

A window of information for Seventh-day Adventists in Alberta

Edmonton Crusade a Success

Sabbath, October 22 may have been the Great Disappointment for the Adventist pioneers more than a hundred years ago, but not for those gathered at the Edmonton Central Church on this day of the year.

Dr. Fitzroy Maitland from Ontario, the evangelistic speaker for the four week series, spoke to a packed audience on both Sabbath morning and in the afternoon. On this, the grand climax of the series, 40 persons sealed their commitment to Christ by being baptized. To date, there are close to 50 baptisms in all from which the Edmonton churches benefited.


The cooperation among the city pastors and churches was superb as they worked together to provide a sumptuous meal on each of the last three Sabbaths of the meetings.

Of note was the fact that for the first time, lay Bible instructors participated in the field work alongside the pastors as they visited and prepared individuals for baptism. These "lay pastors" were trained earlier in the year by Pastor Andre Beyde at the Central and West churches in what came to be known as the "Lay Bible Training School."

During this Family and Gospel Series Crusade, Dr. Maitland, a trained Family Life educator and minister, welded important family and Bible concepts together in his dynamic nightly presentations. Outstanding music was rendered each evening by Amryl Findlay, the singing evangelist for the series.

We praise the Lord for the mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit during these meetings. Truly it was a refreshing experience from the presence of the Lord. Those who attended testified to the power of the Gospel as it was preached with power and conviction. Once again Satan's kingdom suffered a setback as people came forward to the altar night after night to lay their sins at the feet of the Saviour.

Through this forum, we want to once again thank Pastor Maitland and the Ontario Conference for the outstanding contribution they have made to the Edmonton churches.

 Don King, Evangelism Coordinator



Remember January 7 is
"The Day of Prayer"

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14

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The above photo shows some of the candidates who were baptized during the Family and Gospel Series. Front row (L - R) Pastor Victor Schulz, Clarence Grosso, Amryl Findlay, Dr. Maitland, Ruby Simus, Pastors Andre Beyde, Jim Burgess, and John Blake.

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*Conference resource room open during
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The President Writes ...

Scripture testifies that God designed men to be priests of their home. They would give spiritual leadership as well as the tough and tender qualities that are needed to provide for and protect their families.

Something has gone terribly wrong. Men in society head the statistics for child and spousal abuse. Men most frequently are guilty of abandoning their family. They fill the prisons. They must take the greatest responsibility for teenage pregnancy, pornography and prostitution. Even Christian men often find it difficult to focus their attention from vocational concerns to family matters. Engaging in faith talk with their children often is challenging.

Yet, today in the 1990's, God is appealing to men to assume their responsibilities of spiritual leadership in the home. It is encouraging to me that a movement is taking place in the Christian church in this regard. As Adventist Christians we are recognizing its importance.

Men today are attending seminars, reading books, and participating in small groups that are designed to help them understand themselves and how they can glorify God in their maleness. Some men are forming spiritual partners to help each other become more authentic husbands and fathers. Others are participating in support and accountability groups for acceptance, affirmation, accountability, and authority.

Promise Keepers, a Christian men's movement, had 70,000 gather at their annual convention last summer seeking to become more effective for God as husbands, fathers and seekers to bring other men to a saving knowledge of Christ.

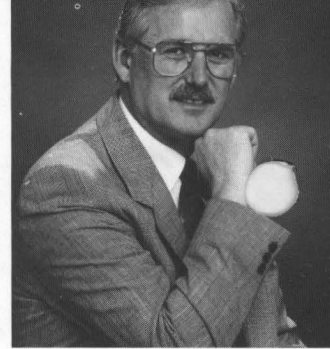
As Adventist men, we want to provide leadership for our families that will give them stability in the critical times we are living. Children need to feel the compassion of a father's love. Wives need love, honor, praise, and security from their husbands.

I have greatly benefited from a review of my own responsibility in this regard and my commitment of my faithfulness to God as a father and husband. Men, if you would like to do the same, why not discuss this with other men in your church and spend times together in prayer and support. This is not designed to take additional time away from your families—maybe it could be at a meal time, or at a prayer breakfast.

If you would like further information about the development of a men's ministry in your church, you can contact me or Ken Crawford at the Conference office. If you want to do some further reading, I am including a short bibliography on page 4 of this issue of the *Alberta News* under "Men's Ministry Bibliography."

May the Lord help each one of us fulfil the role He has called us to perform in life.

Don Corkum, President, Alberta Conference



Don Corkum

Around the Conference

Community Day in Warburg — On Sunday, August 7, 1994, about 20 people gathered at the village park in the 'metropolis' of Warburg (pop. 600). Their task: to paint the chainlink fence that surrounds the playground. It hadn't been painted for years. Darryl Lanouette, Social Committee leader for the Warburg SDA church, arranged with the city to paint the fence. Members from the community and members from the Warburg SDA church were invited to participate in this pleasant project. The project was accomplished in approximately five hours. There were games for the kids and a supper for all those who helped. It was a tremendous success. And the fence shines!





50th Wedding Anniversary

— On Sunday, July 24, 1994 the Sherwood Park Seventh-day Adventist Church was the scene of a lovely reception held to celebrate the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Vernon and Lorna (Litke) Evenson of Earl Grey, Saskatchewan. The reception was hosted by their children, Faye

Feddema, Wayne Evenson and daughter-in-law Rita. The celebration was held exactly 50 years from their wedding date, July 24, 1944 and was attended by many friends and relatives.

Pastoral Changes

Grant Misseghers — and wife Bonnie moved to Peoria to begin pastoral ministry in that area. Grant is a graduate of Canadian Union College.

Kelly Schultz — and wife Carla, currently pastoring in British Columbia, has accepted a call to pastor the Beiseker/Olds district. They will take up residence in Alberta in the new year.

Edmonton Central associate, Edmonton West, and Lacombe Community are yet to be filled.

Baptisms

Baptism in the Athabasca River — The dawn broke and the sun's

rays warmed the waters slightly. It was an exciting day for four young girls. Sabbath, August 20, 1994 will be forever special in their hearts for it was the day when they publicly showed their commitment to the Lord and were baptized by Pastor Ron Teranski in their hometown of Brule,

Alberta. The girls Savannah, Nikitah, Amy and Janine Armstrong all love nature, so the Athabasca River was a perfect setting for their baptism.



Lacombe — Sabbath, September 17, 1994 was a happy day for Jose Marshall, her family and friends, as they gathered at a beautiful spot on the shore of Gull Lake, AB. She was baptised by Pastor Bill Kennedy.

Calgary Mountain View

— Calgary Mt. View church experienced a joyous celebration on Sabbath, Oct. 10, when four people made their decision to accept God's free gift of salvation in Christ and by baptism became members of His body on earth. Two students, Jeremy Korvela and Erin Honke, had completed the baptismal class at Chinook Winds Adventist Academy with Pastor Brian Wahl and as a result, made their decision to accept Christ. Mrs. Marcia Leach became acquainted with Seventh-day Adventists through a contact made by Literature Evangelist Candice Reilly over three years ago. Through Candice's friendship she began attending the Mt. View Church. Bert Picknell began his search for meaning in Christianity in Ontario a number of years ago and through some very unusual circumstances ended up in Calgary where he decided to visit Mt. View Church a year ago. Mt. View Church welcomes with open arms these four precious people as part of their church family.



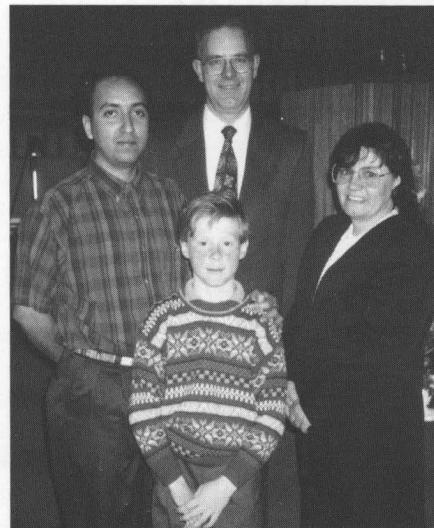
L-R: Pastor Clayton Stanwick, Jeremy Korvela, Erin Honke, Marcia Leach and Bert Picknell.

Calgary Central — On the last Sabbath of January 1994, Hervert Sanchez was baptized into Jesus by Kuen-Taik Lee, then pastor of the Calgary Korean SDA church. Hervert is originally from El Salvador and has lived in Canada for three and a half years. While attending an English language school, he met Anne Kim. Anne, an SDA from Korea, and also attending the English language school, befriended Hervert and invited him to study the Bible with her pastor. This led to Hervert's baptism. Hervert has joined the Calgary Central church.

Calgary Central — On April 9, Joanna Jacobson and Joseph Walls were baptized. After being away from the SDA church for many years, Joanna has returned to the church she once loved. It happened when Victor Jacobson, Joanna's uncle, submitted her name during the Reclaim Project last year.

Ken Wiebe, pastor of the Calgary Central SDA church, contacted Joanna and invited her to join Central's Sabbath morning worship service. Joanna accepted the invitation.

Besides attending the Pastor's Bible class every Sabbath morning, she has re-acquainted herself with the church teachings by viewing all 30 of George Vandeman's *Truth for End Time* video series. Joanna is



L-R Herbert Sanchez, Joseph Walls, Joanna Jacobson, with Pastor Ken Wiebe standing behind.

Continued on page 4



Junior Pathfinders Experience Fall Campout

On the weekend of October 21-23, 130 Junior Pathfinders and staff pitched their tents, made their campfires, cooked their meals and made new friends with other Pathfinders from around the conference at the first major event for the new Pathfinder year.

Arriving Friday afternoon and evening, the lower level and recreational field at Foothills Camp became a tent city that was the weekend home of the Pathfinders.

The first general meeting of the weekend was held at the Foothills Camp amphitheatre with a roaring fire, lights and great singing, led by Grant Misseghers. Bryan Lee, Conference Youth Director, gave a devotional story and after prayer and announcements everyone headed back to their campsites to warm up their tents. The weather was promising to be cold for the night and the campers were not to be disappointed. A brisk northern wind and snow brought many out to an early morning fire. Others were glued to the warmth of their sleeping bags.

However, Sabbath morning cleared up and the sun warmed up bodies as God's spirit warmed up souls. The Sabbath morning program was held in the heated Primary building and Misseghers was joined by Shannon Girvan in leading a sensational

singing program. At 11:00 the Pathfinders had a special visit from Conference President Don Corkum, who had words of encouragement for them. Later, a program highlighting "Incredible People" from the Bible kept Pathfinders busy answering and demonstrating questions.

Dinner was enjoyed in the sun around each club site, and later a Sabbath afternoon program of initiative challenges and a nature discovery hike kept everyone involved. After supper time, sundown worship was again enjoyed at the amphitheatre and special guest Pastor Cindy Tutsch, from Seattle, Washington, gave an inspirational message of God's presence in each life.

Saturday night was games on the recreational field, followed by clubs having campfires at their sites before crawling into bed. This night there was to be no wind or snow, just clear skies and below zero temperatures which covered everything with thick frost by morning.

After thawing out and finishing breakfast, clubs gathered again on the recreation field for challenges in the Great Foothills Frisbee Tournament, where everyone participated for their club. After lunch, Pathfinders packed their camping gear and headed home, successfully completing their first major outing. *Bryan Lee, Youth*

Baptisms/continued from page 3

delighted with her new church family and is already involved in church life by assisting with finding personnel for the Sabbath morning Children's story.

Joseph, is the son of David and Kathleen Walls, of Calgary, Alberta. After viewing a baptism at church, Joseph approached the Pastor requesting Bible studies and baptism.

Prior to his baptism Joseph told the congregation, "I want to be baptized because that is what Jesus wants me to do and I want to follow Him." Joseph is currently attending Chinook Winds Adventist Academy.

Warburg — On the Sabbath morning of September 10, 1994, two young girls, Rachel Molyneaux and Rosalie Knopp were accepted into the Warburg SDA church on condition of the baptism. That same afternoon about 50 family and friends, had the privilege of witnessing their baptism at the Leduc SDA church. These two dedicated, bright girls have great futures in their work for the Lord. Pastor Ron Teranski officiated.

The Committee of 100

The Committee of 100 is a non-profit corporation registered with the Canadian Government. The purpose of the committee is to give individuals, who care about the future of Canadian Union College and today's Canadian youth, an opportunity to support the mission of the college year after year.

By committing \$500 annually, the members of the Committee of 100 have supported many projects in the past. Current projects provide for scholarships and/or loans to needy deserving students at Canadian Union College.

"There is no greater happiness than that which comes from sharing—no greater joy than that which comes from loving, giving, and caring." —Unknown

This is a personal invitation for you to join the Committee of 100—a group of people who are making a difference.

For more information write or call:

College Development, Canadian Union College, Box 430,
College Heights, Alberta, Canada, T0C 0Z0
Phone: 403/782-3381

Men's Ministry Bibliography

Adventist Home, by E.G.White. Pacific Press

First Class Male, The Christian Man's Role in Today's World
by Len McMillan and Marvin Wray. Review and Herald.

Men Under Construction, Rebuilding the Way to Healthy Sexuality,
Relationships and Identity
by Donald Joy. Victor Books.

Seven Promises of a Promise Keeper
by various authors. Focus on the Family.

The Hidden Value of a Man, The Incredible Impact of a Man on
His Family
by Gary Smalley and John Trent, Ph.D. Focus on the
Family.

Men Who Win, Pursuing the Ultimate Prize
by Steven J. Lawson. Navpress.

Masculine Journey, Understanding the Six Stages of Manhood
with study guide
by Robert Hicks. Navpress.



A Call to Prayer

The first Sabbath of 1995, January 7, has been set aside as the DAY OF PRAYER in the North American Division. This will be a special time for the church family to draw together, to focus on the promises of God's Word, and pray for one another.

"If my people ... will pray ... I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin." 2 Chronicles 7:14.

In order to keep this theme of prayer before us throughout the DAY OF PRAYER, it is suggested we begin this special time together on Friday evening at 7:14 pm and close on Sabbath evening at 7:14 pm.

The following suggestions are given here for your DAY OF PRAYER Committee:

- Plan a Prayer Breakfast for early Sabbath or Sunday morning - or
- Make this a day of fasting and prayer.
- Prayer in groups - in homes.
- Open the church for 24 hours. Have different people selected or volunteer for 2-3 hour blocks of time to lead during that time as people come and go. Make this a special time of singing, praise, and prayer requests, especially focus on Scripture promises and 2 Chronicles 7:14.
- Sabbath School programs on prayer - all divisions.
- Sermon on prayer - you may want

this to be a little shorter to provide time for the church family to pray together.

- Provide for participation of all age groups.
- Divide into small groups for a special time of prayer, or pray together as the entire church family - in group conversational prayer, providing microphones throughout the sanctuary if necessary.
- A banner could be used across the front of the sanctuary: "If My People...Will Pray" 2 Chronicles 7:14.
- Provide a confidential prayer box at the front of the sanctuary or some central location - for personal prayer requests. Allow time for prayer for the requests in the box.
- Encourage each member to find a prayer partner - for 1995. They can get together once a week to pray, or pray by phone.
- Shut-ins can be given a special visit and prayer. This is especially appreciated if children can be included.
- Book reviews can be given - with carefully selected books on prayer.

*Alfred C. McClure, President,
North American Division*

What Shall We Pray For?

1. Pray for your church—you could take your membership list or church directory and pray for each one.
2. Pray for your pastor, spouse, children, their dreams, pray for their spiritual blessing, and the anointing of the Holy Spirit.
3. Pray for your church officers and leaders.
4. Pray for your community, its leaders, its problems.
5. Pray for the North American Division Net 95 - that the Holy Spirit will draw precious people to Jesus.
6. Pray for the North American Prayer Conferences to be held across America.
7. Pray for reformation, revival, and renewal for individuals and churches.
8. Pray for an unprecedented outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
9. Pray for our children of all ages, for our youth.
10. Pray for our schools and teachers.
11. Pray for the health and medical work.
12. Pray for our homes, marriages, and families.
13. Pray for the Conference leadership.
14. Pray for the North American Division leaders.
15. Pray for the General Conference leadership.
16. Pray for the Canadian and United States government leaders.
17. Pray for the work of the church around the world.
18. Pray that prayers will continue to ascend to God from across Canada and the United States at 6:15 each morning.



Six Ordained to the Gospel

Last July at Camp Meeting, six pastors were ordained to the gospel ministry. This makes it one of the largest number ordained at any one time in the Alberta Conference.

The following couples are shown in the photo seated by rows: Back row - Ron and Laurel Teranski; Dean and Wendy Oliphant. Center row - Ron and Sandra Nelson; Bruce and Dorothy Hayward. Front row - Ed and Cheryl Dunn; Andrew and Amy Chin.

The sermon was presented by John Fowler, prayer by Walter Scragg, charge by Don Corkum, welcome and recognition to wives by Phyllis Corkum and Lois King, and the welcome to ministry by Don King.



“Excellent Work You Have Done”

The letter was dated, November 10, 1944, and contained just five lines: Dear Lois, I hope you will accept this as a small token of my appreciation of the excellent work you have done for me since you have been here. I am very sorry you are going, and I wish you luck for the future (signed by Major General Davies of the British Joint Staff Mission, Washington).

Lois Gertrude Steeves' life of 83 years could be summarized as one who did excellent work. She was a career person who became a valued employee. Those who knew her say that she was also genuinely caring. She left her job to look after her parents in their senior years, living at Olds and then moving to Calgary. In her retirement years she lived on Vancouver Island until her death, July 26, 1993.

A major benefactor from her estate is the Alberta Conference. Her gift to the Church amounts to \$250,000. The Administration of the Conference wishes to acknowledge her generous gift and express appreciation on behalf of the membership of the Conference. To date approximately half of this legacy has been used for Evangelism and Camp Improvement. The balance has been set aside for the 1995 Budget when the Executive Committee will decide what the remainder will be used for.

Lois Steeves intended her gift to be recognized by God, and it is the conviction of the Conference officers that this is the Lord's property that we are handling, and our desire is that these funds will be used in a way that heaven approves. From time to time funds from bequests in a Will have come at opportune times. Our response is - "Praise God"!

Roy Dubyna, Trust Services

Tithe & Offering Report

September 30, 1994

The tithe and offering report for January through September 1994 shows a tithe increase of 2%. Alberta Advance is showing a decrease of 2.9%. We are happy for the 2% increase in tithe, however the decrease in Alberta Advance is of concern to us.

December is a time when accounts are reconciled in many homes and businesses. As you prayerfully take stock of your stewardship during the year I would hope that the blessing offered by God in Malachi 3:10 is one you can claim. Honesty with God and man is a characteristic of the Christian that brings true peace of mind.

Your personal and financial support of the Alberta Conference during 1994 is very much appreciated. We wish you God's blessing in 1995.

Keith Heinrich, Treasury

	1993	1994	Increase/ Decrease
Tithe	3,358,617	3,425,482	2%
Missions	242,630	233,376	(3.9%)
Alberta Advance	187,574	182,317	(2.9%)

Loma Linda Health Study Experiences Serendipity

Some unexpected discoveries were recently made as a team of researchers from Loma Linda University School of Public Health examined data from the Adventist Health Study, a study of Seventh-day Adventists begun in 1974.

The results of their findings, published in the *Archives of Internal Medicine*, showed a clear relationship between the use of nuts and a nearly 50 percent reduction in the risk of coronary heart disease. "We found something that we didn't expect," explained Dr. Fraser, the research team leader. **“Adventists who ate nuts five or more times a week only had about half the risk of fatal heart attack as compared with Adventists who ate nuts less than once a week.”**

The research was based on a massive study begun 20 years ago of 60,000 Seventh-day Adventists living in California. Although, at the time, the study was put together primarily to study cancer (there was no strong interest in nuts), the data subsequently showed an interesting protective relationship between nuts and coronary heart disease. Even when variables such as vegetarianism, non-smoking habits, and others were ruled out, the protective quality of nuts remained significant.

While it was difficult to pinpoint in the original study which nuts specifically provided the protection from heart disease, a substudy found that about 31 percent of the nuts eaten were peanuts (botanically classified as legumes), about 29 percent were almonds, and about 16 percent were walnuts. (See box with additional findings.) Even though 80 percent of the calories in nuts come from fat, type is mono-saturated fat which do not promote heart disease. Additionally, nuts contain quantities of dietary fibre and Vitamin E, an antioxidant vitamin that may also be protective against heart disease.

Don King, Health and Temperance

Findings From the Ongoing Adventist Health Study

1. Eating fruit three or more times a week reduced the risk of lung cancer by two-thirds compared with rarely eating fruits. This remained true even if the Adventist had never smoked.
2. Eating beans, lentils, peas or raisins, dates or dried fruits at least three times a week significantly reduced the risk of pancreatic cancer, a fatal disease.
3. Eating flesh foods more than once a week was associated with doubling the risk of bladder cancer, regardless of whether the person previously smoked.
4. Men who ate dried fruits three or more times a week decreased the risk of prostate cancer by 40 percent.
5. Those in the study who ate whole wheat bread, as opposed to white bread, enjoyed a 40 percent decrease in the risk of a heart attack, even when the findings were adjusted for differences in factors such as exercise habits, obesity, nut consumption, previous smoking or diabetes.



Spotlight on Sherwood Park Nursing Home

The Sherwood Park Nursing Home is a voluntary 100-bed long term care facility located in Sherwood Park. It was established in 1969 with funds donated by individual Seventh-day Adventists, other interested individuals, companies, and corporations. The Nursing Home is owned and operated by the Alberta Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and is incorporated as a charitable organization.

It is accredited with the Canadian Council of Health Facilities Accreditation, having received the maximum three-year accreditation in each of its previous surveys. The Nursing Home is a member of the Alberta Healthcare Association as well as the Alberta Long Term Care Association.

Sherwood Park Nursing Home joins a network of more than 300 Seventh-day Adventist health care facilities around the world. These range in size from small, isolated mission clinics to large, modern metropolitan hospitals. All are devoted to the task of making man whole.

The Nursing Home is committed to providing social, health, personal, and spiritual services in an environment based on Christian ideals and principles consistent with its statement of philosophy.

Laurence Dunfield, the Home's Executive Director, and an experienced health care administrator says: "Sherwood Park Nursing Home exists for the purpose of anticipating and providing important services for the elderly and incapacitated on a long term basis. In its fullest sense it is

a ministry of healing and working in cooperation with Jesus Christ, the Great Physician."

The mission of Sherwood Park Nursing Home could probably be summed up in the following words: *"FOR THE QUALITY OF LIFE AND DIGNITY OF THE PEOPLE WE SERVE."*



Nutrition and Cooking Class at Calgary Pineridge

On September 10, 1994 we started a nutrition and cooking class (six classes) which were very well attended. We had an attendance of 20-30 people enrolled in the class. The class finished with about 17 to 20 regular attendants. The majority of attendants were non-SDAs (20). There were people of different cultures.

Three Muslim people attended the class; one Muslim lady has already attended Sabbath School, and another Muslim couple are contemplating Bible studies at their home. One young gentleman who asked a question about

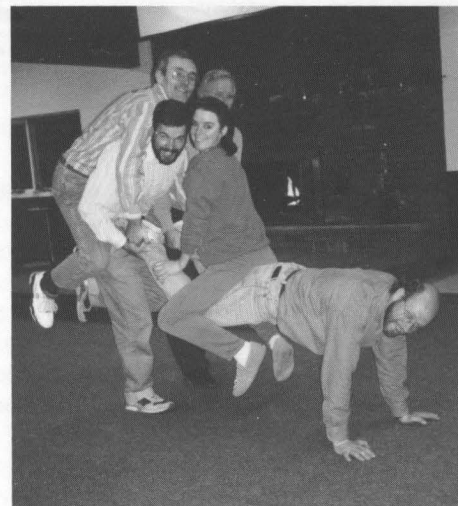


Alberta Church School Teachers Meet At Bowden

Teachers from each of the eleven church schools in Alberta met at Foothills Camp October 20 through 23 for professional development, spiritual, and social fellowship. Guest speakers included Pat Olsen who presented vital information on study skills across the curriculum, Barbara O'Hara who lectured on fetal alcohol syndrome, Marilyn Pazitka who discussed retirement and other financial issues, Cindy Tutsch who explained how teachers could train children and youth to be involved in sharing their faith, and Elder Don Corkum who challenged teachers to make the spiritual dimension of their ministry the key and core of all their teaching. Saturday evening was spent learning to play games that could be used in the church school setting as well as just enjoying each other in social interaction around the dining room tables, eating popcorn and playing table games.

Many spouses and families joined the teachers for Friday evening and Sabbath. A highlight of the Sabbath was Friday evening when the teachers honored Edith Fitch and Ernie Nolan who retired from the teaching ministry. Being the 150th anniversary of the Great Disappointment, Conference Education Director, George Unger used the theme to lead into a sharing time of how the Lord has led and answered prayers and the hope for the future.

Phyllis Corkum,
Education



Teachers learn new games to share with students.

the Sabbath is now studying about it. I handed him some material and he will be calling me to discuss questions he may have regarding Sabbath-keeping.

Another gentleman, who is interested in wanting to know about our doctrines has agreed to attend the Pineridge evangelistic crusade. These and many more interesting results have been generated from our nutrition and cooking class. A total of \$130.00 was collected from donations and literature distribution of the *Great Controversy, Steps to Christ, and Ministry of Healing*.

Lectures were presented by Dr. Reuben Lorenson and cooking demonstrations by Cliff Elias. God blessed us tremendously. I can truly say that it was a very well presented class. The participants were very grateful for the information given in these classes. A Stress Seminar is being planned for the near future.

Eugenia Paul, Calgary Pineridge



Did You Know?

• That the **College Heights church** had an inspiring drama portrayal for the October 22 commemoration entitled "Till He Comes." Also, they have an afternoon worship service this year called "**The Sabbath Afternoon NAP**" at which youth and young adults have an opportunity to talk about their faith.

• That an **inquisitive seven-year-old California boy** learned that the church in Togiak, Alaska, had deteriorated badly, and was inspired to write to his relatives and ask them to send him the money they would ordinarily use to buy Christmas gifts for him. They sent it and **the boy in turn gave \$660 to the Togiak church**. This has enabled the church to obtain a new stove and ceiling tiles, and to send two Togiak children to summer camp. (*Todd Gessele*)

• That **getting chilled or wet won't give you a cold**. Viruses, not the weather, cause colds. Research has reliably shown that people exposed to bone-chilling temperatures, icy baths, and drafts will not catch a cold unless they are exposed to viruses. Conversely, it's spending time cooped up indoors during the winter and being exposed to germs that should carry the blame for catching a cold. (*Berkley Wellness Letter*.)

• That the **Net '95 information is now available on CompuServe!** Simply go to the SDA On-Line Library - Church Resources section. Monthly issues of NetNews are posted about three weeks prior to mail delivery. "Church board members look upon satellite events as definitely 'new-fangled' but also 'the wave of the future', so we'd better jump aboard!" says Dan McCulloch, pastor of the South Salem SDA Church in Oregon.

• That **Randy J. Sauder**, attorney and member of the Marietta, Georgia church, won the Republican nomination for Georgia State representatives in the 29th District. The important Cobb County District is located next to Lockheed Corporation and Dobbins Air Force Base. **Randy and his wife Kathy (Bothe)** pastored and taught in the Alberta Conference from 1979-1983.

• That when offered the choice of a healthy breakfast (cereal, skim milk, whole-grain muffin, and fruit) or a high-fat cheese omelet and sausage, **70% of coach and 60% of first-class passengers chose the omelet**. (*The New England Journal of Medicine*.)

• That the ICPA (International Commission for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Dependency) Silver Spring, MD is planning an event for the youth called "**Walk Around the World 2000**." Youth from around the world will walk five miles in their own country to create awareness of the dangers of drug and alcohol use and draw attention to positive alternatives available. **This world-wide event will occur annually until the year 2000 when thousands of youth will walk into the next century.**



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Preliminary Report of the Governance Committee - 1

The Governance Committee appointed by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Alberta conducted a sampling survey by mailing over 800 questionnaires to its general membership and 100 questionnaires to all pastors and teachers. After setting aside the 210 questionnaires which were returned by the post office due to incorrect addresses, transfers, and deaths, the committee received 270 completed questionnaires—221 from the lay members, 25 from pastors, and 24 from teachers. The following are a list of characteristics of those who responded to the survey.

The response rate of 37% for general laity; 60% for pastors; and 42% for teachers was considered to be very good statistically especially when compared to most standard returns of 15-30%.

About 90% of respondents has attended church at least once every two weeks in the last 10 years.

About 70% of the respondents were 40 years and older and most received some post-secondary education (60%) and 4-year college (25%).

Women composed 60% of the respondents, while 13% identified themselves as ethnic minorities.

Married persons constituted the majority (72%) followed by 15% singles. One in two respondents had a household income of \$25-60,000.

A majority of those who filled out the questionnaires (65%) reported attending a church with 100 or more members. In particular, 37% attend large churches of 250 members or more. Only 11% attend small churches with less than 30 members.

How then can a typical SDA respondent in this study be described? Answer: She is a white married person in her forties with a household income of between 25 and 40,000 dollars, has some post-secondary education, and attends on a weekly basis a church of medium size between 100 and 250 members.

Regarding personal spiritual growth, the study showed that "fellowship of a church membership" headed the list as being the most important. This item was also perceived by the majority to be present in the churches. However, the other factors of "pastoral visits", "meaningful prayer meetings", "personal devotion", and "service and outreach" were reported to be present in the church less than 50 percent. These are areas of concern and will be given much study in the months to come.

Another area of the survey involved factors that increase sharing the gospel in Alberta. In the next report, we will show what are the three main factors perceived to increase sharing the Gospel in Alberta and whether or not these factors were thought to be present in the churches.

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