



Network News

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION ADULT MINISTRIES NETWORK

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Volume 6

"Better is a dry morsel, and quietness therewith, than an house full of sacrifices with strife." –

Proverbs 17:1
KJV

"It's okay to lose—just don't lose the lesson."
–George Lucas

"There are two ways of exerting one's strength: one is pushing down, the other is pulling up." –
Booker T. Washington

"Don't cry because it's over—smile because it happened." –
Unknown

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- **OUR NAME IS "150 YEARS OLD"**
- **EVANGELISM: A THREE-LEGGED STOOL**

*"WHEN THE PRAYERS GO UP,
THE BLESSINGS COME DOWN!"*

Hello, Ministry Partners,

We are Praying, right now, that Our Lord is moving "Upon" you and those with whom you Minister for the advancement of His Kingdom toward Finishing of His Work in your area. We, along with you, want to see Jesus' Plan win where you are. We know that Prayer is the means of accessing that Power!

Ellen G. White assures in *Gospel Workers*, p. 259:

The Greatest victories gained for the cause of God are not the result of labored argument, ample facilities, wide influence, or abundance of means; they are gained in the audience chamber with God, when with earnest agonizing faith men lay hold upon The Mighty Arm of Power.

As we join you in Prayer for The Lord's Power in your area, we invite you to participate in joining us in the solicitation of up to ONE MILLION PEOPLE PRAYING, for God's special Power upon the 2011 North American Division Full Ministries Festival Of The Laity, which will convene September 7-10, 2011 in Dallas, Texas. Elder Ivan Leigh Warden, Associate Director of the Ellen G. White Estate, is our Festival Prayer Coordinator.

Here is the plan. We are asking you to Pray, and for you to ask **three** people to Pray. Each person who asks **three** other persons to Pray is to ask those people to ask **three** other people to Pray – thus the Praying goes on, and on, and on! We are asking ALL people to Pray, regardless of denomination. We just want the "Covering" of The Holy Ghost on this Initiative.

Here is how it will be measured. We are asking everyone (you may also coordinate groups) to send an email to our dedicated Festival Of The Laity Prayer site at prayer.fol@nad.adventist.org to share that you are Praying, and/or to report the number of people in your Prayer group that are participating. Please give the email address to everyone you contact.

You know what they say, "*When The Prayers Go Up, The Blessings Come Down!*"
MARANATHA!

JAJ II

IT'S ALL ABOUT SABBATH SCHOOL

LUNCH, ANYONE? ARE YOU COMFORTABLE?

WHO WALKS IN YOUR CHURCH DOOR? PART 2

INVITATIONS TO LUNCH

1. *Make sure the church has a plan to ensure that visitors are either invited to lunch at someone's home or to a church fellowship dinner.
 - a. *Larger groups organize groups to host dinner every Sabbath.*
 - b. *Small churches usually have a potluck once a month with individuals taking responsibility for inviting guests on other Sabbaths.**
2. *Extend a dinner invitation to each visitor. If the invitation is to someone's home, introduce the host to the visitor sometime during the morning's program.*
3. *Greet visitors again after the church service, making sure they have an invitation and know where to go for the dinner. Take them with you to the church fellowship dinner and introduce them to two or three other people.*
4. *At the church fellowship dinners, it is important to seat visitors with members so they feel welcome and part of the fellowship. Often visitors are asked to go through the serving line first and end up sitting with other visitors, and may feel ignored by the rest of the church.*

A smile, a warm sign of welcome, either a handshake or whatever form is used in your culture, and a brief word of welcome are always in order.

MAKING PEOPLE FEEL COMFORTABLE

1. The church should appear personal and caring to all who walk through the doors, both members and visitors.
2. Try to sense the needs of people arriving in church for the first time. Help them with such needs as: where to find the children's rooms, where to hang coats, the location of the restrooms, location of the mother's room, as well as the variety of classes and where they meet. This can be accomplished through a map in the bulletin or a foyer announcement board.
3. Arrange for someone to greet people in the parking lot, particularly when the weather is bad. Assistance with an umbrella on rainy days is often appreciated.
4. Be alert to people carrying children, packages or other materials. Hold the door open and assist them in other ways.
5. Educate the regular members about the important of mixing and talking with visitors after the service.

*Source: The Sabbath School Handbook
AdventSource*

WHAT'S HOT!

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

WE CELEBRATE OUR NAME!

On October 1, 1860 – 150 years ago – the name “*Seventh-day Adventist*” was chosen for our Church.

Now the name not only identifies a fledging local church in Battle Creek, Michigan, but also 68,225 churches around the world with a membership of more than 17 million people, 63 publishing houses, 171 hospitals and clinics, and 7,579 schools. All this is under the guidance and blessing of the Lord.

How does the name “*Seventh-day Adventist*” make a difference in our personal lives and in our towns and cities? Many years ago, I thought “*Adventist*” was only the name of a well known hospital, the best in the city that did so many charitable works in the community. As a non-Christian, I was impressed!

But after becoming a Christian and passing through three denominations before becoming a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the name became more meaningful to me: a group of people who not only have faith in Jesus, but also obey His commands and share the hope of His second coming.

I have also met Seventh-day Adventist people who know their Bible very well, who understand its prophecies, and look forward to the fulfillment of prophecies.

Each level of church organization and institution representing the Seventh-day Adventist Church bears witness to the community of His amazing love.

Having visited 139 countries around the world, and many church institutions, I am happy to see that most of the time the name “*Seventh-day Adventist*” has made a positive difference in peoples’ lives.

Millions of hearts have been touched by the love of Jesus through the Seventh-day Adventist Church. In a world of turmoil, the Seventh-day Adventist Church gives hope to a hopeless world, comfort to those who are suffering, health to the sick, a future to helpless children, and peace in times of storm.

For 150 years the Lord has blessed His Church. For that reason, I am very happy and proud to be a Seventh-day Adventist. Aren’t you?

Gary Swanson, my associate, has prepared a special program in *LEAD* magazine to help you to share your joy with your church members and your community.

Article written by Jonathan Kuntaraf

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Q & A

Q – Is “talking” about AIDS in our church, still necessary?

A – Yes, it is! At the end of 2008, there were 2.1 million children living with HIV around the world. An estimated 430,000 children became newly infected with HIV in 2008. Of the 2 million people who died of AIDS during 2008, more than one in seven were children. Every hour, around 31 children die as a result of AIDS.

www.avert.org/children.htm

Q – Are there any reliable resources? Materials?

A – Yes, quite a few resources. You have the Internet, of course. Also, we recommend a couple of books worth looking into: *Compassion in a Time of AIDS* by Harvey Elder, Bruce Campbell Moyer, Eunice Diaz and Carolyn Watkins, is a resource handbook prepared by members of the AIDS Committee of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It includes chapters on topics such as “AIDS in the Church” and “Ministry with People Impacted by HIV,” as well as two sermons and an HIV/AIDS curriculum. Available from AdventSource at 800.328.0525.

A *Call to Compassion* is a video that introduces the challenge of the AIDS epidemic specifically designed for the Adventist Church. You can get a copy from the Health Ministries Department of the North American Division.

Q – Please help us out with a long standing debate. Is there a special seating arrangement for Sabbath School classes?

A – Not that I know of. But with some innovation and creative thinking, ways can be found to improve even inadequate situations.

Here are a few seating arrangements you may wish to try: In a discussion arrangement- the focus is on the students with the teacher facilitating; in a grouping – the focus is on the teacher, but the students can see each other; in small groups – the focus is on the members of the group and the teacher facilitates the group when necessary.

The Sabbath School Handbook

PERSONAL MINISTRIES – SABBATH SCHOOL'S PARTNER IN MINISTRY

EVANGELISM: THE THREE-LEGGED STOOL

"GO" = Ministry of Presence and Compassion

"BAPTIZE" = Ministry of Soul Winning or Evangelism

"TEACH" = Ministry of Nurture or Growth

If you remove any one of the three legs, the stool will fall over. It is ineffective, useless. If you shorten any one of the three legs, the stool is wobbly, uneven, and less effective. The mission of the church requires an equal investment in all three areas.

In His earthly ministry, Jesus drew men and women to Him, loved them sincerely and deeply, and changed their lives forever, making them disciples. Making disciples is at once personal, spiritual, and social because it connects the believer to Christ and to His body.

In order to make disciples, we must "go." To "go" is what we refer to as "outreach" today. It is to go where people live, crossing both geographic and social boundaries, and to be present with those whom we would disciple.

In order to make disciples, we must "baptize." We call this "soul winning" today, although some misuse this term to mistakenly identify with the concept of "soul" as just the spiritual "part" of the human being. "Soul winning" means to win men and women to Christ as whole persons, not just their religious allegiance.

In order to make disciples, we must "teach . . . all things." We call this "nurture" today. Having brought a person to Christ and baptized them into His body, there is an ongoing work of spiritual formation, education, and growth to be done. The new believer must be brought to understand the continual work of the Holy Spirit in his life, equipping him for ministry, bringing him into community with other believers, lifting up his life in worship, and enabling him to discipline himself for the great struggle with evil.

THANK YOU!

I was hungry and you formed a humanities club, and you discussed my hunger. Thank you.

I was imprisoned and you crept off quietly to your chapel in the cellar to pray for my release. Thank you.

I was naked and in your mind you debated the morality of my appearance. Thank you.

I was sick and you knelt and thanked God for your health. Thank you.

I was homeless and you preached to me of the spiritual shelter of the love of God. Thank you.

I was lonely and you left me alone to pray for me. Thank you.

You seem so holy; so close to God. But I'm still very hungry and lonely, and cold.

So where have your prayers gone? What have they done?

What does it profit a man to page through his book of prayers when the rest of the world is crying for help?

(Unknown)

"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: Introduction to Volunteer Chaplaincy PM.104

Volunteer Chaplains. What is a Chaplain? Someone who can be all things to all people without compromising their own faith, but respecting the faith of others. A Volunteer Chaplain is not just being a pastor, or a priest or some religious leader, but a servant to all people, no matter what their faith might be. A Chaplain must have a desire to be like Jesus. They must mature and learn by the Holy Spirit to live and love like Jesus.

<http://law.jrank.org/pages/1805>

Description

Introduces fundamental concepts and expectations of Chaplains from Wardens and local managers of Department of Correction facilities. Exposes the student to the ministry of Chaplains to incarcerated individuals, as well as to staff. Establishes parameters of service to a culturally diverse community with emphasis on Cultural Pluralism.

Overview

This module exposes the student to selection criteria and fundamental expectations of Chaplains called to be servants to an ostracized community. The student will gain insight into religious programming and the range of service that Chaplains provide to inmates and staff. The student will be exposed to the uniqueness of Chaplaincy Ministries.

Learning Outcomes

- 1. To expose the student to the work and the expectations of Chaplaincy.***
- 2. To gain a knowledge of religious programming and policy.***
- 3. To gain an understanding of selection criteria and American Correctional Association (ACA) standards and ethics for correctional Chaplains.***
- 4. To gain insight in cultural diversity and pluralism in the correctional community.***

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

NOW SERVING SECOND CHANCES

When others wouldn't even consider giving them jobs, Edna Stewart employed ex-convicts in her restaurant.

"Hardworking," "responsible," "years of experience" are phrases most employers like to see on a résumé, but "criminal record"? That doesn't deter Edna Stewart, who has run a soul food restaurant on Chicago's West Side for more than 40 years. She's been passionate about helping the underdog since opening the restaurant with her dad and her husband in 1966.

Back in the day, Martin Luther King, Jr., and his supporters in the civil rights movement would refuel on Edna's famous pancakes and biscuits, free of charge. "I got to hug Rosa Parks!" Edna marvels. Other noted customers include John F. Kennedy, Jr., and former president Jimmy Carter.

But the people who impress Edna on a daily basis are the ex-convicts who work for her as dishwashers, stockers and servers. A nearby halfway house contacted her in the early 1990s asking if she'd consider hiring their clients. The men wanted to transition back to regular life, which, of course, meant steady employment. Edna is happy to give them an opportunity but early on she let the new hires know, she expects them to work hard and move on to bigger things. Isn't she scared to work with former felons? "I've never had any trouble," she says. "I've helped them and they've helped me."

By Alina Larson, New York, New York. www.guideposts.com

EDITOR'S P.S.

Achievement is important. I applaud Edna Stewart giving a Second Chance to ex-convicts, helping them to achieve.

*Ted Engstrom wrote in his book, *The Pursuit of Excellence*:*

Lock him in a prison cell and you have John Bunyan. Bury him in the snows of Valley Forge, and you have a George Washington.

Raise him in abject poverty, and you have an Abraham Lincoln. Subject him to bitter religious prejudice, and you have a Disraeli.

Strike him down with infantile paralysis, and he becomes a Franklin D. Roosevelt. Burn him so severely in a schoolhouse fire that the doctors say he will never walk again, and you have a Glenn Cunningham, who set the world's record in 1934 for running a mile in four minutes and 6.7 seconds.

Deafen a genius composer, and you have a Ludwig van Beethoven. Have him or her born black in a society filled with racial discrimination, and you have a Booker T. Washington, a George Washington, or a Martin Luther King, Jr.

Call him a slow learner, "retarded," and write him off as uneducable, and you have an Albert Einstein.

Be motivated! Go and motivate someone!

I'm outta here!

CB

