



PANORAMA

parent newsletter | Spring 2022

No Limits on God

Bree Adams packed her small SUV full of backpacks and school supplies and began the drive from Collegedale, Tennessee, to Mayfield, Kentucky. Adams, who recently earned her bachelor's degree in social work at Southern Adventist University and is now in the master's program, had been inspired to take action after seeing firsthand the devastation caused by tornadoes in December 2021.

Shortly after the storms, Adams spent a week in Mayfield with 2Serve, a disaster response organization, where the group cleared debris, cut up trees, tarped roofs, and distributed food. Adams initially connected with 2Serve while participating in a 2018 university-sponsored trip to help with hurricane recovery in the Carolinas. Additionally, she had gotten Community Emergency Response Team training on campus. While the trip to Mayfield was Adams' fifth time participating in disaster response, it had a profound impact on her.

"Seeing how the tornados took everything from these people was really heartbreaking," Adams said. That's why, when her week there was over, Adams decided she could do more to help. She was inspired to buy a few backpacks and school supplies and give them to a school

for children who had lost everything. As word spread, donations and support began to roll in.

"Multiple people told me that they had been looking for a way to help out and that this cause was an answer to prayer," Adams said.

She set a new goal of filling 100 backpacks with school supplies, but after surpassing 150, she realized that she could not put a limit on what God could do. In the end, Adams was able to deliver 164 backpacks for children in need to a school in Mayfield this January.

"I don't take any credit for what I did," Adams said. "It was all God's work; I was just boots on the ground."

As a social worker, Adams plans to make serving others her career. Her classes and professors at Southern are equipping her with the skills she needs to be an effective and compassionate leader in the real world.

"We are incredibly proud of Bree! She really embodies the mission of our social work program," said Laura Racovita, PhD, dean of the School of Social Work. "Through this project, she saw a need and exceeded all expectations. Combining her skills and passion in partnership with



a Higher Power, Bree will accomplish big things in life!"




Adams encourages everyone to find ways to make a difference: "If serving others is on your heart, God's got a plan to make it happen."

- by Stefanie Green, junior public relations major

Exam Schedule Winter 2022

Time	Monday May 2	Tuesday May 3	Wednesday May 4	Thursday May 5
8 to 9:50 a.m.	English Comp Basic Writing	8 a.m. M W F 8:30 a.m. M T W Th F	8 a.m. T Th 8:30 a.m. T Th	12 p.m. T Th 12:30 p.m. T Th
10 to 11:50 a.m.	1 p.m. T Th 1 p.m. M T Th F	10 a.m. M W F	9:30 a.m. T Th 10 a.m. T Th	9 a.m. M W F 9 a.m. T Th
12 to 1:50 p.m.	4 p.m. T Th 5 p.m. T Th 5 p.m. M W	11 a.m. T	12 p.m. M W F	11 a.m. M W F
2 to 3:50 p.m.	1 p.m. M W F	2 p.m. M W F 2 p.m. M W	2 p.m. T Th 2:30 p.m. T Th	
4 to 5:50 p.m.	3 p.m. T Th 3:30 p.m. T Th	Speech	3 p.m. M W F 3:30 p.m. M W 4 p.m. M	

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APR

- 2 Asian Cultural Night
- 9 Wind Symphony Concert
- 16 SonRise Resurrection Pageant
- 21 Campus Research Day
- 23 Jazz Ensemble Concert
- 24 Symphony Orchestra Concert

May

- 1 Strawberry Festival
- 2-5 Final Exams
- 6-8 Graduation Weekend
- 9 Summer Classes Begin

“Because of the Lord’s great love, we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. ”

Lamentations 3:22-23, NIV



Clothed in Christ’s Wardrobe

Message from Joseph Khabbaz,
Vice President for Spiritual Life

During Student Week of Prayer this winter, students, faculty, and staff gathered each night for very special worship services. From the heartfelt responses, the presence of the Holy Spirit was evident. Students led in song, prayer, and preaching centered around the theme of clothing ourselves with the character of Christ based on Colossians 3:12, “Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.”

In this verse, Paul reminds believers that even though God originally chose the nation of Israel to be His people, being chosen in Christ is not based on what they are ethnically but whose they are spiritually. The believers in Colossae were to consider themselves holy and dearly loved by God, practicing virtues that were countercultural to the world around them.

Today, many accomplished athletes sign lucrative sports deals with well-known companies. Basketball hall-of-famer Michael Jordan has made more than \$1 billion from his deal with Nike. Large companies have famous athletes wear their shoes, clothing, gloves, and hats. What is the goal? To have their chosen athlete covered by their brand from head to toe.

As God’s chosen, Paul urges us to dress “head-to-toe” in Christ’s wardrobe. His clothes are made of the finest materials known: compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Ellen White writes, “The Saviour longs to save the young. He would rejoice to see them around His throne, clothed in the spotless

robes of His righteousness” (*God’s Amazing Grace*, p. 287).

We are thrilled that several students requested Bible studies and decided to be baptized following these meetings. Join me in continuing to pray for our young people at Southern.

Q&A

Q&A with Paula Walters

Director of Student Finance

Q: How did God lead you to work at Southern?

A: When I graduated from Southern in 2005, I was not ready to say goodbye. I felt so connected to the spiritual as well as the community-oriented atmosphere this campus offers; the sense of peace I felt being here made me feel confident that this is where God wanted me. Within a month of graduation, everything fell into place for me to work as a finance counselor; I’ve been director of the department since 2012.



Q: What are you passionate about in your job?

A: As I work with students on financing their education, I love having the opportunity to get to know them. It’s amazing to hear their stories, why they chose Southern, and what motivates them. I also find joy in helping students see the bigger picture instead of focusing on the current (financial) obstacle they’re facing.

Q: Can you give parents some tips for getting the most financial assistance possible?

A: Make sure to pay attention to important deadlines for financial aid and be willing to search and apply for private scholarships. Also, encourage your student to find a job and work a manageable number of hours. This is a great way for students to contribute to the cost of their education, and often there are scholarships available to those who are willing to put a portion of their earnings toward their school bills.

Q: What is something you wish more people knew about Student Finance?

A: Our team is made up of very compassionate, service-minded individuals who thrive on helping students and families. We recognize that talking about finances can be intimidating, but we are here to help guide you in this journey. Never be afraid to ask us questions; we’re here for you.

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Did You Know?

Adult Degree Completion Program

This semester marks the beginning of Southern’s new Adult Degree Completion program. Designed for individuals age 25 years and older who have earned some college credits but not a four-year degree, this program provides an opportunity to fulfill lifelong goals and improve career opportunities.

It features reduced tuition, shorter semesters, and online courses with the option of in-person support, which means increased flexibility for adults who have job and family obligations. Bachelor’s degrees in business management, communication, integrative studies, and psychology are available.

“These eight-week flexible semesters are customized to a specific course of study for adult learners who have busy lives, work full time, and want to complete their degrees in a shorter period of time,” said Cynthia Wright, the program’s director. “We want to meet the community’s educational needs and help students meet their professional career objectives.”

If you or someone you know is interested in finishing a bachelor’s degree, visit southern.edu/adc for more information.

- by Staff Writer



Student Life:

Business Students Benefit From Alumni Mentors

Students in Southern’s School of Business can gain valuable career insights by working one-on-one with alumni mentors. Started as a partnership between the academic department and the Alumni Association, the goal of the program is to connect current students with alumni who have experience in their field of interest.

“Mentorship can help students develop their career path, build a professional network, improve important life skills, and encourage their spiritual growth,” said Moses Maier (pictured), a 2017 finance management alum who helped establish the program in 2020.

Both students and alumni participants have expressed appreciation for the program.

“My mentor challenged my thoughts about a career, and I always left our meetings feeling encouraged and validated to move forward in a way that is outside of the box,” said Alyson Zapara, senior business major. “He provided excellent ideas to help me with personal projects and professional struggles, and I greatly appreciated his time and help.”

“I’ve enjoyed meeting with my mentee, Andrew, and it has been a blessing to be able to share some experiences I’ve had and to hear about his ideas and goals for the future,” said Collin Petty, a 2011 and 2014 business management alum who has served as a mentor. “It gives me great hope to know that God continues to utilize the people of my alma mater to prepare the next generation for the joy of service.”

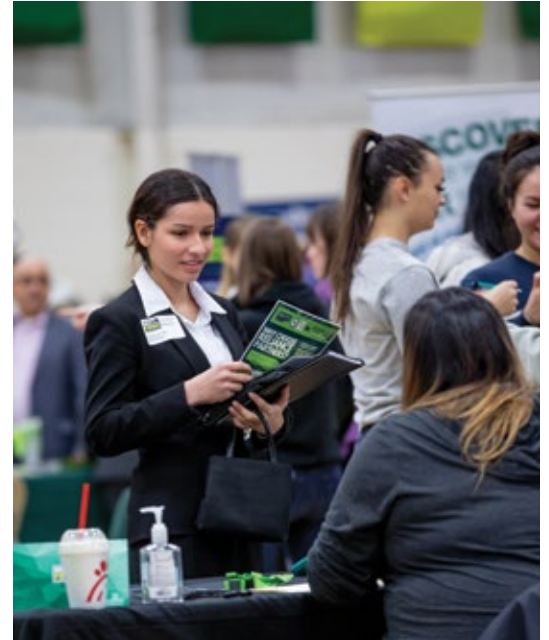
- by Staff Writer





MEET THE FIRMS

Twice a year, students are invited to explore potential internship and job opportunities, as well as graduate school options, during this networking event, which is now hosted by Southern's Life Calling and Career Services office.



TEAMING UP FOR FUN

Intramurals are one way that Southern students can get moving, meet new friends, and have fun all year long. Basketball, volleyball, and floor hockey are played during the winter months.

