

REACHING OUT

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Dr. Ron Smith Addresses Ministerial Trainees and Student Ministerial Association

The School of Religion inducted 30 students as ministerial trainees during its January 20-21 ministerial trainee induction weekend.



Ron Smith, President of the Southern Union Conference

The weekend honors students who have been accepted into the theology and pastoral care programs.

The weekend speaker, Ron C. Smith, Ph.D., is the newly elected president of the Southern Union Conference and is the chairman of Southern

Adventist University's Board of Trustees. In his 32 years of ministry, he has served as senior pastor of both Ephesus Church in New York and Berean Church in Los Angeles. In addition, he has been a vice president of the Review and Herald Publishing Association, editor-in-chief of *Message* magazine, and executive secretary of the Southern Union Conference.

On Friday night the title of Smith's message was "Real Knowledge." Speaking at the University vespers service in the Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists, he challenged students to embrace the Bible as their primary source of knowledge and energy. Smith used Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah's experience in Babylon to show the power of a "made-up mind," a mind determined to follow God and His Word.

On Sabbath morning Smith spoke twice in Thatcher Hall Chapel to the School of Religion family. At 9:30 a.m. he examined the life of Samson in a message titled "Respecting Life's Pillars." If God could use a judge like Samson, then God can take anyone with any type of background and do something good with them. Smith called on the trainees

(continued on p. 2)

In this Issue:

Ministerial Trainee Induction	1
SALT Summer Intensive	2
Gerhard F. Hasel Lectureship	3
Senior Consecration	4
Dean's Page	5
Student Awards and Scholarships	6
Saved for God's Service	6
Faculty News	7
Graduate Summer Intensives	8



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Smith Addresses Ministerial Trainees and SMA (continued from p. 1)

to stop leaning on earthly pillars and learn to lean on Jesus, the right pillar. At the 11 a.m. service, Smith used the experience of Hosea and his wife, Gomer, to illustrate John 3:16. He challenged the trainees to live out the principles of God's *agape* love in their lives and to make it their business to redeem people.

The ministerial trainees who were inducted in January included students from 11 states and four countries. Among the 30 inductees were seven women. Trainees typically are sophomore students who have completed beginning religion classes, have passed tests of biblical and doctrinal knowledge, have received good recommendations, have participated in a comprehensive interview with their faculty advisors, and have been voted into the theology or pastoral care program by the School of Religion faculty.

The School of Religion students were so appreciative of Dr. Smith's messages that they invited him to return as the Friday-night speaker for the Student

Ministerial Association's annual retreat, held this year at Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, March 30-April 1.

At the retreat Smith spoke about the spiritual and emotional health of ministers and about practical skills that young ministers should develop.

Jim Davidson, executive secretary of the Southern Union Conference, along with his wife, spoke during Sabbath School about the pastor's family. Davidson's worship service message focused on the difference between



Jim Davidson

being a servant of Christ and being a slave of Christ. A slave serves his master no matter what. Like Paul, we are to be slaves of our Master, Jesus Christ. Indeed, this is the essence of ministry.



Dr. Ron Smith Speaking with Students at the SMA Retreat

SALT Offers a One-Week Summer Intensive

This summer the Soul-winning and Leadership Training (SALT) program will offer a one-week intensive in evangelism July 22-29. The course will focus on how to create and give Bible studies, develop contagious evangelism in your home church, awaken spiritual interest, answer objections, gain decisions, and do effective

health and evangelistic outreach. The cost is \$129 for the standard registration, or \$179 per couple. Food and housing are available at additional cost. For more information or to register for this program, or for the complete four-month fall program, call 423.236.2034, or go to the SALT website at <www.southern.edu/salt>.

Daniel Master Speaks at Hasel Lectureship 2012

The 2012 Gerhard F. Hasel Lectureship was held at the University convocation on March 22 in the Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists. The guest speaker was Daniel M. Master, professor of archaeology at Wheaton College. His lecture was entitled “On Philistines and Philistinism,” drawing contrast between the caricature of the Philistines that is often presented today, as an uncivilized and barbaric people, and the reality of the relatively advanced civilization which the Philistines brought down into Palestine from the north in the biblical period.

The Hasel Lectureship is held every year in honor of the late Gerhard F. Hasel, former professor in the School of Religion at Southern and later dean of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. Hasel was well respected in the scholarly community for his incisive and insightful work in biblical studies. In his honor, the lectureship provides an opportunity to bring in a well-known biblical scholar from another Christian denomination to share a biblical perspective from the standpoint of faith and confidence in the Scriptures as the Word of God.

Daniel Master is an experienced archaeologist, having served for many years as co-director of the Leon Levy Expedition to Ashkelon. Recently he completed his second final-report volume on Ashkelon, an 800-page summary of the seventh century B.C. In addition to 20 years of fieldwork at Ashkelon, he worked at the site of Tell Dothan in the West Bank, publishing the 1953–1964 excavations of Joseph Free, and

participated in the discovery and deep-water robotic excavation of two eighth-century-B.C. Phoenician shipwrecks. He is also chief editor of Oxford University Press’s forthcoming encyclopedia, *The Bible and Archaeology*.

On the evening prior to the Hasel lecture, the School of Religion faculty, senior religion majors, and a cross-section of invited guests from both on and off campus gathered in the Presidential Banquet Room for a welcome banquet in honor of Master. It was immediately followed by a Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum lecture, also presented by Master in

Ackerman Auditorium. The archaeology lecture was entitled “Transformations in the Twelfth Century B.C.: The Coming of the Philistines to Ashkelon.” It described in some detail the technology and culture which the Philistines brought with them to Palestine in the twelfth century.

In addition, Master made a presentation to the Archaeology and the New Testament class on Thursday afternoon before returning home to Chicago. He

discussed with the students the connections between archaeology and biblical hermeneutics.

It is always a pleasure to make connections with biblical scholars in the Christian community who share with us their passion for the Word of God. This was true again this year in our experience with Daniel Master. We look forward already to meeting next year’s guest for the Hasel Lectureship, Bryant Wood, director of the Associates for Biblical Research and editor of their quarterly publication, *Bible and Spade*.



Daniel Master

Derek Morris Challenges Graduating Seniors

Are you willing to live radically for God? That was the theme of this year's senior consecration weekend, which wrapped up the school year for the School of Religion. Derek Morris, editor of *Ministry* and a former professor of preaching at Southern, was the featured speaker for this annual weekend. Known for his lively Sabbath School lessons on the Hope Channel, Morris brought that same energy and enthusiasm to Southern's campus.

The weekend began with a dedication service on Friday evening in the Collegedale Church. This involved not only our School of Religion graduates, but also all of the upcoming Evangelistic Resource Center participants and student missionaries. Morris challenged the students to pray Jesus' radical prayer, "Pray the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth laborers into his harvest" (Luke 10:2). He noted two key words in this request: the word "pray," which means to "cry out," and the word "send," which means to be "cast out." We are to radically beg God to cast us out from our places of comfort into His harvest field. Reflecting on his life experiences and giving gripping analogies, Morris challenged the students to follow Jesus' example in being willing to be used by God. The evening ended with a candle dedication ceremony for 24 religion seniors, 85 student and staff evangelists, and 75 student missionaries. The powerful contrast between the darkened church and the nearly 200 candles of outgoing missionaries was a reflection of Southern students' commitment to missions and evangelism.

On Sabbath morning the services continued at Thatcher Hall Chapel. After an intriguing question-and-answer session, Morris's next message focused on radical dependence. Rather than taking our plans to God and asking Him to bless them, Morris encouraged us to put our trust in God and His ability to provide for us. He mentioned his own experience of working as a literature evangelist in Sweden, though he couldn't speak any Swedish. After his initial successes, he felt that he was capable of selling

books, only to fail to sell a single book the following week. His abject failure forced him into an attitude of dependence on God, where he couldn't depend on his own resources but had to trust in God to provide for him and to accomplish His purposes.

The final meeting was a special consecration service for senior religion majors. The message focused on the spiritual armor of Ephesians 6 and the importance of not going into battle without "radical protection." One particularly moving story was of a student who became demon possessed at a prayer meeting. When Morris tried to speak to her, a raspy voice told him, "She opened herself to me." A few



Derek Morris

weeks earlier, she had struggled with her faith and had given up on God. Now she needed God's radical "covering," and as Morris prayed over each part of her body, claiming God's protection, she was set free. Through similar compelling stories, he asked students to commit themselves to the panoplia (armor) of God's protection. The service concluded with a charge to students by Greg King, the dean of the School of Religion, and with the faculty's laying hands on and consecrating the graduating seniors and their spouses. A final meal with the speaker concluded a memorable weekend. When asked to describe what the weekend was like, one student responded with a smile, "Radical!"

“He Still Calls - They Still Go!”

There they were, an army of youth, circling the inside of the Collegedale Church sanctuary, excitement gleaming in their eyes and determination written on their faces. All of these young adults clutched a candle they had been presented for the occasion to symbolize the light they will be carrying as they go out in the name of Jesus. They were poised for action, ready for the adventure that the Lord has in store for them. What a stirring scene as three important groups were consecrated for service at this special Friday evening vespers!

The first group was what we might call the summer evangelists. This summer 85 students, with several faculty and staff serving as team leaders, will fan out across the globe to preach their own evangelistic campaigns in five different countries (Colombia, Cuba, Guyana, India, and Sierra Leone). These young people are giving up several weeks of their summer break to help spread the message of truth, and I haven't even mentioned that most of them are not theology majors. In other words, these are students majoring in nursing, business, computer science, etc. who are out preaching because they feel called to do so and want to experience the joy of helping win souls for the Kingdom of God.

The second group was those who will be serving as student missionaries during the next school year. This contingent, some 75 strong, will be scattered around the world, serving as teachers and orphanage workers, and in a number of other roles as well. They are placing their career plans on temporary hold and delaying their graduation dates for a year in order that they might respond to the Lord's call and reach out to others in ways that make an eternal difference.

The third group being consecrated, numbering 24 this year, included all those graduating with degrees from the School of Religion. A number of them will be serving the Lord in pastoral ministry, while others will be involved in their local churches as active, faithful laymen and laywomen. The common ingredient to all of them is their

desire to be used by God to help spread the gospel and prepare others for the soon return of Jesus. Other occupations might have been more lucrative or comfortable, but these are students who have heard the Lord's call and sensed that they must respond.

As I reflect on that Friday evening, an occasion that thrilled me and brought a deep blessing to my heart, I am aware that some people have a rather negative outlook on today's young people. They consider them to be shallow and frivolous, interested only in entertainment and other passing fancies. They think them to be juveniles, unworthy of positions of significance and weighty responsibilities.

I wish those who hold such a jaundiced perspective could have been there that evening. While much more could be said about the occasion, the message I took away could be expressed simply in these words: “He still calls—they still go.”

Yes, God still calls people to serve Him faithfully. And many of those whom He calls, as was the case with biblical figures like David, Jeremiah, and the 12 apostles, are those who are quite young.

And, yes, they still go. Often those of us who are somewhat older are weighed down with cares and concerns, burdens and responsibilities, that impede our ability to embrace God's call. But frequently the young, at whom we sometimes look askance, give us an example by putting aside their plans and ambitions in order to be faithful to God.

So the next time you have negative thoughts towards the younger generation, reflect on this Friday-night vespers and the courage and commitment of these three groups of young people. And remember, He still calls—they still go.



Greg King, Dean
School of Religion

Students Receive Annual Awards and Scholarships

Recipient	Honor or Award Title
Bryan Banos	Top Achiever Scholarship Award
Leif Harald Fredheim	Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities
Karen Glassford	Top Achiever Scholarship Award
Heather Haynes	Outstanding Scholastic Achievement, Religion
Myron Jenkins	Excellence in Evangelism
Nelson Mercado	Outstanding Ministerial Candidate; Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities; Outstanding Scholastic Achievement, Ministerial
Anthony Messer	Top Achiever Scholarship Award
Joel Miller	Top Achiever Scholarship Award
Samuel Nadarajan	Top Achiever Scholarship Award; Excellence in Biblical Preaching; Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities
Joy Payne	Top Achiever Scholarship Award
Clemente Perez Garcia	Excellence in Archaeology
Jocelyn Prado	Excellence in Pastoral Care; Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities
Timothy Prewitt	Top Achiever Scholarship Award
Daniel Reynolds	Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities
Eli Rojas	Excellence in Missions
Jerry Schmidt	Top Achiever Scholarship Award; Excellence in Hebrew
Colton Stollenmaier	Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities
Timothy Taylor	Excellence in Greek

Saved for God's Service by Matthew Manzari

I was the first wakeskater that day. The lake level was 6-8 feet lower than usual, but I had competed on this lake several times since I was 14 years old. I wakeskate for a living, and this was the first competition to qualify for this year's tour. The lake has a narrow spot, and based on previous contests, I knew I would have time for one more trick before passing through the narrow area. I remember edging in for my trick, and then I woke up in a hospital bed! I was told that as soon as I landed, my board washed up on shore, a dump pile of old cinderblocks, which I had hit going 25 mph. My face was broken in 13 places, and my jaw, in two, and my coccyx was broken as well. I would be moving into extensive surgery the next day.

I felt so blessed to be alive, but as time passed in the hospital, I couldn't help but think that I was a week away from graduation. Would I lose a whole semester because of missing this last week? When I was stable enough to go over email and phone messages with the help of others, I was overwhelmed

with the response from Southern Adventist University as my teachers reached out to me like I was a member of their own families. They sent flowers to the hospital, as well as cards filled with hope, compassion, and concern for my injuries. My professors helped find a way that my classwork would not be lost, and they told me they were praying for me, along with their churches and families. I will never forget the grace, compassion, and love that Southern showed me during this terrible time in my life. I feel I've made lifelong friends with the School of Religion, and their treatment has left a lasting impact on my family, close friends, and me. I have felt the Lord's protective guiding hand throughout this process and feel so blessed to be here and to be able to continue His work.

*Matt Manzari,
Senior Theology Major*



Faculty News . . .

Michael Hasel, Professor of Near Eastern Studies and Archaeology, spoke for an “Amazing Discoveries” seminar with Mark Finley in Mobile, Alabama, and ASI’s Southern Union Conference meetings in Dalton, Georgia. He had several articles published, including “Archaeology and the Authority of the Bible,” *Ministry* (April, 2012); “Excavations at Khirbet Qeiyafa and the Early Judean Monarchy,” *Eretz-Israel: Amnon Ben-Tor*, Volume 30 (2011); and “New Excavations at Khirbet Qeiyafa and the Early History of Judah,” *Do Historical Matters Matter to Faith?: A Critical Analysis to Modern and Postmodern Approaches to Scripture*, ed. James K. Hoffmeir and Dennis Magary.



Greg King, Dean and Professor of Biblical Studies, is one of the two Old Testament editors for the *Andrews Bible Commentary*, a new one-volume commentary on Scripture that is currently in the development stage. This exciting project will bring together an international team of more than fifty contributors and has a projected publication date of 2015.



Martin Klingbeil, Professor of Archaeology and Biblical Studies, was guest speaker for the Museum Lecture Series: “Ancient Near Eastern Passports: Two Stamp Seals from Khirbet Qeiyafa.” He also spoke for the inauguration seminar for the Escuela de Predicadores y Evangelistas Laicos (EPEL) for Spanish-speaking lay preachers and evangelists from the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. EPEL was organized by the Evangelistic Resource Center and the Collegedale Spanish-American SDA Church. He wrote two articles for publication: “A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words” for the *Adventist Review*, and “Creation in the Prophetic Literature of the Old Testament” to appear in a new volume on Creation in the Old Testament by the Biblical Research Institute.



Carlos Martin, Professor of Evangelism and Missions, consulted with union and local conference administrators, participating pastors, and local church leaders to prepare the way for the arrival of 75 students and professors who will preach 19 doctrinal sermons in Colombia, Cuba, Guyana, India, and Sierra Leone. Two three-day “boot camps” prepared these preachers for the summer. He published a chapter in *Reflecting God’s Glory Together* and the companion book of the *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* for the second quarter of 2012, entitled *The Science of Soul Winning*.



John Nixon, Professor of Theology and Spirituality, preached and lectured to the Advent Hope group in Loma Linda, California. He will also be a guest speaker at the Sabbath worship of Impact Church, a new church plant in Collegedale. He spoke for eight days at the joint Zambia Adventist University and church convocation in Lusaka, Zambia.



Alan Parker, Professor of Evangelism and Missiology, conducted with his wife, Nicole, several seminars on marriage, relationships, and the devotional life at the Dayton, Tennessee, Seventh-day Adventist Church, Heritage and Laurelbrook Academies, and for the Adventist Theological Society meetings in Collegedale. Parker also presented a weekend training seminar on how to give Bible studies at the Kettering, Ohio, SDA Church and will be overseeing the Southern Union Conference Field School of Evangelism this summer in Memphis, Tennessee.



Edwin Reynolds, Professor of New Testament Studies, presented a paper at the spring Adventist Theological Society Symposium on Theodicy at Walla Walla University on the topic “The Problem of Delayed Justice.”



Summer 2012 Graduate Courses Offered

Tuition: \$1,650 (one 3-credit class) Audit: \$825 (one 3-credit class) Contact Edwin Reynolds: <reynolds@southern.edu>

June 18-29 Intensives

RELT 552 Theology of Mission and Evangelism

The biblical foundation for evangelism. A theological reflection of its essence, goals, motives, and strategies, with special emphasis on the mission of the SDA Church. A theological foundation for all courses in the area of evangelism, ministry, and missions. (Professor: Carlos Martin)

RELP 542 Urban Ministry and Evangelism

The course considers the forces which create cities, their development, and their ethos, with emphasis on the process of secularization and the church's holistic approach. (Professor: Alan Parker)

July 9-20 Intensives

RELT 581 Biblical Ethics and Contemporary Society

An examination of the major ethical teachings of the Bible in light of their cultural and historical setting and in relation to contemporary moral issues. This course deals with how to approach ethical problems in ministry, as well as Christian strategies dealing with basic matters such as confidentiality,

church-state relations, racism, sexual vulnerability, and marriage/divorce/remarriage. (Professor: Steven Bauer)

RELP 521 Time and Life Management

The course explores the fundamentals of time and its management within a theological and pastoral context. (Professor: Jud Lake)

RELT 542 Studies in Biblical Doctrines

An in-depth study of key biblical doctrines, such as salvation, the nature of God and man, the Great Controversy, and the final destiny of God's people. (Professor: John Nixon)

July 9-27 Intensive

RELB 556 Studies in Revelation

A study of the prophecies and symbolism of Revelation with their historical fulfillments. Special attention is given to discovering its special message for our day. (Professor: Edwin Reynolds)

On-campus housing is available upon request.

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Faculty:
Stephen R. Bauer, Ph.D.: Theology; Ethics
Michael G. Hasel, Ph.D.: Archaeology; Biblical Languages
Douglas Jacobs, D.Min.: Ministry; Homiletics
Greg A. King, Dean, Ph.D.: Biblical Studies; Biblical Languages
Martin Klingbeil, D.Litt.: Archaeology; Biblical Studies
Judson S. Lake, Th.D.: Homiletics; Adventist Studies
Dann W. Leathernan, Ph.D.: Old Testament; Biblical Lang.
Carlos G. Martin, Ph.D.: Evangelism; Mission
John Nixon, D.Min.: Theology; Spirituality
Alan Parker, Ph.D.: Missiology; Evangelism
Edwin E. Reynolds, Ph.D.: New Testament; Biblical Languages
Philip G. Samaan, D.Min.: Religion; Spirituality
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