

ENVISION

A Newsletter for the members and Friends of the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

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From The Desk Of The President - *Trevor H.C. Baker*

New Treasurer Elected

On February 26, 2006, the Northeastern Conference Executive Committee elected Mr. Ebenezer Agboka to be the next Treasurer of the Northeastern Conference. Agboka who has been on the faculty at Atlantic Union College, was chosen to fill the vacancy created when Seth Bardu accepted a call to serve as Treasurer of the Columbia Union Conference.

Mr. Agboka brings a wealth of experience to the position, having previously served the Ontario Conference as Associate Treasurer and Treasurer, as well as having been an auditor for the General Conference Auditing Service. It is anticipated that he will be fully in place upon the completion of the school year in early May. We welcome the Agboka family to the Northeastern family.

New Pastors Installed

Pastor Melwyn (Bob) Mounter was installed as the pastor of the Hanson Place church on January 28, 2006. Officiating on the occasion, were President Trevor H. C. Baker and Elder Rupert W. Young, Ministerial Secretary of the Northeastern Conference. Among the worshipers on that Sabbath were the Brooklyn Borough President and Councilwoman Clark. Pastor Mounter comes to us with more than 23 years of pastoral experience of which the last eight were spent in the Allegheny West Conference. The Mounters were well received by the Hanson Place Church, and the worship service was followed by a very special luncheon with them.

On January 14, 2006, the Calvary Church of Bridgeport, CT, warmly and enthusiastically welcomed their new pastor, Ainsworth K. Morris. Pastor Morris comes to the Northeastern Conference and the Calvary Church having previously pastored in Jamaica, West Indies and in Canada. The impressive and solemn installation was performed by the Conference President, Elder Trevor H. C. Baker. On hand to witness the occasion were Pastor Morris' parents and some of his siblings, as well as the following pastoral family representatives: Pastor and Mrs. Nigel Lewis, Pastor and Mrs. Courtney Goulding, Mrs. Eunice Senior-Baker, Mrs. Lavern Creech, and Mrs. Cellierose Williams.

The Northeastern Conference family welcomes the Pastor Morris and Pastor and Mrs. Mounter to the Conference worker team.

Youth Attend

Young Preachers' Institute

The Northeastern Conference Youth Department, under the direction of Elders Newton Cleghorne and Garnet Morris, held its sixth annual Young Preachers Institute at Camp Victory Lake on March 3-5, 2006. The weekend is one in which young people are taught the rudiments of sermon preparation and delivery, and according to Elders Cleghorne and Morris, this year's attendance was sixty, the largest to date.

Over the past years a number of young people who have participated in this training have gone on to prepare for the gospel ministry. Assisting in this year's training were Pastor A. Keith Morris of the Calvary Church in Bridgeport, CT, and Pastor Anthony Usher of the Christian Fellowship Church in Brooklyn, NY.

Camp Meeting Schedule 2006

After a year's absence because of the General Conference Session, we look to celebrate camp meeting once again. The first camp meeting will be the Spanish Camp meeting which will be held from May 25 - 28, 2006 at Camp Victory Lake. The theme is *Jesus Is All*, and the speakers for this year will be Pastor Ricardo Cabero for the adult camp, Anthony Usher for youth camp, and Jose Angel Fuentes for Family Life Seminar.

The English Camp meeting will once again take the form of two weekends, June 24 - 25, and June 30 - July 1, 2006, at Camp Victory Lake. The first weekend worship speaker for the adults will be Elder Roscoe Howard, Secretary of the North American Division; and for the second weekend, Elder Roy R. Brown, retired President of the Southeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The theme is "Revive Us, Lord".

The worship speakers for the youth and young adults are James Yansen from the Berea Church in Boston, and Dr. Abraham J. Jules, Pastor of the Mount Vernon Church.

The final camp meeting will be the French Camp meeting which will be held August 24 - 27, 2006. Each camp meeting is a specially planned event intended for the edification of God's people. We invite you to pray that God's Spirit will be evident in each encampment.

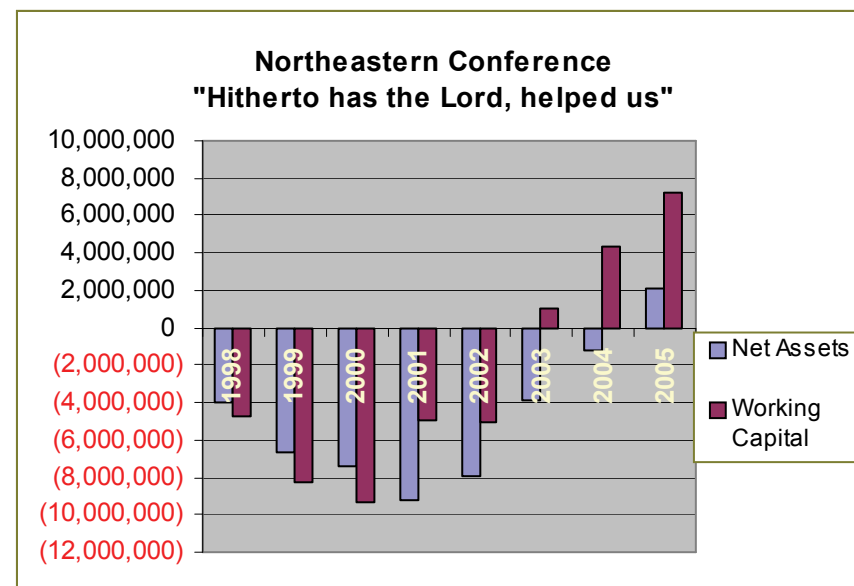
Financial Update

We praise God for what He has done for us during 2005. Because of the faithfulness of our members, and the careful management by the Conference Administration, the Northeastern Conference was blessed to finish the year 2005 with a \$2,897,785.00 increase in title income over what was projected (\$2,252,934.00 over last year's actual). The actual net revenue realized after fulfilling the obligations to the higher organizations was \$2,144,361.00. While we joy in these results, the joy is tempered because of the tardy payments of some churches and schools of their church insurance premiums and school payroll receivables which affect the gain in cash flow. Closure of the books for 2005 is soon to be completed; but all financial indicators show that the

Pre-closing Financial Indicators		
Financial Indicator	12/31/05	12/31/04
Working Capital <i>Funds on hand for short-term obligations</i>	\$8,632,766	\$4,798,909
Current Ratio <i>Current assets compared to current liabilities</i>	3.46 times	2.40 times
Quick Ratio (Acid Test) <i>A measure of the organization's liquidity</i>	3.03 times	2.17 times
Total Net Assets <i>Indicates what the Conference is worth</i>	\$2,774,069	(\$1,402,440) **
**\$4,176,509.00 increase		

Conference is progressing in the right direction. As reported in *Envision*, Vol. 3, No. 3, "for the first time in eight years, we are projecting that the total Operating Net Assets of the Conference will not be a negative figure." In other words, the Conference will be back in the 'black.' To God be the glory!

We have the high privilege of cooperating with God in finishing the work that He has commissioned us to complete. However in order to accomplish this objective, we must be totally consecrated. Our duty is to be faithful and careful stewards, and to wisely utilize the assets which God allows to pass through our hands. It is also our responsibility to faithfully return to God our tithes and freewill offerings. As we are faithful, we are assured that God will continue to take us to higher spiritual and solid financial ground.



The above chart shows the net assets and working capital of the Conference over the last eight years.

Large Numbers Attend Clerks'/Treasurers' Workshop

More than 400 Clerks and Treasurers attended the annual Northeastern Conference Clerks' and Treasurers' Training Seminar and Workshop held at Camp Victory Lake on February 3 - 5, 2006.

The workshop, sponsored by the Secretariat and Treasury departments, provided valuable information and training for new as well as veteran church clerks and church treasurers. Conference Secretary, Elder Larry Bailey, Former Treasurer, Elder Seth Bardu, and Associate Treasurer, Mrs. Cynthia Williams, and their teams are to be commended. Many expressed appreciation for the help received.

Successful Training Retreat Held

A successful training retreat for Church Elders, Deacons and Deaconesses was held by the Northeastern Conference Ministerial Department at Kutsher's resort in Monticello, New York on March 3-5, 2006. The more than 300 attendees were the recipients of valuable and pertinent information that helped to equip them to render more effective service. Seminar facilitators included Dr. Ricardo Norton, Director of the Institute for Hispanic Ministries at Andrews University, Pastors Brian Carter, James Clark and Stephen Williams, Dr. Daniel Honore, Mrs. Mirielle St. Pierre, and Mrs. Ann-Marie Fraser all of the Northeastern Conference. Pastor Walton Rose was the devotional speaker.

Job Openings

The Northeastern Conference is in search of a Camp Ranger and a Food Service Director for Camp Victory Lake. For the criteria regarding each position, please contact the Office of the Secretary or check the Conference web site. All applications must be submitted by April 25, 2006.

Quote: "The faith of the people of the God of heaven should be strong, active, and enduring -- the substance of things hoped for. Then the language of such will be 'Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me bless His holy name.'" COL. p.129

