



FEBRUARY 3, 2012

NCM CANADA GIFT CATALOGUE UPDATE

The final results are in for the 4th Quarter of the 2011–2012 NCM Canada Gift Catalogue! The 4th Quarter is traditionally the strongest quarter, as many people opt to use the catalogue for Christmas gift-giving. Giving was slightly down from previous years, but there was still a very strong showing, with almost **\$30,000.00** raised! For the final quarter of 2011, we returned to CanadaHelps as our online payment tool. As a result, there were many more requests for gift cards from those who chose to place their orders online.

Some of the most popular items continue to be goats, hen and rooster sets, educational supplies, wells (both deep tube wells and the smaller variety of wells) and agricultural gifts such as fruit trees, gardening tools and vegetable seed packages. This edition of the catalogue introduced new giving options, such as the opportunity to provide a training course for a pastor and the chance to contribute to the building of a ministry centre in a needy world area.

This edition of the NCM Canada Gift Catalogue will be active until the next edition is released in the Fall of 2012. Youth groups, Sunday School classes, seniors groups and others have participated in giving through the catalogue – and can continue to do so all year! The catalogue provides wonderful opportunities for fundraising events for churches, and it also provides individuals with unique birthday and anniversary gift ideas.

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:

Church of the Nazarene Canada
20 Regan Road, Unit 9
Brampton, ON
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 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. EST, Monday–Friday.

3) You can submit your order online at www.ncmc.ca.

~Thank you for the eternal difference that you are making through your giving!~

DEADLY LANDSLIDE IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA **AFFECTS NAZARENE FAMILIES**

On the morning of Tuesday, January 24, a landslide near Mendi in Papua New Guinea’s Hela Province wiped out the entire village of Tumbi while villagers slept.

“Approximately 42 houses formed the village, with just a handful of people escaping,” said David Harris, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries Asia-Pacific Coordinator. *“One of the survivors, a guesthouse owner, was not at home at the time and returned to find his wife, children and parents all missing.”*

The devastation covers an area more than a kilometre long and hundreds of metres wide. According to an [ABC news report](#), some of the boulders dislodged are the size of cars.

There are two Nazarene churches in the area, Nogoli and Para. The Nogoli church is a 30-minute walk from the landslide area and its members were not affected by the disaster.

George Miller, former missionary to Papua New Guinea (PNG) and now Solomon Islands’ District Superintendent, said eight families are believed to have perished in the landslide who are relatives of Pastor Wagale, church leader at Hides 4 in the new Hela province.

As of last Thursday, at least 60 bodies were recovered and 20 people were considered missing. As is the custom in PNG, thousands with mud-smeared faces gathered to mourn the loss of lives. *“This is a tragedy of a magnitude the nation hasn’t seen before,”* former MP (Member of Parliament) Sir Alfred Kaibe told a reporter.

Locals in Papua New Guinea’s Southern Highlands have blamed blasting from nearby quarries for the landslide. Continuing rains have left locals fearing another landslide. *“The Hela District is partnering with the Nogoli and Para churches in the establishment of disaster relief care centres in each location to meet the needs of the*

families impacted by this disaster, effective immediately,” said Harmon Schmelzenbach, Melanesia's Field Strategy Coordinator.

District Superintendent Yasapi, Joseph Warai and Pastor Philip from the Nogoli church planned to visit the site and further assess and develop an appropriate and effective disaster response.

Continued prayer is requested for all affected.

NPH ANNOUNCES FREE DIGITAL VBS PROGRAM

Vacation Bible School (VBS) can be an expensive prospect for the local church, and it is only getting more so in a tough economy.

WordAction Publishing Company, the curriculum division of Nazarene Publishing House, is excited to announce an all-new approach to VBS that is not only budget-friendly but also easy to use.

“January was the time in the local church when I got serious about VBS planning,” said Melissa Hammer, WordAction Children’s Senior Editor. *“And one of my biggest concerns was the budget.”*

At www.digitalVBS.com, leaders can view and download up to four popular versions of the most important materials for free. Each theme includes leader’s guides, director’s guides, student books, promotional resources, posters, forms and more.

“As a former VBS Director, I can say this is a huge help,” Hammer said. *“I can download a theme, choose what items to print for use and best of all, it is not just affordable, it is free.”*

For more information, visit www.digitalVBS.com to begin planning an affordable week of VBS that introduces kids to Christ.

The above articles appear courtesy of NCN News. For more global Nazarene news, please visit www.ncnnews.com.



LEARNING SERVICES OPENS DOORS

Every year, Ambrose University College welcomes individual students as unique in their needs and challenges as they are in their giftedness and talents. Since 2004, the Learning Services Centre has partnered with students to ensure that their needs are met, whatever those needs may be.

Learning Services Centre Director, Terry Symes, explains: *“The disabilities that we see range from attention disorders to autism to psychological disorders. The assistance ranges from something as simple as supplying a quiet room in which to take a test, to having real-time closed captioning in the classroom, to converting books to any format imaginable, to providing note taking, physical and academic aides, tutoring, time management help, screen readers, screen magnifiers, library helpers, anxiety support groups and more.”*

The Learning Services Centre has a two-pronged mission, though, and serving students with disabilities is just one of its goals. The other goal is to equip new students to transition successfully to a new environment. Symes said: *“The average first year student is moving away from home for the first time and adjusting to new living arrangements (many have never shared a room, let alone a bathroom before) while adjusting to the demands of university academics, where many of the boundaries that were put in place are removed. These students come with a wide and varied background in regards to academic ability.”*

The effectiveness of the Learning Services Centre would not be possible without the Student Academic Aides. *“Depending on the student, the aide may be a physical extension of the student (at the library or cafeteria) or the aide may be an advocate or tutor. A student with Asperger’s syndrome has been working with the same aide for two years. That student and aide have a very unique relationship. The student knows that the aide is a safe person, and as a result has pushed himself to do and experience things he would not otherwise have done because he knows the aide is there to go back to in order to regroup,”* said Symes. The Learning Services Centre also offers “Ambrose 101,” a program that assists new students with weekly group sessions, a personalized study behaviour inventory, time management programs and access to study groups.

Send your news items of national interest to Diane at national@nazarene.ca
and see your information appear in the next edition of
Nazarene News