



1957 - 2009

# Child Evangelism Fellowship of Saskatchewan

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## Walls of Saskatchewan!

Dear Friends,

July 2009

In our second week of CYIA training I focused our devotions on the Bible stories we would be teaching this summer to the children of our province. Each week on Friday the story we will be teaching is on Nehemiah and the repairing of the walls of Jerusalem and the theme for the day is 'Champions have Hope'.

Have you ever looked at the **walls of Saskatchewan**? If you listened to the news you would probably think that the **walls** of our province are in better shape than that of the other provinces, but what if we looked at the condition of our **walls** as God sees them. What would the diagnosis be? In I Samuel 16:7 God tells Samuel, "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."



Missing from picture: Brendan Ryan, Jordan Gold, Siri Johnson, Cecily MacPherson, Meagan Ong, Shea & Levi Durston & Spencer Elliot

When I was a child it was not uncommon to hear people refer to the prairie provinces as the Bible Belt and Saskatchewan was in the heart of it with more Bible schools than anywhere else in the country, sending out missionaries all around the world. Something has happened. The spiritual walls of our province are crumbling and it is time for us to realize what has happened. In the story of Nehemiah we find that Nehemiah did not blame those that tore down the walls but rather as we read in Nehemiah 1, he prayed and asked God to forgive them for their sins; the sins of Israel, his own sins and the sins of his family. I believe that if we as God's people would get right before God then God would repair not only our lives but the lives of our families and the spiritual walls in our province.

This summer we are taking the gospel across our province as we have done so many times before, seeking to reach the next generation with the Good News that Jesus died for their sins and tell them that God has offered to forgive them if they would just confess their sin and put their trust in Him. I believe that if we could raise up a generation that had hearts that desire to please God that God would begin to repair the spiritual walls in our province.

In Nehemiah 3 we read that those who came to help rebuild the walls came from many different places and from many different backgrounds and vocations. We also find that they were assigned different parts of the walls to repair and as I shared this passage with the CYIA workers on our last day together, I told them that they would be spreading out across our province to begin repair on the **walls** of our province as they travel from one community to another. Every summer it is exciting to see who God brings to be a part of this ministry to children. Several years ago one of those young people was Jenn Sanderson who has been used in an incredible way on the reserves across Saskatchewan to take the gospel to the First Nation people. On the CEF Blog Jenn shared in her bio the following:

*"My name is Jenn Sanderson, this is my 4th year teaching clubs and I am very excited to see what this summer is going to bring. This was not always the case however. I was not planning on teaching this summer, in fact I was trying to fill my schedule up so that I didn't have to teach, I applied for jobs and all sorts of programs, but the doors kept closing. I had a deep feeling that this is where God had wanted me to be, but I kept running. I can sort of relate to Jonah (thankfully there was no big whale involved). So here I am now preparing to teach again, and more excited than ever. I am happy that God never gives up on us, and it is such an honour to be able to be used by him to do his work. Thinking that God COULD do all of this by himself, but he chose to allow us to be a part of it!"*



This past week we had 8 training week clubs here in Regina and had several children already accept Jesus as their Saviour. Please continue to pray for the children as they hear the gospel message that God would prepare their hearts and that they would respond to the invitation. 5-Day Club locations continue to come in almost every day as we seek to take every opportunity we can to work with churches and Christian families to take the gospel to the children in every community to which we are invited. New communities added this summer that we were not in last summer are: Assiniboia, Balcarres, Blumenort, Christopher Lake, Cut Knife, Echo Lake, Atton's Lake, Frontier, Gronlid, Kipling, Muenster, Love, Neuhorst, Ormiston, Pambrun, Ponteix, Rocanville, Greenfeld, Qu'Appelle, Southey, Sylvania, Wadena, Wawota, Weekes, and White City. As well, many new reserves have opened up again including Stanley Mission, Grandmothers Bay, One Arrow, and White Cap.

We are continuing to work on other locations, as the summer has already begun, to help fill up the itineraries for each worker. I have enclosed the itinerary for this summer with the workers' pictures where possible and the list of communities that they will be in this summer. We are adding to this almost daily but it will give you a sense of who will be taking the gospel to each community each week. (As in each year, there are always a few changes along the way and there may be the odd case where the CYIA worker that was assigned to a certain area for a certain week needs to be changed to help things flow smoothly. We would value your prayers in this regard.) **With that in mind, we are still in need of a couple more workers in August and would value your prayers for this. (Pray earnestly for labours!)** If you know anyone willing to teach 5-Day Clubs in August, we will train them on the job as we would place them with a seasoned worker for a week and then send them out. I believe that God will provide all the workers needed for each 5-Day Club location booked.

I would ask you to pray for the CYIA workers as they travel across Saskatchewan to reach the boys and girls of our province with the gospel. It has been so encouraging to have so many who have taught in the past be willing to teach again. If you want to know more about each one's ministry this summer you can follow along on the CYIA blog. Just go to [cefsask.org](http://cefsask.org) and click on the link **CYIA BLOG** and you will be able to read the bios of each worker as well as be updated day by day on what God is doing in and through them across Saskatchewan. It will help you know how to pray for them and to share in their victories along the way.

We have completed 2 weeks of training in preparation for 6 weeks of spreading the gospel as we seek to reach boys and girls for Jesus Christ that the **walls of Saskatchewan** may be repaired and that someday we may once again be known as the Bible Belt of Canada, taking the gospel beyond our **walls** and around the world. My prayer is that God would be glorified in and through this ministry to children and I want to thank you once again for your part and trust you are encouraged in all God is doing. May God bless you for your part in rebuilding the **walls of Saskatchewan!**

For the sake of the children,



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