



Adventist
Family Ministries
NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION



[NAD Family Ministries Website](#)

Upcoming Events



[Southwest Region Conference](#)
[Marriage is for Friends](#)

March 23-25, 2018

Southeast California
Conference
40 Days of Life-Changing
Family Worship
April 8-14, 2018

NAD Day of Hope and
Compassion
April 21-22, 2018

[Central States](#)
[ConferenceLove Birds](#)
[Marriage Retreat](#)
April 27-29, 2018

[Kansas-Nebraska](#)
[Conference](#)
[Parenting Solo Retreat](#)
June 7 - 10, 2018

[Adventist Conference on](#)
[Family Research & Practice](#)
July 19-21, 2018.

[Greater NY Conference](#)
[Marriage Retreat-Punta](#)
[Cana, Dominican Republic](#)
August 23-26, 2018

March 2018

Director's Desk

Farewell

We regret to announce that our administrative assistant, Maria Gregory-Hernandez, will be leaving the Family Ministries department as of March 8, 2018. Maria has been a valuable member of our team during the last four years and has made a noticeable contribution, particularly in the area of communication with the field. She collects information, formats, and mails these monthly newsletters, updates the several ministry websites, and uploads the daily quotes that appear in the many Facebook groups and pages for each of our ministries.



Drs. Claudio &
Pamela Consuegra

Please join us in thanking Maria for her ministry with us and in wishing her God's blessings in the next chapter of her life.

As we go through this period of transition, please direct all your requests to us at: claudioconsuegra@nadadventist.org or pamelaconsuegra@nadadventist.org

Claudio & Pamela Consuegra
Directors for Family, Men's, and Single Adult Ministries
North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

February's Busy Days

February is always a very busy month for us, particularly since so many plan couples' retreats close to or around the Valentine's Day weekends. We held three couples' retreats this month, each different from the others, but each a blessed experience for us.

[Central States Conference Marriage Retreat](#)
[Cruise From Here to Eternity](#)
February 28-March 3, 2019

Grandparents Day
September 8, 2018

Family Togetherness Week
September 16-22, 2018



[Florida Conference Men's Retreat-Thy Kingdom Come](#)
March 9-11, 2018

[Georgia-Cumberland Conference Father-Daughter Campout](#)
April 20-22, 2018

[Georgia-Cumberland Conference Men's Leadership Summit](#)
June 2, 2018

[Kansas-Nebraska Conference Parenting Solo Retreat](#)
June 7-10, 2018

[Georgia-Cumberland Conference Chainsaws and Butter Knives](#)
August 25, 2018

Men's Ministries Sabbath
September 1, 2018

[Georgia-Cumberland Conference Blood Brothers' Men's Retreat](#)
October 5-7, 2018

[Georgia-Cumberland Conference The Blessing Father-Son Retreat](#)
October 26-28, 2018

[Georgia-Cumberland Conference Fire and Ice Men's Symposium](#)
January 12, 2018



On February 10 we led in the first couples' event in Kansas City, Kansas. The three conferences - Iowa-Missouri, Kansas-Nebraska, and Central States are preparing for a city-wide evangelistic meetings with It is Written speaker/director, John Bradshaw. They asked us to have this couples' event as one of their preparations for the Bradshaw series. Close to fifty couples from the states represented by these conferences gathered at the Reardon Convention Center. We thank Pastor Robert Wagley, VP for Administration for the conference, Pastor Lee Rochholz, Ministerial Director, and Peggy Wagley, Administrative Assistant, and Sue Carlson, FM Director for the Kansas-Nebraska Conference who decorated the platform and joined us for the entire day.

On Sunday, February 11, we spent the day with pastors from the IA-MO conference as we trained them, and their spouses, to become Prepare-Enrich facilitators.

The second couples' retreat took place on February 16-18 in San Francisco, California, for the Central California Conference. Nearly 60 couples joined us for a fun weekend coordinated by VP for ministries, Steve Horton and his Administrative Assistant, Marlyn Novielli.



Happy couples of Central California Conference.

What a nice, kind group of people they were! Even though I (Claudio) came down with a cold and battled through cough, laryngitis, and all the other cold symptoms, we made it through the weekend and even found some great Cuban food nearby.

The third couples' retreat was a very special one. We flew to Southern California for a Hispanic Pastoral Couples' retreat hosted by the Southern California Conference at Camp Cedar Falls in the San Bernardino Mountains, on February 23-25. On Thursday, more than three inches of snow fell at camp, and on the roads, and the state required chains, which our rental car did not have. Fortunately, by the time we drove there on Friday afternoon the restriction had been lifted and we made it safely to this beautiful retreat center.



Washington Conference

[Rosario Singles Retreat](#)

April 5-8, 2018

Single Adult Sabbath

May 19, 2018

[Kansas-Nebraska](#)

[Conference Parenting Solo](#)

[Retreat](#)

June 7-10, 2018

[British Columbia](#)

[ConferenceCamp Hope](#)

[Singles Retreat](#)

September 21-23, 2018

[Central States](#)

[ConferenceSingle Adult](#)

[SummitUNO-Unleashing](#)

[Non-imagined Opportunity](#)

November 2-4, 2018



Claudio Consuegra, DM in
Pamela Consuegra, PhD
Directors

Mission Statement

Our mission of evangelism is to provide resources, training, and networking opportunities that will instill hope and bring wholeness to 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

Southern California Conference Couples' Retreat.

Almost 40 Hispanic couples and two single pastors, joined us for a weekend of bilingual presentations and a renewal of marriages vows and a special banquet on Saturday night. Thank you to Pastor Luis Peña, and his administrative assistant, Gloria Huerta, for planning and organizing this wonderful event for the Hispanic pastors in their conference.

On Monday, February 26, we flew from the John Wayne Airport in Orange County to Berrien Springs where I (Claudio) taped a new course at the Adventist Learning academy on Law Enforcement Chaplaincy.

All these trips were a wonderful highlight of what God has given us an opportunity to do. We know of several other retreats throughout the NAD; please share your pictures and stories with us so we can share them with the rest of the team. What you do is encouraging to us and to many others as well.

May God continue to bless you as you minister to the good people in your territory. Almost 40 Hispanic couples and two single pastors, joined us for a weekend of bilingual presentations and a renewal of marriages vows and a special banquet on Saturday night. Thank you to Pastor Luis Peña, and his administrative assistant, Gloria Huerta, for planning and organizing this wonderful event for the Hispanic pastors in their conference.

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Out and About Ministry

S.H.E. and Mu Epsilon Nu

The Family Ministries Department of Central States noted a few years ago there was a great need for Parenting Support. In addition to making available the Consuegra's "Help I'm a Parent" videos - we have developed two parent support/youth mentoring initiatives. SHE - Supporting Higher Expectation for young ladies 10-18 years ([video](#)) and Mu Epsilon Nu (Greek letters for M.E.N.) See [video](#). Mastering Everything Necessary for young men 9-19

sponsored:

- upcoming events
- photos or videos of recent events
- ministry news letters

Please email them to

Maria

Hernandez@nadadventist.org.

years. The pilot programs were started in St. Louis, Missouri. On January 20th - the second chapter of SHE was installed in Metro Kansas City. Conversations have been started for addition chapters of both ministries to be installed in the Central States Conference and beyond.

Marlon and Denise Johnson,
Family Ministries Directors
Central States Conference

Family Ministries at Pacific Union and Northern California Conference

Family Ministries with the Pacific Union Conference launched 2018 with a several events. The first was at Riverside Spanish Church on January 26 and 27 of this year. The second one was held at the Fairfield and Vallejo Churches NCC (in the picture). On February 14-18. At the end of the family seminars there were 18 couples that made their marriage vows fresh again. Pastor Edwin and Mary Mendoza on behalf of the PUC Family Life Ministries are looking foreword to be of help and blessings for many more healthy and happy families.



Pastor Edwin & Mary Mendoza, sitting in the middle, and happy couples at Northern CA Conference.

Men's Ministries On the Go Georgia-Cumberland Conference



A recent father-son/daughter climbing trip to Mt. Rainier.

During the past several years the Georgia-Cumberland Conference has seen significant growth in men's ministry as a result of a their partnership with Blueprint for Men. During the

past year Blueprint for Men provided the following momentum events: The Fire and Ice Symposium, the Men's Ministry Leadership Summit, the Chainsaws and Butter Knives Men's Rally, and the Broken Beauty Men's Retreat.



Pictured here are the sweaty lumberjack teams with their wall of hand split oak at the annual Chainsaws and Butter Knives Men's Rally.

Hundreds of men attended these inspiring and energizing events that spawned off dozens of small groups during 2017. Currently the Blueprint for Men network has small groups meeting in Tennessee, Georgia, Virginia, Minnesota, and Texas. What these small groups provide is something desperately needed by all men...
BROTHERHOOD! Each group consist of about 4-6 men



Every January the Fire and Ice Symposium kicks start the year with challenging messages about leadership, discipleship, fatherhood, fitness and more. Joe Martin, of Real Men Connect, gives the closing challenge at the 2017 symposium.

that meet weekly and follow a Bible-based manhood curriculum. As men share life and seek accountability they are transformed into better husbands, fathers, and disciples of Christ. Other opportunities provided by Blueprint for Men include father-son/daughter retreats, outdoor adventure, marriage consulting, individual guidance, and more. To discover more about Blueprint for Men or to join the movement, visit www.blueprintformen.org. Check out the following videos to get a taste of what we're up to!

[Restore: A Father-Son Story](#)
[Purposeful Outdoor Experiences for Dads](#)
[What Kind of Tree Are You?](#)
[Mt. Rainier Expedition](#)
[Chainsaws and Butter Knives Men's Rally](#)

Marty D. Miller
Men's Ministries Coordinator
Georgia-Cumberland Conference

CAMP HOPE SINGLES RETREAT

Camp Hope Singles Retreat, Hope, BC, is scheduled for



September 21st - 23rd, 2018.

Registration started. Full price \$190;00 and up, meals, accommodations, great speakers and all program included. Come and enjoy the largest Northwest

SDA Sinlges Retreat in beautiful British Columbia. For more information, email Jana at jana0209@gmail.com.

The Single Misconception

By James Montague

Debra Sulen wants to change the perception of singles' ministry within the Adventist Church. Drawing from her experience as a single mother; 12 years ago she started a singles ministry in Southern California. Sulen recognizes the importance of reaching out to those who are vulnerable from previous difficult relationships and to those who are at risk of feeling alienated within the community. As times and customs change, the church needs to adapt and react in ways that fit the needs of its members, and singles are a subsection that are often overlooked. The reason for this is a misconception of what singles' ministry really is, the stigmas surrounding it,



Singles' Ministry events include team-building exercises like the Escape Room Challenge.

and the significance it plays on the health of individuals and the church.

First, one should define what Singles' Ministry is before going into details about the program. Too often people consider Singles' Ministry as a church dating service, which it is not; in fact, dating is not the primary focus. But this perception, Sulen believes, comes from the value society puts on the institution of marriage. One of the unintended consequences is that couples begin to identify themselves in social and personal terms through their spouse, which can lead to a void in personal development and psychological wellbeing. And if the marriage happens to end, that individual can be scarred by losing part of their identity, and can lead to emotional and social strains. Compounding the problem, marriage is seen as a sign of



Churches around Central host singles events such as game night.

stability and personal success, which can negatively affect a single's perception of themselves, and the perception of those around them. While these views are slowly

changing, it still has a huge impact on interaction. With the rise of divorce, single parenting-and people who purposefully choose to stay single-there comes a responsibility to support these individuals by providing a strong sense of community in and out of the church setting. This is one reason Sulen revitalized the NAD Adventist Single Adult Ministry (ASAM) and was granted funding by the Central California Conference a little over two years ago. Together, they wanted to provide a place for single people to interact and be supportive of each other in order to create a meaningful and impactful community. And while the program continues to grow, Sulen believes that with the continued help of others, it can begin to reach its full potential in Central.

Here is what Singles Ministry is really about: social interaction and community. Many of the activities are planned around members' interests and hobbies. This gives people from multiple generations the time and opportunity to learn new skills, practice socializing with each other, and grow as individuals. It also provides a place for open and safe discussion about sensitive or

controversial topics without judgment or condemnation. Sulen believes that if social interaction between



A typical brown bag seminar at Soquel Camp Meeting includes discussions without judgment.

congregants is "limited to the physical space

of the church," which can impede these kinds of discussions, then the potential of personal and communal relationships is also limited.

Calvin Wold, a frequent participant in Central's ASAM activities, found out about the program last year at Soquel Camp Meeting, where Sulen set up a tent for daily lunches and activities. He says that he "enjoys the wide variety of people that come to each event" and believes the program provides "positive connections" and a place where "Seventh-day Adventists can feel comfortable with involving themselves." Along with Sulen, Wold believes that those who embrace the program should "help to work toward dispelling myths about the true focus of what we do here" and actively encourage "friends and family members to connect or find out more about upcoming events and activities."

What you can do to help is easy: get active, spread the word, volunteer your time, become the change that helps a community reach its full potential. Check out their social media page on Facebook @CCCASAM or contact Sulen at singles@cccsda.org for upcoming events or other ways that you can contribute. As the world continues to change the way we interact socially. It's important that we focus on the strength of our community as a whole and to make a conscious effort to include everyone in our hearts.

Submitted by Debra Sullen, Director
Adventist Single Adult Ministries
Central California Conference



NAD Social Media Guidelines

We are resending the link for the [NAD Social Media Guidelines](#) for those who were not able to open the document sent previously.

2018 Awareness Days

Single Adult Sabbath
May 19, 2018

Men's Ministries Sabbath
September 1, 2018

Grandparents Sabbath
September 8, 2018

Family Togetherness Week
September 16-22, 2018

Family Ministry Cohort

Applications due May 25, 2018. Please contact 888.717.6244 or dmin@andrews.edu. For more information online, please click [here](#).

MA in Counseling Psychology/MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Washington Adventist University begins a new cohort for its accelerated evening program every eight weeks. For more information, contact 301-891-4092.

Resources

Online Training: [Family Ministries](#), [Men's Ministries](#), and [Adventist Single Adult Ministries](#)

Ministry Resources

Family Ministries

2018 Family Ministries Planbook ([cover](#), [interior pages](#))

Help! I'm a Parent! (birth-7 years of age) [Eng](#) | [Spa](#)

Help! I'm a Parent (8-12 years of age) [Eng](#) | [Spa](#)

[Help! I'm a Parent: Parenting Kids with Different Abilities](#)
[Family Faith: A Devotional on Family Dynamics \(2017\)](#)

Men's Ministries

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

Discipleship

Welcome to the Family

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

A Follower of Jesus - Discipleship Guide

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

Making Jesus My Best Friend - Baptismal Guide

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

Other Resources

[NAD Social Media Guidelines](#)

www.GatewaytoWholeness.com

[Coming Out Ministries](#)

[The Story of Desmond T. Doss](#)



NAD/Family Ministry | family@nadadventist.org | <http://www.nadfamily.org>



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