

MISSION: MARANATHA

Annual Convention

September 23, 2023

Sacramento, CA



MARANATHA

VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONAL





Program Overview

9:45 a.m.

10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

12:30 p.m.

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Special Video Feature

Morning Program

Lunch

**Afternoon Program, with
Wintley Phipps mini-concert**

Weekend Announcements

If you have any questions, Maranatha staff members are wearing blue lanyards, and will be happy to assist you.

Today's programs will be broadcast live on 3ABN and Hope Channel, and streamed live at watch.maranatha.org, Facebook, and YouTube. They will also be available on our app, "The Maranatha Channel" for Roku, Amazon Fire TV, Apple, and Android devices.

Both programs, and each individual speaker and video shown today will be available in the coming days at watch.maranatha.org.

Thank you for silencing your cell phones.

Mini-Convention in Tennessee

Mark your calendars for February 24, 2024! Join Maranatha in Chattanooga, Tennessee, for a special celebration of missions, featuring updates from the mission field and inspiring volunteer testimonies.





A Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

As we gather together for this annual convention, I'm reminded of how many groups of people are touched by Maranatha. From those who receive a strong church or school building, to those who benefit from a Maranatha water well, to leadership of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and even to our volunteers themselves. This mission impacts tens of thousands of people each year.

Today, you'll hear Adventist Church leaders from several different continents share how Maranatha has made a difference in their territories. You'll also listen to Maranatha country directors, who are embedded in the mission field, talk about the challenges and the successes in their respective countries. But the spirit of Maranatha has always been its volunteers; I hope you'll be blessed by the testimonies of those who have made the journey to serve.

God has been working through Maranatha in real, tangible ways over the past year. I've seen it firsthand, and it continues to bless me each time I witness it. My prayer is that you will catch a glimpse of the mission today. That you will see and hear what the Lord is doing across the globe to hasten the return of Jesus. And ultimately, that you will be inspired to join this special movement of people who, since 1969, have been working to spread the Gospel to communities who need it the most.

We're so glad you are here. Thank you for your support of Maranatha.

With gratitude,

Don Noble, president



Sabbath Morning

9:45 a.m.

Special Video Feature

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Welcome & Prayer Don & Laura Noble

"Amazing Love" Wintley Phipps

Maranatha in India Vinish Wilson

"I Choose You Again" Wintley Phipps

Maranatha in Peru Elmer Barbosa

*Greetings & Prayer from the
Northern California Conference* Marc Woodson

"It Is Well" Wintley Phipps

Digging for Dinosaurs Arthur Chadwick

Maranatha in Zambia Harrington Akombwa

Maranatha in Kenya Samuel Makori

Maranatha in the Dominican Republic Luis Polanco*

Offering Appeal Julie Lee

"His Eye is on the Sparrow" Wintley Phipps

Maranatha in Cuba Aldo Perez*

"Amazing Grace" Wintley Phipps

Benediction Lisandro Staut

*Lunch, sponsored by Butler Travel, will be served in the lobby
as you leave the sanctuary.*

**Translated by Kenneth Weiss*



Sabbath Afternoon

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

"To God Be the Glory" Wintley Phipps

Welcome & Prayer Kyle Fiess

Connection in Kajiado Ryan Smith

The Impact of the One-Day Church David Woods

Maranatha in Brazil Video Presentation

Taking Risks KaraAnn Akers

Renewed Perspectives Matthew Piersanti

Concert Wintley Phipps

Catalyst: Sparking Change Video Presentation

Everyone Can Serve Sondra Godfrey

The Legacy of Service Chris Duckett

His Holy Temple Don Noble

"Coming Again" Wintley Phipps

Benediction Peter Thomas

Weekend Presenters

Musical Guest

Wintley Phipps

Wintley Phipps is a Grammy-nominated vocalist who has performed for half a dozen American presidents, former South African President Nelson Mandela, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, as well as for Billy Graham Crusades and The Oprah Winfrey Show. Phipps is an ordained Seventh-day Adventist pastor, graduating from Oakwood University and Andrews University, and he is currently serving at the Palm Bay Seventh-day Adventist Church in Palm Bay, Florida.



Representatives of the Seventh-day Adventist World Church

Harrington Akombwa, president of the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division

Samuel Makori, president of the East Kenya Union

Aldo Perez, president of the Cuban Union Conference

Luis Polanco, secretary of the Dominican Union Conference

Marc Woodson, president of the Northern California Conference

Volunteers

KaraAnn Akers

Arthur Chadwick

Chris Duckett

Sondra Godfrey

Matthew Piersanti

Ryan Smith

Maranatha Volunteers International

Don Noble, president

Kenneth Weiss, chief operating officer

Kyle Fiess, vice president of projects

Karen Godfrey, vice president of advancement

Julie Lee, vice president of marketing

Lisandro Staut, vice president of volunteer services

Laura Noble, donor relations

Elmer Barbosa, country director, Peru

Vinish Wilson, country director, India

David Woods, country director, United States and Zambia

Peter Thomas, board member



About Maranatha

Mission Statement: Maranatha spreads the Gospel throughout the world as it builds people through the construction of urgently needed buildings.

2022 in Numbers

Thanks to God's unwavering blessings and the efforts of Maranatha donors, last year we were able to continue bringing the Gospel to communities in need worldwide. The following numbers include new construction and renovations completed in 2022.

Churches	332
School Campuses	16
Wells	667
Wells Maintained	897
Total Structures	1,912

Volunteers	1,311
Mission Trips	34
Countries	9

Where we worked in 2022:

Brazil: 16 wells

Côte d'Ivoire: 1 well

India: 25 churches, 4 schools, 258 wells

Kenya: 143 churches, 2 schools, 57 wells

Peru: 6 churches, 1 school

United States: 2 churches, 10 schools, 5 camps and retreat centers, 1 water well

Zambia: 110 churches, 3 schools, 270 wells

On average, we estimate a seating capacity for about 150 people in a Maranatha church. Every day of the week, each school campus you have helped build brings learning to hundreds of children. Each individual Maranatha water well changes the lives of 500-1,500 people, depending on the size of the surrounding communities.

Where We Need Your Help in 2023

Maranatha responds to requests for Seventh-day Adventist churches and schools around the world. As a non-profit organization, the mission relies on your support to fulfill these requests. If you are inspired to help, please make a donation today using the attached envelope. Or go online to Maranatha's website, www.maranatha.org. All donations to Maranatha are tax-deductible.

A map showing North America, South America, Peru, and Brazil. Callout lines connect text boxes to specific regions: North America (USA and Canada), Peru, and Brazil. The map uses a dark teal color for the landmasses and a light blue color for the surrounding water.

North America (USA and Canada)

Each year, Maranatha works with organizations in the United States and Canada to provide volunteer labor for various construction or renovation projects at Seventh-day Adventist churches, schools, and other Adventist organizations. While Maranatha does not fundraise for these projects, we mobilize volunteers to provide labor, and your donations help with operating this program. **Goals in 2023: 22 projects.**

Peru

The work in Peru has faced multiple obstacles in the past several years, from strict pandemic lockdowns to political unrest. But those challenges are in the past, and the team has been busy working with volunteers and local crews to meet the needs of the Adventist Church in Peru. **Goals in 2023: 100 churches, 1 school.**

Brazil

In the past several years, our focus has been primarily on well construction. This year, Adventist leadership asked us to provide more One-Day Churches for existing congregations. **Goals in 2023: 40 wells, 20 churches.**

Cuba

Maranatha has been constructing and renovating Seventh-day Adventist churches in Cuba since the 1990s. Recently, Maranatha's involvement pivoted to address a critical economic situation on the island that has led to lack of food and medicine, and other basic supplies. Next, we're constructing a new sanctuary for the Nuevitas Seventh-day Adventist congregation.

India

Maranatha has held a sustained presence in India for more than 25 years, but the need for help is not waning. There are continuous requests for churches, schools, and wells in the country. **Goals in 2023: 30 churches, 1 school campus, 300 wells, well maintenance & repair.**

Dominican Republic

At the request of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in southeastern Dominican Republic, last year we returned to this Caribbean country to build urgently-needed churches and a large school. This is the fifth time Maranatha has worked here, starting in 1980. **Goals in 2023: 30 churches, 1 school campus, wells.**

Kenya

Maranatha has been working in Kenya since 2016, building schools, and drilling water wells. Our teams are busy drilling new water wells and repairing existing ones, building churches in the most remote regions, and transforming school campuses. **Goals in 2023: 140 One-Day Churches, 3 schools, 60 wells, well maintenance & repair.**

Zambia

Our local team has been prolific in this African country, constructing One-Day Churches and drilling hundreds of water wells. The team has also been busy repairing existing wells that were provided by Maranatha, years ago, or by other entities. **Goals in 2023: 120 One-Day Churches, 2 schools, 300 wells, well maintenance & repair.**

You Can Support the Mission

As a non-profit organization, Maranatha relies on the support of volunteers and donors to fulfill our mission to provide urgently needed buildings around the world. Here are some ways you can help Maranatha. Make a donation using the envelope provided or scan the QR code to give online.



The \$10 Church

This simple program invites you to give just \$10 a month to go toward the full construction of a church. The combined \$10 donations of thousands of supporters provide enough funds to build one church a month—sometimes more!

The One-Day Church

The One-Day Church program provides a steel roof and frame, leaving the congregation to complete the walls with local materials. One share is \$1,500; complete sponsorship starts at \$7,500 (depending on location).

Churches and Schools

Maranatha offers several church designs that include floors, windows, doors, roof, and sometimes additional rooms. The cost, size, and style will depend on the country, congregation, and budget. Starting at \$30,000 for churches; call for full cost of a classroom.

Water Wells & Wellspring

Maranatha has drilled nearly 3,000 wells in our history and providing clean water is a significant part of our mission. Full sponsorship of a water well starts at \$10,000. Or give to our Wellspring program, which asks people to commit to a monthly gift to go toward drilling new and maintaining existing wells.

Volunteer

People interested in service can volunteer with Maranatha in two ways. The first is by joining a project that Maranatha organizes in full. The second way is by recruiting your own team and having Maranatha help with the details. We'll locate a country site, assign a project, help you with lodging and food, and share our in-country staff as a resource during the trip.





Stay Connected

To sign up or learn more, scan the code, or go to maranatha.org/connect. Or fill out an interest card at the Marketing table in the lobby.



Weekly Email

Sign up to receive weekly email updates about what's happening in the mission field, upcoming volunteer opportunities, and other stories about Maranatha.

Facebook and Instagram

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to see volunteer project reports, news about upcoming events, and behind-the-scenes photos of our work. Instagram handle: [@gomaranatha](https://www.instagram.com/gomaranatha)

Read the Magazine

Receive our quarterly magazine, *The Volunteer*, to read feature stories on our work in the mission field, along with calendars about upcoming volunteer opportunities.

Give to the “City of Heaven”



Maranatha is building a large pre-kindergarten through secondary school campus, which includes a large church, in the **Dominican Republic** in an area called **Ciudad del Cielo**, which means “City of Heaven” in Spanish.

This special project is dedicated to Darrell Hardy, Maranatha’s late vice president of construction. The estimated cost of this campus is \$2.5 million. Generous donors have allowed us to create a matching fund to double every dollar given, up to \$1.25 million! **So make a gift and double your impact to help us to reach this goal!**

Visit maranatha.org/cityofheaven to learn more and donate, or scan the QR code.



Watch Our Mission Anywhere, Anytime!

All of Maranatha’s videos, on demand

The Maranatha Channel App | Download for Apple, Android, Amazon Fire TV and Roku.

watch.maranatha.org | View all episodes and other segments online.

“Maranatha Mission Stories,” our inspiring half-hour television program on the work of Maranatha.

Broadcast Channels (all times PDT)

3ABN

Friday, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, 2:00 p.m.

Hope Channel

Wednesday, 3:30 p.m.

Friday, 8:30 a.m.

Sunday, 8:30 p.m.



Maranatha Volunteers International

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(916) 774-7700

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