

- 2023 -
ANNUAL COUNCIL



I WILL
GO
REACH
THE WORLD



150th Anniversary of Mission

MISSION  150

**160 years ago, the General Conference
was founded. For the next eleven years,
the Seventh-day Adventist Church
hesitated about worldwide mission.**

In Dec. 1871 Ellen White issued
her first testimony about
foreign mission



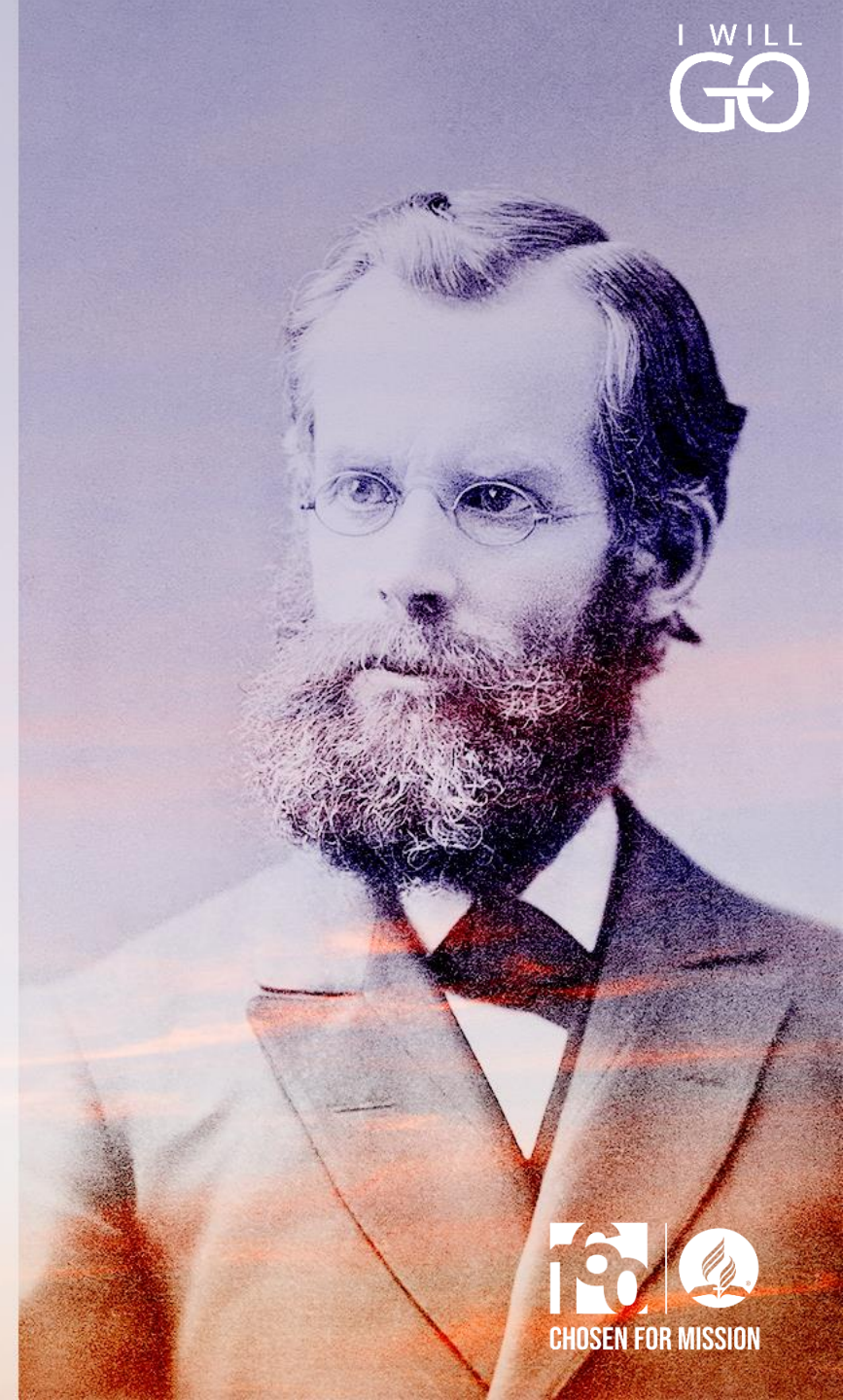
“There has been but little of the missionary spirit among Sabbathkeeping Adventists. . . Young men should be qualifying themselves by becoming familiar with other languages, that God may use them as mediums to communicate His saving truth to those of other nations.”



“Much can be done through the medium of the press, but still more can be accomplished if the influence of the labors of the living preacher goes with our publications. Missionaries are needed to go to other nations to preach the truth in a guarded, careful manner.”



In 1873, that year's General Conference Session voted to send a missionary to Europe. And in 1874, it was decided that this missionary would be John N. Andrews—"the ablest man in our ranks," as Ellen White called him.



On September 15, 1874, John Andrews sailed from New York City for England, en route to Switzerland. He was accompanied by his two motherless children, Charles and Mary, and by Adémar Vuilleumier, a Swiss believer who had been studying English at Battle Creek.



Mission 150

- The 150th anniversary of this epochal event falls in 2024. It offers an unparalleled opportunity to emphasize mission to church members.
- In these days, when six-week “mission trips” are common, the term “mission” has become a little debased; it is not as well understood as it was for the church’s first hundred years.

Mission 150

- What it meant to Adventists from roughly 1901 to 1970 was what they called foreign/overseas mission — what today might be called cross-cultural mission, frontier mission, or mission to unreached and under-reached people groups.
- It was difficult and dangerous work; missionaries went and immersed themselves among the people they worked for and with, not just for years, but often for decades.

Mission 150

- Today, the mission enterprise of the Seventh-day Adventist Church does not receive the level of support from its members that it did in the early and middle 1900s.
- Some members think the missionary work is largely done.

Mission 150

- Yet it is now clearer than ever that some parts of the world are not sufficiently strong enough to evangelize their own territories.
- They *still* need church funds and organizational support; and in many cases they still need missionaries to be sent.
- ***THIS IS THE REASON FOR MISSION REFOCUS***

Mission 150

- But we need not only to reorient the organized church, as is being done in Mission Refocus; we also need to reignite the enthusiasm of members everywhere for worldwide mission.
- This anniversary can help achieve the world Church's goal of "reviv[ing] the concept of worldwide mission & sacrifice for mission as a way of life involving not only pastors, but every church member, young and old" (*I Will Go* Objective no. 1).



A Mission History
Symposium at
Andrews University,
October 17–19, 2024:
**Each division is being
asked to send two
delegates**

Global Youth Day
2024 focused on
the anniversary

Four conferences
for college leaders,
entitled “Educated
for Mission,” orga-
nized by the GC
Education Dept.



<https://mission150.adventistreview.tv/>



**Vivid Faith will be telling
the stories of 150 mission
projects launched for the
150th anniversary**

MISSION 150

150 Stories to Inspire
Mission Service

This is an opportunity for your division & your union to focus on mission, both within its territory — and beyond (Mission Refocus)

We hope you will develop **your own plans for rallies, symposia & other events** that commemorate the Church's recognition of a responsibility to reach out beyond its comfort zone

