



TEAM MEETS WITH ELDER DAN JACKSON, NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION PRESIDENT

ON JUNE 3, 2019, FOUR TEAM BOARD MEMBERS (JEAN ARTHUR, TROY CAMPBELL, BEV HABADA, AND MARTHA MONSALVE) MET WITH ELDER JACKSON AT NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION (NAD) HEADQUARTERS

Others attending the meeting included NAD Vice President Debra Brill, Dr. Ivan Williams, Director, NAD Ministerial Department and Brenda Billingy, Associate Director, NAD Ministerial. It was a remarkably candid conversation. We learned a number of new things we did not know before and confirmed some things that we did know. We confirmed that Elder Dan Jackson and NAD Vice President Debra Brill are both retiring. The expectation is that Executive Secretary Alex Bryant will not retire in 2020.

New information: Elder Jackson has been approached by the General Conference (GC) President seeking reconciliation. Elder Jackson advised the GC President that reconciliation with the NAD would require rescinding the 2018 Battle Creek Annual Council action and eliminating the compliance committee apparatus. Response: “No” on rescinding the Battle Creek action and “No” on eliminating the compliance committees, but a commitment was made by the GC President that the compliance committees will not meet.

In a recent meeting of all Division Presidents and Treasurers that occurred in Jamaica, Division Treasurers recommended that all Division tithe contributions to the world church, including the North

ADDRESS

Time for Equality in Adventist Ministry
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American Division, should be at parity. Currently the NAD tithe contribution is just above 5%; all other Divisions contribute 2% of their tithe. The General Conference requested that the other Divisions raise their contribution rates as the NAD reduces their contribution; to make up the difference. Division leaders advised the GC leadership to cut the GC budget, i.e. they would not increase their tithe contribution.

In the two-hour conversation we came to appreciate the firm stance that Elder Jackson has taken regarding women’s ordination in the Division. We will miss him and his leadership. We wish him and his wife, Donna, well in retirement.

In a follow-up letter from TEAM, we invited both Elder Dan and Donna Jackson to the ordination of Pastor Therezinha Barbalho on June 29, 2019 at the Silver Spring Seventh-day Adventist Church. We also asked for a time to show the “CALLED” video at an upcoming NAD morning worship service. The scheduling of the video is pending.

CUBA ADVENTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

THE FOLLOWING SECOND-THROUGH FOURTH-YEAR STUDENTS AT THE ADVENTIST SEMINARY IN HAVANA, CUBA, HAVE RECEIVED TEAM SCHOLARSHIPS IN 2019:

Yanet Alfonso
Maylin Alvarez
Yadira Castellanos
Tagnay Diaz
Dunia Guzman
Isabel Manso
Nerisabel Martinez

Yanet Martinez
Leticia Matos
Inelys Milan
Daniela Rodriguez
Yosleydis Samon
Yunelkis Tenorio

TEAM provides half of the annual cost of US \$480 for each student attending the Cuba Seminary.

TEAMWORK

Time for Equality in Adventist Ministry (TEAM) is a private organization supporting the ordination of candidates to pastoral ministry regardless of race, social class or gender.

SECOND VERSACARE GRANT RECEIVED



IN APRIL 2019, TEAM RECEIVED ITS SECOND GRANT OF \$35,000 FROM VERSACARE, INC. FOR SCHOLARSHIPS.

SEE THE INSIDE PAGE FOR THE 2019 LIST OF RECIPIENTS WHO HAD BEEN AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS BY THE TIME THIS NEWSLETTER WAS PUBLISHED.



Many thanks to Versacare for their support for Adventist women preparing for ministry!

If you would like to write a note of thanks to Versacare for their support of TEAM, please mail it to Tom Macomber, President, Versacare, Inc., 4097 Trail Creek Road, Suite B, Riverside, CA 92505, or send an e-mail to: office@versacare.org.

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HISTORIC EVENT!

ON JUNE 29, 2019, THE FIRST LATINA (AND SOUTH AMERICAN) WOMAN PASTOR IN THE POTOMAC CONFERENCE WAS ORDAINED! FOR THEREZINHA BARBALHO, SENIOR PASTOR OF THE SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND, ADVENTIST CHURCH, THIS EVENT TOOK 32 YEARS TO ARRIVE

Her current congregation, members of her previous church, in Newark, New Jersey; North American Division Associate Ministerial Director Brenda Billingy; and several TEAM Board members also attended to share the event with Pastor Barbalho and her husband, Zeli Leite, a maestro pianist and her partner in ministry. Pastor Barbalho’s sisters flew in from Brazil and London for the occasion. (See the picture on the next page.)

Pastor Barbalho felt the call to pastoral ministry at age 18. In 1990, she enrolled in the seminary at the Adventist University of Sao Paulo (Brazil), where she graduated with a degree in theology with an emphasis on biblical languages. After graduation, she was called to the Belem Adventist in Sao Paulo, where she served as a Bible worker for two years.

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PAGE 4 Meeting with Dan Jackson Cuba Adventist Theological Seminary

BREAKTHROUGH IN SOUTHERN AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN DIVISION

WE JUST LEARNED FROM THE FACEBOOK PAGE “I SUPPORT THE ORDINATION OF WOMEN IN ADVENTISM”

that long-time friend of TEAM, Pastor Leabang (Leah) Simankane, was commissioned to the gospel ministry in Botswana in a service held on July 17, 2019. She is the first woman in the SID to complete her theology degree and pastoral training at Solusi University. She was also the first woman to serve as a pastor in Botswana and the first woman pastor in the SID to receive her D.Min. from Andrews University. The program for this historic commissioning service has been included in this newsletter.

From the Facebook page: “Her home is her first ministry and two pastors are products of her pastoral care within her own household. Mum, we celebrate your ministry and service for the Kingdom of God. May the Holy Spirit accomplish more through you and may this affirmation give you impetus to advance the purposes of the Kingdom.”

GC 2020 SESSION

TEAM and the Association of Adventist Women will share a booth in the exhibit hall at the Convention Center in Indianapolis. TEAM board members will share responsibility for greeting folks during the entire session. If you plan to come to the GC Session, stop by and see us!

June 25 – July 4, 2020
Indiana Convention Center
& Lucas Oil Stadium
Indianapolis, Indiana



HISTORIC EVENT continued

In 1993, she enrolled in law school, graduating in 1998 as a licensed lawyer in Brazil. Even as she worked as a lawyer, she continued serving as a volunteer minister for 13 years in the Belem church.

Pastor Barbalho received her first pastoral call in 2004 from the New Jersey Conference to be an Associate Pastor at the Luso-Brazilian Adventist church in Newark. She served there for more than five years before accepting a call from the Potomac Conference to serve as Senior Pastor of the Richmond, Virginia, Brazilian Adventist church. It was there that she conducted her first baptismal ceremony, followed by many others during her five years at that church.

Pastor Barbalho completed her Master of Divinity degree at the Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University in 2014. In 2017, Potomac Conference called her to be Senior Pastor of the Silver Spring, Maryland, church. TEAM is pleased to call her a friend and to celebrate her passion for Jesus Christ and her church family.

TIMEFOREQUALITY.NET

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS – 2019 - \$48,000

THE FOLLOWING WOMEN HAVE BEEN AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS BY TEAM SO FAR IN 2019:

Zilpah Akenga	Undergrad.	Bugema University, Uganda East-Central Africa Div.
Elizabeth Ante	Undergrad	UNAC, Colombia Inter-American Div.
Gladys Aragon	Master’s	Seminary (SETAI) Inter-American Div.
Soledad Araujo	Undergrad	River Plate University, Argentina South American Div.
Suzanne Ashley	M.Div.	Regent College, British Columbia North American Div.
Thairubys Contreras	Master’s	SETAI – Inter-American Div., Venezuela Inter-American Div.
Elaine Cruz	M.Div.	Adventist Theo. Seminary, Andrews South American Div., Brazil

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SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS – 2019 - \$48,000

THE FOLLOWING WOMEN HAVE BEEN AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS BY TEAM SO FAR IN 2019:

Thandazile Dube	Master’s	Adventist Univ. of Africa, Kenya South Africa-Indian Ocean Div. - Zimbabwe
Belinda Friko	M.A Chapl.	Adventist Univ. of Africa, Kenya West-Central Africa Div., Ghana
Yvonne Gameti	M.Div.	AIIAS, Philippines West-Central Africa Div., Togo
Mercy Huiko	Undergrad.	Bugema University, Uganda East-Central Africa Div.
Dorothy Jepkorir	Undergrad.	Bugema University, Uganda East-Central Africa Div.
Catherine Jepngetich	Undergrad.	Bugema University, Uganda East-Central Africa Div.
Juliah Kemunto	Undergrad.	Univ. of Eastern Africa, Kenya East-Central Africa Div.
Joan Machoka	M.A.	Luther Seminary, U.S.A. East-Central Africa Div.
Ana Maurin	Undergrad.	River Plate University, Argentina South American Div.
Clarisse Meyungo	Doctorate	Adventist University of Africa, Kenya West-Central Africa Div., Cameroun
Leidy Molina	Undergrad.	UNAC, Colombia Inter-American Div.
D. Momanyi	Undergrad.	Bugema University, Uganda East-Central Africa Div.
Edissa Ndahayo	Undergrad.	Bugema University, Uganda East-Central Africa Div.
Priscah Ondwari	Undergrad.	University of Eastern Africa, Kenya East-Central Africa Div.
Isabella Onkoba	MA-Chapl.	Adventist University of Africa, Kenya East-Central Africa Div.
Veronica Otworri	Undergrad.	Bugema University, Uganda East-Central Africa Div.
Tania Gizely Paes	Undergrad.	FAAMA, Brazil South American Div.
Kerth Payne	M.Div.	Adventist Theo. Seminary, Andrews North American Div.
Melisa Pleital	Undergrad.	River Plate University, Argentina South American Div.
Mariam Samo	Master’s	Adventist Univ. of Africa, Kenya East Central Africa Div.
Omobonike Sessou	Doctorate	Adventist Univ. of Africa, Kenya West-Central Africa Div. – Nigeria
Yannina Testa	Master’s	SETAI, Inter-American Div. Inter-American Div.
Annia Vives, MD	Ph.D.	SETAI, Montemorelos, Mexico Inter-American Div. Cuba
Rochelle Webster	Ph.D.	Duke Divinity School, Duke Univ. North American Div.
Derlin Zuniga	Undergrad.	UNAC, Colombia Inter-American Div.

CHESAPEAKE CONFERENCE PASTOR ANDREA JAKOBSONS COMMISSIONED



On April 6, 2019, a commissioning service was held for Andrea Jakobsons, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry at the Spencerville Seventh-day Adventist Church in Silver Spring, Maryland (though the program included an Ordination Prayer!). Pastor Jakobsons is the wife of Michael Jakobsons, the Chesapeake Conference Associate Superintendent of Education. Jiri Moskala, Andrea’s father and Dean of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, participated in the Commissioning ceremony and gave the homily.

In 2009, while working as a recruiter for Andrews University, Pastor Jakobsons realized that she had been running from God and felt impressed that perhaps God was calling her to ministry. Her father had always told her that God had called her to ministry, but because no one else seemed to sense her call, she had not given it much thought. In 2010, she called her family and friends together for a day of fasting and prayer so that she would know for sure whether God was calling her to ministry. By the afternoon, after spending time on her knees and in the Word of God, she knew for a fact that God had called her and that she needed to enroll in the seminary. She started seminary classes in the summer of 2010 and completed her degree in 2015. Pastor Chad Stuart, Senior Pastor of the Spencerville church, called her and encouraged her to consider being a youth pastor at Spencerville.

WORKING AS A PASTOR HAS SOLIDIFIED EVEN MORE IN HER MIND THAT INDEED, THIS IS WHERE GOD HAS CALLED HER.

CONGRATULATIONS to Pastor Jakobsons! May God bless your ministry!