10-2010

Panorama October 2010

Southern Adventist University

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Before college Debbie Beihl, senior interdisciplinary physiology major, had a tradition of going on walks with her family on Sabbath afternoon. After coming to Southern, despite a distance of more than 200 miles, those walks didn’t end. They were just done a little bit differently.

With the convenience of cell phones, the Beihls would call each other on Sabbath afternoons, and using the speaker phone option, they’d talk while walking “together”—Debbie and her two brothers in Tennessee and their parents in South Carolina.

“It helped me stay connected and not feel homesick,” says Debbie, “especially to my home church because my parents would tell me about what was happening.”

Debbie and her mom also take advantage of the Mother/Daughter Weekend that Southern hosts every even year, opposite Parents Weekend, which is every odd year. (This academic year Parent’s Weekend will be February 18-20, 2011.)

“It’s something special for just the two of us,” says Debbie, sharing how they dress alike for the event.

These are just a couple of the ways that the Beihls are making memories with each other while miles apart.

Southern’s Assistant Chaplain Kevin Kibble also suggests that attending church with your student can be a way to stay connected and build some spiritually based memories. While this may seem impossible if you don’t live in the area, modern technology has already addressed that issue.

With live streaming of vesper and church services at the Collegedale Church, parents can see and hear the same message their students do at the same time they do.

Kibble adds that you can then discuss what you both learned later over the phone using Skype, software that allows video calls to be made over the Internet.

Students typically have more time on Sabbath to just chat than they do other days, when they are worried about completing assignments and making all of their appointments on time.

Here are other quick and easy ways to stay in touch and make memories from afar.

Text messages throughout the week can also brighten a student’s day. It’s like the high-tech version of the lunch-box notes. It’s a great way to let students know that you are thinking of them and miss them.

Facebook provides many different modes of communication for you and your student. Posting on their wall, commenting on their posts, or visiting their photos allows you to stay up-to-date with your student. With Facebook chat, you two can easily communicate during breaks in homework or classes.

“If it’s late at night and I know my parents are already asleep but I still need to discuss or vent about something that occurred during waking hours, I’ll send my mom a quick message on Facebook,” says John Shoemaker, senior public relations and business administration major.

By finding simple ways to keep in touch, you can stay emotionally close to your student even when the miles separate you.

~by Suzanne Ocsai, Editor
Did You Know?

Southern’s Technology Connects Parents to Campus

You don’t even have to leave your house to experience what life is like for your student on Southern’s campus.

Using today’s technology, parents can:

• View live streaming of vespers and worship services (southern.edu/streaming)
• Dive into the lives of students, parents, and campus leaders through Southern’s blogs southern.edu/blogs
• Follow Southern’s news through Facebook and Twitter (southern.edu/facebook and southern.edu/twitter)
• Download the Southern Adventist University app (southern.edu/iphone) for the iPhone or iPod, which includes a people directory, a campus map, the dining hall menu, Southern’s news and events, and live streaming of Southern’s radio station, WSMC Classical 90.5

Isaac James, Southern’s eCommunications manager, is excited about the many opportunities that technology provides to help parents preview the Southern experience. He says, “One of our goals for the Southern website is to allow parents and prospective students to experience what life is like at Southern and see what’s happening.”

Calendar of Events

~by Jarod Keith

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20-24 Midterm Break</td>
<td>1-6 Student Missions Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-25 Adventist Heritage Tour</td>
<td>8-12 SA Senate spirit week</td>
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<tr>
<td>28-31 Alumni Homecoming</td>
<td>10-13 ACROFEST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Last day for 40 percent tuition refund</td>
<td>12 SA Senate pancake breakfast</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12 Star watch</td>
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|                  | 12 Pierson Lectureship   | 19-21 I Cantori Tour
|                  | 13 Symphony Orchestra Concert | 20-23 New York Study Tour |
|                  | 15 Online winter registration for returning sophomores, juniors, and seniors | 21 Cowboy Jubilee |
|                  | 24-28 Thanksgiving Break | 24-28 Thanksgiving Break
|                  | 28 Symphony Orchestra Concert Competition finals | 28 Symphony Orchestra Concert |
|                  | 30 Christmas on the Promenade | 30 Christmas on the Promenade |

Favorite Bible Verse

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name” (John 20:31, NIV).

~Submitted by Tiffani Caldwell, freshman broadcast journalism major

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In an effort to unite Southern’s growing student body, three new student positions were added by Campus Ministries for the 2010-2011 academic school year.

“The larger Southern gets, the smaller it needs to become,” says Brennon Kirstein, Campus Ministries chaplain. “This is one attempt at getting small and staying intimate.”

Jeff Harper, a senior theology major, and Jolene Shafer, a sophomore liberal arts education major, were hired as the Talge and Thatcher student chaplains to bring personal pastoral care to the residence hall students. “It is wonderful to be on the front lines of campus helping others see the love that Christ has for them,” says Jolene.

Jeff and Jolene are committed to strengthening the prayer and visitation ministries to residence hall students by praying with students, providing advice, and simply listening to those who need someone to talk to.

In addition to the student chaplain positions, Campus Ministries also hired Jon Rimatera, a senior theology major, as the Sabbath School director. Under his leadership, four different Sabbath School classes have been launched based on student’s personal preferences and needs.

“One of the big worship services that Taitague planned and organized was the lawn concert vespers. The lawn concert is held outside, and students perform spiritual pieces through song or instrument. In between musical selections, there is scripture reading. “The lawn concert was exciting to see,” says Ingrid Hernandez, a sophomore public relations and business administration major. “It was a relaxing setting with the music, lights, and everyone on their blankets. I really enjoyed it, and I liked the variety of music styles.”

Not only is Taitague in charge of planning worship events, but she is also there for students with a listening ear. “Bernette is very dedicated and focused in whatever she does,” says Jolene Shafer, a sophomore liberal arts education major who works with Taitague in Campus Ministries. “She has a spiritual mindset and encourages the rest of us.”

~by Carrie Francisco

Jolene Shafer is the Thatcher Hall student chaplain.

One Accord, a Sabbath School supported by the three ethnic clubs on campus; Paraboles, a freshmen-led Sabbath School; and High Definition, a student-requested topical Sabbath School.

~by John Shoemaker
Students Say

We asked students to share how their parents have impacted their spiritual lives. Here are their answers:

“My dad lives in Africa, so when I visited him last year for Thanksgiving. He encouraged me to pray every night for family worship.”

Tina Carriger, freshman theology major

“They have reached out to people from our church by inviting them over for meals.”

Ashley Goulet, senior long-term care administration major

“My parents always made sure I had a personal relationship with Christ. They always said, ‘It’s not something you inherit but something you create and continually work on.’”

Nirali Peter, junior biology/pre-med major

“I’ve noticed how my mom is more patient with my grandparents despite the difficulties that come with their aging. She has handled it in a Christian manner.”

Caitie Schwarz, sophomore nursing major

“Every Sabbath afternoon, my family sits together and has Bible study.”

Guevara Samson, sophomore business administration major

“My dad decided to go back to the ministry as a pastor. That has inspired me.”

Simone Marshall, sophomore journalism major

“My mom likes to call me and pray with me on the phone.”

Joshua Ortiz, sophomore business administration major

“They’re teachers, so I’ve seen them lead by example and I’ve applied their teachings in my own life.”

Chris Janetzko, sophomore mass communication major

“My mother started a country-living ministry, and through it I’ve realized the importance of Ellen G. White’s advice on living in the country.”

Shana Browne, sophomore business administration and math major