

Adventist Yearbook and Encyclopedia, p.11

"We aim at nothing less," p.11

Remember to help us Tell the Story! p.12

The Asiatic Division (1909-1918), p.7

Becoming a Global Church, p.9

Adventist Research: Beliefs and Practices of Young Adults, p.10

Featured Articles:

Winter's Greetings from ASTR, p.1

GC Special Sessions p.1

The Frost Photo Collection, p.4

TELLING THE STORY

Archives, Statistics,
and Research (ASTR)
Newsletter - Issue #10



Winter 2022 Greetings from ASTR

As winter moves along slowly towards spring, we wish our ASTR readers a warm "fireside" by which to read more deeply into our shared past history! We here at ASTR also offer our prayers for our world Church family, as we continue to emerge from the longstanding pandemic and its related challenges around the world.

We're pleased to highlight several pieces of our history in this issue. First, of course, we just experienced history with the sixth (or seventh, see below) General Conference Special Session, in which several ASTR team members participated. You can read more about it to the right and on the following pages. Ashlee Chism has written up a detailed account of our Frost Photo Collection, which provides a fascinating window into the lives of some of our past pioneers. We also have an article highlighting the early work in Asia, as well as statistics on the growth of our Church organizations around the world.

Finally, we're glad to share that the new Adventist Yearbook is almost ready for ordering, and for those who enjoy having the most up-to-date information about our members, we're pleased to announce the publication of a book from our Research & Evaluation team on the *Beliefs and Practices of Adventist Young Adults*. Also, for those of you who are enjoying our *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists*, please feel warmly invited to participate or support us!

Historically Special: General Conference Special Sessions—When, Where, and Why

After our recent General Conference Special Session in January, the question on the minds of many students of Adventist history might be whether this is the first time our



Secretary Erton Köhler reading the Seventh-day Adventist Mission Statement at the start of the 2022 Special Session
(photo credit: @AdventArchives)

Church has ever held a General Conference Special Session? The answer would be, no! In fact, we have had several Special Sessions. But first, let's review our most recent Session before digging deeper into the archives concerning what our Church has done in earlier times that called for special attention.

The Asiatic Division (1909-1918), p.7

Becoming a Global Church, p.9

Adventist Research: Beliefs and Practices of Young Adults, p.10

Featured Articles:

Winter's Greetings from ASTR, p.1

GC Special Sessions p.1

The Frost Photo Collection, p.4

On the wintry morning of January 18, 2022, almost 400 delegates invited to represent the Adventist membership around the world were called to the General Conference headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland, to conduct business (see the [Adventist News Network report](#)) for the world Church in a Special Session of the General Conference. This Session was unusual, or special, for many reasons. Primary among them would be that, first, while the delegates did fairly represent the geographic diversity of world Church membership, all of the delegates currently live in the United States, mostly near the headquarters building. Second, the delegates had only one item of business. It concerned one vote addressing whether or not future General Conference Sessions could allow, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, the remote electronic participation and votes of delegates who are unable to attend the Session in person, which had previously not been allowed in our Constitution. The vote passed unanimously

postponed as provided for in the Constitution, though any further postponement was not allowed. But, added to this, many also felt that the times we live in, and the costs involved in bringing delegates to one place, may become increasingly difficult in the future for a variety of reasons related to our modern world, and thus the need for the recommended Constitutional adjustment.

Previous General Conference Special Sessions

The 2022 Special Session was the sixth time the Adventist Church has officially held a Special Session. However, the circumstances causing it were surely the most spectacular. Previously, the Church has officially held Special Sessions twice in 1876, once in 1878, once in 1879, and once more in 1880. Additionally, although not called a "Special Session," the first of two Annual Sessions in November of 1873, which was called on short notice, was, for all intents and purposes, a "special" Session even though it was not named one as such.

As it was the first truly atypical Session, taking place November 14-16, 1873, it is worthy of being mentioned first. The unusual circumstances which encouraged James White and President George Butler to call for the Twelfth Annual Session (the Thirteenth Annual Session took place later that same year) on short notice concerned White's earnest desire to support "arranging matters preparatory to extending the work on the Pacific Coast" and "sending a missionary to Switzerland."¹ For Elder White, it seems mission work compelled a sense of urgency. It is noteworthy that then, as at our 2022 Special Session, the votes normally accorded to delegates from specific regions who were unable to attend were reassigned to those present. At the Session, Elder White preached from Revelation 10, on the need for the Church to prophecy again to "many peoples, nations, languages, and kings." Nevertheless, it would not be until the following year's Annual Session in August, 1874, at which an action was taken to send J. N. Andrews to Switzerland.

In contrast to the above, the first official Special Session, taking place March 31-April 4, 1876, was called for the most unspecial of reasons. To the contrary, "the meeting was not called to meet the emergency of any difficulties that are pressing upon us and threatening to distract and divide us; for there is nothing of the kind. There never



The current Executive Committee leaders, L-R Secretary Erton Köhler, President Ted Wilson, and Treasurer Paul Douglas (photo credit: [Adventist News Network](#))

The ASTR office was well represented at the Special Session, with 15 out of our own 18-member diverse team present as delegates representing the Church's world Divisions and General Conference.*

The circumstances that brought about the 2022 General Conference Special Session are surely complex, though two clear reasons stand out. First, and foremost, is the COVID-19 pandemic, which prevented the Church from holding its originally scheduled 2020 quinquennial General Conference Session, which had since been twice

The Asiatic Division (1909-1918), p.7

Becoming a Global Church, p.9

Adventist Research: Beliefs and Practices of Young Adults, p.10

Featured Articles:

Winter's Greetings from ASTR, p.1

GC Special Sessions p.1

The Frost Photo Collection, p.4

was a stronger influence for unity among us, generally considered, than exists at the present time. This meeting is called to consider what we shall do next, not in the sense of men who are out of work and are looking about for something to do, but as those who have so much pressing upon them that they know not what to take hold of first. We have come to confer together how we may best husband our strength to meet the demands of the work which is rising in such magnitude before us."² In other words, the first official Special Session was called because all the Church's workers were burdened with innumerable duties! This was a typical problem that plagued many ordinary Sessions in the years following.

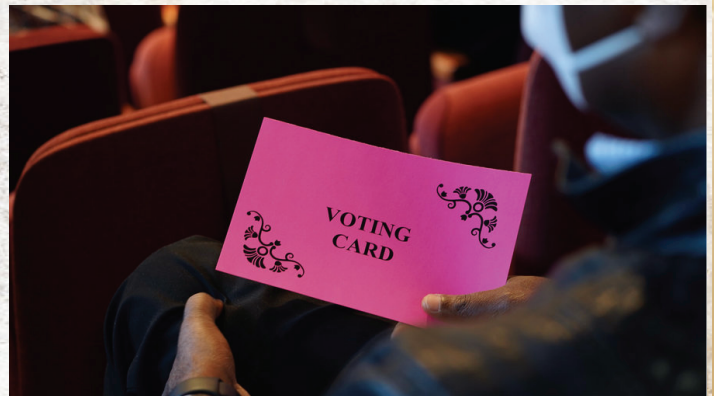
Later that same year, another Special Session was called. Systematic benevolence and the distribution of published materials were the key agenda items mentioned in the minutes for the second official Special Session of 1876, on November 12-13, 1876,³ although other routine matters were also tended to during the meetings, in addition to attention given to the new foreign work.

The third Special Session of March 1-4, 1878, addressed the rapid progress and growth of the movement, and the success of the new college at Battle Creek, as well as of the Western Health Reform Institute and the European Mission.⁴ One can sense the positive spirit and unity of the brethren for their mission at this time from the minutes, although Elder White was unable to attend.

April 17-23, 1879, was the time of the fourth Special Session, at which the issues of camp-meetings and nurturing members were focused upon in more detail, among other matters.⁵

The fifth Special Session of March 11-15, 1880, also addressed practical matters, and was held in part because "brethren qualified to act as delegates from quite a large number of States were already on the ground; that consequently the Conference could convene at less expense than at any other time; and that important enterprises to be entered upon at once, especially the new campaign in the tract and missionary work, rendered

it very proper that there should be a council of brethren."⁶ Adventists have never been averse to taking advantage of



The voting card for the 2022 Special Session (photo credit: ANN)

convenient opportunities to do business, and holding a Special Session when the moment seems right is in harmony with the principle of efficiency that guided our most recent Special Session.

In summary, we have had six Special Sessions, and a seventh regular Session that was called sooner than expected for the special reason of advancing mission work, although until our most recent one, it had been 142 years since our last Special Session! We shall see how God leads our Church in the future, as to whether we will have more hybrid Sessions, in which some delegates participate virtually through the internet owing to the various circumstances our members face around the world.

Michael F. Younker

¹ General Conference Session [GCS] Minutes, Twelfth Annual Session, November 14, 1873.

² GCS Minutes, Special Session, March 31, 1876.

³ GCS Minutes, Special Session, November 12, 1876.

⁴ GCS Minutes, Special Session, March 1, 1878.

⁵ GCS Minutes, Special Session, April 17, 1879.

⁶ GCS Minutes, Special Session, March 11, 1880.

* The ASTR Members participating and the regions/organizations they were representing included: Patricia Brauer, GC; Ashlee Chism, IAD; Manuela Coppock, TED; Reiko Davis, GC; Gaby De Souza, SAD; Magela De Souza, SAD; Elizabeth Henry, SID; Rosette Kibuuka, ECD; Roy Kline, SID; Anne Muganda, ECD; Margarita Neyra, IAD; Dragoslava Santrac, GC; Galina Stele, ESD; David Trim, TED; and Michael Younker, GC.

Adventist Yearbook and Encyclopedia, p.11

"We aim at nothing less," p.11

Remember to help us Tell the Story! p.12

The Asiatic Division (1909-1918), p.7

Becoming a Global Church, p.9

Adventist Research: Beliefs and Practices of Young Adults, p.10

Featured Articles:

Winter's Greetings from ASTR, p.1

GC Special Sessions p.1

The Frost Photo Collection, p.4

The Frost Photo Collection: Opening a Window into Adventist History

One of the newer collections ASTR holds is the Frost Collection, which is comprised of photographs taken by and given to Samuel, Ella, and Gladys Frost, who were Seventh-day Adventist missionaries in China.

At first glance, the collection seems to be rather eclectic—images of damaged buildings, of two small girls, of various groups of people (including at a wedding), of a pair skating—but after one learns about the Frosts, the collection becomes a small window into their lives, and into the lives of the people they loved, and into the places they served, mainly China.

Samuel Frost was born in the US state of New York in 1884; three years later, in the state of Alabama, Ella Knokey was born. However, it was in the state of Washington where, both teachers at Walla Walla College (he, assistant science and mathematics teacher; she, assistant piano teacher), they met. Samuel and Ella married on July 10, 1910 and continued to teach, first at Ames Academy in Idaho, then at Forest Home Academy in Washington, and then at South Lancaster Academy in Massachusetts.¹ Some photographs in the collection come from this early period of their careers.

On August 1, 1916, the Frosts went as missionaries to China, sailing from San Francisco with a large group of Adventist missionaries, soon after the reorganization of the Asiatic Division. Samuel was tasked with overseeing the Division's Educational Department and Young People's Department, and both he and Ella taught at the China Missions Training School, and they continued teaching there when it became Shanghai Missionary College. In addition to his division and teaching duties, Samuel was also the principal. When the Asiatic Division became the Far Eastern Division in 1919, the Frosts were



Samuel Lilley Frost (1884-1981), c. 1939

there. When Far Eastern Academy was established in 1926, Ella became its music teacher, a position she filled until 1940.

In 1920, the Frosts had their first child, Florence, who died in 1924 during the Frosts' furlough in the United States. Their daughter Gladys was adopted in 1924, only a few months after Florence's death, and right before they returned to China. The Frosts had also welcomed a Chinese girl named Oilene into their household, likely soon after their arrival there in 1916. Oilene was around 11 or 12 years of age at the time of their arrival; she had

The Asiatic Division (1909-1918), p.7

Becoming a Global Church, p.9

Adventist Research: Beliefs and Practices of Young Adults, p.10

Featured Articles:

Winter's Greetings from ASTR, p.1

GC Special Sessions p.1

The Frost Photo Collection, p.4

previously lived with Edwin and Susan Wilbur, also Adventist missionaries. Sadly, Edwin had died in 1914 of heart failure, and Susan, along with her and Edwin's two sons, had returned to the United States in 1916, though she never stopped talking about China and never seemingly stopped considering Oilene a daughter.² After the Wilburs' departure, the Frosts raised Oilene in their home in Shanghai.

In 1925, twenty-year-old Oilene began work as a teacher and bookkeeper at the China Training Institute, and in the 1930s worked as the assistant registrar of the Oriental Branch of the Home Study Institute. Sometime during these years Oilene married a man named Delbert Liu,



Rena and Juanita Liu, c. 1939

and they had two daughters, Rena and Juanita. Several of the photographs in the collection are of Rena and Juanita, labeled and dated with their names and ages, and one can imagine the Frosts receiving these photographs with great joy.

When the Frosts received "evacuation advice" in 1940, Ella and Gladys traveled back to the United States in December,³ and shortly thereafter, Samuel was evacuated to the Philippines, where he was later interned by the Japanese for the duration of World War II.



Samuel L. Frost, Ezra Longway, and John Oss

The Asiatic Division (1909-1918), p.7

Becoming a Global Church, p.9

Adventist Research: Beliefs and Practices of Young Adults, p.10

Featured Articles:

Winter's Greetings from ASTR, p.1

GC Special Sessions p.1

The Frost Photo Collection, p.4

In 1945, Samuel was released, and the Frosts reunited in the United States. Samuel was in such poor physical condition that he was ordered to remain in the United States to recuperate, though he wanted to get back to China. He wrote a lengthy letter to General Conference leadership shortly after his arrival in the States and, in discussing the conditions in China, mentions a letter from Oilene, describing her as "the girl who was brought up in our home".⁴

The Frosts were able to travel back to China in 1948, where Samuel (presumably) took photographs of buildings on Adventist property that had been damaged during the war. Sadly, political changes in China meant that the Frosts' return to China, where they had lived and worked since 1916 (apart from brief furloughs and for World War II), was cut short, and they returned to the States in October 1949. Samuel Frost wrote to the General Conference about their departure, describing everyone who traveled with them on their ship, a group which included Oilene, Rena, and Juanita, who were planning to attend Walla Walla College.⁵ After having been separated from the Frosts for nearly half a decade, they would once again live in the same country. Once in the States, Oilene Liu was hired for work at the General Conference, serving as a secretary in the Temperance Department from 1950 to 1976. She died in 1977 at age 71.⁶ After their return to the States in 1949, the Frosts spent time teaching in California. Samuel retired in 1953.



Samuel Frost skating with either Ella or Gladys Frost, c. 1940s

Ella died in 1968, and Samuel died in 1981.⁷

The photographs in the Frost Collection are a brief look into the lives of one family of Adventist missionaries, of the people they connected with, and of the places they lived and served. We are pleased to have it among our collections.

Ashlee Chism



War damage at Shanghai Sanitarium, 1949

¹Biographical Information Blanks for Samuel L. Frost and Ella Knokey Frost from 1916, 1939, and 1948, WH 2512, General Conference Archives, Silver Spring, Maryland, USA.

²Susan Wilbur to Bro[ther] Spicer, February 19, 1946, Personal Information Forms and Biographical material, Wi to Wil, WH 2516, General Conference Archives, Silver Spring, Maryland, USA.

³"Information on Returning Missionaries", November 19, 1940, S. L. Frost Appointee File, Box 9850, RG 21, General Conference Archives, Silver Spring, Maryland, USA.

⁴Samuel Frost to A. W. Cormack, April 12, 1945, S. L. Frost Appointee File, Box 9850, RG 21, General Conference Archives, Silver Spring, Maryland, USA.

⁵Samuel Frost to Bro[ther] Bradley, Oct. 5, 1949, S. L. Frost Appointee File, Box 9850, RG 21, General Conference Archives, Silver Spring, Maryland, USA.

⁶"Liu, Oilene", *Review and Herald* 154:14 (April 7, 1977), 29.

⁷"Frost", *Atlantic Union Gleaner* 68:9 (May 6, 1969), 21; "Frost, Samuel Lilley", *Review and Herald* 158:10 (March 5, 1981), 23.

The Asiatic Division (1909-1918), p.7

Becoming a Global Church, p.9

Adventist Research: Beliefs and Practices of Young Adults, p.10

Featured Articles:

Winter's Greetings from ASTR, p.1

GC Special Sessions p.1

The Frost Photo Collection, p.4

Adventist Pioneer Work in Asia: The Asiatic Division (1909-1918)

The following article has been adapted from a longer article by Paul S.S. Song in the Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists online at encyclopedia.adventist.org.

The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists conducts much of its work through its divisions, which in turn are comprised of unions in specific areas of the world. Different divisions existed in the past and the reorganization of some of them led to the formation of some of the current thirteen world divisions of Seventh-day Adventists. One of these past and now defunct divisions was the Asiatic Division that had functioned officially from the 37th General Conference Session, May 13-June 6, 1909, to the 39th General Conference Session, March 29-April 14, 1918.

Organizational History

Prior to forming the Asiatic Division in 1909, the General Conference directly took care of the China Mission (established 1901), the India Mission (established 1895, comprising India, Burma, and Ceylon), and the Japan Mission (comprising Japan and Korea) as miscellaneous fields. In 1907 the total population of these three territories was 783,970,499. In order to strengthen and expand the Adventist mission work in this vast territory, on July 15, 1908, the General Conference Committee approved Irwin H. Evans's itinerary to the Far East areas, including China, Japan, and Korea, as a preparatory work to organize the Asiatic Division. Upon return, Evans presented at the General Conference Committee on March 14, 1909, a report of his visits and observations. On May 13 to June 6, 1909, at the 37th General Conference Session, the Asiatic Division was organized, and Evans was elected the president. The Asiatic Division consisted of the China Union Mission, the India Mission (including Burma and Ceylon), the Japan Mission, the Korea Mission, the Philippine Mission, and the Singapore Mission.¹ The Asiatic Division Headquarters office building was placed in Shanghai,



Asiatic Division Mission General Session, May 1-15, 1915,
Shanghai, China

China. As of 1909, China's population was 435,000,000; India, 297,970,499; Japan, 50,000,000; Korea, 12,000,000; the Philippines, 8,000,000; and Singapore, 300,000, for a total population of 803,270,499 in the entire Asiatic Division. There were 21 churches: China, 5; India, 6; Japan, 4; Korea, 4; Philippines, 1; and Singapore 1. Total church membership was 601: China, 128; India, 207; Japan, 119; Korea, 100; Philippines, 3; and Singapore, 44.

Mission and Growth

The organization and support of the Asiatic Division brought more missional attention to the General Conference, as well as the churches in the United States which were the major financial supporting entity. At the Autumn Council of the General Conference Committee in College View, Nebraska, October 5-13, 1909, it was recommended that \$300,000 be raised within three years to supply funds for institutions in foreign fields. Especially targeted were China, Japan, Korea, India and Africa. Funds were used for schools, publishing houses, sanitariums, and homes for missionaries.

In 1910, at the fourth biennial session held in Lucknow, India, October 21–November 2, the India Mission was reorganized as the India Union Mission, consisting of India, Burma, and Ceylon. They were divided into five districts: Bengal, North India, West India, South India (including Ceylon), and Burma.² This was intended to prepare the way for stronger development of the mission work in the field as a whole. In the same year, Mongolia,

Featured Articles:

Winter's Greetings from ASTR, p.1

GC Special Sessions p.1

The Frost Photo Collection, p.4

The Asiatic Division (1909-1918), p.7

Becoming a Global Church, p.9

Adventist Research: Beliefs and Practices of Young Adults, p.10

Adventist Yearbook and Encyclopedia, p.11

"We aim at nothing less," p.11

Remember to help us Tell the Story! p.12

Tibet, Manchuria, and Chinese Turkestan became part of the Northern Mission Field under the Asiatic Division.

In 1913 the Asiatic Division Mission was reorganized. The East Indies and Federated Malay States (Singapore and the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, Java, Borneo, Celebes, New Guinea, and the lesser islands of the East Indies) were connected with the Asiatic Division dating from January 1, 1912. The Straits Settlements Mission in Singapore, Sumatra Mission, East Java Mission, and West Java Mission were organized into the Asiatic Division on January 1, 1913. In 1914, Manchuria Mission was organized and became part of Asiatic Division.

In November 1915, at the Autumn Council of the General Conference Committee in Loma Linda, California, the Asiatic Division Mission was reorganized to become the Asiatic Division Conference, with 212 churches and 8,006 members in total, by adding the territories of the Australasian Union Conference and the India Union Mission into the former Asiatic Division Mission. It was the biggest territorial reconfiguration in the Seventh-day Adventist world Church at that time, with a huge population of 879,652,115. According to Asiatic Division President R. C. Porter, the division experienced the largest increase of workers ever sent out by the denomination at one time. For more ambitious mission work and support for the needs in these huge territories of Asia where the laborers were few, the Australasian Union Conference contributed significant human resources and finances to India, Malaysia, the Philippines, and China. In order to maintain this momentum and for the Adventist mission work to continue to grow, a new reorganization of the territory was necessary.

Reorganization

At the 39th General Conference Session from March 29 to April 14, 1918, the India Union Mission and the Australasian Union Conference were separated from the Asiatic Division. At the council of the Far Eastern section in Shanghai, China, on March 2, 1919, the name Far Eastern Division of the General Conference of Seventh-



day Adventists was adopted.³ In 1920 the India Union Mission became the Southern Asia Division of the General Conference, and in 1922 the Australasian Union Conference became the Australasia Division.

Since the India Union Mission and the Australasian Union Conference were separated from the Asiatic Division, the term Eastern Asia Division was temporarily chosen prior to an appropriate name that would be given to the entire Far Eastern field known as the Asiatic Division Conference.⁴ The term Eastern Asia Division appeared in the General Conference Committee minutes in 1918. In 1920 the new term Far Eastern Division started officially to be used.

Adapted by Dragoslava Santrac

¹ "In the Asiatic Division," *Review and Herald*, June 16, 1910, 18.
² "The Lucknow Conference," *The Eastern Tidings*, November 1910, 1-3.
³ "Notes from the Spring Council," *Supplemental News Sheet - Asiatic Division Outlook*, March 1, 1919.
⁴ Clarence Creager Crisler, "Conferences in Tokyo and Manila," *Asiatic Division Outlook*, November 1-15, 1918, 12.

The Asiatic Division (1909-1918), p.7

Becoming a Global Church, p.9

Adventist Research: Beliefs and Practices of Young Adults, p.10

Featured Articles:

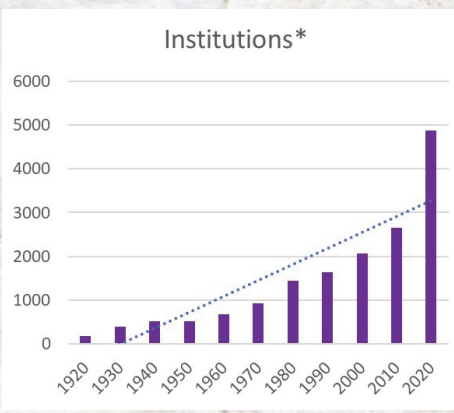
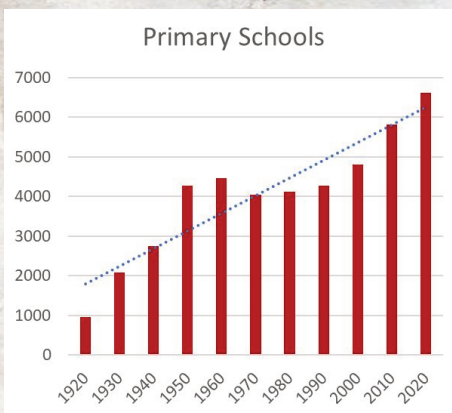
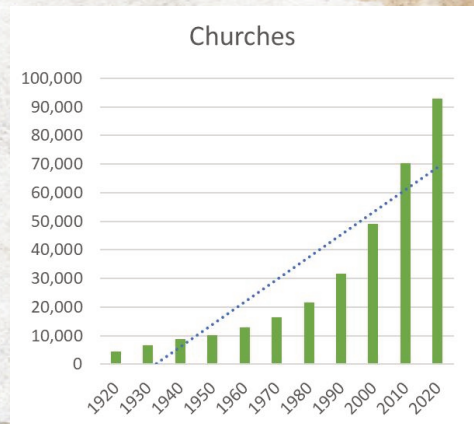
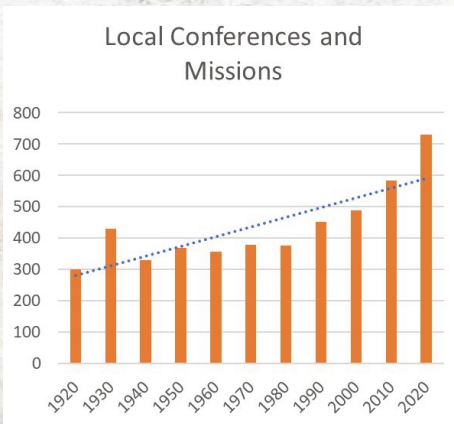
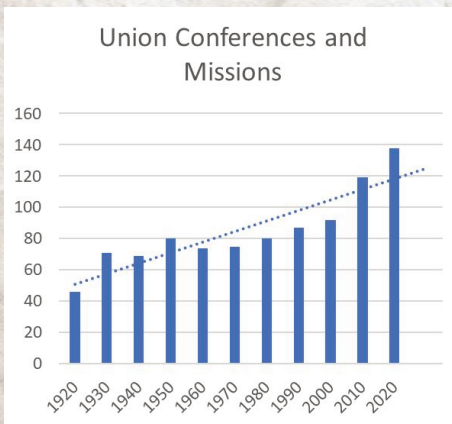
Winter's Greetings from ASTR, p.1

GC Special Sessions p.1

The Frost Photo Collection, p.4

Becoming a Global Church: The Growth of our Church over the Past Century

In the past 100 years, Seventh-day Adventist Church organizations have grown consistently. Despite the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic that has afflicted the worldwide church there is a continued upward trend, in terms of church organizations, as demonstrated in the graphs below. A trend line has been added to the graphs to better demonstrate the progress. The Lord continues to bless our church in these areas as we work towards furthering the message of salvation!



* Includes tertiary institutions, worker training institutions, and secondary schools, food industries, hospitals and sanitariums, nursing homes, retirement centers, orphanages, children's homes, clinics and dispensaries, media centers and publishing houses and branches.

Adventist Yearbook and Encyclopedia, p.11

"We aim at nothing less," p.11

Remember to help us Tell the Story! p.12

The Asiatic Division (1909-1918), p.7

Becoming a Global Church, p.9

Adventist Research: Beliefs and Practices of Young Adults, p.10

Featured Articles:

Winter's Greetings from ASTR, p.1

GC Special Sessions p.1

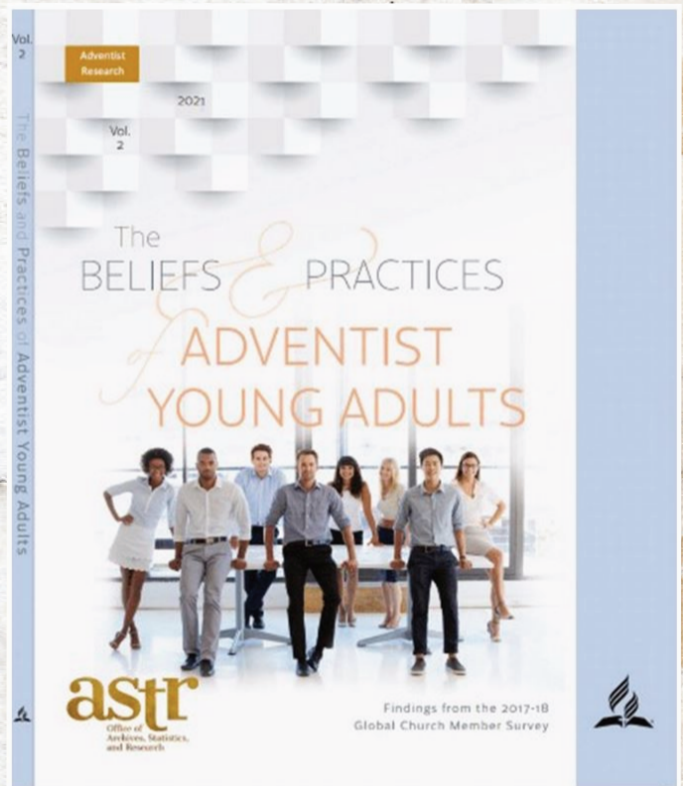
The Frost Photo Collection, p.4

Adventist Research Series: The Beliefs and Practices of Adventist Young Adults

If you liked the first volume of the "Adventist Research" Series, then you will love the second volume entitled *The Beliefs and Practices of Adventist Young Adults*. It presents research findings on the habits of Adventist young adults, their beliefs and attitudes towards themselves, their churches, and key areas of their lives, including those where some improvements could help them continue to grow and thrive.

We hope this book will inspire you to pray for and love Adventist young people more. May the insights you receive help your local church embrace young Adventists, involve them in ministry to the church and community, and encourage them to move forward in their spiritual journeys with the Lord!

You can pre-order the first two volumes of the "Adventist Research" Series through our [website \(click here for the order form\)](#). If you have any questions or would like to know more information regarding the books, please email us at Research@gc.adventist.org.



Manuela Coppock

Adventist Yearbook and Encyclopedia, p.11

"We aim at nothing less," p.11

Remember to help us Tell the Story! p.12

The Asiatic Division (1909-1918), p.7

Becoming a Global Church, p.9

Adventist Research: Beliefs and Practices of Young Adults, p.10

Featured Articles:

Winter's Greetings from ASTR, p.1

GC Special Sessions p.1

The Frost Photo Collection, p.4

Enjoy our Online Encyclopedia's Thousands of Articles?

Our ASTR Encyclopedia main office, led by David Trim, Dragoslava Santrac and Patricia Brauer, in collaboration with authors and regional editors around the world, have worked very hard the past several years to bring the *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists* to life online, with thousands of pictures accompanying our many articles detailing our shared rich history and diversity. To help complete and improve our *Encyclopedia*, insuring the best and most up-to-date content for future generations, we invite you to join the project. You can do so by contributing articles and photos, or, of course, by sharing your generous donation.

Yes! I'd like to support the encyclopedia! (button on lower left)



ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

2022 Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook

Are you lost navigating our Church's many official Adventist organizations around the world? We have the answer for you! From General Conference divisions, unions, conferences and missions, to educational institutions (excluding primary schools), food industries, healthcare institutions, and more! They're all in the *Yearbook*.

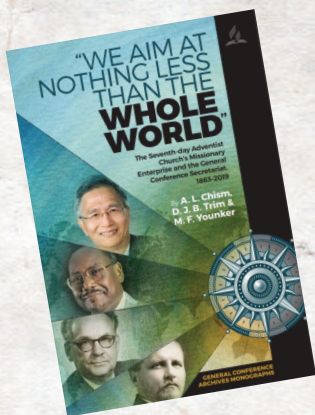


Find their mid-year statistics, contact information, and social media links, among other interesting facts, in the *Adventist Yearbook*.

To order the 2022 *Adventist Yearbook*, in printed form or an electronic file, please visit <https://www.PacificPress.com/SDAYearbook>. Don't miss out on this extraordinary source of information!

ASTR Book: "We aim at nothing less than the whole world" Now Available

As a reminder for our Newsletter readers, our recent book *"We aim at nothing less than the whole world": The Seventh-day Adventist Church's Missionary Enterprise and the General Conference Secretariat, 1863-2019* is available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) in hard and softcover formats (312 pages). If you wish to learn more about how we organized to evangelize the world, our successes and failures, it is worth reading.



Featured Articles:

Winter's Greetings from ASTR, p.1

GC Special Sessions p.1

The Frost Photo Collection, p.4

The Asiatic Division (1909-1918), p.7

Becoming a Global Church, p.9

Adventist Research: Beliefs and Practices of Young Adults, p.10

As always, remember to help us Tell the Story!

As a reminder, our purpose here at ASTR is to tell the Adventist story. We want to inform and inspire church members toward a renewed commitment to the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church by sharing our history.

You can help us to tell the story in two ways:

First, help us to preserve the story: your stories and the Church's story! Letters and other documents, memoirs, photographs, tape recordings, audio and video cassettes, films, and historic books and magazines: all enable us to recover the story of how, in the words of Ellen White, "the Lord has led us . . . in our past history" and of how God has worked in the lives of individual church members. They are the raw materials from which Adventist history can be researched by scholars and without which parts of that history will be lost. So please, [contact us](#) about sending your family's documents, photographs, and other historic materials to us so that they can be preserved and used to help the great Second Advent Movement fulfill its prophetic mission.

Second, help us to conserve and to share the story—to pass it on to the next generation. Historic Adventist photographs and movies allow us to connect with our past in a way nothing else can, because we look into the eyes of those who sacrificed to make this Church. We want to digitize those precious resources, scanning them electronically so they can be accessed by everyone. We especially want to connect with young people. By digitizing photos and movies, we can help them to understand "the way the Lord has led us and His teaching in our past history"—we can help them to connect with our pioneers and be inspired to service.

Haven't received your Newsletter? Sign up [HERE](#). For previous issues visit our [website](#).



Your gift of at least \$25 could:

- Digitize 100 feet of film = five minutes viewing time, or
- Conserve, digitize, and publicize one historic Adventist photograph from our collection of thousands, or
- Contribute to our continuing effort to preserve and digitize rare Adventist books, pamphlets, and magazines

Two ways to Donate:

- 1) Mail your remittance to:
GC Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research
12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD
20904
- 2) Donate Online by visiting:
www.adventistarchives.org/tellthestory
and click the "Donate" link.

