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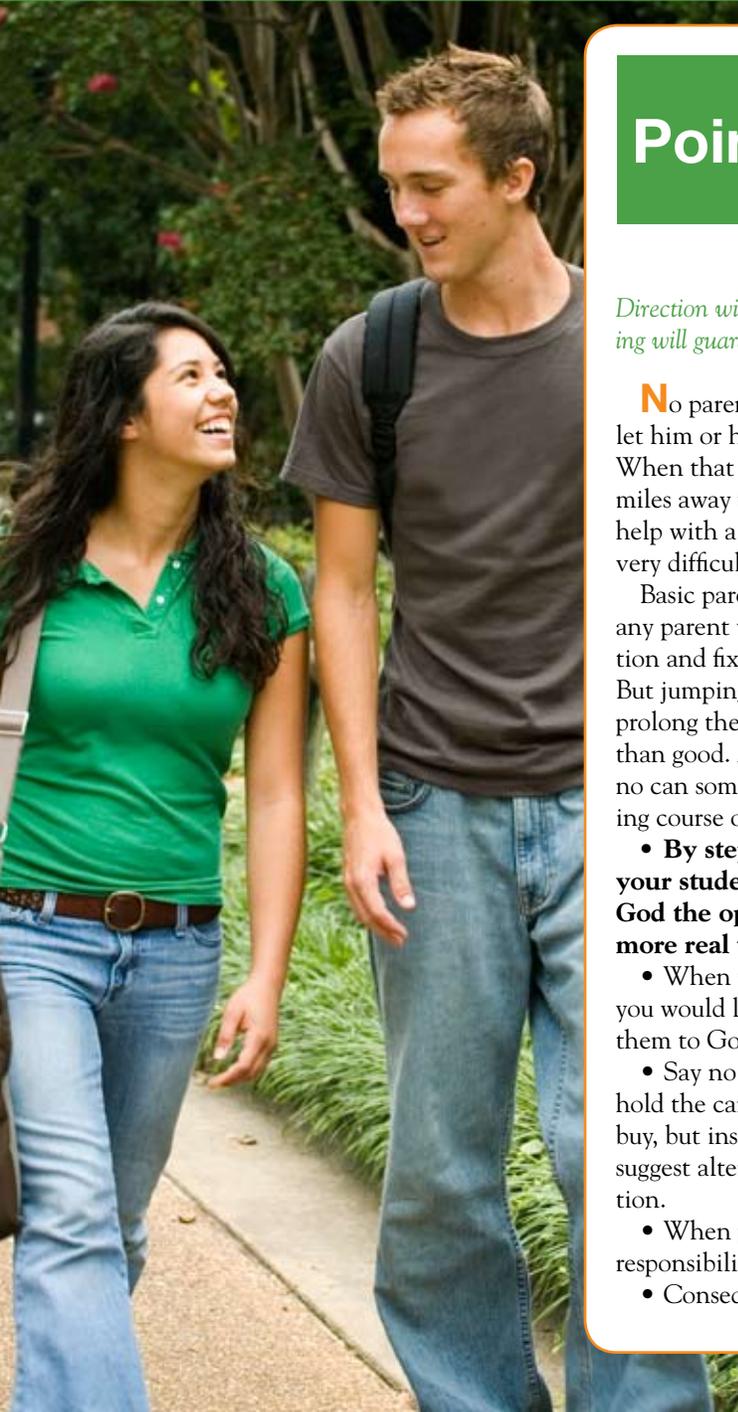
Southern Adventist University, "Panorama September 2006" (2006). *Panorama Parent Newsletter*. 5.
https://knowledge.e.southern.edu/parent_newsletter/5

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Panorama

Southern Adventist University's Parent Newsletter | September 2006



Point Them Upward

Direction will protect you, and understanding will guard you. ~Proverbs 2:11, NIV

No parent likes to tell a child no or let him or her figure out a solution alone. When that child is a college student miles away from home who is begging for help with a problem, saying no can be very difficult, even painful.

Basic parental instinct would make any parent want to plow into the situation and fix whatever might be wrong. But jumping in and helping may only prolong the problem and do more harm than good. Although it is difficult, saying no can sometimes be the best, most loving course of action a parent can take.

• **By stepping away and not fixing your student's problem, you give God the opportunity to become more real to your student.**

• When your student has a problem you would love to fix but can't, point them to God in prayer.

• Say no softly. You may have to withhold the car your student wanted you to buy, but instead you could buy a bike or suggest alternative modes of transportation.

• When parents say no, students learn responsibility.

• Consequence is a powerful learning

tool; pray to discern when you should bail your student out and when you should allow him or her to experience the consequences.

• God says no, too. Remember the apostle Paul, who prayed three times for God to remove his "thorn in the flesh". God's answer was no, and Paul confessed that he knew it was for his own good (2 Corinthians 12:7-10).

Sometimes the greatest gift a parent can give is to urge the student to pray. All that student's life, he or she has looked to the parents to solve the problems, make things better, and provide comfort when life is mean. Now that your student is grown, you won't be able to be as present a support as you were when he or she lived at home.

What can you do, then? Refer your student to the best parent of all—God.

Should a parent ever say yes? By all means. God loves to give good gifts to His children, and so should parents to their students.

There is a balance, however, and the best way to know whether to give a good gift by saying yes or by saying no is to search God's word and pray for understanding and wisdom in every situation.

Source: Parenting 20-Something Kids, by Martha Pope Gorris, © 2005

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Dear parents,

Peace is the last thing most people expect to find in the first hectic weeks of the academic year. Parents worry about their students, students worry about life, and it's easy to become overwhelmed by all of the "what if" scenarios the imagination conjures. I would like to encourage you to give all your worries to Christ in prayer. (See Mark 11:24 and Luke 11:9)

As you send your students to Southern, you can have peace that they will be part of a community focused on discovering God's will for their lives. And as you cover your students with prayer, I ask that you include us, the faculty and staff at Southern, as we strive to provide a quality spiritual, academic, and physical education that will turn their hearts and minds toward Him.

"And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children."
Isaiah 54:13

God Bless,

Gordon Bietz

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Parent Thoughts on Parent Orientation



"It's been very friendly; everyone here has been very accommodating."
~Chuck and Karen Kind from Wisconsin

"Everyone was informative and very open with questions and answers. [Having a] mother [who had students already through college] answer questions was the best idea."
~Thresia Haugen from Oregon



"We appreciated that there was someone at the entrance to the dorm who was able to help and direct us."
~Anthony and Judy Wise from Indiana

"[Parent orientation] was very good and very helpful. I appreciated that they were curious about what parents thought. The presentation was very service-oriented."
~Don Feltman from Virginia



"I think I'm prepared [now]. It's not easy of course—it's a process, but everything will be okay."
~Susan Swisher from Ohio

"I liked hearing what services are available and reviewing things like time management. All of the presenters were very helpful. Steve Pawluk really set us at ease."
~Kristi and Jorge Amparan from Texas



Compiled by Erika Gemmill, junior social science and communication major from Maryland. Photographer: Matt Barclay

Did You Know?

Student Mentor Program: Why I Chose to be a Student Mentor

When I came to Southern, I knew only four people on campus. Fortunately, my circle of friends expanded, thanks in part to the Student Mentor Program.

One of the first friends I made was Brendon Brockmann, a junior biology major from California. He was assigned as my mentor, and our friendship grew as he guided me through the basics of university life. He held worships once a month in his room, and I and his other “mentees” often hung out with Brendan and his roommates. As a freshman without many friends, it was a good chance to increase my acquaintances and learn about God.

As new students adjust to college life, student mentors are there during the first few weeks to provide social encouragement and academic support with classes and pre-registration for the spring and fall semesters. Often, first-year students and their student mentors form strong bonds over the course of the year.

“[My mentor] was a good friend,” Liz Neuharth, sophomore nursing major from Montana, says. “[She was] just what I needed, being so far from home.”

The mentor program made a positive impact on my life last year, which is why I have signed on, along with 29 other returning students, to be a mentor this year. Each of us will be responsible for befriending, guiding, and supporting approximately 10 first-year students. I pray that I can encourage the new students in their spiritual, academic, and social experiences.

~Michael Brannaka, sophomore business administration major from Florida

Prepare for Parents Weekend

Parents who want an inside peek at what life at Southern is like are invited to Parents Weekend, February 16-18, 2007. The event is designed to give parents a chance to spend the weekend with their students and experience first-hand the life they’ve helped make possible. Among the attractions will be a combined choir concert, guest speaker José Rojas, and a chance to attend Friday night vespers and Sabbath evening Evensong with your student. For more information, please contact Kari Shultz at 423.236.2484 or kshultz@southern.edu.

Students May Now Use ID Cards at Village Market

Beginning in the fall semester of 2006, students will be able to use their ID cards to purchase items at the Village Market (VM), Collegedale’s local grocery store. This new option is an addition to the three places where students could already purchase food with their ID cards: the Dining Hall, the Campus Kitchen (CK), and KR’s Place (a small restaurant near the Student Center). The food budget minimum for students is \$1,000 per semester, \$800 of which must be bought at the Dining Hall, KR’s, or the CK, and \$200 of which may be purchased at the VM.





Ray Minner

A Good Investment

All four of my daughters attended Southern. As an alumnus and the son of an alumnus, this was what I had hoped for—truthfully, what I had expected. But getting them to Southern was not just the beginning of their higher education; it was also the continuation of mine!

Today's Southern students function in an environment, both physical and cultural, that we SMC alumni barely recognize. Nostalgia aside, in many ways that's good.

My dual perspective as both a parent and faculty spouse lead me to two areas where parents can make a huge difference.

First, so many students struggle with time management issues—the mix of newfound freedom and heavier-than-ever responsibilities takes a heavy toll in the self-discipline department. Share with your Southern student the secrets of time

management and prioritizing that have worked for you, and let them know you understand the nature of this struggle.

Second, get acquainted with your son's or daughter's

friends. As you no doubt discovered for yourself years ago, the friends we make in college are the friends we tend to keep throughout life. Time invested in my daughters' friends has paid off over the years in ways I could never have anticipated. Many of them have remained my friends, too.

When the students you have sent to Southern drive out of this valley with diplomas, they will have formed views of their own unique roles in the world and may also have found spouses. They will have friends they will carry into eternity—a good investment by any standard.

~Ray Minner, father of Jennifer, Karen, Megan, and Katie Minner, Southern alumni.

Getting them to Southern was not just the beginning of their higher education; it was also the continuation of mine!

Sharron Pinter

Annette Bach



Parent Orientation: Tidbits of Wisdom

July 24, 2006, was the first parent orientation seminar of the 2006-2007 academic year. At the end of the program, two parents, Annette Bach and Sharron Pinter, whose students had been enrolled at Southern for at least one year, answered questions and offered advice to those launching a college student for the first time. For parents who were not able to attend, they've provided us with a few tidbits of wisdom to carry beyond the Sunday afternoon seminar.

Pinter - There are social advantages to living in the residence halls, but village students can still fit in with students living on campus by socializing with them when eating in the cafeteria, going to vespers, and going to church.

Bach - Village students are also allowed in the dorms to visit and can sometimes stay overnight.

Pinter - If your student is not communicating or telling you what's going on in his or her life, remember: they're college students! They have to start making their own decisions.

Bach - I'll tell you something, though. When they're sick or not doing well, they'll call you.

~Annette Bach & Sharron Pinter, parents of Southern Adventist University students.

Favorite Bible Text

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

John 14:1-3

~Robert Rodriguez, freshman education major from Tennessee



LADY OF LANGUAGE & LOVE: CARMEN JIMÉNEZ, PH.D.

If you enter one of Carmen Jiménez' classes on any given day, you might see her students playing crossword puzzles and memory games, listening to songs, or using the latest learning technology.

"Since I teach a foreign language, I use the communicative approach," Jiménez says. "I like students to review the material beforehand and to participate without being afraid of making mistakes."

Students appreciate her teaching methods and stay in contact with her years after graduation.

"I really care about my students, and seeing them fulfill their goals is very satisfying for me," she says.

Jiménez is genuinely interested in people's well-being outside the classroom as well. She and her husband of 19 years, Angel Mejias, their 11-year-old son, Victor, and their dog, Pepito, became a foster family in March, opening their home to needy children.

"It's very hard, but it's a way to show [the children] the love of God and that there are people who care," Jiménez says.

Jiménez is also a sponsor for Alpha Mu Gamma, an intercollegiate club for bilingual and soon-to-be bilingual students.

Originally from Puerto Rico, Jiménez earned a B.A. in Hispanic Studies from the University of Puerto Rico in 1987. She went on to earn a master's from the University of Utah in 1994 and a Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University in 2000. In 2006 she co-authored an intermediate Spanish textbook through Salisbury University. The book is to be published this fall. Jiménez currently teaches five sections of Spanish, including a new online course in which she and her students meet once a week using webcams.



How to Access Student Grades

Now that the academic semester has started, it's time to deal with logistics. How can a parent evaluate and monitor student progress? To find out about how parents can access their student's grades, we talked with Vinita Sauder, vice president of Marketing and Enrollment Services.

Q: Can parents view student grades?

A: The short answer is yes, *if* your student is dependent or clicks "yes" during the online registration process. Students are asked to provide a "yes" or "no" answer each time they register, so each semester they have a new chance to give permission.

Q: Why is Southern particular about parent access to grades?

A: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) grants academic privacy rights to college students, and Southern must abide by this legislation. FERPA does allow a college to share grades with a parent if a student is legally dependent on the parent (the parent claims the student as a dependent on their income tax forms), or if the student provides the college with permission for parental access.

Q: How do you know if you can access your student's grades?

A: If your student is a dependent or marked "yes" on the registration form, you will receive a letter from the Records Office in September or October with your "pin number" to log on to a special portal and view the grades online.

Q: Does Southern mail paper copies of the grades to parents?

A: This is no longer routine. Students now access their grades online, but if a student requests a paper copy for their parents the Records Office will send one at midterm and at the end of each semester.

Q: What if a parent doesn't receive a pin code?

A: Parents of dependent students who don't receive an online pin code in the mail after midterm exams but who think they should be provided access should call 1.800.SOUTHERN and ask for the Records Office, dial 423.236.2899, or e-mail records@southern.edu.

"Of course, the very best way to know your student's grades is to maintain good communication and ask your student to keep you in the loop," Sauder says. "Most students are happy to share their progress with their parents because they need the family as a cheering squad. Moral support is so important to college students."

To find out more about FERPA and Southern's policies, go to <http://records.southern.edu/ferpa.html>.



Associate Dean Kassy Krause with three returning resident assistants/women's club officers: from left, Valisa Wilson, Sara Chase, and Amanda Tortal

Sigma Theta Chi, Women's Club

Whether they know it or not, every woman attending Southern benefits from and is a member of Sigma Theta Chi (STC), Southern's women's club.

"The club exists in part to make our students' experience at Southern more fun and educational in a non-academic way," Kassy Krause, associate dean and sponsor for the club, says. "Many of our events involve outreach and charity in the community and beyond. For example, the club raised \$500 for hurricane relief by selling scrubs last year."

In addition to outreach activities,

STC sponsors several annual and semiannual social events. Every two years, on rotating years, they hold the Mother-Daughter Brunch (last year) and the Residence Hall Open House (this year). The club also sponsors a variety of women's-needs guest speakers for workshops; fruit, cookie, bagel, and goody nights; and skating parties.

Resident assistants (RAs) on each hall do triple duty serving the women on their halls, helping the deans in planning events, and working as STC officers.

"Our aim is to meet the social, spiritual, and emotional needs of the women at Southern Adventist University," Krause says. "Whether it's a cookie night or a special speaker for worship, we are always working improve our female students' Southern experience."

Upsilon Delta Phi, Men's Club

Free food, fun activities, outreach opportunities: the members of Upsilon Delta Phi, Southern's Men's Club, have lots to do and enjoy every year.

The best part is that any male student taking six or more credits at Southern is automatically a member.

The club sponsors several events for members and non-members each year, announcing most of those events through *Flush Facts*, the men's residence hall newsletter.

"We provide food and activities for the men of Southern, which is intended to enhance their interaction with their friends here," Carl Patterson, assistant dean and club sponsor, says. "We also

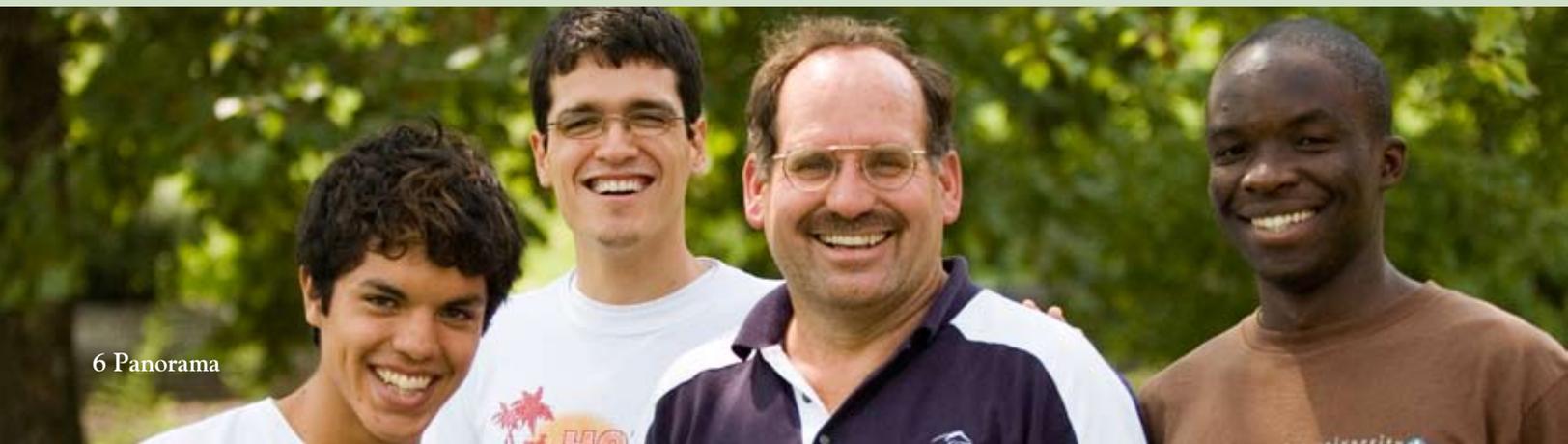
provide an opportunity to help others through our two community service projects each year."

Indeed, the club sponsors a wide variety of activities, including fun events like bowling night, nacho night, afterglow, popcorn night, tug of war, donut Sabbath morning, bread night, the pingpong tournament, bench press contests, and the semiannual Talge Hall Open house.

Upsilon Delta Phi also reaches out to the community by donating personal hygiene items to the Samaritan Center every Christmas and by raising money annually to donate to the Pan American Health Services Inc. Orphanage in Honduras.

"The mission of men's club is to provide opportunities for [members] to have fun in a Christian atmosphere," Ken Turpen, men's club president and junior health, physical education, and recreation major from Maryland, says. "[We do this] by providing a variety of activities, functions, and social gatherings for [members] to attend."

Associate Dean Carl Patterson with three men's club members



Calendar of Events

September	1	Vespers
	2	Cave open, Welcome-back lunch
	4	Immigration basics seminar
	5	Residence hall joint worship
	6	“Right From the Start” career workshops (Sept. 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21)
	7	Encounters (Sept. 7-9), Student organization information session
	8	Commitment Weekend (Sept. 8-10), Vespers, Ministries Expo
	9	Lawn concert, Evensong, Diversions
	10	Pancake feed at Student Park
	12	Yearbook pictures, Residence hall joint worship
	13	Lewis & Clark (convocation credit)
	14	Student Association (SA) Senate elections
	15	Vespers
	16	Open gym night
	19	Yearbook pictures, Residence hall joint worship
	20	SA Senate orientation
	22	SA Senate donut day, Vespers
	23	SA Joker release party
	25	ViewSouthern
	26	Residence hall joint worship
	29	Ministerial candidacy, Vespers

October	2	Mid-semester book buy-back (Oct. 2, 3)
	3	Residence hall joint worship
	4	SA Senate musical drama
	5	Meet the Firms
	6	SA Senate sweet tooth day, Vespers
	7	Cave open, Evensong, Latin American Club Night
	8	Symphony Orchestra/Organ concert
	9	InTents Meetings (Oct. 9-14)
	11	Yearbook Pictures
	12	PreView Southern
	14	Men’s Club bowling night
	15	Wind Symphony concert
	16	Midterm exams begin
	17	Career workshop
	19	Midterm break begins
	22	Flea Market
	24	Residence hall joint worship
	26	Promenade supper, Alumni Banquet, Organ: Sietze de Vries
	27	Vespers
	28	Alumni Homecoming
	29	School of Nursing 50-year gala, SA Fall Festival, Student Wellness Week (Oct. 29-Nov. 4)
	31	French Chamber Orchestra

Favorite Quote

“The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who cannot read them.”
~Mark Twain (1835-1910)

Submitted by Anh Pham, senior print journalism major from Texas

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

Exam Time	Sunday December 11	Monday December 12	Tuesday December 13	Wednesday December 14
8 a.m. to 9:50 a.m.		8 a.m. T Th 8:30 a.m. T Th	9 a.m. MWF 9 a.m. T Th	8 a.m. MWF 8 a.m. MTWThF
10 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.		9:30 a.m. T Th 10 a.m. T Th	11 a.m. MWF	10 a.m. MWF
12 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.	12 p.m. T Th 12:30 p.m. T Th	12 p.m. MWF	1 p.m. MWF 1 p.m. MTWThF	11 a.m. T
2 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.	English Composition	2 p.m. T Th 2:30 p.m. T Th	3 p.m. MW 3:30 p.m. MW 4 p.m. M	2 p.m. MW 2 p.m. MWF
4 p.m. to 5:50 p.m.		3 p.m. T Th 3:30 p.m. T Th	4 p.m. T Th 5 p.m. T Th 5 p.m. MW	Speech

Classes that meet after 6 p.m. will be given at the regular class time during test week. It is important that students be present for their final exam. Students with circumstances that might prevent their attendance are encouraged to arrange an earlier testing date with their professor. Rescheduling a midterm or final exam is \$65 per class.



Attack! A Summer Adventure

I worked this summer at a camp in Southern California as the assistant wakeboard director. Before wakeboard camp began, I found myself and another Southern student, Rebecca Burke, counseling 20 Pathfinder girls. We had fun with these girls and slept each night in huge teepees at the edge of camp.

Our teepees were mounted on the ridge of a hill, and right below us sat the wagons where the Pathfinder boys stayed. One night, I asked my squaws if they wanted to do a raid on the wagons for invading “Native American” territory. The girls squealed with delight and spent the rest of the week planning the grand event.

Sunday morning at 3:40 a.m., I awakened the girls and told them that if they made any noise at all on the way down to the wagons, they would be sent back to the teepees. To my amazement, every girl was silent. The plan was working perfectly. A few minutes later, the Indian girls had surrounded both wagons, and Rebecca and I held up our glow stick signals.

According to the plan, once the signal was given the girls were supposed to start whooping, hollering, and banging on the wagons, inflicting fear on the boys sleeping inside the wagons. I waved my glow stick furiously, but not one girl even squeaked. They just stared at me fearfully. After what seemed like an eternity, one girl let out a small, “Ah, ahh,” and then the others half-heartedly joined in. Almost immediately they ran back to the teepees and closed the flaps, short of breath.

Once inside, they jumped up and down, saying, “This was the craziest thing I’ve ever done! I can’t believe it! They must’ve been sooooo scared!” I laughed out loud at their interpretation of an attempt at a raid, but I didn’t burst their bubbles.

Maybe your son or daughter is afraid—perhaps of choosing a major, or getting to know new people, or just being away from home for the first time. New students need your love and unfailing support, plus frequent reminders to put their hope in God and place all fear aside as they courageously move forward.

~Erika Gemmell, junior social science and communication major from Maryland



Gemmell and three of her campers

Contact Us: We want to know what you think! If you have any comments, questions, or suggestions, please send them to Rebekah Bissell, editor, at rbissell@southern.edu or call 423.236.2021.

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