



# Parables of Fenton Forest

by Gordon Bietz

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FARMER BROWN'S FARM



FREDDY FOX'S DEN



THE NUT HUT

IVY LANE

FOREST LANE

THE LANDS OF  
FENTON FOREST





# Introduction

This may be the first time you are hearing about Fenton Forest, but for many on the campus of Southern Adventist University—and others who call the Collegedale, Tennessee, area home—the stories in this book bring the fictional forest to life.

While enjoying the narratives, some may hear the deep, reassuring voice of Southern President Gordon Bietz, who crafted them as sermon illustrations during his years as pastor for the campus church in the 1980s. Others may latch on to a particular Fenton Forest tale they remember reading as a series in the local newspaper or that were published as a paperback book more than 25 years ago.

Much like the parables Jesus told during His ministry on Earth, Bietz's book is meant to instruct. Don't let the beautiful illustrations and playful nature of the dialogue fool you; there's wisdom in these words that provides purpose for this place.

Southern is where students come to grow, both academically and spiritually. More than 3,100 of them



currently call our campus home, and even the smartest physics or pre-med major among them can benefit from stories that simplify what sin has complicated: how Jesus' life of love serves as a model for our daily interactions with others.



So whether you are being introduced to Anthony Ant and Sweetpea Skunk for the first time or reacquainting yourself with familiar friends, may God bless each of us with the mind of a child—ready and willing to learn.

*-Editors*

Southern Adventist University is nestled in a valley amid 1,300 forested acres. In 2015, Southern contributed to the endurance of these parables by giving the university-owned wooded areas of White Oak Mountain and Bauxite Mountain the name Fenton Forest.

Many have hiked the miles of trails that are filled with animals and plants described on these pages. Southern's hope is that certain trails and features will be named for characters found in this book and that the legacy of Fenton Forest will exist in Collegedale for many years to come.





# Anthony's View

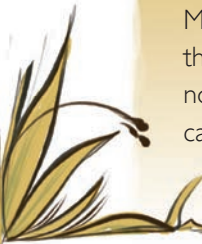
Once upon a time in Fenton Forest, Anthony Ant and Freddy Fox were having quite the disagreement.

"I have been to school and know my plants," cried Anthony. "I also know what I can see with my own eyes. When I look at a mushroom, I see a rough surface!"

Freddy shot back, "I don't have to go to school to know smooth from rough, and mushrooms are



## Perspective



Modern technology has made it easier for us to turn even the simplest of discussions into endless debate—with no attempt to understand the opposing view. College campuses such as Southern's are an ideal place for sharing personal views while valuing the intelligent and diverse opinions of others.

smooth and soft.”

Anthony and Freddy were yelling at the top of their lungs. Anthony’s yell was not as loud, but you could tell he was very angry by the way his antenna moved.

Wise Old Owl and other Forest folk, whose curiosity was aroused by the noise, gathered around to watch.

You would not think that such an insignificant





thing could cause such a fuss in Fenton Forest, but Freddy and Anthony were always looking for things to argue about—ever since Anthony built a nest in Freddy’s den.

As the crowd gathered, Freddy was getting ready to use his large paw to put a permanent end to the argument (and to Anthony) when Wise Old





Owl spoke up. "What is the problem here?" he asked.

"Anthony needs glasses or new eyes, because he thinks mushrooms have a rough surface. Can you believe it?" yelled Freddy.

"Freddy is the one who needs glasses," replied Anthony, "because anyone with eyes knows that mushrooms are not soft and smooth, as he says."

"Wait a minute," Wise Old Owl said, picking a mushroom and turning it over so Freddy and Anthony could see both sides.

"Well I'll be!" exclaimed Freddy and Anthony in unison. "I guess it depends on what side you are looking at."

Wise Old Owl said, "When you look at both sides, you generally don't yell so loud."

## **Think About It**

"A kind, courteous Christian is the most powerful argument that can be produced in favor of Christianity."

~Ellen G. White





# Famine in the Forest

Once upon a time in Fenton Forest, there was a famine. The squirrel family had run out of nuts, and the birds were having trouble finding any seeds to sustain their cheerful songs. All of the Forest folk were very irritable because of this enforced diet.

Fortunately for members of Fenton Forest, the planner of the Forest had made arrangements for just such an emergency. He had set aside a large



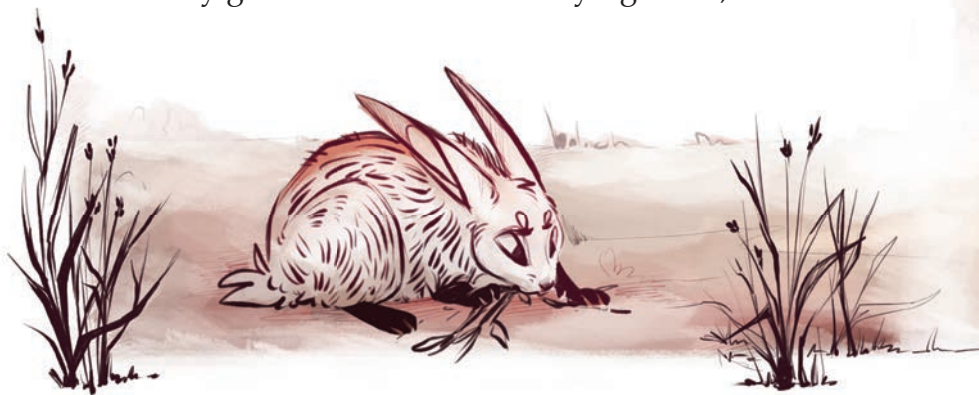
## Faith

As Christians, overcoming doubt, acting on beliefs, and sharing our faith are critical steps during all phases of life. Discussions about belief, ethics, faith, and actions permeate classes at Southern. Professors facilitate discussions for students to share and learn from each other, building a strong foundation.

supply of food that could carry them through a number of years of famine.

As Forest members began thinking about their need of food, they had meetings to discuss the theory of the emergency food supply. They talked about the nature of the food stored and the length of time it would sustain the community. They theorized about how the food was preserved. None of them took the time and effort to actually seek the place in the Forest where the food stores were hidden.

Peter Rabbit listened intently to all these discussions about this food supply and looked around at the dry grass that he had been trying to eat, at the



withering trees and the hot sun. He listened to his growling stomach and said with some excitement, "Let's go and get something to eat!"

The other Forest inhabitants were a bit embarrassed by his comments and said to him that he was too young and inexperienced to understand, and he should not talk so much in their public meetings. Each day they continued to meet and complain about the problem in their Forest.





At another meeting, Peter spoke up again and said, “Come on! Let’s go and seek this food we have been talking about. I’m hungry.” Gruff Bear was especially upset this time and growled as he said, “I am hungry enough to eat you, Peter! Now be quiet while we talk.”

Peter was confused. Everybody was talking about these wonderful provisions, and it didn’t seem to be doing them any good.

One day Peter decided he would seek this



place of food himself. Well, as you can imagine, he found a neglected and overgrown spot in the midst of the Forest where few inhabitants ever went. He struggled through weeds, briars, and thorns to discover a large underground warehouse full of well-preserved food. He ate his fill and promptly fell asleep. He awoke in the morning, ate again, and nodded off. The next time he awoke, Peter thought, "This must be heaven."





All of a sudden, Peter realized that he must go and tell the other folks about his find. With much increased energy, he bounded back to the Forest meeting place and found that the meetings had been canceled. It seems that the meetings had broken up over discussion about the nature of the foundation of the storehouse.

Peter did find some hungry friends and told them what he had found. They did not believe him until they saw him running around with so much energy, and so they figured that he must have found something and agreed to follow him. Soon they, too, had eaten to their fill. It wasn't long until others discovered the experience of being well fed at a time of famine, and most in the Forest were saved because Peter's faith wasn't futile.

## **Think About It**

And He said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."  
~Matthew 18:3





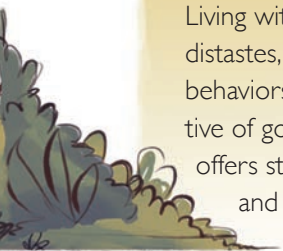
# Gruff's Bad Day

Once upon a time in Fenton Forest, Gruff Bear had a bad day. Now it was not unusual for Gruff to have bad days, but this one was worse, much worse than any he had ever had before.

Gruff was going to his favorite berry patch early in the morning, and whom should he find there but Sweetpea Skunk and Scamper Squirrel hard at work collecting berries—berries that Gruff considered his own. When Gruff saw them, he yelled,



## Intentions



Living with friends or family offers insights into likes, distastes, and struggles that should help us look beyond behaviors alone and instead recognize the bigger perspective of good intentions. As a learning community, Southern offers students the bigger perspective gained from living and learning together.

“You don’t like berries, and you are stealing them just to make me mad!” And with that he chased them out of the berry patch all the way to Crashing Creek. They dropped half of the berries they had collected as they ran.

Gruff couldn’t figure out why Sweetpea and Scamper would do that. He never did anything to hurt them. Well, not much anyway. Except that time that he tried to make Sweetpea’s den larger so he could hibernate in it. Sweetpea said he ruined it, but Gruff told her to think of it as an expansion project. But that had happened a long time ago.

As Gruff couldn’t find any ripe berries, he decided he would go to his honey tree and see



what new treats the bees had prepared for him. As he walked along Ivy Lane, thinking about the nerve of Scamper and Sweetpea in taking those berries, he saw Freddy Fox and Lightfoot Deer coming down Ivy Lane with a pole between them and a bucket full of honey slung between the pole.

“What do you have here?” Gruff said.

“What do you mean, ‘What do you have here?’” said Freddy. “It is honey. Don’t you know what honey looks like?”






“Of course I do!” replied Gruff. “Where did you get it?”

“From bees!” said Freddy. He was suffering from some bee stings and was not about to take any guff from Gruff.

“But that is my honey!” said Gruff. “You took it from the honey tree, and you don’t even like honey. You are just trying to make me mad.”

“It’s not your honey tree,” said Freddy as he and Lightfoot began to back up Ivy Lane, protecting





their bucket of honey. Gruff began to move menacingly toward them, and they ran as fast as they could toward Green Meadow, dripping a sticky trail behind. As they broke into a clearing, a flock of black birds swooped down and grasped the bucket of honey and flew away with it.

Gruff was furious. "Is everyone in Fenton Forest trying to starve me to death? I need to be gaining weight for the winter, and I am going to starve. What will happen next?!"

As soon as he said those words, a terrible thought crossed his mind. He had dammed up a portion of Crashing Creek and made a pool of water where he had trapped a very large salmon. He had been saving it for a special occasion, and now he knew that with the whole Forest family working against him, someone would be stealing it. He raced to the pool, and his worst fears were confirmed. There was no fish, and there were the tracks of Randy Raccoon leading away from the pond.



Gruff was furious and ready to tear the Forest apart. He raced for Randy's home. As he ran back along Ivy Lane, he started to cut through the council area when he saw the Fenton Forest folk gathered there.

"They called a council meeting without telling me," he thought.

He approached the Forest council area when everyone turned toward him and shouted "Happy Birthday, Gruff!" and began to sing.

It was a wonderful party with fresh honey, Sweetpea's special berry pie, and a big fish. At the end of the party, Wise Old Owl said to Gruff, "Don't measure everything from the small perspective."

## **Think About It**

"What you see and hear depends a good deal on where you are standing: it also depends on what sort of person you are."

~C.S. Lewis





# Housing Squabble

Once upon a time in Fenton Forest, there was a Forest family fight. It all began at Murky Marsh in the upper arm of Paddle Pond, where Bucky Beaver was cutting down some trees to make his dam over Crashing Creek higher so he could build a larger house.

He hadn't cut very far past the bark when Scamper Squirrel came chattering down the tree,



## Community



All participants benefit from a community that works together. Protecting the group takes kindness, understanding, and an appreciation for the unique contributions each person offers. Southern's global community development master's degree program focuses on stewardship of resources to help communities flourish and protect symbiotic relationships.

squealing at the top of his lungs. "Stop destroying my house! What do you think you are doing?!"

"I am building my dam higher and my house larger," replied Bucky, as he began to gnaw on the bark again.

"But you are tearing down my house. This is my tree!" Scamper was so angry he screamed at the top of his lungs and bounced up and down.

At about that same time, Bright Bluebird



appeared at the opening of a hole in the tree.

“What is going on?” Bright said. “Bucky, I live here, too. Why are you cutting on this tree?”

“I have to live, and I am working on my dam and my house. I need trees,” Bucky exclaimed. “I have a growing family!”

The loud arguments and noise brought other inhabitants of the Forest to see what was going on. “I think Bucky is right,” said Gruff Bear. “Scamper and Bright should move to some other tree.”

“And how long will it be until Bucky cuts down that tree?” asked Bright.

“Exactly,” Scamper said. “Bucky, you know the





big delicious tree in front of Gruff's house? The one that he likes to lay in the shade of when it is hot in the middle of the day? I give you permission to go over and cut down that tree."

"No, you don't!" roared Gruff. "Not if you know what's good for you!"

"See!" Scamper spoke to Gruff. "You want us to move, but you won't move. Why is your shade tree more important than the tree that we live in?"

"Because I am bigger than you!" Gruff replied.

Just then Wise Old Owl flew up to see what all of the trouble was about. He took in the scene with a glance and asked Bucky, "Do you know why this tree is in this place?"



“No,” he said.

“It is probably because of the work of some of Scamper’s grandparents. They spread seeds around as they ate nuts, so this tree grew right here,” replied Wise Old Owl. Then turning to Scamper and Bright he said, “Do you like the pond and marsh here?”

“Yes,” they replied in unison.

“Why do you think it is here?”

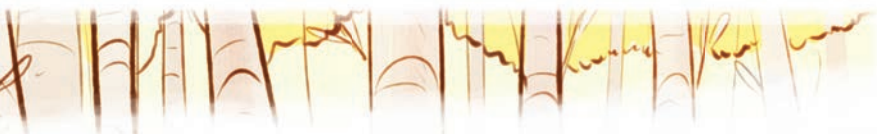
They agreed that it was the result of the regular work of Bucky Beaver, who maintained the pond.

“You see, you need each other,” Wise Old Owl intoned. “Fenton Forest is a community. Let’s not live together like we lived alone.”

## **Think About It**

“All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.” ~Acts 4:32






# How to Destroy Your Enemies

Once upon a time in Fenton Forest, Scamper Squirrel was preparing for the winter by filling his storehouse with nuts. This year, as he was going about his work, he thought to himself, "Either the winters are getting harder or I am getting older, because I am not able to gather and store as many nuts as I have in years past."

Scamper soon learned why he was having problems collecting as many nuts as usual. He



## Kindness



Turning a difficult relationship into a fulfilling friendship takes ingenuity, determination, and, most importantly, an understanding and compassionate heart. At Southern, student leaders develop friendships as they lead ministries and plan activities that show kindness to others on campus and in the community.

discovered that Jackie Jay was not gathering his own nuts but was taking the nuts that Scamper had so carefully sorted and stored.

Scamper didn't know what to do. He couldn't fight with Jackie very well. He tried talking to him, but it did no good. Jackie would just squawk loudly, act innocent, and continue stealing Scamper's nuts.

Scamper decided to seek advice from Wise Old Owl, so he told him what Jackie was doing. Wise Old Owl thought about the problem and then





suggested a plan. Scamper didn't like the plan at first, but then decided he had nothing to lose. The next day as he was collecting nuts, he made a special pile for Jackie.

While he was working, he saw Jackie come sneaking around the corner of the storehouse, preparing to steal some of Scamper's nuts. Instead of chasing him away, Scamper called to Jackie, pointed to a rather large pile of good nuts, and said, "Here, Jackie. I gathered these nuts for you this morning."

“What!?” said Jackie incredulously. “You mean these are for me?”

“Yes,” replied Scamper. “I know how you like them. Rather than taking them out of the storehouse, you can take these nuts I picked just for you.”

Jackie eyed the pile of nuts carefully. He walked around the pile, cocking his head first at one angle and then another. “Is there a bomb in it?” he asked.

“No, no,” said Scamper. “I frequently pick some extra nuts for my friends. Why, just yesterday I



gave a pile almost that big to Randy Raccoon. This pile is for you.”

Jackie looked at the pile some more; he was still suspicious that it was a trick. “Are these all of the wormy ones that you are throwing away?” he asked.

“No, some of those nuts are the best ones I could find,” Scamper replied.



Jackie picked up a small pebble at his feet and flew over the pile of nuts, dropping the pebble in the middle of the pile. He expected an explosion, but there was none. A few nuts just rolled off of the top of the pile. "I'm not sure why you are doing this," said Jackie, "but someday I will find out. As





for now, I will take your nuts.”

“No, No.” cried Scamper. “They are not my nuts. They are yours. I gave them to you.”

Jackie carried the nuts to a tree, and Scamper went back to work. Jackie checked each of the nuts. When he found that they were very good nuts and there was no trick, he not only stopped stealing from Scamper but also brought him some of the special nuts that Jackie found deep in the Forest, where Scamper had never traveled.

Thanks to Wise Old Owl, Scamper discovered that the best way of getting rid of an enemy is to make him your friend.

## **Think About It**

“God tests and proves us by the common occurrences of life. It is the little things which reveal the chapters of the heart.”

~Ellen G. White






# Randy's Heroic Day

Once upon a time in Fenton Forest on a hot summer day, when most of the Forest folk were seeking shelter from the intense heat, Randy Raccoon smelled smoke. Now he was not the only member of the Fenton Forest family to smell the smoke. Many of the others also smelled smoke, but they all thought that someone else would look into it. Plus, it was just too hot and too uncomfortable for any movement at all, let alone tracking down a little smoke. "Besides," they thought to themselves,



## Imitation



Reflecting on and imitating another's good actions is more important than rewarding or celebrating his or her actions. Uncelebrated heroes exist all around us; these busy people take time to be kind and compassionate to those around them. Living a life of service that patterns the life of Christ is a core value at Southern.

“there are many campers in Fenton Forest this time of year, and some smoke from their campfires is to be expected.”

Randy, however, was worried when he smelled the smoke, and so he got up from his cool spot under the shade of a tree and started to follow the smell. It was not an easy task and took some time and effort. Randy crossed logs and crashed through underbrush to find the source of the smoke. When he did find its cause, what he saw struck fear into his heart. A campfire left by some careless campers was spreading into the grass,



away from the fire pit. Yellow tongues of fire were already licking their way up the trunk of a dry pine close by the fire pit.

Quickly Randy raced around the fire perimeter, scratching away the dry grass and throwing dirt on major hot spots of the still-small fire. "Fire! Fire!" he yelled at the top of his lungs. Jackie Jay, who was passing by, heard his call and alerted other Forest folk. Soon Bucky Beaver, Freddy Fox,





Gruff Bear, and others were doing what they could to stop the fire. Together they were successful in containing the blaze and eventually putting it out. Had it not been for Randy's alertness on this hot dry summer day, Fenton Forest would have gone up in smoke along with many folk who lived there.

There was an outpouring of gratefulness for Randy and his heroic deed. Randy became the hero of Fenton Forest. Some of them formed Randy Raccoon clubs and started wearing black masks. Others even wore raccoon hats—imitation, of

course. It seemed like everywhere you looked, someone was copying Randy. They all wanted to look like he did, because he was a hero in the Forest.

But even as they imitated Randy, there were few who studied fire fighting. None of them took Randy's class on preventing forest fires. Many belonged to Randy Raccoon clubs but wouldn't take the time or go to the trouble to follow the faint smell of smoke on a hot day as they rested in the cool, shade deep in the heart of Fenton Forest.

As Wise Old Owl said, "Copying how a hero looks is not half as important as copying what the hero does."

### **Think About It ...**

"In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing."

~Theodore Roosevelt







# Whom Can You Trust?

Once upon a time in Fenton Forest, all of the Forest community was up in arms about a scam that had been perpetrated by a friend of Freddy Fox.

In the course of the friend's visit to the Forest, he told some wonderful stories about how he was working on a special formula that prevented aging. Now if there was one thing that all of the Fenton Forest residents had in common, it was a desire to never grow old. Freddy's friend had come from Big

## Trust

Trust is central to cultivating good working relationships and building a successful community, despite a projected outcome of success or failure. Exploring and researching are central to the Southern experience. During this process, students put their trust in fellow students and professors, as everyone learns together.

Forest and had such a smooth way of talking that he convinced many of the Forest residents that an anti-aging vitamin or elixir was on the verge of discovery. Of course, he needed just a little more money to put the finishing touches on the product, and anyone who contributed would get in on the ground floor when the profits began rolling in.

As you can guess, the friend said he would report regularly after he left with the big roll of money—including some that Freddy invested. It was a week or two before anyone got suspicious and a week or two after that before anyone dared to admit the possibility that they had all been scammed. When the full realization hit them, the Forest folk were angry. They tried to blame Freddy, but he told them he had been taken in just like the rest of them.

The experience did something to the Forest community. Scamper Squirrel had always given out nuts at the Nut Hut on credit, but now he began to require advance payment. Gruff Bear



wanted Bert Badger to do some excavation work on his den, and Bert was requiring a contract. When Lightfoot Deer pulled an apple off the old apple tree and gave it to Randy Raccoon, who couldn't reach the branch that the apple was on, Randy questioned Lightfoot's motives.

A kind of cloud settled over Fenton Forest as folks grew suspicious and distrusting of everyone. Guards were hired to protect food stores, alarms were installed around dens, and many fences were built. Each resident of the Forest was looking out for only himself. The community happiness was



broken into pieces, as there was no longer any trust. The members of the Forest family lived in daily anticipation of some new discovery of corruption, and many of them found exactly what they were looking for. They even passed some truth-in-talking laws, but it did not do much good. There was not much talking going on anymore, because each one suspiciously regarded the words

and activity of the others.

One day, each animal who had given money to Freddy's friend from Big Forest received an envelope in the mail. In each envelope was a note that said, "The project I was working on has proved unsuccessful, and enclosed you will find your money with interest."

There was joy in Fenton Forest—for a time. But they had spent too much money on alarms and guard dogs to simply get rid of them. They had spent too much money on fences to tear them down. They had invested too much in distrust. It was Wise Old Owl who said, "We must rebuild trust, for without trust there will be no Fenton Forest."

## **Think About It**

"There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love." ~ 1 John 4:18





# The Waiter

Once upon a time in Fenton Forest, Scamper Squirrel needed more help in the Nut Hut. Business was booming, and he was not able to keep up with all the work. He placed a sign in the window that read “Wanted: Waiter.”

One day, Fairfield Cat came by and read the sign. “There is a job I can handle,” he thought to himself as he pushed the door aside.

Things were busy as usual, and when Fairfield asked Scamper about the job, Scamper didn’t even



## Motivation

Working diligently and conscientiously is not only rewarding, but it also opens new doors and leads to unique opportunities. Southern gives students the ability to develop a passion for their chosen career and time to sense the need in those around them—skill sets for success in the workplace.

tell him about the wages or hours. He just put a pad of paper in his hand and told him to go to work.

Fairfield looked at the pad of paper with questioning eyes and surveyed the room. In one corner, a wood stove radiated heat as it consumed the piles of oak that Wally Woodchuck had delivered and the nutshells that Scamper fed it every day. Next to the stove was a large, tattered





soft chair, a comfortable one like you might find at grandmother's house. Fairfield ambled over to the chair and found the softest part; as the radiant heat of the stove penetrated his fur, he quickly drifted into a deep sleep.

About five minutes later, he woke with a start.





Scamper had shaken him awake and was glaring at him.

“What is going on? Do you want to work here or not?” asked Scamper.

“Yes, I do! What do you think I am doing?” replied Fairfield.

“That is what I would like to know; what do you think you are doing!?” shouted Scamper.

“I am waiting,” fussed Fairfield. “I’m doing just what I am supposed to do. Your sign says you wanted a waiter.”

With that, Scamper took the pad of paper and hit Fairfield over the head until he ran out the door. On his way back into the Nut Hut, Scamper scribbled something on the sign. Once he finished, it read, “Wanted: Working Waiter.”

## **Think About It**

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.”

~Colossians 3:23

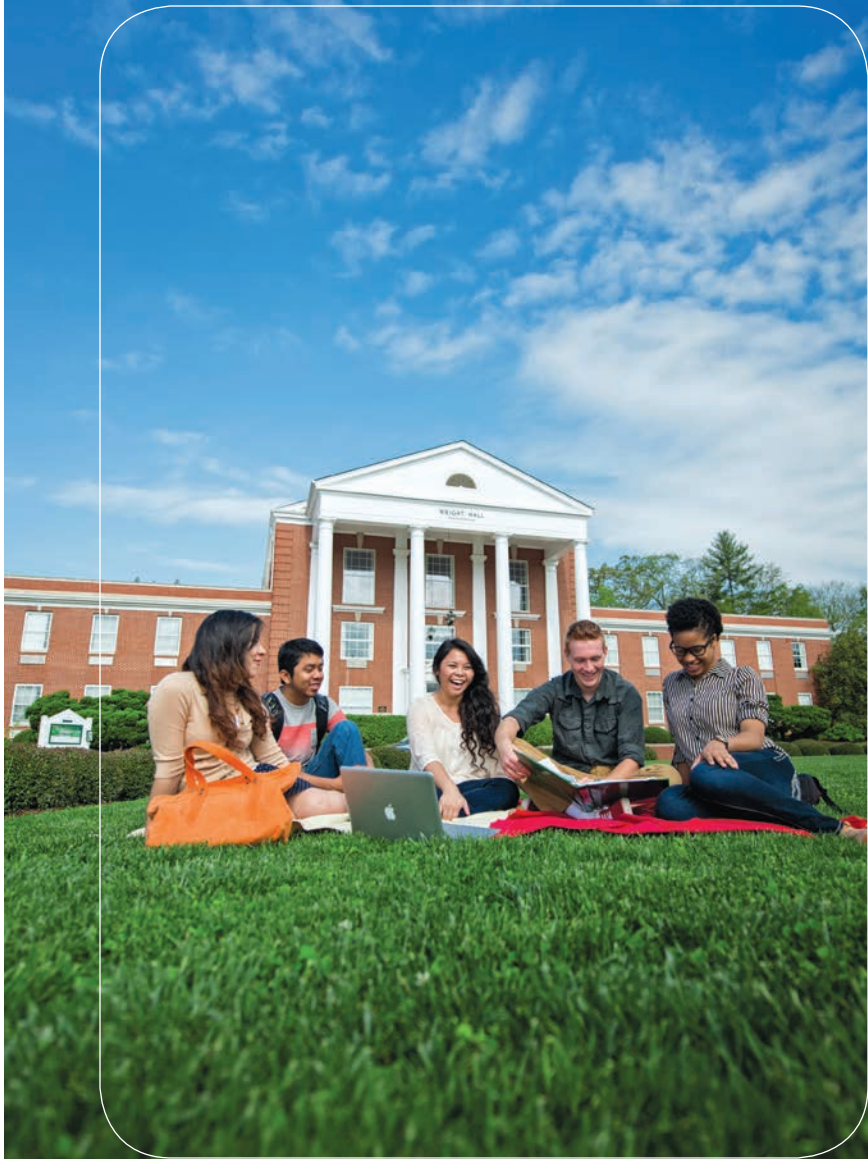
## About Southern

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Southern Adventist University helps students grow in their relationships with Jesus. Preparing young people for careers is an obvious and heavy responsibility, but that's too small of a goal for a school with eyes on eternity. Southern relentlessly pursues the integration of faith and learning to better graduate servant leaders who make an immediate impact in their careers, churches, and communities. It's power for mind and soul!

### Quick Facts

- **3,100 students are enrolled at Southern, representing more than 50 countries.**
- **Approximately 80 students serve as full-time missionaries each year.**
- **Southern offers nearly 100 different degrees, ranging from associate to doctorate.**
- **Campus covers 1,300 acres, 800 of which are forested.**
- **Southern awards more than \$10 million dollars annually in financial aid.**



# Spirituality

Southern provides life-changing opportunities for spiritual growth, both within and outside the classroom. Faculty and staff model traditional Adventist standards while encouraging and supporting any students who may have questions about their faith. College is the ideal time to express these concerns! Our campus chaplains, along with pastoral teams at nearly 30 Adventist churches within a 10-mile radius of Southern, are driven to seek out and assist students in these and other vulnerable situations. Additional guidance comes from:

- **Small-group Bible studies**
- **Nightly worship in residence halls**
- **Weekly vespers program**
- **Multiple churches on campus**
- **Free Christian counseling**





## Academics

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Southern has been a springboard to successful careers for nearly 35,000 alumni since the school first opened in 1892. Our liberal arts education exposes students to subjects outside their primary area of study, providing a well-rounded perspective. Though initially conceived as a vocational school, more than a century later Southern offers programs in a variety of subjects with an increasing focus on research. Academic highlights include:

- **Southern has been ranked as a “Top Tier” institution by *U.S. News & World Report* for 13 consecutive years.**
- **80+ undergraduate degrees offered**
- **13 graduate degrees (including doctorate) offered**
- **Some degrees may be earned entirely online.**
- **Internships are available with notable campus neighbors, including It Is Written.**
- **On-campus archaeology museum, creation exhibit, and classical music radio station offer exciting co-curricular opportunities for study.**







## Relationships

Southern's 16:1 student-to-faculty ratio ensures that students in our care receive personal attention during these transformative years. Faculty and staff enjoy engaging students outside the classroom as well, whether at church, during a club activity, or over a home-cooked meal. But it's not just the professors who are in positions of influence. Friendships with like-minded believers are one of the key ways alumni say Southern had a positive impact on their lives. These relationships grow through a variety of activities, including:

- **Mission trips**
- **Community service projects**
- **Intramural sports**
- **Student clubs**
- **Campus jobs**



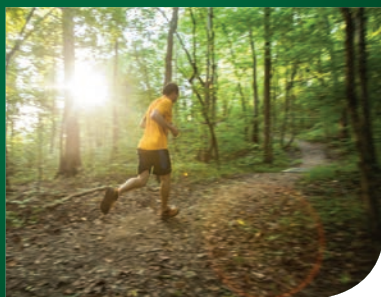


## Location

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For those who feel closer to God when spending time in nature, Southern has an abundance of opportunities to connect with the Creator. Nestled in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains, our campus consists of 1,300 acres (800 of which are forested). We have our very own Fenton Forest! Plus, Southern is located just minutes from Chattanooga, a city consistently ranked atop national lists for kayakers, hang gliders, and other outdoor enthusiasts. Students may take advantage of these amazing resources just steps from the classroom:

- **More than 16 miles of hiking and biking trails**
- **Natural rock walls with 40- to 60-foot climbs**
- **Underground trails and water in the student cave**
- **Outdoor amphitheater**







FARMER BROWN'S FARM



FREDDY FOX'S DEN



IVY LANE



THE NUT HUT

FOREST LANE

THE LANDS OF  
FENTON FOREST





Southern Adventist University commissioned alum Rebecca Johnson, class of 2012, to create the illustrations for this book. Her talent and creativity brought the whimsical characters of Fenton Forest to life, and we thank her.