

canadian adventist

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# Messenger

## Campmeeting 2007

**PLUS:** Meet Winston Green, Christian bodybuilder; "Well-known or known well" — which would you prefer?

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Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada

1148 King Street East  
Oshawa, ON L1H 1H8  
phone 905/433-0011 fax 905/433-0982

President Dan Jackson  
djackson@sdacc.org

VP Administration Nilton Amorim  
namorim@sdacc.org

VP Finance John Ramsay  
jramsay@sdacc.org

Conferences

Alberta 37541 Hwy 2, Red Deer County, AB T4E 1B1, phone 403/342-5044

British Columbia Box 1000, Abbotsford, BC V2S 4P5, phone 604/853-5451

Manitoba/Saskatchewan 1004 Victoria Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0Z8, phone 306/244-9700

Maritime 121 Salisbury Road, Moncton, NB E1E 1A6, phone 506/857/8722

Newfoundland 1041 Topsail Rd., Mount Pearl, NL A1N 5E9, phone 709/745-4051

Ontario 1110 King Street East, Oshawa, ON L1H 1H8, phone 905/571-1022

Quebec 940 Ch. Chambly, Longueuil, QC J4H 3M3, phone 450/651-5222

Canadian University College 5415 College Ave., Lacombe, AB 14L 2E5, phone 403/782-3381

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*This month we honour fathers, and not just because we honoured mothers last month. We honour you, dads, for all you do and all you are.*

# Meet my Dad

I know and intellectually comprehend that, for some people, figuring God as a father is not an apt metaphor. Many people have never known their fathers or have suffered in some way at the hands of their father, and therefore cannot associate fatherhood with the warm fuzzy feelings we ought to have toward our Father God. To those people I offer my heart-felt sympathies.

I wish everyone knew a dad like mine. Not only did he feed, clothe, and shelter me for all my growing up years, he did it all (and then some) with a spirit and grace that now permits me, when I envision my God as a father, to see clearly some of the attributes I fear I may have missed if I'd not had him in my life. As I think about my dad this month, I can't help but share with you just two of the oft-missed attributes of God that my dad has taught me to appreciate:

**He's fun.** One of my strongest childhood memories involving my dad is of him boogy-ing around the kitchen while we cooked. Invariably, he would turn up the volume on the radio just a liiiiittle bit when Elvis Presley or the Beatles or Herman's Hermits were singing, and he and I would sing and bounce around just having fun together. Something about the way his right foot would do its heel-toe routine and his (usually unsuccessful) attempts to flip the spatula into the air and catch it in time to the beat... I still can't help but smile when I think of it.

Because of my dad, I'm convinced that I serve a God who also kindly laughs at my foolishness and completely cracks up when I'm really off the wall. Because

of my dad, I envision my heavenly Father as a Being who is truly happy just to be with me, who has fun with me even if we're just singing and laughing in the kitchen. He's allowed my picture of God to be one in which the Subject has a pronounced twinkle in His eye.

**He's unflappable.** Anyone who knows my dad knows that you cannot shock him. Period. Full-stop. I have glimpses of memories in which I would attempt to do something outlandish or say something controversial just to get him going. Each time I was met with a drawled "well..." and that was all. Calm. Steady. Solid as a rock. Is there anything else a flighty teenaged girl needs from her father?

Is there anything else anyone needs from a God? Sometimes I just revel in the reality that I cannot shake Him. No matter what I do, no matter how wrong I get it sometimes, He's never surprised, never caught off-guard, never stumped.

That's it. I promised two points and I've made them. I could go on and on, even though my dad isn't perfect. Because he has consistently pointed me to the Father who is perfect, who is everything I need Him to be, who knows me thoroughly and who loves me just as much.

I wish everyone knew a Dad like mine.

Crystal D. Holloway, editor  
cholloway@sdacc.org

Happy Father's Day, Dad.  
I'm always your "Brown-Eyed Girl."



# WHAT'S INSIDE

June 2007



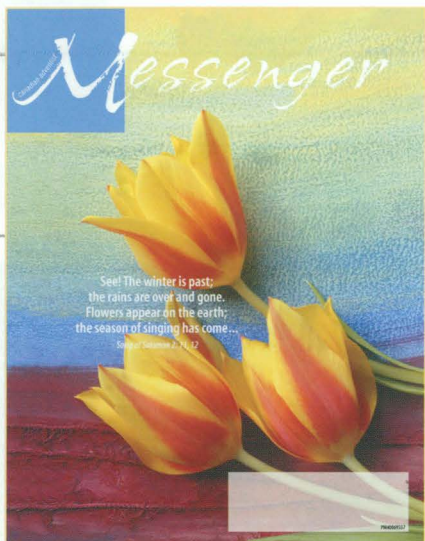
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# Your Words

“Neither my dear wife or myself will ever be pastors but to suggest that we are somehow less in God’s church because we don’t preach the sermon on Sabbath I find offensive. God has a job for all of us.”

## RE: “IN but not OF,” April 2007

I just finished reading your column in the April *Messenger* and found it a bit troubling. You speak of General Conference leaders being predominately caucasian; are you suggesting they be elected by means of a quota system rather than merit and ability? This so-called “affirmative action” has been tried before with terrible results. Think about it; who would want a job knowing the only reason they got it was the color of their skin? You further question the number of female pastors. The United and Anglican churches have many female pastors as well as huge numbers of gay and lesbian pastors. Has this “liberalism” brought them prosperity? Hardly. The United church is on the verge of extinction, and the Anglicans are about to split in two! Neither my dear wife or myself will ever be pastors but to suggest that we are somehow less in God’s church because we don’t preach the sermon on Sabbath I find offensive. God has a job for all of us. If He wants us to be pastors or leaders it will happen!

—Monte, Oshawa

Regarding your editorial, “*In the Church but Not of It*,” I cannot believe what I read about the “pain of being excluded,” especially in the context of the church. In my experience, nominating committees have a difficult time not because “we’re

so particular,” but because so many people say “No.” I know several churches where they have women elders, even though there are men in the congregations. For you, personally, are you an editor because you are qualified, or because you applied and got the position because no one else (male) applied? You appear to paint the church with a grey brush, and that’s unfortunate.

A short anecdote to soften the impact of my missive: During a business phone conversation with a lady, she turned to a problem her children were having in the church school. She said she was planning to transfer them to another school. I asked her, “Do you really think that, by pulling your children out, you can improve the school?”

She didn’t. Her children stayed; she became an active supporter of the school; she is presently very active in the church.

I maintain that many who feel left out would benefit by “stepping into the Jordan . . .”

—Caesar, Lacombe

**[Editor’s note:** I do thank everyone, whether their letter is printed here or not, for sharing their response to my recent editorial. I am thrilled that it generated discussion (we got almost as many letters about it as we did about

our item on chocolate or the climate change article), and am loath to enter into the discussion again for fear of stifling the response that may still be fomenting in readers’ minds. Since many asked, however, I will briefly attempt to clarify the waters surrounding the editorial; they seem to have been muddied somewhat.

Let me start with the question of affirmative action. In no way did I mean to “suggest that [leaders] be elected by means of a quota system.” In fact, I find the notion that minority groups have to be somehow legislated into leadership disgusting. However, not for a moment do I believe that the leaders of the church have been elected solely based upon “merit and ability” either. If I buy that, I have to buy that in the 100-or-so years of our church there have only been three non-white persons fit for leadership (based on Roy Adams reckoning of the pictures in the GC offices as mentioned in the editorial). Common sense tells me that is wrong. No, I don’t support affirmative action; I support stopping the ‘negative action’ that has (unconsciously, I’m sure) been affecting too many of us for too long.

Secondly, I have to comment upon the slippery slope we seem to slide down when we start talking about who can be leaders and who can’t. For instance, in Monte’s well-intentioned letter, we go



from talking about non-caucasian leaders to non-caucasian pastors to female pastors to gay and lesbian pastors all in one breath. As a country and as a church we cannot afford to lump all minority groups into one heap! Since when does ordaining women as pastors belong in the same discussion as ordaining gays and lesbians? I don't believe that Monte and others who expressed similar sentiments meant to flippantly dismiss several groups with one toss, but I believe they express a mind-set against which we all must guard.

The last issue I will attempt to address is the main one expressed by Caesar: that getting more involved, not withdrawing, is the way to deal with the problem. To that I can only say "absolutely!" I wholeheartedly applaud those who, when faced with discrimination, only push harder to be admitted to where they have every right, in this case the God-given right, to be in the first place. If not for those individuals—Rosa Parks comes easily to mind; there are thousands of others—the world would be in an even worse state than it is. My thinking in the editorial was to lament the need to push in the first place, to point out that some lead the church (and, be clear, I'm not just talking about as pastors) because they can and because they are *given* the opportunity. Others, just as able, will likely never lead even if they *fight* for the opportunity, and our church is the poorer for the loss.]

### RE: April Issue

I love reading the *Messenger*. However, I was deeply disappointed to see the quotation you used for the most recent issue: "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, 2

I don't know what version of the Bible that's from, but it cannot compare with one of the most famous and most often quoted and touted in the realm of magnificent English writing, the King James Version: "For, lo, the winter

is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land..." Song of Solomon 2:11, 12

The difference between these two is the difference between having an electrically turned on propane fireplace, and the magic, the mystique, the beguiling warmth and power, the enchantment of logs burning on a hearth. One is a bland, washed-out paraphrase, the other, astonishingly beautiful poetry. Your choice was sad, and unenlightened.

—Joseph, via email

I work in the Communication department of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (in Calhoun, GA). I just wanted to send kudos to you on the April issue of the *Canadian Adventist Messenger*.

Our office receives a number of publications, and usually I just place them in our magazine rack for anyone who wants to read them. This time, however, I picked up your magazine. I read your editorial, then some of the letters, then the "Heart to Heart" page. I continued flipping through the pages and found another interesting article by Ryan Wallace who I am almost positive attended Southern Adventist University at the same time as I did.

I'm not sure what drew me to pick up your magazine, but I'm glad I did! I enjoyed what I read, and I just wanted to let you know. I particularly enjoy the editorials, features, and stories that give personal insights into other people's experiences. Great work!

—Rebecca, Assistant Communication Director of Georgia-Cumberland Conference, Calhoun, GA

### RE: Daydreaming, February 2007

First, I would like to start off by mentioning that I do enjoy the *Messenger*, and you guys have been doing a great job. However, I was slightly concerned when I read "Permission to Daydream" in the



February issue. The final sentence reads "consider daydreaming an important part of your mental-health action plan." I found it rather odd especially since, at the moment, I am reading *Messages to Young People* and [in it, Ellen White] says "day and night dreaming and castle-building are bad and exceedingly dangerous habits" (pg 76). I have nothing against developing the imagination through reading or playing games but just sitting and day dreaming seems a little dangerous, especially since the old saying says "an idle mind is the devil's workshop." We should use extra time to pray and develop a relationship with God at a young age rather than spend our precious time daydreaming.

—Charlee, via email

E-mail comments to [cholloway@sdacc.org](mailto: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.



# My Church is Major-Mega

by Gordon Pifher

*“Under the control of Christ, each part of the body does its work. It supports the other parts. In that way, the body is joined and held together.” Ephesians 4:16*

**H**ave you ever wished your church was a mega-church with thousands in attendance every week? With lots of staff leading multiple programs? With lots of money and resources for media outreach and community ministry?

But mega-churches can have mega-negatives, too. Because they are too large they can be impersonal. Because only a few can play on a team, most members become spectators. Because everyone separates into their homogenous groups, there is no cross-pollination of talents or ideas.

I have great news! If you are a member of my church, we have the best of both worlds! My church is not just mega; we are *major-mega!* My Seventh-day Adventist Church has resources and a team of employees that would make most mega-churches look micro.

Too often we forget what we have! When questioned about our church, the conversation typically sounds something like this: “How large is your church?”

“I go to a small church with about 80 attending.”

“That’s nice!”

But when we remember what we have, our answers change:

- “Our local congregation is 80 strong, but we are actually part of a network of churches that is one of the fastest growing in the world. I love the intimacy of our group, but we join about 25 million others each week in a unified study of the Bible.”
- “We are connected with the largest protestant school system, offering accredited education from kindergarten through doctorates.”
- “We join with others in operating a large media program. We have a television network called Hope TV. It is now available everywhere by satellite and internet and on a growing host of cable stations.”
- “Our congregation supports the largest Christian radio network in Canada—VOAR.”
- “We have about 10 Christian programs on many of the major networks. *It Is Written* is just one of the productions.
- We just started a major internet ministry: bibleinfo.com and kidsbibleinfo.com providing Bible answers and personalized prayer for thousands every day.
- We operate an international Discover Bible school providing online and mail-in Bible lessons.
- Our congregation joins others in supporting full-time missionaries to over 90% of the world.

So, it is important to know how to use our major-mega resources. Here are some secrets that will help you tap into what we have:

1. Know what is *ours*.
  - a) Read the *Messenger*. Crystal Holloway, editor, has a prime focus to let churches share how our resources are working all over Canada.
  - b) Subscribe to the *Adventist Review*. It is our opportunity to know what resources are available to us.
  - c) Provide time in your church to view the DVDs that are frequently distributed. This is how our team talks to each other.
2. Talk like it’s *ours*.
 

Practice using words like “we,” “our,” “my.” It is not deceptive; our tithes and offerings either directly or indirectly keep our ministries in operation. They are ours.
3. Act like it’s *ours*.
  - a) List our major-mega information in our bulletin or weekly PowerPoint advertisements.
    - “Our singles outreach begins at the retreat centre in several weeks.”
    - “Watch our Hope TV special on Reaching Children this week.”
    - Remember our North American Division literature challenge to distribute seven pieces of literature in seven days.
    - “25,000 recently graduated from our Discover Bible School in Zimbabwe.”
  - b) Make the signage on your church reflect some of the major-mega ministries our church operates. Consider listing your church as a “Resource Centre for Hope TV, Discover Bible School, Coronary Health Improvement Project, and Local and Overseas Disaster Relief.”
  - c) Take ownership of the church website. Are you aware that each of our congregations has a new, fresh, brilliant and dynamic website provided by our Church. The majority of your visitors will check out our church online before they make their first visit, so update the calendar, post your events, and add features that represent your church’s unique ministries.
  - d) Have an outreach resource center in the foyer. *Our* church has colourful, current, professional magazines and books on every meaningful topic printed by *our* Church. Feature them in a display where all visitors and members will see them.

I belong to a major-mega church with all the benefits that come with being in a small, intimate group. Now you know that you do, too. ■

Gordon Pifher is president of the British Columbia Conference of Seventh-day Adventists,





# EarthTalk

## ▶▶ Dear EarthTalk: What is “light pollution?” Is it really a factor in breast cancer?

— Gudrun Smythe, Madison, Wisconsin

The glow of city lights blotting out stars in the night sky has frustrated many a stargazer, but recent studies have shown that “light pollution”—defined as excess or obtrusive light at night—can actually have serious health effects. Researchers have found that exposure to bright nocturnal light can decrease the human body’s production of melatonin, a hormone secreted at night that regulates our sleep-wake cycles. And decreased melatonin production has in turn been linked to higher rates of breast cancer in women.

“Light at night is now clearly a risk factor for breast cancer,” says David Blask, a researcher at the Cooperstown, New York-based Mary Imogene Bassett Research Institute. “Breast tumors are awake during the day, and melatonin puts them to sleep at night,” he adds.

Epidemiologist Richard Stevens of the U.S. Department of Energy’s Pacific Northwest National Laboratory first discovered the link between breast cancer and light pollution in the late 1980s. Stevens found that breast cancer rates were significantly higher in industrialized countries, where nighttime lighting is prevalent, than in developing regions.

Lending credence to Stevens’ research are the findings of another researcher, William Hrushesky of the South Carolina-based Dorn Veterans Affairs Medical Center, who discovered that female night shift workers have a 50 percent greater risk of developing breast cancer than other working women. He also found that blind women have high melatonin concentrations and unusually low rates of breast cancer.

To reduce breast cancer risks from light pollution, Prevention magazine recommends nine hours of sleep nightly in a dark room devoid of both interior (computer screens) and exterior (street lamps) light sources. A study of 12,000 Finnish women found that those who

slept nine hours nightly had less than one-third the risk of developing a breast tumor than those who slept only seven or eight hours. Even bright light from a trip to the bathroom can have an affect, so dim nightlights are recommended for night lighting. ■

### Other Problems of Light Pollution

- ▶ According to the Sierra Club, birds and animals can be confused by artificial lighting, leading them away from familiar foraging areas and disrupting their breeding cycles.
- ▶ And the photosynthetic cycles of deciduous trees (those that shed their leaves in the fall) have been shown to be disrupted due to the preponderance of artificial nighttime lights.
- ▶ Another environmental impact of excessive use of artificial light is, of course, energy waste. The International Dark-Sky Association computes that unnecessary nighttime lighting wastes upwards of \$1.5 billion in electricity costs around the world each year while accounting for the release of more than 12 million tons of carbon dioxide, the leading greenhouse gas, into the atmosphere.
- ▶ Individuals can do their part by keeping lights dim or off at home at night—and convincing their employers and local government offices to do the same.



### Got an environmental question?

Send it to: EarthTalk, c/o The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; submit it at: [www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/](http://www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/), or email: [earthtalk@emagazine.com](mailto:earthtalk@emagazine.com). Read past columns at: [www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php](http://www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php).



## Well-known or known well?

I'm a really shy person, and it's hard for me to talk to new people. But all my friends are outgoing, they're constantly with different people, and they are all well-known in school. I really wish that I could be as comfortable around people as they are, and maybe then I would feel more accepted. How do I learn to find value in who I am as a person, with the silent pressure I feel to be more outspoken like my friends?

Your very shyness is a tool to help you find value in who you are. Do you know why? Because Jesus values your inner character way more than your "social performance," which is too subjective to be any use in finding personal value anyway. Your type of personality thrives more on a one-on-one relationship with Jesus, a more personal and intimate friendship with Him.

Being "well-known" means that someone is known by many people, but it doesn't imply that anyone knows them well (i.e. I know who Tom Cruise is, but I have no idea how he really is in person on a daily basis). Wouldn't you rather have a few good friends who know you well and can be there for you when you more need them than to be popular but left alone in times of difficulty?

While outgoing people may move the masses, you can touch individual lives in a more meaningful way. If it is easier for you to focus on a few people, make it your social priority to help your own circle of friends in a deep way. Jesus preached to hundreds of people during his years of ministry, but he decided to focus on a small group of friends and that's what made the biggest difference.

God created you the way you are on purpose. Ask Him to help you grow according to His plan, and set aside the world's social ranking.





# Creation Corner for Kids



## Red Fox

A family of red foxes took up residence on a knoll alongside the busy highway near our house. On trips to town, we occasionally got glimpses of the young as they lolled about on the mound at the entrance of the den.

The location of the den seemed an odd choice. Right next to the highway, it was in full view of motorists and so near dangerous traffic, I wondered what the vixen had been thinking. The fact is, the Red Fox seems to rely upon human traffic in some areas to avoid coyotes whose range might overlap their own.



“But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”  
Revelation 21:8

## Think about it

The Red Fox built a den in a dangerous-looking place for protection from the less obvious, yet real danger—the coyotes which might prey upon her young. Satan is as real a threat to us (though we can't see him) as the unseen coyotes are a threat to the foxes. Staying close to Jesus is our only safety. In our daily lives, we either prove our loyalty to Him or deny Him under “dangerous-looking” circumstances and leave ourselves unprotected against our real enemy.



## Do it

If you ever feel like pretending you don't know Jesus, ask Jesus to help you to be loyal to Him. He gave Peter a true conversion experience and He will do the same for you!

Go to Hinterland Who's Who ([www.hwww.ca](http://www.hwww.ca)) and type “red fox” into the search box for more information.

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



# REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION IN QUEBEC

Canada will always have immigrants. They are crucial to our survival, especially with our alarmingly low birth rate that has demographers openly questioning our ability to care for the aging Baby Boomers.

by Barry W. Bussey

The province of Quebec has a particularly acute need for immigration. Long gone are the days when large families were the norm. In spite of tax incentives, baby bonus payments, and inexpensive daycare, the fact remains that Quebec society is in desperate need of newcomers. However, the increased immigration has raised tensions.

Quebec's French-speaking majority has always been concerned about securing its identity in a predominantly English-speaking North America, not only to protect their language but also their religion, often under fire from a pre-dominantly Protestant America. For these and many other reasons Quebec has become a fortress for the French language and culture. Quebec's ambiance encourages conformity. And isn't it only right for a society to protect its values and identity? One would think so—but there are some interesting questions that such protection raises:

In January 2007, Hérouxville, a small town in Quebec, received international attention when it passed a code of behaviour aimed at new immigrants wishing to move into the community. The code prohibited things that most would consider human rights violations, such as wife beatings. Critics pointed out the unsavoury implication that immigrants would commit such acts to begin with. Salam Elmanyawi, chairman of the Montreal Council of Muslims, said the code was “condescending and insulting.” He noted that the law is akin to telling a new employee on the first day of work that there is to be no stealing or murder.

The Hérouxville affair was quickly followed by an incident at a national soccer tournament in Laval, Quebec, in which Asmahan Mansour, an 11-year-old Muslim school girl, was told she could not wear her hijab while playing for her team. Her team pulled out of the tournament in protest. Premier Jean Charest of the Liberal Party and Mario Dumont of the Action Démocratique du Québec Party both weighed in the public debate supporting the official's refusal. André Boisclair, leader of the Parti Québécois, argued that the political leaders

should not have entered the debate on what was a private matter.<sup>1</sup>

The hijab became great fodder for talk shows in English Canada. John Moore, of NewsTalk 1010 Toronto, challenged his female Muslim women “to call in to offer an example of an Islamic Isadora Duncan snagging her hijab in the spokes of a car and breaking her neck.”<sup>2</sup> He maintains that the issue is that “[v]isual signs of otherness have always been a threat to North Americans. With each successive wave of immigration to our shores there have been complaints about the failure of one group or another to abandon their customs, language and traditional clothing.”<sup>3</sup>

Quebec's chief electoral officer, Marcel Blanchet, created a stir when he decided that Muslim women would not be required to lift their veils to be identified before they received their ballot in the recent Quebec election. The uproar was brief but sharp. Blanchet received death threats and became fearful. Three days prior to polling day, he reversed his decision as a result of the public outcry about the special treatment for immigrants.

The problem is that any position one might take on these matters could appear insensitive to the concerns of others. Can there be a happy medium? Is there Scriptural counsel? I take advice from Exodus 23:9 where the Lord instructs the Israelites that when they settled their new land, they were not to “oppress an alien; you yourselves know how it feels to be aliens, because you were aliens in Egypt.” Because this instruction comes from God, I am optimistic in the promise it implies, that there can be balance between different cultures living together, that we can learn about each other and grow, that there can be a cross-fertilization of ideas that is mutually beneficial. We need to celebrate our differences while remaining true to who we are. The diversity of this country has always been one of its strengths. ■

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





# ARE YOU READY?

As we look around us and read the news, we can all agree that disasters have become a common point of discussion in daily life. The Sumatra-Andaman earthquake of December 2004, which we commonly refer to as the Asla Tsunami, resulted in 229,866 people lost (including 186,983 dead and 42,883 missing). Closer to home, on August 23, 2005, Hurricane Katrina claimed at least 1,836 lives and was the deadliest U.S. hurricane since 1928.

According to Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada (PSEPC) an emergency has occurred on an average of every seven weeks somewhere in Canada for the past 100 years. We cannot predict when the next one will strike our community, but we can do something to be prepared and to help.

## Are You Ready?

During an emergency, you and your family could be on your own for an extended period of time—72 hours or more. Emergency services may not be readily available, as increasing demands are placed on responders. It may take emergency workers some time to get to you as they help those in most critical need. As well, access to phones, gas, water, sewer and electrical services may be cut off. Learning how to be personally prepared is vital.

ADRA Canada recently produced a little orange booklet to help you be more prepared when disaster strikes. You may have already seen it—“*Are You Ready?*” The booklets were sent to Adventist churches across Canada to coincide with both the Disaster and Famine Offering on May 12 and Emergency Preparedness Week on May 6-12—an annual nation-wide event that takes place during the first full week of May. The booklet’s objective is to increase awareness about individual and family emergency preparedness. It may be downloaded from ADRA Canada’s website ([www.adra.ca/disaster/canada.asp](http://www.adra.ca/disaster/canada.asp)).

## Is Your Community Ready?

If a disaster strikes your local community, do you plan to help those affected? ADRA Canada has recently authored a document entitled *Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Emergency Management Operations Guide* as a resource for Adventist members and leaders to plan a structured and coordinated response to a local emergency. Individuals and groups who wish to represent their church in a response to a local disaster are encouraged to call ADRA Canada (1-888-274-2372) and ask for the guide, which will provide essential details for your planned response. It is also available on the website under “Member Login;” call us for the password.

Are you prepared? The question is not *if* but *when* will a disaster strike? ADRA Canada will help you be both prepared and ready to respond. Contact us to find out how we can prepare for disasters together. ■

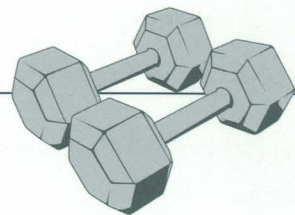
*Nick Trent is the National Program Director for ADRA Canada*



**Q:** Why don't ADRA Canada personnel come and manage and conduct our local response?

**A:** Emergency response is locally owned. Provincial/Territorial regulations vary considerably across our country. You and your local church are best placed to conduct a response; your local conference/mission is best placed to support a response.





# Christian Bodybuilding

## Winston Green's Unique Ministry

*Keeping it  
God-centred  
in a  
self-centred  
world*

**B**elief in the greatness of God is a belief that He can use anyone, anywhere for His glory. Often, He places us in situations where we can minister to His children who might never venture into a church to hear about Him, and when we find ourselves with such an opportunity, we either heed the call “keep quiet” and listen for “the stones to cry out” (Luke 19:40).

As a four-time Canadian National champion bodybuilder and the owner/operator of Winston's Health & Fitness Centre in Grande Prairie, Winston Green is positioned for a unique ministry. Winston has been an Adventist since 1994 and has used his interests and skills to touch many lives on God's behalf since then. Recently, his pastor and friend, David Hamstra, sat with Winston to discuss the challenges and rewards of being a Christian and a bodybuilder.

D A V I D H A M S T R A



# There are no shortcuts to fitness.

*I guess since I'm your interviewer I'm supposed to put you at ease, but I don't have any jokes.*

That's OK.

*Maybe we should begin by learning more about you. Where did you grow up? What was your family like? What was your initial exposure to Christianity?*

I grew up in a small town in Jamaica. My family was small; I used to live with my grandmother, and then I lived with my dad, before I moved to Canada and lived with my aunt. I was pushing 11 at that time, and we came here and lived in Montreal.

Growing up, my church was the Church of God, and we went to church on Sunday—all day. I used to hate it as a kid, because we would be there all day. That was my exposure to church and all that stuff. But was great; it was good.

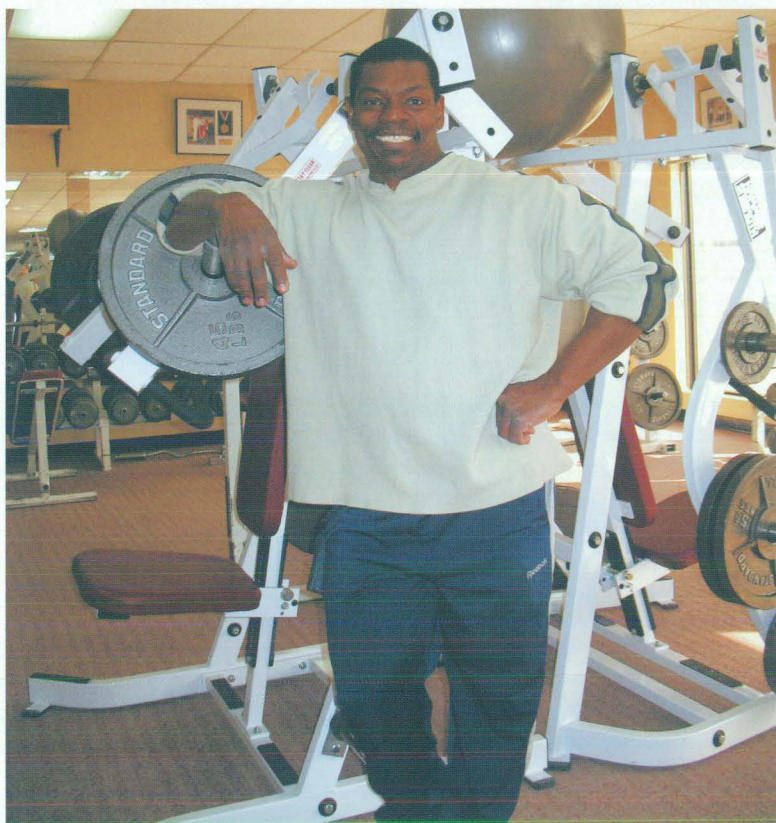
*So, what initially drew you to bodybuilding?*

I started bodybuilding because I liked the way the guys looked, but I didn't know how to get that way. I remember my uncle had this little booklet with Charles Atlas, and it was all on calisthenics. In the back, it showed bodybuilding movements and push-ups and things like that. And so I had that book and was doing pushups in my room and all the flexing and stuff, and nothing happened. It was only later when I joined the YMCA that I got introduced to weightlifting.

But I never had any thoughts of bodybuilding in the sense that you compete. Never ever. It was just something I wanted to do because I wanted to look big and fit—big and strong.

*So it was basically a hobby for you for many years?*

Yes. I was a dishwasher and busboy in some hotels when I first got into bodybuilding. Later, I worked for a man who ran a community center doing carpentry. I also did photography in Montreal. But after awhile I was getting really good so a



few of my friends said, “Why don't you compete?” I'd never seen a competition—never seen a bodybuilding magazine!—so I went to this competition just blind, and I really liked it. There were three- or four-thousand people there. I really liked the atmosphere. So I started from there, and really got hooked on it.

*What kinds of successes have you experienced in bodybuilding?*

I've won everything there is in Canada. I've won the Canadian championships four times. There's only me and one other guy in Newfoundland that have done that. I was also there the only time our Canadian team won anything at the world championships, and that was Best Exhibition. And in the North American championships the best I placed was second.

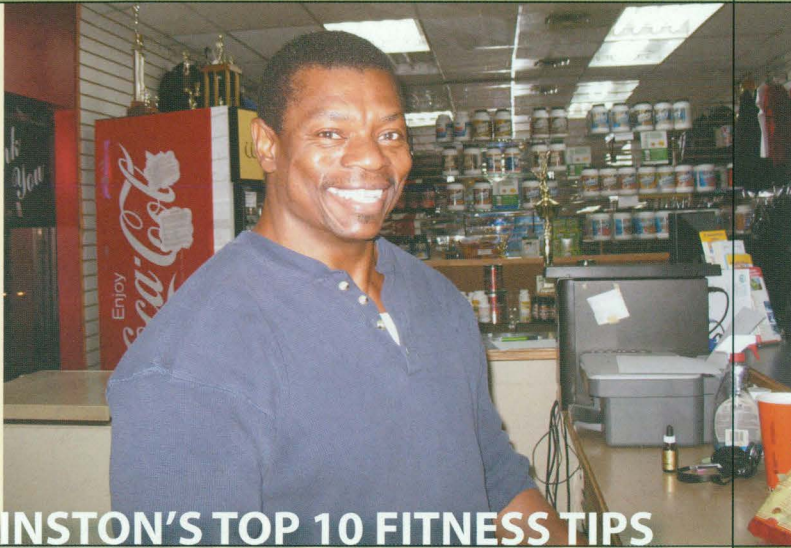
*What brought you to Grande Prairie all the way from Montreal? How did you get in the gym business?*

I had a friend who moved here to teach at the Grande Prairie Regional College. He had a friend who ran the only gym in town and needed someone to run it for him. So he called me in Montreal and said, if I wanted to, I could come and run the gym. That's how I got into the gym business as such. But as far as owning and running my own place, it was the last thing I wanted to do because it's a lot of headache and just doesn't make much money. But somehow—I don't know how—I made it, and now I wouldn't want to change.

*Now, how did you come into contact with Adventism?*

Well, I had fallen out of church for quite a long time—never even thought of





## WINSTON'S TOP 10 FITNESS TIPS

- There are no shortcuts to fitness.
- Consistency is the secret to maintaining fitness.
- You don't have to train at one-hundred percent every time.
- Start with simple, not advanced, exercises.
- Have someone teach you do your exercises properly.
- Walking has benefits for everyone.
- Sudden changes in diet don't last.
- Make sure there's something green on your plate.
- The older you are, the more you need to weight train.
- A little bit every day is better than going hard four times a month.

going back to church. I had the gym for about three or four years and was in my second marriage when my wife and I started looking for a church. I met a gentleman here at the gym named Frank Corliss. We started talking about faith, and I decided to visit the Adventist church. Then I studied with Frank and finally made a decision. I liked the teachings, and I loved the truth that the church teaches. It's the truth that made me join.

***Imagine there were challenges that you encountered as a bodybuilder in your transition to Adventism? For instance, was the Sabbath an issue for your competitions?***

Yes, because competitions are all on Saturday, the whole thing. I did compete for about four years after becoming an Adventist, but it bugs me a lot that I did that. Because I'd won it all and was still competing. It was a selfish thing, because, after winning all those championships, I didn't have anything to prove except to myself. So, I just stopped.

***And what about the Sabbath conflict with your gym's hours?***

Oh, it took me about a year and a half to close the gym on Sabbath. During that time-period there was another gym in town that had just renovated and was advertising against the other gyms in town. That was the time I was trying to make a decision to close on Sabbath. I remember many discussions at church about how I could close on Sabbaths.

One day I just made up my mind. I prayed about it and said, "Lord,

you're the one that allowed me to be here" —because I knew the difficulty I had just staying in business—"so if you want it closed, let it be." That Friday I closed and never looked back; that was it. But it took me about a year and a half to do that; it was really tough. One gentleman said, "If you close on Sabbath, you'll never make it." But I never looked back. From that day on I've never worried about how I'm going to pay my bills. I used to wonder at the end of the month, "Am I going to make it?" But business has been going great since I closed on Sabbaths.

Even after the decision, I had temptations. One gentleman offered to buy the gym on Saturdays so he could open it. But I had to say "no."

***What opportunities has your business given you for witnessing?***

Oh, lots. I see and deal with people every day, and every opportunity I get I share my Christianity with people. It's a captive audience; they're here for an hour or two hours working out. Some people listen; some people don't. But I share all the time. And we put up church posters. Also, a lot of people come through here, and they know that on Friday evening, I'm closed.

***Some Christians see sports like body-building as a non-productive waste of time at best, and at worst, an expression of sinful narcissism. Where do you draw the line between art and vanity?***

I say that body-building is the only thing you can do to mentally, physically, and emotionally change the way you look and feel. And the discipline that you develop over a period of time coming in every day to work out and achieve your goal you can apply to your Christian life, too. Everything that I learned from body-building I can apply to my Christian life. The discipline, time, and effort that it takes.

I remember when I was first baptized, everything I read in the Bible said, 'You're a changed man.' And I expected change right away when I came out of that tank; I didn't want the old Winston anymore. But it takes a long time to change. I'm still in transition.

*...every opportunity I get I share my Christianity with people.*



So it's a matter of putting everything in perspective. If your whole focus is on having a great body and training, it's bad. I've seen that in the field, but I've never agreed with that. Because although you train your whole body and it looks great, you're going to die anyway.

The right idea is to be as healthy as possible now, because if I'm healthy now and I feel good, my ability to serve God is way better.

***So the training itself is an effort. Maybe you could talk more about the parallels between training and the Christian walk, because Paul uses a similar analogy of running a race (1 Cor. 9:24-27). For the runner it's one step at a time, and in the end you get to the finish line. And the body-builder doesn't see the change overnight; you have to work at it.***

You have to work at it, yes. It's an everyday thing. You have to come in and put in your hour or hour and a half. It's the same thing with Christianity. You read and pray every day and stay in contact with God every day. It's the same principle that you use to stay in shape that you can use for being a Christian.

***So to summarize, you see body-building as a discipline that can help you with other aspects of your life?***

If you use it that way, yes. But if you're focusing on just me, I-want-to-look-good, I-want-to-lose-10-pounds . . . it's not going to happen. I've been doing this for thirty years, and I see that every day. Someone comes in, and they want to lose 20 pounds. They work really hard to lose 20 pounds, and then they quit. Then they're back in six months same as before. What happened? Did they lose their 20 pounds? Yes, but they haven't really changed; they haven't changed their habits.

If you continue training and continue eating right—a little bit at a time, every day—then you get lasting results. And it's the same way with the Christian life, I think.

***So you never arrive at a place where you say, "OK, I can quit now, because I'm awesome..."***

" . . . That's it, I'm good. I'm baptized in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. I've heard the truth; I've got enough." No.

It's not like that. It's an everyday thing. I find for myself also it's the growth, that slow growth. And it can be sometimes very slow growth. But over the years you see, you feel, and you know the difference.

***There's probably a lesson about perfectionism in all this, because in your spiritual life you never really reach that ultimate perfection level (Phil. 3:12-15). And in bodybuilding it seems like there's always something else you can tweak.***

Yes. Even the best guys in the world that I know of (and these are the best of the best), if you sit and talk with them, they're never happy, never ever finished. They never say, "I'm good now. I'm complete now. I'll just maintain what I have." They're always working on something. It's like, "My shoulders are too small." It's never enough.

It's the same thing with walking in the Christian life. You can be good for one month, and the next you've never read your Bible for the whole month. Then you've got to get back into it, pray, and get close to God.

I find keeping the mind and the body fit all the time uses the same principle. It's an every day thing like showering, combing your hair, or eating. You might be full today, but tomorrow you've got to eat again.

***So, I've got to ask where should Christians draw the line? At what point does something change from art to vanity, to something that is empty?***

When your focus is just on whatever you're doing. If my focus is just on bodybuilding and what I get out of it, then it becomes vanity, because this body will die and will rot. It may look great and wonderful, but if I get sick tomorrow morning, it's done. It's broken, and that's it.

So it's about keeping Christ the center of your art and the center of your activity. Then everything else comes after that.

***The last question I have for you is what advice would you give an Adventist young person who is considering a career in sports or the arts where the culture is not supportive of their faith?***

The advice that I'd have is "keep it God-centered," because if you keep it God-centered, your values are set and you can keep out of the vanity thing. Once your work becomes self-centered, it doesn't work. You get stuck.

I could say I'm in the gym business not because I make a lot of money, but because I like what I do. I love what I do; I could be here 24/7. I'm not tired or burnt-out from being here too much. I get up and am happy to come in to work.

I would say it's putting God first, at number one. If you do that, everything else will work out just fine.

***What about the case of an Adventist chef who's expected to cook with shellfish or an Adventist actress who's expected to shoot on Sabbath?***

You need to take a stand. Once you make up your mind, stick with it. And things will go the way they should, because God will always take care of His own.

I know that from my experience with taking a stand and closing on the Sabbath. Everybody believed I was nuts saying, "You don't run a business like that" and on and on and on. But you'll get that all the time. Everyday. So it's about sticking to your conviction and staying that way.

If you stick with your conviction and stay that way people will respect you for it, and also God will reward you by sticking up for you. I learned that for myself with my own business. It's great, and I can't complain. ■

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*David Hamstra, interviewer, writes from the Grande Prairie Adventist Church where he is the Associate Pastor.*



## Meet My Friend, Saviour, and Lord Maritime Camp Meeting

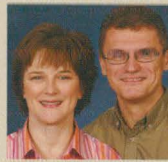
July 27 to August 4 at Camp Pugwash, Pugwash, Nova Scotia



**Nilton Amorim**  
Vice-President  
Administration,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
in Canada



**Clifford  
Goldstein**  
Editor,  
Adult Sabbath  
School Bible  
Study Guide



**Steve and  
Yolanda Hall**  
Speakers/  
Directors,  
All Power 4  
Teens



**Andreas Mellas**  
Pastor,  
Quebec Conference  
of Seventh-day  
Adventists

(no photo  
available)

**Michael Minder**  
Director,  
Morning Star  
Christian Fellowship



**John Ramsay**  
Vice-President  
Finance, Seventh-  
day Adventist  
Church in Canada



**Angel  
Rodriquez**  
Director,  
Biblical Research  
Institute



**Don Schneider**  
President,  
North American  
Division of  
Seventh-day  
Adventists



**Lincoln Steed**  
Editor,  
*Liberty* magazine



**Dave White**  
Presenter,  
Family Life  
Seminars

## His Heart; Our Hands Quebec Camp Meeting

July 18 to July 21 at Mt. Sacre-Coeur School, Granby, Quebec



**Nilton Amorim**  
Vice-President  
Administration,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
in Canada



**John Graz**  
Director,  
Public Affairs  
and Religious  
Liberty, General  
Conference of SDA



**Allan Handysides**  
Director,  
Health Ministries,  
General Conference  
of Seventh-day  
Adventists



**John Ramsay**  
Vice-President  
Finance, Seventh-  
day Adventist  
Church in Canada



**Dragan Stojanovic**  
President,  
Quebec Conference  
of Seventh-day  
Adventists

## Toward the Mark Newfoundland Camp Meeting

July 16 to July 21 at Camp Woody Acres, South West Pond, Newfoundland



**Nilton Amorim**  
Vice-President  
Administration,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
in Canada



**Dale Galusha**  
President,  
Pacific Press  
Publishing  
Association



**Allan Handysides**  
Director,  
Health Ministries,  
General  
Conference



**Gary Hudder**  
President,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
in Newfoundland  
and Labrador



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



**Lisa Mercer**  
Director,  
International  
Program,  
ADRA Canada



**John Ramsay**  
Vice-President  
Finance,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
in Canada



**Don Schneider**  
President,  
North American  
Division of  
Seventh-day  
Adventists



## Every Member Faithful Alberta Camp Meeting

July 6 to July 14 at Foothills Camp, Bowden, Alberta



**Michael W. Campbell**  
Interim Chair,  
Archives/Special  
Collections, Loma  
Linda University



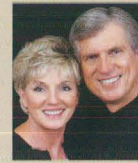
**Hal Gates**  
Director,  
Health Ministries/  
Community Services,  
Washington Con-  
ference of SDA



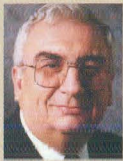
**Roscoe Howard III**  
Secretary,  
North American  
Division of  
Seventh-day  
Adventists



**Lawton Lowe**  
Retired Evangelist  
and Pastor



**Lonnie and  
Jeannie  
Melashenko**  
Speaker/Director,  
Voice of  
Prophecy



**Nik Satelmajer**  
Editor,  
*Ministry*  
magazine



**Bob Tetz**  
Retired Pastor



**Myrna Tetz**  
Former  
Associate Editor,  
*Adventist Review*



**Anthony  
Wagener Smith**  
Pastor,  
Florida Conference  
of Seventh day  
Adventists



**Jeff Wilson**  
Director,  
Planned giving  
and Trust Services,  
General  
Conference

## Peering into the Heart of God Southwestern Ontario Camp Meeting

June 8 to June 10 at Simcoe Adventist Church, Simcoe, Ontario



**Alden Ho**  
Director,  
Wheel Salt  
Ministry



**Don Jacobson**  
Former President,  
Adventist World  
Radio

## Mercy Came a Runnin' Ontario Camp Meeting

June 23 at International Centre, Mississauga, Ontario



**Dwight Nelson**  
Pastor,  
Michigan  
Conference of  
Seventh-day  
Adventists

## And Worship Him British Columbia Camp Meeting

July 27 to August 4 at Camp Hope, Hope, British Columbia



**Steve Cassimy**  
Ministerial  
Director,  
Greater New York  
Conference



**Ty Gibson**  
Co-director/  
Speaker,  
Light Bearers



**Clifford Goldstein**  
Editor,  
Adult Sabbath  
School Bible Study  
Guide



**Vicki Griffin**  
Author/Speaker/  
Director,  
Lifestyle Matters  
Health Intervention



**Stan Hudson**  
Co-host,  
LifeTalk's "Sing the  
Beagle"



**Fred Kinsey**  
Assistant to the  
President for  
Communication,  
North American  
Division of SDA



**Bill Knott**  
Editor,  
*Adventist Review*



**Gordon Pifher**  
President,  
British Columbia  
Conference



**Tim Standish**  
Research Scientist,  
Geoscience  
Research  
Institute



## Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow Manitoba/Saskatchewan Camp Meeting

July 6 to July 14 at Camp Whitesand, Theodore, Saskatchewan



**Carol Henry**  
Assistant Professor,  
Nutrition and  
Dietetics,  
University of  
Saskatchewan



**Gary Hopkins**  
Associate Director,  
Institute for the  
Prevention of  
Addictions



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



**Ruth Jacobson**  
Director,  
Prayer Ministries,  
North American  
Division of SDA



**Dan Linrud**  
Pastor,  
Ontario  
Conference



**John Ramsay**  
Vice-President  
Finance,  
Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
in Canada



**Bill Santos**  
Speaker/Director,  
It Is Willen  
Canada



**Cindy Tutsch**  
Associate Director,  
Ellen G. White  
Estate, General  
Conference



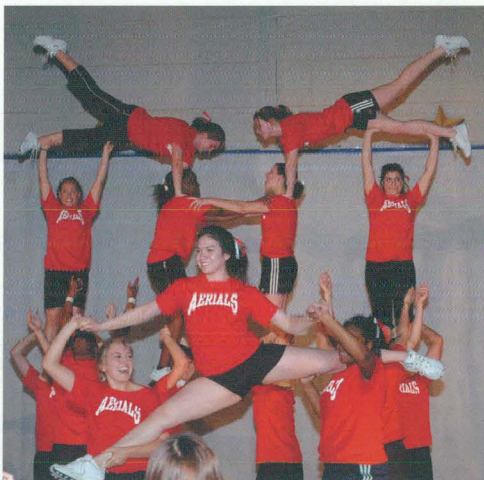
**Roger Wade**  
Director,  
Planned Giving  
and Trust Services,  
General Conference

### kingsway korner

## Over 100 Prospective Students Visit Kingsway College

On the weekend of April 20-22, Kingsway College hosted its annual College Days visitation weekend. Prospective students and their parents were invited to take an “up close and personal” look at life at Kingsway. Against a backdrop of beautiful spring weather, families enjoyed the opportunity to sample dorm life, worship services, a campus tour, and performances by all four of Kingsway’s touring groups; the band, choir, drama team, and gymnastics team all presented programs throughout the weekend.

Friday evening vespers was led by a student praise team and featured a sermonette by the Student Association pastor, Thalia Stewart (grade 11). Afterwards, everyone enjoyed a KC tradition of fresh bread, peanut butter, and jam in the cafeteria. Sabbath morning saw students lead the Sabbath School program and the praise music for the worship service. The band performed as well.



**The KC Aerials performed their annual Home Show as part of the entertainment for this year’s College Days weekend.**

Two young men presented sermonettes for church: Kevin Magdamo (grade 11) and Jeremy Grant (grade 10). In the afternoon, the drama group performed a play based on the death and resurrection of Christ, retold in modern-day language.

Then, after sundown vespers in the chapel, the day was capped by the Aerials gymnastic team’s Home Show and an ice cream feed.

Sunday’s schedule included a brunch and information session for parents and students. After faculty and staff introductions, parents were able to learn more about the academic and financial side of Kingsway life. Ample time was also provided for families to complete applications and ask questions specific to their families’ needs.

The weekend with our guests was over quickly, but we enjoyed every minute of our time together. We believe strongly in Kingsway College and Christian education. With God’s help, we plan to be here far into the future, continuing our mission to reflect Jesus Christ and prepare our students for a life of service to God and the Church. ■



## Ontario

### Touch of Love Comes to Ajax

The ambiance was warm and embracing as the members of the Community Services department at the Ajax SDA Community Church launched its first of many “Touch of Love Monthly Dinners for the Needy” sponsored by the Community Services department of the Ontario conference and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency Canada (ADRA).

According to Pastor Beresford (Touch of Love Program Co-ordinator for Ontario), “If you think this first dinner tasted good, I guarantee you that the dinners to come will be even better.” One of the dinner guest remarked “I feel like a princess. I’ve never been treated this special before.” The twelve dinner guests and the supporters from the community were serenaded by the melodious voice of Adriana Oscar, a member of the Kendalwood SDA Church in Whitby.

“Touch of Love” is a branch of the Community Services department that provides services to the needy including food and clothing for the homeless and destitute. It co-ordinates the work of local churches in their feeding of the homeless, especially in cities.



The Ajax church was pleased to welcome the community to the first of many monthly dinners.

The monthly dinners will be an extension of the services provided by the Ajax SDA Church Community Services department to reach to the residents of the community of Ajax with love and care. The dinners will be held on the third Sunday of each month. ■

### Bowmanville Hosts Gifts Seminar

Sabbath, April 28 was Spiritual Gifts day at the Bowmanville church. On that day, members and guests participated in a three-part workshop conducted by Bob Russell and assisted by his entire Sabbath School class and others.

Firstly, an introduction to the concept of Spiritual Gifts was given through an analogy between a new car model and the hopes and dreams of its designers and engineers, with how our Creator-God must feel when His designed children use their gifts to His glory or fail to do so.

Secondly, the sermon gave an overview of the diversity and purpose for the gifts, and the “gifted church”



using a Power Point presentation.

Thirdly, after a fellowship lunch, 25 participants completed the questionnaire and scored themselves to discover their

six most prominent gifts, and they were blessed as others took the opportunity to confirm the gifts they felt the possessed. ■



## Write is Might

Saturday, February 24th marked the culmination of the month-long Black History celebrations at the Toronto West Church. Focusing on the theme "Write is Might: The Power of the Black Pen," Afua Cooper, a professor from the University of Toronto, discussed slavery in Canada and shared from her most recent publication, *The Hanging of Angelique*, the story of a black girl hung in Montreal for burning down the town.

This final weekend included a litany depicting the power of the pen as it is passed from one writer to another, each telling a different part of our story. A skit showed the many things taken for granted in modern day society that were invented by black people: the elevator (Alexander Miles), fountain pen (W.B. Purvis), telephone system and roller coaster (Granville Woods), air-conditioning unit and supercharge for the internal combustion engine (Frederick Jones), and parts of the refrigerator (J. Standard)—to name a few.

For mid-day service, Pastor Sednak Kojo Duffu Yankson kept the congrega-



Front row L-R: Itah Sadu, Lawrence Hill, Donna Bailey Nurse, Royson James, Reddy Fox, Donald McLeod, Greg Birkett, Mike Clemons. (Rear: Pastors Lazarus and Chichester)



Pastor Sednak Yankson

tion on the edge of their seats in his sermon, "Unshackled." He challenged some of the prevailing myths about black people and invited us to seek the truth for ourselves as it is found in the Bible.

In the afternoon of Feb. 24th, personalities Mike (Pinball) Clemons,

Donald MacLeod and Reddy Fox, Donna Bailey Nurse and writers like Itah Sadu, Lawrence Hill, Royson James, and Greg Birkett read from their works or that of their favourite authors. It was an informative and educational evening. Time well spent.

Special thanks to the pastoral staff and the Black History Month committee for informing, enlightening, educating, and inspiring us to be all God wants us to be. ■

## Manitoba-Saskatchewan

### Canora Evangelism

On the March 4 at Canora, Sask., Pastor Wilf Michaels and Pastor Rowell Puedivan held a seven-night series of meetings. The theme was "Face to Face with Jesus." Pastor Michaels used the story method very effectively. Pastor Puedivan did the music with the help of his wife, Eldinh.

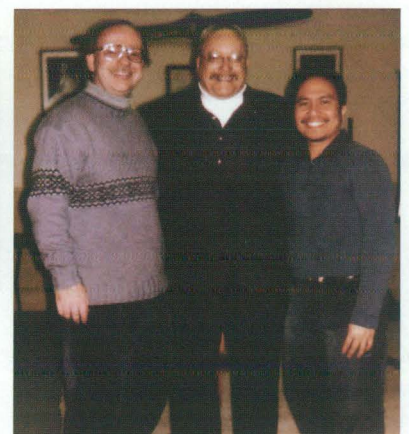
The Catholic choir sang three nights. Pastors of other denominations who were members of the local ministerial association came and supported the meetings. Each helped by offering prayer or music or Scripture readings.

The meetings were well attended, with numbers ranging from twenty to fifty. Perhaps the attendance was helped



The Catholic choir entertained attendees for three nights during the meetings.

because the meetings were held in the Legion Hall, being a neutral place. I am sure the people attending know for sure that the church depends upon Christ alone for our salvation. ■



Mennonite pastor Greg Bright with Pastor Wilf Michaels and Pastor Rowell Puedivan



## British Columbia

### Vernon 100th Anniversary

It was a weekend of celebration as the Vernon Church marked a milestone on November 6, 2006. If one happened to wander by the church on Sabbath, November 4, they may have wondered what century they were in as the faithful church members congregated for worship dressed their 1906 forefathers.

As the Vernon church looked back on their one hundred years of history, they say, "Blessing and honour, and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever." Revelation 5:13 ■

Members of the Vernon SDA Church, dressed appropriately for a centennial celebration!



## North American Division

### Cruise With a Mission

There is a disturbing trend in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Today 61% of American young adults who were active in church as teens, are now disengaged. Each year young faces disappear, taking with them their joy, energy and talents. The reality is that many of these young people do not find their home in other churches—they are facing the world alone spiritually—with tragic consequences. This painful reality is compelling a diverse team of young adults from across the country to devote their energy and resources to engage this missing generation.

These young adults are spearheading an exciting new initiative called Cruise with a Mission (CWM). CWM is an innovative project by and for young adults ages 18 to 35, which combines a vacation and spiritual retreat with active and meaningful mission projects. CWM found reality with Andrews University's Center for Youth Evangelism. "God is totally moving," shares Genevieve Koh, a young adult pastor in Southern

California. "This mission will accomplish far more than we can imagine."

Cruising December 16-23, 2007, from Tampa, Florida to Belize, Guatemala, and Mexico, 500 young adults from all over the world will collectively spend 7,500 hours engaging in construction, medical work, children's ministry, and simple acts of kindness. Where most of the world sees a tropical tourist realm, Caleb VinCross, CWM Graphic and Web Designer, sees real needs. "We are turning the tables on our self-centered tourist culture and using it instead to touch the people living in its shadows with the love of God... it really is exciting!"

In addition to serving people in the ports, Steve Hemenway is excited that CWM is "a fresh, fun and exciting opportunity for young adult Christians to grow in their spiritual walk" through workshops, dynamic worship, and small groups. Rochelle Webster comments, "Many Adventist young adults feel there are few places where they can discuss

their questions, struggles, ideas, and hopes with other young adults. It is our hope that Cruise with a Mission will be such a place."

"CWM is intentionally holistic; a spiritual retreat, a social network, and a mission trip all in one place," says Renee Stepp, the on-ship programming director from Berrien Springs, Mich. Tara VinCross, CWM director, shares her vision for her young adult peers to make a difference in the world. "We see CWM as a catalyst for life-transformation, resulting in a way of life consumed by God." Please pray for CWM and any young adults you know whom you can invite. "We have a vision for the future of the Adventist church," encourages Nissa Anderson, a young adult volunteer, "and we challenge each other as emerging leaders to create a spiritual unity of young adult believers living love through servanthood. We need everyone, young adult or not, to pray for CWM." ■



# Turning friends into believers



## Do you have a friend you would love to bring to Christ,

but you can't get them to come to church? Is your heart breaking over a member of your family who has never accepted Jesus? What will it take for the Spirit to break through and claim that soul for His kingdom?

The world is filled with people just like Sue, who are unlikely to ever go to church but who might come to your home. That's why NET 2007 is designed to be something different.

The North American Division asked Faith For Today to design a NET event specifically for home use. The series, *Heart Quest: Finding the One Who has Loved You All Along*, has been crafted so that those who have the church satellite system can register their home as an evangelistic downlink site.

*Heart Quest* is a series of thirteen broadcasts created for today's generation, with follow-up lessons designed to prepare candidates for baptism. The series will begin October 19.

Why are we using this method? Post-modernism has changed the worldview of emerging generations, rendering our time-tested methods less effective than with previous generations. Previous generations were seekers of truth. Adventist doctrines are beautifully logical and easily proven from Scripture. Once convinced of the truthfulness of our doctrines, previous generations found them easy to embrace.

Today's culture is very different. To be effective in reaching this generation, evangelistic methods must focus on developing relationships through felt-need programming, or use existing relationships of trust between secular people and church members. Reaping meetings must be tailored specifically to

appeal to the needs of secular people. This is the method I've used the past 14 years in the church I pastor, and God has used it for His glory.

Local churches can register as downlink sites as with previous NET meetings, but the new twist for this series is that owners of the HOPE satellite dish will be invited to turn their home into a downlink site where friends, neighbors, and family members will be invited to view the broadcasts. All the support materials available to churches will be made available to dish owners as well. Advertising materials, manuals, and a visitation guide will be provided for each registered. Nightly sermons and study guides, as well as the baptismal guides, will be provided for download to your computer printer. Gift Bibles and books will be available for purchase at reduced rates. Many of the resources and all you need to know about HeartQuest are available at [www.HeartQuest.info/host](http://www.HeartQuest.info/host).

Your home can become an evangelistic downlink site! Your television can be used as a tool to reach this generation for Christ. If you're not sure that your dish is working properly or if you do not receive the Hope Channel, then call 800-ACN-1119 for equipment sales and services.

Join us as we attempt something new for Jesus. Plan now to register your church or home at [www.HeartQuest.info/host](http://www.HeartQuest.info/host) as a satellite downlink site for this innovative evangelistic series. Join us in reaching secular people with the news of a soon coming Saviour. ■

—Mike Tucker, Director/Speaker,  
Faith for Today





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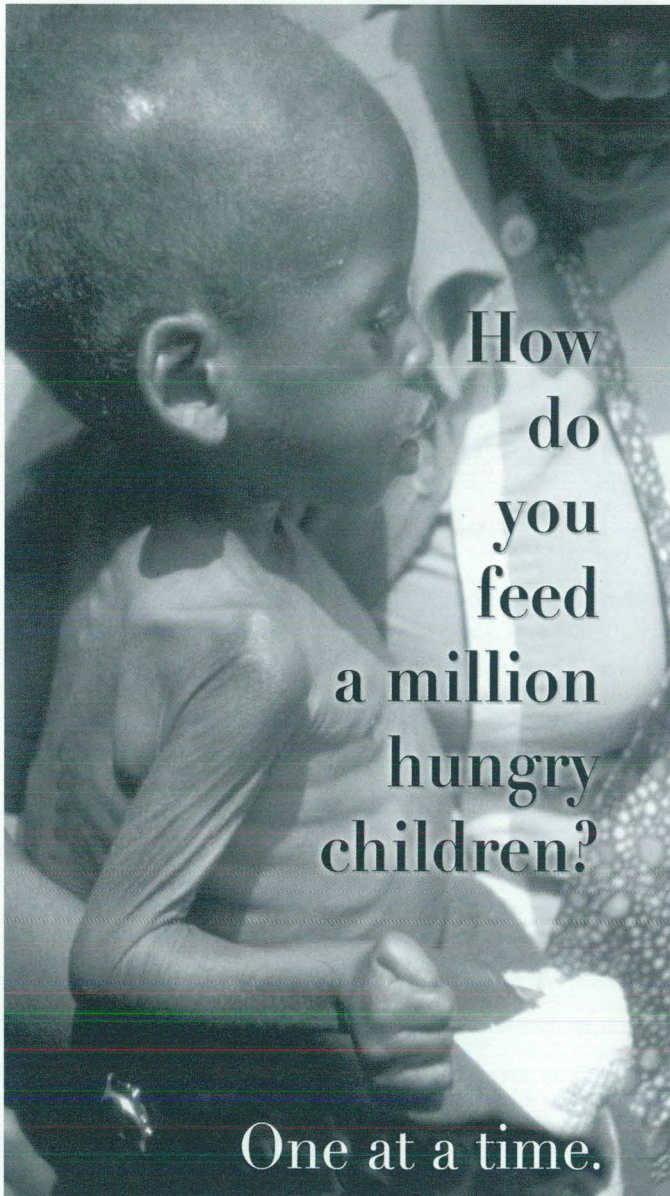


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**Announcements**

**Grandview Adventist Academy** of Mount Hope, (Hamilton), Ontario is happy to announce their first ever school reunion, inviting all former students, teachers, principals, pastors, and other staff members of Grandview. The reunion will take place in June 2008 at Grandview Academy. Please watch the *Messenger* for further details.

**The Comox Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church** is looking for the following missing members: James Perry, Tammy Perry, Joelene Pirart, Christopher Quines, Kathryn Quines, Rosemary Quines, Mary Rasmussen, Carol Robinson, and Rosanne Smith. Also missing from the Campbell River Company are Marcel A. Morin, and Rachel Oracz. If anyone knows where any of these people are, please contact Pastor Normand Cote at 250/286-3141.

**Edmonton Central Seventh-day Adventist Church** celebrates 50 years—A weekend of celebration is being planned for Sept. 28-30, 2007. We invite all former pastors and members to join us for this joyous occasion. Festivities will include a choir reunion and a reunion of the men's quartet. Registration and choir practice on Friday, Sept. 28 at 6 p.m. For more information and to RSVP please contact 780/420-0215 or visit our website at [www.ecentralchurch.com](http://www.ecentralchurch.com).

**The South Shore Seventh-day Adventist Church** will be celebrating their 18th Anniversary and Mortgage Elimination on June 15-17, 2007. All are invited to attend this homecoming celebration, especially former members and families. For more information call 450/923-3571.

**Baptisms**

**BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**Jackie and Stuart MacDonald** were baptized in Penticton, B.C. on Mar. 17, 2007. They had attended a six-week evangelistic series with Pastor Victor Gill. They are now members of the Three Angels Seventh-day Adventist Company.

**MANITOBA-SASKATCHEWAN**

**Mary Perez Marin and Wilson Rengifo Alvarez** were first married and then baptized in Winnipeg, Man. on April 21, 2007. Also baptized were: **Marlon, Paola, Bryan,** and **Jonathan Cruz**. All are now members of the Winnipeg Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church.

**Jamie and Joshua Rivard** were accepted by profession of faith on Mar. 31, 2007 in Weyburn, Sask. They studied with Bible Worker Jonathan Martin. They are now members of the Weyburn Seventh-day Adventist Church.

**Legal Notice**

**Seventh-day Adventist Church (British Columbia Conference)**

Notice is hereby given that the Special General Meeting of the Seventh-day Adventist Church (British Columbia Conference) will be held at Camp Hope, Katz, B.C. Camp Hope is located on Highway 7, approximately 10 km west of Hope.

The first general meeting of the Special Meeting will begin at 8 a.m. Sun., Aug. 5, 2007 in the Camp Meeting Pavilion.

The agenda of the Special Meeting will consist of the following two items, as voted by the Board of Directors in Action #51-07, May 6, 2007:

- 1) Conference Office Facility Future (parameters for either major renovation or relocation), and,
- 2) Camp Hope Preliminary Master Plan (possible launch of a conference capital campaign).

The Constitution provides for representation from each church within the Seventh-day Adventist Church (British Columbia Conference) on the basis of one delegate for each church without regard for membership, plus one additional delegate for each fifty church members or major fraction thereof, based on the membership as of Dec. 31, 2006.

**Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newfoundland and Labrador**

Notice is hereby given that the 10th Constituency Meeting (Triennial) of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newfoundland and Labrador will convene at Camp Woody Acres, South West Pond, Nfld on Sunday, July 22, 2007 beginning at 9:30 a.m. NDT.

*Gary Hodder, President*

**Births**

**Jaxon Belle Dubyna** was born Dec. 6, 2006 to Michael and Mandy Dubyna of Lacombe, Alta.

**Eli Joshua Huether** was born on Feb. 22, 2007 in Abbotsford, B.C. to Josh and Maya Huether of Abbotsford.

**Liam Frederick Irish** was born Apr. 6, 2007 to Jason and Deanna Irish of Abbotsford, B.C.

**Kayla Violet Maitland** was born Apr. 17, 2007 to Glenn and Nicole Maitland of Kisbey, Sask.

**John Andrew Schafer** was born April 13, 2007 to Rick and Dana (Payne) Schafer of Sedro-Woolley, Wash.

**Joshua Andre Wiebe** was born Jan. 3, 2007 to Randy and Julia Wiebe of St. Albert, Alta.

**Weddings**

**Sheila Cranna and Timothy Deer** were married Mar. 25, 2007 in Regina, Sask. Sheila is the daughter of Robert and Carolyn Cranna of Torquay, Sask., and Tim is the son of Harvey and Grace Deer of Canora, Sask.

**Christine Wenkeler and Ruslan Nicolenco** were married May 6, 2007 in Aldergrove, BC. They are making their home in Vancouver, B.C. Christine is the daughter of Ashot and Lilly Wenkeler, and Ruslan is the son of Maria Nicolenco,

**Jacque Schafer and Richard Zuill** were married Dec. 20, 2005 in Lacombe, Alta. where they are making their home. Jacque is the daughter of Donald and Glenda (Gimbel) Schafer, who live near Portland, Oregon, and Richard is the son of Henry and Joyce (Ferneyhough) Zuill of Arkansas.

**Anniversaries**

**Ray and LeAnn (Rodie) Herbel** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 2, 2007. Ray



has been a principal and teacher, retiring in 1995. LeAnn has been a teacher, retiring in 1997. The Herbel family includes Kathy Herbel of Niles, Mich.; Brent and Connie Herbel of Huntsville, Mo.; and two grandchildren.

**Don and Claire Ritchey** of Kelowna B.C., celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at their home on Oct. 1, 2006. Don and Claire are active in Rutland church activities, keeping the sign up to date and helping at



Community Services. Claire enjoys playing the piano and organ and does so regularly in the Rutland church as well as at a United church in the area. Last spring Don and Claire were honored at the Parliament buildings in Ottawa where Don was presented with a Veterans memorial medallion by MPs representing the Kelowna and Oshawa, Ontario areas. Don and Claire have the gift of hospitality and have enjoyed inviting family, friends, and guests over to their home for delicious meals and great fellowship. They also look forward to regular contact with family: three children, in-laws, six grandchildren, and a recent great-grandchild.

**George and Lurline Sewell** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Mar. 23, 2007. Their five children



and families were present. The Sewells were married in England and moved to Canada in 1975. They lived in Saskatoon for 23 years before moving to Maple Ridge. George and Lurline are deacon and head deaconess and have served faithfully for many years.

**Obituaries**

**John William Bothe** was born Nov. 28, 1917 and died Oct. 25, 2006 at the Loma Linda University Medical Center in California following a long illness. His first denominational employment was in Newfoundland, then in the Maritime, Manitoba-Saskatchewan, and Alberta conferences. He was elected as President of the Church in Canada and served in this capacity for 12 years. Bill accepted a call to serve in the North American Division, first as Administrative Assistant to the president, then as Associate Secretary and Secretary of the NAD. He was



predeceased by his first wife, Anita. Surviving: wife Genevieve (Johns) of Loma Linda; daughters Nancy (Duane) Clark of Anacortes, Wash., and Sylvia (Wayne) Culmore of Vancouver, Wash.; son Larry of Berrien Springs, Mich.; stepsons Warren Johns of Loma Linda, Jerry Johns of Columbus, Ga., and Gordon Johns of Chehalis, Wash.; sisters Marjorie Scott of Carlton Place, Ont., and Eva Wirfz (Frank) of Chilliwack, B.C.; sister-in-law Jean Bothe of Atlanta, Ga.; 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**Mildred Bowett** was born May 17, 1913 in Vancouver, B.C. and died Mar. 21, 2007 in Lacombe, Alta. She was predeceased by her husband, Roy. Surviving: son Reg (Charlotte) Bowett of Lacombe; daughters Linda Lee Wetzal of Port Coquitlam, B.C., and RosaLee (Fred) Colgrave of Paradise, Calif.; and four grandchildren.

**Roy Thomas Clarke** was born Feb. 22, 1935 in Port Arthur, Ont. and died Feb. 3, 2005 in Kitchener, Ont. He was predeceased by his mother, Gertrude Laurena Brown, and his son, Roy Jr. Surviving: wife Mary Ann (Greenwood); son Donald (Maureen); daughters Judy, and Cathy (Lorenzo) Ferrazzo; step-daughter Tory Byers; step-father Gilbert Brown; and many grandchildren.

**Dulcie Elizabeth Colbourne** died Apr. 29, 2007 in Oshawa, Ont. in her 100th year. She was predeceased by her husband, George, and her grandson, Colin. Surviving: son Duncan (Ruth); daughter Douglass (Colin) Mercer; 11 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, three great-grandchildren.

**Curtis Charles Finch** was born in 1940 and died in 2007 following a long battle with cancer. Curtis was a charter member of the Quesnel Seventh-day Adventist Church. He was predeceased by his parents Frank and Florence, brother Sidney, and sister Mildred. Surviving: wife Esther (Madsen); children Eunice (Les), Karen, Emily, and Darcy; brothers Douglas (Lynn) of Portland, Ore., and Arthur (Betty) of Phoenix, Ariz.; and four grandchildren.

**Constance Freeman** was born Dec. 4, 1908 in British Columbia and died February 12, 2007 in Victoria, B.C. Constance worked for many years in Adventist healthcare services. Surviving: nephew John Freeman of Parksville, B.C.; and niece Lorna Burdick of Henderson, Nev.

**Ronald William Goertzen** was born Feb. 10, 1943 in Vancouver, B.C.

and died Apr. 1, 2007 in Abbotsford, B.C. A charter member of the Adventist church in Aldergrove, he faithfully served as a Pathfinder leader, elder, deacon, sound technician and for many years as a church clerk. He had a dentistry practice in Langley for 34 years. Surviving: wife Janet (Winslow); sons Brenden (Kelly) of Redlands, Calif., and Shelby (Léonie) of Fresno, Calif.; daughter Larissa Goertzen of Windsor, Ont.; sisters Dolores (James) Hirschhorn of Creston, B.C., and Rita Dyck of Kelowna, B.C.; and 10 grandchildren.

**Arnold Hack** was born Oct. 11, 1911 in Grenfell, Sask. and died Apr. 7, 2007 in Creston, B.C. That church and family were his priorities was evident in his faithful service: he was a teacher and a literature evangelist, and all nine of his children received a Christian education. Arnold was predeceased by his first wife, Amethyst Rick, and his son, Donavon. Surviving: sons Glen (Carol), and Dale; daughters Merina (Derrick) Thompson, Elaine (Donald) Schaber, Sharon (Michael) Kinch, Karon, Linda (Marc) Gregory, and Elsa; brother Seigfred (Vera); 10 grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

**William Heintz** was born Sept. 24, 1906 in Leipzig, Romania and died Apr. 16, 2007 in Nokomis, Sask. He was predeceased by his wife, Carrie (Kerbs). Surviving: son Dennis (Marlene) of Lacombe, Alta.; daughter Donna (Delvern) Loreth of Weyburn, Sask.; sisters Ada Stewart of Saskatoon, Sask., and Freda Grey of Raymore, Sask.; seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

**Kenneth Lacey** was born May 5, 1917 in Cleethorpes, England and died Apr. 2, 2007 in Ellensburg, Wash. Kenneth served as an evangelist in the British Union, British Columbia conference, and Montana and Southeastern California conferences. He was predeceased by his wife, Monica. Surviving: sons Michael (Helena) of Brixworth, England, Robin (LaRenne) of Ellensburg, Wash., and Stephen (Florence) of Spangle, Wash.; daughter Beverley (George) Lemky of Creston, B.C.; half-sister Drusilla Lacey of Ross-on-Wye, England; 14 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren.

**Ralph Lorenson** was born Jan. 27, 1912 in Vegreville, Alta. and died Mar. 28, 2007 in Lacombe, Alta. He was predeceased by his sons Lloyd, Raymond, Harvey (Helen), and Keith (Doris). Surviving: wife Mary of Lacombe; sons Ken (Sharon) of Orange Country, Calif., Clarence (Linda) of Surrey, B.C., Dale (Pirjo)

of Calgary, Alta., Delmar (Gloria) of Surrey, B.C., and Lorne (Velma) of Peachland, B.C.; sister Helen (Frank) Goertzen of Vernon, B.C.; 17 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.

**Rose Nawalkowski** was born Dec. 19, 1906 in Ozerna, Man. and died Apr. 22, 2007 in Creston, B.C. Rose was involved in the church's community services as a contributor of new handicrafts, especially 176 afghans. She faithfully contributed to *The Quiet Hour*, *Voice of Prophecy*, and other church missions. She was predeceased by her husband, John, and her daughter, Elsie (Les) Eaton. Surviving: sons Mitchell (Eleanor) Nawalkowski of Sandy lake, Man., Ernie (Frances) Nolan of Ponoka, Alta., Caesar (Linda) Nawalkowski of Ponoka, and Nelson (Ronna) Nawalkowski of Lister, B.C.; daughters Olga (Chris) Olesen of Farwell, Mich., and Marie Nawalkowski of Creston; 13 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

**Pauline Nielsen** was born Jan. 5, 1913 in Calgary, Alta. and died May 6, 2007 in Calgary. She was predeceased by her husband, Elbert, and her daughter, Barbara Patterson. Surviving: son Ken (Cheryle) of Calgary; daughter Judy (Les) Pearson of Calgary; six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

**David Quiring** was born Aug. 10, 1912 in Aberdeen, Sask. and died Mar. 31, 2007 in Kelowna, B.C. One of the ways David enjoyed serving his church was by delivering the Signs of the Times magazines to his neighbors and friends, as well as circulating spiritual videos in his community. Surviving: wife Maria; sons Ed (Myrna) of Caldwell, Idaho, Harvey (Hazel) of Williams Lake, B.C., and Don (Glenda) of Kelowna; daughter Pearl (Henry) Herzog of Berrien Springs, Mich.; brother Alan Nelson; 15 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

**Edith Vivian Rutz** was born Apr. 26, 1922 in Estuary, Sask. and died Feb. 26, 2006 in Meadow Lake, Sask. Surviving: husband, Jack Rutz; sons John (Brenda), and Robert (Heather); daughters Marie (Peter) Penner, Betty (Dan) Scriber, Dorothy (Barry) Madsen, and Marla (Murray) Bishop; brother Frank (Joyce) Chester; brother-in-law Charles Snell; sisters Nellie Drschwiski, Adeline (Cecil) Rivers, and Mary (Melvin) Loose; 15 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

**Charles Gabriel Townsend** was born June 15, 1960 in Mannville, Alta. and died Mar. 3, 2007 at Foothills Camp near Olds, Alta. Charles had

a passion for music and shared his gift with the community he loved as director of the Lakeland Voices Choir in Vermilion, Alta.. He brightened the weekly worship hour with his singing at his home church in Beauvallon, Alta.. Charles was predeceased by his father, Clifford, and his nephew, Jared Townsend. Surviving: son Joseph; daughter Andrea; fiancée Valerie Smith of Vermilion; mother Tillie Townsend of Edmonton, Alta.; sister Donna (Jim) Grey of Nanoose Bay, B.C.; brothers Brian of Lacombe, Alta., Albert (Lea) of Lloydminster, Alta., and Garry (Lucille) of St. Paul, Alta.; and uncle Nick Dutchak of Vermilion.

**David Trenchuk** was born May 29, 1926 in Myrnam, Alta. and died Mar. 4, 2007 in Lacombe, Alta. Surviving: wife Wanetta; son Bob (Cathie); daughters Bernadene (Isaac) Zayachkowski, and Rhoda (Arvo) Kanna; brothers Alex, Mike, Joe, Simon, Eugene, Ernie, and Adrian; sisters Mary Pundyk, Lucy Saylor, Rose Branton, and Evelyn Bruce; and seven grandchildren.

**Arnold Tyson-Flyn** was born May 23, 1915 in Edmonton, Alta. and died Mar. 15, 2007 in Nampa, Idaho. Arnold's service included work as a pressman at Maracle Press Ltd. in Oshawa, Ont., as manager of the Malamulo Press in Nyasaland (Malawi), as manager of College Press at Canadian Union College in Lacombe, Alta., and as a pressman at Pacific Press in California. Surviving: wife Bonnie; sons Bruce of Hollister, Calif., and Ray of Spokane, Wash.; and daughter Carole Tyson-Flyn of Glendale, Ariz.

**Elsie Margaret (Rodenbush) Walker** was born May 8, 1910 in Arlington Beach, Sask. and died Jan. 21, 2007 in Mission, B.C. A feisty, energetic, and generous spirit influenced every facet of her life. No one was ever turned from her home without the offer of food and a bed, and thus she assisted many young persons earning school income by selling Christian literature. She was also a star "Ingatherer" for many years at her local church. Elsie worked as a shipping clerk and custodian for the British Columbia conference for 25 years. Upon retirement, she worked another 18 years helping with the cooking at Camp Hope, cooking her last camp meeting breakfast at the age of 83. At age 87, when she could no longer drive to do her missionary work, Elsie began sewing quilts for third-world children. Elsie received the "In Praise of Seniors" Community Builder Award in June of 2005. She was predeceased by her husband,



Elery. Surviving: sons Mervyn (Ann) of Napa, Calif., Allen of Lake Cowichan, B.C., and Lyle (Bonnie) of Mission, B.C.; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

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**The following positions are immediately available** at Weimar Institute of Health and Education: Executive Chef for Culinary Arts Program, Cafeteria Afternoon Supervisor, Clinic Physician, Baker or Baker Trainee, and male Massage Therapist. Contact Weimar Institute of Health and Education. Phone 530/637-4111, ext. 7010. (6/07)

**Seeking female caregiver** for a recently retired Adventist woman who recently had a stroke, in picturesque Victoria, B.C. Duties include: assistance with activities of daily living, personal hygiene, rehab or other appointments, housekeeping and vegetarian cooking. Possible accommodation. Experience preferred. Resumé, references and salary requirements via email at [healthystart4me2@yahoo.com](mailto:healthystart4me2@yahoo.com). Phone 250/370-0555. (6/07)

**Free mission aviation stories!** Contact Adventist World Aviation for a free quarterly newsletter. Write Adventist World Aviation, Box 251, Berrien Springs, MI 49103, email [info@flyawa.org](mailto:info@flyawa.org), or register online at [www.flyawa.org](http://www.flyawa.org). (7/07)

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**For sale:** Beautiful, pristine, country property. Perfect for wellness centre, recreation, farm or just good country living. 800 acres located just 4 miles (6½ km.) from Clear Lake and the majestic Riding Mountain National Park. 450 cultivated acres plus 350 acres recreational, forested land (spruce and poplar as well as abundant wildlife). Two small modestly furnished homes, 4 steel grain bins and barn. Excellent well water! 3 small churches within driving distance. Come discover Manitoba (Canada's best kept secret!). \$527,900. Please call 204/638-9023. (7/07)

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**Oshawa Accommodation:** Stay at Jabez House, located 4 km from Kingsway College. Country setting offers private entrance, two rooms with exclusive baths, kitchenette, sitting area. Wireless internet connection, TV, long-distance calling included. Daily or longer stays available. All proceeds used to support mission projects. Email [5thomas@rogers.com](mailto:5thomas@rogers.com) or phone 905/571-6585. (8/07)

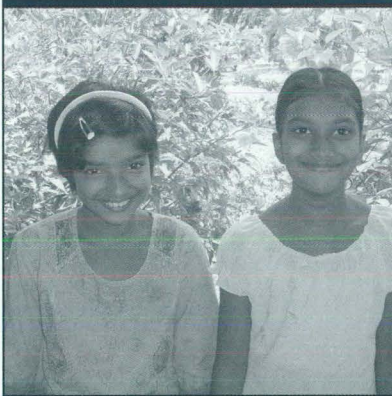

**Teaching position available:** Surrounded by pristine wilderness, the Bella Coola Valley holds numerous opportunities for wilderness exploration. Hiking, rock climbing, kayaking, and fishing are just a few of the outdoor activities that residents and guests enjoy. This small valley, located on the west coast of British Columbia, is unique for its old fashioned sense of community. A small church supports our one room school that is proud to uphold high academic standards. If you are interested,

please forward a résumé to: Bella Coola Adventist School, c/o Lloyd Robinson, Education Department, BC Conference of SDA, PO Box 1000, Abbotsford, BC V2S 4P5. Phone 604/853-5451, email [lrobinson@bcadventist.ca](mailto:lrobinson@bcadventist.ca). (6/07)

**Short-term missionaries to Haiti** in need of French-language materials (hymnals, Bibles, children's Sabbath School supplies, etc.). To donate email Brenda at [CoopRing05@aol.com](mailto:CoopRing05@aol.com), or phone 678/986-6287. (6/07)

**For Sale**—Beautiful 800 acre farm 6.5 km from Clear Lake in Riding Mt. National Park, Manitoba. 400 cultivated acres, producing canola, flax, wheat; 400 acres recreational property with spruce, poplar. Clear Creek runs through the property. There is an abundance of wildlife on the property: moose, elk, deer, bear. Two small houses (furnished), a hip barn, 4 steel bins, and several granaries. \$527,900. Call 402/489-8154. (6/07)

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# ...the torch, be yours to hold it high

It was a frigid afternoon. The sky was clear. The sun was shining, but the wind—the wind reminded us it was December in Saskatchewan.

We had made the trek to Waldheim to return to the ground the body of a man that God had used countless numbers of times to proclaim His truth. As we gathered at the Zoar Mennonite Church and reflected on the man, his life and his ministry, I was reminded of a story I heard as a little boy—the story of a soldier that had fought with honor and saved the life of many people through medicine. Like I was now, that soldier saw himself stand before a dead “brother in arms” being buried beside an ordinary wooden cross.

In the midst of such emotion and pain, Lt. John McCrae was inspired to pen the words “...the torch: be yours to hold it high.” Lt. McCrae understood the circle of life. He knew that even though some soldiers fall, others need to keep the fight, to pursue victory. The dreamer could die, but the dream must go on.

When Canada’s pastor and my colleague, Henry Feyerabend, passed away, Lt. McCrae’s words became meaningful in my life. I understood that this torch was being passed to my hands. I felt compelled to continue this work.

In 1956, when George Vandeman began this Christian television ministry called It Is Written, the torch was lit. This torch has been carried by faithful servants like Mark Finley, Shawn Boonstra and by Henry Feyerabend; they worked together in creating what is now called It Is Written Canada.

In 1973, Henry Feyerabend’s charisma, perseverance and faith resulted in five minutes of airtime for the first It Is Written Canada program. It was a live Portuguese broadcast. Today over 97% of Canadians have access each week to a 30 minute It Is Written Canada broadcast in both English and Portuguese.

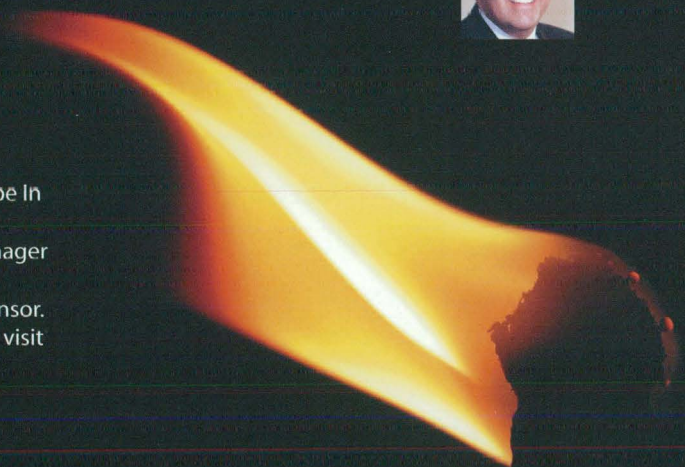
The torch cannot go out; it will not go out on my watch! In fact, my wish is that this torch would shine brighter. Pastor Feyerabend held this torch in a unique and wonderful way. It is up to us to keep this torch burning, preaching the message of Jesus second coming. We need your prayers and support. I truly hope that this torch does not pass to future generations, because our dream is to see Jesus coming in the clouds very soon. ■

*Bill Santos is the Speaker/Director of It Is Written Canada.*



## CALL TO ACTION

- Pray for Bill and the t.v. production crew that will be in the studio beginning June 4.
- Pray for Darvin Capcara, IIW Canada’s general manager and his family (Pam, Jordan and Kennedy).
- Consider becoming an IIW Canada partner or sponsor. (For more information call us at (905) 404-6510 or visit <http://www.iiw.ca/d-Support.php>).





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