

Long Island Adventist Youth Federation—HEARTBEAT

From the President's Desk

Special points of interest:

- To assist youth in cultivating a personal relationship with the Lord
- To obtain ongoing education regarding youth ministry
- To serve God with talents and time
- To capture the vision of proclaiming the name of Jesus

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The race is neither to the swift, nor the battle to the strong... but time and chance happen to them all.' (Eccl 9:11)

It is certainly a sobering thought and a fascinating feature that life's race is unpredictable. Only by God's grace are we able to overcome the setbacks that can so easily beset us. God in His wisdom has commissioned us to 'run with patience the race that is set before us. (Heb 12:1) It is only in his providential timing that we will achieve victory.

The LIYF is renewed, re-energized, refreshed and resurrected, with a team of truly dedicated captains at the helm. Their goal, and they invite you to make it your goal too, is to 'finish the race... together.'

In the same way that at the beginning of a marathon, an athlete takes off at the sound of a gun, LIYF launched itself on

January 31st 2009, into the hearts of young and old Long Islanders alike.

We have so many plans for you...so many dreams to realize...so many desires to satisfy.

But suffice it to say: we shall utilize the hopeful energy that we each possess and actualize the promise of not just a better environment for our Youth on Long Island, but also a hopeful future for our churches.

I am indeed thankful for the vision of the team. – It is a **great team** to work with. LIYF needs your support and prayers.

In our own small spheres, in our own small corners, I know 2009 has already brought challenges that really 'rocked our boats', but let us always remain

anchored in the Greatest Challenge Solver, because "He who began a good work in us, will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ" (Phil 1: 16)

Welcome to this the first issue of the LIYF Heartbeat. Look out for more issues each quarter. Please remember that we all need to join in for the I-o-n-g haul and...finish the race ...together!!



NATALEE HEMMINGS-NOBLE
LIYFED PRESIDENT 2009-2011

Inauguration Service

The Long Island Adventist Youth Federation is back and in full force, working to edify the Youth in the Long Island region. To God be the Glory we started the year with our Inauguration service which was held on January 31st, 2009 at the Bethesda SDA. All churches

came out in their numbers and we were able to commit ourselves as officers for the years ahead under the theme "Finish the Race".

As a federation we value a life of Prayer, Bible Study, and Witnessing, which will keep us connected to Jesus,

helping us to become spiritual giants. With this zeal and spiritual zest **we will** finish the race.

HEY!!! WE ARE ABOUT READY TO LAUNCH OUR WEBSITE: - When?? SOOOOON!!!

LIYFED OFFICERS 2009-2011

"Finish the Race" is the designated theme for 2009, as co-laborers with God we had taken the challenge to assist the youth of Long Island in doing just that. With the aid of the Holy Spirit we know that our dreams and aspirations will be realized.

Team Member	Position
Natalie Hemmings -Noble	President
Cheryll Wilson	1 st Vice President
Fritzroy Golding	2 nd Vice President
Tracey-Ann Pinnock	Secretary
Charmaine Anderson	Treasurer
Alton Benjamin	Assistant Treasurer
Donald Vanterpool	Chaplain
Ana Hudson	Social Coordinator
Allan Rocque	Parliamentarian
Latoya Benjamin	Public Relations Coordinator
Carl Williams Sr.	Sports Coordinator
Clair Nicholas	Olympics Coordinator

Friday Night Live February & March

The Rescue 911 call for help for the AY Department on a whole, was the theme for our first Friday Night held at the Pilgrim Tabernacle. The church was filled to capacity.

*The race is not given
to swift neither to
strong but to him
that endures to the
end*

As youth we are called to rescue the perishing and care for the dying in our part of the vineyard. The presence of the Lord was in the place on February 13th as we were also ministered to by Petula Beckles, Evidence of Grace, Pastor Ferron Francis and our own Bro Arnel Borderon.

The same momentum was carried forward into our second Friday night on March 13th at the Central Islip SDA Church where our chairperson Pastor Raymond Alcock, the Acapella group Harmony 4 and Silent Praise demonstrated in words, song and action the meaning of "Old bones living and being electrified in the cause of the Lord. For both services we left with the message that we need to break down the barriers, arise and shine for the time of playing church and being spiritually dead is over. We have a race to finish and the time to finish it is now.

Winter Social

Here she goes around the ring, Johnny was a Miller, Press the business on and the electric slide were the highlights of the night as social king "Durlon Smallhorne" along with his team took the night to height at our Winter "Bashment" Social held Saturday February 21, 2009 in the Lower Auditorium of the Ebenezer SDA.

During the heat of the night we were served some sumptuous fried dumplings, steamed cab-

bage, veggie burgers, and a whole variety of pastries which gave us the energy to go for another round of fun. All nine churches associated with the Long Island Adventist Youth Federation were in attendance. We ended the night thanking God for the fun, food and the fellowship.



Bible Bowl

'Study to show thyself approved unto God,' are the words of our Pre-Juniors, Juniors, Seniors, Young Adults and Adults competitors for this years Bible Bowl Competition.

The quest for who will be our Bible Bowl Champions for 2009 will kick off officially for the Long Island area on April 3, 2009 where three churches with different teams as representatives will be competing to represent the Long Island at Camp Victory Lake on June 14, 2009.

The books for this years Bible Bowl are Matthew, Genesis, Esther, Colossians, Amos, and I & II Peter. By the grace of God we will be victorious in this race which we will finish.

Sports Update

Over the years the energetic Youth of Long Island have been able to participate in different sporting activities which are organized through the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. This year is no exception as we will be involved in Soccer, Basketball and Olympics.

The basketball league has begun and our Soccer league will kick-off on April 26th. We are striving to reach to the highest level to compete against the other federations in the finale on Olympics day. In our next issue we will give you further communication on our upcoming Olympics. However, if you need further information please email us at longislandfederation@gmail.com.

Inspiration

The Lord calls for volunteers who will take their stand firmly on His side, and will pledge themselves to unite with Jesus of Nazareth in doing the very work that needs to be done now, just now.-- *"Fundamentals of Christian Education," p. 488.*

The Lord Jesus claims your service. He loves you. If you doubt His love, look to Calvary. The light reflected from the cross shows you the magnitude of that love, which no tongue can tell. "He that keepeth my commandments, he it is that loveth me." *"Messages to Young People," p 409.*

Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience **the race** that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-2

We ought to forsake all sorts of hindrances that will allow us to loose sight of the mark which is the finish line in this spiritual race. Few start but never end up finishing. In this spiritual race we need to grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, having constant communion with Him.

Advice Corner – Parenting

Children's emotions can get the better of them. They need to know there is a 'plan' that will be put in place when anger is about to boil over. Calmly remove your child from the situation and send to a quiet place like their room.

1. Do not dialogue with them.
2. When you feel your child is ready, ask her to write down what she is angry about. Start her off with "I am angry that ..
3. Discuss with your child and ask what she could do differently next time.

Time spent listening and understanding and setting boundaries around the ex-

pression of anger help a child feel safe and sure when dealing with their own hot emotions.



Upcoming Events

- New York City Youth for Christ (NYCYC) Training & Outreach Program April 24-26—York College
- May 08th: Friday Night Live—Gordon Heights SDA
- April 26th: Soccer Season Opens
- May 16th: Town Hall Meeting: Ebenezer 5:30pm

Bible Bowl Dates for Long Island

- April 3 at Ebenezer SDA Church
- May 1 at Bethesda SDA Church
- June 14 at Camp Victory Lake

CONDOLENCES:

The Long Island Youth Federation extends deepest sympathy to the family of the late Bro. Carl Gordon (Past AY Leader of the Pilgrim Tabernacle SDA). We want his immediate and church family to remain strong in the face of such adversity, because some day soon when the eastern skies shall open, if we are faithful we shall meet again, our prayers are with you.

Editor: Latoya Benjamin

For suggestions please email us at
longislandfederation@gmail.com