When was the last time you checked your website to make sure it still works properly, looks current, and is meeting your goals? It’s a good idea to periodically evaluate your website so you can make any necessary changes and be prepared when it’s time for a redesign. Below are some questions to help you get started.

1. Does the home page load in a timely fashion? Less than 10 seconds is excellent. If it takes too long, visitors won’t wait.

2. Is the home page understandable? Are the features easy to find and well presented? Are there many broken links, missing sections, or spelling errors?

3. Are the navigation options logical? Do all pages include well-designed navigation, with little scrolling required? Are the navigation links adequate?

4. Does the website contain information about your church? Does it include ministries, events, and the pastor’s bio? How much information does it offer potential visitors?

5. Is the content up-to-date? Are future events announced? Is the news new, or more than two months old?

6. Is contact information available? Can visitors find the address, phone number, email address, and map link? If they can’t find this on your website, they won’t be able to find your church.

7. Are meeting and worship times clearly posted? Are they easy to find? Are special events listed?

8. Do the colors and overall design complement each other? Are the colors and design pleasant? Do they look professional and give a positive impression of your church?

Read more at http://bit.ly/cLgEMD

Reprinted from the Quick Start Guide for Communication. This Quick Start Guide is available from AdventSource at www.adventsource.org or 800-328-0525.

Catalog #250120 $2.95 Quantity discounts are available.

Are you looking for videos to feature on your church website? Check out the AdventistsAboutLife YouTube channel to find videos you can use. AdventistsAboutLife comes to you from the world headquarters of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It features videos on the topics of Jesus Christ, love, faith, freedom, health, worship, family, prayer, and more.

Visit www.youtube.com/user/Adventistsaboutlife
Now you, your family, and your friends can take part in spreading the Gospel by playing the most interactive and dynamic Bible game ever created. Build churches, fund projects, and send missionaries to other parts of the world as you answer over 800 trivia questions. Be challenged as you act, describe, draw, and share your opinion about various spiritual topics. The Mission Game provides a fun, exciting, and entertaining way to learn about the Bible. Live the challenge and be a part of The Mission, where knowledge and action meet. Designed for 2-6 players or teams ages 12 and up.

Available from AdventSource at www.adventsource.org or 800-328-0525. Catalog #625773 US$34.95
Whether you are a professional or volunteer communication director, Practicing Communicating can help. Practicing Communicating is a monthly newsletter produced by the Society of Adventist Communicators and North American Division Office of Communication.

Does your church or school have a website? Check out the newly redesigned Adventist Church and School Connect website to learn about the North American Division’s free website solution for Seventh-day Adventist churches and schools in Bermuda, Canada, and the United States. Visit the website to view samples, read user reviews, learn what features are included, find answers to your questions, and sign up.

Visit www.adventistchurchconnect.com

Go to www.awr.org or iTunes to check out AWR’s growing selection of podcasts.

For more information or to sign up your club, visit www.eclubtracker.com or call 877-642-7772.

Adventist World Radio Offers Podcasts in 85+ Languages

Adventist World Radio has always been a worldwide ministry, with shortwave radio broadcasts reaching areas as diverse as Madagascar, Tadjikistan, Bangladesh, and more. But the description “worldwide” took on new meaning in late June 2010 when AWR launched a new Internet delivery system. Now, radio programs that were previously targeted only to specific geographic areas are also available simultaneously online to listeners around the globe.

The system, called the Mediator 4, enables AWR to automatically push all programs online as soon as they go to air on the radio in various regions. Online listeners can hear the programs on demand on AWR’s website – at awr.org – or subscribe to podcasts through iTunes and other podcatchers. Online programs are currently available in 85+ languages, and AWR staff members are working to also make programs available from AWR’s affiliate FM stations, which will further expand the online language choices.

Go to www.awr.org or iTunes to check out AWR’s growing selection of podcasts.

AdventSource is pleased to announce a partnership with eClubTracker—the busy Pathfinder leader’s solution for managing a club! eClubTracker is a member management application designed to help you manage your Pathfinder or Adventurer Club. eClubTracker allows you to:

- Create a communication hub where members, parents, and staff can log in and stay up to date with club activities
- Maintain a shared calendar with the ability to update it in real time
- Easily record attendance, points, and each member’s requirements completed for Investiture
- Track honors taught and earned by members and staff
- Print member and conference reports
- Streamline the workload by allowing your staff to log in and enter attendance and other information
- And much more!

This partnership gives eClubTracker users the advantage of qualified AdventSource personnel providing customer service and user support and allows AdventSource to provide another great resource tool for Pathfinder and Adventurer leaders.

For more information or to sign up your club, visit www.eclubtracker.com or call 877-642-7772.

ACC Site Redesigned

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Visit www.adventistchurchconnect.com

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Sign up for the electronic version of Passport at http://newsletters.adventsource.org

Free E-Newsletter for Church Communicators

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Sign up at www.adventistcommunicator.org
Family Worship Times
By Brenda Dickerson

Whether it’s morning or evening (or both, if possible) having a family time of worship to God is a blessing for everyone involved. If you think you just don’t have the time, consider it an investment in family bonding, character development and relaxation therapy. It doesn’t have to be long; the length of time can vary according to your family’s needs. Just be regular and sincere in your efforts. Here are a few ideas to get you going (or to perk up your family worship times if you’re already in the habit).

Choose a specific place and specific times to gather your family together. This will help you be consistent. If you attend a church, take advantage of the materials they may give out for Bible study at home. Older children can read the lessons for themselves while a parent helps the younger ones. Sometimes our family acts out charades or everyone draws pictures of a particular story.

Reading a book aloud together is also great. Try some of the many inspiring mission stories or biographies available. It helps if you have a special box with cloth books and other quiet activities that younger children can play with during this time. On the weekends when more time may be available try playing a board game such as Bible Trivia™.