

## Southeastern Conducts Annual Science Competition

More than 45 kindergarten to eighth grade students competed in the Southeastern Conference Annual Conference-wide Science Fair, on April 17, 2011, at the Orlando Science Center in Orlando, Fla.

There were five categories based on grade levels: kindergarten, 1st and 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 5th and 6th, and 7th and 8th. Each



*A science fair contestant explains his project to one of the judges during the Southeastern Conference Science Fair in April.*

Southeastern school held a science fair locally and sent their first place winners to compete on the Conference level.

When asked why he sponsors all his students to attend the competition, Edson Jarvis, principal of Mt. Calvary Jr. Academy in Tampa, Fla., says, "I want to give our students an opportunity to exhibit their talents, see science on a

larger scale, experience what other children are doing academically, and generate more interest in the field of science."

When students are allowed to ask a question, design an experiment, and interpret results, they understand the role science plays in investiga-

tion and invention.

Brain research shows that students learn better when they solve real-life problems as opposed to being drilled on bits of information.

"By allowing our students to learn and celebrate science together, we break barriers and allow students to become champions in science," said one educator.

After the judging, students explored one of America's top hands-on science centers.

Before the winners were announced, suspense was created with a perfor-

mance from the "Kaboom! Science Show."

First place winners received a trophy and white lab coat with a nameplate that read, "Future Scientist."

—BY T. TRINA BOWDEN



*First place winners of the Annual Southeastern Conference Science Fair: Kindergarten - Dario Scully, Perrine SDA School, "Soak it Up"; 1st and 2nd Grade - Farrab Murray, Mt. Olivet SDA School, "Which Fabric Will Stay the Cleanest?"; 3rd and 4th Grade - Szymon Taylor, Perrine SDA School, "Don't Cry Over Spilled Oil"; 5th and 6th Grade - Jarod McCullough, Perrine SDA School, "Hyped Up On Sports Drinks"; 7th and 8th Grade - Trevor Dollar, Miami Union Academy, "CO2 on the Move!"*

## Mt. Zion Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Approximately 300 individuals gathered for the 30th anniversary celebration of Mt. Zion Church in Kissimmee, Fla., on March 19, 2011. In attendance were former pastors Roy Parham and Tony Taylor; J. Mair, wife of the late Cleveland Mair, first official pastor of Mt. Zion; and founding members Ruby Alexander and the Caseys.

As Parham reminisced of the early days, he shared that all the members of Mt. Zion were able to fit into the car of one of

the church's elders. Today, Mt. Zion has a much larger membership.

Awards and gifts of appreciation were given out to long-standing members and officers of Mt. Zion. Among the recipients was Michael Clarke, the longest serving elder and first elder for 18 years.

Worship during the event began on Friday evening with a stirring message from Taylor. This was followed with an urgent plea from Parham to "Stay in the Fire." Saturday afternoon presented

a panel discussion and inspiring concert as all "Looked Back While Moving Forward." The program, moderated by Sandra Chiddick, included Tony Taylor and Maxwell Berkel, current pastor of Mt. Zion, who refocused the members sights on their mission:

"The Gospel to all the world, beginning with our community."

The weekend activities concluded with a banquet on Sunday. A quick peek



*Mt. Zion honors former pastor Roy Parham, and his wife, Betty, for their dedicated service to Mt. Zion. Parham was the second pastor of Mt. Zion Church.*

into the church's history shows that Mt. Zion "gave birth" to the Poinciana Church, and more recently, the South Lake Church.

—BY EDNA FRANCOIS