

A window of information for Seventh-day Adventists in Alberta

## The Relationship Factor

Grant Misseghers

**I**t never fails to happen. My wife and I are just sitting down to dinner and the phone rings. I pick up the receiver expecting to hear the voice of a friend or relative. Instead, I get the voice of a stranger who is trying to sell me something. (Why do they always call at dinner time?) As the persistent telemarketer gives his canned presentation, I can barely listen while I worry about my food getting cold and I desperately look for ways to cut the conversation short.

The caller may have had a terrific offer or even the opportunity of a lifetime, but I will never know because I did not care and was not listening. And I did not listen because his voice joined the chorus of so many other pitches, proposals, and promises that I have heard before. There is simply too much noise – to many voices wanting my attention.

Now suppose that instead of a sales-stranger, the caller was a close friend who wanted to tell me about an important piece of news or a personal breakthrough. I would have listened closely and spoken warmly. I would have been genuinely interested in all that he had to say. Relationship makes all the difference.

The same is true in youth ministry. When adults build relationships with young people, they break through the noise and distortion. Instead of dismissing adults *and* their message by lumping them together with all the other ideas vying for their attention, teens listen carefully because their friends are speaking.

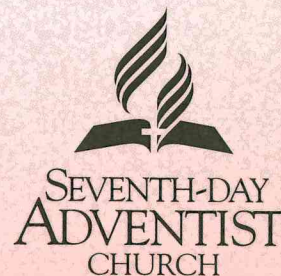
Too often the prevailing attitude in youth ministry is that success is measured in terms of programs – youth rallies, youth-oriented church programs, dramas, cutting edge music, and so on. It is enough to intimidate smaller churches from even trying because they know they lack the resources to pull off these types of programs. But when it comes to relational ministry, it is the smaller churches that have the advantage over the larger ones because they have better ratios of adults to youth.

Life-change occurs in the context of close relationships. High energy programs, drama, music, retreats, youth meetings, and camps can provide tremendous help in the communication process. But it usually takes a *person* to get through. Programs initiate and provide opportunities for relational interaction, but it is the relationships themselves that change lives.

Relational ministry is biblical. God's entire plan for humankind unfolds through relationships. People were created for relationships. All of biblical history records God's relationship with His chosen people. Then God became a person in Jesus Christ to identify us, communicate on our level, and suffer and die for our sins. Now, through faith in Christ, we can enjoy the closest of relationships with God, as His dearly loved children (1 John 3:1-2), born (John 3:3) and adopted (Ephesians 1:5) into his family, and as His bride (Revelation 19:7).

Friendships grow and deepen through shared experiences and mutual respect. Friends find themselves enjoying simply being with each other. They have fun together, often laughing, singing, celebrating, and feasting together. A person will drop everything and rush to a friend in need.

There are no shortcuts, however, to building close friendships. They take time to establish and to build. The need for time is especially true when two people have very little in common, such as an adult and a teenager. Building relationships on this level takes commitment and time – it will not “just happen.” To make an impact on young people you must go where they are. Remember, Jesus didn't tell His disciples to wait, put up posters, or hold meetings and then hope people would come. He told them to *go!* That's what relational ministry is all about. ■



Youth ministry begins when adults find a comfortable method of entering a young person's world and happens as long as adults are able to use their contacts with young people to draw them into a maturing relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Mark Senter

*The Complete Book of Youth Ministry*

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From the President...

## Irresistible Christians



As one looks at the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church they cannot help but notice that a significant number of those joining this organization are strong-willed individuals. And probably it could not be otherwise. To join our church requires a commitment to truth that doesn't flinch in the face of opposition – whether that opposition comes from society or from our own families. While commitment to truth can be an admirable quality, it can have its downside as well. It is sometimes used to excuse what would otherwise, at best be called bad manners, or possibly more accurately, unkindness.

I have recently had occasion to see the results that unkind words and actions from church members can have upon others. One of the liabilities of being in administration is that difficult situations often come to your attention with the expectation that you might be able to resolve them. Interestingly enough, as I thought about the effects that unkindness can bring I read a statement from Ellen White in our morning devotional that made me re-examine my own words and behaviors. I'd like to share the entire quotation with you:

“Kind words, pleasant looks, a cheerful countenance, throw a charm around the Christian that makes his influence almost irresistible. This is a way to gain respect, and extend the sphere of usefulness, which costs but little. It is the religion of Christ in the heart that causes the words issuing therefrom to be gentle and the demeanor condescending, even to those in the humblest walks of life. A blustering, faultfinding, overbearing man is not a Christian; for to be a Christian is to be Christlike. . . .

“He who drinks in the spirit of Christ will let it flow forth in kind words, and be expressed in courteous deportment. The plan of salvation is to soften whatever is harsh and rough in the temper, and to smooth off whatever is rugged or sharp in the manners. External change will testify of an internal change. The truth is the sanctifier, the refiner. Received into the heart, it works with hidden power, transforming the receiver. But those who profess the truth and at the same time are rough, and sour, and unkind in words and deportment, have not learned of Jesus; all these manifestations show that they are yet servants of the wicked one. No man can be a Christian without having the spirit of Christ, manifesting meekness, gentleness, and refinement of manners. . . .

“Pleasant, kind, and well-bred Christians will have an influence for God and His truth; it cannot be otherwise. The light borrowed from Heaven will shed its brightening rays through them to the pathway of others. . . . The words we speak, our daily deportment, are the fruit growing upon the tree. If the fruit is sour and unpalatable, the rootlets of that tree are not drawing nourishment from a pure source. If our affections are brought into harmony with our Saviour, if our characters are meek and lowly, we evidence that our life is hid with Christ in God; and we shall leave behind us a bright track. . . . Beholders will discern that we have been with Jesus and learned of Him.” *Our High Calling* p. 238

It takes courage to stand for truth. But perhaps it takes even greater courage to allow truth to sanctify and refine our words and actions. As members of God's remnant people we long to see the “truth” advance. By “kind words, pleasant looks, (and) a cheerful countenance...” we can make our influence for the truth “almost irresistible.” My friends, I invite you to join me in pleading with God to make our words and actions acceptable. We've tarried beneath the deceptive banner we like to call individualism too long, excusing our indiscretions as being courageous. Let's allow God's Spirit to make us the loving and lovable Christians that mark His presence in the heart. Oh, to be known as the people who model God's love and kindness!

# CUC Students & Faculty Volunteer With Children & Youth

**W**ith your support, Canadian University College has become the training ground for many youth to learn ways to reach their peers and younger children for Christ. CUC students traditionally lead out in summer church programs for youth, including positions at summer camps and as summer youth pastors. This summer about 60 CUC students worked in church programs and camps, and qualified for about \$70,000 in CUC scholarships for their efforts.

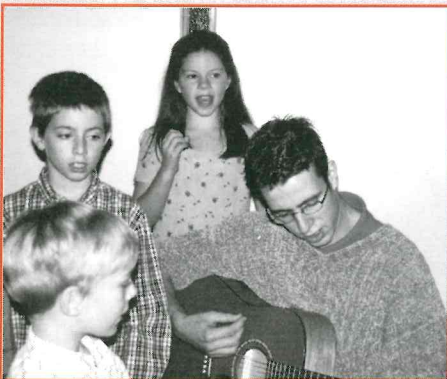
But there are many other ways that the CUC family directly ministers to children and youth, and we look forward to new programs and ministries that will unfold this coming year. Here are a few of the ways your support has recently allowed CUC students and employees to reach out locally, across Canada, and around the world.

**Tutoring Refugee Youth** - Professor of Mathematics Dr. Deva Doss and student Johnson Washington spent the summer in Toronto tutoring young Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka in mathematics. This self-initiated venture of faith introduced many aspects of the Adventist message and lifestyle to the 225,000-member Hindu and Catholic community, with which Doss continues to study and evangelise by phone. Read about



their exciting adventures for the Lord in a coming issue of the *Messenger*.

**Children's Church** - Many youth see Children's Church for the first time at CUC and carry the enthusiasm and valuable experience to their home churches. Student co-leaders Walter Rogers (pictured) from Calgary and Erica Buckley from Whitby, Ontario are committed to making CUC's popular Children's Church an even more frequent event this year.



**Overseas Mission Service: Building Homes for Lepers in Nepal** - CUC annually sponsors a six-week mission trip that gives students the opportunity to help with practical projects that make a tremendous difference in their own lives as well as the lives of others. This summer 10 students touched the "untouchable" lepers of Nepal. Student Amber Ritchie's account of the powerful experience will appear in the fall issue of CUC's magazine, *Real Stuff*.



**Rock Wall Outreach** - Last year, scores of children and youth, many with physical and other impairments, experienced success and an uncommon sense of acceptance and support that makes CUC's community outreach through rock wall workshops, staffed by Outward Pursuits professor Paul Lehmann and his students, such a powerful and popular witness.

**Into the Light** -

More than just beautiful voices have made CUC's singing group a hit with youth across Canada and the US since April. Personal interaction and a willingness to help wherever needed, including shouldering the leadership of the Newfoundland camp meeting youth tent, are another part of their calling to reach out for Christ as group that continues to perform and minister throughout the year.



## News Items

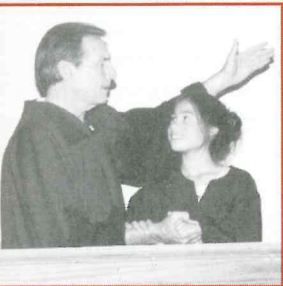
**Imagine** - CUC's Christian drama team, now in its second year, presented its original play "Oh God" and a drama workshop this spring at a youth rally in BC and helped out monthly with church services in Calgary's Mountain View church and a drama workshop.

### NAD Scholarships go to Youth Worker Students

- This spring CUC qualified for two of only six Women's Ministries scholarships awarded in North America. Carol Tardif served as a youth pastor in Calgary last summer, and Kerry Sackett has lead out in CABL (Collegiate Adventists for Better Living), which encourages a healthy, active lifestyle among youth.



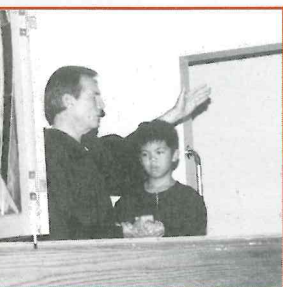
Emily Allison



Kimberly Benavides



Verne Bil



Franz Caponpon

## Red Deer Church News

**A** number of exciting events and happenings have taken place at the Red Deer Seventh-day Adventist Church over the past several months.

**Baptisms** - Probably the most exciting thing that can happen to an SDA congregation is to have new members join the family by baptism. In the past few months we have had the pleasure of witnessing the commitment to Jesus Christ of the precious people pictured with pastor Ian Hartley around the perimeter of this article.

**Southside Christian School** - We are also really pleased about the growth of our school, having gone from one teacher and 15 students last year to 25 students and three teachers this year. We have several students attending from non-Adventist homes and several have also joined the Red Deer River Pathfinder Club, swelling the numbers of that group to 16 active youth.

**Pathfinders** - The highlight of the year, for the pathfinders, was their attendance during the summer at the worldwide Pathfinder Camporee at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. They had the opportunity to rub shoulders with 22,000 Pathfinders from around the world. Two of our Red Deer youth experienced extra special thrills at the camporee. Emily Allison was able to have her picture taken with one of the "famous" Seventh-day Adventists, Desmond T. Doss, winner of the U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor. Wayne Rachul assembled and raced a pinewood derby kit and won second place overall in that project. Congratulations Wayne!

**Pastoral Assistants** - The Red Deer Church has embarked recently on another exciting adventure. Two part-time pastoral assistants have been ordained to help Pastor Ian Hartley in special areas of the church growth program.

Lucia Polishuk has been busy building a strong spiritual gifts program, including spiritual gifts seminars and personal gifts counselling for individual members. Lucia is also busy with visitation of the sick.

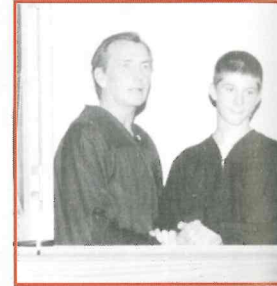
Judy Robertson has always been a strong influence in our church particularly in music and the worship program. The youth program has been blossoming under her leadership. Judy has been energetic in small group ministry, and this is now an important part of her job.

As we near the end of 1999, members of the Red Deer Seventh-day Adventist church look forward, with anticipation, to the new millenium and new growth—and hopefully, a new home for all.

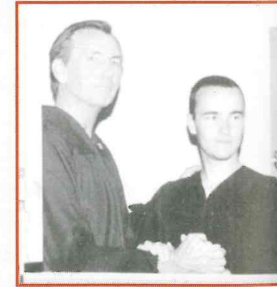
Ted Proud, Communications



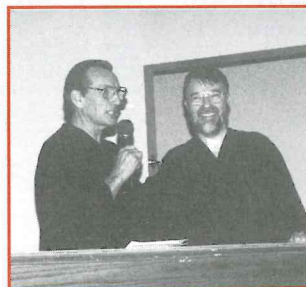
Robert Rowland



Wayne Rachul



Daniel McIntyre



Torben Colberg



James Curran



Peggy Johnson





Impact Toronto 2000 · June 29 - July 8, 2000 · Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
NAD Application Form

### What is Impact Toronto 2000?

Impact Toronto 2000 is a youth evangelism training event running concurrently with the General Conference session, June 29 - July 8, 2000. Three hundred and fifty young adults from around the world will be trained and actively involved in street evangelism.

The gospel message doesn't have to be preached within the walls of a building. It can and will be proclaimed in the streets of Toronto by the youth of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

### Who can attend?

Impact Toronto 2000 is for young adults 18-35 years old. We are looking for 350 delegates who have a **passion** for street evangelism. What's important is that you are ready to stand in the **center of God's will** and **join Him** in this **bold adventure!**

### Impact Toronto 2000 Logo

The first line in the logo represents the 350 young adults coming to Toronto to be trained for street evangelism. The next line represents the young adults returning to their respective country and homes to share their new ministry skills with others. The person on the end of the third line represents our eventual trip to Heaven to be with our Lord Jesus Christ for eternity.

### Lodging, Meals and Transportation

#### Lodging and Meals

Lodging and meals will be provided for the 10 day event. Please bring your own bedding, as **it will not be provided.**

#### Transportation

Each delegate is responsible for their own transportation to and from their home and the Toronto training site.

Transportation to and from ministry sites will be provided from June 30 through July 8. Any personal transportation during these dates will be the responsibility of the delegate.

### Sponsored Delegates

#### Step One

Each U.S. conference will select one delegate from among their young adults. As the host country, the SDA Church in Canada will select more than 100 delegates. All delegates must submit an application form to their Conference Youth Director with the non-refundable US\$150 delegate fee attached.

#### Step Two

The Conference Youth Director must approve the application form. The Youth Director then forwards it to the Union Youth Director/Representative.

#### Step Three

The Union Youth Director/Representative will also approve each application form. Then mail the application to the Center for Youth Evangelism for the NAD Associate Youth Director to approve.

Each delegate will pay US\$150. Each conference, union and the division will pay US\$250 per delegate. **All fees and applications must be submitted by February 14, 2000.** Applications submitted after this deadline, delegates must pay US\$300. **All delegate, conference, union, and division fees are non-refundable.**

### Non-Sponsored Delegate

#### Step One

Fill out an application form and attach the **non-refundable** US\$900 delegate fee.

#### Step Two

Then mail your application form to your Conference Youth Director for approval. The Youth Director will mail the form to the Center For Youth Evangelism.

### For More Information

For more information, contact your Conference Youth Director. Or contact the Center for Youth Evangelism at 1-800-Youth-2-U, phone 616-471-9881, fax 616-471-9883, or email [cye@andrews.edu](mailto:cye@andrews.edu). Write to us at Impact Toronto 2000, Center for Youth Evangelism, 8903 US Hwy 31, Berrien Springs, MI 49103. Check out our website at [www.andrews.edu/CYE](http://www.andrews.edu/CYE).

## Ministry Possibilities

### Christian Cafe

Need a place to hang out with other young people who want to share Christ in a cafe?

### Christian Magicians and Balloons

God created rabbits, but can you pull one out of a hat? Use your slight of hand skills to share the gospel in this unique ministry.

### Clown and Balloon Ministry

Learn all the clown techniques for sharing the gospel with a smile, a red nose and big shoes.

### Compassion Ministry

Feeding the homeless, visiting the children's hospital and parking meter mayhem is all part of compassionate ministry.

### Creative Movement Ministry

Those who are coordinated and inclined to tap their toes to music will enjoy this ministry.

### Door to Door Ministry

If you enjoy talking with people, praying with them, passing out Bible Study lessons, and Magabooks, this ministry is for you.

### Drama Ministry

Drama is powerful on the streets. Those who have dramatic skills and enjoy performing need to check out this ministry.

### FLAG Camp

Fun Learning About God. Check out this unique day camp opportunity and run one in the big city.

### Gymnastic Ministry

Love gymnastics and Jesus? Can you turn cartwheels and do flips? Check this one out!

### Mime Ministry

Preaching the gospel with painted faces, white gloves and lots of gestures is an excellent way to minister.

### Nighttime Revival Meetings

Each evening we will have revival meetings. Bring the new friends you've met through your ministry on the street. Some of the features will be music, drama and youth speakers.

### Parade Awareness

Each day young adults will "parade" in downtown Toronto to bring awareness to different issues: drugs, tobacco, alcohol, child abuse, etc.



### Pathfinder Ministry

Love marching, saluting and finding your way around with a compass? Learn how to point young people to Christ with this ministry?

### Prayer Conference Leadership

Learn how to plan, organize and lead a youth prayer conference.

### Public Campus Ministry

Do you attend a public high school or university with Christians, but it has no Christian presence? Check this option to learn how to reach people on your campus.

### Puppet Ministry

Singing songs and telling people about Jesus using puppets is what this ministry is all about.

### Recreation Ministry

Love sports, American football, European Football, Aussie rules football? How about baseball? Sports may be your ministry!

### Speaker's Soap Box

Take up your soap box and preach it to all Toronto!

### Street Artists

Ever wanted to paint a really big mural? How about the side of a building. Hey, check this one out.

### Street Ministry Technical Team

If you have audio-visual skills, e.g. lights, stage, sound, etc. We need people who are technically minded to be a part of each ministry.

### Vacation/Holiday Bible School

VBS is an excellent way to teach children about Jesus. Those participating in this ministry will organize a five-day VBS for children.

### Vegetarian Food Fair

Do you love good food? Join this ministry and share your cuisine talents. Food is a great way to get to-know people.

### Video Ministry

Ever wanted to make a film on the street? Then point the camera to this ministry.

### Youth Congress Planning

Those who choose this option will organize the Impact the World Youth Congress, July 7-8, for 4000 youth.

### Your Idea

Hey, maybe you have a ministry idea that we haven't thought of. Tell us about it and we'll add it to the list.



attach photo here

**Impact Toronto 2000 · June 29 - July 8, 2000 · Toronto, Ontario, Canada**  
**NAD Application Form**

**Your Information, please print or type**

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

Conference \_\_\_\_\_ Union \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: M F Age \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/Year \_\_\_\_\_

Translation Needed: Y N Language \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd Language \_\_\_\_\_

**Ministry Possibilities**

Please number in order of preference the top five ministries you're interested in. Begin with number one as your first preference.

- |                                       |                                      |                                     |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| _____ Christian Cafe                  | _____ Nighttime Revival meetings     | _____ Vacation/Holiday Bible School |
| _____ Christian and Balloon Magicians | _____ Parade Awareness               | _____ Vegetarian Cooking Fair       |
| _____ Clown and Balloon Ministry      | _____ Pathfinder Ministry            | _____ Video Ministry                |
| _____ Compassion Ministry             | _____ Prayer Conference Leadership   | _____ Youth Congress Planning       |
| _____ Creative Movement Ministry      | _____ Public Campus Ministry         | _____ Your Idea _____               |
| _____ Door to Door Ministry           | _____ Puppets Ministry               | _____ Your Idea _____               |
| _____ Drama Ministry                  | _____ Recreation Ministry            | _____ Your Idea _____               |
| _____ Gymnastic Ministry              | _____ Speakers' Soap Box             | _____ Your Idea _____               |
| _____ Magabooks                       | _____ Street Artists                 | _____ Your Idea _____               |
| _____ Music Ministry                  | _____ Street Ministry Technical Team | _____ Your Idea _____               |

**Youth Director Signatures**

**All Delegates:** upon completion of the application form, submit this form to your Conference Youth Director for approval. Then your Conference Youth Director will send your approved form to the Union and to CYE.

Conference \_\_\_\_\_ Union \_\_\_\_\_ CYE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Conference Youth Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Union Youth Director/Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Division Associate Youth Director

## Please answer the following questions.

In what ways have you been involved in street ministry?

Why do you want to be a part of Impact Toronto 2000?

Why do you think someone should select YOU to be a part of Impact Toronto 2000 team?

What is your favorite thing about God?

What is your favorite flavor of ice cream?

### Visa, Insurance and Medical Information

#### Visa

Each delegate must apply for their own visa. If you are a United States citizen, you must show proof of citizenship with either a passport or Certified U.S. Birth certificate with photo I.D. If you are not a U.S. citizen and living in the U.S. you must present your Green Card. For citizens of other countries, please consult the nearest Canadian Embassy or Consulate.

#### Insurance and Medical

Each delegate must have insurance coverage for medical expenses and accidental death coverage. This should be acquired through your Conference, Union, or Division. We suggest the denominational insurance Miscellaneous Accident Program for NAD delegates and Short-term Travel for international delegates. It is the responsibility of each delegate or group leader to process the the denominational insurance. Failure to obtain insurance will result in, if any, medical expenses incurred to be covered by the delegate. Please sign below, stating that you have sought medical insurance. If you're under the age of 21, you **must** have a parent or guardian sign.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Delegate/Parent or Guardian

### Your Signature

As a member of the Impact Toronto 2000 team, I will be responsible to practice and support Impact Toronto 2000 policies.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Delegate

### For Office Use Only

Received \_\_\_\_\_ Payment: Delegate fee \_\_\_\_\_  
Conference \_\_\_\_\_ Union \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_  
Confirmation sent Y N Travel arrangements on file \_\_\_\_\_



# Discover the Power!

**T**wenty-two thousand Pathfinders and staff from all over the world arrived in cars, buses, vans and even a limousine to participate in the world's largest Adventist youth gathering August 10-14, 1999. The Experimental Aircraft Aviation (EAA) Campground, in Oshkosh Wisconsin, hosted the camporee. Fifty countries helped to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pathfinding. Alberta had its largest camporee representation to date with 147 attendees.

Highlights of the week included; the mayor of Oshkosh welcoming us to the camporee and to the city of Oshkosh, learning our theme song, working on the mission plane, project word, the Canadian Union participating together for flag lowering, worship, and marching in Friday's parade in downtown Oshkosh, making new friends as we hosted international guests, God's power and intervention, Saturday night fireworks, winning first place in the golf tournament, and the Pinewood Car Derby.

Two of our finest Pathfinders built and raced their cars in the derby. Wayne Rachul, from the Red Deer River Pathfinders, placed first for the Canadian Union and second overall for the camporee. Michael Matiko, from the Wetaskiwin Peace Hills Club, placed second for the Canadian Union. Congratulations!

Each day promised something new to see and do. There were honor booths, display booths, pin trading, golfing, swimming, the life-sized sanctuary, the EAA Mu-

seum, air shows, baptisms, flag ceremonies, daily parades, the teen barn and the awesome evening meetings. Each night we had skits, singing, special guests; Terry Johnson, Desmond Doss, Cheri Peters and Brandi Chapple, and a different theme program. Tuesday: Power of Pathfinding, Wednesday: Power of Service, Thursday: Power of Healthy Choices, Friday: Power of God's Love, and Sabbath: Power of Friends.

The theme for the camporee was "Discover the Power," but before the camporee had ended, Pathfinders discovered the "Power of God" in a real and dramatic way. God certainly had his umbrella over the camporee as he protected us from a severe hailstorm on Monday, and again on Thursday night when we were under a tornado warning.

As we busied ourselves preparing for the predicted "severe storm," we were quickly alerted that we were now under a tornado warning. Doppler radar picked up a tornado cloud formation heading directly for our area. As news of a possible tornado spread across the Alberta camp, staff rallied around fearful Pathfinders, preparing them and trying to calm their fears. Pathfinders and their leaders formed special bonds that night, as all across the Alberta camp clubs gathered to sing and pray. What an awesome feeling, as we moved from club to club, to witness such faith and trust in our Heavenly Father. God heard our prayers that night, along with thousands of others on the



camporee grounds, and He shielded us from the tornado. An EAA worker commented that he just didn't know about us. He could understand a storm missing us once, but twice... We truly serve an alive and awesome God! What a witness to the Oshkosh community!

All too soon the week came to a close. Pathfinders would soon be taking their souvenirs and memories home with them. Memories of aching muscles from traveling, new friends, sharing, hot days, warm showers – yeah!, the portalets – well!, the tornado warning, fun, exhaustion, praising God and being part of such a large family extending around the world. Imagine, 22,000 people are only a portion of this wonderful family. Praise God for the Power of Pathfinders!

As a closing farewell, the EAA executive commended the Pathfinders for their cooperation and example, and invited us to come back again in five years and bring 100,000 people with us. We look forward to the next camporee in 2004, but most of all we pray that the next camporee will be in heaven!

*Carol Morton, Pathfinder Coordinator*

## PATHFINDER COMMENTS

The Pathfinder Camporee at Oshkosh Wisconsin has been a great deal of fun and excitement. There were fifteen hundred acres of land covered with people from all over the world. It also included the EAA Museum (Experimental Aircraft Aviation). There were four hangers on site. They contained booths to earn badges, for buying things and advertising. We also enjoyed the programs every night. They did lots of singing and skits, we had a lot of good speakers. We really enjoyed our four-day stay at Oshkosh and hope to return to the next one, if Jesus has not returned by then.

*Heather Welch and Kalee Cherepuschak, Sylvan Lake Pioneers*

"I'm glad I went to the camporee because: Everybody there was brothers and sisters and believed the same as you, and because I got closer to God because of the evening meetings."

*Arlene Turner, Morning Star Club*

"Dear God,

I thank you for the hot sunny summer at Oshkosh. You have blessed us by giving us enough food and a nice trip. The night we left felt like D-Day. There was excitement, but I also felt scared. I felt scared because I didn't know how the excitement would spread. I actually turned out pretty good. I have learned songs, more about you and I got to meet people from different countries. I like trading pins and I also found out that sleeping in a tent is less agreeable than a bed. I found out that not sleeping for a whole night is very hard. I also want to thank you Lord for saving us from the tornado.

In the name of Jesus, Amen"

*Nicholas Demurs, Red Deer River Pathfinders*

"I enjoyed the daily air shows and the motor bike jumping. I also enjoyed being in the Canadian Parade, but my feet got sore."

*Brent McLeod, Lacombe Lightbearers*



# Youth Ministry Around Alberta

## West Edmonton



Colleen Ellis keeps quite busy involving children in singing at various churches in and around Edmonton as well as various non-church organizations such as nursing homes, the Citadel Theatre, and the

Calgary Jubilee Auditorium. The love to act out biblical characters, focusing their energies in a positive manner. Their next concert will be November 27.

## Sherwood Park

The Sherwood Park Church held a fun-filled five day Vacation Bible School from August 9 - 13. There were 35 children the first day and a total of 45 for the week. Several of the children from the



community return each year with more friends.

The children enjoyed a very fast-paced program

filled with songs, stories, lessons and crafts. There were 14 teachers and helpers including the three ladies who faithfully prepared snacks each day.

Parents and friends were invited to the closing program on Friday to see the accomplishments of the children. Parents were appreciative of the explicitly spiritual emphasis of the program.

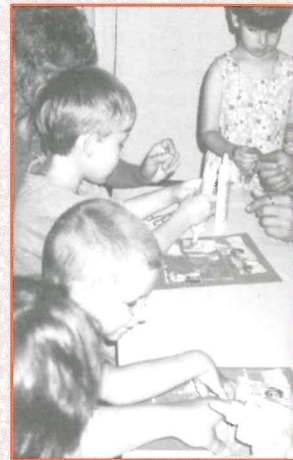
The leaders, Debbie Simpson and Corinna Greenlaw, had the joy of doing the program twice this year. In early July they had the opportunity to lead out in the VBS in Salmon Arm, British Columbia.

## Vegreville VBS

It seems like Vacation Bible School has a lot of competition – people go away on vacation, visiting relatives, camping, summer playground activities, swimming lessons just to name a few. But regardless of all these things, we had children who had never before attended our VBS. We had twelve new families that sent a total of fifteen new students.

Our VBS was conducted July 12 to 17 with 36 children registered, six of whom came from Adventist homes. We had a regular VBS program for five evenings Monday through Friday and had a Family Night program on Sabbath evening in which we served a light supper followed by the program.

*Sandra Elkow, VBS Director*



## Peace River

From August 9 - 13 the Peace River Church held their annual Vacation Bible School. It was a real church effort with the majority of the active congregation helping to make it a success. During the week, over 45 children registered for the program which focused on *Friends Forever*. Every day the children learned about friendship through singing, short skits, survival skill workshops, storytelling, and various crafts. On the final day, there was a big party where the children demonstrated to their parents what they had learned through singing songs, reciting memory verses, and putting on a play. At the end, all the volunteers had exhausted smiles on their faces; reflecting the rewarding week they had establishing and renewing friendships in the Peace River community.

*Andrea van Dieman*

## Fairview

“Friends Forever” was the theme of the Fairview VBS led out by Nicole Halverson and held evenings from July 18 to 22. Singing, stories, games, Bible lessons, crafts and snacks held the attention of approximately 40 children nightly. Special guests were invited on several nights.

The ambulance service presented simple first-aid procedures as well as outlining the duties of the ambulance staff. The local RCMP detachment shared tips on home safety when home alone. The volunteer fire department with their new fire truck was a great hit with the children. They explained what to do when your clothes catch on fire as well simple remedies for burns and a fire plan for evacuating your home if a fire occurs.

Our craft time as very popular as the children made a variety of crafts including a friendship pal, a frog and bear spoon fridge magnet, and wind chimes from juice can lids.

Nicole Halverson led out in the closing program demonstrating to the parents what the children were learning nightly. Refreshments concluded the final evening.

*Charlotte Openshaw, Communications Secretary*

*Do you struggle with anger? depression?  
Jealousy? loneliness?  
Do you sometimes feel like a child?*

**We can help!**



**Life Skills**  
*Learning & Wellness Centre*

309-2700  
Red Deer

### Offering:

- Bible-based courses for personal growth & recovery
- SDA Christian counselling for individuals, couples & families



# Baptisms



## Edmonton Central

On June 26, 1999 Chris Humphrys was baptized and welcomed into the fellowship of Edmonton Central Church. Chris is employed by the University Hospital in Edmonton arranging and setting up patient continuing care. Her contact with the Adventist church came through Dr. David Olson who was also on the medical staff at the hospital. Chris is a welcome addition

to Edmonton Central's Church family. Pastor Warren Kay officiated.

## Yellowknife

Sabbath, September 11, Jon Madgwick rededicated his life to the Lord in front of family and friends in the very cool waters of Jackfish Lake near Norman Wells. Pastor Bruce Proud officiated.



## Hanna



March 26<sup>th</sup>, 1999 was a beautiful day for the baptism of Lonita Dyan Weich. The Hanna SDA Church welcomed Lonita into its membership and recommitted themselves to a continued and growing relationship with Jesus. Pastor Wigley officiated and many friends and family came to witness Lonita's decision to continue in this journey with her Friend.

## Calgary Central Expansion

Plans for modernization and expansion of Calgary Central Seventh-day Adventist Church were unveiled on Sabbath, June 19, 1999. The new space will include additional Sabbath School classrooms, enlarged office space, improved handicap access, additional washrooms, a new library and other improvements.

Excitement is running high as the people of Calgary Central witness God's leading in making these plans a reality. Some months ago the church board revisited the idea of a much-needed expansion of the church building which has been discussed off and on for the last fifteen years. Following one particular board meeting Pastor Randy Barber commented, "Wouldn't it be nice if we could also expand this parking lot since we have approximately 120 cars lining the city streets on Sabbath morning."

A parking lot expansion could happen only if the house next door to Calgary Central went up for sale. A few weeks later the Pastor was surprised to see a "For Sale" sign on that property. This was immediately taken to the church board and it was agreed to make an offer to purchase the property. The offer was \$20,000 less than the asking price. The church prayed, and the offer was accepted without question.

A general business meeting was convened to finalize the purchase and discuss building ideas. Those present, sensing God's leading, decided to go ahead with an expansion. A short while later, the Pastor received a surprise call from the President of the local Community Association. He had heard that Calgary Central had purchased the property to expand the church parking lot. The Community Association faced a dilemma. It was planning a new Com-

munity Centre to be built near Calgary Central. Without twenty additional parking spots, the Community Association could not get a building permit.

A proposition was made: if Calgary Central shared its parking lot on weekday evenings with the new Community Centre, the Centre in turn would provide Calgary Central access to its lot on weekends. Further, the Association would support and expedite the necessary approval process for the parking lot expansion and church renovations/expansion. Clearly God leads!

The building program was launched with a special day of spiritual renewal. The presenter for the adult Sabbath School was Elder Norman Yergen, of the Alberta Conference. Elder Henry Feyerabend of "It Is Written" delivered the sermon, "How Much Will It Cost?" After a festive luncheon, members enjoyed an organ recital by guest artist, Donna Holoboff. She performed works by Handel and Mozart as well as some hymn transcriptions. Walter Wright, pastor of Calgary Central in the mid 1960's honored us with his presence and his own personal pledge toward the building program.

Fund-raising plans are being carried out in various ways to reach our goal of \$700,000. Children, along with adults, have taken home little church coin banks to fill during the week, to be returned to the church when filled.

Praise God for his leading, for the contributions of many church members and for answered prayers. To God be the glory and praise as Calgary Central takes on a new look as well as new souls for Christ.



## *I Know Somebody*

I know somebody who knew me first;  
Who gave me Living Water  
To quench my soul's thirst

I know Somebody who erased my fears;  
Who bore my pain,  
And wiped away my tears

I know Somebody who walked with me in the sand;  
Who took the time to carry me,  
When I chose not to stand

I know Somebody who gave me a chance;  
Though others judged me,  
Lost in sin's trance

I know Somebody who gave me trials;  
So my faith would grow stronger,  
And last for miles

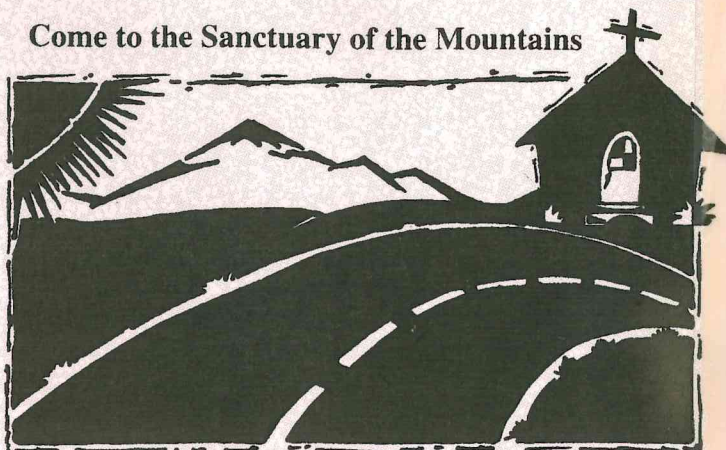
I know Somebody who died for me;  
Who left His home in paradise,  
To set my soul free

I know Somebody who wants to know you

Do you know Somebody?

— Lisa Marshall  
West Edmonton Church

## Come to the Sanctuary of the Mountains



*Mountain Sanctuary SDA Company, Canmore, AB*

If you are planning a visit to the National Parks, why not plan to worship with us? The Mountain Sanctuary Company is located at 1209 1st Avenue in the Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church. We're a small group but our hospitality is warm. Sabbath School begins at 10:00 a.m., worship service is at 11:00 a.m.

For information, call Pastor Steve Little in Cochrane, (403) 932-3842, or Lester Carney in Canmore, (403) 678-0928.

“Come let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us *his ways and that we may walk in his paths.*” *Isa 2:3 NRSV* Steve Little

## Alberta Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

### DATELINE

October 15 - Nov 13	Net New York '99	with Doug Batchelor
November 5-7	Marriage Encounter Weekend	Foothills Camp
November 27	CUC/PAA Symphonic Christmas	
December 3,4	Choral Union Christmas	
December 27-28	Christmas and Boxing Day	Office Closed
February 4-6	Youth Leader's Retreat	Foothills Camp
February 11-13	Marriage Encounter Weekend	Foothills Camp
March 10-12	Women's Retreat	Black Knight Inn, Red Deer
March 17-19	Men's Retreat	with Dick Duerksen, Foothills Camp
June 29 - July 8	General Conference Session 2000	Toronto



### Impact Toronto 2000

Impact Toronto 2000 is a youth evangelism training event running concurrently with the General Conference session, June 29 - July 8, 2000. Three hundred and fifty young adults from around the world will be trained and actively involved in street evangelism. The gospel message doesn't have to be preached within the walls of a building. It can and will be proclaimed in the streets of Toronto by the youth of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Impact 2000 is looking for young adults age 18-35 years old who have a **passion** for street evangelism. What's important is that you are ready to stand in the **center of God's will** and **join Him** in this **bold adventure!** Application deadline is January 1, 2000