Inter-America: Church to participate in ‘Pentecost and More’ live satellite event

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Inter-America: Leaders call on the church to care for children and youth’s spiritual growth

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The Seventh-day Adventist Church throughout Inter-America will celebrate the end of aggressive evangelistic efforts with a special live satellite program called "Pentecost and More," on Saturday, Mar. 19, 2011, from Maracaibo Venezuela.

The event, which is the 4th such organized program in a span of five years, has proven to be an effective way of unifying efforts among the multi-cultural and multi-lingual membership of Inter-America, organizers said.

Derived from the Biblical Pentecost of Acts 2, Pentecost and More has been under the theme "Come Holy Spirit" and promises to feature thousands of baptisms in one single day as in years past.

"Our focus this year for Pentecost and More has been to mobilize the entire constituency of the Inter-American Division to be involved in small groups activities," says Pastor Balvin Braham, ministerial association associate and organizer of the event.

"As we get all our members participating in small groups activities, we will then be able to address such areas dealing with the individual spiritual experience and move to focus on how relationships can be improved within the community and within the church," he explained.

The live program will be broadcast through The Hope Channel, Esperanza TV, and 3ABN Latino, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time.

The three-and-a-half hour live program will include highlights of Inter-America's 21 regions, a spiritual message, large baptisms and an array of musical and spiritual presentations.

Already the church in Maracaibo which is operated by the Venezuela Antilles Union has invested in promoting the event to be held in Palacio de Eventos which holds some 5,000 people. The church has arranged for dozens of downlink sites for the broadcast.

Hundreds more downlink sites are set in churches across Inter-America, much like the previous Pentecost and More satellite programs since 2007 and beyond, which drew millions of viewers and accounted for more than 49,000 baptisms throughout the territory in a single day.

To view Inter-America's Pentecost and More broadcast from Maracaibo, Venezuela at 9:30 a.m. Venezuela Time or 10:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time, go to:

Hope Church Channel: http://hopetv.org
HTTP://WWW.HOPETV.ORG/WATCH-NOW/Watch-lIVE-ONLINE/HOPE-CHURCH-CHANNEL/
Esperanza TV: http://www.esperanzatv.org
3ABN Latino: http://www.3bnlatino.org

Inter-America’s church union/offices can reach the live Pentecost and More programs with baptismal results at:
Atlantic Caribbean Union:+58-426-551-8276
Belize Union:+58-426-551-8276
Caribbean Union:+58-416-6903911
Jamaica Union:+58-416-6903911
French Antilles GuianaUnion: +58-416-973-9893
Thousands of children and youth were prayed for across the Inter-American Division territory during the church’s Constant in Prayer spiritual revival initiative celebrated Mar. 12, 2011.

March 15, 2011 - Port-of Spain, Trinidad...Libna Stevens/IAD

The message was loud and clear: Pray for, guide, and challenge children and the youth of the church to establish a close relationship with Jesus through a prayerful connection. It was a message which resonated across hundreds of Seventh-day Adventist churches throughout Inter-America, on Mar. 12, 2011 as a week of spiritual emphasis activities concluded on the Adventist World Church’s call for spiritual revival and reformation.

"In God's kingdom children are always first," said Pastor Israel Leito, president of the church in Inter-America, as he spoke to more than 1,000 church members at the University of Southern Caribbean (USC) Auditorium in Trinidad, one of 21 large hosts sites throughout Inter-America organized for the special program.

Pastor Leito challenged church leaders and members to honor children and young people and strive to actively inspire and guide them to heaven.

"Brothers and sisters, we must take care of our children. Love them. God asks us to care for his inheritance," he added.

Caring for the children is what Dinorah Rivera, children's ministries director for the church in Inter-America, emphasized as her words echoed in the auditorium via Skype during the program which was streamed live on the internet.

"Our church should make a conscious effort to better provide and invest in children," Rivera said. "We must nurture the intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual needs of our children. That is why it is so important to involve them, very intentionally in being constant in prayer, in developing this special relationship with Jesus that will last for life."

It's about shaping today’s young generation for a committed discipleship through constant prayer and the study of the Bible, emphasized Pastor Leito.

"Give God a living sacrifice useful to Him," said Pastor Leito as he called on the youth for spiritual revival. "Imitate Christ and live a life of love just as Christ loved us."

"We need this revival, we need our young people, we must deal with them with respect," challenged Pastor Leito as he addressed church leaders and members.

"God needs you more than you think," he added as he spoke to the youth in the congregation and online young viewers. There are currently more than 1.5 million Adventist young people in Inter-America.

It's that army of thousands of young people that can be powerful, said Pastor Benjamin Carballo, youth ministries director for the church in Inter-America.

"If we are an army constant in prayer, we can be a powerful army," said Carballo, as he addressed the youth. "It's time to stand up as a new generation of young people in church. A young generation of young people powerful in prayer, a young generation of young people powerful in the Word, a young generation of young people powerful in testimony."