



Network News

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION ADULT MINISTRIES NETWORK

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"He that
covereth his
sins shall not
prosper: but
whoso
confesseth and
forsaketh them
shall have
mercy. Proverbs
28:13 KJV

"Life is like an
onion: you peel it
off one layer at a
time, and
sometimes you
weep." – Carl
Sandburg

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

IN THIS ISSUE

- **WEAR THE RIGHT HAT: LEADERSHIP**
- **"NEITHER MALE NOR FEMALE"**

"KEEP YIELDING"

Hello, Ministry Partners,

We communicate with you each month in an attempt to give assurance that your service *with* Our Lord is valued and appreciated. We want you to know that you are a subject of our Prayer Requests for your continued safety and Anointing by The Holy Ghost.

By the time you receive this issue of *Network News* we will be on the "heels" of the 59th General Conference Session of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. As all of us have entered into this special season with anticipation and hope as to how Our Lord will direct His Church, one *reality* remains the same!

This *reality*, as we experience these "perilous times": Afghanistan; Iraq; Economy . . .), is that Jesus' Coming is "one day closer". Thus, like never before, we must keep on holding firm to our commitment to Minister The Mission assigned to us through our acceptance of The Gospel Commission of Matthew 28:18-20, which is placed into operation through the Spiritual Gifts which have been so graciously assigned to us (1 Corinthians 12: Romans 12; Ephesians 4).

The encouraging factor is that we are not called to *press harder*; we are called to "**yield**" more completely to His Leading. The Hymnist said, ". . . He is *willing* to aid you. He *will* carry you through."

The Word says, "Trust in The Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:5, 6.

Our Prayer is that Our Lord will do something "special" for you in Ministry, for His Mission throughout the world, through His servants who continue to "Keep Yielding" to the leading of The Holy Spirit.

MARANATHA!

JAJ II

IT'S ALL ABOUT SABBATH SCHOOL

BUILDING A SOUL-WINNING SABBATH SCHOOL

***"The Sabbath School should be one of the greatest instrumentalities, and the most effectual, in bringing souls to Christ."
Counsels on Sabbath School Work, p. 10.***

1. Implement the four Sabbath School objectives:
 - Promote Bible Study and Effective Class Teaching
 - Foster Christian Fellowship
 - Encourage Community Outreach Activities
 - Cultivate Support for World Missions
2. Plan with the assistant coordinator for evangelism in promoting Branch Sabbath Schools, Community Guest Days, Friendship Evangelism initiatives and class outreach opportunities.
3. Plan with the assistant coordinator for the reclaiming of inactive members. Help keep Sabbath School membership lists up-to-date.
4. Plan with the world missions coordinator for a strong program of mission education in all divisions.
5. Plan with the hospitality coordinator for the care of visitors.
6. Plan with the adult division leader for growth. If a Sabbath School wants to grow, it should add one new class per year for every 100 members. These might be for special interest groups, such as young adults, singles, women, beginner parents, new members, prospective members, or other special interests.
7. Encourage activities outside of Sabbath School time, such as potlucks, outings, nature walks, and other social activities.
8. Make sure the extension division is functioning properly.

Recruiting Volunteers

1. Identify potential Sabbath School personnel; invite them to get involved, and assist them in getting started.
2. Be on hand early Sabbath morning to help find substitutes or assistants, if necessary, for the program to run smoothly.
3. Plan training events and encourage new people to attend and prepare themselves for service.
4. Arrange for frequent appreciation and affirmation to be given to Sabbath School volunteers.

Visitor Information Packet

- A map of the Sabbath School rooms and church
- Some history of the church
- A list of weekday activities
- What's an Adventist brochure
- Phone numbers of key church personnel
- Information about the local Seventh-day Adventist School

*Source: The Sabbath School Handbook
AdventSource*

WHAT'S HOT!

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

NEW JERSEY – Church Leaders Recognized for Soul Winning

The recent Spanish and English Elders, Deacons and Deaconesses retreats at Tranquil Valley Retreat Center in Tranquility were the culmination of a season of training for church leaders in New Jersey. This year the traditional elders' retreats were expanded to include the deacons and deaconesses for the first time. Frank Bondurant, vice president for Ministries Development for the Columbia Union, and Armando Juarez, Hispanic coordinator for the Nevada-Utah Conference, provided inspiring messages for the retreats.

The highlight of the retreats was the recognition of those leaders who brought someone to Christ and saw baptisms as a result of ministry in their local churches. The conference designed a new lapel pin that features a crown and a star. Each leader was also challenged to bring at least one person to Christ by the time of the 2011 retreat.

POTOMAC PEOPLE – Hispanic Churches Hold 63 Campaigns in One Week

For more than a week, the Holy Spirit worked through student evangelists standing at 63 different pulpits across the Potomac Conference. These students from the School of Theology for Disciples led the events for the 63 simultaneous evangelistic campaigns held in Hispanic churches throughout the conference. In addition to a manual that helped them develop sermons for each night, all the preachers were given prior instruction. They also received a variety of books, music CDs, Bibles and other materials to share with visitors. Twenty-two Hispanic pastors gave Bible studies and called for decision.

A total of 854 visitors attended the different campaigns each night bringing the overall attendance to 1,540. In addition to the eight baptized during the event, another 352 baptisms have been reported. Pastors estimate once the Bible studies are complete, there will be a total of 600 baptized—transforming this weeklong evangelistic series into an historic and unprecedented occasion in the conference. To view the video of this event, visit www.pcsda.org and click on Latest News.

POTOMAC PEOPLE – Desmond T. Doss Students Wear Purple for Epilepsy

Every student at Desmond T. Doss Jr. Academy in Lynchburg, Virginia, recently showed up to school wearing purple—and no, this wasn't because they were all Vikings fans. Students and staff were showing support for those living with epilepsy, which causes life-threatening seizures. Statistics show that approximately one in every 100 persons suffers from epilepsy—but very few people talk about it, or are even aware of it.

Laurie Kelly, a kindergarten teacher at the school, became involved in the cause when her daughter, Shannon now a freshmen, was diagnosed with the condition. "God took this horrible situation that really hurt our family and strengthened our faith," Kelly said. "We also found it very empowering that our school supported Shannon."

Shannon was among several children with epilepsy who recently traveled to Washington, D.C., to speak with their congressmen about how they could help. Back at Desmond T. Doss, students even signed a petition asking President Barack Obama to increase money for research to find a cure for this dreaded disease. For more information about epilepsy, visit www.efa.org.

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Q & A

FOUR LEADERSHIP HATS

Exceptional leaders are able to read and to respond to a variety of situations that require very different leadership styles. Most leaders are limited to one or two styles of leading. Their dilemma is that an organization or team will eventually outgrow their limited response abilities. Effective in certain types of situations.

Wear the Right Hat

General/Foreman: This is a required hat when people are floundering. In these situations, time is of the essence, and team members need direct specific instruction as to what is expected of them. Times of crisis or acute lack of motivation require us to provide ample "presence" within our organization. While you do not have to be mean to provide assertive leading, you do need to convey an attitude of urgency along with ample communication. If you appear overly relational or laid-back, people will not rise to the occasion.

Coach: When people are somewhat motivated but lack information or direction, your role is that of a coach. You do not need to be as confrontational or assertive as a **General/Foreman**, because people on the team desire to be involved. Pushing the team may be necessary from an inspirational standpoint, but knowing strategies, implementing plans and arranging players according to their strengths and abilities will raise the perceived competence of you the leader and, subsequently, the players' respect for you.

Team Captain: Unlike a **Coach**, team captains lead from within the game and are respected as peer leaders more than they are as top-down influencers. When people are generally competent, experienced, informed and motivated, a leader must respond differently in order to be effective. A less assertive approach does not mean that the leader is out of touch with what is happening. This type of leader is more proactive in development, planning and training. Encouraging team spirit and group accomplishment becomes the dominant theme of meetings.

Friendly Expert: if team members are highly competent and motivated, the leader's job is primarily one of facilitation. Some refer to these groups as leaderless groups, but that is a misnomer. Sometimes an outsider would not be able to identify who the leader is because in meetings and interactions, this leader is more passive and more of a listener and observer. This does not mean that the friendly expert does not speak up and interact if needed; the role is more like a consultant or informed peer than an authoritarian leader. Being too strong or opinionated at this level will crush leadership and render the leader obsolete.

Effective leaders will at times feel schizophrenic if they need to change leadership styles several times within the course of any given day, depending on the meeting, the conditions of the situation and with whom they are interacting. Obviously, if you are limited to one or two styles of leading, you will reduce your ability to lead effectively in situations that lie outside of these appropriate styles. Leadership will be restricted. In effect, an inappropriate leadership style is the equivalent to pinching a water hose so that the water cannot flow freely from the nozzle.

The 5 Secrets to Becoming a Leader, by Alan Nelson & Stan Toler

PERSONAL MINISTRIES – SABBATH SCHOOL’S PARTNER IN MINISTRY

"NEITHER MALE NOR FEMALE"

Celebrating the ethnic diversity of your congregation strengthens your church. Romans 12:4-6 says, "For as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them."

As Christians we seek to be like Jesus. During His days on this earth, Jesus worked to end discrimination. In a time when women weren't allowed to testify in court, He asked them to testify about Him. The new community that He set up emphasized right behavior, God-given abilities and diversity of roles, not gender. How can we do any differently today?

The Potomac Conference is one of a number of local conferences that have embraced the goal of eliminating any appearance of gender bias as well as racial discrimination. It is committed to strengthening the church by fully using women and men in all levels of leadership.

The Potomac Conference has suggested several steps to help its local congregations become more inclusive:

- 1. Compare the number of women in your church with the overall membership. Then evaluate the nominating committee report. Is the percentage of all women members reflected at all levels of church office? What are the percentages of men involved in children's ministries?*
- 2. Describe God in terms of behavior rather than gender.*
- 3. When outreach programs are set up, address contemporary gender issues, such as strong families, emotional and physical violence, and poverty. Evaluate the proportion of church budget that goes to such outreach.*
- 4. Include women in all roles connected with worship, including invocation, offering appeals, and communion.*

Christ's kingdom is not built on earthly traditions. Rather it is a kingdom of just relationships. In a time when one's social rank determined privileges, Jesus considered tolerance as the watermark of membership in His kingdom.

The situation hasn't changed today. The world considers wealth and power, but Jesus calls us to wash one another's feet. He led by serving. He calls us to serve, equipping us with various gifts and abilities.

When a person is baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church, they are welcomed into a fellowship in which people of every race, national background, language group, gender and social class—all kinds of people—live together as brothers and sisters. Adventists do not tolerate any "wall of separation" because the soon-coming Savior we serve has done away with segregation, apartheid and even petty forms of intolerance and prejudice.

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:28, NKJV)

"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: How to Teach Basic Adventist Doctrines CR.104

Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only creed and hold certain fundamental beliefs to be the teachings of the Holy Scriptures. These beliefs constitute the Church's understanding and expression of the teaching of Scripture. Source: Signs the Times, Special Edition

Description

This module is a study of the basic doctrines of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It exposes students to the fundamental techniques and knowledge essential for sharing the love of Jesus.

Overview

The major theme of this module is how to teach basic Adventist doctrines. Students will be acquainted with a series of doctrinal Bible studies, with an emphasis on frequently asked questions and supportive scriptural answers. Students will familiarize themselves with Bible lessons and how to make practical applications of these lessons to the vicissitudes of struggles and problems that often corral individuals in everyday life. The student will attain a basic knowledge and description of religious diverse faith groups with fundamental concepts for approaching them in the spirit of Christ.

Learning Outcomes

- 1. The student will obtain a fundamental knowledge of the doctrines of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.***
- 2. The student will understand the fundamentals and how to teach the basic doctrines of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.***
- 3. The student will be acquainted with the basic beliefs of numerous faith groups and traditions.***
- 4. The student will learn how to address these groups in the spirit of Christ.***
- 5. The student will learn how to make practical application of these lessons to everyday life situations.***

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 for registration information.



PRISON MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

New York City Tries Out Truancy Court

The New York Times reported on a unique type of problem-solving court aimed at keeping juveniles in school. Attendance courts have been started in three New York City public schools in an effort to connect students with services such as counseling and tutoring. Retired judges conduct hearings every two weeks, giving a tough talk and an "aura of judicial authority," which is also meant to reduce student absences. The three courts, which began two years ago, serve 45 chronically truant middle and elementary school students each year. According to the Center for Court Innovation, a group in New York that runs the program, cursory results show that attendance increases sharply after court attendance—an average of four weeks per school year. Truancy courts have also been set up in Buffalo, New York, St. Louis, and Kentucky.

Gang Intervention Program Comes to Detroit

A two-year grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation will allow Detroit to operate a national gang intervention program that is already under way in 14 states, reported the Detroit News. The Amer-I-Can Program, founded in 1988, is a 60-hour course that teaches life management skills in eight areas, including attitudes, goal setting and problem solving. It will be facilitated in the Hancock Preparatory School in Detroit and the William B. Dickerson Correctional Facility for Women in Hamtramck. Facilitator teams comprised of a man and woman will work in the correctional facility and school. Often these facilitators are former gang members, and many have criminal backgrounds.

Lia Gormsen, June 2010 Corrections Today

EDITOR'S P.S.

To Any Daddy

*There are little eyes upon you, and they're watching night and day,
There are little ears that quickly take in every word you say;*

*There are little hands all eager to do everything you do, And a little boy who's
dreaming of the day he'll be like you.*

*You're the little fellow's idol, you're the wisest of the wise; In his little mind about
you no suspicions ever rise;*

*He believes in you devoutly, holds that all you say and do He will say and do in
your way when he's grown up like you.*

*There's a wide-eyed little fellow who believes you're always right, And his ears
are always open and he watches day and night,*

*You are setting an example every day in all you do, For the little boy who's
waiting to grow up to be like you.*

Croft M. Pentz, The Speaker's Treasury of 400 Quotable Poems

To all our "Dads" - Happy Father's Day.

I'm outta here!

CB

