



**SEPTEMBER 23, 2016**

**SCOTT BROOKS AND DENNIS HUBERT**  
**VISIT NCM CANADA PROJECTS IN MALAWI**

Scott Brooks (Brantford ON) and Dennis Hubert (PEI) have just returned from visiting Child Development Centres and Conservation Agriculture Projects in Malawi that have been receiving support from NCM Canada.



Dennis and Scott visited seven different Child Development Centers (CDCs) where they assessed the impact of CDCs as well as the new deep water wells, buildings and the feeding program supported by NCM Canada. They report that the CDCs now serve 1,970 children. The food for the CDCs has run out and a container of food has just been shipped to Malawi by Compassionate Resource Warehouse. When it arrives the food will be distributed in the CDCs weekly.

The CDCs now all have functioning wells supplying a source of clean drinking water. Each village has a committee assigned to look after the wells.

Dennis asked one leader about the impact of the well. He said, ***“Before the well, people would get sick from contaminated water. After the well, they can go without anyone getting sick.”*** He was very appreciative of the impact.

It was decided that three of the CDCs need buildings at a cost of around \$3,629.00 US each. The local people will supply the bricks for the building. The number one priority is Chioko, number two priority is Kambewa, and the number three priority is Kudziwe. Work and Witness teams are welcome to come and help erect these buildings.

In addition, Scott, who is a retired farmer and graduate of Guelph Agricultural College, talked with farmers in the seven communities about conservation agriculture to learn more about the challenges they face and to discuss with them the next major initiative for NCM Canada in Malawi (a Canadian Foodgrains Bank-funded Conservation Agriculture Project). Soil testing revealed that the soils were highly acidic and Scott is working with experts both in Malawi and in Canada to find solutions.

Scott and Dennis noted that the maize harvested in June has already been consumed by September. It was a poor harvest due to severe drought conditions. People are eating only roots and wild plants now in an effort to survive. A CFGB-funded food assistance project is planned for December through to the next harvest (April 2017).

The Church of the Nazarene is growing in Malawi. The projects funded by NCM Canada have significantly improved life in these communities and enhanced the credibility of the church in the area. Church attendance is increasing. Scott and Dennis suggest that pastors be trained in different skills (vocational training) so that they can be self-supporting.

***Thank you for your support of NCM Canada-funded projects!***

***You are making a difference!***

## **BOWDEN WALK-A-THON A GREAT SUCCESS!**

Almost 2,000 kilometres – that’s how far 297 inmates at the Bowden, AB Federal Medium Security Institution collectively walked September 10<sup>th</sup> to raise money to help people affected by drought in Ethiopia.

The walk-a-thon, organized by an inmates group with help from Chaplain Rev. Bud Sargent, have raised over \$15,000.00 to date for a project in that country supported by Canadian Foodgrains Bank and implementing member agency World Renew.

Altogether, the inmates, along with 20 outside volunteers, walked 3,694 laps around the prison’s exercise yard for a total of 1,981 kilometres.

Funds were raised through pledges from families and friends of the inmates, prison chapel volunteers, and churches all across Canada. Donations can be made through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank [Friend-to-Friend Bowden Walk-a-Thon Giving Page](#). Donations marked Walk-A-Thon may also be sent to the Innisfail Church of the Nazarene at 4904-48 Street, Innisfail, AB, T4G 1N1.

Funds raised by the inmates will be used by World Renew for its project in the Dugda region on Ethiopia, where it is assisting over 41,000 people with support from the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. The money will be matched by the Government of Canada on a 4:1 basis.

***“It was an amazing experience,”*** says volunteer walker Marion Ausmus of Leader, SK. ***“The men were so grateful that so many people cared to be a part of their effort to help others in this way.”*** Before the walk, Ausmus, who is also a member of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank Board, shared about her experiences visiting Ethiopia with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB). ***“It was exciting to see what God is doing through these men,”*** she says, adding that the inmates also signed 70 postcards for CFGB’s Good Soil campaign that asks the Canadian government to invest in the needs of small-scale farmers in the developing world.

For Bud Sargent, the prison’s chaplain, it was “win-win-win” for the inmates, for CFGB and World Renew, and for people in Ethiopia. For the inmates, in particular, ***“it was a chance for them to make a difference for others who are suffering due to drought, and to show that they care about things beyond the fence – that they aren’t the stereotypical offenders some make them out to be. They were overwhelmed by the show of support from people outside the prison.”*** Bud says the inmates couldn’t believe so many people were willing to come alongside and be part of their effort, to believe that they can do something to help others.

Peter Bulthuis directs church relations for World Renew. For him, what the inmates did was “amazing.” ***“When they heard about the needs in Ethiopia, of people who might be dying, they decided to act,”*** he says. ***“The inmates don’t know those people, but the message they sent was ‘don’t give up hope!’”*** At the same time, he adds, they also

*“shone a light” that showed that “being inside doesn’t mean only thinking inside. They showed so many people in Alberta and beyond that the prison walls could not contain their concern for others.”*

This is the fourth time Bowden inmates have done the walk–a–thon, including last year for CFGB member Nazarene Compassionate Ministries Canada. They plan to do another walk–a–thon for CFGB next year.

You can contact Chaplain Sargent by email ([William.Sargent@csc-scc.gc.ca](mailto:William.Sargent@csc-scc.gc.ca)) or by calling (403) 227–8199, ext. 1549.

### **NCM CANADA GIFT CATALOGUE NOW AVAILABLE!**

The 2016–2017 NCM Canada Gift Catalogue is available and has been mailed out to all Nazarene churches in Canada.

This year’s catalogue includes popular favourites, such as goats, blankets, wells, school books, etc. Also included in this catalogue are opportunities to give towards children’s needs in child development centres in South Asia and Malawi (Africa). The catalogue also features our relationship and projects with Canadian Foodgrains Bank, where your giving can be matched by the Canadian government (see page 10 of the catalogue).

Youth groups, Sunday School classes, seniors groups and others, including local NMI, continue to participate in giving through the catalogue. Some have fundraising events, others collect loonies and toonies over several weeks, others hold ‘auctions’ of catalogue items.....the possibilities are endless!

You or your group may give in one of three ways:

1) You can mail your order form and payment to the National Office using the following address:

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L7A 1C3

Please ensure that your cheque is made payable to **Church of the Nazarene Canada**.

2) You can call the National Office at 1–888–808–7490.

3) You can submit your order online at [www.ncmcanada.ca](http://www.ncmcanada.ca).

Please find your personal copy of the Gift Catalogue attached to your copy of the newsletter. You can also view the Gift Catalogue online at [www.ncmcanada.ca](http://www.ncmcanada.ca).

*Give a Gift of Compassion.....Make a Difference Today!*

**PLEASE NOTE**

To help ensure that you will receive your gift cards in time for Christmas giving, your order must arrive at the National Office by **December 1, 2016**.

For additional copies of the Gift Catalogue, please contact the National office.

*Thank you to all who give.  
Your gifts do make a difference!*



**NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION 2016**

It's the start of another academic year. Now that we're into the second week of classes, campus life is starting to assume a familiar rhythm for everyone. But for students in their first year, things are still fairly new. Luckily, they've had a head start, since their introduction to Ambrose began during Orientation from September 4–6.

Orientation kicked off this year with a BBQ, life-size board games, and a comedy illusionist performance on Sunday afternoon and evening.

Over the next two days, students had the opportunity to get to know each other and explore the campus.

*“Orientation provides an opportunity to help students break the ice, so they can quickly feel that Ambrose is their community,”* says First Year Experience (FYE) Coordinator

Lisa Moran. *“It also sets them up to succeed by giving them crucial information about Ambrose systems.”*

While the undergraduate orientation was running, the Seminary at Ambrose University and the Ambrose Education Program also hosted orientation events for their incoming students, including the opportunity to meet faculty in their respective programs.

### **Undergraduate Events**

In amongst the fun and games, students had a chance to attend sessions on technology systems and student success at Ambrose, get to know classmates at the Student Council Welcome Party, explore the city of Calgary through a downtown scavenger hunt, and meet faculty in their programs.

One event in particular stood out to Lisa and her crew of student volunteers. The Well: A Night of Worship was an evening they had planned to connect new and returning students and give new students an opportunity to slow down and connect with God.

*“The Well provided students with an environment to clear their heads of all the preparations and new information and meet with God in a safe space,”* says Lisa. *“I was personally so blessed by the FYE Student Leaders and their desire to create a contemplative and free atmosphere for their peers and we were very happy to see our vision come to fruition.”*

### **Student Leadership**

For their part, the student leaders were excited to be responsible for making new students feel like they belong. *“I am a student leader because I want people to feel welcome when they show up here, just like I did,”* says Jacinta Suma, FYE Student Leader.

*“It was scary for me as a freshman. I remember worrying that people would find me annoying because I have a loud personality. So now I want to be the person to tell other extroverts or introverts that it’s ok to be who you are.”*

*“The FYE team members were welcoming and hospitable and they owned the process in ways I did not expect,”* Lisa says. *“I feel that the new students at Ambrose are in very capable hands with these gifted and caring leaders serving them as they navigate this new adventure.”*

Send your news items of national interest to Diane at [national@nazarene.ca](mailto:national@nazarene.ca)  
and see your information appear in the next edition of

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