

Pastor Randy Mills  
(205) 565-1162  
[rmills@gsesda.org](mailto:rmills@gsesda.org)

Central News editor  
Kathy Lamson  
[newsletter4central@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter4central@gmail.com)

3001 Whitesburg Drive, Huntsville, AL 35802 ♦ Church Office (256) 881-4351 ♦ <http://www.hsvcentralsda.org/>

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

**Five Steps to Reignite Mission**

The Great Commission, "Go make disciples," still rings in the ears of those who are followers of Jesus. Jesus came to seek and to save lost people (Luke 19:10). He sought every spiritually confused person he could find and gently lead them to the point where they would receive His forgiveness, friendship, leadership and Lordship.

But He did not stop there. Right before He ascended into heaven, Jesus said this to His church: "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" (John 20:21, NIV). He now wants to use you and me to do what He did: to intentionally seek people out and help them take steps that will lead them into a relationship with Him.

What are the steps that lead a person to have a personal relationship with Jesus?

True success in reaching people and making disciples is achieved by following Christ's method of personal evangelism. Jesus intentionally made friends with people and genuinely desired their good. He showed sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He invited them, "Follow Me" (*The Ministry of Healing*, page 143).

The best way to reignite the mission of making disciples is to follow Christ's method of reaching people.

- Intentionally make friends with people, especially unchurched people
- Genuinely desire good for the friends you make
- Be understanding and encouraging
- Help people with their needs
- Be someone you can really count on

I'd like to encourage you to accept the challenge of making friends for Jesus.

Take and say the challenge with me:

- By God's grace I will make 3 NEW FRIENDS in the next 12 months.
- By God's grace at least 1 of my 3 NEW FRIENDS will be unchurched.

You don't have to be an evangelist to win souls for God's Kingdom. You just have to be a friend. It takes time and effort. But, the benefits are out of this world.

Love Always,  
Pastor Randy Mills

*Pastor Mills will be the worship service speaker regularly through the middle of September.*

**THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP**

Divine worship each Sabbath begins at approximately 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. It is requested that attendees social distance, wear masks when appropriate, practice no-touch greetings, and reserve social interactions for outside the building.

The service will be live-streamed on YouTube and the link will be sent by email each Sabbath to only those on the special email list which is for that purpose. If you are not on the email list to receive links to the worship service but would like to be, please contact Don Miller. The service will also be available for later re-play when using the same link. If you think you may want to watch the service at a later time, you must keep the link which you received in the email for that particular Sabbath.

The church channel on YouTube will have only the sermon part posted for that date and will not include preliminaries, such as singing and announcements.

**SABBATH BIBLE STUDY**

Don Evans' adult Sabbath School class is meeting via Zoom each Sabbath morning, beginning at 9:15 (for connection and a few minutes of fellowship before the Bible study begins). The class ends at 10:30 a.m.

To participate in this class you need the Zoom app on your device. Then go to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/547049222?pwd=Qmx4c0FtenZoS2Q2ZGhoYTVqV1gxUT09> and sign in with the meeting ID: 547 049 222, and the password: 088903.

Jeff Green's adult Sabbath School class also meets via Zoom on Sabbath mornings. If you would like to join this class, contact Geff Green for the details you will need. [jeff.green@gatech.edu](mailto:jeff.green@gatech.edu)

**MID-WEEK STUDY**

"Contagious Adventist" is the current study topic each Wednesday evening at 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

Learn how to adapt routine, everyday experiences into faith-sharing moments and lead people to Jesus.

This service is live-streamed as well, and an email with the link will be sent to all who are on the email list to receive the worship service link. The link will be different each week, so you need to be on this special email list to receive the fresh link each time. That exact link will be good for replay.

To get the most out of this study you will need the participant guide, which is available for a small fee. Contact the pastor if you need one.

*Jesus said, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19).  
If we are not fishing, we are not following Him.*

## CENTRAL THIS 'N' THAT

### Dates to Remember

**Sabbath, August 8 at 2:00 p.m.** – Church Family, please join us at Big Cove Christian Academy for a time of united prayer. As we do each year, we will have prayer in each of the classrooms for our teachers and students and dedicate the school in accordance with God's will. Social distancing and mask protocol will be followed.

Please keep BCCA teachers and students on your prayer list, as we endeavor to instill Christ's character in them. (*Lisa Schmitt, Christian Education Secretary*)

**August 10, 8:00 a.m., school begins** at Big Cove Christian Academy.

**Church board meetings** are presently being conducted using the Zoom app on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday monthly, at 6:30 p.m. If you have a concern you feel the board needs to address, please contact the pastor.

**Thank you for your generosity** – In these uncertain times your church finance committee has been watching the income and expense numbers carefully. There was a great deal of concern that with our disrupted church attendance and the potential of many job losses that we would experience a large downturn in tithe and offerings.

It is with grateful hearts that we can now report that the Lord has blessed our congregation and that the people have been diligent in their generosity. We ended up running a little behind in income during the balance of the fiscal year, but in spite of the difficulties we are now going through our giving has actually risen during the last three months. More and more members are now taking advantage of the Adventist Giving on-line option, and the rest are faithfully making sure that they get their tithe envelopes into the church treasurer by mail or drop-off at the church.

In addition, our expenses have been reduced during this time of disruption. Therefore our year ended without a deficit.

Many thanks go out to you for your faithfulness. And even more to the Lord for keeping our people healthy and financially sound.

	Year-to-Date (Jul-Jun)	
	Budgeted	Actual
Income	\$ 174,948	\$ 162,951
Expense	\$ 174,948	\$ 156,336
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ -	\$ 6,615

(*Don Evans, Central Church Comptroller*)

**NOTE:** The link to online giving is on the church website under Tithes and Offerings. <https://www.hsvcentralsda.org/>

## BIG COVE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Hello Church Families, We are truly in some trying times. When times get tough, we must remember to lean on God and trust in His plan. We know the end – Jesus will come and take us to our true home where we will never have to deal with something like the coronavirus. We just need to keep running this race until we reach the finish line. Heaven will be worth it!

We are opening up Big Cove for in-person instruction. Children have a need to be social and need to be in a classroom, not just see each other on a computer screen. We are taking all of the necessary precautions – masks, desk shields, social distancing, disinfecting, taking temperatures at the door, etc., to prevent any spread of COVID.

I have read a few articles on how parents in Huntsville are looking for a school that is having in-person instruction. If you know any families looking, please reach out to them and give them our contact details (256) 518-9642; [l.smith@bigcovesda.net](mailto:l.smith@bigcovesda.net). We can use this opportunity to expand our evangelism and reach more families.

I hope everyone is staying safe. We will strive to keep everyone safe at BCCA while offering quality education.

*The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe (Proverbs 29:25).*

(*Lucas Smith, BCCA Principal*)

## Distance Learning at BCCA

Big Cove Christian Academy has partnered with Atlanta Adventist Academy to bring distance learning for grades 9-12 to Big Cove as an extension campus of TRUeConnect. This is a live classroom via video, which means students are participating in a real-time environment. To discover if this program is a good fit for your child's education, contact the principal or Lisa Schmitt.

<https://www.aaa.edu/trueconnect>

**Urgent need** – Classroom facilitator for the distance learning program for the upper grades 9-12. Our current facilitator is unable to continue serving, and we are seeking someone who can fulfill this vital role. Hours are: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; and Friday, 7:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. This is a paid position. If you may be willing to be a classroom facilitator and have questions, please email Lucas Smith, [l.smith@bigcovesda.net](mailto:l.smith@bigcovesda.net) or Lisa Schmitt, [contactlisa99@gmail.com](mailto:contactlisa99@gmail.com). Thank you for praying about this unique opportunity to serve.

## Pre-kindergarten/kindergarten

If you or someone you know might be interested in this program, please contact Lucas Smith.

(*Lisa Schmitt, Christian Education Secretary*)

**Big Cove Christian Academy website:**  
<https://www.bigcovesda.net/>

## Remember BCCA's fundraisers

♦ Start your next Amazon.com shopping experience at <http://smile.amazon.com>, Amazon Smile. Log in with your Amazon ID and password, and on the next screen enter Big Cove Christian Academy in the box under "Or pick your own charitable organization." On the next screen click "Select" across from the BCCA name. From then on BCCA will automatically receive .05% from your eligible purchases made on Amazon Smile.

(Thanks to Jennifer Olmstead for getting BCCA signed up to receive donations at Amazon Smile.)

♦ Box Top\$ for Education Fundraiser – Download the Box Tops app and shop as you normally would, then scan your store receipts. The app will automatically credit the amount under BCCA earnings online. Help us reach our \$1000 goal! [boxtops4education.com/](http://boxtops4education.com/)

♦ Publix Partners – Sign up at Publix.com for an account, select BCCA, then enter your phone number at checkout. A percentage of each eligible transaction made using your Publix Partners account is allocated to BCCA.

<https://corporate.publix.com/community/corporate-campaigns/publix-partners>



## Congratulations to Sherry Daily

BCCA teacher Sherry Daily has retired after 35 years of service to Christian education. We have appreciated her dedication and support of BCCA. She was honored at a party in Central Hall on July 26. Gulf States Conference superintendent of education Wanda Beck came from Montgomery for the event.



*Mrs. Daily received a plaque to commemorate her service to BCCA.*

## Well Done, BCCA Graduates!

Because of COVID-19 concerns, the graduation celebration of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduating class was delayed. On Thursday, July 30, these students finally were able to graduate!

This event was live-streamed. View it here: <https://youtu.be/5PTbS9jE52I>



*The graduates are Jordan Schmitt, Avryl Navarro, and Garren Lawler.*

**It is the goal** of Huntsville Central that all the children in our church family receive an Adventist education. If you are interested in sending your child or children to BCCA, or if you know someone who is, or if you believe you may need financial assistance, please contact Lucas Smith, BCCA principal; or Jeff Green, school board chairman.

## Meet BCCA's New Teachers!

*Editor's note: Here is a recap of the bio which was in the July issue of Central News.*

Wendy Boyd is our new teacher for grades 1-4! She grew up in Upstate New York where she graduated high school from Union Springs Academy. However, she has spent most of her life in Chattanooga after she graduated from Southern Adventist University.

Her love of Adventist education stems from her time going through it and the teachers she had.

She is currently working on a Masters from Southern. She is constantly reading and researching to stay up-to-date on the latest in education so she can reach youth even better. She teaches through hands-on experiences to enhance the learning and ensure the children remember the lessons longer.

She is married to Dan Boyd, who has also been a teacher in Adventist education. They enjoy outdoor activities, such as gardening and travel. He presents an Outdoor Ministries program and is a self employed construction worker and handyman.

Mrs. Boyd's philosophy in a few words is this: "The future of the world is in my classroom today. If we don't teach our children to follow Christ, the world will teach them not to."

*Editor's note: I asked Mrs. Boyd to tell us more about her family for this issue of Central News. Here is what she sent to me:*

Hi, Everyone,

A little about us! Well, to start off, the most precious things in our life are our four wonderful adult children. Our daughter Melissa who is also a certified teacher will be moving to Huntsville with us to teach the PreK-K program at BCCA. Dan Jr. lives in Chattanooga, and Dustin and his wife Jennifer and our brand new two-month old granddaughter Amanda, live in Texas. We also have two Shih Tzu's Shasta and Jasmine.

We are a family who loves spending time together and some of our favorite things to do are gardening, hiking, canoeing, camping, sightseeing and spending time with friends.

As a family we take seriously our commission as Christians to go and tell the world of Jesus' love and so we have been and will continue to be actively involved in our church and community outreach programs.

We are excited and thank you for inviting us to be a part of the Huntsville Central Church. We are thrilled to join you and your mission for the young people of your church through providing Christian education at Big Cove Christian Academy. What a privilege and honor it is to be a part of growing the Kingdom of Heaven!

We look forward to meeting each one of you in person.

*(Wendy Boyd)*

*Dan, Wendy,  
and Melissa  
Boyd*



## What is True Education?

*"True education means more than the pursuit of a certain course of study. It means more than a preparation for the life that now is. It has to do with the whole being, and with the whole period of existence possible to man.*

*It is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers. It prepares the student for the joy of service in this world and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come." (E.G. White, Education, page 13).*

## FOCUS ON YOUTH

**Weekly Zoom meetings** – The youth Sabbath school class has been meeting via Zoom faithfully every Friday night at 7:30 p.m. since the end of March. The meetings are hosted by Jacob Gohn. The youth are enjoying seeing each other each week and actively participate in the study of their weekly Sabbath school lesson. Not only are they participating but they have also had the chance on several occasions to teach the class and have done a wonderful job!

**Young adults** – Some of our young adults continue to meet every Friday night via Skype for a Bible study led by Ismael Rivera, a former member of our Spanish company. In addition, last Sabbath we piloted an outdoors Sabbath school class right outside the fellowship hall. The young people who attended seemed to enjoy it and expressed a desire to continue it.

**Outdoor activities** – Although outdoor activities have been limited due to the pandemic, the teens have gotten together once to bike to Ditto Landing and some have met at Honeycomb Beach to enjoy the lake.

The young people and youth leaders will continue to look for ways to plan creative and safe activities during this period of social distancing.

**Cross examination** – Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we sadly had to cancel Cross Examination for this year. Although the young people were very disappointed, especially since we had to cancel just a couple of weeks before it was supposed to happen, they look forward to attending and planning for it next spring. We will keep everyone posted. *(Evelyn Green)*

## PATHFINDER RAMBLINGS

**Huntsville Spacewalkers Pathfinder Club** has continued to meet on Zoom over the summer. They have been working on honors such as God's Messenger and Prophets & Prophecy, as well as learning knots and having time to socialize.

The club will hold registration and its first meeting for the 2020-21 year on Thursday, August 20 at 6:00 p.m. Meetings will be at BCCA and/or virtual depending on current Covid-19 conditions. Attending meetings at BCCA will require a mask and social distancing until further notice.

The club is open to children in grades 5-12 who are willing to abide by the Pathfinder Pledge and Law.

For more information and a calendar of events, please contact the directors, Rick & Kelly Riley at (256) 566-2181 or [RKAARiley at aol.com](mailto:RKAARiley@aol.com)



**Congratulations to Benjamin Wildman** who received a PhD in Biomedical Sciences from University of Alabama Birmingham on July 14, 2020. He studied bone growth – working toward a way to prevent or reverse osteoporosis, and to stimulate bone growth after an injury.  
*(Monica Wildman)*

## A Note of Thanks

**Christopher Barr**, our previous pastor now living in Montana says, "I want to thank those of you who have been praying for me.

"Since my retirement about five years ago, I have been experiencing shortness of breath. My cardiologist ordered some tests to rule out any possible cardiac problems. The results were, on the whole, satisfactory.

"My lungs have some scar tissue (which I knew about from tests run five years ago) which may be affecting my breathing capacity, so I will have a repeat contrast CAT scan in about six months to see if there are any changes.

"Valerie and I have many happy memories of our years in Huntsville.

"You are in our prayers. May we be faithful until Jesus comes."

## IN LOVING MEMORY

### A Celebration of the Life of Bette (Betty) M. (Owens) Parris

By Brenda Parris Brown

*On Wednesday, July 22, 2020, our dear mother, Bette Parris, passed away. She was 88 years old, had lived a full life, and she fell asleep peacefully in Jesus in Huntsville Hospital from COVID-19. As you might imagine, the hardest part was that we could not be with her.*

*When she was about ten years old, her family became Seventh-day Adventists. Later on, her dad became the farm manager at Highland Academy, making it more affordable for Bette and her sisters to attend. There she met and married our dad, Enos Parris, who loved volleyball, water-skiing, and giving people their first-ever airplane rides in a Cessna 172.*

*She was a multi-talented homemaker and gardener; a devoted and loving mother; a carpenter's helper to her dad when they built us a country house; a creative children's Sabbath School leader; a licensed private pilot; a poet; a singer in a ladies trio for church; an upholstery helper to our dad; and, a volunteer Federation President for the SDA Community Services for the State of Kansas.*

*She and Dad faithfully raised us in church. Mom and I enjoyed singing special music together at church when I was young and again at multiple churches from May 2013-on. Our favorites were "In the Garden," "Moment by Moment," "Day by Day," "'Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus," and "The Old Rugged Cross."*

*In December 2019, my sister Sheree visited Mom. My brother John Parris visited Mom a few days before the mid-March COVID-19 lockdown at her assisted living facility. For Mom's 88<sup>th</sup> birthday several weeks ago, Michael and I had a special outdoor visit with her. Afterwards we could all keep in touch with Mom by phone.*

*A Memorial Service is to be determined. Please see her obituary at: <https://www.berryhillfh.com/obituary/bette-parris>*



## PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

*“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God” (Philippians 4:6, NKJV).*

**(Editor’s note:** For urgent prayer requests needing to be passed on to the church family, please contact Jon Barfield.

If you do not see a name that you believe should be on the newsletter prayer list, it is because no one has told me about the need.

If there are names which should be removed, please let me know.)

The following people have requested prayer or it has been requested for them:

Tim Baker, Chuck Barnes, Chris and Valerie Barr, Ben Bishop, Sherry Bray and sister Barbara, Steve Brown (Michael Brown’s brother), Lyonel Browning family;

Kathy Campbell, Asia Cockfield, Tonette Comber (Delores Cochren’s granddaughter), Janet Decker, Deckers’ children and grandchildren, Mirna DeWitt;

Sheila Evans, Barbara Frazier, Cassie Hamer, Norma Harrison, Rick Hendel, Lee Hips (Kathy Campbell’s brother), Rosella Hoppe (Jennifer Olmstead’s mother), Roger Hunter, Jeff and John Irwin;

Marlon and Heather James, Kaitlynn, Kim and Kevin, Kimberly Kirton (Delores Cochren’s daughter), Ko family, Sherrie Landis, Thomas and Joanne Lang, Andy Lowe family, Josh and Stephanie Lewis;

Chuck and Christine May, Jennifer and Stacy Miller, Penny Miller, George Navarro, Betty Nelson, Dorothy Oliver, Gloria Radke, Jennifer Reyes, Rick and Deborah, Robbie (Shirley Holstein’s son-in-law);

Deb Saylor, Fran Scheidt, Anastacia Scott, Mary Siniard, Sledge family, Dee Theiss and Kim and Kevin, Dia White, Ryan White, Noel Whitehead, Ricky Williams, Katie Willis (Pam French’s daughter), Hugh Wilson, Pearl Wise.

Condolences to the McCleary family (daughter Jennifer’s husband), the family of Bette Parris (mother of Brenda Brown), the family of Tim Spivey (brother of Maggie Lind), and all other grieving families.

Remember to pray for our families and children, shut-ins, BCCA, unsaved loved ones, those suffering from injury, disease, disaster, strife and persecution, SDA leadership, and world leaders.

## Hygiene Items Needed

Limestone Correctional Facility has requested the following items for the inmates: toothbrushes in original wrapping, toothpaste, safety razors, and body wash in translucent containers. There will be a receptacle in the church foyer for the month of August. If you are not presently attending the meetings in the church building but want to donate, please contact Craig Moore.

## Free Mental Health Counseling

Southern Adventist University is offering free telemental health counseling services during the COVID-19 pandemic. This free service is made available through the university’s internship program at Summerour Counseling Center which trains and prepares students to be future professional counselors.

The telemental health counseling service is anticipated to be available through the month of August but further details will be released as the pandemic and procedures change.

If anyone is interested in meeting with a student counselor via the telephone or video conference, please call (423) 236-2492, leave a voicemail, and someone will return your call promptly. (Jordan Cooper)

## Daytime Caregiver Needed

Patricia Barfield’s boss is looking for a caregiver for her sweet elderly mother. If you are interested, contact Patricia for details.

## Gulf States Conference Health Ministries Retreat

Health ministry leaders and health professionals, come to Uchee Pines September 10-13 for inspiration, training, and networking to assist in conducting health ministry in your local church and community. Safe health guidelines will be followed.

<https://gscsda.org/gscevents/healthretreat2020>

## Missionary Opportunity

Gospel Ministries International needs volunteer missionaries in the areas of construction, maintenance, agriculture, computers, radio or television. Of course, long term commitments are the most desirable but even short term help with maintenance and construction would be very welcome! Learn more about GMA and volunteer needs:

<https://gospelministry.org/>

## ONE LIFE’S TESTIMONY

Lesson 4 in our current adult Sabbath School lessons is entitled “Prayer Power: Interceding for Others.”

<https://ssnet.org/lessons/20c/>

That lesson reminded me of Adventist author and faithful prayer warrior from a few years ago, the late Roger J. Morneau. His experiences with, and escape from, demon worship led him to develop a powerful intercessory prayer ministry. He wrote several books about his experiences: *“Incredible Answers to Prayer, How God Intervened When One Man Prayed,” “More Incredible Answers to Prayer,”* and others. Thousands of people have adopted Morneau’s proven formula for success in seeing life changes in themselves and the people for whom they pray. I highly recommend any of his books.

Morneau’s life story *“Charmed by Darkness”* describes how he was lured into a secret society of satanic worship, was promised a bright and successful future by the powers of darkness, and his miraculous escape from those powers only through the intervention of God. This book was condensed and printed several years ago as *“A Trip into the Supernatural.”* He also wrote *“Beware of Angels in the Last Days.”*

The powerful documentary film of Morneau’s life, *“Charmed by Darkness,”* was released just a few weeks ago. View it free with Amazon Prime.

Morneau’s highly-rated books and the DVD are available at Adventist Book Center, Amazon.com, and other sellers online.

Search YouTube for various interviews of Morneau describing some of his experiences. Some are very short interviews, some are very long accounts.

Audio of *“A Trip Into the Supernatural”*: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P\\_VtD\\_bGD1k0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P_VtD_bGD1k0)

Morneau’s experiences testify that what Apostle Paul stated is certainly true. *“Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand” (Ephesians 6: 10-13).*

(Kathy Lamson)

## FOR OUR COMMUNITY

### Thanks To Our Police

Seth Broussard wrote about his participation in an appreciation gesture for the police.

“On July 7, a few Central Church members (with church board approval), went to the store, got some cookies, and then went to Dominoes and got 20 boxes of pizzas! Then we went to the Bailey Cove Police Station and dropped the food off. This is the precinct that serves and protects our Huntsville Central Church.

“When we came out, my mom asked if we could take a picture with the police officer. I'm glad God gave us police officers and that we could thank them in this way.”

Thanks to Patricia Barfield and this group for their outreach on behalf of Central Church.

*Evie and Seth Broussard helped deliver tangible appreciation to the police precinct.*



## DISCERNING THE TIMES

### Caught In the Backlash

Recently Nashville was warned, via a full-page ad in “The Tennessean” newspaper, that it would be destroyed by an Islamic nuclear weapon on July 18, 2020. This story was syndicated across the country. The Seventh-day Adventist Church and Ellen White, the true prophetess for the last days, were mentioned.

There was immediate backlash against the group which sponsored the ad (which is led by a man previously dis-fellowshipped from the SDA Church because of his aberrant views on prophecy). Of course on July 19 Nashville was still intact, but the Seventh-day Adventist Church and Mrs. White were discredited in the eyes of the scoffing public.

To most of us the aforementioned false prophecy may seem like foolishness and not worthy of our attention. False prophets of whom God said, “I have not sent them” have existed since Old Testament days.

However, despite the biblical precedents as well as more recent fiascos, many sincere Seventh-day Adventist believers have been “caught up” in this and other false prophetic movements. In this case, the predictions were made to appear legitimate by the use of quotes by Mrs. White herself – misconstrued and embellished with the organization’s own interpretations of biblical prophecy. It seems incredible that Seventh-day Adventists would fall for such deceptions, but it happens all too often.

It seems appropriate for us to look at what Mrs. White said, which was mis-used in this manner.

Mrs. White had two God-given very similar dreams two years apart. Of the first one she wrote, “*The Lord is soon coming in the clouds of heaven with power and with great glory. His terrible judgments are soon to fall upon our world. Are we doing all we can to warn earth’s inhabitants of these things? While I was in the South a few months ago, I had a very impressive dream. I seemed to see a great ball of fire come from heaven and strike the earth. Great houses were in flames, and many were looking on in great distress. Someone said, ‘I knew that this was coming. I knew that God’s judgments were soon to fall.’ ‘You knew that these things were coming?’ said another. ‘Why did you not tell us? Why did you not warn us, and show us the prophecies, that we might also know?’*” ([Manuscript 158, 1904](#), paragraph 30, September 10, 1904).

She referred a total of eleven times to the two dreams, without mentioning any location.

But during a sermon by Mrs. White in California, the stenographer recorded that she prefaced the recounting of one of the dreams with “*When I was at Nashville, I had been speaking to the people, and in the night season, there was an immense ball of fire that came right from heaven and settled in Nashville.*” And she continued to describe the event with wording similar to the above.

*(Continued on the next page)*

## GET INTO THE WORD

### Understanding Current Events

In these uncertain times our attention is continually being drawn to COVID-19 with its ramifications, and racial tension with its ramifications. Long life and good health seem doubtful, while peace and prosperity are vanishing. We may well wonder what it all means.

Our faith will be strengthened when we better understand how prophecy is rapidly being fulfilled by current events – who the major players are, what their agendas are, etc. We will gain courage when we realize that God is working through the chaotic affairs on earth to bring about His heart’s yearning – to see His children gathered at long last into His fold.

Each week for the past few months Professor Walter Veith and Martin Smith have been discussing current world events as viewed through the lenses of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. The presentations “What’s Up, Prof?” are very enlightening as to what is going on behind the scenes – setting the world stage for the final showdown in the conflict between the powers of light and the powers of darkness.

Each episode is related to the one before, so go back a few from the latest one to get the background. Then each week view the newest upload to keep current.

Part 21 (uploaded July 23) demonstrates that two different agendas – counterfeit religion and secular interests – will reach a synthesis, and what might be the “glue” of the synthesis – something which is already being proclaimed as necessary.

Part 22 (uploaded July 30) discusses the Black Lives Matter movement, the Freedom Sunday movement, Season of Creation 2020 in September, and so on.

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=What%27s+Up+Prof%3F&sp=CAI%253D](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=What%27s+Up+Prof%3F&sp=CAI%253D) Filter by “Date Uploaded” to bring the latest episode to the top of the list.

These presentations run more than an hour, but you can speed things up under YouTube Settings. Fast listeners learn faster!!

*(Kathy Lamson)*

(Discerning, continued)

So did the stenographer recording her sermon wrongly interpret Mrs. White to mean that the fireball “settled in Nashville” and recorded it as so, when Mrs. White may not have actually said that she saw it *settle in Nashville*? Or is that what she specifically stated? We will never know for sure! It is noteworthy that she did not mention Nashville in any of her written recollections of the dreams.

But one thing is for sure: It is obvious that God gave her these dreams to impress upon the Church that we must warn the inhabitants of the earth that “His terrible judgments are soon to fall upon our world.” Those dreams were given to her more than a hundred years ago! Surely our God is long-suffering and patient with wayward mankind!

Someone once published notices regarding the destruction of New York City by a tidal wave, claiming that Mrs. White had predicted it. “*This I have never said. I have said, as I looked at the great buildings going up there, story after story, ‘What terrible scenes will take place when the Lord shall arise to shake terribly the earth!’ . . . When my brethren go to extremes, it reacts on me, and I have to bear the reproach of being called a false prophet*” (Review and Herald, July 5, 1906).

Mrs. White said, “*There will always be false and fanatical movements made by persons in the church who claim to be led of God – those who will run before they are sent and will give day and date for the occurrence of unfulfilled prophecy. The enemy is pleased to have them do this, for their successive failures and leading into false lines cause confusion and unbelief*” (Selected Messages, volume 2, page 84 (1897)).

She also stated: “*Our position has been one of waiting and watching, with no time-proclamation to intervene between the close of the prophetic periods in 1844 and the time of our Lord’s coming*” (Manuscript Releases 10:270, 1888). So we can be sure that any new time prophecies made today will be false!

False prophecies weaken the faith of those deceived, and cast an unfavorable light upon God’s people and God’s message.

When Paul and Silas preached about Jesus in Thessalonica, unbelieving Jews caused so much dissention that the city was in an uproar, so much so that the apostles were sent away by night to Berea. “*These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all*

*readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Therefore many of them believed*” (Acts 17:11-12).

The good Bereans believed after they had diligently studied. We must do the same – to be well grounded in truth and not drawn into deceptions.

Long ago Mrs. White revealed her heart’s desire when she urged, “*We have no time to lose. We must make more determined efforts to lead the people of the world to see that the day of judgment is at hand. . . . O, if our people would feel as they should the responsibility resting upon them to give the last message of mercy to the world, what a wonderful work would be done! We need the impartation of the Holy Spirit, that we may realize how closely heavenly things are bound up with God’s church on this earth*” (Review and Herald, July 5, 1906).

Could the prophet be any more urgent today to inspire us to be about our Father’s business so that Jesus can come?

(Kathy Lamson)

If you would like to know more about Ellen G. White and what she wrote, go to <http://ellenwhite.org/>

## FAMILY BOOST

### Media addiction survey

In the July Central News, I posed the question “Are you addicted?” I pointed out some sources of information on the web dealing with the prevalent addiction to media, and the problems it is causing to our children and youth. I suggested that adult examples will go far in helping our young ones to recognize that that our bodies and minds belong to God, and we are responsible to Him for how we live – what we put into our bodies both physically and mentally, and how we spend our time.

Moses spoke to Israel concerning what God had instructed him to say: “*Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the Lord your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it. . . . Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up” (Deuteronomy 6:1-7).*

Can our children – correction, can any of us learn to love the Lord with all our hearts, souls, and might, while spending much of our waking hours taking in what the world offers us? Satan is spreading his net far and wide for he knows he has but a short time left to capture as many as possible.

You may believe that you do not suffer from media addiction. An interactive online survey will help you determine if your assessment is correct. Be honest!

Thanks to Scott Ritsema, Belt of Truth Ministries, for this survey.

<https://beltofruthministries.org/level-of-addiction>

### Very Beneficial Seminars Now in Book Format

Scott Ritsema is making available in book form the content of some of his seminars. He says: “The #1 request we’ve had over the years: ‘Scott, can I please get all the information and Spirit of Prophecy quotes that appear on-screen in your seminars?’

“So just in time for back-to-school – *Raising the Remnant* (parenting seminar) and *Schooled & Undoctrinated* (true education seminars) in book form!! Every single quote. The full seminars adapted into a book. And discounted for the month of August.”

If you have wanted to see the full-length videos of these seminars but don’t want to buy them, you can get the full content of each of these two seminars in book form for just \$14.99 each.

Also Ritsema has written two shorter sharing booklets which are abbreviated content from his seminars on media and lust: *Media on the Brain*, and *Addicted to Purity*.

These are in the Belt of Truth store at: <https://beltofruthministries.org/storefront>, scroll down to “Books” section.

Take a look at other products on a variety of topics by various authors while you are in the store – full-length DVD seminars and documentaries, music, items suitable for children, and discounts for bulk orders. Something beneficial for everyone.

