

# Alberta Conference Adventist News

*A window of information for Seventh-day Adventists in Alberta*

## New Growth Brings New Life

**E**vangelism has many forms. One of the most effective ways is the beginning of brand new churches. We are excited that church planting projects are springing up around our conference. In previous newsletters we have mentioned new groups meeting in Beaumont and Mirror. People are catching a vision to start work in areas where there is none. Growth is taking place under the direction of dedicated people with ministry leadership skills. Look at what the Lord is doing in Alberta and rejoice with us.

### Calgary Southside Company

In June 1996, four newly-baptized members and seven members from three churches in Calgary began meeting to form a new company. Elder Dale Kongorski, President of the Alberta Conference, met with the group three months later, in September, to officially organize the Calgary Southside SDA Company, under the direction of Pastors Kelly Schultz and John Adams.

The attendance at worship services varies now from 28-40 people but there is growth on a regular basis. The Bridgeland Church is currently in a series of meetings with Elder Verne Snow, and some of the members being baptized will be joining the Southside Company. In October, the Company celebrated its first anniversary and honored Kelly and Carla Schultz for their efforts in helping them to get organized. Mike Kinch and Leo Tan are providing strong leadership in this newly-formed company.

### Gleichen Company

In May 1997, a small group, inspired by Linda Calderbank, began meeting at Gleichen as an outreach to the Siksika Nation, east of Calgary. On November 15, Elder Norman Yergen, Secretary of the Alberta Conference, met with the group at a special service that organized 15 individuals as members of the Gleichen SDA Company. Elder Yergen's sermon was entitled "There is Hope," and hope in Christ is what this small group wants to spread throughout the communities of Gleichen, Cluny and the Siksika Nation.

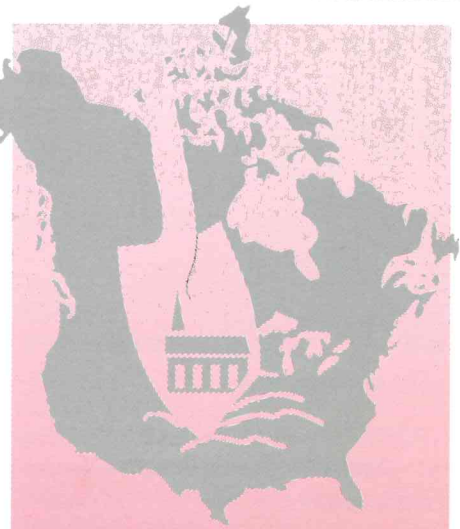


At the present time, Don Harris, a native evangelist, is conducting a Prophecy Seminar in this district. This is quite a challenge but the Lord has blessed. To date, there have been

116 individuals attending the seminar and several couples have not missed a single night!

Remember the Gleichen Company in your prayers as they minister to the needs in this native community.

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# Alberta Conference Directory

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## From the President ...

### Bucking the Trend

*“However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?” Luke 18:8 NIV.*

Recently I was reading the latest issue of *Perspective Digest*, a publication of the Adventist Theological Society in Berrien Springs, Michigan. An article in this quarterly journal addressed some interesting statistical data. A current Gallup poll on religion in American life seems to provide reassurance concerning the role that religion plays in the lives of our neighbors to the south. This poll indicates that “belief in God and an afterlife, as well as commitment to prayer and church attendance, have remained generally consistent over the past 50 years.” However, this is only a surface observation.

George Barna is another American pollster who lives on the west coast. He has pursued the general topic mentioned above and has found that while the general statement above is true, there are subcurrents within those areas that indicate dramatic change is taking place. For instance, while 96% of all Americans today do say they believe in God, the god they believe in differs dramatically from the God of the Bible Americans believed in 50 years ago. Today one-third of Americans who say they believe in God actually worship a “higher consciousness” or an Eastern god or “many gods.” Between three and four percent believe that they *are* God. And the belief in an afterlife is being manifested more and more frequently as belief in reincarnation and other Eastern philosophies.

Incredibly, fully half of those Americans who identify themselves as “born again Christians” do not believe that the Holy Spirit is a literal, living entity but rather suggest that it is simply a symbol of God’s presence and power. Likewise Satan is seen as a symbol of wrongdoing in people’s lives rather than a literal being. One-third of this group (“born again Christians”) do not believe in the physical resurrection of Jesus. Nearly one-third (30%) also believe that when Jesus was on earth He committed sins. And while these surveys focus on our neighbors to the south I believe that we have all observed that attitudes and beliefs tend to drift northward very quickly.

As I read the above information I couldn’t help asking myself if we as Seventh-day Adventists have been influenced by the attitudes that surround us. Of course, we’d like to think that we have not. But we *are* living in the world and we *are* affected by what we see and hear. And while very few Adventist attitudes may have reached the extremes mentioned above I fear that there is evidence that, even within the church, some among us have begun to question some of the basic tenants of our faith. But should we be surprised? God has been pleased to share with us some insights into the future: “Before the time for [a revival of primitive godliness] shall come, [Satan] will endeavor to prevent it, by introducing a counterfeit. In those churches which he can bring under his deceptive power, he will make it appear that God’s special blessing is poured out; there will be manifest what is thought to be great religious interest. Multitudes will exult that God is working marvelously for them, when the work is that of another spirit. Under a religious guise, Satan will seek to extend his influence over the Christian world.” *Great Controversy, page 484.*

To the casual observer North America is still a religious, God-fearing place. But upon closer examination the connection between the believer and his God doesn’t seem to be quite right. Could that be said of us too? Do we daily take the time to really know our God, His Word, and His will for our lives? Or do we have “...a form of godliness but deny(ing) its power?” 2 Timothy 3:5 NIV. It doesn’t have to be that way. If we will choose Him and invest the time to know Him, He will protect us from the deceptions that are sweeping this world. We are promised that, “Before the final visitation of God’s judgments upon the earth, there will be, among the people of the Lord, such a revival of primitive godliness as has not been witnessed since apostolic times.” *Great Controversy, page 464.* May it be that when Jesus returns He *will* find faith in this world – in your heart and in mine! ■



**New Growth Brings New Life/  
continued from page 1**

**January Creek Company**

A Branch Sabbath School formed on May 24, 1997 in the town of Peers, a small community of approximately 400 people, with a population of about 2000 in the surrounding area. A group of 35 people, including 19 children from kindergarten to teenagers, began meeting twice a month in the Peers Community Hall where they sang, had classes and a sermonette, always followed by a fellowship meal. This group has become known as the January Creek SDA Company, named after the small creek in the town of Peers.



**Some of our members at the first meeting held May 24**

October issue of *AAN*), went to Peers to distribute flyers and Bible study request cards to the community. The workers reported that they had a warm reception from most everyone they met as they told people about the wonderful fellowship of Seventh-day Adventists.

On September 1, the small group undertook the task of cleaning up around the community hall. They mowed and raked grass, cut small trees, and made the neglected grounds look presentable. It was evident to the community that these people care and are there to stay. Evangelism plans are being made and the group now meets every Sabbath.



“Meritorious Son” award was presented to Kim Sang Yong, a first in Canada among the Korean Society. The Edmonton Korean SDA Church recommended Mr. Kim for the award and he was selected. This is considered a great honor by the Korean Society. Mr. Kim received this award for the care he has given to his mother

during her many years of illness. This award was presented to him in Toronto and was featured on the front page of the *Korean Central Daily* newspaper, December 1, 1997.

**Mountain  
Sanctuary  
Company**

In the summer of 1995, Pastor Kelly Schultz, along with Bruce Proud and others, started a small company in the mountain community

of Canmore. After more than two years, their efforts are now starting to bear fruit. Les Miller and his wife, Melissa, drove out faithfully each week from Calgary to provide lay leadership there. Elder Lester Carney, former President of the Man-Sask Conference, and his wife, Bernice, retired in Canmore and have provided excellent guidance and stability to this small group because of their many years of experience. The result—there are approximately 17 people attending. The group meets in the Lutheran Church, a visible location in the town of Canmore. Many residents of the community remember when the conference had their camp at Canmore. The time has come when an Adventist presence is again taking place in this beautiful little town.

Dr. Derek Heldzinger, his wife Alma, and four children, members of the Calgary Central Church, have accepted the invitation to serve as leaders of the Mountain Sanctuary SDA Company. They replace the Millers who have taken employment overseas. Derek debated between ministry and medicine early in his education. He has a great interest in ministry and has introduced several people at his office to Jesus, resulting in Bible studies, church attendance and baptisms. Derek truly has a heart for people, and we look forward to seeing the way the Lord will continue to lead in this small, but growing, part of the family.



**Derek Heldzinger**

**Is A Gift Annuity For You?**

Are you satisfied with the rate of interest your bank is paying you? If not, and you are over 65, it may be time to consider a Charitable Gift Annuity. An annuity written with the Alberta Conference will provide you with a regular payment for the remainder of your life. In most situations the income received from a Charitable Gift Annuity is tax free, no matter how long you live or what you receive back in payments. Depending on the age of the annuitant, part of the principle amount of the annuity may be classed as charitable gift.

If you would like more information, please contact Keith Heinrich at the Alberta Conference, 403/342-5044, ext 202. He will be happy to discuss with you how the Charitable Gift Annuity plan can benefit you and God's work.



# Acts Alive

“I’ve never seen youth act like this,” was a comment from one of the 57 excited participants in the Acts Alive retreat held Thanksgiving weekend at Foothills Camp. What could they possibly mean? Here is



what another participant had to say: “This was the only retreat for youth in which I have been pressured (peer pressured) to become a Christian. Usually the Gospel takes a second place to the secular world. For once, the world took a second place to God. It was great!”



We certainly did have an incredible time. We were blessed with three guests: Roger Record from Washington, DC conducted a seminar on music as well as an evening concert; Brain Randone from Texas taught a workshop on mime ministry and gave a number of special performances; and, Elder Bill Kilgore (a last minute replacement for Ron Whitehead) from Southwestern Adventist University, led us deep into God’s Word, and into principles of God-centered leadership.

It was like no other retreat. Another youth expressed, “This weekend meant revival.” The youth prayed, sang, had fun, loved, testified, and studied together. It was powerful, wild, moving—all in one. One particularly exciting time came Sabbath morning. The leaders had specifically given that time to God, and encouraged the young people to give testimonies. What followed was amazing - close to two hours of testimonies.

*“For once, the world took a second place to God.” [I learned] “you can’t take people somewhere you haven’t been.”*

One participant commented that “the Holy Spirit was present in the room on Sabbath morning. I’ve never seen God move over a group of young people like this before. It was exciting to see their fire for Jesus.”

Other participants expressed their new convictions to be vocal and enthusiastic about their faith. At one point, the entire group gathered around one individual for prayer while that person gave their heart to Jesus for the first time.

Expressions of renewed hope and direction were bountiful: “This weekend meant a renewal of faith, and hope in the youth program and our Church in general.” “It meant a strong decision that I hadn’t made before in regards to my personal devotions, prayer with my friends, and accountability.” “Acts Alive was the greatest time of my life. I could actually feel love and God.”

*“It meant a strong decision that I hadn’t made before in regards to my personal devotions, prayer with my friends, and accountability.”*

Perhaps the retreat could be summed up best by one young participant, “This weekend was an eye opening, fun-filled, spiritual, God-centered, all-around great weekend. I got the spark this weekend that I hope will turn into a fire. I got tools to make me a better leader. What I will take from here is, that you can’t take people somewhere you haven’t been.”

Suffice it to say, the Holy Spirit blessed in ways that have seldom been seen! Now that the cat has been let out of the bag - expect Acts Alive to be one weekend that you will not want to miss!

*“Acts Alive was the greatest time of my life. I could actually feel love and God.”*

**Baby Dedication: Josemarie Rodrigo** was born on April 23, 1997 and was presented by his parents Julie and Josetoy to our Heavenly Father in a dedicatory service on August 30, 1997 in the Edmonton Central Church. Pastor Sereivudh Ly officiated.

# “Piece of Pie” Founder Leads Youth Leadership Seminar

“Just what I needed!” exclaimed one of the 56 excited participants at the “Next Step” Youth Leadership seminar, Sabbath, November 9. All participants were blessed with five hours of youth ministry insights presented by Steve Case, founder of Piece of the Pie Ministries. Steve is an author of several youth ministry publications and one of our denomination’s foremost youth ministry educators.

Not your typical seminar, Steve relied on direct experience to enhance the learning. This included taste tests of jelly beans, role playing and more. An abundance of youth to young adult ministry resources were made available - it seemed everyone left with an armful. One grateful participant expressed it this way. “It was so good, I’ve never had the opportunity to receive training like this.” We can praise God for the good number of participants who turned out, desiring to minister to our young people more effectively. Let’s continue to uphold those who lead in this most exciting area.



*Next Step, presented by Steve Case*

## Friends in Northern Places

Did you know:

- It is farther from Edmonton to Yellowknife than from Edmonton to Vancouver
- From Yellowknife to Iqaluit, Baffin Island is farther than from Yellowknife to Las Vegas. This does not take in everything West and North of Yellowknife.
- There are sixty-five thousand people in all of the Northwest Territories, just less than the population of the city of Red Deer.
- The government of the Northwest Territories is stationed in Yellowknife, but there is no ruling party. Each area elects a representative, and this forms the government.
- Every Sabbath about 35 children and adults meet in a beautiful church that was built by a Maranatha team in the early ‘70’s.
- Bruce and LeRee Proud have recently moved to Yellowknife to be the pastor for the only Seventh-day Adventist Church in the whole Northwest Territories.

On a recent visit, my first to Yellowknife, I was excited at what I found. Our church family is small but alive, with many children. Bruce and LeRee have already fallen in love with the place, and the church loves them. Although Bruce has not been a full time pastor before, his big heart and warm smile quickly balances out the lack

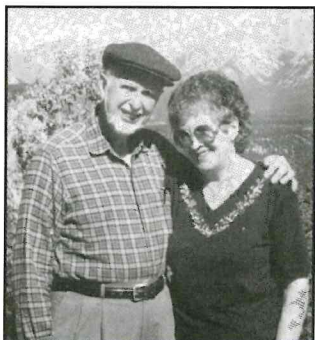
of a graduation certificate. He is already involved in many aspects of community life, and was asked to be part of a planning commission to discuss the needs of youth in Yellowknife. Bruce suggested choosing and rewarding a “Youth of the Month,” an idea that was a big hit, and plans are well underway to launch that very program.

It’s very easy to become so focused on Alberta that we forget we have friends in high (Northern) places. Yellowknife family, you are in our prayers.

*Bill Spangler, Editor*



*Blake Wile and group*



**Carrol and John Shewmake** - ministered to us during the Regional Prayer Retreat in September at Canadian University College. The theme was “Developing Intimacy with God.” Many came from out-of-town and those who attended the meetings were greatly blessed. The Shewmake’s also spoke at the Calgary Pineridge Church the following weekend.

### CanGo ‘97

A new four-day mission emphasis and Alumni funfest was held October 23-26 at CUC. By joining forces with Alumni, who have served the church and their neighbours, Campus Ministries and College Development provided opportunities for “the experienced” and “the interested” to share.



# Internet Survival for Teachers

Forty-eight teachers from 13 Adventist schools in the Alberta Conference met at Canadian University College for their annual teacher convention (October 19-21). The convention theme "Internet Survival for Teachers" was timely and appropriate since all Alberta Adventist Schools are now online with Internet (made possible by the Telus World Learning Grant Program).

Dr. Jim Jeffery, Dean, Division of Professional Studies at CUC, was the presenter for this workshop, covering topics that included: *Technology—The Future Is Now; How to Make Sense of the World Wide Web; Incorporating the Internet Across the Curriculum—*

*Making Life Easier; Lesson Plans and Sites Galore; and How to Keep Your Kids Safe on the Internet.* Dr. Jeffery demonstrated with video/computer online some typical procedures (such as "downloading," "unzipping," and "e-mailing") so that "Newbies" could become familiar with receiving and sending information via the Internet.

From this convention, it became evident that the Internet offers a number of tools to assist the Adventist teacher. While some schools may be using out-dated or incorrect textbooks the Internet helps to equalize the education of our students by engaging students interactively, exploring the Web for current events, real examples and the latest data. The resource material packet provided at the convention for each teacher included a plethora of educational sites for teachers to visit and obtain lesson plans, activities, and ideas for their classrooms.

In the words of Michael Newbarth, editor of *Internet World*, "A global network is a terrible thing to waste." Teachers in the Alberta Conference have been introduced to the "electronic paper" and are looking forward to many positive online experiences to benefit both the education of their students and their own professional growth.

*Robert Crux, Education Superintendent*



## CUC Internet Outreach

A cooperative venture between CUC and the Lacombe Public Library has resulted in a project that will demonstrate CUC's "good neighbour" philosophy to the community. Using federal funds for getting small towns on the Internet, CUC provides the location, low-cost Internet server, and coordinates the volunteers who will assist users in the public access site. By partnering, Lacombe was

able to double the number of computers it can offer the public and CUC gained four new computers. Of 40 volunteers who have applied to assist, 16 are PAA/CUC students, and a paid intern, CUC student Andre Zetawer. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held November 5.

### Tithe and Offering Report

Below is the tithe and offering report of the Alberta Conference for the first ten months of 1997. As you can see, the tithe income to the Conference is down about four percent over last year. This is due in part to the fact that last year we received a rather large special gift of tithe from one individual. If we eliminate this from our calculations, the tithe giving to the Conference has increased for 1997. We are concerned, however, with the continuing decrease in giving to Alberta Advance.

	1996	1997	
Tithe	\$4,093,247	\$3,923,014	(4.07%)
Missions	232,305	236,921	2.21%
Alberta Advance	171,112	167,097	(2.24%)

To each member of the Conference we wish to say thank you for supporting the work of God's Church here in Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

A change made by the Federal Government for the 1997 taxation year allows an individual a deduction of up to 75% of income for gifts made to charity. This is an increase from the 50% allowed for the 1996 taxation year. The Federal Government is making it possible for most individuals to report all their charitable contributions with no taxes on donations made to charity.

*Keith Heinrich, Treasurer*

Kingsway College is currently seeking a qualified individual for our **Development/Recruitment Officer**. Requirements include Bachelors Degree in the development area. Experience in both alumni development and student recruitment is required. Must be personable, self-motivated, have excellent communication skills, be willing to travel and love teenagers.

Kingsway College is currently seeking an experienced **French teacher**. Qualifications include denominational certification, a positive attitude, a good working relationship with students, and a team player. Provincial certification is not required, but a plus. Responsibilities would include teaching all French courses and possibly some English. There would also be extra-curricular responsibilities such as sponsorships, committee appointments and supervision. The position is available beginning second semester, Jan. 26, '98.

If you are interested in either career opportunity, please send your resume with references to: Kingsway College, Attn: David Branum, Principal, 1200 Leland Rd., Oshawa, ON L1K 2H5 Phone: 905/433-1144 or Fax: 905/433-1156.

# Adventist Singles Ministries



**W**hat is happening with singles in the Adventist Church today? Do you know who they are? What they are doing? Are they struggling with a mountain of problems? What can you do to help? Are you willing to lend your ear,

your arm, your voice or your hand? Do you know what is needed? Do you care? It is not only singles that need answers to these questions. The church, our community and the world is in need of this same ministry.

As Seventh-day Adventists here in Alberta and around the world, you have been touched by members

of Adventist Singles Ministries (ASM). How? This past quarter the

World Church studied the *Collegiate Quarterly* lessons prepared by ASM members. A member of ASM edits the *Guide*. As church members settle into their pews on Sabbath mornings in every Conference in North America, they attend Sabbath Schools chaired by members of ASM, and they participate in Sabbath School classes taught by ASM members. They open their Bibles in churches each week and hear sermons presented by pastors and lay members who belong to ASM. They sit behind desks in our educational institutions. They teach our children in our church schools. They are administrators, faculty and staff in our denominational institutions. If you should fall ill, you may find that the nurse or doctor that administers TLC is a member of Adventist Singles Ministries.

These observations indicate that members of Adventist Singles Ministries are active, participating, loyal Seventh-day Adventist

church members who come in all sizes, shapes, personalities, opinions, theological bents, a variety of colors, have a love for singing, laughter and fun, and come in two genders. They love their Church and their Lord. They want to help the world about them learn about their Jesus and they desperately wish for Him to come soon.

Adventist Singles Ministries was founded over 25 years ago for the purpose of promoting missionary endeavors and Christian fellowship for Seventh-day Adventist single adults. The ministry of ASM is unique and multifaceted, providing a wide variety of spiritual, social, recreational and mission outreach opportunities. A sense of belonging, the spirit of family, the warmth of caring concern and fellowship encourages personal growth, enrichment and renewal of life. It is often heard, "Why didn't someone tell me about ASM before this?" when they first discover that there is an organization for singles within the church.

Although Adventist Singles Ministries is a separate entity, it is recognized by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as the means for ministry to single adults. Recent statistics suggest that singles 18 and over, now comprise over 40% of the Seventh-day Adventist membership in North America. Over a quarter of a million individuals! Singles represent over half of all Adventist households in North America—amazing statistics! Life is hard in these closing days of earth's history, and the Church has not escaped its effects, either corporately or individually. It is wonderful that a place has been made for its singles, not only to sit in the pews as observers, but also to lead out as participants.



We, the Adventist Singles Ministries, Alberta Chapter, are concerned Christians who have accepted this challenge to make a difference. The voice of singles exists to promote an awareness in the Church and to enable individuals to become whole, caring and effective within the Church, the community and the world. We, too, are His

hands, His eyes, His feet, His voice, and His light.

For more information please write to: Adventist Singles Ministries, PO Box 5511, Lacombe, AB, T4L 1X2. E-mail: maria.bachinski@ualberta.ca / lfgraham@telusplanet.net / mtwo@rttinc.com / jgoss@acs.ucalgary.ca



# New Conference Employees



**C**urtis Polishuk, a “grass roots” Albertan, was born and raised in the Beauvallon area. He graduated from PAA and studied business for two years at CUC. In 1988, he graduated from Walla Walla College with a B.Sc. degree in Business Administration. After working in Oregon, Alberta and Ontario, he then pursued an M.B.A. degree at Andrews University. In 1991, Curtis worked for ADRA in Sudan, Africa as a graduate consultant. In January 1992 he graduated and returned to the family farm in Beauvallon.

Curtis met Lucia Dumitrescu, from Romania, while in Seattle. In June 1995 he traveled to Newbold College and Utrecht to spend

more time with Lucia. Curtis taught business courses at Newbold College while Lucia completed a B.A. degree in Biblical and Pastoral Studies in 1996. Soon they were engaged and on February 23, 1997 Lucia and Curtis were married in Bucharest, Romania.

Curtis has enjoyed his first weeks of employment as the accountant for the Education Department. He will also be auditing church books. Curtis enjoys reading, computers, water skiing, cycling, and volleyball.

Nicola Straub’s desire to serve the Lord has brought her to the doorstep of the Alberta Conference where she is excited to be serving in her new position as part-time secretary in the Education Department. She is an active member of the Red Deer Church and enjoys getting involved in the church ministries as well as getting to know her family in Christ. She now looks forward to getting acquainted with her “extended family” throughout Alberta. Nicola also feels that Christian education is a vital part of ministering to our youth and she welcomes the opportunity to be a part of this incredible responsibility.

Born and raised in Alberta, Nicola feels blessed to live in this beautiful province. She currently lives in Springbrook with her husband, Kevin. Nicola has always had a keen interest in exploring new countries, experiencing different cultures and learning new languages. She has travelled extensively throughout Europe. In addition to travel, her personal interests include horsemanship, outdoor adventure activities, volleyball, skiing and spending time with family and friends.

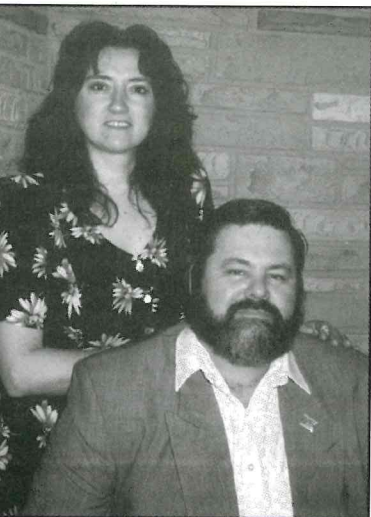
## Pastoral Staff Update

### Bruce and LeRee Proud in Yellowknife

“Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice!” This is Bruce Proud’s motto and favorite text. He finds new blessings each day, and he claims he has the best job in the world, in the best location on the planet!

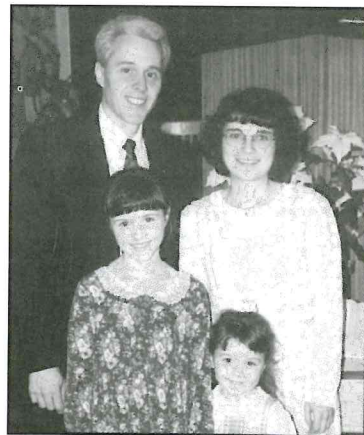
Bruce considers his chance to minister in Yellowknife a direct answer to prayer. He had been praying for a chance to do God’s work full-time. Bruce emphasizes how wonderful Christ is rather than to make people feel guilty. “If I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto me,” seems to be working as he sees people turning to Christ every day.

LeRee has settled into life in the far North. She is busy as manager of Grower Direct Flowers. She gets paid to be creative and she meets a lot of people. Bruce is thankful for LeRee and her support. They have two sons that “bring them joy and amazement.” They also thank the Lord for the mail they receive and the phone calls from friends.



### Justis and Roseann St.Hilaire in Fairview/Peoria Smoky

The St. Hilaire’s met at Canadian Union College and eventually married. Roseann graduated with her degree in office administration and Justis in pre-ministry. Prior to attending CUC, Justis had the opportunity to train in evangelism under Mark Finley and Brad Thorp. After graduation, they worked in Red Deer before moving to the beautiful province of Newfoundland. They are grateful for the experiences and travels in the Lord’s work and are especially pleased to be back serving in Alberta. They have two children, Janaya and Michelle.





## A Farewell and Welcome



Pastor Leslie and Juanita Neal transferred from Edmonton Central Church to the British Columbia Conference in August. Les is serving in the Sabbath School and Children's Ministries Department and Juanita is Education Director.

Warren Kay is now the senior pastor of the Edmonton Central Church. The Kay family is very involved in church and school activities.



## Stephen and Vivian Thompson in Grande Prairie/Valleyview

Born into an Anglican family, Stephen grew up keeping the traditions of his Christian childhood, but didn't really know the Lord. After graduating, as an adult, from Queen's University with a degree



in Mechanical Engineering, he was stationed in seven different cities. Each of these cities had a channel that carried the It Is Written television program. It was the only religious television program that he would watch.

Later, Stephen started his own company in Fort McMurray and over the next eight years the Lord greatly blessed his business activities. In 1989 the lay members of Fort McMurray held a Daniel Seminar which Stephen was impressed to attend. He remembers how the accuracy of Biblical prophecies became clear and for the first time the Bible seemed credible. One thought occupied his mind: "If the Bible was a book of truth in terms of the prophetic writings, then what it says about Christ must be true as well!" With this conviction Stephen gave himself to the Lord with a full immersion baptism into the Seventh-day Adventist church.

For three and one-half years Stephen was an active member in Fort McMurray. Then, he felt convicted that he was being called into His service. Having no idea what this meant, he made a deal that whatever doors the Lord opened, he would walk through. Arriving back at work on Monday morning, Stephen discovered that the door *was* wide open! He prepared to attend CUC. The Lord blessed him with his education, a family and the opportunity to work in the Alberta field. Stephen and Vivian have two children, Desirae and young Stuart. Vivian and Stephen are thrilled to be in the ministry.

## Student Pastors Ordained

October 11 marks another historical first at Canadian University College. Four young people were ordained as student pastors of the College Heights Church. "I knew they were called by God," says Steve Little, Associate Pastor and CUC Chaplain.

Campus Ministries is a student-led organization dedicated to empowering students to go make a difference for the Kingdom of God. This is one step toward



making the students feel ownership of the spiritual programs on campus. It also shows that the College Heights Church recognizes the ministry of students."

Indeed, this year there has been an explosion of spiritual activities at CUC, and the student pastors are playing an important part in the spiritual life of the campus. Their areas of giftedness and responsibility are (in the order pictured): Tey Steenbergen-Outreach; Alastair Atherton-Special Events; Bobbie Basaraba-Worship and Administration; Zaak Robichaud-Creative Ministries.

## Recent Assignments

- Derek Heldzinger, GMA, Mtn. Sanctuary Co. (Canmore)
- Don Johnson, lay pastor, Rocky Mountain House
- Dan Rochford, pastor, Edmonton South/Ryley district
- Kelly Schultz, pastor, Beaumont/Leduc/Warburg district
- Felix Richter, pastor, Edson/Onoway district



# Church Activities

## Edmonton's Second Annual Walk for ADRA

**A**lthough September 14 was a cold and rainy day, the weather did not dampen the spirits of over 80 people from four Edmonton area churches who eagerly participated in

the Second Annual Walk for ADRA. A total of \$11,400 was raised as they walked five, ten, or even 15 kms. through the city's beautiful river valley.



One walker started to raise pledges only the Sabbath before the walk. One week later this man had raised over \$2,000. He had experiences like the following: His van had a flat and it cost him \$10 to fix it. The man who fixed the tire gave him a \$15 pledge, when stopping to fill up with gas, the attendant gave him a \$5 pledge as did the cashier.

Many people who would 'never go ingathering', participated and everyone agreed it was far easier to raise money for "Walk for ADRA"

than using traditional methods of fundraising.

## Praise and Thanksgiving at the College Heights Church

October 17, 1997 marked exactly 88 years from the date the College Heights Church was organized. September 22, marked 35 years since the first worship service in the newly-built sanctuary. In 1911 there was \$21.75 in the church building fund but it took 50 years more before a sanctuary became reality. At that first service, 35 years ago, the membership stood at 549. Now with membership at 1170, renovations were badly needed. Under the able leadership of Associate Pastor, Dennis Braun, with the cooperative efforts of many willing volunteers, new offices, a larger glassed-in foyer, expanded washroom facilities, a new public address system and a new platform materialized. A new Casavant pipe organ, funds raised completely outside the membership, complete the platform area.

Throughout the history of this church, members and students have served around the world, ministering beyond the walls of this church, in every capacity of life. To God be the glory! In the words of the planning committee: "This 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is not only a testimony to the church's enduring legacy, but also a bold affirmation about its vision for its continuing ministry to the World Church, the Church in Canada and the College Heights community as well."

*Maj-Britt Risk, External Communications Secretary,  
College Heights Church*



**Members in the College Heights Church who have held continuous membership for 35 years or more.**



**Remodelled entrance**

## Romantic Mountain Get-Away for Married Couples

January 23 & 24, 1998

Location - secret, Cost: \$180 per couple

Transportation available from the  
Conference office for a small fee

Call Janet Griffith @887-5766 or 886-4208 after 5 pm.



Elsie Layritz from **Onoway Church** is surrounded by some of her crafts and paintings which she sells. She is such a tiny ball of energy and enthusiasm with a big spark in raising funds for ADRA



The **Lacombe Community Church Outreach** - recently hosted the Doug Bachelor satellite evangelistic series. As a result, a small group is now attending church. Also, Elder Marvin Moore recently conducted a weekend seminar "Hope for the End Time," including *The Coming Great Calamity, Is Jesus Really Coming Soon?, Does Jesus Really Save Sinners and Does Jesus Really Give Victory?*



The **Fairview Church** had a walkathon for ADRA, raising over \$1,000. Six adults and nine children participated. Three children from one family alone raised over \$500. This was a first for the small town of Fairview, but they are planning on making it a yearly event. Funds continue to come in.

**Vegreville Church** continues to make children's ministry a priority with another successful Vacation Bible School. Thirty six children were enrolled.



*It's important to cook...*



*... and to sample!*



Angel Bock and Nancy Buxton, guest presenters at a recent Regional Women's Retreat at **Red Deer**, shared many different ways a church of any size can start and maintain a vibrant Women's Ministry. The weekend ended with a

fabulous banquet and a Christian Gospel concert. Many returned to their churches with new ideas and enthusiasm.

## Manitoba Flood Relief

Monies contributed and distributed:

Man-Sask/Ont/BC Conferences & Miscellaneous	\$11,659.95
ADRA Canada	\$5,000.00
Alberta Conference (individuals)	<u>\$16,840.04</u>
Total:	\$33,499.99

A total of 17 people from the Rural Municipalities of Ritchot and Montcalm, MB, have received \$35,500. Sixteen people received \$2,000 each. One person received \$1,500.

To November 13, six expressions of thanks via card or letter had been received.

*Report by Mervin Kempert, Project Coordinator for Adventist Community Services (ACS) - Winnipeg*



## Dateline

- Dec. 13 & Jan 24 Health Seminar Satellite Seminar  
 25 OFFICE CLOSED, Christmas Day  
 29 OFFICE CLOSED, Boxing Day
- Jan. 1 OFFICE CLOSED, New Year's Day  
 3 North American Div. Day of Prayer  
 9 - 12 Ministers' Meeting, Foothills Camp  
 15 Personnel Com., 9:00 am, Red Deer  
 22 PAA Board, College Heights  
 23 - 24 Romantic Married Couples Get-Away  
 23 - 25 CUC Board, College Heights  
 25 Native Min. Com., 1:00 pm, Red Deer  
 30 - 31 Bill Wilson, Ministry Leadership Challenge, "The Next Level," CUC
- Feb. 11 - 14 Master Guide Convention, LA  
 13 - 16 Adventist Singles, Rocky Mountain Cross-country ski weekend, Eagle Ranch near Rocky Mountain House  
 16 OFFICE CLOSED, Family Day  
 17 Evangelism Com., 9:00 am, Red Deer  
 19 Personnel Com., 9:00 am, Red Deer  
 22 Executive Committee, Red Deer  
 27 - Mar 1 Pathfinder Winter Ret., Foothills Camp  
 27 - Mar 2 SDACC Board, Oshawa  
 Union K-12 Board, Oshawa
- Mar. 6 - 8 Men's Retreat, Foothills Camp  
 12 Personnel Com., 9:00 am, Red Deer  
 13 - 15 Marriage Encounter, Calgary  
 20 - 22 Women's Retreat, Foothills Camp  
 26 PAA Board, College Heights  
 27 - 30 CUC Board, College Corp., Red Deer  
 29 Native Min. Com., 1:00 pm, Red Deer  
 31 P.R.E.A.C.H. Satellite Seminar

## From the Editor...

### "Disciples of Quality"

I was reading *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing* recently and was stopped short at what I read on page 40. The thought progression goes like this. "Humanity has in itself no light. Apart from Christ... we have not a single ray of brightness to shed into the darkness of the world....Christ's followers are to be more than a light in the midst of men. They are *the* light of the world....The church of Christ, EVERY INDIVIDUAL DISCIPLE OF THE MASTER, is heaven's appointed channel for the revelation of God to men." (Emphasis mine)



**Bill Spangler, Editor**

Why did that jump off the page at me, you ask? Because I know that many of us believe, sometimes without giving it much thought, that Adventists are the means by which light comes into the world. Now I fully believe that Adventists have a message of light to give to the world that is unique to them, but this says that "every individual disciple" is a means of light to the world.

A disciple is a person with a living, breathing experience with Jesus Christ, that is growing with each day as that person learns and accepts new truth. The person who just yesterday learned that sin is the reason he/she does the things they do and that Jesus Christ is the remedy for sin, and in their own awkward way invite Him to take charge of the chaos they are experiencing, is every bit as much a disciple as the one who is old in years, whose Bible is worn out from study, and whose reputation is that of a powerful preacher who led thousands to the truth of the three angel's message.

Recently seven babies were born to one mother all weighing 2 or 3 pounds. Are they human beings? Is the 250-pound body builder more of a human being than one of these little ones? Of course not. He is stronger, more mature, and able to do more things, but he is not better. The disciple who knows only a little of what Christ wants him to know is still a disciple and the ray of light that he/she has to offer may be just the ray of light that we need. We demonstrate our maturity when we recognize that God's channel of truth may come from the weakest of disciples or maybe from those we don't even consider disciples because they "aren't one of us."

Your response is welcome.

Do you struggle with outbursts of anger?  
 Do you sometimes feel like a child?  
 Are your relationships satisfying?  
 Are you plagued with jealousy, fear or sadness?  
 We can help.

**Call Life Skills Learning  
& Wellness Centre**

403/309-2700

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 Don't Know Where To Turn?  
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 Individual, child & family counselling

**Alberta Centre for Therapy  
& Child Therapy Centre**

Offices in Red Deer, Lacombe & Edmonton