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**UNITED YOUTH CONGRESS— 1984** Atlanta, Georgia



## COVER STORY

### UNITED YOUTH CONGRESS 1984

Detroit was the location of the first regional youth congress, where thousands of youths gathered in 1981 for a spiritual refreshing and to place their lives "In His Hands!" This was also the spark plug that set the wheels in motion for the 1984 United Youth Congress, which was held in Atlanta, Georgia, from March 28th through the 31st.

In this election year, more than 35,000 young people and people young at heart traveled from all parts of the United States, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Canada and London, England, to Atlanta, thereby electing to have their lives transformed and their minds renewed!

The congress officially opened on Wednesday, March 28, at the Peachtree Plaza, the official home for the delegates. Pastor Charles Joseph, president of the Lake Region Conference, gave the keynote address. The beautiful theme song, "Renewing Our Minds," was introduced by its composers, Eurydice Osterman and Henry Mosely. The delegation was welcomed and seated.

The next two days were literally jam-packed with activities. Thursday morning's worship was most inspiring as Mike Faison, a communications instructor from Andrews University, invited everyone to learn how to love people as Jesus did. He pointed out that the most powerful witness must be a Christlike lifestyle!

#### Workshops Stimulate the Minds

As the worship service ended, delegates were anxious to participate in the many workshops that had been scheduled. Such exciting topics as: Can Adventist Youth Survive the Army, presenter: Colonel Leonard W. Johnson; Sex and the Adventist Youth, presenter: Carla A. Jones; Modern-day Masquerades, presenter: Pastor Delbert Baker; Youth in a Changing World, presenter: Paul Monk; Communication with the Deaf, presenter: Thompson Kay; Formula for Success, presenter: Brian L. Neal; Family Counselling, presenter: Carol Cantu; and the Importance of Social Graces, presenter: Judith McCoy, are just a few of the more than 30 workshops that were offered. From these sessions concrete plans for the future were made, including advice

from Brian Neal on "How to Become a Millionaire!"

On Thursday evening, Pastor Richard Barron of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was the speaker. Thursday night was also Bible Bowl time, when champions from various conferences exhibited their tremendous knowledge of the Bible. To top off the evening, "afterglow games" for those who were still "able" were available in the Peachtree Ballroom.

Friday's activities included worship, workshops, basketball playoffs and sight-seeing tours. The South Central Conference was the winner of the basketball playoffs. To welcome the Sabbath, Pastor John Nixon of the Northeastern Conference invited us to take a special look at the faith and determination of the woman in Mark 5 who believed she would be healed if she could just touch the hem of her Saviour's garment.

Friday night was also an evening of orations on suicide, diet, alcohol and smoking, which were given with great expertise by several talented young people. After much deliberation by the judges, the first prize went to Keisha Medafer from the South Central Conference. To close out this night of sermon, music and oratory, John Alberty gave us drama at the Peachtree Plaza. "Satan in Music (One Thing Leads to Another)" and "Da Dumb Tube (D.D.T. "TV")", two powerful one-act plays, were presented to a jam-packed audience!

Then came Sabbath morning, and what a morning it was! Through the streets of Atlanta, black Seventh-day Adventist youths, Pathfinders who had



Pastor John Nixon of Boston, Massachusetts.



Pastor Walter Pearson of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

weathered severe storms while camping, dignitaries from the city and Adventist churches, and people from the community all seemed to be walking in one direction. They were heading to the World Congress Center for the closing sessions of the 1984 United Youth Congress!

#### More than 35,000 in Attendance

The center was filled to capacity as people gathered for Sabbath school, the first session of the final day. Among the many highlights of the service was a play entitled, "Mr. Temptation on Trial," which was presented by the Oakwood College Players.

The divine worship hour was most memorable as the congregation was greeted by conference presidents and youth leaders from all areas of the United States. Rousing applause and a standing ovation was given to Mayor Andrew Young of Atlanta, who welcomed everyone to this city where people were learning to love each other, work together and even make money together. He encouraged those present to pray for peace and also make use of their voting power.

One of the most outstanding features of the service was the beautiful and magnificent rendition of the anthem, "We Shall Behold Him" by the Pine Forge Academy Choir, under the direction of Gwen Foster. As the choir sang, this mass audience of more than 35,000 people seemed to be literally carried away on the wings of song to that heavenly kingdom where they beheld their Saviour's face! The Pine Forge Acad-

emy Choir has been selected to represent North America at the Pan American Youth Congress, which will be held December 18-22 in Mexico City.

For the divine worship hour, Pastor Walter Pearson of the North Philadelphia Seventh-day Adventist Church took us back to the Damascus road where Saul of Tarsus, with all of his oratory, education, power with words and self-righteousness saw the light. This man, who had persecuted so many Christians in the name of God, was now to be transformed. This man rose up from the blinding light with a renewed mind and committed spirit, asking only one question: "What do you want me to do?" Pastor Pearson appealed to those present to look into the light, see Jesus and be renewed!

On Sabbath afternoon, the city of Atlanta was treated to a parade by the Pathfinders. A special word of praise must go to these more than 1,000 young people and their leaders, who participated in the 1984 camporee. Although most of their time was spent in rain, hail, wind and mud, these Pathfinders braved the storm! They marched tall, proud and strong with smiles on their faces in spite of the difficult days they had just endured.

The final games of the Bible Bowl ended with the team from the North-eastern Conference as the winner. Paul Monk, editor of *Message* magazine, took us on a journey to heaven for the vesper thought. To close out the congress, music (which is the universal language) was featured as talented artists from all participating conferences lifted their voices in song!

It was 11 p.m. and the lights of the center were being dimmed. The 1984 United Youth Congress was over! The preachers, teachers, video workers, youth leaders, delegates, members and friends were now preparing to return home. As we boarded the planes, trains, cars and buses that would take us far away from this grand city, we would carry in our hearts a new commitment and a new song which says: "We are willing, Lord; make us ever faithful and true by renewing our minds to live for you."

Caroline Jones  
Delegate for Ephesus SDA Church  
New York City

# The Editor's Desk



## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

The United Youth Congress in Atlanta, Georgia, March 28-31 was a history-making event. Never before have more than 30,000 black SDA youth gathered for such a convocation. The nine black

youth directors are to be congratulated for such a well-planned spiritual congress.

It was a foretaste of the divine fellowship we will enjoy in heaven. Also, it reminded me of the Israelites' annual pilgrimage to celebrate Passover. Although it was a most sacred and significant event, it was also filled with joy, songs and celebration.

We are well aware that a number of our readers could not attend. Therefore, we thought it most important to devote this entire issue to the youth congress to provide in-depth coverage of the various activities—workshops, speakers, music, etc. We certainly hope you will enjoy this issue. Don't forget to share it with others who did not have the privilege of attending, or save it as a historical treasure for your posterity.

L. A. Paschal

## SUNSET CALENDAR

	June 29	July 6	13	20
Boston, Mass.	8:25	8:24	8:21	8:16
New York City	8:34	8:33	8:30	8:25
Buffalo, N.Y.	8:58	8:56	8:53	8:48
Atlanta, Ga.	8:52	8:51	8:50	8:46
Miami, Fla.	8:16	8:16	8:15	8:13
Charlotte, N.C.	8:42	8:42	8:40	8:36
Birmingham, Ala.	8:01	8:01	7:59	7:55
Jackson, Miss.	8:12	8:11	8:10	8:07
Memphis, Tenn.	8:19	8:18	8:16	8:12
Louisville, Ky.	9:10	9:09	9:07	9:03
Detroit, Mich.	9:14	9:12	9:09	9:05
Chicago, Ill.	8:29	8:28	8:25	8:20
South Bend, Indiana	8:24	8:22	8:19	8:15
Minneapolis, Minn.	9:04	9:02	8:59	8:53
St. Louis, Mo.	8:29	8:28	8:26	8:22
Kansas City, Mo.	8:48	8:47	8:45	8:41
Denver, Co.	8:32	8:31	8:28	8:24
Little Rock, Ark.	8:26	8:25	8:23	8:20
Dallas, Texas	8:40	8:39	8:37	8:34
New Orleans, La.	8:05	8:05	8:03	8:01
Albuquerque, N.M.	8:25	8:24	8:22	8:18
Oklahoma City, Okla.	8:49	8:49	8:47	8:43

Add one minute for each 13 miles west; subtract one minute for each 13 miles east.

# REGIONAL CONFERENCE YOUTH DIRECTORS



## “THE TRUE SOURCE”

The United Youth Congress concept, which has been implemented successfully for the second time, should be evaluated, extended and projected in the future. “With such an army of youth rightly trained. . . .”

Youth ministries must include both training and inspiration to ensure versatility in today’s vibrant society. Youth ministries are compelled to keep pace with the nuclear age attacks of the devil upon all ages of our young people.

The United Youth Congress ’81 in Detroit, Michigan, and the United Youth Congress ’84 in Atlanta, Georgia, represent our sincere prayerful attempts to provide youths with instruction, direction, motivation, inspiration and church stability. Our two themes, “In His Hands” and “The Renewing of Your Mind,” designate clearly the *true* source from which to draw.

I would like to personally thank everyone who contributed to the success of United Youth Congress ’84.

Conrad L. Gill, Business Manager  
United Youth Congress ’84



H. C. Baker.

FOUR



Pastor V. J. Mendinghall, education and youth director for South Atlantic.



J. W. McCoy, director of youth ministries.



C. L. Gill, youth director for the Lake Region Conference.

## ROGERS REFLECTS ON UNITED YOUTH CONGRESS

Some said it couldn't be done. Others said it shouldn't be done. However, I'm glad to have been a part of a team that, compelled by a God-given dream, responded by saying “Why not?” The results, response and unsolicited testimonies all say it was well worth the investment of time, energy and money to “pull it off.”

Carl R. Rogers  
Youth Director  
Allegheny West Conference



B. E. Wright, director of youth activities for the Southwest Region Conference.

## “MORE THAN A PRIVILEGE”

It has been more than a privilege to participate with and see 1600-plus Pathfinders in the Better Living Parade through downtown Atlanta. I feel the impression etched upon the minds of Atlantans and fellow Adventists on better living is one of perpetual engravement.

Again I say “thank you” to Pastor Paschal for being a “pathfinder” in youth ministry. I appreciate the trail he has blazed before me. I always saw him as the number one youth leader when he held that position. I also appreciate the support he and his staff gave us in the planning and execution of the United Youth Congress.

B. E. Wright  
Southwest Region Youth Director



Pastor Daniel L. Davis, youth director of the Allegheny East Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

# WORKSHOPS



## A FEW OF THE WORKSHOPS OFFERED

1. Has God forgotten single persons?
2. A fresh look at church music.
3. Sex and Adventist youth.
4. Adventist youth in a changing world.
5. Personal witnessing in the '80s.
6. Formula for success.
7. The importance of social graces.
8. Black Adventist heritage.
9. Surviving in the family as a young person.
10. How to motivate yourself.
11. Dynamics of personal witnessing.
12. Scholarship funding in the '80s.



# DELEGATES: THEY CAME FROM TH



Andy Topping.



Kirk McDonald, Maxine Golberg and Rodney Miller.



Trevor Pindling.



# NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST



*Ann-Marie Thorpe.*



*Sheryl Guthrie.*



*The above group of delegates attended the United Youth Congress from the nine regional conferences, as well as the Pacific and North Pacific unions.*



*Miranda S. Canquita represented the Trinity Temple church in Poughkeepsie, New York.*



# PATHFINDERS



*The Houston Pathfinder Club.*



*Pathfinder leader Benjamin Day of the City Tabernacle church in New York City with a group of Pathfinders.*



*Pathfinder parade directors.*



# ON PARADE



The Shiloh Pathfinder Club of Little Rock has fourteen Pathfinders and five staff members. On October 30, 1983, they collected 80 cans of canned goods and distributed 49 pieces of literature. On November 22nd the Pathfinder club gave out five food baskets to the needy. Pictured is part of the club at the youth retreat.



"Atlanta's finest" on duty at the congress.



# MUSIC, THE LANGUAGE O



*Eurydice Osterman, composer of the congress theme song.*



# THE UNIVERSE—DISPLAYED



## THEME: "THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND"

In your likeness, Lord, we truly want to be,  
But we've become just like the world instead.  
A change is needed if from sin we would be  
free,

For living life in sin we've come to dread.

Chorus:

Renew in our minds that it's time to be what  
you want us to be.

Renew in our hearts a tie that binds time  
after time.

We are willing, Lord; make us ever faithful and  
true by renewing our minds to live for you.

This change can only happen as we look  
to Thee,

For in you lies the strength and power we  
need

To trust and obey even though we cannot see,  
For with you in our lives we will be freed.



# CONGRESS SPEAKERS



*C. D. Joseph, president of the Lake Region Conference.*



*Richard G. Barron, youth director for the General Conference.*



*Pastor Walter Pearson, speaker at the Sabbath worship service.*



*Pastor J. Paul Monk, editor of Message magazine.*

# SPECIAL GUESTS



Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young.



C. E. Bradford, president of the North American Division.



C. E. Dudley, president of the South Central Conference.



Chaplain M. Wilson of the United States Navy.



R. L. Woodfork, coordinator of the regional work in North America.



R. B. Hairston, president of the South Atlantic Conference.



Former youth leaders L. A. Paschal, L. H. Davis, S. E. Gooden and J. E. Roache.



Regional conference presidents.

The many special guests that had a part in the United Youth Congress program came from all sections of the United States. They added inspiration and enlightenment to the weekend activities. They furnished soul-stirring music, instruction and Christian counsel. The help brought by these individuals enhanced the overall congress program.

# CONTESTANTS



*Bible Bowl teams during the contest.*



*The Bible Bowl team from the Brooklyn Temple church in Brooklyn, New York, won the national Bible Bowl at the United Youth Congress.*



*The winner of the oratorical contest.*



*Oratorical contestants from the regional conferences.*



*Oratorical contestants in action.*

# YOUTH CONGRESS BOOTH



## CLASSIFIED AD

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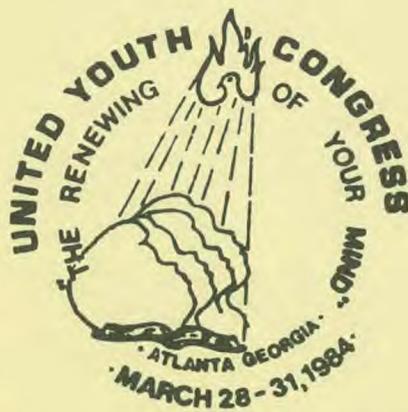
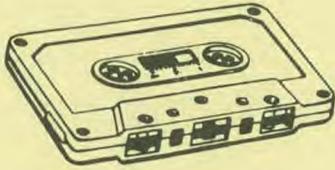
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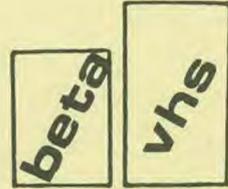
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L. A. Paschal

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- GO—GROW—GLOW  
Presenter: Linda Kilby Brooks, R.D.
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Presenter: Dr. Timothy McDonald
- Surviving in the Family as a Young Person  
Presenter: Clarence Hodges, Sr.
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Presenter: Pastor Delbert Baker
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