February 11 Newsletter

NADEI Says Goodbye to the Litzenbergers

Late this spring we received the news that our friends, Lyle and Runette Litzenberger would be leaving our NADEI staff. They had unexpectedly received a call to serve in ministry elsewhere and felt God was leading them to this new mission field. So, in June we sadly said our goodbyes and wished them well on their new ministry opportunity.

Lyle and Runette started working for NADEI in the winter of 1999; Lyle to serve as Business Manager and Runette as Secretary to the Director. As the Director’s secretary, Runette also worked closely with Natural Church Development (NCD) and learned what a powerful tool it can be in church health and growth. As NADEI’s involvement in NCD grew, she and Lyle were given the opportunity for further training and eventually became certified to teach NCD Coach Training. During this time, Lyle and Runette also became aware of the potential in Ministry Coaching. A new position was created for Runette and she transitioned to being a full-time Ministry Coach and Coach Trainer. Lyle continued his role as Business Manager, added the task of NCD Coordinator and assisted with Coach Trainings and coaching as he was able. In July of 2009 Lyle was asked to additionally take on the role of Business Manager for Adventist Information Ministries (AIM).

Through the years we have all appreciated not only our working relationship with Lyle and Runette but also the friendships that have formed. They have always been people you could count on when a need arose and because of their many years of experience, have provided sound and helpful advice in many situations.

While it’s difficult to say goodbye we do so knowing Lyle and Runette will continue to serve to the best of their abilities in whatever situations God places them.

Andrea Pusey, NADEI Resource Center Manager

Marti Schneider Retires from NADEI
...but NOT from Ministry!

Shortly after the conclusion of the 2010 General Conference Session in Atlanta, a letter from Don and Marti Schneider was sent out to the leaders and workers in the North American Division.

"Dear friends and family," it read, "Shall we retire? Shall we keep going? We asked ourselves the question again and again on our morning and evening walks as the General Conference Session was approaching.

"We decided to consider this the same as we do any possible call to serve. We told God that, no matter which way He led, we would be willing to go or stay as He opened or shut the door. Such a prayer takes a lot of pressure off!

"And, as you are likely aware, God opened the door marked, ‘Let’s retire!’”

Marti Schneider began working at NADEI as a receptionist in 1995, while Don was serving as President of the Lake Union Conference. During a board meeting on evangelism later that year, the question was raised, “What can we do to create a culture of evangelism in North America?” Russell Burrill, then director of NADEI, suggested that church planting was an important element in evangelism that was not getting the attention it deserved. Marti was asked to be on the team to create the first SEEDS Conference – a conference dedicated to casting the vision and giving the tools to effectively plant churches across the North American Division.

"That first year," Marti shared, "we decided if we had 50 people attend, we would be excited. We had over 300.” At first just part of the team, Marti was asked to head up the program in 1996. In the fifteen years since, SEEDS has grown from an annual event to include several regional SEEDS programs, with seminars in Spanish, Portuguese and French.

Over time, the concept of ChurchWorks was born from the SEEDS platform. ChurchWorks is a workshop sponsored by a local conference to help each church within that conference to create a vision and develop a specific plan for reaching every person in their territory for God. In the years since, ten conferences have participated in the ChurchWorks program.

Marti’s love for her Savior, her energy, enthusiasm and dedication to spreading His love has been inspirational. In addition to the programs she has planned through NADEI, she has also spent the past ten years working with Adventist World Mission and Shepherdess.

Though she will be missed in the NADEI office, her influence will be felt as the SEEDS and ChurchWorks programs continue. The NADEI family wishes the Schneiders many more blessings as they continue to live for God.

The Schneiders are spending their “retirement” putting ChurchWorks principles into practice, pastoring the South Denver Church in Colorado.

Candy Clark, NADEI Newsletter Editor

Introducing Tom Evans
Associate Director, NADEI
Church Planting, Natural Church Development, and Coaching

Tom Evans comes to us from the Texas Conference, where he has served for the past 9 years as Church Planting Director. Tom Evans is no stranger to NADEI. Since SEEDS Conferences began in 1995, Tom has been a regular presenter, teaching Basic Church Planting to over 200 individuals over the years.

Tom Evans began pastoral ministry in 1990 and has served in Upper Columbia Conference, Australia and the Texas Conference. During his leadership as the church planting director in Texas, 114 new church plants were launched. A model of lay led church planting with pastoral coaching was pioneered which allowed for more rapid expansion of God’s work.

Tom is a certified Natural Church Development coach and has helped churches experience greater effectiveness in the harvest through improving their health. Tom’s current role as an Associate Director at NADEI is to equip pastors and lay leaders in church planting and natural church development throughout the North American Division. His hobbies include...
gardening, softball, racquetball, traveling and raising golden retrievers. Tom is married to Mara (originally from Brazil) and has 5 children.

Candy Clark, NADEI Newsletter Editor

**Introducing Richard A. Moore**  
**Business Manager, NADEI**

Richard A. Moore comes to us from the Southeastern California Conference, where he has served as a pastor for 6 years. Richard holds BA degrees in Theology and Business Administration from Oakwood University, as well as a Masters of Divinity from Andrews University. He has served as a pastor in California, Bermuda, and Wisconsin. He has also served as the Assistant Treasurer of the Wisconsin Conference.

Richard is married to Betty, a Nurse Practitioner currently employed at Lakeland Continuing Care in Berrien Center. They have two children: Ricky, a 9th grader at Andrews Academy, and Brianna, a 7th grader at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School.

Candy Clark, NADEI Newsletter Editor