

2013 Sees God's Work Expanding in Alberta

It is important to Christ to see His work expanding for that illustrates that His followers are taking the great commission seriously. Establishing new churches has been from the beginning of the Christian movement the prime way to expand Christ's kingdom. At the end of time as Christ seeks to provide a witness to all the world before His return, establishing churches is vital in providing that final great crescendo of the gospel's appeal to the world. It is also in keeping with inspired messages by Ellen White to Seventh-day Adventists. Churches and leadership in the Alberta conference are taking Christ's desire for new churches seriously. Following are a few of the stories.

At left Calgary Alderman Andre Chabot gives his congratulations to the Calgary Adventist Sudanese Fellowship now organizing into a company status. He along with Sargent Shanan Scott from the Calgary Police Department welcomed this new church organization, indicating that these church organizations provide a strength to the city in their messages of morality and ministries of compassion. (It is always important to include the community in our major events for they then become more familiar with our work.)



Calgary Sudanese organize first Adventist Sudanese church organization in Canada!



Above on the left is a choir that sang at the organization service on May 25 and a picture of the charter members on the right. The Garden Road Seventh-day Adventist Church has given this new group wonderful support in their development. They will begin a series of evangelistic meetings

to reach out to the approximately 10,000 Sudanese who live in Calgary. Let's continue to pray for this new company as they seek to fulfill Christ's call and mission to this important community. This is the first Adventist Sudanese church organization in Canada—we praise the Lord!

Calgary Northwinds Church organizes!!



Above at left is the newly organized Northwinds Church which reaches out to the Calgary community and especially the Filipino community. Joining them in this picture are some friends of the church that have chosen to fellowship with them. At right their pastor, Honey Todd, looks on as some new members sign as charter members of the church. It is a high day to see a new church with vision for the future and dynamic fellowship organize to serve their Lord.



Elder Ken Wiebe shares a message with at the Northwind's Church organization. He inspired them to make a difference in their community and be faithful in sharing God's message of hope and healing so important to these days of earth's history.

In order to have a successful church planting movement it is essential to have conference leadership support. It is evident by their presence and support that the Alberta Conference leadership seek to expand God's work in this province through starting new

work.

Evangelism p.19-- Everywhere the light of truth is to shine forth, that hearts now in the sleep of ignorance may be awakened and converted. In all countries and cities the gospel is to be proclaimed... Churches are to be organized and plans laid for work to be done by the members of the newly organized churches. This gospel missionary work is to keep reaching out and annexing

new territory, enlarging the cultivated portions of the vineyard. The circle is to extend until it belts the world.



Reported previously for 2013, the Beaudoin family are locating in Fort Saskatchewan in August to help start a

new work there. They are pictured on the left and on the right Elder Wiebe leads out in the organization of the new Cornerstone Community church with Pastor Wallin O'Connor leading that congregation. The group pictured above on the right is only part of the approximately 80 charter members that joined this new church. This story was reported in more detail in the previous newsletter.



Beth Tehillah Vetikva, House of Praise and Hope, is the first contextualized Jewish Ministries outreach in Canada and is supported by the Camrose SDA Church, the Alberta Conference, and NAD Jewish Ministries. Begun in September 2012, the fellowship reaches out to Jewish and Gentile seekers wanting to gain deeper insights into the Hebrew roots of the Christian faith and to provide a familiar worship experience for those of Jewish ancestry wishing to explore Jesus as the Messiah of Israel.

The Wainwright Adventist church fellowship is a group forming in a community that is new to an Adventist presence. This is an outreach of the Sedgewick Seventh-day Adventist Church and Phil Brick is the lay leader of this group. There are also plans to have a VOAR radio station established in the community. A church congregation in town not of



the Adventist denomination has agreed to locate the tower on their property.

The 2013 Story Continues---

- Recently the board of both **Edmonton Central and Edmonton South Churches** voted to begin the process of establishing new congregations. These churches are both filled to capacity on Sabbath morning and members of both of these churches are sensing God's call to be a part of a new work in ministering to the Edmonton area.
- **Calgary area churches** are also expressing a desire to be a part of expanding God's work. On September 13 and 14 a church planting rally will be held in the city of Calgary (see the advertisement later in this newsletter).
- The conference has voted to establish work in **8 cities by 2016** that currently have no Adventist presence: Fort Saskatchewan, Beaumont, High River, Cochrane, Chestermere, Stony Plain, Cold Lake, Okotoks. There will be an attempt to provide Bible Workers/Church Planters for each of these new areas.
- There is also work to rebirth churches with low attendance as **Drumheller** which has tripled it attendance over the past couple years. This is due to a vision of the church and pastor and also a very effective Bible worker. We must add that it is God and His power that we must thank—it is truly His vision and His power!! We praise God.
- The Change **School of Evangelism** has about 17 students enrolled for a 3 month training period. This includes both classroom and field experience. The last part of the field experience will be working in an evangelistic outreach.
- We pray for communities with a small Adventist presence that continue to endeavor to start a new work as **Slave Lake and Grand Cache**. If there are members or churches that would like to provide support for these new areas please contact **Don Corkum—dcorkum1@msn.com and 403-669-0706**.

Commented [DWC1]:

Campmeeting and Church Planting

There will be a seminar each day (M-F) at 10:30 on the theme "How to Start New Work." It will discuss our mandate from Jesus: how to gather a core group; develop leadership; how to establish a vision and mission; systems of support; factors important in launching worship; how to keep a new church healthy and vibrant. Each seminar attendee (1 per couple) will receive a manual free (valued at \$20.00) if they plan to regularly attend the seminar.

Presenters



Tom Evans
Andrews University



Dave Jamieson
Pastor, British Columbia



Jeff Potts
Manitoba-Sask. Conference

Hosted by

**Calgary Central
Church**

Everyone Welcome

**Lunch provided after
the afternoon seminars**

**Fulfilling Christ's joy
by expanding His
witness**

September 13&14, 2013

Friday, 7 p.m. Church Planting Live-- with Reports--Evans

Saturday Afternoon Seminars—2:30-6:30

Two sessions: 2:30-4:00 & 4:15-5:45 & closing 6:00-6:30, then supper

Reaching Your Community Through Acts of Kindness—Jamieson

Extreme Servolution—Jamieson

Essential Steps to Church Planting—Evans

Creating a Healthy Mother Church—Evans

Church Planting to Reach Post Moderns—Potts

Keeping an Established Plant Vibrant—Potts

A Weekend You Will Remember

Each presenter is skilled in the area of his presentation and has achieved great success in God's work. Jesus is coming soon and we must expand our witness for Him! For further information contact your pastor or Don Corkum; dcorkum1@msn.com or 403-669-0706.

House of Prayer for All People—a Goal for Adventist Churches

How to be a Prayer Saturated Church*

“Having a praying church is not just a good idea; it is the foundation from which everything else flows”

1. Building a House of Prayer
2. Selecting a Prayer Coordinator
3. Organizing a Prayer Action Team
4. Taking Prayer to a New Level
5. Developing a Prayer Strategy
6. Praying for the Pastor
7. Motivating Every Member to Pray
8. Moving Prayer Outside the Walls

Marks of a praying church

First, members have a strong devotional life and invest time praying for others.

Second, they understand who God is and how they can relate to Him through prayer.

Third, leaders model the importance of prayer before the congregation.

Fourth, Prayer permeates total church life and is not viewed as another program.

Fifth, high priority is placed on corporate prayer meetings.

Sixth, investing time in God’s presence results in humility, unity, and Christlikeness.

Seventh, and the most distinguishing mark, the presence of God fills His house.

*Adapted from Cheryl Sacks book, the Prayer Saturated Church: A comprehensive handbook for prayer leaders, published by NavPress.

The Church Planting Connect Newsletter is provided by the Church Planting Department of the Alberta Conference, Don Corkum is the editor.