

the magazine of Southern Adventist University

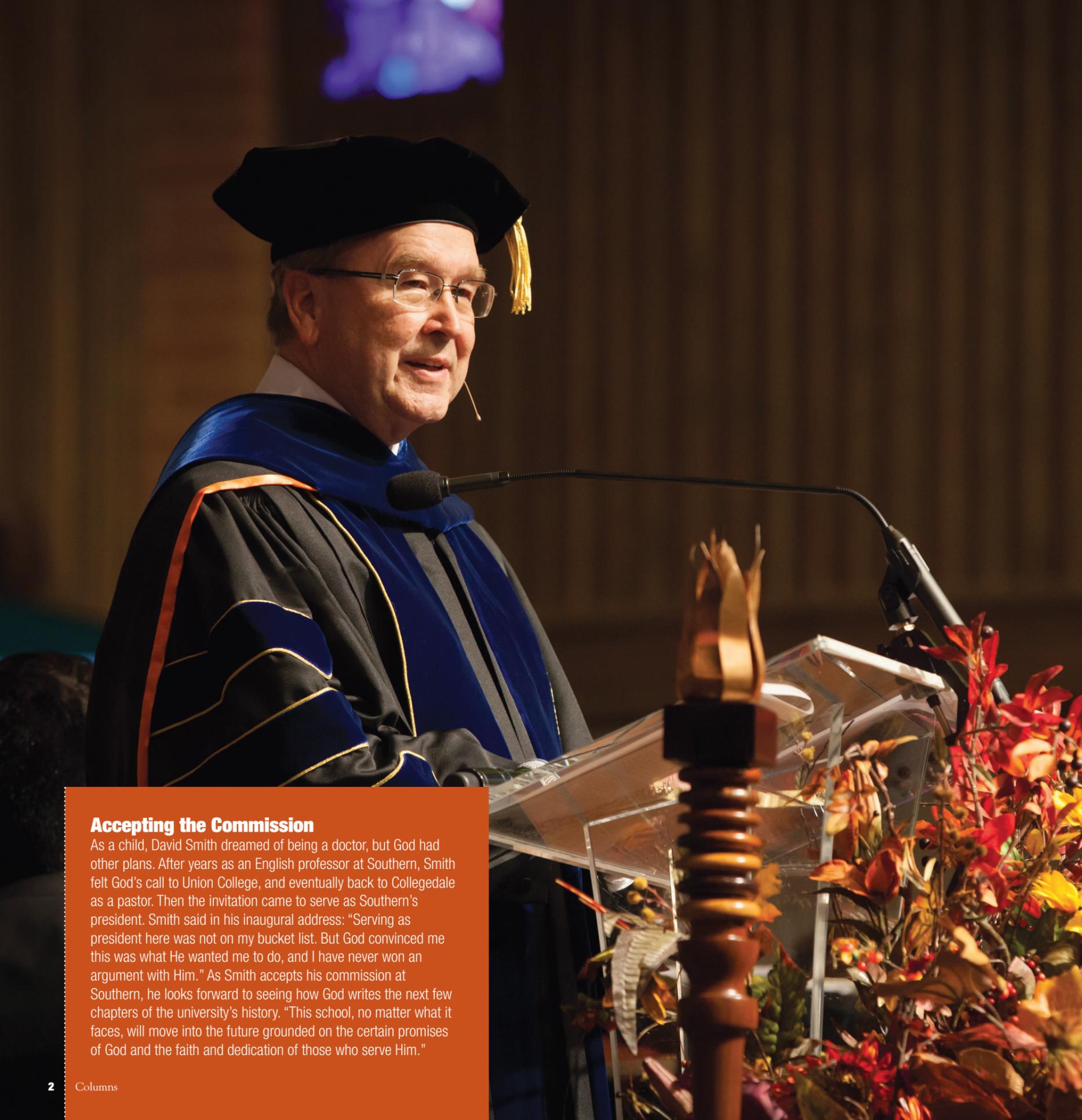
fall 2016

columns

Centered on Christ

Southern welcomes
David and Cherie Smith
as the university's
first couple. Page 12





Accepting the Commission

As a child, David Smith dreamed of being a doctor, but God had other plans. After years as an English professor at Southern, Smith felt God's call to Union College, and eventually back to Collegedale as a pastor. Then the invitation came to serve as Southern's president. Smith said in his inaugural address: "Serving as president here was not on my bucket list. But God convinced me this was what He wanted me to do, and I have never won an argument with Him." As Smith accepts his commission at Southern, he looks forward to seeing how God writes the next few chapters of the university's history. "This school, no matter what it faces, will move into the future grounded on the certain promises of God and the faith and dedication of those who serve Him."

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columns

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youtube



Find the video links at southern.edu/columns.



Herin Hall, long the home of Southern's School of Nursing and, more recently, Information Systems, finally came down to make room for the future Bietz Center for Student Life.



Graduates at the spring commencement share stories and thoughts about their time at Southern.

twitter



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"When you're having a conversation with someone, and then you realize they were never talking to you..."

» Grace Bell, freshman social work major
@_grassbell



"Great to catch up with some of my @SouthernNews family yesterday in Chicago!"

» Garrison Hayes, '14
@garrison_hayes

"Archaeologist Michael Hasel: 'Mine isn't a glamorous profession. My life is in ruins.' #GreatPun"

» Mark Kellner, journalist
@Mark_Kellner

Turn to page 18 to read more about Southern's Institute of Archaeology, under the leadership of Southern Professor Michael Hasel, PhD



"The best advice from a student's dad!"

@SouthernNews



instagram



"Had a great weekend crawling through mud with the caving club! #mud #salamanders"

» Jake Krein, freshman biology major,
@jake.krein



"Luke and I just enjoying a TimTam Slam with Dr. Smith. #HonoraryAussie"

» Jared Powrie, junior computer science and missions double major,
@jnpowrie



"Mountaineering Club of Alaska ice climbing festival! Fun to get out on the ice and learn."

» Joy (Grabiner) Owens, '05,
@jgrabiner

worth a click!



After a long week, the promise of the Sabbath rest is a relief for many. Steven Luu, '12, found a unique way to welcome in the Sabbath and share the experience with others. With a bachelor's degree in computer science and a job as a software engineer at Microsoft, Luu created a simple website where visitors can enter their phone number and thereafter receive a text with a cheerful Bible verse to bring in the Sabbath. Recently "Sabbath Text" sent out its 15,000th message. Visit sabbathtext.com.



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"Dillers get excited about history. Let's go learn something!" (At Wawel Castle, Kraków, Poland, with the Southern Study Tour, summer 2016)

» Tommy Diller, '94 and '95, with
Lisa (Clark) Diller, '96, history professor



"I am where God wants me to be, and that is all that matters."

» Amna Millewa, junior
psychology major



"Starting my new job in international emergency medicine tomorrow." (In Kigali, Rwanda)

» Mindi (Lafever) Guptill, '97



"Pinnacle event today, as our restored 1977 Porsche 911 was featured on the show 'Jay Leno's Garage.'"

» Jay Karolyi, '97

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New Sabbath Trail Open to Community and Students

Southern dedicated a new walking path called the “Sabbath Trail” on September 10, 2016. Students and community members alike can now enjoy the 1.5-mile path, which loops around campus’ Fenton Forest on Bauxite Ridge, becoming part of the university’s larger network of approximately 37 miles of hiking and biking trails.



President David Smith addresses the crowd at the opening.

The dedication ceremony was held in a small clearing about a quarter of a mile from where the trail begins. Community members, students, faculty and staff, former and current university presidents Gordon Bietz and David Smith, and the Landscape Services crew attended.

Along the loop, plaques and stones tell the history of the Sabbath, creating an environment in which God’s presence can be felt. The inspiration came from a similar Sabbath trail, located behind a pioneer

church in Washington, New Hampshire.

Mark Antone, director of Landscape Services, and his team designed the trail and incorporated their own touches.

“This is not just a regular hiking trail. This is an inspirational park,” Antone said.

The plaques are strategically placed along the trail so that there is time to ponder the words before reaching the next one. This is a different approach from the trail in New Hampshire, where the plaques are grouped together and surrounded by seating.

An alumni family made the Sabbath Trail—along with the rest of the trails on Bauxite Ridge—possible with the gift of 250 acres adjoining campus, opposite White Oak Mountain and its system of trails. Marty Hamilton, associate vice president of Financial Administration, worked with the donors and Antone to help develop the project. Hamilton explained that the purpose of the trails is to enhance outdoor activity for the students.

“We took a mountain that no one could use and built a space that community members and students are able to utilize,” Hamilton said.

Hamilton also emphasized that the Sabbath Trail’s main purpose is to serve as a place to get away and ponder. The engaging and quiet atmosphere emphasizes not only environmental stewardship, but also the creation and biblical history of the Sabbath. —Oksana Wetmore

Enactus Team Excels at National Level



The Enactus team won a trophy at the national level.

Southern business students received national recognition this year for their participation in Enactus. The team won regionally. At the national level, they received third place in their league, a first for Southern.

Enactus is an international, nonprofit organization designed for students to improve the world through entrepreneurial actions. There are more than 17,000 student participants, representing 443 colleges and 36 countries.

“I have enjoyed being a part of Enactus because it has helped me grow as a leader,” said Latia Allain, senior marketing and management double major and president of Southern’s Enactus team.

Through Enactus, members participate in meaningful projects. This year Southern’s team assisted veterans to find jobs as civilians, helped entrepreneurs achieve their goals, and installed mosquito nets in Nigeria, where many suffer from malaria.

As Nathan Umali, junior financial management major, said, “It’s great that we can use what we learn in the classroom and apply it to a project to help better the community.” —Michael Steinke

Southern to Host Electric Car Sharing Station

This summer, Southern partnered with regional transportation and power agencies to establish an electric car-sharing station on campus. Starting this fall, anyone will be able to rent an electric car from the facility, while those who own electric cars will be able to charge them there for free.

The new facility, built between Talge Hall and Mabel Wood Hall, has four charging stations, which anyone with an electric vehicle is welcome to use. Solar panels, mounted on the covered spaces, help offset the power used by the cars. The only expense to Southern for this project was providing the concrete parking pad. Other partner companies built the shelter and provide the electricity, while the Green Commuter car-sharing company, which will maintain the rental program, contributed the charging points, solar panels, and the rental cars. Initially, two Nissan Leafs will be available at Southern.

“We’ve got a lot of people here on campus who have driver’s licenses; they just don’t have a car,” said Marty Hamil-



LEFT: The new electric vehicle charging station near Mabel Wood Hall has the capacity for four plug-in vehicles. RIGHT: Initially, two Nissan Leaf electric vehicles will be made available for rent, with plans for more later.



ton, associate vice president of Financial Administration. “Historically, about 50 percent of students don’t have cars.”

Southern was approached to be a part of this project because of its location and the prospect of students renting cars. Apart from Southern, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga is the only other local university participating.

Chattanooga will soon have approximately 20 charging and rental stations throughout the area, with each station containing two to six vehicles. Those wishing to rent a car must become members of Green Commuter’s car-sharing program, which includes insurance whenever using a vehicle. The mobile app-based system provides members with instant access to cars, and no car keys are involved. Rentals will be round-trip, with hourly and day rates available.

“I have been at Southern for almost three years now, and for that whole time I have been without a car,” said Sierra Emilaire, junior English major. “Knowing that students will be able to rent cars puts me at ease, because now I won’t have

to shuffle through my contact list when I need to go somewhere. I can gain back some independence when it comes to transportation!”

This installment to Southern’s campus is part of the university’s goal to become more eco-friendly. Vision 20/20, Southern’s strategic planning process to implement 16 new initiatives on campus, emphasizes a sustainable physical environment. This includes campus-wide recycling, solar panels, protection of forests and trails, partnership with local organic farmers (including Thatcher Farm on campus), revitalizing campus gardens, and creating a pedestrian-only campus center. With the new charging stations, Southern encourages students to bring their electric vehicles or to take advantage of the rental cars.

Melanie Ramirez, sophomore biology major, likes what the charging station says about Southern: “Having an electric car station demonstrates how our university is involved with clean energy and environmental awareness.” —Eloise Ravell

» by the numbers

6 a.m.

The time that All-night Softball ended, having begun at 8:30 p.m. the previous evening, September 24.

100

Years since Southern moved from Graysville, Tennessee, to Thatcher Switch, now known as Collegedale.

26

Southern presidents have served the university since it was founded in 1892, including the latest, David Smith.

100+

People waiting in line at 12 p.m. for one of Southern’s iconic meals: pasta day in the Dining Hall.

#1

Southern’s top ranking by National Collegiate Fitness Index for overall campus physical activity and lifestyle among other private schools in the nation.

90

The number of years the *Southern Accent* has been providing news from a student viewpoint.

Degree Options Expand with Physical Therapist Assistant Program

Southern is expanding medical degree options by adding the Physical Therapist Assistant program. While this new degree is still in the development stage, it will offer a unique addition to Southern's available majors.

In the last five years, physical therapist assistant careers have been among the top medical fields for growth, giving great potential for student success in this area. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, healthcare careers are among the top sectors in the United States. The Bureau predicts that "Physical Therapist Assistant" will be within the top 10 healthcare careers in the next five to 10 years.

Southern has hired Christopher Stewart, DPT, as the director of the new program. Volker Henning, PhD, associate vice president for Academic Administration, is pleased with the choice, saying, "He is very well fit for the position."

Although the Physical Therapist Assistant program will not be fully launched until 2018, Stewart is already laying the groundwork. New general education classes, required by the degree, will be offered next fall. After Southern receives approval from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education, the new program will begin accepting students.

—Michael Steinke

[news briefs]

Gala Raises \$350,000 for Student Scholarships

Southern's October 12 Inauguration Gala for President David Smith, PhD, raised \$350,000 for endowed student scholarships. Legislative officials, area businesses, alumni, employees, and friends of the university were among the more than 225 guests whose ticket purchases, silent auction bids, and other significant contributions made the evening a success.

Fenton Forest Mural Brightens Pediatric Facility

The School of Nursing's new pediatric simulation area now features a mural based on the popular Fenton Forest series by Gordon Bietz, DMin, former Southern president. The artist, Rebecca Johnson, '12, adjunct professor in the School of Visual Arts and Design, also illustrated the series. Barbara James, DSN, dean of the School of Nursing, believes the mural fits the location.

"Our new facility needed to be an attractive and comfortable place for kids," James said. "The mural of Gruff the Bear tenderly caring for a hurt rabbit was just the ticket."

Employees Published

Norman Gulley, PhD, research professor in the School of Religion, completed the book *Systematic Theology: The Church and the Last Things*. This is the fourth and final volume in Gulley's biblical research series, making it the largest theological work ever written by an Adventist author, according to Ronald Knott, director of Andrews University Press, which published the book.

Donald Keefe, MFA, assistant professor in the School of Visual Art and Design, presented his work in an art exhibition at the Catskill Art Society in Livingston Manor, New York, throughout

August. He was also featured in the October 2016 issue of *FreshPaintMagazine*. Additionally, his artwork was featured in the juried book *International Drawing Annual 10*.

Valerie Lee, MS, assistant professor of biology and allied health, wrote a book about loss for young people. Called *When Sparrows Fall*, this is her second book, the first having followed her experience as a student missionary in Africa.

Ben McArthur, PhD, professor in the History and Political Studies Department, published a biography, *A. G. Daniells: Shaper of Twentieth-Century Adventism*. The book garnered high praise from Gilbert Valentine, PhD, Australian historian of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Tron Wilder, PhD, associate professor in the School of Education and Psychology, published an article in the April/May 2016 issue of the *Journal of Adventist Education*. It was titled "Addressing Behavioral Addictions in Adolescents: Creating a School-wide Culture of Prevention."

Southern Ranks in Top Tier for 15th Consecutive Year

For the 15th year, Southern ranked in the Top Tier of U.S. News and World Report's "Best Colleges" guide. The difference this year is that Southern's ranking category has switched from college to university for the first time. The change is due to Southern's growing graduate program, which includes numerous master's degrees and one doctoral program.

Another study, SmartAsset's "Best Value Colleges," ranked Southern as one of the most economically valuable institutions in Tennessee. The average starting salary for Southern graduates is \$45,000.



David George demonstrates camera operation during a class in the School of Visual Art and Design.

Lighting a Passion

by Tierra Hayes, sophomore mass communication major

At the age of 5, David George, MFA, '98, associate professor of Visual Art and Design, sat and watched the opening sequences of *Chariots of Fire* begin to roll. As the cinematography in the film transported him to a new time and space, the groundwork for his future started to fall into place.

As he grew up, George frequently accompanied his father to his job at a local TV station, fueling his passion even further. George's newfound access to equipment allowed him to expand his knowledge of film, and he eventually found himself as a broadcast journalism major at Southern Adventist University.

Teaching on the Fly

After graduating and working in the industry for a few years, George returned as a professor to Southern's School of Visual Art and Design. He proved instrumental in the development of Southern's film program in 2001, an experience he described as "like trying to fly an airplane that you were building." Since then, the department has produced many projects and films, such as *Secret of the Cave*, and has contributed to ventures such as the 2015 movie *Old Fashioned*. George believes the program has grown tremendously in the last 15 years.

"At the beginning, it was sort of like the frontier; we just found a way to make everything work," George said. "And as time passed, the quality of the classes and the kind of equipment students had access to significantly improved. We saw the quality of students' work getting a lot better, but the bar continues to rise."

According to George, even though he has much to teach his students, he feels that to be an effective teacher he must first seek insight from and about his pupils.

"It's less about what I can get across to them as it is about what I can learn about them," George said. "And based on that understanding, I figure out how I can help them best get to where they're trying to go. Obviously there are things that I try to convey to students, but I feel that's less important than understanding them and helping them figure it out themselves."

Students and colleagues alike find value in George's teaching style and leadership in the department, which earned him Southern's 2016 President's Award in Teaching Excellence.

Randy Craven, dean of the School of Visual Art and Design, believes

that the award was very fitting for a professor like George.

"He's a guy who's on top of things, very proactive," Craven said. "He's proved that working diligently pays off. He deserved the award for sure."

According to George, his productivity is a result of traits learned while teaching at Southern.

"If there is one thing that I've learned, it is that healthy, authentic relationships and a dogged unwillingness to give up are the most important keys to getting most things done," George said. "I wish I could say that I'm a poster child for these things, but I've learned as much through failure as success."

Striving for Success

Over the years, many have noticed George's effort to find ways of advancing the film program at Southern.

"I can definitely see that he is always looking for ways to improve," said Mark Comberiate, '15, a production and facilities manager for the School of Visual Art and Design. "I've seen firsthand the effort behind the scenes in what he does for current students. He's not satisfied to leave everything how it has been. We're continually improving to find exactly what skills and knowledge our students need in the field after graduation."

George's childhood friend and colleague, Zach Gray, MFA, '99, associate professor of Visual Art and Design, has watched George transition into the instructor that he is today.

"It's just been fun to watch from a front-row seat as he gets better at his craft, as he gets better at running his program, as he gets better with working with students, as he gets better with teaching, and as he gets better at bringing everyone else around him up at the same time," Gray said.

At the end of the day, George wants to continue to grow the department through exploring his love of film and his passion for his students.

"I don't want to sound cliché, but it's the students that keep me coming to work every day; that's what makes it worth it," George said. "To be able to be a part of their journey as they grow and learn is incredibly rewarding." ■

Home and Abroad

by Tierra Hayes, sophomore mass communication major

For many Southern students, a year serving as a student missionary is a normal part of the college experience. But for Jeremy Holt, a junior business administration major, his year in Peru wasn't enough; his mission followed him home.

Holt spent the past year working at the AMOR Projects clinic in Pucallpa, Peru. He helped to run the business side of the mission and said that the experience brought him closer to God.

"I got to see God work all the time," Holt said. "That is the most exciting part of working with missions. It amazes me every time to see how much God cares, that He would do so much just to help save one person."

Do Something

Krista Bonney, a senior biology major, also spent the past year at AMOR projects. She gave Bible studies and helped in the medical clinic, a life-changing experience for her. Bonney recalls the story of two brothers, Carlos and Ubaldo.

After consistently attending the small Bible study for children that Bonney and her fellow Bible worker held, one day the boys did not show up. Their parents had changed their minds about letting them come.

Later on, Bonney found out that Carlos and Ubaldo's mom was sick. Bonney visited their home and later returned with the mission's nurse. Every day after her Bible studies, Bonney visited the family's home, even after the mom got better.

Before long, the boys returned to the Bible studies, and their mother opened up her home to be used as a meeting place for a small neighborhood revival. Carlos and Ubaldo completed the Bible studies, and today they continue to study with a local Bible worker.

"I realize that I am so blessed and have so much to offer that it would be selfish of me not to do something," Bonney said.



Krista Bonney made friends with the local children while serving as a student missionary in Peru.

Bringing It Home

Since their return to Southern, Holt and Bonney have been working to raise awareness for the work in Peru, as well as talking with their fellow students on the importance of missions. Holt shares his mission experience through sermons, vespers, and prayer meetings.

"I am hoping that this will get people excited about missions and inspire them to get involved at home and around the globe," Holt said.

He hopes that others understand that although going on a mission trip requires a lot, it yields a great reward.

"It can be tough at times, and it calls for sacrifice; however, it is totally worth it," Holt said. "It is the biggest blessing to get to work for God and serve others. It is also a 'job' that has eternal value."

Bonney has also preached sermons and helped run a mission booth at the Carolina Conference Camp Meeting. While she hopes people will be inspired to donate time or money, her biggest goal is to share Christ.

"I love going to new places and experiencing different cultures," Bonney said. "But we each have a purpose wherever we are, and we can serve God through our interactions with others."

More Than a Visit

"While I was in Peru, my eyes were again opened to a need that I have seen around the world," Bonney said. "I realized that if I let God take control, He can use me in His work. My greatest desire is to share my faith with everyone whom God brings me in contact with for that purpose. That's what He puts us here for."

Along with sharing about their time in Peru, both Bonney and Holt are encouraging others to get involved. From going on trips to donating funds, and living every day as an example, they hope their testimonies will spark interest and start a mission movement.

"I hope that I can encourage others to live as missionaries and that I will lead by example," Bonney said. "My mission will be uniquely mine, and I pray that God will be able to use me to reach those around me."

Even though everyone may not feel compelled to do foreign mission work, Bonney believes that there is a job to be done everywhere.

"God has a purpose for each one of us," Bonney said, "if we will just step out in faith and accept God's plan for our lives." ■



Photo: Ryan Pierce

A Strong Future

Inaugurating a new president is a momentous occasion, and Southern marked the event with an entire week of special programs—a Wind Symphony concert, a special art exhibit by Brett Weaver, and an archaeology lecture, to name a few. The night before the inauguration, local officials, alumni, employees, and friends of the university gathered for the Inaugural Gala. As they arrived, they were greeted by the flying figures of the Gym-Masters Acrobatic Team. Here, Julian Armstrong, senior health science major, does a handstand nearly seven feet off the ground, while other team members did flips and sailed on aerial silks. The team embodies strength and enthusiasm, qualities that permeate Southern's student body and ensure a bright future for the university!

Centered on Christ:

David Smith,
Southern's 26th
President *by Angela Baerg, '06*



Ready to lead, ready to serve. With years of experience and high-profile leadership roles at Southern as well as other institutions, David Smith is well prepared as he steps into his new role as president. Most importantly, he is committed to allowing Christ to work in and through him for the good of the university.

When David Smith took his seat in the corner office in Wright Hall on June 1, 2016, a new chapter began for Southern Adventist University. Selected by Southern's Board of Trustees by a unanimous vote, Smith accepted the position of president after much prayer and consideration. He began training with former President Gordon Bietz in April, and they worked together until June 1, when Bietz officially passed the torch of leadership, making Smith Southern's 26th president.

"Ever since 1981 when Gordon and I first moved to Collegedale and met," Smith said, "I've always been impressed with how God has blessed Southern through his leadership. Spending time with Gordon has inspired me to do all I can to give myself and my time to the campus as he has."

During a meeting with all Southern employees, Smith set the tone of his presidency, emphasizing humility, service, trust, and transparency. He called for "all-in" participation in living out Southern's mission to provide a Christ-centered, student-focused, and excellence-driven campus.

As Smith said during his inauguration on October 13: "God is the author of Southern's story. And I believe that the best part of Southern's story is yet to be written. I am excited to be part of that story."

Southern Roots

Although Smith's position as Southern's president is new, he has a rich history with the university. His involvement began in 1981 when he accepted a position as an English professor, later becoming chair of the department. He was voted "Most Humorous Faculty Member" and remained at Southern for 17 years. Smith also served for five years on Southern's board, which acquainted him with the university's finances and operations. Since Smith's wife, Cherie, '91, and two daughters graduated from Southern, he understands the Southern Experience from the standpoints of both a spouse and a parent. Throughout his many interactions with the university over the years, one feature stands out to Smith as Southern's strongest asset: the mission-mindedness of its students and faculty.

"I love to hear how students, employees, and alumni have followed God's will for their lives through their experience at Southern," Smith said. "They have distinguished themselves in their professions, communities, and churches. For

nearly 125 years, Southern students and employees have, in the name of Jesus Christ, turned the world upside down."

Big Plans

Smith's multifaceted relationship with Southern has made him both passionate and pragmatic about the steps he must take to help the university continue to thrive in a rapidly changing world. His top priority is to stay true to Southern's mission. Smith longs for all students at Southern to have an authentic spiritual experience where they can discover firsthand God's plans for their lives and commit in their hearts to live for Him. Through classes, personal interactions with faculty, and immersion in opportunities for spiritual growth on and off campus, Smith hopes students develop a biblical worldview and learn to make life decisions based on God's principles. He believes that the college years are a critical time for students to get the spiritual support and guidance they need to mature into adulthood; cement the beliefs that will shape the rest of their lives; and remain positive, engaged, and loyal in their relationship with the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

On top of that strong spiritual foundation, Smith plans to continue Southern's tradition of academic excellence, grow

enrollment, make Adventist education more affordable, and reduce student debt. He hopes to nurture a campus built on trust, teamwork, open communication, and inclusive decision-making. Smith believes that the way God has led him, and the career path that brought him here, has given him the faith and abilities that he needs to successfully guide Southern into the future.

With a bachelor's degree in history and a master's degree in English from Andrews University and a PhD in English from the University of Tennessee, Smith is well-versed in higher education. He also has significant experience leading Adventist institutions, including 13 years as the president of Union College (1998-2011) and five years as the senior pastor of the Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists (2011-2016). He has gained extensive experience speaking publicly around the world and collaborating with community, state, and city officials. Beyond credentials, however, Smith believes that acknowledging the One who started it all is the only true path to success.

"The first thing we have to do is humble ourselves before God and give Him full credit for what He has done for Southern," Smith said. "We also need to align our mission

and campus experience so that the life we live out on our campus reflects our intentions. This involves being authentic in every aspect of our life and work, while serving our students, parents, visitors and guests, constituents, and each other with the respect, priority, and empathy that marked Jesus' ministry to others."

Getting Personal

Smith feels immeasurably blessed to have his wife of 45 years, Cherie, by his side as he begins this new adventure. Cherie is the associate pastor for visitation and prayer at the Collegedale Church.

"In college, we kept standing in registration lines together, so I naturally thought of Cherie when I was deciding whom to ask for a date," Smith shared. "I'm a real believer in the value of registration lines!"

Cherie considers their many years of teamwork to be one of God's richest gifts for her life.

"Dave's wisdom comforts me, and his kind heart offers safety and peace," Cherie said. "I treasure the practical ways Dave shows love, such as cleaning the house, taking care of my car, meeting me for a Walmart run, or planting a butterfly

garden because he knows I love butterflies. But it's been daily prayer together that keeps us moving in the same direction."

The couple has two children, Jacie and Kim. Their oldest, Jacie Buxton, '94, is a stay-at-home mom who lives in Israel with her three children and her husband, John, an engineer for Boeing Corporation. Their youngest, Kim Hutchinson, '99, is a teacher and vice principal of Keene Adventist Elementary School. She lives in Cleburne, Texas, with her three children and her husband, Chad, '98 and '04, who teaches at Southwestern Adventist University.

Smith has enjoyed extensive travel, visiting his oldest daughter as she has lived in various places around the world, including Singapore, where he was impressed by the beauty of its gardens and the sense of safety in the city. In his free time, Smith relishes almost anything that takes him outdoors, like bird-watching, wildlife photography, and team sports. He also reads extensively and enjoys public speaking. And in all that he does, God is front and center.

"My most important goal is to always do what God asks me to do and to live my life within the boundary of His will," Smith said. "I love to partner with God to see what He will do and then give Him glory for what He does."

"I love Southern's rich heritage as a place where Seventh-day Adventist Christian higher education has the opportunity to transform young people and further the mission of the church."

Student-Focused

Of all the experiences Smith has had over the years, he especially values opportunities to influence students, both as a professor and an administrator. He looks forward to working side-by-side with them to create a more meaningful Southern reality for everyone. Smith believes that through God's blessing and the dedication of Southern's employees, the university has huge potential to shape the lives of young adults.

Although Smith knows that committees and paperwork will demand their fair share of his time at Southern, students will always be his top priority. He loves to interact with them through informal visits. One-on-one or in large groups, he enjoys getting to know them and hearing about their lives.

"Every student has a story," Smith said. "Whether they know it or not, God is the author of that story, at least as far as they have let Him be. I get excited when I see how God works in students' lives. I love Southern's rich heritage as a place where Seventh-day Adventist Christian higher education has the opportunity to transform young people and further the mission of the church. As Southern's new president, I look forward to continuing that tradition."



TOP LEFT: Dave and Cherie on their wedding day in 1972. TOP RIGHT: The Smith family at their home in Collegedale in 1982. MIDDLE: Dave at his inauguration as president of Union College in 1998. BOTTOM LEFT: Dave and Cherie in 1973. BOTTOM RIGHT: Dave with Southern's Destiny Drama company in 1982.

Dave the Professor

by Andy Nash, PhD, '94, journalism professor

Once in freshman composition class, Professor Smith was showing us the typical way to write an essay: how to write a thesis, how to write a paragraph, how to transition between paragraphs, how to return to your thesis.

I raised my hand and asked if we had to write our essays this exact way. I mean, would it be okay if we tried another way?

Professor Smith didn't say anything. He just took a piece of chalk and wrote two words on the board: "Whatever works."

When he turned back to me, I stammered, "You mean ... so we can just ..."

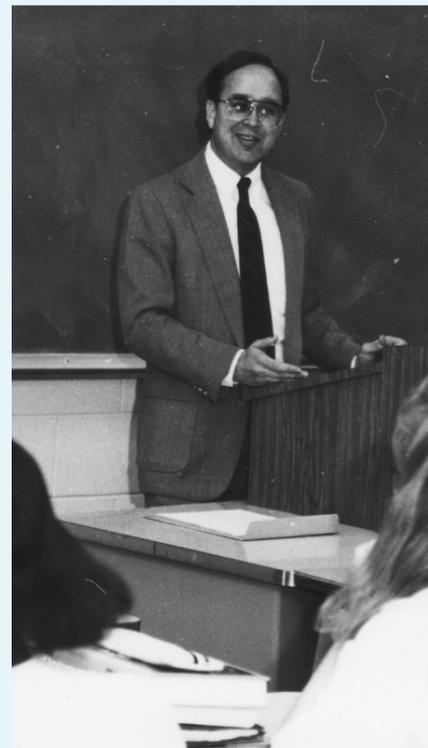
Professor Smith smiled his famous smirk-smile, and I finally smiled, too.

I loved this teacher. He taught us the rules, but he also let us break free from the rules—as long as it worked.

Ten years later, I was teaching my own freshman composition class when a student raised her hand and

asked if this was the only way they were allowed to write their essays.

I didn't say anything. I just smiled and turned to the board.



Dave the Pastor

by Jack Blanco, PhD, former School of Religion Dean

As a church family, we praised the Lord for calling David Smith back to our community as senior pastor at Collegedale Church, and we are grateful for his years of service. Dave's love for Jesus Christ and us as members will never be forgotten, and his authentic, Spirit-filled sermons are a lasting legacy. He was in high demand as a speaker and occasionally preached elsewhere, but on those Sabbaths, we missed hearing his voice ringing from the pulpit here at home.

He and I met together weekly to pray for his ministry and the needs of the church and local schools. We prayed for people in need, the pastoral team and church officers, staff, church volunteers, teachers, and students. Without a doubt, Dave's pastoral heart was invested in us, and every action he took demonstrated his concern and care. His family was always uppermost in his mind, and his affection for his wife, Cherie, and their children and grandchildren was evident during the times we petitioned the Lord together on their behalf.

Dave will be greatly missed as our minister. We send our love and prayers with him, thankful he's close enough to accept invitations to share God's messages with us every now and again.



LEFT: Dave and Cherie love to interact with students and always take time for them when asked. BOTTOM RIGHT: The Smith family together in 1988. Jacie is in the back, and Kim is in the front.

Dave the Father

by Jacie Buxton, '94, and Kim Hutchinson, '99

My dad exemplifies God's love for humanity by parenting with consistency, authenticity, and generous sacrifice. I will never forget his selfless love during a family canoeing trip. The rapid water surprised all of us, capsizing the canoe. Both of my parents secured branches in the rushing river, but I was trapped underneath the overturned canoe. Without a thought for his own safety, my father, who doesn't swim, dove under the water to rescue me. This is just one example of his innate desire to parent like Jesus, who willingly paid the highest personal price to show God's love to the world. ~ Jacie Buxton

I am blessed with a dad who has been there for me at every stage of life. From surprising me with my first puppy to coaching my softball games and teaching me to drive, my dad has always demonstrated a blend of patience and encouragement. He is the guiding light of our family as he helps us with spiritual matters or supports us in our decisions. His patient guidance, strength, and love over the years have helped me to become the wife, mother, and teacher I am today. No matter what I am going through, I can always count on him to be in my corner. ~ Kim Hutchinson



First Ministry, Now First Lady

by Eloise Ravell, '16

Cherie Smith, '91, is no stranger to Southern. Originally a student and an employee, then later a pastor at the campus church, Cherie now steps into a new role at the university: first lady. She sees this as a good fit with her ministerial position.

"Dave and I have worked as a team throughout our whole married life, no matter what positions we were in or the tasks at hand," Cherie said. "The plan is for me to continue in my role as full-time pastor at the Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists while supporting my husband in any way that I can in his new commission at the university."

When the Smiths first moved to Collegedale in 1981, Cherie began working on campus and got first

hand experience in a variety of departments through the years. She worked in Student Finance, Alumni Relations, Public Relations, and finally for the vice president of Academic Administration. In 1996, Cherie began her ministry at the church, serving for two years before Dave accepted the position of president at Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska.

"At the time, it appeared that God was closing the ministry door for me because there were no pastoral positions available in Lincoln," Cherie said.

But God had other plans. A few months later, Cherie was invited to serve as part-time pastor at a local church, which soon grew into a full-time position. Most of Cherie's

ministry revolved around visiting the sick, shut-in, and grieving. She was able to shine a light in the darkness for those suffering, believing the Holy Spirit works through those who help others in difficult circumstances. Besides her commitment to visitation, Cherie demonstrated a passion for women's ministries, working with deaconesses, and seeking ways to welcome, include, and nurture new members.

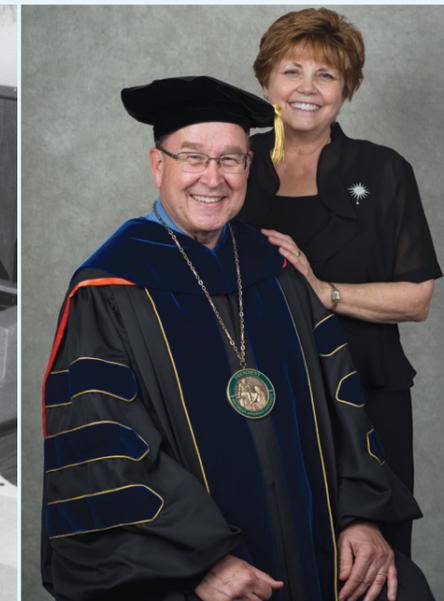
The couple returned to Collegedale in 2011, where Cherie now serves as the associate pastor for visitation and prayer at the campus church. As her husband steps into the presidential role at Southern, Cherie hopes to partner with him to further God's work and to encourage students during their college careers.

"For 37 years, my husband and I have worked in college settings," Cherie said. "It has been fun to support students at this pivotal time when they are making big decisions that will impact the rest of their lives."

Cherie hopes to connect with students by affirming their life paths, listening to their stories, being a mentor, and even baking treats for them. She has faith that together, she and Dave can accomplish God's will by trusting Him to move mountains, open doors, and give them the spiritual gifts they need.

"As we follow God through this new part of our journey," Cherie said, "we do so with one goal: to make an eternal difference for His Kingdom."

Turn to page 31 for Cherie's philosophy of living in gladness. ■



LEFT: Cherie worked at Southern for 15 years before beginning her pastoral ministry. RIGHT: Dave and Cherie shortly after his inauguration as president of Southern Adventist University.



Discovering the Past in Ruins

by Debbie Battin Sasser, '02

The minutia of daily life thousands of years ago is largely lost to the ages, yet as archaeologists unearth fragments of the past, they open a window into history.

Southern's Institute of Archaeology has become an influential contributor to this process, currently working in the largest archaeological dig in the Middle East. Those who participate in the excavation gain a new perspective on history and on life.

Biblical archaeology is a field in crisis due to the secularization of culture, but it has never been more important. In the 1940s and 1950s, there were an abundance of biblical archaeological programs at Ivy League universities, according to School of Religion Professor Michael Hasel, PhD, director of the Institute of Archaeology and curator of the Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum. However, by the 1980s and 1990s, many of those programs were closed. From 1950-1970, 45 excavations in Israel were sponsored by American institutions, whereas in the last 20 years there have been only four or five major projects.

"It is imperative that those of us in this discipline who are still interested in the Bible retain a voice in the discussion" Hasel said.

The Institute of Archaeology at Southern, under the auspices of the School of Religion, took root following a 1999 visit from respected professor and archaeologist William Dever of the

Now the Institute of Archaeology also includes the Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum, opened in 2004, and the William G. Dever Research Library, housing more than 3,500 volumes.

Students utilize the extensive archaeological resources on campus, but the knowledge they gain in classes becomes most meaningful when they go on the Middle East Study Tour and participate in hands-on archaeological excavation projects.

Uncovering Rare Artifacts

The Institute of Archaeology first conducted an archaeological excavation in Idalion, Cyprus, in 2003. Since then, hundreds of participants have had the life-changing experience of excavating in the ancient Israelite cities of Hazor, Khirbet Qeiyafa, and, most recently, Lachish. Southern is partnering with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem for this excavation, which is currently the largest archaeological dig in the Middle East.

"The biblical city of Lachish is mentioned 22 times in the Old Testament," Hasel said. "Some of the most notable references include the Israelite conquest of Lachish,¹ the Assyrian siege and destruction of the city by the Assyrian king Sennacherib in 701 B.C.,² and the destruction of both Lachish and Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar II, king of Babylon, in 586 B.C.³ Lachish, during the Iron Age, stood as the most important city in Judah after Jerusalem."

The process of excavation is time-consuming and, as observed by Martin Klingbeil, D. Litt., associate director of the Institute of Archaeology and professor in the School of Religion, sometimes it is not what a participant expects at first.

"The first couple of days everyone is working to remove the topsoil, digging out roots and larger rocks," Klingbeil



In the early morning before the day heats up, Jonas Weisse, theology student at Bogenhofen Seminary, discards dirt from the dig.

FACING PAGE: Seen from above on the last week of the 2016 dig in Lachish, Southern's excavation squares demonstrate the progress made by the team.

All photos (except aerial and seal) by Nick Lindsay, '15

University of Arizona. Subsequently, Southern established a Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology with two concentrations: Near Eastern Studies, which focuses on Israel, Jordan, Egypt, and Mesopotamia during the Old Testament period; and Classical Studies, which looks at the Greco-Roman world.



Dust coats every surface as the team carefully works on the excavation.



Masaru Verduzco-Tanaka, senior graphic design major, found this dipper juglet in Lachish.



Having just finished a camel ride, the archaeology group visits the Treasury in Petra, Jordan, during a weekend excursion.

explained. “It is important to maintain the size of each square as we dig two meters down. Finally work begins on the layers, where sifting and careful digging begins to uncover floors of buildings where artifacts are preserved. Everything found within each square is recorded in great detail using tablets with a specialized database, drones, GPS and survey equipment, and other state-of-the-art technology.”

Participants, such as Guilherme Brasil de Souza, '16, especially relish finding something important that has been hidden out of sight for thousands of years.

“This past summer, I uncovered a very tiny inscribed stone weight,” Brasil de Souza said. “There are less than 200 of these that have ever been uncovered in all of Israel. It dates back to the time of King Hezekiah.”

Catalina Hannah, junior business administration and international studies double major, also made a discovery while excavating a beautifully preserved stone floor dating to the time of Sennacherib's destruction, 689 B.C.

“A small oval object caught my eye,” Hannah said. “I picked up the little artifact, took in a deep breath, and I don't think I let it out for a whole two minutes as I studied the object. One side looked like the backside of a beetle. Rewinding 10 months back to my archaeology class, I remembered learning about how Egyptians made their seals with a special back that replicated the dung beetle. So there I was, trying to contain my excitement while holding an ancient Egyptian scarab.”

The artifacts excavated by Southern, in partnership with the Hebrew

University of Jerusalem, are making a very real impact in the realm of academia and in pop culture. Documentary films on items excavated at Khirbet Qeiyafa and Lachish have been produced by the BBC and National Geographic, and reports have been published by *National Geographic Magazine*, *CNN*, *The New York Times*, *The Huffington Post*, *Adventist Review*, *Ministry*, *Biblical Archaeology Review*, and in many other professional and academic journals, newspapers, and books. *Christianity*

Today named two items from Khirbet Qeiyafa and Lachish in the top 10 finds of biblical archaeology in 2015.

“Excavating Lachish helped me understand what real archaeology involves,” said Juan Mora, junior theology and archaeology double major. “Learning from the best in the field helped me also realize that I have made an excellent career choice.”

Archaeology Partnerships

The study tour and dig have proven to be a catalyst for working relationships between the Institute of Archaeology and other departments on campus. This summer Joe LaCom, MFA, assistant professor in the School of Visual Art and Design, drew digital plans of the architecture at the Lachish site for future publication. Other faculty members and students from the School of Visual Art and Design have also collaborated at the dig site.

“As an artist visualizing the past, it is huge to be able to have these images in your mind,” said Megan Winegardner, junior fine arts major. “This will impact my work for the rest of my life.”

Scot Anderson, PhD, professor in the School of Computing, got involved with archaeology several years ago when Hasel approached him about writing a software program.

“They needed an electronic database to do what they had been doing on paper,” Anderson said. “It took more than 2,000 hours, but over the course of a few years, we created a program and then a second version of the original program.”

This software is now utilized to collect data in the field and create a searchable database. While earning his bachelor's degree in computer science, Thomas Olsen, '13, was excited to help develop the software and then serve as technical support on the dig site.

“My work on the database program itself has proven useful in that it provided me with real-life experience,” Olsen said. “My current employer referenced my time troubleshooting, debugging, and programming in Israel during the dig as evidence that I had experience in high-demand environments with limited access to assistance. It has been great evidence of the quality and rigor of the degree I earned at Southern.”

Bringing the Past to Life

The experiences students have in the field deeply impact not only their professional and personal lives, but also their spiritual lives. After her time at the dig, Judit Manchay, '16, came away with a new perspective.

“Time and space divide us from the events and people of the Bible,” Manchay said. “In a sense, biblical archaeology gives us the opportunity to come face-to-face with the historical context of the Bible.”

Giselle Hasel, MFA, associate professor in the School of Visual Art and Design, agrees.

“The biblical stories become tangible and real as we take a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee, visit the sites in Jerusalem, have worship on the Mount of Olives, and visit Nazareth, Bethlehem, Masada, and the Dead Sea,” she said. “The people and places come

to life. These are no longer abstract ideas but actual events that took place in history.”

For Cherie Lynn Olsen, '14, coordinator of the Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum, bringing the past to life opens witnessing opportunities.

“During each trip, I've learned to understand more fully how relevant archaeology is now,” Olsen said. “Often people with adamant opposition to religion or spirituality will light up at the mention of archaeology.”

The Institute of Archaeology at Southern will be back at Lachish, Israel, in the summer of 2017. After that, the directors plan to spend the next 10 years concentrating on publishing data from the excavations.

“The millions of bits of data from the past two projects now need to be processed, analyzed, and published,” Michael Hasel said. “That is the work

ahead of us, involving both students and an international team of experts.”

Students in Southern's archaeology program can continue to look forward to life-changing opportunities to be trained in the fascinating field of biblical archaeology.

Daniel Perez, staff member at the excavation projects at Lachish and Khirbet Qeiyafa, emphasizes the importance of archaeology.

“Being involved with the field of archaeology means to be a steward of past cultural heritage,” Perez said, “and to transmit that sense of responsibility to succeeding generations.” ■

For more information, stop by the Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum on campus or visit southern.edu/archaeology.

¹ Joshua 10:3-35; 12:11; 15:39

² 2 Kings 19:8; 2 Chronicles 32:9

³ Jeremiah 34:7

A World in Miniature

The new exhibit titled “A World in Miniature: Creation, Cosmos, Ecology on Seals from Biblical Times” recently opened in the Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum at Southern.

During the grand opening, Benjamin Foster, curator of the Yale Babylonian Collection at Yale University, said, “This is the finest exhibition on ancient seals in terms of presentation, approachability, and scholarly input that I have ever seen.”

The exhibit features more than 60 seals ranging in age from 3,000 B.C. to 500 B.C. These artifacts were used for sealing documents, securing property, and transferring authority. Worn around the neck or wrist, ancient seals were primarily reserved as a symbol of authority and ownership.

Among these objects is the famous Ushna Seal, a beautiful carnelian stamp seal, which has an inscription reading “Belonging to Ushna, servant of Ahaz.” There are few museums in the United States that display seals with biblical names, and even fewer, if any, mention the name of an Old

Testament king (i.e., King Ahaz, the father of King Hezekiah). These type of seals are most often found in museums in Europe and Israel.

According to Martin Klingbiel, DLitt, professor in the School of Religion as well as associate director of the Institute of Archaeology and the leading researcher for the exhibit, the seals give knowledge and insight into better understanding biblical times. The exhibit focuses not only on the seals but also the seals' expression of worldviews using three components: creation, cosmos, and ecology.

The new exhibit features seals on loan from the Yale Babylonian Collection at Yale University, the Siegfried H. Horn Archaeological Museum at Andrews University, and the Badè Museum at Pacific School of Religion. It also includes four replicas of seal impressions found by Southern students in 2014; the originals remain in Israel.

Made of black serpentine and dating back to 2260-2193 B.C., this seal, on display in the new exhibit, depicts a ritualistic animal sacrifice.



Photo: Terry Henson

Called to Care

by Annalyse Hasty, '13



Mission service could mean traveling to a foreign country, or it could mean enriching the lives of senior citizens here at home. Southern's Long Term Care Administration program prepares students to manage caregiving facilities while equipping them for a life of service.

For Will Otis, MBA, '10 and '15, the plan was simple: go to college, go to dentistry school, then be a dentist like his father. However, as he entered his senior year at Southern, he began to feel that he was not on the right path.

"I really felt like dentistry was not where God was calling me to go," Otis said. "I took a semester off, and when I returned, I decided to start looking at the School of Business."

The next semester, Otis took general business classes, and he talked to his business law professor about which career path to take.

"I went by his office and shared with him how I had no clue where I was going. Then he asked me if I had ever thought about long term care," Otis recalled. "Absolutely not! I had volunteered in nursing homes before, and I knew that it was not a passion of mine."

After further encouragement and time in prayer, Otis decided to give the long term care industry a shot.

"I got a job as a resident assistant at Morning Pointe Assisted Living in November 2011. I started working from the bottom up and absolutely fell in love with the industry."

Otis then enrolled in the Long Term Care Administration program offered through Southern's School of Business. After he graduated, he furthered his career with Morning Pointe and now works for Morning Pointe at Greenbriar Cove near the university's campus.

As senior executive director, Otis is involved in all areas at Morning Pointe: finance, budgeting, customer service, employee management, and public relations. However, what makes Otis' career choice worth it is the positive impact he is able to have on the senior residents and their families.

"One of the biggest reasons I went into senior care was because I wanted to serve people. That is why I thought about dentistry at first; I wanted a profession where I could help other people," Otis said. "What I have learned in hindsight, even though I was reluctant at first, is that it is incredible to work with seniors."

Whether it is assisting residents with the decision process of care services; building a relationship with them; providing them a warm, caring, and loving environment; or simply making them smile, Otis believes the long term care industry

is an incredible opportunity to show Christian care.

"Even though I am a director, I still get to know each resident personally," Otis said. "I get to learn from them; I get as much from them as they get from me. Just to make an impression on seniors' lives makes it worth it, makes it easier to get up in the morning and come into work."

An Unknown Mission Field

When someone visits a medical facility, they often see the doctors, nurses, and support staff. They do not always think of the employees who are in the office helping all of the

people and departments work together, according to Scott Edens, '91, adjunct professor of long term care. Edens went through the program himself and has served on the long term care advisory board for almost 10 years. Currently he is the regional vice president of Ethica Health and Retirement Communities.

"We often think of nursing as a service career, but long term care administration is as well," Edens said. "It is not only a career where you serve seniors, but it is also leadership of peers. We need mission-minded, Christian young people coming into long term care to serve these people in need."

Long term care facilities are focused on providing ongoing medical and personal care for patients who are unable to live independently. Long term care facility managers are highly trained leaders who oversee the daily operations of nursing homes, assisted living facilities, rehabilitation centers, and home health services. They wear many hats in handling the staffing, budgeting, marketing, billing, legal, and other aspects of their center.

Duties of a long term care facility manager often go beyond operations. Administrators help educate patients on their path to recovery, while also assisting their loved ones as they navigate the complicated healthcare system. The long term care managers are helping seniors, widows, and the poor who may not have the assets to get the care and services they need, and these professionals point people to the right resources.

"Long term care administration is directly aligned with the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It is a mission field and a service opportunity," Edens affirmed. "To serve

With all that the long term care program has to offer prospective students, at its heart is Christian service.

another person is the greatest calling. Long term care is a major with a broad career path, and the demand is very high for young professionals.”

A Shift in Focus

The Long Term Care Administration program at Southern originated in 1978. Since its inception, the program has focused on the management of skilled nursing facilities, such as nursing homes. However, changes in the long term care industry are causing a major shift in Southern’s program, as well as national education for long term care administration.

Southern’s bachelor’s degree in long term care administration is accredited by the National Association of Long Term Care Administrator of Boards (NAB). The NAB governs the long term care licensure in all 50 states and creates the exam that students need to pass to earn national accreditation. Southern’s program was the first in the country to meet the NAB’s criteria for top quality education and training of long term care administrators.

Lisa Kuhlman, ’10, assistant professor in the School of Business, became the director of the program in June 2016. She explained that the NAB is developing a new exam.

“It will license people across a continuum of care,” Kuhlman said. “Because of this change, the NAB has recommended that we alter our program, so we are now in the process of rebranding the degree.”

The revised program will still include skilled nursing but will add classes and internship hours for assisted living and home health,

which are the two sections being added to the NAB exam.

“Most people immediately associate long term care and skilled nursing with nursing homes,” Kuhlman said. “In reality, skilled nursing has morphed into more of an extension of the hospital. Hospitals are no longer keeping patients for long periods after surgery, so skilled nursing has become essentially a place where patients go when they need an extra week with more care before they go home.”

By contrast, assisted living communities provide varying levels of care. Some patients may only need someone to remind them to take their medication, while others need assistance showering and eating.

Home and community health organizations are what most people know as hospice care. These organizations are called upon when people aren’t expected to survive for a long period of time, and they don’t want extra steps taken to keep them alive while they stay at their home.

“Those three areas—skilled nursing, assisted living, and home health—are tied together now,” Kuhlman said. “Because of that, we are changing the focus of the degree to encompass all three.”

A Heart of Service

With all that the long term care program has to offer prospective students, at its heart is Christian service. Otis and many others in the field agree that the most rewarding part is what they are able to give to their residents.

“I had a daughter of a resident come to my office one day. She was looking for a placement for her father,” Otis said. “Her dad had some recent health issues and could no longer live in his own home. She was completely beside herself, just sitting there crying. She felt so much guilt for having to place her father in an assisted living setting.”

It was very difficult for her to make that decision, but the daughter knew that she needed to make a change for her father. Her dad was reluctant, too, at first.

“After about a month in our community, the dad started getting involved in activities and began getting to know the other residents,” Otis said. “Soon his entire demeanor changed, and he became the Morning Pointe greeter. He would sit up at the front and welcome people and then tell them how much he loved living there.”

The man lived at Morning Pointe for several years, and when he passed away he was buried wearing his Morning Pointe greeter name badge.

“Being able to provide that care for him and his daughter when they were so reluctant was so satisfying. To this day, the family still advocates for our community,” Otis said. “It isn’t always easy for people, and being able to walk them through that process and calm their fears and care for their needs makes all the difference.”

Otis, like many others who have gone through Southern’s long term care program, has found the satisfaction that comes from following in Jesus’s footsteps, “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve” (Mark 10:45). ■



The statue in front of Summerour Hall reflects the centrality of Christ to the activities within.

Improvements With a Higher Purpose

by Julia Bonney, senior mass communication major

The School of Education and Psychology recently underwent significant changes. Degrees were updated, programs received accreditation, and the school returned to a renovated Summerour Hall. The school is now stronger and better prepared to guide students to their career paths.

Curriculum Enrichment

The Teacher Education program has added two Response to Intervention classes to teach elementary education majors how to better assist children struggling with math and reading.

“Not many teacher education programs provide intervention training, unless they are special education,” said Krystal Bishop, EdD, ’15, director of the Teacher Education program.

Psychology broadened its bachelor’s degree offerings by adding a concentration for students wishing to focus on marriages and families as a vital foundation for later careers in clinical psychology, counseling, and marriage and family therapy.

On the graduate level, outdoor education students earning their Master of Science in Education participated this summer in the Dinosaur Project, led by Arthur Chadwick, PhD, of Southwestern Adventist University. They joined others from across North America for dinosaur excavation field experience in the Lance Formation of eastern Wyoming. This is part of a renewed effort to encourage deeper thought about issues of origins and biblical worldviews.

The master’s degree in instructional leadership, which puts students on track to be principals or school administrators, is now fully offered online to accommodate working students.

Program Recognition

In 2015, the School Counseling program achieved accreditation through the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). This recognition is an indication of program quality and enhances employment opportunities for graduates.

“We’re thrilled that our graduates have this recognition of their counselor education program,” said Ileanna Freeman, PhD, director of graduate programs in counseling.

The undergraduate teacher education program is preparing for

reaccreditation through the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) in 2017.

“Data should demonstrate that our students have the skills and knowledge to be effective teachers who positively impact student learning,” Bishop said. She expects the process to go well. The previous program review cited no areas for improvement, a status achieved by only 2 to 3 percent of programs being reviewed at the time.

The quality of research conducted by Southern’s psychology majors was recognized by the Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA). Fernando Barrientos, ’15, and Seth Daly-Stennis, ’15, were awarded for best undergraduate research study in 2015 and 2016.

Home Again

The complete renovation of Summerour Hall, which was completed in May 2014, kept the name of the building intact but little else. A host of updates catered to the needs of students and faculty.

“I wanted instructors to walk into a classroom, plug in their computers, and have everything take off,” said John McCoy, EdD, dean of the School of Education and Psychology. “But ultimately, it’s really about making things easier for our students.”

New podiums feature automated screens, compatibility with a variety of computers, plus internet, DVD, and Blu-Ray capabilities.

“The building is so well equipped,” Bishop said. “We have everything we need right at our fingertips. All of the technology is very usable.”

Student work areas and the Teaching Materials Center provide additional resources, while large windows offer inspiring views of the campus below.

The Focus of It All

While the inside of Summerour Hall caters to learning, a visual representation of the school’s mission graces the entrance. A bronze statue depicts a student on a bench, pointing to an open Bible as Jesus kneels beside her. The words “I Am the Way” are inscribed on the bench.

“We place a big emphasis on making sure the material we present to our students is from a Christian standpoint,” McCoy said. “Christ is the way we want to point our students. It is our prayer that all who enter Summerour Hall will feel Christ’s love in every classroom, hallway, and office.” ■



Will Otis, MBA, '10 and '15, speaks with resident Vera Alosi at Morning Pointe at Greenbriar Cove.

Alumni Passion, God's Purpose

by Sheann Brandon, junior broadcast major

When alumni gather for Homecoming Weekend, they visit together and share their life stories. As they do, one thing quickly becomes clear: through the years, Southern has consistently been a place where students could bring—or discover—their passion, then learn to shape it into a life of purpose, driven by the will of God. No matter their career paths, Southern's graduates spread out and change the world. Following are a few examples.

Passion for Music

Robert (Robby) Raney, '16, graduated with a degree in music education and a double minor in history and religion. God immediately put Raney's gifts to work as a grade school teacher at Shelton Valley Christian School in Shelton, Washington.

As a freshman, he received a scholarship from the School of Music, chose music as his major, and never looked back.

During Raney's time at Southern, he took every opportunity to enrich his scholastic experience through national and international choir tours, a European history tour, an evangelistic trip to Madagascar, and in-depth involvement at church, while also working at Southern's classical radio station, WSMC.

Raney's current teaching job has challenged him in every way he had imagined and in many ways he hadn't. Yet his time at Southern taught him how to share Jesus in a way that he relates to personally.

"I am not an evangelist," Raney said, "but the language God has given me for sharing the gospel is music. Through Southern, I've gotten to do that in more ways than I can even count."

Passion for Sharks

Jennie Dee Janssen, '99, graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology from Southern. She's passionate about living things and has worked in various aquariums around the country. Since 2012, she has directed that energy into managing the changing exhibits at the National Aquarium in Baltimore, Maryland.

Janssen arrived at Southern her freshman year, unsure which major to pursue. Her father, a physician, encouraged her to take the pre-med track to keep her options open.

Her career took shape after her biology professor, Bill Hayes,

PhD, learned of Janssen's special passion for sharks and contacted the Tennessee Aquarium. For the rest of her time at Southern, Janssen interned at the aquarium, growing her research, analytic, and lab skills.

While considering a biology career, Janssen was concerned that keeping Sabbath would be an issue. During a 14-day shark tagging expedition, she was surprised how accommodating her fellow biologists were to her religious beliefs. Since then, God has placed understanding people in her path every step of the way.

Janssen is certain that God instilled her fascination for sharks, brought her to Southern, and orchestrated the pivotal discussion with her biology professor that started her journey.

"I had the passion, but it took someone at Southern showing me that my passion could be funneled into reality," Janssen said. "The Lord has totally blessed me. He led me to all of this."

Passion for Young People

William (Bill) Wood, '66, graduated with a degree in history and a minor in religion. He's currently using his passion for youth ministries as coordinator of North American Division Camp Ministries.

Before starting his academic career at what was then Southern Missionary College, Wood knew that he wanted to work for the church. His time at Southern solidified those goals. As Wood made new friends and created memories of band trips and "singspirations" on the front steps of Lynn Wood Hall, he grew spiritually and found direction in life.

After graduating from Southern, Wood served as a boys' dean, teacher, principal, and youth leader at the local, conference, and union levels. The greatest challenge Wood faced in his career was balancing family and ministry. However, witnessing young people he had worked with giving their hearts to Jesus and becoming active, contributing members of the church made the challenges worthwhile for Wood.

"Ellen White tells us that God leads us in a way that we would choose ourselves if we knew the end from the beginning, as He does," Wood said. "Even though life has not been perfect, my family and I are very grateful for how God has led us and absolutely have no regrets. It has been an amazing journey." ■



Jennie Dee Janssen, '99, (middle) works with staff at the Georgia Aquarium to draw blood from a reef shark during a health exam.



1: Bryant Davidson, '78, (left) reconnects with fellow alumni before church. **2:** Conductor Gennevieve Brown-Kibble invites the congregation to join Southern's musical groups during the divine service. **3:** Alumni tour Thatcher Farm, Southern's educational garden. **4:** The 50-year class reunion gave alumni such as Elizabeth Ann Holmes Steele, '66, a chance to catch up with former classmates.



5: Marsie Mawuntu, senior allied health and biology double major, connects with professor and alumn Rick Norskov, '76, during the Beyond the Columns Supper. **6:** Collegedale City Commissioner Ethan White, attending, chats with firefighters during Southern's Fall Festival. **7:** Former classmates Norman Gulley, '55, (left) and Hugo Christiansen, '55, visit during the 1892 Society Reception, which recognized the generosity of Southern's long-time donors.



8: George McBride, attended, presents a certificate and flag to the School of Nursing during its 60th anniversary dinner. In 2015, McBride was enrolled in Southern's graduate nursing program when his military unit was deployed to Afghanistan. He shared the gifts on behalf of his surgical unit in appreciation for the school's support. **9:** The Wedgwood Trio (Bob Summerour, '67, Don Vollmer, '67, and Jerry Hoyle, '66) were joined by former President Gordon Bietz during a Sabbath afternoon concert.

We'd love to hear from you, and so would your classmates! Send updates about additions to your family, educational accomplishments, marriage, professional recognitions, or other news you'd like to share to:

alumni@southern.edu or **Alumni Relations • P.O. Box 370 • Collegedale, TN 37315-0370**

In the previous issue of COLUMNS, I talked about building bridges for students and alumni through the Leadership Education through Alumni Partnerships (LEAP) mentorship program. We have heard from many of you about your desire to be a part of this program, and I look forward to seeing many more bridges built through these relationships.

Now I want to hear about your experiences. Have you encouraged prospective students to visit and attend Southern? I want to hear how that worked. Did you connect a Southern graduate with a career opportunity? Tell me the story. Is there a current student at Southern who will count you as an integral part of his or her academic journey? Share with me the techniques you utilized. There are many ways to build bridges, and the more we share how this is being done successfully, the easier it will become for all of us to participate.

Our Alumni Association would love to provide the tools for supporting your bridge-building activities! Visit southern.edu/alumni, email alumni@southern.edu, or call Alumni Relations at 423.236.2830 to learn how you can be involved.



Jay Dedeker, '88
Alumni Association, President

60s Gary Councill, '67 and '69, has spent 32 years in active duty as a chaplain with the U.S. Army. After ordination in the North Dakota Conference, he reported to Fort Hood, Texas, and assisted with growing and nurturing a congregation on the base. While overseas, he helped provide pastoral care for more than 1,000 members scattered in 12 military worship groups. Since then he has assisted the Washington, Potomac, Rocky Mountain, Pennsylvania, Gulf States, Texas, and Hawaii Conferences as a supply preacher and interim pastor of 11 churches in addition to planting two churches. Prior to retiring in 2015, Gary served as a director in the Office of the Chief of Chaplains at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. He and his wife of more than 52 years, Joyce, live in Manassas, Virginia, and are the parents of three adult children: Brenda Councill-Johnson, a National Board-certified elementary teacher in Anchorage, Alaska; Terry Councill, a chemist with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration; and Lieutenant Colonel Larry Councill, stationed at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana. They have five grandchildren.



70s Rhonda (Huffaker) Bolton, '72, and her husband, Bob, recently celebrated 45 years of marriage. She is an administrative assistant for the religious liberty department of the North Pacific Union Conference, and he works in information technology for Unisys Corporation in Vancouver, Washington. Bob enjoys summiting mountains, and Rhonda occasionally climbs with him. Their daughter's family lives nearby, and their son's family lives in Sparks, Nevada.



Jim Cox, '72, has served as a law enforcement chaplain for 25 years and officially retired in 2007. He works for the Wythe County, Virginia, Sheriff's Office. In addition, he was elected in March to serve as director of Region Eight for the International Conference of Police Chaplains (ICPC), a territory responsible for more than 575 chaplains covering eight states from Florida to Virginia. Jim holds

credentials as a "Fellow," the highest honor offered by ICPC.

80s Ken Bradley, '83, has accepted the position of administrator of Florida Hospital Celebration Health. In addition, Ken will serve as the senior executive officer for Florida Hospital's south/west market, which includes the campuses in Celebration, Kissimmee, Apopka, and Winter Garden. He has held various titles since joining Adventist Health System in 1985, including compensation manager and associate director of human resources at Florida Hospital Orlando. In 1993, he became chief operating officer for Florida Hospital Kissimmee. Two years later, he helped build Florida Hospital Celebration Health, then returned to the Kissimmee campus to serve as its administrator. Since July 2000, when Winter Park Memorial Hospital joined Adventist Health System, Ken has served as campus administrator and CEO. He also served for six years as mayor of the City of Winter Park.

Kelly Rose (Bishop) Bolton, '87 and '88, has become the seventh recipient of The Vagabond Award for experiencing all 102 townships in the Adirondack Park. She began the journey in June 2015 with her grandmother Lillian Rose (Dagles) Bolton, '62, who passed away before completing all of the township visits. Kelly completed the journey with Evonne Richards,

attended, in January 2016. Lillian's service dog, a Yorkshire Terrier named Hairy-Annie, became the eighth recipient of the award for having visited all townships and to honor Lillian's memory. The award is based on the current best-selling book *Adirondack 102 Club* by Martin Podskoch. Kelly and Hairy-Annie still reside at Lillian's home-stead in Bolton Landing, New York.



90s Delton Chen, '96 and '01, recently joined the Shuffield-Lowman Law Firm in Orlando, Florida, and is practicing in guardianship and estate planning. He graduated from The University of Tennessee College of Law after earning both his bachelor's degree in psychology and master's in marriage and family therapy from Southern. While in law school, Delton was a student editor of the *Tennessee Law Review*, a member of the Moot Court Board, and the recipient of two outstanding achievement awards. Active in the



community, he is a member of the Florida Bar's Consumer Protection Law Committee and is a founding member of the Greater Orlando Asian American Bar Association.

Autumn (Ellison) Roberts, '98, married Sorin Mincinoiu of Sagunto, Spain, on July 26, 2015. They live in Berrien Springs, Michigan, where Autumn works for Pioneer Memorial Church and Sorin works for Exquisite Homes of Michigan.



00s Chris Self, '01, and his wife, Sarah (Postler), '05, were married in 2009 and welcomed their daughter, Scarlett, in October 2015. Chris and Sarah both work at Park Ridge Health in Hendersonville, North Carolina, and stay busy with their business development and patient experience roles on the physician enterprise team. They love living near Asheville and go hiking as often as they can with their foxhound, Betty Lou.



Boaz Papendick, '04, and his wife, LaRae (Coleman), '04, are moving to Senegal with their two children to help a self-supporting project in that West African nation. They will do mobile clinics in addition to training both Bible workers and health workers. The couple previously served with the Middle East North Africa Union, and before that were in Senegal at an Adventist clinic.

Lynn (Farrow) Brown, '06, and her husband, Ben, welcomed their second child, Margaret Zane, on February 1. Their son, Thompson, is 3 years old. Lynn is in her fifth year as a commercial banker at SunTrust Bank in Chattanooga, and Ben is a businessman. They live in Georgia on Lookout Mountain.



Joshua George, '09, married Ellen Luchak, attended, on June 5 in Hope Valley, California, where they live and work. They met at Southern's Village Market in January of 2013. Joshua is managing various construction projects for Caesar's Entertainment in Stateline, Nevada, while Ellen is working for Nevada State Parks.

Frank Van Derhoof III, '09 and '16, recently completed a degree in religious education and married Amanda Rae Smith on July 10. They live in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia.

10s Erick Pena, '10, and his wife, Hectmarie (Cruz), '10, live and work in New Jersey. Upon finishing her bachelor's degree, Hectmarie took graduate classes from Southern while Erick pastored in Georgia for two years. After he accepted the call to a church in the couple's home state of New Jersey, Hectmarie finished her leadership master's degree through Liberty University. She currently works in the Department of Human Services for Essex County, New Jersey, determining eligibility for those seeking public assistance. They have two kids, Nathan (4) and Erianna (2).

Remembrance

Marilyn (Dillow) Cotton, attended, received special permission to live in the dorm at Southern Missionary College beginning at the age of 13 while she attended Collegedale Academy. She stayed through her freshman year at Southern when, at age 18, Marilyn moved to New York City to sing with Faith for Today. While in school, she was a member of the Southernares and other vocal ensembles. Marilyn went on to become an international gospel singer on television, radio, and the stage. She died peacefully in Loma Linda, California, on May 20 at the age of 82. She is survived by her husband, Dan; four daughters; 11 grandchildren; and two great-grandsons. A website for sharing notes and memories is available by visiting memorialwebsites.legacy.com/marilyncotton. The family requests that those wishing to honor her memory consider a gift to Southern's School of Music by calling 423.236.2829 or mailing a check (marked "The Marilyn Cotton Fund") to Southern Adventist University, c/o Advancement, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.



Stella (Walter) Stone, attended, passed away June 9. She was a registered nurse and worked in Florida, Tennessee, Virginia, and Wyoming. Stella was also a Southern Missionary College faculty member, teaching nursing students on the Orlando Campus. She is survived by her husband of 70 years, Thomas Stone, '52.

Wayne Janzen, former professor, was born in Miami, Manitoba, on April 26, 1941. He began pursuing an industrial education major at Canadian Union College and finished his undergraduate degree at Andrews University in 1963. In 1967 he graduated from Western Michigan University with his master's degree and moved to Southern Missionary College, where he taught industrial arts for nearly 20 years. While at Southern, he completed his doctorate from Texas A&M in 1969. After a five-year break from teaching, during which he worked at Collegedale Casework, Wayne returned to Southern, and from 1992-2004 he designed, built, and managed Southern Carton Industry (the box factory). He enjoyed construction and went on numerous Maranatha trips. Wayne is survived by his wife of 51 years, Elaine Moore Janzen, attended, and three children: Barry, '92, and his wife, Brenda (Keller), '93; Warren, '95, and his wife, Dawn (Fancher), '95; Charlene Rodman, '98, and her husband, Kevin, '93 and '96; and six grandchildren.



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Photo: Ryan Pierce

Face Full of Life

While traveling with 17 students and three faculty members in Bali this summer with the Tropical Biology class, Southern Marketing and University Relations employee Ryan Pierce, captured this image of a vendor in a local marketplace. The class trip is a unique academic and cultural opportunity, which takes students to Indonesia for a three-week intensive field course.



Photo: Terry Henson

Glad

by Cherie Smith, '91

In the movie *Pollyanna*, a 12-year-old girl's missionary parents die, and she moves in with her rich Aunt Polly. Despite her loss and transition, Pollyanna is cheerful, optimistic, and, no matter what the situation, always focuses on finding something to be glad about. The "Glad Game," she explains, was created by her father one Christmas when a gift barrel arrived with crutches instead of a doll, which devastated her. Her dad was glad that Pollyanna didn't need the crutches!

Later, Pollyanna falls off of a roof, leaving her legs paralyzed and challenging her ability to play the Glad Game. Temporarily she declares the Glad Game to be stupid. She isn't going to play it anymore. However, in time she learns to be glad again, even when life is hard.

That is God's desire for us. I've often longed for a faith that helps me play God's version of the Glad Game. I want to "always [give] thanks to God the Father for everything" (Ephesians 5:20), no matter what tragic loss, big transition, or confusing life circumstance occurs. I want to authentically give thanks to Him in the midst of difficulty.

Although I'm still learning, God has taught me some ways to work toward being glad in the midst of painful experiences:

Choose to run TO God, not FROM Him

Adam and Eve hid from God (Genesis 3:8), and when we are hurt and confused, our initial reaction may be to turn away from Him, too. Figuring out how to be glad about a difficult life experience requires God's Spirit. The good news is that even if we don't want to run to God, we can ask Him to give us a heart to do so. Ezekiel 36:26 reminds us that it is God's job to give us a new heart and a new spirit. If we have the courage to go TO God and dialogue with Him, He can give us the gifts we need to be glad when life is hard.

Stand on God's Promises

One of the greatest interferences to our gladness in the midst of difficult experiences is that we believe the lies of Satan and doubt God's love for us. To combat the lies, we must use the sword of the Spirit, "which is the word of God" (Ephesians 6:17).

God reinforced this lesson for me one horrific morning when I felt

totally abandoned. My sadness culminated with a near accident on ice as I drove to work. Pulling into a parking spot outside the church, I cried out to God, "Do you really love me?" Immediately, these words went through my mind: "I love you with an everlasting love." God's response to my hurt with His words, found in Jeremiah 31:3, shocked me, and my list of things to be glad about immediately grew!

Practice Praising God

Learning to "always [give] thanks to God the Father for everything" is a big step in surviving life's traumas. Remembering how God has revealed His love and care in the past, we face the future with the assurance that He is with and for us. One way to remember is to write down when we've seen God work in our lives and to thank Him.

Recently I perused through my prayer journal and was reminded of a day God saved the lives of two of my grandsons. Our then 10-month-old grandson was eating breakfast and choked. As his Mom worked to dislodge the food from his throat, I prayed. When the baby could breathe again, we thanked God for His gift.

Hours later we received a call that our 2-year-old grandson had been separated from his parents in an airport. Security joined them in looking, while we joined them in prayer. A few moments later, he was found.

For days after these two experiences, I thanked God for His intervention. However, over time I totally forgot about that day until I reread the accounts. The written record reminded me of God's personal intervention and great love. It gave me opportunity to praise God again for His care.

God longs for us to be able to be glad in good and bad times. During difficult experiences, we can choose to run to God, stand on His promises, and daily find things to praise Him for. Then, like Pollyanna, we will find gladness and healing and give hope to others. ■

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