



KidsNewsZone

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**CHILDREN'S
MINISTRIES**

MISSION: TO NURTURE CHILDREN INTO A LOVING, SERVING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

DIVISION DIRECTORS

ECD Debbie Maloba
ESD Zhanna Kaminskaya
EUD Elsa Cozzi
IAD Dinorah Rivera
NAD Sherri Uhrig
NSD Lynn Ripley (till November)
SAD Graciela N. H. de Hein
SID Caroline Chola
SPD Julie Weslake
SSD Orathai Chureson
SUD Victor Sam
TED Clair Sanches
WAD Omobonike Sessou
GC Attached Fields:
Middle East North Africa Union: Amal Fawzy
Israel Field: Svetlana Shchelkunov

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REACHING CHILDREN IN THE *New Quinquennium*

Welcome to a new quinquennium 2015-2020. We are happy to be elected for another five years and are given another opportunity to serve the children of the world church. We are also happy to be working together with all of you directors again.

Our new initiative for this quinquennium is REACH THE WORLD. We started with TELL



THE WORLD, and we want to continue to Tell the World so as to Reach the World. Thousands of children around the world need to hear the love of Jesus and the good news of salvation. We need to reach the children in the cities. We need to reach children with special needs so that they will use their gifts to serve the church and the community. We need to reach the children within our church so that they will develop a lifelong loving, serving relationship with Jesus; and that they will be trained for leadership within the church and in the community.

May we begin this new quinquennium with renewed energy and passion to reach every child for Jesus Christ. We want to make Every Child A Disciple of Jesus! Let's work together to help finish the work and that our children will be nurtured in their spiritual walk with Jesus so that they will reach out to make disciples of their friends and classmates.

Thank you for the wonderful work you have done this past quinquennium in working together to help implement our world initiative: Reach Up, Reach Out, Reach Across. We look



COME, YE CHILDREN, HEARKEN UNTO ME: I WILL
TEACH YOU THE FEAR OF THE LORD.

(PSALM 34:11 KJV)



forward to working with you again to expand this goal to reach children throughout the world. May the Lord grant you wisdom, good health, and added passion to minister to the children of the church and community.

Yours in His service,



Linda Koh
Director



Saustin Sampson Mfune
Associate Director

Directors Elected at the 2015 GC Session

We welcome the following directors who have been elected at San Antonio to serve in this new quinquennium.

- Zhanna Kaminskaya – Euro-Asia Division (ESD)
- Elsa Cozzi – Inter-European Division (EUD)
- Dinorah Rivera – Inter-American Division (IAD)
- Sherri Uhrig – North American Division (NAD)
- Graciela de Hein – South American Division (SAD)
- Caroline Chola – Southern Africa-Indian Ocean division (SID)
- Orathai Chureson – Southern Asia-Pacific Division (SSD)
- Clair Sanches – Trans-European Division (TED)

For the other five divisions, ECD, NSD, SPD, SUD, and WAD the election of the directors will be conducted in November.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES NEWS



AROUND THE WORLD

SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION

Children Open Doors With Bibles

Pastor Herrick Pentani and three children (Zendrick Pentani, Zebenrick Pentani and David Pitiri) travelled to Niniveh Village, a Methodist village in Western Province, Solomon Islands, with boxes of illustrated Children's Bibles. He received the Bibles at the Faith Shaper Children's Expo at Maranatha. The Bibles were the result of a world-wide 13th Sabbath offering in which 33,000 children's Bibles have been purchased and are being distributed to children in the Missions of the SPD.

Pastor Herrick reports:

"When we arrived, the village leader took us to the chief and introduced us. He asked me the reason we were there. I said, "We are coming to your village to distribute the word of God." As soon



▶ *Pr Herrick Pentani with the 3 children*

as he heard this, he straight away told the village leader to ring the Sunday school bell.

As soon as the kids heard the bell, they all ran to the community hall, even some with their parents, primary school teachers and their Sunday school teachers.

The leader introduced us to the children and the reason why we went there. In his little introduction he said, "It was my longing desire that one day these little children will own a Bible which they could read and also carry to the Church. Your coming is not an accident. God sent you here at the right time."

After offering a word of prayer, I opened the box and took out a Bible. As soon as the children saw the Bible, they were excited. I opened the first chapter of Genesis 1:1 and John 1:1. Then I said, "I am here today to give you Jesus who is the Word, by reaching out your hands, you also receive Him."



▶ *Children with their Bibles*



At the end, the church leader said, "From now on we are opening a door to you to come and conduct any program in our village. For so long we have been waiting but you never came. Please come and help us and our children to know the Word of God."

The three little disciples that I took with me were so happy. For the first time, they shared Jesus to such a large number of children. These three disciples have already requested to be part of the team again. In the same way, Jesus started with the three.

"We like the games and the balloons at the party very much. And we can play the piano in front of our friends"—Nathan & Natalie Antoni, Age 6

"I enjoyed the piano party, like the card games and the movie on Handel"—Janene Chan, age 9

This is the first time a piano party was organised. The Children's Ministries is always seeking new ways to reach out to our children and their friends and this is a great way for children to appreciate classical music in a fun way.

SOUTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION

Singapore Adventist Conference—Piano Party

On June 5, 2015, the SAC Children's Ministries held a Piano Party at the Balestier Road SDA Church. The children were taught to appreciate music the fun way through games on notation, rhythm, pulse, keyboard reading, sight-reading, singing, intervals, musical instruments, composer movie and more. It also provided an avenue for CHM to invite non-SDA friends.

Singapore Adventist Conference—Character Building Camp

Debbie Chan, Children's Ministries Directors of the conference organized a Character Building Camp on June 24 - 27, 2015 as a follow-up program from the Piano Party. The goal of this event was to teach children character values such as Respect, Gratefulness and Determination through nature stories, object lessons, music, games and role-play. It was an opportunity to invite non-SDA friends and members' children ages 5-11 to attend. About 30 children registered of which about half are non-Christians/non-SDA. Sim Sew Moi, SAUM Children Ministries Director taught the children the animal crafts for each day.



► Fun way to test their sight-reading

Each segment was very interactive and interesting. Each day the focus was on a character trait and tied in with an animal that represented that character trait such as

Day 1 – Wolf (Respect)

Day 2 – Porcupine (Gratefulness)

Day 3 – Salmon (Determination)

About 21 children attended of which about half were non-SDA. The Children's Ministries department collaborated with Roxana Tang of Roxana Music Studios for the program. We also had volunteers who helped as group leaders.

The children really enjoyed themselves and here are some of their feedback:



► Art & Crafts

A booklet with activities and word puzzles were given to each child so they can share with their parents the daily lesson. This reinforces the character trait they learnt for the day.

On day 4, parents were invited to come and watch the children perform a skit that portrays all 3 character traits as well as the songs that they learnt during the 3 day program.

One parent testified: "I really like the idea of having these kind of programs for our children. The character building camp was



► Piano Party kids and teachers



SEE THAT YOU DO NOT DESPISE ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES.
FOR I TELL YOU THAT IN HEAVEN THEIR ANGELS ALWAYS SEE
THE FACE OF MY FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN.



(MATTHEW 18:10 ESV)



► Skit presentation

fantastic. Our girls really enjoyed themselves and always had a great time describing the fun they had each day. The three traits of respect, faithfulness and determination were great for them."

SSD Regional Children's Ministries Empowerment & Leadership Seminar & Workshop

About two hundred children's leaders and teachers from the three unions of SSD (Philippines, Indonesia, Southeast Asia), gathered for the regional empowerment convention held at the Angkor Paradise Hotel in Siem Reap, Cambodia, August 12-16, 2015. Both the GC CHM directors, Linda Koh and Saustin Mfuné were present to conduct seminars and plenary sessions together with other resource persons like Miriam Andres, Teresa Costello, and Sim Sew Moi. Many concurrent workshops were available for the participants to attend. Topics ranged from Teaching Children to Witness to Creative Crafts, Storytelling, Mentoring/Developing a Resiliency Network, etc. On Sabbath a roundtable discussion/symposium was organized with great discussion of the characteristics of effective children's ministry leaders.

One emotional event was the turn-over of the ministry leadership from Miriam Andres, SSD CHM director who will retire in August. Many union directors showed appreciation for her outstanding leadership during her eight years in office with



► SSD Regional Empowerment convention

gifts and emotional speeches. Then the new director, Orathai Chureson was welcomed into the ministry with lots more speeches and gifts. Saturday evening ended with a beautiful cultural show.

MIDDLE EAST NORTH AFRICA UNION (MENA)

Gulf Field—Children's Ministries Leadership Training in Bahrain & Kuwait

About one hundred and five participants gathered in Bahrain, July 31 and August 1, 2015 for a two-day Children's Ministries leadership training in Bahrain organized by Nancy Colegado, CHM director of the Gulf Field. Leaders from the Bahrain area as well as those from Qatar and Saudi also joined in the training. Linda Koh, GC CHM director provided the Leadership Certification, Level V training for the leaders. At the end, new resources were given to the children's leaders of the churches. Many were so happy with the training provided.

The leadership training continued in Kuwait, August 2-5, 2015 with about 45 participants. Because all the participants had to work during the weekdays, the training seminars were conducted in the evenings. All the participants also received many resources and were very satisfied with the training program. In fact, they asked for more of such training programs next year.



► Bahrain leadership training



► Kuwait leadership training



5 APPS, 5 SHORT FILMS AND A BUNCH OF BOOKS FROM INTER- AMERICAN DIVISION



Thanks to Dinorah Rivera, the Children's Ministries Director of the Inter-American Division, who has produced exciting and interesting resources that she is sharing with the world church. They are games to teach children good values. "The games stretch and fortify kids' minds by helping them make quick decisions while instilling good values," she said.

The five game apps can be downloaded for iPhones and Android phones and include:



- "Caribe Runner," a game is about a runner (the player) who races through an obstacle course collecting coconuts. It teaches patience.

- "Cristal," a game in which the player goes on a submarine mission to collect special shells. It teaches how to make good choices.

- "Odisea Memo," a memory game that teaches patience and perseverance.



- "Tree of Life," a game where the player collects fruit and deals with making good choices.



- "Pocket Pet Dog," a game where the player takes care of a pet dog. It teaches responsibility and care for pets.

Children also can watch five animated short stories on values. The two-minute stories showcase character traits that are good to possess and reinforce, Rivera said.

In addition, online coloring pages are available for children to draw on, as well as songs that children can play at home.

So spread this good news around to your churches so that children can enjoy these games that will help them grow in their characters.