefore on Tuesday, February 7, 2017, I asked a sister in Christ, Virginia Caswell, to pray for me. Things began to turn around. Leafing through the sample book in his doctor's waiting area, Reverend Tommy Kay's heart was touched, so he filled out a lead. When I showed up, he welcomed me into his Mauldin, S.C., home. He was excited when he saw the new seven-volume Children's Century Classic Bible story books, and wanted them for his twin 14-year-old grandchildren. He placed an order for those books as well as a the Keepsake Family Bible. He was a kind Baptist minister, and during our visit he told me that he loved me. He truly made me feel special. Out of a Christian heart*

*response, I told him that I loved him as a brother in Christ. Amen!*

**BECOME A  
LITERATURE  
EVANGELIST**

Contact the  
Carolina Conference  
Publishing Department

## GIVING Appreciation

Picture left to right are Bryan Aalborg, lead pastor at Charlotte Sharon Church; Jane Harding; Ken Harding, former lead pastor at Charlotte Sharon Church; and Haskell Williams, Carolina Conference ministerial director, presenting Pastor Ken with a medal of recognition for 30 years of pastoral service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. In recognition of the part every pastor's wife plays as co-partner with her husband in ministry, Elder Williams also presented Jane Harding with a beautiful combination clock and hourglass.



Photo Contributed

Pastor Ken was born in 1943 in Lakeland, Fla., to Eva Mae and

Kenneth Harding, Sr., who was taking flight training in the U.S. for the British RAF. During this time, the Hardings attended an evangelistic series in Jacksonville, Fla., and were baptized into the Adventist church.

During WWII, with his RAF training complete, Harding, Sr. was stationed in Italy, where he made 52 bombing runs before his plane was shot down. He survived to pull his crew out of the burning plane.

Read more about Elder Harding's life and ministry on the Conference website, [www.carolinadasa.org](http://www.carolinadasa.org).

—by Ellie Green



## Attention Readers:

We're going digital!

Next year the *Carolina Action* will transition to an all-digital publication. If you prefer your copy in print, don't worry. You can add your name to a subscription list, and we will continue sending you a printed version. This allows us to print only what will be utilized, which will release funds for other methods of kingdom growth!

**Begins January 2018.** *Subscription info coming soon.*



Photo Contributed

# A DIFFERENT KIND OF JOB

**“The more you talk about them, the more important they will feel. The more you listen to them, the more important you will make them feel.”**

— Roy T. Bennett

**W**hen we think about jobs for teenagers, we often think of cashiering, delivering pizzas or babysitting. We don't often think of teenagers working with senior citizens. The ASSIST Program pays students to build relationships with the elderly while helping them with things they can't do on their own or that may be difficult for them. ASSIST is a unique program that is associated only with Adventist schools and was instituted to help students pay their tuition. However, I believe all teenagers could benefit from this program.

The ASSIST Program teaches relationship skills. Students in ASSIST are expected to spend one to six hours per week with their senior mentor(s). Because so much time is spent together, a lot of time is spent talking. As I've talked with my senior mentors, I've learned how to start a conversation and that there are times they just want me to talk and times they want me to listen. I sometimes

work in a nursing home, and I've discovered there are two types of people: those who don't remember much of their past, and those who love to talk about it. Residents who don't like to talk about their past often prefer to talk about everyday things or about things happening in their mentee's life. However, those who do like talking about their past enjoy answering questions such as: What's your family like? Where did you grow up? What types of things did you do as a kid? It's usually easy to start a conversation this way. These are important skills to learn for everyday life, and these are skills employers look for when hiring.

The ASSIST Program shows mentors and mentees each other's perspectives. While talking to my mentors, I've learned what life was like for a different generation. They've told me about a time when people sent letters to each other to communicate, and children played outside or listened to the radio for entertainment; what life was like during the Great Depression; and how it felt to grow up when racial integration didn't exist. I've taught them about my generation and how we think, the Internet and social media, and our methods of communicating with others. We've had excellent conversations about politics, religion, and different views on life. Quite honestly, we're not all that different. We have different opinions, but the only things that

have changed over time are fashion, entertainment and our communication methods.

The ASSIST Program isn't just for the students; it helps the elderly feel more connected and less lonely. When people get to a certain age, they frequently lose their friends either by death or by moving away from each other. Most of their visitors, if any, are family members. The ASSIST student can take the place of others who cannot be there. A senior mentor once told me, "You have replaced my children." Now this lady has me call her "Granny." I've had mentors who called me "my girl." Seniors truly enjoy the ASSIST workers' company, not just because the students clean their houses but because they take time to be with them, which others may neglect to do.

Students in the ASSIST Program have an incredible opportunity to make a difference, not only in their own lives, but also in the lives of others. I wish more teenagers had the opportunity to experience what I have by working in the ASSIST Program. Because of ASSIST I have grown personally and learned to bless others as well as be blessed by them.

—by Tiffany Joelle Paden



Photos by Courtney Herod



# GENEROUSLIVING

ALL OF ME IN RESPONSE TO ALL OF HIM

The 5th Annual Generous Living Summit at Fletcher Academy on February 25, 2017, was a day of praise and thanksgiving for the many blessings God has provided by way of the generosity of the members of the Carolina Conference. The Summit began with the testimony of Christian Bunch, an alumnus of Fletcher Academy who is soon to graduate from Southern Adventist University. His life was forever changed by his experiences as a counselor at Nosoca Pines Ranch, and he appealed to us to live and give generously so more of our young people can experience Adventist education, Adventist camps and Adventist VBS.

Xavier Baca shared his amazing story of beginning his walk with Christ after attending VBS at an Adventist church in Florida. Xavier made the decision to be baptized into the Adventist church even though his family was Catholic. His dream of an Adventist education seemed impossible as his family could not afford the tuition. Because of the generosity of so many who believe Adventist education molds and makes the disciples of the future, Xavier's dream has come true, and he is now a student at Fletcher Academy.

Praise and blessings continued with music from the Fletcher Academy

11th Hour Chorale under the direction of Denise Pettit. The level of professionalism and musical ability of 11th Hour is further evidence of how God can use our generosity to provide for the education and training of students. Ellen White wrote, "With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world!" Education, p. 271.

Our guest speaker, Del Johnson, shared the following principles of joyful living and asked that each of us adopt these principles as a normal part of our everyday lives:

- Accept Christ as Savior
- Worship the Creator
- Return an Honest Tith
- Give Generously

Generous giving allows us to live joyfully, and the joy we receive when doing something for someone else energizes us and makes us happier.

Del shared that when he does his taxes each year, he sings the Doxology after he looks at the charitable contributions total. This

reminds him what a good year he has had and how blessed he has been, even though he contributed a large sum. He also reminded us that every morning we need to thank God for His faithfulness, praise Him for His goodness and rejoice in His love. What if we woke up this morning with only the things we thanked Him for yesterday? How many of us, the next day, would then remember to thank God for indoor plumbing, hot water, a loving spouse, our kids, a car that started, and so on?



In Del's words, "I must give or I am inconsistent with the teachings of our Church and the teachings of the Bible." It is the desire of the Carolina Conference Generous Living Team that our members live joyfully, debt-free and ready to give generously when God calls them to do so. Each of you

can make a difference in the life of someone. Don't wait, start today!

—by Rick Hutchinson, director of Generous Living

To learn more about Generous Living, scan this code or go to [www.carolinasda.org](http://www.carolinasda.org).





# A SOUTHERN UNION-WIDE EVENT

*For Current and Retired Denominational  
and Adventist Hospital Employees (55+)*

**ONWARD and  
FORWARD**  
CONVENTION

**JUNE 22-24, 2017**

**COLLEGEDALE, TN**

**MUSIC BY**

InSpirit

## FEATURED SPEAKERS



**DAN JACKSON**  
North  
American  
Division  
President



**RON SMITH**  
D. MIN., Ph.D.  
Southern  
Union  
Conference  
President



**ED REID**  
Retired,  
Popular  
Author



**JUD LAKE**  
Th.D., D.Min.  
Southern  
Adventist  
University  
Religion Prof.



**HAROLD CUNNINGHAM**  
Georgia-  
Cumberland  
Conference Regional  
Ministerial Director



**RAY JIMENEZ**  
Adventist  
Retirement  
Administrator

+ NUMEROUS BREAKOUT SEMINARS

This is a three-day Southern Union event to be held at Southern Adventist University for those age 55+ who are currently employed by or are retired from the SDA Church or an Adventist Hospital. It will be a wonderful opportunity to fellowship, attend specially designed seminars, and receive rich spiritual nourishment. Registration is required to secure your place. **Lodging discount is available for first 100 who register.**

**\$15 per person/ \$25 per couple**

*This includes Sabbath lunch*

**FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER ONLINE, GO TO [www.southernunion.com/55convention](http://www.southernunion.com/55convention)  
OR CALL LESSIE SCURRY AT (770) 408-1800, ext. 111**

## John Ratzlaff Retiring After 41 Years of Service

John Ratzlaff has taught for 41 years and has been on the faculty of Mount Pisgah Academy for 40 years! What an important job he has had in helping mold the students at MPA, and what a blessing he has been!

John was born on February 8, 1956, in St. Helena, California. During his elementary school years, John attended tiny church schools, but he advanced quickly and was ready for high school at age 12. He graduated from Pioneer Valley Academy at age 16. He then attended Andrews University, majoring in chemistry with minors in math and physics.

His first teaching job was at College View Academy in Lincoln, Nebraska, for one year. Here he met his future wife, Kitty Stiefvater, who was in her second year of nursing at Union College. They married in December 1977 while John was

teaching at MPA, his next (and last) job. He initially taught math but eventually became network administrator.

John earned a master's degree from Andrews University in 1983, and he and Kitty became parents in June 1993 when John Mark, Jr. was born.

Please join MPA for Alumni Homecoming Weekend, April 21–22, 2017. They will honor John during Sabbath evening dinner at 5:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. The 18th Annual Golf Classic is on Friday, and the vespers speaker that evening is Kathy Brannan (1967). Sabbath School will be shared by Je'Wana Grier-

Bruno de Oliveira, MPA Senior, 2017



McEachin (1992), and the worship service speaker is Mark Kendall (1987).

To make a donation for the MPA technology program in honor of John, please send your check to Mount Pisgah Academy, 75 Academy Drive, Candler, N.C., 28715 (please reference "John's honor") or donate at [pisgah.us](http://pisgah.us).

—by Tammy Vaughn

# ROKU

## Introducing the Carolina Conference Roku Channel!

Now you can watch Carolina Conference events live streamed and on demand right on your television! Search for Carolina Conference in your Roku Channel listing.



Carolina Adventist  
Christian Book Center

## Now Available at the ACBC!



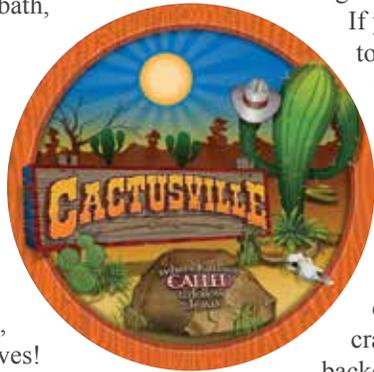
For more information scan this code to visit our website [www.carolinaACBC.com](http://www.carolinaACBC.com)



## Yeehaw! It's VBX Training Time

The recent VBS training workshop on Sabbath, February 11, showcased the new western-themed Cactusville VBX: Where Kids Are Called to Follow Jesus.

Members of 12 churches came together for an overview, learning that because Jesus loves us, He has a purpose for our lives! Through this fun VBX program



featuring skits, music, games, crafts, and prayer and Bible story stations, along with the Operation Wheels mission project, kids will discover how God is calling them to serve.

If your church would like to use this program, your Carolina Conference Children's Ministries Department is geared-up to help with some die-cut decorations and craft items, as well as backdrop and stand-

up characters for rental. In addition, we have many past VBS programs that are available to borrow. So, there's no excuse for you NOT to have a program you can use to reach the children of your church and community! All you need is a few dedicated helpers.

To learn more, check out [www.AdventistVBX.org](http://www.AdventistVBX.org)

or see the expanded article on the Conference website.

—Story and photos by Kathy Russell, Children's Ministries director



### CAROLINA OBITUARIES

**HARRIS, Richard "Dick" Everett, 92**, born July 3, 1924, in Takoma Park, M.D., died January 4, 2017, in Flat Rock, N.C. He was a member of the Fletcher church. He attended Columbia Union College and Andrews University. He served as a minister for 20 years for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in V.A. (1944-1945, 1948-1958, 1980-1986) and M.I. (1977-1980), as a religion teacher for 10 years at Shenandoah Valley Academy (1958-1968), and as an editor/writer of academy religion textbooks for nine years (1968-1977). He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth "Liz" Harris; daughter, Susan Newman; son, Richard E. Harris; grandsons, Jeremy (Christy) Catterer, Logan Harris and Jacob Harris; and two great-grandchildren.

**NELSON, Glenn Ray, 76**, born Oct. 3, 1940, died Nov. 29, 2016, in Flat Rock, N.C. Glenn was preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Lydia (Blom) Nelson, and brother, Floyd Allen Nelson. Glenn was a member of the Arden church. Born and raised in northern Minnesota, Glenn attended Thief River Falls Church School and Maplewood Academy. He was a truck driver, plumber, retirement home manager and artist. He lived in Minnesota, Illinois, Idaho, Florida, Tennessee, Georgia, and finally retired in North Carolina. He is survived by two sisters, Fern Nelson Hymers and Nadine Nelson; brothers, Ronald Dwayne Nelson, Arlee James Nelson and Richard Dean Nelson.

**SIGSWORTH, "Katie" Candis Cay, 60**, born June 4, 1956, in Los Angeles, C.A., died Nov. 7, 2016, in Fletcher, N.C. She was a member of the Fletcher church. Katie and her husband, Dean, spent their married years working in various church-affiliated institutions, including Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital, Oklahoma Academy, Country Life Vocational Academy, and,

most recently, Fletcher Academy. Katie used her nursing skills in various settings over the years, including school nursing and hospital-based nursing. She was preceded in death by her mother, Geraldine Zoe (Goodale); her foster siblings, Ben Seeley and Carol (Seeley) Legate; and stepfather, Jewell Seeley. She is survived by her husband, Dean Sigsworth of Fletcher, N.C.; a daughter, Kristina (Wayne) Smith of Jonesborough, T.N.; a son, Russell (Amanda) Sigsworth of Centralia, M.O.; three grandchildren, Liberty Sage Smith, Bella Grace Smith and Aviana Marie Smith; foster daughters, Myranda and Karissa Smith; father, Benjamin Calandra; foster mother, Marian (Davenport) Seeley; half-brother Billy Stein; half-sister Robin Calandra; foster sisters Ruth (Hamilton) Walker, Katie (Seeley) Kerr and Deedee (Seeley) Herman; foster brothers Daniel Seeley, Tim Seeley, Steve Seeley and Scott Seeley; and many cousins and extended family members.

**SWEENEY, Mable Frances, 96**, born Nov. 29, 1920, in Birmingham, A.L., died Dec. 12, 2016, in Fletcher, N.C. Mable was a member of the Fletcher church and a dedicated caregiver, homemaker and gardener. She was preceded in death by her parents, William Jasper Whitaker and Mabel Anna Houlden Whitaker; husband, James Albert Sweeney; three brothers, Braxton Whitaker, Robert Whitaker and Jay Whitaker; and one sister, Nell Stovall. Surviving are her sons, James Albert Sweeney II of San Luis Obispo, C.A.; daughter, Ellen (Leon) Lamb of Hendersonville, N.C.; one daughter-in-law, Sandra Sweeney of Tryon, G.A.; six grandchildren, Phillip Pearson, Tami Pearson, Rusty Sweeney, Christopher Sweeney, Nicholas Sweeney and Timothy Sweeney; 13 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

### CONFERENCE CALENDAR

#### APRIL

**Volunteer Lay Pastor Training** --- 21-23.

Carolina Conference Office.

**MPA Alumni Weekend** --- 21-22. MPA.

**MPA Academy Days** --- 28-30. MPA.

**SEEDS (Church planting and growth conference)** --- 28-29. Triad Fellowship Co., Greensboro, N.C. Register at [www.carolinasda.org](http://www.carolinasda.org).

#### MAY

**Hispanic Camp Meeting** --- 5-7. NPR.

**SAU Graduation Weekend** --- 5-7.

Southern Adventist University.

**MPA Graduation** --- 21. MPA.

**Lake Junaluska Camp Meeting** --- 28-June 3. Lake Junaluska, N.C.

#### JUNE

**Summer Camp at NPR** --- June/July.

**ShareHim Boot Camp Training** --- 25.

Carolina Conference Office.

#### JULY

**Summer Camp at NPR** --- June/July.

**Hispanic Master Guide Training Campout** --- 28-30. NPR.

#### AUGUST

**Welcome to the Family** --- 18-20. NPR.

**Pathfinder/Adventurer Leadership** --- 25-27. NPR.

#### SEPTEMBER

**"I Still Do" Marriage Retreat** --- 22-24.

Gatlinburg, T.N. Limited to 50 couples.

**"Men Under Construction" Men's Retreat** --- 29-Oct. 1. NPR.

For an online version of this calendar, visit the Carolina Conference website at [www.carolinasda.org](http://www.carolinasda.org).

# The Carolina Action

Carolina Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists

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