

canadian adventist

# Messenger

june 2013



# Is It Safe?

Stan Jensen reports on his trip to the Holy Land.

- PLUS** The best garden to plant this year (p. 4)
- Communicating with your volunteers (p. 13)
- The 2013 Campmeeting Schedule (p. 29)

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“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” (2 Cor. 5:17, ESV)



## Telling Friends

One of my favorite passages in all of Scripture is the one about the demon-possessed men, the cemetery and Jesus. This story shows up in three of the Gospels, so it must have made quite an impression on those who travelled with Jesus.

It is hard for me to imagine the major change that those fellows experienced. In the morning they were outcasts, out of control, unwelcome in any home in town. But then Jesus came by. And now they were different men—all in the space of a few hours.

I can understand why they would want to stick close to Jesus, can't you? The Bible records the conversation between Christ and one of them: "As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. And he did not permit him but said to him, 'Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you'" (Mark 5:18, 19, ESV).

So Jesus sent those men back to the very places that would have thrown them out that same morning. And He sent them as witnesses of His power to change people.

I'd like to suggest that today Jesus wants to transform each of us just as certainly as He did the men in the cemetery. Then He sends us—transformed—to the very ones who know us well as an example of what He does. You see, the folks across town won't notice the change in me as much as do my family, my neighbor, the folks in my school or at work.

So let's do it, shall we? First, let's allow Christ to do all that He desires in us, and then let's go back "home" to show what He has done for us. ■

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

# Messenger

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# The Best Garden to Plant This Year

*Carrots, beets, onions. For many of us, these are just vegetables, but to someone like Baichu,\* these words mean life to her and her family.*

You see, Baichu lives in Mongolia, where the growing season is short and the winters are long and hard. She cares for her three young children alone, one of whom has a disability. Her family's living conditions are very poor. Each day is a fight to survive. In her words: "I'm just trying to feed my children."

Recently, Baichu's life changed. She heard about a project provided by ADRA Canada supporters to feed hungry families in her community. She immediately went and asked how to join. She was ecstatic to find that she was chosen for the project and soon was being taught to grow her own life-saving garden.

Because of support from donors like you, she received gardening tools, fertilizer, seeds and building supplies for a root cellar and greenhouse. She then transformed her yard into a garden that was uniquely designed to grow and store healthy vegetables—even in Mongolia. With her harvest, she will be able to feed her children and sell produce to earn money to survive. This garden, provided by ADRA supporters like you, has changed her family's future!

ADRA has identified nearly 9,800 families in urgent need of food in three countries this year. Their needs can be met with projects like the one Baichu is part of. We're calling our campaign to help these families "Plant Change." The good news is, the change planted will not only fix their hunger today but also provide skills and solutions for generations to come.

Our plan for change is not complicated: Provide tools and train families to grow their own food. Teach them new ways to farm and earn a living. Break the cycle of hunger and poverty. And it all starts with a garden like Baichu's. It's not just about growing vegetables! It's about eradicating hunger and changing generations! This is what God asks of us...

His word has hundreds of verses urging you and me to care for one another. Verses like, "Therefore, I command you to be open handed toward your fellow Israelites who are poor and needy in your land" (Deut. 15:11, NIV).

Our Plant Change projects in Mongolia, Cambodia and Rwanda can make a difference to "the poor and needy in your

land" by providing:

- Food for hungry people
- Seeds and tools to start gardens
- Training on the best ways to farm and garden in harsh climates
- Guidance on eating well for family health and nutrition
- Help with creating an income

Baichu calls her involvement with ADRA "the biggest support I have ever received in my life!" You should be very proud of this! Baichu, her children and their future children's lives have been forever changed!

Can I ask you a favour? As you plant your gardens this spring and watch them grow, will you say a prayer for those who can also plant gardens this year because of ADRA Canada supporters? Pray for their seeds and that their life-saving crop comes up with abundance to put an end to their hunger. ■

*James Astleford is the executive director of ADRA Canada.*

\*Name changed to protect privacy.

# Ministers Hurt Sometimes too

"All in a day's walk with God."

I want to share my family's story from last year as it was a trust in suffering and may give you some encouragement. Have you ever had a year like that? I came up with a new phrase, "All in a day's walk with God."

The year 2012 started off with my wife's father, 91, not doing very well. We thought we would lose him around Christmas of 2011, and we ultimately did on June 9, 2012. The winter and spring months leading up to his passing were most demanding on my wife, Celest, and her sister—caring for an elderly loved one who had lost so much mentally and physically. But they considered it a privilege, and he received the most tender and compassionate care deserving of a faithful parent.

Also, in June, our son was part of a reorganization of pastoral districts in Nova Scotia and lost his job after 20 years in ministry.

On July 7, we had a memorial service for Celest's father in Moncton, N.B., and returned home a couple of days later in Newfoundland around midnight. When we opened the door to our home, we heard water running. The toilet bowl had leaked water over the weekend we were away, flooding the house. We have a split-level home, and every room but two in the whole house was damaged. After the recovery team had torn out all the damaged walls, ceilings and carpets, we could stand in the garage at the wall and see the wall at the other end of the house. For weeks we had to live out of suitcases. \$55,000 dollars of damage and restoration later, our insurance company informed us they would not renew our insurance because we had exceeded their spending limit. Have you ever tried to find insurance after one company will not renew their policy?

Within a few weeks after the water damage, Celest's sister, a retired Adventist school teacher, who was living with us to help care for her father, noticed that one leg was swelling. Upon going to the hospital and receiving tests, she was informed that she had bowel cancer, stage three. Today after surgery and 11 chemo treatments later, we don't have the final word on her recovery but live in hope.

In the fall of 2012, my mom's health took a turn, and after 60 years of faithfulness to God and her church, on Dec. 7, she slipped away in death's sleep.

One of the follow-through items when a senior dies is to take care of his or her retirement income. Between June and August the United States Social Security continued sending Celest's

dad his regular retirement cheques. In August, I made contact to inform them that we had the funds and asked instructions on how we should return the money. They told us, and we promptly made a money order and on Sept. 15, they receipted us, informing that all had been returned in full. We considered the issue closed.

However, on Nov. 26, I received a call from our bank informing us that Social Security had approached them seeking the full reimbursement of the funds owing. I informed them it had been paid, scanned the receipt and emailed the information the same day. To our family's amazement, on Nov. 30, our bank processed Social Security's request and took out of Mr. Osgood's account over \$5,000 when he had only \$72 in the account. They overdrafted the account on which we did not have overdraft protection. What I was seeing blew me away.

To top that, our bank told us they have the right to do that and if Social Security does not return the funds, then we will be responsible to repay the bank for their loss. Are we living in special times or not! Sorting out this challenge has been ongoing since the end of November 2012, with hopefully some light at the end of the tunnel but not yet. At least the local bank manager and accounts manager have humbled and shown empathy.

We are now in the spring of 2013 and it "appears" we are coming out of the year of struggles, as some of you can identify with. Pastor Leroy, our son, is happily pastoring at the Maxwell Academy in Kenya, our house is repaired, we have such positive memories of both parents and live in the hope of the resurrection that will take place at the second coming of Jesus.

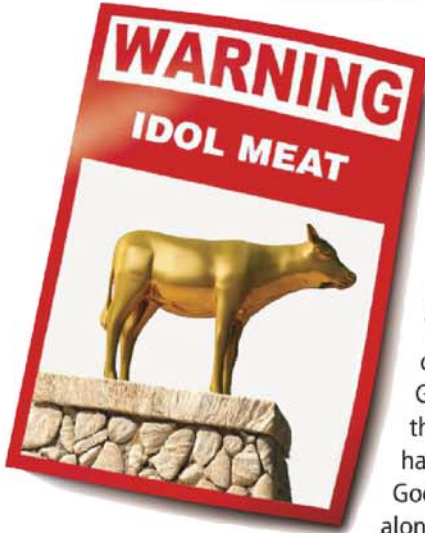
Celest and I are confident that all things do work out for God's glory and He allows only that which will be ultimately for the furthering of His kingdom and our personal character development. Someday we want to take Jesus aside and ask Him to open to us our 2012 experience so we can see His perspective on our walk with God. We and you are only asked to be faithful, "All in a day's walk with God." ■

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



# T33nTa1k

*A discussion came up in class about Romans 14. It seems to say it doesn't matter what we eat and nothing is unclean! Is this true?*



You are not the first and won't be the last to be confused by this chapter. Consider what Peter said: "Our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures" (2 Pet. 3:15, 16, NKJV, emphasis added).

So in our understanding of Paul's writings we need to be taught and stable. That means Paul's writings are not to stand alone. We have to learn the totality of Scripture and have a stable foundation on all of God's Word. Prior to the flood, God separated the animals, calling some clean and some unclean. He told Noah they could eat the clean but not the unclean. In Leviticus 11, after the Israelites had come out of Egypt, where they had been eating anything and everything, God again reminded them to eat the clean animals and leave the unclean ones alone. On top of that, he used quail (a clean animal) to teach them that eating no meat was even better. However, the nation of Israel (known today as the Jews) never was vegetarian by teaching or in practice, despite the original diet described in Genesis 1:29 and God's encouragement that it was the better way.

Now we come to Paul, and he seemingly throws out the whole foundation of the Old Testament and says you can eat whatever you want. Is this logical? The same Paul who regularly taught from the Old Testament now doesn't believe it? There are some glaring clues in Romans 14, such as when he says that some eat meat and some only vegetables. Vegetables? No meat at all? So then this isn't about clean meat versus unclean meat, it's about meat or no meat. So what was so wrong with meat in Rome that Paul had to address the issue? And why did he describe the vegetable eaters as the weak ones?

Thankfully the answer isn't complicated. Rome was a polytheistic culture, meaning they believed in many gods and had idols for all of them. When you went to the market to buy meat, chances are the meat had been sacrificed to one of those many idols. Some felt that eating that meat would be like participating in idol worship, and some felt it was not an issue. This is what Paul is addressing in Romans 14 and in a couple of other letters he wrote.

His conclusion was clear and simple. Technically, it was a non-issue. Eating meat that someone else sacrificed to an idol, which a believer knows is just a piece of stone or wood, is meaningless. However, since some didn't see it that way, Paul basically said, "Be considerate of those who, being weak, only eat vegetables out of fear that the meat in the market is 'idol meat.'"

At the end he makes a profound statement: live according to your faith, "for whatever is not from faith is sin." Here is the bottom line. You will always live around people who don't see the world or faith in God, or the contents of their dinner plate, quite the same way you do. Be considerate of them. Don't be rude and don't demand they live as you do and see things as you see them. Above all else, be true to what you believe is right in your own life. Don't make others bend to your view and don't bend to theirs if deep down you are convicted otherwise.

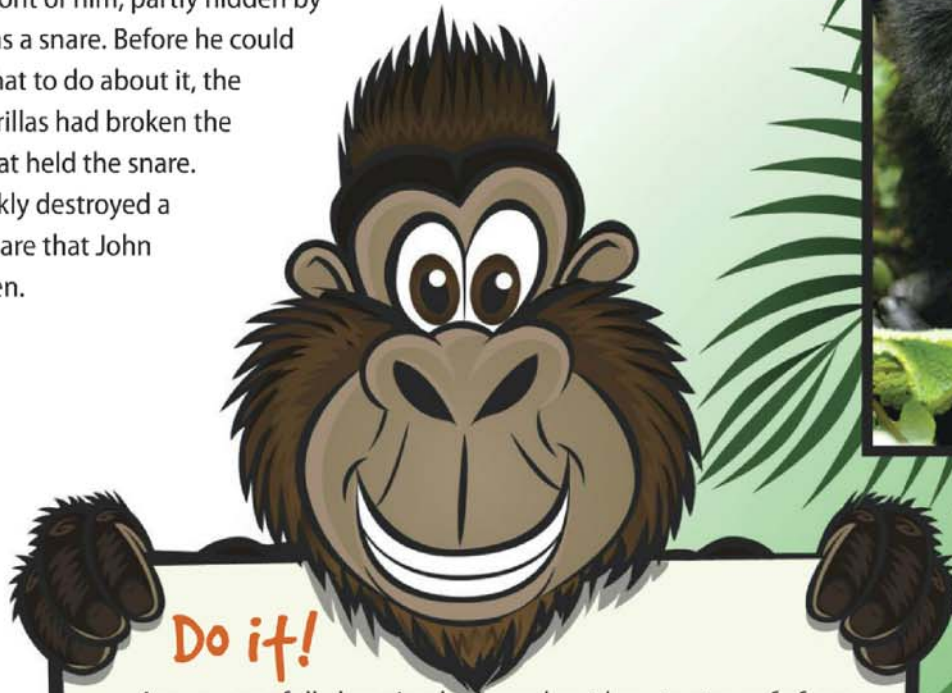
Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.  
—Ephesians 6:1, NIV

# Mountain Gorilla

John's eyes scanned the hanging vines as he walked carefully through the jungle in Volcanoes National Park, Rwanda. John was observing a group of mountain gorillas nearby. The gorillas were used to being observed, so John was not concerned about his safety. But he was being very cautious because of a hidden danger.

Suddenly, the large silverback male grunted, and two young male gorillas rushed toward John. John stopped. Right in front of him, partly hidden by leaves, was a snare. Before he could decide what to do about it, the young gorillas had broken the branch that held the snare. They quickly destroyed a second snare that John hadn't seen.

Creation  
Corner  
for Kids



**Do it!**

Are you carefully learning lessons about how to stay safe from Satan's snares from the Christian adults in your life? Are you remembering to pray and study the Bible every day? You must do these things if you want to escape the enemy's snares.

To learn more about the mountain gorilla,  
visit [www.creationcornerforkids.blogspot.com](http://www.creationcornerforkids.blogspot.com).

**Think about it.**

How did the gorillas know what to do with the snares? Older gorillas had taught the young gorillas how to safely break the dangerous snares.

# CUC

# largest class ever CUC graduates



Graduates lining up the aisles of the church prior to walking onstage and getting their diploma.

Commencement Sunday and the line of graduates making their way from the staging area at the Administration Building chapel to the College Heights Seventh-day Adventist Church seems never ending. This year's 114 CUC graduates marks the largest ever graduating class at the university to date.



IN ANTICIPATION of the larger contingent of family and friends, overflow seating was made available at the neighbouring College Heights Christian School gym. This graduation also marks the first time that a live stream broadcast of the weekend services was made available to a world-wide audience. Friends and family who were not able to make the trip to Lacombe could thus still be a part of the graduates' memorable day. Over 460 viewers tuned in over the weekend from the United States, Mexico, Brazil, India, Barbados, United Kingdom and many other countries.

The class gift to CUC from the graduating class of 2013 was a high-definition camera for use in live-streaming their graduation and future campus events.

Graduating class president, Eric Anderson, religious studies major, stressed the importance of having family and friends share in their education experience from afar. "Many have dreamed for years to be able to broadcast programming at CUC on the

Internet for parents family and friends to enjoy and participate more fully in our educational experience. For these reasons we the graduates of 2013 are proud to present to CUC—in recognition and thanks for the years of service and training and love you have shown us, as well as in thanks to our loving and supportive church family here at College Heights—a high-definition camera that will be used, and is being used, to stream many events throughout the school year, not only here in the church but also at the gym and other locations as well."

Commencement speaker Dr. Kenny Basit, a CUC alumnus now practicing dentistry in British Columbia, counselled the graduating class to always be selfless and pursue ventures that not only benefit themselves but others also: "Live your lives as graduates of CUC heeding the higher calling you have been given to serve others. Be a gift to them and a gift to God."

## Proclaim: On The Road Again

FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS, Proclaim, CUC's summer music ministry group, have been busy visiting campmeetings and churches all over North America. This summer they will once again be travelling coast-to-coast hoping to share God's love with as many people as they can.

Led by Bryan Lee, CUC's VP for Marketing and Enrolment, Proclaim has shared their love for God, music and CUC with the rest of the world. Passionate about Christian education, Bryan believes that it is a number-one priority for young people's lives. "When I look at where it pointed me in my decisions about God and life, I see time and time again the positive impact it has on young people's spiritual foundation. Why would I not want to see our kids getting a comparable academic education, plus the spiritual growth and guidance that our schools can offer?"

Returning to the group this year is baritone Jay Johnson, tenor Joseph Hackett and musical director Bernice Leavitt. This is Jay's third summer touring with Proclaim; the chance to interact with people from all over the world is one reason why he comes back for more. "I appreciate the intimate atmosphere, feeling like we are all friends. Even though we come from all over Canada and around the world, I still feel connected with everyone when we share our passion and love for God with one another," states Jay.

New to Proclaim this year is the group's youngest member, first-year student Joel Brousson. A graduate of Fountainview Academy, he has been involved in choirs, orchestras, and praise teams for many years and brings a wide array of talent and experience to Proclaim. He is not only an accomplished singer but also a master of the cello. He is eager to use his talents to further the gospel of Christ. Joel is eager to share what he has experienced his first year at CUC. "CUC has not only academically been a good experience, but the spiritual environment is



L-R: Bryan Lee, Joseph Hackett, Joel Brousson, Jay Johnson (Proclaim)

what draws me and makes me appreciate the school the most," states Joel.

From British Columbia to Nova Scotia and many more places in between and beyond, Proclaim chugs along, happy to share with others what God has done in their lives. If you love music and friendly faces, make sure to catch a show.

To keep track of Proclaim's busy summer, visit us at [www.cauc.ca/proclaim](http://www.cauc.ca/proclaim) or visit us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/cucproclaim](http://www.facebook.com/cucproclaim). ■

*Jr Ferrer is the communications director for Canadian University College.*

# Where Are They Now



*Messenger catches up with former leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada. In this issue we talk with Douglas Devnich.*

*Interview by Alexandra Yeboah, Messenger Staff Writer.*

**M:** *What was it like growing up in Saskatchewan?*

**D:** I am the eighth in a family of nine children. We lived on a farm where I

learned what it means to work. At age 13, I was shoveling grain, milking cows, cleaning the barn and occasionally driving the tractor in the fields. My childhood was wonderful, with parents and siblings who shared their love with me.

We did not have a lot of resources, but my parents were faithful to God. Our home was a welcoming place to which many friends came. One attraction was that my mother was a great cook and plenty of food was at the ready.

**M:** *What did you study in University?*

**D:** My parents wanted to ensure that the last three of us at home would be able to attend CUC, so we moved temporarily to Rosedale Valley near the academy and the college. I took grades 11 and 12 there, and then I studied at the college and completed a bachelor's degree in theology in 1963. In 1964 I graduated with an M.A. from Andrews University. Later I went back to Andrews to earn an Ed.D.

**M:** *When did you discover your calling?*

**D:** I first sensed the desire to be a minister when I was yet a child at home. My dad repeatedly planted the idea in my head. I made my decision to commit to it at a Saskatoon campmeeting while hearing a sermon by W. B. Ochs, a former president of the SDACC. The inspiration of that time never left me.

**M:** *Tell us how and where you began your work for the church.*

**D:** Pastoral ministry for Rene and me began in Saskatoon. As an associate with Ron Watts, I had an excellent orientation to ministry. My first district on my own was Prince Albert, Waldheim and Rosthern. If I could use a colloquial expression, "I was in seventh heaven."

**M:** *What are some of your memories of pastoral ministry?*

**D:** A special memory is when we were pastoring in Regina. It was decided that the church school, which had been closed for several years, needed to be reopened. We set up the school in a Sabbath school room. We had the teacher in place and six students interested in coming.

On the morning when school was to begin, at about 7:30 a.m., a parent called and said he/she would be cancelling his/her plans and the children would go back to the public school. A few minutes after that call, another parent called indicating the same withdrawal of plans. Essentially, since regulations required us to have at least six students to operate a school, with the impending cancellations, the whole effort to begin a school was in jeopardy.

So, on my own initiative, I called the parents back and said, "I will be coming by your homes to pick up your children and take them to the new church school." It worked. For several days I provided the transportation until we quickly purchased a school bus and secured a driver. That was the beginning of today's Curtis-Horne Christian School in Regina.

**M:** *What was your reaction, when called to serve as president?*

**D:** When I was chosen to lead the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, I took it on with readiness and gusto. I envisioned great changes in the church that were needed in order to respond meaningfully to a developing new mindset among the younger members. I came to believe that they wanted an economically efficient church organization. And I was convinced that the goal of the church must become less law-oriented and more gospel-centered in belief and practice.

**M:** *Where are you now?*

**D:** Rene and I live in Oshawa, close to our son, Paul and family. I greatly enjoy life. My relationship with Jesus is stronger than ever. For hobbies and exercise, I walk almost daily up to seven kilometers, and I ride the bicycle and motorcycle. Sometimes I preach in local churches. The Adventist Church has been the matrix of a full life for me and I am so grateful for the church and all the gifts that God has given me. ■

# Grandma Plans Ahead



Grandma decided to see her lawyer to make a new will. She loved her children and grandchildren and planned to leave them her home and whatever was in her savings accounts at death. She also loved her church and would include it in her will.

Earlier that month, Grandma had attended a seminar presented by the Conference Planned Giving director. There she learned that if you donate your RRSPs or RRIFs<sup>1</sup> to a registered charity, there would be no tax, or almost no tax to pay.<sup>2</sup> You could donate all, or part, of your RRSPs or RRIFs while you were living, or at your death through a bequest in your will. Grandma decided to leave to her church the registered plan money that remained when she died. Her lawyer pointed out that it is necessary to list her church as a beneficiary in her registered plan documents as well as in her will.

Grandma told her family about her church gift. She explained that if she had \$50,000 in registered plan money at her passing, her church would issue a tax receipt to her estate for that amount. The charitable donation receipt of \$50,000 would give approximately \$25,000 in tax credits, offsetting the \$25,000 income tax payable on the registered plan funds. Grandma was excited to have found a very smart way to donate to her church, while also saving \$25,000 in taxes. This was only one of several Canada Revenue Agency tax savings Grandma heard about at the seminar. ■

<sup>1</sup> RRSP: Registered Retirement Savings Plan; RRIF: Registered Retirement Income Fund

<sup>2</sup> This is a general illustration. Always get professional financial and tax advice for your situation.



Rebecque Johnson

ON THE  
ROAD WITH

Becky

AT THE MONTREAL-FILIPINO SEVENTH-DAY  
ADVENTIST CHURCH IN QUEBEC.

*What are you thankful for?*

**Judy Fe Ganal:** I thank God for His great love toward all humanity, for His love and care for my family and friends, and I thank God for His mercy and blessings.

**Noemi Galiza Stojanovic:** I thank God that He created and redeemed me, and that I am able to witness for Him. I am thankful for the faith in Jesus, for the Seventh-day Adventist family, and for my family and friends.

**Luz P. Maborang:** I thank God for the hope of eternal life, for every minute and second that I have the breath of life, and I am thankful for everything that He has given me and my family.

“Part of it is I know it’s the right thing to do, but another part from travelling there in 2006 and 2009 is seeing how privileged we are. We can share that privilege.”

## Students Committed to Making This World Better



Students are learning they have a strong voice toward making improvements in developing nations. And international development organizations like A Better World Canada, founded in 1990 as part of the College Heights Adventist Church in Lacombe, are not only paying attention but also calling them into action.

Julie Anderson is among those who started volunteering early on in humanitarian causes. Her love for Africa, particularly Kenya, began when she was in Grade 7 in Sylvan Lake. After her mother returned from a trip to Kenya in 2003 with A Better World, Anderson was keen to go well.

Anderson was able to visit the East African country in Grade 10, and after that she initiated a club at HJ Cody School. They began raising money, including \$13,000 from a single Jail-N-Bail event that went on to help Kiprengwe Primary School in rural Kenya.

Over a span of 18 months, the school fundraised more than \$35,000, and with some matching dollars from Carpet Colour Centre in Red Deer, just over \$50,000 in total was used for new classrooms at Kiprengwe. Anderson went to the school’s opening in 2009.

Anderson, who is taking an education degree at University of Lethbridge, is now helping with the youth wing of A Better World called Tomorrow’s EDGE. She created an EDGE club at the university, which has since raised about \$8,000 for classrooms for girls in Afghanistan.

Anderson continues to be involved in smaller projects for A Better World. “Global citizenship is how I was raised, so I have to give a lot of credit to my parents,” said Anderson, 21. “Part of it is I know it’s the right thing to do, but another part from travelling there in 2006 and 2009 is seeing how privileged we

are. We can share that privilege.”

Rebecca Epp, 17, has been involved with Rosedale Valley Strings in Lacombe for about 10 years, and during that time, it began fundraising for a deaf girls’ school in Rwanda. She was part of a small group of musicians whose concert in 2010 helped raise more than \$4,000 for the project. In 2011, Epp travelled with the Rosedale Valley Strings to Kenya.

Last summer she busked at farmer’s markets so she could give money toward beds for a girls’ dormitory in Kenya. Epp recently volunteered with the Freedom Run in Lacombe, raising money to build classrooms for girls in Afghanistan.

Epp said she’s been inspired by A Better World’s co-founder Eric Rajah and his integrity, compassion and humility.

“It is encouraging to see his excitement when younger students get involved to help make a difference,” said Epp, a Grade 12 student at Lacombe Composite High School.

Epp is part of her school’s Students Advocating Social Awareness club, which raises money for various causes.

“There are lots of students who want to help other people,” Epp said.

Rajah and the rest of his team are so proud of what young students are doing. In April, A Better World gave its Citizen of the Year Award to Sunshine Hills Elementary School in Delta, B.C.

Teacher Joan Stevens and the students raised \$25,000 to build a medical clinic in Sudan. ■

*Laura Tester is a reporter with the Red Deer Advocate and volunteers as a writer for A Better World Canada.*

There is an old saying that is often used in churches, “10 percent of the people do 90 percent of the work.”<sup>1</sup> Can you say the same thing about your congregation? Recruiting and maintaining people to serve in ministry roles can be a difficult task. How can a church improve their volunteer ministry?

# Communicating with your volunteers

At New Hope Adventist Church there are over 350 volunteers serving in ministry. Keeping these ministry leaders involved and serving regularly can be a massive undertaking. Here are some ideas we have learned along the way that may help your church.

## DEVELOP A LEADERSHIP PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

Most nominating committees stop meeting once their vacancies are filled. Consider having a standing committee that meets throughout the year to recruit and confirm new leaders. This allows you to keep the door revolving, instead of waiting for one time a year to worry about volunteer positions.

## TELL THE STORY, NOT THE TASK

People are drawn to experiences before the task. If you are asking someone to serve as a greeter, how will you explain the duties? “I need you at the door by 9 a.m. to hand out bulletins ...”? Another way to motivate someone is to articulate the vision. “Did you know this is one of most important positions in the church? You are the first impression every visitor gets about our congregation and Jesus when he or she enters the church. You are an active participant in that individual’s experience with Christianity. I believe you are the right person for this evangelistic position.”

## CREATE A JOB DESCRIPTION

Every ministry in the church should have

a written job description outlining the expectations of the role. This can also benefit you because it can put needed perimeters for that ministry. Make all of your ministry titles and job descriptions available online for people to view. If you need help with developing a job description template, contact Advent Source to purchase a packet.<sup>2</sup>

## RAISE THE BAR

Instead of begging someone to serve for a year, raise the expectations of the ministry. High-capacity individuals don’t want to do the minimum; they want to give their best in every area. Let your volunteers know that they are serving in a very important position, because they are doing kingdom work.

## CREATE TERM LIMITS

Has your head elder been serving in the same position for the last 25 years? Introduce and write a term limit of four years into the job description. The outgoing individual will know he or she can serve again once the term limit is over for the new leader. Term limits allow for new leadership and foster an atmosphere of new possibilities.

## CELEBRATE YOUR VOLUNTEERS

How are you currently recognizing your ministry leaders? Every person

appreciates being thanked privately or publically. Ask your leadership placement committee to develop three to four events during the year to show your appreciation.<sup>3</sup>

Is your church doing something interesting to recruit and maintain volunteers? Please share your ideas with me on Twitter or Facebook. ■

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*Dr. Rajkumar Dixit is a pastor and evangelist. He will be making the international move from Maryland to serve as the pastor of the Oakridge Adventist Church in Vancouver, B.C. You can follow him @kumardixit on Twitter.*

<sup>1</sup> Some people say it is 20 percent of the people who do 80 percent of the work, but the idea is the same.

<sup>2</sup> [www.adventsource.org](http://www.adventsource.org)

<sup>3</sup> I will share several concrete ideas next month.





## GRACE ON ME—GRACE ON YOU



Words by God —Colossians 3:13, NIV

The kingdom of Heaven is like ... a ranch owner who wanted to settle the loans he had given to his employees. Going through his files, he found a man who owed an exorbitant amount of money—enough to buy a Mercedes-Benz and a house. The ranch hand who owed the amount was called in to settle what he owed. But the man could not pay his debt. So the owner fired him and ordered that he go to prison, but the ranch hand fell at his feet begging for mercy and forgiveness. “Be patient with me,” he cried. “I will pay back everything I owe you.”

The ranch owner saw how repentant the man was and forgave him everything he owed and even restored him to his original job! The ranch hand was happy and went back to work. Then he remembered a co-worker who owed him money. He found the man, grabbed him by the collar and yelled, “You better pay me back every penny you owe!” The worker fell to his knees and begged for forgiveness and a little more time to repay the ranch hand. But the ranch hand was so angry he had the co-worker thrown into prison.

When the owner heard this news, he called the ranch hand to come in from the field and said, “You self-centred man! I forgave all your debt because you asked, but you would not show that same grace to your co-worker?” So the owner had the man arrested and thrown in prison until he could pay back everything he owed.

This story in Matthew 18:21–35 reminds me of how

God wants us to treat those around us. In our dealings with the same people who treat us badly and who test our patience and our kindness—He desires that we remember the grace He first gave us. We have all messed up and stumbled in our walk with God. Nobody’s perfect—we know this, but sometimes it’s difficult to take this into perspective when we are the ones being wronged. Especially when that crazy driver cuts us off in heavy traffic or when someone really grates on our nerves at school, work or church. During those times, grace may be the last thing on our minds.

However, God’s gift of grace to us isn’t meant to stop there. His grace is to be shared with that driver, with the grumpy clerk at the store, with the person who grates on our nerves and with those who have treated us badly, too. At one point we were the ones grating on nerves, stepping on the gas and giving sour looks. We have all been in need of some serious forgiveness and grace—often we still are! Because of God’s extravagant grace, He has completely canceled our debt and forgiven us. And, like any good gift—you can’t keep it to yourself! It is meant to be passed on to everyone, because that is when you see its richest rewards. Grace on me—grace on you!

Be Blessed

*Tia Lawrence is 18 years old and a first year college student. She is a member of the Comox Adventist Church on Vancouver Island. Tia’s blog—[refreshwithtia.com](http://refreshwithtia.com)*



refresh with Tia



Watch “Forgiveness,” by Toby Mac on YouTube: <http://bit.ly/QVshzv>



# app review

Keith Chant, ITS support specialist, SDA Church in Canada

**App:** Adventist News Network

**In Brief:** Ever wonder what's happening in our church around the world? Adventist News Network (ANN) is the Seventh-day Adventist world church's official news source, and this app delivers the latest ANN news headlines. You can access stories on topics such as religious liberty, education, health care, church humanitarian work, mission and outreach. Along with being able to read the latest news, you can also browse a picture gallery from recent articles and watch video programs produced by ANN. There is also a glossary and style guide available for those interested.

**Wow Factor:** Up-to-date news and information from the world church.

**Meh Factor:** Android version does not include the ability to watch the ANN videos.

**Developed For:** Adventist News Network

**Price:** Free

**Works On:** Android, iOS

**Link:** <http://goo.gl/1Kbtm>



## A Call to Prayer and Revival

*Our Lord desires that His people be an attraction for Him in the world, an "aroma of grace", bringing help and hope when the lure of society fades.*

When we study about the great revivals of the past we realize that they were born through prayer. It was Dwight Moody who said, "If we want a revival in our churches, we must pray for it. It isn't great preaching that we want, brethren, so much as it is great praying."<sup>1</sup>

As I begin to serve as prayer coordinator for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, I am humbled by the great work that lies before us. Gaining the attention of our society for God is not easy. People are preoccupied and fascinated by the flashy technology, intriguing media and exciting events that lure their mind and attention.

However, their hearts long for something more. The recent miniseries "The Bible" attracted the attention of millions. People search for intimacy, meaning and knowing about destiny. Our Lord desires that His people be an attraction for Him in the world, an "aroma of grace" (see 2 Cor. 2:14, 15), bringing help and hope when the lure of society fades.

I certainly don't presume to have all the answers as to how to effect a revival. We have wonderful ministry happening in

churches across Canada. However, many have expressed to me they long for something deeper, larger and more transforming for our churches and society. We will be praying for this and discussing it in groups, churches, schools and committees. By God's grace we will have an experience that honours our Lord and be appropriate for the times we live in.

The call to prayer and revival is a divine one. Recently from the General Conference and many sources we have heard the familiar words of Ellen White, "A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work. . . . A revival need be expected only in answer to prayer."<sup>2</sup>

Let's honor our Lord by making this most urgent need our priority. ■

*Don Corkum is prayer ministries coordinator for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada and church planting coordinator for the Alberta Conference of SDA.*

<sup>1</sup> [www.path2prayer.com/article/1047](http://www.path2prayer.com/article/1047)

<sup>2</sup> Ellen G. White, *Prayer* (Oshawa, ON: Pacific Press, 2002), p. 116

# Canadian Embassy hosts 11<sup>th</sup> Annual International Religious Liberty Association

*On April 18, 2013, the International Religious Liberty Association met in Washington, D.C., at the Canadian Embassy for awards night. As the editor of the Messenger, I was privileged not only to be a guest but also to meet the recipients of the various liberty awards.*

Over 150 people, including embassy personnel, lawyers and leading officials from numerous faith groups, received a warm welcome from Dr. D. W. Baker, vice-president of the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and from Sheila Riordan, Minister of the Embassy of Canada. Dr. Ganoune Diop personally welcomed, by name, the many embassy representatives who were present.

Lincoln Steed, *Liberty* editor; Melissa Reid, executive director of North American Religious Liberty Association; and Dr. John Graz, secretary-general of the International Religious Liberty Association, gave remarks.

The prestigious National Award went to Dr. Charles C. Haynes, director of Religious Freedom Education for the Newseum (see [Newseum.org](http://Newseum.org)).

Now, with a preliminary catered meal that featured a delicious Orange and Apple Wild Rice Salad, Spring Risotto with Asparagus and Wild Mushroom entrée, followed by a Maple Mousse dessert, one would think that this fabulous treat would have been the

best part of the event. However, the highlight—and the most important reason for my attendance—was to hear and meet the person giving the keynote address, the newly appointed Religious Liberty Canadian Ambassador, Dr. Andrew Bennett.

Many of the things Dr. Bennett spoke about in his passionate keynote address resonated very well with those of us who are firm believers in religious liberty. From a basic value he holds, “I have been promoting freedom of religion as a core human right, a right that is under increasing threat around the world.” In the keynote address Dr. Bennett boldly stated, “Religious freedom does not just mean freedom to worship. It also means freedom to study one’s faith; freedom to preach it; freedom to engage in missionary activity; freedom to change one’s faith and, yes, freedom to hold no religious beliefs.” I knew that I could be proud of this new venture by the Canadian Government; he has a vision of Religious Liberty that I could support and encourage others to support. He went on to say, “In the face of these injustices, Canada has not been silent. And we have not sat idly by.”



# US tation Dinner

by Stan Jensen

RELIGIOUS  
LIBERTY



**Top left:** Karnik Doukmetzian, G.C. General Counsel and Palan Mulonda, Zambian Ambassador to the U.S.A.

**Top right:** Dr. John Graz, secretary general IRLA; Andrew Bennett, Canadian Ambassador of Religious Freedom.

**Bottom:** IRLA Dinner attendees including Grace Mackintosh, Stan Jensen, and Nancy and Bob Kyte.

**Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C.**

Why did the Canadian Government take this on? Ambassador Haynes's response is "We must do so, because religious freedom is not a theological issue; it is a human issue. Every society must recognize the basic human dignity of all, regardless of faith. We all possess free will. We must have the freedom to exercise this in matters of faith."

Dwayne Leslie, director of Legislative Affairs for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, gave the closing comments.

I slept very well that night, not because I had just filed my taxes and am getting a nice refund, but more importantly because I know that what I left with the Canada Revenue Agency is being put to good use. I woke up refreshed, thinking we need to have a celebration like this in Canada. ■

*Stan Jensen is the editor of the Canadian Adventist Messenger.*

# DO YOU LOVE ME

## ACTS FOR CHRIST HOLDS NINTH AN CONFERENCE

**“DO YOU LOVE ME?”** This was the question Jesus Christ posed to Simon Peter in John 21:15, and it was also the theme of the ninth annual Adventists Commissioned to Train Servants (ACTS) for Christ conference.

The conference was held from March 28–31 at the Crowne Plaza in Edmonton, Alta. Throughout the weekend, attendees were challenged to ponder this question and deeply reflect on what love for the Saviour might entail.

The various seminars featured at this year’s conference included health evangelism, witnessing to family and loved ones, youth ministry, and the origins of our faith.

Speakers included Sandra Silva, director for women’s ministries, personal ministries and CHANGE school of evangelism, in the Alberta conference; Narlon and Samantha Edwards, from Atlanta, Ga.;

Kevin Kiers, youth director for the Alberta conference; and Alberta-based Bible worker James Wesley.

Brennen Vaneck, president of ACTS for Christ, said that the conference theme arose out of much contemplation and prayer. “I started to ask myself this question: Do I love Jesus?” Vaneck said. “Loving Jesus is all that matters.”

Farace Wood, vice-president of programming, said that the goal was to make the conference well-suited to the overall vision of ACTS. “We created an abbreviated form of our mission; namely, we wanted to inspire, empower and deploy young people in western Canada to serve Jesus Christ and to bring about Jesus’ soon return,” Wood said. “We hope that when they leave, (attendees’) thoughts would be: What can I do for Jesus? How can I take this knowledge that I’ve acquired over this weekend and apply it in my home

church, in my home community, in my family? We try to end every ACTS conference with a call to action.”

For the outreach component this year, the ACTS for Christ evangelism committee decided to try something new. Friday afternoon’s evangelism project had attendees going door-to-door promoting a film screening of the LLT Productions movie *Hell and Mr. Fudge* (2012), which was to take place at the Empire Clareview theatre in Edmonton, Alta., a week following the conference. About 2,700 flyers were handed out.

On Saturday evening, attendees were given the opportunity to see the film in its entirety. This was followed by a Q and A session with one of the executive producers of the film, Pat Arrabito. The film is based on a true story about a Christian preacher who embarks on an intensive study about the Bible’s teachings

# E? T NUAL ENCE

on hell and whose discoveries and newfound convictions lead him through undue challenges and consequences.

Andrew Jurello, vice-president for evangelism at ACTS for Christ, first heard about the film from the LLT Productions' The Seventh Day series and envisioned great potential in using it as a springboard for meaningful discussion and contemplation. "This is a movie for others so that they can know the truth about God," said Jurello. On that note, the movie screening a week after the conference ended up drawing 77 people the first night and 99 the second night! "Apparently there were more people in the Hell and Mr. Fudge movie than in the rest of the theatre's other rooms combined. The seeds have been planted, and now it is up to the Holy Spirit to do the watering and nurturing," Jurello said in an email.

The ACTS for Christ conference also included a children's program, intended for children five and under, and was beneficial especially for young parents. There was also a prayer room that was open during certain periods of the weekend.

ACTS is an independent supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada that promotes "a dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ," "a passion for reaching lost souls" and "a cultivation of godly relationships."

ACTS was first founded in 2005 by a group of individuals who had a vision to reach western Canada by mobilizing and equipping a group of young people to go out and become actively involved in evangelism.

Today this vision hasn't changed.

"The vision of ACTS is every young person inspired, empowered and deployed. What does that look like? My personal vision is every 12-year-old being able to share what he or she believes easily to a friend," Vaneck said.

And for Vaneck, this mission will only go deeper. "We as young people, should challenge ourselves to go to the next level. Let's turn the world upside down for Jesus."

Colten Pilipchuk, from Bonnyville, Alta., has been to the ACTS for Christ conference four times, and each time he is encouraged by the warm and Christlike atmosphere. "It's a conference where the Holy Spirit is always present," Pilipchuk said. "You're inspired, encouraged, and you just want to be active for the Lord. It's life-changing."

Diana Lara, from Edmonton, Alta., was studying at ARISE Institute in Michigan when she first heard about ACTS. Upon first attending, she was eager to become involved. "I was very excited to meet other young Canadians who were on fire for Jesus," she said. "I started volunteering with ACTS because I recognized that this is something that has moved my life, and I wanted to move others. Because of this, I have become actively involved in [mission work in] Canada."

This summer, Lara plans to go on a mission to Manitoulin Island, Ont., a joint project between Generation of Youth for Christ (GYC) and Eastern Canada Youth for Christ (ECYC). Lara, whose life has been greatly touched by ACTS, said, "If you're struggling with falling in love with Jesus, come here with a genuine heart, and He will completely reveal Himself to you. It's not only ACTS for Christ when you come, but it's the act of Christ; He'll transform your life."

The next ACTS for Christ conference will be held from April 17-20, 2014, themed "More than Conquerors" (Rom. 8:37). ■

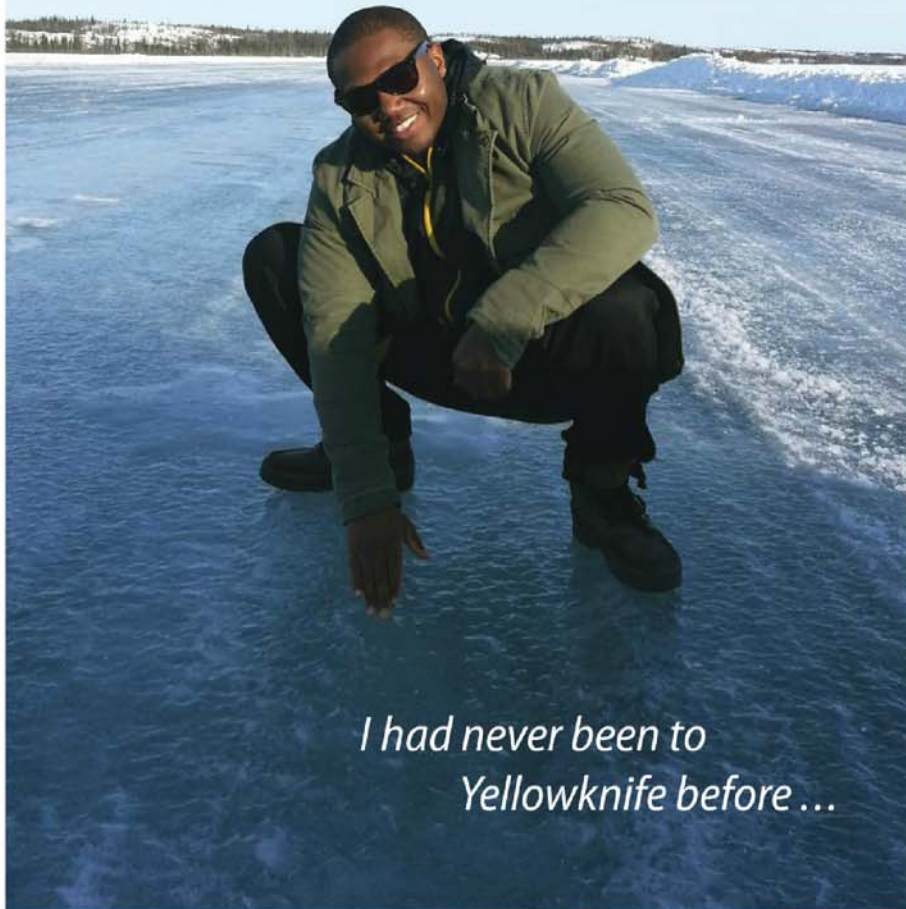
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*Alexandra Yeboah is the Messenger secretary and a staff writer.*



*(l - r) Scovia Aryemo, Cynthia Johnson, and Alexandra Yeboah attending the Acts For Christ conference.*

# Helping to Build Community in Yellowknife



*I had never been to  
Yellowknife before ...*

Lyle Notice on ice road from Yellowknife to Dettah

I had never been to Yellowknife before, but if it was anything like the First Air flight, it was going to be a new experience. After all, on the First Air flight I was first offered a newspaper, then a hot towel, a beverage, breakfast, another newspaper, and finally another beverage for the road. My one-hour-and-45-minute flight from Edmonton to Yellowknife reminded me of the plane services of old: comfort and service in the air.

My experience in Yellowknife, however, was much less about my comfort and being served, and more about providing service to those in the community. My hosts were Pastor Brad Dahr and his wife, Randa. Together we puzzled over how we should be the light in our communities. Later I shared a brief devotion with the Yellowknife Seventh-

day Adventist Church about service and the fact that Jesus mingled with people in His community, making a lasting impression on their lives. Then I asked, "Would you allow your church to become the community's church?"

During lunch on Sabbath, I shared with the congregation the idea and vision of a group of STORMCO (Service To Others Really Matters) youth from Edmonton Red Willow church coming to Yellowknife to do a service mission project. This would encourage the youth from Red Willow and the youth of the Yellowknife church to join forces and create positive change in the community of Yellowknife. But what project could they do in Yellowknife?

The answer came to us as Pastor Brad and I took a trip to the Ice Road, which is about 10 kilometers across the Great Slave Lake to the Dettah Native Reserve. I was eager to build relationships and partnerships, so I got out of the van, ran up the Band Council stairs, and knocked on the door, only to realize that the office was closed. As we were about to leave, I remembered Pastor Brad saying that Chaplain Joe lived nearby. I asked Pastor Brad if we could stop in and say hello. Brad was a little bit nervous about dropping in unexpectedly, but I assured him it was all about building friendships and community.

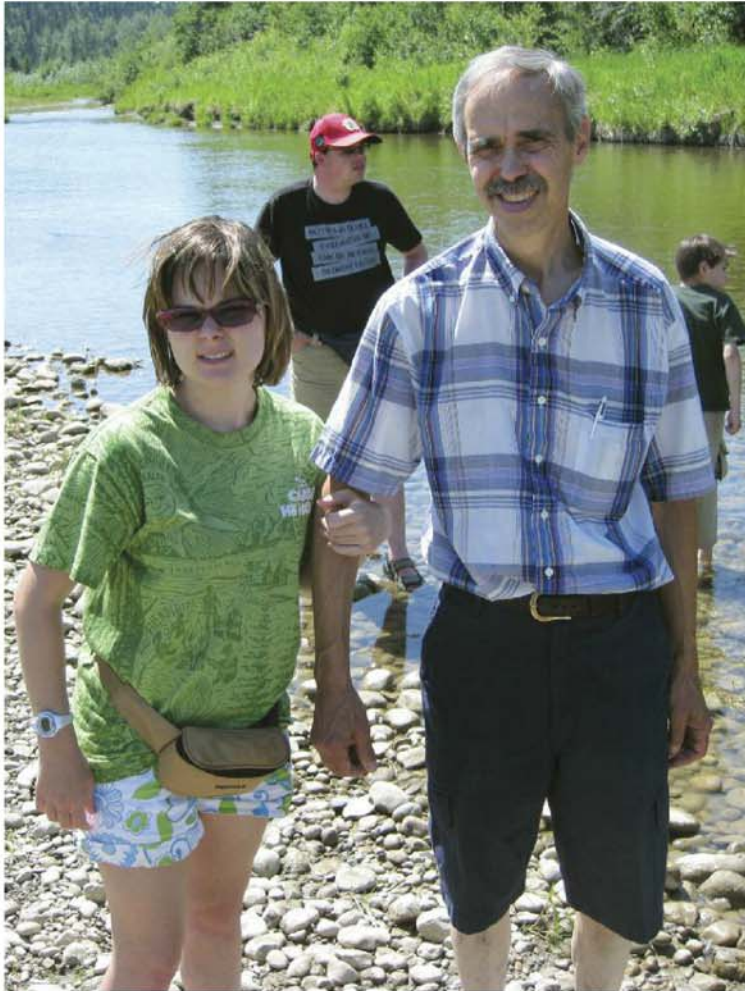
Chaplain Joe came out and greeted us warmly and showed us where caribou were being smoked over the fire. He took us on a tour of his parish church and showed us where his members worship. As we were leaving, I mentioned to him that STORMCO youth would be coming in the summer to work alongside the Yellowknife Adventist Church, and I asked if there was anything the youth could do.

To that, Chaplain Jim replied, "Well you know, Lyle, the church could do with a fresh coat of paint."

So as I make plans to take a team of youth to Yellowknife this summer, I look forward to building community with the Yellowknife church and partnering with Chaplain Jim on a STORMCO radical service mission project. ■

*Lyle Notice is the associate youth director of the Alberta conference.*

# A Man and His Vision



André Bolduc guides Samantha Peters during an activity along the Little Red Deer River.

Twenty years ago, unbeknown to André at the time, God sent a wonderful lady into his life who would encourage him to pursue a ministerial career with Christian Record Services. God had a plan; Marilyn promoted it; André obeyed it; and shortly thereafter came this unquenchable thirst to locate, befriend and encourage blind children and adults to attend the NCB Summer Blind Camp programs. Here is the story of a man and his vision.

André and Marilyn Bolduc have two sons, Jeremy and Benjamin. After the birth of their first son, they embarked on a spiritual and emotional journey that would change their lives and the lives of many blind individuals forever. After much prodding from his wife, Marilyn, to go work for Christian Record Services, an organization she was familiar with, since her father, Wilfred Hagen, had been a field rep for over eight years, André complied. Within weeks he was trained by Chris Risk and ready to launch into this ministry for the blind.

New Brunswick, being a bilingual province, was his first territory. Needless to say, the work was very difficult, since many areas had never been canvassed. André found great fundraising

success when going to funeral homes and law firms. As a matter of fact, one of his greatest donors was a lawyer named Bernard Lord, who later on became the premier of New Brunswick! For the past 15 years, André and his family have been serving the blind in Alberta and appreciate the opportunities this beautiful western province has to offer!

Committed to finding new clients and ways to minister the love of Christ, André uses all means available. “Whenever we go about our daily errands and spot a blind person, we tell André and he stops everything and makes his way to the individual, gives a business card and gets the address for a follow-up, personal visitation!” exclaimed Marilyn. “Sometimes, if he is far away, he runs as fast as he can to catch up to them,” she added, chuckling.

When asked how he gets so many blind kids to camp, André stated, “I have a good relationship with the CNIB. They add camp info in their newsletters and give out applications to families.”

Sounds simple! Well when you are a gentle person with a compassionate heart like André, you do what comes naturally—smile, extend kindness and gentleness, and demonstrate a sincere desire for the well-being of others. This type of attitude builds lasting friendship and draws people to want to know Jesus.

“This ministry was important to Jesus when He walked the earth, and that is why it is important to us as Seventh-day Adventists. Jesus came to restore sight to the blind, to share the ‘good news,’ to free the bonds of sin,” stated André.

He pursued by explaining how we represent all church members with the mandate of ministering to blind, disabled, and needy persons. “This is my favorite quote: ‘Help the blind see Jesus!’” he whispered.

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord” (Luke 4:18, NKJV).

Let us grasp André’s vision; let us see the blind friends in our communities and let us reach out to them in friendship ministry. Let us run as fast as we can to catch up to them and invite them to blind camp. Let us give them an opportunity to meet Jesus and to grow stronger with Jesus. One man’s vision is another man’s actions! ■

*Michelle Richards is the associate director of National Camps of the Blind.*

# Is It Safe?

Stan Jensen reports on  
his trip to the Holy Land



## “Did you feel safe there?” That was the question I was asked the most about my recent trip to Israel.

### WHAT DID IT TAKE TO GET THERE?

A trip to the Toronto airport, a few hours on a plane, and I, along with a dozen editors from various Canadian faith-based magazines, arrived safely. We were under the care of a tour guide and a representative of the Israeli department of tourism. We were all guests of the Israeli government. Not bad for a day's work. I met some wonderfully talented, spiritual people and enjoyed the time we spent together.

After a short drive, we rested at a resort hotel for a few hours in a country setting just outside of Tel Aviv. We then traveled along the Mediterranean coastline to Caesarea where the ruins of the coliseums and shipping ports still stand today. Yes, this is the same city mentioned in the Bible. It was built by Herod the Great just a few years before Christ was born. It was a town that was familiar to Him, and I stood there.

While the certified tour guide gave us detailed history about the various ruins, I pondered about the man from 2,000 years ago who would have trod these dusty roads. Looking over to my right, I saw an old building that had been there for decades; the sign on the outside said they featured sushi. That made me chuckle.

A most traveled-to village that had a population of about 500 at the time of Christ, and the place where Christ spent his earlier years, was Nazareth. A dwelling that is thought to be the home of Christ is on display and protected by the huge church built over it. While it may not be the actual home, it would be within a few hundred feet of it.

Turns out Uncle Arthur may not have been right. There were no trees in Nazareth at the time of Christ, and his father may not have been a carpenter. This set me back. An Adventist theologian told me that the word translated carpenter meant someone who worked with his hands.

Jesus lived in one of the poorest towns in Israel. I could visualize Jesus fully understanding and saying, “I was hungry



Stan Jensen enjoying a boat tour on the Sea of Galilee.

and you fed me, naked and you clothed me.” Insights from Ellen White revealed that even as a child, Jesus gave his meals to those who were in deeper need of food than he was. I reflected on that often while we rushed from city to city.

Every day, even every hour, there were sights seen and towns mentioned that anyone who is familiar with the Bible would recognize.

We visited some kibbutzim and learned the history of modern-day Israel and their struggle for identity, community and the rebuilding of their country.

After Nazareth, we visited Cana, where Jesus attended the wedding feast. We saw the Mount of Beatitudes, the traditional site of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. There we enjoyed an outdoor service and a walk. It is overdue for me to reread *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessings* by Ellen White. Our Adventist Book Centers (ABC) have these available in bindings from newsprint to quality leather. It is one of those books we should read through once a year, and it is worthy of the best binding available.

Capernaum, “City of Jesus,” is an ancient Jewish fishing town with a synagogue from the fourth century where Jesus began His ministry. This

was the home of the youthful Jesus.

We toured the new synagogue that was constructed on top of the very synagogue in which Jesus delivered some powerful messages. The Gospel writer Mark said, “They went into Capernaum; and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and began to teach” (Mark 1:12).

Continuing our journey, we went to the remains of Peter's house and the area where Jesus chose to enter His ministry. In Tabgha we saw the site where Jesus multiplied the loaves and fish and fed the five thousand.

From there we went to one of the world's leading ornithology centers, Hermon National Park, where thousands of migratory birds and animals pass through the park during different seasons. We also visited the Kala'at Nimrod (Nimrod fortress)—ruins of Mameluke and Crusader fortresses in the foothills of Mount Hermon.

I enjoyed the best falafel and hummus lunch of my trip during a brief visit at the hometown of Mary Magdalene.

Our tour continued, visiting more of the Christian historical and holy sites around the Sea of Galilee. We also enjoyed a boat tour on the Sea of Galilee.

At Gospel Trail, you can follow the



The group touring the ruins of one of the many coliseums.

footsteps of Jesus through the historical landscape of the Galilee (the trail begins in Nazareth and leads to Capernaum), Nazareth with the Basilica of the Annunciation, and Mary's Well.

We visited a museum that had a recently recovered boat estimated to be 2,000 years old. Not much has changed in boat making.

A highlight for many was a visit to Qaser el-Yahud—the traditional baptismal site of Jesus on the Jordan River opposite Jericho. As predicted by the prophet Isaiah, John the Baptist said, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord'" (John 1:23, NIV). And let me make this very plain: it was a wilderness indeed, miles from inhabited cities. I have since wondered why John the Baptist chose to proclaim his message where only a small number of people visited, rather than in the bigger centers, where the majority of people lived.

From there we drove to the Dead Sea region, the lowest place on earth (424 meters below sea level). Many of our group went for a dip in the extremely salty waters of the Dead Sea.

An air trolley took us to King Herod's mountaintop fortress, Masada, the last stronghold of the Jewish revolt against the Romans in 73 CE. They had a wonderful museum. I wish I could have spent more time there. One thing that was outstanding to me was an ancient pay slip of a soldier. It showed deductions for food and other goods he acquired since the previous payday.

Not too far from the Dead Sea we

stopped at an ancient Essenes settlement in whose nearby caves the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. Can you imagine what it was like to be there?

Friday's destination was Bethlehem. Bethlehem! How many times have I sung about that city? We stood on the Shepherd's Field and crawled through the tunnels they may have slept in for protection. We endured the long line to visit the place where it is thought the original manger was. I was not surprised to see a lack of motels available and "no vacancy" signs posted. It seems that is an ongoing problem. Bethlehem is a walled city. Many Palestinian Christians claim they are not allowed to leave freely without procuring a special pass.

Friday evening we had a traditional Shabbat celebration that included food and fellowship. On Sabbath I visited the Adventist headquarters and was able to

fellowship with a group of predominantly Filipino Adventists on Sabbath morning. Others viewed the Great City of Jerusalem, including the Mount of Olives and the Garden of Gethsemane.

Finally, I found myself at the Church of the Nations site where Jesus was arrested.

A return trip to the airport and El Al airlines took us home. The airport closes for the Sabbath, as does much of Israel. What a joy it was to experience that lifestyle.

On the flight back, we were all loaned an iPad so we could watch various movies and Israeli films.

This trip was time well spent for me. For once I did not have to think about the food I was eating, whether it contained what the Bible classifies as unclean. I reflected on the hospitality extended to our group as well as so many other things that I have not touched on in this article.

Back to the question, Did I feel safe? I felt very safe—we all did. And I would visit Israel again.

Interested in visiting Israel? We have arranged with a tour guide for a trip on March 19, 2014. We will be celebrating two Sabbaths in Israel and one will be in Jerusalem. We are limiting the trip to 25 people. If you are interested and want to see the tentative itinerary, please email us at [messenger@adventist.ca](mailto:messenger@adventist.ca). ■

*Stan Jensen is the editor of the Canadian Adventist Messenger.*



The Seventh-day Adventist church in Jerusalem that Stan Jensen attended on Sabbath.



# Spotlight

Seventh-day Adventist  
Church in Canada

## Scripture Songwriting Contest



It's hard to get away from singing competitions these days. We are inundated with shows like American Idol, The Voice, X Factor, America's Got Talent and more. The competitions include big lights, massive audiences, special camera angles and judges who tell some of the singers that they are destined for greatness, even though most of the contestants do not end up becoming singing sensations as everyone is led to believe.

Behind each of these competitions—and contestants—however, are the true captivating stars of each great performance: the songs, words perfectly aligned with melody. Most great vocalists will tell you, they can be only as good as the song they are singing.

The world has programmed everyone to believe that in order to matter and be a valuable entity, one must find his or her way to a stage, a platform, and receive as much applause, likes, hits, views and comments as possible. Otherwise, one doesn't exist! Fundamentally, there is something missing from it all: the one who created song and the ability to sing! The one who gives us the very gift to open our mouths and have pleasant melodies flow out. The population has almost entirely forgotten the key ingredient to why we were given the special ability to sing in the first place—God.

If only the masses could understand that our human nature was not designed to receive praise, applause and adoration, that we were designed to give praise to one source. And when we stand in His place on earthly thrones, a hole begins to form, a void takes shape, something that can only be filled with the love and praise of God, our Saviour.

Since the beginning of time (far beyond what our minds can comprehend), there have been music, words and melody. God encourages us to “sing to the Lord a new song!” (Ps. 96:1). It is one of the most powerful tools we have been given. People are

drawn to music, and it speaks in a way mere words simply cannot. Adults will often remember a song they learned as children but may not be able to recite a daily “memory verse.”

At a time when the world is clamoring for music, we have one of the greatest tools for witnessing right at our fingertips!

The church is offering a free opportunity to get involved and see what God inspires within you, your family, friends and church group by participating in the Scripture Songwriting Competition. Let's turn our focus heavenward and create music to praise God—the reason music was created in the first place!

We all know the old familiar songs that we have sung a hundred times (or more), but Christ's Word is living and desires to be used anew! Borrow the words of David and commit it to a melody you can sing with friends or in church!

Researcher Wanda Wallace says memorizing something set to music is easier because “music is a rich structure that chunks words and phrases,” thus assisting “in learning, in retrieving and if necessary, reconstructing a text.” Write to receive the blessing of locking God's Word in your heart and mind.

The call has gone out; sing a joyful song to the Lord. Challenge yourself today. Write a scripture song and get involved! The contest continues until midnight August 1, 2013, and we want your submission! ([www.scripturesongs.ca](http://www.scripturesongs.ca) for full details)

If you have a special story of how you, your family, friends or church have gotten involved with the Scripture Songwriting Contest, I want to hear it! Send me your stories at [naomicontact@aol.com](mailto:naomicontact@aol.com). ■

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*Naomi Striemer is a Chapel recording artist, speaker and author who owns and hosts a syndicated Christian lifestyle radio show that airs across Canada to an approximate 3.5 million daily.*

[www.naomistriemermusic.com](http://www.naomistriemermusic.com) and [www.naomiradio.com](http://www.naomiradio.com)

# the avenue of opportunity



André Langevin

ANDRÉ LANGEVIN completed high school in Quebec City at a Catholic secondary school. From there he went to CEGEP<sup>1</sup> to study psychology, then registered at Kingsway College as a special student to learn English on his way to Canadian University College (CUC). André graduated from CUC with a bachelor's degree in English and a major in physical education. Upon graduation, he completed extra classes at CUC, Athabasca University, and Toronto University. André now holds three minors—French, social science and religion—and is presently completing his Master of Arts in administration leadership.

After initiating an organization focused on the physical, spiritual, and intellectual development of youth called Fellowship of Christian Athletes, André was able to serve the community and take on leadership roles within the organization. Some

ministries included participating in youth rallies and sports tournaments, presenting Christian Living mimes and donating to a local hospital and several food banks.

In André's early Kingsway College years, he was a sports team coach and Student Association and Senate sponsor. André continues to be an active member in the Drama Club, which had begun with short skits around the 1998/1999 school year. Currently, the Drama Club has prepared a big production every spring. This past April the Drama Club produced the play entitled *Baggage Claim*, by Don Bosley, at Preview Weekend, Bowmanville and Berea Seventh-day Adventist churches, and Grandview Adventist Academy, which has blessed many.

Something different the Drama Club added to this presentation was a response from the audience. The response was not just claps or cheers; it was a call to lay down one's burdens at the feet of Christ. The "baggage" "claimed" were the burdens that people from all walks of life encounter.

André believes the Drama Club gives students an avenue to explore one's talents in the applied arts, which are often go unnoticed, unappreciated or undervalued. "This club gives the students an opportunity to expand their personalities, realize their self-worth and feel appreciated through symbolic interactions." Through observations and mentoring, André's ministry at Kingsway was able to help students learn more about God and themselves. The portrayal of Jesus Christ inside and outside the classroom is André's personal mission at Kingsway College.

André claims he is a "behind-the-scenes" type of guy. Kingsway College is grateful for such a dedicated individual. His contributions to Kingsway have positively influenced our student body as a whole, especially when it comes to "behind the scenes" tasks. One does not need to be under a spotlight to shine, for God alone already knows the talents and abilities we all have. It is our responsibility to discover and develop the gifts God has blessed us with.

Christian Education can be compared to a mustard seed, says André: "There is no limit to the power of God that is worked through faith. Jesus says that even the smallest amount of faith is enough to "move mountains"—to achieve what from any normal human perspective is impossible" (see Matt. 17:20). André adds, "Most teachers will likely never see the full influence of a Christian education and upbringing. Yet by faith, Christian teachers and parents know that by planting such seeds, the Holy Spirit will make the students grow in His love and keep them safe." ■

*Ashley Arriola is the communications assistant at Kingsway College.*

If you are interested in sending your child to Kingsway College, or would like to know more information about our school, you can go online to [kingswaycollege.on.ca](http://kingswaycollege.on.ca), or you can call 905.433.1144 x.212 or x.211, or send an email to [admissions@kingswaycollege.on.ca](mailto:admissions@kingswaycollege.on.ca).

WHEN REFLECTING ON GOD'S WISDOM and His creative powers, we may readily think of natural phenomena—from intriguing landscapes and marvellous creatures to the wonders of outer space. However, an even more compelling example of God's power is a transformation in the human soul. For "the gospel ... is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes" (Rom. 1:16, NIV).

And that power was manifested once again in Saskatoon, Sask., as Bill Santos led out in another evangelistic series for It Is Written Canada, April 19 to May 4, 2013. It was just moving to witness precious souls surrendering completely to Christ. On one of the nights, more than 30 people—in an audience of 180—came to the front in response to an altar call and decided for baptism. Some were baptized at the end of the series, while others would continue to study with the local pastors for baptism on a future date.

On the first night of the series, two ladies came to the church for the first time. But how they got there is a miracle in itself.

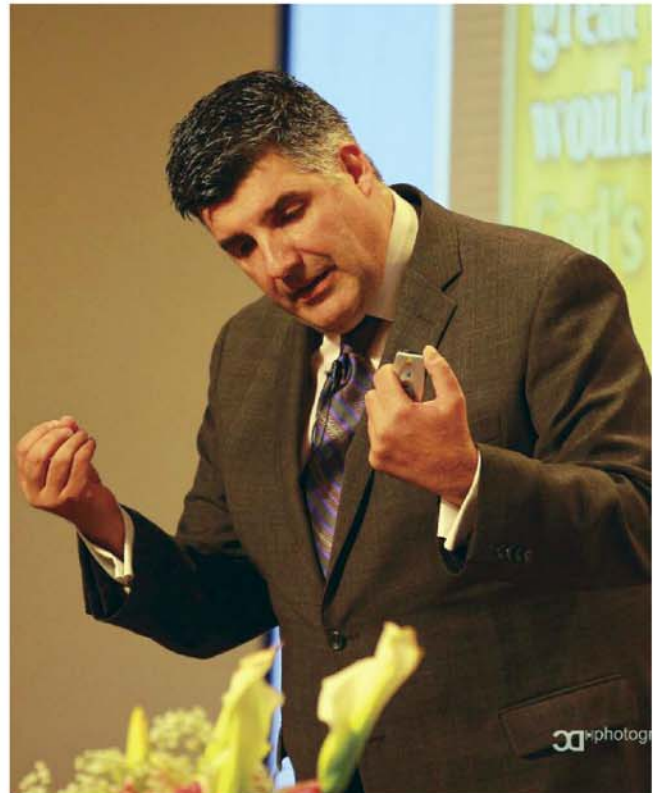
It is Friday morning, April 19. These ladies meet someone for the first time in a shopping mall. This person talks to them about things of life, about hope, about Jesus and encourages them to visit the Saskatoon Seventh-day Adventist Church that very evening, where a seminar on Bible prophecy would be presented. The ladies were so interested in attending the seminar that they arrive at the church around two o'clock in the afternoon! There they meet the pastors and some church members who are taking care of the final details for the evening program. After telling their story, the two ladies decide to remain in the area until the evening to avoid the risk of missing anything. This is just incredible, don't you think?

On another night a church member approached us to share an amazing story that had just happened in his family. This gentleman's son had been struggling with keeping the Sabbath and even with his faith in God; he was having a very hard time trying to find a job that would allow him to have Saturdays off. Two nights earlier, Santos had powerfully preached on the seventh-day Sabbath, and the gentleman told his son, "Do not lose hope yet! Hold on a little longer! God will provide!"

Well, sure enough, the following day his son was called for an interview. When asked whether he would be available to work overtime when requested, the young man said, "I am willing to work overtime as much as you need me to, except on Saturdays." The company owner replied, "Are you an Adventist?" to which he said yes. And to the young man's great surprise, he heard the words, "No problem. The job is yours. I only need a sunset calendar for the year."

Miracles! Miracles of our time! "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Heb. 13:8, NIV). His power has not declined nor dwindled over the years. He is able and willing to seek and save that which was lost. ■

# Touching Hearts, Impacting Lives ...



Bill Santos

*Evaldo Vicente is the director of Music and Donor Relations for It Is Written Canada*



Raina Walker



# Parkview Profiles

*At Parkview Adventist Academy we try to effect positive spiritual change in each of our students.*

**W**e read in Hebrews 13:7, “Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God, consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.” We don’t know who is watching us and who will choose to get to know God because of our actions.

Since her dad left when she was two years old, Raina Walker spent her first years of life in a single-parent home. Life wasn’t always easy for her mom, who was raising two children; and her grandparents, who are dedicated Christians, tried to help by sending her and her brother to summer camp each year at Mountain View Summer Camp in Hope, B.C. Her mom always took Raina and her brother to visit their grandparents each break and Raina became very close to them.

As a youngster she watched her grandparents have morning worship around the breakfast table and then again at night. She noticed that her grandparents were happy, and she deduced that it was from their spiritual relationship with God. At age 10, she realized that she wanted to have that same happiness and that she wanted to get to know God for herself. She asked if she could move in with them.

Her mom wasn’t too pleased, but she gave her permission, and Raina started adopting a Christian

lifestyle. Her grandparents offered stability and Raina loved how they did things together. She spent the next eight years living with them in Mission, B.C., and her love for Jesus grew.

Raina chose to come to Parkview Adventist Academy because she wanted an Adventist high school, and she wanted to do well academically so that she could earn the grades she needed to get into nursing school. She especially loves biology class, not only because she gets to learn about the human body, which relates directly to nursing, but also because she enjoys the thoughtful insights that her teacher Mr. Sayler puts into his worships.

As parents, grandparents, teachers and pastors, we should all spend on our knees in prayer. James 5:16 says, “The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.” Raina’s grandparents’ prayers and life example changed her life.

PAA will graduate Raina this year, and she’ll move on with the rest of her life. At PAA we try to effect positive spiritual change in each of our students, but Raina’s desire to have a close walk with Christ has in itself been an inspiration for each of her classmates. ■

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*Pattie Reasor Communications,  
Parkview Adventist Academy*



# Walk with Him Alberta Campmeeting

July 12-20, 2013 at Foothills Camp, Bowden, Alberta



**James Astleford**  
Executive Director,  
ADRA Canada



**Darlene Blaney**  
Volunteer Health  
Ministries Coordinator,  
Alberta Conference



**Melanie Bockmann**  
Singer/songwriter  
/author, Puyallup,  
Washington



**Tony Budzik**  
Pastor, Manitoba-  
Saskatchewan Confer-  
ence of SDA



**Olaf Clausen**  
Pastor, Alberta  
Conference of Seventh-  
day Adventists



**Don Corkum**  
Church Plant Director,  
Alberta Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists



**Rudy Harnish**  
Pastor/International  
Speaker/Writer,  
Crow's Nest Pass, Alta.



**Mark Haynal**  
President, Canadian  
University College



**Cleveland Houser**  
Primary Therapist, Be-  
havioural Health, Skyline  
Medical Center, TN



**Patrick E. Jacques**  
Associate Pastor, Toronto  
East Church, Ontario  
Conference of SDA



**Mark Johnson**  
President, Seventh-day  
Adventist Church in  
Canada



**Clifford Jones**  
Associate Dean,  
Professor,  
Andrews University



**S. Joseph Kidder**  
Professor, SDA  
Theological Seminary,  
Andrews University



**Chris Lang**  
Producer/Director,  
Lifestreams Media Inc.



**Gabriel Perea**  
Pastor, Texas  
Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists



**Ralph Ringer**  
Director, Church Growth  
& Evangelism, Southern  
Union Conference



**Audrey Tait**  
Owner/Director,  
Inspirational Insights  
Counselling

# A Moment with the Master Alberta FilCan Campmeeting

August 22-25, 2012 at Foothills Camp, Bowden, Alberta



**VicLouis III Arreola**  
Director, Asian/  
Pacific Ministries,  
North American  
Division and  
Pacific Union  
Conference of SDA



**Ronald Yabut**  
Pastor, Edmonton  
Filipino Seventh-  
day Adventist  
Church, Alberta

# Children of Light Manitoba-Saskatchewan Campmeeting

July 5-13, 2013 at Camp Whitesand, Theodore, Saskatchewan



**G. Alexander Bryant**  
Secretary, North  
American Division of  
Seventh-day Adventists



**Ken & Colleen Crawford**  
President, Alaska Conference  
of Seventh-day Adventists



**Rich DuBose**  
Director, Church Support  
Services, Pacific Union  
Conference of SDA



**Tom Evans**  
Assoc. Director,  
Church Planting, NAD  
Evangelism Institute



**Kenley Hall**  
Associate Professor,  
Seminary, Andrews  
University



**Evelyn Kissinger**  
Nutrition Director,  
Lifestyle Matters



**Willy Sumagaysay**  
Assoc. Director, Planned  
Giving/Trust Services,  
General Conference



**Elizabeth Talbot**  
Founder/Speaker, Jesus  
101 Biblical Institute



**Brooke Wong**  
Chaplain, Spring  
Valley Academy,  
Centerville, Ohio



## “And I, if I be lifted up ...” Maritime Campmeeting

July 26-August 3, 2012 at Camp Pugwash, Pugwash, N.S.



**Andrée Dupuis**  
Lay person, Ontario  
Conference of Seventh-  
day Adventists



**Frank Fournier**  
President, ASI and  
Eden Valley Institute



**Mark Johnson**  
President, Seventh-day  
Adventist Church in  
Canada



**Arnet Mathers**  
Pastor, Northern  
New England  
Conference of SDA



**John Mathews**  
Stewardship Director,  
North American  
Division of SDA



**Jay Neil**  
Anesthesiologist,  
Washington



**John Ramsay**  
VP for Finance,  
Seventh-day Adventist  
Church in Canada



**Daniel Stojanovic**  
VP for Administration,  
Seventh-day Adventist  
Church in Canada



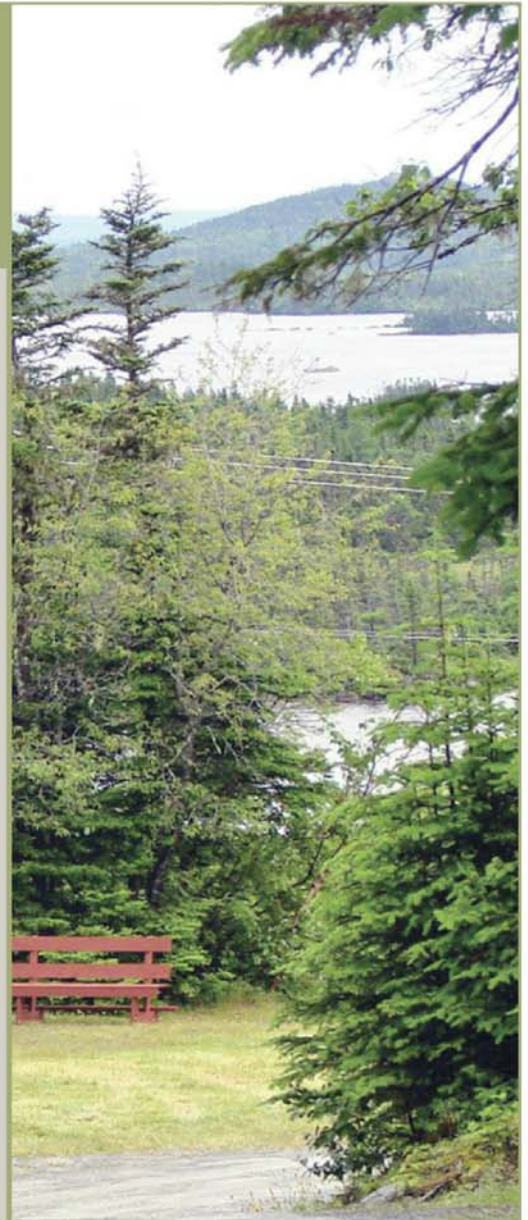
**Stephanie Dawn &  
Dann Thornton**  
Musicians, Dawn of  
Hope Ministries



**Phyllis Washington**  
Children's Ministries,  
North American  
Division of SDA

# Needed Rest in Jesus Newfoundland Campmeeting

July 19-27, 2013 at Woody Acres Camp, Southwest Pond, Newfoundland



**John Brushett**  
Pastor, Lethbridge District,  
Seventh-day Adventist Church in  
Newfoundland and Labrador



**Ken Corkum**  
President, Seventh-day  
Adventist Church in  
Newfoundland and Labrador



**Stephanie Dawn &  
Dann Thornton**  
Musicians,  
Dawn of Hope Ministries



**Jon-Ross Ennest**  
Pastor, Gander,  
SDA Church in Newfound-  
land and Labrador



**Jonathan Gascoyne**  
Pastor, Botwood District,  
SDA Church in Newfound-  
land and Labrador



**Winston Hurlock**  
Pastor, Scarborough,  
Ontario Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists



**Mark Johnson**  
President, Seventh-  
day Adventist  
Church in Canada



**Jerry Logan**  
Pastor, Corner Brook,  
SDA Church in Newfound-  
land and Labrador



**Eric Ollila**  
Pastor, St. John's, SDA  
Church in Newfoundland  
and Labrador



**Victor Reyes-Prieto**  
Pastor, Marystown, SDA  
Church in Newfoundland  
and Labrador



**Ranko Stefanovic**  
Professor New Testament  
SDA Theological Seminary,  
Andrews University



**Jason Williams**  
Pastor, Conception Bay South  
/Bay Roberts, SDA Church in  
Newfoundland and Labrador

# "Look Above; Look Beyond!" Reaching Ontario for Christ Ontario Campmeeting

June 29, 2013 at International Centre, 6900 Airport Rd., Mississauga, Ontario



**James Doggette**  
Pastor, Madison Mission, Southern  
Union Conference; Professor,  
Oakwood University, Huntsville, Ala.



**Alvin Kibble**  
Vice-President, North  
American Division of  
Seventh-day Adventists



**Bob Winsor**  
Pastor, Niagara/St. Catherines  
churches, Ontario Conference



# In Christ Alone British Columbia Campmeeting

July 26-August 4, 2013 at Camp Hope, Hope, British Columbia



**Doug Batchelor**  
President/Speaker,  
Amazing Facts  
Ministries



**Shawn Boonstra**  
Speaker/Director  
Voice of Prophecy



**Manny Cruz**  
Associate Director,  
Youth and Young Adult  
Ministries, NAD



**Wayne Culmore**  
President, British  
Columbia Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists



**Hans Diehl**  
Founder, Lifestyle  
Medicine Institute  
(CHIP)



**Ty Gibson**  
Co-director/Speaker,  
Light Bearers Ministry



**Craig Hadley**  
Young Adult Pastor,  
Redlands SDA Church,  
Pacific Union Conference



**Justis St. Hilaire**  
Evangelist, British  
Columbia Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists



**Cheri Peters**  
Founder,  
True Step Ministries



**James Rafferty**  
Co-director/Gospel  
Worker, Light Bearers  
Ministry



**Jean Ross**  
VP, Evangelism, Director,  
Amazing Facts Center  
of Evangelism



**Arlene R. Taylor**  
Founder/President,  
Realizations Inc.



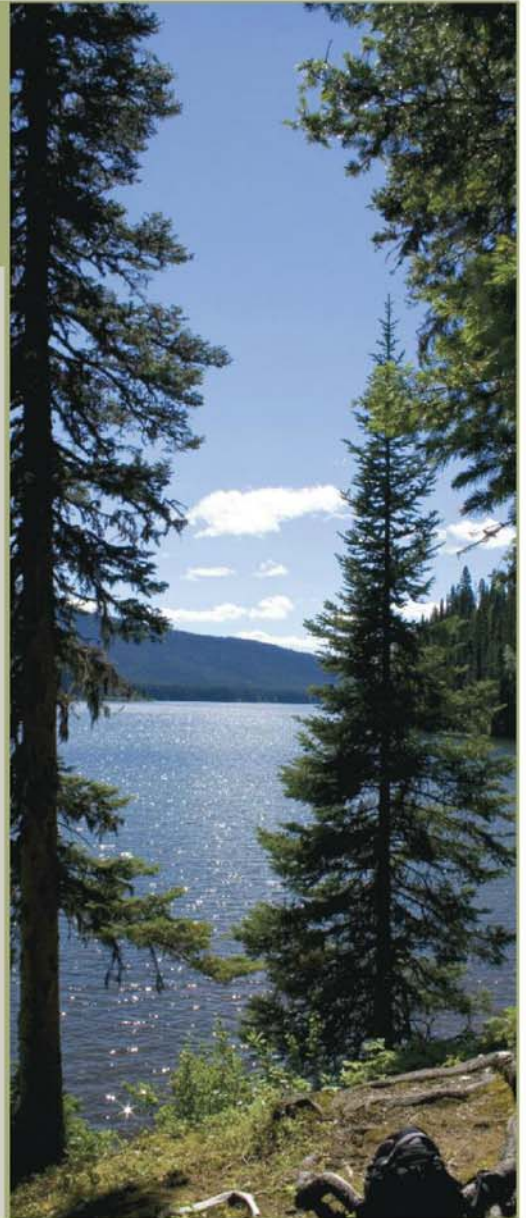
**Wesley Torres**  
VP for Administration,  
British Columbia  
Conference of SDA



**Cindy Tutsch**  
Associate Director, EG  
White Estate, General  
Conference of SDA



**Michael Wixwat**  
Treasurer, British  
Columbia Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists



- May 18 Okanagan and District Mini-Campmeeting, Kelowna, B.C.; Jerrold Ritchey, VP Advancement/Alumni
- June 8 Southern Ontario Campmeeting, Simcoe, Ont.; Proclaim, Bryan Lee, VP Marketing & Enrolment
- June 29 Ontario Campmeeting, Toronto, Ont.; Proclaim, Mark Haynal, president; Jerrold Ritchey, VP Advancement; Bryan Lee, VP Marketing & Enrolment
- July 5-7 Manitoba/Saskatchewan Campmeeting, Theodore, Sask.; Proclaim, Mark Haynal, president; Jerrold Ritchey, VP Advancement; Bryan Lee, VP Marketing & Enrolment
- July 12-20 Alberta Campmeeting, Bowden, Alta.; Proclaim, Mark Haynal, president; Jerrold Ritchey, VP Advancement; Bryan Lee, VP Marketing & Enrolment
- July 24-25 Quebec Campmeeting, Lachute, Que.; Proclaim, Mark Haynal, president
- July 26-28 Maritime Campmeeting, Pugwash, N.S.; Proclaim, Mark Haynal, president; Jerrold Ritchey, VP Advancement; Bryan Lee, VP Marketing & Enrolment
- July 26-Aug. 3 British Columbia Campmeeting, Hope, B.C.; Proclaim, Mark Haynal, president; Jerrold Ritchey, VP Advancement; Bryan Lee, VP Marketing & Enrolment

## CUC Campmeeting Schedule



**Mark Haynal**  
President, Canadian University  
College, Lacombe, Alberta



**Bryan Lee**  
Vice-President, Marketing and  
Enrolment, Canadian University  
College, Lacombe, Alberta



**Jerrold Ritchey**  
Vice-President, Advancement,  
Canadian University College,  
Lacombe, Alberta

Other school representatives will also be available at your local campmeeting. Stop by and see what's happening at CUC. For our full campmeeting schedule, visit our campmeeting website at [www.cauc.ca/campmeeting](http://www.cauc.ca/campmeeting).



Please note: Items in the "News" section may originate from various sources. The Canadian Adventist Messenger will give credit, via a byline, to authors of material submitted directly to us for first printing. Stories without a byline may have been written by Messenger staff, reprinted from other publications or supplied to us by a general press release.

## Alberta

# President's Appreciation Luncheon

Working for God as a denominational employee has both temporal and eternal rewards. After retirement, however, it's easy for some to feel forgotten and unappreciated. And that's why Alberta Conference president, Ken Wiebe, wanted to honour a special group of retirees with a President's Appreciation Luncheon on March 28, 2013, at the Canadian University College cafeteria.

"As I travelled around and visited with people in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, I heard similar comments from those who had retired from denominational work—many feel as if they don't count anymore, as if they have been forgotten. That's not the case, however. We appreciate all the contributions they have made and continue to make, and wanted to show our appreciation," shares Wiebe.

So the idea for an appreciation luncheon was born. Invitations went out to a list that included retired teachers, pastors, conference workers, nursing home employees, missionaries as well as those who worked at the furniture factory and other campus industries.

In all, there were 175 honoured guests, which included the retirees and their spouses, or spouses attending for retirees who are now resting in Jesus. To recognize their service, all retirees were given a pin for their years of dedicated service.

Also in attendance, in addition to the current conference administration and staff, were the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Canada president, Mark Johnson, and communications director, Stan Jensen; as well as CUC president, Mark Haynal, and vice-president for



Advancement, Jerrold Ritchey.

The luncheon was not only a perfect opportunity for attendees to reconnect with former colleagues and enjoy a meal together; it also gave them a chance to find out more about current outreach in the province.

"I feel that part of the honouring and appreciation is sharing what is happening in the Alberta Conference," explains Wiebe.

To fulfill that purpose, the Mamawi Atosketan Native School (MANS) was highlighted. Some of the MANS students provided the entertainment and table decorations, and MANS chaplain, Peter Ford, emceed the program. First Nations

businessman Larry Wilkins spoke on the value of Christian education in the aboriginal community.

From the attendees' comments, it's clear that Elder Wiebe's goals were met. Former missionary Corrine Vanderwerff summed it up like this:

"Truly for me personally, as well as for others, it was a blessing both in the information and recognition we received, and in being able to connect with 'folks from the past' and to meet those currently involved in our areas of interest." ■

*Stan Jensen, editor,  
Canadian Adventist Messenger*

## Ontario

# Royson James Recognized for Media Contribution



Centre: Royson James. Far left and right: Moses and Patricia Mawa from the Planet Africa group; sponsor of the Harry Jerome awards.

On Saturday, April 28, Royson James, Toronto Star columnist and member of the Toronto West Seventh-day Adventist Church became one of 16 recipients of the prestigious Harry Jerome Award of Excellence. These awards, according to James, “are a tribute to the thousands of African-Canadians and Caribbean folks who’ve embraced Canada with an indomitable will to thrive and achieve against the odds.” James received the award for excellence in media.

Hailing from the tiny village of Orange, Montego Bay, Jamaica, Royson James is candid about his humble roots in a family of labourers, farm workers and tradespeople—his dad an orderly at Sunnybrook Hospital, and his mother, a maid.

Despite the blue-collar stock, the family relied on a red-carpet God, who enabled them to send their “one son” to Andrews University, a bit older than his peers. There, pursuing a communication

degree and putting in long hours at the school newspaper, he got stung by the journalism bug.

He returned to Toronto and was hired by Contrast, a self-dubbed “eyes and ears and voice of Canada’s black community,” weekly in 1979, where his first assignment involved coverage of the controversial Buddy Evans inquest—a racially provocative news story of this bouncer, shot and killed by police who accused him of attacking them.

In 1983, James became a community news reporter for the Toronto Star. Fifteen years later “Star publisher John Honderich injected enormous confidence in me when he made me a columnist,” says James.

Since then, James has boldly informed his readers, badgered politicians on accountability issues, voiced strong opinions on topics that leave the more reticent of us squirming, taken his share of journalistic abuse and then some, and

bled his heart out in his column, three days a week, plus special assignments for the Star.

His contributions to his church community are equally trailblazing as Pathfinder leader, litanist, visionary, playwright, elder, mentor, and all-out good friend. Holding fast to one’s faith in a secular culture can be tough. But James, anchored and grounded, makes no apologies about the God he serves and whose ultimate award he aspires to attain.

In 2001, following the General Conference world session in Toronto, the Adventist Media community awarded James with the Community Bridge Award. Royson, father of four—Tanish, Sheldon, Darnell and Avalon—resides in Toronto with his wife, Audrey, a special education teacher at Crawford Adventist Academy. ■

*Yvonne Rodney,  
Toronto West church*

## Quebec

# Montreal Congregation to Celebrate the Church Building's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



*More than 500 expected to gather at the historic worship site*

A large gathering of former members and friends of the Westmount Seventh-day Adventist Church are expected to assemble in Montreal for the long Canada Day weekend (June 28–30, 2013) to celebrate a homecoming reunion, marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this historic church building.

The Westmount church is the oldest and largest English-speaking Adventist church in Montreal. Perched on a hilltop in the city of Westmount, the church seats approximately 1,000 and has served as a beacon of light providing spiritual enlightenment and support to thousands of souls for many generations. Currently, the church has more than 400 members, and thousands more have walked through its doors since its inception. Many current and former members have gone on to make outstanding contributions in the fields of music, science, theology and commerce. Fifty-two pastors have stood at the helm of the congregation and imparted God's vision for His people.

Attendees of the homecoming reunion can anticipate an unforgettable experience as families and friends reconnect with those they've lost contact with for years. Along with the fellowship, a total weekend package has been planned. It begins Friday evening, June 28, with vespers, continues Sabbath with dynamic preaching, a musical extravaganza, a social event and culminates on Sunday, June 30, with a delectable brunch reception.

During the reunion, former pastors Robert Samms and Steve Cassimy will be featured speakers. To commence the weekend, Pastor Cassimy will deliver the Word at the vesper service on Friday. Former pastor Robert Kennedy will lead the lesson study session on Sabbath morning. Pastor Samms, the keynote speaker for the divine service, will challenge and

motivate the congregation with his homiletics as he reaffirms the mission of the church. To conclude the momentous day, former member and celebrated recording artist Wintley Phipps will headline a host of recording and beloved artists that started their careers and ministries in this Montreal church.

Over the years, the Westmount church has been called "the church on the hill." The unique architecture of the building is a prominent feature of the Montreal skyline. Those who have visited the church have marveled at its structural design and splendor of the sanctuary. The history of the church dates back to 1913, when a local congregation purchased the land and erected the building. It was then called the Stanley Presbyterian Church, named after the street where they were first established. In 1972, as the Presbyterian membership dwindled, providence allowed the local Seventh-day Adventist congregation to purchase the building from the Presbyterians, and in 1974, they officially changed the name to the Westmount Seventh-day Adventist Church.

One of the building's premier features is the statuesque Casavant Pipe organ, which immediately commands your attention as you enter the sanctuary. This organ was built by the Casavant Brothers in St. Hyacinth, Quebec, in 1914 and was bequeathed to the Westmount congregation at the time of purchase from the Stanley Presbyterian Church. The Casavant organ is considered a historic treasure and continues to resonate as the congregation lift their voices in worship.

The Westmount church has been blessed to have an abundance of musical talent, and during the reunion weekend, current and former members will provide rich and inspiring musical performances. If you plan to be present, you can expect your heart to be uplifted and inspired with the heavenly sounds of the Westmount Reunion Mass Choir. All are invited to participate in this momentous occasion and attend at least one of the events over this holiday weekend. Should you be interested in singing with the Mass Choir or need more information about any aspect of the homecoming reunion, you may contact us at [westmountreunion@gmail.com](mailto:westmountreunion@gmail.com) or visit the official website at [www.westmountreunion.com](http://www.westmountreunion.com).

We are confident that by God's grace the church will continue to be a beacon in the Montreal community for many more years, heralding Christ's soon return and serving as a haven to the lost, a solace to the suffering, and a refuge to those facing the storms of life. ■

*Wayne Greaves, steering committee chairperson, Westmount Seventh-day Adventist Homecoming Reunion Weekend*

# British Columbia



## Vancouver Filipino SDA Church Rangers Pathfinder Club

It has been about four years now since the Vancouver Rangers Pathfinder Club started its street cleaning as their community and outreach program. It is one of the many ways the club finds to serve others.

The club is officially registered with the City of Vancouver, B.C., and every year, the city mayor gives a certificate of appreciation, a token of the city's recognition and support. The city provides the cleaning tools and protective wear.

At least once every quarter throughout the year, the Pathfinders give time to do street and park cleaning.

Some responses of the Pathfinders are: "I feel street cleaning is fun and helps the environment"; "I think street cleaning is a good way to help teach us to take care of our community."

Many of them discovered that as they clean their surroundings, their inner selves are also being cleaned up. They're learning responsibility, duty, service, care, patience and benevolence. Passersby cheer for them. It has always been rewarding. ■

*Rachel Pedernal, Pathfinder director*

# Good News!

Join the growing number of Adventist churches who are receiving the official Adventist TV network, **Hope Channel**, in their community. It's the perfect way to help your neighbours, family and friends discover the Adventist Church. Hope Channel recently received CRTC approval and could soon be broadcast by every cable and satellite company in Canada. Ask your pastor what you can do to help make this a reality. Register at <http://hopechannel.ca> for more information.



>> SDACC REVOLVING FUND REPORT: As of Apr. 30, 2013, there are 455 depositors with a total deposit of \$24,589,163. There are 74 loans with a value of \$19,527,730.

For more information or to make a deposit, contact Girly Quiambao—[quiambao.girly@adventist.ca](mailto:quiambao.girly@adventist.ca); 905/433-0011.

## SDA Church in Canada

### On the Rock

Join Voice of Adventist Radio (VOAR) on Saturday nights for “On the Rock,” a program that exemplifies our name, Christian Family Radio.

Jason Cole has been an on-air volunteer at VOAR since 1991, and his wife, Trudy Morgan-Cole, began her on-air volunteering at VOAR in 1980 when she was just 15 years old. Their teenaged children, Chris and Emma, have both been volunteering at VOAR since they were preschoolers.

Right now the entire Cole family contributes to a two-hour show called On the Rock every Saturday night on VOAR from 8 to 10 p.m. Newfoundland time.

On the Rock is two hours of music, Scripture and inspirational readings, with the second hour focusing on a biblical theme with readings from Seventh-day Adventists Believe and from Ellen White’s writings.

Jason Cole introduces the show, presents an “Artist Spotlight” feature and announces some of the music. Chris and Emma both have their own features, “Chris’s Corner” and “Emma’s Place,” along with reading the Scriptures in the second hour. Trudy looks at the stories behind well-known hymns in the second hour during “Hymn Story.”

Along with the Cole family, St. John’s pastor Eric Ollila also helps out by reading selected passages in the second hour. In the 40 shows that have been produced so far, 20 of the 28 Adventist doctrines have been covered, including Creation, the Remnant and the Sabbath.

You’re invited to tune in for this and other programs and music presented on VOAR Christian Family Radio. ■

God Bless,  
R. Brian Matthews,  
VOAR chief engineer  
bmatthews@voar.org



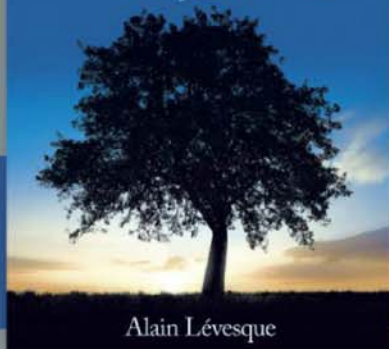
Chris, Jason, Trudy, and Emma Cole.



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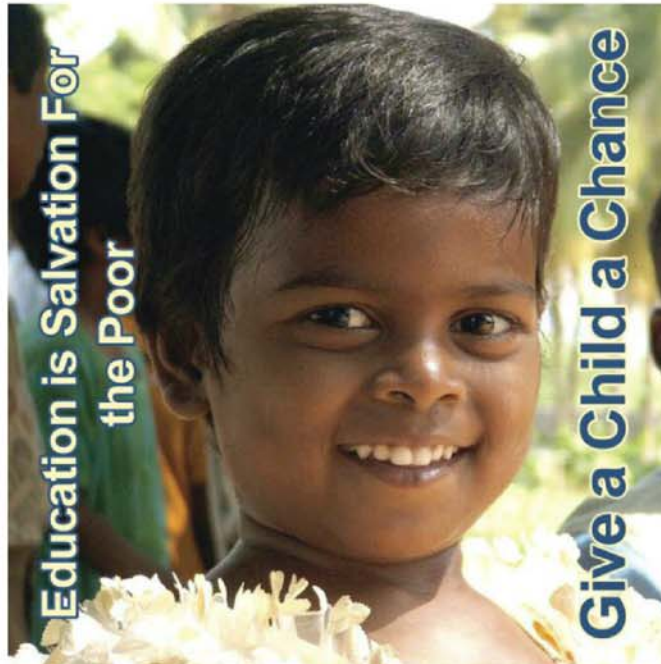
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■ **Announcements**

**PROCESS:**

- All announcements (non-profit events, new member notices, birth announcements, weddings, anniversaries, obituaries and tributes) should be emailed to Alexandra Yeboah (Yeboah.alexandra@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 submittable) are available at [www.adventist.ca/messenger](http://www.adventist.ca/messenger).
- The *Messenger* assumes no liability for typographical errors or responsibility for inaccuracies originating in submitted material.
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Jecek Steczko, Ewa Skotnicki, Roman Skotnicki, Sisouk Tangkpanya, Cheryl Vedamani, Rose Waleshek. If you have information on how they can be contacted, please contact Rae Weir, church clerk, (604) 591-2922.

**You're invited to the 2013 Maranatha Volunteers International Convention** (Roseville, Calif.) This free event features speakers from around the world, and musical guest Steve Green. September 20-21. Register at [www.maranatha.org](http://www.maranatha.org). (9/13)

■ **New Members**

**ALBERTA**

**Brooke Severtson and Olga Horaska** were baptized in Sylvan Lake, Alta., on Nov. 24, 2012, by Warren Kay. They are now both members of the Sylvan Lake church.

**Rachel Syblis** was baptized in Sylvan Lake, Alta., on Dec. 8, 2012, by Warren Kay. She is now a member of the Sylvan Lake church.

**ONTARIO**

**Tyler Stapley** was baptized in Kingston, Ont., on March 16, 2013, by Daviceto Swaby. He is now a member of the Kingston church.

**MARITIME**

**Dawson Cook** was baptized at Camp Pugwash, N.S., during teen camp, on July 21, 2012, by Paul Llewellyn. He is now a member of the Barnesville church.

**Toma and Sara Macavei-Katocz** were baptized at Camp Pugwash, N.S., on Aug. 4, 2012, by Pedro Graça. Their children, **Noemi** and **David Macavei-Katocz** were baptized at Camp Pugwash, N.S., during campmeeting, on Aug. 4, 2012, by Dan Wilson. They are now all members of Fox Point church.

**Caleb Embleton and Christopher Moffitt** were baptized at Camp Pugwash, N.S., during campmeeting, on Aug. 4, 2012, by Adrian Golea. They are now both members of the Harvey church.

**Sandy Orchard and Mark Wylie** were baptized at Camp Pugwash, N.S., during campmeeting, on Aug. 4, 2012, by Métard Salomon. They are now both members of the Moncton church.

**Zoe Brewer and Theresa Young** were baptized at Camp Pugwash, N.S., during teen camp, on July 21, 2012, by Paul Llewellyn. They are

now both members of the Zealand church.

**Devonte Murray-Butcher** was baptized at Camp Pugwash, N.S., during teen camp, on July 21, 2012, by Gary Belhomme. He is now a member of the Dartmouth church.

**Boris Popov** was baptized at Camp Pugwash, N.S., during teen camp, on July 21, 2012, by Paul Llewellyn. He is now a member of the Fredericton church.

**Joel Viau** was baptized at Camp Pugwash, N.S., during teen camp, on July 21, 2012, by Paul Llewellyn. He is now a member of the Pugwash church.

**Shayleesa Smith** was baptized at Camp Pugwash, N.S., during teen camp, on July 21, 2012, by Paul Llewellyn. She is now a member of the Maranatha church.

**Gabriela Casco** was baptized at Camp Pugwash, N.S., during campmeeting, on Aug. 4, 2012, by Dan Wilson. She is now a member of the Maranatha church.

**Kaylee Copeland** was baptized at Camp Pugwash, N.S., during campmeeting on Aug. 4, 2012, by Paul Llewellyn. She is now a member of the Maranatha church.

■ **Birthdays**

**Marie (née Aaserude, Detmold) Knopp** celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 28, 2013, in a care home



in Coquitlam, B.C. Her sister, Trudi Charles, celebrated with her. Marie worked many years for the church as church clerk, bulletin secretary, Sabbath school teacher and secretary. She also served in the armed forces during World War II.

■ **Obituaries**

**Velma Jessie (née Burgess) Hill** was born on May 8, 1921, in Pembroke,

Ont., and died Feb. 26, 2013, in Abbotsford, B.C. Velma and her husband, Fred, were the superintendents in the Cradle Roll and Kindergarten classes in the Vancouver church for many years. Countless hours were spent creating, and building investment and offering devices. Many more hours were spent making offering and investment banks. Velma was Sabbath school superintendent in the Vancouver, Richmond and Abbotsford churches. She was a deaconess in Vancouver and Abbotsford and an elder in Richmond. At any church function, you could be sure that Velma would have created something delicious. Velma had the gift of hospitality, and many people were fortunate to have enjoyed her gift. Her church was her passion. Velma is predeceased by her husband, Fredrick. Surviving: son, Phillip (Karen), of Calgary, Alta.; daughter, Devlyn (Olavi Silvasti) Putsey, of Aldergrove, B.C.; brother, Robert (Treva) Burgess, of Desert Springs, Calif.; sisters, Majorie Allard and Lila Adams; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

**Merina Mae Jacobsen** was born on May 28, 1935, in Beiseker, Alta., and died Dec. 24, 2012, in Calgary, Alta. Merina loved to play the piano, organ and three other instruments, which she used when she volunteered at seniors' homes and lodges. For years she was involved in prison ministry. She's best known for her unconditional love and was described by a close friend as having a "heart of gold." She is predeceased by her husband, Edward; son DJ (Betty); half-brothers, Archie Roth and Eldred Roth; and half-sister, Elsie Riley. Surviving: son Kelly (Christine); daughter, Tracy (Merv) Gibson; sisters, Melvina Kindopp and Geraldine Krym; six grandchildren.

**Stanley Kemperle** was born on April 15, 1937, in Subotica, in former Yugoslavia, and died Feb. 8, 2013, in Oshawa, Ont. Stan was very generous with his time, resources and expertise in the development of a video service for the College Park church. With the installation of many hundreds of feet of cable, strategic purchases, placement of cameras, and a mixing booth, he was able to start a mission to provide high-quality videos to those unable to attend the weekly services. This, in turn, led to the video streaming still being done today. Stan was a faithful and devoted member of the College Park church for many years. Stan is predeceased his son Brent. Surviving: wife, Helia; son Brian (Pamela); daughter, Barb (Peter) Morrison; brother, Andy (Nancy); four grandchildren.

**Hilda Olga (née Rodenbush) Rooke** was born on April 29, 1908,

■ **Announcements**

**The Lamming Mills/McBride church** in British Columbia invites you to its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion, from August 16-18, 2013. We'd love to celebrate this special anniversary with you. For more information, contact [glen.elsie.stanley@gmail.com](mailto:glen.elsie.stanley@gmail.com), or 250/569-2596.

**The Surrey Seventh-day Adventist Church is looking for the following missing members:** Angeline Abinoja, David Albert, Ang Alves, Emerson Bayonetta, Fellisima Bennett, Zeph Bennett, Steven Boland, Kathy Bone, Sean Bone, Charles Butler III, Ann-Margaret Capulong, Barry Dzenick, Shirley Dzenick, Anthony Estacio, Rachelle Forrer, Maurice Galvez, Paul Galvez, George Richard, Jason Hill, Robert Hazelton, Sonia Jordan, Sangeetha Komanduri, Tim Lamirante, Ed Mac Innes, Rebecca Mani, Pauline Major, Max Melnyk, Isreal Mexia Luna, Deanna Minney, Arthur Moore, Monica Naumann, Bob Nutkins, Ursula Osachuk, Sean Porebski, Zbigniew Porebski, Rajkumari Prasad, Jeanine Roussel, Iowole Ruscito, Litiana E. Ruscito, Maria G. Ruscito, Sheila Ryan, Troy Ryan, Marlen Seidemetov, Steven Sinclair,

in Arlington Beach, Sask., and died Dec. 19, 2012, in Maple Ridge, B.C. Hilda devoted her life to her family and served many years in the church as Kindergarten teacher and deaconess. She was very active until she was in her 102<sup>nd</sup> year. She passed away quietly in the arms of her daughter, Pearl. She is predeceased by her husband, Charles, and sons, Mervyn and Ronald.

**June Weich** was born on June 29, 1926, in Spruce Grove, Alta., and died March 21, 2013, in Castor, Alta. Surviving: husband, Ben; son, Glen, of Hanna, Alta., and Kevin (Linda), of Spirit River, Alta.; daughter, Linda (Terry) Steinke, of Millet, Alta.; sister, Lorraine (Victor) Fast, of Kelowna, B.C.; six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

**Erwin Leo Zotsman** was born on Feb. 24, 1933, in Breton, Alta., and died March 9, 2013, in Devon, Alta. Erwin was a longtime member of the Warburg church. He served in many leadership positions, such as elder and Sabbath school superintendent. He also served on the building committee of the current church and helped in its construction. Surviving: wife, Ruth; sons, Leslie (Kung) Zotsman, of Thailand, and Robert, of Warburg, Alta.; daughter, Susan (Harvey) Nielsen, of High Prairie, Alta.; sister, Elizabeth (Herbert) Sam, of Sunnybrook, Alta.; six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

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**Thinking of what to do this summer?**

How about attending Eastern Canada Youth for Christ’s (ECYC) fifth annual conference: “Something Better”: “For what is man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?” (Matthew 16:26). The conference will be held from Aug. 15–18. Register online at: [www.eastcanadayouth.org](http://www.eastcanadayouth.org). For more information, please email us at [info@eastcanadayouth.org](mailto:info@eastcanadayouth.org). (7/13)

**Fountainview Academy is an 80-student boarding school** nestled in the beautiful, pristine mountains of British Columbia. Leading young people to Christ is our first priority. We are currently seeking a main girls’ dean for the 2013/2014 school year. If you have experience that would benefit you as a **girls’ dean**, please prayerfully consider submitting your résumé to Michael Dunbar at [mdunbar@fountainview.ca](mailto:mdunbar@fountainview.ca) or Fountainview Academy, Box 500, Lillooet, B.C. V0K 1V0. 250/256-5400 (7/13)

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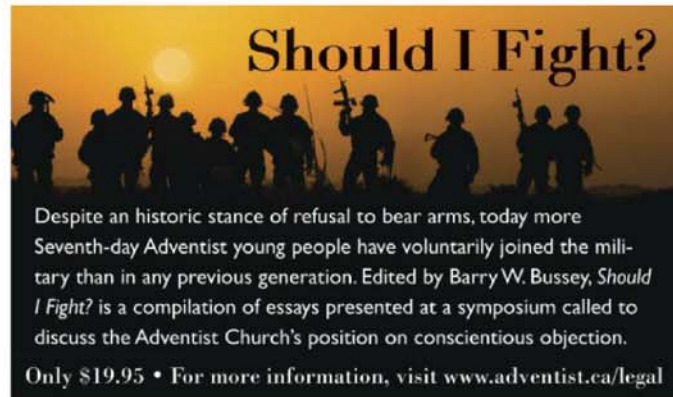
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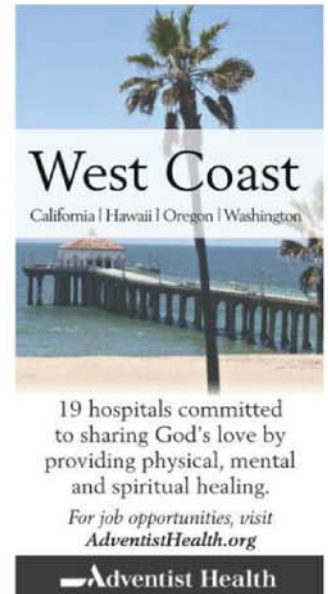
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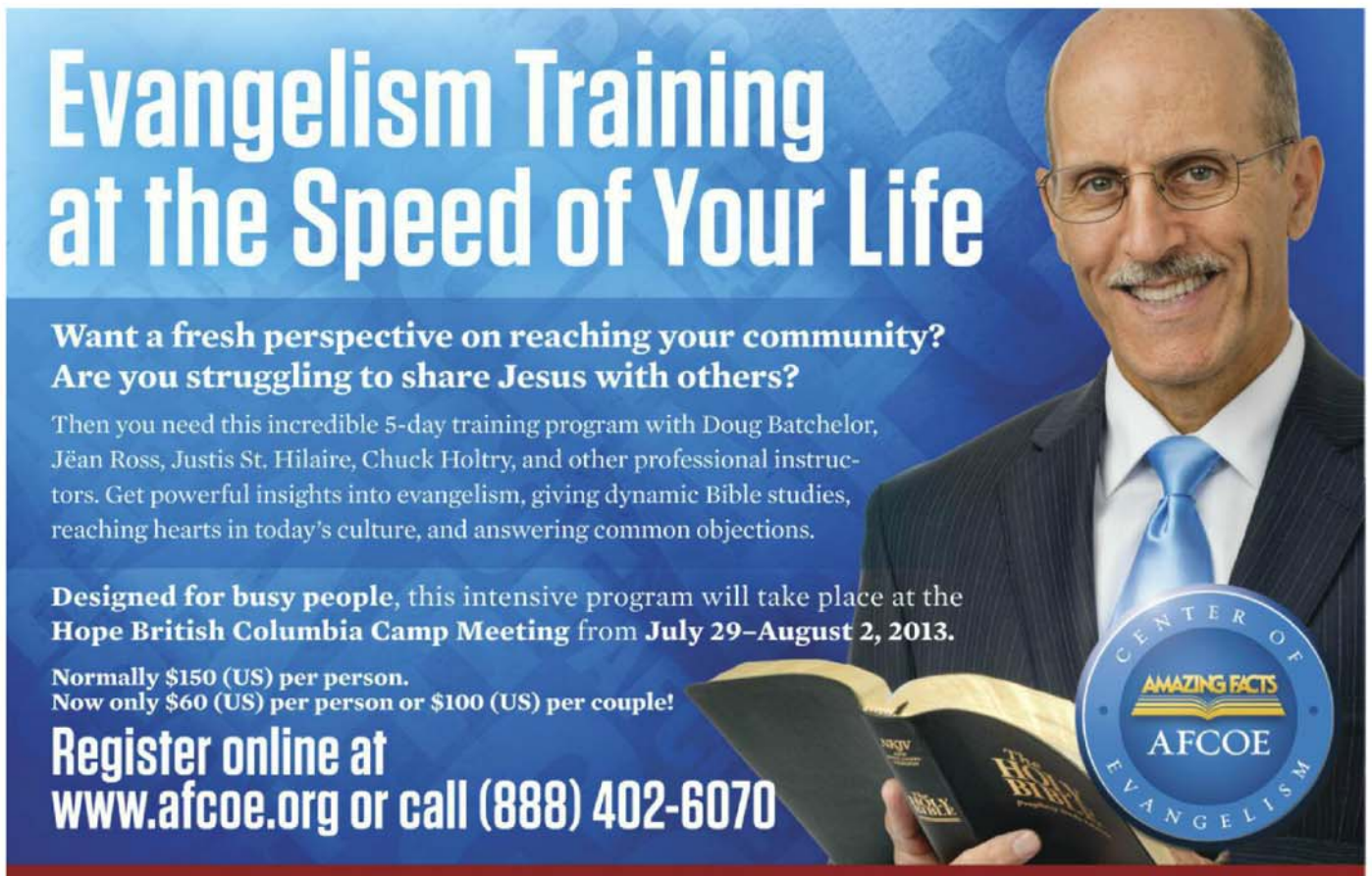
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## from the editor

# How is your net experience?

Seems like everyone is talking about the net these days. I read this on the net ... I read that ... you have to be on the net ... you have to stay off the net ... etc.

I was at a convention for the Global Adventist internet Network (GAiN) where everything was about the net.<sup>1</sup> The message and the media of Adventism is at a crossroads, and it is fascinating to see how God is leading His church to a prime position.

I was reminded about a man who, 2,000 years ago, told some friends to cast their net in a different direction. He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some" (John 21:6, NIV). When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

All this time they were casting their net in places that did not produce, and then they followed a simple instruction to recast their net.

Perhaps some of us have cast our net where we think we should, when we need to recast it where the people we need to reach are. The good news is this: I have been in so many churches that have enough vacant pew space ready to be filled once we all recast our net.

If your net is not full, think about casting it where there are people who are weak, wounded and weary, to give them hope, health and happiness. ■

Stan Jensen, editor  
jensen.stan@adventist.ca

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Stan'.

<sup>1</sup> See [gain.adventist.org](http://gain.adventist.org).

**THIS SUMMER SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS ALL OVER CANADA** will gather together in many different places within Canada for our annual campmeetings. Dating back to Protestant Christianity, campmeetings are commonly known as a time of “warm fellowship, great music and inspiring messages.”<sup>1</sup> For many, it may often bring back pleasant memories that last a lifetime. This month we look at how some of the past campmeetings were conducted.

### Camp Meeting

THE East and the West will join hands at Yorkton from July 5 to 12. The occasion is the annual camp meeting convening on the exhibition grounds. Tents will be erected for living quarters and rented at prices as have obtained on former occasions.

It would be well to bring along a tick for straw and sufficient bed clothing. Springs and chairs can also be had at a nominal price. Meals will be served in the cafeteria at a price sufficient to cover the cost only.

Do not forget to bring your Bible and hymn books — “Christ in Song” and “Gospel in Song.” Programs outlining the daily meetings will be supplied on the grounds.

The Book and Bible House will have a good display of denominational literature in book and pamphlet form as well as tracts. Then is the time to secure a good Bible and a set of the Testimonies at special camp meeting prices.

There are several ways of traveling to Yorkton, The Canadian Pacific and Canadian National Railways, automobile, horse drawn vehicles, and the first means of locomotion.

Let no one say it is too far and that he does not have time to go to camp meeting. A little reflection will bring to our memories the long pilgrimages undertaken, and time spent by the children of Israel of old in attending the convocations at their beloved city. The Israel of today should not be lacking in the same devotion and determination.

Three speakers from the General Conference, as well as local and union workers will be in attendance. As already stated, the railroads will give special rates to Yorkton if there are more than one hundred who patronize such means of travel. In order to obtain this consideration, we must have an estimate of the number who intend traveling this way so that application can be made to the Passenger Association. Do not fail to acquaint the office immediately of your intentions, and if sufficient are traveling this way, you will be notified as to what to do.

F. T. BALMER.

This article announces the 1933 annual campmeeting in Yorkton, Saskatchewan. It gives suggestions on how to get there and urges members to make every effort to attend. No excuses. (*Canadian Adventist Messenger*, June 13, 1933. Vol. 1, No. 46)



Inspiration and courage radiate from this talented Voice of Prophecy group. Don't fail to see and hear them at the Faith rallies, or at your camp meeting.

### The Maritime Camp Meeting

THE 1933 camp meeting of the Maritime Conference will be held in the Memramcook Academy buildings, June 23-27. The first service will be held Friday evening, June 23, at 7:45 STANDARD TIME. I am giving below the daily program, so you will know the order of the services as well as how full the days will be. It may be well to cut this program out and save it until camp meeting, in case we should not have a printed program.

Rising Bell	- - -	5:30
Devotional Exercises,		
Adults	- - -	6:00- 6:50
Missionary Volunteers	- - -	6:00- 6:50
Breakfast	- - -	7:00- 8:00
Children's Meeting	- - -	8:00- 9:00
Workers and Church		
Officers' Meetings	- - -	8:00- 9:00
Bible Study	- - -	9:15-10:15
Preaching Service	- - -	10:45-12:15
Dinner	- - -	12:30- 1:30
Preaching or Departmental	- - -	2:30- 3:45
Children's Hour	- - -	4:00- 4:40
Missionary Volunteer Service	- - -	4:45- 6:00
Supper	- - -	6:10- 7:00
Evening Song Service	- - -	7:30- 7:45
Preaching Service	- - -	7:45- 9:00
Retiring Bell	- - -	9:30
Silence Bell	- - -	10:00

Please note we have only four days meeting this year. It has been felt that a larger and better camp meeting could be had if the time were shortened, and every one would come and remain for the full time. Come, and bring the family. These services are invitations from the Lord to come apart and be rested and strengthened.

This article includes information about the Maritime campmeeting that was held that year. It includes a schedule of the four-day week events. (*Canadian Adventist Messenger*, June 13, 1933. Vol. 1, No. 46)



A group of pioneer SDA workers attending an early campmeeting back in the 1880s. Elder and Mrs. James White are in the approximate centre of the picture. These men and women devoted their lives to promote the “Message” and considered no sacrifice too great to help others as well as themselves to come to campmeeting. (*Canadian Adventist Messenger*, June 22, 1960. Vol. 24, No. 13)

I heard one brother say he was planning to be there if he had to walk, and he lives more than two hundred miles away. I expect he will be there. Possibly, you can make arrangements with your neighbor across the road to take care of your stock and farm for the few days that you will be away. He might be glad for such an opportunity.

Also from the Maritime campmeeting article, more encouragement to attend. Find these articles and more at <http://docs.adventistarchives.org/>

<sup>1</sup> <http://3abncampmeeting.org/about>

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