Mission field in our backyard





Where are they now? (p. 10)
On the road with Becky (p. 11)
Dauntless! (p. 13)

PM40069337

Could we be more inviting for first-time guests? Will they return a second time?



How Does It Feel?

hen I pastored congregations, I enjoyed asking folks what it was like to become an Adventist. What they said was interesting, and it gave me a new perspective.

For those who had discovered a smaller Adventist church, it seemed that everyone except themselves knew every other person in the church. And sometimes that made them feel quite alone at first. The new believers in the smaller churches also noticed that everyone seemed to have staked out a seat in church, and when they began to attend, they worried that they might be sitting in someone else's place.

When I listened to folks who had found their way to a larger congregation, what I heard was that no one noticed they were there. In fact many of these new believers had attended for a while before anyone noticed them. They seemed invisible.

I've been thinking about first visits to an Adventist church. Could we be more inviting for first-time guests? Will they return a second time? First impressions are pretty important.

If I were a greeter and I saw someone new, perhaps I'd say, "I must have missed you, have you been here before?" And if they were really there for the first time, I might say, "I was just going in to worship; why don't we sit together?" From what I've heard, that would make a big difference.

Feeling part of a local church and worshipping with others is important to spiritual growth. Here's how the writer of Hebrews saw it: "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near" (Heb. 10:24, 25, ESV).

Why not invite a friend to worship with you this Sabbath?

Mark Johnson is president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada





Messenger

August 2012 Vol. 81 No. 8

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The Canadian Adventist Messenger—the

official magazine of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada—is published 12 times per year. Free to SDACC members. Annual foreign subscription price: US\$15.00. Printed by Maracle Press Limited. ISSN 0702-5084. Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index. Member of the Associated Church Press and the Canadian Church Press.



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Deadlines

October issue August 1

November issue September 4

December issue October 1

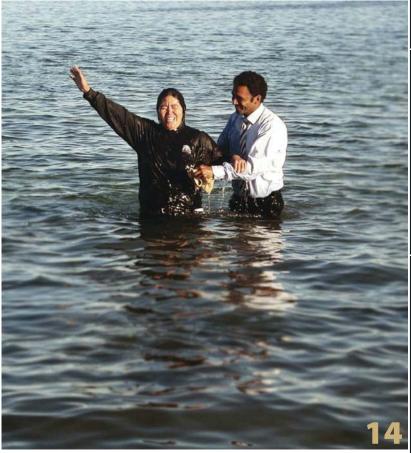
>> View this issue online at www.adventist.ca/messenger

Postmaster: Please return undeliverable Canadian addresses to *Messenger* subscriptions, 1148 King St. E., Oshawa, ON L1H 1H8

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Newly appointed ADRA Canada executive director, James Astleford, shares big dreams for ADRA and what each member can do.

"ADRA is Yours"



Beneficiaries share a laugh with ADRA Emergency Response team members—Kompong Thom Flooding, Cambodia (2011)

ecently I returned from Niger, West Africa, where the ADRA staff virtually outnumber Seventh-day Adventist members. Here, the impact of the relief, food aid and agriculture programs is such that hundreds of communities know of us. Seeing ADRA Canada play such a vital part of our church's worldwide outreach, I was reminded of how proud I am of the agency that our church has established and supported over the years to fulfill the gospel mandate. In more than 100 countries, ADRA touched the lives of more than 20 million people last year, tangibly demonstrating God's compassion.

I am also deeply conscious that the challenges ahead are immense, certainly far beyond my humble capacity. I can only approach this new role in ministry as I sense God's blessing, and your support.

The majority of our ministry on your behalf takes place in the developing world. I read this week that if our income is \$25,000 per year, we are wealthier than approximately 90 percent of the world's population! And if we make \$50,000 per year, we are wealthier than 99 percent of our world's population! It would only take about 1 percent of the income of North American Christians to lift the poorest one billion people out of extreme poverty. Surely in this context, the warning God gives to the rich in James 5:1–5 is particularly haunting.

Other agencies abound, but ADRA is yours. Yes, you have heard of the large international humanitarian agencies, both Christian and secular. Many of them have huge budgets that allow for expensive TV advertising. We're small, but we're doing

big things. As a global network, ADRA implemented nearly 1,100 projects last year around the globe! And to the people in Mongolia, Cambodia, Kenya, Niger, Haiti and other countries where ADRA Canada is currently working—you mean the world.

How can you help?

ADRA needs Canadian professionals.
 I frequently meet individuals across the country who are interested in ADRA's mission and want to be involved. But very

few young people are going to university and acquiring degrees in international development. We need such people to make careers in international development.

- ADRA needs church ambassadors—people who are
 passionate about ADRA's mission to empower those in
 poverty and will be volunteer liaisons between ADRA
 Canada and their local churches to keep us all informed
 about ADRA Canada's needs and ways to become involved.
- ADRA needs prayers and public affirmation. It may sound cliché to say that we need prayer. But we are part of the global ministry of our church. Those of us who are employed by ADRA are human, and we need divine leading.
- ADRA needs donors. All our wonderful plans come to nothing without the money to make them happen.

For our part, ADRA Canada promises to maximize the opportunities presented by your donations. Our team is always looking for ways to leverage your donations through partnerships with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and its members, and with our ADRA network. Whether you donate "two mites" (Luke 21:2) or \$200,000, we will multiply its impact. If you respond, God can bless.

Thank you for your commitment to this vital and vibrant ministry of our church. ■

James Astleford is the executive director of ADRA Canada.





president's perspective

An end-time image we might be familiar with is found in Revelation 7:1-3, where angels are holding back the winds of strife so God's people can be sealed ahead of the release of the final movements leading up to Jesus' return . . .



want to challenge the idea that we are unsealed and are striving for the seal of God's approval while the winds of strife in this world are being held back. This idea does not correspond with the picture I find in Ephesians 1:13, 14.

There it says that when we hear the Word of God, the gospel of our salvation, we become sealed by the Holy Spirit through trust and belief. At the time we accept Christ we are sealed. This is not a future event. The Holy Spirit's presence is the guarantee of our inheritance and redemption at the second coming of Jesus. Accepting Jesus as your Saviour initiates and welcomes you into the family of God and you become His child and servant (Rom. 6:22, 8:14-17).

You will notice in Revelation 7:3 that the ones to be sealed are servants—those who are already part of the household of God, those who have already chosen to be followers of Jesus. So the seal of Revelation 7 is not a seal of salvation but of preparation (maturity) needed for the experience that is about to follow. I like the thought of being sealed in Jesus now and then also in a maturing journey in preparation for what is coming; it makes more sense. It takes a burden off my shoulders. I do have the seal of salvation in Jesus and am not looking, longing for his approval in order to be saved.

In case we become complacent, however, Paul in Ephesians 4:30 reminds us that we should be careful not to "grieve" the Holy Spirit, who is our seal for the day of redemption. This tells me that the Holy Spirit is active in my life. John 15 reveals that He leads and guides me, and that He testifies to me of Jesus, as well as of sin, righteous and judgment. The Holy Spirit is responsible for preparing us for what lies ahead in our experience and the second coming of Jesus.

When Jesus was speaking of the faithful and unfaithful servants in Matthew 24:45-51, he illustrates the contrast between the two in three different ways, in chapter 25. All these servants are "sealed" servants; one group are faithful but the second, however, have grieved the Holy Spirit and therefore lose their seal of His presence and are unprepared for His kingdom. The Holy Spirit

wanted them to be faithful, but some of the servants did not respond to His leading and, therefore, are not where they needed to be in their preparation.

Looking at the first parable of the wise and foolish virgins, we notice: Both believed in the coming of the bridegroom, both went out to greet Him, both had lamps, both were in harmony with each other and both went through a delay; yet the foolish are said to lack preparation needed for the delay.

If it is the Holy Spirit's work to prepare us for the second coming of Jesus, then either the foolish virgins had not kept up with His leading in their lives, or the Holy Spirit failed to do His work, which would be an unacceptable conclusion. They have therefore grieved Him, and sadly He has to declare that they are not at the maturity needed to welcome their Lord.

You can look at the other two parables that illustrate the two types of servants; they both present the characteristics of those being led by the Holy Spirit and those missing His leading.

The appeal of this short message is if you have accepted Jesus as your Saviour and Lord, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit and have the assurance of salvation in Him and the promise of being part of His kingdom. All we who are sealed by the Holy Spirit need to remind ourselves that we have the presence in our lives of the One who is moving us along in maturity to become like Jesus. Individually we are like a customized piece of art created by the Holy Spirit. He knows all about us and knows where He wants us to be so that we can be ready for the winds of strife and the appearing of our Lord. I am thankful He is patient with me, and I am sure you are, too. May we each move from desire to action under the security of being sealed, responding to His personal revelations to us and welcoming His empowerment to accomplish in us what He sees best. Whatever your next step in Jesus, take it with confidence. ■

> Ken Corkum is the president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newfoundland.

no matter what ...



I just got accepted into the university of my choice and registered for classes, but two of my exams are on the Sabbath. What should I do? Is it really wrong for me to do the exam if the school can't change the date?

I live and work in a university town that is home to three secular universities, which gives our church the luxury of many students coming in from all over the world. Nothing makes me smile more broadly than requests from some of these students for a letter from me explaining that they are active members of my church and seeking a change of

date for their exams so as not to violate God's gift of the Sabbath to us.

Daniel 1:3–5, 8, 9, NKJV: "Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king's descendants and some of the nobles, young men in whom there was no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who had ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans. And the king appointed for them a daily provision of the king's delicacies and of the wine which he drank, and three years of training for them, so that at the end of that time they might serve before the king.... But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. Now God had brought Daniel into the favor and goodwill of the chief of the eunuchs."

Here is what you should do: purpose in your heart that you are going to live for Jesus no matter what. In Daniel's case God somehow influenced the chief of the eunuchs to like Daniel and have a desire to help him. He may do the same for you. He may use your faithfulness to bring you into favour with your professors in a way you couldn't be otherwise. Daniel and his three faithful friends were blessed, and so also you will be if you trust Him.

Here is a true story to consider: A young Adventist woman was seeking employment in a place where finding a job was tough. She managed to get a job at a bank but the bank wanted her to work on Sabbath. She explained to them why she would not be available for Sabbath hours, and the bank agreed to give her the Sabbath hours. Not long after, the manager called her in on a Friday afternoon and pled with her to work the next day. The manager assured her it would only happen this once but that they were desperately short and really needed her. The young woman, against her better judgment, agreed and worked the next day. On Monday morning the same manager called her again to let her know she was fired. The reason: if you can't be faithful to your God neither can we trust you here in the bank.

Jesus longs to show us that we can trust Him and that He will provide for our needs, but when we take matters into our own hands we never learn His faithfulness and worship nothing higher than our own judgment. Your pastor will be happy to write a letter to your university on your behalf. I would be as well. Trust God. He won't let you down. Purpose to do nothing less, no matter what. It's no good to get an education from the world if it will turn you into a Babylonian.



Before flashlights were invented, people sometimes put fireflies into jars to make lanterns to light the way along dark paths. God gave us the Bible to show us the way to go as we live on this sin-darkened planet. Immile Burak and her family enjoy studying and learning from God's creation. You can contact her at taminie burak@gmail.com or follow her blog at www.creation.comerforkids.blogspot.ca

By Lynn McDowell

Lhange

in the lives of students at Canada's Adventist university

"I've always wanted to go on a mission trip —but not to preach!" —Marthe Paul

For CUC residence assistant Marthe, who left Haiti at the age of 11 to attend school abroad, helping others is a way of life. But Marthe didn't see herself preaching until events pointed her to CUC's ShareHim evangelistic trip to Santa Clara, Cuba, April 24 to May 15.

After two friends separately invited her to come with them, Marthe contacted Sarah Oliveira-Augustin, co-leader of the trip along with Pastor Dennis Braun —three days after the deadline. The trip was full. But eventually, CUC found extra funds, and another evangelistic location opened up. "No one in my family could support me with the \$1,500 I needed to raise," recalls Marthe, but the money came from unexpected sources, like an envelope with a cheque and a note that read, "The Lord \$200 giveth."

When Marthe arrived in Havana, Cuba, she faced her biggest test: the introduction to her translator was delayed. Nervous about the prospect of facing a crowd without adequate tools, Marthe lost patience. "I was upset with God. 'Why is it always me who has to wonder and wait?'" she asked. When her translator arrived, speaking not only flawless English and Spanish but also Italian and her native French, Marthe's courage was restored.

"Hide me behind the cross," she prayed nightly before speaking to the crowd assembled by local church members who had been studying with their neighbors. But it wasn't until partway through the campaign when, weary, homesick, and ill-prepared for her presentation, Marthe gained an incredible insight. Nearly numb, she delivered her presentation. "When it was over, I didn't remember anything I said," she recalls. But an elderly man, Hermano Raphael, who had resisted the message for years, approached her. "You touched my heart tonight," he said.

"On the night that Marthe was absent," she asked in wonder, "you felt the Holy Spirit?" She began to see her role in a new light.

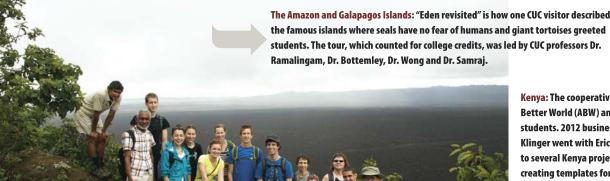
Marthe, who delighted in the local children, was excited to hear that one of them—11-year-old Lorensito—was inspired to give a sermon at Pathfinders after watching the campaign from his pew. And it didn't matter that Hermano Raphael wasn't among those baptized at the end.

"The most valuable lesson I learned," says Marthe, "was that we're there primarily not to reap but to sow. The Holy Spirit does the rest. It's not about you at all, so when there's a baptism, it's not about what you've done. The greatest blessing was seeing the people who'd been studying with churches make a decision."



The World as Classroom

Students learn through CUC's Summer Tours and International Experience Programs



Kenya: The cooperative relationship between A
Better World (ABW) and CUC creates opportunities for
students. 2012 business administration grad Steven
Klinger went with Eric Rajah (ABW & Advanced Systems)
to several Kenya projects, evaluating progress and
creating templates for project financial accountability.
CUC students Steve and Patrick McKibbin gave a
career
and goal setting seminar to high school students,
including a violin performance by Patrick. Theresa
Donkor, a business major, volunteered at East African
Mission Orphanage for four months.



Cuba: The ShareHim trip (see Marthe Paul's story p. 8) was led by recent graduate Sarah Oliveira-Augustin and Pastor Dennis Braun. Students preached nightly in the 16-day campaign. 44 people were baptized at the close of the series, with another 150 expected to be baptized in the following weeks in and around the city of Santa Clara, Cuba.

Northern British Columbia, Washington State and Beyond:

After helping the Outward
Pursuits team with outreach
activities, Christopher Young,
an Adventure Based
Leadership (ABYL) student from
Zealand, N.B., went on to his
practicum at Sunset
Lake Camp
near Mt. Rainier in Washington.
Responsible for the
camp's
extreme adventure activities,
Chris helped to take
youth to
new heights and stretched
their understanding of God.

Where Are They Now



M: Can you tell me a little bit about your childhood in Canada?

F: I grew up on a farm southwest of Sylvan Lake, Alta. In those days each community had its own school, grades 1 to 9. As a farm boy I grew up learning to work at a young age. That was probably an important part of my childhood. My high school education was at what was then called Canadian Union College (CUC) High School.

M: Did you attend CUC after graduating from high school in 1952?

F: I took my first two years of college at CUC and then went to Walla Walla University—was Walla Walla College (WWC) then—and completed a BA in mathematics with a minor in secondary education.

M: So you were planning on becoming a teacher then?

F: That is correct, although my first position after graduation was dean of men at CUC. I was dean for five years: 1957 to 1961. I also taught physical education. During my senior year at WWC, I was one of the two student assistant deans, so that's probably a reason I received a call to CUC. I taught there full-time from

Messenger catches up with former leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada. In this issue we talk with J.D. Fitch.

Interview by Hermione Wilson, Messenger Staff Writer.

1961 to 1963, and then they asked me to move back into the dorm as dean and I did that from 1963 to 1964.

M: After serving as a dean at CUC, what did you do?

F: I taught full-time again from 1964 to 1965 and then was asked to be the principal at CUC High School. I was principal from 1965 to 1967, and I also taught math. A teacher at the school suggested I apply for a National Science Foundation Grant for a master's degree at Western Washington State University. I did so and I received my master's of education degree in math in 1970.

M: During this time you had returned to CUC in 1968 as academic dean. How long did you serve in that position and where did you go from there?

F: I was academic dean from 1968 to 1972. From 1972 to 1982 I was at Walla Wall University. The first five years as director of admissions and records and the next five as director of financial aid. I was director of education for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada (SDACC) from 1982 to 1989, superintendent of education for the Alberta conference 1989 to 1991 and president of CUC from 1991 to 1997, when I retired from full-time work. After retiring, I served as superintendent of education for the Man-Sask conference

on a contract basis from 1997 to 2008.

M: Why have you devoted almost your entire life to Adventist Education?

F: I had several teachers who were an inspiration to me. They made a positive impact on my life. I wanted to make a difference in young people's lives, and I believed there was no better way of doing that than in education. There is so much time for personal interaction. Adventist education has impacted my entire life. It is an essential, and I thank God for the opportunities I have had in this part of our church ministry.

M: Where are you now?

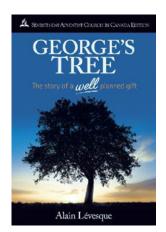
F: I am involved at CUC on the alumni council and serve as a volunteer in development. I have also assisted in fundraising for Mamawi Atosketan Native School. I chair a new ministry in the Alberta conference called SAGE—Seniors in Action for God with Excellence. I am completing in September eight years as a member of the Alberta conference executive committee.

My wife, Gem, taught organ and piano for many years but now enjoys being home, reading, scrapbooking, crafting, composing and volunteering. Our daughter, Lana, is a realtor and broker; our oldest son, Shaun, manages the computer system for a manufacturing firm; and our youngest son, Vic Jr, is a financial consultant for oil companies.

Planned Giving and Trust Services Announces a Free Canadian Donor Guide...

GEORGE'S TREE

Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Edition



George's Tree: A Story of a Well-Planned Gift is a story about one man's legacy and how his charitable actions influenced his friends. The narrative reveals many tax advantages offered by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). In the centre of the book is a valuable seminar containing information for all donors.

Alain Lévesque, the author of this popular paperback, is a respected Canadian planned giving consultant. All of Lévesque's original work is preserved in this Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada edition but is adapted to suggest ideas for planned gifts for Canadian Adventist charitable organizations.

Here is an abbreviated example from George's Tree:

REGISTERED PLAN GIFT (RRSP AND RRIF)

A donor can transfer money in a RRSP or RRIF to a registered charity without paying taxes, or paying minimal taxes, depending on the province of residence.

- Mr. Craig takes \$50,000 from his RRSPs to give to a church project.
- Income tax payable on \$50,000 RRSP: \$25,000
- Approximate tax credits on a \$50,000 gift: (\$25,000)
- Income tax payable by Mr. Craig: little or none*

*Always consult a financial or legal professional to know how gift planning applies in your own circumstances.





On the road with Becky at St. John's Church in Newfoundland

Becky Johnson: How do you let your light shine for Jesus?

Amanda Marshall: Working with children. My passion and my love is children. I want to see that they are well equipped to deal with the battle of the enemy, but also that they can show others the love of Jesus.

BJ: Who is Jesus to you?

Celest Corkum: Jesus wants to do for us. He sees our need. I love that about Jesus. I don't feel that we have to plead and plead and plead for Jesus to help us, I think he really wants to help us.

BJ: How do you bring the Sabbath in?

Lucy Ollila: I like to make something special, something different I don't normally make during the week, for our Sabbath supper. I love having candles lit, or even oil lamps, just to kind of set a nice ambience.

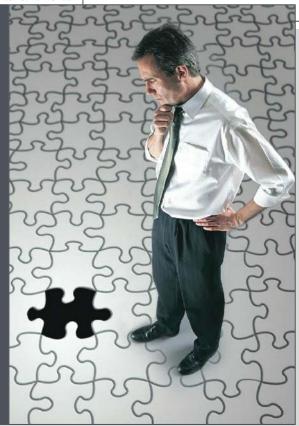
BJ: When Satan comes knocking, how do you get rid of him? **Noelle Purcell (age six):** When Satan comes knocking on my door, I say, 'No Satan! Go away!'



Retaining Members After Baptism

Lessons from My Mistakes

by Rajkumar Dixit



AS I STOOD IN THE BAPTISMAL POOL

with Daryl, I was overjoyed that this day had finally come. After months of study, Daryl had made the monumental decision to be baptized. The congregation listened to his emotional testimony. He had never had a Christian experience until he discovered Jesus through a co-worker who had his Bible lying on his desk. It was a special Sabbath as we shared in his public declaration to follow Jesus.

Six months later, Daryl was nowhere to be found. I called and left messages. I wrote emails and cards. Daryl never responded. What happened to Daryl? How did this happen? How could we have let him slip through the cracks? Daryl's disappearance deeply saddened me. This experience led me to carefully audit all of the baptisms I had done at New Hope Adventist Church over the years in order to study their retention rate. I was surprised to discover how many of those converts no longer attended church.

The Adventist Church, like many Protestant denominations, has been successful in evangelism. Evangelism is a popular buzzword in the church. Many of our major decisions are based on evangelism results. However, we have failed in the related area of retention. Pastor Craig Rench, of the Church of the Nazarene, has noted from his studies that 90 percent of new believers in the United States will fall away from the church within 12 months. This is an astounding and disappointing fact. After digging deeper into my own mistakes, I have implemented some new principles.

Baptismal studies must be done in a group setting: A special bond forms between the pastor and the candidate as they spend months studying together. After the baptism has taken place, however, I normally move on to the next person who has requested baptismal studies. As a result, newly baptized believers have less contact with me than before, and they can often feel isolated and hurt.

What I do now: After meeting with a candidate a couple of times, I will ask them to join Rediscovering Jesus, a special class designed for people who are new to the faith. This class is taught by our evangelism director and is built around a growing community of new believers. I will often connect the candidate with the evangelism director first, to build trust, before he or she even attends the first class. After the candidate is baptized, he or she remains in the class for one more year to stay fully connected to the

group and help other candidates in their growing faith.

Assign a Spiritual Mentor: When candidates are approaching their baptism dates, I assign them a mentor who will keep in contact with them over the next year.

What I do now: I have learned that the best-suited spiritual mentor may not be one of the church elders or even a seasoned member. The mentor should be someone with shared interests (age, profession, hobbies, family life, etc). Now I set up a meeting with the mentor and mentee. During that meeting I outline expectations of both parties and have them sign a covenant.² Having an established agreement allows both parties to know what is expected from this new relationship.

Serve in a ministry. After baptism candidates can find themselves lacking friends or accountability. Some seekers who have been raised outside of the church do not have regular church attendance hardwired into their system. It can often take decades for that routine to slowly take shape as a natural progression in one's life.

What I do now: As the candidate begins to acclimate into church and begins to attend the Bible study class, I emphasize the importance of participating in the ministry of the church. After discovering some of the candidate's hobbies and interests, the new member is asked to participate in different ministries to see where he or she fits in. The new member is asked to make a six-month commitment to a ministry of his or her choosing. It is during this period that this individual will make new friends and develop a stronger commitment to the community of the church.

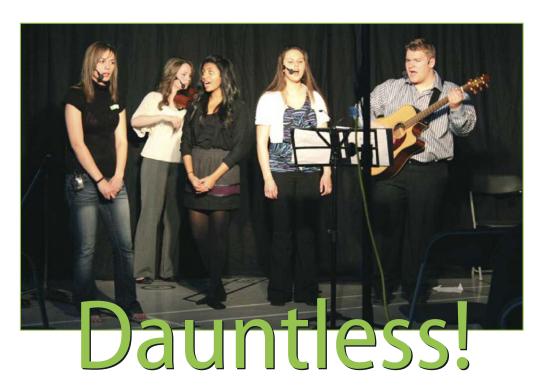
PROLOGUE: While writing this article, I felt impressed once again to contact Daryl. He responded with a phone number to reach him at. Please pray for this man's growing relationship with Jesus. ■

Rajkumar Dixit, D. Min is the author of Branded Faith: Contextualization in a Post-Christian World. He is a pastor and evangelist. You can follow him on Twitter @kumardixit.





² You can download this covenant from RajkumarDixit.com



"WITH SUCH AN ARMY OF WORKERS AS OUR YOUTH,

rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world!" (Education, p. 271)

Perhaps you're thinking that when Mrs. White wrote these words in 1903, she couldn't possibly be thinking of today's independent, free-spirited, sometimes bold and outspoken youth! But here at Parkview Adventist Academy (PAA), we've come to believe that she was.

"Young people have energy," says Steve Reasor, PAA campus chaplain. "They don't just talk about doing things; they do them. Sometimes we adults get frustrated because they do things that are risky, or that they haven't thought through, or worst of all, that we would never do. And that's okay; it's our job to worry about what they are doing—we know some of the long-term consequences, after all. But for all the negative long-term consequences for poor choices, we also know there are long-term consequences for great choices too.

"I have had the honour of seeing the students at Parkview Adventist Academy make some excellent choices this year. I've sat with them as they struggled with temptations, have watched them make good decisions and then see those decisions through. Several students this year have decided to commit their professional (and personal) lives to helping and caring for others. I am so proud of them, especially those who are learning to be leaders. Whether they are leaders of clubs or class executives or part of my Campus Ministries team, they give me so much hope for the present, and future, of our church."

A few years ago, PAA staff made a decision to intentionally provide more opportunities for service, in part to harness this energy of youth in a positive way. As an Adventist school, we wanted to provide a community where students could not only grow in their relationship and commitment to Christ but also reach out and share that experience with others.

Dauntless is one of those opportunities. Begun as a student ministry group by Chaplain Steve last school year, Dauntless students spent 120 hours in class plus countless hours outside of class working on music and sermons. They presented 25 programs at seven schools and four churches. Steve describes the experience:

"This group of 11 students visited churches and schools in three provinces and shared the good news that God has answered our deepest questions through Jesus' life, death and resurrection. I watched them learn to work together as they wrote sermons and skits, and prepared music that fit with their messages. Then we went on tour. At several schools, after our program was finished, the students we were visiting amazed us with things they were proud of, team skip-rope, playing bells, etc. I was impressed with their skills but also very proud of my students as they cheered and yelled and celebrated with them. It's easy to care about people when you are in the spotlight, harder when you're standing off stage.

"Sometimes they said things that were risky. During one visit to an elementary school, the student preacher kept using a word that I would not have used (not necessarily a bad word in a high school context but not one I would want my seven-year-old using). I cringed every time she used it, but in the end, the students who were least likely to have listened to me, listened intently to her because she spoke like it was real. Even if I don't always agree with every choice my students make, I have so much hope for the future because of them. I look forward to seeing the long-term consequences."

Now is the time to harness the energy of the youth and to give them opportunities to use their God-given talents to reach the world. Thank you for the prayers raised daily for the students and teachers in our schools. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can tap into the energy of our youth, partnering with them to take the message of a crucified, risen and soon-coming Saviour to the whole world.

Angie Bishop is the principal of Parkview Adventist Academy in Lacombe, Alberta.

The mission field in our backyard

BY HERMIONE WILSON



When someone says "mission field," what comes to mind? You probably imagine exotic places, maybe an African plain, a tropical island or a Mongolian tundra. You might think of friendly locals dressed in bright traditional costumes, and tasting strange new foods. But mission fields exist not only in places you have to cross oceans to get to; they exist right here, in our own backyard.

Thirty-three-year-old Bible worker Jose Quezada has been working in Nunavut for over two years. When he first came to the area, he was shocked by the conditions the people were living in. The things Quezada saw, people struggling with extreme poverty, drug problems, and severe depression, disturbed him, but he was also encouraged by how willingly many opened their doors to him and to the message of hope he was bringing.

Quezada was born in El Salvador and grew up in Vancouver, B.C. He was raised in an Adventist family, but it wasn't until he was 24 years old that he experienced a spiritual awakening. "I started reading *The Desire of Ages*," he says. During his fourth year at Emily Carr University of Art and Design (formerly the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design) in Vancouver, B.C., where he was pursuing a degree in photography, Quezada came in contact with Radiant Living, a team of Adventist young people that engaged local North American congregations in doing mission work right in their respective neighbourhoods. Quezada confided in the team that he was interested in becoming a missionary, and they advised him to attend the Mission College of Evangelism in Oregon.

After completing a three-month program at the Mission College, Quezada did mission work with the Radiant Living team in British Columbia, worked for Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI), in Texas, and for the college in Oregon. He then returned to Canada, where he did some work with his home church. When Quezada heard that Bible workers were needed in Nunavut, he quickly jumped at the chance to get involved with the missionary work being done in Canada's newest territory. He spent two weeks in Iqaluit with Bill and Lisa Neish, a missionary couple responsible for establishing an ongoing ministry in Iqaluit, and enjoyed it so much he decided to move there permanently, in July 2010.

Quezada hit the ground running when he arrived back in the North. He spent months going door to door, visiting people and offering Bible studies to anyone who was interested. In September of that year he went further north, to the community of Igloolik, where he rented a community hall and set up a health expo. For three days he conducted health talks on digestion, the benefits of water and exercise, and on overcoming diabetes, smoking and drinking.

As a result of the expo, several people decided to study the Bible and learn more about the Adventist message. The following year Quezada was busy planning a new health expo, which took place outdoors. Volunteers, including his two new friends, Ilisapi Angutimarik and Marcus Angutirjuaq, were on hand to operate a weight/fat/water scale, a peak flow meter (which measures lung capacity) and to hand out Adventist literature. When the health expo came to an end, Quezada had the honour of performing the first Seventh-day Adventist baptism to take place in Nunavut. Ilisapi and Marcus were immersed in the cold waters of the Arctic Ocean before a crowd of witnesses and joined the worldwide Adventist family.

Since moving to Nunavut, Quezada has visited five of the 25 communities: Igloolik, Hall Beach, Pond Inlet, Coral Harbour, and Iqaluit, where he currently resides with the Neishes. These are small communities, and the number of inhabitants can range from 800 to 1500, and 7200 in the capital city. When Quezada arrives in a community for a typical three-week visit, he starts by renting a place to stay. Once he's established himself, he goes out and knocks on doors, introducing himself to people and trying to gauge their interest in learning about his Saviour and Friend. He offers Bible studies to those who want them and invites them to worship with him on the Sabbath. These Sabbath services may take place in the home where he is staying or at a community hall he is renting. Quezada likes to sing, so sometimes he'll give a talk and then finish off with a small concert. He's even learned to sing "Amazing Grace" in Inuktitut, the language of the Inuit people, which has proved very popular with his audience.

Back home in Iqaluit, Jose runs a program for the youth of the community. The concept is simple: "I know the youth love food, and I love to cook," says Quezada with a laugh. He invites the youth home for home-cooked pizza or lasagna and a Bible study, and they come willingly. Sometimes he teaches them to cook the dishes he has prepared, or he will put on a Christian movie and they will watch it together. Sometimes they go down to the











- 1. & 2. Participants at the Health Expo in Igloolik, Nunavut.
- 3. Jose poses with a gropu of young peple at an evangelistic meeting.
- 4. A community in Nunavut.
- 5. Marcus Angutirjuaq emerges from the waters fo the Arctic Ocean with Jose Quezada's help.

old gym and play sports all afternoon, or they just meet at the house and talk together. All the while Quezada weaves Bible stories and teachings into these discussions, planting seeds in the hearts of his young friends.

Things do not always run so smoothly. There have been times when people have lashed out at Quezada for being an Adventist, for being an outsider. Once, a man threatened Quezada's life, claiming he was trying to interfere with his marriage. Quezada tries not to take it personally, knowing that people are often lashing out from a place of personal pain and suffering. "It was a difficult time to live through," he says. "Seeing God's hand at work definitely built my faith and trust in Him. [There are] a lot of people who just need to hold on to someone who cares about them." On a positive note, Quezada was able to talk with the man who threatened him about Jesus, and they have since become good friends.

At the age of 33 Jose Quezada has found his place in the world and his vocation in life. He is dedicated to spreading the Adventist message to everyone in Canada's youngest territory. That's a big task for someone who professes to be shy, but Quezada doesn't allow that to

hold him back. "When I see someone, I think it might be the only opportunity for me to reach this person for Jesus," he says. "I used to be shy, but what motivates me is to ask myself the question 'What would happen if I asked this person about God?' The curiosity of wanting to know the answer motivates me to keep asking."

How can you support the mission work that Jose Quezada and others are doing in Nunavut? Here are some of their needs:

- Translations of Bible studies and Steps to Christ into Inuktitut.
- Funds that will allow Jose and others to travel to all the 25 communities in Nunavut and rent halls where they can hold evangelistic meetings.
- Pocket Bibles.

If you would like to make a contribution to the Nunavut mission, please contact the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference by phone at 306-244-9700 or email at info@mansask.org.

Hermione Wilson is a staff writer at the Messenger

Go therefore . . . and bring them to camp!

In 1972 Elden Blaney, a Christian Record Services (CRS) representative in the United States, contacted a government agency to help him locate blind children. His intention was to share the good news about the fantastic services of National Camps for the Blind (NCB), which specializes in camping programs offered to the visually impaired individuals desiring such experiences.

It was through God's leading that he met this active little 11-year-old blind girl named Marye Goodrich, now known as Marye McKenney. Marye was not raised in a Christian family and attended a government-funded youth camp as a child. Being visually impaired, she soon discovered that life was unfair. "At the camp, the children were mean to me since I couldn't see like them or do things as they did. There I was at the bottom of the stack, but when I went to the Seventh-day Adventist Camp Winnekeag, in Ashburnham, Mass., everything changed. I could "see" better than others and do things that some blind campers couldn't do. They made me feel like I was at the top of the stack, and that felt good," says Marye. "To this day, my family looks forward to seeing Elden, and my kids call him "Grampy Blaney."



Marye Goodrich McKenney

Marye continues to explain how she attended numerous NCB camps during her childhood. Each year she would attend two or more summer camps, and she loved every moment of it. Most times she did not want to return home. "I owe so much to CRS and National Camps for the Blind. I have been supported and accepted for who I am from the start," says Marye.

While inquiring as to how she began attending the Canadian camps and creating such beautiful NCB calendars, I discovered more about this special person. In the early 1990s Marye Goodrich, along with her friend Stacey, hopped into a vehicle driven by Mr. Blaney, who took them to Buffalo, NY. From there, the young ladies took a bus and went to Camp Frenda in Ontario. "Elden knew that I wasn't in the church and that it was good for me to be at camps. We sang songs all the way there!" As a competitive water skier, Marye enjoyed every moment at her first Canadian blind camp and decided she would return the following year.

In 1991, after a minor accident on the water ski jump, Marye was unable to sit or walk comfortably, so she would lie on her belly in the grass, drawing pictures for a family calendar that she gave out every year at Christmas. Imagine the surprise when Pat Page, the new executive director of National Camps for the Blind Canada, saw these magnificent drawings created by a blind person whose eyes were centimetres from the paper!

To Pat, it was obvious that Marye's drawings could become a marvelous asset as promotional material. Pat proceeded to ask



Marye's most recent calendar and her first calendar created to promote the work of Christian Record Services.

Marye if she would consider creating such a calendar for the purpose of giving them as thank-you gifts to NCB donors. What started as humble beginnings rapidly grew into a strong and meaningful relationship between Marye and Pat. In the fall of 1992, the first black and white calendar with a burgundy cover page was launched. It was best known as a colouring calendar. Years later, Marye started adding water colour to every picture and every month. To this day her calendars are sought after and extremely appreciated by sponsors, campers and staff alike. Being a unique individual, Marye adds something new each year to her drawings. You may discover familiar faces, little Canadian flags, Scripture verses or quotations hidden in various places throughout her art, but without a doubt, you will always see new and varied languages for every month of the year. This incredible woman is a lover of God, and she shares it by showing through her masterpieces that every language, every nationality, every disability, every human being, every animal, every aspect of nature is a beautiful creation made by an amazing Creator.

Yahweh is faithful and just to do as He says He will. A loving God who guarantees that if He be lifted up, He will draw all people to Himself (John 12:32)—now that is a remarkable promise. Go therefore . . . and bring them to camp! This is the mandate of National Camps for the Blind Canada. This was Elden Blaney's mandate, and God used him to draw Marye to Himself. From these sweet beginnings, Marye learned about Jesus, fell in love with Jesus, gave her life to Jesus and has been following Jesus ever since. Praise God for the Elden Blaneys, the Pat Pages and the Marye Goodrich McKenneys in this world.

Discover more about National Camps for the Blind by visiting our website: www.ncbservices.ca ■

Michelle Richards is the associate director for the National Camps for the Blind.



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British Columbia

Powerful When Powerless



Willie Sumagaysay speaking to a full house at the 2012 Filipino campmeeting.

Dowerful When Powerless was the theme of the 29th annual Filipino Seventh-day Adventist Campmeeting held on June 29 to July 1, 2012, at Camp Hope, in Hope, B.C. The theme song was "His Strength Is Perfect." The main thrust of all speakers is that when we recognize our spiritual weakness and rely on the strength of God, then we are powerful. Attendance was high; over 300 packed the Camp Hope conference centre for three days of inspirational preaching, workshops and musical concerts. The event featured Willie Sumagaysay, the associate director of trust services of the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. In his topics, "I Am Strong When I Am Weak," "Enemy of Trust" and "Go in the Strength that You Have," his prime example was Gideon.

VicLouis Arreola III, the director of the Asian/Pacific Ministries of the North American Division, inspired and strengthened the attendees with his two-part message, "Two Greatest Needs on Earth's Final Hour." He was also chosen to be the next year's featured speaker for the adults, while his wife, Cid, will engage the women of the churches. His son VicLouis IV, youth pastor of the San Diego Filipino Seventh-day Adventist Church, will present to the youth—Team Arreola.

During the divine service Wayne Culmore, B.C./Yukon conference president, enthusiastically welcomed the congregation. As the featured speaker at the sundown worship, he commented on the report of Kenneth Lim of Abundant Life Community Church—about his mission trip to China to work with the lepers. Lim was not afraid to wash their affected hands and feet, just like Jesus, who did not think twice before washing his disciples' dirty feet.

Ed Flores also reported on Vancouver Filipino church's mission trip to Paluan, Mindoro, Philippines, for the Mangyans, one of the aboriginal tribes there. This was a reaping trip, as the local brethren had already prepared the groundwork. Most of the people around the school had become members of the Adventist Church. Limwell Ramada also reported on his work among the First Nations in Kitwanga, B.C. with the Sulads Ministry.

Many groups expressed their worship in music, culminating in a concert on Sabbath afternoon followed by Creation Health workshops led by Levi Estores, pastor of the Vancouver Filipino church.

On Sunday, the Fraser Valley Filipino Pathfinders demonstrated precision drilling commanded by Winston Talento. This impressed Limwell to invite them to visit the Ministry in northern British Columbia.

The youth were not left out in the equation either, as they were shepherded by Ian Bramble, pastor of the Edmonton Millwoods and Edmonton North Seventh-day Adventist Churches. Dedicated teachers from the different churches provided fun and spiritual activities for the younger children.

The team of committed members from the Lower Mainland Filipino churches served as the organizing committees who worked together tirelessly to make the weekend meetings a special blessing for everyone.

Campmeeting 2013 on the weekend of June 28 to 30 will mark three decades of Filipino Adventist campmeetings, which were started by the late Pastor Andy Alcaide in 1984. Pastors who identified closely with Filipino Adventists in British Columbia, are invited to attend.

Angie Berto, Clerk, Abundant Life Community Seventh-day Adventist Church

iLearn Street

The Shuswap Eagles Adventurer and Pathfinder Club located in Salmon Arm, B.C., were excited to host an educational fair on June 10, 2012. This innovative and interactive event for children and youth ages 7 to 14 was organized by leadership of the club but was also overwhelmingly supported by volunteers from the Salmon Arm and Silver Creek Seventh-day Adventist Churches.

Various institutions from the community were invited to be involved by sharing their time and expertise to interact with and engage children in learning something about the valuable services their institution provides within the community. Out of the total 28 institutions represented, 25 were operated by community volunteers.

The day started at 7 a.m. for club and church volunteers setting up the entrance gate and station gazebos and helping to direct the various community institutions as they arrived. At 1 p.m., the Salmon Arm mayor, Nancy Cooper, gave a speech and cut the ribbon at the gate entrance. As children and youth entered iLearn Street, they were each given a passport and, as Citizens Under Construction, were invited to learn from as many institutions possible.

Participants had a variety of activities and opportunities to engage in: sitting in police cars, sounding sirens, wearing bulletproof vests, checking out the inside of an ambulance, watching the jaws of life cut apart a car for road rescue, to name a few. Some took the opportunity to create a work of art, sing on stage or learn sun-smart choices from the Canadian Cancer Society. The Ocean and Fisheries Department of Natural Resources taught the importance of not creating disturbances in water upstream that would cause sediment to cover fish eggs downstream and endanger future fish populations. Rapattack, the Rapid Air Response to forest fires, displayed gear and equipment that is dropped from helicopters as crews rappel down to the burn site. At the gardening station you could make a biodegradable newspaper pot and plant a seed to take home or you could tap your name out in Morse Code at the



Volunteers welcome children and their parents to iLearn Street. (Pastor Nelu Nedelea, far left.)



Volunteers help children at the craft table.



A young participant contemplates which remotecontrolled vehicle to choose.



An RCMP officer shows a young recruit the ropes.

radio gazebo. One could not forget to mention the remote control car club and their demonstrations of stunts and racing, or Posh, the ball python snake that kids could hold and get a picture taken with, or the clowns giving out candy, or the face painters ... oh, and then there were the approximately 6,000 bees that were busily buzzing in their honey comb panel

When kids took part in a learning activity, they then received a credit stamp in their passport, and when enough stamps were received, they could spend their credit at one of the play stations such as the Velcro Wall or Obstacle Course, or try their hand at the remote control cars. At the end of their visit, any remaining credit could be spent at the iLearn Street mall.

It is hard to estimate exactly how

many adults, siblings and friends accompanied the 178 passport participants, but it was a rewarding experience for all involved.

We are looking forward to maintaining and growing the connections we have made within our community with the various volunteers from the participating institutions and with local community officials. As well, we were privileged to provide this valuable opportunity for young people to better recognize, appreciate and realize their importance and the many different ways the community supports them in their development and growth. We are eager to offer this event again next year.

Nelu Nedelea, pastor, Salmon Arm Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Time for a Servolution

Would you like to see your local church grow? Here's what we've discovered at the Aldergrove Seventh-day Adventist Church: It's all about Servanthood.

ne of the key passages the pastoral staff adheres to comes from The Ministry of Healing: "Christ's method alone will bring true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow Me'" (p. 143).

It was in the mid 1990s when several church members felt the call to begin specifically meeting people's needs in our community with no strings attached. We hired a church member to be our community facilitator. In time we created a name for our outreach ministries: Acts of Kindness (AOK). Since then AOK has grown into something that has had a powerful effect and that many community people recognize.

For example, several years ago a large (non-Adventist) Christian church in our area heard about what we were doing, through numerous newspaper articles. They came to us to find out how they too could start doing some of these things for the community. After visiting with the Aldergrove AOK pastor, they not only started their own community ministry but also took our name, Acts of Kindness.

AOK has provided different services through the years. We find that sometimes the needs in a community change with the times. For example, there was a time when personal computers were becoming more and more popular. We ran a free computer class called ACTS (Aldergrove Computer Training School). After many years the majority of the community seemed to have a handle on this, and so we discontinued the class and came up with another relevant ministry for the time.

We currently run 11 ministries under AOK. They are the Breakfast Club (feeding hungry children every day of the school year at the local public elementary school), Community Christmas Dinner, Free Oil Change for Single Moms, Vegetarian Cooking School, Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP), sending community children to Mountain View Summer Camp (Adventist summer camp in Hope, B.C.), Welcome Inn (monthly community meal), Operation Christmas Child, Financial Peace University, Minivans for Moms (we give two vehicles away each year) and Extreme Home Repair (EHR).

Our Extreme Home Repair ministry was modelled after the ABC reality TV show Extreme Makeover: Home Edition. The program started small and has grown over the last nine years. We now completely renovate entire homes for families in need. It's exciting to see people's lives changed as we reveal their new homes to them every May.

By the time the project is complete, we have done a renovation easily worth over \$100,000 in labour and materials. You may be



AOK Extreme Home Repair volunteer helps renovate Teresa Sperger's house.

wondering how it's possible to do such a huge and costly act of kindness for a family with limited resources. The secret is to get the community to assist you. This year we had 100 construction, food and media companies make some kind of donation toward the project. Out of the 100, only seven were Adventist-owned businesses. Community companies like to help with this kind of project. They've seen the show and like making a difference. Also, finding 93 companies to help us doesn't just happen. It takes a lot of effort from the EHR leadership team to go out and just ... ask!

Supportive businesses are crucial to this program but volunteers are also vitally important. The EHR leadership team, along with other members from the church, volunteer their time to do the labour. The project is a 10-day challenge, so some volunteers even take their vacation time to work on it during the week. Of course, we also seek out people from the community to help as well. Some years we have had up to 250 volunteers. This year about 47 percent were from the community. I am astounded every year by how many community people come alongside to help. In past years there have been as much as 60 percent non-Adventists helping us.

This year we tried something we've never done before. We did two projects. We wanted to share the grace of God with more than one family. We had a primary project and a secondary one. The primary recipient was Teresa Sperger, whose story was covered in the July 2012 issue of the Messenger.

Serving God's children on this earth can do wonders for the local church. It not only helps the community but also brings together God's people for a united purpose. As long as we're on this earth, we need to make a difference in people's lives. It will change your church. Why don't you begin a Servolution today?

To see the Extreme Home Repair 2012 video or for more info about Acts of Kindness, go to aokaldergrove.org

Michael Dauncey, pastor, Extreme Home Repair Team Leader, Aldergrove SDA Church

Manitoba-Saskatchewan



Collin Akre, executive secretary of the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and his wife Janice, have accepted a call for him to serve as executive director of Park Manor Personal Care Home in Winnipeg, Man., beginning Oct. 1, 2012.

When Clifford Holm chose to relinquish the secretariat role before the 2008 quadrennial session, Ken Wiebe, then president of the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference (now president of the Alberta Conference), brought Collin Akre's name to the nominating committee because of his people skills and because of how as CEO, he professionally managed Sunnyside Adventist Care Centre, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Wiebe described Collin as being "meticulous and detailed; just the kind of person needed as an executive secretary."

Collin Akre Accepts Call to Park Manor Personal Care Home

Collin accepted the role as executive secretary and communications director for the conference at the quadrennial session in 2008. Although not an ordained minister, Collin learned the secretariat role quickly, and was invested with a commissioned minister credential. He participated effectively in discussion and decision making, giving wise leadership in areas pertinent to the secretariat.

In addition to the secretariat and communications, Collin supported the ministry of ADRA Canada and local Adventist Community Services. During his tenure as a conference officer, he served a three-year term on the ADRA Canada board of directors, helping make decisions that would advance the influence of ADRA not only in the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference but also throughout Canada and the world.

Collin was recently re-elected for another four-year term as executive secretary at the April 15 quadrennial session in Saskatoon and although initially hesitant, eventually responded to the interest of the board for Park Manor Personal Care Home. Deciding to accept the call was difficult because Collin and Janice have lived in Saskatoon for many years, but as the needs of Park Manor became more fully apparent, they came to understand that God was calling Collin to continue serving the church through its health care ministry.

Current president of the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference, Ron Nelson stated: "It has been a pleasure and a privilege to partner with Collin, and I have appreciated his dedication and commitment to our field. As the executive secretary, his Christian demeanor, common sense and thorough, effective management style has been an asset that will be missed. Anticipating God's continued blessing, we wish him the very best as he takes up new responsibilities as the CEO of the Park Manor Personal Care Home in Winnipeg."

Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference Communications

Alberta

Prophecy Seminar Swells Lethbridge Church Ranks

What a joy it is to be in the Lord's work winning precious souls for the Kingdom.

On March 24, in conclusion of our first of three prophecy seminars in Lethbridge planned for 2012, we were pleased to welcome another wave of seminar attendees into church membership. This first seminar was conducted by Amazing Facts speaker Darrin Bartell.

Over two Sabbaths, four individuals were baptized, three came in by profession of faith and several more have committed to worship each Sabbath with our church family. Three responded to an appeal to prepare for church membership soon.

Among those who expressed an interest in church member-

ship are Alex and Bernice Hunt, who pastor the First Nations Christian Fellowship in Cardston, Alta.

Bernice explains that when she began attending our November 2011 prophecy seminar, her health had been very poor for several months and she required a walker to move around, but since discovering the Bible truths as taught by the Seventh-day Adventist Church and then attending a second prophecy seminar, her health has dramatically improved and she no longer requires a walker.

She says that she sees that the Lethbridge Seventh-day Adventist Church is full of God's love and feels very accepted each time she and her husband attend. They have several grown children, three of whom have also been attending some of the seminar presentations.

Gaitanne Boyd, the elderly mother of one of our new members who joined the church last year, made her decision to join the Seventh-day Adventist Church after Ben Otto from Medicine Hat set up a 3ABN satellite dish system in her home.

After watching 3ABN and other Adventist programs for a few months, Mrs. Boyd called Pastor Darrell Beaudoin and requested membership. When the pastor visited the home to meet with her, other family members were present.

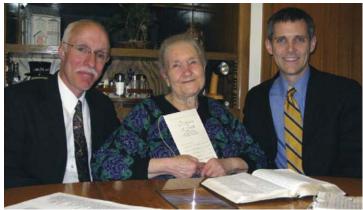
Pastor Darrell asked the family if there were others who would like to consider membership, to which Gordon and Yvonne Myer, Boyd's daughter and son-in-law, responded by also requesting membership.

They then attended several meetings of the prophecy seminar, after which they became members.

Hearing our new members' comments and testimonies about their newfound joy in the Lord is exciting, and we look forward to seeing who else the Lord will bring to us as we continue to build the evangelistic momentum in Lethbridge.

A Bible worker began full-time work in Lethbridge starting in May 2012 and we anticipate great things.

The Lethbridge church members were diligent and prayerful



Darrell Beaudoin with new member Gaitanne Boyd and Amazing Facts speaker Darrin Bartell.

in supporting the seminar presentations each night.

Following the seminar, an outreach and nurture action team was formed, and volunteer church members were assigned to nurture and follow up on the friendships being built with our new members.

Please continue to pray for the area of Lethbridge. To God be the glory! ■

Darrell Beaudoin, pastor, Lethbridge Church

Maritimes

Twenty-eight Years of God's Blessings



Order of Nova Scotia—The highest honour given by the Province of Nova Scotia (Mel seated, signing registry)



Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal Award—Mel was selected to be among the 60 recipients from across Canada to receive the award presented by the Governor General in Ottawa, on February 6, 2012, the 60th anniversary date of Queen Elizabeth II's reign. (Mel and wife, Thelma, being introduced to Queen Elizabeth II)

ednesday, May 30, 2012, marked the annual dinner fundraiser for the Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank (PSF&FB) of Halifax, N.S. The fundraising was very successful; it began with a silent auction followed by a gourmet

dinner for over 250 in attendance. The objective of the event was to recognize Melvin Boutilier (Mel), executive director of the centre, for his many years of volunteer service. Many words of appreciation were shared with all the sponsors and

supporters, without whom the outreach of the PSF&FB could not be such a blessing to so many. All of the proceeds raised from the dinner went to the emergency services at the PSF&FB.

In 1983 Mel opened what would soon

become known as the Parker Street Food Bank in a one-car garage beside the Halifax church. He envisioned being able to give food to the people of Halifax who were out of work or to low-income families who just weren't able to afford enough food. However, it became apparent to Mel that the people he was helping needed more than just food. Many of them, even ones who were working, were not able to buy basic necessities such as furniture, bedding, dishes and cookware. In order to accommodate these needs, the furniture bank was opened in 1995, allowing the operation to serve in a broader way.

In the years since the PSF&FB has opened, it has developed not only the furniture bank but also two thrift stores and a skills development centre. Some of the furniture donated to the PSF&FB is repaired in the furniture bank warehouse and sold in the thrift stores to support the overall operation.

Over the years various skills-training programs have been offered, such as computer training (which the Nova Scotia Community College counts as credit), flooring installation, inventory training, window and door installation, etc., to provide the people of the community with the skills needed to obtain employment and become self-sufficient. Presently, in conjunction with the Carpenter Millwright Trades College, the PSF&FB skills development centre is conducting a carpentry course that trains social assistance recipients. Successful graduates of past carpentry courses are currently working in the construction field.

Mel's story is one that proves how God, over the years, has blessed the commission He has given to us, His people. For over 28 years Mel has worked, most often six days a week, without a salary. His passion to assist those in need is unceasing, and his work is unmatched in the Halifax Metro

area. The community, local businesses, and many humanitarian and charity organizations have come to recognize him as an advocate for the needy. His dedication, as well as that of the PSF&FB staff and volunteers has, on a daily basis, shown God's love and compassion to those less fortunate in the Halifax Regional Municipality. Over the years Mel has received numerous awards for his years of volunteer service, some of which are the Therese Casgrain Award, the Order of Nova Scotia, the Order of Canada, and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal Award.

God is still working through Melvin and the Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank as it serves an average of 250 families each week and continues to care for the less fortunate in the community of Halifax.

Sarah Greenwood, Halifax Seventh-day Adventist Church

Ontario

The family that plays together...





On Sunday, June 24, 2012, members of the Northwest Brampton Seventh-day Adventist Church went to Caledon East Community Park for their annual picnic. This was a time for all the athletes and "wannabe" athletes of the church to shine. It was also a time to meet, eat and fellowship with one another. Prior to going to the park, two teams consisting of members



Three-legged racers stumble towards the finish line.

from the church were created. There was a yellow team and a blue team.

On the day of the event, team members arrived in their team's colour in order to participate and or to cheer their team members on in the various athletic events of the day. The forecast called for rain that day. However, members would not be deterred by

rain. Various races were run by different participants. Some of the races included a three-legged race, egg and spoon, hot potato, sack race, relay and 100-metre dash. Children as young as three years old to adults in their 70s participated in the day's events.

The event started at 10 a.m. and paused at 1:30 p.m. for lunch and fellowship. Each member of the church brought their own lunch that they willingly shared with other members. There was corn, rice and peas, codfish and green banana, floaters/ bakes/fried dumplings, to name a few of the foods.

After lunch the day's activities resumed. Although some of the "star" athletes were unable to participate due to injury or illness, everyone had a great time.

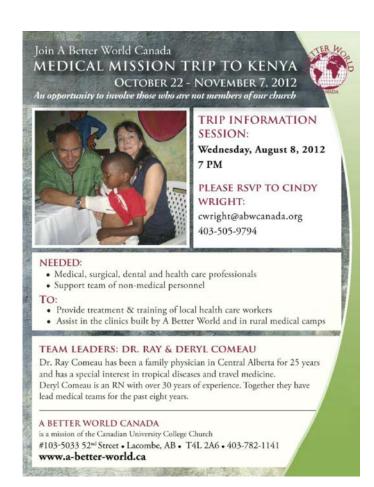
After all activities were finished, it started to rain. Everyone ran for shelter in a nearby facility. The organizer of the event took the time to announce the winning team. Individuals received ribbons for first-place finishes, and the winning team got cake. The winning team shared their cake not only among themselves but also with the losing team.

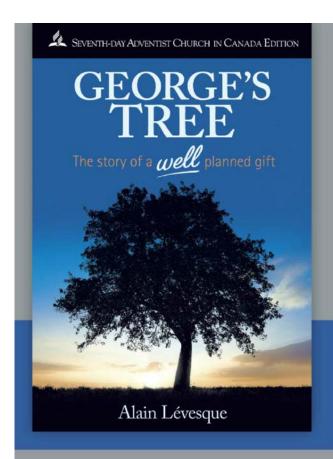
The pastor closed off the session by announcing that that would be his last picnic with the group because he was transferring to another pastoral call.

So with bittersweet memories, another church picnic came to an end.

Until next time... ■

Anthony A. Blair, Assistant Sabbath School Superintendent, Northwest Brampton church





GEORGE'S TREE will teach you how to benefit from Canadian tax deductible policies when you make your current charitable donations, as well as charitable bequests in your Will. A financial specialist in Planned Giving, author Alain Lévesque uses an easy-to-read story format to demystify many preconceived notions. This special edition includes examples for Planned Gifts to Canadian Adventist charitable organizations.

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Announcements

PROCESS:

- All announcements (nonprofit events, new member notices, birth announcements, weddings, anniversaries, obituaries and tributes) should be emailed to Hermione Wilson (wilson.hermione@ adventist.ca) or faxed to her attention at 905/433-0982.
- Every individual named in the announcement must be aware of the submission and have granted the submitter approval for printing.
- Obituaries must be submitted on the appropriate form, completed and/or approved by a family member of the deceased. The forms (both printable and electronically submitable) are available at www.adventist.ca/messenger.
- The Messenger assumes no liability for typographical errors or responsibility for inaccuracies originating in submitted material.
- For more information about Messenger announcement policies, go to www.adventist. ca/messenger, click 'writers guidelines' then click 'announcements'.

Announcements

Missing Members—The Surrey Seventh-day Adventist Church is looking for the following missing members: Albert Abrantes, Michael Abrantes, Rick Arens, Stacey Ashley, Irene Babak, Walter Babak, Sheila Clark, Kimberly Coleman, Patricia Coleman, Robert Coleman, Chris De Barras, Grace De Barras, Louisa De Barras, Lysa De Barras, Daniel D'Oliveira, Yahayra D'Oliveira-Ventura, Robert Duguay, J. Fujiwaki, Hans Gordon, Willie Iglasias, Ben Kapsoiya, Lynne Keim, Dennis Krawchuk, Sandra Liggins, Veronica MacIntyre, Beverly MacKinnon, Brian McKeller, Jason McKinney, Catarina Mensinger, Jacqueline Michael, Komborera Muvuti, Guido Oligschlaeger, Carolyn Olson, Rebecca Penson, Roy Plante, Diane Pugh, Sheri Riches, Brad Rochow, Robert Rushton, Matthew Smyth, Nancy Somers, Angelina St. John, Lester Tothy, Steven Tulloch, Christopher Turner, Douglas Weir, Nicholas Weir, Tracy Valdez, Darcy Van Ochton, Angela Wingenbach, Mike Wood, Nadja Wood, Jaimie Zavaglia. If you have any information on how they can be contacted, please contact Rae Weir, church secretary, at 604/591-2922.

The Harmony Seventh-day Adventist Church is looking for

the following missing members: Fina Korpershoek, Jerry Korpershoek, Susan Roberts, Arlene Severin. If you have information on how they can be contacted, please contact Bev Matiko, church clerk, at bev.mat@sympatico.ca.

■ Legal Notices

Quadrennial Session of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church—Quebec Conference

Notice is hereby given that the Quebec Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will hold its eighth quadrennial session at the LaSalle Seventh-day Adventist Church (7780 Boul. Champlain, LaSalle), Sept. 14–16, 2012. Registration of delegates will begin on Friday, Sept. 14, 2012, at 5 p.m.

The regular business meeting of the session will be called at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 14, 2012. All matters pertaining to the general session—elections, reports, etc.—will be on the agenda.

The bylaws provide for representatives from each church in the Quebec conference to attend. The session is open to everyone, but only the delegates will have the right to vote.

> Daniel Latchman, President Emile Maxi, Executive Secretary

Session Quadriennale de l'église Adventiste du Septième Jour —Fédération du Québec

La huitième Assemblée quadriennale de l'Église Adventiste du Septième Jour-Fédération du Québec se tiendra à l'Église de LaSalle New Life sise au 7780 boul. Champlain, (LaSalle), du 14 au 16 septembre 2012. L'inscription des délégués commencera à 17 h 00 le vendredi 14 septembre 2012.

La session officielle débutera à 18 h 30 le vendredi 14 septembre. Tout ce qui a trait à la session générale, les élections, les rapports, etc. sera à l'ordre du jour.

Les règlements prévoient que des représentants de chaque église de la Fédération du Québec pourront y assister. Tout membre déglise peut également assister aux débats mais seuls les délégués auront droit de vote.

> Daniel Latchman, Président Emile Maxi, Secrétaire exécutif

The Alberta Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

Notice is hereby given that the 50th Session of the Alberta Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will be held at the College Heights Seventh-day Adventist Church, Lacombe, Alberta on Sept. 23, 2012. The Regular business meeting will be

called at 9:30 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 23. There will be a meeting of the Organizing Committee at 7:30 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 23.

The purpose of the meeting is to consider reports and financial statements, elect officers and members of the Executive Committee of the Conference for the ensuing quadrennial period, to consider any proposed changes in the Bylaws, and for the transaction of any other business that may properly come before the session.

The Bylaws provide for representatives from each duly organized church in the Alberta Conference as follows: one delegate per church without regard of membership, and one additional delegate for every fifty (50) members or major fraction thereof.

Ken Wiebe, President Larry Hall, Vice President for Administration

Anniversaries

Catherine and **Robert Lawe** of Peterborough, Ont., celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on June 1,



2012. The Lawes have five sons, 22 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

August and Erika (née Zeise) Sperling of Kelowna, B.C., celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on



May 23, 2012. They celebrated at home with their immediate family amid much joy and laughter. The Sperlings have four daughters, 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Wilford and Anne (née Krause) Tetz of Lacombe, Alta., celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on December 26, 2012. The Tetzes have



six children (two daughters and four sons), 13 grandchildren and 11 greatgrandchildren.

■ Obituaries

Ralph A. Capnerhurst was born Aug. 17, 1915, in Darcy, Sask., and died May 13, 2012, in Mission, B.C. Ralph loved the Advent message deeply and was involved on a daily basis in the erection of the sanctuary that replaced the old Mission church, known to so many Canadian Adventists. Ralph is predeceased by his brothers, George, Norman, Harvey and Stan; his sisters, Ivy Arbuthnot and Olive White; daughter Juanita; stepdaughter Dianne Best; stepson, Bill McMeekin; and grandson Jay Guthier. Surviving: wife, Evelyn; sons, Jack (Darlene), Terry (Norma) and Harold (Jeannie); daughter Donna Gauthier; stepdaughter Anda (John) Pawlovich; 10 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Reginial Lenbert Cheney was

born Oct. 20, 1928, in Dexter, Maine, and died April 13, 2012, in Rutland, Vt. Reginial served as an elder pastor at the Rutland, Bennington and Bristol churches, and later went on to serve in the States and the Maritimes before returning to Rutland in 1988. Reginial frequently held health-related programs at his local church, as well as assisted with Vacation Bible Schools and Ingathering. He is predeceased by his brother, Philip, and his sisters Priscila and Ernestine. Surviving; wife, Thelma; son, Gerald Ray; daughter, Carol Joy Cheney Cork, of Houston, Tex.; twin sister, Reginia Cheney; and two grandchildren.

Henry "Harry" George Knight

was born Sept. 22, 1922, near
Bangor, Sask., and died May 21,
2012, in Bangor. Harry was a faithful
member of the Yorkton church,
where he served as a treasurer and a
deacon. He is survived by his wife,
Annie; his son, Chris (Lynda), of
Williams Lake, B.C.; his daughters,
Elizabeth (Jerry) Chamberlain, of
70 Mile House, B.C., and Patricia
(George) Ohnander, of Stockholm,
Sask.; brother, Arthur, of Kindersley,
Sask.; sister, Alice Abdai, of Esterhazy, Sask.; nine grandchildren and
six great-grandchildren.

Dorothy "Mary" (née Basaraba)

McKim was born Feb. 8, 1920, in Shalka, Alta., and died March 19, 2012, in Vernon, B.C. Dorothy is predeceased by her husband, Claude. Surviving: son, Glen of Vancouver, B.C.; daughter, Sharon Edwards; brother, Dave Basaraba; sisters, Anne Miller, Joan Wyman and Sylvia Jacobson; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Sharla Marie (née Scott) Parker

was born May 16, 1961, in Avon Park, Fla., and died Sept. 10, 2011, in Bellingham, Wash. Sharla served as a student missionary to Arusha, Tanzania, went on other short-term mission trips, and was a camp counselor at Camp Chawuthen (now Mountain View Summer Camp) in Hope, B.C. for several summers. She is survived by her parents, Pat and Esther Scott; her brothers, Ron (Sharri), of Hubbards, N.S., Kevin (Cindy), of Jackson, Mich., and Roy (Elaine), of Peace River, Alta.

Gunnar Oscar Pearson was born Nov. 26, 1913, in Minnedosa, Man., and died April 26, 2012, in Calgary, Alta. Gunnar served his church as a colporteur and in other capacities throughout his life. He is predeceased by his brothers, Robert, John and Harry Pearson; and his sisters, Ann Charles, Ellen Larson, Selma Ericson and Vera Burgess. Surviving: son, Leslie (Judy), of Calgary; daughters, Penny (Edward) Smith, of Nanaimo, B.C., and Jody (Terry) Fry, of Lacombe, Alta.; eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Bernice (née Kolisnyk) Robinson

was born July 25, 1937, in Winnipeg, Man., and died May 29, 2012, in Brampton, Ont. Bernice was a founding member of the Kingsview Village church in Etobicoke, Ont., where she served as church bulletin secretary. She was a graduate of Oshawa Missionary College in 1956. Bernice is predeceased by her husband of 52 years, Lloyd R. Robinson. Surviving: sons, Robert (Linda), of Westland, Mich., and Brian, of Toronto, Ont.; daughter, Janice (Gerry) Gibbs, of Seaforth, Ont.; sister, Helen (Peter) Picklyk, of Winnipeg; and three grandchildren.

William "Bill" Wigley was born Dec. 31, 1920, in Castor, Alta., and died May 10, 2012, in Lacombe, Alta. Bill pastored a number of churches in Alberta and served at the Alberta conference office as a department head. He was also the caretaker of Foothills Camp for several years. His talent as an auctioneer coupled with his wit and humour brought delight to many a church bake and handicraft sale. Bill is predeceased by his son Bill Jr. (Heather); his daughter Ona Wigley; his brothers, Charlie, Fred, George and Richard Wigley; and his

sisters Lucy Marshall and Grace Remillard. Surviving: wife, Mable (née Herzog); son Roy (Marianne), of Airdrie, Alta.; daughters Joy Wigley, of Lacombe, Star Cunningham, of Red Deer, Alta., and Bunnie Wigley, of Red Deer; sister Betty Kubinchak, of Red Deer; 14 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren and eight great-great-grandchildren.

Advertising **Policies**

PROCESS:

- All advertising should be submitted with local conference approval.
- Payment must accompany your ad, or it will not be published.
- The Messenger assumes no responsibility for typographical errors, nor liability for the advertisements. Acceptance of ads does not constitute endorsement of the products or services by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada.

RATES:

Classified advertising— \$30 for 50 words or less; \$10 for each additional 10

Display advertising Contact the Messenger for a rate sheet.

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October issue: Aug. 1 November issue: Sept. 4 December issue October 1

Advertisements

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ADRA Canada is seeking an experienced project manager

to provide leadership and technical management in the Emergency Management Department. Visit www.adra.ca for details of position and required qualifications. To apply, please send cover letter and résumé to James. Astleford@adra.ca. (8/12)

Biology professor sought by Union College, Lincoln, NE.

Terminal degree strongly preferred; deep commitment to integrating Adventist faith, teaching and scholarship, essential. Several specialties acceptable. Submit vita and cover letter to Dr. Carrie Wolfe, chair, Division of Science, cawolfe@ucollege. edu. Deadline is September 30, 2012. (8/12)

Union College is seeking tenure track faculty member to teach foundational level courses and clinical in BSN program. Prior teaching experience and minimum of MSN in Nursing required. Qualified candidates will possess a commitment to Adventist Christian values. Email cover letter and résumé/curriculum vitae to thstimso@ucollege.edu. (8/12)

Fountainview Academy is seeking cafeteria manager. Key duties: plan and prepare menus that are based on fresh, seasonal fruits and vegetables, as well as other vegan food options; ability to keep abreast of vegan dining trends and to seek out or develop new recipes. Must provide leadership and direction to kitchen staff and students. Qualifications: experience in quantity food prep and kitchen maintenance, knowledge of vegan cooking and balanced nutrition, good organizational skills, ability to work well with a team and willing to travel to prepare meals for activities on the road. Remuneration \$27,000

Also seeking assistant vegan cook. To support the cafeteria manager with food prep, you must be knowledgeable about vegan food and cooking techniques. Qualifications: same as above for cafeteria manager. Remuneration \$23,100-\$27,030, based on experience. Please consider sending your résumé to Elaine Roque at eroque@fountainview.ca (6/12)

-\$30,216, based on experience.

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kenhealthcare@yahoo.com. (8/12)



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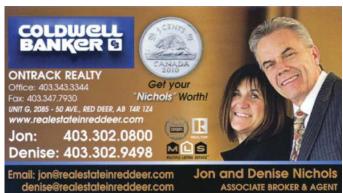
can help you naturally treat and reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, osteoporosis, fibromyalgia, lupus, multiple sclerosis, chronic fatigue, cancer, substance abuse, stress, anxiety, depression and many more. Invest in your health and call 800/634-9355 for more information or visit www.wildwoodhealth.org/lifestyle. (4/13)

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You Can Educate Orphans In African Adventist Schools!



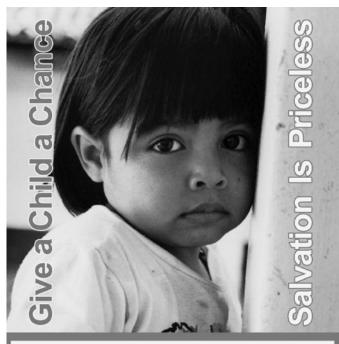
Free African Children thru Education FACE orphans live at home with surviving family members! Your \$65 a year gift pays school fees, uniform, pencils, pens, paper and blanket for a child orphaned by war, poverty & disease. FACE sends 100% of your check to Uganda then sends to you a tax receipt with your child's information.

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Families will be interested in the opportunities for educating their children: K through 12 in the public system, including Success by Six and preschool opportunities; a community college; K through 12 in a private system, and public library.

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We are recruiting to place up to three family physicians within the year and invite inquiries from those interested in a northern, small-town environment where current physicians earn in excess of one half million per year. Husband -Wife teams would be ideal.

Visit our website at www.gochetwynd.com

Call us at 250 401 4100 and ask for the Mayor or the Chief Administrative

Mestern Canadian

"BEHOLD I BRING YOU GOOD TIDINGS"

Vol. 2

Regina, Saskatchewan, November 19, 1913

No. 22

IN THE NOVEMBER 19, 1913 issue of the Western Canadian Tidings (British Columbia portion) G. E. Henton suggested these nine, somewhat tongue-in-cheek, commandments for missionaries to follow:

MISSIONARY PRECEPTS

- 1. Thou shalt have no other interest before that of missionary work.
- 2. If other appointments have been made for the night of the missionary meeting, thou shalt not allow them to hold the attention or interest until thou hast discharged thine obligation to the missionary society, of which thou art a part, else thou wilt not be held guiltless.
- 3. Thou shalt not make any image or likeness of any excuse for not doing missionary work, for only to the "faithful" will the "well done" be said.
- 4. Six days shalt thou labor for others, and on the seventh day send in a good stirring report.
- 5. Honor good literature. Fill thy mind with good things which will fit thee for the society of angels, and make thy days long upon the new earth where the fruits of thy labor will soon appear.
- 6. Thou shalt not kill time that was given thee for telling the good news of salvation to others.
- 7. Thou shalt not steal by hiding thy talent and depriving sinners of the warning needed for their redemption.
- 8. Thou shalt not bear false witness by professing to love thy neighbor as thyself, and then deny thy responsi-
- 9. Thou shalt not covet anything that is thy neighbor's, much less his talent, because it might be a worse fit than Saul's armor on David.

G. E. HENTON.

On page 4 of the same issue is a section titled "Saskatchewan Notes." The following are a few excerpts:

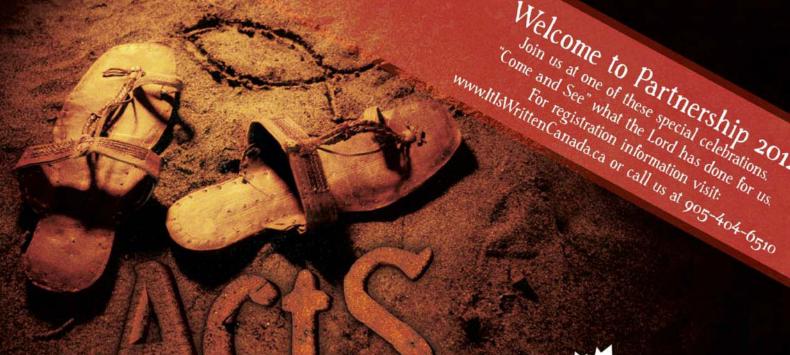
Word from Bratton informs us that disastrous prairie fires have been raging in that district. Much property has been burned, and it is feared that some lives have been lost.

We are glad to report that a teacher has been secured for the McLean church-school and it is planned to begin school there November 24. Miss Inez Mattison, of Minneapolis, has been engaged for this school.

About three weeks ago Brother and Sister J. R. Trovillo, of Wilcox, had the misfortune of losing by fire their home and its contents. Miss Louise Bisseger, who was stopping with them also lost all her clothing, books, etc.

December 13-20 has been appointed as the week of prayer. Last week's Review contains the readings to be used during this week. It is to be hoped that all our people, whether located near a church or isolated, will plan to observe this season of prayer as far as possible.

"Some Facts and More Facts" is the title of a pamphiet exposing the character and work of the so-called "Pastor" Russel, of Millenium Dawn notoriety. This pamphlet contains so much that all our people should be informed upon that we have secured a few of these and they can be had at ten cents a piece from the Tract Society. This terrible deception of a future probation is leading many souls to ruin, and it behooves us to know something of the source of this doctrine.



The Mission Continues...



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PARTNERSHIP

Toronto, ON

September 7-9

Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel (*Back At Previous Location*) 901 Dixon Road, Toronto, ON M9W 1J5

Hope, BC September 21-23 Camp Hope 61855 Lougheed

Highway, RR I Hope, BC V0X 1L0

Calgary, AB
October 5-7
Calgary Hyatt Regency Hotel
(New Location)
700 Centre Street SE
Calgary, AB T2G 5P6

SPONSORSHIP

Toronto, ON

September 8 at 3:30 p.m. Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel (Back At Previous Location) 901 Dixon Road, Toronto, ON M9W 115

Kelowna, BC September 23 at 6:00 p.m. Rutland Adventist Church 130 Gerstmar Road, Kelowna, BC V1X 4A7

Halifax, NS September 29 at 11:00 a.m. Sandy Lake Academy 435 Hammonds Plains Road, Bedford, NS B4B 1Y2

Calgary, AB
October 6 at 3:30 p.m.
Calgary Hyart Regency Hotel
(New Location)
700 Centre Street SE,
Calgary, AB T2G 5P6

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Shawn Boonstra Associate Ministerial Director, Seventh-Day Adventist Church in North America



Bledi Leno Pastor, Greater New York Conference



S. Joseph Kidder Professor at the 7th-Day Adventist Seminary Andrews University

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