

Who We Are—Meet Messenger's Contributors (p. 20); Almost Vegan (p. 22);
Mamawi Atosketan Native School (p. 31); A New Adventist Asks (p. 35)

January 2015

Canadian adventist
Messenger



Small Decisions Eternal Impact

It Is Written Canada is
bringing a message of
hope to hurting people.

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“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.” —Gal. 2:20, KJV



Putting God First

At the beginning of every new year, I think of Dad. Let me explain. Every year Dad renewed his commitment to put God first in his life. He was a pretty busy man, but never too busy to begin the day with God. When I got up in the morning, I'd see him at the kitchen table, alone and quiet, reading the Bible.

Prayer was another solid thing with Dad, and it went hand in hand with reading the Bible. At the beginning of the year, he would review his prayer list. It was written down, often either in the diary or in his Bible. He was specific. There were names of neighbours, family, and people in his large circle of friends on the list. Personal concerns were there along with issues that most people—but not Dad—would skip over. Nothing was too big or too small in Dad's life for God's notice.

Dad was realistic about his walk with God. His diaries truthfully recorded that some days faith seemed to work better than others. Yet, without talking doubt or discouragement, when Dad looked over the record of the year's activities, he looked for the lessons to be learned in staying close to Christ.

My dad has been gone for over 30 years now, but the legacy he left me, a practical illustration of what it is like to live in Christ, is mine to keep as long as I live. It wasn't something he advertised. It was something he lived.

And that, in turn, prompts me to reflect—am I putting Christ where He belongs in my life? Not for show, but because I've learned that if I put Him first I'm a better person to be around, I'm more contented, and my day is smoother because Jesus is with me all the way? Not a bad way to start things off this year, is it? ■

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

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General Editor: Stan Jerven
jervenstan@adventist.ca

Art Director: Joan Tanasychuk
tanasychukjoan@adventist.ca

Ad Manager/Production: Almee Perez
perezalmee@adventist.ca;
mexicanogang@adventist.ca

Copy Editor: Vesna Mibovich
messenger@adventist.ca

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Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada

1148 King Street East
Oshawa, ON L1H 1H8
phone 905/433-0411 fax 905/433-0982

President: Mark Johnson
johnson.mark@adventist.ca

VP Administration: Daniel Stojanovic
stojanovic.daniel@adventist.ca

VP Finance: Joyce Jones
jones.joyce@adventist.ca

General VP: Dennis Marshall
marshall.dennis@adventist.ca

Conferences

Alberta: 5816 Highway 2A, Lacombe, AB T4L 2G5, phone 403/342-5044

British Columbia: Box 1000, Abbotsford, BC V2S 4P5, phone 604/853-5451

Manitoba/Saskatchewan: 1004 Victoria Avenue, Selkirk, SK S7N 0Z8, phone 306/244-9700

Quebec: 121 Salisbury Road, Moncton, NB E1E 1A6, phone 506/857-6722

Newfoundland: 1041 Topsail Rd., Mount Pearl, NL A1N 5E9, phone 709/745-4051

Ontario: 1110 King Street East, Oshawa, ON L1H 1H8, phone 905/571-1022

Quebec: 940 Ch. Chambly, Longueuil, QC J4H 3M3, phone 450/651-5222

Canadian University College: 5415 College Ave., Lacombe, AB T4L 2E5, phone 403/782-3381

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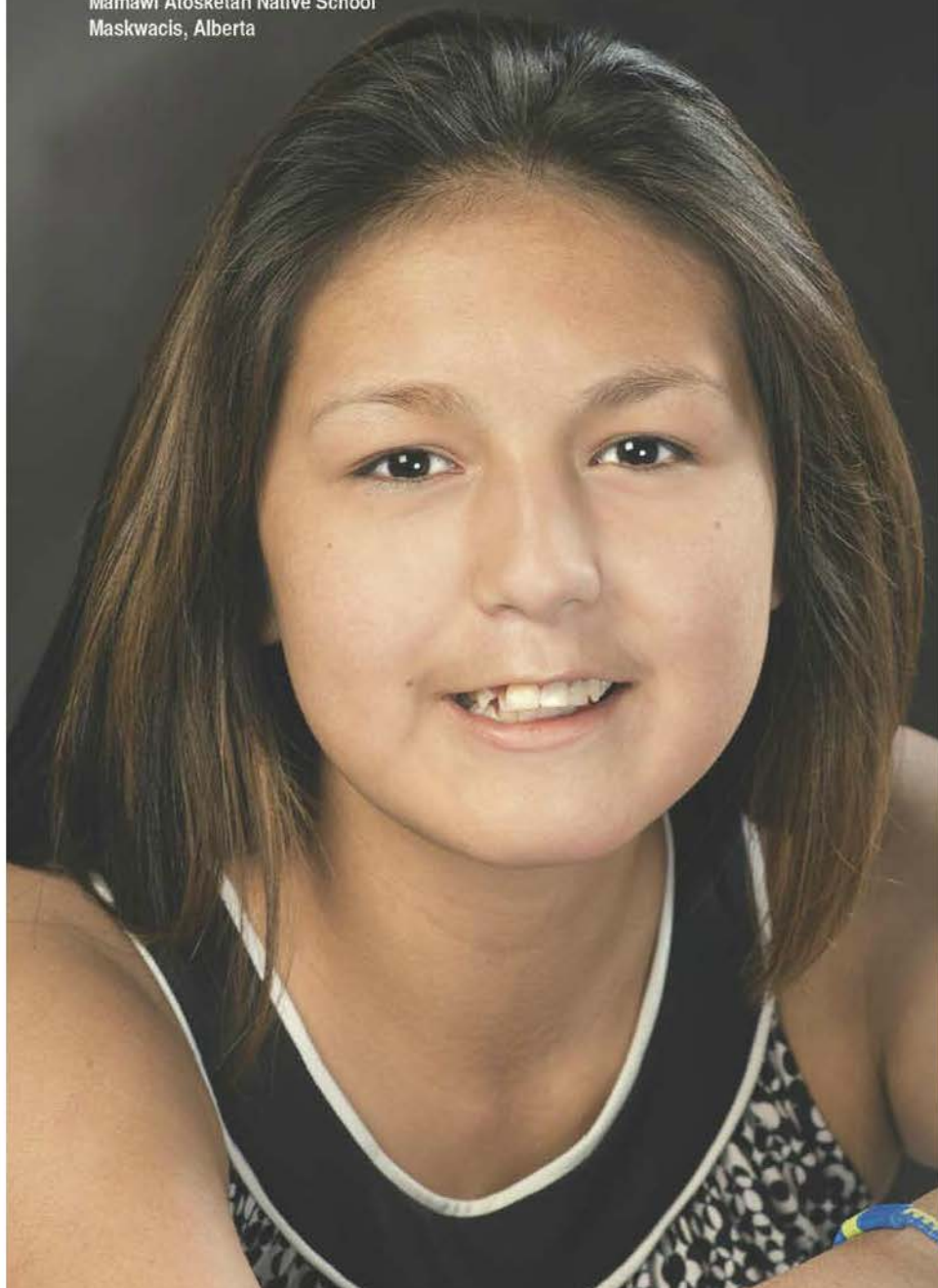
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Top photo: A full house for the It Is Written series, Unveiling Hope.

What's it Mean to You?

*"I love it at Mamawi Atosketan.
I want to graduate here!"*

Eldenia Potts, student & Vacation Bible School worker
Mamawi Atosketan Native School
Maskwacis, Alberta



Mamawi Atosketan Native School is like home to Eldenia, complete with a second "mother" she's adopted, teaching assistant Audrey Hirschkom. It's not uncommon to see the two together at Pathfinders or in church, where Eldenia's leadership skills are blossoming.

Cultivating Eldenia's talent is a joint effort between the Conference's mission school and the local church located in the heart of the Samson Band lands.

Eldenia's leadership skills began developing at Mamawi Atosketan ("MANS"), where as a 6th grader she hurried to get her work done so she could help the Kindergarten teacher once a week. Eldenia's growing confidence and enthusiasm spilled over into Sabbath School leadership.

Noting Eldenia's initiative in teaching Sabbath School, Pastor Peter Ford invited Eldenia to be part of the Maskwacis-based Summer Outreach Team, which conducts Vacation Bible Schools on reserves in Alberta and surrounding provinces.

"My mom says she's proud of what I'm doing," says Eldenia, referring to her biological mother, who works for Maskwacis (formerly "Hobbema"). This was Eldenia's third year with the team, which last year traveled to Prince Albert, Yellowknife, Hazellon, and Lethbridge besides putting on VBS in Maskwacis.

"I've learned a lot from the college students," she says. But perhaps the biggest take-away of her time at Mamawi Atosketan and the summer team is Eldenia's growing confidence in her skills and identity as a First Nations youth with lots to offer—now and in the World to Come.

Gifts that Make a Difference!



MAMAWI ATOSKETAN NATIVE SCHOOL
Ponoka, Alberta

 SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST CHURCH
Alberta Conference

To Be or Not to Be: That is the Question

"This is the life of being a witness. It does not begin with what we do but rather with who we are.

Graham and Lynette were searching for truth and looking for the right church to attend. They believed they had found both, in a television program sponsored by a Sabbath-keeping group. As they continued their journey, they found that this group held some beliefs that were contrary to the Bible. At the same time, they knew that the teaching of the seventh-day Sabbath was vital to any church that claimed to be truly biblical.

One week they had set their DVR to record that show. However, something providential was about to happen. Instead of recording their intended, regular program, their DVR recorded *It Is Written* instead. Graham and Lynette were touched by the show. They were thrilled to hear biblical truth week after week. They learned that the show was a production of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Thinking about their neighbours, they said to one another, "They must be Seventh-day Adventists!" In the days to follow, Graham and Lynette approached Steve and Trish Brousson and learned that they were, in fact, Seventh-day Adventists. They continued their journey in Christian growth and eventually were baptized as members of the Dawson Creek Seventh-day Adventist Church in British Columbia.

As Debbie and I traveled to many of the camp meetings across Canada this past summer, we heard story after story akin to Graham and Lynette's: someone would watch the program, then seek out a local Seventh-day Adventist church. This partnership, between the local church and *It Is Written* Canada, has benefitted thousands. It is based on the fundamental principle of working together to be the salt and light of the earth.

Jesus calls us to take the gospel to the ends of the earth and then the end will come. In order to "take," however, there is something far more fundamental to the equation. God calls us to something simple yet profound. Acts 1:8 says, "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in

Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (NKJV).

The call of God in these last days of earth's history is for us to receive the power of the Holy Spirit and be witnesses. It is important to notice that we are called to *be* something before we can *do* something. Being witnesses means that we have seen something, heard something, or experienced something. Being a witness for Jesus means you have seen Him, heard Him, and experienced His love. This seeing, hearing, and experiencing Him leads us to be witnesses. We are able to demonstrate the love of Jesus through the lives we live, because we know Him. This is the life of being a witness. It does not begin with what we do but rather with who we are.

As God transforms our very being, we are then able to take the gospel to all the world. Being and doing work in concert with each other, each giving growth to the other. E. M. Bounds, a well-known Methodist minister of the 20th century, wrote these words: "The church seeks for better methods; God seeks for a better man."

It Is Written Canada is committed to helping people become His witnesses so that the work of taking the gospel to all of Canada and around the world might be finished. By supporting *It Is Written* Canada prayerfully and financially, you will have a special part in taking the gospel to the world, beginning here in Canada. Today, Graham and Lynette work to share with others the good news they have learned. I would like to partner with you in demonstrating the love of this Jesus we have seen, heard, and experienced to all those who come through our church doors, to our neighbours, and to others in our scope of influence.

*Chris Holland is speaker/
director of It Is Written Canada.*



teen talk

Q: How does God show you what to do with your life? I pray, but then what?

A: It's not a one-time move, like praying for wisdom and then voilà, you get the answer right away. Believe me, I wish it were that easy! But it's not. It's a process. God could give you the answer in an instant, but that's not His style. You see, you want to know what to do with your life, but God wants you to grow closer to Him. At first sight, it seems like comparing apples with oranges, but it actually works together. Let me explain.

In the process of searching for God's will in your life, you'll open your Bible. The more you read, the more you'll see examples of God guiding biblical characters throughout their experiences. As you pray (over and over, not just once), you'll become familiar with Jesus' voice. Yes, His voice—that gentle voice that some people call conscience. And lastly, as you talk with godly friends about what itches your heart, Jesus will also talk to you through them.

So it requires time, and purpose. Basically, you develop a genuine relationship with Jesus, and the horizon will gradually become clear. You'll find peace. ■



Do you have a question for Pastor Josué Sánchez? Email it to messenger@adventist.ca.

Creation Corner for Kids



Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.—Ezekiel 28:15

Black-billed Magpie

When I was a child, my father took our family on some special occasions to a Chinese restaurant. As we were led to our table, my eyes took in unfamiliar Chinese symbols, softly lit lanterns, and fancy red-and-gold wallpaper. This was certainly a fine restaurant, I decided. But then I spotted something that seemed very much out of place. A magpie, preserved by a taxidermist, stood in a very prominent place on a shelf in the centre of the restaurant.

At the time, I didn't know that magpies were a Chinese symbol of happiness and good luck. Certainly, the bird was beautiful to look at and had a dignified look, with its sharp beak, striking black and white feathers, and its long tail. But I knew that magpies steal eggs and baby birds from their nests, peck holes into cattle, and even peck the eyes of newborn lambs and calves. It always seemed a shame to me that God would dress such a nasty creature in such fine clothes.

Think about it.

When God created the magpie, it was not only beautiful but also very good. Like the magpie, Lucifer was also created by God to be very beautiful and very good. But he chose to let pride lead him into sin and rebellion. Even though he may appear as an angel of light, he is ugly with sin on the inside. Unless we let God totally remake us, we too may look beautiful and good on the outside but be ugly with pride, sin, and rebellion on the inside.

Do it!

None of us really knows what wickedness lies within us, but the Judge knows. Let's ask Him to show us our faults and help us to turn from them. Pray the prayer of David in Psalm 19:12, 13: "Who can understand his errors? Cleanse thou me from secret faults. ... Let them not have dominion over me." To learn more about magpies, visit www.creationcornerforkids.blogspot.ca.



Tammie Burak and her family enjoy studying and learning from God's creation. You can contact her at tammie.burak@gmail.com or follow her blog at www.creationcornerforkids.blogspot.ca.

Campus Ministries: Urban Mission Trip



Urthofo Camalamban (2nd-year Wellness major), Brian Cruz (2nd-year Religious Studies major), and Iris Selah Parast (2nd-year Behavioural Science major) getting ready to serve at a soup kitchen on East Hastings in Vancouver, B.C.

“I would like everyone to develop empathy for the marginalized, an empathy that’s beyond concern.”

HASTINGS STREET IN VANCOUVER, B.C., was once the heart of the city. Home to shops, restaurants, and hotels, the street was where Vancouverites gathered. But that was decades ago, and the picture today is much different. Hastings is the centre of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside (DTES), one of its most troubled neighbourhoods, and is known for drug use, homelessness, and poverty. Since 2001 it is estimated that over 1.4 billion dollars have been spent on projects aimed at improving the lifestyle of the residents in the DTES. This is where 15 CUC students chose to spend their long weekend—smiling, praying, and helping wherever they could.

Michelle Launio, a third-year psychology major, spent over a month in India this summer on a CUC mission trip, and when she returned she began feeling restless. What had been so defined during her trip in the summer was now ambiguous; she wanted, she needed, purpose. Missions had grabbed a hold of her and she needed more. A friend recommended that she speak with Adam Deibert, CUC chaplain, about her passion. She was immediately put to work as the Campus Ministries' short-term-mission coordinator, and her first duty was to organize the urban mission trip. A few years earlier Michelle had walked down East Hastings and talked with the people there. It was through that experience that she steered the urban mission trip towards East Hastings in Vancouver.

A group of 15 students, along with Chaplain Adam Deibert, made the long trip to Vancouver's Downtown Eastside in November 2014. The Campus Ministries leadership team had an ambitious schedule for the long weekend. Some were unsure of what to expect, but all were excited to see what God had in store for their team.

Although the urban mission trip to East Hastings only took place over a long weekend, the preparation for the trip began weeks and months before. Because of the unpredictable environment of the mission trip, the group went through training sessions and were educated on how they could best minister to such a unique community. The team also organized a Shanty Town awareness campaign on campus. Twenty-five CUC students spent a Friday night in late October sleeping in cardboard boxes and tarps. The event was used to raise awareness and money for the mission trip. The students spent a brisk 12 hours in the cold and raised over \$1,300 for their trip.

Each student on the trip came from diverse backgrounds, but they all had one thing in common: a heart for service. Brian Cruz, a third-year religious studies

major, looked for new ways to serve, and the urban mission trip afforded him just that. "Mission work has recently become a big part of my life. Choosing to participate in this trip was me trying to take every opportunity possible to be out on the mission field working for the Lord while in school," says Brian.

Jacqui McCarty, third-year English major and Campus Ministries student missionary coordinator, had served as a student missionary in Kenya a few years earlier. The urban mission trip was an opportunity for her to continue her service. "I learned that there will never be a lack of opportunity to reach out to people who need help. Even in Canada, where we often underestimate the needs of those around us, there are people in huge and successful cities who need a helping hand. They are just like us: they're human, they're beautiful, and they're God's children. It's our job to show His love and care for them," stresses Jacqui.

Once in Vancouver, the team spent the weekend doing a variety of tasks. They cooked, served, cleaned, and painted at a soup kitchen called The Door is Open, and did yard work and art therapy at the Sancta Maria House. The team also spent time out on the streets conducting prayer walks and handing out harm reduction materials as well as hot chocolate and coffee in the evenings.

Megan McConnell, third-year psychology major and Campus Ministries missions director, learned that sometimes it's the simplest act that can touch someone. "The biggest lesson I learned was how the simplest of words, even tiny gestures of kindness, could bring a person to tears. These people are just like us, and they crave God's loving touch. It's such a simple act to share, that it makes me feel ashamed at our lack of efforts to reach out," states Megan.

While one might question the impact of a weekend trip, the student leaders are clear on what they want themselves and their fellow students to take away from this project. "I would like everyone to develop empathy for the marginalized, an empathy that's beyond concern. An empathy that pushes you to do something about the issue," states Michelle.

For Brian it's simple: just see the need and then act. "The involvement I would want my fellow students to have is to simply see the need and have an inner desire to do what we can to help. We as a school are internally motivated to finish the work God has commissioned us to do." ■

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

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Where Are They Now



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

Interview by J.D. Victor Fitch, Messenger Staff Writer.

Messenger: Where were you born? And tell me about your childhood.

Don Stoyanowski: I was born in Prince Albert, Sask., and grew up on a farm in Samburg, about 25 miles away. I have a sister and two brothers. I completed Grades 1 through 11 in Samburg. My family moved to British Columbia, where I completed Grade 12. Church was a dynamic part of my life. Every quarter my mother would organize a full-scale church service. She would assign a topic for the boys to give a sermonette, and the girls would do the music, prayer, and announcements.

M: What was your early career?

Don: After completing high school, I could hardly wait to begin work and earn money. My first job was felling trees, but the mill went on strike, so I was out of work. I visited a construction site and began work as a temporary worker under the condition that I go to apprenticeship school for a month each year to become a carpenter. Some years later I started my own construction business.

M: In 1983 you made a career change. Why did you do that?

Don: I spent years constructing commercial buildings, which required

long hours of work each day, allowing only limited time for my family. The Lord blessed our business, and I was able to retire in 1983. I decided I wanted to be involved in building God's kingdom. We were involved in planting a church in Cranbrook, B.C., and later in Fernie, B.C. My wife and I travelled as much as 80 miles one way to give Bible studies. Our plan was to move to CUC, where I would have more time with my family and take courses that would help me in giving Bible studies. Our desire was to plant churches in various counties that did not have an Adventist presence.

M: How long were you at CUC before you received a call, and where was it? Where did you serve and in what capacity?

Don: While at CUC, I received several calls during my year and a half there. Finally, during my second year, after much prayer, we accepted a call to the Burns Lake and Vanderhoof area with the agreement that if it went well I would stay one year, and if not, I would freely leave with no obligation on the part of the conference. We stayed two years. From there I served in various churches in British Columbia as pastor, and evangelism coordinator and trainer for Metro Vancouver. During my ministry we

planted churches in Powell River and a Filipino church in Victoria. My last seven and a half years of service were with It Is Written Canada working with Shawn Boonstra, whom I baptized while pastoring in Victoria. My responsibility was evangelism and training coordinator.

M: What did you enjoy most about your years of ministry?

Don: Leading souls to Christ is where my heart always was. While pastoring I always held one or two evangelistic series a year. The Lord blessed our ministry with many baptisms.

M: Tell me about your family?

Don: My wife, Phylis, has been a central part of my ministry. We have a daughter, Sandra, who works for the BC government, and a son, Lawrence, whose wife is Donna (McGill). He is a marriage and family therapist and is involved in teaching and training. They have two daughters, Carl and Madison.

M: Where do you live now?

Don: We retired in Abbotsford, B.C., in 2007. In 2009 I was diagnosed with Parkinson's. Because of my health, we spend the winter months in Desert Hot Springs, Calif. ■

Martha's Easy Decision

*"... for God loveth
a cheerful giver."*



I WAS PREPARING AN ENDOWMENT AGREEMENT, when I was summoned to the reception area. There an elderly lady rose to her feet and offered a friendly smile, saying, "I expect you are the person I need to speak with." I invited her to my office, where she opened an old briefcase with a single strap in place to secure its precious cargo: stock certificates. "My husband passed away recently," she began, "and I've been sorting through paperwork I knew nothing about prior to his death. I'm 91 years old now. As you can imagine, this is a daunting task." She smiled again, adding, "We never discussed financial matters at any time during our 71 years of marriage. He managed everything. I guess that's not the best way of doing things, is it?"

She removed the stack of certificates and handed them to me; they were all dated 1982.

"Where did you find them?" I asked.

"Well," she smiled, "I've heard that we should flip our mattress occasionally to lengthen its life, but we never did. The bed is at least 30 years old, so I asked my neighbour to remove it. That's when I found them, just lying there between the box spring and mattress, scattered like the leaves of autumn. I've been sleeping on them for who knows how long! I understand if I donate them directly to the conference rather than sell them through a broker, they may result in a larger donation, and that I'll receive a charitable tax receipt to help offset any taxes that may be payable. Does the conference accept gifts such as this?"

I assured her that it does indeed accept publicly traded shares and that, as a donor, she would be entitled to a donation tax credit for the fair market value of her gift.¹

She then mentioned that there was also a sizable life insurance policy. The cheque had been issued directly to her, the sole beneficiary.²

At its completion, \$23,000 was realized from the sale of the securities. She asked that these funds be directed to the conference's Elementary Education department, specifically for technology, because of their love of and appreciation for the youth of the church, as they are the church of tomorrow. Additionally, she decided to make a matching gift of \$23,000 from the life insurance proceeds to the Conference School of Evangelism because she and her husband became Adventists as a result of a visit by a literature evangelist.

"It couldn't get much easier than that," Martha stated. "God has been so good to us, and I know my husband would be proud of my decision."

As you consider how the Lord can use some of your disposable assets to His glory, consider Martha's chosen text: "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7). ■

Frances E. Chant is a retired planned giving director.

¹In 2006, the Federal Budget changed the tax relief when gifts of investments are made to charity. Depending on your province of residence, the actual tax savings will vary, but receiving tax relief approximately equal to 40 to 45 percent of the value of the gift is common after factoring in both the federal and provincial tax savings.

²Always seek professional legal and financial advice before making a decision.

ABW commits to projects in **TANZANIA**



Ray Loxdale (middle), project assessment team member, and ABW co-founder Eric Rajah (second far right, first row) met in July with community representatives from Mombo, Tanzania, to discuss priorities.

A Better World Canada is heading to another East African country after being spurred on by one of Edmonton's most philanthropic couples. The volunteer-run organization, created and governed by Lacombe's College Heights Adventist Church, is venturing into Tanzania.

Tanzania, marked by one of the world's poorest economies, is a country Cathy and Harold Roozen of Edmonton had visited; they have seen its many hardships firsthand. According to information from children's charity World Vision, most young girls do not attend school, women have high illiteracy rates, only about half of the population has access to clean water, and more than 1.4 million Tanzanians live with HIV and AIDS.

The Roozens have given millions of dollars to many health and education-related causes in Canada. In 2013, Cathy was awarded the prestigious Alberta Order of Excellence for her work with the Allard Foundation, through her strong contributions to the University of Alberta and the guidance she has given to many community and health care organizations.

She learned about 2011 inductee Eric Rajah, co-founder of A Better World, through a friend and Red Deer businessman, Gord Bontje, a key volunteer who has funded various projects also.

The Roozens called Rajah about sponsoring community projects in Tanzania, and a five-year commitment was made. In July, Rajah and Ray Loxdale, A Better World project assessment team member, visited the country to assess developing projects near Mombo, a community six hours southeast of the city of Arusha.

"It was a perfect opportunity, and it's what motivated us," said Rajah, referring to this new collaboration with the Roozens. "But it's always been in our plan to expand to Tanzania, because one of A Better World's focuses has been East Africa. We've had small projects through this country, but never substantial."

The first project will see a school being expanded and upgraded. A classroom will be refurbished, plus two classrooms, eight toilets, and a water system will be added. It is hoped that this first phase will be done by March 31, 2015. Other projects on the horizon include expanding a health clinic, sponsoring surgeries at a rehabilitation centre, setting up more water collection points in the village, giving 10 farmers loans, and providing employment through agriculture and other businesses.

Rajah has helped countless Kenyans over the past 25 years, so he and the rest of his team have established strong contacts on the ground in that country. The same kind of partnership building will have to be done in Tanzania, a challenge that Rajah is up for.

"It will take some time to get to know people and their needs," said Rajah. "They have to learn to trust us and we have to learn to trust them and understand the cultural differences. So usually, we'll start with these smaller projects."

Rajah is enthused about working with the Roozens, whom he says go way beyond giving money. He said they are keen to take their philanthropic work beyond Alberta, and A Better World is a good fit to do that. Cathy contacts Rajah regularly about Tanzania, so her engagement in the projects is already highly evident.

Cathy is described as someone who prefers to remain out of the limelight, instead letting her actions speak for themselves. One further action is bound to make a difference for years to come. The Roozens have sponsored 10 scholarships towards developing young A Better World leaders—a future generation of philanthropists helping far beyond their borders. ■

Laura Tester travels with A Better World and is a freelance writer for newspapers.

Reframing our roles and responsibilities



AS WE BEGIN THE YEAR TOGETHER,

I want to suggest a renewed model of ministry. How can the laity take greater responsibility in church duties, leaving the pastor to focus on winning lost souls through evangelism?

Have pastors replaced the job of church members? The Adventist Church has unintentionally imitated the Catholic Church's model of leadership. We have created priests with duties reserved only for the priest rather than mentoring lay leaders to participate in ministry. A church member once told me, "We don't have time to do these things. That's why we hire pastors to do the work for us." Who is visiting the sick in your church? Who is planning the worship service? Is that pastor mentoring members to take the leadership mantle in the church?

The Adventist Church has a rich theological tradition of "the priesthood of all believers" (see 1 Pet. 2:5). We believe every member has spiritual gifts given by the Holy Spirit to serve the greater church. In fact, Ellen G. White suggested, "Instead of keeping the ministers at work for the churches that already know the truth, let the members of the churches say to these labourers, 'Go

work for the souls that are perishing in the darkness."¹

The participation of lay leadership alongside pastors is an important aspect to church growth and health. The Church of England was interested in learning why 18 percent of their churches grew in the decade of 2001 to 2010. A study conducted between 2011 and 2013 sought to discern any features that gave them an advantage in church growth. One of these factors was the strength of the lay leadership. According to the study, "Active involvement of lay members throughout the congregation's ministry was a hallmark of growing churches."² The sustainability of church health is dependent on the lay leadership of the church, who remain long after the church pastor moves on.

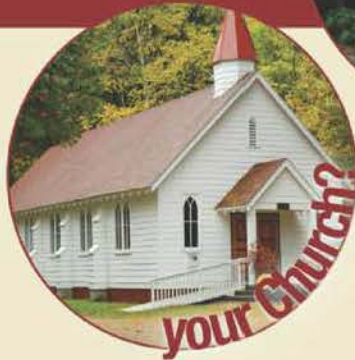
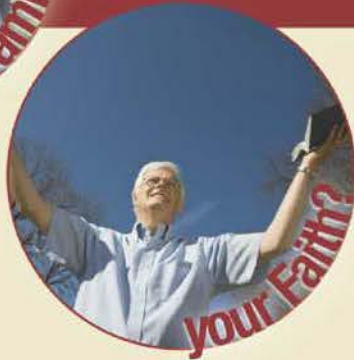
How can your congregation reframe the roles and responsibilities of the pastor and church members? ■

Kumar Dixit is the pastor of Oakridge Adventist Church in Vancouver, B.C. He is the author of Branded Faith: Contextualizing the Gospel in a Post-Secular World, and contributing author of Steps to Discipleship (General Conference Youth Department, 2012). You can follow him on Twitter @kumardixit.

¹ Testimonies for the Church (Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1948), vol. 6, p. 30.
² Lovett H. Weems Jr., "Update: Learning from Growing Churches in England." Leading Ideas, July 9, 2014, Lewis Center for Church Leadership, Wesley Theological Seminary, December 2, 2014. www.churchleadership.com/leadingideas/updates/140709.html.



What Matters Most to You?



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Charles Spurgeon

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review

Keith Chant, Manager, IT Services, SDA Church in Canada

app review

App: 3DIssue

In Brief:

The 3DIssue app allows you to read magazines created using 3DIssue, such as the Canadian Adventist Messenger, on your phone or tablet. Once the app is installed, all you have to do is visit the online issue and you will be prompted to view the issue in the 3DIssue app. Thereafter, all you need to do is open the app and the current issue will be available to read. You can browse all previous issues available and download issues for reading offline. My only real complaint with the app is that you cannot use the typical pinch-to-zoom and the swipe functionality on the screen; instead, you have to rely on the app's zoom tools and page-turn tools.

Wow Factor: Convenient way to read the *Messenger* on your mobile device.

Meh Factor: Poor touch controls.

Developed for: 3DIssue

Price: Free

Works on: Android, iOS

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



To suggest an app for review, email messenger@adventst.ca.

prayer life

Does God Really Need Our Prayers?

"God does nothing on the earth save in answer to believing prayer."

One of the troubling questions about praying, especially intercessory praying, is *Does an omnipotent God, who really does not need anything, truly need my prayers for the fulfillment of His promises and plans on earth?* Or can the lack of prayers disturb or even defy God's plans? Let's note the powerful differences that the intercessory prayers of two Old Testament prophets had on the course of Israel's history.

The prophet Daniel engaged in intercessory prayer for Israel's restoration (see Dan. 9:3) after reading the promise of God through Jeremiah and discovering that the 70 years of Israel's captivity was about to end. Did his prayer make a difference to the outcome? While there is no direct verse that says it did, we can safely conclude that it did make a difference, because the angel reassured him that his prayers were heard (see Dan. 9:12).

We know from 1 Kings 17-18 and James 5:17, 18, that not only did Elijah's prayers produce drought, according to

the promise of God (Lev. 26; Deut. 11), but after the drought he prayed again and God sent rain.

John Wesley said, "God does nothing on the earth save in answer to believing prayer."¹ I like the words of E. M. Bounds, who declared, "God shapes the world by prayer.... The prayers of God's saints are the capital stock of heaven by which God carries on His great work upon earth."²

Ellen G. White, persuaded of the worth of the prayers of the saints wrote, "It is a part of God's plan to grant us, in answer to the prayer of faith, that which he would not bestow did we not thus ask."³

Does God need our prayers? Yes, He does, for the fulfillment of His promises. ■

Eustace Williams is director of personal ministries for the Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

¹ Dutch Sheets, *Intercessory Prayer* (Ventura, CA: Regal Gospel Light, 1996), p. 32.

² *Ibid.*

³ *The Great Controversy* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 1946), p. 525.



Q & A

BY STAN JENSEN

It has been about a year since I first met Chris and Debbie Holland. The first time I watched his It Is Written (IIW) telecast was during a trip to Cuba. I was impressed with his presentation. Since then, some of my non-Adventist friends and family have viewed the program and also responded positively. I have become good friends with Chris, and now you can get to know him, as well.



Debbie and Chris Holland

EDITOR: *Chris, tell us a bit about yourself.*

CHRIS HOLLAND: I grew up as the oldest of four boys. During my teenage years, my parents divorced, and each of them remarried, adding a stepbrother and stepsister and eventually a half-sister to the mix. I have fond memories, as a child, of attending church with my family, going camping, and playing sports.

Debbie and I have been married for almost 19 years, and when we are not working, we enjoy taking trips, hiking, spending time with family, and cooking.

EDITOR: *Were you brought up in an Adventist home?*

CHRIS: I actually grew up in a Catholic home. Even at a young age, I sensed a call to ministry and had most of the

mass memorized. However, when I was 14 years old, my parents divorced. I was really crushed and angered. But what I found even more devastating was the fact that no one from the church came over to see us after that.

Another significant event happened in high school. I was playing football and had dreams of playing for a small college. It was my outlet for anger, and what I perceived to be my ticket out of my situation. That all came crashing down when, in a game, I was hit and my knee bent the wrong way. That game changer triggered a crisis of belief for me. I then became involved in several addictive behaviours that sent me into a downward spiral. While I questioned God's intervention, I knew that He had to exist. I began to search. That search led me to non-denominational churches,

Pentecostal churches, the Jehovah's Witnesses, the Mormons, the Baptists, and even some dabbling in the New Age.

EDITOR: *How did you become an Adventist?*

CHRIS: In 1994 I met Debbie. Debbie had grown up in the Adventist Church and was going through a re-evaluation of her faith. My interest in spiritual things and her desire to grow in Jesus led to a renewed study of the Bible. I was stubborn, though. I was facing major personal issues, and in a very short span of time, I lost my job, was evicted from my apartment, and my car was totaled in an accident. However, through much study, wrestling with God, and guidance from a good pastor who was very straightforward with me, I was baptized in 1995.

EDITOR: *You were appointed the IIW director in January 2014. What was the deciding factor in your decision?*

CHRIS: Of all of the ministry offers that I have had to consider in the past, this one was, by far, one of the hardest decisions I have had to make. Because I had been at Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) as executive secretary/treasurer for only a short time when I received this call, I was very hesitant to consider something different. I enjoyed my work in empowering lay people for service while being a part of the North American Division (NAD) and was building friendships that I valued. However, I was very excited about the opportunity. Not wanting to close the door on the possibility that God was really leading us to make a transition, I counselled with three people who have been a great encouragement to me and who understand and have devoted their lives to the work of the church in a wide variety of capacities. After their counsel and a great deal of prayer, we stepped out in faith and believed that God was calling us to Canada.

EDITOR: *What do you find most interesting or exciting about IIW Canada?*

CHRIS: I would say, first, the lay people. We were able to visit all the main campmeetings of each conference. We saw the love and passion people have for the church and their excitement and desire to spread the gospel. The second thing I find exciting about IIW Canada is its national contract with CTV to broadcast at 11 a.m. on Sabbath mornings in every time zone. We are unique, as we are the only NAD media ministry to have this kind of national exposure. We have the potential to reach 98 percent of the homes in Canada on CTV alone, not to mention the other networks that we are on. God has been with and will continue to use this ministry to finish the gospel work, to take the good news of Jesus to all of Canada and around the world.

EDITOR: *How can people join in partnership with It Is Written Canada?*

CHRIS: Well, there are actually three partnerships that I invite people to enter into with us as a ministry. The first is a prayer partnership. We need the prayers of every church member across Canada. Nothing great for God is done without the prayers of His people.

The second is a partnership of participation. Participate with us in reaching Canada for Christ. You can do this by watching the show. Beyond the national broadcast, there are other outlets to watch it. You can go to our website to find additional broadcast times and channels or to be directed to our YouTube channel for archived programs. In addition, you can participate by telling your friends about the program or inviting them to an It Is Written evangelistic series.

The third partnership involves supporting the ministry financially. There are several ways to do this: the upcoming annual offering given across Canada designated for IIW-CA, calling or mailing in a donation, or you can give systematically by becoming a partner or a sponsor. I would encourage everyone to prayerfully consider what ways you can partner with us, and then let's work together to do something big for God.

EDITOR: *What is your vision for It Is Written Canada?*

CHRIS: My vision for It Is Written Canada is that it would become one of the vehicles of finishing the gospel work throughout Canada and around the world. We hope to accomplish this through continued and expanded media opportunities. We will continue the flagship program, but we are expanding our recording capacity to include live programs and expanded segments to give additional resources. In addition, we are working on an increased and more strategic presence in social media. We want to continue working through local conferences and churches on evangelistic strategies that emphasize the five timeless principles of evangelism: reviving churches, training and equipping church members, helping churches develop and implement effective community outreach, evangelistic reaping series, and nurturing and following up for the development of disciples.

EDITOR: *Do you have a favourite Bible text?*

CHRIS: One of my favourite Bible texts is one that my wife gave me in a note years ago when I had to go away for evangelism training for an extended period of time. That text is Joshua 1:9. In the New Kings James it reads, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." ■

Ston Jensen is the communication director for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada and editor of the Canadian Adventist Messenger.



barry's blog

"There has to be a way of allowing diverse groups the opportunity to be true to their religious identity ..."

Broaden Horizons Not Close Minds

Britain's New Rules Challenge Christian Schools

Much can happen in a year. In November 2013 Trinity Christian School in Reading, England, received a good rating from the inspectors from the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services, and Skills (Ofsted).¹ The Ofsted motto is "Raising standards, improving lives." The organization concluded that the teachers at this school "cultivate their pupils, expect high standards, and challenge pupils to achieve well in all areas of the curriculum." Further, the Ofsted inspector stated that the "pupils are well prepared for life in modern, multicultural, democratic British society through the teaching of the Christian principle to 'love thy neighbour.'" That was then, however. In 2014, the Ofsted inspectors were not pleased. Trinity is now classified as not adequately promoting "British values."

The 2014 inspection came as a result of the small school seeking to increase the age limit of its students from age nine to 11. This request prompted another inspection. This time the Ofsted inspector was armed with the revised Independent School Standards that came into force on Sept. 29, 2014.³ The new rules require schools to "actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs."⁴ Further, it requires that those values encourage respect for other

people as outlined in the Equality Act 2010.⁵

John Charles, Chair of Governors at Trinity, wrote a letter to Nicky Morgan, Secretary of State for Education, to raise concerns about the most recent inspection. John Charles related the additional requirements the Ofsted inspectors placed upon the school. Inspectors had urged the following:

- That representatives of other faiths should be invited to lead assemblies and lessons in order for the school to demonstrate compliance with the Standards;
- That evidence needed to be provided, including within the curriculum, that the school "actively promoted other faiths";
- That the school should actively promote the principles of the Equality Act 2010, that pupils must learn about people with protected characteristics and that the school must not give a viewpoint that certain lifestyles are wrong. Nor should the school promote a particular lifestyle; and
- That the promotion of a principle, namely the Christian principle that all people are equal before God and have inherent dignity as human beings, was not enough to demonstrate Paragraph 5(b)(vi).⁶

It was particularly troubling to Charles as to “how such a change in thinking can take place within a year.” He noted that Trinity aims to “encourage pupils to serve and respect other people, appreciate different cultures and ideas and equip them for life in society. But the comments made by Ofsted, as a result of the new regulations, undermine our aims and would prevent us from teaching in accordance with our Christian foundation.”⁷ Charles also noted the inconsistency that religious protections in the Equality Act 2010 were now taken away by the new standards.

Nicky Morgan is not swayed by the opposition. In her view, “schools should broaden horizons not close minds ... and should encourage pupils to respect other people even if they do not agree with them.” She says, “I should have thought this is a principle with which the vast majority of people would agree. All schools of whatever type have a duty to protect young people and to ensure they leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain.”⁸

What is this new policy suggesting? Is it saying that it is no longer appropriate to allow religious communities to run and operate schools in accordance with their own faith traditions? For example, is it now against public policy for Christian schools to teach students the Christian worldview and its ethical principles (including sexual ethics) as a basis of truth? Must we now accept that only a broad relativistic understanding of religion is acceptable for schools—even private schools?

This British experience is reminiscent of recent Supreme Court of Canada decisions involving parents opposed to exposing their children to ideas and philosophies inconsistent with their religious beliefs. So far, the Supreme Court has sided with provincial educational authorities. In *Chamberlain v. Surrey School District*⁹ the school trustees sided with the parents who did not want same-sex relationship books in an elementary school curriculum; however, the Court did not agree. Justice McLachlin rejected the parents’ concern over cognitive dissonance that would occur with parents teaching a religious belief at home that was at odds with what was taught at school. The Court referenced the fact that many different cultures are in public schools today and “the cognitive dissonance that results from such encounters is simply a part of living

in a diverse society. It is also a part of growing up. Through such experiences, children come to realize that not all of their values are shared by others.”¹⁰

In a more recent case, *S.L. v. Commission scolaire des Chênes*,¹¹ the Court was of the view that “exposure to some cognitive dissonance is arguably necessary if children are to be taught what tolerance itself involves.” Parents are free to pass on their personal beliefs, but the existence of “realities that differ from those in their immediate family environment is a fact of life in society. The suggestion that exposing children to a variety of religious facts in itself infringes their religious freedom or that of their parents amounts to a rejection of the multicultural reality of Canadian society and ignores the Quebec government’s obligations with regard to public education.”¹² The Court said that it was not an infringement of religious freedom.

Both of those Supreme Court of Canada decisions dealt with public schools. Would a Court dealing with a private religious school allow more space to maintain its religious environment and ethic? Or would it seek to impose the majority’s religious worldview?

I suggest that what makes “the multicultural reality of Canadian society” possible is the fact that we allow cultural groups to maintain their own religious identity—separate and apart from the whole. When government forces homogeneity, using concepts like “British values” or “Canadian values,” it first has to define what those are and subsequently force those meanings on groups who may not agree. In my humble opinion, that is not a definition of multiculturalism that respects diversity allowing religious groups to flourish. There has to be a way of allowing diverse groups the opportunity to be true to their religious identity and communal life even when their views and practices do not conform to the new homogenizing ethical norms. That is the challenge. I suggest, in broadening the horizons and preventing the closed minds of our bureaucratic state on what it means to be free. ■

Barry W. Bussey is vice-president of Legal Affairs at the Canadian Council of Christian Charities. You can read his blog at www.lawandreligion.ca.

¹ “Who We Are and What We Do,” Ofsted: Raising Standards, Improving Lives, www.ofsted.gov.uk/about-us.

² Ofsted, “Inspection Report: Trinity Christian School, November 13–15, 2013,” www.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/files/2296141/urn/138968.pdf, p. 5.

³ 2014 No. 2374 Education, England, The Education (Independent School Standards) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/2374/pdfs/uksi_20142374_en.pdf.

⁴ Independent School Standards, para. 5(a).

⁵ Independent School Standards, para. 5(b)(vi).

⁶ John Charles to Rt. Hon. Nicky Morgan, October 24, 2014, <http://www.christian.org.uk/TrinityChristianSchool-letter.pdf>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Sian Griffith, “Faith Schools ‘Must Teach Gay Rights,’” *The Sunday Times*, November 2, 2014, http://cda.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/Education/article1478678.ece.

⁹ *Chamberlain v. Surrey School District No. 36*, 2002 SCC 86, [2002] 4 S.C.R. 710

¹⁰ *Chamberlain v. Surrey School District*, at para. 65–66.

¹¹ *S.L. v. Commission scolaire des Chênes*, 2012 SCC 7, [2012] 1 S.C.R.

¹² *S.L. v. Commission scolaire des Chênes*, at para. 40.

who we are

contributors

The *Canadian Adventist Messenger* would not be the publication it is, without the contributions of our dedicated writers. As we kick off a new year, let's get to know some of the people whose words you read each month.



Barry W. Bussey is a native of Newfoundland. He holds degrees in theology, law, political science, and is currently working on a masters' degree in Peace and Conflict Studies. His career began as a pastor of a two-church district in Newfoundland. He practised law in St. John's and later as in-house counsel to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. From January 2009 to May 2011 he worked in Washington, D.C., New York City, and Geneva as the representative of the International Religious Liberty Association at the US Congress and the United Nations. Barry joined the Canadian Council of Christian Charities in July 2011 as vice-president of Legal Affairs. Barry is married to LaVonna, a piano teacher, and they have three children, Carmelle (Michael), Adam, and Seth (Cara); and one grandchild, Arianne.



Rajkumar Dixit is the lead pastor of Oakridge Adventist Church in Vancouver, B.C. Beginning his career in ministry as a university chaplain, Dixit is especially enthusiastic about serving young people. He holds a master's degree from La Sierra University with a concentration in youth ministry. His Doctor of Ministry was earned from Wesley Theological Seminary (Washington, D.C.) in Leadership Excellence. He is the author of *Branded Faith: Contextualizing the Gospel in a Post-Christian World* (Wipf and Stock Publishing, 2010). He is also the author of numerous magazine articles.



Afia Donkor is a lawyer, writer, kitchen chemist, GLOW tract enthusiast, and a walking testimony of the power of God to heal. In April of 2010, through a series of divinely orchestrated events, she received a bone marrow transplant that healed her of Sickle Cell Anemia. Her brother, Kwasi Donkor, was her donor. Now, through GLOW ministry (a division of Lifestyle Canada Education Service, the literature evangelism ministry in Canada), she goes from church to church sharing her story and encouraging others to give the gift of Jesus, knowing that this gift will give a dying world new life, just as her brother's gift gave new life to her.



J. D. Victor Fitch is a retired educator residing in Red Deer, Alta. He served 40 years in Adventist education before retirement and an additional 11 years in part-time service. He is president emeritus of Canadian University College and continues to serve in various volunteer areas. His wife, Gem, of 56 years is a musician and has a number of her compositions published, including the words to a hymn in the current Adventist Church hymnal. They have three children, nine grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.



Tia Lawrence lives on Vancouver Island and recently turned 20 years old. She thoroughly enjoys all things beautiful—including appreciating the written word, singing and listening to music, crafting, and being out in nature, just to name a few. Her passion is people, and she actively seeks ways to bring encouragement in any way she can, whether that means bringing someone flowers or writing a kind note. Tia loves her family, not only those related by blood but also her chosen family. She believes in letting God lead and allowing Him to take over her day to open up opportunities to bless and be blessed.



A Canadian with a European background, Josué Sánchez believes that everybody's got a story that can change your heart. With Pastor Josué, what you see is what you get. That real transparent and often light-hearted attitude is what makes him connect so easily with young people. When he's not writing articles or editing videos, you'll find him in coffee shops visiting with young adults, or chatting with teens on any social media app that exists under the sun. Josué and Jelena live with their two daughters in warm Winnipeg, where he serves the youth at the Henderson Highway church.



Photo: Afia Donkor

Almost vegan

I stretched, leapt out of bed, and made my way upstairs to the kitchen. Another day, another dollar, but this day was already off to an amazing start, because sitting on my kitchen table was a loaf of the most delicious homemade bread I had ever tasted. The baker? My boss's wife, Sandra Thomas. Sandra shared the recipe with me, a recipe she received from her mother-in-law, Marjorie, and I have since turned bread baker for my own friends and family. While I have modified the original a bit, I thank Marjorie and Sandra for an amazing recipe, and in honour of the way it was first introduced to me, I call it "Sandra's Bread." ■

Afia Donkor is a lawyer in Ontario, Canada.

Sandra's Bread

INGREDIENTS

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 ½ cups whole wheat flour
- 1 ½ cups 12-grain flour (7- or 8-grain flour works too)
- ½ cup 12-grain cereal
- 3 tablespoons gluten flour (vital wheat gluten)
- 3 tablespoons soy milk powder
- 1 ½ teaspoons salt
- 2 ½ + 2 tablespoons warm water
- 3 teaspoons instant yeast
- 3 tablespoons oil
- ¼ cup brown sugar

INSTRUCTIONS

- Mix dry ingredients in a large bowl.
- Combine wet ingredients together and pour into dry ingredients.
- Knead dough by hand for 7 to 10 minutes, or knead in batches in a food processor using the dough blade (1 minute per batch—the number of batches will depend on the size of your food processor). Alternatively, use your bread maker to make this recipe.
- Grease 2 medium-sized loaf pans. Divide dough into 2 equal pieces, shape into loaves, and place loaves in pan.
- Let rise 30 minutes, then bake in an oven at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 30 minutes or until they are golden brown.

An Answer to Prayer Prompts an Unusual Donation



A volunteer from VOAR's Telephone Central.

a lady who had called in to make a pledge during VOAR's annual Sharathon in November. The donor had recently moved to Canada from the United States, where Christian radio stations abound. She didn't know if she would be able to find a Christian station in British Columbia, so she took her problem to the Lord in prayer. While she prayed for a Christian station, her daughter set up her radio and turned it on. As the prayer was still on her lips, Christian programs and music from VOAR filled the air.

God used VOAR 1210AM Christian Family Radio to answer her prayer. And it was VOAR's AM dial position that inspired her donation of \$1,210. "And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear" (Isa. 65:24).

This lady wants to remain anonymous but agreed to be interviewed so that we could share her story with our listeners in her own words. We serve an awesome God who is using VOAR to help spread His message of love to people everywhere. Thank you for your part in helping to make that happen. ■

"I HAVE TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE CALL I JUST TOOK!"
The volunteer from Telephone Central came into the on-air studio excited and with tears in her eyes. She had just talked to

Christine Bergen is Secretary/Treasurer at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newfoundland and Labrador



Boboquo Johnson

ON THE
ROAD WITH

Becky

AT THE YELLOWKNIFE CHURCH IN THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

*When you see someone being bullied,
what do you do, and why?*

Jonelle Atagan-Okpalugo: I intervene by telling the "bully" to stop, because if I just stood and watched I would be just as mean as the bully. As a teacher I always try to create a safe and positive environment.

Wendy Wile: In my experience, bullying happens as much with adults as it does with kids. As a school counsellor, if I see a child being bullied, I begin the steps of the bullying policy, one of which is for both bully and victim to better understand their parts in the situation; for the bully to develop skills to get what he or she needs without aggression; and for victims to develop skills to appropriately stick up for themselves and to engage adult help immediately. When I see adults being bullied, I tend to try to calm the situation and speak to both parties individually if such an opportunity exists. In order for bullying to happen, everyone has to play a part—bully, victim, bystanders. Bullying stops when one of these parties refuses to participate.

Albert Dobbins: Step in and ask, "What is the problem?"

Tsitsi Gombedza: Stop them. I was young once. Try and find out why the bullies are bullying and how they would feel if the roles were reversed.

Small Decisions Eterna Impac

As she stood in the baptistry, Jacqueline had tears in her eyes. She was being baptized along with three of her four children. I had learned of her story just hours before the baptism. Jacqueline's husband had left two years ago. The family was left with nothing. When someone from the church first visited their home, they had no food. The only thing in their refrigerator was a container of water. They had been abandoned, they were alone, and they seemed to have no hope.

BY CHRIS HOLLAND

*It Is Written
Canada
is bringing a
message of hope
to hurting people*

It



The local church was preparing for the *It Is Written* series, *Unveiling Hope*. As they visited Jacqueline, she began to discover hope in Jesus Christ. She made a decision to fully commit her life to Jesus and become a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. There in the baptistry, with tears running down her face, she entered the cleansing waters of baptism.

Then her children followed. As the children followed her, I asked the men of the congregation to stand. I assured the children that even though their father had left them, they had now inherited new brothers and fathers in these men. The emotions of that moment were almost overwhelming.

On the last night of the series, Jacqueline shared that this series of meetings was very helpful to her and that she would never forget what the ministry had done for her.

Johnny also stood in the waters of the baptistry. He was a young man, in his twenties. He had studied the Bible with a member of the church but had never made the decision to fully commit himself to Jesus. On the opening night of the series, I made an appeal asking people to put their trust fully in God. That night's study was on Daniel 2, and we shared with the people that just as God has overseen the world's empires through time, our future is secure with Him. I called for people to make a commitment for baptism. Johnny came forward. I talked briefly with Johnny but didn't know the major crisis he would face.

Johnny worked in a job that required him to work during Sabbath hours. Johnny spoke to his supervisor and shared his predicament. He desired to be baptized and requested the Sabbath off. The supervisor said that he would need to think about it. Johnny anxiously awaited an answer. He scheduled his baptism with the pastor in faith that he would get the Sabbath off.

The day of Johnny's baptism came, yet he still had no answer. He went to his supervisor and shared that he was

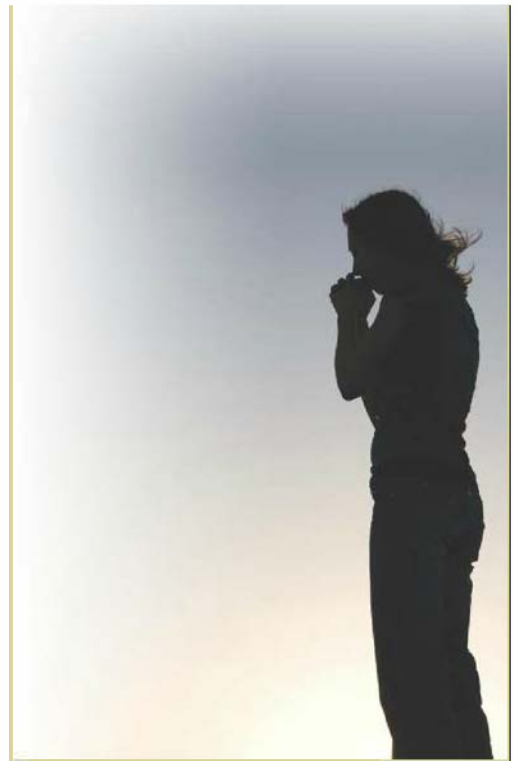
scheduled to be baptized that evening and needed the Sabbath hours off. The supervisor asked if he required an answer right then, and Johnny replied that indeed he did. The supervisor then informed Johnny that he was fired.

Yet, as Johnny stood in the baptistry, there was no sorrow in his face. He smiled because he knew that God was going to do something special. Even under the pressure of losing a job in a depressed economy, Johnny smiled at the new life he was beginning. He was submerged in the waters of baptism and God made him a new creature. *It Is Written Canada*, through the support of its many donors, made an impression on yet another individual for the kingdom.

Ana is the pastor of a non-denominational ministry, but there she stood in a Seventh-day Adventist baptismal pool. She had spent several years studying the Bible. She discovered the truth about God's seventh-day Sabbath during the course of her own personal study. However, she encountered some members of the Bosque church and got involved in Bible studies. As she continued

to learn more and more, her heart burned with conviction. She made a decision to be baptized and become a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Even though there were many unanswered questions about how she would move forward with her life, she followed the convictions of her heart even without all the answers. In a conversation I had with Ana after her baptism, she shared how she will continue to pastor her group but teach according to her newfound faith and beliefs. The impact of *It Is Written Canada* on the life of Ana will continue on well after her baptism.

I was sitting in a physiotherapist's office in Ontario. He was a member of the local church and had opened up his office for a health outreach meeting. After learning several health principles and a hands-on cooking demonstration, Debbie and I sat enjoying the food we had made. As we ate, we met a woman at the cooking school. I had noticed that she looked over at me several times. Her friend introduced me as the speaker of *It Is Written Canada*. She then said, "I knew that I knew you!" I also met her



The program (IIW) broadcasts the message, but the church lives that message through their active service in the community.

daughter. This woman had been a Seventh-day Adventist, but events and circumstances in her life led her to stop attending the church. Recently, she had begun watching *It Is Written Canada*. In fact, she plays the program on her television at her workplace, which is in a very public place. She and her daughter have now begun to attend a local Seventh-day Adventist church in Ontario. This story emphasizes the special partnership *It Is Written* has with the local church. The program broadcasts the message, but the church lives that message through their active service in the community.

The ministry of *It Is Written Canada* is founded on the principle of taking the gospel to all of Canada and around the world. I could share story upon story illustrating how *It Is Written Canada* has changed people's lives.

It is interesting to note that every speaker in the history of *It Is Written Canada* has been touched through evangelistic outreach ministries, and three of the four were actually introduced to the church through *It Is Written* itself.

The founder of *It Is Written Canada*, Henry Feyerabend, was himself the fruit of evangelistic ministry. His mother's family was brought into the Seventh-day Adventist Church through the literature ministry. His father was introduced to faith through an evangelistic series. This foundational principle in Henry's life became the very DNA of *It Is Written Canada*. This mission is simple: to bring a message of hope to hurting people.

After Henry, Shawn Boonstra became speaker for the ministry. Shawn, too, was a product of the ministry of *It Is Written*. Shawn was a student of philosophy but sought something more complete. Shawn was baptized at the conclusion of a series of meetings led by George Vandeman. Shawn expanded the ministry and led out in the first NET meeting in Canada, co-preaching with Henry.

As Shawn moved to *It Is Written International*, Bill Santos became the speaker/director. Bill was a product of the ministry. Bill's parents, Joe and Isabel, responded to the first television program produced by Henry in Canada for the Portuguese community, which, at the time, was called *Destiny*. The whole family was eventually baptized. Later in life Bill, though he had a strong business background, began pastoring a church in the Greater Toronto Area. When he took on the leadership role of the ministry, the ministry expanded in several ways. The most dramatic expansion was the national broadcast contract with CTV.

It Is Written also played a role in my own journey to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. I was looking for answers to my deep spiritual questions in many places, never finding peace. One evening, my girlfriend (who eventually became my wife) told me about a series of meetings that were going on in a nearby church. As we walked into that church, there on a big screen was Mark Finley, of *It Is Written International*, preaching. His presentation was so thought provoking that I sought out a local Adventist pastor and began Bible studies. God softened

my stubborn heart. I found such peace, and the puzzle pieces of life and spiritual matters finally fell into place. I count it an incredible privilege to be able to continue on in this Holy Spirit-led legacy of dedicated workers for God.

In the 2002 bestseller *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*, author Malcolm Gladwell describes key ideas that have spread in a dramatic fashion. It reminds me that God, too, has tipping points. He uses various moments in the lives of individuals to transform the very path they are on. God's providential leading, through these tipping points, often takes an individual on an unexpected journey. Yet, the response to these key situations will often have lasting, sometimes eternal, implications. The history of the ministry of *It Is Written Canada* is filled with these "tipping points," which has resulted in lives being transformed for the kingdom.

As this ministry moves forward in faith, we continue to take the gospel to all of Canada and around the world through our broadcast and evangelistic ministry. By planting the seeds of the gospel, we will undoubtedly have the opportunity, in heaven, to hear of the many "tipping points" in the lives of people.

Please join me in praying as Jesus advised in Luke 10:2: "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." ■

Chris Holland is speaker/director of It Is Written Canada.



58½ years ...and counting

THAT'S HOW LONG KAUKO HALMINEN HAS STAYED TRUE TO HIS MISSION



Above: Kauko Halminen

Left: An early ADRA Canada ingathering can used to collect donations at the door. Christmas music could be played at the door by winding the player up beforehand. A battery-operated candle glowed when switched on to add to the ambience.

FIFTY-EIGHT AND A HALF

years. That's how long Kauko Halminen has stayed true to his mission of ingathering. For the last 30 years, his faithful ingathering has supported ADRA Canada.

"I'm 90 and a half," he said with a smile as he sat up a little higher and prouder in his seat.

His daughter Anu laughed, "Dad! It's like you're a kid saying, 'I'm six and a half!'"

Mr. Halminen kept smiling. Ninety and a half, and with quite a story to tell.

Halminen ushered his wife and four children onto the ship that would take them from Finland to a new life in Canada. The year was 1956.

"I wanted my children to have a Christian education," explained Halminen.

Kauko Halminen studied carpentry and wanted eventually to become an engineer. However, when it came time

to begin his advanced studies, the school told him he would have to attend classes on Saturday. When Halminen refused, he was expelled. Thus, he was determined to ensure that his children would not have to give up their education to keep the Sabbath.

Halminen took up colporteuring. "I went door to door on bicycle for eight years. Then, for the last two years in Finland, I went door to door on my own motorcycle." His eyes still light up a little at the memory of his motorcycle. Colporteuring was something of a family tradition, he explained. His father, uncle, and brother had all been colporteurs at one point. Mr. Halminen made a career out of it, earning enough to support his family and eventually to purchase passage to Canada.

"The crossing took 10 days," he recalled.

He disembarked in Canada with high hopes, carpentry tools, ... and almost no English skills.

That first year in Canada, Halminen took up colporteuring again. He grinned. "That's when I bought my first car. I went door to door in my own car."

He was in church when he first learned about each member's ingathering goal. His heart was moved and he adopted the call as his own personal mission. For his first ingathering season in 1956, he still could not speak English very well. But he was undeterred. He went along with a church member to watch, learn, and practice. The following year he was ready to pursue his mission on his own.

Over the years he would approach business associates and friends. He would recruit his wife and children and take them to public places with the old ADRA Canada ingathering cans—the ones that played music. A few times he piled his family in the car and played Christmas music over a loudspeaker while they drove door to door. "That was until they passed a bylaw about that," he chuckled. "Not everyone likes Christmas music."

Halminen still does ingathering, even though age has brought its own set of challenges. In talking with him, one can sense that he still feels very passionately about supporting his church's ministry. His strength of convictions are at once inspiring and challenging.

ADRA Canada sincerely thanks Mr. Halminen for his 58 and a half years (and counting!) of dedicated support. Our hearts are moved by his faithful service, and we pray that God will continue to richly bless him. ■

Heather Grbic is a charitable worker for youth and church relations at ADRA Canada.

Dear Friend,

Birthdays can be a time of celebration and reflection. That is certainly the case for ADRA Canada as this year we celebrate our thirtieth anniversary!

Since 1985 Canadian Seventh-day Adventists and their friends and neighbours have made a difference in the lives of millions of people living in conditions of poverty and distress.

An important part of ADRA Canada's success has been its ability to represent you to the Canadian government and other organizations to access grants for relief and development projects. Your donations, which are used to secure these grants, have enabled us multiply our project funding by two, three, four, or sometimes even seven times, enabling us to assist many more people than would otherwise be possible. This is truly the parable of the talents in action. When you consider that this is made more effective by the worldwide ADRA network of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, you begin to sense the magnitude of the change that you make possible.

As I write these lines, one of our colleagues has just returned from Africa. He told me that he went and visited some villages from a project that we completed some months back. He deliberately went to the not-very-successful places, to see if there was any improvement even where we might have considered that we failed. He was delighted to find that while all around people were struggling to find enough to eat in the drought, those who had learned even a little from the ADRA project had thriving crops and more than enough!

Here we get to what is really important. I can quote "millions and millions" to you, and you might not be moved. But if you could see the look of gratitude on the face of that farmer in Rwanda or Cambodia, proudly showing you that she can now feed her family, I think you would sense how important your donations are.

Of course, thirty years is not something we necessarily want to boast about. We still have much to do. But together we are making a positive difference and I'm taking this opportunity to say "thank you" for your support. I remember a woman in Malawi who said "if I could walk from my village to your village, I would surely come and thank you. Since your village is so far away I cannot walk to it, but please hear my thank you."

To those who pray for our global ministry—thank you! To those who have signed up for an automatic monthly donation—thank you! To those who go door-to-door, cubicle-to-cubicle, or relative-to-relative asking for donations—thank you! To those who give faithfully through their church offerings and tithes—thank you! To those who have purchased from our gift catalogue or held a fundraising event—thank you! To our ambassadors and representatives who tirelessly spread our messages—thank you!

Canadian Adventists are helping people around the world recover from disasters and emerge from poverty. My colleagues and I, but most of all, the millions you reach, express their appreciation.

Appreciatively yours!



James Astleford
Executive Director





Juan Tyson conducting the Kingsway College Symphonic Band.

The most precious gift from God

JUAN TYSON, WHO WAS BORN IN Birmingham, Ala., into a Christian family, remembers Christ as always being central in his immediate family. He recalls enjoying music at an early age—particularly singing. His father was a professional baritone soloist and would take Juan to his performances. Music has always been a passion for him as an experience that he can share with those he comes in contact with. While he enjoys instrumental music and playing the trumpet, choral music is his true passion, playing a vital role in his music ministry.

“Music is not just about the right notes, rhythms, harmony, and pitch. It is about sharing its wholeness by ministering to those who, as listeners, are exposed to it. There is a hope that someone will not only

be entertained and learn to appreciate music but also be lifted heavenward, experiencing the love and presence of God.” To Juan, music is one of the most frequent and worthwhile channels that God uses to point people toward Him; music is often a way someone can experience being touched and reached by God.

Before coming to Kingsway College, Juan was a teacher at an Adventist academy in the United States. However, the academy was led to cut back on staff. A colleague whose brother had once worked at Kingsway mentioned that the band teacher position was open and that the school was accepting applications. Juan applied and has since been ministering through music to each student that

passes through our halls.

“Christian education means students are afforded the opportunity to not only find, get to know, and grow in Christ, but also be educated in a school environment that assures all students can receive a high-quality, well-rounded education.” Juan says that although Seventh-day Adventist schools may not have the bells and whistles other schools have, our students can be assured that they will receive educational and life-changing experiences that prepare them for post-secondary studies and careers, as well as for the “eternal school of heaven.” Our youth are equipped by the Holy Spirit to be leaders in all their endeavors. They are the “movers and shakers,” offering valuable Christ-centred examples to everyone they meet.

During the last day of our first Week of Prayer for the 2014/2015 school year, Paul Smith, pastor of the Mississauga church, appealed to students who were struggling with something to come forward and share their burdens with their school family. The willingness and honesty from the students made Juan recognize that it is of utmost importance for each one of us to truly be there for our brothers and sisters, being that listening ear, and refraining from passing judgment on one another. We must feel safe enough to seek the advice of others with whom we associate, such as our fellow students, co-workers, and church members.

“As I believe and see it, our schools and churches are places where the spiritually sick should be the most comfortable sharing and receiving assistance with their struggles. These should be places where all can come as they are and experience God’s mercy through fellow sinners.”

John 3:16 is Juan’s favorite Bible verse, as it encompasses the overwhelming love that God has for the entire world. One of his favourite quotations is a statement by William Congreve: “Music hath charms to soothe the savage beast.” After all, music is a most precious gift from God to humankind. ■

Christina Lister is the development coordinator at Kingsway College.

NAD Gives Mamawi Atosketan Native School “Academy” Status, Recommends Expansion

The North American Division (NAD) granted “Academy” status to Mamawi Atosketan Native School (MANS) during its Oct. 30 to Nov. 2 meetings. This makes MANS Canada’s first and only mission school to be part of the network of Adventist senior academies.

Prior to the formal decision, General Conference personnel made an on-site visit to MANS on Sept. 18 and 19. They left with the promise to recommend approval of the school’s application for official denominational status.

The NAD decision was preceded by permission from the province of Alberta to offer Grades K to 12 at MANS three years ago.

The blessing of the NAD education department will have a significant impact on high school completion rates among MANS students, says Wilton, who expects MANS completion rate to be far above the national average for First Nations students. The Chiefs Assembly on Education found that the national average is 39 percent of those who register for high school.

“Now we can carry our students from Kindergarten through to completion of Grade 12,” stated Principal Gail Wilton. “We can also provide direction to students for college and higher education opportunities. A K to 12 program will allow us to significantly impact the completion of high school in this community. Currently, we have one Grade 11 student making plans to get an education degree and return to MANS to teach.

“Space is extremely tight right now,” said Wilton, citing MANS’s current enrollment of 184 students in a building intended to hold 120. “Upon fulfillment of the committee recommendations—one of them being increased physical space—there will be a revisit for the final accreditation. Accordingly, we are making plans to move forward with a building program in the near future.”

Despite the addition of two classrooms last year, MANS continues to turn away more students than it can accept at every grade level, so the NAD requirement that the physical plant be expanded came as no surprise to Wilton.

“We are excited for the future!” said Wilton.

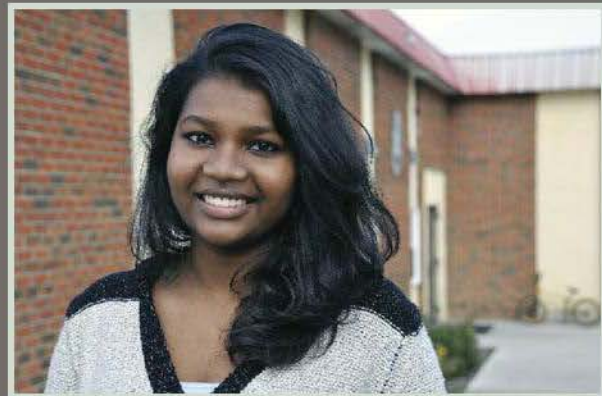
Linda Steinke, who writes for the Alberta Conference Department of Education, encouraged Lynn McDowell, Alberta’s director of Planned Giving/Philanthropy, to pursue English (which she did before attending law school). They collaborated on this report from MANS, Canada’s Adventist mission school.



The MANS Grade 9 graduating class of 2012, pictured, will be the first to graduate with a MANS high school diploma conferred by the Province of Alberta and the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. L to R: Virginia, Yitinyia, Camilleosman (Jedson), and Samuel.

Parkview Profiles

"I changed after coming here. I grew in spirituality and in education, and as a person."



Jane Joseph

Jane Joseph has spent nine of her 11 school years in the Adventist education system, but the most recent two, at Parkview Adventist Academy, have been her best yet. "I love it here!" she says. "Going to PAA has helped me with my future and my faith."

Born in India, Jane moved with her family to Sri Lanka shortly after she began school. When she was 10, they relocated to Sarnia, Ont., where everything changed, and Jane faced unexpected obstacles in the new academic environment.

"I didn't fit into the public school there, and the teachers didn't care about the students' success and excellence," she says.

After her dad received a job on the CUC campus and their family moved to Alberta, Jane's experience at PAA has shown that this thriving Adventist school is nothing like her previous classrooms.

"Coming here, I had friends right away, and these friends all encourage on another to work hard. Anyone who comes to PAA will see how advanced the curriculum is and how much the teachers actually care about you. If any of them see you are struggling, they'll stay and work with you. You can call teachers or email them and get a response right away. They challenge us because they care."

Since enrolling in Grade 10 at PAA, Jane has embraced that challenge and become an active participant in campus life. "Music is my thing," she shares, which is no surprise to anyone who has enjoyed her vocal performances with praise bands and the PAA/CUC Choral Union. "I can sing, and here I can use my talents for God without having to negotiate Sabbath."

PAA's programs are designed to teach spiritual growth in addition to school-specific skills. According to Jane, "Everything on campus is spiritually based. We always start classes with prayer. Chapels, vespers, Sabbath school programs—it's all so amazing." Being part of campus has significantly impacted Jane's life. "I changed after coming here," she says. "I grew in spirituality, in education, and as a person."

Jane is not alone in her appreciation of what the spiritual elements of campus can contribute to life. All PAA students are invited to participate in the worship services and programs, which, Jane says, is "the best part because all your friends are there with you, and you can feel the Holy Spirit working in your life."

What Jane likes best is Friday night vespers and the genuine, dynamic approach to applicable, life-changing faith. "You can have fun in religion because it's youth-oriented on this campus, teaching us that praising God can be so fun. I love coming to church."

As a campus, PAA has several regular opportunities for students to spiritually recharge: weekly Wednesday chapel services, Friday night vespers, Saturday morning Sabbath school, and the campus College Heights Church. Involving young people in programming is one of the many ways that PAA staff work to introduce students to active faith. Jane is one of the school's most willing volunteers, and she shares, "Here at PAA, I grew to have new responsibilities, and these helped me see that if you want to succeed in life, always keep God by your side."

Jane is now more than halfway through her junior year, with God by her side in addition to the other 100 students at PAA. She knows from her experience that while here at school, "You're never alone. While you're working hard at PAA, you're also supported by the teachers and on your journey with other students."

PAA has been a blessing to Jane so that she may bless others. As a student and a participant in the campus community, she knows that "what we do here is actually very important for later in life." Her future rests on her commitment to classes and her personal pursuit of God, both of which benefit from being at PAA. ■

Katelyn Ruiz is the director of public relations at Parkview Adventist Academy.



Madhu and Swochhata Deuja.

Swochhata's Story

We all want the best for our children. We want to see them reach their goals and enjoy future success as productive citizens. We want them to know Jesus and be prepared for eternal life. Many Adventist parents enrol their children in Adventist schools for these reasons.

Many non-Christian families in our communities are looking for the same things. Countless stories have been told of how active friendship, generosity, encouragement, and personal involvement in the community have led to both school and church growth, as well as increased opportunities for Adventists to have a positive influence in their communities. Swochhata's story is one of them.

It started in 2006, when Kathi and Wayne Johnson, Adventist members from Langley, B.C., were introduced to a young Nepalese couple, Hari and Madhu Deuja, who had recently immigrated to Canada. There was common ground: Kathi had travelled for several years to Nepal to run a health camp and was very familiar with the culture. The four quickly became friends. A couple of years later, Madhu gave birth to a daughter, Swochhata.

When Madhu's husband, Hari, suddenly passed away, the Johnsons and other members of the Adventist church community became Madhu's and Swochhata's biggest support, providing for various needs. The Johnsons also strongly encouraged Madhu to pursue a college education, opening the doors to her career as a health care assistant.

Madhu now greatly enjoys what she does and had always dreamed of a similarly bright future for her daughter. When Swochhata was old enough for Kindergarten, she started attending the local public school. But it didn't support the high moral standards that Madhu had for her. What were her options?

By this time, the Johnsons had become key influencers in Madhu's and Swochhata's lives, and, given their own involvement with the Adventist school system, they encouraged Madhu to enrol Swochhata in Fraser Valley Adventist Academy in Aldergrove, B.C. Thanks to their influence, encouragement, and desire to share God's love, Swochhata is now enjoying Grade 1 in a healthy Christian environment, with the high moral standards Madhu had always wanted for her.

Both the Johnsons and Madhu are happy to see the impact a Christian education is already making in Swochhata's life. "Now she talks about God. She never did before," Madhu said. "I see lots of positive things."

Swochhata also brings joy to her classmates, even holding the door open for everyone on their way to recess each day, her teacher Grace Devoe explained.

In fact, our schools provide a positive environment for both students and staff alike. "Everyone is always helping one another; you really feel it," Devoe said.

When our teachers care, so do our students. That is the kind of learning environment that all our children deserve.

When asked about the decision to enrol Swochhata in an Adventist school, Wayne responded, "We want to give [Swochhata] an opportunity to thrive and grow."

And I know that is what we all want for the children in our lives. Giving the children of our communities an opportunity to thrive and grow through Adventist education is one way that every church member can participate. ■

Lloyd Robinson is superintendent of education for the British Columbia Conference.

New Vision



LCES students (l-r): Larissa Collin, Irian Yousoff, Caryl St. Clair, Larisa Womack, Shavetta Peters, Benjamin Circa, Dina Palacios.

FOR MANY STUDENTS, Canada Youth Challenge (CYC) is an opportunity to meet new people, explore new places, learn new cultures, and earn some scholarship money for school. But CYC has a higher purpose, and this summer one student expressed that purpose in a very simple prayer. Getting up one morning, the student, Benjamin, prayed, "Father, today I want to speak to someone about Jesus. Not about books, not about scholarships, just about Jesus." With that prayer in his heart, he gathered up his books, entered the day's neighbourhood, and began knocking on doors.

Benjamin approached a door and knocked, and soon afterwards a woman came and answered. Seeing a young man with a collection of books, she immediately said, "Not interested," and was getting ready to shut the door, when Benjamin asked, "Why?"

She stopped, then said, "OK, there are a lot of mosquitoes outside, come in."

Inside the house, Benjamin began his presentation. When he finished, the woman said, "Oh, you are a Christian."

With a smile Benjamin replied, "I'm a Seventh-day Adventist Christian!"

She did not return his smile. Looking at him she said, suddenly, "Get out of my house!"

Shocked, Benjamin stared, then once again asked, "Why?"

"Because it's my house!" she said.

"But why is it that you said this to me only when you heard I was a Seventh-day Adventist?"

The woman paused and then replied, "Tell me something about your religion."

Here was Benjamin's moment. Now was his opportunity to

share his faith. How would he do it? What would he say? Benjamin began, and moving from Genesis to Revelation, he spoke about Jesus, the centre of our faith, the author of doctrine, and the end of all prophecy. For 30 minutes Benjamin spoke, and when he finished, the woman's eyes filled with tears and she began to cry. Benjamin stood quietly as she cried for some time. Finally she said, "For 40 years of my life, I believed your church was a bad church. But now you have completely changed my perception. This Sabbath I will go to your church."

For thousands of years, a distorted picture of God was presented to the human race, and generation after generation accepted this picture. So 2,000 years ago, Jesus came, in person, to explain the Father to a lost and sinful world. In the flesh, through words of comfort, through the healing touch, through patient instruction, Jesus painted a picture of a God of inexpressible goodness, love, and mercy. He came in person to explain the Father and to reflect His character, and because He did, generations of people found the truth and accepted the hope and salvation He offered to the world.

Today Jesus asks us to do the same. "You shall be my witnesses," He said (Acts 1:8). To a world that is still confused, deceived, and lost, He asks us to go, personally, and explain who God really is and what faith in Him is all about. We are His witnesses, sent to a world of people who are sitting in darkness. If only we will go, some will respond and come to His light. ■

Lifestyle Canada Education Service (LCES) is a charity organized to better fulfill the mandates of the literature ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church across Canada. (LifestyleCanada.org)

If you're a new member and have a question you would like answered, please email newmember@adventist.ca. We would love to hear from you.

A New Adventist Asks

Life is difficult and brings enormous challenges, especially for God's children. This is why we need to remember that the church is here to *inspire* its members in their pilgrimage. Can we abandon reprimanding, blaming, and criticizing one another and, instead, focus exclusively on encouraging one another?

YOUR QUESTION serves as a good opportunity for us to clarify some points about criticism.

Ample false ideas are being circulated, namely, ideas that misrepresent God's concept of a true relationship based on the values of His kingdom. From a biblical perspective, everyone should be entitled to freedom and privacy. Joining a community of believers doesn't give anyone the right to examine or judge the words and intentions of fellow members. As you have correctly stated, the main purpose of a congregation is to encourage, to motivate, as well as to act in favour of every member, inspiring them to give the best for their Master (see Heb. 10:25).

And yet, should the church focus exclusively on encouragement, positive things, uplifting realities—as some popular televangelists seem to continually promote? I'm not sure. I don't believe that church members exist only to reaffirm one another's opinions, approve one another's choices, or strengthen one another's determination or resolve in a chosen path. Jesus' plan in building His church was not to create groups of motivational speakers, or to have the church members being involved in a 100-percent positive, optimistic coaching program. Our Lord knew that we need real people, not puppets, on our side. We need those who are imperfect as we are and who are filled with God's love, observe everyday life with perspicacity, examine all things carefully, and are willing to be creative and open with us, in order to share different perspectives on what is best for an effective Christian life. This is irreplaceable. Only having on our side those who approve our point of view is not necessarily uplifting. As author George Eliot stated in the 19th century, "Animals are such agreeable friends. They ask no questions, they pass no criticism."

Ralph Waldo Emerson's perspective on true friendship is consistent with the biblical concept of the unity: "There are two elements that go to the composition of friendship. One is Truth. A friend is a person with whom I may be

sincere. He is so real and equal that I may drop even those undermost garments of dissimulation, courtesy, and second thought, and may deal with him with the simplicity and wholeness. ... The other element of friendship is tenderness. Can another be so blessed, and we so pure, that we can offer him tenderness?"

Therefore, reproof is acceptable at times, if it is guided by the Spirit of God and is based and founded on friendship: "Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching" (2 Tim. 4:2, NKJV).

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a very well-known German theologian who died during his opposition to the Nazi regime, made a remarkable comment about Paul's text:

Reproof is unavoidable. Where defection from God's Word in doctrine or life imperils the family fellowship and with it the whole congregation, the word of admonition and rebuke must be ventured. Nothing can be more cruel than the tenderness that consigns another to his sin. Nothing can be more compassionate than the call to a brother back from the path of sin. It is a ministry of mercy, an ultimate offer of genuine fellowship.

What you need the most is not necessarily the absence of criticism, but the overall presence of the true, sacrificial, agape love in your church. You need those who will fully respect you, who will paint the relationship between Christians with truth and tenderness. This is the only way Jesus has prescribed for the prosperity of His church. And I pray for you and your community. May our heavenly Father inspire you to follow His vision of love and truth until we come "to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." ■

Daniel Stojanovic is the vice-president of administration at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada.

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

Let's Talk

On a cold Sabbath morning in downtown Edmonton, the sounds of poetry and music drifted through the graffitied hallways of a dimly lit basement. The strum of a guitar blended harmoniously with three voices as they sang about God's love before a rapt audience. The people could sense God's presence, even though they were nowhere near a church.

Enoch Attey, a recent CUC graduate, is a youth worker in the music program at iHuman Youth Society and graciously made a space available for an event called Let's Talk. "I am so glad that Let's Talk took place right here at iHuman," expressed Attey. "To be honest, this was church for me. I haven't had something like this in a long time. I could feel community."

Over 25 young adults came together for Let's Talk, an alternative church gathering that uses a safe and neutral space where young adults aged 18 to 35 can be part of a community, dialogue about relevant topics, and have a good meal while experiencing God's presence. It was held at iHuman Youth Society, a non-profit organization in Edmonton, Alta., that helps and empowers traumatized youth and works toward reintegrating them into the community by helping them develop skills, self-esteem, and a sense of worth and ability.

Josh, a young adult from Red Deer, Alta., shared his touching testimony about overcoming drug abuse with God's help, turning his life around, and becoming a dedicated and diligent disciple of Christ.

David Benjamin, assistant youth director, stated, "We are realizing that more and more of our youth are not



Josh sharing his testimony at Let's Talk, an alternative church gathering for youth.

gracing the doorsteps of our churches. Church attendance is declining among our youth, and the youth department has been given a directive from the Executive Committee of the Alberta Conference to find out why youth are leaving the church." Benjamin continued, "Part of our solution is to create more environments like Let's Talk, hoping they will attract youth who have lost faith in the traditional church."

Benjamin Amoah expressed, "What youth are searching for is a real sense of community, a safe place to come to and feel loved, supported, and accepted. Until our churches become a safe place to land, we will continue to see more and more youth leaving our churches."

Kevin Keirs, youth director of the Alberta Conference, introduced the book *You Lost Me: Why Young Christians Are Leaving the Church and Rethinking Faith*, by David Kinnaman. With youth leaving the church in droves, it was great to hear a young adult perspective on the subject. Other topics discussed in the program were homosexuality and the church, led by Ja'Net Knight, a social worker from

Calgary, who helped participants come to the realization that we must love everyone as Christ loved them while understanding that He also said, "Go and sin no more"; as well as the topic "Unity in Community," led by Brenden Zapotichny, a third-year religious studies student, who spoke about reaching beyond our comfort zones to invite others into our circle of community.

As the reality of more youth leaving threatens the future of the church, it is our hope to create alternatively neutral and safe places where exiles, nomads, and prodigals can come to feel loved, accepted, supported, feel a sense of community, and, ultimately, experience God's presence. In retrospect, I think we can all benefit from having a safe place to land, being in an accepting environment, having a sense of community, dialoguing about relevant topics, and dwelling in the presence of God—inside or outside of the church. At least, Let's Talk about it! ■

—Lyle Notice, associate youth director, Alberta Conference

Seventeen Children Inducted Into Sylvan Lake Adventurer Club

On Oct. 18, 2014, smiles, joy, and excitement abounded as 17 precious children were inducted into the Sylvan Lake Adventurer Club. Under the directorship of Wendy Gareau, the club has started up again with optimism and enthusiasm, and grown in size with children and volunteer staff.

It was great to see the church come out and support this powerful and symbolic dedication service. Following the biblical example of 1 Samuel 1, in which Hannah gives Samuel to the Lord, the Sylvan Lake Adventurers were presented before the Lord to be blessed.

The senior pastor of the Sylvan Lake church, Bill Spangler, shared his full support and gave a spirit-filled prayer of dedication over the parents and children.

Assisting the induction program were Donelle Clarke, the North American Division (NAD) Western Canadian representative and the Alberta Conference Master Guide coordinators Lulu and Tendai Mashonganyika.



"It is great to see so many families involved in the Adventurer Ministry. Four new clubs alone have started up this year. We definitely need all the support we can get from parents and church members," said Lulu Mashongnyika, Master Guide Coordinator.

It was a blessing to feel the energy and

hear the laughter of the children that day. We are happy to see more and more Adventurer clubs starting up in the Alberta Conference. ■

—Lyle Notice, associate youth director, Alberta Conference

British Columbia

Maple Ridge Pathfinder Sabbath

On the Sabbath of July 19, 2014, the Maple Ridge Pathfinders put on the church service. They sang their song and recited their law and pledge. The children gave the welcome and had a song service, followed by Scripture reading and prayer. The theme was then given: Jesus and His Crucifixion. Five of the children, who had researched their topics, gave a presentation about Jesus, His cruel treatment, and how He died on the cross. A PowerPoint with pictures on the screen helped the congregation actually see the lengths that Jesus went through and what He was willing to endure for us. The program was closed with a song and prayer. ■

—Trudi Charles, communication secretary, Maple Ridge church



L to R: Jocelyn Sanchez Flores, Giovana Escalera Espinosa, Nathan Escalera, Justin Adams, Abdul Sead, Brennan Escalera, Orbin Escalera Espinosa, and Gerardo Sead

Deer Lake School: Helping Communities

What would you do if you found an unconscious man lying on the sidewalk on your way to school one morning?

Yeshvi Mehta, a Grade 11 Deer Lake School student, didn't hesitate for a second. She immediately called 911 and began performing CPR on the individual for the next 12 minutes until paramedics arrived. Though the man spent several weeks in hospital in critical condition, he has since recovered, and doctors say Yeshvi's selfless response and skillful CPR saved his life. Yeshvi is just one of many Deer Lake students who love to serve others. While her actions were pretty dramatic, many other simple acts of service take place every day around our school.

Once a month it's the Grade 6, 7, and 8 students making sack lunches for the Burnaby Taskforce on Homelessness. Other times it's 96 students travelling 400 kilometres to spend a day doing community clean-up for the town of Armstrong.

Often it's raising awareness for issues of social justice, such as sending a petition to the local member of parliament and the prime minister to influence the return of 214 kidnapped Nigerian girls. Maybe it's just raising money to buy fresh water for families in Kenya. But no matter how large or small the task, every day



Deer Lake students participating in community service projects in the town of Armstrong, B.C.

ordinary kids at Deer Lake School use their extraordinary hearts to serve others—and that's the behaviour of a group of superheroes!

"Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they

may have seemed, you did it for me."—
Matt. 25:40, CEV. ■

—Gaileen Woytko,
Community Relations
& Marketing

See more at <http://goo.gl/8YhGg2>

Shout to the North

Out of the 101 Seventh-day Adventist churches in the British Columbia Conference, only one of the churches is not in British Columbia. This church, the Whitehorse Seventh-day Adventist Church, has been around since 1969. However, their current church building was not constructed until 1978.

Being the odd one out is hard on anyone, even a church. Because of this, the Whitehorse church congregation usually left the outreach to the other,

bigger, non-Adventist churches in the area, preferring to stay in their comfort zone. This stopped in 2012 when they held their first "Shout to the North" event.

Shout to the North is a multi-denominational outdoor music event organized by the young adults of the Whitehorse Seventh-day Adventist Church. The aim of the event, inspired by the song of the same name, is to get a feel for the needs of the community

and forge strong relationships with the members of the community. Some of the non-Adventists in Whitehorse seem to view their Adventist neighbours as highly judgmental elitists. While some people from the First Nations community attend churches of other denominations, none attend the Adventist church. Through Shout to the North, the Adventist congregation hopes to change that.

This year, Shout to the North featured seven performers. These were the Penguins

>> SDACC REVOLVING FUND REPORT: As of Nov. 30, 2014, there were 437 depositors with a total deposit of \$24,423,179. There were 82 loans with a value of \$22,449,333.

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

Green, the WhiteRock Church Band, The Sunday Night Band, Terry and Mary, Angel Solomon, Charlie, and the Bethany Church Filipino Worship Band. Each did 10- to 15-minute sets, and each had a unique sound. In addition to singing and playing instruments, some of the performers rapped or performed spoken word pieces.

Most, if not all, of the young adults in

the Whitehorse church share a talent for music and have decided to use this talent to do some outreach. In addition to holding this event, they lead out in the Sabbath morning worship service, sing to elderly residents in their community. In addition, the church runs an art club called Ignite and a community garden.

There aren't many teenagers or 20-somethings in the church, but there are

many young families. Bocky Law, one of the young adult leaders in the Whitehorse church, hopes they are starting a legacy of outreach that their children will grow up in and take over. ■

—Chanelle-Lize Antoinette Marshall, Westminster SDA Church

See more at <http://goo.gl/Sy9hKc>



Photos by Anjelica Solomon.



Correction: On page 21 of the November 2014 issue, we incorrectly identified the photo of Kelly Briere as Lisa Kelly Briere in the SDACC Excellence in Education Award feature. The Messenger apologizes for the error.

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■ Announcements

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- All announcements (non-profit events, new member notices, birth announcements, weddings, anniversaries, obituaries and tributes) should be emailed to Aimee Perez (perez.aimee@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.
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- The *Messenger* assumes no liability for typographical errors or responsibility for inaccuracies originating in submitted material.
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■ Announcements

62nd TJA/CAA Alumni Homecoming Weekend

—Crawford Adventist Academy will be holding its 62nd Alumni Homecoming Weekend on May 22-24, 2015, honouring our TJA Classes of 1980, 1975, 1970, 1964, and all classes prior; CAA Classes of 2005, 2000, 1995, 1990, and 1985. We welcome all our alumni and families, former and current administrators, board members, faculty and staff, parents, friends, and supporters.

Please contact the Office of Advancement, TADSB—Derrick Hall, VP of Advancement, 416/633-0090 or toll free 866/960-2125, ext. 234, or dhall@tadsb.com / Judy Cardona Gamcz, Advancement Assistant, ext. 248, or jgamcz@tadsb.com.

Visit our official website, www.tadsb.com; follow us on Twitter @TJACAAAlumni; like us on Facebook "The Official TJA/CAA Alumni Group." (5/15)

The Carleton Place church is looking for the following missing members:

Cynthia Clark, Brenda Denile, Sue Desjardin, Melissa Dorion, Daniel Fortin, Marilyn Gerhardt, Michelle Marriage, Lori-Ann McIntosh, Christophe Merani,

Lincoln Merani, David Moote, Edward Pugh, Kathleen Service. If you have a current phone number and address for any of these people, please contact Didier Fourny at 613/937-3124 or dfourny@adventistontario.org.

The Garden Road church is looking for the following missing members:

Deanna Baddule, Phoebe Bautista, Gabriel Bongily, Rose Bongily, Alia Bownes, Norma Cada, Rowena Camarillo, Rosa ura Cervantes, Cathy Cervantes, Wes Christensen, Sandra Clark, Alexander Clarke, Alex Cross, Bradley Cross, Suzanne DiRocco, Jenny Ferguson, Allison Fitzgerald, Jean Fitzgerald, Ray Gunn, Rex Handel, Wendy Handel, Lorraine Harris, Michael Harris, Melissa Holder, Belen Jeremic Sr., Belen Jeremic Jr., John Jeremic, Betty Jokuda, Eddie Kahlon, Manny Kanwal, Meena Kanwal. If you have a current phone number and address for any of these people, please contact Grace at 403/293-9554 or higginsg@shaw.ca.

The Perth church is looking for the following missing members:

Janice Berney, Robin Cheress (McCullough), Melanie Daigle, Robin Daigle, Steven Dowdall, Patrick Driscoll, Mildred El Bittar, Arthur Lemke, Lilian Lemke, Bonnie McCann, Uriah McCann, George McCullough, Felicitia Mercado, Marra Mercado, Samuel Mercado. If you have a current phone number and address for any of these people, please contact Didier Fourny at 613/937-3124 or dfourny@adventistontario.org.

The Smiths Falls church is looking for the following missing members:

Kyle Daigle, Pamela Heck, Priscilla Heck, Darrin Ireland, Nancy Pelletier. If you have a current phone number and address for any of these people, please contact Didier Fourny at 613/937-3124 or dfourny@adventistontario.org.

The Thunder Bay church is looking for the following missing members:

Hubert Brown, Christopher Chartrand, Dianne Craig, Marie Eve Duval, Dave Rollo Joseph, Marie Cecilia Manusloc. If you have a current phone number and address for any of these people, please contact Jim Rieder at 807/983-2659 or jrieder@tbaytel.net.

■ New Members

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Revay Hudema was baptized in Vernon, B.C., on Oct. 25, 2014, by Steve Little. Revay is a Grade 7 student at Pleasant Valley Christian

Academy. She is now a member of the Vernon church.

MARITIMES

Georgina Bestarache was baptized in Miramichi, N.B., on Dec. 14, 2013, by Jacques Morris. She is now a member of the Moncton French church.

Karen Cho was baptized in Saint John, N.B., on Feb. 15, 2014, by Courtney Dookie. She is now a member of the Saint John church.

Mary Ann Conrad was baptized in Pugwash, N.S., on Aug. 30, 2014, by David Hamilton. She is now a member of the Pugwash church.

Minh Duong, Phuc Duong, and Trang Phan were baptized in Pugwash, N.S., on Aug. 2, 2014, by Courtney Dookie. They are now members of the Saint John church.

Halbert Fenton was accepted on profession of faith in Saint John, N.B., on Feb. 15, 2014, by Courtney Dookie. He is now a member of the Saint John church.

Jodi Fraser was baptized in Moncton, N.B., on May 31, 2014, by Méard Salomon. She is now a member of the Moncton church.

Jonathan Haase was baptized in Pugwash, N.S., on Aug. 2, 2014, during campmeeting by Paul Llewellyn. He is now a member of the Fox Point church.

Jonathan Halengo was baptized in Pugwash, N.S., on Aug. 2, 2014, during campmeeting by Kevin Scott. He is now a member of the Halifax church.

Lorraine Hemeon was accepted on profession of faith in Perth-Andover, N.B., on June 21, 2014, by Adrian Golea. She was a member of the Perth-Andover church until her death on Sept. 24, 2014.

Jean-Louis Lang was baptized in Pugwash, N.S., on Aug. 2, 2014, during campmeeting by Méard Salomon. He is now a member of the Moncton French church.

Adelard and Janico Martin were baptized in Miramichi, N.B., on Sept. 6, 2014, by Jacques Morris. They are now members of the Miramichi church.

Jeffrey McCullum was baptized in Barrington, N.S., on April 26, 2014, by Elder Edward Atwood. He is now a member of the Yarmouth Company.

Ed Pickett was accepted on profession of faith in Moncton, N.B., on June 7,

2014, by Méard Salomon. He is now a member of the Moncton church.

Françoise Ringuette was baptized in Pugwash, N.S., on Aug. 2, 2014, during campmeeting by Méard Salomon. She is now a member of the Moncton French church.

Amberlie Tattrie was accepted on profession of faith in Halifax, N.S., on April 26, 2014, by Elder Sydney Mogae. She is now a member of the Halifax church.

Michael Trealout was baptized in Pugwash, N.S., on Aug. 30, 2014, by David Hamilton. He is now a member of the Truro church.

Ernie Watton and Brenda (Daigley) Watton were baptized in Middleton, N.S., on Feb. 28, 2014, by Jacques LeBlanc. They are now members of the Middleton church.

James Wentworth was baptized in Charlottetown, P.E.I., on May 10, 2014, by Gary Belhomme. He is now a member of the Charlottetown church.

■ Births

Raziela Johanna Dookie was born March 12, 2014, to Sania and Pastor Courtney Dookie of Hampton, N.B.

Everely Grace Althea Smith was born Aug. 16, 2014, to Meghan and Jason Smith of Hammonds Plains, N.S.

■ Weddings

Jennifer Morris and Alessandro Cavalcante were married on November 24, 2013 at Miramichi NB by Pastor Jacques Morris. Jennifer is the daughter of Pastor Jacques and Maria Morris. They met online on Adventist Singles. The couple are making their home in Orlando, Florida.

Galina Korobova and Yuriy Chernukhin were married on January 11, 2014 in Saint John NB. Both Galina and Yuriy are native of the Ukraine, but met in Canada. They are making their home in the Fredericton, N.B. area.

■ Anniversaries

Theo and Christine Goodhart of Mission, B.C., celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on April 26, 2014. They also celebrated 20 years since Christine donated her kidney to Theo. The Goodhartshave two children, Robert and Elizabeth.



Christine and Theo Goodhart

Birthdays

Julia Pyke of Cape Breton, N.S., celebrated her 105th birthday on July 10, 2014, at North Sydney, N.S. A



reporter from the Cape Breton Post was on hand at her home where family and friends met to celebrate. Julia was always a busy person and very much involved in church programs, not only in her younger years, but long after retirement when she was annually involved in the church's gathering program.

Allen Wood of Watson, Sask., celebrated his 100th birthday on Aug. 4, 2014. Allen was born on



the very day Canada entered the First World War, and he served in the air force during the Second World War. He always loved the Lord and was baptized just before his 98th birthday at Manitoba-Saskatchewan campmeeting. He is active in the Quill Lake church, often leading the singing and helping with musical programs at the local nursing home and seniors' centre. Allen has one

daughter, Esther Gallant, five grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and 12 great-great-grandchildren.

Obituaries

Helen (née Kay) Clark was born on Jan. 30, 1916, in Brewster Mills, Ont., and died on Oct. 18, 2014, in Kingsman, Ont. Helen was strongly dedicated to her faith throughout her lifetime even though she was unable to attend church for the last several years because of her declining health. Helen is predeceased by her first husband, Thomas Clark; second husband, Alexander Cowper; son, Allan Cowper; brothers, Joseph, Andrew, and Robert; sisters, Teresa, Geraldine, Louise, and Audrey. Surviving: daughter, Dianne Martin of Kingsman; two grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Ernest (Ernie) Kay was born on Oct. 10, 1928, in Lacombe, Alta., and died on Oct. 22, 2014, in M'Elwauke, Ore. Ernie and Evelyn, with their family, served as missionaries to Mountain View College in the Philippine islands. Ernie and Evelyn also taught for many years at Canadian Union College in Lacombe. Ernie is predeceased by his parents, Francis Hampton and Alma (née Walker) Kay; brothers, Tom Kay of Lacombe, Art Kay of Soreley, Alta., Albert Kay; sister, Hazel Matheson; sister-in-law, Irah Kay; brother-in-law, Warren Matheson. Surviving: wife, Evelyn (née Karpow) Kay; son, Bruce (Julia) Kay of Kirkland, Wash.; daughter, Karen (Gerald) Tetz of Purland, Ore.; sister-in-law, Zelma Kay of Lacombe, Alta.; and four grandchildren.

Thomas Kay was born on May 26, 1916, in Clive, Alta., and died on Oct. 26, 2014, in Red Deer, Alta. Tom will be remembered for his kindness and generosity by so many over the years. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather; hard-working farmer, persistent salesman, and avid supporter of Christian education. Tom is predeceased by his son, Clifford Kay; parents, Hampton and Alma Kay; brothers, Albert, Art, and Ernie Kay; sister, Hazel Matheson. Surviving: wife, Zelma (née Carlson) Kay; sons, Warren (Cheryl) Kay of Lacombe, Alta., Nic (Till) Kay of Lloydminster, Alta.; daughter, Lenna (Garth) Corbett of Winfield, B.C.; 13 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Julia (née Roberts) Pyke was born on May 10, 1909, in Sydney Mines, N.S., and died on Oct. 6, 2014, in North Sydney, N.S. Julia was an active member of the North Sydney

church in her day where she was involved in holding church office, organizing (which is now called ADRA), and a C/JCB Radio guest with pastor Ray Matthews (deceased). Julia is predeceased by her parents, George and Ada May (née Hare) Roberts; brothers, Joseph, Rupert, William, James; sister, Mary Gillian. Surviving: daughters, Joan (Edward) Wilson of Silver Springs, Md., Phyllis (Jay) Simons of Silver Springs, June (Eddie) Meeks of Takoma Park, Md.; sister, Elizabeth Osmond of Halifax, N.S.; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Grace Reeves was born on June 9, 1925, in Anagance, N.B., and died on Oct. 25, 2013, in Moncton, N.B. Grace joined the Maritime Conference as a secretary in 1952, then worked as an accountant at Kingsway Publishing in Ottawa, Ont., in 1961. In 1966 she returned to the Maritime Conference and remained until her retirement in 1989. She will be remembered for her friendly disposition and her musical talents on piano and organ. Grace is predeceased by her husband, Alan Reeves; sister, Kathleen Dunfield; half-sister, Carol Gerdan. Surviving: son, Tony (Lorraine) Reeves; brother-in-law, Gerry Gerdan; sister, Treva (Bob) Gugges; several nieces and nephews.

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Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) International in Silver Spring, Md., is seeking a full-time Senior Program Finance Manager. Responsibilities include providing day-to-day support to implementing field offices on financial management processes, compliance, policies and adherence to donor regulations. Field experience preferred. For more information, go to www.adra.org (1/15)

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) International in Silver Spring, Md., is seeking a full-time Staff Auditor, CPA required. Responsibilities include preparation of reports, evaluate internal control systems, procedures, and best practices, applications of GAAP, GAAS, and donor compliance rules and regulations. For more information, go to www.adra.org (1/15)

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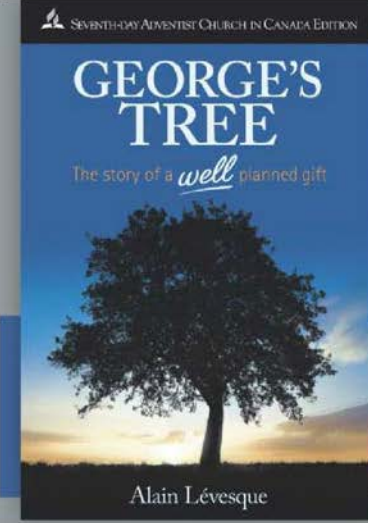
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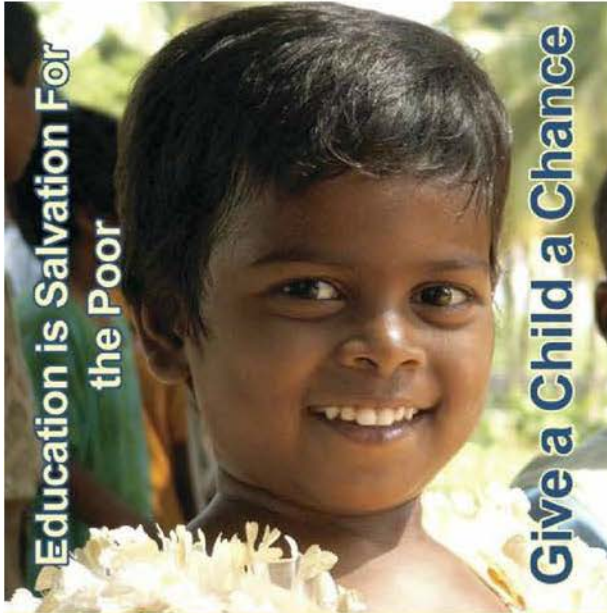
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from the editor

What a Difference

I have been reading over the story of It Is Written Canada, from its small beginnings of faith to what it has become and what it means to us today. It is not only a story of faith but also a story of people taking action. What a difference It Is Written (IIW) has made in so many lives across Canada by encouraging church members and delivering balanced, common-sense messages for over 40 years.

Today It Is Written reaches over 95 percent of all Canadians on free over-the-air television and 100 percent through Bell satellite, Rogers, Shaw, and EastLink Cable, as well as all the smaller networks that carry CTV. I was amazed to see It Is Written Canada on cable TV when I was in Cuba. Henry Feyerabend, the founder of It Is Written Canada, would be totally amazed at what it has become.

So far in Canada, we have It Is Written in English, French, and Portuguese. I think we can do even better. I have a dream that we will take up more media ministries, ones that can serve the diverse cultures that exist from coast to coast of our great nation. The ministry and its telecast are teaming up with one of the former speakers to reach out to the Inuit nations in the North. Details are forthcoming.

Additionally, this June, I, along with Chris Holland and the IIW team, will be offering a tour of the seven churches of Revelation. This is not something most people need to do every single year, but it will certainly be a memorable experience.

By the time most Canadian Adventists read this, you will have heard or read several statements on making a difference in 2015, such as "Let's finish the work." But my response is this: "Invite someone to watch It Is Written Canada every Saturday morning at 11 a.m. on CTV." I have personally invited my non-Adventist friends and family to watch our program every Saturday (it is also on other networks). The positive feedback I have received has warmed my heart and well exceeded my expectations. Next year I hope to share an even bigger story.

Let's all get behind this ministry in 2015 and partner with them. Go ahead; call someone today and invite that person to watch the program. Email me at jensen.stan@adventist.ca and let me know whom you contacted and we will put them on a prayer list.

Happy New Year. It would be nice if this was the last one on this planet. Come and take us home, Jesus. ■

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

Stan Jensen, editor
Canadian Adventist Messenger

THE CHRISTMAS PARTIES ARE PAST. Dinner feasts have been devoured. Carols have been sung. Presents have been exchanged. It is time to pack away the decorations and start afresh. A new year. A new start.

NEWSTART. The principles of nutrition, exercise, water, sunshine, temperance, air, rest, and trust in God were first introduced at the Weimar Institute of Health and Education in 1978 and formed in to an acronym by one of their first guests.¹ And now, at the cusp of a new year, when people often resolve to *live better, do better, be better*, that old acronym can breathe new life into our tired bodies.



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¹“The History of NEWSTART,” NEWSTART Weimar Institute, <http://newstart.com/what-is-newstart/the-history-of-weimar/#sthash.AWnRAvgx0Twb55.dpbs>.

NOW IS THE TIME

Join **It Is Written Canada** in the work of spreading the gospel by giving your generous offering on **Sabbath, February 14, 2015**

GOOD NEWS FOR HOPELESS TIMES

Watch every **Sabbath at 11:00 am on CTV** nation-wide
or check our website for other broadcast times

Chris Holland
Speaker / Director



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