

THIRTEENTH BUSINESS MEETING  
Fifty-ninth General Conference Session  
Atlanta, Georgia  
July 1, 2010, 2:00 p.m.

Prayer was offered by Mary Juarez of the North American Division.

NomCom10GCS/10GCS to GTN

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #9

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

General Conference

General Conference Auditing Service

Director:

Paul H Douglas

Associate Directors:

Gary B Blood

Christopher S Garrity

Daniel E Herzel

Mark S Hyder

Jeremy T Smith

Roy Cortez, Trans America Area

Paul J Edwards, Trans Asia-Pacific Area

Sandra C Grice, Trans Euro-Asia Area

Robyn W Kajiura, North America Area

Furaha Mpozembizi, Trans Africa Area

General Conference Auditing Service Board

Ailton Dorl

Hyden G I Gittens

Elvira Grosu

Svetlana Kara

Jack L Krogstad

Philip Maitanmi

Phillip Ndlovu

Yungsang Oh

Frensly Panneflekk

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Lotie Ragas-Blando  
John Stanley  
Evelyn Will  
Vincent Zirimwabagabo

Ex Officio:  
Lowell C Cooper  
Paul H Douglas  
Robert E Lemon  
G T Ng  
Ted N C Wilson

Associate Secretary: G Alexander Bryant  
Associate Treasurer: G Thomas Evans

Communication Department  
Associate Directors:  
Andre Brink  
Garrett Caldwell

Ministerial Association  
Secretary: Jerry N Page  
Associate Secretary: Janet Page

Youth Ministries Department  
Associate Directors:  
Jonatan Tejel  
Paul D Tompkins

Euro-Asia Division

Treasurer: Brent B Burdick

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ELECTION OF ASSOCIATE SECRETARIES OF THE MINISTERIAL  
ASSOCIATION

VOTED, To refer election of the associate secretaries of the Ministerial Association to  
the 2010 Annual Council in Silver Spring, Maryland.

GENERAL CONFERENCE CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING

At 3:00 p.m., the General Conference Corporation Board of Directors meeting was convened, after which the business session of the General Conference Session was reconvened.

*CONNECTING WITH JESUS* AND THE 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE NAME “SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST”

James R Nix presented an update on the *Connecting With Jesus* program, and announced the 150th anniversary of the name “Seventh-day Adventist,” on October 2, 2010, which includes resources available at [www.150sda.org](http://www.150sda.org).

10GCS to AM

CHAPTER 13 OF THE *CHURCH MANUAL* - *CHURCH MANUAL*  
REVISION

VOTED, To approve Chapter 13 of the revised *Church Manual* as presented.

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CHAPTER 14 OF THE *CHURCH MANUAL* - *CHURCH MANUAL*  
REVISION

VOTED, To approve Chapter 14 of the revised *Church Manual* as presented.

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

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN - *CHURCH MANUAL* NOTES REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraphs in the Chapter 8 Notes, paragraph 7, Safeguarding Children, pages 133-134, 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):

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7. Safeguarding Children—Church should be a safe place to bring our children. Everyone involved with children who are minors must meet all Church and legal standards and requirements. In order to safeguard our children, churches are encouraged to adopt policies which would provide a measure of safety and protection for children. Such policies should include the following:

- a. Two-Adult Policy—Have two adults present in children’s classrooms or activities.
- b. Open Door—Discourage private or one-on-one contact and encourage an open door policy in all situations. Where an open door is not possible, station a second adult at the door.
- c. Volunteer Screening—Have all volunteers complete a volunteer information form, check their references and, if required by law, do a police background check.
- d. Six-Month Policy—Require a waiting period of six months for newly baptized or transferring members who have indicated a willingness to work with children.
- e. Training—Provide regular training for teachers and volunteers to help them understand and protect children and how to nurture their faith.

Local church leaders should consult with the conference in order to ascertain conference procedures and requirements including local legal requirements for individuals working with children.

Additional resources are available from Adventist Risk Management at [www.adventistrisk.org](http://www.adventistrisk.org).

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

FOOT-WASHING - *CHURCH MANUAL* NOTES REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in the Chapter 10 Notes, paragraph 3, Foot-Washing, 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):

All should thoroughly wash their hands before returning to participate in the Lord’s Supper. Those leading out in the service should do this publicly for hygienic purposes.

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):

Usually most of the bread to be served is broken ahead of time, with a small portion left on each plate for the elders and/or pastors to break. (All handling the bread must wash their hands thoroughly before returning for the communion service.) The pastors and elders hand the plates containing the bread to the deacons, who then serve the congregation, though in small congregations the pastor or elders may serve all participants.

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

SAMPLE ANNUAL BUDGET - *CHURCH MANUAL* NOTES REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in the Chapter 11 Notes, paragraph 1, Sample Annual Budget, pages 142 and 143, 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):

Sample Annual Budget\*—(See p. XX.)

Church Proposed Operating Budget

Estimated Receipts—

Sabbath School Expense Collections	1,500.00	
Church Fund for the Needy	375.00	
Combined (Church) Budget Giving	27,055.00	
Welfare Fund	<u>300.00</u>	
Total Receipts		<u>29,230.00</u>

Estimated Expenses—

Repairs and Painting Church Building	2,250.00
Fuel	2,350.00
Janitor and Supplies	1,475.00
Insurance on Building and Furnishings	750.00

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Church Fund for the Needy	1,450.00	
Sabbath School Supplies	1,250.00	
Emergency Expense	2,000.00	
Light	3,220.00	
Water	360.00	
Gas	550.00	
Stationery and Supplies	500.00	
Laundry	75.00	
Church School Subsidy	8,000.00	
Welfare Expense	1,000.00	
Evangelism and Church Planting	<u>4,000.00</u>	
Total Proposed Expenses		<u>29,230.00</u>
Balance		<u>00,000.00</u>

\* Additional columns (such as Last Year's Budget and Last Year's Actual) should be included for comparison, but have been left out of this sample due to space constraints.

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*CHURCH MANUAL NOTES - CHURCH MANUAL  
REVISION*

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

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/ChMan10GCS/10GCS to AM

CLARIFYING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE MAIN TEXT  
OF THE *CHURCH MANUAL* AND THE NOTES SECTION  
(AUTHORITY AND FUNCTION OF THE *CHURCH MANUAL*) -  
*CHURCH MANUAL REVISION*

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 1, Why a *Church Manual?*, Authority and Function of the *Church Manual*, page 2, 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 *Church Manual* is divided into two types of material. The content of each chapter is of worldwide value and is applicable to every church organization, congregation, and member. Recognizing the need for variations in some sections, additional explanatory material, presented

as guidance and examples, appears as Notes at the end of the *Church Manual*. The Notes have subheadings corresponding to chapter subheadings and page numbers of the main text.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/ChMan10GCS/10GCS to AM

ROLE OF GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION AND THE GENERAL  
CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (OUTLINE OF  
DENOMINATIONAL ORGANIZATION) - *CHURCH MANUAL*  
REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 3, Organization and Authority, Outline of Denominational Organization, pages 11 and 12, 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 Bible is the foundation and source of belief and practice; on this basis, the General Conference in Session determines the stated fundamental beliefs of the Church. The General Conference in Session also authorizes establishment of unions and the attachment of field units, revises the *Church Manual*, elects General Conference and division leadership, performs other functions as outlined in its Constitution and Bylaws, and considers items referred to it by its Executive Committee. The General Conference Executive Committee between Sessions is empowered by the Constitution and Bylaws to act on behalf of the constituents. Thus Church organizations around the world recognize the General Conference in Session as the voice of the Church.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/ChMan10GCS/10GCS to AM

ROLE OF INSTITUTIONS - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 3, Organization and Authority, Role of Institutions, page 12, 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):

No Church organization or institution assumes responsibility for the liabilities, debts, acts, or omissions of any other Church organization simply because of its Church affiliation.

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CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES - *CHURCH MANUAL REVISION*

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 4, Pastors and Other Church Employees, Credentials and Licenses, page 16, 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):

In order that enemies of the Church may not gain access to our pulpits, no one should be allowed to speak to any congregation unless he/she presents a current denominational credential or license. It is recognized, however, that there are times when congregations may be addressed by government officials or civic leaders; but all unauthorized persons should be excluded from the pulpit. (See p. XX.)

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/ChMan10GCS/10GCS to AM

REINSTATING THOSE REMOVED FROM MEMBERSHIP - *CHURCH  
MANUAL REVISION*

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 7, Discipline, Process of Discipline, Reinstating Those Removed From Membership, page 44, 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):

When dealing with perpetrators of sexual abuse, it should be remembered that restoration to membership does not remove all consequences of such a serious violation. While attendance at church activities may be permissible with properly established guidelines, a person convicted or disciplined for sexual abuse should not be placed in a role which could put them in contact with children, youth, and other vulnerable individuals. Neither shall they be given any position which would encourage vulnerable individuals to trust them implicitly.



08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/ChMan10GCS/10GCS to AM

ORDINATION SERVICE FOR DEACONESSSES - *CHURCH  
MANUAL REVISION*

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraphs in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Deaconesses, Ordination Service for Deaconesses, pages 54 and 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):

Ordination Service for Deaconesses—Such a service would be carried out by an ordained pastor currently credentialed by the conference. The ordination service should be characterized by simplicity and performed in the presence of the church.

If they retain church membership, deaconesses do not have to be ordained again if they move their memberships to other churches. When the term for which they were elected expires, they must be reelected if they are to continue to serve as deaconesses.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/ChMan10GCS/10GCS to AM

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):

Ministry to families in the local church focuses on premarital guidance for couples, marriage strengthening programs, and the education of parents. Ministry to families also gives attention to the special needs of single parents and step-families and provides instruction in family-to-family evangelism.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/ChMan10GCS/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 74, of

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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 (see p. XX for the Church's definition of marriage) 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.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/ChMan10GCS/10GCS to AM

ADVENTIST YOUTH MINISTRIES COMMITTEE - *CHURCH*  
*MANUAL REVISION*

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Youth Ministries, Adventist Youth Ministries Committee, page 76, 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):

Adventist Youth Ministries Committee—The Adventist Youth Ministries Committee is the umbrella organization in the church for the general planning of the youth ministry program. (See p. XX.) It includes the elected officers of the Adventist Youth Society (AYS) plus the personal ministries leader, youth Sabbath School division leader, health ministries leader, Ambassador Club director, Pathfinder Club director, Adventurer Club director, principal of the school, the sponsor, and the pastor. The AYS leader, who is a member of the board, chairs this committee. The committee should meet as necessary to develop short- and long-range goals and plans for a successful ministry.

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AYS COMMITTEE - *CHURCH MANUAL REVISION*

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Youth Ministries, AYS Committee, page 76, 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):

AYS Committee—The AYS Committee is responsible for senior youth activities and works in coordination with the other youth entities through the Adventist Youth Ministries Committee. If there is no Ambassador, Pathfinder, or Adventurer program, the AYS will include these younger members in a junior society.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/ChMan10GCS/10GCS to AM

AMBASSADOR CLUB - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and Organizations, Youth Ministries, Ambassador Club, page 78, 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):

Ambassador Club—The Ambassador Club provides a specialized program to meet the needs of youth, ages 16 through 21. It offers young people in this age group organization and structure, and promotes their active involvement in the church, locally and globally. The club is designed to strengthen the current senior youth/young adult ministry of the Church. It challenges them to experience and share a personal relationship with Christ, helps them develop a lifestyle that fits their belief system and vocational interest, and provides them with a safe venue for wholesome development of lifelong friendships. Its activities are to be carried out in accordance with conference policies and in coordination with other youth/young adult ministries of the local church. The Ambassador Club has a director and associate director(s). The associate director(s) may also serve as the secretary and treasurer. The director is a member of the Adventist Youth Society Council.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/ChMan10GCS/10GCS to AM

MEMBERSHIP (BOARD AND ITS MEETINGS) - *CHURCH MANUAL*  
REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 10, Services and Other Meetings, Board and Its Meetings, Membership, pages 96 and 97, 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):

Membership—In addition to conference-appointed pastors, the church should elect a representative board which includes the following officers:

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Elders  
Head deacon  
Head deaconess  
Treasurer  
Clerk  
Interest coordinator  
Adventist Men's coordinator  
Adventist Youth Society leader  
Adventurer Club director  
Ambassador Club director  
Bible School coordinator  
Children's ministries leader  
Church music coordinator  
Communication Committee chairperson or communication secretary  
Community services and/or Dorcas Society leader  
Education secretary  
Family ministries leader  
Health ministries leader  
Home and School Association leader  
Pathfinder Club leader  
Personal ministries leader and secretary  
Publishing ministries coordinator  
Religious liberty leader  
Sabbath School superintendent  
Stewardship ministries leader  
Women's ministries leader

In some cases, depending on the size of the membership, the board may not include all of this list, or may add additional members. The pastor appointed by the conference to serve the church always is a member of the board.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/ChMan10GCS/10GCS to AM

#### AMBASSADOR CLUB MEETINGS - *CHURCH MANUAL* REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraph in Chapter 10, Services and Other Meetings, Youth Meetings, Ambassador Club Meetings, page 111, 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):

Ambassador Club Meetings—Ambassador Club meetings provide specialized programs to meet the needs of youth, ages 16 through 21, and promote their involvement in the Church. Its meetings and other activities are to be carried out according to conference policies and in coordination with other youth/young adult ministries of the local church.

08AC/ChMan/09AC/GCC(Atlanta)/ChMan10GCS/10GCS to AM

SAMPLE LIST OF CHURCH LEADERS - *CHURCH MANUAL* NOTES  
REVISION

VOTED, To approve the inclusion of the following paragraphs in the Chapter 9 Notes, paragraph 1, Sample List of Church Leaders, pages 135-137 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):

Sample List of Church Leaders—(See p. XX). The nominating committee selects members to serve as officers in a variety of positions. A small church may have a short list of officers. A large church may have a long list of officers. Here is a list that may be considered:

Elder(s)  
Deacon(s)  
Deaconess(es)  
Clerk  
Treasurer and assistant(s)  
Interest coordinator  
Church board  
Church school board

Adventist Junior Youth Society leader and assistant(s)  
Adventist Youth Society leader and associate(s)  
Adventist Youth Society sponsor  
Adventist Youth Society secretary-treasurer and assistant  
Adventist Youth Society music director  
Adventist Youth Society pianist or organist  
Adventurer Club director  
Ambassador Club director  
Bible School coordinator  
Children's ministries coordinator  
Church chorister or song leader or music coordinator  
Church organist or pianist

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Communication secretary or Communication Committee  
Community Services director  
Dorcas Society leader  
Dorcas Society secretary-treasurer  
Education secretary  
Family ministries leader(s)  
Health ministries leader  
Ministry to People with Disabilities coordinator  
Pathfinder Club director and deputy director  
Personal ministries leader  
Personal ministries secretary  
Prayer ministries director  
Publishing ministries coordinator  
Religious liberty leader  
Sabbath School superintendent(s) and assistant(s)  
Sabbath School secretary and assistant(s)  
Sabbath School division leaders, including leaders for the adult and extension divisions  
Sabbath School investment secretary  
Stewardship ministries leader  
Vacation Bible School director  
Women's ministries leader

Additional personnel considered necessary

Home and School Association officers (leader and secretary-treasurer): If only one church supports a school, the church nominating committee makes recommendations to the school board, which then makes the appointments. If more than one church supports a school, the school board conducts the whole process. (See p. XX.)

09AC/455-09GS/10GCS to AM

401-10GS EDITING AND REORGANIZING THE *CHURCH MANUAL*

VOTED, To approve the editing, reorganizing, and restructuring of the current *Church Manual* which includes the following: change the order of chapters, reorganize paragraphs and sentences, eliminate duplicate quotes and wording, introduce new glossary terms, including new approved programs such as the Ambassador Club and including "union of churches" wording, add selected texts and quotes, add references to department resources and websites to the Notes, and update wording to include modern media forms.

## GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION DELEGATES

Lowell C Cooper reported the number of young people serving as delegates and provided information on the composition of the delegation by age category, reviewing the processes of delegate selections and pointing out where age-based decisions can be exercised in the selection of delegates. The consideration of age category cannot be exercised across the whole potential delegation since there are some delegates who are chosen by virtue of position, an example being the members of the General Conference Executive Committee or the associate directors of General Conference departments. Those categories cannot be subject to an age-based decision. Most delegate selections are not made by the General Conference. The great majority of delegates are selected by union conference and division committees. Some divisions chose a quota of delegates under age 30, but some of those delegates had the most difficulty getting visas to attend the General Conference Session.

Prayer was offered by Kenny Fraser of the North American Division.

Ella S Simmons, Chair  
Agustin Galicia, Secretary  
Larry R Evans, Actions Editor  
Tamara K Boward, Recording Secretary