

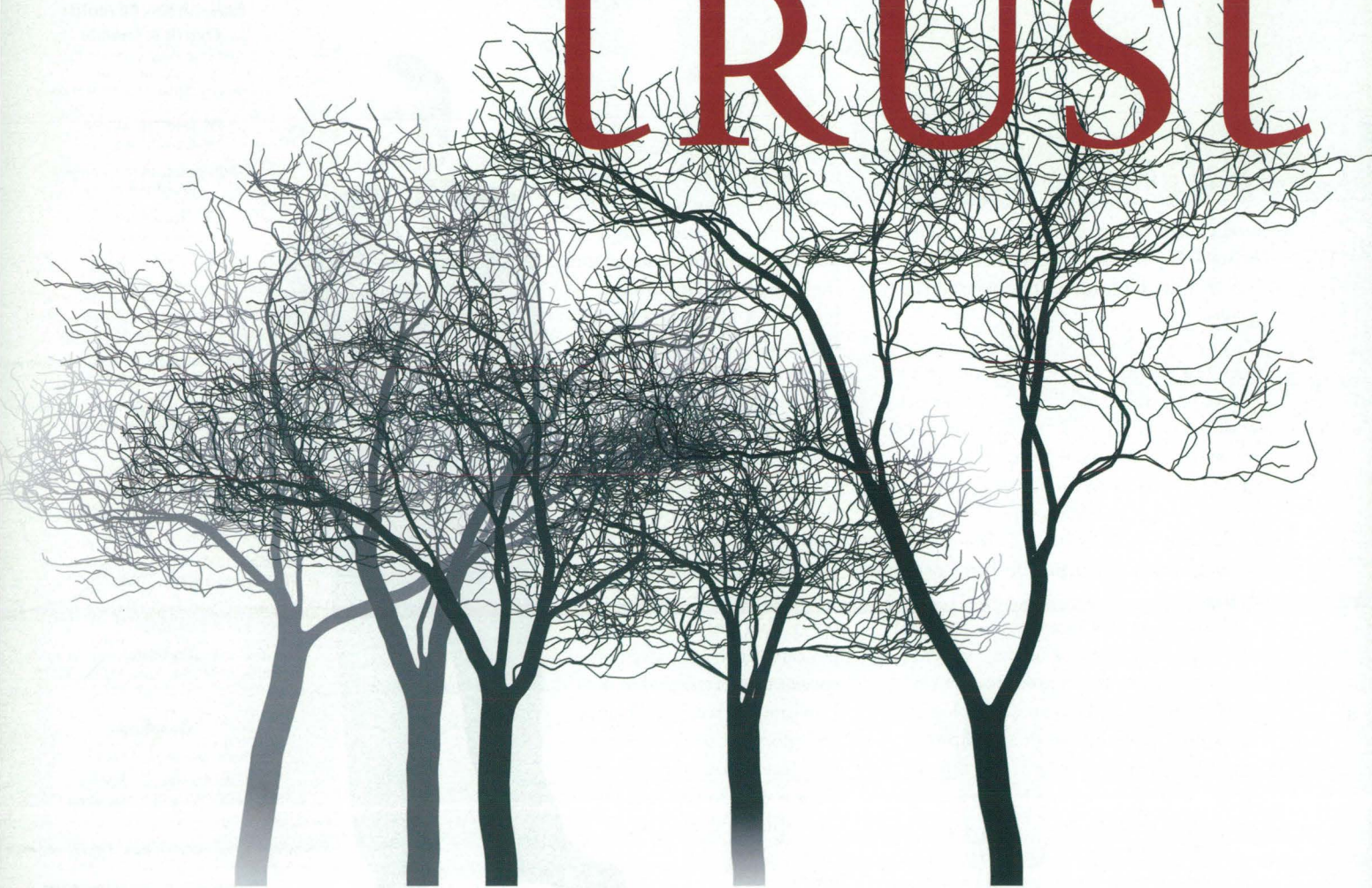
canadian adventist

# Messenger

july/august 2010



I CHOOSE to  
**TRUST**



**PLUS**

A Miracle Cure from ADRA Canada (p.8);  
A Championship Win for CUC (p. 10)

July/August 2010 Vol. 79 No. 7/8

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# The Adventist Advantage

Our message is a message of hope beyond the grave for all peoples, not just the privileged.

**M**onuments from the past are of interest to more than just the tourist and archeologist, as they indicate where we are probably headed as a society unless the Bible guides our thinking on life beyond the grave.

Have you heard of the Terracotta Army of China, a burial of sculptures of more than 8,000 soldiers, 130 chariots with 520 horses, 150 cavalry horses and more that was discovered in 1974? The gravesite was for Emperor Qin Shi Huang and goes back some 200 years before the time of Christ. Is there a message for today from the Terracotta Army?

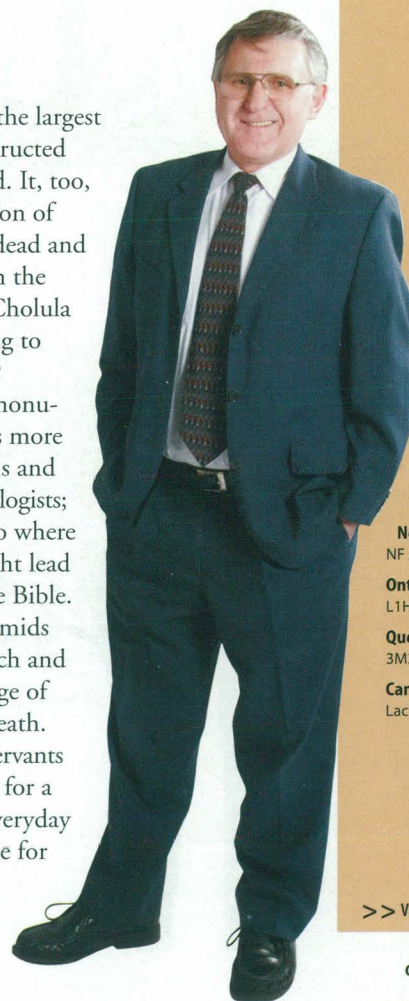
Most of us have heard of the pyramids of Egypt, and a few of us have visited the sites. Today it is a great tourist attraction and a place for archeologists to explore how the Egyptian empire cared for their pharaohs at the time of death. Do the pyramids have a message for people today?

The largest monument to the dead is the Great Pyramid of Cholula in Mexico.

It is considered to be the largest monument ever constructed anywhere in the world. It, too, reveals how a generation of people related to the dead and their hope of living on the other side. Does the Cholula Pyramid have anything to say to this generation?

All three of these monuments must be seen as more than tourist attractions and assignments for archeologists; they are a testament to where spiritual thinking might lead when unguided by the Bible.

The Egyptian pyramids tell us that only the rich and famous get the privilege of special treatment in death. Provisions of wealth, servants and glory are reserved for a few, leaving out the everyday person who must settle for something less than a hope beyond the grave.



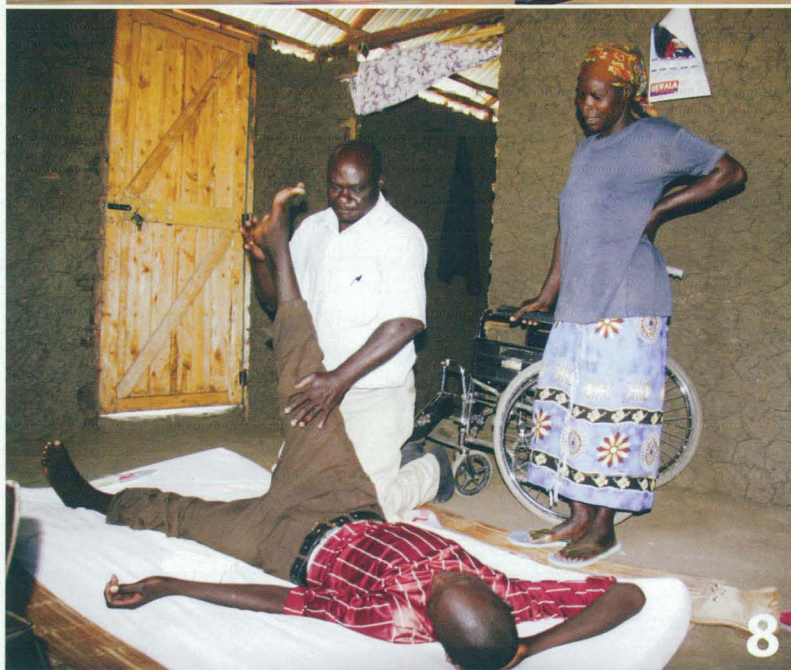
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Photo: Insignia Photography.

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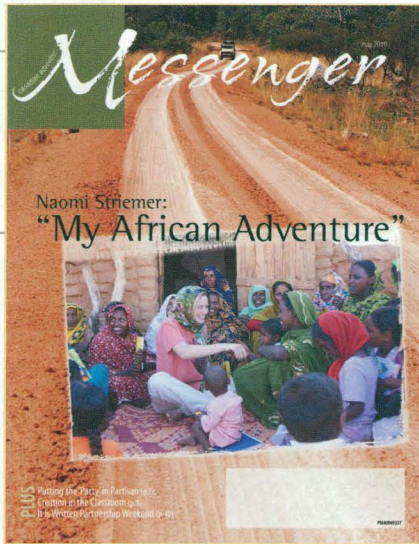
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**TAKE 5** Acrostic and 'The Back Pew'



**RE: "Putting the Party in Partisan," editorial, May 2010**

I have put a lot of thought into the very issue you discuss . . . My conclusion was that it should not matter whether we are liberal, conservative, fundamentalist, postmodernist. What I see as the bottom line is this: we should love each other.

Normally I have an aversion to the L-word in analysis because I think, when it gets bandied around a lot, it shuts down cross-pollination in the marketplace of ideas—shuts down analysis—but in this case I think it is applicable.

Our understanding of history is that the Israelites were capable of killing Jesus because their hearts were hardened. Their hearts were hardened, we are told, because they refused to accept light when it was presented to them. They continued to reject light, and the result was hardening—less love, less responsiveness to the Holy Spirit. It does not matter what we are; if we reject light that comes to us, we will become hard hearted. Hard hearted liberals, hard hearted conservatives, etc. This is the crux of the matter.

If we have as the basis for all our relationships the idea that we want to spend eternity together, the salvation of others will be foremost. This shapes how we interact with others. Instead of the sharing information (which can get heated) or being right being our goal, we will have as our goal the thought of

# Your Words

“...truth and falsehood ...are the two real ‘parties’ in the world. And, in our church.”

loving others foremost. It changes everything. Sometimes the most loving thing we can do is share information, sometimes it is saying nothing. But how we interact will be thoughtful because we will care about “where” each other is in their journey.

— *G. Mackintosh, Oshawa, Ont.*

If I may be so bold, I have found the solution to the problem of the division in our church between “progressive” and “historic” Seventh-day Adventists. When did the rift occur and what was it over? The disagreement comes from the differing views on how justification and sanctification fit into the salvation process . . .

When you first come to accept Jesus as your Saviour, the Holy Spirit takes the merits of His sacrifice on the cross and applies them to your own life as you come to believe in Him with all your heart and ask Him to do this in response to His wooing. You are justified, or purged, of all that you knew to be sin at the time. The cause and effect relationship is that as you receive His justification, you become born again, a new person in Jesus.

Sanctification can be rightly understood as justification all over again. As your Christian life goes on, you are given new opportunities to learn about other aspects of your life that

you did not then know to be sinful. The Lord winked at them then, but now commands you to repent on a sin-by-sin basis with tailor-made experiences just for you.

So while the progressive Adventists are saying, “It’s all about Christ” and the historic Adventists are saying, “Yes, but you’ve got to do your part,” they’re both partly right but are each missing this one key connection. It starts out as all about Christ, then He leads you down the path of life, but each time you learn something new it comes around full circle to Christ again!

— *L. Miller, Airdrie, Alta.*

Truth and error are still at war—even in our church—and it is vitally important that this war be continued. Loyalty and love for Jesus and His truth will not do less. Defending and loving truth, as well as our fellow beings, is what Jesus calls us to do. It constitutes “going forward.” Can this phenomenon, of defending truth degenerate into ‘bickering’? Yes, sometimes it can. We should beware, however, of classifying all controversy under that term. Can we sometimes get involved in controversy over unimportant things? Yes, we can. We should beware, however, of classifying all subjects of controversy as unimportant. The Word of God directs us in these matters, to know which is what.

Jesus describes the reality of His

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



# Cybersecurity

## Learn to look both ways

Internet crimes are rapidly on the rise, with 20 percent more cases reported last year than the year previous. In May 2010, an online news source stated that “Internet crime is evolving in ways we couldn’t have imagined just five years ago.” It is estimated that in 2009, approximately 2.5 million Canadians and 12 million Americans were victims of identify theft. *Consumer Reports* states, “Your chances of becoming a victim of cybercrime are about 1 in 4.”

The Internet is like a door that swings both ways, allowing all kinds of information in and out. This is the reason we use the Internet. It allows us to send and receive information that keeps us in touch with family and friends. It also allows us to form new relationships with people, to search for information on a topic, purchase items online and share ideas.

It is also because of this in- and out-flow of information that we can encounter many dangers in the hidden corners of cyberspace. This is why it is becoming more and more important to make yourself aware of the risks of being online and how to keep yourself, as well as those you love, safe from danger.

Over the past year, I have had the privilege of teaching computers to the grade six and seven class at Okanagan Adventist Academy in Kelowna, B.C. The Internet is an important part of these students’ daily routines. They rely

on the Internet to research information for school, play online games and connect with friends through social networking sites. I recently asked each student give Internet safety tips they felt were the most important when online.

I want to share with you a brief summary of what they came up with. These are general online security tips and safe practices that, if followed, should help minimize your online risks.

### 1. Know whom you’re dealing with

It is extremely important to know whom and what you’re dealing with when online because there are many cybercriminals taking advantage of the Internet and the people who use it.

Be aware of fraudulent “phishers” in email or social networking sites where attempts are made to collect your personal information. The email may request account details for “urgent security reasons.” The message may also point to a “spoofed” website that resembles a real site.

I recently received an email that indicated it was from a friend of mine. It stated that he ran out of money while on vacation and needed me to wire \$1,500 to him right away so he could get back home. I found out later that the same email was sent to many others, and, of course, it was not true.

### 2. Protect your identity

Use a different secure password for each online account you access, and make sure your passwords are long and complex by including numbers and symbols. *Never* use single words or anything personally connected to you, such as your dog’s name or your birthday.

*Always* remember: never share your passwords with anyone and pay close attention to keeping them secure from lurking eyes at school or work. Ryan Purita, a security consultant, says, “Computers have passwords, and passwords are the keys to the kingdom. With this access they [intruders] could do anything you could and if motivated, even more.”

### 3. Secure your computer against attack

Just like the locks on your home provide protection from potential danger on the outside, antivirus and antispyware software protect your computer from potential danger while online. It is also important to use a firewall that helps hide your computer from attacks.

If you have children who use the Internet, you might want to consider using age-appropriate filtering and monitoring software.

### 4. Be aware of what you share

You would never go to the busiest street in Toronto wearing a T-shirt that had all your personal information written on it. So, be cautious about how much personal information you provide online where the whole world can see. When using social networking sites, use the privacy settings and think twice before posting pictures. Once they hit the web, they can never be taken away.

### 5. Education is Key (Learn to look both ways)

Stay informed about current online dangers. Make it a practice to communicate with your children about Internet safety. Learn what to do if something goes wrong. ■

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*Troy McQueen is the communication specialist for the British Columbia conference and the pastor of the Kelowna church.*

## A Sermon We Can See

# T33nTa1k

### How do you reach out to a friend who doesn't know God and doesn't want to hear anything about Him?

From your question I can see that you are a follower of Jesus who wants to respond to His love by sharing the message of salvation with others. That's a good thing.

When someone does not want to hear anything about Jesus, it is time for us to listen and act. What do I mean by listen and act? Begin by listening to your friend to see what you can pray for in that friend's life.

Pray for your friend's needs, hurts and concerns. Pray that somehow, in some way, God's Spirit will break through. Talk with Jesus and ask Him to send His Spirit to work with you and your friend. When someone won't listen to you talking about Jesus, talk with Jesus about that friend instead.

Also, act. Ask God to give you wisdom and power to live your life in a way that reflects the goodness of Jesus. Our Father wants us to be just like His Son. Allow Jesus, through His Spirit, to daily work in you so that your life is like His life.

By being kind in words and deeds, you can reach out to your friend with the message of Christ every day.

Allow your lifestyle to speak for Jesus. Hopefully, when words are not welcomed, how you conduct yourself will be accepted. Your friend knows that you are a Christian. Being a Christian is a powerful sermon. Let's pray that your friend gets the message through how you live the good news of salvation through Jesus.

Keep listening because maybe, just maybe, your friend will ask you a question that allows you to share your faith. Keep close to Jesus and spend time in His word so that if this friend or another person asks you a question, you can be guided by the Spirit (after a quick, silent prayer) to give a response that encourages them to inquire more.

As long as your friend is willing to hang with a Christian like you who is listening and living by their convictions, there is a possibility of seeing that friend respond to the call of God's Spirit.



# Creation Corner for Kids

“Bringing into captivity every thought  
to the obedience of Christ.”  
2 Corinthians 10:5



## Rattlesnake

A sign on the side of the trail warned us that it was rattlesnake season. We were close to Naramata, B.C., cycling the Kettle Valley Rail Trail. The area is desert-like with hot, dry summers. Perfect for rattlesnakes. A short way up the trail, I spotted a big stick lying across our path. Too late, I realized it wasn't a stick. It was a snake! Suddenly, my mind was paralyzed. But the wheels kept spinning. My eyes snapped shut as I imagined what a rattlesnake bite would feel like. Bump, bump, bump went the tires of the bike.

Three species of rattlesnakes live in southern Canada, in parts of southern British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario. Very few people in Canada are ever bitten by rattlesnakes. Usually, the snakes feel the vibrations of your footsteps and get out of the way. Most often, snakes bite when they are surprised or cornered. Rattlesnake bites very rarely cause death, but the bite can be very painful with swelling and muscle paralysis.

**Do it.** Pay close attention to your thoughts and feelings. They will warn you when you are straying from Jesus. Listen carefully to the sound of your voice. You will hear your voice change when you are feeling angry or impatient. Make a habit of asking Jesus for help whenever you recognize these warning signals. You can find more information about rattlesnakes at [www.nature.ca/notebooks/english/emrattle.htm](http://www.nature.ca/notebooks/english/emrattle.htm).

**Think about it.** The unmistakable sound of the rattlesnake's rattle warns intruders to back off. If you heed the warning sign and slowly move away, it will usually calm down and go away. In the same way, our emotions and feelings can warn us when we are about to strike out or lose self-control. Feeling our muscles tighten and our heartbeat quicken can be warning signs to us that we must call on God for help and bring our thoughts under His control.



—Tammie Burak has recently published a children's activity book called *Creatures of the Boreal Forest*, which is available as an ebook at [www.creationactivitybook.com](http://www.creationactivitybook.com) or from the Alberta Adventist Book Centre.

# A MIRACLE CURE

by Kay Bacchus-Kierstead



**Eighteen-year-old Ferdinand felt cursed.**

Ferdinand on his bike





Bernard working with Ferdinand with Pamela watching

In the darkness of his home, his tears flowed unchecked. As his thoughts drifted, he couldn't resist the waves of despair that swept over him. Clucking hens, barking dogs, shuffling feet and other village noises filtered through the thin walls of his house, reminding him that a big world was out there. He couldn't accept that, just a year ago, he was a different person. Then, he was a vibrant, energetic student who helped out at home with chores and other family responsibilities. Now, as a paraplegic, his frozen limbs prevented him from even turning over on his mattress.

Ferdinand's illness came on gradually. It started with a persistent pain in his back. Feverish at times, he lost a lot of weight due to a loss of appetite. He began to stumble and feel very clumsy, eventually walking with a limp. A diagnosis revealed he had contracted tuberculosis of the spine.

Tuberculosis is an infection caused by the "mycobacterium tuberculosis" germ. People commonly believe this infection occurs only in the lungs, but sometimes it affects the spine. If left untreated, it can potentially lead to paralysis.

Ferdinand's heart raged at the prospect of never walking again. His mom, Pamela Kibuye, began searching for a cure. She learned that an operation to stabilize Ferdinand's spine with rods and screws was the best option. The Kibuye family borrowed money from friends and relatives, and surgery was scheduled for Ferdinand. Pamela desperately wanted her son to regain his life, beginning with walking again. After his discharge from Kenyatta Hospital, the family remained hopeful for Ferdinand's full recovery. It didn't happen. Disappointment, anger and fear gripped the family, as it became evident that Ferdinand could be physically challenged for the rest of his life.



Bernard & Ferdinand working with the parallel bars

One day, Pamela met some visitors in her village. They were calling on some ADRA clients, people with disabilities (PWDs). When she learned of their mission, she poured out Ferdinand's story. After some discussion, the Community-based Rehabilitation (CBR) personnel visited Ferdinand, and that was the beginning of what Ferdinand's mother termed a "miracle cure."

One of the staff who came to visit Ferdinand was physical therapist Bernard Opiyo. Bernard was convinced that Ferdinand could walk again. But he also knew that Ferdinand would have to work hard and not give up. Bernard set up a program and commenced physical therapy with Ferdinand. It was a slow process. First, Ferdinand learned how to turn over on his mattress. Then Bernard helped him work towards getting off the mattress and into a wheelchair. Months went by. Bernard set up a pair of parallel bars for Ferdinand to practice walking, wearing metal sheets tied to his legs to help keep them straight. As his legs strengthened, Ferdinand moved from between the bars to slowly getting around on crutches.

Today, walking normally, he's attending school and working towards becoming an electronics engineer; he even rides a bicycle, another of many miracles resulting from this ADRA Canada-sponsored program. He has also become a role model to other children with disabilities, particularly those in wheelchairs. Pamela is grateful. "We thank the Canadians very much because they have made the boy walk. Without their help, Ferdinand could not have walked."

The CBR program in Kenya aims to improve the standard of living of physically challenged people. This ADRA Canada-supported program has operated since 1984, thanks to the initiatives of Dr. Ken Hill, partners such as A Better World, and ADRA Canada supporters. Dr. Hill saw an enormous

need for awareness, education, surgeries and rehabilitation of individuals with disabilities in this remote region of Kenya and dedicated ten years of his life to implementing this successful program. In Africa, there is a common belief that if anything debilitating happens to a person, it is because they have been cursed. If the person happens to be a child, the family would hide him or her away from society because of their discomfort and shame. Countless children have suffered with these stigmas when corrective steps could have been taken to assist them. Thanks to the Homa/Kendu Bay Program, this attitude is slowly changing. Interestingly, other organizations are adopting and using the CBR program as a model in other parts of the country.

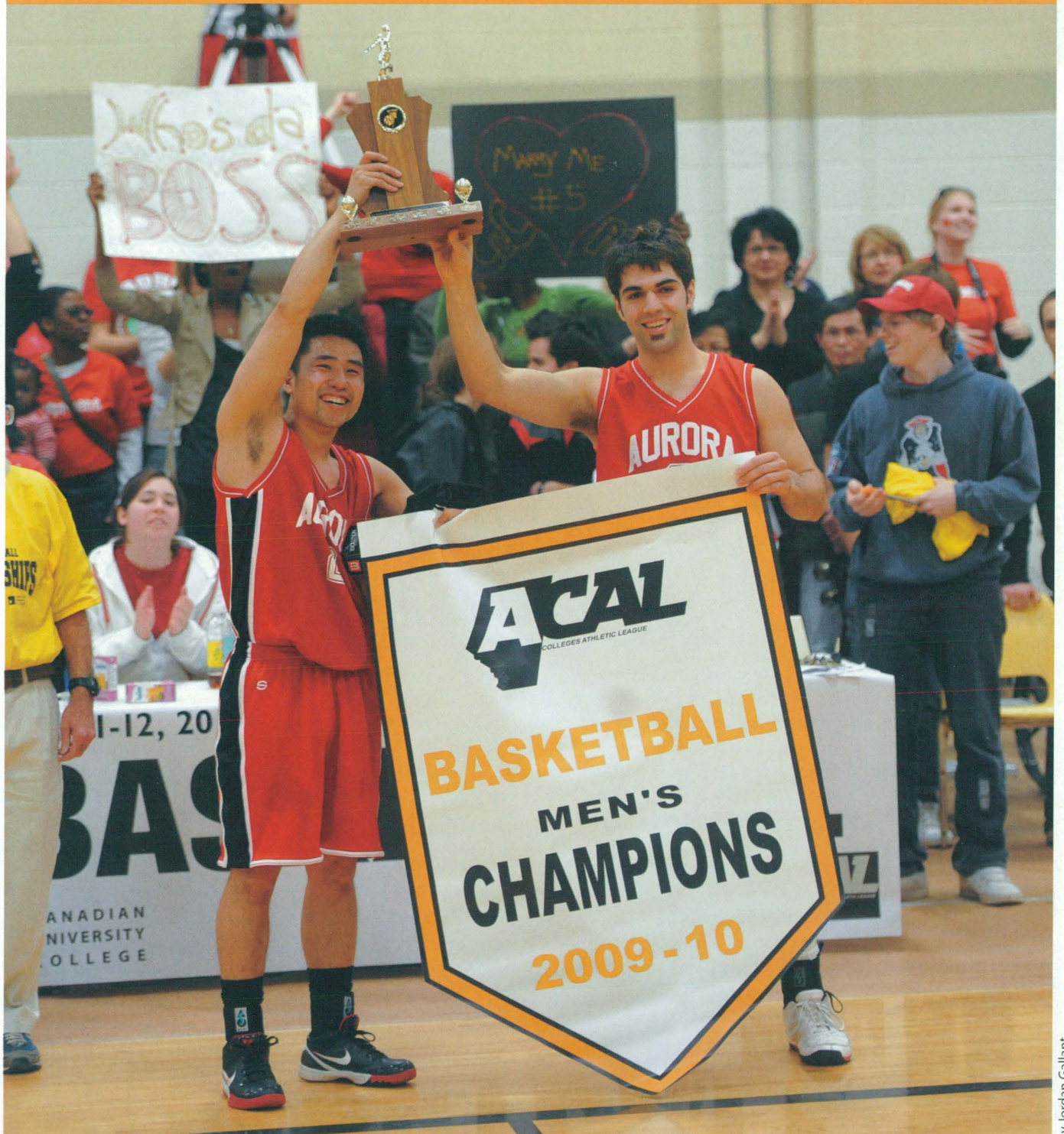
With your continued support of ADRA Canada, we can engender modern miracles in the lives of the seemingly hopeless. Together, we are making a difference . . . You + ADRA = Hope



Kay Bacchus-Kierstead on behalf of ADRA Canada, with additional information and resources from Nick Trent, program director (Africa) for ADRA Canada [www.adra.ca](http://www.adra.ca)

# CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON

As the game clock wound down, team co-captain Derrick Soong held the ball tightly and the celebrations off-court had already begun. As the buzzer sounded, the crowd rushed the floor and mobbed Soong and the rest of his teammates, a scene reminiscent of a championship win you would see on television. A year of hard work and sacrifice had paid off! CUC was the Alberta College Athletic League (ACAL) Basketball Champion!



Co-captains Derrick Soong and Aaron Densmore with the championship trophy and banner.

**ALMOST A YEAR EARLIER**, the story was quite different. The CUC men's basketball team, in their first year in ACAL, started slowly but finished in fourth place securing a playoff berth. When the team's request for no games during the Sabbath was disregarded, it pulled out of the tournament, prematurely ending their season. But the year was a success. The team had grown tremendously and their efforts in mentoring local elementary students had positively affected the student athletes. In the offseason, Ron Schafer, chair of the Physical Education department and athletic director, inquired about modifying the schedule so that CUC could participate in the playoffs. After discovering that the school that hosted the championships dictated the schedule, CUC immediately put in a bid to host the 2010 ACAL Basketball Championships. After much debate and with some trepidation, ACAL awarded CUC hosting duties for the playoffs. Schafer saw it as a chance to showcase the university and its Christian atmosphere to other students from Alberta and Saskatchewan. It was a chance to clear any misconceptions or stereotypes that might have grown from years of being unknown. And it was a chance for the men's basketball team to continue where they would not a year earlier.

As the new school year began, the coaching staff of the men's basketball team, led by head coach Peter Ford, prepared the students for the upcoming season. Regular season play would begin in the second semester, giving the team a whole semester to practice, practice and practice. Expectations were high on campus as the hilltop was energized with the prospect of hosting the championships. From the beginning, the coaching staff drilled and taught the concept of the total team game. "From this past season, the thing that I will remember is how we put a team together. We really realized that it's not all about us individually but the whole team. As coach says, 'no one is going to remember the number of points you scored in the final game. But when you win a championship that will be something that will last forever



Coach Ford gathers the team together for prayer.

Photo by Stephen Densmore

with you and the rest of the school," remarks Soong.

The team finished the season in second place and entered the tournament with high hopes. The campus was buzzing as preparations were made to host both the men and women's basketball championships. In all, nine teams from Alberta and Saskatchewan descended on campus for the two-day tournament (Thursday to Friday) in the middle of March. The players saw this as a good opportunity to show not only their basketball skills but also their faith. "I thought hosting the championships at the school was a great opportunity not only for us as a team but for the school as a whole and even our faith," said Soong.

The team was awarded a first-round bye and quickly advanced to the final game after winning their semi-final game. The contest was never in doubt. The team began to pull away in the second half as strong play from every player showcased a team that was strong no matter who was on the floor. As the celebrations took place, it was evident that the students had bought into the total team concept. Co-captain Aaron Densmore fully believed that the team worked together. "At the beginning of the year, there was a definite push by players to be the best individually. Towards the second half of the season, we began to work as a team. We began to understand each other's strengths and weaknesses. Everyone was encouraging

no matter how big or small of a role they played. I believe that our closeness and positive attitude played a huge role in winning the championship."

The season and tournament was a success. Several opposing team coaches commented that this was the best tournament they had attended. The referees also were quick to compliment the team on their disciplined play. For coach Ford, this was what coaching a Christian team is all about. The disciplined Christian attitude off and on the court gives that team an advantage even before the game begins. For a few of the graduating players, this would be one of the final moments of their university experience. For first-year student Jeremy Purviance, it was more than he could have imagined. "God allowed us to play to our potential and play as a team. All the glory goes to Him. God protected us and gave us the strength. We couldn't have asked for a better finish. I pray that we were a positive influence to everyone in that gym. All of us are part of history, and we will always have the experiences and memories to hold onto for years to come. We are the 2010 ACAL Champions, the first but not the last to bring a championship to CUC. The team was awesome and the coaches were the best. God lead us, and it is because of this that we can call ourselves champions." ■

*JR Ferrer is the communication director for Canadian University College*

I CHOOSE to

# TRUST



BY AGGIE MCCAIE





**I** was in my early 30s when the flashbacks started. Not the vivid, detailed, horrifying flashbacks that some experience; more a vague suspicion that something was wrong as I struggled my way through a sudden flash of fear or anger or panic.





I wracked my memory, trying to unearth a reason for these unaccountable and unsettling occurrences but came up dry. The thought occasionally surfaced that I was losing my mind or having a mental breakdown, but since I considered myself a normal, rational being the majority of the time, that didn't seem like a reasonable conclusion.

One afternoon, while browsing through a pile of books at a book sale, I picked up a title that intrigued me, and as I read the back cover I knew instinctively that I had stumbled onto something that would make a profound difference in my life. I embarked on a journey that led to deep counseling with a God-fearing female counselor. I found the courage to deal with the reality that I had been raped as a child by a trusted family friend.

Let me digress a little and share another relevant experience. When I was a teenager, I was in a serious car accident that, according to the police officer on the scene, should have left all of us dead. Luckily, we all walked away, albeit somewhat banged up.

But the theme of this little thesis is not the trauma of rape, surviving a terrible car accident, or the merits of counseling. It is simply my experience as I walked through the aftermath of personal trauma and came face to face with some tough questions about God, and especially the question, Can God be trusted?

I was raised to believe that the promises found in scripture are literal and trustworthy, that we have only to claim them to be physically, spiritually and even financially safe. We've heard them from the pulpit; Grandma lived by them; Mom put all her faith in them; and I wondered—so, what happened?

I have always claimed that it was God's providence that we survived the car crash—that He had taken a personal interest in us that day. Had we not prayed for safety and received it? An on-demand promise fulfilled? It always sounded so spiritual to be able to claim that God does keep His promises. It is a heady experience to be able to boldly proclaim that God Himself kept us alive. But now what? In light of learning about and coping with the reality that I was raped, what was I supposed to think about this God and His promises?

Let me get this straight. As a child, He allowed me to be molested but when I was a teenager, He shielded me from certain death. So did He sleep through my childhood? Did He not get my mother's memo? No one prays more faithfully for her children than my mother. Was I unworthy? Did I survive the crash in my teen years because He felt bad for not keeping me safe in my childhood? Is He a will-o-the-wisp, flitting in and out of our lives, sometimes fulfilling promises, sometimes not? Did He slip up? Are His promises for real or just a bunch of pointless poetry?

The questions raged on. I heard sermon after

sermon suggesting a variety of possibilities: God always keeps His promises and we just have to ask with more determination; God cannot keep His promises because man has the power of choice; God sometimes keeps His promises and sometimes doesn't because it's for our own good. Excuse me? Being raped is for a little girl's good? What kind of a God would even think that way? Well, then maybe the promises are not to be taken literally; they refer to spiritual safety only. Not much comfort there. Or how about the concept that if we pray hard enough or enlist enough prayer warriors to pray with us, God is forced to give in? Somehow the concept of manipulating the God of the Universe didn't ring true to me.

As the years wore on and I came no closer to an answer that I could live with, the realization dawned that I had to make a choice in order to have the peace that I so longed for. I could choose to turn my back on the idea of a God who is active in my life, or I could accept the fact that on this side of eternity I am never going to fully understand how that God works. As I pondered those two options, I realized that I did not want to serve a God that I could manipulate, understand or coerce. I could only love and respect a God whose magnitude made me stand in awe and whose unfathomable ways left me breathless. I chose the latter.

Has it been easy? No. Has it been all trust and faith and glory since I made my decision? Not at all. I wish I could say that every day I wake up thankful that I was raped. HA! Try telling that to my heart on the days the flashbacks hit. But there are days, and they are becoming more regular, when I can look a hurting young person in the eye and say, "Let me tell you a story," and actually be thankful that I have a story to tell, because out of personal experience comes credibility. Perhaps that's the part where "glorying in the cross" starts to make sense. On the bad days, I choose all over again to trust. And I wait for the pain to pass.

I still have to live down here on this dusty planet. I still don't have any pat answers to the questions, "Why ME? What did I do to deserve this?" or "How can I serve a God who would allow so much pain?" I don't know why some days my prayers soar to the heavens and other days they can't get past the ceiling, and I don't know why Satan appears to be winning so much of the time, but I refuse to throw in the towel. Someday I am going to ask for answers, and I believe God will be willing to give them to me. In the meantime, I choose to believe that God has given me a task to do, and I will do it with all my heart. I choose to believe that He will work His magic in my life and in the lives of my family. And I choose to trust. ■

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*Aggie McCae is a pseudonym.*



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## British Columbia

### Remembering Home

People came from the United States, Alberta and British Columbia. Some, like Moses, were "slow of speech and slow of tongue." After all, they had been away from their native land for as many as 65 years. But all welcomed the opportunity to meet with others of a similar background and a common goal: preparing for their heavenly homeland, which they will never have to leave.

The event was the German campmeeting held at Adventist-owned Camp Hope, just outside of Hope, British Columbia. Many people came for the weekend, others just for the day. On Sabbath morning, more than 80 crowded into the auditorium of the Mountain View Summer Camp to hear Lothar Reiche, former president of the East German Union, as he told of God's

protection during the years of Russian occupation and challenged people to remain true to God.

Fiercely communistic, the occupying forces were opposed to any type of religion, yet God's message could not be stopped. Reiche told of a time on a public bus, when his little daughter started singing "Gott ist die Liebe" (God is Love). Rather than reproof, the child's song brought smiles to people's faces. Another time, while sitting in a doctor's office, Reiche's mother overheard people complaining about the hardships they were enduring. "But how can you expect God to bless you," she asked gently, "when you have banned Him from your land?"

The weekend included a report on a ShareHim campaign conducted in

Cuzco, Peru, by three German-speaking members of the Penticton SDA church, and a viewing of the Jesus video in German. For some it was an opportunity to brush up on their German language skills, while for others it was a spiritual treat.

"That was just wonderful," one lady commented on the weekend. "The blessings I received will carry me through until next year."

The German campmeeting is usually held the first weekend in May at Camp Hope in the scenic Fraser Valley. Accommodation and vegetarian meals are available at the camp lodge, but arrangements need to be made in advance. ■

—Elfriede Volk,  
communication secretary



## College Student Is One-Millionth Graduate



Fullbright (left), the one-millionth graduate of the Voice of Prophecy Bible School, with Kurt Johnson, director

Victoria Fullbright, a 20-year-old college student, is the one-millionth graduate from the Voice of Prophecy headquarters Bible School in Simi Valley, California.

The Bible School was begun in February 1942, just four weeks after VOP radio broadcasts first went coast-to-coast. Within a year, similar correspondence schools were started in Inter-America and South America. Rapid expansion followed, especially after World War II. Total graduates worldwide now number several million from VOP schools serving 140 countries.

In North America, more than 2,000 churches operate local Discover Bible Schools under VOP auspices.

The one-millionth graduate, Victoria Fullbright, attended Sunday School and learned the Bible stories as a child, but during her later teen years, she began drifting away.

In early 2009, Victoria was going through an extremely difficult time in her life. One day she found lesson one of the VOP Discover Bible Guides in her mailbox. She had not requested

them and has no idea who had sent them to her. She says, “They just appeared.”

Victoria eagerly studied the guides as they arrived. Her instructor at the Bible School, Anna, wrote notes of encouragement and prayerful support that assisted in Victoria’s spiritual journey.

The guide on the topic of “What Happens When You Die” challenged Victoria’s thinking. She says, “I believed that when you die you went straight to heaven or to hell, though I had heard that others believed differently. When I studied this topic, the Bible was so plain regarding being asleep in the grave until Jesus comes. It helped confirm my faith that what I was studying from the guides was the truth of the Bible.”

A study guide about the Sabbath changed her life. She was impressed that she should worship on Saturday as the Sabbath, but she struggled with attending church for several months.

One Sabbath morning in September 2009, she woke around 6:00 a.m. under deep conviction that she was to attend church that day. She sat down at her

computer and searched for the address of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in her hometown of Hickory, North Carolina. With apprehension, she drove to the address and entered.

After being warmly greeted, Victoria sat down in the back pew. A member immediately sat down beside her, introduced herself and made her feel welcomed and wanted. Following the service, Victoria was introduced to Pastor Marc Swearingen.

Victoria continued to attend church each Sabbath and soon became close friends with a member her own age. Pastor Marc encouraged her and studied with her. The friendliness and love of the Hickory church family anchored her in her newly discovered faith. As the Holy Spirit encouraged Victoria to fully accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour of her life, she made her decision and sealed it in the waters of baptism on the Sabbath of December 26, 2009.

A few days later Victoria attended the Generation of Youth for Christ (GYC) in Louisville, Kentucky. She was sponsored by the Hickory church. Victoria says, “The event was life-changing. To hear the testimonies of youth my age being fully committed to Jesus and desiring to tell others about Him deeply impressed my life. It helped me realize that I need to share my love for Jesus.”

Asked how her decision to become a Seventh-day Adventist Christian has impacted her life, Victoria explains, “I now have a peace in my life, a calmness that God has given me. God has removed my fear of talking to others about Him. I can pray with people and openly talk about my beliefs.”

Kurt Johnson, director of the VOP Bible School, says, “Victoria exemplifies the purpose of the Voice of Prophecy Bible School—to lead people into a relationship with Jesus and involve them in a study of the Bible, which leads to a faith in God that meets their needs on this earth and the assurance of eternal life.” ■



## “Revelation of Hope” in Penticton

The Three Angels church was blessed to have Pastor and full-time evangelist Justis St. Hilaire spend four weeks presenting an amazing and dynamic Revelation prophecy seminar in Penticton, beginning on April 16, 2010. The series was conducted at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. A tremendous number of community people attended the series, with 62 non-Adventists in attendance on opening night. The evangelistic series culminated with a glimpse of heaven's joy when on Sabbath, May 15, the Three Angels church joined with the Penticton church for a day of celebration and rejoicing as 10 people joined the church through baptism and profession of faith. Following the morning baptismal service, a joint worship service took place, with St. Hilaire bringing the series to its conclusion as he spoke about “Heaven, A Place For You.” Special guest singers included Denise Kellerman and Yoshi



Some of the people who stayed for the Sabbath afternoon service at the German Campmeeting, Hope, B.C.

Kamizato. Following the service was a joint fellowship meal, as well as a showing of the new PBS documentary *The Adventists*. We give all glory and praise to God for the wonderful blessings He is pouring out in Penticton. ■

—O. Kiefiuk, communications secretary

## Alberta

### Sedgewick's Mystery Supper

On May 31, 2010, the Sedgewick Seventh-day Adventist Church enjoyed a Mystery Supper. A total of 46 people attended, each trying to decipher the confusing items on the menu as they ordered their three-course meal. What would you have ordered if you read selections such as “Swiss Fireworks” (which turned out to be crackers and cheese—get the puns?) and “String and Bobbers” (which was spaghetti and vegetarian meatballs)? Some struggled to eat without utensils; these, too, were hidden in puns! (A spoon was called a cuddle! Get it? Spooning . . . Cuddling?)

The meal was cooked by the church's six-member social committee, and served by the youth. Approximately a third of the attendees were visitors. The social committee has plans for an upcoming church campout in June and an old-fashioned picnic in July. “The church that plays together stays together!” ■

—Heather Grovet,  
communication secretary



Five of the Sedgewick social committee as they prepare the three-course mystery supper: (l-r) Sid Deibert, Ron Bownes, Debi Anderson, Betty Deibert and Doug Grovet.

## SDA Church in Canada

### Dan Jackson Elected President of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America



Photo: Insignia Photography.

Dan Jackson, 61, is the new president of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, elected June 28 by delegates of the world church at their business session in Atlanta, Ga.

Jackson was appointed by the church's 246-member Nominating Committee and confirmed by the General Conference Session delegation, which is an international body of 2,410 appointed members and the highest governing body in the church.

He replaces Don Schneider, who has served as President since 2000.

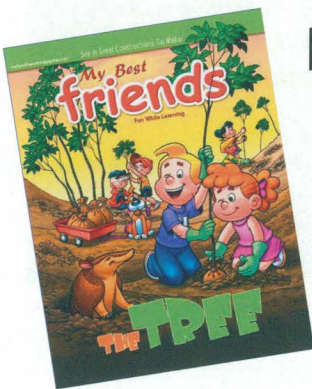
"God never calls us to do things we are capable of, and this thing is so much bigger than me. But He has called, and I accept this with the greatest humility and with extreme gratitude to Don Schneider," said Jackson.

Responding to the vote, Schneider commented, "Elder Jackson is a wonderful Christian whose leadership has demonstrated a commitment to the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church."

Jackson is a native Canadian and, with the exception of five years of service in the Southern Asia Division, has lived and ministered in Canada. He is a graduate of Canadian Union College (now Canadian University College) and Andrews University, from which he holds an M.A. in Religion in Systematic Theology.

During his career, Dan has served the church as a pastor, teacher and administrator. He is currently the president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada. Dan and Donna enjoy the three children and four grandchildren the Lord has given them. ■

## North American Division



### Popular Kids Magazine Comes to North America

Literature evangelists are introducing a children's magazine to English-speaking customers that has been a long-standing hit in South America. *My Best Friends* has a 50-year history and has grown to a circulation of 80,000 in Brazil.

Hoping to reach more families with children between the ages of six and eleven, Tercio Marques, HHES Director for the Review and

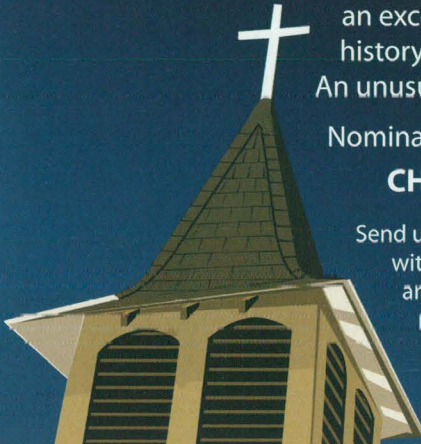
Herald, dreamed of bringing *My Best Friends* north of the equator. To make this dream a reality, the Review and Herald Publishing Association partnered with the Brazilian Publishing House to produce the magazine in English.

*My Best Friends* magazine features six fun characters (and two pets) who show children ways to develop social, intellectually and spiritually. Each of the characters have different personalities and unique God-given talents. By working together, they successfully accomplish different tasks. *My Best Friends* teaches life skills that embrace everything from nutrition to teamwork. "It's interactive," says assistant

editor, David Robinson. "It has crafts, experiments, and mini-language lessons. It has a place where kids can submit their pictures and stories. It's sort of a Bible-based Highlights."

To find out how you can distribute *My Best Friends* magazine in your community, contact Juliana Savoy at (301) 393-3104. To order a subscription for a child, call the Review and Herald subscriber services department at 1-800-456-3991, or visit [www.mybestfriendsmagazine.com](http://www.mybestfriendsmagazine.com). ■

by Nick Bejarano,  
Kim Peckham



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*continued from page 4*

church, to the end of time. There will never be a unity in it such as is so often dreamed of and described in our church periodicals. The Saviour's parables are full of these truths: the 'wheat and the tares', the 'sheep and the goats', the 'five wise and five foolish virgins', etc. Truth and error, and their adherents, exist side by side in our church. There will never be a real, honest unity between these elements. Truth will always unite together those who accept and love it. Truth will always make a division between those who accept it and those who do not.

As you correctly allude to, our Saviour did not deal in the world's illusions of "liberal", and "conservative", "contemporary", and "traditional." He did not diminish reality by using political and superficial terminology and their resulting artificial distinctions. He dealt in the concepts of truth and falsehood. These are the two real "parties" in the world. And, in our church.

—K. Lemky, via email

**RE: "Bad Stuff, Good Place,"  
Teen Talk, May 2010**

I am wondering why in the world did you include the photograph of the lovely young teen female showing quite a bit of bare flesh and holding up an apple to the viewer with inviting eyes towards evil? Did not your article answer the question plain enough without blaming the females of God's created beings in His image as the representative of evil and temptation? I must object to this attitude towards females and insinuation that they are the ones who are the cause of temptation.

Your answer could well have done without this sort of finger-pointing. And teens are supposed to read this and see this picture! What do you suppose

the males will think? What do you suppose the parents will think and feel? And what do you suppose any teen girl will think and feel? I know how it made me feel, and I am an elderly lady. Yes, I am a lady. I am a lady who walks with God. I am an Adventist, and as an Adventist I am disgusted at this sort of thing in our magazine.

Remember another thing: half of the members in the church are females. Where would you be if they were not there? So stop pointing fingers and wake up to the fact that females are a mighty great blessing to the church and to God's work, and He blesses them for it. I think an apology is due to all us females. ■

—M. Henry, via email



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ASSOCIATE BROKER & AGENT

—continued from page 2

The Terracotta Army is an example of the human lives, working hours and resources that a generation will waste when they don't have a biblical understanding of life beyond the grave. Over a period of 36 years, 700,000 workmen focused their lives on constructing a gravesite for their emperor in order to give him a glorious life beyond. To attempt to calculate the time, money and lives invested in this project, when the "dead rest in the graves and know nothing," staggers the mind.

The Cholula Pyramid in Mexico differs from the Egyptian cousins in that it has a flat top where human sacrifices were often offered to their gods. Human lives offered to appease an unknown god—what a costly sacrifice when life beyond the grave was already assured by their loving Creator.

Our generation, hopefully no Adventists, seems set on abandoning the Bible for humanistic, atheistic ideas, but what they may not realize is that they are taking a big step toward repeating what previous societies have already done. What difference would it have made if the Seventh-day Adventist Church had been part of the Egyptian, Chinese and Mexican societies? Our message is a message of hope beyond the grave for all peoples, not just the privileged. Our message cuts to the heart of personal effort by encouraging belief in the resurrection at the coming of Jesus Christ. Great monuments, supplies or human sacrifices are not required for the journey to the other side.

It seems strange to us today to envision that what societies practiced in the past could be repeated. However,

human nature has not changed, and the devil who led people unguided by the Bible is still around.

As Seventh-day Adventists, we have a message of hope for our communities, one that stands as a protection against philosophies that ultimately support a waste of time, energy and human life. The worldly-minded may be in the majority and may hold sway when it comes to their philosophy of lifestyle, but history shows that the probable outcome will be very costly. As Seventh-day Adventists, we are confident in our biblical message of "life beyond the grave" and are privileged to give hope to searching minds. ■

*Ken Corkum is the president of the Maritime conference.*

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■ **Announcements**

**PROCESS:**

- All announcements (non-profit events, new member notices, birth announcements, weddings, anniversaries, obituaries and tributes) should be emailed to Lori MacDonald lmacdonald@sdacc.org or faxed to her attention at 905/433-0982.
- Every individual named in the announcement must be aware of the submission and have granted the submitter approval for printing.
- Obituaries *must* be submitted on the appropriate form, completed and/or approved by a family member of the deceased. The forms (both printable and electronically submitable) are available at [www.sdacc.org/messenger](http://www.sdacc.org/messenger).
- The *Messenger* assumes no liability for typographical errors or responsibility for inaccuracies originating in submitted material.
- For more information about *Messenger* announcement policies, go to [www.sdacc.org/messenger](http://www.sdacc.org/messenger), click 'writers guidelines' then click 'announcements.'

wedding anniversary on Nov. 10, 2009. Friends and family helped them celebrate on Nov. 7, 2009, at Strathmore Hospital, Alta. The Bechtholds have three children: Gail (Barry) Grabo of Strathmore, Alta., Laura (Al) Pauls of Kelowna, B.C., and Gene (Delilah) Bechthold of Williams Lake, B.C. They have seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Edythe (Vatcher) and William White** of Victoria, B.C., celebrated their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Dec. 19, 2009. Bill worked in construction,



supervising the building of the B.C. conference office and two buildings of the Fraser Valley School. He also took four trips to Zambia, Africa, to do projects at Mwami Hospital. The Whites have two sons: Dayle (Linda) of Lacombe, Alta., and Ken (Ronda) of Lillooet, B.C. They have four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

by her husband, Alex, brother John, sister Mary Piche, and grandson Scott. Surviving: sons, Victor (Patricia) Latoski of Edmonton, Alta., Walter Latoski of Lacombe, Alta., and David (Marilyn) Latoski of Edmonton; brother-in-law, Nick Piche of Bon Accord, Alta.; 10 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

**Leila (née McGill) Henry** was born April 3, 1927, in May Pen, Clarendon, Jamaica, and died March 30, 2010, in Manchester, Mandeville, Jamaica. She is predeceased by her brother Keith and step-brother, J.J. McGill. Surviving: husband, Sebert Henry Sr.; son, Sebert Henry Jr.; daughters, Yvonne James of Whitby, Ont., Jacqueline (John Alleyne) Henry-Alleyne of Lakefield, Ont., Cheryl Henry-Aguilar of Wilmington, N.C.; brothers Roy McGill of May Pen and Ransford McGill, Detroit, Mich.; sisters, Dulcie Clayton of Florida, Hazel Dawson of Mississauga, Ont., and Elaine Baker of Jamaica; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Florence (née Simpson) Mcleod** was born Sept. 16, 1923, in Bentley, Alta., and died Jan. 25, 2010, in Lacombe, Alta. Florence worked in the Kindergarten division of her churches for many years. She is predeceased by her husband, Kenneth; sons Billy and Baby; brothers, Percy and Ernie; half-brother, Bill; and sister Leola Holdal. Surviving: sons Edgar (Gladys) of Lacombe, Norman (Loanne) of Armstrong, B.C., Donavon (Lorna) of Hazelton, B.C., and Brian (Bonnie) of Lacombe; daughters, Audrey (Wally) Wasyliuk of Toronto, B.C., and Luella (Gary) Adams of Lacombe; sisters Eva Hovland, Myrtle Marshall and Eunice Chabot; 17 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

**John Robertson** was born April 24, 1924, in Moose Jaw, Sask., and died Dec. 30, 2009, in Lacombe, Alta. John is predeceased by his brother, Murray. Surviving: wife, Margaret; daughters, Sharon (Doug) Hopkins of Saskatoon, Sask., and Diane (Dave) Southcott of Lacombe, Alta.; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Clara (née Choban) White** was born Dec. 16, 1914, in Avonlea, Sask., and died April 15, 2010, in Boise, Idaho. Clara is predeceased by her husband Seth Elwin. Surviving: son, Don (Susan) of Columbia, Md.; daughter, Esther (Richard) Kannenberg of Meridian, Idaho; brothers, Alex Choban of Ponoka, Alta., and Dan (Henrietta) Choban

■ **Obituaries**

**Clemente M. Coloma** was born Nov. 23, 1918, in Nueva Ecija, Philippines, and died April 13, 2010, in Toronto, Ont. Clemente served as head elder at the Glendale Filipino church and as the head of Filipino ministry at the Filipino-Canadian church. He also taught at Adventist University of the Philippines. Surviving: wife, Remedios; sons, Clemente Jr. (Linda) of Glendale, Calif., and Conrado (Marietta) of Chandler, Ariz.; daughters, Clere Jean (Peter) Dela Roca, Carmelita (Robert) Stewart, Clevelinda (Gilbert) Corcees and Caroline (Wally) Deleon, all of Toronto; sister, Gorgonia (Eliseo) Jimeno of Yona, Guam; 16 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

**Walter Humen** was born Dec. 4, 1934, and died March 7, 2010. Surviving: wife, Francis (née Fedesenko); sons, David (Linda) and Peter (Tracey); sister, Olga (John) Huk; and three grandchildren.

**Pearl (née Libich) Lotoski** was born Aug. 19, 1909, in Beauvallon, Alta., and died May 17, 2010, in Edmonton, Alta. She is predeceased

of Rock Stream, N.Y.; sister, Ruth (Robert) Wicker of Bahama, N.C.; four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

■ **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.

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**Classified advertising** — \$20 for 50 words or less; 35 cents for each additional word.

**Display advertising** (camera ready) — \$20 per column inch (b/w) \$25 (colour). For larger display ads, please contact the *Messenger* for a rate sheet.

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**Deadlines**

September issue: **July 5**  
 October issue: **Aug. 3**  
 November issue: **Sept. 1**

■ **Advertisements**

**Treasury positions:** If you have relevant education or experience and would like to be considered for future positions in the treasury departments of various conferences and entities of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, please contact John Ramsay, vice president for Finance, at email [jramsay@sdacc.org](mailto:jramsay@sdacc.org) or fax 905/433-0982. We would like to answer your questions regarding Church employment. (06/10)

**House near CUC:** Bi-level in Lacombe AB. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms. New paint, carpeting, and laminate upstairs. Lower level usable as suite with kitchen and separate entrance. New roofing on house and detached double garage. Open grassy field behind house. Asking \$252,500. Email [docron7@gmail.com](mailto:docron7@gmail.com). Phone 403/782-4162. (08/10)

■ **Births**

**Cohen Charles Carpenter** was born on April 14, 2010, to Troy and Debbie Carpenter of Saint John, N.B.

**Jonathan Rolando Jacinto** was born May 2, 2010, to Rose and Domenick Jacinto of Oshawa, Ont.

■ **Weddings**

**Carmel Hopkins and Lance McAfee** were married Dec. 27, 2009, in Red Deer, Alta., and are making their home in Vancouver, Wash. Carmel is the daughter of Doug and Sharon Hopkins of Saskatoon, Sask., and Lance is the son of Lyndon and Jackie McAfee of Lacombe, Alta.

■ **Anniversaries**

**Helen and Gilbert Bechthold** of Beiseker, Alta., celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup>



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**WWU Alumni e-Newsletter:** Walla Walla University is starting an e-newsletter to communicate with alumni. It will go out once a month beginning June 2010. To sign up to receive the e-newsletter, please visit the website at [alumni.wallawalla.edu](http://alumni.wallawalla.edu). (10/10)

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**The Oshawa and Willowdale Adventist Book Centers** will be closed from August 29 until September 6 inclusive in order to set up a new operating/inventory system on our computers. We will need to be closed while training and installation takes place for this system. The ABC suggests that you make note of these dates and take care of your orders and purchases well beforehand. (07/10)

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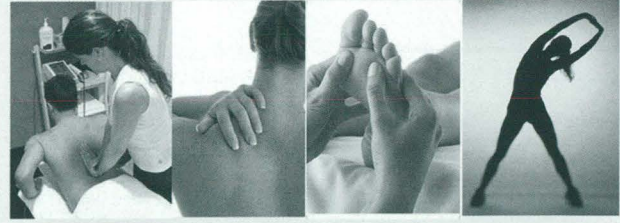
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**Adventism Comes to Town!** is the exciting 46-year history of the Glovertown SDA Church in Nfld. Among its 130+ pages of historical accounts are pictures and stories of the pastors who served the church. For more information, please call Cluny Moyles at 709/651-4999 or email to [c.moyles@nl.rogers.com](mailto:c.moyles@nl.rogers.com). (07/10)

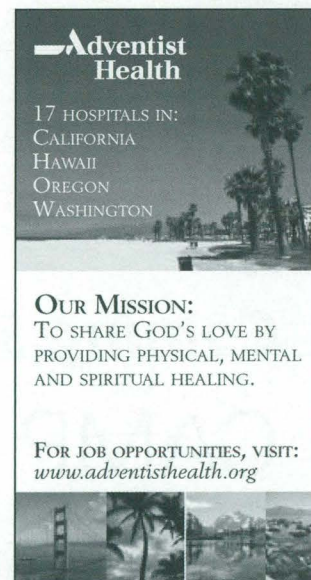
**Do you want your children to have a quality Christian education** but have no church school nearby? Why not move to Rosthern, Saskatchewan? The Rosthern Adventist church is starting a church school in the fall of 2010. Rosthern is a vibrant community located within an hour of Saskatoon and Prince Albert. For further information, call Wes at 306/232-7725 (cell) or 306/232-4951 (home) or email Melanie at [lymedisease@sasktel.net](mailto:lymedisease@sasktel.net). (08/10)

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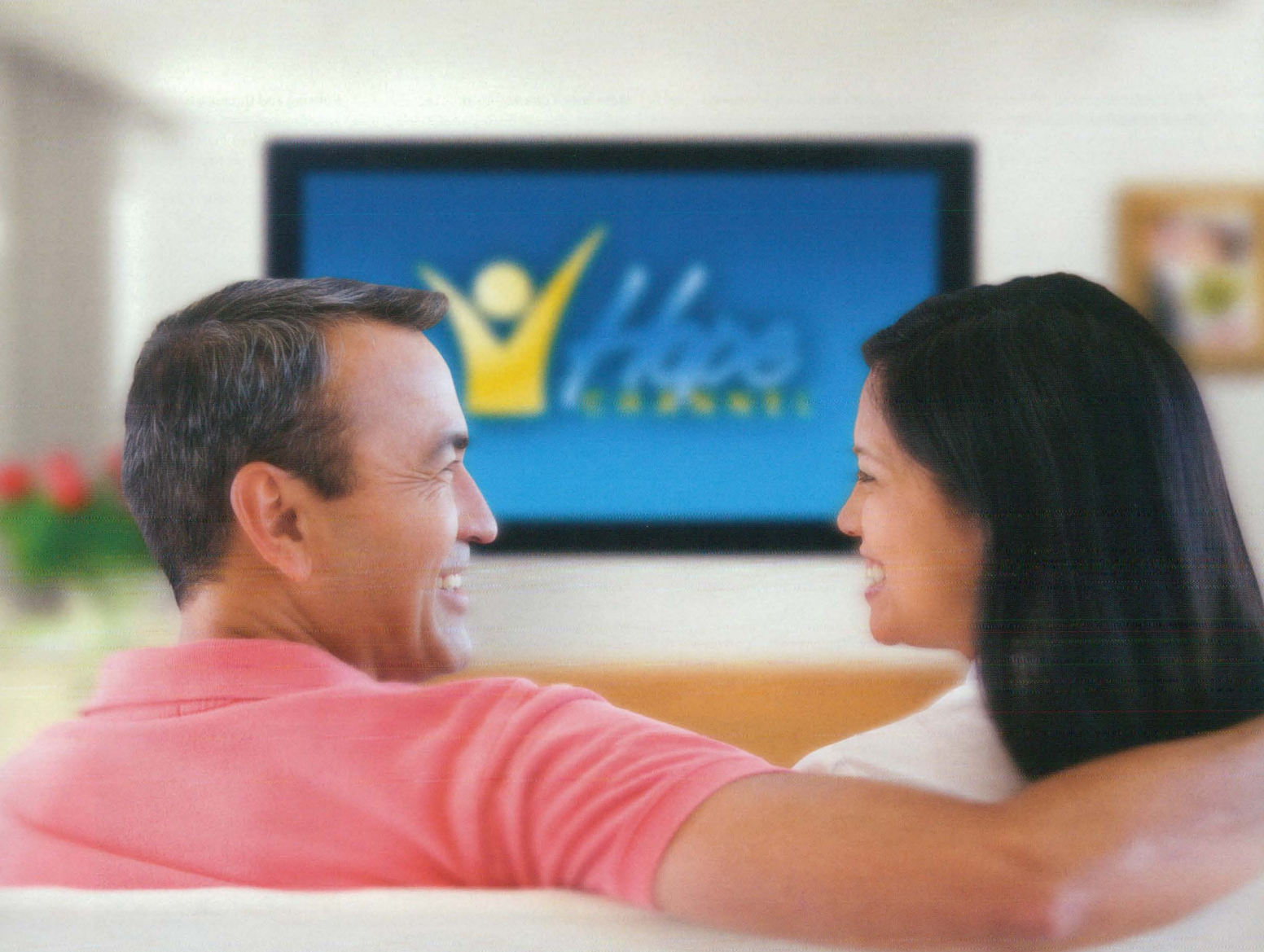
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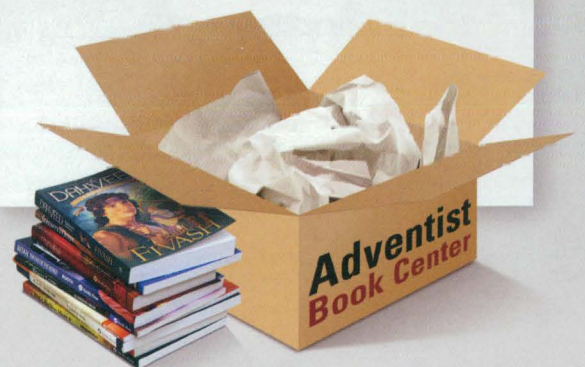
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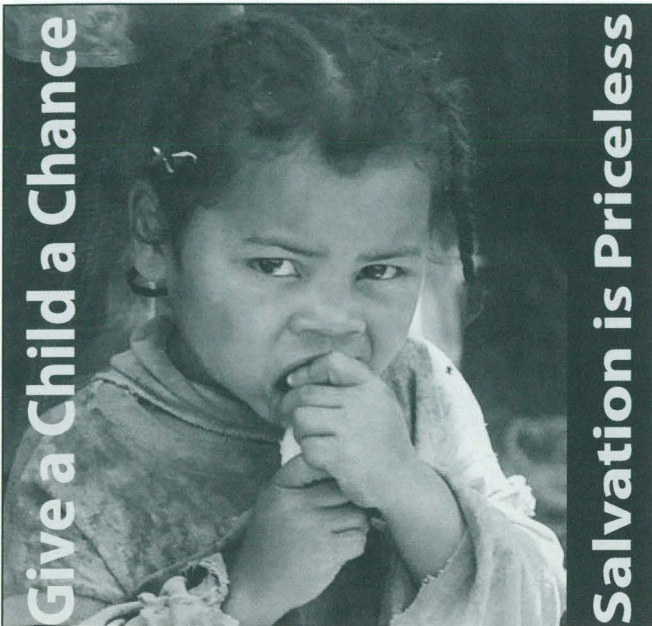


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