Greetings from the Ministerial Department!

Is anyone answering your church telephone?

It is essential to have someone answer your telephones especially on Sabbath. When people have found your website or telephone number, this is the time when people may inquire for spiritual direction, desire driving directions to your church, or inquire about community resources. The Barna Group, in their article “Most Churches Did Not Answer The Phone,” researched a
random sample of 3400 Protestant churches, and found 55% of these churches did not answer the phones, or even had a answering service. As a result, Barna noted, “instant communication has become second-nature in our world, with cell phones, instant messaging, and other high tech means of facilitating immediate contact with others, organizations that seemingly defy people to penetrate their fortress quickly become an after-thought in people’s lives. Busy schedules, competitiveness and questions about the user-friendly quotient of churches make it increasingly unlikely that consumers - especially those who are not connected or only marginally associated with a church - will endure the frustration of difficult communication to pursue a church. If ministry is based on relationships and interaction, then many churches might find it easier to penetrate the community if they were more accessible to the people who are showing an interest in the church.” The Barna Group of Ventura, California www.barna.org

1. Does anyone answer your church telephone?
2. Do you have an answering service for your church telephone?
3. Is your church in the phone book? (Yellow pages, White pages)
4. Does your church have a website, blog, or facebook address?

WestPoint “Connecting with Christ”

Innovative Strategies for Outreach, Discipleship, & Fellowship
April 8 – 11, 2012 San Mateo Marriott San Francisco Airport, San Mateo, CA

WestPoint’s focus will be three days of speakers and seminars designed to inspire and strengthen God’s call to connect your community with Christ. Meeting in the heart of the Silicon Valley, you have access to leaders from Facebook and Google to guide you towards the ways these two global-reach technologies can impact your local
church’s mission.  Click Here for more information

Reconnecting Ministry – Connecting former Adventists with Adventist friends and churches

About a million people who once worshipped in an Adventist church in North America have quit attending on a regular basis. There are a million unique stories why they left. The good news is, over 100,000 Adventists have reconnected during the past five years! We coordinate that ministry in North America and encourage it worldwide through our training events, resources and coaching services. The Church can have all kinds of evangelistic initiatives to get new people in the front door, but if the back door is swinging wide open, we have a retention problem. If this is true in your congregation, conference, union or division, let us help you with a ministry of friends reaching friends who have taken a break from active church attendance. To find out more contact Paul Richardson or Click Here

2012 Women Clergy Conference!

The North American Division is sponsoring its first ever of its kind Women Clergy Conference April 23-26, 2012 in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Women clergy from all over North America have been invited to attend this “invitation only” event with the NAD leadership team. The Conference theme is Connect . Discover . Empower.

There are approximately 107 women serving as pastors in the North American Division. They scattered across 34 conferences. Plus there are women who serve as chaplains in hospitals, jails, the military, and on university campuses. This group represents less than 3% of the more than 4,000

Understanding Scripture—An Adventist Approach, by George Reid

This special discount 4-book set only costs $30.00 plus shipping. To find out more or to order click here

Calendar Highlights

Andrews University Theological Seminary Career Fair
March 12

Ministerial Directors Meeting (for those who attend the career Fair)
March 13, 9am-12pm

Ministerial Directors Webinar
February 21 at 1:30 pm est

Westpointe of Evangelism
April 8-11

NAD Ministerial Women Clergy Conference
April 23-26

7th International Religious Liberty
pastors who serve in the NAD. Read More >>

Would you like to continue receiving the NAD Ministerial Newsletter?

Click here to subscribe

Message from
Ivan L. Williams Sr., Ministerial Director

Telephone: (301) 680-6419
Fax: (301) 680-6464
Email: Ivan.Williams@nad.adventist.org

Association
April 24-26

Ministerial Quote

“The Lord will provide.”

Joseph Bates (one of his favorite sayings)

TELEPHONE: 301-680-6418 | FAX: 301-680-6464 | E-MAIL: Ivan.Williams@nad.adventist.org

This message was sent to ahc@andrews.edu from North American Division Ministerial Association, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 21092.

Spam
Not spam
Forget previous vote
The North American Division is sponsoring its first ever of its kind Women Clergy Conference April 23–26, 2012 in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Women clergy from all over North America have been invited to attend this "invitation only" event with the NAD leadership team. The Conference theme is Connect . Discover . Empower.

There are approximately 107 women serving as pastors in the North American Division. They scattered across 34 conferences. Plus there are women who serve as chaplains in hospitals, jails, the military, and on university campuses. This group represents less than 3% of the more than 4,000 pastors who serve in the NAD.

Each department in the NAD has been challenged to come up with a strategic plan. The Ministerial Department, directed by Ivan Williams, has the commitment to develop a strategic plan that empowers the women clergy who serve in North America. To accomplish this task it was determined that we needed to bring together the women we are seeking to serve and get feedback from them. Hence this unique and historical conference. There has been unanimous support from the Union Presidents for this conference. Each Union, in coordination with the local conferences, is working to make sure that every female pastor in their Union/Conference has the financial support necessary to get to the conference. This event includes dedicated time to hearing the stories of these women's call to ministry, their areas of greatest need, and their stories of God at work.

Speakers include the following:
Ivan Williams, Director, NAD Ministerial (Purpose of our gathering)
Tara VinCross, Senior Pastor, Chestnut Hill Adventist Church Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (Worship speaker)
Hyveth Williams, Professor of Homiletics SDA Theological Seminary, Andrews University (Worship speaker)
(Panel member—What the Bible Really Says about Women Spiritual Leaders)
Stan Hickerson, Senior Pastor Stevensville, Michigan; Vice-president and Historical Consultant for Adventist Heritage Ministry (Historic Role of Women in Ministry in the Adventist Church)
Dan Jackson, President, North American Division, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (Current Policy; State of the "Union")
Evelyn Kissinger, Director, Lifestyle Matters at Work (Your Lifestyle Matter: Simple Solutions to DeStressing Your Life)
Christine Wallace, Certified Fitness Trainer (Women on the Move)
Ron du Preez, Resident Theologian, and Director of Adult Sabbath School, and Communication for Michigan Conference (Panel member—What the Bible Really Says about Women Spiritual Leaders)
Dwight Nelson, Senior Pastor, Pioneer Memorial Church on the campus of Andrews University (Panel member—What the Bible Really Says about Women Spiritual Leaders)
David and Beverly Sedlacek, Professor and Coordinator of the M.Div./MSW collaborative at Andrews University/Director of Into HIS Rest Ministries (Your Family Matters)
Esther Knott, Associate Pastor Pioneer Memorial Church; Associate Director, NAD Ministerial (Worship speaker; Women Clergy Conference coordinator)
Paul Richardson, NAD Reconnect Ministries (Report on survey of Women Clergy)
Paul Brantley, NAD Vice President for Strategic Planning and Assessment (Shaping the strategic plan for NAD in response to what we have heard)

Through the presentations and shared experiences it is our goal to:
Connect the women with each other and the leadership at NAD.
Discover how we can serve them.
Empower them to do what God has called them to do.

For more information you may contact Esther Knott: knott@pmchurch.org