

THE

VINE

CONNECT. THRIVE. BEAR FRUIT.

newsletter & ministry of the Calhoun Seventh-day Adventist Church

Attention, Please!

PASTOR ALBERT HANDAL

It was probably around 3 o'clock in the morning and outside the car huge, dirty snowflakes whizzed passed the car as I drove down the road. The scenery outside was the backcountry of Quebec, Canada and, needless to say, there weren't very many lights or sights to keep me interested and more importantly—awake.

For spring break a couple of friends and I had decided on a whim to drive deep into the heart of Canada without much more planning than you would do to prepare for a shopping trip. We got out of mid-term exams, loaded the car up with clothes and food, and sped off into the evening intending to drive 24 hours straight till we arrived in the 16th century walls of Quebec City. We took shifts behind the driver's seat but I somehow pulled the short straw and found myself driving at the most awful hours of the night. My eyelids were beginning to sag and every part of my body was begging me to drift off to sleep. I needed something to keep me awake, but what? The other two guys in the



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car weren't helping anything with their relaxed fits of snoring and drooling.

Suddenly I came up with a plan. Because of the Canadian blizzard outside of the car we were all comfortably wrapped in heavy coats and blankets inside the car. I reached down to the air conditioning console and turned the heat thermostat all the way to the top. Instantly, the

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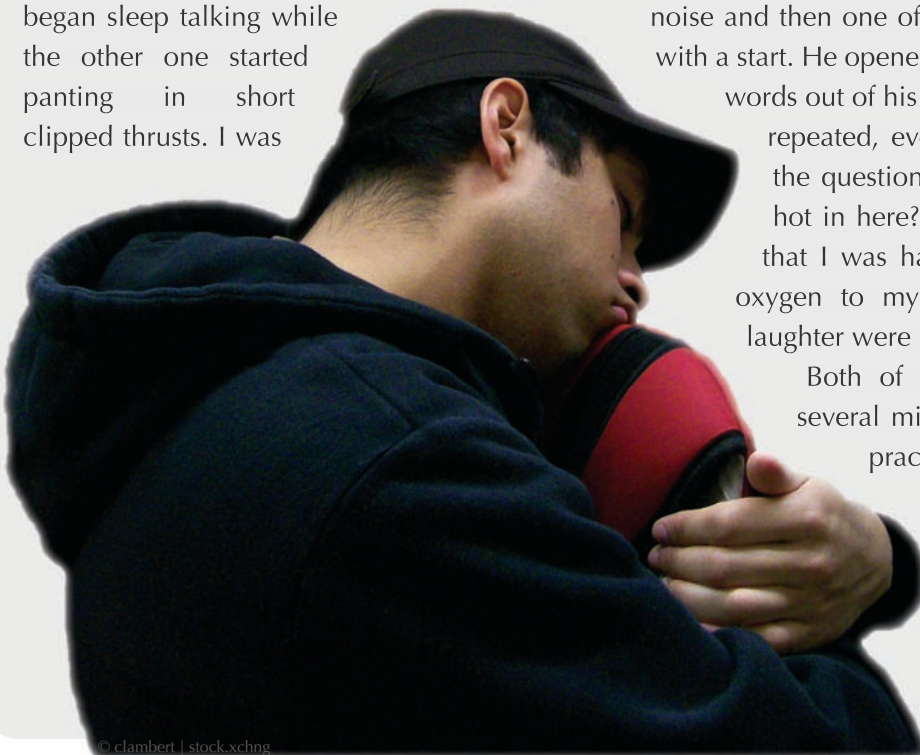
RPMs on the engine jumped by a couple hundred and furnace-like heat started pouring from the vents. The car was only a couple of years old so everything was in perfect working condition.

Within seconds I had to take my jacket off because it was already too warm in the car. After about ten more minutes of these volcanic conditions I'd removed my t-shirt and was hurtling down the road bare-chested. I kept looking over at the other two guys in the car as they continued sleeping unaware of the gradual climate change that was happening. Wrapped in blankets and jackets they slowly started fidgeting in their sleep. The fidgeting progressed to constant movement as sweat began forming on their faces. One of them began sleep talking while the other one started panting in short clipped thrusts. I was

literally cooking them in their down jackets. I didn't want to make too much sound and risk waking them up, so I tried my best to muffle my response to this scene. I was laughing so hard, yet so silently that it looked like I'd just been told about the loss of a loved one. I had big hot tears pouring down my face while my smile was stuck nearly crying. Nothing had really happened, but the anticipation of what was about to happen was killing me.

The inside of the car was now so hot that you could have baked a sheet of cookies right on the upholstery and these guys were moments away from becoming completely sleep-cooked to the core. I was now working so hard to suppress my laughter that I began to make a low hacking noise and then one of the guys finally woke up with a start. He opened his eyes and the first few words out of his mouth should not ever be repeated, ever. He followed that with the question, "Why is it so BLAZING hot in here?!" I was laughing so hard that I was having a hard time getting oxygen to my brain and the tears of laughter were stinging my vision.

Both of the guys spent the next several minutes berating me for my practical joke and changing their clothes because they were now soaked in sweat. They also had a hard time falling back to sleep. Probably still nervous about what



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I would do if they were to close their eyes again, they told me that I had their full attention and would be more than happy to stay awake and keep me company.

I thought about that story this last week as I thought about how God has been trying to get my attention in the last year. The past 12 months have involved more change in my life than any other time in my life. It's been pretty dramatic. I got engaged, I started working as the interim pastor, I got married, I preached more than I've ever preached in my life, I moved into a new house, my sister got married, I got a new boss, I interviewed for a job, I'm moving to Texas, I'm starting to pastor a new church, I'm packing and moving all over again, I'm leaving all of my friends and family, etc.

Good gracious. If there were any part of me that still felt like I could do it all on my own, God has done a pretty good job of turning my world upside down and getting my full attention. In the last year I've dealt with whole waves of emotions that have threatened to blow me away. Emotions like confusion, inadequacy, fear, and doubt. But it has been for precisely those moments that God has sought to get my attention and let me know that it's Him who does the leading, it's Him who does the providing, and it's HIM who gives me all the strength I need to move forward. As God told Paul, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

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So how about your life? As you look back at the last several months can you see a pattern? How has God been trying to get your attention. In fact, the Bible says that God has designed the whole universe to point your attention back to Him. Psalms says, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge."

God is desperately trying to get your attention. Will you let Him? Will you acknowledge His role as King in your life or will you continue to try and do your own thing?

My advice? Turn to Jesus. Let Him lead. Life is better that way.

PRAYER FAMILIES

AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 3

1. Trey & Jessie Bentley and family
2. Dale & April Carpenter and family
3. Art & Sharon DeCamp
4. David Geary
5. Bryan & Annette Holden and family
6. John Ladage
7. Darla Morgan and family
8. Mike Rameriz, Jr.
9. David & Thy Self and family
10. Chris Shadix
11. Joel Willis

SEPTEMBER 11-17

1. David Benton
2. Kristy Carpenter
3. Robert & Jessica DeForest and family
4. Wayne & Amanda Gerber and family
5. Paul & Cheri Holden
6. Judy Lance and family
7. Debra Moss
8. Brian & Therese Randall
9. Chris Shadix
10. William & Amy Terry and family
11. Andrew Wills

SEPTEMBER 25 - OCTOBER 1

1. Nathan & Stephanie Bible and family
2. Brad & Tina Carrick and family
3. Marc DiBiase
4. Jamie Gibson
5. Donna Hooper
6. Sandra Lance
7. Hillary Munro
8. Tim & Susan Reeve and family
9. Tony & Bonnie Shadix
10. Molly Theus
11. Susie Wilson

SEPTEMBER 4-10

1. Barry & Sandy Benton
2. Judy Carpenter
3. Kenneth & Jo DeFoor
4. Bill & Ginnie Geary
5. Linda Holden
6. Velma Ladage
7. Mike Morgan and family
8. Mike & Brenda Ramirez and family
9. Tom & Lorraine Self
10. Josh & Jenny Tello
11. Tim Willis

SEPTEMBER 18-24

1. Jean Berube
2. Kathy Carpenter
3. Richard & Melanie DiBiase and family
4. Joyce & Charles Gheen
5. Robert & Sandy Holland
6. May Lance
7. Marty & Hope Munro
8. Lemmy Recinos
9. Steven Shadix
10. Deborah Theus and family
11. Dave & Olanda Wilson and family

NEW MEMBERS



Mary Kundig

Mary is transferring to Calhoun Church from Brandon, Florida. Mary was born and lived most of her life in Florida. She moved to Dalton, to an assisted living center, to be nearer to her daughter, Patti Hoover. Mary has six children, 16 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. She loves playing bingo and making friends. She especially enjoys having her family come to visit.

WOMEN OF FAITH CONFERENCE

We spend so much time *waiting* to be happy: when I meet “the one”...when the kids are grown...when I retire. *What are you waiting for?* Join us in 2012 and discover the joys hiding in plain sight, even in the midst of challenges. Right here, right now, there are reasons and moments to celebrate!!

My sincere hope is that all of you who came this year will want to be a part of this amazing two-day, life-changing event next year. We will be blessed by adorable Patsy Clairmont and the marvelous Marilyn Meberg. There will be many more, but these two wonderful ladies will be there for sure!

All I need from you to reserve your seat for this “Celebration Conference” is a \$10.00 deposit by October 1, 2011. I then send in this deposit to “WOF” to hold our seats. You can either pay on a “Payment Schedule” (\$20.00) on: January 13, 2012, March 30, May 25 and the balance by July 1, or you can pay \$10.00 by October 1 and the balance anytime before July 1, or what ever works out best for you.

So, I encourage you to “make a date with WOF” on September 21-22, 2012 and plan your year around it. You won’t be sorry...I can promise you that!

Thanks Bunches,
Jennifer Coble

THE CORKBOARD

WELCOME PARTY FOR NEW PASTOR & FAMILY:

Please join us September 24th at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall as we welcome our new pastor and family, Gary & Denise Rustad, Ava and Elayna. Watch upcoming bulletins for more information.

TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER CIRCLE

meets each Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the prayer room. Open to anyone wanting to become more involved in the prayer life of our church.

ADVENTURER CLUB:

You can still register your child in Adventurer Club - grades PreK-4th grade. Come to our first meeting September 7 from 6:15-7:30 p.m. NOTICE WE HAVE NEW HOURS. We meet in the old Coble school. Please contact Erin Hass 706-625-1222 or Renee Miranda 770-354-3563 for more information.

ANNUAL PARTY:

We're celebrating September birthdays of Gordon Health Care residents on Tuesday, September 27 at 2 p.m. Share some joy with your presents--or your presence! Please sign up on the bulletin board or by calling Joyce Young at 706. 629.9811.

MEN'S RETREAT

is planned for October 7-9, 2011 at Cohutta Springs, camp side. Jerry Arnold, Senior Pastor of Collegedale Community SDA Church, will be the guest speaker. The theme will be Spiritual Preparation for the Last Days. Watch for more information!

TEEN PRAYER CONFERENCE: Topic: Grounded, Surviving the Storm Depends on Where Your Roots Are. Explore current issues young people face in today's popular media and culture. November 4-5 at Savannah First SDA Church. Music + spirit-filled messages + food + fellowship + prayer room + book sale + friends + campfire. Guest speaker will be Steve Wohlberg. Television producer, radio host and the author of 25 books, he has been a guest on more than 500 radio and television shows and has spoken by special invitation inside the Pentagon and U.S. Senate.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Jenniffer & Darrin Evans on the birth of a son, Caleb Michael, born August 22. He weighed 7 lb. 4 oz. and was 21 inches. Proud grandparents are Carole & Jim Huddleston and Ted & Kris Evans.

COBLE HOME AND SCHOOL FUNDRAISER:

If you would like to order new magazine subscriptions or renew any existing ones, Coble can benefit! 40% of all sales go to Coble. You may order or renew at qsp.com. Click on shop now and enter Coble's ID number: 1100650. If you would like a specific



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student to receive credit for prizes, please add his or her name to your order. If you would prefer to see a catalog and order by order form, they are available at the school or through any Coble student. You may also contact Patti Miller at 706-766-1826. Don't miss this opportunity to support Coble through your pleasure reading!

SENIOR SISTERS will be having a YARD SALE. Donations are needed. Will pick up. Call 706-602-9399 or 678-986-2536.

HAITI FUNDRAISER YARD SALE: Sunday, October 2, at the church. Please be saving your items for us and plan to come and support our members who want to go to Haiti in October!

CLOTHES DRYER FOR SALE: In good condition. Call 770-608-1447.

THE FOOD BANK needs a refrigerator.

MISSING BOOK: Someone took a book from the library display table. Please return the book right away as those were for display only, not to be taken. You may leave it with Mary May in the church office. As soon as we get the shelves in the library and are able to reorganize, we will be able to check out books. Thank you.

YOUNG ADULT LIFEGROUP EXPERIENCE:

Sept 30 - Oct. 1, 2011 at the student center at Southern Adventist University. Come join other young adults to experience a Life Group and learn how you can start his effective ministry with your

September Preaching Schedule

Sept. 3	Albert Handal
Sept. 10	Albert Handal
Sept. 17	Gary Rustad
Sept. 24	Gary Rustad

friends. There is NO CHARGE for this event, but space is limited, so register early to secure your spot. More information and registration form can be found at www.golifegroups.com or by contacting Alyse at 706-602-7346 or alyse@gccsda.com.

LIBRARY: Please do not donate anymore books to the library until further notice. We do not have room for them until our shelves are installed. We also have no need of VHS or cassette tapes. Thank you.

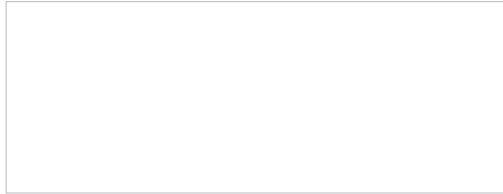
CALHOUN HOME FOR RENT OR SALE: 5 br, 3 bth, ranch over finished daylight basement, 2 car garage, approx 1 acre wooded lot, gas fireplace, vaulted ceilings, large storage areas, high-speed internet, sprinkler system, raised garden beds, wooden playset, quiet neighborhood, new dishwasher, gas heat/gas stove, 15 minutes to GCA, 5 min to I-75. Rent for 1200/mth. Call for additional info: 706.264.8121.



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

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September 2011

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p> <p>Labor Day</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30 AM -12:00 PM Food Bank</p> <p>11:00 AM Tuesday Morning Prayer Circle</p> <p>6:30 PM C.A.M.O.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5:00 PM Sweet Hour of Prayer</p> <p>6:00 PM Potluck Supper</p> <p>6:30 PM Pathfinders</p> <p>7:00 PM Prayer & Study</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:30 AM -12:00 PM Food Bank</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:56 PM Sunset</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 AM -11:10 AM Worship Services/Albert Handal</p>																																																																																											
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