August 16, 2012

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NEWS

The Death of Pastor Ralph Juriansz

August 15, 2012, Oshawa, Ontario...OCN
It was with deep sorrow that the family of Pastor Ralph Juriansz announced his death, after a brief illness on Friday evening, August 11, 2012.

Pastor Juriansz had been retired for many years after a life time of service to God’s church in Ontario but had kept very active. Even in his retirement years, he worked as a field representative for the Trust Services department and covered a wide area in the Southern and South Western Ontario regions. In his hometown of Brantford and even as far as Hamilton, he supported local congregations and never missed an opportunity of giving Bible studies, helping to bring others to Christ.

Pastor Ralph, as some affectionately called him, was due to give a presentation at the seniors’ retreat in September. His sudden death has come as a shock to many. He will be laid to rest after a memorial service on Friday, August 24, at Living Word Christian Fellowship (Harmony Baptist Church, 1763 Upper James Street, Hamilton) at 11:00 a.m. Visitation will be held on Thursday, August 23, at McCleister Funeral Home, 495 Park Road North, Brantford.

Prayers have been solicited for his wife, Myrtle, their children and extended family. A tribute to Pastor Juriansz will be printed in the autumn edition of Ontario Highlights.

2,700 from Papua New Guinea Evangelistic Meeting, 3,000 More Request Baptism

More than 5,000 baptismal candidates have resulted from the evangelistic series presented by U.S. Evangelist John Carter which culminated in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea last week. The meetings began Friday night, July 27, with 70,000 attending, and steadily increased by 10,000 - 20,000 every evening, even with the 2012 Olympics on primetime TV. More than 120,000 people were present and overflowing at the last three or four meetings. On Sabbath 2,750 souls were baptized by 50 pastors while an audience of 50,000 looked on. Another 3,000+ have requested baptism.

At his final meeting Pastor Carter asked those who had just been baptized to raise their hands. Then he asked those who hadn’t been baptized, but wanted to be baptized to raise their hands. There were more hands raised the second time than the first.

The last meeting in the Papua New Guinea capital city was about Heaven. One of its unexpected features was a large white bird that looked like a dove.

This bird first appeared a few days earlier when John was preaching about the Holy Spirit. He had a picture of a white dove on the giant screens around the Sir John Guise Stadium. And at that exact time, this white bird circled above the meeting. Thousands thought the coincidence was amazing. Others thought it was more than a coincidence. On the stage Pastor Carter could see the people were looking up at something. But he didn’t know what it was. After the program, people started telling him about the white bird – many called it a big white dove. Some of those who told John that they’d seen it were very reliable people. So John realized it must have happened.

As Pastor Carter was about to walk on the stage for the last meeting on Saturday night, he caught a momentary glimpse of the white bird. It had come back. He walked onto the stage and asked the audience how many of them had seen it. Every hand was raised. They had all seen it.
Pastor Carter says the altar call at the end of this final Port Moresby campaign was the biggest he has ever seen. In fact, almost every day of the Port Moresby meetings he saw something bigger than he’d ever seen in his 50 years as an evangelist.

Pastor Carter has since left Papua New Guinea but follow-up with the new converts will be handled by the local conference. Each newly baptized member knows which of the 60 local Adventist churches to go to, and at their church on Sabbath they will be given their baptismal certificate and the gift of a Bible from the Carter Report. Many of the local churches will provide follow-up meetings to help further educate and welcome the new converts.

Source: NADNewsPoints/The Carter Report

August 15, 2012 Silver Spring, Maryland, United States
Elizabeth Lechleitner/ANN

When Seventh-day Adventist long-distance runner Abel Kirui crosses a finish line, he drops to his knees and bows his head, offering a prayer in celebration.

The whole world witnessed his gesture of gratitude this week when the 30-year-old Kenyan won the silver medal in the men’s marathon at the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, England.

Kirui is also a consecutive repeat winner of the World Championship Marathon, winning the event in 2011 by the largest ever margin -- two minutes and 28 seconds. His personal record of a two-hour, five-minute marathon places him sixth among an elite community of long-distance runners.

In a sport where athletes often compete for personal gain or national recognition, Kirui says he finds motivation in bringing glory to God.
“Every race is an opportunity. What I tell God is, ‘Wherever you place me, I will share you.’ So every time I finish a race I say, ‘Thank-you, God,’” Kirui says.

Raised in rural Kenya in what he affectionately calls a “humble” single parent home, Kirui says he learned to depend on God early in life. His mother, whom he cites as his biggest spiritual influence, encouraged him to attend church on Sabbath mornings. Today, he says his habit of early-morning prayer is an inheritance from her.

“I remember she would wake up in the wee hours to pray that we would choose whom we are going to serve in life,” he says. “Now every morning I get up very early to pray and ask God to give me strength to run.”

As a young boy, Kirui says he dreamed of a life beyond the local village.
“I would see the [airplanes] and I remember thinking, ‘I am going to fly one day,’ but then I see it is impossible for me. But then I realized that my passport to the world is running,” Kirui says.

His first competition wasn’t far from home, though. As an elementary school student Kirui placed second in a district championship race just six miles from his village. Later, as a teenager, he remembers idolizing Kenyan long-distance runners such as Paul Tergat, a marathon world-record holder.
At the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia, Kirui watched Ethiopia’s Haile Gebrselassie pull ahead of Tergat in the last nano-seconds of the 10,000-meter race. His other fellow countryman, Erick Wainaina, was similarly beaten in the men’s marathon.

Soon after, Kirui says he decided there was room for another career long-distance runner from Kenya and that he would use the spotlight to share his faith in God. He trains for up to 1,000 kilometers (621 miles) leading up to a marathon. Still, he’s often beset by pain — especially, he says, in the last five kilometers (3.1 miles) of a marathon.

So far, Kirui says his career hasn’t conflicted with his observance of the seventh-day Sabbath. Marathons are largely held on Sundays.

“I go to church with my wife and two kids on Sabbath and then on Sunday morning, I go for training,” he says. “And anywhere I compete, I go with my Bible, my Sabbath School lesson and I take time to pray in my room.”

Kirui is adjusting to the fame that comes with medaling in high-profile events such as the World Championship Marathon and the Olympics. “People in Nairobi will call out, ‘This is Abel Kirui, the guy who was running!’” The first time someone recognized him, Kirui says he was shocked. “I didn’t think anyone knew me.” But now, Kirui says he’s happy the world is watching. “I want them to know that it is the power of God that keeps me running. All the time, the power of God.”

—with reporting by Williams Costa Jr.

Source: Adventist News Network.

**EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**July 27-August 18**

**Jesus in HD - The Saviour in High Definition by Pastor Mathew Feeley**

Come and assist with the spreading of the Advent Message in Downtown Toronto! Announcing “JESUS IN HD” (High Definition) with Pastor Mathew Feeley. This evangelistic efforts commences Friday, July 27, 2012 at 7:15 p.m. at the Berea Seventh-day Adventist Church (premises of St. Luke’s United Church) 353 Sherbourne Street, Toronto. Meetings will be held on Sunday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday evenings beginning at 7:15 p.m. The Berea congregation solicits your prayers and when possible your presence as we impact the downtown core for Jesus. Free parking will be provided. Please contact host Pastor Charles N. Leader for additional information.

**August 17 & 18**

**“Shield the Vulnerable” – an Abuse Prevention Summit**

The Ministerial department and Family Ministries department of the Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists present “Shield the Vulnerable” – An Abuse Prevention Summit to be held on August 17 and 18, 2012.

On Friday, the summit, meetings are specifically for the clergy, chaplains and Bible workers of any denomination and will be held at Apple Creek Seventh-day Adventist Church, 700
Apple Creek Blvd. The program is scheduled to run from 9:00 a.m. until noon. There is no charge for this day’s program.

On Saturday, August 18th, the sessions will be held at the Radisson Hotel Toronto East, 55 Hallcrown Place, Toronto, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. There will be a fee of $10 per person.

Plan to attend and invite members from your church and community to register. Please take the opportunity to register before August 2nd, and you can register another person to attend for free.

You will learn about the protection of children and the aged from abuse and be informed of how to identify abusers, how to ensure vulnerable groups are protected from abusers infiltration, and the requirements in these situations.

For registration and more information, please call Jelene Decena at 905-571-1022 ext. 204 before August 2, 2012.

**August 17-19**
**“Battle for the Mind” at St. Catharines Church**

The Youth Department of the St. Catharines Church presents “BATTLE FOR THE MIND” with Neals J. Chitan of Toronto. The presentations will not be one of traditional talking heads, but will use Q&As, video, small group, plenary, and drama to emphasise and simplify the significant information presented and encourage the decisions to be made for Jesus.

Session 1: “Decoding You” Friday evening at 7.00 P.M.
Session 2: “Battle for the Mind” divine 11:00 A.M
Session 3: “Antidote to Teenage Failure & Disaster” – AY
Session 4: “STOP and THINK to save your future and life” –Sunday 10:00 A.M.
*Will also bring strategies to curb the recent rise in crime in the GTA*
Session 5: “Through My Own Eyes” - Parents only- Sunday at 1:00 P.M.
Neals Chitan nealschitan@motiv-8.org (647) 290-8763
Karen Tembo karen.tembo@gmail.com (289)289-668-6547
St. Catharines Seventh-day Adventist Church:
www.adventistcatharines.org (905) 646-4490

**August 24-25**
**Richmond Hill’s 50th Anniversary**

Richmond Hill Church will be celebrating its 50th anniversary - August 24 & 25 2012. All former members, pastors, family & friends are invited to join us for vespers Friday evening, Sabbath services, fellowship lunch, followed by a special afternoon musical program and a walk down memory lane power point presentation. For more information, visit our website at www.rhsda.ca.

**August 26**
**“Showdown at Dura” at Toronto Perth Church**

The Toronto Perth Church is hosting a dramatic theatrical production entitled "**Showdown at Dura**" on Sunday, August 26, 2012. The show will also feature a Persian food market and exhibition. The tickets cost $20 in advance and $25 at the door. Doors open at 4pm and the show starts at 5:00 p.m.
Address: 220 Bethridge Road, Etobicoke. All proceeds will go to the church's building fund.

**August 31 – September 2**  
**North Eastern Ontario Camp Meeting 2012**  

NORTH EASTERN ONTARIO CAMPMEETING will be held at CAMP NORONTO August 31st - September 2, 2012. Guest speaker will be renown evangelist and author, Pastor Rex Edwards. Please join us for a Spirit-filled weekend at Camp Noronto. For more info, please contact Pastor Jake (705-626-0530) - jivanovic@adventistontario.org or Inez Richards (705-969-8101) - inezrichards@hotmail.com. Please register by August 15, 2012. Registration forms are available at the Sudbury Church website — www.sudburyadventist.org

**September 3**  
**Christmas in Jamaica - Application Deadline Extended to September 3**

Don’t miss out on your opportunity to spend this Christmas on the beautiful island of Jamaica. If warm sunshine, sandy beaches, sparkling seas and tropical breezes appeal to you, then you’ll really love this trip!

In addition to the island’s charms, you’ll experience the bonus of working with local ADRA Jamaica beneficiaries to construct VIP latrines. You’ll have fun, make new friends and lots of memories, and gain a better understanding of ADRA’s work - it will be a Christmas to remember!

For more information or to apply for the ADRA Connections Jamaica trip, call: 905-433-8004, ext 3101 (local), 1-888-274-2372, ext 3101 (toll-free), or email: connections@adra.ca TODAY!

Learn More: http://connections.adra.ca/jamaica/

**September 8**  
**Heritage Singers in Concert**

It Is Written Canada is pleased to present the Heritage Singers in concert Sabbath, September 8, 2012 - 8:00 p.m., at the Toronto Marriott Airport Hotel, 901 Dixon Road, Toronto, Ontario M9W 1J5.

Tickets are available for sale online at www.itiswrittencanada.ca or at the Oshawa and Willowdale ABC's.

Tickets cost only $20 for adults (ages 13 and above), or $10 for children (ages 4-12), until August 17. Children 0-3 get free admission.

An evening with the Heritage Singers will encourage, edify and inspire you to a deeper love relationship with our Lord.

For additional information, call It Is Written at 905-404-6510 or visit www.itiswrittencanada.ca

**September 8**
Day for Community Outreach

This will be a special day to reflect on the tragic event that happened on September 11, 2001, and to honour the men and women who are on active duty preserving the lives of others. We encourage all churches to design a special service and invite the emergency responders (policemen, firefighters, EMS personnel) of your local communities, who are constantly on the frontline.

September 28-30
Seniors’ Wellness Retreat 2012

September 28-30, 2012 - Seniors’ Wellness Retreat to be held at the Delta Toronto East Hotel (2035 Kennedy Road, Toronto – Hwy. 401 & Kennedy). Registration forms soon to be available from your pastors, head elders, church clerks and senior ministry coordinators.

October 13
Immanuel Church Homecoming

Special invitation is extended to all former Immanuel members to worship and fellowship with us on Sabbath, October 13th, for our homecoming celebration. Sabbath services will start at 9:15 a.m. and close with a musical concert in the afternoon. www.Immanuelsda.org

OTHER ADVERTISEMENTS & JOB OPPORTUNITY

Position Available at SDACC

3/4 Time Secretary. Full benefits. Could lead to full time. Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, Communication Department.

Send Resumé to Stan Jensen, jensen.stan@adventist.ca
Job description available upon request.

Spanish Betel is looking for the following members:
Any information, please contact the church clerk by email betelspclerk@adventistontario.org or by phone at 416-953-6690:


Please send articles in plain text (no graphics or photos) to OCN@AdventistOntario.org
(No later than Tuesday evening)
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