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PANORAMA

parent newsletter | September 2021



Student-Led Evangelistic Meetings Change Lives

This summer, 14 Southern theology students conducted several evangelistic series in North Carolina, resulting in 21 baptisms. The team was led by [School of Religion](#) professor David Hartman, DMin, and partnered with Roger Hernandez, ministerial and evangelism director for the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

The students observed Hernandez conducting a revelation seminar for one week before splitting up to hold their own meetings at nine churches in the area. For four weeks, the students preached using materials developed by the Voice of Prophecy.

“The goal of this exercise is for the students to taste and experience evangelism first-hand,” Hartman said.

Calendar

September

25 | All Night Softball

27 | Last Day for 60% Tuition Refund

27-1 | Student Missions Emphasis Week

30 | Convocation - Presidential Inauguration

October

1 | Vespers - Student Missions

1 | FAFSA applications open for 2022-2023 school year

3 | Symphony Orchestra Concert

7 | Meet the Firms and Graduate Studies

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decisions to get baptized. I'm excited that these young people are going to catch His vision, be empowered by the Spirit, and prepare this generation for Christ's return."

Edgar Escobar, junior theology major, had the unexpected blessing of partnering with his wife, Daphne, to reach people for Christ. While preaching at High Point Seventh-day Adventist Church, he realized there were Spanish-speaking attendees who desired to join the services but struggled to understand the English preaching. Escobar asked his bilingual wife to translate the meetings each day. Although seven months pregnant, she agreed, and the two worked together to share the gospel in both English and Spanish.

"We were both happy to be doing ministry together and to see the Holy Spirit working on people's hearts," Escobar said.

By the end of the series, five people were led to baptism. The church members and attendees were so touched by the experience that they threw the Escobars a baby shower after the last sermon.

"This experience showed me the impact that I can have when preaching," Escobar said. "It's important to see how God is working in our lives constantly. It solidifies the idea that God is with you during everything—it solidifies your spiritual calling."

by Madison Reinschmidt

10 | Wind Symphony Concert

14-17 | Midterm Break

15 | Deadline for graduation contracts for December/May graduates

24-29 | Student Association Spirit Week; Senior Exit Exam

28-31 | Homecoming Weekend

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Mental and spiritual counselors are available for all students, including virtually for those in quarantine and isolation.

Student Support Services
423.236.2782

Office of Ministry and

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Professor David Hartman and these 14 theology students led evangelistic meetings over the summer. (Photo taken while masks were not required)

Mental Wellness Week

Connecting Students to the Resources They Need

To start the school year off right, Southern's [Student Support Services](#) team conducted the second annual Mental Wellness Week from August 30 to September 3. This event functions as an on-campus health fair focusing on five aspects of wellness: physical, emotional, cognitive, social, and spiritual health.



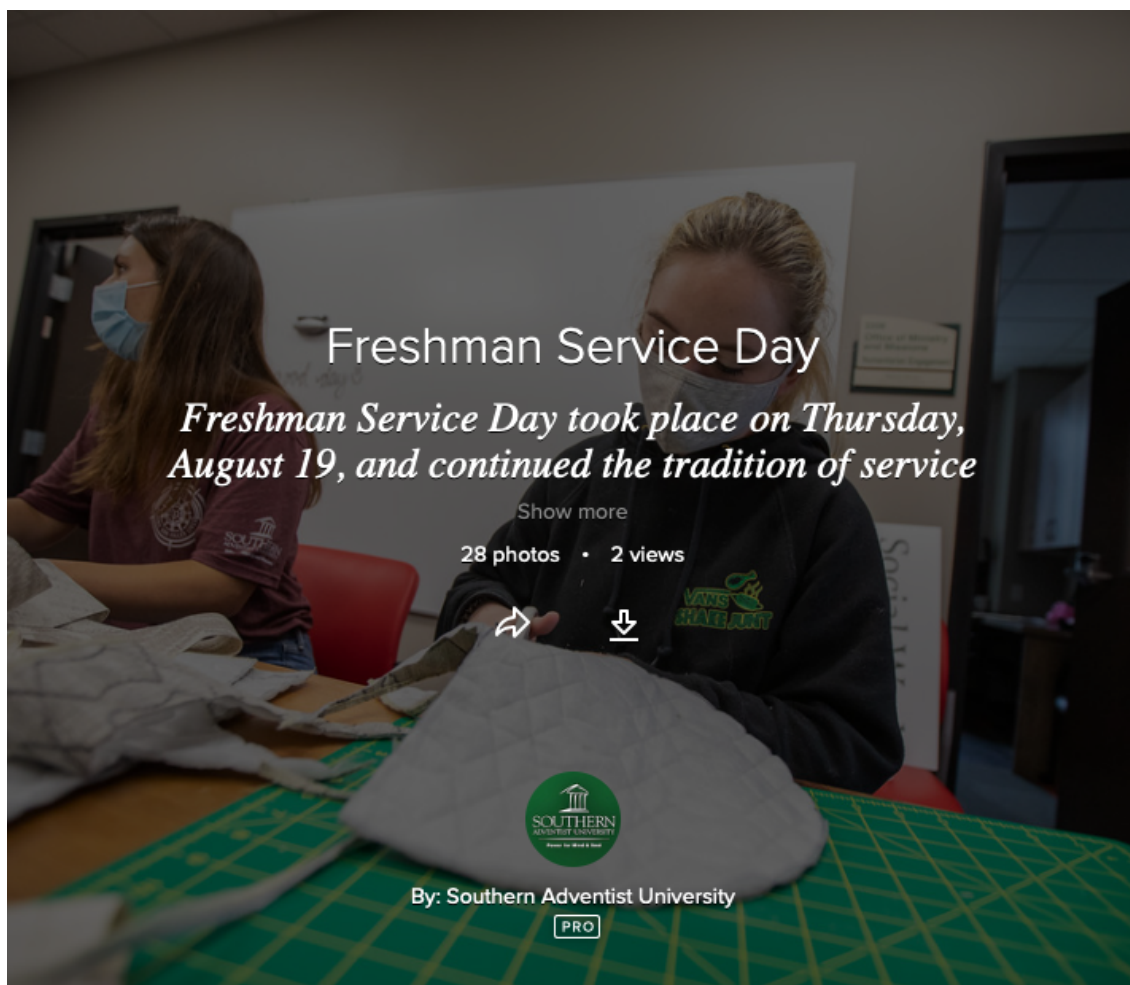
“We start right off showing students that mental health is a priority here at Southern, that we care about their wellbeing, and that there are a lot of resources for them to utilize,” said Tiffany Bartell, Counseling Services coordinator.

Throughout the week, different organizations operated booths in the [Bietz Center for Student Life](#). Both on- and off-campus entities were represented, such as the Office of Ministry and Missions, Student Association, and the Tennessee Suicide Prevention

Kim Daniel, a graduate student pursuing a master’s degree in clinical mental health counseling, helped lead the week’s activities and said multiple students praised how the event normalized conversations on mental health.

“We have a university that really appreciates and understands mental wellness,” Daniel said. “Many people don’t have that community.”

by Amanda Blake



Check out the Freshman Service Day Album on Flickr, [here!](#)

Student Organizations Enrich Campus Life

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campus and connect with others who have shared interests. One way they can do this is through student organizations or clubs; Southern hosts approximately 40 on campus each year, covering a wide range of areas, including academic, athletic, cultural, professional, and more. They provide a supportive community where students can develop leadership skills and enrich their lives outside the classroom.

“It’s important that students get out and get involved in student life,” said Kari Shultz, director of student life and activities. “It gives a feeling of belonging to be in an organization—a sisterhood or brotherhood.”

Academic Organizations

To help students get involved while furthering their studies, most academic departments and schools on campus host clubs that tie in with their areas. Many hold events where guest speakers discuss job opportunities, tips for networking in their field, and other relevant topics.



“Business Society hosted the first event that I went to my freshman year of college,” said Madison Morgan, junior accounting major and Business Society president. “I got to meet my professors for the first time, as well as new friends who I would see in class every day. Business Society helps students make connections and engage in the world of business. Spending time with others who are taking an interest in their future is refreshing.”

Hobby Organizations

A number of campus organizations are centered around hobbies, such as Southern Smiths and Creature Kind, with several encouraging students to be more active, including SCUBA Club, Southern Striders, Table Tennis, and Biking Club.

“After I found Southern’s Biking Club, I started going every Friday, and the cyclists that I met became my closest friends,” said John Hargy, sophomore biology major and now Biking Club president. “It’s a great way to end the stressful week with a combination of exercise and socialization.”

Cultural Organizations

Southern’s cultural organizations provide a place where students can celebrate culture, relate to peers, and grow community. Students of any race or ethnicity are welcome to join these clubs to learn more about their own culture or about one that interests them. Asian Club, Black Christian Union (BCU), and Latin American Club (LAC) are among the long-

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Student Union forming more recently.

“BCU provided me with friends to hang out with, peers to study with, and fellow believers to attend church with,” said Tahkai Martin, junior psychology major and BCU president. “BCU is more than a family or

organization—it’s a community focused on garnering a more personal connection with God. BCU strives to highlight the fact that our club is not just for people who can check the African, African-American, Afro-Caribbean, Afro-Latinx, and other Black boxes, but for everyone willing to follow God.”

For more information about student organizations, visit southern.edu/clubs.

by Madison Reinschmidt

Welcome Back!

Dear Parent,

We are excited that students have returned to campus for the 2021-2022 school year! By reading the content in *Panorama*, you can stay updated on exciting events, stories, and updates here at Southern.

Your thoughts and feedback are valuable! Email southernparents@southern.edu or call 423.236.2581 with your comments or questions. I look forward to interacting with you and providing relevant information throughout the year.

Thank you for your support!

Madison Reinschmidt, junior mass communication major
Panorama Editor

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