



# Network News

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION ADULT MINISTRIES NETWORK

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Volume 7

*"But my God  
shall supply all  
your need  
according to his  
riches in glory  
by Christ  
Jesus." –  
Philippians 4:19  
KJV*

*"Mistakes are a  
fact of life. It is  
the response to  
error that counts"  
– Nikki Giovanni,  
American Poet*

*"The legacy I  
want to leave is a  
child-care system  
that says that no  
kid is going to be  
left alone or left  
unsafe." – Marion  
Wright Edelman,  
Founder of the  
Children's  
Defense Fund*

## IN THIS ISSUE READ ABOUT

### • GOD IN SHOES MINISTRY

#### "THE FESTIVAL OF THE LAITY STORY"

Dear Ministry Partners,

I believe you are familiar with the words from the hymn (from the old Church Hymnal, page 453) *"They come from the east and west, they come from the north and south, invited to join with Jesus as guests and dwell in their Father's house.* Are you remembering it?

At the NAD Full Ministries Festival Of The Laity they came from Singapore, Great Britain, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Bermuda, Canada, Honduras, Iceland, US Virgin Islands, the United States to be equipped for further service for their Master, to fellowship, meeting new and old friends, strengthening ties with fellow believers, to hear awe inspiring messages and testimonies, and to participate in cutting edge seminars facilitated by professional men and women desiring to help meet the needs and to strengthen every department of the God's church.

You may ask, "Did the Festival Of The Laity meet its objective? Listen to the story about Domingo, the man who served us our meals. You decide.

**Thursday Lunch.** Domingo, through an interpreter said to me "My brother is very sick in the hospital in the Dominican Republic. I believe you are a people whose prayers will be heard. Would you please pray for him?" Immediately, we stopped eating and prayer was offered asking for God's care, guidance and healing, and thanking Jesus for hearing and answering the prayer. **Friday Lunch.** Domingo sent an offering while serving our noon meal. **Sabbath Evening.** The Festival Celebration Dinner, our last meal together before going our separate ways, Domingo once again, through an interpreter, spoke to me. Again, I asked for attention and made the following announcement: "Domingo says, 'I am a former Seventh-day Adventist; because of this meeting, I have made the decision to return to Christ and His Church.'" I ask, "Was the Festival's Objective Met?" I believe you already know the answer. One soul returned to the Lord and all heaven sang! Yes! It was met!

MARANATHA!

JAJ II

## **FRIENDSHIP SABBATH – PART 2**

### **Five-Week Credibility Program**

1. The aim of this campaign is to help every person in your Sabbath School motivate a friend to attend.
2. The goal of this campaign is to double Sabbath School attendance. *This program is not based on church membership, but actual attendance on Sabbath mornings.* This is far more realistic and makes the goal more easily attainable. The plan is simple. Every regular Sabbath School attendee brings a friend on Friendship Sabbath.
3. On the fifth week before Friendship Sabbath, the pastor reads a letter from an outstanding community resident who has promised to attend Sabbath School and church on Friendship Sabbath. (This technique gives credibility to the goal of Friendship Sabbath.)
4. On the fourth week every elder reads his letter from a friend who promises to be present on Friendship Sabbath. (These letters instill confidence that people will come when invited.)
5. On the third week before Friendship Sabbath, deacons and deaconesses display letters received from friends who have promised to be present on Friendship Sabbath. You may want only the head deacon and deaconess to read theirs. Following the presentation of letters, pass out cards to each member. (See sample card below.)
6. Two weeks before Friendship Sabbath each departmental leader and adult teacher comes forward to present letters received from friends who promise to be present on Friendship Sabbath. On this Sabbath, after you have read one or two letters, request that each person in the congregation stand who is going to bring a friend. Take time during the program for special experiences. Collect cards from members.
7. On Friendship Sabbath, special decorations such as banners welcoming guests would be appropriate. Deacons and deaconesses should be assigned to monitor specific pews in the sanctuary. They will act as the second greeting committee to see that all visitors are seated and greeted. They will serve as "pew friends" for two pews. These "pew friends" should look for and greet every visitor who comes into their section. Have a big fellowship luncheon!

#### **Sample Card**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

Yes! You can count on me to bring a friend on Friendship Sabbath.  
My friend's name, address, phone number.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **WHAT'S HOT!**

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

#### ***CENTRAL STATES CONFERENCE – KANSAS CITY, KANSAS***

**ONE-DAY PARENTING SEMINARS** – Central States Conference Youth Ministries launched a series of parenting workshops across the conference entitled "Parents Train Up." The first three hosting locations were St Louis, Kansas City and Omaha. At all three March events, members of area churches joined community guests in learning skills that equipped them to disciple and empower teenagers for successful Christian living.

Seminar facilitator Laketia Carrell, licensed family therapist and member of Northside Church in St. Louis, explained to parents how they have God-given power and authority to lead and instruct their children. However, they have no control over choices their teens make. Ultimately, everyone gets to choose the outcome of their own lives. Carrell's goal for the seminar was getting parents to start letting go of their teens and stop trying to control every aspect of their lives. She said, "Encourage your teens to be independent. Encourage them to solve their own problems. Let them fall, because teens who are always rescued by parents become dependent, ungrateful and selfish adults."

*By Narda Bailey-Hunt. First printed in Outlook, May 2011*

#### ***NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE***

**GOD IN SHOES MINISTRY** – The God in Shoes ministry, under the direction of Lynn Ortel, Northern New England Conference support ministries and communication director, was a huge success this year for both volunteers and participants. Women from around Northern New England volunteered their services at two homeless shelters, a drop-in center for the homeless, and a senior housing facility. They pampered the women at the homeless shelters with facials, massages, and more. Each participant also received a bag of personal hygiene items. The laughter, stories shared, and expressions of friendship provided an atmosphere for God's work to be done.

Residents at the senior housing facility were greeted by smiling faces, a warm handshake, and a loaf of homemade bread. A few residents asked for help moving furniture or some other light chores. Volunteers who visited a drop-in center handing out bags with snacks and personal items said they went away with a new understanding of the blessing received by helping others.

It gave a clearer understanding of the pain and misery that many people experience in their daily lives. It was also a reminder that Jesus began the work of tending to the sick, the poor, and the needy, and He passed these tasks on to us when He said: "Inasmuch as you did it for one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me" – Matthew 25:40.

*Pam Blake, coordinator, Hope Haven Project. First published in Atlantic Union Gleaner, September 2011*

## **Transcend Timidity**

***"Doubts and mistrust are the mere panic of timid imagination, which the steadfast heart will conquer, and the large mind transcend." – Helen Keller***

***What if other people are doing you a disservice by offering dire warnings? Perhaps you're going to get married and people keep asking, "Are you getting nervous?" Reply, "I'm looking forward to the wedding. I've got friends coming from all over the country, and I can't wait to see them." If you're preparing for an important test and someone says, "Are you worried? Say, "No, I've studied hard for this test and I know I'm going to do well." What if you'll be competing in a tournament and a teammate says, "Are you scared?" Say, "I'm glad to have made it to the finals, and I'm going to play the best I can." If you're pregnant, your due date is fast arriving, and an insensitive stranger warns, "Labor is going to hurt!" Say, "Probably, and I'm going to focus on how much we want this baby and how glad I am to welcome him/her into the world."***

***From now on, choose to talk yourself into performing well instead of out of performing well. Get those butterflies flying in formation. Put your anxiety to good purpose by using their energy to generate your best-case scenario.***

### **Action Plan for Saying Bye-Bye to Butterflies**

***Annette has joined a group to improve her speaking ability. She is scheduled to give her first talk the next day, and she's terrified. She knows the group is supportive, but she is still worried about having to get up in front of everyone.***

***Blockers Buy into Butterflies. What if I get up there and go blank? I hate it when everyone's looking at me.***

***Builders Say Bye-Bye to Butterflies. "I'm glad I'm taking this step to build up my speaking skills. Good for me for having the courage to do this."***

***Stress Rehearsal: Remember what happened to Mitzi last week? She dissolved into tears when she lost her train of thought."***

***Mental dress rehearsal. "I am going to stand tall. I am going to make eye contact with everyone in the room at least once, and I'm going to speak with conviction."***

***Dread: "Here goes nothing."***

***Determination: "Here I come."***

***What's Holding You Back? By Sam Horn***

***St. Martin's Press, New York, New York***

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**PERSONAL MINISTRIES – SABBATH SCHOOL'S  
PARTNER IN MINISTRY**

**LOVING THE HARD-TO-LOVE**

***A subconscious desire for healing brings people of all sorts to church, seeking tolerance and care. People with a history of trouble and unreliability drift into and out of every congregation. It is enormously time-consuming and frustrating to minister to these people. Our human tendency is to avoid the "hopeless" cases. Our Christian duty is to minister to them.***

***We can reconcile these contradictory urges by remembering that the hard-to-love person will try to pass on their frustration and confusion. You can meet specific needs while refusing to buy into the person's manipulation.***

***Hand-in-hand with this understanding is the fact that you can't be all things to all people. Be honest about your limitations. You can't meet all needs. Being clear about this up-front will lessen your frustration as your efforts are mangled, if not outright rejected. The hard-to-love person may not have more reasonable expectations as a result of your honesty about limitations. However, it is important that he/she see and hear a disciplined approach to the search for solutions.***

***Remember that the disagreeable person, too, is a child of God. At the moment you may not be able to detect any worth, however, you only see the surface. It is, thankfully, God's job to judge the inner soul.***

***Put your opinions on "hold." Then look for one or two reasons for the other person's point of view. You don't permanently revise your beliefs. You're simply trying "to walk a mile in another's shoes" for 15 minutes.***

***Use listening skills. What is the person really trying to say? Possibly the opinion is repeated more and more strongly in an attempt to be heard and acknowledged as a valuable person. Find out what outcome the person wants.***

***Finally, once you know what the other person wishes, find the best way to dovetail their desired outcome with your goal. This only works if you're willing to give up the selfish urge to be the only winner.***

***"Our Savior accepts people where they are and loves them in spite of themselves. We can do likewise if we have an accepting attitude."***

## **"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: Spiritual Gifts: Keys to Ministry CR.101**

*"All men do not receive the same Gifts, but to every servant of The Master some Gift of the Spirit is promised." Christ's Object Lessons p.327*

#### **Description**

*This Module explores and assists the student in finding and developing the various gifts and abilities that God has instilled within their personhood.*

#### **Overview**

*The Lord calls every Christian to a ministry of ministries. God has equipped everyone of us with one or more gifts which will be an intricate part of our being. This module seeks to assist Christians to discover and utilize those inherent gifts that God has instilled within us. Once God reveals to us our spiritual gifts, He expects us to use these gifts to advance His kingdom. Knowledge of our gifts developed and guided by the Holy Spirit, will lead us to a proper use of these gifts in the church and cause us to promote unity in the church.*

#### **Learning Outcomes**

- 1. The student will gain knowledge of the theology of spiritual gifts.*
- 2. The student will understand how to identify his/her spiritual gifts.*
- 3. The student will understand how to use his/her gifts in the ministry of the church.*
- 4. The student will learn how to use his/her gifts to help others.*
- 5. The student will learn how to use his/her gifts to advance the work for the Kingdom of God.*

*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**

### **Philadelphia Inmates Pursue College Education**

The first class of students in almost two decades to take college credit courses in the Philadelphia prison system celebrated the completion of their first semester in April, reported the Philadelphia Inquirer. For 10 weeks, 17 inmates from the Cambria facility studied English and drama, meeting regularly with other college students from an exchange program called Inside-Out, as well as staff from Philadelphia Fight on reentry services. The Reentry Support Project at Community College of Philadelphia was founded and coordinated by Tara Timberman. "Those who pursued college education have lower recidivism rates," Timberman said. Most of the inmates at Cambria are in for theft, drugs and nonviolent offenses. "Now these guys can go to the next level," commented Louis Giorla, commissioner of prisons. "It's just a beginning. But it's a great beginning."

Jenna Scafuri, June/July 2011 Corrections Today

[www.state.pa.us](http://www.state.pa.us) - Works to Eliminate Sexual Assault in Prisons

On September 4, 2004, the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) was signed into law. The act provides for analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in federal, state, and local institutions and for more information, resources recommendations and funding to protect individuals from prison rape. Additionally, PREA called for the creation of a national commission to study the causes and consequences of sexual abuse in confinement and to develop standards for correctional facilities nationwide that would set in motion a process once considered impossible: the elimination of prison rape.

### **Nationwide Efforts**

Pennsylvania is not alone in its commitment to prevent and respond to sexual violence; there are a number of states that have shared in this commitment, due in part to the National Prison Rape Elimination Commission (NPREC). NPREC has developed standards to prevent, identify and respond to sexual violence in detention. These nationwide standards include a requirement that departments of correction work with community-based service providers to provide crisis intervention and medical services to incarcerated survivors. This will ensure that a person who is raped when in custody can receive services that all sexual assault survivors need and deserve.

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

**For those of you who were not able to taste and see and smell all the wonderful happenings at the Festival Of The Laity, please read Elder Johnson's editorial. And we thank all of you who supported us with your presence and your prayers. We give you a BIG salute and hearty thanks!**

**If you saw it on the internet – please let me know. It was streamed live. Our thanks to Charles Williams and his excellent media team.**

**With this issue, September/October, Network News has become a bimonthly newsletter. It's all good – please keep receiving and reading.**

**"Don't just make a living, design a life." – Jim Rohn**

**I'm outta here!**

**CB**

