



1/16/24

Greetings and wishes for a blessed new year, in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,

The following is a conference update:

I pray this communication finds you and your family well (and warm). The worst part of winter has not hit us yet, but I'm sure that winter will, 'make it up to us' before all is said and done. Now that the holidays are over, we are gearing up for 2024 and I'd like to share information with you.

**Union Springs Academy** – Yes, it's true. A storm rolled through the Finger Lakes area recently which resulted in damage to certain parts of the campus and grounds owned by the New York Conference. Please check the Conference Facebook page to learn more. The short version is that several buildings at Union Springs Academy were damaged (roof and walls mostly). Nothing catastrophic though, and more importantly no one was injured. Work is currently underway to repair and recover from the storm. However, we covet your prayers for thanksgiving for God's protection and for a quick recovery. And if anyone is interested in donating their time/resources to help with the cleanup/recovery, please contact Jeremy Garlock at USA.

**Camp Meeting Cabins** - At least two cabins had severe damage from the storm that went through this month (January). As a result we will be performing a safety inspection to determine if there are more cabins that are structurally compromised. I admit to being a little concerned given the age of the cabins. I will share more about this as I get more information. Any cabins deemed unsafe will not be available for use until repairs are made. I ask for your patience and understanding in regards to this issue.

**Camp Meeting 2024** – The two main speakers for this Camp Meeting are Dr. Alex Bryant (NAD President) and Pastor Mark Finley (Evangelist and retired V.P. at the Gen. Conf.) Lord willing, we will be having violinist Jaime Jorge joining us for the first Sabbath ending with a concert for the Sabbath evening service. Our theme is, "He said, Go!". We look forward to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit through these individuals.

**LAY PASTOR/LEADER TRAINING** - The second season on the "Christian Leadership Academy" podcast will be airing soon. Along with those efforts we want to let you know of a couple of other lay leader training events that are coming soon.

Atlantic Union School of Evangelism - Every Sunday in February from 10am-1pm (February 4, 11, 18, 25) we will be lead into a presentation by some of the most successful evangelists in the Adventist Church. If you or your church wants to be engaged in evangelism locally you need to attend this online series. Attendees will receive a certificate for their attendance. **Please the attached flyer to learn more.**

**You can register by using the QR code on the attached flyer.**

Christian Leadership Academy Sabbath - On **April 13th**, we will be hosting another lay training event. The training will focus on Elders, Deacons, Sabbath School Teachers, Digital Media Outreach... More info will be sent out on this event later. But if you are wanting to be a part of this training please put the date on your calendar.

Lay Chaplain Training/Certification - With the increase in distress and mental health issues among our communities, there is a desperate need for people trained with chaplaincy skills (presence, comfort, spiritual nurturing, etc.) As part of the Christian Leadership training we will be creating another branch for outreach ministry, Lay Chaplaincy. Lord willing, we hope to create a program that will provide quality training for those interested in joining this effort.

**Church Safety Protocol** - I want to inform you that at the December 2023 Executive Committee meeting a vote was taken to amend our conference security guidelines to include guidance to the local churches regarding the question of church safety and what role firearms may or may not play in the development of safety plans. A copy of the new policy has been sent to each of the pastors. If you have any questions about this new policy you may speak with your local pastor to learn more and also feel free to contact me at the Conference office, as I serve as the Conference Safety Director.

If you have any questions on any of the items in this update you may contact us at the Conference office. Please keep us in prayer as we work together to promote the sharing of the Three Angels Messages with our communities in Upstate New York. Jesus is coming soon!

Miguel Crespo, President New York Conference



**ATLANTIC UNION CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

# ATLANTIC UNION SCHOOL OF EVANGELISM

EVERY CHURCH, EVERY MEMBER INVOLVED IN DISCIPLESHIP & EVANGELISM

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TRAINING IN THE AREA OF:  
**BIBLE WORK - PERSONAL EVANGELISM:** ONE-TO-ONE, ART OF BIBLE STUDY · **SMALL GROUP EVANGELISM** · CHURCH PLANTING  
**PUBLIC EVANGELISM:** FIELD PREPARATION, SERMON PREPARATION, CRUSADE MANAGEMENT · **MULTI-CULTURAL EVANGELISM**

**COST:** FREE (REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE ARE REQUIRED FOR CERTIFICATION)  
**VIRTUAL:** (ATTEND THIS AMAZING EVENT IN THE CONFINES OF YOUR LOCAL CHURCH AND HOME)

SUNDAYS  
**FEBRUARY 4, 11, 18, 25**  
 TIME  
**10AM - 1PM**

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER 



**HOST**  
**DR. DAVID MCKENZIE**  
 ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
 ATLANTIC UNION CONFERENCE OF SDA  
 (MISSION & EVANGELISM)

**PR. MARK FINLEY**  
 (ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT,  
 GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SDA)

**DR. CARLTON BYRD**  
 (PRESIDENT, SOUTHWEST REGION  
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**PR. JOHN BRADSHAW**  
 (PRESIDENT, WRITTEN  
 MEDIA MINISTRY)

**PR. GLEN SAMUELS**  
 (PRESIDENT, WEST JAMAICA  
 CONFERENCE OF SDA)

**PR. ARNALDO CRUZ**  
 (SOUTHERN UNION OF SDA)

