Weimar students make FaithTrip to GYC

A group of 11 students and two instructors from Weimar College set out in two vans on Dec. 11, 2011, for a two-week "FaithTrip" from Northern California to Houston, Texas. They planned to canvas their way to the upcoming General Youth Conference (GYC), an annual North American youth event that attracts young people from all over the world.

The group started with no money, no credit cards, no food and no prior lodging plans. They were determined to earn their way to GYC by selling health, children's and Ellen White books along the way, holding revival and reformation services at churches on weekends. Despite troubles with an overheating van, the group successfully worked their way down through California and across Arizona, New Mexico and Texas, arriving in Houston on Tuesday evening, Dec. 27.

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2012 Convention venue changed to Cincinnati

For logistical reasons, the 2012 ASI International Convention site has been changed from Dallas, Texas, to the Duke Energy Convention Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. The scheduled dates will remain the same: August 8–11, 2012. Read full story
Convention music performance applications invited

Beginning in January, information about the 2012 ASI International Convention will be updated regularly on the ASI website Convention pages. A 2012 ASI Convention Music Performance Application has already been posted. Performers are encouraged to apply early. Check the ASI website regularly for convention information updates.

ASI links and information

Visit the ASI website:

- For Membership Information or to download a Membership Application
- To watch Convention Media and other Media programming
- To visit the Bulletin Board for member needs, events and announcements
- To read recent issues of the ASI Update e-newsletter and Inside ASI magazine
- For ASI News & Events or to read about ASI Projects

Contact the ASI office at 301-680-6450 to order copies of ASI's brochure and promotional DVD to share with friends and potential members. Each promotional DVD includes The ASI Convention Experience video and several episodes of ASI Video Magazine.

Join Saving Las Vegas effort

ASI members are invited to support and participate in the Saving Las Vegas project that began more than a year ago and will culminate in a prophecy series Jan. 20–Feb. 18, 2012.

2012 ASI Convention moved to Cincinnati, Ohio

For logistical reasons, the venue for the 2012 ASI International Convention has been changed from Dallas, Texas, to Cincinnati, Ohio.

A.G. Hospital & Lifestyle Center one-of-a-kind in India

The new A.G. Hospital & Lifestyle Center in Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu, experienced an eventful year in 2011 and is unique in India.

Better Living airs French Christmas concert

Better Living aired a special French-language Christmas concert that can still be viewed and shared.
Calendar

Calendar of ASI national and regional events to come. More...

Events

2012 ASI Southwestern Union Spring Meeting
Mar 01, 2012 - Mar 04, 2012

2012 ASI Columbia Union Spring Meeting
Mar 09, 2012 - Mar 10, 2012

2012 ASI Southern Union Spring Meeting
Apr 12, 2012 - Apr 14, 2012

2012 Mid-America Regional Convention
Apr 19, 2012 - Apr 22, 2012

2012 ASI Atlantic Union Spring Conference
Apr 20, 2012 - Apr 22, 2012

2012 ASI Lake Union Spring Meeting
Apr 20, 2012 - Apr 22, 2012

2012 ASI North Pacific Union Spring Meeting
Apr 26, 2012 - Apr 28, 2012

Bulletin Board
A group of 11 students and two instructors from Weimar College set out in two vans on Dec. 11, 2011, for a two-week "FaithTrip" from Northern California to Houston, Texas. It was their goal to canvas their way to the upcoming General Youth Conference (GYC), an annual North American youth event that attracts young people from all over the world.

The group started with no money, no credit cards, no food and no prior lodging plans. They were determined to earn their way to GYC by selling health, children's and Ellen White books along the way, holding revival and reformation services at churches on weekends. Despite troubles with an overheating van, the group successfully worked their way down through California and across Arizona, New Mexico and Texas, arriving in Houston on Tuesday evening, Dec. 27.

"All the stories, the testimonies, the laughs, the tears…it's difficult to sum it up," said Aubrey Seiler, part of the film crew who went along to document the group's adventures. "Before we left for FaithTrip, we had people saying we were crazy, presumptuous, and radical. Who in their right mind would head out for a road trip with no food, no money, and only one tank of gas, trusting the Lord would provide through canvassing? Now, standing at the other end of this journey, we can testify to the fact that the Lord loves it when we put faith in Him and take radical steps. He has abundantly provided."

FaithTrip supporters included the Central California Conference, Souls West, Weimar Center of Health & Education, and other sponsors who helped supply the essential materials and vehicles needed for the trip, as well as literature evangelism training and support.

The group created a special FaithTrip website to introduce their project and team members, and also posted updates along the way on a Facebook FaithTrip page. The group will share their film and story during a "Something is Happening" segment at the GYC main session session on Friday evening, Dec. 30, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. (CST).

GYC sessions are aired live on 3ABN and on the GYC website.
Visit the FaithTrip and GYC websites.

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2012 ASI International Convention moved to Cincinnati

Posted on Dec 19, 2011

The 2012 ASI International Convention site has been moved from Dallas, Texas, to the Duke Energy Convention Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. The scheduled dates will remain the same: August 8–11, 2012.

The decision to select a new convention site was made for reasons that reflect the organization's gradual growth and change over time. It became evident to several ASI members who attended another event at the Dallas site earlier this year that the facilities would not adequately accommodate the 2012 ASI Convention. A special committee was appointed by the ASI board to revisit the Dallas site and look into the possibility of selecting a new venue.

According to Ramon Chow, ASI secretary treasurer and member of the special committee, the main issues with the Dallas site were related to access. First, the route between the exhibit hall and the main session auditorium includes a one-escalator bottleneck, which could greatly slow down traffic between the two areas and potentially discourage people from attending meetings or visiting the exhibit hall. Second, the youth meetings would have to be held on an upper floor of a hotel a skywalk away from the main session room and exhibit areas, inconveniencing parents with children. Third, the main exhibit hall is not large enough to accommodate the expected number of exhibitors. Overflow booths would have to be staged in a separate room, out of sight and potentially out of mind for many attendees.

The special committee, which also included Donna McNeilus, ASI general vice president, Stan Smith, ASI vice president for finance, and Harold Lance, president of ASI Missions Inc., explored three potential alternative sites, including San Jose, Calif., Grand Rapids, Mich., and Cincinnati, Ohio. The biggest challenge was to secure a site with enough space to accommodate the convention on such short notice. In a final vote last week, the special committee chose Cincinnati based on ASI's past positive experience there, the availability of space, and the fact that the Cincinnati facilities will not present access issues.

The ASI Convention venue has been changed at least once before. Convention planning generally begins several years in advance, and changes are sometimes
necessary to accommodate growth of the organization and the annual convention event. One of those changes includes an increased number of exhibitors.

"Exhibitors are a critical part of the convention and its programming," says Harold Lance. "In the Dallas venue, some of our exhibitors would be relegated to substandard, less accessible exhibit space, resulting in a less-than-favorable convention experience for both them and the convention attendees. The decision to change the venue was carefully and deliberately made to prevent dissatisfaction by any attendees or participants."

"The new venue will be a blessing," Ramon Chow says. "The ASI Convention will begin the same day the NAD Teachers' Convention ends in Nashville. Cincinnati is at most a four-hour drive from Nashville, making the transition from one convention to the next more attractive, especially for exhibitors."

He added, "The layout of the facilities in Cincinnati is such that the exhibit, general session and dining areas will be located on the same level, making the flow of traffic between the three areas quicker and easier."

Convention information reflecting the venue change will be posted on the ASI website as it becomes available. Visit the Convention page regularly for updates. More information about the new site, including floor plans, is available on the Duke Energy Convention Center website.

The 2012 Youth For Jesus program will take place in Dallas as originally planned. Youth For Jesus participants will be transported from Dallas to the convention in Cincinnati. Visit the Youth For Jesus website for more information.
Join Saving Las Vegas effort

Posted on Dec 12, 2011

More than a year ago, work began in earnest to lay the foundation for a monumental evangelism press in Las Vegas. An ASI 2010 offering overflow project called Saving Las Vegas initially set the goal of reaching 1 million people worldwide. Bringing together a long list of ASI member ministries, as well as division and conference officials, pastors, and local church members, the project will soon culminate in Revelation Today, a 22-part prophecy series to be held January 20 through February 18, 2012, in the downtown Las Vegas Cashman Convention Center.

The success of the event, not to mention the entire project, will depend largely on the willingness and initiative of laypeople in hosting groups of Internet attendees in their homes and local churches around the world. A program of inspiring music and solid, reassuring Bible teaching on highly debated prophecy topics by It Is Written speaker/director John Bradshaw is planned. Viewers will be able to interact via the Internet and mobile phones during the live presentations.

The project kicked off when ASI leaders presented a New Beginnings DVD training series in the Las Vegas area. Bible workers from various ministries began working in the region, and various supportive outreach programs were held, including a presentation by Naturally Gourmet author Karen Houghton and a marriage seminar by Faith For Today’s Mike Tucker.

All this led into a special four-day introductory series called Babylon Rising, presented twice daily from May 25 to 28, 2011, to a packed audience at the Cashman Center, as well as to thousands of host location groups watching live around the world. Instant surveys and the opportunity to ask live questions elicited responses from people in countries such as Lesotho, Zambia, Russia, South Korea, Australia, and Germany. Group host leaders reported a broad spectrum of attendees, including many people with heavy tattoos and piercings who asked searching questions about what it really means to follow Christ.

Babylon Rising provided a rich opportunity for local church members to work together on promotional efforts, as well as in one-on-one and small group Bible studies.
"It's incredible the way our churches and volunteers have come together for this event," said Nevada-Utah Conference president Larry Unterseher. "This far exceeded our expectations, and it was exciting to see a mostly non-Adventist crowd."

It Is Written continued to follow up with hundreds of Bible study requests that poured in from *Babylon Rising*, as well as from *Project: Steps to Christ*, another effort that generated broad interest in Bible study in the Las Vegas area.

*Babylon Rising* paved the way for the more in-depth 2012 *Revelation Today* series. *Revelation Today* will follow the same general model as *Babylon Rising*, complete with onsite presentation at the Cashman Center, and Internet or satellite host groups around the world. The *Revelation Today* team members have high expectations with regard to the impact *Revelation Today* will have, based on the success of *Babylon Rising*.

For instance, an evangelical pastor brought his entire prayer meeting group to the *Babylon Rising* presentations. A man named Mike, who was visiting Las Vegas from Virginia in May, heard about the series on television. He accidentally showed up a day early and ended up delivering handbills for the program. "I just had to tell as many people as I could that they needed to attend *Babylon Rising*!" he said.

Estranged former church members were also impacted by *Babylon Rising*. "We've been away from the church for many years and have just decided we should look into coming back," one couple shared. "We attended church last week for the first time in forever, and this has helped us see that we need to be back full-time. We've made our decision. We're coming home."

ASI vice president for evangelism Terry Anderson said, "What we experienced during *Babylon Rising* was tremendous. You could actually see the Holy Spirit convicting hearts. One young lady even said to me, 'I've attended Bible studies before, but none of them have ever gone in-depth like this!'"

Divine intervention, along with synergy between various media and Internet sources, yielded miraculous results. One young woman was able to hear the first *Babylon Rising* presentation despite the fact that she is deaf and had been unable to secure a needed assistance device prior to the program. A local pastor in Las Vegas received a call from a young mother requesting Bible studies. She said she'd seen his phone number on a billboard (although his number wasn't actually on that sign). After the series, it was
revealed that her children had already been studying the Bible on their own with "Ms. Jean"—on *My Place With Jesus*, an It Is Written interactive website for children.

During ground-breaking efforts, two Bible workers, who had labored all day one day without success, visited the last address on their list. It was an apartment complex, and one of the Bible workers felt impressed to ask the apartment manager if she’d be interested in Bible studies. She happened to also be the activities director, and she invited them to hold a Bible study for the entire complex on Thursday nights. She said she expected 25 people would show up initially, and that the number would grow.

One young man approached Pastor Bradshaw after one of the meetings and announced, "You had a Baptist pastor here tonight."

"Was that you?" Bradshaw asked.

"Yes, and I’m really enjoying the presentations," the man replied.

With these memories fresh in their minds, the It Is Written, Nevada-Utah Conference, ASI, and Las Vegas team members are once again gearing up for the final push in Las Vegas. They are hoping and praying that church members around the world will feel the same sense of calling and urgency and join the team.

"The success of public evangelism is very dependent on the diligent work of personal evangelism," says It Is Written evangelism coordinator Yves Monnier. "We are building relationships with our neighbors, colleagues at work, and all those looking for something better in life."

Local efforts will continue to be supported by special programs, including an archaeology seminar by Tony Moore of The Biblical World, and a preparatory program for local church members by Ron Halvorsen Sr., who will encourage them to lay a foundation for the series through prayer.

ASI members and supporters are invited both to pray for the upcoming *Revelation Today* series and to consider hosting a group of attendees in their homes or local churches. The meetings will be live-streamed via the Internet, as well as airing on Hope Channel and 3ABN. They will also be made available for same-day download.

"Hosts can know that their guests will meet Jesus and grow in confidence in the Bible as the authoritative Word of God," promises Pastor Bradshaw. "Bible subjects once
shrouded in confusion will be made clear. Hosts need not worry that their guests will be embarrassed or offended, as great care will be taken in these presentations to maintain Christian courtesy and sensitivity.”

The series will also appeal to those who have stepped back from actively pursuing their faith.

For general information about the series, visit www.revelationtoday.com. For host sign-up information, visit www.revelationtoday.com/host or call 1-888-225-5449.

Contributors: Nancy Costa, Muriel Hrbek, Yves Monnier and Michele Stotz
Associate ASI member Dr. Enoch Sundaram shared the details of an eventful year in a recent 2011 year-end newsletter from A.G. Hospital & Lifestyle Center in Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu, India. The lifestyle center is a new project that uses medical missionary methods to reach the hearts of people in local communities in India.

"As we know, the final message to the world [will] go through the medical missionary work," Sundaram shared with ministry supporters, "but it is sad that the second largest populated country in the world has hardly any lifestyle centers based on Adventist principles."

The lifestyle center began the year with a lifestyle disease awareness and screening camp, held Jan. 23 in Javaharpalli, Poonthura. Of the 123 who attended the camp, nearly 100 had their blood sugar levels checked and 114 had their blood pressure taken. Most of the participants were from the Muslim community, and many, including a group of young boys, made decided efforts to change their lifestyle habits. Local politicians and Poonthra Adventist church members also participated in the inaugural event.

In February, the AG lifestyle team took the eight laws of health to Pattaikadu, a remote village in the Kodai hills. The Pattaikadu villagers are a long walking distance from any medical facility, and many are unable to afford proper medical treatment. In addition to checking blood sugar and pressure levels, the A.G. team shared lifestyle principles and simple natural remedies to equip the people with knowledge for healthful living.
In March, A.G. cooperated with the Southeast India Union health and temperance department to conduct a free medical camp for about 175 attendees. Feedback revealed that many had never heard such information about health and were encouraged to change their lifestyles.

Additional events over the course of the year included health expos, lectures and other programs presented in various communities and at local schools. A lecture on health was even presented to students from various business schools who gathered at the American University of India in Kodai.

"They were taken up with the health messages and also invited us to come back and give more information on health," says Sundaram.

The center currently operates on 27 acres of land near Kodaikannal, a small hill station in south India. The lifestyle program has been in development for five years with a dedicated team that has been together from the start. The NEWSTART program forms the core of the lifestyle center's efforts, and a health food store operates on the property. A.G. Hospital & Lifestyle Center is sponsored by Wildwood Lifestyle Center & Hospital in Tennessee.

"As far as we know, A.G. Hospital and Lifestyle Center is the only Adventist health center of its type in India," Sundaram says. "So please pray that God will bless it with health guests and open up the windows of heaven to bless it with success."

Visit the [A.G. Hospital and Lifestyle Center](#) website.
Better Living airs Christmas concert for French-speaking population

Posted on Dec 30, 2011

Better Living (Mieux Vivre), a Quebec-based media ministry, reached out the world's French-speaking population this month with a Christmas concert aired online at the Better Living website, as well as on Roku and Apple TV. The concert, entitled "Emmanuel: God With Us," was available on demand beginning Sunday, Dec. 18, 2011.

"We're always seeking for ways to reach out to our fellow French-Canadians, as well as to French-speaking people around the world," said Better Living president Wayne Atwood. "Christmas songs are something that everyone enjoys even in a place as secular as Quebec, Canada. So we started making plans to record a Christmas concert that would be aired on our website during the holidays. While organizing the concert, we decided that we would weave parts of the book *Desire of Ages* into the narration."

Volunteer participants in the concert included Gloria, a Romanian choir from Montreal, as well as solos and instrumental numbers from a variety of other musicians. Viewers can still be blessed by this collection of French Christmas carols by visiting Better Living's website or YouTube channel, by special order on Roku, and on DVD or Blu-ray.

Visit the Better Living website.