



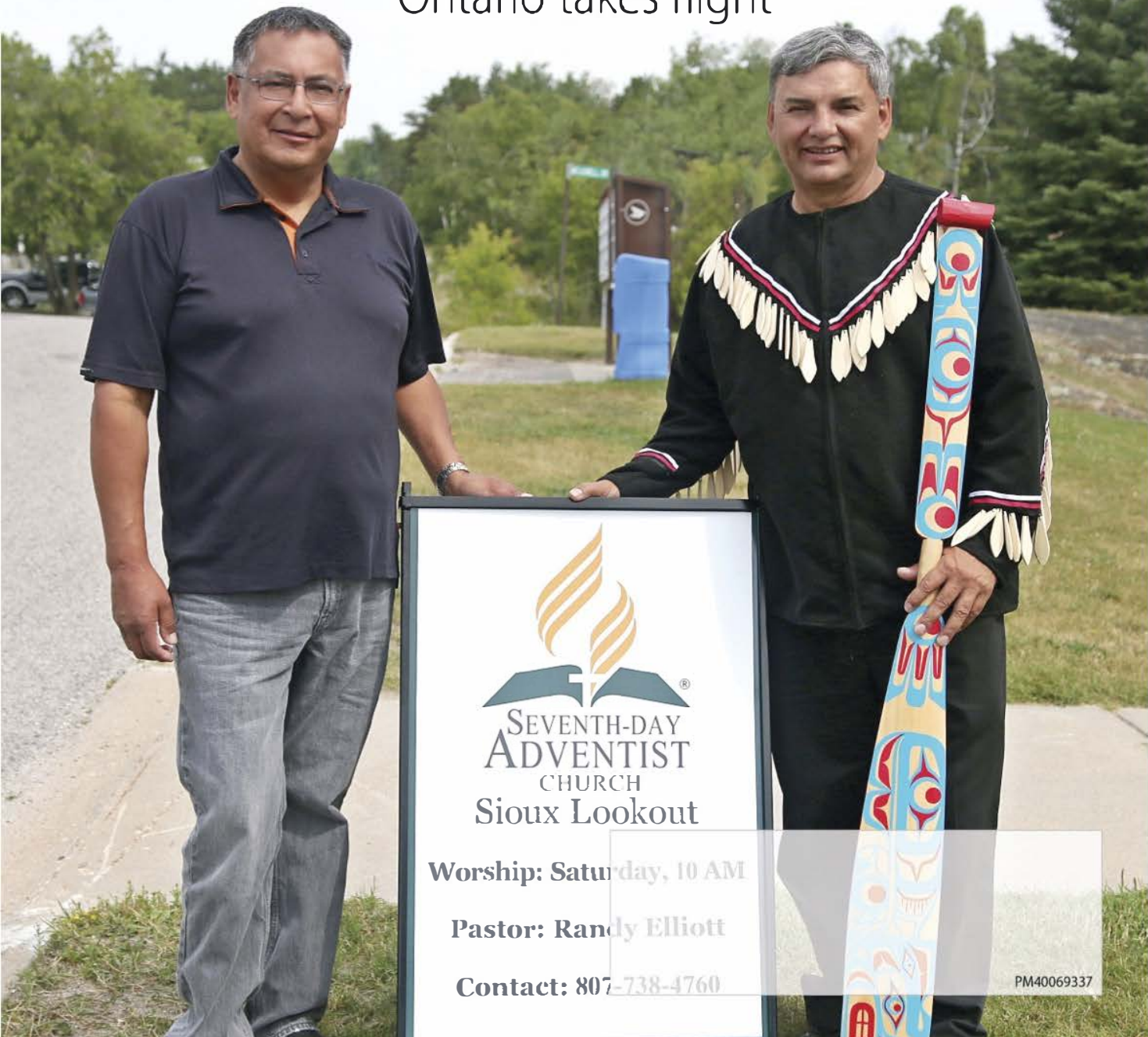
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september 2017

Messenger

SIoux LOOKOUT

A grassroots mission in Northern Ontario takes flight



SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH
Sioux Lookout

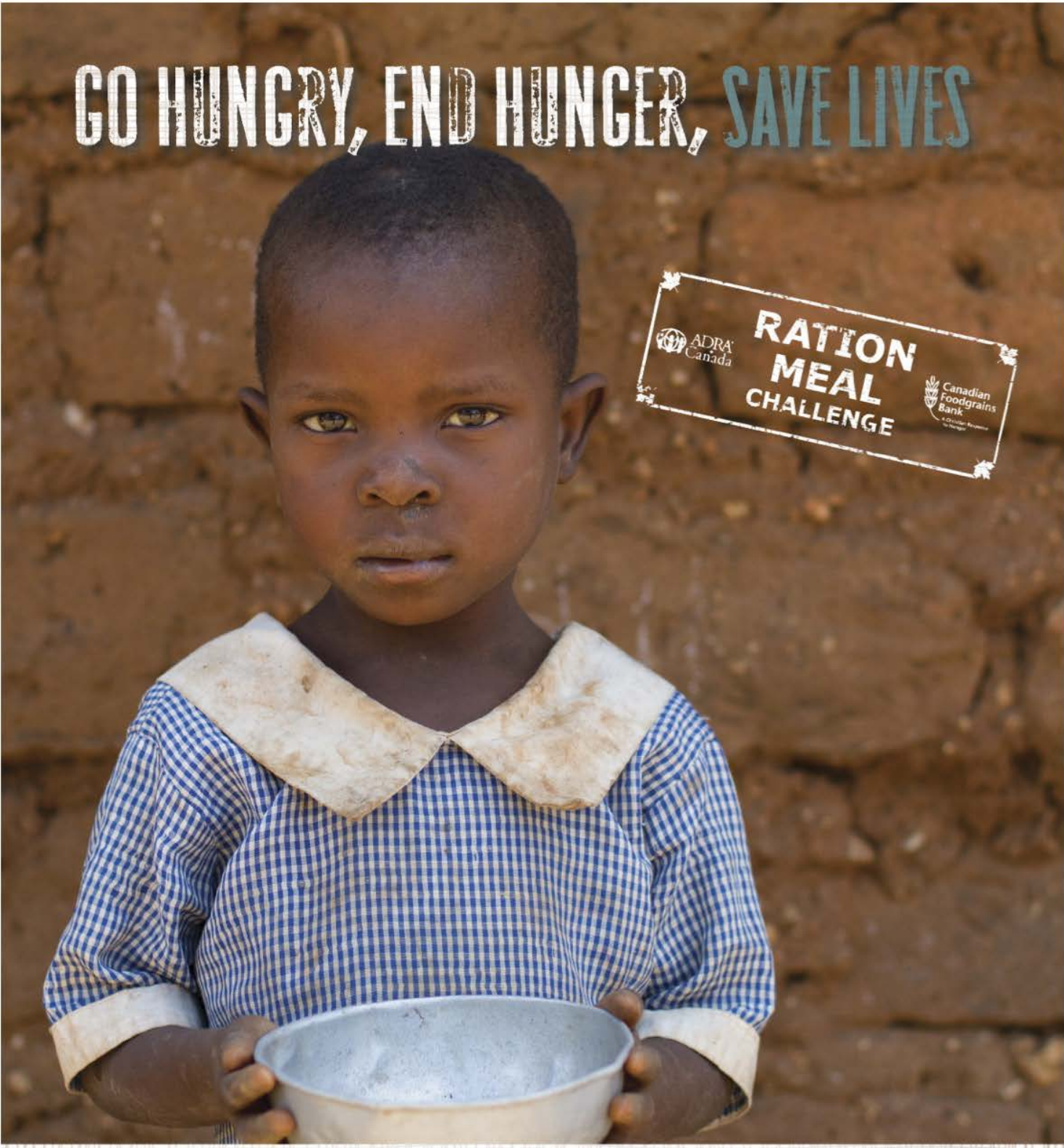
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Messenger

September 2017 Vol. 86 No. 9

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heart to heart

“For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.”

—Romans 1:20, ESV

Seeing a Creator

like the outdoors. At home we have a shelf in the bookcase that contains a broad selection of field guides. Those books provide a gateway to many varied parts of nature that surround us. Becky and I find it satisfying to spend a day near home exploring those things that live or grow around us. There is so much to see. So much to touch and smell. Our surroundings speak to our senses.

I've never struggled much with Creation. As I've touched and thought about things that I believe God made, the theory of evolution has seemed distant and irrelevant to me. The complexity of what I experience causes me to sense a designer behind the molecule or the design. So, like Paul in today's text, I'm glad for a God who designs and builds. That's a practical God. One who is down to earth, if you will.

Do you suppose we should be more respectful of those things that God has made? Where one litters or destroys, to me at least, it feels disrespectful to the Designer and Maker. As believers, do we have an obligation to maintain what God has made?

I am impressed by the interest that my friends in the First Nations communities take in nature. I have learned a lot by listening to them and watching the respect that they show. And in the plants, the animals, the rocks and all else, these friends see the evidence of a Power far greater than us that deserves our respect and reverence. I think they've found God.

Our world is crowded and impatient. There seems less time than things to do. In our hurry we miss the song of the insect, the shimmering leaf, the change of seasons. Perhaps in moving through life more deliberately and noticing our surroundings, we would see more often the hand of God. Shall we try it? ■

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





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The Cost of Unity

"If two of you *agree* on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven." —*Matthew 18:19, NKJV*¹

God likes harmony between human beings. Our text confirms that heaven is eager for agreement between the believers and that unity triggers a prompt and resolute answer from God Himself. Through this experience we see the fulfillment of one of the essential purposes Jesus assigned to the church: to unite God's children with bonds of peace and love.

The verb *to agree* in the original Greek text is *symphoneo*. It comes from the same root as another very known musical term, *symphony*. There are two elements behind this reality: *sym* (meaning "together") and *phone* (meaning "sound"). Thus, a large spectrum of translations covers that important word, yielding, "being in agreement, in unison, speaking together, producing a harmonious sound." Accordingly, the life of a church is seen from the perspective of "harmoniously sounding together": A symphony of love beautifully and tremendously confirms the beauty of the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ.

Unity, however, comes at a cost. It is not always easy to agree with those who don't share the same education, culture, linguistic background, or financial context. Let's mention two challenges to unity as Jesus Christ underlined in John 17.

INADEQUATE MINDSET

Unity among God's people is a true miracle but will remain impossible without a total change of mindset in the believers. As Ellen G. White said, "Those who think that they will never have to give up a cherished view ... will be disappointed. As long as we hold to our own ideas and opinions with determined persistency, we cannot have the unity for which Christ prayed."²

OBSTINACY

Those who are exploring the truth that is in Jesus Christ recognize the difficulty of reconciling an authentic search for truth and the divine mandate for unity in the likeness of God (e.g., "As we are one" in John 17:22.). Should we follow Martin Luther and his "Peace by all means; the truth at all costs"? Or, as Peter Bouteneff asked, "Is part of what is keeping us apart simply the fear of a greater diversity—not in matters of apostolic faith and practice, but in language and 'culture?'"³ In this way, the words of Phillip Kayser are also pertinent: "The modern church wants nice conversation, not debate. It wants opinions to be freely stated, but no opinion to be called false. The word *heresy* has ironically become heresy. Church discipline is castigated."⁴

The solution is not simple, but it is mandatory. We need to spend more time in God's Word, digging deeper into what unites us in Jesus Christ. As Mark Finley said, "The unity of the New Testament church was based on a common commitment to Jesus' revealed truth."⁵ It is only through the process of (re)discovering God's revealed truth that we can stay together, united and strong.

Our desire is to see our churches resonate with the symphonies of love. We are convinced that they can be full of grace that unites members in the truth revealed in Christ. Let's act in this way, but not alone. Everything is possible through the power of the Holy Spirit. ■

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



¹ Emphasis mine.

² *Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 30.

³ Peter Bouteneff, *Unity in Diversity: The Opportunities and the Challenges*.

⁴ Phillip Kayser, Pastor of the Covenant Presbyterian Church, Omaha, NE, *God's Call to Separate From False Unity*.

⁵ Mark Finley, "Unity Then and Now," *Ministry Magazine*, March 2017, p. 7.

teen talk

Q: How long should I let a friend cool off before I apologize after an argument?

A: Better early than late.

When apologizing, check your pride at the door. No excuses. Be humble. It's OK to yield when you've wronged someone! "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy" (James 3:17, NKJV).

Make sure you take some time to regroup and figure out what exactly you're going to say. Here are some tips:

- Write out your apology and rehearse it.
- Choose a good time to do it, when distractions are not a problem.
- Empathize with your friend. How would you feel if you were in his/her shoes?
- Tell your friend exactly what you are sorry about.
- Give him/her time to process. Be patient with your friend's reaction if it is not what you expected ■



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

Creation Corner for Kids

And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.—Luke 22:19, NKJV

Ants



Ants may be smarter than we know. Scientists took some ants and painted blue dots near their mouths. The ants with blue dots went about their business and seemed unaware of the paint spots on their faces. But when the painted ants were put with unpainted ants, the unpainted ants behaved differently. They threatened the blue-dotted ants and didn't accept them.

The scientists then put the blue-dotted ants into a room with a mirror. The ants did not threaten the ant they saw in the mirror, as the unpainted ants had done. Surprisingly, the ants seemed to recognize that the mirror showed a picture of themselves. After seeing an image of themselves, the blue-dotted ants cleaned their faces, trying to remove the blue dot.



Think about it.

The Bible uses symbols to help us see a clear picture of God. One of the symbols Jesus used to teach us about His sacrifice was communion. Long ago, the Roman Church changed the meaning of the communion symbols. Priests taught that Jesus is actually *in* the bread and the wine and that the priests sacrifice Jesus each time they offer communion. Ulrich Zwingli, a priest in Switzerland, said that was wrong. He said that the bread and wine are just symbols to remind us of what Jesus did to save us. Like the ants, the Swiss reformer Zwingli recognized the difference between the real Jesus and symbols God used to teach about Him.

Do it!

What other symbols does the Bible use to teach about God and salvation? Make a list. Here are some scriptures to help you get started: John 1:29, 7:38, 39; Revelation 5:5; Mark 1:10, 15:17; Isaiah 13:12.



Tammie Burak and her family enjoy studying and learning from God's creation. You can contact her at tammie.burak@gmail.com.



Your donations make this Possible



Jayda Burton graduated as valedictorian of her Grade 12 class at Crawford Adventist Academy in Toronto, Ont., this past June.



Laura Kaye Reyes graduated as valedictorian of her Grade 12 class at Fraser Valley Adventist Academy in Aldergrove, B.C.

FOR THE 2017/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR, Burman University has awarded more than \$1.2 million in scholarships to graduating high school students from our Canadian academies. The scholarships are distributed over four years with renewability expectations in hopes that it will aid students in their post-secondary studies. Jayda Burton and Laura Kaye Reyes are two individuals who received scholarships for their studies at Burman University.

Jayda Burton graduated as valedictorian of her Grade 12 class at Crawford Adventist Academy (CAA) in Toronto, Ont., this past June. She received \$36,000 in scholarships for her exemplary academics, as well as her involvement in extracurricular activities. During her time at Crawford, she was involved in different capacities of student leadership, athletics, and music. In addition to her involvement in activities at school, she was also involved in opportunities outside of school, such as the Bob Rumball Centre for the Deaf, where she learned sign language.

Jayda has joined the Burman family as a biology major, focusing on the biomedical track. "During [UExperience], I decided I wanted to go to Burman," she explains. "I liked the atmosphere when I visited and could see myself fitting in easily. I like the small size of the university because then I can connect with other students and the professors rather than being just a number at a larger university." Jayda looks forward to making new friends from different cities this year, hoping to form friendships that will last a lifetime.

Laura Kaye Reyes graduated as valedictorian of her Grade 12 class at Fraser Valley Adventist Academy (FVAA) in Aldergrove, B.C. She received \$32,000 in scholarships for her outstanding academics, as well as her involvement in extracurricular activities. During her time at FVAA, Laura Kaye was thoroughly involved in student leadership as class president and student association officer, athletics as the senior girls' volleyball team captain, and music as a leader in band and praise team.

Laura Kaye has joined us on campus and is taking the biomedical track in biology. "My high school has helped me develop a passion for leadership, and at Burman University, I certainly see myself continuing to thrive in various clubs and organizations," she says. "Burman University has Christ-centered education and environment, which was the main thing I prioritized when choosing a university. The family atmosphere there is like no other!" She looks forward to getting a fresh start, as well as experiencing dorm life with her friends.

Burman University scholarships are possible largely because of our alumni and friends who continue to give back to this institution. Burman University is grateful to all of our donors who make it possible for our campus to welcome outstanding students like Jayda and Laura Kaye. Your contribution to our yearly scholarships make Christian education possible for all students. We are excited to have Jayda and Laura Kaye, as well as the rest of our first-year students, on campus for the 2017/2018 academic year. ■

Kryzia Abacan is the communications coordinator for Burman University.

Ready? Or Not?

Southern
Hospital & Medical
← Main Entrance

← EMERGENCY

← Medical Office Bldg

I was sitting in my Grade 11 accounting class at Kingsway as my older brother, Stephen, was en route to pick up my grandfather and take him to a doctor's appointment. Travelling toward Oma and Opa's¹ condo in Pickering, he heard sirens wailing and getting louder. As the flashing lights flew by, the thought flashed through my brother's mind that perhaps the emergency involved Opa, but Stephen quickly dismissed the idea. Until he pulled into the condo parking lot and saw the ambulance parked at the lobby entrance.

He parked, went inside, rode the elevator to the fourth floor—and his heart stopped when the doors parted. The paramedics were tending to our Opa right in the condo doorway.

Back in my classroom, a knock sounded at the door, and I was summoned to the office for an important phone call. I was surprised to hear my brother's choked voice on the other end.

Opa, our mother's father, had died at age 69 of a massive heart attack. The paramedics revived him just long enough to get him out of the building, so that Oma would not have to live where her husband had died.

What happened next is a blur, except that I somehow got to the hospital, where

I met Stephen, and, together, we made the phone call to our parents, who were vacationing in Vermont. I will never forget the heartbreak in my mom's voice.

The following months were so difficult, especially for my mother. As the eldest and the only one living nearby, she was launched into the role of family CFO.² My aunts travelled from their distant homes in the United States to attend the funeral and help, but the bulk of settling Opa's affairs was ultimately left to my mom.

Oma, Opa's named executor, had not so much as written a cheque in their entire married life. His was the old-school way of thinking—the husband takes care of the family finances. Opa's system of keeping files was to keep all the bills and documents in their original envelopes, put a rubber band around them and store them in drawers and boxes. There was no list of investments and no files marked as important documents.

Months after Opa's death, a notification came from the bank informing us that Opa had an investment that was sitting dormant in an account, awaiting instructions. A forgotten insurance policy was uncovered by opening every envelope and painstakingly sorting Opa's document cache. This process was very time consuming.

In addition, assets needed to be dealt with to make managing them easier for Oma. To whom should they go for advice and counsel? Oma decided to ask someone she knew who would care—a nephew, who was an accountant, gave her the confidence and assistance she needed in finding an investment advisor she could trust.

What if this responsibility was thrust upon you after being blindsided by the sudden death of your spouse, parent, grandparent? Is this what you want to leave for your spouse, children, grandchildren?

Are you the CFO of your household? Do your spouse or children know where to find everything? There are websites designed to help you, and most financial institutions and insurance companies have forms that will help you keep track of your finances and related information.

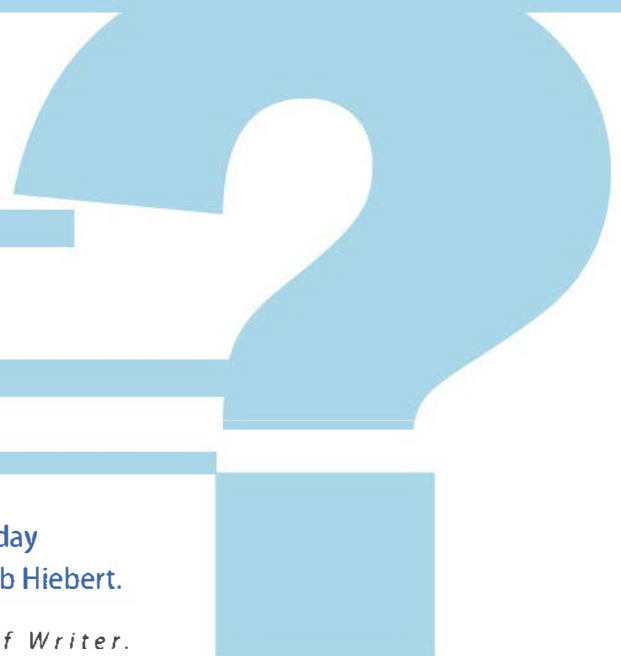
Just as insurance is important to have in place in case of an unexpected tragedy, have you prepared your family to handle the finances if they suddenly must? Are you ready? Or not? ■

Leah Keys writes from Newcastle, Ont.

¹ *Oma* and *Opa* are the Dutch words for grandma and grandpa, respectively.

² Chief Financial Officer

Where Are They Now



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

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



Judy and Jacob Hiebert

Messenger: *Tell me about your childhood.*

Jacob Hiebert: I was born in Halbstadt, Ukraine, a German Mennonite village. My ancestors were Mennonites who had originated from Holland and moved to northern Germany to avoid religious persecution. From Germany they moved to homesteads in the Ukraine and remained there during times of peace until the beginning of communism in the Soviet Union. With communism, things changed considerably. My grandfather had three farms, which he intended to pass on to his son (my father), but the Russians took everything that he had worked for and left him destitute. This and the loss of freedom to secure a livelihood and worship God according to the dictates of one's conscience caused his death at the early age of 45.

From there on everything changed drastically. Many decided to leave and immigrate to Canada, the United States, or South America. In order to be accepted by Canada or the United States, individuals were required to pass a perfect-health test as well as secure the signature of a relative in these countries who would be willing to support them for the first year if the need arose, as well as the signature of a person willing to provide employment for the first year. My paternal grandmother and aunt were able to leave for Ontario, but our family was not able to secure the necessary papers before the Soviet Union closed the borders for all further immigration.

M: *What was it like living through the war?*

J: It was God's direct intervention that brought us through the years of World War II. We were refugees during most of this time, staying wherever we could find shelter. We would never know one day to the next what our fate would be. Hunger was part of life. A common

diet was a thin soup consisting mostly of water, turnips, edible weeds, and mushrooms, if we could find them along the road. To this day, turnips are not very appealing to me. The fighting was intense, and often we were caught in the middle of it, with bombs falling very close to where we were. Those years brought us closer to God. Jesus is very precious to me.

M: *What brought you to Canada?*

J: My father was a minister, and since religious freedom was not permitted after the entrance of communism, he decided to devise a plan whereby our family could escape and move to Canada, so we could serve the Lord in a land where freedom still existed. This escape had to be well-planned, since it took place during World War II and involved travelling through the Ukraine, Poland, and East Germany, where the fighting was at its height. If we were caught, our fate could be to be sent to Siberia to a prison camp or be shot on the spot. Our escape involved months of mostly walking, since public transportation was neither available nor advisable under the circumstances. I was six years old when we finally crossed the West German border to freedom. We stayed in West Germany for several years until we could locate my grandmother in Ontario as well as secure the necessary papers that would permit us to enter Canada.

In June 1949 we received our clearance to immigrate to Canada. We were so thankful to God for protecting us during the many months of our escape and the privilege of starting a new life in this beautiful country of freedom. Now I had to learn a new language. I was in Grade 4, but since I did not know one word of English, the teacher put me back into Grade 1. It was a bit embarrassing, but I soon picked up the new language. From there on I finished two years of school in each of the next four years until I was caught up to where I should have been.

M: *Tell me about your educational background.*

J: After coming to Canada, I completed my elementary education in a public school setting of Grades 1–8 in a one-room school. Following this, I attended Oshawa Missionary College (now Kingsway College) for two years. The next few years were spent working for various industries in Kitchener, Ont., which provided funds to purchase a successful farming operation near Stratford, Ont. My desire had always been to study for the ministry and work for the furtherance of God’s kingdom.

Now that I was better established financially, I decided to sell our farming operation and go back to school and train for the ministry. I was now married with a growing family. There were challenges, but it was clear to me that God was leading. I attended Andrews University and later moved to Canadian Union College, where I graduated with a Bachelor of Theology degree. Later I returned to Andrews University and earned a

Master of Divinity degree. I also earned a degree in business administration from Atlantic Union College. I thank the Lord for Christian education and have always been a strong supporter of it in my ministry.

M: *Where and in what positions have you served the church?*

J: I received my first call to the ministry from Tony Kaytor, former president of the Alberta Conference, and served the Beiseker, Acme, Drumheller, and the Calgary German churches. Then Red Deer, Olds, and later Ponoka churches. Kaytor was later the BC Conference president, and I was called to serve Williams Lake, Lac La Hache, and Quesnel churches.

It was then off to Ontario as pastor of Kitchener, Cambridge, and Guelph churches. After 13 years in ministry, Bill Morgan, then the president of the Ontario Conference, called me in 1983 to serve as corporation treasurer, risk manager, and development. In 1987 it was back to B.C. serving in basically the same portfolio. I then served as secretary-treasurer for the Newfoundland Conference for four and a half years followed by administrator of the Kennebec Nursing Home in the Maritimes.

My final call was to the Ontario Conference serving for nine years as risk manager, trust and stewardship director, director of senior housing, and later vice-president of administration. Judy has been a constant support in ministry and also served the church as director of food services at Hope, B.C., and as an administrative secretary in Ontario and the SDACC.

M: *Tell me about your family.*

J: Our four children are close enough that we can see each of them within a day’s drive of our home. Juanita Stedmon (Paul—a chef and IT specialist) is a department manager in a pharmacy and lives in Sooke, B.C. David (Keri), both dentists, live in Portland, Ore. Heidi Jones (Dustin—marketing and communications specialist) is a teacher and chaplain and lives in Kalispell, Mont. Tammy Molina (Josue—pastor of the Creston-Cranbrook churches), is in charge of the social work department of the Cranbrook hospital, and live in Cranbrook, B.C. We have five grandchildren.

M: *Where are you now?*

J: My wife, Judy, and I live in the beautiful town of Creston, B.C., where the Lord has blessed us with a big garden and health for each day. We praise Him for His goodness and look forward to His second coming. Until then, we will witness for Him as opportunities present themselves, having the full assurance that “nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us.”¹ ■

¹ Ellen G. White, *Selected Messages*, book 3, p. 162.

Ardent supporters see exciting changes ahead



New ABW board member Stu MacPhail of Red Deer, Alta., was glad to meet this child during a Kenyan trip in 2015.



Ray Loxdale and his wife, Kelly, are longtime supporters of A Better World Canada.

One man worked for the world's largest aerospace company, the other within Alberta's energy sector for 25 years. Both desire to see A Better World Canada (ABW) grow its support and influence across the nation.

Ray Loxdale of Halifax, N.S., and Stu MacPhail of Red Deer, Alta., are longtime volunteers who are part of a newly appointed board bringing forth a change of governance—from the local church board to a broad-based representation including members from the community.

Loxdale, a retired electrical electronics engineer who formerly worked for Boeing, and MacPhail, who most recently was Parkland Fuel Corporation's executive vice-president of corporate development, are both experienced in governance. They're both keen on promoting ABW. They're also big supporters of youth involvement.

"To me it's about positioning A Better World Canada to be viewed as one of the most highly respected and regarded international development organizations in Canada," said MacPhail.

In 2004, MacPhail began managing several Kenyan projects and eventually started overseeing and sponsoring deep water well projects over there. "The people who support and invest in our projects are becoming more and more advocates for what we do," said MacPhail, now semiretired. "I think that's the primary driver of how we're going to continue to grow."

Loxdale would like to ensure ABW's focus going forward isn't too far-reaching. "I think any organization has to do some things well and not be so broad that we don't do a good job at any one thing," said Loxdale, who started volunteering with ABW in 2003.

MacPhail encouraged anyone from the Seventh-day Adventist Church to get in touch with the board, other volunteers, and check out the website. "Just learn more about the story," he said. "I think a great way to get involved is to travel, take a trip. Come to Kenya, Rwanda, and Tanzania and see what ABW is doing."

Canadians from all walks of life have travelled on humanitarian trips. Loxdale remembers when he took his first trip to Kenya with ABW back in 2003. It was life changing. "I was so motivated by what I saw and the work that was being done," said Loxdale, a member of Halifax Seventh-day Adventist Church. "I just knew that it was something I needed to be a part of. It's been so good and rewarding for me." He was especially pleased to see his wife and children so immersed in the experience.

Loxdale, 58, has led a couple of youth trips, a real favourite for him. Both men believe it's important to get youth engaged early and to learn from them as well. Developing leaders is important, as the current leadership is getting older, added MacPhail.

Their board appointments are for one year, with the possibility for extension. MacPhail wanted to be on the board because "there's still significant opportunity for A Better World to do more and do it better." "We can set ourselves up for a more sustainable future. We're not getting younger, so to be able to play a role in moving A Better World to that next chapter is pretty interesting." ■

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

Communicating Faith through technology



It is hard to believe that the iPhone is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year. In such a short time, the basic cellular phone has evolved into a small portable computer that allows you to complete thousands of tasks with your fingertips. The advent of the iPhone has changed the landscape of commerce, computerization, social networking, and much more. It has also revolutionized how the church practises ministry. Here are a few ways your church could be using a phone to serve the ministry of your congregation.

You can live-stream your worship service.

If you don't have the church budget to purchase a professional video suite, you have nothing to worry about. Today you can use your phone to broadcast your worship service to shut-ins, members who are sick, and members who are travelling. Many visitors will also watch your service online before they ever step into the church. One Sabbath a woman walked up to me and gave me a great big hug. I didn't recognize her. She said, "I am so happy to see you in person!" She later informed me that she had been watching my sermons from the comfort of her home before she ever attended church in person. Resources: Facebook Live, YouTube Live, Meerkat, Periscope, Livestream.

You can collect offering.

If you have any chance of collecting an offering from the next generation, you will need to adapt to their collection patterns. Most Millennials (52 percent) have never written a paper cheque before. So what do you do when the offering plate is empty? Some suggestions include a credit/debit card kiosk or crowdsource funding for special projects. More and more churches are accepting apps like Square, which involves a small square-shaped device attached to a phone or iPad and payments are processed through the phone. Crowdfunding for a project like a new nursery room, or van for the youth group, through GoFundMe can also be processed through a mobile device.

You can invite seekers to text messages.

People are becoming comfortable with text messaging over talking in person. It sounds counterintuitive, but people are often at ease communicating via their phones. I often invite people to send me an SMS message directly to my phone indicating they want to learn more about Jesus. This gives me permission to call them after worship service and request a follow-up visit. I have found this method is now more popular than an old-fashioned altar call.¹ ■

Kumar Dixit is the WGTS 91.9 chaplain. You can receive his weekly devotional at OneMinuteDevotional.com.

¹ I still use an old-fashioned altar call in certain settings. There are still times where it is effective.



Students harvesting casava, grown as part of the school-feeding program at Boroli Primary School.

ADRA in Boroli

“My teachers used to struggle to keep children in school. Around noon they would escape through windows to look for something to eat. The remaining few children would either doze off during afternoon lessons or were totally absentminded because they were learning on an empty stomach.”

These are the words of Mr. Faustina, the headmaster of Boroli Primary School in the Adjumani District of Uganda.

Many of the students at Boroli are impoverished refugees from neighbouring South Sudan. But when the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) initiated the school-feeding program at Boroli along with five other schools from the Adjumani district—everything changed for the better! Student enrolment and retention in the classroom both increased by 20 percent and 80 percent, respectively. ADRA’s project at Boroli has been a huge success!

It’s also amazing to see how much the local community has united behind ADRA’s efforts.

For example, the School Management Committee and teachers have taken an active role in implementing the school-feeding program.

The Parents and Teachers’ Association has encouraged parents to keep their children in school.

In fact, many of the parents have even gone a step further by planting crops for the school-feeding program around the Boroli campus. It’s so much easier for their kids to stay in school when lunch is provided!

This renewed engagement by the parents has allowed them to participate in other issues of concern in their community as well, such as clean water and sanitation. Many of the parents have become engaged in water committees, which ensure that the water facilities are safe and functional. The parents’ capacity has been built substantially; parents can now improve sanitation both at Boroli Primary School and in their personal homes!

“Before ADRA installed the water systems, we had some cases of typhoid,

but ever since the establishment of the water system, we have not had any typhoid outbreaks. We attribute this to ADRA’s intervention,” says Zema Dominic Savior, the head teacher at Miniki Primary School.

The solar-powered water system has not only solved the water problems in the community but has also enabled the schools to establish the school kitchen gardens that have improved nutrition for the students.

Thank you for your continued support to ADRA. Your contribution and prayers have enabled ADRA to represent Jesus and His church to children in poverty and distress. Through ADRA, God’s love and compassion is demonstrated. ■

Charles Ed H Aguilar is a pastor from British Columbia now serving ADRA International as country director for Uganda.

Every Church and Home, a House of Prayer

When Solomon finished building the temple, dedicated it and offered sacrifices, God's glory filled it. Then Solomon gives a dedicatory praise recounting God's goodness in 2 Chronicles 6:1–14 (full story in 2 Chron. 5, 6).

Solomon's intercessory prayer in 6:15–41 claims God's promises and appeals to His faithfulness, grace, and power to forgive and heal. Our prayers should reflect a similar vein. We have no goodness to recommend us to God. But we have the sacrifice of Jesus to claim personally and others.

I love the passage in verses 29–31: "Whatever prayer, whatever cry shall be made by any man, or by all Your people Israel, when everyone shall know his own plague and his own grief, and shall spread forth his hands in this house; then hear from Heaven, Your dwelling-place, and forgive, and give to every man according to all his ways, whose heart You know. For You only know the hearts of the sons of men. Do this so that they may fear You, to walk in Your ways, as long as they live."

The word "whatever" includes any plague, problem, difficulty, sickness, sin, or problems brought by a petitioner to our caring and compassionate heavenly Father. However, Solomon's prayer does not stop there. It continues in verses 32 and 33: "And also to the *stranger who is not of Your people Israel*, but has come from a far country for Your great name's sake, and Your mighty hand, and Your stretched out arm, *if they come and pray in this house*; then hear from Heaven, from Your dwelling-place, and do *according to all that the stranger calls to You for, so that all people of the earth may know Your name, and fear You*, ... and may know that this house which I have built is called by Your name."

Isaiah 56:6, 7, includes everyone: "And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant—*these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; ... for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.*"

Often the place of prayer and worship became polluted by idolatry. In the days of Jesus, the temple became a place of unholy traffic that excluded strangers. It had wall of separation. Jesus was very upset. Mark 11:17 states, "And he was teaching them and saying to them, 'Is it not written, *My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations?* But you have made it a den of robbers.'"

In the Old Testament, prayers were offered in and toward the temple. Yet it was understood that gracious answers came from God in heaven. In New Testament times, churches are called temples (see 1 Cor. 3:16, 17). In a sense, each church becomes a "house of prayer" both for the people of God and for all people. For all who begin to show interest in God—reaching after Him—gracious answers, healing, and deliverance come from the "heavenly temple" because of Christ's sacrifice. Where two or three are gathered in Christ's name, there's a house of prayer open to all. May we across Canada grasp this amazing privilege and make it a living reality in every church and home, not only for our good but for the blessings, salvation, and healing that is available to all (see 1 Tim. 2:1–6). ■

Karel Samek is the prayer coordinator for the British Columbia Conference.



barry's blog

"Membership in a religious community is a privilege, not a right."

Supreme Court of Canada to hear Alberta case on whether a former member can sue the Church for his dismissal

Mr. Wall was a member of the Highwood Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses in Alberta. He was disfellowshipped by a judicial committee of elders because he was not sufficiently repentant for two incidents of drunkenness, one of which included verbal abuse of his wife. He was shunned by the congregation. As a real estate agent, he lost congregation members and other Jehovah's Witnesses as clients. He appealed to internal church authorities for reconsideration but failed.

Then he decided to go to the regular law courts for compensation for his alleged mistreatment by the church. Justice Wilson of the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta ruled that the court had jurisdiction to hear Mr. Wall's application for judicial review. The church lost its appeal at the Alberta Court of Appeal and has now appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada.

The Alberta Court of Appeal (ABCA) decision raises a number of questions that have to be resolved. Generally speaking, courts have been loathed to get involved in church disputes. Courts have no expertise in dealing with theological matters that are often the underlying cause of why members of a church are asked (or told) to leave. Imagine a court discussing topics like the doctrine of the trinity or the process of salvation. Such matters are not part of the law school curriculum. The point is a court is incompetent in dealing with religious disputes.

The majority of the ABCA decided that the courts have jurisdiction over procedural matters—basically ensuring that the parties were treated fairly. In law, we call it issues of "natural justice." That is to say, the law protects people in organizations to the extent that the organization's own internal rules of procedure

were properly followed. There is a reasonable argument to be made for that position. However, a church is not a public body that should be subject to judicial review.

The ABCA was also of the view that a church could be sued for the economic loss a member incurred as a result of expulsion. This is new ground for Canadian law—new ground for any law of a Western democracy. Membership in a religious community is voluntary. No one is forced to stay. If a person is no longer willing to abide by the teachings, then they are free to go and make their way elsewhere. If that person limited his business to only those within the church community and subsequently finds that none of his former co-religionists will do business with him, that is not the congregation's responsibility. He took that risk himself when he so limited his business.

Religious communities have been immune from litigation of former members who were asked to leave. Membership in a religious community is privilege, not a right. Allowing courts jurisdiction to hear judicial review applications of such matters will entangle the court unnecessarily in the internal affairs of religion. If a court is granted the right to hear such a review, it is then able to grant orders of relief against the religious community for making religious decisions about membership. The law has no business there.

The SCC is scheduled to hold its hearing on Nov. 2, 2017. ■

Barry W. Bussey is director of Legal Affairs at Canadian Council of Christian Charities. His opinions are his own and do not necessarily reflect those of his employer. He blogs at lawandreligion.org.

Case name: Re: Wall v. Judicial Committee of the Highwood Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, 2016 ABCA 255 (37273) (Wall Case)
 Supreme Court of Canada Docket File: www.scc-csc.ca/case-dossier/info/dock-regi-eng.aspx?cas=37273
 Alberta Court of Appeal Decision: www.canlii.org/en/ab/abca/doc/2016/2016abca255/2016abca255.html

One Year

—Three Majors

I went into university having no clue about what I was doing with my life. I didn't like settling on just one thing, because it felt too decisive, while simultaneously wanting to settle on something to be decisive. The first quarter of my first year, I was a humanities major and (after two months) knew that it wasn't a good fit. So I switched to an education major, and let's just say education wasn't what I wanted to do either.

Back in Grade 11, I had had very different plans for my life. I wanted to go to Emily Carr University in Vancouver, B.C. It's an art school and one that can be challenging to get into, at that. But enter Grade 12, and I didn't even bother to apply. I loved art, but it couldn't be a career. I got told that art is a "really good hobby." And that's great! It is a fantastic hobby! But it was ingrained in my head that art was nothing more than a pastime.

So, there I was. Wanting to switch out of my education major to something I enjoyed. The only thing I could think of was art. That was the one thing that made me feel calm. I drew. I spent nights far past midnight painting. I found inspiration in almost anything. My friends knew I always had a sketchbook with me, because you never know when a moment will strike you to just create.

Inevitably, within a week of my third quarter, I changed my major to art. I was scared, because there's always a fear of the unknown. But I was also sure. Sure because I felt like I could be myself again, and I could actually embrace who I was. Proverbs 16:3 outlines how I felt perfectly: "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans." It was only after a lot of prayer and talking to God that I could make my decision.

I called my parents that day to tell them about the change. I hadn't discussed it with them, because I feared their reaction. Back in Grade 11, my dad had been fairly adamant about my not being an art major because of a lack of job opportunities. But with the help of my a few websites and a couple hours of research, I found possibilities. And without God, I don't think I would have been brave enough to make these decisions. He helped me to learn about art and occupational therapy, which combined two things I really feel passionate about: art and helping others. If it's in God's will, I plan to be an art therapist.

Sometimes it's worth it to just go for it and follow your passion. Sometimes it's good for you. Waking up in the morning and wanting to go to class because you're doing something you love is worth every second of extra work or late night. Art does this for me. And whatever your passion is, let yourself embrace it. Find a way to make it a career. Find yourself in what you do. And most importantly, pray about it.

I had three different majors within my first year of university. And, as the cliché says, third time's the charm. ■

Jordyn Boonstra is a British Columbian millennial studying at Walla Walla University.



Photo: Keith Chant

Almost vegan

Labour Day long weekend for us means canning. We do spaghetti sauce, salsa, and occasionally some other preserves. Our favourite to prepare and then enjoy throughout the year is our salsa. We enjoy it with tortilla chips and guacamole, and we put it in burritos and tacos and anywhere else salsa is needed.

This recipe requires a large 14-quart or larger stockpot. We recommend one with a heavy bottom for even heat distribution and reduced risk of sticking and burning. We usually double the recipe, and it is just enough to last us until next Labour Day. ■

Keith and Cheryl Chant, along with their son Ben, enjoy baking, cooking, and experimenting with flavours and recipes.

Picante Salsa

INGREDIENTS:

- 13½ lbs ripe tomatoes, peeled/cored
- 9 green or red chillies, seeds removed
- 9–18 jalapeños, seeds removed
- 3 large Spanish onions
- 3 large green peppers
- 3 medium red peppers
- 7 cloves garlic
- 3 cans tomato paste
- 2¼ cups (560 ml) white vinegar
- ¾ cups (185 ml) brown sugar, packed
- 3 Tbsp (45 ml) coarse pickling salt
- 2 Tbsp (30 ml) paprika

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Dice first seven ingredients and place in large pot. Add remaining ingredients. Heat on medium, uncovered, stirring occasionally, until boiling.
- Reduce heat. Simmer, stirring regularly, for 60 minutes.
- Near end of cooking, taste for desired level of heat, and add more jalapeño peppers as desired. (Note: heat will mellow slightly after canning.)
- Just before putting salsa into jars, bring to a full, rolling boil for five minutes, stirring frequently.
- Fill hot, sterilized jars to within half-inch of top. Seal. Process in water bath for 10 minutes.
- Makes approximately 10 quarts.

Costco Employee Tunes in to VOAR

When it was my turn at the checkout, I diligently handed my card to the young Costco employee. We chitchatted for a few moments, and then he glanced at the card in his hand. "Oh, you're with VOAR Radio," he said. "Isn't that the one that was just approved to go FM here in the local area?"

"Yes, that's right," I answered, smiling even wider.

"Yah, I saw the piece about your upgrade on the news. I checked it out. It's not half bad. I was expecting rocking-chair music, but it was actually cool. And who's that funny dude on in the mornings?" To be honest, I was hoping he wasn't referring to me, when he said, "Ken somebody?"

"Oh," I answered, "That's Ken Davis. His show is called *Lighten Up*. What do you think of it?"

"He's a riot. It makes your morning. I've been listening all week. Well, good luck with going FM. I've already told my mother that she'll be able to tune in soon in her area. She goes to church, but I don't. I suppose you don't mind if some of us non-church-goers tune in, do yah?" he asked with a grin.

"Not in the least!" I answered. . . . *Not . . . the least of these.*

I'm always awed to watch God in action and see the Holy

Spirit work through Christian radio. It doesn't matter if it's a non-church-going complete stranger at Costco who's been listening for only a week, or one of our long-time listeners calling for a prayer request. Christ is there for each one—standing and knocking. Each life counts.

Our FM project will see VOAR's reach grow by 49 percent in the metro area. Would you kindly keep us lifted in prayer, so that Christ will continue to draw people to Him through the ministry of Voice of Adventist Radio (VOAR)?

Matthew 28:18–20: Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (NIV). ■

Sherry Griffin is the station manager for VOAR.



Rebecque Johnson

ON THE
ROAD WITH

Becky IN BEIRUT, LEBANON.

What does love look like?

Randa Abader: Love looks like someone who invites you to a sacred place ... [a] promised land ... the best place in the world, whatever you want to call it. It is this great invitation that you cannot help but follow, because it just makes sense.

Memory Cox: Love looks like my mother's lovely face.

Sylvain Asmaris: A humble human being ...

"I want nothing but the pure gospel of the Bible for my people."

We Have Waited So Long



I have many friends who have asked why I am a Christian, a Seventh-day Adventist Christian. And how did I get there?

I was born in Ladysmith, B.C., on Vancouver Island in 1955. My early years were spent in a beautiful place called Elliott's Point on Shell Beach Reserve.

My grandfather did everything he could to denounce that he was Native from the Chemainus Tribe, and my Father was forbidden to teach me our native language because he was told it was the devil's language. Native people were not even allowed to vote then. My grandmother spent 14 years in residential school. Her son Edmond also spent time in residential school, and he took his own life after coming out. It felt as if the government and organized religion did everything they could to destroy Native peoples. Many Native people are now seeking healing—mental, emotional, spiritual, and physical.

My mother joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church when I was around seven years old with her sister, Noreen. I remember riding in a big black car to church in Nanaimo. Alice Gildersleeve would drive two hours one way to pick us up for church. But it was very hard for Mom with so much opposition from Dad and the rest of the family that she decided to give up church. We had no power, no running water, or phone, so no way to reach Mrs. Gildersleeve. One day she showed up to take us to church, and Mom told her not to bother coming anymore because it was too much hassle, but Mrs. Gildersleeve said, "Nonsense, dear, we are going to church," and away we went.

My mom kept praying for my brothers and me when we got older and went out Friday nights instead of church. I remember just having to sit still and be quiet in church, and that was very hard for me. I do remember hearing about Jesus, but I did not know Him yet. I was struggling with an angry alcoholic father in our home and often did not feel safe and struggling with what the kind people in the church were trying to teach me.

A blessing was that even when I tried to drink, the alcohol would not stay in me. And drugs were not an option,

because of what I had witnessed at an early age.

Years later I knew things weren't right; I had no peace inside. I was only sleeping one or two hours a night, and at that time in my life, I did not want to live.

A miracle happened when my dad gave his heart to the Lord. He became a dad to me for the first time. I reached out to him for help. He talked to my aunt, and the best way they thought to help me was to enroll me in Tillicum Haus Native College for Counsellor Training. I took a two-year Drug and Alcohol Counsellor training program and Family Violence and Sexual Abuse counsellor training. When I started, I knew this is what I needed to heal mentally and emotionally. I worked for about eight years in mental health offices and treatment centres in different First Nations communities.

I went back to fishing and falling for awhile. I was moving to Alaska to fish king crab when I met my now wife, Cheryl. My dad became very ill and passed away during this time, and I remember him pleading with me to come back to God just before he passed. My mom continued to pray for me when I was interested in Native Hope Prophecy and end times. She invited us to a Revelation seminar, and we both went to every meeting and were married and baptized in Nanaimo by Pastor Dave Baker.

We were both active in the Nanaimo church, but one day our new pastor, Ken Naidoo, presented a sermon [in which] he asked if we loved Jesus, and I remember saying yes in my heart. A Voice inside clearly said, "Do you really love Jesus?" and I said, "I must, because I'm in church." One more time I was asked, "Do you really love Jesus?" Then I stopped and looked in my heart and realized that I didn't know how to love yet. So my prayer was, *Lord help me to love*. And my life has never been the same.

After serving as elder in the Nanaimo church, we received a call from one of the elders in Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw SDA Church to serve as their pastor. After much prayer and disbelief, we accepted the call to Port Hardy because we knew



Dave Baker baptizing Randy at the Nanaimo Adventist Church in Nanaimo, B.C.

this was God's plan. We served there for seven years and were adopted into the Nakwaxda'xw Tribe. My Native name is Miakala (Respected One), and my wife's name is Miakalee (Respected); this was an honour. I thought that's where the Lord would leave us until He came. Our prayers are with the people that they will continue to follow Jesus.

One day in January 2017, I received a call from the head elder in Sioux Lookout, Ont., expressing a need for me to work with a number of tribes in northern Ontario. The dedicated church company in Sioux Lookout had been praying for someone to work with them who could help reach more First Nations people. After we came for a visit to meet the group, we accepted the call to come here.

I cannot count how many times I have been asked, "Why did you leave the mountains and the coast?"

To me that's easy: "God called."

One reason I'm a Seventh-day Adventist Christian is that the cruel god behind the residential schools changed God's original seventh-day Sabbath to Sunday, and I do not want anything to do with a god that can harm His people and think to change His laws or distract us from the gospel of Jesus Christ. So I want nothing but the pure gospel of the Bible for my people.

We have an important last-day message for First Nations people and the world, in Revelation 14:6-13, the three angels' messages. Ellen White writes, in volume 9 of *Testimonies for the Church*, page 19, "In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to adsorb their attention."

There is nothing else to add to the gospel, no right arm or add-ons. We are to keep His Commandments, proclaim the three angels' messages, and keep our faith in Jesus Christ.

I'm here because God saved my life and I can't imagine being anywhere else but in His service. We are looking forward to His plan for Sioux Lookout and surrounding areas. Please pray for our ministry to First Nations people. ■

Randy Elliott is pastor of Sioux Lookout Adventist Group, in Sioux Lookout, Ont.



The Cessna 185 purchased for the Sioux Lookout Project.



An aerial view of the northern community of Pikangikum, Ont.

Sioux Lookout

A Grassroots Mission in Northern Ontario Takes Flight

“Come. That is the call.

It is an invitation not only from Chief Bull,

but from the Chief of all nations—our Creator God.”

In 2006 a young Adventist doctor named Michael Kirlaw had just finished his residency in Ottawa. He had studied family medicine with an emphasis on indigenous issues, and was heading to Moose Factory, Ont., to work with the indigenous populations there. But he unexpectedly found himself reassigned to a place with fewer doctors and greater need: Sioux Lookout, Ont.—a place he and his family had never heard of before.

Sioux Lookout is a small town in northern Ontario. It borders the First Nations communities of Frenchman’s Head, Keijick Bay, and Whitefish Bay, which belong to the Lac Seul First Nation. For the next few years, Dr. Kirlaw travelled between Ottawa and Sioux Lookout, often sharing with his family and community the healthcare and socioeconomic challenges these northern First Nations communities faced. After a time his wife, Yolaine, and his young daughter came with him on his trips north. The family sensed a pull to the region, recognizing that here was an opportunity to positively impact people and share their faith. So in 2010, they made a permanent move north.

The Kirlaws built friendships and formed relationships in the community, and their home became a meeting place for native and non-native friends alike. One day a neighbour mentioned that

there was a couple in town they thought might be Adventist. “They close their store on Saturdays,” the neighbour said. That was how the Kirlaws got to know about Collin and Maritza Pienaar, a young Adventist family running a pharmacy in town. Around the same time another friend mentioned that a man working at the local jail might also be Adventist. Soon the Kirlaws and the Pienaaers were connected with Jarret and Chantal Falkingham.

Others were added to the group. Pastor Edward Dunn, Native Ministries coordinator for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, helped bring a young man named Lloyd Douglas and his wife, Lisa, to the area, where Lloyd served first as a Bible Worker and later as a doctor. Lloyd encouraged his friend Garth Geddes to come with his wife, Lisa Ann. Roselyn Heavens-Worrell also came, sharing her skills as a teacher.

Kim Rhone had heard of Sioux Lookout from the reports the Kirlaws shared and felt a strong pull to the region, but her husband, Nick, was hesitant. Still, he made a few calls to see if there were any positions available there in his field. He was assured there weren’t. Feeling safe, he struck a bargain with God. If God would put certain things in place, including giving him a job in Sioux Lookout, he would go. To his amazement, within four days of

his bargain, he received a call—a position had suddenly opened up. For Kim this was confirmation of God’s calling. Three months later the Rhones left their home in Ottawa and moved north.

And so began a small nucleus of young Adventists that God drew to Sioux Lookout, each bringing unique talents and skills. The group met as a home church and began to coordinate efforts to reach out. They asked the First Nations communities about their needs. The leaders of the communities expressed a desire for something to be done for their youth, particularly for their spiritual training. So beginning in 2013, the group put on a VBS program in all three Lac Seul communities. For years, the communities had tried to establish a Cadet program for their youth, but lacked certain requirements including the involvement of a commissioned military officer. Nick was just such an officer, so when he came, he worked with Clifford Bull, Chief of the Lac Seul community, to launch the program.

So there they were: doctors, nurses, social workers, pharmacists, health care managers, corrections officers, council members, stay-at-home moms, teachers, and Bible workers—a diverse group of young Adventists who wanted to make a difference. The group suffered challenges and setbacks, yet the love for the First



L to R.—Mansfield Edwards, president, Ontario Conference; Clifford Bull, Chief of the Lac Seul community; and Randy Elliott, pastor, Sioux Lookout Adventist Group.

Nations communities they had come to know motivated them to continue the good work. Whether it was addictions counselling, public advocacy, or simply giving someone in need a ride to the store, they made an impact that was noticed and valued.

Still, something was missing. The group felt they needed to do more to reach their First Nation neighbours. So they prayed to God for guidance, and the answer came when Randy Elliott, along with his wife, Cheryl, accepted a call to serve as pastor of the Sioux Lookout company.

Pastor Randy, a native from the Chemainus community, was born in Ladysmith, B.C., in 1955 and grew up in Elliott's Point on the Stiehl Beach Reserve. His mother joined the Adventist Church when he was seven. Still, Randy's upbringing was marked by abuse, addiction, and the lingering dark history of the suffering inflicted on his people. His father was a violent alcoholic. His grandmother survived 14 years in residential schools. His uncle, unable to

cope with the trauma he had experienced in those schools, took his own life. Others in his family and community turned to alcohol and drugs to cope with the pain of their past.

For years, Randy experienced in his own heart feelings of worthlessness and despair. But a glimmer of hope came when Randy's father gave his heart to Jesus. The violence and anger that had marked his character disappeared. He experienced the freedom and healing that came to those who surrender their lives to Jesus, and he wanted his son to experience the same. So he persistently pleaded for Randy to come to Christ. For years Randy resisted. Then from his deathbed Randy's father gave one final plea. To appease him, Randy agreed. He didn't intend to keep his promise, but God had other ideas.

Randy's mother noticed that Randy was interested in Native prophecy. So one day she invited him to attend a Revelation seminar. He and his then girlfriend Cheryl went every night and realized that the information presented matched their own understanding. Impressed with the truth of what they were hearing, they

decided to act on the impression. Soon, they were married and baptized by Pastor Dave Baker and became members of the Nanaimo Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Randy and Cheryl worked actively in their church. Then one day, during a sermon, the pastor asked, "Do you love Jesus?" In his heart Randy responded yes, but a strange voice inside asked, *Do you really love Jesus?*

I must... because I'm in church, Randy thought.

But the voice persisted and asked a third time, *Do you really love Jesus?* Randy stopped, searched his heart, and suddenly realized he had not yet learned to love. So he prayed, "Lord, help me to love." From that moment, his life was never the same.

Pastor Randy and Cheryl moved to Sioux Lookout in April 2017. Having learned what it means to love, they desired to share that love with those in the Sioux Lookout and Lac Seul communities, and in the communities beyond. So they immediately began to build on the groundwork that had been done before. They met with Chief Bull, visited the more remote northern community of

Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuq, and made plans to visit other northern communities like Pikangikum, where Pastor Randy will provide support to counsellors who are overwhelmed by their caseloads. Additionally, he and the other members of the Sioux Lookout company will continue to mentor native youth, as well as provide assistance in the construction and staffing of a wellness centre being built for the people of Lac Seul.

Many First Nations communities further north are accessible only by plane, and the cost of flying even short distances is often prohibitive. So this spring the Ontario Conference, along with the Adventist community in Sioux Lookout, began to dream of getting a plane to serve those regions. God was way ahead of them.

Two years earlier Jud Wickwire, Vice-President of Operations at Adventist World Aviation Canada (AWA), had met with some people at Wings of Hope, an organization in the United States that provided affordable planes to organizations doing humanitarian work. They showed him a Cessna 185 on floats and asked if he was interested, but Jud didn't have any

projects that needed a plane at the time. Then this year the Ontario Conference contacted him about the dream for Sioux Lookout. Immediately, he contacted Wings of Hope to ask if the plane was still available and learned that another group was under contract to buy it. Six weeks later he learned that the deal had fallen through, and Wings of Hope agreed to hold it for AWA for \$100,000, well below the US\$220,000 the plane was worth.

On July 29, 2017, the leadership of the Ontario Conference came to Sioux Lookout to officially recognize the group as a company, and to launch the partnership between the conference and AWA. "We are stepping out on faith," Jud said. "We'll need about \$150,000 to get the airplane, to get it equipped, and to get it here to Canada, but you know, that's going to happen." Jud's words began to be realized sooner than anyone could have predicted. In a move that shocked the church, Virlene Meikle, treasurer for the Conference, presented him with a cheque for \$100,000: a gift from a woman who had passed away and left the conference a donation.

On the morning of my departure from Sioux Lookout, I met with Chief Bull, and he shared his story with me. He

told me of a past filled with abuse and brokenness and of how he had turned to alcohol to cope with the pain. But his life changed completely when a minister, who took an interest in him and his wife, patiently worked with him and persistently shared with him the love of Jesus. Chief Bull found deliverance when he surrendered his life to his Creator, and it is an experience he wants his people to share. "Some people have lost their purpose in life. They've lost hope. We need to reinvigorate them, to give them hope. And that's why we need people like yourselves to come and talk to our youth, talk to our parents, talk to our people."

Come. That is the call. It is an invitation not only from Chief Bull, but from the Chief of all nations—our Creator God. His love and concern for His First Nations people is immense. Because of that love, He is placing the right people in the right place at the right time with the right equipment, to finish an important work. Through those who have answered, and will answer that call, He will bring hope to First Nations communities and make His light shine upon His people in the North. ■

Afia Donkor is a writer in Oshawa, Ont.



Dave Schwinghammer, executive secretary, Ontario Conference, instructs the congregation at the Commitment Ceremony recognizing Sioux Lookout as a Company.



“Lord, Give Me One More.”

“Doss’s words rang in Richardson’s head as he was out in the streets of Ottawa.”

Richardson battled through pouring rain to get to the Ottawa French church on Canada Day Sabbath. He had heard of the mission trip to Ottawa several weeks before and decided to participate. But that morning, as he made his way to the church, his heart was very heavy.

He thought of the week that had just passed, a week in which he felt that the enemy was gaining more and more ground in the world. He remembered kneeling in front of his bed, tears streaming down his face, pouring out to God his frustration that Satan seemed to be winning more and more victories while he, Richardson, wasn’t doing much to share the good news with those around him. The sadness oppressed him, and now, outside, on the day of the mission trip, it was pouring rain.

A woman came to the front of the church and announced that before heading out to share literature, the missionaries would break up into small groups and pray. “We are going to pray,” she said, “that if it is His will, God will stop the rain and allow the sun to appear.” When Richardson heard this, he was doubtful. Would praying really change the weather? Still he said, “Lord, I will pray, and if it is your will, maybe it will be done.”

A general hum was heard throughout the sanctuary as voice after voice was lifted in prayer. When the last prayer was said, the congregation began to sing. To Richardson’s astonishment, the rain stopped. And Richardson’s astonishment only grew when he noticed the sun shining through the clouds.

While out on the streets handing out literature, Richardson remembered a film he had recently seen about Desmond Doss, the Adventist medic who served in World War II as a conscientious objector. One phrase that Doss often repeated as he worked to save soldiers wounded in battle was, “Lord, give me one more.” Doss deeply desired to do all he could to save his fellow soldiers. That desire led him to plead again and again with God for the opportunity to help one more soldier.

Doss’s words rang in Richardson’s head as he was out in the streets of Ottawa. He saw himself as a soldier on a mission, and he believed the book *The Great Controversy* was important and powerful book. So each time he shared a copy with someone, he prayed, “Lord, give me one more.”

Richardson shared all the copies of *The Great Controversy* he had, but he noticed that amongst his other teammates many copies of the book remained. So he grabbed them and shared those too, praying each time, “Lord, give me one more.”

Finally, only five or six copies of the book remained. Richardson did not want to return to the church not having shared every last copy, so again he prayed, “Please, Lord, give me another soul. Give me another person.” God answered Richardson’s prayer, and soon, he had shared every last copy there was.

From sadness and defeat, Richardson experienced indescribable joy. God had shown him that even though Satan seemed to be gaining ground with each passing day, He was still in control, He still answered prayer, and He was still able to use those who were willing to be used. ■

Richardson Junior Joseph participated in the GLOW Canada Mission Trip that took place in Ottawa on July 1, 2017.



Lucinda Dixon



MORE THAN A BUILDING

My experience, both attending Adventist schools and working as part of the support staff while my children attended, has given me a perspective on the pros and cons of choosing Adventist education. Initially, I had many of the same reasons I've heard others express: the value of Christian education, smaller class size, high moral standards. While these are still valid points, I find myself asking if there is something more, especially now that I have almost completed my degree and anticipate a career as a teacher. After all, Adventist education does not make sense from a financial perspective. As a student, I can say that Adventist education is expensive. As a teacher, I can say the Adventist system pays considerably less than public systems. Why, then, would I choose Adventist education when it does not demonstrate financial prudence? I initially acknowledged some of the benefits for students, but why would I choose Adventist education as a teacher, recognizing the personal cost to myself and to my family?

I reflected on this question while reading Ellen White's book *Education*. The philosophy articulated there clearly went beyond class size and high moral standards:

Every human being, created in the image of God, is endowed with a power akin to that of the Creator—individuality, power to think and to do It is the work of true education to develop this power, to train the youth to be thinkers, and not mere reflectors of other men's thought. Instead of confining their study to that which men have said or written, let students be directed to the sources of truth, to the vast fields

opened for research in nature and revelation. Let them contemplate the great facts of duty and destiny, and the mind will expand and strengthen.¹

Training youth to be thinkers, directing them to the source of truth, inspiring in them a vision of their duty and destiny—this is the calling of an Adventist teacher. In a world that is fast-paced and uncertain, students need a deeper and broader vision of what it means to succeed. Learning to think for themselves will produce a student who possesses the strength to hold on to a faith that the rest of the world will doubt. This is what motivates me to pursue Adventist education, both for myself and for my future students.

So what about the teachers who find themselves working in systems where religion and faith cannot be spoken of? Adventist education *is* more than a building and goes far beyond curriculum and chalk dust. Every teacher, regardless of his or her work setting, should strive to care for the whole student, to nurture eternal values, to recognize underlying potential, and to teach students to be thinkers. Each teacher a student comes in contact with has the opportunity to interact in a way that demonstrates respect and a willingness to learn alongside his or her students—to celebrate their growth. This is the model of cooperative learning that leads students to be thinkers and not mere outputs of their teacher's thoughts. Wherever the Lord leads me, Adventist education has a philosophy that fits nicely in my back pocket and will travel with me into any system that calls my name. ■

Lucinda Dixon is entering her fourth year in Burman University's Secondary Education program with specializations in both English and Music.

¹ p. 17.

If you are interested in an Adventist Christian education at Kingsway College, contact the enrolment office at admissions@kingswaycollege.on.ca.



Antannia Aguilar

My Kingsway College Experience

It was never a part of my plan. I had gone to a nondenominational Christian school from Grade 1 to Grade 8 in North Carolina. Then most of my classmates and I went to the sister school across the field, from Grade 9 to Grade 11. It was not even a question that I would be graduating from this high school. Yet my plans abruptly changed when I travelled to Oshawa, Ont., to witness my cousins Devaun and J. C. Alleyne graduate from Kingsway College.

I admired how Kingsway's graduation seemed so personal, special, and exciting. I remember commenting to my mother how awesome it would be to experience a graduation like Kingsway's. Little did I know that one comment would change my life so much. When I made the remark, I did not expect anything to happen, but the wheels in my mother's head began to turn, and she began to look into the possibility of me attending Kingsway College. Following my Grade 11 year, it was official: I was going to attend Kingsway College for my senior year of high school. It all seemed to happen so fast.

After a long 17-hour drive, I was officially unpacking my belongings in Buena Vista Hall. When school started, everyone was so friendly to me as the new girl. I did not even have to worry about finding a roommate. When I had visited Kingsway during my Grade 10 year, one of the students already attending Kingsway came up to me; we spoke for a short while, and then she asked me, "Do you love Jesus?" I said I did, and we quickly exchanged information and connected over social media. When I told her I was indeed going to be attending Kingsway, she asked me if I wanted to be her roommate, and I immediately said yes. My forever friend and, at the time, roommate, Vivianne Tugay, was one of the reasons why my Kingsway experience was so amazing.

All those who lived in the dorm were basically a big family. In the one year I was there, the friends I made at Kingsway truly became my lifelong friends. I never thought it would have happened, but I was closer to my classmates at Kingsway than to my former classmates I had known for nearly 10 years. While I was attending my former school, I was constantly having to explain why I could not do things on Friday nights, why I did not eat pork, why I went to church on Saturday, etc. Even though the people there were nice, I never felt like I truly belonged. At Kingsway everyone understood my faith and, as a result, understood me. I remember it took a while before I was no longer surprised when I heard a teacher or student say, "Happy Sabbath." Small differences like that made a huge difference to me, which added to my Kingsway experience.

As quickly as my time at Kingsway came, it seems that just as quickly it came to an end. By graduation, I could not hold back the tears. I had met friends from literally all over the world, and it was hard to say goodbye. Kingsway will always be a special place to me. It's where I was able to be much closer to my family, was elected vice-president of my class, got closer to Christ with likeminded students, and gained lifelong friends. So you see, it was never a part of my plan to go to Kingsway, but it was God's plan, "and we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose" (Rom. 8:28). ■

Antannia Aguilar is a member of the Kingsway College graduating class of 2015.

First Grader's \$500 Gift

Guidance counsellor at a Canadian mission school shares an unforgettable experience.



Photo: Andrew McChesney/Adventist Mission

Kelly Stickle explains why he treasures the \$500 in Monopoly money.

Guidance counsellor Kelly Stickle stood near the entrance of the Seventh-day Adventist mission school in Alberta as First Nations children streamed off the bus on a cold winter morning.

"Good morning!" Kelly greeted the children. "What are you doing? You can't come in today," he said, teasing them.

Then Kelly felt something on his side, and he looked down. First-grader Charlize stood there with a silly grin on her face. Her fingers were stuck in his pant pocket.

"Don't put your hands in my pocket!" Kelly exclaimed, joking with the little girl. "Get out of there and go to class!"

Charlize giggled and ran off.

Twenty minutes later Kelly reached for his cell phone and felt something unusual in his pocket. He pulled out a bright-orange \$500 bill in Monopoly money. Kelly was surprised. He hadn't thought that Charlize had put something in his pocket. He had thought that she was reaching in to take out his cellphone. His heart was touched.

"It nearly brought me to tears to realize that she had made that gift," Kelly said. "It made me feel that we were making a difference and God was working through us."

Kelly spoke in an interview in his office at the Mamawi Atosketan Native School. First Nations artwork and children's drawings hang on the walls. It's a room where Charlize spent many hours talking with Kelly during Grade 1.

Just a few weeks into the school year, Charlize's mother died in a house fire. As is the Cree tradition, the family immediately started a three-day wake to celebrate her life in a meeting hall. The men lit a fire near the mother's remains and kept the flames burning around the clock. The women prepared food and had it available at all times. Relatives and community members came to

pay their respects.

After the funeral no one was allowed to speak the mother's name for a year. All photos of the mother were placed face down or hidden away. The mother's life would be celebrated with a feast at the end of the year.

Charlize, who was only seven years old, was not allowed to attend the wake, and she wasn't supposed to speak about her mother for a year.

"She didn't have a chance to grieve properly," Kelly said.

Charlize began to struggle in the Grade 1 classroom. She misbehaved. She cried. She argued with her cousin, who was also in Grade 1.

Kelly invited Charlize to his office to visit. The girl drew pictures of her house and good memories of her mother. She played with toys, and she spoke with Kelly.

"What happened to my mother?" she asked one day.

Kelly spoke about death being a sleep and about the hope of seeing loved ones again at Jesus' second coming. He didn't know whether Charlize's mother had believed God, but he reminded the girl that her mother had been a good person who loved others.

Charlize stuck the \$500 bill into Kelly's pocket near the end of the school year. She had worked through her grief and was able to say goodbye to her mother.

Kelly has placed the \$500 bill in his Bible, where he uses it as a bookmark. "I see it every day and remember," he said. "This is one of my most cherished memories." ■

Andrew McChesney is editor of Mission Quarterly.

This story appeared on adventistmission.org, the website of Adventist Mission, which uses Sabbath School mission offerings to spread the gospel in Canada and around the world.



Learn more about Mamawi Atosketan Native School and our students at MANS1.ca.

You can also find out more about how The Bridge Campaign is changing the future of education among youth.



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Parkview Profiles

by Katelyn Ruiz

"Someone will always notice you, and they really care."

Barbara Kiers, president of the Class of 2017 and Parkview Adventist Academy's female Student of the Year, is now a third-generation PAA alumnus. Her grandfather, Lee Patterson, currently serves as president of the Alumni Association, and her parents, Kevin and Lynae Kiers, are both educators employed by the Adventist Church. The example of this family in ministry explains how in all the campus activities and fun, Barbara seems to be right in the middle of the action.

Barbara's contributions to PAA include almost every aspect of student life. As she says, "Different activities helped me get to know different people, so now I pretty much know everybody!" She served on her class executive for three years; joined choir; was recognized as an MVP athlete for volleyball, basketball, and flag football; as well as assisting Campus Ministries. She says, "My spiritual love language is 'giving,' and through all this, I felt I could give back to the school. Being involved helped me make close friends and grow in that spiritual connection to God because I can see God in all the people I'm working with."

Barbara's joyful leadership has led to peer mentorship; she worked to intentionally include all students in programming. "I was in charge of presenting the prayer focus every day for our spring Week of Prayer and decided to use an illustration: 'The Prayer-eodic Table of Elements,' which broke down the Lord's Prayer into the different parts. By the end of the week, we could see every aspect of how God invited us to talk to Him. Working on that with friends let us make the program a little more interesting and help people look forward to spiritual things throughout the week."

Looking at all the opportunities she's had, Barbara acknowledges the advantages of a church-led education. "I've always gone to Adventist schools," she says. "But I did take one class at public school and can say that at PAA, people have an opportunity to feel more comfortable as they learn and fit in. Someone will always notice you, and they really care. In our class, everyone gets along. And the teachers are always there to help you through rough times. They notice the little things; for example, if you come to school a little off one day, they ask you about it. I really



Barbara Kiers

appreciate being part of the sports teams, too, and getting to know coaches who take an interest in your development and always bring spiritual things into our practices."

Learning in an Adventist community is such an important anchor for Barbara's personal walk with God because the environment itself allows for reflection and growth. She says, "You can really see God working in the students and staff around you, even when you might not see Him working in yourself. The individual growth is slow, but looking back in the big picture, you can see the leaps and bounds that helped you become a new person."

No one keeps exactly the same values, interests, and goals as they mature. At PAA, everything about the school structure, the mentors, and even the students themselves, is meant to promote the values of Jesus. The goal is that in the time spent studying and enjoying the many elements of student life, our young people will learn to love themselves, one another, and most importantly, our Saviour. As Barbara says, "I know I leave a place where I got to know God better, and I have more friends than I had before. I've learned just how much they all mean to me and how much I will miss them."

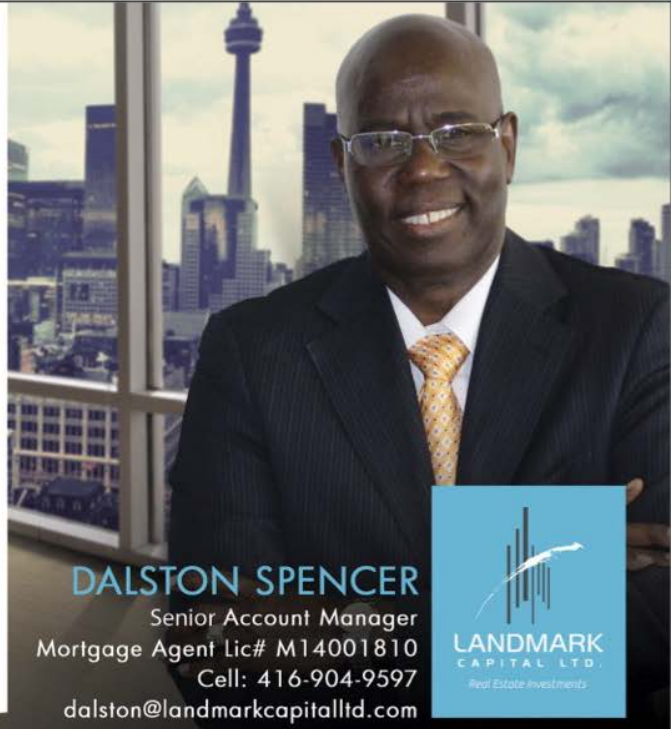
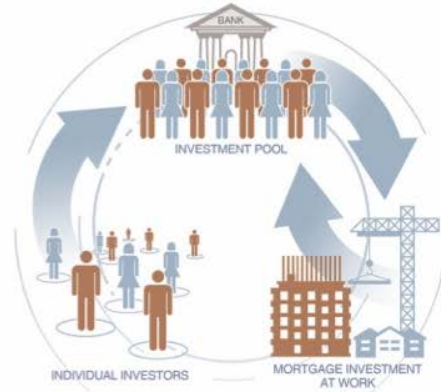
A place like PAA—full of people ready to encourage, uplift, and serve—is a place designed to engage and empower the youth of this generation and a place all our young people should be. ■

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

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The Challenge

More than 20 million people in Somalia, Kenya, South Sudan, Nigeria, and Yemen are facing starvation.



Ninety-one-year-old Mahamud from the village of Oman in drought-ravaged Somalia.

IT'S A SUNNY MORNING, AND I OPEN MY LAPTOP TO CHECK THE DAY'S NEWS. There's an official NASCAR track in Newfoundland. Trump and Putin continue their strange political dance. Sports are active. Artists are creative. It's another noisy day of news.

There is a story that is missing. Yet it's worthy of the boldest headline. More than 20 million people in Somalia, Kenya, South Sudan, Nigeria, and Yemen are facing starvation.

I know this seems like an all-too-familiar story. But familiarity shouldn't breed indifference. To put that poignantly into perspective, there are roughly that number of Adventists in the world today.

This food crisis is a result of prolonged drought. In some places the drought has combined with conflict, forcing people to flee their farms and herds in search of security and a tenuous peace. As food becomes more scarce, prices continue to skyrocket.

We often associate Somalia with pirates, terrorists, and endemic violence. But there is an untold story of the suffering. Over six million men, women, and children are in need of food assistance right now in Somalia. That is over half of the entire population of the country. The drought has been declared a national disaster as a second year has slipped by without a drop of rain.

In the village of Oman, the grip of starvation is tightening like a vice. Most of the villagers are pastoralists, depending on their herds for survival. But the drought has killed 70 percent of their animals. The remainder are weak and thin, like the

villagers themselves. Six people, unable to face their loved ones' suffering, have committed suicide. Those who remain live with a deepening sense of shame at their inability to provide for their families.

Mahamud, at 91, has seen a great many things. But he has never seen a drought like this. It hasn't merely deprived people of water. It has killed their food and weakened their malnourished bodies. They are getting sick. His own wife was recently taken to the nearest town for treatment of diarrhea. He is left to watch over the 15 family members who live in the village, and worry about the other 53 who live elsewhere.

"Before the drought, we didn't need anything. We depended on our animals. We ate three times a day. We were happy and healthy," he says. "But now, the drought has made us very poor. The situation is very difficult. We are worried about our future." He hangs his head. "I feel disgraced," he says quietly.

Though the world's attention is far from Mahamud, his village of Oman, and the entire hungry region, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), in partnership with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, is there providing life-saving food.

We want to help everyone, but the truth of the matter is, we're not able to. With your help, we could do so much more. We could be the answer to the prayers for help that Mahamud and countless others offer up every day. Read on to find out how! ■

Heather Grbic is the engagement coordinator for ADRA Canada.

What if you couldn't choose what to eat —because there simply wasn't any food?

RIGHT NOW, ABOUT 795 MILLION PEOPLE WORLDWIDE face this reality every single day. The causes are myriad: poverty, war, and disaster rank in the top three.

What would it be like to live with little to no food? What if you couldn't feed yourself or your family? What if you were displaced because of war or a natural disaster and had to rely on food rations in a refugee camp?

ADRA Canada's Ration Meal Challenge invites you to eat for a day like someone stricken by any of these circumstances, to understand those who have no choice when it comes to food and to help fill their needs.

What exactly is a ration meal? A ration is made up of roughly 450g of cereal,¹ 50g of pulses,¹ 50g of oil, and 5g of iodized salt per person, per day.² When ADRA first launched the program, participants were asked to eat a basic meal for one day, get sponsors, and donate the money to ADRA. The next year, ADRA partnered with GC Rieber, a Norwegian company that supplies emergency food bars in response to food crises worldwide. BP-5 —or “Be Prepared”—bars are a compact, high-calorie, vegetarian product that provides all the nutrition the human body needs. They are made of baked wheat compressed with vitamins, minerals, protein, fat, and sugar. Participants are asked to eat three bars for one day, get sponsors, and promote the challenge on social media. The proceeds from the challenge are matched by the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Every year, 50 to 100 participants from the South Edmonton Seventh-day Adventist Church take the Ration Meal Challenge together, raising between \$4,000 and \$8,000. The ADRA ambassador at the church says, “People genuinely care about others and want to help those in need. Others [want] to teach and remind their children how fortunate and blessed they are to have such a variety of foods and show them how others are not . . . This challenge is a great way to lead by example in humble way. Our church members appreciate the opportunity to pause . . . and simply acknowledge our blessings. To come together to pray and engage in a dialogue on how we can help those in need, to teach children to be thankful and share with those in need . . . [and] lead by example, just like Jesus.”

It is an exercise of solidarity—putting participants in the shoes of the millions of people worldwide who have no choice but to eat what is distributed during emergencies. Nothing hits home more than experiencing what they do, if only for one day.

“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen . . . Is it not to share your food with the hungry?” (Isa. 58:6, 7, NIV).

So go ahead. Eat like a refugee. Go hungry for world hunger. Accept the challenge in 2017. www.adra.ca/rationmeal. ■

Leah Keys is a guest contributor for ADRA Canada.

Are You Up for the Challenge?



South Edmonton Seventh-day Adventist Church members take the Ration Meal Challenge together, raising between \$4,000 and \$8,000.



¹ Edible seeds of plants in the legume family.

² According to the World Health Organization.

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.

Manitoba-Saskatchewan

New Manitoba-Saskatchewan Executive Secretary



The Baker family, L-R: David, Shannah, Marie.

The Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is pleased to announce that David Baker has accepted the invitation of its board of directors to become the next executive secretary for the conference.

David Ripley, President, states: "We see God's guidance with Pastor Baker joining our team here. He brings gifts, education, and experience not currently in our office. I believe our leadership and service to our pastors, teachers, churches, and schools will be greatly enhanced!"

Baker's deep love for God has motivated his 21 years of pastoral ministry. He says, "I have a desire to serve this conference through my dedication to God, my president, fellow administrators, board of directors, and fellow constituents."

Before accepting the call to Man-Sask, Baker held three concurrent positions:

1. Lead Pastor, Immanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church in North York, ●nt.
2. Ministerial Field Secretary, Metro North Central District, Toronto, ●nt.
3. Volunteer Clinical Chaplain, Lakeridge Hospital, ●shawwa, ●nt.

David Baker has a unique blend of organizational and interpersonal skills. He has coordinated numerous large-scale and community events. He also has extensive education and training in counselling and chaplaincy.

Prior to his time in ●ntario, Baker served across the BC Conference in various pastoral and community support positions, including postings in the Yukon and in Inuvik, N.W.T.

He holds a Master of Divinity from

Andrews University and completed a Doctor of Ministry degree focused in Family Life. He is also a certified clinical chaplain and a marriage and family counsellor.

He is a certified church plant coach, has certification in Disaster Relief Chaplaincy, and is a Pathfinder Master Guide.

Baker says, "My family and I are both grateful and excited for this new assignment. I solicit your prayers as I serve wholeheartedly, embracing the vision and ministry of the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference."

We welcome David Baker and his family to our conference and look forward to his first visit on July 30. An official start date is still being determined but will likely be at the end of the summer. Your prayers during this time of transition are appreciated. ■

Ontario

Ontario Adventurers Gear Up for “Mission: Possible” Camporee



On July 26, 2017, more than 700 Adventurer campers, including leaders and family members, from across Ontario attended the “Mission: Possible” Adventurer Family Camporee in Brantford. After the opening ceremonies, partway through the nighttime program, rain came down, causing campers to settle early for the night. With concerns of unfavourable weather forecast for the next few days, prayers were lifted. Yet God was working on making the impossible possible, and as Edwin Martin, Ontario Conference Adventurer Director, stated, “God has put a heavenly canopy over [our campsite] for the rest of the week.”

The following days were a mixture of fun and learning. Each morning, Adventurers started off their day with worship and exercise. After breakfast, Adventurers attended star, chip, and award classes. Melisa (Club Moriah) enjoyed the Environmentalist award, in which she learned that “God created the environment for a purpose, so we need to keep it clean!” In relation to the Tabernacle award, Vincent (Filipino-Canadian Omega club) shares that “when Jesus died and said, ‘It is finished!’ it was a sacrifice for us.”

Next, the children solved mission mysteries, and they were rewarded with special Adventurer tags for their completed tasks. The rest of the day was dedicated for making friends, face painting, jumping on bouncy castles, pony rides, canoeing, and swimming.

Each nighttime program was a showcase of Adventurer talents. Adventurer preachers shared messages on how God turned impossible situations in the Bible into possible ones. According

to Bostyn (Mississauga), the story of David and Goliath reminds us that “God gives us courage.” William (Kanisa Cubs) adds, “If you are scared to do something, just trust God.” Also featured nightly was the Mission: Possible drama, under the direction of Taylor Thompson and Suzette Frias, where a team of Adventurer “agents” were sent on a mission to complete specific assignments. With the help of clues and Bible texts, they showed that God is greater than our fears.

On July 29, the Sabbath was celebrated with joyful singing by the Adventurer mass choir, a creative puppet presentation by Cameile Henry, and a timely message by Ada Gomez, Texas Conference Adventurer Executive Coordinator. A special Adventurer investiture service was held, including the awarding of the “Adventurer of Year (boy and girl)” from each club. The afternoon was spent for more award classes and Mission: Possible activities.

On the final evening, achievement awards were presented to all participating clubs by Velma Morgan, Ontario Conference Adventurer Executive Coordinator, assisted by the MP camporee staff and Adventurer coordinators. Before declaring the 2017 Mission: Possible camporee closed, Pastor Martin enjoined all Adventurers and their families, who are called as God’s agents, to do their duties and tell the world that Jesus is coming very soon.

Godspeed, agents! ■

— Nerlita Rose Oabel, Mission: Possible Adventurer Camporee volunteer

British Columbia



Williams Lake Adventist Church and ADRA Canada Respond to B.C. Wildfires

On July 28, 2017, the city of Williams Lake and the Cariboo Regional District (CRD) made the announcement that residents were cleared to return to the city and certain areas in the CRD.

This comes following the residents' evacuation about two weeks prior because of the uncontrolled wildfires. The city's mayor, Walter Cobb, took a helicopter to investigate, and although there were some concerns of "after-burn" (underground fires that can resurface), there was no imminent danger. The city's fire chief and some members of the RCMP also checked every home in the city to ensure the residences were safe. As of August 1, air quality has improved tremendously.

The Williams Lake Ministerial Fellowship and the Emergency Social Services worked together to open a distribution centre. There, the director of the Williams Lake Adventist Church brought donated items and served as a volunteer alongside residents and pastors in the area. Donations are being received through the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Canada, and the

local-area Adventist leadership will let ADRA know how and where to help.

Although the city reopened, it remains under evacuation alert; residents need to be ready to leave within 30 minutes in case of an evacuation order. Just one day before the city was set to reopen, hot spots in certain areas flared up, and the fire department was called in. Things are not completely safe yet, but some church members have returned and even had a church service on Saturday, July 30, 2017, at the Williams Lake church. Approximately 20 people attended; many others are at campmeeting or other locations. No church members have reported property losses.

● One of the major needs for the immediate future are volunteers. They are needed to help at the distribution centre, at the Salvation Army, evacuatees with their homes, and more. For more information on how to get involved, contact ADRA Canada.

ADRA has been helping to coordinate relief efforts among church members. They advised that during the emergency phase, the most urgent needs were basic

life necessities such as water, shelter, food, and medical services; as well as helping share information on where affected families can find assistance. During the early recovery and rehabilitation period, insurance providers and federal and provincial government entities are primarily responsible for providing assistance. Ongoing support can be provided by church members and pastors by providing psychosocial support by opening their churches, providing trained counsellors, or even babysitting services while parents attend to other pressing issues. Also, don't forget to provide support to the volunteers, especially those who have been on the scene since Day 1.

Let's continue to keep this situation in our prayers. ■

— Rose Manigat, Messenger staff writer, with files from Alrick Watson, pastor, Williams Lake and Quesnel churches; and Anita Odondi, Emergency Program Director, ADRA Canada.

British Columbia Conference Session Report



Delegates re-elected Wesley Torres as President (centre), Ern Brake as Executive Secretary/Vice-President for Administration (left), and Jeff Klam as Treasurer/ Vice-President for Finance for the B.C. Conference (right).

The Seventh-day Adventist Church, British Columbia Conference delegates met for their 58th General Meeting on Sunday, August 6, in the main pavilion/ auditorium of Camp Hope in B.C., to conduct their last quadrennial constituency meeting, after which will meet quinquennially. A video summary of the last four years was shown, reports presented, and bylaw changes were approved. In this meeting, the delegates reelected Wesley Torres as President, Ern Brake as Executive Secretary/Vice-President for Administration, and Jeff Klam as Treasurer/ Vice-President for Finance for the B.C. Conference.

Torres was currently serving as President, replacing Wayne Culmore, who retired on Feb. 29, 2016. Prior to this appointment, Torres served as the Executive Secretary/ Vice-President for Administration in the B.C. Conference. He has over 32 years of pastoral, departmental director, and administrative experience. Ern Brake has served for over 30 years as a pastor, Ministerial Director, and was the Assistant to the President for REACH BC before replacing Torres as the Executive Secretary/ Vice-President in 2016. Jeff Klam had served for over 10 years as ABC Assistant Manager as well as one of the Associate Treasurers of the Northern California

Conference before coming to B.C. He replaced Michael Wixwat in July 2016, who is now serving as the Treasurer for MENA—Middle East and North Africa Union in Lebanon.

Wesley Torres started the day with a reminder to trust in our God by leading the delegates in singing the hymn “Day by Day.” Dan Jackson, president for the North American Division, began the day with an important message reminding those present at the meeting that “those who are with us are far more than those who are against us. God has a plan, God has a dream, and we are at the centre of it.”

The delegates voted to receive the recently organized Abundant Life Church, located in Surrey, B.C., into the B.C. Conference sisterhood of churches. They were also informed of the establishment of three new church plants in the conference during the last four years.

Mark Johnson and Ulysses Guarin, Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada President and Treasurer, respectively, concluded the meeting with dedicatory prayers for the re-elected officers of the BC Conference. They prayed that the Lord continues to bless the B.C. Conference and inspire their elected human leaders to inspire the B.C. Conference members for service. ■

—Joey Aguilar,
Communication Director,
B.C. Conference

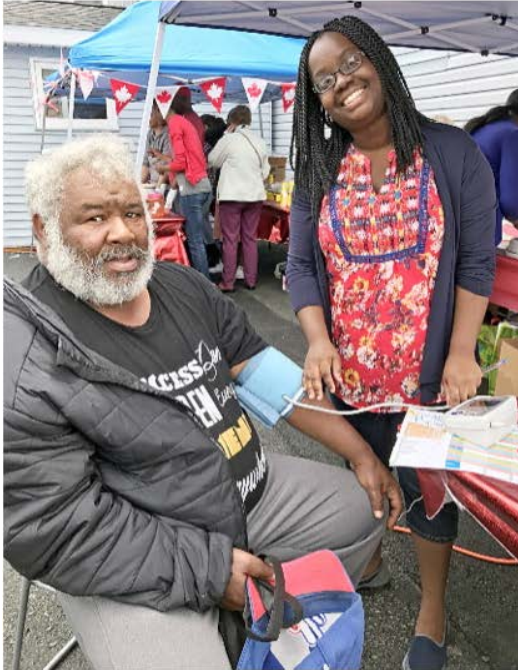
Maritimes

Halifax Church Celebrates Canada Day

The Halifax Adventist Youth department continues to be very active. On Canada Day a group of them gathered near their church, which is adjacent to the Halifax Commons and where hundreds had gathered to celebrate. Imagine the joy when over 400 copies of *The Great Controversy, Canadian Edition*, were accepted when offered as gifts by these enthusiastic young people, along with their pastor. Many received these books with gladness.

Please pray for those who received this precious gift on Canada’s 150th birthday.

To further celebrate Canada’s 150th birthday, the Halifax Sabbath school department, under the direction of Margaret Ennis Trotman, Sabbath school superintendent, organized an outdoor health fair for Sunday, July 2. Many prayers ascended for a sunny day, but unfortunately heavy rain came down Sunday



Oratile Mogae, Grade 11 student and children's Sabbath school leader, assists checking blood pressure.



Display table from which literature was placed in an attractive bag and presented to each visitor.

morning. With Margaret's encouragement and much prayer again, the rain stopped just as everyone arrived to set up! By noon, when the approximately 100 guests started arriving, the sun shone in all its brilliance. What an answer to prayers and faith! ■

—Yvonne Crook, *Communications*,
Halifax Seventh-day Adventist Church

Alberta

Campmeeting 2017: “We Believe the Time Is Near”

Campmeeting 2017 could be summarized in a few words such as glorious, reflective, spiritual, worshipful, fellowship, communal, refreshing, and renewing. This was certainly an interesting experience, being tucked away for two weeks in the picturesque settings of Foothills Camp. For me, coming from Ontario, where campmeeting is held at the International Convention Centre near the Toronto International Airport for one day, having a two-week convocation was quite a change.

● On Friday, July 14, a steady stream of RVs and motor vehicles of all kinds, shapes, and sizes descended upon the campsite, which had been sparsely occupied but was now tightly packed with happy campers. There were on average approximately 4,000 to 5,000 attendees over the weekends with fewer during the weekdays. I was unsure if I could survive comfortably in my assigned camper; however, after the first rainfall, while hearing the pitter-patter of raindrops on the camper roof and windows, I felt right at home. The campground was teeming with excited campers who came with their families and friends,



Myveth Williams, just one of the excellent speakers who participated in the Alberta campmeeting held at Foothills Camp.

>> SDACC REVOLVING FUND REPORT: As of June 30, 2017, there were 426 depositors with a total deposit of \$30,271,711. There were 86 loans with a value of \$26,812,400.

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

people of all ages, colour, and culture and who mixed and mingled together—a truly fitting depiction of what heaven will be like.

A sense of pride and admiration filled my heart as I saw all levels of administrators, teachers, pastors, office workers, Foothills Camp staff, lay volunteers, and leaders at all levels working together to ensure the smooth running and efficiency of the campmeeting experience. It was evident that the Spirit of the Lord was at work as we listened to the Spirit-filled messages from our guest speakers and inspiring workshops given by presenters from across North America, the Inter-American Division, and Australia—from the quieted, steady, and inspirational messages of Gordon Pifher to the fiery, engaging, and spirit-infused messages from Hyveth Williams. Overall, there was both music and message fitting for all worshippers. Those who had come truly hungry for the Word of God left filled as a result of the outpouring of the Spirit.

Ministry took place at all levels from the children, early teens, young adults, adults, and seniors who were there for a blessing. We thank God for His blessings and for the leadership

of Gary Hodder and the entire conference team of full-time workers and volunteers.

I can't wait for campmeeting 2018! By God's grace, I hope to see you all. ■

—Wayne Williams, executive secretary,
Alberta Conference

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Did you get a chance to read the article on the new Grassroots project in Northern Ontario supporting isolated First Nations villages? **Adventist World Aviation** is excited to announce this new partnership with the Ontario Conference and the Sioux Lookout Church members. If you'd like to support this project, please visit <https://flyawa.org/donate-canada/>

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

■ Announcements

Missing Members—The Orleans (Ont.) church is looking for the following missing members: Lux Alexis, Lynne Alexis, Natacha Alexis, Nicole Alexis, Ruth Johnson. If you have a current phone number and address for any of these people, please contact Charlene Hall at 613/769-3750.

Uchee Pines Alumni Reunion And Retreat—Sept. 17–23. Visit ucheepines.org for details, or call 877-UCHEEPINES. (9/17)

■ New Members

ALBERTA

Sophia Cherubin was baptized in Sylvan Lake, Alta., on June 10, 2017, by Bill Spangler. She is now a member of the Sylvan Lake church.

Naomi and Nathan Joch were baptized in Sylvan Lake, Alta., on June 10, 2017, by Bill Spangler. They are now members of the Sylvan Lake church.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Andrea McDonalds and Xzavier Murray were baptized in Vernon,

B.C., on June 24, 2017, by Steve Little. They are now members of the Vernon church.

NEWFOUNDLAND

Paul and Susan Ingram were baptized in Lethbridge, Nfld., on May 20, 2017, by David Boucher. They are now members of the Lethbridge church.

■ Weddings

Janet Balderas Merchant and Ryan James Kennedy were married on Aug. 14, 2016, in Monterrey, Mex., by Ray House, and are making their home in Kelowna, B.C. Janet is the daughter of Beatriz Merchant and Jose Balderas of Monterrey, and Ryan is the son of Merv and Kathy Kennedy of Peachland, B.C.

■ Anniversaries

Ed and Inez Kiefiuk of Peachland, B.C., celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on March 2, 2017, in



Penticton, B.C. The Kiefiuks have six children, Rita (Mel) Lemky, Mark (Shirley) Kiefiuk, Derric (Mary-Lou) Kiefiuk, Regan (Miriam) Kiefiuk, Naomi (Kevin) O'Neil, Tamara (Aiden) Dickson; 15 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

■ Birthdays

Herbert Reimche of Kelowna, B.C., celebrated his 100th birthday on May 23, 2017. In addition to a trip to



California, Herb also celebrated with family and friends at Kelowna Springs Golf Club. Herb has four children, seven grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

Olev Tralla of Kelowna, B.C., celebrated his 90th birthday on June 18,



2017, with family and friends. Olev has two children and one grandchild.

■ Obituaries

Helen (née Patzer) Bechthold was born on March 3, 1920, in Hanna, Alta., and died on Jan. 23, 2017, in Strathmore, Alta. She was a faithful member of the Beiseker Level-Land church for many years. Helen is predeceased by her husband, Gilbert Bechthold; parents, John and Justina Patzer; brothers, Otto Patzer, Reynold Patzer, John Patzer, Theodore Patzer, Arthur Patzer, Harry Patzer, and Orval Patzer; and sisters, Elsie Burns and Hilda Schaber. Surviving: son, Gene (Delilah) Bechthold of Medicine Hat, Alta.; daughters, Gail (Barry) Grabo of Strathmore and Laura (Al) Pauls of Kelowna, B.C.; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Henry Bozak was born on Oct. 1, 1920, in Hudson Bay, Sask., and died on March 13, 2017, in Hudson Bay. He was an instrumental part of the volunteer team involved in erecting the Hudson Bay church building and was also enthusiastic in sharing his faith. Surviving: son, Dennis Bozak.

Gerhard Erbenich was born on Feb. 7, 1951, in Worms, Germany, and died on May 14, 2016, in Kelowna, B.C. Gerhard is predeceased by his parents, Karl and Inga Erbenich. Surviving: wife, Donna L. Erbenich; sons, Landon (Conin) Erbenich of Revelstoke, B.C., Londell Erbenich of Kelowna; daughters, Chantelle (Rick) Lee of Fort McMurray, Alta., Delinah Erbenich of Kelowna, B.C., Chelsey (Brad) Boschee of Kelowna; brothers, Alfred (Rhonda) Erbenich of Walla Walla, Wash., Norman (Connie) Erbenich of Kent, Wash., Gordon Erbenich of Seattle, Wash.; sister, Lorika Erbenich of Sequim, Wash.; and seven grandchildren.

Levi "Lou" Gobits was born on March 11, 1922, in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, and died on May 22, 2017, in Sarnia, Ont. He was a long-time member of the Sarnia

church. Lou is predeceased by his wife, Marianne "Jane" Gobits. Surviving: sons, Bill (Joann) Gobits of Sarnia, Paul (Jennifer) Gobits of Wyoming, Ont.; daughters, Henny (Rod) Penhale-Honke of Sarnia, Marian (Paul) Petr of Concord, Ont., Edith (Will) Wiarda of Sarnia, Sylvia Gobits of Sarnia, Evaline (Gary) Howes of London, Ont., Joyce (John) Robertson of Port Elgin, Ont., Frances Berry of Sarnia; 23 grandchildren, 49 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Bertha (née Will) Grabo was born on Nov. 18, 1917, in Fox Valley, Sask., and died on May 30, 2017, in Strathmore, Alta. She was an active member of the Beiseker Level-Land church for over 70 years. Bertha is predeceased by her husband, Fred Grabo; parents, Gustav and Susanna Will; brother, John Will; sisters, Margaret King and Anne Davis. Surviving: sons, Barry (Gail) Grabo of Strathmore, Rodney (Pat) Grabo of Beiseker, Alta., Cameron (Colleen) Grabo of Beiseker; brother, Albert Will; sister, Esther Claridge; five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Beverly Fay Haensgen was born on March 29, 1950, in Flin Flon, Man., and died on March 27, 2017, in Neepawa, Man. She enjoyed music and giving piano lessons, and played the piano for the Victoria Adventist Church. Beverly is predeceased by her parents, Joe and Mary Haensgen; brother, Ronnie Haensgen. Surviving: brother, Gary (Sonja) Haensgen of North Vancouver, B.C.

William "Bill" John Halyrevich was born on Nov. 19, 1940, in New Lisgaard, Ont., and died on June 4, 2017, in Lacombe, Alta. He was a graduate of Kingsway College and Nova Scotia Institute of Technology, and served his local churches as an elder, deacon, head deacon, Sabbath school superintendent, and food bank member and volunteer. Bill is predeceased by his parents, Frank and Annie (née Kuzyk) Halyrevich. Surviving: wife, Carolyn (née Dukeshire) Halyrevich; daughter, Jennifer (Dwayne) Kinsley of Blackfolds, Alta.; one grandchild and one great-grandchild.

Nicolas Issa was born on Feb. 29, 1940, in Lebanon, and died on April 19, 2017, in Loma Linda, Calif. He taught at Kingsway College from 1969 to 1972. Surviving: wife, Maxine (née Schmidt) Issa; son, Ramon (Celeste) Issa of Loma Linda; daughter, Nadia (Tortrey) Laack of Rochester, Minn.

Walter Emmanuel Kiselbach was born May 2, 1921, in Colmer, Sask.,

and died April 7, 2017, in Fort Langley, B.C. His life was one of devotion to his family, church, and community. His leadership as head deacon was felt in the origins of the Vancouver Central as well as Aldergrove Seventh-day Adventist churches (now Church in the Valley). Walter is predeceased by his son, Vergil; son-in-law, Stanley; 11 siblings. Surviving: wife, Ruby; sons, Dorlend "Wally" Kiselbach, Wayneard (Donna) Kiselbach; daughters, Glenda, Debbie (Gregg); sister, Irene; 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Russell Wallace Schultz was born on May 16, 1934, in Nipawin, Sask., and died on June 5, 2017, in Golden, B.C. He sold his sawmill operation in 1994 and worked as a lay evangelist in Ukraine and India, contributing to the baptism of over 10,000 people and building or renovation of more than 100 churches. Russell is predeceased by his parents, Frank and Margaret Schultz. Surviving: sons, Rocklyn Schultz, Wesley (Kerry) Schultz, Dale Schultz, Kelvin (Carla) Schultz; daughter, Allison Schultz; brother, Robert (Sarah) Schultz of Saskatoon, Sask.; sisters, Elda Hudema and Della (Andrew) Hudema of Vernon, B.C.; nine grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

CORRECTION: June (née Russell) Polishuk was born on Aug. 7, 1930, in Oshawa, Ont., and died on May 29, 2017, in Oshawa. She was a founding member of the College Park church, faithfully leading out in the children's divisions, serving on the Welcoming Committee, and volunteering at the Adventist Community Service Centre for many years. She enjoyed working as the editor of *Canadian Adventist Messenger* until her retirement in 1996. June is predeceased by her husband, Donald C. Polishuk; parents, Robert and Vera Russell. Surviving: daughters, Janice Newman of Oshawa, Lynne (Ross) Girvan of Lindsay, Ont.; brothers, Donald (Arlene) Russell of Laurel, Md., Bob Russell, Jr. of Oshawa; two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

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10-20, 2018, with the theme "Our High Priest." Congregations worldwide continue to be blessed by this powerful prayer initiative. For more info and to sign up your church, visit www.tendaysofprayer.org. (10/17)

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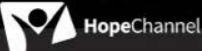
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from the editor

first nations

I SO APPRECIATE THE VISION AND LEADERSHIP of the Ontario Conference as they press forward to open and advance the work with the indigenous people of northern Ontario. Our cover story this month, “Sioux Lookout: Grassroots Mission in Northern Ontario Takes Flight,” reflects their vision. It is an amazing tale of God’s leading as He brought together a diverse group of people to a remote town to share His love with their neighbours.

In my opinion, indigenous people across our nation have been neglected by our church for far too long. Our silence over the injustices that indigenous people have suffered will be counted on Judgement Day. There is still much work to be done. We can see a huge disparity between the percentage of First Nations living in Canada and their presence in our churches. The gospel commission to share His Word with every nation, tribe, tongue, and people includes the aboriginal people among us.

The good news is that we have the good news, and many aboriginal people already share a number of beliefs with Adventists, such as a seven-day Creation week and end-time events. Documents from invading Europeans show that aboriginal peoples kept the “same Sabbath as the Jews.” There are many resources available from the church to help us reach out to our indigenous neighbours and friends, including a set of DVDs on health and faith.

Here’s more good news for us: the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada already has a Native Ministries leader, Ed Dunn, a member of the Ojibway Nation, who is well-known amongst the First Nations community across Canada. Further, Randy Elliott, from the Chemainus Nation, was pastor of the Gwa’sala-Nakwaxda’xw church in Port Hardy, B.C., for six years and has recently begun working in Sioux Lookout, Ont. I believe that with our help, he and his wife, Cheryl, will make a significant difference with many indigenous communities in northern Ontario. Check out his captivating life story on pages 22 and 23 of this issue.

There is much work to be done amongst our indigenous Canadians, but we can be confident that God equips even as He calls. As the classic song “Side by Side,” written by my friend Jeff Wood, goes, “Side by side we stand, awaiting God’s command.” Let’s help fulfill God’s last-day command. Enjoy listening to this at goo.gl/k5ffRq. ■

Courage,
Stan Jensen, editor
Canadian Adventist Messenger

OVER A HUNDRED YEARS AGO, we lost one of the pillars and founding members of the Seventh-day Adventist church—Ellen G. White. She was a remarkable woman with a prophetic gift, and her death saddened an entire generation of Adventists. In this month’s “A Backward Glance” we take a look at those final days and hours and find encouragement. Excerpts are from some of our earliest issues of the, *Eastern Canadian Messenger*.



Ellen G. White at Elmshaven, Calif., 1915, EGW in bed on upper porch. (Photo: Courtesy of the Ellen G. White Estate, Inc.)

Mrs. E. G. White Injured

“ELMSHAVEN,” SANITARIUM, CAL.,
Feb. 19, 1915.

A serious accident befell mother Sabbath noon, February 13. As she was passing through the door into her large writing-room she tripped and fell. May Walling, her nurse, was near, and endeavored to help mother to her feet, but found that her left leg was injured. An x-ray examination at the Sanitarium revealed a fracture of the femur.

During the last year mother’s general health has been as good as could be expected of one eighty-six years of age. She has often said that at no other time in her life has she been so free from physical suffering as during the last two or three years. While gradually showing more and more the feebleness of old age, she has freely walked up and down stairs without assistance, and has enjoyed her customary carriage ride every pleasant day.

An excerpt from the article “Mrs. E.G. White Injured.”
March 2, 1915 — *Eastern Canadian Messenger*, Vol. 15, No. 9, p.1

We take the liberty to quote the following from a recent letter sent us by Elder W. C. White:—

Two weeks have passed since I wrote you last about Mother. At that time she was very low. She was restless at night, and during the day was hardly able to express herself so that we could understand her. For several days she continued in that condition, and we feared that the end of her life was very near.

Wednesday morning, May 12, she showed a marked improvement. It was a very pleasant day, and she was lifted into a wheel-chair and taken out on the little veranda, where she enjoyed the sunshine for several hours. For a full week she has been resting better at night and eating better than for several weeks. During the day she talks very little, but speaks with her usual cheerfulness regarding her condition. She says she has very little pain, and expresses appreciation for good care. She often speaks cheerfully regarding the remainder of her days here, and of hope regarding the future life in the kingdom of God.

What the physicians say regarding the continuance of her strength leads us to hope that she may continue to live for several weeks yet.

An excerpt from the article “Regarding Sister White”
June 1, 1915 — *Eastern Canadian Messenger*, Vol. 15, No. 22, p.1

Tuesday morning, May 25, she was very weak, but her mind seemed clear, and when I asked if she was comfortable she said:

“I am very weak. I am sure this is my last sickness. I am not worried at the thought of dying. I feel comforted all the time that the Lord is near me. I am not anxious. The preciousness of the Saviour has been so plain to me. He has been a friend. He has kept me in sickness and in health. I do not worry about the work I have done. I have done the best I could. I do not think that I shall be lingering long. I do not expect much suffering. I am thankful that we have the comforts of life in time of sickness. Do not worry. I go only a little before the others.”

An update from W.C. White on his mother’s condition.
June 8, 1915 — *Eastern Canadian Messenger*, Vol. 15, No. 23, p.1

continually. Not long after she was rendered helpless by the accident that hastened her death, she testified of her Saviour: “I see light in his light, I have joy in his joy, and peace in his peace. I see mercy in his mercy, and love in his love.” In another interview she said, “My courage is grounded in my Saviour. My work is nearly ended. Looking over the past I do not feel the least mite of dependency or discouragement. I feel so grateful that the Lord has withheld me from despair and discouragement, and that I can still hold the banner. I know Him whom I love, and in whom my soul trusteth.”

Ellen White died Friday, July 16, 1915, at 3:40 p.m. The above is an excerpt from her obituary. July 27, 1915 — *Eastern Canadian Messenger*, Vol. 15, No. 29, p. 4

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