

Alberta Adventist News

MARCH 2016

HE
IS RISEN

He is not here;
he has risen,
just as he said.
Come and
see the place
where he lay.
Matthew 28:6

NAD Deliberates About New Approaches to Evangelism

Patrick Morley, in his book *The Man in the Mirror*, identifies Dr. Francis Schaeffer as underscoring that today's society has adopted two key values: personal peace—meaning “Leave me alone. Don't trouble me with the troubles of other people,” and affluence—meaning an overwhelming obsession with things, things, and more things.” Morley then adds a third value, secularism—not meaning non-religious, but rather indifference to Christian values, or as he terms it, cultural Christianity. In other words, Christians pursue the God they want rather than the God who is. He says, “It is a tendency to be shallow in understanding God, wanting Him to be more of a gentle grandfather type who spoils us and lets us have our way” (p33).

It would seem that in today's North American society, that church attendance in general is declining—and church attendance, until now, has been the barometer that measures commitment to spirituality. Yet some statisticians disagree because, they claim, there are new measures. For example there are those who attend house churches, simple churches or internet churches. Should these not be included in the statistics?

Although conventional churches may not be growing, at least the Seventh-day Adventist Church is one exception. Approximately one million members join the Adventist Church each year by baptism and even though, unfortunately, there are losses, the growth rate is still on the incline.

The traditional Adventist method for member addition is the two, three, four or five week evangelistic reaping series. From the church's inception, public preaching, presenting the fundamental and prophetic messages of the Bible, concluding with an appeal to accept Jesus and join the Adventist Church by baptism, has been the trademark for Adventism accessions. And it works! Check out the web-sites.

Hundreds of people around the world are converted using this method. After all, doesn't Scripture confirm that “it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe?” (1 Cor. 1: 21).

In spite of its success, is there a methodological shift coming? From February 7-10, 2016, the North American Division (NAD) Visioning & Leadership Team met in Kissimmee Florida for a four-day “ehuddle” to discuss a variety of evangelistic outreach methods. The key discussion revolved around contextualizing the methods of evangelism, i.e. making evangelism relevant to North American society. Are there other ways we can do evangelism? In addition to the traditional approach should we be willing to wrap the never-changing gospel (including the 28 Fundamental Beliefs) in new packages that might appeal to those who would never respond to traditional methods? If so, what might those new packages look like?

The meeting was represented by NAD leaders, Union presidents, local Conference presidents and executive secretaries, ministerial directors, evangelism coordinators and pastors. The presentations were filled with examples of pastors and lay people who had carefully, creatively and successfully tried methods that might be considered “outside the box.”

Much discussion ensued during the round-table break-outs, and new concepts put on the table. The results are currently being compiled by the NAD evangelism team. When completed a summary will be forthcoming and I will share this with the readers of Alberta Adventist News. In the meantime here is a sampling of some thought questions discussed. They are clustered around five evangelism topics.

1. Engagement of ALL members in evangelism (mission)

a. Is evangelism a lifestyle or an event? What does doing Christ's method alone really look like in our society and time?

b. Why do many members not get engaged in evangelism and how can that be changed?

c. How does collaboration of church ministries, schools, and medical institutions fit into evangelism?

d. How can our students be involved?

e. How can we equip and empower lay leadership to be involved in mission and evangelism?

2. Creation of an atmosphere of acceptability and safety in ALL our churches

a. Should we be making it easy for people to come in and very hard to leave? If so, how can this be done?

b. Should people of all walks of life feel safe in our churches? If so, how?

c. When is it OK to baptize someone? When is it OK to baptize children?

d. Are there unwritten requirements that are keeping children from being baptized?

e. How might we go about intentionally educating our membership on relational evangelism?

3. Discipleship of ALL our members

a. How can we appropriately place more emphasis on the Holy Spirit?

Continued on page 35...



Ken Wiebe
President
Alberta Conference

Highlights

Is a publication of the
Alberta Conference
Communication Department

5816 Highway 2A
Lacombe, AB
T4L 2G5

Phone (403) 342-5044
Fax (403) 775-4482
Email: info@albertaadventist.ca
Twitter: albertasdaconf
Facebook: ABAdventist
Website: www.albertaadventist.ca

Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Administration

Ken Wiebe President
Larry Hall Secretary/VP for
Administration
Keith Richter Treasurer/VP for Finance

Do you enjoy taking photos?
Submit your best Alberta Conference
event/nature photos for a chance to have
one printed in the *Alberta Adventist News*
or on the front cover. To be considered,
photos must be in JPEG format and
be a minimum of 5 megabytes in size.
Please email submissions to
aan@albertaadventist.ca and
include information about the
event and caption for photo,
date photo was taken,
photographer name and
contact information.



Cover photo and other images contributed.

Submission Guidelines
www.albertaadventist.ca/aan
Please email submissions to
aan@albertaadventist.ca



Clive ACS Centre Official Opening

The new Clive Adventist Community Services (ACS) Centre was packed for the opening ceremony held on March 12, 2016.



Pathfinder Retreat

The Alberta Conference
Pathfinder Winter Retreat
was held at Foothills Camp
on January 29, 2016.



Revival Program in Ponoka

The Ponoka Church held a spiritual revival weekend in January with Don MacLafferty, Pastor of the Clovis Adventist Church.

Index

- 2 Message from the President
- 4 Writing Articles for the AAN
- 5 Camp Meeting 2016
- 6 Devotional
- 8 Department News
- 19 ADRA Canada
- 20 Education News
- 25 PAA News
- 26 Church News
- 34 Baptisms
- 36 Announcements
- 38 Means & Meaning

Writing Articles for the AAN

The *Alberta Adventist News* (AAN) magazine (that you are currently reading this article in) is a quarterly publication produced by the Communications Department of the Alberta Conference. The AAN has been in circulation throughout the Alberta Conference for 30 years or more. There are currently 83 editions online dating back to 1986. Past editions can be viewed online at www.albertaadventist.ca/aan. If you have an edition that is not currently online, please let me know and I'd be happy to add it to the online archive.

The main purpose of the AAN is to inform and encourage church members of the Alberta Conference. A lot of work goes into preparing each edition. From start to finish it takes approximately five weeks to curate content, layout, edit, print and ship to each church.

As the editor of the AAN, I'd like to suggest some guidelines for consideration when writing and submitting articles for publication:

- Stories must accurately represent your church, school or other church related group.
- Submissions should come from either the designated spokesperson for your organization, or have permission from the pastor, principle or leader of the group.
- Include the name and church position (if applicable) of the submission author.
- Don't do any special formatting.

Photos

- Photos must be in JPEG format and be a minimum of 5 megabytes in size.
- Do NOT embed photos into your Word documents, but send each one as a separate attached file.
- Mac users, please make sure to "attach" photos to the email you're sending. Do not embed photos by dragging



and dropping. This makes it difficult for extraction and use in the AAN.

- Include a descriptive caption, date photo was taken, and photographer name with each high resolution photo at the bottom of the written news item or clearly displayed within the email content area.
- Avoid pictures that portray subjects in unflattering poses (such as with wet hair after a baptism).

Content

- Please write article in a word processor such as Microsoft Word and proof read final draft for spelling mistakes (double check names and places), grammatical errors, and incorrect dates before submitting.
- News stories should be brief (about 300-350 words).
- Avoid clichés. ("10 precious souls attended our meeting" "the watery grave of baptism." Reread and then re-reread everything you write, removing every unnecessary word.
- When shortening our denominational name, call us Adventists rather than SDAs.
- Out of respect and love for all our members, please be culturally sensitive.
- Be sure to include the name of the church/school that hosted the event or sponsored the project.
- Be sure to be clear in the subject and body of your email as to the description of your submission.

- Be sure to include your contact information (email, daytime phone number, cell number) just in case we have questions and need to contact you.

Personal ads are not printed in the *Alberta Adventist News*. For your reference, here is a copy of our AAN advertising policy: "Advertising in Alberta Conference publications are

for conference supported events only. No personal advertising (e.g. events/programs, housing, merchandise sales, etc.) is accepted."

Submission Ideas:

- Stories to encourage church growth that other Alberta churches can try.
- People's conversion stories that focus on relationships.
- Stories that show the value of Christian education at all levels.
- Stewardship stories that illustrate the blessings that flow from trusting one's entire life to God.

Thank you for your contributions to the *Alberta Adventist News* magazine. We look forward to receiving submissions from you in the near future.



Troy McQueen
Communications & IT Director
Alberta Conference

Alberta Camp Meeting
July 15- 23, 2016



Servant of Grace

I became a servant of this gospel
by the gift of God's grace given me
through the working of his power.

Ephesians 3:7 (NIV)

More information at albertaadventist.ca

“The gospel will be preached unto all the world and then the end will come.”

Matthew 24:14

Called to be Missionaries

“I want to be baptized,” Ron said. “Great!” I responded. “Where is your home church?” “I don’t have a home church. There’s not an Adventist church where I live,” he replied.

This got me curious. “Where do you live?”

“In Fort Smith, Northwest Territories. I’ve been following the Adventist message for a couple of years. There’s a group of other Sabbath-keepers that meet with me every Sabbath, but I’m the only Adventist.”

I tried to hide both my surprise and the mental wheels turning in my head. Here was a guy who lived where the closest Adventist church was nine hours away. In my experience of more than five years as a Bible worker and as a pastor in Edmonton, I’d never met someone with these challenges.

During the next couple of weeks, I wondered how the Adventist church could share the gospel in such a vast expanse such as the Northwest Territories. With more than 1 million square kilometers, 33 communities, and 11 different languages, the Northwest Territories offer unique challenges for sharing the Three Angels Message.

Several months later, after a move to Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, to serve as pastor, I started studying the Bible through the phone with Ron. He continues to show an enthusiasm and excitement for the truth.

Recently I sent him a DVD about Bible prophecy. As his family was watching the movie, his mom commented, “This is exactly like my dream.” She related that years ago she had a dream about last-day events, and now she was seeing those same images replayed on the DVD.

She then commented, “This is truth.”

Please pray for God to bless this little group of Sabbath keepers in Fort Smith, NWT.

In his book *Voyage of the Arctic Arrow*, C.S. Cooper related the story of a retired Adventist couple who built a boat and traveled up the Mackenzie River for three months. Cooper described their experiences and challenges as they shared Christ and distributed literature along the Mackenzie River delta. In the last chapter, Cooper posed a challenge—a challenge that up to this point has never been fully answered—“Who will follow up the work?”

In 1962, spiritual seeds were planted in the Northwest Territories, but there has never been tilling or the harvest. Who indeed will follow up on the work in the north? God has been working. Our job is merely to find out where God is working in 33 communities and then actively follow up what He is already doing.

Matthew 24:14 says, “The gospel will be preached unto all the world and then the end will come.” How about Tuktoyaktuk? Does the gospel have to go to Tuk, as the locals call it, before the end will come? How about Sachs Harbour? Does the gospel commission of “every nation, kindred tongue and people” include Sachs Harbour? When the apostle Paul saw the Three Angels Message going into all the world did he include Hay River and Norman Wells?

If the answer is Yes, then that means we have work to do. For the work will not be finished unless we enter Paulatuk, Colville Lake, and every one of the 33 communities of the Northwest Territories.

“So why don’t you cut hair on Saturday?” asked one of Lindy’s customers.

“Well Saturday is the day I go to church,” she responded.

“Why on Saturday?” her customer asked.

Lindy went on to explain the importance of the Sabbath from the Bible. Her customer showed spiritual interest as the conversation progressed through what happens when people die and about the judgment.

Lindy’s customer shared that she and a small group of friends are the only Protestants in the small community of Gameti, and they were persecuted because of their belief system.

As their conversation continued, Lindy thought, “This lady sounds like a Seventh-day Adventist, and yet she has never met another Adventist.”

Lindy is a hairdresser in Yellowknife, but this day she was a missionary, sharing hope and wholeness of the gospel. God has divine appointments every day for each of us. God has called each one of us to be his missionary.

To repeat C.S. Cooper’s question: “Who will follow up the work?”



Jonathan Geraci
Pastor
Yellowknife, NWT

What's it Mean to You?

“You’re not sharing your love, you’re sharing His love... that’s the key.”

Garfield Morris
Home Mechanic



Garfield Morris has a longstanding connection to Personal Ministries. A home mechanic with a passion for helping others, Garfield wanted to reach his local community in a practical, meaningful way. Armed with a long list of ideas ranging from snow removal to yard work, he decided to reach out to the Personal Ministries Department at the Alberta Conference.

Joining forces with Personal Ministries enabled Garfield to put his goodwill into action. The Conference was able to connect Garfield with others who shared his enthusiasm for community service, and now a group of them meet periodically to strategize ways to better their neighbourhood. One of their most recent efforts included offering free oil changes to a group of single mothers. “Helping them, for me, is just a joy,” Garfield says, beaming.

Having worked in a shop before, Garfield knows firsthand that oil changes can be something of an ordeal for single mothers. “\$40, \$50 or \$60 might not seem like a lot to some people, but to others, it can be like pulling hair. So if you are in a position to help somebody out, why not? Even if it’s only once or twice a year, that will at least alleviate them having to pay for an oil change.”

Reflecting on his motivation for getting involved, Garfield cites John 13:35, “By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one to another.”

“Basically, I’m just trying to reflect Gods love,” he says, “God is doing this for me. Why not do it for somebody else?”

— Myken McDowell

**Personal Ministries:
Your Tithe at Work**



News

Alberta Conference Staff Take Part in ADRA Canada's Ration Meal Challenge

Have you had three meals today? What about two? Most certainly one. We are so fortunate to live in a part of the world where food is plentiful. As you know, millions of people around the world today are not so fortunate. For many it is a challenge to find enough food for one meal a day and at that it's just small rations.

The World Food Programme website (<https://www.wfp.org/hunger/stats>) states, "Some 795 million people in the world do not have enough food to lead a healthy active life." That's about one in nine people on earth.

For whatever reason might be causing a food crisis; poverty, conflict, drought, or disaster, people need food to survive. As a way to bring more attention to the food crisis around the world, on January 12, 2016 the Alberta Conference staff took part in ADRA Canada's Ration Meal Challenge.

Each person was given three compact ration bars; one for each meal of the

day. The World Health Organization says a typical ration consists of 450 grams of cereal, 50 grams of pulses, 50 grams of oil, and 5 grams of iodized salt per person per day.

One individual at the Alberta Conference office described the ration bar like, "eating wheat germ" another like cream of wheat. Some chose to soak the ration bar in water and eat it like porridge. Regards of how the ration bar was consumed people felt the Ration Meal Challenge was an eye opener and reminder of the food challenges many are faced with every day.

You can help provide food for individuals who are in need by supporting an ADRA Canada project

highlighted in ADRA's gift catalogue at www.adra.ca/donate/giftcatalogue.
—Submitted by Troy McQueen, Alberta Conference Communications Director

Keith Richter eating a ration bar during the Ration Meal Challenge.



Ration bars; one for each meal of the day.

Group of ten single adults and S.H.I.N.E.rs getting ready to deliver gifts to a family in Red Deer.



Christmas for a Single Mom and Her Three Children

On Monday, December 21, 2015 a group of ten single adults and S.H.I.N.E.rs met at the Alberta Conference Office to take Christmas gifts to a single mother and her three children in Red Deer. After loading their vehicles with the gifts and supplies, the group headed to Red Deer and met with the family. They provided supper for the family and watched each of the child aged 7, 9 and 11 years unpack a bin of clothing, school supplies and toys. The mother expressed great appreciation for all the food, household goods and Christmas gifts that were presented to them.

—Submitted by Darlene Reimche

What If You Had a Deaf Child?

Gradually my wife detected that something was wrong with our baby girl, Judy. She had suffered a very high fever with chickenpox at three months, and she somehow seemed different after the fever left.

I still remember taking our little one to the Halifax hospital where they gave her a brain scan while they made noises. Could she hear? After the test, the social worker told us that Judy may hear the rhythm of sound, but was profoundly deaf.

How should we now be relating with a deaf child? How should we adapt our lives to the presence of a deaf child? Did God have some purpose in allowing us to have a deaf child?

Gradually we learned how to work with a deaf child. We began to get acquainted with other parents of deaf children and helped start a parental organization for Deaf. We began to think maybe God had allowed us to have a

deaf child so that we could in some way become involved in sharing the gospel with those in the "World of the Deaf."

We found that our deaf "Judy," tended to get left out when our two hearing girls played together, or perhaps heard a noise that Judy did not hear. Later, we decided to take a little deaf boy as a foster child - to be a companion to our deaf girl.

In the Maritimes, my wife took a course in teaching the Deaf as we wanted our family to all benefit from a Christian Adventist education. After moving to BC, we tried to start a Seventh-day Adventist deaf school at Hope, BC, in 1977-78. This did not work out then, but we later joined an independent Seventh-day Adventist deaf school in Arkansas for three years. Here our two deaf children found that they were not the 'odd balls' in a hearing society, but could be a key part of the school and the culture of the Deaf. Our deaf daughter married a Seventh-day Adventist deaf man, had two hearing sons, and today works in a nursing home for the Deaf in Portland, Oregon. We have learned a lot from the experience of our adopted deaf son who has had many challenges coping with deafness and life in general. Currently, he is working toward becoming a certified welder.

The average Christian church knows little about ministry to Deaf and virtually nothing about ministering to deaf children. Most deaf children grow up with little or no knowledge of God and the Bible. If their parents do attend a church, that church probably has no Deaf and if they do, it is likely concentrating only on deaf adults with no adequate program for deaf children.

Fortunately there is an organization called "Silent Blessings" which is now working on the 5th season of a 13 program series of character building TV programs for deaf children. They are also working on a VBS for deaf children. Deaf Missions has a set of Bible stories in sign online and Nest Learning has many Bible and Christian stories with sub-titles. There is also a Seventh-day Adventist DVD set for children by Esther

Doss of Three Angels Deaf Ministries.

There have been various attempts to start a Seventh-day Adventist school for deaf children in North America, but every time the project has failed. There are currently three Seventh-day Adventist schools for the Deaf overseas: Kenya, India and the Philippines. The one in India is sponsored by Asian Aid and most students are from a Hindu background. The one in Western Kenya has mostly younger students while the one in the Philippines has mostly older students.

So what can you do to help a deaf child learn about Jesus? Get the materials listed and use them at home/church. Learn sign language so you can provide signing and training needed at home/church. Find other parents of Deaf children and share together. God may have a purpose and plan for you in working with deaf children and/or later adults as well. God has had a plan for our family. There is a real mission field here in Canada and the USA.

Pastor and Mrs. John Blake,
Alberta Conference Deaf
Ministry Department
PO Box 308, Clive, AB
T0C 0Y0
(403) 784-3798
Email: blake@deafhope.org
Website: www.deafhope.org



Pastor John Blake
 Deaf Ministry Department
 Alberta Conference



Deaf students at the Asian Aid Deaf School in Southern India.



Kisii west Kenya deaf school.

Canadian Adventist Youth Summit Presents

TRANSCEND

MAY 12-15, 2016

THE NEXT GENERATION

@ BURMAN UNIVERSITY

YOUTH AGES 16-30

COST: \$255* *Includes lodging, food,
on-site transportation
and much more
Register @ www.freshalbertayouth.ca

Keynote Speaker:
Jeremy Anderson



Re-Imagine living the gospel of Jesus Christ



Canadian Adventist Youth Summit



@CanadaAdventist



CanadianAdventistYth



www.AdventistYouth.ca



Clive ACS Centre opening ceremony and ribbon cutting.
L to R: Blaine Calkins, Ron Orr, Anita Gillard, Larry Hall, and Keith Richter.

Clive Adventist Community Services Centre Official Opening

The new Clive Adventist Community Services (ACS) Centre was packed for the opening ceremony held on March 12, 2016. Government representatives present included Member of Parliament for Red Deer—Lacombe, Blaine Calkins; MLA for Lacombe—Ponoka, Ron Orr; and Mayor of Clive, Anita Gillard. Also in attendance was numerous individuals from the communities of Bentley, Lacombe, Ponoka and Clive.

The local Clive community based organization, the Revitalization Association had the current ACS building moved into place from Alix approximately 12 years ago. It served the community of Clive in numerous ways over the years as office space for Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) and Neighbourhood Place, a meeting place for a youth club, and a small thrift store. Wanting to phase down, the Revitalization Association tried to sell the

building for \$70,000, then \$60,000 and finally \$50,000, but it did not sell. In September 2015, a motion was passed by the Revitalization board to send a notice to all organizations throughout Clive asking for proposals from organizations who were interested in taking over the building and providing community programs. A group of Seventh-day Adventist's living in the Clive area, made a proposal to provide educational programs for the social, mental, physical and spiritual health of the community, and the proposal was accepted.

The director of the Clive ACS Centre, Darlene Reimche, was pleased with the attendance at the opening ceremony on March 12 and is excited about future community involvement. The ribbon was cut by Blaine Calkins, Ron Orr, Anita Gillard and Larry Hall. On behalf of the community of Clive, Mayor Gillard expressed ap-



preciation to those involved with the new Clive ACS Centre, and stated that she also has a few ideas for community programs for future consideration.

The first official community program held at the ACS Centre was a Birding Club on Monday, March 14. Other programs planned for the future include Depression recovery, a Christian and Family CD/DVD book exchange, and a natural foods workshop. Burman University's Wellness Department has also agreed to be involved in community seminars from time to time.

For more information about the Clive ACS Centre or for a list of upcoming community events, please contact the director, Darlene Reimche, by phone at (403) 784-2283 or email rhyemekey@telus.net.

—Submitted by Alberta Conference Communications

Foothills Camp Washroom Project

As many Foothills Camp guests will recall, a much needed renovation of the central washroom located in the “Cabin Block” commenced in 2015. As the project nears completion, I would like to summarize for you key functionality features and notable construction details of the project.

Objectives that provided guidance to the renovation project included guest and campus safety, washroom hygiene and cleanliness, compliance with current building codes, guest comfort and convenience, additional washroom capacity, and durability.

Key Functionality Features of the renovated washrooms:

1. The new washroom layout:

- Provides four handicap washrooms, directly accessible from outside, designed for guests that are handicapped or have mobility challenges. These washrooms also include either a shower or tub for their users.
- Doubles the number of women’s toilets from six to twelve.
- Provides privacy stalls for all showers, six women’s and six men’s.

2. Tiled floor and main wall surfaces that are moisture resistant, easy to clean, and attractive.

- Commercial quality toilet partitions and shower stall doors.
- New south façade and covered entrance.
- Baby changing stations in several locations.
- Laundry room layout and work flow designed upon Alberta Health Service’s recommendations.

Construction Details

- After completing a professional engineering review, it was determined that the washroom foundation and building structure were in good condition and would provide a sound basis for renovation. However, the building would require a complete removal of the interior, including all underfloor plumbing.
- Ventilation system - the lack of adequate ventilation was a substantial shortfall of the washroom’s previous design. The renovated washroom includes a very robust ventilation system for exhausting moist air along with a “make-up” air system to replace all air that has been exhausted with fresh air.
- Under floor heating—an underfloor radiant heating system heats the building, along with the benefit of providing a warm floor; the warm floor also assists by evaporating any moisture on the floor.



Foothills Camp New Washroom Block.

- Spray Foam Insulation—spray foam insulation has been utilized rather than conventional insulation as it is not susceptible to moisture, provides a higher insulation “R” value, and fully seals the building envelope eliminating air leaks and drafts.
- Electrical supply lines to the washroom have been moved underground.
- Waterline connections to the washroom (for the “water hydrants”) which could not be used in the cold seasons have been re-routed into the washroom utility room in order to provide year round access to a water supply for firefighting.

Current Status

Currently, the majority of internal washroom fittings have been installed with work continuing on the remaining fittings. The heating and ventilation systems have been commissioned. Landscaping and the remaining exterior to the building work will take place once the weather permits.

I am confident that you will find the renovated washrooms a welcome change and comfortable to use.

—Submitted by Llew Werner



PRAY

Above and Beyond:

Keys to personal revival and a lifestyle of vibrant living in Christ!

Calgary Prayer Summit
July 29-31, 2016

Based on Ephesians 3:20, this prayer weekend will challenge and boost your faith as Melody Mason talks about how to take your relationship with God to the next level and go from being a spiritual dwarf to being a spiritual giant of faith. She will share inspiring testimonies and stories, as well as many practical tools and keys to grow your walk with God. Come prepared to be energized and refreshed!

Melody works with the General Conference Prayer Ministries in Silver Spring, MD, and is author of the bestselling book, *Daring to Ask for More*, published by Pacific Press in 2014.



A new program where kids experience Jesus' love in a variety of unique ways!



Jesus accepts me, I accept you.



Jesus cares for me, I care for you.

Jesus is with me, I am with you.

Jesus forgives me, I forgive you.

Jesus believes in me, I believe in you.



Welcome to VBX, where kids learn about Jesus and experience His love in a variety of unique ways. This program focuses on the truth that "Jesus loves others through me." Each day the kids will not only learn what it means for Jesus to love them, but how Jesus can use them to love others. They will discover what that looks like in their daily lives and how they can be better friends to those around them.



The kit is now available to all interested churches for a special introductory price until April 29, 2016. Kits must be ordered a month in advance to ensure availability for your church. To order a kit, please contact the Lacombe ABC by email at abclacombe@albertaadventist.ca or phone (403) 782-4416.



Group of Pathfinder leaders and Master Guides at the 2016 Pathfinder Winter Retreat.

Pastor Pule, guest speaker for the 2016 Pathfinder Winter Retreat.



Pathfinder Winter Retreat

The Alberta Conference Pathfinder Winter Retreat was held at Foothills Camp on January 29, 2016. Approximately 300 Pathfinders, Master Guides, staff and parents attended this year's event. The guest speaker was Orlando Pule, senior pastor of the Ottawa West Seventh-day Adventist Church. The theme for the weekend was "Grace and Mercy." Pule gave numerous examples of what grace and mercy look like in our everyday lives. Keith Richter, the Alberta Conference treasurer and club counselor for the College Heights Parkland Pathfinder Club stated, "I really enjoyed Pastor Pule's presentations, he spoke about grace and mercy in a way that everyone could understand."

Pule encouraged the Pathfinders to seek out ways to make a positive difference in other people's lives. He shared a popular quote from Martin Luther King, Jr. that says, "The ultimate tragedy is not the oppression and cruelty by the bad people but the silence over that by the good people."

In other words, the real tragedy in the world today is the blind eye that many turn toward evil and suffering. As Christians we have a responsibility to open our eyes to the suffering of this world and offer hope, peace, grace, and mercy instead.

In connection with the theme of having a positive influence in other people's lives, there was a presentation given by Lyle Notice and Lynn McDowell about an Alberta Conference program called SuperMANS. SuperMANS is a fundraising initiative for the new Mamawi Atosketan Native School's (MANS) high school that encourages kids to get involved. For more information, please see the December 2016 edition of the Alberta Adventist News (p. 18). This presentation encouraged the Pathfinders to think of ways they can help make a difference in the world around them.

At the closing of the program, Pule asked people to make a stand for Jesus and many came forward. Plans are already in place for next year. Hope to see you there.

A Lady Never Idle

When you call the Conference Office and hear that delightful South African voice, you probably have not been privy to know that this same person, Irma Hartley, has memorized entire books of the Bible, loves to garden, has her master's degree in Botanical Taxonomy, creates delicious soups, and never sets her alarm.

Irma retired on January 7, 2016, after approximately 16 years working at the Alberta Conference. Her first assignment was working part-time with the Education Department, followed by full time work as office receptionist and secretary for the Ministerial Department. Irma will continue to work from home part-time as Conference Clerk even into retirement.

Irma was born in South Africa, but spent most of her growing up years in Rhodesia. She returned to South Africa (Helderberg College) where she pursued degrees in zoology and botany. Irma worked at Witwatersrand University in South Africa as a Botanical Taxonomist, identifying and classifying plants for several years.

Irma and her husband Ian were in the same Seventh-day Adventist high school class in South Africa. They developed a strong bond of friendship, love and respect for each other, which blossomed and led to their marriage in 1963. The Hartley's have two married daughters and one adult grandson, all living in the US.

The Adventist connection is admired world-wide. Through Allen and Airlie Fowler making a recommendation to Bill Spangler, the Hartley's accepted an invitation to come to central Alberta in 1997. "We miss our family and the South African summers, but we also love central Alberta," said Irma. They plan to remain on their acreage near Red Deer and continue to make time in their lives to return to visit with family every two years.

Irma's retirement years will be rich and rewarding.

- March has already found Irma cleaning in her raspberry patch and flower beds. She loves all of God's creation—the stars, flowers, birds, and more.
- While working, Irma set aside her love for water colour painting and calligraphy. She is eagerly anticipating rekindling this fire during the winter months. And she doesn't even mind shovelling snow, filling the bird feeders, and maintaining indoor plants to be ready for the summer months.

Since coming to Canada, Irma has been fascinated with the pioneers and how they endured hardship to settle in this land. She enjoys reading historical fiction, such as the Janette Oke series, which gives her a feel for the life our pioneers lived when first settling our country.

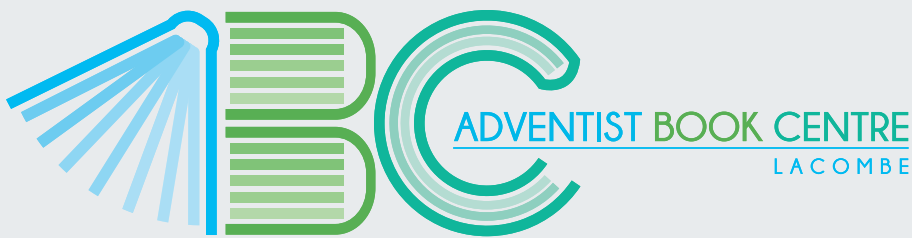
Irma and Ian share two simple practices: fruit—lots of it for breakfast, and Friday evening Bible study time with friends and a soup supper. They will continue to savour these activities with a little greater relaxed pace.

Perhaps the greatest blessing that retirement affords is that of increased time for Bible study and devotional time. After coming to Canada, Irma began memorizing scripture... not just a verse here and there, but entire books of the Bible. She has memorized Ephesians, large portions of Romans, Galatians, and the entire Gospel of John. She is currently engaged in reviewing the book of John, because it seems that our adult brain systems require constant refreshing. "I just love the Gospel of John," says Irma. "When memorizing, I am able to make connections that are unavailable to me when simply reading."

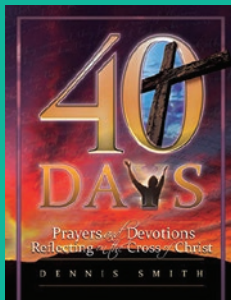
Irma, we salute you and wish you God's richest blessings in your retirement.
—Submitted by Linda Steinke

Perhaps the greatest blessing that retirement affords is that of increased time for Bible study and devotional time.





The book of the month for June is a junior book titled *Treasure on Spyglass Hill* by Paul Ricchiuti. Gary would rather do just about anything than go to the rundown church just outside of town, but when he and his friend Scott, along with pesky Susan and Gary's dog, Sarge, begin investigating a local legend they discover a heavenly treasure as well as the earthly one they sought.
 Regular: \$20.43 **On sale in June: \$15.29**



Book of the month for April is *40 Days Reflecting the Cross* by Dennis Smith. This book is full of prayers and devotions challenging readers to spend forty days reflecting on the cross of Christ and to discover anew that the cross of Christ is something to glory in, to rejoice in, and to proclaim to the world!
 Regular: \$18.99
On sale in April: \$14.29



Book of the month for May is *Kidnapped!* by Greg Budd. A true story about remarkable deliverance and transformation. This book will inspire and challenge you to live with courage and holy boldness. (Derek J. Morris, editor, Ministry)
 Regular: \$21.89
On sale in May: \$16.39

The ABC now carries **Beyond Meat Products** made with 100% Plant Protein, Non-Gmo, Vegan and most items are Gluten free. Come into the store to try some samples.



Save 20%



Cases of Vegetable Steaks on Sale now through June 2016.
 Regular: \$115.80
Now only: \$92.64



Cases of Tender Rounds on Sale now through June 2016.
 Regular: \$115.80
Now only: \$86.85



Save 25%

ABC LACOMBE STORE INFORMATION

PHONE: (403) 782-4416
 1-800-661-8131
LOCATION: 1 - 5230 College Ave, Lacombe, AB T4L 2G1
WEBSITE: www.albertaadventist.ca/abc
EMAILS: David Toews (Manager) - dtoews@albertaadventist.ca
 Alberta Book Mobile - albertabookmobile@albertaadventist.ca
 ABC Lacombe - abclacombe@albertaadventist.ca

HOURS OF OPERATION:
Monday - Wednesday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thursday: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday: Closed
Sunday: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

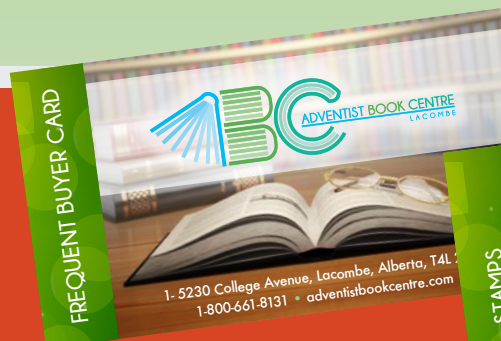
ABC Bookmobile Spring Schedule 2016

January	12 & 13 Coralwood 13 Leduc 19 & 20 Calgary	North Run: April 24 to 27 April 24 & 25 Coralwood (Sunday & Monday)	June 14 & 15 Coralwood 21 & 22 Calgary	Fall Run: Sept. 25 - Oct. 12 Oct. 16 Whitecourt Oct. 17 Peace River	Christmas Sale Edmonton Nov. 13, 14 & 15 Coralwood
February	16 & 17 Coralwood 23 & 24 Calgary	April 25 Whitecourt April 26 Peace River	July 3 Regina July 5 & 6 Winnipeg	Oct. 17 Fairview Oct. 18 Grande Prairie	Christmas Sale Calgary Nov. 20, 21 & 22 Calgary
March	15 & 16 Coralwood 16 Leduc 22 Chinook Winds Calgary 23 & 24 Calgary	April 26 Fairview April 27 Grande Prairie May 3 & 4 Calgary 5 Brooks 5 Beiseker May 11 & 12 Coralwood 12 Leduc 24 & 25 Calgary	July 8 to 17 Camp Whitesand July 15 to 23 Foothills Camp July 19 & 20 Coralwood 20 Leduc 26 & 27 Calgary August 23 & 24 Coralwood 30 & 31 Calgary Sept. 6 & 7 Coralwood 7 Leduc 13 & 14 Calgary	Oct. 19 & 20 Coralwood (Wednesday & Thursday) Oct. 25 & 26 Calgary 27 Brooks 27 Beiseker	Dec. 11 & 12 Coralwood 14 & 15 Calgary
Spring Run: April 3 - April 20 (see below for schedule)					

ABC Bookmobile Spring Run Schedule 2016

Lethbridge April 3, noon — 2:30 p.m.	Swan River April 12, 11:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.	Beauvallon April 19, 4:00 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.
Medicine Hat April 3, 6:30 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.	Hudson Bay April 12, 5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.	Vegreville April 20, 11:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.
Swift Current April 4, 4:30 p.m. — 6:00 p.m.	Canora April 13, 10:30 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.	Sedgewick April 20, 5:00 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.
Moose Jaw April 5, 4:00 p.m. — 6:00 p.m.	Quill Lake April 13, 5:00 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.	Edmonton St. Albert April 24, noon — 8:00 p.m. (Sunday) April 25, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Monday)
Regina April 6, 2:30 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.	Rosthern April 14, 11:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.	Whitecourt April 25, 9:00 p.m. — 10:00 p.m.
Brandon April 7, 5:30 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.	Prince Albert April 14, 5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.	Peace River April 26, noon — 2:00 p.m.
Winnipeg Henderson Hwy April 8, 11:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. April 9, 8:30 p.m. — 10:00 p.m. April 10, 10:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.	Saskatoon April 15, 11:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m. April 16, 8:45 p.m. — 10:30 p.m. April 17, 10:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.	Fairview April 26, 5:30 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.
Portage La Prairie April 10, 6:00 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.	North Battleford April 17, 5:00 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.	Grande Prairie April 27, 4:00 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.
Dauphin April 11, 11:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.	Lloydminster April 18, 11:30 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.	Calgary Central May 3, noon — 8:00 p.m. May 4, 11:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.
Yorkton April 11, 5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.	Bonnyville April 18, 6:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.	Brooks May 5, 11:30 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.
		Beiseker May 5, 4:30 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.

Ask for a frequent
buyer card





Health Expo held at
Burman University.

News from the Personal Ministries Department

Last September, the Personal Ministries Director, Sandra Deer, along with her husband Ted, welcomed a new addition to their family, baby Stephen Harvey Deer. While Sandra has been on maternity leave, her assistant, Nwamiko Madden has continued to provide services to churches throughout the Alberta Conference. Since September there have been four CHANGE on the Road training events, a large health expo held at Burman University and the beginnings of an English as a second language school in Edmonton.

CHANGE School of Evangelism has been a major part of the focus of the Personal Ministries Department over the past three years and as such CHANGE On the Road workshops are still being introduced in many churches across Alberta with great success. Since November 2015, the Personal Ministries Department has had the opportunity to conduct workshops in Hanna, Sylvan Lake, Calgary and Edmonton. One of the highlights of these workshops is the opportunity to conduct a

Community Needs Assessment in the church. One member shared recently that the experience of conducting a Community Needs Assessment survey was so effective that the church planned on repeating the event with more members in the near future.

On January 24, Burman University hosted a Health Fair for the community of which the NEWSTART Adult & Kids Health Expo was a central feature. The night before, Nwamiko Madden trained approximately 50 volunteers and students on how to run the various stations of the Health Expo and the excitement was palpable. Most of the volunteers had neither seen nor volunteered at a Health Expo so it was an entirely fun and novel experience, even during the training process. The enthusiasm also flowed over into the following day where, despite the heavy snowfall, over 200 individuals showed up for the expo with 81 going through the entire adult program. Not only that, but one local member of the city of Lacombe was pleasantly

surprised to learn that Adventists were so invested in physical well-being.

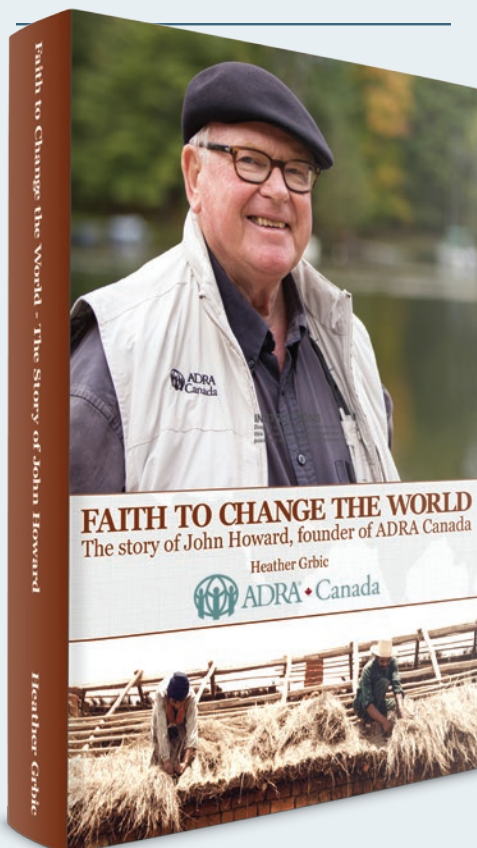
Finally, we would like to petition your help as members of the Alberta Conference as well as citizens of Alberta. As many are already aware, Alberta has been and will be receiving an influx of immigrants and refugees and there is a present need for assistance in acclimating these new families to life in Alberta. Particularly in the area of languages, we believe that our church community is well suited to help meet this need and as such we are in the process of starting a Seventh-day Adventist language school. We are connected with individuals experienced in this area but we need volunteers to help facilitate these schools whereby church members will be connected with the public to meet this need. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering in this area of ministry, please don't hesitate to contact the Personal Ministries Department by calling Nwamiko Madden at (403) 342-5044, ext. 211 or email nmadden@albertaadventist.ca.

ADRA Canada's Untold Story

Great and unexpected things happen when you live by faith. It is not always easy and sometimes it is even downright dangerous. But you will see God moving in powerful ways in your life. John Howard's story testifies to this. The book *Faith to Change the World: the story of John Howard, founder of ADRA Canada* recounts the untold story of ADRA Canada's beginnings, and the man behind the agency. As a piece of modern Seventh-day Adventist history, it is a story that only a few individuals can tell from personal experience.

Though some may remember, many do not know that John began ADRA

“The story of John Howard challenges me to live more on the edge of my faith, to trust God in all things, and to surrender myself totally to His will...”



Canada (then known as SAWS Canada) as a single individual in the Alberta Conference office in the 1970s. The Alberta Conference nurtured and encouraged the work, helping to provide the funding and administrative support that was needed for the nascent agency. This early support is still appreciated today, as it helped to enable the agency to become a registered Canadian charity. The continued warm support of the Alberta Conference brings help and encouragement to the work today.

John's commitment to improving the quality of life of poor communities throughout the world has left a lasting impact. His dedication has brought great honour not only to Canada but also to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. In recognition of his heart for those in need, John was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, one of Canada's highest honours.

Throughout his story, John traces God's leading in each chapter of his life. Through hindsight, he is able to discern God's purpose in each era as it prepared him for the one to come, culminating in the founding of ADRA Canada. John connects challenges in one chapter to strengths and triumphs in the next. He incessantly attributes God's guidance and mercy to the early work of ADRA Canada. His story is saturated with the refrain, "There is a God in heaven...!" Indeed, after hearing John's story, and the story of ADRA Canada, one is hard-pressed to refute his declaration.

Though many have hounded John for years to write his memoirs, it was James Astleford, Executive Director of ADRA Canada, who finally set the project in motion. "When ADRA turned 25, I became increasingly aware that the passing of time placed us all in danger of losing the story—the history—of the beginnings of the agency with its triumphs and challenges," he writes in the forward to the book. "So I approached John and asked if he

would share some of his wonderful stories. We began the process of capturing his thoughts and editing them." Finally, after five years, the inspiring story has come to fruition as a book.

Faith to Change the World was launched in November, 2015, a mere three months after ADRA Canada marked its 30th anniversary. Thirty years of service is no small milestone. ADRA Canada reflected much on its mission, its work, its history, and its future. Dwelling on God's provision and guidance in the past bolstered our faith in His leading hand in the future. "I wonder if John ever imagined that ADRA Canada would one day grow to where we are today, an agency with an annual budget of approximately \$15 million! Hundreds of thousands of individuals in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, South America, and even Europe, as well as on our own continent, escape poverty and distress because of this ministry," James Astleford continues. "Those of us who follow in John's significant footsteps are conscious that in this 30th anniversary year of ADRA Canada, we owe a considerable debt of gratitude to him. And especially to his inspiration."

Faith to Change the World: the story of John Howard, founder of ADRA Canada is both a tribute and a challenge. It honours the life and legacy of John Howard, and it calls you to a faith walk that has the courage to take on challenges and see how God will bless. Jonathan Duffy, President of ADRA International, writes, "The story of John Howard challenges me to live more on the edge of my faith, to trust God in all things, and to surrender myself totally to His will. As you read this book, I challenge you to become inspired to surrender your life to God, to gain confidence from John's story, and to step out in the knowledge that God will also equip you to become an agent for positive change in your community." —Submitted by Heather Grbic Charitable Worker (Youth & Church Relations) ADRA Canada

MANS in Adventist Media Spotlight

Two world-wide Adventist media giants recently turned the spotlight on Mamawi Atosketan Native School (MANS) and its mission of hope and wholeness for First Nations children and families. The *Adventist Review* and Hope Channel recently gave MANS a prominent place in their magazine and program, respectively.

The *Adventist Review* and Hope Channel have graciously permitted their material to be reproduced and shared.

- “Mamawi Atosketan Native School: A True Adventist Mission,” *Adventist Review*, February 2016 issue - The story by features editor Sandra Blackmer with photography by Larry Blackmer

takes readers inside the largest mission school in North America. Read the complete story on the *Adventist Review* website www.adventistreview.org/1602-31 or on the Alberta Conference website www.albertaadventist.ca/mans-ar.

- “Mamawi Atosketan Bridge Project with Hope Channel”—This Hope Channel broadcast can be viewed at www.albertaadventist.ca/mans-video or ordered as a DVD by emailing a request to TheBridge@mans1.ca. To see the video that mesmerized the anchor of Hope Channel,

Pastor Brad Thorp, visit the landing page of www.mans1.ca, and click on “Watch our new video”.

Brad Thorp,
Past President of
Hope Channel



HopeChannel



EXCITED ABOUT BUILDING THEIR FUTURE SCHOOL: MANS' Grade 4 class is enthusiastic about helping to build the much-needed high school with help from a SUPER MANS seed loan, available from the Alberta Conference (see www.mans1.ca and click on SUPER MANS for details). By working together on a spaghetti lunch fundraiser, the class turned \$90 into \$350. “I am helping to build the new High School for MANS!” says student Rihanna. “Join our SUPER MANS team and support our school!”

Adventist Education Sabbath April 23, 2016



Educating children and youth for time and eternity



AMBASSADORS FOR ADVENTIST CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Ambassadors for Adventist Christian Education (AACE) is a new initiative out of the Center for Research on K-12 Adventist Education, the organization responsible for the CognitiveGenesis study. AACE was designed to recruit, organize and support volunteers for the K-12 Adventist educational system.

Individuals passionate about Adventist education apply to become an Ambassador. AACE reviews each application and pairs the individual up with a school that has identified a need that matches the Ambassador's specific skillset.

The different ways that Ambassadors are volunteering are as varied as the individuals themselves. One Ambassador is helping a school to create its own YouTube channel; another Ambassador is an experienced grant writer and fundraiser and has volunteered to help schools with their various projects to that end.

If you would like to help us champion Adventist education by becoming an Ambassador and supporting our schools, please visit our website aace.lasierra.edu—or call our office at **951.785.2997**

We believe in Adventist education and feel that with more Ambassadors on the ground, collaborating with our principals and working in the community, we can provide positive support to our schools and strengthen Adventist education.

Teachers Need Time to Learn

Alberta Seventh-day Adventist teachers took two days, February 16 & 17, to be nurtured, to collaborate, and to address trends in educational assessment.



The most valuable resource that all teachers have is each other. Without collaboration our growth is limited to our own perspectives
 --Robert John Meehan

Dr. Marie Alcock, Learning Systems president.

Nurturing: Meeting and sharing together always provides a time of personal and spiritual refreshment. One teacher commented about how much she appreciated the worship time together.

Collaborating: “People are your greatest resource—especially when they know how to effectively work together and continually improve

their performance” (Learning Systems website). Assessment is one of the toughest topics that educators face. It has to be quantifiable, yet the quality of what each student is producing must be acknowledged. How does one quantifiably measure attributes such as cooperation, leadership, cheerleading? No teacher can solve this on his/her own. Therefore there must be a time to wrestle with issues and ideas in a collaborative setting.

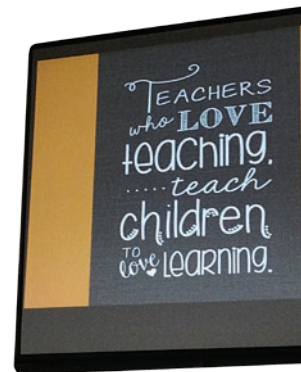
Growing Professionally:

Assessment is a work in progress in all educational circles. Educators strive to be fair and effective in assessing learning and student growth. It is no easy task! In the past two years, Alberta Education has developed “I can” statements in all curriculum areas to better demonstrate and measure student learning. Dr. Marie Alcock, Learning Systems president and weekend presenter,

inspired the teachers to take this one step further by developing proficiency scales instead of letter or percentage grades. “We still want to instill and encourage positive behaviour,” said Superintendent Janet Griffith, “but we need to fairly assess how students grasp curriculum concepts.”

Alberta’s Seventh-day Adventist Education Department is in the process of developing an assessment tool that will embrace Alberta Learning Outcomes and reflect student proficiency. “The time was intense,” noted one teacher. “We are looking forward to training. When I work with this format (I Can... statements), I have a clearer understanding of the student’s strengths and weaknesses, and where I need to focus my energy. It makes reporting more effective.”

—Submitted by Linda Steinke



SAGE Alberta

4TH ANNUAL CONVENTION | MAY 5-8, 2016

College Heights Seventh-day Adventist Church
 on Burman University Campus
 (This weekend is for you, if you’re 50 years and older)

Featuring Guest Speaker Roy Adams

(Retired associate editor of *Adventist Review* & *Adventist World*)

- Daily Devotionals, Sabbath School and Church Service
- Sabbath afternoon program: **“Six Issues Facing the Church”** (everyone of all ages is invited to this informative meeting)
- Musical Concert on Sabbath evening (everyone of all ages is invited to this concert)
- Accommodations and meals available at Burman University, upon request
- Outing to Wildlife Zoo, Innisfail (charge for transportation, entrance fee and lunch)
- Banquet and special performance by **Vance Neudorf** on **“Ecclesiastes”** (charge for tickets)

REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE SENT VERY SOON TO CHURCHES AND TO THOSE ON THE SAGE Alberta DATABASE
 Registration deadline: April 28, 2016

CAMP MEETING
 FOOD
Fair

TOO BIG TO MISS!

If your church or group is planning to participate in this year’s Camp Meeting Food Fair, please contact Irma Hartley at the Alberta Conference to book a spot. This year, a limited number of tables and canopies will be provided by Foothills Camp on a first-come, first-served basis.

(403) 342-5044
ihartley@albertaadventist.ca

MANS 2016 OPEN HOUSE



MAMAWI ATOSKETAN
NATIVE SCHOOL

COME SEE US!

*We're Opening our Doors during School Time
At Mamawi Atosketan Native School's 2016 Open House*


Thursday, April 28, 2016


2:30-3:15 Student Program


3:30-4:00 Presentation & Q+A

4:00-4:30 Celebration of Learning Tour

4:30-5:30 Supper and fellowship with
teachers and other friends of MANS

 More kids

 More action

 More of the real
school day

Directions: From Queen Elizabeth Highway, turn east on Menaik Road exit (located between Highway 611 & Highway 53, turn south on RR 253 (approximately 1/2 Kilometer). The school is on the west side of the road.

Photo Credit: Larry Blackmer



Excellence in Education Awards 2016

**Nominate
your Adventist
school principal
or teacher**

Deadline April 15

Forms can be found
on CAT™ net:
<http://catnet.adventist.ca>
under Resources - SDACC -
Excellence in Education Award
or you may call the
SDACC Office of Education at
905-433-0011



Zachary Borges (left) with Gail Wilton, principal of MANS (right).

Bibles for MANS

Zachary Borges, age 9, member of the Morning Star Seventh-day Adventist Church, was baptized by Pastor Jose Rojas on August 6, 2015 at Foothills Camp. After his baptism Zachary was moved to put Bibles into the hands of people who had no Bibles.

He presented the idea to his family and church. Together it was decided that the Bibles would be donated to the Mamawi Atosketan Native School. Zachary set a goal of 100 Bibles and made little bookmarks to hand out to church members, relatives, and friends, stating his mission, goal, and timeline.

As a result, on February 10, 2016 Zachary handed out 69 Bibles and \$500.00 for the purchase of Bibles to Gail Wilton, principal of Mamawi Atosketan Native School, thus making Bibles available to students and community members.

—Submitted by Lorna Joch,
Morning Star Church member





PAA boys' basketball game.



Girls' basketball team called the Panthers.

People Make the Difference

At PAA, people make the difference on a daily basis, but there are some whose presence changes everything for the better. Specifically, the many who work tirelessly to coordinate extracurricular activities and adventures for PAA students are heroes and our gratitude, like their influence, is immeasurable.

Teachers who volunteer their time to assist students during evening study halls and off-campus trips set the tone for a community that will do anything and everything to ensure their students' have the best opportunities for growth and life outside of school hours. Our Maple Hall Residence Deans work diligently to plan for service and social activities that allow PAA dorm students to give back and gain a blessing from their time here on campus.

And then, there are community members who feel a burden for our young people and step in to provide the kind of Christian mentorship that distinguishes church schools from any other learning environment. People like these build relationships that will last an eternity.

For example, Jeremy Purviance and Tyler Pelley spend an enormous amount of time with PAA's athletic teams. Jeremy and his wife, Melinda—PAA's Religious Studies and Science/Biology teacher—co-coached women's varsity basketball for the 2015-2016 season. This is their second year of devoting four nights a week for nearly 5 months to practice and league games. Coach

Pelley is also a committed supporter of PAA students and works hard to provide them with opportunities to increase their physical skill in basketball as well as to handle challenges, conflict, and communication as a team in mature and Christ-like ways.

Every year, the PAA Panthers travel to the campus of Walla Walla University to participate in the Friendship Tournament along with 16 other Adventist-school teams. The 2016 tournament fell in the scheduled break between Term 2 and Term 3, and just hours before the 26 students were set to travel, things took an unexpected turn.

Coach Tyler Pelley encountered a work conflict that prevented him from travelling with the boys' team. Because of PAA's commitment to the safety of all students, with one less supervising adult on the trip, the call to cancel the boys' team from their entry into the tournament was almost finalized as staff waited to see if a replacement could be found. Travelling for five days on short notice with little preparation appeared to be an impossible feat, but the PAA Chaplain, Ted Deer, stepped in to guarantee the teams would be able to go and represent as the only Canadian school in the tournament. Coach Jeremy worked tirelessly to support both the women's and men's teams in their game time, and his positive enthusiasm and love of young people cannot be commended enough.

Altogether, God used PAA's supportive community to introduce a miracle providing a way for the students to travel and grow in their confidence.

The night before the trip, Coach Pelley explained his responsibilities to the team and informed the boys of the tremendous effort that had been made on their behalf. He told them to "Be gentlemen," in his absence, demonstrating how his coaching style influences so much more than their actions on the court.

The students' appreciation was clear when the Principal, Angie Bishop, stopped by the bus for a quick good-bye and several of the athletes called out, "Thank you, Ms. Bishop, for making it so we could go."

Showing PAA's young people a community willing to move heaven and earth to help them enjoy something as small as basketball will allow them to look back and see the love that motivates these Christian adults, who would do so much more in order for students to turn to Jesus.

—Submitted by Katelyn Ruiz

Abundant Life Church Celebrates Their First Year as a Church Plant

On January 23, members, friends, and family of the Abundant Life Seventh-day Adventist Church in West Edmonton celebrated their first year as a successful and growing church plant. The Sabbath anniversary service included highlights of the year, testimonies and members sharing about their involvement and spiritual growth.

Our church name [Abundant Life] was conceived through our visioning and mission as a church plant. We based our name on John 10:10, ‘The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.’ Church member Jen LaRoy says, “To us it means that no matter what we are going through or experiencing we have the refuge in Christ to live our lives more abundantly, together we seek to live this out in our church.”

“What is remarkable is how fast we organized as a church plant,” says founding elder Keith LaRoy. “We worked as a group for two months before we launched. God was leading and there is no other way to explain how efficiently we were able to plant.”

God began His leading years prior by introducing core members to evangelistic small group Bible study resources from FAST Ministries.

Elaine Thompson recounts that “some of us began as a small group with the goal and vision of one day having a church plant. Skip forward six years and those of us who were involved with these early small groups had the opportunity to participate in a conference sponsored church plant.”

The Abundant Life church plant was one of two church plants that came out of the conference-initiated, city-wide, year-long evangelistic effort in Edmonton called IMPACT 2015. Pastor John Wesley was assigned to help plant this church and foster the growth in its members. The membership at ALC is thankful for the sacrifices that Pastor Wesley made to be involved and is grateful to Edmonton Central who so graciously shared their head pastor with the church-planting endeavor.

Finding a suitable and affordable church space to rent in the city was a challenge. But God paved the way.

Communications Coordinator, Nikki Wareham says, “For eight years we have lived in this community and often would



Abundant Life Church Sabbath anniversary service, January 23.

drive by this little west end church situated in our neighbourhood and would often say, ‘that would be the most perfect church for a church plant!’ We prayed about this church. This location and the host congregation was prepared by God to accept us as tenants.”

Abundant Life is busy in its community with service, outreach, in reach, seminars, and small group assignments. This church plant houses its members with care and intentional service. The divine service begins at 10 a.m. providing a great start time for members and visitors of all different life stages and schedules. Following the divine service a “Tea Time” is greatly appreciated. This fellowship time is unique and intentionally focuses on visitors. Members use this time to connect with people who are newcomers and to establish relationships. Sabbath School follows and because of its strategic placement in the schedule attendance is full for all the adult small studies and

the children’s programs. Abundant Life runs several different Sabbath School groups that provide nourishment for the new believer/seeker, members who enjoy the structure of the adult quarterly, and finally a group that continues the study and reflection on the sermon topic. To conclude Sabbath School all the groups gather for a closing song, and closing prayer, which also includes the blessing for the lunch that is waiting in the fellowship hall.

On the anniversary Sabbath, the original core members who initially met to plant this church filled the podium to share their stories, and one year later, they were outnumbered by those sitting in the congregation.

Before the service closed George Robinson gave a heartfelt and powerful testimony on the power of Christ in his own life and his own experience returning to church. He spoke of the need for a church that acts as a “hospital for sinners,” and the meaningful impact that attending this church plant and meeting its members had in his own walk.

What the members of ALC want to share with you, is that if God is calling you to make a change, make a difference, be involved, or venture out into the unknown... get out of your pew, ask God to lead and then follow. Your faith will grow, more abundantly than you may imagine.

—Submitted by Nikki Kostrosky-Wareham,
ALC Communications Director



Preparing food for the Edmonton street ministry.



Edmonton Adventist Community Services Feed those in Need

Every third Sunday of the month the Adventist Community Services ministry of the Edmonton Filipino Seventh-day Adventist Church and Sherwood Park Alliance Church take part in a joint street ministry program feeding those in need. Both churches prepare bagged lunch for the less fortunate which usually include sandwich, juice and a hot soup served on site. Elvie Lacampungca is the soup chef. Thank you to Jun Herrera, coordinator of the street feeding ministry and to all our faithful volunteers. We also give away baked goods such as pastries, cookies and bread. The baked goods are mostly donated by various bake shops in the

city of Edmonton. We are thankful for the support that we get from the business community. Also, during Christmas, backpacks are given out to those in need. The backpacks are filled with personal essentials and may include toiletries, such as toothpaste, toothbrush and bath soap, warm pair of socks, tuque, blanket and sweater. Tables are set-up to serve the people. There is also a table for “spiritual food” with Bibles and books. The program, which is held in one of the parking lots near downtown Edmonton, always starts with a three to five minute message and prayer.

The street feeding program is now in its fifth year with strong support from

church members including youth and young adults. Even when its -30 degrees outside, our dedicated volunteers brave the cold to feed those in need. Jesus said, “Love your enemies, do good, lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great and you will be sons and daughters of the Most High.” Luke 6:35 —Submitted by Bernardo Lacanilao

Giving out food in Edmonton.



Revival Weekend in Po



Don MacLafferty and daughter, Julie.



Participants of the revival weekend in Ponoka.

The Ponoka Seventh-day Adventist Church held a spiritual revival weekend on January 15-17 with guest presenters Don MacLafferty and his daughter, Julie along with local church member, Luke Heimann. Planning and prayer for this spiritual weekend began several months ahead of time. During the retreat, the Holy Spirit continued to bless, lead and convict hearts through small group discussion, interactive Bible studies, music, and personal reflection. About 75 attended most meetings with approximately 180 on Sabbath morning.

The Friday evening program began with an inspiring song service and several activities to help members recognize their need to build a personal, alive relationship with Jesus by daily spending time alone with God. Through Bible study and discussion, participants realized the importance of being “in the word.” The evening presentation concluded with Don’s challenge, “What does Jesus want me to learn?”

Sabbath morning small groups met to discuss and study True Discipleship.

Discipleship is based on relationship. Jesus bade us to follow Him. To follow Him we must know Him. To know Him we must spend time with Him. Members learned that a “disciple maker” can’t disciple someone unless they are a disciple themselves.

Sabbath morning church service entitled “Living Acts 2:17,” challenged individuals to intentionally disciple the children in their lives. God promises to “turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers.” Malachi 4:5, 6. God wants a relationship with us that is “side by side,” not “back to back.” He wants us to have this same type of relationship with each other in our homes and in our churches between adults and children. Individuals left the church service with the moving question, “What does God want me to do?”

Following a delicious potluck lunch, many decided to go on an indoor Mount Carmel prayer walk. Following the prayer walk people gathered to study

Spiritual Mentoring. They learned that “you have to go deeper with God yourself before you can lead someone else deeper.” Don shared some meaningful tips for mentoring the people God places in our lives. Again the question, “What does God want me to do?”

The Sabbath concluded with an interactive example of family worship encouraging individuals to connect with God in meaningful ways.

Sunday morning dawned “bright and early” and the now “tight knit” group arrived at 8 a.m. They anxiously began their study and prayer. Each small group discussed a text on the Holy Spirit and shared their findings with the whole group.

The study revealed two specific reasons for the gift of the Holy Spirit: He works inside of me to create a new heart with the fruits of the spirit, and boldness to witness. God wants to remove the stony places in our hearts, humble, and heal us. God wants to change us “from the inside out.” He wants us to ask for the baptism of

noka



Youth unwrapping the gift of the Holy Spirit sign.

the Holy Spirit daily. We must follow the Biblical example with Jesus in the centre of our priorities so He can be a powerful influence on every part of our lives.

At the conclusion of the weekend, each family, or individual present prayed and then wrote, or drew on paper what the Spirit convicted them they needed to do and attached their papers to a rope down the centre isle of the church. All present formed a circle around the papers in the sanctuary, joined hands and prayed for boldness to follow God and the Holy Spirit's leading, boldness to be a disciple and disciple maker, and boldness to change from the "inside out" and move forward from this day with power!

We would like to acknowledge and thank the Alberta Conference for live streaming the Friday night and Sabbath morning meetings. We praise God and give Him glory for all who attended and the mighty evidence of His presence and His power available to us for the asking.
—Submitted by Carol Morton



Health Wellness Seminar at Calgary French Bethany Company

On Saturday, November 28, 2015, the French Bethany Company hosted a "Health Wellness Seminar" with Dr. Darlene Blaney. "I was very impressed and inspired by the way Blaney presented the material," said Donald Pierre, pastor of Bethany Company. "She heightened our awareness of the choices we are making every day in regards to nutrition and created renewed enthusiasm toward our own health and the health of others." The church members enjoyed the presentation so much that there is already plans to have Blaney back for a weekend seminar in the near future. Blaney inspired the participants to want to eat better and take better care of their bodies. —Submitted by Donald Pierre, Pastor at French Bethany Company

Bonnyville Adventurer Induction



On Saturday, December 12, 2015 the Bonnyville Church had their first Adventurers' Induction with 13 Adventurers and 2 Pathfinders.

Ann Kutcher Celebrates 97th Birthday

Ann Kutcher, a long-time Sherwood Park member, celebrated her 97th birthday on December 8, 2015 with a group of friends at a favourite local eating spot. Her birthday “cake” was a beautiful bird-in-flight sculpted from sliced Apple, a fitting touch since Ann is an avid birder.

Originally from Manitoba, Ann came to Sherwood Park in the late sixties in response to an ad for food services personnel at Sherwood Park Nursing Home (now Sherwood Care) placed by then director Allen Fowler. At the time she was a secretary in the Idaho Conference office and wanted to return to Canada. She left home at 18 going first to Winnipeg then on to the US where she worked in various places including the conference offices in both North Dakota and Idaho. She remained on Sherwood Care staff until her retirement.

There she discovered that Allen’s wife Airlie is also a birding enthusiast. That marked the beginning of a lifelong friend-

ship that has taken them on innumerable birding expeditions around Alberta and as far afield as Botswana. Birding in Botswana happened when Ann visited the Fowlers during their mission term there. They resumed birding together when the Fowlers retired to Alberta, establishing a tradition of visiting the Swan Hills region for several days each spring during the northern migration and camping together in a little pup tent.

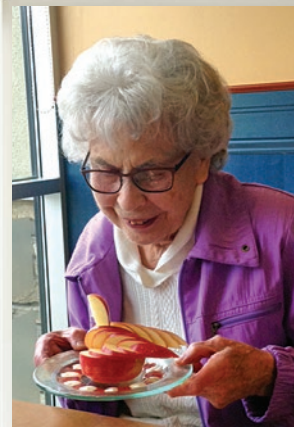
“We did our last camping trip when Ann was 92,” Airlie said at the birthday party, “And we were recently at Elk Island Park.”

“Did you do any birding at Elk Island?” They were asked.

“Only from the car,” Airlie replied.

“And I don’t consider that birding,” Ann quipped.

Ann joined the Sherwood Park Church shortly after it was organized, becoming church treasurer in 1977. She served in that position until 2000 when her assistant



Frits Wortman took over and she became his assistant. After retirement from Sherwood Care in 1984, she began volunteering there and worked closely in many projects with friends Iris Camber and Olga Huk. She became Treasurer of the Volunteer Board in November 1977 serving both there and at the church until the end of 2010.

Although declining health now keeps her closer to home, Ann continues to enjoy getting out with friends and maintaining contact with her church community. —Submitted by Corrine Vanderwerff, Sherwood Park member

Warmth, Compassion and Quality Care



2020 Brentwood Boulevard N.
 Sherwood Park, Alberta T8A 0X1
 (780) 467-2281
www.sherwoodcare.com



Sherwood Care is owned by Adventist Health Systems - Alberta

Epic Church Plant Launch in Red Deer

Sabbath, February 13, 2016 marked the start of a story that began with a dozen young people and a vision of how God could use them to fill Red Deer with His love. “Epic” means great story and when paired with “church,” we see what happens when God’s story meets our story.

They began meeting in the summer of 2015, bringing their collective concern for friends who had drifted away from God and discussing their ideas of how a church community could meet the indefinable needs of post-modern people seeking relationship with God and believers.

From these Friday night meetings, an idea was born: to create a radically inclusive loving community in Red Deer where everyone can find their purpose in God’s story.

The Epic saga continued as the leadership team developed seven core values that would guide this new community



Leaders of the Epic Church Plant, Red Deer.

of faith. Together with Pastor Moises Ruiz, they researched other successful church plants, and decided to model certain aspects of the Epic Seventh-day Adventist Church in Chicago, IL under the leadership of Pastor Andres Flores. As part of their training, the core leaders made a Thanksgiving trip down to visit with the leadership team of that church.

Every step of the process, from finding a venue to creating outreach opportunities, has been nothing short of miraculous. The Red Deer Adventist



Launch Sabbath of Epic Church Plant, Red Deer.

Church has shown incredible support for the Epic church plant in their prayers and with individuals coming forward to offer whatever assistance they can, from constructing stages and setting up the worship space to bringing their friends to check out the service. With 89 people in attendance for the official launch Sabbath, we are deeply humbled to be part of this continuing ministry. For more information, check out www.epicadventist.ca or Epic Church Red Deer on Facebook. —Submitted by the Epic fellowship group

Back by popular demand!
Will Checklist available.

To do at Camp Meeting

- Attend 7 a.m. meetings
- Meet up with Jerry & Elaine
- Do my Will (finally!) at no cost*

*after rebate

This July, the Alberta Conference saves you time and money on legal fees for wills.

- Streamlined process allows an experienced lawyer to reduce fees
- Private appointments in Planned Giving Pavilion beside the ABC
- 2 easy ways to make your August appointments NOW (one for instructions, one for signing):

Email: jnickel@albertaadventist.ca
 Phone: (403) 342-5044 x 226



Alberta Conference
 Planned Giving | Philanthropy
 Putting God First and Last





Edmonton Filipino Youth in Action

The Youth at the Edmonton Filipino Church are very active in various church programs. On December 19, 2015, they presented a Christmas Cantata, conducted by Jennevi Yabut. The church congregation and visitors were blessed as the youth sang praises to give glory to our Messiah. A special offering was collected during the program to help in the upcoming Youth Mission Trip to the Philippines next summer. The mission trip will include an evangelistic reaping campaign with Pastor Lyle Notice as the main speaker, a youth led Week of Prayer at the local academy and community services, medical, dental, optical services for the local people. The team will also plan to visit Adventist institutions like AUP, AI-IAS, SSD, and the Adventist Hospital.



EdFil Youth choir during one of their practices.

On January 9, the Edmonton Filipino Youth also presented a program to the residents of the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Edmonton. The residents were so happy with the program that they requested the youth to come on a regular basis. The youth also sang Happy Birthday to one of

the residents who turned 99. The EdFil Youth choir also sang during the (GEMA) Greater Edmonton Annual Convention held on January 15 - 16th.

We thank the Lord for our youth who are always ready and willing to share their talents in doing God's work.
—Submitted by Bernardo Lacanilao

Shut-in Visitation Ministry

On a sunny Sabbath afternoon we knocked on her door. She invited us in with a cheerful greeting and exclaimed, "I am so happy to see you ladies!" Felicite Niyigaba, Allis Mboya and I had come to visit Molly Rossol, one of the many shut-in members who are unable to attend church due to health issues. Molly never complains and enjoys telling everyone how much she loves Jesus. She spends her time knitting or crocheting sweaters or blankets or painting pictures to give away. Molly shows great courage and integrity—the kind that God is looking for from all of us. Although it is difficult to be grateful in difficulties, Molly shows us that it is not impossible. — Submitted by Ina Martin, Edmonton Central church member



L to R: Ina Martin, Felicite Muhima, Allis Mboya, and Molly Rossol (centre).



Edmonton Central Adventurers and their parents with packed shoeboxes in the centre.

Youth at Edmonton Central Pack Shoeboxes of Hope

The Aurora Borealis Adventurer Club of the Edmonton Central Adventist Church decided to partner this year with the Samaritan Purse Edmonton to sponsor shoeboxes for children who are victims of war, disease, disaster, poverty, famine, and persecution regardless of their religious faith, race, gender, or socioeconomic standing. As Ronald Reagan put it "We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone" quoted Debbie Acquah, former Club director as she introduced the program to the children and their families.

The work of the Samaritan Purse is based on the biblical story of the Good Samaritan in which a Jewish man who was attacked and robbed and left to die was rescued by a Samaritan, who bandaged him, carried him to a nearby Inn where he cared for him and paid the innkeeper to continue to care for him.

On November 14, 2015, after the worship service, the Adventurer Club and their families set on a journey to pack items into shoe boxes provided by the Samaritan Purse.

In explaining the rationale to the children, the Deputy Club director, Michaelina Pappoe, said, "every child who receives a shoebox is given the opportunity to learn about Jesus Christ through the great journey Bible study program. As we embark on this project let us remember that what goes into a shoebox may be fun but what comes out can change someone's eternity."

With this backdrop, the Adventurers filled the boxes with joy and happiness, hoping that their widow's mite, will bring

life and hope to an unfortunate child. Each box included a doll/toy vehicle, pencils, erasers, double sided sharpener, crayons, a school workbook, a drinking cup with straw, toothbrush, soap with a soap dish, a pair of socks/hair accessory set and mighty marks construction paper. "We packed 13 boxes in total, eight for boys and five for girls and we hope every child who receives a box will be excited and blessed," said Noma Dube, Adventurer Club director.

Thanking the Club members and their families, Michaelina, said, "I appreciate your generosity and love towards God's children, hopefully we will get to meet the recipients of the shoeboxes in heaven. 'For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister' (Hebrews 6:10) said Mercy Akuno, also a Deputy director of the Club as she became so excited for her role in helping the recipient children see God through the Samaritan Purse noble courses.

This year's Samaritan's Purse will bless children in Haiti, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Chile, Uruguay, Ukraine and the west Africa nations - Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leon and Equatorial Guinea.

— Submitted by: Benjy Acquah, Edmonton Central



BAPTISMS



Nathan Crombie was baptized by Pastor Bill Spangler on December 26, 2015 and accepted into membership at the Sylvan Lake Church.



Kim Omer (on the right next to his father) was baptized by Pastor Enoch (on left) at the Whitecourt Church on January 2 while his parents, Maricel and Dexter Omer (on right) were received into membership by profession of faith.



On Sabbath, January 9, 2016, the Cornerstone Church had their first baptism of 2016. The Guy family: Garfield, Heather and their son Joshua were baptized by Pastor Donald Wright.



Joleigh Nichols was baptized at the College Heights Church on December 19, 2015 by Pastor Massiel Davila-Ferrer.



Gaella Kabera and Hannah Leming were baptized by Pastor Melbourne Turgott on December 19, 2015 at the Leduc Church.



Calgary Cornerstone Community Church held an evangelistic series from November 14-28, 2015 at the Calgary Bridgeland Church. The speaker of the series was Singing Evangelist, Pastor Robert Vassell who presented powerful convicting messages from God night after night. Many people gave their lives to the Lord and 12 people were baptized at the end of the evangelistic series.

Photo above on left: Elder Hurbydal Lewis (left), Pastor Donald Wright baptizing Cing Sua Mung.

...from page 2

b. How can each church develop an intentional discipleship path for the newly baptized and existing members?

c. How can we help our members understand, teach and live our 28 Fundamental Beliefs as gifts from God for a better life for humanity, rather than a list that needs to be checked off prior to baptism?

d. If small groups are such an awesome discipling and evangelistic method, why aren't we trying it more and what can we do to make it work?

e. How can we develop vocational witness competencies whereby our members share the gospel effectively within their workplace and spheres of influence (relational evangelism)?

4. Multiplication of community-based church planting

a. How can we become a church planting movement again?

b. Are multi-site models workable for Adventists? If so, in what way?

c. Would the volunteer lay-pastor model work for church growth? If so, how?

d. How can our religion department and seminary prepare ministers to plant churches and coach church planters?

e. Should participation in church planting be built into the process of pastoral affirmation prior to ordination/commissioning?

5. Participation of EVERY pastor and able leader utilizing diverse forms of proclamation evangelism at least once a year

a. Why has public evangelism become so difficult and burdensome for some of our pastors—and laity?

b. Are there different ways of doing proclamation evangelism? If so, what might they be?

c. Should we look into making our regular worship services evangelistic? If so, what would that look like?

d. What would you think of conducting regular Sunday morning church services and invite the public to attend?

I'd be interested in hearing some of YOUR reactions to these questions either from a personal or group perspective. You may send an e-mail to kwiebe@albertaadventist.ca or to tmcqueen@albertaadventist.ca. We'd be glad to hear from you.

[SNAPSHOTS]

The beauty of God's creation through the camera eye of our readers.



April 2015
Location:
Foothills Camp

Photo submitted by Kiara Welch



March 2016
Location:
Grand Canyon



July 2014
Location:
Okanagan Lake

Grand Canyon and Okanagan Lake photos submitted by Mishell Raedeke

Announcements

Has Your Address Changed?

Please be sure to let your church clerk know if your address has changed or will be changing. This helps to keep our records up to date, as well as ensuring that you will continue to receive the *Messenger* and *Adventist World* magazines. If you're not receiving these magazines, please contact your church clerk, or the conference office at (403) 342-5044.

Summer Camps are right around the corner! There's something for everyone from five years of age to 105, with Adventurer Camp, Junior Camp, Teen Camp, Family Camp, Blind Camp and Young at Heart Heritage Camp (Senior's Camp). Register at www.foothillscamp.org.

Home Coming Country Camp Meeting at Beauvallon Church, June 24-26.

Guest Speaker is Pastor Javier Joseph Quiles who was a former Chicago gang member and will be sharing his miraculous story being saved from the streets. Free non-serviced campsites available. There will be a potluck lunch on June 25 (please come and contribute your favourite dish) and a pancake breakfast at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 26. For more information, please phone (780) 366-2155 or (780) 914-5330.

Canadian Adventist Youth Summit:

If you are between the age of 16-30, and you want to be a part of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in

Canada's Youth/Young Adult event, then you will want to register for the upcoming Canadian Adventist Youth Summit. Youth and Young Adults from every province in Canada will be joining together at Burman University on May 11-15, 2016 to worship, serve in Edmonton, visit Banff National Park, fellowship, and join together in special breakout sessions. The total cost is \$255; with room for only 170 registrants from Alberta. Register before the end of March at www.freshalbertayouth.ca. For more information, please phone Kevin at (587) 876-2224.

Okanagan Adventist Academy (OKAA) in Kelowna, BC is having a 100th-Year Anniversary Celebration/Homecoming June 30 - July 2, 2017. Calling all former alumni, teachers, students, and staff. Check for future event details at www.okaa.ca and PLEASE forward to your previous classmates.

Alberta Conference Town Hall Meetings

- May 16 - Medicine Hat Church
- May 17 - Calgary Central Church
- May 24 - Lacombe Community Church
- May 30 - Vegreville Church
- May 31 - Edmonton Central Church
- June 6 - Fairview Church



The Ponoka Church eagerly welcomes Ethan Arden Kay, son of Arden and Cindy Kay, born December 30, 2015.

The Alberta Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church 51st Session, October 2, 2016

Legal Notice

Legal Notice of the Alberta Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is hereby given that the 51st Session of the Alberta Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will be held at the College Heights Seventh-day Adventist Church, Lacombe, Alberta on October 2, 2016. The Regular business meeting will be called at 9:00 a.m. Sunday, October 2, 2016.

The purpose of the meeting is to consider reports and financial statements, elect officers and members of the Executive Committee of the Conference for the ensuing term, to consider any proposed changes in the Bylaws, and for the transaction of any other business that may properly come before the session.

The Bylaws provide for representatives from each duly organized church in the Alberta Conference as follows: one delegate per church without regard of membership, and one additional delegate for every fifty (50) members or major fraction thereof.

Ken Wiebe
President

Larry Hall
Secretary/Vice President
for Administration

In memory



Elvin Willie Ferster was born June 5, 1941 to Nora and Reinhold Ferster in Melville, Saskatchewan. As soon as he got his driver's license, he began driving a logging truck for his dad. Very quickly he built his own business which expanded into other business ventures throughout British Columbia and Alberta. Elvin and Billie Jean (Fowler) were married April 15, 1962. They were blessed with four children (Bonnie Wigley, Kevin, Dean, and Terry), 22 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. There are very few pictures of Elvin alone, because he loved to be surrounded by his family and friends. His grandchildren and great-grandchildren adored him! Elvin was a self-taught, skilled craftsman and builder. His hands were never idle. His strong work ethic served him well. He worked balance into his life enjoying sports, and collecting soda memorabilia and antique gas pumps. Elvin was kind and well-mannered—a true gentleman. After a year-long battle with cancer, a full recovery was not realized. On the morning of January 10, 2016, Elvin closed his eyes to rest until Jesus comes.

Myrtle Alma (Wetter) Knopp spent her entire life in the Leduc/Warburg area. She was born to Dan and Alma Wetter on November 11, 1928. When her father died in 1945, Myrtle helped her mother manage the cattle on their property south of Leduc. She learned to love and respect the earth, recognizing that God supplied the sunshine and rain to grow the crops. Myrtle married Elmer Knopp on November 14, 1950. The two farmed together, largely in the Warburg area until early 2000s. For all these years, Myrtle enjoyed her vegetable and flower gardens. After moving into an assisted living facility in Leduc, Myrtle dearly missed putting her fingers into the soil with the coming of each spring. As a young girl, Myrtle played the accordion and often sang duets with her sister, Grace. She instilled the gift of music in her children. After experiencing several strokes, Myrtle closed her eyes on January 27, with family by her side to await the coming of Jesus. She is fondly remembered for her quiet and gentle spirit. She lived a deeply spiritual life, always encouraging her family to do likewise. Myrtle is survived by her husband, Elmer; children-Caroline (Garry Walters), Glenda (Mike Anton), Glenn (Esther), and Dan (Colleen); eight grandchildren, one great-grandson; one sister, Grace Wetter, and many friends.



Steven Sankey was born on June 12, 1924 near Hemaruka, Alberta and passed to his rest in Consort, Alberta on October 31, 2015. He was a lifelong member of the Loyalist Seventh-day Adventist Church, serving in many capacities over the years. He firmly believed in friendship evangelism and was bold to share his love of God to those around him. He enjoyed the ADRA Annual Appeal (Ingathering) as an opportunity to visit with people. Young & old were made to feel special by his attention. A testament to his life were the 300 people who attended his memorial service. His strong singing voice, infectious smile and positive attitude will be deeply missed. He was predeceased by his wife Margaret (Peggy), brother William, sisters Doris Peterson, Jessie Lindstrom and Annie Tym. He is survived by sisters Catherine (Clarence) Chinn, Pauline White, and Muriel Kline, son Murray (Elaine), daughter Carol (Neil) Garner, 4 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

6 WAYS

THE ALBERTA CONFERENCE

MAKES WILLS EASIER

Before I became director of Planned Giving at the Alberta Conference, I never thought about Wills as a ministry. As a lawyer drafting them some years back, we referred to them as a “loss leader”—something we didn’t expect to make money on (often the time expended far exceeded the flat rate we charged), but which brought people into the office and, if we did it well, they’d come back when they needed a lawyer for something else.

My perspective changed dramatically when my dad passed away. I believed he had not made a Will, and the thought of the complexity that would add to settling his affairs added to my grief. Only another lawyer can imagine my relief when Mom told me there was a Will.

Through that experience, I realized that something as practical and routine as a Will can be immensely helpful. If I can help someone think through their values, blessings (as well as assets), and make the process of writing a Will a little easier, I have done something of great value with the education and opportunities God has given me. I’m not just doing a job; I’m helping someone with what for many people is a very frightening situation, and providing a place for them to think and talk about how their spiritual values fit into their Will.

So what does the Alberta Conference do to make the discussion and writing of Wills more accessible to Alberta members?

1. Members can call me with questions—I’m as close as your phone. If the situation requires input from other

professionals such as a tax specialist, I know some of the best and can refer you.

2. Free “Wills Checklist” and appointments for giving Will instructions—I can provide a convenient card with a checklist and other useful information, or you can look at the website on the Planned Giving page (direct link on last row of the Conference website landing page, next to the Mamawi Atosketan Native School button): www.albertaadventist.ca. Make an appointment with me to give instructions when you’ve covered the areas (feel free to call before that with questions!), and I will send your instructions to the lawyer of your choice.

3. Wills that Keep the Peace seminar and Q&A forum—I will be conducting this seminar/Q&A session at the 2016 Alberta Camp Meeting at Foothills Camp on Tuesday, July 19.

4. Partial Reimbursement of legal fees—While Wills are as old as history, they are often now offered as part of a package. The package includes a Power of Attorney and Personal Directive. The Conference can reimburse members up to \$200 for an individual will or \$300 for a couple for the Will only. Simply pay the lawyer his/her fee, and send me the receipt showing how much you paid for your Will (if you took the package that’s OK so long as the Will cost is clear), and the reimbursement cheque will be in the mail.

5. Storing of original Wills—Storing your Will in a safe place that’s accessible to your executor is important because only the original, signed copy of the Will is accepted by banks and other institutions your executor will have to deal with. If you work with the Alberta Conference in giving Will

instructions, the Will can be stored in the Conference’s fire-proof cabinet, but you can choose to store it elsewhere.

6. Free Wills done on site during Camp Meeting—Wills @ Camp makes completely reimbursed Wills possible. It’s a special program (office set up in the Planned Giving Pavillion next to the Adventist Book Centre) that works with some like-minded Adventist lawyers. The efficiencies of the set up allows the lawyers to drop their fees to \$100 per person or couple. Instructions are taken early in the week (this year, a few appointments will be available Sunday morning). On Thursday and Friday, lawyers review the Wills with their clients, the Wills are signed, and on getting the receipt, the Conference reimburses the entire amount.

Alberta Conference
Planned Giving | Philanthropy
 Putting God First and Last



Lynn McDowell, LLB &
 Certified Specialist in Planned Giving
 Director of Planned Giving | Philanthropy
 Alberta Conference (403) 342-5044, ext. 233

What's it Mean to You?

“It means so much to us and our family that you are doing this for our kids. We will never forget it.”

MANS Parent & Total Praise supporter
Maskwacis, Alberta



“I will never forget it in my entire life,” says Larell Littlechild, one of the Total Praise members who performed before NAD president Dan Jackson and GC president Ted Wilson. “I felt like we were famous.”

Indeed, the six girls who represented Mamawi Atosketan Native School at the Year End Meetings were the face of missions in Canada. As President Jackson told the assembled presidents and representatives of the North American Division, MANS is the largest Adventist First Nations school in North America. To outside observers, it's a unique success story in First Nations education.

But for the parents, band council members, chiefs, and other members of the Maskwacis community, the school and the invitation to perform in Washington, DC comes down to this: Their children matter to the Adventist church.

Getting MANS' sign language group and director Cheri Notice to the NAD's biggest annual event took extraordinary cooperation between the school and the larger community. Not one of the students had a valid passport, but teachers, parents and other members of the band resolved to “Mamawi Atosketan” (Cree for “Working Together”), and by working together, they saw extraordinary things happen.

“I'm so proud of my daughter and the school,” said Lori Baldry, parent of Jersey Threefingers, Grade 7. “This is such an honour for the school and the students to get to go.”

“Thank you so much for taking care of our kids,” wrote another parent. “They may never get a chance to do something like this again in their life... We will never forget it. It is just like a big family here at this school.”

As we show the Father's love in practical ways, walls come down. The family grows closer.

Watch Total Praise's October 30 performance at the General Conference offices for Presidents Jackson and Wilson, and hundreds of NAD delegates at www.mans1.ca (video section).

Pictured: Total Praise member Tashina Green in traditional Plains Cree regalia. Tashina is one of more than 200 students at MANS.



THE
BRIDGE
CAMPAIGN

BE PART OF THE BRIDGE TO CHANGE THE FUTURE
WWW.MANS1.CA (403) 342-5044 X 233



CAMP 2016	DATE	AGE	COST
Camp For The Visually Impaired	June 26-July 3	ALL	\$40
Family Camp	July 4-10	ALL	*
Young At Heart Heritage Camp	July 4-10	55+	DONATIONS ACCEPTED
Watersports/Horsemanship Specialized Camp	July 10-13	13-17	\$310
Adventurer Camp	July 24-31	6-10	\$280
Sherwood Forest 1	July 24-31	9-12	\$310
Junior Camp	July 31-August 7	10-13	\$290
Sherwood Forest 2	July 31-August 7	10-13	\$310
Teen Camp	August 7-14	13-17	\$290
Sherwood Forest 3	August 7-14	10-14	\$310

* Family Camp Rates
 \$700 - For a family of 2 adults and 2 or more children
 \$600 - For a family of 1 adult and 2 or more children OR a family of 2 adults and 1 child
 \$400 - For a family of 1 adult and 1 child OR a family of 2 adults and no children
 \$300 - For a single adult with no children



For more information about Foothills Summer Camps and to register, please visit us at www.foothillscamp.org or call us at (403)342-5044