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A window of information for Seventh-day Adventists in Alberta

Let's Clean Up Our Church Books!

es! Let's clean up our church books. Let's deal with members who aren't really members anymore. I'm in favor of dropping people from church membership and other forms of church discipline. However, there are appropriate steps to take as we get ready to administer church discipline, whether it be censuring or dropping someone. Let's make sure we do it correctly.

When we first start talking about administering discipline to a member, let's turn to the head of the Love-'Em-Back committee. You do have one in your church, don't you? If not, this is the place to start. Before we talk about all the bad things that Sinful Sam and Gertie Gossip have done, we need to have a person appointed who will be in charge of loving them back. Anyone in the church can be appointed to this office. Hopefully, several will volunteer—even vie—for the position. Actually, there should be a number of committee chiefs: one for every candidate for discipline.

The chairperson will beg God to give them a burden for Sinful Sam—the kind of burden that Moses had when he told God, "If You can't forgive these people, then blot my name out of the book too." Once the chairperson feels that they would give their life for Sinful Sam, if that's what it would take to reclaim him (a precedent has been established here), they can begin to function.

The next step is to get a group of folks praying for Sinful Sam. No, no! I didn't say criticizing him—not even *constructively* criticizing him. The group will come together to pray, and they will pray separately throughout the day. In fact, someone will be praying for Sam all day long.

Committee number two is formed next. This group needs to be made up of seven individuals, one for each day of the week. Sinful Sam often sins *big* on Sunday. So Right-Living Rob makes contact with him on Sunday. They pray together, the families go out to eat together, the guys go fishing together or work on cars together.

On Monday Committed Carl goes by Sinful Sam's place of work, just to encourage him. Dedicated Dan has been praying since the previous Tuesday about what kind of contact he will make with Sinful Sam this Tuesday.

Sabbaths have not been good at all for Sinful Sam. He hates to go to church, because some of the members (who haven't sinned all week) gripe at him or whisper when he passes. The whole prayer-band team will have to help guard him from those who think they will be translated at any moment. Every Sabbath Sam and his family will have a dinner invitation. In fact, they will need to be booked several weeks in advance. (One really risky thing that Jesus tried was taking church visitors to sinner's houses to eat. This could be bad for your reputation. They *talked* about Jesus for doing it. It is a great way to make friends, though.)

We need to help Sinful Sam's wife, too. She's so loaded with guilt because of the way Sam's been acting that she's likely to come down pretty hard on him. Get the same two committees working for her that are working for Sam.

If, after a year or so of the committee's operating, Sam just keeps on publicly embarrassing the church, then his Love-'Em-Back chairperson needs to visit him to explain that he will need to recommend that the church censure Sinful Sam. By this time he and Sam will have become really good friends. If the church *does* take the action, the committee will work harder than ever. If the Love-'Em-Back committees have not followed through, Sam's

Continued on page 2



Our Mission

The mission of the Alberta Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is to equip, train and enable each church in its territory to fulfill God's mandate for it by providing its members with:

- Empowered Leadership
- Gift-Oriented Ministry
- Passionate Spirituality
- Functional Structures
- Inspiring Worship
- Wholistic Small Groups
- Need-Oriented Evangelism
- Loving Relationships

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Directory

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Phone (403) 342-5044 Fax (403) 343-1523 e-mail: abconf@albertasda.org website: www.albertasda.org Love-'Em-Back chairperson will beg for mercy for themself and the committee, asking for more time to work for Sinful Sam.

My advice to you: Don't be too disappointed if you can't find a *good* reason to drop Sam by the end of the year. He may repent! Jonah had that problem—the whole city of Nineveh came back to God.

This sure is a lot of work put into dropping someone like Sinful Sam. It might not be worth it, either. But Sam is *such* an important fellow. In fact, Sam is loved so much that one Man I know gave His life for him.

I'm in favor of cleaning up our church books. I hope all our churches in North America get at it right away.

One Heart Rejoicing - The Difference Jesus Makes by Don C. Schneider Available at the ABC or call 1-800-785-6955 to order

Dateline

November 13 Calgary Regional Minister's Meeting

November 13 Calgary Regional Management Team Meeting

November 14 Central Regional Minister's Meeting

November 14 NE Regional Management Team Meeting, Vegreville

November 15 Edmonton/NE Regional Minister's Meeting

November 15 Edmonton Regional Management Team Meeting

November 18 K-12 Board

November 19-23 SDACC Year-end Meetings, Oshawa

November 24-26 SDACC Board, Oshawa

November 27 Central Regional Management Team Meeting

December 2 NW Regional Management Team Meeting

December 9 EXCOM

December 24 - January 1 Christmas Break—Conference Office Closed,

Reopens 8:30 am January 2, 2002

Musical Instruments Needed

Patricio Menendez, formerly known to many as Pat Simanton, will be teaching English and Music in the primary school, *Escuela de Capacitacion Adventista Salvadorena Seccion Primaria*, in El Salvador starting January, 2002. The school has 620 students, Grades 1-6, 60% non Seventh-day Adventists. The school needs musical instruments. If you have a musical instrument or would like to make a donation for a musical instrument, please forward it to the Alberta Conference. (A musical instrument should have an appraisal to receive a tax-deductible receipt). Patricio plans to leave for El Salvador in the middle of November.

School of Prayer

Dan Vis, the director of FAST Missions, Michigan, was the guest presenter at the School of Prayer held at Chinook Winds Adventist Academy hosted to be Alberta Conference Prayer Ministries. Fast Missions is an international Discipling ministry that helps thousands to memorize the WORD, build it into their daily life, and pass it on to others. The FAST Discipleship Bible studies are easy to follow and available from the Conference Prayer Ministries.

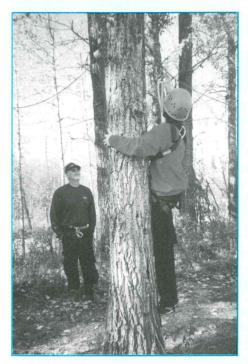


Around Alberta

Grade 9 - Outdoor School









September 30, 2001 found the Grade 9 students and staff from six different schools at Sherwood Forest, Foothills Camp. Students signed up for four days of either base camp, backpacking, or canoeing. It was a fun, yet learning time for all, inspite of the cold weather.

ADRA Project

ADRA is starting a school, clinic and orphanage in the Ukraine. Items needed are encyclopedias, dictionaries, Bibles, Spirit of Prophecy books, missionary books, Bible Story books, textbooks, exercise bikes and equipment, clothing for adults and children, blankets, bedding, towels, etc. You may donate any of these items or money by contacting Lovyl Marian at 780-417-2224.

ADRA Walk-a-thon Becomes Missionary Outreach

A walk-a-thon, organized by the Earliteen Division of the Calgary Central Church to raise funds for the ADRA Annual Appeal, not only raised funds for a worthy cause but became a wonderful means of outreach to the community. Prior to the September 30th walk, Calgary members went doorto-door soliciting sponsors. There was a wonderful response – more than \$12,000! But this was not all. Colleen Lachance reports that behind the doors of many homes, there were people in need. Friendships were made, prayers were offered, care was extended, and the love of Jesus was shared. Some 150 church members participated in the scenic walk through Baker Park along the Bow River. What a wonderful way to raise money, make awareness, witness to your neighbor, and come together as a church family! God is so willing to bless the work of our hands when we call upon Him! He truly made this walk a success.



Calgary Central Walk-a-thon



November, 2001

Edmonton South CHIP Project



eventeen Edmontonians registered for the first-ever Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP) to be conducted in Alberta. Video presentations by Dr. Hans Diehl, live cooking demonstrations, and vigorous health discussions kept the participants captivated for over two hours Monday through Thursday evenings for four weeks. This lifestyle-oriented, scientifically sound, and rejuvenating program is already turning precious lives around—some with dramatic results! A graduation ceremony was held October 17. For more information about Edmonton CHIP, see the website at www.edmontonchip.com.

Christine Simpson, Edmonton CHIP Director

Women's Retreat Planned!

Mark your calendars! The 2002 Alberta Women's Retreat is planned for March 23 & 24. More details will be given in the next *Alberta News*. Men, why not treat your wife with a gift certificate to the 2002 Retreat?! Contact Nicole Sydenham at 403-782-1440.

Church Histories Wanted

The CUC Archives would like the history of churches in Alberta, including those that are no longer meeting. Please submit to Archives Department, Canadian University College, 235 College Avenue, Lacombe, AB T4L 2E5 Fax: 403-782-5675. E-mail: ddean@cauc.ca.

Deaf Ministries Fellowship

A sizeable group of deaf and those interested in Deaf Ministries met together at the Sylvan Lake Church for the first Fall Alberta Deaf Fellowship. Tanya Warner volunteered as the "interpreter" for both Sabbath School and Worship. Tanya has only seriously learned sign language in the last couple years. Additional fellowships are planned. Contact John or Alberta Blake at blake@deafhope.org.

ADRA Annual Appeal

As of the end of August the total raised by ADRA for this year's campaign was \$241,628.08 which is a 38% increase on the total, the same time last year. Alberta's total is up 72% so far over last year. Good job, Albertans!! There is just a short time left to get out there and help to reach the \$1million goal for 2001. ADRA leaders, please be sure you sent in your order form indicating how many of the various items you would like to receive for your church for 2002 and the deadline for these orders is December 3, 2001.

Millwoods Church Plant

Jesus said, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel." Heeding this command, the West Edmonton Church has determined to reach out to Millwoods with the message of God's love, salvation through Jesus Christ, and the good news of His soon return. Millwoods is considered to be one of the fastest growing communities in Edmonton with a present population of over 88,000! Twenty-four percent are regarded as new comers, mainly from India, China, Vietnam, Europe and the Caribbean. Through prayerful negotiations, leaders of this outreach have been able to secure the use of the First Millwoods United Church, 15 Grand Meadow Crescent, for use on Sabbath mornings. You are invited to Millwoods for Sabbath School at 9:30 and worship at 11:00 a.m.

First Annual Elders' Retreat

More than one hundred local church elders and spouses attended the first annual Elders' Retreat at Foothills Camp September 28-30. Keynote speaker, Willie Oliver, Director of Family Ministries for the NAD, addressed the theme *My Upmost for His Highest* in his key-note address. He and Noelene Johnsson, Director of Children's Ministries, presented The Family Friendly Church seminar Sabbath afternoon. The Second Annual Elders' Retreat is being planned for next year about the same time.

Tithe Increase in Alberta

"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom."

God's blessings upon His people in Alberta is reflected in what appears to be a much needed tithe increase in the Alberta Conference this year. There will be a report after final church remittances come in for the year. Thank you for your faithfulness in tithes and offerings to further the spread of the Gospel in Alberta and the rest of the world.



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New Teachers/Pastors

New Teachers in our Conference are: Larry McCarty, Murry McLeod, Steve & Pattie Reasor, Kara Self at Chinook Winds (Calgary); Tammy Pineo, Violet Hannebury at Mamawi Atosketan (Ponoka); Julie Bancarz at Peace Hills (Wetaskiwin); Clifford Wood, Dayna Hammel at South Side (Red Deer); Jean Haggkvist at Sylvan Meadows (Sylvan Lake); Dlaine Werner at Veinerville (Medicine Hat); Lee-Ann Leming at Woodlands (Ponoka).

New Pastors in our Conference are: Ramon Verduzco at Edmonton Spanish; Evert Potgieter at Sherwood Park/Ryley; Jae Min Yeon at Edmonton/Calgary Korean; Wesley Szamko Chaplain at CUC; Alan Delotavo at Fort McMurray; Paul Donnett part-time assistant at Red Deer/Potter's Place; Steve Little at Medicine Hat/Brooks; David Beaudoin at Peace River/Morning Star; John Wesley at Edmonton Central.

Pastors who have recently retired: Andrew Chin, Robert Schafer.

Eight Weeks To Wellness

"How to Run Effective Health Ministry at Your Church" is coming to CUC as part of the *Collegiate Adventist for Better Living* (CABL) and Alberta Conference Health Ministries February 22-24, 2002. This is a Level 2 certificate course from the NAD, presented by Dr. Gerard McLane, president of Reading Institute for Better Living. More details will follow to the churches in January.

Children Setting The Example

Five year old Austin Albers and Talia Smith, attend Lacombe Community Church with their grandparents and are eagerly putting the Word of God to memory. Talia said all the memory verses for the 2nd Quarter, 2001 for "Plant a Seed" and then sang her memory verses for the 13th Sabbath Program. Austin recited from memory all the memory verses for the past two years and the Lord's Prayer, 23rd Psalm, the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes. Both children love Jesus and want to use their talents to glorify God.





Births

- Alexander Colhoun born September 11, 2001 to Stefan & Sylvia Colhoun of Edmonton
- Kathryn Positos born on August 8, 2001 to Jose & Nerisa Positos of Edmonton
- Joel Kofi Frimpong-Manusch born on August 31, 2001 to Augustine & Gladys Frimpong-Manusch of Edmonton
- Tiana Jolene Kindopp born June 18, 2001 to Troy & Deb Kindopp of Lacombe

Northwest Region Stewardship Rally

Northwest Region church members held a Stewardship Rally the weekend of October 19 and 20, sponsored by the Alberta Conference Stewardship and Trust Departments. The Friday evening program featured Stewardship Success Stories. Sabbath School and the Saturday night seminar, "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" was presented by Pastor Warren Kay, Volunteer Stewardship Director. Carolyn Osmond, Treasurer, gave the Sabbath sermon and the Sabbath afternoon seminar. Frances Chant, the new Trust Services Director, also participated. Regional Management Teams who wish to schedule a Stewardship rally may contact Carolyn Osmond at 403-342-5044 extension 202.

Mamawi Atosketan Native School Update

The Mamawi Atosketan Native School Building Project has been delayed almost a year due to a legal challenge about the site chosen for the new school building. As of press time, the Conference is waiting for a final resolution to this problem, expected to happen in the next few weeks. Please watch for a church bulletin announcement coming soon in the Conference weekend e-mail, FYI. Persons who have made pledges to this project that are due in 2001 may proceed to pay their pledges if they wish a 2001 tax deductible receipt. If you wish to wait for the final resolution to the school site issue, feel free to fulfill your pledge when that information is available.

The Building Committee and Fund Raising Committee are anxious to get back to work as soon as the land problem is settled.

Baptisms

Sabbath, May 5, 2001 Marilyn Gumayagay, Beth Ingram, Gerald Ingram, Mike Fushtey and Jonathan Roque were baptized by Pastor Mike Lemon at the Lethbridge Church of the Chimes.



November, 2001

Calgary Bridgeland Inaugural Service



Dr. Donald King, the keynote speaker for the inauguration addresses the Sunday Celebration feast with his wit and humour.

The Bridgeland Community SDA Church celebrated its inaugural weekend, July 27-29, in its new church sanctuary. Featured speaker for the weekend was Dr. Donald King, former Secretary of the Alberta Conference and current President of the 45,000 member Northeastern Conference in the US. He was accompanied by his wife, Lois, and their two sons. A moving tribute was paid to the former pastor of congregation, John Adams, and his wife, Ruby. Constable Nevelle Wells was among community leaders who extended congratulations to the congregation on their new edifice. The weekend concluded with a celebration feast on Sunday afternoon.

Office Personnel Changes

Norman Yergen, Secretary of the Alberta Conference, accepted an invitation to serve as Vice-President of Advancement for Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Maryland. The Yergens, (Norman, Kathy, Amy and Georgemichael) came to Alberta in 1997 from Beltsville, Maryland. They endeared themselves to the Alberta Conference church family. The Nominating Committee is currently in the process of choosing a new Secretary.

Frances Chant, a fully certified Trust Services officer, is the new Trust Services Director for the conference. She comes to us from Canadian University College where she was Director of Development. Prior to that, she worked for Pacific Press, the British Columbia Conference and the SDACC. Frances is available for Wills and Trust appointments as well as seminars and Sabbath speaking appointments.

Janet Griffith, former principal/teacher at the Sylvan Meadows Adventist School, is now serving the conference as part-time Associate to the Superintendent of Education. Janet fills a much needed role in assisting teachers and school boards in providing quality Christian education.

Grant Misseghers, Youth and Communications Director, chose to return to pastoral ministry. Last April he accepted a call (and transitioned October 1) to Regina, Saskatchewan, to serve as Associate Pastor with Ian Cotton. He will be remembered best for running an excellent summer camp program. Grant and Bonnie have two sons, Steffan and Brennan. The Administrative Committee is in the process of selecting a new Youth Director.

Wolf (and Bonnie) Hackenberg, caretakers of Foothills Camp for the last seventeen years, retired in May. They provided invaluable service to our conference!

After a lengthy and careful search, Marcel Desjardin was selected to become Foothills Camp Caretaker. Because of continual improvements at Foothills Camp, it is becoming more and more a center of activities for our conference.













10th Anniversary at New Home

The New Home Immigration and Settlement Centre, a government funded ministry directed by Elsa Schulz (wife to Pastor Victor Schulz), held a 10th year Anniversary Celebration on July 19.

New Homes, an immigrant aid organization, began in 1989 in Edmonton. The main speaker for the celebration, Honourable David Kilgour, spoke about the "outstanding work that this unusual organization is doing." Adventist violinist, Jaime Jorge, voluntarily traveled to Edmonton to play for the occasion.



A moment of the 10th Anniversary celebration. From left to right: David Kilgour, representing the Government of Canada; Clint Dunford, Minister of Human Resources; Elsa Schulz, Executive Director of New Home & Victor Schulz, Co-founder.



It Is Written Evangelism Workshop

In preparation for *Ignite Canada*, a satellite downlink Evangelism Series with Shawn Boonstra and Henry Feyerabend available in your church October 19-November 23...

You are invited to the "Re-Igniting the Flame Soul-Winning Work Shop" to be conducted by *It Is Written Canada* January 10-13 (Thursday evening - Sunday noon) at the Red Deer Church.

The work shop will focus on Five Keys to Successful Evangelism: 1) Spiritual Renewal, 2) Training and Equipping, 3) Community Outreach, 4) Reaping, and 5) Nurture and Follow-up. Meals will be provided. Lodging is additional. Register directly with *It Is Written*.



Re-Igniting The Flame

A Soul Winning Work Shop
Sponsored by It Is Written, N.A.D & SDACC

DATE:

January 10-13, 2002

Soul Winning materials will be displayed for sale during the week-end.

LOCATION:

Red Deer Seventh-day Adventist Church

Registration will be at 5:30 PM Thursday; seminars begin at 7:00 PM on Thursday and will end at 12:00 PM Sunday. Accommodation and venue information will be made available in the near future.

Some of the world's best professional and lay soul-winners will be in attendance to help ignite your church! Please return completed registration form to: Re-Igniting the Flame, It Is Written, 7370 - 146A Street, Surrey, BC V3S 8Y8. The registration form may also be faxed to: (604) 502-8663 or phone: (604) 502-8668. Pre-registration forms must be received no later than **December 10, 2001**.

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