

## New Companies Organized!

Our Lord is honored when we give priority to expanding His work. The great commission is to take the gospel to the whole world. He asks us to “make disciples” as a way of building up His kingdom. This is done largely through the work of the church. New Church organizations are Christ’s way of having His name represented in new areas and among new people groups. When we plan and strategize for an expanded work we are cooperating with the heartbeat of Jesus!



There is a new church company in Drayton Valley, Alberta. On April 28, 20 charter members signed to be a vibrant part of this new outreach. Beside the charter members many friends indicated their support and involvement with the new company. Some are preparing for baptism.

While there have been previous attempts to start church groups in Drayton Valley, the current initiative began in 2009 in the home of Darold and Teresa Kissler. It began small but with much prayer, work and sharing the vision, today there is a strong church company witnessing to His name.

**Would Your Church like to be a part of capturing the Spirit of the Pioneers of our faith? They considered the work of our church as a movement and not an institution. Healthy, mission focused parent churches are key to a church planting movement. If you sense that your church is ready to start a new witness in a new area or with a new people group why not make it a point of prayer and planning. We tithe our income as a blessing for God’s work, why not give a tithe of our membership to God as a way to help expand His kingdom? If you are ready to discuss this you can contact Don Corkum, Church Planting coordinator, 403-275-5569 or [dcorkum1@msn.com](mailto:dcorkum1@msn.com)**

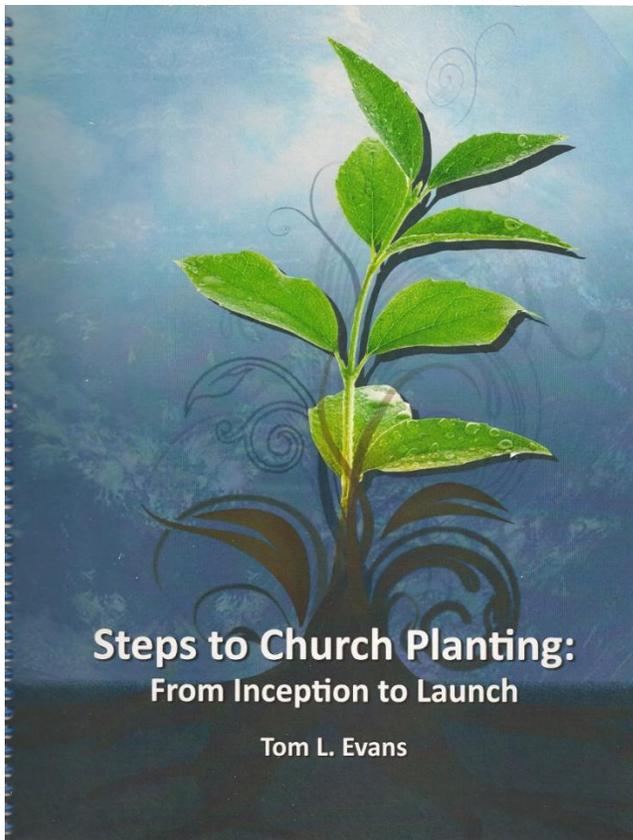


Pictured above is the new Calgary Bethany Seventh-day Adventist Company and friends. This is the first French-speaking company to be organized in Alberta. The parent church, the Calgary Bridgeland church, has been an inspiration and support to the development of this new company. About 35 signed as charter members.

The Calgary Bridgeland church demonstrated how effective a parent church can be in helping to develop new work. Pastor Ferary, the pastor of Bridgeland, showed that pastoral leadership passionate about expanding Christ's work, is vital to its success

**What are the building blocks of a strong Church-Planting Movement? 1. The first is a healthy, vibrant parent church. Congregations that parent new churches grow faster than those who do not parent. It keeps the spirit of mission alive. 2. A high-quality leader (lay or church employed). A person who knows how to gather and lead people. Also a person who knows how to build a team. 3. Effective launch process and training programs. See below a new tool to help in this area. 4. Coaching and support systems. A new church with good coaching support will grow much more rapidly than when the plant seeks to go without experienced counsel. This support includes emotional support as well as financial help. For lay led plants a pastor/coach is an important ingredient.**

**Of course we must add that just human organization is not adequate. Constant dependence on the Holy Spirit and faithfulness to inspired counsel is vital to a new church's success.**



Tom Evans who wrote this manual is the church planting specialist at the North American Evangelism Institute at Andrews University. As church planting coordinator in the Texas Conference he helped inspire, with God's blessing, over 114 new churches in 9 years.

Much of this work was done by lay leaders who were coached by pastors.

He lays out a challenge to pastors: "Every pastor employed by the Seventh-day Adventist church commits to plant at least one church in every district they pastor until Jesus comes.

He uses Bible and Spirit of Prophecy as guidance in the material presented. (Manual soon to be through the ABC). It is now available along with power points materials through the North American Evangelism Institute, 269-471-8303. The power points are available free on the NADEI web site under church planting: [www.nadei.org](http://www.nadei.org)

New church plants and mission focused churches tend to be very community minded. They realize that the church does not exist mainly for its members. It is organized, so as a team of people, it can show compassion to the community and call, grow and send disciples to build up God's work. Some ideas that will help in ministering to the community are listed below.



Shown to the left is the Airdrie Veggie supper. This has been continuing for almost 12 years. It attracts many people from the community. After the meal a half hour presentation on some aspect of health has been a great blessing. Other resources that are currently being used are: Living Free—A program to help people overcome addictions.

Diabetes reversal and Creation Health.

These are available at Advent Source

[www.adventsource.org](http://www.adventsource.org) or the conference health director.

## Camp meeting and Church Planting

On Sunday morning at 9 a.m. in the lower lodge there will be a meeting with members of church plants and all people interested in learning more about this important outreach for Christ. It will last 1 and ½ hours. There will be ideas shared on how to make church planting more successful, testimonies and ideas for resources.

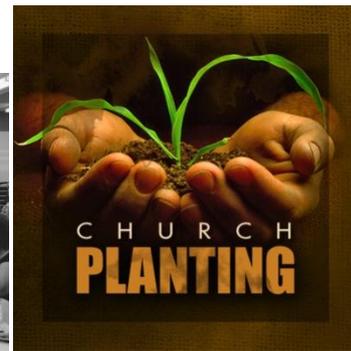
Also Don Corkum will be at camp meeting all week and willing to meet with anyone desiring to talk about church planting issues. You can let the secretary know of your desire for an appointment and we can make a plan to connect.

## Peers Company



On May 12, 2012, Darlene Blaney presented a seminar for the Peers company entitled, "What in the world is in our food." The information Darlene provided included interpreting labels on fruit and veggies products; Genetic modification and how it affects our bodies, the shocking truth of what we are eating, the production of food today, and how to survive in a "dying world."

The Seminar was well received in the community. Some people borrowed videos and books from the church library. One person expressed interest in coming to church.



Above left, Pastor Brian and Denise Bechthold provide music at the fund raising event for the Peers Thrift Store. This event was organized by the local agricultural society. It was well attended by over 90 people. The thrift store is operated by church members Henry and Dolores Fletcher and is a great contribution to this small community.

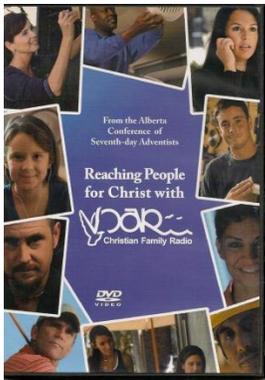
The picture to the right is from the seniors supper in November of 2011. It also included a Fashion Show. It was so well received that the community wanted more leading to the fund raising event above. The Peers company is not large but is making a great impact on their community. Want to be a part of this active outreach—the Peers company would welcome you!! They are looking for more members to be a part of this dynamic church ministry.

## VOAR

Exciting developments are taking place almost daily regarding VOAR radio in Alberta. On May 26 our first VOAR repeater station in Alberta will officially open in Edson. There are others now in the process—Hobbema, Stettler and Olds.

Conversations are taking place with many churches and church boards are discussing this outreach ministry.

New opportunities now exist in communities previously that closed to VOAR radio by the decision in Alberta to close analogue T.V. stations. Since the formula for being media deprived is no Christian radio and no more than two T.V. stations, the closing of the analogue stations create an opening for VOAR radio.



**If your church has not received the packet from VOAR then please Contact Don Corkum or Irma Hartley at the conference office.**

**There will be a VOAR display at Campmeeting and a 40 foot tower for people to see what the tower looks like**



## Alberta's first VOAR radio station

Sabbath, May 26, 2012 was a high day for the Edson church and district churches—Peers Company and Whitecourt company. It was the official opening of the new Edson Voar radio station. The tower is located on church property and stands tall—40 feet—testifying to proclaiming Christ on the air waves. Local newspapers have told the story of the new station and there is a sense of excitement for the potential of this new outreach.



Above left, the song service in Edson just before the ribbon cutting event. Above right, Pastor Brian Bechthold, and pastors Ken Wiebe, conference president and Don Corkum, VOAR coordinator for Alberta cut ribbon.

## Recognitions

The Bridgeland church and Pastor Ferary for their support as a parent church to the new Bethany French Company. Parent churches are a key element in a strong Church Planting Movement.

Darold and Teresa Kissler along with the Drayton Valley members for their foresight and perseverance in getting their new company organized in Drayton Valley.

Jean Racine and the members of the Calgary Bethany French Company for their work to organize their new church company to reach out to French Speaking people in Calgary.

Nadine Crombie for her untiring efforts to contact churches and help them get started with VOAR.

Julia Pepper and the members of the Edson church who worked hard to establish a new radio station for their community.

To our wonderful Lord who inspires us with His Vision and then supports us relentlessly in helping us fulfill His vision to expand His kingdom in the world--The only answer to the brokenness in our world.

