

Missions Fest 2007 Highlights

February 23 – 25

In light of experiencing God's blessing over Missions Fest Alberta's 13-year history, the 2007 theme was, "Across the Street and Around the World." Thousands of children, youth and adults who attended the weekend conference heard from local, national, and international mission organizations about how the nations and people groups of the world are being reached with the Gospel and how believers are being disciplined. We, who have been blessed so richly, now have many opportunities to be a blessing by praying, giving, sending or going to the nations.

Children were ministered to by representatives from various missions organizations.

On Friday morning, MF Missions Quest provided a lively, fast-paced look at missions for 540 young people from Christian schools and home schools in the Edmonton area.

Youth and young adults were challenged by Floyd McClung and Aileen Coleman to "make a difference" in the world.

General Assemblies featured:

Paul Borthwick– Development Associates International

Aileen Coleman–Executive Director, Annoor Hospital in Jordan

Floyd McClung – International Director of All Nations

Michael Sandstrom – Pastor & Missionary with ACEM and NCEM; Founder of CIAM Radio Station

Their messages raised awareness of the world's needs and the church's responsibility. "Come over and help us." What does it mean to belong to the Body of Christ? Is my theology God-centered or self-centered?

"Sing to the Nations" on the final evening, brought choirs of various ethnic groups praising God in music. Paul Borthwick's final challenge to Missions Fest 2007 was, "God's Three Questions."

It is always a blessing to us when we hear stories of what God has been doing in lives through Missions Fest. The following was submitted to us by Betty-Jo and Steve Hetherington of Oliver, B.C., who became involved in the conference through one of our Sponsoring Churches:

Many thanks for our time with you at Mission Fest 2007. This was our first time to have a booth and represent the Okanagan Gleaners and I was asked to tell you about our journey to this place.

In 2004 my husband Steve was a volunteer with the Mission Fest Edmonton parking lot crew and then in 2005, he was involved in setting up. He spoke to Bob Graham at the Okanagan Gleaners booth and came home excited about our chance to visit there and volunteer for a few weeks. We decided to go out to Oliver B.C. in May 2005 to see the operation. We loved the valley and returned to our Edmonton home, listed our home, which sold in a day, and moved to Oliver in Aug 2005. We began volunteering with the Gleaners and this year volunteered to man the booth with Bob Graham. What a blessing and what a destiny that we know only God could have orchestrated. We have been blessed and have met--at the booth this year--some amazing people who handle our product and receive it in foreign lands. We feel privileged to be a part of God's love in action.

Blessings from two very happy people: Betty-Jo and Steve Hetherington