



# Network News

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION ADULT MINISTRIES NETWORK

JULY 2009

Volume 5

*"Think about things that are pure and lovely, and dwell on the fine, good things in others. Think about all you can praise God for."—LV  
Philippians 4:8*

- *"Nobody trips over mountains. It is the small pebble that causes you to stumble."*
- *"Pass all the pebbles in your path and you will find you have crossed the mountain."—  
Source Unknown*

## IN THIS ISSUE

- **NATIONAL TV TURN-OFF WEEK**
- **SUMMER REVIVALS FOR SABBATH SCHOOL**

### **FROM ELDER JOHNSON**

#### **"WHAT IF?"**

Ministry Partners,

In many places throughout our Division the time that we are passing through at this time is known as "Camp Meeting Season."

This past Sabbath, I had the honor of attending a camp meeting where North American Vice President Alvin Kibble, addressing the general camp meeting theme of "The Totally Focused Church, positively challenged our Gospel Commission driven imaginations, using the **"What If?"** platform, in several areas.

One of the many areas of challenge flowing from the Message is very particularly applicable to every Adult Minister – Sabbath School, Personal Ministries, or Prison Ministry. The Challenge was, in essence, **"What If you made a list of seven people to ask Jesus to lead to Himself, and to His Church THIS YEAR? What If you kept this list before Our Lord in Prayer each day?"**

Partners, I believe The Lord will look with "Favor" upon that kind of praying. I have accepted the "Challenge." I encourage you to accept the "Challenge." I "Challenge" you to share the "Challenge" with those who occupy your sphere of Congregational and general Believing influence.

We live, as Adult Ministers, to use all legitimate means possible to participate with The Holy Ghost in getting The Gospel Commissioned accomplished. **"What If?"** we all participated in an attempt to encourage all of us to pray to "The Lord of Us" to bring "Seven more of us" *Into His Heart and His Family* this year!

I say that this is a Mission Possible!

MARANATHA!

JAJ II

## IT'S ALL ABOUT SABBATH SCHOOL

### **SUMMER SURVIVAL IDEAS – PART I**

The youth have gone to camp. Two families have gone on vacation. There go your best participants and half your audience! What do you do now? How can you, in a small church, possibly put on a successful Sabbath School during the summer months, when you never know who or how many will be there? What is the solution? Cancel Sabbath School? Never! Read a chapter from *The Desire of Ages*? No way! Take all the time for lesson study?

There's a better way! Regardless of how many show up, they expect an interesting, timely, informative, and spiritually rewarding experience. And you can give it to them! Try some of the following ideas that have worked in other small Sabbath Schools.

**1. End-of-Time Sabbath School.** Remove all songbooks and Bibles from the pews. Confiscate all Bibles and lesson quarterlies. If possible gather the group in a circle. Pretend that it is the end of time. Your group is meeting in an isolated cave deep in the mountains. Ask your group to help you produce a Sabbath School program. All Bible verses, songs, and stories will have to be from memory. For the mission story, let them try to remember an incident from the mission field that they have experienced, read about, or heard at some time. Your Sabbath School members will never forget this hour!

**2. Family Affair.** Ask one family to put on the whole program, finding a way to use every member of the family. Different families could take different weeks. They will come up with some creative Sabbath School programs, and you will discover talent you didn't know existed.

**3. Bible Trivia.** Put on a quiz program. Quiz books are available through the Adventist Book Center and Christian bookstores. Or make up your own questions from previous Sabbath School lessons. Include some questions from the adult mission quarterly. Pit the men against the women, under-40s against over-40s, or just divide the group in half.

**4. Church in Nature.** Plan to transport your entire group to a nearby park and have Sabbath School outdoors. For your feature give everyone a brown paper bag. Ask them to take 10 minutes to walk around the area and put inside the bag some nature item for which they can think of a spiritual lesson. Bring the group back together and let each share the nature lesson he or she has discovered.

**5. Brown Bag Surprise.** Everyone gets a brown bag. Some have instructions for the parts of the program such as: "Choose an opening song and lead the group." "Offer a prayer." "Read the enclosed mission report." The others will have common household articles that will fit in brown lunch bags. They are to try to think of a spiritual lesson that we could gain from that object. Try to think of texts that go along with the lesson. Everyone will be a participant, and everyone will be blessed!

**6. Bible Pictionary.** This game can be purchased through your ABC or Christian bookstore. You can come up with your own ideas. Divide into two groups. You give each group a Bible phrase, story, or verse. Someone in the group tries to draw simple pictures to get the idea across, and the others try to guess what it is. It is along the same format as the TV program *Win, Lose, or Draw*. Even your older members will enjoy this for a different kind of summer program.

**7. Song Memories.** Ask all present to think of a song that has meant a lot to them in the past. Ask them to tell why that song is special and what memories they have connected with that song. Then all join in to sing their special song. Be prepared to share your own memory first. This will give the others time to think of theirs.



## **WHAT'S HOT!**

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

### **EASTWOOD SCHOOL COLLECTS COINS FOR CANCER TREATMENT**

The students at Eastwood Junior Academy in Westerville, Ohio, recently participated in the Pennies for Patients program. The program raises money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. On Mondays pennies were brought in. Tuesdays were nickel days. Wednesdays were for dimes. Thursdays were quarter days. Fridays were dollar days. Even though certain days were reserved for particular denominations, students could bring in any coin on any day. The four classrooms had a goal of \$100 with a school-wide goal of \$400. The Lord blessed and they exceeded their goal with a grand total of \$575.

*Vicki Nicolaus*

*Source: Visitor, May, 2009*

### **NATIONAL TV TURN-OFF WEEK**

April 20-26 and September 20-26, 2009 are this year's annual National TV Turn-off Weeks. TV Turn-off Week was created by TV-Free American, a nonprofit group that raises awareness about the harmful effects of excessive television-watching and encourages Americans to reduce the amount of television they watch—and replace TV time with activities that lead to more literate, productive lives and engaged citizenship.

National TV-Turnoff Week is the first national wide effort which targets the medium of television and asks that people reassess the role TV plays in their daily lives as entertainer, pacifier, babysitter, time filler and background noise. It's about having more fun and turning "on" your life. It's an opportunity to rediscover the wide range of activities that exist when one unplugs from the sedentary, image-based, simplistic and commercial world of television.

#### **Interesting Facts About TV**

Number of 30 second commercials seen in a year by an average child: 20,000. Number of minutes per week that parents spend in meaningful conversation with their children: 38.5. Percentage of children ages 6-17 who have TVs in their bedrooms: 50. Number of minutes per week that the average child watches television: 1,680. Percentage of day care centers that use TV during a typical day: 70. Hours per year the average American youth spends in school: 900 hours. Hours per year the average American youth watches television: 1500. Percentage of Americans that regularly watch television while eating dinner: 66.

*Source: Passport, Spring 2009*

*Information provided by NAD Children's Ministries*

Visit [www.adventsource.org/as20/plusline.article.aspx?id=655](http://www.adventsource.org/as20/plusline.article.aspx?id=655) and [www.tvturnoff.org](http://www.tvturnoff.org)

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)

## Q & A

**Can you touch on some of the responsibilities and duties that involve the Youth and Children Division Leaders? We want to do things right!**

Last month we talked about the Youth Division – hope it was helpful. Let's focus on the Children's Divisions. Because of the unique needs and requirements of the different children's age divisions, it makes sense for the Children's Ministries Coordinator, rather than the Adult Sabbath School Coordinator, to coordinate the children's divisions. We're looking at The Ministry of Children's Division Leader.

**Responsible to:** The Children's Ministries Committee, Sabbath School Committee.

**Relates Close with:** The Children's Ministries Coordinator, assistant leaders and crew leaders in the division, leaders of other divisions, and children's families.

**Ministry Mission:** To nurture children into a loving, serving relationship with Jesus.

**Responsibilities** – The leader of a children's division of the Sabbath School—beginner, kindergarten, primary, junior, earliteen, or combined age groups—has the following responsibilities:

### Organization and Administration

- ✓ Meets quarterly with the division assistant leaders and crew (class) leaders for planning, training, and room preparation.
- ✓ Represents their age division on the Children's Ministries Committee and the Sabbath School Committee.
- ✓ Develops a division budget with the help of the Children's Coordinator.
- ✓ Organizes the division Sabbath School storage and room decorations; assigns general responsibilities.
- ✓ Organizes and leads the Sabbath School program, assigning responsibilities to assistant leader(s) and crew (small group) leaders.

### Coordination of Sabbath School Ministry

Delegates and coordinates the following aspects: record keeping, welcoming ministry, mail ministry, hospitality ministry, family visitation ministry, music ministry, crew (class group) leadership.

There is much more information – but space won't allow it. Please take advantage of *The Sabbath School Handbook*, a wonderful resource, and other resources available through AdventSource such as: *The Growing Leader*, *The Discipline Guide for Children's Ministry*, *Children's Ministries: Ideas and Techniques that Work*; *Care and Feeding of Volunteers*.

Check out the web site of Children's Ministries for the North American Division, [www.childmin.com](http://www.childmin.com) – it's chock full of information.

**Resource: *The Sabbath School Handbook***  
[www.adventsource.org](http://www.adventsource.org)

## **PERSONAL MINISTRIES – SABBATH SCHOOL’S PARTNER IN MINISTRY**

### **FOUR KINDS OF HEALTH SCREENING PROJECTS**

*There are four types of screening projects that are used today. Each has strengths and weaknesses, depending on the community, the resources available to your congregation and the type of disease you wish to focus on.*

- 1. Health screening vans are mobile and can easily be parked on a downtown street, in the parking lot at a shopping center, outside a senior citizens housing project or community center. Screening is generally restricted to simple tests such as checking blood pressures. It is almost impossible to charge a fee, although some income can be generated from a well-placed container for donations.*
- 2. An exhibit or booth at a county fair or in a shopping mall can contact even a larger number of people than a screening van. Again, only simple tests can be provided and it is almost impossible to charge a fee. The computer programs that provide an estimate of one’s “health age” or an appraisal of certain health habits are often an attractive service to the general public in this setting.*
- 3. A community health fair brings together a number of stations from several collaborating organizations. A health fair may be relatively small with only a few, simple tests and focused on just the residents of one housing complex or the employees in one business. A health fair may be a large event with thousands of people visiting 20 to 30 stations and involving a large number of organizations working together. During the early 1980s, the Seventh-day Adventist Church cooperated with a number of city-wide health fairs conducted by television networks and major hospitals under the auspices of the National Health Screening Council.*
- 4. A focused health evaluation program includes more sophisticated tests that relate to a specific disease or area of health concern. It must be funded by a donor organization for a low-income community, or provided as a service with a modest registration fee of \$25 to \$50. The Heartbeat program is a community coronary evaluation program of this type. Group research conducted among the general public in 1996 demonstrates that people are interested in this kind of service, see it as valuable and are willing to pay for it.*

#### **Promoting The Project**

The first step in promoting your health screening event is to “sell” it to the members of the congregation. They need to be encouraged to personally invite friends, neighbors, and coworkers to take advantage of a valuable service available at a modest cost, as well as explain the usefulness of screening in the prevention of disease. Help your members get behind this project by demonstrating creative ways that invitations have been extended and supplying them with attractive materials to distribute.

**A Planning Session will be discussed in the August issue of Network News.**

## **"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: Inmate Manipulation PM.111**

*"A lot of inmates spend their life [thinking of] how to manipulate people, from members of their own family to those in the Department of Corrections," says James Topham, a former Criminal Investigator with the New Hampshire Department of Corrections. "Not every inmate [is out to manipulate], but every inmate in the right set of circumstances can own any officer. It's a game, but it can be a dangerous game. A lot of officers can maybe stray from basic rules and then they are under the inmate's thumb and don't realize it."*

### **Description**

*This Module examines the reasons why inmates manipulate. What is in it for them and why it is necessary for them to be successful in mastering the art of manipulation. The student will understand the tactics and the methods of inmate manipulators.*

### **Overview**

*This Module will provide the student with insights into the manipulative mindset of manipulators behind prison walls. The student will understand and be acquainted with the methods necessary to avoid the manipulative endeavors of inmates. This Module will help the student to know how to confront manipulative behavior.*

### **Learning Outcomes**

- 1. To equip the student with tools on how to avoid manipulation tactics of inmates.*
- 2. To familiarize the student with the numerous ways that manipulators play manipulative games.*
- 3. To help the student to understand the mindset of those who manipulate.*
- 4. To gain insight on how to deal with inmates and their manipulative skills.*

*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

### OFFENDER TURNED STAR CHEF

*"Prison was a blessing in disguise," Chef Jeff Henderson told his audience at the American Correctional (ACA) General Session. It was the first time Henderson was told that he had potential—*

*aside from the drug dealers who picked up on his potential to sell and manufacture crack. Henderson, an award-winning chef, best-selling author and host of the Food Network's "The Chef Jeff Project," served nearly a decade in federal prison on crack charges. Washing pots in the prison's kitchen, correctional officers noticed Henderson's speed and focus. They allowed him to cook, and encouraged him to experiment with ingredients and techniques. Before long, Henderson was turning out delicious meals for his fellow inmates and managing the kitchen staff.*

*All along Henderson had what he calls "the ingredients of a successful person, he was simply lacking the guidance and viable product to focus his energies on. Once the kitchen staff allowed him to grow his passion for cooking, Henderson could imagine a successful life for himself on the outside.*

*Like so many men convicted of crack charges in the 1980s, his childhood was marked by generational poverty, an absent father and a substance-abusing mother. "I grew up in a house where we never sat at the table for dinner," Henderson said. No one asked him how he was doing in school or what he wanted to be when he grew up. Cooking and selling crack in Los Angeles made Henderson a millionaire by age 19. He was able to supply himself with the "trinkets and gadgets", the things that drive criminal lifestyles. This fortune did not last; while the amount of money he earned may have been exceptional, his drug convictions and 20-year sentence were not.*

*Through the recounting all of his life's ups and downs, Henderson had a clear message. It was the care and cultivation provided by prison staff during his time in the kitchen that set him on a course away from crime and toward the kitchens of five-star restaurants.*

*Lisa Gormsen*

*April 2009 Corrections Today*

### EDITOR'S P.S.

*Have you ever wondered, "Am I making a difference as I walk this pathway of life?" I remember the song "If I can help somebody as I pass along, if I can cheer somebody with a word or song, if I can show somebody how they're traveling wrong, then my living shall not be in vain. If I can do my duty as a good man ought, if I can bring back beauty to a world up wrought, if I can spread love's message as the Master taught, then my living shall not be in vain. My living shall not be in vain, then my living shall not be in vain. If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living shall not be in vain."*

*I haven't heard this song in a long time, but I plan to revive it in my daily living. I don't want my living to be in vain. How about you?*

*I'm outta here!*

*CB*

