# STRATEGIC VISIONIN 2022-2026



# United in Mission We Will Go



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## **MESSAGE** From the President

Warm Greetings to the Greater New York Constituency

We are humbled to be co-partners with the Master Strategist to develop the plans and projections of our visions for our Conference over this quadrennium (2022-2026).

We are focused and intentional in our plans to grow our membership, sustain and maintain our churches, provide growth opportunities for our young people, expand our educational system, and maintain a spiritual and united front among our workers. Each Ministry in the Greater New York Conference is collaborative and seeks to work together to achieve the theme: "United in Mission, We Will Go."

I commend my dedicated, committed, efficient, and competent workers who accepted the divine invitation to be servant leaders. I am confident that God will bless our effort as they join me in submitting these plans to God and working with their churches and schools.

This booklet outlines the objectives of each ministry and identifies the steps that the directors and their associates project. I invite each member to pray for our workers and support their effort to build up God's kingdom, and we promise to pray for you as we seek to take Christ to the community in preparation for His soon coming.

May God bless you all, and May God bless the Greater New York Conference.

Sincerely,

Alanzo Smith President



## **MESSAGE** From the Secretary

Greetings Greater New York Conference Family!

I praise God for His goodness and for the honor He gives us to collaborate with Him. Our conference is about Kingdom building and each one of us has a role in fulfilling the mission God has entrusted to us. I am looking forward to having the Lord use us in the next four years of service. We serve an awesome God and I anticipate greater things for the future.

In your hands you hold the collective efforts of the individuals chosen to provide leadership in our conference territory. This final product represents our collective visioning after a process of planning, prayer and guidance from our Heavenly Father at an individual and group level. However, the collective vision and mission cannot be accomplished without the support and engagement of each one of you.

I pray that as our leaders endeavor to accomplish the various objectives they have laid out, you will see where your contribution can facilitate reaching our mission. You play a pivotal role as we carry out these plans. Whether you are a conference employee or a local church leader, please use this booklet as a point of reference and guidance to plan for the entity you represent.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to ministry in our conference territory. Along with the president, the treasurer, and departmental leaders, I am looking forward to serving you and doing my part to facilitate our ministry and mission for all. May the Holy Spirit continue to do a work of transformation in us so that Jehovah can do great things through each of us.

Sincerely,

Ariel Manzueta Executive Secretary



## **MESSAGE** From the Treasurer

Dear Colleagues,

I greet you in the precious name of Jesus.

It is a pleasure to serve our Lord with all my heart, with all my mind and with all my strength. When we commit to the Lord whatever we do then, as King Solomon says, "He (the Lord), will establish our plans" (Prov. 16:3 NIV). The prophet Jeremiah also said; "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11 NIV)

My greatest desire is that we please our Lord in all we do, and in all our established goals and strategies fulfilling His sacred mission. The Lord has called us to be faithful servants. Remember, it is only through sincere prayer and total selfconsecration that the Greater New York Conference will accomplish God's divine plan in the coming years.

Let us remain faithful to our God, and very soon we will hear His sweet voice saying: "Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord" (Matthew 25:23 KJB).

May the Lord bless you abundantly.

Sincerely,

**Ysaias Javier** Treasurer

# **Opening Statement**

This strategic plan outlines the direction of the Greater New York Conference for the next quadrennium (2022-2026). It forms the framework that guides the distribution of resources and talents across all ministries and departments that will allow the organization to recognize her shared vision and goals.

It is through this strategic plan that we will together maintain an attitude of excellence in service, guarantee accountability, provide a structure for continued evaluation, and ensure that all elements of the Greater New York Conference are harmonized in mission.

While the Greater New York Conference Administration, ministry leaders and directors have invested time in prayer to complete this critical process, it is important to note that this strategic plan is not complete without you. It is your gifts, talents and sacred service that brings this audacious vision to life. We are confident, that "we have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget how the Lord has led us, and His teachings in our past history". (Ellen Gould White, *Selected Messages*, vol. 3, p. 162.3)

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United in Mission We Will Go

### VISION STATEMENT:

We are a united diverse body of believers, empowered by the Holy Spirit, making disciples in New York

### MISSION STATEMENT:

United in Mission We Will Take Christ to the Community

### FRAMEWORK:

The framework for this plan is guided by the following four pillars that helps us move united in the right direction:

**1. Upward in Christ,** moving towards a closer relationship with Christ.

- 2. Inward in Connection, fostering interpersonal growth.
- **3. Outward in Commission,** fulfilling our mission on this territory.
- **4.** Forward in Completion, developing infrastructure to sustain the mission.



# **President's Strategic Plan**

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." **Jer 29:11.** 

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Josh 1:9



With these two pillars of God's assurance, I have accepted the challenge to lead. In an age where there is a dearth of "Transformational Leadership," I promise to be honest, transparent, equitable, and godly. I will stay in the center of God's care and lead with compassion and competence.

In setting forth my strategic vision for the Conference, I will utilize the four variables that we have established for this quadrennium. These are **1**. Upward in Christ, **2**. Inward in connection, **3**. Outward in commission, and **4**. Forward in completion.

Our Theme: United in mission, we will go.

**Our Mission Statement:** United in mission, we will take Christ to the community.

### **OUR FOUR VARIABLES:**

#### 1. Upward in Christ

Jesus said to his disciples, "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me." (Jn 15:4)

a. Personal Growth in Christ. Our vision is to see our workers and members grow spiritually. We will foster a spiritual climate that will enhance such growth. As leaders, we will first abide in Christ, knowing that He is the vine and we are the branches. Our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are:

- i. Set aside two Sabbaths each year (January and October) for fasting and praying.
- ii. See that our workers practice godly living, Christian principles, and ethical behavior.
- iii. Empower our members to be the sermon and preach the sermon.
- iv. Strive to be one in Christ and to dwell in Christian unity and harmony.





- b. Collective consciousness: There must be a collective consciousness among God's people to let the mind of Christ guide us in all that we say or do. Philippians 2:5 says, *"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus."* When the mind of Christ is within the child of God, it will be demonstrated in board meetings, business meetings, constituency meetings, worker's meetings, and all the meetings of God's people. The KPIs for Collective Consciousness are...
  - i. Increased church attendance.
  - ii. Attending Sabbath School.
  - iii. Rationality and reasonableness in meetings.
  - iv. A positive involvement in church activities.

c. Mindful awareness: Calls for redeeming the times. Eph 5:16 says, *"Redeeming the time because the days are evil.*" As the days become more evil, God's people must strive in their upward growth in Christ. We must be mindfully aware of the societal regression and not allow the world to squeeze us into its mold (Rom 12:1-2). KPIs for individuals are:

i. Personal private devotion.ii. Intentional family worship.iii. Avoiding wilting spirituality.

#### 2. Inward in connection (KPIs)

- a. Inward in Stewardship.
  - i. Practice faithfulness.
  - ii. Practice Systematic benevolence.
  - iii. Practice using and sharing God-given talents.
  - iv. Practice giving more of self for service.
- b. Inward in Relationships.
  - i. Togetherness in families.

**GNYC** STRATEGIC PLANNING

ii. Resilience in marriage.iii. Harmony in relationships.iv. Faithfulness in Friendship.

c. Inward in Leadership.

i. Practice transparency.

ii. Practice honesty and fairness.

iii. Practice visioning.

iv. Practice listening to and involving Youths and Young Adults.

**3. Outward in commission:** Just before His ascension, Jesus gave the great commission. "*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost*" (Matt 28:19). This is the charter of the Greater New York Conference, to make disciples, young and old.

a. Outward in evangelism: KPIs are:

i. To add 800 members to the Conference each year.

- ii. To plan Conference-wide evangelism program.
- iii. To motivate each Ministry in evangelism explosion.

b. Outward in church planting.

i. To plant at least one Chinese church.

ii. To plant at least three (3) churches per year.

iii. To plant churches in the least entered areas.

- c. Outward in Christian Education (KPIs).
  - i. Provide Conference oversight to our schools.
  - ii. Challenge each school to grow numerically.
  - iii. Work with schools to become financially solvent.
  - iv. Show appreciation for teachers. May: Teacher Appreciation Month.
  - v. Create greater bonding between Pastors and Teachers.
  - vi. Administrators do adequate school visits.

d. Outward in Developing Christian Ministry at 40th St. – Manhattan (KPIs).

i. Working with the General Conference to establish a Center of Influence.

- ii. Working with ACS to provide community service.
- iii. Working with our Pastors to provide spiritual counseling and Bible study.

iv. Working with our Teachers to provide classes in English as a Second Language.

v. Working towards organizing a church.

**3. Forward in Completion:** Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you (Prov 4:25). The Administration has accepted the challenge to complete the following projects. (KPIs)

 $\infty$ 



- **a. Greater New York Academy:** The Greater NY Academy building project has been in limbo for more than 10 years, and with more than 4 million dollars spent, yet, it is still not completed. It is the determination of this administration, by the grace of God, to complete the building for our young people.
- **b. Camp Berkshire Auditorium and infrastructure:** The renovation of Camp Berkshire Auditorium is long overdue. The infrastructure of the Camp needs to be upgraded. Our goal is to complete this renovation.
- **c. The Conference Office:** For more than 35 years, the Conference building has looked the same with no major renovations. Areas of the building are literally falling apart. Our objective is to rebuild and make our headquarters a state-of-the-art conference office.
- **d. Youth Building:** In 2018, ground was broken to construct a Youth Building at Camp Berkshire. Plans were drawn up, and permits were granted for the new construction. However, due to a lack of funds, nothing further has been done. It is the conviction of this administration, that we must build a center for our young people. The challenge of a lack of funds is still there, but by God's grace, we have the unwavering faith, that this project can be completed. Please help us in faith.

As we work together for the accomplishment of God's work, let us remember that it is by faith and not by sight that we walk. During this quadrennium (2022-2026) let us hold fast to the profession of our faith, knowing that He that shall come will come and will not tarry. Maranatha.

# Executive Secretary's Strategic Plan

#### MISSION

Working closely with fellow administrators and departmental leaders, our mission is to help our employees fulfill the vision and mission of our conference. We oversee the implementation and review of policy, support evangelistic efforts, facilitate administrative and managerial functions, develop and implement special projects and initiatives as needed.



### **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

1. Facilitate spiritual growth at our conference office through our office staff worship services.

### **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

- 1. Find and implement the use of software that will facilitate processes for our employees such as vacation requests, out-of-the-office requests and special travel reimbursement requests, among other functions.
- 2. Establish a full-time Human Resources Department to facilitate effective employment practices and supervision.
- 3. Equip our local church clerks with practical knowledge and tools that will enhance ministry effectiveness at the local church.
- 4. Train and implement use of the "My e-Adventist" app among 50% of our active constituency.
- 5. Encourage, equip, and facilitate the use of e-Adventist messaging features among 60% of our congregations.
- 6. Preserve our conference history through the establishment of an archives project.

### **OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

- 1. Develop a strategy for the retention and reclamation of our parishioners.
- 2. Maintain and facilitate the use of accurate statistical







data in our territory as a tool to assess and develop missionary efforts.

- 3. Oversee the implementation of effective evangelism and church planting strategies for our various ethnic ministries.
- 4. Serve as a source of resources in administrative matters for our employees.

### FORWARD IN COMPLETION

- 1. Revise and update the Greater New York Conference Employee Working Policy
- 2. Compose and approve a handbook for locally-funded employees.
- 3. Oversee the update of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Greater New York Conference, for recommendation to the constituency in session.
- 4. Formulate a handbook for local church policies.
- 5. Oversee the ongoing use of applicable policies in decision-making processes and ensure proper record keeping of all official decisions.

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# Treasurer's Strategic Plan

In harmony with the rest of the administration, the mission of the treasury department is to exercise faithful, accurate, and constant supervision of all the resources God provides to the Greater New York Conference through His dedicated people; and, to render regular financial reports to the administration, executive committee, conference workers and constituency in the most efficient and accurate manner possible.



### **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

To encourage our office staff, pastors and our beloved members to continue the growth in faithfulness with our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

- a. Implement two annual local church treasurers general training.
- b. Increase our Conference working capital from 3 months to 5 months.
- c. Foster a yearly tithe increase of 3% by prayerfully collaborating with the Stewardship department.
- d. Implement the best record keeping paperless system for the Greater New York Conference and invest the money that will be saved in evangelism.

#### **OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

- a. Receive and adopt the NAD online Accounting System for all our local churches.
- b. Participate in all trainings and conventions from the NAD treasury.
- c. Develop healthier financial institutions.
- d. Review and implement better investment policies.
- e. Adopt a better system to minimize our monthly outstanding remittance report.

### FORWARD IN COMPLETION

- a. Increase our cash on hand at the Atlantic Union Revolving Fund to \$2,500,000.00.
- b. Keep faithfully paying the TD Bank loan taken to finish the gymnasium of Greater New York Academy.
- c. Pay back the LI fund originally assigned to start the youth pavilion but temporary used to renovate the auditorium of Camp Berkshire.
- d. Finish all financial responsibility with the renovation of the Greater New York Conference main office building in Manhasset.



# Adventist Book Center (ABC)

**Ysaías Javier** Manager

### **MISSION:**

To offer the best service to you our best customer. We are focused on sharing the message of Salvation to all people in the Greater New York Conference territory through our literature and healthy food options.

#### **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

To encourage our staff to develop a better relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

- a. Encourage our conference cdministrators, departmental leaders, pastors, office staff and church members to pray for the ABC : to be faithful supporters of our mission and become regular committed customers.
- b. Develop better customer service.
- c. Introduce more whole food products.
- d. Have a 7% increase in sales every year.
- e. Implement an annual price discount day.

#### **OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

- a. To create a new GNYC publishing distribution policy.
- b. To cover all its yearly operation expenses.
- c. To reduce \$5,000.00 yearly to the outstanding balance with the GNYC.



**GNYC** STRATEGIC PLANNING



# Adventist Community Services/Health Ministries

Everette B. Samuel Director

**Oriel Thomas** Associate Director

### VISION

Every church a center of hope and healing.

### MISSION

United we will go: Serve the whole person through Christ-centered ministries.

### **CORE VALUES**

Love - Compassion - Justice.

### TAG LINE

I See You.

# THE FOLLOWING GOALS WILL ASSIST IN PURSUING THE IMPERATIVES OF GNYC

- 1. Empower individuals to improve their lifestyle.
- 2. Equip leaders to serve the whole person.
- 3. Encourage partnership and build bridges between church and community.
- 4. Facilitate community development by completing needed infrastructure projects.

### **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

### 1. Empower individuals to improve their lifestyle

How:

- Adopt and implement Christ-centered literacy enrichment seminars.
- Implement recovery programs such as the NAD's Journey to Wholeness a Christcentered approach to help addicts (12 Step program).
- Provide emotional and spiritual support to those in crisis.
- Form support groups.



#### **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

#### 2. Equip leaders to serve the whole person

How:

- Continue to sponsor the following trainings:
  - Non-Profit Leadership Certification.
  - Emotional & Spiritual Care Certification.
  - Disaster Response & Preparedness.
- Provide training to integrate inter-departmental ministries.
- Provide Cultural Diversity Training.
- Train local leaders to facilitate centers of hope and healing.
- Identify and train area coordinators to assist local church directors.
- Encourage collaboration and sharing of resources among local churches.

### **OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

#### 3. Encourage partnership & build bridges between church and community

How:

- Strive to conduct needs assessment to better serve our community.
- Encourage churches to use the "Wellness on the Go Van" to bring hope and healing to the community.
- Encourage churches to use the "Shower of Blessing Van" to reach the homeless and migrant community.
- The "Wellness on the Go Center" will facilitate REST:
  - R. Recovery (Journal to Wholeness 12 Step Addiction Program).
  - E. Emotional Healing (Social services to provide counseling).
  - S. Spiritual/Social (Lectures on social & spiritual issues).
  - T. Trauma (Reflections on how trauma affects mental and physical health).
- Adopt and implement an on-going cycle of health evangelism to reach the community.
- Partner with schools to implement ESL classes.

- Partner with Northeastern Conference, Atlantic Union, NAD and other Adventist institutions to reach targeted goals.
- Partner with hospitals and other organizations to host health fairs, health screening, and lectures; and advocate for better health programs.
- Continue to partner with Team TLC, a non-profit organization, to serve asylum seekers.
- Partner with local school systems, social service providers, hospitals, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, businesses and community groups, etc.
- Search for applicable grants to support the programs of GNYC.
- Support all evangelism programs of GNYC.

### FORWARD IN COMPLETION

### 4. Engage in community development to complete infrastructure

Complete infrastructure projects that further community development.

How:

- Wellness on the Go center Queens.
- Health Clinic Brooklyn.
- Distribution Center Bronx.
- Health Evangelism Training Center.
- Relief Resources for Local churches.
- Thrift Store.



### **Adventist Youth**

Enmanuel Contrera Director

Adrian Case Associate Director

#### VISION

Every Youth Doing what Jesus Commanded.

#### MISSION

To love, inspire, equip, and support children, youth, and young adults as they connect with Jesus, mingle with, and serve their community with their talents.

### I. UPWARD IN CHRIST

#### A. Developing an Attractive and Spiritual Young Adult Ministry.

It is our task to guide and inspire our young adults to maintain a personal and healthy relationship with Christ by:

- 1. Hosting programs with an intentional emphasis on prayer and Bible study on relevant topics that connect with the challenges of daily life.
- 2. Promoting young adult get-togethers to have fun and to make new friends in the faith.
- 3. Mentoring those who attend non-Adventist colleges in the city and state, and empowering them to exercise their faith and live out their beliefs.
- 4. Advocating for the inclusion of more young adults in the leadership of local churches.
- 5. Training and supporting Adventist Youth Ministries in the local church .
- 6. Promoting a balanced lifestyle as stewards of God with our time, finances, and the use of our bodies.

### B. Guiding our Youth to develop a solid and consistent spirituality.

We believe that investing time and resources in children and the youth is essential to retaining them in the church when they become young adults. We will work towards that goal by:

- 1. Helping every youth and child to be a member of the Pathfinder or Adventurer clubs.
- 2. Promoting, training, and explaining the importance of memorizing and sharing the scriptures I. through the PBE (Pathfinder Bible Experience), and developing the habit of personal study.

- 3. Strengthening and promoting the puppet ministry, to teach our Adventurers spiritual lessons from Bible characters that they can apply in their lives.
- 4. Cultivating spirituality as the primary norm to rule our Camporees.

### **II. INWARD IN CONNECTION**

# We are committed to assisting the youth and young adults to find and develop their gifts and talents as they learn new abilities. We will achieve this by:

### A. Investing in our School of Leadership and Evangelism.

- 1. Strengthening our School of Leadership and Evangelism by offering courses relevant to the needs of youth and young adults.
- 2. Helping youth to recognize the importance of public speaking in order to lead and serve in the local church.
- 3. Preparing the youth and young adults to evangelize by developing their skills as they contribute to the communication and audio-visual ministries in the local churches.
- 4. Being intentional in regard to the mental health of our youth and young adults by establishing a Mental Health Track on the Adventist Counseling Certification.
- 5. Equipping our instructors and inspire them to grow professionally.

### B. Strengthening the Teen Leadership Training (TLT).

We believe that time wisely invested in adolescents will help us understand the challenges that Millennials and Generation Z will face in the local church.

We will work towards this by:

- 1. Developing and supporting TLT coordinators in every geographical area of our conference.
- 2. Forming and promoting TLT clubs by area.
- 3. Advocating for leadership opportunities for the teenagers in the local church and in conference programs.

#### C. Strengthing the Adventist Youth Ministries Staff.

1. Enhancing the mentorship program, to develop new ministry leaders

2. Expanding the staff (as needed), by adding new leaders who have come out of the School of Leadership and Evangelism.

3. Caring for the staff's physical, mental, and spiritual health as they minister to the youth in the conference.

#### D. Developing the Master Guide Program in the geographical area of our conference.

- 1. Appointing new leaders in charge of the Master Guide program in each area.
- 2. Motivating and supporting the churches that want to establish a local Master Guide School sponsored by the GNYC Youth Department.
- 3. Inspiring the Master Guides to assist the churches that do not have Pathfinder or Adventurer Clubs.



#### **III. OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

We believe that youth and young adults connected with Jesus and equipped for His work have friends and family that need to know what they know. We will encourage them to share their faith by:

#### A. Empowering Clubs and Adventist Youth Societies at the local church.

- 1. Affirming the belief that that "united in mission we will go".
- 2. Inspiring every club in the local church to recruit non-Adventist members in their community.
- 3. Encouraging every Adventist Youth Society in the local churches to read out to nonbelievers and to youth who left the church.
- 4. Promoting and supporting youth evangelism programs by area by establishing sports leagues and tournaments in which the youth can invite nonbelievers to play and share their faith with them.
- 5. Baptizing youth and young adults at every Camporee and summer camp.
- 6. As a department, preparing and distributing evangelistic, youth-oriented material to foster a discipleship culture within our youth and young adults.
- 7. Promoting and creating space for mission trips in which our youth and young adults connect and share the love of Jesus in places in need.

#### B. Connecting in Mission Through Social Media.

- 1. To grow the Youth Department social media platforms by including formative, spiritual, and evangelistic content.
- 2. To establish a podcast to connect with youth and young adults in our conference and create content suggested by them.
- 3. To encourage every Youth Department and club ministry in the local church to use the media to bless and communicate to their communities.
- 4. To inspire youth and young adults to share the love of Jesus through their social media platforms.

## Communication

Clavour R. Tucker Director

Wayne Jamel Associate Director

### VISION

- 1. Promote a specific mission identity.
- 2. Create a dramatic effect of the Gospel through strategic communication skills.
- 3. Communicate the vision of the Greater New York Conference through creative marketing.

The following focus areas will allow us to advance the mission of the GNYC with a targeted approach:

- Public Relations & Information Sharing .
- Training & Continuing Education.
- Digital Presence & Strategic Marketing.
- Infrastructure & Development.

### **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

### Public Relations & Information Sharing.

We will:

- Share the story of the GNYC through creative content development and innovative marketing.
- Design production events that magnify the glorified Christ.
- Provide to our community and partners a high-quality, Christ-centered view of the Greater New York Conference and all its entities, including our schools .
- Host annual and quarterly events centered on the work of Christ and the need for effective communicators who are able to adapt to an ever-changing society.
- Continue to challenge communicators to find new and innovative ways to share the light of the Gospel.



### **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

**Training & Continuing Education.** We will:

- Identify and train dedicated members according to their areas of skill and interest.
- Structure the communication ministry of the GNYC to include local communicators.
- Provide targeted training and development according to needs and the vision of the GNYC.
- Establish and empower teams to conduct ministry that reflects the high standard of the GNYC.
- Create spaces where local church communicators can connect and continually find resources.

#### **OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

### Digital Presence & Strategic Marketing.

We will:

- Design and build a social media/content strategy for maximum effectives.
- Revise the GNYC logo with a modern, next-generation design.
- Add additional social media platforms to the communication channel list: Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.
- Redesign our current GNYC website.
- We believe that this drive to redefine and establish our digital presence will:
- Maximize the opportunity to reach a much wider audience.

- Provide greater access to the GNYC constituents and partners.
- Serve as an advance information hub for the GNYC members.

### FORWARD IN COMPLETION

#### Infrastructure & Development.

To effectively position ourselves to reach the next generation of believers, we need to invest in technology and our media infrastructure carefully and intentionally. We therefore seek to accomplish the following:

## 1. Form the Greater New York Conference (GNYC) Media and Production House Company.

- Function as the creative arm and main broadcast unit of the GNYC.
- Oversee the development of content as determined by the GNYC.
- Prepare the media infrastructure needed to facilitate large-scale productions.

## 2. Create the Greater New York Conference (GNYC) Media and Production Studio and Training Center.

This is a highly advanced media and production studio space which will serve as the main creative hub of the GNYC. Here we will:

- Create content that reflects the vision and mission of the GNYC.
- Provide a space for training and continuing education in media and technology studies
- Establish and expand the reputation of the GNYC brand through partnerships and collaboration.

## **3. Develop a Greater New York Conference Podcast,** a weekly recording of rich content intended to:

- Provide a space for healthy conversations and dialogue on pertinent topics.
- Share stories of the faith and hope.
- Support engagement and community building.
- Provide a space for youth and young adults to engage and have meaningful conversations.

### 4. Publish a Greater New York Conference Newsletter.

A quarterly news release to the Greater New York Conference constituency detailing events, ministry updates, and other relevant information. This platform will allow us to:

- Build relationships across the Greater New York Conference.
- Share key information and resources.
- Create a space that highlights the various cultures' ministry experience across the Greater New York Conference.

### **Education**

Maria E. Thomas Director

#### **MISSION**

The mission and purpose of the Education Department of the Greater New York Conference is to provide a Christ-centered education, guiding students to academic and life-long success that is centered on building a relationship with God and shaping a character transformed into the image of God.

#### **I. UPWARD IN CHRIST**

#### Cultivate high intellectual proficiency and implement innovative curricula.

- 1. Establish an active REACH (Reaching to Educate all Children for Heaven) program in our schools.
- 2. Create a database of student performance pulled from MAP test (Maximum Performance Test) and state tests (language arts, math, and science), compare results to public schools; analyze results; determine which subject areas need to be strengthened; and develop strategies to address areas for improvement.
- 3. Create STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) programs in schools (train the faculty for these purpose/ get experts to conduct workshops for this).
- 4. Look for opportunities for our students to participate in city, Conference, and Union activities: Spelling Bees, Science Fairs, EXPO, Leadership and Mentorship programs.
- 5. Create a group of professionals from various churches to mentor and guide students.
- 6. Establish career days and internship programs for our students.
- 7. Establish a Junior Honor Society for K-8 schools; continue the affiliation with National Honor Society for academy students.
- 8. Continue to present quarterly Honors certificate awards in all our schools to promote academic excellence.
- 9. Have students in 7th and 8th grades prepare for New York State Regents examination in mathematics.
- 10. Determine which schools have appropriate technology resources. Work to make technology resources available in each school (including iPads, computers, SMART Boards, etc.). Utilize state grants to assist schools in purchasing technology equipment as needed.

11. Assess which subject-based resources are needed in each school.

### Provide professional learning and development for teachers and administrators, and seek to increase additional conference-paid teachers.

Each August, provide professional development courses at the Conference office for all teachers.

- 1. Initiate GNYC Curriculum Committee meetings with representatives from each school that will build on the annual Atlantic Union Curriculum Committee meeting and disseminate information for suggested implementation to each of our respective schools.
- 2. Increase the number of Conference paid teachers to further validate the efforts of teachers, offer better benefits, and reduce financial burden on the schools.
- 3. Continue Principals' Council meetings held with K-12 principals to discuss various issues that impact the school system. This helps to create a "team spirit" among principals and more effective coordination of educational objectives.

### **II. INWARD IN CONNECTION**

#### Create synergy between school and church communities and bridge cultural divides.

- 1. Provide Bibles for every student.
- 2. Implement Special Religious Emphasis "Time Blocks" to help nurture growth in the area of leadership, character, and spiritual development. Special weeks are to be set aside for:
  - a. Fall Week of Prayer.
  - b. Spring Week of Prayer.
  - c. Health Emphasis Week.
  - d. Spirit of Prophecy Emphasis Week.
  - e. Evangelism Week.
  - f. Pastor Appreciation Month.
- 3. Encourage schools and churches to conduct the yearly baccalaureate service during the divine worship hour, to highlight Adventist education in "prime time" and emphasize the impact of Adventist education on student development.
- 4. Suggest ways of enhancing relationships between school board members/school staff.

### **III. OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

### Promote spiritual growth by encouraging students to minister to their peers and their local community.

- 1. Encourage pastors to be more active in their district school (visit schools, organize/ conduct Bible studies, offer baptismal classes, provide counseling services, etc.).
- 2. Have regular meetings with each pastor in the school-district, to brainstorm ways that all school-age church members can attend GNYC schools.
- 3. Promote our schools in all GNYC churches and encourage teachers and students to present programs in our churches.
- 4. Encourage principals and teachers to visit all of our churches and be active members of our churches.



- 5. Ensure that all principals and teachers meet NAD Office of Education requirements to receive their "Minister of Teaching" credentials, and host a commissioning service for those who meet the requirement.
- 6. Urge all principals and teachers to hold membership in a GNYC constituent church.

### Increase giving and offer additional scholarships.

- 1. Identify potential donors and establish a donor list; identify and pursue fundraising opportunities to increase scholarships. Extend the scope of the search to individual donors, scholarships from various Greater New York churches, Union, and NAD, benefit concerts; conference-wide annual giving campaign, etc.
- 2. Encourage each school to conduct an annual alumni meeting and celebrate significant milestones in each school.
- 3. Create an advertising campaign for schools that highlights testimonials from past and present students.

### **IV. FORWARD IN COMPLETION**

#### Enhance and maintain school grounds in order to offer a safe and attractive environment.

- 1. Ensure that each school is in compliance with NAD, Union, GNYC, and New York State and City standards regarding building code requirements and fire-safety.
- 2. Develop fundraising initiatives for Corporation-approved capital improvements.
- 3. Regularly encourage principals to maintain and enhance the appearance of the school.
- 4. Annually review overall safety plans of the schools by looking into ways to increase safety.
- 5. Implement a Zero Tolerance policy.
- 6. Ensure that each school is in compliance with NAD and New York State Health Safety Standards.
- 7. Meet NAD accreditation standards and conduct regular school evaluations.
- 8. Ensure that each teacher is in compliance with NAD certification standards.
- 9. Conduct principal and teacher evaluations to maintain quality control and a focus on education excellence.
- 10. Establish an ESL (English as a Second Language) Institute for constituent members.

# **Children's Ministries**

C Michelle Broomfield Coordinator

### VISION

To expand and deepen the awareness, importance and impact of Children's Ministries across the Greater New York Conference territory.

### MISSION

To foster and develop a committed, confident, motivated and caring community of Children's Ministries leaders, volunteers, pastors and church members who intentionally seek, serve and share the good news of the gospel to inspire children to **Say Yes to Jesus**!

### **1. UPWARD IN CHRIST**

# Encourage and support Children's Ministries teams, children and families in nurturing their walk with Jesus Christ.

### Personal Growth

- Encourage an intentional, powerful prayer life and study of the Sabbath School lesson as key tools for daily personal and spiritual growth.
- Generate and distribute the T.A.G. (Time Alone with God) activity pamphlet to Children's Ministries teams and other departments.
- In partnership with local churches teach parents how to model daily devotional time with God to their children.
- Select and distribute kids devotional materials and links via the gnyc.org Children's Ministries web page, email newsletter and other media platforms.

### **Collective Consciousness**

- Support bible study groups on line, in person or via church-led bible.
- Facilitate training on key topics including the yearly NAD Certification Series for Children's Ministries leaders, teams, parents, adventurer directors and Family Life teams.
- In partnership with NAD, deliver Train the Trainer certificate program to formally establish a cohort of GNYC Children's Ministries instructors for better delivery of programs in the GNYC territories.



- Solicit churches to participate actively on a yearly or bi-annual basis in one of the discipleship opportunities below (subject to change):
  - I Share Jesus Challenge (Individual and Group Evangelism Opportunity).
  - GO FISH for kids training program (Evangelism Opportunity).
  - Three Angels Message (Evangelism Opportunity).
  - 28 Fundamentals (Discipleship Opportunity).
  - Fruit of the Spirit (Evangelism and Service Opportunity).
  - My Spiritual Gifts Child-Centered Spirituality.

### **Mindful** Awareness

- Assess the spiritual growth and life skills needs of leaders, children and parents to effectively deliver the right support and resources,
- Identify parent-focused learning opportunities to empower and resource parents in their spiritual walk with Christ,
- Facilitate workshops and provide resources on critical topics such as: children's mental health and trauma education, possibility ministry (special needs) and protecting our children:
  - Teach awareness, mindfulness, acceptance and active compassion, inclusion and allyship regarding autism/ASD and other special needs,

### **2. INWARD IN CONNECTION**

# Help Children's Ministries teams, children and families build lasting Christ-centered and loving relationships within their churches and families.

### Interpersonal Relationships

- Partner with various ministries to identify mutual areas of need and work together towards solutions that meet agreed upon goals focused on families,
- Encourage teams and pastors to re-imagine and establish programs or projects for inter-generational partnerships,
- Establish a mentoring system and community hub where new and seasoned leaders and

team members can fast-track their ability to settle into their positions and effectively lead their teams,

#### **Pastor/Teacher Relationships**

• In partnership with the GNYC Education department, identify areas of need that Children's Ministries can support and promote and showcase Adventist Education within our programs.

### **3. OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

Train and support those who work with children to integrate a child-centered outreach component in their programs across Children's Ministries, Sabbath School, Vacation Bible School and other areas.

#### Evangelism is our Commission

- Help Children's Ministries teams, pastors and families re-imagine VBS, Sabbath School, Puppet Ministry and Possibility Ministry (Special Needs), as gateways to reach people in our communities for the cause of Christ.
- Promote and support programs and activities geared towards deepening children's understanding of evangelism and the part they play in seeking and sharing the gospel:

- Go Fish Spiritual Gift Classes for Kids:

- Puppet Ministry teams and shows during revivals, community guest days and Easter, Fall and Christmas programs.

• Challenge and help churches to create and implement an extended VBS outreach plan: what they plan to do after summer VBS to engage children and parents.

### Soul Winning

- Encourage Children's Ministries teams to anchor their ministry on the discipleship of children.
- Curate and distribute materials geared towards Kids Discipleship including a framework for using and tracking results and impact.

### **Church Growth**

- In partnership with key ministries, design a plan/process to root children through their faith development journey so that they will of their own volition feel compelled to return after college and serve faithfully in their churches and communities.
- Seek opportunities to better support and participate in church growth initiatives.

### **Church Education is our Commission**

• Source, collect and distribute information, materials, video links and other resources to teams on church education related matters.

### **4. FORWARD IN COMPLETION**

Actively promote and support the Forward in Completion imperative as opportunities arise.

### **Family Ministries**

Samuel Peguero Director

Laundale Munroe Associate Director

### MISION

To preach the everlasting gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ through families, in the territory of the Greater New York Conference.

### VISION

To promote healthy families for the kingdom of God.

### **FAMILY MINISTRIES SPIRITUAL & MISSION ORIENTED**

A paradigm that highlights homes as the main mission field, where children are prepared to be the new generation of Christ's disciples. In this way families, united in the mission, are encouraged to bring other families to Jesus.

- 1. Give seminars that help the constituents to better understand the concept of family and mission.
- 2. Encourage activities at the local church level that help develop creative ideas that connect families with the mission of the church.
- 3. Offer seminars that help parents prepare their children for Christian discipleship.
- 4. Prepare and/or source print and digital resources for a family Bible study series.
- 5. Carry out a week of family evangelism and family baptisms each year.

#### STRONG SINGLES MINISTRIES AND PRE-MARRIAGE PREPARATION

## Develop an active Singles Ministry program where singles are empowered for a successful family life or a happy single life led by the Lord.

- 1. Hold virtual and face-to-face empowerment meetings for singles.
- 2. Provide services to the community that promote unity in the mission.
- 3. Convene Adventist Singles Retreats.
- 4. Host social and recreational activities.

### ACTIVE MARRIAGE/COUPLE'S MINISTRIES AT CONFERENCE AND LOCAL CHURCH LEVELS

### Encourage the creation of spouses' clubs in the local churches to promote the well-being of married couples in the constituency and the community.

- 1. Invigorate the activities of the local church with programs of a social and educational nature oriented to the family, with the support of singles clubs.
- 2. Motivate reading about marriage and family in couples groups.
- 3. Use couple's programs as an evangelizing tool.
- 4. Hold a couple's retreat annually, ideally one in the country and one outside the United States.

### PARENTING MINISTRIES TO PREPARE OUR CHILDREN FOR ETERNITY

### Provide tools to parents to help their children to love Jesus and be formed with a perspective of eternity

- 1. Conduct parenting training seminars.
- 2. Hold an annual retreat for parents and parents-to-be.
- 3. Guide parents on how to minister the heart of their children.

### ONGOING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM TO EQUIP LEADERS AND CHURCH MEMBERS IN FAMILY LIFE

# Provide continuous high-quality training that helps family leaders, church members, and people from the community to strengthen their knowledge in the area of family life and motivate them to share what they have learned.

- 1. Present each year a family lay certification that addresses relevant issues.
- 2. Every two years, offer the child abuse and molestation prevention course.
- 3. With student participation, create a broad resource base that can be used as reference material for other parents or family leaders.

### **COUNSELING SERVICES**

Provide professional counseling services to constituent members and their family or friends, as available.



## **Men's Ministries**

Reginald R Barthelemy Director

### VISION

To inspire the men of the Greater New York Conference with a vision to impact their churches and their communities for Christ.

### MISSION

Our mission is to connect men with God through His word so that they can be a godly influence in their families, the church, and the community.

### **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

- 1. Lead men to experience Christ-centered relationships.
- 2. Lead a weekly prayer meeting to pray for men and their families.
- 3. Conduct a bimonthly Bible study for spiritual growth and discipleship.
- 4. Organize an annual half-day of fasting and prayer.

### **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

- 1. Provide relevant resources and information to build up men and strengthen the whole family.
- 2. Initiate and facilitate small groups, and provide consultation to those supervising small groups, this will provide opportunities for truthfulness, transparency, and genuine sharing.
- 3. Work with ethnic ministries directors and pastors to support, promote, and establish Men's Ministries departments in churches that do not have one.
- 4. Promote the concept of stewardship and encourage our men to be faithful stewards in all aspects of their lives.
- 5. Organize social events and outings that will bring together men from different ethnic ministries to fellowship and build each other up in Christ.



### **OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

- 1. Enable our men to better understand their calling and how to fulfill it, especially within the context of the Great Commission.
- 2. Train and empower men in the areas of leadership, evangelism, discipleship, and community service.
- 3. Host a biannual conference-wide Men's Day of Prayer.
- 4. Organize a Men's Annual Weekend Revival.

### FORWARD IN COMPLETION

- 1. Inspire, equip, and create opportunities for men to grow in discipleship and engage in community outreach that leads to greater opportunities to serve and lead others to Christ.
- 2. Minister to men through devotional e-mails, trainings, study groups, an annual Men's Prayer Convention, prayer, an annual Men's Health Awareness workshops, social activities, and individual counseling.
- 3. Provide scholarships for our youngsters.
- 4. Organize a certification for all Men's Ministries directors of the GNYC.

# Ministerial

Reginald R Barthelemy Director

### VISION

To inspire, equip, and empower local pastors, elders, deacons/deaconesses, and other leaders with a vision to go and make a lasting difference in their churches and communities.

### MISSION

To lead people to become fully devoted disciples of Christ so that they can share Christ's love through outreach and missions.

### I. UPWARD IN CHRIST

- 1. Provide training to help the GNYC pastors deal with their health and well-being in all its dimensions: spiritual, physical, social, emotional and financial.
- 2. Host a biannual Minister's Growth Seminar to help pastors grow their ministry both spiritually and intellectually.
- 3. Organize an annual half-day of prayer for pastors and teachers to deepen their relationships with God and each other.
- 4. Connect leaders with God and, through authentic relationships, empower them to mobilize their church in service to their communities.

### **II. INWARD IN CONNECTION**

- 1. Provide ongoing training for our licensed ministers, and prepare and groom them for ordination.
- 2. Work together with ethnic ministries directors on evaluation for our pastors.
- 3. In partnership with the GNYC administration, provide training to elders, deacons/ deaconesses, as well as other leaders through the GNYC School of Evangelism.
- 4. Foster collaboration between the Ministerial and Education Departments to facilitate teamwork between pastors and teachers, churches and schools in the Greater New York Conference.
- 5. Organize an annual Office Week of Prayer in collaboration with the ethnic ministries' directors.



### **III. OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

- 1. Train and equip local church leaders to get connected, discover their purpose, and make an impact in their churches and communities.
- 2. Lead local leaders to a growing relationship with Jesus through disciple-making.
- 3. Help leaders become fully engaged disciples of Christ who will in turn go into the world and reach others for Christ.
- 4. Organize one mission trip.

### **IV. FORWARD IN COMPLETION**

- 1. Celebrate Pastor Appreciation Month.
- 2. Have Annual "PK's Fun Day", (Pastor's Kids Fun Day).
- 3. Host an annual pastor's half-day of prayer.
- 4. Sponsor a pastor's retreat.
- 5. Recognize emeritus pastors.
- 6. Encourage more pastors to take a Sabbatical.

**GNVC** STRATEGIC PLANNING

## **Ministerial Spouses**

June Smith Coordinator

Ministerial spouses accept the call to Ministry and are committed to being co-partners with their spouses to work with their families, the churches, and the community to build up the Kingdom of God. "And Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus". (Col 3:17)

I am committed to working alongside the spouses in the Greater New York Conference to meet the strategic variables that are established for this quadrennium.

## **EMBRACING THE THEME**

## United in mission, we will go, and the Mission Statement: United in mission, we will take Christ to the community; we are committed to the following:

**I. Upward in Christ:** In order to answer the call of Christ, we as spouses are to be renewed daily, totally submitted and surrendered to Him. Our KPIs are:

- a. Have monthly virtual prayer sessions.
- b. Promote reading the Word of God and Spiritual Devotionals.
- c. Encourage our ministerial spouses to embrace their roles and be active role models in their churches.
- d. Identify their Spiritual gifts, find their niche, and volunteer their services.

# **II. Inward in Connection:** Ministerial spouses will be empowered to look inward personally as they:

- a. Maintain a balanced disposition and be mindful of personal influence.
- b. Model the Character of Christ and be intentional about duties and function.
- c. Be faithful in church-going and participation.
- d. Faithful in Stewardship of time and means.
- 1. **Inward Developmentally**: Ministerial spouses will be encouraged to maximize their potential and seek personal development by:
  - a. Exploring opportunities for personal growth
  - b. Setting and reaching personal goals
  - c. Improving on skill sets
  - d. Sharing opportunities for personal growth with each other.

## 2. Inward in Family & Relationship by:

- a. Maintaining health functional Families.
- b. Building networks among each other.
- c. Relating to spouses outside of our network and culture.
- d. Planning social events that are inclusive.

## 3. Inward in Leadership by:

- a. Creating new and expanded innovative programs that are relevant to the evolving needs of the MSA members.
- b. Conducting Evangelistic Outreach in Churches.
- c. Coordinating programs in each Borough.
- d. Supporting and volunteering for roles to enhance event planning.
- e. Analyzing the needs of others and seeking solutions.

**III. Outward in Commission: "I was hungry, and you fed me… I was a stranger, and you took me in." (Matthew 25:35).** We have a responsibility to spread the love of Christ and the Good News of Salvation. As ministerial spouses, we join our husbands and churches in the Mission to reach each person with the love of Christ. Our KPIs are:

- a. Develop community contacts by planning events in the summers to distribute care packages to shut-ins and missing members.
- b. Start Bible study with identified persons of interest.
- c. Tap into English-speaking classes for groups that do not speak the language.
- d. Provide support to spouses who are sick or have other needs where help is welcomed.
- e. Arrange to have one Sabbath set aside as Ministerial Spouses Day.

**IV. Forward in Completion:** The MSA is committed to building unity among the various cultural groups of the Greater New York Conference. We are aiming to bridge the divide and get to know each other as sisters-in-Christ. Along with all the in-reach and out-reach, we aim to build comradery and friendships. Key Performance Indicators are:

- a. Establish a Book Club where we will meet virtually and discuss the assigned book for that month.
- b. Plan an MSA Retreat where the ladies can go away for a weekend and fellowship.
- c. Plan day trips to the city to visit sights of interest and have lunch together.
- d. Have a Brunch, Tea Party, and a picnic at least twice annually.
- e. Compile a Devotional written by the MSA members of their experiences and encounters in Ministry and share how God intervened.
- f. Have an ongoing Bible Study Group among the MSA members virtually.
- g. Conduct bi-monthly Prayer sessions for and among MSA members.

## **Prayer Ministries**

**Neil A Turner** Coordinator

### MISSION

Our mission is to lead churches and pastors in building a strong foundation of prayer. We will inspire believers to deepen their relationship with God through intercession, fostering a culture of prayer that brings transformation and renewal to communities. We are committed to serving as a trusted partner to churches as they navigate the challenges and opportunities of ministry.

## **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

- 1. Support and continuously pray for the mission, vision, plans, spiritual and numerical growth of the Greater New York Conference, its employees, congregations and schools.
- 2. Provide resources and guidance to local Prayer Coordinators and church leaders on how to develop plans for their congregations to have a deeper prayer focus.
- 3. Organize prayer conventions, training seminars, and other relevant prayer initiatives that allow believers to have a more enhanced prayer life.
- 4. Liaise with pastors and local church leaders to provide opportunities for believers to serve in prayer ministry, allowing them to exercise their spiritual gifts and develop their leadership abilities.

## **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

- 1. Partner with the Education Department, Ministerial Department, and Ethnic Coordinators to organize prayer programs where pastors, principals, teachers, staff and students may gather and pray together.
- 2. Encourage prayer coordinators to support and/or help plan prayer programs at sister churches.
- 3.Encourage prayer coordinators to have prayer programs designed to reach different groups of the church (e.g. youth, women and men's prayer groups).

## OUTWARD IN COMMISSION

- 1. Encourage believers to pray for the salvation of others regularly, building a habit of intercession for those who are far from God.
- 2. Share practical ideas with Prayer Coordinators and local churches such as how to effectively use the Prayer Ministry as an effective tool to support the pastor's evangelism plan and to connect with the community.

## FORWARD IN COMPLETION

Pray for all the building projects within the Greater New York Conference and for the finances to complete these projects.



# Personal & Church Planting Ministries

**Bianel Lara** Director

**Conrad White** Associate Director

## **MISSION**

Our mission is to inspire, equip and mobilize all members to make disciples through dynamic Christian service with the conviction that "Every true disciple is born into the kingdom of God as a missionary." The Desire of Ages, p. 195.

## VISION

"Each One, Reach One" and "Every Church Planting a Church."

## **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

#### To create a culture of discipleship through holistic small groups.

- a. Reiterate the biblical command to create the holistic small group system to grow the church.
- b. Develop an ongoing training program for pastors and churches about small groups.
- c. Establish 200 small groups at GNYC.
- d. Increase the number of disciples giving Bible Studies by 10%.
- e. Establish two worship services for the incarcerated.

#### Indicators

- At least 50 small groups per year.
- A Bible worker assigned to inmates.
- A prison ministry training every year.
- At least 10K Bible studies distributed every year.
- Establish 10 Virtual Small Groups per year.
- Number of churches and pastors using Small Groups.

## **OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

## To generate a culture of multiplication through evangelism and church planting.

a. Encourage an annual simultaneous public evangelism program per ministry during the fall, spring and summer season.

- b. Increase our baptism rate by 15% per year.
- c. Recruit and train 30 new church planters.
- d. Plant churches that grow and reach their communities.
- e. Plant 30 new churches by 2026.
- f. Assist each Mission Group to become a Company, and each company to become a Church.
- g. Identify 20 congregations committed to multiplying within the quadrennium; these will be selected for a special follow-up assessment.

## Indicators

- Baptize 900 people per year.
- A yearly Church Planting Convention.
- Plant 10 new churches every year.
- A yearly trip with at least 50 planters to the NAD Boot Camp and Exponential.
- Pr. Pere
- 20 churches led by volunteer church planters.

## FORWARD IN COMPLETION

## To Encourage a culture of healthy church growth through revitalization and retention.

- a. Support the Ethnic Ministries by assessing the health of their congregations
- b. Equip members in the art of attracting, engaging, and retaining guest and new believers.

## Indicators

- Church revitalization training with pastors every year
- Number of NCD surveys completed by year
- Number of revitalized churches as evidenced by a second survey and updated statistic
- Retain 70 % of new believers.

# Publishing

Daniel Sánchez de Jesús Director

Omar Lebreault Associate Director

### VISION

Unite all Literature Evangelists to proclaim the gospel of hope to all New York in this generation.

## MISSION

The GNYC Publishing Ministry has the mission of bringing the good news of salvation to New York in a holistic way through books and magazines.

## **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

## a. Promote Learning and Growing Perspective for Employee Empowerment.

- 1. Recognize work suitability of each staff member.
- 2. Establish a plan for efficient training of workers that will establish high morale in the work environment.
- 3. Develop a well-coordinated communication system for the department.
- 4. Give workers assignments according to their job description.
- 5. Promote seminars and trainings on human-relations on the job.
- 6. Encourage classes to assist staff communicate bi-lingually.
- 7. Proper system for filing and recording of important information and messages on a daily basis will be developed.

## **OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

To have a Publishing Department focused on soul winning and be financially self sustaining by sharing the Adventist Gospel through our Christian publications.

## a. Plant new churches in the next four years.

- 1. Train and equip Literature Evangelists in giving Bible Studies and in Soul-winning.
- 2. Territory assigned to Literature Evangelists will be studied and considered a target site for church-planting.
- 3. Initiate church-planting activities like free Bible distribution and health seminars.

- 4. At least 2-3 Literature Evangelism professional trainings annually.
- 5. Territorial evaluation for churchplanting.
- 6. Baptize 400 new church members in the next three years.

## b. Hiring more Literature Evangelists via the Worldwide Recruiting Perspective.

- 1. Increase the present number of regular Literature Evangelists to 40.
- 2. Increase the number of student Literature Evangelists to 150 annually.
- 3. Employ 10 new regular Literature Evangelist from major ethnicities



present in New York like Chinese, Filipino, Haitian, Jamaican and Honduran.

- 4. Have regular promotion of Literature Evangelism in local churches within the GNYC territory.
- 5. Have a regular promotion of the summer program for Literature Evangelism in SDA colleges and universities around the world especially those near the GNYC territory.
- 6. Encourage multi-ethnic churches to recommend Literature Evangelists from their country who could best represent them in the Publishing Ministry.

## FORWARD IN COMPLETION

## a. Stewardship of Means.

- 1. Be financially stable through new income from sales.
- 2. Facilitate donations from churches.
- 3. Minimize expenses.
- 4. Sell one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) of books per year in the next 3 years within 10% increase annually.
- 5. Promote books for free distribution in communities within SDA Churches to be sponsored by church members.
- 6. Monitor bad debts by establishing consistent follow up.
- 7. Reject returns of badly damaged books.

## b. Stewardship of Care.

- 1. House student Literature Evangelists for the Summer Program.
- 2. House new Literature Evangelists from other countries at a minimal cost for at least 6 months.
- 3. Purchase or rent a 3-story house or apartment to shelter regular Literature Evangelists and those in the student program, as needed.
- 4. Encourage church members to accommodate Literature Evangelists as much as possible in order to cover housing cost.
- 5. Request congregations to allow the summer program students to be housed in churches.

# Religious Liberty/ Planned Giving and Trust Services

**James Mangum** Director

## **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

- 1. Encourage a solid and deep relationship with Jesus Christ
- 2. Be fully enlightened of our spiritual responsibility of faithful care of the financial blessings God has endowed us with
- 3. Be mindful of the time we are living in and the need to support the GNYC through PGTS and PARL fully

## **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

- 1. Plan and work with our Pastors, Teachers, and office staff to build a better understanding of PARL and PGTS
- 2. Continue providing support to members who need assistance with Sabbath-related issues at the work environment or school
- 3. Encourage and promote the importance of giving
- 4. Work in collaboration with the North American Division, Atlantic Union Conference, and surrounding conferences
- 5. Publish and produce awareness of our financial needs and improvement plans within the conference membership and outside our organization
- 6. Educate about the many types of giving options and how to make donations

## **OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

- 1. Promote the different concepts of Planned Giving and supporting the GNYC organization through sermons, training seminars, and local church presentations
- 2. Promote the Annual Religious Liberty Campaign
- 3. Promoting PGTS and PARL through social media
- 4. Continue supporting and encouraging the distribution of Liberty Magazine to community leaders in the GNYC area
- 5. Continue monitoring New York State legislation

6. Make the necessary information about Planned Giving and Trust Services available through our conference website

## FORWARD IN COMPLETION

The aspirational goals for the Planned Giving & Trust Service/Public Affairs & Religious Liberty are to have every member of the GNYC be fully aware of the need to have a Will & Trust and to be faithful donors who will support the gospel commission of preaching the word in New York City. To educate every member of the GNYC about the importance of PARL. To continue recruiting, training, and coordinating with all the departments of the GNYC, inspiring our members to keep the faith and to be ready as well as diligent until the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



## Sabbath School

Bancroft Daughma Director

The Seventh-day Adventist Church operates a weekly Bible study for all age groups in almost every church around the world. The Sabbath School program is a Bible-based study approximately 60 minutes long which nurtures spiritual growth in members and visitors who join in this time of study, fellowship, and outreach.

The Sabbath School Department provides support to the churches in the Greater New York Conference to enhance their programs and the training of Sabbath School teachers. Sabbath School is not just an event, but an agency through which a lifelong Spiritual Foundation is developed, resulting in dynamic Christian living and discipleship of others.

## MISSION

Making Sabbath School an agency for Spiritual Learning, Bible Study, and Evangelism.

## VISION

Every church having innovative Action Units/Small Groups for personal faith growth and development, and as an infrastructure for evangelism and discipleshing.

## **STRATEGIC GOALS**

- To ensure all churches are equipped through training and resources to realize the mission of the Sabbath School.
- To reimagine and revive the Sabbath School as the heart of the Church for religious education.
- To grow the Sabbath School through innovation.
- To be intentional in developing and mentoring young adults, youth, and children in becoming strong Christians.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- To inspire love and commitment to Christ and a dynamic Christian lifestyle.
- To deepen knowledge of Scripture and be firmly grounded in its teachings.
- To enrich fellowship and strengthen the faith community.
- To encourage total Involvement in mission.



## Stewardship

Robert J. Charles Director

## **BIBLICAL FOUNDATION**

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." Mat 6:33

"Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, And his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: 'I am the First, and I am the Last; Besides Me there is no God." Isaiah 44:6

"Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine." Proverbs 3:9-10

Stewardship is about our relationship with God. It is our attitude toward God and the resources that He has entrusted to us to manage. It includes but is not limited to finances. Stewardship is about life management. We have been created and redeemed to be faithful stewards, managers of all dimensions of life. A Christian Steward manages God's resources God's way.

#### VISION

All of us putting God first.

#### **MISSION**

Motivating people to be faithful stewards, trusting God as Owner and Provider, and partnering totally with Him in His mission to save souls.

### VALUES

- Honesty.
- Faithfulness.
- Integrity.
- Trust.



## **PROPOSED GOALS**

- 1. Increase tithes by 2% every year between 2023 and 2026.
- 2. Increase the percentage of members who are using AdventistGiving.org by 5% every year between 2023 and 2026.
- 3. Encourage the members to give faithful offerings.

### TRAINING AND EDUCATION

- 1. Use traditional and digital media to share the good news about stewardship.
- 2. Conduct stewardship seminars/summits in the churches and with pastors.
- 3. Work with the Youth Department to have a Stewardship honor for Pathfinders and Adventurers.
- 4. Help church members to create wealth/financial resources.
- 5. Help church members to manage their personal financial resources.
- 6. Help church members to share God's blessings.

#### SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

- 1. Share the quarterly Dynamic Stewards' magazine.
- 2. Share the Annual Stewardship Revival Week material.
- 3. Provide valuable resources for the churches and the pastors on the Stewardship Web page of the GNYC.
- 4. Create a Tithe and Offering envelope for kids.

# Women's Ministry

Lisa D. González Director

## VISION

The Vision for the Women's Ministry department of the Greater New York conference is to develop a caring community of women to be devoted to Christ, through:

- Training our women to saturate every aspect of our lives in prayer.
- To equip our women with training so they will be actively involved in evangelism and outreach ministries with the goal of becoming "Disciples Making Disciples".
- To foster a culture of unity and total involvement as we work for the Master.
- Christ-Centered Focus: spiritual encouragement, growth and daily bible study.
- Wide-spread Mission: meeting the needs of each other in all seasons of our lives, and of those in our community and whomever we come in contact.
- Health: incorporate the Health Message in all we do.

## **CORE VALUES**

- We will purpose to inspire, support and challenge one another as the women of the Greater New York Conference.
- We will purpose to provide a framework for a healthy balance of our vision .
- We will encourage one another in our relationships, spiritual life, giftedness, ministry and outreach.

#### GOALS

- Help women grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Help women get established in the Word.
- Help women learn to serve in love.
- Help women understand how to live out the gospel.
- Help women to develop and become mentors for the youth and young adults.

#### **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

Women's Ministries strives to facilitate transformative relationships with Jesus for every woman within the church community. Our purpose is to nurture, support, mentor, and encourage not only our fellow church members but also all individuals we encounter on a daily basis. In our pursuit of evangelistic ministry, it is essential that all our activities, including social events, incorporate a spiritual dimension, such as thoughtfully planned devotionals, to inspire women. As we strive to emulate Christ, our ultimate objective is to win souls for Jesus Christ. Guided by the words from Galatians 3:28, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus," we are called to be dedicated "Women of Mission... We Will Go!"

#### 1. Prayer line and quarterly women's prayer sessions.

Recognizing that our efforts are futile without Christ at the center, we acknowledge our dependence on the Holy Spirit. Through the Holy Spirit, we receive wisdom, understanding, comfort, and protection from physical and spiritual dangers. We also depend on the Holy Spirit for interpretation, understanding of biblical truths and discernment in everyday affairs. To commence each week with an extra boost, we will continue our weekly women's ministries prayer sessions. Additionally, we organize quarterly prayer sessions open to all interested providing an opportunity to express gratitude and share testimonies of God's work in their lives. These sessions serve as reminders of God's past guidance and ongoing work through His Holy Spirit.

#### 2. Bible studies.

Bible studies hold significant importance in our daily lives. Through the study of God's Word, we not only equip others with knowledge but also strengthen our own faith and relationship with our Creator. The Word of God serves as a source of courage and strength, enabling us to face the challenges presented by the adversary. Over the past four years, we have been privileged to be vessels of the Lord's work in sharing the good news of Jesus, our soon-coming Lord and King. This commitment remains unwavering.

### **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

#### Training

We remain committed to equipping and empowering the women and young ladies of the Greater New York Conference. Our primary focus is their personal spiritual growth, while also equipping them with tools for serving the Lord within their homes, churches, and communities at large.

#### 1. Outward in Commision

#### Evangelism.

Directed by the Lord, our core objective in every task we undertake is soul-winning. This encompasses various activities such as evangelistic series and collaborative efforts with other departments to reach individuals for Christ. We employ diverse methods including sidewalk evangelism, church-based evangelism, online evangelism through platforms like Zoom, mission trip evangelism, and evangelism through the health message. Our commitment is to integrate evangelism into every facet of our lives.

#### 2. Outreach.

We actively engage in sharing the gospel, providing food to the hungry, and distributing clothing to those in need. We incorporate the health message and natural remedies as tools for witnessing and healing the sick. As part of our strategic plan, we aim to work closely with shelters, specifically women and teen mom shelters, establishing meaningful partnerships to assist in their needs. We are actively collaborating with organizations aiding immigrants seeking asylum in New York, addressing their material and spiritual needs. In addition to providing necessary items, we aim to evangelize by offering workshops and training in areas essential for daily living.

#### 3. Young Adult Forum.

The transition from childhood to adulthood can be both daunting and exhilarating for young adults today, who face unique challenges unknown in previous generations. We

aim to collaborate with other departments to create a safe environment that fosters self-expression, nurtures personal growth, and builds confidence. Through workshops addressing their specific challenges, we seek to support and guide them during this critical life phase.

#### 4. Enditnow.

*Enditnow* is a global initiative that is active in more than 200 countries and territories, advocating for the end of violence against men, women, and children worldwide. Our objective is to collaborate with sister conferences within the North American Division on a quarterly basis, delivering awareness, training, and resolution initiatives aimed at eradicating violence in all its forms.

#### FORWARD IN COMPLETION

#### 1. Disabilities Ministries.

Numerous individuals silently endure the challenges of living with disabilities, often lacking support or awareness of available resources. We strive to make a positive difference by providing assistance and connecting them with professionals who can offer guidance and services to lighten their burdens. Specifically, we are dedicated to addressing the needs of the deaf community, recognizing the difficulties they face in communication and access. Our goal is to explore opportunities for assistance in these circumstances.

#### 2. Women Helping Women Network.

The Women Helping Women Network serves as a database that brings together women from various professions and skill sets to facilitate the sharing of skills, talents, and professional expertise among women.

#### 3. Safe Haven.

Domestic violence is a pervasive issue that affects women worldwide, regardless of their age, ethnicity, or socio-economic background. It refers to the physical, emotional, or psychological abuse inflicted upon women by their intimate partners or family members within the confines of their homes. It is a deeply troubling and distressing reality, often shrouded in secrecy and fear.

Safe Haven is a place of refuge for women who are fleeing domestic violence. This initiative began and was tirelessly worked on by my predecessors. By God's grace, we desire to bring it to completion. In doing so, we wish to provide:

- Physical Safety.
- Emotional Support.
- Empowerment.
- Healing and Recovery.
- Community and Solidarity.

# **English Ministries**

Lincoln M. Smith Director

## MISSION

The English Ministries Department of the Greater New York Conference is committed to spiritual growth in our daily lives through the power of the Holy Spirit, and to sharing the everlasting gospel throughout the Greater New York metropolitan area.

## **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

- 1. Practice spiritual disciplines of prayer, fasting, Bible study and spiritual accountability.
- 2. Practice kindness and patience towards one another.
- 3. Take time to unplug from our busy schedule and social media to listen to God's voice.
- 4. Examine whether our thoughts and way of life are in harmony with the Word of God.

## **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

- 1. Re-engage youth in worship and church involvement.
- 2. Develop a youth mentoring program.
- 3.Create an innovative program to strengthen inter-generational relationships through workshops, social events, mentoring and volunteerism.
- 4. Encourage church members to identify three church members they don't know or have never met and get to know them.
- 5. Continue the "Growing Young" program to increase retention and engagement in mission and leadership by young adults.

## **OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

- 1. Partner with local community leaders to identify the practical needs of the community.
- 2. Administer a spiritual gifts assessment each year for members to identify their spiritual gifts for use in ministry.
- 3. Use social media (YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, TikTok etc.) as tools of engagement and soul winning.
- 4. Continue to support and enable our pastors and engage lay persons to use traditional

and innovative evangelism methods that will effectively reach the changing demographics of their local church.

- 5. Encourage each member to invite three people to a sponsored community event, an evangelistic series, or to church.
- 6. Have back to school drives—backpack give aways with school supplies.
- 7. Have winter coat drives.
- 8. Aim for 400-600 new baptisms each year collectively among the thirty one churches.

### **IV. FORWARD IN COMPLETION**

- 1. Create an educational fund to help families who meet the criteria with financial assistance to help them send or keep their kid(s) in Seventh-day Adventist Christian schools.
- 2. Identify creative way to fundraise to support Adventist Christian education.
- 3. Maintain and improve the infrastructure of the church buildings.
- 4. Strategically establish 2-3 new church plant congregations.



# Franco-Haitian Ministries

Andy Lagredelle Director

## MISSION

United in mission, we will take Christ to the community.

### VISION

The Franco-Haitian Ministries vision is to build dynamic and vibrant Franco-Haitian churches that can effectively reach their community with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Franco-Haitian Ministries will provide the tools and resources needed to accomplish the vision, including material resources as well as the training and inspiration necessary for pastors, church leaders, and church members to work together strategically in order to reach our communities.

## THE FRANCO-HAITIAN MINISTRY EXITS TO S.E.R.V.E

Spiritual Revival. Equipping Youth and Young Adults. Reaching Out to Others. Vibrant Church Revitalization. Engaging Community.

## **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

- 1. Nurture a Spirit-filled body of believers who experience personal and corporate growth by initiating targeted programs aimed at strengthening discipleship among pastors, leaders, and lay persons.
- 2. Conduct monthly pastor's meetings to assess and monitor growth, and share working strategies and resources.
- 3. Observe an annual day of fasting and prayer with one theme for the entire sector; incorporate quarterly fasting, and facilitate an annual Prayer Retreat for pastors and lay people.
- 4. Make every meeting a time of professional development.



## INWARD IN CONNECTION

- 1. Empower church communities to develop a discipleship curriculum for growing members Or, empower church communities to develop a curriculum for growing disciples of Jesus Christ.
- 2. Host a Franco-Haitian Camp Meeting .

3. Convene community Town Halls yearly for Long Island and Queens-Brooklyn.

4. Form a youth council to better meet the needs of local churches by providing opportunities for youth leadership, evangelistic outreach, community service, and community building.

## **OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

- 1. Grow engagement by increasing the number of church members participating in both personal and public evangelistic initiatives with a goal of (T.M.I) total member involvement.
- 2. Offer a two-semester-per-year School of Evangelism to strategically train lay people for public evangelism, personal evangelism, and social media evangelism.
- 3. Launch "Mega-Evangelistic" campaigns every two years.
- 4. Plant two new churches per year.

## FORWARD IN COMPLETION

- 1. Offer seminars and intensive trainings on financial empowerment designed to equip low-to-moderate income members with basic financial management skills.
- 2. Develop a digital outreach ministry with content that is adaptable to various broadcast platforms and technologies. This will include using social media, updating website, and creating new media channels.
- 3. Promote healthy living by providing education and health screening for our churches and surrounding community.
- 4. Encourage and promote Adventist Christian Education .

# **Hispanic Ministries**

S. Yeury Ferreira Director

### **MISSION**

To inspire, train, and equip pastors and lay people to fulfill the mission of making disciples and the faithful administration of the church.

#### VISION

To be a model ministry in pastoral leadership, evangelism, discipleship, stewardship, church planting, and district growth.

#### VALUES

Consecration to God, teamwork, integrity, responsibility, and discipline.

#### **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

To grow the Hispanic pastoral body of the Greater New York Conference in an integrated manner to better serve God and His church.

#### Strategies for ministerial development:

- Focus on the spiritual life of the pastors, their families, their social life, health, and continuing education through talks, printed materials, social gatherings, and family retreats.
- Hold meetings with pastors individually to discuss topics related to their work.
- Hold an annual pastoral planning meeting to discuss evangelistic strategies that may be implemented in the churches.

#### **OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

To create a culture of evangelism that impels the Hispanic Ministries to qualitative and quantitative growth of its membership.

#### Strategies in the area of evangelism:

- Hold an annual evangelistic training event for pastors.
- Host annual evangelistic trainings per zone, five training meetings per year.
- Work towards the goal of increasing the baptism percentage by 5% from 2022-2026.
- Plant a new congregation per district from 2022-2026.
- Establish the "Operación Andrés" program, in order to train 320 Bible workers.



- Establish the "Proyecto Apolos" program, in order to train 100 lay preachers.
- Establish 250 functional small groups among the Hispanic community of GNYC.
- Organize a worldwide evangelistic event every two years.
- Impact social networks with the message of salvation and a training event.
- Establish 2 new districts in the period 2022-2026.
- Promote the quality of the programs and activities that are held during Hispanic Camp Meeting to inspire the churches to the soul-winning mission
- Establish an online radio station an online radio station in order to expand the message more effectively.

## **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

To develop a culture of disciple training, where both youth and adult members can grow spiritually.

## Strategy in the area of discipleship:

- Develop a training program that is relevant for the time in which we are living.
- Graduate 1,200 lay people as a result of the different GNYC training programs.
- Establish the lay council by zones and a general council.
- Recognize outstanding lay people each year.
- Work together with the Youth Department to collaborate in the spiritual development of Hispanic youth.
- Establish a quarterly magazine that enhances the integration and development of the lay people.

## FORWARD IN COMPLETION

To support the Stewardship Department through a program that involves the training of pastors and lay people.

## Strategies in the area of stewardship:

- Work in partnership with the GNYC Stewardship Ministries.
- Increase tithe contributions by 3% per year through raising awareness of the importance of Christian stewardship.
- Establish an annual Stewardship Day that involves each church.
- Establish a method that will help to lower the number of overdue remittances.

## **BAPTISM'S GOAL PER YEAR:**

- 2023 Year 1: 625 Baptisms.
- 2024 Year 2: 657 Baptisms.
- 2025 Year 3: 690 Baptisms.
- 2026 Year 4: 724 Baptisms.

## **Korean Ministries**

Sang Ki Ahn Director

## VISION

Let's become an evangelizing church!

## MISSION

Our Mission is to spread the three angels' gospel to people of different ethnic and linguistic backgrounds, while focusing on Korean Americans in the New York metropolitan area. "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Act 1:8

## **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

A Spirit-filled body of believers that are experiencing personal and corporate growth:

- 1. Build a strong community of pastors and lay leaders.
- 2. Create a culture of community among pastors.
- 3. Organize yearly pastors' retreat.
- 4. Hold monthly pastors meetings by area.
- 5. Host spiritual revival meetings twice a year.
- 6. Offer training sessions to lay leaders once every two months.
- 7. Convene a vision-building seminar twice a year.
- 8. Create a development committee to plan activities for future generations

## **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

We receive training not because we would be disciples but because we are disciples:

- 1. Conduct process-analyses and manage each ministry in a systematic way.
- 2. Gather contact information from church's address books and through evangelism events.
- 3. Have church members submit names of seekers through "Total Member Involvement."



- 4. Train 50 gospel workers for urban evangelism and church planting for future generations.
- 5. Host evangelism training for youth leaders twice a year.
- 6. Provide short-term leadership training.
- 7. Boost discipleship training at each local church (for bible teachers and small group leaders).
- 8. Schedule united fieldtraining exercises twice a year.

# OUTWARD IN

As we understand the mission

command given in Matthew 28, we gradually expand our mission from ourselves to our families, then our local churches, and to our communities.

- 1. Total Member Involvement.
- 2. Initiate small-group ministries.
- 3. Engaged in Community Services.
- 4. Foster a magazine ministry with church magazines like "Signs" and "Home and Health).
- 5. Use the first week of every month for church mission activity.
- 6. Plant seeds through various evangelism events.
- 7. Teach and employ effective visitation.
- 8. Offer health seminars like NEWSTART, Heath EXPO and similar programs.
- 9. Sponsor relief and support programs for seniors, immigrants, people struggling with depression, etcetera.
- 10. Present cultural ministries like plays, concerts, and cross-cultural experiences as well as language schools, computer classes and other educational programs.

## FORWARD IN COMPLETION

- 1. Promote the spirit of stewardship through relevant messages on a regular basis.
- 2. Set goals for each church's tithes and offerings, and then evaluate the results.
- 3. Encourage the donation of freewill offering.
- 4. Invite guest pastors to preach about stewardship.
- 5. Host a united stewardship seminar among the Korean churches.

# **Multi-Ethnic Ministries**

Steven Siciliano Director

## VISION

A Network of Healthy Churches.

### **MISSION**

Our mission is to develop holistically healthy, multi-ethnic congregations that identify with one another and with the Greater New York Conference, and work together to win souls and nurture mature disciples of Christ among the varied ethnic groups in our territory.

## **SECTOR MOTTO**

Inform, Involve, Inspire.

## **UPWARD IN CHRIST**

- 1. Conduct warm and well-executed worship services that manifest the Spirit of God, and focus on the person and work of Jesus.
- 2. Encourage pastors and church leaders to present sound biblical teaching through sermons, Bible studies, and small group meetings while guarding against aberrant doctrines and negative social trends, attitudes, and influences.
- 3. Provide training in proper biblical hermeneutics.

## **INWARD IN CONNECTION**

- 1. Stress the importance of unity, and harmonious relationships among believers, as taught by Jesus and the New Testament writers.
- 2. Foster genuine friendship through social events, outings, and service opportunities that bring people happily together.
- 3. Recognize and affirm church schools as powerful agencies for building disciples; and urge pastors, members, and church leaders to embrace and invest in Adventist education at all levels.
- 4. Remind our congregations that they are not isolated entities but part of the Multiethnic and Greater New York Conference fellowship of churches, so that members will be motivated to contribute to and have a voice in the wider conference mission.



### **OUTWARD IN COMMISSION**

- 1. Encourage each congregation to develop clear, ambitious, and realistic strategic plans that include vision and mission statements as well as goals, objectives, action steps, and evaluation criteria.
- 2. Design and host effective evangelistic programs, events, and services adapted to the unique constituencies that our current congregations are called to minister to.
- 3. Invest in new church plants that tailor their outreach programs to clearly-defined demographic groups.

## FORWARD IN COMPLETION

- 1. Teach and promote the concept of stewardship in the widest sense of managing all our resources for God as indicated in the creation accounts in the book of Genesis.
- 2. Emphasize that the physical condition of our properties conveys a powerful and often subliminal impression of our denomination and our God, and strive to maintain our churches and schools in exemplary order.
- 3. Inculcate a similar vision for and investment in our corporately shared facilities, including the conference headquarters, Camp Berkshire, and Greater New York Academy as well as the parsonages and other properties.
- 4. Provide ongoing education regarding how the tithe and offering system works, so that more members might willingly contribute, and the amount of tithes and offerings remitted by the churches may increase.
- 5. Ensure that the Multi-ethnic Ministries sector maintains a full roster of pastors who are well-trained, affirmed, accountable, and continually improving.



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