A Word From the Director

This month’s editorial is a copy of a letter I sent out to Youth Directors in the North American Division recently. If pray that this news is as exciting to you as it has been to the youth leaders I’ve spoken with about it!

Dear Leaders,

As a follow up to our advisory meeting in Lincoln, NE earlier this year, I would like to remind you of one of the main issues that plague senior youth and young adult ministries in the Adventist Church.

Adventurer and Pathfinder ministries are strong because of the structure and chain of command that clearly identifies a leadership team on every level of our church governance. Unfortunately, we cannot say the same for senior youth and young adults. Due to the lack of clear leadership, the gap for meeting the needs and challenges of these members has widened drastically. Consequently, many of our churches are void of these age groups, yet few are sounding an alarm.

We believe it is now time to change this dynamic by recruiting leaders who have a passion for helping to stop the bleeding of youth and young adult attrition in the Adventist Church in North America. First, we need to identify these local leaders, most of whom are currently volunteers who have a heart for leading youth, yet have little or no training. Thus, we feel that there is a serious need for training. We have endorsed a program that I have authored but that is managed and directed by some of the brightest minds in the church called CLYP – Certified Lay Youth Pastors Online Training or Certified Lay Youth Leaders (whichever title one prefers).

Now you can begin preparing to have a youth ministries presence in each church in your conference. As individuals from your conference enter into this program you will be notified so you will be aware of those new recruits that will be ready to assist you in moving your conference forward.
Can you imagine the potential? Churches that (if anything) only had a Pathfinder focus, can now have a full and vibrant senior youth and young adult ministry as well, simply because a leader was identified and was CLYP trained.

Please make a commitment to get several people from each of your churches to enroll in CLYP and see what a difference it is going to make in the lives of a forgotten generation. Several of you have even decided to go through CLYP just to refresh their youth ministry skills and learn new ones, and others have already committed to enrolling members in their conference's churches for this training. Thank you – You are setting the example and envisioning wonderful results in your conference.

Please join with us as we assist the CLYP organizers in getting the word out to our church members and leaders. The time is now!! Registration is open 24/7. Register at www.clyponline.com. The Good Shepherd cares for His sheep!

Blessings,

James Black, NAD Youth/Young Adult Dir.

Announcements

We'll Be There (NADYM Travel Schedule)
**Pr. James Black**  
September  
2 Southern Adventist University (SAU), Collegedale, TN  
7-10 Festival of the Laity, Texas  
11-13 JCI / SUMMIT planning committee, Greensboro, NC  
15 Lake Union Camporee, Berrien Springs, MI  
17 Columbia Union, Recharge, Columbia, MD  
24 Campion Academy Alumni, Loveland, CO

October  
10-12 BAYDA, Oakwood University  
14-16 Upper Columbia Conference Leadership  
27-31 Year End Meetings, NAD, Silver Spring, MD

**Pr. Manny Cruz**  
September  
2-4 Wisconsin Conference Hispanic Youth Camp  
7-10 NAD Festival of the Laity, Dallas, TX  
11-13 Just Claim It 3 Site Visit, Greensboro, NC  
17 Columbia Union ReCharge One Day Youth Leadership Training  
21-22 NAD Latino Changed Youth Evangelism Planning meetings – Orlando, FL

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**Pathfinder Bible Experience 2012 Manual RELEASED!**  
The Pathfinder Bible Experience is a team challenge that focuses on immersion in the Word of God. Four levels of play culminate in an official NAD Pathfinder event on Sabbath, April 21, 2012, at the General Conference headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland. The books of Mark and First Samuel are the subjects of this year’s experience, along with supplemental information from the SDA Bible Commentary.

Full Manual available from AdventSource or as a PDF [download](link-to-download).
Congratulations to the Latino Youth Leaders and Young Adults from the Pacific Union Conference in leading a worship focused weekend with over 1,200 young people in attendance. Thanks Elder Soria and your team for your ongoing ministry!

Washington Youth Rush Team Opens Doors in Seattle – During a 10-week period, 20 Washington Youth Rush participants knocked on about 125,000 doors in the Greater Seattle area. Students experienced "divine interactions" with people all summer. They found many interested in Bible studies (165), Revelation Seminars (109), Vacation Bible School (106), and stop smoking clinics (69). More than 200 expressed a desire to attend a cooking school. In all, they distributed 12,969 pieces of literature and prayed with thousands of people.
Source: GleanerNOW August 25, 2011

The NAD Adventurer Leadership are currently working on updating the NAD Manual, including updating the class (Busy Bee, Sunbeam, Builder, Helping Hand) requirements and the Family Network section. Any suggestions or ideas that clubs have used for curriculum and/or Family Network would be appreciated. They can send them to bradlgary@yahoo.com

Ministries

Adventist Campus Ministries – Check out Christine's amazing story of coming to Christ through the witness of Adventist students at York University in Toronto, Canada and how God is using her witness through Adventist Health/Lifestyle as a qualifier for the 2012 Woman’s World Triathlon to influence others for Christ. http://www.acflink.org

Adventist Youth Space – www.adventistyouthspace.com
We introduce our newest members to our Adventist Youth Space team. Josue Sanchez is our new AYS Web Pastor and Joni Bartley is our AYS International Rep and Greeter. We are excited about them joining our team of volunteers and seeing our social network continue to grow. Check out the new “Video of the Day” as well as the lively discussions that are posted daily. Join the conversation and spread the word.
AR4C Ministries – Are you a student on a Public School Campus and wonder if there are any print or media resources to help you make a difference for Jesus Christ? Ar4cministries.org is an Adventist supporting ministry to help you succeed on campus.

Adventist Community Services Disaster Response (ACS DR) and YES! (Youth Empowered to Serve) teams are responding to the effects of Hurricane Irene.
Get involved: http://www.communityservices.org/

NAD / Union Events:

3rd NAD/World Youth Prayer Congress – Just Claim It, Leadership SUMMIT, and Ignition combine for PRAYER and SERVICE. Don't be satisfied with a passive youth event, instead join JCI3, SUMMIT or Ignition to Change a community and change your way of viewing the world! March 7-11, 2012, Greensboro, North Carolina
Register NOW!
http://www.jci3.org

Rhythyms of Grace: GOD Encounters Conference
September 15-17, 2011 Arlington SDA Church, Arlington, Texas
Featuring Matthew Gamble, Maria Long, Elia King, and Kristian Stanfill and the Younger Generation Band
This free conference (except for the Kristian Stanfill concert) challenges the younger generation of a believers to a renewed GOD Encounter -- an encounter of grace. More info:
www.GodEncounters.org

Festival of the Laity 2011
Sep 7, 2011 - Sep 10, 2011
Sheraton Dallas, 400 N Olive Street, Dallas, TX 75402
For more information, http://www.festivalofthelaity.com/ email: carol.barron@nad.adventist.org

NAD-Columbia Union ReCharge
September 17, 2011
Columbia Union Conference, Columbia, MD
One-day Youth/Young Adult Ministry leadership training.
Speakers/Presenters: James Black, Manny Cruz, Kris Eckenroth, Sergio Manente, JB McMillen, Jen Blondo, Brittany Culpepper, Denny Grady, and Walter Cardenas among others. The $20 registration fee will include a drawstring backpack, handouts, books including “The Youth Ministry Formula” and “Tips for Youth Leaders”, resource packet and light supper.
For more information: www.facebook.com/ or call (410) 997-3414 or email jdavis@columbiaunion.net

Mid-America Union Academy Leadership Conference
September 14-17, Camp Arrowhead
More Info: Hubert Cisneros hucisner@maucsd.org

Pathfinder Camporee - Lake Union
Sep 15, 2011 - Sep 18, 2011
Berrien County Youth Fairgrounds, 9122 US Highway 31, Berrien Springs, MI 49103. "Finish Strong."
Details to be posted on the Lake Union Pathfinder Camporee website.
For more information, http://www.camporee.org/luc/ email: charris@misda.org

ReFined Youth Leadership Conference.
Sep 23, 2011 - Sep 25, 2011
Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, 1101 Lincoln Street, Columbia, SC 29201.
The ReFined Leadership Conference seeks to reach, cultivate, and refine youth and young adults (ages 17-35) among all Christian denominations, across ethnicities and across the states of South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia. We envision this conference as a Revolutionized Evangelistic Effort that will foster an expansion of community outreach and cultivate effective youth leaders in today’s society. Phone: 888-459-
6884 from 4-8pm M-Th
For more information, email: info@therefinedleaders.org http://www.therefinedleaders.org

**Allegheny East Conference Training**
September 24, 2011
More info: Genny Moore aepca_aec2@yahoo.com

**Let Move Day!**
September 25, 2011
The NAD Youth Department has combined with GC/NAD health ministries to exercise 1 million miles on September 25th. Register today for the event. http://www.nadhealthministries.org/article.php?id=22
Reporting, ideas, etc.: http://www.adventistsinstepforlife.org/
JOIN THE WEBINAR to learn What/Why/How to make this event work for your youth group or club

**Jesus Loves Jeans Culmination**
October 8-15, Live from Nashville, Tennessee.
As part of Net 2011, the JLJ youth discipleship initiative will present the culmination of its efforts with a "youth reaping" meeting. More info: Visit Host.PropheciesDecoded.com/Resources.

**180 Symposium:**
October 18-20, 2011
Berrien Springs, Michigan. Addressing the most pressing issues in Adventism, the 180 Symposium uncovers new and thoughtful solutions and ideas for repairing and reinforcing our church body.
More info: AdventistYouth.org/180

**EndItNow: Break the Silence About Abuse**
October 15-17, 2011
Loma Linda University
Join experts Darriel Hoy, Chris Bradford, Renee Drum, and many others in this practical symposium on one of the most pressing, yet seldom talked about, issues in Christian circles – Abuse. Help us EndItNow!
Visit www.nadwm.org/SummitOnAbuse for more information.

**CYE – Cruise With a Mission**  
December 11-18, 2011.  
Valid passport and servant heart required. more info at www.cruisewithamission.org

**GYC 2011: Fill Me Is Our Ernest Plea**  
Houston, Texas  
http://gycweb.org

**the OneProject**, a ministry of the Center for Youth Evangelism comes to Seattle, Washington:  
February 13 - 14, 2012 www.the1project.org

**Church of Refuge (COR)**  
February 15, 2012, Seattle, WA  
More info about COR is found at http://www.adventistyouth.org/cor/

**Just Claim It / SUMMIT / Ignition**  
March 7-10, 2012  
Calling all teens who want to pray and service a CHANGE into their community! If you're just wanting a "good time" this is NOT the event for you, but if you desire an event that could reignite your prayer life and get your youth group excited about serving their community. REGISTER NOW!: http://www.jci3.org

**Pacific Union Conference Pathfinder Camporee**  
March 28-31, 2012  
Love. Live. Lead.  
http://www.puccamporee.org/

**Pathfinder Bible Experience**
April 21, 2012, NAD Headquarters, Silver Spring, Maryland.
NAD Pathfinder Ministries introduces a Pathfinder team challenge on immersion in the Word of God. This year the books of Mark and 1 Samuel are those being studied by teams. More info: Contact Gene Clapp (wclapp@stax.rr.com), or visit http://www.pathfindersonline.org/en/resources/pathfinder-bible-experience

Mid-America Union Hispanic Youth Leadership Convention
May 25-27, 2012, Union College, Lincoln, Nebraska
More Info: Hubert Cisneros hucisner@maucsd.org

Mid-America Union Camporee
July 25-28, 2012 Custer, South Dakota
Theme: Truth To Freedom
More Info: Hubert Cisneros hucisner@maucsd.org

Columbia Union Pathfinder Camporee
August 9-11, 2012
Camp Mohaven, Ohio
More info: http://www.columbiaunion.org/article.php?id=772

Maranatha Young Adult Mission Project -- August 1-13, 2012
http://www.maranatha.org

GODencounters Conference -- September 13-15, 2012
Arlington, Texas, USA
http://www.GODencounters.org

Southwestern Union Pathfinder Camporee
October 4-7, 2012, Lake Whitney Ranch, Clifton, Texas

Free Forever Faithful Camporee Tickets!
Forever Faithful 2014 International Pathfinder Camporee
August 11-16, 2014
the Center for Youth Evangelism is offering a special drawing on October 1, 2011. 20 free tickets will be
given away as part of this promotional if 2,014 or more tickets are sold by October 1, 2011.
http://www.camporee.org

Conference Events

Arkansas/Lousiana Adventurer and Pathfinder Adult Training September 9-11, 2011, Camp Yorktown Bay

Oklahoma Conference Adventurer, Pathfinder and Youth Leadership Convention
September 9-11, 2011, Wewoka Woods Adventist Center

Potomac Conference Pathfinder Leadership Convention
September 9-11, 2011, Camp Blue Ridge

Florida Conference Pathfinder Camporee
Sept. 22-25, 2011, Camp Kulaqua
Theme: Courage to Conquer
More Info: Pedro Perez, pedro.perez@floridaconference.com

Potomac Pathfinder Camporee
September 29-Oct 2, Camp Blue Ridge, Virginia
More info: Sherilyn O’Fill shernylo@pcsda.org

Texas Conference Master Guide Camporee
September 30 – October 2, 2011
Lake Whitney Ranch, Clifton, Texas
More info: Gene Clapp Gene.Clapp@valero.com

Southern New England Conference Pulling Together Leadership Conference
October 14-16, 2011
Sheraton Bradley
Registration for Event and Hotel required by September 30.
Ron Whitehead, Brad Forbes, Bill Wood, and Jose Cortez Jr. “pull together” to provide a power-packed weekend for serious leaders!
More information and to register: http://www.snecyouth.org

Florida Conference High School Bible Retreat
Oct. 20-23, 2012, Camp Kulaqua
Theme: Made for This
Speakers: Keith Gray and Carl Wilkens
More Info: Pedro Perez, pedro.perez@floridaconference.com

Arkansas/Lousiana Pathfinder Camporee by Areas
October 21-23, 2011

Texas Conference Adventurer Family Camp
Oct. 28-30, 2011
Lake Whitney Ranch, Clifton, Texas
More info: Gene Clapp Gene.Clapp@valero.com

Arkansas/Lousiana Teen Leadership Training Weekend
November 11-13, 2011, Camp Yorktown Bay

“iThirst” A Young Adult Spiritual Retreat
November 11-13, Potomac Conference
More info: Denny Grady youth@pcsda.org

Florida Adventurers - Super Fun Day -
November 13, 2011 Space Coast State Fair (Sand Point Park - Titusville)
Theme - Heart of a Hero Learn about heroes of today, yesterday and Biblical era.
More info: Brand and Lisa Gary bradlgary@yahoo.com
Youthfest 2012 – A Washington D.C./Metropolitan rally for Youth and Young Adults
February 3 & 4 2012, Potomac Conference
More info: Denny Grady youth@pcsda.org

Texico Youth Rally
Feb. 10-11, 2012, El Paso, TX

Texas Conference Latino Youth Fest 2012
March 23-25, 2012
More info: Gene Clapp Gene.Clapp@valero.com

Texas Conference Pathfinder Camporee
April 5-8, 2012, Lake Whitney Ranch, Clifton, Texas
More info: Gene Clapp Gene.Clapp@valero.com

Oklahoma Conference Pathfinder Camporee
April 27-29, 2012, Wewoka Woods Adventist Center

Fesja Youth Rally
May 4-5, 2012, Odessa, TX

Texico Adventurer Camporee
June 1-3, 2012

Adventist Resources

Pastor Black’s latest book, Entitled “The Youth (Doing) Ministry Formula (y+m)=YM^2" provides a simple strategy for revitalizing your church and community by turning the interests and talents of youth into ministries for Christ."
If you are a youth group leader, AYS leader, youth federation leader, youth pastor, church school/academy teacher, you want to order a copy for each of your
The General Conference offers Pathfinder Leaders a variety of Manuals and other PDF resources, including the Pathfinder Story, The Honors Manual, and Pathfinder Basic Staff Training Course. Source: http://gcyouthministries.org/

Now HOW do you start a Young Adult Ministry in your church? You have trained leaders resources, advice, blogs, and more at your disposal. What is stopping you now? Source: IgnitionYoungAdults.com

Other Resources

Need a Guide for College Students’ Spiritual Development?
A Guidebook of Promising Practices: Facilitating College Students' Spiritual Development summarizes campus-wide initiatives and institutional practices from colleges and universities across the country, and features examples of practices that can facilitate students' spiritual development. http://spirituality.ucla.edu/publications/promising-practices/default.php

Many Smaller Churches Make Short-sighted Technology Band-Aid Decisions....
Many of our young people serve as volunteers in A/V ministries in many of our churches. This article can guide A/V volunteers to think “big picture” of the equipment they use. http://www.churchproduction.com/go.php/blog_entry/15108

Leadership Changes

Scott Ward
In addition to his responsibilities as a Youth Pastor in the Northern California Conference, Scott has joined the NAD Youth Department as the Public High School Campus ministry Coordinator. We welcome Scott to our team as we work to
reach out to a large segment of our youth who attend public campuses. http://campusbasedyouthministry.org

Richard Williams
After serving as the Youth Director for the Maritime Conference, Richard will be transitioning to the position of Education Superintendent for the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference.

Krystal Barnes joins Advent House @ University of Tennessee Knoxville as Assistant Chaplain. http://www.gccsda.com/

Ryan Simpson
Appointed as the Southern New England Conference's new Associate Youth Director, Ryan will be leaving his position as Youth Director for the Bermuda Conference.

Ministry Opportunities

Thunderbird Adventist Academy: Looking for someone to fill the position of Assistant Dean of Women for the boarding academy in Scottsdale, Arizona. Position needs to be filled immediately. More info: Contact Kristy Conklin kconklin@thunderbirdacademy.org

Family Ministries in Central Florida: Position available in children, youth and family ministry in a large church setting. Seeking someone with a passion for these age groups. More info: Contact Vickie Boling at p7vboling@wildblue.net, or (863) 635-6769.

Southeastern California Conference (SECC) Youth Ministries Associate Youth Director. Full-time. To develop summer camp and conference-wide year-round spiritual and recreational programs for Pine Springs Ranch Youth Camp. Ability to work well with diverse groups. Creative skills and ability to deal with deadlines and multiple projects is necessary. Good computer skills a plus. Must have demonstrated skills in leading and directing youth activities such as youth camps, academy and elementary youth programs, etc. Must have commitment to spiritual development. Ability to understand and work with budgets. Master’s
degree with emphasis in ministry as well as previous experience in effectively directing youth programs are preferred.
For more information, contact SECC Human Resources at 951.509.2352.

In Closing...

Wayne Hicks, UCC Youth Director recently sent this thought-provoking and God-centering email to his Pathfinder & Adventurer leaders, and I thought it worth sharing:

“I’m in prayer for you and your Pathfinders and Adventurers! Why? Because one night in the next week or so, you begin your new Pathfinder/Adventurer year.

Are there high expectations? You bet! Not just high expectations from the kids, but also from:

- Staff
- Church
- Parents
- God

The first meeting will set the tone! Kids will formulate ideas about:

- Will this club be fun?
- Are we doing some great crafts?
- When do we get to go to Adventurer Fun day?
- How about the Fair?
- Will the teens I met last year at TPMA be at the Farragut camporee?
- Is this my chance to have a few hours away from a unhappy home?
- Will there be some adult at the club who loves me and won’t hurt me?
Heavy question, huh? Now, you likely are thinking, can we make a difference? I can answer that. No, you can't! But, yes, He can! Are you on your knees yet? I am! I want Jesus to use you and me to make a difference in His kid’s lives! I know He will, because He has!”

I too want God to use me, to use each of us to make a difference in HIS kid's, youth, young adult's lives THIS YEAR!

Pastor JB

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