



FYI #195

August 11, 2021

A weekly e-newsletter for employees and friends of the
Illinois Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

RON AGUILERA

Illinois Conference President



DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing, you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Romans 12:2

One of the bible texts I memorized as a child was Romans 12:2, “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...” I learned early on that your thoughts have great impact on the course of your life, and that the Bible has much to say on the topic. If we want peace, Philippians 4:8 tells us to think on what is “true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent and anything worthy of praise.” If we want to be transformed into the men or women God is calling us to be, Romans 12:2 tells us this only happens by the renewing of our minds. If we want to combat the lies from the enemy that contradict the truth of God, 2 Corinthians 10:5 tells us we are to take every thought that we have and make it obedient to Christ.

Your mind is a battlefield and I personally know it is a difficult fight. The enemy wants to attack your mind, he wants you to think you’re crazy, he wants you to give up, but God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind. (2 Timothy 1:7) Due to God’s love for us, we have the power to control our thoughts, and not the other way around.

So, how do we renew our minds? I have found that one of the best ways is to read from God’s Word daily. If this is a new practice for you, I would suggest starting with one of the four Gospels, or Proverbs or the Psalms. Read for 10-15 minutes to start with, and you will find that God will renew your mind in unexpected ways. Another way is to fill your mind with lyrics from Christian music. Listen to Christian music on the way to work, or in the evening before bed, and you will find that God will renew your mind and fill your heart with peace. I invite you to consider and implement new ways to renew your mind today and each day.

FYI At-a-Glance

Pastor Nestor Soriano	2
World Pathfinder Day	2
Indestructible Love	3

Stay In-the-Loop

Facebook	@Illinois Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
Email	president@ilcsda.org
Conference Calendar	www.ilcsda.org/calendar
Conference Address	619 Plainfield Rd Willowbrook, IL 60527

I KNOW SOMETHING GOOD ABOUT....

. . . Deb Wilcut, Linda Tuthill, Ralph Shelton, Madupe Hughes and Carole Bliss. They serve as Area Prayer Leaders for the Illinois Conference and meet monthly to pray over God's church. Thank you!

NEWS

Welcoming Pastor Nestor Soriano

This past Sabbath, Lori and I had the privilege of being with our Hinsdale Fil-Am church. I had the opportunity to introduce their new senior pastor, Elder Nestor Soriano, and his wife, Katherine, and their children. Pastor Nestor grew up at our North Shore church, so this is a homecoming of sorts. Welcome home, Pastor Nestor!



World Pathfinder Day

World Pathfinder Day is coming! September 18, 2021. The speaker will be Ron Whitehead.

To participate, go to: Zoom, ID 83051735044 and passcode: IWILLGO!

Do It Together-A virtual Sabbath School Convention-September 9-11

Do It Together - Sabbath School Convention 2021 is the first annual event of its kind, sponsored by the North American Division Adult, Children's and Youth Ministries focusing on doing Sabbath School together in a unified way. This virtual event is designed to train leaders for in service and to update teaching techniques and connection with student and teacher. Join us as we Do It Together!

To register, go to: oneteamplaybook.org

Save the Date for our Prayer Retreat

Plan now to join us for the Illinois Conference Prayer Retreat at Camp Akita, October 1-3. Our guest speakers will be Jim and Ingrid Moon. This year's theme is: "Ebenezer, A Missional Prayer Journey."

Save the date, registration information will follow soon.

DID YOU KNOW...

. . . that as of today, the Seventh-day Adventist church membership in the Illinois Conference is 13,656?

RESOURCES

Indestructible Love FREE Resource

“Indestructible Love” is a new and FREE evangelism resource for local churches, featuring Dr. Elizabeth Talbot and Pastor Roy Ice. This plug-and-play five-part interactive video series, with accompanying discussion questions and downloadable resources, presents the whole plan of salvation from the perspective of God as a parent who died to recover his lost children. Also, Signs of the Times has released a coordinating “Indestructible Love” special edition issue! Jesus 101 is offering 100 copies to the first 50 churches that register for the series.

Register at <https://jesus101.tv/indestructible-love/>

GO DO IT! Youth Congress. Starting TOMORROW!

GO DO IT! is the first annual Youth Congress sponsored by the North American Division Youth and Young Adult Ministries Department. Join this free event on August 12-14 for sessions on relationships, mental health, spiritual gifts, and much more. Don't miss out on random backpack giveaways during the event that will include a MacBook or iPhone.

Register at: <https://oneteamplaybook.org/2021-go-do-it-youth-congress/>

Coming, October 14-16, a Congress on Social Justice

The Congress on Social Justice is designed to bring attention to global issues of imbalance as well as the biblical solutions that address them. Discover the link between caring for creation in its fullness and beauty and proclaiming the Three Angels' Message of Revelation 14. This event is scheduled for October 14-16 on the campus of Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Choose between in-person and virtual registration options.

For more, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/rstasr98>

“THERE CERTAINLY SHOULD BE A LARGER NUMBER OF WOMEN ENGAGED IN THE WORK OF MINISTERING TO SUFFERING HUMANITY, UPLIFTING, EDUCATING THEM HOW TO BELIEVE—SIMPLY TO BELIEVE—IN CHRIST JESUS OUR SAVIOR. AND AS SOULS GIVE THEMSELVES TO THE LORD JESUS, MAKING AN ENTIRE SURRENDER, THEY WILL UNDERSTAND THE DOCTRINE.”

—Ellen G. White, *Evangelism*, p. 465

