New NAD Ministerial Associate joins to help focus on Evangelism

Pastor Jose Herminio Cortes, Jr. joins the North American Division team as an associate director for the North American Division Ministerial Department. Pastor Cortes, Jr. joins the NAD ministerial team to focus on transformational evangelism, discipleship, and outreach in the North American Division.

Cortes, Jr. replaces Shawn Boonstra who transitioned as the new director for the Voice of Prophecy media ministry.

Pastor Jose Herminio Cortes Jr., was born in Pinar del Rio, Cuba. He is the husband of Joanne Maree Cortes, formerly, Joanne M. Gillespie, a native of Sydney, Australia. They were married in Silver Spring, Maryland. Jose
and Joanne are the blessed parents of Jose Herminio Cortes III, and Joel Benjamin Cortes; both were born in Long Island, New York.

Read bio
Read a brief interview with Jose Cortes, Jr.

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Video Message from David Prest

Elder David Prest, president of the Idaho Conference of Seventh-day Adventists encourages you to attend the 2015 Ministerial Convention in Austin, TX June 28-July 1, 2015.

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Information about the General Sessions at the 2015 Ministerial Convention

The general sessions at the 2015 Ministerial Convention will be exciting to attend. There will be over 20 relevant presentations made by the some of the best speakers, presenters and preachers in North America. The general sessions will emphasize:

- the Ministerial CALL to full-time ministry,
- Qualities/Competencies emphasizing excellence in pastoral ministry, and Personal/Professional Development.
Every general session will have 3 or 4 excellent speakers who will unpack proficiencies needed to be a great pastor. The general sessions will be interactive from the audience to the presenter with Q & A throughout. Panels will discuss or unpack presentations made by speakers to deliver a ground level view.

Each day the general sessions will focus on 7 qualities/competencies in pastoral ministry. Sunday evening-June 28 will emphasize Worship & Character, Monday morning-June 29 will emphasize Leadership, Monday evening-June 29 will emphasize Discipleship/Evangelism, Tuesday morning-June 30 will emphasize Management, Tuesday evening-June 30 will emphasize Scholarship, and Wednesday morning-July 1 will emphasize Relational Skills. Subject matter like keeping millenial's, reaching the secular mind, crucial conversations, relating to your congregation, stress and emotional health, and innovative leadership are just a few highlights of the general sessions you don't want to miss.

Spouses will join pastors on Wednesday morning-July 1 for a special emphasis on Relating to the Community, Relating to Congregation and Family, and Relating to Each Other. All of the general sessions will be translated in Spanish for attendees. Finally at each general session you will be inspired, valued, connected, and equipped for better service. Seating is limited so register today!

Take a look at our new postcard - pdf

NAD Ministerial Travels

Austin Pastors
We had the great privilege to meet with the Austin, Texas pastors to plan for the NAD Ministerial Convention in 2015. They will be connecting with and inviting community pastors to join us on Tuesday, June 30 at the convention.

Union Ministerial Directors

Last week we met with the Union Ministerial Directors from the North American Division in Silver Spring, Maryland at the General Conference Office. It was quite productive as we discussed many important issues facing ministerial directors and pastors. (Agenda for this meeting - pdf)

Texas Conference Focusing Leaders Reunion
We joined Elton DeMoraes, the ministerial director for the Texas Conference and a group of pastors at their "Focusing Leaders Reunion." Intentional personal, spiritual and professional growth was emphasized throughout this reunion.

**Articles That May Challenge You**

**When A Pastor Resigns Abruptly**

**The Danger of Measurable Outcomes**
This is an excerpt from Os Guinness's new book, Renaissance: The Power of the Gospel However Dark the Times (InterVarsity)

**When Smaller Is Better**
Successful small church ministry starts with a new definition of success. Interview with Karl Vaters
Pastor Jose Herminio Cortes Jr., was born in Pinar del Rio, Cuba. He is the husband of Joanne Maree Cortes, formerly, Joanne M. Gillespie, a native of Sydney, Australia. They were married in Silver Spring, Maryland. Jose and Joanne are the blessed parents of Jose Herminio Cortes III, and Joel Benjamin Cortes; both were born in Long Island, New York.

Pastor Jose is a friend of God, who loves his family, a fourth generation Seventh-day Adventist and a second generation Seventh-day Adventist Ordained Minister. A graduate of Washington Adventist University (Columbia Union College) and of the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. He is presently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry Degree (D. Min). His pastoral experience began in 1992 in the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area (Potomac Conference of Seventh-day Adventists) where he served for 11 years, as Youth Pastor, Associate Pastor, Senior Pastor, and Associate Youth Director. There he led hundreds of people to Christ, through baptism and planted three new churches. He also served as an Adjunct Professor in the faculty of the Religion Department of his Alma Mater, Washington Adventist University (Columbia Union College). In September 23, 2000, he was ordained to the Gospel Ministry, in Silver Spring, Maryland.

In January 2003, having felt the call of God, Pastor Jose and Joanne accepted the invitation to go to the Greater New York area, where he led thousands of youth, young adults, and kids, as the Director of Adventist Youth Ministries for the Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. In this post he has provided leadership, vision, and equipping to leaders in the areas of: Youth Evangelism, Small Groups, Adventurers, Pathfinders, Master Guides, Teens, Collegiate, Young Adults, Adventist Youth Emergency Services (AYES Corps), National Service Organization, Bible Bowl, and Camp. Other youth ministries have been created under his leadership, Youth Media Ministry and the Volunteer Health Corps. He also led the Development Team in the multi-million dollar master planning and renovation of Camp Berkshire.

On June 12, 2011, Pastor Jose was elected Youth Director of the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, during its regular Constituency Session. The Atlantic Union is the Administrative Headquarters of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Northeast of the United States and the country of Bermuda. It is composed by over 112,000 members, 535 churches, 73 schools, and 1 college campus, through the following six Conferences: Bermuda, Greater New York, New York, Northeastern, Northern New England, and Southern New England.

Pastor Jose, Joanne, Jose III and Joel Benjamin are a team, they minister together; you will hardly ever see one, without seeing the other three. Pastor Jose is grateful to God for His grace and for the risk God takes to entrust such important mission to a sinner. He believes that young people and adults need each other to finish the proclamation of the Gospel. He believes that the only way to keep the youth and young adults faithful to Jesus and in the church is to give them assurance of their salvation, hope in the Second Coming, and to keep them working on behalf of those who don’t have either, the assurance and the hope. Pastor Jose upholds the fact that Youth Ministries must happen daily at the local church; and definitely, not only within the walls of the church, but outside in the church’s community. He is a firm believer that Youth Ministries produce baptisms and faithful disciples to God and His church. If it doesn’t, it isn’t Adventist Youth Ministries. Pastor Jose is conscious that just as God used Joseph in Egypt, Esther in Susa, Daniel and the three Hebrews in Babylon, John the Baptist by the Jordan, and Timothy in Ephesus, God can also use him and each youth and young adult throughout the Northeast of the United States and Bermuda, in the twenty-first century.
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Here is a brief interview with Jose Cortes, Jr.

What can you tell us about your role?

"We will be working together with our NAD Ministerial Team, Union and Conference Ministerial and Evangelism Directors, and Pastors in creating a shared vision for Transformational Evangelism in the territories of the North American Division. A comprehensive vision that includes anything that makes us pastors, our churches, and our awesome laity effective in sharing Jesus, not only through words but also through actions. A vision that involves the traditional but that does not exclude the innovative, we mos tbe willing to try and to do anything that works to bring save people and empower them to become passionate and compassionate disciples of Jesus.

We will also work together in helping to create an atmosphere of love, acceptance, and compassion in our local churches throughout Bermuda, Canada, the United States, and the Guam-Micronesian islands. We want to see the people who accept Jesus and come to our churches stay, we need to treat them like Jesus would treat them, after all we are the Eyes, Heart, Hands, and Feet of Jesus in North America. If we do this, our membership retention will experience a boost.

Last but not least, we would like to see the different entities which work directly in Evangelism and Outreach Training, whether an official church ministries or supporting ministries, working in harmony, not necessarily in unison, but together with the same goals. It is OK to go about it in different ways, as long as we intentional about going in the same direction."

What are you looking forward to?

"Leaving the Atlantic Union, after a great 12 years of ministry in the territory, will be hard; however, we are really not leaving, the great thing about this new appointment is that our family has just grown. We look forward to meeting more colleagues in ministry, as well as many more brothers and sisters, young and old, and partnering together in making our churches relevant centers of salvation, healing, compassion and influence, which cannot be ignore by those in need of Jesus and His saving grace. I look forward to the day when our church will be known for our compassion and love for humanity and their salvation rather than for the things we oppose.”
North American Division Convention for Pastors and Their Families

WHO & WHAT
- For pastors and their families, conference administrators, chaplains & theology students

WHY
- Renewing your ministry call
- Experience the rich worship and fellowship with thousands of your colleagues
- Launching the NAD Professional Development Program
- Union & conference financial subsidy

SPECIAL FEATURES
- Evangelism fund giveaways of $120,000
- 100 practical and theological seminars each day
- View pastor CALLED stories
- Focus on 7 qualities/competencies throughout

ADDITIONAL
- Conference workers meetings
- Spanish language translation
- Ministry movies with impact
- Austin community pastors invited Tuesday
- Pastors idea bank and prayer wall
- Seminar track for administrators

General Session Speakers

Stacy D. Nelson  Wesley Knight  Gary Hamel  Elizabeth Talbot

Tony Evans  Rebecca Pippert  Marquis Johns  Dwight Nelson

Alejandro Bullin  Henry Wright  Adam Fenner  Carlton Byrd

Dick Duersken, Dan Jackson, Calvin Preston, Randy & Anita Roberts, Neil Nedley and more

JOIN US FOR THE CALLED EXPERIENCE

Austin, Texas | June 28-July 1, 2015

FUTURE CONVENTIONS IN ONE:
Pastors’ Convention
Pastors’ Kids Convention
Spouses’ Convention
Convención para Pastores Latinos

WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?
- Because you and your family will experience a rich spiritual journey.
- Because world-renowned leaders, theologians, and practitioners will engage and inspire you to excellence through speaking, preaching and instructive seminars.
- Because more resources for Adventist pastors and their families will be in one place than ever before.
- Because spouse programs will feature focused discussions, a fun spouses ministries expo, and program features for male spouses which includes off site activities.
- Because youth and children’s programs will address topics unique to pastors kids.
- Because your conference and union will financially subsidize your attendance.

Registration and travel budget will be processed in a variety of ways. Check with your conference ministerial secretary for details.

REGISTER TODAY!

www.nadpastorsconvention.com
Union Ministerial Directors Advisory Agenda
October 30, 2014   -  9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Room 2-F 12 – Second Floor GC Building or Go to Meeting

Prayer Focus:

1. Union Ministerial Directors
   System for Updates
   Orientation for new directors
   Stories and Best Practices
   Resources
   Interns Guide

2. Professional Development
   Continuing Education
   Competencies/Qualities
   Pastor Assessment

3. 2015 CALLED Convention
   Registration
   Details
   News
   Assignments
   Union Ministeriums
   Speakers, Seminars, Schedule, etc.

4. Recommendations to Stress Research (Attached)
   (Your ideas are welcomed. Please read report before attending)

5. A Proactive Approach - Ordination issues after Autumn Council & GC

6. Shop Talk

Closing Prayer: