

THE LOGOS



EMPOWERED BY CHRIST

#IWILLGO

A Weekly Publication of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists | Editor: Lavern A. Sturupp | Sunsets: 7:55 p.m. | Volume 150. Number 181 | July 31, 2021

How a Local Church in Japan Switched to Online Evangelism

Kagoshima Seventh-day Adventist Church shares what they tried and how it worked.



the number of views, we can know that the same user watched the content more than once.

New viewers amounted to 9,500 people (475 people per sermon). “New viewer” means users who visited the Kagoshima church YouTube channel for the first time during the meetings. This number was the highest in the history of the Kagoshima church! This is because church members put a strong effort into promoting the church’s YouTube channel. But I believe there is a need to make the length and atmosphere of the content more appealing. We need a good team that can honestly review content and redesign the meetings.

One of the points that we should note is viewer demographics.

The number of users who watched the entire content was small. It is valid to investigate user retention rates to know users’ responses to the content and its timing.

The most valuable method to increase user retention rate is to watch the content with others. The church has learned that it is important not only to say “Please watch!” but also to say, “Let’s watch!”

We recognized that more than half of the viewers stopped watching our channel in 10 to 30 seconds. Users who continued watching for one minute tended to stay on our channel; yet, at the point when special music started, the stopping rate increased. Although special music has been considered indispensable in traditional evangelistic meetings, in our online meetings, the effect was the opposite.

YouTube users tend to consider that content with a 15-minute length video is long. Although I do not oppose a long program, there seems to be value if we try a shorter version. We need ways to set our meetings to the YouTube system, not to set YouTube to the traditional model.

People’s Response

Eight people made a decision for baptism. These people are seekers whom church members have already contacted. Although our online meetings might be a cue of decision, the meetings were not the final decision. About half of these people live far away from our church.

Twelve people applied to receive a Bible correspondence course. More than half of these people are those whom church members took the opportunity afforded by these meetings to invite for the Bible correspondence course. Content on the internet did not work as a substitute for human interaction.

Every method of evangelism needs associates. The first step of evangelism is to continue building a team in which members pray together and gather wisdom. Online evangelistic meetings also have this presupposition. Because in online meetings, each member works separately, I am convinced that the mutual support of associates is absolutely necessary. We should achieve our best as a team and ask for a faith that trusts in the Holy Spirit.

The effort for the online evangelistic meetings in Kagoshima church has only just begun. Thinking of the salvation of 1.6 million people in Kagoshima prefecture, I can never say that we have been entirely successful. Yet, I am

feeling great pleasure because God led the first significant step. We trust the work that our Lord will accomplish through our church. Maranatha!

The original version of this story was posted on the Northern Asia-Pacific Division news site.

- Article written by Haruto Kameyama, for the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, and Adventist Review.

FROM THE EDITOR

Are you interested in writing the lead article for the Logos?

Please send an email to

lsturupp@sbcadventist.org.bs

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2021

AUGUST

- 1 Adventist Sports Day #ASD Joint /Prayer Meeting
- 7 Adventist Men Social
God in Shoes – “Random Acts of Kindness” (PM) IWILLGO: “Church Community” Local Church
- 14 Children & Adolescent Ministries Day (churches)
- 13-15 AY Bible Connection Finals #ABC
- 21 Adventurer Bible Connection Finals #PBC
Adventist Education Day
- 22 CHAM Training Summit
- 27-29 Back2School Revival (Joint AY)
- 28 Pathfinder Bible Connection Finals #PBC
Abuse Prevention Emphasis Day
Abuse Prevention Day (Enditnow Day)
Lay Preachers Exchange and Lay Evangelism Emphasis Day



ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES CHURCH SERVICE UPDATES

On Wednesday, July 28, 2021, Dr. The Most Honourable Hubert Alexander Minnis, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas addressed the nation and highlighted the recent spike in COVID-19 cases in the Bahamas.

Dr. Minnis confirmed statements made by The Minister of Health, the Honourable Renward Wells regarding church services. The position of the Government is that all in-person church services must be for one (1) hour only. Therefore, the Administration of the South Bahamas Conference is asking all churches to make the necessary adjustments starting this Sabbath to ensure that all our congregations are in compliance with this protocol. Churches are allowed to have multiple services, but no one service should exceed the one-hour time limit.

Thank you for your attention to this announcement and let us continue to lead the

Traditional evangelistic meetings have a common presupposition that all participants are in the same space.

Although we do not always recognize that, the length and flowchart of a program are prepared on that presupposition.

The characteristics of online evangelistic meetings are based on a different presupposition from that of traditional evangelistic meetings. Despite that, many churches forget that the presupposition should be different. In this way, they use the same methodology as that of the traditional one. However, we’ve often seen that the methodology does not work on online platforms such as YouTube.

If an online meeting is prepared for church members, there may be no problem. However, if the online meeting is for evangelism, we need to ask God for new wisdom.

Online evangelistic meetings are not a substitute for traditional meetings. They are not just a delivery of traditional meetings through YouTube. They need a different methodology with different presuppositions.

The Kagoshima Seventh-day Adventist Church challenged the traditional characteristics when it conducted online meetings in October 2020. It was an attempt to redesign online evangelism.

Members who led out shared and discussed ideas since no one person had the right solution. Then they undertook the task considering the following four points, including devising a plan for 20 consecutive times and shortening the length of the program (30 minutes that includes a sermon, special music, and an invitation to the Bible correspondence course). They also set out on improving the quality of frames by shooting multi-angle in a home-like setting and setting up the church’s YouTube channel.

By working cooperatively with many people, the first online evangelistic meetings in the Kagoshima church ended with many blessings. At the same time, there were many areas to change. Let me report about some of them.

Number of Views and Demographics

The accumulated number of views was 24,000 (1,200 views per sermon). It does not necessarily mean that 1,200 people participated in each meeting. Other aspects must be taken into account.

There were 11,000 unique viewers (550 people per sermon). A “unique viewer” means a user who watched the content. By comparing it with

way in doing our part to stop the spread of the coronavirus.
--Administration.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL CALLED CONSTITUENCY MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a Special Called Constituency Meeting of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held on August 15, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. at the Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church, #134 Tonique Darling Highway, New Providence, The Bahamas. The Special Constituency Meeting is called to vote on one of three proposals in relation to the former Bahamas Academy site. All duly appointed delegates are invited to be present at the constituency meeting. Registration for all delegates will be held on Sunday, August 15, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church located on #134 Tonique Darling Highway. - *Office of the Secretariat.*



HAPPENING THIS WEEKEND

IGNITE YOUTH CONGRESS: will be held via a **HYBRID BUBBLE: ONLY PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND IN-PERSON**, to stream live from New Providence Community Center. Delegates will be sent links to their emails to connect virtually.



BAHAMAS ACADEMY

REGISTRATION FOR ENTRANCE INTO EARLY LEARNING CENTRE
Bahamas Academy's Early Learning Centre has relocated to Marshall Road. Registration is in progress for children ages 3-5 years old.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

Bahamas Academy's final sitting for the entrance examination for the 2021-2022 school year will be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. Applicants for grades 1-10 are invited to apply online at bahamasacademy.org no later than Monday, August 9, 2021. For additional information please contact the school at 461-2100.

Bahamas Academy's Summer Office Hours - 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. from Monday-Friday.

-Mrs. Juliette Sands, Principal, Bahamas Academy.



BIBLE CLASS

Bible Class is suspended this week and will resume on Sunday, August 8, 2021 at 6:30p.m. via Zoom.

Meeting ID: 915 5872 2673

Passcode: 592256

-Pastor Lynden Williams, Spirit of Prophecy Coordinator.



CHILDREN & ADOLESCENT MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT C.H.A.M COUNCIL MEETING

There will be a regular CHAM Council Meeting on Sunday August 8, 2021, at 9:00a.m.-10:30a.m. All Children & Adolescent

Ministries Leaders from Nassau and the family of islands are required to attend. Projections, updates, and programs for the remainder of the year will be discussed. The meeting will be held online via Zoom. Meeting information will follow.

Please note: Resources for the upcoming Virtual Children's Day will be sent in advance via email.

--Mrs. Lavern A. Sturup, Children & Adolescent Ministries Director.



WOMEN'S MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

Devotional Project Update

All submissions have been accepted and are now being edited. Submissions of more than four (4) from an individual will be subject to inclusion by the Women's Ministries Editorial Team.

Upcoming Events

EndItNow

BRINGING PEACE HOME:

Addressing Youth Violence at the Roots
August 28, 2021

"God Covers Me"

A joint initiative by Women's Ministries and Children & Adolescent Ministries
September 1, 2021

**Remember to Pause & Pray with us
virtually each Wednesday at noon.**

DONATION REQUEST

Used, But In

Good Condition Devotionals

Kindly donate to your local Women's Ministries Leader for distribution during our community outreach projects this year.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions or need additional information on any of our initiatives, kindly email us at SBCwomensministries@sbcadventist.org.bs --Mrs. Jacqueline Gibson, Women's Ministries Director.



SOUTH BAHAMAS CONFERENCE YOUTH DEPARTMENT:

RE: SUMMER SURGE GUIDELINES

Due to the current summer surge in country, the following guidelines adapted from meetings with the Ministry of Youth are recommended for Club Meetings and AY Services:

CLUB MEETINGS: ALL Club face-to-face activities are **suspended** until further notice. Only **VIRTUAL** club activities are permitted!

AY SERVICES: AYS are to be held **VIRTUALLY ONLY**. Additional digital resources will be made available to AY Leaders. Stay tune for our virtual **Youth Forum Series!** Below are a few resources:
<https://www.waymaker.tv/browse>

<https://www.hopetv.org/shows/inverse>

<https://sabbathprograms.com/adventist-youth-ay>

<https://www.ks-ne.org/ministries/youth-ministries>

BAND REHEARSALS: In-person band practices are **suspended** until further notice.

We are source testing
<https://jamkazam.com/> app for online practices.

SPORTS: Adventist Track & Field Championship and Basketball League 2021 are **suspended** until further notice.

A *Christmas Sports tournament* is being planned providing conditions improve.

SBC BIBLE CONNECTION: SBCBC

Finals 2021 for Adventurers, Pathfinders and Adventist Youth will be held virtually via www.zoom.com and www.kahoot.com on August 7, 14 and 21.

PATHFINDER WEEK AND

PATHFINDER DAY 2021: will take on a **HYBRID** model. Resources will be sent using www.dropbox.com to Pathfinder Directors to assist with advance planning.



WHAT WE BELIEVE: BELIEF 16: THE LORD'S SUPPER.

The Lord's Supper is a participation in the emblems of the body and blood of Jesus as an expression of faith in Him, our Lord and Saviour. In this experience of communion Christ is present to meet and strengthen His people. As we partake, we joyfully proclaim the Lord's death until He comes again. Preparation for the Supper includes self-examination, repentance, and confession. The Master ordained the service of foot-washing to signify renewed cleansing, to express a willingness to serve one another in Christlike humility, and to unite our hearts in love. The communion service is open to all believing Christians.

REFERENCES: Matt. 26:17-30; John 6:48-63; 13:1-17; 1 Cor. 10:16, 17; 11:23-30; Rev. 3:20.

For more information, visit:
www.adventist.org/the-lords-supper/



Please Email Weekly Announcements

To: sbcblogs@gmail.com

Or logos@sbcadventist.org.bs

By Tuesday at 3:00p.m.

Visit the Conference website:
<http://southbahamasconference.org>
for the Logos publication archives & the ATV658 NEWS, as well as weekly programming.



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CALL 341-4021
SUN SETS NEXT SABBATH
August 7, 2021 @ 7:50 p.m.



Have a Happy Sabbath!