Adventist Heritage

From: NAD Youth Ministries Update <ypac@nad.adventist.org>
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To: Adventist Heritage
Subject: NADYM eNews "The Update" March 2012 -- JCI Edition
A Word From The Director

This editorial is based on a question that was asked by a youth pastor recently.

Youth Ministries in North America – If one only focuses on the statistics about who’s leaving, they will never fully comprehend what it takes to keep those youth and young adults who are faithful. Some may think not much is happening but I challenge you to look around you. Youth ministry is happening everywhere. Recently, I glanced at the calendar of events for most of our conferences and was amazed at how God is blessing.

Obviously, the challenge is not at the conference level. If what is happening on the higher levels of the church is not happening in the local church we do have a major problem despite the progress. This is the main reason why we are so determined to establish youth leaders in every church. Specifically, we wish to develop leadership beyond Pathfinders. For youth who are not in pathfinders, nor in our academies, but attend church every Sabbath it can be pretty lonely if no one is shepherding and encouraging them.

I appeal to my church family once again to send yourself a reminder note and place this matter on your personal agenda. Again, great things are taking place in youth ministries overall but not as much in the local church. We should be seriously concerned.

We will address this and other critical issues in youth ministry during JCI3 in Greensboro. Recently, a youth pastor asked WHY he should come to JCI3. The answer given was “because you and your youth are not making the local news in your city. JCI shows you how to aggressively grow youth ministry in your church and community. You learn how to claim your entire city for Jesus.”

Taking youth to the wax museums, Disney World, and laser tag are all great stuff, but you won’t make the news. Many of our youth are looking for something deeper than just fun activities. Because many of them do not find it in the church they search elsewhere. Let’s do something about this! I hope to see you at JCI3. If you’re not already registered, hopefully, you will make a last minute decision and show up. The youth would love to be there with you.

Thursday, March 1 is the last day to register on Plusline and the late fee has been waived. However, onsite registration will occur as supplies are available.

Blessings,
Community Outreach Options @ JCI

Community Outreach Projects are available for March 8 and 9. Join us from 1-5 pm. You must register at the Registration Area once you arrive at the Convention.

1. RHA Howell Group Home – an organization that "Opens the world for people with disabilities and, in turn, enriches the lives of everyone they touch.”
   Youth Project: Volunteers will be ministering to residents by reading to them, taking them for walks, participating in outdoor games, et. al.

2. Habitat for Humanity - Project Restore, Habitat's store that sells reusable and surplus building materials to the public.
   Youth project: Volunteering in the store by labeling and pricing items donated, sorting, organizing and shelving products for resale to the community.

3. FaithAction International House, Center for Learning
   A center that provides services and needs for cross cultural learning, helping refugees and immigrants from many parts of the world.
   Youth project: Assist with spring cleaning projects in refugee home.

4. Welfare Reform Liaison Project – a non-profit organization that provides low-income families with household items and necessities.
   Youth Project: Volunteers will work in resale distribution center to sort items donated from Wal-mart, Men’s Warehouse, and several other local retailers. They will price items for resale to low income families and schools.

5. Nature Trail Project (sponsored by a local church organizations)
   Youth Project: Volunteers will work along with team of community and church leaders to complete the development of a nature trail for an elementary school

6. Guilford County Juvenile Detention Center
   Youth Project: Youth will conduct praise and worship service and share testimonies with youth in juvenile detention center.
Gethsemane Prayer Experience

During Jesus’ last hours, He led His disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane and asked them to pray with Him. Unfortunately, they were too preoccupied with sleep, so Jesus had entered alone. While there, He prayed an agonizing prayer that God would give Him strength to carry the load of sin for those He loved. Because He prayed, He was able to bear the trials, the torture, the death. Praise God He was then resurrected -- All so that we might have eternal life.

We now invite you into a Garden of Gethsemane-like experience -- an opportunity for prayer that God will give you the strength to endure during these last days before He turns.

The Gethsemane Experience is open:

- Wednesday, March 7 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and 9:00 pm to 10:30 pm
- Thursday, March 8 from 9:00 am to 10:30 pm
- Friday, March 9 from 9:00 am to 10:30 pm
- Sabbath, March 10 from 9:00 am to General Session

Click Here for other Prayer Initiatives at JCI!

Kids’ Kongress

Kids Kongress – accommodations are made for children from Thursday thru Sabbath morning. Please see updated schedule for times and location. Space is limited. First come first served. No cost but appreciation offering for supplies is appreciated.

Outdoor Parade and Youth Rally

This event is always a highlight. The entire Greensboro community and surrounding areas are receiving
public service announcements about what Adventist Youth are presenting. Drumcorps and drill teams are needed.

Please let us know if you can come. This outreach is a unique way of reaching the unchurched. Yes, bring your Pathfinder floats, motorcycles, horses, classic car, art display, or whatever you use as a unique witness for God.

Schedules

Ignition (Young Adults) Program Schedule

Pre-Convention Schedule

Convention (JCI/Ignition/Leadership SUMMIT) Schedule

Seminar Schedule

Planning on Being Invested?

If you are coming to the Leadership Summit in order to be invested, be sure to fill out the forms at www.jci3.org/forms AND have all investiture supplies with you. The Investiture takes place Sabbath evening at 6:30 pm.

Pathfinder Bible Experience Pre-Session Committee

If you are coming to the Pre-session meetings, and have an interest in Pathfinder Bible Experience, please plan to meet for the PBE Planning
Meeting on Sunday, March 4, at 2:30 pm. Check Convention Center monitors for location.

Agenda items include:

- Future testing dates and locations
- Rules for events with minimal numbers of teams
- Book(s) to be included in the future
- Translation
- Unspoken rules/understandings
- Pins & bars

Can I REALLY Still Register?

Fortunately, the answer is YES.

www.jci3.org/register-housing

Registration COMPLETELY ENDS on March 1. Don't let this opportunity get away!

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