PHILOSOPHY OF PATHFINDERING

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Oregon Pathfinders Mission Statement

Our Mission in Christ is to Lead Pathfinders to:
Love our Creator,
Enjoy His Creations,
Live in His Grace
PHILOSOPHY OF PATHFINDERS

Philosophy of Pathfinder Ministry
The Pathfinder Club is a Christian Organization for young people working together with adult staff to make things better in their world. This ministry has an emphasis on the mental, physical and spiritual development of our youth. Training young people and leading them to Christ is the most important mission of Pathfinder ministry. Today, there are more than two million Pathfinders worldwide.

At a Pathfinder Club meeting, young people learn skills that help them to become leaders within their communities, schools and churches. Skills in household arts, crafts & hobbies, health science, nature, outreach, recreation and vocation are taught.

Youth learn to share and care about others as they become involved in community service projects and go on short-term mission trips. There are many different areas in which a youth has opportunity to serve, such as: dental, medical, optical, building projects, cleaning up a community or helping with Vacation Bible Schools.

Though Pathfinders is an organization of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, one need not be a church member to become a Pathfinder. Youth can feel proud of belonging to a group that encourages and helps them to be the most caring people they can possibly become.

Objectives of Pathfinder Ministry
• Develop the Pathfinder’s appreciation for nature and a concern for the environment
• Give opportunities for the development of leadership
• Give guidance in physical, mental, social, and spiritual growth
• Help Pathfinders learn what God has planned for their lives
• Lead Pathfinders to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior
• Promote the AY Classes
• Provide a positive church-centered program
• Teach Pathfinders specific skills that will help to make their life meaningful
• Train Pathfinders for active missionary service

Purpose of the Pathfinder Club
The purpose of the Pathfinder Club is to introduce young people to Jesus Christ. The program will help them develop body, mind and spirit. With these skills, our young people are able to carry on the work of the church and bring others to the feet of Jesus. More than just skills, we want young people to build a relationship with Christ as their Lord and Savior, thus giving them the knowledge they need to survive in this world while preparing for Heaven.

Goals of the Pathfinder Club
• Establish and achieve goals
• Meet and make friends
• Assume responsibility
• Study the Bible
• Provide spiritual growth
• Teach good discipline – teamwork
• Help young people mature
• Learn and show respect
• Open minds to Christ
• Physical activities
• Experience positive social interaction
• Develop self-worth
• Develop faith to believe
• Teach responsibilities
PATHFINDER PLEDGE & LAW
AY AIM & MOTTO

The Pathfinder Pledge

By the Grace of God,
I will be pure, kind and true,
I will keep the Pathfinder Law,
I will be a servant of God and a friend to man.

The Pathfinder Law

Keep the Morning Watch - *(personal devotions)*
Do my honest part - *(always doing my best, never cheating)*
Care for my body - *(keep my life free from tobacco, alcohol and other drugs)*
Keep a level eye - *(listen to pure talk & music, keep my heart & eyes for Jesus)*
Be courteous and obedient - *(be polite to all, listen and obey rules)*
Walk softly in the sanctuary - *(show reverence)*
Keep a song in my heart - *(look on the bright side of life, be an encourager)*
Go on God’s errands - *(be a willing helper and share the love of Jesus)*

Adventist Youth (AY) Aim

The Advent Message to all the world in this generation.
As a Christian, my responsibility in life is to share with others the good news of the gospel - the promise of the soon return of Jesus.

Adventist Youth (AY) Motto

The Love of Christ Constrains Us.
I will have compassion and appreciation for others to the degree that I accept Jesus’ love for me.
MEANING OF THE PATHFINDER EMBLEM

RED (Sacrifice)
Reminds us of Christ. “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16
“Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God.” Romans 12:1

WHITE (Purity)
We desire to have the purity and righteousness of Christ’s life in our lives.
“He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment.” Revelation 3:5

BLUE (Loyalty)
It is the purpose of the Pathfinder Club to help teach us to be loyal to:
Our God in Heaven; Our parents; Our church.

GOLD (Excellence)
Standard of measurement. The Pathfinder Club has high standards to help build strong character for the kingdom of heaven.
“I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich.” Revelation 3:18

THREE SIDES (Completeness)
Completeness of the Godhead — Father, Son, Holy Spirit
Tripod of education:
Mental Crafts and honors
Physical Campouts, work bees
Spiritual Outreach activities, witnessing

SHIELD (Protection)
In the Scriptures, God is often called the shield of His people. “Fear not . . . I am thy shield.” Genesis 15:1
“Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.” Ephesians 6:16

SWORD (Bible)
The sword is used in warfare. A battle is always won by offense. We are in a battle against sin, and our weapon is the Word of God.
“The sword of the Spirit is the Word of God.” Ephesians 6:17
PATHFINDERS ACRONYM

PATHFINDERS

P  Stands for Purity, for Progress, and for Prayer

A  Means Activities, which juniors all should share.

T  Stands for Truth, which we will always love.

H  Stands for Heroes, for our God above.

F  Stands for Faithful, which we will always be.

I  Stands for Independence, from sin we were set free.

N  Stands for Noble - a noble Christian band.

D  Stands for Diligent, with loyal heart and hand.

E  Is for Enthusiasm for every worthy cause.

R  For Resolution to keep all heaven’s laws.

S  Stands for True Success, which we will always claim.

Put them all together - - Pathfinders is the name!

Adlai A. Esteb, Sandalwood
PATHFINDER TEN COMMANDMENTS
by Henry T. Bergh

1. Thou shalt love thy Pathfinder with all thy heart, with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, spending the time necessary to train him in purity, kindness and truth, helping him in his objective to be a servant of God and a friend of man.

2. Thou shalt not forget the promises made to thy Pathfinder, nor shalt thou make excuses for neglect, or say the promises were only maybe.

3. Thou shalt deal with thy Pathfinder honestly, in all things, for by thy example will he learn more, rather than what thou shalt tell him.

4. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy, for thy Pathfinder heareth thy conversation, discerneth thy actions, listentheth to thy music, and learneth quickly from thy example, so may he perceive the Lord thy God as one who created the heaven and earth, the sea and all that in them is.

5. Honor thy Pathfinder as a child who can make mistakes, but is seeking guidance and direction in his preparation for life, and every time thou art out of patience with thy Pathfinder’s immaturity and blundering, thou shalt call to mind thy own mistakes in this growing up age.

6. Thou shalt not fail to listen, and if he share a secret with you, keep faith with his confidences.

7. Thou shalt not slander, gossip, or speak unkindly of others.

8. Thou shalt be fair and consistent in discipline, remembering that eternal values are at stake, and that a hurt at the age of thy Pathfinder can cause a scar never to be outgrown.

9. Thou shalt bring thy Pathfinder “in contact with truer beauty, with loftier principles, and with nobler lives, leading them to behold the One ‘altogether lovely.’

10. Thou shalt not covet time for thyself, nor for your wife, nor for your neighbor, for as a Pathfinder worker you must constantly be aware that every minute you spend with thy Pathfinder thou are having an influence upon youth that will last unto the third and forth generation.

Presented at Pathfinder Leadership Convention, 1971, Camp Wawona
Central California Conference, California
Oh, We Are the Pathfinders Strong
Soy Conquistador Fuerte y Fiel
Nous Sommes les Explorateurs

H. T. B.                                      Henry T. Bergh

G    F#G   G    G   B7   C   E7/B   Am

Oh, we are the Pathfinders strong, The servants of God are we;
Soy Conquistador fuerte y fiel, Un sirvov de Dios yo soy;
Nous sommes les Explorateurs, Les serviteurs du Seigneur;

C    A7    D7    G

Faithful as we march along, In kindness, truth and purity.
Fieles marcharemos ya Por la senda del deber.
Bons, loyaux et purs, marchant Fidles à la vérité.

G    F#G    G    G   B7   C

A message to tell to the world, A truth that will set us free,
Mensaje que dar, Verdad que liberará,
Nous voulons annoncer á tous Un message liberauteur

C/E  Cm/Eb    G    C   G/D    D7   G

King Jesus the Saviour's coming back for you and me.
Jesús muy pronto regresará por ti, por mí.
Bien-tôt des cœurs revient le Sauveur, Pour moi, pour vous.

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SMILE, YOU'RE A PATHFINDER
Pathfinder 25th Anniversary Song
Words and Music by Lowell Linen

Path-finders north and south,
Path-finders east and west;
The
Path-finders ev'ry-where
Follow-ing God's com-mand;
The

turned up cor-ners of each Path-find-er's mouth Show the world we'll do our best.
gos-per mes-sage we will hap-pi-ly share As we

go to ev'-ry land. So smile, just smile, wheth-er skies be sun-ny or

gray; Just smile, you're a Path-find-er; A smile will light the way.
WE ARE HIS HANDS

Words & Music by Jeff Wood

1. We are His hands to touch the world around us.

2. We are His eyes to see the need in others.

Copyright: July 1985
HISTORY OF PATHFINDERS

1879  Several churches and schools began experimenting with junior societies. These societies were very successful.

1907  The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists made the Missionary Volunteer Society for Senior Youth (MV) program official. Milton E. Kern was the first department leader. A “Standard of Attainment” manual was written and the MV Book Club was developed. Anna Matilda Erickson was the first MV Secretary and served until 1920.

1909  The MV program was expanded to include the younger youth and The Junior Missionary Volunteer (JMV) program became official.

1911  Several boys clubs, such as the Takoma Indians; the Woodland Clan in Maryland; and Boys Pals in Lincoln, Nebraska, were formed.

1919  Arthur W. Spalding formed the Mission Scouts in Tennessee, for his boys and their friends. Spalding wrote a Pledge and Law for that club which was the basis for our present Pathfinder Pledge and Law.

1920  Harriet Holt joined the General Conference as a Junior Youth Secretary and served until 1928.

1921  Harriet Holt and Arthur W. Spalding authored the JMV Pledge and Law.

1922  Harriet Holt and Arthur W. Spalding advocated the basic ideas for Pathfinder Clubs. JMV Classes, Friend and Companion, were introduced, as well as MV Classes Comrade (Guide) and Master Comrade (Master Guide).

1927  John McKim of the Southeastern California Conference, under the direction of youth leader Guy Mann, started a youth club called Pathfinders. McKim, a Scoutmaster, held the first meetings in his home in Anaheim, California offering Adventist youth Christian club activities. Mrs. Willa Steen, an active church member in the Fullerton Seventh-day Adventist Church, was recruited to be girls’ director.

1928  The first sixteen MV Vocational Merits now referred to as Adventist Youth Honors were introduced. C. Lester Bond took over the leadership of Junior Youth for the General Conference, leading until 1946.

1929  Printing of the first Junior Missionary Volunteer Handbook included nineteen additional merits, which were renamed Vocational Honors.

1930  Pre-JMV classes (currently called Adventurers) Busy Bee, Sunbeam, Builder, and Helping Hand, were added for 1st – 4th graders. A second club in Southeastern California Conference was started in Santa Ana, California at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Theron Johnston. Lester and Ione Martin were the leaders.

1940 For various reasons both clubs had disbanded.

1946 Youth Director John H. Hancock resurrected the idea of Pathfinder Clubs and a club was started in Riverside, California with Francis Hunt as director. Once again, Southeastern California Conference was leading the way and Elder Hancock designed the Pathfinder emblem that same year.

1948 The Pathfinder flag was designed by Henry T. Bergh, Central California Conference youth director, and was sewn by Helen Hobbs. Henry T. Bergh appointed the first Pathfinder Coordinators. In Southern California Conference at Glendale, lay-leader Lawrence Paulson began a Pathfinder Club, which by its first anniversary had 150 members. Paulson also started Master Comrade (Guide) Clubs to prepare adults for service.

1948 The General Conference Youth Department, under the direction of Eldine W. Dunbar and his associates Theodore E. Lucas and Laurence A. Skinner, asked the Pacific Union Youth Leaders to present their plans for the organization and implementation of Pathfinder Clubs. J. R. Nelson, Pacific Union Youth Director, brought his MV council together where they worked diligently to complete the task. Those involved were: Miller Brocket – California Conference, John H. Hancock - Southeastern California Conference, Henry T. Bergh - Central California Conference, and Clark Smith – Nevada-Utah Conference. These young youth leaders divided the responsibilities and got to work. Clark Smith and Henry T. Bergh worked on creating a Pathfinder-friendly Drill Manual. John Hancock and Miller Brocket used two previously written pamphlets on Pathfinder Clubs, one written by Lawrence Paulson and the other one by Henry T. Bergh, and complied the “How to Start a Pathfinder Club Pamphlet.”

1949 Henry T. Bergh wrote the Pathfinder Song (copyrighted in 1952). That same year he held the first Pathfinder Leadership Training Camp. The General Conference brought out the first nine Advanced Honors and the Autumn Council in San Francisco voted to accept the Pathfinder program worldwide.

1950 Laurence A. Skinner was appointed as the first World Pathfinder Leader, a position he held until 1963, for the new Pathfinder organization.

1951 First Pathfinder Fair was held September 23, at Dinuba, California in the Central California Conference. The second Pathfinder Fair was held in Southern California Conference, at Glendale, on September 30. The name Comrade was changed to Guide and Master Comrade was changed to Master Guide.

1953 The MV songbook, Singing Youth was published and October 7 brought the first Junior Guide Magazine. The magazine’s name was changed to Guide in 1964. The first Pathfinder Camporee was held at Camp Winnekeag, Ashburnham, Massachusetts in the Southern New England Conference, October 9-11.
1954 The second Camporee was held in Southeastern California Conference at the JMV Pathfinder Camp, Idyllwild, California on May 7-9. Central California Conference also had a Camporee that year.

1956 Explorer Class Level developed.

1957 Pathfinder Sabbath was added to the church calendar giving the Pathfinder Club church recognition. The program informs the church of Pathfinder objectives, recruits adult members as staff and encourages boys and girls to join the club.

1960 The Pacific Union Conference held the first Union Pathfinder Camporee April 11-14 at Lone Pine, California.

1963 John H. Hancock becomes World Pathfinder Director.

1966 Pioneer Class Level added – name changed to Ranger in 1970.

1970 Leo S. Ranzolin elected World Pathfinder Director.

1971 The first division Camporee was held in Sweden for the North Europe - West Africa Division.

1975 The first Congressoree was held at Soquel, California May 2-4.

1976 Master Awards, Aquatic, Artisan, Conservation, Farming, Homemaking, Naturalist, Sportsman, Technician, Wilderness, and Witnessing were added.

1979 MV changed to AY (Adventist Youth), JMV changed to AJY (Adventist Junior Youth) and Pre JMV was changed to Pre AJY.


1982 Voyager Class Level was added.

1985 North America Division (NAD) held their first Camporee on July 31 - August 6 at Camp Hale, Leadville, Colorado.

1986 Malcolm Allen was elected World Pathfinder Director.

1989 NAD Friendship Camporee held August 7-12 at Mount Union, Pennsylvania. Pathfinder Leadership Award (PLA) and Pathfinder Instructors Award (PIA) introduced.

1994 NAD Dare to Care Pathfinder Camporee was held at Morrison, Colorado August 2-6.

1999 NAD Discover the Power Camporee was held at Oshkosh, Wisconsin August 10-14.

2004 NAD Faith on Fire Camporee was held at Oshkosh, Wisconsin August 10-14.

Reference: for additional Pathfinder history refer to *The Pathfinder Story* by Bob Holbrook, 2007