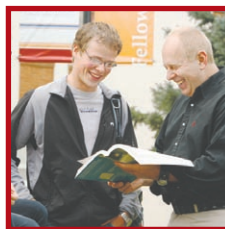




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PRAIRIE HARVESTER

NEWS & INFORMATION FOR THE PRAIRIE FAMILY
WINTER 2007

Homecoming 2007: Sharing the Vision

September. Clear blue skies and the warm colors of autumn. A college campus alive with eager young men and women beginning their next adventure with God. The picture is missing only one thing--you!

Join us from September 21 to 23 for Homecoming 2007 as we celebrate the 85 years of Prairie's history and marvel at all that God has done through men and women whose passion for Christ took shape here in this place.

Homecoming is a time for the whole Prairie family to get together and this includes our current students as well as our alumni. The change in timing to the fall season will allow you to see the campus 'in action' and meet young people who are committed to serving God in their generation.

You'll be inspired by their enthusiasm and passion and have opportunity to encourage them with your own story and experience.

Special guests for this event include our speakers Dr. Ron Sider and Dr. Paul Chamberlain. Dr. Sider



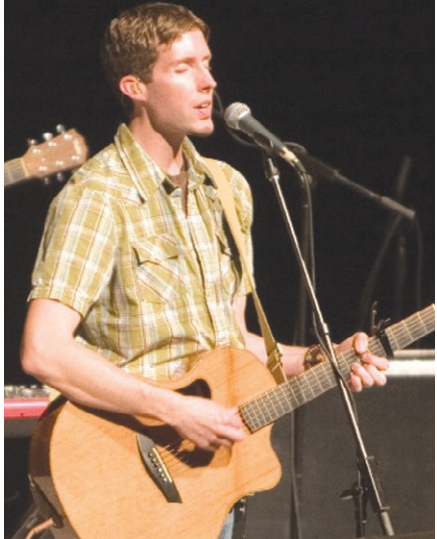
Dr. Ron Sider

is professor of Theology, Holistic Ministry and Public Policy at Palmer Theological Seminary and the president of Evangelicals for Social

Action. His numerous books include *The Scandal of the Evangelical Conscience* and *Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger*, which was recognized as one of the one hundred most influential religious books of the twentieth century. Dr. Paul Chamberlain (PBC'77) is the director of the Institute for Christian Apologetics at Trinity Western University where he teaches ethics and Christian apologetics. He has participated widely in public debates, made guest appearances on radio and TV, and served with Ravi Zacharias International Ministries. Both of these men are uniquely equipped to address the issues of a practical and effective faith.

They will be joined by worship leader and recording artist Matt Brouwer

(PBC'98). After helping give birth to Prairie's popular "Monday Night Worship"



Matt Brouwer

Matt found his talents leading him to Nashville, TN where the doors were swinging open on a promising musical career. He became uncomfortable, however, with the focus on record

see Homecoming on page 7

Off the Ground—a successful launch for Prairie's new vocational college



Candy O'Connor, Dean of Prairie's newly established College of Applied Arts & Technology, looks back on the first year of this pioneer program

and ahead to the next phase in its development:

What an amazing year this has been! PCAAT experienced a very successful launch with a full cohort of creative Early Childhood Education students, a double cohort of committed Practical Nurse students, and a keen group of Health Care Aide students who are taking the pilot program that allows them to bridge into the Practical Nurse

diploma.

The Early Childhood Education students have been active in preschools, daycares, and elementary schools since they began the Fall semester. The girls are being welcomed and embraced by local community programs as they prepare to be educators with a difference. "I wanted to work with children," says one student, "but I also wanted to go to Bible College. No other school offers both at the same time." Others who have the goal of teaching children using a Christian worldview are also finding that PCAAT is training them to do just that.

The Continuing Care Unit of the local Three Hills hospital is benefiting from the professional skills of our Health Care Aide

students whose eager assistance is being appreciated by both patients and staff alike. The Practical Nurse students are achieving higher grades than Bow Valley College, our partnering institution, has ever seen. They are so excited to be moving into their first practicum in area hospitals as well as preparing for a student-initiated medical missions trip to Mozambique in May.

Several instructors will accompany about a dozen nursing students as they go to join Prairie alumni Dwight (PBC'90) and Lynn



Health Care Aide students Kim Plett, Alicia Anderson and Rosemary Sullivan assist a resident at Three Hills Hospital's continuing care unit.

see Successful launch on page 2

Looking ahead—holding fast

Dr. Jon Ohlhauser
President



Over the past four years there have been many new developments at Prairie. There are new buildings, new programs, new opportunities. But one thing that has not changed is our continuing commitment to enable the Body of Christ to reach the world with the Gospel of Christ.

To this end we have launched an aggressive vision for 2012 that will challenge us to have an annual graduating class consisting of 140 men and women who have expressed their intentions to serve God in specific capacities. The detailed breakdown of this vision looks like this:

- 40 international Kingdom servants (missionaries)
- 10 church pastors
- 7 youth pastors
- 5 domestic church planters
- 5 domestic corporate worship leaders
- 3 domestic camp ministry leaders
- 5 domestic health care workers
- 10 domestic natural resource specialists
- 10 domestic communication specialists
- 13 domestic educational specialists
- 2 domestic aviation specialists
- 5 seminary candidates
- 5 graduate school candidates

Accomplishing this goal will mean that we will double the annual number of graduates who will be specifically prepared and committed to serving the Body

Prayer Partners

It is no secret that God works in answer to the united prayers of His people. We value the partnership of our constituents and invite you to join us in praying daily for the staff and faculty, the students, and the world-wide impact of Prairie Bible Institute.

Our mission is to enable the body of Christ to reach the world with the gospel of Christ. *Prairie Prayer Points* is a monthly bulletin designed to provide you with daily information that will assist you in

praying for this ministry.

If you would like to join us in intercession and thanksgiving for the work of God at Prairie, here's how:

www.prairie.edu/prayforme.htm and select Prairie Prayer Points to access the bulletin, or Email development@prairie.edu for a free email subscription to the monthly bulletin.

If you do not have internet access, request a print copy by calling (403)443-3041

of Christ. To accomplish this vision we will need the prayers and financial backing of all of the Harvester readers and Prairie family.

I hope you will be encouraged by the direction and potential of this vision and be motivated to join us in this challenge with your prayer and financial support.

To donate on-line visit
www.prairie.edu.

US donors note: On-line donations are processed in Canadian Dollars.

To donate in US funds, call the Development office at 1.800.661.2425

Successful launch from page 1

Lagore, founders of Southern Africa Missions. Last year a small rural clinic was opened to address the overwhelming needs of the local people. Our team will help deliver medical services and promote health care education at the clinic and in surrounding villages. I'm so encouraged to see the passion these students have to use their professional skills for the glory of God at this early stage in their careers.

I understand why they chose to train at Prairie when I hear comments like this: "I have always wanted to be a nurse, but I wanted a good Christian college. When Prairie introduced the Practical Nurse program, I knew God wanted me here," or "I'm here because God has

called me to be a nurse and then a medical missionary."

This entire inaugural class of PCAAT brings excitement, joy, fun, professionalism and commitment to all they do both inside and outside of the classroom. It is such a delight to witness their spiritual, personal, and professional growth.

Much of that growth is due to the exceptional team of highly qualified instructors who are consistently modeling the integration of their faith into the fabric of their lives and their work. It never ceases to amaze me how God has led each one to Prairie and how committed and focused they are. Along with expressing how privileged they feel to be a part of this new ven-

ture, they tell me that "teaching is a joy when the students begin to see how theory matched with an attitude of love and caring can be practiced in their future careers and ministry endeavors."

It takes many people to bring a new program to life. A generous donation of hospital beds and medical equipment helped create an 8-bed educational lab that has seen extensive use this year. There have been many other gifts and donations of equipment as well and we have seen excellent partnerships established with Bow Valley College, Olds College, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology and Lethbridge Community College. In the Fall of 2007 we anticipate the addition of

five new programs including Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Land & Water Resources (Environmental Stewardship major), Special Needs Educational Assistant, Pharmacy Technician, and Emergency Management.

The vision for PCAAT was born when Prairie's president Dr. Jon Ohlhauser saw the need for Christian-based vocational training that would prepare young people for professional ministry at home and abroad and allow them to integrate their faith with their career calling. I'm thrilled to be a part of this new adventure as God leads us into a future of unlimited possibilities.

www.prairie.edu

Ministry Trips

The following student groups will be heading overseas on short-term ministry trips this spring:

Open Air Campaigners April 24 – May 5
After a stop in Kiev, Ukraine, OAC will travel to Russia where they will be sharing the gospel through drama, sketch board, and visual presentations in schools, open-air plazas and other public areas.

Barnabas Players April 27 – May 17
Prairie's drama team will minister mainly to school children in the city of London and surrounding areas. They will be assisting local churches as they explain their faith and address moral and family issues in city schools, many of which are predominantly Muslim.

PCAAT Nursing Students May 13 – June 9
Our nursing students will serve in medical missions at a rural clinic in Mozambique, giving medical treatment on site, providing health education for the community, and trekking to outlying villages to care for those who cannot travel to the clinic.



Open Air Campaigners



PCAAT Nursing Students



Barnabas Players

If you are interested in supporting any of these teams, please make donations payable to *Prairie Bible Institute*, Box 4000, Three Hills, AB T0M 2N0. Indicate clearly which group you wish to support. All donations will be issued a tax-deductible receipt.

Prairie appoints new director of development

Dr. Ron Berg was recently appointed as Prairie's Vice President for Organizational Development. His role will be to give leadership in strengthening Prairie's relationship with alumni and friends and raising the financial support needed for the ministries and operation of the school.

Dr. Berg (PHS '60, PBC '64) has been a pastor, church planter, regional minister, and most recently the Executive Director of the North American Baptist Conference. His connections with Prairie go back to grade school days when his father David Berg was a student and staff member. Ron and his sister and brother sang and traveled for the Prairie

Children's Hour radio broadcast, directed by his uncles who made up the well-known Janz Quartet.

The Organizational Development Department provides direction for events like Homecoming and local alumni gatherings with the intention of keeping Prairie's supporters informed, involved and connected with the school. Development staff members are also responsible for Prairie's publications, including *Servant* magazine, the *Prairie Harvester* and regular update letters from the president. The general ministry gifts, endowments, capital campaigns, annuities, planned estate giving and special projects that comprise Prairie's financial support are all managed by this

department, as is the enormous task of recording and receipting all giving to Prairie and the management of the data base that contains current addresses and information for all of our alumni and supporters.

Ron is married to Ruth (Walde, PBC u'64) and they are pleased to be back in Three Hills close to children and grandchildren. "The mission of Prairie has not changed," says Ron, "but the fresh and innovative approach that has been taken to prepare young men and women for ministry is an exciting story to tell."

Dr. Berg is available to meet with alumni and supporters to talk about Prairie's vision, to answer questions, discuss options



Ron Berg: "I believe Prairie has an exciting story to tell."

for financially supporting this ministry, and to receive input on how Prairie can be more effective in its mission. He can be reached at ron.berg@prairie.edu or by calling 403-443-5511.

Catching the bug-flying high at Aviation Camp

By Mike Fox

If you ask most pilots when they first caught the flying bug you will hear a variety of stories from countless places involving many different people. There is one common theme, however, and it usually starts with "when I was a kid..."

For me it was the day my grandpa took me flying in one of his helicopters. I can still recall crouching on my hands and knees, my face plastered against the bubble of a Bell helicopter as we swept over the city of Edmonton. Thirty-some years later, the experience of that flight is still vivid in my mind. Why?

There is something about being a child that will not allow us to say 'never'. It isn't until we grow up that we lay aside those dreams of adventure and start settling down, simply allowing life to happen to us.

But with flying the opposite seems to happen. We just can't forget and invariably the flying

bug reemerges. I've also noticed that the older you get the harder it bites. For me the dream lay dormant for twenty years. But

love on a full-time basis.

Three years ago Prairie began hosting flight camps where young people were afforded the

the skies themselves, hopefully rekindling the dream of "when I was a kid."

The dates for Flight Camp this year are July 15-20, 22-27 and July 29 to August 3. Space for each week is limited so be sure to register early. Along with ground school sessions, each camper will receive 5 hours of flying time with additional ride-alongs. Our goal is that you will have a good introduction to the aviation industry and be encouraged in your walk with God. We hope you will experience the love of flying that has affected all of the staff here so deeply and have the opportunity to discover whether a career in aviation is for you.



...CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW ?

when the aviation bug showed up again, it was too persistent to be ignored. Now I'm a proud part of Prairie's School of Mission Aviation, doing what I

opportunity to get 'bitten by the bug'. In that time close to 100 teens have had the chance to come and train under real flight instructors and to take to

Mike Fox is a graduate of Prairie High School ('80) and Prairie Bible College ('91) and a licensed pilot. He serves as Chief Flight Instructor and Operations Manager to Prairie's School of Mission Aviation.



Andrew Toliver, Martha Wiebe, and Richard Pettifer are recognized by Dr. Ohlhauser for outstanding volunteer service.

Prairie honors volunteers

Prairie is blessed by the service of many men and women who give generously of their time to serve the Institute in a



volunteer capacity. Their enthusiasm, wisdom and expertise contribute greatly to the smooth functioning of the campus. On February 8, 2007 a banquet was held in their honor at the Prairie dining room. Special recognition went to Martha Wiebe who has served for over 40 years as a volunteer at Prairie, and to Richard Pettifer who contributes more than 20 hours of his time each week. Andrew Toliver was chosen by his fellow volunteers as someone who goes above and beyond the normal call of duty on a regular basis. Hats off to all our volunteers!

FAMILY ALBUM

1940s

Dehart, Doris (BC'45), Sebring, FL. After serving with SIM in Nigeria from 1946 to 1982, she now lives in the SIM retirement village and is still active.

1950s

Allen, Jerry and Jan (**Dodson**, BC'54) were in Papua New Guinea from September to December assisting the Halia translation committee and conducting a translation training course. At home in Hilltop Lakes, TX they help with an Asian English Bible class and Jan teaches Bible and English to international wives. jerryjanallen@wbt.org

1960s

Hoel, Karen (HS'62, BC'66) lives in Edmonton, AB where she works with SIM Culture Connexions, reaching out to International students and families at Knox EFC and through InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. khoel@shaw.ca

Jones, Ted (HS'55, BC'60) and Kris celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in July. They are based in Tucson, AZ with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Ted.jones@sil.org

Kirsch, Betty (BC'61) works with ethnic communities under InterAct Ministries in Mission, BC.

O'Connor, Bonnie (BC'62) returned to Manila, Philippines early in 2007 with the Association of Baptists for World Evangelism. jeanmdj@yahoo.com.ph

Wilson, Richard (BC'61) and Gayle live in Florence, AL. Richard's study on the Holy Spirit *Living Water For Everyone* is published free online: www.livingwater-foreveryone.org



1970s

Dick, Charlie and Sandra (HS'74, BC'78) are living in the UK where they work with Arab World Ministries. Sandra.dick@ntlworld.com

Green, Lorraine (BC'77) has returned to Chad to work with Team in church development and Christian education. lgreen127@yahoo.com

Henderson, Dave (BC u'78) and Sherie (BC u'78) recently celebrated their daughter's graduation and wedding in the US and are now in Moscow working with WorldVenture. dhenderson@co.ru

Hickey, Laura (BC'72) serves with AIM in Chad in the guesthouse. She has been working as a missionary in Africa for over 30 years.

Kuhns, Niles "Mac" (BC u'76) and Roxanne (BC u'76) live in Elmira, ON. They are retired from New Tribes and United World Mission.

1980s

Doell, John and Katherine



(**Johnston**, HS'80) welcomed Kiera-Joy on September 11, 2006. She joins Jeremy (20), David (17) and Karla (14). The Doells live in Cochrane, AB where John works for the town. jandkdoell@shaw.ca

Homenuke, Ron (BC'87) is in the Philippines with Action International ministering to students and developing an English tutorial program. Ron.homenuke@actionintl.org

Honecker, Steve and Dawn are involved in scripture translation in Vanuatu with Wycliffe. They are presently in Three Hills, AB on home assignment. Steve_honecker@sil.org

Kull, Richard (BC'80) and Starla (**McCain**, BC'80) are now in Mexico where they are church planting with Faith Christian Mission. Their 4 oldest children are grown and they have adopted Taylor (5) and LiAnne (3) from China. ricknstarla@gmail.com

Petker, Dan (BC'81) and Dianne live in Blackfalds, AB where Dan drives a fuel truck for a bulk fuel agency in Red Deer. Diane is a secretary at Calvary Evangelical Church. dwpetker@telus.net



Rueck, Nathan (HS'87) and Becky are with New Tribes Mission in Thailand. Nathan is the business manager and bookkeeper. They have three boys and were expecting their fourth child in August of 2006. Nathan_Rueck@ntm.org

Siebert, James (BC'82) and Ann are serving international students at Fresno State University in Fresno, CA through InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. They welcomed baby Joy on October 26, 2006, a sister for Melody. jasiebert@sbcglobal.net

Wiebe, Ron and Eunice (**Martin**, BC'79) have moved to Natal in north-eastern Brazil and are working with Child Evangelism Fellowship. ronwiebe@mts.net

1990s

Clark, Doug (BC'95) and Katie welcomed daughter Alexis on August 8,



2006. Doug is pursuing a firefighting career and Katie works in a neurology unit. They live in Bellingham, WA. 2dwc@comcast.net

Greene, Brad (HS'95, BC'98) and



Kristyn (**Blocher**, BC'97) will move to Vancouver, WA in April where Brad will be working with Horizon Airlines. He completed his Associate degree in Airframe and Power Plant in March. Along with daughter Avery (5) they welcomed their son Seth on November 3, 2006. oilslick7@yahoo.com

Hewett, David (BC u'93) and



Karen (**See**, BC'92) adopted Daniel Xiaolong in October of 2006. He was born in China in 2004, two weeks later than their own daughter Bethany Grace. They live near Pittsburgh, PA. david@hewettfamily.org

Hopf, Kristi (BC'98), has been appointed as a missionary to Niger with the Christian & Missionary Alliance in Canada. Following language studies in Quebec Kristi will be leaving for Africa in 2008.

Janzen, Cam (HS'91, BC u'96) and Josie serve with International Student Ministries Canada in Vancouver, BC. They are also assisting the university chaplain with a campus Alpha program. camjosie@canada.com

Mitten, Brent (HS'87, BC'91) and Laurie live in California where he pastors at Santa Rosa Bible Church. They have three boys. Mittfam5@sbcglobal.net

Parker, Stan (BC'91,'98) and



Lynay (**Hanson**, HS'87, BC'91) are in Campbell River, BC where Stan serves as Pastor of Youth at Campbell River Baptist Church. Lynay teaches piano and voice and helps Stan with

youth and music. They have three children. Mrsfly-fisher@hotmail.com

Poon, Esther (BC'98) married Chris van Wijk on October 2, 2005. They are serving as long term associates with Operation Mobilization in the Emirates.

Esther_my_poon@hotmail.com

Salamon, Alex and Melanie



(**Smithers**, HS'95) are living in Didsbury, AB where Alex is a construction supervisor and Melanie is a homemaker. They have three children. Melanie@frickles.com

Swalm, Nick (BC'99) and Paula are in New Guinea serving with MAF. Their son Malachi joined big sister Kayla on June 9, 2006. Nick was formerly Chief Flight Instructor at Prairie School of Mission Aviation.

Utriainen, Seija (BC'97) and Panu Tiittainen were married in Finland on May 27, 2006. Seija.tiittainen@elisanet.fi



2000s

Baker, Tony (BC'01) and Kimberley (**Greene**, HS'97, BC u'03) welcomed Lyla Mae on January 30, 2006. They live near Seattle, WA and are expecting another little one in the summer. wifeoftony@gmail.com



Marois, Naomi (BC u'2000) married Ian Rocke on December 29, 2006. They are presently living in Dubuque, IA.

Penner, Brad (BC'06) and Marcia (former staff) welcomed their first child Hanah on May 28, 2006. They are living in Three Hills, AB. Bradley_penner@hotmail.com

Ramer, Brent (HS'95, BC'06) and Mary-Anne (BC'06) are in Three Hills where Brent works in the oil and gas industry while they both complete requirements for their music degrees. Their daughter Delaney was born one month early on May 18, 2006. brentramer@hotmail.com

Ranne, Paul (BC'04) and Andrea (**Klassen**, BC'04) were

With the Lord

Bates, Olive (former staff) entered the Lord's presence on January 19, 2007 in Three Hills, AB. She had served in the offices of Prairie Bible Institute for 21 years and leaves behind her brother and sister, nieces and nephews and many friends.

Casselman, Muriel (**Stromgren**, BC u'54) passed away in Linden, AB on December 13, 2006. She and her husband Don (HS'45, BC'49) had also lived in Calgary before their return to Three Hills in 1992.

Christensen, Amelia (former staff) passed away on May 9, 2006 at the age of 96 years. She was predeceased by her husband Rudolph (staff, BC'41).

Christiansen, Cathleen (BC u'34) passed into the Lord's presence in Seattle on June 21, 2006 after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's.

Dochuk, George (BC'71) died suddenly in Burnaby, BC on September 12, 2006. He is survived by his wife Martha (**Koochin**, HS'65, BC'71).

Dolhanyk, Rosanna (**Wilder**, HS'47) joined her husband Robert in the presence of Christ on April 26, 2006.

Hanson, Lloyd Willard (BC'39) was called home on May 6, 2006. He had founded and pastored Manitou Evangelical Church and served for a time as superintendent of the Canadian Sunday School Mission. His wife Wilma (**Harter**, BC'41) lives in Langley, BC.

Honecker, Gustave "Gus" (former staff) passed away in Three Hills, AB on January 26, 2007. He had served overseas in the medical corps during

the war, then came on staff at Prairie Bible Institute where he served faithfully in different capacities for nearly 60 years. He was predeceased by his wife Ila in 1980.

Hudson, Grace (former staff). After 17 years in home mission work in northern Minnesota, Grace served as secretary of Prairie High School from 1960 to 1980. She passed away in Three Hills, AB on May 6, 2006.

Imbach, Faith (**Inglis**, BC u'52, former staff) went to be with her Lord on July 14, 2006 in Abbotsford, BC. She and her husband Gene were long-time staff members at Prairie where Mrs. Imbach taught voice and conducted the Ambassador choir for many years.

Jantz, Hugo (HS'49) passed away on August 12, 2006 after a two-year battle with cancer. He had been a broadcaster, pastor, and Bible school teacher and served with the Mennonite Central Committee and MB board of missions. His wife Katherine resides in Winnipeg.

Janz, Leo (BC'42) met his Savior face to face on August 8, 2006, just before his 87th birthday. He was the founder of the Janz Team Ministries and served on Prairie staff with his wife Lydia (**Doell**, BC u'44).

Leckie, Jim (HS'51, BC'54) passed away on May 28, 2006 in Pennsylvania. He and his wife

Anna (**Ruegsegger**, BC'54) were honored as Prairie's Distinguished Alumni in 2004 for their work with youth and families through Family Guidance, which they co-founded.

Simons, Lester (BC u'67) went home on August 5, 2006. He is survived by Joan (BC u'64), his wife of 53 years. Les pastored churches in Alberta, California, and Nevada and spoke at conferences throughout the US, Canada and England.

Snider, Katharina (**Klassen**, BC'41) died on August 13, 2006 in Niagara Falls, ON at the age of 93. She and her husband Herbert (BC u.'33) were missionaries for many years in Colombia, South

America and recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Wall, Fred (former staff) passed away suddenly of a heart attack on October 3, 2006. After a career in the air force, Fred worked in Prairie's carpenter shop before

his retirement. His wife Lois resides in Three Hills, AB.

Weeks, Madeline (**Loewen**, BC'53) passed away on May 15, 2006 in Linden, AB. She leaves behind her loving husband of 32 years, John.

Weller, Cyril (BC'36) died peacefully at home in Victoria, BC on November 2, 2006. He and Doris, his wife of 57 years, had invested their lives as missionaries with OMF.



Grace Hudson



Faith Imbach



Fred Wall



Rosanna Dolhanyk



married on June 3, 2006. They now live in Abbotsford, BC. paulanne@yahoo.com

Schaufel, Jocelyn (current



staff) and Daniel **Bieri** were married in Trochu, AB on October 8, 2006. Daniel is from Teufenthal, Switzerland and is currently studying for his BA in Theology. Jocelyn is the Assistant Director of Admissions at Prairie. www.jocelyndaniel.com

Prairie on the road

During the month of May Prairie's Ambassador Choir and Jubilation Ensemble will be traveling throughout BC and Vancouver Island. Check the schedule below and join them for an outstanding musical presentation in a church or venue near you.



Prairie's Ambassador Choir and Jubilation ensemble, under the direction of James Janzen, prepare for spring tour.

During their tour the group will be teaming up with Prairie's president at special alumni events in Kelowna and Abbotsford. Join us for an evening of music, friendship and information. Meet up with old and new alumni and hear what's going on at Prairie as well as our vision for the future, presented by President Dr. Jon Ohlhauser. For more details go to www.prairie.edu/events or contact 403.443.3031

If you would be interested in helping us organize these and future alumni events we would love to hear from you.

Choir Tour Schedule - May

1	Alumni Event, Grace Baptist		Kelowna, BC
2	Alumni Event		Abbotsford, BC
3	St David's Anglican Church	PM	Delta, BC
4	Arrowsmith Baptist Church	Youth	Port Alberni, BC
6	Black Creek Mennonite Brethren	10:00 am	Black Creek, BC
	Courtenay Fellowship Church	6:30 pm	Courtenay, BC
7	Ocean Crest Community Church	7:00 pm	Campbell River, BC
9	Westsong Community Church	PM	Langford, BC
10	Peace Portal Alliance Church	PM	Surrey, BC
13	Maranatha Christian Reform Church	10:00 am	Calgary, AB
	Tri-Community Church	7:00 pm	Beiseker, AB

Prairie sponsors first-ever Canadian youth workers' conference

By Al Mertes

Just over a year ago, I received a call that changed the direction of our lives. I had visited Prairie Bible College a week earlier to interview for the position of Professor of Youth Ministries and now the invitation had been extended to come. After three decades in youth ministry, including 22 years as Director of Student Ministries at Trinity Baptist Church in Kelowna, BC, this was a new challenge that fit well with my passion for the church and preparing young men and women for ministry to teenagers. From that day on my wife Shirley and I have experienced the welcoming spirit of Prairie staff and the people of Three Hills.

I began teaching classes last fall and have been impressed with the sincere love the students have for God and their enthusiasm for

learning. I covet your prayers as we strive to develop the Youth Ministry track at the College. It is my dream to see Prairie known as one of the best Youth Ministry preparation colleges in Western Canada.

Another dream is coming true as well as we plan for our first ever Canadian youth workers' conference this June. "REV-UP Purely Canadian" will be held here on Prairie's campus from June 7 to 9. What is our purpose? R--Revitalizing your soul, E--

Equipping yourself for battle, V--Vision for your future, U--Unity in doing ministry together and P--Propelling your ministry into the future.



Al Mertes: partnering with students to develop Prairie's youth ministry program.

I will be joining our featured speakers Mike Penninga, Pastor of Young Adults at Willow Park Church in Kelowna, BC, Alison

Springer of Impact Society in Calgary, AB, and Wayne Smele, Pastor of Student Ministries at Centre Street Church in Calgary, AB. More than 20 workshops with a variety of topics and speakers will be offered as well.

This conference is designed for all who minister to teens, whether pastors or volunteers, in city or rural settings. Our goal is to encourage and equip those who are investing their hearts in the lives of Canada's young people. For more details on the conference, the workshops available and registration information, visit www.prairie.edu/Revup

Al Mertes is Professor of Youth Ministries at Prairie Bible College and a career youth minister. For information on the Youth Ministries program go to www.prairie.edu

Missions Conference 2007

Prairie's annual Missions Conference took place in February of this school year instead of the traditional fall season. With Mission Fest in Edmonton just days later, the change allowed mission reps and speakers the opportunity to take in several major events in one tour.

Along with student musicians, Paul and Cathy McAndrew of Artists in Christian Testimony

provided an incredible array of music from around the world. Guest speakers included Rev. Allan Vincent, Executive Director of the Slavic Gospel Association in Canada, who travels throughout the former Soviet Union helping the church to fulfill the Great Commission.

Floyd McClung, missionary, author and well-known speaker on college campuses world-wide,

spoke on the cost of compassion. "It doesn't mean anything," he told his listeners, "until we make a choice to get involved with the lost and the poor. It is impossible to see the needs of today's world and remain neutral. Either your heart will grow cold and calloused or you will choose to get involved." Floyd is the international director of *All Nations* and lives in Cape Town, South Africa where he and his wife Sally are pioneering a

training and outreach community. The story of how God led them into a costly and deeply satisfying life of ministry is told in *Living On the Devil's Doorstep*, one of this issue's feature offers.



Floyd McClung counsels listeners, "Compassion means nothing unless we choose to get involved."

Diving Off the Pedestal

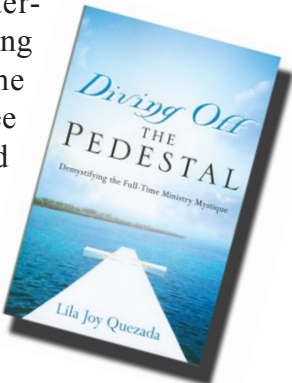
Lila Quezada and her husband Ellie work in Oaxaca, Mexico with Missionary Ventures International. As a fledgling missionary, Lila once assumed that pastors and missionaries were the 'spiritual aristocracy', living above the common stresses and pitfalls of everyday life. In time, however, she came to realize that God uses ordinary people to do His work—not superheroes.

Written with candor and humor, *Diving Off the Pedestal* is the story of how God began to inch a reluctant missionary back to reality, as well as a call for those in ministry to consider how God works through honest and humble people.

"Most spiritual leaders," says Lila, "are, for the most part, just ordinary people with wobbly faith whom God calls and equips for a particular job." Through chapters like *Burn-Out*,

Furlough Fears, and *A Painful Discovery: I Like Stuff* she points out that while scripture sets high standards for those in ministry, they are not exempt from ordinary trials and temptations.

"Living on a pedestal as a prisoner of other people's expectations is lonely and dangerous," Lila warns, and she urges Christian leaders to dive off before they fall off by choosing to be humble and transparent about their struggles. This book is a very readable and practical help for anyone who is considering or serving in full-time ministry. See the enclosed envelope to order a copy.



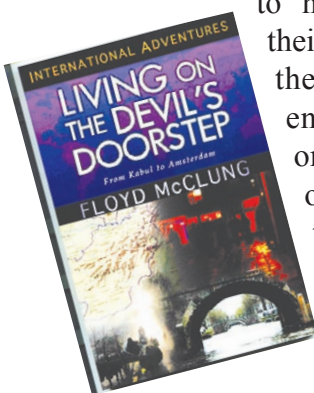
Living On the Devil's Doorstep

Floyd McClung

When thousands of young people checked out of Western society and sought enlightenment in the East, Floyd and Sally McClung set aside the comforts of American suburbia and answered God's call to reach out to them with the gospel. In Kabul, Afghanistan, a key stop on the hippy trail, and later in Amsterdam, Holland, the McClungs committed themselves to meeting the penniless, the drugged, the sick, and the disillusioned right where they were. Whether among hippy seekers or the addicts and prostitutes of Amsterdam's infamous Red Light

District, the McClungs lived out a message of hope.

Living On the Devil's Doorstep is a dramatic example of the difference one family can make when they are willing to trust God and walk in obedience to his call for their lives. See the enclosed envelope to order your own copy of this amazing story.



sales and marketability and took the unusual step of changing direction to join a church ministry in Houston, TX where he enjoys a relational, grassroots ministry. Matt will lead our worship times as well as presenting a Saturday evening concert of contemporary Christian music.

Another special feature of Homecoming 2007 will be a live performance by Prairie alumnus Hunter Barnes (PBC'89). Hunter was both a student and an instructor in Prairie's drama department and is an award winning actor, story teller and film maker. We are excited to feature Hunter in "Mark His Word," a powerful and unforgettable dramatic rendition of the Gospel of Mark.

Take in excellent meals in the Prairie dining hall and get acquainted with our students. Tour

the new Maxwell Centre, check out exciting developments in the town of Three Hills, and refresh your heart and mind as you listen to challenging speakers and enjoy our special guests. Youth Ministry



Dr. Paul Chamberlain

and Early Childhood students will be offering programs for children

and teens. Hugs, laughter, tears, old friends, shared memories—that's what Homecoming is all about. Faithful people, faithful lives, and a faithful God provide plenty of reason to celebrate. It's



Hunter Barnes

also a time to look to the future, to grasp the excitement of moving

ahead with a renewed vision that encompasses training students, renewing commitments, new buildings, new programs, and new opportunities. Come and see for yourself what God is doing at Prairie and around the globe.

Register on-line at www.prairie.edu/homecoming. Questions? Call 403-443-5511 and ask for Homecoming registration. See the website as well for a listing of local accommodations (no on-campus accommodation available).

Our students and staff are looking forward to making your visit memorable and challenging. We encourage you to become a part of the picture of God's vision for Prairie and discover how he has uniquely enabled you to make a difference in his world at Homecoming 2007!

Alumni Spotlight



Nelson and Linda Reed: ACTION International

Action International Ministries (ACTION) has announced the appointment of Nelson Reed (PBC'75) as its new International Director. He will be installed during the annual meeting of the

mission's International council to be held in Wales and will take over from current Director Doug Nichols in March.

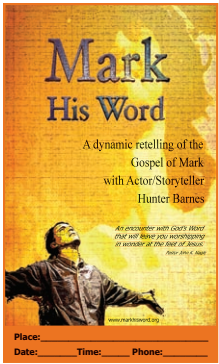
Prior to joining the mission in 1980, Reed was Dean of Men at Prairie Bible College. He was instrumental in forming ACTION Canada and served nine years as director of

ACTION Philippines. He lives in Mountlake Terrace, WA with his wife Linda (Jespersen, PBC'70) and has been serving most recently as ACTION's Southeast Asia Regional Coordinator.

Mark His Word

Hunter Barnes

After graduating in 1989 from Prairie Bible College where he appeared in campus productions, Hunter Barnes went on to earn his MA in Communication & Theatre Arts from Regent University in Virginia. He has won numerous awards as a professional actor and writer and made several films, most notably *Pavel's Chariot*, recipient of a CINE Golden Eagle Award. A varied teaching career has taken him from Virginia to Taiwan to Alaska, back to Prairie Bible College and now to New Jersey where he serves as the Creative Arts Director for Zarephath Christian Church. Several years ago Hunter began a new ministry, performing a one-man, word-for-word presentation of the Gospel of Mark. With passion and purpose and the simplest of props



this talented actor unleashes the words of Mark in a captivating drama that holds audiences in rapt attention. *Mark His Word* has since been performed throughout the US and Canada, England and India in churches, schools and a host of other venues with highly acclaimed results. "I'm amazed by God's Word and the person of Jesus," says Hunter. "I believe God wants to rehabilitate our imaginations and minds through His Word, simply presented in a creative way. It prompts people to read the Bible with new eyes and ears." To order a copy of *Mark His Word* on CD, see the enclosed envelope.

Hunter Barnes can be contacted for bookings at www.markhisword.org

Hole	Reg	Stroke	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12
Blue	71.1/129	412	422	382	409	211	410	528	212	347	3333	378	430	500	

PRAIRIE

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2007 Golf Tournament

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For more information visit:
www.prairie.edu/golf
or call 403.443.3031

Masterworks Chorale

"St. Matthew Passion"
Mr. James Janzen, conductor

April 4, 8:00 pm
Arts Centre, Red Deer College
Tickets @ Ticketmaster
Info Line: 403.340.4455

April 5, 8:00 pm
Miller Chapel, Three Hills
Tickets 1.800.456.0961

One Ring

Ask my eldest child which book on earth is his favorite and he won't skip a beat. Ask him about a moment when his prayers seemed silly and he just might smile widely.

Stephen's favorite book on earth is *Lord of the Rings*. To my utter amazement he had read all three of the thick tomes by the time he was ten. Before we celebrated his fifteenth birthday he had read them three times and was starting on the fourth. *Crazy*, I thought. He read them between playing basketball and ice hockey and table tennis. He read them in the evenings when he should have been studying. He read them late at night when he should have been snoring.

When he learned that Peter Jackson was bringing the stories to life on film, I had to peel him off the ceiling. From beginning to end, he can tell you more than you want to know about Middle Earth, about hobbits and goblins, about the "one ring to rule them all." The filmmakers should have used him as a consultant.

Shortly after we attended the first movie together, Stephen turned sixteen. It is a time in life when fathers and sons have whispered conversations about life and love and being grown up. One night during one of those discussions, I spoke to him of the importance of reaching this milestone. How, like his favorite hobbit Frodo, he would be faced with great temptations and great opportunities as he journeyed through the darkness of this earth. I said I would like to present him

with a small gift as a covenant between us that he would walk the way Frodo had walked, choosing to do the right thing though it cost him everything. I talked of putting God first. Of faith. Of purity. He nodded his approval.

"What's the gift?" he asked. When I told him, he smiled widely.

The next day I ordered it.

On the evening it arrived, we convened for a family ceremony. The children gathered around wide-eyed as I opened a wooden box. Inside was a genuine replica of The Ring—a rather expensive one, I might add. White gold, complete with Elvish engravings. "Where's ours?" said the other two children. "You wait," I told them.

I read a short verse of Scripture: "So honor the Lord and serve him wholeheartedly" (Joshua 24:14). "For sixteen years that's been our prayer for you, Stephen. That you would honor God and serve Him." We prayed together, committing this child and his future to God. Then I took the ring, hung it from a gold chain, placed it about his neck, and kissed his forehead before he squirmed away.

There the ring stayed.

Until the night Stephen arrived home from high school carrying small pieces of the chain. He could scarcely bring

himself to tell me.

It had broken, he knew not when.

The ring was gone, we knew not where. We searched everywhere. Along the sidewalks and hallways of Prairie Bible Institute. Through classrooms and cars. Nothing. It



Phil Callaway: "Doubt—it's what I do best."

was permanently gone, I knew. Hanging about someone else's neck. Adorning another's jewelry case.

But Stephen began to pray.

His younger sister and brother joined him too. At suppertime, they prayed that we would find the ring. At breakfast they prayed believing. I hated to doubt, but I am a grown-up. It's what I do best.

"There's more chance of the Chicago Cubs winning the World Series," I told my wife.

"They're not even in it,"

she said.

"Precisely."

Months passed. Winter came and went. The dazzling white snow that covered the field through which my son sometimes trudges to school began to melt.

And one evening as we sat down to eat together, I noticed a particularly wide grin stretching across his face. As we dived into some roasted chicken, he told us he'd been walking home from school when a glint of reflected sunlight caught his eye. He held his hand out and opened it. I couldn't believe my eyes. The ring. White gold with Elvish etchings. As good as new.

Oh me of little faith.

Do you know what my prayer had been all this time? That he wouldn't be too disappointed when his prayers weren't answered. Here I was, praying that his hopes wouldn't be dashed. Here he was, asking God to do the impossible, something He has delighted in doing since the dawn of time.

The ring hangs from a sturdier chain now. I hope it will remind my son to honor the Lord and serve Him wholeheartedly. I hope it will remind him that those who seek find, that those who ask receive. I hope it will remind me to never stop believing in the God of the impossible.

Phil Callaway is a Prairie alumnus. His Laughing Matters DVD is being used by 1,700 small groups. To learn more, visit him online at www.laughagain.org

Phil's Speaking Schedule

April

- 1 Chilliwack Alliance, Chilliwack, BC
- 4 Prairie Bible College Chapel, Three Hills, AB
- 20 Palliative Care Conference, Calgary, AB
- 20 Medicine Hat Christian School Fundraiser
- 28 Alberta Funeral Service Annual Conference, Edmonton, AB
- 29 Death By Chocolate...and Laughter, Sherwood Park, AB

May

- 4-6 Wesleyan Men's Conference, Fredericton, NB
- 25 Fundraiser for The Champion's Centre, Medicine Hat, AB
- 28 Saints Alive (conference for ages 50+), Calgary, AB

June

- 8 Youth Conference, Three Hills, AB
- 16 Golf Tournament, Cambridge, ON
- 17 Forward Baptist Church, Cambridge, ON
- 18 Heritage College golf event, Cambridge ON (tentative)
- 21 Golf Tournament, Prairie Bible College

Homecoming 2007

Enabling Forget

Fri. 21st – Sun. 23rd September 2007

Registration opening soon

Prairie welcomes you home!

Find out more at www.prairie.edu/homecoming.

Or contact 403.443.5511