2011 Year-end Meeting, Report No. 2

"If you feel convicted to say something, say it," said NAD President Dan Jackson in his opening remarks at the opening of the division business session on Sunday, October 30. "If you have a burden for something, then you need to say so. Don’t feel that because you are a lay person that you don’t have a voice. When we are doing the business of the Church, all of us have a voice. All of us have a vote. We are using the Spirit of God, and needing that voice to speak. We need to operate with a certain culture of Christ-likeness."

NAD Adopts New Mission and Values Statements - This past Friday the North American Division Executive Committee unanimously adopted Statements of Mission and five REACH Core Values. These statements will bring greater clarity, focus, and coherence to our Adventist work in North America. After adoption of those key documents, Paul S. Brantley, Ph.D., NAD vice president, presented the attendees a Spirit-filled process for attaining mission and excellence in seven steps. These documents, found on the NAD website, are for all types of church organizations interested in pursuing the highest quality in their work for God.

Ministry Reports

Share Him, an 11-year-old evangelistic ministry, is a "Laboratory of Evangelism," according to Elder Robert Folkenberg Sr. "We want to change the ‘smell’ of what it means to be a Seventh-day Adventist in the first world… It is said that Seventh-day Adventists who live in the more wealthy environments consider evangelism to be an option. No it isn’t. You don’t get to choose."

In explaining the reasons for taking North Americans to locations outside the division he said, “ShareHim’s purpose is not to grow the kingdom where we take people. We take people there because they know how to grow the kingdom. It’s for the education and inspiration of the people who travel. We want those people to come back home so they can say, ‘I can do something here.’”

ShareHim has found that the following steps are not optional for conversions:
Step 1 – Write down the name of every non-Adventist you know.
Step 2 – Pray together. We know these people not by chance or accident. Pray, “Help me not to be afraid. Give me an idea in some simple way for how to build a relationship with these people.”
Step 3 – Write the name and address of that person at the top of a page.
Step 4 – Think about how you can get to know this person. As we build a relationship a friendship grows through that relationship.
Step 5 – Be sure to write down things that you did – take leaves with them, go out to eat…”
intentional. “If you let God down, that’s serious.” See ShareHim website.

A church- and school-building mission project in Bulawayo, begun by Jere Patzer, former president of North Pacific Union, before his death was shared by Duane McKee with Sue Patzer. In addition to the completion of the new buildings, about 20 people were baptized through a series held by Sue Patzer in a tent at the site.

Following Jere’s death, his widow, Sue, was sometimes asked how she could speak about the mission project that was continued following Jere’s death: “Isn’t it too painful to talk about?” “To the contrary,” she said. “Every time I speak of it I feel like I’m kicking the devil in the stomach. God can take something that Satan meant for evil, and make something very, very good.”

Sue and Duane thanked Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI), ShareHim and Maranatha for their assistance in the work done there.

The Great Controversy Project is an initiative being led out by the General Conference that challenges the World Church field to distribute this book. In North America, it is called The Great Hope Project. The book will be shared with people in English, Spanish and French (11 preselected chapters). Here is the timeline of the project:
January –September 2012: Division members and families prayerfully read The Great Controversy, asking for guidance regarding who, as the result of a friendly, personal relationship, The Great Hope should be shared with.
October 2012 and forward: Distribution of The Great Hope to family and friends. Our emphasis is on distribution to those with whom we have developed a relationship.

A recent church planting project in Appomatax, Va. started with a health fair on a Sunday which was attended by 200 people. Allegheny West Conference President Fredrick Russell and Will and Diane Pergerson gave the report. Following the successful and well-attended health fair they held a three-week evangelistic series. After the evangelism effort, “The Messiah’s Mansion,” a replica of the Old Testament Sanctuary, was erected for five days. Out of the 750 people who visited, 300 people requested Bible studies.

“REVIVE,” (NET 2012), will be in Anchorage, Alaska, with a Voice of Prophecy Bible School. Beautiful 4-color invitations to study the Bible will be sent to 710,000 residents. There are Bible schools in every church with people in place to lead the discussions, all looking forward to a mass graduation in Anchorage June 9. On Friday, June 1, 600 Adventists on a cruise ship, celebrating “Camp Meeting at Sea” will arrive in Anchorage just before the graduation. Alaska camp meeting will begin June 9 and will include such special programs as a Family Reunion Concert.

NAD will begin NET 2012 from the stage of that camp meeting. It will be very different from any other NET, with 12 presenters instead of just one, including speakers such as Fred Kinsey, Dwight Nelson, Derek Morris, Karl Haffner, Elizabeth Talbot, Jose Rojas, John Bradshaw, Carleton Byrd, and others.

More than 8,000 people and hundreds of schools, churches and hospitals participated in the Let’s Move Day on September 25. More that 1,200 community members also joined as volunteers and participants, recording about 644,540 miles in physical activity. The goal is to reach 1 million miles by December 2011. There is an iPhone and Android app available to report miles. MORE Watch the 2011 Let’s Move Day Video.

The Latino Youth Evangelism Plan– “CHANGED – Real Lives in a Real World” will be conducted January 27, 2012 through January 26, 2013, for Adventist Hispanic youth, young adults and their friends. It is to target 2nd and 3rd generation Adventist Hispanic youth, young adults and their friends. A live broadcast will be October 13-20 out of Orlando, Fla.

There are more than 50 million Hispanics in North America, with 30.2 native born and 18 million foreign born. Of the native born, in the U.S., 61% speak English fluently and 35% bilingual, which means that 96% speak English. Only 4% of native-born Hispanics speak only Spanish.

Muslim Ministries is using a three-pronged approach, as reported by Heidi Guttschuss, Director of Adventist Muslim Relations: 1- Working with Adventist institutions to have high level dialog with Muslims 2- Working with Muslims on the ground. 3- Raising up leaders.
One greatly neglected people group are the Jews, reported Ralph Ringer, of NAD Jewish Ministries. There are more than 7,000 Jews in North America. "It’s not just a different language, like other ethnic ministries. It’s a whole different ball game," he said. While there are a lot of similarities, there are a lot of differences. It was in 1999 we had a coordinated effort for the Division. We baptize very few Jews, and keep about 20% over a long time, but most leave. While Jews will accept our theology, our worship style and language are much more difficult, in fact they are totally foreign, and they (Jews) are not comfortable. So we started Jewish-Adventist congregations. The theology is Adventist. The worship style is Jewish.

Evangelism among refugees grows almost entirely through friendship and personal evangelism, said Terri Saelee, director of Adventist Refugee and Immigrant Ministries. Every day 104,000 foreigners enter our division, most as temporary visitors who have the potential to reach out to their own people overseas when they return home.

We need your help to answer the question, Who can people go to in their local conference or union for assistance in starting a refugee ministry? Prayerfully consider partnering with us, and guide us to the lay persons in local areas to help reach out to refugees in their area.

We have identified 12 qualified church planting consultants who are experienced church planters in their language. We still have many more languages to fill.

Disabilities Ministries, directed by Charlotte Thoms, is a service of the church that sensitzes its members to reach out to people with disabilities with the gospel and incorporate those individuals in all areas of church life. "If you had 3-1/2 years to live, what would you do?" asked Charlotte. "Jesus had just that. He did 35 miracles, and 27 were for people with disabilities." Find out more about Disabilities Ministries.

Adventist Colleges Abroad (ACA) has been around 50 years and Odette Ferreira has been directing it for 27 of those 50 years. There are 15 programs active in ACA today. More than 400 students right now are involved with ACA. Find out more.

Adventist Review Reports on Year-end Meeting
Check us out on Flickr

Stay Socially Connected with NAD

© 2011 North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists | 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904.
Visit: nad.adventist.org | George Johnson Jr., communication director | Bernadine Delafield, NET evangelism coordinator | Lynetta Murdoch, senior editorial assistant. Email: newspoints@nad.adventist.org

Add me to this listRemove me from this listForward to a friend | Find us on Facebook

Sent to ahc@andrews.edu — why did I get this?
unsubscribe from this list | update subscription preferences
North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists · 12501 Old Columbia Pike · Silver Spring, MD 20904
Spam
Not spam
Forget previous vote