

canadian adventist

Messenger

april 2013

The New Vegetarians

First they were out to save the animals. Now they're going meatless to save themselves.

PLUS CAM catches up with Tom Davis (p. 10)
Faith and a Miracle (p. 19)
Scripture Songwriting Competition (p. 25)

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“Rejoice in hope,
be patient in tribulation,
be constant in prayer.”



Prayer

Friends in many places have shared with me their prayer experiences. They have prayed for wisdom, health or healing, family, spiritual strength and many other things. The prayer stories I've heard are inspiring. Many of those stories offer incredible insight into the relationship between God and people of faith.

Listening to prayer is a deepening experience. It requires patience at times. We don't all share the same agenda in our prayers. But hearing others pray brings us closer to God and to one another. The prayer of a preschooler is refreshingly direct and simple. Then there are those who have lived a long life of prayer. They inspire us with the quiet confidence that God will do what is wisest in every circumstance.

Prayer is important within the church family. A church I once pastored had a prayer scroll in front of the pulpit, and on Sabbath mornings worshippers would kneel and pray for very specific requests that had been written there. As answers to those prayers were seen they were written next to the original request. What an effect that scroll had on the life of the church!

In our home Becky writes down answers to prayer on little slips of paper that she then places in a glass jar. It is inspiring to see the jar fill through the course of the year. Each January we empty the jar and begin to see it fill up once again as God responds to those requests we place before Him.

Recently, I've felt led to pray on the 45-minute drive from my house to the airport. Those prayers cover my family, the people who work at the SDACC, people I know throughout Canada, concerns that we're wrestling with, etc. There's never enough time to cover all that's on my mind, but when I arrive at the airport, I have a wonderful sense of peace and trust that God brings to me.

Prayer is important for each one of us in God's church. Recently, we have asked a man of prayer, Pastor Don Corkum, to be our Prayer Ministries coordinator for Canada. I know that his rich experience in prayer as a Christian, a pastor and a church leader will be an inspiration and a help to all of us. It is my deep hope that this will be the beginning of a renewed emphasis on prayer across Canada. Please join me in praying for Pastor Corkum as he takes on this ministry focus.

Here are the words of the apostle Paul: "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer" (Rom. 12:12, ESV). Good advice as we journey to the Kingdom, don't you think? ■

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Messenger

April 2013 Vol. 82 No. 4

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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.



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Deadlines

June issue **April 1**

July issue **May 1**

August issue **June 3**

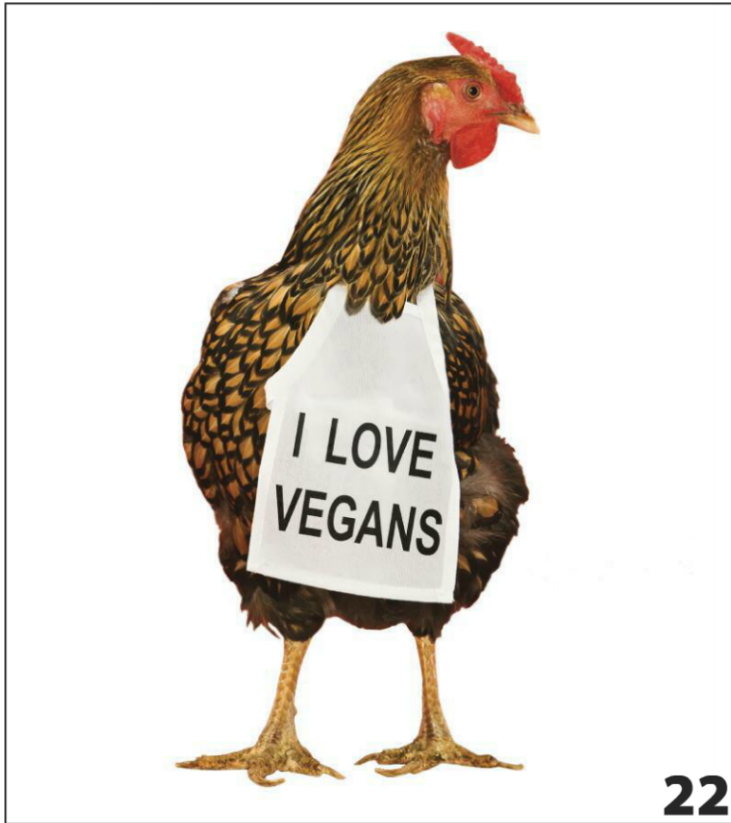
>> View this issue online at www.adventist.ca/messenger

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

Canada Post agreement number 40069337.

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Your Words

“How do you (or would you) spend the Sabbath hours if you are (were) the only believer in your family?”

RE: Remember the Sabbath, From the Editor, February 2013

In the February 2013 issue of the Messenger, we included the question and challenges of a member who is the lone believer in her family and who lives a great distance from the nearest Adventist church. She is faced with the challenge of communing with God meaningfully without alienating her family on Sabbath. Two of our readers, in similar situations, responded.

My spouse is not a believer, although he was when we married. It has been a lonesome road the last 40 years. Thankfully, I had the children to train and teach about Sabbath keeping for the first years. Sabbath is there for us to connect with God, to worship and commune with Him.

Prayer is one way to spend time with God. I found that journaling my prayer can take up to several hours [so that is a good way to spend quality time with God]. You can make a prayer list and talk with God about each person on the list. If you are connected to the Internet, become a prayer partner for Adventist Frontier Missions, 3ABN, etc. Praying for all the hurting people can take hours [a good thing if you feel you easily run out of things to talk to God about on Sabbath].

I have made it clear to my husband that Sabbath is my day. I do not go anywhere or do anything that is not related to my walk with God. If we are on holiday or I go with him to professional meetings, I always find a church to worship in. In the summer I can spend hours outside

enjoying nature and communing with God.

When we were isolated, over 100 kilometres from church, when the children were small, I did worship on Sunday in the local United Church and told a Bible story using the felts I had. That went well until some of the older folk who didn't know me found out I was a Seventh-day Adventist and didn't want me to tell the story anymore. Then I began holding a story hour for children in my home. Another idea: make a batch of bread and go visiting in your neighbourhood, sharing bread and praying with your neighbours.

— Marion C.

My heart goes out to the dear lady who is a lone believer in her family. I, too, am the lone believer in my family. Children are grown and married with families, and my husband is not interested in salvation at this time (although I do see changes in him since I first became an Adventist). Sabbaths for me can be lonely days, as I seldom get to share meals with others or stay for potlucks. It is just easier to go home than to have someone angry with you all of the time. I really enjoy summers when I can spend time outdoors reading or going for walks.

I am fortunate that I am able to take my daughter's children to church with me some of the time, and they often want

to spend the afternoon with me, so I try to plan picnics or hikes that we can enjoy together.

In the winter it is not as much fun to get outdoors, but we do have some nice days that I can get out and get fresh air. I have a little iPod that I have downloaded some PMChurch.org sermons onto as well as some hymns, and I listen to that while I am walking. It helps me enjoy my time alone then.

I subscribe to *Adventist Review* and try to keep the issues for Sabbath reading material as well. I live in a small town, so sometimes there are people in the hospital whom I can visit once a month. I join singing bands that go to the long-term care and seniors' home to sing and spend time with the residents.

I know that it is very difficult, but God set this day aside for us for a very good reason, and I pray that this lady will find perfect peace when she spends it with the Lord. I wonder if she might want to suggest Sabbath afternoon picnics to her family, weather permitting, and go somewhere away from the rush of this world and enjoy hiking or just spending time with her family. Spending time in nature is worship to the Creator when we really take in the wonders His hands have wrought.

— Linda G.

Email comments to jensen.stan@adventist.ca 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 quest for Community

To a great extent in the Western world today, we've lost our sense of community. Fifty years ago we actually knew our neighbours. In fact, many people lived in the same neighbourhood all their lives. Extended family lived close by, if not in the same house. Fifty years ago we were connected. Not so today. We move all over the country and all over the world. We live far from family and enjoy few close relationships. We rarely live in one place long enough to put down roots.

Sure, we have social media. But in spite of Facebook and Twitter, there have never been so many lonely people as there are today. Even within the church, people are lonely. Many of us long for genuine community—authentic biblical community.

Before creating Eve, God observed of Adam, "It is not good for the man to be alone" (Gen. 2:18).¹ It's still true today. It's not good to be alone. Yet, many of us today feel lonely. We hunger for belonging. We yearn for community. We crave connection.

Fortunately for us, the New Testament reveals a God-given plan for experiencing authentic biblical community. In fact, Jesus designed His church to be a community where people are loved, cared for, encouraged, appreciated and accepted. Sound good? It's true.

Christ's plan for the church is summed in the "one another" texts of the New Testament. The Scriptures outline at least 23 different things we're commanded to do for one another in the church. These are imperatives. Notice some of them:

- "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love" (Rom. 12:10).
- "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you" (Rom. 15:7).
- "Carry each other's burdens" (Gal. 6:2).
- "Be kind and compassionate to one another" (Eph. 4:32).
- "Encourage one another and build each other up" (1 Thess. 5:11).
- "Spur one another on toward love and good deeds" (Heb. 10:24).
- "Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other" (James 5:16).

- "Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling" (1 Pet. 4:9).
- "Have fellowship with one another" (1 John 1:7).

If the church today were to become intentional about obeying these commands, our quest for community would be over. The vital question is this: what is the best vehicle for us to accomplish Christ's mandate?

Maybe we find a clue in the way Jesus chose to live His life. Jesus was committed to a small group of 12 men. Jesus lived in community with those first disciples. They went places together. They did ministry together. They did life together. They lived in authentic biblical community.

The early Christians did the same. They constantly met in small groups in one another's homes. "They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." (Acts 2:46, 47).

Is it any wonder the early church grew so quickly? Love like that is so attractive. Those early believers were radically committed to one another. They ate their meals together. They helped one another. They loved one another in outrageous ways—even selling property in order to share with those who had need. They lived in authentic biblical community.

Friend, there really was a church like that. And if community like that can happen in the first century in Jerusalem, it can happen in the 21st century in Canada! Could it be that small groups are the key to authentic biblical community today? Could it be that our quest for community is leading us back to this New Testament model? Could it be that God is calling you to start a small group in your home? ■

Jeff Potts is the executive secretary of the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference.



¹ All Bible references are from the New International Version (2011).

Sound of silence

T33nTaik

It feels like God is not listening to me. What am I doing wrong?

Your question reminds me of an experience I had. When I was at CUC, the chaplain shared an experience he had when God would not listen or speak to him. He said it felt as if his prayers just hit the ceiling and stopped. I did not believe him. I did not believe God would do that to a pastor, of all people. I figured there must be something wrong with him.

Then a few years later I experienced something similar. I was pastoring in Cape Breton and it seemed God had just left me on my own. Gone were the days when I would open His Word and He would show me things I'd never seen before. Reading the Bible was just empty and my prayers seemed completely unheard by Him. This went on for months. I didn't want to preach, I didn't want to teach, I felt I had nothing to say. It was scary and awful.

Then we went on vacation, and for the first time in months and maybe years I was reading the Bible just for the sake of reading it—for myself; I didn't have to preach or "get anything" from it. All of a sudden "God was back" and His Word came alive again. I realized later what had happened. I had been treating His Word like a textbook, and instead of spending time with Him, I was just looking for "something new to talk about." After that I began keeping my personal time with God separate, distinct, from my sermon preparation. Since that particular experience there have been other times when God seemed to remain silent, and each of these times it was His attempt to get my attention in some way and teach me something about myself or Him or both.

Then I came across the story of John the baptizer and his time in prison. I had read it many times before, but now I saw it in a new light. John loved God and served Him better than anyone else, according to Jesus. You would think, according to our logic, that when John needed help from God that he would be God's top priority. However, John the baptizer received no answers in that prison cell. There was no miraculous deliverance, such as Peter and Paul would later experience in similar prisons. Finally, in frustration, John sends a message to Jesus: "Are you really the one, or should we expect someone else?" (Luke 7:20, NIV).

Jesus sent word back, "Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor" (Luke 7:22, NIV). In other words, "Tell John I am doing all kinds of great things for other people." I'm sure this message hurt John at first. John may have been thinking, "Why? Why are you helping 'everyone else' and ignoring me?"

John the baptizer never did get rescued from that prison. Instead, he had his head cut off at the whim of a bitter queen. However, we're told John got the message and died in faith. "He must increase, but I must decrease" (John 3:30, NKJV). John was spared having to see Jesus killed. He was spared having to keep fighting the fight and instead was put to rest.

The message is clear. God knows what is best, and sometimes His loudest voice is heard through a deafening silence. Someday you'll have a story to tell about the time you felt God wasn't listening. He is growing you, stretching you and increasing your capacity for faith. Remember we walk by faith and not by sight. We must all come to the place where we don't need to see Him or hear Him to know He is always near. ■

Dan Wilson is pastor of the Halifax and Fox Point churches in Nova Scotia. If you have a question for him, email us at messenger@adventist.ca.

For we walk by faith, not by sight.
—2 Corinthians 5:7

Woodcock

One misty moist New Brunswick evening, a movement beneath the low-hanging branches of a large tree caught my eye as I stood looking out the window over the backyard. I peered hard into the growing darkness and finally made out the shape of a funny little bird with a long bill and a chunky-looking body.

The bird I was watching was an American Woodcock. It is classified with shorebirds, but this unusual bird wanders about on the forest floor at night poking about in the wet ground for its favourite food—earthworms!

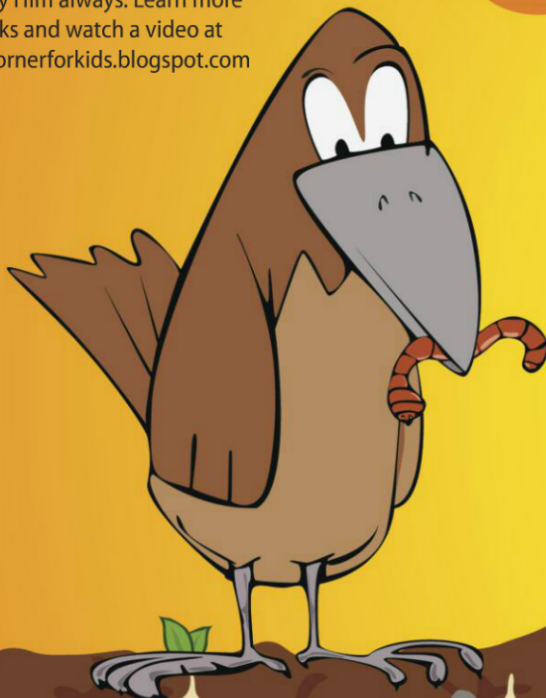
Think about it.

Other nocturnal forest animals are owls, foxes and bears. If the woodcock thought about the dangers of poking about for earthworms in the dark, it might feel afraid. But the woodcock does not live by its feelings. It simply does what God intended it to do.

Do you let feelings control you? Or do you do what God wants you to do regardless of how you're feeling? When you don't feel like praying do you go ahead and do it anyway? When you feel afraid to do the right thing because your friends are doing the wrong thing, do you go ahead and do what God intends for you to do anyway? Are you learning to surrender yourself and your feelings to Jesus?

Do it!

Ask God to help you to surrender your feelings to Him and obey Him always. Learn more about woodcocks and watch a video at www.creationcornerforkids.blogspot.com





Neville Matthews former CUC president passes away at 93



Sheila and Neville Matthews

"All God's out-workings in nature and the affairs of men are timed with precision, and though sometimes they may seem long in coming, are, in the long run, well worth waiting for."

DR. NEVILLE O. MATTHEWS, former CUC president who tirelessly worked to achieve degree-granting status for Canadian University College, died peacefully on Feb. 16 at the age of 93 in his retirement home in Southern California. Matthews, known as "the eternal optimist," served as CUC's 16th president from 1971–1982, when the school was still known as Canadian Union College.

"Dr. Matthews's leadership reflected his deep faith and enduring passion for CUC," said current CUC president, Mark Haynal. "The Canadian University College community continues to walk in his footsteps and his steadfast commitment to Christian education. Canadian University College will always feel his influence."



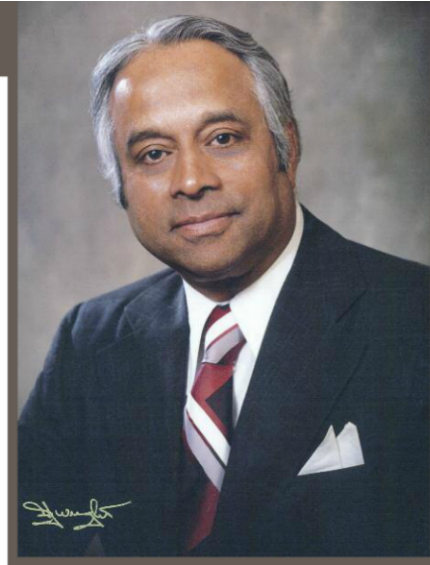
Alex Tym (right), on behalf of the Committee of 100, presents a cheque for \$100,000 to Dr. Matthews that helped pay for the PE Centre in 1985.

Matthews's first contact with the hilltop came from alumnus Marie (Stickle) Owens, who served in a number of countries as a teacher. Owens spent time in India, where she met Matthews when he was a student.

Matthews began his education career at Spicer College, India, where he taught classes and went on to become the principal of the high school division. After completing his Bachelor of Education and Master of Education degrees, he became academic dean and registrar of the college. Matthews, his wife, Sheila, and their family moved to Canada in 1956. Between 1956 and 1963, Matthews worked in several capacities at Canadian Union College: teacher, high school principal, academic dean and registrar of the college division.

In 1964 Matthews was appointed dean of Medicine Hat Junior College, now Medicine Hat College, in southern Alberta, and went on to become its president. In 1967 Matthews received his doctorate in educational administration from the University of Alberta.

In 1971 Matthews was invited to return as president of CUC. Using the same skills that had garnered strong growth in Medicine Hat—cultivating friendships with government and education officials and refusing to be daunted by a lengthy process—he worked to achieve degree-granting status for CUC.



Dr. Neville O. Matthews

Matthews's contribution to CUC in other areas of the school continue to stand to this day. In 1973 Neville Matthews and Michael Luchak, art and print department staffer, recreated the school seal that is still being used to this day.

In 1982 Matthews was asked to serve at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as liaison between the Seventh-day Adventist Church and the United Nations. In 1988, after the passing of his wife, Sheila, Matthews returned to Spicer College and served as president during his retirement.

He is survived by his children, Gwen, Jenny-Jeanne, Robyn and Ted. ■

JR Ferrer is the communication director for Canadian University College



Where Are They Now



Tom and Margaret Davis

Messenger: *What was your life like growing up in Newfoundland?*

Tom Davis: My memories of Newfoundland actually revolve around a teacher in St. John's, by the name of John Combden. He was a very good teacher.

Before that I lived in a little village called Safe Harbour, accessible only by boat. That is where I was born.

M: *Did you have anything to do with the beginning of VOAR?*

Davis: I was too young when it began. It wasn't until I was in my late teens that I became involved in the radio station. I suppose I had what one might call a radio voice. So one of the board members advised me to do announcing a couple of times a week. People have told me that, "You sound like Paul Harvey."

M: *Did the war have any effect on your spiritual life?*

Davis: Looking back, I guess I can say that it was a result of my war experience as a medic in England that I became more active as a Christian. It was during that time that I bought a little book called *Messages to Young People* and read it diligently. That's when I gave my heart to the Lord. I was around 20 at that time.

Messenger catches up with former leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada. In this issue we talk with Tom Davis.

Interview by Alexandra Yeboah, Messenger Staff Writer.

M: *You worked as a singing evangelist? When did you first start singing?*

Davis: I had a sister, who was seven years older than me, and she would stand me on a chair and get me to sing. Finally she got me to sing at church. So I guess I began singing when I was quite young, three or four years old. After I graduated from CUC, Elder Reeve was having evangelistic meetings in Kingston, Ont., and he asked me to be his singing evangelist. I spent a year there. I was a Bible worker at the time. From there, I was called to be the pastor in Sault Ste. Marie and Iron Bridge.

M: *You started as a pastor, but how did you get involved in editorial work?*

Davis: When I was at Canadian Union College, there was a teacher there who would later become the editor of the Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary series, and he knew my interest in editorial work. When he became the editor of the Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary, he invited me to come and be his assistant.

M: *After working on the Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary, you served in the Philippine publishing house for five years and then went on to serve in India, at the Oriental Watchman Publishing House, for another five years. Can you speak a little bit about that?*

Davis: Well, it was a unique experience. ... I had to learn as I went along—how to

work with the people and how to address their needs. Back then, there was no cultural training before you went as a missionary.

We had three children before we went overseas, nine, eight, and one year of age. So they grew up in the mission field, which was a good experience.

Messenger: *You've written many books and articles over the years.*

Tom Davis: I wrote the Morning Watch book *Preludes to Prayer* back in 1966 and then *Island of Forgotten Men*, *Death on Dark Wings*, *Of Course You Can Walk on Water*, and *How To Be a Victorious Christian*. These are some of the titles of the books that I wrote. I also wrote poetry and articles for the *Adventist Review*, and the *Youth Instructor* way back. I was given an Editor's Choice Award for Outstanding Achievement in Poetry, presented by the International Library of Poetry in September 2003.

Messenger: *Where are you now?*

Tom Davis: I am in Calgary, living with my wife, Margaret, daughter Cheryl and her husband, Edward Dunn. We have a suite here in Cheryl's home. I am 93 years of age. It has really helped both me and Margaret to find this walk in God as outlined in Galatians 2:20, and it has helped our children. All three of our children are in the faith. We have five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. ■

“The Lord will provide.”



It was registration day at a Canadian Adventist school as the school treasurer met with parents to review financial plans for the new school year. All was going well until the treasurer asked a single parent of several children for the down payment. “Oh, my,” said the parent, “I don’t have money for the down payment.”

“Let me see,” said the treasurer, glancing at the student budgets. “We have applied student financial assistance from alumni donors and friends and also your own church’s Matching Fund scholarships. We have done everything we can to reduce the cost.”

“Don’t worry,” the faithful parent replied, “The Lord will provide.” And provide He did. These students were given some after-school work, but their diligence ranged from excellent to poor. One day the Lord sent a specific donor: “I would like to help students who may not be at the top of the class but who could use encouragement.” When the last of these students finished at this school, the account showed approximately \$2,000 still owing. A little later the treasurer thanked the Lord for a cheque from a church member for the exact amount owed! Through His children’s donations, God rewarded a parent’s faith. You can be the answer to someone’s prayers by donating to an Adventist school near you. ■

We Want Your Story: Please tell us your story if your life has been changed because of donations, or by student financial assistance, or maybe you are a donor who felt blessed by helping others. Please call 905/433-0011, ext. 2078, or email legal@adventist.ca, and tell us your story. Stories will be printed as space permits.



Rebecque Johnson

ON THE
ROAD WITH

Becky

AT THE ALL NATIONS CHURCH AND
COLLEGE PARK CHURCH IN ONTARIO.

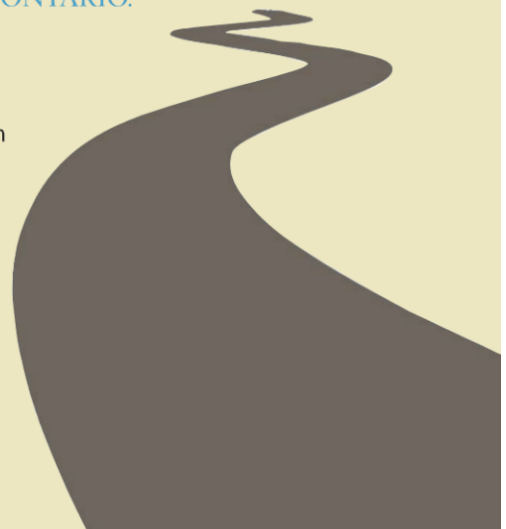
Why did Jesus Christ allow Judas to become His disciple knowing that he would betray Him?

Keowna Snow (12 years old): Jesus allowed Judas to become a disciple so that he would be able to see that Jesus loves everyone, even if they have and will continue to do wrong—even to Him.

Isabellah Moraa: To fulfill the mission He had for us. To reflect His love toward us. Even though we are sinners, He is ready to accommodate us.

Hannele Stentors: Jesus wanted to give him a chance. Judas was drawn to Jesus somewhat. All disciples had different characters.

Helen Northcutt: He loved him and encouraged his good attributes, hoping he would choose to overcome his bad traits that tended toward sin.



More than 40,000 people living in two camps in Sudan are seeing their squalor conditions improved thanks to the committed partnership of two Central Alberta-based organizations.

Separated by doctrines United by a cause

For several years Red Deer-area CrossRoads Church has been working in the Kosti region of Sudan with A Better World Canada, set up and governed by College Heights Adventist Church in Lacombe. With other partners on the ground, they're improving water conditions and meeting schooling needs within two internally displaced persons (IDP) camps.

CrossRoads Church created Global Compassion Campaign in the fall of 2007. It then began seeking out a few trustworthy partners for international aid development. A Better World Canada became one of them.

"With the complexities of the political situation in Sudan, our selection was conditional on an assessment team going to the site," said Dan Wilson, chair of Global Compassion Campaign.

A team, which included A Better World co-founder Eric Rajah, travelled in October 2008 to one of the world's most war-torn countries of the last 150 years. They arrived at the camps largely comprised of South Sudanese people who had fled for safety from a civil war spanning several decades. The need was great.

"You have 41,000 people whose only source of water was a dugout," said Wilson. "Someone had set up an old diesel pump that ran about two kilometres from the White Nile to this dugout located about four kilometres outside of Kosti [the city]."

Untreated water from the White Nile was pumped through this old hose and into the dugout, then stagnating in 40°C heat. Boys with donkey carts would then buy water from the man who owned the dugout and then haul it several kilometres back to the camps. The water was then sold to families. The dirty water would often make them sick.

A Better World Canada wanted to

provide clean water. This project would involve pumping water from the river to a reservoir, purifying it and pumping it to a water holding tank. From here, a distribution system carries it to collection points within the camp.

The project had a bill of nearly \$600,000. CrossRoads Church became the major funder, while A Better World supplied some dollars as well. ADRA Sudan became the implementing partner for the project. I am pleased to see two different denominations unite for a cause and deliver water to thousands," said Llewellyn Juby, ADRA Sudan country director.

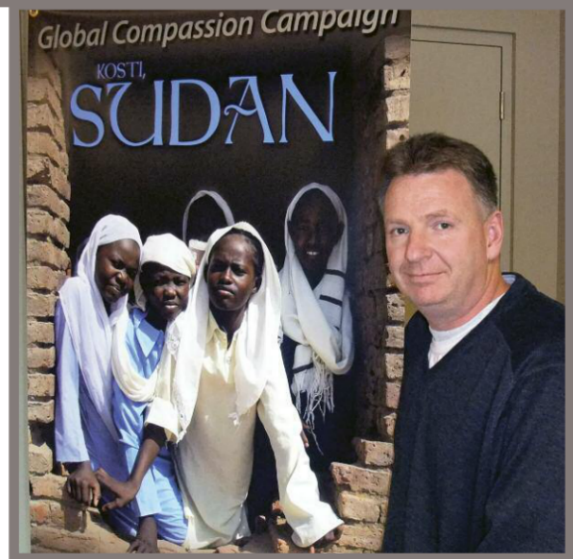
Two levels of the Sudanese government, the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) as well as the water authority of the White Nile State, provided contribution in kind to the project. This allowed the main distribution line to be tapped into the Kosti municipal system.

Opened in late 2009, the two camps now receive potable, municipally treated water.

Since that time, CrossRoads has worked with A Better World and other partners in Sudan to build classrooms within these IDP camps. CrossRoads is committed to funding schools and washrooms in the future.

"Our next area of focus is to build a school specifically for girls in the camp," said Wilson.

An assessment team hopes to head to Sudan in April.



Dan Wilson, chair of Global Compassion Campaign and lawyer.

CrossRoads and A Better World work well together because they realize they can use each other's strengths. For one thing, A Better World has more than 20 years of reputable experience.

"And we have skills that A Better World doesn't have," added Wilson. "I believe in the importance of leveraging resources. We're truly working together as two churches. We have differences in doctrines but we have been able to build a relationship and a partnership."

Wilson said this partnership has resulted in impressive achievements for people in need. And as a result of this work, CrossRoads is now inviting A Better World, a volunteer-driven organization, to help out with CrossRoads projects in Uganda.

"They truly provide great value, and we look forward to partnering with them for years to come," said Wilson. ■

Laura Tester is a reporter with the Red Deer Advocate and volunteers as a writer for A Better World Canada.

PART TWO Evangelizing Generation Y

Preparing to Embrace the Younger Crowd

Last month, March 2013, we started looking into Generation Y—people born between years 1980 and 2000—and why we are generally not finding them in our North American churches. This month we continue to discover how Generation Y relates to social issues and religion, as well as important questions for our church to consider to help us connect with this generation in a meaningful way.

MILLENNIALS DON'T SUBSCRIBE TO TRADITIONAL VALUES.

Millennials do not share the same values and morals of past generations. The study by Dan Schawbel found that 79 percent of Millennials think they should be allowed to wear jeans to work at least sometimes, compared to only 60 percent of boomers. Forty percent of Millennials have a tattoo, and of those, over 65 percent have two or more tattoos.¹

Millennials don't necessarily accept "because the Bible says so" as the final word on issues. Their peer group on issues on ethics and morality heavily influences them.

Questions for the church: How can your church relate to a generation that is known for being casual in their dress and relationships? How will you teach the difference between biblical morality and secular ethics? Can you find a way to do this without being judgmental and polarizing?

THEY ARE IDEALIST AND WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD.

Millennials believe they can change the world for the better. They are concerned with global warming, environmental factors, social justice, child slavery and human trafficking. This is where they are putting their dollars and time. Sixty-three percent said they volunteered their time to a cause last year.² They will work hard to champion a cause because they are driven by idealist views of a better world.

Questions for the church: Millennials would rather serve at the local homeless shelter than serve as the church deacon. They want to get their hands dirty and be involved in local issues in the community. Are you providing new opportunities for your members to serve as ambassadors of the church in the community? What social justice issues does your church support in your community?

THEY ARE IRRELIGIOUS.

Generation Y is the first generation in North America who have not been raised attending church. Sociologists often refer to them as "nones," because they are more likely to check "none" when asked what religious affiliation they subscribe to. We must remember that religious traditions are foreign to these secular Millennials. The mystical experience of worship is a new path

that has been unchartered for many.

Questions for the church: Evangelism efforts in the past have depended on individuals returning to the church of their childhood. These seekers normally had some background in how a church service and church life operated. Today there is a greater likelihood that first-time visitors are not familiar with a worship service. How is your church preparing for first-time visitors? What are some steps you can take to lower the level of stress for your first-time visitors? How can the church service or liturgy be explained to visitors so they feel included in the corporate worship experience?

THEY ARE RELATIONSHIP-AVERSE.

Millennials are getting married later in life. While this trend may be related to career advancement goals, strong evidence suggests that Generation Y is relationship-averse. While 42 percent of their parents were married (at the same age as Generation Y), only 21 percent of Millennials are married. They have witnessed the highest divorce rate among their parents as compared to any other generation. They were children or adolescents during the September 11 attacks and are part of the first generation to attend grade school with the fear of being gunned down. These issues of safety have transcended into their personal life, and diminished trust plays a factor in their decisions with relationships, love and marriage.

Questions for the church: How can the church provide a huge boost to Millennials by teaching the principles of godly relationships? Can you promote this through a sermon series for the community? What are some of the public seminar topics that can be presented about building healthy relationships? Are there local organizations in your community that your church could partner with to promote healthy relationships?

SUMMARY: Generation Y is 80 million people strong. As the Adventist Church grows older, will we reach out to the largest generation living today? While this generation is the most secular and irreligious that has lived in modern history, they consider themselves as being "spiritual." In other words, they are hesitant to embrace traditional religion, but they are open to a higher power, God. This admission breeds extraordinary potential for evangelism, but in a new way. How will your church need to change and adapt to reach the needs of this emerging generation? ■


Dr. Rajkumar Dixit is a church communications consultant. He is the author of Branded Faith: Contextualizing the Gospel in a Post-Christian World. You can follow him on Twitter @kumardixit.

¹ Read more at Suite101: Joe Nowak, "Some Facts About Generation Y (Millennials)", Suite101, August 19, 2010, <http://suite101.com/article/some-facts-about-generation-y-millennials-a276270#ixzz2lrYcUucP>.

² "Charitable Giving: 75% of Millennials Donated Money to Causes in 2011 (Study)," Huffington Post, June 6, 2012, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/06/12/charitable-giving-millennial-generation_n_1590389.html.



Say "Yes!" to the Dress

 Words by God — Matthew 22:1-14, NIV

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a banquet." A king was preparing an extravagant banquet for his son's wedding. He went all out, inviting everyone they knew to share in their excitement. However, one after another, the invited guests made excuses as to why they could not come.

"I bought this new Mercedes, so you'll have to find someone else."

"You know, I just got married, so no can do."

"Ah, this work week has been crazy—not coming."

Everyone the king had invited gave an excuse. The king was upset, so he sent invitations to every person far and wide! To everyone who said yes, he gave a royal robe to put on. All guests who wore the robes were welcomed in without reservation, not because of who they were, but because of who invited them.

When the king entered the banquet hall, he saw a man not wearing the robe and asked him, "How did you get in without it?" The man had nothing to say, so the king had him thrown out of the banquet. The guests were not there because of anything they had done or how they ranked in society; it was simple—they had said yes!

What Jesus did for us on the cross gives us—everyone—the invitation to spend forever with Him. All we have to do is accept the invitation and wear the robe He has given us. That robe is God's Son, Jesus. The Bible tells us to clothe ourselves with Christ (Rom. 13:14). Because of His scandalous grace, He is our all-access pass to the banquet. "So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it" (Col. 3:12–14, The Message).

God isn't asking us to be "perfectly dressed" by our own merits. He's asking us to hand over the old clothes that may be dirty or torn and accept the brand-new ones He bought just for us. What I love about this is that Jesus gives these to us. This wardrobe isn't something we have to buy or conjure up; it is there because He made it available. "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8, NIV). Say yes to the dress (or suit)! It's yours.



Be Blessed

Tia Lawrence is 18 years old and a first year college student. She is a member of the Comox Adventist Church on Vancouver Island. Tia's blog—refreshwithtia.com

 with Tia

 Check out "Scandal of Grace" by United on YouTube: <http://bit.ly/15Nf99P>

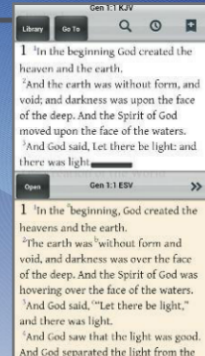


app review

Keith Chant, ITS support specialist, SDA Church in Canada

app review

- App:** Olive Tree Bible Study App
- In Brief:** This is an easy-to-use, cross-platform Bible study app that comes with KJV and ESV for free, with an abundance of Bible translations and study tools available for a fee. Your books are stored on your device so you can read offline, and powerful search tools make finding verses easy across all resources available on your device. The app allows you to take notes, add highlights and bookmarks and sync them across all your devices. You can split your screen and have multiple translations parallel or have your study notes visible while you read.
- Wow Factor:** An easy-to-use Bible reader app that allows you to take purchases across devices and platforms.
- Meh Factor:** Individual Bible translations can be expensive.
- Developer:** Olive Tree Bible Software, Inc.
- Price:** Free with KJV/ESV; cost varies for additional translations.
- Works On:** Android, iOS, Mac, Windows



breaking news

More Good News! Spanish Hope Channel—CRTC Approved



The first day of spring is something most Canadians long for. Spring's arrival this year, on March 20, brought something special to members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, especially the Spanish members.

Esperanza TV, the Spanish Hope Channel, has been approved to broadcast coast to coast in Canada. In fact, it is already broadcasting on CityWest Cable in British Columbia. The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) was extremely co-operative in having this application approved. I was told by the Broadcast Engineer Consultant that, "The CRTC bent over backwards to accommodate this application."

Throughout the process, Spanish Adventist churches from across Canada banded together to write letters of support and to hold prayer vigils asking for this tool capable of reaching the entire Spanish community with the Three Angels Message. Those prayers were answered.

The next step is to get Esperanza TV on *your* local cable station. Please contact your conference's communication leader to find out how. ■

Stan Jensen is the communication director for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada and editor of the Canadian Adventist Messenger.

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BY STAN JENSEN

I have interacted with Nancy Carrasco extensively over the past few months, both for the application to have the Spanish Hope Channel approved to broadcast in Canada and to expand our publication to include a Spanish Messenger. Periodically, she comes to my office with great news—a donor has provided funds so that we may expand and increase the availability of the Hope Channel across Canada.

All who work with Nancy are blessed by conversations with her and by her wonderful countenance that reflects Christ.

EDITOR: *Nancy, tell us a bit about yourself and your family.*

NANCY: My dear mother immigrated to Canada in 1972. Alone, and without the English language, she worked really hard and was the instrument the Lord used to open the doors into Canada for the rest of the family. In 1975 my father, two of my siblings and I joined my mother in Toronto, Ont. The rest of the family came later on. We are four girls and one boy. The Lord blessed us in many wonderful ways, granting us the opportunity to live in this beautiful country. We are all Canadian citizens now.

I met my husband, Rafael Carrasco, here in Canada. We were both attending a small Spanish group gathering for worship service on the premises of the Toronto Portuguese church. He heard the Adventist message through the *It Is Written* TV program with George Vandeman. We are from different parts of the world. I was born in Ecuador, and my husband was born in Spain. We were blessed with three children: Samuel (married to Jay Marie), David and Ester. And two grandchildren: London and Luca.

EDITOR: *Do you come from an Adventist background?*

NANCY: Yes, I was born in an Adventist home. My father, formerly a devoted Catholic, was baptized into the Adventist Church before getting married. My mother also had a Catholic background. When my father met my mother, he told her, "I want you to fall in love with Christ." He yearned for her to love God above all before she fell in love with him.

I thank the Lord for the beautiful home I was raised in. Both of my parents were mission-oriented people. Our home was often open for Bible studies and to assist people who were in need. They were pioneers for three church plants in the city where I was born. Now those churches also have schools on their premises. Although we grew up

in a very poor neighbourhood, the high standards we learned at home helped us to grow above the environment around us not only physically but morally as well; as my father would say, "We are children of the heavenly King."

EDITOR: *How did your father choose to become an Adventist?*

NANCY: He was invited to an evangelistic series together with one of his brothers. His brother was the first one to accept the message. However, he did not make a commitment until many years later. My father accepted the message and decided to get baptized after the meetings were over. He also invited his mother to listen to the message, and, thanks to the Lord, she became an Adventist.

In 1999 my father passed away with one big desire in his heart. He was looking forward to attend the General Conference held in Toronto in the year 2000. His dream was to greet his brothers and sisters from all over the world (in Spanish). This would have been the first GC session he would have attended. But he will wake up to see the biggest reunion and Christ leading the session.

EDITOR: *What compelled your mother to change to become an Adventist?*

NANCY: My mother is a very sincere and hardworking woman who loves learning about natural remedies and nutritious recipes, and loves to visit the sick and those in need. All these health wellness activities got her attention and she soon became engaged in these endeavors. She still continues to serve here in Canada. I praise the Lord for the courageous mother we have, who is always ready to go wherever she is needed.

EDITOR: *How long have you worked at the SDACC?*

NANCY: I have been working at the SDACC for 11 years.



Rafael, Ester, and Nancy Carrasco

EDITOR: *Had you ever worked for the church before?*

NANCY: This is my first time working for the church. My previous experience includes the private sector, the government and the financial institution.

EDITOR: *How or when did you feel called to work for the church?*

NANCY: Ever since I was a teenager, I felt the call to work for the Lord. After leaving my position with the financial institution, we moved to the Durham area with my family. I prayed to the Lord to grant me one more of my heart's desires: to work for Him in the church. So one morning, after taking my daughter (Ester) to school, I walked into the SDACC office and asked for the Human Resources Department. I was told the treasurer, who was also the office manager, was responsible for looking after the applications. I did not want to leave my application just for the sake of getting employment. I decided to wait and talk to him. To my surprise, I was told there was a new approved position in the treasury department.

However, they needed to advertise and interview all the candidates. I told the treasurer that I would pray not for me to get the job but for the Lord to guide them in their screening process. I was hired and granted the blessing to work part-time, which allowed me the opportunity to perform my responsibilities in the office and also look after my family.

EDITOR: *What are the differences you see regarding working here?*

NANCY: To start with, I have been blessed to work with people who love Christ and dedicate themselves to His service. The time that they put in often exceeds the working hours in order to accomplish their duties and serve the members across the country. I have learned so many things from each one of the staff here. Our morning devotions give us the opportunity to dialogue and to keep an important thought before us as we start our day of service.

EDITOR: *What are your functions in your work here?*

NANCY: As senior accounting clerk, I am in charge of receipting all the donations coming to the SDACC office. Among other duties, I also process the accounts receivable payments and the remittance. The remittance is the monthly process done to record and report all the tithes and offerings from across Canada.

EDITOR: *What do you like to do the most?*

NANCY: I enjoy every duty I am responsible for. However, I feel so privileged to listen the experiences of some of our members across Canada—from the little notes attached to the donations. Another task I enjoy is the remittance process. I look forward to seeing the results of our report compared to previous years. As I start my day I pray that the Lord will grant me the wisdom to accomplish all my duties with joy and humility.

EDITOR: *Do you have a favourite Bible text you would like to share with the readers?*

NANCY: I have many, but one I often print to have in front of me is, "Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand" (Isa. 41:10, NKJV). ■

Stan Jensen is the communication director for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada and editor of the Canadian Adventist Messenger.

Oakwood *Aeolians* visit Toronto

"This is our chance to celebrate the best that Adventism has to offer the world—and do it right in our backyard."



Aaron Manswell, a member of the Apple Creek SDA Church, sings bass with the Aeolians.

Adventists in Ontario and Quebec will get a rare treat in May, compliments of the Toronto West Seventh-day Adventist Church. As a 50th-anniversary gift to sister churches, Toronto West has invited the world-famous Aeolians choir from Oakwood University to share their award-winning ministry in Toronto on May 4.

When Ellen White picked out the land God showed her as home for Oakwood University, in Huntsville, Ala., little did she know that the school for the sons and daughters of slaves would one day become a symphony of great musicians and a global ambassador for the Adventist Church.

Now, 117 years later, Oakwood churns out musical talent (Take 6, Committed, Brian McKnight, Virtue, Wintley Phipps, Mervyn Warren, opera diva Angela Brown) with the regularity of a music factory.

Sitting at the apex of the Oakwood Sound is the school's most enduring treasure, the 47-voice ensemble called The Aeolians. When the Aeolians sing—at the General Conference, before former president Bill Clinton, in Russia as U.S. ambassadors, or at your local church—listeners are transported to the gates of heaven.

"People will be coming from Montreal,

Buffalo, Detroit and anywhere they can drive from just to hear this choir that God has sanctified and decorated so that the world may know about Him and His church," said senior pastor Allan Chichester. "This is our chance to celebrate the best that Adventism has to offer the world—and do it right in our backyard," he said.

Created in 1946, the Aeolians cover the spectrum of choral music: traditional oratorios, European classics, jazz-tinged arrangements, modern anthems and unparalleled interpretations of Negro spirituals.

Last November Interkultur, the German body that ranks international choirs and stages the Choir Olympics every two years, ranked Aeolians as the number 1 choir in the world in the "spirituals/pop/jazz/gospel" category. And among 1,000 choirs singing every kind of music, the Aeolians were ranked number 16 in the world.

Aeolians won three gold medals at the World Choir Games last July. They are back-to-back champions among historically black universities and colleges. Everywhere they go, people ask them about Oakwood, about Seventh-day Adventists and about their God.

When choral clinician Dr. Daniel Bara heard them in competition, he was

awe-struck. "You have a level of sophistication that is very rare," he told them. "Where have you guys been? Can I take you guys home with me?"

The choir and Oakwood University have ties to Toronto and Canada. Aaron Manswell, a Toronto West baby and member of the Apple Creek church, sings bass with the Aeolians. Kingsway College alumnus Wintley Phipps is a former Aeolian. And the Aeolians director, Jason Max Ferdinand, is the nephew of Ulrich Ferdinand of the Shiloh church. Ulrich Ferdinand is one of the eight founders of the Toronto West church, celebrating its golden jubilee.

Join in the celebration with the Aeolians in concert at the Toronto Centre for the Arts, 5040 Yonge St., May 4, 8.30 p.m. Ticketmaster.ca. Also appearing is the Seventh-day Adventist Choral Ensemble of Greater Toronto.

As a bonus gift, Aeolians' director Ferdinand will conduct a workshop for choir directors, music leaders and their singers at Toronto West, May 3 at 7 p.m. For info, call 416/401-0030. ■

Royson James is a columnist with the Toronto Star and is a member of the Toronto West Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Faith and a Miracle

The story of how two brothers, half a world apart, became involved in building a school in Africa, reads like a miracle.



Norene and Neville Clouten with Faith seated between them.



Ribbon cutting ceremonies at the opening of the new school in Rapogi.

L to R: Norene Clouten, Ngaire Clouten, Keith Clouten, Neville Clouten, and Eric Rajah.

Adventist families living in Rapogi, a poor, rural community in western Kenya struggled to support dozens of local children orphaned as a result of AIDS. The orphans faced a bleak future without an education. Church families prayed for a school, but it seemed an impossible dream.

In 2005 Dr. Neville Clouten, an architect and artist, was interviewed for an article in *Dialogue*, a quarterly journal published by the North American Division (NAD) Department of Education and distributed freely to universities around the world. The article was illustrated with some of Neville's watercolors, and he was encouraged to include his email address in case someone wanted to buy one of his paintings.

"I sold no watercolors," Neville reported, "but I did receive about 100 requests for financial help. Not knowing which of them, if any, were genuine, I deleted them all."

Four years went by. Faith, an orphan girl living with "Aunt" Lilly in Rapogi, came across Lilly's copy of *Dialogue*. Desperate for an education, she told Aunt Lilly that she wanted to write for help to the email address given. Lilly responded, "Four years ago I wrote to that man. I wrote again a year later. He never answered my

email. Don't write to him. You will be disappointed." But Faith prayed very hard that night and next morning she asked Lilly for the few Kenyan shillings required to send an email. Lilly could say no more than "Go, and may God be with you."

Neville and Norene, now retired in Australia, read the letter: "I am called Faith Akoth, am a Seventh-day Adventist young girl aged 12 years and an orphan. My parents died of AIDS in the year 2005. I need an education. Please help me. Just know that I was referred to you by God."

Touched by the sincerity of the request, Neville and Norene responded to verify some facts before offering to sponsor Faith at an Adventist boarding school some distance from Rapogi. Overcome with joy, Faith began a regular correspondence with her benefactors. She did very well at school, and one year later, in 2010, Neville and Norene traveled all the way to Rapogi to meet Faith and Aunt Lilly. Being the first white couple to visit the area, their visit proved to be a cultural immersion. Meeting with church members on Sabbath, Neville and Norene sensed the community's deep desire for an Adventist school and prayed about it.

"We had owned a rental property that

had been vacant for some time," said Neville. "We promised God that if we found a tenant by a specified date, we would commit to building the first classroom for a school at Rapogi." The unit was rented with a contract on that very day.

It happened that Neville's brother, Keith, and his wife, Ngaire, from Canada, had just arrived in Kenya for volunteer service at the new Adventist University of Africa. Urged to make a visit to Rapogi, Keith and Ngaire made the journey one weekend. Meeting church members, they were deeply impressed to join Neville and Norene in building a school.

For the Adventist members at Rapogi, the long-cherished dream became a reality on January 25, 2013, when the SAGE group came to celebrate the completion of the first three classrooms of a church school. Both of the brothers and their wives, as well as Faith, were there for the event.

For more information on the school, or if you are interested in becoming involved, please contact Eric Rajah, erajah@abwcanada.org. ■

Stan Jensen is editor of the Canadian Adventist Messenger; Keith Clouten serves on the board of SAGE Alberta

It was her loneliest Christmas, but the help you gave made her happy.



Philippine typhoon survivors say thank you to ADRA supporters

For Lucita, it was the most unforgettable moment of her family's life. The fresh memories of Typhoon Pablo haunt her every time it rains or the wind blows. Separated from her husband, Lucita is the sole supporter of four children. The effects of the typhoon forced her to send some of her children to family members because she could no longer meet their needs.

When asked about their experience during the surge of the typhoon that struck the Philippines just before Christmas last year, she almost cried as she shared her story.

"We were crying as strong winds smashed our house. We couldn't leave our home fearing that we may be beheaded by the flying metal roofing sheets," Lucita described. Her home was among the thousands of houses in Baganga that were affected. Their house was destroyed. The walls collapsed after big trees fell on it and the roof blew away. After the storm, they had nowhere to live.

"My husband visited us after the typhoon and he helped me try to rebuild part of our house," says Lucita. They picked up the crumbled metal roofing sheets that were scattered nearby, recycling as many as possible to have protection from the rain. Now they have a roof on one small room where they all sleep, cook and live crowded together.

"Some of the store owners gave their rice that got wet when their stores were destroyed. Even though it was producing a foul odour due to being wet too long, we still had to eat it so that we could survive our hunger and cold," she continued.

Many of her neighbours didn't have food for several days

because the government could not access their isolated areas. Communications were down. There was no electricity. Bridges were not passable. But neighbours still managed to help one another—including her "neighbours" from Canada.

ADRA Canada provided water supplies and helped 200 families with home repair supplies and kits. The ADRA network also responded to the needs of thousands of victims of the typhoon, bringing hope and showing God's love. Lucita was one of the beneficiaries who received a food pack and two jerry cans for water. "I was so happy to receive it! It was my first time to have assistance. To all the donors I want to say thank you so much," she happily expressed. As soon as Lucita returned home with her family's food pack, her daughter quickly opened one can of food for their lunch.

The whole family will take time to recover, especially since they don't have a source of livelihood. Many of them were traumatized. They will face the fear of another typhoon for years to come. "This is one of my loneliest Christmases, but still I'm happy for the help that you gave us," she added.

Many other survivors have expressed the same sentiments as Lucita shared with ADRA. Their smiles full of joy and thanksgiving lifted our hearts and inspire us to do more of God's work. Thank you, ADRA donors! ■

Moises F. Musico is the program officer and emergency coordinator for ADRA Philippines.

Time to Rebrand and Restructure!

Since its early beginnings in the late 1960s, Christian Record Services/National Camps for the Blind (CRS/NCB) has served numerous people with visual disabilities. For years our NCB representatives have been faithful at soliciting charitable donations to the Canadian businesses within their communities. For years they have dedicated their time, effort and personal finances to see this great charity succeed. For years they have given people the opportunity to experience camp life sprinkled with the love of Christ. For years it worked!

Since the dawn of the digital revolution, freedom of speech and equality, and the onset and repercussions of the 9/11 tragedies, our world has drastically changed. Marketing has taken on a new look. Words and titles, events, promotional tactics, fundraising, organizational structure and bottom line finances are at the forefront of success in the business realm.

This past year we were forced to take a closer look at the infrastructure of Christian Record Services Canada: its mission, vision, system, finances, services, brand, weaknesses, strengths and clients. In fact, our inquiries confirmed our need to rebrand and restructure in order to maintain and grow the program. The objectives became clear: to reach all Canadian people with visual disabilities; to provide services that will positively impact their physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual well-being; as well as to be effective at fundraising and be financially self-proficient. The result: commence the modernization phases in 2013!

Simplicity is the motto of our rebranded name and logo: blindcamps.ca.

The logic behind the new brand is to identify our greatest service, namely, the summer and winter camping programs in Canada.

We recognize the need to clarify our "brand," since many folks within our nation, including numerous Adventists, misidentify Christian Record Services. This charity is often associated to the CNIB, which is the Canadian agency serving blind or partially sighted individuals, as well as with record-producing



New rebranded name and logo.

companies! Our focus is to create a buzz regarding the immense positive influence of blindcamps.ca within the B/VI, the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and the business communities in Canada.

On April 13, Seventh-day Adventist members across Canada will be participating in an offering consecrated to supporting the works of Christian Record Services. We invite you to visit our website, our Facebook page and group, and check out our YouTube channel. Be encouraged to know that your support is valuable and necessary for the continued ministry of touching numerous lives through the services provided, through relationships and friendships developed by youth and volunteers, and by the personal visitations asserted by the dedicated workers of blindcamps.ca.

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much," said Helen Keller, deaf and blind, endorsing the services of CRS.

Faith and deeds go hand in hand. Thank you for serving in faith! "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness, and he was called God's friend. You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone" (James 2:23, NIV). ■

*Michelle Richards is associate director
at National Camps for the Blind.*

The New Vegetarians

by David Graham

First they were out to save the animals. Now they're going meatless to save themselves.



As the vegetarian movement gains more converts from those who care about the environment and about their health, the lifestyle choice is experiencing less push back from meat eaters.

Kathy Rayner is a Seventh-day Adventist and an emergency-room nurse. The 59-year-old vegan is also a missionary of sorts—for the vegetarian way.

“Good health is not a coincidence,” she insists. “It’s a choice. You have to be intentional about it.”

Rayner and her husband, Gord, 70, have been vegan for 12 years. The London couple were part of a vast study of Seventh-day Adventists—ideal subjects for research on the health benefits of a meatless diet because most Adventists are either vegetarian or vegan. They also represent a variety of nationalities.

The survey has revealed startling connections between plant-based diets and good health and longevity. Adventist men live to an average age of 83.3 years, 9.5 years longer than the average male. Adventist women live an average 85.7 years—about 6.1 years longer than average.

Studies like this are changing the conversation about vegetarianism.

Early adopters embraced vegetarianism so they wouldn’t have to harm animals. The next wave of vegetarians were influenced by environmental studies about the disastrous impact factory farming is having on air and water quality, soil pollution and climate change. (One study estimated animal agriculture accounts for up to 18 percent of greenhouse gas emissions.)

More recently, the allure of vegetarianism is just as likely driven by health concerns.

While it’s estimated that 4 percent of Canadians are vegetarian or vegan, converts are hopeful more people will join the revolution to save both the planet—and themselves.

The Adventist Health Study 2 might provide motivation. It has been gathering data for more than a decade at Loma Linda University in California and includes 96,000 participants from across the United

States and Canada.

The study has found that Adventists have a lower risk of heart disease. They are less inclined to develop several cancers. They have lower blood pressure. They experience less arthritis and diabetes.

Though these are preliminary results, the study will be analyzed to determine if certain foods help prevent such diseases as cancer, diabetes, heart disease, Alzheimer’s and arthritis. (Some of the health benefits may not be related to vegetarianism: Adventists also tend not to drink alcohol or smoke.)

The study also suggests vegans weigh less, with their BMI being on average five points lower than people who are nonvegetarian—for the average 55-year-old vegan, male or female, that’s about 30 pounds.

David Alexander, the 30-year-old executive director of the Toronto Vegetarian Association, began flirting with vegetarianism as a student—both as an animal rights advocate and as an environmentalist. But these days he’s happy to approach a potential convert by quoting health statistics.

“Animal foods contain more cholesterol and more saturated fats than plant-based

foods. There are also certain kinds of cancer that are affected by animal foods—breast cancer, colon cancer, prostate cancer, stomach cancer,” he says.

As the vegetarian movement gains more converts from those who care about the environment and about their health, the lifestyle choice is experiencing less push back from meat eaters. “When you explain things in terms of the environment or your health, people don’t see it as a value judgment,” says Alexander.

Alexander’s experience with vegetarianism is common. Ten years ago he was a 20-year-old university student and a part-time vegetarian. He began by exploring diets that “used the least amount of resources,” ways of eating that had a diminished ecological footprint, influenced by the David Suzuki Foundation’s push for people to eat meatless one day a week. But what sealed the deal was the 2004 documentary film, *Peaceable Kingdom*, which follows the transformation of farmers who create a sanctuary for “unproductive” farm animals and become vegan in the process.

Others were convinced by The China Study—which served as the basis for the documentary *Forks Over Knives*.

“While it’s estimated that 4 percent of Canadians are vegetarians or vegan, converts are hopeful more people will join the revolution to save both the planet—and themselves.”

“people who ate the most animal-based foods got the most chronic diseases,”

Published in 2005, the study investigated the link between nutrition and illnesses, including heart disease, diabetes and cancer. It was compiled by nutrition and health researcher Dr. T. Colin Campbell, who found, “people who ate the most animal-based foods got the most chronic diseases,” including some kinds of cancer.

That link was backed up by a 2009 study of 61,556 meat eaters and vegetarians in the United Kingdom that was published in the *British Journal of Cancer*. It investigated the association between diet (vegetarians, fish eaters and meat eaters) and more than 20 cancers. The participants were followed for more than 12 years. The study acknowledged that people who adhered to a plant-based diet were 12 per cent less likely to be diagnosed with cancer than nonvegetarians. It suggested the vegetarian diet was particularly beneficial for certain cancers including stomach and bladder cancer.

Many people are reluctant to go vegetarian by another health concern—that they might not get enough protein. It’s a worry that annoys Rayner.

“People say to me, where do you get your protein?” says Rayner. “And I say, where do you get your fibre? This whole protein thing is a big myth. All you need is a small amount of protein.”

Alexander agrees. “I hear a lot of people dying of heart disease. I don’t hear a lot about people dying from protein deficiency.”

The Washington-based non-profit Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine insists, “any normal variety of plant foods provides more than enough protein for the body’s needs. Although there is somewhat less protein in a vegetarian diet than a meat-eaters diet, this is actually an advantage. Excess protein has been linked to kidney stones, osteoporosis and possibly heart disease

and some cancers. A diet focused on beans, whole grains and vegetables contains adequate amounts of protein without the ‘overdose’ most meat-eaters get.”

Rayner attributes many of the illnesses she sees at the hospital to an unhealthy diet.

“Being an emergency-room nurse has been such an eye-opener. The majority of the people I see is because of their diet. Animal products are like cement in your bowel — there’s no fibre. People come in with constipation and abdominal pains and high blood pressure and strokes and diabetes and infections and every time I think you could prevent this. Those are all reversible.”

While Rayner is enthusiastic about the Adventist Health Study 2, she is equally passionate about her work with the Complete Health Improvement Program. Once a year she and her husband act as facilitators for people who want to become vegan or vegetarian. For the past 10 years they’ve helped 500 people make the transition.

“We take blood work before and after. If they give up animal products, their blood pressure will fall. Their blood sugar will fall. Their weight will come off. They’ll have less joint pain,” she promises. ■

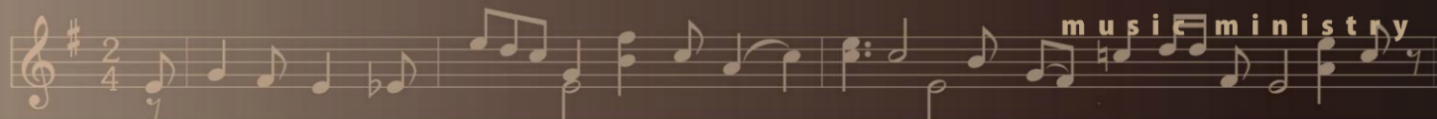
Republished from the Toronto Star, Dec. 7, 2012, David Graham, Living reporter.



Good News!

Join the growing number of Adventist churches who are receiving the official Adventist TV network, **Hope Channel**, in their community. It's the perfect way to help your neighbours, family and friends discover the Adventist Church. Hope Channel recently received CRTC approval and could soon be broadcast by every cable and satellite company in Canada. Ask your pastor what you can do to help make this a reality. Register at <http://hopechannel.ca> for more information.





Spotlight



Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada

Scripture Songwriting Competition

With great joy I am pleased to announce, the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Canada (SDACC) will be launching their very first nationwide scripture songwriting competition and you are invited to participate! No longer will you sit back in the pews watching others share their gifts and talents, this is a call to all members of all ages to pick up a pen, paper, laptop or iPad, start digging in scripture for the verses and texts that inspire you the most, and put them to melody.

Why should you participate? And decide this is for you?

I grew up in a home filled with scripture songs. It was the only music we sang and the only music I loved. With no outside influences of media or entertainment, it was what we did on the weekends around my dad's guitar ... we wrote scripture songs! Granted it was much easier in the late 80s to accomplish such a feat, but even in today's busy society filled with gadgets and electronics we can still turn our attention to the Living Word and find new ways to allow scripture to speak to us. And it never leaves! Even now as a grown adult my mind has the same response, to simultaneously burst into song, when I see familiar Bible verses we had turned into scripture songs. It stays forever.

Students are told to put their study notes to melody and song to remember the facts during exams. Ancestors of long ago sang their family history in stories to their children. Let's be honest! If it wasn't for the ABCs song, who would know what the alphabet was? So why should it be any different with how we memorize God's word in our hearts?

You might think you are not a poet, or have a way with melodies but there is one good scientific reason that is inspiration enough to give it a try—your brain! At the age of 30 we begin to decrease in mental health unless we participate in certain areas to keep us mentally strong, one of which would be to try new things! Doctors and scientists are urging us to do so, to challenge ourselves and to gain new experiences. Need I say more?

Now that you are in! Here are the details for participation.

The contest begins May 1, 2013 and concludes at 11:59pm August 1, 2013—which means you have roughly three months to submit up to three entries (per name) into the contest for consideration.

- Each entry should be no more than four minutes in length.
- There will be prizes and recognition given to the top three songs chosen by a panel of judges.

Songs will be judged based on the following criteria:

- Up to 10 points for the song's faithfulness to the original Biblical text
- Up to 10 points for how well the style of music and emotional appeal of the melody support the message of the text
- Up to 10 points for how appealing and sing-able the average congregant might find the song
- There is no limitation on how many, or how few, people can participate in the writing of one song, which means if you are not a solo songwriter, you can get together with your family, friends or church group to compose one entry, which is highly encouraged.

And now it's time! Let the songwriting begin! See where God takes you and what He has planned for you with this opportunity to praise His name in a whole new way! You never know what might come from it, but I have a feeling God does. For contest rules and regulations, please visit scripturesongs.ca. ■

Naomi Striemer is a Chapel recording artist, speaker and author who owns and hosts a syndicated Christian lifestyle radio show that airs across Canada to an approximate 3.5 million daily.

www.naomistriemermusic.com and www.naomiradio.com

“No Problem,” —with a Smile!



Fred Tenerife is the director of food services at Kingsway College.

“What’s for lunch today?” asks one student.

“I think it’s burgers and fries,” says another.

“Did you say burgers and fries?” asks the first student.

“Yup!” answers the second.

Just another typical fourth-period conversation.

Fred Tenerife, also known as Mr. T, attended various Adventist schools and attended and then graduated from Mountain View College, in the Philippines, with a Bachelor of Science degree in commerce in 1974. While attending college, he met his wife, Marilyn. They have two sons, Wilmer and Alvin, who have both completed their post-secondary studies.

Within three months of immigrating to Canada in 1975, Mr. T had found a job as a dishwasher and assistant cook. After earning his chef designation at George Brown College in 1986, he moved on to work at Branson Hospital as a chef.

This past January marked Mr. T’s 15th year as the Kingsway College director of food services.

Mr. T’s mission at Kingsway College is to “lead students to Christ” and “keep students fueled to better their Christian education. “Once they come to this campus, we become like a big family. I put myself in their position because I know the challenges of adjusting to a vegetarian diet. I try to be creative with what we serve. When I see small portions on their plates, I want to offer alternatives. The students cannot go to school on empty stomachs; they won’t be able to pay attention in class.”

As a former student at Kingsway College, I have personally witnessed the dedication and patience Mr. T puts in preparing nutritious meals for the students. When presented with a special request, whether it is to sponsor for a touring group or catering for a banquet, his signature response is, “No problem!”—with a smile.

Mr. T interacts with students on other levels as well, and there is one experience that Mr. T holds close to his heart. Several years ago Mr. T oversaw a student who was completing co-op education in preparation to become a chef.

This student required much patience and supervision. Over time Mr. T noticed positive development and growth, which changed his own initial impressions. The student then graduated, continued on to post-secondary education, and he is now a successful Registered International Chef!

Mr. T believes every achievement begins with little steps. Mr. T still communicates with his former co-op student; this student continually reminds him how much he appreciates the patience Mr. T had while supervising him at Kingsway. Mr. T is grateful to have contributed to this student’s career success.

Like many other faculty and staff here at Kingsway College, Mr. T is more than just a chef in the cafeteria. He says, “Every student helps me grow because each requires patience. I learn many lessons from them, and when I cannot do anything else, I pray for them. When I see a kid in trouble, I bring him to the Lord in prayer, hoping that one day he will realize that he is not alone. There is a God who cares about him and loves him.” ■

Ashley Arriola is the communications assistant at Kingsway College.

No Regrets

*Lead me in thy truth,
and teach me: for
thou art the God of
my salvation; on thee
do I wait all the day.*
—Psalm 25:5



Being a Kingsway student is challenging; homework piles up all around my desk each day, and it can cause a lot of stress. Even though I am about to be buried by paper, I cannot give up attending Kingsway College because of only one reason: Christian education.

To be honest, before I came to Kingsway College, I grew up not knowing God. I only attended public schools before and I did not know a single piece of information about Christianity or being a Seventh-day Adventist. Prior to my experience, I believed that knowing God would not make my life any better. So at first I was pretty shocked about what I was seeing and hearing at school: the dress code, no jewellery, vegetarian food, praying before each class, and worshipping every evening. So many things were restricted; I felt oppressed. I thought I would never be able to adapt to this environment.

However, after a few months, I started to become accustomed to all these things and noticed that people at Kingsway were always inspired. I wondered what motivated Kingsway staff so much, to which I found the answer really easily: God. I became interested in knowing God and I wanted to learn about Him. I began to read the Bible, asked my

friends questions, and participated more in religion class. As I began to build up my relationship with God, I also discovered the many advantages to Christian education.

First of all, Christian education has strong, positive peer influences. I have made numerous good friends at Kingsway College. Even though they are imperfect and are still sinners, I believe their influences are more positive than those of people from public schools. Actually, my friends played a big role in helping me build a relationship with God. They told me about many Bible stories, the Ten Commandments, and Jesus' crucifixion. At times I have had doubts and we would have discussions that lasted over two hours. These discussions have led me to firmly believe in God. They led me to the right path to be one of God's children.

Also, a Christian education offers spiritual freedom. For example, I would not be able to talk about God and religion in public school; however, since I am in a Christian environment, I do not hesitate to pray or talk about the Bible. Moreover, I can present my personal opinions freely during religious discussion, which helps my faith in God to grow continually.

Finally, Christian education helps students to build and strengthen their

relationships with God, because Kingsway lets students spend more time with God through vespers, Sabbath schools and church services every week. Not only that, it provides a worship time every evening in the dormitory. There is ample opportunity to participate in spiritual activities, such as a praise team, Bible study and campus ministries—opportunities I could only dream of in the public school system.

Having a Christian education is a blessing from God. Coming to Kingsway was a big decision for me, and I will never regret it because I experienced my first turning point in life. I am receiving a better education and meeting good people. Ever since I came to Kingsway College, I have learned to be thankful to God for even the smallest things, and it makes my life happier each day. I believe everything is a part of God's amazing plan for me, and I want to follow His plan for the rest of my life. ■

Sophie Park is from Seongnam, South Korea, a suburb of Seoul. Sophie came to Canada in 2010 to start Grade 9 at Kingsway College, and is currently in Grade 11.

Blessed to be Here



Deepa Johnny

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST EDUCATION provides an environment that promotes mental, physical, social/spiritual health and intellectual growth: all core values of the Adventist philosophy.

I consider myself and others who have been blessed to receive such schooling honoured and privileged here at Parkview Adventist Academy. Being part of such an organization has only brought positive changes in my life.

Coming from a non-Christian public school in Oman (Middle East), my views on education weren't very optimistic. I didn't expect anything different here in Canada, but I was wrong. My choice in coming to PAA

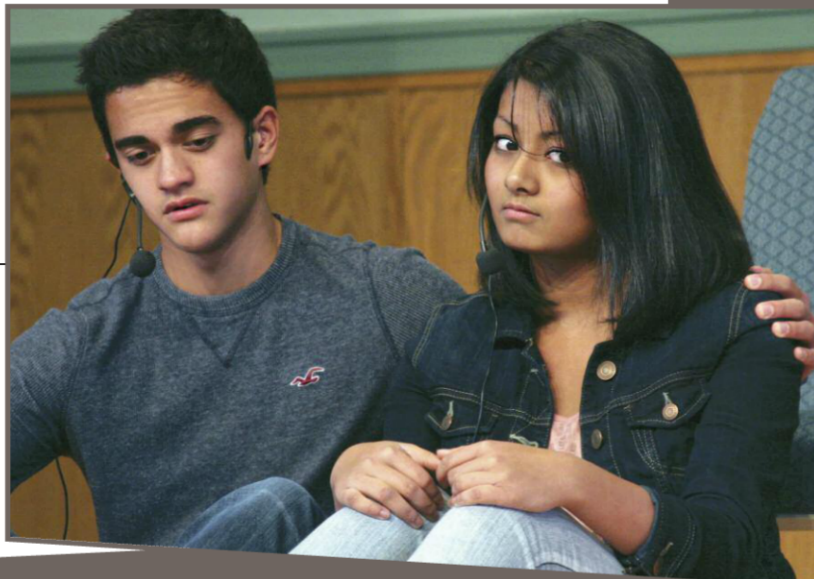
was based on high recommendations from every staff, member and student in the Adventist community. I can happily say that I'm very glad to have taken the opportunity to come here.

PAA gives me the platform to make the visions of my future become practically true. We have not only achieved academic excellence and spiritual growth but also learned to serve the community, accepting personal responsibility for every aspect of our lives.

From the moment I walk in through the doors, I feel welcomed by both the faculty and students; I feel accepted. Being in such a positive, family-based environment allows students to only progress and improve in their lives. Teachers who care about their students more than their personal lives, friends who could be mistaken for family, a path to get to know God, equal chances to advance and progress—none of these can be easily found in any other high schools.

PAA offers many chances to showcase students' talents and abilities through extracurricular activities and groups such as Dauntless, Impact, sports teams and so on. I am encouraged to do my absolute best in all that I do because the teachers here believe that each student has the potential to do so. I see growth in myself each day, both academically and spiritually. It really is a blessing to be here. I look forward to the rest of my high school years at Parkview Adventist Academy. ■

Deepa Johnny is currently the Grade 10 class president at PAA. She immigrated with her family to Canada from the Middle East when she was 9.

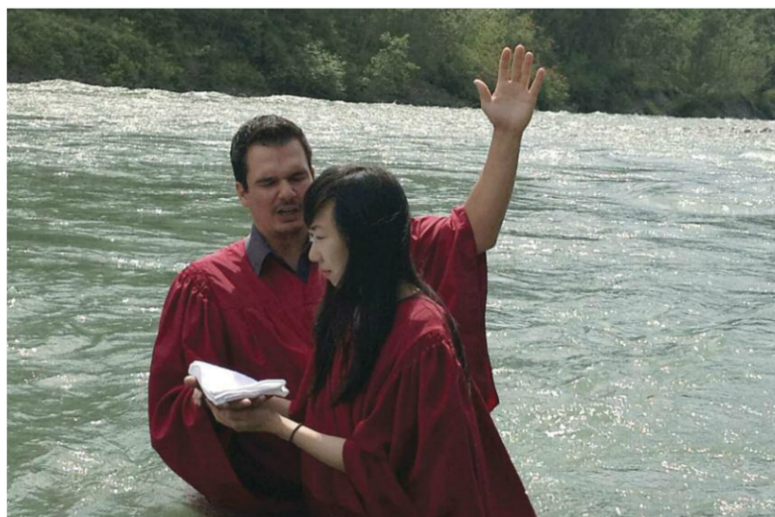


Deepa and Nathan Sawchuck acting in a skit during Fall week of prayer.

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British Columbia

From Buddhism to Christianity



Betty Phung being baptized by Robert Blais in the Chilliwack River.

In the winter of 2010 prophecy seminars were held in Surrey. Kenneth Lim invited a group of university friends to attend. They brought along a young woman friend who once studied at the same high school as did Kenneth. Kenneth's friends were atheists and Buddhists and did not seem to particularly enjoy the message. After the first seminar, Betty was the only one in the group who continued to attend the rest of the seminars. She was genuinely interested and wanted to know more. She appreciated that the explanation of the prophecy was logical and factual.

Betty was born into a family of Buddhists and was intrigued by the idea of a personal, loving God. She did, however, sense that there was a higher power watching over her. Whenever a thought crossed her mind that was against the law or her morals, she would feel a strong sense of disapproval within her. Something always told her to not disobey her parents

and to abide by the law.

Betty learned more about God through Kenneth. She continued going to the Bible seminars, so Kenneth began giving Betty Bible studies and helped her to better understand what she was learning. After studying the beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists, she began going to church with Kenneth on Sabbath mornings. Until this point Kenneth had always seen Betty wearing her jade Buddhist protection necklace, but now she had stopped wearing her earrings and necklace. She slowly began to make some changes with her life, such as in diet, lifestyle, music and entertainment. And after learning about the Sabbath, she stopped working on Saturdays. She gradually stopped watching television because she realized that the shows were not useful and were just wasting her time.

Since then she began experiencing many trials, mostly from her family.

Sometimes Betty would burst into tears at the thought of how opposed her family was to her newfound beliefs and changes she was making. Despite all this, Betty continued studying and learning.

She met the youth group at the Abundant Life Community Seventh-day Adventist Church and became good friends with them. There were Sabbath mornings when Kenneth would be awakened by a barrage of text messages and phone calls from Betty because he had slept in and was missing Sabbath school. After time, much love and support from elders and youth, Betty decided to get baptized by Robert Blais in the Chilliwack River during the church campout. At present Betty, Kenneth, his mother and two other church members are on a mission trip to China, visiting and helping lepers with their treatments, hygiene and daily living challenges.

It's amazing how God works, changing hearts and leading us to those with whom we did not expect to become friends and who we did not foresee would make the choice to follow Christ. Even though Betty had many difficulties following what she believes in, she does not regret her decision to follow God. He has helped her through all her trials and continues to give her strength to keep going. All glory to God. "For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope" (Jer. 29:11, NLT). ■

—Angie Berto,
communications secretary
and clerk for
Abundant Life company



Debra Matson and Jonathan Visscher at a children's monastery in Myanmar.



Jonathan Visscher treating a patient.

Restoring Smiles

*"To us, it's what we should be doing
—helping people who have no hope."*

Kelowna dentist duo, Debra Matson and Jonathan Visscher, speak about their recent mission trip to Myanmar, where they provided dental assistance and dental education for the children and Project 7, their new project in Haiti where they are building a self-sustainable children's village for the orphans of Tru-Du-Nord.

When husband-wife dental team Debra Matson and Jonathan Visscher arrive at a remote village school carrying suitcases stashed with toothbrushes and dental tools, there are often hundreds of townspeople waiting outside, palms gripping jaws that have been sore for years. In October 2012, Matson and Visscher returned to Myanmar (Burma)—during the ongoing civil war—to help bring back the smiles of the people in the ravaged country.

"Everyone is in pain. Every mouth has rotten teeth," said Visscher, who has been to eight developing countries since 2009 along with Matson, his wife and dental clinic partner at Okanagan Smiles. Through an organization called New Reality International (NRI), the couple travels more than twice a year to communities in Asia and South America where there

are no dentists. They travel in groups of 10 dentists and doctors from across North America.

While in Myanmar, Visscher and Matson traveled to temples and schools, where they pulled and cleaned the teeth of hundreds of people, including a five-year-old girl. "She just walked right up on her own and pointed at the tooth she wanted out," said Visscher, currently the NRI president. "Later on, I saw her in her family's hut and I knew the numbing had worn off by then, but she smiled big and showed me where she lived."

It's particularly the kids that NRI hopes will benefit the most from the mission trips Matson and Visscher attend. When the Kelowna duo begin their work, their first goal is to get everyone in the line-up out of pain. Then they show people how to brush and take care of their teeth.

"We've seen some really great changes going back to Guyana, for example. Now when we return, we can focus on restorative dental work like fillings," says Matson. She and her husband have also been on initial and repeat missions to Mexico, Guyana and Haiti, home of Okanagan Smiles' first trip three years ago.

Since then, the Kelowna dentists, still in their 30s, have made thousands of mouths smile around the world. Taking time out of their own busy dental practice is important to both of them, says Visscher. "To us, it's what we should be doing—helping people who have no hope."

Because of this, they felt drawn to help an orphanage in Haiti that has been running for a few years with the help of seven local families, each taking turns one day a week to feed the children. Many days the children go without, and they have only a rented shack to grow up in, having no access to education or avenues to a better life. These Adventists reached out to New Reality International, and in October we decided to put all our energy into getting a sustainable place for these children to grow up in.

In December we raised \$60,000 for construction materials, drilled a well on a 7-acre plot of land, engineered and drafted plans for 10 homes with 10 children in each, a school, church, education centre and farming facilities for the new children's village. A dentist friend of Dr. Visscher's, Dr. Mickelwait has quit his dentistry work and will be living on the property managing the construction and development of the project. When completed, the supporting families will be able to support these children on a beautiful fertile piece of land and raise a generation of productive and skilled children in an effective effort to rebuild Haiti.

If you would like to learn more about Project 7 and Debra and Jonathan's mission trips go to www.okanagan-smiles.com.

—Jonathan Visscher,
Twin Creek Media

Newfoundland and Labrador

Ronald McDonald House



Pictured from left to right: Donalda Murley, Dianne Grecian, Margaret Moore, Ruby Fifield, Lori Ennis, and Ros Ennis.

What were you doing New Year's Eve? Socializing with friends? Cooking a meal for some loved ones? So were the ladies of the St. John's Seventh-day Adventist Church. They were cooking up a storm for some loved ones ... well, not their loved ones, actually people they had never met before, but they are someone's loved ones—God's loved ones.

As many of you know, Ronald McDonald House provides a home-away-from-home for families of seriously ill children who are being treated at nearby children's hospitals. Our ladies heard that there was a need for someone to cook for these families on

New Year's Eve, and they jumped into action.

They provided not only a meal and desserts for 25 people but also snacks and gift bags to be enjoyed at midnight, all at their own expense.

Was it a burden for these ladies? Just the opposite. They were grateful for the opportunity to help out. One lady was moved by a young couple just checking in at mealtime. When they were introduced and told that the ladies who had come to cook supper from

them were from the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the young man responded with surprise, "Really! We've been eating out of a vending machine for three days."

As the old year came to a close, these ladies didn't have time to reminisce about what they could have/should have done; they were too busy doing it, squeezing in just one more act of kindness, showing God's love in a practical way. That's what the St. John's Seventh-day Adventist Church is all about. ■

—Gail Dempsey, communications director,
St. John's Seventh-day Adventist Church

Ontario

Still the One

On the Sabbath of Feb. 2, 2013, Donald and Carmeleta provided invaluable information to demonstrate that even after 50 years of marriage they are excited they picked each other. The format of the Sabbath service was an interview session with the couple. The interview was carried out by their eldest son, who happened to be the superintendent for the morning. In his interview he made a concerted effort to elicit pertinent feedback from the couple by asking poignant questions.

Donald indicated that he was always



Pastor John Scott, on the left, performing the renewal of marriage vows for Carmeleta and Donald Blair while family members look on.

asking God for the right person, and once he met Carmeleta, he knew she was the right one. They met in a rustic village called Rejoin in Hanover Parish, Jamaica, and started going out for about two years before deciding to get married.

Some of the questions included how they handle conflicts and also how they stay connected. These are some of the answers the couple gave: Donald indicated that his wife is always right. This answer made the ladies in the congregation ecstatic, while all the men cringed. Donald then clarified his answer and said that he thinks first and foremost about how situations will affect his wife, and acts accordingly. In terms of how they stay connected, they both say that they do things together. This is not only demonstrated in words; at all times they dress similarly, and you will not usually find one somewhere without the other.

The superintendent also asked them what advice they would give to couples contemplating marriage or searching for the right life partner. For those who are searching for the right one, they informed the church that the most important thing

to do is to put God first. Couples should try not to be like Samson and say I want to marry her because she pleases me. Marriage should be based on deep understanding of each other and the realization that the person is now “bones of my bones and flesh of my flesh” (Gen. 2:23). No longer are they separate; they are now one.

This special Sabbath feature came about after another superintendent announced back on Jan. 26 that the church has a couple in their midst who would soon be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. Until recently, the church usually saw only about 10 people for the 9:30 a.m. Sabbath school service. However, two weeks prior to Feb. 2, an announcement was made that if individuals were able to be at church by 9:30, their names would be placed on a cross and would be prayed for each Sabbath they are present during the month of February. Therefore, individuals were eager to see who the “celebrity” couple was and to receive a blessing in prayer. Before 9:30 a.m. at least 40 members were present for Sabbath school. Sabbath school was started on schedule, and it was after

lesson study that the superintendent interviewed his parents. It was, therefore, exciting to see member participation quadruple in size during the Sabbath school morning service.

Also, Pastor John Scott performed the renewal-of-vows ceremony prior to the start of divine service. There were many individuals from the family present to witness this exquisite event.

The superintendent offered some food for thought, such as whether those who are in a relationship with God or a spouse can still say today that God or that spouse is still “the one.” Or why do some relationships last and others do not? He also talked about the church’s (Northwest Brampton) inactive members and that something should be done to ascertain why they no longer attend. So the question to the reader is: Who is the one for you? And once you have answered that, ask yourself: Is he or she still the one? ■

— Anthony Blair,
Communication Director,
Brampton Northwest Church

90s Party at Kingsway Pioneer Apartments



Left to right: Irene Hambides, Rosa Sabo, Jack Smith, Effie Kimmerley, Leonard Elliott, Claude Osborn, Laurence Jerome, Roberta Woods, Violet Prouty, Gladys Banks.

People in their 90s are called nonagenarian. Maybe that is because they don’t seem to age! On Monday, Feb. 4, 2013, a party was held to honour those who are 90 to 99. We have a dozen of them living in the Kingsway Pioneer Apartments

(KPA) or belonging to the seniors’ club here. One lady, Dorothy Songui, doesn’t qualify as a nonagenarian because she just turned 101 on Feb. 6! She was unable to attend the party but celebrated at a small gathering on her birthday later in the week.

This is a diverse group, made up of individuals from various parts of the world. While most are from Canada (Newfoundland to Alberta), Rosa Sabo, for instance, came from the former Yugoslavia in 1970; and Irene Hambides emigrated from South Africa over 50 years ago when her husband paid to get out of the army. She came from the farthest away and is the oldest of the nonagenarian group, at 99.

Between all of the nonagenarians, there are over 100 grand- or great-grandchildren. Violet Prouty, a former teacher, takes the prize for having the most descendants: seven children, 27 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren. She received the first teddy bear she has ever had, today. Violet says one of the greatest “inventions” she has seen is Facebook, probably to keep in touch with all those grandchildren, as well as her former students, four of whom were at the party.

Some of our birthday celebrants have spent time in other parts of the world. Leonard Elliot, our Newfoundlander, and Laurence Jerome, from Alberta, both served in the armed forces during World War II; Laurence was a conscientious objector at first but later joined as a medic. Effie Kimmerley, who has lived at KPA for about 15 years, worked as a nurse in Scotland on two different occasions.

Gladys Banks worked for nearly 23 years at the Adventist Book Center, first when it was located in the Canadian Union

office and then later when it moved to the Kingsway campus. Roberta Woods came from Lachute, Que., and has 17 great-grandchildren. All of the nonagenarians live on their own or with family and are still active.

Claude Osborn was a little late for the party, as he and his wife had just come back from swimming at the YMCA. Jack Smith plays the guitar weekly at various functions in the area.

Presenters at the party stated that “youth is a state of mind” and that we all should deposit a lot of happiness in our accounts for withdrawal in the future when we need it. Good advice indeed.

Ruth Mohns was unable to attend the gathering and was missed. With Mabel Jeffrey and Edna Morgan both turning 90 this year, we’ll have at least two more additions to the group next year.

It would take much more than this short article to discover all of the interesting facts about these wonderful ladies and gentlemen, but we are privileged to honour them. ■

—Bonnie Parsons, Oshawa, Ont.



Dorothy Songui turned 101 on Feb. 6.

A Life Changing Experience: Living Word Community Outreach Project in Ecuador

During the month of November, a contingent of men, women and youth from Living Word Christian Fellowship in Hamilton, Ont., spent 12 days volunteering in Ecuador as part of Maranatha Volunteers International.

Eleven volunteers expressed the heart of servanthood by assisting

the Seventh-day Adventist churches in Ecuador in building five One-Day Church structures and also offering nightly Vacation Bible School (VBS) to the children. The work took place primarily in Santo Domingo, a town situated between the highlands and the coast (129 kilometres from the capital city of Quito).



The One-Day Church project is a program where a church structure is built literally in just one day. In addition to the visiting church volunteers, the local congregations are also a part of building their own church! These churches are usually built in rural congregations where the local families are unable to afford a proper church structure. Each structure is made of high-quality steel that will not rust or corrode, and is covered with durable roofing sheets. The building sites are leveled and post holes drilled before the volunteers arrive. The pole-type structure is put up in a matter of hours and leaves the congregation free to build the walls.

The adventure really began at home with a series of fundraising projects. The church family and members of the community contributed to this project by purchasing “bricks.” They also organized an enthusiastic Fun Day, where activities included a yard sale and face painting, culminating with our “outdoor church service,” which had all members bring camping chairs and blankets in order to have church “without walls.” With everyone’s help, the goal of \$10,000 was surpassed, and with God’s blessings, a grand total of \$26,000 was raised.

The need is great in Ecuador. Our group assisted three pastors. A pastor in a rural area is entrusted with as many as 800 church members and can expect to oversee as many as 12 churches.

Although the volunteers provided these communities with five new churches, the people still have to build the walls. It often takes many years for a congregation to raise enough money to complete their church. Because Living Word was able to raise over and above their financial goal, funds were provided to the local church communities to assist with the cost of materials to build the walls and concrete for the floors. These items will be purchased in bulk by the Ecuador Union Conference. Financial assistance and support was also provided to the three local pastors.

Even though the local people have very little comforts compared to our North American standards, they were exceptionally generous. At each building site, the local church members supplied the workers with food. Delicious fresh fruit such as bananas, pineapple and papaya were provided for hydration. Other favourites were green plantain and freshly made cheese. Even though the temperature was hot during the day, homemade soup was supplied every day. Rice and beans were staples. At each building site, the volunteers were presented with gifts, a plaque, a clock for Living Word’s new church and a beautiful handmade table cloth. As an expression of gratitude, one woman gave up her only purse to one of the young volunteers.

Each day began at 5:30 a.m. Breakfast provided by the Seventh-day Adventist school was served early, at 6:30, as worship began at 7. The volunteers boarded the bus at 7:30 and did not return until 5:15 p.m. That left just enough time to shower and eat dinner before VBS at 7 p.m. A typical day ended around 9:45 p.m.

Most of the trip was dedicated to building church structures, but the volunteers still found time to visit and make friends in the rural communities and to distribute sweatshirts and flip-flop

sandals. Backpacks containing colouring pencils, toothbrushes, toothpaste and dental floss were donated to two Adventist schools and one local public school for families who would not be able afford to purchase these items for their children.

Approximately 120 children attended VBS, often overcrowding the small facilities provided. In spite of the language barrier, everyone was enthusiastic, singing songs and making crafts and happy to receive new toothbrushes, crayons and candies. On the last night of VBS, the children showed their gratitude by presenting the volunteers with a homemade banner, beautifully illustrated with their colourful hand prints surrounding the Ecuadorian and Canadian flags.

When the volunteers from Living Word signed up for this mission project, they never could have imagined the impression this trip would have on their lives. Upon their return home, everyone agreed it was the most humbling experience and they will hold the memories forever in their hearts. The trip helped each of the volunteers to put their lives and the things that truly matter into perspective. The people of Ecuador are all beautiful and talented people with so much love in their hearts. Although they had very little in the way of material goods, they demonstrated how we, as Christians, should love: with trust, openness and sincerity. ■

*Davilyn Henderson, Living Word
Christian Fellowship Church*

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SDA Church in Canada

Blessings for a New Journey

"... excellence is to do a common thing faithfully in an uncommon way."



Juanita Longman

"I know that He lives, for I saw Him today in a hand that was offered to me on my way. ... Thank you for caring enough to go the extra mile to help me." This line comes from a personalized thank-you card that was sent to the Health Benefits department of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada (SDACC).

The department has received much of this type of correspondence over the years from many of the 1,100 employees who work in our institutions across Canada and around 500 retirees. These letters of appreciation are testament to the Health Benefits Administration's professionalism and effective management style. Quick reimbursements, accurate information, a willingness to listen, a deep respect for everyone; all of these elements make this department so valued.

Juanita Longman, having worked as

its director for 24 years, contributed significantly to building this identity of excellence on all levels. As she is retiring, we now have the perfect opportunity to celebrate her ministry, her dedication, her enthusiasm—and her smile.

Juanita started working in the health department in 1989 after serving at Branson Adventist Hospital for five years and in Halifax for 12 years. When she started at the SDACC, property management and health benefits were under the same umbrella. However, because of the development of the church and the multiple aspects of service being provided to the employees, the need for a specialized department arose. This is what Juanita accomplished so well, not only satisfying the constraints of the work but also doing everything with grace, elegance and compassion.

It is interesting to note that her grandfather accepted the good news of salvation through the work of a literature evangelist. Juanita's family was involved in the creation and the growth of the St. John's church in New Brunswick, which originally began as a branch Sabbath school and then became an official congregation in 1967. They made a commitment to God and have been a blessing to that community ever since, holding on to the blessed hope in Jesus Christ.

We will miss Juanita, her calmness and inner peace that radiated from her in all her interactions with everyone. We will always be grateful to God for her ministry as an elder at the College Park church and a talented member of the choir. We have also appreciated Juanita for her ability to make good decisions and for her balanced approach to life. Also, she helped us to understand that, as Booker T. Washington has stated, "excellence is to do a common thing faithfully in an uncommon way." And the charm of this attitude will certainly continue to influence not only those in Oshawa but also the members of the St. George church in the Maritime Conference, their new place of predilection.

Retirement is not a destination. It is part of a journey. Our destination is the New Jerusalem and eternity. And this is why we wish an abundance of God's blessings to Juanita and Carl as they move to New Brunswick. ■

Daniel Stojanovic is the vice-president administration at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada.

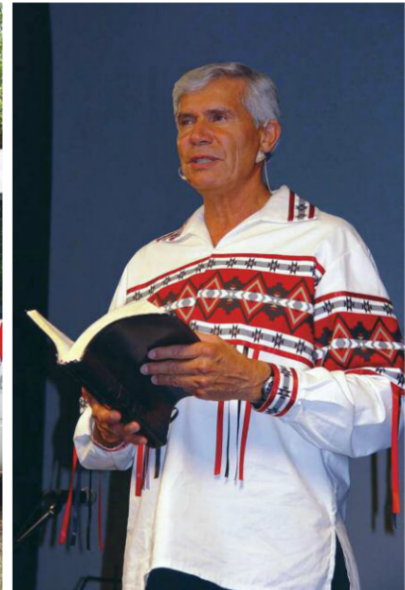
>> SDACC REVOLVING FUND REPORT: As of Feb. 28, 2013, there are 457 depositors with a total deposit of \$24,651,469. There are 75 loans with a value of \$19,471,887.

For more information or to make a deposit, contact Girly Quiambao—quiambao.girly@adventist.ca; 905/433-0011.

Canadian Native Ministries Coordinator Main Speaker at Australian National Aboriginal Campmeeting



Some of the attendees at the National Aboriginal campmeeting held in Perth, Australia.



Ed Dunn speaking before an Aboriginal audience.

When he first read the email invitation to be the main speaker at an Aboriginal campmeeting in Perth, Australia, Edward Dunn thought it was a hoax or a joke of some sort. He cautiously answered expressing some interest and found out the invitation was for real. Ed began communicating with the director of Aboriginal Ministries in Australia to develop a plan for a speaking trip. He discovered that the Aboriginal Seventh-day Adventists assemble for campmeetings every year in various regions of Australia, but their national campmeeting happens only once every five years. This was truly a special honour.

Ed and his wife, Cheryl, arrived early and helped with camp setup while they were acclimatizing to the hot weather. They quickly developed friendships with the pastors and the Aboriginal members as they began to arrive from all over Australia. Some drove for five days in 40°C heat to attend this special campmeeting.

Pastor Dunn spoke at the evening meetings and Sabbath morning on “Righteousness by Faith” in a simple yet profound manner by illustrating each point with Native stories from Canada. He wore his traditional ribbon shirt and really connected with the people. He also led out in two health seminars using the Native New Health Diabetes and Heart Disease programs. As he told stories about Aboriginal life and culture in Canada, over and over again he was told, “It’s just like here” and “Your people are just like us.” Ed really connected with the Aboriginal participants of that campmeeting.

Each program was filmed to be produced as a witnessing

tool. There were approximately three to four hundred people who attended the campmeeting. Pastor Ed asked, “How many Aboriginal Seventh-day Adventists are there?” The answer: between three or four thousand. He followed with the question, “What do you attribute your success to?” The Aboriginal Ministries director, Steve Piez, answered: “Two things. First, we have our own Aboriginal college; and second, we have a creative scheme for funding that provides resources to advance the gospel among our Aboriginal people here in Australia.”

Their Aboriginal training center known as Mamarapha College has been training Bible workers, pastors and health workers for 10 years. As a result, it has made a tremendous difference to the advancement of the work in Australia. There were dedicated students who came to the college but couldn’t read or write. One such student was Keith. After Keith successfully completed two classes, armed with the certificates for each of these classes, he returned to his home community and began to put his training into practice. He is now enthusiastically leading people to a new life in Jesus. He is one of the most successful Bible workers in Australia.

Ed and Cheryl Dunn developed a bond with the people as they shared spiritual and health principles that will last for eternity. As they parted, they promised the people to meet one another in heaven. That will be a special meeting indeed. ■

*Ed Dunn is the Native Ministries director
for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada*

I Love Christian Radio Week

If you missed the fun this year, why not join us next year...



Toutons being prepared for the touton eating contest. Toutons are a traditional dish of Newfoundland—fried bread dough customarily served with warm butter and a drizzling of molasses.

VOAR celebrates the gift of Christian radio with I Love Christian Radio Week Feb. 11–15, a week filled with fun and prizes when our radio audience could phone in and participate in various on-air contests.

The week started with Mayhem Monday, where you could have heard a very strange weather forecast. Touton Tuesday saw Pastor Eric Ollila and wife, Lucy, Christian music artist Jimmy Lee Howard, secretary-treasurer Christine Bergen and VOAR's music director Kevin Kroeker go head to head and fork to fork in a three-minute touton eating contest. On Where-We-At Wednesday listeners were given clues to the location of VOAR staff members who were hiding in various towns and cities in North America. Talented Thursday gave our listeners the chance to recite a poem or sing

a song dedicated to a loved one for Valentine's Day. Fashion Friday our radio audience were asked to send us a picture of their most interesting, outrageous, silly, fashion outfit. Some of the VOAR staff dressed up in the latest fashions as well. Check us out on our Facebook page. If you missed the fun this year, why not join us next year, Feb. 10–14, 2014, for our next I Love Christian Radio Week. God bless, and thank you for your continued support of VOAR Christian Family Radio. ■

*R. Brian Matthews, VOAR
chief engineer
bmatthews@voar.org*



Evangelism Training at the Speed of Your Life

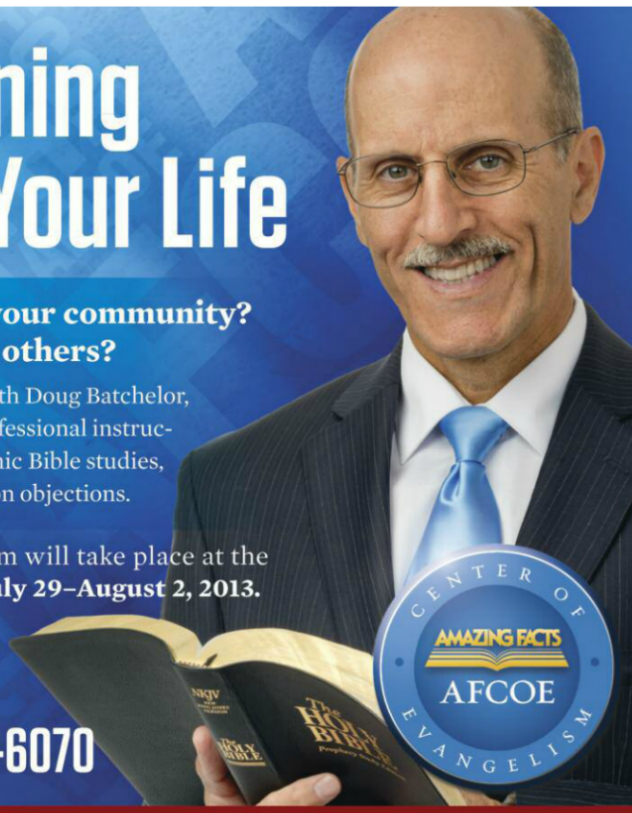
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Should I Fight?

Despite an historic stance of refusal to bear arms, today more Seventh-day Adventist young people have voluntarily joined the military than in any previous generation. Edited by Barry W. Bussey, *Should I Fight?* is a compilation of essays presented at a symposium called to discuss the Adventist Church's position on conscientious objection.

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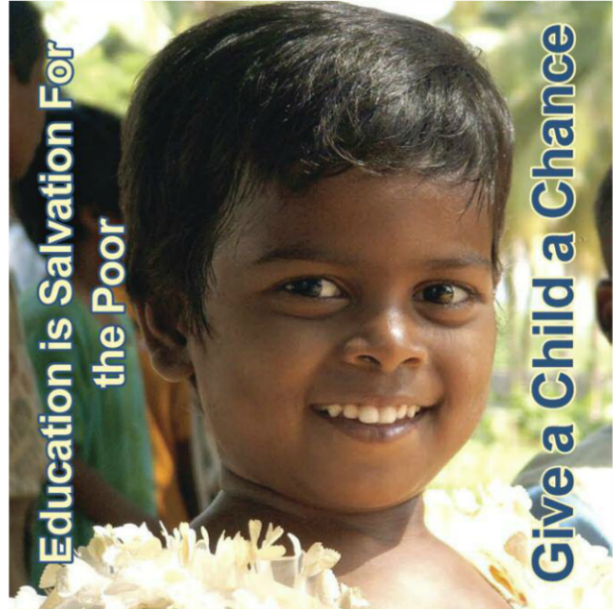
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■ **Announcements**

PROCESS:

- All announcements (non-profit events, new member notices, birth announcements, weddings, anniversaries, obituaries and tributes) should be emailed to Alexandra Yeboah (Yeboah.alexandra@adventist.ca) 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 submittable) are available at www.adventist.ca/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.adventist.ca/messenger, click 'writers guidelines' then click 'announcements.'

■ **Announcements**

Crawford Adventist Academy 60th Anniversary—Crawford Adventist Academy celebrates its 60th Anniversary on May 23-26, 2013. We welcome all our alumni and families, former faculty and staff, parents, friends and supporters. Honouring our TJA Classes of 1978, 1973, 1968, 1963 and all classes prior; CAA Classes of 2003, 1998, 1993, 1988 and 1983. Our Sabbath speaker will be the dynamic, Dr. Wesley Knight, born in Toronto, ON. Please contact the Office of Advancement, TADSB—Derrick Hall, VP Advancement, 416/633-0090/toll-free 866/960-2125 ext. 234 or dhall@tadsb.com; Judy- Cardona Gamez, Advancement Assistant, ext. 248 or jgamez@tadsb.com. Visit our official website www.tadsb.com; follow us on Twitter @TJACAAAlumni; like us on Facebook 'The official TJA/CAA Alumni Group'. (5/13)

If you have graduated from, attended or ever worked at Kingsway College or Oshawa Missionary College, please come and join us for the 2013 Alumni Homecoming, May 10-12, 2013. 2013 is a special year as we celebrate

50 years of the Kingsway College name, and 50 years of Branson Hospital School of Nursing graduates. There are many exciting events planned for everyone, including a Friday night vespers concert performed by King's Heralds, a Sabbath sermon by Gordon Pifher, Class of '65, the Alumni banquet and much more! There will be plenty of opportunity to reunite with former classmates, friends, and faculty on the campus of Kingsway College, which has meant so much, to so many. For more information, please visit the Alumni Homecoming page on our website at <http://kingswaycollege.on.ca/web> where you will find the entire Alumni Homecoming weekend schedule, or to speak to someone live, please call 905/433-1144, ext. 211 or 212. Hope to see you on campus, May 10-12, 2013!

The Calgary Mountain View Seventh-day Adventist Church is pleased to announce Reunion 2013. Saturday, May 4, 2013, is the commemoration of 40 years of service to its members and surrounding communities. We'd love to celebrate this special anniversary with you. Meet and greet old friends and new. See how our dynamic church has grown! Space is limited, so RSVP early by visiting our website www.calgary-mountain-view-sda-church.com/ or call 403/247-7421. Let us know how many will be having lunch.

The Rutland Seventh-day Adventist Church is looking for the following missing members: Bill Bassaraba, Pam Bassaraba, Michael Bennett, Reta Bjorkman, Steven Blazosek, Dobson Bohnke, Jeremiah Elwood Boyd, Janelle Brock, Steven Brock, Brian Dale Buchholz, Frank Bunting, Beverly Burton, Bruce Burton, Sandra Calder, Yvon Champagne, Heidi Charles, Brent Cherney, Chris Christensen, Oudette Dacosta, Marulyn Darroux, Sharlyn Darroux, Jenni Dean, Dean Den Boer, Simone Den Boer, Trace DeVries, Murray Dick, Bob Drake, Donald Driscoll, Brandie Elsom, Anita Evans, Blair Evans, Michael Evans, Linda Follet, Daniel Fortner, Christine Fowler, Mark Garrett, Tamara Gibbon, Carey Gilbertson, Patricia Girard, Ron Girard, Grace Grosso, Robert Haines, Judy Halpin, Eileen Hanley, Eleanor Hargrave, Gloria Harland, Jack Harvey, Audrey Herman, Kendall Herman, Horst Hermann, Bonnie Hiltz, Debbie Himmerling, Blake Hofer, Jacki Holtskog, Todd Huppie, Carol Illman, Gail Imbeau, Gerald Imbeau, and Neil Irwin. If you have information on how they can be contacted, please contact Windie Jeider, office admin, at (250) 860-5096, rutland-church@shaw.ca.

Crawford Adventist Academy 60th Anniversary—We are looking for all former TADSB Board members, TJA/CAA administrators, faculty, staff and chaplains! Our 60th Anniversary Homecoming Alumni Weekend is on May 23–26, 2013, and we would love for you to be part of it. Please contact Derrick Hall, VP of Advancement, TADSB 416/633-0090/toll free 866/960-2125 ext. 234, or dhall@tadsb.com / Judy Cardona Gamez, Advancement Assistant, ext. 248, or jgamez@tadsb.com to provide your current contact information. (4/13)

■ **Legal Notice**

Seventh-day Adventist Church (British Columbia Conference)

Notice is hereby given that the 57th Regular Constituency Meeting of the Seventh-day Adventist Church (British Columbia Conference) will be held at Camp Hope, Katz, British Columbia. Camp Hope is located on Highway 7, approximately 10 kilometers (six miles) west of Hope.

The General Meeting of the Regular Session will begin at 9 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 4, 2013, in the Camp Meeting Pavilion.

The agenda of the Regular Meeting will include: (1) Election of officers for the ensuing term, (2) Appointment of the Board of Directors, (3) Appointment of the Standing Constitution and Bylaws Committee, (4) Transaction of other business as may properly come before the Regular Session.

The Constitution provides for representation from each church within the Seventh-day Adventist Church (British Columbia Conference) on the basis of 1 (one) delegate for each church without regard for membership, plus 1 (one) additional delegate for each 50 (fifty) church members or major fraction thereof, based on the membership as of Dec. 31, 2012.

*Wayne Culmore, President
Wesley Torres, Vice-President
or Administration*

■ **New Members**

Brenda Bunting was baptized in Perth-Andover, N.B., on March 10, 2012, by Adrian Golea. She is now a member of the Perth-Andover church.

Florence Sylvaunce was baptized in Moncton, N.B., on April 7, 2012, by Lisebye Luchmun. She is now a member of the Moncton French church.

Artur Brunets, Brian Keezer, Christa O'Neill, April Roache and

Kenisse Trotman were baptized in Halifax, N.S., on June 2, 2012, by Dan Wilson. They are now all members of the Halifax church.

Laura Flynn and Nadean Greaves were baptized in New Minas, N.S., on July 17, 2012, by Jacques LeBlanc. They are now all members of the New Minas church.

Jennifer Morris was baptized in Miramichi, N.B., on Sept. 15, 2012, by her father, Jacques Morris. She is now a member of the Miramichi church.

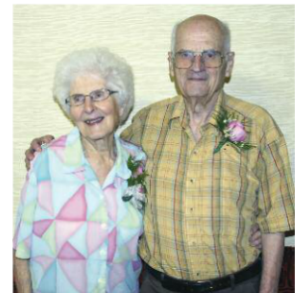
William Hovey, Bonnie Stoddart-Hovey, Mary Stoddart and Vaughn Munn were baptized in Fredericton, N.B., on Dec. 8, 2012, by Jacques Morris. They are now all members of the Fredericton church.

Catherine DeMerchant was baptized in Halifax, N.S., on Nov. 3, 2012, by Dan Wilson. She is now a member of the Halifax church.

John and Juleline Goldsmith, Armand and Renelle LeBlanc were baptized in Saint John, N.B., on Dec. 1, 2012, by Courtney Dookie. They are now all members of the Saint John church.

■ **Anniversaries**

Harry and Lenna White celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on March 20, 2012. Harry pastored in



Washington State and in British Columbia. He was also the educational superintendent in British Columbia. Lenna taught church school in British Columbia and in Alberta. They are now living in Watson, Sask. The Whites have four children: Myrna (Garry) Gallant and Jim (Milly) White, of Sask., Linda (Leif) King, of B.C. and Ron (Hollie) White, of Alta. They have nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

■ **Obituaries**

Don Calder was born on July 4, 1913, in Killarney, Man., and died

Jan. 8, 2013, in Mount Vernon, Wash. Don served the church in many positions and devoted his retirement years to the establishment of the Surrey, B.C., church. He lived his love for the Lord daily. Don is predeceased by his wife, Inez. He is survived by his daughter, Donnajeane (Carl) Dickson Crawford, of Mount Vernon, Wash.; 12 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

Inez (née Guille) Calder was born on Oct. 4, 1911, in Holmfild, Man., and died Sept. 30, 2012, in Mount Vernon, Wash. Inez was loved for her gift of hospitality, and oatmeal cookies, and was active in the church in Winnipeg, Man., Portland, Ore., and then in Surrey, B.C. Don and his "sweetheart" celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary on Sept. 20, 2012. Inez is survived by her daughter, Donnajeane (Carl) Dickson Crawford of Mount Vernon, Wash.; 12 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

Ida Hovde was born on Jan. 8, 1922, in Sask., and died Dec. 12, 2012, in Preeceville, Sask. Ida was a faithful member of the Saskatoon and Abbotsford churches. She lived a life of service for Christ. She also served with chaplaincy in Abbotsford and loved to tell the children's stories in church. She is predeceased by her husband, Justin, and her daughter, Hazel (Lawrence). Surviving: sons, Jim (Jocelyne), and Steve (Carole); daughters, Janet (Ernie), and Iris (Walter); brother, Erwin; 25 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren and seven great-great-grandchildren.

Edwin Polishuk was born on July 19, 1927, in Viceroy, Sask., and died Oct. 5, 2012, in Lacombe, Alta. Edwin was raised in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and supported it in a variety of ways, serving in various roles as elder and deacon. Edwin looked forward to attending church and musical programs, even as his health declined. Programs on the Hope Channel and 3ABN were a source of encouragement to him. He is predeceased by his wife, Esther (née Tym), brothers, Lawrence, Leeward, and Don; sisters, Ilene Trenchuk, Marian Young and Lorraine Dovich. Surviving: son, Curtis (Lucia) of Red Deer, Alta.; daughters, Elvira (Larry) Gascoyne of Lacombe, Alta., Cheryl (Warren) Kay, of Lacombe, Loretta (Phil) Johnson of Gwynne, Alta., and Myrne (Cameron) Koronko of Armstrong, B.C.; brother, Ernie (Esther) of Edmonton, Alta.; sister-in-laws, Francis of Manville, Alta., and June of Oshawa, Ont.; 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Carolyn (née Sharpe) Pierce was born on Dec. 4, 1948, in Halifax, N.S., and died Nov. 23, 2012, in Halifax, N.S. Carolyn was a lifelong member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. She enjoyed music and was a member of the Gospel mixed quartet for the Master. Carolyn devoted a lot of time praying for people. Surviving: husband, David; sons, Marc (Cathy), of Fredericton, N.B., and Jarod, of Pugwash, N.S.; mother, Winnifred Sharpe, of Pugwash, N.S.; brother, Edwin Sharpe, of Moncton, N.B.; sisters, Kathleen Hartling, of Bedford, N.S., Charlene Beanlands, of Pugwash, N.S., Elaine Nepjuk, of Pugwash, N.S., and Dawn Zork of Worcester, M.A.; three grandchildren.

Anne (née Voth) Woloschuk was born on Dec. 27, 1912, in Siberia, and died Jan. 1, 2013, in Kelowna, B.C. Anne was a cook at Camp Hope and the Investment and Sunshine Band Leader for many years. She supported missions by selling her knitted slippers and afghans. She also sold homemade perogies and donuts for missions. She is predeceased by her husband, William, and son, Robert. Surviving: sons, Walter, and David; stepson, Reg (Pat) Puymon; daughters, Geraldine (Gordon) Goertzen, Ruth (Dale) Jones, and Beverly Smith; 17 grandchildren, 39 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

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Origins: The First Week of Time (8-hour series as seen on 3ABN) by Pastor Terry McComb, author/speaker. Also available: "Creation, Evolution, or both? (You can't have Christ and Darwin too)," as presented at British Columbia Campmeeting. DVDs available at www.higherpath.ca or 1 877/597-3883. (4/13)

The Wildwood Lifestyle Program can help you naturally treat and reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, osteoporosis, fibromyalgia, lupus, multiple sclerosis, chronic fatigue, cancer, substance abuse, stress, anxiety, depression and many more. Invest in your health and call 800/634-9355 for more information or visit www.wildwoodhealth.org/lifestyle.

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For display ads rates, sizes, deadlines, and more, visit: www.adventist.ca/messenger.

Thinking of what to do this summer?

How about attending Eastern Canada Youth for Christ's (ECYC) fifth annual conference: "Something Better": "For what is man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" (Matthew 16:26). The conference will be held at Kingsway College, from Aug. 15–18. Register online at: www.eastcanada.youth.org. Rates are set at \$95. For more information, please email us at info@eastcanada.youth.org. (7/13)

Seeking a loving, caring, Seventh-day Adventist live-in nanny to care for two children in our home as of June 1, 2013. Must hold valid Canadian driver's license. Comfortable accommodation will be provided in large home, located in beautiful, rural area of Toronto. Please contact us at 4kimbilio@gmail.com. (5/13)

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. We have an opening for: Accountant. Please contact Becky Chen at bchenfountainviewacademy.ca, or 250/256-5400. For maintenance manager, head girls' dean, cafeteria manager and stipend religious volunteers (boys and girls dorm), please contact Elaine Roque at eroque@fountainviewacademy.ca, or 250/256-5400. (4/13)

Do you like warm winters and friendly people? Are year-round walking trails part of your lifestyle? In Sooke, B.C., we enjoy active, warm church members who cater a hospitality lunch for their community each Sabbath. Outreach projects include cooking schools, youth groups, Dr. Nedley Depression Recovery seminars (one facilitator course offered free, if you want to help), and a literacy project now exists (certificate course available). If you need accommodation while searching for housing (new homes at \$339), we have that too. Come and see for yourself and consider whether we are not the friendliest church in Canada with the warmest climate. God bless your decision to come here. Call 250/642-3863, Juan de Fuca Seventh-day Adventist Church, Box 228, Sooke, B.C., V9Z 0S9. (4/13)

Sunnyside Adventist Care Centre

in Saskatoon is seeking a dynamic, conscientious and spiritually minded individual for the position of Director of Human Resources. This position oversees all aspects of Human Resources at our care centre with 140 employees and is a diverse/multifaceted role. Our ideal candidate has the following qualifications: B.Sc. degree in HR, 5 years' experience; highly organized; outstanding interpersonal skills; excellent MS Office knowledge; facilitating workshops; a passion for change; quickly grasp new concepts; proactive and resourceful; work independently; achievement oriented; comfortable working with the elderly and bring a sense of fun to the workplace. If you would like to join us in fulfilling our mission of "Caring for our Community as Christ would," please send your cover letter and resume ASAP to Randy Kurtz at admin@sunnysidecare.ca. (4/13)



West Coast

California | Hawaii | Oregon | Washington

19 hospitals committed to sharing God's love by providing physical, mental and spiritual healing.

For job opportunities, visit AdventistHealth.org

Adventist Health

For Sale—Lovely country home nestled amongst large poplar trees and some oak, offering a gorgeous west view of Riding Mountain National Park. 3+2 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 1280 sq. ft. bi-level, wood/ electric heat, attached garage, 40x32 shop, 5,000-bushel grain storage and other buildings on 157 acres in Kelwood/McCreary area in beautiful Manitoba. Large garden area including well-established raspberries and grapevines. The incredible wild life and wild berries are practically at your doorstep. Perfect for young family or retired couple, market gardening or hobby farm. Three small churches within driving distance. Come discover Manitoba! Please call 204/835-2681.

House for sale in quiet neighborhood of a small community, within walking distance of church, playground, hardware/lumber yard, grocery store, library, post office and bank. Buffalo Lake is about 15 miles from here; Canadian University College, Adventist Book Centre and the Alberta Conference office are approximately 30 miles from here. Call 403/788-3970. (4/13)

Improve your mental and physical health, naturally! Optimize your brain, immune, digestive and cellular communication function with NutriVerus...made entirely of plants! It is highly effective yet economical. At less than \$65/month and a 6-month satisfaction guarantee, you have everything to gain. Get started today to enjoy all of the benefits that improve your quality of life! Visit www.navig8.me/112820 to view a video. Questions? Call Viv 866/270-6019 or email thegoodlife@litttleloon.ca. (9/13)

End the "Battle of the Bulge" forever! Turn your "fat-storing switch" off with OsoLean. Halts hunger hormones and cravings, burns body fat, builds lean muscle and bones, and promotes lasting energy yet good sleep. No stimulants and effective for all ages. Get started today to look and feel your best. 6-month satisfaction guarantee. Video, www.navig8.biz/LifeEnhancer4. Questions? Call Vivian 866/270-6019, email thegoodlife@litttleloon.ca (9/13)

New research and advancements in glycobiology show regaining normal brain function is as easy as taking a couple teaspoons of Ambrotose powder each day! It increases cognitive function, memory, concentration, attentiveness and mood, while decreasing irritability. Who doesn't want *all* of these benefits, especially as we age? Great for kids too! Info doc at <http://library.mannatech.com/1071>; more info and ordering at www.mymanna.com/LifeEnhancerAmbrotos. 6-month satisfaction guarantee, so get started today to reap the benefits of improved quality of life! Questions—call Viv at 866/270-6019 or email at thegoodlife@litttleloon.ca. (9/13)

New 3-hp, high-speed Omni-blender. Make great smoothies. Blends and can heat in one operation. 7-year warranty, much less expensive than similar brand. Call Ray at 888/707-3663 for more information, or email rayfoucher@gmail.com. Website: www.natural-pain-relief-guide.com/blender. Also, BarleyLife, free Barley Life DVD, Herbal Fiber-Blend, ivegetarian Vitamin D, rebounders, inverters, far infra-red etc. (5/13)

Authors wanted. Have you written a children's book, life testimony, story of God's love, or your spiritual ideas and would like them published? Contact TEACH Services at 800/367-1844 ext. 3, or email publishing@teachservices.com, for a free manuscript review. (7/13)

Now is the time to think spring. We are a children's fashion business specializing in dresses sizes 0 to 12. We sell personally to you, thereby providing affordability, convenience and product satisfaction. For further information, contact us at 416/706-8679 or 416/917-7570 or go to our website: neverlandfashions.wix.com/neverlandfashions. (4/13)

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Alain Lévesque

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from the editor

They made and still make a difference ...

In early April I will be at a celebration being held for seniors and led by Ken Wiebe, the president of the Alberta Conference. It is inspiring to me that they have once again invited a select group of seniors, those who not only supported and grew the church but also specifically those who have committed their life work, pastors, teachers, directors, secretaries, and other retirees to this event.

When I was involved in estate planning, I visited many of our seniors, at their request. I heard stories of sacrifice to advance the work. Stories of people refraining from spending the Lord's tithes and offerings even when they were most desperate. Stories of those who kept their lights and their heat low in the bitterly cold Saskatchewan winters so they could help advance this work we have been called to do. Stories of people who had to make a life-changing decision in order to be faithful. It is not without irony that I found a relationship between the faithful and a significant amount of wealth in their retirement years. As promised, their storehouse is full.

I recently travelled with a group of seniors from Alberta and British Columbia, and with A Better World Canada. What a wonderful experience that was and what a wonderful group to spend time with. Maybe it is because my children think I may be hitting that category in the near future, but I found this group of seniors to be energetic and vibrant.

Without the sacrifice and diligence of our senior members for service to expand our church and its institutions, many things we have today may not have ever existed. Without their sacrifice and support, we would not have the fine universities, and the bookstores. Without them a lot of the Adventist elementary schools across Canada would not exist, nor our It Is Written Canada. Without their faithfulness many of us might not have learned the message that gives our lives meaning, joy, completeness, satisfaction, and hope.

May all who follow us find that we were as faithful as those who went before us. ■

Stan Jensen, editor
jensen.stan@adventist.ca

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stan".

THIS MONTH WE REMEMBER THE WORLD WAR II ERA as reported by the *Canadian Union Messenger*. Below is a sampling of what we found. To read the full-length versions of these excerpts, go to <http://docs.adventistarchives.org>.

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT
REGARDING THE GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION**

For the last three or four years we have been reading what might be called negative advertisements in the papers and magazines. The railroads have been requesting people not to make trips; the telephone companies have asked patrons not to make unnecessary long distance telephone calls; department stores have been advertising not to buy more goods than were absolutely needed. It does seem strange indeed for companies to advertise that the do not wish to sell or dispose of their products; but, due to the war conditions under which we were living, this became necessary.

Now, another very strange development has taken place. Because hotel accommodations were so scarce in St. Louis where it had been planned to hold the General Conference session this year, it was recently decided by the General Conference Committee and Union Conference presidents to have the meeting in Takoma Park, June 5 to 15. But rooms here also are scarce; and the General Conference is obliged instead of urging people to attend the meetings, to urge them not to come. It is of course

P E A C E

Peace! As the material for this issue of the "Messenger" leaves the office, the freedom-loving peoples of a war-torn world are rejoicing in the answers to the prayers of the past years for an end to hostilities and the dawn of peace. Seventh-day Adventists have joined sincerely and wholeheartedly in these prayers and now share in the joy of their answer.

The prospects of peace bring to us as a people, not only a sense of profound gratitude to God for the end of the terrible struggle of the past years with its unparalleled destruction of property, human suffering, and death, but also a deep sense of our spiritual responsibilities in connection with the unfinished task of giving the gospel to all the world in this generation. The years of war have brought great material loss to the work of the Advent message in many lands and restrictions to its normal expansion. With the dawn of peace, there will doubtless come a reopening of doors of service in lands closed during the years of conflict.

Top left: A portion of an unusual announcement urging members not to attend the upcoming General Conference Session. (CUM, Apr. 17, 1946)

**Day of Special Intercession
for Interned Missionaries
October 30**

Scores of thousands through the changing tides of battle are taken as prisoners and as such are transferred by the conquering nations to regions remote from the areas of conflict, there to await the close of the cruel struggles. To them, the time of waiting drags slowly. Only the most restricted correspondence is permitted with loved ones,—often only twenty-five words on a postal card every two weeks. Monotonous days and months wear slowly on into years. Hope wanes in the hearts of the captives as in the hearts of the loved ones who longingly await their return.

Such are the restrictions and conditions recognized and imposed by nations which have accepted the Geneva Treaty governing such matters. As between other nations we have reasons to fear that even these conditions are not recognized, and that prisoners and internees of foreign nationals in their hands may suffer indignities and cruelties not practiced nor dreamed of by so-called Christian nations. It is because of this that we grow increasingly anxious concerning the welfare of our interned missionaries in Occupied China, Borneo, and the Philippine Islands. Nor is this all. Increased concern and anxiety grows out of the possibility of even more hostile attitudes which may develop toward enemy nationals as the Allied Nations become increasingly successful in recovering the territory taken from them by the Japanese in the heyday of their successes in the early months of the war.

Above: A portion of a three-page article asking readers to set aside Oct. 30 as a special day of prayer for missionaries who were now prisoners of war. The article gave the names and known locations of interned missionaries. (CUM, Oct. 20, 1943)

Left: Part of an article from the Alberta Conference heralding the end of the war and the dawn of peace. (CUM, Aug. 22, 1945)

WORD from the PHILIPPINES

The following letter has been received from Wm. C. Williams: "Perhaps news has reached you of the release of all civilian internees in the Philippines. We were in the camp which was liberated February 23. This will always be one of the most wonderful days in our lives.

Both Mrs. Williams and I are in good health considering the months of starvation through which we passed. My health was perhaps as good as any and I was able to do physical work right up to the last. However, the last two weeks were indeed trying.

We were rescued by a combination of 'parrot troops,' scout troops, amphibian tank troops and guerillas. Several escapees from our camp had contacted our forces and lead them in. The operation was about as perfectly successful as a military operation could be. Our crossing the lake reminded many of us of the Red Sea.

One of our missionaries died about a year ago. Two were quite critically ill when we were rescued. Hope is held out for both of them now. Eighty per cent had beri beri, scurvey and pellegra were also rampant. We had a little garden and kept gathering weeds, edible roots, etc. All the dogs and cats disappeared. Some ate rats. Slugs were considered quite a delicacy. The last food issued us by the Japanese was rice with the hulls still on.

We are now in the benevolent care of the United States army. It all seems a lovely dream which is now on the eighth day. Our plans are still uncertain. Our furlough is long overdue and we hope to return to America. However, we may be asked to remain here for a time as many are in poor health.

We have thought of you all many, many times, and hope the good Lord is blessing you and prospering the work there. There are six Seventh-day Adventist boys here connected with the medical staff."

(Signed) Wm. C. Williams
% Civilian War Aid, American Red Cross, H.2 6th Army Civil Affairs No. 2, A.P.O., 442 San Francisco.

H. J. Perkins

Above: A long-awaited and prayed for freedom comes to missionaries interned in the Philippines. (CUM, Apr. 4, 1945)

Kenya & Rwanda 2013

OCTOBER 21 - NOVEMBER 8



JOURNEYS OF HOPE WITH LACOMBE ROTARY CLUB & FRIENDS

**Spend 15 unforgettable days in
Kenya & Rwanda with A Better World**

- Attend the Grand Opening of the Lacombe Rotary Projects.
- Spend time with children in schools and orphanages.
- Explore the Masai Mara, a national wildlife reserve with daily safaris and a visit to a traditional Masai village.
- This trip is open to anyone interested in learning about humanitarian work.

**With optional Rwanda extension
November 1 - 8**

This special trip was organized for the members of the Lacombe Rotary Club, Rotarians and their friends. It will include the grand opening of a school that the Lacombe Rotary Club partnered in completing in Kenya. Lacombe Rotary also funded the construction of the Umutara Deaf School, so an extension to Rwanda is included.

Medical Mission Trip To Kenya 2013

NOVEMBER 2 - NOVEMBER 17



NEEDED:

- Doctors, Nurses, Dentists and any health care professionals are welcome.
- A support team of non-medical personnel

TO:

- Provide training for local health care workers
- Assist in the clinics built by A Better World
- Serve in rural medical camps

**THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO INVITE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS
WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH TO JOIN THIS MISSION.**

TEAM LEADERS: DR. RAY & DERYL COMEAU

Dr. Ray Comeau has been a family physician in Central Alberta for 25 years and has a special interest in tropical diseases and travel medicine. Deryl Comeau is an RN with over 30 years of experience. Together they have lead medical teams for the past eight years.

A BETTER WORLD CANADA

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