

CANADIAN ADVENTIST

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MESSENGER



prison ministries

yearning to discover life's purpose

Serving a Powerful God



“Our work is yet almost untouched. I was hungered, Christ said, and you gave me meat, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink. I was a stranger, and you took me in, naked and you clothed me. I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison, and you came unto me. Some think that if they give money to this work, it is all that they are required to do.

But this is an error. Donations of money cannot take the place of personal ministry.”

Welfare Ministry, pg. 189

Sometimes, we don't realize the number of people who are incarcerated in so many parts of the world. During the past three years, as I have been working with prison ministries, I have been so encouraged to see the increase in Canada of those concerned for others.

At the last two prison ministries conventions, Canada has played a large role in having people attend. The next convention is being held in San Diego from August 19 to 22 this year, where people will be trained for service in prison ministries. *The Desire of Ages* has been placed in many of the prisons in the United States, and hopefully, when funds are available, this can happen also in Canada.

Work or Prison

One experience that will always be indelibly imprinted in my mind took place when I was in Central Africa, in the Congo province called the Kasai. One Sabbath morning, I was preaching, not realizing what events had taken place.

In the afternoon, the president of the conference, Theoplas, knocked on my door, and said, “Hurry, the soldiers are here!”

President Mobutu had passed a law

that everybody had to work on Saturday, cleaning up, sweeping the streets, et cetera, or go to prison. The soldiers had come to the Kongolo church Sabbath morning and had taken the pastor, the local elders, and several of the leaders and put them in prison because they did not work on Sabbath.

Theoplas said, “I will not go to the prison on God's holy Sabbath day, and I will only go if you drive.”

So I had the job of driving many hours into town on terrible roads, with soldiers in the back seat and machine guns bumping my shoulder on each bump we went over. Theoplas was between two soldiers, and another soldier was on the front seat next to me. As we approached the prison in Kongold, we heard the sweetest music I had ever heard. All the members in prison were singing. It made me realize that sometimes people are incarcerated for no fault of their own, and yet are still cheerful in the Lord.

Our brethren had Bibles and shoes taken from them. The prison was a filthy place, as you can imagine, and yet there was singing. I thought to myself, “The day may come when we will be in that same position.” To my knowledge, there were no Adventists who worked

on that Sabbath. They went to church. They didn't mind if they would be put in prison; they wouldn't work on God's holy Sabbath day.

Still Able to Become a Child of God

What does prison ministries mean? It's not only to minister to those who are falsely put in prison, as were those believers in Central Africa, but it's a ministry to those who are there because they have committed crimes. Some are murderers, some are drug dealers, some are rapists. All of these different crimes, and yet, today, I ask you the question, “Do *you* believe that Jesus is still able to change even these to be His children?”

We do serve a powerful God; we serve a living God, who sent His Son to die, so that we may all have eternal life. In your church, as you see the needs in your community, as your prison ministry volunteers go to visit those who are in prison, pray for them, and remember the words of our Lord as He said, “I was in prison and ye came to Me.” *Matthew 25:35-36* ■

by John Howard,
Director of Coordinated
Ministries,
SDA Church in Canada

Involving the Whole Church in Prison Ministries

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Matthew 25:40

The great commission was handed down by Jesus Christ not just to His disciples, but to all of us. However, when this commission was given, was it meant as a request? Was it meant to be slipped in or fit into our schedules only if we are able to manage?

If you have trouble answering these questions, allow me to compound this dilemma by pointing you to the very words of Jesus, as He answered the all-important question as to who would be saved. It was Jesus who said, "Not everyone that says Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven."

Matthew 7:21

So what is the will of the Father? He has proved over and over again His undying love for fallen mankind, from giving up His place and position in heaven to descending to that lowly manger in a stable, from the loneliness and despair experienced in the garden of Gethsemane to the horrifying separation from His Father as He hung on that cross for you and me.

Nevertheless, Jesus took the time to explain that we are all "prisoners of hope." We may be prisoners to poverty, hunger, thirst, lack of clothing, or sickness, or be one of the prisoners who are strangers or one of those cast away out of sight in our prisons.

If we were to take the time to study His Word and to take a good hard look at life, we would realize the true meaning of the statement, "There but for the grace of God, go I!" No, we do not need to go abroad to faraway places or countries to find those less fortunate, but only look out on our own streets.

So what does prison ministries have to do with this? As Christians, many of

us believe that these prisoners are getting what they deserve. They did the crime, so now they must do the time!

Originally, the Bible showed and taught us the need for restorative justice. Yes, if we do something wrong there is a consequence to face. That is why Jesus came and died for us, to save us. This good news is not just for a select few, but for all of us. We are all sinners. We have all come short of the glory of God; even those found in our prisons. Yes, we are all prisoners of this world, prisoners of the great hope that is to come in Jesus Christ.

The goal of prison ministries is to share the good news with the occupants of our prisons, whether prisoners or prison guards.

There is a need to reintroduce prison ministries as a fully-complemented ministry. It should be the responsibility of the prison ministry volunteers to report back to the local church, advising of the needs of the prisoners, such as requests for prayer from the local prayer group.

Visitation of loved ones on the other side of the prison walls, such as spouses and children, cannot be done by the prison ministry volunteers, due to obvious conflict of interest, but could be done by the church visiting committee. These spouses and/or children may be in need of help through the community services department of our churches.

The church can also, through friendship evangelism, encourage the children to come to church. The woman's ministry department could consider putting on a breakfast or a lunch for prisoners' spouses and foster caring and love.

If we cannot forgive and have compassion to those we see and know, how can we call ourselves Christians who love Christ, whom we have never seen? Yes, friends, we are all prisoners of hope.

Why not come join us, if you can, in this much-needed work. For more information, please call the prison ministries association or department in your area. Let us make a difference, as the Lord commands us in love. ■

*by Oliver Johnson,
President,
B.C. Adventist Prison
Ministries Organization
(BCAPMO)*



Prison Ministries in British Columbia: Reaching Out, Making Contact



Lori Pappajohn shares her musical talent at the prison ministries rally held in B.C. last year



The trio One Heart performs at the 1998 B.C. prison ministries rally

God is blessing prison ministries here in British Columbia and has provided the means to further develop it. We who are involved with this ministry feel very privileged to carry out this work. During the last few years, many exciting developments and events have taken place; here is a small sample of what is happening.

Rally Offers Training Opportunity

Just under a year ago, the Vancouver Central SDA Church, the B.C. Adventist Prison Ministries Organization (BCAPMO), and the B.C. Conference hosted a prison ministries rally, involving delegates from many churches throughout the province. The focus was to learn about different prison ministry programs, to discuss activities that could be run within the prisons, and to learn professional conduct. We had a good turnout and were thoroughly blessed.

There have been some concerns regarding the training of those who volunteer for this ministry. It is important to provide worthwhile programs and to

know how to provide a safe and fruitful environment. The BCAPMO board had discussed the development of a training manual, but when the president, Oliver Johnson, attended a conference of the North American group — Adventist Prison Ministries Association — God provided a training manual. Our hearty thanks is extended to Frank Barton of Florida prison ministries. His generosity has allowed us to use and distribute this manual.

Youth Eager to Become Involved

Recently, church youth in the lower mainland of B.C. have become heavily involved in prison ministries. First, presentations have been given to the young people, teaching them the concepts of prison ministries and how they can help. Some prisoners and staff from Elbow Lake, one of our minimum-security prisons, conducted the presentations.

Secondly, youth from a number of churches are going to this prison to minister to the inmates. They are participating in activities such as sports, worship

in music, testimonies and mini sermons, and the sharing of food. It is hoped that through the involvement of the youth, their parents will want to join the ministry; thus the families can minister together.

Teams Choose Varied Activities

Many church members throughout B.C. have formed local personal ministry teams to go to the prisons. There are many different types of activities that are provided. Some churches engage the prisoners in sports such as volleyball, basketball, and baseball. Often there will be social events that involve eating and socializing.

Other churches hold services in the prison chapel for those who wish to participate; these services are mainly composed of prayer, a small sermon, singing, and testimonies. These chapel services can and do win souls to Christ. This is one of our very important goals; however, it is extremely important to remember that Christ-like contact with the prisoners will often not bear imme-

Following Through

by Theresa Andrews, Vice President
B.C. Adventist Prison Ministries
Organization (BCAPMO)



At the rally, attendees had an opportunity to talk with an inmate from the local women's correctional center

diat fruit, which might cause frustration, but the seed has been planted. God leads in mysterious ways.

Stories of Transformation

Many stories give witness to the positive outcomes of prison ministries. Two of these incidents happened at prisons in the interior of British Columbia.

A man went into prison with addictions to heroin and alcohol. He attended chapel services, and after getting out of prison, he contacted one of our churches and began to study the Bible. He then met a lady, and they studied together. They both were baptized into the Adventist church and recently got married.

In another experience, a youth went into a youth detention center and obtained a job, which paid a small wage. While he was there, he also attended chapel services and at some point committed his life to Christ. When he was set free, he left with \$400 in his pocket. The temptation would be to buy things to meet personal needs, but he was convicted by the Holy Spirit to buy Bibles

and distribute them to the youth in his area. Not only did he commit his life to Christ, but he gave up much to win other souls. That story gives me courage.

These life-stories illustrate the need to maintain contact with inmates once they have been released. Some prisoners, Oliver Johnson says, have expressed the frustration, "You want to preach to us while we're inside, but you ignore us when we get out." I appeal to church members, if you feel convicted, please join us in prison ministries, to minister to those both inside and outside prison. In British Columbia, the support is especially needed in the northern regions. ■

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The Challenge

"These things command and teach. Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee."

1 Timothy 4:11-16 KJV

Ideas for Prison Ministries

Mini sermons with singing and testimonies

Meaningful social interaction

One-on-one long-term visitation

Health seminars

Bible studies

Workshops on communication skills

Workshops on decision-making strategies

Sports and physical activities

Prepare support networks for prisoners' release

Pen pal program

Prison Ministries at CUC

by Laura Ha and Jason Weir,
Prison Ministries Leaders, CUC

For several years, CUC's campus ministries department has helped students organize a prison ministry that visits Bowden Penitentiary, a medium-security federal prison about 60 km south of CUC. Laura Ha and Jason Weir, biology majors from Vegreville, Alta., and Kelowna, B.C., respectively, co-led the approximately 20 students who

participated in the ministry last year, and they will do so again for the 1999/2000 school term. Prison officials allow a maximum of 15 students at a given program once a month, and participant screening — done only once a year — involves a three-hour orientation and rigorous security checks, though Weir observes that some provincial institutions are less strict (probably due to the way the criminal justice system categorizes offenders).



What We Do

The general format of our visits is group singing, followed by special music (sometimes performed by the prisoners), a skit, and a sermon. This

is followed by a small groups period, where we have questions prepared ahead of time that correlate to the sermon. We finish with a brief fellowship time.

Why We're Doing This

We have discovered that there are many hungry people in prisons who are yearning to discover the purpose of their very existence — to seek beyond this life and to know that it is still not too late to turn their lives completely over to God. It is so fulfilling to see the genuine nature of these people who are no different than you or I, but who perhaps have tried to fulfill their inner longing with things that lead them to a further separation from God — something that we all often attempt to do. It is so nice to be able to share with them even in the smallest ways.

How this Ministry Has Helped Us to Grow

This is such a fulfilling ministry to be involved in, not only for those we visit, but as an inspiration to us as well. It has given us insights into our own personal growth as people, particularly in our relationship with God. Coming from a Christian environment, there is a tendency to remain confined in our own "Christian" community. But people who aren't necessarily Christian also need a friend, someone to talk to — the kind of friend Jesus would have been on this earth.

Although hesitant and perhaps fearful initially, we soon discovered that these people were truly just like you and I and that there is such a desire to know God. We were very touched by the genuine earnestness of many prisoners, and at times cannot

help but return to campus truly touched by some of them. Some of them inspire us by their own personal walk with God. Prison ministries forces us to reach beyond our "secure" boundaries, to worship in fellowship with other people who are seeking to truly know God.

How Our Service Impacts Others

Prison ministries, we believe, is an outreach program which really impacts the prisoners who choose to come to our programs. The prisoners themselves are not forced to go to these meetings, but 20 to 40 choose to come each time. Various individuals have told us that this is a time when they are given a chance to "escape" within the prison walls to a place where they may be able to grow in character, according to the desire of their heart, rather than submit to the pressures of their friends. If anything, it appears that some of them are more eager than the average person in their search for God because they have discovered that the pleasures of the world haven't filled that inner emptiness.

We are very careful not to pressure "religion" on them; rather, we all unite in our quest to know God's presence. This has been clearly appreciated by several of the prisoners, and we try our best to show God's love by simply loving them for who they are, just being their friend — for we are all equal in Christ. Sin may have caused us to turn in different directions in life, but this is just all about learning and experiencing life's lessons and how we can further move ourselves toward knowing God.

Favorite Bible Reference

"Dear friends, we should love each other, because love comes from God . . . This is what real love is: It is not our love for God; it is God's love for us in sending his Son to be the way to take away our sins." *1 John 4:7-10, New Century Version* ■



Thy Brother's Blood — Why the Faithful Hate and Kill Each Other

One problem attendant with possessing truth (especially “the truth”) is that a person must, of logical necessity, reject “error.” If, for example, you believe that Jesus was fully God, you must reject all theologies declaring that He wasn’t. If your religion teaches the perpetuity of the law, you must, logically, reject all religions that teach otherwise. The daunting question is, “What form does that rejection take? Do you tolerate and ignore — or uproot, repress, and destroy — opposing beliefs?”

If you’re reading this, you’re alive in a tiny sliver of time when the former attitude, not the latter, prevails (at least in the West). For many long painful centuries, the violent repression of “error” was deemed the only logical recourse for those possessing God’s truth. Jesuit Robert Parsons in Elizabethan England, with rigorous consistency, argued that if a person is convinced that his faith is the only true one, then “it followeth necessarily that he must likewise persuade himself that all other religions besides his own are false and erroneous; and consequently all assemblies, conventicles, and public acts of the same [persons] are wicked and dishonorable to God,” and must be stopped by whatever means necessary.

Lest one believe this intolerance were merely a Catholic problem, Martin Luther once said, “I can no wise admit that false teachers should be put to death. It is sufficient to banish them.” However, a year later he changed his mind: the sword, he urged, must be used against heretics.

Man kind has never found it easy to tolerate divergent religious beliefs. Religion, after all, deals with the most crucial and fundamental questions facing human existence . . . *first principles* as it were, not appendices, asides, footnotes. Most people don’t care if you eat different foods than they do, or if you prefer Bosch and Cezanne and they Caravaggio and DeKooning. But when you worship another God as the true God, or hold to basic beliefs that cannot be true without theirs being false, then, implicitly, your mere existence is an affront. You are a personified rebuke to all that they hold most sacred and dear. You don’t have to say a word; merely by believing what you believe you tell others that their most fundamental and cherished beliefs, that which gives them identity, purpose, and mission in life, that which answers their most basic and important questions, are, quite frankly, erroneous.

“There are those who feel more deeply over religious matters than they do about secular things,” wrote Chief Justice Walter P. Stacy of the North Carolina Supreme Court. “It would be almost unbelievable, if history did not record the tragic fact, that men have gone to war and cut each other’s throats because they could not agree as to what was to become of them after their throats were cut.”

The archetypal example of religious intolerance, in fact the first one depicted in history, is that of Cain and Abel. By his action and faith, Abel was a rebuke to his brother. “Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother.

And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother’s righteous.” *1 John 3:12* By who he was and what he did, Abel challenged his brother at the most fundamental level. (The fact that, in this case, Abel happened to be right, while Cain was wrong, is not important: even those who are theologically more correct can still be threatened by those in error). Though persecution of the religious by the religious often includes other factors (usually political and economic), it often stems from this basic problem, which at its heart is a problem of logic, in some ways the most intractable kind.

After the death of Abel, the Lord said to Cain, “What hast thou done? The voice of thy brother’s blood crieth unto me from the ground.” *Genesis 4:10* That blood, and the blood of countless millions of others, still cries out and will, no doubt, continue to do so, especially as religious fundamentalism grows.

That’s why it’s especially important in 1999, the year of religious liberty, that we as Adventists understand that the battle for religious freedom is far from over. Indeed, the potential for intolerance — given what we believe about what we believe (that it is “the truth”) — can be found in us as well.

“The real test of toleration,” wrote theologian Reinhold Niebuhr, “is our attitude toward people who oppose truths which seem important to us”

How, then, can those who hold beliefs they deem absolute respond to those who, by their very existence, challenge those beliefs? There seems to be only one logical answer, which is that one of our absolute beliefs must be that *we love and accept those whose beliefs are different*. In other words, “tolerance” (for lack of a better term) needs to be a fundamental of faith.

The fact is, of course, at least in biblical Christianity, it already is. “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” — even those neighbors whose most basic beliefs cannot be true without yours being false. Jesus never declared that your neighbor had to believe as you do before you love him or her as yourself. The Golden Rule doesn’t apply only to those with the same views about what happens to those whose throats are slit. Loving your neighbor as yourself is, Jesus said, the second of the two most important commandments. It doesn’t get more fundamental than that.

Our religion never asks us to accept error, just those who do. Only in faiths where acceptance of people who hold “false” beliefs becomes a fundamental will the specter of religious persecution end.

The gospel of Christ is, then, the answer. Until people accept Jesus, and the absolutes that this acceptance embodies (which includes loving even those whose most basic belief contradicts your own) — our brother’s blood will continue to cry out of the ground.

Given history, the nature of man, and prophecy — one can only say, “Keep your ears open.” ■

by Clifford Goldstein



ADRA Canada

Visiting Rwanda and Kenya for ADRA Canada



At the Murambi project in Rwanda, ADRA is coordinating the construction of starter houses for families who have been living under plastic sheeting

It was my privilege to be asked by ADRA Canada to travel to Rwanda and Kenya on their behalf in November, 1998, with the purpose of monitoring some projects being funded by ADRA Canada. This was especially exciting for me because Kenya is the country of my birth and youth; I left Africa when I was 17 and now would return after 35 years.

In many ways it felt as if I was returning home, but as I dug out my Swahili dictionary and phrase book to refresh my memory of the common language, I was amazed how much a person can forget over time. As for Rwanda, I had not visited it before, so my perceptions were colored by the news reports which the world has heard since the country's wars and genocide of 1994. I approached it with mixed feelings and some fear, to say the least. In this issue, I will share some of my experiences in Rwanda, and in the July issue I will continue with stories from Kenya.

Building Shelters a Priority

Flying low over the countryside, one is impressed by how fertile the Rwandan countryside is, with its rolling hills separated by verdant valleys that are intensely cultivated. The banana trees which cover the hillsides and cluster around the homes are like green starbursts fluttering in the breeze, in direct contrast to the red volcanic soil.

Shelter construction has been one of the recent projects ADRA Canada has been involved with in Rwanda. I visited the Murambi project, which was about 60 percent complete at the time. The shelters constructed are starter houses for the families who are presently living under plastic sheeting or other materials that are locally available.

These new shelters are 8 by 6.75 meters and conform to the MINIREISO-recommended standard home plan; they are made of sun-dried mud bricks with sheet metal roofing. Each house is divided into three rooms and a sitting area. A 20- by 30-meter lot is provided for each house, giving sufficient room for a small garden near the house.

Self-Sufficiency Encouraged

Sufficient land within walking distance is also given to each family for small farming and livestock operations. This land

provides additional food and income opportunities from the sale of the excess produce harvested. This should enable the beneficiaries of these new housing projects to be self-sufficient in food source and income. This is very important, as unemployment in this part of Africa is very high.

The recipients participate in the construction of their home. Each house requires 1,500 sun-dried mud bricks. These bricks are made by the beneficiaries on site, by excavating a small pit, pouring water into the pit, and climbing in and trampling the soil with their bare feet into the right consistency of mud. The mud is then shoveled into a wooden mold, from which a brick is made. It may only take a few minutes to make each brick; however, three to four days of drying in the sun is needed to cure the bricks.

The other tasks the beneficiaries are expected to accomplish are digging the trenches for the foundation, collecting stones for the foundations, and assisting the masons with laying the bricks. To meet local health requirements, it is also necessary to dig a 5-meter pit for latrines. This pit is dug by hand using a short-handled hoe. ADRA supplies sheet metal for the roofs, concrete slabs for the latrine bases, masons and roofing crews, poles for the rafters, and water for the mud and mortar.

Widows and Children Head Households

I was impressed by the quality of the local workmanship in the bricklaying and cement work of the buildings completed. I verified that there were construction problems in some areas, where houses were eroding rapidly from the weather. In the higher elevations and exposed hilltop areas, the soil had a high sand content and little clay. Being more exposed to the weather, these sun-dried bricks were eroding rapidly from the driving rain. The only solution was to plaster the exterior walls with cement plaster coating to protect them from the rain. This meant more funds would have to be obtained for this project.

I observed a high number of female heads of households in these housing developments and was informed that 60 percent

by Clarence Hyde,
Ryley, Alta.

of these houses are occupied by widowed heads of households. Also, eight percent of households were headed by children 12 to 16 years of age. After losing parents or adult members of their family, they now were heads of the house, looking after their younger siblings and other child family members who had survived the genocide.

Tragedy Leaves Man Cynical

Visiting these housing developments, I was told about an individual who acquired the title of "the grumpy old man." As ADRA personnel investigated the situation further, they found that this man was a survivor of the genocide and was now a widower who had seen his three children and wife brutally murdered during the war. He himself had been injured by a grenade and left for dead after having had a leg blown off. During the war, his property and home were ransacked and destroyed, so he had lost everything he owned.

As time passed and the war ended, he still did not receive any aid from the local government and was finding it very difficult to find sufficient food to survive. Having only one leg, it was very difficult for him to till a garden to raise his own food. During the last four years, his hopes for receiving a shelter had changed to despair as he had been passed up three times for receiving a permanent shelter when aid organizations came to the area to build shelters.

Somehow he had acquired a sheet of plastic from which he had made a crude shelter to protect himself from the rain. When ADRA representatives met with him, they found a man who was very discouraged, miserable, and still deeply traumatized. He was also very cynical of aid organizations and stated they were just full of empty promises.

Slowly Regaining Self-Worth

After a few weeks, he saw others in the community making bricks and digging their foundations, but he continued to be cynical. It was not until he saw the masons starting to lay the bricks for some of the houses that he accepted that it was going to happen for him. So he got busy and started to make his own bricks and clear his designated building site. This is not an easy task for a person with one leg, especially to "stomp in the mud pit."

By November, 1998, he had made 500 bricks on his own; however, 1,500 were needed to complete his house. During this process, the ADRA site construction supervisors attempted to sensitize the community to his needs by having others make some extra bricks and assist the masons by carrying bricks and mixing mortar for him. Also, through a work-for-food-program, other individuals could dig his latrine pit for him. Even though this man is still frail from the grenade explosion and the lack of sufficient food, there has been a complete turnaround in his attitude since ADRA came to his community.

If this man could be fitted with an artificial leg, he could balance himself while tilling his garden. Having a garden would supply him with food and income, making him self-sufficient, and in turn giving him self-worth and self-respect again. Perhaps in time, because of ADRA's intervention, he will be known as "the cheerful old man."

What I have described are only a few scenes that could be similar in many ways for thousands of people who are trying to rebuild their lives after losing families, friends, and homes in Rwanda. The appreciation of what ADRA is doing was mentioned over and over again to me as I met with the beneficiaries of the shelters and others to whom assistance had been provided. ■



In some areas, the soil used for bricks had a high sand content; these houses suffered erosion during times of heavy rain



Covering the walls with cement plaster coating protects them from inclement weather; the coating process required more funds from ADRA Canada



Into a Bigger World: CUCs French Connections and Graduation 1999

by Lynn Neumann McDowell, Director of College Relations

When I became an Adventist," recalls Monique Auguste, associate professor of French, "I read, 'Go into all the world and teach all nations,' and I wondered how we were going to do that if we only spoke one language."

Since then, Auguste has made it her mission to make French accessible to Adventist young people who want a Canadian Adventist college education. Judging from her great successes in the classroom and in extracurricular activities for students, she's a very successful ambassador of French language and culture, bringing students a taste of the richness of life we enjoy through appreciating other peoples — a lesson the graduates of 1999 will soon experience more widely as they go on to new lives, new jobs, and new graduate and professional programs.

CUC French Instructor Shares Expertise Internationally

This summer, CUC associate professor of French Monique Auguste will share her expertise in French language curriculum design and the integration of Christian principles in classroom learning at two conferences.

At the Adventist Colleges Abroad (ACA) convention in June, Auguste will present a paper on literature and culture — including how to teach French as a second language — to about 80 language instructors from around the world in the ACA system, of which CUC is a part. Auguste has been a member of the ACA curriculum and review committee for the past 10 years, and she looks forward to this rare assembling of language instructors from all of the ACA-affiliated Adventist colleges. Being part of ACA gives students the opportunity to register at their home school and receive credit at their home college while studying abroad in another language — something several CUC students have enjoyed doing (see Another CUC Student Accepted article).

At the Faith and Learning Conference this July in the Ivory Coast, Africa, Auguste will present part of her dissertation, in which she examines the relationship between French renaissance poetry and Christianity. This will be the first such conference conducted in French, and Auguste looks forward to sharing with Adventist colleagues from around the world. ■



Another CUC Student Accepted into French Language University

Meryl Carey, an English major from Williams Lake, B.C., has been accepted into the education department of the Faculte Ste. Jean, the French college of the University of Alberta (U of A).

The U of A college accepts only those students who are fluent enough in French to study in a completely French classroom environment. Carey plans to teach in a French immersion school upon graduation. She took the opportunity afforded by CUC to study at the Adventist college in Colonges, France, for a year before completing her French minor at CUC.

Carey is the latest of Auguste's students to complete a French minor in two years and then go on to the Faculte Ste. Jean. Others have gone on to studies at the French college in a variety of areas, including international business, where languages are becoming an expected skill. ■

CUC Students Win Government French Language Bursary

Upholding CUCs unblemished record for winning French language student bursaries, two intermediate French students have received government bursaries which will allow them to study French at the immersion university setting of their choice. This summer, education major Anna Goltz (Leduc, Alta.) and history major Lorenzo Fiorito (College Heights, Alta.) will be winging their way to Quebec to study French for five weeks.

"We have a very good record for supplying students to these programs," says associate professor of French Monique Auguste, who for many years has been encouraging those students she thinks are ready for the experience to apply for the government-sponsored summer program. Students need only to pay their way to the French destination of their choice, and the rest of their

Breaking News

At its May 7 to 9 meeting, the CUC board of trustees reviewed the college's feasibility study, including a possible change of location for the campus. The board did not make a final decision on this issue, but voted to have CUC prepare detailed site-specific building and business plans for both the current campus in Lacombe and relocating the school to a site between Calgary and the Rocky Mountains. The board will review these two business plans at an upcoming board meeting and make a final decision on the future direction of the college. A more detailed report on the board's May meeting will be published in the next issue of the Messenger.

living and educational expenses are covered by the government program.

"It's a great benefit for our students," says Auguste, who notes that she's never had a student turned down and never had a student regret the experience. ■

55 Graduates Mark CUCs Last Graduation of the Century

Forty graduates of CUCs programs and the Union College/CUC education program received degrees on April 25, along with 15 graduates of the Loma Linda University (LLU) marital and family therapy program.

Robert Rudd (four-year bachelor of arts program) and Lauralee Brock (four-year bachelor of science) received the golden cords and medallions for attaining their degrees with highest honours (summa cum laude). Four of the LLU graduates were also listed on the national (USA) dean's list.

Faculty were also honored at the commencement ceremony. Dr. Ranko Stefanovic, chair of the religious studies department, received the Henry and Harriet Johnson award for excellence in teaching, and Dr. Aileen Ross, who retired from the English department in December after 10 years of dedicated Christian leadership in CUCs classrooms, was made adjunct professor of English emerita. ■



Graduate Accepts Pastoral Position at CUC

Honey Todd, one of the Loma Linda University Canadian campus marital and family therapy (MFT) graduates who also received a family life education certificate and who was listed in the national (USA)

dean's list for her work in the Loma Linda University MFT program, was introduced at the vesper program by College Heights SDA Church pastor Ron Sydenham as the new

associate pastor of the College Heights church.

Todd, who holds a bachelor of arts degree in the pastoral track from Avondale College in Australia, also earned a bachelor of psychology degree (honors) from James Cook University of North Queensland before entering the MFT program at CUC. Sydenham notes that the addition of a pastor with Todd's professional counselling training and ability will be a great addition to the campus church pastoral team. ■

Leavitt Receives New Award at Graduation: Scum of the Earth

This year, graduation vespers speakers Pastors Ron Sydenham (College Heights SDA Church) and Dan Rochford (Edmonton South SDA Church) instituted what will no doubt become one of the most highly-regarded annual awards for CUC faculty: the scum of the earth award, bestowed this year upon education professor Keith Leavitt.

In their team-preached sermon, Sydenham and Rochford, who were classmates at CUC, examined the text written by Paul wherein he reviews how he and the other apostles appeared to conventional people as odd, of no value, "potato peelings," the "scum of the earth."

When presented with the award, Leavitt, who was also a class sponsor, responded with humble humor, "It's just another title for my students to use." ■

Correction: An incorrect phone number was published for Paul Lehmann in the April issue. The correct number should be 403/782-3381 ext. 373.



CUC String Quartet at Campmeetings — The CUC String Quartet, composed of Duarte Silva, Jacquie Schafer (string instructor and conductor), Niels McKibbin, and Linda Tym, who also play in the CUC orchestra, represents CUC at rallies, campmeetings, and such prestigious events as the premier of Alberta's annual prayer breakfast this May 27.



The quartet will be at these campmeetings this summer: Vancouver Island (May 29); Man/Saskatchewan (July 3, tentative); Alberta (July 10); Hope, B.C. (July 31).

Light Shines at Campmeetings and Year-Round — CUCs new musical group Into the Light, composed of James Jeffery, Rhanda Bonet, Amryl Findley, Justin Jeffery, and Steven Tetz, is keeping its music polished all year long. Hailed as "the most powerful musical group CUC has ever put together," they'll be singing not only at campmeetings, but also at youth rallies, soup kitchens, and prisons throughout the year. To book Into the Light, call Lorraine Wombold at 800/661-8129 ext. 302, and catch them at the campmeeting nearest you: Alberta (first weekend); Kingsway/Ontario; Quebec; Newfoundland (youth tent, July 19-22); Hope, B.C. (both weekends); Maritimes (August 6 and 7).





**"I had a job
as a French
immersion
teacher a
week after I
finished my
requirements."**

Danita Kellough
Ecole Oriole Park School
Red Deer, Alberta
B.Ed., Canadian University College, 199
French immersion teacher

Coming from an English-speaking home, Danita never dreamed she'd find herself teaching in a French immersion class even before she graduated from CUC. But her supervising teacher and principal were so impressed with her French and teaching skills as a student teacher that when a maternity leave created an opening, she got the job.

Danita took the first two years of her education program at another school, but didn't feel she was getting anywhere with French. "The class was so huge I had no success in it, so I dropped it. But at CUC it was awesome!"

In two years at CUC, she completed all the requirements for her French minor and finished her education degree. When she went on to summer courses in Halifax and Quebec, she was placed in advanced level classes and got A's.

"I think the world of Mme Auguste. She was very supportive in class, and very supportive of me getting a job in French immersion. She's excellent!"

Danita's impressed not only family and friends (who've attended CUC at her recommendation), but school administrators and parents of her students as well. "They appreciate what I've accomplished as a non-francophone," she says. "They think, 'If she can do it, maybe my kids can too.'"

**CANADIAN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
SUCCESS STORIES**

Luz Saw the Light

by Ben-Ezra Adap,
Pastor of the Bramalea SDA Church, Brampton, Ont.

The charm of a Canadian autumn added to the excitement on Oct. 30, 1998, as Luz Caparanga first set foot in Canada as an immigrant. Together with her husband, Delfin, they joyfully felt years younger for having been granted immigration status through the sponsorship of their youngest daughter, Doreen, the only Adventist among her brood of five. Doreen is married to Johnathan Rodriguez, and both are active members of the Bramalea SDA Church, which is located on the western edge of Metro Toronto.

"Come What May, I Am Ready"

Upon learning of the Next Millennium Seminar, Luz and Delfin never absented themselves from these meetings. While living in the Philippines, they had Bible studies with Luz's brother, who is a lay pastor of a Christian Fellowship Church. However, they did not make any serious commitment pertaining to religion. They also had a pleasant knowledge of Adventists in the Philippines, and through Doreen they found the nightly messages of Dwight Nelson compelling and interesting.

Being new to Canada, the couple was not able to gain much courage to make a decision during the Next Millennium Seminar. Luz was calculating her way, not wanting to get ahead of her husband's feelings. But she was caught by surprise one morning when her husband said, "Come what may, I am ready. I have given my life to Christ." Luz kept record within her as to the mystery in Delfin's excitement and inner glow.

Luz knew her husband well. He was a man of few words but sincere and deep in his conviction. Luz, whose name means light, delighted at the breaking of a new day.

Sudden Tragedy

But on Nov. 25, 1998, a sudden turn of events left Luz confused, devastated, and almost crushed by the sudden death of her husband, due to a cerebral hemorrhage. She was at a loss, desperately seeking an answer for the stroke of fate, which took away somebody so dear to her. Her family too was caught in despair and gloom.



Luz Caparanga (right) and her daughter, Jean, who both suffered the deaths of their husbands, study the Bible together and find strength in the Lord and encouragement from Adventist church members

Only the minister, the members of Bramalea SDA Church, and the kindness of her newfound Adventist friends greatly comforted her during her bereavement and times of sorrow. She could not understand why these Adventists, who had known her for only 25 days, could be so supportive and kind. All this was a mystery to her. These members just kept helping her morally and financially, even as the remains of her husband were laid to rest on a windy and cold Dec. 1.

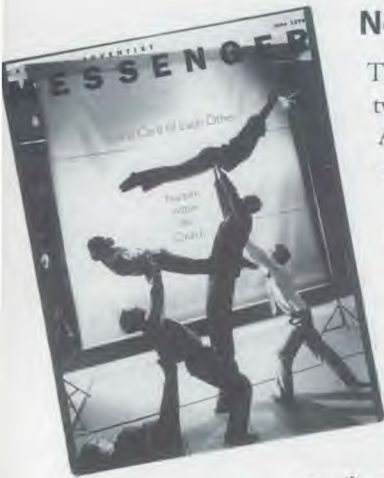
The comforting messages during the funeral service for her husband warmed her heart. The testimonies and reassuring words of support from her newfound Christian friends drove home the knowledge as to the uniqueness of these people. The thought that those who died but have accepted Christ in this life will surely be resurrected when Jesus comes again, strengthened her. The meaning of her husband's exclamation of readiness to face death began to make

sense. She learned that there is a brighter morning that awaits those who have given their lives to Christ, the One who is the resurrection and the life.

Finding Strength and Support

In spite of the darkness which enveloped Luz at the loss of her husband, the follow-up pastoral visits and the unending support of the church helped Luz to piece together her shattered life. She readily welcomed Pastor Ben's offer of further help to understand God's plan for her life. After a month of regular Bible studies, she found herself basking in the light of hope. When she was asked for her response to the claims of the Savior, her answer was, "I want to be baptized, when can it be?" Luz was baptized on Jan. 30, 1999.

Today, Luz keeps herself busy with baking and babysitting. "I want to keep myself busy with something profitable so I won't be lonely," she says. Her wise resolve opened a new adventure — sharing her newfound faith with her own daughter, Jean, who came to Canada upon learning of the death of her father. Jean came to comfort her mother, for after only three years of married life she herself, at the age of 29, suffered the death of her husband. Mother and daughter, both widows, are now discovering solace in studying the word of God. Together they are discovering the truth of Isaiah 40:31, which says, "But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." ■



Now That's Teamwork!

The Canadian Adventist Messenger received two awards for writing and design from the Associated Church Press (ACP) at its annual convention in April.

The first award was in the category of theme issue, section, or series, and recognized the Messenger's September, 1998, series of articles on Canadians serving in world missions. The judge commented, "Homey, humble, and sometimes harrowing, these stories are gripping because they're packed with old-fashioned human drama.

Quotes like 'Stop! They've got guns trained on us!' naturally makes you want to read on."

The second award was in the category of four-color magazine cover, recognizing the Messenger's June, 1998, cover on nurture within the church. The photographer was Jason Ivany. The judge observed, "The creation of human sculpture provides a wonderful expression and visualization of the theme topic. The composition of the photo is graceful and eye-catching. The subtle use of shadow and minimal use of color accentuate the delicacy and interconnectedness of human relationships. Very effective."

The Messenger warmly thanks the writers and photographer whose contributions made these issues outstanding. At the convention, ACP presented awards in 43 categories of religious journalism, including writing, editing, graphics, and design. In all, there were more than 1,000 submissions in the various categories. ACP, of which the Messenger is a member, encompasses 175 Canadian and American religious publications. ■

■ BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC Office of Education Welcomes New Associate Director



Lloyd Robinson will join the B.C. Conference in July to fill the position of associate director of education, which was left vacant by the resignation of Bonnie Walker in January. Robinson is currently employed by the Peel District Board of Education in Ontario.

With an education career that covers 23 years, Robinson says, "My background as a student in both the public and Adventist

education systems, as well as my experience as a teacher and an administrator in both systems, give me a very solid understanding of what makes a good Adventist education so necessary and relevant for our young people."

In addition to his understanding of procedures, policies, curricula, resources, and exemplary practices, Robinson has demonstrated leadership skill in planning/facilitating workshops, seminars, retreats, and conferences. His expertise in computer technology has also been demonstrated by the implementation of his school's computer plan and his initiation of On-line Partners in Education, a daily E-mail communique.

In affirming Robinson's selection, one of the review committee members wrote, "Lloyd seems to have a real vision for this position. His values of excellence for our schools, helping teachers feel professional, and rekindling the spark of fun in learning for students will motivate educators. Most importantly, Lloyd seems to have a close relationship with God. He comes across as a sort of person that puts others first: an excellent listener, an experienced mediator, and a caring supporter and leader. He is described by one of his supervisors as one who 'finds the best in others and uses those strengths to help them through.'" ■

Led by Friends and God

Two individuals were baptized into the Maple Ridge church in the past several months, and they share the following testimonies.

Debbie Kearns —

"I was brought up as a Roman Catholic. When commuting to work, I met two Adventist sisters, Elisa and Vivian Padernal, who befriended me and in due time invited me to their home for a church social. I was impressed with the friendliness shown me and soon began coming to church with the sisters. After learning about the Adventist beliefs, I felt I had to follow the Bible. This was a very positive experience. Before Net '98, I was thinking about being baptized, and after the meetings I made my final decision. After a few more studies, I was baptized in Feb. 13, and am very happy with my decision and with my church family."



Wally Lynch, Debbie Kearns, and Pastor Don Anderson

Wally Lynch — “I had been to several evangelistic meetings in my homeland, Montserrat. Also in England and Canada. But I never made a commitment to give my heart to the Lord until the last two years. I started to think seriously about where I was heading in life. It wasn't a good picture I saw. I began to pray to God for guidance. I also watched *It Is Written*. It helped me to understand more about God and His love to save me by sending His Son, Jesus. The Holy Spirit convicted me. I was convinced that the Sabbath was the right day to keep. The only right thing to do was to give my heart to the Lord. Since I found Jesus, I am happy to have Him as my forever Friend. I was baptized directly after Net '98 on Nov. 14.” ■

School Wins Grand Prize in Kellogg's Education Program

On a Sunday in February, Shellie Shipowick, head teacher of North Coast Christian School, in Stewart, B.C., called students and parents together for a surprise announcement. As she stood before the group of students, who raptly followed her every word, she slowly unrolled a banner which read, “You have won . . . 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 computers and software worth approximately \$20,000.”

At first there was absolute silence, followed by cheers, upraised hands, and squeals of delight from the students and a mixture of tears and gasps from the parents and adults who shared in the announcement.

The 14 students of NCCS had carried out a dedicated collection campaign for the Education Is Tops promotion offered by Kellogg's. The three schools in each of five defined regions across Canada that collected the greatest number of Kellogg UPC symbols per capita were eligible for a computer resource package. UPC symbols were counted on a per capita basis within each school; therefore, all participating schools competed equally.

One of three computer resource packages — each worth approximately \$20,000, \$10,000, and \$2,500 — were awarded to the three winning schools in each region. In addition, Kellogg's held random draws for the months of September, October, and November, in which one school per region was awarded a computer resource package every month.

The eight new computers will be provided by Packard Bell and will soon be up and running in the B.C. Conference's northernmost school. Thank you to Kellogg's for their support of such a visionary promotion, their endorsement of the value of education, and their demonstration that hard work and dedication do pay off. ■

*by Lani Watt
Stewart, B.C.*

■ ALBERTA

Dedication, Skill, and a Huge Supply of Fabric

Every so often, we hear a heartwarming story of a humble life dedicated to service. This story is about not one, but three octogenarians whose selfless spirit of sacrifice and love are reminiscent of Dorcas in Bible times, “who was always doing good and helping the poor.”

The story begins with Pauline Kozachenko, my mother-in-law, who had a burning desire to help the less-fortunate. She loved to quilt, and for years she stitched together colorful quilt tops, mostly by hand. Frail in health and crippled by arthritis, she always dreamed of “someday being well enough to finish these quilts so some poor person could be warm.” At the same time, she couldn't resist a sale of fabrics that might prove useful in quilting or for a garment. But she passed to her rest in December, 1996, without seeing her dream fulfilled.

In September, 1998, the family was faced with the task of disposing of all these materials. I believe God led us to contact two other dear old ladies, who took over where Mother Kozachenko had left off.

Anna Samograd, of the Innisfree church, agreed to finish the quilts. This dear grandmother, 88 years old, called me a few weeks ago to tell me that she had completed the task. Her voice was filled with joy as she said, “God gave me the health and strength, and He helped me to finish those quilts.” Every day since early October, she spent many hours stitching quilts — 52 from Grandma Kozachenko, plus another 10 of her own. These quilts were all folded and ready for ADRA's shipment.

But these quilts are not the extent of this dear lady's service of love. Since 1991, when the Innisfree church started shipping clothing and other items to Ukraine, Anna offered to do the necessary mending and sewing on of missing buttons before the clothes were sent off. Not only does she give her time, but in most cases she pays for the quilt batting and sometimes the backing material. She is very appreciative of donations of materials that can be used in her service of love.

The third lady in this story is Elsie Layritz, of Westlock. We learned that she has made and sold crafts before Christmas for many years and in this way has raised thousands of dollars for ADRA. One day, while



Anna Samograd has transformed leftover fabric into more than 60 quilts to be donated through ADRA

talking to her about her work, she told us, "I don't only make crafts to sell. In the winter I like to sew clothes for ADRA orphans." How delighted she was to learn that we had materials to give her from Grandma Kozachenko's collection. In February, she asked my husband and me to come and see what she had done. We couldn't believe our eyes: Elsie had just completed



Elsie Layritz has used fabric remnants to create more than six dozen garments for orphans overseas

76 outfits for children, ranging from baby sizes to garments for 10- to 12-year-olds. And she had used only about half the materials. This 80-year-old lady spends about six hours a day sewing for the love of others!

I can only imagine the joy on Pauline's face when she learns that the ripples started by her feeble efforts were expanded by Anna and Elsie — and who can tell where the ripples will end. ■

by Lilian Kozachenko

■ ONTARIO

Maranatha 1999

The Maranatha Institute of Evangelism is an annual weekend lay training convention sponsored by the Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. This year, the event was held March 26–27 on the campus of Kingsway College in Oshawa.

David Smith, the main devotional guest speaker, is the writer/producer for the Voice of Prophecy radio broadcast. He took the place of his uncle, Morris Venden, who could not attend Maranatha '99 because of illness. In several sessions, Smith spoke on the importance of using our spiritual giftedness; the reality



Kurt Johnson, director of the Voice of Prophecy Discover Bible Schools, led out in one of the lay training workshops



Pastor Romulo Daquilo (left), coordinator of Maranath '99, introduced feature speaker David Smith

of the resurrection of Jesus Christ; and the providence of God in our lives, despite occasional detours. Smith stated that if we continue to trust God, He will continue to guide us and has ways of redeeming those events that seem like wasted detours, making every experience more profitable.

This year, nine different workshops were featured, including Discover Bible School, by Kurt Johnson; evangelism — how to give Bible studies, by Justis St. Hilaire; family life ministries, by Colin and Mabel Dunbar; health ministry, by Gwen Foster; prayer ministry, by Winston Ferris; prison ministry, by Danny McMannus; adult Sabbath school, by James Zackrisson; youth Sabbath school, by Audley Allen; and evangelism through literature, by Jason McCracken.

More than 300 members from all over the Ontario Conference attended the various workshops. Those who attended the How to Give Bible Studies workshop went out on Sabbath afternoon into the community, under the direction of Pastor Gordon Houston, of the College Park SDA Church, and four families were signed up for Bible studies. Houston already has a group in his church who are trained to do the follow-up work of giving Bible studies.

As a follow-up to the prayer ministry workshop, Ruth SDA Church, a newly-organized church in Brampton, did a prayer walk activity in their community, and many members, including the young people, participated. When they returned to the church, everyone testified that they had experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit accompanying them on the walk. These members are planning to do it again, and at the end of the month, they will begin knocking on doors in their community to share with people the knowledge of a prayer-hearing and a prayer-answering God.

Plans are now in place for Maranatha 2000. This will be held again on the campus of Kingsway College from March 10 to 12. ■

Tent Evangelism Coming to Toronto



Glenn Samuels

Three churches — Downsview, Mt. Olive, and Hope — are combining their efforts to host a big-tent evangelistic series in Toronto this summer. This is the third joint tent series in the Toronto area, and members are asking for your prayers as they launch the event. The meetings

will be held from July 16 to August 14. The speaker will be Glenn Samuels, director of evangelism for the West Jamaica Conference and speaker for the Jamaican television program *Behold He Cometh*.

If you have friends or relatives living in the Toronto area who have not yet accepted Jesus, the churches would like to contact them. Please phone Pastor Ken Campbell at 905/824-7015, Pastor Ledford Morris at 905/508-1288, or Pastor Oyeman Mitchell at 905/832-5409. ■

■ MARITIMES

Generous Donation Comes from Community Member



Community member Harold Newell makes a donation to Ted Atwood, of the Oak Park SDA Church

Ted Atwood, head elder of the Oak Park SDA Church, accepted a cheque for \$10,000 from Harold Newell, owner and president of Harold Newell & Son Trucking Ltd. The funds were donated to ADRA Canada (\$3,000) and to the Oak Park church (\$7,000) for paving its parking lot. Newell is a non-Adventist who has

helped and held a great interest in this church since its building in 1992. The members thank Newell for his generosity. ■

■ MANITOBA / SASKATCHEWAN

Touched by Grace

The Hill Avenue SDA Church in Regina presented its fourth annual Easter drama, *Touched by Grace*, to a packed audience on April 2. The cast, directed by Eric Greene, included 25 to 30 church members, ranging in age from 4 to 82 years. The musical drama portrayed Christ's healing ministry and His death on the cross,

and included scenes of the Samaritan woman, Mary Magdalene, Pontius Pilate, Barabbas, and Christ's resurrection.

Written comments from the audience were very favorable, and visitors and church members alike were touched. The cast spent many hours rehearsing, assembling props, obtaining costumes, and preparing appropriate sound and light effects. They are thankful for all the talents that united to produce *Touched by Grace*, and pray that as a result of this outreach, their community, friends, and relatives will come to know their church, and especially God, better. ■

In a special Easter musical drama, members of the Hill Avenue church portrayed Jesus' ministry and death



■ SDA CHURCH IN CANADA

Major Findings of SDACC Education Survey

Under the leadership of Dr. Roy Naden, former professor and chairman of the religious education department at Andrews University, and with the cooperation and coordination of the SDA Church in Canada (SDACC) office of education, an education survey was developed, tested for reliability and validity, and sent to 5,000 members in 40 churches across Canada last spring. In an effort to gain a representative sample of all the members of the church in Canada, some of the selected churches were urban, some rural, some large, some small, and included English-, French-, and Spanish-speaking congregations.

Pastors were contacted in the selected churches and asked to distribute the surveys to their entire congregations on a Sabbath morning, and to allow time to complete the surveys during the service hour. While all indicated they would cooperate, some pastors distributed the surveys and asked the members to take them home and bring them back the following Sabbath. Congregations in which members took the surveys home had a

very low return rate, which may be one of the causes of a lower than anticipated representation. The following are the major findings based on nearly 900 responses.

- Approximately half of the respondents declined or were not able to answer many basic questions about local education, indicating widespread lack of knowledge of the system.
- Less than 50% of teens rate the schools as having a strong spiritual atmosphere.
- The vast majority of respondents believe it is important for children to go to school where peers share their values (86%).
- Adventist education is too expensive — it is a serious barrier to enrollment.
- The higher the income bracket, the lower the affirmation on almost all items.
- Respondents say teachers must be professional, spiritual, caring, impartial, and committed to Adventism.
- Most respondents are long-time Adventists, indicating an aging church — 58% have been members for more than 20 years.
- We must implement a far better home/church/school combined effort.
- 40% of respondents want a school that tends towards conservatism (dress, health, sports, entertainment) — only 22% believe they have that now.
- There is significant support for increasing the number of non-Adventist students in our schools on the basis of its evangelistic potential (55%).
- School libraries are perceived to be either poor or at best only fair (70%) — the worst rating comes from teens.
- There is powerful conviction that parents do not have an important role in teacher evaluation (99%).
- Teens give tough responses to most questions, while older respondents give idealistic responses.
- Rural respondents have a higher evaluation of the quality of Christian education than urban, and they are more convinced of its value for life outside the church.
- Single-teacher schools have wide support (64%)

Many thanks to all who participated in this education survey. These and other findings will be the basis for future plans to improve our education system. This information will also be very useful as we prepare for the education summit that will take place from August 22 to 25 on the campus of Canadian University College. ■

Correction: The Christian Record Services article in the April issue contained an incorrect statistic. The correct sentence should read, "Ninety-nine percent of our clients are non-Adventist."

■ NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

Net New York '99



The Millennium of Prophecy Seminar is an international Bible satellite seminar from New York City that opens Oct. 15 at downlink sites throughout North America and other parts of the world. The following fact list highlights key details of the series.

Title: Millennium of Prophecy Seminar

Dates: Friday, Oct. 15, through Saturday, Nov. 13, 1999 (nightly except Monday and Thursday)

Speaker: Doug Batchelor, evangelist and director/speaker with Amazing Facts, Inc., an international evangelistic organization incorporated as a denominational television ministry within the North American Division territory

Its Message: Exploring Daniel and Revelation through biblical stories and direct gospel preaching to help demystify prophecy and bring it into the everyday experience of those who attend

Sponsorship: Amazing Facts, working in conjunction with the North American Division

Coverage Area: Open to the world field, with emphasis on metropolitan New York and North America. The North American Division is aiming for 1,000 church and home downlink sites in the New York commuter area alone! In preparation for this satellite event, the full team of Amazing Facts and other evangelists will conduct simultaneous live meetings in as many as 50 area locations in the New York City area during September.

Uplink Site: Midtown Manhattan

Meeting Length: 90 minutes

Broadcast Time: 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., ET

Technical: Feeds provided by ACN and 3ABN in North America, including both analog and digital, small- and large-dish technology, and AGCN servicing overseas feeds

Languages: Simultaneous broadcasting for translators from participating countries

Cost: Costs will be minimal, since many churches own satellite equipment. Essential materials will be modestly priced at under \$10 per person, and handbills are available to order. Call 800/892-3344 or 817/641-3643 to order.

Visit the Web Site: <http://www.netny99.org>. Click on "coordinator access"; user name is "metro"; password is "prophecy." ■

Maritime Camp Meeting — *Why Not Y2K*

July 30 to August 7 at Pugwash Campground



Nilton Amorim
President,
Quebec
Conference



Harold Chin
Associate Pastor,
Halifax/Tantallon
Churches



Dr. Richard Clark
Medical
Missionary,
Nepal



Virginia Clark
Medical
Missionary,
Nepal



Dale Galusha
Director,
Signs of the
Times



Victor Gill
Pastor,
Digby/
Middleton
Churches



Rick Harwood
Pastor,
Fredericton/
Harvey/Zealand
Churches



Lawton Lowe
Former
Maritime
Conference
President



Jacques Morris
Pastor,
Madawaska/
Perth-Andover
Churches



Brian Neumann
Youth Seminar
Speaker,
South Africa



Gerald Northam
Treasurer,
SDA Church
in Canada



Roy Uffindell
Pastor,
Fox Point/
New Minas
Churches

Alberta Camp Meeting *Know Our God — Make Him Known — Trust Him Always*

July 2 to July 10 at Foothills Camp



Shawn Boonstra
Evangelist,
Canadian
Adventist
Media Center



Anne Cools
Liberal Senator
from Ontario



Lowell Cooper
Vice-President,
General
Conference



Sang Lee
Physician and
International
Lecturer,
New Life
Institute



Stephen McPherson
President,
Idaho
Conference



Randall Roberts
Faculty of
Religion,
Loma Linda
University



Calvin Rock
Vice-President,
General
Conference



Randall Skoretz
Associate Pastor,
University Church,
Loma Linda,
California



Ranko Stefanovic
Chair,
Department
of Religious
Studies, CUC



Nancy Van Pelt
Heart 'N Homes
Seminars,
Clovis, California

Roger Record
Nationally-known speaker,
Laurel, Maryland

British Columbia Camp Meeting — *Ready for Jesus*

July 23 to July 31 at Camp Hope



Sharon Aka
Candle
Ministries



Nadia Bettencourt
National Project
Coordinator,
ADRA Canada



Lorna Brown
Candle
Ministries



Henry Feyerabend
Speaker/
Director,
It Is Written,
Canada



Robert Folkenberg
Field
Representative,
Adventist Global
Comm. Network



Alfred Griffith
Pastor,
Manteca
SDA Church,
California



Ron Halvorsen, Jr.
Pastor,
Keene SDA
Church, Texas



Alvin Kurtz
Pastor,
Victoria
SDA Church,
British
Columbia



Errol Lawrence
Assistant
Professor of
Religion, CUC



Alfred McClure
President,
North American
Division



Ben Maxson
Stewardship
Director,
General
Conference



Mary Maxson
Women's
Ministries
Director, NAD



Todd Miller
Pastor,
St. Albert
SDA Church,
Alberta



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Capital Memorial
SDA Church,
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Programming
Director,
Voice of
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Managing Editor,
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Review



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Clovis, California



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Academy,
North Carolina

Dr. Arlene Blix, Dept. of Nursing, California State University
Dr. Glen Blix, Loma Linda University School of Public Health
Dr. Neal Barnard, Physicians Committee for Responsible
Medicine, Washington, D.C.
Youth Extreme Team, Andrews University

Newfoundland Camp Meeting — *Jesus the Blessed Hope*

July 19 to July 24 at Woody Acres Campground



Eradio Alonzo
Associate
Secretary,
Ministerial
Association,
NAD



David Jamieson
President,
SDA Church in
Newfoundland
and Labrador



Gerald Northam
Treasurer,
SDA Church
in Canada



Nola Pal
Associate
Director/
Finance,
ADRA Canada



Stephen Payne
Vice-President,
Marketing and
Enrollment
Services, CUC



Morris Venden
Associate
Speaker,
Voice of
Prophecy



Beverly Whittaker
Chair, Medical
Department,
Weimar
Institute

Manitoba/Saskatchewan Camp Meeting — *By His Spirit: A Finished Work*

July 2 to 10 at Camp Whitesand



Richard Barron
Pastor,
Bermuda
Conference



Henry Feyerabend
Speaker/
Director,
It Is Written,
Canada



Clarence Hodges
Dept. of Public
Affairs and
Religious
Liberty, NAD



J. Alfred Johnson II
Adult
Ministries
Director, NAD



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Wally Lyder
Youth Speaker



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Programming
Director,
Voice of
Prophecy



Ken Wiebe
Secretary,
British
Columbia
Conference

Quebec Camp Meeting

July 14 to 18 at Camp Val d'Espoir

George Brown, Former President of the
Inter-American Division

Terry Johnson, Youth Pastor, Sligo SDA Church,
Takoma Park, Maryland



Roy Adams
Associate
Editor,
Adventist
Review



Denis Fortin
Professor,
Andrews
Theological
Seminary



Ed Reid
Stewardship
Director,
North
American
Division

Ontario Camp Meeting — *The Advent Hope*

July 8 to 11 at Kingsway College, Oshawa, Ontario



Ben-Azra Adap
Pastor,
Bramalea SDA
Church, Ontario



Bert B. Beach
Director of
Inter-Church
Relations,
General
Conference



Shawn Boonstra
Evangelist,
Canadian
Adventist
Media Center



Henry Feyerabend
Speaker/
Director,
It Is Written,
Canada



Larry Herr
Professor,
Canadian
University
College



Howard Homenchuk
Chaplain,
North York
Branson
Hospital, Ontario



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Prayer Ministries
Director,
North American
Division



Errol Lawrence
Assistant
Professor of
Religion, CUC



Derrik Nichols
President,
Ontario
Conference



Orville Parchment
President,
SDA Church
in Canada



Walter Pearson
Speaker/
Director,
Breath of Life



Randal Wisbey
President,
Canadian
University
College

Kumar Dixit
Youth Pastor,
Columbia Union
College, Takoma
Park, Maryland

■ Announcements

The Vancouver Central SDA Church is looking for the following missing members: Binh Trong Do, Debbie Helen Eccleston, Brian Lonnie Freemark, Joan Fyfe, Ruby Gomez, Nell Greig, Terry Hiebert, Gloria Hillis, Carlton James, Olga Kencalo, Peal Kessler, Touch Khean, Sun Ngon Khean, Phyllis Klatt, Susan Klatt, Irene MacKinnon, and Sisko Makela. Anyone with information should contact the Vancouver Central SDA Church. Phone 604/266-6727 or fax 604/263-3236.

The Kitchener-Waterloo SDA Church is looking for the following missing members: Debbie Haynes, Ester Ciunen, June Ziegler, Michael Lenhardt, Amy Lu, Kirk Babcock, Nec Inthavongky, Kaykeo Inthavongky, Norman Standfast, Joanne Standfast, Jerry Vajsar, and Lenk Vajsar. Anyone with information should contact Joyce Adams, Church Clerk, Kitchener-Waterloo SDA Church, Box 129, 14 Alice Cres., Petersburg, ON N0B 2H0.

■ Births

Caleb Avery Leigh Embleton was born July 25, 1998, to Lisa and Daryl Embleton of Harvey, N.B.

John Robert Galbraith was born on July 9, 1998, to Krista and Ross Galbraith of Millidgeville, N.B.

Kyleigh Skye Harrington was born on Aug. 21, 1998, to Kenny and Heather (Moore) Harrington of Lower Sackville, N.S.

Isaiah Zachery Salter was born on June 29, 1998, to Karri Harrington and David Salter of Halifax, N.S.

■ Weddings

Tanya Ferrier and **David Brewer** were married July 5, 1998, in Fredericton, N.B., and are making their home in Zealand, N.B. Tanya is the daughter of Grace Foster and Jim Ferrier, and David is the son of Betty and Carroll Brewer of Zealand.

Melissa Kennedy and **Dana Brown** were married Sept. 27, 1998, in Tantallon, N.S., and are making their home in Calgary, Alta. Melissa is the granddaughter of Minnie Kennedy, and Dana is the son of Wayne and Janet Brown.

Sarah Wecker and **Quentin Dible** were married Aug. 16, 1998, in Carver, Ore., and are making their home in Portland, Ore. Sarah is the daughter of Barry and Alberta Wecker of Arthurette, N.B., and Quentin is the son of Pastor Peter and Della Dible of Truro, N.S.

Shelley D. Ingram and **Joel M. LeBlanc** were married May 10, 1998, in Rocky Mount SDA Church in North Carolina. Joel is the son of Pastor Jacques and Irene LeBlanc of Bridgewater, N.S.

Elise King and **Terry Penny** were married Jan. 10, 1998, in North Sydney, N.S., and are making their home in Long Island on the Bras D'Or Lakes, N.S.

Natasha Ramalingam and **Paul Soper** were married July 5, 1998, in Lacombe, Alta., and are making their home in Edmonton, Alta. Natasha is the daughter of Paul and Pam Ramalingam of Lacombe, and Paul is the son of Frank and Joan Soper of Sydney, N.S.

Michelle Flemming and **Christopher Swim** were married July 4, 1998, in Oak Park, N.S., and are making their home in Cape Island, N.S. Michelle is the daughter of Helen Flemming of Cape Sable Island, and Christopher is the son of David and Georgina Swim.

Lee Han Wong and **Russel Wecker** were married Feb. 23, 1998, in Kota-Kin Abalu, Malaysia, and are making their home in Silang, Cavite, Philippines. Russel is the son of Barry and Alberta Wecker of Arthurette, N.B.

■ Anniversaries

Kathleen (Kay) and **Donald Dunfield**, of Riverview, N.B., celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Sept. 3, 1998. The Dunfields have three children: Laurence (Carol) of Edmonton, Alta., Ladd (Ruth) of St. Andrews, N.B., and Kathleen (Ralph) Dael of Riverview. They have five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

■ Birthdays

Martha DeMerchant, of Perth-Andover, N.B., celebrated her 100th birthday on June 14, 1998. Six generations of the DeMerchant family were present for this special celebration.

Faith Wilson, of Fredericton, N.B., celebrated her 90th birthday on Sept. 30, 1998.

■ Obituaries

John E. Bohlman was born July 23, 1913, in Bozeman, Mont., and died Jan. 31, 1999, in Arelee, Sask. Surviving: son John (Paula) Bohlman of Lincoln City, Ore.; daughters Linda (Alvin) Krivoshein of Arelee, and Dianne (Neal) Matson of Walla Walla, Wash.; brother Raymond of College Place, Wash.; sister Stella Bohlman of College

Place; eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild

■ Legal Notice

Legal Notice: Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference

Notice is hereby given that a special meeting of the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will be held at Camp Whitesands, Theodore, Sask., July 4, 1999, at 9 a.m., in the main auditorium.

The agenda of the meeting will be the consideration of the proposed amendments to the By-laws as presented by the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Constitution and By-laws Committee.

*Daniel R. Jackson, President
Harry B. Sackett, Secretary
John Ramsay, Treasurer*

■ Advertising Policies

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Canadian University College seeks applications for a faculty position in education to begin Sept. 1, 1999. This position may include serving as chair of the department of education, and will include supervising students on practicum assignments and teaching within the department. The applicant must have a doctorate in education, be committed to conduct research in the field, and be willing to teach within the context of Seventh-day Adventist higher education. Please mail curriculum vitae to Dr. John McDowell, Vice-President for Academic Administration, Canadian University College, 235 College Ave., College Heights, AB T4L 2E5, or E-mail jmcdowell@cauc.ab.ca. (8/99)

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The Messenger Asks

What suggestions do you have for new Adventists?

- Remember things are not going to get easier just because you have been baptized. In fact, they may get harder. Also remember baptism does not make you perfect. Even the pastor is not perfect. Look to Jesus. Spend time with Him daily. Pray for others. Walk in your faith daily. Take long walks and see all the neat things God has made.
 - Don't get discouraged if everything doesn't go your way just because you are a Christian.
 - Try not to gossip. I know where it leads. Be kind to everyone.
 - Remember past blessings. Always listen to that still small voice.
 - It sometimes helps to listen to others who have gone through the same thing you are experiencing. Remember you are always worthy in God's eyes.
 - Pursue a healthy lifestyle so you will be better able to respond to Jesus. God's plan for you involves great satisfaction and peace.
 - Last of all, God loves you! He *is* there even though it may not seem like it.
- fast food place where you can just sit and talk to get acquainted.
 - As a new church member, you will be receiving the *Adventist Review*; read it from cover to cover. Get to know your new church that circles the globe.
 - You will notice that some Adventists are vegetarian. If you like to cook, ask different members for 3 – 4 of their favorite recipes.
 - Unless you are very sick, *never* miss Sabbath school and church. Make the Sabbath a habit. Plan each week for the next Sabbath. Knowing that Sabbath begins sundown Friday night, have yourself ready to rest. It is easy to rest when your home is clean, the food prepared for Sabbath, clothes ready to wear, and TV and radio turned off. Don't wait till Friday to try to do all this.
 - Make Sabbath a special day. Rise early enough so you do not have to rush to be on time. The ending of Sabbath is important too. Celebrate it with worship as well. Guard well the edges of the Sabbath.

As a Seventh-day Adventist, you have chosen to make a commitment to a "total way of life" that is decidedly different. Continue to study and grow in preparation for that day when Jesus shall return.

Suzanne Mitchell
Bedford, Nova Scotia

Focus on Jesus because Jesus cares. Looking back 16 years ago when I was baptized in Victoria, B.C., I was a babe in the Adventist Church and fed with the spirit of prophecies and church doctrines. Like a blind man that could see the first time, I was happy and wanted to do everything that I thought was the truth.

Guess what, I was a legalistic. I misunderstood the basic principles of being born again. My focus was on the laws just like the Pharisees and Sadducees at time of Christ. Not long ago I was going on the wrong path. It seemed nobody cared for me. I was frustrated with the church rules and almost left the church.

However, Jesus cared so much for me, I know now that He would have come to rescue me Himself. In His cares, He sent someone to me. My Adventist friend asked me to contact an Adventist pastor who was serving a much smaller church at that time. My friend assured me that this pastor had time for me no matter how busy he would be. Indeed, we got together many times, and I fell in love again with Jesus through this pastor. We focused on Jesus and His love for me. For the first time ever I understood what Jesus meant when He said, "If you love me, you will keep My commandments." Just like a song I used to sing in the youth group at Willowdale church after I left Victoria, "Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, and the things on earth will seem strangely dim, in the light of His glory and grace." I am a great sinner who needs a wonderful savior — Jesus! I must focus on Jesus; He does really care.

Gito Surya
Grimsby, Ont.

Sandy Lake Academy
Dorm Students
Bedford, Nova Scotia

- Start each day with a personal worship. To help you get started with this, it might be best to use a daily devotional book, a set of Bible study guides, or 1 – 2 chapters from your Bible. Have your own prayers first thing in the morning.
- Look for a friendly face in your new church family. Ask if you can share a meal together. You can do this by invitation to your own home if you like to entertain, or invite them to "Dutch treat" and pick a restaurant/

Each month the Messenger poses a question to readers, inquiring about your experiences and viewpoints.

September issue (deadline — July 5)

How did your experience on a Maranatha project impact your life?

October issue (deadline — Aug. 3)

In what ways do you value Ellen G. White's writings?

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- Many groups of 50 or more people in China and North Africa gather round shortwave radios on Sabbath to hear the *Voice of Hope*—AWR is church and pastor.
- In Central and South America 41 non-Adventist stations have requested permission to downlink AWR programming and rebroadcast it to their communities.
- In one Southeast Asia country 10,000 people in one area have accepted the Three Angels Message and are waiting for baptism.

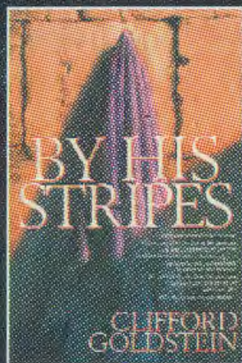
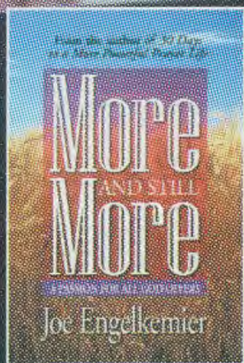
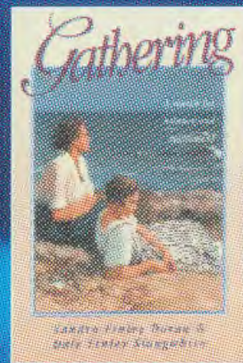
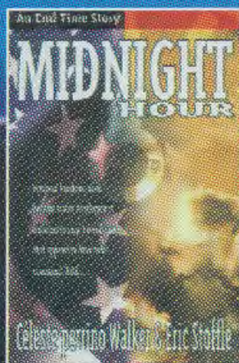
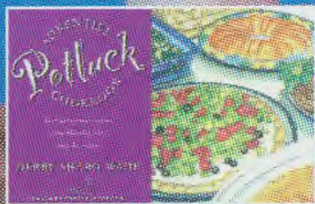
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