



FLETCHER
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
CHURCH

Newsletter

March 19, 2026

*Salvation
Weekend*
April 2-5, 2026

The Lord's Supper
Thursday, April 2 - 7:00 pm

Our Savior's Death
Friday, April 3 - 7:00 pm

The Gift of Salvation
Sabbath, April 4 - 10:50 am

Christ's Resurrection
Sunday, April 5 - 7:00 am

FLETCHER
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
CHURCH
1141 Howard Gap Rd. Hendersonville, NC

FINDING A PLACE TO SERVE - The nominating committee would like to help you serve in a way that matches God's callings and giftings in your life.



Please take a moment to complete a ministry survey to provide information for the nominating committee. A paper version is available on the information table in the narthex. An online version of the survey is available by scanning the QR code. Deadline for survey completion is March 29, 2026.

GYM NIGHTS FOR 2026 - The final gym night of the school year. Will be March 28 at 7:30pm at the Lelia Patterson Center. Each gym night begins on a Saturday evening with worship. Afterwards the gym will be open for various games - basketball, volleyball, table games, etc. Come and bring a friend!

POTLUCK - The next potluck will be **March 21**. Please bring food to share. We regularly have all-church potlucks after the worship service on the third and last Sabbaths of the month.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR JEANNIE LARRABEE - will be held at the Fletcher Church on Sabbath, **April 11** at 2:30 PM.

CONDOLENCES - Our beloved sister in Christ, Marilyn Morgan, fell asleep in Jesus on Monday, March 16, 2026 at the age of 93. Marilyn dedicated her life to serving God as an educator and blessed the lives of many students through the years. We look forward with hope to the Resurrection Morning when we will see her again. A small memorial is being planned in Canada where her sons live. Cards and expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at the address of Marilyn's daughter Ellen: Marilyn Morgan C/O Ellen Prest 5510 Landsdown Ave. Caldwell, ID 83607

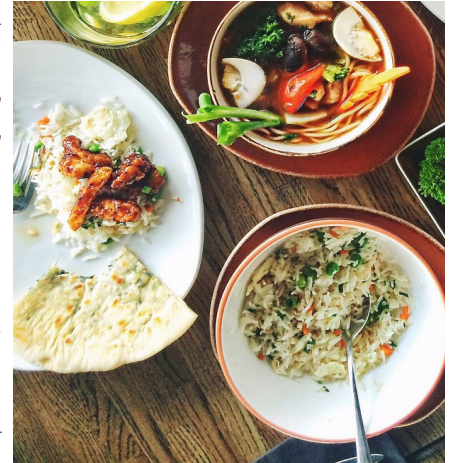
ANOINTING SERVICE - March 28 - During the morning worship service there will be an opportunity for you to receive anointing with oil and to pray with one of the church elders. If you would like spiritual, emotional, relational, or physical healing, or if you are seeking God's will for a major life decision, or if you crave a deeper filling of the Holy Spirit, please plan to come forward when the invitation is given for anointing on March 28.

SUMMER CAMP AT NOSOCA PINES RANCH – NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND! - We believe every child deserves the life-changing experience of summer camp at Nosoca Pines Ranch, filled with adventure, friendship, faith, and fun in God's beautiful creation. Our church is committed to ensuring that no child misses out due to financial need. Through a special sponsorship code, we can help cover or reduce camp costs for families who qualify. Even if your family doesn't need assistance, we kindly ask that everyone uses our church's sponsorship code when registering. This simple step helps generate additional support for other children in our community (and beyond) who might otherwise not be able to attend. Registration is open now for the 2026 summer sessions! If you'd like the sponsorship code, have questions, need help with registration, or know of a child who could benefit from sponsorship, please contact Pastor James at james@fletchersda.org right away. We're here to make this summer unforgettable for every kid. Let's come together as a church family to send more children to camp and watch God work in their hearts!

SDA COMMUNITY SINGLES - will **not** be having an April potluck due to the Singles Retreat at Nosoca Pines Ranch April 3-5.

CONFERENCE RETREAT SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS - Each year the Carolina Conference conducts several retreat weekends at Nosoca Pines Ranch in Liberty Hill, SC. Men's Retreat, Women's Retreat, and a Prayer Ministries Weekend happen in the fall. Romance at the Ranch for couples happens in February. Singles Retreat is happening April 3-5. If you would like to attend a retreat but do not have the financial resources to go, there are scholarship funds available through the Fletcher Church that will help make the event more affordable. Scan the QR code to apply for funding.

CAPTAIN GILMER CHRISTIAN SCHOOL'S ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FOOD FAIR - This event will take place on Sunday, **March 29** at the Lelia Patterson Center from 3:00 pm-7:00 pm. You can enjoy food from all



continents of the world, crafts, and games, all while supporting Captain Gilmer. Please plan on joining and invite your friends! If you would like to donate food, money, or volunteer to help please contact Melinda Schurr at mjb079@gmail.com or (828) 776-5875. You can also contact the school office at (828) 684-8221. CGCS representatives will not be making individual phone calls to church members this year so if you are willing to participate/donate please reach out to the contacts above! Types of food needed include Greek, Latin, Eastern European, French, Asian, African, and Italian food.

CHURCH JANITOR POSITION - We are seeking a new janitor to help maintain our facilities. If you or someone you know is interested in this position, please reach out to the church office.



PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would like to be added to our prayer list, please speak with one of the pastors or contact the church office during office hours.

You are welcome to join us in praying for the following people:

- Individuals with private needs.
- AdventHealth
- Captain Gilmer Christian School
- Fletcher Academy Ministries Inc.
- Our home-bound members
- Radio Station WFHC
- Also:*
- Ana Roberts, friend of Georgiana Hill
- Anne Krishinger
- April Watkins & Family
- Brad Hansen
- Brexton Fleming
- Brittany (Weis) Kinney
- Christie Vandiver, friend of Michael Hill
- Colton Summey
- Dawn Christianson, daughter of Shirley Polivka
- Debbie Shaw's friend
- Gene Wilkie
- Gerald Moretz
- Hayden Brown
- John Carter
- Jon Smith
- JR Peters
- Leroy Brown
- Michael O'Connor
- Mike Summey
- Opie Winston
- Paula Saunders
- Rosa Kirwan
- Shirley Polivka's friends Christine & Jad Davis
- Shari & Kyrie Ruiz
- Sharon Brinson
- Steven Jones, military service
- Theresa Southard
- The Larrabee & Bradley Family

THRIFT STORE MORTGAGE REDUCTION CAMPAIGN UPDATES -

We plan to provide monthly updates on the progress of the mortgage reduction campaign, so don't be discouraged if the thermometer doesn't move from week to week. It will usually be updated in the second week of each month. Our Community Services & Thrift Store ministry provides affordable goods, free food, meaningful volunteer opportunities, and emotional and spiritual support to many people. In the summer of 2025, God opened open the door for us to purchase a new building, a former Baptist church located at 2231 Howard Gap Road. This space has already allowed the ministry to grow in visibility, accessibility, and effectiveness within our community. Paying down the mortgage will allow more resources to be directed toward serving our community. The mortgage was \$698,750. As of February 28 we have been able to pay down \$57,426. If you would like to support this effort and speed it up, gifts may be made:

Online: www.fletchersda.org/give.

In AdventistGiving, select Local Offerings → Thrift Store / Comm Serv Mortgage Fund.

By check: Please note "Thrift Store Mortgage" in the memo line

Thank you for partnering with us as we strengthen this ministry and invest in our community's future.

HELP KEEP THE BUILDING CLEAN -

Please help us keep the building tidy by placing your trash in a trash can or taking it with you. We've had some issues lately with food items left in the sanctuary. Sometimes it is several days between an event and when the church custodian comes through to clean.

KENYA MISSION TRIP -

Want to participate in the Kenya Mission Trip without leaving home? Sponsor a clean water filtration bucket for \$30. It will provide clean water for a family for up to 10 years. The filtration systems are purchased through RipplAffect and are geo tagged, so once we've handed them out in June 2026, you'll be able to see a photo of the family who received it, and track their location on the website's map. We are 72% of the way to our goal (\$5,720.16 of \$7,900).



\$698,750

Goal

\$57,426

Raised

As of Feb. 28

THRIFT STORE & PLAYGROUND UPDATE: CREATING SPACE FOR GRACE

By Pastor Ryan Ashlock

For many years, our church has operated a thrift store as a quiet but meaningful ministry to our community. What began as a simple operation has grown into an important point of connection, providing affordable goods, free food, and warm hugs to many people.

In 2020, when Chris Carey arrived as CEO of Fletcher Academy, he shared a compelling vision. He invited us to imagine our thrift store becoming something more like the Samaritan Center in Ooltewah, Tennessee. That model combines a thrift store with a vibrant community services ministry that is open six days a week and deeply engaged with local needs. That vision has continued to shape our thinking.

For several years after 2020, however, we did not feel a strong sense of urgency around that vision. We were dealing with the Covid pandemic and its aftermath. The thrift store was functioning well in its current location. The ministry was steady. Things were, in many ways, good enough. That began to change in 2023.

We discovered that the roof of the old dormitory, where the thrift store has operated since the 1980s, was leaking. As we looked more closely, it became clear that repairing the roof would be costly and, ultimately, not a wise long-term investment given the overall condition of the building. The structure itself was deteriorating. What had once felt optional suddenly became urgent. We needed to find a new location for the thrift store.

Around that same time, the Lord was stirring something else in our hearts. In early 2023, our church leaders began having important conversations with Fletcher Academy about the space behind the church. The Academy was developing plans for outdoor amenities near the Lelia Patterson Center, including pickleball courts, a pavilion, and possibly a playground, but with access limited to LPC members.

I reached out to Chris and asked a simple question: What if part of that space could be open to the broader community? What if the playground was open to the public. It would serve the needs of the church and bless our own kids, but it would also be a blessing to so many others.

I shared a picture of what that could look like, a family-friendly space available throughout the week. A place where a busy mom, overwhelmed by life, could find rest and connection. A place where parents could gather for prayer while their children play. A place that would not only serve our church family, but would invite our community onto our campus in a way that blesses them.

While we have wonderful programs for children, our facilities were not especially kid-friendly. During potluck, children were jumping on couches in the youth room or building forts out of chairs. It was good fun, but sometimes distracting. Other kids were running in the parking lot, creating real safety concerns. A playground with a nearby picnic area would provide a wonderful potluck space for families on Sabbath.

In February 2024, the church board voted to move forward in two directions. We agreed to take a playground proposal to the church in business session, and we formed a steering committee to explore relocating the thrift store. We are grateful that Larry Kroll agreed to chair that thrift store relocation committee.

In March 2024 the church voted in business session to proceed with the playground project with a total budget of \$450,000. The project is to be completed in phases as funds are available, without borrowing.

Progress, however, was slower and more complex than we anticipated. The playground design had to be coordinated with the Lelia Patterson Center's pickleball court project, and at the same time we were exploring whether the thrift store might need to be built next to the church. These overlapping considerations delayed both planning and fundraising. The thrift store relocation committee met many times for prayer and planning. We searched for suitable properties to purchase and came up empty. We engaged the services of a site engineer to figure out if we could build a new thrift store next to the church.

Then, in January 2025, something remarkable happened. The property owned by Fellowship Baptist Church on Howard Gap Road went up for sale. This felt like a providential opportunity from God. With the strong possibility that the thrift store would not need to be built on our campus, we were finally able to move forward with the playground in a more focused way. Playground construction began, with the first phase completed at the end of June 2025.

In April 2025 the church voted in business session to purchase that property on Howard Gap Road, renovate it, and relocate the thrift store there. To make this possible, we secured a SURF loan (from the Southern Union Revolving Fund) in the amount of \$698,750, with a 20-year term at 6 percent interest.

The thrift store is thriving. More space, more visibility, more customers, more volunteers, more blessings flowing out into the community. Most weeks I am able to meet with the volunteers and some of the customers before the store opens on Tuesday morning. We open God's Word together and pray for the needs around us. God is doing great things with the thrift store ministry.

Meanwhile, right behind the church on a typical school day, especially in the afternoons, you will see multiple cars parked by the playground. Parents bring their children to play.

Families from the surrounding community are using the space each week exactly as we had hoped. What was once an idea has become a living, breathing ministry.

At the same time, there is more work to do. While we were able to raise enough funds to install the playground, we have not yet completed the project. Future phases include improving accessibility with a sidewalk or stairs from the parking lot and adding a covered picnic area for families.

Right now, however, we have a more urgent need. We need to protect what we have already built. Currently, mud and gravel come right up to the edge of the playground surface. Over time, this will shorten the lifespan of the turf. To address this, the church board has voted to move forward immediately with installing a concrete apron around the playground. This will protect the turf, provide a clean walking path, and greatly improve the overall usability of the space. We also plan to do landscaping and plant grass so the area is clean, safe, and more attractive.

We anticipate needing to raise approximately \$25,000 in the next couple of months to complete this important phase. Please consider giving to help us bring the playground up to this next level of completion.

I recognize this has not been a simple journey. At times, it may have felt confusing to have two major projects, each requiring significant resources, moving forward at the same time. I am sorry for the strain this may have created. At the same time, I truly believe we are seeing God's hand at work in ways we could not have planned.

Both the thrift store and the playground flow from the same calling, to serve our community in meaningful, tangible ways. Both represent an expansion of ministry. And both are about creating what we might call "space for grace," places where people can experience kindness, connection, and the love of Christ in practical ways.

Thank you for your patience, your generosity, and your continued prayers as we move forward together.

❖ OTHER NEWS AROUND OUR COMMUNITY ❖

MARRIAGE & RELATIONSHIPS RESEARCH SURVEY - Married church members are invited to participate in an important research project being conducted by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists Family Ministries Department in partnership with the Andrews University Institute of Church Ministry. This study explores how emotional attachment styles influence our ability to build healthy relationships. Participation is voluntary and anonymous, and the survey should be completed privately and individually. Participants must be married. Ideally, both spouses will complete the survey, but participation by just one partner is also welcome. Please participate before April 15, 2026. Your involvement will help researchers better understand and support healthy Christian marriages.



FILM SCREENING: THE HARD

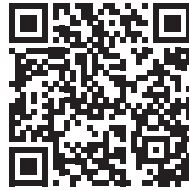
PLACES - You are invited to a special screening of *The Hard Places*, an hour-long documentary telling the remarkable story of Dr. Tom Little. Dr. Little, an optometrist, spent more than 30 years serving the people of Afghanistan, bringing much-needed eye care to remote communities and training local doctors so the work could continue long after he was gone. In August



2010, Dr. Little and nine other humanitarian workers were tragically killed while returning from providing medical care in a remote area. In recognition of his lifelong service, Dr. Little was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2011. *The Hard Places* explores his life, the people he served, and the powerful impact one person can have through a life dedicated to helping others. This moving film also raises important questions about the challenges and risks faced by humanitarian workers and missionaries around the world, while highlighting the courage, love, and faith that motivate people to serve in difficult places. The screening will take place on **Sabbath, March 21** at 1:00 p.m. in the Foster Seventh-day Adventist Church sanctuary, 375 Hendersonville Rd, Asheville, and is hosted by Dr. Nathan Williams. The screening will be followed by a brief Q&A session with Randy Sain, a businessman and missionary, who will share reflections on mission work and safety in cross-cultural service. All are welcome to attend this inspiring and thought-provoking event.

❁ OTHER NEWS AROUND OUR COMMUNITY ❁

SINGLES MINISTRIES RETREAT - April 3-5, 2026, Nosoca Pines Ranch, Liberty Hill, SC. Join Adventist singles from across North and South Carolina for a relaxing and uplifting weekend at the annual Singles Ministries Retreat, sponsored by the Carolina Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Enjoy fellowship, spiritual encouragement, and a variety of planned activities in the beautiful setting of Nosoca Pines Ranch. **Registration closes March 20.** Scan the QR code to register.



Gathering to Grow

March 27-29
Nosoca Pines Ranch

Community Services and Sabbath School Workshop

Keynote Speaker
Anthony Wagener Smith
Adventist Mission Director

Sabbath School Speakers

John Hudgins
Elder & Sabbath School Teacher, Upward Church

Cesar Perozo
Sabbath School Director, Carolina Conference

Denise Barnwell
Community Service Director, Upward Church

Register Today!

Mike Ortel
Chaplain, Paradise Valley, AZ Police Department

Cedric Parker
Executive Director, Adventist Community Restoration Center

Community Services Speakers

Join us for a transformative weekend of inspiration, leadership, and mission at Gathering to Grow.

www.carolinasda.org

WNC REGIONAL WOMEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT 2026

April 10-12, 2026
Black Mountain YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly
Black Mountain NC



He restoreth my soul

Speaker: Cindy Mercer

Women's Ministry leader Oklahoma conference, Pastor's wife, Co-author of "PRAY BIG" book on prayer and Restoration.

DATES AND LOCATION

April 10-12, 2026
Black Mountain YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, NC

COST

Weekend Rate
Starts at \$180 per person
Includes 2 nights lodging, 5 meals, facility fees, materials, meeting sessions, and afternoon activities, and more

TIME

On-site check-in begins 3:00 pm
Friday. Check-out is 10:00 am
Sunday, after breakfast and morning session.

Commuter Rate

\$85 per person
Includes meetings, materials, facility fees, Saturday lunch and dinner

REGISTRATION

Registration deadline: March 20
Space is limited. Register early.

Registration and additional information can be found online at ardenadventist.com/womens-retreat-2026 or by contacting Elle Fritz at 803-493-8170.

SCAN FOR REGISTRATION AND DETAILS



Join us for a
Baby Shower

Honoring Ashleigh & David Zalabak

March 22nd, 1 - 4 PM

Drop in @ Hendersonville SDA church
2301 Asheville Hwy
Hendersonville NC



Registered at Target and

<https://my.babylis.com/ashleighdavid>

Please bring a book instead of a card. They'll cherish the book, well loved or brand new. Please sign the inside with a message just from you!

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Friday, March 20	7:30 am 7:41 pm	Praying Together on the Phone, call 425-436-6304 access code 684-0332# Sunset
Sabbath, March 21	9:30 am 10:50 am 12:30 pm 7:42 pm	Sabbath School, all ages, classes listed in bulletin Worship Service, Sanctuary & Livestream, Pastor Ryan Ashlock Potluck, Fellowship Hall Sunset
Sunday, March 22	7:30 pm	Praying Together on the Phone, call 425-436-6304 access code 684-0332#
Monday, March 23	7:00 pm	Bible Study-Ruth, Conference Room, Mary Alice White
Tuesday, March 24	10:00 am-4:00 pm	Thrift Store, Merle Peterson, 2231 Howard Gap Rd
Wednesday, March 25	5:20 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Pathfinders and Adventurers, Lower Level, Pastor James Reynaert Mid-Week Prayer Service, Sanctuary, Pastor Ryan Ashlock Bible Study, Room 212, Mitchell Nicholaides
Thursday, March 26	6:45 am 10:00 am	Men's Bible Study, Conference Room, Pastor Ryan Ashlock Painting Class, Fellowship Hall
Friday, March 27	7:30 am 7:47 pm	Praying Together on the Phone, call 425-436-6304 access code 684-0332# Sunset
Sabbath, March 28	9:30 am 10:50 am 12:30 pm 2:15 pm 7:30 pm 7:47 pm	Sabbath School, all ages, classes listed in bulletin Worship Service, Sanctuary & Livestream, Pastor James Reynaert Potluck, Fellowship Hall Hiking Club Gym Night, LCP Sunset

CHURCH BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR

JULY 2025 - JUNE 2026

YTD through February:

Needed: 320,056.00

Received: 286,900.51

March:

Needed: 40,069.50

Received: 4,929.41

You can make contributions online by going to fletchersda.org/give or you can mail your tithe and offering for Fletcher Seventh-day Adventist Church: 1141 Howard Gap Road, Hendersonville, NC 28792

Note: All appeals for funds are to be approved by the Finance Committee.

Send tax deductible donations for WFHC Radio to: PO Box 153, Naples, NC 28760



A copy of the Church Budget is available at the desk in the narthex.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH BY THE FLETCHER SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Many church members are actively involved in serving their community. They do it freely, generously, without making known what they do. But we hear about some of what is done in the name of Christ, and we give thanks to God for this effective ministry.

Below is a list of some of the organized and known activities that serve the needs of people in our community and beyond. If you would like to get involved in helping with one or more of these ministries, please contact a pastor or one of the ministry leaders.

1. The **Thrift Store**, a ministry of Fletcher Church, is staffed by volunteers from our church community and beyond. It provides clothing, furniture, and household items to the public. Often the store assists people who face hard times by donating materials.
2. The **Fletcher Christian Counseling Center** is a ministry of the Fletcher Church and provides Christ-centered mental health services. We currently employ five therapists who meet with clients throughout the week.
3. We partner with other Seventh-day Adventist Churches to support our schools **Fletcher Academy** and **Captain Gilmer Christian School**. Members of our congregation work and volunteer at the schools and provide scholarship funds for children from the community as well as for members of our church family.
4. Programs on **Mental and Physical Health, Divorce Recovery, and Depression Management** attract people from the community. The programs run for several weeks at a time and occur throughout the year.
5. **Bible Presentations** are held each year to serve those who respond to our invitations with opportunities to know God, the Gospel of Jesus Christ and life in the Spirit.
6. Our church facility is a venue for weekly meetings held by **Alcoholics Anonymous** and **Narcotics Anonymous**. Such organizations often have difficulty being accommodated by churches. We are happy to open our doors to these recovery support groups.
7. Each year up to 70 children attend the **Foster Children's Christmas Party** which is put on by our church. Henderson County Social Services partners with us to select the families. Our church members purchase gifts for the children and provide food and funds to shower the kids with love.
8. Children and youth from the community are sponsored each summer to attend age-appropriate **Summer Camp** at NOSOCA Pines Ranch in South Carolina.
9. We partner with the Lelia Patterson Center on Sunday mornings for an **Adult Men's Basketball Ministry** starting at 9am. Please contact Jacob Stout at 573-303-1969 for more information.
10. A faithful team of volunteers from our church serves lunch every Sunday to the homeless at the **Hendersonville Rescue Mission**.
11. Our congregation supports the **Interfaith Assistance Ministry** organization with funds and volunteer help. This organization has skilled personnel who assist needy people in Henderson County with food, clothing, rent assistance, and utility payments.
12. Agencies such as **Safelight, Free Clinics, and Open Arms Pregnancy Center** in Hendersonville are supported by members of our church who provide volunteer help.