

youth ministry

accent

the resource for adventist youth leaders



100 years of leading youth to JESUS





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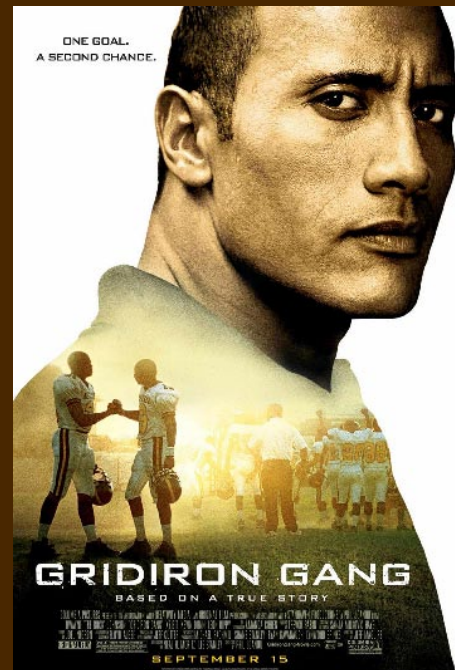
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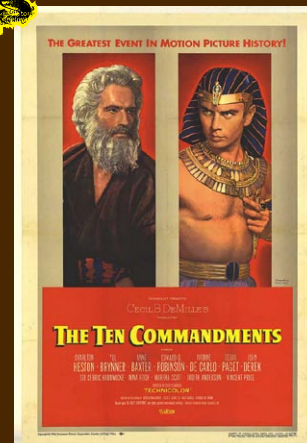
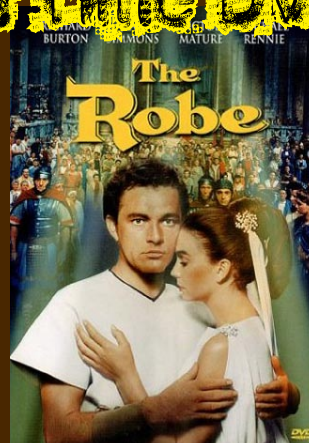
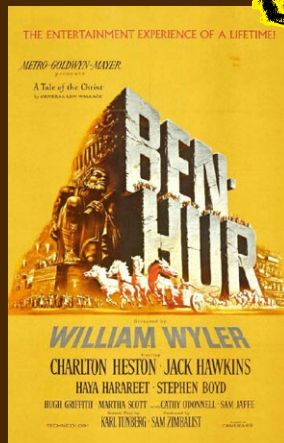


Jesus knew the power of using stories to touch hearts and give people a glimpse of heaven. *FACING THE GIANTS* is a modern-day parable on fear and faith told in a language that our culture speaks fluently... media. This movie, produced by a church on a shoestring budget, is a modern day David vs. Goliath project on screen and behind the scenes.



Based on a true story, *Gridiron Gang* sends out a message that the leader can make a difference and the most hopeless kids in our society can change the course of their lives through hard work, commitment and bold leadership.

Old Time DVDs



100 JUST A NUMBER?



From the beginning of your life, you are surrounded by numbers; you begin with how many days is this baby, then how many months, then years... numbers, numbers, numbers! You know how old you are because of your age (well, it is not the only reason you get older), every year we celebrate our birthdays just to remember how old we are. Then after a while, we stop celebrating, we don't want to remember anymore, well some of us anyway.

In our churches we tend to look at the numbers. How many members do we have? Have we baptized enough people this year? Well, did the pastor do a lot of Bible Studies? And the list goes on, you know what I'm talking about.

If you take a look at the Bible, you will find a lot of different numbers that are significant...they express something special. We have a week with 7 days, and the 7th is for God and us the most important one. Jesus chose 12 disciples, interesting number—for a lot of people this number is the combination between 4 x 3, numbers that express God (3) and

human being (4). We have some of the most interesting prophecies expressed by numbers, 2,300 years, 1,260 years, and more and more...

This year we are celebrating our Centennial. The Youth Department is getting older, we have already done 100 years. That's a lot of years, but... this is not the most important thing.

If we just focus on the numbers that won't do, it's not enough for Christ. Christ wants all humanity to live with Him for eternity, this is the number—ALL.

We are celebrating 100 years of preaching the Gospel, 100 years of working with young people, 100 years baptizing people, 100 years of preparing materials for the church; and while all this is true I don't want to stay stuck on the numbers, I want to go move on. I want us to look at the future, not only the past. When we focus on the future with anticipation, we realize we are celebrating one year less for Jesus' return; one week less for Jesus to come; **one day less for Jesus to come.**

One hundred years ago our leaders [youth] said "He is coming soon". They were on fire, working with zeal and anticipation, because they just knew He was on His way. But He is not here yet. So what do we do? Ask yourself, Am I ready for Jesus to come? Am I living like He could come now? Or do I need another centennial to prepare for His return?

Ask yourself: *Are you ready for Jesus to come? Are you ready to look in His face? Or you will need another Centennial?* Numbers can fool us ... don't get fooled. While numbers can confuse and frustrate us, one thing is sure: Jesus is coming again. Preach the Gospel, preach Jesus, never give up, even if you sometimes get tired, **DO NOT GIVE UP. FOCUS ON JESUS. FOCUS ON ETERNITY. FOCUS ON JESUS' RETURN AND WE WILL CELEBRATE THE REAL BIRTHDAY WITH HIM IN HEAVEN!** ☐

Jonatán Tejel
Editor



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8/Then and Now by Leo Ranzolin
Reviewing 100 years of service to the youth of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

8/100 Years Later by Baraka G. Muganda
A peek into seven of the defining moments in the history of the Seventh-day Adventist church.

18/What About 1907? by Robert Holbrook
A quick look back at the beginning of youth ministries in the Seventh-day Adventist church.

26/Journey of 100 Years: *From Grace to Grace* by Hiskia I. Misaah
Grace led to the establishment of the General Conference Adventist Youth Ministries Department, and grace has been sustaining its existence up to today.

48/Pathfinder Heritage Museum
by Dixie Plata
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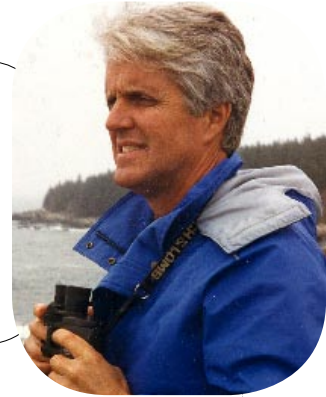


contributors



The Chief, World Youth Director, **Baraka G. Muganda** identifies 7 defining moments that changed the course of Adventist history in some very profound ways. From 1879 to the present... **100 YEARS LATER**. What is youth ministry doing to change lives? (page 8)

This year as we celebrate 100 years of service to the youth of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, **Robert "Bob" Holbrook** takes a look at the significance of 1907 in **WHAT ABOUT 1907?** Bob is the Youth Director of the Oklahoma Conference. (page 18)



100 years of service



A former World Youth Director, **Leo Ranzolin** offers us a glimpse into Youth Ministry for the past 100 years. See **THEN and NOW**. (page 6)

From the collection of the first soap back in 1951 to the uniforms of four World Pathfinder Directors, **Arnold and Dixie Plata** share their dream of a permanent museum, with a travelling display in **PATHFINDER HERITAGE MUSEUM** (page 48). To the right, Arnold and Dixie enjoy a moment with Paulo Bravo of Brazil. The Plata's can be contacted by email at docplata@aol.com or write to: Arnold and Dixie Plata, 4995 Lane Creek Road, Central Point, Oregon, U. S. A. 97502.



Hiskia I. Missah is the Associate Youth Ministries Director at the General Conference. His article **JOURNEY OF 100 YEARS: FROM GRACE TO GRACE** examines the evidence of God's amazing grace throughout the century. (page 26)



In **FROZEN FAITH** **Japhet De Oliveira** encourages us to "Take the past and use the strength and courage of our founders to re-create a stronger present and future." He is the CYE Associate Director; Chaplain for Missions; and Interim Director for MA Youth Ministry at Andrews University Seminary. (page 14)

THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IS A YOUTHFUL CHURCH. YOUNG PEOPLE STARTED THE YOUTH PROGRAM OF THIS CHURCH. JAMES AND ELLEN WHITE AND A SCORE OF OTHERS WERE THE ONES WHO DARED TO START THIS GREAT MOVEMENT AND TAKE POSITIONS OF LEADERS. THEY WERE NOT AFRAID TO LIVE AND DIE FOR THEIR BELIEFS AND COMMITMENT TO THIS GREAT CAUSE! YOUNG PEOPLE ARE CHARACTERIZED BY THEIR EXPULSION OF HOPE, JOY AND IDEALS.



Front row: Matilda Erickson, Harriet Holt, H. T. Elliot, M. E. Kern, Mead
All others pictured need identifying. Send information to www.



Two young people, **Luther Warren** and **Harry Fenner**, had the vision to start the MV Society in Hazelton Township, Michigan in 1879. It was established on their knees as they prayed to God for guidance! What a blessing and courage shown by those fine youth who had a burden to help our youth in the local churches!

It was because of this tremendous growth that Sabbath School was asked to take charge of the young people's work, in 1901. However, the expansion of our youth activities demanded that a new department be established. And so it was, that the General Conference Session in Gland, Switzerland, in May of 1907 voted that "a special department, with the necessary officers,



Meade McGuire, Ella Iden, unknown
www.youth.gc.adventist.org

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST YOUTH MINISTRY MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR 100 YEARS

THEN & NOW

BY LEO RANZOLIN

be created, the same to be known as the Young People's Department of the General Conference."

Sabbath School and youth leaders held a convention at Mount Vernon, Ohio, July 10-20, 1907. At this meeting a distinctive name was chosen for the new Department—*Young People's Society of Missionary Volunteers*. This new name helped to shape all the activities of our young people throughout the years.

The most important feature was the MV Society program held every Sabbath in the local churches. It provided guidance, inspiration, and leadership for the youth of the church. This is still held in most countries around the world! Those churches that have kept this tradition are growing in their attempt to help save our young people and prepare them for this world and for eternity. In 1957, during the MV Golden Anniversary, there was a great celebration in [Cont' on page 12]

AS ONE PEEKS INTO THE HISTORY OF THE YOUTH MOVEMENT

of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, seven defining moments are identified from the past, events that changed the course of Adventist history in some very profound ways. These seven defining moments changed lives... then and now. They transformed young people from spiritual bystanders into active and essential participants in the work of God.

1

ORGANIZATION OF THE FIRST ADVENTIST YOUTH SOCIETY BY TWO YOUNG PEOPLE 1879

Two teenagers in Michigan, USA, organized the first ever Youth Society of the Seventh-day Adventist church. The names of these two young pioneers of the Adventist youth ministry are: Luther Warren (age 14) and Harry Fenner (age 17). This happened in Hazelton—a country community in the state of Michigan located between Flint and Lansing—back in the summer of

100 YEARS LATER

DEFINING MOMENTS IN THE HISTORY OF YOUTH MINISTRIES in the Seventh-day Adventist Church

BY BARAKA G. MUGANDA



*Harry Fenner and
Luther Warren,
young pioneers
and co-founders of
the Adventist Youth
Society. Russell
Harlan, Artist*

1879. They were members of a small church located in that community. One day, as they walked along the country road near Hazelton, they were talking about the place that the youth should occupy in the promotion of the last gospel message. They had a burden for the unconverted young friends. Luther said, "Harry, let's go over the fence and pray about it". So they climbed over the rail fence and found a corner in the field and prayed about the matter. On their knees they reconsecrated their lives to the Lord and then went to work as soul winners for their young friends, organizing the first visionary youth society. For boys only, the meetings were held in a small room of Luther's parents' home with nine boys in attendance. The purpose of this little youth group was to promote missionary work, raise money for missionary literature, and further the cause of temperance. At this first youth society officers were elected and an offering was taken to purchase missionary literature for distribution. A temperance pledge was drawn up and signed. As the weeks went by and the success of the new organization was evident, it was decided that girls could be invited. When this step was taken the meetings were moved to the parlors of various church members' homes, and finally to the Hazelton SDA church. Luther's and Harry's vision was actually spawned by the concern of the parents in the Hazelton church. The old church record books

indicate that at a board meeting parents discussed how they could help their young people, and brother Fenner was asked to encourage the boys and girls. We see here, early in our church history, the prophecy of Malachi 4 being fulfilled where the hearts of the fathers were turned to the children, and the children's heart to their parents.

2

MT. VERNON YOUTH CONVENTION CALLED BY GENERAL CONFERENCE PRESIDENT—1907

As time passed by, it soon became evident that the young people of our church had much to offer. Their influence and witness grew, until leaders in the Seventh-day Adventist movement decided that something special needed to be done to inspire the youth to even greater service.

That is why in 1907, the General Conference president, Elder A. G. Daniells, called for the first ever Youth Convention to be held in Mt. Vernon, Ohio. This meeting was to comprise both the Sabbath School Department and the new Young People's Department. Its primary focus was the formulation of plans and policies for the new department—give the skeleton the muscles to work with.

More than one hundred delegates attended this convention, representing nine unions. In addition there were eleven general delegates, including the president of the General Conference, Elder A. G. Daniells.

Youth from big cities and small towns, from countryside and seaside gathered in Mt. Vernon, Ohio in 1907. For the first time, young people felt like they were a part of something big, a spoke in the wheel of their church.

The Mt. Vernon convention was the beginning of many conventions around the world. From time to time Youth Leaders hold such conventions to plan work for young people.

3

INTRODUCTION OF ADVENTIST YOUTH CLASS—1922

The Youth Movement grew, and it became evident that even church services themselves needed to accommodate the young people who gathered each Sabbath afternoon to worship the Lord.

By 1922, Harriet Holt introduced a radical new concept in junior youth ministry—JMV classes for juniors, and a Comrade Band for leadership. There were a number of requirements, including ones in adventurer, hobbies, spiritual development, and fitness.

These new classes were such a novel idea that the investitures in them were mentioned in the Youth's Instructor as news from around the world.

The classes that were introduced in 1922 continue to be a powerful force in training and nurturing of young people to this day.

4

FIRST ADVENTIST YOUTH SUMMER CAMP – 1925

Leaders in the Adventist Church at the time realized that nature held a great fascination in the minds of young people, that it provided an open textbook for teaching God's love. In 1925 a voice was heard throughout the land, a voice that still echoes each summer in churches large and small.

This year brought a revolution in summer entertainment—Seventh-day Adventist summer camp.

Many Seventh-day Adventists cannot forget the many memories of summer camp—Adventist style. Most of us living today have enjoyed spending time with God while climbing, hiking, swimming, or playing in the great outdoors surrounded by laughing friends and a dedicated camp staff. It all began in 1925 with the launch of the very first Adventist Youth Summer Camp—a defining moment for us all.

5

FIRST INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONGRESS IN GERMANY –1928

We have seen how God has led and is leading our young people...

Another defining moment in the history of Adventist Youth occurred in 1928. The first ever Adventist youth congress in the world was held in Chemnitz, Saxony, Germany, July 17-22, 1928. An outstanding attendance of about 3,000 young people converged from all over Europe in that historic and decisive youth congress organized by Steen Rasmussen, then Youth Director for Europe and his team. That great initiative ignited a torch which sparked a chain reaction of youth congresses around the world. The fortunate delegates were challenged to deeper commitment and evangelistic endeavors. Interestingly enough, each speaker had to be translated into 10 different languages, a common issue in international youth congresses organized for Adventist youth around the world.

Youth Congresses have continued to attract huge numbers of young people between the ages 16 – 30 years old (Senior Youth/Young Adult). These are organized by churches, Youth Federations, Conferences or Missions, Unions, Divisions and the General Conference. They still keep the original purpose of bringing youth into these meetings to inspire, encourage, train, and equip them to become committed disciples of Jesus and leaders of the church. During these events many youth rededicate or give their lives to Jesus Christ for the first time.

A new concept born in the 90s has been added to these youth congresses. This is "Impact events", in which young people in addition to seminars and sermons, participate in service projects. In some divisions they have become known as "Super Mission" or sometimes referred to as "Impact" like those held in Utrecht–1995, Toronto–2000, Bangkok–2004, and St. Louis–2005.

Under “Impact” or “Supermission” youth want to impact the communities in which they host these kind of congresses with community service projects organized concurrently with the program. Every year hundreds of youth congresses are organized for Adventist youth around the world.

6

PATHFINDER MINISTRY CREATED 1950

In 1950 at the General Conference Session in San Francisco the Pathfinder program was accepted worldwide. From this time on, Pathfinder materials, including a Staff Manual, Master Guide Manual, How to Start a Pathfinder Club, Drill Manual and other helps were put in the hands of leaders. The Pathfinder Ministry is one of the most successful activities in the Seventh-day Adventist church worldwide. It is a powerful force in the church.

7

VOICE OF YOUTH LAUNCHED 1947

The term “Share Your Faith” was introduced at the first North American Youth Congress held in San Francisco, California, USA, from September 3 to 7, 1947. Elder Theodore Lucas, then GC Associate Youth Director, introduced the slogan in one of his presentations to the more than 12,000 young delegates, bringing a new day to the witnessing activities of our youth in North America. The influence of this initiative was felt worldwide and was

associated with a growing list of youth missionary activities, including the Voice of Youth evangelistic campaigns, which were also introduced in that historic youth congress. Today the GC Youth Department promotes among the youth worldwide a list of 53 youth witnessing projects plus other local initiatives. Among all of them, the most successful in soul-winning has been the Voice of Youth campaigns where young preachers conduct a full-scale public evangelistic series. They are supported by a team of youth evangelists who serve as master/mistress of ceremonies, singers, musicians, praising teams, receptionists, ushers, Bible instructors, prayer teams, media/publicity leaders, visual aid and sound system specialists, small group leaders, and campaign coordinators. Simultaneous Voice of Youth campaigns organized by the Conferences, Unions, Divisions and the General Conference have brought to the church many thousands of souls reached through the direct public efforts of our youth. Adventist youth around the world continue to hold evangelistic programs with a well oriented evangelistic movement called the Elijah Project, an unprecedented initiative of our world church with about 20,000 Voice of Youth evangelistic campaigns around the world held in 2006.

These are just some of the defining moments that impacted the lives of youth in the past 100 years.

In this article we have witnessed symbolically the defining moments of the Seventh-day Adventist Youth Movement, past and present. We have seen how God has led and is leading our young people into challenging arenas of service. It's evident that the Holy Spirit is working in the lives of our youth, motivating them, blessing them, and transforming them into powerful servants of the Most High! The watch words throughout these 100 years have been “Salvation and Service” and will continue to be heard throughout the youth activities of the future. ☐

Baraka G. Muganda is the Director of Youth Ministries at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists World Headquarters.



Present at the 1957 M. V. Golden Anniversary in Mr. Vernon, Ohio were M.E. Kern, H.T. Elliott, A. W. Peterson, E. W. Dunbar and T.E. Lucas



Luther Warren
at approx 14-15 years
of age.

A portrait of young Luther Warren

Mt. Vernon, Ohio, where a new MV Monument was unveiled. Richard Nixon, then Vice-president of the USA; R.R. Figuhr, GC president; and T. E. Lucas, Youth Director were some of the featured speakers. Pastor Art Patzer, chairman of this celebration shared with me a special Columbia Union *Visitor* filled with memorable pictures and highlights. The first five youth leaders were present: M.E. Kern, H.T. Elliott, A. W. Peterson, E. W. Dunbar and T. E. Lucas. Later, John Hancock followed then Leo Ranzolin and now Baraka Muganda!

Here are the words of the famous plaque: "Gathered here in 1907 the founders of the Seventh-day Adventist movement cast the mantle of Christian service upon the shoulders of their sons and daughters and called them Missionary Volunteers, committing to them, and to those who, in their same devotion follow after, the task *The Advent Message to all the world in this generation*. Erected by youth of the Columbia Union Conference of S.D.A. and dedicated July 13, 1957".



2007 GC YOUTH MINISTRIES TEAM: L to R (front row) Hiskia I. Missah, Baraka G. Muganda, Jonatán Tejela (back row) Silvia Sicalo, Maria Dunchie, and Lulleither Massiah



Leo Ranzolin and Neal C. Wilson, talking live to a student missionary during the Panamerican Youth Congress in Mexico City, December 1984

The MV Society had a tremendous impact in my life. As a new convert, I embraced all its features – reading my Bible every year, following the special Reading courses and participating in the Progressive Classes (now AY Classes) until I got my Master Guide. It was my privilege to serve as MV Society leader in the Brazilian College and that was the inspiration I received to become a youth leader.

One of the great joys in my life was to win an oratorical contest during the first Brazilian Youth Congress, in 1952. I was in my first year of Theology.

Larry Skinner, GC Associate Youth Director, was looking on as I received my prize! Half scholarship for a poor student! I never thought at the time that I would follow him and J. Hancock as the third World Pathfinder leader for the Church! Then, in 1980, when John Hancock retired, the Lord put on my shoulders the great responsibility to lead this great army of youth.

During the unveiling of the monument in Ohio, Jere Patzer, son of Art Patzer, was looking on. He followed in his father's footsteps, became a youth director and now is the president of the North Pacific Union! Indeed – the Youth Department has prepared leaders for the Church. It was my privilege to serve in Secretariat and Presidential at GC. Recently, Erton Kohler, 38 years old, former Youth Director, in SAD was elected as president of that great Division! Youngest ever! Israel Leito and George Brown, presidents of IAD were youth directors for the Church's largest Division!

Today, Dr. Baraka Muganda and his staff are following in the tradition of the MV society. I met him in 1974 as a Youth Director In Tanzania. He is leading the Department and young people to share God's love through meaningful service, to build strong relationship with other Adventist youth and to strengthen their relationship with God. ☐

Leo Ranzolin served as the General Conference GC Youth Director, 1980-1985.

FROZEN FAITH?

BY JAPHET DE OLIVEIRA

The interview was going well—or so I thought until someone on the panel asked me: “What was the best moment in your life?” For a second I went blank. Those who know me also know that even a second of blankness or speechlessness from me is rare—although often requested. My life has had so many important moments. Which one should I share?—a birthday, my baptism or communion service, the first time I saw my wife, the birth of my boys... no, I could not answer. I could not prioritize. So instead, I said, “Right now.” And that was the truth. My best moment is now and in the future.

Later, when I reflected on my answer, I moved my sub-conscious conclusions to the front of my mind. For a long time now I have refused to live in the past. It would be easy, I guess, to spend my days reflecting on the good old days, or the not so good ones but I prefer to think about what I’m going to do next.

It’s a shame that often in youth ministry we spend most of our energy looking back. Remembering the day when, Pass it On (“it only takes a spark to get a fire going”) was the greatest song. For some, that memory is our attempt at youth ministry today. Or we remember the day when there were safety issues at summer camp, and we get caught up focusing on safety to the exclusion of everything else. So basically, either we remember the past as a golden era that we’re endlessly trying to recreate or, we focus on the mistakes of the past and get caught up trying to make sure we don’t duplicate them. Both of these approaches—while understandable and human—keep us from moving forward. They demonstrate not simply lukewarm faith but frozen faith. Faith, in order to work, has to bend and move. It needs warmth and life. It needs dynamics and a willingness to begin each day new.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is celebrating 100 years of youth ministry within our denomination this year. We started as innovators—in a time desperately seeking radical, living ministry. The early youth ministry pioneers faced icebergs that were deep under water and yet slipped past them to reach humanity. We come from a long tradition of active change, especially within youth ministry. It’s a pleasure to look back over the great leaps we have taken in the past, but those leaps are too small now. We can’t just run and jump anymore; we need to fly. All too often I sense that characteristics of our movement—excitement and freedom to explore truth, method and practice—have been left in the past. They are not tangible realities.

Sure there are pockets and bursts but our ethos should be: “The past is not enough; the present is transitioning.” I heard my boss say once in a meeting, “If McDonalds suddenly noticed that 50% of its customers were no longer

returning, do you think they would keep doing business the same way?" Of course they would stop, take stock and change. We need that same spirit of change we started with over 100 years ago.

We are not looking for creative program ideas; we are looking for visionary leadership. We are not looking for time filling programs as much as the reason for our existence. Why do we have the highest turnover in youth ministry? Why are more than 50 percent of your youth walking out the back door during their university years? Somewhere along the line our faith has frozen—and without our leadership, it can be hard for the younger generation to know what matters in their lives. Frozen faith. When it gets cold enough, it's hard to move. Are we so frozen that we're almost paralyzed?

When John the Baptist was in prison and his disciples came to question Jesus as to why such a valiant warrior was locked away, Jesus replied with these words, "...blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me ... I tell you the truth: among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he" (Matthew 11:6,11, NIV). John's disciples were freezing up rapidly, and they didn't know what to do. One of the first signs of hypothermia is mental confusion and a lack of ability to make decisions. Jesus acknowledged publicly that John was effecting change for a better future at a high price, but He ended John's obituary with the idea that we are supposed to be doing even greater things since the time he lived. Living, breathing faith gives you the strength and clarity to move forward and accomplish things that matter.

Change is always difficult. The difficulty is what keeps us frozen in youth ministry. To avoid change we re-hash our programs and forget that our theological rocks have developed. They have expanded and challenge us to seek new approaches to youth ministry. Not a ministry driven by preferences but by principles.

Should Christ not return for some reason in the next 100 years, what will our youth ministry be like? Will we still be

filling in Sabbath afternoon hours with our traditional AYS or will we have flown and found that sitting in rows and listening to another presentation, using a song service to our God as a warm up, waiting for people to arrive is blasphemy? Will we still offer an element of our liturgy Sabbath morning so that our youth can be "involved" as a token gesture of family church? Will we still talk about drugs and sex and music and ignore the complacency of the parents in living an action-less faith?

We live in a world of specialization and classification. We define our youth in the academic world with classic characteristics to help us identify and spot our targeted audience and sometimes miss that they are human just like you and me. They are younger, yes, but they long for the same things that everybody does and always has. They long for purpose, love and meaning.

In the movie "The Guardian" a young trainee coast guard asks the old teacher Kevin Costner just how many people he had rescued in his life. Saved from the clutches of death. After

(The past is not enough; the present is transitioning.)

pausing he simply replies, "Twenty". The trainee is taken aback: What, not 200 or 300 people? Costner's character replies, "Those are the ones I lost, those are the ones I count." This should be our focus—as it was Jesus' focus. Not on the ninety-nine sheep in the pen, but on the one that has wandered—or walked—away. This is our call to youth ministry. We have to break the ice and warm our faith up. When I train youth leaders I always remind them that their call is not to be parents, siblings, confidantes, social workers, psychologists or counselors. Their ultimate call is to be one part of a young person's spiritual journey—to first be a spiritual leader and help others learn to ask the right questions about their lives.

Break your own faith and watch the ice melt. Take the past and use the strength and courage of our founders to re-create a stronger present and future. ☐

reprinted

THE REVIEW AND HERALD

"Here is the Patience of the Saints: Here are they that keep the Commandments of God, and the Faith of Jesus." Rev. 14:12

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REVIEW AND HERALD

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The Sabbath-School and Young People's Convention

July 10-21 is the date of the Sabbath-school and young people's convention, appointed by the General Conference Committee, to be held at Mt. Vernon, Ohio. This certainly is a very important meeting. In view of the time to which we have come, and the demand for workers, we feel sure that it will be one of the most important that has ever been held by this denomination, and that it will be attended with far-reaching results. It indicates a new era in our work, and a great forward missionary movement in the work of the third angel's message.

At the recent council of the General Conference Committee, held at Gland, Switzerland, a new department was organized, to be known as the Young People's Department of the General Conference. We felt grateful to God that the work of our young people had grown until it could be organized into a separate department, with a chairman and a secretary who will devote their time to building up and developing this work. Between the Sabbath-school, Educational, and Young People's Departments there is a very close relation, and rightly organized and working together, they can do a great work in advancing the third angel's message.

The convention to be held at Mt. Vernon, the Young People's Department will be fully organized, and plans studied and adopted which will mold the future of this department, as well as that of the work of our Sabbath-school.

The greatest asset we have as a denomination is our young people. They are worth our best and noblest efforts. It is from their midst that, we must secure the army of workers necessary to man our mission fields, and finish the work in this generation. Certainly we can not remain indifferent to their needs, nor neglect to put forth earnest efforts to direct their energy and enthusiasm into right channels.

The coming convention is by no means a local affair. Leading workers in our

Sabbath-schools, Young People's Societies, and schools will be present from all over the United States. In addition to these Elder A. G. Daniells and W. A. Spicer will be present, as well as other members of the General Conference Committee, and the instruction which will be given will be such that none can afford to miss it. Next week we hope to publish the entire program.

The question has been asked, Who should attend? We answer, All who can possibly arrange to do so. This is a special occasion for our young people, and we really wish that they all could be present. While it will be of great value for the workers to meet together and plan for the work, much will be lost unless there is present a large number of young people, conference laborers, church officers, and others, that they may be inspired with the spirit of the meeting, and return to their homes and fields of labor to take up this work in a new way, and with renewed earnestness.

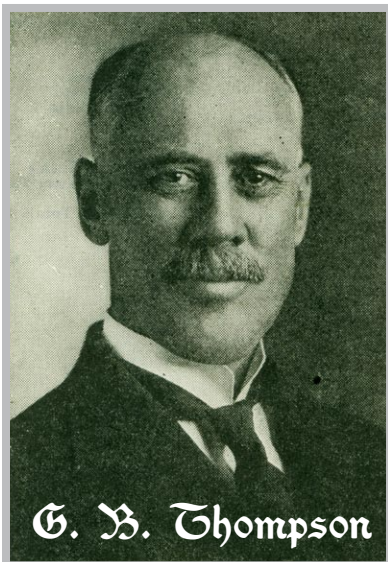
We believe that as many of our young people as possible from the surrounding conferences at least, should be included to attend, especially that class of young people who are preparing to enter the work. Why would it not be an excellent thing for conferences to assist, financially and otherwise, many of these to come to the meeting? It will prove to be a good investment. We would like to see as many conference laborers in the different departments of work attend this meeting

as possible. Many churches could arrange to send some of their number, even from some distance. They will be able to help the church much better when they return.

The convention will be held at the Mt. Vernon Academy. Those who have the matter of entertainment in hand are deeply interested in the work, and will do all in their power to provide for those who come, at as reasonable a figure as circumstances will allow. Those expecting to attend should write to James E. Shultz, box 187, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

A deep interest is being manifested regarding this meeting in all parts of the field. We expect the Lord will be present in a very special manner. Let each one cooperate to the extent of his ability to make the convention a success. Do not forget to pray that the Lord will send the Holy Spirit to preside in this meeting.

-G. B. Thompson, Chairman Sabbath-School Department



ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTIETH MEETING GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Gland, Switzerland, May 15, 1907, 3 P.M.

R. A. Underwood in the chair. G. B. Thompson offered prayer. Minutes were read and approved.

REPORT, COMMITTEE ON PLANS:

The Committee on Plans submitted a further partial report, which was adopted, as follows:--

The Committee on Plans would submit the following partial report:--

WHEREAS, There are in our ranks many thousands of young people for whom the most earnest and vigorous efforts should be put forth, to fully instruct them in the gospel of our Lord, and lead them to give themselves to the work of the Third Angel's Message; and,--

WHEREAS, The special blessing of God has attended the efforts among our people put forth under the fostering care of the Sabbath-school Department, until it has grown to such an extent that it is difficult for this Department to give this work the attention and help which it needs; and therefore,--

4. ***RESOLVED, That in order that this work may be properly developed, and thus an army of workers properly trained for service, a special department, with the necessary officers, be created, the same to be known as the Young People's Department of the General Conference.***

WEEK OF PRAYER, TIME OF:

5. That the time of the week of prayer be December 14 to 21, 1907; but that if local conditions make it desirable to vary from this date in certain fields, it be left to the committees of such fields to adjust the time.

WEEK OF PRAYER, READINGS:

6. That the readings for the week of prayer be as follows:

- (a) A contribution by Mrs. E. G. White.
- (b) What this Movement Stands For.--A. G. Daniells.
- (c) The Hour of Trial, and the Source of Help.--S. N. Haskell.
- (d) The Opportunities for Service, and the Pressure of the Hour.-- M. C. Wilcox.
- (e) Compilation from "Early Writings" on the Closing Work and Experiences of the Advent People.
- (f) Who Shall Be Able to Stand?--R. A. Underwood.
- (g) Review of the Year in Mission Fields.--W. A. Spicer.
- (h) Symposium. Brief Messages from Union Superintendents Abroad.
- (i) Brief Children's Exercises for each day, to be provided by the Sabbath-school Department.

What About 1907?



Milton E. Kern
WORLD YOUTH DIRECTOR
1907-1930

It is interesting how beginnings don't usually fit into a nice tidy chronological pattern defined by years, months, dates, etc. An example of this is the way 1907 and Youth Ministry relate to each other within our church. The calendar year of 1907 of course began on January first of that year. And it is a fact that 1907 also marks the official beginning of Youth Ministry in our church except that 1907 actually began in 1901, not on January 1. That was when Flora Plummer of the Sabbath School Department of the church was asked to begin what was finally established officially in 1907. By 1903 there were 186 youth societies in the church reporting (that could mean a potential of well over 250 actual societies organized and functioning) including the first non-North American societies in Germany and other locations. By the time the well known organizational meetings took place in 1907 that served as the launching pad for the new Department, dozens of countries had societies actively involving our youth in outreach ministry, service to their communities, and devotional strengthening.

One of those early pioneers who were so actively involved in developing creative approaches to youth involvement in the church was a history teacher at Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska—Pro. Milton E. Kern. He was a very kind, thoughtful mentoring kind of person who was much loved by the students who had the opportunity to sit in on his classes. And, more importantly, he was one teacher who did not believe his duties ended with the

sound of the class bell. With his penchant for coming up with ideas of how his students could involve themselves in the Lincoln community, it was only natural that when the General Conference Committee met that year in Gland, Switzerland, his name would rise to the top of the list to head up the newly designated “Young People’s Department of the General Conference.” A second wise move the Committee made was the appointment of Matilda Erickson as his secretary. With her gift for writing she proved in short order that she was not just a secretary; she quickly became his associate in the department and produced among many other items, the first history of youth ministry in the church “Missionary Volunteers and Their Work”.

The year 1907 also saw the groundwork laid for what would eventually become the Pathfinder Club and the Ambassadors. Among the programmatic concepts introduced that year, we find the introduction of the “Morning Watch”—a systematic, daily devotional plan that has been of such importance that it is part of the Pathfinder Law today. The first listing and certificates for the Reading Course were also introduced that year and this

has been an integral component of all aspects of Youth Ministry since then. Last but not least important was the development of the Standard of Attainment—a concept that was the forerunner of the Progressive Classes/AY Classes that have since formed one of the two primary pillars of Adventurers and Pathfinders and is one of the optional units for Ambassadors.

So this year we are celebrating the Centennial of Youth Ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church—perhaps more correctly the Centennial of the Youth Ministries Department in the Seventh-day

Adventist Church—a century of God’s guidance enabling any and all youth who so choose, to fulfill their roles of leadership, witnessing, and service for their Master within the organized structure of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. A whole century—guaranteed that no one back in 1907 imagined we would be here celebrating this marker! If your/my prayer is “Even so Lord, come quickly”, then what should your/my stance be in this celebration? 📌

Robert Holbrook is the Oklahoma Conference Youth Director

Partial copy of letter M. E. Kern wrote in 1932, describing himself and the work he did.

Born in 1875, May 4, at Bedford, Indiana. Moved to Missouri when about twelve years old. I attended Union College, going there the opening year, 1891, and graduated from the Literary Course in 1898. While attending the college I spent some summers in ministerial work.

From 1899-1901, I taught public school. Was head of the History Department of Union College from 1901-1907. During the years 1907-1930 I was Missionary Volunteer Secretary of the General Conference. Four years of this time I was also President of the Foreign Missions Seminary, Takoma Park, D. C. From 1930 to 1932 I have acted as Associate Secretary for the General Conference.

Books written: Distribution of the Races, about 1908. New Testament history, 1906, Revised, 1925. Lighted Way, 1922; Revised about 1926.

I realize this is a rather brief summing up of my biography, but trust it will meet your need. I regret the delay in replying, but assure you we have been under heavy pressure of work within recent months, and this seems to be my first opportunity to give attention to your request.

Trusting the study of the New Testament History will be an inspiration and spiritual blessing to you.

Yours very truly,

M. E. Kern

MEK/KF

Youth Ministry Timeline

- 1889 First Young people's Society organized
- 1892 E. G. White calls for a specialized work for the youth
A. G. Daniells organizes a Junior Youth Society in South Australia
- 1893 Nebraskans organize a "Young People's Society of Christian Service"
- 1894 Luther Warren organizes Sunshine Bands in south Dakota
- 1899 Ohio organizes a youth department for the conference
- 1900 Youth work is organized in Germany
- 1901 Youth work is placed under the Sabbath School Department of the General Conference
- 1904 A small manual on young people's work is published
Mount Vernon Convention
- 1905 First published summary report of youth work
Jamaica sends in first report from outside the U. S.
- 1906 Australia, Canada, Britain, Hawaii send in first reports
- 1907 General Conference Youth Department created
Africa and Guyana send in reports
Standard of Attainment and Reading Course created
Central Union, U. S. introduces Morning Watch program
- 1908 Junior Reading course adopted
Raiatea, Tahiti, Singapore, Norfolk, Fiji, and Portugal send in first reports
Pitcairn, Society Islands, Scandinavia send in first reports
Morning Watch published in German and Japanese
- 1910 First Societies in Transylvania and Bermuda send reports
- 1911 Japan, Germany, Cook Island report
Two societies organized in Korea
German Reading Course began
W. H. Branson becomes president of the Carolina Conference at age 24
Takoma Indians, a boys club organized in Takoma Park, Maryland
- 1912 Philippines, Centran and South America report
- 1913 Korea reports
Spanish Morning Watch and Reading Course begun
GC Session recommends the organization of JMV Societies

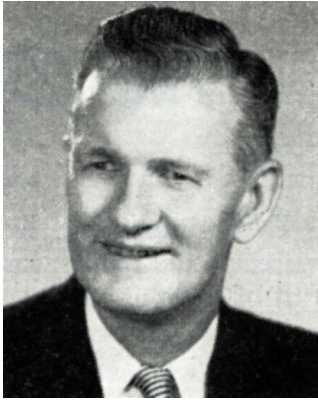
ime-line: Part 1

- 1914 Danish-Norwegian and Swedish reading Courses begun
Norway and Australia publish Morning Watch
China MV Convention in Shanghai
- 1915 Senior Bible Year
Korea and England publish Morning Watch
Junior Standard of Attainment begun
- 1916 Union incorporate Youth Departments
- 1917 Junior Bible Year begun
Eight-hour training course for youth ministry developed
French Reading Course in Haiti
- 1918 Junior and Senior Standard of Attainment Manuals published
Morning Watch in Tagalog
Junior Manual published
- 1919 Mission Scouts organized in Tennessee by A. W. Spaulding
Pledge and Law forerunner written by Spaulding
Junior Missionary Volunteer Manual for Teachers and leaders, by Ella Iden
- 1920 Harriet Holt becomes first Junior Youth Director at the GC
- 1922 Friend and companion become the first two JMV classes
Comrade Band formed with two leadership classes: Comrade, Master Comrade
- 1923 Home Nursing Course developed as forerunner of Honors
Messages to Young People idea born
- 1924 MV Week of prayer initiated
- 1925 First Junior Camp in Australia
- 1926 First Junior Camp in North America
- 1927 Junior Manual in Chinese and Spanish
- 1928 Junior manual in Portuguese
16 Vocational merits offered (Honors)
C. Lester Bond becomes second Junior Youth Director at GC
Spaulding tells campfire story about John Fremont “Mr. Pathfinder”
International Youth Congress, Chemnitz, Germany



Our Story

*These testimonies were first published in the
March 10-17, 1956 issue of the MV Program Kit*



My Discovery of Living

Here is something that isn't found in a moment or in a twinkling of an eye. Many launch out into the deep, hoping to discover "land" but never do. To some the discovery of living always seems evasive, yet it is as close as a whispered prayer. It's always beyond reach when at their finger tips.

I discovered living between the railroad tracks one day. I was running away. The way was as rough and hard and stony to my heart as to my feet. There, alone, in the early dawn, a half mile away from Emmanuel Missionary college, I discovered living and life.

It came suddenly, but the things that went into it were as old as I. All the things of the past that were good came down upon me like a flash flood. There they were crystal clear. They were as overwhelming to me as the light shaft from heaven must have been to Saul. Everything had been wrong; and then-"this is the way, walk ye in it"-and I turned around. I'm forever glad I did.

Theodore Lucas

Highest Quality Life Insurance

The Christian faith as taught and practiced by Seventh-day Adventists has added satisfaction to present living and greatly increased my life expectancy. There is no substitute, bottled or otherwise, for a clear conscience. There is no life insurance policy in the world that can provide the peace of mind that comes with implicit trust in the care of a loving heavenly Father. Willing compliance with the revealed will of God adds more to the joy of living than any amount of material possessions. This blessed assurance had been mine since I made the greatest decision of my life.

I was young. The future was bright with the prospect of wealth and leisure. I dreamed of success in the business world. I looked forward to acquiring material possessions. I wanted only enough religion to be respectable, not enough to interfere with social and business obligations.

Then Jesus came. I was sitting in an academy chapel seat during a Week of Prayer. My sinful heart surrendered. Through tears at the foot of the cross I discovered the fountain of eternal joy. Now every day is a fresh adventure in joy-filled living. "My cup runneth over."



L. A. Skinner

Joy Came To Stay

There is no joy except in Jesus Christ. It's a broad statement, but it is as true as God is true. There are counterfeits for joy that are misleading, but the real thing proves itself.

From the dawn of intelligence I can remember that for years my thinking focused on being happy. The end became the means, and I was all mixed up. Early in life a second look at my little world showed things lined up against happiness. It was going to be a hard battle to win joy to stay with me. How can one fight and be happy at the same time?

The Life Worth Living

"I want to thank you, my boy, for your faithfulness down in the cowsheds." Oh, the joy and satisfaction I felt as a lad at college in Australia when the farm manager placed his hand on my shoulder and spoke those words. There in that college I caught a vision of service, of the possibilities of a life fully surrendered to Christ, of the completely satisfying joy of a life of faithfulness and devotion to Him. Little did I realize then the work He had for me to do.

During the years that have passed, I have found in Jesus, my Saviour, a wellspring of joy, who has satisfied the deepest longings of my soul. As dean of men in our New Zealand college I discovered the joy of loving and serving youth. Then commenced twenty-four years of thrilling adventure and discovery in many lands in the most soul satisfying work in all this world-winning youth for Christ.

And the end is not yet. The supreme joy of all awaits every youthful servant of Christ when he hears his Master's words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."



El Lennard Minchin

At the threshold of teen years I made an important discovery—one had to achieve in order to capture joy. Well and good. I wanted to be a dramatic writer anyway. Perhaps achievement would swamp with joy all the things that were against happiness. But the greatest discovery was yet to come.

The only road to joy is in asking God what we should do with our lives. Surrender is another word for it. Hand in hand with Him, we make no fatal mistakes; there is no chance of ruining our lives. I am unspeakably grateful that when I met Him, I knew Him—and joy came to stay.



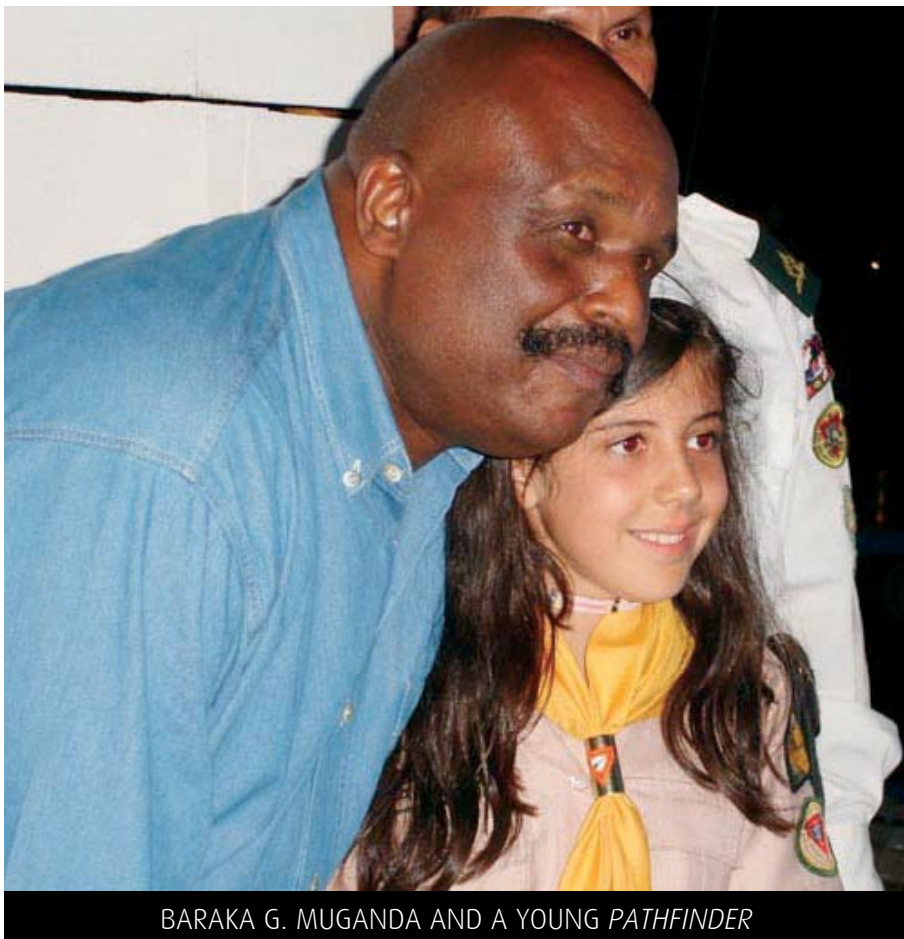
Mildred Lee Johnson

Youth Ministry Time-line: Part 11

- 1929 First Junior Missionary Volunteer Handbook published**
- 1930 4 Pre-JMV Classes of Busy Bee to Helping Hand introduced
Messages to Young People published
- 1932 First Summer Camp property purchased—Idllwild, California**
- 1934 MCC organized by Dr. E. Dick, Union College, Nebraska
- 1939 Youth Congress at Avondale College, Australia**
- 1946 First Conference—sponsored Pathfinder Club, Riverside, California
- 1948 Pathfinder song written by Henry Bergh**
- 1950 Pathfinder Club officially recognized by world church First Pathfinder Club in Inter-American Division, Puerto Rico
- 1951 Master Comrade becomes Master Guide
Halloween food collection begun, Wadena, Minnesota
- 1953 First Pathfinder camporee, Camp Winnekeag, Massachusetts
- 1954 MV Voice of Youth Evangelism adopted**
- 1955 First Pathfinder—Conquistadores—Club in South America, Lima, Peru
- 1958 Advanced Classes and Silver Award introduced**
- 1959 Gold Award introduced**
- 1960 First Union Camporee, Pacific Union, Lone Pine, California**
- 1961 1st Bible Conference for Senior Youth
M. E. Kern dies December 22
1st Southern European Division Camporee
- 1962 Pathfinder Field Guide**

Youth Ministry Time-line: Part III

- 1970 Leo Ranzolin becomes first non-North American in the Youth Department and World Pathfinder Director
- 1971 First Northern European Camporee, Vasterang, Sweden (today's Trans-European Division)
- 1972 Second Division Camporee for the Euro-Africa Division, Villach, Austria
- 1974 Melvin Gadsby, introduces the "Blue Jays" in Trinidad and Tobago (a forerunner of the Adventurers)
First Division Camporee for Southern Asia Division, Karnataka, India
- 1975 First Division Camporee for the South Pacific Division
The Happy Path, Lawrence Maxwell
- 1976 Highest Master Guide Camp in the world, 4,843 meters at Ticlio, Peru
- 1977 Festival of Faith, Inter-American Division, Panama
- 1979 MV changed to AY; JMV to AJY; Pre-AJY to Adventurers
- 1980 Les Pitton becomes first North American Division Youth Director
Adventist Youth Leader class separated from the Master Guide class
- 1983 First Division Camporee for Inter-America, Oaxtepec, Mexico
First Division Camporee for South America, Iguazu Falls, Brazil
- 1984 First Pan-European (Trans-European and Euro-Africa divisions) Youth Congress organized.
- 1985 First Division Camporee for North America, Camp Hale, Colorado
- 1989 Adventurer Program accepted by world church
- 1990 Finding the Right Path, Jan Doward



BARAKA G. MUGANDA AND A YOUNG PATHFINDER

JOURNEY OF 100 YEARS: *From Grace to Grace*

BY HISKIA I. MISSAH

My preference in choosing the caption ***“Journey of 100 years: From Grace to Grace”*** is based on the evidence of God’s amazing grace throughout the century. Grace led to the establishment of the General Conference Adventist Youth Ministries Department on May 15, 1907, and grace has been sustaining its existence up to today.

The resolution made at that afternoon of May 15 at the church’s sanitarium in the city of Gland, Switzerland, stated:

“Resolved, that, in order that His work may be properly developed, and thus an army of workers be properly trained for service, a special department, with the necessary officers, be created, the same to be known as the Young People’s Department of the General Conference.”

I am thrilled and inspired at how amazingly God has been blessing the youth ministries. We owe much to Milton E. Kern, the first Youth Ministries Department Director, and Matilda Erickson-Andross, his secretary, who dedicated their time and effort to the ministries and rendered their services to the young people for many years leading them to salvation through the grace of Jesus Christ.

I have reflected on how Milton, a hundred years ago, accepted this great responsibility and heavy burden from the church to start the ministry. I can imagine him wondering and overwhelmed with so many questions: “Where should I start and go?” “How should I lead?” “Who are the people to work with and to work for?” And many other questions, I believe, piled in his mind.

“I love the youth of this church and have a burden to see all of them saved in God’s Kingdom.”

—Baraka G. Muganda

Along the way towards its centennial celebration, the Youth Ministries Department has been able to accomplish its purpose *to work for and through its youth, conducted for, with, and by young people* to facilitate and support the ministry of the church in winning, training, holding, and reclaiming its youth.

This year we are celebrating the Centennial of The Youth Ministries, but the spirit and enthusiasm began long before the present time when Harry Fenner (17) and Luther Warren (14) established the first Adventist Young People Society in 1879. They initially met in the unfinished upstairs floor of the Warren Family home in Hazelton, Michigan.

In this celebration, we must remember our heroes, the contributors, the originators of Adventist Youth: Harry and Luther, who have paved the way for us to reach the place where we are now standing. This fact encourages us to be more zealous and devoted to the accomplishment of our plans, objectives and goals so that we will equip the body of the Church to save our young people and prepare them to take the gospel commission to the world. Those two individuals have prepared the way to a victory.

Ellen White wrote: “. . . *He desires to see gathered out from the homes of our people a large company of youth who, because of the godly influences of their homes, have surrendered their hearts to Him and go forth to give Him the highest service of their lives. . . . Such youth are prepared to represent to the world the power and grace of Christ.*” —G p. 558

Eighty-eight years thereafter, another great leader of the young people arose, but this time from Africa. A native of Tanzania, well-educated, a dedicated and godly man, came to the ministry in 1995. Dr. Baraka G Muganda, the World Youth Leader who loves young people, said, “I love the youth of this church and have a burden to see all of them saved in God’s Kingdom.” Under his strong leadership, the World Youth Ministries is accomplishing its mission at its centennial years, but still much remains to be done and numerous challenges are lie ahead.

Young people, I have a question for you: “How do you work towards the accomplishment of the goals and objectives that have been laid down by Baraka Muganda and Milton Kern, Harry Fenner, Luther Warren, and other former youth leaders?” The answer is found in 1 Timothy 4:12 (NIV): *“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.*”

Let us face the challenges and hurdles in front of us, and keep our focus in the salvation of our youth through the grace of Jesus Christ as we take another step towards another centennial celebration ahead. “From grace to grace.”

Keep smiling, keep kneeling, and keep praying! ☑

“I am thrilled and inspired at how amazingly God has been blessing the youth ministries.”

—Hiskia I. Missah

Hiskia I Missah is an Associate Youth Director at the General Conference World Headquarters.

Youth Ministry Time-line: Part IV

- 1993** Special Youth Edition of Steps to Christ published
- 1994** First East African Division Camporee, Victoria Falls, Zambia
- 1995** First Youth Impact Evangelism, GC Session, Utrecht
Baraka Muganda becomes the first non-Caucasian World Youth Director
- 1996** First Euro-Asia Division Youth Congress
- 1998** First Division Master Guide Camporee—SAD, Pucon, Chile
- 2001** World Youth Leadership Advisory, Brazil
- 2003** First Pan-African Camporee, Nairobi, Kenya
1st World Youth and Community Service Convention, Thailand
- 2004** First West African Division Camporee, Lome, Togo
Euro-Asia Division Youth Congress, Zaoksky, Tula Region, Russia
European Youth (*Trans-European and Euro-African divisions*) Congress, Wroclaw, Poland.
- 2005** SPD Youth Congress, Fiji
Elijah Project launched
Third South American Division Camporee, Sta. Helena, Brazil
- 2006** *Getting It Right for youth leaders* produced
- 2007** North American Division, Just Claim It Dallas, Texas, USA
(First North American Division Prayer Congress)

IDEAPACK



Forward from the Editor

In 1951 the GC Youth Department introduced the M. V. Kit, which provided youth leadership guidance and programming ideas for over three decades. During this time three editors served: Mildred Lee Johnson (1951-1957), Don Yost (1957-1961), and Lowell Litten (1961-1969). In 1969 Lowell Litten became Editor of the Junior Guide magazine. James Joiner took over the Editorship of the Kit until it was discontinued and replaced in 1985 by the current Youth Ministry Accent.

To help us celebrate this 100-year mark, we are re-printing some of the programs that were used during this 30-year time period. It is our hope that you will find these programs just as encouraging and enlightening as youth leaders did years ago. Please share them with your youth group. Don't forget to drop us an email at tejelj@gc.adventist.org or dunchiem@gc.adventist.org and let us know how these programs benefitted you and your youth group.

HOW TO USE THIS SECTION

Usually, only the framework of the program can be given, and the KIT provides an abundance of additional help and references for the development of programs and leadership. Some program items are complete, but most of them are given in “key thought” form, to be expanded and developed locally—the very best way to develop initiative and encourage growth. Your suggestions for the improvement of the ACCENT are welcome. Write us also about the ideas you have found successful.

Where Are We Going?

By DONALD W. HUNTER

Program Target: To magnify the MV Aim, Motto, and Pledge.

Scripture: 2 Timothy 2:1-4

Key Thought

“Young men and young women, cannot you form companies, and, as soldiers of Christ, enlist in the work, putting all your tact and skill and talent into the Master’s service, that you may save souls from ruin?”

—Mrs. E. G. White, *Signs of the Times*, May 29, 1893.

SONGS

Opening: *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*, No. 618 (SDA Church Hymnal)

Special Music: *Lead On, O King Eternal*, No. 619 (SDA Church Hymnal)

Closing: *The Youth of the World*, No. 187 (Advent Youth Sing)

LEADS FOR LEADERS

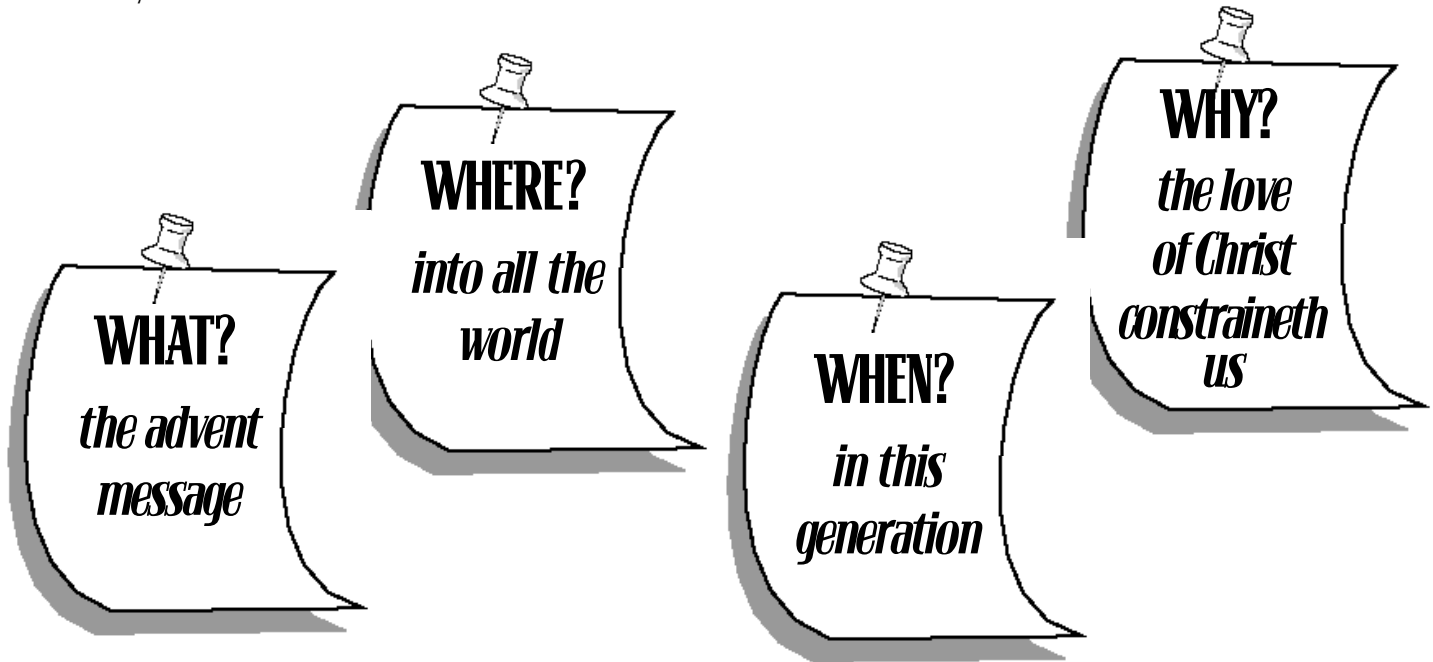
Key-thought outlines are given for three of the short talks in this program. This plan encourages initiative and local research, resulting in sparkle and appeal that is given to a program in no other way.

Seventh-day Adventist publications provide abundant material for the development of these talks. A good addition to this topic would be a short review of MV history. Source material on the beginning of our youth work may be found in the books *Missionary Volunteers and Their Work*, by Matilda Erickson Andross, and *Christ's Last Legion*, by A. W. Spalding; and in periodicals, especially the *Youth's Instructor*. Stories and other historical MV material should be in the files of every MV society library. If it is lacking, now is a good time to start the collection.

Prepare four signs as shown. The lower part of each sign should be covered until the presentation is made; then as the subject is developed, the speaker may remove the covering, revealing the sign as a whole.

Have enough MV Record Blanks 1—5 for all potential members, to be used at the close of the service by having all repeat the Pledge and sign the card. This should be done every year, and these application cards sent to the conference office. Membership cards will be sent by the conference in exchange.

Here is the framework for an important topic—youth inspired to do their best will do the rest.



OUR MVAIM “The Advent Message”

1. A faith to share
2. Know the doctrine
3. Be able to give an answer
ILLUSTRATION: *A young Seventh-day Adventist drafted into the service of his country was court-martialed for refusing to obey the command of an officer who insisted that he perform work on Sabbath which would violate his conscience. Facing the court he was asked to state his reasons for refusal to obey. This he did in a very convincing, humble way. Questions were thrown at him from high-ranking officers. His faith never wavered and he stood steadfast for that which he knew to be right. When the court reconvened to pass judgment, the presiding officer made the statement that he knew of no young man who knew his Bible as well as this soldier. Because of his knowledge and his personal convictions, he was granted his freedom to worship god as God commands.*
4. The Advent Message is God’s message for today.

“To All The World”

1. God’s last command-Matthew 28:18-20
2. The need of the world dying in sin
3. The need of workers
 - a. Evangelistic
 - b. Medical

c. Educational

d. Business

4. Willingness to go anywhere
5. Forsake all and follow Him; Matthew 19:27-29

“In This Generation”

1. This generation God’s most favored-1 Peter 2:9
2. The times demand haste
 - a. Heathenism: more heathen living today than in the time of Jesus
 - b. Rise of godlessness which controls more than half the world’s population
 - c. Rise of Papacy: deadly wound being healed
 - d. Super destruction: means of destroying civilization now in our possession-A-bomb, H-bomb, jet propulsion
3. God demands haste
4. The means provided
 - a. Printed page
 - b. Methods of communication
 - c. Methods of transportation
 - d. Radio, television: five hundred million potential listeners to each voice of Prophecy broadcast
 - e. God’s youth: public evangelism, cottage meetings, bible readings, literature distribution
5. Matthew 24:30-34

OUR MV MOTTO

1. Heretofore Paul zealous for a creed
2. Now in love with his Saviour
3. Love compelled Christ to live and die
4. Love compels us to live or die for Him

A Yielded Life

*All to Jesus now I give,
From this hour for Him to live;
While before His cross I bow,
He doth hear my humble vow.*

*Far as I at present know,
Every idol is laid low;
And, if ought remaineth still,
God shall even this reveal.*

*Oh, what peace now rules within!
Grace to triumph over sin;
Such as once I scarcely thought
Could in human heart be wrought.*

*Now my duty is to tell
Of this grace unspeakable;
Witnessing to all around
Full salvation I have found.*

-Author Unknown

OUR MV PLEDGE

"A Knight Takes His Pledge"

Many years ago there lived in a far country a ruler who gathered about him a group of splendid men called knights. He required of his knights vows that were so strict that few were able to live up to them....

The knights, when accepted by the king, lived in his palace and ate at his table. They went about over the country seeking out those who had been treated wrongly and those who suffered because of any kind of injustice. In so far as possible they set at liberty those who were bound to cruel masters and righted wrong wherever they found it.

There was a boy living in the same country who often listened to the stories of the knights. His mother spent many hours telling him of the brave deeds of the knights, who faced great danger at the command of the king. One day he remarked to her, "How I wish I could be one of the king's knights!" The mother replied, "You know a king's knight must be brave." "I would be brave," the boy replied. "If I saw anyone in danger, I would try at once to rescue him." "The king's knight must always speak the truth," the mother continued. The boy's face flushed, for he knew that he had not always spoken the truth. With determination he replied, "Mother, hereafter I will always try to speak the truth."

"A king's knight must try to right every wrong that he sees," continued the lad's mother.

"I could help to do that. I will try to aid anyone who is receiving unfair treatment," urged the boy.

"A king's knight must follow the command of the king no matter where it leads him. If it leads into danger, he must follow; if persecution or ridicule is his lot, he must bear it," explained the mother.

“If I could be a king’s knight, I’d follow him no matter what I had to bear,” asserted the boy.

“Then do these things every day, and when you are grown perhaps you will be a king’s knight,” the mother suggested.

Day after day the boy kept in mind the things about which he and his mother had talked. He spoke the truth at all times and on every occasion tried to live as though he were a king’s knight.

One day the boy was commanded to appear before the king. He was asked, “Do you speak the truth on every occasion?”

The boy answered, “Aye, sir, as far as it is possible.”

“Do you try to right the wrong that you see about you?”

“Aye sir,” replied the boy.

“Do you resist temptation and live a pure life?”

“Aye, sir, I try to do this,” rejoined the boy.

“Have you always been a follower of the king?”

“Aye, sir,” proudly answered the boy.

“Kneel,” command the king. As the boy knelt, the king repeated the pledge:

“Do you promise to reverence the king as if he were your conscience, and your conscience as if it were your king; to uphold the Christ and to break the power of evil; to ride abroad redressing human wrongs; to speak no slander, nor listen to it; to honor and keep your own words, to lead a pure life?”

As the lad made his vow, the king touched his shoulder lightly with his sword, saying, “Arise, Sir Knight. This is a sign of your promise to follow the king.”


—Mildred Moody Eakin, in *Worship Programs for Intermediates*, by Alice Anderson Bays, Abingdon Press

CONCLUSION: *Where Are We Going?*

1. Summary of meaning: Aim, Motto, Pledge
2. The Pledge applied individually and as a group
 - a. Living the Pledge
 - b. Using the Pledge
3. Explanation of the Pledge
4. Distribution of Pledge
5. Repeat Pledge in unison
6. Dedication prayer
7. Signing the Pledge
8. Collecting the Pledge

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who like to think!*



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2007

Q&A

viewPOINT

email your views or responses to
tejelj@gc.adventist.org

Q. ¹ **What would be your advice to a young person today?**

A. It depends if he/she has the will to belong to God's team or not. In the positive case I would suggest to have a vision, a dream, and a goal. In one word: to be proactive. The world is full of reactive people, working mainly to face problems, or active people working because it is...logic and because it is not healthy to be inactive. In order to not be consumed in the "ism" game (consumerism, qualunquism, whateverism, ... ism) it is important to know how, why and in which direction one should follow. In God's team there are only proactive people.

corrado cozzi
Euro-Africa Division Youth Director

A. Acknowledge the Lord as your creator. Consult Him in all things. Establish high standards or goals. Work towards achieving your established standards or goals. Focus on that which is your *most important task* and make it your priority. Your *most important task* is that which no one but you yourself must accomplish.

balvin braham
Inter-America Division Youth Director

A. Your life is so worthy and precious. Make your life meaningful and fruitful. Dream something great for God.

joshua shin
Northern Asia Pacific Division Youth Director

A. Good advice is situational, timely and Spirit guided. We are too ready to give advice. Maybe we need to listen a lot more. Having said that a generic advice to any young person would be to understand that it is vastly more important to believe what God thinks of them, rather than other people. They can get distorted views of themselves from the reflection they can see in the eyes of other people, but God thinks they are cool, because He called them to life.

gilbert cangy
South Pacific Division Youth Director

A. Spend time with Jesus every day, and make a difference in someone's life whenever you can.

nick kross
South Pacific Division Youth Leader

A. Pray always and put your heart in what you do

lionel f. lyngdoh
Southern Asia Division Youth Director

A. Ask, Listen, Write it down. Make sure to talk it over with Jesus!

emmanuel nlo nlo
Western Africa Division Youth Director

A. Que los jóvenes se Obsesionen con Jesús.

bernardo rodríguez
Director de Jóvenes de la División Interamericana

Q What has been your most memorable experience as a youth worker?

A ♦ It was when I spent one night in a youth summer camp to defend the position of the church about standards and Christian lifestyle framework. I recognized that night one worthwhile thing that signed my commitment with youth: although it is important for the church to uphold a lifestyle (provided that it be coherent, logic and actual), it pays to be open with youth, to accept a dialogue, to consider their position as a part of a process of growth and not as an attack to the image of the church. I was union youth leader at that time, and I remember that it is not a matter to advocate what you are representing, youth, the church, the pastoral body, but to educate to make good choices, to give means, to inform and train, but at the end to follow Jesus' example: to be ready to love also someone who doesn't accept your position. That night I learned to always listen to the opinion of youth and respect it.

corrado cozzi

Euro-Africa Division Youth Director

A ♦ The collaborative efforts of the youth of the West Jamaica Conference and me in purchasing a campsite for the Conference and hosting the first Youth Summer camp at the site.

balvin braham

Inter-America Division Youth Director

A ♦ More than a hundred young people made the great decision to be baptized during the Week of Prayer meeting at one of the high schools in Korea.

joshua shin

Northern Asia Pacific Division Youth Director

A ♦ I have countless memorable experiences as a youth worker; all associated with high spiritual moments and seeing the power of God at work in young people, both in the transformation of lives and the empowering to do extraordinary things.. However, my most memorable one takes me back before my professional years, to the time when I was a local church youth leader. One night after a disappointing church meeting,

I was reading Acts 2:42-47 in my bedroom and I was instantly consumed with passion with what I had just read. I said to the Lord that if He wanted me to follow Him, I wanted to belong to such a community - one born out of the powerful work of the Holy Spirit. I shared with my friends and we got serious about praying that God would bless us with this kind of community. A few months later, on a youth camp, the Spirit came down as at Pentecost and transformed our lives. That was the turning point in my life and that of my youth group.

gilbert cangy

South Pacific Division Youth Director

A ♦ Seeing the baptisms after the events we've conducted, and knowing there is a party up in heaven.

nick kross

South Pacific Division Youth Leader

A ♦ When a young man who came to me for counseling made up his mind to work his way through college, and now became a promising worker for the Lord.

lionel f. lyngdoh

Southern Asia Division Youth Director

A ♦ Give them a chance to speak out and teach me what they know and think we can achieve together.

It happened one day with my interim assistant, a young student. Within less than 2 hours, she revived the entire office and brought more life and joy than we have had for years.

emmanuel nlo nlo

Western Africa Division Youth Director

A ♦ Celebrar la primera Campaña Evangelística Juvenil: VIVA SIN TEMOR vía satélite desde la ciudad de México, donde participaron 13 predicadores juveniles, en tres Idiomas (Español, Inglés y Francés), Y bautizamos en toda la División Interamericana 60.000 almas.

bernardo rodríguez

Director de Jóvenes de la División Interamericana



What's your most challenging experience as a youth worker?

B) Do you think you could have done something differently?

C) Looking back, with the experience you have gained since, do you think if the same situation arises you would handle it the same way? Why or why not?

A . Every thing is a challenge, every time is a challenge, and every activity is a challenge when you are called to work in youth ministry. This is for me exciting and keeps alive this precious department of the church. But if I have to stress one thing: the fact to work WITH youth and not only FOR youth. Very often in the different circles of the church we speak about youth, we organize for youth, but we do very little to involve them to be with us. Normally youth workers are called to organize youth programs, and very often we are stressed to propose novelties all the time. What young people really need is to act together, to be with them. This is a challenge.

I tried to be practical when I called a very young group of leaders to lead programs for their peers. It was a risk, but also a challenge. For some years we worked together and I recognized that young people are more respectful of the “rules” when they are responsible for somebody else, peers or not.

(B) Although it had been a great experience that marked the introduction of the Ambassadors in my country, looking back I would change only one thing: how to delegate leadership. I was their coach; we had a very good relationship among all teammates; I believed in their abilities to lead teenagers; but I delegated not only responsibility, also authority. At the end, what was a principle for me to work WITH youth became a concern. Any problem has a solution, provided that we learn.

(C) Surely I will apply the same profile of responsibility, but paying attention to what really can be delegated. I like the idea of coaching our young people to be leaders. Finally, the best of Jesus’ challenges was to coach a group of youth to become the leaders of the church, wasn’t it?

corrado cozzi

Euro-Africa Division Youth Director

A . A camper in the process of drowning at a Pathfinder weekend camp. After over one hour of CPR, he revived.

(B) I could have rushed him off to the hospital. In that case he would have died on the way.

(C) If I am faced with another situation like this one, I would handle it similarly because the rescue approach was effective. It came as a result of the knowledge gained by myself and the young people involved, through CPR and Basic Rescue programs of the Pathfinding.

balvin braham

Inter-America Division Youth Director

A . Teaching the youth how to grow spiritually in God. Training young people how to keep their spiritual growth by reading the Bible daily and by praying regularly and sharing the gospel of Christ by using the talents they have from God in every activity they are involved with.

(B) Yes, I should have emphasized more on spiritual things than the programs and events. Then definitely the youth would have gained more of spiritual blessings.

(C) I would try something new aggressively and differently. And I will let my young people to challenge something, inspiring the people around them.

joshua shin

Northern Asia Pacific Division Youth Director

My most challenging experience is the gross misunderstanding that is rampant on the Church in regards to biblical and cultural values. That misunderstanding expresses itself in terms of intergeneration and cross cultural issues. As a Church we

confuse methodology with beliefs and principles. However, we are making some progress; we have come a long way. I wish we could make the kind of radical Spirit driven adjustments as in the days of the Council of Jerusalem in Acts 15. We would then lead instead of catching up.

(B) I think dialogue and education is crucial, with all parties concerned being confident that we all have the same ultimate objective of extending God’s Kingdom and preparing the world to meet Jesus. We must learn to trust each other.

(C) Certainly, I have come to understand that we all love the Church and that we are the product of the teaching and training we have been exposed to. We need to be more patient, and loving, while remaining uncompromising.

gilbert cangy

South Pacific Division Youth Director

A ♦ All the emails and paperwork that have to be done at the office... Give me a camp or a ministry on the road anytime.

(B) My constant struggle is to spend enough time with Jesus in the mornings. If I could go back and do it all again, I would get up earlier and give Jesus an hour a day.

(C) I am constantly working toward getting to sleep at a decent hour so I can give each day the best I can.

nick kross

South Pacific Division Youth Leader

A ♦ To influence them to accept Christ as their Savior

(B) Maybe sometimes. I think so.

(C) Not every time, because my objective is to introduce them to their Saviour.

lionel f. lyngdoh

Southern Asia Division Youth Director

A ♦ Making sure that they stay on track these days. There is so much happening that only Christ can give you enough wisdom to do it right.

(B) No, I don’t.

(C) From the beginning I have always thought I was not worthy that is why I always lean on Him.

emmanuel nlo nlo

Western Africa Division Youth Director

A ♦ Having the stamina to keep at it for the long haul and to make sure that as I get older I listen more to our youth.

paul tompkins

Trans-European Division Youth Director

A ♦ Lograr que el 75% de los jóvenes participe en el estudio continuo de la Biblia.

(B) Hemos establecido el Concurso Bíblico anual y nos está dando resultados maravillosos. Para este año todas las sociedades de jóvenes están participando y los líderes de las uniones han informado que este método ha logrado involucrar más jóvenes en el estudio de la Biblia. La final del concurso se ha hecho en una de nuestras universidades Adventistas usando moderna tecnología audiovisual y recibiendo el apoyo financiero de nuestras instituciones para los valiosos incentivos que reciben los participantes.

(C) Lo seguiría haciendo igual con algunas modificaciones para conseguir involucrar más jóvenes.

bernardo rodríguez

Director de Jóvenes de la División Interamericana

Q ♦

We know that we are advised “not to be of this world”, but with the pressures of body piercing, music, pre-marital sex, homosexuality, etc., do you think something is missing in the relationship that most youth seem to have with the Lord? What can you do to help them get connected with the Lord on a more personal level?



A ♦ Yes there is something missing. Youth need adult mentors they can connect with during their youth and to tell them constantly that they are OK and can do great thing things for the Lord in their youth. They also need a relavent daily devotional life; a strong Adventist friend/friends they can hang out with; and to get involved in service projects and witnessing programs within their local church.

eugene fransch

Southern Africa-Indian Division Youth Director

A ♦ I would like to answer this question with another question: Which is, for the church members, the most important concern about youth: The way they could destroy the image of the church by acting according to worldly advice, or their personal commitment to be the voice of God to proclaim the value of salvation? In other words: why are we concerned by this “worldly” profile that influences negatively not only youth, but also adults? What I would say is that despite these negatives pressures (and the list is longer, adding also gold watches, big and expensive cars, fur coats, etc.) they point out mainly the missing of a spiritual family support. Most of the young people that have premarital sex, believe in the Lord. But what about their education in their first steps in faith development? Most of the time, young people react to the inconsistencies of the adults. Before looking for a “Lord Relationship Assessment”, I would suggest a better family education system. How many families have a “home worship” time? How many parents speak to their kids about sexual issues? How is the Word of God lived in daily family life? I believe that paying attention, also and not only, to these responsibilities of parents, will help youth to get connected with the Lord on a more personal level.

corrado cozzi

Euro-Africa Division Youth Director

A ♦ Experience, maturity and total commitment to the beliefs of faith and in the church are missing in the relationship with many of the youth and the Lord. Also, we need to get them to spend more time with Bible study and other faith building activities.

balvin braham

Inter-America Division Associate Youth Director

A ♦ Satan’s temptations and influences are so universal and powerful to resist. Without living with Jesus every day, no person can be safe from them. We leaders of young people must know what is good and bad in these modern temptations. Only the Word of God has power to control the youth. Giving them the solid biblical principles and sacred guidelines by speech is not enough. Each youth leader must be a life model to the youth in every aspect of life—how to talk, how to act, how to contribute, how to sacrifice, how to help, how to understand others, how to be patient, how to love, how to teach, how to cooperate, how to serve, etc.

joshua shin

Northern Asia Pacific Division Youth Director

A ♦ I seem to think that it would be a mistake to look at the challenges young people have to integrate belief and lifestyle in isolation from the wider church context. Young people live in environments that shape them; the Church is one such environment. I recently read a book entitled *The Great Omission*, where the author made the point that the Christian Church has changed the great commission that Jesus gave us from “making disciples” to “making church members”. In other words, instead of making students and imitators of Jesus in life and mission by the power of the Spirit, we are expecting people to accept a set of teachings and if they do so, they can become church members in good and regular standing. Transformation and discipleship is often optional. What is missing in the relationship that youth and adults seem to have with the Lord is an understanding and an experience of the transforming power and presence of the Holy Spirit - the invitation to discipleship. Ellen White wrote that “Our great need today is for men who are baptized with the Holy Spirit of God—men who walk with God as did Enoch.” Testimonies, vol. 5, p. 555.

The definition of “the world” given in the bible is far more extensive and touches all ages. (1 John 2:16)

We can help our young people by going back to basics by modeling and teaching about true discipleship and the provision that God has made available to make it possible.

gilbert cangy

South Pacific Division Youth Director

A ♦ I think most youth are bombarded with images from TV, music, magazines, games, etc that all send the same message: “Do what everyone else is doing.” This message wears people down after years of “Beholding” and the kids get confused. The challenge is to assign the value to Jesus and His word that we assign to all the other things that crowd out our time.

There are several tips I would give to our youth which have worked for many of our youth in SPD. 1) Take a youth group into a community and let them serve as a witness. 2) Spend time with people who need help, that you can do something about. Nothing is as satisfying as knowing you’re making a difference for Christ.

nick kross

South Pacific Division Youth Leader

A ♦ Yes, something is missing in the Youth relationship with the Lord in this case. I would become more involved as a friend and show more understanding and love.

lionel f. lyngdoh

Southern Asia Division Youth Director

A ♦ Aunque no somos de este mundo, tenemos que vivir en el. Necesitamos líderes comprometidos con el Señor que les ayudemos a conocer, amar y vivir como Jesús en este tiempo. Los ayudaría impulsando 10 DIAS DE PODER, mediante: ADORACIÓN, ESTUDIO BÍBLICO

Y ORACIÓN. También involucrándolos en viajes misioneros dentro y fuera de su territorio.

bernardo rodríguez

Director de Jóvenes de la División Interamericana

A ♦ The problem for many is that the present shouts whilst the future whispers. Too often a good weekend now with friends often can seem more attractive than the promise of a distant eternity. To quote a phrase someone has switched the price tags and we all need to stop and take an inventory of ourselves, our priorities and our motives. We need to make sure that we share a living experience with our youth and not just a set of doctrines (as important as they undoubtedly are).

paul tompkins

Trans-European Division Youth Director

A ♦ I think praying everyday for my Union and Conference/ Mission Youth leader and asking them to do the same for their Field counterpart, One director per day will help a great deal. The fight is the Lord’s. Much prayer, much power.

emmanuel nlo nlo

Western Africa Division Youth Director

A ♦ Yes it is true that we are not advised to be of this world, and all of those things mentioned, such as body piercing, premarital sex, homosexuality etc. are external signs that an individual is not really experiencing the relationship he or she should have with Jesus,

To help them is to encourage resurgence of faith we must be able to connect with them, not with a condemning attitude but with a heart that is filled with concern and real love for them. It is not until they see the real concern to their spirituality that the youth will respond to our call for involvement. We must spend time to listen to them and pray for them.

jobbie yabut

Southern Asia Pacific Division Youth Director



5
Q.

Now, jumping ahead...do you think our youth movement is positioned to address the needs of this generation?

A. Yes, of course. When I read the Bible, I don't read a "religious system manual", but an extraordinary means able to give lifestyle advice for all generations at all time. Take a look at the Sermon on the Mount preached by Jesus, as reported by Matthew (ch. 5,6,7). It's one of my favorites. Jesus spoke to the people of all generations, giving advice, examples, tips, and whatever is needed to face the needs of life. When He comes back, His first and unique concern will be if we were able to satisfy the needs of our generation, in relation also with His instructions in that famous Sermon.

If we pay attention, the focus of the word of Jesus in these two accounts is salvation and service. If we focus our attention, as youth ministers, on educating our youth to give value to their life by being responsible of their peers, sharing the meaning of the gospel and not only the words, we are well positioned to face the needs of this generation. I don't like to put youth under the pressure of statistics. Youth are not statistics, even if they are constantly an object of study. If I have to point out one fact on youth study, I would say that research demonstrates that youth need mainly to discover their identity. When we are able to satisfy this need, first in the family, secondly in youth ministry, pointing out how they are precious to God, and how He desires to keep them in His team, then we would have reached our aim. It would not be difficult to get the means for "how to" actions.

corrado cozzi
Euro-Africa Division Youth Director

A. Yes, and we all must get involved

lionel f. lyngdoh
Southern Asia Division Youth Director

A. No! We need to focus more on the mission work. Without strong mission experience the youth cannot keep their lively faith in Christ in this wicked and evil generation. Active mission is the key for growing and keeping the faith of Jesus.

joshua shin
Northern Asia Pacific Division Youth Director

A. (A) Our youth movement is making a significant impact on many of our youth. What we are doing in youth ministries is not time wasting.

(B) We have not impacted all of our youth with what we do as a department. We must continue to search for the appropriate method to reach the unreached in the varied cultures that our young people operate in.

balvin braham
Inter-America Division Associate Youth Director

A. In some ways we need to be less focused on externals. In Western culture at least, we place a lot of value on looks, things, entertainment etc. This focus can only be replaced by a desire that comes from Jesus. As one preacher said, "One passion can only be replaced by a greater passion." If we can change our focus to others not ourselves, we will be more ready to address the needs of others.

nick kross
South Pacific Division Associate Youth Leader

A. We have countless committed and dedicated leaders at all levels of our youth movement. We need the wisdom to identify the real needs of this generation, the courage to address them, and the integrity to be uncompromising.

gilbert cangy
South Pacific Division Youth Director

A ♦ I think we have more than enough , but we need ourselves to be really connected and personally connected to the Lord.

emmanuel nlo nlo

Western Africa Division Youth Director

A ♦ Yes, our youth movement is ready to respond. We can answer the problems by using all our potentials and resources to address issues and challenges of our new generation. By the way our greatest potential is our own youth addressing youth concerns.

jobbie yabut

Southern Asia Pacific Division Youth Director

A ♦ Necesitamos capacitación continua para los líderes del movimiento JA en todos los niveles.

bernardo rodríguez

Director de Jóvenes de la División Interamericana

A ♦ NO!!! I do not think that our AY movement is positioned to address the real needs of this generation.

Firstly, we need to have youth leaders at conference level with ONLY THIS ONE DEPARTMENT, if we are really serious to accomplish all that we have to teach our youth. And secondly, we need to have more leadership training and accountability to put into action what has been taught.

eugene fransch

Southern Africa-Indian Division Youth Director

A ♦ Yes but I think we need to shift the emphasis from what we do for youth to how we can resource our parents and work in partnership for discipling our young people.

paul tompkins

Trans-European Division Youth Director

Q ♦ **Name at least five of the most important character traits needed to be a good youth leader:**

A ♦ Spiritual; Empathic; Sympathetic; Open; Creative; Dreamer; Authentic; Coherent; Pragmatic; Coach attitude; and Mentor attitude

corrado cozzi

Euro-Africa Division Youth Director

A ♦ Spiritually uplifted by Holy Spirit with exemplary spiritual life, Contemporarily updated by visionary leadership, Passionately upgraded with love for modern youth, Long Patience, Honesty

joshua shin

Northern Asia Pacific Division Youth Director

A ♦ Love young people genuinely; Have the mentality of a mentor; Be forgiving; Open-mindedness; and be approachable.

balvin braham

Inter-America Division Associate Youth Director

A ♦ Personal experience of the grace of God, Love people, a clear vision, Integrity, Courage and Perseverance.

gilbert cangy

South Pacific Division Youth Director

A ♦ Transparency, humility, honesty, compassion and a good listening ear.

nick kross

South Pacific Division Associate Youth Leader





A ♦ Spiritual, Loving, Honesty, Sympathize, and Courageous

lionel f. lyngdoh
Southern Asia Division Youth Director

A ♦ Patience, Humble, Joyful, Godfearing, Courteous, Faithful, and Loving.

emmanuel nlo nlo
Western Africa Division Youth Director

A ♦ Spiritual minded with a great love for youth; Know youth and their culture; Creative in your work and ever learning; A good planner and execution of youth events; A leader who is a good resource person to provide the youth with the up to date resources; A person who youth love to be with and be a mentor to them.

eugene fransch
Southern Africa-Indian Division Youth Director

A ♦ Características del líder JA: consagrados, competentes, corteses, íntegros, amor por los jóvenes.

bernardo rodríguez
Director de Jóvenes de la División Interamericana

Q ♦ **Do you think we need professional youth workers in our local churches?**

A ♦ It depends on what is meant by “professional”. I have some non-Adventist friends that are youth workers in their local churches, and all of them followed a specific education to get this role. But they are volunteers. No salary, ok? What impressed me most attending some non-Adventist youth

minister meetings, is the huge amount of material produced for local youth workers. It means that this role gets advised and supported. Of course, I don’t know the final result of this huge campaign, but certainly it is a benefit.

One of the weak parts of the Adventist youth movement, by my experience, is at local level. Conference and Union youth leader present constantly training courses, but something is not working. When a church has a well motivated youth leader, the benefits are not only qualitative but also quantitative. Our churches have to pay attention to one thing: to elect the best leader, well equipped, motivated and able to care for our kids, and in case there is a lack of education, to support him/her to follow the requested training. Would you leave your kids to a careless and not motivated teacher?

corrado cozzi
Euro-Africa Division Youth Director

A ♦ Professional youth workers in our churches can only enhance the effectiveness of a mentoring and nurturing program for our youth.

balvin braham
Inter-America Division Associate Youth Director

A ♦ Of course Yes. We are living in the 21st century. We must be experts on something. The youth are no longer future leaders but the present leaders. The church needs to recognize the youth by their professions.

joshua shin
Northern Asia Pacific Division Youth Director

A ♦ It will depend on the size of the congregation. The professional youth worker must not take the place of the volunteer local church leader or any other volunteer function. Churches with professionals can lead to the disenfranchising and disempowering of local volunteers workers. Roles and responsibilities must be clearly defined.

gilbert cangy
South Pacific Division Youth Director

A . It would make such a difference if we had an army of youth workers in local churches, who would challenge the young to be outward focused, and mission minded.

nick kross

South Pacific Division Associate Youth Leader

A . Yes, but we need more caring church members.

emmanuel nlo nlo

Western Africa Division Youth Director

A . YES.! YES!! YES!!!

eugene fransch

Southern Africa-Indian Division Youth Director

Q .

Do you think we are doing enough as a church to keep our youth interested in remaining in the church and being faithful to our denomination?

A . This is “the” problem to be faced with urgency. We are concerned about youth leaving the church. But it is not enough. I like this question because it seems to me that it points out the responsibility of the church toward our youth.

Before giving an answer, I would like to underline two things:

We are living in a time where people believe but do not desire to belong. This concept is clear: to believe in God is no question, to belong to a denomination, this is a problem.

Why? Simply because to belong implies a series of things that youth very often do not see as conditioning their believing. The attention they receive since their childhood, their involvement

in the church life, the interest of the church to “speak” their language, etc. are factors that facilitate their decision to leave or remain. And more, we have to underline that there exist youth dropping out (leaving the church physically), and there are youth dropping in (not leaving but inactive). To give an answer to the question, I’m obliged to say No, we are not doing what our youth expects from “us” in order to remain in our church and being motivated to belong. Of course, this is my experience.

For me it is not a matter of physical presence, it is a matter of commitment, involvement, and empowerment. Most of the time we ask them to be silent and to attend services that are of little interest to them. When they grow up, they remain in silence, and inactive and most of the times drop out because there is no alternative.

Do we really want them involved in the church? To stop create “theatre attendees”? Since their first understanding of the Lord matters, they have to receive a responsibility, a role; they have to receive the feeling of belonging because the adults need them also.

The problem is that we are concerned because youth are leaving the church, but we are not acting to make a serious change in order to offer a frame that is also children and youth oriented: worship, projects, programs, vision, objectives, structure, etc.

corrado cozzi

Euro-Africa Division Youth Director

A . We do have enough to give our youth and to keep them but it is doing those things and getting them done in the local church during the year.

One area that is neglected is that our youth do not have a strong knowledge of our Advent history to cause them to be loyal in these challenging times.

Many do not have a strong knowledge of the church doctrines to live by them. We need doctrinal studies that are creative enough for them to learn and apply to daily life now.

eugene fransch

Southern Africa-Indian Division Youth Director



A ♦ No, we need to focus as adults on the feelings, opinions and attitudes of our youth. Most adults are so busy doing their own thing, paying off mortgages, working in their careers, and achieving their goals that the young are left out of the picture. When it comes to decision making, allocating funds, planning future directions, the youth are not consulted.

nick kross

South Pacific Division Associate Youth Leader

A ♦ There is much more that needs to be done to help our youth to remain in the church and committed to the denomination.

balvin braham

Inter-America Division Associate Youth Director

A ♦ We acknowledge the deliberate efforts and initiatives that have been taken, but we are a long long way from home yet.

gilbert cangy

South Pacific Division Youth Director

A ♦ No. From the General Conference and Divisions down through unions, conferences, and to the local churches we all need to put more attention to the youth by spending more finance for the youth and putting youth issues onto the center of our interest and administration.

joshua shin

Northern Asia Pacific Division Youth Director

A ♦ No, not doing enough.

lionel f. lyngdoh

Southern Asia Division Youth Director

A ♦ No I don't. We still have a long way to go.

emmanuel nlo nlo

Western Africa Division Youth Director

A ♦ I honestly believe that the church has consistently put a lot of effort, money and resources into youth ministry. The will is undoubtedly there but times change and we need to make sure that today we both really listen to our youth and also make room for them as active partners in all aspects of the church.

paul tompkins

Trans-European Division Youth Director

A ♦ Necesitamos hacer un esfuerzo mayor para que encuentren una iglesia más amable, tengan más oportunidades en el liderazgo, y reciban más recursos para el Ministerio Juvenil y la misión evangelizadora.

bernardo rodríguez

Director de Jóvenes de la División Interamericana



Everyone will agree that today's youth, as well as our parents' generation, faces problems. What do you think we can do to help this generation address today's challenges and problems?

A ♦ Reading the answers I gave above, you can find part of the answer to this question. Speaking about challenges I would like to highlight the wonderful panorama offered by our church regarding religious material, education, ethical lifestyle, health issues, pathfinding, religious liberty, etc. What I like most of our church is that it is a religious movement, trying to pay attention to the most important aspect of life. Most of the time, the programs we produce are really considered an answer to the need of our generation. Thinking about addiction issues, we are well positioned to present an adequate program. We have a good pedagogical project about pathfinding. This program considers most of the generational issues and offers

a strategy to face it. The position of the church on sex co-related issues is balanced and well supported. And I could continue. But most of the time, these are only theoretical programs remaining on the desk of the departments or of the pastors. Sometimes at local level, nobody knows the existence of the available material to face today's challenges and problems.

What can we do? To apply what we produce. And above all, to give to our youth the possibilities to realize these programs at local level. They are able to do it because ... God is able.

In the Euro-Africa Division, to be able to face the emerging problems youth are confronted with, we have established a strategy that considers the development of the youth in our church. This includes academic training by establishing a M. A. in Youth Ministry to empower the leadership for youth, and a survey, Valuegenesis Europe, that allows us to understand how youth live their faith and what support we can give them to face today's challenges and problems. To realize these projects we have set up a research facility, the José Figols Center, directed by a young person.

corrado cozzi

Euro-Africa Division Youth Director

A. The young people are the heroes of the last history on earth. I hope that Adventist Young people would understand the role of the Remnant and will be powerful workers of God in the last days. Impossible challenges and unbearable problems are ever-present and God will be the only answer for all of them. What is FAITH? To stand firmly on the Rock of Ages just like Joseph, Daniel, and Esther is the faith of the saints. So let us be faithful to the very end of our life.

joshua shin

Northern Asia Pacific Division Youth Director

A. I have come to believe that youth workers cannot do their work with any kind of effectiveness with this generation

of youth independently from this generation of parents. It could well be that the greater work is with the parents.

gilbert cangy

South Pacific Division Youth Director

A. We need to read and learn from folks from the Bible. (Bible characters). He (God) can still do with, to, and for us what He did to those people in those days.

emmanuel nlo nlo

Western Africa Division Youth Director

A. The best way to address this is by maintaining our communication open. Problems such as the generation gap can and would be solved by not closing our doors of communication but to open them and yet still maintain our Adventist ethos.

jobbie yabut

Southern Asia Pacific Division Youth Director

A. The great need of our youth is to have great inspirational role models who care for them and will inspire them to be better people. Any great movement needs great leaders who will do the hard yards, and lay their life down for the sake of others. Romans 12:1 says *Offer your lives as living sacrifices*. This is our mission as leaders, and we would do well to spend out lives in this all important pursuit.

nick kross

South Pacific Division Associate Youth Leader

A. We need to spend more time training and educating our youth to:

- Establish better relationships with peers
- Establish stronger bonds with adults
- Involve the youth in more of the administrative and operational functions of the church.

- Secure funding to make more youth oriented activities possibilities; Establish counseling, mentoring, and coaching programs to help the youth with their issues.

balvin braham

Inter-America Division Associate Youth Director

A ♦ Educate, involve them in discussion on the issues, and be supportive

lionel f. lyngdoh

Southern Asia Division Youth Director

A ♦

1. Equip them in the WORD and the Spirit of Prophecy
2. Teach them the **Fundamental Adventist Values** to help them in daily living.
3. More visibilty in the local church and big church events.
4. As LEADERS we need to share more of what is working with each other and share material with each other over the Net and call each other more to our territories to be guest speakers and see and learn new things. We can all learn from each other.

eugene fransch

Southern Africa-Indian Division Youth Director

A ♦ Being a Seventh-day Adventist is no longer just a matter of culture - today it is a matter of choice. Problems have always been there and will remain there, but to face these problems we must continue to lift up Jesus and present Him as the only viable choice that offers hope both for the present and the future.

paul tompkins

Trans-European Division Youth Director

viewPOINT

We asked. They answered.

Division Youth Ministries Directors share their views.



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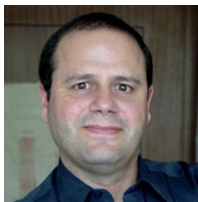
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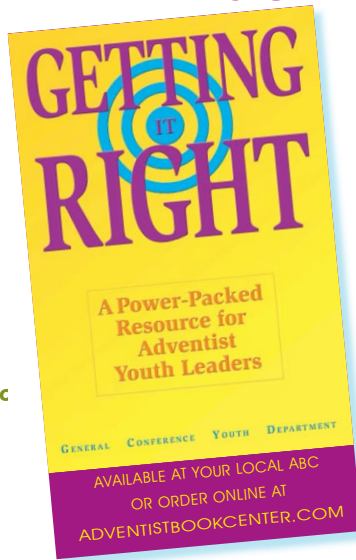
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Send completed form with a check or money order to Youth Ministries Department, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Church, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904, U.S.A.

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Paperback, 416 pages.
 0-8280-1805-7.
 US\$19.99, Can\$26.99



PATHFINDER HERITAGE MUSEUM

The idea for a Pathfinder Museum began in a small way when Dixie Biggar, in 1951, collected a bar of soap imprinted with the Pathfinder emblem and saved her original Pathfinder membership card. By Dixie Plata

TEN YEARS WHILE HELPING at the Loma Linda Pathfinder Club, Loma Linda, California I continued collecting. When *Dorcas* (*Community Service*) received uniforms, books, emblems, or pins I was notified. Uniforms were washed to be reused. Patches and pins could not be worn except by the individual that earned them so were stored to be used in displays.

Pathfinder Sabbath displays were enjoyed by adults who recognized “old stuff” and by young people who enjoyed seeing items their parents used. Displays of Junior Missionary Volunteer (JMV) showed the precursor of Pathfinders. Many an elderly person shared being invested



Arnold & Dixie Plata

as a Master Comrade*. (*changed to Master Guide in 1951)

When Arnold and I got married the museum idea really took off. Arnold had a collection of manuals and with the memorabilia I had collected we started larger displays. Our neighbor, James Nix (current Director of the White Estate at the General Conference) inspired us by making Seventh-day Adventist history come alive. We felt that hearing stories and seeing displays would help youth have a better understanding of how God leads. If Pathfinders understood that “teenagers” started the Seventh-day Adventist Church and were challenge to be valuable active members it would encourage them to have closer relationship with Jesus. “*We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has lead us, and His teaching in our past history.*” **Life Sketches** Ellen G. White p. 196, became our motto.

Arnold built display cases and the Pathfinder Sabbath Display became a small museum. It was a blessing that former world Pathfinder Directors Laurence A. Skinner and John H. Hancock lived nearby. Once these pioneers heard of our goal they gave numerous items for the display. Friendship with these godly men made a vast impact as we were encouraged to continue to work towards a museum to share history of youth work and service in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

We learned from other Pathfinder pioneers such as Miller Brockett, Henry T. Bergh, and Lawrence Paulson. When a Pathfinder pioneer died family members graciously shared materials. As the amount of stored items grew so did the need for a building to house the museum.

In 1985 the display went Division wide at Camp Hale—the first NAD (North American Division) Pathfinder Camporee—near Leadville, Colorado. It was here that we met the third World Pathfinder Director, Leo S. Ranzolin, who has become a museum supporter and friend.

I spoke for vespers at Seventh-day Adventist Retirement centers where Arnold and I shared displays and stories. The willingness of these seasoned Christians to give personal items such as certificates, sashes, scarves and pins was rewarding.

Uniforms from four World Pathfinder Directors enhance the display. During the last 15 years the collection has become international with displays from around the world. What a thrill to tell youth the stories of the growth of the Pathfinder program worldwide. We enjoy sharing at Camporees, churches and Camp Meetings.

Has Pathfinding changed through the years? **Yes**, in some areas it seems more difficult to find adults willing to make a commitment, and **NO**, young people still need godly mentors. Leaders need to see that Pathfinders is not



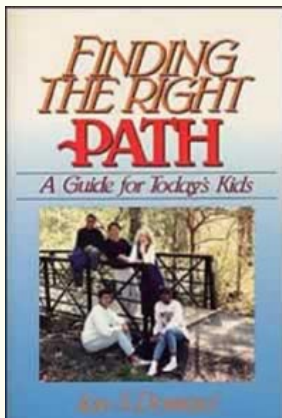
a job, **it is a mission**, it is not just activities and class levels, though those are rewarding, **it is leading youth to Christ**.

Arnold and I continue to collect memorabilia; and our goal, a permanent museum, with a traveling display is still part of the plan. We are volunteers. Our fee to your Club, Conference, Union or Division is travel expenses, food and lodging.

If you would like to contribute materials for the museum or have the Plata's speak/display at your event, email them at docplata@aol.com or write to:

Arnold and Dixie Plata,
4995 Lane Creek Road,
Central Point, OR 97502, USA.

readT: book review



Just because your parents probably gave this book to you, don't assume it will put you to sleep.

Finding the Right Path is filled with entertaining stories that show how the Pathfinder pledge and law really work and can make an exciting difference in your life. Enjoy!

Unclassified: For parents and Pathfinder leaders.

Young people today are faced with more choices, greater temptations, and higher

risks than their parents faced. What choices will they make? How will they find the right path in life?

For nearly half a century the Pathfinder organization has helped young people build character, form Christ-centered values, and find the path that leads to eternal life. Now, at the request of the North American Division Church Ministries Department, Jan S. Doward has written Finding the Right Path, a 1990s application of the Pathfinder pledge and law.

With this book
for juniors (and their parents),

author Elaine Graham-Kennedy, Ph.D., is out

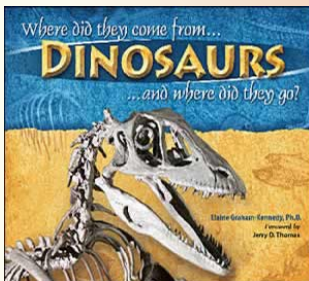
to change that. Dr. Kennedy is a Seventh-day Adventist

scientist who believes the Bible story of Creation and who has spent

her life studying dinosaurs. She has much to share with kids.

DID YOU KNOW:

- Many of the dinosaurs were as small as a turkey or a large dog and could have been in Noah's ark?
- Dinosaurs are classified into two large groups by the shape of their hip bones?
- Some dinosaurs had as many as 600 or 1,000 teeth?
- You can tell which dinosaurs were hunters and which were lunch by the position of their eyes?



Remember those long summer Sabbath afternoons when the sun seemed nailed to the sky? Your children were soon climbing the walls from inactivity, and you had run out of ideas for things for them to do—things that not only would keep them occupied but were worth doing and were enjoyable besides. Here is the book that will keep such days from happening again.

Born out of a desire to make Sabbaths enjoyable for the author's own family,

this 52 Things to Do on the Sabbath offers practical suggestions for things that will involve both adult and child and turn the day into a delight.

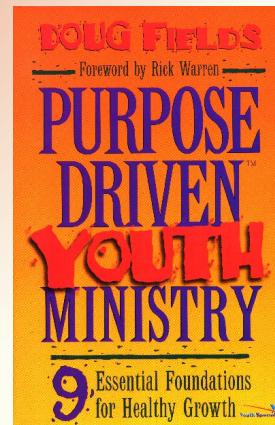
Each idea can be adapted to fit your needs and situations. Many of the concepts come from successful Adventist families who have experienced the Sabbath as a truly happy family day.



Balancing both theory and practice, Purpose-Driven Youth Ministry can be applied to any church setting, regardless of size, denomination, facilities, resources, and existing leadership.

Purpose-Driven Youth Ministry will help you develop a ministry that equips students rather than a ministry that coordinates events.

Dough Fields says, "My goal for this book is to coach you through a plan to build a healthy youth ministry that isn't dependent on one great youth leader and won't be destroyed when the youth worker leaves the church. It's not a book on how to grow your youth ministry with six ease steps; it's about identifying, establishing, and building health into your church's youth ministry."





listenIT: CD review

Music has long been a benchmark for the Voice of Prophecy. The harmonious blending of the King's Heralds Quartet is world-famous.

Wayne Hooper, a quartet member from 1949 to 1962, created hundreds of arrangements for the quartet. He recently spent two years restoring them to CD quality.

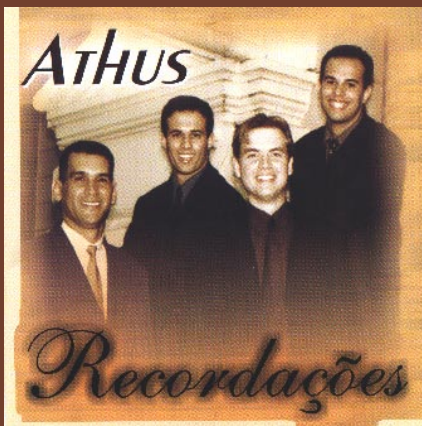
This brand-new King's Heralds Collection of 12 albums preserves the legacy of the legendary group of men who made Gospel Quartet music celestial!

For more information on this timeless collection, please visit http://mgrsti5539j.seamlesstech.biz/Merchant/herald_collections.html.

When Lucy and Max started Heritage Singers ministry in 1971 out of Portland, Oregon, they had no idea that they would still be going strong today. The plan was to commit to the ministry for one or two years, then go back to their "real" jobs. Well, the Lord had a different plan and they're so glad He did! They've tried to listen and obey His will. God's grace is amazing and He has been by their side every step of the way. Heritage has traveled to more than 50 foreign countries and all 52 states in the USA.

It doesn't seem possible that it's been more than 30 years already! What a journey they've been allowed to experience. One thing they have learned over the years is that when God calls you to do His work, you don't have to worry about the details...just obey, He takes care of the rest. It really is that simple...but it's not always that easy.

Enjoy the music. They just want to praise The Lord!



Ângelo: Agradeço àqueles que me deram apoio de maneira pessoal... Ao meu Deus do Céu; aos meus pais e familiares...

Fábio: Este novo trabalho é mais um sonho que estou realizando em minha vida, é por esse e muitos outros motivos, que agradeço especialmente ao meu Deus.

Kelson: Obrigado Senhor, por permitir que eu faça parte do ministério da música; obrigado por me dar condições para cantar e contar do teu amor. Obrigado Senhor, mais uma vez, pelo Teu amor infinito, o motivo do nosso cantar.

Neimar: Agradeço a Deus pelo dom de cantar e pelo privilégio de pregar a sua através da música.

