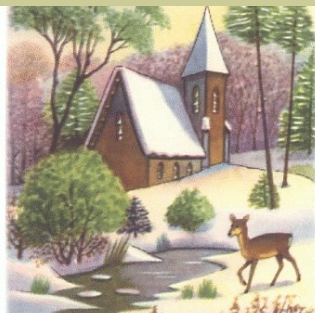


CAT~news

A publication from the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada
Office of Education



THE GIFT OF TEACHERS

Betty Bayer, Director of Education

It's Christmas, and I think once again about gifts and giving, and about school Christmas programs and the teachers who make them possible. And as I consider my blessings from a different vantage point, the people who have touched my life, and the work I have been asked to do, I am convicted anew that (1) there is no more important work than the education of our children¹, and (2) the classroom teacher is the most influential (and therefore, important) person in our education system² . . . next to the children, of course. Through the years, teachers have indeed been a gift to me—the ones who have taught and continue to teach me, those whose classrooms my son has been in, those who model Christ-like patience and who spend hours planning lessons that point children to the Creator and Saviour while teaching them about the world and their place in it. It is the classroom teacher who knows every child by name, who knows what he's afraid of and what she wants to be when she grows up. Curriculum comes alive in the hands of a skillful teacher, classrooms become engaging places where students want to learn because of the efforts of a creative teacher, students build caring relationships with each other and with significant adults under the nurture of a caring teacher.



All other levels and roles in the education system . . . administrators, secretaries, conference, union, and division personnel . . . exist to support the classroom teacher. My primary responsibility in the SDACC office of education is to support our classroom teachers in our Adventist schools across Canada. When we make decisions about policy and funding and scheduling, we need to pause to consider how those decisions will impact classrooms. When we represent Canadian concerns at NAD committees, we must ensure that we are representing the interests of our classroom teachers.

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FAREWELL TO DR. DENNIS MARSHALL

Christmas, this front page of CAT~news, and certainly the SDACC office of education, is just not the same this year. Quite simply, we are very much missing Dennis. For ten years, Dr. Marshall served the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada as Director of Education. For more than ten years, we have valued his wisdom, his experience, his deep faith, and his friendship. Even in retirement, Dennis continues to model lifelong learning as an avid reader, a world traveler, and a seeker for truth. Thank you, Dr. Marshall. You are missed big time, and always welcome in education circles across Canada!



WELCOME TO SHAD LEHMANN

The SDACC Office of Education is so very pleased to welcome Shad Lehmann to our office as the Associate Director of Education. Shad has taught in classrooms from Gr. 1 to university, and has administrative experience in three conferences across Canada, most recently as Superintendent of Education in the Manitoba/Saskatchewan Conference. An experienced administrator, an outdoor education specialist, a spiritual leader, and the father of three, he brings a wealth of experience and a passion for Adventist education. Shad, we eagerly anticipate your arrival in Oshawa some time in January!



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THE GIFT OF TEACHERS, continued...

Will there always be consensus in identifying what those needs are and how best to meet them? Unlikely. But we must be deliberate and sincere in our efforts to do so.

I can't promise you that enrollment will increase or that more schools will open or that test scores or baptismal numbers will rise. I can't promise you quick fixes to longstanding problems or the absence of conflict or even warm and dry and attractive facilities. But I can promise you that I will pray daily for you and for your children. I can promise you that I will work tirelessly to build a culture of trust, a spirit of collaboration, and a focus on spiritual growth. Truth is, I believe that education is an affair of the heart. Its greatest strength and its greatest power lie in relationships... first, a genuine and growing relationship with Jesus and then caring connections with others. As we focus on those relationships--what's most important--God will supply every other need.

This Christmas, I am thankful again for the gift of teachers. I am thankful that God has called each of you to play an important part in Adventist education across Canada. As we look forward to 2017, let's commit to supporting each other. Let's dialogue through the difficulties, rise to the challenges, choose to believe the best. We have the privilege, Mrs. White writes, "not only to look for but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."³ As we partner together—school and home and church, teachers and parents and pastors—we can help to do just that.

¹ See E. G. White, *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*: "There is no work more important than the education of our youth" (p. 46); "Nothing is of greater importance than the education of our children and young people. The church should arouse and manifest a deep interest in this work" (p. 165).

² See, for example, a 2005 study by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development which referred to teachers as "the most significant resource in schools" (p. 7).

³ E. G. White, *Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 69.

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS

The Excellence in Education award recognizes the work of exceptional teachers and outstanding school administrators in the SDACC school system. The award consists of a beautiful iron and glass award and a cheque for \$1000.00 for the selected teachers and \$1500.00 for the selected principal. The 2016 Excellence in Education Award winners are: Luz Ahumada, Sartigan Adventist Academy, QC; Martha Boehner, Sandy Lake Academy, NS; Linda King, Fraser Valley Adventist Academy, BC; and Matthew Okimi, Prairie Adventist Christian eSchool, AB. The administrator recipient is Gail Wilton, Mamawi Atosketan Native School, AB.



SDACC News

We extend our warmest congratulations to our outstanding educators. Nomination forms for the 2017 school year are posted on CAT-net (<http://catnet.adventist.ca>). Submissions are due April 15.

2017 SCHOOL EVALUATIONS

The following schools have evaluation visits this school year:



Elementary Schools

Chilliwack Adventist Christian School (Interim Review)
College Heights Christian School (Full Evaluation)
Crawford Adv. Academy - Peel Campus (Full Evaluation)
Curtis-Horne Christian School (Interim Review)
Grandview Adventist Academy (Full Evaluation)
North Okanagan Jr. Academy (Interim Review)
Ottawa SDA School (Full Evaluation)
Pleasant Valley Christian Academy (Interim Review)
Robson Valley Jr. Academy (Full Evaluation)
Sartigan Adventist Academy (Full Evaluation)
South Side Christian School (Interim Review)
Windsor Adventist Elementary School (Interim Review)
Woodlands Adventist School (Revisit)

Junior Academy

Red River Valley Jr. Academy (Full Evaluation)

Senior Academies

Cariboo Adventist Academy (Full Evaluation)
Coralwood Adventist Academy (Full Evaluation)
Crawford Adventist Academy (Interim Review)
Deer Lake SDA School (Full Evaluation)
Mamawi Atosketan Native School (Full Evaluation)
Peace Christian School (Interim Review)
Prairie Adventist Christian eSchool (Full Evaluation)
Sandy Lake Academy (Full Evaluation)
West Coast Adventist School (Full Evaluation)

NEW SUPERINTENDENTS/TEACHERS

WELCOME

We welcome the following individuals who are new to their positions or new to our Adventist education system in Canada:

Dan Carley, Assistant Superintendent, Ontario Conference
Joanna Alexis, Deer Lake SDA School, BC
Marc Andrade, Chinook Winds Adventist Academy, AB
David Barritt, Mamawi Atosketan Native School, AB
Roland Charlin, Greaves Adventist Academy, QC
Bobby Chilaka, Coralwood Adventist Academy, AB
Annina Engelbrecht, Shuswap SDA School, BC
Karlyne Felix, Crawford Adventist Academy-Peel Campus, ON
David Forsey, Adventist Christian Elementary School, ON
Carlene Green, Crawford Adventist Academy, ON
Marthe Hall, Greaves Adventist Academy, QC
Hye-Young Lee, Red River Valley Jr. Academy, MS
Angela Manzanares, Red River Valley Jr. Academy, MS
Patrick McKibbon, Peace Christian School, BC
Ajay McNarland, Mamawi Atosketan Native School, AB
Gidget Meeks, Lakeview Christian School, BC
Sara Morrison, West Coast Adventist Christian School, BC



Adventist Education

NAD News

NEW SUPERINTENDENTS/TEACHERS

continued from pg. 2

Matthew Murray, Avalon Adventist Christian School, BC
 Emile Ndekezi, Higher Ground Christian School, AB
 Sibongile Nyathi, Bella Coola Adventist School, BC
 Rosie Oabel, Avalon Adventist Christian School, BC
 Petal Paddy, Crawford Adventist Acad. -Peel Campus, ON
 Jacques Pierre, Okanagan Adventist Academy, BC
 Kemily Smith, Crawford Adventist Academy, ON
 Jerry Stanley, Peace Hills Adventist School, AB
 Atalia Trejo, Lakeview Christian School, BC
 Claude Trepanier, Parkview Adventist Academy, AB
 Alicia Volkwyn, Okanagan Adventist Academy, BC
 Kayla Whitworth, Deer Lake SDA School, BC
 Glen Wilson, Coralwood Adventist Academy, AB

Please forgive us and let us know if we forgot anyone.

NAD 2018 TEACHER'S CONVENTION

The NAD 2018 Teacher's Convention will be held from August 5-9, 2018 at McCormick Place in Chicago, IL. Plan to be inspired by wonderful speakers and various breakout sessions.

NAD CERTIFICATION REVIEW TASKFORCE

This taskforce has recommended the piloting of a "microcredentialing" program for recertification, and each union will be asked to recommend teachers who hold Standard or Professional certificates who would be interested in piloting during the 2017/18 school year. If you are interested, or would like further information, please contact Betty.

NAD COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION

Davina Peters, principal of Greaves Adventist Academy, has recently been invited to serve a 3-year term on the NAD Commission of Accreditation. This Commission reviews all the terms of accreditation recommendations for academies across the division. Its members include representatives from every union including directors, associates, superintendents, and principals.

iBELIEVEBIBLE

The Adventist Learning Community is working with Adventist young people to create a series of contemporary videos called BELIEVE, available through various types of social media. These short videos (1-4 minutes) address some of the challenging questions young people have today in a way that is both engaging and thought-provoking. Academies may find them useful for worships and/or supplementary resources for Bible classes. For more information, see the iBelieveBible facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/iBelieveBible/?fref=ts>



MCGRAW HILL MUSIC STUDIO

This cloud-based inte-

MUSIC STUDIO

grated music program is currently being piloted and should be available for use in schools during the 2017/18 school year. A multigrade resource is currently being written which includes faith-based components and a weekly plan with materials for two 30-45 minute class periods. Two NAD webinars are being planned to introduce these materials: March 14 – McGraw Hill Music Studio, and April 11 – the multi-grade resource for the program.

ENCOUNTER ELEMENTARY BIBLE

Three teacher training sessions will be held this spring for the elementary *Encounter* program conducted by Lanelle Cobbin, the lead writer from Australia. Information on dates and locations will be available from your conference office of education. We are moving forward to implement Gr. 1-11 *Encounter* Bible for the 2017/18 school year! Gr. 12 will be available for 2018/19.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM

The CreationKids Curriculum is currently available for Early Childhood programs for 3- and 4-year-olds. Cobblestones, the preK resource designed to support the kindergarten Stepping Stones program for preK/K combined classrooms should be available for the 2017/18 school year.

NEW ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA LIBRARY

Year long demo! NAD K-12 Educators have FREE access for the 2016-2017 school year to another



resource from Britannica School. In addition to Britannica School and Britannica ImageQuest, students, teachers, and parents now have instant access to an online library of non-fiction ebooks for Gr. PK-12. See <https://britannicalearn.com/resources/#filter=.product-68> for an overview. Let Betty know if you would like to continue this resource on a regular basis.

Disclaimer: Each eBook has been reviewed prior to inclusion as a resource. However, teachers are encouraged to review each resource prior to introducing it into the classroom. While most resources are consistent with the Adventist Worldview, the committee has included a notation explaining where a resource is not consistent with that worldview. Teachers should use their professional discretion.

The Back Page



What Does Christmas Look Like?

Sandrine A. wrote this when she was in Gr. 8 at College Park Elementary School. She is currently in Gr. 9 at Kingsway College.

What does Christmas look like?

What makes up the season?

Is it the snow that blankets the earth?

Or maybe it is the lights that sprinkle the sky.

Do the sounds of jingling bells give one the feeling of happiness?

Do sleigh rides bring the joy of December?

Decorations, wreaths,

The smell of pine trees with the delicate aroma of

Christmas cookies?

Food at every turn?

Toys in every store?

Does Santa Claus bring contentment to every corner of the world?

Is it the feeling of reindeer gracefully dancing in the skies above?

Are presents the source of satisfaction every year?

Stockings by the fireplace, colourful stacks of gifts under a tall, lighted tree?

Does the feeling of a bone-freezing breeze let one know that Christmas time is near?

Does the sight of children ice skating elegantly tell everyone that it is time for the holidays?

Well, as a matter of fact, this is what Christmas *looks* like, but it is not what is is about.

These ways of celebrating the season may bring some happiness,

BUT. . .

It is not what Christmas is truly about.

When I think of Christmas, not only do I

hear the music,

see the beauty,

smell the trees,

taste the goodies,

feel the excitement,

I look in my mind and see something that could not replace the reason for the season.

A tiny little infant,

born so humble, so perfect,

yet He died because of me.

He died to save me!

Not only is Christmas about family, lights, presents, joy,

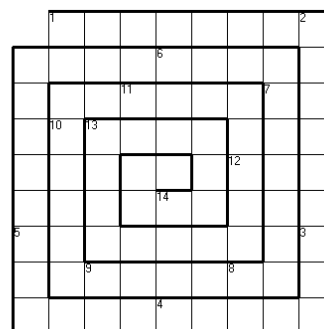
It is about love.

God's love.

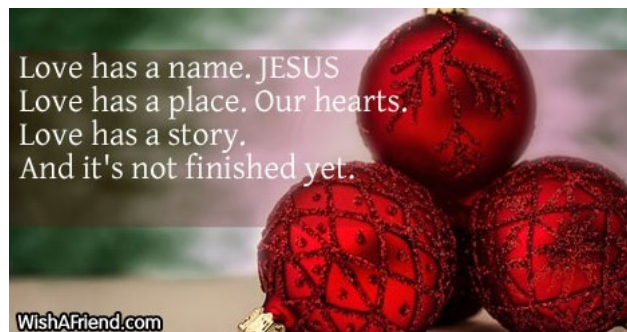
That is what Christmas looks like.

CHRISTMAS SPIRAL PUZZLE

Taken from: <http://www.sermons4kids.com>



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The reason the wise men wanted to find Jesus | 8. An infant |
| 2. Animal that Mary rode to Bethlehem | 9. He saves people from their sin |
| 3. Earthly father of Jesus | 10. There was no room there for Jesus |
| 4. Announced Jesus' birth to the shepherds | 11. The wise men brought these to Jesus |
| 5. Watched their flocks | 12. City where Jesus was born |
| 6. It led the wise men to Jesus | 13. A place where animals sleep |
| 7. Where the baby Jesus was laid | 14. The mother of Jesus |



Dates of Importance

NAD K-12 Advisory/UDOEC	Nov. 30 - Dec. 6, 2016
Education Council Executive	January 25, 2017
BU Teacher Interview/Banquet	January 26, 2017
Burman University Board of Trustees	January 27-29, 2017
NAD TDEC	February 5-9, 2017
NAD UDOEC	February 15-16, 2017
SDACC Education Council/In-Service	March 1-3, 2017
SDACC Board of Directors	March 4-6, 2017
SDACC K-12 Board	March 6, 2017
Cariboo Adventist Academy Full Eval.	March 12-15, 2017
Red River Valley Jr. Academy Full Eval	March 19-21, 2017
Sartigan Adventist Academy Full Eval.	March 23, 2017
Deer Lake SDA School Full Eval.	April 2-5, 2017
Adventist Education Sabbath	April 22, 2017
Coralwood Adventist Acad. Full Eval.	April 30-May 3, 2017
Mamawi Ato. Native Sch. Full Eval.	April 30-May 3, 2017
Fraser Valley Adventist Academy (Revisit)	April 27-28, 2017
Sandy Lake Academy Full Eval.	May 7-10, 2017
NAD K-12 Advisory/UDOEC	May 15-18, 2017
SDACC Board of Directors	June 11-12, 2017
NAD Summer Curriculum Committees	June 12-29, 2017
Commission on Accreditation	July 31, 2017

Please confirm with your local conference.