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## TELLING THE STORY

Archives, Statistics,  
and Research (ASTR)  
Newsletter - Issue #18



### Winter 2024 Greetings from ASTR!

The ASTR team wishes our readers a blessed forthcoming winter and holiday season! In this issue, we've chosen to focus on a special theme that is foundational to our Seventh-day Adventist faith, namely the relationship of science and religion.

The importance of science and religion is seen not only in our view of creation, which includes the first Sabbath, as studied at the Geoscience Research Institute, but is also present in our health message and care for the planet today. We trust you will enjoy learning more about these ministries and the beliefs of Adventists about science and religion below.

### The Geoscience Research Institute

The Geoscience Research Institute (GRI) serves the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, by studying the relationship between current science and the biblical record of creation. First established at Andrews University in July 1958 as the "Committee on Teaching Paleontology and Geology," it became known as the Geoscience Research Institute by 1962. According to the GRI mission statement, its purpose is "to explore the natural world, seeking to develop and share an understanding of nature consistent with the biblical teaching as expressed in the Church's statement of fundamental belief on creation." The following article was adapted from Ariel A. Roth and L. James Gibson's article "Geoscience Research Institute" in the *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists*. All photos are courtesy of ESDA.



Richard Ritland (L) and Harold Coffin (R), Yellowstone fossil forest  
Early Years: 1956-1972

In 1956 a quadrennial meeting of North American Adventist college science teachers convened at Union College. It addressed problems the teachers were facing, especially the evidence for long geologic ages, including Carbon-14 dating. A discussion led by chemist Rue E. Hoen resulted in a request that the General Conference provide funding to support special leaves for several teachers to study such questions. When passed on to the General Conference, then president R. R. Figuhr took a personal interest in it, and on October 25, 1957, a proposal was reviewed by the General Conference Committee. The approved action at that time included recommendations to send two experienced men to take advanced studies in qualified institutions, and that a committee of seven be appointed to supervise the new endeavor. Figuhr himself chaired that committee until his retirement in 1966. It was the beginning of what would soon be called the Geoscience Research Institute, initially located on the campus of Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University). The governing committee appointed Frank Lewis



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Marsh, a seasoned professor of biology at Emmanuel Missionary College, and P. Edgar Hare, from Pacific Union College, as the first two Adventist scholars to take advanced studies. They were later joined by Richard M. Ritland, of the anatomy department at Loma Linda University.

In 1964 Hare was released from his obligations to GRI in order to be able to spend more time at the Carnegie Institute for Science. That same year Marsh transferred back to Emmanuel Missionary College, and Ritland became GRI director. Ariel A. Roth joined GRI full time in 1971. Other staff joined soon, including Harold Coffin, Harold James, and Edward Lugenbeal.

When Figuhr retired from the General Conference presidency in 1966, Robert H. Pierson replaced him. Pierson attended a momentous 1968 GRI field conference that resulted in dramatic changes for GRI. While some presentations favored a Genesis-based creation, many didn't, causing great consternation. It could be argued that GRI was destroying the very beliefs it had originally been asked to defend. By 1971 it became clear to Ritland that his and Pierson's objectives for GRI to be supportive of the Church's traditional position on Creationism were incompatible, and Ritland transferred over to Andrews University.



Robert Brown examining the terrain at the 1968  
GRI Field Conference

Orientation 1973-1979

In 1973 the governing board of GRI appointed Robert Brown,

a physicist and president of Union College, as director of GRI. Sympathetic to Pierson's objectives for GRI, Brown initiated several programs to address its original purpose of helping teachers and students who had questions about the Bible and science. The GRI staff visited the various North American Adventist college campuses to give lectures and teach classes that discussed issues of the conflict between science and Bible. GRI started a scholarly peer-reviewed journal called *Origins*, which was edited by Roth for 23 years with assistance from Katherine Ching. By the 1980s it had become a publication of choice even for non-Adventist creationists.

GRI personnel also addressed some salient problem areas. Brown proposed a model of Carbon-14 concentration that would fit the reported data within a biblical chronology. Coffin directed his efforts at the successive Yellowstone fossil forest, challenging their *in situ* growth interpretation. Lugenbeal presented challenges to the proposed evolution of humans, and Roth published articles on factors that affect the growth rate of coral reef organisms.

God's Two Books, *The Bible and the Book of Nature*:  
1980-1994

Brown retired in 1980, and Roth became the director. His more eclectic approach focused on scientific data and interpretations that supported Creationism and the Flood. In the summer of 1980, the Institute headquarters transferred from Andrews University to Loma Linda University, which had a larger community of scientists and a respectable science library. Soon after the move, Richard Tkachuck joined the team for four years. He was replaced in 1984 by L. James Gibson from Loma Linda University, who served at GRI for 36 years. Clyde Webster from Walla Walla College joined the staff in 1983 and served for 22 years, concentrating on the catastrophic deposition of the Yellowstone fossil forests and radiometric dating. During the 1980-1994 period, GRI established two branch offices, one at the Salève Adventist Institute in France and another at River Plate College in Argentina. Around that time, periodicals in English (*Geoscience Newsletter*), Spanish (*Ciencia de los Origenes*), and French (*Science & Origenes*) began publication. Ben Clausen joined the institute in 1987. When Coffin retired in 1991, Elaine Kennedy replaced him. When Ariel Roth retired as director in September 1994, L. James Gibson assumed the role.



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**Continuation: 1995-2000**

An important activity of the GRI was the annual meeting of scientists, theologians, and administrators called BRISCO (Biblical Research Institute Science Council). The group met at various geographical locations chosen for access to nearby geologically significant localities. Started in 1971, the meetings facilitated discussion of issues, mentored graduate students, and provided reviews of manuscripts in preparation for publication. Among the most significant BRISCO meetings was the 1998 Conference on Science and Faith at Andrews University, with 130 scholars in attendance. In addition to BRISCO meetings, field conferences continued as a major activity of the Institute.



*The GRI building on the campus of Loma Linda University*

Starting about 1996, Ben Clausen began developing a GRI website, [grisd.org](http://grisd.org). The website has become one of the most important methods of communication for the Institute. Another significant development was the publication by Ariel Roth in 1998 of his book *Origins, Linking Science and Scripture*.

**Renewal: 2001-2007**

The need for a separate building to house the Institute had been obvious for many years. After the initial steps taken in 1993, ground-breaking took place in February of 1999, and occupancy in May 2001. In the 2000s increasing numbers of Adventists were earning degrees in science. Most of them studied in secular universities and thus were trained to be skeptical of the biblical account of origins. Denominational leaders felt it would be useful to provide an opportunity for church scholars to address issues that may have arisen in recent scientific developments. The first International

Conference on Faith and Science met in Ogden, Utah, in 2002, and focused on questions of biological evolution. In late summer of 2004, the second International Conference on Faith and Science assembled in Denver, Colorado. At the conclusion of the second international conference, leaders prepared and reported a statement, "Affirmation of Creation," to the Annual Council of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Recognizing the importance of the Church's teaching on creation, the Annual Council endorsed the statement, adding its own comments.

Dr. Raul Esperante and Dr. Tim Standish joined the Institute in 2001, and Dr. Ronny Nalin in 2007. Establishment of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Faith and Science Council in 2005 helped provide support for the new trends and contributed to a subsequent expansion of GRI activities. In 2006, the GRI Board recognized two new branch offices; one located at Sahmyook University in Korea and the other located at Montemorelos University in Mexico.

**Growth in Research and Education: 2007-2021**

A series of meetings focused on teaching university courses in faith and science occurred between 2007 to 2013 at various locations near geologically significant localities. Field Conferences continued as an important function of GRI (e.g., the Spanish Pyrenees in 2007, the Colorado Rockies in 2008, and the Italian Alps in 2012, 2014, and 2017). In 2011, the book, *Understanding Creation*, was published with Jim Gibson as one of the editors.

Video production developed during this period. In 2009, Tim Standish produced a set of six videos titled "Thinking Creation." Subsequent video productions featured biographies of notable persons who are both scientists and believers in creation, a series of videos on the Galapagos Islands, and a set of four videos on the history of geological controversies in the Alps.

The Faith and Science Council presented a recommendation to the General Conference officers that the Church's Fundamental Belief Statement 6 on creation be expressed more clearly. Accepted by the officers, they placed the topic on the agenda of the 2015 General Conference Session, where it was implemented.



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An important development was the establishment of GRI "Resource Centers" at several universities outside of North America, starting with South America but now including locations in Africa and Asia. Built around physical displays and specimens of interest for origins topics, such centers promote creation-related educational activities on campus, and support, where possible, research projects in areas relevant to origins.

The year 2016 saw the appointment by the administrative committee of the General Conference of a Geoscience Research Institute Committee. It consisted of the GRI members and a representative from each worldwide division, along with several church administrators, and had as its task developing a stronger link between GRI and the divisions for planning meetings and developing, evaluating, and promoting educational materials relating to origins. This greatly improved communication between GRI and the world field, including tertiary institutions.

Beginning about this time, GRI began developing a museum in its library, featuring fossils, rocks, and modern organisms. Following a successful collaboration with the department of education of the North American Division to produce the science textbook series *ByDesign*, for grades 1-8, publication of a new secondary level biology textbook, *ByDesign Biology*, was a welcome development in 2020.

When L. James Gibson retired, Ronny Nalin became the new director in 2020. GRI continues to serve the Church by exploring the intersection of faith and science from the perspective of a biblical worldview.

*Adapted by Dragoslava Santrac*

## Science and Religion

Seventh-day Adventists accept the value of science and seek to understand science (the book of nature) correctly alongside seeking to understand Scripture. Since its beginning, the Adventist Church has a history of searching for the appropriate interaction between these two sources. The following article was adapted from Leonard Brand's article "Science and Religion" in the *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists*. All photos are courtesy of ESDA.

### *Seventh-day Adventists: Education And Health Care*

The Adventist belief in the harmony of faith and science may be seen emphasized in Adventist education at all levels. A specific example is the network of universities and medical institutions operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Healthcare has been considered a priority by Adventists since the mid-nineteenth century. Around the world there are many Adventist hospitals and medical schools. The leader among those medical schools has been Loma Linda University School of Medicine at Loma Linda, California, with Loma Linda University Medical Center, a world-class medical center, which has introduced new medical procedures and instruments. For example, Leonard Bailey, M.D., pioneered infant heart transplantation. His most famous procedure was transplanting a baboon heart into human Baby Fae in 1984, since human baby heart donors were not available. The experience with Baby Fae resulted in huge international publicity that led directly to the establishment of an international information network to bring together potential infant heart donors and infants needing a heart. The result has been thousands of infant lives saved at Loma Linda University Medical Center and at other hospitals.



*Loma Linda University School of Medicine*



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**Seventh-day Adventists and Care for the Environment**

At creation, the Creator asked humans to care for their environment. The earth is their home, and their lives and health are dependent on maintaining a healthy environment on earth. This includes controlling pollution and caring for animal life. Adventist colleges and universities are active in promoting care for the environment. At Loma Linda University, two of the most active biologists in this field are Steven Dunbar and William Hayes. Dunbar edited the book *Entrusted*, a work on environmental care.

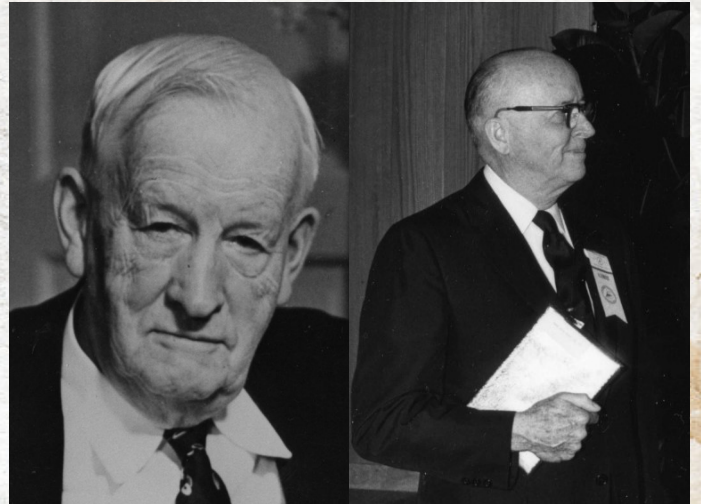
**Design in Nature**

The Intelligent Design movement maintains that the nature of living organisms, the biochemistry of life, is scientifically unexplainable unless there is an intelligent designer behind it. Moreover, the Intelligent Design movement takes the position that it is sufficiently clear that without intelligent design, life could never have come into existence. That movement does not deal with the question of who the designer is. In fact, what is visible in nature cannot explain who God is. This is where the book of nature and the Book of Revelation part company. Nature can show the necessary existence of an absolutely awesome designer, but to know anything helpful about that designer, one needs the revelation of His character and love that is found in the Bible.

**Early Response by Seventh-day Adventists to Charles Darwin**

Along with many other Christians, several Adventist scientists played an influential role in the study of the relationship of faith and science as related to the subject of origins. The denomination has provided direct financial support for study of this relationship since the mid-1900s. During the late 1800s many Christians, with some prominent exceptions, did not seem to know what to do with scientists' developing views of long geological ages instead of the biblical global flood a short time ago. The Adventist confidence in the Genesis account, encouraged by the work of Ellen White, kept them much closer to the understanding of a literal one-week creation followed by a global flood, a few thousand years ago.

White's initial published statement supporting the belief in a literal six-day creation and seventh-day Sabbath, followed later by a global flood which devastated the earth, was published in 1864, just five years after the publication of Darwin's book. She also maintained that the Bible gives a



George McCready Price (L) and Frank Marsh (R)

short time span since the creation, and only through Bible history can we correctly understand the history of life on earth. The concepts in her 1864 statement were republished in a variety of books and articles over the next sixty years. That acceptance of the Bible as the correct source of earth's history was generally followed by other Seventh-day Adventist authors.

**Pioneering Biblical Geology – George McCready Price**

Early in the twentieth century a Seventh-day Adventist school teacher named **George McCready Price** (1870-1963) was the first to begin a serious attempt at reinterpreting the field of geology, based on insights about earth history given in the book of Genesis and in the writings of Ellen White. Price's work was the primary influence presenting Christians with an alternative to the common belief that the geological record with its fossils accumulated over long ages. He believed that the biblical flood was a real, geologically significant episode, producing much of the geological record in a rapid, catastrophic event. Price had no training or field experience in geology, but even today the professional community of geologists recognize (albeit with sarcasm) Price and White as the leaders in developing the concept of flood geology.

**Other Adventist Scientists as Leaders in the Study of Origins**

Other scientists, including some Seventh-day Adventist scientists, took up the task of developing and improving a biblical view of the science of origins. Biologist **Frank Marsh**,



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a faculty member at Union College in the 1940s and 1950s, wrote several books that have been influential among creationists inside and outside of the Adventist Church. During the same era Harold Clark, a Pacific Union College faculty member, maintained Price's commitment to Genesis as a reliable description of creation and the flood, but he recognized that some corrections were needed in Price's interpretation of the geological evidence. Clark proposed his ecological zonation theory, explaining that the sequence of vertebrate fossils was not the result of evolution, but the animals were buried during the flood in their normal ecological sequence.

In the decades that followed, Adventist scientists continued Clark's and Marsh's example of careful study of geological and biological evidence, combined with recognition of the reliability of Scripture. Most Adventist scientists have recognized that it is of critical importance to keep these two concepts together: careful, in-depth scientific research and equally careful Bible study, while maintaining the Bible as our standard for determining basic truths about the history of life and the earth. A literal one-week creation has continued to be an essential part of the foundation for Seventh-day Adventist belief in the God of creation.

*Seventh-day Adventist Institutions and Their Role in Origins*

Towards the middle of the twentieth century, belief in evolution was growing in its influence in the American educational process. A part of the Seventh-day Adventist response, in the 1950s, was to open the Geoscience Research Institute at Andrews University, with Frank Marsh as its first director. The Geoscience Research Institute consists of several scientists who lead the church's study and education efforts in relation to origins.

In 1961 a group of science faculty in the Loma Linda University School of Medicine proposed launching a new department, a non-medical department of biology, offering masters and doctoral degrees. This plan was quickly approved by the faculty and the university administration. The new department accepted its first graduate students in the fall of 1962. The first full-time chair of this department was Ariel Roth. About 1979 this biology department added geologists to its faculty and in time offered doctorates in both biology and geology. By 2018 the department, now known as the Department of Earth and Biological Sciences, had 91 alumni.

Among Christians, the Loma Linda University, with its Department of Earth and Biological Sciences, is recognized as the only university where students can earn doctoral degrees in biology or geology and study with faculty who maintain a high view of Scripture, believing the biblical account of a factual, literal creation and flood.

*Research in Origins by Seventh-day Adventist Scientists*

Since the late 1960s a group of geologists and biologists from Geoscience Research Institute and Department of Earth and Biological Sciences have been involved in scientific research that seeks better understanding of selected types of geological and paleontological evidence that were difficult to explain in ways compatible with Genesis. This work has uniformly found that such use of biblical insights and questions produces research findings that fit better with the Genesis account, and are more scientifically coherent than previous theories. Increasing numbers of creationist scientists, in other denominations, are also active in this type of research. The first and perhaps the best-known example of this research was the study of the Yellowstone fossil forests, begun by Geoscience Research Institute staff members. Through time, other institutions have become involved in this type of work. Beginning in 1997, Arthur Chadwick from Southwestern Adventist University, along with several Adventist and other collaborators, pioneered precise quarry methods far advanced from what was being done in any other fossil quarry. So far at least twenty-six thousand fossils have been collected and catalogued in the museum at Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas.

In 2010 the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists appointed the Faith and Science Council, consisting of theologians, scientists, and church leaders to plan the denomination's approach to advancing its understanding of origins and communicating this to a wide audience. Later, at the General Conference Session in 2015 a revision of the Church's fundamental belief on creation was approved affirming a commitment to a literal seven-day creation, a short time ago. The revisions clearly eliminated the possibility of reading theistic evolution into the statement. Adventists have maintained a positive view of science and its practical concepts and inventions, and a belief that faith and science, properly understood, are in harmony.

*Adapted by Dragoslava Santrac*



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## Creation Research Guide Available Online

of the Creation fundamental belief. A copy of this research  
guide is available online at <https://bit.ly/3trq5fS>.

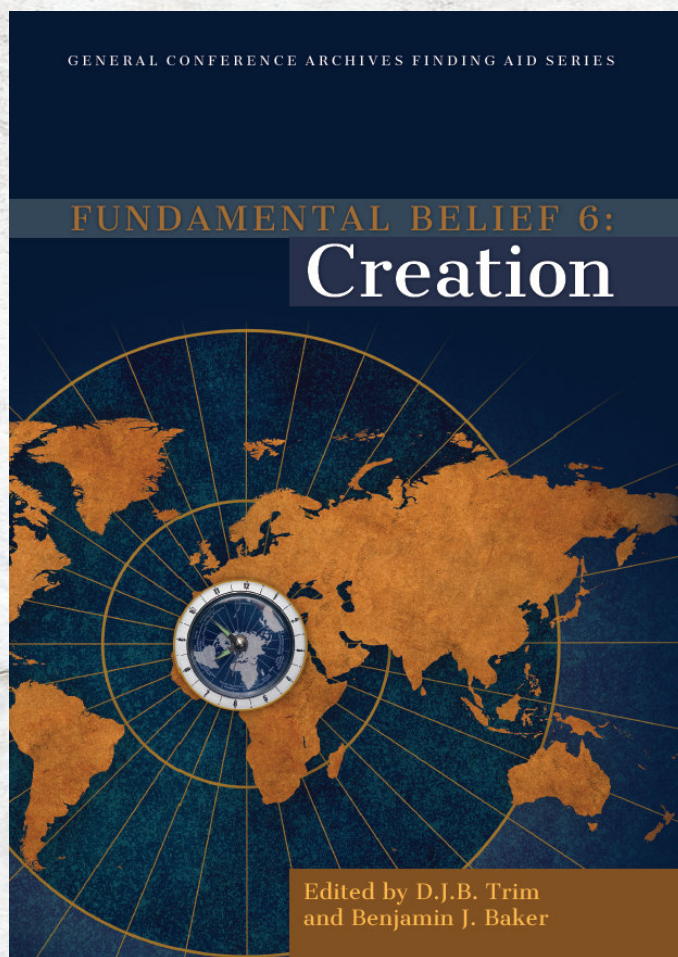
The work of historians is to contextualize past events in such a way as to allow people in the present a greater understanding of those events and if and how those events relate to the present. Part of that work is supported by archivists, who identify and make available records relevant to historians' work.

In 2014, the General Conference Archives produced *Fundamental Belief 6: Creation; a descriptive inventory of documents in the Archives of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*, relating to the drafting and adoption of Seventh-day Adventist fundamental belief no. 6. This research guide is the result of work done by David Trim and Benjamin Baker when the Archives was tasked by Adventist Church leaders to examine the documentary record of how the original wording of the Church's fundamental belief on creation was adopted.

The research guide includes four sections of materials: Committee Minutes, Documents, Correspondence, and Online Resources. The material in each section is listed in chronological order, and a brief description of each item is provided, along with information about its precise location in the Archives. (This, of course, will aid any researcher in properly citing the material.) Several appendices provide an overall timeline, list of significant participants, the Adventist Church's Fundamental Beliefs as they were worded in 2014, and a short bibliography of primary sources.

The research guide identifies the committees crucial to the drafting and adoption of the fundamental belief regarding creation, including the President's Administrative Council (PRADCO), the President's Executive Advisory (PREXAD), the General Conference Committee (today known as the Executive Committee), the *Church Manual* Committee, and the 53rd General Conference Session (1980). The guide also provides the names of those involved with those committees and identifies correspondence related to those administrators, staff, and theologians who played key roles in the process.

*Fundamental Belief 6: Creation* is a valuable resource to historians and others who do research in Adventist history as well as to anyone interested in records relevant to the history



Ashlee Chism



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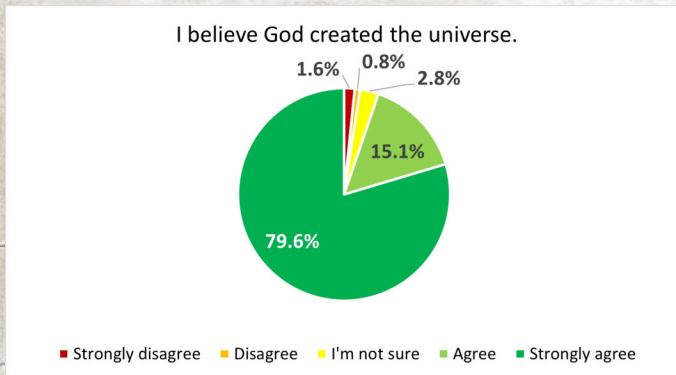
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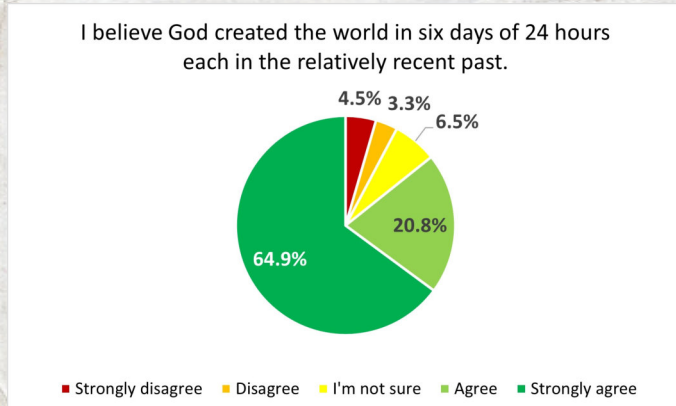
## God Created Our World

The Bible tells us about the creation of our world. Starting in the book of Genesis 1:1, it reads, “in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (NKJV). This verse establishes God as the Creator of this world (“earth”) and gives us an account of how He did it in the following verses.

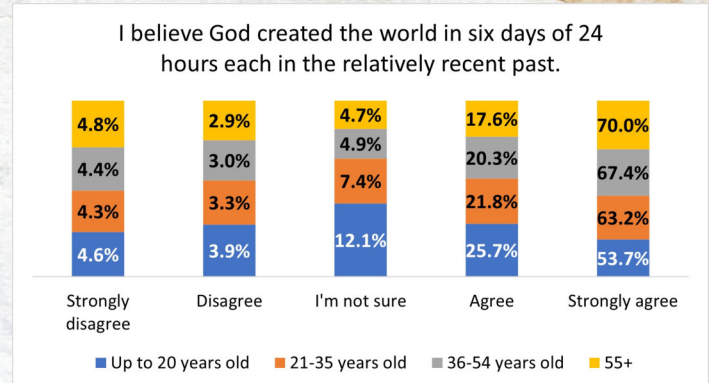
Researchers wanted to see how strongly Seventh-day Adventists believe in creation according to the Genesis account. During the 2017-2018 Global Church Member Survey (2017-18 GCMS) participants were asked questions on the topic of creation. When the survey participants were asked to respond to the statement: *I believe God created the universe*, an overwhelming majority (95%) of them agreed to one degree or another with this statement, about 3% were not sure, and less than 3% disagreed to one degree or another. What a great result! Most Adventists believe that God is the Creator of the universe.



When participants were asked to respond to the statement, *I believe God created the world in six days of 24 hours each in the relatively recent past*, it became apparent that the group that agreed to one degree or another decreased significantly (86%). While this is still a large majority, it should be noted that the I'm not sure responses increased (7%), and the group of participants that disagreed to one degree or another also increased (8%).



When the collected data was broken down by age groups, it became apparent that young people up to 20 years old were the largest group that was uncertain about this statement. They also had the lowest percentage of “strongly agree” responses—only 54% strongly agreed compared with 70% of those 55 years and older. Interestingly, while the group of 55 years and older agreed most strongly with the statement, they also disagreed slightly stronger than other groups with the statement that they believed that *God created the world in six days in the relatively recent past*. However, the total disagreement was the highest among young respondents up to 20 years old (9%).



It is encouraging to see that, overall, Seventh-day Adventists strongly believe that God is the Creator of the universe. Nevertheless, some seem to doubt that He created our world in six literal days in the relatively recent past. When looking at the data, it became apparent that this doubt exists in every age group and not only the younger age groups. What could be the reasons for such doubts? Are they doubting God’s capability to speak a world into existence? Is it their educational background or their belief in the evolutionary model? If God is capable of saving us and able to eradicate sin, how can we doubt Him regarding creation? How can church leaders and members alike address these doubts? Science is an incredible tool to explore the world around us. Every day, we learn more and more about the world we live in and the things that surround us. Science may not have a complete answer to how we came into existence, yet it shows us how amazing our Creator is. As Psalm 33:9 affirms, “For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm” (NIV).

Check out the 2017-18 GCMS Meta-Analysis Report on [www.adventistresearch.info](http://www.adventistresearch.info) for more information about this global survey.

Manuela Coppock



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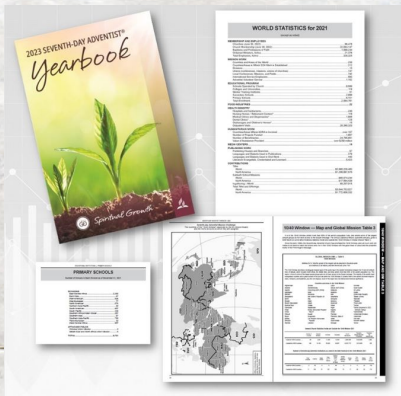
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## Statistical Information within the Yearbook

The Data Collection and Publication team of the General Conference Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research is responsible for the production of the *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* and the *Annual Statistical Report*.

In the latest 2023 *Yearbook* the world statistics that can be found are those corresponding to mid-year 2021 in the areas of membership and employees, mission work, education, food industries, health ministries, humanitarian work, media centers, publishing work and tithe and offerings. These statistics are provided by the editor of the *Annual Statistical Report*.



In addition, statistics on the numbers of primary and secondary schools in each division as of the end of 2021 can be found at the end of the educational institutions chapter in the current *Yearbook*.

And lastly, statistics gathered from the *Annual Statistical Report* such as the number of countries, ordained ministers, churches, companies, church membership, population, and population per member ratios both inside and outside the 10/40 window can be found in the Global Mission Table 3 section of the *Yearbook*, along with a map depicting the countries and areas of the world which comprise the 10/40 window.

The organizational data name changes in the *Yearbook* directly affect entity names listed in the *Annual Statistical Report*, in the same way that the statistical information in the *Yearbook* comes directly from the *Annual Statistical Report*. Both documents need to be as consistent and accurate as possible to showcase the information gathered from our worldwide Church presence.

For more information on world statistics of the Seventh-day Adventist church: [www.adventiststatistics.org](http://www.adventiststatistics.org).

To explore and find more information on the Adventist Yearbook: [www.adventistyearbook.org](http://www.adventistyearbook.org).

Purchase your own copy of the Adventist Yearbook: [www.PacificPress.com/SDAYearbook](http://www.PacificPress.com/SDAYearbook).

Maggie S. Neyra and Meredith P. Carter

## Statistics on Broadcast Ministries

On October 19, 1929, H.M.S. Richards began the radio program *Family Ministry* with other Adventist ministers on KNX in Los Angeles. This began the growth of many more radio and tv programs to come such as *Voice of Prophecy*, *Faith for Today*, *It Is Written*, and *Breath of Life* just to name a few.

The statistics annually collected include the number of AM/FM radio and internet stations, as well as TV channels that are owned and operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in and from each of its 13 divisions, and 4 attached fields. In addition, we request figures on the annual number of broadcast hours by our own radio and TV stations as well as broadcast hours purchased on other stations.

We also collect data on our church-owned-and-operated media centers and production studios: such as the number of media/production studios, languages produced, radio, and TV programs produced, as well as audio and tv podcasts broadcast in each worldwide division and attached fields. And lastly, we collect statistics from *Hope Channel International* and *Adventist World Radio* stationed here at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists headquarters.

Year	AM/FM and internet radio stations (owned and operated by SDA Church)			TV Channels (owned and operated by SDA Church)			Media Centers/Production Studios										Adventist World Radio (AWR)	
	No. of Stations	No. of Countries	No. of States/Provinces	No. of Stations	No. of Countries	No. of States/Provinces	No. of Studios	No. of Countries	No. of States/Provinces	No. of Studios	No. of Countries	No. of States/Provinces	No. of Studios	No. of Countries	No. of States/Provinces	No. of Studios	No. of Countries	No. of States/Provinces
1975	1,000	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1980	1,500	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
1985	2,000	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
1990	2,500	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250
1995	3,000	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
2000	3,500	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350
2005	4,000	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400
2010	4,500	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450
2015	5,000	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500
2020	5,500	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550
2021	5,600	560	560	560	560	560	560	560	560	560	560	560	560	560	560	560	560	560

Media sources such as AM/FM and internet radio and TV channels have allowed the Seventh-day Adventist Church to reach a broader population throughout the world with the message of salvation and the soon return of Jesus, our Lord and Savior.



Featured Articles:

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The Geoscience Research Institute, p.1

Science and Religion, p.4

Creation Research Guide Available Online, p.7

God Created Our World, p.8

## 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](http://www.adventistarchives.org/tellthestory)  
and click the "Donate" link.

