

# Adventist News

A window of information for Seventh-day Adventists in Alberta

## From the President

# An Education for Eternity

Seventh-day Adventists are known for their support of Christian education. Church schools, academies, colleges and universities are operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church all around the world. In recognition of Christian education, April 16 has been set aside as Christian Education Sabbath.



What is Christian education? Christian education is Christ centered learning and personal growth. And, it incorporates much more than formal learning in an educational institution operated by a Christian church or Christian organization.

Christian—Christ centered—education begins in the home. That inspired writer, Ellen White, penned these words, “In His wisdom the Lord decreed that the family shall be the greatest of all educational agencies... Look upon the family circle as a

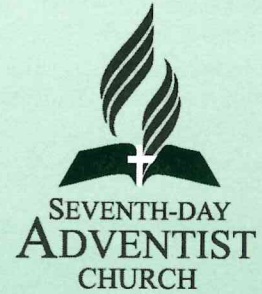
training school, where you are preparing your children for the performance of their duties at home, in society, and in the church.” Unfortunately she also had to write, “It is a sad fact, almost universally admitted and deplored, that the home education and training of the youth of today have been neglected.” In this busy age in which we live how easy it is to “short change” the Christian education our children are receiving even in the homes of Seventh-day Adventists. It is time to stop and thoughtfully consider how well we are providing a Christ centered education to our children in our homes.

Christian education is a component of Seventh-day Adventist Church activities. The Sabbath School divisions such as the Cradle Roll, Kindergarten, Primary, Juniors, Earliteen, Youth, Young Adult and Adult are all intended to increase individual knowledge of a loving God and Saviour and develop a personal relationship with such a God of love. How vitally important it is for local churches to ensure that their best teaching talent is applied to the training of our children and young people in their respective Sabbath School divisions.

In addition to the home and the church as centers of Christian education, the Seventh-day Adventist Church, as an organization, operates a school system. In the words of the North American Division Working Policy, “The Seventh-day Adventist school system has as its basic evangelistic task the education and redemption of the children and youth of the Church. Its object is to promote the development of character and to direct the youth to a ‘knowledge of God, the Creator, and of Christ, the Redeemer, as they are revealed in the sacred word’.” The Christian school is positioned to carry on the work of Christ centered education begun in the home and in the local church.

We can consider our children and our youth to be the most valuable assets in

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# Directory

## Executive Committee

William Olson	President
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Carolyn Osmond	VP for Finance
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Sam Asante	Ron Sydenham
Randy Barber	Ken Taylor
Glen Brown	Richard Thorp
Mervis Higgins	Dale Trefz
Ed Knox	Adrian Trenchuk
Chanda Nunes	Linda Weich
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	Trusts/Wills
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Romulo Daquila	ADRA/Comm Services
Werner Seidel	Family Ministries
Nicole Sydenham	Women's Ministries
Brian Townsend	Men's Ministries

## Alberta Adventist News

Marlene Holdal	Editor
Ruth Proud	Layout

## Office Hours

Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 am to 5:00 p.m.

## Alberta Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

37541 Hwy 2, Red Deer County AB T4E1B1  
Phone (403) 342-5044 Fax (403) 343-1523

e-mail: [abconf@albertasda.org](mailto:abconf@albertasda.org)  
website: [www.albertasda.org](http://www.albertasda.org)

*Continued from page 1*

our Church. How we care for them is a tremendous responsibility. Their eternal happiness is so very dependent upon the education they receive. Can there be real true happiness without a personal relationship with the Creator and Saviour of the world?

Sabbath, **April 16**, is being recognized as Christian Education Sabbath. It can be a time for some pondering about what we are doing as individual Seventh-day Adventists to ensure that the children and youth with whom we have some contact and influence are assuredly receiving Christian education in the home, in the church and in a Christ centered school. Christian education is for eternity.

*William Olson*

## Retiree Greetings to all!

**R**ecently, Bill Olson, and his wife Judy met with some past administrators of the Seventh-day Adventist Church who are now retired. These retirees, currently residing in California, send their warmest greetings to all of their many friends throughout the Alberta Conference. From left to right, Judy Olson, Bill Olson, Lowell Bock, Merlo Bock, Clayoma Soloniuk, Bill Soloniuk, Lorraine Larsen, Herb Larsen, Lawton Lowe, and Esther Lowe.



## CAMP MEETING MUSIC

- < Start now to be a part of the music program at camp meeting. Are you or your group willing to help with special music or a mini concert? If you would like to help with leading the singing, playing the piano, organ or other instrumental special music, contact Trudie Comm at (780) 532-6411
- < If you are interested in being a part of the camp meeting choir or band, please contact Harald Zinner at (780) 387-4163 or e-mail: [hzinner@primus.ca](mailto:hzinner@primus.ca)

Camp meeting music can only be special if everyone shares the talents God has given them. If God has blessed you with musical talent, plan now to be a part of the music at camp meeting.



# Calgary Prophecy Seminar

## April 1 to 30, 2005

OPENING NIGHT • FRIDAY • APRIL 1 • 7:30 P.M.

it is written TV  
Presents

# Revelation Speaks Peace

Henry Feyerabend, Founder  
Bill Santos, Speaker

FREE ADMISSION PROPHECY SEMINAR

The SPACE • 2834 FALAISE AVE SW • CALGARY  
TO PRE-REGISTER CALL 670-5446

### It Is Written Opening Night

Join the seekers who will gather for the exciting *It Is Written* Prophecy Seminar Opening Night, Friday, April 1, 7:00 p.m.

You are invited to return each April night except April 7,11,14,18,21,25, and 28. No seminars will be held on these dates.

The SPACE, a popular new venue on the grounds of the former Army Barracks in Calgary, will be the location each night.

*(Please see below for directions.)*

*Billboards Now Up In Calgary*

Bill Santos, Canadian It is Written Speaker, will be the main seminar presenter, although the founder of *It Is Written Canada*, Henry Feyerabend, hopes to be present as he is medically able.

### Seminar Invitations

*To request a special It Is Written Seminar Invitation for your family and friends in the Calgary area, please fax, e-mail or write names, addresses & phone numbers to (no phone calls, please): Calgary Central Church 1920 - 13 Avenue NW, Calgary, AB T2N 1L3 Fax: 403-282-6955 E-mail: calgarycentral@shaw.ca*

### Directions to the Nightly Location - The SPACE

From Crowchild Trail SW  
Exit West (Right) on Flanders Avenue.  
Turn Right at the Lights,  
go past the Guard Booth to a 4-Way Stop.  
Turn Left at the 4-Way STOP  
and The SPACE is straight ahead.

FREE Parking Front and Sides of the Space building.

*Donations to help the Alberta Conference defray costs may be marked "Calgary It Is Written" and placed in your church offering plate, or they may be mailed directly to The Alberta Conference, 37541 Highway 2, Red Deer County, AB T4E 1B1*



*May God bless as you help to bring the Gospel Story to Calgary*



## Local Church News

### Bentley

The new social committee of the Bentley church has just had their first function - a combination winter snowmobile and hay ride party! They met at the home of Brian and Debbie Spenst on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 20. First it was snowmobiling. This included riding on a huge tractor tube behind a snowmobile, or you could try 'knee-boarding' as you were pulled behind the snowmobile.



*The six-mile 'cool' hayride*



*Brian Spenst and Trent Baumbach hang on for dear life to the tube as Heidi Baumbach drives the snowmobile*

*Pastor John Blake*

### Edmonton Central

#### *Youth Begin New Year With Baptism at Edmonton Central*



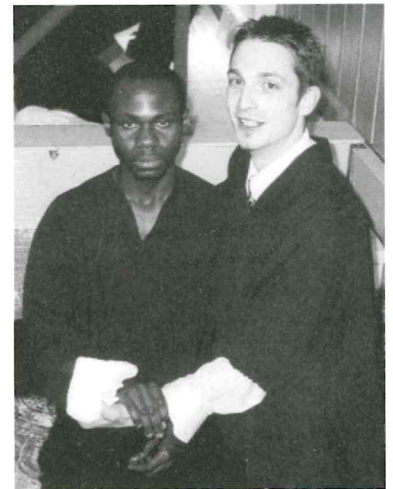
*Pastor Wesley welcomes Jammy Jorza to church fellowship*

2005 began in an exciting way at the Edmonton Central Church with the baptism of Lapidolph Boateng. He has been an active member of Central's youth group for over a year and is currently involved in a number of ministries including the Holy Hands Choir. He was baptized by Pastor Tyler Rosengren on January 1, 2005.

Jammy Jorza grew up at Edmonton Central Church and is an active member of the youth group and the Holy Hands Choir. After taking baptismal classes to strengthen her knowledge of the Bible, she was baptized by Pastor John Wesley on January 8, 2005.

Praise God for the work that He is doing within the youth of our church.

*Debbie Aubert, Communications Secretary*



*Lapidolph Boateng baptized by Pastor Rosengren*



## Holy Hands Carry Light Wherever They Go

It is an exciting time for the youth in Edmonton Central Seventh-Day Adventist church. About a year ago, a small group of young people formed a sign language choir called Holy Hands under the direction of Raihaan Sheik. Since then, the group has grown from five to twenty-five with more young people wanting to join regularly. Raihaan is excited that his vision of involving youth in a unique ministry is taking shape.

Raihaan first conceived the idea of a sign language choir when he was only 15 and living in Hamilton, Ontario. He attended a Christmas concert where a choir signed to music and began to dream of forming a similar group that could include all the youth in the church. It happened just as he envisioned it but was unable to continue because his family relocated to Edmonton, Alberta. The Central church had very few youth, but were blessed to have two youth-oriented pastors: Tyler Rosengren, a vibrant new youth pastor, and John Wesley, the senior pastor. With their enthusiasm and encouragement, Raihaan formed a new Holy Hands group. They performed for the first time at a special youth day in February 2003, and the response from the audience was very positive.

"The Central Church youth and Holy Hands developed together. We are a spiritual support group for each other.

*"We are alive and active for Christ.  
We are not boring."*

We can get comfortable in the group and break out of our shell."

This unique group not only accepts all ages of youth, from nine to 26, but has succeeded in uniting youth from other Edmonton churches. Raihaan taught himself American Sign Language (ASL) and then proceeded to teach the youth involved in Holy Hands. They sign enthusiastically to a variety of gospel music.

"We are alive and active for Christ. We are not boring."

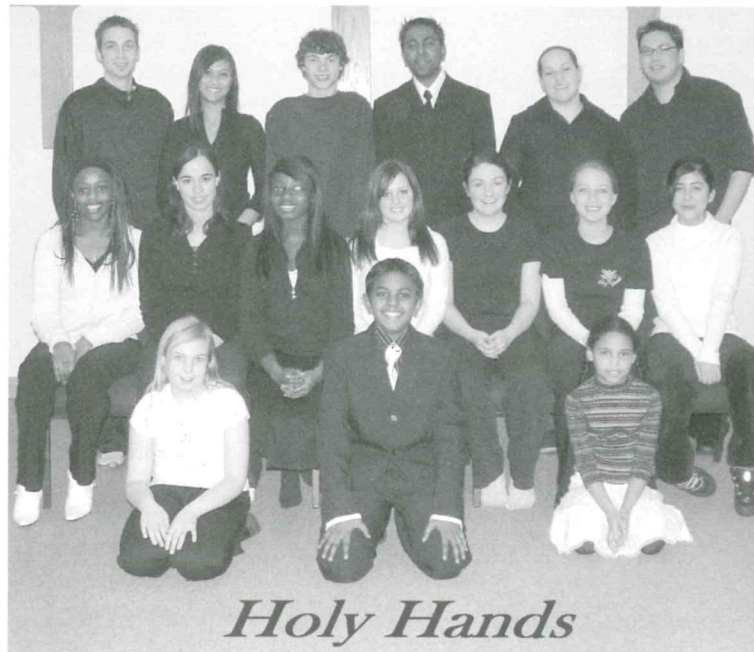
Recently Holy Hands performed a 2<sup>o</sup> hour concert to raise money for a mission trip to South Africa. The group plans to be involved in street ministry in South Africa as well as Canada.

"My main goal is to minister to people in the church and people who don't know anything about Christ. The real challenge is to get my friends from school to come (to a concert) and really like it."

Raihaan saw a need for a ministry teens could be excited about. He feels that adults expect teens between the ages of 13 to 18 to be strong, but there is not much chance to develop spiritual strength in the church because there is often no mission for the youth.

"I have strayed myself because I am still a young person. That is when I just decided I am going to do my own ministry – that is where Holy Hands comes in."

Over the last year, Holy Hands has performed at Alberta Camp Meeting and Canadian University College. The youth



*Back Row: Tyler Rosengren, Tina Bautista, Rodger Jorza, Raihaan Sheik(Rai), Katie Caza Glen, Joseph Adante; Middle Row : Tiffany Foreman, Jammy Jorza, Kezia Mensa, Esther Duval, Melanie Penfold, Catherine Rosengren, Daniela Andrade; Front Row: Tamara Hager, Aaqib Jaaved Sheik (AJ), Kai Forgach*

who attended were excited and many wanted to be involved. "Some are even willing to drive up from Lacombe every week just to be a part of Holy Hands."

What gives this 17-year-old high school student his strong desire to serve the Lord and be a leader in youth ministry?

"I owe everything to my mom. I grew up Muslim and Adventist in South Africa."

Raihaan's mother, Naadiya, became a Seventh-day Adventist but had to keep it a secret because they lived with her Muslim in-laws. She took her two boys to church every Sabbath without their knowledge. About five years ago, his father, Mohammad, also desired to become an Adventist but feared for his family's safety if they were baptized amongst Muslim family and friends. To escape religious persecution, the Sheik family moved to Canada and were baptized peacefully in Hamilton, Ontario.

"We had a lot of joy and pain at the same time."

Holy Hands is a product of Raihaan's desire to unite the youth, serve the Lord and show other youth that being a Christian is not boring. It has also given the group an opportunity to study what the Bible has to say about music and develop Biblical guidelines

"I choreograph everything myself to make sure that it follows the guidelines. I make sure what we're doing is Christian-based and Adventist-based. At all times, we are glorifying God. We always start with prayer and devotions."

*Linda Wilkinson*



## Edmonton West

Heaven rejoices when a sinner comes to Christ. The members of Edmonton West SDA Church were also rejoicing on Sabbath, January 29<sup>th</sup> 2005 as two precious souls gave their lives to Jesus. **Xolani Ncube** joined the family of God through baptism. He has been



*Xolani Ncube baptized by Pastor Horrell*

attending the West Church for some time and was encouraged to make a decision for the Lord, by Elder Japheth Ndhlovu. Xolani began bible studies and accepted Jesus Christ as his personal saviour. **Joseph Muswizu**, a baptized member of a Seventh-day Adventist Church in Zimbabwe, came to Edmonton in 2003. He found the West Church in the yellow pages and began

attending there. He quickly made new friends and began to feel at home. Due to the time delays in transferring church membership from third world countries, Joseph decided to become a member of the West Church by profession of his faith in Jesus Christ. We welcome these two members to the worldwide family of God.



*Joseph Muswizu*

### Births

- Peter and Erica Odiobala  
Son, Chinaku born November 8<sup>th</sup> 2004
- Richard and Godeuce Hategekimana  
Daughter, Alice born November 24<sup>th</sup> 2004
- Emmanuel and Agathe Joseph  
Twins, daughter Elizabeth and son Ellis born December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2004
- Elroy and Alemenesh Dawkins  
Son, Caleb Shiferaw born January 26<sup>th</sup> 2005
- Colin and Linda Forde  
Daughter, Makayla Ciara born January 30<sup>th</sup> 2005

## Departmental Leader's Retreat

On Sabbath, January 8<sup>th</sup> 2004 the pastor, elders and department heads spent a day of visioning with Pastor Romulo Daquila, VP of Administration, Alberta Conference. Twenty-one individuals were in attendance. Pastor Horrell opened the session with devotion and outlined the purpose of the day. Pastor Daquila led the team process and facilitated discussions on topics such as: Communication, Mission/Purpose of the church and Church Growth. The leaders were challenged to think outside of the box and develop strategies to maximize the resources that God has blessed the church with.

This session set the stage for the departmental leaders to develop their strategic plan for Edmonton West. An action plan was put in place to address three key areas, which are: Evangelism, Church Growth and Youth Ministries. A special thank you to the coordinators who organized the retreat. Where two or three are gathered in His name, He is there to bless. We certainly were blessed spiritually as well as physically by the delicious potluck, compliments of all in attendance.



*Elder Daquila facilitates discussion*

*Sharon Long (Brown), Communication Secretary*



## Edmonton Spanish Church

February 19, 2005 was a special day in the Spanish community in Edmonton.

Under the capable leadership of Pastor Ramon Verduzco, another group of believers achieved company status—the Edmonton Maranatha Spanish Company. Elder Romy Daquila, VP for Conference Administration, is shown here presenting the list of charter members to the Church Clerk, Alejandro Morales.



## Fort McMurray

Fort McMurray welcomed three new members through Profession by Faith. They are Beth Alcid, Sheila Maningding, and Tanya Morrow. Beth has been attending church for 11 years, and for all she knew she wasn't a member of the church. Tanya comes from an Adventist family from Cuba, but was baptized in another church before attending Fort McMurray Church. Sheila has been attending the church for about two years now. All were previously baptized through immersion.

*Pastor Alan Delotavo*



*Pastor Delotavo welcomes Beth Alcid, Sheila Maningding and Tanya Morrow*

## January Creek Company

January Creek Company in Peers Alberta celebrated yet another baptism. On January 15 2005, Derrick Dubois, Alisa Paul and Jenna Paul were baptised by pastor Garry Rumble. These young people had special baptismal classes designed just for their age group. They studied for almost a year using the study guide "It's My Choice" and at the end of their studies they made the choice to dedicate their lives to God. January Creek members rejoice with these young people and pledge to uphold them with prayers and Godly counsel.

*Nerissa McNaughton, Communications Secretary*



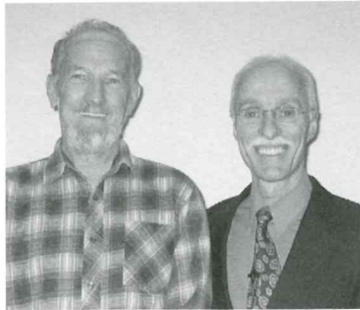
*Back Row l-r: Pastor Garry Rumble and Derrick Dubois; Front Row l-r: Jenna Paul and Alisa Paul*

*Having collected the riches of the universe, and laid open the resources of infinite power, He gives them all into the hands of Christ, and says, all these are for man. Use these gifts to convince him that there is no love greater than mine in earth or heaven. His greatest happiness will be found in loving me. DA 57*



## Lloydminster

The Lloydminster SDA church is pleased to welcome into fellowship by 'Profession of Faith' Rob Hayes on January 11, 2005. Rob has been a devoted Christian for most of his life. He was involved in raising up an entire church as a Pentecostal Christian. In May 2004 he attended the 'Revelation of Hope' seminar in Lloydminster conducted by Justis St. Hilaire and has been attending the Lloydminster SDA church since. He says that his entire Christian life has culminated in discovering the Three Angel's messages and God's remnant church. He brings into our fellowship much Christian experience and an intense love for the Lord.



*Pastor Darrell Beaudoin welcomes Rob Hayes*

*Pastor Darrell Beaudoin*

## Onoway

A Revelation Seminar was held in the Onoway Seventh-day Adventist Church November 5 to December 4, 2004 with Pastor Justis St. Hilaire. On December 5, 2004, eight people were added to the church.



*Back row l-r: Pastor Byron Aaserude, Brian Joch; Second row l-r: Donna Boschman, Michael Joch, Mathew Adams, Taylor Adams, Pastor Justis St. Hilaire; Front row l-r: Natalie Joch, Tristan Adams, Brandon Hertwig*

## Olds

### *Sabbath Blessing: A Family Affair*

On December 25, 2004 the Olds church experienced an unplanned for surprise. This being Christmas day the Lord provided a beautiful blessing which involved two individuals making their decisions to be baptized. Both Dave and Wendy Barnes attended the "Revelation of Hope and Healing Seminar," that was held at the Four Wings Theatre at the Cold Lake Air Force base in September and October of 2004 that was hosted by Pastor Darryl Beaudoin and the Bonnyville church. It was there that the couple heard the presentations by Pastor Justis St. Hilaire and made their decision to join the Seventh-day Adventist church by profession of faith.

Recently they travelled to Olds to visit with Pastor Justis to discuss the possibility of attending CUC. Pastor Justis and the couple travelled to

Lacombe to orient them with the grounds of CUC as well as spending the better part of the day together. On their return home, Wendy informed Pastor Justis that she felt that the Lord was inviting her to be re-baptized. Wendy was baptized in her previous church where her father is the Pastor in Ontario. However, it was at the meetings in Cold Lake that both Dave and Wendy were invited to consider being re-

baptized in light of their receiving new understanding from the Word of God.

On Sabbath morning Pastor Justis phoned the residence where they were staying and talked to Wendy's husband Dave and enquired about his possible conviction to be baptized with his wife and make it a family affair. Dave informed Pastor Justis that the Holy Spirit had impressed him that he needed to be re-baptized also. The experience was shared with the Olds fellowship on the December 25 Sabbath making it a very special day. We all rejoiced together at the Lord's leading in the experience of Dave and Wendy Barnes. The experience was also witnessed by their two beautiful children, Emersen and Abalea.

Dave and Wendy have already talked with their parents back in Ontario and are sharing with them the message of the Seventh-day Adventist church.

Plans are underway for Pastor Justis to meet with Dave's parents and Wendy's father who is a Pastor in Ontario when he attends the pastors meetings in January 2005. Please pray for their meeting together that God will bless both Wendy's and Dave's extended family to receive the message of the Seventh-day Adventist church. Then this truly would be, "**A family affair.**"

*Pastor Justis St. Hilaire*



*Pastor Justis and Roseann St. Hilaire, Wendy Barnes holding Emersen, Dave Barnes holding Abalea*



## Parkland Company

**E**vangelism pays and the rewards are eternal. Last year, Jason Gustaff, the Bible worker for Parkland Company (Spruce Grove) contacted Bob and Harriet Burnhan and left a Doug Batchelor video. When Jason returned to Australia, Louis and Joanne Balog followed up the contact, inviting them to our Vegetarian Club and leaving a health magazine with a Bible study card attached. The Burnhans mailed in the card and when Louis and Joanne visited



*Pastor Kevin Chung, Bob and Harriet Burnhan, Oliver Johnson*

them with the study guides, they discovered that the original video Jason had left was faulty and so Burnhans had never been able to watch it. Bible studies followed and in October lay pastor Oliver Johnson conducted Parkland's first evangelistic series, which the Burnhans attended faithfully. We understand Bob had an Adventist childhood, so parents, never give up! December 11th saw Bob and Harriet buried in the waters of baptism at the Edmonton West Church by Pastor Kevin Chung assisted by lay pastor Oliver Johnson. We welcome Bob and Harriet into the Adventist family, the first fruits of our ongoing evangelism efforts. Follow-up studies are currently taking place with several contacts and more baptisms are anticipated soon. We thank God for His bountiful blessings.

*Ngaere Gill, Communications Secretary*

## Red Deer

**S**abbath, February 26 was a very high day for the Red Deer church family with three "special" events taking place during the worship service.

An ordination of deacons saw three young men dedicated to serve the church family.

Richard and Heidi Williams brought their newly born son for dedication to the Lord, and to seek example and moral support from the congregation for this wee man as he grows up as part of the church family.

The high point of the day was the baptism of four precious members of our church family.

Emily Ledesema is from the Philippines. Her mother became an Adventist and started to send VOP Bible lessons to her. This started while Emily was working in Hong Kong. She moved to Red Deer and the lessons continued. She met Pauline Mireau who lives near her, started worshipping and studying with her, and made her decision to be baptized.

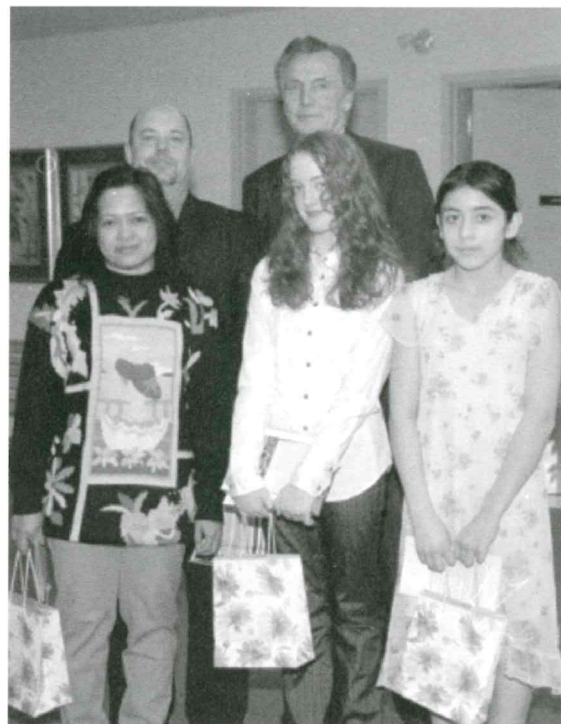
John Benson's grandfather was an Adventist, but John's parents were not. He has an uncle in the Arctic who called him every Sunday to tell him about the Sabbath day. This uncle is not a member, but believes in the Sabbath. The Spirit moved on John and he has made his commitment to the Lord in baptism.

Mariah Fawcett's mother was baptized a few years ago, but Mariah wanted to make her own decision. This she did with her friend Vanessa Benavides. These two girls love their Lord and made their testimony together.

## South Side Christian School Is Growing

Due to increased attendance and lack of space South Side Christian School has recently completed an addition to the school. S.S.C.S. now has a computer lab, library, and two new classrooms.

This building project has allowed the kindergarten class to move from a corner of the gym to their own classroom, and the computer lab to move from the church to the school.



*Back: John Benson, Pastor Ian Hartley  
Front: Emily Ledesema, Mariah Fawcett, Vanessa Benavides*

The addition is so well done that anyone who has not been in the school before asks where the addition is. Under the careful and capable guidance of Alfred Breitzkreuz, the project came together very quickly and efficiently. The Red Deer Church members have liberally supported the effort financially as well as time-wise.

Please feel free to visit our school and view the new addition. We would like to thank those who supported this worth-while endeavour.



## Sherwood Park

November 1, 2004 was the beginning of the Sherwood Park SDA Church's first Coronary Health Improvement Program under the direction of the Health Ministries Director, Mike Fushtey. The program concluded on December 6 with a CHIP potluck buffet, and graduation ceremony. Eleven non-chippers and one alumnus enrolled in the four-week program.

The heart screens showed exciting results for those participants who strictly adhered to the program. There

were many kilometres walked and pounds lost. CHIP food demos and samples were enjoyed three times a week. We want to thank all of the volunteers who committed their time and resources to make this, our first CHIP program, a success. We especially thank Dr. Christine Simpson for her direction and assistance. We look forward to another having another program in the fall of 2005.

*A. E. Fowler, Communications Secretary*



*Eleven CHIP graduates display their certificates*

## Vegreville

**From Pastor Felix Richter**



*A very active member, Mrs. Anne E. Samograd, regularly assists with summer VBS programs and a monthly Vegetarian Dinner Club. She makes many quilts which are donated to the local Emergency Unit and she also helps sort clothes in the Innisfree ADRA Center*



*Juanita Werezuk leading out in recreation, games and quiet time at VBS in summer 2004*



*Pastor Felix Richter introduces dad Dennis Serna holding Serena, mom Donna Serna, Grandma Emilie and Grandpa Steve Serna at Serena's dedication service*



## Brian Ford Trains Local Church Clerks on *eAdventist.NET*

Brian Ford, a native Albertan, computer programmer and creator of the new software ***eAdventist.NET*** for the North American Division Membership Ministries, provided hands-on training at the Century [Computer] Lab at Canadian University College in Lacombe on January 30. Thirty individuals made up of local church clerks, assistant church clerks, pastors and conference support staff, attended the seminar.

***eAdventist.NET*** is a secure web-based program that allows local church clerks to do online clerking. This program will enhance the work of the church clerks in keeping accurate records of church membership; members added through baptism, profession of faith, and transfers; members dropped by death, removed or transfer. This online method creates better membership record reconciliation across the North American Division.

For the many who could not attend this training seminar, personalized training sessions continue by Joyce Wasylyshen, Administrative Secretary for the Alberta Conference Secretariat, assisted by her NAD ***e-Adventist.NET*** coaches. Joyce provides support and training one-on-one, by e-mail or by phone to all local church clerks whether or not they are online. The Alberta Conference is considered one of the active conferences in the North American Division in this online membership ministry.

If your local church clerk has not yet signed up to work online, encourage him/her to do so. She can contact Joyce at 403-342-5044, ext. 208 or e-mail Joyce at [albertasda.org](mailto:albertasda.org).



*Hands-on training was an effective way to learn the web program*

## Teacher “Pow-Wow”

On Monday, February 7, 2004, ten teachers “pow-wowed” at the Alberta Conference Office Board Room to be in-serviced for learning how to integrate the new program for Native Studies into the elementary Social Studies curriculum. This workshop explored ways teachers could incorporate various activities into their study of Aboriginal culture. Curriculum connections were made in social studies, physical education, art, and language learning. The focus was on Aboriginal groups in Canada. Suzanne Bleaken and Terry Lakey, from Aboriginal Frontline Project in Red Deer, shared with the participants and the teachers took any samples made home. Thank you, Karen Schafer, for organizing this “pow-wow”.

*Janet Griffith, Asst. Superintendent of Education*



*Charissa Hawes, Carol van Gunten, and Violet Hannebury create innovative teaching aids*



*One-on-on tug of war between MANS teacher, Charissa Hawes, and Isaac Zayachkowski, Education Superintendent*

## 2005 Camp Meeting

July 22 - 30



# Miracle Playground for Mamawi Atosketan Native School

Christmas is a time for giving, a time for love and a time for miracles. This Christmas 2004 the students and staff at Mamawi Atosketan Native School were overwhelmed to experience the thrill and excitement of seeing a real Christmas miracle happen due to love and generosity of some very special people who were inspired by the Lord.



*Oh, the fun climbing, sliding and swinging!*

In January of 2003 we moved into our new school building just North of Ponoka, Alberta. It was beautiful and everyone was very thankful for what we had but it was lacking something that all children enjoy— a playground. We had applied for several grants that were rejected. However, there was one last grant on which we placed all our hopes even though we had to match the amount dollar-for-dollar. After many fervent prayers. God had other plans. We had plan B. God had plan A.

## A Miracle of Funds

The summer came and went with still no money and no playground for the near future. Another school year started and soon it would be too late to order a playground for this year. We would have to wait until spring. We faced another school year and nowhere for our students to play. Then it happened! The Lord impressed two dedicated Alberta

couples to donate the money needed for both the playground equipment and the installation. The first miracle donation was for \$50,000 for the equipment followed very shortly by a second miracle donation of \$11,000 for the installation. We had our answer to prayer. Unfortunately we were getting into the fall season and not many companies would guarantee installation due to oncoming winter weather conditions. We were concerned but ordered our playground anyway, once again counting on God's grace to provide the weather conditions since He had provided the funds. Eight weeks later the playground arrived. It was now November 23! The company we were working with did not want to be out in cold November weather installing the playground even though they thought it would not be a problem when we ordered. We voiced our concerns and requested they do



*Julie Hodder-Bancarz  
Principal of  
MANS*

the installation. While we waited for a final decision we prayed without ceasing. On November 29 the call came. It was brief and to the point. "We'll start installation tomorrow but understand that if the weather gets cold we'll have to stop half way through and continue in the spring. Do you want to take that risk?"

It was a tough call. On



*MANS children help cut the ribbon on opening day*



*The MANS children are excited!*

one hand we needed that playground but on the other hand we did not want to have to keep 150 students off an



unfinished playground for 5 months.

My thought process was quick and fleeting. The facts were reviewed. 1. God gave us the money at the last possible minute. 2. God got the equipment here on time. 3. For the month of November the weather, so far, had been nice (maybe not ideal for installing a playground but great for November) and 4. after the company saying "No we won't install it", and now they were saying, "Yes, we will install it BUT...." That was good enough, the decision was made. DO IT! However, we would need a little more faith to get the job done.

## The Miracle of Weather

On Tuesday, November 30, the day of installation the temperature was plus 5 degrees. The weather continued in the plus range all week and on the last day of installation it jumped to a whopping plus 10 degrees!! It was now December 3 and the temperature was plus 10... we couldn't believe it!! God was continuing the miracle. The equipment was installed, the cement was poured, and we waited for it to set. The last step would be to spread the gravel.

The week of installation was a complete loss for schoolwork, especially on the south side of the building. The students were out of their seats every couple of minutes to check on the progress and see what was new, what had changed and how many more boxes there were to unload and set up. We couldn't really blame them since the staff was almost as bad. With noses pressed against the windows the students kept a close eye on everything going on and quickly relayed information to teachers and other students. Excitement and energy was so high they could not sit still.

At the end of the week, the installation was complete. Everyone was "flying high!!!" All precautions were taken for the upcoming cold and that night it dropped to minus 24 degrees. The bare hands outdoor equipment installation was done just in time!

However, the upcoming cold was not a good sign for a man to be out in an open caged Bobcat the following week to level the playground gravel. That would not happen as long as the forecast remained what it was- all in the minus double digits, not to mention the wind chill!! Tuesday morning, December 7, dawned cold, very cold, a minus 18 degrees. Not a problem for that day since the gravel was only being dumped. It was Friday that would cause the problems. On Tuesday and Wednesday, 260 tons of gravel were dumped but both days were too cold for the Bobcat driver to be out. Thursday was not much better and surprise, surprise Friday, December 10 turned out to be plus 5! The Bobcat and driver went to work and leveled what he could while 10 junior high students and the principal shoveled and raked to level everything they could. Several other teachers joined as time allowed and by the end of the day, about an hour before the sun set, the playground was completed!! With the sun slowly setting behind the sliding hill the lengthening shadows of playground poles were absolutely stunning.

On Monday morning, December 13, the students made a beeline for the playground. Have you ever seen disturbed ants scatter? That was the scene as the children were

released for recess. Every teacher was awed by the benefits of the playground. What a difference it made for supervision. Students were where they were supposed to be, and there was plenty of smiles and laughing and giggling just like a recess is supposed to be. The kids were being just that... kids! It was a very wonderful and rewarding sight for the staff to behold and so with gratitude from the bottom of our hearts, we at Mamawi Atosketan Native School send out a great big THANK YOU to our major donors and to everyone who had a part in making this project a reality.

**Praise the Lord!**

*Julie Hodder-Bancarz, Principal of MANS*

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## Holiday Train Visits Central Alberta

For the sixth year, the Canadian Pacific Railway's Holiday Train took to the rails to raise cash, food and awareness for hunger relief efforts in North America. Several stops were made in Central Alberta on December 14 and 15, 2004. Those who dropped by at each stop were invited to bring along a non-perishable food item or a cash donation – all of which stayed in the community in which it was donated.

Each train is about 1,000 feet in length, including the modified boxcar turned into a stage for the performers. The train is decorated with about 10,000 Christmas lights.

CPR also donates more than \$225,000 to local food banks in addition to the food and money collected. Since its beginning in 1999, the program has brought in some 213 tonnes of food and more than \$1.5 million for food banks across North America.

Check your local newspapers in December to see when the 2005 CPR Holiday Train comes to your town so you can help make a difference in your community.

*(selected from the Adviser)*



*Holiday Train - CPR representative presents a cheque to Lacombe Food Bank representatives, Pastor Honey Todd and Noemi Hockey*



## New DVD for the Deaf

A new DVD in Sign Language for the Deaf has been prepared by the Deaf Ministry Dept. of the Alberta Conference. It is called: "Our World - A Theater in



*Esther Doss signs for the DVD*

God's Universe." The new two-hour DVD covers the complete story of the plan of salvation from the beginning to ending of sin. Over 200 of the best paintings from *IWW* and the *Review* illustrate the chronological presentation of the story of the Great Controversy. The DVD is all signed and

planned especially for Deaf, but contains a voice track for Hearing. Professional production was done by Edgemont Video of Arkansas. You may wish to purchase as a gift for a deaf friend or neighbour.

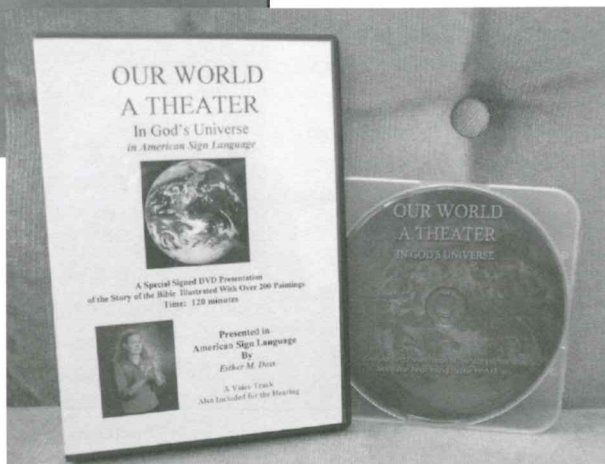
Esther Doss whose parents are deaf signs the DVD. Pastor and Mrs. John Blake wrote it. Three deaf SDA pastors then went through the script giving comments and suggestions. One, Elder Arthur Griffith, did extensive work in editing making it in easier English and making it easier to sign. The DVD has now been approved for sponsorship by the Review & Herald in the ABC's across North America.

And yes, the production of the DVD is very similar to the original "Earth Theater of the Universe" large book promoted some years ago by Elder Vandeman of It Is Written. However, this is a completely new production utilizing about 200 of the best Biblical paintings in our denomination.

At the moment the DVD is only available through Pastor Blake, Director of the Alberta Conference Deaf Ministry Department. For information on prices and to order, contact:

[office@deafhope.org](mailto:office@deafhope.org). You may see more details at: [www.deafhope.org/DVD.htm](http://www.deafhope.org/DVD.htm)

*Pastor John Blake*



*The two ways the new DVD is available – regular DVD case or in plain poly holder*



## New Addition to the Williams Family

Richard Williams, Alberta Conference Youth Director, and his wife Heidi, became the proudest parents of a baby boy, Daniel Richard, born February 1, weighing 7 lbs. 2 oz.

*Richard, Heidi and baby Danny*



## SDACC Retirement Office Searches for Plan Members

The Retirement Department of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada is looking for the following Plan members. If you have information as to their whereabouts, please contact Marilyn Pazitka or Charisma

Hodgins at

SDA Church Retirement Plan

1148 King Street East

Oshawa ON L1H 1H8

(905) 433-0011

Debbie Schoening	Kojo Akabua
Barry Wecker	Diana Alers
Lana Taylor	Ernesto Alers Martir
Oran Davis	Rene Ammundsen
Lester Lorensen	Ronald Ammundsen
Robert Rabello	Randolph Burak
Virginia Roper	Susan Morrison
Shaun Pichoskie	Beverly Cameron
Shelley Hey	Clement Duval
Danielle Nieva	Daniel Froese
Karl Jorgensen	Gail Froese
Peter Lenhardt	Lorna Samraj
Allan Ross	Daryl Hanson
Chris Kinman	Beverly Penner
Leslie York	Jepsser Hidalgo
John Hoehn	Wendell Buck
Shannon Coppock	Camerson Beierle
Linda Traversy	Carl Armstrong
Edo Heisterkamp	Robert Bowmaster
Leif Lind	Carson Burton
Shari Henry	Blaine McGivery
Gillian Liebrandt	Albert Mullins
Esther LeMaire	Van Truong
Gaspar Randael	Joan Young
Douglas Harter	Darwin Graham
William Moore	Farrell Hall
Roberto Aguilar	Maralee Allen
Horace Alexander	Douglas Scott

## Obituary

**Ruby Befus** Born November 1, 1917 in Winnifred, AB. Died January 30, 2005 in Killam. Surviving: Son Elwyn (Maddie) Befus, Armstrong, BC; daughters Virginia (Phil) Meyer, Olympia, WA, Connie (Dennis) Zbaraschuk, Prince Albert, SK; Georgia (LeRoy) Hirschhorn of Sedgewick; 16 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Predeceased by husband, Alexander, father, mother and four brothers. Ruby was a faithful member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church all her life.

## Alberta Conference Holds Regional Town Hall Meetings

The Officers and Departmental Directors of the Alberta Conference began a circuit of regional Town Hall meetings in each of the six regions within Alberta. The purpose of these meetings is to present 2004 reports and projections for 2005 and to present the 2005 budget of operation as required by the Conference Bylaws.

Town Hall meetings also provide opportunity for members and church leaders to express their ideas and make suggestions on how the goals and objectives of the conference can be successfully carried forward.

Town Hall meetings provide the opportunity for members and church leaders to address issues and concerns in their specific region.

Although these meetings were not well attended, those who were present expressed their appreciation and suggested that these meetings be done at least once a year.

*Romulo Daquila, VP for Administration*



*NW Region Town Hall held in Grande Prairie, February 13*



## Dateline

### March

- 18-19 Calgary Youth Rally  
Chinook Winds Adventist Academy
- 19 Central Region Town Hall  
College Heights Church, 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Conference Executive Committee  
Red Deer
- 24-28 ACTS for Christ Youth Conference  
Canadian University College
- 28 Easter Monday (office closed)

### April

- 1-3 Empowered Living Seminar  
Sylvan Lake Church
- 3 Daylight Saving Time begins
- 9 Staff / ADCOM meetings
- 9 Prayer Gathering at Legislature  
Building, April 9, 11:00 a.m.
- 16 Education Sabbath
- 17 Conference Executive Committee  
Red Deer
- 20 ADCOM
- 22-24 CUC Graduation / Board
- 24 K-12 Board
- 27-May 1 ADRA Symposium, Foothills Camp

### May

- 4 Staff / ADCOM meetings
- 13-15 Adventurer's Camp Out  
Foothills Camp
- 20-23 Pathfinder Camp Out, Foothills Camp
- 23 Victoria Day (office closed)
- 27-29 Family Health Workshop, Calgary
- 29-June 1 Grades 5/6 Outdoor School  
Foothills Camp
- 30 *Alberta Adventist News* deadline

### June

- 1 Staff & VMC Quarterly meeting /  
ADCOM
- 3-5 CUC / PAA Alumni Homecoming
- 3-5 Native Camp Meeting, Foothills Camp
- 4-6 SDACC Board
- 12 Financial / Statistical Review  
Committee & EXCOM, Red Deer
- 15 ADCOM
- 26-July 3 Foothills Camp Staff Orientation week
- 29-July 9 General Conference Session, Missouri

# FOOTHILLS

## Summer Camp for Kids!

### Camp Calendar 2005

Camp	Dates	Ages	Cost
Blind Camp	July 3-10	All Ages	Free
Adventure Camp	July 10-15	6-9	\$230
Sherwood Forest 1	July 10-17	9-11	\$265
Horsemanship Camp	July 17-21	13-17	\$265
Waterski Camp	July 17-21	13-17	\$265
Junior Camp 1	July 31-Aug 7	10-12	\$240
Sherwood Forest II	July 31-Aug 7	10-12	\$265
Junior Camp II	Aug 7-14	10-12	\$240
Sherwood Forest III	Aug. 7-14	10-12	\$265
Teen Camp	Aug 14-21	13-17	\$240

### Camp Gear

Bronze \$22	Silver \$30	Gold \$55
• Camp 2005 T-shirt	• Camp 2005 T-Shirt	• Camp 2005 T-shirt
• Camp 2005 Video	• Camp 2005 Video	• Camp 2005 Video
	• Photo CD	• Photo CD
		• Camp Sweatshirt

Foothills Camp, 37541 Hwy 2  
Red Deer County, AB T4E 1B1  
Toll Free: 1-877-228-1175  
Local: (403) 342-5044 ext. 210

[www.foothillscamp.org](http://www.foothillscamp.org)