



Health Ministries News



New Faith Community Nurses are Dedication at UAP.

Faith Community Nursing Comes to Adventist University in Argentina

Entre Rios, Argentina | South American Division (SAD)

The Adventist University of Argentina (UAP) hosted the first Faith Community Nursing (FCN) training held in Spanish in the Adventist church from March 24-30, 2024. The dean of the School of Nursing (SON), Patricia Robledo, envisioned the course being offered to its 3rd and 4th year students and faculty. The goal was to equip students and faculty in the specialty of faith community nursing, equipping them to integrate spiritual care in a more intentional way as professional practice in a church and hospital setting. Participants had forty hours of learning combining course theory with hands on practicum at the local Adventist hospital offering spiritual care to patients. A special dedication ceremony was held on Sabbath and the new Faith Community Nurses made a inspiring commitment to deliver intentional care of the spirit to their patients and also become involved in FCN at the local church.



Guests and employees of the Hong Kong Hospital during the celebration.

Hong Kong Adventist Hospital Celebrates 60TH Anniversary

Hong Kong, China | Chinese Mission Field

The Hong Kong Adventist Hospital – Tsuen Wan is part of the Adventist Health global network of over 280 hospitals which strive to extend the Healing Ministry of Jesus. In the late nineteen sixties Dr. Harry Miller initiated the idea of building a hospital to serve the Tsuen Wan community and share the wholistic health philosophy of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. He secured a land grant from the then colonial government. Various local philanthropists contributed. The government of the United States funded equipment as well as a generous donation assisting final completion in June 1970. Today, the hospital continues to expand to meet the increasing demand for healthcare services in the area. The new tower of Tsuen Wan Hong Kong Adventist Hospital was completed in 2015 increasing bed numbers from 120 to 470, including new specialist centers, operating rooms and state of the art equipment. The 60th Anniversary Celebration of the Tsuen Wan Hospital took place over the weekend of May 26th, 2024, attended by GC, CHUM and Hospital administrators, local dignitaries, staff, patients and supporters. On Sabbath, the highlight was the renewal of commitment to service emphasizing the Love that motivated the Good Samaritan and modeled by the Great Physician, Jesus Christ.



Presenters and participants of the Tri-Division AAIM Advisory in Africa.

Adventist AIDS International Ministry (AAIM) Advisory Inspires Young Leaders

Rwanda | Tri-Africa Division

The East Central Africa Division hosted the 8th AAIM Tri-Division Advisory on April 12-16, 2024 in Kigali, Rwanda, on the campus of the Adventist School of Medicine of East and Central Africa (ASOME) and Adventist University of Central Africa (AUCA). These two institutions graciously hosted the 8th AAIM tri-Divisional Advisory. AAIM coordinators, Hospital workers, Union and Division directors from the three African Divisions (ECD, South Africa Indian Ocean Division (SID), and West Africa Division (WAD) attended to map the way forward on addressing the challenge that is HIV/AIDS. GC Vice President, Pr. Abner De Los Santos, gave a challenging call for commitment to Mission addressing leaders and church members alike to refocus on service to mankind, starting with personal relationship with God. In addition, AAIM new brand and logo was presented, introducing the “Red ribbon which incorporates the iconic 3 flames of the gospel,” reported Dr. Dr. Bangwato Sikwa Ramabu, AAIM Director. Together with the new logo, AAIM also launched a novel HIV Prevention campaign dubbed “WHO AM EYE”....whose “eye” is on me. A new campaign aimed at bringing back enthusiasm of chastity among Adventist young people. The Bible equivocally calls for sexual purity, and statistical evidence shows that the societal explosion of sexual licentiousness has led to concomitant flareup of sexually transmitted diseases (STD) including HIV/AIDS. With this campaign, initiatives are to be put in place to conscientize Adventist young people and the community at large about the values and benefits of sexual purity.



Attendees at the Franco-Belgium Union Lifestyle Coaching Skills workshop in Belgium.

Franco-Belgium Union Equips Leaders in Health Coaching Skills

Brussels, Belgium | Inter-European Division (IAD)

A group of health promoters, pastors, administrators and health professionals from Belgium, France and Liechtenstein, came together in Brussels from April 26-29, 2024, to be equipped for comprehensive health ministry. They learned lifestyle coaching skills to support people in the process of lifestyle change and with the person to develop deeper relationships with people in the communities they minister and serve. The training emphasized current coaching skills and biblical principles to help attendees provide personalized support for people they meet through various health outreach programs. The training was sponsored by the Belgium Field, providing materials translated for Dutch and French speakers. Violeta Tudor, Health Ministries director of the Belgium Conference, had the vision to bring it to the team of health promoters and enthusiasts and praised God for the positive response of participants. The Franco-Belgium Union president and health director, Pr Ruben Abreu, gave full support, joining the training along with the conference officers. Attendees had both theory and coaching practice sessions and left inspired to use these skills to advance the mission in the secular, post-Christian territory.



THE HEALTH CONNECTION

AdventistHealthMinistries

HealthMinistries

2ND QUARTER 2024

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Every church a center of hope and health.

REACH UP

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Reach Up.....	1
Message from the GC Health Ministries Team	
Reach In.....	2
Health Ministry Resources	
Dates to Remember	
Reach In	3
Health Research Updates	
Reach Out.....	4
Health Ministries News	

Focus on a Spirit Led Revival



United in Prayer

Join in our Quarterly Days of Prayer. We invite you to pray with your local church family. Check the tips for fasting or the quick guidelines to leading united prayer. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/3xdA3q8>

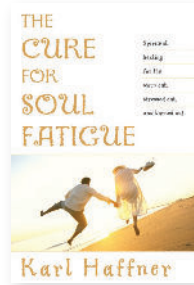


Believe His Prophets

Believe His Prophets, the sequel to Revived by His Word, is a five-year program of reading through the Bible and selected Ellen White writings, including Steps to Christ, Christ's Object Lessons, Patriarchs and Prophets, Prophets and Kings, The Desire of Ages, The Acts of the Apostles, and The Great Controversy. You can receive daily Bible readings, participate in interactive blogs, and read select inspirational writings. Sign up at <https://bit.ly/4bnrkQj>.

Books

The Cure for Soul Fatigue, by Karl Haffner. With lots of laugh therapy along the way, and mega-doses of wisdom, pastor Karl exposes the root causes of soul fatigue and prescribes the biblical cures to remedy them. <https://bit.ly/3RMs2Qc>



A Time for Everything?



"There is a time for everything (Eccl 3:1 NIV)," said the Wiseman. He did not specifically say there is a time to come and a time to leave, but I believe he would agree. For me, after having served in the Health Ministries Departments of the Trans-European Division and General Conference for more than eight years, it is now time to return to clinical work as a psychiatrist in a small village in my home country, Norway. As an advocate, I've sought to make a small difference for many. As a clinician, I'll seek to make a big difference for a few. I am grateful for the chapter about to close and the new one about to begin.

I was invited to promote a balanced and educated understanding of mental health and integrate it into the bigger scope of our faith community's health work. It was time for that. I appreciate the many leaders and church members who saw this need, wanted it, and demanded it. The pandemic experience further emphasized the need for a multi-dimensional perspective on health and illness. A strong emphasis on mental health has been timely and will be increasingly timely.

I sense that progress has been made in the world and the church in acknowledging the existence of mental health issues and

understanding their nature, impact, and treatment. But there's a frontier we haven't conquered yet: stigma. Can we accept that illness is an inevitable and inescapable part of being human as long there is sin around and within us? Can we acknowledge that there is "a time to be well and a time to be sick?" Can we dissociate illness, including mental illness, from the assumed guilt of personal failure and imposed shame of inferior worth? There is no time for stigma and prejudice.

I pray we all, wherever we are called upon to serve, find that now is the time to "carry each other's burdens" rather than adding to them and, in this way, "fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal 6:2 NIV).



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Health Ministries Resources

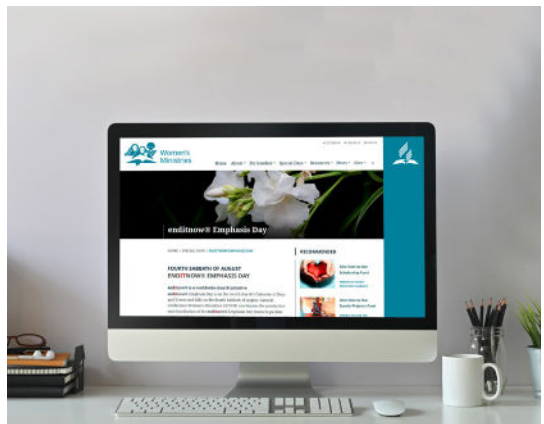


• **World Day Against Trafficking in Persons (July 30).** This year's global campaign for World Day Against Trafficking in Persons theme is "Leave No Child Behind in the Fight Against Human Trafficking." The campaign urges accelerated action to end child trafficking. Children represent a significant proportion of trafficking victims worldwide, with 1 in 3 victims of trafficking being a child. And girls are disproportionately affected. Faith communities have a vital role in raising awareness, ministering to their needs and advocating for policy change. As faith communities let us do our part. <https://bit.ly/4cwMuvy>.

• **World Humanitarian Day (August 19).** Over 130 million people throughout the world are currently in crisis, either through war or natural disasters and are in need of humanitarian aid. The purpose of World Humanitarian Day is to raise awareness of the plight of civilians around the world who have become caught up in conflicts, and also honor and raise support for the humanitarian workers who risk, and sometimes lose, their lives to help. Among them are ADRA workers and volunteers. This day gives us an opportunity to join hands with them by donating to at least one of many ADRA projects. Learn more at <https://adra.org/>.

• **ENDitNOW Sabbath (August 26).** This year **enditnow®** Emphasis Day is entitled "Go Find My Sheep" bringing a call for everyone to seek those broken by traumatic experiences and share hope. It also focuses on having "Trauma Informed Churches", describing five ways the church

can help traumatized people heal and find community. Do not miss the opportunity to be part of this awareness movement fostering violence prevention and also recovery for survivors. Materials for a sermon and an afternoon seminar are available in several languages for free download at: <https://bit.ly/4biUaS4>



• **Health Ministries Leaders Platform.** The GC Health Ministries website offers several resources for health ministry leaders through our online platform. HM leaders must register and log in so they can access materials, programs, a library of documents and videos, and a calendar with training events that can be helpful. These resources are aimed equipping each health ministry leader to be effective in their role. <https://bit.ly/45NegTu>

HM CALENDAR

2024

July 20-21
ARMin Facilitator Training
North England Conference

July 22-27
Youth Alive
Training/Conference
Southeastern Asia Union Mission
Cambodia

July 28-August 3
Youth Alive
Training/Conference
Malawi Union Conference

August 19-24
Youth Alive
Training/Conference
Northern Asia-Pacific Division
Sri Lanka Mission

August 26-28
Lifestyle Coaching Training
Southern Asia-Pacific Division
Philippines

August 29-September 1
Addiction Recovery
Facilitator training
Southern Asia-Pacific Division
Philippines

September 6-8
Lifestyle Centers Conference
Penang Adventist Hospital
Malaysia

October 4-6
Lifestyle Coaching Training
Polish Union
Poland

October 18-20
Lifestyle Coaching Training
Czech Union
Czech Republic

October 28-November 2
Youth Alive
Training/Conference
Southern Asia Division
India

November 8-10
Lifestyle Coaching Training
Papua New Guinea Union

November 12-17
Lifestyle Coaching Training
Australian Union
(NSW & NNSW)
Australia

Global Health Calendar Emphasis 2024



July-September

July 31
World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

August 1-7
World Breastfeeding Week

August 19
World Humanitarian Day

August 24
Enditnow Sabbath

September 17
World Patient Safety Day

RESEARCH UPDATES

Share Evidence-Based Health Information



• **Healthy eating early in life.** Toddlers consume a third of calories in snacks. A study published in the Journal of the American Dietetic Association found that toddlers aged 12 months and older consumed a third of their daily calories from snacking between meals, with the snacks becoming less nutritious as the children got older. Dietary patterns low in fruits and veggies and high in sweets and saturated fats began to develop between the ages of 12 months and 24 months, and this pattern tended to be established by 24 months. Parents can establish the foundation for a healthy diet early in life when eating habits and preferences are being formed. Simple dietary changes—such as offering fruits and more nutritious snacks—can help prevent obesity and chronic disease in our children. Let us switch cookies for blueberries and see them growing healthier and happier. <https://bit.ly/45lrroo> [video 12].

• **Children and exercise.** Researchers have found that at ages 9 and 11, more than 90 percent of children met the recommended levels of moderate to vigorous physical activity recommended for children. By age 15, however, only 31 percent met the recommended level on weekdays and 17 percent met the recommended level on weekends. The researchers estimated that physical activity declined by about 40 minutes per day each year. Even walking for as few as 15 minutes a day provides health benefits. If your child does not exercise often, encourage family activities like bike riding, hiking, playing ball, or swimming. Planning active family events will keep your entire family fit and healthy. <https://bit.ly/45lrroo> [video 14].



• **Children and Sleep.** A study in the Archives of General Psychiatry finds that children who do not get enough sleep are more likely to be overweight than their well-rested peers. The researchers determined that a one-hour reduction in daily REM sleep nearly tripled a child's odds for overweight and obesity. Bring back the bedtime story and prayers. Establishing a regular bedtime routine can ensure that your child gets adequate sleep and help to reduce their risk for obesity. For the little ones, more sleep equals better fit. <https://bit.ly/45lrroo> [video 16].

• **Having a pet can help your heart.** According to a new American Heart Association scientific statement, having a pet might lower your risk of heart disease. A review of previous studies on the influence of pets on human health found that pet owners tend to have lower blood pressure and cholesterol levels, stress, and incidence of obesity. One study of over 5,200 adults showed that dog owners were 54 percent more likely to reach recommended levels of physical activity. As you consider your leisure time activities, think about the loving relationship you have with your dog or cat. Not only can pets touch your heart, but they improve your heart health so that you may live a longer and happier life. <https://bit.ly/45lrroo> [video 19].

