



59th SESSION

2010
23 JUNE - 3 JULY



 Atlanta 2010
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

PROCLAIMING GOD'S GRACE

An Invitation from the President



Jan Paulsen, President
General Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists
Silver Spring, Maryland, USA

To delegates and attendees at the 2010 General Conference Session:

A General Conference Session is a unique occasion. There is no moment in the life of the Church which demonstrates so vividly—so tangibly—the extraordinary way God’s Spirit is moving among us. And so I’m delighted to invite your presence and participation at the 59th Session of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, in Atlanta, Georgia, June 23—July 3, 2010.

Why do we do this? Why do we invest the time and the resources each five years to bring together representatives from every part of our worldwide Church? The answer, I believe, goes to the heart of our identity and mission. Through these gatherings we powerfully affirm that we are one people, united in faith, and bound by our shared desire to be instruments of God’s purpose in the world.

And so we will come together to:

Give thanks—This will be a time to worship our Lord, to celebrate the “international flavors” of our family, and to taste just a little of the eternal fellowship to come. I’m especially pleased that we’ve chosen this occasion to explore the role of the local church pastor in the life and witness of the Adventist Church. This is fitting. The sacred, often difficult task of guiding the local congregation is one that undergirds all that we are and do as a spiritual community.

Plan—We will use our time together to review and evaluate, to exchange ideas and make plans, and to ask: “How has the world around us changed in the past five years? How have we, as a church, changed? What challenges lie before us? What opportunities must we grasp?” For when all is said and done, we have just one overarching purpose: to strengthen God’s church for mission.

Recommit—As we pray together, plan together, share with each other, the Holy Spirit will surely be with us, too. Individually, and as a community, this will be a moment to rededicate ourselves to the Lord and to the task of proclaiming His grace to the world.

Please join me in praying that the Spirit will move powerfully and that we will look back at our time together as a pivotal moment of renewed purpose and vision within our Church.

May this be our experience.

Yours in His service,

Jan Paulsen



About Atlanta



The City of Atlanta welcomes all delegates and friends of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists!

Atlanta is truly a city of international influence as revealed through its creative innovations, rich traditions, and dynamic cultural mix.

Beginning in the early 1800s as a settlement called “Terminus,” in honor of a railroad “last

stop” or “end of the line” built to connect Georgia with Chattanooga, Tennessee and points west, the new settlement was later renamed “Marthasville,” as a tribute to the daughter of the then governor, the Honorable Wilson Lumpkin.

Over the years the settlement experienced other name changes. However, when “*Atlantica-Pacifica*” was suggested and accepted, it was condensed to “Atlanta” by the agreement of the citizens of this burgeoning town. Historical records reveal that Atlanta was incorporated on December 29, 1847.

Atlanta has endured a turbulent yet remarkable history. During the early 1800s Native Americans who called the settlement “home” having named it “*Standing Peachtree*” in honor of a lone peach tree perched on a high mound of earth, found themselves forcefully removed in order that a new railroad could be built.

In 1864 during the American Civil War, as the site of many battles, the territory encountered a major invasion that resulted in its public buildings being burned to the ground.

Rebuilding efforts were slow but evident, resulting in Atlanta becoming an aggressive city tempered by fire and rough edges which have been smoothed over by time. Today this modern city is a leading financial center with world-class business and civic institutions.

Atlanta, however, is about more than business and finance. Atlanta is about skyscrapers lining major streets, railroad tracks crossing the streets to the skyscrapers, tourism, sports, entertainment and performing arts. Atlanta is about architecture, urban development, auto manufacturing, cable television programming, education, freeways, religion, and much, much more.

The city of Atlanta is also about transportation, serving as the home of one of the world’s busiest airports, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, and a comprehensive subway (rail and bus) system that is one of the busiest in the country.

Filled with a wealth of attractions and activities, interactive venues, and historical sites, Atlanta, the largest and undisputedly most exciting city of the “*Peach State*,” offers something for everyone.

About the General Conference Session

General Conference Session: Opening and Closing

The opening business meeting of the 59th General Conference Session will begin on Thursday, June 24, at 2:00 p.m. local time. The closing meeting will end on Saturday night, July 3.

Day of Spiritual Emphasis

On Wednesday, June 23, a *Day of Spiritual Emphasis* will precede the General Conference Session, beginning at 2:30 p.m. and ending at noon on Thursday, June 24, at the Georgia World Congress Center (See Schedule and Meeting Locations on the GC Session Web site www.gcsession.org). Plans include devotionals, prayer and seminars on prayer, worship, relationships, and witness.

Simultaneous Translation Services

Business meetings, morning worships and evening programs of the 59th General Conference Session will be conducted in English. These will all be translated into multiple languages, and an FM radio will be needed to receive these translations. (See AWR Radio Sales Announcement on page 6 for details regarding purchase of FM radios). Available languages will be posted on the web site www.gcsession.org closer to the Session time.

Commercial and Promotional Exhibits

Commercial and promotional exhibits at the General Conference Session will be located in the Georgia World Congress Center, Building C, Halls 3 and 4. The exhibits provide an opportunity for church members to see the latest tools to assist with the mission of the church. Enjoy the Adventist Book Center, purchase music from recording artists, try new products, meet people from around the world.

Exhibitors wishing to rent space should contact Dean Rogers, Exhibit Manager, at the General Conference: Phone (301) 680 6221 or E-mail rogersd@gc.adventist.org. Exhibit applications are also located on the Session web site, www.gcsession.org.



The Georgia World Conference Center



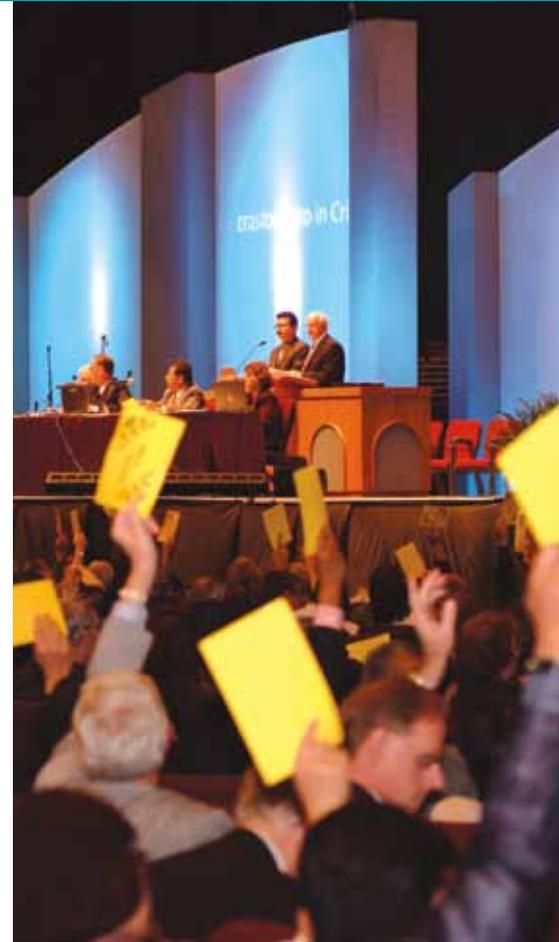
For more than 25 years, the Georgia World Congress Center has been renowned across the world as a premier convention and meeting facility. Over the past two decades, the Center has continued to grow and today is one of the world's finest convention, sports and entertainment sites. In addition to the 71,250-seat Georgia Dome and 21-acre Centennial Olympic Park, the Georgia World Congress Center encompasses 1.4 million square feet of prime exhibit space in 12 exhibit halls, 106 meeting rooms, 2 grand ballrooms, 3 fixed-seat auditoriums, and 3 landscaped plazas.



Classification of Attendees, Registration and Seating

Attendees to the GC Session are classified in one of several categories:

- Delegates** Those persons who have been officially selected by unions, divisions, and the General Conference to vote in the GC Session business meetings. Delegates are required to register at the GC Session and, when wearing the badge provided, will be granted access to seats in the area reserved for delegates.
- Guests** Immediate family members of a delegate who will be accompanying the delegate and staying in the same hotel as the delegate. Guests are required to register, and when wearing the badge provided, will be granted access to seats in the area reserved for delegates.
- Visitors** Attendees who come as observers to the GC Session. Visitors will have access to seating in any area of the Center except in those areas reserved for delegates and guests.
- Staff** Persons authorized and employed by the GC Session Management to care for managerial functions at the Session. Staff personnel are required to register and must wear the badge provided in order to have access to the delegate seating area or to other restricted areas of the Center.
- Exhibitors** Persons who are authorized to operate and/or manage commercial or promotional exhibits at the GC Session. Exhibitors must register at the Exhibit Manager's Office located in the Georgia World Conference Center. Badges provided to exhibitors will permit access to exhibit halls for preparing exhibits, etc. Exhibitors will have access to seating in any area of the Center except in those areas reserved for delegates and guests.
- Media** Duly authorized representatives of media services who are required to register at the Media Services desk in the Center.
- Observers** Officially invited guests.



Atlanta's Services



The City of Atlanta offers several transportation options for conventioners:

- **MARTA** (Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority) is Atlanta's transit system that is accessible to many locations throughout the city. Enter MARTA's Airport Station from the baggage claim area. Purchase token or use exact change. Take any MARTA train headed north towards either Doraville or North Springs Station and exit at Peachtree Center. The fare to ride MARTA is \$1.75 one way. For more information about MARTA and the New Atlanta Tourist Loop, please call 404.848.5000 or visit www.itsmarta.com.
- **The Atlanta Link** is the sole shuttle operator at the airport that serves the Downtown, Midtown, and Buckhead areas. The Atlanta Link is located in the Ground Transportation Center inside the airport as you come up the escalator in the main terminal. To schedule a pick-up please call 404.524.3400 or visit us at <http://www.theatlantalink.com>.
- **Taxi Service:** Once in baggage claim follow signs to Ground Transportation – Taxis. The fare to Downtown is approximately *\$30 dollars one way. *Stated rates are 2008. Subject to change.

Medical Services:

Atlanta hospitals and medical services are excellent. It is recommended that visitors and conventioners to the United States obtain travelers health insurance prior to arrival in the USA. Five area hospitals are less than 12 miles from the Georgia World Congress Center and downtown hotel district. Medical services are also conveniently located inside the Convention Center. Tap water is safe to drink in Atlanta, and a large variety of distilled and mineral water is available.

Weather and Clothing:

June and July are hot summer months in Atlanta. Temperatures can range around 87°F-89°F and reach higher with some levels of humidity. Light weight to medium weight apparel is recommended. Also, an umbrella for occasional summer showers is a nice addition.

Meal Service:

Meeting the diverse needs of the World Church in food preparation is a high priority for the GC Session in Atlanta, Georgia. Menu planning began in 2007 with intentional efforts to address the suggestions and recommendations of our attendees. Recognizing the need to provide convenient, wholesome, appealing vegetarian meals at cost effective prices has become a goal worth pursuing.

Noon and evening meals will be served in Halls C 1-2 of the Georgia World Congress Center. Meal tickets will be available via the Session web site at www.gcsession.org after September 1, 2009. Delegates will receive additional meal ticket information from their sponsoring organization.

In order to preserve the quality and quantity of the meals, it is vital to purchase meal tickets in advance. Tickets will be available for pick up at the "will call" office on-site. Meal tickets are \$16 per meal. Only a minimal number of meal tickets will be available on-site, so pre-purchase is recommended.

There will also be a limited number of on-site food outlets operating at specific hours during the Session. Every effort is being made to alert the greater downtown area of the specific needs of our attendees so quality meals are available. However, local menus and pricing will prevail, so plan accordingly. Please check often for additional information posted on the website as we draw closer to the event.

Entrances for People With Disabilities

All lower gates of the Georgia Dome are at street level and are accessible for entrance by people with disabilities. This level (100 level) of seats has accessible chairs and space for wheelchairs, strollers, etc.

Travel Information in the United States

Entry Into the United States

Citizens from countries outside the United States must contact their local U.S. Consulate for entry requirements.

Importing Goods Into the United States

Most things brought into the United States for personal use during the visit will be considered "personal baggage" by the United States Customs office. Such items include sports equipment, clothing, musical instruments, computers, cellular phones, and cameras. Weapons are not permitted to be brought into the country.

Legal drugs, in quantities for personal use, can generally be brought into the United States with no problem. Prescription drugs should be placed in a plastic bag and clearly marked to specify what they are and that they are being used under prescription.

Driver's Licenses, Vehicle Insurance In the United States

Vehicle insurance is compulsory throughout the United States of America. The use of seat belts in vehicles is mandatory for all drivers and passengers. International driver's licenses are required for non-residents wishing to drive in the United States.

United States Currency, Money Exchange, Use of Credit Cards and ATMs

The currency system in the United States uses paper money and coins. To get the best exchange rates, a visitor should exchange money at a fi-

ancial institution such as a bank, trust company, or currency exchange. Most international credit cards and principal bank cards are honored in the United States. There are many ATMs (Automated Teller Machines) throughout Atlanta.

Electrical Voltage and Connections

The electricity supplied to standard consumer connections in the United States is 110 volt, 60 cycle AC current. Two or three-pin plugs are accepted for connecting to the electrical outlet.

Service Charges and Tips

Tips or service charges are not generally added to a bill in Atlanta. Usually a tip of 20% of the total amount is given. This applies to waiters, waitresses, barbers and hairdressers, taxi drivers, etc. Bellhops, doormen, and porters at hotels are generally tipped \$2.00 per item of luggage. Tips for maid service are usually \$2.00 per day.

Holiday Following the GC Session

The General Conference Session ends on the evening of July 3, one day prior to a major national holiday in the United States known as Independence Day. On July 4 most retail stores will be open and special programs are usually seen in Atlanta. Some closures may be in effect on Monday, July 5, as employees observe the holiday. Highways may be congested during this period due to national holiday weekend travel.



Day of Spiritual Emphasis—*Ministering in the Power of the Holy Spirit*

As preparation for the important and far-reaching issues that the World Church will confront during the 2010 General Conference Session, a time for spiritual renewal precedes the business meetings.

This spiritual feast is open to all—delegates, members and visitors—beginning Wednesday afternoon, June 23, at 2:30 p.m., and continuing through noon on Thursday, June 24.

Sessions focusing on various aspects of God’s call to ministry through the Holy Spirit will include music, testimony, breakout groups for discussion, Bible readings, and prayer.

The sessions will take place in the Georgia World Congress Center.

Meetings for Adventist Women—*Proclaiming God’s Grace*

A series of special meetings for women at the Session who are not delegates will be presented by Women’s Ministries and Shepherdess International. The morning meetings will be held Monday through Thursday, June 28-July 1, from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. Two afternoon seminars will be held Tuesday and Thursday, June 29 and July 1, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

These events take place in the Georgia Ballroom in Building C – Level 3, sections 1-3.

All meetings will feature inspiring presenters who will explore topics of spiritual and personal growth, service, and daily living and include good music and reports from around the world.

No registration is required.



Adventist Mission Stage Features Music and Reports from Around the World

One of the most popular features at the 2005 St. Louis and the 2000 Toronto GC Sessions was the Mini Camp Meeting, which will be continued at the 2010 Atlanta GC Session. This special stage in the Exhibit Hall features music, guest speakers, live interviews with people from around the world, mission stories, and interactive programs.

The music and storytelling featured throughout the exhibit hall day provides a unique opportunity to hear people from your own hometown or from half a world away. Sponsored by the General Conference Office of Adventist Mission, the stage helps provide a picture of the worldwide work of the Church in an inspiring and engaging way.



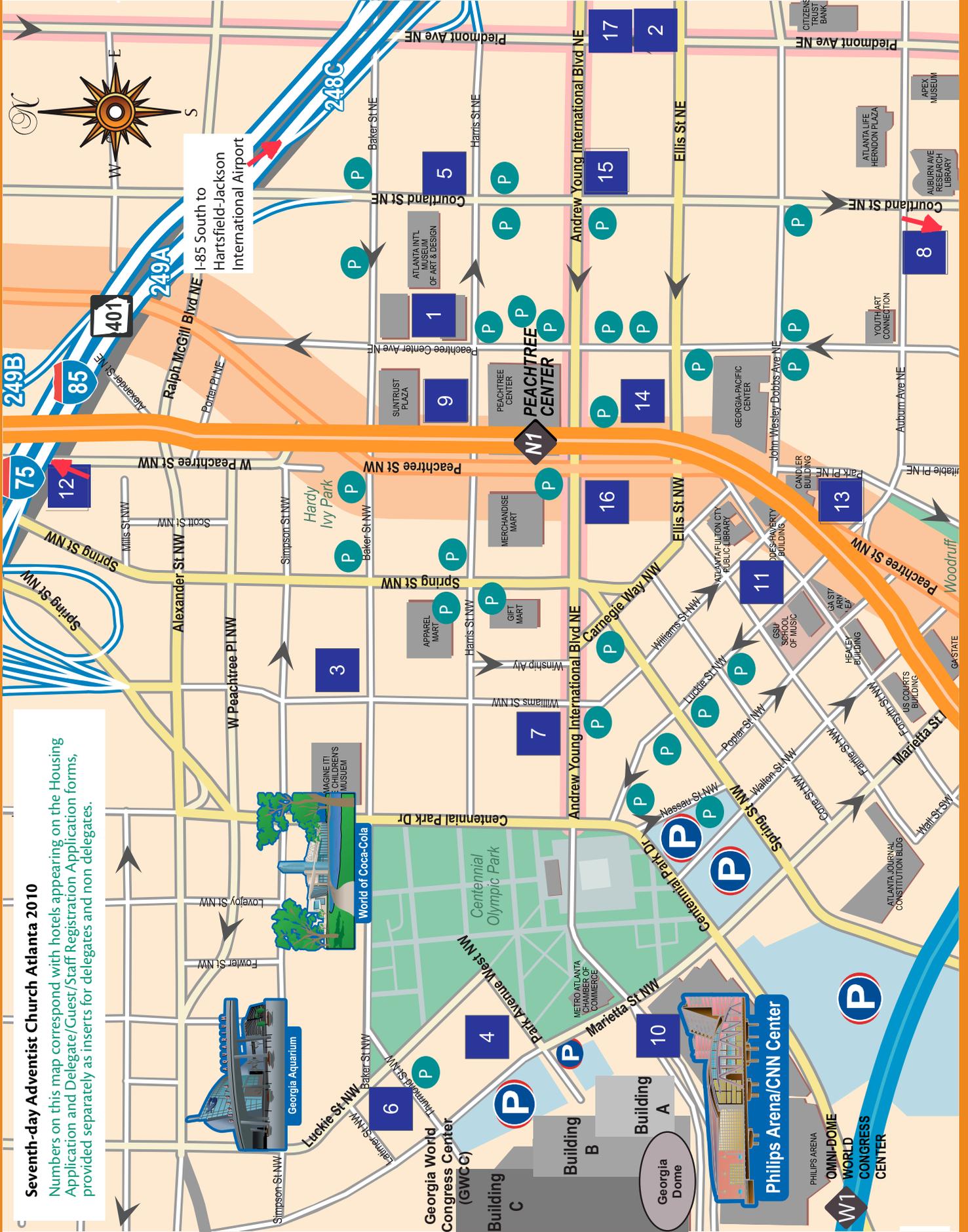
“SSPM Tool Time” — Seminars for Sabbath School and Personal Ministries

Lunch-time workshops will be presented for all attendees, including delegates, on improving Sabbath School and Personal Ministries skills. This will be of particular interest to leaders and teachers of Sabbath Schools as well as leaders of personal ministries and community services.

The short (45-minute) presentations will use the experience and gifts of ministry leaders from around the world. They will take on practical concerns such as improving Sabbath School attendance or new methods of creative teaching. Attendees will also benefit from the experiences in different countries and cultures and their approach to these vital ministries. Some of the sessions will be available in Spanish as well as English.

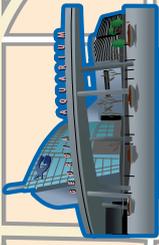


Atlanta Map — Downtown



Seventh-day Adventist Church Atlanta 2010

Numbers on this map correspond with hotels appearing on the Housing Application and Delegate/Guest/Staff Registration Application forms, provided separately as inserts for delegates and non delegates.



Georgia Aquarium



World of Coca-Cola

Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC)

Building C

Building B

Building A

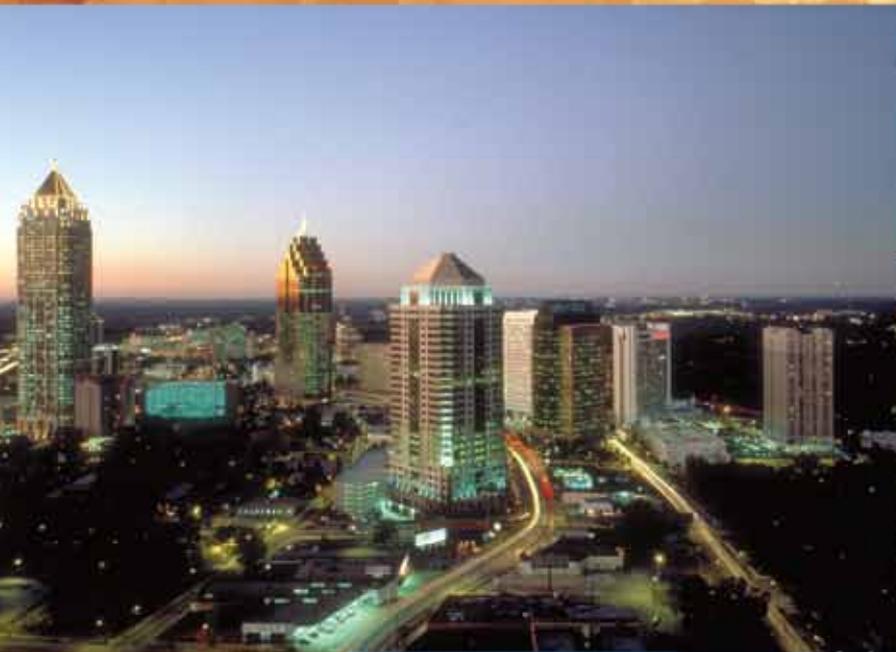
Georgia Dome

Philips Arena/CNN Center

OMNI-DOME

WORLD CONGRESS CENTER





GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION MANAGEMENT
12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA
301-680-6216 PHONE
301-680-6290 FAX
GCSESSION@GC.ADVENTIST.ORG
WWW.GCSESSION.ORG

Housing Application

Instructions

Housing reservations for GC Session can be made at any time after September 1, 2009. For best availability and immediate confirmation of hotel assignment, make your reservation by phone or internet. Faxed or mailed housing requests will take longer to process and your choice of hotels may not be available. **Reservation deadline is May 24, 2010. Applications will not be accepted after this time.**

TELEPHONE: Call the Session Housing Bureau (must have a credit card), 9am-8pm, EST, Monday-Friday at **866-413-5137 (toll-free US/Canada only) or 506-637-0311.**

FAX: Only completed forms will be accepted by fax. Send one form per room request, (make copies as needed) to **506-433-3033.**

E-MAIL: housing@atlanta.net

INTERNET: Reservations may be made, checked, modified, or cancelled from September 1, 2009 to May 24, 2010 at the following web-site **www.gcsession.org**.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: The Session Housing Bureau will confirm your reservation within 5-10 days of your reservation being processed. **Please review all information for accuracy.** Note: You may not receive a separate confirmation from your hotel.

RATES/TAXES: Take advantage of our special rates. Please book your reservation by **May 24, 2010.** After this date room blocks will be released and rates may be higher. All rates are per room/per night and are subject to 15% tax (subject to change).

SPECIAL REQUESTS: Special requests for specific room types cannot be guaranteed. Hotels will do their best to honor all requests and will assign specific room types upon check-in based on availability.

DEPOSITS: A US\$150 deposit will be required for each room request. This deposit can be paid by credit card, cashiers check, or money order. Persons paying by cashiers check or money order must send US\$150 deposit per room. **Checks must be received by May 17, 2010.** A processing fee of US\$25 will be assessed for check return upon cancellation of reservation.

PAYMENT:

Mail housing forms with check deposits to:

Session Housing
C/O Atlanta Housing Bureau
233 Peachtree Street, NE
Suite 1400
Atlanta, GA 30303

CHANGES, CANCELLATIONS, REFUNDS:

Reservations made may be changed or cancelled without penalty up to **May 24, 2010 (8:00 p.m. EST)**

Cancellation made on or after **May 25, 2010** will be assessed a US\$25.00 cancellation fee.

If any reservation is cancelled within 72 hrs of your arrival date, your total deposit will be forfeited.

DO NOT CONTACT YOUR HOTEL DIRECTLY UNTIL AFTER MAY 27, 2010

Guest Information

arrival date		month/day	departure date		month/day
first or given name			middle initial	family or last name	
telephone (if international number, include country and city access numbers)					fax
e-mail					
address				city	
province/state		postal/zip code		country	
last or family name of roomates, including children					initials
last or family name of roomates, including children					initials
last or family name of roomates, including children					initials
last or family name of roomates, including children					initials
<input type="checkbox"/>					

Please check here if you require special accessibility or accommodations. Please list requirements.

Room selection (use a separate form for each room requested)

<input type="checkbox"/>	single—one person, one bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	double—two persons, one bed
<input type="checkbox"/>	triple—three persons, two beds	<input type="checkbox"/>	quad—four persons, two beds
1st hotel choice			
2nd hotel choice			
3rd hotel choice			
4th hotel choice			

Guarantee: This room request must be accompanied by a deposit of US\$150.00. Deposits may be made by check, money order, or by credit card. Faxed requests must include a valid credit card. **Credit card must be valid through the dates of GC Session. See below for check information.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	American Express	<input type="checkbox"/>	Discover	<input type="checkbox"/>	MasterCard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Visa
card number				expiration date			
name(s) on credit card							

cardholder's signature (required to process reservation)

Attention: Those paying by cashiers check or money order must send a **US\$150** per room deposit. **Check deposits MUST BE MADE PAYABLE TO ATLANTA HOUSING BUREAU.**

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS – ATLANTA

LOCATION	MAP	HOTEL	2010 RATES			
			SGL	DBL	TRP	QUAD
Downtown Atlanta	1	Atlanta Marriott Marquis	\$169.00	\$169.00	\$184.00	\$184.00
	2	Baymont Inn & Suites Atlanta Downtown	\$139.00	\$139.00	\$150.00	\$159.00
	3	Days Inn	\$135.00	\$145.00	\$165.00	\$175.00
	5	Hilton Atlanta	\$144.00	\$144.00	\$169.00	\$194.00
	8	Holiday Inn Select	\$124.00	\$124.00	\$134.00	\$144.00
	9	Hyatt Regency Union Station	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$175.00
	11	Quality Hotel Downtown	\$129.00	\$129.00	—	—
	12	Renaissance Atlanta Hotel Downtown	\$145.00	\$155.00	\$155.00	\$155.00
	14	Ritz-Carlton	\$199.00	\$199.00	—	—
	15	Sheraton Atlanta Hotel Downtown	\$169.00	\$169.00	\$189.00	\$199.00
	16	The Westin Peachtree Plaza	\$165.00	\$165.00	\$165.00	\$165.00
17	Wyndham Garden Hotel Atlanta Downtown	\$159.00	\$159.00	\$179.00	\$179.00	

SGL = Single 1bed, DBL= Double 2beds, TRP= Triple 2beds (3 people to a room), QUAD= 2 beds (4 people to a room)

Rates are for 2010, not including taxes. Current hotel taxes in Atlanta are 15% (Subject to change).