

# Alberta Adventist News

JUNE 2014

WALKING  
TOGETHER

BECOMING  
ONE



# Jesus, the Master Communicator

Communication is an integral part of our existence as social beings. The exchange of information is a perpetual force on our daily lives. While there are numerous methods, the bottom line is that communication is more than the exchange of information; it is a powerful tool with the capacity to change how people perceive, think, and act.

Maybe it's because of my pastoring background, but while I was completing a Masters in Professional Communications degree a couple years ago, I was intrigued by an area of communication referred to as *Communication for Social Change*. It may not be evident at first, but communication for social change is present in all areas of our lives and intertwined throughout everyday communication practices and media.

## Communication for Social Change

A Communication for Social Change approach provides the techniques required to inform, motivate, and guide people toward positive and sustainable social and developmental changes. The biggest take-a-way I got from that class was the idea that social change starts with me first. I entered the class with the preconception that I was going to learn the steps to changing other people, but instead the finger of change was pointed at me. Oh wow! The concept makes sense, but to be honest, it frightens me because of the responsibly it places on my words, actions and motives.

A professor of mine once told a story of a doctor who used verbal anesthesia and peek-a-boo to build relationships with children. When questioned about his unique approach, the doctor said, "I never miss an opportunity to make a connection." Wow. That is exactly what Jesus did while He was here on earth.

## Jesus, the Master Communicator

Jesus, the Master Communicator, focused His whole ministry on communicating for social change. He carefully and sensitively constructed His communication to accommodate the nature and life situation of the people with whom He talked. James Witt stated, "Jesus began His communication where people were and not where He assumed they ought to be. He recognized and respected such factors as their world view, culture, previous knowledge and experiences and attention span. He respected each person as a unique individual. He talked the people's language, using common terms, common issues and common images to communicate the Good News."

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***Jesus began His communication where people were and not where He assumed they ought to be.***

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## What Message Is Your Church Communicating?

Like Jesus, we are called to be communicators of God's Word to others. We should have a personal interest in gospel communication strategies. This makes me think about our churches. What message is your church communicating to the community? Is it a message to inform, motivate, and guide people toward Jesus Christ? Or is it a message of dissention, exclusion and blame? Even more, what message are you communicating to those around you - at home, church or work?

As editor of the *Alberta Adventist News* (AAN) and Communication/IT Director for the Conference, I believe it is vital for the Alberta Conference and its churches/schools to be actively practicing a Communication for Social Change approach to ministry. One area where we at the Alberta Conference strive to exemplify such an approach is through the AAN. The *Alberta Adventist News* (AAN) is a quarterly magazine produced by the Communications Department of the Alberta Conference and its purpose is to inform, encourage and build unity among the constituents of the Alberta Conference.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the AAN ministry over the past two years since I became editor. It is always a delight working with you and reading your stories. Let's continue to pursue a Communication for Social Change approach in ministry - informing, motivating and guiding people to Jesus, the Master Communicator.



Troy McQueen  
Communications & IT Director  
Alberta Conference

# Highlights

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**Archive:** For your reading enjoyment, the Alberta Conference Communications Department has archived online 75 editions of the Alberta Adventist News (AAN) from 1986-2014. Past editions can be viewed on the Alberta Conference website at [www.albertaadventist.ca/aan](http://www.albertaadventist.ca/aan).

If you have other editions that are not currently posted online and you're willing to provide us with a copy, please contact Jenny Nickel at [jnickel@albertaadventist.ca](mailto:jnickel@albertaadventist.ca) or phone (403) 342-5044, ext. 226.

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## Submission Guidelines

[www.albertaadventist.ca/communications](http://www.albertaadventist.ca/communications)



## Walking Together - Becoming ONE

The theme for this year's Alberta camp meeting is "Walking Together - Becoming One" and the dates are July 11-19.



## Women's Retreat

Approximately 400 ladies attended the 2014 Alberta Women's Ministries Retreat, themed "This Far by Faith."



## Church History Exhibit

In celebration of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination's 150th anniversary, CUC's library hosted a traveling exhibit.

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# Planting Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Carrots, and Hope

It's the middle of Spring, but it feels like December. The sky is overcast and grey, and snowfall is imminent. A cold wind from the prairie whistles around the houses at the outskirts of the city. This could be northern Alberta, but it's not. The prairies here are actually steppes, and many of the houses are wool-felt yurts. This isn't Edmonton, Peace River, or Fort McMurray, Alberta—it is Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Despite the cold, a group of wool-clad Mongolian farmers in sturdy leather boots have gathered in a small plot of land, called a hascha, owned by an ADRA agriculture trainer. Today is distribution day, the day they will receive food, tools, and seeds for gardening.

Dulamtseren, a 45-year old grandmother who lives on the outskirts of town, has come with her 20-year old mute son to collect the heavy sacks of flour and bottles of oil that will help feed her family, as well as the seeds, seedlings, and tools she will need to plant her garden after the last frost.

Dulamtseren and her husband Banzragch live with their son and 2 granddaughters in a poor district of Ulaanbaatar. Her husband was a seasonal truck driver before his company closed, and her daughter is a Japanese translator who cannot find work. Before Dulamtseren joined the MEAL project a year and a half ago, she had never gardened. The only vegetables she had eaten were potatoes and onions. Now, her family plants, eats, and sells 18 varieties of vegetables. It's a good thing, too, as their main source of income now comes from their garden. They trade some of the vegetables for other types of food in the local market. Dulamtseren has also learned agriculture training, cooking, and business skills through her year-and-a-half involvement in ADRA Canada's MEAL (Micro-Economic and Agriculture Learning) project.

Eating all those vegetables has greatly improved the family's health. The beets



Dulamtseren and her granddaughter keep a watchful eye over the ADRA seedlings.

they have been eating have helped them improve their blood pressure, and the exercise of gardening has alleviated her knee pain. Though many parents have difficulty getting children to eat their vegetables, Dulamtseren's grandchildren love the cucumbers and carrots, and eat lots of salads.

Their mute son, whose disability has prevented him from finding outside work, is happy to plant, weed, and water the garden – hauling 300 litres of water from the closest water source, which is a 25-minute walk away. This requires 12 daily trips, and takes about 6 hours. With their planned garden expansion this summer, he will be even busier, but he expresses his happiness through rapid sign language.

Through an interpreter, Dulamtseren relates her story as she waits for her turn to receive tomato seedlings for her greenhouse. Her family applied for support from the local government, but received nothing. Fortunately, she heard about ADRA Canada's MEAL program from a village leader, who helped ADRA identify families in need of assistance. They filled out an assessment survey and were selected for the program.

"This project helps vulnerable families,"

says Dulamtseren. "Instead of buying food from the market and spending lots of money, we can grow our own!"

Dulamtseren's success has been noted by her neighbors, who are now following her example by building their own small greenhouse and planting tomatoes. "Our neighbors like the garden a lot," Dulamtseren beams.

Later in the day, Dulamtseren has set up her precious tomato seedlings by a small window in her kitchen. When the weather is warm enough, they will go in her garden. Like the slow but steady growth of these seedlings, the community she lives in feels hopeful that ADRA Canada's MEAL project will improve their lives. With your help and support, they will be better to feed themselves, develop small businesses, and care for their families.

Perhaps it is fitting that warm-hearted ADRA supporters in Alberta and the rest of Canada are helping these families endure, and even prosper through, the cold climate of Mongolia. We pass their thanks along to you.

For more information on this project and other ADRA Canada projects, please visit [www.adra.ca](http://www.adra.ca) — *Story by Ryan Wallace, with photo credit and interview notes from Sharmilla Reid.*



Ryan Wallace  
Communication Specialist  
ADRA Canada



An Adventist Frontier Missions (AFM) home bible study.

I befriended a young man, Tage and his sister Page, nearly seven years ago. Their English was very poor and we had difficulty communicating. I helped them enroll in a school with good teachers hoping that through my friendship with them I would have the opportunity of seeing them accept Christ as their Saviour and Friend. Little did I know the impact these friendships would have down the road.

At times I felt like giving up on Tage. He was fervent at times in going to church and following God, but at other times he would get absorbed by the pleasures of this world and I wondered if he would ever come back. He even got involved with a hip hop band and was often out so late at night that he stopped coming to worship at church altogether. Then all of a sudden it seemed like he had disappeared. The next thing I knew he had moved far away from the city to some remote part of the country to settle down and get married and I lost touch with him.

Surprises of surprises! He showed up one Sabbath at church with his wife. They had come to the city to take care of some paperwork. This was the first opportunity I'd had to meet his wife. We invited them to our home for a meal. His wife beamed with joy hardly able to contain the exciting news she had to share. The news was that she had dreamed a dream where she was drowning and struggling to stay alive. Then she said the word "Messiah." At that moment, the level of the water dropped drastically. She woke up from her dream. She was puzzled at the meaning of the word "Messiah." It wasn't a word she understood. What did it mean? It must be something special as just saying this simple word had saved her in the dream.

# AFM Building Relationships for Eternity

***An Alberta family currently doing church planting work with Adventist Frontier Missions (AFM), working with establishing indigenous Seventh-day Adventist church-planting movements among the Tai-Kadia people, will have a table setup in the resource tent at camp meeting this year. Stop in to see them and hear more stories about their experiences in the mission field.***

Trying to find an answer, she related her dream to Tage and Page. Tage and Page were very surprised because they had never mentioned to her the name "Messiah" but had always used the name of Jesus or the Son of God. Tage's wife had experienced God through her dream. And this was the precious experience that brought her faith to increase in Christianity as the true religion. She is now taking baptismal studies.

There are 1.8 billion people on planet Earth who have never heard the name of Jesus. They don't know He loves them. They don't know He died to save them. They don't know He is coming back to take them to heaven. Romans 10:14, 15 says "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? Even as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that bring glad tidings of good things!"

Page, Tage, and now his wife, are no longer part of these startling statistics. Through our influence, our intentional

relationship with these young people, and our willingness to go where God calls, these young people have given their hearts to God and actively sharing with those around them in their remote village. Our job isn't done. Many more like them, are waiting to hear the name of Jesus. Will you help them?

***Joseph and Elizabeth Inara have been doing church planting with Adventist Frontier Missions since 2006 in a country unfriendly to evangelism. Come to Alberta camp meeting to meet them in person. See you there!***

Adventist Frontier Missions (AFM) establishes indigenous Adventist church-planting movements among unreached people groups. AFM is solely supported by private donations and do not accept tithe. AFM, Inc. is an independent ministry that supports the mission of the Adventist Church; however, it is not part of, affiliated with, or supported by the GC, or any affiliates known as the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

# MAIN AUDITORIUM SPEAKERS



## Daniel R. Jackson

*President of the North American Division*

Opening meeting, Friday, July 11, 7:00 p.m.  
and Saturday, July 12, 7:00 p.m.

Daniel R. Jackson is President of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. He is a graduate of Canadian University College and Andrews University, from which he holds an M.A. in Religion in Systematic Theology. During his career, Jackson has served the church as a pastor, teacher and administrator. He and his wife Donna enjoy the three children and four grandchildren the Lord has given them.



## John Bradshaw

*Speaker/Director It Is Written - US*

Saturday, July 12, 10:45 a.m.  
Monday, July 14 - Friday, July 18, 9:00 a.m.

John Bradshaw is Speaker/Director of the international It Is Written ministry. His broadcasting career began in his home country of New Zealand, where he worked as a disc jockey on a number of the nation's top radio stations. He left this job in 1990—propelled by a desire to find Bible-based truth and a deeper Christian experience. In his nearly two decades of ministry, Bradshaw has held more than 80 evangelistic series. He and his wife Melissa have two children, Jacob and Shannon.



## Mansfield Edwards

*President, Ontario Conference*

Monday, July 14 - Thursday, July 17, 7:00 p.m.

Mansfield Edwards is President of the Ontario Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Mansfield has served the church as a pastor, teacher and administrator. He has always been active in the community and has received numerous awards for his service. In 2004 he was appointed Chaplain - York Regional Police, 2005 he received the Mayor's Award - City of Markham, and 2010 he was one of ten Canadians presented the "Canadian Man of Honour Award." Mansfield is married to Sharon and they have two sons, Craig and Matthew.



## Shawn Boonstra

*Speaker/Director Voice of Prophecy (VOP)*

Friday, July 18, 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, July 19,  
(10:45 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.)

Shawn Boonstra is the Speaker/Director of the Voice of Prophecy. A native of British Columbia, Boonstra and his wife, Jean, were baptized and joined the Adventist Church after attending an It Is Written evangelistic series. Boonstra then graduated with a degree in political science from the University of Victoria (BC), followed by theological training at Andrews University. Most recently, Boonstra served as an associate ministerial director at the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, where his role was to inspire, train, and equip pastors and churches for evangelism. Shawn and Jean have two daughters.

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# SEMINARS AT A GLANCE



**Healthy Choices**  
Darlene Blaney, Health Ministries Volunteer Co-ordinator - Alberta Adventist Conference; President & Educational Director of Total Health School of Nutrition.



**Stress Free Preaching**  
Stephen Reasor, Pastor Bentley, Blackfalds & Rocky Mountain House Churches - Alberta Adventist Conference.



**Planned Giving & Trust Services**  
Lynn McDowell, Planned Giving & Trust Services Philanthropy Director - Alberta Adventist Conference.



**Bible Study Fundamentals**  
Chris Holland, Speaker/Director - It Is Written Canada.



**CHANGE School of Evangelism**  
Sandra Silva, Director Personal Ministries, Women's Ministries, KIDS in Discipleship, School of Evangelism - Alberta Adventist Conference.



**Media Ministry**  
Troy McQueen, Communications & IT Director - Alberta Adventist Conference.



**Diversity**  
Jason O'Rourke, Emergency Department & Neurological ICU Chaplain - Florida Adventist Hospital (Orlando).



**Family Ministries**  
Willie & Wilma Lee, Director of SWRC Family Ministries - Southwest Region Adventist Conference.



**Community Services**  
Lyle Notice, Associate Youth Director, Pathfinder Ministries, Community Services/Disaster Response - Alberta Adventist Conference.



**Deaf Ministries**  
John Blake, Volunteer Co-ordinator Deaf Ministries - Alberta Adventist Conference.



**Church Planting**  
Don Corkum, Church Plant Director - Alberta Adventist Conference.



**Fitness**  
Ron Schafer, Physical Education - Canadian University College.



**Living as God's Men**  
Bill Spangler, Mediator - Alberta Family Justice.



**Singles Ministry**  
Jim & Carolyn Sutton, Volunteer at Adventist World Radio, Building for Christ Ministries, Prison Ministries.



**Prayer & Revival Ministries**  
Warren Kay, Interim Pastor, Revival & Reformation/Prayer Ministries Co-ordinator - Alberta Adventist Conference.

**July 11-19 Opening Meeting: Friday, July 11, 7:00 p.m. Dan Jackson (mini concert to follow)**

TIME	Sabbath July 12	Sunday July 13	Monday July 14	Tuesday July 15	Wednesday July 16	Thursday July 17	Friday July 18	Sabbath July 19
7:00 - 7:30	Education Department	Education Department	Education Department	Education Department	Education Department	Education Department	Education Department	Education Department
7:30 - 8:15	<b>BREAKFAST</b>							
9:00 - 10:30	Sabbath School "Missions Home & Abroad"	9:00 - 10:00 Auction Sale (Maintenance Shop)	<i>Plenary Session</i> John Bradshaw (It is Written-US)					Sabbath School "It Takes a Whole Church"
10:45 - 12:00	John Bradshaw	10:30 - 12:15 ABC Sale	SEMINARS					Shawn Boonstra
12:15 - 1:00	<b>LUNCH</b>							
1:00 - 2:00	Free Time	International Food Fair 12:15 - 2:30	Radio Talk Show 106.3 FM					Free Time
2:30 - 3:30	2:30 - 3:30 CUC/PAA	2:00 - 4:30 Family Fun Time	Departmental Seminars 2:30 - 3:30				Conference Reflections	3:00 - 5:00 Concert in the Park
4:00 - 5:15	Ordination/Commissioning	3:00-5:00 Moses Strategy Celebration	SEMINARS					
5:30 - 6:30	<b>SUPPER</b>							
7:00 - 8:30	Dan Jackson	Jim Sutton	Mansfield Edwards				Baptism Shawn Boonstra	Shawn Boonstra
8:35 - 9:05	Choir Practice	Choir Practice	Choir Practice	Mini Concert	Choir Practice	Mini Concert	Choir Practice	

Fun Run - Sunday, July 13, 6:30 a.m. - 8 a.m.  
Resources Tent open 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Children's Divisions - 7 - 8:30 p.m.  
Please Note: Schedule times/programming may change.

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**SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**  
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# Alberta Camp Meeting Report 1905

J. W. Boynton. "Alberta." *Review and Herald*. August 3, 1905. V82-31. P. 16

## Alberta

The second annual camp-meeting for the Alberta mission field was held at Wetoskiwin (sic), July 4-10, 1905, Brethren R. A. Underwood and J. S. James, of the Northern Union Conference, with the laborers in this field, were present. The camp was pleasantly located in the suburbs of Wetoskiwin, which is a place of about three thousand people. The weather was good, and conditions were favorable to the meeting. There were about ninety persons encamped on the ground; this was nearly double the number of last year.

The Word was spoken with freedom and power, and while there was no excitement, the Spirit of God came near to convince of sin, and to instruct in the way of righteousness.

Last year, we had only two family tents, and one meeting tent, twenty-four by thirty-six feet in size, besides a few tents brought in by the campers. This year, we had a new meeting tent, thirty by fifty-

two feet, four new family tents, and a book tent, besides the tents brought by the campers. Services were conducted in the English, Scandinavian, and German languages. While the outside attendance was not large, it kept increasing, and some seemed much interested.

On Sabbath Brother Henry Block was ordained to the gospel ministry, and on Sunday eight willing souls were buried with Christ in baptism, and some others who desired baptism had to return home, on account of sickness, before it could be administered. The following items from the secretary's report will be of interest, as it shows something of the work for the past year:

Tithe received from the field, \$1,128.71; tithe received from the Northern Union Conference, \$773.15. To pay the last audit of the laborers in the field will require about three hundred dollars, more from the union conference. The retail value of books, tracts, and periodicals sold during the year was \$1,296.47; total amount of offerings to various funds outside of the mission field, \$245.28." The tract society has a stock of books on hand valued at \$232.06 (wholesale), with bills payable \$123.72, and bills receivable \$202.86, making the present worth of the society \$311.20.

This may not seem large to some, but when we remember that it is less than two years since we organized our society, with no capital to start with, and only about one hundred and seventy-five Sabbath-keepers in the field, and all poor in this world's goods, we feel to thank God that so much has been accomplished.

The General Conference kindly gave us two hundred and fifty dollars this spring, which has supplied us with a good typewriter, and helped to pay for our tents, so that we are out of debt, and have tents enough for present needs.

The mission field officers remain the same as last year, with the addition of two lay members to the committee. Elder A. C. Anderson and Brother Shelstead remained to follow up the interest. After the camp-meeting I accompanied Brethren Underwood and James to Edmonton, to inspect the sanitarium that is being started by Brother Hommel. It is small, but neat, and in a good part of the city, and is receiving a fair patronage; we hope they will be able to keep things moving without incurring debt.

July 14-17 we held meetings at Leavings, where we had the pleasure of organizing a church of twenty-five members, ordaining an elder and a deacon, also baptizing nine of the youth and children; several others will follow soon.

We feel to thank and praise God for his continued love, and take courage to go forward in the work.

— J. W. BOYNTON  
President Alberta Conference, 1905



From left to right standing: Brother Sittser, Frank L. Hommel and LaRena Carpenter. From left to right sitting: Clara B. Boynton, Stella B. Lowry and James W. Boynton.



# LOVE Without Prejudice

**P**roverbs 17:5 says, “Whoever mocks the poor shows contempt for their Maker” (NIV), and it is with this knowledge that the Director and volunteers of the Central Alberta Adventist Community Services Centre provide humanitarian relief, community development, and outreach to those in need. Located in downtown Red Deer, the centre deals directly with poverty issues by preparing meals and distributing clothing on a weekly basis.

This important work is shared among seven Adventist congregations: Sabbath and Thursday evening meals are rotated between churches in Red Deer, Lacombe, Sylvan Lake, Bentley, Sedgewick, and Ponoka as well as CUC students during the school year. Attaleen Werner, who took over as Director in February 2014, is hoping to start a Sunday morning brunch and worship service that will run from October to April.

Every Saturday afternoon, a volunteer group arrives bringing enough soup, buns, dessert, and salad to feed approximately 50-70 individuals who wait to eat. There are a few who depend on the soup kitchen for a hot meal when their monthly earnings run short, though the majority of patrons struggle to find consistent work. One

**“If there’s one thing I’ve learned about service, it’s that it must be God-initiated. It’s never about what I can do for someone else. It’s about what God is going to teach me.”**

such visitor makes sure to thank every volunteer on the service line when he comes through. He stops to tell them that he greatly appreciates what they do and because of them, he feels full.

Regular visitors know that inside the sparse building, they find both a meal and a friend. Attaleen has learned to recognize many of the faces and takes time to sit and visit with as many people as possible. For her, the meals are less about the nutritional value and more about the relationships built between people as they share stories and food.

When one of Red Deer’s homeless women suffered a fall resulting in an

extended hospital stay, Attaleen went to visit her. Another patron phoned the centre to say he was unable to physically come and collect his meal, and Attaleen made sure to pack a generous serving to deliver through one of his friends. She says, “God is teaching me to serve a population of people who need love without prejudice.”

Looking back on her life, Attaleen can identify how God has prepared her for this role. She previously worked in food services, which enables her to whip up supplementary soups in short order. Her recent stint in the Middle East taught her the meaning of community as she coordinated a women’s Bible study in her neighbourhood. The prospect of helping feed and clothe people who are genuinely struggling is both challenging and exciting for her.

Attaleen shares that, “If there’s one thing I’ve learned about service, it’s that it must be God-initiated. It’s never about what I can do for someone else. It’s about what God is going to teach me.” Her work comes on the heels of the extremely dedicated but recently retired Director, Millie Snow, who served the soup kitchen for 30 years. Upon her retirement, Millie, whose work was celebrated in the April 2014 issue of the Canadian Messenger, was granted a standing lifetime invitation to participate in board meetings and decisions concerning the centre. Attaleen laughs at the running joke, which is that she has been elected to a 30-year term, as the precedent has been set. Together, these two women along with countless volunteers work to share the love of Jesus by supporting the people of Central Alberta. According to Attaleen, it doesn’t take much to make a difference: “Just a smile and a little respect is what these people need.”

To contribute to this worthy ministry, please contact (403) 341-4470.

— Submitted by Katelyn Ruiz

Attaleen Werner, Director of the Central Alberta Community Services Centre, and Stacy David, a Red Deer church volunteer coordinator, working over a pot of soup that had been donated for one of the Sabbath afternoon meals.



# What's it Mean to You?

*“Working at camp was more than I expected, but everything I needed.”*

CJ De Gourville, Calgary, Alberta  
Foothills Camp Staff 2013, 2014



You wouldn't know it now, but a year ago CJ wasn't a happy teen.

Things hadn't gone well at school or anywhere else, really. For reasons he didn't understand, CJ just felt angry and sad, and he was drifting. He'd put in an application to work at Foothills Camp even though he'd never been to summer camp himself. But he knew his chances of being hired alongside some of the most together kids he knew were slim.

But camp director Kevin Kiers came to his home and met with CJ and his father, and to CJ's surprise, he was offered a job as part of the Foothills Camp staff for the summer. It was a turning point.

“Everyone had this presence around them,” says CJ. It was a presence he recognized—the same presence and peace he remembered his mother having in the years before she passed away. CJ wanted that peace, and now he was immersed in a camp culture where knowing God and being there for others was the most important part of work. It started to sink in: He had to focus on God and show His love.

“It was a life-changing experience,” says CJ, who's looking forward to more summers working at Foothills Camp. “I'd do it again 100 times!”

***Gifts that Make a Difference!***

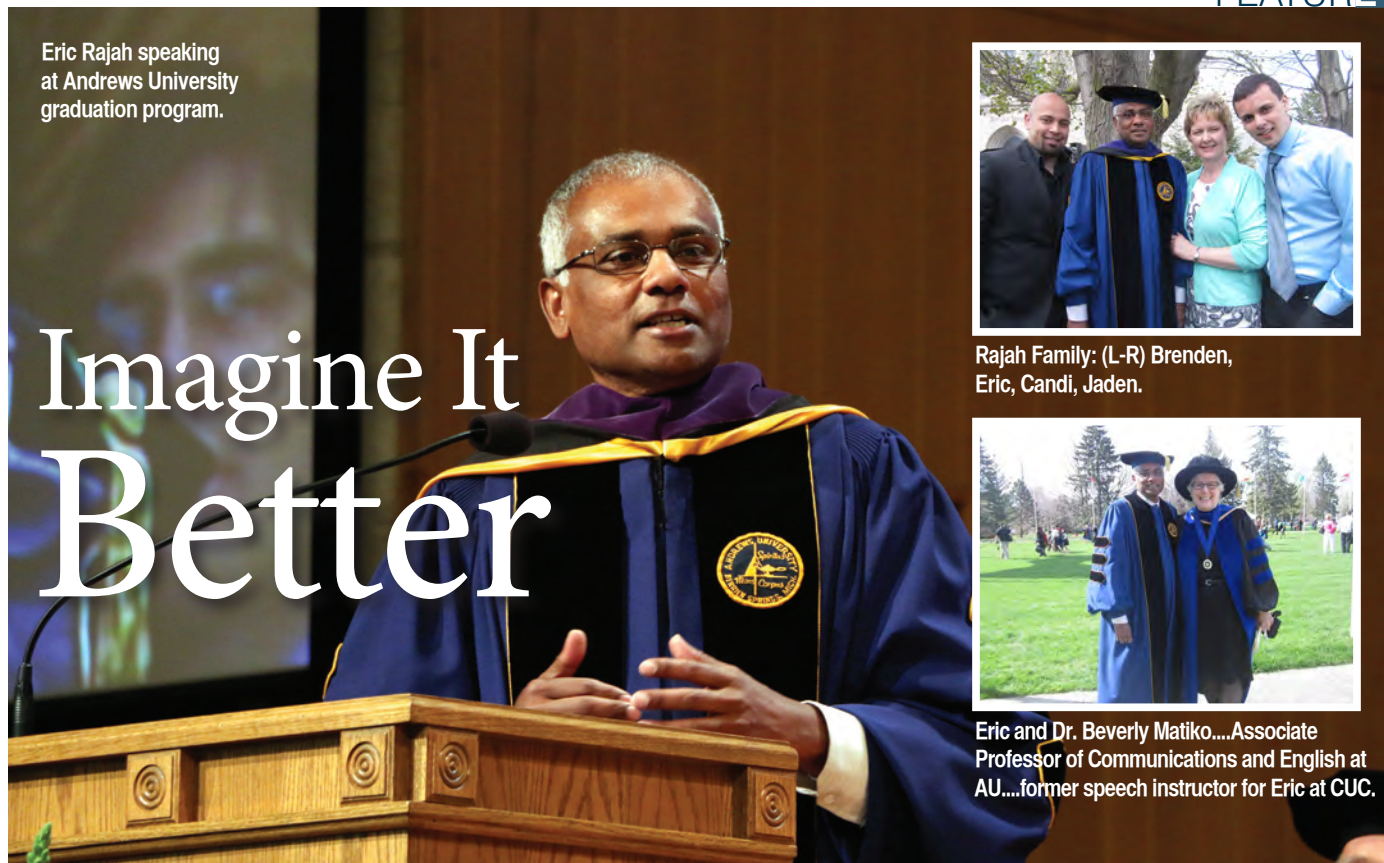
**FOOTHILLS** CAMP  
“A PLACE WHERE YOU BELONG”



SEVENTH-DAY  
ADVENTIST CHURCH  
Alberta Conference

Eric Rajah speaking  
at Andrews University  
graduation program.

# Imagine It Better



Rajah Family: (L-R) Brenden,  
Eric, Candi, Jaden.



Eric and Dr. Beverly Matiko....Associate  
Professor of Communications and English at  
AU....former speech instructor for Eric at CUC.

*“May Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven” Matthew 6:10, NLT.*

When Jesus was teaching His disciples how to pray, He admonished them to pray that His will on earth would be carried out in the same way it is in heaven. They were being instructed to reach toward a goal... something better, like they understood God’s kingdom to be.

Christ’s followers through the ages have been reaching for that “something better” in myriad ways. It was this ‘something better’ that Eric Rajah, founder of “A Better World” (ABW), planted in the hearts of Andrews University graduates at ceremonies held on May 4, 2014. He had the privilege of addressing the graduating class of 2014 while also being awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University in recognition of his international humanitarian work during the past 24 years. Rajah is certainly well qualified to speak about improving life circumstances and contributing to “A Better World.”

As he addressed the students, Rajah melded AU’s mission statement and his own personal ideology during the two morning graduation ceremonies for Andrews University. He cited Matthew 6:10 and challenged the graduates to “Imagine It Better” as they embark on their personal journeys. Dr. Rajah reflected on how in 1981 while attending Canadian Union College, Dr. Warren Trenchard told him that everyone is called to ministry...to service, but not necessarily to be a pastor. These words would change the course of his life.

Graduation day represents the culmination of gleaning vast amounts of knowledge and skills. But what is next? Rajah says,

“If you use knowledge and faith, you serve other people. We must do more than talk about serving and pray about serving. It is our responsibility to affirm our faith through our actions.”

Prior to the graduation weekend, I had opportunity to speak with Dr. Rajah. Andrews University would be a brief stop en-route to Kenya with a group of Canadian students and others for another ABW project. He spoke about the humbling experience of receiving the degree and speaking in an academia setting. When asked how this degree might provide leverage to “A Better World,” he spoke of the wider awareness and credibility it would bring within the Seventh-day Adventist world or to anyone who hears the ABW story.

The Bible is replete with its admonition and example to serve one another. It’s what Jesus did! ABW continues to be governed by the College Heights Church. Succession planning is in motion. It will be interesting to see how God leads. Rajah believes that the primary goal of every church should be to serve and reach the local community. Service is the gateway to doctrine. “We need to be seen as a caring community.” How is this accomplished? “Find a common ground and build relationships,” says Rajah. The changing of the heart is God’s work. In serving we grow.

As Dr. Rajah concluded, he challenged the graduates to take some time to imagine what they could do to make our world more like heaven. Sage advice for each of us...Imagine it better!

(For more information visit: [www.abwcanada.ca](http://www.abwcanada.ca))

— Submitted by Linda Steinke

# News

## Five Loaves, Two Fish and a Couple of Puppets

*A fantastic Adventurer Family Camp weekend took place at Foothills Camp on May 2-4, 2014.*

This year's theme was, "5 Loaves & 2 Fish." Over 260 attendees filled the place to capacity. At one point, over 100 kids gathered at the front, singing songs, interacting and worshipping together. Never before had I seen that many children so excited, so enthused and energetic.

All of a sudden, a puppet by the name of Ed, a blonde haired boy with a southern accent, popped out from behind a puppet stage. Ed was followed by another puppet by the name of Kim. When asked where Kim was from, she replied, "China." "You came all the way from China?" "Yes," said Kim, "I came to tell the kids stories about Jesus and the bible." As the children listened intently to the puppets, they learned that Jesus used a little boy's lunch consisting of five loaves and two fish.

Out of nowhere, Ed and Kim began to sing a song that became popular over the course of the weekend, "Life without Jesus is like a donut, like a donut, like a donut. Life without Jesus is like a donut. There's a hole in the middle of your heart." The kids all burst out laughing.

It was nice to see the children so focused as they listened to God's Word being taught in an artistic and expressive way using puppets. At one point, one of the puppets were dramatizing Daniel in the lion's den, the comedic relief was so funny that parents started to laugh louder than the children.

On Sabbath afternoon a group of families went on a nature hike with Kevin Kiers, the Alberta Conference Youth Director. Another group of families attended "Puppets 101," with Pastor Neil Peralta, Chaplain at Deer Lake Adventist Academy in BC. He helped the kids understand how to use puppets, and taught them how to make their own homemade puppets. After an hour, the groups switched activities.

When asked why he is so passionate about puppet ministry, Peralta replied, "I love seeing the reaction of the children's faces when I bring out the puppets. Nothing brings me more joy than to see children excited about Bible stories and puppet ministry."

— Submitted by Lyle Notice



Neil Peralta with Lyle Notice.



Ljungberg Family with Lyle Notice.



Kevin Kiers with Adventurer Group.



Fabiano sign singing with a deaf/hearing group in Brazil.

## What Is It Like to be Deaf in an Adventist Church?

Unfortunately, very few of our 72,000+ Adventist churches in the world have anything for the Deaf. Probably not more than 100 - 150 have any regular signing or interpreting for the Deaf (we have no exact count). Deaf people will seldom come to any church that does not have signing. When most of our churches don't see any Deaf attending, they don't see the need to provide signing for the Deaf. Thus, it is a never ending cycle.

In North America, it is estimated that only 3% of Deaf regularly attend a church. In third world countries, the percentage is even less. The end result is most Deaf in the world know little if anything about the good news of the gospel.

There are very few all deaf congregations in the world. Portland, Oregon; Silver Springs, Maryland; and McDonald Road Adventist Church in Chattanooga, TN are a few examples. The only denominationally employed Adventist deaf pastor in North America, Pastor Jeff Jordan, broadcasts his weekly sermons online each Sabbath at 11:30 ET - <http://www.deafchurchonline.org>. While this is a blessing for many isolated Deaf, there are over 200 different sign languages used around the world. This tremendous

start still leaves so much of the world untouched with ministry to Deaf.

People often think that if Deaf have the service interpreted that this is all that is necessary to make them feel at home. But, what about all the social occasions in the church where they tend to get left out? Who will befriend them at the fellowship meals? If a deaf person were to be a head deacon, who would interpret for them on the church board or give instructions to the other deacons?

There are now many Adventist signed DVD's available in the USA and Canada, plus a limited number of Easy Reading publications and Bible lessons geared to those Deaf whose mother tongue is really sign language and for whom reading is a challenge. Gospel Outreach has about 32 full time Lay Bible Workers for the Deaf in eight countries, but that is just scratching the surface. The General Conference, under Dr. Larry Evans, is working hard to expand outreach to the Deaf. A new General Conference website for the Deaf is presently under development at [www.adventistdeaf.org](http://www.adventistdeaf.org).

If you have Deaf attending your church and wish to talk with us, don't hesitate to call or write. There are many things we can share, according to your situation.



Deaf group in Alberta, meeting for Sabbath School.



Pastor Jeff Jordan (deaf) from Tennessee preaching to a deaf group in the Philippines.

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



**Pastor John Blake**  
 Deaf Ministry Department  
 Alberta Conference

# 400 Attend Women's Retreat Weekend

The 2014 Alberta Women's Ministries Retreat, themed "This Far by Faith" took place April 11 – 13, 2014 at the fabulous Delta Hotel in Kananaskis. Approximately 400 ladies were treated to a weekend of praise and worship, friendship and laughter, and an incredible encounter with Jesus; high up in the mountains and topped off with a fresh snowfall.

Dr. Elizabeth Talbot was the guest speaker for the weekend. Dr. Talbot is the Speaker and Director of the Jesus 101 Biblical Institute, is a regular speaker on 3ABN, and author of many books. She was born and raised in Argentina and now resides in southern California. Talbot currently travels the world, speaking at numerous conferences, sharing the impact of her own walk with Jesus and her intimate knowledge of scripture. Even for those who came to the weekend knowing Jesus, Talbot took her listeners, deeper into scripture to understand the lives of those talked about in John and other books of the Bible.

Talbot's goal for the weekend was to convey a glimpse of the magnitude of Jesus' love for us and the profound impact His love, when realized, will have on us. Talbot holds a PhD in Biblical studies, and her intricate

knowledge of life during Biblical times brought new understanding and fresh insight to Bible stories commonly told. She left all with a desire to delve much deeper into scripture in the coming year. Talbot is known for her exuberance, joy, and great excitement, all spouting from her relationship with Jesus. She was not opposed to shouting "Woohoo" often, as she shared what God means in her life. "Woohoo" became the signature call of the weekend for all in attendance!

Sandra Silva, Director of Women's Ministries for the Alberta Conference and her team planned an amazing get-away for the women. The weekend at the Delta Hotel was revitalizing in every-way; spiritually, mentally and physically.

Many took advantage of the surrounding mountain paths and peaceful, breathtaking views and went hiking or walking. Upon their return to the hotel, the ladies were offered the spa and the indoor/outdoor hot tub to further unwind. The hotel's chef prepared an incredible spread of gourmet vegan cuisine, designed to delight even those not used to a vegan only diet. He received a very loud standing ovation for the scrumptious banquet feast prepared Saturday night alone.

Much laughter and singing rang out throughout the hotel all weekend as the ladies took time to be together as friends and sisters in Jesus and just have some fun.

— Submitted by Tracy Ganson



Left: Sandra Silva with Elizabeth Talbot.



## Reaching UP... To Reach Out

“Prepare the way, Jesus is coming, Jesus is coming, prepare the way,” proclaimed Dr. May Ellen Colon. “We need to prepare the way for Jesus is coming soon. One of the ways we can help do this is through the ministry of Social Justice...”

As I sat and listened, I sensed not only a passion for helping the poor and the marginalized, but I felt a sense of urgency coming from Dr. May Ellen Colon, Asst. Director, General Conference for Sabbath School/Personal Ministries and Director for Adventist Community Services International. Colon started with a theology of Social Justice, building a firm biblical foundation. What stuck out to me was the fact that we have a biblical mandate to stand up for the powerless and give voice to the voiceless.

As Dr. Sung Kwon, the North American Division Community Services Director gave his presentation, he asked a pointed question, “If this church were to move...would the community miss you?” He was trying to convey the idea that our communities must not only know where we are but they must know who we are. We must involve ourselves and interact with our community on a weekly basis.



Dr. May Ellen Colon-Edmonton ACS Training.

In one of her presentations on “Ministering Cross Culturally” Dr. Lily Wagner, Director of Philanthropic Services for Institutions at the North American Division, gave an example of how different cultures can be. She stated, “Some cultures eat desert first while others eat dinner first.” The importance of learning and understanding cultural nuances came across loud and clear.

Our last presenter for the weekend was Lynn McDowell, Director of Planned Giving/Trust Services and Philanthropy for the Alberta Conference. Lynn shared how church members can work with conferences on writing proposals for grants and funding. Lynn brought an informative look into what the Alberta Conference provides in terms of wills, estate planning and philanthropy.

It was a great weekend of community and learning. Over 50 individuals left that weekend equipped and empowered to reach their community with new tools. We reached up to God spiritually and learned how to reach out to our community. — Submitted by Lyle Notice, ACS Director, Alberta Conference

## Alberta Conference Children’s Ministries Convention 2014

Leaders and others working with children in our Adventist churches have a very valuable and important responsibility for Christ and the Church. Research has found that more people give their lives to Christ between the ages of 5-12 years than at any other time of life. The Alberta Conference Children’s Ministries Convention that took place at Foot-hills Camp on May 30-June 1, 2014. The need to do excellent and creative work in Sabbath School and other children’s programs was strongly emphasised.

On Sabbath morning, Dorothy Crombie shared information on “how to” work with, love and care for His children. Sabbath afternoon workshops were presented by Dorothy Crombie and Linda Simanton, Jeanette Davis and Evelyn Gallant, Darlene Reimche and Kristina Freed.

Next year’s Children’s Ministries Convention will be held May 8-10, 2015 with guest speaker, Linda Koh, General Conference Children’s Ministries Director.



# CATCH THE FIRE

**"YOU Will receive Power..." Acts 1:8**



This year's Alberta Conference youth rally entitled "Catch the Fire" was held at Foothills Camp, February 7 - 9, 2014. It was a weekend filled with fellowship of youth from all over Alberta. The focus was catching a vision of Christ and youth empowerment.

Lyle Notice, Associate Youth Director of the Alberta Conference, was the speaker for the weekend. Notice said he wanted to present the Gospel of Jesus to the youth in a unique way. He stated, "When I was preparing for my talks, I wanted to make them different in a way that would impact youth positively that is fitting for the postmodern times we are living."

Since we are always communicating messages on a daily basis through the clothes we wear, whether intentionally or unintentionally, Notice decided to use style and fashion to communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ? To show how fashion can be a Lifestyle with Biblical values. He said, "I decided

to use Lifestyle Fashion Brands to creatively present Biblical principles from scripture. There are brands that have deep and meaningful stories that uplift values such as social justice, mercy, kindness, love and unity."

For one of the talks, Notice wore a MISFIT shirt and talked about four friends who broke open a roof to get the paralytic to Jesus (Mark 2). For another talk, he wore a Diamond crew neck shirt and spoke about how we are God's precious jewels (Malachi 3:17).

One of the highlights of the weekend was interviewing Richard Grey, a 4th year theology student who created a Christian brand called "Wholeheart" - which encourages youth to do everything to the best of their ability and to live a Christian lifestyle with a whole heart.

— Submitted by Lyle Notice





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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  
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Phone: (403) 342-5044 x 226



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Camp Meeting Celebration  
Sunday, July 13, 3:00-5:00 PM



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## Planned Giving Tea & Talk

Monday - Thursday, 2:30-3:30 pm Upper Lodge



Chuck Simpson

Wondering how you can enjoy doing more good and still take care of your family? Planned Giving / Philanthropy Director Lynn McDowell teams up with some very helpful professionals to share tips and conversation over tea.



Raymond Phillips

Monday  
**Wills that Keep the Peace & the NEW Alberta Conference Annuity.** Chuck Simpson, Planned Giving & Trust Services, General Conference, and Lynn McDowell.



Jonathan Small

Tuesday  
**Choosing & Helping Your Executor.** Raymond Phillips, Phillips Farms, Beauvallon, Alberta, and Lynn McDowell.



Darren Swan

Wednesday  
**Farms are Special: Passing Along a Legacy.** Jonathan Small, Farm Succession Consultant, MNP, Darren Swan CA, and Lynn McDowell.



Keith Richter

Thursday  
**The Complete Moses Strategy.** Lynn McDowell and Keith Richter, Treasurer, Alberta Conference.

CAMP MEETING 2014, JULY 13

Alberta Conference  
Planned Giving | Philanthropy  
Putting God First and Last



For more information, contact: Lynn McDowell, CSPG | Director  
(403) 342-5044 x 233 • [lmcdowell@albertaadventist.ca](mailto:lmcdowell@albertaadventist.ca)  
5816 Hwy 2A, Lacombe, Alberta T4L 2G5



Faith Curtis donating her birthday money to Eric Rajah from A Better World.

## 11-Year-Old Girl Refuses Birthday Presents

Faith Curtis, a Grade 5 student at Ecole Lacombe Upper Elementary School, decided that this year for her birthday (January 5th), she did not want to receive any presents. For an 11-year-old student, this is out of the ordinary. Faith had a different plan this year. She did not want any new toys, clothes, or even electronics. She told her friends and family that she wanted money. Now to some, this may sound greedy, yet what Faith decided to do with the money she received is quite the opposite. She decided to be selfless and put others' needs before her own desires. As a result, Faith received 140 dollars and decided to donate it to a local humanitarian organization, A Better World, to provide surgery for a child who was unable to walk. Faith's story is a little reminder that through our actions, we can truly make a difference in another individual's life.

— Submitted by Angela McKenna

\*Reprint with permission from Glimpses

## CHCS Hosts Annual Seniors Luncheon

The students and staff of CHCS were very pleased to host their annual Seniors Luncheon on December 12, 2013. Preparations started about a month before the event when students wrote and decorated personal invitations to grandparents, neighbours, and other senior friends. Parents got involved by sending homemade cookies and treats, and Kindergarten to Grade 2 students carefully put together centerpieces for the tables. On the day of the luncheon, the seniors started to arrive around 10:30 a.m., and were greeted at their cars by students who ushered them into the gym.

There they were also greeted by the Grade 1 class and given corsages made by the Junior High girls. By 11 a.m., the gym was full of smiling seniors and the program began. The school's two bands played several Christmas songs and the Grade 2 class shared memories of past Christmas seasons. One highlight was "The Canadian 12 Days of Christmas," which was written and presented by the Grade

3/4 class. The students even drew posters picturing the different gifts which included: a porcupine in a pine tree, Stanley cups, Toronto Maple Leafs leaping, and much more. After the blessing, the

seniors found their way to the tables set with festive décor, and the Junior High students took their orders. Many students were so excited about the chance to serve their senior loved ones that they were dressed up in formal attire. Once the meal had been eaten, students returned to the gym where they could chat with the guests. Smiles were present on all the faces, students and guests alike! The students enjoyed the opportunity to serve these loved ones and show them that they hold a special place in their hearts.

— Submitted by Jai Dubyna

\*Reprint with permission from Glimpses



Attendance at CHCS for the annual seniors luncheon.



ECS class performing "Feliz Navidad" for the Senior's Christmas luncheon.



Band playing at the seniors luncheon.

# A Look at What's Happening at PAA for 2014-2015

With graduation celebrations (May 23-25), Alumni Weekend (June 6-8) and PAA Days (June 8-10) behind us, Parkview Adventist Academy is looking to the future!

Here are some things to keep an eye out for in the 2014-2015 calendar:

1) Pastor Myles Gillespie will continue his ministry on the Hilltop as the Youth Pastor for the College Heights Church and PAA looks forward to the arrival of Pastor Ted Deer from the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference. Pastor Deer is both a PAA and CUC alumnus whose experience working with Man-Sask youth at Camp Whitesand and coordinating international service projects will be welcome at PAA.

2) Melinda Purviance, 2014 CUC graduate and PAA practicum student, will be joining the staff fulltime in the fall. She will take over some Biology and Religion courses. Melinda's musical expertise combined with her athleticism and love of the outdoors make PAA glad to have her energy on board.

3) PAA is committed to working toward a one-to-one program for incorporating digital tools and resources into the classrooms at the same time as a revised and long-awaited ESL program is in the works. Asian student recruiters have shown a keen interest in PAA because of the campus resources, student academics, and the fact that international students at Canadian host-schools tend to have fewer challenges

than those in other western countries.

4) In addition to all of this, PAA students will have the opportunity to enroll in an educational tour to France to commemorate the 70th anniversary of D-Day. This is a once-in-a-lifetime European encounter! The group will visit historic sites, museums, and landmarks like the Notre Dame Cathedral, the Louvre, and the Juno Beach Centre.

5) PAA would also like to extend an open invitation to all Alberta's Adventist Jr/Sr High students: Bring your voices to the Lacombe campus for our Fall Music Festival (October 30-November 1, 2014). We are looking forward to the collaborative celebration of song and skill including all Adventist school choirs and Adventist students who may not be part of a choral group, but who just want to sing!

Thank you for your continued prayer as we work to provide a safe environment in which students can learn and know Christ. Make sure to come visit us at camp meeting in the PAA tent where we'll have lots of fun with daily games, activities, and give-aways for the young people.

For more information about any of our programs or events, please contact the PAA office at (403) 782-3381, ext. 4111.

— Submitted by Katelyn Ruiz



"Photos of PAA students in various classes around campus."



**Clock wise:** Ger set up more complete;  
CUC Outward Pursuits Service Team  
Mongolia 2014; working on the concrete.



## CUC's Outward Pursuits Service Team Goes to Mongolia

This May a hardened and experienced (well, hardened and experienced after several weeks of hard work) team of 12 concrete workers, builders, teachers, students and servants left Canada to make a difference in a remote northern area of Mongolia at a school that is lead by a lady who brought the first convert into the Adventist Church in Mongolia in the 1990's. The Church now has over 2000 members in Mongolia.

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***We can impart only that which we receive from Christ; and we can receive only as we impart to others.***

---

This CUC team, lead by Paul and DonnaLee Lehmann from the Outward Pursuits department, served in the capacity of putting down 30 tons of concrete, by hand, shovel, wheel barrow, pail and barrels to create a floor for a workshop that will be used to train people in wood working thereby learning business and valuable practical skills and generate income to run the school. Aside from that, this team was involved

in teaching classes in English, math, accounting and sharing life skills in first aid and compass navigation. They also worked on the generator shed, brought in the wood supply from the local stands in the hills that was used for cooking and heating. They brought water for drinking, washing, and cement work from the well that the school personnel had repaired and made available for use for the school and the local herder's cattle, sheep, horses and goats. The group baked on the wood stove, prepared meals, washed dishes, played with children, sang for church and led out in a week of prayer and preached at a one of the churches an hour away. They were involved with health visitations to the local herders, and slept in the Gers that serve as dormitories for the school.

This study tour service class is designed for students to learn by giving.

As Ellen White aptly wrote: "We can impart only that which we receive from Christ; and we can receive only as we impart to others. As we continue imparting, we continue to receive; and the more we impart, the more we shall receive. Thus we may be constantly believing, trusting, receiving, and imparting." Desire of Ages p.370

— Submitted by: Paul H. Lehmann, Chair/  
Associate Professor, Outward Pursuits, CUC

# CUC Library Hosts Exhibit on Church History

In celebration of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination's 150th anniversary, Canadian University College's library hosted, February 10-14, a traveling exhibit that presents an overview of Adventist history from its beginnings in the Millerite movement to the worldwide organization it is today.

While the name "Seventh-day Adventist" was chosen in 1860, it was not until 1863 that the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was officially formed, providing the church with its legal organizational structure and name. Created by the staff of the General Conference Office of Archives, Statistics, and Records, the traveling display is a replica of a permanent exhibit inaugurated May 20-21, 2013, at the headquarters of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Silver Spring, Maryland, to honour of its founding. Please visit United for Mission: One Hundred and Fifty Years From Great Disappoint-



Annelise Linrud checking out the exhibit.



Church history exhibit on display in the CUC library.

ment to General Conference to read more about the formation of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination. The exhibit was brought to CUC, advertised, and displayed, thanks to the efforts of librarians Sheila Clark and Darel Bennedbaek. — Reprint by permission from the CUC President's Blog at <http://markhaynal.blogspot.ca/2014/02/library-hosts-exhibit-on-church-history.html>



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Archive: For your reading enjoyment, the Alberta Conference Communications Department has archived online 75 editions of the Alberta Adventist News (AAN) from 1986-2014. Past editions can be viewed on the Alberta Conference website at [www.albertaadventist.ca/aan](http://www.albertaadventist.ca/aan).

If you have other editions that are not currently posted online and you're willing to provide us with a copy, please contact Jenny Nickel at [jnickel@albertaadventist.ca](mailto:jnickel@albertaadventist.ca) or phone (403) 342-5044, ext. 226.



# CUC Graduates Move On!

Canadian University College granted degrees to 111 students during its 2014 commencement service held April 27. This was the second largest graduating class in the history of CUC and the second year that the whole graduation weekend ceremonies were live streamed online. Approximately 400 viewers from 10 countries joined the festivities online. This year's Commencement speaker was Karen Hayde, chaplain for the British Columbia Corrections all-male facility in Nanaimo, BC. Karen graduated from CUC in 2005 with her Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies.

CUC is happy to announce that a record number of 15 CUC alumni have been accepted into schools of medicine, dentistry and pharmacy for the fall of 2014. These recent graduates have been accepted in the Loma Linda University School of Medicine along with other professional schools.



CUC graduating class of 2014.

CUC is committed to prepare students seeking careers in medical professions and research. We offer two professional tracks within our Biology degree: a Bio-Medical track and an Environmental Science track. CUC has maintained a 95% acceptance

rate into Loma Linda University's School of Medicine for four consecutive years – one of the highest acceptance rates among Adventist universities in North America. — Submitted by: Jr (Sergie) Ferrer, Director of Communications, CUC

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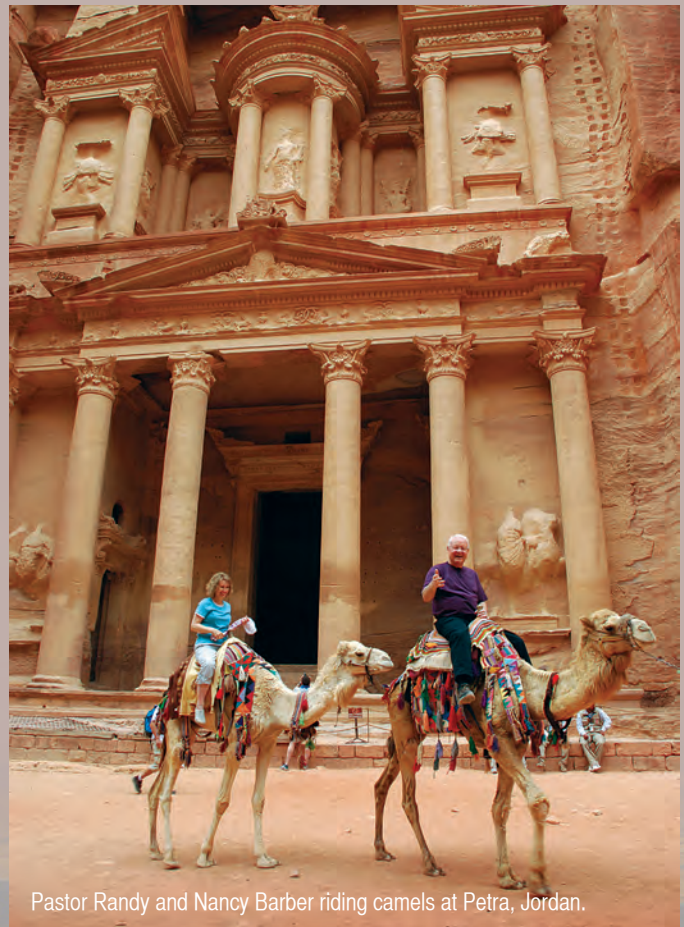
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Shared communion service near the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem.



Seventh-day Adventist Church in Jerusalem.



Pastor Randy and Nancy Barber riding camels at Petra, Jordan.

# Calgary Central Church Holy Land Tour

From April 30-May 12, 2014, a group from Calgary Central Church toured through exciting locations in the Holy Land. Pastor Randy Barber took over as trip coordinator from Elder Carney, who was unable to attend. Several individuals joined the Calgary group from as far away as Winnipeg and Denver. As part of their pastoral professional development, Matthew Piersanti from Calgary Central, Moses Ruiz from Red Deer Church, and James Wesley from the Airdrie-Olds congregations were also able to attend.

Together, the 37 adventurers explored Caesarea, ascended Mount Carmel, and sailed on the Sea of Galilee. Some of the highlights included stopping over in Nazareth and Capernaum, crossing the Jordan River Valley, passing through Hezekiah's Tunnel, and visiting the ancient Ammonite Kingdom in Jordan. The significance of each site grew as the Christian guides shared Biblical insights connecting each place with familiar stories.

The group enjoyed the first Sabbath afternoon service on the Mount of Blessing and celebrated Shabbat with

the Jerusalem SDA Church the following week. Near the trip's end, they were able to participate in a special time of communion and hymn singing at the Garden Tomb, where an empty grave can be seen to prove our Saviour lives!

Pastor Barber advocated for the importance of educational tours such as this one saying, "You will never read the Bible the same way again." His statement, spoken from the height of Herodium, was effectively illustrated by the view. From the ruined towers of the Biblical Judean King's fortress, one can see as far as Bethlehem, Mount Zion, and Jerusalem to one side, with Moab and the Dead Sea on the other. Simply standing witness to the landscape provides a unique perspective of Biblical events.

Overall, the tour group was blessed with safe travels, good health, and new friendships. For many, it was their first visit to the Middle East and for all, it made us eager for Jesus to return so we can walk through the streets of the new Jerusalem and hear stories of His love through all generations.

— Submitted by Katelyn Ruiz



A rostrum on the south end of the church, added circa 1928, was used for preaching the Word, in addition to numerous MV (Missionary Volunteer) meetings or youth meetings and special event gatherings. During the winter time, the gas lanterns were pumped up as members returned to the church after completing their chores to fellowship together for the evening. Music, recited poetry (not read), and special features were a highlight enjoyed by all. Participation was a privilege. Everyone wanted a part! Depicted here is a typical Thanksgiving celebration. The banner translation is something similar to "In everything give thanks to the Lord. Halleluiah!"

## A History of the Leduc Adventist Church

Seven years before Alberta became a province, the first Seventh-day Adventist Church in Alberta was established in a German community a few miles south of the city of Leduc with nine charter members. The year was 1898 and the exact location was NW 35-48-25 W4. History details have been recorded and published on more than one occasion. My purpose on this page is to capture some of the sentiments and some events of the day. I had the privilege of meeting with nine individuals who attended that first church during the latter years of its existence (circa 1930-1950). After each visit, I came away with a renewed sense of just what I owe to those who came before me: solid Alberta Seventh-day Adventist roots creating a heritage of devote faith in amazing God!

Unequivocally and unanimously, the primary comment made about that first church included the extreme cold experienced during the winter season. The church walls consisted of two wood layers with no insulation or vapor barrier between. The outside was tongue and groove siding and the inside consisted of v-joint boards. Those who were lucky



Hymns were sung in German only in 1898. By 1906 some who spoke only English began attending, so hymns were announced and sung in German and English. An English Bible study class was also provided. By c. 1960 the German ceased to be used because there was no demand for it.

enough to secure a seat nearest the large rectangular stove kept warm – kind of. Their front side was warm, but their backs were cold. Others were simply frigid. But one would never consider not attending church because of the coldness. This church served its members for 49 years.

If we could turn back the clock, some circumstances would be appealing, while others most definitely would not. You be the judge as you consider the anecdotes that follow.

For those privileged to own a motorized vehicle during the 1940s, gasoline was 12 cents a gallon, which translates to approximately 2.6 cents per litre. Many came to church with a team of horses and a buggy. Some walked and some used a tractor and wagon. One gentleman recalls their family purchasing \$1 to \$3 of fuel each week. That had to last them for all their needs.

The church had a balcony. It was a great place to capture a bird's eye view of weddings and other special events. Many retreated to the balcony during the winter because it was a warmer place. It was also a meeting place for young people. "After class we dashed upstairs to warm up"





“He gives power to the tired and enough strength to the unfortunate” Isaiah 40:29. Between Sabbath School and Divine services children would go to the front of the church to recite their memory verses. Those who could recite a full quarter (13) of memory verses were often awarded a small gift. June Goltz Jeske, now a member at Edmonton Central, received this plaque when she was six years old.

said a former junior. A popular balcony activity among the teenage boys was that of trading pens and pencils. Of course, each one tried to make a better trade.

Children and adults met together for Sabbath School and Divine service—all conducted in German. A curtain pulled across the rostrum provided a separation between the children and adults during the “lesson” or Bible study time. It was customary to review the previous week’s lesson for ten minutes before beginning the new study. As the years progressed, children began attending school and taking classes in English. They, in turn, came home and taught their parents what they had learned. English became more comfortable for all members. By the mid-1950s all activities were primarily conducted in English with hymns and a Bible study class provided in German. Eventually, English became the language of choice for all services and activities (circa 1960). For some of the founding members, losing the German language was a threat to their identity. When English was spoken, one

patriarch often called out, “In dieser Kirche wird nur deutsch gesprochen!”... “This is a German church!” Sabbath School began at 11 a.m. to provide opportunity for farmers to get their chores done. At intermission time everyone had a bit of lunch. Many times that lunch consisted of the delectable German kuchen. Services ended around 2 p.m. For the communion service, the men sat on one side and the women on another. All drank from one common cup. Participation was reserved for those who were baptized members.

An interesting side-note is that when the second church was built (early 1950s), the first church was sold to some church members. One of the church elders asked the purchasers not to use the lumber to build a barn. They didn’t and some of that original lumber still exists on a community farmyard today. Eventually, that second church was also sold and renovated into a family home.

What we might consider a wall too challenging to scale today... a mountain of insurmountable hardships, our church founders faced as part of their daily routine. Travel conditions on the trails, inclement weather, or weariness from six long days of labor did not deter the faithful from meeting together for teaching and encouragement.

Those with whom I spoke often mentioned names of people who influenced their lives. They remembered their Sabbath School teachers’ and class members’ names, the names of the pianists and other musicians, the elders and preachers. One individual can still recall where each person sat. It was the people and relationships that they shared, rooted in a common faith in God that encouraged the members in their support to each other, as well as in their upward journey to their heavenly goal.

May God’s Spirit continue to spur us on to faithfulness!

\*Your church also has a story to share. We’d love to hear it. Contact the Alberta Conference Communications Department at (403) 342-5044. As we share how God leads in our lives, we all grow in His likeness.

— Submitted by Linda Steinke

## Calgary Churches Conduct Lessons for Living Series

Seven Calgary churches recently worked together to host an extremely successful evangelistic series. Speaker Bill Santos, formerly with It Is Written Canada, presented Lessons for Living to a full house each evening from May 16 - 31. Topics such as: “How to Live When Life Seems Unfair,” “How to Live When the World Will End,” and “How to Live When You Feel All Alone” sparked the interest of Calgarians who came to hear the message of God’s faithfulness contained in the core beliefs of the Adventist faith. The seven Calgary churches involved were Garden Road, Cornerstone, Maranatha Spanish, Central Spanish, Metro Filipino, Parkdale and the Sudanese Company. The meetings were held in the Genesis Community Centre, Calgary. As well as rejoicing over all the people who were inspired to commit their lives to God, the church members are thrilled that their own faith has been rejuvenated. There are many exciting stories to be told. Watch for an upcoming article in the next issue of the AAN.



# Fort Saskatchewan Balloon & Wellness

When Jesus told his disciples that He would make them ‘fishers of men’ did you ever wonder what kind of bait could be used? On April 25-27, 2014 the Fort Saskatchewan Church Plant leaders applied a rather unorthodox type of bait to their soul winning fishing lines - Balloon animals. Imagine, over a three day period, thousands of people walk past your trade show display table covered with hundreds of truth filled books, pamphlets and materials. How are you going to get them to stop and look? One method - Make balloon animals for young & old. Together with a group of six people, the Fort Saskatchewan group made over 800 balloon animals, hats and motorcycles. And from the 350 free-draw cards that were filled out, 90 requested health related or Bible study materials. Also, the Fort Saskatchewan Church Plant conducted another successful Healthy Choices Wellness workshop with Darlene Blaney on May 4, 2014. Over 40 people from the community attended. Thank you to the team of dedicated

volunteers who helped with setup and food preparation. With clearance from the city to begin renovating their new church location, plans are in place to start holding church services in Fort Saskatchewan by July 2014. Please pray for the Fort Saskatchewan Church Plant project and others throughout the Alberta Conference. Pastor Darrell & Lise Beaudoin can be reached at [hopeandhealing@telus.net](mailto:hopeandhealing@telus.net). — Submitted by Darrell Beaudoin



Pastor Rodney Davis holding a balloon motorcycle.



Lise Beaudoin with stack of 350 free-draw cards.



Darlene Blaney conducting a second Healthy Choices Wellness workshop in Fort Saskatchewan.



## A Special Day for the Lee Family

On April 20, 2014 Tanya Lee and her two sons Merick and Kieran were baptized at the Ponoka Adventist Church following a Discover Prophecy Seminar that was held at the Ponoka Church. Approximately 25 church members and 15 community visitors attended the prophecy seminar. Tanya said during the seminar that she had been searching for the truth all her life and now believes she has found what she has been looking for. To have her two sons baptized with her on the same Sabbath made it a very special day for the family. The Ponoka Church is committed to the ongoing process of evangelism and are thankful for how God is leading in the lives of those He brings to the church through.

Tanya Lee with her two sons Merick and Kieran.



# THE FOLLOWING

For three weekends that spanned from March 28-April 12, Pastor Joseph Augustin (Pastor Joe as he's known by the youth) presented a youth bible series entitled, "The Following." The room was packed and all eyes were fixed to the front. As the music began playing, the praise team sang songs of worship to God in freedom and unity. It was wonderful to see so many young people engaged in worship together.

For an activity, everyone was divided into groups and given two columns of words. Each group was asked if the words on their paper had any connection to the other. Next, they were asked if any of the words described them.

Later, a young person went around with M&Ms and handing them out to everyone. Then it was explained that each one of us are like M&Ms...on the outside we are all different colours but on the inside we are all the same colour.

Pastor Joe's talk was entitled, "Spanked!" and at first glance I didn't know what to make of it. As I listened, he told the story of a boy who had gotten into trouble and the law demanded justice. He needed to be reprimanded. The boy's punishment required a spanking from his mother, but he was let off the hook. As Pastor Joe was speaking, I realized he was talking about the Law, a traditional evangelistic topic delivered in a modern way to youth. As the sermon came to an end, he closed by saying, "you will have to wait to hear the rest of the story tonight."

After the program was over, I asked

Pastor Joe why he decided to go with the title, "The Following?" He said, "Jesus had 12 followers who he trained, equipped and empowered. They went out and changed the world. Leaders don't create followers, leaders create leaders. This series is about creating a movement around Jesus, creating followers of Jesus, who intern become leaders who change the world."

What I saw that day was a huge following of young people who were on fire for Christ. Pastor Joe even had cool branding on t-shirts and hoodies. — Submitted by Lyle Notice



Pastor Joe speaking to the youth.



Youth at the Following series.

# To be a

## *A Native Son Marks the*

**M**y grandmother and her three sisters were born on the Tyendinaga Reservation in Deseronto Ontario. The Mohawk people were traditionally hunters and fishermen that resided on both sides of the St. Lawrence River. The young became the iron riggers that were instrumental in building bridges and sky scrapers on both sides of the border. Fearless as they walked the narrow steel beams, they were nick named “The Sky Walkers.”

My great uncles were Sky Walkers. The genes must have a memory: My daughter, a gymnast, was awarded “Most fearless Athlete” at her club’s annual awards dinner—the first and only time the award was ever given. At that moment, if pride is sinful, I was certainly guilty. But my “guilt” is balanced by the understanding that I and my children owe a debt—not a monetary one, but one of gratitude.

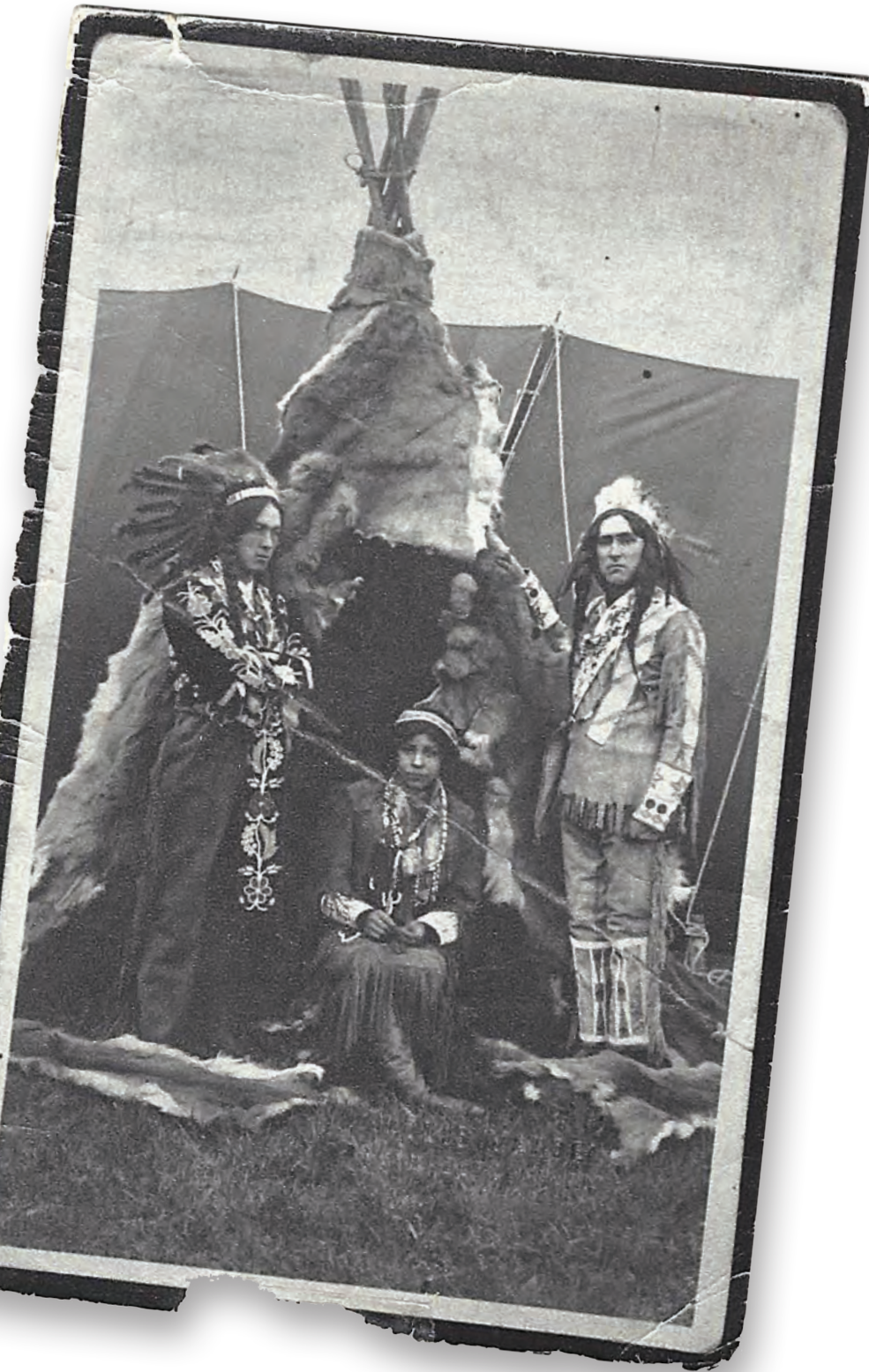
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*I live for the interaction with God that comes through pushing the confines of my own faith.*

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### **A New Life Off Reserve**

In the late 1930’s, the Reservation director came to my great grandfather’s home in broad daylight to take my grandmother away to a residential school. Great Grandfather ran as fast as he could to the nearest town, where he promptly sold his and his entire family’s Indian rights back to the Government. Evicted from the Reservation, they moved into the town of Port Hope, Ontario and the kids were raised as White people. “No one is going to



Larry's Great Grandpa Blaker (far right) as part of display at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto. The patriarch who left the Reserve and gave up his treaty rights to save his daughters from Residential School prayed at every meal in his native Mohawk language.

# Sky Walker

## Path of God's Leading with an Annual Gift

Larry Wilkins is a second generation First Nations Adventist. Larry owns a clinical spa in St. Albert. He bears witness to his relationship with God not only by closing his business on Sabbath, but also by his commitment to make a significant annual gift to the Conference's mission school, Mamawi Atosketan Native School.



Larry Wilkins

Larry's gift marks his gratitude and faith, and lights the path for others. He's found that his commitment to an annual gift makes a big difference—to the students who attend the school, yes, but also to the way Larry looks at his relationship with God.

call us dirty Indians," Great Grandmother Clara declared. No one did.

I am the second generation to be born off of the Reservation. My father sent me to Kingsway College for Grade 13, then to PUC, where I received my BSc. I cannot say enough good things about the Adventist school system. I will also be forever grateful for my great grandfather's dedication to the family unit and for his bravery, which kept my grandmother from experiencing the atrocities associated with the Residential School system. Unknowingly, my great grandparents gave their descendants the greatest gifts: faith and opportunity.

Faith and opportunity are what Malawi Atosketan Native School is all about.

Larry's grandparents, Lawson Chase and Emma (Blaker) Chase.



### A New Venture in Partnership with God

God makes the rich and the poor, and to those who are given much, much is expected. I am not a wealthy man nor may I ever be, but I can do the will of God with what I have, and receive His blessings as He sees fit. I live for the interaction with God that comes through pushing the confines of my own faith. I do not give in order to get, nor do I give out of obligation. I give because I want to experience the hand of God in my life right now. Giving more grows my faith.

Sometimes we must be brave like the Sky Walkers and stretch our faith, especially in the face of adversity. Life is not without challenges, but He has never once let me down or lied to me through the words of his prophets. While I deal with people every day, I only do business with God.

His word is good. I am living proof.  
— Larry Wilkins, Owner  
External Affairs Clinical Spa, St. Albert

See the inside back cover for the experience of current student Eldenia Potts at Mamawi Atosketan Native School, Larry's Alberta Conference ministry of choice.

A video introduction to Mamawi Atosketan Native School, can be viewed at [www.albertaadventist.ca/plannedgiving/video/MamawiAtosketan](http://www.albertaadventist.ca/plannedgiving/video/MamawiAtosketan)

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Putting God First and Last



Lynn McDowell, LLB & Certified Specialist in Planned Giving  
Director of Planned Giving | Philanthropy  
Alberta Conference

# Announcements

## In memory

**Goldie Triebwasser** was born April 25, 1926 in Fox Valley, Saskatchewan and died on April 24, 2014 in Lacombe Alberta. Goldie will be remembered for her luscious meals – especially her baked bread. She loved to work with her hands, particularly quilting. In the last several years, Goldie pieced 675 quilt tops for the “Bags of Love” outreach program. In Goldie’s last weeks of life, her love and security in the Saviour was rooted and strong for eternity – a legacy for all to desire and follow.



### EDMONTON CENTRAL CHURCH MISSING MEMBERS

If you have a **CURRENT PHONE NUMBER AND ADDRESS** for any of these names, please contact DEBBIE TIRAYOH at (780) 420-0215 or email [office@ecsdac.org](mailto:office@ecsdac.org).

Brown, Yvonne  
Castro, Juanita  
Chilma, Happiness  
Cyr, Greg  
Davis, Kathy  
Durand, Gerry  
Ferguson, Kerry Ken  
Fethu, Resmi  
Guthrie, Tina  
Halupa, Anna  
Hatherly, Rose  
Hewlett, Nisha  
Hilgardne, Bernard  
Inalenteng, Wendy  
Kramps, Madeline  
LeClerc, Kora  
Leon, Ingrid  
Lubo, Girlie  
McLeod, Micheline R  
Neuman, Sylvia Jo  
Nielsen, Karen K.  
Northon, Heidi  
Opoku, Jennifer  
Postma, Brenda  
Saltoc, Carmela

Saltoc, Milagros  
Samograd, Joyce  
Simus, Ruby  
Smith, Mary  
Smith, Ethel May Jean  
Stanislaas, Kabola-Bin  
Tear, Col  
Tembele, Neema  
Tung, Bot Luk  
Van De Weghe, Cindy  
Van De Weghe, David  
Zahara, Kevin  
Zelles, Rodney

**Camp Meeting Choir and Orchestra:** Calling all musicians. It’s time to make preparations for this year’s camp meeting choir and orchestra. If you are interested in joining, please contact David Bell at (250) 256-8981 or email [dnabell45@gmail.com](mailto:dnabell45@gmail.com).

**Camp Meeting Food Fair:** If your church or group is planning to participate in this year’s Food Fair at camp meeting, please contact Irma Hartley to book a spot at [ihartley@albertaadventist.ca](mailto:ihartley@albertaadventist.ca) or phone (403) 342-5044, ext. 210. She also needs to know your fundraising project and menu.

**Camp Meeting Music:** The camp meeting music committee is looking for adults and children to perform special music, weekday song leaders, praise teams, choristers, pianists, and organists. If you can help, please contact Elaine Sankey at (403) 575-2401.

**ATTENTION Medical Personnel:** The Alberta Conference is looking for medical personnel who can assist during this year’s camp meeting. If you are an LPN, nurse or physician, and are available, please contact Debbie Schwarz at [dschwarz@albertaadventist.ca](mailto:dschwarz@albertaadventist.ca) or phone (403) 342-5044 ext. 208. Your help is greatly appreciated.

**Young at Heart Heritage Camp (August 10-17, 2014 at Foothills Camp):** it is a NEW camp designed specifically for seniors 50 years and up. Campers can either stay in their own tent/trailer or in the lodge. Campsite, meals, activities, and programming are all included. Daily activities

include morning and evening worships, swimming, aqua-size, archery, crafts, horseback riding, and much more. We want you to be a part of the camp legacy – we are not charging any camp fees, but rather are accepting donations for the planned “Natural Area” that will begin construction next summer. This natural area will include gravelled hiking trails, 10-12 interpretive stop points with park benches and signs that give info about the natural history, and an entrance sign with trails and distances. To register for this special camp, go to [www.foothillscamp.org](http://www.foothillscamp.org). Space is limited. For more information, please phone Kevin Kiers at (587) 876-2224 or email [kkiers@albertaadventist.ca](mailto:kkiers@albertaadventist.ca).

**Messiah’s Mansion:** Brooks Immanuel Church is hosting Messiah’s Mansion from July 18-27, 2014. They are looking for volunteers to help with setup from July 14-18 and take down on July 28. Meals will be provided. If you are available to help, please call (403) 363-7925.

# What's it Mean to You?

*“I love it at Mamawi Atosketan. I want to graduate here!”*

Eldenia Potts, student & Vacation Bible School worker  
Mamawi Atosketan Native School  
Maskwacis, Alberta



Mamawi Atosketan Native School is like home to Eldenia, complete with a second “mother” she’s adopted, teaching assistant Audrey Hirsch Korn. It’s not uncommon to see the two together at Pathfinders or in church, where Eldenia’s leadership skills are blossoming. Cultivating Eldenia’s talent is a joint effort between the Conference’s mission school and the local church located in the heart of the Samson Band lands.

Eldenia’s leadership skills began developing at Mamawi Atosketan (“MANS”), where as a 6th grader she hurried to get her work done so she could help the Kindergarten teacher once a week. Eldenia’s growing confidence and enthusiasm spilled over into Sabbath School leadership.

Noting Eldenia’s initiative in teaching Sabbath School, Pastor Peter Ford invited Eldenia to be part of the Maskwacis-based Summer Outreach Team, which conducts Vacation Bible Schools on reserves in Alberta and surrounding provinces.

“My mom says she’s proud of what I’m doing,” says Eldenia, referring to her biological mother, who works for Maskwacis (formerly “Hobbema”). This will be Eldenia’s third year with the team, which last year traveled to Prince Albert, Yellowknife, Hazelton, and Lethbridge besides putting on VBS in Maskwacis.

“I’ve learned a lot from the college students,” she says. But perhaps the biggest takeaway of her time at Mamawi Atosketan and the summer team is Eldenia’s growing confidence in her skills and identity as a First Nations youth with lots to offer—now and in the World to Come.

## ***Gifts that Make a Difference!***



MAMAWI ATOSKETAN  
NATIVE SCHOOL  
Ponoka, Alberta



# THE BIG DEAL FOOTHILLS CAMP 2014

"A PLACE WHERE YOU BELONG"

"Now this is the promise that He Himself made to us: Eternal life." 1 John 2:25



CAMP 2014	DATE	AGE	COST
NEW - Camp For The Visually Impaired	June 29-July 6	ALL	TBD
Watersports/Horsemanship Specialized Camp	July 6-10	13-17	\$310
Adventure Camp	July 20-27	6- 10	\$280
Sherwood Forest	1 July 20-27	9- 12	\$310
Junior Camp	July 27-August 3	10-13	\$290
Sherwood Forest 2	July 27-August 3	10- 13	\$310
Teen Camp	August 3-10	13-17	\$290
Sherwood Forest 3	August 3-10	13-17	\$310
Family Camp	August 10-17	ALL	*
NEW - Young At Heart Heritage Camp	August 10-17	50+	FREE Donations Accepted

**\* NEW 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