

SKETCHES



S.W.A.T. EVANGELISM

VOLUME 28 / ISSUE 1 / JAN-MAR 2009

2 *Evangelism 2.0*

3 *Evangelism: Workers Wanted*

4 *S.W.A.T. Evangelism*

5 *Community Evangelism*

5 *Church Leaders Gear Up for Year of Evangelism*

6 *New Leadership at Mt. Sinai Jr. Academy*



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Editor

Evangelism 2.0

Wintley Phipps, pastor of the Palm Bay Church, recently had the opportunity to perform the Negro spiritual "Amazing Grace" to more than four million people in the most unlikely of places — YouTube™. The video was posted on the popular video sharing web site by a young woman that goes by the screen name hoover4000. She writes on her profile, "Of all the videos that I have posted, Phipps' is the most popular."

She began posting religious videos two years ago. To date, she has posted 979 religious videos. Phipps performed that rendition of "Amazing Grace" during a Gaither gospel program that was held at Carnegie Hall to honor the individuals who died September 11, 2001.

Since its posting on January 4, 2007, the video has been viewed by 4,801,906 views, and 1,548 individuals have posted how the video has impacted them. One viewer wrote, "No words to describe this video. I simply wept with my heart throbbing and bursting with joy. God bless Phipps with more grace to sing more. Oh, I could see his burning passion that radiated through his golden smile. Oh, Phipps, God bless you."

As a result, Phipps has received hundreds of invitations to perform around the world, and scores of individuals have begun attending his church in Palm Bay, Florida. "That experience has changed my outlook on evangelism," states Phipps. He added, "We must figure out how to creatively leverage the Internet as a tool for evangelism."

This story represents a new form of evangelism the makes use of digital technologies to spread the gospel in this post modern era. I have coined the term "Evangelism 2.0" to describe it. Ellen White has encouraged us to seek out need methods by which we can make the gospel more appealing and accessible. She states, "Let the workers for God manifest tact and talent, and originate devices (technology) by which to communicate light to those who are near and to those who are afar off" The Voice in Speech and Song, p.282.





Barna Research Group predicts that by the end of the decade, upwards of 100 million Americans will rely on the Internet to deliver some aspect of their religious experience and 50 million will seek to have their religious experience solely through the Internet rather than at a brick-and-mortar church. Currently, a greater number of adults, 67 percent (141 million), experience their Christian faith through Christian media than do attend church, 64 percent (132 million).

While traditional forms of evangelism are still viable, their effectiveness has waned over the years. As we focus on evangelism, let us keep in mind that we must change how we deliver the gospel today. It is imperative that we conduct evangelism in both the online and offline spaces. Just as Jesus did, we must meet the church seekers where they are.

Toward that end, the Southeastern Conference will make use of Social Media to enhance its communication and evangelism efforts. Wikipedia™ defines social media as information content created by people using highly accessible and scalable publishing technologies. At its most basic sense, social media is a shift in how people discover, read and share news, information and content.

We are now on the popular social networking sites - Facebook™ and Twitter™. Wikipedia™ defines Social Networking as a service that focuses on building online communities of people who share interests and/or activities, or who are interested in exploring the interests and activities of others.

We have enhanced Sketches Interactive be adding the following social bookmarking services to the site:

 Delicious,  Digg,  Newsvine,  Reddit. Wikipedia™ defines social bookmarking as a method for Internet users to store, organize, search, and manage bookmarks of web pages on the Internet. And for video and photo sharing we are on YouTube™, Mogulus™ and Flickr™.

This year Sketches will focus on evangelism. If you are participating in some form of evangelism, either traditional or innovative, or have an innovative evangelistic idea, I encourage you to share it with us at sketches@secsda.org.



The following Icons indicate additional on-line content.



Southeastern is now on Twitter.
Follow us at www.twitter.com/secsda

It's Reaping Time



The year 2009 has been designated as the Year of Pastoral and Lay Evangelism by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. The NAD has set a goal to baptize 100,000 new members in North America.

Recently, I was afforded the great privilege of observing a committed band of workers while attending the 7th Leadership Summit that convened at the Lake Buena Vista Hotel and Spa February 6 to 8.

2009 Year of Pastor / Lay EVANGELISM



Each One Reach One
SOUTHERN UNION

They could have been anywhere else, but they chose to attend the training in order that they may be better prepared to do what God has called them to do, which is to lead others to Christ.

No matter what department they represented, they listened to some inspiring presentations, all with the focus of encouraging us to be leaders in our spheres.

In his opening address, Dr. Jessie Wilson, keynote speaker for this year's summit, used an apt illustration to liken us to distributors connecting people with a demand...to know the Savior who loves them and died for them, with the Supply... the One Who can supply all their needs according to His riches in glory!!

We were reminded that the harvest is ripe, and in need of reapers. This fact should fill us with awe as we anticipate the day when we will give account for the time we have been allotted in this life.

I ask you? Will you be welcomed into your heavenly home for having faithfully executed our responsibilities to those who have lost their way? Or will you be cursed into an everlasting fire, unfit to see our Savior's face because of your neglect of duty?

Dr. Wilson also warned us that there is a fire on the mountains and it is barreling down! What we do to rescue souls we must do expeditiously or some will be lost! We must put aside those weights that so easily beset us and get in the way of the weightier matters being accomplished. While we wait, there are souls going to Christless graves.

Additionally, he stated that we need not make excuses for our seeming inabilities, or because of our past. God can use anyone who is willing to be used; anyone who has a passion for souls; anyone who is excited and ignited! Our equipment and success come not by might nor by power, but through the Holy Spirit.

I have set a goal for Southeastern to baptize 10 percent of our current membership. To achieve this goal, I have encouraged every pastor to conduct at least 2 evangelistic campaigns this year. I have also challenged every conference ministry leader to conduct at least 1 evangelistic campaign. I now challenge every member in Southeastern to participate in some form of evangelism.

I want to share with you some of my closing statements that I made at the closing session of this year's Leadership Summit:

Everyone who has received Christ has the responsibility to work for the salvation of souls....It is a responsibility; not an option.

The finishing of the work of God on earth will only be accomplished as the men and women who comprise the church unite with ministers and church officers and rally to the task. This is synergy!

When we engage in the work of soul winning, we have the commitment of angels. They are waiting to cooperate with us; all we have to do is tell them what we need for each task!

The success of this weekend will only be evident when we return to our churches and implement what we have been taught; when we begin to win the world for Christ, one neighbor at a time.

I encourage all of you to join forces with your pastors to evangelize your communities. May your prayer be - Lord, lay some soul upon my heart; And love that soul through me. And may I always do my part; to win that soul for Thee.



Hubert J. Morel Jr.
SEC President

S.W.A.T. EVANGELISM

BY ANSEL OLIVER *Printed with permission of Adventist News Network.*

Patrick Vincent's SWAT, or Soul Winning Action Teams, will do almost anything to get people to church for the first time. The Adventist pastor with a passion for evangelism then caters Sabbath services to those first-time churchgoers, many of whom end up joining his Florida congregation.

Pastor Patrick Vincent was once so desperate for his parishioners to evangelize their unchurched friends that he resorted to paying them.

The episode is one he now remembers with some embarrassment, but his passion for evangelism led him to keep seeking new ideas. Twenty years ago, he finally discovered a successful method, one that in eight years has helped the Mount Calvary Adventist Church in Tampa, Florida grow its membership beyond building capacity: SWAT teams.

An acronym for Soul Winning Action Teams, the concept is an encompassing system of church member teams doing -- within reason -- anything they can to get people to church for the first time. While the church service is nourishing to existing members, most of its elements are designed for first-time attendees (from the carefully selected and trained greeter at the door to the sermon's closing words).

Some leaders, both at the Adventist Church's world headquarters and the administrative office for the Southern United States, have used the SWAT method, calling it a "natural way of accomplishing church growth." While they agree that not every church needs Sabbath afternoon training for evangelism teams, leaders say a healthy church has a plan for witnessing in place.

Vincent, 60, who holds a doctorate in preaching and worship from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, is known to sometimes get so excited while preaching that he takes off his shoes. He says it increases blood flow, helping him to think better.

He granted a series of interviews with Adventist News Network on the need for SWAT teams and who they have in their crosshairs. (For even more details, catch his seminar) Some excerpts:

Adventist News Network: Why do you send out SWAT teams?

Vincent: The primary focus of the gospel is that sinners be brought to Christ. The Bible gives instruction to go to the field. There is not one instruction for the lost to come to the church.

ANN: Many churches rely on a pastor to conduct evangelism. Why do you have these teams partnering with you?

Vincent: The basic reason people come in the front door and go out the back door is the masses of the membership have very little or nothing to do with people coming into the church. But if people are active in bringing people to the church, it represents their time, their blood, their sweat, their tears, their fasting, their sacrifice. As soon as they're missed, they're

going to go look for them. But if you sit in church and someone joins and you have no investment in that person, if they're missing, you're not really motivated to do it.

ANN: Who are you trying to get your SWAT teams bringing to church? Vincent: Our focus is non-Adventists from other churches. We don't seek to build our church from people who are already Adventists. Our goal is not transfer growth. Our real focus is on conversion growth -- people who are just doctrinally converted. Secondly, we focus on original conversion -- people who have never accepted Jesus as their savior. We find that's the largest number of people who are out there.

ANN: What percentage of your church members are on a SWAT team?

Vincent: It's about 10 percent who are actively engaged.

ANN: Why do you have your SWAT team members contribute \$5 for each week's training?

Vincent: Well because of the fact that the Bible says wherever a man's treasure is that's where his heart is.



More on-line



Serving God Through Community Evangelism

By Millicent Taylor

In an effort to bond and interact with the community the Perrine Church, through the community service department, led by Brenda Griffin, held its second annual community round table forum, entitled “Investing in the Future of our community,” on December 11, 2008. During the event community leaders of groups and organizations such as the Goulds Coalition of Ministers and Lay Persons, Citizens Crime Watch, Community Partners for the Homeless, and Community Action Center-Self Help presented pertinent information to several community guests as well as church members.



Community leaders discuss the issues that are facing Perrine and how they are addressing them.

Each presenter explained the platform of their organization and then entered into dialogue with those present. For those present it was an eye opening presentation. The discussions gave listeners an opportunity to understand how much assistance is available to those in need.

Additionally, Perrine realized just how much more involved it must become in community work. “Our presence must be seen and felt, just as Jesus’ presence was felt while He walked among men,” stated one church member.

Perrine’s goal for 2009 is to make a difference in the community. By catering first to the physical needs of the community, everything else will fall into place.

The speaker on Sabbath was David Peay, Southeastern Conference director of community services. In his sermon, titled “Hurry Up and Eat,” he explained that the Southeastern Conference is instituting the Joseph Principle.

Joseph interpreted Pharaoh’s dreams and was made second in command in Egypt. He stored up enough food to feed the people.



David Peay preaches to the members of Perrine.

It is estimated, that globally, by 2010 thirty percent of the population will be unemployed. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is aiming to be ready when the world calls for people to be fed.

Peay made it clear that community service is not only for older church members but everyone must be involved in taking care of others. He shouted, “Serving God pays, God will give you more than you gave.”

He concluded by saying, “When we serve God He is faithful to us.” Community Service is doing what God has called us to do. He questioned, “Are you willing to look pass everything and take care of others?”



Church Leaders Gear Up for Year of Evangelism

By Robert Henley

More than 900 church officers converged on the Lake Buena Vista Palace in Orlando, Fla. for the 7th Annual Southeastern Conference Leadership Summit, which was held on February 6-8, 2009. The annual event provides newly and re-elected church leaders with essential training to function in their local churches.

The focus of the 2009 Leadership summit was the NAD Year of Evangelism initiative. The initiative calls for every pastor and laymen to participate in evangelism with a goal of baptizing one hundred thousand new individuals into the Adventist church in North America.

The three day event contained workshops for 25 church ministries. Jessie Wilson, D.Min., professor of Religion at

Oakwood University, served as the keynote speaker for the event. Other presenters included: Faith Crumbly, NAD Sabbath school director; Nancy Lamoureux, NAD information technology ministries director; Monica Asbury, Adventist Risk Management; Paul Kim, NAD television and film producer; Todd Mace, Southern Union information technology ministries director; Richard Smith, Southern Union publishing ministry director; George



Robert Henley

Jessie Wilson, professor of religion at Oakwood University, challenges the more than 900, attendees to be intentional about evangelism.

Johnson, NAD associate communication director.

Sherri Grace, communication director for the Mt. Sinai church had this to say about the Leadership Summit, “I truly enjoyed the leadership summit. The information that I gleaned from the presenters was invaluable.”

Due to the economic dilemma that the U.S. is facing, event organizers anticipated only 400 attendees. When asked about the 900 plus attendees, Hubert Morel, SEC president had this to say, “Our constituents are excited about finishing the work.”

Next year’s summit is scheduled for the weekend of February 12–14. The focus will be on new member retention.





New Leadership

at Mt. Sinai Jr. Academy

BY BETTY F. NUGENT

When the doors of the Mt. Sinai Junior Academy in Orlando, Fla. opened on August 11, 2008 the students were greeted by a new leader.

Toni Denise Drummond was invited by the School Board of Mt. Sinai and the Board of Education of Southeastern to take the helm for the 2008-2009 school year.

Drummond succeeds Brenda Cowan, who had been the principal for six years. Cowan has accepted the position of principal at Alcy Junior Academy in Memphis, Tenn.

In addition to her leadership at MSJA, Cowan will be remembered for

her creative adventures during the conference wide Outdoor Education each year.

Realizing that she is stepping into "gigantic shoes," Drummond is not daunted. She assured the teachers, "I am confident that if we all work in one accord with the single goal of educating children for God's Kingdom, He will give us all the strength that we stand in need of."

When asked to administer the school program for the new school year, Drummond reflected on her years of educational preparation at Oakwood University where she receive a B.S. in Education and Nova Southeastern University, where she received an M.A. in administration. Despite this excellent preparation, Drummond realizes that the wisdom

to lead Mt. Sinai into the spiritual, scholastic, and technological realm it needs to be can only come from the Author of Education, Our God in Heaven.

Mt. Sinai has installed a new School Board chair, as well, in the person of Lily James, Ph.D. James is not new to this post. She served as chair before the school moved into the current building, and therefore knows the challenges faced by this new appointment. With more than 30 years of leadership roles in the church and in the field of education, James accepts the challenges in stride.

The goal of Drummond, James, and the staff of MSJA is that the students receive a true education.

For more information about Mt. Sinai, visit www.msjacademy.org.



NEWSbrief

- The SEC Executive Committee voted to ordain the following pastors:
 - Brian McKinney, pastor of the Grace Fellowship Church of Valdosta, GA and the Refuge Temple Church of Lakeland, GA
 - Christopher A. Paul, pastor of the Berean Church of Brunswick, GA and the Maranatha Church of Waycross, GA
 - Gerly Germaine, pastor of the Bethanie Church of Tampa, Fla. and the Baraca Church of Brandentin, Fla.
 - Martin C. Powell, Jr., pastor of the Berea Church of St. Augustine, Fla. and the First Coast International Church of Jacksonville, Fla.
 - Roosevelt Alexis, pastor of the Bethlehem and Ebenezer churches, of Pompano Beach, Fla.

The Ordination Service will be held during the final weekend of camp meeting, June 27, 2009.

- The First SDA Church of Royal Palm Beach, Fla. has changed its name to the First SDA Church of Loxahatchee Grove.
- The Executive Committee voted the following additions to the Board of Education: Lily James, Ph.D., of the Mt. Sinai Church, as a resource representative and Walter Reddick, of the Mt. Calvary Church, as a parent representative.
- Under the leadership of David Noel Sr., the Salem Church of Homestead, Fla. and the Ephese Church of Kendal, Fla. have merged to form the Trinite Church. The consolidation has built a stronger congregation.
- Roland Brise, pastor of the Smyrne Church of Winter Haven, Fla. has been assigned to the Ebenezer Church of Bartow, Fla.

- Dione Henry, pastor of the Ridge Area Church of Avon Park, has been assigned to the All Nations Church of Winter Haven, Fla.
- Camp meeting 2009 is scheduled for June 18-27, 2009. This year's theme is "It's Reaping Time." Opening services will be on Thursday June 18 at 7 p.m.

Adult Pavilion Speakers are:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| First Weekend | Dr. Glenn Samuels, Executive Secretary of West Indies Union. |
| Second Weekend | Dr. Emil Peeler, Church Growth Director/ Conference Evangelist, Southeastern California Conference. |

Youth Pavilion Speakers are:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| First Weekend | Antwoyne Mellis, Pastor of the Perrine and Mission Station Churches. |
| Second Weekend | Rupert Bushner, Chaplain Oakwood University |

- Pastor Amos Bossous has retired after serving the church for more than 46 years. He was the pastor of the Bon Samaritan and Sychar churches of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla..
- Raymond Saunders has retired after serving the church as a pastor and a conference and union evangelist. He was the pastor of the Ewing Memorial Church of Lakeland, Fla. and the Emmanuel Church of Plant City, Fla.
- For the first time in the 11 year history of the SEC Spelling there was a tie. Danelle Richard from Broward Junior Academy and Marshley Registe from Miami Union Academy were the last two standing after 60 rounds of competition.



Sketches Interactive

CONTENT ONLINE

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www.secsda.org/sketches

SketchesOnline

Wintley Phipps sings Amazing Grace at the Inauguration
America's Invisible Generation
Repositioning Southeastern for Evangelism
Adventist church official named Jamaica's new governor general
Adventist Church assisting in aftermath of Costa Rican quake
Honor Students Tour Federal Reserve
Perrine Member Elected Officer of the Year

SketchCast

SEC Youth Ministries Makes Donation to the Covenant House
Wintley Phipps Performs Amazing Grace at the Inauguration
Don Schneider Interviews Barry Black



SEC Leadership Summit 2009
SEC Workers Meeting
SEC Pathfinder Federation
SEC Hispanic Leadership Summit
Robert Falkenberg Discusses the State of the Adventist Church



Share your comments in the blog center



Content On-The-Go

Calendar of Events

Complete Calendar online

DATE	DESCRIPTION
Jan. 17-24	NAD Religious Liberty Week
Jan. 18-21	NAD Ministries Convention, Myrtle Beach, NC
Jan. 23-24	SEC Youth Convocation, Orlando, Fla.
Jan. 30-Feb. 7	NAD & IAD Health Summit, Orlando, Fla.
Feb. 2-4	SEC Workers Meeting, Orlando, Fla.
Feb. 6-8	SEC Leadership Summit, Orlando, Fla.
Feb. 14-21	NAD Christian Home & Marriage Week
Feb. 27-28	SEC Haitian Family Ministries Certification Training
March 13-15	SEC Master Guide Retreat, Hawthorne, Fla.
April 4	Church School Rally Day, New Hope SDA Church Conference-wide Science Fair
April 9-11	Oakwood University Alumni Weekend
April 17-19	Youth Enrichment Conference, Hawthorne, Fla.
April 18	Union-Wide Education Day
May 1-3	MC Strachan Youth Federation, Lakeland, Fla.
May 8-10	SEC Prayer Convention Oakwood University Graduation
May 16	Miami Union Academy Graduation
May 29-31	SEC Principals' Retreat
June 10-27	SEC Prayer & Fasting
June 18-27	SEC Camp Meeting
July 5-25	SEC Summer Camp, Hawthorne, Fla.
July 6-17	SEC Teachers' Summer Institute
July 30-Aug. 2	SEC Women's Ministries Conference
Aug. 2-4	SEC Teachers' Convention, Cocoa Beach, Fla.
Aug. 5-8	National ASI Convention
Aug. 13-16	SEC Hispanic Ministries Women's & Men's Retreat



Southeastern Conference
PRAYER CONVENTION

A Thousand Men Will Unite with Women in Prayer

May 8 - 10, 2009

Theme:

"Praying For a Plentiful Harvest"

Everyone Is Invited!

Place:

Mount Sinai SDA Church
 2600 Orange Center Blvd, Orlando, FL 32805

Meetings Schedule

Friday May 8, 2009 – 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
 Saturday May 9, 2009 – 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
 Sunday May 10, 2009 – 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Speakers & Presenters

Dr. Kevin Jenkins • Pastor Samuel Telemaque
 Pastor Hubert Morel • Nicolle Brisé
 Philippa Turner

Sabbath Lunch and Sunday Brunch will be served.

We invite you to spend the weekend preceding the convention, May 1-3, 2009, praying and fasting for the pouring of the Holy Spirit, and for a plentiful harvest.

**Sponsored by Prayer Ministry,
 Men Ministry and Women's Ministries**

Make plans to be there!

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

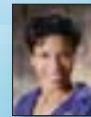
Retreat 2009
 JUL 30 - AUG 2



*Created to Shine
 and Reflect God's Image*

MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR THEE...
 ...MY STRENGTH IS MADE PERFECT IN WEAKNESS.

2ND CORINTHIANS 12:9



DR. CAROLYN HURST
 Keynote Speaker

Founder of Going GodWard Ministries



LILLY TRYON
 Keynote Speaker

Wellness Coaching Coordinator,
 Adventist WholeHealth Network
 Health Ministries Director, Pennsylvania
 Conference of SDA
 Founder, Keys to Living Well



BEVERLY J. SEDLACEK
 Teen Keynote Speaker

JEWELS OF THE KINGDOM

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