

*canadian  
adventist*

# messenger

june 2006

**Camp Meeting Issue**

**The Issachar Principle**  
Understanding the Times

**With His Sleeves Rolled Up**  
Canadian University College  
President Retires

**Saved  
or Not**

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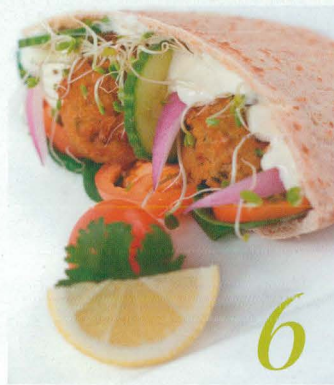
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Postmaster: Please return undeliverable Canadian addresses to Messenger subscriptions, 1148 King St. E., Oshawa, ON L1H 1H8

Canada Post agreement number 40069337

The Canadian Adventist Messenger—the official magazine of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada—is published 12 times per year. Free to SDACC members. Annual foreign subscription price: US\$10.00. Printed by Maracle Press Limited. ISSN 0702-5084. Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index. Member of the Associated Church Press.

Notice to contributors: All unsolicited material for publication must be submitted through your local conference.



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# Deadline

August issue	June 1
September issue	July 4
October issue	August 1

# Salvation from a Dory

by Gary Hodder

*I simply accepted a ride with my father.*

*He did all the work and I reaped all the rewards*

*— that's a pretty good deal.*



As a boy growing up in Creston South, Newfoundland, we did not have any commercial amusements, but we enjoyed the local events that took place in our town. Many of these events centred around the activities that were offered by the churches. In addition to the weekend services, there were open air song services, Christmas plays and Easter pageants, as well as bazaars.

The event that was perhaps most attended by the community was an event that took place in August. A local church would conduct its annual baptism for people who wished to join their church. They did not have an indoor baptistery at the time so they waited for summer and conducted the service outside on the shores of a lovely beach on an inlet by the ocean.

The scene is still vivid in my mind. The beautiful beach, the calm ocean water, the beaches lined with people straining to get a good view of the baptism. Many people from the community would attend the event in their boats. Almost everyone had a boat which afforded a great view from a close-up position.

While most of my family viewed the event from the shore, my father and I rowed out in our dory. We positioned ourselves for a great view. We were no

sooner in place than a gentleman from the shore beckoned to us to come to him. My father rowed to shore to see what the man wanted. He told us that he was a reporter for the Marystown paper and he was wondering if we might take him out in the boat so that he could get some pictures. My father agreed and so we had a passenger. He was a pleasant man and he shared several stories with us.

Soon the baptism began. The minister played the accordion and people sang hymns from the shore. We saw the candidates line up on the shore in their blue robes. We were anxious to see who was being baptized this year, for we knew almost everyone in our town by name. The reporter asked my father on several occasions to move the dory for a better view or a different angle from which to get his pictures.

The baptism lasted most of the afternoon and was an exciting event for a five-year-old boy, although my father, it seems, spent most of his time rowing the boat from place to place. Soon it was time for the reporter to be returned to shore. As he stepped out of the boat onto the shore, he thanked my father for his kindness and reached into his wallet and took out a five dollar bill and handed it to me to keep. I could not believe my good fortune.

I can assure you that in 1963, five dollars was a great deal of money for a five-year-old to have in his possession. Those were the days when five cents could buy a bag of potato chips or a chocolate bar. Thereafter, it was a joke between my father and I that he did all the work and I got paid for it.

I have often reflected on this incident in my childhood in reference to salvation. The receiving of the five dollars for work that I did not do is akin to receiving salvation from God for work that I did not render. I simply accepted a ride with my father. He did all the work and I reaped all the rewards— that's a pretty good deal. Paul says as much about God in Ephesians 2:8,9, "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast."

Jesus has done all the work for us; lived the sinless life, offered the sacrifice and died on our behalf. He provides the gift of salvation and invites us to step into the boat with Him. He will do the rowing but he leaves the choice of getting in with us. What a deal—it doesn't get any better! ■

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*Gary Hodder is president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newfoundland and Labrador.*

# even before we ask

by Carolyn Willis

Some time ago, I received an email from my niece Susanne in which she related an experience that had recently occurred in her family. Uncontained joy spilled over my face in a teary smile of gratitude as I read her story of a special encounter with God which involved her young daughter Katie.

But I'll let her tell it in her own words . . .

"We had an experience this week that reminded me that, even as life is crazy busy and we don't always have time for God, He has time for us.

"For the last month, Katie's Sabbath school class has been planning a ski trip for this Sunday, and it wasn't until this week that I started thinking about it myself. On Monday, we received the detailed trip information and I started thinking about the logistics of it. It's going to be such a busy weekend already (parties, teaching Sabbath school, visiting pastor, potluck, extra church meetings), plus the cost was more than we were expecting. I told Katie that I didn't think she'd be able to go. Of course, she was horribly disappointed and in tears. She'd been talking with her friends for a month about it.

"That night, after the kids went to bed, Steve and I discussed it further and worked out all the details—until it suddenly hit us that she doesn't have a ski coat or pants. There was no way that we were going to be able to go out and buy them for her—especially for that one event when we had the cost of the trip sandwiched in with extra Christmas expenses. We felt badly for her—all parents want to give their children the desires of their heart, right? Steve went in to talk to Katie and she decided to just go to the party and dinner and be glad for that. We would call in the morning and let her Sabbath school teacher know.

"Steve came back out to the kitchen and the phone rang. It was a friend from church who had two children just a bit older than Katie. We chatted for a minute and then she said, "I called because Kaylie has grown out of her ski jacket and pants and I was wondering if Katie could use them?" I was so shocked I couldn't speak for a moment. I explained to her that she was an answer to prayer.

"After the phone call that night, Steve and I marvelled and rejoiced at the reminder that, not only does God care for us in general, but He cares for the specific things that are important to us and to an 8-year-old-child. We called Katie out and explained what had just happened, passing on the thought that God cares for what is important for her and that He tells us through the Bible that "I know the plans I have for you . . . plans to prosper you and not to harm you . . ." (Jer. 29:11).

"As a thrilled and smiling Katie went off to bed, for the final time, I thought about the fact that here we were trying to work things out for ourselves and God already had his plans in motion. He answered our prayer before we had thought to

pray it. Silly humans." Silly humans indeed.

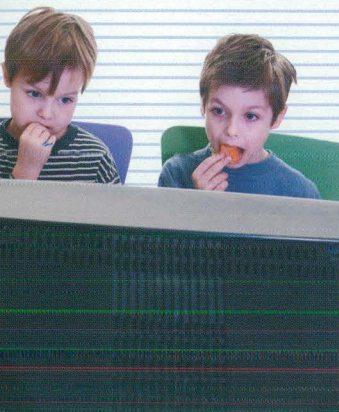
We have such a wise and tender God who knows that in the giving and receiving of gifts a double blessing unrolls from the heart of both. We are told that "... He [God] has made man His steward, entrusting him with means, not to be hoarded, but to be used in benefiting others. He thus makes man the medium through which to distribute His blessings on earth. God planned the system of beneficence in order that man might become like his Creator, benevolent and unselfish in character, and finally be a partaker with Christ of the eternal, glorious reward" (2 T, pg. 255).

There is no originality in our insufficiencies. They have been mimicked many times over throughout history. And man still foolishly seeks to fill the emptiness of life with secular pleasures and gain floundering from one to the other. His attempt to settle the restlessness of his search will ultimately fail for man can never secure it by his own efforts. Money cannot buy it, wisdom cannot attain it for it is offered by God to His children as a gift. If we could shade our eyes from the enticements of this world and focus on the Light of Heaven who knows what we need and desires to give it to us—yes, even before we ask, what a different world we would live in.

I am reminded of a video clip my son showed me recently. It was taken at a farm quaintly named Chicken Scratch Farm where they use chickens as a natural system to keep the bug population down. He and his wife Mary were there to pick strawberries, but they were waysided by the unusual sight of free roaming poultry. Ryan started snapping some photos and ended with an amusing video clip showing Mary with a basket of chicken feed on her arm. Like a modern day Pied Piper, she led a flock of clucking hens that crowded close to her heels as she dropped her offerings of food. Suddenly there were chickens coming from all directions sprinting across the landscape as fast as their scrawny little legs could churn. It looked as if every chicken at Chicken Scratch Farm was headed towards Mary. All those hens saw was an assembly of their clan and they were determined to be in on the action—whatever that might be. I was amused by the frenzied earnestness of their intent. They were fixed on following the crowd. They didn't consider that what they found might not be in their best interests. I confess I was greatly amused by their comedic antics, but sobered as I contemplated the parallels of these chickens with our own human behaviour. We are so ready to settle for chicken feed when God wants to give us a full course meal—with dessert. And sometimes, we don't even need to ask. ■

Carolyn Willis is editor of the Canadian Adventist Messenger.





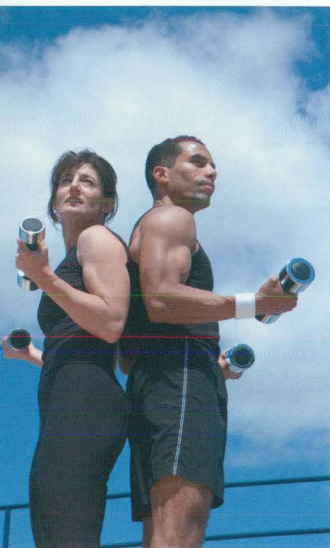
## TV Watching and Calorie Intake in Children

TV has become a dominant influence in the lives of most Americans, especially children. On average, children watch more than 3 hours of television every day (often more on weekends). During this time children see about 40,000 television commercials per year. Programs designed for children show one food commercial every 5 minutes. Then we wonder why our children are becoming obese at an alarming rate.

## Foods Likely to Cause Weight Gain

What foods are most closely associated with weight gain? That's a practical question in our current overweight society. 7,194 men and women ages 41 and older were studied to see what foods were linked to weight gain. After 28 months of follow-up here is what they found: The best predictor of weight gain was intake of soda pop. Persons drinking the most soda (top 20%) were 60% more likely to gain a significant amount of weight during the study compared to those who seldom drank soda pop. Other foods positively linked to weight gain were hamburgers, pizza, sausage, red meat, and sweetened fruit juices. This shouldn't come as a surprise, but it certainly explains why Americans are gaining excess weight, as these are favourite American foods.

—*Am J Clin Nutr.* 2006;83:362-70-90. Feb 2006.



## Marriage and Physical Activity

Your spouse can be your best exercise buddy. In a study of 3,075 people, researchers looked at marital status and activity levels. Married couples were more likely to be active than non-married individuals. If one spouse was active, the other spouse was also more likely to be active. In highly active men, their spouse was 3 times more likely to be active than women of inactive husbands. Having someone to exercise with can greatly improve your odds of being active for a lifetime.

—*Med Sci Sports Exer.* 2006;38:541-46. Mar. 2006.

Reprinted with permission from *Making Healthy Choices* newsletter by Don Hall, DrPH, CHES, Founder & CEO of Wellsource, Inc.

**Alternative Suggested for Emes Kosher Gelatin**—Some authors of recipe books for vegan cuisine have learned of recent developments which bear out the near certainty of the use of an animal product in formulating the ingredient which was marketed as vegan. In light of this event, the authors would like to suggest another vegan alternative—Eden “Agar Agar” flakes. This alternative needs to be adjusted when used in any recipe containing “Emes Kosher Gelatin” in *Tasty Vegan Delights* and *Caring Kitchen's* recipes.

## Falafel Pita Pockets with Creamy Cucumber Sauce

HEALTHY  
RECIPE

### Sauce

1 cucumber  
1 small  
tomato  
1 ½ cup plain,  
unsweetened  
yogurt or soy  
sour cream  
2 tsps. lemon  
juice, fresh-  
squeezed

1 tsp. seasoning salt  
Dash cayenne pepper

Wash cucumber, peel, and dice. Wash tomato and dice. Add cucumber, tomato, and remaining ingredients to yogurt or cream and mix well.

### Falafel

2 cups chickpeas, cooked (garbanzo or ceci beans)

1 clove fresh garlic, minced

1 tsp. cumin

½ tsp. turmeric

½ tsp. salt

¼ cup onion, diced and sautéed

¼ cup fresh parsley (if dried parsley, use less)

1/3 cup water or garbanzo juice

1 cup bulgur wheat, cooked

¼ cup whole wheat flour

1/8 tsp. cayenne pepper

Rinse and drain the garbanzos, reserving up to 1/3 cup juice. Combine all ingredients in a food processor and process until thoroughly combined and smooth—or use a masher tool. Preheat oven to 400°. Spray a baking sheet with nonstick cooking spray. Form mixture into 12 patties 1½ to 3 inches in diameter. Place on baking sheet. Spray each patty with the non-stick cooking spray. Bake 20-25 minutes or until golden brown. Flip over halfway through.

Assemble just before serving. Insert falafel patties into pocket bread, add a Romaine lettuce leaf or other leaf lettuce and spoon the creamy cucumber sauce between the patties and the lettuce.

—*Adapted from the Michell Sisters.*  
*Vibrant Life.* May/June 2006.

# the ISSACHAR PRINCIPLE: UNDERSTANDING THE TIMES

After his birth, not one word is written in Scripture about the man. Issachar was one of the 12 sons of Jacob—one of the six sons of his mother Leah. Given that nothing is written about how he lived life one can only conclude that he did not accomplish a great deal. His life was a ho-hum existence, or so we would think.

by Barry W. Bussey

Normally, if someone made an imprint on the world there would be a record, a piece of parchment, a stone monument, or at the very least a mythical story of some wonderful superhuman feat, but for Issachar the man, there is nothing. If you were to have “googled” “Issachar” during his lifetime, it would have come up with nothing. Instead, you might have gotten a suggestion on how to spell his name properly.

Issachar’s only claim to fame was his birth. He was the ancestor of the Tribe of Issachar. Genesis 49 records Jacob blessing his sons. When Issachar stood before his father, he was described as a donkey—a beast of burden who would submit to forced labor. (Genesis 49:14-15) Not what you would call a term of endearment. After all, Issachar was amongst the sons of Jacob who hated their brother Joseph to the extent that they planned to kill him, and when they sold him into slavery they came up with the horrific story that he was killed by some wild animal. Unlike Reuben who wanted to save Joseph, there was no record of Issachar sticking up for Joseph and standing up for the right. Instead, there is a deafening silence.

While the innocent was being carted off to a life of unknown horror as a slave, Issachar took part in divvying up the proceeds of the sale of a human being. Then there was the living of a lie—allowing his father to weep unknowingly of the loss of his most loved son. Issachar was no saint, but the experience of selling his brother to slavery would make a lasting impression on his descendants.

So much so that when David was raising an army to confront Saul we find this statement in 1 Chronicles 12:32: “Men of Issachar, who

understood the times and knew what Israel should do . . . .” It was obvious that Issachar’s descendants did not want to follow in their patriarch’s manner. They saw the situation that Israel was in and knew that it could not continue under Saul. God’s anointed had to take charge. Things simply could not go on as they were.

There seems to me to be a parallel with that ancient story of Issachar’s children and those of us who call ourselves Christians living in the early 21st century. Do we understand the times in which we live? Do we understand what Israel must do?

It is so easy for us to get so sidetracked in this world that we do not have the time to step back from our busy lives to see the big picture of what is happening. Three areas strike me as monumental changes in recent times that are affecting our own personal lives—three changes that many of us have not paid attention to. They are: Confusion over morality; militarization of our world; and financial instability. I will briefly discuss each.

We have lost the basic consensus of what is and is not appropriate in our personal lives, in the life of the church, and in the life of society. We no longer know where the boundaries are. In fact, our boundaries are now being set by the popular thought of our time. We have moved from a thought process that seeks truth to creating truth. We are making up reality as we go along. There is no more a sense of understanding the Creator and the created. Instead, we are creating our own understandings of what is based on our own personal desires.

Look around—in the media, in the halls of government, and around our airports. Our society is becoming accustomed to a buildup of militarization. Even in Canada there is an increased presence of our military. This world is rapidly becoming a battleground. The previous world wars showed the destructive power of a country

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# Creation Corner for Kids



## House Wren

On the day that my uncle went to the clothesline to take down his pants, he discovered that they had been taken over by a nesting house wren that had stuffed the seat of the pants with sticks to form a nest. No question about it, the trousers had been left on the line a day or two longer than they should have been. Maybe the wren decided that my uncle didn't want the pants anymore. In her little bird-brain, she was probably delighted with her "find."

House wrens have a reputation for being a bit pushy. They take over nests of other birds or sometimes they fill other nests with sticks, messing up the work done by another nesting bird. At best, the behaviour could be called "opportunistic." At worst, it could be called "rude."

### Think about it.

"Finders, keepers" may be a rule claimed by some as their right to take what doesn't belong to them. But, that's not God's way. When you are tempted to claim some "lost" item as your own, what should you do first? What kind of effort would you want someone to make in returning an item which you lost?

### Do it.

Put up a nesting box for house wrens in your yard. Learn more about house wrens from a field guide on birds or go to Cornell University's website at [www.birds.cornell.edu/BOW/HOUWRE](http://www.birds.cornell.edu/BOW/HOUWRE).



*"Don't just think about your own life, but take an interest in others and what you can do to help them" (Philippians 2:4, The Clear Word for Kids).*

## TEENTALK

Pastor, youth speaker & columnist, Josué Sánchez enjoys sharing Jesus with teens.

For questions or speaking engagements, contact him at:

Josue@JJBlogs.com



# I look awful!

I look awful. Nothing I wear looks right. I'm so fat! There's no way I'm going swimming this summer—everyone will laugh at me! If I only had Shakira's body... What should I do?

It is almost impossible to look "perfect" like the girls on the cover magazines. Do you know why? Two main reasons: First, many of them are fighting anorexia, and second, the computer (photo retouching) has a lot to do with the way they look on the magazines. The media portrays a deceiving perception of what an ideal girl is. They apply pressure on you with titles like: "58 Sexy Swimsuits, The Best Shorts for Your Body, What's Your Sex IQ, Where the Stars Shop" (from Teen People, May 2006).

BTW, now that you mention Shakira, look at what she said in her last cover interview with Teen People: "Computers are doing a great job of [making] the normal population think that you have to look like celebrities to be valued."

The key here is what kind of perfection you want to achieve. The media points at your body's shape and your pocket's depth. That's a tough test. But you, as a Christian, are very fortunate. You have Jesus, who looks at the beauty inside you. That's the kind of beauty that matters. Your heart's shape is way more important than your hips or belly. Your deep and clean thoughts are more valuable than your bank account. Your "wireless" communication with Jesus is better than the coolest smart phone out there.

Natalie LaRue, a contemporary Christian singer, quoted this verse some time ago: "Charm can be deceiving, and beauty fades away, but a woman who honours the LORD deserves to be praised" (Proverbs 31:30 CEV).

## Josue's Pick

"What's Real, What's Ideal: Overcoming a Negative Body Image" by Brangien Davis.

## Hands On

Avoid watching shows that are too "Hollywoodish" and read about young women that made an actual difference in this world.



that is wholly committed to war. We will face that time again. We pray not, but the recent events in the Middle East are not promising.

It appears that a financial earthquake is all but certain. The massive expansion of the U.S. debt reaching some 9 trillion dollars is simply incomprehensible. Every indication is that the U.S. Congress will give authorization for further debt. Any major disruption of oil delivery from the Middle East or another serious terrorist attack in the continental U.S. is going to cause untold damage to the economy.

Peter Grandich, a well-respected commentator on the U.S. economy, recently stated, "I believe America has entered a period of social, economic and political upheaval unlike anything it has ever witnessed."<sup>1</sup>

Next month, I want to address the second part of what I call "The Issachar Principle"—understanding what we must do. ■

*Barry W. Bussey is General Counsel and director of Public Affairs for the Adventist Church in Canada. [bbussey@sdacc.org](mailto:bbussey@sdacc.org)*



<sup>1</sup> Peter Grandich, Blue Chip & Income Report, (Wed. April 5, 2006), vol 2, issue 2.

**Seventh-day Adventist  
Global Tobacco  
Control Summit**

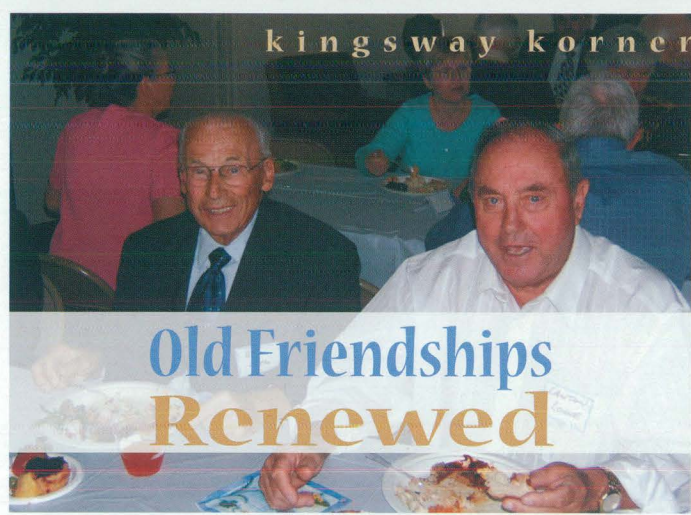
**IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 13TH WORLD  
CONFERENCE ON TOBACCO OR HEALTH  
[WWW.13THWCTOH.ORG](http://WWW.13THWCTOH.ORG).**

**Date:** July 14-16, 2006  
**Location:** Washington, DC

**Who should attend:**  
*For Adventist church leaders and members  
who have experience and expertise in tobacco  
control and treatment.*

*Sponsored by NAD, GC and LLU and Versicare  
For more information and to register [www.plusline.org/events](http://www.plusline.org/events)  
or call 800.732.7587*

*Honorary Banquet Saturday evening July 15 for  
Dr. and Mrs. Wayne McFarland and  
other Adventist pioneers in tobacco control.*



## Old Friendships Renewed

Over the past 103 years, Kingsway College has been providing education to the youth of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Thousands of young people have attended and graduated from this institution. Each of these young people have gone on to pursue careers in many different areas of the work force—plumbers, teachers, electricians, small and large business owners, carpenters, doctors, lawyers, nurses, and the list goes on. We are proud of the students that have attended Kingsway over the years and are always interested in what they are doing with their lives after they leave Kingsway.

During Kingsway Alumni weekends, many of our former students come to Oshawa and reminisce about the "good old days." Some of those days were not always good, however, most are remembered fondly. Some have not stepped on the campus since their graduation day. On March 4, 2006, Ralph Janes and I hosted our Annual Alumni Chapter Meeting in Loma Linda, California. This particular chapter has been meeting for over 20 years and this year housed the largest attendance ever. Eighty-one people came out on a beautiful Sabbath afternoon for a bountiful and delicious potluck lunch to chat with friends and classmates about their days at Oshawa Missionary College and Kingsway College.

This year, I presented a 165-picture slide show of our current students and events that have taken place this school year. As I walked around and listened to the many conversations about teachers, homework, old buildings that are no longer standing, and friends, I couldn't help but think how important Kingsway has been to so many over the years.

I hope to start up other Kingsway chapters in the future, beginning with our first Annual Bermuda Chapter Meeting in 2006. Students come to Kingsway, become friends, and move on with the next chapter of their lives. It is incredible to me how often lives cross paths and those friendships are rekindled—it is as if we were never apart. I am grateful that we have a group of dedicated volunteers that keep our Alumni Association active. That is why we have alumni weekends and alumni chapters that offer us an opportunity to come together with friends. Kingsway is a place where lifelong friendships are born and, like the saying goes, "Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for awhile and leave footprints on our hearts. And we are never, ever the same" (Anonymous). I thank God for the friendships that I have made in this place. ■

*Greg Bussey is director of public relations at Kingsway College in Oshawa, Ont.*

The question I ask you is,

SAVED

"Are you saved—today—right now?"

or Not?

by Lara Melashenko

One Sabbath afternoon a couple of friends and I sat around the living room discussing salvation. Our conversation ended all too soon and I was left troubled; troubled that my friends weren't sure if they were saved. I awoke this morning, opened my Bible and rediscovered Grace.





# I quit God. I quit because I couldn't

Upon rediscovering what God had to say about salvation, I immediately sent out a mass email to all my friends, family and previous students. I had something to share!

The question I ask you is, "Are you saved—today—right now? If you dropped dead this moment would you await Jesus' words, 'Welcome home My precious child! Come inherit the paradise I've prepared for you! I've taken note of all your favourite dreams, talents, desires and do I have a surprise for you!'"

Now, if you honestly don't know, or if you say "No way, I'm not ready," keep reading. If you say, "You bet! I'm saved!" praise God; you have peace!

In response to this question, one of my friends replied, "I believe God can save me, but it's a two-way street. I have some work to do before I'm saved. There are things in my life that I need to make better first."

Unfortunately, I believe this response is an all-too-common response, even among "good Christians." It used to be my response until the age of 25. Following years of trying to make myself "better first," I quit God. I quit because I couldn't get it right. I believed He could, but I couldn't. Thanks be to God—He didn't quit me.

So, let's start with the "fix-it first" checklist (I know the list all too well as I struggle with most):

- anger/hateful words
- gossip
- spend more "time" with Him
- stop lusting
- worry about everything
- pornography
- adultery
- impatient with my kids/husband/boyfriend/girlfriend
- lying
- stealing
- commit more time to prayer
- negative thoughts
- pride/conceit
- selfishness
- materialism
- breaking the Sabbath

The list is pretty endless, isn't it? Who of you can honestly say, "I've got 90% of those things taken care of. I guess I'm good to go!" Very few would use that "outside" voice. However, I think our subconscious drives us to think of the things

we're not doing. If we haven't mastered the worst items on the list, then we're not doing enough. It's the great lie planted by Satan. "You'll never be good enough, you inconsistent, ungrateful, unchanged sinner. Give up. How could God accept you when you keep doing the same stupid things over and over?"

On the one hand, we know that we'll never be good enough, and yet we are driven to be "gooder" so we can be worthy of salvation. We think His part is to save us once we've fixed our list. My friends, it's a lie! It's a sign that we don't understand the whole human condition problem. Read Romans 7:14-25.

Let's pause for a minute to consider the Biblical record. Adam, Eve, Moses, Aaron, Job, David, Solomon, Peter and Paul were all flawed humans struggling with the same fatal disease—sin. And yet, God's grace and kindness lovingly covered their weaknesses and imperfections! All were His beloved. All were given the same measure of grace. All were accepted. What makes us think we're so different? We all struggle—it's the given. "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! For I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). In this life, we will have trouble with others, ourselves, sin, God. Fortunately for us, this is no surprise to God.

I want to share the good news with you! Grace earned is not grace at all. There's no such thing as grace deserved. Grace is a free gift! It was extended to us to simply take. To accept. Thank you Jesus, for giving me an "out!" Thank you for accepting me in spite of my sin. Bring on the Precious Blood, because I need it! If grace were only given when we were good, it wouldn't be grace at all. Think of your own life. When did you most need/appreciate grace as a child? When you screwed up! We didn't even notice the grace when we were good! Grace isn't any good if it doesn't show full acceptance/love when you are most unacceptable. The key to salvation is accepting this grace! Once we understand that there's nothing that we can do to separate us from God's saving power (see Romans 8:37-39), we have true freedom, joy, peace and acceptance. God's grace/salvation extends to us when we're good and bad. But I sure appreciate it more when I'm bad, don't you? Grace can't come and go. You can't be saved when you're good and then unsaved when you're bad, provided we've accepted Jesus as our lifeline.

Did you know that the law was actually given to us to show us that we couldn't keep it? "The law was added so that the trespass might increase" (Romans 5:20). Sounds strange doesn't it. You'd think that the list shows us exactly what God wants us to do and once we've mastered it, we're good. But it's

# get it right. I believed He could, but I couldn't.

quite to the contrary. We will never be good enough. In fact, it's the sin that qualifies me for salvation. So, bring on the recognition of sin. Therein lies my freedom. Praise God that He knew my sin before I existed and still invites me in. "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). "But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 5:21). That's the point. That's the mystery. That's the prize. That's the yearning of every soul. That's salvation. To know that in spite of being "bad," I am accepted into the beloved. "It does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy" (Romans 9:16). Don't you just want to jump for joy? Praise God! Can I get a witness?

Now some of you may ask, "Does that mean once saved, always saved? Does that mean that I can do anything I want and I'm saved?" Absolutely not! (Read Romans 6:1-4) If I really understand and accept God's grace, I don't want to sin. I don't want to hurt Him. I don't want to take Him for granted. I don't want to forget His love. I want to reciprocate. I want to love Him back. Think of a marriage. Because of the love you have for your spouse, you want to make them happy. You don't want to take them for granted. You want to serve them. All the time? Not a chance! I'm pretty selfish by nature (can't get rid of my human condition). However, I am still committed. I'm not giving up and I'm going to try to make my marriage as good as I can, despite its ups and downs. It's the same with my "marriage" relationship with God. The difference is, He never screws up. Fortunately, He knows I will.

In the end, my question for you is "Do you understand grace? Have you accepted God's grace? Does it make you excited to think that He's not letting go of you when you're "bad"? His grip is steady, despite our unfaithfulness. His grip is unchanging, despite our changing. He can't undo what He promised. "Be confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:6).

We are to praise Him and thank Him for His incredible grace. The new life we have is comprised of the following:

- eternal life/peace/hope/joy/confidence
- hope that God is with us during hard times
- victory over sin
- eternal life/peace/hope/joy/confidence
- hope that God is with us during hard times

- victory over sin
- eternal life/peace/hope/joy/confidence
- hope that God is with us during hard times
- victory over sin

Get the point?

Fortunately, God knew exactly what we would need to make it through this maze of life. Here are a couple reminders to keep us confident in our salvation.

## Put your faith in the One who can!

"Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth, He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not grow faint" (Isaiah 40:28-31). Great news for those needing a focus!

## Fix our eyes on Jesus and run!

"Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:1-3). He marked my course so I can do it!

## Count on the Holy Spirit

"The Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will" (Romans 8:26-27). Wow, a powerful inside connection!

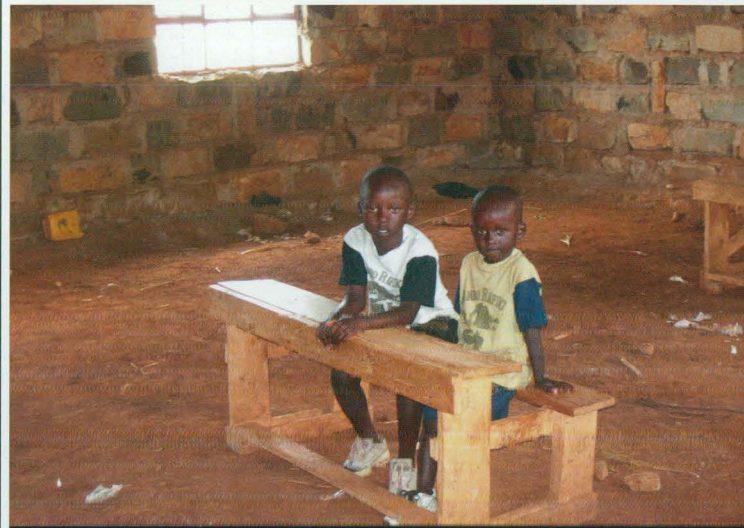
Stop right now and praise God for His grace and salvation. Ask Him to help you accept it, and run with it. Don't look back. And burn the list! ■

*Lara Melashenko (nec Jackson) is the mother of two boys, wife and high school Science and Math teacher who has a passion for ministering to the needs in her home community in Calgary, Alberta*





Nurse Line Gregoire from Ottawa examines a patient at the Kipungani Village Clinic. The clinic needs to be expanded and supplied with additional medical equipment.



Ringa Primary school has very little furniture and needs cement floors and windows installed. Funds are being collected toward completing this school in 2006.



The grand opening for the new Masai School was held in January during the visit of the ADRA Canada Volunteers.



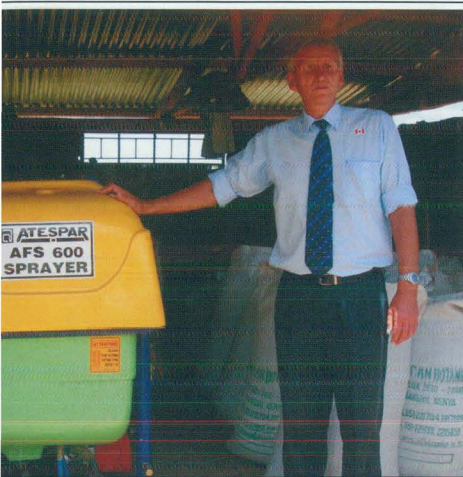
ADRA Canada and A Better World wish to thank all the volunteers who made this trip a success.



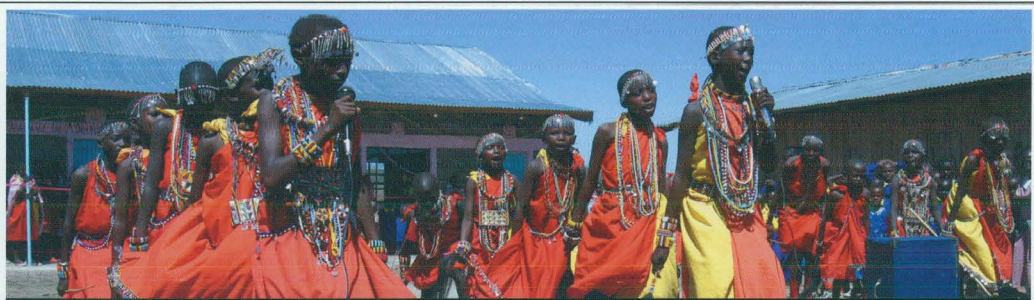
John and Kim Middag of Accuform Welding in Red Deer, Alberta made their second visit to help improve production at the Kendu Bay wheelchair facility that they helped to fund and implement.



The Nyaburi School building is in need of renovation. New wheelchair ramps with railings are needed to meet safety standards and the leaky roof needs repair.



Ralph Spinks with the new sprayer partly funded by ADRA Canada. The sprayer has increased production and allows the orphanage to grow enough produce for their own use with the extra sold to help generate income.

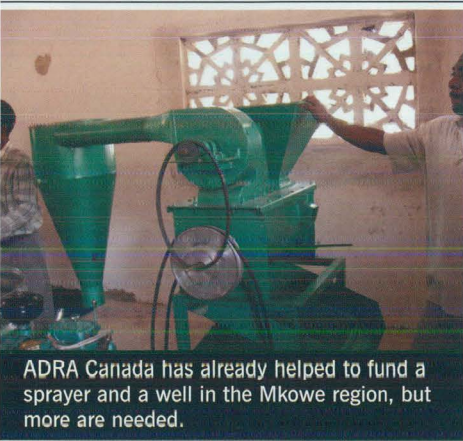


Children perform a traditional dance at the grand opening celebration for the Masai School.

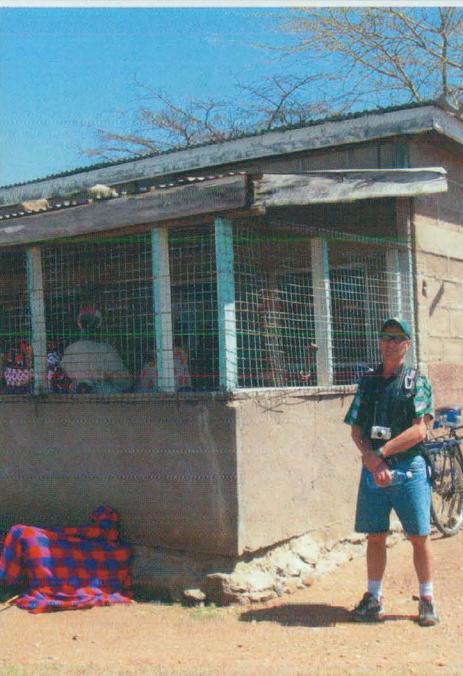
# Kenya Safari 2006

## Volunteers Visit ADRA Canada Projects

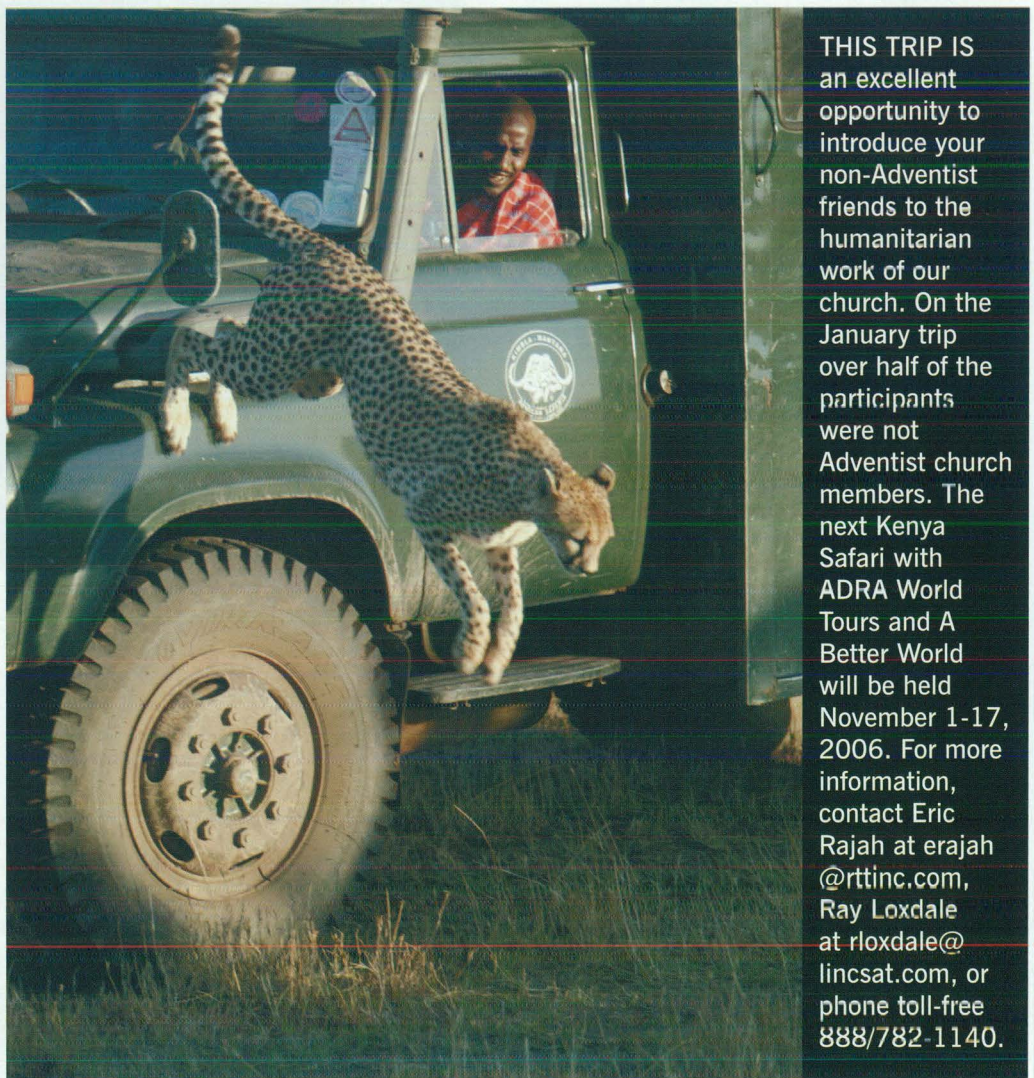
This past January, 44 travellers from across Canada and the United States joined ADRA World Tours in Kenya to evaluate several projects. They attended the grand opening celebration at the Masai School, held medical and eye clinics, and attended church with the children at East African Mission Orphanage. The group also helped to identify several new projects for 2006. These projects will be implemented by ADRA Canada and A Better World, a humanitarian organization begun by the College Heights Adventist Church. ■



ADRA Canada has already helped to fund a sprayer and a well in the Mkowe region, but more are needed.



Richard Koperski of Edmonton in front of the Talek Clinic, which serves 50,000 people and is in need of a larger building. Plans are underway to construct a new building in 2006.



THIS TRIP IS an excellent opportunity to introduce your non-Adventist friends to the humanitarian work of our church. On the January trip over half of the participants were not Adventist church members. The next Kenya Safari with ADRA World Tours and A Better World will be held November 1-17, 2006. For more information, contact Eric Rajah at [erajah@rttinc.com](mailto:erajah@rttinc.com), Ray Loxdale at [rloxdale@lincsat.com](mailto:rloxdale@lincsat.com), or phone toll-free 888/782-1140.

# With His Sleeves Rolled Up

by Denise Herr, Professor  
of English at Canadian  
University College

*In the 21 years since that moving day, I've learned that my first contact with Reo Ganson showed me a true picture of the man. He gets involved directly with anything that affects Canadian University College.*



Dr. Ganson receives a retirement gift.

"Someone named Reo Ganson is driving a U-Haul to move us to Alberta. I think he may be the academic dean of CUC," I told my husband.

"You must be wrong. An academic dean wouldn't do that sort of thing," he replied.

But I was right. The next day Reo Ganson, the academic dean of Canadian Union College, and his son arrived. He greeted us with a big smile and with his sleeves rolled up, and then began loading boxes, furniture, and even a canoe, onto the truck. He drove all our household goods to Canada, and, when we arrived on campus at 1 a.m., he provided a room in his home where we could spend the night.

In the 21 years since that moving day, I've learned that my

first contact with Reo Ganson showed me a true picture of the man. He gets involved directly with anything that affects Canadian University College. He drives an earthmover, paints a hallway, installs drywall, talks to students, teaches classes, conducts staff worship in his office, takes notes at meetings, evaluates reports, makes difficult decisions, and plans for the future.

For many years, Ganson lived near the campus with his parents and four brothers, and attended the local grade school. He completed high school and two years of post secondary studies at Canadian Union College. During his last year of studies, he told faculty member George Graham, "I don't know what I'm going to do in the future." Graham answered,



# Quotable Quotes

"I know. You're going to be a teacher." And Graham was right.

Between 1963 and 1980, Ganson's life revolved around family, teaching and education. He married Leona Kereychuk, saw their family grow with the births of three children, Candace, Conroy, and Clayton, and he became a teacher. He taught and was the principal of schools in Prince George, British Columbia, and in Edmonton, Alberta. For one year while he was studying in Edmonton, he drove regularly to Lacombe to direct the CUC band. During this time, he continued his own schooling, earning bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees in education from the University of Alberta, and for two years he was Secretary of Education for the Alberta Conference.

In 1980 he joined the education faculty at CUC and worked on the Hilltop for 11 years, serving as a teacher, division dean, academic dean and, ultimately, president of the institution. He not only sought accreditation for CUC's academic programs through Alberta's Private Colleges Accreditation Board, but he also managed to be a hands-on administrator. The faculty and staff knew Reo Ganson as a builder. His hands and plans helped to create or renovate many buildings on campus, changing the old gymnasium into an education building and the West Hall dormitory into classrooms, practice rooms, and offices. They saw him climbing ladders, pounding nails, checking blueprints. But they knew that his care and concern for CUC went far beyond bricks, mortar, and 2x4s. They saw him hammering together agreements with other schools and universities and checking plans for the future.

After four years as president of Canadian Union College, Ganson became associate director of education for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Living in the United States and travelling to 75 different countries, he monitored the academic life of 102 colleges and universities.

In 1997, it was time to return to Canada, and Reo Ganson accepted a call to become president of the British Columbia Conference. Nearly four years later when CUC called him to serve as president once again, he accepted that call. He returned, eyes twinkling and his sleeves rolled up, to help influence the life of the school.

In his second term, Ganson continued to be a hand-on administrator. He identified new funding, made strategic decisions, participated in handshake, spoke at opening convocation, discovered what was wrong with leaking pipes in the swimming pool, found new ways of approaching government agencies, and led the institution through several years of important accreditation reviews.

On August 1, 2006, Reo Ganson will be retiring, but people know that he will still be smiling, his sleeves will be rolled up, and CUC will be at the heart of his prayers. ■

Compiled by Myla Ferrer, communications officer at Canadian University College.



Reo has served as a mentor, a colleague and a friend of mine for many years. Though he has always had the astute ability to lead the university, he has always done it in a very compassionate manner. Being a "handyman" type person, he is always willing to don his administrative robe, roll up the sleeve and lend a helping hand whether it be for the institution or for some personal need. We have been blessed to have Reo's leadership at the university for many of the critical years of CUC's growth.

—Brian Leavitt, Vice President for Advancement

Robert Frost is quoted as saying "By working faithfully eight hours a day, you may eventually get to be a boss and work 12 hours a day." Reo puts in many 12 hour days here at CUC. During those 12 hours, he always finds the time to share a funny story and takes delight in seeing the happy side of life. He tackles projects with eagerness, be it writing a report, chairing a meeting, painting or repairing a building, taking a "course" on a nice green lawn, collating materials for board meetings, or providing musical entertainment. Always motivating, ever affirming, life is never dull with Reo around! Happy retirement, boss—we're going to miss you a lot!

—Audrey Haggkvist, Administrative Secretary to the President



Leona and Reo Ganson

## Lift Up the Trumpet, Jesus is... Maritime Camp Meeting

July 28 to August 5 at Pugwash Campground, Nova Scotia



**Walter Arties**  
Singer,  
Voice of Prophecy



**Jared Browne**  
Pastor-Youth  
Speaker,  
Maritime  
Conference



**Barry Bussey**  
Public Affairs/  
Religious Liberty,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
in Canada



**Henry  
Feyerabend**  
Former  
Director-Speaker,  
It Is Written,  
Canada



**Dan Jackson**  
President,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church in  
Canada



**Kim Johnson**  
Seminar Speaker,  
Florida  
Conference



**Lonnie  
Melashenko**  
Director-Speaker,  
Voice of Prophecy



**Nicole  
Thorsteinson**  
Teen Speaker,  
P.E.I.



**Dave White**  
Seminar Speaker,  
Florida

## Quebec Camp Meetings

Quebec Camp Meeting—English Sector  
July 19 to July 23, at Camp Mariste

**Home At Last**



**Dr. Glen  
Samuels**  
President,  
West Jamaica  
Conference

Quebec Camp Meeting—Spanish Sector  
August 3 to August 5, at Montreal



**Armando  
Mirando**  
Vice-President,  
General  
Conference

Greater Quebec Camp Meeting  
July 17 to July 22, at Camping de la Rivière,  
108 Rang du Moulin Rouge, St-Leonard d'Aston, Quebec



**Karl Johnson**  
Theology Professor,  
Adventist Institution  
of Colonges du  
Salève, France

## Tell Newfoundland and Labrador Newfoundland Camp Meeting

July 17 to July 22 at Woody Acres Campground



**Barry Bussey**  
Public Affairs/  
Religious Liberty,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
in Canada



**David Crook**  
Retired former  
president of  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
in Newfoundland



**Gary Hodder**  
President,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
in Newfoundland



**John Ramsay**  
Treasurer,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
in Canada



**Bill Santos**  
Director-Speaker,  
It Is Written  
Canada



**Nick Trent**  
Director National  
Programs,  
ADRA Canada



**Cindy Tutsch**  
Associate  
Director,  
E.G. White Estate

## Celebrating 100 Years of God's Leading Alberta Camp Meeting

July 7 to July 15 at Foothills Camp



**James Astleford**  
Marketing  
Manager,  
ADRA Canada



**Donald Corkum**  
President,  
Wisconsin  
Conference



**Henry Feyerabend**  
Former  
Director-Speaker,  
It Is Written, Canada



**Jack Harris**  
Field  
Representative,  
Voice of Prophecy



**Dan Jackson**  
President,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
in Canada



**Dale Kongorski**  
Pastor,  
Islands District,  
Washington  
State



**Herb Larsen**  
Retired-former,  
Alberta  
Conference  
President



**G. Edward Reid**  
Stewardship  
Director,  
North American  
Division



**Justis St. Hilaire**  
Evangelist,  
Alberta  
Conference



**Edward Teranski**  
Retired-former  
Departmental  
Director,  
Alberta Conference

## We Still Believe North East Region Camp Meeting

June 16 to June 18 at Smoky Lake, Alberta

**Brian McMahon**  
Evangelist,  
Amazing Facts

**Sabbath Potluck Dinner**—Please bring food ready to serve.  
**Sabbath Potluck Supper**—Please bring fruits, breads, etc.  
ready to serve.  
**Directions:** From Smoky Lake go East 5 km on Hwy 28 to  
Range Road 163, Turn North, go 12 km to camp meeting site—  
signs will be posted.

## There is a God Ontario Camp Meeting

July 12 to July 15 at Kingsway College campus, Oshawa, Ontario



**Ted Jones**  
Retired Associate  
World Field  
Secretary,  
General Conference



**Roger A. Bernard, Jr.**  
Pastor, Berean  
Adventist Church,  
St. Louis, Missouri

## The Commission British Columbia Camp Meeting

July 21 to July 29 at Camp Hope, British Columbia

No photo available.

**Richard Barron**  
Pastor,  
Ridge Area  
Church, Florida



**Phil Brewer**  
Founder/Director,  
Silver Hills  
Lifestyle  
Makeover Spa,  
British Columbia



**Russell Burrill**  
Professor of  
Evangelism and  
Church Growth,  
Andrews University



**Dan Jackson**  
President,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church in  
Canada



**Gerry Karst**  
Vice President,  
General  
Conference



**Bill McClendon**  
Pastor,  
South Tulsa  
Adventist  
Fellowship



**Gordon Pipher**  
President,  
British Columbia  
Conference



**Lee Venden**  
Pastor,  
College Place  
Adventist Church

## The Awakening Manitoba/Saskatchewan Camp Meeting

June 30 to July 8 at Camp Whitesand, Theodore, Saskatchewan



**Nilton Amorim**  
Secretary,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
in Canada



**Dr. Melvin Beltz**  
Medical Advisor,  
Black Hills Health  
and Education  
Center



**James Black**  
Youth Director,  
North American  
Division



**Dick Duerksen**  
Assistant Vice  
President Mission  
Development,  
Florida Hospital

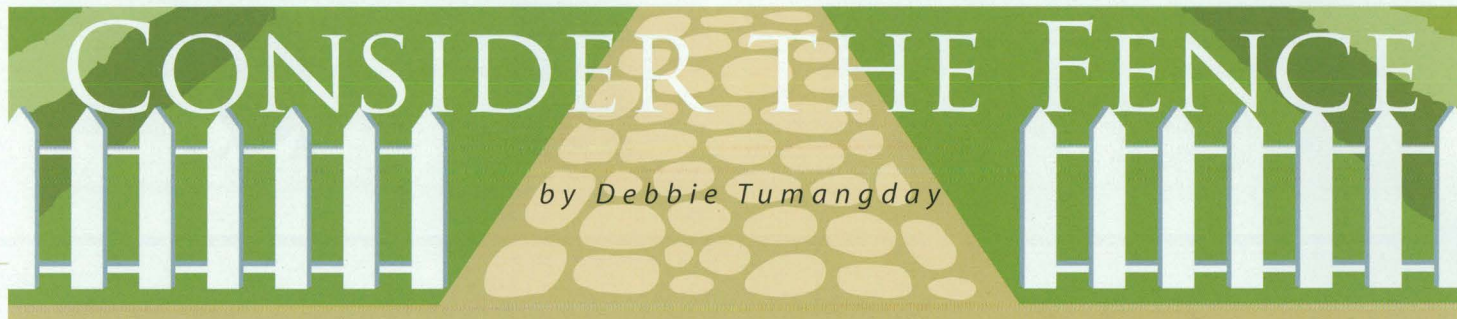


**Harry Sackett**  
Retired Pastor and  
Administrator,  
British Columbia  
Conference



**Ron Sydenham**  
Pastor,  
College Heights  
Church, Lacombe,  
Alberta

## reflections



**H**ave you ever considered the “fence?” Yes, that barrier which is supposed to provide a variety of services for the owners of property. On my way to work yesterday, I happened to notice some interesting fences that stimulated the thought that these enclosures can say a lot about the person living behind them.

I observed one style of fence that was very low and encompassed an entire front yard. Another fence was made cheaply; a few planks nailed together. The next was the cozy white picket kind, and the last was a high, fully enclosed privacy fence.

Well, I thought, fences can reflect character. The low rise enclosing type could be saying, “You are kind of welcome here, but don’t intrude too far.” The cheaply made fence might be saying, “Anything goes; I’m not really serious about this anyway.” The white picket fence says, “We are special.

Our property and home are really important, but we do not want you to intrude.” Of course, the high, enclosed fence just screams, “Back off! Stay out! Do not bother us!”

So the question arises, “Do we as Christians present fences? What do other people see when they look at us, or listen to what we say. Are we approachable, open, aloof, self-centred? How important it is to be aware of our bearing in expression, word and deed. We are supposed to be reflecting Christ’s character, so how are we standing up to that challenge? Let’s try to keep our “gates” ajar.

By the way, I think Jesus would have a driveway bordered with flowers, a beautiful green lawn, and a few low shrubs that invites the passerby to look, appreciate and enjoy. ■

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*Debbie Tumangday writes from Oshawa, Ontario.*

## british columbia

### Join Us for a Families Forever Weekend

Starting a family is the easy part, but attaining a healthy, loving family is a different story. Getting married is as simple as saying "I do," but making home a little bit of heaven on earth requires a little work here on earth!

To help parents and couples in the lower mainland area of B.C. maximize their relationships, the Abbotsford Adventist church, in conjunction with the B.C. Conference family life department, are hosting Nancy Van Pelt for a Families are Forever weekend, June 23-25.

Nancy is a certified family life educator

and gifted communicator who exudes incredible enthusiasm to effectively drive home Biblical principles that have proven timeless in making highly effective families. She has, to date, conducted over 1,000 seminars on family relationships around the world.

Even if you think your relationship with your children and/or spouse is okay, you need a tune-up. As humans, none of us are yet perfect, and until Jesus comes it is necessary for us to grow in God's grace and more fully reflect His love in our homes. As a pastor, it is my

experience that "as goes the family, so goes the church" in reflecting God's light to those around us.

This seminar will especially focus on spousal relationships and effective parenting. The seminar will be held at the Abbotsford Adventist Church. It starts at 7 p.m. on Friday and ends at noon on Sunday. There is no charge for the weekend, however, a freewill offering will be taken.

Call Pastor Hall at 604/854-5400 or Mary at 604/853-5451 for more information. ■

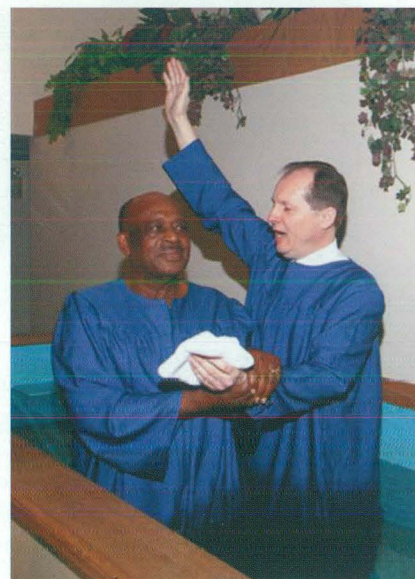
### Amazing Results with Amazing Discoveries

Together with Amazing Discoveries, the Three Angels Adventist Company in Penticton held a six week evangelistic series in January/February 2006, with Pastor Victor Gill. The average nightly attendance was 40 to 50. The messages were straight and pointed, but shared by Pastor Gill with a humble spirit.

On March 4, seven people took their stand to be part of God's remnant church and it is anticipated that four more will make a commitment soon. Weekly Bible studies are underway at the home of Mark Kiefiuk (company leader) with 15 to 22 people attending who have a desire to learn more. The motto of the Three Angels Company is to evangelize as much as we can while we still have the freedom to do so. Praise God for all things! ■



### Members Rejoice At Decision Made



George Wolcott, a long-time attendee at the Langley Adventist Church, was baptized by Pastor David Jamieson on April 1, 2006, with family, friends, and his new church family in attendance. ■

## Joining and Growing Together

When the Vancouver Portuguese, and Surrey Hispanic churches, along with several other believers in the Surrey area joined together in March 2005, the new church was unanimously called Abundant Life Seventh-day Adventist Community Church.

Members rejoiced when the first two baptisms were held on June 11, 2005, by Pastor Paulo Macena. Those baptized were Thais Rocha and Janaina Estacio. ■



## ontario

### Tanzania Evangelism Breakthrough Under A Mango Tree



Dr. Kenneth Campbell, pastor of the Downsview Church in Toronto, returned to Ontario after baptizing 92 individuals in a highly successful evangelistic series of meetings in Tanga, Tanzania.

He was invited by the North East Tanzania Conference to hold meetings in what was once a thriving port city but is now an impoverished shadow of its former self. Although 90 percent of Tanga's inhabitants are Muslim, belief in witchcraft is widespread. Many of its residents believe it is under a curse and seek every opportunity to leave.

The meetings were held December 18, 2005 through January 14, 2006. Held at an open area of land in the centre of the city, a platform was erected under a big mango tree to shade the preacher from the afternoon sun.

Evangelism in Tanga has been very difficult. The last series

of four weeks held by Adventist evangelists resulted in only four baptisms. Many evangelists preferred to conduct meetings in other areas of Tanzania where they are able to baptize hundreds and thousands. In the series conducted by Dr. Campbell, 25 people were included in the first baptism. The local pastor was amazed and said, "This is a big breakthrough." It was an answer to numerous prayers.

Pastor Campbell was keenly aware of the difficulties in reaching a Muslim population so he involved his wife, Velma, 12-year-old son, Andre, and faithful church member, Stephanie Jones, to pray throughout the entire series. Each Wednesday was set aside as a day of prayer and fasting. Also, each evening, public prayers were offered for special needs in the city. Many people brought their sick friends and family to be prayed for while others testified of how God had performed miracles in their lives. The meeting had a great impact on the city.

One woman was so convicted by the truth of God's word that she refused to listen to her Muslim husband and was baptized. After baptism, her husband refused to accept her. She came to the meeting and asked Pastor Campbell and the pastors to pray for her. The following night her husband attended the meeting and requested baptism. One lady, who was possessed by a demon, was attacked twice on the day of her baptism. In the last attack, the demons tried to drown her during her baptism but the quick response of the deacons saved her life and she was set free.

Pastor Campbell will return to the city in 2007 to conduct a follow-up series. He also plans to open an English language school, a dispensary to care for the sick and send two containers of humanitarian supplies to the churches in the city. To find out what is needed, he may be contacted at Downsview Seventh-day Adventist Church, 37 Bakersfield St., Toronto, Ontario, or phone him at 416/635-6461. ■

## Discover the Power Series Apple Creek Church

**D**ream a dream, discuss it with the Lord seeking His guidance and be amazed at what can be accomplished.

This is what happened at the Apple Creek Church located in Markham, Ontario. The dream originated with the senior pastor, Dr. Mansfield Edwards, who had a desire to preach the gospel throughout the world. This sparked a series of meetings and brainstorming of ideas on how to get the word out of the Apple creek church and into other parts of the world.

As a result of those meetings, the Apple Creek church is proud to present the "Discover the Power Satellite Series," which airs on the Hope Channel every Sunday at 12 a.m. and 2 p.m. and Fridays at 8 a.m., EST in North America. The series focuses on different challenges that affect Christians in everyday life.

Dr. Edwards presents each message, based on the teachings of the Bible to encourage viewers and help them with the challenges of everyday life. Since the first broadcast, there has been considerable feedback from viewers locally and internationally. Many here in Canada, particularly in the greater Toronto area, have indicated that they are being blessed by the program. Here are some powerful testimonies from some viewers who have seen the program and have shared how *Experience the Power* has enhanced their knowledge of the Bible and positively impacted their lives.

A resident of Markham, Ontario, having watched the program "Lonely but Not Alone" stated, "Although I am

single and live alone, I know that God is always near me at all times watching over me."

A gentleman from Namibia West Africa writes, "I was at the end of my rope and was contemplating suicide," until he saw the broadcast "Lonely But Not Alone." "The program gave me hope," he added, and he has now requested more information.

Another individual writes, "I live in Bermuda and was surfing my satellite channels when I came across the program. I immediately contacted the president of the Bermuda Conference and shared the good news of an Adventist program being broadcasted internationally."

Special thanks to the Apple Creek congregation who support Dr. Edwards in this powerful ministry, and the camera crew, comprised of four individuals, who work tirelessly to record and edit each program. Special thanks also goes out to the Hope Channel that has placed the *Discover the Power* series on a regular broadcasting cycle for viewers all around the world to enjoy.

For more information, visit our website at [www.applecreek.sda.com](http://www.applecreek.sda.com), or write to us at Apple Creek Seventh-day Adventist Church, 700 Apple Creek Blvd., Markham, ON L3R 7X9.

It started with a dream and the Lord has turned it into reality. We invite you to join us and discover the power for yourself. ■

## "New Life" at New Life

**S**abbath, February 4 brought much joy as three sisters, Alyson, Annie and Samantha Hawthorne, were baptized by Pastor Campbell Page. All three of these young ladies are students at College Park Elementary School.



Greg VanWart

Greg VanWart was baptized by Pastor Page on August 20, 2005. We rejoice with Greg's family and friends on his decision. Greg has recently returned

from a four month mission trip to Nicaragua.

Justin Strom was baptized last fall by Pastor Page, and on the same Sabbath David and Karen Bowmeester dedicated their son Michael to the Lord.

With a renewed emphasis on prayer in 2006, we see God bringing more of His children into the fold. To God be the glory! ■



Smiles of joy are the feature of the day as New Life celebrates another baptism and a dedication. From left, Karen and Michael Bowmeester, David Bowmeester, and Justin Strom.



From left, Pastor Campbell Page, Alyson, Samantha and Annie Hawthorne.

## SCHEDULES

### Voice of Prophecy

[www.vop.com](http://www.vop.com)

**Week of May 28-June 2—Sun:** Jeremiah: A Call to Heart Religion; Mon-Fri: What's It All About? -1; **June 4-9—Sun:** Lamentations: Jeremiah's Sorrow; Mon-Fri: What's It All About? -2; **June 11-16—Sun:** Ezekiel: Hope for the Future; Mon-Fri: What's It All About? -3; **June 18-23—Sun:** Daniel: Vision for the Future; Mon-Fri: The Just Shall Live 1; **June 25-30—Sun:** Hosea: The Pleading Prophet; Mon-Fri: The Just Shall Live-2

### It It Written

**June 4—**"Black Socks"; **June 11—**"Running From God"; **June 18—**"Is God Particular?"; **June 25—**"Mount Moriah"

Check your local TV Guide for station and time information.

## Mt. Olive Church Community Out-Reach Programme

The Mt. Olive church, in its strong passion for saving souls, has established a programme at 121 Kendleton Drive in Etobicoke, which operates one Sunday afternoon each month. The presentation consists of testimonies, special music and approximately 15 minutes of preaching. There is also time for fellowshiping and refreshments for the seniors, who are the targeted guests of this programme.

On December 11, over 100 seniors were provided with dinner, and each one received a gift. Entertainment featured the play "Saints Worshipping the Lord in Heaven." The programme was greatly appreciated, and many seniors were heard asking when the church would be back.

The Mt. Olive Church is looking forward to expanding its work in other communities with a focus on youth and family as a whole. ■



## quebec

### Ignite 300 Convention A Rousing Success

It was an unforgettable weekend for the members of the Ignite 300 for God initiative on May 10-12, 2006. This initiative came into existence some 24 months ago and its main objective is to equip and empower the laity. Our goal was to enroll 300 lay persons in evangelism from 2004 to 2008. Within less than nine months we had surpassed our goal. In fact, to date, we have an enrollment of 350 lay persons.

Following the Festival of the Laity that took place on November 4-5, 2005, it was decided to host an Ignite 300 Convention. Because of the winter season, we anticipated an attendance of only 125 persons. God surprised us with a turnout of 251 people as we met at the Lafontaine Adventist Church.

We were blessed by great preaching from two of our lay persons, Mitchum Burnett, who delivered an inspiring sermon on Friday night, and Dr. Neil Miller who challenged us on Sabbath. We had two great seminars presented by our very own experts. Pastor Hopeton Cousins instructed the laity on the *Art of Sermon Preparation* and the *Art of Sermon Delivery*, while Pastor Vaillant Youte covered the subject of *How to Reach the Secular Mind*.

It was inspiring to hear the report of Luz Maborang of the Montreal Filipino Church who reported three baptisms so far as the result of her involvement in Bible studies. Pat Dennison of the Westmount Church reported six baptisms through the Discover Bible School that she operates at her church. Joseph Gakwerere of the Maranatha French Church shared the good news of a small group that he started and, by God's grace, they have had five baptisms so far. Miriam Valdivia of the Spanish Church reported 40 active Bible studies through the small groups in her church.



Pastor Vaillant Youte



Pastor Hopeton Cousins



Daniel Vuillaume of the St. Hubert Church launched a mammoth personal project called TELEFA, a non-profit organization who will build the first French Adventist television station, broadcasting French programs 24 hours a day. Telefa's programs will cover relevant topics such as the Sabbath, Christ's second coming, Bible prophecies, health, psychology, science and the Bible, and missionary journeys. It will feature Bible-based answers to all questions. Programming will be targeted to the various age groups and will broadcast programs produced in various localities, including Martinique, Africa, and Quebec.

Both the laity and the clergy left the meeting satisfied and determined to put the information into practice so that at the next Ignite 300 Convention to be held in September, they can report further miracles that the Lord has wrought in their lives and that of others. ■

— *Emile Maxi, director, Personal Ministries Department*



Sergena Obas, interpreter for the Ignite 300 for God weekend.

## maritime

### Another Successful Year at Sandy Lake Academy

Last autumn, Sandy Lake Academy celebrated its 30th anniversary in its present location on the shores of Sandy Lake in Bedford, Nova Scotia. In pursuit of our mission, "Educating the whole person to the glory of God," Sandy Lake Academy offers a quality education from Kindergarten to Grade 12. We present an excellent academic program, and endeavour to instill in each student a love for God. We are also able to use the school's wonderful natural setting to enhance the educational experience. The teachers of Sandy Lake Academy bring to their work a variety of experiences and talents, including mission work overseas, expertise in their various fields of study and a love for the students.

The lower elementary classroom has adopted principles of Integrated Thematic Instruction (ITI). Lessons are structured around a conceptual theme and provide learning experiences in the various multiple intelligences. Emphasis on "Lifeskills" and "Lifelong Guidelines" helps to create an environment that is conducive to optimum learning.

Sandy Lake is continually involved in various outreach projects. The students have had an ongoing fundraiser to

help children in an orphanage in the Democratic Republic of Congo. They also participated in the Terry Fox Run, raising \$1,750 for cancer research. In December, our annual Christmas program was held, with dinner, entertainment and a silent auction, raising \$1,979 for school improvements. A group of Sandy Lake students joined with others in a

mission trip to Belize over Christmas. In February, students had the opportunity to perform some musical selections at a Seniors' Valentine's Banquet held at the school.

The academy is pleased to have expanded their set of English hand bells to include a 3rd octave. The bell choir has performed at churches in the Maritimes and also at the Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank and the Nova Scotia Rehabilitation Center.

Sandy Lake Academy has big plans for the coming year. As God leads us in our work of continually improving and upgrading our school, we hope to increase our enrollment and fill our dormitories. We invite you to be a part of this great experience through your prayers and support. For more information phone the principal at 902/832-5460. ■



**Announcements**

**If you have contact information** for any of the following missing members of the Red Deer Seventh-day Adventist Church, please notify Irene Patzer at 403/347-4853 or mail to Red Deer Seventh-day Adventist Church, PO Box 217, Red Deer, AB T4N 5E8. Nancy Agar, Les Brown, Joe Cardinal, Mary Corkum, Shaunda Cunningham, Velda Egolf, Troy Funk, Ken and Deborah George, Caralann Gran, Cecil Herbert, Darren and Shelley Hey, Karon Hack, Joseph and Lise Jacques, Maurice and Diane Julean, Ellie and Meadow Kenny, Norman, Carol and Charlotte Kunkle, Linda MacLeod, Elmer Manzanceries, Morgan McPherson, Paula Jea Olsen, Brittany Pittman, Marilyn Reneau, Leonard Roth, Lisa Sault, Ron Siemens, John Taylor, Audrey Thompson, and Jana Zajicek.

**Legal Notice**

**The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada**

Notice is hereby given that the 16th Session of the Regular Members Meeting of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada will be held in Oshawa, Ontario from Friday, Sept. 15, 2006, to Sunday, Sept. 17, 2006. The first meeting will convene at 4:30 p.m., Friday, Sept 15, 2006.

The Meeting is called for the purpose of receiving reports for the past five years, the election of officers, directors and associate/assistant directors of departments, the election of the Board of Directors, consideration of proposed changes in the Bylaws that may be recommended, and the transaction of such other business as may come before the Meeting at that time.

Each local conference or mission shall be entitled to two (2) delegates without regard to conference membership and one (1) additional delegate for each four hundred (400) church members or major fraction thereof. Such delegates shall be chosen by the respective local conference or mission Board of Directors.

*Daniel Jackson, President  
Nilton Amorim, Secretary*

**Births**

**Emmalyn Ruth Andrieux** was born Nov. 16, 2005, to Matthew and Kyla (Hosking) Andrieux of Angwin, Calif.

**Ava Carrie Ashworth** was born

Mar. 27, 2006, to Jeremy and Debbie (Cranna) Ashworth of Regina, Sask.

**Cole James Johnson** was born Mar. 10, 2007, to Paul and Deirdre Johnson of Aldergrove, B.C.

**Joah Lishann Liu** was born Feb. 21, 2006, to Shelley (Pocha) and Joseph Liu of Saskatoon, Sask.

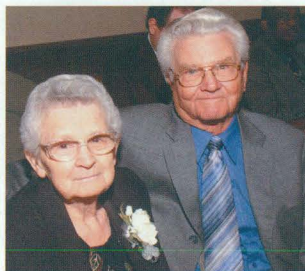
**Andrea Robyn Nichols** was born Oct. 26, 2005, to Andrew and Michelle (Basaraba) Nichols of Williams Lake, B.C.

**Josie Tina Tessari** was born Nov. 10, 2005, to Peter and Tina (Jinkerson) Tessari of Ajax, Ont.

**Angela Rae Trenchuk** was born Dec. 25, 2005, to Kevin and Rachel (Thomas) Trenchuk of Smoky Lake, Alta.

**Anniversaries**

**Michael and Olga Kotanko** celebrated their 65th wedding



anniversary on Mar. 9, 2006. The couple's children served a buffet at an Open House on Mar. 12, 2006, and the Kotankos were also honoured during Family Moments in church on March 9. The Kotankos have four children: Viola Martin of Surrey, B.C.; Ernest of Chilliwack, B.C.; Jack of Surrey; and Jerry of Langley, B.C. They have 15 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren.

**Birthdays**

**Fred Schulze**, of Vernon, B.C., celebrated his 100th birthday on



Mar. 12, 2006. He is pictured here with his son Terry and daughter Marlene.

**Obituaries**

**Florence Lillian Crouse** was born July 25, 1927, in Cherryfield, N.S., and died Sept. 16, 2005, in Bridgewater, N.S. Florence taught school for 17 years and upon retirement cared for her mother. The motto of her humble life was "service not fame." Surviving: sisters Elsie Conrad of New Germany, N.S., and Beulah Hendrick of Michigan.

**Aly E. (van Kerkvoort) de Hooge** was born Sept. 14, 1912, in Sas van Ghent, The Netherlands, and died Feb. 26, 2006, in Hamilton, Ont. Surviving: husband Krijn (John); sons Frits (Margaret) Wortman of Sherwood Park, Alta., and Robert (Ilene) Wortman of Brookville, Fla; brothers Maarten (Ina) van Kerkvoort of Queensland, Australia; sister Coos (Gerrard) Lauwers; three grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

**Alma Lehmann** was born April 28, 1922, in Rosthern, Sask., and died Nov. 14, 2005, in Rosthern. Alma taught in church schools in B.C., Wisconsin and Washington State and worked as an instructor with the Voice of Prophecy Bible Study Guides. She held the church offices of clerk, youth leader, organist and Sabbath school leader. Surviving: brothers Leonard Lehmann, and Victor Lehmann; and sister Evelyn Knipfel.

**Lillian Mildred (Coltart) Meek-Prince** was born Apr. 22, 1912, in Weyburn, Sask., and died Jan. 19, 2006, in Chilliwack, B.C. Lillian was a dedicated member of her church. She loved children and spent her life teaching them. She was predeceased by her first husband Jim Meek and her second husband Arthur Prince. Surviving: sons Jim (Pat) Meek of Toronto, Ont., and Bill Meek of Redding, Calif.; sisters Isabella Edith Schepens-Cawston of Kamloops, B.C., and Edna Blackmer of Cranbrook, B.C.; and several grandchildren.

**Esther (Werner) Roberts** was born June 15, 1914, in Fox Valley, Sask., and died Nov. 12, 2005, in Abbotsford, B.C. Esther was known for her hospitality and generosity. She took an interest in young people, encouraging them in their studies. She was predeceased by her husband, Patrick. Surviving: brother Adam Werner of Portland, Ore.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

**Gertrude Amy Louise (Rooke) Russell** was born June 17, 1930, in Bridgewater, Lunenburg County, N.S., and died Nov. 9, 2005, in Williams Lake, B.C. Over the years, Amy held a variety of church offices, including that of head elder. She was also a talented vocalist. She was predeceased by her son, Ryan. Surviving: husband Wilfred; sons Kenneth and Keith; daughter Eleanor; six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

**Angelina Melashenko Waring** was born July 21, 1929, in Areele, Sask., and died Mar. 21, 2006, in Hanover, Pa. Up until the time of her death, she was actively involved in her local church teaching a class, serving as a worship leader, as well as a greeter, and printing the weekly bulletins. She volunteered regularly at the Tender Care Pregnancy Center, organizing supplies and assisting with the mail. She had a generous heart for those in need and recently sent six large packages of winter clothing to Afghanistan. Surviving: husband Ernest Waring, Sr.; sons Bill (Christine) and Randy (Cindy); sisters Rebecca (Ken) Waring-Crane, and Beverly (Hugh) Hammant; and 11 grandchildren.

**Tributes**



**Dawn DeWolfe**, daughter of Jack and Barbara Lowe graduated from the University of Calgary in November 2005, with a Master of Social Work Degree. Dawn also holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Behavioral Science from Canadian University College (1998) and a Bachelor of Social Work Degree from Dalhousie University (2000). Dawn is presently employed with the Alberta Children's Hospital in Calgary, Alberta as a Clinical Social Worker. Congratulations, love and best wishes from Mom, Dad, and fiancé, Chris! (6/06)

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

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## Deadlines

August issue: **June 1**  
 September issue: **July 4**  
 October issue: **August 1**

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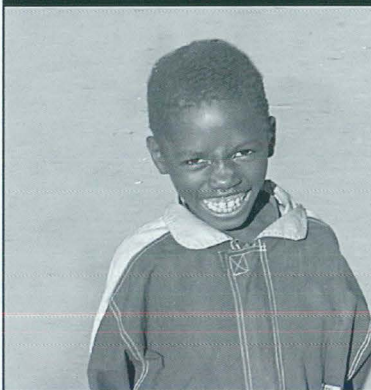
**Moore Academy Canada** is now accepting homeschool family registrations. Alberta families please register by Sept. 20, 2006. We also have a bookstore, so write or call Bernice for catalogue or info package, [www.moorehomeschoolerscanada.com](http://www.moorehomeschoolerscanada.com) or [www.unschoolingcanada.com](http://www.unschoolingcanada.com). Phone 403/742-0428, fax 403/742-0441, or email [mfea@telus.net](mailto:mfea@telus.net). (6/06)

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**Mapleton Retirement Village**—One and two-bedroom, plus den, semi-detached homes. One level with radiant heat. You are welcome to come to South River to see our homes. Call Blair/Linda Flowers 705/386-2933. Check our web site [www.mapletongroup.ca](http://www.mapletongroup.ca). (6/06)

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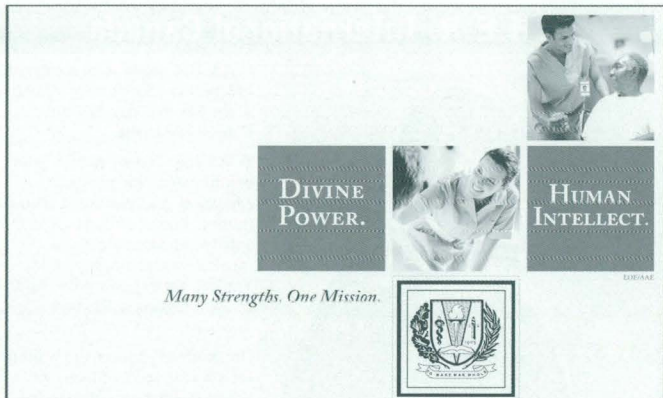
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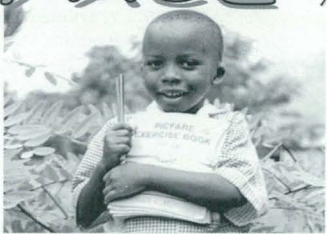
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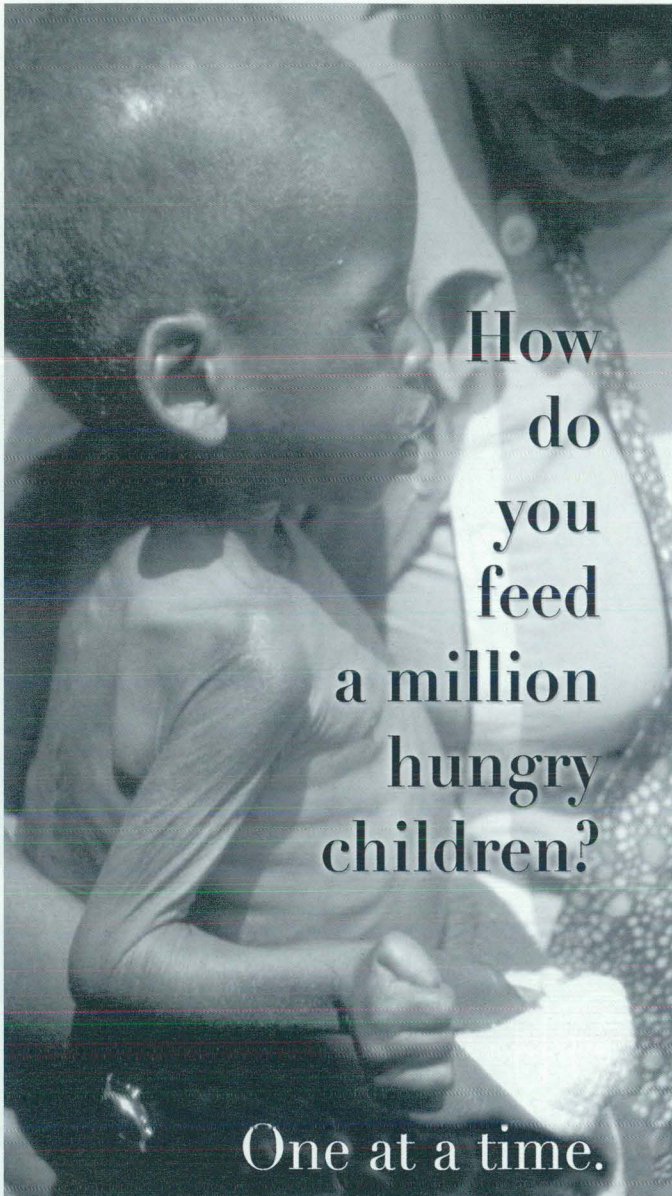
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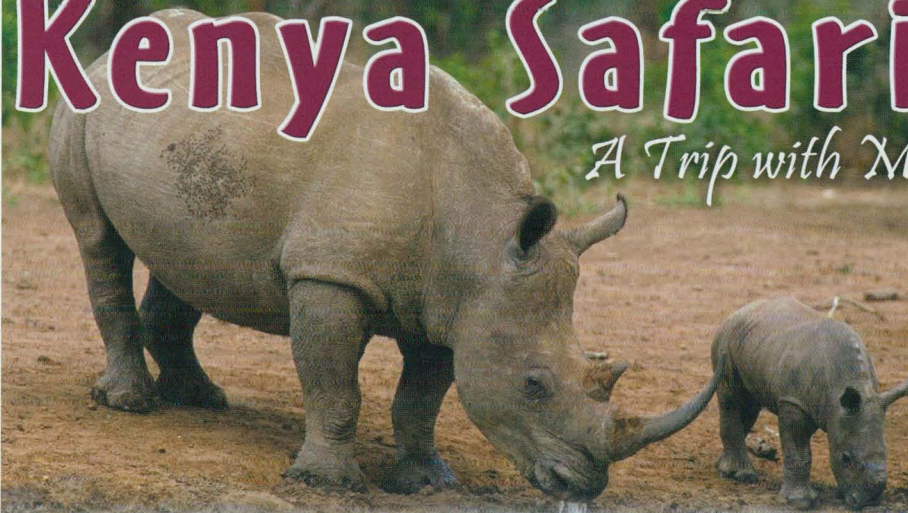
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# Blessed Obscurity

Here in your little corner of blessed obscurity  
you can make a difference.

## Thirty years is a long time to life without even mention of his name or reference to His life. But there you have it, three decades of silence—a life of blessed obscurity.

In that quaint native village tucked away in a valley amid the natural amphitheater of the picturesque Judean hills, the tapestry of character is woven thread by thread. The backdrop of his early life was the hills of Jezreel to the north that ran almost due east from the Mediterranean to the Jordon valley. Sheltered in the midst of that elevated valley was the tiny village of Nazareth where Jesus “grew in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and men” (Luke 2:52).

Life today in the basin of that little valley is probably not a lot different then it was two millennia ago. Here the divine boy must have often trod the worn paths to the hills, exploring his world as any boy is likely to do. All four gospels pass over these years in unbroken silence, yet those years were essential preparation for his public ministry.

As boy develops into teenager, his strong hands shape the wheel, the table leg, running the plane again and again over the wood until it is straight and smooth and ready to be useful. Days are spent in labour, evenings at the quiet family meal and nights are passed in well-earned rest. He learns from his father how to deal gently with customers, to care for the unfortunate and to respect all. From His mother, how to be of service to the elderly; how to be loving to the unlovable. Thirty years of an uneventful, unrecorded life of preparation lived in obscurity.

The world hardly attaches any significance to a life of obscurity these days. The father toils for 38 years as a city bus driver; the teacher moves through generations of school age children never seeing the fruit of her labours. The world is preoccupied, nay, in love with, its heroes and its celebrities. There will always be those few with mighty intellect or powerful influence, but the bulk of civilization are those who live a life of blessed anonymity. One raindrop among millions that does its tiny part in watering the flowers, one tiny snowflake that falls melting into the great lakes. One tiny flower crushed under the heel of the passing tourist. They give, they die and they are forgotten. Their names etched on fading stones in some nameless graveyard.

Yet, in this blessed life of obscurity lies the very power of the kingdom of heaven. Jesus said, “The Kingdom of heaven

is among you.” The very essence of the principles upon which the kingdom of heaven is based is the principle of selfless love to those whom the Holy Spirit brings within your sphere. Not until the last ray of the sun has set on this earth and time is no more, will be revealed the power of that one life that was dedicated to shed light and love on the path of its own anonymity.

I stand amazed at the power of influence that these obscure lives have on society and the civilization. Multiplied a thousand times, yes a million times over, they are the kingdom of heaven in operation in the shadows, yet with amazing transformational power.

The power of Christ’s life, during those first 30 years, just may be the wonder of the many of the redeemed for they will be in heaven as a result. There will be a thousand testimonies of the influence of that one life during that quiet 30 years in Nazareth.

The tiny snowflake falls into the water and disappears. It seems of no consequence, yet it has done its part in the great scheme of replenishing fresh water and renewing life to a planet. Your life is no different. The tiny acts of selfless love, of unknown kindness, of insignificant tenderness will not only be multiplied, but revealed in ways we will never understand until eternity draws back the curtain and reveals their impact.

Do you sometimes feel that your life is without meaning, that you are insignificant in the great scheme of life on planet earth? Exactly the opposite is true. You are placed here to make a difference in whatever sphere of life you are privy to. Here in your little corner of blessed obscurity you can make a difference. Leave a ray of sunshine, a drop of blessed comfort to one in sorrow, a word of encouragement to one who is losing hope, and you will have played your part in the discrimination of the kingdom of heaven on earth. ■

**Ken Crawford** a native of New Brunswick, Canada, is president of the Alaska Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.



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