



HOLY  
BIBLE

# ORDINATION

SERVICE

JULY

19

2025



Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
ALBERTA CONFERENCE

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## Dear Ordination Candidates,

Congratulations on your very special day. Today is the culmination of many years of study and practical ministry.

Ministry brings with it the many blessings of service, including interaction with a local church and preparing a people for the soon return of Jesus. While this is a daunting and comprehensive task, we do so with the aid of the Holy Spirit in our lives, who makes all things possible.

May God richly bless you in the continuation of this journey with Jesus.



**Pastor Jeff Potts**

*President, Alberta Conference*

Hymn of Praise	<b>'I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go'</b> (Hymn #573)		<b>David Hamstra</b> <i>Lead Pastor, Edmonton Central</i> <b>Carl Cunningham</b> <i>Associate Chaplain,          Burman University</i>
Welcome to Ordination & Introduction of New Pastors			<b>Jeff Potts</b> <i>President, Alberta Conference</i>
Recognition of Retired Pastors			<b>Ken Wiebe</b> <i>Retired Conference President</i>
Introduction of Candidates			<b>Tyler Rosengren</b> <i>Ministerial Director,          Alberta Conference</i>
Candidates	Sponsors		
<b>Donovan &amp; Meghann Diminyatz</b> <b>Grant &amp; Sahana Lottering</b> <b>Marc &amp; Melanie Leslie</b> <b>Keith &amp; Lorraine Richter</b>			Moises Ruiz Jinwook Lee & Wesley Szamkoo Percival & Reta ( <i>recently deceased</i> ) Leslie Bob & Marlene Holdal
Scripture			<b>Moises Ruiz</b> <i>Pastor, Red Deer Church</i>
Introduction of Speaker			<b>Tyler Rosengren</b> <i>Ministerial Director,          Alberta Conference</i>
Invocation			<b>Frankie Lazarus</b> <i>Ministerial Secretary,          Ontario Conference</i>
Sermon			<b>Frankie Lazarus</b> <i>Ministerial Secretary, Ontario Conference</i>
Special Music	<b>"Find Us Faithful"</b>	Alberta Conference Pastors	
Prayer of Consecration			<b>Melissa Cooke</b> <i>Secretary/VP Administration</i>
Ordination Charge			<b>Jeff Potts</b> <i>President, Alberta Conference</i>
Song of Dedication	<b>"So Send I You"</b> (#578)	Congregation	
Welcome to Ordained Ministry			<b>Jeff &amp; Nancy Potts</b> <i>President and Spouse</i>
Presentation of Certificates			<b>Jeff Potts</b> <i>President, Alberta Conference</i>
Benediction			<b>Orlando Pule</b> <i>Senior Pastor,          College Heights</i>

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## ORDINATION CHARGE

**MY FELLOW MINISTERS**, the church has considered your call to ordained ministry and by prayer and the laying on of hands recognizes your calling in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Your responsibility will be many and wide-ranging. You are to preach the gospel of love and forgiveness, and to make Christ the centre.

To young Timothy the apostle Paul gave divine counsel for ministry. He said,

- *Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favourable or not.*
- *Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching.*
- *For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching.*
- *They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching. They will reject the truth and chase after myths. But you should keep a clear mind in every situation.*
- *Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you (2 Tim. 4:2-5, NLT).*

He also continued, in writing to the church at Corinth in 1 Corinthians 2:4-5 in the Contemporary English Version, *"When I talked with you or preached, I didn't try to prove anything by sounding wise. I simply let God's Spirit show his power. That way you would have faith because of God's power and not because of human wisdom."*



**FELLOW MINISTERS**, I charge you to direct your time, talents, and energy to your work you have been ordained to perform. There is no turning back. Let nothing divert your attention or influence you from the path you have chosen with God. Your conduct must be exemplary and your integrity unquestionable. Your words, personal appearance, and your actions must be in keeping with your calling as a minister for God.

Your ordination is a public recognition of your calling as an ordained minister.

You are authorized from today to perform the sacred rites reserved to an ordained minister. By your own submission to the laying on of hands and in recognition of your call, I now charge you with your sacred duties. Fully fulfill them so that upon the completion of your task you will hear the cheering words: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Pastor Jeff Potts:

**Will you allow God to use you to fulfill His work of leading others to Christ through your ministry?**

Candidates:

**I promise by the power of Christ and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit that I will commit my life and be true to my calling as an ordained minister.**

Pastor Jeff Potts:

**Go in God's power and as you minister to others about the soon coming of our Saviour remember to make life better for others.**

# WELCOME

## WELCOME TO ORDAINED MINISTRY

### Jeff Potts

Welcome to the ranks of ordained gospel ministry! You have now been set apart by the Church to a sacrificial service for Christ. Welcome to its sorrows and disappointments, but also to its incredible joys and blessings. As a good soldier for Christ, be instant in season and out of season with words of comfort and hope. May the peace that passes all understanding be your constant companion.

### Nancy Potts

Welcome as you partner in this great ministry. There will be challenges, but the rewards far outweigh the difficulties. Here is a prayer you may pray each day:

*"Dear Lord, help me be sensitive and caring as I serve others. Help me to love others tenderly as You tenderly love and care for me."*



# CANDIDATES

## DONOVAN DIMINYATZ

Donovan Diminyatz grew up near Kelowna, British Columbia where his parents, Randy and Vicki raised him and his sister Danielle to love Jesus. From the early days, their love of Jesus often came out in song. From bluegrass with Danielle and dad, to worship music with the Palipane's, to southern gospel with the Freedom Singers and Rise Above, music ministry kept Donovan grounded in faith, and growing in worship.

After losing his dad to cancer, Donovan began to see Jesus, not as just a story, but as a very real father figure. This has inspired a life-long love and desire to continually be discipled by the One who loves us so. This is what has given strength and direction in his ministry, first in Northern BC where he chaplained at Peace Christian School and pastored in Chetwynd, and now in Alberta where he works with Epic, Red Deer, and South Side Christian School.



In 2012, Donovan married his best friend Meghann, and they are the loving parents of four children; Avett, Emmy, Lochlan, and Aoife. Donovan loves, above all, spending quality time with his young family. He also enjoys time in nature, cooking, cycling, film photography and creating music.

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**Sponsor:** Moises Ruiz

**Acknowledgment:** Thank you, Pastor Moises, for showing me, even as kids, that ministry can be a lot of fun. And thank you for relentlessly investing in youth. You've taught me to think outside the box, and that sometimes, the sky truly is the limit. Who ever thought when we were kids, leading worship together with Erroll, that one day we'd be ministering together side by side? Epic.



# CANDIDATES

## MARC LESLIE

From an early age, I felt a deep tenderness toward the Church. As a product of Seventh-day Adventist Christian education, I not only embraced our beliefs but intentionally questioned why we believe them. I immersed myself in church life—serving as Sabbath School Teacher, Superintendent, AY Leader, Music Director, Elder, and spearheading various ministries and community events. I thought God was pleased with my service and content to let me minister in this way. Yet, deep down, I sensed His call to something more. Still, I chose instead to pursue a career in Information Technology, believing it to be my true passion. But after a few



years in what I thought was my dream job, one particular day I was overcome by a profound sense of emptiness and purposelessness. I knew what it was—God calling one last time. That very night, I wrote my resignation letter, and the next morning, handed it in. Weeks later, I applied to Burman University, packed up my life, and drove out

from Ontario to Alberta. My journey through theology school and into my first ministerial assignment at Calgary Bridgeland SDA Church has been filled with growth, healthy challenge, and confirmation. Through it all, I remain humbled and thankful that God continues to affirm the sacred call He placed on my life.

**Sponsors:** Percival Leslie and Reta (recently deceased) Leslie

**Acknowledgment:** While my loving wife, Melanie Floyd Leslie, is my greatest support system in my ministry, it was my parents who first recognized God's purpose for my life, and patiently inspired me over the years to listen to His voice. I could have none other than my father—Percival Alexander Leslie—stand with me on this day as he sees his vision for me become reality. My sweet Mommy (Reta Leslie) would be here as well, but she went to sleep on April 9th of this year, and I can't wait to tell her on resurrection morning that her and Dad's unconditional love, steady encouragement, and sacrificial investments into my life have been foundational in both the man and pastor I have become.



# CANDIDATES

## GRANT LOTTERING

Grant Lottering is from South Africa and is currently serving as a district pastor. He began his theological training at Helderberg College of Higher Education, graduating in 2019 with a Bachelor of Arts in Theology.

In 2020, Lottering commenced his pastoral ministry as associate director of the Ellen G. White and SDA Research and Heritage Center for the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division, while also pastoring churches within the Cape Conference. During his time at the Research Center, he compiled a new Ellen G. White booklet, contributed several articles to the Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists and trained pastors from several unions on aspects related to the life and prophetic ministry of Ellen G. White.

In 2022, he married Sahana and relocated to Canada in May 2023. Since February 2024, Lottering has served as the pastor for the Bonnyville-Lloydminster District



under the Alberta Conference. In 2025, he completed a Master of Religion degree at Andrews University. His thesis focused on the Doctrine of the Trinity in early Adventism and its acceptance within Southern African Seventh-day Adventism.

Lottering enjoys spending time with family and friends, listening to Gaither Gospel Music, reading, and river rafting. He is passionate about preparing and preaching biblical expository sermons and finds his greatest fulfillment in leading individuals into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Sponsors:** Pastor Jinwook Moses Lee and Pastor Wesley Szamko

**Acknowledgment:** When I arrived in Canada, Calgary Parkdale SDA Church became our spiritual home. Among its loving, caring, and dedicated members, Pastor Jinwook Lee played a pivotal role in helping me adjust to life and ministry in a new country. His unwavering spiritual support, encouragement, and genuine pastoral care were instrumental in my transition, and I remain deeply grateful for his guidance during that formative time. As I transitioned into pastoral ministry, Pastor Wesley Szamko became my mentor during my ministerial internship. With a wealth of experience gained through key leadership roles around the world, Pastor Szamko generously shared his insights and wisdom. I have greatly benefitted from our regular meetings and his constant availability to offer thoughtful guidance and encouragement.

# CANDIDATES

## KEITH RICHTER

Keith Richter grew up on a small farm in north-western Saskatchewan, part of a large family with nine children. Raised by a praying mother and a spiritual father, Keith was deeply influenced by Colporteur books, despite not knowing much about Seventh-day Adventists at the time. He gave his life to Jesus at an early age and was seen as a future candidate for Church ministry early on.

Keith moved to Edmonton to attend NAIT, where he pursued a Business and Marketing program. It was in Edmonton that he met his lovely wife, Lorraine, with whom he has shared 45 wonderful years. Together, they have two sons: Derek, who is well-known as a Pastor in the Alberta Conference,



and David, an Emergency Department Physician.

Although Keith felt the call to ministry early in his life, he finally gave in to God's call in 2006, becoming the Associate Treasurer in the Alberta Conference. In 2011, he advanced to the role of Treasurer. Keith has always embraced the treasury role as a sacred ministry—an extension of his calling to serve, much like his roles as a parent, Elder, local church treasurer, and Sabbath School teacher.

Since he and Lorraine were baptized in the spring of 1985, with their son Derek newly dedicated to the Lord, Keith has seen each responsibility as an opportunity to honor God and steward His blessings with faithfulness and humility.

Keith and Lorraine are humbled by the consideration for ordination and wish to praise the Lord Jesus for all He has accomplished in their lives.

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**Sponsors:** Bob and Marlene Holdal

**Acknowledgment:** We are so grateful to Bob Holdal who called Keith to serve in the Alberta Conference. Bob and his wife Marlene demonstrated such a faithful dedicated ministry to their Lord and the Church it inspired Keith to faithfully serve God in his roles with the Conference. Thank you, Bob and Marlene, for being a trusted mentor all these years.

## NOTES

But you will receive  
power when the Holy  
Spirit comes on you;  
and you will be my  
witnesses in Jerusalem,  
and in all Judea and  
Samaria, and to the  
ends of the earth.

Acts 1:8

New International Version



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[albertaadventist.ca](http://albertaadventist.ca)