

The Friesen Five Wish You a Merry Christmas!



Ministry News

Since the start up of the ministry this fall, we have been involved in a number of key leadership meetings, basic training sessions, club visits, pulpit supply and fall conferences. Len went to the east coast for 10 days to be with the Clarkes for 2 conferences while Pam and the kids went to BC for a family wedding and partner visits. In early November, Pam and I went back to



**Awana Canada Board,
Staff and Missionaries**

BC to join the other Canadian missionaries for a few days of team building and fun activities in the lower mainland. Len headed to Chicago for a few days to meet with Brian Rhodes (executive director for Awana International), as well as Pavils and Valentina Grigas (regional Directors for Eastern Europe). The time and discussions involving Awana International were so valuable and encouraging. God is using the ministry of Awana in the Ukraine to reach families with the Gospel. It is exciting to hear stories and testimonies of the work internationally. December will keep us on the road with a number of ministry commitments before we take a few weeks to spend with family and friends over the Christmas holidays.

Prayer and Praise

Please Pray for:

- The Awana clubs that are struggling with lots of children and not enough leadership. Pray that more adults would see this need!
- The Ministry Opportunity in Africa - see reverse. This is a family commitment and there are still many details that need to be worked out.

Praise

- For a wonderful conference on October 29
- The time to connect with the other Canadian Awana Missionaries and Missionary Candidates
- For the new couples who are in the deputation process with Awana!

Awana International Canada

Calendar of Events

Dec. Jan. Feb

- Dec 2-4—Parkside Gospel, Dauphin, Grand Prix, Preaching
Dec 7—EEFC, Steinbach
Dec 14—Bethesda Church, Wpg
Jan 4—Victory Baptist, Wpg
Jan 11—Abundant Life, Grunthal
Jan 15—Faith Fellowship, Brandon
Jan 18—Rosenort Grand Prix
Jan 22—Faith Fellowship, Brandon
Jan 25—Bethel Church, Winkler
Jan 27—Winkler EMMC—Grand Prix
Jan 28-29—Vermilion Bay, ON Grand Prix, Pulpit Supply and BT
Feb 1—EEFC, Steinbach
Feb 3-5—MissionFest, Winnipeg
Feb 17-22—Northern MB trip
Feb 15—Faith Fellowship G/P
Feb 24—Zion Mennonite G/P

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Because Kids Matter to God

Family News

Len and I have been praying for over a year, asking God to use us in any way that He chooses. In that time we had Bob Dobson come to our conference last year. Bob is the creator of High Power Soccer Camp (HPSC), a program that combines soccer training with a targeted curriculum of evangelism and discipleship. We enjoyed having Bob in our home and getting to know him and hearing his testimony. This year we had Brian & Sandee Rhodes join us at conference. They are great friends and he is the Director of Awana International. They encouraged us to think beyond Canada and prayed with us. Then a few days later, during our missionary

meetings, we had the opportunity to have supper with Bob in his home. He pulled us to the side and talked about an opportunity he has to bring HPSC to Africa. Bob asked if we, with our children, would like to join him for a mission trip to Zimbabwe to teach Awana national directors from 5 countries how to use HPSC and then help in the running of their first HPSC!

We were over-whelmed and feel very honored to be asked to join this ministry opportunity. There are still details to be worked through and as a family we have been praying about this and seeking God's direction. Now we ask that you pray with us.



More than 40% of Africa's population is under the age of 15—the time of life when, as research shows, people are most open and receptive to the gospel message.

African churches are trained to provide the effective, intentional evangelism and discipleship that children need.

That's why Awana International works in Africa to mobilize local churches to bring the gospel of Christ into the lives of children in need of its healing message and eternal hope.

If you would like more information about this exciting ministry opportunity, please give us a call or send us an email and we would be glad to talk with you.

Andre's Story Of Hope

"I am Andre, 12 years old, from the country of Mozambique. I got to know about Awana through my friend Jairo.

"My father had chased me away from home because of my bad behavior. I was living on the street, begging and stealing things with my friends. One day Jairo came to me and asked me to go with him to the Awana club. I liked participating in game time. It was the first time since I left my father's home that I felt loved.

"The next week, we went again and I met the club secretary to register my name. She prayed with me and I gave my life to Christ. I am so happy for the new life that I am in now. My club leader took me back home, my father accepted me back and I am a new person. Thank you, Awana."



For most impoverished children in Africa, plastic bags tied together substitute for a real soccer ball.

Africa's Children Need the Help and Hope of the Gospel

As much as a sturdy roof over their heads and nutritious meals, Africa's children need to know that they are loved by God and have an important place in His Kingdom.

However, few Christian leaders of

How can You Help Reach Africa's Children?

We are seeking sponsors like you who:

- ◆ Possess a passion to reach and disciple the children of the world
- ◆ Would covenant to pray for us and the ministry in Africa
- ◆ Are blessed with the financial resources to invest in this ministry opportunity.

We have enclosed an envelope for your convenience. Please prayerfully consider your involvement.