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For over a year now, the Seventh-day Adventist Church throughout Inter-America has been keen on creating the kind of spiritual revival that will motivate church members to lead a prayerful life, study the Bible regularly and be a witness for Jesus Christ. This week, more than 70 church leaders met in Miami, Florida, to gauge the progress of this spiritual movement, as well as planning future revival and reformation efforts.

“It is important that we continue emphasizing the three key elements we have designated for revival in our territory,” said Pastor Abner De Los Santos, vice president of the church in Inter-America in charge of member retention. “Revival and reformation need to be permanent in whatever takes place in the church.”

It is the third meeting, which gathered top church leaders and spiritual revival and reformation coordinators throughout the 21 major church regions in Inter-America. The focus during the two-day meeting was geared toward the conservation of church members and seminars on Family Life ministries which will be focused throughout 2013.

Gary Swanson, associate director for Sabbath School and Personal Ministries for the Adventist world church, presented a four-part seminar on the theology of retention and pointed out the need to keep members active in a culturally diverse, financially overwhelmed and broken-family-filled church today.

Swanson touched on the broad concerns about retaining members who have apostatized and new members who are brought into the church and how to engage them in the life of the church.

“Do we value people? Then we must care for them,” said Swanson. "Great value must be placed in that person who's missing from coming to church and who just joined the church."

Pastor Pedro Iglesias, family ministries director for the church in Inter-America, presented practical initiatives and programs to strengthen families at church and ways to minister broken families as well. A spiritual revival is key to making a difference in fortifying families and strengthening the church.

It's all about strengthening the church, agreed Pastor Roberto Herrera, revival and reformation coordinator for the church in Inter-America.

“We want our churches to continue active in spiritual revival movement,” said Herrera. "Our challenge is to keep persevering in motivating members to seek the Scriptures and lead a
prayerful life."

"This is a movement that involves people, not programs. This is a movement that belongs to the church," explained Herrera. "Keeping an ongoing prayer program and study of the Bible and encouraging members to use their spiritual gifts to reach others, is what's going to make the kind of impact God has entrusted us to do."

Each of the church regions in Inter-America reported on the programs and activities introduced since revival and reformation was launched in Inter-America on February 2011 and on-going initiatives to continue creating an environment of spiritual revival for the membership.

For more on Inter-America's Revival and Reformation initiative, the following websites:

**Resources:**
Vision One Million: [http://visiononemillion.org](http://visiononemillion.org)
Revival and Reformation webpage: [http://praying4revival.org](http://praying4revival.org)
In Spanish: [http://estamosorando.org](http://estamosorando.org)
French: [http://praying4revival.org](http://praying4revival.org)

**Facebook**
Spanish: [http://www.facebook.com/estamosorando](http://www.facebook.com/estamosorando)

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Gary Swanson, associate director for Sabbath School and Personal Ministries for the Adventist world church speaks to Inter-American revival and reformation coordinators on ways to retain members and pursue those who have apostatized. The meetings took pla...
Adventist-owned Vista del Jardín Medical Center in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, officially opened its third floor during a special ceremony on Apr. 29, 2012.

Pastor Ted N.C. Wilson, president of the Adventist world church, was joined by top Inter-American church leaders as he spoke to the crowd gathered.

"One of the best ways we can preach is through the health ministry," said Pastor Wilson. "And the Lord has shown that we can reach people, and every doctor has the opportunity to be an evangelist."

Pastor Wilson encouraged the medical staff to continue sharing the love of Jesus throughout the facility.

Pastor Cesario Acevedo, president of the church in the Dominican Republic, thanked the efforts of the entire medical staff for their commitment to providing an excellent service to the growing hundreds of patients coming to the center every year. He also thanked Inter-American church leaders for the continued support as the facility has grown.

Already, Vista del Jardín provides emergency care, a cafeteria and medical offices on its first floor, a pediatric ward and a surgery station on the second floor.

An institution operated by the church in the Dominican Republic, Vista del Jardín Medical Center has been offering outpatient and inpatient care since it opened in 2007. The 48-bed hospital. Church leaders hope to complete two other floors which will include additional patient rooms, new administrative offices and a large conference room.

Rene Gomez contributed to this report

For more information on Vista del Jardín Medical Center, visit www.vistadeljardin.org
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May 3, 2012

Students, faculty and university officials are still stunned by the fire which destroyed the University of Southern Caribbean (USC) auditorium, in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, last week. The fire consumed everything inside the 900-seat facility including the new audio-visual equipment recently installed in preparation for the May 11-13 graduation ceremony.

Photos and video of the fire was posted on social networks as it happened on Apr. 26, said university faculty.

According to the Dr. Clinton Valley, USC president, the cause of the fire is still unknown and the investigation is still on-going.

During a brief visit to USC, the Honourable Fazal Karim, Minister of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education (MSTTE), expressed his dismay as he viewed the damaged auditorium. The Hon. Karim explained that "the MSTTE is fully aware of USC's long history as a provider of quality values based education in Trinidad and the Caribbean region and the ministry sees itself as needing to do all in its power to help USC to rebuild from the ashes."

The Hon. Karim committed to assisting USC locate a venue for the graduation ceremonies and funds to be available to rebuilt the auditorium.

Dr. Clinton thanked the MSTTE and said USC officials are still studying to determine where the graduation ceremony to close off the school year will take place during the coming days.

For news and updates about the University of Southern Caribbean, www.usc.edu.tt
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