## **Calgary Church Planting Rally a Success**

Over 170 people came to afternoon seminars on September 14 at the Calgary Central Church, to learn how they can more effectively contribute to expanding God's work. The sentiments expressed on the response sheets indicated it was a beneficial time. Over 40 expressed their interest in participating in a new church outreach in the city. Calgary has 198 communities with an average population of 7200 and to date we have church groups in only 15 of these. However, we praise God that church members are demonstrating their desire to carry out Christ's mandate—to reach all places and people groups for Him.



Far left, the church planting presenting team for Friday night and Sabbath enjoy a meal at the Corkum's home. Next to them the Beaudoins share

their experience in starting a new work in Fort Saskatchewan in church Friday evening.









Brittany Harwood soloist, Tom Evans, Dave Jamieson, Jeff Potts all contributed to make the weekend inspirational and instructional.

It was not only the music and seminars that made the weekend a success, but the reports on Friday evening as well.







Above from left to right: Pal the company leader from the new Sudanese Adventist Company in Calgary shares their story; Jean Racine tells about the Bethany French Fellowship and Jerry Shiel from High River tells how God has provided amazing witnessing opportunities in a city still reeling from the worst flooding in its history.

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## More from 2013

Below are churches and companies organized to date in 2013. These are all from Calgary but good experiences are happening in other parts of the province that will lead to new groups organized.



Above from left to right: (All pictures from the organization day this year): Northwinds Church, Sudanese Adventist Company, Cornerstone Community Adventist church. In order to have one church for every 25,000 people (a church planting objective) in Calgary there needs to be 40 churches instead of 15. We pray that 2014 will see new groups form in parts of the city with no Adventist presence.

#### Visioning Weekend with Grand Prairie Lighthouse Company

One of the ways that the conference church planting department can help churches is to conduct a visioning weekend with the church group to help it clarify directions for the future. Recently Don Corkum met with the Lighthouse Company in Part 1 of this process with Part 2 taking place in November.



The Visioning weekend is engaging, participatory and productive. Above is one group involved in deciding what they are pleased and troubled about in their church program; having lunch together is enjoyable and essential; and keeping careful track of the input from each group takes a good recording secretary! If any church plant (established in the past 8 years) would like to hold one of these weekends contact, Don Corkum—contact information will be at the end of this newsletter.

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## **Conference Strategizes with Members on How to Acquire Church Facilities**

One of the challenges facing many congregations is how they can own their own facilities. It is a distinct advantage to the ministry of the church to own its own facilities but this often out of reach. On September 29 about 100 people gathered and listened to presentations from Maranatha Builders, PSI International—a General Conference organization helping church entities with fundraising and a representative sharing the possibilities of home churches. It was a beneficial day. While the groups did not leave with the money and the guarantee of a church, they did understand new possibilities and strategies that will be helpful to them.





Above left, Alberta Conference Secretary, Larry Hall, gives explanations and orientation for the discussion. On the right is the presenter's table. The day was well planned and productive.

#### **Mission Aviation in Canada**

Canada has had an involvement in helping reach difficult areas of the world through aviation. Jud Wickwire from British Columbia and his family spent five years in South America with mission aviation working through an organization called Wings for Humanity—which was associated with Adventist World Aviation. Recently Adventist World Aviation has organized in Canada.



The president of AWA International is Ric Swaningson, pictured here with Don Corkum, before taking a flight in one of AWA's planes. AWA is based in Wisconsin and AWA-CA now is in the development process. Don Corkum chairs the board for Canada. Jud Wickwire is very involved with AWA Canada and International as he serves as vice president of AWA International. If anyone is interested in finding out more about this organization please contact Don Cokum

## High River is Still a Priority

Following the flooding in Calgary and High River there was considerable activity by church members in helping flood victims. At the Alberta Camp meeting bus loads when down to help families with clean-up. I know each person who helped was blessed as well as the people helped. There is still a great need for help as families find out whether they will get help or not to replace their home. 900 people are living in temporary shelters while decisions are being made on their homes. Some church organizations as the Samaritan Purse and Salvation Army continue to work with families to help them in new construction. This is an appeal for us not to forget to be a part of the solution for residents of High River.



How quickly life can change in just hours our homes, boats, cars can be shambles. Sometimes insurance is helpful and sometimes the situation doesn't qualify for insurance leaving families having to start over again. Having to pay off the mortgage on a home that is no longer liveable, is a reality for some. It is a crisis where compassionate help truly makes a difference. If you want to gather some people and help you

can contact the Emergency Operation Center 403-652-6960 in High River.

## **Edmonton South**

The Edmonton South Church has grown in the past several years and wants to contribute to Christ's desire to see His work expanded. They have launched a plan with an alternative worship service designed next year to be a church plant. We praise God for this initiative and solicit your prayers for this ministry.



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## Are You Getting Ready to Reach Out for Christ



The Fort Saskatchewan Project is on our minds and hearts as Darrell and Lise Beaudoin and family lead out in making contacts and take initiatives to start a new work there. They appreciate our prayers and support as they take on this pioneering work.

How about the communities near our home or church? Are we praying and planning so God can have a witness to His message and People there? Let's make His mission, our priority!

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