

Statistical Report

Annual Council of the General Conference Committee Silver Spring, Maryland, October 8 - 13, 2010

Prepared by the Office of Archives and Statistics

Baptisms Set New Records

For the eighth time in its Annual Council reporting history, the world divisions reported baptisms that surpassed one million. The 1,062,655 accessions during the past four quarters (July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010) means that on the average, every day within that period, 2,909 believers accepted the everlasting gospel and joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Our current mid-year total of 16,641,357 baptized members means that there are currently 414 people populating our planet for every baptized Seventh-day Adventist. This is an improvement of 10 from that reported at the last Annual Council.

Baptisms Within the Divisions

A comparison of the baptisms within each of the divisions gives us an idea of the divisional location of our newest members. (See Insert 1, Table 1.) Both Southern Africa-Indian Ocean and South American Divisions have over 20 of our most-recently baptized members, while the Inter-American Division is the home of 18 of our newest members. Double-digit figures spring from the East-

Central Africa Division as well (16). The Southern Asia-Pacific Division on the average added seven new members of every 100 to the Seventh-day Adventist Church and Southern Asia added five new members during this past Annual Council year. Thirteen of every 100 of our newest members live within the remaining seven divisions. From the table below, our current membership distribution shows 37% within Africa, 33% within Latin America, 19% within Asia, seven percent within North America, and four percent within Europe and Oceania.

Church Audits Continue and Impact Growth Rate

For the third consecutive Annual Council year, the South American Division has conducted major audits of its church membership rolls. The resulting decrease of some 240,000 within that division meant that despite its 218,000 accessions, it exhibited a 47,000 net membership decrease. The church membership audits conducted within the South American Division resulted in a loss of five in its population per member ratio (from 150-to-1 to 155-to-1) and

(Please turn to page 2.)

World Membership July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 (Preliminary)

<i>Division</i>	<i>Baptisms and Prof. of Faith</i>	<i>Net Membership Increase</i>	<i>% Net Increase Over Last 12 Months</i>	<i>Baptisms and Prof. of Faith as % of Current Membership</i>	<i>Membership June 30, 2010</i>	<i>Membership as % of World Total June 30, 2010</i>
Southern Africa-Indian Ocean	218,646	180,729	7.52	8.46	2,583,692	15.53
Southern Asia-Pacific	76,476	65,447	6.57	7.20	1,061,645	6.38
East-Central Africa	166,476	126,283	5.05	6.33	2,629,265	15.80
Inter-American	190,201	137,408	4.25	5.64	3,370,354	20.25
West-Central Africa	41,338	28,407	3.40	4.79	863,306	5.19
Northern Asia-Pacific	20,013	18,409	3.02	3.19	628,032	3.77
South Pacific	19,088	11,740	2.86	4.52	422,501	2.54
North American	42,924	30,639	2.81	3.83	1,120,856	6.74
Trans-European	3,985	2,933	2.64	3.50	113,938	0.68
Southern Asia	54,455	35,295	2.41	3.64	1,497,189	9.00
Euro-Asia	5,985	903	0.65	4.28	139,730	0.84
Euro-Africa	5,161	860	0.49	2.91	177,107	1.06
South American	217,907	(46,797)	(2.25)	10.71	2,033,742	12.22
World, June 2010	1,062,655	592,256	3.69	6.39	16,641,357	100.00
World, June 2009	1,029,206	268,382	1.70	6.41	16,049,101	
Net Increase (Decrease)	33,449	323,874	1.99	(0.03)	592,256	

The divisions are arranged above according to percentage of net membership increase over the last 12 months.

also decreased its percentage of church believers from 13% to 12% of total Seventh-day Adventist members. This membership decrease impacted the world church growth rate which rendered a 3.69% overall rate for the 13 divisions. Given the more modest dropped and missing figures for these four quarters than those reported last Annual Council by South America, the Church's overall growth rate is the highest since the 2007 Annual Council. Indeed, if the South American Division audits were factored out, the Church would exhibit a very healthy growth rate of 4.75%.

Is There Good News on the Horizon?

There may be good news on the horizon. Prior to the South American Division audits, the Southern Asia-Pacific Division (SSD) conducted a similarly close scrutiny of its membership rolls. For the Annual Council statistical reports 2008 through 2010, SSD exhibited the high growth rates of 6.60%, 6.65%, and 6.57%. There are similar results within the South American Division with its 7.51% accession rate the previous Annual Council, and its 7.68% accession rate

this Annual Council. Additionally, our worldwide ratio between dropped and missing has improved from last year from 45 to our current 37.

Population to Member Ratios of the Divisions

Seven of our 13 world divisions have a population to member ratio less than the 414 worldwide average. (See Insert 2, Table 3.) Three of our divisions maintain ratios less than 100: Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division with 64, Inter-American Division with 80, and South Pacific Division with 86. Four other divisions have ratios that better the world average: East-Central Africa (116), South American (155), North American (307), and West-Central Africa (407). The greatest improvements in the ratios, in most cases, occurred in those divisions below the world average of 414: Southern Asia-Pacific (737), improving by 46; Southern Asia (813), improving by eight; Euro-Asia (2,009), improving by four; Northern Asia-Pacific (2,501), improving by 64; and Trans-European (5,709), improving by 40. The Euro-Africa Division (3,383), receded by one.

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Accession Rates (Shown as Percentages)

<i>Division</i>	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
East-Central Africa	7.14	6.93	8.00	6.28	6.74
Euro-Africa	2.97	2.97	2.77	2.81	3.07
Euro-Asia	6.32	4.52	4.51	4.09	5.01
Inter-American	7.41	8.01	7.09	7.56	5.95
North American	3.65	3.78	3.59	3.74	4.19
Northern Asia-Pacific	3.30	3.20	3.50	3.24	3.38
South American	9.96	8.64	8.57	8.15	9.79
South Pacific	4.90	4.60	2.67	3.33	4.64
Southern Africa-Indian Ocean	7.61	6.87	7.05	7.66	8.50
Southern Asia	16.45	18.29	8.18	6.49	4.17
Southern Asia-Pacific	5.86	7.45	7.08	7.35	8.15
Trans-European	4.42	3.58	4.27	3.55	3.61
West-Central Africa	4.79	5.36	5.18	4.94	5.44
World	7.59	7.69	6.88	6.60	6.63

Accession rates give the number of accessions to the church for each 100 members at the beginning of the year. Accessions consist of additions by baptisms and professions of faith.

Baptisms and Professions of Faith Per Active Ordained Minister

<i>Division</i>	2009	2008	<i>Division</i>	2009	2008	<i>Division</i>	2009	2008
So Africa-Indian Ocean	194.7	176.8	West-Central Africa	64.5	59.6	Euro-Asia	12.4	9.9
East-Central Africa	124.0	109.9	Southern Asia-Pacific	56.6	49.2	Trans-European	7.3	7.1
Southern Asia	95.8	141.5	South Pacific	25.3	18.6	Euro-Africa	5.8	5.6
Inter-American	95.3	118.7	Northern Asia-Pacific	20.6	19.7			
South American	89.4	89.5	North American	13.5	11.6	World Average*	63.4	63.4

**General Conference employees not included.*

Rates of Growth (Shown as Percentages)

<i>Division</i>	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	<i>2009 Membership</i>
East-Central Africa	4.55	5.24	4.10	4.10	4.45	2,584,456
Euro-Africa	1.16	0.58	0.75	0.09	0.36	176,835
Euro-Asia	(3.63)	(0.52)	(0.65)	(0.06)	1.16	139,194
Inter-American	4.84	6.02	5.39	5.72	4.59	3,271,224
North American	1.76	1.72	1.97	2.13	2.15	1,108,158
Northern Asia-Pacific	2.40	2.98	2.56	2.77	3.06	625,626
South American	6.61	2.85	(1.17)	(14.03)	(10.42)	2,015,910
South Pacific	3.21	1.73	0.70	1.88	3.22	420,637
Southern Africa-Indian Ocean	5.25	5.26	5.92	6.34	7.05	2,489,871
Southern Asia	16.26	16.60	7.92	6.21	3.34	1,476,866
Southern Asia-Pacific	(21.93)	3.39	5.04	7.01	7.31	1,036,239
Trans-European	3.07	2.48	2.82	2.64	2.52	112,645
West-Central Africa	4.01	2.30	3.22	3.34	3.04	850,219
 World	 3.32	 4.98	 3.60	 1.67	 2.43	 16,307,880

Rates of growth are the changes in membership between the beginning of the year and the end of the year, shown as percentages.

Trend in Tithe and Offerings Per Capita World Summary

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Tithe	\$109.47	\$113.68	\$129.80	\$125.24	\$120.07
World Mission Fund incl. S.S.	3.98	4.16	4.48	4.50	4.44
Sabbath School	\$3.63	\$3.75	\$4.05	\$3.94	\$3.89
Other General Conference Funds	2.11	1.70	2.07	1.71	1.49
Ingathering Funds	0.65	0.70	0.77	0.72	0.52
Intradivision and Local Church Funds	47.95	47.26	44.04	38.33	45.53
Total Tithe and Offerings	\$164.15	\$167.50	\$181.16	\$170.50	\$172.05

Total Tithe and Offerings World Summary

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Tithe and Offerings</i>	<i>Per Capita</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Tithe and Offerings</i>	<i>Per Capita</i>
1960	\$ 99,902,355	\$ 83.66	1999	\$1,604,813,057	\$168.23
1965	142,700,596	94.75	2000	1,662,602,192	164.54
1970	211,181,658	112.69	2001	1,718,230,383	156.95
1975	386,740,731	164.74	2002	1,772,948,122	152.66
1980	642,444,216	202.19	2003	1,878,781,139	149.46
1985	731,464,528	175.16	2004	1,991,055,579	151.63
1990	1,011,715,372	180.07	2005	2,238,446,489	164.15
1995	1,321,864,914	172.14	2006	2,383,690,238	167.50
1996	1,370,593,782	170.23	2007	2,668,006,564	181.16
1997	1,499,697,681	175.70	2008	2,627,027,513	170.50
1998	1,547,163,363	169.28	2009	2,710,018,856	172.05

Membership Increase

<i>Year</i>	<i>Baptisms and Prof. of Faith</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Dropped and Missing</i>	<i>Net Increase</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Baptisms and Prof. of Faith</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Dropped and Missing</i>	<i>Net Increase</i>
EAST-CENTRAL AFRICA					SOUTH PACIFIC				
2005	148,169	7,325	38,200	94,438	2005	18,544	1,119	5,444	12,144
2006	150,286	7,404	35,615	113,668	2006	17,950	1,291	10,032	6,764
2007	182,697	6,848	34,988	93,624	2007	10,586	1,180	6,807	2,790
2008	149,253	6,069	34,122	97,493	2008	13,333	1,195	4,839	7,526
2009	166,840	5,907	27,254	110,060	2009	18,890	1,248	5,076	13,132
5-Yr Totals	797,245	33,553	170,179	509,283	5-Yr Totals	79,303	6,033	32,198	42,356
EURO-AFRICA					SOUTHERN AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN				
2005	5,094	2,280	1,648	1,992	2005	141,835	6,782	24,623	97,840
2006	5,153	2,406	1,776	1,009	2006	134,729	6,691	21,071	103,184
2007	4,833	2,468	1,812	1,313	2007	145,520	6,997	17,801	122,206
2008	4,954	2,895	1,964	162	2008	167,593	5,597	17,869	138,738
2009	5,407	2,322	1,803	626	2009	197,666	6,508	25,549	164,008
5-Yr Totals	25,441	12,371	9,003	5,102	5-Yr Totals	787,343	32,575	106,913	625,976
EURO-ASIA					SOUTHERN ASIA				
2005	9,129	2,051	11,051	(5,251)	2005	151,289	502	1,250	149,552
2006	6,298	2,060	4,253	(726)	2006	195,610	3,818	14,296	177,514
2007	6,249	2,180	4,543	(905)	2007	101,950	739	2,377	98,767
2008	5,631	2,066	3,142	(83)	2008	87,310	713	2,435	83,557
2009	6,894	2,160	2,317	1,601	2009	59,610	797	10,412	47,694
5-Yr Totals	34,201	10,517	25,306	(5,364)	5-Yr Totals	595,769	6,569	30,770	557,084
INTER-AMERICAN					SOUTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC				
2005	187,021	4,786	45,680	122,154	2005	62,347	5,359	252,887	(233,429)
2006	212,149	4,866	42,498	159,465	2006	61,888	1,483	26,353	28,164
2007	199,005	4,774	38,148	151,309	2007	60,798	1,615	14,569	43,284
2008	223,778	6,054	43,769	169,117	2008	66,341	1,702	9,939	63,214
2009	186,113	6,562	40,523	143,622	2009	78,719	1,567	5,149	70,631
5-Yr Totals	1,008,066	27,042	210,618	745,667	5-Yr Totals	330,093	11,726	308,897	(28,136)
NORTH AMERICAN					TRANS-EUROPEAN				
2005	36,700	6,930	14,575	17,718	2005	4,357	1,045	634	3,023
2006	38,718	7,168	16,150	17,650	2006	3,635	909	832	2,515
2007	37,359	7,703	16,707	20,504	2007	4,441	955	1,230	2,937
2008	39,709	7,353	14,687	22,649	2008	3,799	988	652	2,826
2009	45,419	6,991	13,386	23,320	2009	3,970	971	908	2,769
5-Yr Totals	197,905	36,145	75,505	101,841	5-Yr Totals	20,202	4,868	4,256	14,070
NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC					WEST-CENTRAL AFRICA				
2005	17,997	526	4,397	13,088	2005	34,807	2,161	3,038	29,176
2006	17,923	407	1,309	16,685	2006	40,501	3,051	12,175	17,381
2007	20,186	450	5,056	14,735	2007	40,086	3,058	8,172	24,873
2008	19,160	332	2,569	16,373	2008	39,408	2,759	5,882	26,675
2009	20,510	398	2,155	18,569	2009	44,895	3,544	12,268	25,050
5-Yr Totals	95,776	2,113	15,486	79,450	5-Yr Totals	199,697	14,573	41,535	123,155
SOUTH AMERICAN					WORLD				
2005	240,563	6,494	72,924	159,695	2005	1,057,852	47,360	476,351	462,140
2006	222,585	7,004	81,794	73,461	2006	1,107,425	48,558	268,154	716,734
2007	226,932	10,015	188,899	(30,896)	2007	1,040,642	48,982	341,109	544,541
2008	213,265	13,194	321,181	(367,186)	2008	1,033,534	50,917	463,050	261,061
2009	220,379	14,102	329,803	(234,610)	2009	1,055,312	53,077	476,603	386,472
5-Yr Totals	1,123,724	50,809	994,601	(399,536)	5-Yr Totals	5,294,765	248,894	2,025,267	2,370,948