

NEWS release

Official press release from the
World Headquarters of the
Seventh-day Adventist® Church



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Surgeon General Regina Benjamin special guest at Adventist world Session

ATLANTA – Vice Admiral Regina M. Benjamin, M.D., M.B.A., the 18th Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, will be a special guest at the Seventh-day Adventist Church world Session on Sunday, June 27. Benjamin will be participating in a special health feature from 4:30 to 5 p.m. at the Georgia Dome.

The half-hour program will focus on the historical perspective and benefits of health and temperance as it relates to the Adventist Church. The program will also include the signing of temperance cards by the 2,400 delegates at the Session. Benjamin will join with the church in encouraging and promoting healthy lifestyles, as well as emphasizing the importance of remaining alcohol, tobacco and drug-free.

"This is a very important opportunity to focus on young people and also to remind our already-committed leadership and world constituency and their communities of lifestyle as primary healthcare," said Peter Landless, associate director for the church's health ministries department. "This resonates with the health reform initiatives so topical in the United States at present."

The Adventist Church has a meaningful and unique evidence-based track record in promotion of healthful living and initiatives to combat addiction as well as to assist with smoking cessation worldwide. In the November 2005 edition of National Geographic, Adventists were featured in an article on people that lived long lives. In this article, longevity was attributed to healthy lifestyles including exercise and diet.

If you are interested in this story, please call George Johnson Jr., at 240-338-2219.

About General Conference Session:

The 59th General Conference Session is a business meeting of the global Seventh-day Adventist Church from June 24 to July 3, 2010 in Atlanta. Occurring every five years, General Conference Session gathers representatives from the church around the world to elect leadership and determine the focus of mission. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a mainline protestant denomination with over 16.3 million members in 206 nations around the world. The church's headquarters is in Silver Spring, Maryland.

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