

Festival of Praise



South Atlantic & Georgia-Cumberland Conferences

A LOVE UNDENIABLE



December 8, 2018

Saint Philip AME Church
Atlanta, GA



LETTER OF GREETING FROM DR. RON SMITH, SOUTHERN UNION PRESIDENT



Ron Smith

Dear Festival of Praise Supporters:

The season for this gathering has come once more. The intention of our coming together is designed to be an afternoon/evening of inspiration and fellowship of the Georgia-Cumberland and South Atlantic conferences. We welcome you.

We are blessed in the Southern Union to enjoy the rich legacy of celebrating our journey of praise and thanksgiving as Christian believers. Your faithfulness to this established biennial tradition fosters a greater commitment to inspiring the surrounding community and the churches in the state of Georgia.

This “Festival of Praise” collaborative worship experience of a state conference and a regional conference continues to be a milestone for the existence of innovative ministry around this local community, but also in a battery of local churches questing for enhanced and sustaining encouragement. This meeting is a significant one for the cause of God. We sincerely appreciate your unswerving loyalty to worshipping together.

The Southern Union is most honored to welcome our guest preacher, and my mentor in ministry, Dr. Henry Wright. Your willingness to minister to this Southern Union gathering of Christian believers will be indelibly etched in our memories going forward.

Finally, we affirm Pastor Calvin Preston and Pastor Neil W. Reid for their pioneering vision in the development of this community of inter-conference unity. We pray for the blessings of God to sustain the health and mission of this worthy initiative.

Sincerely,

Ron C. Smith, D.Min., Ph.D.
President

JOINT GREETING FROM THE CONFERENCE PRESIDENTS



William Winston

Welcome!

Did you ever attend a large family reunion? It always takes one or more “spark-plugs” who agree, “We need to get this tribe together!” Some step in to organize the event and plan activities, others help spread the word, still more plan and prepare the food. Oh yes, it wouldn’t be a reunion without a feast! Every extended family seems to include a representation of historians, jokesters, skeptics, genealogists, rebels, believers, and a host of distant cousins—some of whom you have never met before! And at the center of it all is grandma, the matriarch that binds us all together in the strong bonds of love, warmth, acceptance, and affection.



Ed Wright

Today we also gather as a family. We share a common Father. Our Elder Brother is Jesus. Thus we are all brothers and sisters in this wonderful family of God. Yes, our contributions vary and our individual temperaments shine through. But we are bound together in a love that will not let us go.

“Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another” (1 John 4:11). Since we have been changed and transformed by His love, we are compelled to extend that love – both within the family and without.

Today we gather as one. More than a collection of individual families or congregations or conferences, we gather as one to celebrate A Love Undeniable. Thank you for being a part of this family reunion. Welcome!

William Winston
President
South Atlantic Conference

Ed Wright
President
Georgia-Cumberland Conference



Henry Wright

Pastor Henry Monroe Wright is a minister, professor, and family counselor. He began his ministerial career in 1964 after earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion from Oakwood College, now Oakwood University. Pastor Wright holds advanced degrees in Systematic Theology (Andrews University), Divinity (Methodist Theological Seminary), and Church Administration (Vanderbilt University). His ministerial assignments have taken him to Louisville, Kentucky; Greenville, and Jackson, Michigan; Columbus, Ohio; Alexandria, Virginia; and Takoma Park, Maryland. Additionally, he has taught at Oakwood University and Washington Adventist University.

Elder Wright has been involved in both church and community organizations. In May 1983, the Allegheny West Conference invited him to serve as president. After four years, the Columbia Union Conference called him to fill the role of vice president. From 1992-1993, Elder Wright served as vice president for Education for Health Management, Inc. He founded Project Uplift, a church-sponsored organization that motivated young adults to provide social services, disaster relief, and domestic services to local residents. Pastor Wright also coordinated YOURS FOR THE ASKING, a thirty-minute religious telecast from October 1975-1977 while serving as a regular guest presenter for the GOOD NEWS telecast from the WHIO TV studio in Dayton, OH.

Over the years, Elder Wright has been given special assignments to serve on various committees including the Adventist Media Center Reorganization Commission, General Conference Commission on Women's Ordination, and the North American Division Committee for Union and Local Conference Secretaries' and Church Clerk Manuals. He has written numerous articles in various church periodicals and received more than fifty awards and recognition for pastoral leadership, preaching, and evangelism.

God has ordered Pastor Wright's steps and blessed him with a supportive family. He has been married to Carol Lindsey Wright, CPA since 1966. They were gifted with three sons, Henry Monroe Wright II, Harold Michael Wright (deceased), and Herbert Marcel Wright. The Wright's also have three grandchildren.

Pastor Wright retired from full time ministry on Jan. 1, 2018, after more than 50 years of service!

WORSHIP PROGRAM



Multi-media Prelude	Montage of GCC/SAC Churches
*Call to Worship	Neil W. Reid & Calvin Preston, <i>GCC/SAC Ministerial Directors</i>
Introit	Platform Party & Seth Durand, <i>Instrumentalist</i>
Praise & Worship	Congregation <i>Worthy is the Lamb Medley</i>
Invocation	Melany Orellana/Danielle Pilgrim, <i>GCC Member/SAC Pastor</i>
Welcome	David Smith, <i>SAC Executive Secretary</i>
Parade of Nations	GCC/SAC Pathfinders
Youth Spotlight	Donovan Washington, <i>SAC Youth Director</i>
Music	Atlanta Romanian Church Choir
Conference Greetings & Highlights	Ed Wright & Bill Winston , <i>GCC/SAC Presidents</i>
Music	Adoramus
Church GOSpel Heroes	Shaun Brooks/ Nathanael Gracia, <i>GCC Pastor/ SAC Pastor</i>
Offertory (Project Live Love Spotlight)	Luke Steen, <i>GCC Pastor</i>
Music	Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy Choir
Introduction of Speaker	Ron Smith, <i>Southern Union President</i>
Music	Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy Choir
Sermon	Henry Monroe Wright , <i>Keynote Speaker</i>
*Hymn	<i>We Have this Hope (No. 214)</i> Congregation
*Benediction	Maylor Graham/Ishmael Uribe, <i>GCC Pastor/SAC Pastor</i>
Postlude	Instrumentalist

**Congregation to stand*

SAC — South Atlantic Conference

GCC — Georgia-Cumberland Conference



WORTHY IS THE LAMB MEDLEY

Thank you for the cross, Lord
Thank you for the price You paid
Bearing all my sin and shame
In love You came and
gave amazing grace

Thank you for this love, Lord
Thank you for the nail pierced hands
Washed me in Your cleansing flow
Now all I know Your forgiveness
and embrace

Worthy is the Lamb
Seated on the throne
Crown You now with many crown
You reign victorious

High and lifted up
Jesus, Son of God
The Treasure of Heaven crucified
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb

I LOVE YOU, LORD

I love you, Lord
And I lift my voice
To worship You
Oh, my soul rejoice!
Take joy my King
In what You hear
Let it be a sweet, sweet sound
in Your ear

WE EXALT THEE

We exalt Thee
We exalt Thee
We exalt Thee
Oh, Lord

MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE

My Jesus, I love Thee,
I know Thou art mine;
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign;
My gracious Redeemer,
my Savior art Thou;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering
crown on my brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

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WE HAVE THIS HOPE

We have this hope that
burns within our hearts,
Hope in the coming of the Lord.
We have this faith that
Christ alone imparts,
Faith in the promise in His Word.

We believe the time is here,
when the nations far and near,
Shall awake, and shout. and sing - Hallelujah!
Christ is King!

We have this hope that
burns within our hearts,
Hope in the coming of the Lord.

"We are either missionaries or mission fields"



JEWEL SMITH

Fayette Church, Fayetteville, GA

Smith is exactly what her name reveals, a jewel. She is a wife, mother, youth leader, dentist, and daughter of the Most High. Dr. Smith is a stellar example of a Christian who is sold out to fulfilling the Gospel commission to "Go." Jewel makes herself available to serve people of all ages in such programs as Evange-Living Youth Prayer Ministry (EYPM), Bible studies, mission trips, Vacation Bible School, health fairs, health seminars, tutoring, and offering dental care to those without insurance. Her love for Christ and her community is undeniable!!



KEVIN, MELANIA, MIRO, AND SERA MANESTAR

Chestae Church, Chestatee, GA

Kevin and Melania, along with their children, Miro and Sera, relocated to Chestatee from Douglasville in the spring of 2015. By 2016, Kevin was serving as the first elder, Melania as a Children's Sabbath School teacher, Sera as a musician, and Miro as an audio-visual technician. Currently, the family hosts a Bible study class on Fridays for teens at the church and another class for the community on Sundays. As a result, one young lady has already been baptized, and two others have expressed interest in doing the same. The family's zeal for preparing people for the return of Jesus has been inspirational. Their love for the salvation of others is undeniable!



LUDNA LUBIN

Ebenezer French Church, Atlanta, GA

Ludna has served her church as Interest Coordinator, Personal Ministries Leader, and Community Services Director. She is a first responder whenever a need arises anywhere within her sphere of influence. Ludna has been known to bring food to the hungry, natural medicine to those in pain, and even bought cars for individuals who were in need of reliable transportation. Sister Lubin is the host of a radio broadcast show that has been airing in Atlanta to the French community. Above all, she is a prayer warrior who believes and acts on the motto that "nothing is impossible to God." Ludna's compassion towards those in need is undeniable!



OLIN MCGRAW & ROXANNE MCGRAW

Light House Church, Ellenwood, GA

In 2015 Roxanne and Olin volunteered to help establish a new congregation in Ellenwood, Georgia. As a couple, they are renowned for knowing how to stretch resources to meet the needs of individuals and families in their community. Roxanne and Olin have coordinated Vacation Bible School programs and kept it going long after the scheduled date of completion. They have provided transportation to teens from travel to and from meetings. This couple has decided to serve as the “hands and the feet of God while building the kingdom of God one life at a time.” Their commitment to Christian service is undeniable!

Posthumous GOSpel Hero Award



LAWSEY SHYRONE THOMAS, SR. – MASTER GUIDE

On June 28, 2018, Elder Lawsey Thomas, Sr., fell asleep in Jesus and is awaiting the resurrection of the Just! His sudden passing has left a void in his home, church, and community that no one else can fill. Lawsey served for 20 years as the first elder of the Mt. Calvary Church in Williamsburg, Virginia and most recently as first elder of the Atlanta All Nations Church. Notwithstanding his many personal and professional responsibilities, Lawsey selflessly applied the experiences he acquired in the U.S. Navy to training and mentoring hundreds of children, youth, and adults in the Adventurers, Pathfinders, and Master Guide ministries. He is fondly remembered for his willingness to serve and connecting with people – no matter their racial, national, or cultural backgrounds. Lawsey represented the Greater Atlanta area as a member of the Pathfinder and Master Guide Executive Council of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference and coordinated the Parade of Nations for all the Festival of Praise convocations since 2011. We salute Master Chief Lawsey Thomas for having served God, country, church, and community with distinction. His life of selfless service is undeniable!



Project Live Love is a non-profit organization designed to influence culture through love in action by engaging, networking and mobilizing people who are motivated by love.



Drew Benton has been a leader in the non-profit community since 2000. In 2006, Drew met a man named Philip Bray, Executive Director of Safehouse Outreach. The two began a friendship that led to Drew volunteering at Safehouse. That volunteer position grew into a full time Director position with Safehouse Outreach in 2007. The next three years were spent serving and loving the homeless men and women of Atlanta. Drew's life and career were transformed during his time serving at Safehouse. He was able to live love to people in need in very real and tangible ways. Where people were hungry, he would provide food. Where people were thirsty, he would provide water, and so much more.

In 2009, Drew stepped away from Safehouse Outreach to found Project Live Love. An organization dedicated to influencing the culture with the concept of "love-in-action." Today, Drew Benton remains a leader in the non-profit community. His personal passion for showing love to others is lived out through his leadership as Executive Director at Project Live Love. Under his leadership, Project Live Love has developed many successful events and programs including THREE-OH-WE-GO, LIVE LOVE EVENTS, and GET SET. Through these events and programs Drew has activated over 8,000 individuals to show their love to others affecting the lives of over 25,000 people in need. Drew loves sharing his story of learning to live love. He has developed several talks that center on encouraging others to live love. He delivers these messages wherever invited (Companies, Schools, Churches, Conferences, etc.). Additionally, Drew has begun speaking/ consulting with non-profit leaders about topics like volunteer management, board development, fundraising, marketing, communications, and more.

WHO HAS PROJECT LIVE LOVE SERVED?



265
SERVICE EVENTS

8,749
VOLUNTEERS

431
COMPLETED
PROJECTS

24,586
PEOPLE
IMPACTED

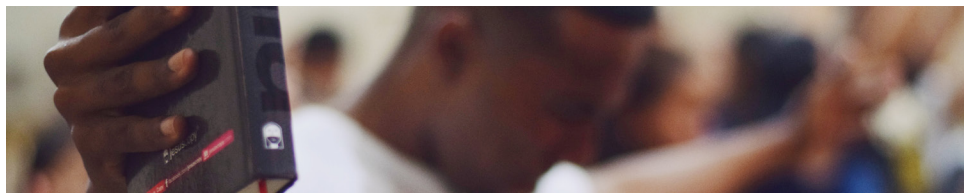


104 Seventh-day Adventist Churches in a 40-Mile Radius of Atlanta

1. Alpharetta Church - 3945 Spalding Bluff Dr, Norcross
2. Atlanta Advent Hope Church - 5185 Peachtree Dunwoody Rd, Atlanta
3. Atlanta All Nations Church - 4352 Burns Rd NW, Lilburn
4. Atlanta Belvedere Church - 3567 Covington Hwy, Decatur
5. Atlanta Berean Church - 291 Hamilton E Holmes, Dr. NW, Atlanta*
6. Atlanta Boulevard Church - 240 Maynard Terrace SE, Atlanta*
7. Atlanta Burmese Zomi Church - 3567 Covington Hwy, Decatur
8. Atlanta Burmese Karen Church - 3919 Church Street, Clarkston
9. Atlanta Ebenezer French Church - 851 Constitution Rd SE, Atlanta*
10. Atlanta Fillipino International Church - 5825 Mulberry St, Austell
11. Atlanta First Brazilian Church - 4061 King Springs Rd, SE, Smyrna
12. Atlanta First Hispanic Church - 111 Pounds Rd, Tucker
13. Atlanta Fusion Church - 1095 Zonolite Rd, NE Ste 100, Atlanta
14. Atlanta Ghanaian Church - 3873 Humphries Hill Rd, Austell
15. Atlanta International Church - 581 Mimosa Dr, Tucker
16. Atlanta Upendo (Kenyan) Church - 1323 Cave Springs Rd, Douglas
17. Atlanta Korean Mission Church - 2845 W Rock Quarry Rd, Buford*
18. Atlanta Korean Church - 1645 Racquet Club Cir, Lawrenceville
19. Atlanta Maranatha Church - 2730 Browns Mill Rd, SE, Atlanta*
20. Atlanta Metropolitan Hispanic Church - 5990 Oakbrook Pkwy, Norcross
21. Atlanta Metropolitan Church - 555 Hemlock Cir SE, Atlanta
22. Atlanta Nigerian Church - 2418 Panola Road, Lithonia
23. Atlanta North Church - 5123 Chamblee Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody
24. Atlanta Pillars of Faith Church - 3220 Bouldercrest Rd, Ellenwood
25. Atlanta Romanian Church - 1207 Oakland Rd, Lawrenceville
26. Atlanta Southside Church - 9940 Dixon Industrial Blvd, Jonesboro
27. Atlanta West End Church - 845 Lawton St. SW, Atlanta*
28. Auburn Church - 14 County Line Auburn Rd, Auburn
29. Austell Grandview Church - 750 Lansky Werber Rd, Austell
30. Beraca French Church - 10250 Haynes Bridge Rd, Alpharetta
31. Bethe French Church - 4809 College St, Forest Park*
32. Bethel French Church - 1301 Shale Way, McDonough*
33. Buford Family Church - 5106B Bristol Industrial Way Ste 100, Buford
34. Canton Hispanic Church - 462 Scott Rd, Canton
35. Carnesville Korean Church - 5887 Highway 320, Carnesville
36. Carrollton Hispanic Church - 4045 McClendon Way, Rex*



37. Cartersville Church - 311 Old Mill Rd, Cartersville
38. Cartersville Hispanic Church - 5660 Hwy 20, Cartersville
39. Central Hispanic Church - 531 Plaza Dr, Smyrna*
40. Central Spanish Church - 5241 Ash Street, Forest Park*
41. Chamblee Hispanic Church - 3295 Northcrest Rd, Doraville*
42. Cherokee (Woodstock) Church - 101 Rope Mill Rd, Woodstock
43. Conyers Hispanic Church - 3130 Salem Rd, SE, Conyers
44. Conyers Church - 3001 Old Salem Rd, SE, Conyers
45. Decatur Church - 2365 Candler Rd, Decatur*
46. Dickerson Memorial Church - 216 Ella Dr, Griffin*
47. Doraville Hispanic Church - 6585 Waterton Ave SW, Atlanta*
48. Douglasville Heritage Church - 6969 Highway 5, Douglasville
49. Douglas Hispanic Church - 315 Magnolia St, Douglas
50. Douglasville Church - 2838 Bright Star Rd, Douglasville
51. Dunwoody Hispanic Church - 2197 Peeler Rd, Dunwoody
52. Duluth Church - 2959 Duluth Highway 120 # 120, Duluth
53. East Hispanic Church - 4045 McClendon Way, Rex*
54. Emmanuel Church - 1780 Rock Chapel Rd, Lithonia*
55. Ephese French Church - 5275 Buford Hwy, Norcross*
56. Fayette Church - 814 New Hope Rd, Fayetteville
57. First Lithonia Church - 2533 Ragle Rd, Lithonia*
58. First Newnan Church - 265 Yeager Rd, Newnan*
59. First Riverdale Church - 8258 Thomas Rd, Jonesboro*
60. First Church of Covington - 7161 Old Monticello St SE, Covington*
61. Georgia United Korean Church - 2965 Duluth Highway, Duluth
62. Gospel Truth Mission Church - 1009 E 3rd St, Jackson*
63. Greater Atlanta Church - 4552 Highland Rd, Decatur
64. Hiram Church - 310 Main Street, Hiram
65. Hope Tabernacle Church - 4615 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville*
66. Jonesboro Grace Tabernacle - 3057 Walt Stephens Rd, Jonesboro
67. Lakeview Church - 4001 Macedonia Rd, Powder Springs
68. Lawrenceville Church - 508 Grayson Hwy, Lawrenceville
69. Lawrenceville Central Hispanic Church - 578 Norcross Rd, Lawrenceville
70. Lighthouse Church - Anvilblock Rd, Ellenwood*
71. Living Waters Church - 301 Honey Creek Rd, SE, Conyers*
72. Loganville Church - 164 Church Street, Loganville



73. Mableton Hispanic Church - 991 Old Powder Springs Rd, SW, Mableton
74. Maranatha Hispanic Church - 5860 Reynolds Rd, Morrow*
75. Marietta Church - 1330 Cobb Pkwy N, Marietta
76. Marietta Hispanic Church - 3405 S Cobb Dr SE, Smyrna
77. Marietta Korean Church - 1485 S Marietta Pkwy SE, Marietta
78. Mitspa French Church - 2145 Five Forks Trickum Rd, Lawrenceville*
79. Monroe Church - 1627A S. Broad Street, Monroe
80. Mountain Side Church - 3936 Rainbow Rd, Decatur*
81. Mount Olive Church - 3366 Mount Olive Rd, East Point*
82. Mount Olive Haitian Church - 3495 Sugarloaf Pkwy, Lawrenceville
83. Mount Pisgah Church - Kennesaw, GA*
84. New Heaven Korean Church - 3474 S Scales Rd, Suwanee*
85. Newton County Church - 145 Patrick Rd, NE, Social Circle
86. New Jerusalem Praise Center - 4152 Midway Rd, Douglasville *
87. New Hope Church - 3979 Panthersville Rd, Ellenwood*
88. New Life Church - 4857 Clay Brooke Dr SE, Smyrna
89. Nigerian Church - 2418 Panola Rd, Lithonia
90. North Atlanta Hispanic Church - 3554 Strait St, Doraville
91. North Georgia (Buford) Romanian Church - 4359 Sardis Church Rd, Buford
92. North Gwinnett Hispanic Church - 1397 Buford Business Blvd, Ste 300, Buford
93. Peachtree Church - 4957 Highway 34 E, Sharpsburg
94. Peachtree City Hispanic Church - 4957 Highway 34 E, Sharpsburg
95. Philadelphia French Church - 6754 Church Street, Douglasville*
96. Roswell Springs Hispanic Church - 8775 Dunwoody Place, Sandy Springs*
97. Sandy Springs Ebenezer Hispanic Church - 5801 Kingsport Dr, Atlanta
98. Salem French Church - 674 Boggs Rd, SW, Mableton*
99. Shiloh Church - 810 Church St SE, Smyrna*
100. Sinai Church - 387 Stark Rd, Jackson
101. Stone Mountain Hispanic Church - 4768 Centerville Hwy, Snellville
102. Stone Mountain Church - 1350 Silver Hill Rd, Stone Mountain
103. Sweet Water Church - 3630 Humphries Hill Rd, Austell
104. Tri-City Church - 1978 Highway 42N, McDonough*
105. Winder First Hispanic Church - 29 Athens St, Winder

** South Atlantic Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*



Psalm 148:5

ENGLISH

Let them praise the name of the LORD: for he commanded, and they were created.

ESPANOL

Alaben ellos el nombre del Señor, pues El ordenó y fueron creados.

FRENCH

Qu'ils louent le nom de l'Éternel! Car il a commandé, et ils ont été créés.

KOREAN

그 것 들 이 여 호 와 의 이 름 을 찬 양 할 것 은 저 가 명 하 시 매 지 음 을 받 았
음 이 로 다

ROMANIAN

Să laude Numele Domnului, căci El a poruncit și au fost făcute.

RUSSIAN

Да хвалят имя Господа, ибо Он повелел, и сотворились.

CHINESE

願 這 些 都 讚 美 耶 和 華 的 名 ！ 因 他 一 吩 咐 便 都 造 成 。

GREEK

Τὴν ὑπαρξὴν αὐ αἰνούνε τοῦ Κυρίου, γιατί αὐτός το πρόσταξε καὶ γίνανε.

ITALIAN

Lodino tutti il nome del Signore, perché egli disse e furono creati.

KISWAHILI

Na vilisifu jina la BWANA, Kwa maana aliamuru, vikaumbwa.

LATIN

laudent nomen Domini quia ipse dixit et facta sunt ipse mandavit et creata sunt.

SOMALI

Iyagu magaca Rabbiga ha ammaaneen, Waayo, isagu wuu amray, oo iyana way abuurmeen.



Calvin Preston, *SAC Co-Chair*

Neil W. Reid, *GCC Co-chair*

Robert Abdul-Karim, *GCC*

Edgar Alquinta, *GCC*

Shaun Brooks, *GCC*

Samuel Bulgin, *GCC*

Deborah Clifton, *SAC*

Moses Edwards, *SAC*

Tammy Fisher, *GCC*

Nathanael Gracia, *SAC*

Rickie Holmes, *GCC*

Darryl Howard, *SAC*

D. M. Jones, *SAC*

Don Kim, *SAC*

Jessie Lopez, *GCC*

Michele McFarlane, *GCC*

Melvin Preston, *SAC*

Alton Scott, *SAC*

Luke Steen, *GCC*

Donovan Washington, *SAC*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Language Translation Services: Translation support is available for a limited number of guests who speak Spanish, Korean, Portuguese, or Romanian. Please contact Pastor Edgar Alquinta in Room 104 for more information.

Emergency: If you are in need of assistance, please speak with one of the ushers or contact Pastor D.M. Jones at (678) 362-8286 or Pastor Rickie Holmes at (404) 557-4643. In the event of a serious safety or health emergency, please call 911.

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Seventh-day
Adventist® Church

SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE