

THE

WIRE

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newsletter & ministry of the Calhoun Seventh-day Adventist Church

How Long Will We Remember?

PASTOR ALBERT HANDAL

For the last several weeks I've been repeatedly hearing about the Casey Anthony saga. The story has gripped the nation. People everywhere have been glued to the television awaiting the outcome.

Many felt that a guilty verdict was the only just solution. Others were convinced of her innocence. In the end, she was set free and declared innocent of the crime.

The internet erupted in articles and blogs declaring the verdict an injustice of historic proportions. People ranted. People raved. On the twitter micro-blog website, the top ten trending topics of the day were all related to the Casey Anthony trial. Several websites declared it the "trial of the decade." Really? I guess that's not a difficult distinction to earn when you're at the front end of the decade.

Surely the trial will capture our attention for years to come, right? Nope. Unfortunately, we have a pretty short attention span.

The very next day the top trending topics on twitter were about National Kissing Day, the best looking Jonas brother, and a few other equally banal topics. We were rabidly angry one day and



Photo courtesy of Georgia-Cumberland Conference

Gary and Denise Rustad

shruggingly indifferent the next. Our attention spans are shorter than ever before. Is that a good thing?

For the last several months our church has been frothing with excitement over who will be our next pastor. The answer? Gary Rustad, a talented young preacher from Auburn, Georgia.

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After a lengthy interview process, our church board voted 24-0 in a solemn moment of spirited unanimity to invite Gary and his wife Denise to be our next pastor. I hope that wasn't lost on you. Our church board, with all of its colorful characters and varied backgrounds, voted unanimously.

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This has to be one of the greatest expressions of unity from our church board—a tangible and recent example of God's spirit leading in our church. The question is: How long until this momentous moment of unity starts getting fuzzy in our distant memory?

It reminds me of all of the miracles that surrounded the exodus of the Hebrew people from Egypt. There were crazy plagues, fire from heaven, rivers of blood, angels of death, pillars of fire, dry sea floors, water from rocks, and yet, in spite of all of those miraculous events, the people still forgot. They asked Moses why he'd brought them out into the desert to die. They grumbled that God didn't care about them. They forgot.

For the last week I've been euphoric about the unity that has been displayed by the leaders of our church. In case you'd forgotten, unity is a pretty big deal. Jesus could have prayed for a lot of things but instead he prayed that "we might be one." He prayed for what we're experiencing right now. My euphoria has a worry though. How long until we forget? More specifically, how long until we forget God's leading in our pastoral search?

God has some amazing things he wants to do with our church. And right now, we're primed and ready to go. For all intents and purposes, we're all on the same page. But without effort we won't stay that way for long. Our natural attention spans are just too short. As a church we must actively pursue unity. We must actively mend fences and rebuild bridges. We must actively support our leaders in any way that we can.

What part will each of us play in the next phase of our church's future? Will we be one of the grumblers that forgets, or will we be among the remembering faithful. Will we be among those who criticize our leaders, or will we be among the supportive encouragers. Will we be counted amongst the trouble makers and accusers, or will be a part of the unity movement.

God has done something profound in leading our new pastor to us. How long will we remember? The ministry potential in this community is huge. The tasks are great and stakes are high. That is why, my dear friends, I'm hoping we remember for a long long time.

PRAYER FAMILIES

JUNE 26 - JULY 2

1. Mickey & Cindy Bankhead
2. Hale Burnside
3. Jere & Doris Darbo
4. Jim Fowler
5. Brint & Michelle Hite and family
6. Ryan & Summer Kirkham
7. Millie Monterde
8. Jason & Wendy Porter
9. Dorothy Sauder
10. Marty Sutton and family

JULY 10-16

1. Fred & Heather Barasoain and family
2. Lennox & Maya Foster
3. Ashley Davis
4. Jerry & Laurie Foxworthy
5. Joel & Johnna Hoag
6. Eddie & Debbie Klein
7. Bruce & Diane Moon
8. Jeff & Christy Putnam and family
9. Doug & Debbie Schmidt and family
10. Lisa Swafford

JULY 24-30

1. Roxanna Barry and family
2. James & Nancy Button and family
3. Linda Davis
4. Brittany Frost
5. Steve & Connie Hodges
6. Donnie & Stephanie Moore and family
7. Kevin Qualls
8. Eric & Katie Schnell and family
9. Mark & Carol Talley
10. Alvin & Christina Williams and family

JULY 3-9

1. Gregg & Kasha Barasoain
2. Jennifer Burnside
3. Priscilla Darbo
4. Sean & Raye Fowler and family
5. Al & Doralee Klein
6. Cassandra Moody
7. Rocky & Sharon Schlange
8. John & Janis Swafford
9. Tony & Karen Whitfield and family
10. Alvin & Christina Williams and family

JULY 17-23

1. Fred & Penny Barasoain
2. Jeff Butterfield
3. Jason & Melissa Davis and family
4. Michael & Tonia Frisbee and family
5. Jason & Jessi Hodges and family
6. Kevin Klein
7. Tracy Moon
8. Gilbert & Mary Faye Qualls
9. Doug Schneider
10. Tasha Swift and family

JULY 31 - AUGUST 6

1. Jim & Katie Bartlett and family
2. Jean Cameron
3. Bryan & LaShay Dawkins
4. David & Wanda Gal
5. Craig & Kimi Hadley
6. Anthony & Teresa Hodgkins and family
7. Ed & Carol Krincek and family
8. Gary & Gayle Moore
9. Brian & Kristin Rabuka
10. Joe & Cady Schulman and family

NEW MEMBERS

Lee & Barbara Evins

Lee and Barbara are transferring from the Marietta church. They both enjoy travel and yard sales. Lee is VP of Revenue Cycle Management for Well Star Health Systems. He also enjoys fishing and playing golf. Barbara is an English instructor at Chattahoochee Technical College/North Metro campus.



Bob and Susan Maehre

Bob and Susan are transferring to the Calhoun church from Cedar City, Utah. Bob has been a pastor for 30 years, but is now producing "Hymns Alive" CD's & DVD's. Susan is a counselor who enjoys singing, playing the piano, and helping people.

Enlarging *His*
Circle of Love

Austin Terrell Fund

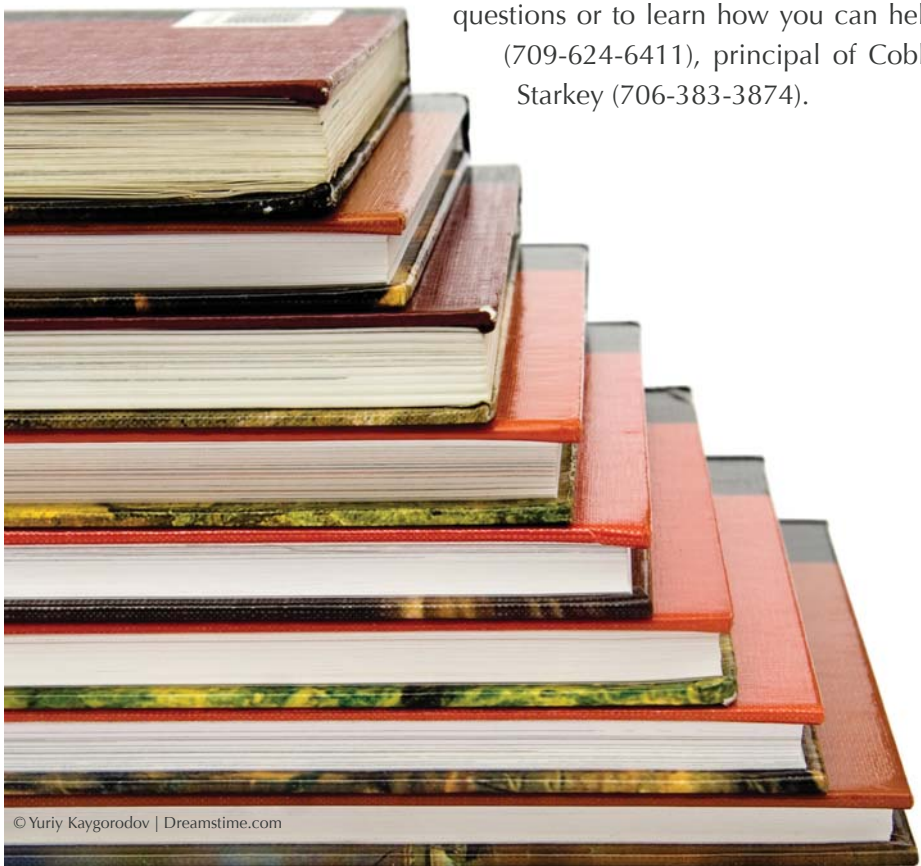
What is the Austin Terrell Fund? This fund was established three years ago with funds that were donated by a friend and former patient of Dr. Don Starkey. It was agreed that these funds would be used only for Christian education at Coble Elementary School. To date, this fund has enabled many students to attend Coble Elementary who would otherwise have been deprived of this privilege.

This fund operates under the umbrella of Coble Elementary School and, therefore, has the same tax status as our church and school.

The intent when establishing this fund was that it would provide a secure place for funding intended to be used only and directly to help students who may not be able to obtain a Christian education because of insufficient financing.

The fund is diminishing at this point and we are in need of more donors in order to keep this fund vibrant and useful as it was intended. In the past two years approximately \$28,000 has been donated directly to assist students in obtaining a Christian education. So if you have an interest in seeing more of your funds go directly to students in need, this is the place for you to invest. This is an investment for eternity;

there is no more effective evangelism than Christian education. For questions or to learn how you can help, please contact Rick Stitzer (709-624-6411), principal of Coble Elementary School or Don Starkey (706-383-3874).



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THE CORKBOARD

WEDDING: You are invited to the wedding of Katelyn Stearns and Justin Sharp on Sunday, July 10, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon at the Calhoun Seventh-day Adventist Church.

LADIES! Mark Your Calendars for July 16 at 8 p.m. Women's Ministries Event: "Husbands Are NOT Girlfriends!" Plan for an evening of fun, fellowship, and food! ALL ladies are welcome. Questions? Ask Carole Huddleston for details.

BABY SHOWER for Jenniffer Evans Sunday, July 17, at 10 a.m. in the church fellowship hall. It's a boy – Caleb Michael! They are registered at Wal-Mart.

CONFERENCE-WIDE, CONFERENCE-SPONSORED PRISON MINISTRIES TRAINING: Sabbath, July 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the conference office in Calhoun, Georgia. Cost: \$30 which includes lunch and supper and training notebook. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. DEADLINE: JULY 11.** To register or for more information, call 1-800-567-1844, Ext. 348.

Momentum: Training Women for Leadership July 29-31. Creating momentum is not easy. It takes hard work and effort, but once you have momentum, it can change your ministry. This high impact weekend is for ALL serious-minded women leaders who want to develop and cultivate skills that will enable them to better serve in a leadership position. Space is limited to the first 100 women to register so register soon! For questions contact Donna Crandall

at dcrandall@gccsda.com or call 1-800-567-1844 ext. 342. Sponsored by the Women's Ministries Department, Georgia Cumberland Conference.

THANK YOU to all who volunteered their time and talents for the "Meet My Jesus" Vacation Bible School June 13-17. What an amazing time was had with crafts, snacks, games, prayer room and plays all with the goal of meeting Jesus! Over 90 children enjoyed each evening's activities. Praise God for the blessings from this event!

CONGRATULATIONS to Eric & Morgan Bailey on the birth of a daughter, Ellie Kate, born June 12 weighing 7 lb. 3 oz. and 20 inches long. Proud grandparents are Teresa & Joe Welch and Julie & Doug Mittleider. Great-grandparents are Ken & Barbara Mittleider.

WE EXTEND OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY and prayers to Charles Young and family whose mother, Leta Young, passed away June 14 in Randolph Center, Vermont.

WE EXTEND DEEPEST SYMPATHY and our prayers to Hope Munro and family whose mother, Nellie Slaton, passed away June 17.

CONGRATULATIONS to Joe & Ashleigh Langshaw on the birth of a daughter, Maddie Jane, born June 21 weighing 8 lb. 7 oz. and 20 1/2 inches long.

THE PASTORAL STAFF wants to be there for those who are sick or in the hospital. Please let the church office know when you or a loved one is in the hospital.

Christian Satellite Systems

For those who may not be familiar with what is available from the Adventist media on TV, let me refresh you. 3ABN offers 3 channels which include 1 Spanish channel. Hope TV from the Adventist Media Center offers 3 channels including 1 Spanish channel and the Hope Church channel. Loma Linda Broadcasting has 3 channels, English, Arabic, and Chinese. Amazing Facts, Smart Lifestyle and Amazing Discoveries have 1 channel each. In addition to the Adventist-sponsored channels, a multitude of Christian channels are also available with the package—over 100 channels, if you desire to have them. In addition to the TV channels, Lifetalk Radio, 3ABN Radio, and Radio 74 are also available as radio channels.

Having the satellite TV service provides you with quality programming which is Christian-based and a welcome alternative to secular TV programs. Once you have it, you will not want to be without it.

Some of our members have indicated that the reason they have not had an interest in obtaining a satellite system has been the cost. The Calhoun Church has recently been able to negotiate a much better price for the system than has previously been offered for satellite systems, actually 50% less. There are no monthly fees for the service so the only cost you have is the initial cost of \$110 for the system. Installation can often be done by the consumer or we may be able to provide that for a slight additional cost. Setup and adjustment of the dish along with free advice on installation is included.

For information or questions, you may contact Don Starkey, 706-383-3874 or 770-548-1895.

MISSING: We are still missing 7 rectangle tables. Please return to the church as soon as possible.

BLACKBERRIES ARE READY! \$10-you pick, \$15-I pick. 706-602-9399 or 678-986-2536.

LOOKING TO RENT a house in the \$500 to 550/month range. Would like 2 bedrooms and no stairs. Has two small Chihuahuas. Call Pearl Jenkins at 706-234-1487.

ADDRESS UPDATES:

Lee & Barbara Evins

123 Hawks Trail
Waleska, GA 30183
770-855-7561

Bob & Susan Maehre

120 Regency Row
Calhoun, GA 30701
706-844-8878

Joyce Maples

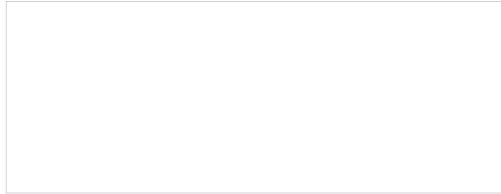
1408 Union Grove Church Rd
Adairsville, GA 30103



CALHOUN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
1411 ROME RD. SW
CALHOUN, GA 30701

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