



# Pathfinder Day - General Conference

September 15<sup>th</sup> 2012



Gilbert Cangy,  
World Youth Director / **Thank You**



Jonatan Tejel,  
Pathfinder World Director / **Make it a Day to Remember**



Magulilo Mwakalonge,  
East-Central Africa Division Youth Director / **Why Pathfinder Day?**



Nathan Stickland,  
British Union Conference Youth Director / **Pathfinder Day in the British Union**





## Thank You

Over last year's festive season, I was back with my family in my island home for the first time as the Youth Director for the World Church. It was a very moving moment as I got up to present the Sabbath morning message in the church where I spent my adolescent years, in the presence of many of my old friends—many of whom needed a hairbrush no more.

On the left of the congregation, in spite of the passing of time, I recognized one I had not seen for more than twenty-five years – my Pathfinder leader. I was moved to tears as memories flooded my mind; this man had made a difference in my life at a time when, as an unstable teenager, I desperately needed to know that someone could see right through my pretense, my apparent cool, and sometimes assumed rebellious persona.

My Pathfinder leader believed in me; he did not see me as I was, but saw what I could become through the love of Jesus and the transforming power of His Spirit. My sash was not filled with honors, but my heart was touched by the grace of a compassionate leader and the experience of community in my unforgettable Pathfinder club.

I took the time to publicly acknowledge my former leader, to thank him for being the presence, the voice, and the touch of Jesus at that very critical time in my life. He made a major contribution to leading me into God's eternal plan for my life.

On this day of celebration, on this special Pathfinder day, I salute all our club leaders and their supporting staff—all those who give selflessly, and often thanklessly, of their time, resources, and energy to be the presence, the voice, and the touch of Jesus in the lives of our Pathfinders.

I trust that from time to time you do hear a thank you from your former club members, from your pastor and church leaders. If ever the thank-you's do not come your way that frequently, rest assured that one day you will hear from your Commander-in-Chief, "Well done, good and faithful servant...come and enjoy your master's happiness."

Blessed Pathfinder day.

**Gilbert Cangy**, GC World Youth Director



## ...Make it a Day to Remember...

All of us have memories of days we'll never forget. Mother's Day is an important day every son and daughter should remember—and Father's Day is special too! Graduation is another significant time; when I give a graduation speech, I can see how important that day is for the graduates—they are dressed up, well coifed, excited—there is a difference in them you can see.

One of the most beautiful days that I remember every year (and most every day) is my wedding day. There were so many wonderful moments on that day. And then there were two very significant days after that: the days my daughters were born... I will never forget! I was present when both were born; I was there to support my wife and to welcome them into the world... there are so many days in our lives that we'll never forget.

We as Pathfinders, one of the strongest and most active groups in our Seventh-day Adventist Church, we also have a special day, a day where you can show up in your communities and show what you stand for—a day where you can express to your church community that you are not just a “fun” group, but a committed group that breathes and works with a purpose, and this purpose is to tell others of the love of Jesus Christ and how essential it is to accept Him into their lives.

Make this day a day to remember, a day that will stay in your memory until Jesus comes back to take us home... and that will be the best day ever!

God bless you on this great day!

Your friend...

**Jonatan Tejel**, GC World Pathfinder Director



## Why Pathfinder Day?

**Magulilo Mwakalonge**, East-Central Africa Division Youth Director

The Pathfinder Administrative Manual discusses this question in length. On page 199 you will find a summary of the six objectives of Pathfinder Day:

1. Give official recognition and encouragement to the Pathfinder Club in the local church.
2. Acquaint the congregation with the scope of possibilities offered by the Pathfinder Club in the development of our junior youth.
3. Encourage greater cooperation and support of the local Pathfinder Club by the congregation.
4. Recruit additional Pathfinder staff members.
5. Give the Pathfinder Club members a greater sense of belonging to the church by their active participation in the worship hour.
6. Give an opportunity for the church to provide more financial assistance for the club by giving a special Pathfinder Club offering during the worship hour. By vote of the local church board, the church offering on this day may be appropriated to the local Pathfinder Club.

This is the day to present to the church the objectives of the Pathfinder Club and appeal for dedicated church members to volunteer as staff members. They could work as instructors, counselors, junior counselors, deputy directors, chaplains, directors, etc.

Master Guide leadership training is required for one to be effective in Pathfinder ministry. The Pathfinders are supposed to be in units of 6-8, which are supervised by a counselor and a junior counselor. If the church has fifty young people of 10-15 years of age, that church needs eighteen counselors. There are many staff positions that are needed, but the reality shows a different pattern. Many clubs are short staffed. It is common to find a club of thirty Pathfinders with only one or two consistent staff. This is alarming!

This is a prime group, teachable and receptive. They are on the verge of making important life choices and decisions. They deserve serious, brilliant, well-trained, converted members to lead them in the right direction of deciding for Christ. Let's equip this age group with the tools they need to succeed. Make this a big point on Pathfinder Day.



## Pathfinder Day in the British Union

**Nathan Stickland**, British Union Conference Youth Director

It might be a small club or a gathering of many groups; it might be the marching sound of rhythmic feet or the deafening sound of drums, but Pathfinder Day is alive in the British Union Conference.

There have been different emphases across the Union in recent years. Mostly clubs have been encouraged to make an impact in their local community, but the North England Conference (NEC) has excelled in bringing Adventurers and Pathfinders together for mass rallies.

The ‘stay local’ approach provides the local church the ability to see the full presence of the local club in service and displaying the work they have been doing. A parade down the street is often part of the program, which is a chance to distribute literature and talk with the neighborhood. Recruitment of local youth into the club has been one result of these outdoor displays.

One such club that has monopolized on this opportunity is Holloway. Near to central London, the club has used their proficient drum corps to turn heads, and once spotted the crowds of onlookers watch the snaking procession of uniformed Pathfinders and other church members march past in synchronization. This group is so good they have been asked to head the Remembrance Sunday Parade in the local borough ahead of the Scouts and military personnel. They are well-known in the community for this.

The NEC has consecutively made a mass crowd impact in various cities in the North of England for Pathfinder Day. These have included Blackpool, Huddersfield, and Sheffield, with attendance reaching 1,500 in uniform, and sometimes another 1,000 supporting members and parents. Often literature is distributed, from leaflets to books. In fact, on one occasion 4,000 books were given out; they were so well received that it took only twenty minutes to give them away!

The local mayor is always invited, and on one occasion the GC Pathfinder Director baptized three Pathfinders on the steps of the town hall. With a crowd of more than 2,000 Pathfinders and parents, along with the public, it was truly a public declaration of faith. As a result, some of the Pathfinders in attendance expressed the desire for baptism.

Whether as a huge throng of Pathfinders or a humble collection of club members, Pathfinder Day is a wonderful opportunity to make a statement to the community that you are youth who can be respected and praised. It is a time for representing Adventist Youth at its best, and to use the chance to witness to onlookers. Not utilizing Pathfinder Day is an opportunity missed. After all, haven’t we got a “message to tell”?



## Purpose

While Pathfinding is designated to help youth appreciate the value of group participation, it should not be forgotten that there is scope for the development of the youth as an individual. A major part of Pathfinders is group activity. This is vital in learning the art of cooperation, which is a necessary ingredient in the make-up of a well balanced Christian.

The Pathfinder Excellence Award has been developed to recognize individual achievement over a one-year period of time. As with the class investiture pins and honor tokens, the Pathfinder Excellence Award should be awarded only to those who have reached a high standard of Pathfinder efficiency as outlined in these criteria.

## Selection Process

Toward the close of the Pathfinder year, the Pathfinder Club executive committee acts as the awards-recognition-selection group for their club. They will compare each Pathfinder's record of achievement with the criteria to establish who in the club qualifies for this award. (More than one may qualify as well as none may qualify.)

## Criteria

The following criteria must be applied by the Pathfinder executive committee when deciding whether a club member is entitled to the Pathfinder Excellence Award:

# Pathfinder Excellence Award

## The Pathfinder

Is an active member of the Pathfinder Club and has been for two or more years.

Is an example in uniform requirements, is on time for all meetings, and actively works as a leader in their unit.

Believes in and lives up to the Pathfinder Pledge and Law. Displays a loyalty to these Pathfinder ideals and holds them as a sacred honor.

Willingly accepts assigned responsibilities and demonstrates initiative and leadership in carrying them out simply or in a team effort.

Maintains personal equipment in the best possible condition.

Relates to all races and entire groups in a positive Christian manner.

Annually completes the current Pathfinder Class and, in addition, earns the offered honors.

## When and by Whom Should the Award be Presented

The Pathfinder Excellence Award is preferably to be made at a Pathfinder Day program in the church by the ranking Pathfinder leader or at the annual investiture program by the investing leader or at the conference camporee or fair by the conference youth leader.

## How Should it be Worn?

Above the advanced class ribbon awards during the year following the award presentation. If the Pathfinder does not re-qualify, then it must be placed in the Pathfinder's inventory of mementos. The award may only be worn during the year following recognition.

# Pathfinder Day Church Service

## PROGRAM NUMBER 1

1. Prelude
2. Ministers enter
3. Silent prayer
4. Doxology
5. Invocation
6. Presentation of Colors
7. Pathfinders march in and take places; Pledge and Law
8. Post flags
9. Honor Guard returns to seats
10. Congregation and Pathfinders seated
11. Scripture reading: 1Timothy 4:12
12. Hymn No. 529, "Under His Wings"
13. Congregational prayer
14. Offering
15. Special music
16. Pathfinder report--Pathfinder club director
17. Sermon; by pastor, child preacher, or guest
18. Hymn No. 508, "Anywhere With Jesus"
19. Benediction
20. Postlude
21. Congregation stands
22. Adult Sabbath School can also be directed by Pathfinders.

## PROGRAM NUMBER 2

1. Prelude
2. Personal ministries period: Pathfinder missionary experiences
3. Processional: ministers, directors, Pathfinders
4. Introit (platform group kneeling): Choir
5. Doxology
6. Invocation: Pathfinder
7. Post Colors: Color guard
8. Welcome: Pastor
9. Scripture Reading 1 Timothy 4:12: Pathfinder
10. Hymn no. 529, "Under His Wings"
11. Prayer: Two Pathfinders
12. Pathfinder Song: Pathfinders
13. Pathfinder Happenings: Teen Pathfinder
14. Pledge and Law: Pathfinder choir
15. Song of Instrumental Selection: Pathfinders
16. Pathfinder Objectives: club director
17. Offering
18. Sermon: Pastor, child preacher, or guest
19. Hymn no. 508, "Anywhere With Jesus"
20. Benediction
21. Recessional
22. Ministers and directors
23. Color guard
24. Staff
25. Pathfinder units and counselors
26. Congregation

# Pathfinder Day Church Service

## PROGRAM NUMBER 3

1. Prelude
2. Personal Ministries Period
3. Minister and platform personnel enter
4. Processional: "The Captain Calls for You"; Organ, Piano, and Trumpets
5. Marching order:
6. Color guard
7. Directors
8. Staff
9. Pathfinder units
10. Pledge of allegiance to Bible and flag
11. Flags and guerdons posted
12. Invocation
13. Welcome (Introduces Pathfinder club director): Pastor
14. Scripture: 1 Timothy 4:12 read by a Pathfinder
15. Pathfinder Song: Pathfinders & Congregation
16. Prayer
17. Special music: Pathfinder
18. Choir
19. "Pathfinder Happening" (A report): Teen Pathfinder
20. Pledge: Pathfinder
21. "What Pathfinding Means to Me": Pathfinder
22. Law: Pathfinder
23. "Why I am a Pathfinder": Pathfinder
24. Objectives and needs of Club Director, Counselor, or Teen Pathfinder
25. Offering
26. Special music: Pathfinders
27. Sermon: pastor, director, guest speaker, or child preacher
28. Hymn No. 529, "Under His Wings"
29. Benediction
30. Recessional: "Onward Christian Soldiers"; organ and piano
31. Marching Order:
32. Ministers and directors
33. Color guard
34. Staff
35. Pathfinder units and counselors
36. Congregation
37. Congregation stands

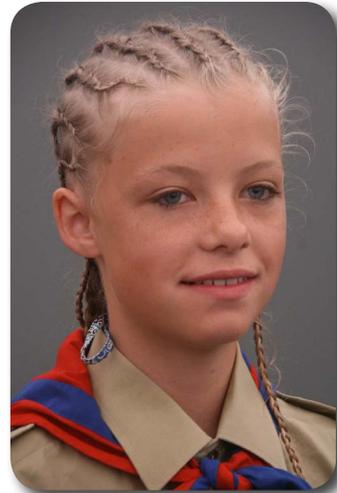
## PROGRAM NUMBER 4

1. Prelude
2. Ministers and platform personnel enter
3. Doxology and Invocation
4. Processional: "Onward Christian Soldiers"
5. (Pathfinders march in led by the national and Pathfinder flags. Color guards post themselves on floor in front of pulpit. All stand when flags enter and remain standing until flags are posted on the platform.)
6. Pathfinder Song: Pathfinders
7. Pledge and Law, Led by a Pathfinder
8. Posting of Flags
9. Scripture Reading: Proverbs 22:6 or Ephesians 6:1-4 read by a Pathfinder
10. Prayer: Pathfinder
11. Welcome and Director's Report; Pathfinder club director reports on year's activities, goals for new year, and presents any recognition and awards.
12. Special music: Pathfinders
13. "Why I Am a Pathfinder": Pathfinder
14. "How did it all begin?": Director and six Pathfinders
15. Offering: Teen Pathfinder or Pathfinders
16. Special music: Pathfinder or Pathfinders
17. Sermonette: director, guest, child preacher
18. Hymn no. 543, "Jesus, Friend of Little Children"
19. Benediction: Pathfinder
20. Postlude

# Pathfinder Day Service

## General Program / Morning & Afternoon

1. Sabbath School
2. Break
3. Assemble for Processional Entrance
4. Processional Entrance
5. Pathfinder Song
6. Pledge, Law
7. Welcome & Introductions
8. Song Service
9. Prayer
10. Offering
11. Special Item (it can be music)
12. Scripture Reading
13. Sermon
14. Special Item (it can be music)
15. Closing Song
16. Closing Prayer & Announcements
17. LUNCH
18. Assemble for Street Procession
19. Street Procession
20. Concert
21. Baptisms
22. Closing Ceremony
23. Small and impacting Devotional
24. Closing Prayer
25. Farewell



# Pathfinder Pledge

*By the grace of God*

Only as we rely on God to help us can we do His will.

*I will be pure*

I will fill my mind with everything that is Right and True, and spend my time in activities that will build a strong, clean character.

*I will be kind*

I will be considerate and kind not only to my fellow men, but also to all of God's creation.

*I will be true*

I will be honest and upright in study, work, and play, and can always be counted upon to do my very best.

*I will keep the Pathfinder Law*

I will seek to understand the meaning of the Law and will strive to live up to its spirit, realizing that obedience to law is essential in any organization.

*I will be a servant of God*

I will pledge myself to serve God first, last, and best in everything I am called upon to be or do.

*I will be a friend to man*

I will live to bless others and do unto them as I would have them do unto me.



# Pathfinder Law

***Keep the Morning Watch***

I will have prayer and personal Bible study each day.

***Do my honest part***

By the power of God I will help others and do my duty and my honest share, wherever I may be.

***Care for my body***

I will be temperate in all things and strive to reach a high standard of physical fitness.

***Keep a level eye***

I will not lie, cheat or deceive, and will despise dirty talk or evil thinking.

***Be courteous and obedient***

I will be kind and thoughtful of others, reflecting the love of Jesus in all my association with others.

***Walk softly in the sanctuary***

In any devotional exercise I will be quiet, careful, and reverent.

***Keep a song in my heart***

I will be cheerful and happy and let the influence of my life be as sunshine to others.

***Go on God's errands***

I will always be ready to share my faith and go about doing good as did Jesus.





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