



Adventist  
*Family Ministries*  
NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION



[NAD Family Ministries Website](#)

## Upcoming Events



### [Christian Marriage](#)

April 10, 2016

### [Done with Self-harm](#)

April 10, 2016

### [Marriage Encounter](#)

April 15-17, 2016

### [NAD Day of Hope](#)

April 16, 2016

### [Single Moms & Kids Retreat](#)

June 9-12, 2016

### [Family Camp](#)

July 19-23, 2016

### [Hispanic Family Camp](#)

September 1-5, 2016

### [Family Labor Day Retreat](#)

September 2-5, 2016

### [Family Togetherness Week](#)

September 11-18, 2016

April 2016

## From our Directors

### Every Ending is a New Beginning

Claudio Consuegra, DMin  
Executive Director



"Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end." This quote, attributed to the Roman Philosopher Seneca, is all about the circle of life, and the circular nature of our lives. Things start, things come to an end. The end of one thing leads to the beginning of another. This quote states it from the opposite view point, in which the beginning of a new thing comes from the completion of the prior thing. Spring comes from the end of Winter. sprouts come from the end of seeds. Harvests come from the end of plants.

In many ways, our life is a reflection of this quote. As various times of our lives come to an end, others begin. As singleness ends, marriage begins. As our children leave home, empty nesting begins. As one job ends, another begins.

For many years, the AAFLP has been a vehicle for family life professionals to network and share research, projects, and dissertations. The AAFLP established standards for two levels of certification and has encouraged family life ministry in the nurture and outreach programs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. At the same time, it was increasingly difficult to grow its membership level and thus maintain a viable organization. As a result, during an intensive meeting of

[God in Shoes Ministry](#)  
September 11-18, 2016

[Forever One](#)  
September 16-18, 2016

[Family Togetherness Sabbath](#)  
September 17, 2016

[Marriage Encounter Weekend](#)  
November 4-6, 2016

[Hispanic Couples Retreat](#)  
November 18-19, 2016



[Men's Retreat](#)  
April 15-17, 2016

[NAD Day of Hope](#)  
April 16, 2016

[2016 Oregon Men's Summit](#)  
April 29 - May 1, 2016

[HAV Mechanica](#)  
August 19-21, 2015

[Men's Ministries Day of Prayer](#)  
September 3, 2016

[Men's Ministries Spanish Convention](#)  
October 15, 2016

[Men's Ministries Spanish Convention](#)  
November 12, 2016



[Rosario Singles Retreat](#)  
April 1-3, 2016

[Walking the Walk](#)  
April 15, 2016

[Set Free Global Summit](#)  
April 4, 2016

[NAD Day of Hope](#)

the association board held in February it was decided to dissolve the association and shift some of the goals and tasks of the AAFLP to the Family Ministries Department of the North American Division. (Read more.)

It is the end of a productive endeavor but it marks the beginning of another. For the last four years, there has been a strong partnership between the GC and NAD Family Ministries Departments and Andrews University to host the Adventist Conference on Family Research and Practice (ACFRP). During these last four years we have had outstanding and renown researchers like Rene Drumm, Scott Stanley, and David Olson, and inspirational messages from Mark Finley, Delbert and Susan Baker, and Roger and Kathy Hernandez, just to mention a few. Instead of the AAFLP Research Forum, which was not attended by many, the transitioning of this to the ACFRP meant the offering of numerous research and practice presentations, therefore dramatically increasing the interest and attendance. Dissolving the AAFLP affords us the opportunity to focus more of our attention to continue to strengthen the ACFRP and to have a wider reach and benefit to family life professionals and to Adventist Church members and others interested in a family ministries focus.

Solomon wisely wrote, "There's an opportune time to do things, a right time for everything on the earth: A right time for birth and another for death, A right time to plant and another to reap, A right time to kill and another to heal, A right time to destroy and another to construct, A right time to cry and another to laugh, A right time to lament and another to cheer, A right time to make love and another to abstain, A right time to embrace and another to part, A right time to search and another to count your losses, A right time to hold on and another to let go, A right time to rip out and another to mend, A right time to shut up and another to speak up, A right time to love and another to hate, A right time to wage war and another to make peace." (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, MSG). It's never easy when something we care about comes to an end. At the same time, we don't see the dissolution of the AAFLP as the end, but rather the beginning of a new way to reach and benefit the families and family life professionals in our church on a much broader basis.

For those of you who are Lifetime members, thank you for your commitment to the association. We want to honor that commitment by inviting you to have free access to all materials from Adventist Conference on Family Research and Practice (ACFRP) conferences. To those who are annual membership holders for 2016, your membership is still being honored by receiving this final e-newsletter and also by inviting you to have access to the ACFRP conference materials for 2016. In addition, the current two AAFLP certifications, levels I and II, will be handled by the NAD's Family Ministries Department. The NAD FM Department will also present the Alberta Mazat Award to an outstanding graduate student or young professional who has begun to make contributions to the field of family ministry, particularly in

April 16, 2016

### **Single Adult Sabbath**

May 21, 2016

### **Camp Hope Fall Singles Retreat**

October 21, 2015



Claudio Consuegra, DMin  
Pamela Consuegra, PhD  
Directors

### **Mission Statement**

Our mission of evangelism is to provide resources, training, and networking opportunities for those working to strengthen or rebuild families within the territory of the North American Division.

### **Vision Statement**

Healthy families for eternity.

### **From our office**

We welcome submissions of your conference or union sponsored:

- upcoming events
- photos or videos of recent events
- ministry newsletters

Please email them to  
[Maria.Gregory-Hernandez@nad.adventist.org](mailto:Maria.Gregory-Hernandez@nad.adventist.org).

family counseling or family therapy, and the John and Millie Youngberg Award to an outstanding graduate student or young professional who has begun to make contributions to the field of family ministry, particularly in family life education.

So, this is not the end. Rather, it is a time to celebrate a new beginning and the opportunities this affords to reach a wider audience of family life professionals. Instead of limiting available research and information only to those who are members of an organization, we will expand the offerings and provide them free to the leadership and professionals on the front lines of family ministries. I want to express my deepest appreciation to all those who have been part of the AAFLP organization and especially those who have served on the board of directors. Your contribution has not gone unnoticed and will continue to be a strong foundation to the growth of the ACFRP and a blessing to families in our church and around the world.

### **Ministry on the Move**

#### **Couples Retreat - Pennsylvania Conference**

Jeanne Hartwell, Director  
Family Ministries  
Pennsylvania Conference

The Pennsylvania Conference Marriage Retreat took place February 26-28 at the Harrisburg-Hershey Sheraton. Speakers Roger and Kathy Hernandez, of the Southern Union, encouraged the participants toward better marriages in practical, user-friendly ways and were well received. The weekend also included alone time for the couples and a fun and interactive Saturday night dating experience at the "A Night At the Carnival" banquet.

One of the participants later wrote Jeanne Hartwell, Family Ministries Director for PA Conference, that she was keeping the notes she took close at hand



Made for each other.



Mimes saying hello.

so she could refer to them and be the kind of wife that Jesus wants her to be. She also mentioned that her husband was now praying aloud for the two of them and what a difference it was making.

That's what these weekends are about-coming closer to each other and Jesus!Below are just a few photos of the weekend retreat and

to view more, please click [here](#).

#### **Florida Men's Ministries Attract Thousands**

Dr. Claudio Consuegra

On March 18-20, over 700 men from Florida and surrounding states, and many from as far as the Bahamas and the Cayman Islands, gathered at Camp Kulaqua Retreat and Conference Center, in northern Florida, for the annual English Men's Convention. Dr. Claudio Consuegra was one of the main speakers along with Dr. Everett Brown, president of the Jamaica Union, and others. John Earnhardt, childhood friend of the late race car driver Dale Earnhardt, also spoke about his memories of the famous driver and lessons he has learned for men.

The Florida Conference conducts two men's conventions in French, two in Spanish, one in Portuguese, and one in English, for a total annual attendance of over 3,000 men. The theme of this year's English convention was, "Run the Race." ([Convention program.](#))



One of the projects that is being conducted by Florida Men's Ministries is called "Mentoring the Fatherless," to help children with no father or an absentee father. For more information, visit [www.mentoringthefatherless.org](http://www.mentoringthefatherless.org).

Congratulations to Pastor Ronaldo Da Cunha, Men's Ministries Director for the Florida Conference, and his Men's Ministries Council, for organizing these events to encourage, educate, and challenge men of God.

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### **The Jesus Method**

Maria Gregory-Hernandez  
NAD/Family Ministries

Recently, in the beautiful state of Hawaii (HI) men gathered to the quiet seclusion offered at Camp Wainae in Honolulu, HI, to attend a retreat organized by Kem French, Director, Men's Ministries at the Hawaii Conference. Below is a link to a moving video for that weekend. The theme for the weekend was 'The Jesus Method' and presentation after presentation, activity after activity led the minds of all present to Jesus as the way and a model for life.

[Hawaii Conference Men's Retreat video](#)

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### **Denominational Men's Leadership Meetings**



On March 28-29, Dr. Claudio Consuegra met in Chicago with Men's Ministry leaders of several denominations to exchange ideas and resources, and to dialogue about



possible ways to collaborate in ministry to the men in our churches. Besides Dr. Consuegra, there were leaders from the Southern Baptist

Convention with a ministry called Lifeway, Lutheran Men in Mission (LMM), United Methodist Men (UMM), The Brotherhood of St. Andrew (Episcopalian), The National Coalition of Ministries to Men (NCMM), the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME), and the



Pentecostal Holiness Church (PHC). Dr. John H. Armstrong, professor at Wheaton College and president of Act3 Network spoke about John 17 and Jesus prayer for unity among His people.

These annual meetings of Men's Ministry leaders have been held for many years and this is the first time that the leadership of the NAD's Men's Ministry have been invited. Dr. Consuegra was accompanied by Pastor Minner Labrador, MM Director for the Southwest Union Conference. Next year's meetings will take place in Louisville, KY. We were able to share our resources for which everyone expressed great appreciation. At the same time, we received some very good ideas for resources we can use or develop for Men's Ministry in the NAD.

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## **New to the Family Ministries Network**

Debra Sulen was a single parent for many years and raised three successful daughters. Married in 2004, to Mike Sulen, as a result of meeting at an ASAM event in Loma Linda, they shared their honeymoon as the Pastoral couple on a Singles cruise at the invitation of the Pacific Union Singles Coordinator. They continued to serve as Coordinators of Adventist Single Adult Ministries for the Southern California Conference until taking a call to Texas. Now residing in the Central California Conference, Debra has been the volunteer ASAM coordinator since September 2015. Her 25-year career in Mental Health and personal experience has given her insights and skills to deal with issues

concerning the family, particularly those in crisis. Debra is a Licensed Massage Therapist and is presently completing certification as a Holistic Psychology Practitioner.

These are photos of recent events.



Ping Pong Tournament  
Winners



New Year's Eve Retreat.



Hot Potatoe Ronald at the  
Beauty & the Beast - No  
Valentine party.

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## Christian Option for Movie Viewers

This article was published March 03, 2016, in the *Columbia Union Visitor*. Please take a moment to read through it and breathe a sigh of relief in knowing there is a wholesome, Christian values-based alternative movie provider everyone, young and younger, can go to for entertainment. Please click [here](#) and share with others.

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## Singles Directory and Invitation

Jana Bislin  
ASAM Coordinator  
British Columbia Conference

Dear Seventh-day Adventist Singles from all North America, we would like to make a directory of all singles who would be interested and would like to order it. Ideally, it would have a picture and an email address or some contact information so that you and your friends can find each other. These booklets existed 20 years ago and I would like to try and publish it again for all those who would like to purchase it. The cost could be just \$10 to cover the printing costs. Let me know if you would be interested in something like this. My email address is [jana0209@gmail.com](mailto:jana0209@gmail.com).

On another note, we are almost full for our Singles Get Together in Seaside, Oregon for the May 8 - 11th event. We have many new participants. We could still take some more if interested. It's a 5 star accommodation and a single room for 3 nights I still can get for \$175.00. We cook and bring to share food, so the cost of meals will be small. Join us. This is a picture of the beautiful resort. We are here to make you happy. God is good.

Blessings to all, Jana!



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## **Congratulations Dr. Jeffrey Brown!**

It is with a joyful heart that we express our sincerest congratulations to Dr. Jeffrey Brown and pray for many blessings in his new role. Here's a little bit more about him as published in Inside Oakwood--Jeffrey Brown, Ph.D., professor of religion and director of the Bradford Cleveland Brooks Leadership Center, has been elected associate secretary of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Ministerial Association. Dr. Brown, a graduate of Newbold College, England, and Andrews University, Michigan, previously served as president and Family Ministries director of the Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Dr. Brown will focus on theological education, clergy leadership development, and clergy families. He will also serve as associate editor of Ministry Magazine

Front Desk ...

## **Your Ministry Newsletter**

As part of our support to your ministry, we gladly offer posting your newsletter to our website. Please include me to the mailing list and it will be posted upon receipt. My email address is, [mariahernandez@nadadventist.org](mailto:mariahernandez@nadadventist.org).

The criteria is that the newsletter is from the conference ASAM, Family Ministries and Men's Ministries department(s).

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## **2016 Awareness Dates**

May 21 - Single Adult Sabbath  
September 3 - Men's Day of Prayer  
September 11-17 - Family Togetherness Week  
September 17 - Family Togetherness Sabbath

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**Save the Date!**



**NAD ADVENTIST MINISTRIES CONVENTION  
JANUARY 8-11, 2017**

**Resources**

[Welcome to the Family](#)

[Porn Doesn't have to be the Norm](#)

Help! I'm a Parent Kit

[English](#) | [Spanish](#)

[Help! I'm a Parent](#)

Devotional

A Follower of Jesus - Discipleship Guide

[English](#) | [Spanish](#)

Making Jesus My Best Friend - Baptismal Guide

[English](#) | [Spanish](#)

[A New Generation of Adventists](#)

A study on Marriage and family within the Church.

[Family](#), [ASAM](#), and [Men's Ministries](#) training programs.

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**NAD/Family Ministry** | [family@nad.adventist.org](mailto:family@nad.adventist.org) | <http://www.nadfamily.org>



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