



# Network News

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION ADULT MINISTRIES NETWORK

DECEMBER 2009

Volume 5

*"The earth is  
the Lord's, and  
the fullness  
thereof; the  
world, and they  
that dwell  
therein." Psalm  
24:1 KJV*

- *"There are three constants in life . . . change, choice and principles."— Stephen R. Covey*
- *"Integrity is not a 90 percent thing; either you have it or you don't." — Peter Scotese*
- *"You cannot teach a man anything, you can only help him find it within himself."- Galileo*

## IN THIS ISSUE

- **BIBLEINFO.COM & DISCOVERY BIBLE SCHOOLS**
- **2010 Through the Year Sabbath School Plan**

### **FROM ELDER JOHNSON**

#### **"Of 'Thanks-Giving' and 'Praise'"**

Greetings, Ministry Partners!

Have you ever considered the distinction between giving YAHWEH Thanks" (Thanksgiving), and giving YAHWEH "Praise"? They are born of the same Parents—The Father, The Son, and The Holy Ghost. But they are not the same.

Giving Him "Thanks" involves appreciation expressed by we, who are *"unworthy"*, for *"Being"* and *"Doing"* ultimate Good! Now, "Thanksgiving" transitions into *"Worshipful Praise"* when the "Uh-Uh-Uh", "Ooh-Wee" factor of God's "flat-out-Goodness" sinks and "steeps" into our consciousness and goes into "Over-Drive!"

These things being said, it is my joy to "Thank" and "Praise" The Lord for the very positive and productive manner in which you have permitted Him to use you in Ministry this year. The Kingdom is growing as a result of your continuing and continual devotion to His service. Accessions to The Church are up this year over precious years! Thank you!

In closing, I must share my shout of "Thanksgiving" and "Praise" for what He has done for one of His faithful Ministering Saints, my sister.

Having recently visited the physicians for her final chemotherapy treatment, she was denied service. The physicians declared her to be "In Remission!" Praise YAHWEH for His Precious Blood through which we receive "Remission" from our sins!

What an honor to have the privilege of testifying about that opportunity more and more in 2010. MARARNATHA!

JAJ II

## **IT'S ALL ABOUT SABBATH SCHOOL**

***SABBATH SCHOOL SUPPLIES STANDING ORDER***  
***These Sabbath School Supplies May Be Ordered Through Your Local***  
***Adventist Book Center (800) 765.6955 or Online at***  
***[www.adventistbookcenter.com](http://www.adventistbookcenter.com)***

### **CHILDREN'S SUPPLIES\***

Kids' Ministry Ideas (Quarterly)  
Our Little Friend (Weekly)  
Beginner GraceLink Leader/Teacher Resource (Quarterly)  
Beginner GraceLink Bible Study Guide (Quarterly)  
Kindergarten GraceLink Leader/Teacher Resource (Quarterly)  
Kindergarten GraceLink Bible Study Guide (Quarterly)  
Primary Treasure (Weekly)  
Primary GraceLink Leader/Teacher Resource (Quarterly)  
Primary GraceLink Bible Study Guide (Quarterly)  
Guide Magazine (Weekly)  
Junior/Teen PowerPoints Leader/Teacher Resource (Quarterly)  
Junior/Teen PowerPoints Bible Study Guide (Quarterly)  
Earliten RealTimeFaith Leader/Teacher Resource (Quarterly)  
Earliten RealTimeFaith Bible Study Guide (Quarterly)  
Children's Mission Magazine (Quarterly)  
Teen Mission Magazine (Quarterly)

### **YOUTH SUPPLIES**

Insight & Cornerstone Connection Youth Quarterly (Weekly)  
Insight Only (Weekly)  
Cornerstone (Quarterly)  
Cornerstone (Quarterly)  
Cornerstone Teacher's (Quarterly)

### **ADULT SUPPLIES**

Adult Quarterly\*  
Easy Reading Quarterly  
Loose Leaf Quarterly  
Large Print Quarterly  
Sabbath School Leadership Magazine (Bi-Monthly)  
Collegiate Quarterly  
Collegiate Teacher's Quarterly

### **ADULT HELPS**

Sharing Scripture  
Teacher's Quarterly  
Ellen G. White Notes

### **SPANISH LANGUAGE RESOURCES**

LEAD (Monthly)  
Junior Quarterly  
Gente Joven - AY Programs  
Collegiate Quarterly  
Large Print Quarterly  
Teacher's Quarterly

The North American Division produces a quarterly materials list of additional suggested ancillary products for each division, which is published online at [www.gracelink.net](http://www.gracelink.net).

\*Some materials also available in Spanish and French; contact your ABC for details.

**WHAT'S HOT!**

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

**SPOKANE, WASHINGTON**

**Bibleinfo.com Partners with Discover Bible Schools**

Bibleinfo.com, the Adventist scripture resource ministry, announced it will partner with Discover Bible Schools, a ministry of The Voice of Prophecy and the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America, to expand its global outreach. This announcement marks a move for the online ministry from the Adventist's regional offices in Spokane, Washington, to the North American headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Kurt Johnson, Discover Bible Schools' director and the new director for Bibleinfo.com, says, "Bibleinfo.com and Discover Bible Schools introduce people to Scripture as the answer to life's questions. Each ministry has a unique approach, and when combined together, creates a powerful avenue for sharing one's faith. I am grateful and excited for this team approach to ministry."

Bibleinfo.com, with more than 2.6 million pages viewed last year, receives more Internet traffic than any other website owned and operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The success of Bibleinfo.com stems from its interactive nature. Visitors are encouraged to ask Bible questions or submit prayer requests. Each receives a personal response from one of more than 150 qualified volunteers serving around the world. The ministry responded to more than 37,000 such requests last year.

Bibleinfo.com began in Spokane, Washington, in 1995 as a telephone Bible resource and expanded to include the Internet in 1996. Since its simple beginnings, Bibleinfo.com has grown to offer Bible answers on more than 350 topics in 21 languages as well as offering a web outreach for children, [www.kidsbibleinfo.com](http://www.kidsbibleinfo.com).

*e-mail from Kurt Johnson*

**LINCOLN, NEBRASKA**

Piedmont Park Church in Lincoln is connecting with the community through practical outreach. After much brainstorming, members decided to sponsor a day at the park for parents and children of People's City Mission. They reserved Oak Lake Park within walking distance of the shelter. Everyone enjoyed a picnic lunch, games and an age-appropriate gift bag containing inspiring stories, goodies and information about Piedmont Park Church.

Members donated watermelons, cookies, veggie plates and picnic supplies. Some led games for the kids while others mingled with parents from the shelter. People were everywhere. Kids were laughing with their moms and dads. There were sack races, egg tossing and piggyback rides. Some families posed for portraits. Enthusiasm was unanimous. Guests inquired, "When will you do this again?"

*Mid-America Outlook, November 2009*

## Q & A

### More Minute Motivators for Leaders

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)

Published monthly by the North American Division Adult Ministries Network.

A Ministry of the Adult Ministries Department to the Prison Volunteers, Personal Ministries, and Sabbath School Conference and Union Directors of the North American Division.

#### 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)

**CREATIVITY – Leaders think creatively.** Leaders don't just **think** outside the box. They **live** outside the box! If there is a conventional way to approach a problem, a great leader will think of that last. What's new? What's different? What hasn't been done? These are the questions a leader asks.

Leaders are creative people. They see things that don't exist and bring them to life. They are content to work in fresh soil. They don't need the tried and tested. They are willing to go where no one else has gone before. They are moon walkers. Leaders look at life through the binoculars of possibility. "Imagination is the beginning of creativity." – George Bernard Shaw

**INVOLVEMENT – Leaders always involve others.** There's a reason why Mrs. Thornapple gives every second grader a part in the Christmas play. She knows that all the parents—and most of the grandparents—will come to watch their child perform. Involvement breeds greater success.

The best leaders aren't interested in taking credit, so they don't hoard responsibility. They're interested in reaching the goal, so they involve as many people as they can. They know shared responsibility involves learning and growing experiences for their associates. A constant huddle does not make a championship team. Practice and playing time are where the experience is gained. Perfection is formed on the court or on the field. It doesn't happen in the stands or on the bench. Real leaders create an open system for involvement. "Good leadership is motivating and mobilizing others to accomplish a task or to think in ways that are for the benefit of all concerned." – Don Page

**ACTION – Leaders put actions to their ideas.** In the world of the five-second sound bite, ideas must be able to leap off the page and accomplish something. Leaders who can think may be good analysts, but they will never be effective until they learn to enact their ideas. Action moves theory from the niceties of the page to the needs of the people.

"He talks a good game" is a death knell when applied to a leader. Theories and principles must be tried on the playing field, and leaders are anxious to put them into play. Their actions spring from the wisdom of their maturity. They act carefully. Effective leaders understand the importance of timing. They act prudently. Their actions are based on their knowledge of available resources. They refuse to commit their team to a cause that has no obvious means of support. They act courageously. Effective leaders are not afraid to wield the machete in the jungle. They are willing to carve out new paths, to go where no one else has dared to go. A leader's actions speak louder than words. "Fear of ideas makes us impotent and ineffective." – William O. Douglas

**DECISIVENESS – Leaders are decision makers.** Leaders never flinch when confronted with a choice. It's their job to make decisions, and they're good at it. They know that hesitancy is a dangerous malady that infects and eventually ruins organizations. They make calculated decisions. There is an educated determination based on their experience and the wisdom of others. Leaders don't procrastinate. When it's time to decide, they pay their money and get on the ride. "Efficiency is doing things right. Effectiveness is doing the right thing." – Alan Nelson

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

**Through the Year (2010) in Your Plan**

**JANUARY**

*Plan a "Commitment Sabbath" and ask every church member to renew their commitment to witness during the coming year. Pass out a questionnaire to find out what kind of outreach activity each person is interested in this year.*

**FEBRUARY**

*Late winter is an excellent time to launch a Revelation Seminar or start small group Bible studies. Because February is "Heart Month" in the U.S., it is also prime time for a health outreach even designed to help people prevent heart disease.*

**MARCH**

*Early spring is a good time to get started with visitation teams. You may want to start contacting the names you have of individuals who have requested information through media ministries, or Bible studies in the past. Or, launch a Reclaiming Ministry.*

**APRIL**

*The vast majority of people in North America will turn their minds toward religion at the time when Easter is celebrated by many denominations. Perhaps your local church will want to plan something to impress the minds of people in your community to think about the resurrected and soon returning of Christ.*

**MAY**

*This is the month that Seventh-day Adventists feature their ministries of compassion. The Annual Disaster and Famine Relief Offering is taken, and a Sabbath is devoted to a report from the local Adventist Community Services Center, disaster response team or inner city project.*

**JUNE**

*Summer is a good time for child evangelism. This might take the form of a traditional Vacation Bible School, Neighborhood Bible Club once a week, day camp, sponsoring underprivileged children to a Good Neighbor Camp, or a family camp weekend with parents involved with their children.*

**JULY**

*Many African-American Adventists have found the summer to be a major season for public evangelism. Bermuda, Canada and the U.S. all have their national day celebrations near the end of June or in early July. This may provide an opportunity for your church to gain visibility in the community through a float in a parade, a concert in the park, or by your Pathfinder Club acting as an honor guard for the flag.*

**AUGUST**

*There are a number of families that move at some time during the summer. These families start thinking about where to place their children for the school year and some start looking for a church. Organize visitation teams designed to contact these newcomers, some of them will visit your church.*

**SEPTEMBER**

*This is often a good month to offer a parenting seminar as a public service in the community.*

**OCTOBER**

*The fall is another good season to launch a Revelation Seminar or start small group Bible studies. Start early before the rush of the holidays.*

**NOVEMBER**

*ADRA Annual Appeal is one campaign each year when the Seventh-day Adventist Church mobilizes everyone to carry a report of our humanitarian work to each home in the community, business and civic leader.*

**DECEMBER**

*More unchurched, secular people think about Christianity during the time when Christmas is celebrated than at any other time of the year. This presents a major witnessing opportunity for your local church.*

## **"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: Prison Subcultures SOC.110**

*The day-to-day experiences of inmates are not only affected by the official, formal organization of prisons; an informal organization among inmates—known to criminologists as the inmate subculture—is equally influential. The inmate subculture is comprised of a peculiar language and a distinctive set of informal norms, attitudes, beliefs, values, statutes, and roles that give prisoners a different perspective from people on the outside (or as prisoners say, those of us in the freeworld).*

*Prisons-Prisoners-Inmate-Subcultures (Internet)*

### **Description**

*This module explores the peculiarities, and diversifications of inmate life behind prison walls. It acquaints the student with the intricate make-up and activities of the characteristics of Prison Subcultures.*

### **Overview**

*Every prison has its own personality and subculture. Prison subcultures may differ in degrees from one prison to another, but the underlining prevalence of activities and make-up will have a common denominator. Subcultures, being a city within a city, exhibit the same sociological anti-social vices as any other cultural clusters worldwide.*

### **Learning Outcomes**

- 1. The student will gain a fundamental knowledge of the intricacies of inmate behavior behind prison walls.*
- 2. The student will understand the anatomy of a prison subculture.*
- 3. The student will be able to make the analogy of sub cultural activities and vices behind prison walls to that of mainstreaming culture.*
- 4. The student will understand the psychological and sociological effects of subcultures on prison 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**

### **Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree®**

**Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree® provides children of inmates with support that begins with a Christmas gift and continues all year long.**

**Landsdowne, Va., April 24, 2008 – Childhood has been hard on Angel Garcia. By the age of 11, Angel's father had died of a drug overdose, her mother was serving her third stint in prison, and Angel was responding with anger and isolation-locking herself in her room at night and getting into trouble at school during the day.**

**But Angel's life took on a dramatic change when Prison Fellowship volunteer Tracie Groves arranged for her to attend Calicinto Ranch, a week-long camp in San Jacinto, Texas, designed specifically for kids involved in Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree program. Calicinto Ranch opened up a new world of experiences for Angel with programs and counseling that helped her cope with bitterness and anger. When she returned home from camp, Angel put what she learned into action.**

**"I called my mom and told her that I wanted to forgive her just like I want to be forgiven," said Angel. That act of forgiveness, spurred by Angel's camping experience was her family's first step in the healing process. Angel is now 12 years old, her mother is out of prison and back at home where she chooses to spend her time with her family-instead of on the streets. "When Angel called and said she forgave me, it was such a blessing," said Theresa, Angel's mom. "It was like a real big load was taken off my back."**

**Prisoners' children are five to seven times more likely to end up in prison themselves (U.S. News & World Report, April 2002). Angel Tree works with the most at-risk children and youth in America to break the intergenerational cycle of crime.**

**Thousands of children will attend Angel Tree camps. To find an Angel Tree camp in your area, go online to [www.angeltree.com](http://www.angeltree.com).**

**Angel Tree Newsroom-DeMossNews.com**

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

**William McKinley, the 25<sup>th</sup> United States President, once had to choose between two equally qualified men for a key job. He puzzled over the choice until he remembered a long-ago incident.**

**On a rainy night, McKinley had boarded a crowded streetcar. One of the men he was now considering had also been aboard, though he didn't see McKinley. Then an old woman carrying a basket of laundry struggled into the car, looking in vain for a seat. The job candidate pretended not to see her and stayed put. McKinley, however, gave up his seat to help her.**

**Remembering the episode, which he called "this little omission of kindness," McKinley decided against the man on the streetcar. Our decisions—even the small, fleeting ones—tell a lot about us.**

**No "little omission of kindness" for us. Let's allow "kindness" to dominate in 2010. It's been a good year! Thank you for your kindness in subscribing to and reading and supporting NETWORK NEWS! A HAPPY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL! See you in 2010!**

**I'm outta here!**

**CB**



