

# Gospel

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# Herald

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J.C. and Myrtle Bailey

## Faithful Servants Recognized

If asked to list some great evangelists, we would begin with Peter and Paul who boldly, zealously and sacrificially served Jews and Gentiles respectively, teaching and persuading them to turn to God through Christ. They certainly provide examples of what it means to evangelize. It would be interesting and edifying to search the pages of history and study the lives, works and characters of the many who have followed them in effectively carrying on this great activity.

An impressive list could be compiled from the history of gospel preaching in Canada. We would begin with men such as James Black, Joseph Ash and David Oliphant who were effective proclaimers in the very infancy of our country. Skipping over the intervening years to our own times we think of H.A. Rogers, Wilfred Orr, C.G. McPhee, J.C. Bailey and many others. Of these, J.C. Bailey continues with us, although well past 95 years of age and no longer able to be active in the work he loved and devoted his life to.

It seems appropriate indeed, as we emphasize evangelism in this issue, that we pay tribute to the long, faithful and effective service of John Carlos and Myrtle Bailey.

His father was a preacher. In those days children often admired their parents and aspired to be like them. He remembers gathering neighbourhood children together and preaching to them in 1908, when not yet 5 years old. Baptized six years later, he wrote his first article in 1919 for the CHRISTIAN MONTHLY REVIEW. He has since written several books and tracts and uncountable articles for this paper and others.

By 1921 he was filling his father's pulpit when needed and, that Fall, he became one of the charter students in the Carman Bible School. His first evangelistic meeting, in the Spring of

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# Basic Principles of Evangelism That Never Change

Tim Johnson

Every country has its own personality and unique disposition of its people. In fact one region within a country can be radically different from another. For example, the people of Quebec seem to be very open morally, but right next door in the Maritimes one encounters a more restrictive society. While these differences effect our efforts to preach and share the gospel with people, some things remain constant all over Canada and the world at large:

## 1. People are lost.

Despite the security we enjoy as Canadians, the many government programs that attempt to look after us, and the religious traditions that abound, people are lost! It is not the lack of information about religious matters or the ignorance of the scriptures that causes people to be lost. The cause is SIN! Canada has its moralists, people with strong religious backgrounds, idolaters, pagans, and atheists. Every one of them is guilty of sin, and sin condemns. "There is none righteous, not even one..." (Rom. 3:10). "...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). Canadians may act secure and happy, but don't be fooled into thinking all is well. Without Christ and the gospel their sins have caused them to be lost.

## 2. It's the gospel that saves.

You don't have to try to impress people with your personality or deep knowledge of spiritual things in order to save people. There is only one thing that will rescue a soul from death: the good news of Christ, "...for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes" (Rom. 1:16). Comfortable church buildings are helpful, but they can't save a soul without the gospel. Interesting church programs that meet people's needs can ease suffering, but that alone will not heal the soul from sin. Urging people to attend church services can help, but they must hear the message of Christ before they can be saved. Concentrate on ways to share the message. Remember Paul's wise advice, "And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him cruci-

fied" (1 Cor. 2:1-2).

## 3. The gospel still works in a religiously saturated country.

Canada is a surprisingly spiritual place. A 1995 Maclean's/CBC News poll revealed that 82% of Canadians consider themselves spiritual. Facing statistics like this, we might be tempted to think any effort to reach people with the gospel will fall on deaf ears. However, a great many religious people simply don't know what's in the Bible and often long to find out. The recent encouraging response to the Key to the Kingdom television program demonstrates this fact. Canadians seem to have a general respect for the Bible even if they live their lives in a way that's morally opposite to its teachings. People are often both surprised and pleased when they find out what the Bible teaches about salvation. Let's not fail to try to teach it because we may think people are already religious.

## *Nothing works better than personal attention and teaching.*

## 4. Christians must explain the word to people.

No one can be saved without understanding the basics about Christ and how to respond to Him. "How then shall they call upon Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him whom they have not heard?" (Rom. 10:14) It's our God-ordained work to explain the facts to people, to give them the information they need.

When Paul went into a synagogue he attempted to show Christ to people through the scriptures, which the Jews were familiar with. "And according to Paul's custom, he went to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures..." (Acts 17:2-3). People are often confused and don't understand the way of salvation because they don't know how to find their way around the Bible. It's difficult to determine how to be saved when a person begins reading in Genesis and soon gives up in the middle of Leviticus! We need to make it our goal to try to explain the word to people. This can be done through con-

ventional methods such as Bible correspondence courses, films open to the public, radio and television programs, etc. However the most effective way is to personally show and explain the gospel to your friends and family. Nothing works better than personal attention and teaching. People respond to people!

## 5. We must challenge people to think.

Where would you and I be if someone hadn't challenged us to think about our souls, to consider where we are headed eternally, and to make a decision? Where would Apollos have ended up if Aquila and Priscilla hadn't approached him to see if he would allow them to teach him the way of God more accurately? (Acts 18:24-28). He was challenged to think. We must not assume that people will come to a knowledge of the truth simply on their own. There are too many influences Satan uses to steer people away from it.

While Canadians dislike approaches about religion that are too aggressive or commercial - sounding, a mild confrontation in a respectful way is not out of line. We can ask questions that cause interest: "I've been a believer for a few years now and I'm concerned that you have had an opportunity to understand what's in the Bible about getting to heaven." Or, "I know you have a concern for religious things, but has anyone taken time to share with you what the scriptures say?" Sometimes a more direct question is in order: "Death could come at any time; how would you fare if you stood before God today?"

Let's not assume people will someday approach us to find out how to be saved. That may happen, but it's unlikely. We must approach them. We must speak and inquire so that an opportunity will be created to show people what the scriptures say.

## 6. The people who will respond to you best are the ones who know you and your life's example.

Strangers are often led to the cross, but it's more likely you will have success with people who have come to trust and respect you. Sowing the seed begins with living a happy, holy, courageous life before other

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# “Keeping the Flame Alive”

## Restoration Revisited

Geoffrey H. Ellis



“I don’t want to hear about the Restoration Movement. I just want to be a New Testament Christian,” a friend said to me.

I asked, “Did you discover Christianity on your own? Or did someone introduce you to the Gospel, and did that person help you to understand Biblical truth?”

“The latter,” was the response.

“And,” I asked, “Do you desire to lead others to Christ? Will you share your understanding of Christianity?”

“Yes,” came the immediate reply.

This transmission of the good news of salvation in Christ by Christians to seekers is as God intends it. There are two elements in the transaction: divine truth in all its perfection and the message of well-meaning spokesmen for the Lord with its potential for inaccuracy. It is in the human element that error can and often does develop. It is by attention to the Word that correction is possible. Over the 2,000 intervening years there have been many examples of straying and many attempts to return to the pure Gospel to offset human accretions. This is what the Restoration Movement is about.

There is a normal progression in this transmission of teaching: from the past to the present to the future. My friend’s experience - receiving, responding, retelling - is the Restoration in miniature (cf. 2 Tim 2:2). He was exposed to the human element in his reception; he was coloured by his own humanity in his response of understanding; he was not free from his own humanity in his retelling. In all honesty, he cannot escape the need for Restoration.

It is helpful, in understanding Restoration, to see its three distinct parts - principle, movement and history.

Restoration is principle. Simply stated, that principle is, “Learn the will of God and do it!” (cf. Matt. 6:10). Restoration holds that God’s inspired will defines Christianity, not man’s innovative intelligence. Implicit in “restore” is the recogni-

tion that a corrective is often needed because of the obstruction of God’s will that commonly results from human intrusion. A restorationist Christian will seek to distinguish between human encroachment and the truth of the Gospel and commit to the latter.

Restoration as history charts the efforts of those who have preceded us to return to a faith that is obedient to the Word of God (cf. Rom. 1:5; 16:26). These efforts are not to be lionized as the perfect reinstatement of New Testament Christianity. Rather, they are examined as human efforts that were subject to human limitations to return to Biblical faith. Their successes and failures are the stuff of which history’s lessons are made. They inspire, they instruct, they warn. They help us better to establish our

*Together we are part of the movement that is dedicated to preserving and advancing Christianity.*

present and to chart our future.

Restoration as movement is the dynamic linkage of the past with the present to the future. Movement centers in my present. I become the repository of the past and the bridge to the future. I am part of the stream of history as it flows through time. I share with others of like mind. Together we are part of the movement that is dedicated to preserving and advancing Christianity. Do we hold that which was given to us up against the standards of Scripture? Do we seek to purify our doctrinal understanding according to the authority of Christ? Do we faithfully pass this treasure on to those who follow after? Will our successors seek a grander vision of the perfection of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth? Or will they turn again to the humanisms of sectarianism and denominationalism?

When we talk about the Restoration

Movement, therefore, it is helpful to ask, “What aspect - principle, history or movement?”

To opt for “New Testament Christianity” while eschewing “the Restoration Movement” is inadequate for the following reasons:

This view denies one’s human condition. It ignores the reality that each of us lives in a historical context and that we all have been exposed to yesterday’s shaping forces. It renders as virtually impossible that there can be any real achievement for Christianity in any age that is transferable to succeeding generations.

It lacks the discernment that is the benefit of historical research. Those who are ignorant of the past are doomed to repeat its mistakes. We study past events in their cultural setting in order to be better equipped to deal with present conditions served by an objective view of prevailing culture.

It disqualifies us as bridges for the future. For if the past is meaningless to us, why should we expect that our successors would have any different attitude toward our struggles and advances? What is valuable and meaningful to us will be just “empty history” for them, if this attitude prevails.

We should not pose an “either-or” proposition of “New Testament Christianity” or “Restoration Movement.” Rather, we should choose a “both-and” approach that elevates the primacy of New Testament Christianity and that is served by a respectful Restoration Movement.

The wonder is that by God’s determination the reconciliation of the human race is to be mediated by a human force the church in a human, historical context. It is in the very struggle with the human condition that the truth of the Gospel is refined and experienced. By being thoughtful regarding our heritage from the past, accountable for our present actions, and responsible for our legacy for the future, we can help “keep the flame alive.”

Waterloo, Ontario

# EDITORIAL

## Seeking the Lost

Wayne Turner



If you had known Zacchaeus before his encounter with Jesus, what would you have thought of him? Not much, if you were a Jew. He was a chief tax collector, a Jew who collaborated with the detested Romans, a supposed brother who became rich off the backs of his fellows. He was a social and spiritual outcast — a sinner. Righteous people reacted strongly when Jesus went into his home.

Jesus ignored the unhappiness of the crowd because he had an important purpose to accomplish. During his time with Zacchaeus, Jesus stated that purpose. When Zacchaeus stood and made a profound statement of his repentance, Jesus responded, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost." (Luke 19:9,10). His encounter with Zacchaeus was part of his mission.

The three parables of Luke 15, the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son, echo Christ's concern for finding the lost. In verse 7, Jesus said, "I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent." A similar statement follows in verse 10, "In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." In verse 24, when the Prodigal Son has returned, the father proclaims, "For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."

Of all the words that describe the most hopeless and helpless condition of humanity, the word "lost" is perhaps the clearest and bleakest. How fearsome is the word. When a ship and its crew are pronounced lost at sea, when an airplane is lost, when a mountain climbing expedition or a child in the woods is lost, hope flounders and despair grows. This is not merely the confusion of misreading a map. This is being desperately lost with no possibility of making it back on your own. This is the terror of being separated from a loving father in the absolute darkness of a moonless night — of having no guide, no way to get back to him.

Jesus said that his purpose was to seek and save what was lost. Although he often expressed it in slightly different words, Jesus made it clear that he came to rescue fallen humanity from the horrible consequences of sin. His was a mission which no one else could fulfill. John 3:16 reminds us that the giving of Jesus' life was the ultimate gift of a loving God to a fallen world. He did not come to condemn the world, but to save it (v. 17). From the cross on, humanity would be forever divided into two groups: those who are separated from God by their sin and those who have been found by Christ. There is no other way back to God. If there were, why would a loving Father allow Jesus to suffer and die in such a cruel way? Although He came to give people eternal life, He himself prayed to be spared the suffering if there were any other way out. But the enormity of sin required Him to

lose His life in payment for ours. Afterward, Jesus gave his disciples the joyful task of taking to every person in the world the message of how they can be restored to God by this sacrifice. The disciples devoted their energy and lives to this commission because they knew that without Christ, the world is lost in sin!

To be honest, the idea of a world lost in sin makes us uncomfortable. It is difficult to accept. We do not like to think that our friends, neighbours, co-workers, and even members of our families, might be lost. We love them and certainly do not want to hurt them. However we might try to rationalize the idea, the reality remains. Two thousand years after Jesus sent the disciples to spread the Good News, the only way to salvation and eternal life is still through Jesus Christ. Each and every one of us has been called to share that same gospel. This is why the Great Commission has been called the "marching orders of the church." The command to "Go and preach the good news to every creature" is as critical for us today as it was for Christians in the New Testament era. Evangelism is one of our primary responsibilities to God and to the world.

We live in a world where evangelism has become unfashionable. The world says, "How dare you narrow-minded Christians tell us that we are lost and that we have to believe in Jesus to be saved! We have a right to believe anything we want." Today's values are religious toleration and acceptance. Given that many Christians do not seem to make any effort to share the gospel, is it possible that they have accepted the world's values rather than the word of Christ? Denying or compromising does not change the fact that the whole world, apart from Christ, is forever lost in sin.

It is true that some church members have been rude, insensitive and unChristlike in their attempts to be evangelistic. However, the fact that some have misused the gospel or abused people does not negate the imperative for us to go and preach. We cannot stand silently by and allow those we profess to love go to their graves having never heard the saving message of

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## Evangelist Training: Some Different Thoughts

**T**ake a moment and list three great evangelists that you know. OK, list three good evangelists. Could it be that you cannot even think of three? Did you put yourself on the list? What has happened to great evangelists? Some people claim that the gift of evangelism has died off. Others seem to think the church has lost its fervor. My opinion is that the training camps for evangelists have failed to do their jobs. Every child who grows up in a Christian home is an evangelist in training.

Before going further, allow me to state that the one great assumption that I'm making as I write this article is that we as believers understand that the power is in the word of God and not in the messenger. With that stated, I hope that we understand that the messengers need to be trained. Open your Bible to the gospels and find where Jesus is tempted in the wilderness. Notice how he responds to Satan by quoting Scripture. Who taught him? Some people will point out that he was empowered by the Holy Spirit and they are right to stress that. But let me remind you of a young boy who stayed behind in the temple and was able to amaze the teachers with his questions and knowledge. Someone was teaching the boy Jesus the word of God. That job fell primarily to Mary and Joseph. Well done Mom and Dad!

If I asked you to list three great evangelists of the new Testament I would imagine that Paul would appear on your list. He is most certainly a great evangelist. Throw him in prison for preaching and what does he do? He praises God. Let him out with the understanding that he is not to preach, what does he do? In my mind he engages in the first door knocking campaign. The evangelist cannot be silent. Paul took the young preacher Timothy under his wing and we learn something wonderful about

Timothy's mother and grandmother. We learn that the young preacher Timothy was in training to be an evangelist before he ever met Paul because those two ladies were modeling living, active faith. The training ground known as the home should provide all children with the foundation of knowing the word and with the blessing of having seen it modeled. Paul taught Timothy. There is no doubt about that fact but it also needs to be noted that Paul found in Timothy a young man with a foundation that could be built upon. Foundations are usually built in the home or by someone close to the family.

In regard to teaching the word of God in the home, I wish to share a few thoughts. First, we need to teach a foundation of stories appropriate for the age of the children in the home. Maybe I am wrong (often am) but families often do a great job of teaching infant children Bible stories. Unfortunately, though, the stories often do not grow up with the children. While Bible stories are for all ages, age dictates the depth of the lesson. It seems that the older children grow and the more difficult they are to handle, the less likely parents are to sit down and study Bible stories with their children. Instead of running to God many people close the word instead of opening it. We know where to find answers, we just refuse to look.

To be evangelistic also requires that one have a passion for the word of God. If you're passionate about it you'll open it up, value it, and read it. Lift your head up! This article is not designed to make parents feel guilty but to get them to think. Just how do you expect to grow personally or corporately if you and your church family are not passionate about the word God? The church has many great speakers that can keep you entertained but that does not make them great evangelists. I confess I have been at times guilty of being an enter-

tainer more than a preacher. I was at my first paid ministry position as a youth minister and my No.1 concern was numbers instead of quality of ministry. I spent more time coming up with sermon illustrations than I did working with the text. I fear that many ministers value numbers over quality. The power is in the word and we need to teach the young to be passionate about the word of God. The passion will be displayed in the power of the message they present.

Parents have to teach the story, model the passion for the word of God, and sit down with a teenage daughter to talk about her choice in friends. The teen sits and listens until the perfect opportunity arises to land the perfect counterpunch, "Mom, what about your friends?" We need to be concerned about the associates our young choose but first we need to make sure that our friends are not of questionable character. Remember that the friends we choose will influence our children.

A story illustrates this. The scene is the pool at the MacDonald's. We were there to play. When the lane was open, I went for the dunk. It was a spectacular dunk, the best of the day I might add, right up to the instant the rim broke. You probably need to know that I had been warned to "take it easy" but taking it easy was not my style. I tried to fix it. No luck! The lesson learned, my parents were not the only ones that believed in forgiveness.

Three things to summarize: 1. Moms and Dads are training evangelists. 2. Teach the word. 3. Teach them to be passionate about the Word of God.

The second part of this article will follow next month. Look for "TEAMWORK EVANGELIST."

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Jesus. Not if we really love them. Jesus loved us enough to suffer humiliation, pain and death. How can we love others any less?

This issue of the Gospel Herald is devoted to Evangelism in the hope that Christians across Canada will see and respond to the challenge to tell the lost the wonderful story of Jesus. May each one of us have the vision to see the Zacchaeuses who are waiting to see Jesus. May we each have the heart to tell them the wonderful story of love.

And may God richly bless you as you share the gift of Jesus with those around you.

## Love Does Not Rejoice In Evil, But Rejoices With The Truth

**T**he Christian religion is full of joy. Joy is at the very heart of our faith. God created joy and He wants to give it to His people. If God's people don't get joy, they have missed much of what Christianity is all about. After all, Jesus didn't come to make us miserable, He came to bring us joy. When Paul says, "Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth" (1 Corinthians 13:6) he gets to the center of what Christian joy is all about. We cannot manufacture Christian joy with our emotions. It is not a superficial rah, rah type of thing. Joy comes from knowing God. Joy comes from the truth.

Wrong has no real joy in it and right cannot be separated from it. God binds the two of them together. There may be wrong things that look like they can give joy and many right things that look like they would produce misery, but both appearances are illusions. There is no real joy in wrong and no right that is not joyous. God created things that way. Hell has no joy in it. Joy is heaven's product. When we live in joy, we are basically what God means us to be. When we depart from it, we live a lie and rejoice where there is no real joy, which means our rejoicing is hollow.

Wrong and right are broad terms, but Paul is focusing on our relationships with God and others. When I love people I will not rejoice in their wrongs. When I love people I will rejoice in all that is right in their lives.

### Why would someone rejoice in the wrongs of others?

Some rejoice in the wrongs of others because they believe it brings them some advantage. When they see others go down, they believe that they will in turn rise. They rejoice in the wrongs of others, because they believe that they can benefit

from it. They do not see the tragedy that sin brings to the lives of those who fall.

Some rejoice in the wrongs of others because of resentments. When they see others fall, they say, "Good, they are getting what they deserve."

Some rejoice in the wrongs of others because they see their family as being in competition with other families in the church. They rejoice in the wrong they see in other families, because they believe that it makes their own family look good.

Sometimes rejoicing in the wrongs of others is politically motivated. Politics comes into the church when someone thirsts for power without any consideration of what is best for the church. They compete with others for power and when others do wrong they see a chance to grab power.

This kind of rejoicing is far from the heart of the gospel. God did not rejoice in our wrongs. He loved us so much that He sent His Son in the flesh, to die for His rebellious creatures. God wants so much that we not sin, that He has done everything short of forcing us to obey Him. If we rejoice in the wrongs of others we contradict God's purpose in making, sustaining and redeeming us and we leave the path that led Jesus to the cross. In a sense, rejoicing in wrong casts a vote for a universe where evil, not good, rules men's lives. Jesus died to defeat evil. How can we find joy when evil wins in someone's life?

To rejoice in truth is to rejoice when others do what is right. To rejoice in truth is to rejoice when we see people believing, repenting, confessing and being baptized. To rejoice in truth is to rejoice when the church extends God's love benevolently to those in need. To rejoice in truth is to find

joy when Christians are strengthened and strengthen each other. To rejoice in truth is to rejoice in virtue. To rejoice in truth is to rejoice in victory over sin. To rejoice in truth is to rejoice in the relationships we have with one another, strengthened by the love of God. To rejoice in truth is to rejoice when people are reunited. To rejoice in truth is to rejoice when church divisions are healed. To rejoice in truth is to rejoice when Christians improve their relationship with God.

To delight in evil is to take delight in others doing what is wrong. To delight in evil is to take delight in seeing people reject Christ. To delight in evil is to take delight when the church shuts its doors and heart to those in need. To delight in evil is to take delight when Christians are weakened and work to weaken each other. To delight in evil is to take delight in a lack of virtue and values. To delight in evil is to take delight when we see people destroyed by sin. To delight in evil is to take delight in relationships being destroyed as people pull back from God. To delight in evil is to take delight when churches divide. To delight in evil is to take delight in people destroying their relationship with God.

To rejoice in truth is to embrace truth and to practice truth. We do not make excuses, rationalize or seek to justify wrong, we simply practice truth. No, we are not perfect, but because we rejoice in the truth, we turn from what is wrong to do what is right. We trust in Jesus to forgive our sins and to strengthen us to defeat future temptations that may come our way.

To live in truth is not easy, it never has been, but it seems particularly difficult today. Evil has been given some new names that have deceived many. Evil has become my rights, tolerance, my happiness and being true to myself. God's standard has been replaced by the lowest common denominator. If there was ever a time when Christians, both young and old, needed to live in truth, embrace truth, rejoice in truth and teach the truth, it is now. God has promised victory. You see, the one in us is greater than the one who is in the world. Rejoice in the truth and in the power of Jesus Christ living in us. Praise God, He will be victorious! *BMC*

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# “I Feel Compassion for the Multitude”

(Matthew 15:32v; 9:35; Mark 8:2a)

Paul Birston

Jesus met with all kinds of people: tax collectors, prostitutes, rich, poor, labourers, seekers, self-satisfied, repentant, healthy, sick. He encountered them in all kinds of circumstances: in the country, in the city, at dinner, on a stormy sea.

Jesus called one of these people, a tax collector, to be a disciple. The first book in the New Testament bears his name. Matthew was a recipient of Jesus' compassion. He must have been moved by Jesus' acceptance of him as He called him from his work in a tax booth (Matthew 9:9). As an agent of Rome, Matthew would frequently have felt rejected by his passing kinsmen. Jesus was one who stopped and showed compassion. Christ then displayed His compassion further by dining with many “tax-gatherers and sinners” (Matthew 9:10b). Jesus tells the critical Pharisees present, “I desire compassion, and not sacrifice” (Matthew 9:13b; Hosea 6:6).

Perhaps it is not surprising then that Matthew's gospel refers to “compassion” more than other New Testament writers. This gospel begins the record of Jesus' ministry by focusing on the Saviour's work with the multitudes, His Sermon on the Mount, His emphasis on mercy (Matthew 4:17-25; 5:1f). Perhaps as our author wrote about how Jesus fulfilled Old Testament prophecy, he had in mind God's frequent description of Himself as “gracious and compassionate” (Exodus 34:6; 2 Chronicles 30:9; Psalm 103:8; Jonah 4:2, and others).

One day on a mountain after Jesus healed many people, Matthew heard his Master say, “I feel compassion for the multitude, because they have remained with Me now three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not wish to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way” (Matthew 15:32b). Imagine how the children there would have sounded after so long without food. Matthew then watched as Jesus proved His compassion by satisfying the hunger of over four thousand people.

We may understand the verb in Matthew

for feeling compassion as “having pity,” “feeling sympathy,” literally, “to be moved in the inward parts” (it comes from a noun for “inward parts” or figuratively, the “heart” or “seat of emotions”). Jesus makes no superficial statement here; His compassion comes from the core of His being. (Word studies in this article are from the UBS Greek New Testament, Walter Bauer's A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament, and Thomas L. Robert, Ed., New American Standard Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible.)

Matthew connected Jesus' teaching and proclamation of the gospel with healing, a

## *To share Christ's message with others, we need compassion for the multitude.*

concrete, visible display of His compassion:

“And Jesus was going about all the cities and the villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. And seeing the multitudes, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and downcast like sheep without a shepherd” (Matthew 9:35-36). People were “distressed,” (or “harassed,” “wearied,” “bothered”) and “downcast” (which can mean literally, “thrown far away,” “put down,” a difficult position for a sheep to be in). In Matthew 15:29 they put the sick down at Jesus' feet. He healed them.

Are there not many distressed and downcast in our world today, many who need a Shepherd? Jesus made a point of telling us how He feels about those who are like lost sheep: He has compassion on them. He preached the good news to them. He is ready to be their Shepherd, if they will follow (sheep are lead not herded like cattle).

Jesus proved the extent of His compassion as He died on the cross, was buried and raised for our forgiveness. We experience God's compassion and forgiveness through the love, grace and patience of His

Son.

Right after connecting Jesus' compassion with the good news of the kingdom, Matthew records Jesus saying to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest” (Matthew 9:37b-38). He moves from pictures of sheep to images of harvest. Harvest is a time of hard work, a limited window of opportunity between when the grain is ripe and when it spoils. It is a time that requires more workers to pitch in.

As we look out at the multitudes how do we feel? Overwhelmed? Intimidated? What drives us to share the good news with others? What will keep us going? The apostle Paul says, “the love of Christ controls us” (2 Corinthians 5:14b); “put on a heart of compassion” (Colossians 3:12b). To share Christ's message with others, we need compassion for the multitude. Without it we can become tired, frustrated and cynical.

The downcast and distressed need to hear about Jesus' compassion for them today. They also need to see Jesus' compassion in His messengers and receive it from them. Serving people with compassion can be exhausting.

Jesus grew weary; so did His disciples. Serving people makes us vulnerable. Some may object: we may be used, resented. Wasn't Jesus? Jesus' compassion was not contingent upon a favourable response. Nine of ten lepers cleansed never returned to thank Him (Luke 17:11-19). Nevertheless, love and compassion kept Him going all the way to the cross. As we go out and share this good news, our inner parts must be motivated by the attitude of our Master: “I feel compassion for the multitude.”

*Winnipeg, Manitoba*

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## Do We Persuade?



Some friends invite you to join them in a recreational activity. You hesitate. They persuade you. A friend discovers a good deal and persuades you to take advantage of it. A volunteer solicitor for a charity knocks on your door and persuades you to give. Persuasion is a common occurrence in our everyday lives.

You attend church where the most wonderful, needed and beneficial product known to man is being talked about and you might be surprised to detect little evidence of persuasion. The approach seems to be sort of casual, take it or leave it?

In the May, 1996 issue we asked, "What has happened" to the gospel invitation. Now, three years later the question remains. In fact, we have an urge to reprint the same article!

We discussed our concern about this with a well known and effective gospel preacher. He commented, "They don't do it because they don't expect responses. I give an invitation at every service. I expect responses." We surely will not get what we do not expect or encourage.

Sometimes an "invitation", which might better be called "an offer to help", is given as a sort of appendage or afterthought to the "sermon". Then the "invitation hymn", which might better be called the "closing hymn" is sung. The lack of a persuasive element in either is quite noticeable.

This "new" approach to "evangelism" seems to say, "I apologize for suggesting that you might possibly be in circumstances that would cause you to need salvation, but if you are, I am willing to help." Do we still believe that "all have sinned" (Rom.3:23) and that there is no salvation outside of Jesus (Acts 4:12)? Really? Are we concerned for the lost? Do we care? Really? Why doesn't it show?

Not long ago a speaker mentioned the infrequency or absence of the invitation as one of the changes taking place among us. Although some changes were cause for concern, he did not view this one as a problem since he had found neither command,

example or necessary inference in regard to it. We are concerned because we see it as a symptom of a church whose preachers and members are not evangelistic.

Although there is no evidence that New Testament preachers ended their sermons with an appeal, accompanied by a persuasive hymn, there is plenty of evidence that their lessons contained and ended with persuasive appeals. First, they strove to convince the hearers that they needed salvation. Then, in anticipation of responses, they made the appeal - invitation. Peter's lesson pricked the hearts and ended with a strong "invitation". "With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, 'save yourselves from this corrupt generation.'" (Acts 2:40). Note the responses (v41)!

From a scriptural viewpoint, a persuasive invitation can hardly be considered an option. Although an 'invitation hymn' may be considered a matter of choice, may we suggest that such is a useful expedient. An invitation hymn should INVITE.

1) It provides additional encouragement and persuasion. 2) Those considering responding are already on their feet ready to move. 3) Others can easily move out of the way of those responding. 4) The fact that all are standing makes it easier for a self conscious person to respond without being conspicuous.

We maintain that there is both example and command for inviting people to come to Christ. "The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' (Rev.22:17). Having stated that his goal was to please God, Paul reminded that all must appear before the judgement seat of Christ and be held accountable. He then stated his resolve, "Since we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men." (II Cor.5:11). Perhaps a knowledge of what it is to fear the Lord is needed?

We are reminded of the verse:  
Only one life, twill soon be past.  
Only whats done for Christ will last.

We know that judgement day is coming. Surely we want to be ready and also want everyone around us to know about and be prepared for that great day. When we are excited about something, it is natural to share it with excitement, to be persuasive.

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# God Sent Forth His Son

Roy D. Merritt



Sometimes in preparation for fishing I have gone out at night to catch nightcrawlers or dew worms. This is not as exciting as the actual fishing, but it has its moments of excitement. Sometimes a dozen big juicy worms are lying there on the grass just waiting to be captured. Now if you have never been a dew worm plucker I should explain that these elusive worms object to being lifted from the pleasant damp, grass. They will make an incredibly hasty retreat into their holes if they sense danger from above. Their understanding of the nature of this source of danger must be remote, to say the least. Herein is a parable.

As in most parables, one main point is intended. It is the difference between the awesome nature of God Almighty and that of us poor mortals. The fishworm can comprehend only a very limited picture of its potential enemy. The earth trembles, a light shines and movement is detected. Some huge being approaches.

Similarly, man by his own wisdom apart from revelation, can hold only a limited and often distorted picture of his Creator. Men in all ages have sensed that there is a deity who is in control. Earthquakes, tornadoes, volcanoes and other powerful phenomena reveal the majesty and infinite power of this "ground of being". Only through special revelation can we discern the awesome nature of the God whom we worship.

Lest someone should refuse to accept the main point of this parable, in that we are made in the image of our Maker or that God is not our enemy but a loving Father, we hasten to admit that these are obvious differences in the contrast. At the same time we need to feel some of the same inadequacy that overwhelmed Job. After God spoke, that ancient patriarch exclaimed, "Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes." (Job 42:6). Humility is a good starting point for access to God's grace.

**GOD'S GRACE REVEALED**

God has favoured man with both a beautiful message of His grace and a glorious messenger. Through the shadowy Old Testament period God had a plan. Only His Son could reveal the true nature of God to man (John 3:16). Only His Son could give man what man needed most - redemption from sin. Often we point to John 1:18, 19 which sums up how these two objectives were achieved. Other inspired writers give the same message.

The Apostle Paul glories in the same good news - that God sent His Son into the world. He proclaims: "But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son...to redeem those under law, that they might receive the full right of sons." (Gal. 4:4,5). The Son came as a messenger of divine love with a message of divine love.

*...Christ's people have been negligent in their response to the Great Commission.*

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Just as multitudes, even of His own people, rejected the messenger, the majority in our day do not heed the message which He made possible. The Good News/Gospel has never been heard by millions in sin. Part of the reason for this sad fact is that Christ's people have been negligent in their response to the Great Commission. Most of us share to some extent the blame for this failure. We spend most of our time and energy in preaching to the converted and devising ways to excuse our feeble outreach. The fields have been "white unto harvest" for a long time. Isn't it time for the harvest crew to get off their cushioned seats, where smooth rhetoric is their weekly fare, and get serious about evangelism?.

Could it be that the Devil has blinded us to the horrible reality of Hell?. Could it be that Heaven does not attract saints who are busy making a living, here and now, while they indulge themselves with the habits of a decadent society? For

many brethren "sin" is a word which had a meaning only for a former age. To such there is little motivation to preach the Gospel concerning forgiveness of sins through a Saviour. Evangelism becomes a low priority. Missionary effort has little appeal when it interferes with comfort of attractive surroundings. Evangelists have too often ceased to be Gospel preachers and have become counsellors and pop-psychologists. This is not necessarily their choice but it is what the brethren expect from them. Like the prophet of old they are encouraged to "speak smooth things." That which is good can become the enemy of the best. If the North American churches do not evangelize more zealously, the Lord will raise up nations who will.

## EVANGELIZE OR PERISH

Without a strong reemphasis on evangelism, the Lord's church will steadily become a decreasing minority, in a shrinking minority, among those throughout the world who claim to be Christians. In a burgeoning world population of over six million souls we have several responses open to us. First, we can retreat into a lethargic complacency. Second, we can develop a grasshopper complex which inhibits bold action. Finally, the only faithful response is a daring renewal of our evangelistic zeal with a trust in God to make up for what we lack in our own selves.

Many years ago I heard the old black preacher, Marshall Keeble explain what such faith is like. He said. "If I am confronted with a brick wall and the Lord tells me to jump through it, my part is to jump and the Lord's part is to open the wall for me." Our prayer should be for the Lord to increase our faith to tackle the barriers to evangelism. After praying we should dare to make the great Commission our mission.

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Articles for publication and/or reactions to this page should be sent to Linda Hammett Rt. 1, Box 249AA, Vincent, OH 45784.



## What's The Big Attraction?

You are probably aware of the fact that overall emphasis for this issue of the **Gospel Herald** is 'evangelism'. When we hear this word, we probably all think either of preaching or knocking doors in a campaign effort. As women, we know that the preaching part of evangelism is not an option for us (from the pulpit, at least). And door knocking seems to be a thing of the past, at least in areas with which I am familiar. Yet the Bible is very clear in instructing us to "preach the gospel" (Mark 16:14). Although Jesus made this statement to His disciples after His resurrection, it was an instruction recorded for His followers for all time. Therefore, I do not believe that it was addressed to men only.

As women, we may ponder over ways that we can evangelize. Perhaps we don't understand fully what evangelism is. Webster defines the word *evangelize* as 1) to preach the gospel to; 2) to convert to Christianity (**Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary**). Evangelism, according to **McMillan's Dictionary**, is "the zealous preaching or promulgation of the Gospel". So, although preaching is mentioned in this definition, we do not necessarily have to conclude that that is the only way to evangelize. If it was, then we women would be hard pressed to fulfill the great commission! I would like us to spend a few minutes looking at how we can evangelize without standing in the public pulpit delivering a sermon.

Since Jesus is our example, let's first look at His life. We can conclude that He was an attractive person. You might disagree with that description, for we are told in the prophecy of His coming to earth that ". . . He has no stately form or majesty that we should look upon Him, nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him" (Isaiah 53:2b). I am not alluding to his physical attractiveness, however. Rather, I am referring to His ability to attract people to Him, to hear what He was teaching. Throughout His walk on earth, during the

years that He was spending time with His disciples, people were often drawn to or attracted by Him, whether it was to simply touch His garment for healing (Mark 5:25-34) or to hear His teachings (Mark 5:24). There were times when it was impossible for Him to get any rest because of the crowds who were following Him.

Why did people so often surround and follow Him? Obviously, many of them

### *Do people know that you are a follower of Christ?*

had heard about the miracles that He had performed and came to Him for similar healings. But they had also heard about his compassion and kindness and wanted to be with Him. Most people are naturally attracted to those who show an interest in and concern for them. Jesus did just that toward all with whom he came in contact.

Therefore, if we are to follow Jesus' example, then we should make our lives such that we are attractive to those around us. Do people know that you are a follower of Christ? Do they know that you are full of joy and peace because of your relationship with Him? Do you wear a smile on your face? Are you able to work through problems and trials in your life without losing your temper or saying and doing things that do not reflect your faith in God? These are the things that people notice. Those around us notice how we handle disappointments, rejection, and set-backs in life. We cannot effectively influence someone for Christ if we are not able to, like Jesus, face the rough times with our eyes on God.

We can never know how much influence we are having on those around us. This is true whether it be negative or positive influence. So, we must always be conscious of the fact that we are being watched. Some watch with critical eyes, trying to catch us when we are not acting as God would have us act. Many of the people who followed Jesus did so in order

to test Him and find some way to prove Him wrong. Many of us profess to be Christians and to have faith in God, but our actions do not always agree with that. We must be the same on the inside as we are on the outside. Our hearts must match our actions, and our actions must match our hearts. We are supposed to be different from the world so that we can influence the world for God (Romans 12:1-2).

But we must be careful how we do this. We cannot be like the Pharisees of old who were known for their piety. The Jews wore strips of parchment on which were written four passages of Scripture: Exodus 13:2-10; 11:17; Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and 13-23. These were worn in cases of black calfskin and bound on the forehead and the arm, in obedience to their understanding of Exodus 13:16. The Pharisees would make their phylacteries broader than the others as a badge of distinction and ostentation (**Cruden's Concordance**.)

Jesus denounced this attitude. He would have us show our Christianity but not with the Pharisaical attitude of being better than others around us. We must live so that others want to have what we have.

We can preach a sermon, not one from the pulpit but one from our lives. Jesus also had a spirit of humility, which was another trait that attracted people to Him. We have all heard that actions speak louder than words. The sermon of our life might be one with the fewest words actually spoken but with the greatest impact ever felt.

The choices we make about the language we use, the jokes we laugh at, the movies we watch, the places we go, the books we read all have an impact on the way we live. We cannot profess to be followers of Jesus if we are not living the way he would have us live. If we do things that God does not accept, it not only affects us but also those around us.

As we daily try to become more Christlike, we need to evaluate those areas of our lives that need to be changed. Once we have identified those areas, we then must do whatever it takes to become the kind of people whose lives will influence others for Christ. The scribes and Pharisees were accused by Jesus of being hypocrites, full not only of hypocrisy but also lawlessness while, on the outside, appearing righteous (Matthew 23:25, 27). They did not seem to think there was any

*(continued on page 18)*

# NEWS

- EAST -



by *Walter R. Straker*  
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## ONTARIO

**Ajax:** Ajax is hosting the "Training for Service" program this year on Apr. 2. Be sure to bring all your contacts from Key to the Kingdom. On Saturday, Apr. 3, Michael Tackett's subject at 7:30 p.m. at the Ajax church building will be "The Millennium" "Is Christ Returning to the Earth to Reign for a Thousand Years?" At 7 the singing group, "Autumn" from Rochester College will present a program.

**Barrie:** Neil Culley was baptized at the end of January by his father, Darryl. This is always a great honour for a father and son.

**Beamsville:** The congregation has acquired new hymn books and was having a special Sunday hymn-sing to get more familiar with some of the songs. The Kids for Christ were meeting for a Valentine's event. A group of young people from Michigan and Arkansas are coming to help conduct a Vacation Bible School, the week of July 4. In September, Lynn McMillon of Oklahoma Christian University will do a weekend seminar on helping build healthy families. Thirty-three students and sponsors from York College made two presentations entitled "Refiner's Fire," on Wednesday, Mar. 10. Mark MacKenzie was baptized into Christ on Thursday evening, Feb. 19. A group from Dickson, Tennessee is planning to sing on Wednesday, Mar. 31. During the month of March, Don Smith has been preaching a series on "Marriage, Separation, Divorce and Re-Marriage."

**Bramalea:** Hazel Jane (Fee) Straker, age 87, passed away on Feb. 14. The funeral was in Weyburn, Saskatchewan. Sister Straker (Walter's mother) visited in the Bramalea area for two weeks during the Christmas vacation.

Special contributions have raised a total of \$1924.55 for Daniel Whittington for his trip to New Zealand this summer with students from Harding College. Thirty three students from York College presented their program, called "Refiner's Fire" on Sunday evening, Mar. 7. Jon Straker spoke in the

morning and Rick Eldred, who preached at McCook, Nebraska for 21 years and works with the "Net" program to establish new congregations throughout the York area, in the evening on Mar. 14. On Monday, Mar. 8, the group went to downtown Toronto and worked at the Daily Bread Food Bank, sorting food. Mike Rush, their campus minister, oversaw the group and they slept three nights in our building and several nights in the Beamsville building on pews and on the floor. Megan Williams, younger daughter of Freddie and Daphne, was baptized on Sunday evening, Mar. 7. Three GLBC students spent Mar. 11-15 working on their Field Education Class. Jamie Azzoparde spoke the evening of the 14th.

**Brantford:** The brethren are planning a spring meeting with Don Smith, from Beamsville on May 13-16, on the topic "Living Above Our Stresses." The brethren have a monthly devotion and fellowship the last Sunday evenings of the month. They had 48 present at their last one.

**Brantford (afternoon group):** "About eight from Brantford, travelling to the Meaford Youth Rally" which was stupendous. The teens are blessed and uplifted!"  
- Susan Gamble

**Collingwood:** \$1500 was sent to the brethren in Honduras for victims of hurricane Mitch; \$700 from a special contribution and \$800 from the treasury. The congregation had a bowling evening on Friday, Mar. 16.

**Fenwick:** An old time movie night with 18 was hosted by the Ross Gilberts and a Valentine day party with 25 by the Chris Moores. Bill Scharz of Waterloo is scheduled for a meeting on the Power of Mentoring, April 17 (7:30) and 18.

**Grimsby:** The teacher improvement preparation seminar is to be held on Apr. 17 all day, with Warren and Carolyn Wilcox of Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver. On the 18th-21st Warren will be giving a Christian Evidence Seminar. The ladies group, meeting Mon. nights, call themselves "Joy" as a group of Christian women "building bridges to the community." Saturday, Mar. 27 was to be a "teachers' appreciation night." The teens had a gathering on Mar. 5, at the Toohey's. The ladies had a quilting bee on Friday, Feb. 12. On Jan. 31, Brian and Debbie Cox, formerly of the Tintern congregation, with sons James and Matthew, indicated their intention to be a part of the Grimsby congregation..

**Hamilton(Fennell Avenue):** "We thank

God for the addition of a new brother in Christ. Mike Horner decided to accept Christ as his saviour on March 7."

*Guy Stopard*

**Hamilton, [West]:** " At the congregational meeting on March the 7th the consensus was that, due to numbers, we will expand to three mid-week Bible studies in homes. Plans are in progress for an area wide, Christian adult singles group. We are going to repeat our successful mothers' day pony rides for community outreach. Plans are in progress for a family presentation, also for the community." - Ed Van Alstine

**Meaford:** "Two ministers, Randy and Lois Morrith from Beamsville and Scott and Tereasa Mansfield (formerly of Grimsby) from Lubbock, Texas where he has just completed his two-year course at Sunset School of Preaching, have been selected by the Meaford congregation. Scott was to begin on Mar. 8. Randy will begin in July. Several men of the congregation and visiting speakers including, Ralph Perry, David Cornfield, Art Ford and Les Cramp, have been capably filling in during the interim.

The annual Youth Rally, Feb. 26-28 brought 140 teens and chaperones to Meaford. Shannon Williams from Rochester Hills, MI was the guest speaker. Ladies Night Out, to be held every two months, began on Mar. 8. Under the direction of Donna Pickard there will be speakers, devotionals and fellowship."

*- Joyce Knight*

**Newmarket:** Nineteen ladies enjoyed a great dinner and evening on February the 8th. They are planning a pot-luck at Debbie Chen's home for April 16th. There was a singing and fellowship at the church building on March the 5th.

**North Bay:** The North Bay report has an interesting report from Toby Huff of Papua New Guinea, stating that they have come across a group that started in 1911 and calls itself the Church of Christ associated. There are two smaller groups that he is contacting who worship as we do and who are following the Bible, the plan of salvation and have broken off from the group that has become quite liberal in their teachings.

Cathy Brassard's grandmother turned 80 on Friday, Feb. 19. The brethren are raising money for their building fund.

Check in with David Lock for a report from Chuck Lock and Natasha McMillan of their work on their way to Papua New Guinea when they stopped in Port Vila, Vanuatu. You can get a complete address

*(continued on page 14)*



by Wayne Turner  
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(We are seeking a volunteer to do this column on a monthly basis. Please contact the above address. ECP)

### SASKATCHEWAN

Of special concern to many across the prairies is Derek McMillan of Kipling who was seriously injured in a snowmobile accident.

**Regina:** The congregation is getting ready for Spring Renewal "Walking in the Light" coming up on April 9-11 with Larry Yurk of Calgary and Jeff Nelson of San Antonio.

Over \$10,325 was distributed in the local community and around the world through the benevolence program. Help included money sent to Thailand, blind missions, and ten boxes of clothing sent to orphans in Kyrgyzstan.

In July, 12 teens will be involved with a mission trip to Los Angeles and Tijuana, Mexico.

In 1999, the congregation hopes to send out two Let's Start Talking teams.

In February, there was a Ministries Enhancement Workshop that focused on "Considering Our Options" -- looking at the future of the congregation and its facilities.

Recent baptisms include: Melissa Olson, Conie Pfieler and David Pradzynski.

Candace Sanders and Harmony McMillan are two of only ten Saskatchewan grade 11 students chosen to represent Saskatchewan at a one week leadership retreat in Whitehorse in May.

Clayton Knutson was part of the Campbell Collegiate curling team that won the senior boys' High Schools Athletic Association championship.

**Weyburn:** Of special note is the passing of sister Hazel Straker, 87 on February 14. "We, in the Weyburn church, shall miss this beautiful Christian lady."

Nina Willett experienced the loss of two sisters in one week.

Paul Andreas was named to the President's List at Oklahoma Christian University for the fall of 1998. This list is made up of the top 180 students who have earned a 4.0 average for the fall trimester.

### MANITOBA

**Carman:** The church held its annual

business meeting in February and discussed the plans of the up-coming year.

Some of our members went to the seniors home and enjoyed a time of singing with the seniors and Hugh Gannon also gave a short talk.

A group of our ladies enjoyed the weekend at the ladies retreat that was held in Kenosee.

The youth group enjoyed an evening at the local school gym and then went back to the church building for some food, fellowship, and singing.

**Dauphin:** On February 14, Bob Thomas, former missionary to Indonesia, spoke and did a slide presentation.

The congregation had a winter banquet on February 15.

The congregation held two services on March 14 in conjunction with the College Rally Weekend at Western Christian College. Steve McMillan was to speak at both services.

**Winnipeg:** We rejoice that Travis Linton, husband of Cassandra Linton, was baptized into Christ.

Of special concern to the congregation has been John James, of Kelowna, the father of Darcy James who suddenly became ill and went into a coma while on vacation in Arizona. He was subsequently flown back to B.C. where his illness continued to cause him to deteriorate. His doctors have not been hopeful.

We were stunned to hear that Hesham Nosser, one of the students from Sunset International Bible School who came up to campaign in Winnipeg last summer, was killed in a car accident in Tennessee. Hesham was Egyptian. While in Winnipeg, he had endeared himself to many.

The congregation held an International Dinner on February 13 which featured cuisine from around the world. The multicultural aspect of the congregation was showcased along with many of its talents, including a demonstration of Philippino music and dancing and a pinata for the children to end the program.

Congratulations to Paul Birston, one of the deacons, for being named to "Who's Who in U.S. Colleges and Universities." Paul is working on a Master's degree through Harding Graduate School of Religion.

Lord willing, Jason Pope will be part of the soccer team that will be representing Canada at the World Special Olympics being held this summer in North Carolina. Jason has been named as one of the delegation's captains, and will be one of those leading the Canadian contingent at the opening ceremonies.

Rolland and Laurie Bouchard spent a weekend with the congregation. Rolland is a candidate to become the new youth worker.

(continued from page 2)

people. "Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may on account of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation" (1 Peter 2:12). Sow with your life and you will be able to sow the word of God verbally at the right time. Living your life carefully is not the full work you must do. Speaking up at the right time about salvation is just as vital. Both go hand in hand.

Some things never change. If we concentrate with sensitivity on timeless principles of evangelism, and trust God to grant the increase, good fruit will follow.

Moncton, New Brunswick

**Associate Evangelist Announcement**  
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(continued from page 11)

and story on <http://members.xoom.com/north-baycoc/mission99.htm>.

**Ottawa:** Ladies Day 1999 "Remind Me Dear Lord" with Nell Merritt speaking on the topic, "A Christian Walk with God" is planned for May 14 and 15.

**Sault Ste. Marie (Pinehill):** The brethren had a sleigh ride party on Saturday, Feb. 20. The congregation had an appreciation dinner for the minister, elders and deacons and their families. Feb. 26 was games night. A quartet from Beamsville will arrive to present some spiritual songs and one of them is a local boy, Jeremy King. The brethren not only served in the community soup kitchen but provided the food on Wednesday, Mar. 10. Elgin Whitfield was the guest speaker on Mar. 14. A workshop is planned with Ron Pauls for April 16-18.

**Selkirk:** Michael Toby mentions progress by way of some baptisms and the addition of some families from a neighbouring community. A wheelchair ramp has been constructed. Michael mentions opportunities teaching in homes and an open door to youth work and adds, "The future for the church in Selkirk looks good; it rests with the children."

*-from Fellowship*

**St. Catharines (Garden City):** Brian Sullivan delivered a series on the second coming of Christ on March 7-10.

**Stratford:** A mission emphasis day, on March 7th, with guests, Wayne and Brenda Speer, who are working in Albania, included a fellowship meal. The brethren have been involved in two series this winter: One is Spiritual Leadership and the other, Body Life. A Valentine Dinner followed worship on Feb. 14. On the 19th they gathered at Bedford school for a sports night. The men have been having a training for service class which started on a weekly basis on Feb. 9. Bob and Marg Sandiford of Waterloo won the Stratford Car Rally, hosted by the brethren.

**Stoney Creek:** This church is thankful to the Beamsville church, which gave us their old hymnals, "Great Songs of the Church". We appreciate our sisters and brothers in Beamsville.

*-Michael Ensley*

**Sudbury:** Bring a Friend day was Mar. 7. The teens had a special devotional activity on the 5th. A farewell dinner and games night for the Morphy's was hosted by the teens on the 13th. We rejoice with the angels at the baptism of Eleanor Evoy who was born again on Sunday evening following worship. She had recently been

studying with Judy Fortin and Peter Morphy.

**Sundridge:** "Review of 1998: The annual youth rally was the last week-end of January. A teacher's workshop was held in March with Diane Book and Phyllis Stanley of Tintern. From April to September we were saddened by the passing of Jewel Skinner, Cecille Matt, Craig High and John (Jack) Frost. Also, several relatives of our members have passed away. A Bereavement Seminar was held in late November with Sandy McBay of Tintern. Several of our congregation plus some people of the community benefited from this. Our thanks to Sandy.

Baptized were: Pamela Ellis (daughter of Wayne and Chris), Alisha Preston (daughter of Don and Midori), John Hawkins (son-in-law of Alex Preston), and Tia Lamprman (sister of Terry Lawrence).

In November Steve and Phyllis May became grandparents when Mariah Constance was born to Merri Alice and Mark Jolin. The sum of \$2,014.25 plus some teddy bears for the orphans was sent to help victims of hurricane Mitch in Central America. This year ('99) started out quite well with the annual youth rally with a good attendance of 125. A congregational supper and meeting was held on Feb. 13. Jim and Bethann McLeod had a new baby boy - Gabriel James. Some of our number are away in warmer climates for the winter months. Some of our young people are away at GLCC or in post secondary education." Pauline Frost

**Thessalon:** Sonja Bailey, in her mid-thirties has been diagnosed with cancer. She is scheduled for surgery in London within the next six weeks.

**Thunder Bay:** On January 31, a Western Christian College worship team (a college group) was here for worship. The church has a new fax machine/email line: 577-5027. John Whitfield had bi-pass surgery in Hamilton on Mar. 12. The brethren had a song-service on the evening of December 27th.

**Tintern:** Lori Dickie, a student at York College has made the honour roll. David Peirce, a student at Freed-Hardeman University, plans to leave on June 14, to serve on a "Let's Start Talking" team from Freed Hardeman University to work in Bangkok, Thailand. Megan Smith has been accepted into an exchange program offered at Oklahoma Christian. Lord willing, she plans to leave for Japan in May and study there for two semesters, returning home in December. The brethren had a teacher appreciation dinner on February

12. A secret sister brunch was on Saturday, Feb. 27. A group has committed to be involved in an ongoing ministry of daily prayer on behalf of the congregation. A survey is being taken for community service considering the possibility of a need for a senior care centre in Southern Ontario. On March 13th the children had a Veggie Tale's party where they dressed up as their favourite vegetable. Thirty-three young people from York College presented "Refiner's Fire" on Tuesday, Mar. 9.

**Toronto [Bayview]:** Don Whitfield began his 18-day visit to Bangladesh on Jan. 31. The primary goal of this trip was to visit and inspect the various missions. A family from Kiev, Ukraine made up of Olga, Julia and Alla Portna and Tania, Aleck and Boris Chyzk, has been attending since November and has place membership. Betty Roemer is teaching them elementary English using the Bible for background material. Dave Knutson has been teaching a series on the book of Joshua in the Sunday adult class. Dennis Billingsley of San Antonio, TX spoke to the congregation on a try-out basis on Mar. 7.

**Toronto [Strathmore]:** David Johnson of Barrie was guest speaker while Max Craddock was at Meaford. Another out-of-town speaker was Bob Hibbard from Hamilton, on Feb. 21. The congregation put on a seniors dinner and an annual talent show on Mar. 13. Feb. 28, the congregation had a pot-luck dinner welcoming Cledith Craddock back after four years of looking after her parents in Ohio.

**Windsor (West Side):** Michael Tackett was with the congregation on Mar. 7. There were six visitors from the community despite the weather conditions. The congregation had a bowling party for all ages on Mar. 27. A ladies' breakfast at Farmington Hills, MI is planned for Apr. 17 with Lynn Davis of Houston, TX as a guest speaker. On February 14 the congregation rejoiced as three new elders, Oscar Duran, Steve Hoover and Wayne Parker were added. With Bill Brown, Jim Dawson and Bob Liles this brings the total to six. The ladies benevolence projects have been collecting items for the women's shelters. Drew Chapados is looking for e-mail addresses. The elevator work is completed. A dedication ceremony is being planned to remember Lena Carson.

Drew Chapados has been conducting a weekly Bible study with the new congregation from Tecumseh as they get settled there. Six from the community came to

(continued on page 17)

# NEWS

## - FAR WEST -



by Marion Waugh  
4727 15A Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T6L 6J1  
Phone & FAX: 403-463-7324

### BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Vancouver (Oakridge):** The Key to the Kingdom television show will be taped at the Oakridge building on the 15th of May. All the congregations of the Lower Mainland will be here to host this event.

Joyce Hooper has co-ordinated a "Disaster Preparedness Seminar". It will be presented April 17th.

Work is continuing on our satellite school. This school will benefit all the congregations of the Lower Mainland and perhaps further.

Through the deacons, we are seeing more needs of our community being met.

### MONTANA

**Great Falls:** We have begun this new year with 5 people being rescued from the kingdom of darkness and delivered into the kingdom of God.

About five years ago we began meeting in small home gatherings once a month. These groups allow us to get to know one another better. We have now grown to 10 groups.

The college age singles group devotional began on January 7. There is a devotion, snacks and fellowship with games over a 2 hour period. Devotional topics include: Hope for the Hurting (where/how to find hope when no one seems to care), finding rest in a stressed out world (why/how to find rest when there doesn't seem to be time), uncluttered Christianity, the end will come and finding purpose in a world adrift.

We have begun our search for a second evangelist. The building plans are also moving ahead.

### ALBERTA

**Edmonton:** We rejoice that Alex Lee was baptized on February 2, and her husband Rob was baptized on February 11. Also baptized on February 11 was Vivianne Grant. All three of these new members were attending the small group evangelistic Bible study in St. Albert.

We welcome into the fellowship Denise Fortin, who has relocated to Edmonton from Ontario. We also welcome back into the fellowship of believers Airy

Glasbergan and Alfredo Perez, who had fallen away some years ago. It is very encouraging to see lost brothers returning to the Great Shepherd.

Nine of our teenagers (and three adult chaperones) attended the Youth Rally in Missoula, Montana on February 12-15. Many of our teens have developed life-long friendships with teens that attend this rally. Friendships are also fostered and bolstered when the teens meet again at the Alberta Rockies Wilderness Camp (west of Pincher Creek) in July. Plans are already being made for the 1999 version of the camp. We are also beginning to plan a youth rally for Edmonton, scheduled for June 25-27.

The annual "Beat the Blues Banquet" was held on February 19. Those who attended were treated to a great meal and some superb entertainment.

Our monthly "Parent Talk" session was held on February 20. This is a monthly information and sharing session for parents. This month we discussed the topic of "Teen Sexual Purity & Abstinence." Next month we will be talking about "Kids in Worship."

Coming soon: The 1999 Alberta Spring Fellowship to be held April 2-4 in Edmonton. *submitted by David Ford*

*(continued from front page)*

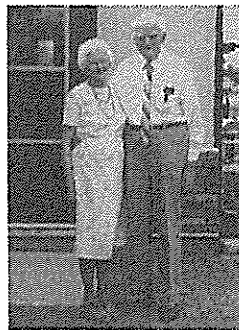
1923, was in Montana. Two ladies were baptized. In January of the following year he married Myrtle Deane Buckallew of that state.

Myrtle stood behind him and with him in their evangelistic efforts from then until her passing in 1997. Her obituary states that "she became the mother of 10, grandmother of 27 and great-grandmother of 54" by the time of her death. Because his zeal to evangelize took him away from home much of the time, the heavy responsibilities involved in providing for and raising a large family in depressing economic times and circumstances was largely hers. She proved to be resourceful as the needs arose.

Not able to include a full chronology of these interesting activities, we select some examples. A period of more than four years with the Meaford, Ontario church was concluded in 1944. During this short period, besides serving the Meaford church, he preached or held meetings at 24 places in Ontario and two in Quebec and spent six weeks in the West. He reported in 1944 as he was moving back west, "During this time hundreds of calls were made, thousands of pieces of religious literature were mailed out, thousands of letters have been written, several new congregations have been started and nearly ninety have been baptized."

He was involved when this paper had its beginning in 1936 and later became business manager and editor until 1953 when he gave it over to us in order to be free to evangelize. His family

played a significant part in the production and distribution of the paper during those years. Along with this work he evangelized widely, preaching in school houses, church buildings, homes and tents, and was involved in numerous short Bible Schools and in the founding and continuance of what is now Western Christian College of Dauphin, Manitoba.



Whether to two or three or to an assembly of thousands, his preaching was always with fervor and power. He was always ready for new frontiers and thus, when the challenge came to evangelize in India, he readily accepted it at an age when others were retiring. A number of extended mission tours there have resulted in the conversion of thousands - perhaps as many as a million. Both of the Baileys are highly respected and greatly appreciated there.

"Whether preaching in a schoolhouse in southern Saskatchewan or in the open marketplace in the scorching heat of an Indian summer, he was ever moving and ever pressing the battle for truth and the kingdom of God. . . . Nothing else seemed to be important to him except preaching the Word and persuading men and women to obey the Lord." Alvin Jennings

Brother Bailey himself recently wrote, ". . . , I have preached in 32 states of the USA and in all the provinces of Canada. I have preached in 10 nations of the world. One time in India during a 30-hour period, I preached 9 sermons and baptized 101 people into Christ.

I did preach one sermon recently sitting in a chair. If I had my life to live over I would still want to be a gospel preacher."

## GLBC Launches Internet Studies

The first step toward a major objective for Great Lakes Bible College-teaching its entire curriculum for distance learners via the Internet - was taken the first of February. Of the twenty who have signed up for the introductory course, "Introduction to Biblical Studies," two are situated in British Columbia, one each in Connecticut and Missouri and the remainder spread across Ontario. Eight are preachers, one aspires to preach, one is a Dr. of Chiropractic and one holds his Ph.D. in chemistry. The advantage of distance learning is illustrated in this profile - people in a variety of circumstances studying from their places of residence and service, taking advantage of electronic technology. Additional Internet courses will be offered May 1. GLBC has established its Internet addresses at learn@glbc.on.ca and www.glbc.on.ca.

A GLBC short course studied in a retreat setting is scheduled for August 23-27 at Camp Omagh, Milton, Ontario. Dr. Robert Rigdon, Sylva, North Carolina will teach the course, Introduction to Sociology. This course will examine sociology in relation to Christian outreach and people-helping service. Those who plan to take the course for credit are expected to register by July 15 in order to fulfil advance reading assignments. Writing assignments will follow the week of intensive instruction. The course earns

## 20/20 Vision '99

This year's 20/20 Vision Soul Winning Workshop will be August 5-7 on the campus of Great Lakes Christian College in Beamsville, Ontario. The Owen Sound Church of Christ now has responsibility for the program.

The workshop will begin Thursday evening and close late afternoon on Saturday. Key-note speakers and workshop leaders include J.J. Turner, Denver, Colorado; Dan Cooper, Pitman, New Jersey; Wilson Dicker, Rochester, New York; Mark Frost, Trenton, Michigan; Geoffrey Ellis, Waterloo, Ontario; Earl Greene, Newark, New York; Jeff Cobb, Grimsby, Ontario; John Smiley, Buffalo, New York; Jim MacKenzie, Livonia, Michigan; Bill Schwarz, Waterloo, Ontario; Al Meakes, Ann Arbor, Michigan; Walter Straker, Bramalea, Ontario; Darrin Douglas, Niagara Falls, Ontario; and Drew Chapados, Windsor, Ontario.

Key note speeches and classes during the workshop will be practical and motivational. There will be special classes for teens. Child care will be available.

There will be no registration fees for the workshop, but donations are requested to offset costs.

It is not too early to make plans for this time of motivation and fellowship! For information about the program or billeting possibilities contact the Owen Sound Church of Christ, 835-10th Ave. East, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 3H8. Telephone 519-376-6702. E-mail: wn.har@bmts.com

three credit hours. Dr. Rigdon, a GLBC adjunct teacher, holds his Ph.D. in Psychology and has done extensive work in sociological studies. He is also an active preacher, having ministered in western North Carolina for forty-five years. His televised sermons are currently rebroadcast across Russia where a number of congregations have been established as a result.

Walter Straker, preacher with the Bramalea Church of Christ and part-time GLBC teacher, coordinates the college's Field Education program. Two special efforts for Great Lakes students were planned for 1999: outreach activities in conjunction with the Bramalea congregation, March 11-15; and an English language campaign in the Dominican Republic in association with the annual Iberoamerican Encounter, October 19-24. The Field Education program at GLBC links active Christian ministry with pre-event reading and preparation and post-event analysis and writing. Interested persons, while not regularly participating in GLBC studies can enrol as part-time students and be included in this hands-on learning-serving experience.

The 1999-2000 catalogue detailing Great Lakes Bible College is now available.

Great Lakes Bible College, 62 Hickory St. W, Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3J4, (519) 884-4310, Fax (519) 884-4412.



## A Soul Winning Workshop

August 5-7, 1999

Plan to join us for a workshop that will instruct, equip and inspire Christians for the greatest work on earth: bringing lost souls to Christ.

**Key Note Speakers and Workshop Leaders include: Dan Cooper, J.J. Turner, Wilson Dicker, Mark Frost, Geoff Ellis, Earl Green, John Smiley, Jim MacKenzie, Al Meakes, Walter Straker, Darrin Douglas, Bill Schwarz, Jeff Cobb and Drew Chapados.**

Lessons will be practical, motivational, and inspirational, and there will be rich fellowship in song and prayer.

*seminar location*

**Great Lakes Christian College  
Beamsville, Ontario**

*for additional information*

**Owen Sound Church of Christ  
835 - 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. East, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 3H8  
Telephone: (519) 376-6702 E-mail: wn.hart@bmts.com**

# OBITUARIES

## McNalty, William Evan

Brother Evan McNalty passed away at the Grey Bruce Health Centre in Owen Sound on Wednesday, February 10, 1999. He was in his 81st. year.

Evan was the beloved husband of the former Amy McLean. Beloved father of Bonnie McKnight of Caledon, Don and his wife Linda of Meaford, Bill and his wife Norma of Millet, Alberta, Joy and her husband Marcus Stone of Own Sound and Bernard and his wife Lori of Rollyview, Alberta. He was predeceased by an infant daughter Heather Kay. Sadly missed grandfather of Robin, Jamie, Tammy, Scott, Brett, Dallas, Travis, Tyler and Nicole.

Dear brother of Muriel, Mrs Tom Tulloch of Meaford, Edna, Mrs Eugene Preston of Sundridge, Ada, Mrs Harold Binkley of Thornbury and Russell and wife Sherry of McLeansboro, Illinois. Predeceased by brothers Peter and Donald and sisters Alvina and Phyllis. Also survived by sisters-in-law Ina McNalty and Birdie Rea of Meaford.

Evan was a long time member of the Griersville Church of Christ and will be missed by his many Christian brothers and sisters as well as a host of friends and associates in the community.

Evan will be remembered for the love of God and God's creation. He was a man who made the most of every day. Those who knew him will always remember him for his wonderful smile of greeting. He was known as a person who kept his promises and commitments. He was a devoted husband and after his wife's health required her to go to a Nursing Home he visited her daily. He enjoyed his work on the farm and was also a lover of music, hunting, fishing, travel and reading. He is remembered for his love of poetry and his ability to remem-

ber and quote even long poems.

A service of praise in his memory was held at the Meaford Church of Christ building on Saturday, February 13th. Peter McDonald led the congregation in the singing of four songs, his brother, Russell did a eulogy and Bill Schwarz and the writer brought words of encouragement and support for the family and friends who gathered to remember the life of brother Evan.

May God bless and comfort the family and give them the peace and joy that comes through the hope we have in Christ. *Max Craddock*

## Winifred Perry

Winifred Perry, long-time member of the Sarnia Church of Christ, died February 21, 1999 in her 84th year. She leaves to mourn, her son Wayne Perry and grandson Brian, daughter Joan Smeltzer and granddaughters Jennifer Karb and Collen Hopwood and one great-grandson, Julian Hopwood. Having been confined to home in recent years, Winnie appreciated having the Gospel Herald come to her home, to keep her in contact with the Lord's people.

*Submitted by Vern Hibbard, with help from Winnie's granddaughter, Jennifer Karb.*

## Walter Stanley Bailey

(March 26, 1927-March 12, 1999)

Born in Wardsville, Ontario on March 26, 1927, Walter Stanley Bailey passed from this world in hospital in Burlington, Ontario on March 12, 1999.

Beverley (Gay), his wife of six and a half years, her mother, Bessie, and other members of her family will miss Stan very much. Predeceased by brother, Norman and mother, Myrtle, Stan also leaves behind to adjust to his absence, his father J.C. of Weyburn, SK; brothers Roy (Helen), Bengough, SK, Ray (Ruth), Weyburn, SK, and John (Rosalyn), Bedford, TX; sisters Marie (Les) Nixon, Weyburn, SK, Mavis (Kosho) Stonefield, Guelph, ON, Carol (Mark) Berger, Edmond, OK, Debbie (Bill) van

der Merr, London, ON and Margo (Don) Maxwell, Elbow, SK.

Although Stan did not marry until late in life and did not have children of his own, as an older brother in a family in which the father was often away preaching, he was a stabilizing, modelling and encouraging factor for brothers and sisters and later for neices and nephews. These and many others feel a great loss in his sudden passing. Many were there for 'Uncle Stan's' funeral at the Stoney Creek church building on March 16th.

Stan (known as Walter to them) was highly respected by colleagues in the publishing business. His employment was with Upjohn Pharmaceuticals, W.B. Saunders and B. Deckor Publishing respectively, all in the Toronto area.

He had helpful association over the years with congregations of the church in Southern Ontario at Ajax, Toronto (Strathmore), Omagh, Stoney Creek and Port Colborne.

The funeral, attended by a large crowd of friends and relatives from widely scattered points, was conducted by brothers Roy and John who made references and cited examples of his functioning as an encourager, adviser and helper to family members and as a respected professional in the business world. Nephew, Stephen Bailey, led the congregation in appropriate hymns and paid tribute in a solo.

A memorial service took place in Weyburn, SK the following Friday. *ECP*

## Reba Bilak

Reba died peacefully, in Lausanne Switzerland on February 12, closing her eyes as her body slipped into the grips of death.

At this time of sadness we can't help but think of the words of Paul who wrote: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far (Phil. 1:23). This has always been Reba's desire: to live with Christ eternally and to encourage others to do the same.

May we offer up as one body thanks to God for His infinite love and grace.

*Stephan and the Bilak clan*

## GREAT LAKES BIBLE COLLEGE COURSE:

### "Introduction to Sociology"

by

**Dr. Robert Rigdon**

Sylva, North Carolina

Study in a Retreat Setting at Camp Omagh

August 23-27

"Examine social principles in relation to evangelism and people-helping service."

Earn three credit hours. Credit students must register by July 15.

GLBC Admissions  
62 Hickory St. W  
Waterloo, ON N2L 3J4

(519) 884-4310

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Website: www.glbc.on.ca



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enjoy the meeting with Michael Tackett in spite of very bad weather.

**NEW BRUNSWICK**

**Moncton:** The brethren have been involved in a twelve week study by Landon Saunders about "Feeling Good About Yourself." This study introduces people to Christ by looking at various issues we all face in life. Seven people have been involved, but one dropped out because of illness. The BCC courses through Key to the Kingdom television program have provided several good contacts. This is a very rewarding work. A seminar on "Stress" taught by Walter Hart will be held on March 27. Flyers are being sent out to every home in Riverview and the west side of Moncton, about 10,000 addresses. Rachel Oleksiuk obeyed the gospel in baptism on March 6. She has been a friend of several young Christians here for several years and decided to begin attending regularly herself. Recently the men of the church enjoyed their first men's class in well over five years. The ladies have been enjoying a monthly class and just about fill up the house of whoever is hosting it. Don and Mary Lewis request our prayers on behalf of Mary who has

been in hospital with severe chest pains.

**NOVA SCOTIA**

**Kentville:** In February we sent 10,000 invitations into the community in and around Kentville asking people to consider the church if they are "...looking for a church that cares." The one page "flyer style" proposal had short paragraphs that addressed the topics of caring about: ...God's Word, ... being just Christians, and caring about your soul. Look for some results in next month's Gospel Herald. A locally written and produced production of "A Voice in the Wilderness" the story of John the Baptist was performed on February 28. A clothing give away was held March 5, 6. While people waited to get free clothing, Gospel messages were shown on Video tape.

**QUEBEC**

**Verdun:** "We have been having a games night once a month to attract visitors to our fellowship. This has been a great success with several visitors. It has become a mini chess tournament in many ways. Also scheduled for the 4th of April, is our annual visit to a sugar camp on the south shore. We are also in the process of building a web page for the church to be launched sometime in April. As always, we are con-

tinuing our search for financial support for the English ministry."

- Christopher Blackwell

**MICHIGAN**

**Ann Arbor:** A four weeks series on "the power of giving" explored God's word on this important subject. Copies of the book "Take God At His Word" by Dr. Gregg Hood were given out. A Wednesday night series on how to conduct a personal Bible study was also offered. Frank Ankeny, an Art Fair Booth contact, was baptized in late January and Keith & Luonna Roeder placed membership in mid February. The increased budget is being nicely met so far. The Ann Arbor bulletin reports that the superintendent of public schools has given permission for the Howell Church of Christ to advertise in the Howell schools and granted access to the High School auditorium for John Clayton to conduct his "Does God Exist?" presentation on March 13.

**NEW YORK**

**North Buffalo:** The brethren had a wonderful time singing at Tonawanda Manor on Jan. 31. A Ladies Retreat is planned at the Watson homestead for May 21-22.

**1999 PROGRAM**

**C**

**July 2-4  
Sharpening the Sword  
with--Max Craddock**

**A**

**July 5-8  
Prime Timers  
with--Walter Straker**

**M**

**July 11-17  
Week 1 (ages 7-9)  
with--Max Craddock**

**P**

**July 18-24  
Week 2 (ages 8-10)  
with--George Mansfield**

**July 25-31  
Week 3 (ages 11-13)  
with--Brian Thompson**

**July 31 - August 2  
Singspiration 99  
with--Brian Cox**

**August 2-7  
Family Week  
with--Brian Cox**

**August 8-14  
Week 4 (ages 11-13)  
with--Guy Stopard**

**August 15-22  
Teen Week (ages 14-19)  
with--Rick McBay and Sharon Ellis**

**O**

**M**

**A**

**G**

**H**

(continued from page 10)

need to be always trying to become more "attractive" to those around us. We, in today's society, spend much too much time trying to make ourselves physically attractive. We spend too much money and too much time altering and enhancing our outward appearance and very little time working on what, in reality, is much more important - our inward appearance. Instead of spending so much time in front of the mirror in our bedrooms, perhaps we should spend more time in the mirror of God's Word. Doing so will help us to realize what sermon we are preaching.

How attractive are you? Is your life's sermon one that will win souls to Christ? May God help us as women to preach our sermon in an effective, scriptural way so that many will see Christ living in us and want to share in the blessings we enjoy in a relationship with Him and as one of His children.

## Mission News

### France

Chrétienne en Missions (CEM) is a unique one year training program started in Marseilles in October to train young people to be leaders in the church of the future.

### Papua New Guinea

The church at Madang has organized teams for Bible studies and for visitation. Phil Lifsey writes, "It's so exciting to watch the men come back from an evening of visitation . . . how excited they are as God uses them to encourage other". Most of the visits and studies have been initiated by people that have visited Sunday worship services. The new meeting location is "getting pretty full on Sundays".

Concerned about "the lack of change when people 'repented' one man requested lessons on" what true repentance should be." This has developed into an 'incredible study' on the N.T. teachings on salvation with almost thirty attending. Three were baptized in October and November.

The house is "finished". The Lifseys look forward to their leave starting in July and would be pleased to receive travel fund donations. Jason Moriarty and bride, Sheryl, and Murray and Naomi Ververda are planning to join the work in Madang.

### Lithuania

Three Canadians, Chris Nichol, and Kevin and Catharine Carson, formerly of Edmonton, are serving as missionaries in Vilnius and Klaipeda. We hope to find space to include a detailed report on their work.

# 75 Years at 346

In June of 1924 the church began to meet at 346 Strathmore Blvd. in Toronto. The congregation is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. We are planning a homecoming day to invite former members and friends to join in a day of praise and fellowship, rejoicing in God's rich blessings over those 75 years.

## STRATHMORE HOMECOMING JUNE 27, 1999

**BIBLE STUDY - 9:45 A.M.**

**WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.**

There will be a pot luck luncheon following the morning worship to provide a time of visiting and fellowship.

(Anyone who has stories and memories from "Strathmore Days" they would like to share in printed form are asked to send them along to us for inclusion in a book of memories. Send them to: Strathmore Blvd. Church of Christ, 346 Strathmore Blvd., Toronto, Ont., M4C 1N3 or send by email to: maxc@sympatico.ca)

You are encouraged to tune in to:

- Thursday mornings
- Check local listings for time
- If need be, tape it for later viewing



On Vision T.V.

Donations, questions or comments should be directed to

**Key to the Kingdom**  
346 Strathmore Blvd.,  
Toronto, ON M4C 1N3

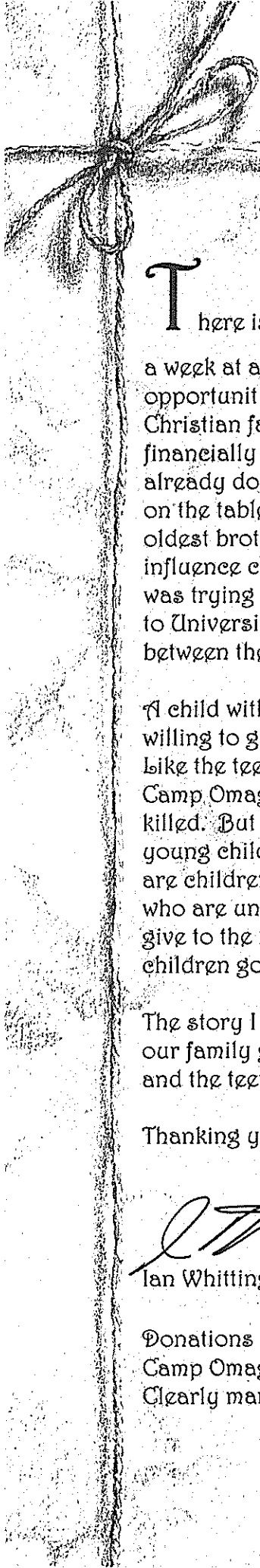
# CALENDAR

## April

- 17 Teacher Improvement Seminar - Grimsby, ON
- 18-21 Christian Evidences Seminar - Grimsby, ON
- 17-18 The Power of Mentoring, Bill Schwarz at Fenwick, ON
- 23-25 Youth Rally, GLCC

## May

- 1 Sudbury Ladies Day
- 13-15 Don Smith in Brantford - "Living Above Our Stresses" 7:30pm, Sun. 11 & 6:30
- 10-15 Community Week at GLCC/Workathon
- 12-20 Midwest Sermon Seminar - "Preaching from the Luke-Acts Correspondence" at Rochester College, Rochester MI



**T**here is a story told about a young girl who wanted nothing more than to spend a week at a Christian Camp. Although her parents wanted her to have the opportunity to go to Bible classes and develop friendships with other children from Christian families they couldn't afford to send her. They had a large family and financially it was not possible for them to pay the camp fees. The father was already doing extra work over and above his regular job just to keep enough food on the table for his family's growing appetite. The girl ached to go to camp. Her oldest brother saw her deep desire. A new Christian himself he remembered well the influence camp had on his developing faith. He had a summer job and although he was trying to save his small wages so that when the time came he could afford to go to University he paid his younger sister's camp fees. A special bond was forged between the two siblings.

A child with a desire to go to camp, parents unable to afford the fees and someone willing to give so that the tiny seed of faith in a child's heart can grow and develop. Like the teenage boy in the story Neil Hart, only seventeen volunteered his time at Camp Omagh. It was on his way home from volunteering that Neil was tragically killed. But he too understood the role camp could play in developing the faith in young children. It's in his memory that a Trust Fund has been established. There are children who ache to sing songs around a campfire and there are young parents who are unable to pay the fees. If you too can see the importance of camp please give to the Neil Hart Scholarship Fund. The fund has been set up to help needy children go to Camp Omagh.

The story I told earlier has been told many times by different people - most often at our family gatherings. The camp was Camp Omagh, the girl was my sister Denzice and the teenage boy was Edmund.

Thanking you in advance for giving a child the opportunity to develop his/her faith.



Ian Whittington

Donations to the Neil Hart Scholarship Fund can be sent to:  
Camp Omagh, c/o Paul Craig, Treasurer, 502A Redfox Rd., Waterloo, On, N2K 2V8.  
Clearly mark on the bottom of your cheque "Neil Hart Scholarship".



# Great Lakes

*Serving Church and Family*



## ***OUT OF THIS WORLD!***

**Youth Rally 1999**

**April 23 –25**

Speaker: Gale Thornton, Erie, PA

*Singing*

*Drama Groups*

A living sacrifice? Not conforming to this world? Yea, but how? Feel great about being in the world, but not of it!

*Entertainment*

*Revamped Sports and Games Time*

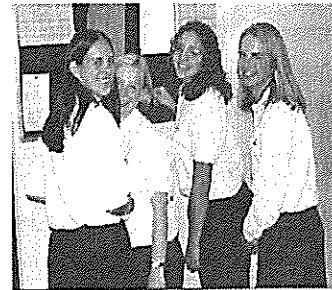
**Bring a Friend—Meet a Friend!**

Registration by April 16

Fee for weekend: CDN\$15.00

### **Consider the Benefits of Christian High School Education**

Spiritual Enrichment in Classes and Activities  
 Proven Academic Results  
 Christian Friends  
 Sports and Extra-curricular Activities  
 Great Preparation for Life



Melany, Becky, Shasta and Tammy

*Contact Dwayne Williams for Application Forms*

### **Finished High School? Take the Next Step: Gateway Year at the Bible College**

- ♦ Enjoy a year of in-depth Bible study and discussions with other young adults
- ♦ Faith Development and Values Clarification
- ♦ Decide your future in a great environment
- ♦ Prepare to be a servant-leader in the church
- ♦ Travel to Dominican Republic in October to share your faith while receiving credit
- ♦ Earn credit toward Bible degree

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