canadian adventist messessenger july 2006

Mel Boutilier receives Canada's highest award for volunteer service

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There are church members who feel they are liberated by the easy reading English of new Bible translations.

There is a division of thought amongst us BIBLES THAT DIVIDE over Bible translations that is worthy of discussion.

by Ken Corkum

There are others who are convinced that to use a translation other than the King James Version is opening our Church to deception and blasphemy to God.

Let me share some issues that impact Bible translations, and attempt to make a small contribution to the discussion, as well as point to sources for further study.

Word for Word vs. Thought for Thought Translations

If you were informed that you were included in "the will" of a distant relative who lived in Germany, would you want the will translated word for word (the author's wishes), or the general thought with some interpretation (the translator's wishes)?

Dynamic and Functional Equivalent

Dynamic and functional equivalent is another way of saying thought for thought. "Dynamic equivalence is a theory of translation based on the premise that whenever something in the original text is foreign or unclear to a contemporary English reader, the original text should be translated in terms of an equivalent, rather than literally. In actual practice, dynamic equivalence goes far beyond this by frequently making interpretive decisions for the reader and adding commentary to the text" ("Bible Translation Differences" by Leland Ryken p.7). The challenge to reading the Bible that comes from this method of translation is that you do not know where the translators are making a translator's interpretation of the text. To give uninspired translators the liberty to place their thought over the Bible

writer's is to open the door to inaccurate bias, though easy to read Bibles.

Translations from Interlinear to Paraphrase

How do I know if my Bible is a translation into English based on the writer's words? Usually the introduction of the Bible will tell you, you can ask at a Bible book store, or do a little research on your computer. The spectrum of translations range from being very literal interlinear translations (where the English words are placed below the Greek original) creating a reading difficulty, to the paraphrase Bibles such as "The Message" or "The Clear Word" which may be very interesting devotional reading, but only relatively true to the original Bible text with commentary. To not have some standard for Bible translations beyond preference for use in the pulpit, for being one's primary Bible, or for giving Bible studies, will ultimately undermine our doctrinal understandings and create confusion and division amongst us.

The Original Texts

There are primarily two Greek sources for today's Bible translations—the Alexandrian Text and the Received Text. There is little debate over the OT Hebrew text used in Bible translations. Both NT sources were brought together in the latter part of the 1800s. The Alexandrian Greek text is based mainly upon two manuscripts given the names Sinaiticus and Vaticanus which were discovered in the 1840s and dated from the fourth century after Christ.

The Received Text came together in 1881 by Scrivener who bases his Greek text upon the manuscripts of texts that have come down through the centuries used by Tyndale and many of the reformation leaders. Scrivener created his Greek text by taking the popular King James Version, which was based on many Greek manuscripts, and creating a new Greek text going from English back to Greek. He consulted at least 17 different Received Texts that influenced the original KJV and created one known as the Scrivener Text. It is of interest to note that there are no original Greek texts of the NT; we only have copies from later generations.

Most of the English translations being used today come either through the text based on the Alexandrian Text or the Scrivener Text, both created in the late 1800s. The challenge is, there are serious questions being raised today about the reliability of trusting the Sinaiticus and Vaticanus manuscripts which differ internally with each other. The differences in many translations are over this fact alone—which Greek manuscripts were used in the translation?

Church's Perspective

You can go to the General Conference church web site and under "Biblical Research Institute" (http://www.adventist biblicalresearch.org) click on Bible in the left column and go to Canon and Versions. There you will find three articles. CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

by Carolyn Willis

t looked like a scene out of the Beverly Hillbillies. Our car was piled to the roof and there wasn't a square inch left for another thing but its three reluctant passengers.

Squeezing into the tiny space carved out just for me in the back seat, I pushed and poked bags and boxes as I groped for the seat belt tucked behind a goosenecked desk lamp. Casting a last glance at home, Ryan climbed in beside his dad. Seventeen hours later, we drove onto the campus where Ryan would spend the next four years. until December. I confess that was one of the most difficult goodbyes that I have ever experienced. Even as I write it is still painful to remember that transition to a different phase of my life.

Saying goodbye has never been an easy thing for me. I suffer through it with great reluctance. All goodbyes aren't sad, of course. That visitor who's taken time out between jobs and has taken over your couch, for instance. Or the relative whose sole purpose in life seems to be to probe into the most personal aspects of yours for the sake my decision to take an early retirement. It reads, "Because they are not connected with some directly religious work, many feel that their lives are useless, that they are doing nothing for the advancement of God's kingdom. If they could do some great thing how gladly they would undertake it! But because they can serve only in little things, they think themselves justified in doing nothing. In this they err. A man may be in the active service of God while engaged in the ordinary, everyday duties ... The mother who trains her children

GOODBYE

The weekend was a busy one as we helped him get settled and his classes organized. Sunday morning came all too soon and it was time to make the long trip home-without our son. I remember the warmth of that August day. I remember the beds of colourful flowers spilling over their scented borders. I remember the forced smiles and halfhearted laughter as parents bade their farewells. But mostly I remember the intense sadness and apprehension I felt at the thought of leaving our son here alone. All the "what ifs" that a mother could possibly conjure up surged through my mind even as Byron gave our son a hug and indicated that it was time to go. As I looked at this young man standing on the sidewalk waiting to say goodbye, my stoic resolve dissolved and the first uncontrolled tear slid down my face. The dam had opened and there was no stopping it. There was no hiding my dismay or his unease. This was not cool. Finally managing to make light of Mom's emotional psyche, we all laughed and said our final goodbyes. We drove away straining for a last look at our son

of giving you the benefit of their good counsel. One would be hard pressed to pine over those farewells. But so many goodbyes come reluctantly and often with sad regret. Life provides many of these opportunities it seems. What teen hasn't declared "my life is over!" when their special friend has found another more special? What hollow thoughts creep through the deadened mind of one standing at the graveside of the one they love the dearest in all the world? With what despair does a family stand by and watch their home dissolve in a blaze of flame?

Whether it's the loss of a relationship, a job, possessions or one's health, we must somehow bid farewell and move on. That stands true for life's transitions too—for they are surely an inevitable part of living.

I find myself now ready to make another one of those transitions in service. It has been a bittersweet decision as I have relished so much of my work as editor of the *Messenger*. I was reading recently a quotation in *Prophets and Kings*, pg. 219 that has reassured me in for Christ is as truly working for God as is the minister in the pulpit.

"Many long for special talent with which to do a wonderful work, while the duties lying close at hand, the performance of which would make the life fragrant, are lost sight of. Let such ones take up the duties lying directly in their pathway. ... It is not the possession of splendid talents that enables us to render acceptable service, but the conscientious performance of daily duties, the contented spirit, the unaffected, sincere interest in the welfare of others. The commonest tasks, wrought with loving faithfulness, are beautiful in God's sight."

I've felt the tugging of home and of time to bring more fragrance into my duties there. I'll be leaving my position the end of July looking for a stronger measure of faithfulness and contentment. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of conversing with you each month. I shall miss you.

Carolyn Willis is editor of the Canadian Adventist Messenger.



health brief



Turn to the Dark Side

Is your olive oil in an opaque bottle? If not, it may be quickly losing some of its ability to protect your blood vessels.

According to a recent study, antioxidants in virgin olive oil help relax blood vessels and improve circulation, which may lower people's risk of atherosclerosis and cardiovascular disease. However, the antioxidant value of olive oil can degrade after only a few months of exposure to heat and light. Store your olive oil in an opaque cruet and in a cool place.

As part of a heart-healthy lifestyle, use virgin olive oil in flavourful vinaigrettes or any of your favourite recipes that require oil. Virgin olive oil tends to be higher in phenolic compounds than regular olive oil.

—Journal of the American College of Cardiology 2005 Nov 15;46(10):1864-1868. Epub 2005 Oct 24.

Wait for Weights

Maximize the calorie-burning benefits of your workout by tackling cardiovascular exercise before strength training.

Although all types of exercise — cardiovascular, strength, and flexibility — help you burn calories, cardio workouts result in the greatest calorie burn. Because of this, it may be best to do your cardio exercises first while you are fresh. You're likely to spend more

time on aerobic exercise and work out harder if you haven't tired yourself out by doing other kinds of exercises first. On the other hand, strength training results in the greatest boost in post-exercise calorie burning. It boosts your metabolism for a longer period of time, helping your body burn more calories after your workout is done. Ultimately, this means that doing your cardio workout first can help ensure that you achieve the maximum calorie burn from it, and ending your workout with a strength-training session helps ensure your post-exercise metabolism stays high.

—Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research 2005 May;19(2):332-337.



Get On Board

If you are dealing with a chronic health condition, widen your circle of support by going online.

Having a strong support system can help make living with a chronic condition a bit easier. In a recent study, 74 percent of people who participated in an online diabetes discussion group felt they were better able to cope with their disease after taking part in online discussions. In addition, 71 percent of participants felt more hopeful about their condition after connecting with others online. Condition-specific Internet bulletin boards provide an

easy, convenient means for people living with chronic conditions to connect with others and garner support. To minimize the chance of receiving misinformation, look for online communities that are moderated by healthcare professionals, such as doctors, nurses, dieticians, and psychologists. Keep in mind that information gathered from online discussions should never be a substitute for diagnosis and treatment by your personal healthcare provider. And although there is a wealth of valuable information available on the Internet, check with your doctor before incorporating any online advice into your treatment plan.

-The Diabetes Educator 2005 Nov-Dec;31(6):825-836.

Save Your Bones, EAT STIR-FRY



The news is good if you don't do much dairy but get a frequent hankering for Chinese food.

Stir-fry dishes often include staples like broccoli, bok choy, and edamame (soybeans) — popular veggies that are bursting with bone-strengthening calcium. Even better, these and other Chinese stir-fry favourites have a chemical makeup that allows your body to easily absorb the calcium. Just go easy on the soy sauce—which is essentially liquid sodium—because the more salt you take in, the more calcium you're likely to lose.

As you've probably heard, other green, leafy vegetables, such as spinach and Swiss chard, contain calcium, but they also contain a certain acid called oxalate, that limits how much of the calcium your body can absorb. In fact, you'd need to eat more than four spinach salads to get the amount of calcium in one made with Chinese spinach (and it's not even a top veggie, calcium-wise). Not a Chinese-food fan? Some beansparticularly white cannellini, a staple in Italian cooking-are also a good source of calcium. But they're the exception. Many dried beans are rich in phytate, another acid that also interferes with calcium absorption.

—American Journal of Clinical Nutrition 1999 Sep;70(3 Suppl):543S-548S.

the issachar principle: knowing what israel should do

Last month I opinioned that there is a parallel between the ancient story of Issachar's descendents ... and the modern developments that we ought to keep in mind in trying to understand our current times. In this short note I want to address the second part of The Issachar Principle— knowing what Israel should do.

by Barry W. Bussey

Last month I opinioned that there is a parallel between the ancient story of Issachar's descendents who were pointed out in 1 Chronicles 12:32 as men, "... who understood the times and knew what Israel should do..." and the modern developments that we ought to keep in mind in trying to understand our current times—confusion over morality; militarization of our world; and financial instability. In this short note I want to address the second part of The Issachar Principle—knowing what Israel should do.

I think the time has come for us to build a "firewall" against the constant bombardment we face from the world around us. That means we have to protect our families and ourselves from adopting the same attitudes as "the world." Obviously, I am not advocating that we separate totally from the world; we do have to live here after all, but we have got to be mindful of what we are up against. In and of ourselves, we cannot expect to stand in the way of the current tide of popular opinion.

In building the "firewall," I suggest we get back to the basics of Christian living. That means prayer. Our lives are simply going too fast. We cannot expect to gain any strength unless we are spending quality time every day on our knees. We cannot expect to write an "A" exam without study, nor should we expect an "A" relationship with our Lord if we are not spending the time in prayer.

The Apostle Paul refers to the "full armour of God" (Eph. 6:11) that we need to wear because our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against the spiritual forces of evil. We need this armour "so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your

ground." This is a classic description of the Christian warfare against evil—I recommend it to you. For my purposes, I want to focus on what Paul said about prayer in verse 18: "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints."

Our hearts and minds have to be in a constant state of prayer. Our families and our church members need to be lifted before the Lord. It is our means of building the firewall. As we commit ourselves—our entire beings—thoughts, as well as actions, in accordance with Scripture and to the Lord Jesus, we are separating ourselves from the influences of the world. It acts as a shield from the world's ideologies that seek to dominate us. Only then can we obtain the freedom that the world seeks to take away. Though the world around us might go into chaos, we can be at peace in our hearts.

Nahum 1:7 states, "The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble."

The current state of affairs in the political, social, and economic realms is without precedent. What must Israel do? Israel must seek the Lord while He can be found. Our prayer life must be real. I cannot offer any magic formula or incentive to ensure that you are taking the necessary time with the Lord. All I have to go on is my own experience, an experience that has seen much failure as I have attempted to juggle work, family, church and my walk with God. I have experienced high spiritual "mountain top" times, and I have also been to the low "valleys." I express the same as did Jacob when asked by Pharoah his age: "My vears have been few and difficult." Life is short. The sooner we come to that realization the better. It will help us put all into perspective.

Barry W. Bussey is General Counsel and director of Public Affairs for the Adventist Church in Canada. bbussey@sdacc.org



creation Corner For Kids

Common Muskrat

One day while skating on a favourite pond, our Black Lab, Chuckie, went whizzing past us. He looked like he was chasing something across the ice, but we couldn't see anything. Suddenly, his claws scraped at the ice, his body twisted, as he tried to change direction. He turned and headed straight toward us like some crazed hunter in hot pursuit of an unseen foe. That's when we saw it.

Without any snow to cover the ice, the muskrat Chuckie was after was clearly visible as it swam below us, as if under glass. It swam with its back against the hard surface, bubbles streaming from its nose, as Chuckie seemed to close the gap. Then it dove, though it was never in any danger, and the chase was off.

Think about it.

All winter the muskrat lives below ice waiting for the freedom that comes in spring. We, like the muskrat waiting for spring, will finally be set free of the burden of sin at Christ's return. Then we will live the life that God intended us to live—eternally and without sin. What should we do while we wait?

"So be careful how you live, and act wisely. Take advantage of every chance to do good, because there's so much evil in the world. Try to understand what God has in mind for you, and then do it" (Ephesians 5: 15-17 Clear Word for Kids).

Doit.

Next time you are near a lake or slough, watch for muskrat dens. Smaller than a beaver's lodge and made only of plants like reeds and cattails, their small mounds are easily spotted above the water's frozen surface this time of year. If you plan to skate with the muskrats, be sure to have an adult with you. While muskrats build their dens in shallower water, it's best not to go on the ice near the den because the ice is always thinner where the muskrats enter the den. *Never* go on ice around a beaver lodge. Beaver lodges are usually built in deep water and the movements of the beavers make the surrounding ice thin and extremely dangerous.



—Tammie Burak writes from Cherry Grove, Alta., where she enjoys studying nature with her husband, Randolph, and their three children, Samuel, Emily, and Joshua.

TEENTALK

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

For questions or speaking engagements, contact him at:

Josue@JJBlogs.com



online dating

I'm a freshman in college. I've been dating this guy on the internet for a couple of months. We spend hours chatting on MSN. He understands me much better than any of my local friends. Everybody talks about not seeing anyone you meet online, but this is different. We've agreed to keep it online—we just like it this way. How can I reassure my parents that everything is OK?

What you're feeling is completely normal—everybody likes having someone who understands you and treats you well! But I'm afraid it's going to be quite difficult to reassure your parents about dating this guy online. There are just too many issues with romantic online relationships:

1) Let's first assume that he is who he pretends to be and has good intentions. By limiting your romantic relationship to IM, you're missing many ingredients of a healthy relationship, like sharing friends, going together to church, etc. I know that you agreed to keep it online, but don't you think it may be a little selfish? It kind of seems as if both of you just want to feel good, without being willing to commit to anything.

2) Your safety is at risk. With time, he can gather enough information to be able to find you. I have experience leading an internet teen ministry for a few years. We found the exact addresses of some teens who needed help. We sent the police to their home as they were about to commit suicide, but if we did it, who says that someone else couldn't do the same—but for the wrong reasons?

I don't want to scare you but please, take this advice seriously.

Josue's Pick

http://kidshealt<mark>h.org/teen/sa</mark>fety/safebasics/ internet_safety.html

Hands On

There is software out there that camouflages your IP address by using random alternative IP's. Consider using it as an addec security measure.

College Days at Kingsway

College Days is a time for prospective students and their parents to spend a weekend on our campus and experience life at Kingsway. The goal of this weekend is to encourage our potential students that Kingsway College is the place for them to be in September. On April 21, 84 students registered, with their families, for our 2006 College Days weekend.

All four of our touring groups-Aerials, Band, Choir, and Drama did outstanding performances for our guests and many are already talking about which group they want to be part of for the 2006-07 school year. Though the weather did not co-operate with us, the mood was very positive and the spiritual atmosphere was uplifting all weekend. There was no doubt that God is the central focus of our school. As we concluded a busy weekend with a banquet-style brunch on Sunday morning, I found myself thinking about the great opportunity that is available to our young people in Canada through Kingsway College and Adventist education.

I believe that most Seventh-day Adventists would agree that Adventist education is valuable and that they



would want their children to attend an Adventist school. For some, there isn't an Adventist school near enough to attend; for others, the cost is more than they can afford. My experience has been that when the parent, student, and local church are committed to Adventist education it is very affordable. Kingsway Alumni continues to be very supportive, contributing much needed student aid dollars so our parents can afford to send their young people to Kingsway. Our dedicated teachers and staff go beyond the extra mile to prepare our students for post-secondary education and for the work force, but most of all they are committed to preparing our young people for eternal life.

I am proud to be part of Kingsway College, and I am looking forward to the opportunity of serving even more young people in September 2006.

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

sandy lake academy

Exciting Plans for You at Sandy Lake Academy

S andy Lake Academy's school board has been busy visioning this school year to determine what can be done to make SLA the choice for those interested in a small school environment.

Early in the visioning process, it was recognized that there may be a need for more spiritual activity on campus which resulted in the formation of a chaplaincy team for next year. This will enable our students to meet their needs for community and outreach opportunities. This team is comprised of pastors and laypeople who have a particular interest in our youth.

Our dormitory at SLA provides a unique opportunity for students to attend school in a small family environment. Unlike the large dormitory facilities found at most boarding schools, SLA boarding students have the privilege of being provided for by a family whose commitment to them is voluntary. Eating with their dorm parents, small family worships and special activities planned specifically for our dorm students are all part of the special things that will be happening at SLA next school year.

For more information, contact the principal, Victor Chant, at 902/835-8548 or email sla@ns.sympatico.ca to see how you can become a part of SLAs journey to excellence!

IT WAS A FITTING TRIBUTE FOR ONE POSSESSING A "PIONEERING SPIRIT, SOCIAL COMMITMENT AND PERSISTENT ENDEAVOURS THAT HAVE CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF A SOCIAL CAUSE AND THE WELL BEING OF FELLOW CANADIANS."

> These words, spoken at a two day awards ceremony on April 26 and 27, aptly referred to Melvin James Boutilier who received the 2006 Thérèse Casgrain Volunteer Award in recognition of his lifelong commitment to assist the less advantaged within his community.

The 2006 Thérèse Casgrain Volunteer Award, Canada's highest award for volunteer service, was presented to Mel on April 27 by Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development during a dinner in the Parliament Buildings. Amongst friends and guests were the MP for Halifax, Alexa McDonough; a number of MPs; and Renée Casgrain Nadeau, the 81-ycar-old-daughter of Thérèse Casgrain.

The award is presented annually to two Canadians, one man and one woman. Marlene Bryenton of Charlottetown, P.E.I. was the female recipient honoured at the ceremony. The purpose of the award is to commemorate the work of the late Thérèse Casgrain, a pioneer volunteer activist in Quebec, and honour those who have demonstrated a lifelong commitment to volunteering.

Boutilier was born January 29, 1928 in Seabright, Halifax County, Nova Scotia. It was there that he grew up and received his early education. In this humble setting, he developed his sensitivities to the needs of the poor and underprivileged and set his goal "to make a positive difference in the lives of others, relieving want and hardships wherever he could do so." His life speaks of the fulfilment of that goal. All his involvements in the community have been on a voluntary basis.

Family circumstances were such that it was necessary for Mel to become a supportive family member at a young age. He held a variety of short-term and seasonal jobs for the first few years of his working life. Between 1949 and 1955, Mel worked for Superline Oils Ltd. where he was trained in the field of household and small commercial heating systems. He was promoted to Service manager in 1952. From 1955 until 1974, Mel was employed in the Heating and Air Conditioning Division at the Department of National Defence, HMCS Dockyard, in Halifax. He was placed in the position of managing the internal environment of the Maritime Warfare School. This is a highly secure training facility which required him to have a top security rating from Ottawa. He later became Chief Contracts Inspector and remained in that position until he retired.



MEL

BY NICK TRENT



Lynne Yelich, Parliamentary Secretary to Canada's Minister of Human Resources and Social Development, presents the Thérèse Casgrain Volunteer Award to Mel Boutilier.

BOUTILIER A Priceless Volunteer



Mel poses with Renée Casgrain Nadeau, the daughter of Thérèse Casgrain.

Always having been involved in volunteer work in the church and community as much as possible, retirement brought the opportunity to fulfill his childhood dream of full-time service to others. For 28 years, Mel was a board member of Sandy Lake Academy, 20 of those years as chairman, during which time the school grew from a single classroom to a full high school program. When a new school was erected in 1974, Mel was there as an active member of the Building Committee. In 1989, a 20-student dormitory was opened at the academy. Mel was again on the Building Committee; this time as chairman. He continued to serve as chairman of the Operating Board until 1994.

He held the office of education secretary for the Halifax Seventh-day Adventist Church for six years, fostering education opportunities for many young people. Always interested in the personal development of children and youth, he has taken an active role in promoting youth activities over the past 4'5 years. He has served in the Halifax Seventhday Adventist Church as youth leader, Pathfinder leader, and he organized and operated a community youth club in St. Margaret's Bay area that gives teens an opportunity for, and direction in, positive lifestyle development.

From 1971 to 1976 Mel was a member of the Kingsway College Board of Trustees, and from 1986 to 1991 was distributed to the community in the area of education, health and social services, including \$120,000 to Sandy Lake Academy, and \$100,000 toward the construction of the dormitories.

a member of the

the Seventh-day

in Canada.

Adventist Church

In the early

1970s, Mel founded

the Metro Care and

Share Society. This

volunteer organiza-

the Societies Act of

Nova Scotia, with a

role to fundraise for charity. Hundreds

of thousands of

been raised and

dollars have since

tion was incorporated in 1984 under

executive board of

Mel is a founding member of the Metro Food Bank in Halifax/Dartmouth which has been in operation since 1984. But it is at the Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank in Halifax that Mel can be found today. Officially called the Community Care Network Society, Mel has served as the volunteer executive director for the past 22 years. Initially serving supplementary and emergency food to those in need, the "Food Bank" became the "Food and Furniture Bank" in 1994, as Mel and his team of volunteers reached out to families in need in the community with donated food and furniture. Today, the operation is visited by an average of 250 families a week, as well as large numbers of inner city children who visit Mel daily for treats, conversation and Mel's well-known love.

Each morning the staff and volunteers invite the clients to join the daily prayer circle where they are invited to share their hurts, challenges and triumphs, followed by prayers by individuals. A weekly church service is becoming a major event at Parker

Mel with his supportive wife, Thelma.

Street with the help and co-operation of the pastor and elders of the Halifax church.

Mel's most recent venture is to help some of the clients of the Food and Furniture Bank to become self-sufficient through skills development. With the help of ADRA Canada and other donors, a new building was recently purchased as a Skills Development Centre. A partnership has been formed with the Department of Education, The Nova Scotia Community College, and the Department of Community Services. The entire process from industry survey to determining skills needed, selection of students, classroom teaching, practical training, job site experience and job finding are all carried out through this partnership.

With over 10 major awards for his volunteer services, Melvin James Boutilier continues to demonstrate outstanding compassion to those he serves. He is a man who has not only touched the lives of many, but he is a light to the community, bringing glory to God and his church. The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, ADRA Canada, church members and all those that have experienced your love, take their hats off to you, Mel, and thank you for a life of service. There is still so much to do.

Nick Trent is the National Program director for ADRA Canada





CHER Canada

Committed to Breaking the Cycle of Poverty





by Sujatha Mathi

If you read only one line of this article, here's the message: For only pennies a day, you can give a child an Adventist education, a nutritious meal, medical assistance and a nurturing environment to learn about Jesus' love through a trusted supporting ministry of the Seventhday Adventist Church in Canada.

No doubt most of you have seen TV ads showing hungry, neglected children living in desperate circumstances, waiting for someone to sponsor them thus giving them thus a chance for a better life. I am sure many of you responded and are generously giving aid to a child, helping to ease their life circumstances. But how many of you know that there is a child sponsorship program within the Adventist church family?

About three years ago, my husband and I stumbled across a lifechanging, yet not well-known, ministry in the Adventist Church called Children's Health, Education and Relief International Canada (CHER Canada). In a nutshell, CHER Canada is a child sponsorship ministry that provides impoverished children in Third World countries with Christian education in an Adventist school, as well as lodging in Adventist hostels/orphanages for orphaned or abandoned children. What sets us apart from other sponsorship programs is that we are solely committed to educating children within the Adventist school system.

For those who may be wondering about our similarity to ADRA, let me briefly clarify our ministry. ADRA is a relief and development agency that ministers on a broader scale towards community projects. The focus of CHER Canada is to help individual children within the community. For example, in Bolivia, there is a hostel for street boys, and in Brazil, a home for abandoned girls, both of which were built by ADRA. CHER Canada has adopted both of these places as part of our sponsorship program and now supports the children whose lives have brought them to these homes.

CHER Canada has been in operation since 1991, and over the past 15 years has developed this ministry to encompass projects in eight different countries with over 600 children. In 2000, we were blessed to add a post-secondary bursary program and have seven students pursuing college degrees at this time. CHER Canada has seen many children graduate from high school, get decent jobs and redirect the course of their lives on earth. Many children have come to know Jesus Christ, been baptized, and have changed the course of their spiritual life as well.

Unfortunately, it is not always easy to trust charitable organizations and their handling of funds. Even sadder, this sometimes discourages people from participating in legitimate worthy ministries. For this reason, CHER Canada has proactively sought an alliance with the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada (SDACC) and in November

2005 was granted the status of official "Independent Supporting Ministry" of the SDACC. This means that their board has reviewed our ministry, met with CHER Canada representatives, asked questions, looked over our bylaws and financial documents, and has given CHER Canada a "seal of approval." They have found our ministry to be open, honest, earnest, and transparent. SDACC president, Dan Jackson, states, "I believe that the work that you folks are doing is a blessing to many. God bless you in your continued commitment to God and to His needy children."

Education opens doors for these children that would otherwise be locked shut. In Third World countries, governments provide no financial assistance for the poor, there are no food stamps, no shelters from the harsh weather and no safety nets of any kind. Every child born into poverty stays in poverty unless people like you and me offer our help. Helping one child not only changes the child's life, but the lives of their family and every future generation to come. And the good news does not stop there. We are also teaching them the gospel of Jesus who opens the very gates of heaven for them also.

Please call us toll-free at 888/520-7474 or visit our website at www.chercanada.ca. to learn more about how you can be part of this life-changing ministry.

"...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40). ■

Sujatha Mathi is the executive director of CHER Canada.



Photo by Ron Pollard



"WHERE WAS RACHEL'S SEPULCH ... ? BEFORE BIBLE BOWL MODERATOR FRED FURMAN CAN FINISH THE QUESTION THERE IS A SHARP BEEP FROM THE TABLE TO HIS LEFT, AND THE RED LIGHT IN FRONT OF FREDRICK GUTHRIE'S BLINKS TO LIFE.

Monumental Turnout

redrick!" says Furman, who serves as the South Central Conference Bible Bowl Co-ordinator, but puts food on the family table as a pharmaceutical representative in Nashville, Tenn.

"Rachel's sepulcher is located in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah," answers Guthrie, light beads of sweat rolling down his cheeks.

"That is correct!" confirms Furman.

There are scattered cheers from the crowd. In the back, an onlooker shakes his head and mutters, "Unreal. That's amazing." Minutes later, there is loud applause in room C101 of the Georgia World Congress Center as Guthrie's Senior Bible Bowl Team from Ontario, Canada wins the Bible Bowl battle with the Northeastern Conference Senior Bible Bowl Team with a score of 250-170, and advances to the finals.

The Bible Bowl competition is part of the United Youth Congress, held at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta from April 19-23, 2006. This is the United Youth Congress' eighth convention in its 30 years of operation.

Guthrie and his Bible Bowl team are some of the 40 delegates from the Canadian Union and the more than 5,200 registered delegates who attended the United Youth Congress from around North America and Bermuda. Organizers say that, along with the registered delegates, more than 38,000 non-delegates gathered for the Sabbath services on April 23.

It was a monumental turnout according to Claude Harris II, who is the director of youth ministries for the Allegheny East Conference and chairperson of the Black Adventist Youth Directors Association (BAYDA), which is the parent organization of the United Youth Congress.

The mission of the Black Adventist Youth Directors Association is to promote the spiritual, physical, academic, moral and cultural development of the youth of the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. BAYDAs members include youth leaders of the regional conferences of the North American Division, as well as youth leaders in Southern, Southeastern, Central, and Northern California Conferences, and North Pacific Union, Bermuda and Ontario Conferences.

Held every five years, the United Youth Congress serves as a focal point of BAYDAs ministry. With attendance through the roof this year, Harris and his team were kept on their toes trying to facilitate the record turnout.

"It was a challenging task but we enjoyed it so much, because we are doing it for our youth who we feel really need an opportunity to not only learn more about Jesus Christ but to develop their characters. We believe that Jesus is coming soon and we want to have them prepared for that," said Elder Harris.

The theme for the United Youth Congress this year was "No More Chains." Elder Harris explains that the theme refers to things that can hold youth back from a full relationship with Christ. Specifically targeted were the chains of sexual promiscuity, family decline, spiritual decline, drug abuse, and gangs.

"We feel that the chains of life, if we allow them, can allow us to have a negative outlook on life, and we want a positive outlook on life," explains Elder Harris.

This year's United Youth Congress accomplished its goal by bringing youth ranging in age from 15–35 and providing educational workshops, social interaction, quality spiritual speakers, and the opportunity to perform community service.

More than 30 workshops were held for participants on a wide variety of topics including single parenting, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS awareness, employment, family and spiritual volunteer ministries; Carlton "Buddy" Bird, pastor of the Bellfort Seventh-day Adventist Church in Houston, Texas; and Paula Olivier, associate pastor of the Church of the Oranges in Orange, N.J.

Two events capped off the weekend. The first was a parade through downtown Atlanta followed by a rally against the chains of drug addiction, sexual promiscuity, family decline, spiritual decline, and drug addiction.

Following the parade and rally, ten youth did something even more constructive and positive. They were baptized.

The United Youth Congress wrapped with a Mega Gospel and Concert Choir Festival. Various Seventh-day Adventist Youth Choirs were showcased with the \$10,000 first prize going to Total Praise, Dallas City Temple in Texas. Second place and \$5,000 went to All Nations Choir from Berrien Springs, MI, and third place and \$2,500 went to Motor City Mass Choir from Detroit, MI.

Ontario Conference youth director, Cyril Millett, says he believes his youth were tremendously blessed by the speakers and by the programming at the United Youth Congress in Atlanta. "Those that have spoken with me have said that they felt a spirit of revival and they really appreciated the opportunity to mix and fellowship with the folks from down here," said Elder Millett.

United Youth Congress

decline, gangs, homelessness, community and financial empowerment, and sexual promiscuity.

Organizers intentionally planned outreach projects into the Atlanta community to build on what the youth were learning in the seminars. A total of 14 projects, ranging from feeding the homeless to constructing a beautiful outdoor garden complete with a mural at a local nursing home, gave youth the opportunity to put their faith into action.

"This is so important," said Deborah Drain, who co-ordinated the 14 outreach projects. "We need to teach our young people that it's not just about us individually but that it's about helping. We were called to do this; we are to do service; and we don't do enough service. So, if we come here and learn to volunteer, hopefully they'll go home and do the same thing."

Other events included an oratorical contest, drum corps and drill team exhibition, health fair rally, and a basketball competition.

Each evening, attendees experienced powerful presentations of "spiritual vitamins" from various ministers across the United States. Speakers included James Black, NAD director of youth ministries; Jynean Reid, Bible teacher at Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy; Jose Rojas, NAD director of Without a doubt, though, it is prayer that Elder Millett feels has had the most impact. "We have a number of young people who have come by the prayer room and have spent meaningful time in prayer and have sensed the Holy Spirit being poured out upon them and upon their friends, it's been tremendous," said Elder Millett.

Back in room C101 of the World Congress Center Fredrick Guthrie says even the games like Bible Bowl can be life changing. Guthrie says weeks and months of memorizing scripture pay off far beyond winning or losing Bible Bowl. "It's something about the Word of God—it's excitement. It's exciting when you start studying," said Guthrie. Not just for Bible Bowl, but you understand the thoughts of God by just reading the Word."

That's just the kind of thing Elder Claude Harris wanted to hear coming away from the Atlanta United Youth Congress. "Really, what's more important than anything we do here is the emphasis that we have on Christ," said Elder Harris.

Ken Wetmore is communication director for the Georgia-Cumberland Conference.

canadian university college

COUNIDOWN TO ETERNITY

BY ALANA KEEGAN



Wallin "CJ" O'Connor

Mathew Feeley

Melbourne Turgott

e are living in serious times and the second coming of Jesus is soon. This is what the Theology Club at Canadian University College has realized. On March 24, a student-led evangelistic series entitled "Countdown to Eternity" began and continued until April 8.

Last year, as with every year, new officers were elected for the Theology Club. As they looked around the executive, most of the officers had been on Global Evangelism trips with Dr. Errol Lawrence to various countries in Africa, as well as Jamaica, and they all had a passion for evangelism. They asked the question "Why can't we do that here?" and the answer was, "We can!" So the club members adapted the Global Evangelism series for the local setting. For many of the club officers it was their final year at CUC, and they wanted to give something back to the college and the community they have been a part of for the last few years.

The theme "Countdown to Eternity" came about as the three speakers chose their topics for sermons. They realized that there was a pattern in their topics which focused mainly on the second coming. The speakers were Wallin "CJ" O'Connor, 4th year Religious Studies student; Mathew Feeley, 4th year Religious Studies student; and Melbourne Turgott, 1st year Marital and Family Therapy graduate student through the Loma Linda University Canadian Campus Program.

Melbourne says that there was a lot of prayer and meditation in the preparation for the series, whether alone or with the group. He continues to say, "It took months to be completely prepared for the event," and they studied the material hard to be sure to get the message across.

When asked if the series was successful, the response from Mathew was, "Yes, anytime there are people committing their lives or recommitting or getting a deep experience, you know you've done something right."

CJ said, "It was very successful! We went into this with a goal to baptize a certain number, but it's not really about that. It's all about people's commitment to God. All the people I came into contact with, young and old, enjoyed the series." Perhaps it was successful as God was involved from the very beginning to the very end.



Lascelles Brown, third from the left, supports the march against drugs in the streets of Lacombe. The club invited the Olympic silver medalist as the guest speaker at the rally following the march.

Every night there was an average of 120 to 130 people in attendance, and two were baptised on the final Sabbath! God definitely blessed the Theology Club and the work they were doing with the evangelistic series. There was a good balance all around with different personalities in the speakers and with many different ages in the audience. With this balance, more people received the messages about Jesus' second coming.

As the speakers are currently in preparation to be pastors, I asked them how this series may have helped them prepare for the future. "I think every time you preach you sharpen your sword, as a preacher" said Mathew. They all realize that in these situations, the Lord shows them how to improve things for next time. A series like this gives a little taste of witnessing and evangelism, as well as provides an opportunity for practice with sermon preparation and delivery methods.

Next year's Theology Club executive is being encouraged to follow on with an evangelistic series. Whether or not they do, the members from this year's outgoing executive will definitely run evangelistic series' wherever they are. God truly blesses in ways we never imagine!

Compiled by Alana Keegan, 3rd year General Studies student from Australia. She is also the Communications Intern at Marketing & Enrolment Services for this school year.



adra canada











woke up to the oh-so-familiar sound of my alarm clock. Reaching for it, I remembered where I was—not at home, but sleeping in the home of someone I had just met in a place called Kawanga in Eastern Kenya.

The evening before, a group of 12 other Canadians and I had arrived in Kawanga, and friendly faces greeted us. A family in this rural location hosted each of us for the night.

Suddenly, I found myself in the complete care of people I had just met in this unfamiliar place. My host family led the way and I had to follow them very carefully because the sun had already set. The night was moonless and the closest artificial light was 100 km away. Thorn trees and bushes lined the path. My new friends had to free me from the thorns whenever I stepped off the path. The three-kilometre walk in the dark with people I did not know was a new experience for me. I had to depend on my new friends to lead me back in the morning. There was no way I could get back on my own.

When we arrived at the home, many people, who were excited to see a foreign guest, greeted us. I talked late into the night with my host family. I slept well with a wrap skirt lent to me by my hostess as a blanket and a small towel I had brought as my pillow.

We woke early in the morning to visit the local sand dam projects. Sand dams are a form of water storage used to give communities a prolonged water supply where they would otherwise have water only during the rainy season. My host family was so excited to show me their sand dam project. They had also been working on erosion prevention on the hillsides by digging well-placed trenches to catch runoff rains during the rainy season. ADRA Kenya helped with this project.

Water, food, shelter and medical care are things we as Canadians take for granted. We turn on our taps to brush our teeth and wash our hands. We go to the grocery store and purchase whatever we want at a reasonable rate. Housing is available for whatever we can afford, sometimes even subsidized for those needing assistance. When we get sick, we go see our doctor at no charge. Yet these luxuries are not available to most of the world's population.

My host family gets up before sunrise to start the walk to the closest water source. This is a five kilometre walk for them. Food is not always available. On a good day, they can probably eat one small meal. Markets are not well stocked. They probably will not find special items like ice cream and, if available, it will cost dearly. Getting to market from many locations is a hard task with the limited road access. Shelter is available, but it is not what we as Canadians are accustomed to. Mud brick huts are a popular choice.

Health care is often inaccessible and primitive by Canadian standards. You do not want to get sick! If your loved ones do get you to a health care facility, (some sick people are literally carried) and if you survive the trip, you are very fortunate. Your family members would also have to stay and feed you or you would starve. Most people die in their homes without ever visiting a health care provider.

I travelled to Africa with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB) in February of this year. The CFGB, a Christian response to hunger, is based in Winnipeg. It is a food aid and development organization that collects donations of grain, cash and other agricultural commodities for distribution to the world's hungry. Thirteen Canadian church organizations own it, including ADRA Canada, and it works with international partners to ensure that food gets to where they have intended it. The CFGB manages a centralized food/grain collection system on behalf of its member churches; negotiates master agreements with CIDA (the Canadian International Development Agency), the Canadian Wheat Board, and other organizations; manages procurement and shipping for members; provides expert advice and services to members on food programming; and engages in policy and development education activities related to hunger and food security.



Most of the Food Study Tour participants were farmers this year and have been working on Growing Projects. A Growing Project is a group of farmers who work together some donate property, some seed, and some labour. They farm a parcel of land as a group and donate all proceeds to the CFGB.

I know that less than two percent of Canadians are farmers, but each one of us can make a difference. CFGB takes donations under the members' names. Individuals can send a donation to ADRA Canada for CFGB or to CFGB for ADRA Canada. (Visit www.adra.ca and www.foodgrainsbank.ca) And the exciting news is that, so far, CFGB has secured CIDA matches for the donations. A \$100 donation can turn into \$500 worth of activity in a food for work program. CFGB is working in several countries with its partners and ADRA Canada has been working with them in a small capacity for several years.

My dream is that ADRA Canada can become more involved with the CFGB program that is working so well; however, we need your help to make this happen. Poverty is a terrible thing. If we work together, we can make a difference in the lives of thousands of people.

Crystal Scott is a secretary at ADRA Canada.



Coming September 29–October 3



A mysterious presence . . .

... An object so sacred that those who touched it, died.

THE PRESENCE

Closer Than You Think

This fall, join It Is Written Speaker/Director Shawn Boonstra for a look at last-day events as revealed in the Sanctuary. If you enjoyed *The Appearing*, you won't want to miss *The Presence*. It Is Written is partnering with local host churches across North America for this 5-night satellite experience. This interactive, seed-sowing event is designed to bring visitors through the doors of your local church. It can also serve as a perfect follow-up to *The Appearing* and *Revelation Speaks Peace—Unlocking the Signs*.

www.thepresence.com

Visit the website and register as a host church now to receive your FREE resource kit! Or call the toll-free registration number: **1-877-507-3239**

alberta

Foothills Camp a Positive Experience

Josh Marks and Melissa Bokenfohr are two young people who share similar spiritual journeys, a spiritual birthday and a church family.

Coming from homes where faith was not a priority, both Josh and Melissa were each introduced to the church when they attended with a new family member. They have each attended Foothills Camp for several summers and count it as a major influence in their lives. While at camp this past summer, they both made a decision for Christ. After studying with their youth leader through the winter, they were baptized on April 22, 2006. Melissa chose to be baptized by Pastor Steve Reasor at the College Heights church where she is attending Parkview Adventist Academy. Later that afternoon Josh was baptized at the Stettler church by Pastor Jacques Morris.

The Mirror church is delighted to call Josh and Melissa family!

⁻Louise Buelow



From left, Jacques Morris, Josh Marks, Louise Buelow, Melissa Bokenfohr and student pastor Bob Condron.

Peace River Members Join in Evangelism

Eckhard and Barbara Christen of McLennan Alberta, members of the Peace River Seventh-day Adventist Church, have recently spent four weeks in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, a city of four million inhabitants, with 4,500 Adventists in the greater Addis area.

Eckhard had volunteered to bc a spcaker at an evangelistic series in the city, sponsored by Global Evangelism. Twenty meetings were held simultaneously in various locations throughout the city and the country. The series began March 10 and ended March 25. The Christen's were assigned to the Kotebe Adventist Church in Addis.

Tony and Maria Heuther from the



Eckhard and Barbara Christen Grande Prairie church gave a health presentation each evening before the presentations. There where seven other speakers in Addis from California and Hawaii preaching in other locations, some in churches and some in open fields. The youngest speaker was a 15-yearold-girl from California.

Our team had an excellent interpreter whose name was Temesgen Bulti, who works as a translator for Adventist World Radio in Addis Ababa. He also volunteered many hours to work with Eckhard and the Heuthers.

We found the people there to be very warm and friendly towards us and very eager to hear the messages presented nightly. On average, we had about 200 people in attendance each night, with new non-

Adventists in attendance every meeting. Some evenings it rained so hard Eckhard could barely be heard over the loudspeakers, but the people still came, walking in the pouring rain.

Satan was also at work trying to discourage us. The first week it was with electronic and equipment problems, and the second week it was with the weather.

On the last Sabbath, there were well over 550 people present for the morning service to witness a baptism. The whole congregation rejoiced as nine people were baptized from the Kotebe church and 23 were baptized from a few smaller churches. During the last call for baptism over 30 people came forward.

As the final evening meeting came to a close the entire congregation gave us a traditional Ethiopian blessing, and although we didn't understand the words, we did understand the feelings of their love towards us.

If any of you reading this article have ever thought of doing something like this, but are unsure that you could do it, we urge you to try it. Have faith in what God can do through you. You don't have to go to a foreign country. There are many evangelistic campaigns being planned right here in Canada and the United States.

We were greatly blessed by our experiences and give our sincere thankyou to our Peace River Church family and some other close friends who supported us with their prayers and their financial donations.

New Church Formed at Spruce Grove

The Parkland Company in Spruce Grove officially received church status on April 29, 2006. Approximately 40 members will now continue to meet in the Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Spruce Grove.



british columbia

Birthday Celebration with Mayor

Family and close friends were invited to a Sunday afternoon birthday party on April 30 for Hilda Rooke, now 98. The little lady is well-known to many in B.C. and beyond, and her pastor, Frank McMiller, fondly remembers her from years gone by for her big friendliness at B.C. camp meetings.

Hilda resides at Mission City's Carrington House where the party took place. Mayor James Atebe presented Hilda with an official Certificate of Recognition from the City. Pastor McMiller crashed the party



From left, Mayor James Atebe, Hilda Rooke, Frank McMiller and Elsie Walker.

when in the building for a devotional service for residents, and learned the party was taking place.

Elsie Walker, who will soon celebrate

her 96th birthday, was a guest at the party. When the Mayor said he would come to see Elsie on her birthday, she quick-wittedly quipped, "You better get the code to get in, cause they lock me up." All who know Elsie realize she is a real go getter. One person you can almost always depend on seeing at every church meeting is Elsie.

Congratulations to both Hilda Rooke and Elsie Walker. You are both very much loved by your church famiy.

Penticton Residents Attend Cooking School

The Three Angels Seventh-day Adventist Church in Penticton, B.C., in conjunction with "Amazing Health," recently concluded a vegetarian cooking school. The classes were held for four consecutive Sundays, starting March 19 and ending April 9, 2006, at the Penticton Library Auditorium. The average nightly attendance of participants was 32, along with several volunteers who assisted with the program.

The community response was so positive that the participants want to continue with monthly follow-up classes. The health message truly is the "right arm" of the message!



ontario

Baptisms at Scarborough Filipino

The I loly Spirit is working in our church and He is keeping us busy in small group Bible studies where precious individuals are prepared to accept Jesus Christ as Saviour. Ron Eric and Guena Beroncal of Ajax were baptized in our second baptism in 2006.

Eric, an immigrant to the United States, and Guena to Canada, were already friends in the Philippines. Eric moved to Ontario from San Francisco, California, to join Guena in Toronto, and from then on they were inseparable.

Eric has an Adventist background. His mother, Dr. Lydia Beroncal, from the Philippines, while visiting the couple, attended the Filipino-Canadian church and saw a photo of Efenito Adap displayed in the foyer of the church as one of the former pastors of the church. She said that she knew him as her colporteur leader when she was a student colporteur way back in 1965 in the Philippines. She inquired about him and learned that he was pastor of the Scarborough Filipino church. She arranged that Pastor Adap visit them in Ajax. Pastor Adap was introduced to the couple in November 2005, and from there started a small group Bible study every Monday evening. Sabbath, March 25 was Guena's birthday and the couple decided that it



From left, Eric Beroncal, Guena Beroncal, Nid Amethyst Villegas, Efinito Adap.

was a good occasion to seal their acceptance of Jesus as their Saviour by baptism on that day.

Also baptized was Nid Amethyst Villegas, daughter of Bobby and Nida Villegas of the Scarborough Filipino church. Ameth, as she is fondly called by her family and friends, was very faithful attending the pastor's Bible class. It was a great pleasure for Pastor Adap to baptize Ameth who is sincere with her faith and relationship with her Master, Jesus Christ.

> — Pastor Efenito Adap, pastor, Scarborough Filipino Church

Pastor Spence Bids Farewell



Pastor Floyd Spence

April 29, 2006, was a day plagued with mixed feelings at the Apple Creek Church as associate pastor Floyd Spence preached his last sermon before beginning his new appointment as senior pastor of the Ottawa church.

His message was one of encouragement for the youth, affirmation for the adults and instruction in counselling for the children. He reflected fondly on the experience he and his family received for a little under a year from the members of the church.

The evening's program contained an eclectic mix of presentations as the church showed appreciation to Pastor Spence and his family for their contribution to the church family. Warm wishes and sincere words of appreciation were expressed by many, including first elder, Donald Macintyre (master of ceremonies), stating: "Thank you for your uniqueness in the way you bridged the gap between the adults and the youth of this church. We will miss your positive outlook, your warm smile, and your effective sermons that catered specifically to the needs of the youth in our church. When you first arrived, the church had an idea of your talents and capabilities, but we must say that we are pleased with the way you have positively impacted the youth and the church in such a short time. Indeed, there are a lot of people who wish that you did not have to leave so soon but

we are certain that God knows best. Since you must go, please take with you our appreciation, love and well wishes. God bless."

Senior pastor Dr. Mansfield Edwards commented: "Sometimes the mother eagle sends one of her little ones out of the nest after he has learned how to fly, and Pastor Spence it is your turn to spread your wings and fly. Do remember that you have a place in our hearts and a membership here at Apple Creek."

The evenings festivities concluded with Pastor Spence expressing words of gratitude for the love, warmth, and fellowship both he and his family experienced at Apple Creek. "I could not have been the type of pastor that I have been without your love and support. My life has been made richer because of Apple Creek...."

May God richly bless the ministry of Pastor Spence.

-Collette Forrester

seventh-day adventist church in canada

Mission Fest Toronto

For the past 12 years, Mission Fest Toronto has attempted to build up the vision of missions for the Greater Toronto Area and in Southern Ontario. This inter-denominational event hosted numerous well-known evangelical speakers (i.e.; John Maxwell), as well as dozens of seminar presenters. Along with many opportunities to participate in prayer and worship services, dozens of workshops, as well as Christian concerts, attendees could visit over 200 exhibits. The exhibit hall showcased mission agencies that provide hope and healing as they work locally, regionally and in the farthest corners of the world.

Among the exhibits, for the first time, was It Is Written Canada. This came about at the invitation of Mission Fest's executive director, who personally watches the It Is Written telecast on Sunday mornings prior to going to her church.

Mission Fest Toronto 2006 was held March 23-25 at the spacious Toronto Congress Centre, where plenty of free parking and easy access to transit made it less difficult for thousands of attendees to come.

Located almost in the centre of the large exhibit hall was It Is Written, with neighbouring exhibitors such as "The Awana



Erika and David Sloan, It Is Written supporters from Courtice, Ont., had a great time visiting with hundreds of attendees at Mission Fest Toronto.

Clubs" and MacMaster University School of Divinity.

The reception by fellow exhibitors was special in that many of those individuals recognized It Is Written and indicated that they view it regularly.

From the several thousand individuals that came by our exhibit, common comments were: "I love your show." "I watch you every Sunday." "I tape your program so I can watch it later." "I appreciate your ministry." "Your teachers are great and your teachings are solid Bible." "I watch your telecast before I go to my church."

It was very gratifying to meet so many people of other faiths, including pastors, who expressed their appreciation. Even a non-attending Seventh-day Adventist stopped by and, after a pleasant visit, indicated she would take to heart

Bibles That Divide CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

(1)"The E.G.White Counsel on Versions of the Bible" (2)"Modern Versions and the King James Version,"
(3) "Which Version Can We Trust?" These articles will give you insight, balance and appreciation for the way God has watched over His Word.

Ellen G.White's Use of Translations

God had faithful witnesses to whom He committed the truth, and who preserved the Word of God. The manuscripts of the Hebrew and Greek Scriptures have been preserved through the ages by a miracle of God" (Letter 32, 1899).

Author and lecturer Ron du Preez has a chapter devoted to this topic in his book "No Fear for the Future." He notes Ellen White has, "... over 500 instances in which Ellen White used renderings of texts other than that found in the KJV... She did so from 27 of the 39 Old Testament books, as well as 22 of the 27 New Testament books ... Ellen White used at least five other translations ... in more than 40 of the books of hers currently available. So, there is no doubt that Ellen White did make use of versions other than the KJV" (p.111). He summarizes his study the invitation to again worship regularly with us.

While the recognition factor to It Is Written by many was obvious, it was likewise rewarding to meet many individuals who were not familiar with It Is Written and introduce them to this fine television ministry.

Our many thanks go to the volunteers that assisted It Is Written staff, Dirk Zinner and Tracy Bravo and spent over 80 hours at the It Is Written exhibit. These volunteers included Ron Loft, Nancy Johnson, Jim and Evelyn Bruce, Maxine Black, David and Erika Sloan, and Rookim Mangor.

In addition to the several thousand contacts that were made, over 8,000 pieces of literature were distributed. As well, invitations were received from Missions en féte in Montreal and Missionfest Manitoba in Winnipeg to participate at their events.

We rejoice with how God blessed us at this event.

— Dirk Zinner



Ron Loft and Rookim Mangar from Toronto are ready to welcome individuals to the It Is Written display at Mission Fest Toronto, March 23-25 at the Toronto Congress Centre.

of Ellen White's use of translations: "That is, to use whatever modern versions are available, as long as they say more clearly, more correctly, and more conceptually, what is already in the King James Version" (p.118).

The King James Only Debate

There is amongst us, in some areas of Canada, a protest over translations being used other than the King James Version. In the minds of others who do not hold this position there is genuine concern that the primary translations used should be from a "word for word" translation and of the Received Text line.

The King James translation in circulation today is not the translation of 1611, as there have been four translations since 1629, 1638, 1762, and 1769. The KJV of today is from 1769. The New King James version has the historical roots of the KJV, Received Text and Scrivener Greek Text. The KJV is not a reinspired original; it is a translation into English and a good one.

Level-headed-Bible-loving-People

I am deeply concerned when some of our members take for granted Bible

teachings and do not study the Bible for themselves. I am alarmed that all kinds of Bibles are being used in our pulpits as primary Bibles that are not translations to what the Bible writers wrote. I am worried about the impact of those promoting the King James Version only, as they are creating a secret society based upon some legitimate points but who are extreme, divisive and often unchristian in attempting to discuss the issues.

It seems reasonable that within our Church in Canada we should have more Bible forums where the issues around guidelines for selecting Bible translations can be discussed by level-headed, Bibleloving people, rather than ignoring, being indifferent or coming out fighting over the issue. Many are happy and contented just to find quality time to read the Bible, and are unsettled by the confrontation of some saying the only reliable translation is the one that goes back to 1611. It is time for us to come out of our comfort zone and seek for light and not heat.

Ken Corkum is president of the Maritime Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.



schedules

It Is Written—July and August

July 2—"What If God Says No?"; July 9—"The End of an Era"; July 16—"Power"; July 23—"Heroes"; July 30—"Deer Feet in High Places": Aug. 6—"Pursuing the Prize"; Aug. 13— Broken Barometers"; Aug. 20—"Mind Manipulators"; Aug. 27— "Seducing the Soul"

Check your local TV Guide for station and time information.

Voice of Prophecy—July and August

www.vop.com

Week of July 2-7—Sun: Joel: "Joy in a Time of Sorrow"; Mon-Fri: "The Just Shall Live" -3: July 9-14—Sun: "Amos: A Plea for Justice"; Mon-Fri: "The Just Shall Live" -4; July 16-21—"Jonah and the Judgment Prophets"; Mon-Fri: "Sunshine in My Cell Today"; July 23 28 — Sun: "Prophets in Search of Justice"; Mon-Fri: "Gracious Tethers"; July 30-Aug. 4—Sun "Haggai & Zachariah. Bridge Builders for God"; Mon-Fri: "Burned Out on Being Good" 1. Aug. 6 11 — Sun: "Malachi: Preparing for the Kingdom"; Mon-Fri: "Burned Out on Being Good" -2: Aug. 13-18—Sun: Mathew. "The King Has Comel"; Mon-Fri: "The Four Faces of Jesus" -1 (Matthew); Aug. 20-25—Sun: "Mark: Following Jesus"; Mon-Fri: "The Four Faces of Jesus" -2 (Mark): Aug. 27-Sept. 1—Sun: "Luke: A Gospel for All People"; Mon-Fri: "The Four Faces of Jesus" -3 (Luke)



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Announcements

You are invited to the Welcome Hall Adventist Church's 50th anniversary celebrations in Montego Bay, Jamaica, Aug. 3-7, 2006. Fri., 6:30 p.m.—The Lord's Supper and Praise; Sabbath—Homecoming and Praise; Mon. 6 p.m.—Feast of Jubilee at the Noel Fraser Auditorium. For more information, please contact Violet Linton-Samuels at 905/434-7043. (7/06)

Bronte Seventh-day Adventist Church is looking for current information on the following missing members: Debby Albrecht, Moises Amparo, Reynosa Amparo, Madge Anderson, Renee Barclay, Marilou Capranos, Rob Chamberlain, Dorothy Coombs, Armin Darmstadt, Glen DeLine, Cynthia Hunter, Yvonne Hunter, Mark Lediard, Paul Levien, Yvonne Levien, Lois MacKenzie, Donna Kay Melbourne, Jodi-Ann Melbourne, Corey Moss, Mary Mullen, Dennis Rice, Carolyn Sala, James Sharpless, Aaron Shirley, John Sims, Erma Smith, Garson Smith, Linda Smith, Lorraine Smith, Eric Stein, Alma Valley. If you have any information that may help, please contact Yolanda M. Polzer, church clerk, at 905/388-1567, or email bronteclerk@adventistontario.org.

The Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference is looking for the following missing members: Lucy Aaserude, Maxine Aaserude, Ronald Aaserude, Myrtle Agnew, Albert Anderson, John Balandyne, Rose Bascotto, David Baulin, Arnold Benty, Murray Benty, Thomas Brown, Leanne Chambers, Lorna Lynn Delorme, Glen Fredeen, Mary Hetherington, Vernon Jones, Joe Manchur, Ernest R. Mann, Alana Martin, L. McMillin, Tom Merklin, Sherry Ann O'Dell, Elmer J. Osterlund, Doris M. Pavelko, Mervin Elroy Penner, Penny Penstock, Audrey Pich, Roger Pollock, Tilly Pollock, Edith Ricketts, Victor Ricketts, Betty Joan Rink, Nick Schmidt, Donald Siemans, May Skiftun, Joan Smith, Betty L. Spangler, Frank Town, Carolyn Vigneron, and Jeffrey Weigel. If you have any information regarding these members, please contact Clifford Holm at 306/ 244-9700, or email cholm@mansask.org.

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

Olivia Marie Turner was born Oct. 25, 2005, to Jim and Janette (Kartik) Turner of Calgary, Alta.

Weddings

Cheryl Foucher and David Barrett were married Aug. 1, 2005, in Chilliwack, B.C., and are making their home in Lacombe, Alta. Cheryl is the daughter of Ray and Judy Foucher of Greenwood, B.C. and David is the son of Arthur and Karen Barrett of Burnaby, B.C.

Melanie Pohl and David Kartik were married Apr. 16, 2006, in Penticton, B.C., and are currently making their home in Washington where they are attending Walla Walla College. Melanie is the daughter of Walter and Sharon Pohl of Oliver, B.C., and David is the son of John and Myrene Kartik of Cochrane, Alta.

Birthdays

William Tataryn, of Rutland, B.C., celebrated his 90th birthday



on Mar. 24, 2006. More than a hundred guests attended a birthday party, hosted by his family, to extend their best wishes. He has four children: Reuben, Esther, Eleanor, and Elaine.

Obituaries

Reginald Thomas Barr was born Nov. 12, 1928, in St. Thomas, Ont., and died Apr. 18, 2006, in Oshawa, Ont. One of the many ways Tom served his church was as a Pathfinder leader. He was predeceased by his first wife, Margaret Jean Vicary. Surviving: wife Wanesa Barr of Oshawa; son Thomas R. (Jeane) Barr of St. Louis, Mo.; stepsons Gary (Christine) Johnson of Whitby, Ont., Wayne (Debbie) Johnson of Mattawan, Mich., and Kevin Johnson of Oshawa; daughter Robin (Robert) Gamiel of White Plains, N.Y.; stepdaughter Linda (Larry) Thwaites of Unionville, Ont.; brother John (Airry) Barr of Bella Vista, Ark.; sister Phyllis Norris of Windsor, Ont.; 10 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Thomas (Tom) Hovland was born July 3, 1916, in Sauda, Norway,

and died Apr. 13, 2006, in Terrace, B.C. Surviving: wife Eva; sons Allen (Barb), Lloyd, and Earl (Bonnie); daughters LoAnn (Dale) Huether, and Alaine (Don) Sparks; 12 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Joseph Kapiniak was born Aug. 10, 1912, in Rama, Sask., and died Mar. 25, 2006, in Kelowna, B.C. Joseph served as deacon in the Rutland church and the Hazel Dell church in Saskatchewan. He faithfully made the fire in the stove to heat the church every Sabbath morning in the winter months. Surviving: wife Helen; sons Arthur (Yvonne) of Lacombe, Alta., Samuel (Lynn) of Sayward, B.C., Leonard of Kelowna, and Brian of Kelowna; daughter Ronda Kapiniak of Kelowna; brother Mike of Rose Valley, Sask.; sister Rose Tataryn, and Bernice Maksymiw; nine grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Josephine Kwiatkowski was

born Mar. 16, 1916, in Fort William, Ont., and died Feb. 17, 2004, in Toronto, Ont. Surviving: brother Rudolph Kwiatkowski; sister Jadwiga Kondakow.

Martha (Myrt) (Batke) O'Dell

was born Jan. 7, 1933, in Lang, Sask., and dicd Aug. 8, 2005, in Weyburn, Sask. Myrt served her church as a church clerk and a Sabbath school teacher for a number of years. Surviving: husband Jack; sons Warren (Vicky) O'Dell of Weyburn, and Kevin (Jill) O'Dell of Weyburn; daughters Wanda (Dan) Erb of Regina, Sask., Brenda (Dave) Braun of Weyburn, and Jackie (Tom) Prokop of Kelowna, B.C.; brother Leon Batke of Regina, Sask.; sisters Alma Easterby of Moose Jaw, Sask., and Lydia Ertman of Kelowna; nine grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Edgar Harold Gibbs Pierce was born July 6, 1920, in Vancouver, B.C., and died Mar. 24, 2006, in Abbotsford, B.C. Ed was head deacon at the Westminster church in Burnaby, B.C., for many years. Surviving: wife Norma (McGilvray); son Leonard (Joan) of Wenatchee, Wash.; daughter Donna (David) Struthers of Abbotsford; brothers Henry (Rose) of Vancouver, B.C., and Charles (Nikki) of Nanaimo, B.C.; sisters Laurie (David) Hellekson of Campbell River, B.C., and Annise (Owen) Henniger of Langley, B.C.; and five grandchildren.

Eldon James Pregoda was born Dec. 21, 1970, in Lacombe, Alta., and died Mar. 19, 2006, in Red Deer, Alta. He was predeceased by his brothers Cory and Jason. Surviving: wife Debby; parents Dan Pregoda and Carol Solberg; motherin-law Jean Shewchuk; parents-inlaw Shirlee and Howard Hunter; brothers-in-law Rick (Carmen) Hunter, Kelly (Donna) Hunter, Tracy (Miette) Hunter, and Stacy (Stacey) Hunter; and sister-in-law Taffy (Dan) Blake.

Ronald MacBay Spracklin was born Mar. 15, 1931, in St. John's, Nfld., and died Apr. 29, 2006, in St. John's. Ron worked at the Newfoundland Conference Book and Bible House and also operated a small health food store. He also served the church as a deacon and sang in the church choir. He was predeceased by his wife, Helen. Surviving: brother Milton (Monnie) of St. John's; sisters-in-law Cora, Betty, Mabel Catoire of Louisiana, and Cathy Mowell of California; brothers-in-law Cecil Alger of Ontario, Eugene Alger of Ontario, Edmond Alger of Northwest Territories, and Gaylord Miller of New Hampshire.

Robert White was born Aug. 29, 1921, in St. John's, Nfld., and died Apr. 16, 2006, in St. John's. Bob was a faithful supporter of his church and served as a deacon, Sabbath school superintendent and community services leader. Surviving: wife Edna; sons Thomas (Carol), and Robert of Labrador City; daughter Corinne (Bobby) Symth of St. John's; and seven grandchildren.

Emma Permelia Wilson was born Mar. 4, 1917, in North Hatley, Que., and died Apr. 5, 2006, in Stoney Creek, Ont. Emma served for many years as church treasurer of the Waterville church in Quebec. Later, she served as a secretary for many years for Kingsway Publishing Association and Home Health Education Service of Canada in Oshawa, Ont. Emma was predeceased by three older brothers.

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The Sic

by Cathy Ireland

houghtfully placed in my hand, a tubular form rattled slightly as my fingers wrapped around it. Even with my eyes held tightly closed, I knew what it was—a kaleidoscopc!

I had always wanted one and now here it was given to me. I opened my eyes and smiled as I looked at it. I was overwhelmed by a strange sense of contentment, much like when your tummy is full after an exceptionally good dinner. After so many years of timidly yearning, here it was, this simply perfect gift.

I couldn't resist turning it up to the light. I squinted up my left eye and peered through with the right. Vivid stained glass colours fell into symmetrical form like

tin soldiers with the slightest turn of my hand. I was 45-years-old and my life had taken so many turns. Like the kaleidoscope palette, each circumstance had brought a new presentation of shapes and colours to deal with—some sharp and painful, others soft and round. I've learned to be careful in life and to always be prepared for change. I've come to know that change is inevitable.

But what is a kaleidoscope without light? In life, love is the light. For no matter what befalls you, with love, you always land on your feet. Whatever turn of events happen, I've realized that although I cannot control what happens outside my kaleidoscope, I can control what happens to me and what I see. I choose to what level change will impact me; how long I'll grieve or stomp my feet. It is up to me to determine. If I had been given this kaleidoscope as a child, a few quick turns and I may have discarded it, perhaps never to pick it up again. Today at 45, it is a high honour to hold what my child heart

longed for. It breeds such great contemplation. Who inspired its creation? Michael Angelo, Lois Tiffany or God? I see a universe, a lush garden, and

a stained glass chapel window, all gently created with the turn of my hand. As children, we prod with fingers and peek into everything. It is our way of learning about the world. Looking and seeing are two totally different experiences. A kaleidoscope gives you the choice to do both.

> I'm grateful for this gift and the giver who somehow knew me enough to know how much I'd cherish and appreciate receiving this dash of rainbow excitement I now hold securely in my hand.

Scripture tells us, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). God is the ultimate giver. He knows what we are made of and what each of us most desire. He can be counted upon to care for us in every difficult life experience and, at the turn of His hand, turn us to the glorious and dazzling light of His forgiveness and love.

Cathy Ireland is founder of Changing Habits and Attitudes Through Seminars (CHATS) workshop program. Email cathyireland_chats@hotmail.com.



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