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NEWS

Ontario Conference President “Greatly Saddened” by Japan Disaster
Wife of Toronto Japanese Church Pastor in Japan during Earthquake
Pastor & Sister Nakagawa

Oshawa, Ontario, March 17, 2010...OCN
Dr. Mansfield Edwards, president of the Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, said that he has been “greatly saddened” by the news of the disaster in Japan last week. He was speaking to the congregation at Toronto Japanese Seventh-day Adventist Church during Wednesday night’s prayer meeting service.

“We are one family,” he said, “and we share your pain over the loss of life and over the horrific destruction to parts of your homeland.”

He also expressed thanks to God that the families of members of the congregation were spared from the worst of the disaster.

The previous day, shortly after morning worship at the conference office on March 15, Pastor Edwards spoke to staff and directors of his distress at seeing footage of the Tsunami engulfing everything in its path, especially human life. He encouraged everyone to pray for the survivors and to offer as much support as possible.

“Our hearts really go out to the Japanese people”, he said, “and we pray for God’s abundant provisions at their time of great need.”

He also informed the staff and directors that there are no known deaths among Seventh-day Adventists but that a number of church properties had been damaged. He went on to say that the disaster has affected the Ontario Conference directly because Sister Mutsumi Nakagawa, wife of Pastor Ataru Nakagawa of Toronto Japanese Seventh-day Adventist Church, was in Japan when the earthquake struck.

“We give God thanks that neither she nor any of her relatives are hurt,” he said, “but presently she is not able to leave the country.”

According to Pastor Nakagawa, she is about 100 km away from the area where the problematic nuclear reactors are located.

The ongoing concern regarding the reactors was reflected in the prayers that were offered, especially in light of the proximity to where Sister Nakagawa is staying with her family.

The president spoke of his solidarity with the Japanese people at this time of need and urges the wider church family in Ontario to give the best support possible.

**North American Division Responds to Japanese Disaster**

*Silver Spring, Maryland, USA, March 17, 2010...NAD NewsPoints*

On Friday, March 11, a massive 8.9 magnitude earthquake occurred 80 miles east of Sendai, Honshu Island, Japan, causing a 30 foot tsunami. With damage assessments and the death toll still unfolding, it has already become clear that the devastation will be of catastrophic proportions.

“As the church in Japan copes with the impact of the recent earthquake and tsunami, the support of church members around the world through prayer and financial donations is greatly appreciated,” said Pastor Dan Jackson, president of the North American Division. “Assessments are still taking place of where major assistance will be needed,” he said.

There are approximately 15,000 Seventh-day Adventists in Japan worshiping in 115 churches. “Adventists are few and far between in Japan so we didn’t have a heavy concentration of churches or schools,” said Ken Osborn, treasurer of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. “The greatest challenge will be the overall economic impact for Japan more than rebuilding institutions or churches. With less than one percent of the population being Christian, opportunities will develop to express the hope Adventist Christians share,” said Osborn.

The North American Division is accepting donations on behalf of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. “As a part of our worldwide church family, we feel compelled to help out our brothers and sisters as they attempt to rebuild their lives and communities.”
Or make checks payable to:
North American Division
Attn: Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster Relief
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Note: ADRA International committed an initial response of $25,000 and an assessment team is currently in Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture, one of the hardest-hit regions. ADRA Japan has been providing hot meals in an evacuation centre. ADRA Japan continues coordinating with the Japanese Department of Social Services (DSS) and anticipates involvement in managing and coordinating evacuation centers in the affected area. To send your contribution to ADRA’s Emergency Response Fund, contact ADRA at 1.800.424.ADRA (2372) or give online. Canada residents may send their contributions to ADRA Canada’s “Japan quake/Pacific tsunami” fund or to the Emergency Response Fund, contact ADRA Canada at 1-888-274-2372 or give online.

Source: NAD NewsPoints

EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 19
"Overcoming the Odds" at Ajax Church

WHEN:          Saturday, March 19th
WHERE:        Ajax Seventh-day Adventist Community Church, 55 Emperor Road, Ajax
WHAT:          Overcoming the Odds sponsored by the Health Department
SPEAKER:      Pastor Eustace Williams, Ontario Conference Personal Ministries
director (divine service:  11:00 a.m.)
SPEAKER:  Frances James, Grief & Bereavement Facilitator at Durham Hospice
(AY: 5:00 p.m.)
If you are stressed, depressed or grieving, come and learn how to be an overcomer and be victorious.

March 26
A Night of Gospel Music
The Toronto Central Seventh-day Adventist Church will be hosting a fundraising gospel concert in aid of our church building fund on Sabbath, March 26, starting at 8:00 pm.  Tickets are $10.00 and are now on sale for purchase. The concert will be taking place in the church Fellowship Hall. Toronto Central is located at 156-162 Bentworth Avenue (Lawrence/Caledonia).  We look forward to welcoming you, your family and friends!
For more information, please call 416-784-0261 or write to tcentral@adventistontario.org.

May 13 - 15, 2011
Couple's Retreat!  Relax, Romance and Reconnect

Join us in the wholesome recreational setting of Camp Frenda. Spend time with your significant other in this beautiful expanse of nature!

Drs. Janice and Fitzroy Maitland, Family Life specialists will teach you valuable tools, using biblical principles to: strengthen and heal; communicate and problem solve effectively, develop warm and satisfying emotional and physical intimacy and so much more -- all for the cost of $250.00 per couple (3 days, 2 nights and meals).

Don't miss this opportunity! Register by March 26, 2011. Contact Vivienne at lady_tenor@hotmail.com or Anthony at shutter_26@hotmail.com or call 416-449-8332.  Come and see what the weekend holds and experience.
Hosted by the Philadelphia Family Life Ministries.
April 1 & 2
Extraordinary Concerts

Romanian Heralds Company in Toronto presents two extraordinary Organ Recitals with soloist Felician Rosca from West University, Romania. Maestro Felician Rosca is touring North America and he will honour Toronto with this occasion.

The first concert will be on Friday, April 1, 7 pm, location:
Rosedale United Church, 159 Roxborough Drive Toronto, M4W 1X7.

The second concert will be on Saturday, April 2, 6 pm, location:
Willowdale Seventh-day Church, 535 Finch Ave W, Toronto, M2R 3X2.

Selection performing: Johann Pachelbel, Johann Sebastian Bach, Johannes Brahms, Max Reger, etc. and Romanian composers: George Enescu, Mircea Diaconescu, Girolamo Diruta, Daniel Kroner, etc.

Admission is free.

April 15-17
Annual Marriage Enrichment Retreat

Couples! Come to the annual Marriage Enrichment Retreat at the Holiday Inn, Guelph, April 15-17, 2011. Pastor Claudio Consuegra, newly elected Family Ministries director of the North American Division, and his wife Pamela, Education director of the Minnesota Conference will be sharing tips for today on building strong relationships with God at the centre. Register by March 22. Visit www.adventistontario.org or call 905-571-1022, ext. 204.

April 15-17
Kingsway College’s Preview Weekend

Kingsway College, a Seventh-day Adventist boarding and day high school in Oshawa, Ontario, would like to invite students who are currently in grades 8 through 11 to attend a Preview Weekend on April 15 – 17, 2011. To register for the FREE weekend at Kingsway College, please call 905-433-1144 ext. 211 or 212 or e-mail us at admissions@kingswaycollege.on.ca. You must register no later than April 11, 2011. *A parent or legal guardian must accompany each student for the duration of the weekend. Please call for more information.

April 30
Adventist Education/Children’s Ministries Convention

ATTENTION parents, pastors, Adventist education leaders, children’s ministries’ leaders, Bible instructors and all other interested persons! Have you registered for the education/children’s ministries convention for Sabbath, April 30, at Canada Christian College? HURRY! Space is limited and the deadline is soon! You don’t want to miss this opportunity to learn how to help children grow into spiritual giants. Register today at https://www.adventistontario.org/conference/EventRegistration/tabid/1033/Default.aspx

May 20-22
Christian Single Adults Retreat

Keynote speaker Pastor Adolph Sinclair of the Bridgeport Tabernacle in the North-eastern Adventist Conference will inspire you to find courage in God and bring might to His calling in your life.

Retreat Package: $134/person shared accommodation or $145/per person for single occupancy (includes Saturday breakfast, lunch, dinner and Sunday breakfast, packet and taxes). **Register by May 5, 2011** at www.AdventistOntario.org (click on events) or call 905-571-1022, ext. 204, Toronto Line 905-668-5757.

**Please remember to share this event with your bulletin secretary and computer technicians**

May 27, 2011
The 57th Toronto Junior Academy/Crawford Adventist Academy Homecoming Alumni Weekend, May 27-29, 2011

Honoured classes are: TJA Grade 10 Classes of ’76 and ’71; CAA Grade 12 Classes of ’01, ’96, ’91, ’86 and Grade 11 Class of ’81. The 3rd Annual Vernon Langdon Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, May 27, 2011 at the Station Creek Golf Course, Gormley, ON. Walk’n Roll 4 Education will be on Sunday, May 29, 2011. For further information and to confirm your attendance, please contact, Derrick Hall, VP of Advancement at 866-960-2125, ext. 234, dhall@tadsb.com or Judy Cardona Gamez, ext. 248, jgamez@tadsb.com or see our official website www.tadsb.com

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADVERTISEMENTS

Job Opportunities

The 2011 Census: Join the Team!

Want to make a lasting contribution to Canada, its community and its people? Here’s your opportunity. Join the 2011 Census team!

Statistics Canada is hiring nearly 35,000 field staff across Canada to work on the collection phase of the 2011 Census. Canada’s next census will be held in May 2011.

Staff are required for a variety of supervisory and non-supervisory positions between March and mid-August 2011. These non-office jobs require work in neighbourhoods and communities in all urban, rural and remote areas of the country. Screening of applications will start in mid-February.

The rates of pay range from $14.72 to 18.04 an hour, plus authorized expenses.

About 5,000 crew leaders and assistants and around 30,000 census enumerators will be hired. Crew leaders train, lead and supervise a team of enumerators. Enumerators distribute census questionnaires, conduct personal interviews and do follow-up interviews by phone.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, eligible to work in Canada, and able to commit at least 20 hours a week, including days, evenings, weekends and holidays as required. They will need a driver’s licence and access to a vehicle in some area. Computer literacy and a home computer with an Internet connection are assets.

For more information and to apply online, go to www.census2011.gc.ca
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Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
1110 King Street East, Oshawa, ON  L1H 1H8
Phone: 905-571-1022 - Fax: 905-571-5995
Director: Halsey Peat
E-mail: hpeat@adventistontario.org
Layout/Typing: Sarah Gouda
E-mail: sgouda@adventistontario.org

E-mail: OCN@adventistontario.org
Website: www.AdventistOntario.org