



# Network News

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION ADULT MINISTRIES NETWORK

JANUARY 2011

Volume 7

*"Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."  
Jude 1:21 - KJV*

*"We must ultimately face the consequences of our choices." –  
The Pocket Power Book of Integrity*

*"An apology is a sign of a secure person." Ibid*

*"Great dancers are not great because of their technique; they are great because of their passion."  
– Martha Graham*

## IN THIS ISSUE

- **"FAMILY" SABBATH SCHOOL CLASSES**
- **THE MISSION DRIVEN CHURCH**

### **"POWERFUL RESULTS FROM THE PLAIN AND THE SIMPLE IN 2011"**

Ministry Partners,

Who was it that said something that goes like this, "If a man can make a better Mousetrap, the world will make a beaten path to his doorstep"?

In the general secular society, we have come to fully appreciate many new and improved methods of achieving beneficial results with the greatest amount of efficiency, often with lessened output of energy. Research and Development continues!

The same can be said regarding those of us who are involved in the greatest enterprise ever! That of uniting with The Holy Ghost in the transmission of "The Good News" to this dying world so that Jesus can come! Many methods of leading to success, as Heaven counts success, are available to us. Please use them.

As we enter 2011, I encourage you to implement a Soul Winning strategy that will cost virtually nothing but Regular Christian Living, and will yield results in terms of actual Souls Won to Christ like none of us have probably ever experienced. Ellen G. White said it. Here it is:

*"If we would humble ourselves before God, and be kind and courteous and tenderhearted and pitiful, there would be one hundred conversions to the truth where now there is only one."  
Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 9, p. 189*

Powerful Results Promised! A Plain and Simple Method! I challenge us to weave this method into ALL of our Ministry in 2011. Let's celebrate the results throughout the year! See you at the Festival Of The Laity in September of THIS YEAR! Visit [www.festivalofthelaity.com](http://www.festivalofthelaity.com).

MARANATHA!

JAJ II

## IT'S ALL ABOUT SABBATH SCHOOL

### ***Jesus' Family School – Part I***

How many of us look at our watches, thinking of all the good material yet to cover? We jump into the lesson as if content were everything, with little thought of the needs and feelings of our learners.

Jesus had many "family schools." In His travels He often stayed with families. When Jesus came to visit, I'm sure that His host often invited his friends and neighbors in to hear Him. As any real teacher does, I am sure Jesus taught at every opportunity. Certainly, as the greatest Teacher this world has ever known, He should be our example in teaching techniques. Jesus' methods really work.

The most important aspect of teaching is loving relationships. It is the comparative isolation in most of our Sabbath School classes that accounts for the large number of "Sabbath School drop-outs." "You must win their affection if you would impress religious truths upon their hearts." *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, p. 68.

#### ***Creating Family Sabbath School Classes***

How do you go about creating a "family class?" In addition to visiting in the homes of your members, it is very important to be friendly and warm in your relationships in the class. If possible, greet each member personally. If you cannot greet them all during the class period, you can meet them either before or after Sabbath School. Give special attention to the timid and the socially challenged. Go out of your way to greet them and visit with them after Sabbath School or church.

If you, as the teacher/facilitator, will place yourself on the level of the students and become a learner with them, this will help you to build a family class. In other words, the teacher/facilitator thinks of himself as a learning leader rather than an authority figure. Note this statement which describes the proper and improper attitude of the teacher. "They [teachers /facilitators] are too high up on the ladder to reach down a helping hand, warm with tenderness and love and deep earnest interest. Let them step down and by their manner say to the students: 'I will no longer stand so far above you. Let us climb together, and we will see what can be gained by a *united study of the Scriptures*. . . . *Let us study together* . . . by asking questions you may suggest ideas that are new to me. Various ways of expressing the truths we are studying will bring light into our class. . . . Do not hesitate to state your views of the subject. *Light will shine upon us as in the meekness and lowliness of Christ we study together*.'" *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, p. 436. (Italics supplied.)

## **WHAT'S HOT!**

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

### **SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE – First Cowboy Camp Meeting – Athens, Texas**

Helvis C. Moody, in cooperation with the Southwest Region Conference, (SWRC) organized the very first Cowboy Camp Meeting held in Athens. Adventist and non-Adventists from Dallas, Fort Worth, and surrounding areas traveled to Lone Star Camp to fellowship with other “cowboys,” and to worship God through nature.

The cowboys were excited, but they had to get their rest to be ready for Sabbath morning. They began their day with Sabbath School, followed by a Praise and Worship session and the preaching of God’s Word. The evening program, “Cowboys and Their Health,” was conducted by Billy Wright, SWRC president, and Mildred Dyer, SWRC health director. The day ended with an enjoyable night hayride and trail ride with the horses.

*First printed in Southwestern Union Record, October 2010*

### **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA – ‘Jesus Loves Jeans’ Missionaries**

More than 130 SCC young people accepted the call to become small-group missionaries in their homes, following a Jesus Loves Jeans 2.0 rally earlier this year. A total of 45 small groups formed in 14 churches, which began in April. Pastors and lay youth leaders worked hard to hold three simultaneous evangelistic caravans which began July 17 in Lancaster, Oxnard and the Los Angeles areas. During the caravan, a different young person led out each night.

In the Alpha and Omega Spanish church meetings, adult members lined up, as one by one, a young person prayed for an adult.

The Spanish Youth Ministries JLJ program concluded with a JLJ 2.0 Caravan reaping program. Excitement ran high. Nine churches held campaigns before the caravan, baptizing 43 young people during meetings held between late May and July.

*First printed in Pacific Union Recorder, October 2010*

### **HAMILTON, BERMUDA – Café Eden Smoothie Bar Opens**

The much-anticipated smoothie bar opened on August 16, at the Adventist Book Center (ABC) on King Street in Hamilton. Commenting on the reason for the smoothie bar, ABC manager, Carolyn James, said, “Everyone has been asking for it. In addition, it is a healthy choice and will only add to our commitment to providing wholesome products to our customers.” The goal of the Café Eden Smoothie Bar is to have something for everyone—from the person who only wishes for something different, to the more health-conscious individual. Enjoy Mellow Yellow (which includes banana, mango, peach, almond butter and non-dairy milk of your choice), Caro Delight, Berri-licious and Smooth & Easy. Visit [www.bermudaconference.org](http://www.bermudaconference.org).

*First printed in the Atlantic Union Gleaner, October 2010*

## Q & A

### ***In Bible Learning Activities, What are Buzz Groups?***

**Buzz Groups** are small groups, three to six persons, formed within a Sabbath School class for simultaneous discussion. Their purpose is to involve every member in a discussion of a relevant question or problem from the Sabbath School lesson, seeking solutions, identifying needs or revealing attitudes.

Each group should appoint a moderator and recorder. The leader should announce the time allotted—five minutes is good—and give a warning signal for ending the discussion. After the class has reassembled, the teacher/facilitator asks for a brief (two-minutes) report from each group. Then he/she leads the group in a planning summary discussion. Managing the time is always an important factor in planning and conducting learning activities.

### ***How Do You Deal With the Person Who Wants to Argue or Debate?***

**Conflict.** First the teacher needs sufficient inward strength and grace to respect an opposing view. We do not all see things alike, nor interpret the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy the same.

“Every association of life calls for the exercise of self-control, forbearance, and sympathy. We differ so widely in disposition, habits, education, that our ways of looking at things vary. We judge differently. Our understanding of truth, our ideas in regard to the conduct of life, are not in all respects the same.” (*Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, p. 102.)

Disagreement need not always be unpleasant nor lead to argument or debate. The teacher/facilitator must avoid inflexibility or a dogmatic attitude in him/her. This does not mean that, chameleon-like, he/she moves with every changing breeze of opinion.

Avoid “you” messages like, “You are wrong.” Or “You are stubborn,” or, “You are prejudiced.” Keep personalities out of the discussion. “The Sabbath School should not be a place for controversy . . . let not a combative spirit arise and discussion and controversy follow.” (*Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, p. 117.) When a difference of opinion arises between two members of the class and exchanges become heated, you should step in, not to take sides, but to seek to bring harmony. Sometimes a bit of humor can relax the atmosphere and save the day. This is where leadership must be exerted.

### ***Is There an Art to Questioning?***

**Yes!** The key to good discussion is the right question. Remember Bacon’s statement that a skillful question is half the answer. Questions encourage thought and set the mind to working. Teachers/Facilitators should ask different kinds of questions. Some should be fact-producing. The learner needs some factual information in order to respond. (*We will continue this discussion in the February issue.*)

***Teaching Techniques for the Adult Sabbath School, by Charles Betz***

***Word Facilitators added.***

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### **THE MISSION DRIVEN CHURCH**

***When we realize that the church is called together around a mission, that its whole existence is mission driven, then some startling conclusions come to the surface.***

- 1. The church exists to serve the people who are not members, the people outside itself, "the world." This is radically different than the assumption of most church members that the church exists to serve its members. It is a wrenching experience for a congregation to put aside the self-centered view of church that is so common, and focus on a mission centered view of church. Yet, Ellen White says that "when we have come to love the world as [Christ] loved it, then, for us, His mission is accomplished." (*Desire of Ages*, page 641.)**
- 2. The focus and goals of the church are determined by Christ, not by majority vote and not by ecclesiastical authority. It is His mission upon which we are sent. It is His purpose which He assigns us to attain. It is only as we center our individual lives in Christ, and our life together in His mission that we can really be completely faithful to Jesus.**
- 3. A soul winning church cannot be a church that resists change. If it does, it will eventually quit winning souls. For example, if your congregation has usually had about 80 people attending each Sabbath for many years, and because of soul winning success that jumps to about 150 each Sabbath over the next year, then your congregation will experience a high degree of change. If that change is resisted by the established members, it is likely that within a few months, the attendance will drop back to about 80 each Sabbath and you will have many inactive members.**
- 4. A mission driven church cannot be a tradition driven church. "No one can serve two masters" (Luke 16:13). A missionary church is sent by Christ on a journey, and faithfulness to Christ's command will lead that church to "move" from "place" to "place," just as Abraham set out in response to God's direction. This means that if your congregation is truly a mission driven church, it will change its activities from time to time in order to be more effective in outreach and evangelism.**
- 5. A real commitment to Christ's mission will cause your church board to take on new challenges, launch new programs and enter into new partnerships. Faithfulness to Christ's mission will motivate your church members to increase their giving and invest more of their time in volunteer roles. A true dedication to soul winning will lead your members to accept changes that are inconvenient and even uncomfortable, because those changes help the church reach and win people who otherwise could not be reached or won to Christ and His remnant 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: Volunteer Policy PM.210***

***A policy is typically described as a principle or rule to guide decisions and achieve rational outcome(s). Policy merely guides actions toward those that are most likely to achieve a desired outcome. A volunteer in a correctional facility does not have an easy task. Many inmates, for various reasons, have built invisible walls around themselves that are higher than any prison walls.***

*Internet; Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia*

### ***Description***

***Volunteer Policy exposes the Inmate Spiritual Counselor to the intricacies of volunteerism and the necessity of the Inmate Spiritual Counselor.***

### ***Overview***

***This module will expose the volunteer to standards and policies that involve volunteers in their correctional responsibilities to the Department of Correction and the community. The volunteer will understand protocol, expectations and job responsibilities as designed by the volunteer coordinator and endorsed by the Warden.***

### ***Learning Outcomes***

- 1. To understand what is expected of a volunteer.***
- 2. To understand volunteering and volunteer policy.***
- 3. To acquaint the counselor with the responsibilities of volunteer coordinators and other correctional designees.***
- 4. To have a working knowledge of volunteer policy and volunteer involvement.***

***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**

### **DAY REPORTING CENTER AT LOUISIANA AIMS TO REDUCE RECIDIVISM**

The Louisiana Department of Corrections partnered with BI Incorporated to open an intensive Day Reporting Center (DRC) in Shreveport, Louisiana, on July 6, 2010, in order to reduce recidivism rates. BI's Day Reporting and Reentry centers provide support for high-risk parolees and probationers who have previously failed conditions of releases and are resistant to change and treatment. "Just under half of those individuals released from prison each year will return to prison within five years," said Corrections Secretary Jimmy Le Blanc. "While high recidivism rates are not unique to Louisiana, the DRC concept is an evidence-based, best practices approach that has proved successful in reducing the number of individuals who cycle in and out of prison, and that is an outcome that is good for the DOC, for the individual under supervision and for the community as a whole." BI's programs closely monitor the behavior of offenders referred to DRC and provide them with treatments to help break cycles of criminal behavior such as substance abuse education and treatment, anger management, employment skills building and mental health services.

*--Jenna Scafuri, October 2010 Corrections Today*

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

***Two Thousand and Eleven! Ready or Not! It's here! It has begun! So get all excited! I'm excited! Great things will happen in 2011- and one of the great excitements will be the Festival Of The Laity in Dallas, Texas.***

***In two easy important steps, you can be a part of This Excitement!***

***Easy Step #1 - Register for the FESTIVAL - [www.festivalofthelaity.com](http://www.festivalofthelaity.com).***

***Easy Step #2 - Call the Sheraton Dallas Hotel and reserve your room - 214.922.8000 or 800.325.3535 - Code "Seventh-day Adventist".***

***Voilà! You're done! See how easy it was? Let the Excitement begin! See you in Dallas at The Festival Of The Laity, September 7-10, 2011!***

***Here's something to ponder as you traverse the many highways of 2011.***

***Author Rudyard Kipling said:***

***"I keep six honest serving men,***

***(They taught me all I knew).***

***Their names are***

***What and Why and When and How and Where and Who.***

***\*\*\****

***A bend in the road is not the end of the road***

***If you remember to take the turn.***

***--Jeff Lunden***

***I'm outta here!***

***CB***

