

Link2Uth

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An exciting year is in store for our young people. The year 2009 has been designated by the General Conference Youth Ministries Department as the Year of Shining (Witnessing). This is part of the yearly themes for the Seventh-day Adventist youth.

This year, 2009, the Seventh-day Adventist church around the world will be focusing on the joys and benefits of renewing through Discipleship, Leadership, Evangelism, and Service. The young people will learn how to close the gap that exists between belief and action, knowledge and practice.

A small group discussion manual has been prepared to be used during youth meetings on Friday nights or Sabbath afternoons. You may download this valuable document from our website: www.youth.gc.adventist.org. You will find in this manual enough programs for the whole year.

Let us challenge every youth to shine for Jesus Christ during this year. Our youth should be encouraged to share the flame of hope and love of God with others.

I like the way KJV amplified puts it in this regards: *"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your moral excellence and your praiseworthy, noble, and good deeds and recognize and honor and praise and glorify your Father who is in heaven."* (Matthew 5:16 KJV – Amplified)

It's time to shine!



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Beyond feelings



by Baraka G. Muganda, World Youth Director

We see it in all our activities and in the lines of the youth we minister to – feelings or emotions. Our young people today live in a culture of “feeling good.” They want to sing songs that make them feel good. They want preachers who make them feel good, they want youth activities that make them feel good.

After all, during their 24/7 time they are swimming in a world of “feeling good.” The TV, DVDs, iPods, advertisements, etc. are there to make them feel good. One does not need to look somewhere for what I am talking about. Just walk in any youth meeting you will see what I am talking about.

If we as leaders are not careful, will find ourselves going with the tide of “emotions, feelings” as we do our youth ministry to accommodate this culture in which our youth are swimming into.

In youth ministry we must introduce our youth to Jesus Christ and go beyond their feelings what they like. I am not suggesting feelings or emotions are bad. They have a place in the lives of youth but we got go beyond them. Spiritual decisions cannot be made on merely feelings. Feelings can change anytime.

The other day I read an article by Walt Mueller on

this subject in which he offers ways we can teach our youth about God who in turn will shape and embrace their emotions:

- Emphasize the authority of the Word.
- Teach them about the dangerous practice of trusting their feelings.
- Make sure they know following Jesus doesn't always feel good.

*Walt Mueller, Youth Worker Journal
Nov/Dec 2008, page 16, 17.*

May God bless each one of us as we continue to minister to our youth during this year of 2009 and always to remember to challenge them to live beyond what they like, but embrace a God who never changes no matter what.

Enjoy the challenges of 2009!

Feelings should never eclipse truth.

Truth always should direct our understanding of our feelings.

The only trustworthy feelings are those grounded in the [Word of God].

Walt Mueller

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Travel Plans for January



Baraka: 1 - 5: New Zealand Youth Congress

Hiskia: 16 - 18: Michigan Conference Youth Outing

Jonatán: 6 - 11: Chile Youth Congress
14 - 17: India Youth Congress

by Hiskia Missah, Associate Youth Director

Looking forward

A very pleasant Happy New Year 2009 to you all! 2008 has plunged into history and will never come back again. So many youth activities had been initiated and done in 2008 and had been recorded and placed in the archives for our future reference. We thank God for all His dealings with us, for giving us victories as well as allowing us to experience some challenges in the past. We welcome the coming of the year 2009 with enthusiasm and great expectations because we know that we are one year closer to the coming of our Grand Master Guide, Jesus Christ.

Plans for Youth activities to be conducted during this new year 2009 should make everyone of us busy, busy for the Lord. Some suggested ideas:

- Elijah Projects to be continued. We praise the Lord that in two years time, 2006 and 2007 we have conducted 17,629 Elijah Projects World-wide involving 237,760 SDA youth with the results of 124,158 souls be baptized, two youth won one soul, that's very encouraging. The General Conference Youth Ministries Department working together with Elder Mark Finley are preparing the 2009 Budget for these projects to be distributed to all the Division Youth Department who conducted these Elijah Projects.
- Ambassador Ministry to be promoted in the Local Churches world-wide. This Ambassador

Ministry is not a Club but a Ministry where young adults will make plans and implement

them in their ministries such as: Conducting Elijah Projects leading towards holding Voice of Youth Evangelistic Meetings; Doing Community Service Projects; Adopt A Road initiatives (For US Region); Plan a Young Adult Camporee; Conduct Single Professional Encounter; University and College Campus Ministry; Prison Ministry; Geriatric and Orphanage Ministry; Friendship Team Ministry, and many other initiatives you can create.

Special projects to be done in 2009 by the General Conference Young Adults Ministries are: Producing (1) the New Youth Song Book, (2) Youth Leadership Award Manual; (3) Voice of Youth Materials Series 1 to 3 with Power Point Presentations to be used to support the Elijah Projects. Reproducing (1) Youth and Public Evangelism Book; (2) Youth Baptismal Celebration Guide Book.

Let us Shine and do our best to make the Year 2009 a Successful Year for Youth Evangelism.



The Youth Ministries family has a new member! The West-Central Africa Division has a new Youth Director, John Enang. He is a well-experienced man in Youth Ministry. John has a very special passion for the Seventh-day Adventist youth. We want to welcome John with a big heart!

The Youth Ministries family also will miss Jean-Emmanuel Nlo Nlo. He will be serving as Communication Youth Director for his division, West-Central Africa. We pray that God may bless him in his new position! And don't forget, once a youth director always a youth director.

Welcome!



www.gcyouthministries.org

I have been looking for the number of websites existing in the world. It is really difficult to determinate the number of websites running on the net, but I've found an approximate number. It seems that in February 2007, the Netcraft Web Server Survey (<http://www.boutell.com/newfaq/misc/sizeofweb.html>) founded 108,810,358 distinct websites. That's more than one year ago, it means that we have much more websites at the moment we are upgrading ours.

Large websites can have many thousands of pages. Dynamically generated sites can have a seemingly infinite number - and we must somehow agree not to count all of these. Yet most sites just have a few pages introducing a business

or a person, or simply a placeholder home page.

The average web pages per website can be around 270. If we multiply Netcraft Web Server estimate of the number of web pages per website by Netcraft's February 2007 count of websites, we arrive at 29.7 billion pages on the World Wide Web (www) as of February 2007.

This is a big number of pages that you can visit in the net... but we are giving you a very special website as an excellent and improved tool for the following years.

Visit it, visit our renew website, use the material you will find there and if you have any suggestion to improve it even more, don't hesitate to contact our department, we'll be happy to help you in anything you need.

We are here to serve you in the best way we can.

God bless you all and enjoy the www.gcyouthministries.org

by Jonatan Tejel, Associate Youth Director