Ontario Conference Workers to Answer Renewed Call to Ministry

January 15, 2014, Oshawa, Ontario…OCN

From January 19-22, teachers, pastors and Bible instructors working in the Ontario Conference will meet for their annual workers' meeting.

Each day, at Ajax Convention Centre teachers, pastors and Bible instructors will participate in day-long activities of worship, spiritual renewal, learning, sharing, planning, fellowship and re-commitment to their call to ministry.

Each year, the conference administrators and directors plan the meetings with specific objectives. In 2013, the emphasis was on the first part of the REACH acronym—Revival and Transformation.

"Pastors can only lead their churches, and teachers their pupils, in revival and to experience transformed lives when they themselves are being transformed," says Pastor Mansfield Edwards, Ontario Conference president.
In 2014, workers will be challenged to consider the power of the Holy Spirit and their call to ministry.

"We are living at time of earth’s history," says Edwards, when we need teachers and pastors on whom we can count to give the quality of spiritual leadership in our schools and in our churches that will prepare God’s people for His soon return. Unfortunately, some leaders sometimes lose their passion for ministry. We want to ensure that in Ontario, every teacher, pastor and Bible instructor partners together in ministry and will return to their schools and to their churches with a raging fire for God’s kingdom burning within them."

The meetings also provide opportunities for professional development, learning new strategies for church growth and evangelism against the background of current issues facing the church.

Since the province of Ontario is so huge, some pastors work in isolation from others for most of the year. Workers’ meeting and camp meeting are the only occasion when they get to meet other pastors and share together.

**Monteiro released from prison in Togo**

*January 13, 2014, Silver Spring, Maryland, United States. Author: ANN staff*

Seventh-day Adventist Pastor Antonio Monteiro was released from prison this afternoon in Lomé, Togo, ending a nearly two-year ordeal that kept him and four others detained on charges of conspiracy to commit murder in a case that captured the attention of the Adventist world church.

Monteiro was released from the Lomé Civil Prison at 4:30 p.m. today after being acquitted in a court verdict yesterday. Still in prison is Adventist Church member Bruno Amah, who was convicted by a jury and sentenced to life in prison. He is considering his legal options, including appealing the decision.

Monteiro today was greeted outside of prison by his legal team and officials from the denomination’s Sahel Union Mission, where Monteiro had worked since 2009 as the Family Ministries director. Monteiro is a native of the island nation of Cape Verde, and it’s expected that he will return there soon.

Adventist Church President Ted N. C. Wilson spoke to Monteiro by phone. Wilson said that Monteiro thanked the world church for its support. Millions of Seventh-day Adventists worldwide had held prayer vigils, launched social media campaigns, sponsored letter-writing initiatives to government officials and diplomats, held press conferences and led a signature drive for a petition calling for the release of Monteiro and others involved in the case.

Church officials expressed “mixed feelings” over yesterday’s court ruling, which acquitted some and convicted others.

"The acquittal of Pastor Monteiro is good news and we are happy for him and his family. We are surprised and very sad about the condemnation of Amah," John Graz, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty director for the Adventist world church, said yesterday.

The arrests and detentions unfolded following a string of homicides in September of 2011. Five men, including Monteiro and Amah, were detained in March of 2012 and held without a trial and solely on the accusation of one man who was described as a "pathological liar" in a court-ordered psychiatric exam. That man, Kpatcha Simliya, who was also detained, was also convicted in yesterday’s ruling and sentenced to life in prison.

Depending on different newspaper and police accounts, more than a dozen bodies of women between the ages of 12 and 36 had been found in the northern Lomé suburb of Agoué in 2011. The bodies had stab wounds and some sexual organs had been removed. Blood and organs are often used in ceremonies of Voodoo, which is widely practiced in Togo.

When no arrests were made, the public demanded justice for the killings, church leaders said.
Simliya was later shown on television surrounded by police guards, telling the story of the series of murders he said that he organized and naming accomplices who collected blood and organs. But much of the story proved unlikely, including the number of victims and the methods used, according to Simliya’s medical examiner.

"Any informed and reasonable man would have doubts regarding his incredible outpouring or the feasibility of his crimes or supposed crimes," a September 9, 2012, court-ordered psychiatric exam stated, which was viewed by ANN.

Simliya would later recant his accusation, saying he was beaten by police and forced to give names of people he supposedly knew were co-conspirators in a blood trafficking network, according to the psychiatric exam.

Still, his testimony—the only evidence in the case—was enough to bring convictions in yesterday’s ruling.

Church officials for the denomination’s West-Central African Division, based in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, said Monteiro will receive appropriate care back in his home in Cape Verde.

Source: Adventist News Network

EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 25
"Empower: Revive Us Again!" at North-West Brampton

North-West Brampton Seventh-day Adventist Church presents a revival weekend, all day on Sabbath, January 25, 2014: "Empower: Revive Us Again!" featuring Pastor Michelle Clarke & Perpetual Praise from LaSalle New Life Adventist Church, Montreal QC at 11:00 a.m. It includes a FREE gospel concert at 6:30 p.m. by Perpetual Praise along with performances by Darryl Garrison & Hope Praise Team, L.Y.N.C, Y.U.T.E and many more! Offering proceeds will go towards the church building fund. Address: 236 Queen Mary Drive, Brampton, ON. You don't want to miss this exciting event.

January 26
Ontario Prison Ministry Association of Seventh-day Adventist Annual Business Session

It will be held Sunday, January 26, 2014
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Venue: Philadelphia Seventh-day Adventist Church, 65 Grandmarshall Drive
All Prison Ministry volunteers are asked to be in attendance.

January 26
Registrations for Family and Women’s Ministries Training

We are now taking registrations for Family and Women’s Ministries Training at Mount Zion Filipino Church on January 26, 2014. This event is to provide education and foster spiritual growth and direction for local church leaders in Family, Singles, Women’s and Young Women’s Ministries. Emphasis for 2014 is on Parenting for Family Ministries and Evangelism for Women’s Ministries. We are planning for a Keynote speaker on Evangelism. Other speakers will be presenting on related topics and resources will highlight useful tools for building ministries. Presentations include how to start a ministry (Family, Singles, and Young Women), Family Ministries Certification Modules, Women’s Ministries Evangelism training, Grief Support Group Facilitator Training and an introduction to Prevention and Intervention Ministries. Training Fee - $25 per person (Early bird $20 per person) Includes all session materials and lunch. The program begins at 9:30 am sharp with lunch from 12:30-1:30 and closing at 3:30 pm. All churches are being asked to sponsor their leadership teams for this important training session. To register, visit AdventistOntario.org and click on conference events. Open the event listing and click "register now" to make a payment with credit card. Register by January 20. Early birds, save $5 if your register by January 13. Telephone registration is available January 6 – 20; call Kristen Bailey at 905-571-1022 ext. 204. Online registration is available through the holidays! Visit AdventistOntario.org after November 25.
**February 2**  
**Boys’ Volleyball Tournament**

Kingsway College & the Ontario Conference Youth Department will be hosting a Boys’ Volleyball Tournament (ages 13-18, photo ID required) on February 2, 2014 at the A.E. King Fitness Complex in Oshawa, Ontario. This is open to all Adventist schools and churches. Get your boys aged 13-18 together and form a team (up to 12 players). If you do not have enough boys in your church you can ask your friends or more than one church can join together. The cost per team is $150. Teams must register and submit payment by January 13, 2014 to be eligible to play on the day of the tournament. Please contact Fabiane Campos at (905) 433-1144 x247 or campos@kingswaycollege.on.ca.

**February 8**  
**"I Need to Know My Father"**

North West Brampton Church & Marcia Brown Productions presents, Saturday, February 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m, the most popular play in the city: "I Need to Know My Father". Tickets on sale for $35 (adult advance) & $40 (adult at the door) or $20 (children under 12 yrs). (For tickets, contact Rainford Cornish: (416) 262-4871 or Belvena Forbes: (647) 680-7088). Address: 236 Queen Mary Drive, Brampton, ON. You don't want to miss this life-transforming play!

**February 8**  
**Disaster Response – Coordinator Election**

(Metro North Central ministerial district) Other district elections will be held at later dates, information to follow.

Where: Immanuel Adventist Church  
Time: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Who should attend: Disaster Response volunteers, pastors, anyone who has taken a disaster response training course.  
Purpose: To elect coordinator(s) to be a member of the Ontario Conference Disaster Advisor Committee.  
No registration required.

Contact: Pastor Sargeant or Verna Storaune for additional information.  
[t sageant@adventistontario.org; vstoraune@adventistontario.org](mailto:[t sageant@adventistontario.org; vstoraune@adventistontario.org](mailto:tsargeant@adventistontario.org; vstoraune@adventistontario.org))

**February 9**  
**“WILL YOU MARRY ME” BANQUET at Ebenezer Church**

Ebenezer Adventist Church presents…

Sunday Feb 9, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. at Crawford Adventist Academy, 531 Finch Ave W, North York, ON M2R 3X2

Tickets $40 per person. Please contact Suzzette 647-893-8572 or Earl at 647-657-9814 for more information. Door surprises & surprises.

**February 9**  
**Ajax Seventh-day Adventist Community Church Invites you to…..**  
**The 5th Annual Valentine’s Fundraising Banquet: “An Evening to Remember”**

**WHEN:** Feb. 9, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. sharp  
**WHERE:** Pickering Sports Complex, 1867 Valleyfarm Rd., Pickering, Ont  
**FEATURING:** Sabu Grant, Shaina McPherson, Deon Flash and others.  
Great food by Chef Orrell Watson, lots of prizes, fun and laughter. Photographer on site.

*Banquet is in Aid of our Pathfinder Club and church building fund.*
TICKETS: $25.00 Adults; $15.00 Children 12 and under.

For Tickets and further information, contact: 416-854-8614 or 905-427-8129

February 14-16
Adventist Christian Fellowship Annual Retreat (ACF)

Theme: Campus Faith
Speaker: Pastor Juan Carlos Atencio
Location: Camp Frenda, 1231 Morinus Road, Port Carling
Registration cost for early birds is $70.00 up to February 11, 2014
Late registration to February 13, 2014 cost will be $85.00. See conference website to register.

For additional information, please contact Pastor Oudri, Youth director at goudri@adventistontario.org or Verna at vstoraune@adventistontario.org

May 23-25, 2014
Crawford Adventist Academy 61st Alumni Homecoming Weekend


We are looking for two 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; Judy Cardona Gamez, advancement assistant, ext. 248 or jgamez@tadsb.com. Visit our official website www.tadsb.com; follow us on Twitter @TJACAAAlumni; like us on Facebook 'The Official TJA/CAA Alumni Group'.

June 20 & 21
Six Nations Native Spiritual Gathering

The "Native Spiritual Gathering" in Six Nations of the Grand River Territory will take place on the weekend of June 20 & 21, 2014.

On Friday evening, the gathering will be held at the Six Nations Seventh-day Adventist Church starting at 7:00 p.m. and on Saturday at the Six Nations Polytechnic convening at 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm. The Church is located at the corner of Second Line and Cayuga Road; the Polytechnic is on Fourth Line, less than 1 km south of the centre of Ohsweken.

Guest speaker is Zanna Ove, editor of the RADIANT Native Health magazine, from Kitwanga, British Columbia. Zanna Ove will be presenting a health seminar in Ohsweken the week prior to the spiritual gathering.

Directions: from Hamilton take Highway 6 West towards Hagersville. Turn right on to Fourth Line to get to the Polytechnic; turn right on to Second Line to the church. If travelling on Highway 403, head towards Brantford; exit on to Garden Avenue and on to Cockshutt Road going west till you get to Second Line. Turn left on to Second Line and drive south to Cayuga Road. Church will be on your left. If you are going to the Polytechnic, turn left on Second Line and head to Fourth Line. Turn right on Fourth Line and then drive 3/4 of a kilometre—Polytechnic will be on your right.

September 25-28
North American Division Women’s Ministries Convention – Orlando, Florida

Registration has begun for the “Free Indeed 2014” North American Division Women’s Ministries Convention. The convention will be held at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando, Florida. Speakers include Dan Jackson, Dr. Ella Simmons, Katia Reinert, Adrienne Townsend. Enjoy musical performances by Kelly Mowerer and Gale Jones Murphy. Registrants can visit www.nadwm.org or call the Ontario Conference Women’s Ministries department at 905-571-1022, ext. 204. Please let us
know at the Ontario Conference office if you need to register or have registered. We want to be sure you are included on our Canadian list.

OTHER ADVERTISEMENTS & JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Accountant Job at Quebec Conference

Quebec Conference administration is looking for an accountant to assist the treasury department.

Submission deadline: January 31, 2014.
Expected starting date: March 1, 2014.

Please submit cover letter and curriculum vitae by e-mail to Pastor Emile Maxi, executive secretary, at the following email address: emaxi@sdaqc.org

Only those selected for interview will be contacted.

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 your resume and cover letter outlining how your skills and talent match those required for this position and why you’re particularly interested in being part of the ministry of ADRA Canada. See full job description.

College Woodwork is inviting applications for a full-time Human Resources Officer to join its administration team. This person will oversee the daily operations of the human resources department; complete all bi-weekly payroll functions, and oversee the company’s student work scholarship and cooperative education programs. Interested candidates should provide a Cover Letter & Resume to Sheldon Smith at sheldons@collegewoodwork.com.

College Woodwork is inviting applications for a full-time Production Manager to join its management team. The Production Manager should plan, direct, and coordinate production activities ensuring a smooth production process that operates within the established operating budget. The main responsibility of the Production Manager is to oversee the production process, reducing costs wherever necessary and making sure that products are produced on time and are of good quality. Interested candidates should provide a Cover Letter & Resume to Sheldon Smith at sheldons@collegewoodwork.com.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Is Now Accepting Nominations for the 2014 Excellence in Education Awards

The Process for Nominators

- Must be a stakeholder (superintendent, principal, school board member, teacher, pastor, school staff member, parent, student, or church member).
- Must not be immediate family members of the nominee.
- Must complete the Nomination Form, Letter of Recommendation Form, and a Letter of Recommendation.
- Must find two other stakeholders (one from each of the two other categories), unrelated to the nominee, to complete the Letter of Recommendation Form and write Letters of Recommendation. For example, if the nominator is someone from the School Leadership category (Superintendent, Principal, or School Board Member), the remaining two letters of recommendation must be from each of the remaining categories, one from Colleagues (Teacher, Pastor, or School Staff Member) and one from School Community (Parent, Student, or Church Member).

Nominee:

- Must have a valid Standard, Professional or Administrator denominational teaching certificate.
- Must have a minimum of one full year teaching experience in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada school system.
- Must be a teacher or administrator who is employed at least half time for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada school system.
- Must not have received an Excellence Award within the last five years.
  (A list of teachers who have received awards are posted on CAT~net – [http://catnet.adventist.ca](http://catnet.adventist.ca).)

It is our hope that the SDACC Excellence in Education Award will inspire our teachers and school administrators to always strive for excellence in teaching and service, and that those who are presented with this prestigious award will truly appreciate it as a token of our thanks for having them as excellent teachers in our school system.

Please take the time to nominate your Adventist school teacher or principal today. Nomination forms can be found on CAT~net, [http://catnet.adventist.ca](http://catnet.adventist.ca) under Resources – SDACC – Excellence in Education Award or you may call the SDACC Office of Education at 905-433-0011 x2072.

*Please send articles in plain text (NO graphics or photos) to OCN@AdventistOntario.org (No later than Wednesday afternoon)*

OCNews is the property of Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Articles may be copied for use in other publications; however, reference to OCN should be clearly displayed.

**Advertisements Policy:**
Accepted advertisements will be church events only. No personal or commercial advertisements. Plain text only. Events are included as a service and not as an obligation. OCN reserves the right to exclude any advertisements of events.

E-mail: OCN@adventistontario.org
Website: [www.AdventistOntario.org](http://www.AdventistOntario.org)