

June 8, 2020

Dear Pastors, Elders, Health Ministry Leaders, and Church Family:

We are truly living in tumultuous and unprecedented times. We face an epidemic that has taken away the lives of so many of our loved ones, and threatened others, in only a matter of weeks. Worse yet, we have seen again how the epidemic of hate and distrust has led to the senseless death and relentless pain among so many.

Although these issues are present in all nations, they have come to the forefront here – in our North American Division (NAD) territory. Let's respond to God's cries for the disparaged. Let's take up the call in Ezekiel, to "stand in the gap" for those who have no hope and seemingly no help.

It is with this backdrop that I invite you and your church to participate in the NAD's "Health Sabbath." I especially encourage you to take part this year as we look at the very pressing issue of health disparities and what help the Adventist Church can offer to those who are oppressed by them.

*This year's Health Sabbath is July 25, 2020.*  
*Our theme is **Now, More Than Ever.***

I am again very pleased to be working with Pacific Press to provide resources to your churches. This packet contains some vital introductory material. More tools are available on our website at [NADHealth.org/HealthSabbath](http://NADHealth.org/HealthSabbath), including a sermon video you can play during church service (sermon script also provided).

The back of this letter provides more information and resources. A flyer is included in this packet, and can also be downloaded from our website. In the upcoming months, we will be providing additional resources through our new health initiative, **Adventist HealthyYOU™**, which can be used in your communities.

Our intention is that Health Sabbath 2020 will be a collective step towards making positive change for the precious lives in our communities. The health message that our church has long espoused was, and is, meant to reach the very deepest of human needs. I encourage you to use these resources, not just for this one day's programming, but to infuse every aspect of ministry in your church.

Sincerely,



Angéline D. Brauer, DrPH, MHS, RDN  
Health Ministries Director