



# Network News

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION ADULT MINISTRIES NETWORK

MARCH 2010

Volume 6

"Don't tell your secrets to a gossip unless you want them broadcast to the world." Proverbs 20:19 - LB

"Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none." – William Shakespeare

"The average heart beats 100,000 times a day. Make those beats count." – Bits & Pieces

"Expect people to perform only as well as the example you set." –The Pocket Book of Integrity

## IN THIS ISSUE

- True Grit – Doo-wop, Country and Rock

### FROM ELDER JOHNSON

#### "Meet Their Needs, And They *Will* Come"

Hello, Adult Ministers! Please know that you and your Fellow "Soldiers" are loved and "Prayed-Up"!

There was a time when, in response to the often expressed concern, by some, regarding less than desired attendance during Sabbath School Ministry, I had a general response. I would indicate that the challenge was directly related to the percentage of persons that might not have studied their Sabbath School Lessons during the week. The idea being that lack of preparation created a sense of vulnerability which an unprepared person might not want to have exposed-thus, the decision to remain absent.

Well, the passage of years, and contact with more than enough attendees who have been more than willing to "speak" regardless of "Preparation" have convinced me that my previous assumption was faulty. Like the old Ford Motors Company advertisement, I believe Our Lord has led me to a *Better Idea!*

Many miles, many encounters with thriving Sabbath School Ministries all around our Division, and much meditation has led me to conclude that People, Members and Prospects, will enthusiastically involve themselves in a Sabbath School Ministry that **Meets Their Needs!**

Bathe a few of these ideas in Prayer, then "Test Drive" them and see if Our Lord stirs things up in your Sabbath School Neighborhood. (1) Shorten the Program and Lengthen the "Small Group Family" (Class) Interaction Time. (2) Spend time with the attendees' Prayer Requests. (3) Establish an Outreach Ministry as a group. (4) Plan Monthly Fellowship time. (5) Reflect on the Lesson with an eye toward emphasis on the Principles the participants gleaned that will strengthen their *Individual Witness*, and therefore the potential collective *Outreach Witness* of the "Small Group Family" (Class).

I urge you to Prayerfully implement some of these ideas (there are more at [www.nadadultministries.org](http://www.nadadultministries.org)) and note the positive changes that occur. These concepts, along with others are designed to address the *Needs* of People. **People like to come Where Their Needs Are Met!**

See you at the June 21, 2010 Adult Ministries Training Day in Atlanta, Georgia, and the Festival Of The Laity in Dallas, Texas – September 7-10, 2011.  
MARANATHA!

JAJ II

## IT'S ALL ABOUT SABBATH SCHOOL

### ***Ways to get INVOLVED in MISSION – Part III***

- ❖ Plan a mission potluck. Bring foods common to the countries of the featured division.
- ❖ Have a mission progressive party. Plan various mission-centered activities in different homes or parts of the church. Groups spend 15-20 minutes in each place. Some things to do are: quizzes on missions, singing in a foreign language, eating food from the featured countries, listening to stories of mission heroes, or writing to someone in a mission land.
- ❖ Do a research report on missions. Assign individuals or groups to research topics on particular countries or cultures. Ask them to report their findings to the group.
- ❖ Sing in another language. Teach a song to the whole Sabbath School.
- ❖ Invite people who sing in a language of the featured division to teach your group a song.
- ❖ Hold a mission conference. Invite special speakers, show films, have skits and quizzes
- ❖ Get a pen pal from mission lands.
- ❖ Send literature and greetings cards to mission lands. Requests often appear in the *Adventist Review*.
- ❖ Invite international students to your Sabbath School for an interview about life in their country. Invite them home for a meal.
- ❖ Pray for specific mission needs. Take time in Sabbath School to pray for specific needs and unreached people groups.
- ❖ Organize a prayer vigil. Ask different people to pray around the clock for specific people groups that need the gospel.
- ❖ Make a stamp collection of countries of the featured division.
- ❖ Get acquainted with immigrants and refugees. Get to know people who come from other cultures.

### IDEAS FOR MISSION OFFERING PROMOTION

- Get youth involved in short term mission trips sponsored by the local church, school or conference Youth Department.
- Encourage college age young people to apply for a position as a student missionary. Get a list of openings from your conference Youth Department.
- Organize mission study groups.
- Organize prayer circles for world mission, concentrating on specific projects or unentered areas.
- Encourage correspondence with missionaries.
- Encourage vacationers to visit Adventist mission work and bring back reports.

## **WHAT'S HOT!**

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

#### **WASHINGTON, D.C. – First Church Feeds 150 With Investment Offering**

More than 150 people from the First church neighborhood in Washington, D.C., responded to the church's flyers offering free baskets of food. People lined up in Ethel Nell Hall to first fill out a registration card and then receive a basket and gift card.

"Receiving this basket and food gift card means a great deal to me because I am out of work," said Tyrone Lewis. Additional baskets were also taken to the sick and shut-in. The idea for distributing baskets and gift cards to church members, as well as neighbors in need, first evolved from the Investment Ministry and Sabbath School department leadership and soon involved other areas of the church. It became an Investment Project when members began to deposit their spare change into five-gallon bottles each week, earning the project "Time For Change."

Oral John, Investment Ministry leader, said the initiative "meant more than the idea of collecting the coins that members would donate each week. It meant that with the money collected, the church could impact the lives of people in need."

Lenworth Black, Sabbath School Superintendent, noted, "Although we have been distributing baskets to members in need for three years now, we have decided to extend our efforts to people in the community."

Mark McCleary, DMin, the church's senior pastor, viewed this year's investment project as providing a link to the church's mission to nurture its members and community. His personal motto is to be pastor to First Church and Chaplain to its community. "The community is comprised of church members' family and friends, as well as needy people," he said. "[These have] been hard times and we heard of members struggling. Foreign and external ministry is only as good as what is done for church family members, too."

*Source: Rhonda M. Covington, Allegheny Exposé, Visitor February 2010*

#### **PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA – Greater Pittsburgh ACS Works to Feed One Million**

Last October Pennsylvania Conference's Greater Pittsburgh Metro Ministry (GPMM) started an aggressive initiative with the Carnegie-Collier Rotary Club. By the end of 2010, they plan to serve 1 million meals to the poor and hungry in Pittsburgh. Working with other area churches as collection sites, GPMM is using the collected foodstuff to supplement food banks in town. Pittsburgh Metropolitan Rotary District 7300 has also requested to adopt the program.

"There is more and more demand for food and less and less food being given, so it's not really getting people through the month," reports GPMM pastor Andrew Clark, the originator of the program.

"The Rotary thought I was pretty crazy, but we've already delivered more than 250,000 meals in four months!" Clark also set up a hunger hotline, which guarantees that anyone who calls will get a food delivery within 12 hours. The initiative also involves youth who help collect, organize, and pack the food.

*Source: Visitor March 2010*

## Q & A

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### **Any New Resources for 2010?**

**You bet! AdventSource ([www.adventsource.org](http://www.adventsource.org)) has come out with its latest catalog for the Pastor. You'll get excited just reading what some of these resources have to offer you and your church.**

**Spirit-Led Leadership** –A church functions best when all of its leaders work as a unified body. **Spirit-Led Leadership** contains thirteen lessons on different aspects of biblical leadership complete with thought-provoking questions, Bible readings, and biblical information about church structure. By Larry Brown (AdventSource) #416979 - **\$8.95**

**The Empowered Church Kit** – Featuring colorful, step-by-step instruction guides and DVD presentations, **The Empowered Church** program is founded on practical principles straight from the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, giving you the keys to a vibrant church life and a productive, outreach-oriented membership. Support your leadership, train your congregation, and disciple your family of believers during this 12-month program. (Created by Amazing Facts) #416693 (AdventSource) - **\$250.00**

**Mission Driven Ministry** – This book is your complete toolkit for mobilizing every member in ministry for the ultimate mission of saving souls. **Mission Driven Ministry** outlines the process of connecting all of your church's activities to a central mission. By Eddie Polite with Furman Fordham (AdventSource) #416127 - **\$14.95**

**Principle-Centered Leadership** – How do we as individuals and organizations survive and thrive amid tremendous change? Stephen R. Covey demonstrates that the answer to this and other dilemmas is **Principle-Centered Leadership**, a long-term, inside-out approach to developing people and organizations. By Stephen R. Covey (Summit Books) #416635 - **\$14.95**

**We're Still Telling The Story Of Mission – Adventist Mission** – [www.adventistmission.org](http://www.adventistmission.org).

**Faces Across the Cross DVD** – Richard Stenbakken portrays seven people whose lives were changed through interaction with Jesus Christ in the closing hours of His life. (Richard Stenbakken) #425782 - **\$24.95**

**Spiritual Gifts Seminar on CD** – Discover how you can use your spiritual gifts to help others. This disk contains a PowerPoint presentation that explains why your spiritual gifts are important, and how to discover them, examples of spiritual gifts, and much more. This disk contains the presentation in both English and Spanish. By Jonas Arrias (GC Ministerial Department) #41754 - **\$19.95**

**A Hug and a Kiss and a Kick In the Pants DVD Series** – This video seminar teaches creative approaches to preventing disciplinary problems. In each of the thirteen 30-minute sessions, Kay Kuzma relates success stories of parents who have discovered disciplinary strategies that work. By Kay Kuzma (Family Matters) #803001 - **\$79.95**

**AdventSource: Share the Light, Spring/Summer 2010 Catalog**

**PARENTING SEMINAR – A PLANNING SESSION**

*Invite your congregation's family ministries coordinator, the Interest Coordinator, communication representative, the pastor, the members of the family ministries committee, and the members of the personal ministries committee or Church Ministries Council. In preparation, review available materials. You can get an up-dated Family Ministries Resource Catalog from AdventSource by dialing 800.328.0525.*

**AGENDA**

- 1. As a devotional, read, I Timothy 5:8. Suggest that the group consider the word "relatives" as fellow Christians. In this context, explore the idea of strengthening the families of Christian brothers and sisters. What are the consequences? What does it mean to be denied the faith? Close with prayer.**
- 2. Discuss the possibility of sponsoring a parenting seminar. Share what you have found by reviewing the available materials.**
- 3. Discuss how this could be an outreach to the community as well as to meet the needs of church families.**
- 4. Appoint a project coordinator, steering committee, and publicist.**
- 5. Outline the logistical details: date, location, session length, etc. When discussing location, consider alternatives, such as the church school, a classroom at the Community Service Center, a room at the church, the public library or some other community site. Assign someone to reserve the facilities you select.**
- 6. Because this seminar is aimed at parents, providing child care is almost essential. Plan for adequate numbers of child care providers and facilities. An attractive setting and interesting program will give the children something to look forward to.**
- 7. Review available curriculum materials and select the package that you think will meet the needs of people in your community. Assign someone to order the materials.**
- 8. Who will lead out in the seminar? Is there a professional in the congregation who works in the areas of mental health, social work, teaching, child care or family life educations?**
- 9. Develop a schedule.**
- 10. Decide which books and pamphlets will be handouts and which will be loaned as part of a class library. Participants will also want videos that expand on the various topics.**
- 11. Build a list of people to be invited. Review your church's Interest File. Discuss other ways to publicize this seminar.**
- 12. Who will handle registrations, and what phone number will be used.**
- 13. Develop a budget for the costs involved and decide on what registration fee to charge.**
- 14. Pray that God will lead in the implementation of the plans you have developed. He knows the families in the congregation and in the community who need this seminar.**

## **"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 Communication VCHP.244***

***Communication is commonly defined as "the imparting or interchange of thoughts, opinions, or information by speech, writing, or signs." Although there is such a thing as one-way communication, communication can be perceived better as a two-way process in which there is an exchange and progression of thoughts, feelings, or ideas (energy) toward a mutually accepted goal or direction (information).***

*Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia (Internet)*

### ***Description***

***This Module describes basic communication practices with inmates and surveys communicative guidelines for promoting proper and effective communication with inmates.***

### ***Overview***

***This Module introduces fundamental guidelines for volunteers to effectively communicate with inmates. It suggests how to communicate and methods of communication. This module briefly describes the kind of people that volunteers will encounter, as well as, acquainting them with volunteer expectation in dealing with inmates.***

### ***Learning Outcomes***

- 1. To acquaint the student with the fundamentals of communicating with inmates.***
- 2. To introduce the student to guidelines for communication with inmates.***
- 3. To introduce volunteers to the kind of inmates that they will be communicating with.***

***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**

### ***Doo-wop, Country, and Rock Music***

#### ***It's All – True Grit***

*Inmates older than 50 comprise about 10 percent of prison populations. In 2007, the Nevada Department of Corrections reported that the proportion of state inmates age 65 and older was 3.6 percent. As the population in the state's correctional system ages, the number of geriatric inmates will continue to increase. This is why the leadership of NDOC developed True Grit in 2004. It was established at NNCC primarily because the department's Regional Medical Facility is there, and most of the elderly inmates have one or more medical conditions.*

*Doo-wop, country and rock music go a long way toward adding momentary pleasure to the lives of the elderly inmates. Within True Grit there are a number of professional musicians and a larger number of gifted amateurs. Using donated musical instruments, sheet music and other supplies, the men of True Grit have developed several musical groups that perform for the program and in other venues on a regular basis. Working with each other and with minimal program guidance, the True Grit inmates have established s 20-voice choir (including several in wheelchairs), a seven-member doo-wop group, a country ensemble, and a senior pop group. It may seem incongruous to hear a group of inmates belting out Lee Greenwood's lyrics, "I'm proud to be an American, Where at least I know I'm free," but the mental freedom that they achieve by creating something within themselves is truly a meaningful experience.*

*Creativity in other areas is also a part of the maintenance of good physical and mental health within True Grit. From the beginning, the men have been engaged in latch hook rug making, crocheting, painting, jigsaw puzzle making, beading and other crafts. All craft materials are donated by various nonprofit organizations or purchased with donated funds.*

*How is this therapeutic? Clearly, it provides a sense of accomplishment and self-worth within the men who are doing the work, but it serves other ends as well. One inmate suffering from moderate-to-severe Parkinson's disease stated that latch hooking reduced his tremors and eased his difficulty talking. The Arthritis Foundation of America notes that activities using fine-touch movements tend to slow the onset of osteoarthritis. And the mental health aspect of being productive and accomplishing something worthwhile is evident in these men who take great pride in their work.*

*Source: October 2009 Corrections Today*

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

***In the book *Why Do We Say It? The stories behind the words, expressions and clichés we use, I read about "Dressing Down". Why is a tongue-lashing called a "dressing down"? A butcher preparing beef for market takes a knife and slashes the animal's carcass. This is called "dressing down" the beef. Similarly, a person receiving a tongue lashing is said to receive a "dressing down."****

***I thought about that. "Be gracious in your speech. The goal is to bring out the best in others in conversation, not put them down, not cut them out" (The Message). That just cut out "dressing down" people. I must be careful in my speech.***

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

**CB**

