

FLORIDA FOCUS

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Florida Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
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Encouraging Words from our President

The events of the last few weeks have changed our lives forever. Never again will we say “See you later” to a neighbor, loved one, friend, or colleague with as much certainty as before. Life is now different, the world is now different, the Church is now different, you and I are now different.



Lewis Hendershot

individual Christians. We are here to point people to Jesus, the only Hope of a world in chaos. Elder Don Schneider, our North American Division president, has sent out an appeal to all conferences in this division and through-

out the world field to formulate plans to send “missionaries” to New York City over the next few weeks and months. The Africa-Indian Ocean Division is planning to send missionaries from Africa to the United States. Isn’t it interesting how the world has changed our Church from what it once was. Now missionaries go from everywhere to everywhere. We understand that there are 53 different languages spoken in the various barrios

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Yet, God is still the same! He’s still on the throne of the universe. He was not caught off guard on September 11. His great heart of love is broken, but He is in charge of the last chapter of the great controversy. And He is still in control of my life and yours if we allow Him to be every day. You and I have been reminded once more of why we are here as a Church and as

JESUS IS COMING AGAIN—OUR NATION IS TURNING TO GOD



Gary Miles gives *Steps to Christ* to customers at the Amoco Station along Interstate 4 at Fairbanks Avenue in Winter Park where he’s worked for two years.

Gary Miles was on a mission when he came into my office. Holding a *Steps to Christ* in one hand and a laminated poster of Jesus knocking at a window in the United Nations building in the other, he said, “We need to get the word out. I’ve wanted to give out *Steps to Christ* with Harry Anderson’s 1963 artwork of Jesus knocking at the United Nations building on the cover for a long time, yet sometimes that cover was not accepted by people,” he explained. “So, I gave

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Bookmobile Manager Fred Neigel serves every area of Florida Conference five times a year on a rotating schedule.

SOLD OUT!

The tragedy of September 11 brought renewed interest in last day events. The Florida Adventist Book Center Bookmobile completely sold out of the books *Testimonies, Vol. 9* and *Last Day Events* by Ellen White.

Nationwide, the request for *Last Day*

Events has necessitated the reprinting of this book by Pacific Press Publishing Association in Nampa, Idaho.

Bookmobile Manager Fred Neigel has been taking backorders for these books to be sent to customers as soon as they arrive. Many customers

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ENCOURAGING WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

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of New York. Therefore, the appeal has been made throughout the world for help. Not only are people's hearts more open to spiritual

things in New York City, but right here in our own conference we are finding the same to be true. What an opportunity for evangelism and for sharing the wonderful message of hope that we, as Seventh-day Adventist Christians, have been given. May God bless all of us as we increase our efforts for Him as we see the Day approaching.



Available at all Book Center branches: 49¢ each or \$24.99 per 100.

JESUS IS COMING

—continued from page 1

of *Happiness Digest* or *Finding Peace Above the Storm*. Same book, different covers."

Reminded of the

horror of September 11, he pushed back the beginning of tears, then, sadness turned to joy as he told of opportunities to share God's love in the marketplace by offering copies of *Steps to Christ* to his gas station/convenience mart customers.

"At first, everybody, was emotionally strung out with the descriptions of the disaster and just focusing on what happened there. Then, as we had the national [day of remembrance] service on Friday and a day of

SOLD OUT!

—continued from page 1

expressed a sense of urgency to share these books.

The Bookmobile carries a wide selection of books and literature, vegetarian foods, videos, Bibles, and music. See calendar on page 7.

PRESSES RUN NONSTOP

New books and materials are available in-

cluding *Attack on America!* This is a condensation of the sermon by Mark Finley on September 15 at the Southern Union Conference Centennial.

Descriptions of additional books including new titles, *Where Was God?* and *The Forgotten Commandment*, can be viewed at www.adventist-fl.com/abc/ A copy of the list is also available from

your communication director or pastor.

To purchase books, call the Book Center toll-free, (800) 765-6955, or purchase online at www.adventistbookcenter.com.

There is a 25% off sale on *Spirit of Prophecy* books through the end of October.

—Gladys Neigel,
Cindy Kurtzhals,
Lee Bennett

prayer, the nation was getting into the prayer mode and back to church.

I went to the Adventist Book Center looking for books to give to customers for encouragement and support. I think it's very appropriate now to give *Steps to Christ* to people in connection with New York City and that disaster."

◆ "I've already read it," say some customers. "How so?" Miles asks. "I used to go to the Adventist Church," they answer. Inactive

members are being welcomed back to church.

◆ Miles has prayed the prayer of Jabez since he learned of it at the Men's Convention at Camp Kulaqua in March. "The Lord has really blessed me with the ability to speak to a lot of people as they come into the station each week," he says.

◆ Miles has helped a homeless couple who live under the billboard at Interstate 4 next to the station. Having taken the girl to a detoxification center

twice, he tries to help them, prays with them, and meets their needs.

◆ He talks with construction workers and bankers. An out-of-state banker setting up a branch in the area said his brother was a preacher, but it had been a long time since he had been in a church. "But since we've talked here at the station," the banker said, "I'll renew my interest in going back to church and coming back to the Lord."

—Cindy Kurtzhals

WHAT FLORIDA CHURCHES ARE DOING

Key West/Marathon/ Islamorada District— Dale Martin, pastor

- Completed a blood drive with Community Blood Centers of South Florida—donated goal of 8 units.
- Expressed patriotism by placing positive American messages on church marquees.
- Provided the opportunity for people to send funds to 9-11 Fund or the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).

Bellevue Church— Daniel Schiffbauer, pastor

- Pastor and members visited neighboring homes to pray about the recent events. Many visits were more than 20 minutes.
- The Centennial program in Atlanta could not be viewed because a storm knocked out the power. So, members shared testimonies. One told of two Adventist couples who were separated, yet they were now trying to save their marriages as a result of the events.

Celebration Church— Allan Martin, pastor

- Students from schools in Celebration, Florida, came to the flagpole in the heart of town, pic-

tured below, to pray for the nation, our leaders, and our families. Adventist parents and students participated.

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Florida Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

655 North Wymore Road
Winter Park, FL 32789-1715
Phone: (407) 644-5000
Fax: (407) 644-7550

<http://www.adventist-fl.com/>

PRESIDENT

Lewis Hendershot

COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR

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Editor, Creative Director

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Martin Butler
Writer, Photographer

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

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BOOK CENTER OFFERS WHOLESALE OPPORTUNITY



“Head ’em up, move ’em out.” Wholesale products are on their way to Avon Park.

Buying a can of Big Franks™ just got easier for members throughout the state of Florida. Sunbelt Natural Foods Distribution, a new division of the Florida Adventist Book Center, is now delivering wholesale foods throughout the state to churches, schools, institutions, and retail stores wherever items are offered for resale.

Wholesale prices now are competitive with Worthington Food pricing. In addition, bigger savings are also derived from monthly specials.

Sunbelt Natural Foods Distribution is located at the Forest Lake Book and Nutrition Center on the campus of Forest Lake Academy in Apopka.

To apply for wholesale food status, call the director, Bruce Otis, at (407) 869-9006 or by fax, (407) 869-1467.

—Gladys Neigel

Stores purchase foods based on quantity discounting which enables substantial savings to be passed on to cus-

WHO BENEFITS?

Church thrift stores, school fund raisers, retail stores, hospital and nursing home food services ...

CINDY KURTZHALS

YOUTH MINISTRY REACHES FORMER YOUNG ADVENTISTS

The Vineyard Youth Ministry, an outreach project of the Florida Hospital church, recently celebrated its first anniversary.

“For years I dreamed of a ministry that would provide a place where former Adventist youth and young adults could feel accepted and re-establish their relationship with Jesus and the

Church,” said Florida Conference Youth/Young Adult Ministries Director Bill Crofton.

Crofton’s dream was fulfilled when Richard Guerrero and a group of young people began meeting in the Orlando Junior Academy gym September 9, 2000. Guerrero is a lay pastor and coordinator of the Vineyard.

A major goal of the

Vineyard is to encourage, equip, and empower youth to become witnesses for Christ.

For more than a year they have been inviting their friends—Adventists, former Adventists, and others. At press time, Ronald Reese, below, was the latest interest to be baptized.



RON QUICK

Between 175 and 220 now attend each Sabbath. The majority are ages 18 to 35. Approximately 20 percent are former Adventists. Another 15 percent are not Adventists. Those who are parents of young children are happy that a program for children was recently started.

Evangelistic presen-

tations designed for youth began October 6 and are coordinated by Florida Conference evangelism team Bill and Sunshine Waters. The presentations continue each Sabbath at 10:45 a.m. through November 17 and will also include three Saturday evening programs.

—Richard Guerrero,
R. Lynn Sauls



BILL WATERS



RON QUICK

Young people ages 18-35 in the Orlando area who no longer attend an Adventist church will be personally invited to the October/November and January/February Vineyard evangelistic series. Send names, addresses, and phone numbers to Bill Waters, 931 N. SR 434-1201#195, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714. Voice mail: (888) 863-8425. Phone: (407) 786-3895.

WE ARE SHARING THE LOVE OF GOD, AND WE ARE GROWING!—

“We are experiencing tremendous growth,” says Cynthia Duncanson, Florida Conference director of church property development. Scores of churches and two schools have projects underway.

Duncanson counsels churches regarding the acquisition, construction, or disposal of property to assure that legal requirements are met, practical considerations are dealt with, and that adequate financing is available before commitments are made. She also assists congregations with rental lease agreements prior to construction.

She will conduct a *Church Property Development Seminar* at Camp Meeting on Sunday, May 26, 2002.

—Lynn Oliver Huff

Churches Under Construction or Waiting for Certificate of Occupancy

- Apopka Highland
- Avon Park Spanish
- Bethel French
- Northwest Dade
- Palm Coast
- Poinciana Spanish
- Port Charlotte
- West Palm Beach First

Church/School Construction Plans

- 8 churches are currently under construction
- 14 churches are planning new construction
- 8 churches are planning expansions
- 1 school is remodeling and expanding
- 2 schools are in planning stages

KENDALL

Kendall church Pastor Carlton Anderson, contributing church members, and Florida Conference administrators pushed their shovels into the 2.85-acre property on SW 127th Avenue at 190th Street, breaking ground in preparation of a new home for members of the Kendall church.

Construction is scheduled to begin January 1, 2002 and members hope to occupy the new facility in June 2002.

The congregation’s history began Thanksgiving Sabbath, 1986. The parent Miami Temple church board

gave its blessing to 75 members to begin meeting at the Arvida Middle School in Kendall. Miami Temple’s senior pastor, Dan Bentzinger, would also serve Kendall.

Toward the end of 1987 when Horace Walsh was serving as pastor, the Kendall members were looking for a more appropriate meeting location when they learned that the school was doubling the rent. They soon relocated to the Sunset Park Church of God where they met for more than 10 years. During this time, the Kendall congregation organized from company to church status.

In the summer of 1998, the Church of

God informed Kendall members that the budget was changing and the rent would be increased significantly. Although the Kendall church had explored the possibility of purchasing property in the past, this rent increase made finding property a priority. In the interim, they returned to a school auditorium—the South Miami Heights Elementary School—where they are currently meeting.

Many properties were located, considered, and subsequently abandoned for a variety of reasons. One lot was intersected by a railroad line. The church won a bid to purchase a tract on another piece of property



PHOTOS: A. LEE BENNETT, JR.

yet lost it when a bid was placed to buy the entire property as a whole. A down payment was made on another site which Hurricane Andrew later rendered unusable. Still another lot that was actually purchased had to be sold because a zoning application was lost.

The congregation was excited to learn on Christmas day, 1998, that the 127th Avenue property was available. Although zoning was approved a year later, local residents filed an appeal to revoke the application. In September 2000, Dade County ruled in favor of the church and the property was purchased in

October 2000. Contractor bidding commenced this summer.

The groundbreaking ceremony, held August 26, was attended by approximately 130 members and guests. They included Kendall’s parent church pastor, Bob Boggess of Miami Temple; former Kendall pastors Dan Bentzinger, Cornelius Gray, Horace Walsh, and Philip Hosten; Frank Mora, legislative assistant, from the Office of the State District #118; and Florida Conference President Lewis Hendershot, Secretary Evan Valencia, and Treasurer Randee Reynolds.

—Leon Hanna,
Lee Bennett



PEM-MAR

The Pem-Mar church broke ground April 1 for its new building on an 8.75-acre plot of land at the corner of Davie Road Extension and N.W. 74th Avenue in Davie. The first phase of this three-million-dollar church is a multi-purpose building designed to house 700 people.

Construction will begin in November. The whole facility should be completed by October 2003.

The Pem-Mar church was established in December 1991 to service the burgeoning Caribbean community in the cities of Miramar, Pembroke Pines,

Hollywood, and Davie. Endeavoring to fulfill its Biblical mandate that the church be a "house of prayer for all peoples," the Pem-Mar church services are tailored to meet the needs of its Caribbean, American, and Latin-American members. The congregation now worships at the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Davie Road Extension and N.W. 75th Avenue in Hollywood.

Florida Conference President Lewis Hendershot said in his keynote address, "Building churches to spread the good news of salvation is the Christian's God-given commission. Therefore, the Conference

commits its resources to assist Pem-Mar members in building a church on this beautiful parcel of land."

Area community leaders, Councilwoman Susan Starkey of the town of Davie, and Commissioner Fitzroy Salesman of the city of Miramar commended the Pem-Mar congregation on its ambitious enterprise. Both pledged their support for the church's effort as it seeks to put back moral fiber in today's society of diminishing moral and spiritual values.

Representatives of



Right to left, Pastor Lewis Hendershot, Dr. Cornelius Gray, Councilwoman Susan Starkey, and John Gelpin, head elder.

Kendall, Maranatha, Norland, and North Miami churches joined Pem-Mar members in the groundbreaking.

Dr. Cornelius Gray, the pastor of the Pem-Mar church, delineated the mission of the church as the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ which

translates into helping people find Christ-directed meaning for their lives. He emphasized youth-uplifting activities, assisting new immigrants settling in South Florida, and feeding the hungry and those in need throughout the community.

—Cornelius Gray

PORT CHARLOTTE DOUBLES ITS SIZE

The Port Charlotte church embarked on a building expansion and remodeling project in February.

When the project is completed, the sanctuary will be twice the original size and will

seat up to 600 people. The chancel area is designed to seat a 45-voice choir.

Also included in the construction project is the addition of a fellowship hall and more classrooms.

The walls are now

complete and the roof trusses are scheduled to be in place by the middle of October.

Construction is planned to be completed by the end of February 2002.

—Lynn Oliver Huff



The Port Charlotte church at 2036 Loveland Blvd.

WHO'S GOING TO BAPTIZE ME?



When Rachel Torres, age 11, had to choose who should baptize her on July 7 at the Orlando Central church, it wasn't an easy decision. "Everywhere I turn, I

have an uncle who is a pastor," she says.

She chose her Uncle Louis Torres, North American Division evangelist. He had performed her parents' wedding as well as Rachel's baby dedication.

Because Pastor Torres lives in South Dakota and Rachel lives in Florida, they studied via e-mail and telephone. Thirty-seven family members from as far away as Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania came to the church to celebrate Rachel's baptism.

—Eva Torres

Ministerial Association

To help acquaint Florida members with the scope of ministry, helps, and resources available to them from the various Conference departments, most issues of Florida Focus will contain a departmental report or summary.

Florida Conference's new ministerial plan (see *Florida Focus*, January–February 2001) includes a vice president for administration/ministerial and three ministerial field secretaries.

Kenneth Burrill, former pastor of the Tampa First church, was voted as vice president by the Florida Conference Executive Committee on January 30. His responsibilities include: caring for administrative issues with pastors and churches; pastoral placements and transfers; conflict management; guidance of ministerial interns; coordination of pastors' continuing education; and maintaining a pastoral database.

This year, three ministerial field secretaries were voted by the Executive Committee: Tim Nichols, voted May 22 for the East Central, West Central, and Ridge Regions; Abel Paulin, also voted May 22 for the Upper Gold and Lower Gold Regions; and Marvin Williams, voted July 29 for the Gulf and North Regions. Nichols most recently served as pastor at the Orlando Central church, Paulin at the Winter Park Spanish church, and Williams at the Ft. Myers church/Lehigh Acres company district.

The field secretaries' responsibilities include: serving as a counselor/advocate for pastors; providing nurture to pastoral fami-



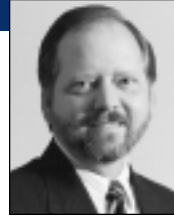
Kenneth Burrill, vice president for administration/ministerial

lies and spiritual encouragement for pastors; meeting with church boards to ascertain felt needs and reporting those needs to the vice president; assisting with conflict resolution; and helping with evangelism and church growth plans/strategic planning.

ORDINATIONS

Each year, an average of seven candidates are ordained to the pastoral ministry in Florida Conference. As part of the ordination service, the minister covenants before God that he will faithfully

MINISTERIAL FIELD SECRETARIES



Tim Nichols



Abel Paulin



Marvin Williams

execute the duties and responsibilities of this sacred office.

Since January 1, 2000, 39 ministers have accepted the invitation to serve in Florida Conference. Sixteen others have retired, transferred to another conference, or for personal reasons, entered other employment.

CONTINUING EDUCATION/ PROFESSIONAL ENRICHMENT

Florida Conference has two educational tracks which provide an opportunity for pastors to enrich their ministerial skills. The Continuing Education track affords the pastor an opportunity to work toward an Advanced Academic degree. At present, approximately 25 to 30 pastors are taking advantage of this opportunity.

The Professional Enrichment track is designed to enhance pastoral skills by offering a variety of workshops and seminars that meet the specific needs of the pastor. This track also affords the pastor an opportunity for overseas travel that is of an educational nature. The

Conference assists monetarily in each of these programs.

CHURCH SEES RAPID GROWTH

God has miraculously blessed His people! Every 30 seconds, somewhere in the world, a new member joins the Seventh-day Adventist Church. New churches are being established at the rate of one every 4 hours, and we now have established work in 204 of the 228 countries recognized by the United Nations. Our pioneers would find this unbelievable!

When the Church was organized in 1863, there were 30 pastors and 3,500 members living primarily in the Northeastern part of the United States. Today, membership has reached 12 million. We have become one of the most widespread Protestant churches in the world. *General Conference Office of Archives and Statistics.*

These accomplishments are due, in part, to the dedicated leadership of men and women who have responded to God's call to enter the gospel ministry. Many have



"The mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is to teach people of all nations the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ and the commandments of God."

Calendar of Events



built with the express purpose of fulfilling this mission.

The ministerial work

served in the homeland and still others have followed in the footsteps of John Nevins Andrews, our first foreign missionary.

The mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is to teach people of all nations the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ and the commandments of God. Every organization within the Church structure—every school, every hospital, and every church—is

in Florida began 108 years ago with three ordained ministers and 139 church members. Today, Florida Conference membership approaches 50,000. There are 178 churches, 21 companies, and a ministerial workforce of almost 200 pastors and associate pastors.

Young pastors are attracted to Florida Conference where 20 ministerial interns serve in various churches. Graduates

from the seminary come to this field having completed the academic work required for the Master of Divinity (M.Div.) degree. They have finished 144 hours of class work at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

This seminary study program includes courses in Greek, Hebrew, Systematic Theology, Medieval History, Ethics, Theology and Philosophy, and Eschatology, to mention just a few. This wide range of biblical studies enables the students to have a better understanding of the Word of God and to more effectively articulate the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Complete calendar online: <http://www.adventist-fl.com/calendar.html>
Florida Pathfinder Events: <http://www.floridapathfinders.com/>
Singles' Ministries Events not in this calendar: (386) 789-3235, or djm4000@n-jcenter.com

NOVEMBER

- Singles' Ministries Spiritual Renewal Bible Study.** Every Friday evening. Forest Lake church community services building, back room. 7 p.m. Details: Diane Miller, (386) 789-3235.
- Evangelistic Series.** Nov. 2-30. South Orlando. Mark and Sarah Swearingen.
- Florida Adventist Bookmobile.** Shop online: www.adventist-fl.com/abc/ or order by e-mail: FloridaABC@southernunion.com
- Nov. 3. Key West.
 Nov. 4. Marathon, Islamorada, Key Largo, Homestead.
 Nov. 10. St. Petersburg.
 Nov. 11. Clearwater, New Port Richey, Spring Hill, Brooksville, East Pasco in Zephyrhills, Plant City.
 Nov. 17. West Palm Beach.
 Nov. 18. Jensen Beach, Ft. Pierce, Melbourne, Cocoa, Titusville.
 Dec. 1. Port Charlotte.
 Dec. 2. North Port, Venice-Nokomis, Sarasota, Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.
 Dec. 8. Maranatha in Miami.
 Dec. 9. Plantation, Lauderhill.
 Dec. 15. Jacksonville Southpoint.
 Dec. 16. Jacksonville First, Jacksonville Mandarin, St. Augustine, Palatka, Palm Coast.
- Sixth Annual Ft. Lauderdale Church Health Fair.** Nov. 4. Ft. Lauderdale church. 850 W. Davie Blvd. Noon-5 p.m. Details: (954) 523-8334. Map available at <http://www.adventist-fl.com/churchmaps/>
- Collegiate Youth Retreat.** Nov. 9-11. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: (407) 644-5000 x129.
- Ocala Church 75th Anniversary.** Nov. 10. Sabbath morning and afternoon programs. Theme: "A Time of Reflection." Details: Herb Pritchard, herbjudypr@aol.com. Map available at <http://www.adventist-fl.com/churchmaps/>
- Bradenton Church 50th Anniversary Celebration and Mortgage Burning.** Nov. 10. 11 a.m. Details: Clarence Pillsbury, (941) 723-2835. Map available at <http://www.adventist-fl.com/churchmaps/>
- Singles' Ministries Fellowship Dinners.** Note Kress/Markham Woods switch.
- Nov. 10. Forest Lake. Dec. 8. Forest Lake.
 Nov. 17. Kress Memorial. Dec. 15. Kress Memorial.
 Nov. 24. Markham Woods. Dec. 22. Markham Woods.
- Singles' Ministries Thanksgiving Dinner.** Nov. 21. Ryan's Steakhouse, S.R. 436, Apopka. Details: Diane Miller, (386) 789-3235.
- Hispanic Family Camp.** Nov. 21-25. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details/registration: (386) 454-1351, <http://www.campkulaqua.com/> or sdacamps@campkulaqua.com
- Portuguese-language Camp Meeting.** Nov. 22-25. Pine Lake Retreat, Groveland. Details: (386) 454-1351.
- Singles' Ministries Game and Social Night.** Nov. 24, Dec. 22. Orlando Junior Academy gymnasium. Time: approximately on the half hour after sundown. Details: Diane Miller, (386) 789-3235.
- ## DECEMBER
- West Coast Area-wide Youth Outdoor Celebration.** Dec. 1. Sawgrass Lake Park during daytime. Vespers/social program, Treasure Island beaches. St. Petersburg. Details: Mark Schiefer, (727) 360-5826.
- Singles' Ministries Christmas Party.** Dec. 15. Forest Lake church youth center. 6:15 p.m. \$17/person. Reservations required. Details: Carol Pisarek, (407) 869-1264.
- Singles' Ministries Annual New Year's Retreat.** Dec. 28, 2001-Jan. 1, 2002. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Cost varies depending on accommodations. Registration: (386) 454-1351.

—A. Lee Bennett, Jr.

THE EVIDENCE HOSTED BY DWIGHT NELSON NOW SEEN THROUGHOUT FLORIDA

IN FLORIDA

ALL BROADCASTS
 ARE ON SATURDAY
 AT 5PM ON THE
 WACX SUPERCHANNEL

CRYSTAL RIVER
 CHANNEL 49

DAYTONA BEACH/
 LEESBURG/TITUSVILLE
 CHANNEL 55

GAINESVILLE
 CHANNEL 69

LAKELAND/WINTER HAVEN
 CHANNEL 14

ORLANDO
 CHANNEL 55

TALLAHASSEE
 CHANNEL 9



SATELLITE NETWORKS

COURT TV—SUNDAY	SAFETY
2PM EASTERN/PACIFIC	(PART OF SKYANGEL)
1PM CENTRAL/MOUNTAIN	SATURDAY
	4PM / 8:30PM EASTERN
HALLMARK—MONDAY	3PM / 7:30PM CENTRAL
7AM EASTERN/PACIFIC	2PM / 6:30PM MOUNTAIN
6AM CENTRAL/MOUNTAIN	1PM / 5:30PM PACIFIC

**INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO WATCH
 FAITH FOR TODAY'S NEWEST PROGRAM**

STAFF CHANGES



GREATER MIAMI ACADEMY PRINCIPAL

Roland McKenzie was voted principal of Greater Miami Academy in Miami by the K-12 Board of Education on April 29, 2001. McKenzie previously

served one year as principal of Jacksonville Junior Academy and nine years as chairperson of the Oakwood College education department in Huntsville, Alabama.

He replaces Violet Weiss, now retired, who served as interim principal during the 2000-2001 school year.

ESTATE SERVICES FIELD REPRESENTATIVE



Gus Scheuneman was voted as an estate services field representative by the Executive Committee on July 29, 2001. Scheuneman most recently pastored the Winter Springs church for seven years.

WHAT CHURCHES ARE DOING

—continued from page 2

Youth/Young Adult Ministries/South Florida

- The TeleMundo Television Network invited Sergio Torres, associate director, to serve on a panel for a 30-minute program to give a spiritual perspective on the terrorist attacks. TeleMundo is the second largest Hispanic TV network in the United States and includes an international signal which reaches all Latin America, Europe, and

wherever the signal reaches. This opportunity was made possible by a TeleMundo producer, Ronald Lizardo. Torres and Lizardo are members of the New Community Church.

Ft. Lauderdale Spanish— Freddy Sosa, pastor

- Hosted a blood drive on September 29.

Eden Church— Michel Porcena, pastor

- At press time, a blood drive was scheduled for October 6.



FLORIDA CONFERENCE

OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
P.O. BOX 2626
WINTER PARK, FL 32790-2626
(407) 644-5000
FAX: (407) 644-7550
WEB: <http://www.adventist-fl.com/>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

JULY 29, 2001

INVITED Ft. Myers church/Lehigh Acres company district Pastor Marvin Williams to serve as one of three ministerial field secretaries. *See page 6.*

VOTED the following pastor transitions:

- Carlos Bence from Central California Conference to Winter Park Spanish.
- Orlando Lopez, Sr. from Hialeah Spanish to Miami Central Spanish.
- Osvaldo Olivencia from Forest City Spanish associate pastor to Apopka Spanish senior pastor.
- Ric Pleasants from Forest Lake associate pastor to Winter Springs senior

pastor.

- Art Stagg from Sarasota to East Pasco in Zephyrhills.
 - Isaac Suarez from Miami Central Spanish to Forest City Spanish.
 - Israel Vásquez from Deltona Spanish to Wimauma Spanish and Palmetto-Tampa Spanish.
- APPROVED** the recommendation of the Pathfinder Advisory Committee (PAC) to add two new levels of attainment: Pioneer (grade 10) and Navigator (grade 11). Also **APPROVED** the new eTracker category of the Pathfinder program which includes grades 5 through 8.

INVITED Markham Woods church member Melvin Liwag to serve as Varsity Pathfinder director (grades 9 through 12). Liwag previously served as Central Area Pathfinder Coordinator.

INVITED Windermere church members Rich and Connie Bradley to serve as Central Area Pathfinder Coordinators.

ORGANIZED the Caanan company in Deerfield Beach to church status.

ORGANIZED the Haines City Spanish and South Orlando Spanish mission groups to company status, both sponsored by the Kissimmee Spanish church.

Florida Conference church maps are up to date and online:

<http://www.adventist-fl.com/churchmaps/>

Miami Temple Church— Robert Boggess, pastor

- OPERATION 9-11, October 20, 7 p.m. Featuring Speaking Hands, Divine Praise, and more. Sponsored by ADRA.

Forest Lake Church— Terry Pooler, pastor

- Teen Talk held September

14. Teens made posters of hope for members to see upon arriving at church on Sabbath. A candlelight vigil and multimedia presentation followed. "Students came scared and confused, but left with hope and peace," said Youth/Young Adult

Pastor Jeff Gang, Apopka Highland Church— John Appel, pastor

- Prayer vigil on September 11 was announced on local television and radio stations—250 attended.

—compiled by
Cindy Kurtzhals

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