

Messenger

january 2008

Native New Day Ministering to our First Nations

PLUS: Dan Jackson on how to start the new year off right (p.5); and Barry Bussey on the treatment given to Canada's visitors (p.8)

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God and Graceland

I'm an Elvis Presley fan, so when I recently had to travel to Nashville for work, I made plans to fly into Memphis first and spend a day touring around Graceland before driving up to Music City. I have to tell you, it was a wonderful day. Things and places and people that had existed for me only in my imagination seemed to take on flesh and become more real to me somehow. The blue suede shoes . . . real. The jungle room . . . real. The sequined jumpsuits, the golf carts, the gold records . . . real, real, real. And, sadly, the grave . . . real.

With all this imagination turning into reality, it should be no surprise that the focus of the place, Elvis himself, became much more real for me, too. I think I'd only been on the grounds about an hour when I first said the phrase that I must have repeated a hundred times that day, "I wish I had known him." Whereas, before my visit, Elvis was only some ethereal icon, seeing his place and his people and his things made him an interesting person with whom I think I could've connected. I wished I could've known him and hung out with him and been his friend.

The Church should be like Graceland. People with barely a notion of God, people to whom He is only an icon, should come through our doors, should interact with us in the street, and feel compelled to say, "I wish I knew Him." We should be dedicated to preserving an accurate representation of God, especially when the rest of society seems bent on misrepresenting Him; but we, too often, also obfuscate His image when we claim to be His followers and do that of which He would never

approve. Instead of sharing His essence in a way that draws people in, we construct sterile glass cases of formalism and tradition, and hide Him behind our constructs to keep people out.

It seems to me that Jesus filled His time here on earth with repeated attempts to make genuine friends—not fans, not even followers—but friends who would love Him and be content just to be near Him. His invitation, "Follow me," wasn't a summons to a cold and austere existence; it was a warm and friendly call to indicate His intense desire for connection with us. Those who answer the call are never sorry, for there is no limit on the caring intimacy into which He can draw you. But for those who profess to be His friends and yet regularly use their words and deeds to attest to the opposite, He has one clear message: "Depart from me. I never knew you."

So it's important to consider: do you know God or are you just a groupie? Is He your friend or do you settle for the version of Him that is promoted by the hype? Don't let Him exist merely in your imagination. He came to this earth and took on flesh and became very real. He still longs for true friends. Don't settle for the stories told by others who know Him, but know that the best parts of those stories are real. His love . . . real. His grace . . . real. His generosity, His freedom, His wisdom . . . real, real, real. And, happily, His grave . . . empty . . . and real. ■

Crystal

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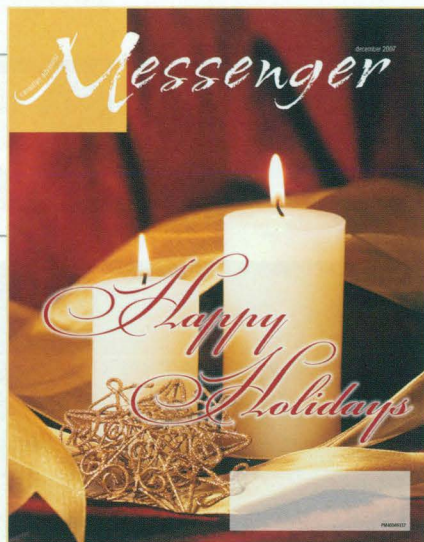
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Your Words

“Isn’t it great to get ‘baptized’ every year?”

RE: “(Re-)Baptism by Snow,” Editorial, December 2007

Beautiful article! So refreshing and new. Isn’t it great to get ‘baptized’ every year? I took your advice and went to our grounds and jumped into the snow, committing myself to the Lord once again. I hope this catches on with other readers, because it would give them a better outlook on life. And what a thing to look forward to, too! Happy New Year to you and yours.

—Anne-Marie F., via email

Re: “Religion: Equality’s Nemesis” November 2007

I really liked Barry Bussey’s article, “Religion: Equality’s Nemesis.” Three thoughts come to mind:

1. It may seem too radical a solution, but if we gave “them” everything

they want, there will soon be Christians fed to the lions live on CNN. Finally, the world will see their agenda for what it really is. Of course this proposed solution will never happen.

2. The equality movement has, of course, already invaded our religion in the form of women’s ordination. Need I say more?

3. The more I see and hear of stories like this, the more confirmed I am in my Adventist beliefs. How easy will it be for the Christian world as a whole to seek for a Sunday law as a way to fight back against their enemies? Remember Matthew 24:12 “And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.”

—Les M., Airdrie, Alta.

Re: “Facebook is Our Future” September 2007

I just happened to run across the Facebook article that you wrote. It’s awesome to see how so many teens are passionate about sharing Christ on the web. Here at the Review we dub them Social Evangelists (I am the person behind the *Insight* and *Guide* profiles). I just wanted to say thanks for mentioning insight and Guide in the article. We are really trying hard to be where the youth and teens are. I’m glad that you made your union aware of the budding social evangelism opportunities.

Keep up the good work and God bless your ministry in the Canadian Union.

—Nick B., Review and Herald Publishing

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.

Keep ‘em Comin’!!

At the *Messenger*, we feel like it is our job to get Canadian Adventists talking about topics that are important to all of us. Judging by the recent lack of letters, we haven’t been doing our jobs!

Please let us hear from you about what you like and what you don’t like. Don’t let the “letters” page fade away! Send comments to *Messenger*, 1148 King Street East, Oshawa, ON L1H 1H8 or cholloway@sdacc.org.

We **KNOW** you’ve got opinions. It’s time to share them.



Several years ago now I watched the film *The Fires of Kuwait* which chronicled the story of the horrific destruction to the oilfields of the Middle East caused by a vindictive Saddam Hussein. The star of this docu-drama was a Texan by the name of Red Addair. Famous in his homeland for fighting oilfield fires, he was in Kuwait for the sole purpose of extinguishing those ominous conflagrations. The initiative, creativity and sheer

like the source of the fire, wind direction, height of the flames, and so on. But even after attempting to evaluate those factors, he clearly stated that the greatest factor was the unknown/mysterious quality of the fires.

What a lesson there is for us in this story as we move into the year 2008! We face this coming period of time with a high level of uncertainty. We have absolutely no idea what is ahead of us. We may be experiencing the very best

common sense, skills and talents are insufficient to see us through the kinds of fires that may be ignited in our lives in the coming year. While life brings an array of experiences, one can never be fully prepared to face the unknown on the basis of knowledge of the past. A very wise man once said, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths." (Proverbs 3:6)



BY DANIEL JACKSON

bravery of Addair and his team (and other like teams) was truly amazing.

Throughout the film, Addair was interviewed many times and made a very astute observation. He repeatedly stated that his success at fire-fighting was directly related to his approach. To loosely paraphrase his thoughts: 'plunging into a fire without strategizing an approach would be fool-hardy and could prove to be disastrous. Approaching the fire with good forethought could be the difference between life and death.'

His use of the word 'approach' was interesting both literally and philosophically. Several scenes of the film showed him actually walking as close as he could to the flames to develop the approach he would eventually implement. He would assess matters

of everything today, but the story may be very different tomorrow. We find ourselves at this very same intellectual spot at this point every year. If we are honest we will acknowledge that it makes us uncomfortable because we would prefer to control our future. Unfortunately, this is impossible.

I think that the mythical character Forrest Gump had it right when he said, "Life is like a box of chocolates . . . you never know what you're going to get." And though we should probably not enter into a debate on the wisdom of eating chocolates at year's end, all of us would have to admit that life is, in fact, uncertain at best as we attempt to look beyond December 31, 2007. And that is why strategizing now is such a valid idea.

As Christians, we need to start with a self-understanding that admits that

The Canadian Tire Corporation has been very successful at being able to tap into the psyche of Canadians. One of their most incisive ads employs a musical jingle to direct the listener to use their stores as the resource of first approach. The words of this little ditty are simply, "I'll start with you."

As we face 2008, I want to challenge each of you and myself to approach the year by starting with God. By inviting Him to be our Resource of first approach, we bring to our side the knowledge of omniscience and the power of omnipotence as we face the uncertainties that lie ahead. God bless each of you. Happy New Year! ■

Daniel Jackson is the president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada.





Messy Christianity

I haven't been praying enough lately. I seldom read the Bible, and I don't share my faith enough... I think I'm not a very good Christian, and I feel guilty about that. What can I do?

Many people feel that they don't "do" Christianity right. There's a notion of spiritual perfectionism which says that if you don't pray, read the Bible, and help in church enough, you're not a good Christian. But guess what? There's not one person in this whole world that is perfect.

It helps to admit that we'll never have our act completely together. We are imperfect humans, just as the first disciples were imperfect. But guess what? Jesus used them to spread the gospel! He will use you and I (and many others) too, because we are exactly what He needs: living examples of God's grace. And remember, Paul said that God demonstrated his love for us by sending Jesus to die while we were still sinners. He didn't wait for us to be perfect! And despite our mistakes, Jesus forgives us and loves us passionately!

The late Michael Yaconelli once said that "spirituality is not a formula; it is not a test. It is a relationship." That's so true. Jesus is much more interested in developing a relationship with us than in measuring us on some spiritual scale (if that even existed). It is all about having God present in the mess of our lives. Don't expect to be perfect, but rather to be lifted up once, twice, and as many times as needed.

Remember how Paul said that he kept doing what he wanted to avoid and didn't do the things that he wanted to do? Now he was a messy Christian! Fortunately, he recognized that his only hope was Jesus, an amazing friend who accepts us no matter what.

TEEN TALK



Youth Pastor, speaker & writer,
Josué Sánchez enjoys sharing Jesus with teens. For questions
or speaking engagements, contact him at Josue@JustSmile.org

Creation Corner for Kids

"Only by pride cometh contention . . ."
Proverbs 13:10

Woodchuck

Driving along a quiet country road, I noticed something lying on the center line a little in the distance. As I approached, I could see that it was a small, furry animal. I thought it might have been hit by a car until I came near enough to see it raise its head and look toward me. I pulled over to the side of the road and got out to have a closer look.

The small furry lump turned out to be a young woodchuck, and it refused to move from the middle of the road. I clapped my hands, waved my arms, even nudged it with a stick, but it could not be persuaded to leave the very dangerous spot where it lay. It only chattered its teeth at me menacingly as if to say, "Get off my road and leave me alone!"

Think about it.

For some reason, the woodchuck seemed to think the road belonged to it. The little rodent didn't want to share it with me or anyone else. Pride can be deceitful, making us think more highly of ourselves than we ought, even leading us to contend against others for what we think is ours.



Do it.

Next time you're waiting in line, step out and go to the back. When you go through a door, hold it open for the person behind you. Give up your seat to someone else. Watch and see how others react!

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

taserED BY cANADA

“Do not ill-treat an alien or oppress him for you were aliens in Egypt” (Exodus 22: 21).

by Barry W. Bussey

Recently my daughter arrived in Geneva en route to university just across the border in Collonges, France. In a strange land, without the ability to speak the language, she needed help. As parents, we are grateful for the strangers who assisted her with her luggage and the ride she needed to the school. We will never know who they were, but they were both helpful and kind.

On October 14, 2007, Polish immigrant Robert Dziekanski arrived at the Vancouver airport. After such a journey, he was naturally tired and hungry. He was anxious to meet his mother but was held in a secure area to complete immigration papers while she, having been told that he must have missed the flight to Canada, left for her home in Kamloops. He remained in the international terminal baggage area for over 10 hours—this after a long flight from Poland. Understandably, he became agitated.

Finally his frustration reached a boiling point, and he began getting verbally aggressive with the airport staff. Not knowing how to handle the situation, the staff called in the RCMP. Four uniformed officers arrived. Upon seeing them, Dziekanski turned his back to them and raised his hands in surrender. One of the officers took his taser gun and shot the troubled traveller. Witnesses say that he was electrocuted as many as four times during the encounter. In excruciating pain, he fell to the floor and the officers jumped on him, pinning his neck to the floor. There was no more struggle; he lay limp. The officers paused. Even after someone recognized that the man was not moving, CPR was not started until ambulance workers arrived nearly 15 minutes later. It was too late.

There are many questions raised by this incident: Why was no one at the airport able to help this man in his predicament? Why did the four officers not feel capable of taking an unarmed man into custody without the use of a taser gun? How did things go so horribly wrong? Another traveller captured a video of the incident on his cell phone. When it was finally made public, after being kept by police for nearly

a month and released only after a court ordered it returned to its creator, it answered few, if any, questions about the senseless loss of life.

The use of tasers has become a major controversy. Police forces consider the taser gun to be a non-lethal weapon, and new officers are often purposely tasered as part of their training. Others fear that, because it usually is non-lethal, it is being used much too frequently and not given the respect it deserves.

But put that controversy aside. I contend that there is a deeper problem. For 10 hours—not one or two, but ten!—this lost and frightened man was without any assistance. Is it possible that we are so consumed with our own solipsism that we have lost the ability to see the needs of our neighbour? Where is our desire to help those in need? Where is our compassion and concern? In Mr. Dziekanski's situation, all tragedy could have been avoided if someone—whether airport staff or fellow traveller—had shown an interest in helping an alien in their midst. Some say the police failed Mr. Dziekanski; I say we all did.

Amongst the injunctions given to the children of Israel, the Lord says, “Do not ill-treat an alien or oppress him, for you were aliens in Egypt” (Ex. 22:21). Just as the Israelites did not like being mistreated in Egypt, so they should not mistreat the foreigners in their midst. There is a tremendous loneliness when you go to a far-off country and don't know anyone. Different languages, culture, topography—all make for a difficult adjustment in a new land.

We missed the opportunity to welcome Mr. Dziekanski to Canada, but I pray that we learn from him and apply the lessons to our dealings with another guest at another time. I pray that we will take the time to assist a disoriented newcomer in finding their way in this great country of ours. I appreciate the Swiss for doing that for my daughter. ■

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



Earth Talk

► An Environmental New Year's Resolution

Well, it's that time of the year again; many of us are setting personal goals for 2008 and making plans for what we can do better this year. It can be difficult to follow through with everything we hope to achieve, but if we don't at least make baby steps in the right direction, we'll never accomplish what we want.

As you have probably noticed, 2007 brought about more environmental discussion than any year in recent history. Global warming has become a bigger issue with each passing month, causing many environmentalists to push for more efficient cars, less individual waste, and a more sustainable future. The difficulty is that, no matter how hard a few people want change to occur, it's only going to happen when it is also desired by the masses—including you and me.

We should all be making steps towards living more environmentally friendly lives. Even if you believe that Jesus is going to come before the end of the day and whisk us away from this dying planet, that does not release you from your job to set an example. In the same way that the Bible teaches us to take care of our bodies, because the "body is a temple of the Holy Spirit" (1 Cor. 6:19), we are also in supposed to take care of Earth, which God gave us dominion over (Genesis 1:28). The Creator has given us the authority to make decisions which affect our planet and the creatures living on it, so let's do our best to make the right choices even when it is easier to do otherwise.

To get started, let me suggest three

changes that we can each make in our lives. They're easy to do and will not only help our environment, but will also improve our quality of life, too:

Ditch the Car, Ride a Bike: Did you know that 70% of car trips are less than five miles? For short distances like these, you can ride your bike or walk instead

the year. How? Turn the lights off when you leave a room, set the thermostat one degree cooler, and only wash your dishes and clothing when you've got a full load.

Eat Healthy, Buy Organic: The production of organic food is much less harmful to the environment than



and cut down on CO2 emissions. But that's not all; you'll also get good exercise, time to think and de-stress, and an opportunity to step away from the high-paced rush of our everyday lives.

Energy Down, Money Up: By making simple changes around the house you can not only reduce energy consumption but also end up with a couple hundred extra dollars in your pocket at the end of

conventional agriculture. By purchasing local organically-grown goods, you will not only feel healthier, you'll help reduce the world's pesticide use and transportation-related pollution before you ever take a bite. ■

Chad Kettner is a freelance writer who busily writes about a wide variety of topics from his home in Kelowna, BC. He can be reached at kettner@thewritechoice.ca.



Choral Union Headed to China

With an average of more than one hundred students each year, it's difficult not to be impressed by their number alone. Their stage presence is undeniable—the ladies in black dresses and the men in black suits, white shirts and black bowties. Their movements are carefully choreographed with every rising and sitting executed in unison. Even before a note has been sung, you're captivated. And then the music starts. The sopranos softly take the lead and gradually more voices blend in: altos, tenors, and basses. The room fills with a mass of voices singing with one thought and purpose.

They are the Choral Union, a choir comprised of students from both Canadian University College and Parkview Adventist Academy. Founded in 1977 by Dr. Wendolin Pazitka-Munroe, the combination of PAA and CUC students into one single choir seemed the natural and practical direction to go; not only were the logistics of multiple daily practices eased, the combined resources opened new opportunities. One of these

opportunities is the annual Christmas concert, one of the most anticipated and attended events on the school calendar. The Christmas concert is the choir's biggest performance on campus and serves as a fundraiser for their Spring tour and an important way to interact with members of the community who come in droves to at least one of the two performances given yearly.

Over the past 30 years, the Choral Union has been involved in countless tours and festivals. Under Dr. Pazitka-Munroe's direction, the choir has gained a reputation for professionalism and excellence. In 1988 the choir was a finalist in the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's (CBC) competition for youth choirs. More recently, in the summer of 2007, the group received the highest marks at a local music festival and was recommended to the provincial level of competition, where it placed second.

Travelling has been a large part of the Choral Union experience. In 2003 and 2005, the choir was invited to perform with the Sinfonia orchestra of Vancouver,

B.C. The choir has also performed at Carnegie Hall in New York, under John Rutter who has been called by some "the world's greatest living composer and conductor of choral music." Other travels have taken them coast to coast in Canada, Bermuda, Central Europe, Great Britain, Mexico, and the United States (including Hawaii).

In 2007, the Choral Union received an exciting invitation to take part in a choral salute to the XXIX Beijing Olympics in the summer of 2008. Our Choral Union will be one of two choirs representing Canada in a mass choir that will perform in Shanghai and Beijing. The 2008 festival chorus will be performing Beethoven's Symphony No.9 in D minor, Opus 125, as part of the "Perform In Harmony-With Olympic Spirit" countdown cultural program. The Beijing Olympic festival is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the students in the Choral Union. "Getting this chance to perform with professionals and interact with other students and another culture is an opportunity we can't afford to miss," states Dr. Pazitka-Munroe. The Choral Union will not only get a chance to learn from an accomplished conductor, but they will be able to perform in world-class venues and with the Shanghai Orchestra. While not all of the 128 members will be going on the trip, approximately 70 have decided to go and are busy preparing and practicing for the summer.

Choral Union members have been working hard to raise money for the upcoming tour to China. Neil Peralta, second-year History major and Choral Union President states, "I feel honoured that the Choral Union was one of the few chosen to be a part of the festival. It will be a blessing because we get to reach out to others and share Christ through our voices. It will be an awesome experience, one that our choir will not forget." ■

JR Ferrer is the director of Communications for Canadian University College in Lacombe, Alta.



Faith Will Lead Us Home

"The just shall live by his faith" Habakkuk 2:4

He did not possess any money, but his heart was possessed by faith. And that motivated him to sign a \$4000 contract for 13 weekly five-minute television spots. He didn't know from where the funds would come, but his faith assured him that God was in control. Miraculously, donations began to trickle in, until finally they had the necessary \$4000, and that is how, 35 years ago, Henry Feyerabend aired the first Canadian Adventist television broadcast which was to become It Is Written Canada.

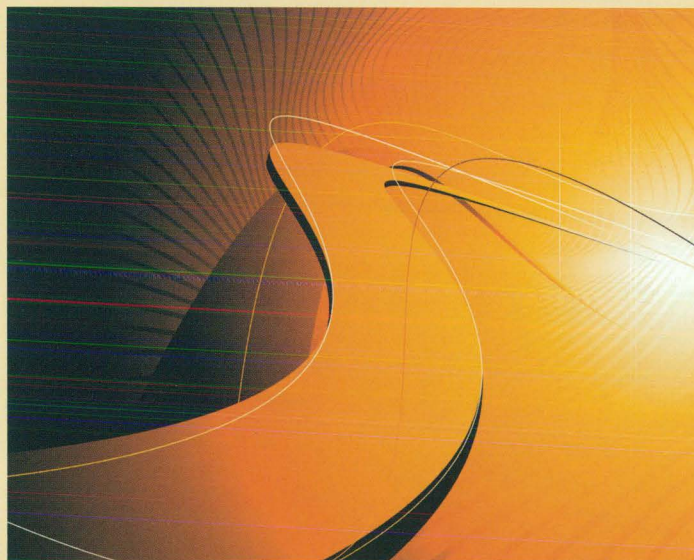
That first season of five-minute programs reached hundreds of people. After one particular program, a Portuguese carpenter was impressed by the Holy Spirit and, along with his family, surrendered his life to Jesus. Afterward, he gave his time and resources to the construction of the first Canadian Adventist television studio in a small room of the Seventh-day Adventist church located on College Street in downtown Toronto. Not having enough money to purchase proper sound-deadening materials, he used egg crates to muffle the sound of traffic and pedestrians coming from the busy street and to deaden the acoustics within the studio. That Portuguese carpenter was Joe Santos, and it was his faith that started him and his family serving at It Is Written, where they continue to serve—Bill Santos, It Is Written's current speaker/director, being Joe's son.

Yes, it was faith that released blessings from heaven's doors in the beginning and faith that has sustained It Is Written for three and a half decades. The faith of hundreds of donors, many unknown, makes the It Is Written program—the only Adventist television program that can be viewed by most Canadians every week—possible. Each year, It Is Written Canada is faced with the reality that more than two million dollars is needed to carry the ministry through. Only about 10% is paid by appropriations from the Church conferences, and the rest must come from individual donors. In the same way that He provided the initial \$4000 to start the Canadian television ministry, God still sustains it today.

Through faith, 56 programs were taped in 2007, although it was not known if there would be sufficient

funds to put those programs on the air. Through faith, four evangelistic series were held in various locations—both large and small—across Canada in the last year. And, through faith, 430 people surrendered their lives to Jesus Christ in the last 4 years as a direct result of It Is Written's evangelistic efforts across Canada.

Now, through this same faith, we are planning new ways to reach Canadians. Among these is a dream to minister in languages such as Mandarin and Tagalog. Another plan has us visiting Angola to train 20,000 Adventist lay people for church leadership and to conduct a reaping series in that country. And these are in addition to the plans we have for series conducted



via satellite—one in Portuguese in 2009 and one in English in 2010.

By faith we dream of not celebrating another 35 years of ministry at It Is Written; we pray for the consummation of our redemption long before that date. And your offering of faith will maintain and expand the projects, evangelistic campaigns, and TV programs to announce out loud to Canada that Jesus will come very soon.

This ministry emerged by faith, survives by faith and faith will lead us home. ■

Rebeca Pereira is responsible for communications at It Is Written Canada.



"Welcome To My Camp"

Native New Day Video Series Continues



Above: Monte Church, a native storyteller and Canada's Native Ministries director, narrates the Native New Day video series. Front Cover: After exchanging blankets with members of the

ues to Grow

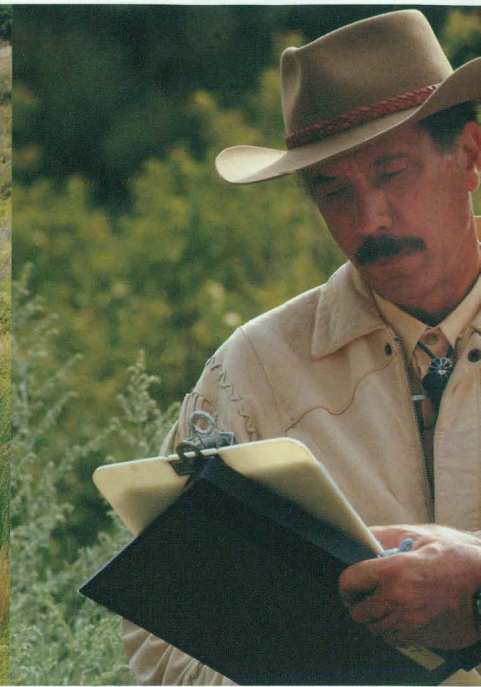


*"Hello. I'm Monte Church,
and welcome to my camp."*

With these words of welcome, Monte Church, Native Ministries director for the American Northwest and Canada, begins a new program in the *Native New Day* series of video Bible studies. Filmed in nature, these videos cover topics found in the "Book of Heaven," answering questions on spiritual matters often asked by Native people.

"Nature is the second book of God's love and caring," says Carlos Pardeiro, owner of the NC Production Company and series producer, "and most humans on Earth are moved by various aspects of nature, whether it is a beautiful starry night, the power of the ocean, the beauty of a sunrise or the flight of an eagle. All these things become a bridge between humanity and divinity. Using the object lessons we derive from nature brings us to the knowledge of a loving, caring God."

her tribe, Two Bears (his real name) signals the successful completion of a friendship treaty.



1. In an opening scene of the program, scouts from one tribe begin negotiations with members of another tribe.
2. Monte Church and Carlos Pardeiro go over wording of the script.
3. Ryan Pardeiro (videographer), Carlos Pardeiro (producer), and Monte Church work on another "take" of a scene for "God's Scouts" a new segment of the Native New Day video series.
4. Almost all of the native people who helped with this treaty re-enactment have seen episodes of the Native New Day video series and wanted to have a part to play in this new program.

The concept for the Native New Day video series came to Monte when he visited an isolated village near Inuvik more than a decade ago. While walking through the village, he was stopped by people asking him for Christian videos. He did not have any, but his mind started spinning and the idea was born.

Because he is a native of Mohican decent, Monte has a tremendous burden to reach out to native people. He says, "We have learned to understand the native mind. We have learned what it takes to get close to native people and gain their trust, and now these videos are a powerful tool that is helping us to reach them spiritually."

Another tool that works hand in glove with the video is the Native New Day Bible correspondence course, which is available from the Voice of Prophecy. These lessons are advertised during the "commercial" breaks in the videos. The topics in both the lessons and videos cover the basic teachings of the Bible and the Seventh-day Adventist Church. They are evangelism presented in a low-key approach. They are simple and native-friendly. The programs are not designed to give all of the details of the doctrines but are a bridge between those who do not know God and the church and those who have become a part of it.

"There are a lot of elements that go into winning a person, and the most effective way these videos and lessons are used is by a member giving the studies. It's not only the person

who is giving the Bible studies and it's not only the material they use; it's also the acceptance of the church members to which the people come. It all has to work together. The bottom line is that nothing gets done in this work unless it's a one-on-one situation," says Monte.

Bob and Jeanie Spratt live near Bluffton, Alberta, about 50 kilometers miles from the Hobbema reserve. Bob, now retired, was the principal of the Mamawi Atosketan Native School for three years. Mamawi Atosketan in the native tongue means "working together." The school is located about eight kilometers north of the reserve and serves 180 students from kindergarten through grade nine. The kids live on the reserve and come from non-Adventist homes.

"The reserve is a brutal place to grow up," Monte says. "Of all the places I have seen, this is one of the worst. Alcoholism, drug abuse, gangs and hopelessness abound, and it's a tough place to work for native people."

The Spratts have been working with the native people in Hobbema for 14 years and have tried everything—even a bread route! For 10 of those years, Bob would get day-old bread and take it to the people, thinking that maybe he could make friends and reach people that way, but it wasn't until he introduced the Native New Day lessons that changes began to happen.

One woman started to study the lessons and, after working



While individuals can purchase the DVDs, these programs are also broadcast on the satellite channels of Safe TV and the Hope Channel and, beginning in January 2008, will be broadcast on the networks servicing most all of the native villages in the far North. For information about or to order the Native New Day DVD series, call (888) 777-9392.

through the first three or four of them, began to realize just how important and meaty they really were. She went back and started the lessons again, studying them thoroughly. Ultimately, she was baptized and is diligently developing a solid Christian life.

David George, Hobbema company pastor, had been working with Elliott and Michelle, a couple who had been together for 15 years and had six children. Convicted by the gospel, they decided to get married, and then they and their two oldest children were baptized. They are active in the church and give strong support.

"If people come to the realization that their lifestyle is not good and if they take the Native New Day lessons seriously

and study them, these lessons can bring about very positive changes," Bob says. "It isn't an overnight thing, it's a slow growth kind of thing."

"All of the Native people who have been baptized have come into contact, one way or another [whether it is the inception of their interest or the consummation] with these videos," Monte says. "They are a tool that the people who work in Native Ministries needed, and they use them heavily. These videos have been a very effective vehicle." ■

Richard Dower recently retired from the editorship of the North Pacific Union GLEANER.

2008: The UN International Year for Sanitation



Now that Miriam and the other women of the village do not have to make lengthy trips for water, they are able to devote more time to activities like preparing nutritious meals for their families. And healthier families make healthier communities.

Sanitation is an integral part of our daily lives, whether it is cleaning our fruits and vegetables, drinking bottled or purified water, or washing our hands. These simple precautions help to preserve our health and thus ensure that we can go to work, provide for our families and be productive members of society. It is indisputable that a lack of knowledge regarding sanitation and a lack of access to clean water diminishes the economic success of a community and negatively affects the lives of many, particularly the women who often serve as the primary caretakers of the ill.

Clean water that is safe and free from disease-causing organisms improves the health of women and children in communities by reducing incidences of diarrheal diseases and skin infections. Water is, of course, life.

In Kalumba, Malawi, Miriam expresses her joy over the availability of safe water from a protected shallow well. With assistance from the ADRA network, her community has dug and protected five wells. Their aim is to reduce water-borne

diseases such as cholera and gastro-infections. These wells have also reduced the time that women spend fetching water by almost half. Miriam attests to the fact that these wells have changed her life and the lives of the other women of her village. Because they no longer have to make lengthy trips to fetch water, they have the time to more fully participate in other development activities at both the community and family level. She thanks ADRA Canada and its supporters for easing the burden of the women of Kalumba.

Wells are not the only way to help improve the health and overall sanitation level of a community. ADRA Canada also helps to educate these communities on basic sanitation issues so individuals can prevent the proliferation of diseases and improve their overall health. Help support similar projects in Thailand and Togo! ■

Christina Masching is an administrative assistant at ADRA Canada.



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Canada

www.adra.ca

THINK BELIEVE ACT

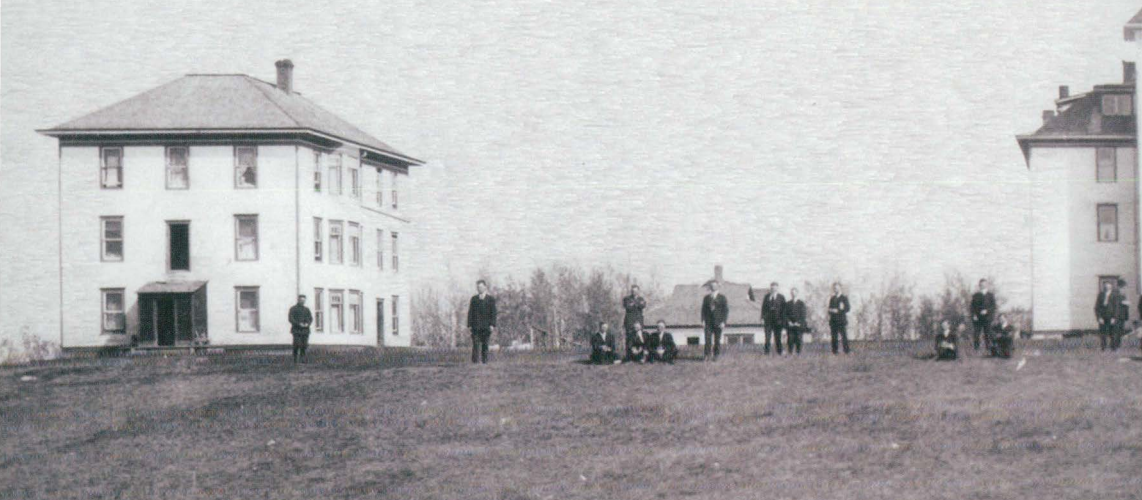


Vision for Tomorrow

2008 - 2013



OUR HISTORY



est. 1907

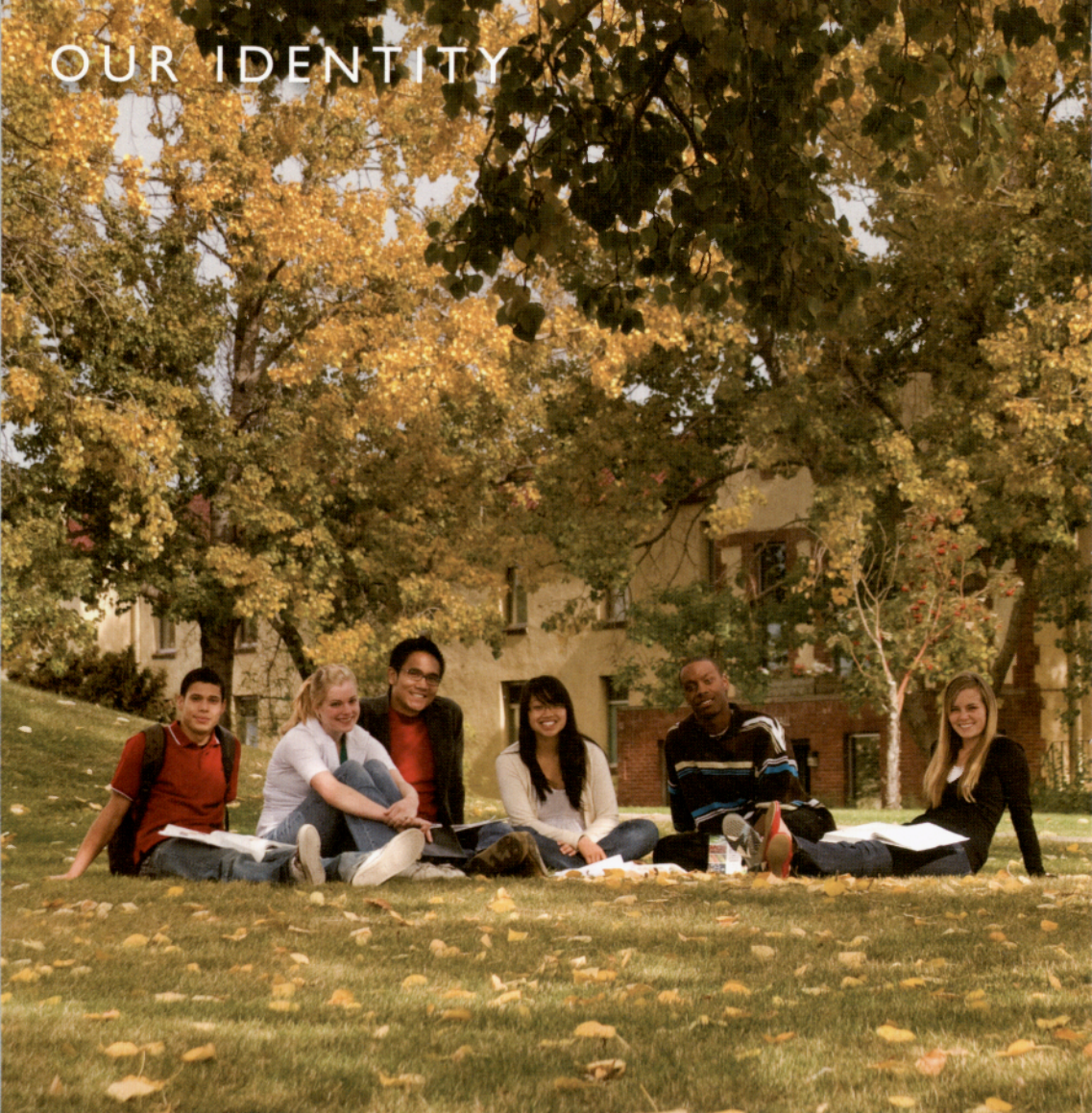


“We have celebrated;
we have remembered;
we have tried to listen and learn.
Now we look ahead to what may be...”

Dr. Andrea Luxton, *President*

West Hall, the Administration Building, and East Hall. circa 1930

OUR IDENTITY



MISSION STATEMENT

Canadian University College will educate students **to think** with discernment, **to believe** with insight and commitment, and **to act** with confidence, compassion and competence.

THINK

CUC students will be able to think creatively and analytically. They will be deeply reflective. They will be able to listen well but will develop and hold personal beliefs and convictions.

BELIEVE

CUC students will experience the cohesion between belief and understanding. They will know how faith informs academic study and is enriched by that study. They will be given every opportunity to make personal faith commitments that will impact life decisions.

ACT

CUC students will see the relationship between learning and service modeled. They will be encouraged to make career and life decisions that connect their education with the needs of local and global communities.

OUR FOCUS



GROWTH

We will be committed to planned enrolment growth and campus expansion. We will be open to personal and corporate growth as we together seek to fulfill the mission of Canadian University College.

EXCELLENCE

We desire excellence that will ensure vibrancy and creativity. Excellence will mean unwavering dedication to an academic, spiritual and social environment that is strong and open to improvement.

COMMUNITY

We know our strength comes from working together—on campus and with our constituencies. Building and sustaining these communities will be central to our plans.

COMMITMENT

As a Seventh-day Adventist Christian community, commitment to faith will remain central to all our activities and plans. This commitment includes personal investment in service to each other and to our communities.

RESPONSIVENESS

We will be a learning community, able to listen, good at communicating and responsive to changing environments and needs. Our future plans will remain focused but flexible.

OUR FUTURE



CAMPUS REJUVENATION

Our future will include a new-look campus. Through landscaping improvements, we will combine the natural beauty of campus with community gathering points unifying the campus heritage with our 21st century reality. Students, faculty, staff and visitors will be able to enjoy an open plaza outside the administration building and other campus focal points. A new cutting-edge Library/Learning Centre will meet the highest university standards and provide additional learning facilities and an IT commons area. The new centre is to be part of a well developed physical masterplan for the future.

PROGRAM EXCELLENCE AND RELEVANCE INCLUDING NEW PROGRAMS

Our excellence in key academic areas will remain part of the campus future. This will include new programs (including interdisciplinary) that provide a wider base of options for students, particularly those desiring immediate employment. Our future will include the development of a BMus degree, introduction of a range of streams in Business, exploration of a BEd after-degree and introduction to new professional or pre-professional programs. We will also study our role in off-campus delivery and in providing ESL courses in preparation for university.



Scholarship award winner
Kristina Pool, fourth-year
English major



Week In Spiritual
Emphasis (WISE)
student speakers



CUC ADRA mission trip to Laos

CUC Chamber Orchestra

The annual SA Kids Christmas party



FINANCIAL RESILIENCE

Building on its present stable financial situation, the future of CUC will be financial resilience. Our Heritage Fund will grow to a minimum \$20 million dollar investment through planned land development. Increased donations will also ensure our campus can remain on the cutting edge of change, while remaining affordable. A significantly increased scholarship base will be an essential form of support for the future of our students.

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP FOCUS

Student life at CUC will continue be rich, challenging and life-changing. Our students will find involvement in service integral to all aspects of campus life and will be encouraged to develop as leaders. They will have options to be involved in an increasing range of clubs, activities and service, and will have a voice to impact the future.

COMMUNITY CONNECT

Our future will rely on its strong community connections. Partnerships with the church community will be strengthened through mission outreach, involvement with the ADRA, support of church projects and programs throughout Canada and graduating professionals committed to the mission of the church. Our links to the local community will continue to grow through our excellent music program, community education courses, leadership in health support, athletics, and the fitness and recreation centre. The future will include events and opportunities for CUC to listen more, learn more, and to ensure we are invaluable to each community we serve.



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Alberta

Student Report: PAA Outdoor Pursuits Trip

Recently a group of students from Parkview Adventist Academy participated in an Outdoor Pursuits trip to the Rocky mountains. During the weekend, we were scheduled to complete a 28 km hike. On Friday, September 28, we took off on a three-hour drive to the mountains, bundled tightly in warm clothing since the weekend wasn't looking like a warm one. Upon reaching our destination and donning on our packs, we got ready for a long and what-we-thought-would-be treacherous walk. Actually, that day we only hiked eight kilometers, and the consensus was that it wasn't too bad.

There was a furious scrambling among students when we reached our

camping area for the night and everyone tried to stake a claim for a spot not too far out in the boonies; we were in bear country, after all, and none of us were keen on getting mauled. Setting up, we all were very impressed with the instant pop-up tent that a couple of students had and were quite jealous when we had to set up our own, pegged one. But any negative feelings we may have had evaporated later that night as we sat (or, rather, stood for the lack of chairs) around a raging fire and attempted to warm our toes. And when we went to bed, we were happy and anticipating the next day's adventures.

And what an adventure it was. The day started well when, about 3 a.m., the

envied pop-up tent collapsed on our sleeping beauties! And when it became obvious that the overnight snowfall had affected the quality of the trail as well as the stability of the tent, our hiking excursion was cut short and replaced by a half-day's exploration of a nearby waterfall instead. But at least we weren't spotted by a grizzly mother ready for a good ripe high school student!

Overall, the trip, though not quite as we planned, was quite lovely. The views were breathtaking and the camaraderie was excellent. It is definitely something I would try again...when there is more desirable weather! ■

—Kasyn Sell,
student at PAA

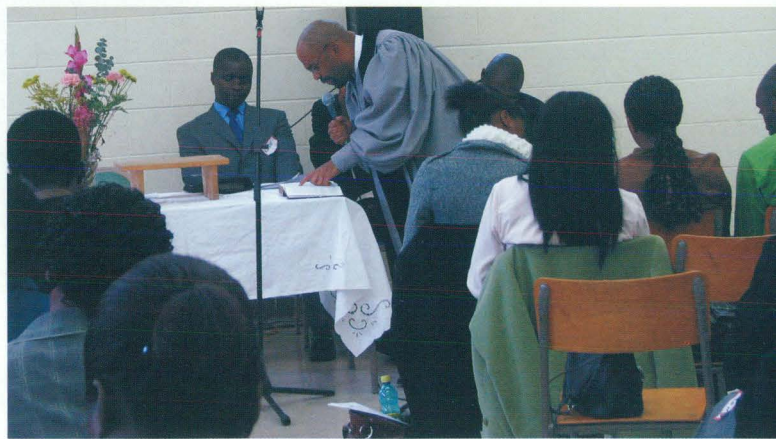
Ontario

First Ontario French-Speaking Adventist Day

A French-speaking Adventist day was held on Sabbath October 20, 2007 for which all French-speaking Adventists in Toronto and surrounding area were all invited to the gymnasium of All Nations Seventh-day Adventist Church for Sabbath School and church—given completely in French. And what special occasion is complete without a fellowship lunch and a mini concert?

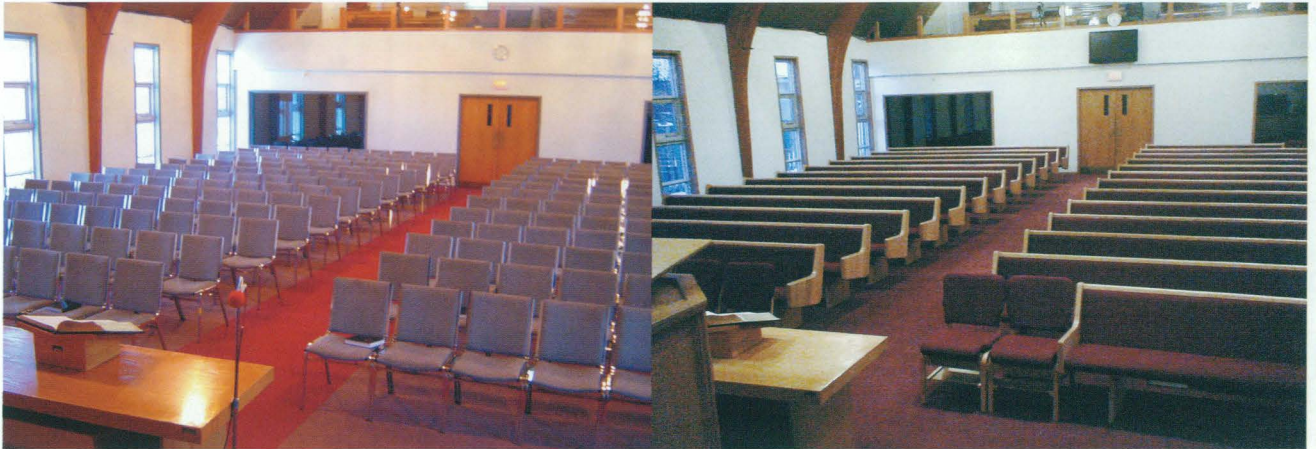
For the occasion, we were pleased to welcome Métard Salomon, a pastor from the Fédération du Québec, who spoke on the theme “A Gospel for All Nations.” In addition to our guest speaker, we expected approximately 50 people to attend, but we were pleasantly surprised when more than 100 French-speaking Adventists united. Pastor Vaudré Jacques and his congregation were very kind with us in allowing us to worship and fellowship in their facilities.

All who participated in this special event were very pleased and are anxious for the second such event to be held on



January 26. We thank God for his blessings and hope for the day when we can open the first French-speaking Adventist church in Toronto. ■

Immanuel Celebrates



Members of the Immanuel church were pleased to rededicate their church to God following an extensive renovation and redecoration project.

On September 8, 2007, about 22 years after moving into their church, the members of the Immanuel SDA Church, along with friends and visitors, celebrated the refurbishment of their sanctuary. Improvements included padded pews which replaced the chairs that had served well for so long, upgrades to the audiovisual /PA system, and increased and updated lighting.

As part of the celebration, guests joined with regular members for both the Sabbath school and the worship service. The multicultural and multilingual composition of our membership was highlighted as the Scripture for the day was read by in Russian, Spanish and English. Conference president, Derrick Nichols, challenged us in his sermon and gave a prayer of dedication as he celebrated with us that day. ■

—Horace A. Francis, communications secretary

Toronto Central 20th Anniversary

From November 16-24, 2007, the Toronto Central SDA Church celebrated their 20th anniversary in a week themed “20 Years by Faith . . . Our Journey.” Derrick Nichols, our conference president, was the keynote speaker on opening night. The church was filled to capacity as former members, current members and visitors came to commemorate this landmark. Dr. G. Earl Knight, secretary of the Greater New York conference, delivered a timely message entitled, “Walk By Faith, and Not By Sight.” The celebrations continued into the evening with a mini-concert and a message by Antonio Bueno, secretary of the conference titled “Remembering, Reflecting, Refocusing and Rejoicing.”

Other celebratory events included the anniversary gala held on Sunday, November 18. It featured the comedy of Jay Martin and music by KC. Wednesday, November 21 saw members and guests at a powerful prayer and anointing



service hosted by our prayer ministry department. And the week of celebration concluded with Homecoming Day on November 24. Pastor Andrew King was the speaker, and he was joined by the Toronto West church's Yes To Life choir.

The day ended with a gospel concert and social.

Toronto Central looks forward to another 20 years and beyond! ■

—Petra McGann,
communication secretary

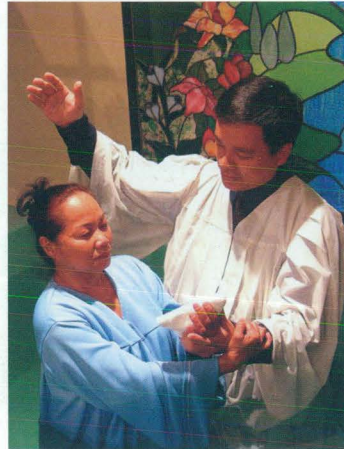
New Immigrants Orientation Results in Baptism

"I am now an Adventist!" Victoria Escolar exclaimed after she was asked to give a testimony following her baptism on November 3, 2007 at the Mount Zion Filipino Church. "I was very lonely when I arrived in Canada last April. I left my family in the Philippines, but I am glad that I now have a new family here."

Victoria's decision to join the Church was made after faithfully attending the HEARTQUEST satellite evangelistic series conducted by Pastor Mike Tucker. Prior to that, Victoria was one of the 93 attendees of the Newcomers Orientation Program held September 9, 2007. She is the second individual baptized as a result of personal contact through the program held annually at Mount Zion church since 2003. ■

—Velma Cuizon, member

(Note: See the November 2007 issue of the Messenger for more details on this important community service program.)



Mount Zion church's program to welcome new immigrants is primarily a community service but has sometimes been an evangelistic tool as well. Escolar is the second new Canadian to be baptized into the church that first welcomed her to the country.

British Columbia

Aldergrove is 2007 NAD Innovative Church of the Year

The Aldergrove Seventh-day Adventist Church of British Columbia has been selected by the NAD Church Resource Center as the 2007 Innovative church of the year. Pastor David Jamieson received the award on behalf of the Aldergrove church at the National Conference on Innovation in Columbus Ohio on September 30.

"Aldergrove was selected because it has taken advantage of opportunities in a changing society with dozens of innovative ministries such as Acts of Kindness, Extreme Home Repair, Charity Golf Classic, Oil change for single moms, Breakfast Club and seasonal musical productions," according to Dave Gemmell, Associate Director of the Church Resource Center. Aldergrove's innovative ministries have resulted in an attendance growth in the last five years from the 200 to 500.

The National Conference on Innovation is designed to foster a global conversation on innovation and renewal within the Adventist church and to create a safe space for innovators to learn, explore, collaborate and strategize for the future. The event, sponsored by Partners in Innovation, is held each fall in Columbus Ohio.

Through the Innovative Church of the Year, the NAD Church Resource Center, Vervent, hopes to foster growing healthy congregations in the United States, Canada and Bermuda. Gemmell says that "because the world is constantly changing,



(l-r) Shannon Gelb, Kristelle Heinrichs, Francis Douville (pastor), and David Jamieson (pastor) with the award for Innovative Church of the Year.

the ways that congregations lead people to Jesus need to continually undergo innovation." The North American Division Church Resource Center hopes to stimulate and affirm congregations that have successfully taken a risk in adapting the eternal truth of the gospel to the constant change of people's needs. ■

Living Truth Evangelistic Series Baptizes 19



Evangelist Fred Nichols and supporting pastoral staff
with some baptismal candidates on the final night of the series.

The date was Sept 29-Oct 27, 2007. The event was the "Living Truth" evangelistic series co-presented by the Agape Temple and the Ajax Adventist Community church. Inspirational and thought-provoking messages were presented each night by

the dynamic and inspirational Fred Nichols, pastor of the Agape Temple. Many who attended nightly commented that Pastor Nichols made the biblical teachings so plain and simple that they were eager to hear more; his nightly presentations were filled with personal testimonies and humour.

Our conference mandate is to "Tell Ontario," and the "Living Truth" series did just that. With Nichols, appeals and the hard work of Bible workers Leonard North and Manley Coleman, 19 people were baptized, including two connected with the Toronto North church.

An integral part of the success of this series was the audio-visual department of both host churches who had the meetings running live on the internet. This, we believe, was the first time an evangelistic series in the Ontario conference used this type of technology to spread God's word. ■

SDA Church in Canada

KC Builds Gazebo on Center Campus

For several years, administrators at Kingsway College have dreamed of somehow commemorating the original administration building that symbolized our campus for decades. Since 1989, when the "old ad building" was razed, center campus seemed particularly lonely.

So, it has been exciting to see a transformation on that section of campus left vacant almost 20 years ago. Now, a permanent reminder of our history stands ready to serve future generations of Kingsway College students. With a memorial stone in place recounting the significance of this special spot, students, parents and campus guests can enjoy



This lovely addition to Kingsway's campus is not only a place
to rest and relax; it also serves to commemorate our history.

a quiet place to sit, visit with friends and reminisce about Kingsway's rich heritage. The Gazebo stands as a reminder of where we came from and proudly compels us to keep going forward.

The next time you are on campus, spend a little time visiting and admiring our newest addition on centre campus. The first weekend of our new school year, our students and staff were thrilled to have the first Friday night Vespers in the Gazebo, praising God for wonderful alumni

and friends who have created such a meaningful reminder of just how great it is to be part of the "Kingsway family." ■

Messenger Welcomes a New Staff Member

THE MESSENGER IS HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE that a third staff



Lori Wiens-MacDonald

member has been added to our team! Lori Wiens-MacDonald brings loads of energy and skill and

experience to the office as she joins us to better serve the members of the Church

in Canada. In addition to providing secretarial support, she is our circulation coordinator and manager of all advertising and announcements. So whether you have a general inquiry, a change of address, or a baptismal announcement, Lori is the lady you need!

Lori has previously served the Church as an educator. She has been a high school English teacher at Chinook Winds Adventist Academy in Calgary and an Associate Professor of English

at Canadian University College. Since moving with her family to the Oshawa area in July 2007, Lori has continued teaching on a part time basis, managing one English class at Kingsway in addition to her myriad other duties in life.

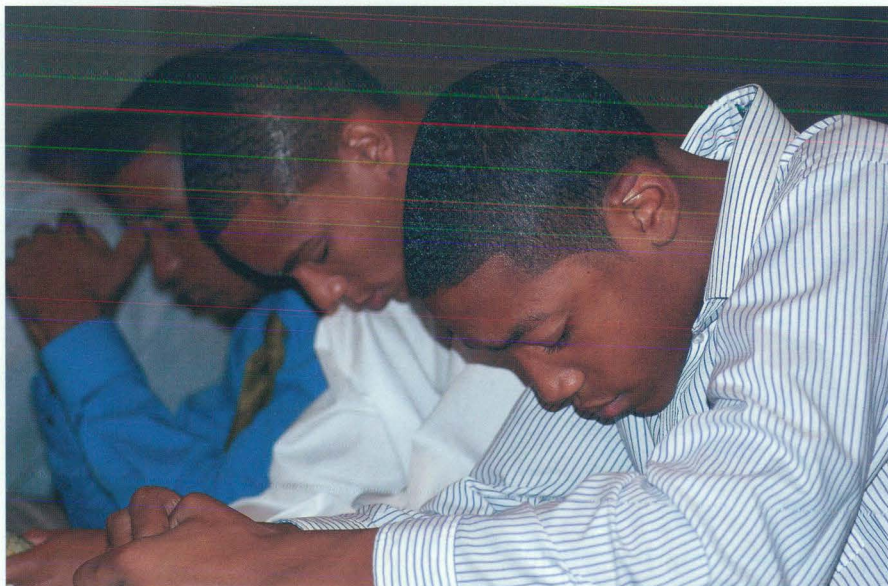
Lori and her husband, Scott, and their two beautiful children are a welcome addition to our office family and to the *Messenger*. We are so happy to have you here and so looking forward to working with you for many years to come. ■

North American Division

IGNITION Set to Spark Youth/Young Adults

A SUMMIT FOR YOUNG ADULTS, IGNITION, will be held February 14-17, 2008 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Dallas, Texas. Young adults and those invested in ministering to them are invited to the summit featuring George Barna, Matthew Gamble, Eddie Hipolite, Elia King, Ann Roda, & True!mprov. (For more information and to register go to www.ypac.adventistmeetings.com or call 800/732-7587.)

For the first time, the bi-annual North American Division Youth/Young Adult Ministries Leadership Summit will include a comprehensive young adult ministry concentration offering the best practices, dynamic worship and experiential learning experiences for those passionate about discipling young adults. IGNITION will give intentional focus to significant young adult issues, feature innovations, and will also exhibit effective young adult ministries for the local church and campus. Important issues, such as sexuality, postmodernism, social justice, spiritual formation and campus ministry will not only be addressed, but practical solutions, rele-

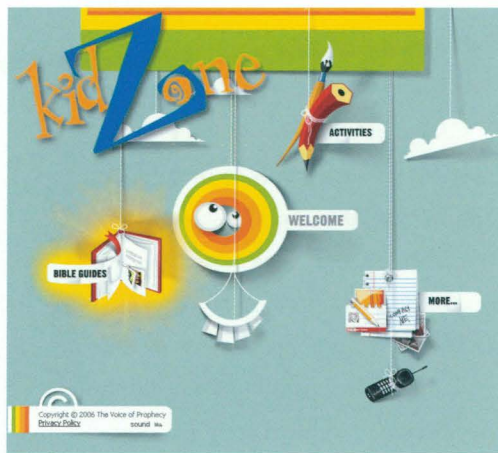


vant models and successful initiatives will be exhibited, experienced and exchanged.

Every young adult passionate about discipleship, every local pastor invested /interested in young adult ministry, every ministry professional/leader seeking to spiritually mentor new generations—

all are invited to IGNITION.

"It is our hope that every church across our division will send their young adults and leaders to IGNITION," shared Elder James Black, director for North American Division Youth/Young Adult Ministries. ■



The first Canadian graduate from the Voice of Prophecy's new KidZone Bible guides was Megan Mossman from Nova Scotia. Megan has Down's syndrome, according to her mother, Marilyn, who writes, "She enjoyed them very much and certainly was surprised when we did them."

Also among the first graduates was 13-year-old Trisha Peslalz, who attends the Peace River Adventist Church in Alberta. She writes about the lessons,

Canadian Kids Graduate from KidZone Bible Guides

"I loved them because they tell about Jesus. I liked the stories and activities."

KidZone presents doctrines with stories and illustrations that junior-age youth enjoy and is designed to be used by Vacation Bible Schools, baptismal classes and elementary schools, as well as for sharing door-to-door.

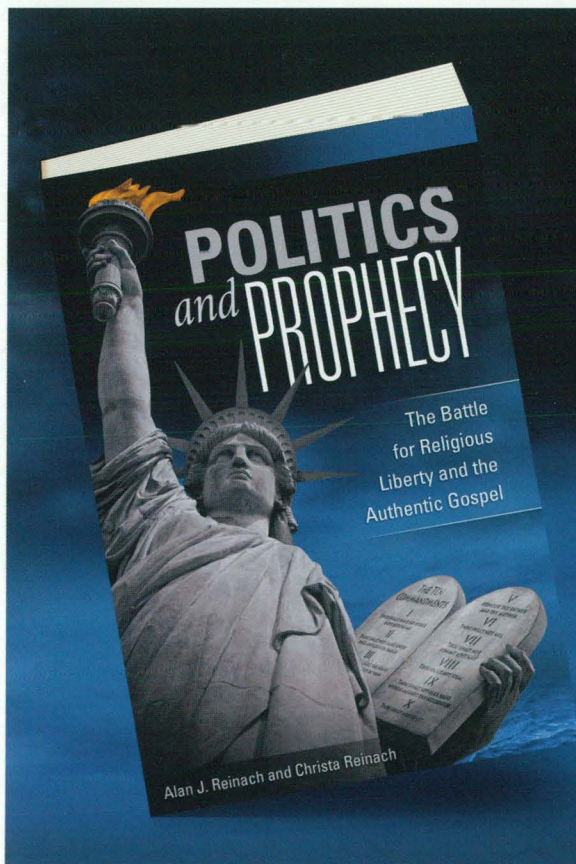
Topics for the 14 lessons include creation, the fall, salvation, baptism, prayer, the ten commandments, the Sabbath, health, death, the second coming, and heaven.

Every guide includes an appeal to accept Jesus. Besides a response sheet to be returned to an instructor, each lesson also features an activities page with games, puzzles, and other fun things to do. KidZone is free to kids in the U.S. and Canada as a correspondence course. Kids worldwide will be able to read the

guides online when a new VOP website, kidsvop.com, launches early this year. The website will also have additional activities for kids that are not included in the lessons. ■



Megan Mossman of Nova Scotia and Trisha Peslalz of Alberta were some of the very first Canadian graduates of Voice of Prophecy's KidZone.



Politics and Prophecy

Alan J. Reinach and Christa Reinach, editors

Thousands of people in the United States are losing their jobs over their determination to obey God and practice their faith.

Adventists defend our religious rights as citizens, but we also stand for the rights of others regardless of their creed. This excellent book of thoughtful essays will be a helpful introduction to current religious liberty issues. Nine highly qualified authors share their insights on topics including "The Battle Over Origins," "The Battle for the Ten Commandments," "Liberty and the Gospel," "The Battle for the Supreme Court," and more.

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▼ Sabbath, January 12

- 8:30 am* Randy Roberts, *Senior Pastor*
Loma Linda University Church
"The Purpose Which Drives Him"
- 11:15 am Repeat of 8:30 a.m. program
- 6:00 pm Hyveth Williams, *Senior Pastor*
Loma Linda University
Campus Hill Church
"Tough and Tender"



8:30/11:15 a.m.
Sanctuary Choir
and Orchestra
6:00 p.m.
Wintley Phipps



Wintley Phipps

▼ Monday, January 14

- 11:00 am Dwight Nelson, *Senior Pastor*
Andrews University
Pioneer Memorial Church
"When Mercy Grew on Trees"
- 7:00 pm Craig Newborn, *Senior Pastor*
Oakwood College Church
"Don't Wash Your Hands"



Denver &
the Mile High Orchestra

▼ Tuesday, January 15

- 11:00 am Gordon Bietz, *President*
Southern Adventist University
"The Danger of Being Right"
- 7:00 pm Andy McDonald, *Senior Pastor*
Florida Hospital College Church
"Life Outside the Bubble"



Steve Green

▼ Wednesday, January 16

- 11:00 am John McVay, *President*
Walla Walla University
"Alabaster Disaster"
- 7:00 pm Mic Thurber, *Senior Pastor*
Southwestern Adventist University Church
"When Jesus Enters Your Story"



The King's Heralds Quartet

▼ Thursday, January 17

- 11:00 am Tim Mitchell, *Senior Pastor*
Pacific Union College Church
"The Heavenly Host"
- 7:00 pm Pat Morrison, *Senior Pastor*
Atlantic Union College Church
"Oh, To Be Young Again"



Selah

▼ Friday, January 18

- 11:00 am Dan Smith, *Senior Pastor*
La Sierra University Church
"The All-Star"
- 7:00 pm Ron Halvorsen, *Senior Pastor*
Union College, College View Church
"The Painful Paradox"



Chiz Rider, Trumpet
and Michelle Tumes, Vocalist

▼ Sabbath, January 19

- 8:30 am Karl Haffner, *Senior Pastor*
Kettering College of Medical Arts
Kettering Church
"The Gospel of Getting Stoned"
- 11:15 am Repeat of 8:30 a.m. program



The Sanctuary Brass

*Times are PST

The 2008 North American Division

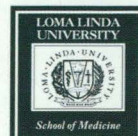
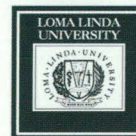
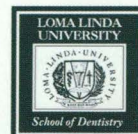
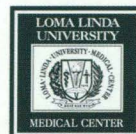
Week of Devotion

Theme: "The Matchless Charms of Christ"

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For more information, a full schedule, and re-broadcast times go to <www.lluc.org>

■ Announcements

Union College Homecoming Apr. 3-6, 2008—Alumni, friends and former faculty are invited to come *Remember When . . .* Apr. 3-6, 2008. Honor classes are 1938, 1948, 1953, 1958, 1968, 1978, 1983, 1988, and 1998. For more information, contact the alumni office at 402/486-2503, 3800 South 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506 or email alumni@ucollege.edu. (1/08)

The Calgary Bridgeland Adventist Church is looking for the following missing members: Carie Archer, Liza Arnason, Jacques Arseneault, Jean-Marc Arseneault, Raymond Arseneault, Michele Darius, Gloria Ellis, Marlene Fagon, Morris Fisher, Glen Fong, Thomas Fraser, Kristina Geonange, Verna Goudreau, Sarah Graeb, Verna Graffer, Letty Hafalla, Ann Harris, Charmaine Harrison, Glen Huntley, Jerry James, Lyndon James, Cutie Knight, Sophie Kong, Michelle LaTouche, Wendell LaTouche, Martha Lang, Nadine Lawrence, Dorothy Loftus, Lloyd Lyding, Lavone Lyonns, Gloria Martin, Lucia Maubert, Donohugh McFarlene, Everton Melliphant, Norma Melliphant, Radcliffe Melliphant, Annmarie Newton, Merissa Newton, Marianne Pausu, Pirjo Pausu, Andrew Phillips, Helen Poirier, Michael Poirier, Patricia Rambaram, Philip Rexius, Rebecca Robertson, Sandra Rodney, Jimmy Skeen, Margo Spence, Nadeen Stephenson, Sean C. Swain, Petrika Tellstone, Kim Thomas, Hazel Pat Tidy, Jamaika Tridenight, Francis Twolyongut, Eugenia Welch, and Dale Wells. Contact Lavern Skyers, Calgary Bridgeland Church Clerk, 48-12 Street NE, Calgary AB T2E 4P4. Phone 403/923-8855, email llhibbert@yahoo.ca.

■ Baptisms

ONTARIO

Sam and Ama Bediako were baptized on Nov. 10, 2007 by Pastor Orville Browne. The Bediakos are now members of the Latter Rain Seventh-day Adventist Church in Scarborough, Ont.

■ Legal Notice

Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference

Notice is hereby given that the Thirty-Second Regular Session (Third Quadrennial Session) of the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will be held at the West Park Seventh-day Adventist Church,

416 Cathcart Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, on Sunday, April 13, 2008, commencing at 8:30 a.m.

The Session is called for the purpose of receiving reports, the election of officers and departmental directors, amendment of bylaws and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the Session at that time.

As provided in the current Bylaws, delegates to the Session are chosen as follows: One delegate for the organization and one additional delegate for each twenty (20) members or major fraction thereof.

Kenneth Wiebe, President
Clifford Holm, Secretary
Brent Burdick, Treasurer

■ Weddings

Alicia Stapleton and Brian Benoit were married on July 15, 2007 in Kelowna, B.C. and are making their home in Lincoln, Nebr. Alicia is the daughter of Tom and Naomi Stapleton of Kelowna, and Brian is the son of Jean and Daniel Benoit of Ooltewah, Tenn.

Ella Paul and Ken Carley were married July 5, 2007 and are making their home in Battleford, Sask.

Jade Saccucci and Steven Derfler were married July 7, 2007 in Saskatoon, Sask. and are making their home in Saskatoon. Jade is the daughter of Lyle and Vivian Saccucci of Mayfair, Sask. and Steven is the son of Leslie Derfler and Tanya Hack.

Amanda Dubyna and Bradley Kettner were married July 8, 2007 in North Battleford, Sask. and are making their home in Red Deer, Alta. Amanda is the daughter of Don and Charlene Dubyna of Cando, Sask., and Brad is the son of Elwin and Elaine Kettner of Bradwardine, Man.

■ Anniversaries

Aylmer and Madella (Gimbel) Toop celebrated their 50th wedding

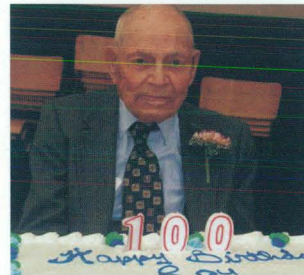


anniversary on Aug. 19, 2007 with family and friends at their home in

Carleton Place, Ont. The event was hosted by their children: Charles Toop of Winnipeg, Man., and Jo-Ann Toop (Gref) of Martintown, Ont.

■ Birthdays

Roy Foulston of Tugaskie, Sask., celebrated his 100th birthday on the weekend of July 22, 2007. Roy,



who is still enjoying good health, is an active member of the Tugaskie Adventist church. He has given Bible studies to many of his neighbours and friends over the years. Roy attributes his longevity and good health to his strong belief in God and his vegetarian diet. The Foulstons have four children.

■ Obituaries

Robert Andersen was born Sept. 27, 1926 in Green Bay, Wis., and died Sept. 19, 2007 in Creston, B.C. Robert and his wife were introduced to the church through a CHIP program. In 1991, Bob cycled to Ottawa to promote the CHIP program there and celebrated his 70th birthday en route. Surviving: wife Theresa of Creston; sons Donald of Kentucky, and Dennis of San Diego, Calif.; daughter Gay of Kentucky; step-daughter Teri Shannon of Spokane, Wash.; 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

James (Boysie) Bailey was born Feb. 21, 1927 in Clarendon, Jamaica and died Jan. 11, 2007 in Scarborough, Ont. Surviving: wife Julia; son Howard; daughter Joan Forbes; sister Lola Bryant; and five grandchildren.

Anna Gorden was born Sept. 21, 1919 in Cape Scott, B.C. and died on Nov. 10, 2007 in Bella Coola, B.C. Surviving: children Howard, Alita, Ronnie, and Lily; 14 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren.

Shirley Joyce Hanson was born May 8, 1943 in Sidney, B.C. and died Nov. 19, 2007 in Duncan, B.C. She was predeceased by her father Charles, mother Clara, sister Gladys and her husband Bill Johnson, all

of Sydney, B.C., and sister-in-law Doris Hanson of Duncan. Surviving: siblings Delbert (Carolyn) of Lynden, Wash. and Duncan, B.C., Donald (Winnifred) of Sidney, Beverly (Edith) of Charlottetown, P.E.I., Lloyd (Yvonne) of Loma Linda, Calif. and Lorraine (Frank) Pernigoni of Cobble Hill, B.C.; 16 nieces and nephews and 27 grandnieces and grandnephews.

Wesley Alexander Hoover was born June 18, 1935 in Haileybury, Ont. and died July 20, 2007 in Haileybury. He was predeceased by his daughter, Jennifer, who died shortly after her birth. Surviving: wife Judith Mae (Anderson) of Cobalt, Ont.; sons Doug (Celeste) of Cobalt, Sam (Bonnie) of Hamilton, Ont.; daughters Brenda (Patrick) Hopkins of Matachewan, Ont., Darlene Charette of Cobalt, Debra (Romeo) Mallais of Temagami, Ont., and Patricia (Danny) Gagnon of Cobalt; sisters Lillian Goulet, Isabel Foote of Deep River, Ont., and Jessica (Vera) Reynolds of Deep River; 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and sisters Lillian, Isabelle, and Jessica.

Hattie Rose (Wettstein) Johnson was born Feb. 12, 1912 in Stettler, Alta. and died Nov. 17, 2007 in Vernon, B.C. For many years Hattie served her Lamming Mills church as a trusted, efficient treasurer. She was predeceased by her husband Karl, and her son Delbert. Surviving: son Larry (Arlo) Johnson of Vernon; daughters Sandi (Dave) Ankney of Port Rowan, Ont., and Judi Johnson of Terrace, B.C.; 13 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

Paul Misk was born June 7, 1947 in Hluk, Czechoslovakia and died Oct. 19, 2007 in White Rock, B.C. Surviving: wife Gail; brothers Peter (Erika) of Duncan, B.C., Stephan (Eva) of Hluk, and George (Isabell) of White Rock; sister Eva (Olda) Didacek of Hluk.

Dallas Totenhofer was born Apr. 6, 1918 in Avondale, N.S.W., Australia and died Nov. 1, 2007 in Toronto, Ont. Dallas worked for many years as a payroll supervisor at North York Branson Hospital in Toronto, Ont. Surviving: brother Lindsay; sister Pearl Toepfer.

CORRECTIONS: Edith May (Kierstead-McMackin) Daley was born Feb. 10, 1928 in Norton, N.B. and died May 30, 2007 in Moncton, N.B. Edith faithfully served her church in the Sabbath School department. She was predeceased by her first husband Michael Harold McMackin, son Michael John McMackin, daughter-in-law Kathy (Wyman) McMackin,

grandson Michael Steven McMackin, and brother Russel Kierstead. Surviving: husband Steve Daley; son Ed McMackin of Creston, B.C.; daughter Heather (Elliott) Tam of Wardner, B.C.; brother Gordon Kierstead; five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Lloyd Alfred Walter Fisher was born July 15, 1932 in Moose Jaw, Sask., and died Aug. 15, 2007 in Riverside, Calif. Lloyd was a former principal of the CUC high school and served as a band teacher and administrator in several schools in the U.S.A. He was predeceased by his mother Clara Fisher, and sister Doreen Fisher. Surviving: wife Dorothy; son Byron (Marcia) Fisher of Edmonton, Alta.; daughters Lavon (Robbin) Barton of Colorado, and Julie (Wally) Smith of Chilliwack, B.C.; sister Margaret Maddocks of Armstrong, B.C.; and seven grandchildren.

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Deadlines

April issue: **February 4**
May issue: **March 3**
June issue: **April 1**

Tributes

Lauren Bechthold (Calgary, Alberta) passed away unexpectedly on March 6, 2007. Friends are asked to send

stories and pictures of their memories of Lauren over the years to his sister, Lorraine Hall (lorrahm@shaw.ca). These stories and pictures will be put together and given to Lauren's daughter Brittany and to his mother, Stella Bechthold in honor of his memory. (2/08)

Advertisements

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2008 Natural Remedies and Hydrotherapy Workshop.

Andrews University Seminary offers this popular workshop May 4 to 9. Registration forms/info: www.andrews.edu/go/nrhw, email fran@andrews.edu, or phone 269/471-3541. (1/08)

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Karen Ritchey releases new gospel album called: "Going Home." If you enjoyed her first two albums, "I'll Meet You in the Morning" and "Because He Promised," You will want to order her brand new CD, "Going Home." This is a lovely compilation of music designed to soothe the soul. Her songs are beautifully arranged in three part harmony. You can order her songs by email at karenritchey@shaw.ca or call 403/782-2415. To know more about Karen's ministry or to book for concerts: www.karenritcheyministries.com. (1/08)

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Adventist bricklayers needed in the spring of 2008 to help with the completion of renovations. Please contact Calgary Central Seventh-day Adventist Church via email at centralchurch@shaw.ca, phone 403/289-0196, or fax 403/282-6955. Thank you. (1/08)

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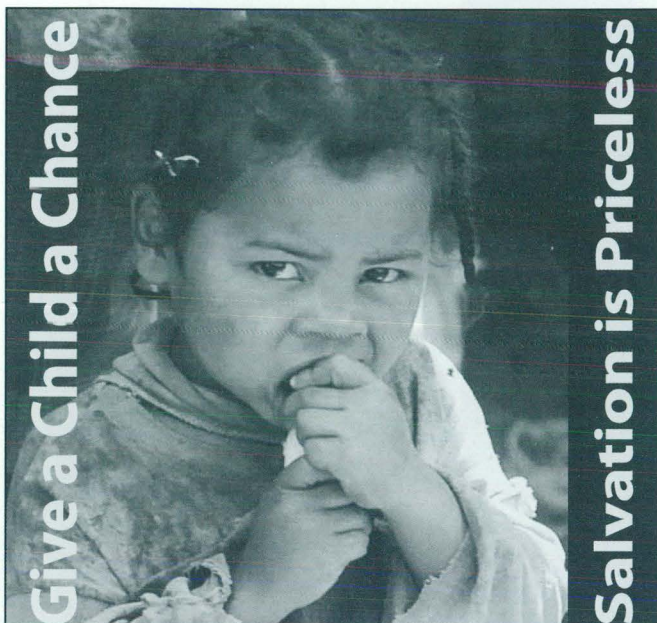
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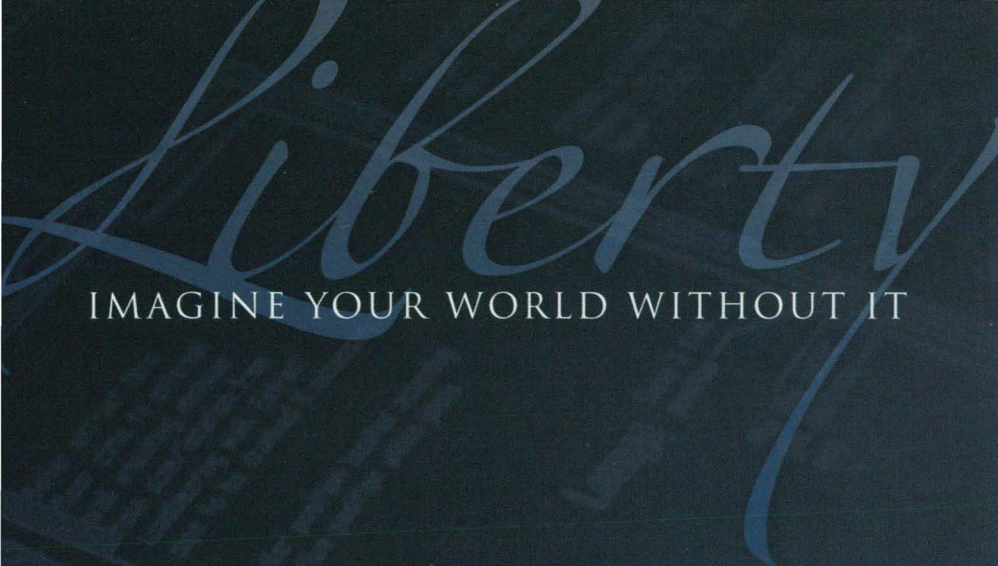
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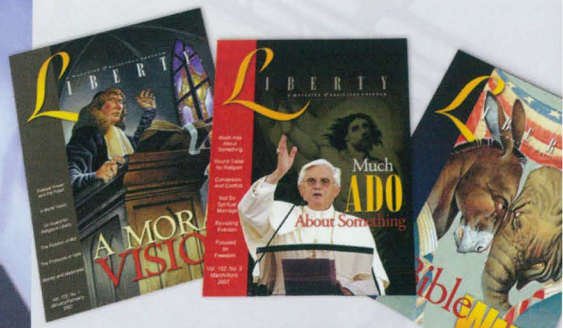
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Please complete this form and include it in your offering envelope. Make checks payable to your church.

Liberty magazine is available in English and French.

All subscriptions will begin with the May/June issue of *Liberty*.



In My Father's Field

■ BY LORI MACDONALD

A perfect number they stand
Spawned from the same lot
Tortured: cut, pounded, pierced, strung

Three former fence posts
Sixty some years later
Now willow trees
Tall, alive
Branches and roots intermingling
Joined by more than nature

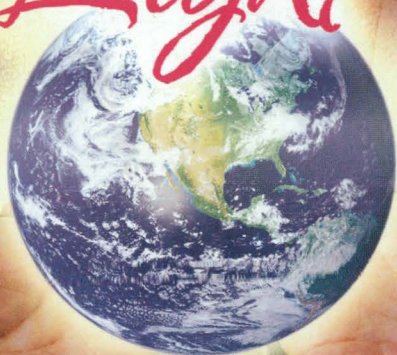
On either side
Linked by wire and pain with those
Not chosen to grow
Linked with those posts whose purpose
Is still only to keep out or in

Meant to enclose
The living with the dead
Barbs and nails
Once invaders now
Family
Grown essential
Into and through each heart
Binding together
Past and future

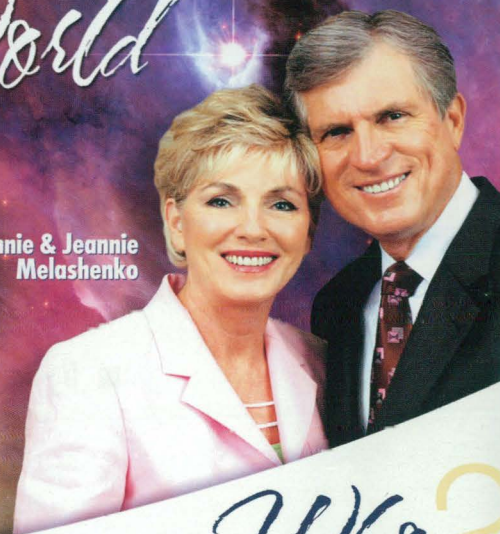
Out of utility, death, pain
Willow beauty
Love ■

Lori MacDonald is the newest member of the Messenger team. She is passionate about many things—her family, her faith, her friends, etc.—and uses that energy to fuel her life and her creative writing.

Go *Light* Your World



Lonnie & Jeannie
Melashenko



Who?
are VisionBuilders

An exceptional group of supporters who know of Jesus' Love and want to tell others about His soon return, uniting in prayer and giving with a commitment of \$1,000 or more to the ministry annually. In return, they are invited to participate in a weekend spiritual retreat each year.*

Here is your opportunity to become actively involved in the huge task of reaching people everywhere for Jesus!

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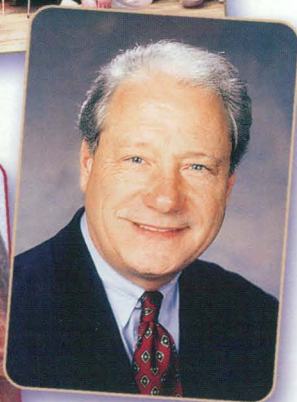
April 4-6



Jan Bislin



Denise
Kellerman



Devotional Speaker
Steve Boalt

Kids are
VisionBuilders
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