


canadian adventist

april 2007

Messenger



See! The winter is past;
the rains are over and gone.
Flowers appear on the earth;
the season of singing has come...

Song of Solomon 2: 11, 12

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IN the Church but not OF it

As I sit to write this editorial, I find myself in the unusual situation of hoping that no one will have the foggiest clue what I'm talking about. Yet, I know that what I say will resonate with far too many. Because, let's be honest, I'm not all *that* peculiar, and if I've experienced it, most others have, too. What I'm talking about is the pain of being excluded. The agony of straining and striving, perhaps gaining a measure of acceptance, but being barred from meaningful connection.

As a church we're just too good at exclusion. At the local level, nominating committees sometimes take weeks and months to do their work simply because we're so particular about which members qualify for leadership. At the conference and national level—well, how many female pastors and administrators do we have in Canada? And at the world-Church level, Roy Adams, associate editor of the *Review*, tells of counting the portraits at the General Conference and finding that 89 of the 92 leaders pictured are Caucasian. If it is true that actions speak louder than words, then Adams is right that these photos tell "of a glass ceiling beyond which certain folks cannot rise."¹

What are the implications of allowing certain people through our doors but not into our pulpits or church offices? What does it say when we allow someone to sit in the pew but not stand in leadership? Is it really acceptance if we are only accepting to a point?

As I consider this issue, I'm reminded of David. He was the youngest of Jesse's sons. One of the family, to be sure. Fine for tending the sheep and doing other menial chores. But when Samuel arrived

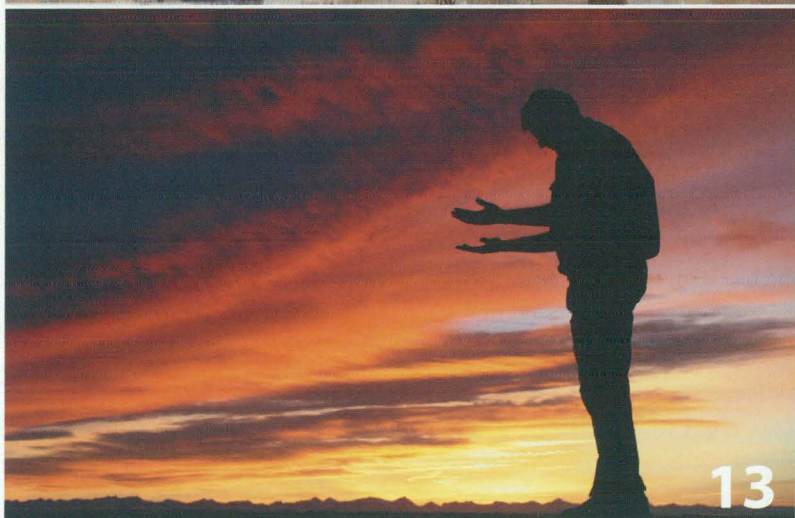
to anoint the Lord's chosen, no one thought to consider him until God himself judged all the others unsuitable, until He declared that human estimation was not the criteria to be used that day. "The Lord looks at the heart" (1 Sam 16:7b), He said as He looked across the fields to the unlikely of the candidates. Young (1 Sam 16:11). Untrained (1 Sam 17:33). Innovative (a slingshot instead of a sword...think about it. 1 Sam 17:40). Eager (1 Sam 17: 32). Suspiciously confident in his calling (1 Sam 17:45-47). If he were interviewing for church administration today, he'd have trouble making the short list, but I imagine the Israelites facing Goliath on that day long ago were awfully glad that God knew who was best for the job.

As a Church, we face many Goliaths² and stand trembling. For some reason—fear? culture?—we cling desperately to our traditional criteria and ignore those who could lead us in victory. We've forgotten that God can use anyone, that He often seems to prefer using those we would never expect, that He "chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise...the weak things of the world to shame the strong...the lowly things of this world and the despised things to nullify the things that are" (1 Cor 1:27, 28). Until we adopt this model—*His* model—of acceptance, we perpetuate a people who are in the church but not of it. ■

Crystal

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1 Adams, Roy. "The Pictures on Our Walls," *Adventist Review* (Crosswalk), February 15, 2007.
2 disintegration of the family unit, irrelevance to a post-modern world...the list goes on and on.

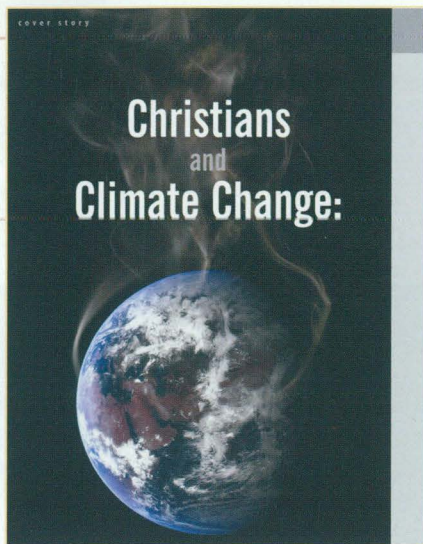


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Your Words

“If we continue our ‘business as usual’ approach the results will be severe.”

RE: “the chocolate letters”

Just got my *Messenger* on Monday and all I can say about those angry letters you received about the article on chocolate is, “Picky, Picky, Picky!”

We pick on Catholics for their salvation by works, but many Adventists seem to be earning their salvation by what they eat or what they don't eat. I don't remember much about the sermons preached by the pastor who baptized me but, I do remember one thing that he said, “We are not saved by the belly.” It is Paul in Rom. 14:17 who said “The kingdom of God is not meat and drink.”

Keep up the good work which you are doing and don't let nit-picking, fanatical people get you down.

—John, Charlton, ON

Good job!

Last week, I read the latest issue. I want to convey my compliments; the *Messenger* now is a top-notch magazine. You are really doing a good job. I like the images, the choice of content. It really represents our church across the country. I will take time to read the *Messenger* from now on. It is worth it!

—Tannia, Oshawa, ON

Re: Christians and Climate Change

What an awesome task you are doing. I can't entirely agree with the article on global warming, however. My question about the February 2007 *Messenger* article is this: is the contributor a climatologist?

I found the article in the *Messenger* most interesting. As a Christian, I believe we should be foremost in protecting the environment. However, I hope the Adventist church does not jump on the bandwagon until all the facts are in. As yet, I am not convinced.

—Milton, Bracebridge, ON

I take great exception to the article by Bruce Butler, regarding the present climate change hysteria. The article endorses the idea that scientific research clearly supports the view that man made greenhouse gases are responsible for the supposed warming of our climate. There is no scientific unanimity regarding this issue.

[Lorne Gunter of the *National Post* writes:] “The ‘Summary for Policy Makers’ of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), was not written by scientists but by politicians and climate change activists—scientists who disagreed with the premise that man made emissions are responsible for the supposed changes in our climate were dropped from the committees that wrote and reviewed the IPCC report's individual chapters.” Does this sound like a valid scientific approach? It brings into serious doubt the validity of the IPCC report and the Summary for Policy Makers derived from it.

[Gunter also says.] “The much quoted article in *Science Magazine* by Naomi Oreskes claims to have found 100% agreement among the 928 scientific papers she carefully selected on this issue out of almost 11,000 that were available

to her. Of the 928 she selected only 2%—not 100% as she claimed—wholly endorsed the idea that human activity is driving the supposed global warming.”

I don't think that the *Messenger* should be giving validity and endorsement to this theory by publishing an article such as this. It gives the impression that the issue is fact rather than just a theory

—Allen, Sherwood Park, AB

Thank you, Dr. Butler, for your well-researched article on climate change.

A recently released Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report reveals that unequivocally global warming is human caused. The debate is over; the villains are ourselves and especially we living in the developed nations. Climate change is causing problems now, and the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that over 150,000 people died in 2000 due to climate change. If we continue our “business as usual” approach the results will be severe, especially for those residing in less-developed nations.

Additional methods of reducing our carbon footprint include consuming less meat products (or no meat at all) and “offsetting.” What “offsetting” means is to invest in tree planting operations and renewable energy facilities. This is possible through contributions using carbon neutral websites. If we offset in our personal lives and businesses we become part of a plan to avert looming environmental disasters.

In James we read that “a man is justified

(continued on p. 18)

E-mail comments to cholloway@sdacc.org or mail them to Editor, *Canadian Adventist Messenger*, 1148 King Street East, Oshawa, ON L1H 1H8. Be sure to include your name, contact information, and the name and date of the article(s) you are referencing. 200 words maximum. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Not all letters will be published.

Fight for your Rights

by Andrea Luxton



What is it that made this individual so insistent of her place and of her rights? Perhaps the focus of rights on what is “deserved” obliterated her ability to see beyond her own wants to the rights and needs of others. I’m not saying, of course, that the focus on rights is all bad. As Christians we should be outspoken when the rights of individuals or groups are not upheld. We are not asked as Christians to be the doormats of the world, we should certainly not be making doormats of anyone else. However, Christianity does provide a new twist on the concept of rights.

Rights are often about value. When we are given what is “rightfully” ours, we feel valued as human beings; when human rights are ignored, the “victims” often feel degraded. But let’s take another view of rights...

She was a woman who had known pain for many years. She had heard of the Saviour but how dare she consider that she had any right to approach him for healing. Others had, it’s true. But her? Maybe, she thought, if she just touched his clothing. If anyone felt unworthy, without rights, it was the woman. But this was not Jesus’ response. When He asked who had touched him, and she came forward trembling, He did nothing but affirm her and her faith. She was healed. In society’s way of thinking, she had no rights; yet, Jesus treated her as if she did. And in His world, she really did. She had rights because she was loved by God. She had rights because she was the daughter of God. She had the right

to be saved; the right to be valued. What a new perspective for her and for Jesus’ critics!

Christian faith is a leveler. Education, family connections, race, ethnicity, gender, age, how long we have been Christians, our donations to the church, the amount we work—all these are irrelevant in God’s kingdom! We all have the right to be spiritually healed through faith. We all have the right of salvation. We all have the right of eternal life. None of these are rights given to us because of what we do or who we are. They are not rights we have earned. They are the rights paid for by Christ’s sacrifice because we are greatly loved and valued by Him. Shouldn’t that put a smile on our face? Shouldn’t that give us an inner sense of worth?

Society’s focus on rights, positive as it can be, can lead to accusations, demands and an elevated emphasis on personal wants—what we “deserve.” Christian rights, however are predicated on exactly the opposite: not rights we deserve but rights we have because we are loved and forgiven. What a secure basis for self-worth! And our response? Surely it will be thanks instead of accusations, love instead of demands, and generosity and compassion towards others instead of a focus on our desires. Isn’t this exactly how we will be known—by our love! ■

A short time ago I was traveling through an airport and stopped to get a burrito before transferring to my next flight. The line was long. To one side was an elderly man in a wheelchair looking very weak and unsure of how to find a place in the line. As I came closer to the counter I invited him to come in ahead of me. The woman behind was not happy! The following conversation ensued:

“Are you letting that man in front of you?”

“Yes, I am.”

“Well in that case I am going in front of you, too!” She added, “I have a plane to catch you know.”

I let her in. When I left with my burrito in hand, she was still standing there at the counter, counting her change. Her plane had clearly not yet left.

Andrea Luxton is president of Canadian University College



Fake MySpace Profile

I created a fake MySpace profile out of boredom a few months ago, and, to my surprise, it has become pretty successful. My network is quite big and many people have subscribed to my blog. Is it OK to have a fake profile?

If your readers and friends in your network believe that what you write is true, then it is not OK to maintain a fake profile.

Not too long ago, there was a big gap between online browsing and real life. But nowadays, social networking sites have bridged that gap. For many people (I'm one of them) everything meshes together: digital presence, f2f—all is real life. There is a person behind each Myspace, Hi5 or FaceBook profile. Real people upload video-blogs to their YouTube channels. Real people comment on them. (Do you remember how many users were offended when they discovered that YouTube's LonelyGirl was an actress posing as a real person?). Real people control their Second Life or Sim City avatars. Real, real, real; it is all real!

This is even more true for Christians. Why? Very simple: because we are allergic to deception. There is already an old Deceiver messing around; we don't need to join him. He doesn't care if we have a secret life separate from our day to day lives. But that's not the case of God. He doesn't make such a distinction. He encourages us to be honest in all circumstances.

Remember the eye pictured on the left when you interact with others on the net. It can be quite difficult to look somebody in the eyes and lie to them...

Peace and love,

Josue Sanchez
Youth P@stor

www.JustSmile.org
www.HagerstownAdventist.org



Creation Corner for Kids

“You cannot stand against your enemies until you remove it.” (Joshua 7:13, NIV).

Snowy Owl

Walking out on the tundra with our black lab Chuckie one day, we had the unexpected delight of spotting a Snowy Owl flying low to the ground and coming toward us. Delight turned to alarm as the owl mounted a series of aerial attacks. We quickly reached the conclusion that Chuckie was the main focus of the owl's assaults. While Chuckie edged his way between my husband and I, the owl ascended again in preparation for another terrifying dive-bomb descent.

Without realizing it, we had committed the grave offence of trespassing upon the owl's nesting ground. More than that, our dog was an obvious threat to the owl's family. While beating a hasty retreat, we sighted the speckled owlet some distance away, and then we understood the reason behind the owl's attacks.



CHECK OUT THIS SITE
for more information
and a picture of an owl
with young:



[http://wonderclub.com/
Wildlife/birds/SnowyOwl.htm](http://wonderclub.com/Wildlife/birds/SnowyOwl.htm)

Think about it.

Sometimes we may find ourselves unexpectedly upon the devil's turf and he attacks us openly. Often it's a result of our own bad choices—like going places we shouldn't or cherishing the “little” sins in our lives. Read the story of Achan in Joshua chapter 7.

Do it.

Pray that God will reveal to you your cherished and hidden sins and help you to give them up so that Satan can have no part of you.



the south african paradox

In late February and early March, I spent two and a half weeks visiting Cape Town, South Africa. The Dutch couple who sat next to me on the flight from Amsterdam to Cape Town told me that South Africa is a paradox. The time I spent there convinced me that it was an apt description.

by Barry W. Bussey

My wife and I were taken aback by remarkable beauty of the Cape Town area. It's a beauty that surpasses Banff and Vancouver in that it not only has mountains but also a warm Mediterranean climate and white sandy beaches with great surf. Magnificent mansions built on the hills overlooking the coast. The country has solid infrastructure; their roads, buildings, universities, and shopping centres would rival anything in Canada.

Yet, it has townships with hovels for homes—pieced together with corrugated steel roofs and scrap wood. Millions of people live in places that we would only see in old, abandoned farmyards. They are the “previously disadvantaged,” those who, since the end of apartheid, have an opportunity to move up economically and socially. Things are indeed changing.

I was attending the 6th World Congress of the International Religious Liberty Association and had the opportunity to meet remarkable individuals. I met a superior court judge from Rwanda who shared with me the persecution his family had gone through—how his parents escaped to the Congo to avoid the troubles of their country. He shared how, as a Tutsi, he came back to his native land to help rebuild the country after the genocide of 1994—a time he calls simply “the work of the devil.” Today people are getting along “no problem” he says. Yes, they have their struggles, but they are seeking a reconciliation, much as South Africa is doing.

In the local market, I met a white man from Zimbabwe who had owned an electronics plant there. His company employed many people and shipped products all over the world. However, when race relations got bad in that country, all was taken from him. He, his wife, their three children and his wife's parents were tied up and robbed at gunpoint. Everything of value was taken. They attempted to move from the country but were not permitted to leave with any belongings, so they simply left. His house, his homeland, his life's savings . . . everything was left behind. Now, he fears for South Africa. Politicians are using

issues of race to get elected, he says. It reminds him of Zimbabwe, so much so that his family is moving again—heading for New Zealand this time. At 60 years of age, he knows it will be tough, but he is optimistic.

I went to Robben Island, the place where Nelson Mandela was held for 18 of the 27 years he was incarcerated. I walked the same hallway past the same room by the same courtyard as Mandela once did. I saw the limestone quarry where the men were in forced labour all because they demanded freedom and equality with the “advantaged.”

White vs. white, black vs. black, white vs. black, black vs. white. The inhumanity of man to man. I am left with the question: “Why can't we all just get along?” We must take stock of ourselves; our hearts harbour prejudice of one shape or another. We all think we are right and that others are wrong. Yet, we are far from perfect. Perhaps that is why Jesus said, “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?” (Matt. 7:3) The best I can do is to love my neighbour and accept her as she is, plain and simply a child of God. It is not enough to be satisfied with one's own comfort, and it is not right to look down at another human being because they do not look like I do, or believe as I do.

The 6th World Congress's theme was “combating religious hatred through freedom to believe.” A fitting theme for the paradox that is South Africa. Are we willing to allow others to be themselves? To believe as they wish? To live lives that are fulfilling to them? Ours is a world of great injustice. South Africa is an example to the entire world of how a country can come from the near brink of a horrendous calamity to one of freedom. Mandela proclaimed, “For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.” ■

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



Earth Talk

▶▶ Seven Simple Steps to Trashing Your Trash

Let's face it—we know better than to dispose when we should be Reusing, Reducing and Recycling. But we're busy, forgetful and, well, does it really make that big of a difference? You know the answer. So save these friendly reminders on how to bring your personal waste closer to zero. Just think: you'll never have to take out the trash again!

1 Feed the garden

Think like nature for a moment—why would you throw away all those food scraps, when they could be transformed into beautiful, nourishing garden compost? Over 60 percent of municipal waste could be composted—so find a more productive resting place for your banana peels.

2 Have bag, will shop

Of course, this one we know by heart. And it's still true. Carry canvas bags everywhere you go—put them in your car, tie them to your bike—and you'll have a final answer to the "paper or plastic" question.

3 Sort it out

Recycling rates have taken a downturn recently. Are we losing faith in the power of recycling? It still works! If you want your recyclables to be put to the highest possible use, sort them well. "Single stream" recyclables—as opposed to glass bottles mixed with paper—make for better recycled materials.

4 Think bulk

Brenda Platt of ILSR (Institute of Local Self-Reliance) makes a point of buying groceries in bulk. Rather than buy single-serve applesauce cups for her kids, she opts for the big jar and scoops it into smaller containers herself. Simple? Yes. But simple is key.

5 Positive reinforcement

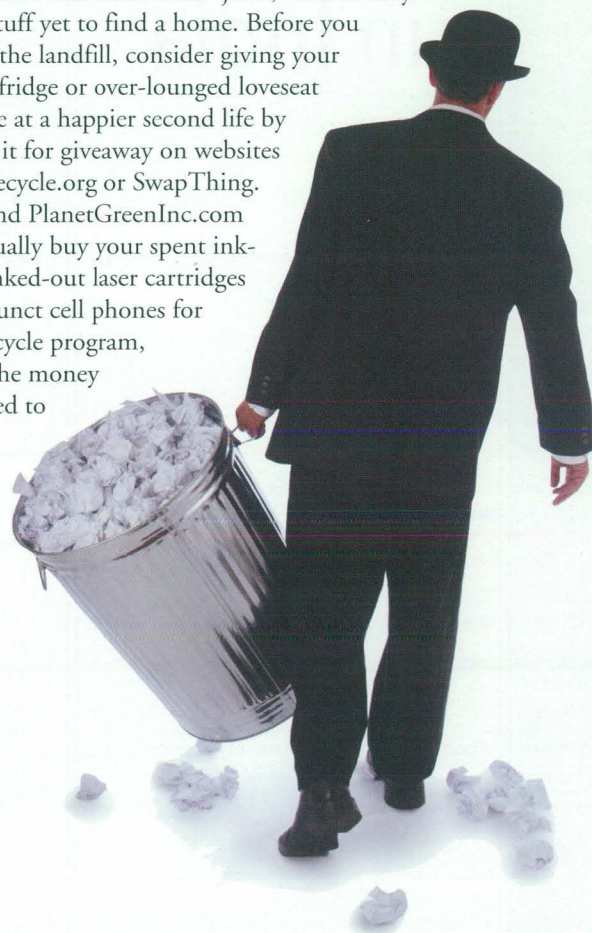
It's the same technique we use for supporting fair trade companies and organic farms. Support those companies that are making a point to reduce their waste—and avoid the rest. Eric Lombardi, of Eco-Cycle, says we've got to "reward the recyclers. The clean companies must win the profits."

6 Shrink wrap

What better motivation to waste less than reducing the size of your trash receptacle at home? Substitute a small plastic grocery bag for your trashcan, and wiser purchasing habits will follow naturally.

7 Your Trash, Their Treasure

Repeat after me: there is no "junk," there's only useful stuff yet to find a home. Before you look to the landfill, consider giving your broken fridge or over-lounged loveseat a chance at a happier second life by posting it for giveaway on websites like Freecycle.org or SwapThing.com. And PlanetGreenInc.com will actually buy your spent ink-jets, conked-out laser cartridges and defunct cell phones for their recycle program, giving the money generated to charity.



Excerpted from "Can We Create a World Without Waste?" by Andi McDaniel.
Reprinted with permission from www.eartheasy.com

Canadians Assist Deaf Ministries in India

God has been doing wonderful things for deaf people in India! This important work began in 1998 with a fax from our former BC Conference president's wife, Dorothy Watts. The Watts' had moved to India, and Dorothy told of a pastor there who was too deaf to minister. Could we in Canada, she wondered, help with funds toward an operation and hearing aid? We found help! Later, we challenged Dorothy, deaf ministries director in India, with an offer to pay 50% of a full-time deaf ministries worker's salary for three years if they could pay the other 50%. She accepted the challenge. Now, as a volunteer heading the new Deaf Ministry department at Gospel Outreach, I've just had the privilege of traveling to India and seeing what God has accomplished from this humble beginning.

Seasoned pastor of the deaf, Fred Griffith, and I spent 17 days together in Central India conducting revival meetings. In this area, eight of the current ten workers are deaf. During our visits, 163 deaf people were baptized in Andhra Pradesh. Because of political/religious problems, we had strict instructions from Dorothy not to be present at any baptism (which could not be done on church property.) We sent a camera along, however, so we could witness the happy event in this way, at least.

We had the privilege of seeing a new church for the deaf at Locharla and were honoured to pray with the local GO lay pastor in the new building. We also took part in the ground breaking ceremony for a new church for the deaf in Pedabondapalli. In Vizianagaram, we participated in the reopening of a third church for the deaf in its renovated home in a nice area. We were especially excited because *all of the funding for these churches came from Canada.*

After 17 days, Pastor Griffith had to return to the US, and I headed on to the area where the recent surge in deaf ministry began: Thanjavur in South India. Here I was thrilled to meet

Sathiyamoorthy, the first full-time pastor for the deaf in Asia. He told me how, when he first arrived in that city as a recent graduate of Spicer College, he had little idea about how to start a deaf ministry. He had been a deaf beggar on the streets of India for over 15 years when a deaf man, Meshak, shared the faith him and many others in the area. Soon there was a baptism of 18 deaf, and deaf work in India has grown rapidly ever since. I also met Mrs. Harris who had helped Meshak years before and thus had also been part of the foundation for deaf ministry. How marvelous that from this small center the deaf work has now spread to many other areas and resulted in over 600 baptized deaf Seventh-day Adventists in India!

Are there challenges? Yes, of course. In one region, the deaf members meet in the regular church in the afternoon, but if the services for the hearing run long, the deaf get bumped to late afternoon and have to travel a long distance home in the dark. Another challenge is with the deaf school in South India, near Kollegal; my dream is to see a deaf Gospel Outreach worker on staff there as a role model for the students, to help with their spiritual growth, and especially to help the deaf students when they have to return home to what is often a Hindu home setting. But the blessings far outweigh the challenges and push the work forward.

God knows His work wherever it is going on whether with the hearing or the deaf. He knows all His workers, including the 20 or so full-time workers for the deaf in India (seven sponsored by Gospel Outreach Canada). God's spirit is blessing again and again with the miracles of changed hearts and lives, of people preparing for Jesus soon coming. ■

John Blake is the volunteer Deaf Ministries Director for both Gospel Outreach and the Alberta conference.





1. This is the official opening of a sewing school for 10 deaf girls in Vizianagaram. By the end of the last class, some of the girls had become Seventh-day Adventists.

2. Sathiyamoorthy (left) was the first full-time worker for the deaf in India and is now involved in ministries for both the hearing and the deaf in Bangalore. Manikaraj (right), who has taken his place in Thanjavur, pastors at the first Adventist church ever built just for deaf members.

3. This is dinner time for the deaf attendees at one of the revival meetings conducted by Pastor Griffith and Pastor Blake. The dishes are leaves sewn together. And yes, it is polite to eat Indian style—with your fingers!

4. Pastor Blake talks with students at a school for the deaf in India.

5. This is the second new church built for the deaf in India—made possibly with a donation from Canada. It is located in a small village and led by a capable young Gospel Outreach worker. Gospel Outreach Canada sponsors seven workers in India.





MISSION: TEZOPACO MEXICO 2007

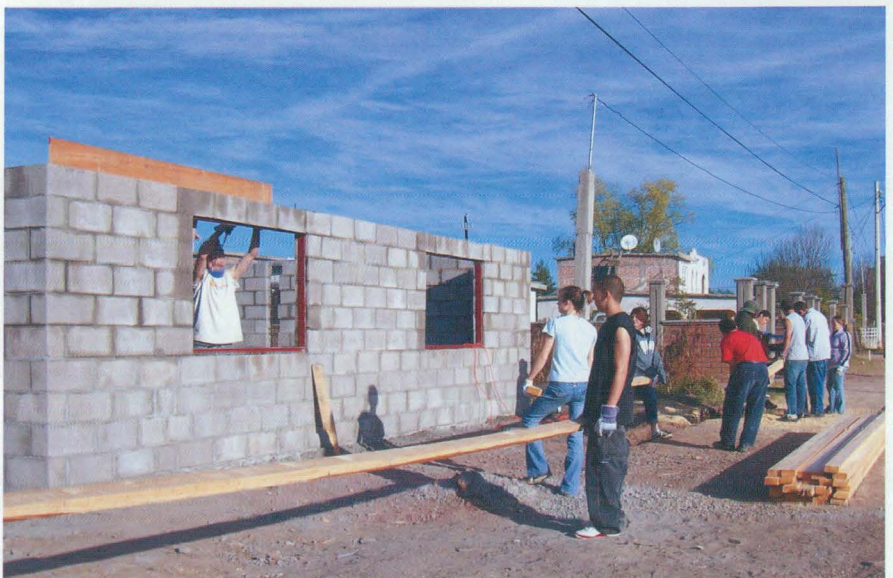
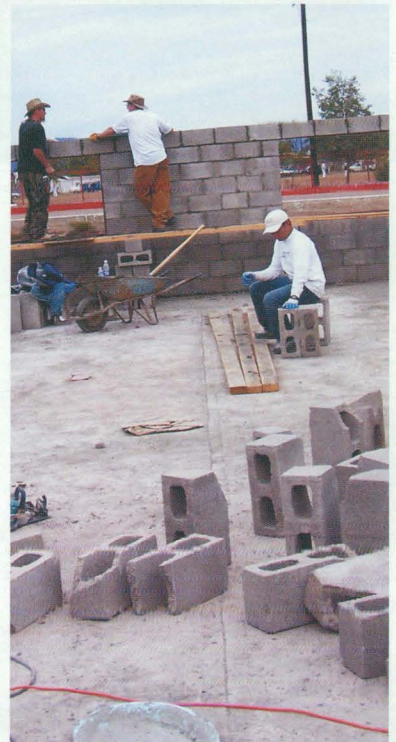
Early in the morning of January 25, with semester exams barely behind them, 37 Kingsway students and 14 adult sponsors left to complete a mission project in Tezopaco, Mexico. Armed with tools, bottled water, and positive energy, they arrived at a Seventh-day Adventist elementary school in Mexico ready for some serious construction, general upgrades, and positive interaction with the people of that area. The school principal and his family were our hosts, chefs, translators, and our inspiration. They work tirelessly despite great challenges.

The school we were there to update is currently a day school only for children in grades 1-6. Their long-term plan is to grow into a boarding school and serve those who live too far away to walk to school. We wanted to help by constructing the building that will become a dormitory. We divided into two teams of workers and tackled tasks like transporting concrete blocks, mixing cement, applying mortar, cleaning the site, painting, making picnic tables, and conducting Vacation Bible School programs for children at this school and in nearby villages.

At the end of our three and a half days of work, the building exterior, window frames, and roof were complete as were five new picnic tables and the fresh coat of paint on the classroom building. Approximately 175 children were provided with music, crafts, activities, and bible stories during the VBS programs, and lifelong friendships were formed. Kingsway is buzzing with talk about "our next trip down to Tezopaco." We think it would be awesome to plan a follow-up trip in two years to build a dining hall and another dormitory! ■



You can also see much of the project by viewing a slide show on our website at www.kingswaycollege.on.ca.



Lord Jesus,
are we talking?



Communication Breakdown

It seems like it's been a while.

My voice to you feels weak. There's no doubt about my belief, but I guess believing doesn't count as communication. (I think I've assumed that it does without really thinking about it.) I can believe in my wife and not talk to her for a week. How long has it been since you heard from me – really heard from me? If I have to ask that question, it must have been a while. Somehow I've got you doing nothing but waiting around to hear from me while I go about my business oblivious to our lack of communication. Like I've got more important things to do than you do. Ouch! That sounds pretty close to blasphemy, making me wonder how often I blaspheme you with my ignorant assumptions.

Is our relationship more important to you than it is to me? If it is, I am grossly

overestimating my own importance. The issue is not whether you are on my side; the question is: Am I on yours? And only I can answer that. Am I centering my life on you? The fact that the lines of communication seem rusty right now indicates there is a lot of inequity here.

What do I need to do to get back in touch? What's that? I'm doing it right now? You just want my attention and you'll take it any way it comes—through joy, sorrow, confession, pain, or the reestablishment of communication? That seems almost too easy. What's that you're saying? "Walk with me and work with me – watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly." (Matthew 11:29-30 MSG)

I think I'm getting it now. No matter how far I may have strayed away, it's always a short trip back. The breakdown in communication was only on my part, never yours. I don't have to retrace my steps back to the last place I got off before I can hear you again, because you've been dogging me the whole way. As soon as I turn my heart and attention toward you, you are there to meet me because you never left.

It seems almost too good to be true. Where did I get the idea it's supposed to be so hard? ■

John Fischer is a popular Christian writer and speaker. Formerly serving as author of the daily devotionals at PurposeDrivenLife.com, he now features his work at www.fischtank.com.

A DAY IN AFGHANISTAN



"What is it like?" It's a question I seldom know how to answer, but people ask anyway. Especially when they hear that I went to Afghanistan to work for ADRA. I often think that if only people could really experience the world beyond their borders, they would be convinced for life of the necessity of ADRA's work. That is why ADRA Canada wants young adults in Canada to experience international development first-hand. That is why they have begun an international intern program. This new program sends people to work with ADRA field offices around the globe. The following story, a brief description of my last day in Afghanistan, may give you a glimpse of what international development is like...

I was leaving Sheberghan. After three months of heat and dust, bucket showers, pit latrines, and eating with my fingers, I had packed my bags, filled my water bottle, and cleaned the dust from my sandals. Now everyone was waiting by our old vehicle at the gate of our mud-walled compound. I slipped back to my room for one last task. Working quickly, I set out some small gifts. Nothing fancy, but in a country like Afghanistan, these small items took on new value.

For Zamir, I left a pair of folding headphones. For Azzizah, my sunglasses. Zakhiah suffered from headaches, so I left her my small plastic vial of Tylenol. Denis, my supervisor and program manager from Russia, got my USB pen drive for his computer.

After laying out my gifts, I scanned the room. My bed lay in the centre—no frame, sheets, blankets, just a heavy cotton futon on the floor. A flimsy cabinet stood against the wall. These two items had been my furnishings for three months. Two windows cut through the thick mud walls looked out onto a dirt patio with its three trees and a well. The omnipresent dust had accumulated in a grey sheen over the carpet wherever my footsteps had not disturbed it. Somewhere in the corners of the room, under the carpet, lurked the scorpion that I had never caught. I had nearly stepped on it, barefoot, during my first night in that room.

Back at the gate, I shook hands with Habib. He was our cook and guard, but not particularly adept at either vocation.

He was, however, very conscientious, and I would miss him. Climbing into the back seat, I waved goodbye to the boy in the baker's shop across the street. I had enjoyed many loaves of naan—flat bread—from his wood-fired oven. Naan made a wonderful breakfast with imported Russian peanut butter and honeydew melons from Turkmenistan. In a rolling cloud of dust, we pulled out onto the street and began the long trip to Kabul.

We drove past heavy-laden camels and melancholy donkeys on the way to the bazaar, past the local militia commander's compound with guards holding AK-47 rifles, past the city's only internet café, and beyond the city into the desert. A few miles outside the city, we paused at a gaping pothole in

the road. Two boys with shovels spent their days filling the hole in exchange for tips from passing motorists. Most drivers honked and kept driving, so the boys played a game of chicken with the cars to make them slow down. They stood in traffic with their shovels, jumping aside at the last minute and shouting at anyone who did not throw a little money out the window. I rolled down the window and handed each of them a bag with naan, a water bottle, and some local money. They were too surprised to smile or say thank you, and watched silently as we drove on.

Another hour brought us to Balkh, a region famous for its melons and marijuana, both of which grow in vast fields alongside the road. As we drove on, the sickly sweet smell of the marijuana plants wafted through the car. Children played in marijuana bushes and goats browsed in their shade. Further down the road, the marijuana gave way to poppy fields. The dried stalks of the previous crop bore stark witness to the scale of the drug problem. Afghanistan is the world's largest producer of heroin.

I watched the dry and dusty landscape scroll past my window. Low-lying mud houses and the occasional green brush punctuated the horizon. I reflected on my experience as we drove. I had just completed three months working as an assistant project manager with ADRA Afghanistan. We conducted a water and sanitation program and dug wells. We coordinated efforts with village elders to ensure local cooperation and ownership of a well before we started digging. We created local jobs by contracting Afghan engineers and labourers to dig the wells and install the pumps. We set up maintenance programs.

We visited local schools with our big, colourful puppets and gave children educational programs about hygiene. Using dramatic and funny stories, we taught kids how to wash their hands, drink clean water, and use their newly built latrines.

We had helped many people, but our efforts went unnoticed by the thousands of people beyond our small area of operations. A feeling of futility crept over me as I realized the amount

of work that had to be done.

The car began to slow down as we neared a cluster of grey canvas tents. Denis turned toward me. "We're stopping here for a minute to check on a well that we dug last year. We heard some complaints about the pump, so we're going to see what's going on."

The grey tents turned out to be a school. Sitting in the middle of a dusty field on the edge of a small village, they were supposed to be a temporary facility, but no funding had come through for proper buildings. We examined the pump at the well, and our field engineer immediately determined the problem. A simple part had broken because no one had bothered to maintain and clean it. The schoolchildren and local villagers would go without clean water if we did not fix the pump, but it would only break again if they did not maintain it. Battling a shrinking budget and my departure, Denis had few resources or personnel to devote to this type of task.

That evening we arrived at ADRA Afghanistan's main office in Kabul. I spoke with Peter, the Country Director. He tried to persuade me to stay at least a little longer, but I had already decided to leave. Peter understood. "Have a safe trip home," he said. "When you get there, if you find anyone who wants to work here, please send them our way. We have a lot of work to do, and we could use some more help."

I told Peter that I would love to come back one day, and that I would be sure to look for someone to help continue their work. He and Denis shook my hand. The next morning I flew home to Toronto. Physically and psychologically, Afghanistan was a world away.

That was November 2004. Many things have changed since then. The security situation has deteriorated, and safety concerns prevent me from recommending that anyone go there at this time. However, I still feel the need to help ADRA and the people they serve, and

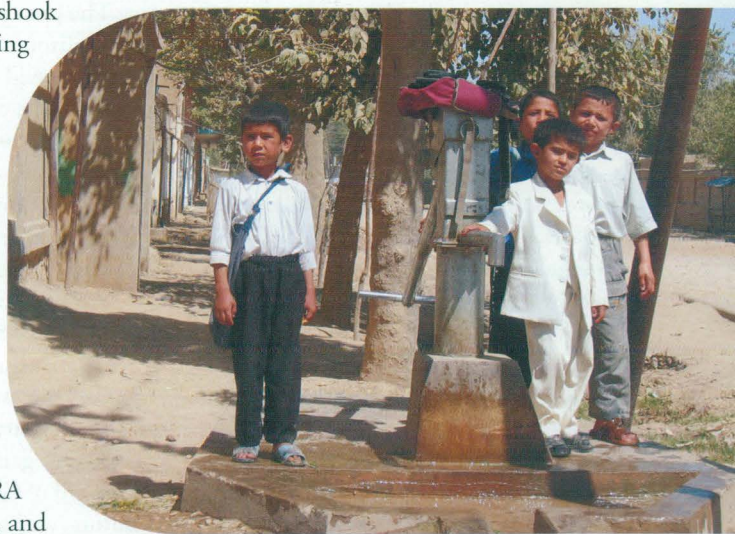
ADRA offices around the world need dedicated young volunteers and professionals to help achieve their goals.

I have recently been given the opportunity to work with ADRA Canada in a new and exciting initiative—an internship program for Canadians wanting to get involved in international development. This program will help ADRA offices around the world, and in a way, it will help me honour the commitment I made in Afghanistan. No, I am not going back to Kabul, but I am sure that back in Afghanistan, Denis and Peter would be proud.

Working with ADRA is challenging and rewarding, but seriously interested people often have difficulty taking the first step toward international development work. Job vacancies require expertise and experience, which limits the number of eligible candidates. As a result, many ADRA offices do not get the personnel they need. We want to give people the chance to work with ADRA internationally. ADRA Canada interns will gain extraordinary experience while helping severely needy people. If you are interested, contact ADRA Canada.

So what is it like to work with ADRA? Find out for yourself. ■

Ryan Wallace is the Intern Program Coordinator for ADRA Canada.



Excitement for Evangelism

It was only the second evening of a sixteen-day evangelism effort in Nicaragua and already Monique Auguste, Professor of French at Canadian University College had lost her translator. For her first evening of preaching, a translator had been made available to her, but

after that she was on her own. With fifteen days still left in the series of meetings, she prayed for the gift of tongues to complement her current Spanish vocabulary. "God answered my prayers! To speak in a limited context is one thing, but to preach with an elaborate vocabulary and fluently is another," she says.

But that is what she was able to do. As the evenings went on, she felt a stronger connection with the people in attendance, and they, in turn, felt closer to this foreigner who spoke to them in their language. Every evening at eight different sites in the cities of Esteli and Matagalpa, six students and two professors from Canadian University College shared the message with people of Nicaragua.



Evangelism, a ministry of the Carolina Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The partnership between CUC and ShareHim has been a yearly tradition since 2002 with trips to Togo, Zimbabwe, Jamaica, Kenya, and now Nicaragua.

The preaching experience on the evangelism team was varied. Some had preached in previous ShareHim events while others had preached in their local churches. Still, the marathon of preaching a sermon everyday, plus two on Saturdays would challenge even the most experienced. Robert Zama, a Junior Religious Studies major, had only preached a few times in his home church in Cambridge, Ontario. In Nicaragua, Rob had to fully rely on God not only for strength and courage but also for electricity. Rob shares, "I was hoping to gain experience in preaching the word of God, to experience a different culture, and to enjoy the feeling of

totally relying on God. I never knew if I could depend on the (electrical) power in my city. This was a true test of faith for me because our presentations depended on a power source."

Montes Estinphil, a senior Religious Studies major, was so determined to go on the trip that he made

another trip just to be able to go to Nicaragua. Montes, a Haitian citizen, made the trip from Lacombe, Alberta to Los Angeles, California in hopes of gaining a visa for entry into Nicaragua. "I learned not to trust myself, only God." Montes continues, "I had a passion to preach and this was the opportunity I was looking forward to for so long." Montes made it back to CUC a day before the trip to Nicaragua, visa in hand.

The meetings culminated in a baptism at a rented pool in the city of Matagalpa on July 29, 2006. After sixteen days and numerous sermons preached, they were witness to over four-hundred people that dedicated their lives to God through baptism. Josiah Rambally, a junior Religious Studies major exclaims, "There is no way that you can see lives changed because of the power of God without being deeply affected. I realized God had preserved my life for that moment in time."

Another ShareHim evangelism trip is planned for Panama in May of 2007.

For more information on how you can get involved, visit the ShareHim website at www.sharehim.org. ■

Remember when mission work was the most important thing we did as a church?

It still is.

Be part of it!

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“He’s not breathing,” said the distressed voice on the phone.

For a moment my head was spinning. Who was calling, and who was “not breathing?” Then I knew. It was Beverly, one of the other missionaries here in Africa. Emmanuel was not breathing.

“We have him in the car and are going to the hospital,” she finished.

“I’ll meet you at the hospital,” I responded.

Emmanuel was a 16-year-old Ugandan who recently underwent open-heart surgery in the United States. I took him with my family on furlough last autumn, because he couldn’t receive the medical care he needed in Uganda. Since then he’d been recuperating back at home.

“O Lord,” I prayed as I took a boda boda (bicycle taxi) with my daughter, Harmony, to the hospital. With a sinking heart I thought, *It will probably be too late.*

On the way to the hospital I saw Beverly’s vehicle turn in front of us. I jumped off the back of the bike and turned to see them carry the limp form of Emmanuel from the vehicle into the hospital. There was no stretcher; no place marked Emergency Room to open its arms and help us.

“Where do we go?” someone asked.

“Just put him down anywhere,” I said.

With shaking hands I started CPR. Emmanuel’s family was praying beside me. Looking back, I suppose the CPR was useless. But it was necessary for my own sake, and I’m glad I got to do it.

Death is something that people here experience a lot, often while very young, but this was the first time for this family to experience it in their immediate family.

I have thanked God over and over again that I was there to grieve with the family. My heart still aches, my tears still flow, but I know my Redeemer lives.

—Kristina Muelhauser

Missionary midwife, South Sudan Field



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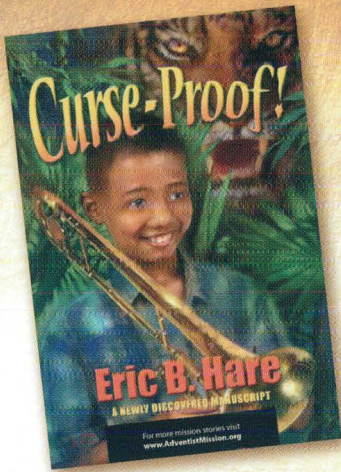
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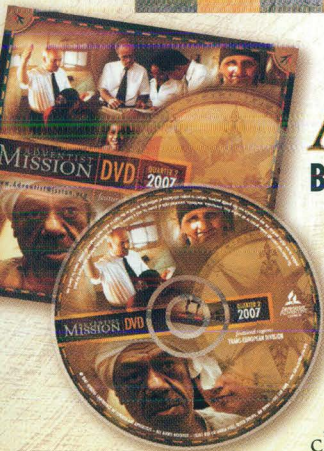
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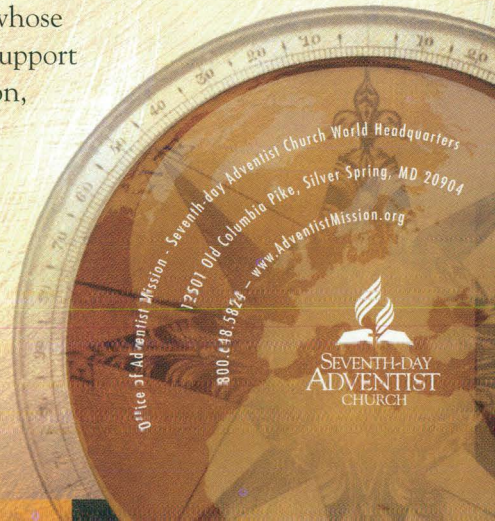
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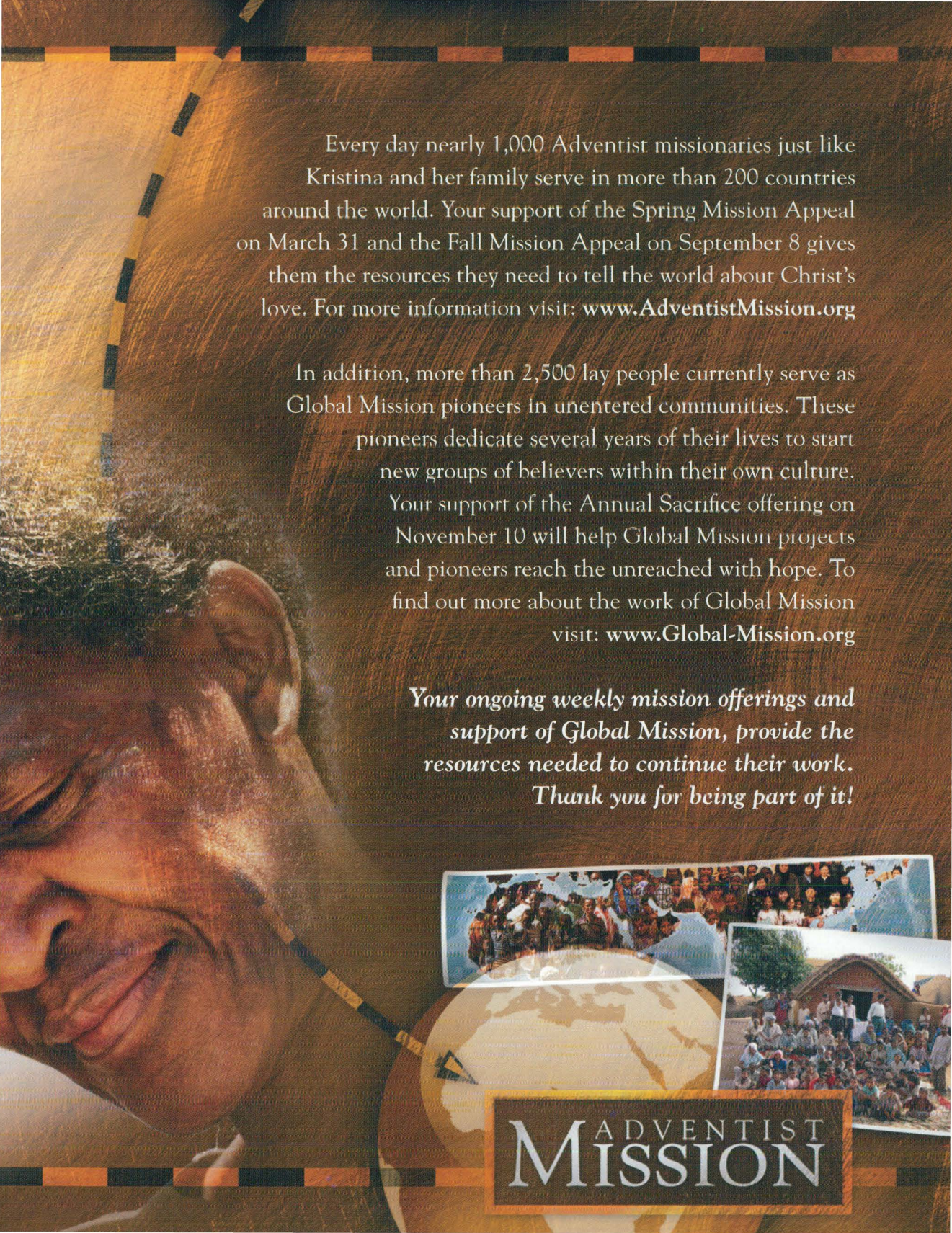
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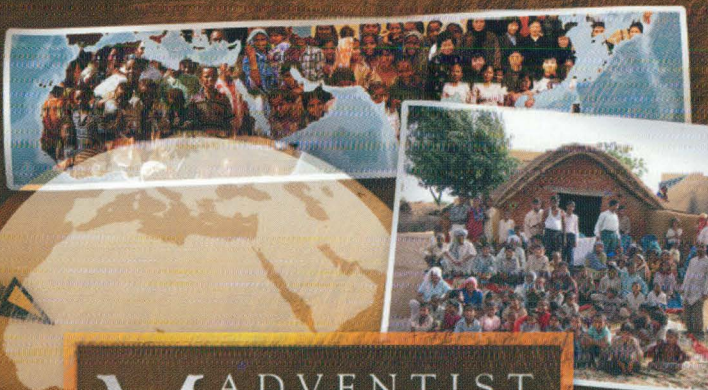
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In addition, more than 2,500 lay people currently serve as Global Mission pioneers in unentered communities. These pioneers dedicate several years of their lives to start new groups of believers within their own culture. Your support of the Annual Sacrifice offering on November 10 will help Global Mission projects and pioneers reach the unreached with hope. To find out more about the work of Global Mission visit: www.Global-Mission.org

Your ongoing weekly mission offerings and support of Global Mission, provide the resources needed to continue their work. Thank you for being part of it!



ADVENTIST
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Changing Lives: The Hilltop Story

Celebrating all our alumni over the last 100 years



CUC's First Student Missionary

Leslie Earl Anderson, CUC's first student missionary, lived a life centered on missions. When he was nine, his parents and three brothers moved to Burma where his father pioneered the Seventh-day Adventist work in the Chin Hills. While in Burma, Les committed his life to Jesus. After completing eleventh grade at Vincent Hill High School in India, Anderson and his family came to Alberta where he attended Canadian Union College and was the first Hilltop student to be involved with the student missionary program: in 1963 Anderson worked with a task force on the mission boat Northern Light, visiting isolated villages on the British Columbia coast, holding meetings, and distributing literature and clothing. At CUC he met Mary Lane Anderson. In 1966, they graduated and were married a few days later.

The couple's first assignment was mission service in Ethiopia where Anderson became director of a mission station, which included a church, hospital, and school. Within two years, at the age of 25, Anderson became youth director for the Ethiopian Union of Seventh-day Adventists. While in Ethiopia, he and two doctors bought a Cessna 140 and he learned to fly.

When he returned to Canada, he served in the Far North

for seven years. He was headquartered in Whitehorse and found his flying experience aided in his ministry in the Yukon. Later he pastored and operated a private business in Victoria, British Columbia, and then, in 1998, Anderson began the last phase of his life of ministry. He joined a team of pilots at the Papua New Guinea Union Mission. The Mission owned a plane that was used half time to provide transportation for work in remote villages; commercial trips subsidized evangelistic and humanitarian work.

On May 3, 2002, just a month before his scheduled return to Canada, Anderson was flying solo on a routine freight flight when his plane crashed in the Eastern Highlands of Papua New Guinea. Les Anderson, a committed mission pilot for more than 25 years, was laid to rest in Papua New Guinea. He and Mary Lane had two children, Loy and Glen, both of whom attended school on the Hilltop. ■

Excerpted from the CUC Centennial book, *Changing Lives: The Hilltop Story*. For more information about the CUC Centennial book and Alumni Homecoming on June 7-10, 2007 call us at 1.800.661.8129 x.8 or you can email at, alumni@cauc.ca

Compiled by JR Ferrer, Communications and Public Relations Officer for Canadian University College



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(continued from p. 4)

by works, and not by faith only." We must act immediately to change our lifestyle, reduce our carbon emissions and start assisting those who will suffer greatly from global warming. This I believe will show our love for Jesus in action.

—David, Ottawa, ON

Author's response:

I appreciate the thoughtful response to the article on climate change. In writing the article, I collected about 1500 scientific studies that dealt with climate change and tried to share some of the highlights of the scientific literature. However, 1500 scientific articles constitute the "tip of an iceberg" as far as what is available for study. I would encourage those that are really concerned to read the [peer reviewed] literature for themselves.

Meanwhile, several readers wondered about the centrality of carbon dioxide to climate change. Keep in mind that climate change is complex. Several factors cause climate change. Some involve humans such as greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide) and urban-

ization (and associated change in the use of land). Some factors are independent of human activity such as variability in solar radiation and volcanism. One estimate is that only about 25% of the increase in temperature over the last 100 years can be accounted for by external factors (changes in solar radiation and volcanism). The remainder is due to the effect of humans (e.g., greenhouse gases and urbanization).

The lesson to take home is that minimizing our deleterious effects on nature—being good stewards—will slow down climate change and be more in line with the lifestyle God designed for us, His creations.

—Bruce Buttler, ph.D., Chair, Division of Science, Canadian University College

¹ Crowley, T.J. 2000. Causes of climate change over the past 1000 years. *Science* 289: 270-277

This and that

It's already escaped my memory just how long you have been in this new position, but "welcome" from me. I appreciated the work and new turn of the *Messenger* during the editorship of the last gal and know that the same will

be true for you.

Your February editorial was great—summarized and handled well. As I read further into the magazine, it's interesting how a given article will affect people so very differently. I had read the "chocolate" info and not responded at all how the other folk did. Oh well, we're all different and what a blessing that is!!!

One thing that I do miss is the picture and a brief bio where applicable beside the contributors. I'd love to see your picture by every editorial. I am visual person and can associate better with the writer if I have a pic in mind. Just my opinion.

I love the "Creation Corner" even tho' it's not specifically written for me. I love everything about the *Messenger*. May God bless you in your work, and thank you for taking on a huge task! I pray that the readership will offer comments in the spirit of Christ! ■

—Linda, [unknown location]

british columbia

Mountain Top Experience

Mountain Top Experience is a church that was planted in Salmon Arm, BC six years ago. Our group felt it was important to do a true church plant, not a transplant—doing what we already do somewhere else. But with no money, no pastor and no meeting place, the project was a huge undertaking. God provided guidance right from the start, though, so we surveyed the community, researched, and began planning. We soon realized that we had to completely rethink church if we were going to reach our target group. We needed to do as Paul in 1 Corinthians 9:20-23 “... become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some.”

We found a facility and financed this new church by selling lawnmowers and chainsaws, hosting garage sales, and convincing several donors to buying into a new concept of church. What a ride it was!

After renting other churches for a few years, it became obvious that we needed our own facility so we could establish an identity in our community. So the hunt began. What we needed and what we could afford seemed to be in separate galaxies. But we knew this was God's church, not ours, and He is the one with all the means...

Driving down the highway, I glanced toward the new construction I'd been keeping an eye on. For some time now I'd been watching a crane erect a 10 thousand square foot building at the busiest intersection in town. This day I saw the sign 'space for lease.' My heart almost stopped as I made the call and set up a meeting. The landlord liked our ideas and what we'd be doing in his

mini-mall—so much so that he financed the whole project! God is bigger than you think! We are now in a building with Italian paving stones as our sidewalk, an exposed aggregate entryway, first class decor and construction, two video screens with a special monitor for the praise team and speaker. Our relaxed foyer has another flat screen aimed toward our large leather sofa. As we marvel at these donations, we know that it is amazing that, when you step out in faith to do something for God, many people buy in.

So, what has happened since we moved into our new place? We now have a kitchen from which we serve refreshments every week. We have a kids' class that is bursting at the seams, a pastor's office, more than three times the seating capacity of our old church, and a weekly attendance that keeps rising! So far our record attendance is 118 people,

of which only 27 were members. People from the community drop in every week! We have also just launched a new youth program and envision the need to offer a second service in the near future.

Recently, two people saw our sign and were impressed with our tagline—“for those who have given up on church but not on God.” After pondering for a few days, they showed up for church on Sabbath morning. Afterward, as we stood outside, listening to them relate their experience, a car came by and a couple inquired, “what time is church here next week?” Yes, that really happened—and often does!

How important it is to proudly plant churches in high traffic areas, in the midst of real life. We are so grateful for what God has done through our church, and we pray that even more people seeking God will have a Mountain Top Experience with our group in the Sunny Shuswap. ■



Mountain Top Experience, a new concept of church in Salmon Arm, BC, thrives in its storefront location.

Church Gives Away \$70,000 as Kingdom Assignment Challenge

How do you make \$3000 turn into \$72,000 in three month's time? How do you inspire ordinary people—mechanics, teachers, housewives, and high school students—to dream up ways of making a big difference for people around them, starting with a simple one hundred dollar bill?

For the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Aldergrove, the answer can be summed up in three simple words: "The Kingdom Assignment," a project in which church members are challenged, individually or as small groups, to accept \$100 as seed money, find a need, and make their \$100 grow into an act of kindness that will help meet that need. Pastor David Jamieson presented the challenge to his parishioners not knowing what kind of a response to expect. When the call went out, the response was greater than he had hoped; 30 individuals accepted the challenge.

Those who did not then choose to participate were not left out. A second challenge was put forward the following week calling individuals to sell a treasured possession and dedicate the proceeds to one of the projects from the first challenge. Fifty individuals committed to this mission. A week later when a third challenge was presented, 120 people promised to dedicate at least 90 minutes of their time in volunteer service to the community.

On December 9, exactly three months after the original challenge was given, all participants and many recipients of the projects came together in a special program to share stories from their Kingdom Assignment adventures. One such story is that of a young couple who committed to selling a treasure in support of one of the projects. Recognizing their need to downgrade to a single car, they had been advertising their second car for awhile with no success. Upon hearing the challenge, the couple made a pact that the proceeds of their car's sale would be donated to a Kingdom Assignment project. The very next day a call came in from someone who, never having seen the car, requested they hold it until he could deliver the asking price the following day! As an added bonus, the couple later received word from their landlords that their rent was being lowered; the decrease in rent would more than make up for the money they had just committed to the project.

To date, monies in excess of \$70,000 have been raised for



Pastor Jamieson happily distributes \$100 bills to members who committed to growing it for God.



Thirty members committed themselves to the first phase of the Kingdom Assignment.



Over \$21 000 was raised through a 24-hour soccer marathon. The funds go to help a family with the expense of their daughter's leukemia treatment.

numerous community-based projects which include but are not limited to: buying musical instruments for children of an inner-city after-school tutoring program, distributing coats to Aldergrove-area schoolchildren and residents of Vancouver's downtown eastside, providing assistance to several Fraser Valley-area new mothers in need of materials and financial support, providing needed supplies for women's transition homes in Langley and Aldergrove, and raising funds for the Langley Memorial Hospital's pediatric ward. Of special note is the fact that over \$21,000 was raised through a 24-hour soccer marathon called Kick Cancer For Emily, to assist a family with expenses related to their two-year-old daughter's treatment for leukemia. Other selected causes had an international focus: one was to provide funds for the building of an airstrip in a remote area of Guyana, while another raised money to buy medical supplies for a medical clinic in Nepal.

All in all, the Aldergrove church has been blessed by blessing others. Pastor Jamieson calls the project "an awe-inspiring endeavor" He adds, "We're thrilled to see how the vision caught on in the community and continues to grow." ■

Alberta MEN in Belize



Mount Olives Christian Academy class of 2010 during the inauguration service on September 4, 2006

Alberta Men's (AMEN) Ministries and the volunteers who have helped over the last four years are celebrating again: the government of Belize has given us a license to open a high school, including Grade 9, in the Valley of Peace, Belize, starting in the fall of 2006!

We have worked diligently for this opportunity and now rejoice that we've been given the privilege to serve.

The reason for sacrifice and preparation, perspiration and travel, camaraderie and progress, was most evident when we saw the students arriving at our Mount Olives Christian Academy on the morning of September 4, 2006. Even though the students had helped the school staff and AMEN Ministries prepare for school opening a couple of days before school started, there was no greater joy than seeing the cherubs arriving that first morning. And their uniforms! What a beautiful sign of unity!

Only 20 percent of our students have Adventist roots, but most of the students have Christian values because

many faiths are at work in the community. We have a tremendous opportunity to share the good news of Christ's soon return while training these 'diamonds in the rough' to be productive citizens here and now.

Our staff at Mount Olives is led by principal Fausto Cabanas, a brother from Valley of Peace who, for years, drove many miles every morning to teach at another school. To have this school is his own backyard is a dream come true. His wife, Magdalena, is also on the staff and a vital resource to the females of the Valley and of the school. Another staff member, Eric, came to Belize from Pennsylvania as a student missionary. But he stayed and helped us build a little before he found a beautiful Belizean woman with whom to share his life. But the real miracle of our staff is the arrival of Dale and Tammy Burns from Pierceland, Saskatchewan, with their two young daughters, Kaylee and Leah and their dog, Spot. The local people cannot believe a dog can be trained so well and behave so nicely.

Truly, Spot is a missionary too. Last but not least, is our school secretary. he is a shy 16-year old who handles the computer and other secretarial duties like a pro.

I called Dale the other day to see how things were going, and he said that he couldn't believe the kids could be so well behaved. He really believes we have done the right thing by building a school in this community. Over half of our kids would get no high school education if it were not for Mount Olives. It is so important that you remember Mount Olives school in your prayers, and consider participating in our building project. We welcome assistance in pouring concrete, fabricating walls, wiring light fixtures, installing roofing, hanging eaves troughs and providing drainage and flower beds. What a blessing to be part of this agency of redemption. God has given us abundant opportunities to live and share and go for Him. Let's not dismiss this occasion to "stand like the brave." ■

Central Alberta Adventist Community Services Centre

Since its occupancy on May 1, 2006, the Centre has provided meals every Sabbath afternoon to hundreds of homeless that live in Red Deer. The Centre serves 80-170 meals each week.

Perhaps most important, the Centre also provides opportunities for members of the church to fellowship with different kinds of people—praying for and with them, offering them hope...



Alberta Conference VP Administration Romulo Daquila leads guests in Christmas caroling at the Central Alberta Adventist Community Services Centre's first ever Annual Christmas dinner.

The Central Alberta Adventist Community Services Centre can trace back its origin from the Ross Street Soup Kitchen which ministered to the homeless in Red Deer for more than ten years. When the rental contract was not renewed at the Ross Street location, the committee decided to formalize the organization of the Central Alberta Community Services Centre involving the four local primary churches that participated in this ministry.

A decision was made that, instead of renting a building in Red Deer, a committee would locate a property to purchase. With the financial support of ADRA Canada, the Inner City funding

from the Church in Canada, the Alberta Conference; and the four churches in Central Alberta—namely College Heights, Lacombe Community, Red Deer and Sylvan Lake—a property was purchased at 5014-49 Street in the city of Red Deer.

Since its occupancy on May 1, 2006, the Centre has provided meals every Sabbath afternoon to hundreds of homeless that live in Red Deer. The Centre serves 80-170 meals each week. One church per week hosts the meal, doing all the food preparation and serving

On December 8, 2006, the Centre initiated an annual Christmas banquet.

The place was fully decorated, the tables were covered with table cloths and adorned with centre pieces, and the food was extra special. Almost 200 guests from the streets were served by volunteers from the four churches which enjoyed fellowship with the guests.

From September to April of each year, social service providers from the city of Red Deer work together to provide a place for the homeless to sleep with the temperature goes down below -15 C. At first, our Centre was participating in this program once a week, later twice a week, and, at present, our volunteers provide this service every day of week. The Centre provides space for between 20-35 individuals to sleep on cold nights. Supper and breakfast are also provided to those who ask for them.

The Central Alberta Community Services Centre has provided opportunities for Seventh-day Adventist Church name recognition in the community for the homeless, the social services providers, city officials, and the business association in Red Deer. The Centre also provides opportunities for members to share pieces of literature, Bibles, used clothing, and other articles that the homeless need. Perhaps most important, the Centre also provides opportunities for members of the church to fellowship with different kinds of people—praying for and with them, offering them hope and assurance that Jesus offers to each one peace of mind, and a glorious future. ■

Peace River CHIPpers



Happy CHIP graduates from Peace River.

According to Health Canada the most common disease in our country is hardening of the arteries—atherosclerosis. But, according to Dr. Hans Diehl, the most common disease is hardening of the attitudes. That is one reason why the Peace River Seventh-day Adventist Church believes so strongly in the Coronary Heart Improvement Project. It is simply one of the best ways to break down the hardened attitudes many people have towards healthful living and its connection to spiritual growth.

Under the direction of Beverly Tailleux, 25 members registered for our second CHIP program choosing “to be healthy by choice, not by chance.” The program

ran four nights a week for one month. Every night there were exciting cooking demonstrations and food samples. The attendees logged over 1400 kilometres during their exercise routines, and many great friendships were started. Since our first CHIP program, one new member

has been baptized and joined the church. We are thankful to God for His health message that helps people to have a more abundant life, and for His positive way of bringing them to the truth through the CHIP program. ■

north american division



VOP Musician, Wayne Hooper, Dies at 86

Wayne Hooper, whose work with the Voice of Prophecy spanned nearly 65 years, died Wednesday, February 28, at his home in Thousand Oaks, California. He was 86.

His best known song, “We Have This Hope,” was created for the 1962 Seventh-day Adventist General Conference Session in San Francisco.

His prolific career included hundreds of compositions and arrangements for soloists, quartets, choirs, and orchestras.

Hooper set the style of Voice of Prophecy music with his spirited male voice arrangements. Budding male quartets around the world sought copies and soon the “Hooper Style” of singing was heard throughout the Americas, Europe, Africa, Asia, and the South Pacific islands.

Many of Hooper’s arrangements for male voices were

published in seven volumes and used at schools and churches worldwide. Nearly 100 of these arrangements are now in the public domain and available without charge at www.vop.com.

Hooper and his King’s Heralds colleagues sang not only in English, but also in several other languages used by Voice of Prophecy affiliates around the world. Known as Los Heraldos del Rey in Spanish, the quartet was also featured regularly on La Voz de la Esperanza, a Spanish-language Adventist radio ministry.

His years with the quartet involved extensive travel, including many trips across the United States and Canada, as well as tours to Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Europe.

Hooper married Harriet Schwender in 1941. He was ordained to the gospel ministry in 1955, and he received his master of arts degree in music in 1957 from Occidental College, Los Angeles.

Hooper is survived by his wife, Harriet, and their four children and families: Jim Hooper, Mrs. Jan (Lind), David Hooper, and Dan Hooper. ■

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 Raelene Brower at 905/433-1144, ext. 212. (4/07)

Lamming Mills Reunion—June 29 to July 1, 2007 at McBride, B.C. For details contact stanley8@telus.net or 250/569-2596. (4/07)

50th Anniversary, La Mesa Adventist Community Church, La Mesa, California, May 5, 2007. A full orchestra and choir presentation, "I Can Only Imagine," will lead the worship in two thrilling services (1st service 9 a.m.; 2nd service 11:30 a.m.). Seating is free, but reservations are required. Call 619/461-5703 for service and seating information. (4/07)

Women's retreat, "The Power (of His presence)," May 25-27—Come and reminisce with old and new friends. Speakers are from the beautiful Okanagan valley, B.C. For more information please contact Liz Card at sicamouskid@yahoo.ca. (4/07)

The Lethbridge Seventh-day Adventist Church is looking for missing member Debra (Deb) Gormley. If you have contact information, please notify the church clerk at jaknox@shaw.ca.

Stonecave Homecoming Association is pleased to announce Homecoming 2007, July 11-15, in Chattanooga, Tennessee. If you once attended the (former) Adventist academies, Stonecave, Castle Valley, Stoneybrook, or Beautiful Valley, we invite you to come to rebuild friendships, reconnect with classmates and reunite with alumni. Featuring Penny Turner for a ladies retreat and Bill Young for our Homecoming special. For more information phone 863/385-1856 or email www.beautifulstoneycavecastleassoc.org. (4/07)

Attention: All German Seventh-day Adventists are invited to attend the 2007 Annual Seventh-day Adventist German Meeting at Camp Hope, 61855 Lougheed Highway, Hope, British Columbia on May 5th beginning at 9:30 a.m. on the Youth Hill. Bring your German Bible; musical instruments; and special music for blessings in worship; and delicious German food for the

potluck. Camping available. For more information, contact Reiner Kuppers at 604/826-0300, email rkuppers@telus.net.

Baptisms

Luis Argueta was baptized in Willowdale, Ont. on Sept. 2, 2006 by Pastor Orlando Pule. He is now a member of the Immanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Tiffany Brook Atnip was baptized in Lethbridge, Alta. on Feb. 10, 2007. She is now a member of the Lethbridge Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Joanne and Leanne Ban of Markham, Ont. and Marley Blake of Thornhill, Ont. were baptized in Willowdale, Ont. on July 22, 2006 by Pastor Orlando Pule. It was a double blessing for the Ban twins as they also celebrated their sixteenth birthdays. They are now members of the Immanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Dave and Carol Barnett were baptized in McBride, B.C. on Jan. 27, 2007 by Pastor Greg Wellman. They are now members of the McBride Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Len and Sue Delhunty were baptized in Moncton, N.B. on Oct. 20, 2006 by Pastor Stéphane Beaulieu. She is now a member of the Moncton Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Chyanne Grinde was baptized in Ryley, Alta. during an afternoon candlelight service on Christmas Eve 2006 by Pastor Bob Burke. Pastor Burke had studied with Chyanne for close to a year. She is now a member of the Ryley Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Victoria Henderson was baptized at Camp Pugwash, N.S. on Aug. 5, 2006 by Pastor Stéphane Beaulieu. She is now a member of the Moncton Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Paul Kioko was baptized on Apr. 8, 2006 in Willowdale, Ont. His family in Kenya, California, and New York witnessed Paul's baptism over the Internet. He is now a member of the Immanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Pat McCarthy was accepted on profession of faith on Oct. 20, 2006 in Moncton, B.C. Pat studied with Steve Daley. She is now a member of the Moncton Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Nathaniel Richards was baptized in

Moncton, N.B. on Sept. 9, 2006 by Pastor Stéphane Beaulieu. He is now a member of the Moncton Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Brent Rebsomen, Donna Rae Rebsomen, Katrina Rebsomen, Kasmira St. Louis, Rebecca Schmidt, and **Leanne Schwab** were baptized in Smoky Lake, Alta. on Jan. 13, 2007. They are now members of the Smoky Lake Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Sierra Smith, Taylor Steinke, and **Shaelyn Thompson** were baptized in Red Deer, Alta. on Nov. 18, 2006 by Pastor Ryan Hodgins. They are now members of the Red Deer Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Sharron Stoyles and Aroline Prodanik were baptized and **Joanne Albersworth** was re-baptized in Airdrie, Alta. on Feb. 3, 2007 by Pastor Michael Corbel. They are now members of the Airdrie Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Andrew, Matthew, and **Trevor Wilton** of Lacombe, Alta. were baptized in Camrose, Alta. on Feb. 24, 2007 by Pastor Bob Burke. The brothers studied with Pastor Stephen Reasor.

Births

Alejandra Zoë Emiko Okimi Atencio was born Jan. 17, 2007 to Kevin and Jackie Okimi of Burlington, Ont.

Gabriel Pule was born Dec. 14, 2006 to Orlando and Elizabeth Pule of Willowdale, Ont.

Weddings

Marina Kavur and Gregory Brown were married Dec. 24, 2006 in Willowdale, Ont. Marina is the daughter of Mike and Lillian Kavur of Maple, Ont., and Gregory is the son of the deceased Roy Brown.

Anniversaries

Vincent and Josephine Robinson of Toronto, Ont. celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Mar. 31, 2006. They are members of the Immanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church. Vincent serves in the Community Services department and Josephine as a deaconess. They have two sons, Douglas and Uton Robinson of Toronto, Ont., and two granddaughters.

Allen and Airlie Fowler of Sherwood Park, Alta., celebrated their 50th

wedding anniversary on Feb. 4, 2007. The Fowlers began their life-long service with the Seventh-day Adventist Church as church school teachers. Over the years Allen has served as an administrator at the Adventist nursing home in Swift Current, Sask., Sherwood Park Nursing Home (now the Sherwood Park Care Center) in Alberta, Karachi Adventist Hospital in Pakistan, Kanye Adventist Hospital in Botswana, Mwami Adventist Hospital in Zambia, and Sunnyside Adventist Care Centre in Saskatoon, Sask. The Fowlers helped raise funds for the construction of the Adventist nursing home in Swift Current and the construction of the Sherwood Park Nursing Home. Since retirement they have been actively involved with ADRA and ASI in the collection and distribution of hospital equipment and supplies for the third world. The Fowlers have three daughters: Lorna (Robin) Brekkas of Fort St. John, B.C., Barbara (Gerry) Chipeur of Calgary, Alta., and Vivian (David) Grinde of Holden, Alta.; and five granddaughters.

Milt and Doreen Sheppard of Bella Coola, B.C., celebrated their 50th



wedding anniversary on Mar. 5, 2006. Their children hosted a party in their honour in the Lower Mainland, as well as a reception on April 2 in Bella Coola. The Sheppards have four children: Stephen (Debbie), Byron (Hiroko), Irene, and Philip (Sheila).

Wilford and Anna (Krause) Tetz of Lacombe, Alta., celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Dec.

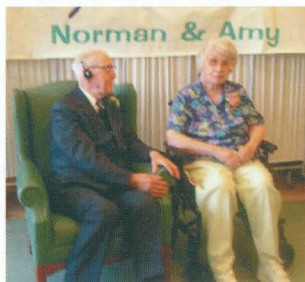


29, 2006. Wilf, a doctor of medicine, and Anna have served the medical needs of the community of Lacombe for 45 years. The Tetz have six

children: Beverly (Fred) How of Loma Linda, Calif., Carol Lynn (Glen) Rick of Aldergrove, B.C., James (Shirley Gimbel) of Beiseker, Alta., Gerald (Karen Kay) of Portland Ore., Jack (R.J.) (Cindy Tomlinson) of Edmonton, Alta., and Douglas (deceased) (Deborah Lang) of Calgary, Alta. They have 13 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

CORRECTION:

Norman and Amy White of Chilliwack, B.C. celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on April



13, 2006. They were married in Victoria, B.C. and have lived in various places on Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland of B.C. The Whites have one daughter, Leona Taylor of Glendale, Calif.; two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Birthdays

Mabel Thompson of North York, Ont., celebrated her 100th birthday on Oct. 14, 2006. She has five children: the oldest daughter resides in England, the younger daughter in Jamaica, the oldest son, Victor, in Ontario, the second son in the United States, and the youngest son in Jamaica. She has six grandchildren. Mabel Thompson is the oldest member on record of the Immanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Obituaries

Ceferina Bautista died Jan. 22, 2007 in Edmonton, Alta. at the age of 82. Surviving: wife Felisa; sons Philip (Emy) of the Philippines, Nehemias (Erlinda) of Edmonton, and William (Edna) of Toronto, Ont.; daughters Rebecca (Gideon) Elevazo of Calif., Minda of the Philippines, and Elvira (Steve) Marshall of Edmonton; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Ray Blabey was born Aug. 26, 1922 in Dauphin, Man., and died Dec. 12, 2006 in Dauphin. Ray served his church as an elder, deacon, and treasurer. Surviving: wife Violet; and brother and sisters.

Eileen Ethel (Mullen) Cassidy was born Nov. 3, 1938 in Ochre River, Man. and died Jan. 23, 2007 at Winnipeg Beach, Man. Surviving: son Jeff; daughter Fay (Brent); and five grandchildren.

Joao (John) Raposo Borges died Feb. 6, 2007 in Edmonton, Alta. at the age of 79. Surviving: wife Maria do Carmo; son John (Maureen) of La Crete, Alta.; daughter Maria (Tony) Huether of Edmonton; sister Maria Claudio of Calgary, Alta.; sisters-in-law Rosa Borges, and Elizia Borges; and four grandchildren.

June Charlesworth was born June 1, 1934 in Bridgewater, N.S. and died Dec. 19, 2006 in Kelowna, B.C. June shared the love of Jesus by tending to the practical needs of those around her. Surviving: husband Robert Charlesworth of Kelowna; son Rod (Jan) Charlesworth of Kelowna; daughters Genny (Bob) Bissett of Kelowna, Kathy Charlesworth of Kelowna, and Juanita (Don) Straub of Kelowna; brother Curt (Jan) Embleton of Ft. St. John, B.C.; sister Polly Bell of Creston, B.C.; Dorothy (Victor) Frank, and Sandy (Dave) Kozak of Kelowna; and nine grandchildren.

Clinton (Clint) Lee Foreman was born May 4, 1933 in Sheridan, Ill. and died Jan. 22, 2007 in Lacombe, Alta. Surviving: wife Cleo of Lacombe; sons Greg (Sharon) of Oshawa, Ont., Ed (Kelli) of Rio Vista, Calif., and Dave of Ukiah, Calif.; daughter Nancy of Lacombe; brother Don (Jeanette) of Highland, Calif.; sister Jean of Exeter, Calif.; one grandson and two great-grandsons.

Thelma Margrethe (Petersen) Dalrymple was born Dec. 10, 1913 and died Jan. 6, 2007 in Kelowna, B.C. Thelma was a teacher at Pomona Junior Academy in California and actively participated in the development of Pathfinders in Ontario and California. She was predeceased by her husband, John, and her daughter, Jean Fitch. Surviving: sons Joseph Steven Dalrymple of Pahoia, Hawaii, and John Arthur Dalrymple; daughters Diane (Eldon) Bauer of Kelowna, and Joyce (Richard) Weber of Boston Bar, B.C.; brothers August Petersen of Grants Pass, Ore., and Arne (Sandy) Petersen of Newport Beach, Calif.; sisters Mary Janssen of San Diego, Calif., Anita Trudeau of Long Beach, Calif., and Alice Petersen of South Gate, Calif.; 13 grandchildren, 33 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Sten Jacob Holger Haggkvist was

born Aug. 15, 1912 in Sweden and died Feb. 11, 2007 in Red Deer, Alta. Sten was predeceased by his great-granddaughter, Candace, and his son-in-law, Elgin Teed. Surviving: wife Fern of Lacombe, Alta.; sons Earl (Shirley) of Kamloops, B.C., Del (Audrey) of Lacombe, and Don (Jean) of Ponoka, Alta.; daughter Marion (Chris) Unruh of Meadow Creek, B.C.; 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Mary Winnifred (Mamie Whitty) Hosking was born Apr. 13, 1917 in Kingston, Ont., and died Oct. 6, 2006 in North Cobalt, Ont. She was predeceased by her husband, John Howard, and her son Howard. Surviving: sons Douglas (Carolyn) of Williams Lake, B.C., and Ron (Pauline) of Abbotsford, B.C.; daughter Joy (Phil) Redo of Port Huron, Mich.; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Clifford Johnson was born Oct. 17, 1918 in Gwynne, Alta. and died Jan. 9, 2007 in Gwynne. Clifford's passion for music, interest in people, and love for the Lord have made a significant impact on his community. Surviving: wife Marina (Simenson); sons Myrl (Kay) of Vancouver, Wash., and Philip (Loretta) of Gwynne; daughter Caroline (Ken) Taylor of Gwynne; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Elsie Irma (Brightman) Powell was born June 2, 1917 in Moose Mountain, Alta. and died Feb. 1, 2007 in Kelowna, B.C. Elsie was a dedicated supporter of all the church's programs and activities. She was predeceased by her husband, Floyd. Surviving: sons Gilbert of Duncan, B.C., and Orlo (Diane) of Westbank, B.C.; daughters Laurel Powell of Edgewood, B.C., and Myrtle (Denis) Prescott of Merritt, B.C.; 16 grandchildren, and many great-grandchildren.

Stewart Eugene Prouty was born July 17, 1922 in Exeter, Ont. and died Feb. 13, 2007 in Courtice, Ont. Stu worked for many years at Maracle Press in Oshawa, Ont. He served his church as a deacon, cared for the public address system, and helped to maintain the church and community centre including the electrical and carpentry work. Surviving: wife Violet (Curtis); sons Donald (Pamela), Robert (Penelope Bender), and William; daughters Janet (Lawrence) Brock, Joy (Marcus) Sheffield, Joan (Marcel) LaPointe, and Jean (Daniel) Benoit; brothers-in-law Walter Fedusenko, and Roy (Ellen) Curtis; sister-in-law Louise Prouty; 27 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Esther (Anderson) Rossen was born Sept. 11, 1912 in Saskatchewan and died June 9, 2006 in Chatsworth, Ont. Esther faithfully served the Lord and raised her four children to do the same. She gave generously of her hard-earned means to speed the Saviour's return. She was predeceased by her husband Peter. Surviving: son Elvin (Elizabeth) Rossen of Williamsford, Ont.; daughters Elsie Westhouse of Fort Erie, Ont., Greta (Waldeman) Kutzner of Collegedale, Tenn., and Adele (Dick) Dahlberg; 15 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Anna Spezowka was born Dec. 6, 1910 in Ukraine and died Jan. 14, 2007 in Theodore, Sask. Anna was predeceased by her first husband from the Ukraine, and her second husband, Tom Smitsnuk. Surviving: husband Mike Spezowka; stepsons Murray (Pat), and Martin (Wendy); step-grandchildren; and by many relatives in Ukraine.

Veikko Olavi Vartija was born July 7, 1921 in Finland and died Feb. 3, 2007 in Parry Sound, Ont. Veikko worked as Plant Engineer at Maracle Press in Oshawa, Ont. for over 30 years. Prior to his retirement and after his retirement, he had set up printing presses for the Seventh-day Adventist church in Tennessee, California, Mexico, and Russia. Surviving: wife Irma; sons Vesa of Parry Sound, Ont., Seppo (Anne) of Mansfield, Tex., and Timo (Anne Marie) of Lisle, Ont.; sister Helmi Rehumaki of Piikoko, Finland; nine grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Advertisements

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 July issue: **May 1**
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Okanagan Adventist Academy is now accepting applications for the position of principal for the 2007-2008 school year. Okanagan Adventist Academy is a thriving dynamic K-12 school located in Kelowna, B.C. The climate, lakes, and ski hills provide opportunities for year-round outdoor recreational activities. Growth and development in services and industry have made the south Okanagan one of the most desirable areas to live. There are several Adventist churches in the area, which make Kelowna a regional centre for mini-camp meetings, musical functions, and sports events. The school has recently undergone extensive renovations and expansion, creating an exciting and welcoming educational environment for students and teachers. The successful applicant must be legally able to work in Canada and either have, or be eligible to receive, British Columbia certification. Administrative training and experience are preferred but we are willing to train a person with outstanding abilities. We thank all applicants for their expression of interest, but only those short-listed will be contacted. Deadline—Until filled. Contact Lloyd Robinson, Box 1000, Abbotsford, BC V2S 4P6. Phone 604/853-5451, fax 604/853-8681, or email lrobinson@bcadventist.ca. (4/07)

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Join Lonnie and Jeannie Melashenko on a Voice of Prophecy Alaskan cruise. Sail for seven days and enjoy Glacier Bay, Juneau, Sitka, Ketchikan, and Victoria, B.C. Round-trip from Seattle, leaving Sept. 23, 2007. Space is limited. Email oakdaletravel@yahoo.com or call 209/847-1701. (4/07)

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If you are an Adventist legal professional—lawyer, judge or law student check out and register at the web site provided for you by the GC Office of General Counsel: www.AdventistLawyer.com. Looking for an Adventist lawyer? This site might be helpful to you. (6/07)

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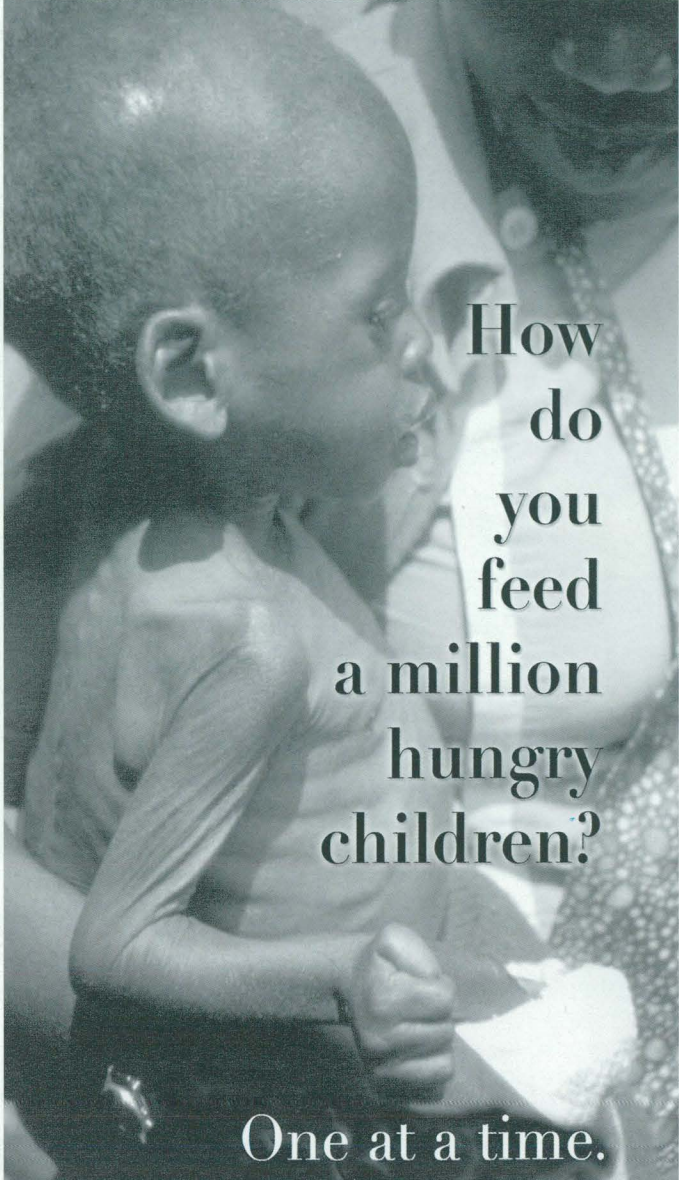
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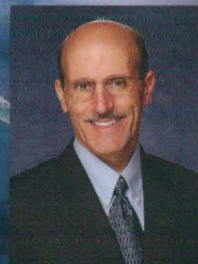


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A MECHANIC WITNESS

BY DANIEL FAVOR

I stood beside the machine, a large industrial metal band saw. It screamed and shook as it cut through the heavy steel beam. The shop mechanic, Mike, walked up.

"Hey, Dan, I got a question for you," he shouted.

"Yeah, what?" I yelled back. I was bored and glad for the interruption. The machine finished its cut and stopped automatically.

"I asked Bryan, but he didn't know. He told me to ask you."

Bryan was a Christian. Almost half of the guys in our small shop were Christians.

"I saw a bumper sticker," he continued. "It read JESUS IS GOD. What does that mean?"

Mike was not religious. I doubt he had ever been to church. He was in his thirties and loved to drink and party. He lived with his girlfriend and her son from a previous relationship. He had probably never heard the gospel.

"It's the Trinity," I explained, "God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Each is a separate part of God, but at the same time each is wholly God. It is the mystery of the Trinity."

I had been going to church my entire life and had attended a Christian middle- and high- school. I had even spent several years in a Christian College. I knew all this stuff, and didn't mind briefly sharing the purpose of God coming to the earth as Jesus. As welding machines hummed and crackled in the background, I spoke of Christ's death, resurrection and gift of eternal life. He listened intently and then thanked me for the explanation.

A few weeks later we discussed a billboard he had seen in front of a church. He felt it was offensive. I agreed with him. I shared with him the way I thought Christ would have approached the subject. I again was able to share the gospel of Christ with Mike. Standing there in his greasy coveralls, he listened intently, and

again he thanked me for my input.

One Monday morning months later, the plant manager came into our small lunchroom.

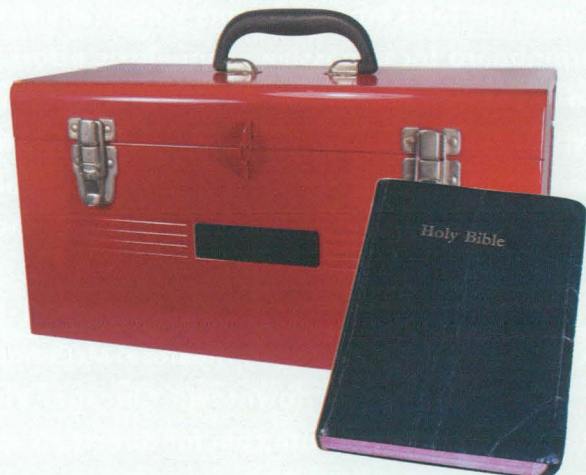
"As you might have noticed," he said, "Mike did not come in this morning. Unfortunately, he went into the hospital on the weekend. He died Saturday night from a previously undiscovered heart defect."

In shock, we all got cleaned up and dressed to attend his funeral a few days later. Thinking back, it seems obvious that God had arranged things so that Mike would have a chance to hear the gospel before he died. Not just once but twice.

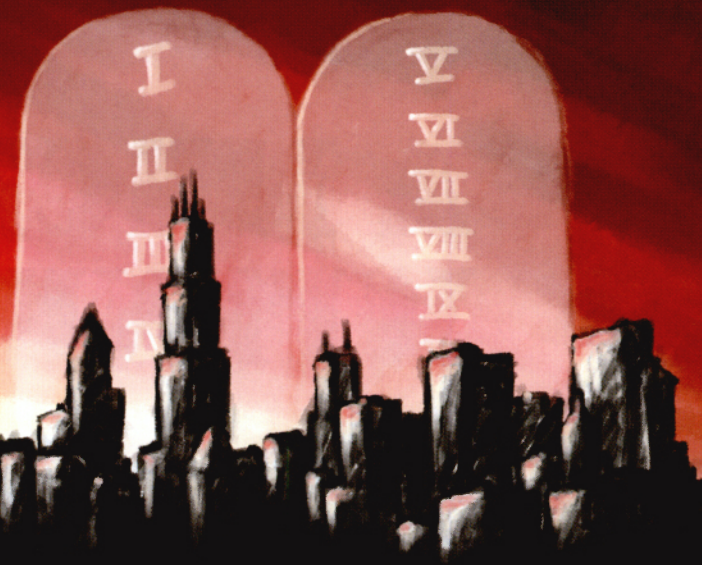
The apostle Peter wrote, "Always be prepared to give an answer . . . for the hope that you have" (1 Peter 3:15). I'm glad that I was prepared to talk to Mike.

Are you prepared for whoever Christ brings to you today? Know the truth. Share the truth. ■

Daniel Favor has written for Hearts at Home magazine, Chicken Soup for the Soul Celebrates Grandmothers and other publications. He writes from Abbotsford, BC.



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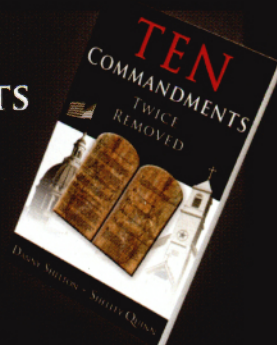
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