INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

FAITH & WORKS DEFINE EMERGING LEADERS
Lott Carey’s AYS provided a nurturing environment for youth to explore issues, test their leadership and display their many talents.

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By all accounts, the 60th Annual Youth Seminar was a blessing—from the time participants stepped off the bus until they returned home invigorated and inspired. Page 5.

“Engaging and thought-provoking” is how the Lott Carey Youth Ministry Leadership Retreat was described. Page 21.

These short testimonies remind us that our youth, despite their age, can deliver powerful testimonies of faith and courage. Page 19.
The Lord Continues to Expand His Territory Through Youth

“...It is wonderful to see how churches, organizations and individuals have banded together ... to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ by serving persons in need.”

Min. TaNikka M. Sheppard

The New Year provides an excellent opportunity to review what’s been going on, and it’s exciting to report that great things are happening for the International Youth Development Department (IYD) of Lott Carey. I am so thankful for my fellow members of the IYD Team for their tireless and innovative efforts to impact the lives of youth and young adults.

Throughout 2014 we had the privilege to engage young people in the movement of Lott Carey through the events, programs and collective missional efforts. We were blessed by a 25 percent increase in attendance at the 60th Annual Youth Seminar, which took place at Winston-Salem State University in North Carolina. While there, more than 530 young people and their leaders participated in service-learning experiences that included dynamic worship, impactful outreaches, missional education, enjoyable recreation and memorable fellowship.

One of the most impactful corporate achievements was the packing of 55,296 meals for hungry persons around the

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By Min. TaNikka M. Sheppard
compared to adults who have more economic and political clout in the church?

Lott Carey helps churches to nurture new generations of leaders. Our International Youth Development Department (IYD) creates space for youth pastors and youth ministry leaders to craft ministry opportunities for peer leadership among and for discipleship formation for young people. Being in the presence of scores of youth ministry leaders and hundreds of youth engaged in service-learning experiences that nurture missional consciousness and commitment is among the most exciting parts of the Lott Carey community.

We invite you to engage in our IYD and to become a Calling Congregation that notices, names, and nurtures young people who may have an inclination to ministry as a vocation. Your youth will be transformed. Your leaders will be transformed. Your church will be transformed. And you can be agents of transformation for the world.

Explore this edition of the Lott Carey Herald, and let the words and pictures help you imagine the possibilities for your youth. Then invest in the future.

With hope for the future,

David

SOUTH AFRICA: All smiles with the country's future leaders.
The 60th Annual Youth Seminar was a time of faith, friends and fun for more than 500 young people from across the U.S. This year’s crop of youth leaders praised the Lord with prayers, song, dance, and drama. They steeled their resolve to be doers of the Word through service projects and small group sessions that emphasized patience, dedication and family. And they made it clear that leadership is something they’re willing to work for as they took counsel from veteran ministers, lay leaders and missionaries attending. The praise and learning that took place on the campus of Winston-Salem State University in North Carolina was electric, as shown in the pictures and short accounts by veteran and rookie participants.

Soundbites

Jasmine Brooks

Every year, for the past five years . . .

. . . I have attended the Lott Carey Youth Seminar. Each year I leave nowhere near the same as I came. This year was no different. The preachers’ sermons revolved around overcoming #thestuggle in your life. I reconnected with friends from years ago and even made some pretty amazing new ones. Most of the friends I made this year were in my family group, and I’ve never connected with people so quickly. This year, the whole group of 500 participated in food packing as we packed more than 50,000 meals for families in need. Overall, this year’s Lott Carey Youth Seminar was a life-changing experience and I am already looking forward to next year.

Jasmine Brooks
First Baptist Church-Moore Street
Fayetteville, North Carolina

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Asia Nelson
This Seminar is a place . . .
. . . to have fun, to learn more about God and to strengthen your relationship with God. My favorite and most memorable experiences were the sermons that were preached and all the people that I met. Yeah, I’m definitely coming back.

Asia Nelson
Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church
Richmond, VA

Leonard Collins
The Lott Carey Youth Seminar experience . . .
. . . will help you get closer to God, and it is fun. After this week, I will take back the many lessons that I learned and also be more appreciative of all the things that I have. My most memorable moment was my going to the altar and letting God take away my struggle.

Leonard Collins
Mount Olive Baptist Church
Centreville, Virginia

SOLVE: Participants use puzzle pieces as they debate and discuss issues and projects.

WORD: Rev. Amanda Haines of Shiloh Baptist Church in Norfolk, Virginia, speaks at cookout while DJ and participants listen.
I've come to Lott Carey . . .

. . . a lot and would say that it's a place where people come from all over the country to worship God as a whole. It's a place where you can come and be yourself and make new friends. After coming out of my shell and meeting new people, I bonded with my family group. My most memorable, take-home moments were the visit to the homeless shelter and the homelessness immersion experience.

Danielle Carney
First Baptist Church-Moore Street
Fayetteville, North Carolina
This was my first . . .
 . . . Lott Carey Youth Seminar. It is a place where you can freely worship God as young people. No one judges you here. We’re all family and you make lifelong friends. Because of this experience, I’ve made new friends and new ties and I’ve found a new sense of self.

Jalyn Wells
Falling Run Missionary Baptist Church
Fayetteville, North Carolina

HALLELUJAH: Youth welcome the Lord’s presence during worship service.

ROCK: Dancers launch into orbit during competition.
There is so much . . .

. . . that I’ll take back with me from this Lott Carey Youth Seminar. I enjoyed being a part of the worship experience and seeing the kids get into it. As a leader, though, the most memorable thing I experienced was seeing the kids coming together and working together to go out and impact others’ lives. That’s probably the best thing about it for me. A lot of times, you see great worship experiences with young people but you also want to see them putting their faith into action by going and serving others. Even as a first time leader, it is obvious that this is what Lott Carey’s Youth Seminar is all about: Putting your faith into action and melding the work with the worship.

*Marvin Gilliam*  
Children’s & Youth Minister of Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church  
Richmond, Virginia
The Lott Carey Youth Seminar . . .

. . . is a week-long event in which youth, young adults and adults of all ages participate in various missions across the city and state that impact the larger community. In addition to mission work, participants are blessed to hear the Word of God nightly and are put into family groups with people of the same age who they work with and learn with throughout the week. My most memorable moment was being able to talk to the Lott Carey President, Dr. Gregory Moss, during my family group time. Leader-to-leader time was inspiring. I will take back the messages taught nightly, specifically... the message about believing in God's power before you are able to receive it.

Naomi Ruchugo
Providence Baptist Church
Kernersville, North Carolina
Hey, my name is Khilee . . .

. . . and I’ve been to the Lott Carey Youth Seminar so many times. I love it. The Youth Seminar is fun, it’s energetic and just makes you want to really believe in God. The hardest thing this year was with roommates and family groups. I had to just keep introducing myself and making new friends. But after that, I got to take back with me all the new friends I’ve made and knowing all the lives that we touched.

Khilee Myers
St. Matthews Baptist Church
Raleigh, North Carolina
The Lott Carey Youth Seminar . . .

. . . is an opportunity to become closer to Christ, worship in your own way with your peers, grow and learn with others, and do missions that are fulfilling to your spirit and to those that will be blessed by the work we do. From this Seminar, I will take back the importance of doing missions both locally and worldwide. I found great joy in the food-packing project and want to try to team up with local organizations in my hometown to do more partnership missions.

Whitney Maloy  
First Baptist Church  
Manassas, Virginia

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FOOD: Youths write messages of inspiration and love on boxes that will be filled with food for international distribution.

Donne Timms  
The Seminar was a chance . . .  
. . . to come together, to minister, to learn, and get to know new people. I have taken back a lot from this week. I have new friendships, plenty of memories and a new mindset.

Donne Timms  
Antioch Baptist Church  
Washington, D.C.

RECREATION: Youth enjoy facilities at the Donald J. Reaves Student Activities Center at Winston-Salem State University.
I skipped my high school graduation . . .

. . . to attend the Annual Youth Seminar. I had already taken my classes, received my credits so receiving my diploma in front of people wouldn't have changed or proved anything. I am and will always be a high school graduate. At Lott Carey, though, I took advantage of the chance to change my mindset about life, to bless the people around me, and to take longer strides in my walk with Christ. Graduation, to me, was a big, showy symbol. Lott Carey is something real.

Madison Tatum
Calvary Baptist Church
Morristown, New Jersey

REVERENT: Mimes perform during Communion service.
Forty-nine energetic children descended upon The Galt House Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky, to participate in Lott Carey’s Hope Missionary program during the latest Annual Session. The program is designed to enlighten and inspire youth, ages 6-12, to work in foreign missions by focusing on mission education, application and exploration, service to the community, and cultural enrichment. Activities included tours and projects related to farming, cooking, social and business issues. To learn more about the program, visit LottCarey.org. To donate, click on the DONATE button or mail a check or money order to Lott Carey, P.O. Box 48339, Washington, DC, 20002.

Text & Photos by Mrs. Tonga Peterson, Operations Manager, Lott Carey.
As youth minister for Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte, N.C., Rev. Y. Trevor Beauford is always looking for new ways to engage young adults in their 20s and 30s. A recent short-term mission to Jamaica was the perfect experience for about 40 newcomers and veterans, he says, and provided support for church mission partners, the Jamaica Baptist Union and Trinity Evangelical Ministry. Rev. Beauford, whose title is “DeiVision Minister, Children, Youth & Singles,” spoke with Lott Carey Herald Managing Editor Mike Tucker about the blessings that come with short-term missions.

LCH: What were your duties during the mission?
Rev. Beauford: We provided a half-day Vacation Bible School, which included music, recreation, Bible study. We exposed the missionaries to some cultural dynamics, took them around the area we were serving and gave them an opportunity to learn more about Jamaica.

LCH: Why Jamaica?
Rev. Beauford: Our church has long-standing relationships there and has done missions before. This was a first for most of our students so we thought Jamaica was doable without a huge amount of risk.

LCH: How did the new missionaries react?
Rev. Beauford: They were, by far, the strongest team I’ve ever had. They were flexible and they were amenable. We talked about giving everything you had every day, and they did just that. They woke up, they served, they met kids, they talked about relationships, they played, they were organized, and they planned. They really gave a hundred percent. For folks who haven’t deployed before, teaching in the hot sun or dealing with language barriers can be disconcerting. But this group just did what needed to be done—put on hats, sunscreen, and never uttered a word of complaint.

LCH: Seems they made quite an impression.
Rev. Beauford: The energy level on the site was infectious, and people came to see what we were doing. I was in awe at how hard this team was working to make sure that this was a transformative experience for the children we were called to serve.

LCH: The Lord blessed. Tell me how.
Rev. Beauford: The first day we had maybe 75 kids...
that showed up; and then by the end of the week, we had 300. It was mostly young people and their parents. We knew that we were there to provide Vacation Bible School and learn. We were there to listen and to learn. But we also got opportunities to see what else the mission did and try to figure what’s next. How do we best serve next? Do we help them raise this money? What do we do to help this community?

LCH: Describe the interaction between your young people and the Jamaican youth.
Rev. Beauford: One of the joys of this trip was youth playing alongside each other. Young adults acted as disciplinarians, if necessary, to make sure that we had order. But they were young enough to really talk to them and form relationships in a way that was healthy and provide feedback. The Jamaican students were interested in American culture so they were interested in what my young people were doing. Of course, my young people were interested in what the Jamaican students were doing.

LCH: Did this short-term mission make you glad you specialize in ministering to youth?
Rev. Beauford: It helped me see the possibility of what twenty- and thirty-somethings can do. It shows what transformation could really happen if we become serious about nurturing and developing our young adults.

LCH: What would you say to young people unsure about signing up for a short-term mission?
Rev. Beauford: Try it; you’ll be fine. The reality is that we’re never going to send you to a place that poses great danger. We’re going to train you, we’re going to develop you, we’re going to provide you with leadership and support, and we’re going to give you the freedom to do what you’ve got to do. If you try it, it will be powerful, guaranteed.
TOGETHER: At left, middle school students during Vacation Bible School; below, missionary during presentation, and young scholars having fun during recreation break.
UNITY: Students, right, huddle at morning assembly; below, members of the mission strike a pose for family and friends.
Stormy Time Strengthens
EMERGING LEADER

Being raised by a single mother of three, my life wasn’t the easiest growing up. Still I am grateful to have been raised in a Christian home. I felt comfortable speaking publicly at a young age at various conventions and conferences.

School too often took a backseat, but I opted to be in every honors and advanced placement class available and completed all requirements to be an Eagle Scout. I wasn’t accepted into the school of my choice, but I was honored to get into a local private university and received several scholarships and fellowships. My inner passion was to do everything in my power to make this world a better place. Nevertheless, after a series of incredibly unfortunate events in college, I became homeless.

Being a leader in the community, I not only felt humiliated, but also incriminated. Who could I talk to about what I was going through? I felt I couldn’t check in to a homeless shelter, because I was a volunteer at that same shelter.

So I slept in my car until it broke down. Then I proceeded to sleep in Laundromats, acting as if I was doing laundry. I’d walk nine miles a day, to and from where I thought I could find refuge. This made me view trials in the Bible differently and realize that Jesus is my only refuge. I need to share my testimony with others who may be homeless or hopeless or who feel as though they have lost their way.

I thank God for all that Lott Carey is doing to bless people around the world. Through Lott Carey I’ve been blessed to go on mission trips to aid hurricane victims and spread the gospel. Recently, at the Annual Youth Seminar, we packaged thousands of meals to feed families in other countries and I helped to lead the family group for young leaders. The new Emerging Leaders Program helps to pay attention to development of young leaders. I have learned more about Christian leadership through Lott Carey than any other organization with which I have been involved. Lott Carey is indeed the true essence of ministry.

Gavin Gabriel
New Prospect Missionary Baptist Church
Sherrills Ford, North Carolina

Lott Carey: An Invitation to Inspiration

"Just don’t give up trying to do what you really want to do. Where there is love and inspiration, I don’t think you can go wrong." Inspiration is the key word of this quote by famed jazz singer Ella Fitzgerald. She could have used motivation or enthusiasm, but she chose inspiration, the process of being mentally stimulated to do or feel something, especially to do something creative.

Two years ago, I attended the 59th Annual Lott Carey Youth Seminar. It was unfamiliar to me. Being at Lott Carey brought ginormous inspiration into my life. The day I got home, I told everyone about how this camp inspired me to want to get closer to God and further express my love for Him. In just a short week you learn so much about how a person’s life experiences can impact your life. Lott Carey is where I learned to look at other perspectives and appreciate differences.

I attended the 60th Annual Lott Carey Youth Seminar with twice the number of teens. It was special and it touched me deeply. I learned so much, made new friends and got closer to God in new ways that inspired me to obey His calling.

Inspiring youth, paving a way for future youth leaders, and showing teens in our African American community and around the world the importance of sharing a relationship with our God: These are all things that Lott Carey makes possible.

Imani Patrice Thaniel
Youth President
St. Peter Baptist Church
Glen Allen, Virginia
Lott Carey Develops Leaders to Serve Humankind

“I understand why she loves Lott Carey so much”

In August I attended the Lott Carey Annual Session for the first time. I am a member of Noble Street Baptist Church in Portsmouth, Virginia. I currently serve as the Youth Coordinator at my church. A member of my church that is very supportive of Lott Carey encouraged me to attend this year’s Lott Carey Annual Session. After attending I understand why she loves Lott Carey so much.

During my time at the convention I decided to get a well-rounded experience. I attended the mission blitz, nightly services, the community feast, youth activities and the Young Adult classes. I enjoyed every aspect of my experience. I was able to interact and interview adults who have attended the Lott Carey Annual Sessions for 10 to 20 years. Their reasons for the continued support were inspiring. I had the opportunity to meet young adults my age who have a passion for spreading the word of God through missions. There were times I had the opportunity to speak with the youth and lend encouraging words during their outings.

After serving as a chaperone for the youth, there were Young Adult classes that mainly focused on leadership. The International Youth Department is focusing on bridging the gap between the youth and the adults. Quite frequently the various speakers would say “the young adults are the future leaders of Lott Carey.” This statement stood out to me.

In the future, I would like to see the young adults engaging in leadership roles while being mentored by past leaders. It would also be great to see young adults incorporated into the committees and boards of Lott Carey so they can understand how Lott Carey operates behind the scenes. The young adults have the potential to become the next national and international leaders of Lott Carey if given the opportunity, preparation and guidance. I am thankful for the International Youth Department, and I cannot wait to help in the years to come.

Kendra Robinson
Noble Street Baptist Church
Portsmouth, Virginia

Team H2O Thirsts for the Word and Waters of Life

“These people really need help”

During the Youth Seminar in Winston-Salem I was in the Guru, Zimbabwe, family group. The most eye-opening experience for me happened during our first family group session when I learned about Team H2O. We did an experiment, an attempt to make dirty water drinkable. Our family group leader shared that many people in Zimbabwe do not have clean water or the resources to buy it, so they have to drink contaminated water or go thirsty. This experiment encouraged me to buy a Team H2O armband and then to go home and raise money for this project.

My goal was to raise as much money as I could between the Youth Seminar in June and the Annual Session in August. When I returned home I started collecting donations during our Vacation Bible School. It was a very slow start and at first I only raised five dollars toward building the well. However, after I did a presentation in front of my church I raised more money. I shared how my life had been changed.

“These people really need help,” I told the congregation. “They don’t have clean water, but we have clean water every day, so please help.” By the Annual Session of Lott Carey, the total amount that I had raised was $300.

I want to thank Lott Carey for making this experience fun for me. It taught me that even though I am a kid, I could help make a difference in the world. I encourage other youth to get involved and help as many people as we can. I plan to continue to collect money for Team H2O until we build the well in Zimbabwe.

Demetrius Sadler
New Morning Star Baptist Church
Washington, D.C.
There is so much that I can say about the 2014 Lott Carey Youth Ministry Leadership Retreat. But I would be writing a book if I did. However, to say the least, everything went great. The moment my wife and I set foot in the facility where the retreat was held, the LC IYD Team wasted no time kick-starting the experience, bringing excitement, wisdom, knowledge, and the word of God. You knew right from the start that you weren’t going to leave the same way you came.

The general sessions were great. Each of the IYD Team members came with their own unique anointing, area of expertise and style. They taught various topics that not only helped us to become better Youth Leaders but it helped us to evaluate ourselves to become better believers in Christ.

The activities were engaging and thought provoking. Every activity had a purpose and seemed to confirm everything that was being taught. From the writing our burdens on a rock, to building a wailing wall with bricks, to working as a team to build a freestanding tower, it was all very engaging and educational. The highlight of the retreat was definitely the silent journey through the Rejuvenation Stations. I am greatly anticipating the 2015 retreat.

Elder Danny Prince
Youth Director
St. Stephen Baptist Church
Temple Hills, Maryland
Africa’s Ebola Blaze COOLS Amid Contributions, Treatments

Lott Carey Sends 40,000 Pounds of Food and Medical Supplies to Liberia

By Geri Coleman Tucker

Ebola, finally declining in Sierra Leone, has largely been contained elsewhere in West Africa. The rate of new infections from the Ebola virus has dropped sharply in Liberia. And there are news reports that trials of untested drug treatments are beginning.

“The raging epidemic that threatened the whole country in September is now down to a few embers scattered across this country,” says U.S. Sen. Chris Coons, D-Delaware, former chairman of the Foreign Relations subcommittee on African Affairs.

Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf says schools will open Feb. 2. Schools have been closed since September to keep the virus from spreading. More than 500 schools are being evaluated for re-opening to make sure they have proper hand-washing equipment and thermometers on hand to keep students safe, according to George Wu, a director of Liberia’s education ministry.

But the toll on West Africa has been steep. More than 8,600 deaths and 21,000 cases of Ebola were reported in West Africa from the current Ebola crisis, according to the World Health Organization. And WHO estimates the actual numbers are much higher because of underreporting. Most of the deaths were in Liberia, where more than 3,600 died. Sierra Leone had 2,915 deaths, Guinea, 1,767.

Coons said on CBS’ Face the Nation that the U.S. may begin withdrawing some of the 2,400 troops it sent to help the Liberians in fighting the disease, building new Ebola treatment centers and deploying new military testing labs.

Geri Coleman Tucker is a freelance writer in the Washington, D.C., area.

“The raging epidemic that threatened the whole country in September is now down to a few embers scattered across this country.”

— U.S. Sen. Chris Coons, D-Delaware
Liberia, hit by the deadly Ebola virus, is beginning to show signs of recovery thanks in part to the material and financial support from Lott Carey, whose network sent about 40,000 pounds of food and medical supplies for the country. We continue sorting items for distribution to various communities, families, clinics, and orphanages.

Please continue to contribute to this worthy cause. You can donate online at www.LottCarey.org. And to read the special Lott Carey Herald edition on Ebola, navigate to lottcarey.publishpath.com/LottCareyHerald.
SPOTLIGHT ON MISSIONS & MINISTRY
Register at www.lottcarey.org/annual-gatherings

Spring Missions Conference
11 – 12 March 2015
First African Baptist Church
Savannah, GA
Theme: Prophetic Proclamation in Word and Deed
Featuring Dr. Jeremiah A. Wright, Jr.
Pastor Emeritus
Trinity United Church of Christ,
Chicago, Illinois

61st Annual Youth Seminar
27 June – 2 July 2015
Winston-Salem State University
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

118th Annual Session
10 – 14 August 2015
Greensboro, North Carolina
Theme: Good News for the Poor

Short-Term Missions
Register at www.lottcarey.org/short-term-missions

Men on Missions Short-Term Missions Assignment
7 – 14 March 2015
Lambi Sustainable Village, Haiti

Young Adult Short-Term Missions Assignment
11 – 18 July 2015
St. Mary’s Parish, Jamaica

Hope Missionary Day
19 September 2015
The Sanctuary at Kingdom Square
Capitol Heights, Maryland