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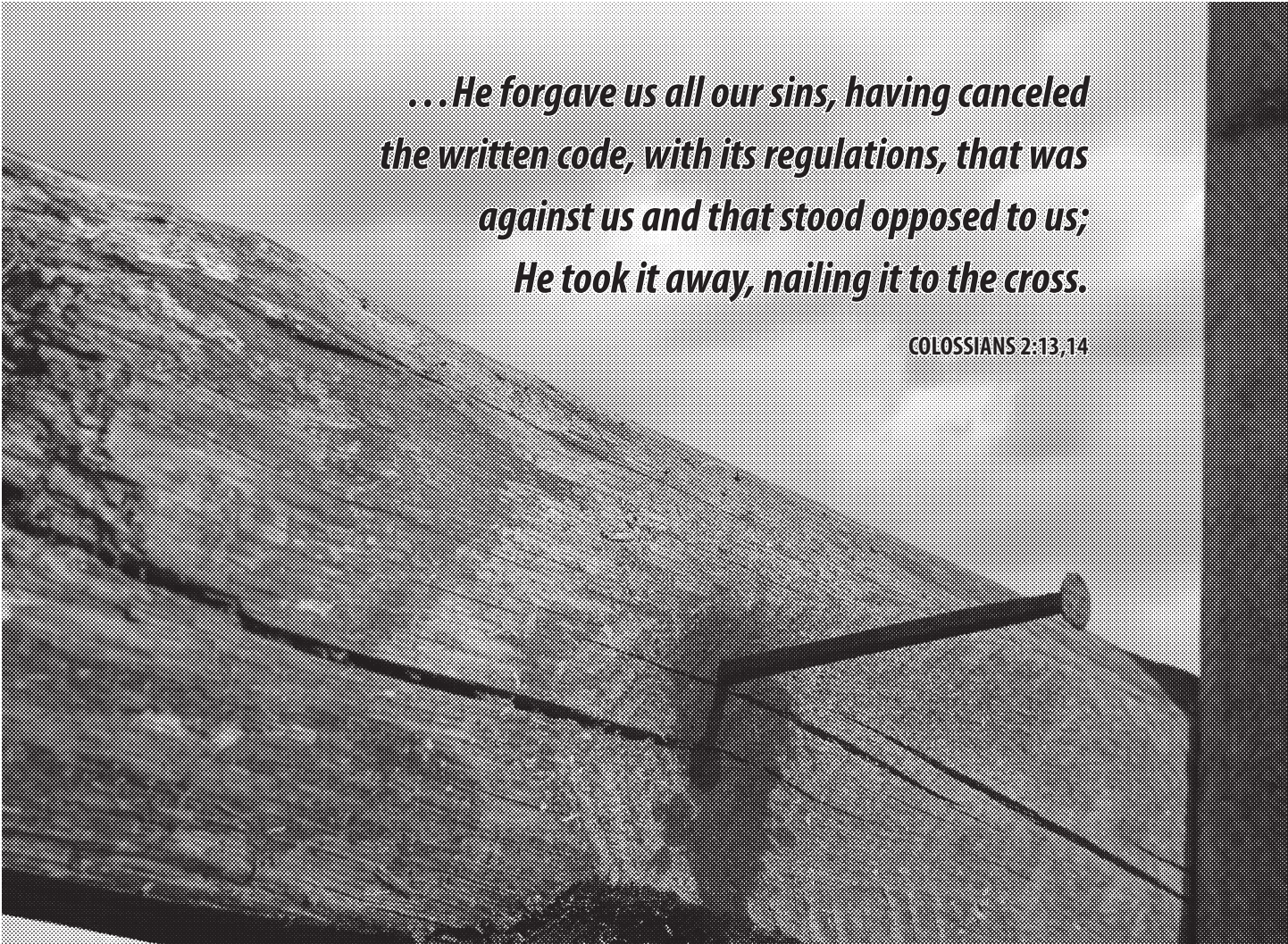
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April 2008



...He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; He took it away, nailing it to the cross.

COLOSSIANS 2:13,14

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Room for Mystery

Stanley N. Helton (Western Christian College)

A temptation of our time is to present Christianity as logical and reasonable by the standards of this world. Many years ago Friedrich Schleiermacher, the father of theological liberalism, attempted this move in *On Religion: Speeches to Its Cultural Despisers* (1799). He conceded that science and the Bible were incompatible and argued that “religion” deals with human “affections” and as such was a matter of faith, not fact. Schleiermacher’s work marks a beginning point for the current divide between *public* facts and *private* faith. Thus, in our time, politics belongs to the world of facts while religious beliefs live in the realm of private preferences. Neither have defenders of the Christian faith always helped. John Toland, for example, wrote a work called *Christianity Not Mysterious* (1693). Since the beginning of the Enlightenment, both liberal and conservative writers have attempted to remove mystery from the Bible and from Christian thinking. Oddly, both approaches accept that human logic and science should and can support all truth claims.

Not much has changed in this regard. Liberals still tend to reject anything in the Bible at odds with (the current state of) science and conservatives, using the exact same empirical tools, seeking to show that (what they call “true”) science supports the Christian faith, not realizing that they treat biblical truths as accountable to human logic. Some claims in the Bible cannot be reduced to being reasonable or answerable to the dictates of science or logic! Despite this, Christians should boldly announce these claims even when, by the world’s standard, they are considered foolish to science and contradictory to logic. (I am not arguing that logic and science have no role in how we know, but that reason and logic have limits when it comes to comprehending divine mystery).

The very centre of Christian theology, the incarnation (literally, the *enfleshing*) of God in the person of Jesus Christ, is one such mystery. Søren Kierkegaard, the Danish philosopher, once labeled the incarnation the “*absolute paradox*.” This paradox, God becoming human, the creator becoming (in some sense) *created*, was not, for him, a problem for the intellect to unravel but a mystery for the human spirit to experience and to hold in awe.

Beyond debate, the Bible declares

Christianity is far more mysterious than we usually comprehend.

that God *became* human. This, however, is a *logical impossibility* as what it means to be God does not line up with what it means to be human. For instance, God is all-powerful; humans are not. Humans can die, and presumably, God cannot. If God could die, then, it would seem, that he would cease to be God. The logical contradiction—that God could become human—is what Christians believe. There is no way to prove, in any way science accepts, that Jesus was both human and divine; yet the Christian faith hangs on accepting this very “contradiction.”

To explore this further, the Bible, as most Christians believe, is the word of God. This is a bold claim but also impossible to prove through science or reason. To complicate matters, the Bible is also the product of

human authors. At least forty writers over a period of fifteen hundred years composed the contents of the Bible. Additionally, many thousands participated in the formation of the canon and the preservation of the texts in that canon throughout the centuries. Christians believe that the Bible is both a human product and the medium through which God reveals his Son to the world and continues to speak to the church today. Because of this, we revere the Bible as sacred Scripture carrying the very authority of God, and yet study it as a textbook with insights into human history.

This confidence in the human-divine origin of the Bible is not reasonable from a logical or scientific perspective. Christian belief in the incarnation (and the Bible) transcends human logic and the empirical observation of science. Thus, our faith and our thinking must have room for mystery.

This mystery only intensifies when we explore the *meaning* of the incarnation. Why did God become human? The incarnation is a necessary precondition for the atonement and our subsequent reconciliation with God. We believe, and the Bible teaches, that Jesus, the God-man, gave His life to save humans and bring them back to God. As Christians, we generally accept this so matter-of-factly that we do not reflect on how unreasonable this claim is. We believe the death of one person is sufficient to cover the sins of everyone who has ever lived. If Jesus were just a human, then there is no way He could pay for another’s sins and possibly not his own. Even if Jesus were just a sinless human, then His death might cover one other person—a life for a life. However, because Jesus is God he can cover the sins of the world. Thus, the mystery of our religion is that God *took our sins upon himself*; He paid the price for human sin. If true, then Christianity is far more mysterious than we usually comprehend.

continued on page 3

NOTICE

All materials for publication must be in the hands of the editors by the tenth (10) day of the month preceding the date of issue. Date of issue is the first of each month.

Help Needed for First Nations Work

Norm and Jen Weir

“Someday I would like to be baptized like the Ethiopian.” Those were the words of Faye Seymour in late 2002 when she requested the World Bible School Correspondence Course she had seen advertised on the *Key to the Kingdom* TV program. Her request for the Bible studies led to dozens of lessons being sent to more than seventy people in the isolated First Nations villages of Kwadacha (Fort Ware) and Tsay Keh Dene in northern British Columbia. In June, 2004, we made our first visit to these communities, along with another couple. On our first day in Kwadacha we attended a Bible study in Faye’s home, attended by about a dozen women. Then we went down to the cold, flood swollen Finlay River, and Faye, along with two other women, was baptized into Jesus Christ. With that exciting beginning, the Lord has opened the door for us to return each year since to conduct Bible studies, worship and prayer meetings and Summer Bible Schools. We regularly provide blankets for young mothers and their babies, distribute Bibles and children’s story books and visit in homes. We provide mechanical and plumbing service work and help staff

at the local thrift store. On three occasions Norm has officiated at weddings, and, this past summer, at a funeral. We are involved in many community activities and help out with various social events.

We have met the Chief of the Kwadacha Nation to explain why we come to his village. He has expressed his appreciation for our work. This past December we received a greeting card from the Chief, Council and Staff of the village. This is significant because it shows that our work has a positive effect. There is great opportunity for volunteer work and it is appreciated.

Since this work among First Nations people began, there has been considerable encouragement to continue it. There is a clear need for such work in Canada. Norm presented on this work at “Vision Canada” in June, 2007 and was pleased to see how widely it had been reported. The challenge is to keep this effort going and to increase it. To do this, and to continue with our evangelistic work, with a variety of small and isolated congregations in British Columbia, we need your help.

Our financial support has decreased

during the past several years as some supporters have withdrawn small amounts, perhaps thinking their contributions would not be missed. More recently, our support dropped a further \$700 per month. Now it is a challenge to cover our normal monthly expenses. We need to increase our monthly income by \$2000. We are hoping that congregations or individuals will assist us with our personal support so that we can continue our Christian work. Our work among the First Nations peoples is truly a Canadian work and we are appealing to our Canadian brothers and sisters to support us in it.

We are deeply grateful to those who faithfully support our outreach here in British Columbia. We invite more people to share in this wonderful work. If you are led to interest in our work and want to support it, please contact us. Our finances are handled through the Central Valley church of Christ.

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Room for Mystery... continued from page 2

Yet this is precisely what the Bible teaches: “God made him who had no sin *to be sin* for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Cor. 5.20). The Greek, however, is even stronger: “God made the one not knowing sin [into] sin for us.” This Sinless One not only bore our sins, but He took our sins *into* Himself, a thought teetering on the edge of nonsense... a mystery.

If that is not enough, Paul, in a seeming slip of tongue, suggests that God himself experienced death in the crucifixion of Jesus when he urged the Ephesian elders to “be shepherds of the church of *God*, which *he* bought with *his* own blood” (Acts 20.28). God’s own blood? This bothered later scribes who altered manuscripts from

“church of the *God*” to “church of the *Lord*” to avoid the obvious meaning of the text. We might say that these scribes struggled with the mystery of God dying.

Finally, since faith will always have room for mystery, how then should we respond to things we cannot explain? Paul may give us an example here. At the end of his discussion about God’s mysterious ways of dealing with Israel that resulted in an influx of Gentile believers into the church, Paul can only express awe: Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! “Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?” “Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?”

“For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen” (Romans 11.33-36),

Thus, when Paul encountered this mystery, he worshipped. So should we. There remains for us, then, room for mystery. May our strivings be not toward a knowledge that seeks to unravel the mystery, but toward faith that embraces more than science or logic can ever explain.

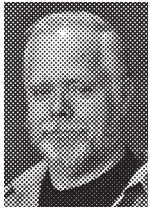
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Recognizing Our Camels

Wayne Turner



Sometimes, when asked how “we” interpret the Bible, some have answered, “We don’t interpret it, we just read it and do what it says.” This is certainly a noble sounding ideal, but is it really accurate? Because Jesus spoke so strongly and absolutely about truth—“I am the truth;” “The truth shall set you free”—His followers seek to know that truth as given in the scriptures by the Holy Spirit. But is it possible to find it through simply reading the words, or is there also an interpretive process which is often needed? The Ethiopian official was reading Isaiah, looking for the truth, but needed assistance to fully understand the application of the prophecy of the Messiah.

To illustrate, let’s consider the old riddle, “When is a door not a door?” Our familiarity with the riddle has long dulled any amusement it might have once caused. The humour from a riddle or joke comes from its irony, word play, unexpected twist or surprise. When we hear a riddle, our minds recognize that it is not a serious question to be taken literally. We anticipate the punch line, “When it’s ajar” and when it comes, “get the joke.” Whether we realize it or not, we have used the interpretive process to understand it.

When we read scripture, we go through a similar process—recognizing what kind of writing a passage is, who wrote it, to whom and why it was written and how it applies to us today. We may not even be aware of all the assumptions and decisions we make as we read. This whole process is called hermeneutics.

In “A Hermeneutical Personality Test”, (*Leadership, Winter 2008*), Scot McKnight offers a brief test to help readers understand how they approach scripture—whether they are conservative, moderate or progressive in their interpretations—what they choose to recognize and follow, what they overlook and ignore, what they take literally and what they take as figurative. He raises 20 different points which range from one’s basic view of the Bible and its words and contexts to how one applies specific passages about homosexuality, role of women, foot washing, capital punishment, adultery, the Sabbath, eating meat with blood and tattoos. With each of these, McKnight asks readers to choose and score themselves from one of three different responses. Their final scores indicate their general hermeneutical tendencies toward scripture. While clever, his approach should not be considered as either scientific or complete. Even the questions them-

selves reflect his own bias. In some cases, readers may be frustrated to find none of the choices actually express their views. Conservative responses sometimes come from very literal, but unconnected, readings of some passages which would result in the practice of ritual footwashing, stoning adulterers and keeping the Sabbath.

There is something important that appears to be missing from this whole exercise. The goal of hermeneutics (the way we understand and apply scripture) should not be simply defined by human theological labels like conservative, moderate and progressive. It should seek to be Biblical. Biblical hermeneutics is not necessarily about whether or not one follows a literal application of a verse. It is about understanding a passage within its own textual and historical contexts and how it fits in with the rest of the Bible. For example, it allows us to see the principle of service Jesus taught when He washed the feet of the apostles, rather than a ritual.

The real point of McKnight’s survey is not so much to label as it is to recognize one’s own inconsistencies. When Jesus referred to straining out gnats yet swallowing camels, in part, He was talking about what McKnight calls “selective perception.” The people Jesus spoke of were zealous to keep the literal letter of the law by trying to avoid swallowing even the minutest unclean thing. At the same time, they were wilfully allowing even greater uncleanness by harbouring resentment and hatred. Similarly, our own opinions, attitudes and even religious backgrounds may strongly influence how we read and apply scripture—whether we obey or explain away the Bible’s teaching.

continued on page 8

GOSPEL HERALD

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His Word Will Not Return Empty

Have you ever gotten tired of trying to do evangelism because you have taught, in public and/or in private, and have not seen any response to the gospel? Have you been enthusiastic about some programme of evangelism but, because we only want to support work that “show” results, you became convinced that no good was being accomplished so stopped supporting the work, even to the point of not even praying for it anymore. This is very dispiriting and can cause one to become pessimistic as to all efforts to evangelize.

Of course, we know that the same things do not always work everywhere. In years past the “bus ministry” worked very well for many congregations but not others. Door knocking seems to work in some areas but not in others. Mailing monthly newsletters and teaching articles does well in some areas but not others. The impact of special meetings, radio or television programmes and seminars have different results. Even personal contact with family, friends and neighbours will bring different levels of visible result, some encouraging and some discouraging.

However, we need to remember the promise of God regarding His word. “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and

my thoughts than your thoughts. As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands” (Isaiah 55:8-12).

For those of us who live in the

Toronto area, it seems appropriate to write about snow. We are all really enjoying the beautiful snowfall that is “watering the earth and making it bud and flourish...” :-). (We have had 180 centimeters at the time I am writing this. The record snow fall here is 207.4 in 1938-39.) Of course, the point of Isaiah’s statement is not really about physical growth but he is talking about the results of sowing the word of God in the hearts of people. If we preach for 100 years, like Noah, and only save 8 or preach for 40 years, like Jeremiah, and save no one, we can never stop preaching and working to share the good news with those who do not know Jesus as Christ. We plan the work and work the plan with the faith that the will of God will be done.

We know the gospel has the power to draw men and women to Christ. “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the Prophets: ‘They will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me” (John 6:44, 45). Also, consider the power of Paul’s words in 2 Thessalonians 2:14, “He called you to this through our gospel that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

We also know that everyone who hears the gospel will not obey it. Jesus gives insight into this in Matthew 23 with the parable of the sower. Some of the ground on which the seed fell was too hard (closed minded) to accept the seed and, therefore, did not produce any fruit. The other three received the seed in different degrees of openness and fruit grew. This parable is important for us since we need to understand that we will not always see the desired result from the

continued on page 9

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To Live a Happy Life

Christians are to be full of joy, but too often, we look like we are coming from a funeral. What does it take for us to be happy? How can we live a fulfilled life? Try following these four simple principles in order to live a happy life.

1. Find joy in everyday living. God doesn't just want us to be happy, he wants us to shout our joy and happiness for the entire world to hear. "Shout for joy to the lord, all the earth" (Psalm 100:1 NIV). We tend to look for the great celebrations of life to make us happy. Getting married, having children, winning a competition, getting into a great school, finding the perfect job etc... These things don't happen every day, in fact there may be days, weeks, months or even years between these events occurring; if these are the events that bring happiness then happiness will only come to us occasionally. We need to find happiness in the everyday events of life. Sitting

down to eat with our family or friends at the end of the day, enjoying a cup of coffee and catching up with a friend, a beautiful sunrise or sunset, rocking a baby to sleep, going for a walk with a young child and seeing things through their eyes. If we cannot find joy and happiness in these everyday events of life our happy moments will be few and often far between. Sometimes we miss these blessed events because we are in a rush to move on to something that we believe is more important and may have the potential down the road to make us happy. If we are unhappy perhaps it is because we have overlooked the happiness that the everyday events of life can bring us.

2. Be thankful. Happiness is not possible without thanksgiving. "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all

generations" (Psalm 100:4-5 NIV). We need to thank God daily by counting our blessings. When we give a general thank you for all our many blessings we are not being as thankful as when we name the blessings specifically. I was once visiting in a home where I had been invited to stay for dinner. When we sat down to eat a three year old asked if he could give thanks, he had just learned to give thanks at meal times and really enjoyed doing it. He began to pray and was thanking God specifically for everything on the table all that we were to eat, the salt and pepper, even our cutlery, plates and glasses, he then moved on to thanking God for all the people at the table, when he got to me he forgot my name and paused from the prayer to ask his mother what my name was. The prayer was a long one, longer than we usually have at a meal time, but I was blessed to be there and to hear it. We are often so busy with our lists of wants that we don't appreciate how much we already have. If we spent time specifically thanking God for all that we have we would find that our list of wants might grow a little shorter. We should also be thanking people—this goes beyond just good manners. If we are thanking people we are appreciating them as well as our relationship with them and we see the context of that relationship in a more positive way. If we thank our parents we appreciate that they are our parents and we also appreciate the family and think of our family in a more positive light. When we say thank you to those in our church family we are appreciative of our relationship with them but we also see the church (the context of the relationship) in a more positive way. We tend to either be complaining about people or giving thanks for them. Which do you think will lead to more happiness?

3. Accept forgiveness. Guilt brings us misery. It is supposed to, and its purpose is to bring us back to God. "My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear" (Psalm 38:4 NIV). We don't need to bear that burden alone, there is a way to find forgiveness. "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive

continued on page 8



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Don Hipwell

Feeding on God's Word

“**L**ike newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation... (1 Peter 2:2). “This points to the word of God, which provides spiritual life to those who partake of it. Like milk, the essential nourishment for babies, God’s word sustains life and gives growth.” (Life Application Concise New Testament Commentary)

We all understand the need to read and study God’s Word. Many of us feel the need to do it more often, but it does not happen. Following are the results of a brainstorming session concerning this dilemma. It is likely you will discover nothing new or revolutionary. However, if it inspires you, as it did some of us, to read and study more, great!

Time is often a problem with many of us. That will always be a problem if we do not determine to take time and schedule Bible reading into our busy day. We need to base the schedule on our preferences and personality. For example, some of us are not morning people, so getting up a few minutes earlier to read will be useless.

Make the time as regular as possible but do not be a slave to it. Understand that there will be situations that force you to make an adjustment, but do your best to work it in sometime that day. We need to establish the habit of Bible reading. The same location (your favourite chair, the kitchen table, etc.) also helps to establish the routine.

If you have not been reading your Bible regularly already, do not schedule a lot of time in the beginning. It is better to establish the habit with a few minutes than to become discouraged trying to concentrate for a longer time. Quality as opposed to quantity. You can always add time later.

Elizabeth Lock suggested getting around the time issue by listening to CD’s or tapes. This can be done in your car or as you work at tasks about your

home. Some who are audio-learners prefer this to reading.

What to read? Seems like a silly question. Perhaps, “Where in the Bible do I begin?” is a better one. There are several ‘Through the Bible in a Year’ schedules that will direct your daily reading. They can be a helpful guide but do not need to be strictly followed. You may want to progress faster or at a slower pace.

It is usually good to alternate; reading some from the Old Testament and some from the New. Or you might like to try following a particular theme like locating all the verses that talk about faith, or love, or obedience. You might follow a particular author and read all of John’s work, or a section like the Minor Prophets, or the books of poetry. Another possibility is reading it as it happened using a chronological Bible.

If you need encouragement, try reading with or to someone. This might be a family member, a shut-in, a friend over coffee, anyone. My wife and I enjoy having one evening a week when we read with friends for about an hour, followed by prayer and fellowship.

Make sure you select a translation you are comfortable with. One that you can understand and enjoy reading. There are several you might try, such as the New International, New Century, Contemporary English or New Living, among others. If you are into the Internet, you can find them there. As you move from ‘reading to feeding’, you will want to have more than one translation handy.

“...solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.” Hebrews 5:14. In order not to remain inexperienced and unskilled in applying Scriptural knowledge to our lives, we need to feed on the Word. Mature believers are called that

because they have trained themselves to recognize the difference between right and wrong and then try to do what is right. By a study of God’s Word they learn what actions, thoughts and attitudes will please God.

There is a difference between reading and feeding. When we read a good mystery novel, we are always searching for answers, asking ourselves questions, looking for clues and solutions. In a sense, that is what feeding is like. As we read the Bible let’s search, meditate, question, apply, dig deeper and look for solutions.

It is then that your Bible reading grows in length. That does not necessarily mean that you read more verses but it takes more time. Nancy Moore said, “You read until you find something to chew on.” That ‘meaty’ item may be found in one verse which leads you to meditate and to pray for wisdom and understanding. It may lead you to different translations. It might mean looking at a commentary or Bible dictionary. Concordances and Study Bibles are also useful.

When we get to this stage, it is good to have a paper and pencil handy. You can jot down questions, references, personal thoughts and feelings. If a particular verse or longer passage strikes a chord with you, write it down. Post it where you will see it often. Better yet, memorize it. Bon appétit!

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Editorial... continued from page 4

McKnight asks hermeneutical progressives a very thought provoking question, "Will the Bible's so-called 'plain meaning' be given its due and authoritative force to challenge our world? Or will the Bible be swallowed by a quest to find modern analogies that sometimes minimize what the text clearly says."

McKnight's survey should challenge us to seriously consider how we approach the Bible—to understand, not only what we believe, but also why. Why do we insist on Lord's supper every week but don't wash one another's feet—why we sit or stand to pray but don't kneel—why we don't fold or raise our hands in prayer. Even more, in asking why, we need to be aware of those things which may be influencing our understanding of scripture and how we apply it.

We need to recognize our camels, not swallow them.

Christian Youth... continued from page 6

ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives" (1 John 1:8-10 NIV). Many choose to deny sin rather than to seek forgiveness for it. They cannot fool themselves for long and the life destroying guilt returns. Jesus stands ready to forgive all sins that are confessed to him, we cannot find happiness when we are full of guilt. Let go of the guilt, seek God's forgiveness and know true happiness. Part of accepting forgiveness is giving it. "Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievance you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you" (Colossians 3:13 NIV). We are to forgive as the Lord has forgiven us! Holding grudges will make us more miserable than the one we hold the grudge against; in fact many times they may be completely unaware that we have something against them.

When we choose to hold grudges we make ourselves miserable and punish ourselves more than anybody.

4. Don't give up. So much joy in life is lost because we do not finish what we start. We may have good reasons for stopping. It might have been the right decision to make. If we had it to do all over again we probably wouldn't even have started. Yet we still feel badly for quitting and we know that if we quit too many times it becomes a lifestyle where we quit at the first sign of trouble. Knowing this, we should be careful about making commitments. Please notice that I didn't say that we should never make commitments, but we should be careful about making them. Take a moment to think about it, seek the advice of those older and wiser than you. When you make a commitment do everything within your power to stay with it and not give up. There is no joy in giving up. "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9 NIV).



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
GREAT LAKES BIBLE COLLEGE
GRADUATION &
PROMOTIONAL DINNER

DATE: SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2008
TIME: 5:00 P.M.
PLACE: THE DELTA KITCHENER
105 KING STREET EAST, KITCHENER
TICKETS: \$25.00

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE BY CONTACTING VAL POSTHUMUS
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HELP US CELEBRATE THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS
OF OUR GRADUATES!

sowing done. Some will reject but others will respond.

We understand the word of God to be powerful and able to accomplish His purpose, when it is presented to honest and seeking hearts. The gospel is the power of God to save (Romans 1:16). Of course, for it to do its work, it must be presented!! Even though many today see the "old time religion of God" as boring and dull, for those who truly are seeking a relationship with God, the gospel is the only message that saves.

In talking about the work of evangelism and in planning for work in evangelism, we MUST understand that salvation comes to those who have answered the call of God. Jesus said in John 6:44, 45, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the Prophets: 'They will all be taught by God.' Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me."

Of course, the message has to be made clear, like Philip did for the Ethiopian eunuch. Without understanding, the preaching of the word is useless. It has no drawing power if a person does not understand what is being taught. Remember when the people of Judah returned from bondage, after the 70 years in Babylon, the law of God was read to them. Nehemiah 8:7-8 states, "The Levites—Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and Pelaiah—instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there. They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was being

read." It is in hearing the gospel that men and women are called into relationship with God.

The purpose of preaching is to change lives. This may be the lives of people who have never obeyed the gospel, but may also involve those Christians who have not lived up to their commitment. Understand that at times it may involve "hurting" someone's feelings or making one unhappy by pointing out wrong, but the good news is that it takes godly sorrow to bring the repentance that is necessary for relationship with God. Sometimes the word that is given must be a work of correction, such as what Paul wrote to Corinth in the first letter. Because Paul wrote strongly in the first letter, he was able to write the following in the second; "Even if I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it. Though I did regret it—I see that my letter hurt you, but only for a little while—yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance.

The Gospel Herald Website provides...

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www.gospelherald.org

For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death. See what this godly sorrow has produced in you: what earnestness, what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what alarm, what longing, what concern, what readiness to see justice done. At every point you have proved

yourself to be innocent in this matter" (2 Corinthians 7:8-11). Without doubt in this case, the word did not return empty.

May we take to heart the words of Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:58, "Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." The church and individual Christians today must not become weary of preaching/teaching the gospel, using every talent and the resources at hand to proclaim the message and make it plain. God promises that His word will not return to Him empty. Our task is to be sure it is shared with those who do not know Jesus as Lord.

You are invited...

*Origins in Ogema: Remembering Our Roots
Western Christian College and High School
Heritage Series*

Ogema Museum Hall, Ogema, Saskatchewan

Sunday, June 8, 2008

Please join us for Origins in Ogema, a day of remembering the first winter Bible school in Saskatchewan.

The program includes

- *Sunday morning worship*
- *Tour of historic sites*

*Reflections and appreciation by President Kevin Vance
Unveiling the Western Christian College heritage sign*

*Please register in advance
so we can plan meals, meetings and tours.*

*For information or to register, please contact
Cindy Emmons at (306) 545-1515 ext 225 or
cemmons@westernchristian.ca.*



by Walter R. Straker
750 Clark Blvd.

Bramalea, ON L6T 3Y2
Fax: 905 792-8623

E-mail: bramaleacofc@bellnet.ca

Reminder: To be published in the following month's Gospel Herald, each congregation's information should be sent to Walter Straker by the 10th of the month preceding the date of issue, which is the first of each month. Please clearly mark the email or the envelope: "NewsEast."

ONTARIO

Beamsville: Barb Hannah was scheduled to travel to Santa Cruz, Bolivia, on a mission trip in March and April. She will help local missionary, Enoel Suarez. They will construct beds, washroom facilities, tables and eating area as well as visit 2 orphanages. They need clothing, shoes, medicines (over the counter drugs), school supplies, small toys, sewing kits and toiletries to leave there. "Discovering Again the Missional Calling of the Church," was the title of a seminar March 30-April 1 with Dr. Mark Love, of Abilene Christian University. Topics included: "I Saw Satan Fall like Lightning," "Faithful Shifts in Christian Imagination," and "the Practices of a Missional Congregation." World Day of Prayer was held at the Beamsville church building on March 7. Donald Perry has begun a new adult Bible class entitled "Jesus and the Pharisees."

Bramalea: The congregation rejoiced with Irma Lavado and Cristina Genobaga, who were baptized into Christ on February 19, and with Jane Kiptoo, who was baptized on March 9. Guest speakers recently were Shawn LeBlanc (with wife Chieh), a Great Lakes Bible College student now serving as an intern in Stratford, Ontario, and Roger Saumur (with wife Diane and daughters Myriam and Lydia) the French minister from the VilleÉnard church in Montreal. Rody Ostil, one of Bramalea's housebound members, hosts Bible studies, hymn singing, and religious discussions regularly in a meeting room in his apartment building. The congregation hosted the 2008 "Good Friday Training for Service" on March 21 with Jerry

Tallman as speaker for the adult sessions and Greg Whitfield as speaker for the teenagers. Other congregations supplied teachers for the younger children and helped supply refreshments for the event. The church's new website is mail@bramaleacofc.ca. A seminar presented by Mike Glugosh and entitled: "Do You Struggle with Anxiety and Panic?" was scheduled for Saturday, March 15.

Brantford: The Wednesday night adult Bible study is on "Christian Graces." Areas of outreach include "Food Share," "Clothing Drive," and a "Mitten and Scarf Box" to assist needy people in the community. Recent speakers were Glen Robbins, Wayne Whitfield, Robert Moore, Jim Holston, Ralph Perry, Scott Mansfield and Jamie Azzoparde.

Brantford (Costain/Johnson Community Centre): A record number attended the congregation's annual retreat. Joe Lewicki, a faithful attendee for 5 years, surrendered his life and was baptized into Christ. The men began monthly breakfasts together, a monthly singing of the old hymns was held and minister Rick Gamble began a new course taking a spiritual look at the media that Christians are bombarded with daily. About a dozen teens participated in the World Vision 30-hour famine and raised \$1,500 to purchase animals and medical supplies for Third World countries. The

congregation continues to support missionary Judith Alexander and recently welcomed her home for a short furlough from her work in Hitachi, Japan.

Cambridge: The congregation is "warming up" to the youth centre which will be its Sunday morning worship place for awhile. "Christians are normal people" was the common theme in February, according to "the guys," a group of young people that has been with the Cambridge group recently. A great line from them at a small group meeting during conversation about drinking and partying was: "Why do that kind of stuff when this stuff (eating together, cards and board games) is more fun anyway." Sunday March 9, twelve members and twelve visitors were in attendance. The church's website is www.cambridgecofc.ca.

Hamilton (Fennell Avenue): Art Ford reports from Papua New Guinea that things have been going well in his teaching at Melanesian Bible College and is setting systems in place to promote World Bible School courses there.

Toronto (Scarborough): The Thursday night mid-week adult class is studying the book of Acts. Ladies' class is studying the book, "Far Above Rubies," a study designed to help Christian women see more clearly their relationship to others in the home, the church and the community. The ladies recently took their class to Sister Tashay in Hamilton.

Toronto (Strathmore Blvd.): Again this year we are asking congregations and individuals across Canada to join us in remembering the work of Key To The Kingdom on Key To The Kingdom Day, May 4, 2008, the first Sunday in May. Please remember this ministry every day, and especially on May 4, in prayer and, if possible, with a special collection or personal donation to help meet the financial requirements. GREAT NEWS: We have recently received a "pre Key Day" donation from an Ontario congregation of \$24,990.00 to be applied to the equipment deficit. (This is for the equipment purchased to produce the programme ourselves and save the high cost involved in using a commercial studio for filming.) This brings the deficit from \$28,467.55 to \$3,477.55. Changes coming in the broadcast industry are going to require our going to high definition production that will require some different equipment. We hope to build up a fund to cover this new cost that could come as early as early 2009.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED FOR FALL 2008

Applications are being accepted for positions that will become available September 2008. Candidates who are qualified for membership in the **Ontario College of Teachers** are preferred. For more details or to apply, please contact:



Brian Boden,
Principal
Great Lakes
Christian College
4875 King St.,
Beamsville, ON
L0R 1B6

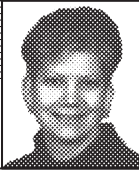
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academic@glcc.on.ca www.glcc.on.ca

Building Foundations
of Faith

continued on page 12



by Marion Waugh
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E-mail: waughr1@shaw.ca

(BC news supplied by Barbara Lewis)

ALBERTA

Camrose: A Valentine's meal provided an opportunity for the congregation to get to know one another better as everyone sat beside someone they didn't know well. A "Dinner and Devo" programme began as an outreach to the students attending the Augustana University. Students were invited to a meal cooked by the Sisters of the congregation and several in the congregation came to eat, get to know and fellowship with the students who attended. A devotional was included in the evening. The program has concluded now until fall when the new term begins. Garth Johnson of Edmonton, was guest speaker one weekend. A bowling evening was held with 37 in attendance. Of that number, approximately half were visitors so the evening was a successful outreach.

Edmonton North: Bill & Marie-Claire McDonough are presently in Yangon, Myanmar. They report this area is in upheaval and hopelessness, but God has been at work for years, preparing the hearts of men and women to receive His love. A window of twenty-eight days was all the time they had been given to study God's word with the countless people seeking hope. Recent political events have renewed the longing for hope that has been in their hearts for years. Some have studied the Bible via correspondence, but the time was too short and then they were left alone. Some of those same people have come to study with us this month and have made progress but, again, we are forced to leave just when they are wrestling with decisions to give their lives to God. Every day more come, University students, gold merchants, government employees, lawyers and doctors inquiring if we can study with them and the line of those wanting to study gets longer. There have been two baptisms in 2008. The "Beat the Blues" Banquet was held to encourage the congregation

during the long winter. After the banquet, some excellent entertainment was enjoyed. Thirty teens and several adults attended the youth rally in Missoula. The theme of the weekend was "Heroes". The lessons explained the world needed to have heroes, how heroes were ordinary people who did extraordinary things, heroes made mistakes but they didn't let the mistakes hold them back and other encouraging lessons on heroes. Some of the examples of these heroes were David and Samson. There were several fun activities and lots of fellowship. All in all a very successful weekend. Several students from Harding came to Edmonton for a week to serve the congregation. It was a busy week for all involved. The C.A.R.E. groups continue with life lessons being learned. Many are finding

them very valuable. The Bible School program, Kids group, youth group and young adult group are all very active with regular activities.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Abbotsford (Central Valley): Jen will be doing the driving when the Weirs leave on their first rounds to visit churches in B.C. since Norm's hip surgery in January. They expect to make their first stop at 100 Mile House, and from there to Prince George. In Vanderhoof, they will confer with a couple about the work in Fort Ware and Tsay Keh. By June, they hope to be able to make their first trip back to these two northern First Nations villages.

continued on page 13

Saskatoon Church of Christ is seeking

applications for a spiritually minded individual to join us in ministry on the Canadian prairies.

- We are seeking an individual with ideas and vision for taking the message of God's wonderful grace to the world around us.
- We are seeking an enthusiastic, energetic individual who will work to equip us and others to be the church of Jesus in our community.
- We are seeking a person whose heart is filled with a love for God, and whose life is in tune with God's Spirit and His leading.

The Saskatoon Church of Christ began meeting in homes almost 60 years ago and currently has about 110 attending each Sunday. We have had a long history in support of world missions, but are coming to the awareness that our own community represents a significant mission field as well. Our members come from a variety of age groups, occupations, and ethnic backgrounds, and are led by a team consisting of four elders, our ministers, and their wives.

As our minister, you will provide the encouragement and exhortation for our personal and congregational spiritual development; will work to enhance our congregational structures and organization; and will facilitate the training and implementation of a service based outreach. Our congregation values the ability to discover the Bible's truths, and to make meaningful application of these truths to our lives in the world today. As such, an undergraduate or higher degree in Bible, Ministry, and/or Missions would be considered an asset.

We desire to have our new minister in place by 1 August 2008. We offer a competitive compensation package with health benefits, professional development and mission leave, as well as three weeks of annual vacation.

If God may be calling you to this work, please send your resume, references, and a recording of some recent sermons by email to transition@saskatoonchurchofchrist.org, or by mail to:

The Transition Team – Saskatoon Church of Christ
Attn: Monica Taylor
134 Cardinal Crescent
SASKATOON, SK, Canada S7L 6H6

For additional information on our congregation and our city, please visit:
<http://saskatoonchurchofchrist.org>
<http://www.saskatoon.ca>

MISSION NEWS

Barbara Lewis
4920 N. Penn Ave.
Spokane, WA 99206-4475
e-mail: ray-bjl@comcast.net



Thailand: A report from Kim Panboon told of the visit of her husband, Subin, to a prison in Udon Province in January, which resulted in 34 baptisms following a half-day of teaching some 200 inmates. Those baptized had taken correspondence lessons for about a year and a half and requested that Subin come to give them more Bible teaching. He made the trip by plane on his birthday, and was elated at the response as many expressed their continued interest in learning more. Kim also reported that they had given their staff of seven a small raise in salaries at the beginning of the year. She expressed the deep appreciation of themselves, and those working on the Thailand Literature Programme to the brethren and congregations who send monetary support and pray for this work.

China: Simon Hui, who spent a number of years in Canada before returning to his native country to teach his people, was invited by Director Ron Brown, in Alabama, to train Agape Foundation workers in Xi'an. The foundation was established in Mainland China by U.S. members of the church, and has more than 20 workers. It maintains several orphanages in different provinces, assists those who have financial difficulty in paying their medical bills and has other programmes for the needy. However, the ultimate goal is to see that they have the opportunity to learn of the plan of salvation. In spite of poor weather, Simon spent three days from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. training workers how to approach unbelievers. He felt that it was urgent for them to understand the foundation of the Gospel, therefore he covered from the creation by God to the plan of Salvation. By understanding the whole concept of the Bible, he felt it would be easy for them to share the Gospel with Chinese people. Funds for the Foundation basically come from church members. In Simon's home city of Zhuhai, he conducts a Bible class for adults, most of whom are housewives. As their children go to the same international school his three boys attend, they are from several countries: Korea, Britain, Taiwan, Hong Kong as well as Mainland China. He studies with college students on Friday nights, three of whom are not Christians. There were 11 new converts in 2007. The church has been looking for

a central place in which to worship so that none of the members have a long distance to travel.

Myanmar (Burma): "When people struggle to survive and look for something to hang on to, receptivity to the Good News soars and opportunities to share the love of God are everywhere. People clamour for a chance to receive a copy of the Bible, to study God's Word with Christians and to find answers and hope for their devastated lives. "Together we (Partners In Progress) have responded to this call from Kosovo, Ethiopia, Croatia, Poland, Guyana, Romania, Laos, Albania, Georgia CIS, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, and Indonesia and thousands are now children of God and will one day meet you in heaven as a result of your caring and sharing when trouble came. We are currently in Myanmar (Burma) where upheaval and hopelessness reign and where God has been at work for years, preparing the hearts of men and women to receive His love. A window of 28 days is all the time we have been given to study God's word with the countless people here seeking hope. Recent political events have renewed their longing. Some have studied the Bible via correspondence with you and when others came, they studied with some but the time was too short and they were left alone. Some of these same people have come to study with us this month and have made progress, but again we are forced to leave just when they are wrestling with decisions to give their lives to God. Every day more come: University students, gold merchants, government employees, lawyers and doctors inquiring if we can study with them—and the line of those wanting to study gets longer." —Bill & Marie-Claire McDonough, from Yangon, Myanmar

Ethiopia: From dependence on begging to obtain her basic needs to her recent graduation as a Laboratory Technician, Demem Bekele, has come a long way. She was taken into the orphanage in Addis Ababa when church members found her without food or a place to stay. She had lost a leg and both of her parents when a bomb exploded on their small farm in an area embroiled in war. For a time, teachers had managed to give her a small amount of money to use for food and shelter, but were soon unable to continue their help. They brought her to Addis Ababa for her safety. After being placed in the orphanage, it soon became evident that she was a brilliant student. She excelled in her studies, and was fitted with a prosthesis. When she completed high school, she was given a full scholarship to attend a nursing school. Today she is described as a "wonderful Christian young lady" with a bright future before her in the nursing field.

Japan, Sendai: Ben Berry sums up his own feelings and those of Joel Osborne's and Jonathan Straker's: "... a fascinating aspect to (our) studies [Ben and Jonathan at Abilene Christian University and Joel mentoring with the Singapore church] is the filter through which (we) apply newly acquired knowledge. (We) can see through the lens of (our) experiences in Japan (and) are better able to understand what we did well, what could use improvement and what we need to change completely." In addition to graduate studies and work, Ben, Erica Towell, Jonathan and Michiko meet weekly with a group of Japanese (mostly non-Christian) students. Jonathan also speaks twice each Sunday for the Highway 36 Church of Christ, which is very supportive of his studies, his and Michiko's work with them and their future plan to return to Japan. Joel Osborne continues to work on getting a visa to enter Thailand for mentoring on church planting after his time in Singapore. Crimsen Ruhnke is still in the US with her ill mother. Debi Hobelman teaches school in Sendai, in addition to assisting Sasha Ingle, Yuko Kawamura and other Sendai members with LST follow-up. For information or reports, contact Bramalea Church of Christ, mail@bramaleacofc.ca.

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News East... continued from page 10

Windsor (West Side): The ladies' class is studying "Having a Mary heart in a Martha World." Rex Hamilton from Rochester College is leading the Sunday morning adult Bible class through a series on "Christian Ethics." He will also preach on the last Sunday of the study.

QUEBEC

Montreal (VilleÉmard): In 2007 three individuals were baptized (using the new portable baptistery) and four individuals placed membership. For the first time the congregation is offering "LIVE" interactive classes each Wednesday night on www.bible-talk.ca/live. People can join a live Bible study group (on video), ask questions and receive answers through the chat box feature. Hal Gatewood, web manager/designer, reports that people from every continent come to the site for video and audio material. The church's worship is also online live every Sunday at 10 a.m. on its website. The congregation asks for prayers as they train men to serve as deacons and elders. In January the congregation had many visitors, most of whom said they were Christian (evangelical) looking for a Christian church. In January also a "Men's Power Breakfast" was held with 23 men attending – three of them visitors. A 24-hour "Prayer and Fasting" event took place February 22.

City Church (Vancouver): Four Chinese people were baptized in February. John Xia and his wife, Ellse Tan, have been studying with Steve Hasbrouck since two weeks after their arrival in Canada four years ago. They had been taught evolution and Marxist materialism. They were excited that their parents came to see their immersions into Christ. On the extra day this year's February gave us, God added two more souls to His Kingdom. Graham Ge and Quentin Huang were baptized at the Oakridge building where we have daytime English Bible classes three days a week. The rest of the class members were present and witnessed the confessions of faith and baptisms of both men. Quentin's entire family, his wife and four children (who skipped school for a couple of hours), came to be present for the baptism. The wife and children are already believers, and the family has worshiped with us in the past. After witnessing two men obeying Christ, several women students expressed an interest in becoming Christians, using the entire class period of five hours to ask questions about Jesus and the Bible. Two have said they thought they would become Christians in the future. Quentin,

the brand new Christian, responded to the questions of one: "If you die in the next second, you cannot know whether you are going to heaven or hell. You need to make a decision." It was refreshing to hear the students talking back and forth, mostly in Mandarin Chinese, about God and the Bible. Graham Ge, the other new Christian, had already expressed his desire to build a church in Shanghai and requested Steve's help. After telling Graham that would be a wonderful thing, Steve asked if he would be interested in helping build a church in Northern Japan instead. He responded with a strong "Yes!"

Nanaimo: Young adults desiring to stretch and develop in ministry have been meeting in the preacher's home on Thursdays. Led by Derek King, they have been exploring their identity in Christ, their significance to the Body of Christ, their spiritual giftedness, jobs as salt and light, discovery of their secular gifts and the blessings of dreaming. The series was finished in March. The Young Teens have continued their Sunday morning study entitled "What's the Big Idea" (Part 1 of His Story: Reality Overview). The purpose of the 15-week study, started in the New Year, is to gain perspective and understand the reality

that all of the events, people and places are one story with a central theme.

MANITOBA

Carman: The annual lectureship was held March 21-23.

Winnipeg: The "We Care" program for Willy held with Safeway includes a Movie Night at the Base Theatre, a Pancake Breakfast and Wind-up Dinner at Lord Roberts Community Centre. A new class in Ephesians has started for the college and young adult group. We celebrated with Rachel Frazer and Myles MacMillan, who were baptized and added to the Lord's family. Our congregation has been asked to plan the Junior High Week at Clearview Camp. This will be July 27 - August 1. A fund raising lunch was held by the youth group and their parents to raise money to help the Salvador, Brazil congregation, where Russ and Val Quirey are working, to buy Bible school material. Over \$900 was raised. Friend Speak continues where international friends from 5 different nations are learning English through Luke's story of Jesus life. There are 12 teachers and 12 students.

SASKATCHEWAN

Western Christian College: The annual Northern Light Youth Rally was held March 7-9. The theme is "When God Throws a Party" with Grady King from Dallas, Texas, as guest speaker.

Note from Roy Davison: The book by "T.W. Brents "The Gospel Plan of Salvation" is now in the Old Paths Archive. <http://www.oldpaths.com/Archive/Brents/Thomas/Wesley/1823/gospelplan.html>. In this standard work, first published in 1874, brother Brents gives a thorough and scholarly treatment of God's plan for the salvation of man. It contains a powerful refutation of Calvinistic errors with regard to predestination, election, reprobation, foreknowledge and hereditary depravity. The establishment and identity of the church are treated. And matters relating to the new birth—such as faith, repentance, confession and baptism are discussed thoroughly. Brother Brents goes to the Scriptures to substantiate each point and to refute common errors. All preachers, Bible class teachers and Christians who want to have a clear understanding of the Word, would greatly benefit from reading this book. Although scholarly, it is written in a style that is easy to read.

—Roy Davidson.

Vacation Bible School

IT'S TIME TO PLAN

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What Is Your Life?

T Pierce Brown

Most of us who are familiar with the Bible would immediately answer from James 4:14, "It is even a vapor that appeareth for a little while and then vanisheth away." However, at this time I am thinking of another aspect of the question. We may view life as an unrelated series of separate acts, or we may view life as a whole. If we view life as unrelated separate acts, we may try to separate our political or business life from our religious life. We may think of "worship" as something we do only in a church building on Sunday (and for those who think in those terms, it will usually be only on Sunday morning, and sometimes only on special occasions) and the rest of life is "secular."

Those who thus think do not understand or appreciate what Jesus, James or Paul said about life. When Paul spoke of "presenting our bodies a living sacrifice" (Romans 12: 1) he was

not speaking of small, unrelated acts. He was talking about life as a whole. When we speak of a prayerful life, we do not mean that every individual act is an act of prayer. When we speak of a sacrificial life, we do not mean that every single act is thought of as a sacrifice. When we speak of a life of thankfulness, we do not mean that each separate act is designed to express our thanks for something. We simply mean what Paul meant when he said, "In everything give thanks" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). When we say that our life should be a worshipful life, we do mean to imply that every individual act is designed to pay homage to God (which is what we usually mean when we speak of worship to God). If we only understood the "essence" of worship or the "essence" of life, we would not try to separate our lives into little compartments, thinking, "This belongs to God. That belongs to me."

The failure to understand that properly may have led some to "fuss" about signs we see in some foyers, "Enter to worship; leave to serve." I have no real objection to such a sign, except that it may imply to some that all worship is done inside the auditorium (called "the sanctuary" by some), and all service is done outside. It would be as appropriate to have a sign saying, "Enter to serve; leave to worship" if we understood that some service to God and man may be done inside the building and some worship of God and service for God and man can, and should, be done outside of the building.

Of course our lives are a series of separate acts, but they are not "separate, unrelated acts." They should all be related to God as we do all for His glory (1 Corinthians 10:31). Of course not every little act is designed for the specific purpose of paying homage to

continued on page 15

Full Time Ministry Position

The **Tintern Church of Christ** is a congregation of 160+ with elders, deacons, well established ministries and a fulltime minister. Built on a rich heritage, the Tintern family consists of a blend of all ages (including 60 children). Tintern is located in the Niagara Peninsula, one hour from Toronto and Buffalo.

The Tintern Church of Christ is looking for a second minister who has good personal and relational skills to join the ministry team. In addition to having a passion for the scriptures, as well as preaching and teaching skills, the applicant will have positive experiences in some of children's, youth, family and senior's ministries. This person should have an evangelistic orientation, the ability to work co-operatively with the established ministry teams and the ability to turn ideas into action plans and programs.

For further information and to apply, please contact us at:

tinterncofc@gmail.com

Tintern Church of Christ

4539 Spring Creek Road

Vineland, ON Canada LOR 2C0

Attn: Search Committee

—initial electronic correspondence preferred

Gospel Herald Opportunity

The **Gospel Herald** is seeking a person with management and promotional ability, who would take over the operation of the book selling and management of the web site and online activities of the Gospel Herald and provide leadership for an expanding readership of the publication.

Duties would include:

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- Increasing the utilization of the book selling service
- Stimulating donated support for the Herald's ministries

Underlying these abilities, it is desirable that the manager have an intimate knowledge of the community we serve, a strong sense of mission with regard to supporting the life and work of churches of Christ in Canada, and a confidence that the combined services of the Gospel Herald do render a significant benefit to this community.

The concept of the placement of a "manager director" of the Gospel Herald services responds to the desire to expand and improve these services that is linked to a confidence that a growing brotherhood will be benefited by these services.

Interested individuals should contact: Max Craddock, 5 Lankin Blvd. Toronto, ON, M4J 4W7, 416-461-7406, maxc@strathmorecofc.ca

Questions People Ask

Bill Craddock

In Isaiah 9:6 we read, “For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And his name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” If Jesus was to be the Prince of Peace, why do we have so much trouble in the world? Did he fail to bring the peace he was supposed to bring? This statement, as all other scripture passages, must be studied in context. What was Isaiah referring to when he called Jesus “Prince of Peace?”

Peace is a beautiful word, and an even more beautiful concept. Before we can have peace, however, we must know what we are looking for. We usually think of peace as being the absence of conflict, sorrow, pain, trouble, etc. Peace is the absence of war. But this is a very narrow view of peace, especially the biblical concept of peace that is referred to in passages like the one quoted above. The biblical concept of peace is much broader than this simple definition.

The Hebrew word *shalom*, basically means “a general state of well-being, seen in the enjoyment of unimpaired relationships, all of which results in fulfillment in life.” Peacemakers, as referred to by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount, were not simply people who settled disputes or mediated conflicts. While doing these things is good and a wonderful thing for someone to do, the peacemakers Jesus is speaking about are those who make life better for those around him or her.

The greatest need for peace we find today, or in any age for that matter,

is the need for peace between man and God. Most people spend a lot of time looking for peace in the wrong places. It is important to realize that if mankind could come to a complete state of peace on earth among all men, and did not have peace with God, there would be no real peace that counts. To be at peace with all the people one ever comes in contact with on this earth, and yet still be the enemy of God is a complete failure in what really counts.

The peace man can have with God that comes through the Lord Jesus

If Jesus is the Prince of Peace, why is there so much trouble in the world?

Christ and the sacrifice he made for us on the cross. When Isaiah proclaimed the coming of the Messiah, and referred to Him as the Prince of Peace (9:6), the Jewish people believed He would come as a reigning king on earth and lead them to great victories over their enemies. He would help bring peace among the nations and in their personal world. To them, freedom from foreign oppression and from poverty was the ideal state of peace. While we would not take away from the value of a peaceful co-existence on this planet, this planet will not survive the coming of Jesus, but man will.

The New Testament says that Jesus came to be that Prince of Peace and to give victory and prosperity, but not in the militaristic or material sense. Rather, He came to give us victory over sin and death and to bestow on us

“every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 1:3). Because of our sins, we desperately need reconciliation to God; we need peace. Jesus accomplished that through His life on earth and His sacrifice for mankind. “And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.” (Colossians 1:18–20). The peace “of God” follows once we have peace “with God.” As Paul wrote, “For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation” (Romans 5:6-11).

No, Christ did not fail to bring the peace He was sent to bring. Man just misunderstands His mission and fails to take advantage of what He provided. Christ is the Prince of Peace between man and God.

Plantation, FL

What is Your Life... continued from page 14

God (as worship is normally defined), but every act should be thought of a pearl in a united string of pearls that are designed to adorn, instead of each act being a pearl in an unrelated, scattered bunch of pearls that fell on the floor accidentally. Or if this figure suits you better: “lively stones” (2 Peter 2:5) built into a spiritual house,

rather than a bunch of rocks, blasted out of a quarry and merely piled up on a shapeless heap somewhere. Is your life designed so that it gives glory to God and is holy (and wholly) acceptable to Him, or is broken into little segments, some of which you decide to give to him? What is your life? How do you view it?

Cookeville, TN

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OBITUARIES

McLean, Jessie (Brown)

A lifetime of 80 years of faithfulness to the Lord was celebrated on January 18, when Christians from all over Vancouver's lower mainland came together to mark, with the McLean family, the passing of Jessie (Brown) McLean on January 13, 2008, at the age of 91. Jessie was born on May 28, 1916, in Glasgow, Scotland, the second youngest of eight children. She was baptized at an early age in the Whiteinch church of Christ in Glasgow, where she was later married to Alex McLean. After raising two sons, "Little Alex" and Stephen, a heart attack claimed her husband in 1974 at the age of 58. She was also predeceased by her brother and 5 older sisters, the first-born

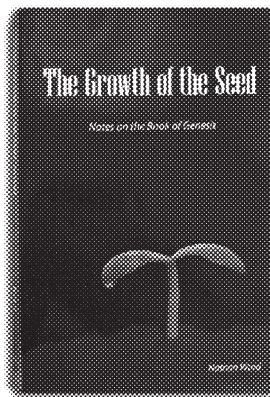
dying at the age of 6. A younger sister, Alice Simonsen, who had followed her to Canada with her husband and three children from Norway in 1958, survives. Jessie also leaves her sons, Alex (Judy) and Stephen, two grandchildren, a great-grandchild, three nieces and five nephews.

Allen Jacobs officiated at the memorial service at the Burnaby church of Christ. The eulogy, given by Kirk Ruch, brought out many interesting details of Jessie's life and the joy she gave to others. Congregational singing of four songs special to this beloved Scots-lady was led by Richard Wood.

Jessie had enlisted in the Women's Royal Naval Service as a WREN during WW2 when she met Alex, who was on the police force. They were married on September 3, 1943, in the midst of WW2. In spite of his usefulness as an officer, Alex was called to serve in Britain's Air Force. They were

expecting their first child, and little Alex was nine months old before his father was able to see him for the first time. When the war was over, "Big" Alex, as he was called, urged Jessie to go to Durbin, South Africa, where he had been posted for some time during the war, but she steadfastly refused because "it was too far from her family". However, as post-war recovery in Britain was difficult, she finally consented to come to Vancouver, and in 1957 they became the first new members of the small Burnaby congregation, which had recently been established by Roger and Margaret Jeal. Until two years ago, when poor health forced her to stay at home, Jessie rarely missed a service. She could be spotted by her hat, which she always wore as an honour to God, and was known for her friendliness and hospitality.

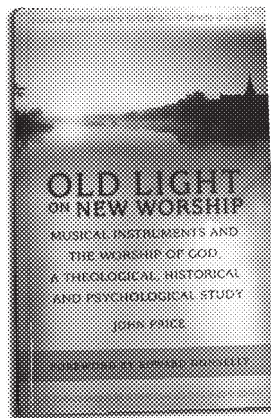
Jessie remained close to her Scottish



The Growth of the Seed, Notes on the Book of Genesis

by Nathan Ward; DeWard Publishing Company, Chillicothe, Ohio; 537 pages; paperback, \$21.99 (cdn) (Available from the Gospel Herald) This book emphasizes two primary themes of the book of Genesis: the development of the Messianic line and the growing enmity between the righteous and the wicked. With good detailed comments on the text and the bonus of a number of special essays that grow from comments on the text, it is a useful and readable addition to ones library.

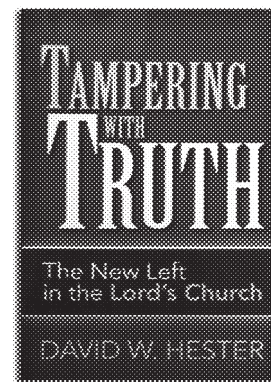
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Old Light on New Worship, Musical Instruments and the Worship of God

by John Price with a Foreword by Edward Donnelly; Simpson Publishing Company, Avinger, Texas; 256 pages; hardcover, \$17:50 (cdn) A theological, historical and psychological study of the place of musical instruments in the worship of God. Mr. Price is a Baptist preacher who did a careful study of instrumental music in worship. His work is a scholarly yet very readable study of the question.

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Tampering with Truth, The New Left in the Lord's Church

by David W. Hester; Publishing Designs, Inc., Huntsville, Alabama; 143 pages; paperback, \$11.00 (cdn) This book deals with some of the doctrinal issues being struggled with in churches of Christ which have brought division like that of one hundred years ago. In this book the author deals with some of the hermeneutical differences that have created a divided brotherhood over issues like: instrumental music in worship, contemporary Christian rock, feminism and the work of the Holy Spirit. This book will both inform and challenge the reader.

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family all of her life, making it a habit to write to her mother daily. One of her greatest joys was in having her three sisters from Scotland, and one who had settled in New York, visit her in Vancouver.

"You can take the Scot out of Scotland, but you can never take the Scotland out of the Scot," Kirk noted in his eulogy. "It was more than the beautiful speech and stirring music. Jessie lived more than half her life in Canada, but it was always easy to get a rise out of her: just say something negative about Scotland and she considered it her right and obligation to set you straight!"

—Submitted by Barbara Lewis

Moore, Leliah Rose

1912 – 2008

Leliah Rose Pysher was born to Eva and Herbert Pysher on the farm just across the road from this church building (which incidentally is build on what once was a part of that farm) ninety-six years ago. There was a half sister, Etta, from a previous marriage, and Leliah was the fourth daughter born to Eva and Herbert. Lyle, born ten years later completed the family. Etta, the oldest, was a good friend of my mother's and I grew up with Lyle, the youngest. We lived on adjoining farms.

At a quite young age, Leila married Gordon Moore and they settled on their farm, just a couple of miles away. She spent her whole time on this earth in this local community and never travelled far from it even for a short time except for one plane trip to California. With a clear mind and a good memory she has been a link to the past, often providing very interesting and helpful information.

She experienced the "Great Depression" when money was scarce and we found it necessary to try to live off of the land. She and Gordon, at that time, made their living and served the community by raising and butchering livestock and delivering the meat throughout the area.

She was a member of the WAVES (a women's support group for GLCC) and also a long time part of the Tintern Church of Christ. She attended church meetings regularly as long as she was able and since then has welcomed the weekly visits of those who served communion in her home. Those of us involved enjoyed these visits. Even though suffering with intense pain much of the time she has

been very alert and perceptive and quite ready to be humorous even when it hurt her to laugh.

Her parents and all of her siblings, Etta Donaldson, Bertie Lamothe, Addie Clark, Olive Crooks and Lyle have predeceased her as did her loving husband in 1990. Left to miss her, besides the church people here at Tintern are sons Carson (Judy) and Ellis (Eileen); grandchildren, Pam Paolini, Clay, Elwin and Chris along with six great grandchildren and three great great-grandchildren as well as numerous nieces and nephews and grand nieces and nephews.

Many will miss this special lady.

Steve May, who formerly served the church, officiated at the service in the Tintern church building, and was assisted by the writer.

—Submitted by Eugene C. Perry

Thompson, Herbert (Bert) France

Bert Thompson of St. Thomas, ON, passed away peacefully on March 10, 2008, at the St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital. He was in his 85th year and was the son of the late William and Beatrice (France) Thompson and brother of the late Clifford Thompson. He was the beloved husband of Muriel (Whitelaw) Thompson and dearly loved father of Marjorie Langeman and husband David of St. Thomas, ON, Judy Baker and husband Perry of Sharpsburg, Georgia, Bill Thompson and wife Linda of Wallacetown, ON, Brian Thompson and wife Faith of Kilsyth, ON, and daughter-in-law Joan and husband David Westlake of London, ON. Bert was the beloved brother-in-law of Warren Whitelaw and wife Mary Etta of Anna, Ohio. He was also dearly loved by his grandchildren David (Carol) Baker, Rob (Mallory) Baker, Mark (Mitzi) Baker, Beth (Daniel) Zamfir, Katie Langeman, Sandi Langeman, Laura (Tyler) Erickson, Erica Westlake, Martha Westlake, Eric (Sharon) Thompson, Melissa (Arjan) Manwani, Curtis Thompson and Kendra Thompson. Dear "Poppie" will be sadly missed by his eight great-grandchildren: Isabella, Davis, Lily, Emma, Anna, Gracie, Sydney and Ayva.

Bert was born in Toronto on May 25, 1923. He had various jobs in his early career in the Toronto and Richmond Hill area. He was employed at the Plant Cycle Shop in Toronto, and repaired bicycles at home in Elgin Mills. During this time he

was baptized into Christ in August 1944 at the building of the Fern Ave. Church of Christ and was active in young people's activities and camp work as well as occasional preaching.

On December 3, 1948 Bert married Muriel Josephine Whitelaw and was at that time working with the Ontario Hydro in Richmond Hill. Later in his career he was a cabinet maker (at Bovell's) and a boat builder (at Richardson's) both in Meaford, a Devry Institute of Electronics graduate and then a technician with Johnson Controls in Toronto.

He began preaching in 1959 and spent 25 years full-time and 7 years part-time in preaching for the churches of Christ in Strathmore Blvd. in Toronto, Kingston, Carman Manitoba, North Bay, Windsor, Fennell Ave. in Hamilton and also in the Gravenhurst-Bracebridge area. During his preaching career Bert and Muriel worked briefly for Sauble Springs Ranch as relief grand-parents for correctional children and Bert also worked for a short time for Greavette Boat Works in Gravenhurst.

His hobbies included gardening, electronics, painting (oils), restoration of boats, bird-watching, playing the drum, flute, fiddle and harmonica and reading historical novels plus Biblical studies.

Along with Bert's preaching skills he was noted for his tremendous sense of humour. He was faithful to God in his walk with Him and will be sadly missed. Although he has passed away his life and example will continue to guide and direct us in the days that lie ahead (Heb.11:4).

Officiating at the funeral was his dear friend and beloved brother in Christ, Ralph Perry, as well as his son Brian Thompson. The funeral was held in St. Thomas on March 13, 2008, with the internment taking place on March 14, 2008, at Lakeview Cemetery in Meaford, Ontario. If so desired donations to the Key to the Kingdom TV program and Great Lakes Bible College in honour of Bert would be appreciated.

—Submitted by Brian Thompson

Correction:

Last month we carried the obituary of Moore, Mabel Catharine. We failed to include her married name. It should have read: Ecker, Mabel Catharine (Moore). We apologize for this mistake in the listing. —mec

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

This listing includes most but not all of the churches of Christ in Canada along with a few in bordering states. Please help us to keep it useful by updating the information regularly. Listings are \$9.00 per year and changes are \$4.50 each. The information, unless otherwise specified, is in the following order: Place of meeting; times of Bible Class, Worship and mid-week gatherings; mailing address if different from meeting place; (Post Office is at the beginning unless otherwise indicated); preacher; phone.

The Gospel Herald Publication exists to serve the non-instrumental Churches of Christ. The church directory is included as a service to the congregations. It should be understood that inclusion of a congregation in the church directory does not necessarily imply complete endorsement, by the editors, of all practices of those listed.

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

CALGARY: (Northside): 803-20A Avenue N.E., T2E 1S1; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7; recorded message; 276-8088; Derek Chambers, ev..

CALGARY: 4030 Maryvale Dr. NE, T2A 2S8; Sunday 9:45 AM Classes for Children/Teens/Adults; 10:45 AM Assembly; 11:15 AM Youth Assembly; Care Groups - throughout the week; Phone (403) 272-2111; Email: info@calgarycofc.com

CAMROSE: 4901-42 St. T4V 1A2 Sunday morning Bible Study 10:15; Sunday morning services 10:45; Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm; 780-672-1220 (off) or Dennis Lindstrand (780)672-4978

EDMONTON NORTH: 13015 - 116 Avenue, T5M 3C9; Office (780) 455-1049; Fax 454-9545; Sun. 9:30am Bible classes; 10:30am Worship; Wed. 7:00pm Bible Study CARE Groups at the building and in various homes (phone for locations); Elders: Henri Bouchard, Walter Hreczuch; Evangelists: Garth Johnson, Nate Seecharan Web: edmontonchurchofchrist.org E-mail: church5@telus.net

EDMONTON SOUTH: Southwood Community Centre, 1880 - 37 St in Millwoods area; (Mailing address: 6320 - 12 Ave, Edmonton AB T6L 2G2). Sunday classes 10:00 AM; assembly 11:00 AM. Wed. 7:00; PM CARE groups in homes; phone for locations; Tim Johnson, ev. (780) 461-0323; Peter Ross, contact (780) 468-9272; E-mail: timoutwest2004@yahoo.ca

LETHBRIDGE: 2720 21st Ave. S., T1K 1H8; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7:00; Mike Gray, ev. (403) 328-0855.

MEDICINE HAT: Crescent Heights Church of Christ, 655 Stewart Dr. NW, T1A 7C2; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7; Jamie Lobert, ev. (403) 527-7346 or (403) 527-7311 (off)

RED DEER: 68 Donlevy Ave., T4R 2Y8; Sun. 10, 11, (evening - call for information); John Smith, ev. (403) 347-3986

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ABBOTSFORD (Central Valley): #5 - 2580 Cedar Park Place V2S 6B2; Sun. 10,11; Tues. 7:30 at address above, Norm Weir, ev. (604) 850-8670 (off); 859-5973 (res). If no answer 852-5052; email: normjen@shaw.ca; website: http://allann.dyndns.org/cvcc

BURNABY (Greater Vancouver): 7485 Salisbury Ave. V5E 3A5; Sunday 9:45 am, 6 pm, Sunday School 10:30, Midweek groups meet in homes. Call for times and locations; Kirk Ruch, ev. K.M.R@SBChurch.ca; Mike Parker, youth, FishFreaks@SBChurch.ca; Office, office.contact@SBChurch.ca (604) 522-7721 (off.); Website: www.SBChurch.ca

CAMPBELL RIVER: 226 Hilchey Road V9W 1P4 Contact: (250) 923-5233; (250) 923-6396; (250) 286-3780

CHILLIWACK: Senior Citizens Bldg. Br 24, corner of Cook and Victoria St.; PO Box 327; Sun. 10:30, 11; 7:00 p.m. at #102-8075 Mary Street at John Forman's house. Phone # 604-792-7806; Al McCutcheon, sec. 604-824-6703

CRESTON: Box 866, Creston, BC, V0B 1G0. Phone: 250-428-5937 or 250-428-4376.

CROFTON: 1288 Smith Rd. Box 45, V0R 1R0; Phone for time; (250) 246-3659.

DELTA: Delta Christian School, 53rd & Ladner Trunk Road, Ladner; 9:45, 10:45; Midweek: Call for times; PO Box 18623, RPO Ladner, Delta, BC V4K 4V7; (604) 943-0515 (off)

KELOWNA: 1317 Ethel St., Kelowna BC, V1Y 2X1; Building 250-861-9486, Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship, Evangelist: Barrie Forman, 250-860-4354 and cell: 250-469-2161, sonlover@shaw.ca, cell 212-0080; Elders: Wayne Muirhead, 250-861-4008, marwayn@hotmail.com; Ted Windmill, 250-763-8445, edward_windmill@telus.net

NANAIMO: 1720 Meredith Rd., Sun. 10:00, 11:00, Wed. meeting in homes 7:00 PM. Please phone for times and place. Wayne Peckett, (250) 758-6985, wjpeckett@shaw.ca

NORTH BEND: North Bend Community Hall; Sun. 10; SS 1, Boston Bar, BC V0K 1C0; 867-9420.

PRINCE GEORGE: 9465 Old Summit Lake Road, V2K 5S8, 250-962-6978

PRINCE RUPERT: 977 Prince Rupert Blvd.; PO Box 324, V8J 3P9; Sunday Bible classes 11:00 am, worship 10:00 am; Thurs. 7; Dick Brant, ev. (250) 624-4449 (off), 624-5834 (res)

SALMON ARM: 2460 Auto Rd. S.E.; Sunday 10:00; Call for times and locations of other meetings; (250) 832-3828 or (250) 804-2672; Box 51, V1E 4N2; Doug Kendig, John Murrey, Gordon Parmenter and Dave Myers, elders; Scott Roberts, ev.

SURREY (Greater Vancouver): 15042 92nd Ave., V3R 5V7; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Ron Beckett, ev., 604-594-1796.

VANCOUVER (City Church): Trout Lake Community Centre, 3350 Victoria Drive; Worship service 12:30 p.m.; (Mailing address: 6669 Granville Street, Vancouver, BC V6P 4X1) Stephen C. Hasbrouck, Sr., ev.; Ph: 604-263-3470

VANCOUVER (Oakridge): 6970 Oak St., V6P 3Z6; English services: Sun. 10, 11, 6 Spanish Bible study Friday 6:30; Milton Diaz, ev., 604-432-1749 (res.); website: www.churchofchristoakridge.com

VERNON: 4107 Pleasant Valley Rd, V1T 4M1; Sun. 10, 11; Murray Ververda, ev., (250) 545-5256 (res); 545-6892 (off).

VICTORIA (South Island Church of Christ): Mill: South Island Church of Christ, c/o 1600 Charlton Rd., V9E 2C8 Phone for place and time. K. Hannan, 250-474-6149 or D. Morton, 250-479-8480; e-mail SICOC@shaw.ca

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

BRANDON: 943 7th St., R7A 3V1; Sun. 10:30; Midweek; call for location (204) 728-0957; Charles Muller, sec. 726-4723.

CARMAN: Main Street S.; Sun. 10, 1:15; Wed. 7:30; Box 955, R0G 0J0; contact Ray Winkler (elder), 745-3226; Dale Eloff, ev. 745 6969 (office)

DAUPHIN: 220 Whitmore Ave. W; Mailing address: Box 70, Dauphin, R7N 2T9; Sun. worship 10:00; Sun. & Wed. nights call for details; (204) 638-6321 (off), Fax: 638-0872; Randy Foss, ev., email: wwyes@hotmail.com

MANSON: Bldg. in Manson Village; Sun. 10, 11; Box 2, ROM 1J0; Wilf Rogers (204) 722-2293 or Lloyd Jacobs, (204) 722-2278, elders; Ken Starnes, sec. (204) 722-2085.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE: Contact Gerald McCutcheon, 239-1817.

WINNIPEG (Central): 217 Osborne St. S., R3L 1Z4; Sun. 10 worship, 11:15 Bible School, Wed. 7; Office: (204) 475-6462 Fax: (413) 677-6165 web site: http://www.winnipegchurch.ca; Jim Hobbs, sec. for elders (204) 261- 9861; Wayne Turner, ev. (204) 257-7926 (res); wayne@winnipegchurch.ca Chad Celaire, youth min. (204) 284-6280 chad@winnipegchurch.ca

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

MONCTON: 365 Pine Glen Rd., Riverview (Moncton), E1B 4J8; Sun. 10, Wed. 7:30 p.m.; (506) 866-1458; Royal Maillet (506) 532-2956; other contact: Kenny Woodman (506) 382-9409

SAINT JOHN: Meeting in the home of FRED NELSON, 5 Devonayer Court, Rothesay E2E 6E2; Sunday meetings flexible; Phone (506) 847-2802.

NEW YORK STATE

BUFFALO (Linwood): 2523 Main St., 14214; Sun. 9:30, 10:45, 6; Training Class 5; Wed. 7; John Smiley, ev. (716) 832-7171.

NIAGARA FALLS: 359 14th St., Niagara Falls, NY, 14303; Off (716)285-6534, Home (716) 297-6563; Sunday Bible study 10 am, worship 11 am, evening 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm. Minister Eddie J. Cornelius; e-mail: niainfallscoc@aol.com

SARDINIA: Rt. 39, (1 mile west of Rt. 16), Sun. 10 & 11, Wed. 7 PM, mailing address: PO Box 186, Sardinia, NY, 14134, Glen Mueller, ev., (716)-496-5143, Cell (716)-560-6304, gemsar@adelphia.net

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

HALIFAX: 48 Conroy Ave., B3N 2P8; Sun. 10, 11; Midweek, check for day and place; ev. (902) 443-9628 (off), Wayne Taylor, sec. (902) 876-7402; Kevin Cleary (ev) 902-446-581

KENTVILLE: 177 Middle Dyke Rd. exit 12 off Hwy 101, Sun. 11, 10; Wed. 6; Box 26, B4N 3V9; Elders: Kevin Irvine, Jack Bearden; (902) 678-8881 or Ray Fisher, ev; (902) 582-3457; email: rcfisherofmen@yahoo.com

SHUBENACADIE: Mill Village Church, 3613 Indian Rd.; Sun. 10:15, 11; Wed. 6:30; R.R. 1, BON 2H0; (902) 758-4252 D. Hallett (902) 758-2133; J. Mackey, (902) 758-2633; 902-758-4252 bldg, email:sdbohner@explornet.com

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

AJAX (Serving Durham Region): Ajax Community Centre, 75 Centennial Rd., Ajax, ON, (mailing address: 290 Harwood Ave. S., PO Box 21018, Ajax, ON, L1S 2J1); Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 7; call for mid-week information; Marlon Molina, ev., marlonm@strathmorecofc.ca; Malcolm Porter, 905-668-3346 (res).

AURORA: 15216 Yonge St. S.; (entrance beside Benjamin Moore Paints); Sun. 9:30, 11:00, Wed. 7:30; P.O. Box 71523, L4G 1L9; Contact: Scott & Linda Harvey, (905) 473-5631 or leave message; e-mail: aurorachurchofchrist@hotmail.com or Clare Preston, (905) 841-2272

BARRIE: 345 Grove St. E. (at Cook), L4M 2R6; Sun. 10, 11, 6:30; Wed. 7:00; (705) 722-7155 (off.); Shawn Redding, ev. (705) 792-5024 Home; (705) 718-6876 Cell. sdradding89@rogers.com

BEAMSVILLE: 4900 John St., L0R 1B6; Sunday 9:30 am Bible classes and Discussion Groups, 10:30 worship, 6:00 pm Contemporary worship, Wednesday 7:00, praise and celebration; Don Smith, ev. 905-563-7655 (off); e-mail: beamsvillechurchofchrist@bellnet.ca website: www.beamsvillechurchofchrist.ca

BRAMALEA: 750 Clark Blvd., (south of Hwy. 7 on Finchgate Boulevard), L6T 3Y2; (905) 792-2297; bramaleacocf@bellnet.ca. Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Thurs. 7:30; Kevin Hunter, ev (905) 455-5796 (res); Walter Straker, ev (905) 789-1632 (res); www.bramaleacocf.ca.

BRANTFORD: 267 North Park St., N3R 4L2; Sun. 10, 11, last Sunday of month 6:30; Wed. 7; contact Ray Knight (519) 754-0401; Roy Cox, 519-449-3239 office (519) 759-6630

BRANTFORD: (Costain/Johnson Community Centre) 16 Morrell St., N3T 4J2; Sun. 10 & 11., Wed. 7; call for information on various other mid-week classes; 519-758-5673 (75-U-LORD); Rick Gamble (min.); 519-753-5353 (res.); www.followers.ca or e-mail followers@bfree.on.ca

BURKS FALLS: 51B, Ontario Street, Sun: 9:15 am to 12:00 includes 2 children Classes, Tues 6:30; Mailing Address: Church of Christ, c/o Eunice Johnston, 205 East Avenue; RR# 1, Burks Falls, Ontario POA 1C0; 705-783-6476 (off); Evangelist: Hubert Lawrence 705-382-1414; e-mail: hubertlawrence@xplornet.com; web site: www.churchesofchrist.ca.

CAMBRIDGE: Meeting at Youth Unlimited across from 45 Brierdale Rd. Sun. 10:30, call for midweek small groups. evs. Greg Whitfield (226) 338-6720, Paul Moore (519) 635-7837; www.cambridgecofc.ca Mailing address: 315-150 Christopher Dr., Cambridge, ON N1R 4S4

COLLINGWOOD: 494 Tenth St.; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7; (705) 444-0010 (office); Randy Morrirt, ev (h) 705-445-0924.

CORNWALL: 1702 Dover Road, Cornwall, ON K6J; Sun. 10,11; Wednesday 7:00; call ahead for worship times in case of any changes; Allen Bojarski, ev. Phone (613) 933-1825; Fax (613) 933-2464; Emails: abojarski@cogeco.ca or churchofchrist@cogeco.ca; Jeremy Bojarski, youth minister. Phone (613) 933-8445; Joel Bojarski, treasurer; Mark Duperron, chairman, Phone: (613) 932-3701; website: http://home.cogeco.ca/~abojarski/index.html

FENWICK: 765 Welland Ave.; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6:30; Wed. 7:30; P.O. Box 416, L0S 1C0; (905) 892-5661; email <DonHipwell@AOL.com>

GRIMSBY: 63 Casablanca Blvd., south of Q.E. exit; Sun. Worship 9:45, Bible classes 11 am Sun evening 5, Wed. 7 pm; Box 181, L3M 4G3; (905) 945-3058 (off); George Mansfield, ev (h) 289-235-9411 website: www.grimsbycofc.org; other contact (905) 954-8668

HAMILTON: 321 East 27th Street (at Fennell) L8V 3G8 (Mt. Hamilton) Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7:00 p.m. (905) 385-5775 (off); Art Ford, ev., (905) 296-1560 (h), artf@hurchofchristhamilton.com; Chris Gardner, sec., (905) 388-9174; www.churchofchristhamilton.com

HAMILTON (North): YMCA building, 79 James St. S.; Sun. 9:30, 10:30; Wed. 7; Joe Sandasse, (905) 389-0714, 286 East 26th Street, Hamilton ON L8V 3E1

HUNTSVILLE: Huntsville Public Library, 7 Minerva St. E., Sun. 10:00, c/o Dave Preston, (705) 789-7697, 491 Fowlers Rd., R.R.#5, Huntsville, Ont., P1H 2N5. Other contacts: Ken Smith, (705) 789-8292, Steve Watson, (705) 788-2332.

Key to the Kingdom Day, May 4, 2008

Congregations and individuals across Canada are invited to join in a **DAY OF SUPPORT** for this Canada-wide programme through • **prayer** • **advertising** of the programme in your community • **special contributions** to help with the financial requirements for television time, phone costs for response to the invitation to take the Bible course, purchase and mailing of the World Bible School materials.



For information concerning the programme contact
Strathmore Blvd. Church of Christ, 346 Strathmore Blvd.,
Toronto, ON M4C 1N3
phone: 416-461-7406 • e-mail maxc@strathmorecofc.ca

Key to the Kingdom Financial Report

Balance forward January 2006		(\$3,199.25)
2007 Donations: received (individuals)		\$42,503.32
non-receipted (congregations)		\$49,843.08
Total Donations		\$92,346.40
Balance before expenses		\$95,545.65
Expenses for 2007:		
Advertising & office	\$8,951.76	
Postage	\$1,060.61	
Phone & services	\$2,491.82	
World Bible School	\$570.77	
Production	\$929.09	
Television time	\$80,412.36	
Travel	\$2,925.92	
Total expense	\$97,342.33	
Regular balance/Deficit 2007		(\$1,796.68)
Equipment balance		(\$28,467.55)
Total deficit as of 31 December, 2007		(\$30,264.23)

The support of individuals during 2007 increased by \$2,876.00, but congregational contributions were down by \$8,256.00. Therefore, we ended the year with a deficit (\$1,796.68) in the regular fund, plus the deficit for the purchase of the production equipment that is still outstanding. Thus, our total deficit was (\$30,264.23). **We have recently received a "pre Key Day" donation from an Ontario congregation of \$24,990.00 to be applied to the equipment deficit, bringing that figure down to \$3,477.55**

Join us in remembering the work of *Key*

to the Kingdom in Canada on May 4, 2008, the first Sunday of May. Please remember this work in your prayers and, if possible, with a special collection to help with this outreach effort. With your help we hope to meet the expenses for 2007 and perhaps clear the deficit as well.

If you have any questions concerning the Key work, please contact us. May God bless your every effort in sharing the gospel in your community.

In Christ,
The Strathmore eldership

Remember Someone Special

You may honour a friend or family member by making a contribution or you may want to make a memorial gift in memory of a special person. In either case, we will send an appropriate letter to the honoured person or to a family member acknowledging your thoughtfulness. You are welcome to use the convenient form below to let us know your wishes.

HONORARY AND/OR MEMORIAL GIFT(S)

\$ _____ In Memory of: _____

Given by: _____ In Honour of: _____

PO Box or Street: _____ For: _____

City _____ Notify: _____

Province _____ Postal Code: _____ PO Box or Street: _____

City _____

Province _____ Postal Code _____

Send your Tax Deductible Contribution to:

Key To The Kingdom, Strathmore Blvd Church of Christ, 346 Strathmore Blvd., Toronto, ON, M4C 1N3
(Please make cheques payable to: Strathmore Church of Christ with Key To The Kingdom on the memo line)