

canadian adventist

february 2009

Messenger

Love and Addiction

Alberta Youth Movement

Missions: Love Your Neighbour

TRUDY MORGAN-COLE

Profile of an Adventist Writer

February 2009 Vol. 78 No. 2

Publisher/Editor Crystal Holloway
cholloway@sdacc.org

Art Director Joan Tanasyichuk
joant@sdacc.org

Ad Manager Lori MacDonald
lmacdonald@sdacc.org

Circulation Coordinator Lori MacDonald
messenger@sdacc.org

The Canadian Adventist Messenger—the official magazine of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada—is published 12 times per year. Free to SDACC members. Annual foreign subscription price: US\$15.00. Printed by Maracle Press Limited. ISSN 0702-5084. Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index. Member of the Associated Church Press and the Canadian Church Press.



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, NF 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 T4L 2E5, phone 403/782-3381

Deadlines

April issue	February 2
May issue	March 2
June issue	April 1

>> View this issue online at www.sdacc.org/messenger

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

Canada Post agreement number 40069337.

Great Expectations

It is February. Valentine's Day is staring us in the face. Perhaps that is what is spurring me on towards making this confession. Perhaps that is what will encourage you to forgive me this one weakness. Whatever the reason, I feel the need to declare: I like sappy love stories. Although my undergraduate studies were focussed on literature—the best of various eras, genres and cultures—I retain a soft spot for those sugary sweet novels that can't even be considered literature by the loosest definition—not smut, just cheesy, formulaic romances.

I've given some thought to why my penchant for love stories endures to this day, what exactly it is that I like about them. I think I've come to the conclusion that it is predictability I enjoy. While most of my mind appreciates a story with lots of plot twists and ambiguity and mystery, every once in a while I take pleasure in diving into a novel that I can predict every step of the way, whose story I already know, on some level, from the introduction through the denouement. It's comforting and easy.

By far, the motif of the romance genre that I most enjoy is that of the grand gesture. Not every love story has one, but I maintain that the best ones do. *Romeo and Juliet*, *Gone With the Wind*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, *Tale of Two Cities* . . . all these and so many more are filled with heroes and heroines who do some big things—not necessarily smart things or the right things—for the sake of those they love. Yes, it can get pretty corny and sappy, but it gets me every time.

We Adventists have traditionally figured the final days of earth in pretty scary terms—more of a mix between horror and science fiction than a love story. We talk a lot about the mark of the beast, persecution, the Judgement and such, and many of our own church members—let alone those outside the church who we try to evangelize with this fearsome rhetoric—are terrified of what is to come at the end of time. So steeped are we in this way of thinking that, for most Adventists—people who, as part of Christendom, should be most confident in their ultimate victory—the apocalyptic message cannot be separated from feelings of fear or total terror.

Why would we think that He who has been the Hero of our story for thousands of years would now abandon His character and turn into a vengeful villain seeking our destruction? It seems to me that humankind's experience with God throughout the ages has always been more love story than thriller. The many, many chapters of the tender romance between us and God already contain one grand gesture after another. Though we might say that His gestures have not been the smart things for Him to do—wouldn't He have been better off scrapping us and starting over?—they demonstrate that He has nothing but our best interests at heart, that He would rather die—and did—than stop loving us. There's no need for fear. Our last days on earth are the climax of this love story, and His coming to claim us and live with us forever is the final grand gesture. ■

Crystal

Crystal D. Holloway, editor
cholloway@sdacc.org



Photo: Insignia Photography.



16



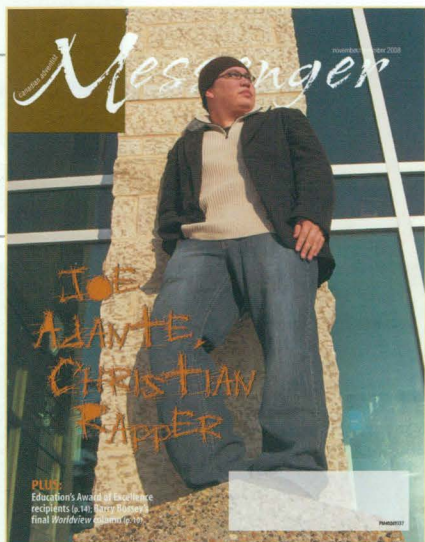
20

FEATURES

- 10 **DEVOTIONAL**
Love and Addiction
God never causes harm to His children.
- 12 **OUTREACH**
Alberta Youth Movement
Passionate About Proselytizing Their Province
- 16 **COVER STORY**
Words Aptly Written: Profile of an Adventist Writer
Trudy J. Morgan-Cole is all about words.
- 20 **OUTREACH**
It's Not All Laughing Children and Happy Endings but God Says, "Love Your Neighbour."

IN EVERY ISSUE

- 2 **EDITORIAL** Great Expectations—Anticipating one final grand gesture.
- 4 **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**
- 5 **PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE** The Art of Silence—"It takes two years to learn to speak and a lifetime to learn to keep silent."
- 6 **TEENTALK** How Do I Know If I'm in Love?
- 7 **CREATION CORNER** Barn Swallow
- 8 **CUC** Friends in Christ—CUC's summer evangelism study tour provides a life-changing experience for student, Cavin Chwyllis.
- 14 **IT IS WRITTEN** Hope for Angola, Part II—Your generosity has made it possible for hope to come to Angola.
- 15 **ADRA CANADA** The Wrong End of the Gun Barrel—Our mandate, set by Jesus in Matthew 25, is not expressed in terms of 'only when safe.'
- 22 **NEWS** Reports from the Ontario, Manitoba-Saskatchewan, British Columbia, and Alberta conferences.
- 25 **ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADVERTISEMENTS**
- 31 **BOOKENDS** Esther: A Story of Courage



Your Words

“Let’s encourage our young people to follow Christ’s example in witnessing for Him.”

RE: “Joe Adante, Christian Rapper,” November/December 2008

I read the article on “Joe Adante, Christian Rapper,” with conflicting convictions. His enthusiasm for reaching people for Christ is admirable, to be encouraged and supported. On the other hand, rap/hip-hop music, with its angry, sexual, and occult/hypnotic rhythms and beats would not be used by our Holy King as a tool to advance His kingdom. Can we see the meek, majestic Jesus dancing and swaying to these sounds? The message and the music are totally at war with each other. Do Christ and the world walk together?

Let’s encourage our young people to follow Christ’s example in witnessing for Him. Instead of boldly proclaiming how much of the un-cleanliness of the world we can mix into our Christianity, let’s be bold about being different and distinct from the world (2 Corinthians 6:17). Music is an incredibly powerful spiritual phenomenon that human beings are a part of, for good or evil. In our evangelism, shall we use music that invokes the spirit of Heaven or something else? Let’s encourage each other to learn of Jesus, harmonizing not only our lyrics, but, our melody, harmony, and rhythm with His Holy Spirit, His love and peace.

—K. Lemky, via email

Very kindly, I would like to say that your coverage of Joe Adante, or Babyboy,

was a very unfortunate one for the Church in Canada. While Babyboy means well and has good intentions, the issue is not the individual but the music. The Adventist church is in the middle of controversies over this subject, as you well know. Some of the best minds and professors in this subject in our church and outside of church membership give clear arguments of the effects of music on the brain, nerves, and body of individuals. Reading of the effects of music from the ancients, through the masters of the Middle Ages, and our rebellious, anti-God, secular society today very succinctly shows us the direction that music takes the individuals.

When I first saw the magazine I did not react to the cover; I simply hoped that it was highlighting the effects of rap . . . I went back to read it . . . Is this what we want our young people to learn? Are we telling them that they can indulge listening to music like rap, hip hop and such, when there are Christian lyrics to their beat, rhythm and style? Young people are not naïve; they will listen to anything that excites their minds, especially when this is promoted by the organization in our publications and at our campmeetings. Satan does not care where his music is played as long as it is played, giving it opportunity to program our young people away from the sacred

and uplifting tunes and concepts.

—R. Henderson, via email

It is with great delight that I saw Adventist rapper Joe Adante gracing the cover of the latest *Messenger*. I’m not a fan of that style of music, but I know plenty who are and who have been blessed by it.

Kudos to the Church in Canada for bringing him in to bless the youth of our Church at the Youth Summit in Nova Scotia, and kudos to Joe for ministering his way.

—[name withheld], St. John’s, Nfld.

Re: “Sign, Sign, Everywhere a Sign,” editorial, November/December 2008

I really enjoyed the recent *Messenger*. Your editorial about purchasing a car made me remember how God helped me to buy a car, and what a good car it was! God is just waiting for us to ask him to lead and guide us. We would make fewer mistakes if we always remembered this, but we are human, and hopefully we learn from our mistakes. May God continue to be with you as you write for Him.

—C. O’Dell,
Barnesville, N.B.

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.

the Art of Silence

During my time in pastoral ministry, I had a conflict resolution session with a couple whose marriage was on the rocks. I was shocked by the determination of each partner to defend his/her own point of view. After hours of discussion, it had become obvious that there was hardly any room for compromise. Each wanted to hold their ground, although that position would lead to a deadlock, lengthy divorce procedures, lots of expenses and hardships for the children.

This reminds me of some particular news regarding the political scene. It was a face-off between Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez and the king of Spain, Juan Carlos, in November 2007. For many countries, the ruler of Venezuela has become the star of the political microcosm because he is outspoken and willing to say what others only silently think. He threw himself into the battle against American imperialism and spoke, on many occasions, without mincing words. His phrase: "Yesterday, the devil came here" became an iconic expression of South America's desire to assert independence. He started to lose favour, however, during the heated debates of the Iberian-Latino-American summit, when he dared to interrupt the Prime Minister of Spain. It was at that moment that King Juan Carlos said something quite surprising for a monarch. He used the same type of vocabulary as did Chavez on many occasions: "Why don't you shut up?" It came as a surprise, but was also the right thing to say to stop the continuous torrent of Chavez rhetoric. The incident became famous around the world and has invaded the pages of the World Wide Web.

I believe that all of us need to think about the way we speak. The Chinese

say it so well: "It takes two years to learn to speak and a lifetime to learn to keep silent." Sometimes our words spoil things in our family life, our workplace, our churches and in society.

The Bible gives sound advice for all occasions. It calls for moderation in words: "Let everyone be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God" (James 1:19). Moreover, the message of Ecclesiastes warns us that listening is more appropriate for worship than a never-ending torrent of words: "Do not be rash with your mouth, and let not your heart utter anything hastily before God. For God is in heaven, and you on earth. Therefore let your words be few (5:2).

To those who are facing difficulties in their marital relationship, I would like to suggest you try to speak less and do more acts of kindness. Why react immediately? Take time to think. "In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise" (Proverbs 10:19). Why fight to be right, and, at the same time, destroy your home and compromise the future of your children?

To those who are experiencing conflicts at work, I will tell the same thing. Couldn't you tone down your words? You will discover the blessings reserved for those who know the high worth of self-control.

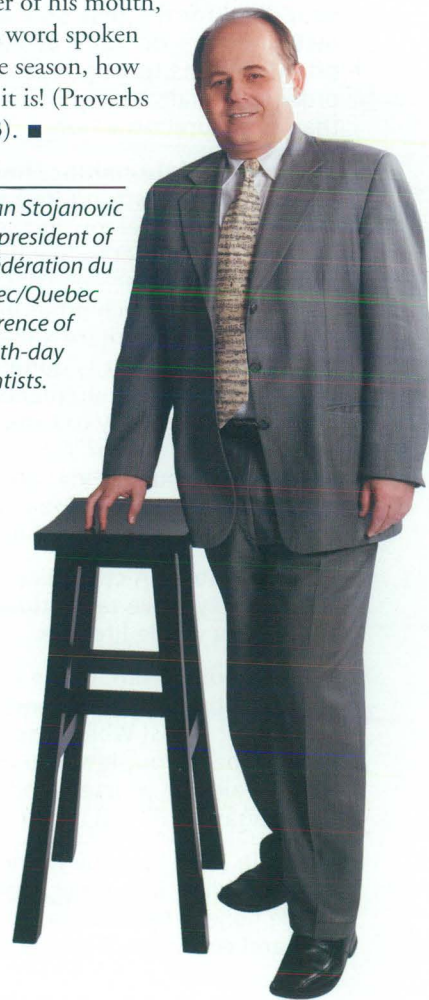
Our churches would be much better places if members talked less and acted more. When He returns, Jesus will not ask Christians to give him a report of the sermons they preached or the arguments they prepared. He will say: "Inasmuch as you did it to the least of these my brethren, you did it to Me" (Matthew 25:40).

Gandhi, the hero of India's independ-

ence, knew full well the value of silence. His description of the living world deserves our attention. He said, "In the oceans live fish that spend their whole life in silence. On earth, we find animals that shout, and in the sky we find singing birds. By the strength of his being, man transcends and summarizes everything: he keeps silent, he shouts and sings." But Gandhi adds, "Unfortunately, man has forgotten his own virtues. He no longer knows how to keep silent. Everything in his life is increasingly filled with noise."

May we discover the beauty of silence. May we also ponder our words before we speak. "A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, and a word spoken in due season, how good it is! (Proverbs 15:23). ■

Dragan Stojanovic is the president of the Fédération du Québec/Quebec conference of Seventh-day Adventists.





Josue has been in love with his honey for 10+ years and counting!

How Do I Know if I'm In love?

February, 2009

How do you know when you are really in love? What's the difference between having a crush on someone and really loving a person? For how long do you need to date in order to know that you are in love? Is there such thing as love (true love) at first sight? How do you know when he is the one?

Josué Sánchez

Answer



Hold on! Hold on! So many questions! Wow! Something tells me that your heart is beating quite fast ... especially when you are with your boyfriend, I guess? =D

Love at first sight. Feel-good Hollywood movies want us to believe that there's love at first sight, but honestly, I don't

think such a thing exists (besides love at first sight when you see your child for the first time at birth!!). You certainly can have an instant connection and be attracted to a person right away. That often happens to singles, especially during the teen years. But in order to actually love someone, there are more ingredients needed than just pure attraction.

Length of relationship. These ingredients are found with time. To really have a strong love foundation, you need, at least, to (1) observe that person and see how he interacts with other people and family members—like his mom and sisters, (2) create memories together—usually that's the easy and fun part, (3) include each other in your respective circle of friends and (4) share a meaningful Christian lifestyle. It is quite difficult to gather all these ingredients during, let's say, a youth rally or summer camp. You see what I mean? You need time. Usually, the younger you are, the longer it takes to develop a solid, strong romantic relationship.

Crush vs. love. A crush is short, blind and ... crazy! Love takes time to simmer and lasts a whole lifetime.

Is he the one? Nah, that's a myth. What if your first husband dies, and you find another man later? Oops! Which one was the one? Don't look for the one in your life. You may be looking forever. Simply let things go naturally, be yourself, and have constant communication with God. Time (again!) will tell if you are right for each other.

Really in love. Well my friend, read 1 Corinthians 13 over and over until you know it by heart. Then compare it with your actual situation. But be honest! Not that easy, eh? It takes time (have I said that before?), care and consistency to reach that level of love ... and to maintain it.



TeenTalk Online

www.TeenTalkPage.com



Now you can join the conversation on TeenTalk's brand new page on Facebook where you can submit questions, share stories and make new friends!

Become a fan of TeenTalk to keep updated (you'll need a Facebook account)

Josue

www.JosueSanchez.com

Josué is a youth pastor with a passion to share Jesus with teens. He currently lives in Hagerstown, MD with his wife and small daughter.

Make sure you add him to your **Facebook**, **MySpace**, **Twitter** or **FlowWith.me** friends list!

Join the conversation on this topic at www.TeenTalkPage.com

Creation Corner for Kids



“For every one that asketh receiveth;
and he that seeketh findeth; and to him
that knocketh it shall be opened.”
Matthew 7:8 (KJV)

**Think
about it.**

Christians have the key to the door to eternal life. That key is Jesus. Jesus has made it so easy for us. He's opened Heaven's door and invites us in. Shouldn't we be sharing this wonderful "secret" with others?

Do it.

Swallows are terrific pest controllers, catching and eating hundreds of insects—like mosquitoes and flies—in mid-air. If you don't like the mud droppings from nesting barn swallows, install a small ledge to catch the falling bits of mud, rather than destroying the nest. Fewer biting bugs and pesky flies will be your reward.



Barn Swallow

Every spring, the peachy-breasted barn swallows made their mud-dabbed nests under the roof and on the rafters of the big red barn in our yard. Sometimes, a pair would even stick up a nest under the overhanging roof of our house. For some odd reason, barn swallows like to nest where people are.

One year, when the door knob was off the front door because it needed replacing, a barn swallow peeked in through the hole, calling its mate excitedly to come have a look at the great nesting sites waiting for them inside the house! I quickly stuffed a towel in the hole. Much as I like them, I'd rather not share my home with them.

Barn swallows are pretty smart. I once saw a video of a pair of barn swallows that were building their nest inside a large hardware store. These birds had discovered the secret to opening the store's closed doors. All they had to do was hover in front of the electronic movement sensor above the door and the automatic door would slide right open for them.



FRIENDS IN CHRIST

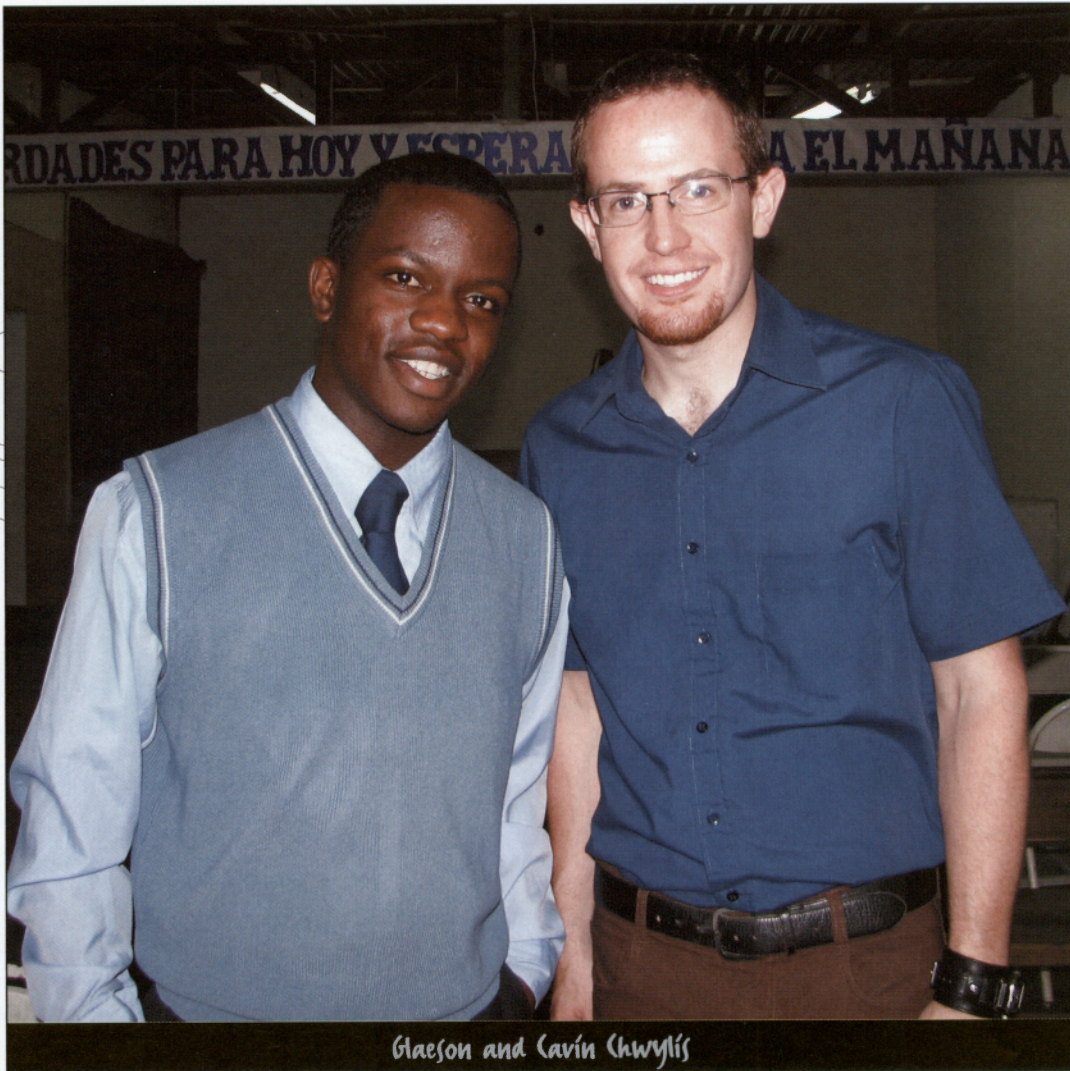
BY CAVIN CHWYLIS

As part of their Pastoral Practicum International class, Religious Studies students at UC take part in a summer evangelism study tour with ShareHim ministries. This past summer, a group led by Dr. Bruce Boyd, assistant professor of Religious Studies, along with eight students (Joseph Augustín, Jonathon Barrett, Bruce Boyd, Cavin Chwyl, David Guzman, Timotheus Nagy, Pierre (laude) Robergeau and Robert Zama) traveled to Costa Rica. Each one was given a site where they would preach and personally experience evangelism. In the words of fourth-year Religious Studies student, Cavin Chwyl, "It was a life changing, experience ..."

When I look back at my time in San Jose, Costa Rica, I can think of many things to share. I could tell of the dangers in the neighborhood of my church, or how I was blessed everyday by a seven-year-old girl who would tell me, in English, that she loved me in Christ or how she taught me how difficult it is to say who and at what age someone is ready for baptism. I could talk about cultural differences or baptisms, but instead I'm going to share with you about friendship—true, brotherly, Christ-centered friendship.

When I was told I was going to have a translator, I was expecting someone who barely spoke English and maybe a middle-aged man who would have no similarities with me. It would simply be a working relationship, I thought, but I was surprised. I finally met my translator the day before I was to begin preaching. When I saw him walking toward me I thought, "He's shorter than me!" (Not many are!) Glaeson was a 25-year old high school counsellor with a deep, burning love for Christ and with his own personal music ministry. I soon realized that even though he was short, he cast a long shadow. He was on fire! And as far as similarities go, I, too, have a deep interest in counseling, and I am also 25. We hit it off right away.

When our first meeting came, we had practiced working together very little, but somehow he picked up what I said and returned it to the people without a hitch. Soon, Glaeson and I could present the sermons as though we had worked together for years. I give credit to Glaeson and his great patience, but also to the fact that we became best friends—a term I don't use lightly at all. With us both being the same age and of similar interests and ambitions, we forged a bond like few I've ever formed in my life. Working together each day we could get a little—excuse the pun—short with each other, but we were both big enough to laugh it off and carry on.



Glaeson and Carin Chwylis

Each day and through each sermon, we strengthened our bond. We didn't just read and preach the sermons, but we relearned the content of each one. If you want to become friends with someone, study the word of God together every day for two weeks, and you'll have a bond few will experience.

For my final sermon, I decided to talk about heaven. It was well received by the congregation. When we were finished, Glaeson presented me with an English/Spanish bible. We both cried, and like old friends and brothers, felt sad that we were leaving each other. During the series we baptized 15 new members into the church where I worked.

I went to Costa Rica with no expectations but was blessed to see the Holy Spirit work miracles in the hearts of those that attended. I will never forget Glaeson and the others I met nor will I forget how they all helped strengthen my walk with God. ■

Carin Chwylis is a fourth-year Religious Studies student from Chetwynd, British Columbia.



Love and

Here are two facts:

1. On November 14, 2008
Angelika and Steve Crisp of
Barrie, Ontario buried their
15 year old son, Brandon.
2. For mortals, the meaning of
the word love is best understood
when you are a parent.

From these two facts, I want to draw out a truth about God and His relationship with us. I will do it principally by way of an unusual supposition. But first, let us briefly unfold the stories behind both of our facts.

After becoming increasingly alarmed that their young son was addicted to video games, the parents of Brandon Crisp admit that a family dispute developed. Brandon's Xbox was taken from him. In anger, he ran away from home on Thanksgiving Day, October 13. Appropriately, the police were called and a community search followed, lasting many days. On November 5, a couple of hunters found the lifeless body of Brandon Crisp at the base of a tree.

The story behind parental love is less easily explained. Love is so marvelous, so intense and so amazing that words do not describe it very well. Sometimes the word love is used in a trivial way—to describe our feelings toward a pet, a vegetable or an apple. Sometimes the word is sullied with lust—to describe a teenage “crush” or an adulterer's bedroom tryst. So, I choose to suggest that the highest level of understanding what love is, is a mom's and a dad's love experience between them and their darling kids. Usually.

Now the supposition.

Let us suppose that when God created humans He would have given us the facility that, when we procreate, we

Addictions

by D. Douglas Devnich

could at the same time predetermine whether or not our children could become addicted to video games. And, by extension, we could predetermine some other choices, be they addictions or loves. Wouldn't it be wonderful? We could establish absolutely perfect love relationships with our children. We could design their characters and prevent their running away and we could even make them stay religious in the way we taught them. Surely, Angelika and Steve, by making the right predetermination would not have needed to suffer the excruciating agony of burying their dead 15 year-old.

On second thought, had my parents made similar predeterminations for me, I know I would never have loved them. Today I would be a machine of some kind, covered in flesh, but I would hate life. (Well no, to hate one would have to first know love). Or, be a zombie. Thank God I was born with freewill! And, thank God He did not give men and women the power in the act of reproduction to also determine how their offspring would think or behave! God loves truly. At creation, He took the risk that we humans might choose to run away from Him and even fall to our spiritual deaths at some "tree" of evil.

Is it not amazing that our heavenly Parent would deliberately limit Himself? For a love relationship with His human children, knowing in advance that any one of them might choose to harm themselves in Satan's way, He gave us the ability to do evil if we chose it. Without this provision there never would have been love except within God's heart. But, how could He have ever had happiness if He had never created beings of free will to love.

Now then, since we all have fallen into sin, what is God's love toward His children like? Certainly, as our Supreme Heavenly Parent, His love has not changed from what it was when He "conceived" us.

In my research of God's story of love,

I have found that He is constant but that we humans intermittently run away from Him thus placing ourselves on Satan's ground. (See *The Great Controversy*, page 530) When we do so, we become vulnerable to the harm that the devil mercilessly does to us with our cooperation. God never causes harm to His children. All the harm experienced by His children as recorded particularly in Old Testament history is the result of human choice to go onto Satan's ground. There is also this fact to remember: Much of what the ancients and what we suffer personally in life has hit us unjustly because others have made choices that harm our physical, mental, and social environments. And, very sadly, Satan has worked tirelessly and subtly to have all the harm and evil of his nature and work to be attributed to God. (See *The Great Controversy*, page 589)

An example.

To clarify further, let us consider one of the many stories that make the point. It is one part of the story of one of God's best friends, King David.

David had an addiction—a sexual one. After the infamous episode with Bathsheba, the prophet Nathan warned: "Thus saith the Lord, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house; and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbor, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun." (2 Samuel 12:11) Nathan, like all the prophets of old was a fallen human who in those times understood God to be the "causer" of both good and evil. Isaiah said of God, "I form light and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the Lord do all these things." (Isaiah 45:7) We, who have the privilege that Isaiah did not have of knowing God in the person of Jesus Christ, know that the Godhead causes only good; it is Satan and we who create evil.

It is recorded in 2 Samuel 16: 20-23

that Nathan's prediction came to pass when Absalom sexually molested David's women on the palace roof-top. Of this incident our messenger of the Lord, Ellen White wrote: "Not that God prompted these acts of wickedness, but because of David's sin He did not exercise His power to prevent them." (Patriarchs and Prophets, p.739) There it is again, God does not interfere with the freewill of His children, neither the consequences they suffer.

There is a very important principle of Biblical interpretation enunciated by the editors of the Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary that Christianity usually resists. It is found in various places throughout, but in particular I cite volume 2, page 673, dealing with Nathan's prediction: "Because of David's sin God did not exercise His power to prevent the evil consequences. In Bible figure, however, God is often described as doing that which He does not prevent." Informed students of the Bible are able to comprehend that it is not possible for God to have caused military slaughter, slavery, polygamy, incest and the like. Humans did it by choice and then God in those days was described as doing what He did not prevent.

It should be very clear to us that God is love; that when we experience addictions, pain, harm, war, misery and death it is because humans in cooperation with Satan have done it and not God. Out of His great and often unfathomable love He gifted us with freewill. As much as we might wish that Angelika and Steve Crisp could have been spared the enormous grief of burying their dead son, none of us would want to have the power to divest our kids of the power to choose. ■

D. Douglas Devnich is the former president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada.

ALBERTA YOUTH MOVEMENT PASSIONATE AND PROSELYTIC THEIR PROVIDE



EVENT ABOUT ZING NCE

*"But now, thus says the LORD, who created you,
O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel:
'Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you
by your name; You are Mine.'" Isaiah 43:1 (NKJV)*

THE ALBERTA YOUTH MOVEMENT (AYM) began a short six months ago when a group of young adults decided it was time to gather together in an effort to equip and train young Seventh-day Adventists living in the province of Alberta for the purpose of spreading the gospel message. Working alongside the Youth department of the Alberta conference, AYM's executive committee began to plan the first annual AYM conference to be held the long weekend of November. By the Lord's grace, on the evening of November 7, the first meeting of the conference began with prayer and singing praises to His name. Little did anyone know what the Lord had in store for the next several days.

Approximately 100 people—both young and old—joined the event held at Foothills Camp in Olds, Alberta on November 7-9, 2008. Keynote speaker Dr. Tim Riesenberger spoke several times over the course of the weekend, using stories from his life as an emergency room doctor, Week of Prayer speaker, and missionary worker to challenge all to realize their purpose as Seventh-day Adventist young people in the world today. Throughout the weekend, Dr. Riesenberger shared his own experience with God to give a glimpse of what God can do in the life of someone dedicated to serving Him. Dr. Riesenberger stressed the importance of acting out and sharing one's faith, with the ultimate goal of taking the good news of Jesus Christ into the entire world.

Aside from the keynote speaker, several other presenters were on hand to offer devotionals and conduct seminars. A seminar on practical Christianity was presented by Dan Augsburger while another on relationships was led by Wesley and Ivonne Szamko. Mornings began with thoughts from Alaina and Chris Sveen, two local young adults with a desire to serve the Lord.

And the lines between invited speaker and attendee blurred a little as the entire weekend became a testimony that we serve a living God. Personal testimonies were shared by several young people on Sabbath afternoon. Accounts of how God has led in their lives, changed their hearts, and given them a passion to follow His leading flowed from their lips. Small groups of people huddled together in prayer here and there around the building following the meetings.

At the conclusion of the weekend events, Dr. Riesenberger made a call for baptism, and eight people responded while many others committed to re-dedicating their lives to His leading. God's Spirit moved; He had blessed, and people responded to His call.

AYM is now looking forward to seeing how the Lord will lead in the future. It is our desire and prayer that every young adult and young professional in Alberta would be a part of this growing movement of committed Seventh-day Adventists willing to do their all to hasten the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. ■

Hope for ANGOLA

Part II



"Thank you, thank you. I don't have the words to thank you. Today, I can lift my head and dream of heaven. Thank you."

Ignacio¹, like so many other Angolans, spent most of his life knowing nothing but war. For more than 30 years, Angolans witnessed the horrific consequences of war—first a war for independence, then a civil war. Ignacio buried loved ones, victims of the armed conflict. His home and all his belongings were either destroyed or taken. All that remained for Ignacio was hatred towards those that he felt were responsible for all his pain. That hatred motivated him to enlist in the military; it would be the release for all his anger and hatred.

What in theory seemed like a viable coping mechanism served only to exacerbate his pain as he witnessed the atrocities committed in the name of war. It robbed him of his ability to sleep as the horror was replayed in his head as if on a continual loop. This drove him to find another escape, and he found one . . . in the bottle.

Ignacio grew more and more bitter, descending into a depression that brought him to the point of suicide. When all seemed lost, his neighbour, an Adventist lady, invited him to watch a DVD. He accepted and watched while a Canadian preacher talked about Jesus' unconditional love for His disciples and how He forgave and used those 12 very common men.

A few months before It Is Written arrived for the Hope for Angola project, hundreds of DVD sets were sent to Angola with the goal of church members using them as a way of introducing neighbours, friends and family to the preacher who was to come. While watching "All the King's Men," Ignacio began to think of a possible alternative for his life: Jesus. Not satisfied with watching only one episode, he watched all nine in one sitting! "It was almost too good to be true," he says, "that someone could love me unconditionally and forgive everything that I had ever done . . . For the first time in a long time, I had hope!" Something else was happening in his life, as well: the hatred and anger in his heart was being displaced by God's love and grace.

On December 6, 2008, Bill Santos began an evangelistic effort in the Luanda Central Seventh-day Adventist Church. Thirty five hundred people attended the first night, including a young man who had peace where before he had only known rage. Ignacio decided that

night that a complete surrender to Jesus was what he really needed.

As much as he wanted to attend the meetings and nurture his choice for Jesus, getting to the Central church every night was a real challenge for Ignacio. When he discovered that another It Is Written Canada evangelistic effort—one headed up by Douglas Pereira—was going on in his own community, Ignacio committed to coming out every night—and he did!

On Tuesday December 9, 2008 Pastor Douglas presented the message of God's gift to mankind: His Son, in whom we can find peace, hope and forgiveness. Ignacio could not contain himself. "It all became very clear for me at that moment: how terrible my sin is and how wonderful His love for me is. I had no other choice than to surrender to the One who had done so much for me."

Ignacio came forward, tears streaming down his face as he surrendered his life to Jesus. His was one of 800 decisions made at the two evangelistic efforts; more than 230 were baptized on December 13, 2008 with the remainder being baptized over the following weeks.

Along with the two evangelistic efforts, It Is Written Canada also trained more than 1200 church leaders and conference officers (Luanda North Conference). It Is Written Canada also donated resources to assist in these efforts: at the end of the training, representatives from the Luanda North Conference received resources and materials including, video projectors, portable DVD players, DVD sets and computers to help maximize the efforts of the churches.

As well, two television programs were taped—one in English and the other in Portuguese—that will be aired later this season.

Your generosity has made it possible for hope to come to Angola. Thank you for making this project a reality. ■

Bill Santos, speaker-director, and Douglas Pereira, evangelism coordinator, write from Oshawa, Ontario where they work for It Is Written Canada.



THE BARREL OF THE AK47 WAS INCHES FROM MY CHEEK.

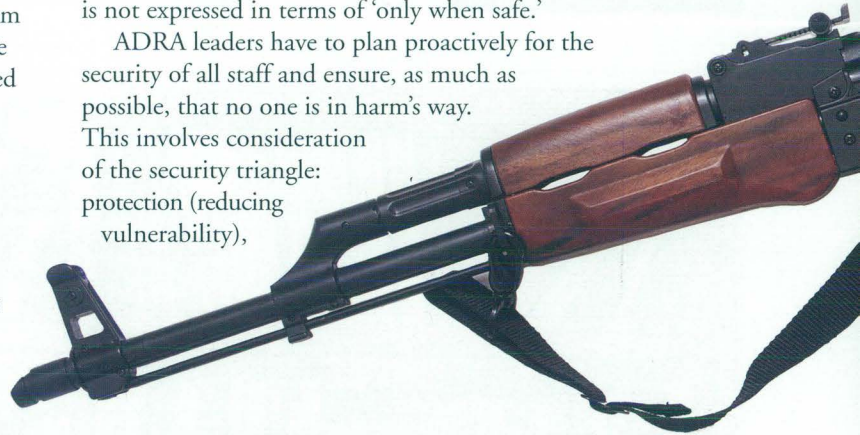
The frantic youth at the other end screamed at me in the local African language as his armed companion gestured for us to get out of our ADRA vehicle. One of our team understood the language and whispered that this was a carjacking and that we must hand over the vehicle and its contents or be shot. Bravely, she explained our mission and negotiated for our release. The armed men finally agreed to take food, water and money in exchange for our vehicle, cargo and lives. We unloaded our food and water, and I carefully deposited a sum of money on a rock that stood between us and the guns. We got back into the vehicle and started the engine. This seemed to galvanize the attackers; they trained their AK47s on me, one shouting at me to stop or be shot and the other yelling at me to drive away or be shot.

How does one deal with such situations? Recently, an ADRA project director in the Congo was returning from a visit to his family when he was stopped by soldiers. At gunpoint, they took his cell phone, money and clothes. His driver was beaten. Shots were fired, but fortunately no one was wounded.

Africa by 2018! Globally, 20-30 million people are killed on the roads each year, and more than half the ADRA staff members who die in the line of duty die as a result of traffic accidents.

What does this mean to ADRA and other humanitarian workers around the world? Retreat is not an option. Seventh-day Adventist congregations exist in more than 200 countries of the world, and ADRA offices and operations can be found in 125 countries. Our mandate, set by Jesus in Matthew 25, is not expressed in terms of 'only when safe.'

ADRA leaders have to plan proactively for the security of all staff and ensure, as much as possible, that no one is in harm's way. This involves consideration of the security triangle: protection (reducing vulnerability),

**THE WRONG END OF THE GUN BARREL**

Since 1997, more than 500 humanitarian workers have lost their lives to violence. International aid work is becoming a dangerous profession, and unlike other hazardous occupations, the risk comes mainly from intentional violence.

Violence against humanitarian workers not only shakes the confidence of the affected agency but also the entire international aid community. In response to increased attacks, some of the larger agencies of the United Nations have tightened and improved their security. In contrast, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) rarely have adequate funding for security, and committed individuals may be put in harm's way. It is sobering to note that in the majority of incidents, aid workers are deliberately targeted for political or economic motives. And it is not only international staff or expatriates who are at risk. Most aid worker victims are nationals of the country in which they are working—a real challenge for agencies such as ADRA that prioritize national leadership and staffing.

It is not only intentional violence that puts our people at risk, however. Traffic deaths are the ninth cause of death in Africa. If the trend continues, it will be the biggest killer in

deterrence (presenting a counter-threat) and acceptance (cultivating a trusting relationship with the local community and keeping clear lines of dialogue with conflicting parties). We must ensure that there is funding for training and the provision of appropriate communication equipment.

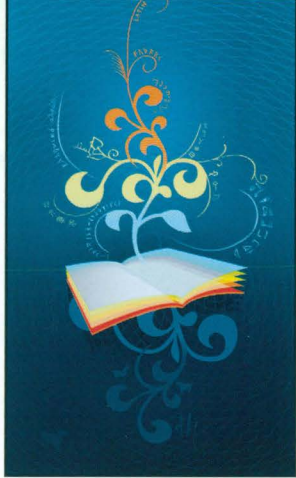
Back to that roadside dilemma in Africa: deciding that bullets were less likely to hit a moving target, I let out the clutch and our vehicle sped away. Mercifully no bullets were fired and a few kilometres down the dusty track we stopped for a prayer of thanksgiving.

Let us pray for the safety of all our ADRA staffers who are working in hostile environments and conditions of insecurity. Let us also pray for the leaders who must make hard decisions regarding their protection. In addition, let's ensure that we provide for their support. These wonderful people are the hands and feet of Jesus making a positive difference in countless lives. ■

James Astleford is the director of Donor Relations for ADRA Canada.



ADRA Canada is pleased to present "Rwanda and Beyond" featuring Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Romeo Dallaire. Visit www.adra.ca for more information.



“...I ONLY KNOW ONE THEME AND THAT’S GRACE.”

WORDS APTLY WRITTEN PROFILE OF AN ADVENTIST



Psalms 25:11 states that “a word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.” I believe this applies to words aptly written as well, as good words lead to good stories. And good stories move us, shape us, and possibly even give us glimpses of something better. Trudy J. Morgan-Cole is all about words. Just talking to her for a few minutes will reveal this clearly. A person who enjoys life, Trudy is passionate about many things: reading, Newfoundland, working with young people, her family and her faith. All of these passions are expressed in the talent that God has gifted to her—writing. She has the ability to tell a story with creativity and imagination,

sharing a piece of what God has given her and sharing words that have moved and inspired her.

In the first few minutes of our interview, I was immediately impressed with Trudy’s sense of humour. When I asked Trudy about what it meant to be an Adventist author, she laughingly told me that she preferred the moniker “writer” and explained: “I think someone once said that only dead writers are called authors; if you’re still alive you should just call yourself a writer.” Jokes aside, Trudy became very eloquent about what her faith means to her and her writing:

Being an author within the Adventist church is the context for

ADVENTIST WRITER

BY LORI MACDONALD



I HAVE APPRECIATED
THE OPPORTUNITY
TO HAVE A VOICE
AND TO HAVE SOME
SMALL INFLUENCE
WITHIN THE
ADVENTIST WORLD.
THAT IS SOMETHING
THAT IS REALLY
VALUABLE TO ME.

voice and to have some small influence within the Adventist world. That is something that is really valuable to me.

While Trudy has written a great deal for Adventist readers, she has done writing for more secular markets as well, and her faith has influenced her writing in that context also, although she admits that it is very different. Writing for different readerships does affect how one writes, but in her own words: "I think that my faith, my being first and foremost a Christian and then being the type of Christian I am, you know—Adventist—it does influence what I write and the things I write, the things I choose to emphasize."

A true multi-tasker, Trudy's working life is not limited to writing. She has worked as an English teacher in Alberta, Ontario and currently in Newfoundland. Her English teaching background has coloured the way she looks at her own work and how she responds to be people who ask her about it. "English teachers are infamous for asking their students, 'What is the theme of the novel?' When someone once asked me what the theme of one of my novels was, I told them that I only know one theme and that's grace. The theme of everything I write is grace, whether it is something written for a sacred or a secular audience because that is what shapes my thinking and how I look at

the world."

Grace is a theme that is evident in Trudy's life as well as in her writing. Working with at-risk young adults at The Murphy Centre, Trudy has opportunities to see God's grace at work every day:

I am very, very passionate about working with young people. I have always worked with church youth groups; I was a high school teacher, and now I work with young adults in an adult education program. I am very passionate about these young people because it amazes me that these people have had such struggles already so early in life, and still they have the courage that it takes for them

everything I do. My first publication was in the magazine Our Little Friend when I was nine years old, and I subsequently went on to have a lot of pieces published in our church's children and youth magazines. Then I went on to win a writing contest for Review and Herald when I was 18 and had my book published by them when I was 20.

I feel like I have always been shaped by the Adventist publishing world and that has been very good to me and very good for me. Review and Herald have always been fabulous publishers for me, and I have really enjoyed the opportunity to write things for an Adventist audience. I have appreciated the opportunity to have a

to make positive changes. It is often very difficult and they face set-backs, but the ones who keep at it, who keep doing it despite the difficulties and set-backs, they just inspire me so much! I always tell people that my students are my heroes.

I believe that, from a young age, God was showing grace to Trudy, directing her life and giving her the impetus to pursue her passions. Her first published piece was a little poem about the seasons:

I think it was called "Seasons Four." It had a different little verse for each season, and I sent it to Our Little Friend. Although they didn't have a corner or a section for publishing kid's work at the time, I just sent it as a submission thinking 'of course you'll want to publish my poem'. Our Little Friend is for "little" kids—like under six—and I was nine, so as far as I was concerned I could have been writing for Primary Treasure or something because I wasn't even part of Little Friend's readership anymore. But they published it. Since it was a poem, I had thought they would give it a little corner or something, but they gave it a full page with a photo illustration for each of the four seasons.

Of course, this went straight to my head. You know, nine is such an impressionable age. It was the first thing I had sent out for publication, and having that first piece accepted and treated so nicely at that age really either influenced, or possibly warped, my whole outlook from there on in. It also gave me the false impression that it was going to be easy. Further on in my writing, I found out it really is not, but my first experiences in the writing world were quick and easy successes, so it didn't prepare me for some of the difficulties that were to follow.

But while there have been difficulties in her writing career, Trudy agrees that her early successes helped shape her, giving her the encouragement to continue to share her stories. And now she states bluntly that she "would have no idea how *not to write*. I just think in terms of things I want to write." And Trudy is a prolific writer. She has, including the book due out this month, published 14 books with Review and Herald to date and many articles, including frequent contributions to *Signs of the Times*, *Guide* and a regular column for *Women of Spirit*. Her gift stems from her honest belief that "good stories can change the world, change people's lives and change the way that people see things. I guess if there is any deeper purpose as to my writing, it is that if I can tell even one good story that influences someone the way so many good books have influenced me over the years, why would I not want to be a part of that?" One reader of Trudy's first book *All My Love*, Kate was profoundly influenced by her writing and told me privately, "That book helped shape my spiritual life. After reading that book, I started keeping a prayer journal, just as the character Kate does.

And I still do it to this day."

Trudy's work continues to change her readers, just as she was changed by some of her mentors.

"There are so many, so

many mentors. C.S. Lewis was a writer who helped shape my faith. Madeleine L'Engle is another Christian writer for children who really influenced me. Among Canadian writers, Margaret Laurence. She is one whose writing and view of the world has inspired me. Another dead author," she said laughing. "Within Adventist writing, there is Penny Wheeler, who later became my editor for many years at the Review. She was someone who I read as a kid, and I looked up to her. And June Strong who wrote *Mindy*." A 'compulsive-overreader,' as she has labelled herself, Trudy declares "books define how I see the world, and everything I think about is shaped by the books I have read."

While books are a large component of her life, Trudy also is zealous about her family and her home, St. John's, Newfoundland. She loves that her children are growing up there and that she is close to her parents and aunt. She was born in Newfoundland, and admits that it's in her blood.

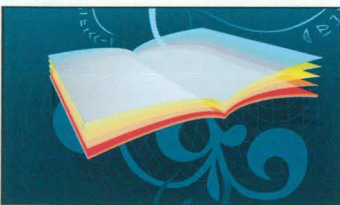
Newfoundlanders generally, with a few exceptions, tend to be fiercely loyal to their homeland whether they live there or not. I love Newfoundland and the culture. I love that my family is here and all my connections are here. I love the landscape itself; it is a beautiful country and I just love it. I love it. I would move almost anywhere in world for a year, just to experience it there, but I would never live anywhere else permanently other than Newfoundland. We own a house here now, and I fully intend to die in it—but not soon!

As a writer, where you come from does shape you. And that is something, fortunately, that I am getting to explore more in my writing now than I have in the past—writing more about things that are set here or that come from this place.

While Trudy has many books already on the market, she has quite a number coming out in the next couple of years as well. In January, Review and Herald is releasing a book called *Daughters of Grace* which is a collection of Trudy's regular columns written for *Women of Spirit* about Biblical women. In April, the second of Trudy's books published by a non-Adventist publisher will be released. It is entitled *By the Rivers of Brooklyn* and is published by Breakwater Books out of St. John's. This is a novel about the immigrant experience of the Newfoundlanders leaving home to find work. Trudy comments,

leaving home is something that we [Newfoundlanders] have always done in almost every generation. But my book is specifically about Newfoundlanders in the 1920's and 30's going to Brooklyn, New York, which is where my own mother was born because her mother had emigrated to Brooklyn, and I guess that is what sparked my interest in that aspect of our experience. It is sort of a multi-generational family story. It spans three generations and it takes place largely in Brooklyn, but also partly back in Newfoundland itself. Brooklyn has definitely inspired me, and that is kind of where this novel came out of. It is one of the places, other than St. John's, that has a real hold on my imagination.

Trudy also has a young adult version of her book *Esther: A Story of Courage* scheduled to come out during the summer of this year (published by Review and Herald); she is working on





a story about Joseph, the husband of Mary, for a series of Christmas books (Christmas 2009, Review and Herald); and she's finishing a book about the church at Phillippi (2010, Review and Herald). She is also working on a story about personal growth and falling in love that is set in Newfoundland which she has titled *Sunrise Hope* (a working title, due in 2010, Review and Herald).

When Trudy shared her current working projects with me, I wondered how she worked on so many projects at one time. How she is able to do this is something best expressed in her own words:

I really like what Madeleine L'Engle said about writing, because she did this too. She likened herself to a French peasant chef who would have several pots bubbling on the stove and, as she went about her work throughout the day, she would throw a carrot in this one and a potato into that one. At the end of the day, whatever one had the most stuff in it was the one she'd serve for supper. And that is what she felt her writing process was like, that she had a lot of pots bubbling on the stove of her mind all the time. The one she ended up sort of polishing and sending the publishers was the one that was at the front at the moment, but there were always a lot on the back burner and that is very much the way I write too.

And then I wondered how she was able to fit all the other aspects of her life into this busy schedule. Laughing, she said that it was a good thing she had a short attention span, because "I can do things for very short periods of time, but then I have to do something else. This is good, because I am never allowed to concentrate on anything for a long period of time anyway." Another way she copes is to not be that "hung up on being a great housekeeper," which I will admit made me smile. She also stated that she felt blessed that she was a person who can work in short bursts of time. "I am not the sort of person who needs to get my head totally in the right head space and have the environment perfect to write. If I did, I would never get anything done. But if I have my little Alphasmart Neo—which is the most wonderful writing tool ever invented—in my backpack and my kids are at music lessons and I have half an hour, I can sit in the waiting room and write for that 20 minutes. I just find grabbing those little bits and pieces of time throughout the day is the only way I ever get anything done."

Throughout my talk with Trudy, I was impressed by the grace she showed in even the smallest details. When I asked Trudy about whether she had ever had people take issue with her work, she responded, "Surprisingly not. But I am sure I am going to get that at some point. Maybe it is because I have not been as published in the secular market or because people haven't discovered some of it." Although she says that she is constantly bracing herself for criticism, she does not let this dissuade her from sharing her thoughts and beliefs. She contributes almost daily to her blog entitled "hypergraffiti" which, she states, has several purposes: firstly, she wants to promote her writing of course; secondly, blogging provides a venue for her "to talk about whatever is on my mind and to

air and publish things that might not otherwise be publishable. But I do hope that people will stumble across my blog and learn about my books." Trudy's blog is the first thing that pops up on Google when you type in her name, and she uses her blog effectively. "I think blogging is a great way to reach a diverse group of people. I am always surprised by the different types of people that I connect with on my blog, and a lot of them are definitely people that I wouldn't have contact with any other way."

I asked her if she had opportunities to share her faith and spirituality through her blog. Trudy's answer is one that will resonate with many people:

Some years ago while I was a stay-at-home mom and was taking some university psychology courses, I started thinking about the whole issue of how integrated and how authentic your personality is. To one extent, you are playing one role in one place, let's say at church, and another at the workplace or whatever. And one of the things I wanted to change in myself is that I had always felt very divided. I felt that I would put on a very appropriate "churchy face" around church friends and in my writing, too, when I was writing for the Adventist market or whatever. And then I might be different when I was in a more secular setting, and more particularly with writers. Because writers in general, outside my Adventist writing circle, are often very secular people and often even people who are very negative about religion. Frequently I found I was uncomfortable talking about my faith, about what I believe or even the fact that I am an Adventist and go to church if I was in, say, a very artsy setting. What made me even more uncomfortable though was the fact that I felt like there were important pieces of me that I couldn't bring up in different settings.

Blogging, to me, was an attempt, partially, to try to pull that together, to try to create a space where I could talk about all the aspects of life that are important to me. And people I know who are atheists, for example, or who have no interest in religion, have responded when I have blogged about faith and spirituality commenting that they appreciated it or that they found it interesting. The flipside of that is that some of my more religious friends or people who know me primarily as a Christian writer, get to read things from my blog that are maybe more secular or opinions or things that people might find divisive, upsetting or controversial. But I try to be honest—as honest as I can.

And that is what you will find when you read Trudy's work and what you will find when you talk to her as well. Words aptly and honestly written in stories that move their readers and often open them to new perspectives. She is enthusiastic, imaginative, creative and, above all, a grateful Christian who continues to share her faith, talents and stories that illustrate the grace God has extended to us all. ■

Lori MacDonald works at the Canadian Adventist Messenger as writer, Circulation Co-ordinator, Advertising and Announcements Manager, Secretary and all-round indispensable individual.



It's Not All Laughing Children
and Happy Endings but God Says,

"Love Your Neighbour"

In the small village of Patujusal deep in the Bolivian jungle, 10-year-old Jhonny Condori plays soccer and climbs trees with his brother, Samuel. The boys, the oldest of five children, are inseparable with Jhonny taking the lead and urging Samuel to join him. Anyone who knew that family would say that Jhonny really held them all together. Whether it was working on the farm picking corn with his father or helping his mother with the housework and caring for the younger children, Jhonny was up for anything. Where there was a job to be done or an adventure to be had, that was where Jhonny could be found.

So when Jhonny was absent from a community event, Marg Hoogland got concerned. Marg and her husband, Jake, are a Canadian couple who moved to Bolivia almost two years ago. When they left their home in Lacombe, Alberta, they had visions of establishing agriculture and education programs that would improve the lives of those in this area.

"We rush from crisis to crisis to crisis right now," says Marg. "When the crises stop, we'll get to the programs."

The crises showed no signs of stopping, however, as Marg, investigating Jhonny's absence, discovered that he was very ill. He was at home in bed, dehydrated and immobile. Jhonny's mother, Erselia, who was seven months pregnant with child number six, told Marg that Jhonny had been suffering with severe headaches and vomiting but that she had taken him to the clinic in Yapacani, a three hour drive, and that the doctor had given him milk of magnesia as treatment. It was obvious to Marg that stronger medicine was needed. Jhonny's health crisis was about to become her top priority.

A Better World, the mission organization of the College Heights church, supports Bolivia with a rural health fund of \$2500 annually. The money was intended to assist various members of the community in paying medical costs, and as such it seemed logical and

appropriate to use it to help Jhonny. However, Marg was aware that, with the seriousness of his condition, it was quite conceivable that, if treatment was started, the needs of this one boy might consume the entire fund. She contacted Gordon Gilchrist, project manager for A Better World, with the dilemma. "It was not a tough decision for me," says Gordon. "Part of me is upset that we even stopped to ask the question. We'd never ask that in Canada: 'Should I let my son die because I don't have \$5000?' I just couldn't see letting \$2500 sit in a fund on the off chance that some other people might need it, knowing that this boy would die if we didn't spend it."

The decision made, Marg and Erselia took Jhonny to the hospital in Santa Cruz where he endured six surgeries over the next six weeks. What was diagnosed as a benign, operable brain tumor led doctors on a journey that included body-wrenching seizures, multiple infections and chickenpox. Eventually,



it seemed that the tide had turned. Doctors declared that Jhonny would recover and even began to discuss sending him home.

Gordon, about to embark for Bolivia, realized it was likely that he would soon get to meet this boy in whose life he had become so invested, who had already affected Gordon's life much more than any amount of money could hope to affect his. After a grueling 24-hour flight, Gordon went directly to the hospital and met Jhonny. "Everyone was positive. He was responding to touch. And, for the first time in six weeks, the bandages had been removed from his head." He met Erselia who, in spite of her very pregnant condition, spent every moment with Marg by her son's bedside—even sleeping every night at the hospital. She was smiling and happy when Gordon, Marg and Jake left her at the hospital to go to a local restaurant and discuss other matters and then on to a hotel to get some much needed rest. It was then

that the little group got the call; two hours after Gordon had met Jhonny, the boy died.

During the confusion that followed—buying a coffin, taking the body back home, building the crypt, organizing the funeral—Erselia was, of course, no longer that smiling, happy woman. "On the trip back to the village with Jhonny in his coffin in the back of the truck, she sat in the back seat and just silently sobbed," Gordon said. "But what really was the worst part of her reaction was that the next day—the day of the funeral—she remarked to Marg that here A Better World had spent all that money and her son died anyway. She sounded apologetic. She felt guilty."

Perhaps there are others who would echo her sentiment and even, having the benefit of hindsight, declare that the money spent on Jhonny's treatment had been a waste. In a church that is known for its dedication to mission work, we can't afford to believe that

every humanitarian effort is a happy story fit for Mission Spotlight. The sad truth is that it isn't all laughing children and happy endings. Does that mean we should give up? Does it mean our efforts are wasted?

In economics, the winners are usually those who invest in ventures that have a high likelihood of giving a favourable return. Investment becomes a matter of playing the odds, and success or failure is determined by the outcome. In Christianity, the winners are those who, governed by faith and not favourable odds, invest themselves—time and money—in ventures that promise an eternal return whatever today's results might be.

Don't wait for tax time; consult your Investment Advisor today. ■

Crystal D. Holloway, editor, is determined to invest herself for the good of humanity until there are no more suffering children whose stories need to be told.

Ontario

A Crescendo Takes Place at Nepean



A church-building effort in need of contributions. Two groups committed to the ministry of bringing music to the community. A packed sanctuary. An appreciative audience. Generous offerings.

These were the elements of a story played out recently at a remarkably successful event called *Crescendo in Concert* sponsored by the Nepean Seventh-day Adventist Church in Ottawa.

Crescendo is the name of an instrumental quartet, the main group involved in the concert. According to Kirby Joseph, a member of *Crescendo* and of the Nepean church, the choice of this musical term as the group's name was deliberate. He explains that *crescendo* is a dynamic sign in music, which means 'get louder gradually.' True to its name, the group, after a cautious, low-key start, is becoming increasingly ambitious in its repertoire and in its outreach to the Adventist family and the wider Ottawa community.

Part of that growth and outreach is the creation and mentoring of the much larger *Harmony and Praise Orchestra*, a blend of experienced and newer musicians, which also took part in the concert. Like *Crescendo*, *Harmony and Praise* includes members from a number of Adventist churches in the nation's capital. Unlike *Crescendo*, it includes non-Adventists.

The two groups delighted the audience—which was so large that additional chairs were needed—with a highly spiritual and wide-ranging instrumental feast. The night could not come to an end, however, without a report on the Nepean church's building project. David Sims, the elder spearheading the fundraising drive, noted that the project started with the purchase of the land 12 years ago. The effort is expected to culminate when the congregation ceases to rent and begins worshipping in its own building early next year. With the music and Elder Sims' report thrilling the hearts of listeners, the passing of the collection plate yielded a larger offering than anticipated.

Also coming before the closing piece was the second experience of the evening in community singing. The congregation and *Harmony and Praise* blended voices in a time that is expected to be an ever-present feature of the two groups' outreach. They even plan to sponsor events focusing mainly on getting community members involved in singing spiritual songs.

So far, *Crescendo*—sometimes alone, sometimes accompanied by *Harmony and Praise*—has played at several Adventist and other churches in the Ottawa area and in Montreal. It expects to expand its influence into the Toronto area throughout 2009. ■

—Frank A. Campbell, member

Cambridge's Women's Ministries

This past year the ladies at the Cambridge church participated in a Secret Sister event. Each woman chose a secret sister and kept her in prayer throughout the year and made a contribution on her behalf to ADRA Canada. At the end of the year, this ladies group

chose to allocate the total donations of \$1,540 as follows: the purchase of a drilled well for safe drinking water; buying a goat for a family who will now have both milk and wool, not only for personal use, but also to generate income; provide 10 fruit trees; give

three girls educational assistance as well as protection from sexual exploitation.

God has blessed us in so many ways, it was nice to be a part of blessing those in need around the world. ■

Manitoba-Saskatchewan

Conference Personnel Changes

The Manitoba-Saskatchewan conference has had a number of personnel changes in recent times. We are pleased to welcome the following individuals to our office or to their new position within our office, as the case may be:

Collin Akre has now taken up the office of executive secretary and communications director. Collin and his wife, Janice, have been members in Saskatoon for many years, and Collin previously served on the conference executive. Most recently, Collin has been employed as administrator/CEO at Sunnyside Adventist Care Centre for the past six years.

Marjorie Fortney is the new education director for Man-Sask. She is an educator with vast experience, having served as teacher and principal at various schools, including most recently as principal at Vernon Academy in BC. Marjorie also served as principal for the Regina Curtis-Horne Adventist Academy, so she is no stranger to Saskatchewan. Marjorie is officially retired but, like her predecessor, Victor Fitch, she has agreed to take on



Man-Sask conference office staff (l-r, back: Graham Glover, Collin Akre, Kevin Kiers, Ken Wiebe, Brent Burdick; front: Aris Jamieson, Sharon Hopkins, Marjorie Fortney)

the education department for our conference.

Kevin Kiers is the new youth director for the conference. Kevin has been an educator for the past 12 years. Kevin also has a Saskatchewan connection, having taught at the Moose Jaw church school for three years before moving on to College Heights Christian School for the last nine years. Kevin is married to Lynae (Patterson) and they have two daughters, Barbara and Bethany.

Randy Kurtz now serves as adminis-

trator/CEO of Sunnyside Adventist Care Centre in Saskatoon—returning after 17 years' absence—having previously been the accountant for Sunnyside. Randy, his wife, Holly, and their two children moved from Calgary, Alberta to set up a new home just outside Saskatoon.

Best wishes to all those who have served and are now moving on, and to those who are taking up the challenge of supporting the work of the Adventist church in our conference. ■

British Columbia

Creston Ministerial Carol Festival

Creston Ministerial Carol Festival is an important event each year involving many of the churches of the community. The theme of this year's program was O Holy Night and included congregational carols, scripture readings and selections from nine choirs including the Creston SDA Church.

The master of ceremonies and song leader was the Presbyterian church pastor who commented on the rich male voices and the excellent harmonies of our choir which was accompanied by the Jacqui on the flute and LeeAnn on the piano. Our choir was directed by a guest musician, Anita Stushenoff, who is well-known in



this community and co-ordinated the Carol Festival.

The evening ended with a mass choir singing O Holy Night. Marjorie Comm, one of our choir members, was one of the soloists.

The purpose of the evening was not only to entertain but to raise money for the local Christmas hamper project. Approximately \$2600 was raised. The Ministerial Association was able to prepare 350 hampers for those in need, thanks in part to these donations. The event was held in the local United Church and was a real blessing in bringing the whole community together in praising the name of the Lord. ■

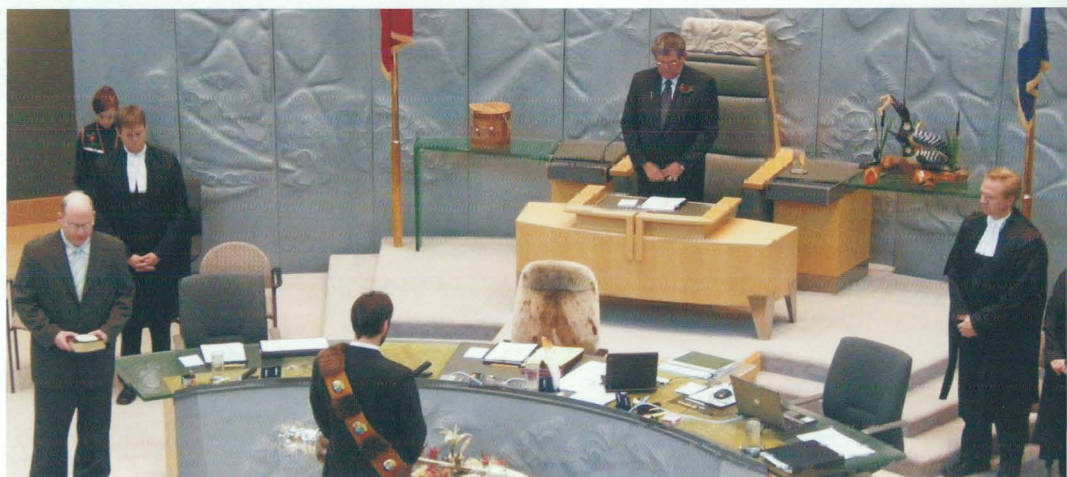
—Marj Comm, member

Alberta

SDA Pastor Prays with Politicians

Pastor Brad Dahr had the privilege today of assisting with the opening of the third session of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories by asking God to bless the session. He was invited to give the opening prayer by Danielle O'Neill, Public Affairs and Communications Advisor for the Legislative Assembly of the NWT.

While meeting new people is always a blessing, the best part of the experience for Pastor Brad was when the Commissioner began his speech by saying, "thank you Pastor Brad Dahr from the Yellowknife Seventh-day Adventist Church." "It's great to



Pastor Brad Dahr (far left) with members and representatives of the Legislative Assembly.

see our church name out there in front of the public in a positive way," said Pastor Brad. Feeling that it was a divine appointment, Pastor Brad is waiting to see how God will use this to open up other opportunities to share the good news and the three angels' messages. ■

■ **Announcements**

Missing Members: The Merritt church is looking for the following people: Bernard Cormin and Carol Sutton. If you have any information about these members, please contact Lorna Valois by email at lv2462@telus.net.

Calling all Red River Valley Junior Academy alumni, former staff, friends and supporters. You are invited to join us in celebrating 85 years of Adventist education in Winnipeg. Our 85th anniversary alumni homecoming weekend will be held Aug. 28-30, 2009 in Winnipeg, Man. For more information, visit www.rrvja.ca or call the alumni hotline at 204/663-5980. (06/09)

■ **Births**

Nevae Ana Brownmiller was born on Nov. 19, 2008 to Amber Brownmiller of Langley, B.C.

Kendra Capote was born Oct. 29, 2008 to Alex and Maria Capote of Victoria, B.C.

Kaitlyn Elizabeth Joy Shell was born Sept. 19, 2008 to Jonathan and Rhonda (Price) Shell of Niles, Mich.

■ **New Members**

ALBERTA

Rebecca Alai, Timothy Alai, Gossett Black, Jason Hamilton, Grace Higgins, Desiree Joseph, Bertram Joseph, Andrew Melay, Pierre Andre Valescot, Akihito Yuge, Philip Akech Anyuon, Kevin Duhaney, Anita Ramos, Marilynd Noxolo Maseko, Abraham Dassin, Moses Mathias Muthanji, Damaris Muthanji, SallyAnn Isaac, Ken Morrison, Eval Ming, Evelyn De Roose, Marife Agres, Janiece Kinlock, Sydonnae Harvey, Verona Harvey, Samantha Webster, Amanda Webster, Maureen Gabriela Webster, Johanne Webster, Shannon Chan, Shane-Lee Chan, Shefreen Clarke, Kayla Elliott, Ursula Muronda, Olivier Rouleau, Lisso Siziba, Annassa Paul, Elijah Paul, Karen Paul, Christopher Nelson, Shereese Morrison, Woldy Melle, Champaigne Massiah, Janice Mihut, Gertrude Lamontagne, Misha Kopciuk, Ella Kopciuk, Jerron Isaac, Marcus Douglas, Brandon Coutain, Breann Coutain, Jeanelle Tharte-Agard, Garth Constantine, Wauldron Afflick, Runako Ferary, Shenda Chimwaso and Elijah Black were baptized in Calgary, Alta. in Nov. 2008 by Reynold Ferary. They were baptized as a result of an

evangelistic series by Pastor Samuel Telemaque, Sabbath school and personal ministries director and prayer coordinator for the Caribbean Union Conference. They are now members of the Calgary Bridgeland church.

Bruno Baseotto, Taonga Chundu and **Askim Chundu** were baptized in Calgary, Alta. on Nov. 8, 2008 by Leo Launio. They are now members of the Calgary Southside church.

Violet Delzer was baptized in Camrose, Alta. on May 10, 2008 by Bob Burke. He is now a member of Camrose church.

Coltyn Pugh was baptized in Ponoka, Alta. on Nov. 15, 2008 by David Beaudoin. He is now a member of the Ponoka church.

Conjaveny Dave Sulite, Blessed Jave Sulite and **Jonalie Aranda** were baptized on Nov. 8, 2008 by David Sulite. They are now members of Calgary Metro Filipino Company.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Tamara Adams, Daniel Bianco, Donna Bonthron, Logan Cote, Robert Drake, Brandon Gravel, Jagger Gravel, Jenny Gravel, Quentin Satelmayer and **Tyler Satelmayer** were baptized in Kelowna, B.C. by Justis St. Hilaire. They were baptized as a result of the Revelation of Hope Prophecy seminar and are now members of the Orchard City church.

William B. Loewen was baptized in Aldergrove, B.C. on Nov. 22, 2009 by David Jamieson. He is now a member of the Aldergrove church.

SASKATCHEWAN

Joseph Nifasha was baptized in Saskatoon, Sask. on Sept. 13, 2008 by Stephen Little. He is now a member of the Mount Royal church.

■ **Weddings**

Rhoda Atwood and **Murray Fuller** were married Oct. 12, 2008 in Williams Lake, B.C. and are making their home in Williams Lake. Rhoda is the daughter of Freeman and Muriel Atwood of Oak Part, N.S., and Murray is the son of Richie and Lavoie Fuller of Williams Lake.

Cheralee Dawn Shipowick and **Robert James Nickolas Filion** were married Aug. 3, 2008 in Sylvan Lake, Alta. They will be making their home in Lacombe, Alta. Cheralee is the daughter of Winston and Elsie Shipowick of Yorkton,

Sask., and Robert is the son of Larry Filion and Annabelle Trimmer of Cochrane, Ont.

■ **Anniversary**

Herbert and Elfriede Koehn of Grande Prairie, Alta. celebrated



their 50th wedding anniversary on July 27, 2008. Herbert and Elfriede were married in Vancouver, B.C. at 3 p.m., and their anniversary celebration took place in the Grande Prairie hall at the same time that they exchanged their vows 50 years earlier. The Koehns have four children: Lorie (Larry) Ramey of Portland, Ore.; Dorothy (Dan) Merklin of Grande Prairie; Irma (Dale) Gordey of Lacombe, Alta.; and Charles (Kathy) of Hardisty, Alta. They also have seven grandchildren.

■ **Obituaries**

Cecile (Desnoyers) Cascagnette was born Apr. 8, 1920 in Coderre, Sask. and died Oct. 30, 2008 in Swift Current, Sask. She is predeceased by her husband Clement and her brother Raymond. Surviving: sons John (Marlene) of Eagle, N.B., Ron (Pauline) of Success, Sask., James of Victoria, B.C. and Paul (Della) of Saskatoon, Sask.; daughters Yvonne (Jim) Mohagen and Marguerite of Swift Current, Denise (Brian) Bechtold of Edmonton, Alta., Theresa (Andrew) of Saskatoon, Catharine (Gerry) Haworth of Armstrong, B.C.; sisters Jeanne Briggs and Yvette (Roy) Hayes of Montrose, B.C.; sister-in-law Laura Desnoyers of Montrose; 19 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Florence (Mizon) Cook was born Aug. 23, 1918 in Southampton, Ont. and died Nov. 13, 2008 in Brantford, Ont. Florence worked with the Dorcas society in Brantford for many years. She is predeceased by her husband Clarence, three sisters and a brother. Surviving: son Brent; daughters Beverly Ritchie, Sharline Cartwright, Barbara Feijo and Shirley Mason; sister Ethel MacLeod; 15 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

Elizabeth Kinney was born Feb. 8, 1921 in Cumbræ, Scotland and died Nov. 6, 2008 in Stoney Creek, Ont. Elizabeth taught children's Sabbath school for 25 years and volunteered her time for community services, ADRA annual appeal, Grandview school, It Is Written telephone services and other church functions. She is predeceased by her husband Harry and daughter Mary Townsley. Surviving: son Clarence (Edna) Kinney of Hamilton, Ont.; daughters Margaret Townsley of Stoney Creek, Nellie Ritchie of Hamilton and Judy (Mac) MacPherson of Hamilton; sister Nellie Saunders; 12 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren.

Dorothy "Dot" (Harkness) Kyte was born in Brandon, Man. and died May 17, 2008 in Kelowna, B.C. Surviving: son Bob (Nancy) of Silver Spring, Md.; daughters Beverly (John) Jeider of Creston, B.C., Barb of Kelowna, B.C., Heather (Kurt) Roeske of Kelowna, Bobbie (Ron) Fleck of Walla Walla, Wash.; brother Donald of Vancouver, B.C.; 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Bill Oliver was born July 11, 1927 in Martinez, Calif. and died Aug. 4, 2008 in Kelowna, B.C. Surviving: wife Naida; son Gerry (Line) of South Carolina; daughters Charlene of Burnaby, B.C.; Tara (Keith) Severtson of Bragg Creek, Alta., Renee and Janeen of Kelowna, B.C.; sisters Betty (Courtney) Gimbel and Barbara Rottacker of Kelowna; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Eunice Gertrude (Dykstra) Sayce was born Aug. 11, 1918 near Stettler, Alta. and died Nov. 16, 2008 in Stettler. She is predeceased by her husband George and daughter Marilyn LaRose. Surviving: daughters Gloria (Bob) MacKenzie, Gail (Rick) Baron and Faye Birrell; brother Arnold (Pauline) Dykstra of Vernon, B.C.; sister Florence Harvey of Kamloops, B.C.; eight grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Terry Schulze was born Sept. 5, 1948 in Vernon, B.C. and died Oct. 23, 2008 in Vernon. Surviving: wife Diane Schulze and sister Marlene Schulze.

Lila Belle (Suiter) Smith was born July 24, 1920 in Vancouver, B.C. and died Oct. 20, 2008 in Vernon, B.C. Surviving: husband Delbert; sons Robert (Ruth) of Westbank, B.C., Terrence (Grazyna) of Edmonton, Alta., Kelly of Victoria, B.C.; daughters Sharon (Jim) Burgess of Armstrong, B.C., Lynda (Harold) Norris of Spallumcheen,

B.C. and Wendy (Steve) Whitehall of Calgary, Alta.; brother Marvin (Lois) Suiter of Vernon; sister Norma (Lin) Watts of Utah, USA; eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Clifford Stevenson was born Aug. 23, 1933 in Kingston, Ont. and died Nov. 27, 2008 in Oshawa, Ont. Clifford worked at College Woodwork on the Kingsway College campus for 23 years. He is predeceased by his brothers Howard and Allen and sisters Doreen, Grace and Irene. Surviving: wife Linda (Orr), son Jerry, daughter Cindy, sisters Lillian and Jean; and four grandchildren.

Bill Tataryn was born Mar. 24, 1916 in Ketchikan, Sask. and died Nov. 2, 2008 in Kelowna, B.C. Bill is predeceased by his wife Stella. Surviving: son Reuben (Jean) of Spokane, Wash.; daughters Esther Crumb of Kelowna, B.C., Eleanor Hargrave of Puyallup, Wash. and Elaine Clarke of Auburn, Wash.; 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Theodore Weis was born Nov. 17, 1909 in Lehigh, Kans. and died Nov. 14, 2008 in Apopka, Fla. Theodore served the church as an educator and pastor in Manitoba and the U.S.A. He is predeceased by his first wife Mitilda Albrecht and son Clinton. Surviving: wife Alice and stepsons Frank (Sally) Tochterman of South Lancaster, Mass. and Fred (Susanne) Tochterman of Brigantine, N.J.; daughter-in-law Carol Weis of Reading, Penn.; 10 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Mary (Bergen) Wood was born May 18, 1948 in Prince Albert, Sask. and died Nov. 7, 2008 in Saskatoon, Sask. Surviving: husband Richard; daughter Korena McPhee; stepson Rick; stepdaughter Sheri (Shane) Meston; brothers Wes (Charlene) Bergen and Ben (Jeanette) Bergen; sisters Tina Lybyk and Sarah Dyck; and two grandchildren.

■ **Advertisements**

NEWSTART Lifestyle Program at Weimar Institute of Health and Education—Our 18-day NEW START Lifestyle Program reduces the risk of and reverses obesity, diabetes, neuropathy, heart disease, fibromyalgia, high cholesterol, hypertension, stress and other degenerative diseases. For more information call 800/525-9192 now! Read testimonies on our website: www.newstart.com (12/09)

■ **Advertising Policies**

PROCESS:

- All advertising should be submitted with local conference approval.
- Payment must accompany your ad, or it will not be published.
- The Messenger assumes no responsibility for typographical errors, nor liability for the advertisements. Acceptance of ads does not constitute endorsement of the products or services by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada.

Deadlines

April issue: **Feb. 2**
 May issue: **Mar. 2**
 June issue: **Apr. 1**

AdventistSingles.org or ChristianSinglesDating.com

Free 14-day Trial! Join thousands and thousands of active Adventist singles online. Free chat, search, detailed profiles, match notifications! 2-way compatibility match, 10 photos, confidential online mail. Witnessing opportunities to the world through articles, friendships, chat, forums. Since 1993. Adventist owners. Thousands of successful matches! Top ranked. (4/09)

La Sierra University seeks two SDA physical educators for fall 2009. Ph.D. preferred. Rank and salary based on degree, experience and scholarship. Duties include: teaching pedagogy theory and activity courses, advising students, scholarly activities, and serving on University committees. Send cover letter (including a philosophy of teaching), CV, three course syllabi, three professional references with telephone numbers to: Desiree Fawn Noah, Human Resources, La Sierra University, 4500 Riverwalk Pkwy., Riverside, CA 92515. Phone 951/785-2088; fax 951/785-2087; email dfnoah@lasierra.edu. See additional details at www.lasierra.edu/jobs. (02/09)

Visiting Niagara Falls, Canada—contact Niagara Fallsview Services to arrange accommodations, meetings venue, ground transportation, wheelchair accessible mini-vans, transfers to/from Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo airports, daily tours in Niagara and Toronto. Ideal business and ministry convention location. Looking for investment properties in Niagara region? We can help. niagarafallsview@aol.com (6/09)

Confidential, Personal Service! Working for you in Abbotsford, Aldergrove, Langley, Chilliwack, & Mission, BC

"I sell a home every 7 days on average, yet I'm never too busy for you or your referrals!"



Alan Hamilton team
 FraserValleyHomeSeller.com
 "It's the Experience!"



RE/MAX Little Oak Realty
 #9-2630 Bourquin Cr. W. Abbotsford, BC V2S 5N7
 Each Office Independently Owned & Operated
Call Alan Now! 604-859-2341 or 1-800-668-8661
 Fax: 604-850-2325 Email: alan@alanhamilton.com

Alan Hamilton, BBA
 Realtor

FACE You Can Educate Orphans In Adventist Schools In Africa!

Free African Children thru Education Keeps orphans at home, not in orphanages! \$65 per year provides school fees, uniform, pencils, pens, paper and a blanket for a child orphaned by disease, poverty and war. 100% of your gift is sent to their school in Uganda. NO PAID STAFF! FACE c/o Marta Roffey, P.O. Box 89 Minett, ON. POB 1G0 705-765-1618

WWW.FreeAfricanChildrenthruEducation.blogspot.com

PROJECT: Steps to Christ, Inc.
 Every one of your neighbors has a mailbox. Let us make use of it and share Jesus with those who may not be reachable by any other means!

Find out how you can mail this abridged version of 'Steps to Christ' to Canadian homes.
 More information at www.projectstc.ca

or write to: **PROJECT: Steps to Christ, Inc.**
 16593 Cedarvale Rd
 Newington, ON K0C 1Y0

or call: **613-346-PSTC (7782)**
 PSTC is a registered Canadian Charity

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, phone 905/571-6585 or visit <http://jabezhouse.org>. (02/09)

New Leaf Greens product concentrates the essential ingredients from 22 lb of juiced greens into one container. Visit www.natural-pain-relief-guide.com/leafgreen.html to learn how important and powerful greens are to restore your health and youthfulness. They are the healthiest source of protein, protect kidneys, eyes and many other benefits. Phone 888/707-3663. (03/09)

Home Schoolers: Explore your options for college and your future. Preview Union College during Home School Sneak Peek April 16-17, 2009. For more information or to reserve your place call 800/228-4600 or email gofar@ucollege.edu (03/09)

Mission Project—Canada. Now you can reach every house in your neighbourhood with the good news. 59¢ gets a *Steps to Christ* with mail-in reply card for free offers/Bible study. Get one for every home on your block. Email stepstochristcda@aol.com. Why not tell Canada now? (05/09)

Creatures of the Boreal Forest
 Lessons, crafts, fun! Save time with study unit by **Creation Corner** author. Order from Alberta ABC 800/661-8131 or from www.creationcorner.com



Florida House for Sale: in excellent condition. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Good furniture negotiable. Large Seventh-day Adventist community. Selling due to illness. For more information phone 519/752-3289 or Florida 863/453-6851. (02/09)

Paraben-free skin care—no preservatives, colours or fragrances. Restores hydration 80% first use. Collagen improvement which reduces and prevents lines 31% in eight wks. Restores youthful radiance in days. www.mannapages.com/LifeEnhancer, phone Viv at 866/270-6019 or email thegoodlife@littleloon.ca. (05/09)

Head Boys' Dean needed: Fountainview Academy is seeking applicants for the position of Head Boys' Dean for the 2009-10 school year. Applicants should share values and philosophy of the institution. Husband/wife team with experience ministering to academy-age children preferred. Fountainview Academy is an 80 student boarding school nestled in the beautiful pristine mountains of British Columbia. Leading young people to Christ is our first priority. We are an accredited school with excellent facilities and a promising future. Fountainview Academy operates with a dedicated team of staff and administrators. Please contact Elaine Roque at 250/256-5403, 250/256-5452 or email eroque@fountainview.ca. (03/09)

Health for children—Could your child be feeling or functioning better? MannaBears for immune support and GlycoBears for vitamins/minerals in a natural food complex can help. Kids *love* them! www.mannapages.com/LifeEnhancer or call Vivian 866/270-6019. (02/09)

All pastors working in Canada are invited to attend the National Ministerial Convention June 21-25 at Canadian University College. Register on the web at www.sdacc.org/specialprojects. Deadline is February 27, 2009. (03/09)

A home-based health-related business helped me reach financial freedom in 15 months. Anyone can do this! www.mannapages.com/LifeEnhancer or call Viv toll-free at 866/270-6019. (02/09)

Kingsway College is inviting all former Aerials for the 25th Year Reunion. Mark your calendars because May 8-10, 2009 will be the most memorable weekend ever. Contact Gary Dooks at dooksg@kingswaycollege.on.ca for more information. Check out our Facebook group "Kingsway College Aerials 25th Year Reunion" for the latest info. (4/09)

O-50-LEAN 'New Peptide technology' that forces our body to burn fat rather than storing it! *No* stimulants or harmful ingredients... only healthful fat loss with no suffering! www.mannapages.com/LifeEnhancer, Vivian Saccucci P.D. 866/270-6019 (02/09)

Looking for more energy? The secret is to get good nutrition in, toxins out and as the body heals itself, everything works better. *Free* DVD. BarleyLife and other natural products for bone health, constipation (we'll get you moving), high blood pressure, lymphatic cleansing and antioxidant protection. Far infra-red heating units for pain relief. Phone Ray at 888/707-3663, email rayf@abundanthealth.info, website www.abundanthealth.info. (03/09)

Obtain a diploma in Nutritional Consulting through distance learning at the Total Health School of Nutrition. An SDA-based 1½ year licensed program. Graduate opportunities include consulting services, corporate wellness programs, health food stores, weight management clinics and fitness centers. For more information email rdblancy@telus.net, phone 403/288-9293 or visit www.totalhealthschoolofnutrition.com. (10/09)

Adventist Health

Our Mission:
To share God's love by providing physical, mental and spiritual healing.

18 hospitals in:
 California
 Hawaii
 Oregon
 Washington

Live the Dream
The journey begins with us.

For Job Opportunities, visit www.adventisthealth.org

The Three Angels Lifestyle and Wellness Center is looking for a maintenance person for facility repairs and upkeep. Should have knowledge of boiler systems. This would be an excellent opportunity for an experienced retired person or couple who are interested in medical mission work. Please call 780/786-4577, 780/635-3005, or 780/635-3037. (4/09)

Anyone interested in visiting the sunny island of Jamaica in the spring of 2009 in a group setting — please call 705/273-2794 or 705/273-2736; email us at igordon@ntl.sympatico.ca or cathsecret@gmail.com. (03/09)

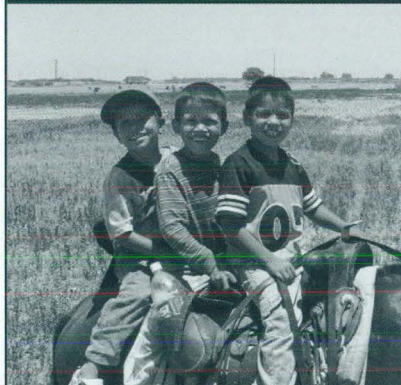
Find Messenger's ad rate sheet at www.sdacc.org/messenger.

Chinook Winds Adventist Academy
 Christian Education in Calgary



Find us at: www.cwaa.net
 Or call: 403 286 5686

C.H.E.R. International Canada



C.H.E.R. Canada is an approved Independent Supporting Ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada.

When you sponsor a child, your monthly donation provides education in an Adventist school (tuition, books, uniforms, etc.), a daily nutritious meal and medical care to a needy child. You can get to know your child through regular letters and pictures.

Hundreds of children are waiting for a loving sponsor like you. Please contact our office today and brighten a child's future!

A Little Sacrifice Makes a Big Difference.
Sponsor a Child in an Adventist School for \$25/Month!

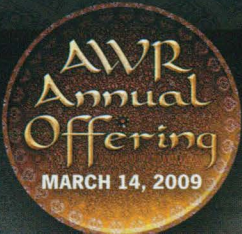
Children's Health, Education and Relief International Canada
 888-520-7474 • 905-434-7474 • www.chercanada.ca • info@chercanada.ca
 Malawi • Bolivia • India • Bangladesh • Mexico • Brazil • Sri Lanka • Philippines

Stuart Williams 1-866-344-9211
For Quality Real Estate Service!



—Serving Durham & East
 —GMAC listing and purchase cash-backs to SDAs
 —Free home market evaluation

Alison GMAC
 Realty Real Estate




AWR Annual Offering
 MARCH 14, 2009

Adventist World Radio travels where missionaries cannot go.

AN AWR LISTENER IN THE MIDDLE EAST WRITES:
"Your station has been a first window for me to be introduced to Christianity in the right way. Please send me an Arabic Bible so that I can understand more."

AWR's broadcasts are transforming lives in the hardest-to-reach places of the world. With your help, many more eager listeners will be able to turn on their radios and hear of God's love for the first time.



12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904
 800.337.4297 | awr.org



Come to Korea!

"Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation."

Mission Opportunity in Korea
Jesus is calling you to come to Korea as a missionary to teach Bible and English! You will love it!

Requirements:

- English as a first language
- Bachelor's degree
- Baptized member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

Benefits:

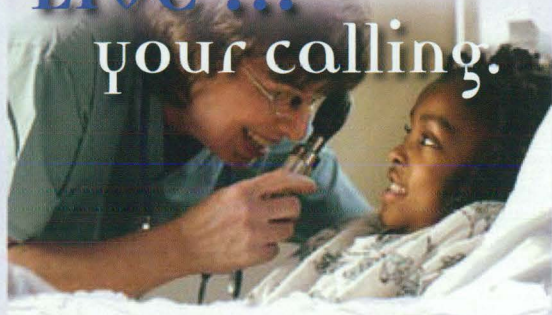
- Starting monthly stipend equivalent to US\$1,700, plus overtime
- Round-trip airfare with a one-year contract
- GC AVS Sickness and Accident Insurance plus local Korean health insurance
- At least 14 government holidays per year
- Bi-monthly term break of 3-14 days
- Free housing, utilities and many more fringe benefits




Call for more information or visit our www.koreasda.org
 Korea Phone: **82-2-2215-7496** (call collect)
 E-mail: comesda@yahoo.com
 USA Phone: **1-866-567-3257** (KOREALS)
 E-mail: wowsda@yahoo.com


Live ...

your calling.



Replenish...

your soul.



For nearly 100 years, Florida Hospital has extended the healing ministry of Christ through programs and people that are committed to making a difference. Be a part of our vision to be a global pacesetter delivering preeminent, faith-based health care. You'll cultivate your calling with the national leader in faith-based health care, while living in one of the country's most celebrated Seventh-day Adventist communities.

From its renowned schools to its diverse culture, Central Florida is fast becoming the example for a strong Christian community. Grounded in integrity, compassion, balance, excellence, stewardship and teamwork, Florida Hospital extends the healing ministry of Christ through our caring and spiritual environment in a state-of-the-art-setting. You'll enjoy the perfect mix of mission, vision and values to inspire your spirit and make your soul smile.

To be a part of the Florida Hospital mission, contact Judy Bond
 Manager Leadership Recruitment
877-Job-4SDA
(877-562-4732)
FHAdventRecruiter@flhosp.org



FLORIDA HOSPITAL

The skill to heal. The spirit to care.



REACH Canada

(Render Effective Aid to Children Inc.)

- REACH International organized in 1973
- REACH Canada Incorporated as a registered charity in 1994.
- Tax exempt #895034189RR001
- Member of Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries
- An independent ministry supporting the mission of the SDA Church
- Administered and managed by volunteers
- Operates schools, orphanages, hostels, and feeding centers
- Operates in 26 countries
- 8 branch offices
- 0.04% from each sponsorship is used for administration

SPONSOR A CHILD TODAY

- Yes! I will sponsor a child for \$25 per month.
- Boy Girl No preference
- I do not wish to sponsor a child, but I would like to make a donation of \$ _____
- Joy Fund Greatest Need Other _____

Name _____


Street _____

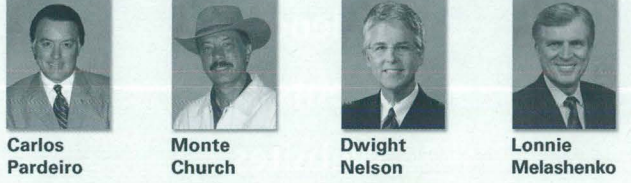
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

 REACH Canada, Box 70529, 1801 Dundas St. E
Whitby, ON, L1N 9G3, Canada (905) 720-1624
www.reachcanada.org • info@reachcanada.org

Christian Satellite NO MONTHLY FEES

 SAFETV® presents LIVE: April 3-5
"God's Three Greatest Gifts"
Creation • Salvation • Redemption



LIVE Viewer Q & A Sessions nightly
Viewers are encouraged to call on each show
Visit <http://safetv.glorystar.tv> for more details

IMPORTANT: To receive SafeTV® via satellite viewer **MUST** have a "Glorystar Satellite System"

NEW! Digital Video Recorder Package

- ◆ Record up to 500 hrs of your FAVORITE PROGRAMS with an optional USB Hard Drive
- ◆ The ONLY satellite system with OVER 50 FREE Christian channels
- ◆ Complete self-installation kit with 90cm dish & detailed Install Guide (some areas require larger dish)



\$359 + ship

Standard Satellite Package
(Does not include DVR function)
\$289 + ship

NEW DVR READY SYSTEM
Uses USB hard drive to record
Don't miss another program again!



Become an installer: sign up today at FTAinstall.com

M-Th 8am to 5pm PT Fri 8am to 4pm
t 916-218-7806 • 916-677-6228 f **866-552-6882**
www.adventistsat.com - Adventist Satellite
8801 Washington Blvd., Ste 101 Roseville CA 95678

Announcing the launch of **AdventSource 2.0**



News



Calendar



Events



Websites



Store



Media

Search

by your ministry

www.adventsource.org



\$279

Plus GST
*Includes shipping
across Canada

Adventist Home Television via Satellite

Complete pre-programmed
self-installation system
90 cm (36") dish

Programs include: **3ABN, LLBN** (Loma Linda),
Hope Channel, ATN TV in English, French, Spanish and
Portuguese, with 3ABN radio, Live Talk Radio, and Radio 74

View NET Sessions • Music and Choirs • Youth and Children's
programs • Healthy Living • Cooking Classes • Sermons and more

Order today! 416-571-8529

www.intersat.ca

Have your system professionally installed

only \$467 Plus GST
Includes receiver, dish, LNB and
installation (most places in Canada).

Topfield PVR4000 (Personal Video Recorder)
Watch one channel while recording another. Self-installation system.

only \$497 Plus tax
Includes receiver with recorder, dish,
LNB and cable. Shipping included.

 **Intersat** Canadian owned and operated by Adventists

New On-line MS in Nutrition Care Management

Apply Today!

Loma Linda University is now offering, through the School of Allied Health Professions, an on-line Master of Science in Nutrition Care Management, created for practicing Registered Dietitians.

This is an on-line program to prepare RDs to be administrators in the field of nutrition.

Prerequisites include:

- ▶ A 3.0 GPA
- ▶ A mentor willing to guide and enhance learning
- ▶ Two years of work experience as a Registered Dietitian
- ▶ Graduate Record Examination scores

This degree features:

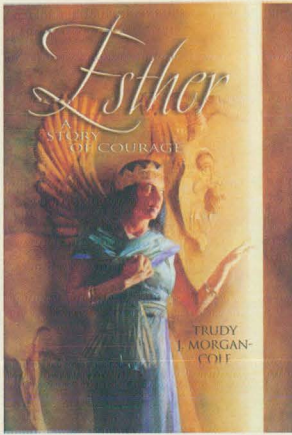
- A two-year curriculum with a strong emphasis in management and nutrition
- All courses taught on-line after a two-day orientation at the LLU campus
- Faculty available by phone or email willing to work closely with you during the program
- Beginning date of any quarter

For more information contact:

Loma Linda University
School of Allied Health Professions
Department of Nutrition and Dietetics
800.442.4558, option 4, ext 44593
nutrition.sahp@llu.edu
www.llu.edu/llu/nutrition/ncmmasters



LOMA LINDA
UNIVERSITY



ESTHER

A Story of Courage

I recently witnessed a long-time hero of mine in action. It was surreal, to say the least. As I watched her, I couldn't help but be astounded at her tenacity and dignity. It was amazing to feel inspired and energized by her performance. I couldn't help but be affected positively by her triumphant presence; she was once abandoned, abused and discouraged, but she conquered these odds to become a success story. Her courage in the face of adversity is moving and powerful and provides inspiration to countless people. As I think of her, I easily correlate her experience to that of Hadassah, the orphan who faced the odds squarely with as much courage as she could muster to become victorious as her Persian persona, Queen Esther.

Esther has always been a favorite book of the Bible for me; its direct simplicity of good overcoming evil in adverse situations has spoken to me personally. The fact that it has a female protagonist makes it all the more intriguing, as it stands out from the patriarchal bulk of Old Testament tales. But my one problem with this story is that it is too short. Up 'til now, I've accepted the brief 10 chapters as her legacy, but that has recently changed.

Trudy J. Morgan-Cole has taken this succinct account of a Jewess-turned-queen and enriched it with carefully researched detail that develops a two-dimensional character into a courageous and gracious three-dimensional woman. This is the appeal of *Esther: A Story of Courage*.

I have traditionally believed that one shouldn't "mess with" a classic, that if a work has approached perfection in any given aspect, it should be revered as such. However, building on a classic without trying to replace it can only be seen as a sincere form of admiration. Morgan-Cole has not attempted to replace

the book of Esther with her retelling, but rather has successfully enhanced the story to help modern readers truly appreciate the experience of this biblical hero.

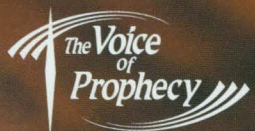
One of the key strengths of this book is its characterization. The novel is prefaced with a cast of characters exceeding seventy in total. Each of these characters has a role in the book and contributes to a complex weaving of historically sound narrative. While gripped in this novel's characterization, I could only marvel at the subtle details of Persian/Jewish cultures from this era that made the story all the more believable. Morgan-Cole's character development rivals Charles Dickens, one of my personally favorite authors. Just as I feel I could meet Ebenezer Scrooge and Sydney Carton on a street near home, I now can appreciate Esther, Mordecai, and Haman on the same level.

This tome is a tribute to a woman who didn't cave under the pressure of a patriarchal society and, as such, can only augment the biblical account of Esther. I know that Trudy J. Morgan-Cole invested much of herself into the development of her characters and their situations. I highly recommend this homage as "must-have" reading in each Christian's home. My limited acknowledgment of Morgan-Cole's talent is just scratching the surface of the many positive aspects housed between the covers of *Esther: A Story of Courage*. I know I will view the biblical Esther with more awe and deference from this time forward and more readily acknowledge the power of holy conviction. ■

J. Scott MacDonald teaches English at Kingsway College in Oshawa, Ont. where he lives with his wife, Lori, and their two children.



We Are His Voice



Celebrating 80 Years of Radio Ministry

You are invited to a weekend spiritual retreat with other Voice of Prophecy VisionBuilders who give \$1,000 or more annually. You'll enjoy Christian fellowship, experience spiritual revival, contemplate God's blessings, and catch the vision of sharing Jesus with those who still need to hear His voice of love. Accommodations and meals are provided at no charge as a special "thank you" for your dedicated support. Children (4-12 years) will enjoy their own special program.



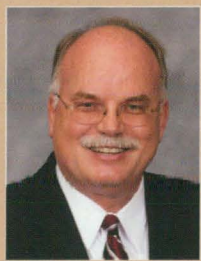
Camp Hope
British Columbia Canada
April 17-19

Featuring



King's Heralds

Introducing the new Voice of Prophecy On Air Team



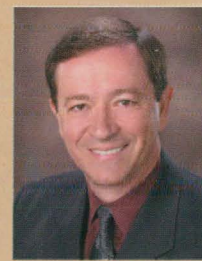
Fred Kinsey



Connie Vandeman Jeffery



Elizabeth Talbot



Mike Tucker