

EIGHTH BUSINESS MEETING
Fifty-ninth General Conference Session
Atlanta, Georgia
June 29, 2010, 9:00 a.m.

Prayer was offered by Hector Sanchez of the Inter-American Division, after which there was a time of prayer with Mark A Finley of the General Conference.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

BOARD OF DEACONESSSES - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Deaconesses, Board of Deaconesses, page 54, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

Board of Deaconesses—If a church elects several deaconesses, it should organize a board of deaconesses chaired by the head deaconess and another deaconess serving as secretary. This board is authorized to assign duties to individual deaconesses and cooperates closely with the board of deacons, especially in welcoming members and visitors and in home visitation. (See p. XX.) It also provides a training ground where new deaconesses are instructed in their duties.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

GREETING AND VISITING GUESTS AND MEMBERS - *CHURCH
MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Deaconesses, Greeting and Visiting Guests and Members, page 55, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

Greeting and Visiting Guests and Members—In many churches, deaconesses assist in greeting guests and members at meetings and in visiting members in their homes when they cannot attend services.

10-1058
June 29, 2010, a.m.
General Conference Session

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF PROPERTY - *CHURCH*
MANUAL REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Deaconesses, Care and Maintenance of Property, page 55, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

Care and Maintenance of Property—In churches where the responsibility for the care and maintenance of church property is not assigned to a building committee, deacons and deaconesses have this responsibility. (See Notes, #X, p. XX.)

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES COORDINATOR AND COMMITTEE -
CHURCH *MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Children's Ministries, Children's Ministries Coordinator and Committee, page 61 (also included on pages 71, 77, 78, 79, and 133), of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

Everyone involved in work with children must meet Church and legal standards and requirements, such as background checks or certification. Local church leaders should consult with the conference which will ascertain and advise as to what background checks and certifications are available and/or required. (See Notes, #X, p. XX.)

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

REFERENCE TO AVAILABLE DEPARTMENTAL RESOURCES -
CHURCH *MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the addition of reference to available departmental resources in the *Church Manual* revision (see pages 61, 66, 67, 68, 69, 72, 73, 74, 79, 134, and 135).

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

CHURCH SCHOOL BOARD - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Education, Church School Board, page 63, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

Church School Board—The administrative body of every elementary (primary) school and junior academy (partial high school) operated by one church shall be a church school board elected by the church or a school committee appointed by the church board. Thus this body may be a separate school board, the church board, or a school committee of the church board appointed for this purpose. Division working policies explain the functions of school boards.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

QUOTATIONS FROM SPIRIT OF PROPHECY (FAMILY MINISTRIES) -
CHURCH MANUAL REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraphs in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Family Ministries, pages 65 and 66, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

“Our work for Christ is to begin with the family, in the home . . . There is no missionary field more important than this . . . By many this home field has been shamefully neglected, and it is time that divine resources and remedies were presented, that this state of evil may be corrected.”—AH 35.

“God designs that the families of earth shall be a symbol of the family in heaven. Christian homes, established and conducted in accordance with God’s plan, are among His most effective agencies for the formation of Christian character and for the advancement of His work.”—6T 430.

“The mission of the home extends beyond its own members . . . Far more powerful than any sermon that can be preached is the influence of a true home upon human hearts and lives.”—MH 352.

10-1060
June 29, 2010, a.m.
General Conference Session

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

ROLE OF MARRIAGE IN THE FAMILY, SOCIETY, AND THE
CHURCH (FAMILY MINISTRIES) - *CHURCH MANUAL*
REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Family Ministries, page 65, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

The objective of Family Ministries is to strengthen marriage and the family. The family was established by divine creation with marriage at its center. As the primary setting in which values are learned and the capacity for close relationships with God and others is developed, its health is vital to the Church's disciple-making mission.

10GCS to AM-10GCSCChMan+10GCS

ADDITION OF SINGLES TO FAMILY MINISTRIES SECTION

VOTED, To request the *Church Manual* Committee at the General Conference Session in Atlanta to look at the idea of including singles in the Family Ministries section of the *Church Manual*.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

FAMILY MINISTRIES LEADER(S) - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Family Ministries, Family Ministries Leader(s), page 66, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

Family Ministries Leader(s)—An individual or married couple may be elected to serve as family ministries leader(s). They should model strong and growing family relationships and exhibit a sincere interest in fostering the well-being of all families. In order to be effective, the family ministries leader(s) must have an understanding of God's redemptive plan for dealing with the brokenness in relationships which sin has brought. The leader(s) also must maintain

appropriate confidentiality and know when and how to encourage individuals in critical situations to seek professional counseling.

10GCS to AM-10GCSCMan+10GCS

DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE

VOTED, To request the *Church Manual* Committee at the General Conference Session in Atlanta to include the definition of marriage in the Family Ministries section, or at the end of Chapter 1, where terms are clarified.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

SELECTING MUSIC COORDINATORS - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraphs in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Music, Selecting Music Coordinators, page 67, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

Selecting Music Coordinators—The church should take great care in selecting music leaders, choosing only those who are thoroughly consecrated and provide appropriate music for all church worship services and meetings. Secular music or that of a questionable nature should never be introduced into our services.

Music leaders should work closely with the pastor or elders in order that musical selections harmonize with the sermon theme. The music leader is under the direction of the pastor or elders and does not work independently. The music leader should counsel with them about the music to be rendered and the selection of singers and musicians.

10-1062
June 29, 2010, a.m.
General Conference Session

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

PUBLISHING MINISTRIES - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Publishing Ministries, page 68, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

The mission of Publishing Ministries is evangelism and the nurture of church members. Ellen G. White encouraged members to “sell or give away our literature.”—Ms 126, 1902.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

SELLING THROUGH LITERATURE EVANGELISTS - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Publishing Ministries, Selling Through Literature Evangelists, page 68, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

Selling Through Literature Evangelists—“God calls for workers from every church among us to enter His service as canvasser evangelists [literature evangelists].”—CM 20.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

GIVING AWAY (SHARING) BY CHURCH MEMBERS - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Publishing Ministries, Giving Away (Sharing by Church Members), page 68, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

Giving Away (Sharing) by Church Members—“Let every believer scatter broadcast tracts and leaflets and books containing the message for this time.”—CM 21.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

SABBATH SCHOOL OFFERINGS - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Sabbath School and Personal Ministries, Sabbath School, Sabbath School Offerings, page 72, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

The Sabbath School expense offering and the mission offering, where the calendar of offerings is being used, shall not be taken as one offering and divided according to an agreed-upon formula or percentage. The offerings may be taken as combined offering where the church is operating under a division-approved combined offering plan.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraphs in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Stewardship Ministries, page 73, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

Stewardship ministries encourages members to respond to God's grace by dedicating all they have to Him. Stewardship responsibility involves more than just money. It includes, but is not limited to, the proper care and use of the body, mind, time, abilities, spiritual gifts, relationships, influence, language, the environment, and material possessions. The department assists members in their partnership with God in completing His mission through the proper utilization of all of His gifts and resources.

When the Spirit of God takes possession of the life, "Those whose hearts are filled with the love of Christ, will follow the example of Him who for our sake became poor, that through His poverty we might be made rich. Money, time, influence—all the gifts they have received from God's hand, they will value only as a means of advancing the work of the gospel."—AA 71.

10-1064
June 29, 2010, a.m.
General Conference Session

10GCS to AM-10GCSCChMan+10GCS

AMBASSADOR CLUB

VOTED, To refer the actions regarding Ambassador Club to the *Church Manual* Committee at the General Conference Session in Atlanta to determine whether it is called Ambassador Club or Ambassador Ministry.

10GCS to AM

CHAPTER 8 OF THE *CHURCH MANUAL* - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve Chapter 8 of the revised *Church Manual* as presented, with the exception of the items that have referred back to the *Church Manual* Committee at General Conference Session in Atlanta.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

WORK OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 9, Elections, Nominating Committee and the Election Process, Work of the Nominating Committee, page 81, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes), and to place the same list of officers in the Notes:

The list of officers to be considered by the nominating committee may vary with size of membership. A larger church may determine it needs more officers. A smaller church may have fewer. The committee deals with all leadership positions except Sabbath School teachers, who are recommended by the Sabbath School Council and approved by the board. See Notes, #X, p. XX, for a list of possible officers.

10GCS to AM

CHAPTER 9 OF THE *CHURCH MANUAL* - *CHURCH MANUAL*
REVISION

VOTED, To approve Chapter 9 of the revised *Church Manual* as presented.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

SABBATH SCHOOL - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 10, Services and Other Meetings, Sabbath School and Worship Services, Sabbath School, page 89, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

Sabbath School should promote local and worldwide mission activities, the mission offering, and significant time for Bible study. (See Notes, #X, p. XX.)

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

UNLEAVENED BREAD AND UNFERMENTED WINE (GRAPE
JUICE) - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 10, Services and Other Meetings, Communion Service, Unleavened Bread and Unfermented Wine (Grape Juice), page 91, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

Unleavened Bread and Unfermented Wine (Grape Juice)—“Christ is still at the table on which the paschal supper has been spread. The unleavened cakes used at the Passover season are before Him. The Passover wine, untouched by fermentation, is on the table. These emblems Christ employs to represent His own unblemished sacrifice. Nothing corrupted by fermentation, the symbol of sin and death, could represent the ‘Lamb without blemish and without spot.’ 1 Peter 1:19.”—DA 653.

10-1066
June 29, 2010, a.m.
General Conference Session

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

BREAD AND WINE - *CHURCH MANUAL* NOTES REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in the Chapter 10 Notes, paragraph 4, Bread and Wine, page 139 of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

Bread and Wine—(See p. XX.)—A hymn may be sung during the reassembly of the congregation as the officiating pastors or elders take their places near the bread and wine (unfermented grape juice) and the deacons and deaconesses take their places.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/10GCS to AM

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BUSINESS MEETING AND LOCAL
CHURCH BOARD (BUSINESS MEETINGS) - *CHURCH
MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 10, Services and Other Meetings, Business Meetings, page 94, of the *Church Manual* revision, to read as follows (see 400GS *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual - Church Manual* Revision, as attached to the official copy of the minutes):

The local church operates within defined roles in Seventh-day Adventist Church structure. Within the context of those roles, the business meeting is the governing authority of the local church. Members in regular standing are encouraged to attend and are entitled to vote. A member under censure has no right to participate by voice or vote.

Prayer was offered by Robert T Vandeman, President of the Chesapeake Conference in the North American Division.

NomCom10GCS/10GCS to GTN

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #6

VOTED, To approve the following partial report of the Nominating Committee:

General Conference

General Field Secretaries:

Paul S Brantley
Gary D Krause
Angel M Rodriguez
Charles C Sandefur Jr
Brad Thorp

Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries

Director: Gary D Councill

Children's Ministries

Director: Linda Mei Lin Koh

Health Ministries

Director: Allan R Handysides

Public Affairs and Religious Liberty

Director: John Graz

Publishing Ministries

Director: Howard F Faigao

Sabbath School/Personal Ministries

Director: Jonathan Kuntaraf

Stewardship Ministries

Director: Erika F Puni

Women's Ministries

Director: Heather-Dawn Small

10-1068
June 29, 2010, a.m.
General Conference Session

Prayer was offered by Michael L Ryan, General Vice President of the General Conference.

Michael L Ryan, Chair
Rosa T Banks, Secretary
Larry R Evans, Actions Editor
Tamara K Boward, Recording Secretary