

Sex Before Marriage: Are You in Control? Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Intervention Seminar at Ottawa French Church

"Nearly half of all young adults in the Adventist Church are ignoring the principle of 'no sex before marriage'", said Judy Hutchinson-Boyce in her sermon to a packed congregation at Ottawa French Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sabbath, November 14, 2010. She was quoting the most recent Valuegenesis survey (a research study into the faith and values of young people attending Seventh-day Adventist high schools in North America) to highlight the need to educate teens of both genders in regards to sexual abstinence prior to marriage.

Hutchinson-Boyce's sermon was part of a teen pregnancy prevention and intervention seminar at

Ottawa French Church at which over 60 teens and young adults attended over the weekend.

In addition to the sermon, four seminars were presented ranging from topics such as Dealing with Sexual Urges to Sexual Myths and Sexually Transmitted Infections. The theme for the weekend was "Are You in Control?"

During the sermon, Hutchinson-Boyce, lay coordinator of Teen Pregnancy Prevention/Intervention (TPPI) Ministry of the Ontario Conference family ministries department, advised the congregation that "addressing the issue of teen sexuality at an early age is very important because of the results of the Valuegenesis survey". She also told them

that early discussion can help in delaying or preventing premarital sex, as revealed by statistics showing the positive influence of faith-based groups when they facilitate open discussion and deal with sexual issues.

One of the seminars, "My Life Is a Testimony", was presented by Khalilah Bruzual of Kanisa Fellowship in Toronto. She discussed her personal experience and hardships and how she continues to overcome through a close personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The young people of Ottawa French Church were very receptive to the seminars and eagerly asked questions, wanting to learn more about the topics presented.

The weekend was organised by Edna Simpson Zita, Women's Ministries leader for Ottawa French Church.

One of the goals of the Ontario Conference Teen Pregnancy Prevention/Intervention Ministry is to educate teens of both genders in regards to sexual abstinence prior to marriage. If you are interested in having the TPPI Ministry come to your church, please contact Judy Hutchinson-Boyce at jwjudel@rogers.com or Kristen Bailey, Ontario Conference Family Ministries secretary, at kbailey@adventistontario.org.

Judy Hutchinson-Boyce

Scarborough's Percella Harrison Celebrates 100th Birthday



Percella Harrison celebrated her 100th birthday on February 20, 2011, surrounded by loving relatives and friends. Many came from great distances including, England, Jamaica and the United States, for this memorable occasion. Also in attendance was Dr. Mansfield Edwards, president of the Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Many kind words were spoken of her. She was especially honoured for her kindness and honesty. She was fondly recognized as being a strict disciplinarian.

Sister Harrison was born on February 23, 1911 in Clarendon, Jamaica. Part of a large family, with 14 brothers and sisters, she is the mother of 4 children, grandmother to

20, great grandmother, and great-great grandmother.

"It's a cause to celebrate, and she is stronger than I am," said her daughter. Her family doctor also says that she is very healthy. She attends church and prayer meeting every week and credits her longevity to her faith and trust in God.

Thunder Bay ADRA Concert

Saturday, December 11, 2010, was the second annual ADRA fundraising evening filled with the Christmas spirit as the community of Thunder Bay gathered at a local community centre. Everyone shared in the singing of

Christmas carols and enjoyed a variety of talent from all ages. Robert Silvester and Bob Sweeney hosted the fundraising event and raised approximately \$230.26. A great evening was enjoyed by everyone.

