

## Pastoral Interviews

Report for Week of: October 7, 1997

Number of Calls: 10

Number of Conferences: 3

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report begins a series of new questions. In this first one, pastors were asked what types of responses they receive from business owners and civic leaders regarding Ingathering. Six of ten pastors say their churches don't do Ingathering. A couple are trying to resurrect the program. The four other responses were mixed. One pastor said business responses were poor. He believes they are "hit" by several agencies requesting money each day. The other pastors spoke of "relationships" and "connections" with business owners as being crucial to positive responses. An 80-year-old man accompanied one pastor. This older man knew the community, was a business owner himself, and had many excellent contacts. Another pastor spoke of a reciprocal relationship with business owners. I do business with you, you do business with me. Tit for tat. Yet another pastor commented, "If you are following an established pattern of relationships, its great. But if you are starting contacts from scratch, its tough."

2. When asked how to effectively minister to young adults with small children, most pastors gave two responses: provide socials, and personally visit them in their homes. Over half the pastors spoke of being in a "small church" and having few young adults to work with. Some said, "I try to make them a part of what's happening." Another seeks to involve them in the worship service. He tries to create a "family" atmosphere in the church. A few pastors stress the importance of building personal relationships with the children by doing things with them (taking them out for pizza, playing games, etc.). One pastor spoke of having the fastest growing "small church" in his conference. He said one of the things they began was a Sabbath afternoon women's ministry program/small group. The ladies in the church meet while the men watch the children. The men also take the children out and do literature distribution and then return to the church and "make supper" for the ladies. It has also brought in nonAdventists.

3. Pastors were asked what type of leadership training they have participated in the last year. Almost all of them referred to attending pastor's meetings sponsored by their conference. The next most often referred to events were also Adventist, but were either attended within the conference or outside the conference (Seeds '96, Union events like Next Step youth ministry training, etc.). Four pastors attended these type of events. Three attended interdenominational events (Youth Specialties, Crystal Cathedral, Honolulu Incentives '97). None mentioned leadership training of the generic nature not directly related to church. Pastors were also asked about leadership training for their own members. About half spoke of sending members to conference-sponsored events. And about half conduct leadership training themselves in their own churches. Two pastors have had a particular impact in their conferences through their training. A carpet-layer turned pastor in Alberta has conducted conference-wide youth training with great success

(with a write up in June/July Insight magazine). Another pastor of small churches in Iowa has conducted church growth training for his conference. When pastors were asked their preferred method of training others, it was divided between teaching in groups and “on the job” coaching.

4. Two of ten pastors have called PlusLine. Both were from the Pacific Union. These same two pastors say some of their leaders have called PlusLine. Reasons mentioned include questions about resources and a question about Sabbath school. Four of ten pastors say they have called AdventSource. Two of ten pastors say leaders have probably called AdventSource. Reasons mentioned include Pathfinders, Evangelistic resources, and Women’s Ministries.

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Pastor: LE

Conference: Hawaii

Church(es)/Position: 3 churches

1. What types of responses do you get from business owners or civic leaders about Ingathering?

Not doing Ingathering.

2. What works well in your church to effectively minister to young adults with small children?

Home Bible study groups. Group social functions.

3. What type of leadership training have you participated in during the last year? Your church leaders? What is your preferred method of training lay leaders in your church? Attend an event? Pass out books? Watch or participate in a video workshop? Use ACN satellite training? Coaching? etc.

Three different events. Seeds ‘96. Ministerial meetings for the Pacific Union. Man from Andrews who met with pastors (Gane).

Church leaders. Youth event, Youth Specialties. Our young people have been involved in three different projects--type of leadership training. Month long youth evangelistic series the young people helped plan and carry out. The conference does some things on youth leadership.

I’ve shifted from bringing people in for special events and then send them out. I’m now doing more “on the job” type things. So, its a mix.

4. Have you ever called PlusLine (1-800-SDA-PLUS or 1-800-732-7587) Do you know if your church leaders use Adventist PlusLine? If so, which ones generally use it? (Same questions, but with AdventSource).

Yes. Yes. Asking about resource materials.

Yes. Yes. Pathfinders primarily.

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Pastor: RA  
Conference: Hawaii  
Church(es)/Position: Trust services and 1 church

1. What types of responses do you get from business owners or civic leaders about Ingathering?

No. I wish we could. The leadership killed it here. Its a shame. All the new ministers that came encouraged them not to do it. When Chuck Sandefur was here, he told us we were going to go to a mailing campaign. But they fiddled diddled around... and before you know it, it was all dead.

2. What works well in your church to effectively minister to young adults with small children?

Programs? Nothing I've found. Personal work is what I do. Meet them in their homes, etc. Let them know we have socials, Sabbath school, etc. I haven't found a program that can substitute personal work.

3. What type of leadership training have you participated in during the last year? Your church leaders? What is your preferred method of training lay leaders in your church? Attend an event? Pass out books? Watch or participate in a video workshop? Use ACN satellite training? Coaching? etc.

One in North Carolina, one at the Crystal Cathedral, some Fuller events. Within the church, our president brought in Des Cummings, Roy Gane, etc.

We had a lay training counsel for elders in a couple weeks, led by Ron Halvorsen.

My methods have been seminars. They have certificates all over the walls but won't do anything. So, I take the younger guys with me. Take them. The older people don't change easily. Give the younger one's responsibility. You've gotta have the schools. But often they graduate a certificate, but don't do anything.

4. Have you ever called PlusLine (1-800-SDA-PLUS or 1-800-732-7587) Do you know if your church leaders use Adventist PlusLine? If so, which ones generally use it? (Same questions, but with AdventSource).

Yes. Yes. I think the women call more than the men. So, probably not the elders. Mostly Sabbath school, but its getting into heavier areas.

No. I doubt it.

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Pastor: OS  
Conference: Hawaii  
Church(es)/Position: 1 church, retired 14 years

1. What types of responses do you get from business owners or civic leaders about Ingathering?

We have been. This may be our first we won't. Our response from businesses has been rather poor. They get so many calls, they just throw a little money at you.

2. What works well in your church to effectively minister to young adults with small children?

We don't have many in our church. Its small. Only have 6 or so children. They don't attend regularly. We have a well-trained Sabbath school teacher, but she gets discouraged preparing material, but children don't show up.

3. What type of leadership training have you participated in during the last year? Your church leaders? What is your preferred method of training lay leaders in your church? Attend an event? Pass out books? Watch or participate in a video workshop? Use ACN satellite training? Coaching? etc.

The conference, Dr. Roy Gane. I haven't taken any seminary classes. Two leaders went to a Sabbath school training. I try to give my leaders materials. I also try to stay close to them and work with them. And I encourage them to attend conference events. We have 6 women going to women's meetings next month.

4. Have you ever called PlusLine (1-800-SDA-PLUS or 1-800-732-7587) Do you know if your church leaders use Adventist PlusLine? If so, which ones generally use it? (Same questions, but with AdventSource).

No. Really don't know if leaders do.

Yes. Really don't know.

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Pastor: DM

Conference: Hawaii

Church(es)/Position: 1 church, Associate pastor

1. What types of responses do you get from business owners or civic leaders about Ingathering?

Don't do Ingathering.

2. What works well in your church to effectively minister to young adults with small children?

We have six ministries going on right now. A shut-in ministry, new member care ministry, a ministry for young adults. We provide inreach and outreach. Church socials, small group meetings. We also try to use them as much as possible in our services.

3. What type of leadership training have you participated in during the last year? Your church leaders? What is your preferred method of training lay leaders in your church?

Attend an event? Pass out books? Watch or participate in a video workshop? Use ACN satellite training? Coaching? etc.

Yes, a nondenominational training in April and our staff attended. It was called Honolulu Incentives '97. There were many areas covered during the seminar like worship, reaching youth, ministering to young adults, etc. I went to the ministry for the youth and I enjoyed it. We're trying to apply some of the things we learned.

From our denomination we have a seminar from some group with a gentleman and three ladies ... involving youth and young adult ministries. Next Step.

Our senior pastor conducted leadership training at the beginning of the church year. We had a deacon's/elder's training seminar. Calvin Smith came in August and conducted a training seminar.

4. Have you ever called PlusLine (1-800-SDA-PLUS or 1-800-732-7587) Do you know if your church leaders use Adventist PlusLine? If so, which ones generally use it? (Same questions, but with AdventSource).

No. But two of the other pastors do. I don't know if leaders do.

No. I'm sure.

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Pastor: BP

Conference: Alberta

Church(es)/Position: 1 church, many branch Sabbath schools

1. What types of responses do you get from business owners or civic leaders about Ingathering?

This is my first church, no experience.

2. What works well in your church to effectively minister to young adults with small children?

I like to keep it short and punchy, lots of stories, quizzes, involve them in the church service itself. I also cultivate the "family" atmosphere of the church, and also help the whole church be responsible for the children. I take kids out for ice-cream, campouts, etc.

3. What type of leadership training have you participated in during the last year? Your church leaders? What is your preferred method of training lay leaders in your church? Attend an event? Pass out books? Watch or participate in a video workshop? Use ACN satellite training? Coaching? etc.

I sponsored one. I hired 10 kids to come to my church, taught them to go door to door, psychologist come teach them how to talk to hurting people, short course in public speaking, Lee Guigliotto on studying the Bible studies. When we released them from this training, they conducted 9 VBS in 11 church districts across our conference. In groups of 2. Pulled out piles of Bible studies. Blew the doors of mailouts. We were featured in

Insight magazine in June or July. Guide magazine will feature us. ASI gave me \$2,000 Canadian to run it. I gave them all scholarships to go to school.

I brought in who I felt were the best, but I make it "hands on". But I talk to them straight. Tell them 60% of talking must be from kids. Also, the kids choose breaks. Some of the professionals are preachers, and preachers tend to want to speak all the time, so I have to guide them. Team development is very important.

I'm untrained in a formal sense, but am passionate about this ... been at it full time for a month. Its generally recognized, at least in this conference, that youth programs involve me. Ran earliteen program at Alberta campmeeting, went from zero to 200 people in three years.

I am really, strongly interested in more and more lay pastors. I think we need it. I've also pushed for my kids getting credit for what they do in the summers. I was a frustrated carpet layer.

4. Have you ever called PlusLine (1-800-SDA-PLUS or 1-800-732-7587) Do you know if your church leaders use Adventist PlusLine? If so, which ones generally use it? (Same questions, but with AdventSource).

No. No.

No. No.

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Pastor: BB

Conference: Alberta

Church(es)/Position: 2 churches

1. What types of responses do you get from business owners or civic leaders about Ingathering?

Some areas vary. An old man and I went out (80 year old, they knew him...) and it went very well. Tied to their relationship with him. So, it depends on whether you're well-known. Sometimes, though, its difficult.

2. What works well in your church to effectively minister to young adults with small children?

One of the best ways I feel, is to visit. For example, last week we visited a lawyer and his wife, a doctor, and they have two little girls. My wife and I went over, I love visiting, played with their kids, sang some kids songs, had prayer. Visiting young couple with kids is to go to their homes, and listen to them, talk about their challenges in life. And go with your wife. And we had a great time.

Another family, we have a country gospel band. We are trying to get his young boy to play in the band.

3. What type of leadership training have you participated in during the last year? Your church leaders? What is your preferred method of training lay leaders in your church?

Attend an event? Pass out books? Watch or participate in a video workshop? Use ACN satellite training? Coaching? etc.

Pastor's meetings, Western Canadian Pastor's Retreat, went to a seminar on evangelism. Tomorrow we are having a regional meeting and discussing implementing Russell Burrill's book. We had him here a few months back (June). Sounds like they want to do some radical things. I'm pretty excited. Russell's two books are fantastic.

4. Have you ever called PlusLine (1-800-SDA-PLUS or 1-800-732-7587) Do you know if your church leaders use Adventist PlusLine? If so, which ones generally use it? (Same questions, but with AdventSource).

No. No.

No. Don't really know.

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Pastor: RS

Conference: Alberta

Church(es)/Position: 2 churches

1. What types of responses do you get from business owners or civic leaders about Ingathering?

Not since I've been here in the last year. I haven't seen a lot of change over the years. From my perspective its always been a burden.

2. What works well in your church to effectively minister to young adults with small children?

I wish I could give you something meaningful here. I think its mostly a personal relationship issue. I have smaller churches, so I don't have lots of them. Encouraging them to be a part of the whole.

3. What type of leadership training have you participated in during the last year? Your church leaders? What is your preferred method of training lay leaders in your church? Attend an event? Pass out books? Watch or participate in a video workshop? Use ACN satellite training? Coaching? etc.

No. Pastor's meetings, yes. No, not leaders, other than in-house training. Elders and deacons.

I work in the teaching mode.

4. Have you ever called PlusLine (1-800-SDA-PLUS or 1-800-732-7587) Do you know if your church leaders use Adventist PlusLine? If so, which ones generally use it? (Same questions, but with AdventSource).

No. Not aware.

No. Not aware.

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Pastor: PS

Conference: Iowa/Missouri

Church(es)/Position: 2 churches

1. What types of responses do you get from business owners or civic leaders about Ingathering?

Business is still your main Ingathering anymore. It seems like if you are following up something that has been around for a long time, its great, but if you're starting from scratch, its tough. They get hit up by a lot of others, so they have to make decisions.

2. What works well in your church to effectively minister to young adults with small children?

We have a pretty small church and all our kids go off to academy. We try to have socials with them.

3. What type of leadership training have you participated in during the last year? Your church leaders? What is your preferred method of training lay leaders in your church? Attend an event? Pass out books? Watch or participate in a video workshop? Use ACN satellite training? Coaching? etc.

No. Not believe so.

Recently, we did a spiritual gifts seminar, went through a program. I conducted it.

4. Have you ever called PlusLine (1-800-SDA-PLUS or 1-800-732-7587) Do you know if your church leaders use Adventist PlusLine? If so, which ones generally use it? (Same questions, but with AdventSource).

No. No.

Yes. Not sure.

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Pastor: RR

Conference: Iowa/Missouri

Church(es)/Position: 2 churches

1. What types of responses do you get from business owners or civic leaders about Ingathering?

At the moment we are trying to resurrect Ingathering. I've only been here 2 months, so its not happening. I've come from South Africa. We are going to try going door to door.

2. What works well in your church to effectively minister to young adults with small children?

I think what works very well with young families is to get them together on a social basis, in homes or at the church. They need to form bond with each other. I think



what helps families spiritually, is for them to attend prayer meeting or meet on a Sabbath afternoon with a bent toward topics of interest them.

3. What type of leadership training have you participated in during the last year? Your church leaders? What is your preferred method of training lay leaders in your church? Attend an event? Pass out books? Watch or participate in a video workshop? Use ACN satellite training? Coaching? etc.

Our conference conducts worker's meeting.

My personal preference is to take our leaders, put them in small groups, give them a scenario, and then ask them formulate an answer, and then have them apply it practically.

4. Have you ever called PlusLine (1-800-SDA-PLUS or 1-800-732-7587) Do you know if your church leaders use Adventist PlusLine? If so, which ones generally use it? (Same questions, but with AdventSource).

No. Don't know.

No. Don't know.

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Pastor: CB

Conference: Iowa/Missouri

Church(es)/Position: 3 churches

1. What types of responses do you get from business owners or civic leaders about Ingathering?

Its what we usually focus on to get out funds. It seems like a reciprocal agreement. You do business with us, we do business with you. Sort of a tit for tat. You seldom get a refusal from someone you patronize. They seem reasonably satisfied. We have an established clientele.

2. What works well in your church to effectively minister to young adults with small children?

We have probably the fastest growing small church in our conference. One thing we've done recently is to begin a women's ministry. We actually do that after church, an afternoon service. And the ladies have an hour and half together. Just them. And the men take the children. And we prepare the supper. And we distribute literature with the children. Right down to 3 years old. Nothing high risk. We attempt to give the ladies a break and encourage men to be with the children and train them in outreach. The ladies meeting also reaches out beyond the group. Other nonAdventist ladies are invited and attend.

3. What type of leadership training have you participated in during the last year? Your church leaders? What is your preferred method of training lay leaders in your church?

Attend an event? Pass out books? Watch or participate in a video workshop? Use ACN satellite training? Coaching? etc.

I used to be national training manager for a paper company. I was responsible for 221 salesman in the United Kingdom. I was in charge of sales techniques, motivation, training, etc.

Because of all the change, I haven't gone to much except workers meetings. Most of my focus has been in deep reading, and study on the life of Christ. Jesus' techniques for ministering. Its impacted my ministry and my preaching.

I haven't trained much. Did do a one day session for the conference sponsored day, a one day session focused on brainstorming, how to make our church grow, etc. I did a 40 minute presentation.

One on one on the job is my preferred way. No more effective way of teaching. As a group you can fire out hundreds of ideas, but one on one can be more focusing.

4. Have you ever called PlusLine (1-800-SDA-PLUS or 1-800-732-7587) Do you know if your church leaders use Adventist PlusLine? If so, which ones generally use it? (Same questions, but with AdventSource).

No. I wouldn't think so.

Yes, and I've been there a few times. Yes, probably a couple have. Evangelistic resources, women's ministries.