



# Network News

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION ADULT MINISTRIES NETWORK

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Volume 5

"And God shall  
wipe away all  
tears from their  
eyes; and there  
shall be no  
more death,  
neither sorrow,  
nor crying. . . ."  
– Revelation  
21:4, LV

- "I am a Bible  
bigot. I follow it  
in all things, both  
great and small."  
– John Wesley
- "There are two  
things to do  
about the Gospel  
– believe it and  
behave it." –  
Susanna Wesley,  
Mother of John  
and Charles  
Wesley

## IN THIS ISSUE

### • THE WRONG MEETING: The Right Place!

#### FROM ELDER JOHNSON

#### "Sabbath School Summit Time Is Here!"

Ministry Partners,

For nearly two years we have been looking forward to this extra special meeting of our minds with The Holy Ghost, the 2009 North American Division Adult Sabbath School Summit. Within days—April 24, 25, 2009 at our World Headquarters, beginning at 6:45 p.m., Friday evening, we will be "In Session With Him!"

We are convening to ask Divinity to speak creative means of applying the Four Goals Of Sabbath School (*Bible Study, Fellowship, Outreach, World Mission*) in the Local Church setting for the purpose of Growing People, and therefore, expanding the reach of the Church for Evangelistic Purposes.

This will not be a traditional convocation during which selected *speakers* do all of the talking. There will be some of this, but the majority of the time will be invested listening to The Holy Spirit speak these *creative means* to us through the process of "Brainstorming." Oh yes, there is no question that this entire process is now, and will be *Bathed In Prayer!* As a matter of fact, Intercessors will be in constant Prayer each moment that we are "Brainstorming."

After hearing this, you probably want to be On Site. Registration will be open until April 9<sup>th</sup> at [www.plusline.org](http://www.plusline.org) (it costs nothing, and the food is free!). After April 9<sup>th</sup>, plan to view the Summit LIVE at [www.nadadultministries.org](http://www.nadadultministries.org) beginning at 6:45 p.m., on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. If while viewing you would like to contribute to the Summit—do so by e-mailing (during the session) your contribution in real time at [www.sabbathschools Summit@nad.adventist.org](mailto:www.sabbathschools Summit@nad.adventist.org).

Sabbath School *will* be stronger in your Local Setting as you apply the principles and methods The Holy Ghost will emphasize at the Summit. Let not your hearts be troubled, ye shall be able to gather *all* of the findings from the Summit at [www.nadadultministries.org](http://www.nadadultministries.org). I can hardly wait to *testify!* Thank you for praying. MARANATHA!

JAJ II

## IT'S ALL ABOUT SABBATH SCHOOL

### *A Transformational Sabbath School Class for Youth*

#### **Organizing Physical Space**

The physical setting is always a challenge for the church-based Bible teacher. Most churches do not have specially designed educational wings. In many places in the world there just is no space and it is fortunate if the climate is a warm one and there is a shade tree on the church property. As the concept of sound educational practice takes hold in the church, however, more and more an informed case should be made to the board and/or conference of this important need.

Volunteer teachers can be informed about the importance of this and advised of strategies by which to lovingly badger the bureaucracy. But they must also be supplied information on how to adapt whatever they have into the best learning environment possible. It cannot be expected that the type of adaption necessary will "come naturally" to volunteer teachers. But, especially in a Bible "classroom" setting, it is vital that every student feel safe, comfortable, and included so that the learning experience can make the most possible impact on their lives.

#### **Using Questioning and Discussion Techniques**

In a well-run discussion, all students are engaged. The dialogue is not dominated by a few 'star' students, and the teacher is not simply waiting for someone to provide the answer he has been looking for. Unfortunately this description sounds like too many Sabbath School classes—especially when we honor the star students as a way of encouraging others to study their Sabbath School lesson.

If Sabbath School teachers had only one topic that they could study before becoming teachers, it should be how to ask good questions to lead to good discussion. "Research in education indicates that training teachers in questioning techniques can enhance learning skills in their students by encouraging their thinking from literal repetition of facts into deeper exploration through comprehension, application, and inferential reasoning.

A teacher can create more effective questions through the use of the following strategies, drawn from two sources:

- **Ask** open-ended questions.
- **Ask** follow-up questions.
- **Ask** extension questions.
- **Wait** for students' answers.
- **Don't** evaluate responses.
- **Use** questions to move the class toward the learning goal.
- **Use** clarifying questions ("Explain . . .").
- **Ask** "how" or "why" questions.
- **Pose** questions before asking a student to respond.
- **Prepare** 12 to 15 questions for an hour's discussion.
- **Don't** settle for only one answer.
- **Develop** a tolerance for silence.
- **Avoid** answering your own question.

Google [www.cooltoolsforsabbathschool](http://www.cooltoolsforsabbathschool)



### **WHAT'S HOT!**

***SOME OUTREACH MINISTRIES ACROSS THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION (NAD) MAKING A DIFFERENCE!***

**EAT RIGHT! – Oakwood University Feature, Huntsville, Alabama.**

Marty Sovyanhadi, is the director of the dietetic internship program and associate professor in nutrition and dietetics in the Family and Consumer Sciences Department at Oakwood University. Dr. Sovyanhadi says, "Eat Right" is an important message that impacts all the stages of life. Proper nutrition, combined with physical activity, will promote good health and a long life. The dietetic interns at Oakwood University, help promote healthful nutrition and physical activities in support of the American Dietetic Association's 2009 March National Nutrition Month's theme, "Eat Right." It can be applied in a variety of persons from pregnancy, the early years of a child's life, and right through the senior years.

*Source: Southern Tidings, March 2009*

### **TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI**

The Tupelo, Mississippi Church held the first evangelistic meeting in the Conference for the new year on January 15<sup>th</sup>. More than 115 individuals filled the Roebuck Church during the opening night of Adventures in Prophecy meetings. Johnny Mosquera, Conference evangelist, conducted the meetings with the help of Ray Elsberry, pastor. A week later evangelistic meetings began in Oxford, Mississippi under the leadership of Ezequiel Osorio, Hispanic pastor for the northern Alabama and Mississippi district. These meetings are the beginning of more than 50 planned Conference evangelistic meetings this year in conjunction with the Year of Pastoral and Lay Evangelism. – Rebecca Grice

*Source: Southern Tidings, March 2009*

### **FREDERICK, MARYLAND**

A group of Frederick church members, passionate about reaching and serving people in their local areas, have formed an outreach ministries team. Angela Ball, who heads the Health Ministries branch of the team, recently coordinated a vegetarian cooking class that drew 30 participants. Members Rachel Santamaria and Grace Matharu demonstrated how to prepare authentic heart-healthy Indian cuisine. Attendee, Yvonne Ponton-Rozman, said, "The food tasted and smelled delicious."

The outreach team taps into people's varied interests by offering a few twice-weekly aerobics class, a book club, and a Music Ministries program. "It's exciting to see our members helping to meet the needs of the Frederick community," says Senior Pastor Robert Quintana. "They are finding ways to be an integral part of their neighborhood."

*Source: Visitor, February 2009*

Director: J. Alfred Johnson II

[Jalfred.johnson@nad.adventist.org](mailto:Jalfred.johnson@nad.adventist.org)

Editor: Carol Barron

[Carol.barron@nad.adventist.org](mailto:Carol.barron@nad.adventist.org)

Consultant: Cleveland Houser

[cleve.houser@comcast.net](mailto:cleve.houser@comcast.net)

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**North American Division  
Adult Ministries Adult  
Ministries Network**

12501 Old Columbia Pike,  
Silver Spring MD 20904

**Phone**

301.680.6430

**Fax**

301.680.6464

**E-mail**

[Carol.barron@nad.adventist.org](mailto:Carol.barron@nad.adventist.org)

**We're on the Web!**

[www.nadadultministries.org](http://www.nadadultministries.org)

## Q & A

### **Are there any resources for Personal Ministries that you could recommend?**

There are a lot of good resources. Let me take this Q & A space to list a few of the resources that are right at your finger tips.

**Available from AdventSource. For a complete listing of personal ministries resources visit AdventSource at [www.adventsource.org](http://www.adventsource.org). You can place your order or request a catalog by calling 800.328.0525.**

### **Books**

**Christ's Way of Reaching People** by Philip G. Samaan. (Review and Herald). Catalog #420490

**One-Minute Witness** by Monte Sahlin. (Center for Creative Ministry). Catalog #420085

**Power Witnessing: How to Witness to Different Personalities** by David Farmer. (Review & Herald) Catalog #420900

**Practical Guide to Personal Ministries.** (North American Division of Adult Ministries) Catalog #42050

**The Psychology of Witnessing** by Jard DeVille. (Word Books) Catalog #550995

**Revolution in the Church: Unleashing the Awesome Power of Lay Ministry** by Russell Burrill. (Hart Research Center) Catalog #416605

**Available from the Adventist Book Center or Local Christian Bookstore – visit [www.adventistbookcenter.com](http://www.adventistbookcenter.com) or call 800.765.6955 to reach the Adventist Book Center closest to you.**

**Christian Service** by Ellen G. White.

**Listening and Caring Skills in Ministry** by John Savage. (Abingdon Press)

**Out of the Salt-Shaker and Into the World: Evangelism as a Way of Life** by Rebecca Manley Pippert. (InterVarsity Press)

**Show and Then Tell: Presenting the Gospel Through Daily Encounters** by Kent and Davidene Humphreys. (Moody Press)

**Simple Keys to Effective Christian Service: Principles That Can Be Understood. Methods That Can Be Followed** by J. Alfred Johnson II, (Alpa Books)

**Training Videos and DVDs – available from AdventSource at [www.adventsource.org](http://www.adventsource.org) or 800.328.0525**

**Connections: Implementing Spiritual Gifts in the Church.** Center for Creative Ministry) Catalog #420055

**Friend 2 Friend: Reaching the Unchurch through Friendship Evangelism.** (Center for Creative Ministry) Catalog #420001

Resource: *Quick Start Guide for Personal Ministries*

**PERSONAL MINISTRIES – SABBATH SCHOOL'S PARTNER IN MINISTRY**

**HOLY WEEK EVANGELISM**

*Pastors in Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist congregations around the world help their members organize nightly outreach meetings during Easter Week or, as it is known in Spanish, "Semana Santa."*

*These evangelistic efforts are very important. . . . Men and women are empowered to lead out during Holy Week. This is a very sacred time for Catholics. The topics of the nightly meetings are very Christ-centered. Frequently, the speakers focus on the seven last sayings of Christ. The topic is rarely prophecy because the emphasis is on the Resurrection.*

*Holy Week is a "high time for evangelism." Special brochures are printed for inviting friends and neighbors. Bulletins focus on the chosen theme. Some churches rent a movie series on the life of Christ with a part shown each evening. The meeting also includes some music and preaching. Sometimes young people lead on the seven nights and conclude with a Passion Drama. No matter how it is planned, the lay people look forward eagerly to their time to share what Jesus has done for them.*

*This may seem a strange idea to Anglo church members, even dangerous. But Ellen White has written, "The words of Christ must be meditated upon and cherished and enshrined in the heart." (Testimonies for the Church, Volume 4, page 355) "What a theme for meditation is the sacrifice that Jesus made for lost sinners!" (Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5, page 316) "It would be needful for His church in all succeeding ages to make His death for the sins of the world a subject of deep thought and study." (The Desire of Ages, page 571)*

*Even if it is not predominantly Hispanic, your congregation could use Holy Week as an opportunity for outreach. This may be important if there are significant numbers of people with a Catholic, Lutheran or other background because they are used to a spiritual focus during this time.*

*The key to this whole approach is to give your church members an event to which they can easily invite friends, work associates, neighbors, acquaintances in the community and relatives. It is important to prepare a small, simple but elegant folder that members can use to give their friends something concrete announcing when and where the events will happen. It might also be helpful to place an ad in the newspaper with special events that other faiths will be announcing at this time of year.*

*Several approaches could be used:*

- 1. Small group ministries.*
- 2. A series of nightly special services at the church.*
- 3. A Discover Jesus Seminar each night in a public auditorium or meeting place.*
- 4. A "Celebration of the Resurrection" on Sabbath during worship, with appropriate music, Scripture readings, and sermon.*

*Resource: Practical Guide to Personal Ministries*

## **"INMATE SPIRITUAL COUNSELING" CURRICULUM SEGMENTS**

***"Inmate Spiritual Counseling" with an emphasis on Volunteer Prison Chaplaincy, is the new training curriculum for those who are very serious about updating their Prison Ministry skills. The 46-hour course is offered by the North American Division Academy of Continuing Education, and will be conducted in association with the International Institute of Christian Ministry of the General Conference Sabbath School/Personal Ministries Department, which has a direct relationship with Griggs University. Continuing Education Credit is a possibility for college credit in the future.***

***Curriculum Segment Highlights: Introduction to Inmate Spiritual Counseling VCHP.245***

### ***Description***

***This Module introduces the student to counseling situations germane to correctional settings. It summarizes Christian counseling concerns apropos to the behavior and feelings of inmates and the work of Correctional Chaplains, Inmate and Spiritual Counselors.***

### ***Overview***

***This course exposes the student to the fundamentals of communicating with inmates, as well as how to know them and to gain their confidence and respect. It delineates acceptable and non-acceptable approaches to conversing with inmates. The student will become familiar with Christian counseling techniques and the role of Christian Counselors to the incarcerated. Students will gain insights in the work of a Chaplain/Inmate Spiritual Counselor inside the fence.***

### ***Learning Outcomes***

- 1. The student will learn how to know inmates.***
- 2. The student will learn how to talk to inmates.***
- 3. The student will be exposed to some of the hurting situations that inmates are exposed to.***
- 4. The student will learn what Christian Counselor/Chaplains are exposed to in the Department of Corrections.***
- 5. The student will be exposed to Christian Counseling techniques.***
- 6. The Inmate Spiritual Counselor will learn the Counselor's responsibility to inmates.***

***Each issue of Network News will feature a segment from this 17 Module Curriculum. We, at the North American Division Adult Ministries Academy of Continuing Education, encourage our readers to enroll. Call Carol at 301.680.6430 or log on [www.adventsource.org](http://www.adventsource.org) for registration information.***



## **PRISON MINISTRY HAPPENINGS**

### **THE WRONG MEETING!**

*Sabbath, February 21, 2009, the True Gospel Ministries Seventh-day Adventist Church conducted a worship service at Maryland Correctional Institute Jessup (MCIJ).*

*Thirty-five to forty inmates were present, as well as three volunteers. Jesus was lifted up in praise, preaching, song and prayer. An appeal was made by Elder Bobby Pringle at the conclusion of the service, one man stepped forward and gave his heart to Jesus.*

*The inmate said he came into the meeting by mistake. After entering the wrong room, he decided to stay for the service. He now attends worship with True Gospel Ministries Church each Sabbath, and will attend the weekly Bible study. Was it a mistake? Was it the wrong meeting? I don't think so. It was all in God's plan.*

*Submitted by Michael Stango, Prison Minister*

*Baptisms are still taking place at the largest prison in Newark, New Jersey, according to Oswald Goulding, coordinator of Reformation Prison Ministry of Teaneck, New Jersey. April 4<sup>th</sup> there will be a baptism - 8 to 10 men will go down in to the watery grave because of their love for and desire to follow their Savior, Jesus Christ.*

### **EDITOR'S P.S.**

*There are two exciting happenings you must know about.*

*The First Exciting Happening – "The Sabbath School Summit". Oh, Yes!*

*In three weeks, Elder Johnson and I will have the privilege of meeting many of you who have registered for the Sabbath School Summit. We're not only excited about meeting you, but we excited about experiencing this Summit with you, learning with you, interacting and fellowshiping with you. Some of you we won't have the pleasure of meeting you in person, but -- you can be with us via the Internet by logging on to [sabbathschoolsummit@nad.adventist.org](mailto:sabbathschoolsummit@nad.adventist.org) and become an active participant in the Summit. It won't be long. See you April 24<sup>th</sup>. Safe travel to all!*

*The Second Exciting Happening – "The Bowie Project".*

*"Church Plant" the Bowie Project (Maryland), conceived in 2006 with 13 persons (that's right 13) launched in November, 2008, now averages a weekly attendance of 410 persons.*

*"The Bowie Project" will conduct its first Evangelistic Revival, April 18<sup>th</sup> May 2<sup>nd</sup>. You can "Grow The Kingdom" in your area by participating, along with your Guests, live on [www.praizevision.com](http://www.praizevision.com). Visit [www.thebowieproject.org](http://www.thebowieproject.org) for other details. It's all good!*

*I'm outta here!*

**CB**





