

REACHING OUT

A biannual publication of the School of Religion
Summer/Fall 2010 Vol. 16, No. 1

Inauguration of the Institute for the Study of Ellen G. White and Adventist Heritage

During the 11 a.m. convocation on October 28, 2010, Jud Lake, professor of homiletics and Adventist studies, walked from his seat on stage to shake the hand of Southern Adventist University president Gordon Bietz and hand him a book. This “Kodak moment” marked the inauguration of the Institute for the Study of Ellen G.



George Knight

White and Adventist Heritage. What was handed to Bietz was a copy of Lake’s book *Ellen White Under Fire: Identifying the Mistakes of Her Critics*. The book addresses the negative campaign against Ellen White and offers a better understanding of the prophetic gift, two things on which the Institute will be focusing.

The night before the convocation, an inaugural banquet was held in the Presidential Banquet Room. In discussing the future plans for the Institute, Lake, who is to be its

director, mentioned four main goals: the promotion of Adventist Heritage tours for students, the launch of an annual lectureship series, the creation of a student writing contest with topics on church history, and, finally, the continuation of research and studies on Ellen White apologetics.

George Knight, professor emeritus of church history and Adventist heritage at the Theological Seminary at Andrews University, was the main speaker for both the inaugural banquet and convocation.

One issue Knight and all of the religion professors reiterated was the importance of Adventist education. “Adventist education is at the very center of what this church is about,” says Knight. The Institute for the Study of Ellen G. White and Adventist Heritage has an objective of promoting Adventist education. It will encourage studies, while affirming heritage and the prophetic gift of Ellen White.

In this Issue:

Inauguration of the Institute for the Study of E. G. White and Adventist Heritage	1
A Weekend of Distinction	2
Faculty News	3
2010-2011 Ministerial Candidates	4
Field School of Evangelism 2010	6
Dean's Page	7
Graduate Courses Offered in 2011	8



Power for Mind & Soul

School of Religion
P. O. Box 370
Collegedale
Tennessee 37315
423.236.2976
Fax: 423.236.1976
Website:

www.southern.edu/religion

Ministerial Candidates' Weekend of Distinction

Thatcher Hall Chapel was the site of the presentation of the ministerial candidates for 2010, a ceremony SAU's School of Religion has conducted for the last 11 years.



Charles Bradford

It was a sobering and uplifting service in which 23 candidates received recognition and the laying on of hands before a full audience that included parents, spouses, fiancées, and friends. The dedication was performed by the professors of the School of Religion, along with other pastors who were present.

The prayer was for God's blessing upon the next generation of leaders for our Church.

The weekend received much of its spiri-

tual power from the dynamic preaching of Elder Charles Bradford, former president of the North American Division, now retired, though at the age of 85, no sign of retirement could be seen. Elder Bradford's wit was undiminished, as was the command of his booming voice, a voice that derived its power not merely from volume but from the deeply spiritual content it delivered. Elder Bradford's theme was Christ's call to unity, with an emphasis on the critical nature of God's requirement in the context of the last days. His presence drew worshippers from all around the campus as well as outside it, and no one who sought a blessing from God left disappointed. It was an honor to have our Thatcher Hall pulpit graced by the presence of such a divinely-led patriarch of Adventism. His inspired words of encouragement and challenge will long be remembered.

Graduate Summer School

This past summer 26 graduate students from as far away as California and as close as the Southern Union Conference attended Southern's School of Religion graduate classes. Pastors, teachers, nurses, computer consultants, and several others from various positions of ministry came to enjoy the fellowship and growing experience of the graduate intensives.

Summer 2011 will offer another great opportunity to participate in this vibrant classroom experience. One big change, beginning with the Summer 2011 intensives, is that classes will meet on campus for only two weeks, as opposed to three weeks in past summers.

One of the six classes offered will be Prophetic Guidance of the SDA Church, taught by Jud Lake, recent author of *Ellen White Under Fire*. George Knight, professor emeritus of church history at Andrews University, says this is "a book long overdue!" Lake is no novice at defending the writings and ministry

of Ellen White. In 2006 he began maintaining the website <www.ellenwhitesanswers.org> to answer questions raised by White's critics.

If you're looking for deeper biblical study, we will be offering Studies in Daniel July 11-29, 2011. This is the only graduate summer class offered in 2011 that requires three weeks of attendance. Attending the intensive is only one-third of the class experience. Pre-session reading assignments and post-session research enhance the classroom encounters.

For more information about how you can take advantage of these or other classes offered Summer 2011, email Susan Brown, religion graduate coordinator, at sbrown@southern.edu. Come join us next summer!



Faculty News

Stephen R. Bauer, Professor of Theology and Ethics, preached at McDonald Road SDA Church on the Tenth Commandment, titled “Machiavelli, Moses, and Me.” He also presented a paper at the Arminian Conference at the SDA Theological Seminary at Andrews University titled “Historical Backgrounds of the Doctrine of Sinning in Adam.”

Michael G. Hasel, Professor of Near Eastern Studies and Archaeology, directed Southern Adventist University’s excavations at Khirbet Qeiyafa last summer with 62 participants. He spoke at the Adventist-laymens Services and Industries (ASI) International Convention in Orlando and conducted an Amazing Discoveries evangelistic meeting in Washington, D.C., with Dr. Ron Clouzet. He was also the main speaker for the ASI meetings in Porto, Portugal. He edited the Old Testament section of the new book *Interpreting Scripture, Vol. 2: Questions and Answers* (Biblical Research Institute, 2010).

Greg A. King, Dean and Professor of Biblical Studies, wrote the book introductions and study notes for six Old Testament prophetic books in the recently released *Andrews Study Bible*. He was also part of a team of Adventist Theological Society speakers that gave presentations at Avondale Memorial Church in Cooranbong, Australia. Additionally, he presented a week-long series on creation to the Arizona Conference family at Camp Yavapines.

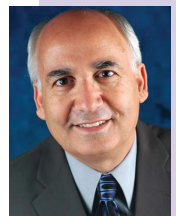
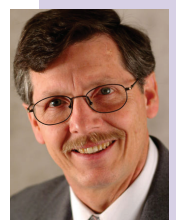
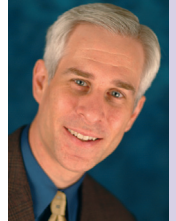
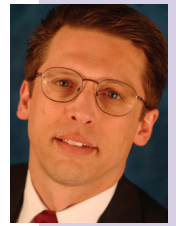
Carlos G. Martin, Professor of Evangelism and Missions, conducted a Field School of Evangelism in Rwanda, Africa, and published an article on Islam in *Asia-Africa Journal of Mission & Ministry*. He taught “Theology of Mission” at Andrews University, and presented a paper at the Evangelical Missiological Society meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, and offered an oral presentation on “Contextualization and Syncretism” at Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee. He recorded a series of videos on “Contextualization of the Adventist Message” in Sao Paulo, Brazil, for the South American Division.

Alan Parker, Professor of Evangelism and Missiology, traveled to Israel with a Southern Adventist University employee tour group last summer, returning to oversee the evangelism field school in Atlanta, Georgia. He was also one of the main speakers for the Western Youth Conference in Northern California. He spoke at the South East Youth Conference on Southern’s campus in October and at the General Youth Conference in Baltimore in December. (Dr. Parker will be leaving at the end of this year to take up a new responsibility as chair of the Religion Department Weimar College beginning January 2011.)?

Edwin E. Reynolds, Professor of New Testament Studies, completed a two-semester sabbatical in August. This major project was a study guide and textbook for Revelation, which has been partially completed and being used in the Revelation class, as well as in a study group. An accompanying workbook is also envisioned, along with a companion resource containing Ellen G. White comments that directly pertain to the interpretation of the book of Revelation.

Philip G. Samaan, Professor of Religion, Spirituality, and Adventist History, was the main speaker at the Gulf States, Ohio, and Michigan camp meetings. His topics focused on repentance and restoration, last-day events, and revival and reformation. He also was the featured speaker at several pastors’ and lay leaders’ meetings on the topics of pastoral care and lay empowerment.

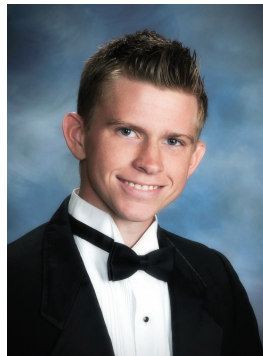
Douglas Tilstra, Professor of Religion and Director of Ministerial Externship, presented the seminar “The Fragile Stone: Leadership Lessons from the Life of Peter” at the Harrison Bay SDA Church.



2010-11 Ministerial Candidates



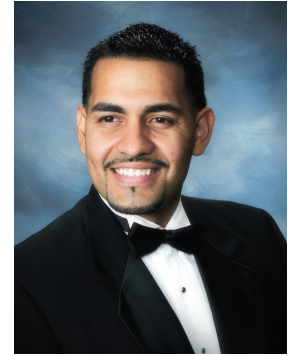
Jonathan Chitwood,
May '11



Austin Cole, Tex.
May '11



Brooke Durst, Md.
May '11



David Fernandez, Md.
May '11



Jennifer Fos, Tenn.
May '11



Jeffrey Harper, Ga.
May '11



In Pyo Hong, Korea
Dec. '10, Ontario



Thomas Kyser, Fla.
May '11



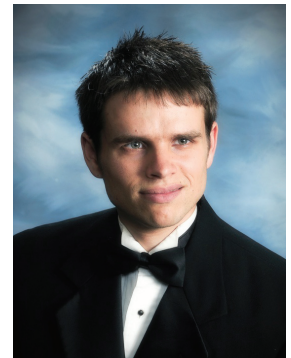
Juan Martinez, Fla.
May '11



Rafael Morales, N.J.
May '11



Rolando Morgado, Fla.
May '11



Joe Reeves, Wash.
May '11

"And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who hath enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry." 1 Timothy 1:12, NKJV



*Jon Remitera, Fla.
Dec. '10*



*Ryan Rogers, Wash.
Dec. '10*



Andrew Shurtliff, Utah
Dec. '10, Ga.-Cumb. Conf.*



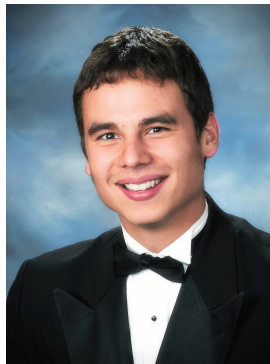
*Tom Stone, Wash.
May '11*



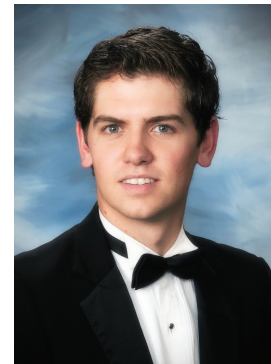
*Anne Strong, Wis.
May '11*



*Matt Tinkham, Tenn.
Dec. '10*



*Gabriel Trujillo, Tenn.
May '11*



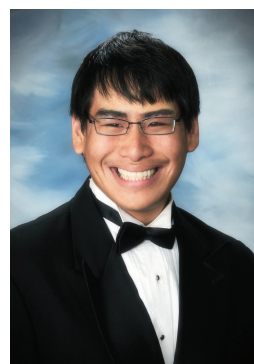
Alexander Voigt, Fla.
May '11, Florida Conf.*



Jason Vyhmeister, Wash.
May '11, Ga.-Cumb. Conf.*



*Amanda Withers, Oreg.
May '11*



*Jeremy Wong, Ind.
May '11*

*Students who have accepted employment as of publication date.
Dates reflect the time of graduation.

Field School of Evangelism 2010 by Alan Parker

Evangelism is exciting! To see people come to Jesus and watch as the fountains of grace flood over their parched souls, what could be better than that! And yet, whenever I speak about evangelism, I notice some people get a glazed look in their eyes as they imagine a Bible-thumping preacher from the nineteenth century pointing to obscure charts. “It doesn’t work anymore, at least not in North America,” they say with an ill-disguised sigh. “Those days are over.”

But they’re not over! Evangelism is alive and well in North America! I know, because this past summer I had the opportunity to lead 17 students in an evangelism field school in Atlanta, as well as help with an evangelism training school for Bible workers.

What happened there has restored my faith in God’s chosen means for growing His church.

Fifteen churches opened their doors to let theology students preach an evangelistic series, many of them for the first time. It was a risk, but as a result, over 150 precious souls stepped into the waters of baptism. After the meetings, I asked the students to evaluate the experience. “I’m hooked!” one wrote. Another enthusiastically stated, “Evangelism is not an option; it’s mandatory! I need to throw all of myself into this great work!”

These students are excited, because they see what evangelism does to people—people like Carlos, who is 21 years old and trying to find his way in life. Carlos started attending the meetings with his torn, coverless Bible but then stopped because he thought the



Atlanta Field School Team

meetings had ended. The student evangelist called him and asked if he would like to come back to the meetings. That night God broke through to him as he listened to the message on baptism. He went to the pastor and said, “I need to be baptized, and I need to be baptized now!” He was, and his life is forever changed.

One lady had been praying for her husband for years, because he had lived a life away from God and was not interested in religion. However, he started attending, and one night, as the appeal was made, he finally found the courage to walk to the front and give his life to Christ. “It would never have happened if a young evangelist had not decided to preach this series,” she says.

When asked why he felt the meetings at the Conyers Church were so successful, Rodrigo Zuniga, a senior theology student, replied, “It’s because they’re a praying church, and prayer and evangelism go together.” One lady who had attended the meetings broke down in tears as she shared that her granddaughter’s child was seriously ill. “We went to pray with her, and now the whole family is interested in the message.”

No one can tell me that evangelism doesn’t work. I have just seen too much evidence to believe the skeptics anymore.



*Student Evangelist
Jeremy Wong*

Real Events, Real Book, Real God

This past summer I had the opportunity of leading a tour group to Israel comprised of 45 Southern Adventist University employees and their spouses. They were a terrific group of travelers! It was a real privilege to tour the Holy Land with a number of faculty and staff colleagues and visit the places that seem almost alive with the storied events that took place long ago at these very locations.

For 11 days we traversed the land of Israel, going from Tel Dan and the Golan Heights in the north all the way to Masada and Ein Gedi in the south. We spent eight nights in Jerusalem and three nights in Tiberias, right beside the Sea of Galilee and a few miles south of Capernaum, Jesus' base of operations for His Galilean ministry. Our days were largely occupied with travel on our tour bus and the viewing of various biblical sites, but also included time to enjoy delicious food and delightful fellowship with one another.

We swam (well, actually floated) in the Dead Sea, a body of water with such a high mineral content that nothing is able to live in it. We stood at the ruins of ancient Caesarea, from where Paul embarked on his journey to Rome, and looked out over the Mediterranean Sea, just as he would have done in ancient times. We sat at the top of Mt. Carmel and pondered the ancient contest that took place between Elijah and the prophets of Baal nearly three millennia ago. And some of us adventurous souls trekked through Hezekiah's tunnel, walking one-third of a mile with water sloshing around our feet, slogging through a passageway cut out of solid rock over 2700 years ago, when King Hezekiah tried to ensure Jerusalem's water supply in advance of an Assyrian attack.

There were so many memorable moments that one might hear a number of different answers if tour members should be asked to identify the number-one highlight of the trip. For some it might be the boat ride on the Sea

of Galilee. On a beautiful sunny day, the captain and deck hands stopped the craft while in the middle of the lake and warmed our hearts by playing "The Star-Spangled Banner." For others it might be the spontaneous singing of "We Have This Hope" as our group formed a circle in the Chapel of the Ascension at the top of the Mount of Olives, from which Jesus' ascension took place and where the disciples heard two angels promise that Jesus would return in like manner as they saw Him go.

For me personally, one of the best memories was the Sabbath-morning worship service at the Garden Tomb. This place, thought by some to be the location of Jesus' burial and resurrection, is an oasis of serenity and peace, even though it is just outside the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem, with busy streets filled with traffic nearby. Our group took a tour of the beautiful garden, shared testimonies, and celebrated Communion together, all of which were very inspirational. But perhaps the most memorable activity was entering the ancient tomb, looking around, and seeing the sign on the door on the way out: "He is not here, for He is risen."

This declaration, which is at the heart of the Gospel message, served as a vivid reminder of a truth that was emphasized and reinforced by our entire trip. We serve a living Lord, a real God, who revealed Himself to His ancient people at the very places that we were visiting. The Bible, the book which recounts the stories of God working with and through His people, is not a fairy tale. Far from it! Instead, it is a real book about real events that happened in real places involving real people. This is fitting, because the central feature of this book is a real God who wants to have a real personal relationship with every one of His children. May this relationship be a reality in each of our lives today!



*Greg King, Dean
School of Religion*

Summer 2011 Graduate Courses Offered

Tuition: \$1,575 per class Audit: \$788 per class Contact Susan Brown at sbrown@southern.edu before May 2, 2011

June 6-17 Intensives

RELG 600 Research Methods and Writing

A course dealing with techniques and tools, including library and online sources available for theological research. Emphasis is given to expository and persuasive writing skills, documentation styles, and bibliography in various religious disciplines. (Professor Steve Bauer)

RELT 538 Prophetic Guidance in the Adventist Church

An in-depth study of the gift of prophecy as seen in the life and ministry of Ellen G. White. Controversial issues in revelation and inspiration are explored. (Professor Jud Lake)

June 20-July 1 Intensives

REL P 570 World Mission

A broad introduction to Christian world missions, covering aspects of the theology of missions, the history of missions, various philosophies of mission, and strategies for implementing missions. (Professor Carlos Martin)

REL P 524 Evangelistic Preaching

This course concentrates on the development and delivery of Christ-centered, distinctively Adventist messages, with emphasis on soul-winning decisions and the use of multi-media. Instruction includes sermon preparation for an evangelistic series. (Professor John Nixon)

July 11-22 Intensives

REL T 531 Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation

An investigation into fundamental hermeneutical presuppositions and the formulation of both sound principles of biblical interpretation and proper methods of interpreting the writing of Ellen White. (Professor Edwin Reynolds)

REL B 555 Studies in Daniel

A study of the prophecies and symbolism of Daniel to discover their meaning and relevance for today. (Professor Martin Klingbeil)

On-campus housing is available upon request.

REACHING OUT

Support Staff
Susan Brown, Graduate Studies Coordinator
Justo Morales, Museum Coordinator
Stephanie Sheehan, Evangelistic Resource Center Project Coordinator
Star Stevens, Resource Secretary

Faculty
Stephen R. Bauer: Theology, Ethics
Michael G. Hasel: Archaeology, Biblical Languages
Douglas Jacobs: Ministry, Homiletics
Greg A. King: Dean, Biblical Studies, Biblical Languages
Martin Klingbeil: Archaeology, Biblical Studies
Judson S. Lake: Homiletics, Adventist Studies
Donn W. Leatherman: Old Testament Studies, Biblical Languages
Carlos G. Martin: Evangelism, Missions
John S. Nixon: Theology, Spirituality
Alan Parker: Missiology, Evangelism
Edwin E. Reynolds: New Testament Studies, Biblical Languages
Philip G. Samaran: Religion, Spirituality
Douglas Tilsa: Ministry, Leadership
Barry Tryon: Ministry, Spirituality

Greg King, Executive Editor
Philip G. Samaran, Editor
Mary Anne Poulson, Assistant Editor

P. O. Box 370
Collegedale, TN 37315

School of Religion



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 6
Collegedale, TN 37315