In this issue:
Six Nations Church: A Rich Adventist Heritage Since 1898
Adventist Deep Sea Divers

When I was a teenager, I watched a number of documentaries of ocean life and saw deep divers exploring sunken vessels. It fascinated me, and I even imagined myself diving and one day finding a vessel with its treasures. I wondered if I were the only teen who wanted to be a deep sea diver.

I’ve discovered that deep sea diving is very popular among a number of Adventists. Maybe you know some of them because they seem to be in every church. There were right there in my home church in London, England, when I was younger, experimenting with the changing fashions. Each Sabbath, as soon as I arrived at church, I’d see at least one hovering like some carrion bird searching for its next meal. I’d hardly be through the door when he or she would swoop down on me for the sole intent of pointing out yet another fault with my choice of clothes or hairstyle.

Weekly, I’d be reminded of my inadequacies and how often, according to them, I’d miss the mark by not living up to the standards expected of me.

This is how Adventist deep sea divers operate. It seems as if they take pleasure in diving into the depths of the lives of people, and then rummage around until they find all the buried sins, discarded weaknesses and abandoned habits and then bring them back to the surface for everyone to see. They seem to take pleasure in resurrecting the past to remind fellow Christians of their sins. I’m not sure of their intention. Perhaps its just a way of making themselves feel good, to remind themselves that they are not the only ones struggling with sins.

Over the years, I’ve had numerous encounters with deep sea divers at church. Unfortunately, each encounter has been unpleasant. So, maybe this is a good time to say to all deep sea divers: Please leave my sins alone! When I came to Jesus, weighed down with the burden of my sins, He took them and buried them in the depths of the sea (Micah 7:19). From that moment, I was happy because I experienced what the Psalmist says in Psalm 32:1, “Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered”. And even though Jeremiah (Jer 31:34) told me that when God forgives, He completely forgets, the deep sea divers have made it their business to go down to the depths of the seas into the graveyard of sin to forage for my sins, trying to retrieve them. It is God who cast them there, so please leave them buried.

I’ve often wondered at what stage of Christian growth a member becomes a deep sea diver. As I reflect on the words of Jesus in Matthew 7:3-5, where He speaks about first removing the beam of wood from our eyes before attempting to remove a speck from someone’s eye, I cannot help but think that deep sea divers must have done some serious logging in their time. At first I assumed that they must have dealt with all their sins and sinful tendencies that they now had time to devote to me. I admit that the help is always appreciated but when I read in Scripture, “If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us” (1 John 1: 8, NIV), I begin to wonder why the deep sea divers are ignoring their situation and reminding me of my sin. Is mine so much greater than theirs that they are compelled to help me?

It seems to me that deep sea diving is nothing less than a symptom of being judgmental, which in turn, is a by-product of legalism, the first-born child of pride. It is the proud, self-satisfied person, pleased with his or her own achievements, who looks at a fellow child of God who happens to practice his or her faith differently and decides that he or she is not ‘living right’.

It is very easy to become a deep sea diver. All we have to do is to lose sight of the mercy of God, and we are ready to jump into the water, primed to start searching. Our life, our well-being as God’s children, is only secure as we live in relationship with Him, daily reflecting on the cost of His great sacrifice and His mercy. When we compare ourselves with God, we see ourselves as lost, and our appreciation for His grace fills our entire being. However, when we compare ourselves with others, we become deep sea divers.

It’s time for deep sea divers to find a new occupation. There are lots of vacancies for fishers of men. What’s especially wonderful about being a fisher of men in God’s business is that there is no requirement to clean fishes. God takes care of that Himself.

Halsey Peat
Six Nations Church: A Rich Adventist Heritage Since 1898

Until Ontario’s camp meeting in May 2010, Six Nations Seventh-day Adventist Church was largely unknown outside the Adventist churches in the southern Ontario region. Only a small percentage of Ontario’s 29,000 Adventists knew that the Iroquois were among the first people in Ontario to build a Seventh-day Adventist Church. Still fewer knew that the building still serves as the place of worship for the residents of the Six Nations Reserve, approximately 25 km southwest of the city of Hamilton. However, all that changed as Jamie and Sharon Johns, in full traditional dress, led the spectacular Parade of Nations at the May camp meeting.

Earlier, as Ontario conference president, Dr. Mansfield Edwards, introduced the parade, he warmly spoke of the rich heritage of the First Nations people and the way in which members of the Six Nations, in particular, embraced the gospel as it was brought to them by Seventh-day Adventists. The congregation’s rapturous applause at Jamie and Sharon Johns’ entrance was its appreciative response to Edward’s description of the Six Nations’ place in the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Ontario.

Six Nations Seventh-day Adventist Church, located at Garlow Line, four miles from Hagersville, is the oldest existing Adventist congregation in Ontario and the first Adventist Native church in North America. It was opened on November 2, 1897 as Iroquois Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The beginning of the work among the Six Nations (Mohawk, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida, Seneca and Tuscarora) at the end of the 19th century attests to the invaluable role literature evangelists have played in spreading the gospel. The Michigan Conference had designated Ontario as a mission field, and two colporteurs (as literature evangelists were then called) arrived at the Iroquois Reservation to sell books. Joe Woodruff and Charlie Green were among those who bought the classic book, Bible Readings for the Home, from them, and shortly after began keeping the Sabbath. When the Michigan Conference learned of this through a letter from the two men, two ministers, William Ward Simpson and William Spear, were sent to work with them. Woodruff and Green became the first Mohawk Seventh-day Adventists.

Simpson and Spear set about working with the Iroquois, and a group of people were soon meeting for worship on Sabbaths at the home of Jessie Cayuga. It was not long before they rented space in a Baptist church. Within a year, sixty Sabbath School members were converted, and work began on erecting a church building.

The church was built from timber donated by Joe and Bill Johnson, and the foundation was dug by Jim Garlow and Charlie Green. Jessie Cayuga, Pete Johnson, the two brothers Joe and Bill Johnson and Pastor William Spear were among those who worked to build the 24 feet wide by 36 feet long church. The new building boasted a belfry and a bell.

The building was later moved to its present site on the east end of the reserve, at Garlow Line. And in 1914, the church was renamed Six Nations Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The church rapidly grew as people responded to the gospel. Among the converts were two chiefs of the Iroquois Confederacy, A. G. Smith, a Mohawk, and George “Wainness” Hill, who became very valuable to the fledgling church’s evangelistic outreach. Both had been preachers and interpreters in the local Anglican and Methodist churches, respectively. Their ability to speak all six languages spoken on the reserve and fluently read and write English greatly helped to spread the message to everyone.

The growth of the church soon resulted in the formation of a second Adventist congregation at Mohawk Road. The message of the Seventh-day Adventist Church rivalled that of the United, Anglican, Methodist and Baptist churches on the reserve. However, it was not long before growth amongst nearly all the various
denominations slowed, and in some cases, fell off. This was the experience of the congregation at Mohawk Road, and the building was sold.

Len Maracle, presently first elder of Six Nations Seventh-day Adventist Church, was twelve years old when he was baptised in 1939.

“I have fond memories,” he recalls. “The church was half the size it is now. We doubled our size in 1963 when we built a 50 feet by 26 feet addition. We had a wood-burning stove near the entrance and an outhouse around the back.

“Everyone knew each other because it was just a small community. Everyone was on first name terms, and it led to a warm feeling that still exists today, even though we have fewer members.

“As children and teens in church, we were expected to be quiet. We were to be seen and not heard. It wasn’t really hard for us because it was how we were expected to behave at other social gatherings in the community.

“What I remember, though, is that Sabbath School was conducted a little differently. Everyone had to get up and recite the memory verse for that Sabbath. And there was always a strong emphasis on missions. We used to sing songs like Bringing in the Sheaves; Shall We Gather at the River; and Dare to Be a Daniel.

“In the 50’s and 60’s evangelism was led by ordained pastors at least once a year in a tent. We had gas lights in those days, and the evangelist would always bring out the big charts with the horrible animals and the other charts showing the passage of time. Those meetings lasted for six weeks at a time. Since there was not much to do outside of work in the community, people were apt to attend a meeting—whatever it was about. It was something happening. The tents were pretty full, but I don’t remember the meetings being followed by many baptisms. The group of about 70 or 80 when I started attending did not grow much.

“A lot of the people found some of the lifestyle changes hard to make. One of the hardest was and still remains, tea and coffee. Just about everyone on the reserve in those days drank tea and coffee and ate pork so it was difficult for them to change. Where tea was concerned, no one spoke about it from the pulpit.”

It was clear, however, that life on the reserve was changing and people were not as responsive as they had been in the early years when the church was first established. The days of tent meetings had come to an end, and an emphasis was placed, instead, on personal contact. Members were encouraged to knock on doors and invite people to church services or to Sabbath School, but they had little success.

Today, with an attendance, on a good Sabbath, of just 12 of its book membership of 19 people, the church’s existence could be considered as precarious.

Len Maracle is clearly aware of the position of his beloved and aging congregation.

“We have tried all kinds of different things over the years,” he says, “television, radio, public ads, but the response has been very disappointing. Each event we hold has seen fewer and fewer responses.”

Pastor Herbert Sormin, minister at Six Nations for the past six years, recognises the unique challenges on the reserve but firmly believes that the Spirit of God will work with the 22,294 people there. A firm believer in building personal relationships with the people,
he has been taking lessons in Mohawk and uses every opportunity to practice.

“Coming in as an outsider, a non-native, I’ve found the First Nations people to be very responsive in terms of relationships”, he says. “In previous years we have had youth teams from Kingsview Village Church helping us to run VBS and that really helped us to build friendships with families. We need the help of more churches to run similar events like this. Also, there is a great need for community services work on the reserve.”

Maracle says that as he and the pastor and others have visited the homes of their neighbours, they have discovered former members who still see them themselves as Adventists even though they ceased attending church decades ago.

“Many of those with whom I have spoken,” says Maracle, “say that they still have a soft spot in their hearts for the church. I’ve never found one who took issue with the doctrines or with the church, but they feel that it is no longer quite as relevant as it was once, or perhaps they felt that the church attendance interferes with their occupation.”

Sormin explains that the church has been praying specifically for these individuals.

“One of these,” says Sormin, “William Johnson, began attending church. Soon after he declared: ‘Pastor, for the last few years I’ve wanted to return to church but didn’t know how. We have been praying for him and now he’s back.’”

Johnson recently discovered that his father was one of the original builders of the church and decided to donate land to the church on which to build a new building.

“This is a wonderful gift,” says Sormin, “and the church believes that the new building should be a centre for the community. It’s a great dream that something like this can take place through the generous gift of the land.”

A new church building is certainly needed. The present structure is in need of urgent repair and the basement can no longer be used.

Maracle shares his pastor’s dream of a new building/community centre but adds, “I long to see the Conference make a policy to develop more full-time pastors for certain significant areas in Canada—and there are several in Ontario. Six Nations is certainly one of them. It’s not an easy work here, and it’s a long-time work, but we are looking to the corporate church to invest in the Native people.

“I also dream that we will be able to attract and train more native leaders. We are sadly lacking in leaders from amongst us.”

The Ontario Conference is already looking for ways to help the pastor and leaders at Six Nations Church see the fulfilment of their dreams.

“We deeply appreciate the members of Six Nations Church,” says conference president, Dr. Mansfield Edwards. “They are a significant part of our conference—and not only from a historical perspective but because of their faithfulness and their unique position to reach 22,000 fellow First Nations people.

“In light of this, when we learned that Canada will be a recipient of funding from the 2011 Sabbath School Mission Investment Offering, we sent a proposal to the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada (SDACC). I am pleased to say that our proposal was voted as the primary project and we will receive $40,000 for work on the Six Nations Reserve and in Moosonee in Northern Ontario. There is also a possibility that we may match part of or all what we receive.

“As a conference, we recognise the mission field of the Six Nations Reserve and invite all 29,000 members in Ontario to join us in prayer as we seek to grow the church there. We are also looking to our members to be generous with their skills and finances when it is time for us to help the church with its physical structure.”

Pastor Sormin recognizes the need among the First Nations people and correctly observes: “In the last 10 - 15 years, there has been a surge among First Nations people to connect with their spiritual heritage, and I believe that God has placed us here for a special mission. The spiritual search that is taking place is our opportunity to do a great work for God.”

Six Nations Seventh-day Adventist Church faithfully ministers to the First Nations people but gladly welcomes all people.

Halsey Peat

**Upcoming Events**

Youth Evangelism Training, Nov. 5-6
ACS Convention (GTA), Nov. 6
Pathfinder Sabbath (Conference-wide), Nov. 13
Innovation Youth Leadership Training, Nov. 20
New Ministry Leaders Training, Nov. 27
First Steps to Renew Congregational Worship

The 2010 summer “Special Worship Edition” of Ontario Highlights introduced a series of articles on worship. The four articles provided definitions and examples of biblical worship and its fundamental role in the life of each child of God and in the purpose of every congregation.

In this, and subsequent editions of Highlights, the theme of worship will be further explored and expanded to include practical guides and fundamental principles to enrich both personal and congregational worship. Some articles may even be considered as “How to” guides - Editor.

It is one thing to learn biblical principles of worship, but it is clearly another to apply them to congregational worship. Do we all have a shared understanding of those principles? Where should we begin? How shall we worship? What shall we do? Does Scripture say how?

A study of worship in Scripture reveals only principles, not prescriptions. There are no outlines or order of services to follow. It is as if God is saying, “As you come to know Me and experience My righteousness, worship Me with all your heart and mind. Don’t worry how others are doing it. Let your response, respect, reverence, life and service be determined by your experience with Me.” Congregational worship is determined by the relationship of the church with God. He must be central to any renewal. This is the first step to worship renewal.

1. Call the Church to Prayer

Call for a special prayer meeting to which every member is invited, preferably on a day and time when it is most likely that everyone can attend. Let it be a time of prayer and consecration. Since congregational worship is the reflection of the quality of its members’ personal worship, church leaders may want to implore members to confess their sins to God and to consecrate their lives to Him. It is pointless praying for worship renewal in church if our personal lives remain unchanged and unconsecrated outside of church.

After confession and consecration, pray to God asking for His Spirit to guide the church as to what it should do, how it should go about renewing worship. Since worship is man’s highest response to God, the church must be Spirit-led both in its worship and in its preparation for worship. God will answer such prayers.

2. Take a Worship Style Inventory

Preparation for the Spirit’s guidance could include taking a worship style inventory. The truism that people are different is so obvious that it is often overlooked in worship. Yet, these differences strongly bare on a person’s worship experience and that of the entire congregation. A worship style inventory will greatly help everyone gain a better understanding of why he or she prefers a particular style of worship. It will also help worship leaders plan worship that best allow the congregation to experience more meaningful worship.

The article, What Is Your Worship Style?, page 7, gives a full description of a worship style inventory.

3. Select a Worship Committee

This is perhaps one of the most crucial steps in worship renewal - to create a committee that will prayerfully provide high quality worship experiences for the entire congregation, including visitors. Its establishment should be the result of earnest prayer and not simply by an administrative action.

The worship committee’s composition should reflect the four worship styles identified by the worship style inventory in order to better meet the worship preferences of the congregation.

Some pastors correctly see themselves as principal worship leaders and play an active role on the worship committee. Others prefer to consult with the chairperson of the worship committee. Other members of the committee should be people who have a passion for worship and possess relevant skills such as the ability to work with others. These could include: the worship coordinator, the music coordinator, a musician, praise team leader and two or three members of the congregation, including young people. Periodically, others may be called on for their spiritual gifts.

4. Provide Training for the Worship Committee

Provide all members of the worship committee with worship education and worship planning training through worship seminars and workshops before they are asked to begin evaluating current worship practices in the local church. Additionally, the committee may undertake self-training by working through worship
books, manuals and guides such as Cynthia Brown’s Experiencing Worship.

5. Provide Worship Education for the Congregation

The final step of this stage is to provide worship education for the congregation through sermons, printed material, presentations and any other appropriate methods. As the congregation’s understanding of worship increases, so will its appreciation for a higher quality of worship.

Halsey Peat, PARL & Communications Director

**What Is Your Worship Style?**

I remember taking one of those personality inventories in university to help me understand who I was. The class was surprised by how accurate they reflected on our preferences, our frustrations, and our strengths. It really helped us understand ourselves more fully. It was amazing to see how many of us had such different strengths and personalities, and yet got along so well.

I believe that God created us that way for a purpose. None of us by virtue of our personality preferences is better than another. God didn’t prepare a kingdom for just one people group or personality type. He created this earth, and ultimately His Kingdom, with the richness of diversity that we will celebrate throughout eternity. I believe that what we do from Sabbath to Sabbath here on earth is a rehearsal for that grand heavenly event. What a day that will be when all God’s children worship Him around His throne. So let me ask you, “Does worshipping with others that have different ways, styles and preferences make you nervous or does that bring you joy?” Have you ever considered who’s sitting beside you and how similar or different he/she is from you? Let’s take a look at who’s worshipping in our congregations today.

In every congregation, there are relational worshippers who perceive spirituality through their senses. These worshippers value the experience of worship as well as the warmth and security of God’s family. This group especially appreciates visuals, self-expression, harmony and community.

Then there are the analytical worshippers who are passionate about conceptualizing information. They value knowledge and order. They appreciate handouts, outlined presentations and time for reverent stillness and reflection. They love to be well-informed and to share what they’ve learned with others.

A third group in every congregation could be characterized as practical worshippers. This group considers the application and the relevance of all that is presented. They value simplicity and a hands-on approach. Because they want to get things done, they are often first in line to get involved in a project.

Finally, in every congregation, there are dynamic worshippers who love to create new possibilities. They value innovation and vision. They are comfortable with out-of-the-box thinking and embrace fresh, new approaches. This creative group enjoys variety and expresses itself best through media and music.

God created these differences as strengths, not weaknesses. We need each other to bring balance to the family of God. What about you? Which one of these would best describe your preferences in worship? Want to find out? Check out www.adventistontario.org/worshipstyles and take a few moments to complete the “Worship Styles Inventory”. What you find may surprise you. Encourage the person sitting beside you in church this Sabbath to take the inventory as well.

Don’t be shy to ask, “What is your worship style?” and then begin to celebrate the differences that God created within us.

www.adventistontario.org/worshipstyles

**New Opening Hours at Conference Headquarters**

Since September 3, 2010, the Ontario Conference Office has been operating on a new schedule. Its new hours of operation are: Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. It is closed all day on Friday as opposed to noon, previously.

“The purpose,” says Dr. Daniel Linrud, executive secretary, “is to more fully align the operation of the Ontario Conference Office with the operation of our sister organizations in Canada as well as the headquarters for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, the North American Division and the General Conference.”

The new schedule follows the month-long summer schedule that was adopted for August.
Seven Things I Learned at the Festival of the Laity

In the days following the Festival of the Laity held late August by the Ontario Conference, I almost felt as if I would tremble whenever I reflected on how close I came to being absent. I thought of the inspiring and enlightening sermons I would have missed. I kept remembering the information-packed workshops and the music—lots of music—even the prayer of dedication for pastors and lay workers alike by conference president, Mansfield Edwards.

If only I had the ability to transmit to you the meaning, value and importance, not to mention the atmosphere of the occasion, or to calculate for you the sum total of what the hundreds of participants learned, experienced and, hopefully, became through this life-changing weekend. Instead, let me just share seven of the lessons I myself took with me to my home and my church back in Ottawa.

1. It’s not about us

Have you ever wondered why there are people in your church who major in the minor things? Who spend time focusing on what other people do wrong rather than on what they can do right? Have you, like me, ever caught yourself doing the same thing?

I have “good” news: We’re not alone. This seemed the common experience of the speakers and of those shouting “amen” as the speakers recounted their experience with saints focused on everything except becoming the “fishers of men” the Lord called us to be.

In a most riveting 13-minute presentation, Elder Alfred Johnson II, Personal Ministries director of the North America Division (NAD) and the person behind festivals of the laity in the Division, reminded us of Jesus’ call to the disciples to feed the hungry multitude. Today, God is telling us the same thing—“You feed them”—said Elder Johnson. “He has given each of us, through our spiritual gifting, the power to do the job [more than] adequately.”

Ontario Conference Executive Secretary Dr. Daniel Linrud told us what we really need in order to be able to fulfill our mission. We need a “dislocated heart”. We need the kind that Nehemiah got after hearing about the broken physical and social walls, causing distress to his people back home.

“What troubles you by teen pregnancy and parentless children?” Pastor Linrud asked, illustrating what a dislocated heart would mean in our circumstances. “By those ravaged by addictions? By marriages that are falling apart? By the increasing poverty that surrounds us? By governments and societies whose walls of morality are falling apart? Do we weep . . . as Nehemiah did?”

2. Either the church does evangelism or it ceases being the church

The problem is that our pettiness and lack of missionary focus not only derail our own ministries but turn the church upside down, whereas the church is supposed to be out there turning a sinful world upside down. Main guest speaker at the Festival, Mount Vernon pastor, Dr. Abraham Jules, linked pettiness to the lack of effectiveness with these words: “If more of us were involved in seeking the lost, we would certainly have less time for confusion in the house of God. And some of the battles we fight in church would seem petty to us if we were involved in life-changing activities”.

With Jesus’ words in Matthew 28: 19 and 20 as his text, conference president, Edwards, also addressed the importance of mission. He strengthened his case by quoting former Walla Walla University president, Dr. Jon Dybdahl’s words that “If the church ceases to be missionary, it has not simply failed in its task, but has ceased being the church”.

According to Dr. Jules, the church exists for one reason only. “And it is not for Sabbath School. It’s not for the divine hour. It’s not for AY . . . The church exists to be a saving station for men and women who are dying. On average, 100 persons die each minute,” he disclosed, “and most of them are going to Christ-less graves.”

3. It is time to erase the dividing line between pastors and lay workers

One of the recurring themes of the weekend was the need to end the false distinction between the pastorate and the laity. Pastor Edwards emphasized that mission is the task of pastors and lay people alike. “There is a misconception,” he said, “that ministry is the sole prerogative of the pastor. That is a problem and it is contrary to Scripture.”

Elder Johnson said that the devil would like to divide the people of God and get us to say, “You are the ordained preachers, and we are just the laymen”. He added that all of us have access to the throne of God, and all of us have a responsibility to share God’s Word.

Attendance at the Festival of the Laity provided a hint of the failure to recognize that ministry was for everybody in the church.

While some churches, even small congregations such as my own, had good representation, others, including some large churches, were totally unrepresented. In some cases, the reason might have been the lack of interest of laymen and laywomen. Sometimes, unfortunately, pastors did not even bother to bring correspondence on the festival to the attention of their boards. “Pastors need
strong mentoring to let go of the church and let laymen participate in the work,” one member said.

On the other hand, some pastors went beyond ensuring their lay leaders were there. They themselves signed up, attended the festival and participated actively in its activities. One can only imagine the evangelistic power that could be generated when saints on both sides of the pastoral-lay divide return to their churches ready to implement Ellen White’s charge to pastors to train their members and engage them in helping to finish the work.

4. We have a storehouse of inspirational stories

The festival was not all admonition and doom and gloom. One welcome and effective feature was the testimonies by members from different parts of the province. They had answered the call to duty and had been surprised by the way the Lord had blessed their efforts.

Brother Cee Jay Horrell, accomplished singer and an elder at Barrie Church, reported how he felt the Lord calling him to create flyers, advertising Bible studies. He found the call strange, but he obeyed. Before he could finish creating the flyers, three people approached him, asking for Bible studies. He is now studying with 10 persons.

At the Latter Rain Church in Toronto, according to Sister Yvonne Clayton, about 50 people are enrolled in the Discover Bible School. Three baptisms have already resulted from this ministry.

Brother Andrew Skytte-Alivio of the Mount Zion Filipino Church preaches several times a week for his Internet radio station. And Phyllis and Ivan Vallieres so impressed Elder Johnson that he invited them on the spot to share with the Division’s Festival of the Laity next year how their vegetarian cooking ministry is touching their lives and the lives of people in their community.

5. Your first mission field is the first one you see in the morning

Not every one will be called to perform medical ministry in the Canadian north or to conduct evangelistic meetings in the developing south. But everyone wakes up to a mission field every living day. It’s called the family. That was one of the most powerful concepts I took away from Toronto.

Pastor and Sister Ron and Karen Flowers, recently retired Family Ministries directors of the General Conference, used Scripture, their experiences, role-playing and the wisdom of Ellen G. White and many other writers to get across the message that the family is the Christian’s first mission field. They emphasized three aspects of family ministry—witnessing within the family (to our children, for example), witnessing through the family to other families, and responding to the needs of fractured families in and out of the church.

6. The resources you need are within your reach

As Festival of the Laity participants left for home, they left one thing behind—any excuse for saying the resources for ministry are unavailable. First, there were the speakers. It is hard to imagine such a diverse, talented and fluent group of preachers and seminar leaders in the same building on the same weekend.

While we couldn’t really take them home with us, we each took home a bagful of handouts, handbooks and other material. Examples include the list of available Adventist seminar presenters and resources persons in Ontario and information on material available from the conference library.

7. In the final analysis, it’s all about God

So, if it’s not about us, who is it about? If one were to summarize the entire weekend in one sentence, one would have to say, “It’s all about God.” Regardless of the topic of a particular workshop, whatever the title of a particular sermon, it all came down to whether we love Jesus enough to do the work He has called us all to do.

In other words, it’s all about God’s agenda. As Pastor Linrud asked in his very memorable sermon, “How does the way I use my time, talent, and my energy signify my concern for God’s agenda?” And he added: “It’s not about doing something great for God but about letting God do something great to and through us.”

All this is but a morsel from the spiritual and educational feast that Festival of the Laity represented for me. The fearful thing is that, had I not gone, I might have never realized the opportunities I would have lost for the pursuit of a more fruitful ministry. Not until the time came to gather around heaven’s equivalent of a campfire when I would have to remain silent while my five Nepean Adventist Church colleagues and hundreds of others exult about what a wonderful weekend they had at the festival.

If you did not make it to the festival, then I guess that’s the position you find yourself in today. Fortunately, if life and time should last, there will be another opportunity. Don’t miss it. Not unless you insist on being the silent participant around that great “campfire” beyond the skies.

Frank A. Campbell

Frank, an Ottawa-based communications consultant, is a member of Nepean Seventh-day Adventist Church

"We had great fellowship"
Middle ear infections (otitis media) can affect people of any age, but they are particularly common in children, four years old and younger. Otitis media usually develops as a complication of the common cold or other upper respiratory tract infection. The Eustachian tubes (passageways connecting the middle ear to the nose) are narrower and shorter than those of adults which means that viruses or bacteria can reach the middle ear through these tubes more easily. A child’s risk of ear infections increases if there is a family history. Chronic ear infections may also lead to meningitis and other serious disorders.

It is often challenging to detect ear infections in children - particularly in infants. Children who are affected may tug or pull at their ears, cry more than usual, have trouble sleeping, complain about pain in their ears, have diarrhoea, lose interest in eating, display loss of balance, or fail to respond to sounds (due to the accumulation of fluid in the ear that can affect hearing temporarily). They may also develop a clear fluid that drains from the ears, have headaches, be unusually irritable, or develop a temperature of 38 C or higher. Children may also snore or breathe through the mouth. This could mean that their adenoids are infected and/or enlarged. Adenoids are tissues located in the upper throat near the Eustachian tubes and contain cells whose job is to fight infection. Infection in the adenoids can spread to the Eustachian tubes. During ear infections, fluid and pus may press against the eardrum. Rarely, the pressure ruptures the eardrum. If this happens, a discharge of pus and blood from the affected ear may be seen. This can be alarming to parents and caregivers, but the rupture actually relieves the pain, and in most cases the eardrum heals on its own. If the eardrum ruptures repeatedly and doesn’t heal, surgical repair may be indicated.

Ear infections are usually treated with antibiotics; however, Dr. Joan Robinson, a member of the Infectious Disease and Immunization Committee of the Canadian Paediatric Society, recommends that, because a diagnosis of an ear infection may be incorrect, doctors should watch and wait before treating most ear infections with antibiotics in healthy children over six months of age. She noted that some infections are caused by viruses rather than bacteria, and some kinds of bacterial infections are likely to go away without antibiotics because the immune system alone is adequate. Unfortunately, ear infections are becoming more difficult to treat as the bacteria that cause ear infections are becoming resistant to antibiotics. There are other treatment options, including tympanocentesis where a sterile needle is used to puncture the eardrum to allow fluid and pus behind the ear drum to drain. Where infections do not respond to treatment with antibiotics or tympanocentesis, or if the child’s hearing is affected, the placement of tympanostomy tubes by an ENT specialist (otolaryngologist) may be necessary.

To decrease the incidence of ear infections in children, parents and caregivers should reduce their children’s exposure to cold viruses during the first year of life. This is a time when a child’s immune system is still developing, and he/she is more prone to be affected by viruses which may contribute to the development of infections. Antibodies in breast milk may also reduce the rate of ear infections, so, if possible, babies should be breastfed during the first 6 to 12 months of life. If they are bottle-fed, they should not be lying flat during feeds since this can cause formula and other fluids to flow back into the Eustachian tube. Also, young children who are ill frequently or have multiple ear infections should not be placed in large day care centres or exposed to large groups of individuals until their health issues are resolved. Children should also be protected from second- and third-hand tobacco smoke since this can increase the number of ear infections.

This summer I went on my first StormCo. mission trip to Moosonee.

There were five of us who left Toronto and made the long journey up Highway 11. My heart was beginning to race because with every passing second, I was inching closer to making a difference in people's lives.

Eight hours later, we finally arrived in Cochrane where we spent the night intending to wake early the next day to catch the Polar Bear Express to our final destination, Moosonee.

The world famous Polar Bear Express is not quite as magical as in the movie, but the six hour journey was fun, and we arrived safely in Moosonee. We met the Galupo family, the only Adventist family in town, and then headed over to The Barracks, an abandoned military dorm, our home for the week.

We began our work early the next morning shortly after breakfast. Our team was in Moosonee to do a river clean-up project. We had to get into the river to remove metal debris before the estuary’s tide came in. We were soon in hip-waders and strapped into harnesses with an attached safety lines doing the dirty, wet work of removing metal trash from the river. I had never done anything like this before, and I felt a bit awkward at the beginning, but it was easy after I pulled an old bicycle from the river. We worked for about 45 minutes and then had to get out because the water was rising.

In the afternoon, we were able to continue, and we were really able to get a ton of work done, especially when the Galupo family joined us. Throughout the rest of the week, we helped with other projects around town and even had some free time to go fishing and visit Moose Factory, the island just off the coast. We also interacted with the Native youth, played drums with them, gave rides to people who were walking along a dusty road, and just enjoyed spending time with the people there.

This trip was a blessing. It showed me what true mission work is. I was inspired by the selfless love of Bible instructor Alison Down, and the Galupo family. I learned a lot from listening to their words and watching how they live. They are true saints who have dedicated their lives ministering to others in the isolated north of our province. Daily, they prove that service to others really matters.

StormCo. (Service To Others Really Matters Co.)
Barnavy Gonzalez

Cochrane StormCo: Service with A Smile

“Service to others really does matter,” said Benton Lowe, a first year theology student at CUC. Benton, along with Kofi Amoah, Joanne Midouin, and Kennedy Ayoo, all youth from Ottawa, travelled the ten hour trip to Cochrane, Ontario. They were one of several StormCo. teams that ventured afield this summer.

Their first project was to help clean apartments for elderly people who couldn’t manage the cleaning on their own. In some cases, the bathrooms needed extra attention. Some obviously had not been cleaned in a long time. The homes that were found in disarray were soon left spotless and in tip-top shape!

Another project saw the group stack firewood for families to last the winter. Stacking wood is no easy task; this requires dedication, focus, and some lumberjack skills.

Some projects were a bit more dangerous. The team soon found itself cleaning up a neighbour’s bear-infested yard. Bears are a common sighting in Cochrane. As we took a trip to the local garbage dump, a black bear seemed to be enjoying free lunch.

As the team cleaned the yard of one lady, Pat, in Cochrane, it was evident that her stairs were dilapidated and needed repair. Alison gathered all the materials, cut the wood, and the willing StormCo. team helped to construct a new set of stairs.

As Pat stepped down on her brand new stairs with a huge smile on her face, you could hear one member of the team whisper, “Service to others really does matter.” Lesson learned.

Pastor Lyle Notice
First-ever Adventurer Camp: A Big Hit!

Ontario’s first-ever Adventurer Family Camp, July 25 - 29, 2010, at Camp Frenda, was a big hit with twenty-three Adventurers and their parents.

From the moment they gathered at the flagpole at 8:15 on their first morning for the flag raising, the Adventurers (children age 6-9 years old) and their parents sensed that their camp adventure was going to be something extra special.

A delicious breakfast followed the flag raising and then it was off to a joyful worship, led by the camp staff. A high point for each worship was the devotional story told by the incomparable Andrew Conroy from Willowdale Church. Everyone was captivated by the adventures of his characters, Jayden and Tori.

The Adventurers had eagerly anticipated all the awards and general interest activities in which they could participate but could hardly decide from the impressive base selection of eighteen choices. They were spoilt for choice with categories, such as Nature and Country Crafts, being divided into quite a few sub-categories. Some of the more daring among them sought out the exciting choices, such as Rock Wall Climbing, Water-skiing, Horsemanship and Archery. Others chose Radio Broadcasting and Model Rockets/Derby Racers for the first time.

In no time they were engrossed in their activities, thoroughly enjoying themselves while earning at least one award.

Joshua English from Agape Temple said, “I like all the activities, especially the rocket building and derby racers”.

Dara Mathurin, Brampton Church, bubbling with excitement, said, “I like the archery and rock wall climbing and the water activities”!

Young Ariel Hay from Ottawa Benjamin Church, thoroughly enjoyed her Feathered Friends class.

Many parents took the opportunity of daily flex periods to enjoy some of the activities that their children were enjoying. The children heartily cheered their parents as they bravely tried canoeing, water-skiing, kayaking or even swimming out to the water trampoline.

Each evening, after supper, the camp staff prepared exciting activities: a water ski show, including a human pyramid on water skis; a waterslide down the hill, allowing the children to slide down into the lake; a camp-wide scavenger hunt; a carnival, with activities including a dunk tank, pie toss, horse rides and a dress up relay race.

Parents were just as involved as the Adventurers and prizes were given to those who took part in the games.

Then there was the launching of the model rockets that the Adventurers had built. They soared so high that on the way down, several drifted out of reach onto the adjacent property!

The final day of camp came far too soon. It was, however, accompanied by a great deal of praise and happiness for the good times shared but mixed with a tinge of sadness that it had to end. The parents were especially pleased.

“It’s a wonderful learning opportunity”, said Sonia Henry from Brampton Church. “The kids are seeing God through nature.”

Jessica Moon, Kitchener/Waterloo Church, appreciated the real Adventist environment at the camp with prayer before each activity—activities are wholesome fun where the kids learn both skills and about nature. Lyn Busby, Mississauga, agrees, “It’s very family-focussed. Eat, play and pray together: it’s a real community feeling.”

All the parents agreed that the camp staff—friendly, encouraging and approachable—played a key role in making it such a success. The appreciation was mutual. Counsellor Carmelle, from the swim dock, said, “I want more kids here. The number we had is great, but more kids would be greater still.”

One parent, Mervin Busby of Mississauga, keenly observed: “Compared to a day camp, this is a deal! Usually you spend the same amount for your child to go to a day camp for five days, where you have to provide lunch, drop them off and pick them up, and it’s usually only one activity: volleyball, basketball, or something else.”

There is so much value to the camp, not only financial but a spiritual and a familial one as well. One point was certainly evident from all the positive feelings and feedback: This is a camp that all the Adventurers, parents and staff want to have again. Your child must not miss out. Bring him or her to Adventurer Camp next year.

Keith Hay, Adventurer Parent, Ottawa Church
New Church Leaders Invested at Mega Master Guide Investiture

On Sabbath morning, September 25, 2010, Ontario Conference president, Dr. Mansfield Edwards, warmly congratulated thirty new church leaders on their investiture as Master Guides during an investiture service held at Downsview Church.

“You have worked hard to reach this milestone in your life,” said Edwards, “but do not think that this is the end. This is just the beginning. You are being invested as Master Guides for service.”

All the expected pageantry associated with similar Pathfinder events was present. The Ontario Drum Corps provided the rhythmic beat for the slow procession led by Dr. Mansfield Edwards, resplendent in his Pathfinder uniform, accompanied by Conference Youth director, Pastor Cyril Millett, Conference Pathfinder specialist, Pastor Edwin Martin and members of the Ontario Pathfinder Council. The MIT and Master Guides—some of whom had travelled from as far as Ottawa—followed the council members to form a sea of green, khaki and black at the front of the waiting congregation.

In his message, He Emptied Himself, Edwards emphasized the costliness of grace. “Our salvation did not come easily,” he said. “Jesus emptied Himself and gave up use of His divinity and took our flesh in order to save us.”

The message was not lost on the MIT or anyone else: service requires sacrifice and humility.

Edwards admonished the congregation to regularly spend time contemplating the grace of God. The investiture charge, prayer and presentation of Master Guide scarves and certificates followed.

Prior to the commencement of the service, Dr. Edwards introduced Pastor Ida Smith as the new assistant pastor to the congregation. Along with her husband, Douglas, she was warmly welcomed. Pastor Smith had formerly worked with the congregation as a Bible instructor.

In what was, probably, the largest-ever investiture of Master Guides in Training (MIT) in Ontario, the 11:00 a.m. service was a joint effort of ten churches in the Metro West and Central districts coordinated by Mavis Griffin.

Over the past twenty-four months, District Coordinator Griffin worked tirelessly to provide the demanding training required for investiture as a Master Guide. During the service, Griffin proudly presented six MIT who have been trained to serve in Adventurer Ministry (children ages 6 - 9) and twenty-four who have been trained to serve in Pathfinder Ministry (children ages 10 - 15).
During this past summer, the Shadows of Christ Pathfinder group from Toronto Portuguese Seventh-day Adventist Church travelled to the James Bay region of Ontario and Quebec, with the purpose of spreading the health message to the Cree Nations.

Fifteen of us made the trip, eleven Pathfinders age 12-17 years old, and four adults, including Pastor Roger Esteves, our youth pastor.

Travelling in vans, we drove around James Bay through four different Cree Nations cities. In the first city, Chisasibi, our initial plans were to deliver health DVDs door-to-door, but we decided to give them out at the mall instead. We also had the opportunity to share the purpose of our mission on the local radio station. In the other three cities, we delivered the DVDs door-to-door. This gave us the opportunity to talk to some of the people who lived there.

During the trip, we also had the chance to experience some things that you don’t usually experience during your everyday life. Some of the Pathfinders saw the Northern Lights, and we were able to sleep inside a real tepee. We also got to see some Cree cultural dances.

By the end of the trip, we were all happy and blessed that we had the chance to go somewhere new to help spread God’s word about health, while having fun seeing and trying new things.

Raquel da Graca (15 years old)

---

**Ministry to College and University Students**

Do you know of students who are studying in secular campuses? They face special challenges. While they meet many wonderful new people and receive training for their future, their faith is often under fire, and the myriad of lifestyle choices and temptations can devastate their spiritual lives. In fact, over 70% of students who attend secular institutions of higher learning lose their faith. This is an incredible loss to God and His church! So what can be done to support these students as they head off to school?

One way is through Adventist Ministry to College and University Students (AMiCUS), a ministry of the Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. AMiCUS provides a way to connect Adventist students to each other and to the church. Through retreats, social networks, free literature, and leader training, we aim to enable students to develop a stronger and more vibrant faith.

We also encourage churches to partner with us by looking out for their youth. Know where they are when they leave. Send them reminders of your love and support. Appoint someone in your church to care for them. And let us know where they are! Contact Pastor Cyril Millett in the Youth Department (YouthMin@AdventistOntario.org) so that we can minister to them when they are away from home.

If you are reading this and happen to be one of these students, contact us. We would love to hear from you! May God bless you as you begin this new stage of your life.

Richard Roschman
Anywhere in this vast pathfinder community, hearing the familiar anthem, “O, we are the Pathfinders strong,” tying a square knot, smoothing a crisp Type A uniform and preparing for Camporee elicits a flood of warm (and some not so warm – think cold, hard ground at Outdoor Survival) pathfinder memories.

On August 5-8, 2010, new memories were made as 1,445 pathfinders, directors, staff and parents representing 41 Pathfinder Clubs throughout the Ontario Conference convened at the Guelph Lake Conservation Area, Ontario, for the 2010 Anchored in Christ Ontario Pathfinder Camporee.

On the first day, after a long day of registration and camp set-up, the pathfinder clubs turned out in Type A uniform behind a colourful array of national flags in the Parade of Nations led by the distinguished Ontario Conference Drum Corps. Russell Lambert, executive coordinator, Ontario Conference Pathfinder Council (O CPC), Elder Mansfield Edwards, president, Ontario Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and Dr. Clarence Baptiste, Guelph Seventh-day Adventist Church pastor were present during the opening ceremony to welcome the pathfinders. A rousing Ontario Drum Corps. Sequence and balloon release were punctuated by the loud cheers of the clubs, as Pastor Edwin Martin, Pathfinder specialist, Ontario Conference, declared the Anchored in Christ 2010 Ontario Pathfinder Camporee open.

As camp life slowly stirred from slumber to the shower rush (otherwise known as the one quarter challenge) at 6:30 a.m., pathfinders met for morning worship, exercise and a stately flag raising ceremony at the main stage before voracious appetites devoured hearty breakfasts.

The camporee schedule was a myriad of exciting activities and honour classes. With a ‘Pathfinder Passport’ tucked into a back pocket – the handy guide for all things 2010 Camporee - there was no room for boredom as pathfinders went from speeding along on a motorbike, paddling a canoe in the lake, going up for a spike on the volleyball court to Bible marking, kite flying, knot tying and then competing in the obstacle relay (you had to be there!), and a wide range of other activities. Jyvell Chewell of the Agape Aqualights Club, was excited to see so many different activities and honours. The Pathfinder Passport - one of his favourite things about this year’s camporee - was “helpful and a really nice thing to have”.

Matthew Palafox, a 4th year Willowdale Warrior, enjoyed the inflatable activities while his fellow-Warrior buddy, Yonaz Arunan, was particularly excited about the motorbikes and ATVs.

As each action-packed day wound down with a nightly flag lowering ceremony and vespers, the resounding message echoed the theme of the weekend, to live a life anchored in Christ. What a blessing to hear prayers in over a dozen international languages. Also, the 3-part nightly drama feature, Gillian’s Island, with a cast of 8 actors...
from Maharlika Pathfinder Club, was an instant hit. On August 7, over 100 visitors arrived to share Sabbath with us as we gathered to praise God in prayer, song and drama. On Sabbath afternoon, the Pathfinder community gathered along the bank of the lake for a beautiful baptism ceremony. Certainly, there was rejoicing in heaven as six Pathfinders made their public proclamation of their acceptance of Jesus Christ: Keturah John and Ashley Phillips of Immanuel Church, Shauna Gaye-Bowens of Toronto West Church, Daniel Esch of Mount Zion Filipino Church, Caira Sosa of Filipino-Canadian Church and Emmanuel Dhlawiyo of All Nations Church.

World Pathfinder leader, Elder Jonatan Tejel, guest speaker for the camporee, shared his passion for Pathfinder Ministry in his Friday evening vespers greeting, Sabbath worship and evening vespers messages. He spent time with various clubs and was particularly fascinated by the fact that so many different nationalities and languages are represented in this conference, one club boasting 11 languages. In a letter published in the Pathfinder Passport he addresses the Ontario pathfinder community, “There is great power in hope. Hope keeps us smiling while the world is still crying. We still have hope in our anchor, Jesus Christ.”

Camporee programming this year certainly highlighted the fact that there is an incredible number of talented, eloquent, well-poised pathfinders within this conference. Strains of the 2010 Camporee theme song, Anchored in Christ, the Lord, written by Mission Pathfinder Club, Meadowvale Church, winners of the Camporee Theme Song Contest, were heard each night.

New Samaritan Pathfinders, Hilary, Melissa and Julia, of Brampton Church, were especially blessed by Hands of Acclamation, Maharlika Pathfinder Club and a black light performance choreographed to Casting Crown’s, “Praise Him in This Storm”. They were also enthralled by the hand bell solo rendition by Kedric Ireland of Kitchener-Waterloo Hope Pathfinders.

At the culmination of Camporee 2010, Pastor Martin expressed his hopes that “all pathfinders and their leaders will head back to their respective homes with renewed commitment to be truly anchored in Christ.”

Plans are already in motion for the 2011 Ontario Pathfinder Camporee: Fan the Flame.

Be sure to mark your calendars for August 1-6; rally the troops and your church boards; set your fundraising plans in motion, and pray fervently for more incredible camporee blessings next summer.
The administrators, along with the Ontario Conference Office of Education (OCOE), extend a warm welcome to the new teachers that have chosen to become a part of the education ministry team for the 2010-2011 school year.

At Cornerstone Christian Elementary School in Sault Ste. Marie is teaching principal, Sogusa Joseph. Ljiljana Markovic is at Crawford Adventist Academy’s east campus, as music and grade 1-3 teacher. On the main campus of Crawford is Andy Mora as Art and P.E. teacher. We also welcome Paula Marshall back to the main campus after a year’s leave last school year. At Peel Adventist School is Lois Myers as music teacher. Lois will also be teaching in other subject areas. Barbara Wittock has been transferred from Peel to Crawford Adventist Academy’s main campus. Lucilla Naidoo has also been transferred from the elementary to the high school division as English and Dramatic Arts teacher. At Grandview Adventist Academy, Lisa Clarke has taken on her role as teaching principal. Lastly, at the London school, Paula Huie is now a full-time teacher there.

All new teachers attended a “new staff orientation” session during which they were introduced to the policies that govern the education ministry. Please pray that the Spirit of God will be evident in the lives of these and all of our teachers as they engage their students in life-changing experiences.

From Surviving to Thriving at Camp Frenda Retreat

‘From Surviving to Thriving’ was the theme of the recently held Teachers’ Spiritual Retreat at Camp Frenda, sponsored by the OCOE. Pastor Liz Pule and her committee did an excellent job of planning, preparing the program and identifying a speaker who would challenge all those in attendance.

The presenter was Dr. Tennyson Samraj, professor of Philosophy at Canadian University College. Dr. Tennyson Samraj certainly challenged the thought processes of everyone. He began his presentations by discussing the nature of human beings in the context of “life as God designed it.” He challenged us to “look beyond people’s behaviour and see them as children of God.” Dr. Samraj’s wit and humour enabled his listeners to enjoy his presentations as he cited biblical references to reinforce the points he made. He stressed the importance of knowing God personally and understanding the background and biblical contexts of His commands. He urged teachers to “keep it real,” to recognize not only their humanity, but the that of the students whom they teach.

Since this was intended to be solely refreshing and revitalizing, several teachers took the time to walk, appreciate nature, fellowship with each other and even enjoy a boat ride. During Monday evening’s appreciation dinner, several teachers were recognized and received certificates and/or plaques for leadership, mentorship and years of service.

According to the teachers, the time spent during the retreat was well worth the trip to Frenda. They spoke of “good times” there. We are very thankful to Pastor Glenn DeSilva and the Camp Frenda staff for their assistance in making our stay comfortable and enjoyable.

Curriculum Teams Begin Work

During the summer, several teams of teachers began working on curriculum guides. They worked on French Extended, grades 1-3; Guidance, grades 1-8; Nutrition, grades 9-12; and Leadership, grades 9-12. At least three of these are poised to begin in the 2011-2012 school year—Guidance, Nutrition and Leadership.

Since the OCOE is partnering with several ministries in delivery of services to our schools and also to the community at large, involved in some of the curriculum teams were Pastors Millett and Martin from the Youth and Pathfinder Ministries and Mrs. McClean from the Childrens’ and Health Ministries. Pastor Dave Schwinghammer, Stewardship Ministry, will also be joining us at our next meeting.
Kids In Discipleship Training (KID)

As the rise in secularism continues to challenge the beliefs, standards and some of the practices that Seventh-day Adventists have held for decades, the North American Division, in conjunction with the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, is providing specific training for school teams throughout Canada. Ontario will be sending two teams to Camp Hope, British Columbia, in October for this training. The teams are comprised of teachers, parents, pastors and principals. It is expected that when the teams return, they will be able to prepare a spiritual plan for their schools, and to teach others to do the same. A spiritual plan, much like a strategic plan, will include goals, objectives, timelines and personnel to expedite the plan. This is yet another attempt to reinforce God’s Word and the tenets of our beliefs that are therein based as we examine the nature of God and man, and lead students to accept Christ as their personal Saviour. Another result of this training should be increased evidence of spiritual ethos in each of our schools.

Webinar for School Treasurers

In an attempt to standardize the monthly financial reports that are sent from the schools to the OCOE, a one hour webinar for school treasurers will be held on October 31 at 7:00 p.m. All school treasurers are encouraged to attend the webinar, along with their church treasurers, pastors and school board chairs. Every attendee will need a computer and will be able to sign in from home or from any geographic location where there is an Internet connection. Instructions on how to register for the meeting will be sent to you, and the names of everyone who attends will be recorded as you sign in to the meeting. We look forward to having you join us for this important meeting.

New Pastors

We warmly welcome Pastors Rodney Davis, Gary Hodder, Ida Smith and Robert Zama to pastoral ministry in Ontario.

Although born and raised in British Columbia, Rodney Davis is a spiritual native of Ontario since he was baptised in London, Ontario. He and his wife, Jenny, come to us from British Columbia, where he was pastor of Cornerstone Church in Coquitlam and Burnaby. He assumed his responsibilities as pastor of St. Thomas and Woodstock congregations on. The Davis’ have an adult son, Joshua, who lives in British Columbia.

Gary Hodder is the new senior pastor at College Park Adventist Church in Oshawa. With his wife, Almyra, he comes to us from Newfoundland, where he served as Mission president for the past nine years. Previously, he served in pastoral ministry in the Alberta Conference and in the Newfoundland Mission for seventeen years. The Hodders have five children: Shawn, Natasha, Joshua, Tyson and the youngest, Stephanie, who is in grade 8.

On Sabbath, September 25, 2010, the members of Downsview Church enthusiastically welcomed Ida Smith as their new assistant pastor. Ida who holds a graduate degree in ministry is not new to Ontario, having worked as a Bible instructor for a number of years. Her husband, Douglas, is very supportive of her ministry.

College Park Church welcomed Robert Zama to its ministerial team on August 1, 2010. As a recent graduate from the ministerial course at Canadian University College, he commences his internship under Pastors Hodder and Nunes. Robert has a missionary zeal, and during his student years, he was involved in a number of evangelistic ventures overseas. He plans to apply his missionary zeal to his work in Ontario.
Dragan Stojanovic Appointed Vice-president (Administration) for SDACC

Dragan Stojanovic, president for the Quebec Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, has been appointed as the new vice-president for administration (formerly 'executive secretary') of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada. He will replace Nilton Amorim who will retire at the end of November 2010.

The appointment was made by the Board of Directors at its meetings during September 8-12, 2010.

Pastor Stojanovic, who is from the former Yugoslavia, has served the church as a pastor and administrator for over 30 years in diverse places including Austria, France, and the United States.

In addition to his native language, he also speaks German, French and English.

He will assume his new position on December 1, 2010.

In another action taken a month earlier by the Board of Directors on August 19, 2010, Pastor Ken Corkum, former president of the Maritimes Conference, was appointed as president of the Newfoundland Mission. He replaces Pastor Gary Hodder who is the new senior pastor at College Park Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The Board of Directors also appointed Christine Bergen as secretary-treasurer of the Newfoundland Mission. She will replace Bruce Smallwood who resigned his position last spring. Christine was working as a senior accountant with supervisory responsibility for a firm in Saskatoon.

In the West, the Alberta Conference recently appointed Manitoba-Saskatchewan's Pastor Ken Wiebe as its new president. He replaces Pastor Mark Johnson who is the new president of the SDACC.

The Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference Board of Directors has elected Pastor Wayne Culmore as the new conference president. Elder Culmore was formerly the vice-president for administration of the British Columbia Conference.

Adventists Swell the Ranks of Variety Village’s “Walk & Roll/Run”

On Sunday, September 19, 2010, over 37 Adventists swelled the ranks of participants in Variety Village’s fourth annual ‘Walk & Roll/Run.’

Since Adventist Single Adult Ministries (ASAM) outreach leader, Andrew Skytte-Alivio, first encouraged members from his own congregation to be involved in Variety Village’s annual event, the number of Adventists involved increased yearly. This year, Bramalea Toronto Central, Mt. Zion Filipino, Filipino Canadian, Scarborough and College Park Adventist Churches were all represented. Some from Mt. Zion Filipino Church even arrived at 5:30 a.m. to help in the preparation.

Variety Village is all about achieving personal bests. It seeks to empower individuals of all ages and abilities by providing accessible, safe and inclusive fitness, sports and life skills programs.

The annual Walk&Roll/Run is to raise funds to support children with learning and physical disabilities who would not normally be able to benefit from Variety Village’s programmes.
Praise for Worship Seminar

Earlier, Schwinghammer, a skilled worship leader, led the participants into a period of worship at sunset that both illustrated what he was teaching and allowed each person to experience the presence of God. For part two, Schwinghammer considered worship as a preparation for heaven and chose to pay particular attention to helping each person recognize and understand his/her worship personality. He used a Worship Style Inventory to help each person learn why he or she leaned to a particular style of worship.

“One of the real benefits of this inventory,” says Schwinghammer, “is that it helps people appreciate the differences in others and how we can work together to make worship meaningful for everyone.” Schwinghammer recognizes that it will take more than three seminars to help bring about the change in worship that so many seem to be longing for, but he is already striking a chord with others who are quickly developing a passion for worship that takes God’s people into the very presence of God.

“I have attended both of the seminar sessions and have thoroughly enjoyed the information that Pastor Dave presented;” said singer Margaret Miekle, “I’ve learned about the purpose of worship and why we worship and how we should worship.”

Co-sponsored by the Youth and Stewardship Departments of the Ontario Conference in conjunction with the 7 x 7 Youth Evangelism Training Program for 2010, Journey to the Heart of Worship is designed to create an awareness of the presence of God. “We really want to help our young leaders to develop a life-style of worship,” says Schwinghammer. Ricardo Alleyne from Kanisa Fellowship seems to be well on his way to fulfill that purpose.

“I expected these workshops to shun superficial debates over worship styles and preferences. What I didn’t expect was such an insightful exploration of the very nature of worship, giving us a glimpse into the heart of God,” he said.

Ricardo Alleyne summed up the feelings of many who attended: “These workshops have been an enormous blessing. I wish more of the leaders from my church attended them.” Part three of the series will be held on Friday, November 5, 2010, again at Downsview.

For further inquiries, please contact Pastor Cyril Millett at 905-571-1022 ext. 214 or cmillett@adventistontario.org

The Mount Zion Filipino Seventh-day Adventist Church is looking for these members:

Dorcas Adams-Grant, Remy Asuncion, Rhoderic Bancolita, Peter Carabat, Virginia Carabat, Joe Francis B. De Asis, Lorraine Henry, John Ibrahim, Sergey Kovalyov, Julieta Manglan-Ian, Jennifer Marrier, Leonardo Pasi, Karen Pecson, Nolasco Perez, Ann Pitt, Tatyana Syvatnenko, Dina Vendiola, Marius-Norel Cojocaru, Maria Costa Livingston, Christine O.

If you know the whereabouts of any of these individuals, please contact Rowena Velasquez at 647-349-4654 or email at mtzionfilclerk@adventistontario.org
Good News Fellowship Group Baptizes Five

On July 17, 2010, three adults and two youths from Good News Fellowship Group in Brantford were buried with Christ in baptism and rose to live for the glory of God at Woodstock Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The candidates were immersed by Pastor Darryl Blahovich, recently installed pastor for the Brantford/Paris district.

Members of Good News Fellowship were also joined by members of the Woodstock and Paris churches.

This baptism is a blessing for the candidates and for the fledgling group at Good News Fellowship. Ishmael Miller, leader of the group, studied with Gavin and Kasha Kindness. During the same period, he and Hazel Brooks studied with Gloria Herriman, sister of Hazel’s husband. The three candidates were eager to study the Bible and requested baptism at the end of the studies. Their request encouraged Theresa Vidal and Joan Kindness to renew their commitment to Christ through baptism. It is the second baptism for the group since it was formed just four years ago.

Also baptized was Cheryl Morrow from Paris Adventist Church, who was immersed by her cousin, Pastor Gordon Pifher, president of the British Columbia Conference.

The church continues to pray for the spiritual growth and development of these babes in Christ.

Ishmael Miller

Apple Creek Re-launches “Discover the Power”

On July 24, 2010, Apple Creek Seventh-day Adventist Church re-launched its Discover the Power television programme.

The re-launch was held at 7:30 p.m. at the church’s Markham location and was attended by numerous supporters and dignitaries, including Minister of Health Promotion, Margaret Best, MPP; York Regional Chief of Police, Armand La Barge; Ontario Conference president, Dr. Mansfield Edwards and Ontario Conference Communication director, Pastor Halsey Peat.

Discover the Power ministry (DTP) is the creation of Dr. Mansfield Edwards, then senior pastor of Apple Creek Seventh-day Adventist Church. He became its speaker/director. It began broadcasting on the Hope Channel in 2005 via satellite and the Internet allowing it to be viewed not just in North America but throughout Europe, Africa, the Caribbean and many other parts the world. In 2008 DTP was broadcast locally on The Christian Channel airing on Sundays at 5:00 p.m. before moving to Vision Television, where it aired Thursdays at 2:00 p.m.

DTP is committed to communicating the good news of Jesus to everyone. Additionally, it deals with self-esteem, health, family values and spiritual principles based on Christ-centred programming.

The programme went into a hiatus when Dr. Edwards was elected in July 2009 as president of the Ontario Conference, but the congregation maintained the vision. The re-launch of DTP was, therefore, a significant event in the life of the church.

The evening’s programme was characterized by greetings and well-wishes from the Hon. Margaret Best, Chief La Barge and Pastor Halsey Peat, rich music by local singers and musicians, an appeal for financial support for the programme, a sermon by Dr. Edwards and the symbolic passing of the DTP mantle of responsibility from Edwards to the three local pastors, Wayne Martin, Anthony Reid and Kenton Perrin.

Edward’s sermon, “He Wants You”, based on the story of the healing of the paralytic in Mark, chapter 2, clearly demonstrated that each person has his or her own responsibility in furthering God’s kingdom. He challenged each person to fulfil his or her role in sharing the good news.

Immediately following Edward’s message, the ceremonial passing of the mantle took place. Senior pastor, Wayne Martin, and his two colleagues committed themselves to continue the ministry of DTP so that it will have an impact on the lives of people from all cultures.

Judith Ince

Donations to Discover the Power may be sent to: Apple Creek Seventh-day Adventist Church, 700 Apple Creek Blvd. Markham, Ontario, L3R 7X9. Tel: 905-946-8751
Leona Selman, Church Treasurer for Forty Years

On Sabbath, July 17, 2010, the Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists honoured Haileybury Church treasurer, Leona Selman, for forty years of dedicated service.

Tasma Lofton-Brook, senior accountant in the Treasury Department, travelled to Haileybury to make a presentation of a framed picture and plaque to Sister Selman.

“I’m very pleased to honour Leona today for her 40 years of faithful service as treasurer” said Lofton-Brook. “I can assure you, if all my treasurers were as faithful and knowledgeable as she is, I would only have a part time job.”

Lofton-Brook commended her for her constant, accurate, reliable, and happy service. She also passed on greetings from the conference administration and staff.

Although Leona has left the treasury, she has not retired from church office. She is now the new head deaconess.

Pastor Didier Fourny, minister of the congregation, also expressed his congratulations and appreciation for Leona’s dedication to God and to His church.

A surprised Leona, accompanied by her husband, James, gratefully received the gift, and in her humble, unassuming manner, pledged to continue serving God in whatever way she is able.

Ajax Church Baptizes Its First Adventurer

The Seventh-day Adventist Adventurer program is designed to support parents in the challenging task of helping their children develop fully as followers of Christ in today’s world; to this end, it was a joy to witness the baptism of the first Adventurer at the Ajax Adventist Community Church on June 5, 2010.

Following Education Day services presented by the Crawford East Adventist Academy staff and students, Ajax Church and Agape Temple Church members, along with family and friends, were delighted to see ten-year old Adventurer and Crawford East student, Kyle Flash, make his commitment to the Lord through baptism. Kyle was baptized by his then school chaplain, Pastor Jayson Levy, who aided in the spiritual development of students at the school.

The Adventurer programme works together with parents, church, home and school to help children mature spiritually, physically, mentally and socially.

Ajax Church continued to rejoice on August 7th, 2010 as it welcomed three more precious souls into the church through baptism: Pam Bailey, her son Zachary, and Helen Ramroop. We pray that the decision of Kyle and the other new converts will motivate others to study God’s Word and make a firm stand for Jesus.

Judy Hutchinson-Boyce
Rachel’s Story

July 31, 2010 was a highlight for Bracebridge Church as they witnessed the baptism of Rachel White. Rachel’s story is one of courage and strength. It is also tells of God’s love and faithfulness.

Rachel’s Story:
Rachel’s connection with Bracebridge Adventist Church began two years ago, shortly after the death of her husband. Attending for the first time, she renewed acquaintance with Sharon Bonatti whom she met at her husband’s funeral, and a friendship began.

Rachel grew to trust Sharon and soon requested Bible studies. Of course, Sharon was thrilled to study with her.

On the surface, Rachel’s story seemed ordinary; however, it was anything but ordinary.

When she was just five years old, she often witnessed her drunken father beating her pregnant mother. During those moments, she would cling to her Bible as the horror of the beating unfurled before her eyes. As she grew she was often frightened for her mother’s life and sometimes tried to protect her from her father, but he would lock her and her siblings in a room. He often turned his abuse on them and would make them, even at a young age, drink alcohol and smoke cigarettes. For years, Rachel harboured thoughts of killing her father but later dismissed them as worthless thoughts.

Later, Rachel’s problems were compounded when she married a man just like her abusive father. One day upon returning home drunk after a hunting trip, he went into a rage and shot Rachel in her face. She lost the use of her left eye and her left ear. Over time, she has lost some use of her other eye and ear also. She now depends greatly on lip reading.

Many years later, Rachel met and married a loving man, Norm White, a Seventh-day Adventist. Rachel wanted to be baptized into his faith, but he became very sick and did not live to see her baptized. Norm passed away in 2008. However, she promised him that she would meet him at the resurrection.

Rachel’s broken life had led her into a life of sin and into the depths of hopelessness. Yet when she was at her lowest, God revealed His love to her and saved her. Now Rachel loves to read her Bible daily and is constantly praising God that Jesus died for her.

Most recently, she has had even more for which to praise God. After receiving many job offers that included Sabbath work, she received the answer to her prayers. God gave her a job where no Sabbath work was required.

Rachel is now living a new life. Her nightmares, depressions, and fears from her past no longer govern her life.

Rachel told her story at her baptism on July 31 to tears of joy in the congregation.

Sharon continues to study with Rachel, and they continue to rejoice in God’s love.

Pastor Carter Stanley

Scarborough Filipino Making Disciples

On August 13, 2010, twenty excited students lined up in the basement of Scarborough Filipino Seventh-day Adventist Church for first graduation of the School of Discipleship. After four hours of monthly training for 12 months, the students were ready to receive their diplomas.

The programme, developed by local elder and Personal Ministries leader, Angelo Austria, under the guidance and mentorship of Pastor Efento Adap, included subjects such as Christian Apologetics, Bible Study Methods, Christian Beliefs, Experiencing God, and Evangelism/Witnessing Ministry Practicum, and many more. Instruction was facilitated mainly by Angelo Austria, David Civera, and Kalman Roller. Guest lecturers included Dr. Gilbert Chapman, former NASA scientist; Pastor Richard Roschman, pastor of Heritage Green Adventist Church, and George Solijon of Mount Zion Church.

Students represented a wide range of age, education, and interests, but all benefitted from dynamic lectures, problem solving, role playing, and open forums. One requirement called for the students to create five different Bible study outlines based on doctrines.

“I now feel empowered and equipped for evangelism,” was the testimony of Michelle Perez, one of the graduating students. “Now I understand what a disciple is,” explained Renan Duron.

All agreed that their relationship with Christ was enriched and their passion to witness was ignited.

Future classes are now being planned. For more information, contact Angelo Austria at angeloaustria@hotmail.com or (647)-822-6848.
A series of baptisms in June, July and August 2010 at Immanuel Adventist Church have resulted in 20 individuals—five adults and 15 youths—following in the Master’s footsteps.

Garth Dottin, assistant pastor at the church, immersed most of the converts and was clearly happy at seeing so many young people saying “yes” to Jesus.

“We are truly experiencing a wonderful moving of the Holy Spirit,” he said. “There’s passion and zeal from every member to see many more souls won for the kingdom. With such a great army of dedicated people, I am confident that our work on earth will soon be accomplished.”

A team of dedicated Immanuel members played major roles in the fruition of the baptisms. Among them are Pastors Vasily Osadchuck and Garth Dottin, the Bible study team, comprising Carolyn Nichol, Joseph Prendergast, Lisa McGann, Uton Robinson, Leah-Anne and Ovie Ekwenu, Marvin Arthur, Deanah Williamson, and Anthony Servito.

Complementing the work of the Bible study team are the respective parents and other supportive Immanuel church family members. The newly-baptized members are also being spiritually nurtured by several Immanuel members who have been appointed as their spiritual guardians.

We praise God for His marvelous works and the influence of the Holy Spirit in the lives of these precious souls who have been baptized. We commend them for their bold stance in following in the Master’s footsteps. To God be the glory!

On Sabbath, July 31, 2010, Harmony Church and the Italian Company celebrated the baptism of Nikolay Yordanov and Derwin Johnson.

The baptism took place during the worship service at Wellspring Worship Centre* in North York, where the congregation meets weekly. Given the importance that Harmony/Italian places on baptisms, the entire Sabbath morning’s worship service highlighted God’s salvation and the meaning of baptism.

“Baptism is a death and a rebirth;” declared local pastor, Frank Dell’Erba, “in our natural state, we cannot be fixed or even modified. We need to die and be born again.”

Quoting 1 John 1:12, he told Nikolay and Derwin that since they had received the righteousness of Jesus, they now have the right to be called sons of God.

Prior to the immersion, Dell’Erba presented the two candidates to the congregation and described them as “young men who love the Lord”. Derwin’s love for God has led him to run a Friday night Bible study discussion group for his friends. When some friends cannot be physically present, they are able to join in via Skype.

Derwin began attending Harmony almost immediately after the death of his father in December 2009. Nikolay is from Bulgaria. He was invited to Harmony by a friend and enjoyed the fellowship of a loving congregation even before he became interested in Bible study.

Both men were gladly accepted into the fellowship of Harmony/Italian and into the membership of the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church.

*Wellspring Worship Centre is located at 89 Centre Ave, North York, M2M 2L7

Harmony/Italian Baptism

Pastor Frank Dell’Erba, left, examines Nikolay & Derwin
Mt. Olive Church Honours Its Seniors

On Sabbath, August 28, 2010, Mount Olive Seventh-day Adventist Church celebrated the life-long contribution of its seniors to the work of God and to the mission of His church.

Tracy King-McFarlane, Family Life leader of the church, organised the day to highlight the dedication of many seniors to the well-being of their communities through volunteering and selfless service.

The day began with an uplifting and vibrant song service that set the tone for an inspiring worship service. Using the theme, “Tribute to Our Founding Fathers,” the worship service was alive with laughter and praise. The Pathfinders welcomed and paid tributes in the form of poems and other renditions to all the seniors—members and visitors alike.

In his first sermon as associate pastor of the church, Pastor Stanley McFarlane (whose mother was among the seniors), expressed his joy for the opportunity of specifically addressing the seniors. He encouraged, commended, and thanked them for “rocking the cradle” and for setting the foundations on which the future generations are able to grow both physically and spiritually. He further admonished them not to lose the enthusiasm and excitement in their lives as this will continue to foster good relationships both in the home and in the church.

The day’s program concluded with an abuse awareness presentation by Dr. Charmaine McIntosh. The presentation helped to raise the level of understanding and awareness of all aspects of abuse. She also explained the signs and symptoms of abuse, especially among the elderly, so that they will be easily recognized and that the necessary precautionary measures will be taken.

“One way or another, we’ll get wet today!”, Matthew Bergsma said, and he did! Along with his wife, Stephanie, they committed their lives to the Lord through baptism on a rainy but splendid Sabbath at Hennessy Bay, part of the Ottawa River system.

The baptism took place on August 21, 2010, the traditional first Sabbath of the Family and VBS Camp at Nangor Resort, Westmeath, ON, near Pembroke. Matthew and Stephanie’s journey of searching for the church that best represents their convictions is finally over. They first came in contact with Adventist beliefs through the Amazing Facts Bible course, after which they started attending the Pembroke Seventh-day Adventist Church faithfully. They have three children: Ella (born only a few months ago), Joel and Ryan. Pembroke Church has lovingly embraced the entire family.

Pastor Adriaan van der Lingen

V. Lyttle
Communications
On Sunday, August 8, 2010, Scarborough Seventh-day Adventist Church held a groundbreaking ceremony for their future church building at 4346-4354 Lawrence Avenue East.

The proposed multipurpose building, including a sanctuary, fellowship hall and a daycare centre, is expected to be completed by fall 2011.

The celebrations began with a concert on August 7 in the evening at the church’s current location. On the rainy Sunday morning, church members and friends gathered under a tent on the new property. Also in attendance were Ontario Conference officers, Dr. Mansfield Edwards, president, and Mr. Ulysses Guarin, treasurer, and civic dignitaries, the Hon. John McKay, MP, the Hon. Margarett Best, MPP, Councillor Paul Ainslie and Councillor Ron Moeser.

Pastor Winston Hurlock, senior pastor of Scarborough Church, warmly welcomed everyone and introduced the guests. Each dignitary congratulated the congregation and offered his or her best wishes. Pastor Edwards gave an inspiring message that was well received by everyone present.

The dignitaries and church building committee members signified the commencement of construction with the cutting of the ribbon and the breaking of the soil using ceremonial shovels. Red and white balloons with Bible verses were released into the sky as attendees formed a circle and a prayer of dedication was said.

Scarcroft Church Groundbreaking

On September 4, 2010, Scarborough Seventh-day Adventist Church held its fourth annual anti-violence and anti-drug march, led by the Ontario Conference Drum Corps and escorted by police officers and mounted units from 43rd Division.

Prior to the march, over sixty marchers gathered at Scarborough Adventist Church for instructions and prayer. They were addressed by Pastor Millett, Ontario Conference youth director, Pastor Edwin Martin, Ontario Conference Pathfinder specialist and Councillor Paul Ainslie, representative of Scarborough East, Ward 43. Councillor Ainslie told the marchers that he was born in the area and knew the challenges facing the youth of Scarborough.

He congratulated the marchers for their courage to march against violence and drugs.

The hour-long march took the Pathfinders and church members along a route that snaked through some of the trouble areas in southern Scarborough.

One of the high points along the march was a donation from the church of non-perishable food to the collection point at the local Fire Hall. The food was delivered by a TTC bus that was part of the parade.

The messages “Say No to Drugs And Yes to Life!”; “No More Violence, No More War!”; “Try Jesus, He Can Help!” seemed to elicit positive responses from the community.

The march wound its way back to the church where Geoffrey Kerr briefly encouraged the marchers to always exercise self-respect and respect for others. The event closed with prayer and refreshments.
Congratulations

Called to the Ontario BAR
Joseph W. Richards II LL.L; LL.B

Joseph was called to the Ontario BAR in Ottawa on June 9th, 2010. He graduated MAGNA CUM LAUDE from the National Programme at the University of Ottawa in 2009, obtaining degrees in Civil and Common Law over a four-year period. He finished with the highest overall standing in his class. Joseph received the Right Honourable Brian Dickson Award, in addition to the Michel W. Drapeau Award for leadership and academic success and the Torts Prize.

Joseph did his Articling term with the Sudbury Crown Attorney’s Office. This autumn, Joseph is enrolled in the Master of Law degree programme at the University of Cambridge in England on a full scholarship. He is a very active member of Sudbury Seventh-day Adventist Church.

---

Summer Pastoral Changes

The arrival of summer heralded the first of a series of pastoral changes that have continued into autumn. See the list below of all transfers for this period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Pastor</th>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Previous Church</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 14</td>
<td>Donville Cooper</td>
<td>Scarborough</td>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph Amankwah</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>Assistant</td>
<td>Mt. Olive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fitzroy Radlein</td>
<td>NW Brampton</td>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Brampton district</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Zama</td>
<td>College park</td>
<td>Assistant</td>
<td>New worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 21</td>
<td>David Rogers</td>
<td>Mt. Olive</td>
<td>Senior Pastor</td>
<td>Toronto East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frederick Nichols</td>
<td>Toronto East</td>
<td>Senior Pastor</td>
<td>Agape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stanley McFarlane</td>
<td>Mt. Olive</td>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>Toronto Central</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gerardo Oudri</td>
<td>Bronte</td>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>College Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Daniel Bhookun</td>
<td>Ottawa East</td>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Orleans French</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 4</td>
<td>Harold Johnson</td>
<td>Agape</td>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Ottawa East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ken Campbell</td>
<td>Latter Rain/Zimbabwe</td>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Mt. Olive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rodney Davis</td>
<td>St. Thomas/ Woodstock</td>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>New worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Todor Levterov</td>
<td>Kingsview</td>
<td>Assistant</td>
<td>St. Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Didier Fourny</td>
<td>Orleans/ Orleans French</td>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Timmins/ Haileybury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 11</td>
<td>Orville Browne</td>
<td>Brampton</td>
<td>Senior Pastor</td>
<td>Latter Rain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jakov Bibulovic</td>
<td>Barrie</td>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Yugoslavian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Doug Pollington</td>
<td>Owen Sound/ Harriston/Hanover</td>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Elliott Lake N. Shore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gary Hodder</td>
<td>College Park</td>
<td>Senior Pastor</td>
<td>New worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 18</td>
<td>Dirk Zinner</td>
<td>Chatham/ Leamington</td>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Cambridge/ Waterloo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edwin Emerson</td>
<td>Cambridge/ Waterloo</td>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Sarnia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marvin Clarke</td>
<td>Toronto West</td>
<td>Assistant</td>
<td>Toronto East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Patrick Jacques</td>
<td>Toronto East</td>
<td>Assistant</td>
<td>Toronto West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peter Caran</td>
<td>Smith Falls/ Brockville</td>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Owen Sound district</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 09</td>
<td>Friedrich Stele</td>
<td>Sarnia</td>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Smith Falls</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jayson Levy, former Scarborough Associate, and Mathew Feeley, former Kingsview Assistant are now at the Adventist Theological Seminary.
This is Brother George Sakurai.

Most probably you’ve never heard of him. Very few people outside of his church knew him. Even there, he was best known for His love for God and for his infectious smile.

He never held a church office but loved His church, faithfully attended his local congregation and supported it.

On June 23, 2010, he fell asleep in Jesus at age 88 to await the resurrection. You will not hear of any great feats of his accomplishments because he was such a private person. However, his death did not bring his quiet influence to an end.

While alive, he had the Ontario Conference Planned Giving and Trust Services Department assist him with the preparation of a Christian Will so that God’s blessings would be passed on to where it was most needed. His entire estate was passed on to what mattered to him most–his church in Ontario. A tremendous legacy left by a quiet man, known only by a few, but one whose legacy could very well help others to experience the joy of salvation.

If you would like any assistance with your estate planning needs, please contact the Planned Giving & Trust Services Department: Tel.: 905-571-1022; ext. 206 or email dputt@adventistontario.org