



Elsie is the daughter of Erwin and Lilly Lewandowski and was born in Edmonton, Alberta. She recognized her spiritual need while at Sylvan Lake Baptist Camp when she was ten years old and received Jesus Christ as her Saviour.

About her early Christian growth, Elsie says, “At age twelve I already wanted to be a teacher but I did not want to be a missionary or to be single. The Holy Spirit won that battle at camp again. I was always aware that my responsibility was to witness with my life. At age 16, the Lord revealed some hidden motives and I recommitted my life.”

Elsie has always been an active worker for the Lord, serving in various ministry positions throughout her high school and university years. After receiving her B.Ed. from the University of Alberta, Elsie spent two years as a teacher on an Indian Reserve. She continued to teach Sunday school with the help of an eighty year old man.



Elsie considers the Lord her daily strength: “I need the Lord daily in order to do the best at what I do. I am in awe that He loves me and wants to use me with all my failures and weaknesses. I have much to learn but I have seen miracles. He does change hearts and attitudes. He has His own timetable and needs not be rushed.”

Elsie began thinking about missions more seriously after hearing a presentation given by Herman Effa at Sylvan Lake Camp on the mission work in Brazil, where he challenged them to give their all—hopes and dreams and future. Throughout her life Elsie heard stories of how God had guided her family through the generations—becoming Baptist, keeping them through the war, settling in Canada instead of Argentina. Elsie felt, “If God can guide my family thus far, I knew He could guide me anywhere. I wanted somehow to give back. I’ve always recognized the need overseas and the lack of people willing to go.” After prayerful consideration, Elsie made application for missionary service.

Elsie was appointed as a short-term missionary to the Philippines in April 1987 and began her teaching ministry to missionary children at Faith Academy in Manila, Philippines, in July 1987. In the summer of 1989 Elsie transferred to Davao City to teach at the Faith Academy satellite school.

After returning to Canada, Elsie taught one year at a Christian school in Camrose, Alberta. In 1991 Elsie was appointed by the Board of Missions to serve as a teacher at the Hillcrest School, Jos, Nigeria. In 1995 Elsie was appointed for a two-year term to serve in Cameroon as discipleship coordinator and later as coordinator/teacher of the Field Education System. This appointment was changed to career missionary status in 1999. Training College. Elsie is always looking for volunteers to come and help.

Birthday:
February 20