

# CHURCH PLANTING CONNECT



2015 is almost in the history books. It has been a good year for the development of new churches in the Alberta Conference, particularly in the Edmonton area. Edmonton Impact 2016 was an exciting outreach. The churches planted in conjunction with the outreach made a meaningful legacy to this evangelistic event.

There were other highlights of the year to celebrate. With new work developing in Calgary and more being planned for in conjunction with Reach Calgary 2016. Red Deer is also planning for a new church plant early in 2016.

We do not only celebrate the new groups formed but the faithful work in church plants formed in previous years. The faithful work and witness brings joy to our Lord's heart.

May the richest blessings of the season be with you. As we view the harsh events in our world near the end of the year, it continues to underline the importance of the coming of the Prince of Peace.



Alberta SEEDS Team with local leaders

From left to right: Darrell Beaudoin, Jacov Bibulovic, Melvin Santos, Juliet Santos, Donna Willey, Rod Willey, Don Corkum, Gary Blanchard, Yumi Castor, Brad Dahr and John Wesley.

## Alberta SEEDS 2015

The Alberta SEEDS in Edmonton for 2015 was a success. About 150 people gathered for afternoon seminars on Sabbath September 26. Some of the topics presented during the weekend were:

"Submerging Church" by Gary Blanchard.

"Fishing Lures for Church Planters" by Rod and Donna Willey.

"Why We Need Disciple-Making Churches in the End Times" by Melvin and Juliet Santos.

"Happy Mother Churches Birth Healthy Church Plants" by Jacov Bibulovic.

"Witnessing Beyond Our Walls" by Rod and Donna Willey.

"Reaching and Retaining Youth and Young Adults" by Gary Blanchard.

## North American Division Takes Bold Initiative

**Plant1000** is a bold and unprecedented vision of collaboration in church planting. The North American Division, General Conference, Conferences, and Unions will partner with our local churches and invest to help fund **1000 community churches from 2016 to 2020**. Envision **200 Community Church Plants, each year**, for the next five years. There are many neighborhoods, towns, and counties in North America that still don't have access to the good news of Jesus. There are peoples groups in our Division which are still mostly unreached. These new community church plants will put the gospel within their reach.

**Support and Funding for Conferences:** we are praying and have set aside funding to support all of our **Conferences with more than 15,000 members** to take a step of faith and **plant 4 churches** every year for the next five years. We are also praying and have set aside funding to support all of our **Conferences with less than 15,000 members** to **plant 3 churches** every year for the next five years.

The funds set aside to support 200 Community Church Plants per year are **\$10,000.00 per Church Plant**, in collaboration with the General Conference, Unions, and Conferences (NAD/GC \$5,000.00 / Union \$2,500.00 / Conference \$2,500.00) - Application will be available shortly - Each Conference will select its church plants to be funded

**Church Planters BootCamp** (April 28 - May 1, 2016) in Camp Kulaqua, Florida: a top of the line equipping opportunity for those leading the Community Church Plants funded. It will include cutting edge training, assessment, coaching, and networking with other Church Planters in North America and the world. No Registration Cost to Church Planter (only cost to church planter is transportation to BootCamp).

**Deadline:** after **May 1, 2016** - unrequested funds may become available on first come, first served basis for Conferences wanting to plant some extra churches.



## Calgary Ghanaian Company Holds Revival Series

2015 has been a good year for the Calgary Ghanaian Company. In the summer they held an evangelistic series that was successful and in November they held a revival series with a good response.

Pictured above on left is the congregation on the first Sabbath of the revival series and at their new location. Their larger facilities allows them to have room for more people as well as opportunity for more programming. Above on right is Pastor John Amoah, the speaker for the revival series. He graduated from Burman university and is currently the ministerial director of the Southern New England Conference. He is originally from Ghana, Africa.



### A Great New Evangelistic Tool

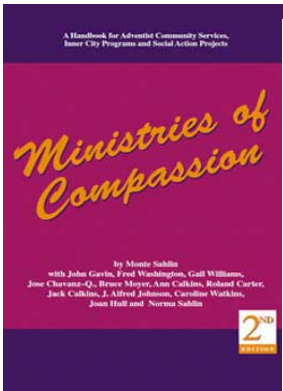
For those church groups that would like to partner with It Is Written for outreach and evangelism, this tool can be available to your church. If interested contact Don Corkum at [dcorkum1@msn.com](mailto:dcorkum1@msn.com) or 403-669-0706. It is a new series of video bible studies and hosted by Chris Holland.



### How Can We Make A Difference in Our Communities

Reaching our communities in a secular age is similar to the challenge Christ faced 2000 years ago. The New Testament witness is that Christ had a three-fold emphasis: preaching, teaching and healing. was often the entering wedge where He established rapport and relationship with people in communities. Reaching our communities today takes similar strategies.

Adventist Community Service exists to help local congregations organize to serve their communities. I you would like to know more about Adventist Community service read the leaflets below. You can contact the conference community serviced department about how to acquire them.



“A healthy, Spirit-driven congregation does not wait passively for people to come to the church and its activities, but proactively reaches out to the surrounding community and the wider world. ...It provides a range of services that meet the expressed needs of persons in the community. Adventist service projects that are church-sponsored and community ....The process of building teamwork is so fundamental in developing Adventist Community Service activities.” Keys to Adventist Community Services page 7.