



2012 has been another year of God's blessings. Growth has taken place in the Alberta Conference. Hundreds of people have been baptized and new church groups have been added. We praise God for the Drayton Valley Company, the Calgary Bethany French Company, High River Spanish Fellowship and the Edmonton South Spanish Fellowship. Read on in this newsletter for more good news...

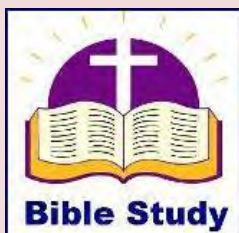
Prince of Peace Fellowship Group

Located in the Westmount community of Edmonton, The Prince of Peace Fellowship seeks to reach out to people in their area. Their group numbers about 20-25 on Sabbath and is composed of people from many parts of the world.



On Sabbath November 10 they met in the afternoon with Don Corkum and did some visioning for the future. Five years from now they want: to be three times their size—75-90; own land for building a church; have a vibrant youth and outreach ministry; be known for work in the community; getting ready to swarm another church; totally surrendered to God and

faithfully following the mission and message of the Adventist Church.



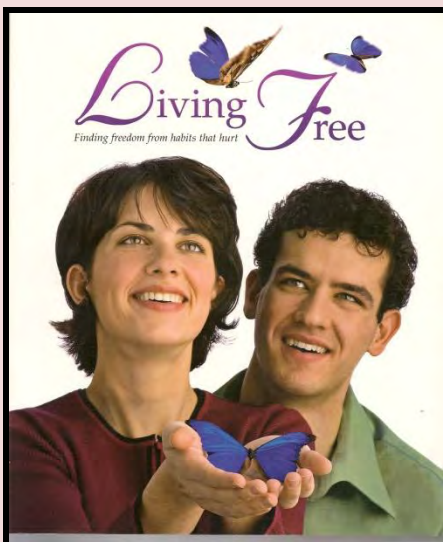
Think of what could be—if 50% of the 4000 (app) households in the Alberta Conference participated in a mid-week relational Bible Study that invited their friends and neighbors—what could be the result? If you want to know how effective an evangelistic outreach can be in a home— see page 3.

Thanksgiving Time

An annual harvest festival was held at the Beauvallon church to praise God for another year of good crops and the many other blessings we receive from God's hand. It was a day of music, thanksgiving, worship, fellowship and good food. A presentation was also made about the possibilities of VOAR for the area. A men's group from the Edmonton North Church provided the afternoon music along with other local singers.



Living Free Seminars-- are being held in Fort Assiniboine and Swan Hills, Alberta as an outreach from the Onoway church. There is a good interest in the seminars and also a discovery of Adventists living in the area not previously contacted. In picture are: Marious Zanea, Jerry Shiel, Seminar presenter; Mick Zanea, Hannah Schulte, Gerry Schulte, Seth Schulte, Jeff Schulte and taking photo was Liliana Zanea. All pictured are working with the seminars.



An effective way to develop new interests in communities where there is no church is through felt needs seminars (they are good for areas with churches as well). There are many seminars available as Creation Health, New Start, CHIP, Finance seminars, Family seminars etc. Living Free is a seminar designed to help people overcome addictions. At present Jerry Shiel is the presenter of the Living Free seminar in Alberta and if you want to contact him, his number is 403-829-8458. Further information on health outreach seminars is available through Darlene Blaney at the Alberta Conference office.



If you want an effective Bible Study series that is Christ centered and cost effective (you can download them free), the above series is one to consider. It also has a children's series.

www.liftingupJesus.net

Pilgrims for Jesus

For the past 16 years Fae and Milton Mullings have had an annual series of evangelistic meetings in their home. (The series is called "Pilgrims for Jesus") They have used video and had music, decision cards and all the usual ingredients of evangelism. They have a prayer team that prays during the meetings and also a transportation team. These home meetings have resulted in over 200 baptisms.



Pictured above on the right are Fae and Milton Mullings. On left are the most recent additions to the church through baptism and profession of faith from the Pilgrims for Jesus studies. We praise God for these new members in God's family. An additional note of interest to church planting is that the work of the Mullings has been instrumental in establishing the Remnant Company in Calgary. It will not be a company much longer because on January 12, 2013 it will be organized into a church. We praise God for the progress of this church group and the ministry of Pilgrims for Jesus that has brought so many people to the Lord.

Edmonton area Church Planting Rally

On November 16 and 17 a church planting rally was held in Edmonton. It was hosted by the Edmonton South Church. Tom Evans from Andrews University was the presenter for the general sessions. The seminar presenters were Tom Evans, Dave Jamieson and Jeff Potts. The presenters, including Don Corkum the weekend organizer, spoke in local churches in the morning. The afternoon seminars were attended by about 100 participants. A survey taken at the seminars indicated that quite a few people are interested in participating in a church plant. The greatest interest is in Southwest Edmonton.

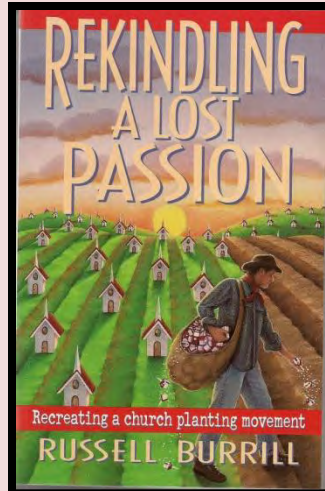
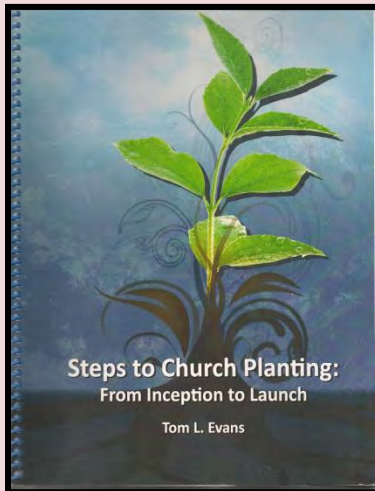
An outreach is being planned in Fort Saskatchewan (there is no Adventist presence there). Vern Snow, former Alberta Conference evangelist, will be conducting an evangelistic series beginning on February 8. It is hoped a new church group will develop in Fort Saskatchewan. An open meeting to learn more about the Fort Saskatchewan mission will be held on January 19(highlighted further in this newsletter).



These three pictures were taken at the afternoon seminars. Above left is Tom Evans from Andrews University who presented steps to start a new church plant. Jeff Potts, above right, talks here about how to reach out to post moderns in church planting. At left Dave Jamieson tells of how a church can be effective in reaching its community through well planned and varied community service work.

These seminars will be available on DVD in the new year. The handouts and the DVDs can be used for a seminar(s) in your church. If you should want these presentations, contact Don Corkum at dcorkum1@msn.com or 403-669-0706.

Key Church Planting Resources.



These two books are being used as the main reference and study books in church planting in Alberta. *Steps to Church Planting* gives practical steps on how to start a new work that is mission focused and healthy. *Rekindling a Lost Passion* by Russell Burrill gives the theology and history of church planting in the Adventist Church. Church planting is a key element in completing the mission of Jesus in the world. These books

are available through the ABC. In addition to these two books the *Guidelines and Policies of the Alberta Conference in Church Planting* is a document available through the church planting department. Contact Don Corkum or Irma Hartley at the Conference Office.

Help for Capital Projects in Alberta

Do you need help in raising funds for building or renovating schools or churches in the conference? Here is an important announcement.



Learn how to make your fundraising efforts return much more! Register by December 19 for one of the 1st Alberta Adventist Fundraising Schools, and you and three (3) friends will receive free tuition AND one free set of class materials, *Successful Fundraising: A Guide for Local Churches*. Dr. Wagner, the presenter, is head of the NAD's school of fundraising. See the poster in the foyer of your

church for details, and contact Lynn McDowell at the Conference office to register at (403) 342-5044 x 233 or lmcdowell@albertaadventist.ca.

Fort Saskatchewan open meeting(See page 7)

On January 19 there will be an open meeting to discuss the mission of reaching out to Fort Saskatchewan. This will help people to know more about the evangelistic meetings as well as hear about the possibilities of starting a new work there. We hope you will prayerfully consider being there to aid in the praying and planning of this important outreach. Watch for further announcements in your church. The meeting is at 3 p.m. at the Dow Center.

What is the level of interest in VOAR radio stations in Alberta? There is considerable interest. To date there are two stations in operation and seven others that are being processed. Many more churches have indicated they are considering establishing a station. 2013 should see many more stations in operation in Alberta.

What is the reason for the current delay in processing applications? The inspector for Industries Canada is requiring a couple additional pieces of equipment to what has been used traditionally in setting up VOAR stations. One is a digital signal processor and will be needed in each station installation. It will help to provide a clearer signal. It has to be ordered from China and tested by technicians in British Columbia. All this will take until the end of January. Then the processing of applications should be in operation again. The other piece of equipment needed is a communication analyzer to be used at the time of the inspection of the station before regular broadcasting is approved. In this case only one piece of equipment is needed to test all the stations.

Will the additional pieces of equipment cost more money to set up a station? The communication analyzer will be paid for by the conference. The digital signal processor is not a very expensive item—perhaps several hundred dollars. As has been mentioned there are subsidies to help churches set up stations. These subsidies amount to \$2750. The church will have to add an additional \$3500 to \$4,000. Often the community will help finance the station since it is a benefit to them. The annual cost is about \$1500. However, the station has a 24/7 witness to the community and communicates the good news of the gospel continuously.

What type of programming does VOAR provide? Operating within the restrictions placed upon it under the terms of its license, VOAR's mission is to provide a Christian alternative to the commercial radio stations within its coverage area, providing Christian music and inspiring messages from a wide variety of sources, compatible with its philosophy of bringing the good news of salvation and Christ's soon coming to both the church and un-church.

If you would like to see a copy of the current programming go to voar.org and click the "about" tab. You will then see a listing for program guide. If you want to listen live online and get a feel for VOAR you can do that as well from the website.

Along with its regular programming VOAR provides ads from the ABC to its listeners as well as invitations to take Bible courses.

Fort Saskatchewan Mission

You are invited to an open meeting on January 19, 3-5 p.m. to discuss this new outreach to this important Alberta City.

Fort Saskatchewan has a population of 20,000 and is embarking on a new phase of growth. There are about 20 other religious groups in the city and many concur that now is the time to establish an Adventist presence.

Why attend? If you would like to know more of the outreach plans; if you would like to know about the evangelism starting February 8; if you are interested in being a part of this new group; if you want to show your support and pray together.



The Dow Centennial Center is the location for the January 19 meeting and the evangelistic meetings that will follow on February 8. Vern Snow is the speaker for the evangelistic meetings.

It could also be a place to start a new church group until other facilities are located.

The Dow Center is the largest facility in town: The address is: 8700-84 Street, Fort Saskatchewan. The meeting on January 19 is in the Lions Pride room. We're looking forward to seeing you there!! The Directions: Take the Yellowhead Highway past Sherwood Park and exit at route 21 to Fort Sask. In Fort Sask. turn right onto 84th Street and proceed to the Dow Center.

How can the church planting department be a help to your church?

1. If your church would like presentations on the steps to establishing a new work then contact Don Corkum and he will meet with your church or church board. If you would like to discuss “Natural Church Development” for your church as an aid to become a healthier church that also is a presentation available.

2. If your church has been established during the past five years or if you are a company or a group—then the church planting department will work with you:

To help establish a vision, mission and strategic plans for the future. Also help your group develop a growth plan.

Leadership training—Using the “Lead Like Jesus” emphasis

Provide help with Peacemaking materials if conflict has arisen

Discuss a helpful approach to doing capital projects

Conduct a revival/seed sowing event of five meetings—Thursday to Sunday.

Providing a VOAR presentation with questions and answers

3. Generally Don Corkum makes two Sabbaths a month available to churches. In addition to what is listed above are the official organization services that occur throughout the year. The above listed programs are often accomplished during the Sabbath, often as a Sabbath afternoon emphasis—and a related message in the morning.

4. There are many other resources available beside this one department. Many departments of the conference will also do similar work for all churches in the conference—and more, depending on the department involved.

5. The Dream--A dream is best fulfilled when people are organized as a team. If the conference members and churches see themselves as one team to help grow and expand the work in Alberta—and working in partnership with Christ—there is no limit to what can be accomplished.

This means we work cooperatively and not competitively. The strong and large help the small and struggling. New areas are launched and resourced by healthy, vibrant parent churches. We then become a movement as was the experience in the early years of our church.

6 Key Resources that will help all churches

1. **Share Him**-- Go to www.sharehim.org and become familiar with one of the greatest evangelistic opportunities to engage your lay members in evangelism both locally and abroad. The technology used is cutting edge and for many languages.
2. **Soul Winning Training**—The “Lifting up Jesus” lessons referred to earlier is a part of a more extensive resource. At www.liftingupjesus.net you will find under “resources” a series of nine training videos to help your members understand the science of soul winning. This comes with manuals and handouts. All this is for under \$100.00.
3. **Quick Start folders**—Guidelines and instructions for all the ministries and offices of the local church. It is challenging for someone to be asked to serve in the church and not have instruction. They also need coaching and mentoring from other experienced leaders in the church. Quick Start folders are available at Advent Source—www.adventsource.org. The total set is \$79.00.
4. **Reconnecting**—The North American Division has asked the Center for Creative Ministry to be the resource and leaders in reaching former members. With this newsletter is an attachment of the 10 steps to reach former members. For further information on Reconnecting Ministries go to www.creativeministries.org.
5. **Creation Health**—The Adventist Health System has researched and prepared this excellent health program for reaching out to the community. It is balanced with very current data and presentations. If interested go to www.creationhealth.com and you will be guided in accessing the seminar.
6. **New Sabbath Book(Available at the ABC)**—The Lost Meaning of the Seventh-day is a significant book published by Andrews University Press. The author, Sigve K. Tonstad, is a professor at Loma Linda University. Scholarly, yet very readable, this book gives perspectives on the Sabbath that are insightful and refreshing. As the main Christian religious group in the world today upholding Seventh-day Sabbath, Adventists need to keep current on studies and experiences that foster the Sabbath. This resource is helpful in that regard.

There are many voices heard today supporting a Sabbath and keeping 24 hours holy. Many just feel that God allows each person to choose which twenty-four hour period. The Lord is looking to Adventists to clarify the importance of the blessed 24 hour period from creation.

Church Planting Proposed Vision and Strategy

Vision Theme

Increasing Christ's joy by expanding His witness

Mission

To carry out Christ's strategy in Alberta to fulfill the gospel commission as presented in Acts 1:8. "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

We commit to this strategy by:

Being directed and empowered by His Spirit to fulfill His mission.

Being determined that our witness throughout Alberta will be Christ Centered possessing truth and grace.

Continually expanding His witness--

- 1. Growing healthy, disciple making, mission focused established churches that reach out and help to transform its community. This is the Jerusalem of Christ's strategy.**
- 2. The established (parent) churches reach out to adjacent communities and territories with a vibrant witness, seeking to establish more church groups as bases for mission. This is Judea in Christ's strategy.**
- 3. Reaching out to other cultures and people groups that need to experience Christ's truth and grace; possessing Christ's heart for diversity we bear His witness and seek to establish congregations among these peoples and cultures . This is the Samaria of Christ's strategy.**
- 4. Knowing that Jesus loves the word, we join Christ in finding ways to make a global impact as well as a local one. We seek to help establish congregations in other parts of the world.**

Goals

By 2016, the next conference session, we seek to have a 5% annual increase in the number of church entities (churches, companies and groups)—about 4 new entities per year—resulting in approximately 16 new church entities by 2016.

Through VOAR and other means to have missions in areas that have no churches (Outreaches from established churches). A mission is a gospel centered activity without a yet established worshipping Adventist community.

To have every established church in Alberta study the possibility of being a parent church to new church groups.

To have expansion of the work a priority in the strategy and planning of the conference.

That pastors make every initiative to start new work in their assigned territory during their term of service in their district.

“Everywhere the light of truth is to shine forth, that hearts now in the sleep of ignorance may be awakened and converted. In all countries and cities the gospel is to be proclaimed....Churches are to be organized and plans laid for work to be done by the members of the newly organized churches. This gospel missionary work is to keep reaching out and annexing new territory, enlarging the cultivated portions of the vineyard. The circle is to extend until it belts the world.” *Evangelism*, 19.

Church Planting Events for 2013

January 12—Organizing the Remnant Company into a church

January 19—Open meeting for the Fort Saskatchewan Mission

February 8—The beginning of the evangelistic meetings with Vern Snow in Fort Saskatchewan.

February 9—A celebration service for the establishing of the High River Spanish Fellowship group.

April (date to be determined)—Organizing the Calgary Northwinds Company into a church.

June 16—Church Planting Connect meeting at Alberta Camp meeting

September (Date to be decided) Calgary Area Church Planting Rally

In addition to these dates there will be Sabbath/weekend meetings each month in churches throughout Alberta.