North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists: Adventurer Ministry

## Welcome, Introductions and prayer — Armando Miranda, Jr.

## AI #20.01 GC Youth Department report

Point to remember. The GC presents new initiatives, and we receive the report. Then our organizations work through it to apply it and adopt it to our needs.

#### GC Adventurer Curriculum status update

Mark O'Ffill presented the report on behalf of Andres Peralta.

- Thank you, from the world, as the Adventurer Program started here in NAD.
- There are similarities, but some had to be adapted to work for the world.
- Six classes, five have the same names, but *Early Birds* replaces the name *Eager Beavers*.
- Little Lambs, Early Bird and Helping Hand has significant changes for flow and integration with the other classes.
- Pages are full-color, high-quality, and visually attractive. They are in printable PDF format. Instructional materials are in the back of each guide. InDesign files are provided to each of the divisions so they can adapt it.
- Documents include detailed parent/teacher hands-on planning and teaching guides for every requirement in the workbook.
- Some Awards have been rewritten for global applications due to cost of materials, terminology, etc.
- The *Directors Guide* has a different tone, less suggestions and more directive.
- The goal is to make it easy for parent-teachers to be super-star instructors as they guide their children through fun and relevant activities...towards Jesus.

## AA 2020.01 GC report

**Voted:** To receive the report.

## AI #20.02 AdventSource report

Brad Forbes presented ...

• Working to have an Adventurer Bible. We are sharing the 16 page insert that would go in our NKJV Bible by Thomas Nelson. Current estimated price is \$11.95 or \$10 in bulk. The challenge with Spanish and French versions is that the price would triple.

### AI #20.03 Resource report

Ada Gomez reported on the work of the Focus Group.

Certifications are ready for:

- Adventurer Club Basic Staff Certification
- Director Certification
- Instructor Certification
- Secretary/Treasurer Certification



#### **Officers present**

Co-Chair - Lisa & Brad Gary, NAD Coordinator Co-Chair - Armando Miranda Jr., NAD Rec. Secretary - Glen Milam, NAD Ex-officio - Tracy Wood, NAD Ex-officio - Vandeon Griffin, NAD

#### Attendees who signed in

Alcon, Javier Alvir, Rudy Archbold, Vanston Arevalo, Rosalba Bascom, Karla Betlinski, Carolyn Brower, Richie Casey, Todd Clapp, Gene Cruz, Manny Duarte, Sara Forbes, Brad Fortner, Joyce Gendke, Bo Gendke, Deborah Gomez, Ada Gonzalez, Hector Gutierrez, Daniel Gutierrez, Yissury Hernandez, Andrew Hernandez, Lily Hill, Chris Hill, Don Hill, Donna Hollman, Bill Hollman, Margaret Intong, Selvin Jackson, Robert Jr. Jean-Baptiste, Eric Jean-Pierre, Lyns

Johnson, Aprila Johnson, Rogers LaFlair, Diane Lashier, Nadine Lebold, Anita Lewis, Chester Mann, Kimberly Martinez, Mercy McKenzie, David Mentor, Gail Merrill, Alice Morgan, Velma Nelson, Lonny O'Ffill, Sherilyn Ortega, Daniel Pagán, Jaceil Perez, Pedro Petry, Ann Plata, Dixie Pomales, Jennifer Powers, Leanna Prangle, Beverly Reeve, Dorral Reynolds, Ann Roberts-Allen, Ursala Rojas, Lydia Salazar, David Salazar, Nitza Sanon, Christine Sharp, Malaika Shepherd, Norma Shepherd, Rex Stewart, Stephen Vasquez, Janeth Velez, Daniel Verduzio, Fernando Villarreal, Norma Vogler, Paula Whitlow, Dan

## AA 2020.02 Resource report

Voted: To receive the report.

## AI #20.04 Awards report

Mercy Martinez reported on the work of the Focus Group.

Awards are ready for:

- 10 Commandments Level 3
- Dinosaur Multi
- Holy Spirit Level 4
- Animal Footprints Level 2
- Cupcakes and more Multi

#### AA 2020.03 Awards report

**Voted:** To recommend to the Executive Committee the adoption of these Awards, including the requirements and patch design.

Y&YAExA 2020.02 Voted to approve.

## AI #20.05 Bible Event report

Sherilyn O'Ffill reported on the work of the Focus Group.

Nine conferences are doing some sort of Bible activity with their Adventurers that we know of. Four conferences are looking to add it to their program. Conferences are not required to switch from their existing Conference program to the Division program.

Remember that you don't progress outside of your own conference. It is family centered. Conferences are not required to switch to the division program if they have something that is working for them now.

There are still issues to iron out from the piloting process. The goal is to have a manual ready for approval next year.

We want them to into the Bible, but with their family or caregiver.

We don't want it to look or act like PBE. We don't want them burned out on the program before they get there.

We recognize that Adventurers have shorter attention span, and so the program should be shorter and more active. There are limits to spelling and reading, so questions are limited to true and false, and multiple choice.

The event is aimed at older Adventurers who are reading well.

It's got to feel fun!

### **Bible Event Name**

Proposed program name:

- English: Adventurer Bible Challenge
- French: Défi Biblique des Aventuriers
- Spanish: Desafio Bíblico de Aventureros

### AA 2020.04 Bible Event report

**Voted:** To recommend to the FG to adopt the name *Bible Adventure* and its translations.

## **Bible Event subject material topics**

The FG believes the Adventurer event should NOT use the same Biblical material as the PBE.

## AA 2020.05 Bible Event subject material topics

**Voted:** To affirm to the FG to move away from matching subjects to the PBE.

## **Bible Event subject material cycle**

The questions should be focused on the major stories in the Bible, with a six year cycle that alternates between old and new testaments, for example...

Year 1 - Genesis 1-25 Year 2 - Matthew

- Year 3 Genesis 26-50
- Year 4 John
- Year 5 Exodus 1-20
- Year 6 Acts

## AA 2020.06 Bible Event subject material Cycle

**Voted:** To affirm to the FG to adopt a six year cycle.

## AI #20.06 Resource Union roundtables

Each Union was asked to compile a list of resources needed for Adventurers in NAD. Unions submitted handwritten lists. Top requests are in bold face type.

#### AU

- 1. Strengthen NAD Adventurer website Add resources that are easy to use, and revamp and update awards.
- 2. Correct which website to go to as a search for NAD Adventurers takes you to the old page.
- 3. No easy link from nadadventist.org to Adventurers
- 4. Open a Pinterest account for local clubs to put ideas so other can use them.
- 5. Getting to the web site is too complicated, too many steps, difference between using a mobile device and lap top.
- 6. There seems to be a heavy membership on the FGs from several conferences, and no representation from some unions.

#### CU

- 7. Online resources for learning.
- 8. Directory of experts willing to come and teach.
- Directory of PowerPoints that can be used or adopted to teach seminars
- 10. Online forum/blog for community discussion and sharing of ideas.

- 11. Adventurer Basic Staff Certification in Adventist Learning Community
- 12. Help page for FAQs on the website.

#### LU

13. Adventurer Basic Staff Certification in Adventist Learning Community

#### MAU

- 14. Definitive guide on Parenting Family Network including how to interest and engage parents.
- 15. Adventurer Club advertising video
- 16. Video Library for Family Network resources (NAD
- 17. Training material track for Family Network Coordinator
- 18. Adapt registration forms to include a place where parents and all family members commit to Adventure Club, promising to participate and support the club.
- 19. Find ideas to increase family involvement.

#### NPU

- 20. Devotionals to use in club meetings, that could be used for worships, as a Bible activity, or with the club curriculum.
- 21. Materials for the Family Network
- 22. Materials for training for home visits.
- 23. Make resources available in other languages. Such as *Grandma Ellen and Me* in Spanish.
- 24. Online suggested resource options so there are videos when things go out of print.
- 25. Add Adventurer Leader options to the Master Guide reading requirements.
- 26. Adventurer poster that is laminated so that you can write on it with a whiteboard marker to advertise events.
- 27. Mentoring site to connect with mentors in mentoring resource materials.

#### PU

- 28. Ways to teach activities
- 29. Team building activities or game ideas for short time periods in both indoor and outdoor settings.
- 30. Develop parent network area with resources to teach it.
- 31. Community service project ideas for Adventurer age kids.

#### SDACC

- 32. Translate material in to French, including the website.
- 33. To have videos like the ones they have for the Master Guide Clubs.

- 34. To have guides available on the website, in addition to the *Leaders Guide*.
- 35. To have more web-based training.
- 36. A workshop or conference for Pastors to teach them about Adventurer and Pathfinder Ministry.
- 37. Adventurer materials related to special needs children.
- 38. A song book for Adventurers.
- SU
- 39. Video workshops
- 40. Resources for family retreats.
- 41. Resources to incorporate grandparents with kids.
- 42. List of speakers and presenters that focus directly on Adventurers.
- 43. Create a website for comedians and puppeteers.
- 44. Use a vest instead of a sash for awards.

#### SWU

- 45. Resources to teach us to deal with complex family issues such as divorce/shared custody, single parent families, LGBTQ+ families, interfaith families, foster kids, children with past trauma, grief, depression, kids with gender identity issues, kids being raised by non-parent family members.
- 46. Accommodating special needs kids in club activities and programming.
- 47. Supporting families with behavioral issues.
- 48. Mental health education/awareness
- 49. Adventurer clip art/logs with NAD logo rather than GC.

### AI #20.07 A brief history of Adventures and our future

Dixie Plata shared some history. Started in 1890 with publication of *Our Little Friend*. EGW said we needed something for our children. Pre-JMV in 1930. No uniform. Eager Beaver in 1965. First NAD club in Hartford, CT in 1966. They used the easier honors that were at that time for all AY. In 1979 we became JMV. 1988 NAD invited all conferences to pilot the program. Adventurer Ministry was adopted in 1989. The big push was that this is NOT a junior Pathfinder Club. It was to guide and lead families. In 2000 the church manual place the Adventurer Director on the local church board.

Each Union was asked to compile a list of things that need to be changed or need to be reconsidered about Adventurer Ministry in NAD. Unions submitted handwritten lists.

- AU
  - 1. Not really family activities
  - 2. Strayed away from family focus. The manuals are club focused and center on the instructors.
  - 3. Family Network was supposed to bring families together. You will need a Assoc. Director to plan for activities.
  - 4. Used to be very detailed with family involvement, now not needed, as the manual is all the instructor needs.
  - 5. Manual says things like, "have children create craft" instead of "have child and parent/guardian create craft." So the curriculum doesn't really need family involvement.
  - 6. We need to move away from a drop off ministry and get back to parent/guardian involvement.

## CU

- 7. Uniform means something. It provides an opportunity to witness.
- 8. The Family Network is not working consistently as it is not well understood, and needs the intent clarified.

#### NPUC

- 9. We are confused about the conversation of Adventurers being too much like Pathfinders.
- 10. Adventurers offers many positive elements as it is.

#### PU

- 11. We need to understand and affirm Adventurers as a family ministry.
- 12. Thank you for all you do!

#### SDACC

- 13. It is challenging when other cultures what Adventurers to be mini-Pathfinders.
- 14. Adventurers have to be able to play before entering school. It needs to be family oriented.
- 15. Parts of the Union are on track with the program. More and more across Canada the mentality is changing.
- 16. The challenges are often met when there are limited teachers.
- 17. The program should be fun with parent/child bonding. These are the benefits observed.
- Need to get back on focus and need more communication between club directors and parents.

#### SWU

- 19. Family Network is being used poorly. We need to improve training about it.
- 20. Parental counseling.
- 21. Short TedTalk style videos that young parents can listen to as they prepare dinner etc.

#### Unidentified.

22. Need more resources to empower parents. Things like "How to" suggestions on how to implement the Family Network and push the "Family Blessing" service.

Unions not listed had no comment.