August 12 Newsletter

Mississauga Field School

On May 10, 2012 Dr. Errol McLean along with 10 seminarians arrived in Mississauga, Ontario in the greater Toronto area focused on the upcoming evangelistic adventure of a field school hosted by the Mississauga Seventh-day Adventist church. Every field school of evangelism involves the expectation that God will show up to in miraculous ways to transform lives, change churches, and inspire the seminarians through the experiences they will have in leading people to Jesus Christ. This evangelism field school met all those expectations.

The four weeks of prophecy based presentations by Dr. McLean under the theme “Armageddon Rising 2012”, were well received by an average nightly audience of 275 people. The evangelism field school was well received by the churches and the members worked willingly with the students in visiting the interests and preparing them for baptisms. Carefully and prayerfully the seminarians nurtured and supported the decisions of 27 people to accept the Lord Jesus Christ through baptism. With the interests aroused and relationships established, the churches involved in the series anticipate continued baptisms through the months of July and August.

At the end of the series the seminarians were awed by the experiences they had of God working through them to lead people into new life experiences. One seminarian team rejoiced loudly as they prayerfully brought a mother and her four sons together to the baptismal pool where they symbolized their acceptance of Jesus. Another team exulted joyfully as an eighty year old who had resisted baptism for years finally surrendered to Christ through baptism. Another of the stories related how a ten year old child took one of the flyers to school to share with his friend. That evening his friend took the flyer home to his mother. At the start of the meetings that same evening the mother and her son were in attendance and excitedly testifying that they plan to be back every night.

God indeed showed up at this evangelistic adventure and reaped from the harvest field in the Greater Toronto area for his everlasting kingdom. Through this tremendous experience God not only saved those he died for but restored in the heart of his church the love of God for lost people.

Errol McLean, Associate Director, Church Growth & Field Evangelism

Party Evangelism

Fourth of July

The Passage, a training center for seminary students and the community interested in sharpening their skills in small group discipleship ministry, decided to
hold a social for reaching out to others and celebrating the holiday. The leaders planned for the event and advertisement was placed in the seminary plus word of mouth was given to friends.

The barbeque began at 7pm starting with veggie hot dogs with all the trimmings, watermelon, drinks, and lots of finger foods. It was great watching the interaction of all the different people, some sat on lawn chairs while others relaxed on the grass – groups all over Dr. and Mrs. James’ back yard. What was extremely interesting was the hot weather (that was what was extreme), over 100 degrees with very high humidity, yet people just kept coming.

Group games were raising the excitement and the sweat poured down everyone’s entire being. Of course a high interest was the interactive group-building games called Whiz Boink! Evening drew near, community was building, friends developing, and now the time for the final event – fireworks off the dock over Painter Lake. It was a great time and over 75 individuals showed up for the social, a record number set for this yearly event. What is the outcome of this event will only be measured throughout the coming year as new members are added to our existing groups that multiply into new groups. Such events also contribute to a welcoming feeling for new seminary students just coming to Andrews.

What’s coming next with The Passage activities? There will be a weekend campout on the third weekend of July with walking access to the beach on Lake Michigan. Special Sabbath services and blessings will be placed on small group leaders that weekend. In September will be our fall “Freedom in Jesus” seminar, an equipping experience that helps attendees learn how to give all to Jesus and not carry any of our past burdens – to be free in Jesus. The Passage is excited to serve our students and better train them through actual ministry activities.

Don James, Associate Director, Small Groups & Discipleship

Are You Someone Who Really Cares?

In a self-centered world it’s great to know someone cares. People hurt so much that they will share with anyone who even seems to lend a listening ear. Yet they receive little in the way of real hope. Just yesterday I found a man who in the past year lost his business; his wife was suspended from her practice, filed for bankruptcy and lost their son in a freak accident. What words of counsel could heal this broken life. There are no words that can make a difference except there is a power beyond words that can bring hope even in the worst of times. That power works through believers when they intercede for people, as they pray to the only God that desires to answer.
So I invite you to start making a list of people who need to experience God’s love. Carry it with you and add to the list as God guides you to others. Talk to God about each person on your list. Take time to listen to what God tells you through the indwelling Holy Spirit. (See John 10:27; 14:26; 16:13,14) Don’t be surprised if, as you intercede for one of the people on your list the Holy Spirit leads you to pray in a very specific way (See Rom. 8:26; Eph. 6:18).

Bring the light of the Son of God into the homes represented by each one of the names. Pray for the forgiveness of their sins, that the blood of Christ, poured out on Calvary, will cover them and cast the evil one from their homes and lives. And finally, pray that God will fill them with peace. You are asking God to create an opening in the person’s life so that Holy Spirit can work through the promises they will be receiving.

**Seven Promises & Blessings Postcards**

In the next few weeks look for appropriate times or opportunities to give the first card from *Seven Promises and Blessings* to the friends, work associates or loved ones on your list. After the person receives the card intercede on their behalf daily and claim the Bible promise to become a reality in their life. Furthermore call the seven individuals or families and let them know you are praying for them and ask them if they have a special prayer request. Go boldly before the throne of grace and prepare for an avalanche of answers. These answered prayers open people to God’s work and encourage them to avail themselves of God’s promises.

**The Seventh Card is an Invitation to Experience the Blessing of Coming to Church**

Ask your friends if they have a church they attend, if not tell them you would be more than happy to go with them to your church. Furthermore invite them to a seminar or programs for which they might have interest. Invite them regularly building relationships based on people’s needs and interests.

The fact that people know someone cares and is praying for them may be just what they needed to be able to endure and to be encouraged because someone really cares.

For a packet of Seven Sets of Promises & Blessings Postcards please contact the NADEI Resource Center at 269-471-8303 or visit the resource Center at www.nadei.org.

*Eduard Schmidt, Associate Director, Lay Empowerment & Personal Evangelism*