

canadian adventist

Messenger

january 2007

the Arctic, Africa, and Beyond

Sebastian Tirtirau's mission

The Holidays and You

People of Hope

Darwin in the
Church School





...for a Change

"I the Lord do not change." Malachi 3:6

I've wondered "how can a changeless Being be God of such a changeable people?" My only explanation is that He is so enormous that He encompasses everything that we are and ever will be, no matter how many changes we make.

And we do make changes, don't we. As you read this, you may be struggling to keep those New Year's resolutions, those pledges to change things in your life that you don't like. What was it this year? Exercise more? Eat less? Become a vegetarian? Call home more? Study the Bible daily? Reconnect with old friends? For some of us, the list of things we'd like to change about ourselves is unending. Whatever aspect you've chosen to focus on this year, I want to encourage you to hang in there; change is never easy, but it's usually worthwhile.

Adding to the list of changes that this New Year brings, you may notice some differences in the *Messenger* this month. Now, I know that many people don't like change of any sort—they're scared by it—but I hope that there will

be some changes within our pages that you will actually enjoy. Joan and I have been busy tweaking this and adjusting that so that *your* magazine will continue to be something that you are proud of, something that you look forward to receiving each month.

Embrace the changes that you face, not just those in this magazine but those in life. Rejoice that even though you are made in the image of the One who is "the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8), He doesn't require that you stagnate; He is the very One who empowers you to develop, who encourages your transformation.

*"...be transformed by the
renewing of your mind..."
Romans 12:2*

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Messenger

January 2007 Vol. 76 No. 1

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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.



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Deadlines

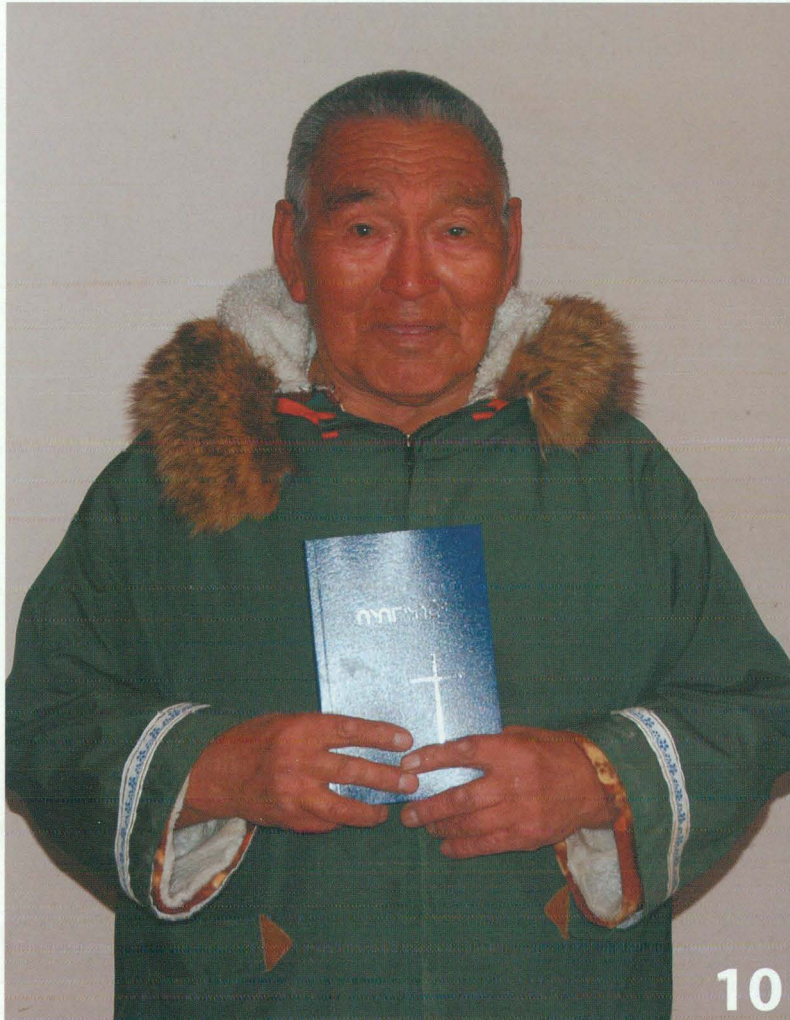
March issue	January 2
April issue	February 1
March issue	March 1

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

Canada Post agreement number 40069337.

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The Holidays and You



How did you celebrate Christmas and the New Year this year?

Imagine many of you were with family and friends. Perhaps you had a meal complete with veggie turkey, baked potatoes, peas and the trimmings all cooked to perfection.

The desserts were divine, no doubt; the sparkling grape juice chilled and ready to serve; the table set for kings.

For so long, beautifully wrapped packages of multiple colours and shapes resided under the tree, each one bought for that special person. Children may still be in awe of the bounty of gifts that have come their way. My grandchildren will undoubtedly be overwhelmed by the quantity received, yet within a few days most will have been forgotten. How many hundreds of dollars have we spent on one another and our children? Some say you cannot buy much today for less than \$100. The average Canadian spends more than \$800 in the stores in December.

For many poor in Canada and around the world, Christmas holds no special meaning and the New Year brings nothing new. Many will not have any dinner on these occasions, will not receive a gift and, although wanting to give, will have little or no money available to them for sharing. Many will not have the privilege of celebrating like we do.

In Africa, millions continue to be ravaged by HIV/AIDS and diseases including malaria and tuberculosis. The daily struggle of facing ongoing wars, starvation, lack of good water, and the horrible abuse of thousands of lovely children is more than many can handle.

In Asia, HIV/AIDS is on the rise leaving many households to struggle with making a living or paying added medical expenses. Many would love to have \$100 to spend on gifts for loved ones including uncles, aunts, grandparents, cousins, and children. (Unlike here, the extended family is still very important.) Birth rates continue to rise. The two countries leading the way are India and China with more than a billion people each.

Let us not forget South and Central America where birth rates are ever increasing and diseases are killing many people. Even with disease and war, populations continue to grow rapidly and earnings do not keep pace. Few families can afford the basics for their children, let alone gifts.

And yet, as a result of ADRA Canada's programs, many families and communities will have food on their table this

year. Many have received assistance from ADRA Canada programs and can now share with others. Many who have participated in ADRA Canada's programs now have an income. Their table may be set differently, but it is still set for a king! Rice, beans, fresh vegetables and fruit have been grown and now these people have food to eat.

What does all this mean for us here in Canada at a time of wonderful celebration? It means simply that we live in a less-than-perfect world and we need to appreciate the freedom and conditions under which most of us live. It also means that little by little we are making a difference in the lives of people and their communities. It means that our supporters have seen the responsibility to others shown so clearly in Matthew 24 and 25, and recognize what we need to do as we wait for



our Lord's return.

During the holidays, from our standpoint of wealth compared to most of the world, we remember that we have a responsibility to help others until Christ comes in the clouds. Our responsibility involves our own efforts and resources as well as our prayers. "Lord come quickly" should be our everyday plea as it seems clear that this is the world's only hope—Jesus to take us home to be with Him for eternity. Let us remember those who need our help throughout the coming New Year and celebrate those who have just enjoyed their first Christmas dinner!

May the wonder and happiness of the holidays follow you well into the New Year. Thank you for making a positive difference in the lives of so many. ■

K. Oliver Lofton-Brook is the Executive Director of ADRA Canada.



People of Hope

I came that they may "have life, and have it abundantly."

I couldn't believe what I was hearing. I was sitting beside my dear mother-in-law in the emergency room of the Oshawa General Hospital. After an initial scare, her diagnosis was good, and we were waiting for the final clearance to return home. From the curtained cubicle across the room, I heard a doctor query: "How many pills did you take?" The response came back in a rather blithe fashion, "150." "What kind of pills did you take?" he asked. The voice sounded cool and matter-of-fact: "Tylenol." "Regular or extra strength?" She responded quickly: "extra strength." "Well," said the doctor, "I certainly hope that they cleared up your headache." He momentarily demonstrated a little more professionalism and bedside manner when he gently said to her: "O.K. now, show me your arm so that we can sew up that wrist."

A young woman, probably not older than twenty-five, had attempted suicide that Friday evening. Frustrated, exhausted by repeated attempts to live, to function, and to merely be accepted by her loved ones and friends, she had obviously given up. Hope had run its course, if it had ever been there in the first place, and it had come to this: a large bottle of Tylenol and a knife.

As I sat there listening, I wondered what I had to offer such a person—what the church had to offer.

The substance of Jesus' ministry and message spanned a vast array of thought, yet I believe that He expressed the essence of His message most clearly when He spoke through the pen of the prophet Jeremiah and said: "I know the plans I have for you . . . plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:13 R.S.V.). He echoed the idea when He said: "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." (John 10:10 R.S.V.).

I have long ago come to the conclusion that the fundamental purpose for God's revelations of Himself to through Jesus was to bring the quality of eternal hope to humanity. He came into the world to give

every human being something positive to look forward to—both in the here-and-now and in the future. He did this without regard to circumstances, racial background or economic standing.

Many individuals walking through the streets of our towns and cities, many who come to our churches for the first time, many who walk into our Sabbath School classrooms, though their cases may not be as severe as the young woman in the emergency room, feel rejected, socially unacceptable and hopeless as a result. They live their lives in doubt and anxiety—thinking that by some act, by some circumstance, by some accomplishment they will finally grasp what has heretofore been only an illusive butterfly—always a wisp away.

All of us need hope. Something deeply embedded in our soul requires that we find within our social networks—our families, our friends, our career associates—a level of acceptance that will provide us with peace of mind, the satisfaction that life is worth living, and enough hope to face the future.

If hope was at the core of Jesus' message, then shouldn't it be at the core of our personal and collective message to our world in 2007? Shouldn't our witness to our family, workplace and community be that of a people who believe in the good we see now and the future we see coming? While our message has some very straight elements to it, the fundamental quality in all of our presentations ought to be that of hope. Our spouses and children need to know it. Our neighbours ought to see it.

What will you offer your world this year? Will you demonstrate in your life and witness the qualities of hope? As you 'Tell Canada' of the great news of a coming Saviour what will you really be saying? What will your life say? I want to encourage all of us to be a people filled with hope and expectation, who readily share with all who will listen the very basis for our hope! ■

Dan Jackson is the President of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada



TEENTALK

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

For questions or speaking engagements, contact him at:

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Depression

I know I'm supposed to be happy about New Year and all that stuff. My friends tell me that I should come up with some New Year resolutions, but the truth is that I feel very depressed. Nothing's going well, and I don't see any signs of improvement in the near future, which sucks big time. What does the Bible say about coming out of depression?

I'm sorry you're feeling that way. Depression is not fun at all, and it is often misunderstood, especially among Christians. But you should know that quite a few Bible characters struggled with it on and off. One of the most famous is David. Among his many Psalms, the 77th gives us a very powerful tool to deal with depression.

David complains in the first part of Psalm 77: "Will the Lord reject forever? Will He never show His favour again? Has His unfailing love vanished forever? Has His promise failed for all time? Has God forgotten to be merciful? Has He in anger withheld His compassion?" Then it seems as if he stops himself before he goes on: "I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember Your miracles of long ago." Then something very cool happens. He changes from talking in third person to the first person. In other words, as soon as he remembers all the good things that God did in the past, his mood changes, and he's able to address God one on One.

Neat, eh? Why don't you try it?

Josue's Pick

www.spirittoday.org is a very simple website, yet full of encouraging topics.

Hands On

Depression is way too complicated to fix with just a few words of encouragement. If you need some local resources, email me and I'll be happy to help you out :)

Creation Corner for Kids

“The LORD will rise up . . . to do his work, his strange work, and perform his task, his alien task.”
(Isaiah 28:21, NIV).



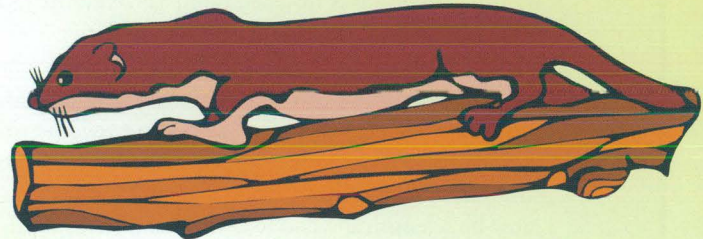
Long-Tailed Weasel

I'll never forget the day my Chihuahua dog, Mindy, encountered the Long-Tailed Weasel. We were strolling around the chicken coop when suddenly the weasel appeared at the doorway. In a split second, it made a break for it and began rapidly climbing the front wall of the building.

Mindy, a much fiercer hunter than she looked, sprang with the speed of lightning and grabbed the weasel halfway up the wall. Though it was at least as long as she was, Mindy quickly subdued the foe. Even though this was likely the very predator that had been killing chickens and stealing eggs, I was sad to see the weasel come to such a sudden and terrible end.

Think about it.

Although the weasel was guilty of terrible crimes against our chickens and deserved what it got, witnessing Mindy's act of final judgment upon the vicious creature was not a happy moment for me. Nevertheless, the weasel's death was the only sure way to protect the chickens. Likewise, God (who is love) will not be pleased when He destroys the wicked in His final act of judgment. But the final disposal of sin and unrepentant sinners is our only guarantee for eternal safety from the effects of sin.



Do it.

Make a list of family and friends that you will pray for daily. Make a habit of praying for the salvation of those on your list throughout the day and during your devotional time.



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

DARWIN IN THE CHURCH SCHOOL

When Charles Darwin wrote *On the Origin of Species*, he provided an answer to the most pressing question of the 19th century intellectual—"How do you get rid of God?"

by Barry W. Bussey

The intellectual community of the time was convinced that the only sure way for humanity to manage its affairs was by human reason. Reason was elevated to such a degree that God was no longer needed. People would figure it out. No need of revelation or a "thus saith the Lord." Religion was frowned upon as backward and inhibiting one's potential.

The problem for these bright minds was the whole issue of life—from whence did it come? Surely there had to be an explanation that did not include reference to God. The answer to this conundrum arrived in 1859 with the publication of Darwin's book. It was quickly embraced by intellectuals; the story of God creating the world could now be scientifically laid to rest. Thanks to Darwin we have a new orthodoxy. For many, science has established that there exists a natural selection and evolution of species such that all of life comes from a common ancestry. God did not create the world, they believe; rather, we are just part of a never-ending evolutionary process.

Recently, the Province of Quebec has notified private religious schools that, if they wish to issue provincial diplomas, they must teach Darwin's evolutionary theory or risk being shut down. Quebec's *Ministère de l'Éducation* is meeting with a number of religious schools to "negotiate" the teaching of the theory. However the minister noted that "[s]chools must, of course, follow the curriculum, which includes the teaching of Darwin's theory of evolution."¹

The origin of life has been a matter of controversy for some time. Dayton, Tennessee was the site of the infamous "Scopes Trial" in the summer of 1925 when a young teacher was accused of violating the law by teaching evolution. It was, in reality, a "test case" of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) that wanted to challenge Tennessee's anti-evolutionary law. The recent discussion in Quebec is the Scopes trial in reverse—the state is advocating Darwin's theory.

Evolutionary theory is part of the curriculum in all of Canada.

However, I have spoken to a number of Christian educators who state that, while evolution is part of the curriculum, it is not something that is stressed to the point of requiring students to adopt it into their belief system. Issues such as the origin of life may never be settled scientifically. There is much complexity and many unanswered questions. However, the issue here comes back to the whole notion of churches being able to run their schools without fear of the government forcing a life view that is problematic to them.

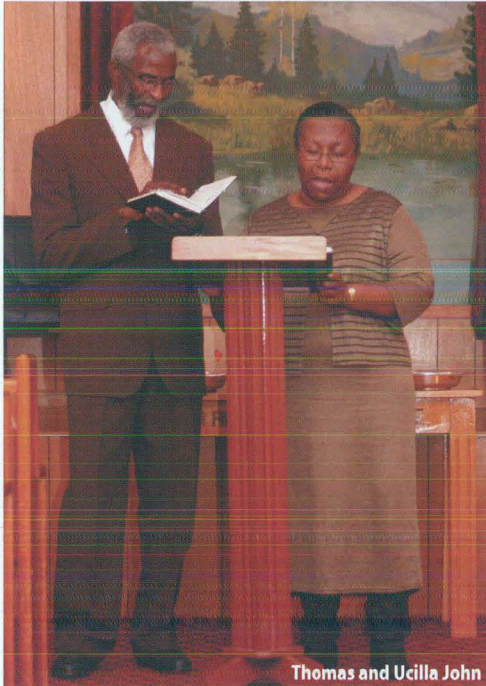
For many Christians, the very imposition of evolutionary theory in the curriculum and its ardent following in public schools is reason enough to send their children to church schools. I am of the view that we ought to teach our children the basic tenants of evolutionary theory within the context of the Christian worldview. That way our students can be more knowledgeable about our faith and have the tools necessary to defend their faith against the humanist claims of evolution. Evolutionary themes such as "survival of the fittest" are inimical to a Christian worldview. The Christian's understanding of life is that it is bestowed upon human kind by a Creator who made humans in His image. The implications of this basic understanding are huge. We seek to support human life as a good in and of itself because it is sacred. We do not seek to take advantage of another in an effort to "get ahead." That is our theory. Unfortunately, not every person going by the name "Christian" is following this course. But that does not take from the fact that we have an ideal, which in my opinion, is much deeper than the mere biological machinations as suggested by evolutionary theory. ■

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



¹ Csillag, R. "Quebec Says Private Schools Must Teach Evolution or Close," *Religion News Service*, (Nov 7, 2006)

Mission to...Canada?



Thomas and Ucilla John

On Saturday, November 18th, 2006, Jim and Belinda Crowe showed the surrender of their lives to God by being baptized and accepted into membership at the Truro Seventh-day Adventist Church. As Pastor Lloyd Steeves conducted the service, an angelic presence filled the church and every member knew that God and His angels were celebrating with them. But this holy and Spirit-filled Sabbath celebration may never have happened had it not been for two very special missionaries...



Thomas and Ucilla John landed on Canadian soil on July 15, 2006. They had made the 12 hour flight from Trinidad to visit their daughter and her family for the first time in four years, but after the exhausting trip, the first place Thomas wanted to go was to the local Seventh-day Adventist church. Being the Head Elder of his church in Trinidad, he knew how important the church family is and wanted make contact with the members in the district.

"I love Canada, and I am here to spread God's word," he continuously told anyone who would listen. "Where can you take me to distribute tracts?" "How many Seventh-day Adventist churches are there in this district?" "Can I go door-to-door as I did in Trinidad?" Thomas was on fire for Jesus and very intent on following God's command for him to spread the gospel in a foreign land. Altogether, Thomas distributed over 100 tracts to various communities in the area.

One Sunday, his wife, Ucilla, and daughter, Eliese, were invited to a bridal shower. It was Ucilla's first introduction to Belinda of whom she'd heard many stories; Belinda had been showering kindness and love upon Ucilla's granddaughter, Jynece, as she was missing her grandparents. So it was hugs and kisses at the bridal shower that day, but there was also a hint of sadness because, Ucilla discovered, Belinda's husband, Jim, had recently been diagnosed with ALS. Belinda told Ucilla that he was feeling

quite hopeless and only interested in speaking of his funeral. "My husband will pray for him and he will be better," Ucilla said to Belinda whose face beamed as she was consoled by her new friend.

After the bridal shower, Thomas, Ucilla, Eliese and her family were invited to Jim and Belinda's home. It was there that Thomas and Ucilla prayed for Jim for the first of many times.

"I have great news for you, Thomas," Belinda ecstatically exclaimed not long after that day. She explained that Jim's doctors were very pleased with his progress and that his new attitude had amazed them. "I believe it's the prayer. The prayers are truly working for Jim." Belinda and Jim were not churchgoers, but they immediately believed in the powers of prayer.

Belinda and Jim began attending the Seventh-day Adventist Church every Sabbath, and every Tuesday they opened their home to Thomas and Ucilla and studied the Bible with them. For fourteen weeks they studied together and became closer to each other and to God. Jim's health and his spirits improved as his faith in God grew. Though there were challenges to be met, through prayer they persevered. Jim and Belinda were truly in love with God and knew that the time had come for them to give their hearts to God.

As Thomas and his wife prepare to go back home to Trinidad, they continue to visit with the new members they helped along the way. They continue to witness at every opportunity, and everyone acquainted with them knows that they are some of God's special missionaries. ■

*Our Editor interviews Sebastian Tirtirau
of the Pilgrim's Relief Society.
(www.pilgrimsociety.com)*

THE ARCTIC, AFRICA,

AND B

Sebastian Tirtirau has already had a life that could fill the pages of a best-seller, but he's too busy living to write it. Still, he has had a lot of press lately, being featured on television on 3ABN and in print in the Adventist Review and the Adventist World to name but a few. It seems that his latest mission project—delivering Inuktitut Bibles to the far North—has captured public attention. Yet, most of his fellow Canadian Adventists have never heard of Sebastian Tirtirau and the organization he founded, the Pilgrim's Relief Society. I thought it was time to fix that, and so, in October 2006, I talked to him to discover what makes this mission-minded man keep going. And going. And going...

The Man, His Conversion

Sebastian Tirtirau: I grew up in an atheist family. My parents were professors of history and philosophy in Romania. Romania was mostly atheist at that time, and I grew up in this kind of environment. At 14 years old, the government of Romania employed me in a special military school to become a professional soldier. But then my brother, my older brother, fled the country to Sweden illegally. I was put in prison to take the punishment on behalf of him because that's how it was. When somebody runs away, the next of kin from the family takes the punishment. So I spent in that unit 18 months. Then communism fell in Romania during the revolution of 1989, and I was released.

After that, I became a rock and roll singer. I was an alcoholic. I was a smoker; I was smoking 60 cigarettes a day and so forth. But I became a history teacher in a school, and one of my students, she was a Seventh-day Adventist and gave me Bible studies. I was her teacher, but she gave me studies on what history is really all about. So I became a Seventh-day Adventist in about two weeks. I asked for baptism right away because I knew what I'd found—actually Who I'd found.

So I became a Christian in May '92. Then I went down South in Bucharest. I became a theology student for two and



a half years there. Then I flew to Africa and finished my college there—another two and a half years. That's how it all got started.

Messenger: It's interesting to me that you were imprisoned to pay the price for your brother's crime. It seems like a bit of an object lesson, a reminder of Christ paying for our crimes.

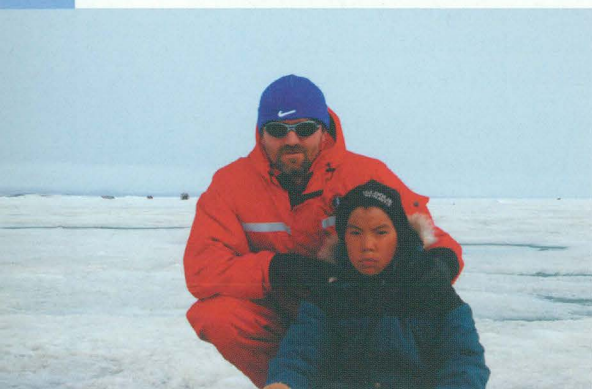
ST: That's actually what really shocked me when I first found Christ, because, you know, I suffered for my own brother, and I complained all the time. I was really mad, angry at everything. Then I met Christ who suffered for everybody but He never opened His mouth. And it really shocked me, the difference in characters between mine and His. So I said, "You know what? I have to know this Jesus." And that's why my transformation was so fast.

I believe God had a plan for me. God silently allowed all these experiences in my life. In prison I was beaten like a dog five times a day. They allowed me to sleep for two hours a night, from four to six in the morning. They starved me to death for nine

EYOND

Part I

months; they hardly fed me with biscuits and cans of beans left by the German army in 1945 after the Second World War. So they actually experimented on us to see how we survived on this kind of food. I still don't know why God kept me so healthy, because I have friends that were left as vegetables for the rest of their life. They are in wheelchairs and so forth. And yet, when I went to the Kalahari for the first time, I realized that that's why God kept me, because He had a plan. He wanted me to go preach the gospel to tribes around the world, in places that nobody wants to travel to, but with my experience in prison in Romania—the beatings and so forth—I will never complain about anything else. Because food . . . I don't care how it tastes, what it looks like, where I sleep . . . And let me tell you this: in some of the places I go, like the Amazon deep in the forest, the places I've been in and the things I saw them eat and the ways I see them behave . . . I went to a cannibal tribe in the Amazon; they eat their own dead. And things like this will turn anybody away, but in my experience, I know that God can change anybody because He changed me. That's why I go to the worst places on the map, because I know God has a plan for those people.



The Mission: Arctic

M: And one of those places where you've gone that nobody else wants to go is the Arctic—Northern Canada and Greenland. Tell me about that project.

ST: Well, I think it was 2003 when I was reading a book on

Northern Greenland and Northern Canada, and I was very intrigued with the uniqueness of the people in the North. So I started to research more about them and I found out, hey, there is an Inuit Bible by the Canadian Bible Society and it sits in a warehouse in Ottawa. So I called them and I said "if I want to buy some, would you sell them to me?" He said "sure, any amount you want." So in 2004, I bought a few hundred Bibles from them. And I didn't know what to do with them, how to get them there. So I told my brother, and he said what I needed was a sailboat. He's a sailor. "Why don't you come on my sailboat with your Bibles, and I'll take you up to Northern Canada and Greenland to deliver Bibles." So we started in July 2004, and we couldn't finish this project because . . . ah, well . . . we ran into huge storms on the sea. You know how sometimes they can get. In a 26' sailboat, I didn't feel . . . You know, it was my first offshore experience, and we ran into storms and fog. I got violently ill one night. So we turned around and headed home.

Then in March of last year (2005), I found out there is a cargo plane who flies deep into the North, into the Arctic, very far North. So I called the captain and said "I'd like to

go." And this guy said, "okay, we'll get you your Bibles in our cargo and you can get a seat with us and we'll fly you up there." So in March 2005, I flew to several villages and I did some other villages also by dogsled, the only way of going between the far away villages.

We traveled to several villages by dogsled. We got lost in a snowstorm for three days—last year in April, for Easter. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of Easter weekend I was buried in an igloo for three days in a snowstorm. -60°C. Luckily, my guide's wife had built me a polar bear and caribou suit and I was dressed just like one of them, so it kept me really warm. But it was the scariest experience I've ever had in my life—living in -60°, lost somewhere on the sea-ice maybe about 300 miles from the closest village. It was quite an experience. But the Lord saved me from that as well. I managed to distribute those few hundred Bibles to the Inuit there.

Then I said "hey!" I saw the need. There's a huge thirst for Christ in that place. So I said "I have to come back." And I prayed for 5000 Bibles. I needed 5000 Bibles. And *It Is Written* came through. They didn't know about my project in the Arctic; they just said "We voted in our Board meeting to help you with your Bible project. You need any Bibles?" I said, "Sure. I need 5000." So, they just bought the 5000 Bibles which I distributed a few weeks ago in the Arctic. I just came from there.

M: And how is the work being received in the Arctic?

ST: Very well. All of the Bibles that I donated this year were very well received. Everybody reads, writes, and understands the Inuktitut language. And they all take the Bible and read it. As a matter of fact, I took some English Bibles with me as well for the young people who speak English. And Bible studies. For the first time they have Bible studies. The interesting thing is that I put in every Bible study how to contact me, how to reach me in case they have questions. What really blows my mind is how bad these people want to receive the Bible, want to read it. And how friendly they are. You know, I was a stranger there. Most of the people they see around are either government people or polar bear hunters. Suddenly they see a pastor who comes in, walks around with a Bible and gives one to everybody.

And I have children everywhere. In the villages I went to—especially this year because now they know me better—children from the whole village come around and they all walk with me. Everywhere I walk, they walk with me. And when people see me from afar, they see this crowd of kids walking and me, dressed like an Inuk,—you know in a polar bear suit—and the love they offered me, such a stranger like me, it really blew my mind.

M: You were particularly impressed with the friendship of one man, weren't you? Who was that?

ST: I had a very good—an excellent—guide in the Arctic called Natalino. And this man who I'd never met before, we became extremely good friends. The Lord showed me once again that when He has a plan with a mission, He's gonna find the right person to contact. Natalino has a great enthusiasm for the Lord, though he doesn't know who God is or what a Bible is or a church or a pastor or so forth. But he has what it takes. He has the thirst to know who God is.

As a matter of fact, we were lying down in the igloo in those three days last year when we were lost in the snowstorm, and this man who never knew me before treated me like a brother. Found out that I was cold—one night I was really freezing in my feet—and he woke up and rubbed my feet between his hands so I could get warm. This is a man who could've let me die with no problem because nobody would have known where I was anyway. And yet he would risk his own life to feed me, to clothe me, to get me warm, and to see that I am okay and would survive this Arctic experience. And in the end when we left to the plane, he just shook my hand and said, "Your God saved your life. And I hope you will come and visit me again."

You know, we established a friendship that came from God. I didn't know about this man, and he didn't know about me, about my project. He had no idea I was coming, and yet we became friends. That will last, I believe, for eternity.

The Mission: Africa

M: And, no doubt, you made other good friends through your travel and mission work. Tell me about Africa and the people you met there.

ST: I had the privilege of being adopted in '98 by the Bushman tribe, and in the process of me spending some time in the Kalahari, I met with a great personality in the Kalahari. I hope your readers have heard of him. He played in a movie called *The Gods Must be Crazy* [20th Century Fox, 1980]. Well, the Bushman actor that plays there—when they find the Coke bottle and so forth—I met him in the Kalahari one day, and I was very shocked to see him there. Through my translator I asked him, "What are you doing here?" He was a personality known around the world but he was still living with the Bushmen. He was barefoot, and he was hunting with poison arrows, and so on. So I started to become very good friends with him, and in July 2000 I had the privilege of baptizing him. He became a Seventh-day Adventist in July 2000, and then he died in July 2003 of TB. He became one of the first people in the Kalahari to die in the Lord. It's been a great, great privilege for me to be his friend. I look forward to seeing him in heaven.

I know a village in the Kalahari who used to live somewhere deep in the desert in a place with no water, no food; they were really starving. And the chief tells me that about six months before I came, they had a tremendous experience. They heard

the voice of a Spirit, and I know this is God because He told them, this voice told them, to move from this place to the place He wants to show them because there He is going to give them "food and also food for the soul." So they moved to this place where I found them. I

was driving one day and saw this village and went in. I started to preach the gospel there for about six months. After, they all came for baptism. I've never had that experience before that a whole village wanted to be baptized, and I said, "What's going on? Why are all of you coming?" He told me, "The Lord told me six months ago that we were going to get fed in our souls if we came here. You came and taught us about Christ so we all want to become Christian." So they are all right now baptized. We built a church in their village, one of the most beautiful villages you've ever seen because after they became Christian, Christ taught them how to live. They have people from around there—like pagan villages—coming to them and saying "What is this light that you have on your face? And why do you not die of malaria and animal attacks like we all do?" So they all say, "We want to become like you." It's a tremendous witness to everybody around them.

M: You mentioned that It Is Written partnered with you on the Arctic project, but I understand they are also helping with something special in the Kalahari, too?

ST: That's right. I'm leaving for the Kalahari with them soon to distribute Bibles on iPods. We discovered a company in Ireland who created this small... they call them GodPods because they create them just to put the Bible on...and they are solar powered. They have no battery, no electricity. They run for six hours, you recharge them for six hours and so forth. We put the Bible in Bushman language on this pod and then we're going to Africa—to the Kalahari now—to deliver them to about 100 villages. It Is Written is coming with me. We actually have right now kind of an official partnership because I reach places where they can't reach with their satellite and television evangelism. We complement each others work very well. ■



To get Tirtirau's advice for wanna-be missionaries, to find out how he deals with discouragement, and to learn more about his Pilgrim's Relief Society, watch for part two of this article in the "Canadians Abroad" section of the February issue of the *Messenger*.

CHANGING LIVES FOR 100 YEARS



In 2003, with Canadian University College's centennial only a few years away, CUC administration began work on a book detailing the university college's remarkable history. A committee was formed, and the job of writing and editing fell on Edith Fitch, CUC archivist, and Denise Herr, Professor of English and a third generation faculty member at CUC. The end result? Changing Lives: The Hill Top Story, an absorbing and inspiring book full of pictures and stories from 1907 to the present. As we countdown to the centenary of Canadian University College, we look back at those that came before and their stories that continue to inspire. The following excerpt from Changing Lives: The Hill Top Story chronicles CUC's early years.

from "A Barn, Tents, and Humidity: The 1909-1910 School Year"

The focus of this new campus was North Hall—a dignified name for the renovated barn. The ground floor housed the kitchen, dining room, laundry, chapel, and primary school. Tables and chairs were rearranged to meet the needs of the hour. The second storey accommodated academy classrooms and offices. The upper two levels became the men's residence. There were no other finished buildings on campus, but housing was provided for the 23 women residents. They and their preceptress lived in tents. In October, this may have sounded like an adventure, but as snow blew across the prairie, cold reality set in.

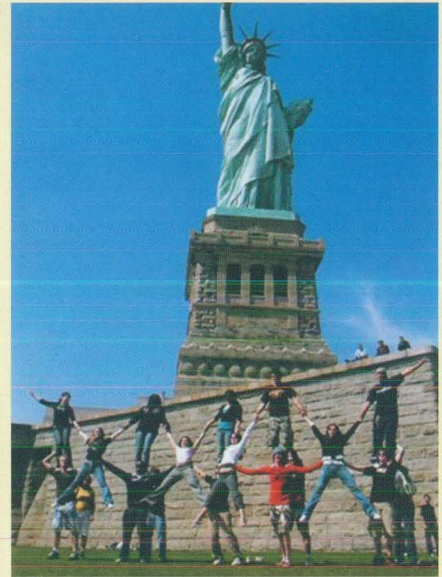
The tents were floored, the sides were lined with tarpaper, and the exterior bases were banked with earth. A wood stove in the centre provided heat for the women. Student Ruby Rick said, "There were as many holes in the roofs of the tents, made by fire sparks, as stars in the sky." The stoves were refuelled several times each night. To warm their beds, the women heated bricks and rolled them in towels.

The women were happy when another building was erected on campus. It had been designed to serve as a laundry but was pressed into service as a women's dormitory. Unfortunately, it could accommodate only 13. Students recall that the more slender women moved into the laundry building; the preceptress and "plump girls," who were less affected by the cold, remained in their tent until East Hall, the next campus building, was ready for occupancy.

Although the men did not have to face winter winds howling outside tent walls, they were not housed in luxury. They were asked to refrain from sweeping their rooms during school hours. Students in the classrooms below sneezed when dust fell through the cracks and onto their books. Since there were no stairways to the upper floors, the men climbed ladders nailed against the wall. One young man, on rising late and hurrying to dress, stumbled into the ladder chute and careened into the chapel below, landing near Principal Beardsley's feet just as he was announcing the opening hymn.



“With a Joyful Sound”



The Aerials team is just one of the four extra-curricular groups that Kingsway students can choose to join.

When students enroll at Kingsway College, they are encouraged to join one of the four touring groups on campus: the Aerials gymnastic team, band, choir, or the drama group. We know from research that students who become involved in extra-curricular activities develop social, emotional, and interpersonal skills that help them mature into adult leaders for the future of our church and the world. But what we must never forget is that beyond these goals, belonging to a touring group is a lot of *fun!*

During the first week of school, students can select which group they want to join. Then, auditions follow. Hard work has its reward, and most students earn their way into the group of their choice. Next comes intense practices, new routines, unfamiliar music, and the creation of new, innovative programming in preparation for touring season.

Through the Enrolment Services Department, an extensive touring schedule is coordinated with churches in Ontario. Each group of students works with their respective director to develop a complete church service program. In the case of the Aerials gymnastic team, they sometimes perform for a Saturday evening crowd as well. Then, the excitement begins as tour groups begin touring as early as October each year.

One touring group, on a rotating basis each year, participates in a larger-scale tour outside of Ontario. Group members fundraise, schedule extra practices, and launch a longer tour during Kingsway's spring vacation. Memorable past trips have included an Aerials trip to New York City, a band trip to Bermuda, and a choir trip to Chicago.

During the critical teenage years, it's wonderful to know that at Kingsway College, students really can have “the best of both worlds:” an excellent academic experience and a balanced life with sports, music, and other extra-curricular activities within a Christ-centered environment. ■

Everyone studied by the light of coal oil lamps, warming their fingers and thawing their ink over the glass chimneys. The lamps were numbered according to their location so that after they were refilled and their chimneys cleaned, they could be returned to their proper places. Gasoline lamps, initiated in 1910, gave much more light. There was no electricity on campus until 1917.

During the first school year in Lacombe, students living in the Home paid \$12.50 a month for board, room, tuition, light, heat, and “plain washing.” Costs were kept low because students worked one and one-half hours each day for no remuneration.

Although the conditions were primitive, it was felt that students were gaining an experience that would qualify them for missionary work in foreign countries. Despite the cold and the dark of winter, school spirit ran high and students were glad for the opportunities of a Christian education.

For more information about the centennial book, *Changing Lives: The Hill Top Story*, contact the CUC Alumni office at 403-782-3381 ext. 4161. ■

Do you want more CUC news?

Check out our online newsletter at www.cauc.ca/newsnotes.



In 1909, this renovated barn, dignified by the name North Hall, became the quarters for the men's residence, kitchen, dining room, laundry, chapel, primary and academic classrooms, and offices.

Ontario



Adventist Pastor First York Region Police Chaplain



Far left:
Edwards in uniform.

L-R: Police Chief LaBarge
presenting Edwards
with his badge as Deputy
Mayor Wheeler looks on.

>> Why would a pastor don the uniform of a York Region Police officer?

“Outreach,” says Dr. Mansfield Edwards, senior pastor for the Apple Creek Seventh-day Adventist Church in Markham, Ontario. “I see this as an opportunity to reach a segment of the community in a way that I would not normally reach.”

Dr. Edwards was speaking shortly after receiving his shield and badge from Armand La Barge, York Region Chief of Police, on Wednesday, August 30, 2006, at the Newmarket Theatre. He was part of the graduation exercise for new police officers. For the occasion, he exchanged his ministerial suit for the uniform of a police officer in the York Region Police Force. His epaulettes proudly bear the two stars of an inspector. Edwards has the distinction of being the first Adventist chaplain in the York Region Police Force and wears his honorary rank of inspector with the dignity.

In his uniform, Edwards is identical to other officers with just one significant difference—the absence of a firearm. However, the main difference is in his purpose. He is conscious of his role as a pastor to minister to men and women who are in a high risk profession. “It is important to be there for them,” he said, “their lives are constantly being placed on the line. They need to know that they can have true security beyond their bullet-proof vests.”

Edwards sees his new position as an opportunity to share

his faith. It enables him to meet various groups in the community, especially youth. He is not permitted to proselytize and does not attempt to do so. However, he is willing to share his own testimony of choices he made in his life that he feels have been of significant value and personal benefit to him. His new role has also placed him in a position to benefit his local congregation. “I’ve been able to secure summer positions for four students. They are all studying forensic science and will work next summer with York Region Police to gain valuable experience,” he said. His first responsibility, however, is to the officers within his district.

As one of a number of chaplains in the York Region, Edwards is responsible for a geographical region reaching from Richmond Hill in the west to the York Durham line in the east. He offers spiritual support, guidance and direction to 100 officers. He said that he accepted the position on the condition that he could serve in the vicinity of his church. To facilitate his request, the police board moved another chaplain, and now Edwards is able to meet officers in his office at church. “I needed to make sure that it was not centred on me but the church, in case I leave this area, he said. “I want them to build a relationship with the church. I want it to be a place of refuge for them.” ■

Fifty-Seven Baptized at Toronto Central Evangelistic Meeting

During the “Way to Life” evangelistic series—a series with a difference—held at the Toronto Central church June 10-July 8, 2006, Evangelist Omar Palmer helped many to sense their urgent need of salvation. Fifty-seven individuals responded to the call of the Spirit and were baptized during this event.

Not satisfied to do a traditional evangelistic series, Toronto Central church planned a different theme for each evening of the meetings. On Tuesday evenings, it was “Lovers Night” when Palmer led the audience in an exploration of the many facets of interpersonal relationships, always recognizing the ultimate love of Jesus. “Prayer Power Night” took place every Wednesday evening and included an anointing service and a prayer scroll. Friday night was “Question and Answer Night.” Evangelist Palmer did not shy away from answering



Newly baptized members of the Toronto Central church with evangelist Omar Palmer, assisting pastors, and Dan Jackson, President of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada.

even the most probing of questions.

Those who attended were blessed by this series. Perhaps your church might want to consider how to put a new face on our traditional evangelism methods! ■

Hamilton Mountain’s Vegetarian Food Fair a Resounding Success

The Hamilton Mountain Church held its 10th Annual Vegetarian Food Fair on Sunday, August 27, 2006 under the direction Danny and Janie Macesic. The main features included delicious vegetarian foods from different parts of the world, beautifully displayed and presented by friendly vendors. For those who were interested in more familiar fare, an outdoor grill manned by the youth department provided vegetarian hot dogs and burgers, as well as corn-on-the-cob. The children enjoyed face painting and other fun and games while adults attended the cooking demonstrations.

The fair also included blood pressure checks, free massage therapy and a display of free health literature. Free legal counseling and financial advice was also available. The personal ministries booth was busy providing literature and having

meaningful discussion on the Bible and Adventist beliefs.

The hard work and dedication of everyone involved in the planning and preparation of the event certainly paid off as was evidenced by the interest shown by the many visitors from the community as they mingled and chatted with church members. ■



Purchasing food from vendors



Visitors attending cooking demonstration



Danny and Janie Macesic giving cooking demonstration

Quebec

New Youth, Family Life and Health Department Director



Herbert and Jackie Valiame

The Quebec Conference has invited Pastor Herbert Valiame to serve as the new Youth, Family Life and Health Department Leader. Pastor Daniel Latchman, former director, left Quebec a year ago to serve as President of the Mauritius Conference.

Pastor Valiame was born in Martinique and educated in Jamaica. He began his ministry in the

Martinique Conference. Valiame has served in the France North Conference of the Euro-Africa Division as a church pastor and Youth Leader.

We welcome Pastor Hebert Valiame, his wife, Jackie, their two sons, Fabien and Kinsley, and their soon-to-arrive third son. We wish them a great success in the work the Lord has assigned to them. ■

Alberta

Caribbean Association of Alberta Adventists

“Our Light, Your Life” was the theme of the 2006 Caribbean Association of Alberta Adventists (CAAA) retreat on September 1-4, 2006, at Foothills Camp. The approximately 600 guests from Alberta and elsewhere across Canada were blessed as guest speaker Trevor Christopher of Maryland was used mightily by the Lord. Brittney Wensink, a Caucasian visitor for the weekend said, “I can’t believe I sat for three hours and listened to a sermon. The preacher got very personal, but I felt the Holy Spirit there. I could sit and listen to him for another three hours.” Forty-eight people committed themselves to God in the first baptism/



The pastors and newly baptized members who participated in the first-ever CAAA-hosted baptism.

rebaptism in CAAA history.

CAAA Presidnet, Pastor Greg Baldeo says that plans are already being made for making 2007’s retreat “more inclusive

so that people from other cultures will come and enjoy the sweet fellowship at CAAA, led by people of Caribbean heritage.” ■



Spanish Woman’s Retreat

A first-ever Alberta Conference Spanish Womens’ Retreat “Lluvias de Gracia 2006” was held September 15-17, 2006 in Red Deer. The guest speaker was Dr. Miriam Acosta from Montemorelos. Plans are already in place for their second retreat in 2007! ■

Boot Camp Mania

*"The seed is
in the harvest"*

Since 2001 when the Alberta Conference hosted the first-ever Canadian SEEDS Church Planting seminar, eight other Personal Ministry Evangelism training seminars have been conducted in this province. None, however, has generated the kind of enthusiasm and infectious spirit as has been demonstrated by the Global Evangelism Boot Camp held September 29-30, 2006 at Foothills Camp.

Just one week prior to the event, there was doubt as to the viability of this seminar; only 106 people had registered and many of those were the pastors in our conference. A week later, however, we had to discontinue registrations after 360 people expressed interest in attending! By the end of the weekend event, 193 people had signed up to be involved as speakers, associate speakers and helpers in evangelistic activities soon to be conducted throughout Alberta.

When asked why Global Evangelism Boot Camps are so successful worldwide, speaker Bob Folkenberg Jr. thought maybe because "the accountability process is built into the program." Pastors are to support and guide the laity even though the outreach is the responsibility of the person in the pew. During the training weekend, attendees were encouraged to meet with other from their locale and with their pastor begin making plans and setting dates for their first two meetings in 2007.

Over and over again Folkenberg reminded us that "the seed is in the harvest"—that it is really important to use those who have recently been converted as key participants in the next evangelistic event. He also encouraged us to remember evangelism in our daily lives, or as he called it, "evangeliving." ■



Elder Bob Folkenberg Jr. presents "Global Evangelism-Share Him"



Pastor Brad Dahr (right) and his Beiseker-Drumheller church group



Pastor Karel Samek (center left) and his Yellowknife NWT church group

Manitoba - Saskatchewan

Youth Ministries—More Than Sabbath School Every Week



At the Saskatoon Central church, Youth Ministries is a way to educate, enthuse and enliven the young people of our church family. In an effort to provide an opportunity for young people to feel like they belong, to start or continue a relationship with God and make a difference in their community, we've been having special vespers times called "The Bridge" during which we focus on how Jesus bridged the gap for us; enjoying social events like Dagwood and Blondie Supper with Bowling, taffey pulls, Capture the Flag, Sardines, and, of course, pizza nights; studying the Bible together, right now focusing on the book of Mark; and serving our community, having adopted the crisis nursery in our neighbourhood as our special project. ■

British Columbia

"Prais'n Him" Southern-Style Weekend

The third annual Southern Gospel weekend has come and gone. If you missed it, you missed the musical event of the year!

Held at Camp Hope on the weekend of September 15, 16, and 17, this weekend showcased nine of our top singing groups from around the province: Freedom Singers, Chosen Vessel, Chapel Belles, Heir-Waves,

Denise Kellerman, Heidi Kettner, Herb Desjarlais, the Lakusta Sisters, and Laurie Trayer & Rolland Neufeld. We were also blessed to have a popular lower mainland quartet, Higher Calling, from Delta, who topped off Saturday night with a spectacular concert during which they entertained us all!

People traveled from far and wide to attend. The weekend was like a family

reunion with people so genuinely happy to see each other. After each evening concert you could find Colleen Beatty stoking the big ole fireplace where people lounged around and visited until the wee hours of the night. The entire weekend seemed to be non stop singing. The old songs continue to give love and hope to each of us. ■

Born To Serve

Pastor Paulo Macena was ordained to the gospel ministry on September 9, 2006 by Mark Johnson, VP of the British Columbia Conference and Nilton Amorim, VP for Administration of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada.

Macena believes that his call to the ministry came when he was 6. He told his mother he wanted to be a pastor someday. He did, in spite of his 'vacation' from church in his youth. He came into the ministry after graduating from UNASP, an Adventist University in Brazil with a Bachelor in Pastoral Theology. He gained his MA in Youth Ministry at Andrews, and is currently taking his Doctoral Studies in Leadership.

Macena ministers at the Abundant Life Community Church in Surrey where he lives with his wife, Cristina, and their two daughters, Luisa and Paula. ■



L-R: Mark Johnson, Cristina Macena, Paulo Macena, Brian Wahl, and Paul Antunes

Pure Hearts, Pure Homes

...it's about doing God's work in the community and in the world...

The Open Door church (Abbotsford, BC) kick-started their fall schedule by hosting a “Pure Hearts, Pure Homes” weekend with Pastor Bernie Anderson, co-host of the Net '98 program. Anderson shared his testimony and spoke on the importance of keeping our actions and thought-life pure. Pastor Anderson, who has been interviewed by *Newsweek* magazine, Greta Van Susteren of *Fox's On The Record*, and by James Dobson for *Focus on the Family*, spoke on Friday night, as well as for Sabbath School and the church service, and held a well-attended afternoon seminar.

Several years ago Anderson stepped forward to confess and share the struggle of overcoming his addiction to pornography. Beginning at the age of ten, he battled alone with guilt and shame before finding the freedom that only Jesus can give. “My testimony isn't unique,” he says, “but what is unique is that I talk about it.”

Pastor Anderson's genuine warmth and easy manner softened hearts and gave hope to men and women who have suffered in similar ways. Many seminar attendees openly shared their own struggles with keeping pure thought-lives. Designed to equip people and churches to minister to others and promote regeneration of lives for the Lord, the weekend was a huge success. The Lord inspired the right people to be there, to touch lives and minister to His children in a variety of churches.

The weekend was just one of the many ways in which the Open Door church is working to build a reputation of caring for our neighbours; weekends like this help by meeting the needs of people, something that it takes a certain amount of vulnerability to do.

Capping off the weekend in a positive way was one goal, so the church invited Chonda Pierce to share her testimony and love of life on Saturday evening. Pierce is well known in the Christian community and is involved with the Gaither's, the Grand Ole Opry and Women of Faith. Hundreds of people from the community came to share in the laughter and the tears of her story. World Vision and Crista Ministries were also there spreading the Christian message of reaching out to others and supporting those less fortunate.

Months of prayer, planning, prayer, organizing, and more prayer went into this event. When it was all over, participants were left with encouragement and enthusiasm, a “what-can-we-do-next” attitude.



Photos by Dwayne Wilde

Pastor Bernie Anderson who inspired attendees to be honest about their struggles in keeping pure thoughts.



Chonda Pierce, Christian speaker and comedian, closed the weekend on a positive note.



A meeting of just some of the volunteers who helped make the “Pure Hearts, Pure Homes” weekend such a tremendous success.

And they know that it's not about them; it's about doing God's work in the community and in the world, and they're excited about finding new, creative ways to do that.

“Encouraging people to seriously consider the impact of what they think about, read, or view, and how it drives a wedge between them and the relationship they need to have with the Lord is what this weekend was all about,” said Bill Holloway, pastor of the Open Door church. “The Lord is blessing our congregation. It's been great seeing us all pull together this weekend; it was a large event that required a lot of faith, prayer and hard work to make happen, and we were able to leave a very positive impact on our community, not only for our church, but most importantly, for the Lord.” ■

Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada

Church Mourns Loss of Former President



J.W. (Bill) Bothe

John William Bothe, 88, a resident of Loma Linda, California and a long-time administrator of the Seventh-day Adventist church, died on Wednesday, October 25 at the Loma Linda University Medical Center following a long illness.

Bill, as his family and friends knew him, was born November 28, 1917 on a farm belonging to his parents 100 km

north of Regina, Saskatchewan. While he was still a preschooler, his parents became Adventists and moved to a farming community south of Regina where he was able to attend elementary school. The family was also able to fellowship with other Adventists in their new location, and worshipped in a church building for the first time.

Bill finished secondary school in Regina and moved on to Canadian Junior College (now Canadian University College) where he graduated in 1938 and later became chairman of the Board of Trustees. Desiring to become a minister in his church, he also attended Atlantic Union College and earned a Bachelor of Theology degree.

His first denominational employment was in Newfoundland where he gained not only ministerial and administrative experience but also a much-needed helpmate. In 1943 he married Anita Moyst, and he and his bride served the Lord in the Maritime, Manitoba-Saskatchewan, and Alberta conferences. He was then elected as President of the

Church in Canada and served in this capacity for 12 years.

Sadly, Anita died in 1972 at the age of 51, but the Lord led Bill to Genevieve Johns and they married in 1973. With Genevieve by his side, Bill accepted a call to serve in the North American Division, first as administrative assistant to Neal Wilson, President of the NAD, then as Associate Secretary and Secretary of the NAD. In 1985, the Bothes moved to Loma Linda where Bill served as the representative of the church on the campus of Loma Linda University for 6 years until his retirement.

Survivors include his wife, Genevieve, of Loma Linda; two daughters, Nancy (Duane) Clark of Anacortes, Washington, and Sylvia (Wayne) Culmore of Vancouver, Washington; a son, Larry, of Berrien Springs, Michigan; three stepsons, Warren Johns of Loma Linda, California, Jerry Johns of Columbus, Georgia, and Gordon Johns of Chehalis, Washington; eleven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. ■

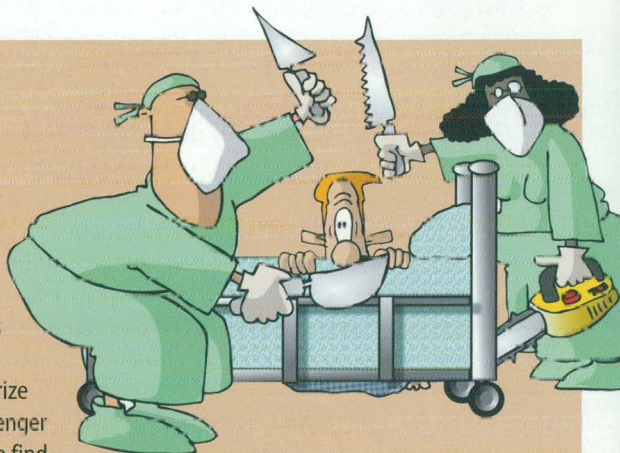
We're Cutting Out the Middleman... ...but, don't worry, it won't hurt a bit!

In fact, you might even like it. It used to be that to submit something to the *Messenger* you had to go through your local conference/mission office, but all that has changed now. As of January 1, 2007, we welcome you, the members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, to send your news, photos, and other submissions directly to our office. No side trips to the conference office needed.

Before you grab the nearest writing instrument to get started, you'll want to familiarize yourself with our writer's guidelines, of course. Go to our website—www.sdacc.org/messenger—for tips on how to write the fantastic articles that we know you can deliver. You'll also find out what sections of the magazine are open for submission. Then, set pen to paper or fingers to keyboard and **GET WRITING!** We are waiting to hear from you!

Please email your submissions to cholloway@sdacc.org, or send them via 'snail mail' to
Editor, Canadian Adventist Messenger, 1148 King Street East, Oshawa, ON L1H 1H8

(Electronic submissions are preferred but not required.)



Would-be contributors are reminded that all submissions must adhere to the beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist church and conform to the principles of good taste. Articles of question and articles submitted by persons unknown to the Messenger office will be cleared by the applicable conference/mission before being accepted for publication. Not all submissions will be printed.

■ Announcements

Kingsway/OMC Homecoming Weekend, May 4-6, 2007—The Kingsway College faculty and Alumni Executive invite all former students and staff to attend Homecoming Weekend on May 4-6, 2007. For further details, visit the Kingsway College website at www.kingswaycollege.on.ca, see your Kingsway Contact, or call Raeline Brower at 905/433-1144, ext. 212. (4/07)

Centennial Celebration—All alumni of Canadian University College and Parkview Adventist Academy are invited to attend a special centennial celebration taking place June 7-10, 2007. Some of the highlights include a heritage walk, parade, bus tours and a concert featuring The Booth Brothers. Mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend this very special 100 year celebration! For more information, please email the CUC Alumni Office at alumni@cauc.ca or phone 403/782-3381 ext.4161. (2/07)

Missing Members—It Is Written Fellowship Church is seeking to contact the following persons in an attempt to update the church's membership list: Bernard Adams, Carol Adams, Chris Alexander, Leon Alexander, Iris Beckford, Priscella Bennett, Jim Broadfoot, Julie Broderick, Melaine Brown, Mr. and Mrs. A Brown-Gonsalves, Sonia Chapman, Ryan Choy, Sharon Choy, Edward Dryczek, Marcia Duffus, Marlene Foster, Ronald Foster, George Johnson, Valerie Johnson, Eunice Kennedy, Cecilia Kerr, Lisa Lee, Ma Lixin, Mary McHugh, Irene McKenzie, Annette McTaggart, Vashti Nelson, Fie (Perry) Pang, Chandradai Ramballi, Leila Ramballi, Kevin Ramnauth, Candy Regimbal, Andre Ricketts, Hyacinth Ricketts-Hamilton, Claire Stuart, Samuel Teyakaran, Olga Thomas, and Hu Yongmei. Anyone with information about the whereabouts of these members, please contact the church clerk, Melrose Cooley, at 416/759-2313, or Pastor Roulston at 416/510-1805, as soon as possible.

On the weekend of Feb. 10-12 the Alberta Conference and Parkview Adventist Academy are sponsoring the second annual Alberta Bible Conference. Young people from grades 9-12 are invited to attend a weekend of great music, spiritual refreshment and friends. All young people who wish to attend can find more information at www.paa.ca/campusministry.ca. (1/07)

■ Legal Notice

Maritime Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church Inc.

Notice is hereby given that the forty-sixth Regular Triennial Members' Meeting of the Maritime Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church Inc. will be held at the Moncton Seventh-day Adventist Church, 161 Salisbury Rd., Moncton, N.B., starting at 7 p.m. on Friday, Apr. 20, 2007 and ending on Sunday, Apr. 22, 2007 at 4 p.m.

This meeting is called for the following purposes: 1) election of a board of directors; 2) election of a standing bylaws committee and standing finance committee; 3) election of officers and departmental leadership of the conference; and 5) transaction of other business as may properly come before a regular members' meeting.

The member churches of the Maritime Conference are represented at this meeting by delegates chosen on the following basis: two delegates from each church plus one additional delegate from each 40 members or major portion thereof.

Delegates who are members of the Organizing Committee are asked to meet at the place of the session at 5:30 p.m. AT on Friday, Apr. 20.

*Dr. Ken Corkum, President
Richard A. Novleky,
Secretary-Treasurer*

■ Weddings

Erin Christianson and Terry Goslin were married July 9, 2006 in Olds, Alta. and are making their home in Saskatoon, Sask. Erin is the daughter of Rick and Stacey Christianson of Olds, and Terry is the son of Peter and Cathy Goslin of North Battleford, Sask.

Julianna Streifling and Bill Parsons were married Nov. 6, 2006 in North Sydney, N.S. and are making their home in North Sydney. Julianna is the daughter of David and Jean Streifling, and Bill is the son of Jim and Elaine Parsons.

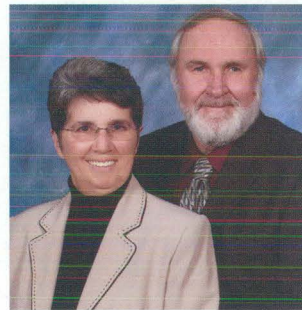
■ Anniversaries

Bill and Barbara Crandall of Golden, B.C. celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Oct. 12, 2006. The occasion was also Barbara's 86th birthday as they were married on her birthday in 1941. They were married in Ponoka, Alta., where they farmed and built houses until 1956 when they moved to



Invermere, B.C. They later moved to Golden where they were charter members of the Golden Adventist church and where they continue to worship. They served the church for many years, Barbara as clerk and Bill as deacon. They have two children, Charlene and Duane (Norma), 8 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

Earl and Alvena (Greer) Dunhill, of Maple Hill, Ont. celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Apr.



28, 2006. They celebrated this milestone with a trip through the western states from California to Yukon and Alaska. The Dunhills were married in Silver Falls, near Saint John, N.B. They moved to Oshawa, Ont. in 1965 where Earl worked as plant manager of Kingsway College and Alvena taught at College Park Elementary School and for the Durham School Board. The Dunhills have four daughters: Gayle (Richard) Baskin of Charlotte, N.C., Dawn (Mikal) Campanello of Eagan, Minn., Sandra (Greg) Trupp of Mississauga, Ont., and Joy Cooper of Chattanooga, Tenn. They have eight grandchildren.

Norman and Frances How of Lacombe, Alta. celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Oct.



23, 2006. On August 20, at a time

when family and friends were able to attend, a festive dinner was held in the Canadian University College dining room. Family came from California, New Westminster, B.C., Airdrie and Edmonton, Alta. to mark the event, along with a number of local friends. The Hows were married in Edmonton, Alta. They served the Adventist Church in the Alberta, British Columbia, and Newfoundland Conferences. At the time of his retirement, Norman was serving as Secretary of the national headquarters of Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada in Oshawa, Ont. After retirement, he accepted a call to serve as acting secretary for the Egypt Field in Cairo. The Hows have two sons: David (Vivienne Gray) of Morningside, Alta., Fred (Beverly Tetz) of Loma Linda, Calif. They have four grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Henry and Mabel Spenst of Lacombe, Alta. recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.



They were joined by a host of family and friends. The Spensts lived in Northern Saskatchewan for seven years, then moved to the Lacombe area where they farmed. Henry and Mabel have faithfully served their church, Henry as deacon and Mabel as deaconess. Mabel is currently co-head deaconess and also serves on the welcoming committee. Many college students have enjoyed home-cooked meals at their table. Hospitality is one of their special gifts. The Spensts have two children: Brian (Debbie) and Donna (Dave) Lima. They have four grandchildren and one great-grandson.

John and Shirley Welch of White Rock, B.C. celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 29, 2006. The Welchs were married at Stanborough Park Church in England, worked in Ghana, West Africa for seven years and immigrated to Winnipeg, Manitoba in 1966. John was a professor of architecture at the University of Manitoba for 33 years. Shirley was a homemaker and also worked for many years as a clerk in an insurance company. Both John and Shirley have been active and continue in their involve-

ment with their local church, serving in various roles. A celebration was held in Hope, B.C. in July where 100 of their family and friends attended. The Welchs have 4 children: Kevin (Jenny) Welch, Michael (Hiromi) Welch, Karen (Bret) Dobbin and Claire Welch. They have five grandchildren.

■ Baptisms

NEW BRUNSWICK

Donald LeBlanc, Jerry Robichaud, Lidiana Almeida, Geraldine Gallant, and Daniel Nowlan were baptized in Moncton, N.B. on Oct. 7, 2006 by Pastor Stéphane Beaulieu following an evangelistic series by José Élysée and his wife Elisabeth. They are now members of the Moncton French Church.

ONTARIO

Istvan Banhidi was baptized in Toronto, Ont. on Sept. 24 by Pastor Karoly Nagy. He is now a member of the Toronto Hungarian company.

Fred and Lorraine (Pilch) Kearsley were baptized in Cobourg, Ont. on Aug. 5, 2006 by Pastor Olavi Orpana. They are now members of the Cobourg company.

Ralph Jarvis and Gail Storning were baptized in Peterborough, Ont. on Oct. 14, 2006 by Pastor James Anderson. Gail's first contact with Adventists was through literature ministry and through correspondence with Dale and Joy Thomas. Ralph's initial contact with Adventists was through Kurt and Beverly deGourville. Ralph and Gail are now members of the Peterborough Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Franklin and Monica Seetram were baptized in Toronto, Ont. on May 26, 2006 by Pastor Carlton Roulston, and **Jamila Alleyne, and Roy and Kristen Henry** were baptized in Toronto on Oct. 7, 2006 also by Pastor Roulston. They are now members of the It Is Written Fellowship.

Darleine Erickson was baptized at the Northeastern Ontario camp-meeting on Sept. 2, 2006 by Pastor Doug Pollington after studying with Alison Down, bibleworker. Darleine is now a member of the Timmins Seventh-day Adventist Church but worships with the small group in Cochrane.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Wesley Bendixen was rebaptized in Penticton, B.C. on Oct. 28, 2006 by Pastor Heinz Volk. He is now a member of the Penticton Seventh-

day Adventist Church.

Ken and Florence Smith were baptized in Courtenay, BC on April 8, 2006 by Pastor Verne Snow. They are now members of the Comox Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Laurel Lafaut was baptized in Courtenay, BC on April 8, 2006 by Pastor Gordon Smedley. She is now a member of the Comox Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church.

■ Obituaries

Orville James Berg was born July 14, 1920 in Bentley, Alta. and died July 4, 2006 in Red Deer, Alta. He was predeceased by his wife Vesta (French). Surviving: daughter Beverly (Willie) McCallum of Hythe, Alta.; brothers Delvin (Rose) Berg, and Kelly (Elaine) Berg; sisters Viola Kruger, Goldie Cuthbertson, Bernadene Reiman, and Donna Mead; five grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Effie (Cooper) Cameron was born Oct. 5, 1916 in Scotland and died Sept. 29, 2006 in Cloverdale, B.C. Surviving: daughter Gail (John) Balloch of Surrey, B.C.; and brother Herb Cooper of Victoria, B.C.

Marilyn Arlene Froid was born Apr. 11, 1952 in Oshawa, Ont. and died suddenly Oct. 14, 2006 in Peace River, Alta. A fully contributing member of the Adventist church, she worked at North York Branson Hospital as a registered nurse, served on the board of the New Life Adventist Church in Oshawa, and was actively involved in singles ministry. Surviving: parents Arthur and Marion Froid; fiancé Eivind Hestdalen; sisters Patricia (John) Morgan, and Kimberly (Jay) Rayner; one niece and three nephews.

Marjorie (Matthews) Juriansz was born Aug. 27, 1927 in Calcutta, India and died Sept. 23, 2006 in Oshawa, Ont. Marjorie served the church faithfully for over 38 years, first as a teacher and principal in India and then for three years as a medical secretary in Canada, followed by 25 years at Home Health Services in Oshawa. Surviving: husband Robert; sons Bob (Tammy) Juriansz of Coventry, R.I.; daughter Betty (Peter) Bayer of Oshawa; brothers Neville Matthews of Oshawa, and Orville Matthews of Belleville, Ont.; and three grandchildren.

Barbara Lydia Wirsz Karst was born Sept. 4, 1918 in Earl Grey, Sask. and died Oct. 16, 2006. Her husband, Felix Karst was born Aug. 16, 1918

in Cymric, Sask. and died Oct. 17, 2006. Surviving: son Emery (Ginny) of Salem, Ore., son Gerry (Verna) of Burtonsville, M.D., and Howard (Mona) of Westminster, M.D.; daughters Rita (Jerry) Leiske of Nashville, Tenn., Wilma Karst of Leduc, Alta., Corinne (Ken) Dudar of Leduc, and Mira Stamm of Auckland, New Zealand; brothers Frank Wirsz and Larry Wirsz; sister Agatha Kerbs; 18 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Vernon Patrick Redmond was born in Halifax, N.S. and died suddenly Oct. 2, 2006 in Halifax, at the age of 66, while on holiday in Nova Scotia. Surviving: wife Marilyn (Johnston); son Greg of Vancouver, B.C.; daughter Julia of Calgary, Alta.; brothers Lawrence (Enid), Donald (Esther), and Ed (Gladys); sister Marion (Eric) and Lois; one grandchild.

Adelaide Josephine (Karpow)

Sampsel was born June 19, 1922 in Winnipeg, Man. and died Sept. 20, 2006 in Pasco, Wash. One of the ways Adelaide served her church was through her work in the children's Sabbath School divisions, which she loved. She was predeceased by her husband of 53 years, Leon. Surviving: son Bryan of Portland, Ore.; daughters Marilyn (Dave) Ludden of Glens Ferry, Idaho, Sharon (Robert) Muffet of Coos Bay, Ore., and Heather (Craig) Johnson of Pasco; brother-in-law Ronald (Huzella) Sampsel of Lacombe, Alta.; sisters Vivian (Earl) Dielbe of Citrus Heights, Calif., and Evelyn (Ernie) Kay of Sweet Home, Ore.; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Vern Saylor, of Lacombe, Alta., died Oct. 4, 2006 at the age of 73. Surviving: wife Dorothy of Lacombe; son Bevin (Sharon) and Terry (Candace) of Lacombe; daughters Bev (Ron) Saylor of Lethbridge, Alta., and Deborah (Terry) Gallant of Lacombe; brothers Leo (Bernice) Saylor of Lacombe, and Les (Esther) Saylor of Lacombe; sisters Abbey Schmidt of Jamestown, N.D., Goldie (Raymond) Triebwasser of Lacombe, and Delores Tkachuk of Two Hills, Alta.; sister-in-law Marjorie Saylor of Calgary, Alta.; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Fe Stolz was born July 3, 1945 in the Philippines and died Sept. 17, 2006 in Abbotsford, B.C. Fe served her church as an assistant Sabbath school secretary for a number of years. Surviving: husband Kalus Stolz; sons Richard and Stewart Stolz of Abbotsford.

Robert Lorne Taylor, of Mission,

B.C., died Sept. 30, 2006 at the age of 93. Surviving: wife Mildred Jean (Bailey); son Bob (Michele) of Mission, B.C.; daughters Rhea (Lloyd) Seidel of Lougheed, Alta., and Cathie (Bob) Trenchuk of Lacombe, Alta.; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Mary Toderan was born July 19, 1913 in Earl Grey, Sask. and died Oct. 29, 2006 in Regina, Sask. A long-time and faithful member of the Adventist church she is survived by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Eilike Lillian (Tärback) Tralla was born Dec. 20, 1935 in Tallinn, Estonia and died Oct. 2, 2006 in Kelowna, B.C. Lillian served the church for over 35 years in children's ministries as a Cradle Roll leader. Surviving husband Olev; son Carl; daughter Linda (Gary) Traversy; brother Joel Tärback of Kingsville, Ont.; sister Ester Llewellyn of Oshawa, Ont.; and one grandchild.

Carl Wessman was born Apr. 24, 1910, in Cobourg, Germany and died Oct. 5, 2006 in Walla Walla, Wash. Carl pastored in Adventist churches in both Canada and the United States. His main goal in life was reaching souls for the Lord, and his family was of utmost importance. Surviving: wife Louise; son Carl of Meridian, Idaho; daughter Lois Kasner of Athens, Ga.; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Art Young was born Feb. 16, 1926 in Howie, Alta. and died Sept. 15, 2006 in Edmonton, Alta. Art was a faithful follower of his Lord, and his life demonstrated the love of Jesus to all who knew him. He was predeceased by his first wife, Miriam. Surviving: second wife Joan; sons Roger (Anne) Young of Vancouver, B.C., David (Roberta) Young of Big Valley, Alta.; stepson Richard Fleming of Armstrong, B.C.; daughters Helen (Rick) Winters of Didsbury, Alta., and Esther (Glenn) Knopp of Leduc, Alta.; stepdaughter Tonya (Gerald) Bartley of Sylvan Lake, Alta.; honorary daughter Tracey (Chris) Bird of Fort Smith, B.C.;

■ Advertisements

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Tributes



Olavi and Olga (Davis) Orpana of Oshawa, Ont. celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 8, 2006, with family and friends. Olavi has worked as a literature evangelist and as an assistant literature evangelist in Ontario. He worked as a teacher in Newfoundland and Ontario. Pastor Orpana has ministered in British Columbia, Newfoundland, and Ontario for 45 years. Since their retirement, Olavi and Olga have helped raise a new congregation in Cobourg, Ont. Present at their celebration were their children: Louise, Linda, Lori, David and Lisa with their families including 11 grandchildren.

Canadian University College seeks an individual with a proven record of leadership and demonstrated organizational and communication skills for the position of Librarian. Responsibilities include administration of library services including supervision of staff, strategic planning, budgeting, acquisition of library materials, management of electronic systems and physical plant, report preparation, assessment of collections, cataloguing, classifying and indexing of materials, and representation on library associations and various committees. Master's degree in Library and Information Science required. Candidates should send a letter of application, a curriculum vitae and names of three references along with contact information to: Dr. Loren Agrey, Vice President of Academic Administration, Canadian University College, 5415 College Ave., Lacombe, AB T4L 2E5; Phone 403/782-3381, fax 403/782-3170, email lagrey@cauc.ca. Further information at www.cauc.ca. (3/07)

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Portland Adventist Community Services is seeking a full-time Executive Director. This position is responsible for social service agency leadership and operations, supervises paid staff of 6 and 200 volunteers; reports to the governing board. The successful candidate will have education and/or experience supporting social service not-for-profit management, social work, business administration, fund raising and volunteer recruitment. Denominational leadership wages and benefits. Additional information available at www.portlandacs.org. (1/07)

Chemistry Professor sought by Union College, 07-08. Ph.D./ABD preferred; strong commitment to integrating Adventist faith, teaching and scholarship essential. Budget approval expected. Submit vita to Dr. Don Abbey, Division of Science, Union College, 4800 South 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506, doabbey@ucollege.edu. (1/07)

Canadian University College is inviting qualified individuals to submit a curriculum vitae for a position in the Department of Music. A doctoral degree in music is preferred, master's degree may be considered if candidate has relevant experience and a willingness to pursue a doctoral degree. Also required is teacher certification to teach music at the secondary level. Responsibilities include instructing students, engaging in research and participating in the life of the institution. Required classes to teach include Instrumental Methods, Music Appreciation, along with private instrument lessons. Expertise in one or more of the following: Music History, Elementary Music, Theory and Musicianship is an asset. Conducting a concert band and small instrument ensembles is required along with a willingness to plan, fund-raise and conduct a major annual 12-day tour along with smaller week-end tours throughout the year. Qualified candidates should send a letter of application, a curriculum vitae and names of three references along with contact information to Dr. Loren Agrey, Vice President for Academic Administration, Canadian University College, 5415 College Ave., Lacombe, AB T4L 2E5. Phone 403/782-3381, fax 403/782-3170, email lagrey@cauc.ca. Further information at www.cauc.ca. (3/07)

Psychology Professor sought by Union College, 07-08, as expected additional hire. Tenure-track. Strong preference for PhD or ABD, with specialty in clinical practice. Send vita to Dr. Joseph R. Allison, Chair, Division of Human Development, 3800 South 48th Street, Lincoln, NE 68506 or joallison@ucollege.edu. (1/07)

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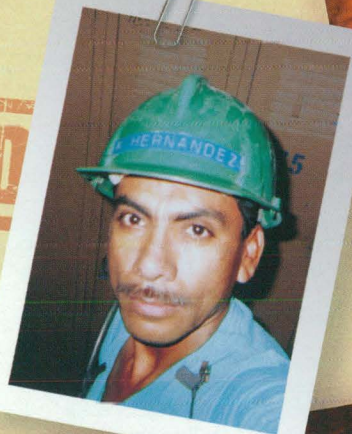
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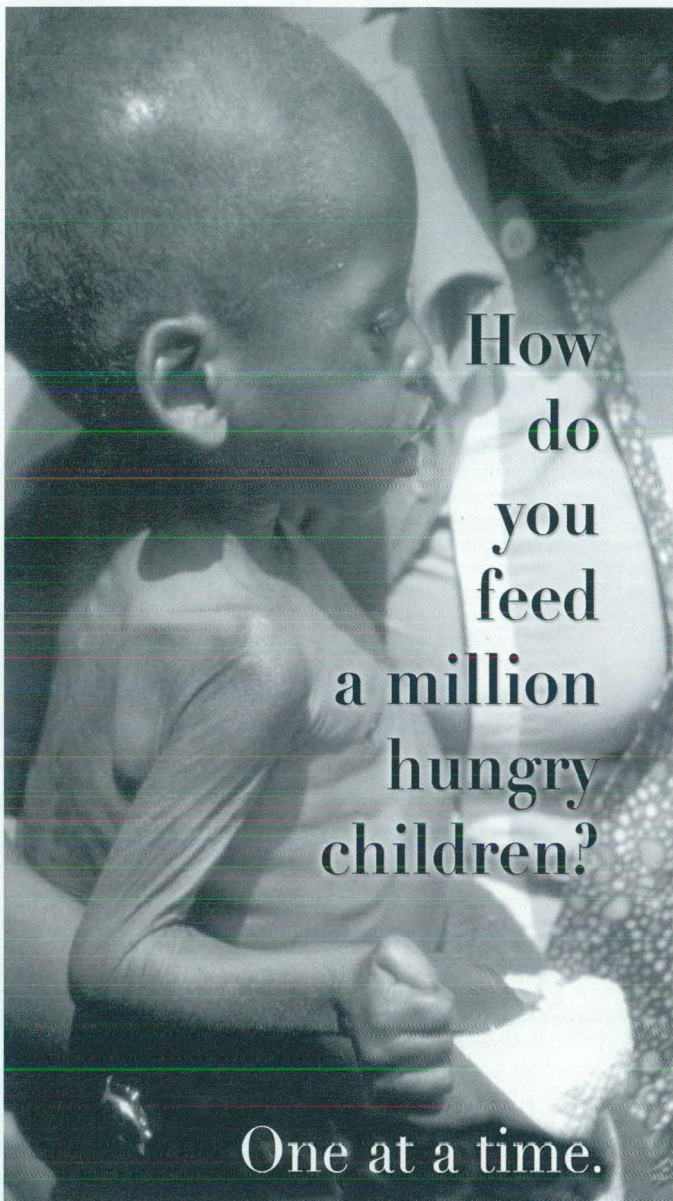
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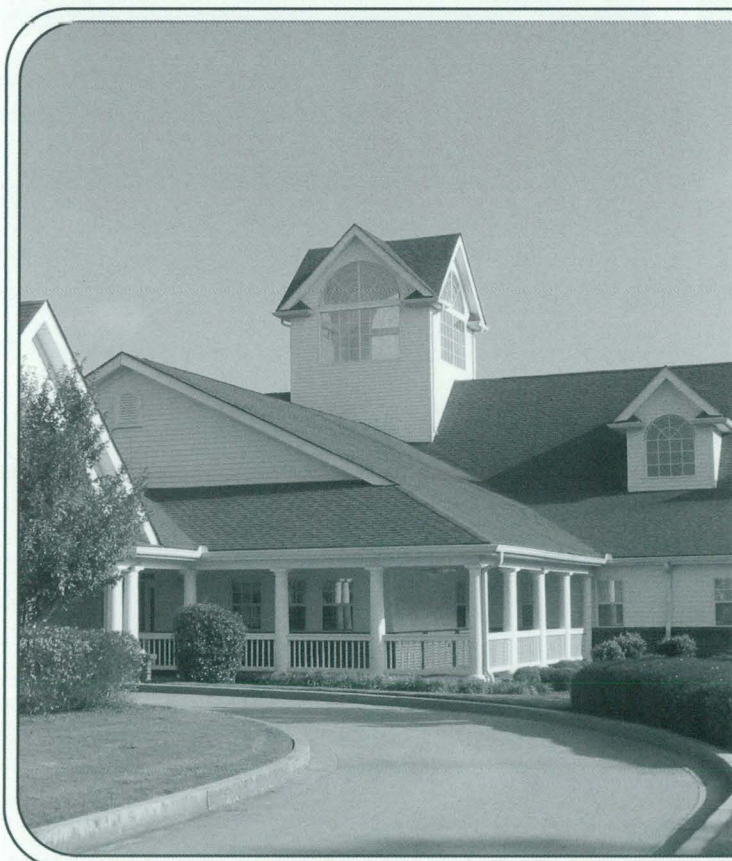


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and start running!*

New Running Duds

The New Year always begins with a certain amount of optimism based on new resolutions and the desire to change. But right on the heel of those determinations is usually a pessimistic voice as well that taunts us: "What if we can't? What if we don't?" We've been here before and seen so little lasting change based on questions like this. Our intentions are great; our actions are weak. What do we do about this? This year, stirred on by the advice of my doctor to get more exercise, my children got me a running outfit and running shoes for Christmas. I told them that if they were going to do this, it had to be subtle. The last thing I wanted was to be out running the day after Christmas broadcasting to everyone what was under my tree this year. I didn't want to make a big splash in the neighborhood for a few days only to never be seen again out there.

My kids did well. No bright colors. No racing stripes. But is it going to work? Will this new stuff help? Well, here's what I think right now: it sure can't hurt.

I have noticed that since I've got this stuff, I have a renewed desire to go out and run. It's not that I want to show off anything; it's just that I have the equipment now. Someone's made an investment in me; I don't want to disappoint them. I want to make good on this new equipment and use it for its intended purpose.

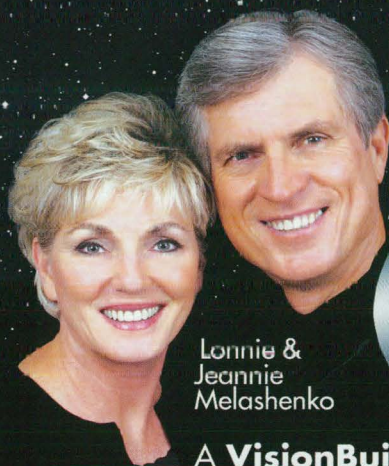
You don't have to think very hard to find the spiritual implications in this. We always want to do better for the Lord, but we also worry about old habits, excuses and denials that hold us back. We need to remember that we have received a new outfit. The Spirit has clothed us in righteousness and equipped us with spiritual gifts to do the work of the ministry with greater effectiveness. When you lay those clothes out on your bed and you look at that equipment, you can't help but want to put that stuff on and get out there. It doesn't mean that you're going to start right off running the marathon; it just means you're going to start.

Someone's made a huge investment in you to provide you with this equipment. You don't want to make light of that sacrifice or waste what it cost to outfit you spiritually.

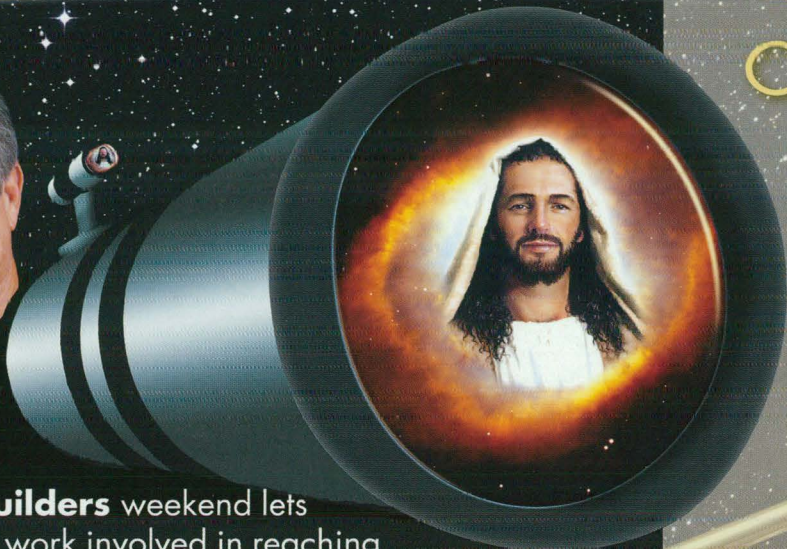
It's a New Year! Put your new spiritual stuff on and start running! It doesn't matter how far you go... just start. ■

by John Fischer

Forward in Faith - VisionBuilding Together



Lonnie & Jeannie Melashenko



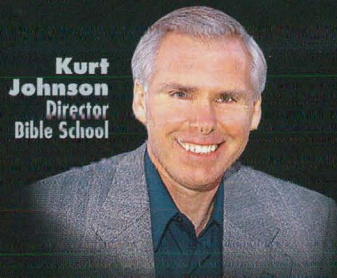
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Guest Presenter

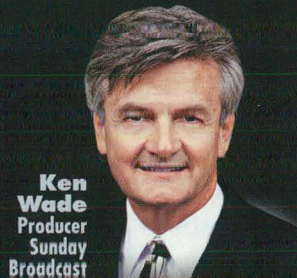
VOP Presenters



Fred Kinsey
Assistant to the President for Communication
North American Division



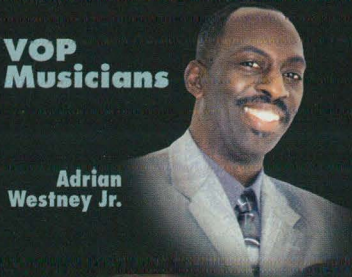
Kurt Johnson
Director
Bible School



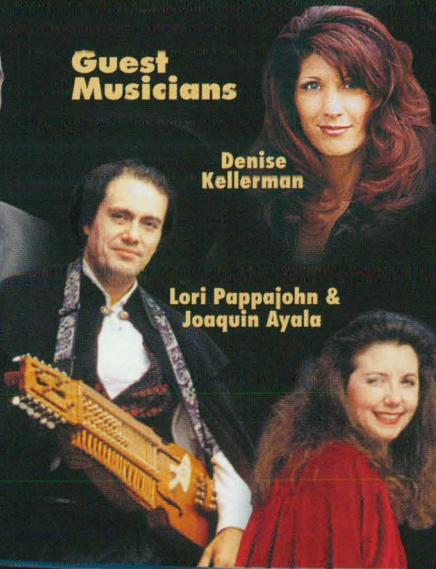
Ken Wade
Producer
Sunday Broadcast

VOP Musicians

Guest Musicians



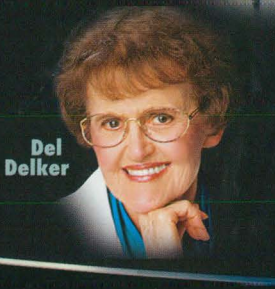
Adrian Westney Jr.



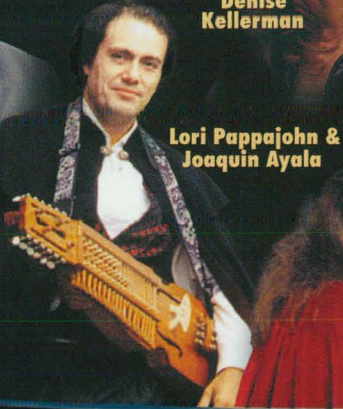
Denise Kellerman



Jan Bislin



Del Delker



Lori Pappajohn & Joaquin Ayala

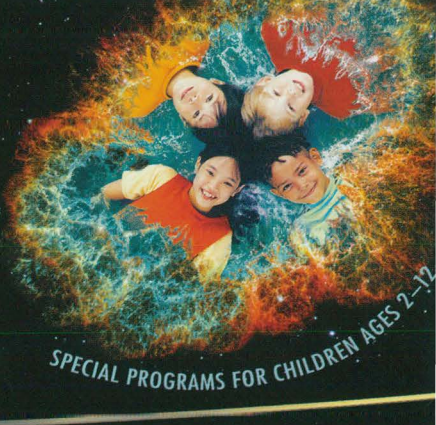
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