

Alberta Conference Adventist News

A window of information for Seventh-day Adventists in Alberta

*Christmas Greetings
from the President*

A Year To Remember

It was but a day after last Christmas (2004) that an earthquake shook southern Asia with a resulting tsunami that caused massive destruction and took many lives. This



horrendous calamity has been followed by other earthquakes including a major one in Kashmir/northern Pakistan which

has taken thousands of lives. In addition to earthquakes, this year has given us hurricane Katrina, hurricane Wilma, threat of a bird flu pandemic, increased loss of life and suffering from HIV/Aids and even the shooting death of a young man on the very steps of one of our churches. Coupled with these terrible disasters many parts of the world are having family and home life disrupted due to war such as in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Sudan to name but a few world "hot" spots. This Christmas there will be many without a home or complete family circle in which to enjoy shelter and the comforts of family life. How easy it is for us to read or see the news accounts of such calamities and not really pause to sense the human suffering that such events can cause. After all, it has not happened to us and we are quite comfortable here in our part of the world. We almost feel immune as though such terrible things could not happen to us.

The reality of this past year's tragedies is that many are experiencing

gross suffering, are without homes and many of the necessities of life, have lost parents and children and will not be enjoying the family circle. For these people, the angels' song to the shepherds some two thousand years ago which proclaimed "peace on earth, good will toward men" may seem to be but a dream they will never experience.

I want to take this opportunity to wish each one of you, who comprise the constituency of the Alberta Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, a very happy Christmas and God's continued blessings in the New Year ahead. May your Christmas be warm with the love of family and friends and may you find yourself responding to a God of love who is still in control of the universe.

However, I do not want to just wish you a happy Christmas and leave it at that. Indeed, I do sincerely hope that you will have a comfortable and happy Christmas but I also want to challenge you to think outside of your own personal comforts this Christmas season and remember those who are suffering because of tragedies beyond their control. As you consider gifts for your friends and family could it be that you will want to gift something for someone who has a real need, someone who does not have a home, or someone who does not have a mother or father? I surely hope so. It was Jesus who said, in talking about meeting the needs of the suffering, "In as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." What will we be doing for Him this Christmas?

William Olson

*May your holiday season be
Joyful, Peaceful and Bright
and filled with the love of that
first Holy Night.*

DATELINE

Dec 21	ADCOM Meeting, 1:30pm
22-Jan 2	CHRISTMAS BREAK (office closed)
Jan 3	Office reopens
4	Staff & ADCOM Meetings
18	ADCOM Meeting, 1:30pm
22-24	Camp Staff Interviews
27-29	Ryley Winter Festival
29-31	PASTOR'S MEETING
Feb 1	Staff & ADCOM Meetings
3-5	CUC / PAA Board
13	Alberta Adventist News deadline
15	ADCOM Meeting, 1:30pm
17-19	Singles' Retreat, Foothills Camp
19	NW Region Town Hall, 10:00am
20	FAMILY DAY (office closed)
24-26	Pathfinder Retreat, Foothills Camp
26	Conference Executive Committee, 9:30am, Red Deer

AMEN Ministries to Belize Update	2
E-Adventist.net Update	3
Heritage Book	4
Local Church News	5
In Memory	12

Alberta Conference Executive Committee

William Olson	President
Romulo Daquila	Vice President for Administration
Carolyn Osmond	Vice President for Finance
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Randy Barber	Elaine Sankey
Glen Brown	Justis St. Hilaire
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Gloria Diwa	Ken Taylor
Victor Fitch	Richard Thorp
Mervis Higgins	Adrian Trenchuk
Ed Knox	Linda Weich

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Alberta Adventist News

Marlene Holdal Editor
Ruth Proud Layout

AMEN Ministries to Belize Update

Since we last reported to you, several things have happened at our mission project in Valley of Peace, Belize.

In early August 2005, while a presentation was being made at Foothills Camp Meeting, a lady asked if she was allowed to go on a men's mission project. After being assured

that she could, she then said that she was ready to go immediately. Now, some might think that she was being a little hasty, but AMEN Ministries had been praying for some time that someone would come forward and offer to manage our new mission. After a short interview, we felt Rhonda McFarland was an answer to our prayers.

Rhonda's timing in responding to our need was miraculous in another way. AMEN Ministries were already heading down to Valley of Peace to unload a container that had been sent down a month earlier, no special arrangements needed to be made to ferry her to the mission field. An extra ticket was purchased and she joined two Alberta men on her new mission in life!

"Sister Rhonda," as she is now known at the mission station, believes that this is a "dream come true." With her new, vibrant Christian experience she has embraced this new opportunity with unbelievable ease and fervor. When she arrived at the new teacherage that we built in March 2005, she almost broke into tears. She felt like she was being treated like a queen. Sister Rhonda had little time to acclimatize, as the container arrived about 30 minutes before we did and it had to be unloaded and the goods dispensed. The people of the Valley of Peace couldn't believe so many items could be packed so tightly in the container. The student and teacher desks, bedroom, living and dining room furniture, books, clothes, school equipment and supplies have

added so much flavor and purpose to our infant mission. Sister Rhonda was elated with the dressed up classroom, new living quarters and furniture, and excited villagers! As we parted on August 12, we were confident God had brought us all together for "such a time as this."

Since then, another milestone has happened at our school project in Valley of Peace. Our computers, donated by CUC, are now connected to satellite internet which brought a new heightened awareness of the potential of our new high school in Valley of Peace. Students and adults alike come to use the facility and pay either in cash, work, or goods (veggies and fruit). Sister Rhonda is overwhelmed with local generosity.

A second container was shipped to Valley of Peace on September 26 and AMEN Ministries went there to meet it when it arrived on November 11 – more desks, clothes, furniture, computers, and other supplies. These items have preceded our next building program which starts in early 2006.

After this latest trip to Valley of Peace November 3-12, 2005, our greatest need is just about to happen. Our current building site and buildings will be inspected by the end of November 2006, and final approval for licensing will follow shortly after that. We certainly do not want to keep building without approval, but with village council on side and a new energetic relationship with the local Continued on page 3



Container #1 filled with building materials for two classroom buildings that will be built Jan/Feb 2006. Look at the "plywood."



On left, Rhonda McFarland, our mission site coordinator, and Judy Kemp discuss the pros and cons of life in the Valley of Peace. This is Rhonda's "living quarters."

First Spanish Camp Meeting

Edmonton Spanish, Maranatha Company, Red Deer and Calgary Spanish

The Spanish Adventist churches in the Alberta Conference held their first annual camp meeting at Foothills Camp on October 21-23, 2005. The theme for the weekend was strengthening the family. Dr. Neftali Miranda, from Montemorelos University and a specialist in family psychology, was the guest speaker. More than 200 people enjoyed the wonderful weather and fellowship during our time together.

The message for the weekend challenged the families to unite in Christ as we are living in a difficult world. In addition to the spiritual banquet, we enjoyed getting to know our brothers and sisters from other churches represented there. Activities included a meeting Sabbath afternoon with a mini-concert where all the churches participated, a family drama by the youth of Edmonton Spanish, nature walks and games for the youth on Saturday night. The Spanish church is growing in Alberta – please continue praying for us as we keep working to reach our mission in this Conference.

Pastor Ramon Verduzco

Continued from page 2

MLA, our dream is almost a reality.

Many believe that God would have stopped this whole project before this had it not been His will. Blessings to all those who have believed like us, given, and supported so that many can see and experience God's love in action.

Brian Townsend, AMEN Ministries

E-ADVENTIST.NET UPDATE

Ten new churches are now online with eAdventist.net – making a total of 43 churches in the Alberta Conference who are able to transfer members, accept new members, record and report new baptisms, have access to monthly, quarterly or yearly reports, and other church clerk records with a few simple mouse clicks. At present more than two-thirds of the churches in the Alberta Conference are online.

Recently, this was made possible through another training session held at the Coralwood Adventist Academy on Sunday, November 6, 2005, in their fully equipped computer room. Clerks from churches in the Edmonton area, as far north as Morning Star in the Northwest region, and as far east as Lloydminster in the Northeast region of the Alberta Conference were present for the eAdventist.net internet membership ministry training.

Joyce Wasylyshen, Administrative Assistant at the Alberta Conference, provided the training to the clerks. All those who participated were connected to the internet and given step-by-step, hands-on training, demonstrated via video projection. A time for questions and answers made the learning process more exciting and enjoyable.

Plans are underway to offer the same training in the different region so that all the churches will be online.

Pastor Romulo Daquila, VP for Administration

MEN'S CONVENTION

DON'T FORGET!

March 31 – April 2, 2006
Foothills Camp
Dan Augsburg, Presenter

AMEN Ministries Highlights in Valley of Peace in 2005

March	First school building built
April	Emergency trip – latrine and teacherage completed
August	First container unloaded – first missionary arrives
September	Internet arrives via satellite
November	Second container unloaded

2006 Schedule

January 17-31	Second school building
February 8-22	Third school building
March 8-22	Fourth new workshop container

There are still some openings for volunteers to join us so if you would like to go, call Irma at the Conference Office (403-342-5044, ext. 210).

CANADIAN ADVENTIST MESSENGER – Are You Getting It?

If you are a church member living in Alberta but are not receiving the *Canadian Adventist Messenger*, please request it through your local church clerk. With a subscription to the *Messenger*, you will automatically receive a once-a-month edition of the *Adventist Review*.



Coralwood Academy provided excellent facilities for teaching and learning

Training for Pastor John Wesley (left) and clerk, Edith Kiehlbauch, from Edmonton Central church





Together for 65 Happy Years!

On November 17, 2005, Mable and Bill Wigley celebrated 65 years of marriage. To honor this occasion there was a family reunion campout July 28-August 1, 2005 near Innisfail. There are five children, 16 grandchildren and 35 great-grandchildren in the Wigley



Wigley children standing behind Gram and Papa: (l-r) Bunny, Roy, Joy, Bill Jr., and Star

family. Although not everyone could be there, 70 of a possible 74 attended for at least part of the weekend. Various outdoor activities, including a visit to the Discovery Wildlife Park at Innisfail, gave much opportunity for visiting among the family members. An anniversary supper on Sunday evening concluded the weekend celebration as the family reminisced about times spent with "Gram and Papa."

Deaf Retreat

Nov. 4-6, 2005, was a special weekend for the deaf at their annual retreat held at the Watson Lodge Complex in Kananaskis Country. Thirteen adults and one young girl were all blessed through fellowship, recreation and spiritual inspiration in a beautiful environment and excellent facility.

Pastor John Blake



On Sabbath morning, Farrah Gooding from Toronto taught the Sabbath School lesson. Farrah had spent about 48 hours on the bus coming from Toronto to Calgary to attend. Farrah gave a report of Deaf Reach 2005 and Deaf work in Toronto

Wendy Patterson is telling an excellent heart-warming story! Wendy was just baptized in April 2005 at the IIW Calgary meetings

Alberta Conference

HERITAGE BOOK

Thank you to all who responded to the last newsletter request for information about the lost churches. Information and pictures are still needed for other early churches, companies and SS groups:

1930-1935	Bassano
1915	Calkins SS
1910-15	Clive
1950	Condor Company
1921-1933	Donalda
1912-1933	Hawkesdale
1923	Hamlin Romanian
	Hinton
1920-1944	Hilda
1915-1929	Irvine
1910-1915	Lewisville
1930-1933	Olive
1915	Retlaw SS
1903-1907	Rush Lake (Tees)
1908	Sullivan Lake (Coronation)
	Taber
1921	Travers
1910	Winnifred

Also need more information and pictures on these Adventist pioneers:

- George W. Sowler, Adventist Colporteur who came to Calgary area in 1895
- Henry R. Block, first Adventist pastor in Alberta, came to Leduc around 1898
- J. W. Boynton, first mission superintendent who came to Ponoka in 1901
- Stella B Lowry, Ponoka, who was Sec-Treasurer of the tract society, mission, then conference for 1903-?
- Dr. Menzel and family, Stony Plain, first convert c1898.

Also, for those churches that haven't yet responded to email requests for specific information—please have that in by the end of December 2005.

Respond to:

Corrine Vanderwerff, Alberta Adventist Heritage Book
Box 57214, 2020 Sherwood Drive
Sherwood Park, AB T8A 5L7
Tel: 780-417-6481 or 780-721-7951
Email: heritagebook@telus.net

Brooks

Update

The October 2005 issue of the *Alberta Adventist News* had a feature on the Medicine Hat and Brooks District, specifically telling us of the exciting events that are transpiring and how God is leading in the church planting in Brooks. You will recall mention of the possible donation of a house of worship for the newly forming group—donated by the city of Brooks. God is truly working in an amazing way in the development of an established church there.

Here are a few pictures in reference to that article:



A partial view of the sanctuary of the church being donated (furniture, pews, sound system, organ, hymnals books, etc. included)



Marcia Nahorney, a marriage therapist, was chosen as the leader of the Brooks church plant

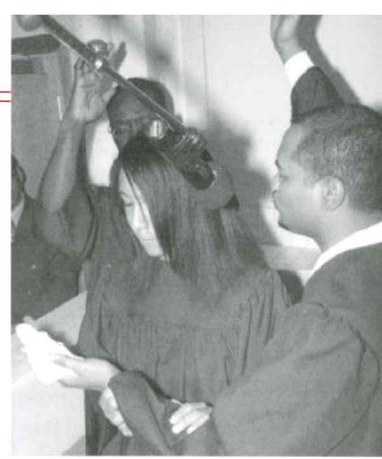
Calgary Garden Road

The Garden Road Seventh-day Adventist Church's youth department is setting the stage for great things. The A.Y.M. (Adventist Youth Ministries) department hosts their youth extravaganza weekend every third weekend of each month. The weekend starts with a Friday night vespers and continue through the Sabbath hours; all led by the youths of the church. Pastor Baldeo emphasized, "It is the intention of the pastoral staff here at Garden Road Seventh-day Adventist to motivate, elevate, and integrate our youth in the worship service."

The church has a number of energized youth whom the AYM plans to channel into ministry for God. Every Saturday night there is also volleyball, basketball and table games that attract many non-Adventist youth to the church.

On Sabbath, November 19, 2005 there was a baptism for a young lady by the name of Paula Higgins. She has been struggling with the thought of baptism for a long time but has finally given it all to the Man Christ Jesus.

The Garden Road church welcomes all youth to join us in worship every Sabbath afternoon for AYM meetings and every third weekend for their youth extravaganza.



Pastor Baldeo, Associate Pastor, is baptizing Paula Higgins as Senior Pastor, Ishmael Ali, looks on. Practicum student, Ian Bramble, accompanied Pastor Baldeo in the baptistry

Camrose

On Saturday, July 16, Pastor Bob Burke had the pleasure of baptizing Dwayne Wilton Jr. and Jason Wilton at the First Baptist Church in Camrose – the same church where their parents were baptized years ago. Many relatives and members attended as well as friends from Sedgewick who knew the family from a recent mission trip to Mexico. Although they were already studying towards baptism prior to the mission trip, their involvement in the trip and fellowship with other Christian youth helped strengthen their commitment, and resolve to make a difference as Christians in a world that needs Christ. Dwayne and Jason have always been a great asset in the Camrose church - always willingly

assisting wherever needed, and it was with much rejoicing that the Camrose church family accepted them into membership.

Ruth Burke, Communications Secretary



Dwayne Wilton, Jr.



Jason Wilton

Edmonton Millwoods Company

The past several weeks have been busy for the Mill Woods Company—our first ever Youth Day was October 29 with the theme “United We Stand, In Christ.” This Sabbath allowed our youth to stretch their wings as they led out in the adult Sabbath School classes and presented special music. We were also blessed as Ben, Cameron, Nicholas and Sam presented four insightful sermonettes. Our Community Guest

Day, with Pastor Potgieter as speaker, was held the following week. The next Sabbath was another first for our company – Women’s Ministries Day, November 12, with Eunice Reid

presenting the message “God’s Possibility Partners.” A special fellowship lunch and affirmation time, a concert with Gina Williams in the evening, and a slumber party followed

by a Fellowship Breakfast were truly blessings for all that were present. We are also thankful that our community outreach is expanding, as we will be starting a monthly Soup Kitchen on November 27. All praise is due to God Almighty for His



The ladies group renders musical praise on Women’s Ministries Day

continued leading and the many blessings in our church family.

Edmonton West

Precious Gems Shine for Jesus

The children are alive and well at Edmonton West. Here is a bit of what they have been up to this past summer.

All roads led to the community and Precious Gems, the Edmonton West church children’s choir directed by Colleen Ellis and assisted by Dorothy Vernon. This 51-voice choir has been busy this year with engagements in the church as well as in the community. The French girls sang at the Kid’s Kottage Foundation gala event and Precious Gems blessed the hearts of many as they ministered in song at the One Accord Church annual spring concert. Also in June, the Langley and French children were the guest entertainers at the Kid’s Kottage Foundation Annual General Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation night. The rich talents of our children intrigued the audience and two-year-old Angela French stole the show!

“Wild About God”

Carolyn French took the children on a voyage this summer for one week. Forty-seven children attended our “Serengeti Trek: Where Kids Are Wild About God” VBS (August 8-12). Three children came from Wetaskiwin and eleven of the total attendees were non-Adventists. What a wonderful outreach opportunity VBS provides! Children not only asked that we do VBS again next year, but some also wanted to know why we couldn’t continue for another

week. They were so into the activities and learning about God.

Mrs. French says, “As VBS director I really enjoyed getting to know the children better and seeing them so excited about getting ‘Wild About God.’ The whole experience was so successful I hope the church will be able to do ‘Fiesta: Where Kids Are Fired Up About Jesus’ next year.”



Kurt Thomas preaches on Children’s Day

Our Young People Have a Lot to Say

Sabbath September 17th was Children’s Day at Edmonton West. Eleven-year old Stephanie French and 15-year old Kurt Thomas reminded us during the church service that they are not too small to do great things for the Lord. They challenged us to get them involved rather than get them out of the way. Young people need to us to listen to them. After all, where else can they get the training that they need to assume responsibilities in the

church? They are indeed our future, so let us train them up today.

Youth Quake ’05 – Tremors of Truth

In the wake of Hurricane Rita, some residents in Edmonton felt tremors, which they claim started on October 21, 2005. A “Spiritual Quake” hit the west end of the city and caught the attention of all. Pastor Daniel

Saugh, a dynamic young preacher from Mississauga, Ontario, led the youth on a two-week journey that changed their lives forever. Some of the topics presented were: "Tremors of Truth: The End is Near Again;" "What's the Catch: What Left Behind Left Behind;" "Back 2 D Future;" "The Economy of Living: Get Rich or Die Tryin."

In addition to the thought provoking messages, the youth engaged in rap sessions, meals and social activities with Pastor Daniel. It was wonderful to see our young people so excited about the Lord. One of the attendees, a non-Adventist, saw a poster advertising the session, on a billboard. Although it caught her attention she did not attend the meetings initially. The Holy Spirit did His work and a few days later, the young lady went back to look for the poster but could not find it. She frantically ripped off the new ads and found the one she was looking for. That night she attended the service at the church and was well received by her peers. Pray that this young Aboriginal woman who found her way to the church, will find her way to God.

Furthermore, 15 youth (including two adults) took a stand for Christ as a result of the Quake;" however, some were not quite ready at the time for baptism. The session climaxed with the baptism of two pre-teens and one youth. Stephanie French, age 11, stated that she decided to get baptized "to get closer to Christ." Shayla

Long-Boyd, also age 11, shared the following statement from the baptismal pool: "I think it is time for me to dedicate my heart to God so that He can use me to do good things." Seventeen-year old Wayne Thomas Jr., fondly known as TJ, decided to take a public stand for God. TJ said, "I knew it was time and did not want to miss out."



Youth group on the last evening of Youth Quake 05



Baptism day for (l-r) Wayne Thomas, Jr., Shayla Long-Boyd and Stephanie French

In his parting message to the congregation at Edmonton West, Pastor Daniel left us with "More." He referenced the fact that we want to super-size everything these days but reminded us that God is calling us to super-size our faith. Pastor Daniel emphasized to the young

people that absolutely nothing can separate them from the love of God – no problem, relationship, money, hard times. Nothing!

Pastor Daniel summed up his experience, "It was wonderful, dynamic and explosive." The highlight for him was seeing the young people get excited about Jesus and catching the fire. Here is what some of the youth had to say about their "Quake" experience: "I loved it. It brought out something in me and now I am on fire for God;"

"Excellent. It opened me up to new things that I did not know I could do. It took me out of my comfort zone;" "The tremors shook me up. It made me look at the Bible and God from a different perspective – one of God loving me, with an everlasting love. He is coming soon."

Sharon Long (Brown), Communication Secretary

Fairview

On October 31, 2005 the Fairview Ministerial Association presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Frances Edgson at the annual Harvest Festival for her work



Beautiful quilt, Frances!

at the Fairview Seventh-day Adventist Church's Community Clothing Center. For 15 years Frances has led the group of ladies who work at the Clothing Center, a ministry that helps about 80 people a year find clothes and other donated items. Frances and her team also package about 160 boxes of excess garments a year which are shipped overseas by ADRA. In addition to this, Frances makes four to five quilts a year that she donates to fire victims, the Ronald McDonald House, charity auctions, and to be shipped overseas. By looking at her energy level you'd never guess that she's in her mid-eighties. When asked about her work, Frances says she simply views it in light of Jesus statement in Matthew 25:36, "I was naked, and you clothed me." The example of her commitment to ministry is a blessing not only to the Fairview Adventist Church but to the community as well.

Pastor David Hamstra

Local Church News

January Creek Company

Another Decision Leads to Baptism

Christopher Dubois approached his Sabbath school teacher earlier in the year and said he wanted to be baptized. There was great rejoicing in his Sabbath School class when he made this decision. Christopher studied the "My Choice" baptismal guides and on August 27, 2005 Christopher was baptized by Pastor Garry Rumble. Christopher joins his brother who was baptized in January and his mother who was baptized in October 2004. This family is truly dedicating their lives to do God's will.

Baby Dedication

In July 2005, Rayne Henry Rowley, son of Shane and Theresa Rowley and first grandchild for Henry and Delores Fletcher, was dedicated to God. Rayne had the unique opportunity of being dedicated by his grandfather Henry Fletcher. Pastor Rumble and two elders assisted with this special ceremony.

Evangelism is Alive and Well

Our little church is carrying out a video-lending ministry. We purchased many videos from Amazing Discoveries – all of Professor Veith's videos on health, evolution and creation, and the Revelation studies and many Doug Batchelor videos and other health lectures. The members have been busy viewing, lending and sharing the messages in these videos. Amazing conversions are taking place as people view these videos, especially the Walter Veith lectures. These videos are shared far and wide, in the community, with co-workers, and even visiting family members. One family member visiting from another country viewed some of the videos, made instant changes in his life, purchased some of the videos from Amazing Discoveries and is now sharing them with people in his own country. More decisions for Christ are expected as a result of this ministry.

On October 23, 2005 January Creek held a multi-family garage sale to raise money for ADRA, specifically for the Katrina and Pakistan disasters. A wonderful turnout from the community helped raise over \$500 for this project.

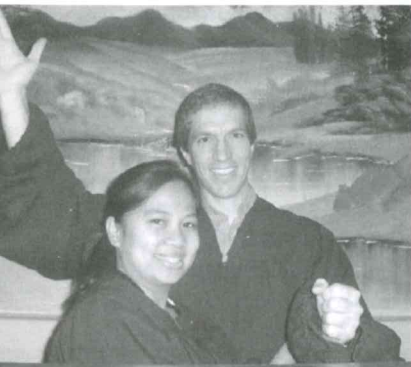
January Creek would welcome dedicated energetic families wishing to relocate to a small rural community to help with evangelism in this area. Peers is located approximately 160 km west of Edmonton on Hwy 32. *Dolores Fletcher*

Lethbridge

Since the evangelistic series held during January and February this year, the church has been steadily growing (spiritually and in numbers). Another Prophecy seminar will be held in March 2006. The church has also been running other programs – a weekend Men's Retreat, Youth Retreat, Married Couple's Retreat; the Binding the Wounds 22-week emotional recovery program; and the CHIP program. All of these programs have been a highly successful outreach into the community that encourages the spiritual growth of the local church.

Pastor Mike Lemon

Pastor Lemon baptizes Amherstia "Pinkie" Laurado



(l-r) Pastor Mike Lemon, Nikolette Popovics, Kliff Laurado, Darla Hughes, Kevin Warkentin, Karen Bang, Joel Roque, Lilia Roque, Dolores Gadbois White Quill, Shayne Hover

MISSING MEMBERS

Bruce Leidl, Mary Leidl, Sam Light - If you know how to contact any of these missing members, please notify the Ryley Church Clerk, Gail Booth, at Box 419, Ryley, AB T0B 4A0; phone: 780-663-2176; e-mail: boothl@telusplanet.net.



Lacombe Community

Quilts for the Orphan Children in the Ukraine

When I became the Women's Ministries Leader a few years ago, I invited the ladies to come over and work together on different crafts. I had little response because the ladies wanted to do something for someone else rather than for themselves. It was about that time that I heard about Victor Gill and his work in the orphanages in the Ukraine. When I contacted Victor Gill he said there were over 100 orphans who desperately needed blankets. Everyone was excited to have a project to work toward and so people donated material, hats, pyjamas and all kinds of other things. One lady, who heard of our dilemma about not having enough money to pay for polyester fabric, offered to pay for it all and so we began on our project of making quilts and soon were able to send 40 quilts to the Ukraine.

Once again the Lord opened the way for us, because we needed to have some soft fabric for the underside of the quilts, which would be warm and go against the children's bodies, yet we had little money to buy it. I went to Fabricland in Red Deer to look. There I found reasonable batting but when I told them I needed some soft fabric to go against the children's skin, and explained what we were doing, they gave me some fleece for a very discounted price. By now we had enough fabric to make another 80 quilts but not enough money to send these quilts to the Ukraine.

Again the Lord intervened and two people offered to pay for mailing one box. We also put a moneybox into the church foyer and asked people to assist and so they dropped in loose change and even bills into the box. The

excitement grew, already 120 quilts have been sent, the ladies wanted to make more and we keep getting donations of material when supplies ran low. It has become like the widows barrel of flour and pitcher of oil. By faith we continue working and material keeps coming in. The pastor in the Ukraine has told how he is trying to divide the quilts

between the orphanages and how the children love them. This has proved to be a huge blessing, not only for the children but for us as well, knowing that this winter the children will sleep warm.

What excitement when people from other denominations call, like Kelly, who said they wanted to help, and would bring material and 40 ladies from their church to help make quilts and pay for the shipping of the quilts to the Ukraine. I also encouraged each church member to donate \$10 for the mailing of the quilts, and

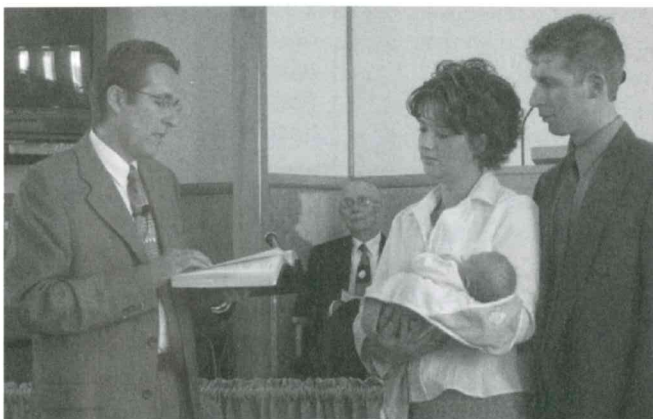
although there was not a great deal of response, one older lady came to me and gave me a little bag of coins. She said I have been collecting and saving these coins for a long time, and I never knew why. She gave her little bit, about \$14 - the widow's mite. I noticed some of the coins were old so I took them to a coin dealer and the \$14 in the little bag became \$35. Often we go to garages sales and if there is fabric there I ask if they could make it a little cheaper, and tell them why I need it, the response is almost always, "just help yourself to what you want, there is no charge."

Sometimes we get weary of doing the work, but God keeps sending fabric, money and help to encourage and invigorate us to do this work for His children.

Johanna Looyenga



(l-r) Dedicated quilters, Viola Devnich and Johanna Looyenga



Pastor Warren Kay dedicates Jaren and his parents, Kevin and Angie Letniak

Loyalist

Birth Announcement - Baby Dedication

On August 27, 2005, Kevin and Angela Letniak of the Loyalist church were thrilled to dedicate their son Jaren Thomas James. Pastor Warren Kay of Sylvan Lake had a beautiful dedication service. Many family and friends gathered to witness this special event and some participated in the service - special music provided by Jaren's Great Grandpa and Grandma (Thomas sitting in the background in picture) & Eva Hovland of Terrace, BC and cousins Brian Bell and Jodi Letniak. Members of the church along with Jaren's grandparents, Don & Alaine Sparks and Ron & Connie Letniak, and many more out-of-town family members gathered for a celebration potluck that was held afterwards at the home of Lawrence and Debbie Letniak.

Local Church News

Lloydminster

The Lloydminster church celebrated a high Sabbath, Oct 22, 2005, when seven precious souls were baptized (one rebaptism) following the "Prophecy Code" seminar conducted by Pastor Darrell Beaudoin.



(l-r) Pastor Darrell Beaudoin, Ron Byers, Cameron Murray, Rose Daniels, Rose Cormier, (boy) Curtis Cormier, Joe Cormier, Donald Larivee, Muriel Foster, James Ollette

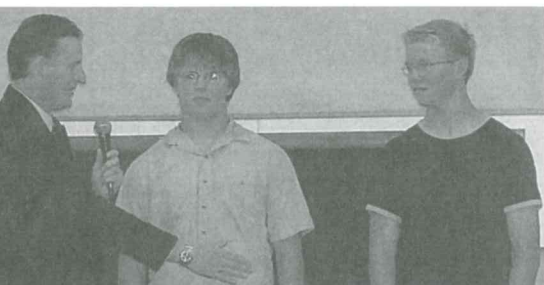
Also part of the experience was the wedding ceremony of Joe and Rose Cormier who attended each night of the seminar faithfully and then took their stand when the invitation was giving to be baptized into Christ and His remnant church.



Rose and Joe Cormier cut their wedding cake

Five more seminar attendees have indicated their desire to become a part of God's remnant church and will be nurtured towards baptism for the near future. Many special thanks to all who came to Lloydminster to participate in the door-to-door handbill distribution and to the church members who supported the meetings with their prayers, offerings and nightly support. Also, thanks to the Alberta Conference for their support of evangelism in Alberta. Thanks also to Pastor Robert Schafer who spent the Sabbath with us helping in the celebration. *Pastor Darrell Beaudoin*

Sedgewick



Pastor Bob Burke welcomes Todd (left) & Tyler (right) into membership

On Sabbath, August 13th, Pastor Bob Burke had the pleasure of baptizing twin brothers, Todd and Tyler Grovet. Pastor Bob and wife Ruth enjoyed getting to know Todd and Tyler better on the Sedgewick/Camrose youth mission trip to Mexico last spring and following the trip the boys decided to study for baptism with Pastor Bob. Both Todd and Tyler have always been active in the Sedgewick church, assisting with maintenance, cleanup and outreach whenever asked. They are enthusiastic and committed and it was great to see them commit their lives and future to Jesus. They are setting a good example for their younger brothers Bradley and Braedon. Both Todd and Tyler are currently attending PAA and are greatly missed in Sedgewick.

Ruth Burke, Communications Secretary

Warburg

Irene Schafer has been treasurer of the Warburg church for 55 consecutive years! On May 15, 2005, the church family gathered together on May 15, 2005 for a special program to honor Irene's faithful service. Pastor James Rooney presented an inspiring talk on being faithful in our service to God by using our talents. Special recognition was given to the surprised treasurer. A church fellowship lunch followed the program. We praise God for Irene's dedication!



Sylvan Lake



Having attended Adventist Schools through Grade 12 and always having had a love for horses, it was only natural for Shauntelle Hoffman to spend her summers working at summer camps. She spent two years as a Camp Counselor at Foothills Camp – working with the horses and then two years as a Horse Director at Camp Hope in BC.

This past summer, she was convicted during Hope Camp Meeting to give her heart completely to the Lord so on July 22, 2005, Shauntelle was baptized in the Fraser River by Pastor Brian Wahl, a close friend of hers. It was a joyous occasion for her family and friends. As the Sylvan Lake church witnessed the baptism by video, there was much rejoicing as she was welcomed in as a member of our church.

Jerralyn Severtson, Communications Secretary

Medicine Hat

On the Move!

The church members in Medicine Hat are on fire! Recently they had a "Visioning and Long-Range Planning" Sabbath. A serious analysis was made of their church growth and giving patterns during the last decade. They saw



Brittny Schafer being baptized by Pastor Victor Schulz

a consistently declining membership – more were dying or moving out than the accessions. The church was determined to change that! Already it is becoming a reality!

The declining trend has now been reversed by the 18 new members received by baptism, profession of faith and transfer on October 29, 2005. It was the largest addition to the membership in a single day for

many decades. The church,

accustomed to a yearly average of one to three baptisms per year, got excited with this unusual input of members. It meant that they already have a 13% church growth in 2005! There are six to eight more



Anthony Lavala, an engineer from Liberia, is joyfully received into membership

individuals preparing for baptism in January 2006.

In addition, the church is assisting in the church-planting project in the city of Brooks as well as supporting the church school. The school received a donation of 20 computers to establish a language and computer lab. Two mini-buses were purchased for transportation of the children. With the Lord's blessing, the school is on solid financial ground.

2006 marks the 80th anniversary of Adventist presence in Medicine Hat. The celebrations will include printing a full-color history of the local church and pictorial directory that will be provided at no charge to the members, a tour to the Holy Land, etc. The main celebration will involve former pastors (two of them currently vice-presidents of the General Conference), church leaders, dignitaries, the media and other special guests. The intent is to provide more exposure

to the church to be capitalized on with a major evangelistic series after with Elder Dan Jackson, President of the SDA Church in Canada, as guest speaker (tentative).

"We have a wonderful group of people in this church. Seldom before have I seen so much enthusiasm and dedication like what is evident here," says Dr. Victor Schulz, church pastor. "Undoubtedly the good Lord is working in Medicine Hat and we credit and praise Him for it."

Medicine Hat – Best Kept Secret!

Medicine Hat, known as the "Oasis in the Prairie," is a progressive and fast growing city on the banks of the Saskatchewan River. If you are looking for a retiree heaven or an ideal family growing area, we suggest you consider this city. Many seniors are moving to the area from various parts of Canada and we would welcome more Adventist church members who would benefit from the following:

Beautiful medium-size city It has all the advantages of a large city but with the peaceful environment of a small town.

Vibrant church It has a dynamic congregation of about 200 members, full of energy and with strong church programs you would like to be involved in.

Excellent church school Great for those that have children of that age that need Christian education. The school offers free tuition, free bus transportation and among other things has a 20-computer language and computer lab.

Best weather in Canada The desert microclimate allows the area to enjoy 10 degrees above the average temperature in the rest of the country. Because of its climate, it is considered the Canadian version of Palm Springs, California. It is the sunniest city in all Canada with an average of 2423 hours of sunshine a year.

The Alberta Advantage The thriving province is at this moment the economic envy of the rest of the country. It is living a boom that forecasters predict that will last for a long while. The province is the only one in Canada with no purchase taxes.

The Medicine Hat Advantages The city's utility rates are the lowest in all Canada. It also has the lowest property taxes in the country. Combining all, you will keep an average of 23 percent more cash in your pocket.

Closeness to the Rocky Mountains Medicine Hat is located just a few driving hours away from the National Parks and all their beauty. That makes the city location very attractive.

Closeness to the US The city is just a little more than an hour away from the closest border crossing.

Announcement

16th Annual Winter Festival, Ryley, January 27-29, 2006

Vespers, Friday, January 27 – 7:30 p.m. Sabbath Services, January 28 – 9:45 a.m. & 4:00 p.m.

Hockey, January 28 – 6:30 p.m. & January 29 – 8:30 a.m. – Mundare Arena

For more information, contact Kent Grinde: grindell@telusplanet.net or (780) 688-2027

Yellowknife - Women's Ministry 1st Anniversary

On Sabbath September 24, 2005 the Yellowknife church Women's Ministries celebrated their 1st anniversary of existence. The Alberta Conference Women's Ministry Director, Nicole Paradis-Sydenham, was present to present the morning service and conduct an afternoon seminar. The theme of the day was "Be Honest with God." The presentations included talks and discussions on being authentic and friendly. Church members, particularly our sisters, invited their friends. To our great delight, on Sabbath morning and afternoon our church was full of visitors and friends. Several visitors commented that they would like to come again. After the morning service, ladies served a delicious meal. During the afternoon's ladies seminar, the "orphaned" men's singing group visited and sang at the Senior retirement center.

Sister Nicole Sydenham won the hearts of both ladies and men with her sincere, enthusiastic and down to earth practical approach focused on life as lived by women in today's society. After the meeting Sister Nicole was taken to view some scenic areas around Yellowknife. She was

invited to come again next year for the 2nd anniversary!

Women have a great

potential in reaching the hearts of people. Their friendship, caring, sensitivity and kindness have a great power to touch people's hearts. We believe that their "tapped in" potential is a great asset to a healthy church life everywhere. It is so true in our Yellowknife church fellowship.

Pastor Karel Samek, who only recently returned from a 12-year mission service in Eastern Europe, is excited about what has transpired in the Yellowknife church. The same Sabbath was also a welcome Sabbath for his arrival.

Pray for God's continual guidance and blessing on our community so we, being blessed can be a blessing to others, by gently leading them into a saving friendship with Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. *Yolanda Besarra, Women Min. Leader*



Church members and friends at the Women's Ministries weekend

New Members Witness in the "Far North"

Often times we forget that the Alberta Conference does not consist solely of the province of Alberta. We also share a part of the Northwest Territories within our calling from



God. At times it may seem like the cold Canadian equivalent to the Biblical desert between Jerusalem and Gaza, but we must remember that God sent Philip to a place where he thought was deserted (Acts 8:26-40).

So is the case in our conference, recently baptized First Nations members, David and Ida Marshall from the Yellowknife church, felt God

calling them to the village of Norman Wells. Now if you think Yellowknife is a deserted place, look on a map for Norman Wells. Nonetheless, when God calls true Christians they will go wherever He asks them. Once in Norman Wells, David and Ida were led by the Holy Spirit to a man named Tony Grandgambe. Here they were able to minister to him, teach him the Adventist Message and prepare him for baptism. All they needed to do now was find a minister.

By faith David, Ida, and Tony came to Edmonton one weekend where they were able to meet with Pastor Tyler Rosengren in preparation for Tony's baptism. It was a special day for all at the Edmonton Central church as they welcomed a new brother into the faith as well as hear about other miracles that are happening in our own "deserted place."

In Memory

Myrna Boscher Born March 26, 1941 in Turner Valley. Died Sept. 29, 1905 in Drayton Valley. She is survived by her spouse, Robert Boscher; Sons: Ken, Vernon and Vincent; Daughter, Karen; nine grandchildren. Myrna was baptized into the Warburg church on July 27, 1985. She loved the Lord and served the church as chorister, SS Superintendent, and took an active part in the Sabbath School lesson study. Being the only Adventist in her family, her church family became very important to her.

Olga Brandt Born Oct. 6, 1931 in Thorsby. Died Oct. 14, 2005 in Edmonton. She was predeceased by her spouse, Waldemar Brandt. She is survived by sons: Victor of Devon, Wilf of Leduc, Robert of Warburg; Daughters: Doreen (Sam) Towpich of Morinville, Anita (Derwyn) Peloski of Edmonton, and Loretta Brandt of Warburg;

eleven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Olga's positive Christian outlook made her loved by family, friends, and staff of the nursing home where she resided for the past few years. During this time she wished to reconfirm her faith in Jesus. Since she had been baptized at age 15 at Thorsby SDA Church, she was accepted into membership of the Warburg church on profession of faith prior to her death.

Doris Rowe Born Nov. 15, 1943 in Powell River, BC. Died Oct. 14, 2005 in Grande Prairie. She is survived by her spouse, Curtis Rowe; Sons: Ernest (Tabithna) Jensen of Edmonton, David (Jane) Williams of Grande Prairie, Richard (Heidi) Williams of Red Deer; Stepdaughter, Rhonda (Dryden) Rowe; four grandchildren and three step-grandchildren. Doris attended the Grande Prairie Adventist Church when she moved from High Level.