



Mission Refocus | Disciple-Making

ANNUAL COUNCIL 2023



2023 LEAD CONFERENCE

Mission Refocus: Disciple-Making

Program 3

Seminar Presenters 6

Seminar Room Locations 18



PROGRAM

..... WELCOME TO ANNUAL COUNCIL

Ted Wilson

..... WELCOME TO LEAD CONFERENCE AND PRAYER

Erton Köhler

..... INTRODUCTION OF DEVOTIONAL SPEAKER

Erton Köhler

..... DEVOTIONAL

“The Impossible Dream?”

Shane Anderson

The Challenge

..... VIDEO

“Come, Follow Me”

..... PRESENTATION

“The Importance of Discipleship”

Gerson Santos and David Trim

The Call

..... VIDEO

“The Call”

..... INTRODUCTION

Audrey Andersson

..... PRESENTATION

“The Power of Invitation”

Jim Howard

..... CASE STUDY

“Discipling the Young Secular of Manila”

Gerardo Cajobe and Reylourd Reyes



..... CASE STUDY

"OIKOS Finland – Discipleship Movement and a Church Plant"

Atte Helminen

..... REACTION AND DISCUSSION

Audrey Andersson

The Journey

..... VIDEO

"The Journey"

..... INTRODUCTION

Galina Stele

..... PRESENTATION

"Creating C-Suite Members"

Tiffany Brown

..... CASE STUDY

**"Immersive Discipleship in the Alphaville Church
Community in Manaus, Brazil"**

Ricardo Coelho

..... CASE STUDY

**"An Integrative Approach to Discipleship in French Pacific
Territories"**

Hatsarmaveth Venkaya

..... REACTION AND DISCUSSION

Galina Stele



The Mission

..... VIDEO

"The Mission"

..... INTRODUCTION

Elbert Kuhn

..... PRESENTATION

"Mission Everywhere: From Holy Places to Holy People"

Anthony WagenerSmith



- CASE STUDY
"Making Disciples on the Frontlines of Mission"
Soon Bum Kwon
- CASE STUDY
"Acts of Kindness, Church in the Valley"
Sabina Vieira
- PRESENTATION
"Reunion Project"
Edward Heidinger
- CASE STUDY
"Doing Mission in a Contextualized Approach"
Akish Yagambrun
- REACTION AND DISCUSSION
Elbert Kuhn
- **LUNCH**

The Response

- INTRODUCTION
Gerson Santos
- PRESENTATION
"Understanding the Role of the Pastor"
Ramon Canals
- PRESENTATION
"Making Discipleship Simple"
Michael Njagi Mbui

Seminars

- INFORMATION ON NEW RESOURCES
Gerson Santos
- "MISSION REFOCUS ON DISCIPLESHIP CHALLENGE"
Erton Köhler
- VIDEO
"It Starts With Me"
- CLOSING REMARKS AND PRAYER
Ted Wilson

SEMINAR PRESENTERS



Paulasir Abraham

Pastor, Congregational Care, Southern Asian Seventh-day Adventist Church, Silver Spring, Maryland

Paulasir Abraham was born and raised in India. After serving 22 years in various capacities in the church, he moved to the US in 2004. He is currently serving as a pastor at the Southern Asian SDA Church in Silver Spring, MD. He holds a PhD from Madurai Kamaraj University (India) and a Doctor of Missiology from Fuller Theological Seminary (US). He is married and has two children and four grandchildren.

Practical Steps for Local Churches to Reclaim Former Members

The Bible is a book of reclamation. God is a great reclamer. Jesus laid aside His glory and came to this earth to “seek and to save that which was lost.” We are ministers together in the same ministry that the Godhead is involved in. In this seminar we will focus on the following: biblical foundation of reclamation ministry, successfully proven methods for reclaiming, and retention of both ‘claimed’ and the reclaimed.



Tiffany Brown

Associate Pastor and Discipleship Director, Revision Church, Atlanta, Georgia

Pastor Tiffany Brown serves as the Associate Pastor for Revision Church in Atlanta, Georgia. After serving as an ESOL teacher abroad and in the United States, she accepted the call to full-time ministry. Pastor Brown is especially fond of spending time with close friends, enjoying nature, and exploring new cities, countries, and cultures. She loves being a disciple of Jesus and being in the discipleship journey with others.

Creating C-Suite Members

Being a part of a C-suite usually means being a top-tier member of an organization. But what does it look like to be a vibrant

member of a church? This breakout seminar takes a deeper look at the key factors that guide freshly baptized members from tentative newcomers into thriving disciples. Participants will explore what growing disciples look like and how to nurture individuals into active followers of Christ and even into serving as leaders.



Ricardo Coelho

Pastor, Alphaville SDA Church, Manaus, Brazil

Ricardo Coelho has been a pastor for 18 years. He graduated with a degree in Theology and has a postgraduate degree in Intercultural Anthropology. He holds a master's degree in Urban Mission and is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Ministry at Andrews University. He has been a pastor of the Alphaville Church in Manaus for 12 years. He is married and has two teenage children.

Successfully Engaging Members in Ministry: The Alphaville Church Community Story

Situated in one of northern Brazil's wealthiest neighborhoods, Alphaville Church excels at engaging its members. They are deeply committed to the mission of discipling people from affluent backgrounds while also assisting those in need with help from the community. How did they achieve such a high level of engagement? This presentation highlights four key factors: Prayer Movements, Passionate Vision, Open Structure, and Intentional Integration.



Edward Heidinger

Executive Secretary, South America Division

Edward Heidinger was born in Peru. He is married and has two daughters. He has two bachelor's degrees: Business Administration and Theology. He holds a master's degree in Theology, a doctoral degree in Ministry and is beginning his PhD studies in Leadership at Andrews University.

Dr Heidinger has served as a district pastor; field department director and executive secretary; union department director, executive secretary, and president; and assistant to the president. He currently serves as the executive secretary of the South American Division.

Successfully Reclaiming Former Members: The South American “Reunion Project” Story

Reunion Project is a strategy created to encourage the return of people who were once part of the Adventist community.



Atte Helminen

Pastor, Coach, and Departmental Director at Finland Union of Churches Conference

Atte Helminen, a graduate from Newbold College, has been working as a pastor in Finland for 27 years. He has served as a union president and as a director in various departments. He started a media center and helped the Helsinki downtown church start many church plants, such as the current OIKOS project. He is married and loves coaching people. His passion is missions, church planting, and raising new leaders as a team coach.

How to Lead a Discipleship Movement in a Secular Urban Context

OIKOS discipleship and a house church project was started in 2021 just as COVID closed down the churches. This is when this new church plant took off and grew from a small group of young adults into a growing and multiplying community of new believers. Coaching has helped new young leaders to grow and lead the future of the secular and urban mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.





Jim Howard

Director, GC Sabbath School-Personal Ministries/Assistant to the President for Total Member Involvement Lay Training

Prior to his current role, Pastor Howard served as a pastor in Ohio and Michigan, as Evangelism coordinator and Personal Ministries director for the Michigan Conference, and as associate director of Sabbath School and Personal Ministries for the General Conference. Throughout Pastor Howard's ministry of preaching, teaching, training, and developing disciple-making resources, he has encouraged both leaders and lay people to accept the call of Christ to become actively involved in both personal and public outreach.

Using the “Discipleship Handbook” to Revive and Mobilize Members: An England Case Study

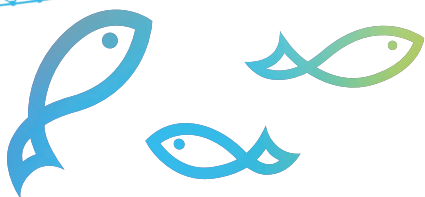
We know that newer members need discipling, but how do we equip our more experienced members to do it? Discover how the “Discipleship Handbook” has been used with great success in a local church setting in England as part of a simple but effective six-month discipleship plan that revived and mobilized the laity. Pastor Daniel Ebenezer, Evangelism and Personal Ministries director of the North England Conference, will share an inspiring report.



Busi Khumalo

Director, Youth Ministries, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Pastor Busi Khumalo has worked in ministry for more than 30 years: 10 years in pastoral ministry and 20 years in youth, chaplaincy, and public campus ministries. He served as a departmental director at the Southern Africa Union Conference and at the Southern African Indian-Ocean Division. Pastor Khumalo's passion for young people and youth ministries is inspired by the last part of the Pathfinder Pledge: “By the grace of God, I will be pure, kind, and true, I will keep the Pathfinder Law, I will be a servant of God and a friend to man.”



Pastor Khumalo has been married for 29 years and has two children. He enjoys reading, running, and traveling.

Mentorship: A Successful Retention Strategy for Young People

Most members of the Millerite movement were young people. Today, youth leaders are grappling with how to keep young people in the church. While there are several strategies we could employ to retain and reclaim the youth, mentorship is an invaluable method to curb the exodus of young people from our churches. This workshop presents mentorship from the intergenerational and incarnational perspective. Any strategy to retain and reclaim young people should be underpinned by earnest prayer and love for the youth.



Soon Bum Kwon

Senior Pastor, Beitun Church, Taiwan

In addition to being a church pastor, Soon Bum Kwon is the Public Campus Ministry coordinator at the Taiwan Conference and a missionary with the Pioneer Mission Movement from Northern Asia-Pacific Division.

Come and See! — Making Disciples on the Frontlines of Mission in Taiwan

A small church with only 40 in attendance is now spreading the gospel in a major public school with more than 16,000 students. The students are all potential members. Many of the students visit the church four or five times a week. They now feel comfortable coming to church. Many students believe in Jesus and have decided to become His disciples and missionaries on the school campus.



Don MacLafferty

President of In Discipleship

Don MacLafferty is a disciple of Jesus, husband to his bride for 35 years, dad to their three children, and president of In Discipleship. His God-given mission is "Building Champions who Mentor the New Generations to Trust, Follow, and Share Jesus with Holy Spirit Power."

Discipling Your Elisha to Go Beyond You: How to Mentor Young Leaders

Discover practical tips to equip you to spiritually mentor a younger leader to go past you in their personal walk with God, their faith, and their Holy Spirit led leadership.



Michael Njagi Mbui

Pastor, South England Conference

Dr Michael Njagi Mbui previously served as the Personal Ministries director for South England Conference. His main work was to train ministers and leaders in the conference's mission of "Making Disciple-building Communities." His passion is to empower and inspire every member for the vision and mission of Christ for their lives, families, church, and communities.

Dr. Mbui started his ministry in Kenya before relocating to the UK for further studies. He obtained his BA in Theology at University of Eastern Africa Baraton-Kenya, an MA at Newbold College, an MTh at London School of Theology, and a PhD at Trinity Theological Seminary.

Making Discipleship Simple

Making Discipleship Simple is about training all members to become effective disciple makers and to build a disciple-making culture in all their church activities. It shows what discipleship is about, why it is important, who are the true disciples of Jesus and what practices help disciples grow in the life of Jesus and make others disciples in obedience to the great commission of Matthew 28:16-20.



Sam Neves

Associate Director of Communication, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Pastor Sam Neves serves as the associate director of Communication of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. His main responsibilities are branding and digital evangelism for the world church. He was born in Brazil and moved to England as a teenager, where he later served as a local church pastor for 11 years. Today he lives in Silver Spring, MD, in the United States with his wife and their three boys.

Using Technology in Discipleship

This seminar offers a dynamic exploration of how technology can be harnessed to enhance the process of disciple-making. It delves into the integration of digital tools, social media, and online platforms, providing practical insights on how these resources can amplify outreach, foster community, and facilitate spiritual growth. Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of leveraging technology for evangelism, engagement, and nurturing a thriving discipleship culture in today's digital age.



ReyLOURD Reyes

Adventist Mission Director, Central Luzon Conference

In addition to working as the Adventist Mission director of Central Luzon Conference in Manila, Philippines, ReyLOURD Reyes also serves as associate ministerial secretary for the conference. He was an urban church planter from 2012 to 2017. He is currently completing his Doctor of Missiology at AIAS with an emphasis in Urban Studies. He is married and has two daughters.

Reaching and Discipling Secular Young People in Manila: Lessons Learned

This seminar looks at the lessons and insights in reaching the young, secular, and educated population of Manila, Philippines.



Dustin Serns

Church Planter, LifeBridge Church, Tacoma, Washington

Pastor Serns and his team have seen Jesus work miracles through planting LifeBridge Church to reach unchurched young professionals and families in Tacoma, WA. He also helps train church planters through ACTS cohorts in WA Conference and NAD Church Planting Bootcamps.

He is currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry in Growing and Multiplying Churches from Andrews University and has published articles on mission and multiplication in *Ministry* magazine, *Adventist Review*, and *NAD Ministerial Best Practices*. His wife and children are the joy of his life.

Multiplying Disciples in an Unchurched Urban Context

How can we participate with Jesus to multiply disciples and churches in secular urban contexts? Hear fresh biblical insights and inspiring examples from LifeBridge Church, planted during the pandemic in Tacoma, WA, one of the most-secular, least-reached metro areas in North America. LifeBridge is led by young adults, has celebrated 20+ baptisms (including unchurched, agnostic, and New Age spiritualist), and provided \$700,000 of free health care to the community.



Galina Stele

Research and Evaluation Manager, Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research

Galina Stele, DMin, was born in Kamchatka in the Russian Far East and grew up in Kazakhstan. She received her doctorate from Andrews University and has worked for the Adventist Church in different capacities: professor at Zaoksky Theological Seminary, Shepherdess coordinator, and director of the Institute of Missiology in the Euro-Asia Division. She is married and has an adult son and one grandson. Areas of her main interest are human-subject research, small groups, member and youth retention, discipleship, pastoral psychology, and family matters.

Current Global Megatrends: Lessons for Discipleship

What are current global megatrends? How will they influence our future? What impact will they make on the church and church ministries? How can a better understanding of global megatrends help do outreach and discipleship more effectively? What additional skills are required for leaders to be more efficient in the new reality?



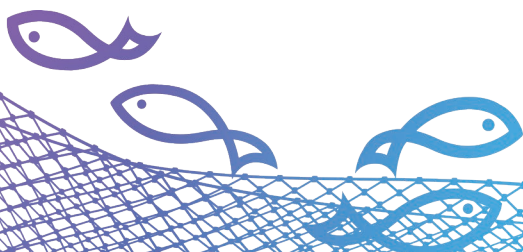
Glenn Townend

President, South Pacific Division of Seventh-day Adventists

Pastor Townend has been a leader/administrator of the Seventh-day Adventist Church as long as he was a local church pastor. Born in Australia, raised there and in Papua New Guinea, he has worked in Australia and was based in Fiji while working at the Trans Pacific Union. He is a true citizen of the South Pacific and, in Jesus, a citizen of heaven. He is married and has three adult children and seven grandchildren. Cycling and gardening are Pastor Townend's hobbies.

How the South Pacific Division Organized for Disciple-Making

Jesus commanded us to go and make disciples. He came and modelled how to do it. Disciple-making is the primary focus of the Seventh-day Adventist Church because we have the last day message to present to the world. This presentation will show how the South Pacific Division has focused on disciple-making and how it has impacted every aspect of the work we do. From vision, to strategy, to financing, to resourcing, to committees—we aim to have the disciple-making focus of Jesus.





Hatsarmaveth Venkaya

Church Development Director of New Caledonia Mission

Hatsarmaveth Venkaya currently serves as Church Development director and pastor for New Caledonia SDA Mission. Born in the multiethnic nation of Mauritius, he has drawn from this rich background to work effectively in various cultural settings for over 20 years. Dr Venkaya holds a PhD in Intercultural Studies and World Mission from AIIAS. His academic journey has inspired a deep commitment to discipleship, guiding him to focus on training local leaders to serve passionately in God's mission. He shares his life with his wife and their two sons.

An Integrative Approach to Discipleship in French Pacific Territories

Presently, grasping cultural and contextual nuances is vital for successful discipleship. Yet, a major obstacle seems to be our own failure or reluctance to confront our internal theological and cultural prejudices. How do we navigate the tensions of conflicting values, ideologies, and theologies? How do we gain deep and informed insights into our mission field? This presentation explores how some of these challenges are being addressed in the Pacific islands.



Sabina Vieira

Associate Pastor and AOK Coordinator, Church in the Valley, Langley, British Columbia

Pastor Sabina Vieira was born in São Paulo, Brazil, and currently serves as the associate pastor and Acts of Kindness Centre coordinator for "Church in the Valley" located in Langley, BC, Canada. She has lived and worked in five different countries, holds a Master of Divinity from Andrews University as well as a master's in International Relations and Economics from Johns Hopkins University.

How “Acts of Kindness” Builds Community Connections in Canada

This seminar is a case study on the development of a mission-focused disciple-making program within a local church. Pastor Vieira emphasizes efforts to enhance the quality of existing Acts of Kindness programs by applying principles of wholistic neighborhood development. She also demonstrates their significance in fostering meaningful and positive change, not only by encouraging more responsible community engagement but also by creating improved discipleship opportunities.



Anthony WagenerSmith

Director for Mission & Evangelism, Trans-European Division

Pastor WagenerSmith lives in St. Albans, UK, with his wife and their two kids. He serves the culturally diverse unions and attached missions of TED's 22 countries in the areas of church planting, evangelism, urban mission, unreached fields, and academic formation of pastors. Previously, Pastor WagenerSmith served in the North American Division Evangelism Institute (NADEI) and taught practical theology at the SDA Theological Seminary at Andrews University.

Developing an Effective Mission Scorecard in the Local Church

Disciple-making is often reduced to a program we run to keep newly baptized members from leaving the church. Since what gets counted gets celebrated, this reduced disciple-making success to what happens once someone is a member and seldom results in them actively sharing faith. This session helps to develop a simple and practical process—based on biblical foundations—to identify what you will measure whether in a local church or in larger faith-sharing initiatives.



Akish Yagambrun

Pastor, Phoenix, Forest Side, and Glen Park, Plaine Wilhems District, Mauritius Conference

Akish Yagambrun currently serves as a pastor in the Mauritius Conference. He also leads out as the prayer coordinator at the conference. His main focus is mission to South Asian people living on the island while using Christ's method in a contextual approach.

Doing Mission in a Culturally Sensitive Way

This seminar relates the story of a Hindu girl who became acquainted with God's Word and Jesus' love. Her baptism ceremony was conducted in a contextual way. Her family discovered Christ the following year, and when the girl was to get married, the family requested that her wedding be conducted using a culturally sensitive approach as well. Many of the wedding guests discovered the Seventh-day Adventist church and its message through this culturally appropriate approach.



SEMINAR ROOM LOCATIONS

PRESENTER	PRESENTATION TITLE	LOCATION
Paulasir Abraham	Practical Steps for Local Churches to Reclaim Former Members	1E-12
Tiffany Brown	Creating C-Suite Members	2H-12
Ricardo Coelho	Successfully Engaging Members in Ministry: The Alphaville Church Community Story	Cafeteria Area 2
Edward Heidinger	Successfully Reclaiming Former Members: The South American “Reunion Project” Story	Cafeteria Area 3
Atte Helminen	How to Lead a Discipleship Movement in a Secular Urban Context	3D-12
Jim Howard	Using the “Discipleship Handbook” to Revive and Mobilize Members: An England Case Study	2I-765 (SS/ PM Library)
Busi Khumalo	Mentorship: A Successful Retention Strategy for Young People	3H-12
Soon Bum Kwon	Come and See! — Making Disciples on the Frontlines of Mission in Taiwan	2I-12

PRESENTER	PRESENTATION TITLE	LOCATION
Don MacLafferty	Discipling Your Elisha to Go Beyond You: How to Mentor Young Leaders	1F-12
Michael Mjagi Mbui	Making Discipleship Simple	1D-12
Sam Neves	Using Technology in Discipleship	2I-14
Reylourd Reyes	Reaching and Discipling Secular Young People in Manila: Lessons Learned	2D-12
Dustin Serns	Multiplying Disciples in an Unchurched Urban Context	Front of Auditorium
Galina Steele	Current Global Megatrends: Lessons for Discipleship	2I-18
Glenn Townend	How the South Pacific Division Organized for Disciple-Making	2I-19
Hatsarmaveth Venkaya	An Integrative Approach to Discipleship in French Pacific Territories	1I-12
Sabina Vieira	How “Acts of Kindness” Builds Community Connections in Canada	2I-13
Anthony WagenerSmith	Developing an Effective Mission Scorecard in the Local Church	2F-12
Akish Yagamburn	Doing Mission in a Culturally Sensitive Way	3I-564 (Pitcairn Room)

