

A New Adventist Asks (p.21); Ode to "Mr. Bee" (p.10)  
SDA Church in Canada Scripture Songwriting Contest Winner! (p.27)

february 2014

canadian adventist  
**Messenger**



Helping the Victims of Typhoon Haiyan  
**ADRA Canada's  
Rapid Response**

“The church might be thought of as a greenhouse where Christians, much like plants, thrive because of their surroundings.”



## Thriving

Becky and I like plants. A few years ago, when we were out shopping, we noticed some nearly dead Gloxinias that were about to be discarded. So for a couple of dollars we saved one of them from the trash bin and took it home. It was in pretty sad shape, but we'd seen what healthy ones could look like and thought that maybe we could save it.

We read everything we could about the care, feeding and environment necessary to help Gloxinias thrive. For a time, things looked pretty doubtful. We adjusted the watering, the feeding and the lighting until it began to look better.

One day, after work, Becky met me at the door about as excited as I've ever seen her and hurried me over to the plant. She'd found a hidden bud that was about to open.

That Gloxinia reminds me of Christians and what we need to thrive. On a personal level, I need closeness to God through Scripture, prayer, and acknowledging His presence and power if I am going to make it to the Kingdom. Like a plant, I also need the space to expand, and I do that through serving others, being part of a family of faith, sharing in worship.

Some of that must happen on an individual basis, but part of it is best nurtured through the local church. In fact, the church might be thought of as a greenhouse where Christians, much like plants, thrive because of their surroundings.

Isaiah wrote of the work of Christ, but I think it is our work as well, when he said: "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound: . . . to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified" (Isa. 61:1, 3, ESV)

Let's help one another thrive! ■

*Mark Johnson is president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada*

# Messenger

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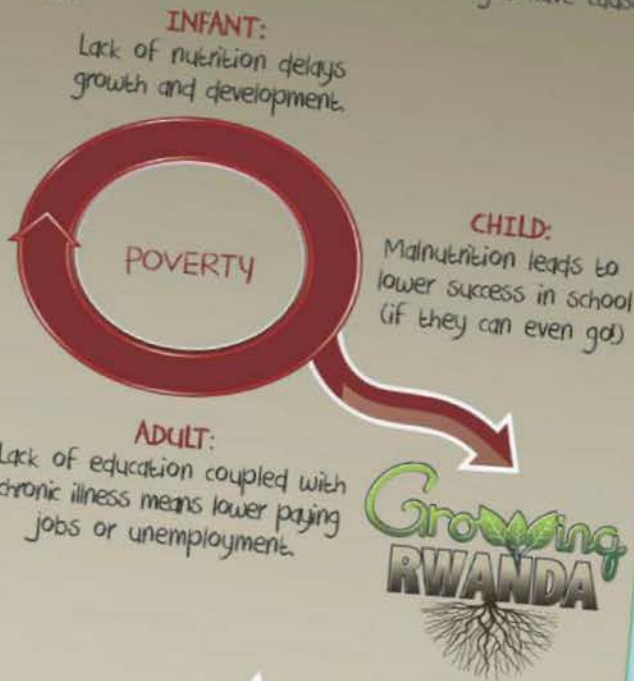
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# The violence has ended, but hunger remains.

About 57% of the Rwandan population lives on less than a dollar a day. Poverty is highest among households whose main source of income is small-scale farming. Being totally dependent on rain-fed agriculture, Rwanda's economy is highly vulnerable to climate variability. Years of drought have caused soil erosion and crop failure.



**And the cycle repeats!**

These parents can't afford to feed their children.

*Families are already making some incredible progress!*

Through ADRA Canada's LEAF project, families are learning sustainable, eco-friendly home gardening methods.



81% of participants are now producing enough fruits and vegetables to feed their families.

87.4% of participants are selling their own produce!



**INFANT:**  
Receive the nutrition they need to properly grow and develop.

**CHILD:**  
Well-fed, healthy, and able to thrive in school.

**ADULT:**  
After receiving the education they need to find employment, these parents are nourished enough to earn money to feed their families and keep their children in school.  
*Breaking the cycle of hunger and poverty!*



Read more in this issue of the Messenger and visit us at [www.adra.ca](http://www.adra.ca)



*What can I do?  
We're so glad you asked!*

1. Please pray for the people in Rwanda.
2. Please make a donation to help us raise another \$300,000 by the end of March to complete this project.

# Thawing Ice



As the warm rays of the Sun of Righteousness flow into the heart, the coldness of indifference begins to melt.

**E**arly in our ministry, my wife and I were assigned to a new district. Members are generally gracious and receptive to incoming pastors, but one matriarch spoke her heart. "I can't believe the conference would send such a young pastor. You young fellows are all the same; you think you know it all and try to change everything. I suppose you will do the same here!" Her words were cold as ice.

Most of us associate ice with winter, and those of us living in Canada (except those in the Fraser Valley and Vancouver Island) seasonally battle ice. We can't escape it, so we make the best of it. We build skating rinks and enjoy ice skating, hockey rinks and play hockey, curling rinks and curl, downhill ski and go sledding, or become creative and ice sculpt. Yet the fact remains, ice is cold, associated with winter, and most Canadians welcome spring and warmer climate. And snowbirds go south to avoid the hazards of ice.

Ice can be dangerous. Icy roads cause accidents. Icy walkways and steps result in falls. Ice widens pavement cracks, causes frost heaves, and rocks surface in fields, damaging farm implements. Icebergs have caused shipwrecks such as with the Titanic, and icepacks trap ships as the Akatemik Shakalskiy.

Only two factors are known to melt ice: heat and chemicals. In our country the positioning of the earth in relation to the sun brings warmer temperatures and melting ice. Salt, the most common chemical applied to roads and walkways drops the freezing point and causes ice to melt.

We live in a country where ice is part of our natural environment, and "God encourages us to contemplate His works. . . . The wind, the sun, the rain, the snow, and the ice, are all ministers to do His will" (*SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 3, p. 1144).

Alluding to the attitude of the elder brother in Jesus' parable in Luke 15, Ellen White states, "Self-righteousness not only leads men to misrepresent God but makes them cold-hearted and critical. . . . The elder son, in his selfishness and jealousy, stood ready to watch his brother, to criticize

every action and to accuse him for the least deficiency. He would detect every mistake and make the most of every wrong act." Then she comments, "When the ice of selfishness is melted from your hearts, you will be in sympathy with God, and will share His joy in the saving of the lost" (*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 210).

Although Ellen White warns against the fire of fanaticism, she also cautions against the ice of formalism. "When the enemy sees that the Lord is blessing His people, and preparing them to discern his delusions, he will work with masterly power to bring in fanaticism on one hand and cold formalism on the other. . . . There are moral icebergs in our churches. There are plenty of formalists who can make an imposing display but cannot shine as lights in the world" (*Christian Service*, p. 40).

In a similar vein, commending Adventists who had responded to a renewal experience and were making restitution to their neighbours and to God, she says, "We have found in our experience that if Satan cannot keep souls bound in the ice of indifference, he will try to push them into the fire of fanaticism" (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 644). Obviously, Satan has two ditches. Either one serves his purpose.

Fortunately, spiritual ice can melt. As the warm rays of the Sun of Righteousness flow into the heart, the coldness of indifference begins to melt. At other times adding the salt of our speech (see Col. 4:6) helps melt the icy attitude of formalism, selfishness and criticism, and is replaced with care and compassion.

As our matriarch flung hailstones, it was tempting to retaliate. Fortunately, I held my peace. Although I did not deliberately make her my project, Jesus did. My wife and I treated her with respect and dignity; showered her with love and compassion. When we left, she wept, and until the day of her death we were the recipients of her gracious "love" letters. The ice had melted and her spring had come. ■

Ken Wiebe is president of the Alberta Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

# teen talk

**Q:** My dad doesn't want me to chat online with guys, so I created a fake Facebook account.

**A:** You must feel quite frustrated. It's totally normal to talk with friends, both guys and girls. God created us social beings, right? Your father knows that too. It would surprise me that he'd want to totally prevent you from talking with monsters, I mean ... guys! There must be some reason behind his not allowing you to chat with guys online.

Have you nicely asked him why? I say nicely because it's very easy to get agitated when something seems unfair. Try having a good, calm conversation with your dad, and be ready to offer some compromises on your part. For instance, you could give him access to your Facebook account, letting him check your chat logs from time to time. Show him that you have nothing to hide and that your conversations with guys are clean.

Now, if you do have something to hide, then that's a totally different problem. Like creating a fake Facebook account to expressly go behind his back. That's a big no-no. Trust is key between dads and daughters.

This has the very real potential to damage your relationship with your dad. Is that what you want? Think long-term.

Also, keeping a fake account to chat with guys might give them the false impression that you're not protected by your father. Some guys may be encouraged to take advantage of it. That's some food for thought!



Do you have a question for Pastor Josué Sánchez? Email it to [messenger@adventist.ca](mailto:messenger@adventist.ca).

... not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.—Philippians 3:9

## Quicksand

An 11-year-old boy playing on the beach one hot afternoon ran to a pool of water to rinse his sandy hands. When he stepped into the pool, his feet started sinking. Quicksand! He tried to pull himself free, but with each tug his legs only went deeper into the oozing sand. Like heavy cement, the wet sand pulled the boy deeper. He couldn't save himself. His only hope was the Coast Guard rescue team.

A mixture of water, sand and clay, quicksand is often found along sea coasts where the water pressure in the sand changes because of the tides. The sand might look solid, but step into it and it immediately changes to a spongy liquid that won't hold you up. The sand flows around you and you are trapped. Special equipment is used to rescue people trapped in quicksand.



### Think about it.

Just like solid-looking quicksand, our own righteousness might look good to others and we might even fool ourselves into thinking we're good enough to be taken to heaven. The hymn "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" reminds us that Jesus' blood and His righteousness is our only hope.

### Do it!

Do you see the hopelessness of trying to be good enough to save? If you haven't yet surrendered your life to Jesus, do it now. Ask Him to forgive you for trusting in your own righteousness and cover you with His righteousness. He will save you. To see a man being rescued from quicksand, visit [creationcornerforkids.blogspot.com](http://creationcornerforkids.blogspot.com)



# destined to serve



Roberson Dorelus, (in centre holding a white box), participating in community outreach with other CUC students.

**IN THE MIDST OF HIS YOUTH GROUP**, new CUC graduate Roberson Dorelus is at home in his new church. Even before the degree was conferred, Roberson felt like a preacher. Twelve years old and he had already started preaching. Still, the call was ignored, and when he finally accepted God's plan in his life, he had no idea that it would take him over 4,500 kilometres away from his Florida home.

Accepting God's call in his life was one thing, but now he had to decide where to pursue his religious studies degree. Roberson scanned the Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities in the United States, but nothing resonated with him. His sister brought up the idea of studying away from home, maybe even abroad. "Let's start in Canada," Roberson said to his sister.



A few keystrokes later, the search “Adventist university in Canada” brought up the Canadian University College website. Some research led to a call to Nicole Sydenham, CUC’s admissions officer. After a few conversations about the university and the religious studies program, Roberson decided he would apply to CUC. Once accepted, Roberson, without visiting the school, decided to pursue his religious studies degree at CUC. “It just felt right,” he remembers.

Fast forward four years to 2013, and Roberson is now an alumnus of CUC, a school he has grown to love. While his CUC experience has left a lasting impression on him, he has given back just as significantly to the campus community. A go-getter from a young age, Roberson is always looking to get involved. In Florida he was involved in missions and various charity fundraising, and he was restless to begin something new that would get the students excited. After writing a proposal, Roberson raised enough money to purchase equipment and start CUC’s first-ever drum line. The drum line’s excellence has given them the opportunity to minister in local schools, prisons and other cultural events in Edmonton and Calgary. This is just one of the amazing legacies students like Roberson leave behind.

As he looks back at his time at CUC, Roberson is overwhelmed with his spiritual growth. “I grew up in the church, and we always had regular worships, but at CUC we just had so much more. From dorm worships, hall worships, weekly chapels, and vespers, there is just so much opportunity to worship and grow,” remarks Roberson.

His time at CUC has now culminated in graduation and a calling as the youth pastor at Edmonton West Seventh-day Adventist Church. A stranger in a new country and campus, Roberson felt at home almost instantly. The people he met while at CUC made him feel at home and became his new community. This spirit of community is what he wants to build as he begins his new ministry. “I learned a lot from professors like Dr. Bruce Boyd at CUC—for example, the idea that conflict can be an opportunity to glorify God if resolved properly. To me he was not only my professor but also my pastor,” remembers Roberson.

Whether it is starting a drum line or his newfound love for visitations, whatever it may be, Roberson just wants to be used. “I’m just looking forward to being used by God to bring His people closer to Him. However he wants to use me.”

>> PRESIDENT’S PAGE BLOG  
CUC NEWS FROM DR. MARK HATHAL  
WWW.CAUC.CA

Stay in touch with your CUC, Canada’s Seventh-day Adventist university, by visiting our website, [www.cauc.ca](http://www.cauc.ca), and clicking on the President’s Page banner.

## President’s Page blog excerpts



Doug Clark and Larry Herr stand in front of the lab named in their honour.

### Dr. Herr Honoured at Center for Near Eastern Archaeology

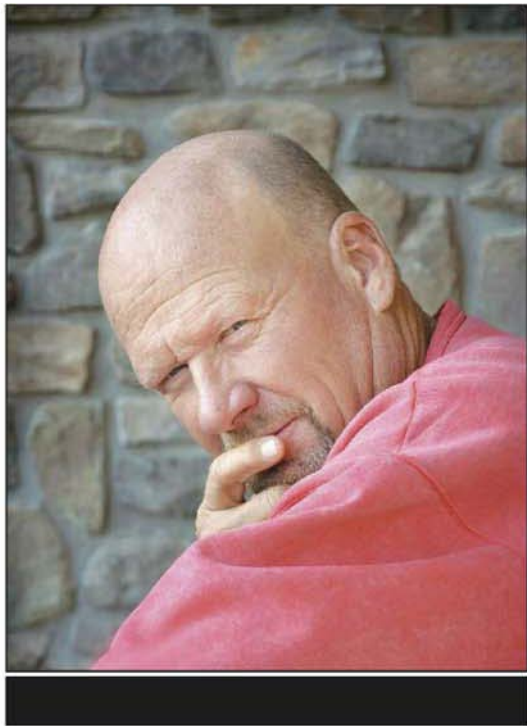
Canadian University College professor of religious studies Dr. Larry Herr was honoured at La Sierra University’s (LSU) Center for Near Eastern Archaeology for his many years of service as one of the directors of the Tall al ‘Umayri excavations in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. At a special ceremony during LSU’s Archaeology Discovery Weekend, Nov. 16-17, 2013, one of the center’s labs was named in honour of Dr. Larry Herr and Dr. Doug Clark.

### Students, Faculty and Staff Raise \$3,050 for Philippines Relief

Because the campus event Amateur Hour took place very soon after Typhoon Haiyan devastated many areas of the Philippines, CUC and Parkview Adventist Academy (PAA) students decided to use Amateur Hour to raise money for the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Canada. So far, \$3,050 has been raised! “I appreciate the compassion of your faculty and students for those affected by the typhoon in the Philippines,” said ADRA Canada director, James Astleford. ■

*JR Ferrer is the communication director for Canadian University College.*

## ODE TO Mr. Bee



If you happen to look at any pictures from the 70s at Toronto Junior Academy (TJA), you would know that a cool dude from Alberta left an indelible mark on the lives of the students and community in which he lived for an all-too-brief period of time. Brian Townsend, known to his students as “Mr. Bee,” left a legacy that any teacher would be proud of.

I wanted to grow up and be a funny, cool and athletic PE teacher just like him, and I know he had the same impact on others. I can truly say that his influence has transcended generations. I still have one of those John Deere green PE uniforms in a box somewhere.

Being a recent Andrews University Gymnic, he brought all the basic skills and teaching abilities that inspired young kids to point their toes and smile. No one had ever done a frog, back, basket or headstand, let alone jump on trampoline and do a “seat drop” or “swivel-hips.” But man, could he ever fly on that trampoline. And fly he did, all the way to the gymnasium rafters, where he would do a “skin the cat” and then drop back down, do a front flip, a back flip, a barony, and then end it all off with a suicide. We were mesmerized and in awe! Our children have now gone on to become members of the Kingsway Aerials, CUC Acronaites and Andrews University Gymnics.

At the time of his death, Brian was serving as a missionary in Belize. He had moved there from Canada to build the Valley of Peace Seventh-day Adventist High School and remained well after its completion. He also contributed in helping build a church and worked for the overall betterment of the community in Belize.

Brian went missing on Dec. 24, 2013, and was confirmed as dead nearly a week later, on Jan. 2, 2014. Upon hearing of his father’s disappearance, Kory went to Belize on Dec. 28 and united with Patricia St. Jean and the Belize Disaster and Rescue Response team in the search for his father.

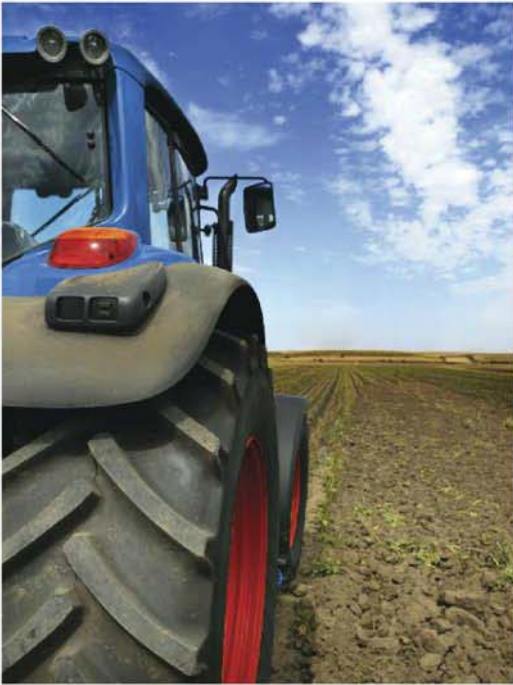
He called off the search after he learned that a body had been found in Guatemala, the identity of whom he would soon confirm to be his father’s. The cause of Brian’s death was reported to be a homicide.

It is at a solemn moment like this that we reflect on the life he lived and seek to honour his memory. My memories of Brian seem like they happened just yesterday, but that is likely, because they have been relived so often. And while my memories of Mr. Bee will always remain as some of my most cherished, I would be remiss not to mention him as Brian. When Mr. Bee became Brian to me, we occasionally laughed about the good old days but also talked openly about life—the challenges and defeats. While there has been much laughter, there have also been tears.

Brian was more than a teacher. He became a friend to all of us. Whenever his name came up among TJA classmates, it would almost certainly encourage smiles and laughter as we recalled some event or situation from our school days involving Brian. I know he has touched many other lives in Western Canada and Belize as well.

We don’t understand why his work in Belize ended the way it did. I do know that he left a positive impression on the lives of those he came in contact with. To his family I wish to extend my deepest condolences and leave you with the thought that Mr. Bee will never be forgotten and will always hold a special place in the hearts of his many students from TJA. May God comfort and keep you through this difficult time. ■

*Larry and Gary Dooks [With files from  
Adventist News Network and The Globe and Mail]*



# The Tractor Fender Will

“On June 8, 1948, near Rosetown, Sask., a farmer became pinned under his tractor,” began the speaker as he started the second session of the Wills Seminars. “Fearing he might die, this farmer took out his pocket knife and etched these words on the tractor’s fender: ‘In case I die in this mess, I leave all to the wife, Cecil Ge● Harris.’”<sup>1</sup>

“Did Mt. Harris make a legal will?” the Planned Giving director asked his audience. He then answered his own question. “The farmer passed away the next day. The tractor fender was removed and submitted to the courts, who determined that it was indeed a valid holographic or handwritten will.”

The director then flicked these words on the screen:

**Basically, there are three types of wills in Canada<sup>2</sup>:**

**Formal Will:** This is a printed document signed by the testator (person making the will) in the presence of at least two witnesses who are not beneficiaries of the will or spouses of beneficiaries. It is wise to have a formal will prepared by a lawyer to avoid potential problems of an improperly worded or inadequately signed will.

**Notarial:** Similar to the formal will, the notarial will is only used in Quebec and is prepared by a notary.

**Holographic:** Completely handwritten, this type of will is signed and dated by the testator. Experts advise against holographic wills because they can be more easily misinterpreted or challenged. Some provinces may not consider them to be legal documents.

A lively discussion followed about the uses, benefits and cost-effectiveness of each will type. ■

*... To be continued in the next Messenger.*

<sup>1</sup> Jessica Brown, “Tractor Fender Will: Dying Saskatchewan Farmer’s Will Goes Down in History,” Global News Toronto, October 25, 2013, <http://globalnews.ca/news/926746/dying-sk-farmers-will-goes-down-in-history>. The seminar “speaker” in this story is hypothetical; his words are borrowed from the article documented here.

<sup>2</sup> Nothing in this article is to be considered legal advice. Wills and estate laws are under provincial jurisdiction and are subject to change. Professional legal advice is always recommended.



Rebecque Johnson

ON THE  
ROAD WITH

Becky

AT THE WESTMOUNT CHURCH IN QUEBEC, AND THE  
BRAMPTON AND APPLE CREEK CHURCHES IN ONTARIO.

*If someone painted a picture of  
Jesus’ life, what would it look like?*

**Krystal Williams:** I picture a man whose sole purpose was to bless others, whether through a genuine smile to a discouraged heart, a glass of water to a thirsty mouth, or a night in prayer for a struggling soul. I picture a life of willing, joy-filled service and a heart that was satisfied to see the end results of His toil.

**Derrriann Cornwall:** It would be an abstract painting with a variety of textures and bright colours. These details would best represent the impact He had on the people He came in contact with and His loving attributes.

**Shirley Smith:** Jesus was often weary from travelling and tired because of a lack of sleep and not eating regularly. He would sometimes be deeply saddened and maybe even frustrated by the condition of the world around Him. However, He would be calm and resolute, pressing on every day, feeling great joy at the people who showed simple faith, and elated when people believed in Him and determined in their hearts to follow Him.

**Glenna Ogilvie:** It would be one of love, mercy, forgiveness, non-judgmental, welcoming, and sharing, with light emanating from it. It would be peaceful, and it would look like someone I would want to know about in-depth.



The rehabilitation home provides long-term supports for individuals with mental disabilities and *Acción Médica en Bolivia* provides funding for individuals who cannot afford treatments in hospitals.

# A Place Called Hope



Benjamin Guarachi and shelter operator Gheorghe Micoti.

**B**enjamin Nina Guarachi has found a place he can call home. At age 51, with no close friends or family by his side, Guarachi needed help when his health started to fail. He lives in the central South America country of Bolivia, where about 55 percent of the population is less than 25 years old.

In November 2011, Guarachi had his leg amputated. He had several medical conditions, including diabetes and a wound that needed to heal. No house would take him in.

That's when *Acción Médica en Bolivia* (AMe Bolivia), an adult shelter, supported by A Better World, located in the booming city of Santa Cruz, stepped in. Operated by Gheorghe Micoti, the shelter provided Guarachi with an adequate diet and proper care of his wound.

A Better World Canada, governed by College Heights Adventist Church in Lacombe, Alta., provided the funds needed for Guarachi to receive a prosthesis.

Rob Weich, operations manager for A Better World, met Micoti several years earlier. They developed a strong partnership. Micoti helped provide logistics for the Canadian team when they'd come to visit.

Micoti saw a void in a country where orphanages are common. He set up a home to help impoverished adults who required medical treatment—an aim well supported by A Better World. "This is a marginalized group of people who aren't able to help themselves," said Weich.

In the case of Guarachi, A Better World provided him with medical aid. Here was a man who thought he was going to die and now he's earning an income as a taxi cab driver, said Weich.

In his own words through Micoti, Guarachi explained how his life has since been transformed.

"When I was bad in the hospital, all the world thought I was going to die," said Guarachi. "Nobody believed in me. All of my family and friends disappeared. Now I want to keep living with you and all the earnings (as a taxi driver) will be for AMe Bolivia because you are my only family."

Guarachi's dream is to buy his own car so he can earn enough to cover all of his food expenses at the shelter.

The rehabilitation home provides long-term supports for individuals with mental disabilities and *Acción Médica en Bolivia* provides funding for individuals who cannot afford treatments in hospitals.

"The doctors usually refer these patients on to [Micoti]," said Weich. "Gheorghe is very well respected."

Once the patients undergo treatment, they recover and receive rehabilitation treatment at AMe Bolivia. About 20 people stay at the centre.

A Better World has helped other clients and will continue the support of the centre.

"We've had 130 patients to date on whom we've had an impact," said Weich. "We're seeing people move from a state of helplessness to one where they can make a contribution to society," said Weich. ■

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*Laura Tester is a volunteer writer for A Better World Canada.*

## Can You Live With Yourself?

# Communicating Integrity

In the Nuview public school district of Southern California, a spelling bee was heating up. After months of preparation, the competition was down to two children, Paul and Sarah. The young girl, Sarah, had just spelled her word incorrectly. If Paul could spell his word without fault, he would become the spelling bee champion.

If you have ever been to a spelling bee competition, you know that it is filled with anxiety—for the children and their parents. It is a high-stress contest that reveals not only spelling ability but also a person's true character. On Jan. 20, 2012, the integrity of a little boy would shine throughout this cutthroat competition. Paul stepped forward to receive his new word, "d-e-m-o-c-r-a-c-y." He misspelled it.

However, the judges of the competition did not catch Paul's error. They immediately announced him as the winner.

Within a few minutes, both Paul and his mother told the judges of his error, that he had indeed misspelled the word.

When was the last time you saw someone admitting his or her failure? This act of self-denial is seldom witnessed. We live in an age where our own leaders

*Integrity  
is more  
than  
what  
people  
see.*

refuse to admit fault or ask for forgiveness.

Integrity can be easily confused with living a morally acceptable life. This is because society has a very low threshold on what is acceptable. Integrity is more than what people see. True integrity, that is your hidden self, can only be

seen by you and God.

Are you living your life for others to see? Or do you live a life of integrity because it matters to you? I would venture to guess that integrity meant more to Paul, the spelling bee competitor, than winning.

In Paul's case, the judges decided to go another round and give both Paul and Sarah another chance. Paul won. This time he could live with himself.

Better is a poor person who walks in his integrity than one who is crooked in speech and is a fool.—Proverbs 19:1, ESV ■

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*Dr. Kumar Dixit is the pastor of Oakridge Adventist Church in Vancouver, B.C. He is the author of Branded Faith: Contextualizing the Gospel in a Post-Christian World. You can follow him on Twitter @kumardixit.*





## ONE ANOTHER

Words by God — "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love." Ephesians 4:2, NIV

The Bible asks us to bear one another's burdens, but what does that mean? When we see someone who is hurting and broken, it affects us. We are changed in some way by it, and that change can range from motivation and desire to do something about it, feeling it in your own life, relating to it, worrying about it, to passing it off and ignoring that brokenness. No matter what our reaction, we are changed.

This brokenness is undeniable and not dismissible. We have all seen it, experienced it and lived it. It is all around us, and trying to hide from it or covering it up as if it doesn't exist doesn't make the situation go away. The other side of the pendulum is letting our emotions and worry get in the way of being effective in the situation. When we get wrapped up emotionally, it is hard to hear what God is asking us to do and hard to understand how our own brokenness is being affected. We tend to get this mixed up with bearing one another's burdens. We don't need to hold on to other people's stuff as our own and let it drag us down; that's not what it means to bear with one another. We are to be affected but not ineffective. Either point of the pendulum can be a negative response to the positive impact of the verse.

Instead, we are to see others as dearly and incredibly loved kids of God, just as He made them to be. It's about seeing the brokenness and pain this life has had on them and lifting them up to Jesus in prayer. It's about letting God open us up to however He wants us to be there for them. It may be different for each person. Some may need encouragement, friendship, a ride, a good meal; it could even be a warm smile. Some need more than that, and

others may need support that we can't give them but can help resource for them. God knows what each one of us needs, and if we ask Him, He will direct us in bearing with one another. It is God—not us—who gives rest to the weary and who heals the brokenness of our lives.

When we hold on to other people's burdens as our own, these burdens weigh us down and soon become overwhelming to us. God did not intend for us to adopt other people's brokenness as our own but to give it to Him. When Jesus died for us on the cross, He took whatever was in our account and put it in His so that all our sin and brokenness was resting on Him. It hurts to try and carry a few people's burdens (I know, I've tried), but Jesus had every broken piece, every sin-filled spot, every heartache, fear, loneliness, trauma—He carried for us. Can you imagine? Everything! From the very beginning to the very end, everything that weighed us down was on His shoulders. We don't need to pick up that load again and try to walk with it; Jesus did that for us. "Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you" (1 Pet. 5:7, NIV).

We are His hands and feet, and we lift one another up to the One who can calm every fear, dry all our tears and mend the brokenness of our lives. The One who is with us through every burden we ever face. Jesus cares and He is there. ■

Be Blessed.

*Tia Lawrence is 19 years old and a first year college student. She is a member of the Comox Adventist Church on Vancouver Island. Tia's blog—[refreshwithtia.com](http://refreshwithtia.com)*



Refresh with Tia

Watch "Love Them Like Jesus," by Casting Crowns on YouTube: <http://goo.gl/1EFTlr>



# app review

Keith Chant, ITS support specialist, SDA Church in Canada

**App:** NAD Family Ministries

**In Brief:** The main screen of the app shows updates from the North American Division (NAD) Family Ministries Facebook page, including announcements and various quotes for family guidance. A calendar of NAD-sponsored Family Ministries events and a utility to find a counsellor in your area are also available. One of the more interesting aspects of this app is the daily devotional reading, perfect for couples to read together. The devotions have Scripture, Observation, Application and Prayer components, allowing for discussion and reflection during the reading. You can also access previous devotionals if you want to go back and reread a devotional.

**Wow Factor:** Daily devotionals with thought-provoking observations and applications.

**Meh Factor:** Location-based counsellor search is not very accurate.

**Developed for:** North American Division Family Ministries

**Price:** Free

**Works on:** Android, iOS

**Link:** <http://goo.gl/1Kbtm>



To suggest an app for review, email [messenger@adventist.ca](mailto:messenger@adventist.ca).

## Spiritual Warfare

*"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God; praying always ..."*

Prayer is a key factor in successful spiritual warfare. Christian living involves battling Satan's deceptions, temptations and accusations. The apostle Paul states, "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds" (2 Cor. 10:4, NKJV).

Satan has his strongholds. These are areas where, through concentrated efforts, he has gained many victories. They can be deceptions that he has found to be successful. They may be avenues in which he has claimed many victories, such as the Internet, magazines, music and movies. They may be relationships he has influenced in the wrong way.

The Bible says that through using the weapons of

God, we can break down the strongholds of Satan and win victories for God. All the avenues listed above can be used for the glory of God. Two key weapons of God in spiritual warfare are prayer and the Bible: "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints" (Eph. 6:17, 18, NKJV).

May God be glorified as we achieve many victories for Him—using His weapons. ■

*Don Corkum, prayer coordinator for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada*



BY STAN JENSEN

*I had been waiting for someone to seize my title as the newest director in the union office. It was just over a year ago, when Juanita Longman announced that she was taking an early retirement and a director position finally became open. There were several qualified applicants, and Lori Dooks was chosen. We in the office have been blessed with her being here. She is a pleasure to work with. Her experience in life is something many can identify with. Meet our friend, Lori.*



Trevor, Lori, Larry, and Alicia Dooks

**EDITOR:** Tell us a bit about yourself and your children.

**LORI:** I was born to Olavi and Olga Orpana in Port Alberni, B.C., where my father started his pastoral ministry. I have three sisters, Louise, Linda and Lisa and one brother, David. We grew up in a loving Christian home with lots of music and worship. We lived in British Columbia, Newfoundland and Ontario. I attended church schools, public schools, Kingsway College and graduated from Andrews University with a BBA in accounting.

I am married to Larry Dooks, and we have two wonderful children, Trevor and Alicia. Larry works at Kingsway College as the manager of the fitness complex, Trevor is in his third year at Canadian University College and Alicia is a first-year student at Andrews University. Trevor and

Alicia both enjoy being on the gymnastics team at their schools. Our children have always attended Adventist schools, and it is one of the best things we have ever done for them. They have had opportunities to travel and to grow spiritually they would not otherwise have had, and this education is worth every penny. I also enjoy playing the French horn in Variations Wind Ensemble, and we play for the area churches.

**EDITOR:** How did your family become Adventist?

**LORI:** My paternal grandmother, Sanni, dedicated my father, Olavi Orpana, to the Lord before he was born in Finland in 1930. As a young, single woman, Sanni contemplated becoming a nun in the Greek Orthodox



Church in Finland. However, after diligently searching for the truth, she joined the Adventist Church and raised her family of six in the church.

My maternal grandmother, Doris Davis, came from a Salvation Army family but attended the Adventist church school in St. John's, Nfld. As a young married woman Doris attended Adventist evangelistic meetings, was baptized and raised her children, Calvin, Olga and Glenn, in the Adventist Church. In 1947 the family moved from St. John's to Whitby, Ont., where they enjoyed associating with the Oshawa church family for many years.

**EDITOR:** Being brought up in a pastor's home, did you have any defining moments or experiences?

**LORI:** Not really. I've always loved God with all my heart. We were raised in a very loving home where we had worship morning and evening every day. When we were old enough to read, we were each given Bibles and a Bible reading card, and we all had our own personal devotions in addition to our family worship every day. That became a habit at a very young age, and to this day, if I do not have my personal worship with God, my day is not complete.

I have always loved God and wanted to serve Him. When I was younger, I sometimes worried that I didn't have a great conversion experience as did others, but as I grew older, I realized that I didn't need that defining moment. My heart grows with love for God each day little by little, and I know now that this is my conversion story.

Growing up in a pastor's home was a wonderful experience for me. Of course, there were many difficult times, but those experiences have made me strong in my faith today. The examples of my parents and their love for us provided us with a refuge from the rest of the world. I did not realize until I was an adult what a refuge our home really was.

**EDITOR:** Where else have you worked, and how does the experience of working for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada (SDACC) differ?

**LORI:** I started my first job as an accounting assistant at North York Branson Hospital. I had several jobs there, including Benefit and Compensation Coordinator. I worked for several other health-care institutions after that, the last one being Lakeridge Health here in Oshawa as a financial analyst. Now that I am working for the SDACC, I feel blessed to work with wonderful Christians. There is something special about being able to work for the Lord with those who believe what I believe.

**EDITOR:** What is your job description here at the SDACC?

**LORI:** I am the Health Benefits director. My responsibilities

are to ensure the department runs smoothly, that the staff have adequate resources to perform their duties and to assist in resolving some of the more difficult health benefit claims. I also process disability claims, liaise with our insurance and software companies, and endeavour to ensure the health benefits we offer are up-to-date with new developments in the health benefits world.

**EDITOR:** Is there anything that surprises you about working for the Church?

**LORI:** Not really surprising, but amazing. I am amazed at how professional and gifted everyone is here. They are so nice, friendly, helpful, and it's a breath of fresh air. I enjoy coming to work and I thank God every morning that I get to work here. It is a miracle to me that I have this job, and I believe that I am where God wants me to be.

**EDITOR:** What experience would you share of working with and sharing Christ in a non-Adventist organization?

**LORI:** I am not a person who will naturally start a conversation with others, so every morning before I went to work, I would ask God to provide me with opportunities to witness for Him that day, to recognize those opportunities and to be brave enough to act on them. They didn't happen every day, but I would get so excited when those opportunities came.

I had several opportunities to witness and tell others about God's love and sometimes to people I never dreamed would be interested. Sometimes talks would last one minute, sometimes they would last an hour. But it was wonderful. I always get excited when someone asks me questions about God or religion. I love talking about my faith in God, Bible stories and doctrine. I also learned that there are a lot of people out there who believe in God but they are uncomfortable talking about Him. It is natural for me to include God in conversations, and sometimes that's all it takes to get other people thinking and to become brave enough to ask questions. Most of the time they would ask me questions when no one else was around.

**EDITOR:** Do you have a favourite Bible text to share?

**LORI:** Psalm 46. Growing up, our family memorized several psalms, and that is my favourite one. This chapter reminds me that God is always with me wherever I go and whatever I do. It gives me strength and confidence. ■

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*Stan Jensen is the communication director for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada and editor of the Canadian Adventist Messenger.*



barry's

blog

It seems odd that a Christian university would have to face such hostility.

## The Controversy Over Canada's First Openly Christian Law School

*Establishing a law school seemed like the logical next step in the evolution of programs offered at Trinity Western University (TWU), a Christian university in Langley, B.C. Given that Canada espouses to be a multicultural society that celebrates diversity, one would have expected a positive reaction to TWU's application and a general consensus that a Christian law school would only add to Canada's diversity. However, despite the fact that there are 18 secular English common law schools, the prospect of opening one Christian law school caused a level of opposition and rancour never before seen in Canadian legal history.*

**Christians have been in the business of** running universities at least since the sixth century.<sup>1</sup> Even "law schools are in fact the beneficiaries of a Christian heritage, however ignorant of that heritage secular law schools may be."<sup>2</sup> It seems odd that a Christian university would have to face such hostility.

The influential opposition included the following entities: the Canadian Council of Law Deans (CCLD),<sup>3</sup> the Canadian Bar Association,<sup>4</sup> law students and major

newspapers such as *The Globe and Mail*.<sup>5</sup> Despite the opposition, the Federation of Law Societies of Canada (FLSC) gave "preliminary approval" for the law school to go ahead.<sup>6</sup>

Amrik Virk, the British Columbia Advanced Education minister, noted that after the government's review the TWU law school proposal "met the degree program quality assessment criteria for private and out-of-province public institutions."<sup>7</sup>

The opposition, however, continues: First, activists are threatening court action; second, activists are hoping to convince the law societies to refuse TWU law graduates the license to practice law.<sup>8</sup> It is difficult to comprehend the animosity shown to this Christian school.

### The Target of the Opposition

Most of the furor against TWU stems from a reaction to the university's "Community Covenant Agreement," which requires all students to "voluntarily abstain from the following actions ... [including] sexual intimacy that violates the sacredness of marriage between a man and a woman."<sup>9</sup> TWU's Christian definition of marriage stands in stark contrast to the legal rights recently won by same-sex marriage proponents.<sup>10</sup> For prominent lawyer Clayton Ruby, "This alone makes it incompetent to deliver legal education in the public interest."<sup>11</sup>

### Something to Think About

In the meantime, note the following:

- Given our religious freedom, it is ironic that it would be the Canadian Council of Law Deans that led with the first letter against TWU's proposal.<sup>12</sup> Dean Bill Flanagan, of Queen's University, wrote, "We would urge the Federation to investigate whether TWU's covenant is inconsistent with federal or provincial law."
- There is no evidence that a future law graduate of TWU would discriminate against a person's sexual orientation solely because the graduate signed and followed the community covenant while at law school.
- The controversy raises questions about the ability of Christian charities to operate in the "public sphere" as defined by those who do not appreciate or understand Christian ministries involved in public service.

- The preamble of the federal Civil Marriage Act states that though marriage is redefined for civil purposes, members of religious institutions are free to "hold and declare" their religious views of marriage. That is what TWU is doing by upholding a Christian definition of marriage.
- To deny TWU a law school based on its definition of marriage—also denies the right of Christians to organize themselves into communities of faith to live and operate their ministry within their peculiar faith perspective—which is the promise of the Canadian charter in protecting religious practice.

To the credit of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada and of the B.C. Government, they recognized the right of TWU to open a law school within its religious context. However, the federation has set in motion a further study about "adding a non-discrimination provision" to its national standards for Canadian law schools. What will this mean for any future Christian law school application?

The opposition against TWU's law school is far from over. Elaine Craig, law professor at Dalhousie University, states, "The question that each law society in Canada must answer is the following: Is it in the public interest for the profession of law to approve an educational institution with policies that discriminate against gays and lesbians?"

I suggest an alternative question for the law societies: Is it in the public interest for the profession of law to discriminate against religious educational institutions that follow the traditional definition of marriage within their own religious context?

The promise of Canada demands that we all be treated equally. ■

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Barry W. Bussey, vice-president of Legal Affairs at the Canadian Council of Christian Charities. You can read his blog at [www.lawandreligion.ca](http://www.lawandreligion.ca).

<sup>1</sup> See Pierre Rich , *Education and Culture in the Barbarian West* (Columbia, S.C.: Univ. of South Carolina Press, 1978).

<sup>2</sup> Harold J. Berman, *Faith and Order: The Reconciliation of Law and Religion* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000), p. 351.

<sup>3</sup> Bill Flanagan, letter to John J. L. Hunter and Gerald R. Tremblay, Federation of Canadian Law Societies, November 20, 2012.

<sup>4</sup> Robert C. Brun, Q.C., letter to Gerald R. Tremblay, president, Federation of the Law Societies of Canada, March 18, 2013, *The Canadian Bar Association*, <http://goo.gl/Enk3RT>.

<sup>5</sup> "No Gay-Free Law School Should Stand in Canada," Editorial, *The Globe and Mail*, February 7, 2013, <http://goo.gl/cWht0R>.

<sup>6</sup> "Trinity Western's Proposed Common Law Program," *Federation of Law Societies of Canada*, <http://goo.gl/1FivNt>.

<sup>7</sup> "Statement on Trinity Western University's Proposed Law Degree," Government of British Columbia, December 18, 2013, <http://goo.gl/GNdrVv>.

<sup>8</sup> Elaine Craig, "Law Societies Must Show More Courage on Trinity Western Application," *The Globe and Mail*, December 18, 2013, <http://goo.gl/Znf00v>.

<sup>9</sup> "Community Covenant Agreement: Our Pledge to One Another," Trinity Western University, <http://goo.gl/Burvmn>.

<sup>10</sup> The Civil Marriage Act, Statutes of Canada S.C. 2005, c. 33.

<sup>11</sup> Jeff Green, "Proposed Christian Law School Should Be Denied Accreditation, Clayton Ruby Says," *Toronto Star*, March 1, 2013, <http://goo.gl/PYhAiS>.

<sup>12</sup> Council of Canadian Law Deans to John J. L. Hunter and Gerald Tremblay, November 20, 2012, <http://goo.gl/LSHKbC>.



# Please Use My Hands

As a literature evangelist I worked my way through warm apartment buildings on many cold winter days, working floor-by-floor and praying for divine appointments. It was on such a day that I met Stefan. When I met him, Stefan was alone, struggling with the knowledge that he would not live long enough to see his son graduate from elementary school. To make matters worse, his wife had left him—taking the little boy with her. It was difficult for me to watch his physical suffering as he struggled merely to stand while asking me questions about my books and my faith.

You see, Stefan loved Jesus, even though he was confined to his home, waiting to die. Stefan smiled when he told me, “I praise the Lord even in my sickness, because otherwise I would never know Him.”

That day Stefan bought a book called *The Great Controversy*. He said he was particularly interested in prophecy. As most literature evangelists do, before leaving I asked him if I could pray for him. Stefan was happy to have me pray, and when I finished, he started to pray. Tears came to my eyes as he poured his heart out to God. “Lord, I pray for healing so that I may serve you like this young man. And even if you don’t heal me, please use me still. You took away my legs, my health, my family and my future, but Lord, I still have my hands. Here are my hands Lord. This is all I have left. If you can, please use my hands to do something more for you.”

As I drove home that night, my heart was full. I knew God had arranged my meeting with Stefan. I was touched by his strong faith. I contemplated the faith of a dying man that compelled him to pray, “If you can, please use my hands to do something more for you.” And then I thought of the thousands of young people in our church who have legs, hands and a future yet won’t do much for God. I recommitted myself to

God’s work, to use not only my hands but also everything I have for His service.

Some time later, I was so surprised and excited to meet Stefan, no longer confined to his apartment and attending an evangelistic series hosted by my church. He immediately recognized me and excitedly testified that prayer really works. “God has been healing me, and I am now able to serve Him more. Tell your church that God answers prayers!”

It is stories such as Stefan’s that strengthen my faith in the work of faithful literature evangelists. We are excited about what God has done this past year through the literature ministry. Below are the results of the many divine appointments in 2013:

- 14 Baptisms
- 86 Individuals invited and who attended some kind of Adventist meeting
- 2,214 Interests gathered for stop-smoking clinics, health seminars, prophecy seminars and Bible study courses
- 8,600 Prayers with and for individuals in the community
- 34,000 Evangelistic literature and products distributed (approximately 20,000 copies of *The Great Controversy*)
- 150,854 Total literature and products distributed—including GLOW tracts (ca.glowonline.org)
- 460,000 Approximate amount of doors knocked on across Canada

We ask that you pray for each person represented by the numbers. Please remember to also pray for and encourage our literature evangelists in their desire to use their hands, their feet and their heart for the Lord’s work. ■

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*Jonathan Zita is the director of Lifestyle Canada Education Service*

Previously operating under the Review and Herald Publishing Association, Lifestyle Canada Education Service (LCES) is a new charity organized to better fulfill the mandates of the literature ministry across Canada.

If you're a new member and have a question you would like answered, please email [newmember@adventist.ca](mailto:newmember@adventist.ca). We would love to hear from you.

# A New Adventist Asks

## Question: I'm a new Adventist. Which books should I begin reading?

Thank you for your question. We are so glad that you have decided to follow Jesus, and we are praying that you will enjoy the fellowship of believers as we all prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming.

In addition to reading your Bible and your Sabbath School lesson daily, preparing yourself for a meaningful and valuable discussion with your new friends on Sabbath morning, I suggest that you start with the essentials of a successful Christian life. There are many useful, high-quality books to choose from, although I will recommend three that I particularly treasure.

### ***The Desire of Ages*, by Ellen G. White**

As the eternal life is "to know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent" (John 17:3, NKJV), I would like to underline that at the beginning of your Christian experience, you need more of Jesus than ever. The first priority should be to bond with Him and to enjoy His presence.

One of the best books ever written regarding this topic is *The Desire of Ages*. Ellen G. White wrote it in 1898. As she was entirely Christ-centred in her vision of life, the first draft of this book was much larger than the final book we know today. Thus, the initial material was divided into three entirely independent manuscripts, which eventually turned into two other books: *Christ's Object Lessons* and *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*.

I would deeply recommend starting with *The Desire of Ages* because of a unique

global perspective of Jesus' ministry; His passion, death and resurrection; and an incredibly powerful insight into what He is doing for our salvation. You will certainly appreciate the way Jesus is portrayed in these pages and will find immense pleasure in walking with Him humbly, learning how to deal with all the important challenges of life. Personally, I have found this book so inspiring that I'm always sharing it with my friends.

### ***An Endless Falling in Love: What Eternal Life Means to You*, by Ty Gibson<sup>1</sup>**

After listening to Ty Gibson present the great controversy concept in such a profound way at campmeetings on various occasions, I decided that it was finally time for me to read one of his books. And I was not disappointed. With Ty Gibson you will not find dry theological concepts. He is more on the level of physical, emotional and spiritual connection with the Divine. His book is very practical and helps you to understand the immensity of God's love and His passion for your freedom.

The content of this book will naturally guide you in making your own choice regarding God's kingdom and will represent a guide for your harmonious development, always respecting your identity. As Ty Gibson said very well: "All serious contact with God, with His law, His word, and especially with the life and death of Jesus, involves conflict with self. The nature of that conflict is that we see our sin in glaring contradiction to His love and we must exercise our freedom to choose

between the two. Drawing close to God always opens the heart to a sense of painful contrast while calling us in our liberty to the pleasure of greater harmony with Him. We may retain our sin and move away from God, or we may turn from our sin and move closer to Him. Every step of the way, the decision is ours" (p. 155)

### ***Conquering the Dragon Within: How to Overcome Temptation Through a Relationship With Jesus*, by Marvin Moore<sup>2</sup>**

To stay on a practical level, after getting to know Jesus Christ better through *The Desire of Ages*, and after falling in love with our heavenly Father through Gibson's book, I would like to suggest that another step in your Christian experience is to get to know yourself better. The process of change is not easy, and every change is painful in some way. Marvin Moore will help you to understand this road, leading to the victory over sin with the power of the Holy Spirit and the decisive action of Jesus Christ, who is our "righteousness and sanctification and redemption" (1 Cor. 1: 30).

May these readings contribute to your spiritual fulfillment and may you become a blessing to those you meet on your road to eternity.

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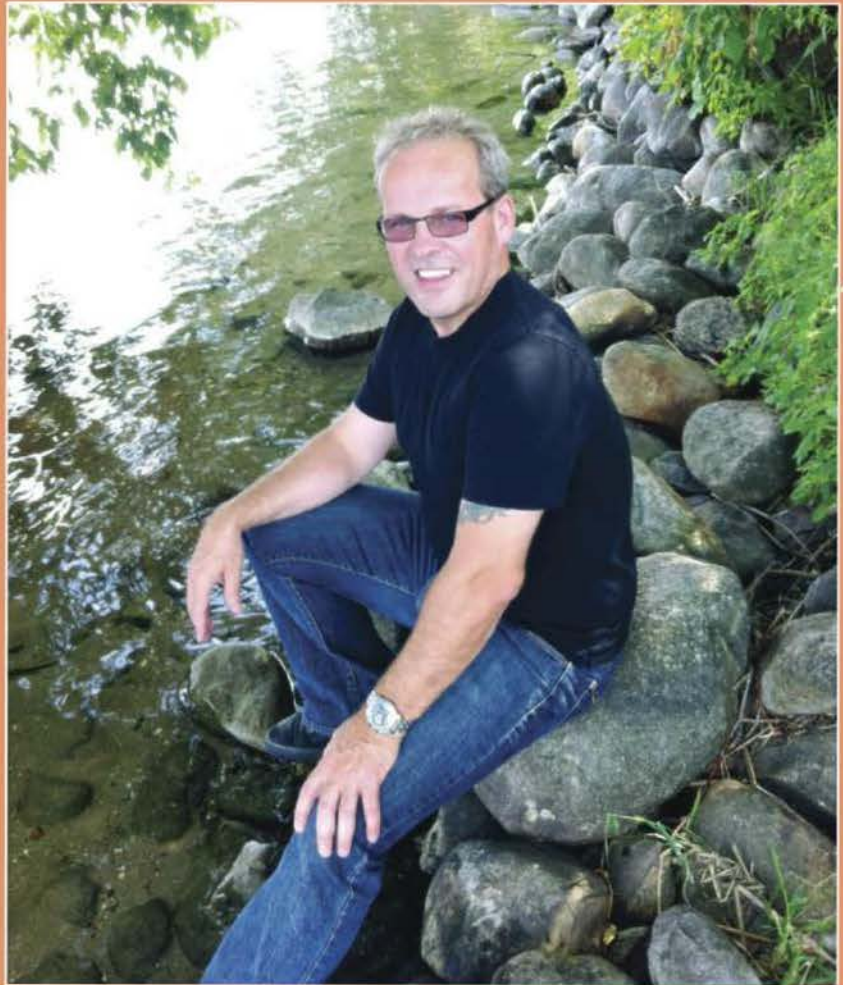
*Daniel Stojanovic is the vice-president of administration at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada.*

(You can find these books at any Adventist Book Centre [ABC]: [www.adventistbookcenter.com](http://www.adventistbookcenter.com).)

<sup>1</sup> Nampa, ID: Pacific Press Publishing Association, 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Nampa, ID: Pacific Press Publishing Association, 2001, 2012.

# Coming home



Claude Trepanier

*I thought I had it made. I had been married for 23 years and had two boys, Jake and Daren. My wife and I had fostered 10 kids over the past 10 years. I had been working at IBM for 27 years, and between my wife and I, we were making \$175,000 a year.*

Church life seemed to be going well also: I was preaching about 35 times a year and served as an elder at my local church. I was a member on the board of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada. At the Quebec Conference, I was both a board member and the prayer coordinator. I was also involved with *Salut Quebec*, a supporting ministry, and with the *Il Est Écrit* (French It Is Written) program.

But even though everything seemed to be going right in my life, I was self-absorbed at the time. And because I was looking out primarily for me, I found myself making some of the same mistakes that many Bible characters made when they failed to trust in God and, instead, sought to satisfy their own selfish desires. Let's not forget: "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (1 Cor. 10:12).

The life that I had built slowly began to crumble. For one, my relationship with my wife began to deteriorate, notably during 2007. In March 2008, I took on a new position at IBM that required me to work nights, which strained our marriage even more. To make matters worse, a month later, in April, I had to take my beloved mother to the hospital, and she died in June 2008 of cancer. And in September my wife and I separated.

I was depressed, tired and no longer happy. The devil saw all of this and must have seized my moment of weakness. So the thought came to me, "If God loves you as you say He does all the time, He must certainly want happiness for you too, right?" And there, I started thinking about King David whom God loved so much despite the fact that he had many wives and made wrong choices! Thus, somehow in my mind, I was able to justify making a similar mistake. By mid-October of that year, another woman came into my life. Then, for the next three and a half years, things between my wife, my sons and me were quite chaotic. As a result, I was more desperate, lonely and depressed than ever.

Then God seemed to say to me, "Remember when you compared yourself to David? You were right. I loved David and I love you too, but you have to know that with David's choices, he experienced the consequences of his own choices and suffered much too."

I was on my knees and cried out to the Lord, saying, "I haven't killed anyone and I didn't take anyone's wife."

The thought impressed me yet again very strongly: "But nevertheless, you have to live with the consequences of your actions, your choices, and that's why you're suffering right now."

Like David, I had to repent and just hope and pray that the Lord had heard my complaint! The Bible tells of many other characters who made bad decisions, and some of their decisions continue to have even political consequences today! However, God still loved them, and He loves us too, regardless of our choices, because God is good and says, "Let the wicked leave their way of

life and change their way of thinking. Let them turn to the Lord, our God; he is merciful and quick to forgive" (Isa. 55:7, GNT).

This was only the beginning of my journey. God was there to help me, but I knew I had to be the one to make the necessary steps; I had understood a long time ago that God wasn't going to do it for me. I had to go back to where I was before I fell, just as Revelation 2:5 says: "Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent" (NASB).

I called one of the only church friends I thought I had left, Jean Renaud, who knew about my situation and was everything except judgmental toward me. I visited him a couple of times, and he and his wife, Carole, were very hospitable and sympathetic toward my situation and were glad to know that I wanted to get back with the Lord and the church. Jean understood that the road wasn't going to be easy, but he was ready to travel along with me and do everything he could to help me get back on track.

In February 2012, I decided to once again surrender all to the Lord, and on Nov. 9, 2013, I was rebaptized in my own home church. I had read my Bible many times (especially the Psalms), gone to church, retired after 31 years of service at IBM and studied at Canadian University College in Alberta to become a secondary school teacher for religious/social studies. I can't reiterate enough how essential God's Word was to my journey back. "A familiarity with the Word of God is our only hope.... All that is necessary for our salvation is given in the Word of God. Day by day we are to make the Bible the man of our counsel" (Selected Messages, book 1, p. 228).

I will never forget the day of my baptism: Along with my dear friends Jean and Carole, both of my sons, their mother, as well as Jessica, a foster daughter of mine, were there to support me and rejoice with the Lord and with the church members to celebrate my return to God. It really felt good to be back home, and I surely understood the state of mind of the prodigal son upon coming back home to his father.

Jesus is so good. Jeremiah writes in Lamentations 3:21-26: "This I recall to my mind, therefore I have hope. The Lord's lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. 'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul, 'Therefore I have hope in Him.' The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the person who seeks Him. It is good that he waits silently for the salvation of the Lord" (NASB). ■

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*Claude Trepanier is originally from Quebec and is studying secondary education at Canadian University College.*



## Helping the Victims of Typhoon Haiyan

# ADRA Canada's Rapid Response

TWO CAMOUFLAGED MILITARY HELICOPTERS SAT ON THE WET TARMAC AT ROXAS (pronounced "Ro-hoss") Airport, on the island of Panay, in the Philippines. The clouds overhead blocked the tropical sun, but not the heat. Airmen clad in military fatigues and tan boots, with carbon helmets and tactical gear, hurried to prepare the helicopters for takeoff. A team of ADRA workers listened intently to the flight commander's mission briefing. These ADRA workers were a contingent from

the ADRA Emergency Response Team (ERT) sent to the Philippines after Typhoon Haiyan. With nervous excitement, they clambered into the choppers and buckled up, tucking backpacks under their seats to prevent anything from falling out of the open helicopter side doors.

After a final safety check and thumbs-up from the ground crew, the pilot pulled back on the joystick, changing the high-pitched whine of the helicopter blades to a loud thumping. The heavy aircraft hesitated for a moment before rising

slowly and hovering a metre above the landing pad. With a slight tilt of the nose downward, the helicopter began smoothly gliding forward. The ADRA photographer on board the first helicopter quickly snapped pictures through the open doors of the cabin, leaning out over the landing skids to get a better view. As the helicopters departed the airport and headed toward the nearby sea coast, the scenes in the viewfinder began to form a patchwork of rice paddies and villages. The downwash of the helicopter blades whipped through





# response

the open doors of the cabin, and the vibration of the engine made it difficult to steady the camera.

The ADRA team members, who minutes before had been distracted by the excitement of the open-door helicopter ride, grew steadily more sombre as they surveyed the landscape below. Homes lay in ruins, with shreds of roof and timber littering the streets. Fields were flooded from the recent storm surge, with garbage floating in every body of water. Trees were uprooted, and pineapple and banana

fields were stripped and flattened. As far as they could see, island after island in the tropical archipelago had been battered by the storm. Thousands of homes were destroyed, and millions of lives had been devastated.

Eyewitnesses described the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan as “bedlam, chaos, utter devastation, worse than hell.” The ADRA team aboard the helicopter that day was on a mission to document the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan, to assess the greatest needs of the survivors and to identify inaccessible areas with the most urgent need. The scenes below them looked like a war zone.

It was fitting, then, in the early days of the international response to Typhoon Haiyan, that the Canadian Armed Forces sent its elite Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to the Philippines. The DART is a rapidly deployable team of 200 personnel with engineering, medical, security and logistics platoons. As part of their functions in the Philippines, the DART team had mobilized two helicopter crews to provide air transport for the ADRA disaster assessment team. This special accommodation was based in part on ADRA’s reputation in the international and local disaster-relief community, and ADRA’s rapid response to Typhoon Haiyan on the island of Panay. With the help of Adventist Community Services volunteers and church members in the area, ADRA was able to respond quickly to the storm. Indeed, even a week after the typhoon, ADRA was the only organization to have reached some areas.

Because of the widespread destruction caused by the typhoon, outsiders knew very little about what had happened and how bad the damage was. The ADRA cameraman on board the helicopter that day had been tasked with photographing the disaster not only to provide geographical data for response teams but also to convey the extent of the disaster to ADRA supporters around the world. The photographer knew that the pictures and stories captured on his camera and its memory card were desperately needed. If they could only see the need, they would respond with an outpouring of support!

After extensive aerial reconnaissance of several islands, the two helicopters peeled

out of their formation flight, banking hard to the right as they descended. The first helicopter settled down in a small hilltop clearing on the island of Gigante South to allow the ADRA team to survey the damage in a coastal barangay, or village. Stranded, hungry and feeling desperate, hundreds of local residents amassed around the landing site but held back until both helicopters had lifted away for another mission. As soon as it was safe, the crowd swarmed in.

At first, the residents were dismayed to learn that this was not a major relief operation, but when they learned that ADRA was there to assess the devastation, they eagerly agreed to assist the team. After a short introduction to the crowd, the ADRA team picked their way downhill through fallen coconut palms to the seaside barangay. With urgent voices and hand gestures, they showed the team what had happened to their homes, their schools, their church, their market, their harbour and their boats. The ADRA photographer quickly took pictures and mental notes. Slowly but surely, the stories came into focus.

As evening began to settle over the island, the ADRA team returned to the hilltop landing area. As they heard the helicopters approaching, they promised that relief supplies would soon follow. The villagers, their new friends, uttered their final hopeful pleas for help, reluctant to see them leave. Following the orders of the flight commander, the ADRA photographer pulled himself away from the crowd and boarded the helicopter. Within minutes, the village was lost in the deepening darkness.

Worn out from the long day, the ADRA photographer reviewed his pictures of the day as the helicopters flew back to base at Roxas Airport. He had captured many images that day. Some pictures showed the sadness and loss the survivors of Typhoon Haiyan experienced. Here are a few of the stories behind the images.

Alma and her husband used to work in rice fields owned by others. Six months ago, to break free financially, they sold their two buffalos to buy a small fishing boat and start their own fishing business. The warm blue waters and abundance of



Alma atop their wrecked boat.



Nida and her grandchildren.



Weldy and children.

the Visayan Sea were a dream-come-true to the couple. But Typhoon Haiyan crushed their boat, flattened their house and destroyed their livelihood.

"I am very thankful that ADRA has come to see our situation," she said. "I hope help will be given soon."

Weldy, a single parent of 10 children, had been forewarned about Typhoon Haiyan. Planning ahead, he had shored up his house and fishing equipment in preparation. But no one was prepared for the 10-metre storm surge that smashed into villages along the coast.

"I saw it coming, grabbed the children and ran," he said, pointing towards higher ground. "Three big waves came. They took my house and everything I owned."

Other photos captured a glimpse of the resilience and optimism of the survivors. A widow named Nida is simply happy that all eight of her grandchildren are still alive. She used to work cleaning fish for the market, but after the fishermen in her town lost their boats, there were no fish to clean, and therefore no income for her and her eight grandchildren. "The most difficult thing about being a widow is finding enough money and food for the kids," she said.

They once loved the sea—every afternoon Nida's grandchildren would run down the sandy beach to swim and play. It was also a place of practicality: a place for bathing and a source of income for the family. The sea, just 50 metres from Nida's small bamboo home was almost an extension of the family. Now the feelings have changed.

"The storm has made it very difficult. I am afraid of more storms—I see clouds and I fear," she said. "The children too are afraid. They won't go near the sea and wake up at night in a panic."

The ADRA photographer knew that these pictures, and their brief stories, had to be shared. Whenever possible, the ADRA photographer attempted to access the Internet to send the pictures to his ADRA colleagues. His frustration grew as he encountered slow, intermittent internet access. In a final attempt to get the word out, he gave the tiny memory card, with all of its pictures, to an ADRA worker headed back to Toronto, Ont.

Several days and thousands of miles later, an envelope arrived at the ADRA Canada office in Newcastle, Ont. Inside was a tiny black memory card for a digital camera. Grasping the slippery plastic bag firmly, one of the ADRA office workers pulled the memory card out of the package and held it up for examination. The only explanation was a sticky note inside the bag: "For ADRA Canada Communications." Within minutes the memory card was inserted into a computer and its hundreds of images safely downloaded.

As the pictures flashed on the screen, the reality of what had happened in the Philippines slowly became clear. The pictures showed the faces of children with no homes, parents with no children and families with no livelihood. Many of the photos were quickly posted to [www.adra.ca](http://www.adra.ca), while others were featured on Facebook posts and news articles.

From there, the pictures spread across Canada in church presentations, bulletin announcements and fundraising events.

The ADRA photographer was right—his images helped to generate an incredible response. At the time of this printing, generous ADRA donors across Canada have already given more than \$775,000 to Typhoon Haiyan survivors. ADRA Canada is working hard in the Philippines and will continue to provide relief as long as it is needed, or as long as funds are available. ■

Ryan Wallace is the communications specialist at ADRA Canada.

*Epilogue: ADRA has approved a \$1 million project to help restore the livelihoods of many fishermen's families on the island of Panay. Among other things, ADRA will repair 357 fishing boats that were severely damaged. Alma's boat is one of them.*



# Spotlight

## William Gay

*the 2013 Seventh-day Adventist  
Scripture Songwriting Contest winner*

**"Psalm 107"**  
*winning song*

William Gay is a humble man, someone you may not notice singing a soft and tender song out of the spotlight somewhere, until his melody, chords, lyrics and honest voice hit that "special spot" in a way that may bring tears to your eyes. That was the reaction this Nova Scotia native's winning entry, "Psalm 107," into the 2013 Seventh-Day Adventist Scripture Songwriting Contest seemed to have on everyone who listened.

I recognized the voice but didn't immediately notice the name. You see, I knew of Bill Gay some time ago in the Maritimes. Many times I had wandered into the youth tent of Pugwash Campmeeting as a child and would hear his distinctive voice and guitar playing as he led out in songs for the young people. Yes, I was a fan of Bill's music before I knew what a fan was. To be honest, he was somewhat of an Adventist music legend back where I grew up, as were Jim and Bonnie Sharpe (with whom he played frequently).

When you speak to William, it almost appears that his love for guitar trumps his opinion of his singing or songwriting. But perhaps this is what makes it so relatable and pure. When he was 15 years old, his uncle taught him seven chords, which inspired him to join a band—and more bands—to tour Ontario, where William ultimately met his wife, Donna. He was baptized at 33, and his love for Christ has been the main source of inspiration ever since.

William has since recorded records, tapes and CDs, mostly to raise funds for ADRA Canada, local food banks or Sandy Lake Academy in Halifax, N.S. When I asked him where people

could get his music, his response was to simply email him ([rusty2@eastlink.ca](mailto:rusty2@eastlink.ca)) and ask. The proceeds are all going to ADRA Canada.

Having seen many eras of music come and go, William shares his sentiment on the church: "I would love to see more youth and the older congregation doing things together," he says. "We are all family, so we have to share things, or one group feels left out." And he is right. There is nothing better than bringing old and young together. One of his greatest loves is to accompany his 93-year-old mother on the guitar while she plays harmonica. "It's about praising the Lord, no matter how old we get."

When choosing "Psalm 107" as the winning song for the 2013 contest, it was the craft of the lyric—made personal—that was undeniably inspiring. I invite you to listen, enjoy and email William for some of his deeply inspiring music so you can be blessed as well.

An excerpt from the song "Psalm 107" goes as follows:

*"When the people of God had hardened their hearts, they turned their back on the Lord. They cried out in hardships, torment and pain. God removed all of their chains. Just like the people who wandered in darkness, you may have turned your back on the Lord. You'll cry out in hardships, torment and pain, but God removes all of your chains. Let's give thanks to the Lord. For His un-failing love. And His wonderful deeds for all mankind. And His un-failing love." ■*

*Naomi Striemer is a Chapel recording artist, Pacific Press book author, Christian recording artist and sought-after speaker.*

# "I could never ask for more"



Chris and Erin Mortenson with their children, Jay Connor and Elisabeth Erin.

Raised in Grand Ledge, Mich., Chris Mortenson attended Adventist schools until his Grade 11 year. When his parents were unable to send him back to academy, he attended a local public high school. After spending one semester at that school, he made the decision to finish high school by correspondence course. The reasoning behind this decision was that the teachers did not show the level of care he had experienced in academy, and his classmates in public school engaged in disagreeable behaviour.

Chris attended Union College in Lincoln, Nebr., where he met his wonderful wife, Erin Weststrate. They were married in 2002 and are now proud parents of two beautiful children, Jay Connor and Elisabeth Erin.

While he was at Union, Chris became impressed to actively do the Lord's work, so he planned to become a pastor for many years. However, when it became clear that this was not God's plan for him, Chris entered the IT field, where he then planned on using his convictions to influence people for Christ. The Lord used this opportunity to prepare Chris for a specific job He had in mind for him. The IT administrator position opened up at Kingsway College, and he applied, leaving it in God's hands. Chris says, "I feel that in my life the Lord had to take me to the point where I gave up and let go of my wants so He could finally use me for His needs."

Having experienced both Adventist and public education, Chris feels that a Christian education is extremely impor-

tant. "Christian education provides an environment where you can learn about God, be led and be uplifted to Him; it is an environment that cares." Chris believes that he is being used to help the students learn their subjects as well as bring them closer to God. Having worship every morning with fellow staff members is an important part of his experience at Kingsway. Being given the opportunity to be used by God to influence students, staff and visitors is what motivates him to come to work every day. He says, "I could never ask for more."

One of the most memorable experiences while working at Kingsway has been his assignment to be the Grade 9 class sponsor. On the first day of school, the student association planned their own version of the Amazing Race. Being new to the school and the idea of being a class sponsor allowed him to bond that much quicker with the students, as they had no idea what to expect. He says that the defining moment of that day was how quickly the students accepted him into their group and how much fun they got out of running around campus. Looking back, Chris says this made him want to be their sponsor even more.

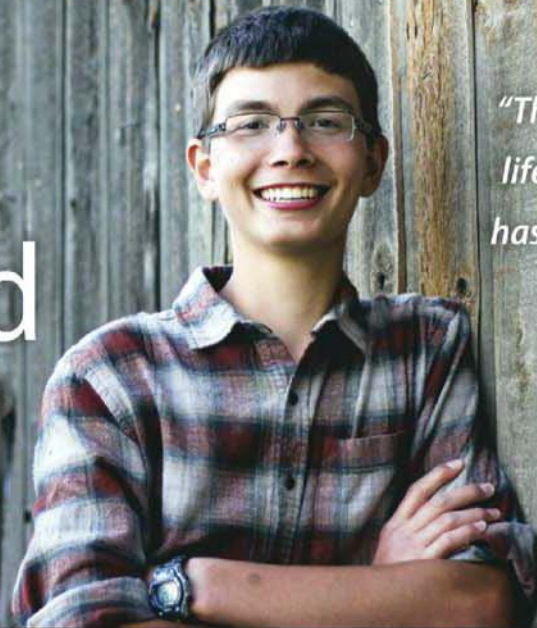
Chris's favourite quotation is one that, he says, is a prime example of his early life:

"I cannot brag about my love for God, because I fail Him daily. I can brag about His love for me because He never fails me." —*Unknown* ■

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*Christina Lister is the development coordinator at Kingsway College.*

# Empty Wallet, Enriched Kid



*"Through 17 years of my life, my walk with Christ has grown exponentially, largely because of my education."*

Paul Glatts

"SON," MY FATHER ONCE SAID, "the cost of Adventist education is the best form of birth control known to humanity." He was right. Adventist schools cost a lot of money, especially to families with multiple children. Why, then, do we even try to compete with the government-run public system? I believe the value of education lies in nurturing the spiritual growth of our young people. Through 17 years of life, my walk with Christ has grown exponentially, largely because of my education.

My parents' bills started early when, in the second grade, I was enrolled in Valley Adventist Christian School in Kalispell, Mont. Playing on "invention hill" with my best friend or having a one-on-one lesson from my math teacher are still vivid memories. Field trips and swimming lessons, snow skiing and Lego robotics: the learning opportunities of a two-room school were infinite. Under the watchful care of my teachers, I "increased in wisdom and in stature and in favour with God and man" (Luke 2:52). There was, however, a glitch in my growth. Learning in a multi-grade classroom made concentration difficult; there was always something more interesting in the classroom than my own work! At the end of my Grade 6 year, God, in His infinite plan, saw it best for us to move to Canada.

The following September, I timidly walked into Deer Lake Seventh-day Adventist School in British Columbia only to be warmly greeted by staff and students alike. The switch to a larger school and grade-specific classrooms was all I needed; my study habits changed and my grades soared. In addition to the academic focus, Deer Lake School excels in sports. For the first time I had the chance to play football, soccer, basketball and gymnastics. Together, my team learned to play well and win or lose graciously. In all the pursuits of Deer Lake School, the spiritual aspect is not lost. Even now, in Grade 11, almost every class starts with a devotional that bids us reflect on Christ's

character. Deer Lake School has truly been an indispensable part of my education.

Last year my parents worked hard to provide tuition, as I joined my brother at Fountainview Academy. The value of that year I can't begin to calculate. The music program was phenomenal, and working on the carrot farm gave me skills I couldn't receive at a conventional school. The staff were extremely devoted to sharing Jesus from the pulpit, in the classroom and on the tractor. However, the best thing about being at Fountainview Academy was the friends. We prayed together and shared our struggles and greatest fears, and together we were strengthened. At the end of the year it was hard to say goodbye to my brothers and sisters, because that is what they felt like. One of the greatest advantages of Adventist boarding academics are the deep spiritual friendships that result from living together.

As I reflect over my years of education, I often ask myself, Which school was the best? This is a question that can't be answered. At every stage, each school was valuable in developing wisdom and building character. A multitude of godly teachers, strong friends and a Christian atmosphere were instrumental in my growth. Proverbs 22:6 says it all: "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it" (ESV). Even though my Adventist education left my parents' wallets empty and kept me from having more siblings, it has spiritually, mentally and physically prepared me for life far better than any other school system could have. ■

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*Paul Glatts is currently attending Deer Lake School in Burnaby (Metro-Vancouver), B.C. He enjoys building and flying RC airplanes and likes being out in nature. Paul wants to become an engineer and serve God with his gifts.*

# Parkview Profiles



Brigitta Gesaputri

*Brigitta finds Canada to be very beautiful and the people polite and easy to make friends with.*

Indonesia is a country made up of 17,000 islands and is the world's fourth most populated nation, with 86 percent of its citizens being Muslim. This makes it the largest Islamic country in the world. While the country is considered secular, it is impossible to be a Christian there and not be influenced by the Muslim religion and culture. The Adventist Church in Indonesia is very conservative because of the conservativeness of Muslims. When Muslims enter into Christianity, they bring their conservative lifestyle with them. Indonesia's motto is "Diversity in Unity," and with over 600 languages spoken there and many tribes and cultural variations on the different islands, it is a land full of diversity.

It is from this country that Parkview Adventist Academy gained a shy, 13-year-old, Grade 10 student two years ago. Brigitta Gesaputri and her family have lived in many countries, as her father is an accountant for a large oil firm. While Indonesia is her official home, she has lived in Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam, China and the United States.

When Brigitta came to PAA to better learn English, she was very quiet and it was her first time to study in a Western country. While she has studied in different Asian countries, there were many similarities in the way they taught subjects, but in Canada the learning is more experiential rather than rote memorization from textbooks. After using both methods for learning, Brigitta feels that she learns better when she is able to experience something, and so she's been enjoying school here.

During this past summer Brigitta traveled with her family back to Indonesia to spend the summer with relatives. They were there for August 17, Indonesia's Independence Day (from the Netherlands). It fell on the Sabbath, so they celebrated it one day late. They played games and had fireworks and ate lots of food, very similar to Canada's July 1.

The Muslim holiday Ramadan was occurring also in August, and since the Muslims don't eat food from 4 a.m. to 6 p.m., all of the restaurants were closed. At about 5:30 p.m., the restaurants opened up and people poured in and ordered their food. They then sat and waited until it was 6 p.m., and at 6 the food was served and everyone would eat their fill. Tourists may find it difficult to find food during Ramadan.

In Grade 10 Brigitta joined Dauntless, PAA's touring ministry group, at the encouragement of her chaplain, Steve Reasor. All of the students in the group had to be willing to participate in the music and speaking. At first Brigitta struggled with standing in front of audiences and presenting a sermon. However, after two years with Dauntless, Brigitta has preached sermons to five different audiences for Weeks of Prayer and school and vesper programs. Brigitta says that she learned to have courage from Pastor Steve and how to be true to herself. She also actively searches the Bible for truths now instead of only believing what she is told is true.

Last year in school Brigitta began to open up to her friends. She now takes initiative to meet others and start a conversation with them instead of waiting for someone else to say hi first. After moving around for so many years, she is excited to finish high school in one place. She finds Canada to be very beautiful and the people polite and easy to make friends with. Brigitta is hopeful that her dad won't be transferred to another country before she finishes Grade 12 in the spring. She would really like to graduate with her class. While she enjoys going back to Indonesia, she now feels at home in Canada. ■

*Pattie Reasor Communications,  
Parkview Adventist Academy*

# OUTDOOR MINISTRIES



## the ALBERTA CONFERENCE WAY

**I REMEMBER A STUDENT OF MINE** who regularly called me a tree hugger. I used to wonder what he meant and soon decided that it was a term of endearment and was a reference to my love for the environment.

My interest in the environment developed at a young age with many days of gathering berries, cutting firewood, fishing in ponds and creeks, making maple syrup and spending time at the Taquanyah Nature Centre, in southern Ontario.

Now, many years later as a youth director, I recognize the need for us to have a variety of ministry options in order to meet the needs of our young people. Over the years, our outdoor ministries have been growing. We have even combined our efforts with the Alberta Conference Education department to make links into our educational system in order to broaden our ministry. Today, it is a fully functioning part of our programming, and many of our young people take part in one or more of the programs we offer.

### OUTDOOR SCHOOL

The Outdoor School was a founding program that began 13 years ago, and it takes place at Foothills Camp. Grade 5 and 6 students from across the conference attend this curriculum-based outdoor classroom. Students stay and live at the camp for four days as part of their schooling. They collect and identify

bugs, measure water flow of the river, dissect owl pellets, build boats to race, visit local cemeteries to learn history, experience the fur trade industry, make nature crafts, and so much more! Through all these experiences, they are shown a picture of God as their Creator.

### RIVER EXPEDITION

This past year we had 107 Grade 7 and 8 students as well as teachers from across the conference join us in 40 canoes on a three-day river trip on the Red Deer River. The focus of this trip was to discover the history of our waterways, test and interpret the water quality, learn how we affect the river's ecosystems and make discoveries about God.

### OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Outdoor Education is a program for the Grade 9 students of our conference schools. It is put on by the Education department and focuses on the recreational aspects of the outdoors, and it takes place in the Rocky Mountains.

### BACKPACKING MINISTRY

I recently led a group of Master Guides-in-training on a three-day trip on a mountain trail that pushed them physically and mentally. The backpacking ministry is focused on leadership development, personal or group development and spiritual development. This program's effectiveness constantly surprises me.

### CANOE EXPEDITION MINISTRY

This canoe expedition ministry has the same outcome possibilities as backpacking but takes place on a river or lake. The campers travel through some of the best natural areas that God has provided.

### FOOTHILLS SUMMER CAMP

Foothills Summer Camp is a very important ministry where kids are mentored by Christian staff who spend time worshipping Him each day. Kids get a chance to get away from the busyness of their lives and spend time in a very natural setting. Many decisions to follow Christ are made each week.

### SHERWOOD FOREST

Sherwood Forest is a camp program in which campers spend the week in a more remote facility. Kids and staff live in cabins that are high above the ground and have rope bridges and other challenge courses connecting them. Staff are trained to teach kids about God's love.

I am proud to be called an environmentalist, and I know that through meaningful experiences in nature, we can further His Kingdom. It is my prayer that our young people find refuge in the Creator's handiwork, the very things He made for His children to let them know of His great love for them. ■

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*Kevin Kiers is the youth ministry director of the Alberta Conference.*



**Top:** Mariam - in her kitchen garden.  
**Middle:** Ollas used in LEAF project.  
**Bottom:** LEAF produce harvested during the dry season.

# A Miracle in the Dry Season

MARIAM UWIMANA LIVES IN THE KIRAMURUZI SECTOR OF GATSIBO DISTRICT, RWANDA. For years Mariam had worked her small plot of land to produce vegetables for her family to eat. She and her husband have four hungry teenagers, so the more she can grow, the more they can eat! However, Mariam also grows produce to sell at the local market, earning money to supplement her husband's meagre wages. As with many families in Rwanda, their success often relies on the bounty of the harvest, which in turn is affected by the environment.

In recent years drought has baked the soil to a dry powder that is often blown away by the hot winds of summer. Add to this the occasional rainstorm and flash floods, which have increased in recent years, and the problem of erosion and topsoil removal has depleted the natural fertility of the land. Her produce was also tied to the seasons—in the hot, dry season, there was never enough water for her kitchen garden or larger vegetable beds. Mariam has never heard an explanation of the scientific factors involved in climate change, but she has experienced its negative effects first-hand.

Mariam first heard about ADRA Canada through her cooperative, a community organization of local farmers who have banded together to help one another. Specifically, her cooperative agreed to participate in the “Learning Environmental Adaptation for Food Security” (LEAF) project sponsored by ADRA Canada donors and the Canadian Government.

Through her involvement in the LEAF project, Mariam and the other members of her community cooperative learned how to conserve enough water to grow their vegetables year-round!

“Before I got training from ADRA LEAF” said Mariam, “it was difficult to access vegetables during dry season. I could never imagine that I could grow vegetables during the dry season.”

Now that she has participated in the project, Mariam has learned how to use wicking plant beds to conserve water. Instead of sprinkling water on the ground's surface, where most of it evaporates away, Mariam pours water into a reservoir below the raised bed, and the water is pulled up into the dirt from below.

“I learned agricultural techniques to grow vegetables, including ollas,” said Mariam. “These methods use less water during the dry season.”

Ollas are large, clay pots that farmers can bury in the middle of a mound of dirt. The ollas are filled with water, which slowly seeps out through the permeable olla. The vegetables planted in the mound of dirt surrounding the olla are watered from beneath the surface with just the right amount of water. This low-maintenance, self-watering design is a special benefit to women in Rwanda, who are often overburdened with domestic responsibilities. Now, Mariam can spend less time watering her garden and more time on other more productive tasks, such as selling vegetables for income.

The results have been fantastic!

“The knowledge and skills I acquired from the project have helped me to help my family,” said Mariam. “I’ve generated some income! Within three months, I earned more than 134,000 Francs [\$250] from vegetables I produced in my kitchen garden.”

Thanks to ADRA donors across Canada, the LEAF project is making a huge difference for more than 6,000 families in Rwanda. Thank you for your support!

When asked about ADRA Canada, Mariam smiles, saying, “We are very thankful to ADRA Canada for their support and knowledge, which have helped us to learn new skills. It was like a miracle to see people harvesting vegetables during the dry season.”

For more information on the LEAF project and other ADRA Canada projects, please visit [www.adra.ca](http://www.adra.ca). ■

*Ryan Wallace is the communications specialist at ADRA Canada.*



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## Manitoba-Saskatchewan

### Messiah's Mansion Returns to Regina

This past summer, July 27 to Aug. 4, 2013, Hill Avenue and Spirit of Truth churches hosted Messiah's Mansion in Regina. Messiah's Mansion, under the direction of Clayton Leineweber, is a full-scale replica of the sanctuary during the time of Moses. God blessed us with a prime location, and attendance was amazing—nearly 1,900 people took the tour.

Because of the community's and church members' interest for follow-up studies, the two churches invited Clayton, his wife Carolyn, and son Corry, to return to Regina and conduct a two-week series. Nightly, from Nov. 8 to 23 (except Mondays and Thursdays), Clayton taught and preached about the sanctuary, while Carolyn and Corry facilitated the music.

This time, instead of a full-size replica outside, Clayton used a smaller replica and set it up at the front of the church sanctuary. This smaller version stood floor to ceiling and was complete with all the furnishings. It even had some courtyard curtains extending down the sides of the church sanctuary. Depending upon the night's topic, Clayton would arrange the items in a way that helped attendees understand what part of the sanctuary they were currently studying—courtyard, Holy, or Most Holy Place. This led to a very compelling and engaging presentation.

With the theme of "The Path Back to God," Clayton took the attendees on a journey step by step through the sanctuary showing what took place, what it pointed to and how it has meaning in our lives today. His presentation of the gospel was shown through the symbols of the sanctuary, which was a fresh portrayal of the Adventist message that we have all come to cherish. Many topics and prophecies that are typically presented in a series of meetings were covered as well, but by using the framework and background of the sanctuary, which kept all attendees interested and engaged.

Attendance was constant every night, with guests asking for follow-up studies. Clayton called church members and guests alike to prayerfully consider what it means to now live in the fulfillment of the Day of Atonement. The entire presentation was video-recorded and will be made available. This presentation was again made possible by the talents and efforts of so many members from both churches. ■

—Margaret Jackson,  
Spirit of Truth Church



Clayton Leineweber takes attendees step by step through the sanctuary.

## British Columbia

# Why Adventist Education? Working Together to Make It Happen



Sorting bottles. Cleaning ditches. Climbing mountains. Playing volleyball. It is Peace Christian School (PCS), tucked away in the busy little town of Chetwynd, B.C. Who would have thought five years ago, or maybe 10, this little Christian school would grow from fewer than 60 students to 132, from a four-classroom school to an eight-classroom building, from an original Grade 1–6 school to a K–12 place to grow, learn, play, work and share?

Are we blessed? Every day! Do we smile? Every day! Are we tired? Every day!

One person said to me not long ago, “We could take this school and put it in the middle of some foreign country, and it would be the same. It would be a mission school.” It is a mission school. Some years ago the Chetwynd Seventh-day Adventist Church made the choice to take on their little school as their personal mission, to not charge tuition to their students, so that a Christian education could be available to all. That choice still stands, perhaps through debate, much discussion, considerable stress and differing opinions, but it stands.

And so here we are, growing each year, thanking God for walking with us, providing for us, and sharing in, or truly managing, this monumental task. We have a member of our

staff who for many years has made this school her place to be, who has helped in many positions, from school secretary, to librarian to tutor. Every day without pay. We have had a teacher finish several months of a school year, replacing someone who needed to leave. This, too, without pay.

And there’s more. A member of our staff takes it upon himself each year to try and bring in \$30,000 to \$60,000 worth of donations for our school. A board member supplies and keeps licensed and running our shuttle and coach buses and

many times has dropped his own urgent business to fix our challenges and obstacles. Under the direction of our tireless Parent Committee president, through several and various fundraisers, many dollars go toward enriching our classrooms and school program. So many dedicated people make up who we are. Because we don’t charge our students tuition, we rely heavily on people who believe in what we are doing and share the work through their time and monetary gifts.

We felt hugely blessed when God placed in our hands, after letters, phone calls and prayers, the building we are currently in for less than the price of the 10 acres it sits on. When we moved to this “new” facility, we thought we had so much space. Not anymore. We have outgrown our space, which is a beautiful testament to what God can do, and also a source of worry, work and stress as we move forward with a bigger-than-us project to build a new gymnasium with additional classroom spaces.

If you need some quietness and a lovely, peaceful and wild place to visit, just travel up British Columbia’s Hwy 97 until you reach hills of poplars, fields of hay, winding rivers and icy lakes. Come visit us in Chetwynd. You’d be welcome! ■

—Corrie Penner, English/  
Drama teacher at PCS

## Fountainview Concert in Abbotsford



Saturday, Nov. 30, marked the fourth annual Fountainview Academy Orchestra and Singers musical presentation at the Abbotsford Pentecostal Assembly (APA), ringing in the 2013 Christmas season. This year's concert production opened the hearts of the audience to the message of Christmas with "The Saviour is Born." Our ears and visual senses were captivated for 90 minutes, starting with the opening duet rendition of the holiday classic "Silent Night." The music of Christmas, performed under the direction of conductor and music director Craig Cleveland, flowed throughout the concert. The beauty of Handel's Messiah "And the Glory of the Lord" echoed through the auditorium as choir members marched down the aisles. Once again an audience favourite, the "Hallelujah" chorus, saw many concert-goers joining in.

As in previous years, the 1,300-seat auditorium was filled to near capacity for two concerts. Attendees were invited to bring a freewill donation of a non-perishable food item in support of the local Abbotsford Food Bank. The intake response was overwhelming, filling 84 large banana boxes! The Fountainview Academy Orchestra and Singers are the entire student body of

Fountainview Academy's Grade 10 to 12 students. The students have dedicated their musical talents to spreading the gospel. They have performed concerts all over the world and have filmed musical DVD productions that provide easy ways to share biblical truths with family and friends.

Sharing their musical talents is only a part of a Fountainview concert. The students get really excited about greeting people as they come through the doors and hurrying off stage post-concert to share spiritual thoughts and a prayer with guests before leaving the venue. These opportunities create lasting memories for the young people and give them the experience of sharing their faith with others. The guests who attend the concerts find it so refreshing to see young people who are living their lives with purpose and a vision for serving God.

What's next? The orchestra and singers will continue on in the spring of 2014, presenting the gospel message in an eastern United States tour, highlighting the message of *The Great Controversy*. Please visit our website at [www.fountainofmusic.com](http://www.fountainofmusic.com) for concert dates, times and locations. ■

— Michael Dunbar, President,  
Fountainview Academy

## Maritimes

### Sandy Lake Academy Raises Funds for the Philippines

Sandy Lake Academy students and staff were eager to do their part to help the relief efforts in the Philippines. Several fundraisers were planned to raise money for ADRA.

On Friday, Nov. 15, 2013, the elementary Student Leader Club hosted a pancake breakfast to raise funds for the Philippines. Students, parents and friends were invited to participate. Also,

the proceeds from the Elementary Snack Shop on Tuesday, Nov. 26, were contributed to benefit relief work in the Philippines. The elementary students raised \$385!

The week of November 18 to 21, SLA students had the opportunity to donate \$5 to the Philippines and were rewarded with a free casual week. Many students participated and enjoyed



the rare privilege of wearing casual clothing instead of wearing their school uniforms for an entire week. Although a \$5 donation may not seem like much, but in the Philippines it can buy 16 pounds of rice, 10 cans of sardines or 21 litres of water. In total, \$302 was raised that week.

On Wednesday, Nov. 27, Mrs. Cottreau held a Bread and Cookie Bake Sale. Besides enjoying some delicious treats for themselves, students were able to help with disaster relief efforts. Proceeds from the bake sale totalled \$105.

Sandy Lake Academy has also received miscellaneous donations for the Philippines. To date, \$608 has been donated.

As a result of these fundraisers, Sandy Lake Academy was able to donate \$1,400 to ADRA Canada to assist the relief efforts in the Philippines. Once the government matches these funds, a grand total of \$2,800 will be contributed to this important cause! ■

—Heather Harrington,  
Tantallon SDA Church

## Ontario

### Applecreek Church Consecrates New Board of Directors



Mark Johnson offering a prayer for Ontario Conference's newly elected leaders.

On the Sabbath of Jan. 4, 2014, Wayne Martin, pastor of the Apple Creek church, welcomed guests to a consecration service for the newly elected Ontario Conference officers, directors, and board of directors.

John Ramsay introduced Mark Johnson and stated that Johnson had his citizenship in three countries: Canada, the United States and heaven. John also thanked the

Lord that each person was willing to make the substantial time commitment for the governance of the conference and asked the Lord to overrule and set aside decisions that we might make using our finite wisdom and that we use His infinite wisdom.

All of those involved publicly signed a Leadership Pledge.

Mark Johnson, president of the Seventh-

day Adventist Church in Canada, offered a prayer of dedication after giving a challenging message to commit our lives and our work to bring hope and wholeness to all those we come in contact with. ■

—Stan Jensen,  
communication director,  
Seventh-day Adventist  
Church in Canada

## Creating a Legacy



Derriann Cornwall

Derriann Cornwall has always been eager to give. Her mother recalled how Derriann, at age three, would often unexpectedly empty her purse into the offering plate. This happened on many occasions until her mother began to specifically give her the funds intended for offering only. At age seven, Derriann told her parents she did not like birthday parties and requested that there be no more parties and that she would instead prefer family dinners. However, her mother, in

her desire to do something special for her daughter, threw two surprise parties for her 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> birthdays. This was very upsetting to Derriann, who tearfully begged her mother not to throw her any more parties.

In January 2013, she approached her parents with the idea that she would love to celebrate her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 7 by volunteering. Since it was a school day and Week of Spiritual Emphasis, Derriann brainstormed and thought about starting a charity fund for a Senior Kindergarten (SK) student to be chosen as valedictorian at her school. She herself was given the distinction of being selected valedictorian of her class after her teacher, Ms. Viera, recognized her excellent potential.

The idea was presented to Norman Brown, supervising principal of the Toronto Adventist District School Board (TADSB), who supported the idea and assisted her in developing the criteria for the SK scholarship: a proficiency in reading and writing, being helpful, being a good citizen and must continue Grade 1 at Peel

Adventist School. The inaugural Derriann Cornwall SK Valedictorian Award was presented to Leah Harvey at the Peel Adventist School SK Graduation held on June 13, 2013.

Derriann would like to encourage young people not to wait to start a charitable legacy, no matter how large or small, to make a difference in someone's life. Her passion is to reach underprivileged children in the community. Unfortunately, in this technological age, many of our young people are not given the challenge to step out of the box to spend time focusing on self-discovery and to consider developing a plan to give back.

Derriann enjoys volunteering and spends her summers helping out at the Bramalea Filipino-Canadian Seventh-day Adventist Church Vacation Bible School and several charitable award initiatives. Her teachers describe her as a "very humble and mature individual." Her career goal is to pursue a doctorate in psychology and minor in music at Oakwood University. ■

— Judy Cardona Gamez, Crawford Adventist Academy

## North American Division

### Melvin Boutilier Awarded the Lifetime Achievement



From left: Mark Johnson, Melvin and Thelma Boutilier, Debra Brill, and Sung Kwon.

On Tuesday January 14, in Monterey Bay California, Elder Mark Johnson, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Canada (SDACC) presented the Adventist Community Services Lifetime Achievement award to Mel Boutilier. Joining Elder Johnson was Debra Brill, vice-president of the North American Division (NAD) and Sung Kwon, North American Division Adventist Community Services Director.

Melvin (Mel) James Boutilier was born in a rural community in Nova Scotia, Canada. He was one of 10 children and felt the pain and embarrassment of poverty early in life. It was here, in this humble setting, that his sensitivities to

the needs of the poor and underprivileged developed.

At eight years old, he set up a podium (a wooden orange crate) and spoke to an imaginary audience. He told them his intention when he grew up was “to make a positive difference in the lives of others, relieving wants and hardships wherever [he] could do so.”

Always interested in the development of children and youth, he has been active in promoting young people activities for over 50 years. This included being an

inspiration to others and taking leadership as project coordinator and chairman of the building committee in the construction of the Adventist Christian academy and dormitory in Halifax. He has been the chairman of the academy board for more than 25 years.

With no funds and a limited food source, he took the first step to relieve poverty when he started the Parker Street Food Bank in 1983 (in a single-car garage). This venture grew more rapidly than expected and also exposed the need for

another step: a furniture bank, which was added in a donated warehouse in 1996. After intense fundraising, a warehouse in the inner city was purchased and renovated in 1999/2000.

The necessity for another step surfaced: self-sufficiency. The Skills Development Centre was born in 2003 with the purchase of an adjacent building. The centre has helped many students obtain training in a variety of trades and become employed. ■

## SDA Church in Canada

### VOAR—Join the Christian Family Radio Network

Voice of Adventist Radio (VOAR) is excited to hear that Prince George, B.C., is back on the air on 107.3 FM at 50 watts. Apparently, some local television channels there have shut down, permitting them to bring VOAR back to their community.

Also we're glad to welcome the folks in the community of Merritt, B.C., to the VOAR Christian Family Radio Network. They are rebroadcasting VOAR on 95.9 FM at 50 watts. That means that people in these communities now have a positive listening alternative at home, at work and during their daily commute. A breath of fresh air in the smog of the airwaves.

If your church is interested in reaching out to your community, family and friends through this Christ-centred radio ministry, then contact us at [voar@voar.org](mailto:voar@voar.org). If your community qualifies and if your conference has signed on with VOAR, we can get the process started. Setting up a VOAR repeater site is a financial commitment, so please contact us and then prayerfully consider if this ministry is for you. We look forward to hearing from you.

We thank you for your continued support of this Seventh-day Adventist-owned Canada-wide radio broadcast service. God bless. ■

—R. Brian Matthews,  
VOAR chief engineer  
[bmatthews@voar.org](mailto:bmatthews@voar.org)



VOAR tower in Merritt, B.C.



VOAR tower in Prince George, B.C.

# New Speaker/Director for It Is Written Canada

Earlier in January 2014, Chris Holland accepted the position of speaker/director for It Is Written (IIW) Canada. Elder Holland is currently the secretary-treasurer of Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI), a North American Division role. He and his wife of 17 years, Debbie, have served the church in a number of pastoral roles and as the coordinator for Mark Finley's Chicago evangelistic series. Debbie is a graduate of Andrews University with a degree in nursing.

The Hollands will take up their IIW assignment at the beginning of April 2014.

When I contacted others to learn more about Pastor Chris, this is what I was told:

*"Chris and I have worked together on media outreach in the past, and I've been deeply impressed by his spiritual depth, his clear grasp of evangelistic methods and principle, and his passion for people. He not only communicates clearly but also does it with an enthusiastic passion and has a broad vision for leading in God's work. There are few people who would be able to step into the powerful broadcast tool that Canada has with its IIW broadcast. Chris Holland is, in my opinion, one of those rare people. I was delighted with the news that he had accepted the challenge. I believe the nation is going to love Chris."*—Shawn Boonstra, speaker/director, Voice of Prophecy

*"Chris is a man of prayer, a man of faith and a man of the Word who is passionate about sharing the message He loves. His genuine love for people comes across both in his interactions with the people around him and his preaching to evangelistic audiences. I am confident that in his new role as the Canadian It Is Written speaker, he will make a positive difference for the kingdom of God and hundreds of souls will be won for Christ through the telecast and his evangelistic preaching throughout Canada."*—Mark Finley, assistant to the president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Prior to his ASI post, Chris was pastor of the Hagerstown, Md., church. He comes to us as one who has had excellent experience as a pastor and evangelist and with good organizational skills to allow for transitions at ASI.



Debbie and Chris Holland

For 40 years the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada has produced the It Is Written Canada television program. The It Is Written Canada board is committed to a strong and effective future for this most important ministry.

Unfold numbers have been touched by the messages of the weekly telecast, which reaches the entire country of Canada, by cable, by satellite as well as over the air.

As a result, people of all faiths and creeds—even those who consider themselves secular—have been inspired and encouraged through Christ-centred presentations.

Pastor Chris and Debbie are committed to carry forward the vision of founder, Henry Feyerabend, and meet Canada's 21<sup>st</sup>-century spiritual needs.

It Is Written Canada values your continuing prayerful support as it continues to fulfill its mission to bring men and women, girls and boys, to know Christ and to live for Him. ■

—Mark Johnson, president  
of the Seventh-day Adventist  
Church in Canada

>> Facebook like Pastor Holland: [facebook.com/PastorChrisHolland](https://www.facebook.com/PastorChrisHolland)

>> SDACC REVOLVING FUND REPORT: As of Dec. 31, 2013, there are 448 depositors with a total deposit of \$524,302,296. There are 80 loans with a value of \$20,269,914.

For more information or to make a deposit, contact Girly Quiambao—[quiambao.girly@adventist.ca](mailto:quiambao.girly@adventist.ca); 905/433-0011.



# CANADIAN ADVENTIST MESSENGER ISRAEL TOUR

TIME IS RUNNING OUT! BOOK NOW FOR THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME.

with Messenger Editor Stan Jensen, VP for Administration  
(SDACC) Daniel Stojanovic providing Bible commentary on stops.



MARCH 19-MARCH 31, 2014  
40 SEAT LIMIT

- Attend Sabbath service at Jerusalem Adventist Church.
- Participate in a communion service at the Garden Tomb.
- Visit Nazareth, the hometown of Jesus; Bethlehem and the shepherds' field; the site of the Dead Sea scrolls discovery; the pool of Bethesda; Mount Carmel and the Mount of Olives.
- Plant a tree in Israel.
- Pray at the Western Wall (Wailing Wall).
- Take a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee.
- Be baptized in the Jordan River. *(optional)*
- Swim in the Dead Sea.
- Stand on top of the synagogue where Jesus preached.
- Ride the cable car to the top of Masada
- Most evening free, time for shopping, and so much more!



Included: Guided sightseeing tour of Israel in deluxe air-conditioned bus; hotel accommodations and service charges; breakfast and dinner; admission fees. **Also available an optional 4-5 day extension to tour Jordan** (if 10 people sign up)

Rate per person: Toronto departure, CAD \$2900 + taxes; Calgary departure, CAD \$3260 + taxes

Contact Stan Jensen ([jensen.stan@adventist.ca](mailto:jensen.stan@adventist.ca)) for trip details.







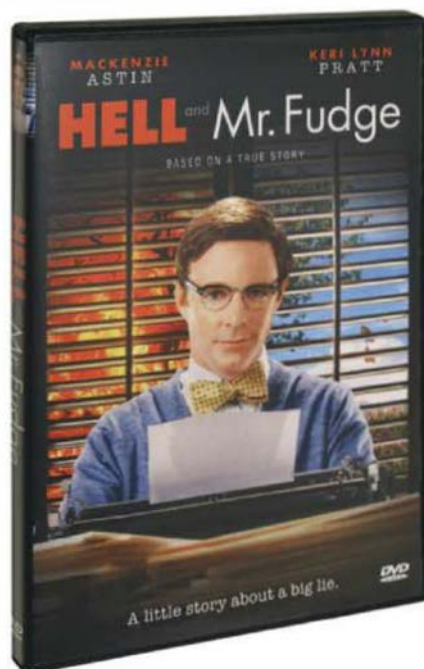
# HELL and Mr. Fudge

A little story about a big lie.

*"It is beyond the power of the human mind to estimate the evil which has been wrought by the heresy of eternal torment."* —ELLEN WHITE

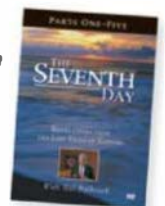
"From start to finish I was fed spiritually, emotionally and intellectually. If you want your spirit to soar get this movie as a gift for yourself and your friends."  
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# Remembering Vashti

Vashti Bailey

Born: Belfield, Jamaica, Nov. 3, 1932

Died: Peterborough Regional Health Centre, Peterborough, Ont., Oct. 2, 2012



I write this dedication as a memorial to my friend Vashti, a very special lady who passed away in October 2012. I searched my mind how to fittingly remember this beautiful, talented Christian woman, loved by all and who gave so much to the world.

Vashti was tall, slim and Jamaican by birth. She was a formidable, intelligent woman who wove her own tapestry in life. Taking her nurses' training in England, she later moved to Canada, obtaining her Bachelor of Nursing Science from the University of Toronto. Her next move was to Peterborough, Ont., where she taught nutrition to the nursing students at Civic Hospital.

Vashti could easily be distinguished in public, as she always wore a hat. When she could no longer drive, she courageously walked everywhere. She was an ardent photographer who was never without her camera, sneaking odd moments from her bus tour schedule to capture the innate beauty of bird, blossom, butterfly or leaf.

Vashti was forced into early retirement when she developed a non-Parkinsonian tremor throughout much of her body. She never complained, never gave up hope and continued to serve God lovingly, living with peace, joy, strength and vitality. She was indeed unique. ■

—Judith Field, a friend of Vashti



Annual Offering

MARCH 8, 2014

**1,295,602,404**  
people in China need to find Jesus

By numbers, China is the church's #1 mission field.

**Population: 1.3 billion**    **Non-Christians: 96-97%**

AWR is broadcasting shortwave programs for 165 hours/week to China – in Mandarin, Cantonese, Uighur, Tibetan, and Min Nan – and our podcasts are heard 24/7 worldwide.

Join us today in introducing Jesus to millions in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and the Americas. AWR is *your* mission radio.

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## ■ Announcements

### PROCESS:

- All announcements (non-profit events, new member notices, birth announcements, weddings, anniversaries, obituaries and tributes) should be emailed to Alexandra Yeboah (Yeboah.alexandra@adventist.ca) or faxed to her attention at 905/433-0982.
- Every individual named in the announcement must be aware of the submission and have granted the submitter approval for printing.
- Obituaries *must* be submitted on the appropriate form, completed and/or approved by a family member of the deceased. The forms (both printable and electronically submitable) are available at [www.adventist.ca/messenger](http://www.adventist.ca/messenger).
- The *Messenger* assumes no liability for typographical errors or responsibility for inaccuracies originating in submitted material.
- For more information about *Messenger* announcement policies, go to [www.adventist.ca/messenger](http://www.adventist.ca/messenger), click 'writers guidelines' then click 'announcements.'

## ■ Announcements

**Are we looking for you?** We are—if you are a former member or pastor of the North Sydney Seventh-day Adventist Church. The church is celebrating 100 years of the Adventist message being proclaimed on Cape Breton soil. On August 8-10, 2014, we invite you to come celebrate with us and visit old friends from coast to coast. Before that time we would like for you to register on our website, [100yearsofcbadventist.org](http://100yearsofcbadventist.org), and send us some of your favourite old pictures so we can share in the memories and stories that you have. If you require further information contact us at [jack.ried@easlink.ca](mailto:jack.ried@easlink.ca). (3/14)

**Crawford Adventist Academy celebrates its 61<sup>st</sup> Alumni Homecoming Weekend** on May 23-25, 2014. We welcome all our alumni and families, former administrators, board members, chaplains, faculty & staff, parents, friends and supporters. Honouring our TJA Classes of 1979, 1974, 1969, 1963 and all classes prior; CAA Classes of 2004, 1999, 1994, 1989 and 1984. We are looking for 2 representatives for each honoured year as well as volunteers to help in various areas for this event. Please contact the

Office of Advancement, TADSB, Derrick Hall, VP of Advancement, 416/633-0090 / toll free 866/960-2125 ext. 234 or [dhall@tadsb.com](mailto:dhall@tadsb.com); Judy Cardona Gamez, Advancement Assistant ext. 248 or [jgamez@tadsb.com](mailto:jgamez@tadsb.com). Visit our official website, [www.tadsb.com](http://www.tadsb.com); follow us on Twitter @TJA/CAAAlumni; like us on Facebook "The Official TJA/CAA Alumni Group." (5/14)

## ■ New Members

### MARITIME

**Raymond Boutilier** was baptized in Tantallon, N.S., on May 4, 2013, by Pedro Graça. He is now a member of the Tantallon church.

**Brittany Brewer** was baptized at Camp Pugwash in N.S., during teen camp, on July 20, 2013, by Paul Llewellyn. She is now a member of the Zealand church.

**Cathy Daigle** was baptized at Camp Pugwash in N.S. during campmeeting, on Aug. 3, 2013, by Adrian Golea. She is now a member of the Zealand church.

**Vincent Eastwood** was baptized at Camp Pugwash in N.S., on July 13, 2013, by Dave Hamilton. His wife, Donna, was re-baptized the same day. They both are now members of the New Glasgow church.

**Artur Edey and Danielle Salomon** were baptized in Moncton, N.B., on April 13, 2013, by Métard Salomon. They both are now members of the Moncton church.

**Trevor Floyd** was baptized in Barnesville, N.B., on June 29, 2013, by Courtney Dookie. He is now a member of the Barnesville church.

**Emily Hong** was baptized in Perth-Andover, N.B., on July 6, 2013, by Adrian Golea. She is now a member of the Perth-Andover church.

**Steven Jellison** was baptized in Saint John, N.B., on June 15, 2013, by Courtney Dookie. He is now a member of the Saint John church.

**Carrie Totten** was baptized in Barnesville, N.B., on April 6, 2013, by Courtney Dookie. Her husband, Matthew, was re-baptized the same day. They both are now members of the Barnesville church.

**Odette (Nicolle) Totten and Zachary Kelemen** were baptized in Barnesville, N.B., on April 13, 2013, by Courtney Dookie. They both are now members of the Barnesville church.

**Wayne Warren** was accepted into the church on profession of faith in North Sydney, N.S., on May 4, 2013. He is now a member of the North Sydney church.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Nettle Koochin** was baptized in Kelowna, B.C., on Aug. 18, 2012, by Brian Hawes. She is now a member of the Rutland church.

**Rob LaRose** was baptized in Kelowna, B.C., on Aug. 18, 2012, by Brian Hawes. He is now a member of the Rutland church.

**Rachel Scuka and Kaylin Scuka** were baptized in Kelowna, B.C., on July 7, 2012, by Brian Hawes. They both are now members of the Rutland church.

**Mary-Anne Smith** was baptized in Kelowna, B.C., on July 7, 2012, by Brian Hawes. She is now a member of the Rutland church.

## ■ Births

**Abigail Anne and Gracie Noelle Atwood**, twin girls, were born on Mar. 19, 2013, to Melissa and Tim Atwood of Barrington, N.S. They were dedicated by their grandfather, Ted Atwood on May 11, 2013.

**Jack Omer Guimond** was born on July 8, 2013, to Beverly Zirowa and Josh Guimond of Saint John, N.B.

## ■ Weddings

**Jennifer Natasha Chhangur and Derek Nathaniel Sloan** were married on Mar. 31, 2013, at College Park church, in Oshawa, Ont. Jennifer is the daughter of Adele Petsaud and Sherland Chhangur, and Derek is the son of David and Erika Sloan.

The couple are making their home in Oshawa, Ont.

## ■ Obituaries

**Alberta (née Komm) Goltz** was born on Aug. 8, 1907, in Komunka, Poland, and died Oct. 9, 2013, in Leduc, Alta. Alberta spent 106-plus years on this earth. Her presence in the Leduc church until the final few months of her life testifies to her strong and vibrant faith. She became a member of the Leduc church (the province's first established church) in 1931. She is predeceased by her husband, Fred; brothers, Adolf, Emil, Sam, Henry and Robert Komm; and sisters, Amalia Kurtz, Juliana Marks, and Emilie and Edith Komm. Surviv-

ing: son, Leo (Connie) of Leduc, and daughter, June Jeske; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

**Henry Justesen** was born on Nov. 7, 1926, in Thisted, Denmark, and died Oct. 21, 2013, in Kelowna, B.C. He is predeceased by his sister, Marie Devlin. Surviving: wife, Gerda; sons, Larry (Norma) of Coquitlam, B.C., and Leonard of Abbotsford, B.C.; stepson, Geoffrey (Bernadette) of Coldstream, B.C.; daughters, Linda (Bill) and Lila (Ken) of Victoria, B.C.; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**Djordjinka Savatovic** was born on May 6, 1922, in Melenci, former Yugoslavia, and died Oct. 1, 2013, in Toronto, Ont. She is predeceased by her husband, Nikola. Surviving: Mike (Janelle), Rose (Ed), and Kathy (Steve), eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Diane (née Pennington) Schulze** was born on March 25, 1952, in Vancouver, B.C., and died Nov. 17, 2013, in Vernon, B.C. She is predeceased by her husband, Terry. Surviving: brother, Monte (Gayanne) Pennington of Summerland, B.C.

**Vida Emily (née Hollett) Tkachenko** was born on March 2, 1927, in Cornerbrooke, N.L., and died Sept. 29, 2013, in Saskatoon, Sask. Vida served as Sabbath school secretary, pianist, was a teacher in children's divisions, and volunteered with ingathering and community services. She also provided a loving home to children for social services. She is predeceased by her husband, William, and sister, Elizabeth Markwell. Surviving: sons, Robert and Charlie (Shauna); daughter, Lillian (Ron) Windels, and foster daughter, Dixie (Warren) Wood; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**William Tkachenko** was born on Oct. 23, 1923, in Kiev, former USSR, and died Oct. 25, 2012, in Saskatoon, Sask. William was the head deacon at his church. He tended the lawn in the summer and ensured that the snow was plowed and the church warm for Sabbath worship in the winter. He was active in ingathering and giving Bible studies. He is predeceased by his brothers, John and Nick. Surviving: sons, Robert and Charlie (Shauna); daughter, Lillian (Ron) Windels, and foster daughter, Dixie (Warren) Wood; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Daniel Weich** was born on Dec. 19, 1923, in Hanna, Alta., and died Oct. 1, 2013, in Hanna. Dan loved his church and served as deacon and treasurer for many years in the Hanna

church. He had a heart of gold and was there to help anyone in time of need. He is predeceased by his brothers, Ben (June) of Castnr, Alta., and Walter (Lorraine) of Calgary, Alta., and his sisters Mary (Alfred) Hoffman of Okotoks, Alta., and Doreen (John) Patzer of Calgary. Surviving: wife, Lillian Fecho; sons, Bryan (Orri) and Rick (Kathy) of Hanna; daughters, Gloria (Jim) Stenhouse and Bonnie (Brian) McLeod of Lacombe; sisters Emma (Alton) Suelzle and Helen (Charlie) Suelzle of Lacombe; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

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**Classified advertising**—\$32 for 50 words or less; \$ for each additional 10 words.

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**Adventist Heritage Tour.** SAGE ALBERTA invites fellow SAGERS and other seniors to join them in an upcoming enhanced Adventist Heritage tour from October 9–24, 2014. The 16-day tour begins at the Toronto Airport. Tour price includes deluxe coach travel, comfortable hotels, most meals, admission fees, tips and gratuities. The tour is limited to 50 participants. It will be led by Keith Clouten, assisted by Ellen Bell, and with Jim Nix from the White Estate. For a tour information packet, contact: Darlene Reimche at 403/342-5044 ext. 206. Questions? Contact Keith Clouten at [kclouten1@telus.net](mailto:kclouten1@telus.net) or 403/782-7796, or Ellen Bell at [bell.ellen3@gmail.com](mailto:bell.ellen3@gmail.com) or 403/782-2730. (4/14)

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**Better Life Television:** Seeking broadcast engineer for 20 stations and Grants Pass, Oregon headquarters. Requires knowledge of RF broadcast engineering, FCC regulations. SDA member in good standing. Resume: [Ron@BetterLifeTV.tv](mailto:Ron@BetterLifeTV.tv). (2/14)

**Sandy Lake Academy** would like to be in touch with everyone who has been involved with the school—alumni, attendees, former staff, volunteers and pastors. Please call 902/835-8548 or email your contact information to [alumni@sandylakeacademy.ca](mailto:alumni@sandylakeacademy.ca). (2/14)

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**Last Call for Medical Missionaries:** If you'd be happy to work sacrificially (at first) to promote a Lifestyle Education/Hydrotherapy 'Spa' in downtown Toronto please call Sherry at Better Way Canada 416/754-6666. Prior experience, Bible knowledge, close walk with God, modest, preferably organic/vegan, good people skills essential. Investors welcome. (2/14)

**Donor Relations Director: ADRA Canada** seeks an experienced Donor Relations Director responsible for the overall supervision, continuous enrichment and implementation of a donor relationship and annual fundraising strategy that links the resources of individuals in Canada to the needs of those in poverty and distress. This position oversees the communications, marketing and fundraising activities of the agency. To apply, email [james.astleford@adra.ca](mailto:james.astleford@adra.ca) your resume and cover letter outlining how your skills and talent match those required for this position to and why you're particularly interested in being part of the ministry of ADRA Canada. See <http://goo.gl/gb8qOP> for details on the position. (2/14)

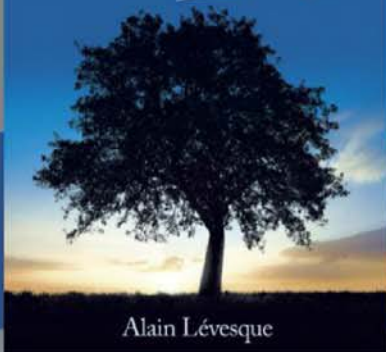
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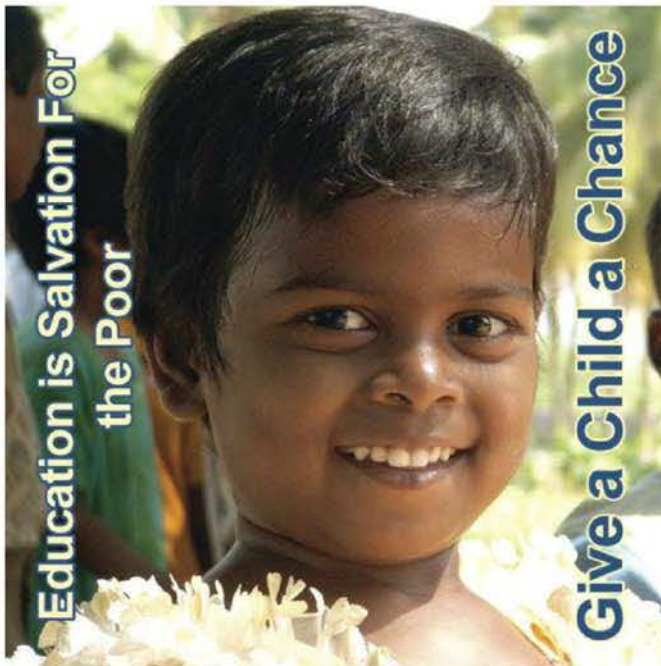


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## from the editor

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### A compassionate ministry

Many things our Church does should bring its members a glowing feeling of pride. One of the first that comes to mind is the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Canada. Last year alone they provided almost \$8 million to approximately 850,000 people in 22 countries. When Jesus asks who fed the hungry, clothed the naked and provided relief to those in distress, we will be able to raise our hands high.

It was not surprising to see ADRA Canada step up to the plate when Typhoon Haiyan made landfall in the Philippines and devastated parts beyond the imagination of anyone there. Lives were lost, families broken, food and water scarce, and ADRA Canada worked swiftly and tirelessly to provide support in the most economically feasible channels. We can thank God for the compassion of the employees of the Newcastle, Ont., office. It is of little wonder why ADRA Canada is named in the estates of so many people across our nation.

Churches all across Canada pulled together to help raise funds for this emergency, boys and girls launched projects to raise funds, schools strategized to do the same. Members gave liberally, hearts were changed and churches from St. John's to Sooke, from Windsor to Whitehorse, shared what they had in order to provide relief to those in desperate need.

Thanks to ADRA Canada, our members can get involved in the compassionate ministry of Christ around the world without having to personally go there.

A quick visit to the [adra.ca](http://adra.ca) website reveals so many projects they are involved in. On their website I have signed up to be able to give regular monthly support and would challenge all of you to do the same as soon as you are finished reading this issue.

I appreciate the vision that John Howard and Jim Wilson had to create this new bold adventure back in the early 1970s. Many thanks to them! Thank God for bold innovation.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Jim', written in a cursive style.



# ~ THE ~ BLESSED HOPE

“Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.” Titus 2:13

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