

GC 2015

DISCLAIMER:

The information in this flyer is for those attending the General Conference Session from The Bahamas or for those staying at home who will be following on Hope TV Channel 53. It is compiled by Barrington Brennen, pastor of the Grant's Town Seventh-day Adventist Church. This is an unofficial document and is not intended to replace any other official document prepared by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist. This document gives in a nutshell what Barrington Brennen thinks would be of interest to delegates, visitors, or those staying at home. All of the information is gathered directly from the official 133-page GC 2015 Session document. It is advised that delegate and members read the entire document.

SECURITY AT THE SESSION: *For those attending*

Please note that the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, General Conference Session Management, the Alamodome, and the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center are not responsible for the safety of your family. Keep your children in your care at all times.

Stay out of surrounding bodies of water found in fountains, ponds, and The River Walk. These bodies of water are not for recreational purposes and the River Walk water is deep. Additionally, there is a \$500.00 fine for going into the water.

Remove visible Session badges before traveling downtown, as the badge will signify that you are a tourist and are unfamiliar/uncertain with the area

If you need immediate medical attention, go to the nearest First Aid Station (Dome: Rooms 112 & 134/CC: Rooms 1109, H7, and 2089). GC employees injured on-the-job should seek immediate medical attention then contact Human Resources (Dome Meeting Room I, (210) 704-6903 immediately after receiving medical attention.

In an emergency, use the nearest RED PHONE located throughout the Dome, or call Dispatch (Dome: (210) 207-3680/CC: (210) 207-7773).

DELEGATES:

Delegates from the South Bahamas Conference are Pastors Paul Scavella, Melvin Lewis, Peter Joseph and lay person, Alexandria Scott (from Grant's Town Church). Note that Pastor Leonardo Rahming is a member of the General Conference Committee and will be attending

the session. From the Union will be Pastor Leonard Johnson and Roderick Sands.

TIMES OF BUSINESS SESSIONS:

Note that all business sessions are in the Dome and open to anyone. However, only delegates will have voice and vote and will be able to sit on the main floor in the delegates area.

Thursday, July 2: 9:30 – 12:00pm & 4:00 – 5:00pm

Friday, July 3: 9:30 – 12:00pm & 2:00 – 4:00pm

No Business Sessions on Sabbaths

Sunday, July 5 to Wednesday, July 8: 9:30 – 12:00pm & 2:00 – 5:00pm

Thursday, July 9: 9:30 – 12:00pm

Friday, July 10: :30 – 12:00pm & 2:00 – 5:00pm

FIRST BUSINESS:

Of the many required first things the will be done at the GC Session here are four things of importance to know will happen:

1. To approve the Steering Committee which has about 48 members.
2. To approve the Church Manual Committee. Pastor Leonard Rahming, from the South Bahamas Conference is on this committee. There are 48 persons on this committee
3. To approve the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. There are about 54 persons on this committee
4. To recognize newly organized unions and fields from around the world. There are 35 new unions that will be recognized. There are about 22 new unions in African alone.

SERMINARS:

- **How to Conduct DVD Evangelism** Sabbath, July 11, 12:15 P.M. or 5:15 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. Ballroom B
- **Special Needs in Adult Sabbath School** Sabbath July 11, 12:15 P.M. or 5:15 to 6:30 P.M. Ballroom B
- **Urban Ministry** Sabbath, July 11, 12:15 P.M. or 5:15 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. Ballroom B
- **Prayer Seminars** Everyday 12:15 and 5:15 P.M. Convention Center Room 102

Women's Ministries-- Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, Grand Ballroom, 3rd Floor, 200 East Market Street:

Mornings, 9:30 AM – 10:45 AM :

July 6, Monday, Dr. Ella Simmons, Be Prepared to Rise and Shine. July 7, Tuesday, Raquel Arrais, Be Prepared and Empowered. July 8,

Wednesday, Janet Page, Be Prepared with Hope. July 9, Thursday, Heather-Dawn Small, Be Prepared as Disciples

Afternoons, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM :

July 6, Monday, Dr. Janice Browne, The Cyclonic Power of Prayer. July 7, Tuesday, Dr. Arlene Taylor, Stressors & the Female Brain: "It's not that bad; just get over it!". July 9, Thursday, Dr. Abner & Mrs. Maila Dizon, Practical Approaches to Reaching Non-Christian Women

GENERAL EVENTS / ACTIVITIES *There are many more*

InStep 4 Life 5k Run: Sunday July 5, 2015

GC Children's Ministries Resource: Convention Center Room 101-B Thursday, July 2 to Thursday, July 9, 9:00 A.M. for 8 Hours
Free resources for teaching Sabbath School, Vacation Bible School, Children's Church, etc.

Prayer Room: Alamodome, Meeting Room F

July 2-11m 8 A.M. to 8 P.M.

SABBATH MEETINGS:

- Beginning Sabbath School (Ages 0-2 to be accompanied by parent/caregiver. 9 A.M. for one hour Ballroom A
- Kindergarten Sabbath School ages 3-5 with parent/caregiver. 9 A.M. for one hour Ballroom A
- Primary Sabbath School ages 6-9. 9 A.M. for one hour Ballroom A
- Junior Youth Worship II ages 10-14 Lia Cockrell Theater
- Parents must register any children under 15 at the entrance of the theater beginning at 8:45 A.M. 9:30 A.M.
- Divine Worship in the Dome

PEOPLE & EVENTS YOU MUST LISTEN TO OR ATTEND:

- **Journey Ministries** will sing (Marguerite, the Brennen's daughter, directs this group) will sing Saturday, July 11 (the last service) at 6:30 in the Dome
- **Inter-American Division Report** on Monday, July 6, at 6:30 in the Dome
- **Pastor Shian O'Connor** will speak at the July 6, Monday morning Worship at 8:00 A.M. Dome
- **Aeolians** will sing in evening worship, Thursday, July 9, at 6:30 P.M. in the Dome
- **Steve Darmody** will sing during the President's Report on Thursday, July 2, at 6:30 P.M.

- **The Kings Heralds** will sing on Sabbath, July 4 at 6:30 P.M.
- **Breath of Life Quartet** will sing also on July 4, at 6:30 P.M.
- **Mark Finley** speaks on Friday, July 3, at 6:30 P.M. in the Dome
- **Sikhu Mlatshwayo**, a female pastor, will be at 8:00 A.M. on Friday, July 3, in the Dome
- **John Lomacang** will sing on Monday, July 6, 6:30 P.M. Dome
- **Yvonne Lewis** will sing on Monday, July 6, 6:30 P.M. Dome
- **Rudy Micelli** will sing (great tenor soloist) Friday, July 10, 6:30 P.M.

EXAMPLE OF CHURCH MANUAL DECISIONS TO BE MADE:

Usually the changes made are simple, to provide easy reading or remove ambiguity. There will be no fundamental changes to any Adventist belief. In all of the 28 beliefs there will be a word changed or removed or Bible texts added or removed to make it clearer to readers. For example on Fundamental Belief Six Belief-Creation, there will be clarity on our position on Creation. The language will be more directed to support our views of Creation. In Fundamental Belief Twenty-Three on Marriage and Family, the word “partners” will be replaced with “man and woman” to strengthen our views of marriage.

ORDINATION OF WOMEN TO THE GOSPEL MINISTRY: There are a few things that will happen at this time. There will be the acceptance of the paper on the “Theology and Practice of Ministerial Ordination”

After presentations are made the delegates will be asked to vote on the following regarding women ordination to the gospel ministry. Here is the question below:

WHEREAS, The unity for which Jesus prayed is vitally important to the witness of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and;

WHEREAS, The Seventh-day Adventist Church seeks to engage every member in its worldwide mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ among people from every nation, culture and ethnicity, and;

WHEREAS, Various groups appointed by the General Conference and its divisions have carefully studied the Bible and Ellen G White writings with respect to the ordination of women and have not arrived at consensus as to whether ministerial ordination for women is unilaterally affirmed or denied, and;

WHEREAS, The Seventh-day Adventist Church affirms that “God has ordained that the 36 representatives of His Church from all parts of the earth, when assembled in a General Conference Session, shall have authority”,

THEREFORE, The General Conference Executive Committee requests delegates in their sacred responsibility to God at the 2015 General Conference Session to respond to the following question:

After your prayerful study on ordination from the Bible, the writings of Ellen G White, and the reports of the study commissions, and; After your careful consideration of what is best for the Church and the fulfillment of its mission, Is it acceptable for division executive committees, as they may deem it appropriate in their territories, to make provision for the ordination of women to the gospel ministry? **Yes or No**

ELECTONIC VOTING: Note that all voting will done electronically at this GC Session. It is the first time it will be done this way.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS *These are only samples. There are many more*

- To approve the Resolution on the Holy Bible
- To approve the Statement of Confidence in the Writings of Ellen G White
- To approve a directive to amend the General Conference Constitution and 12 Bylaws where appropriate, by replacing “Archives and Statistics” with “Archives, Statistics, and 13 Research.”
- To approve a directive to amend the General Conference Constitution and 12 Bylaws where appropriate, by replacing “treasurer” with “treasurer/chief financial officer.”
- To amend the Church Manual, Chapter 7, Discipline, pages 61 and 62, 7 Reasons for Discipline
- To change Adventist Youth Society to Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM)
- To change the name of the Adventist Review department to Adventist Review Ministries

TELEVISION AND ONLINE STREAMING:

You can keep up every day by watching on Hope TV Channel 53 every morning and evening. You will be kept up to date with all decisions and other exciting news.

MEALS: If you want meals at the GC Session Plan then you will need to go to the meal place and get your tickets. However, every restaurant nearby will be catering to Adventist-vegetarian, vegan, etc. Even Starbucks will be on our side.

AGENDA AVAILALBE: Note that for the first time in the history of our church the General Conference Session Agenda is available to everyone. It is in PDF format and 133 pages long. Everything you need to know there. Go to <http://2015.gcsession.org/> and click on “Session Agenda” on the right column.

DAILY WORSHIP TIMES IN THE DOOM FOR EVERYONE:

8:00 A.M. to 9:20 A.M. Morning Worship

6:30 P.M. For two Hours. Evening Worship-- Great music, speakers, and Division Reports

GREAT APPS: Note that there is a great GC2015 Session App for your iPad or Smart Phone. It is free and has everything you want and more to know about GC Session 2015 and it will keep you informed as things happen

In a Nutshell

General Conference Session
July 2- 11, 2015



Arise! Shine! Jesus is Coming!

Compiled by Barrington H. Brennen