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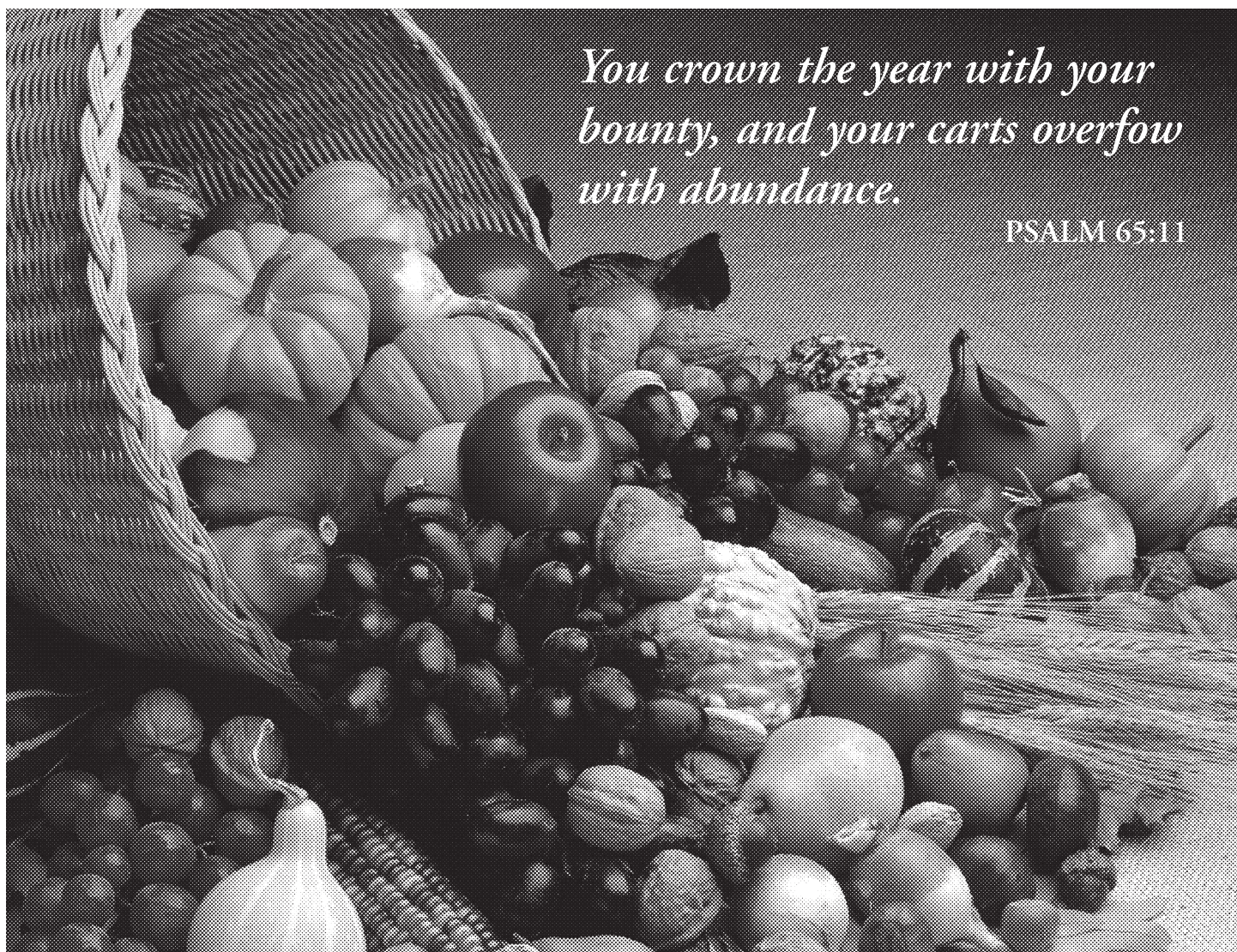
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The Significance of Christian Baptism

Randy Todd

“Do you believe that baptism saves you?” This past summer I had a conversation with a man who was searching for answers. His son had been attending a Church of Christ and he was concerned about what we teach, practice and believe. So he asked me, “Do you believe that baptism saves you?”

What I believe really does not matter. I am only a messenger. What does the Bible say? I asked him to read 1 Peter 3:21. The next day as we talked I was amazed at how readily he dismissed this text by saying, “Well, that’s just your interpretation of that passage.”

My interpretation? I hadn’t interpreted anything. All I had done was to ask him to read the Scripture. Here’s what it says. “This water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,…” (New International Version)

Well, let’s go with this concern. Perhaps that’s just the interpretation of the New International Version. Surely other translations have it differently. Let’s see. Let’s compare.

“Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,…” (New American Standard)

“Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,…” (English Standard Version)

“There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,…” (New King James Version)

“And that water is like

baptism that now saves you—not the washing of dirt from the body, but the promise made to God from a good conscience. And this is because Jesus Christ was raised from the dead.” (New Century Version)

“Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the pledge of a good conscience toward God) through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.” (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

“And that water is a picture of baptism, which now saves you, not by removing dirt from your body, but as a response to God from a clean conscience. It is effective because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.” (New Living Translation)

“Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,…” (Revised Standard Version)

This is not my interpretation. It is the consensus of every reputable English translation out there. Frankly, on the basis of 1 Peter 3:21 the question is not, “Does baptism save you?” The question is: “How does baptism save you?” Carefully read the text of 1 Peter 3:17-22. The only question here is whether it is an appeal to God or a pledge (promise or response) to God. For all practical purposes it is both. In baptism we call upon God to save us and we pledge ourselves to God to follow his Son.

Regardless of this particular detail, the point remains that the Bible

plainly states that baptism saves us by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Baptism is connected to the crucifixion and the resurrection of Jesus. This very same text takes away any notion of there being something magical or mystical about the water. It is not at all about the washing of the dirt from our bodies. It is only because of and through the resurrection of Christ that baptism saves.

Great American Jackalope

Several years ago my wife and I made a trip out west to Montana and Wyoming. Everywhere we went there was propaganda and advertising for the Great American Jackalope: Postcards, bumper stickers, playing cards, glossy brochures, you name it. There were even a few Great American Jackalope heads mounted on the wall in restaurants. Now if you have never seen a Great American Jackalope, they look suspiciously like ordinary rabbits with miniature antlers glued to the top of their heads.

Douglas, Wyoming, has declared itself to be the Jackalope capital of America because, according to legend, the first jackalope was spotted there around 1829. A large statue of a jackalope stands in the town center, and every year the town plays host to Jackalope Day, usually held in June. Jackalope hunting licenses can be obtained from the Douglas Chamber of Commerce, though hunting of jackalopes is restricted to the hours of midnight to 2 a.m. on June 31. The fact of the matter is, there is no such creature. It is merely the figment of someone’s imagination.

In the very same way, you can search the Bible high and low and you will discover that there is no such a creature as an unbaptized Christian. In the New Testament, if someone believed that Jesus is the Christ of God and wanted to follow Jesus, this person was immediately baptized.

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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.

Heart of the Matter

For fifteen centuries this was the teaching and practice of the church. Everyone who desired to follow Jesus received baptism. Everyone who was called a Christian had been baptized in the name of Jesus. If we had continued to follow this New Testament teaching and example, then we would never ever have even asked the question, "Does baptism save you?" At least, it would merely be an academic question without any real significance or emotional punch. It was not until the 16th century, and the Swiss reformer Ulrich Zwingli, that the significance of baptism came to be seriously questioned or challenged. He said, "In this matter of baptism—if I may be pardoned for saying it—I can only conclude that all the doctors [teachers] have been in error from the time of the apostles." For fifteen centuries the church had consistently been taught by its leaders, its teachers and preachers, that God's Word instructs believers to be baptized into Christ for the forgiveness of sins. Zwingli boldly asserted that all teachers who came before him were wrong about baptism.

Zwingli concluded that baptism has nothing to do with our salvation experience. He viewed baptism as a work. Martin Luther responded by affirming the long held understanding of baptism, saying, "Baptism is not our work. Baptism is God's work."

This is in full agreement with the Word of God in Colossians 2:9-13. "All of God lives in Christ fully (even when Christ was on earth). And in him you have a full and true life. He is ruler over all rulers and powers. In Christ you had a different kind of circumcision. That circumcision was not done by hands. I mean, you were made free from the power of your sinful self. That is the kind of circumcision Christ does. When you were baptized, you were buried with Christ and you were raised up with Christ because of your faith in God's

power. That power was shown when he raised Christ from death. You were spiritually dead because of your sins and because you were not free from the power of your sinful self. But God made you alive with Christ. And God forgave all our sins" (New Century Version).

Buried With Christ

Carefully read Romans 6:1-14. We were joined or united with Christ's death when we were baptized. We were buried with him. Because this

is the moment when we died with Christ, this is the moment at which we begin a new life. I believe that this is what Jesus meant when he said to Nicodemus: "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again... I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit" (John 3:3, 5 NIV).

We are born again after we are united with Christ's death in baptism. We are born again through his

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GREAT LAKES CHRISTIAN COLLEGE IS SEEKING A DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

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Post-Denominationism?

Wayne Turner



No matter which candidate wins the 2008 election for President of the United States, a new page of history will have been written. Barring any unfortunate event beforehand, the country will have either its first black president or its first female vice-president. It will be interesting to see which perceived barrier is overcome first: race or gender.

An election with such significance naturally leads to a careful scrutiny of the candidates by the media. Their experience and educational backgrounds as well as their views on political, economic, social and international issues will be examined and critiqued. And, their family and personal lives, whether relevant or not, will be publicly exposed. Very different from Canadian politics, the candidates' religious involvement will be deemed important matters for consideration. (For example, because of public comments made by his minister, Barack Obama has already distanced himself from him.)

On the surface, the four candidates represent a fairly typical religious cross-section of America. The Democratic candidate for president, Obama, has been a member of the United Church of Christ (a theologically liberal denomination that came out of Congregationalism) for over two decades. Joe Biden, his running-mate, is Roman Catholic. John McCain, the Republican candidate, comes from an Episcopal background. (Most recently, he has been attending a Southern Baptist church.) His running-mate, Sarah Palin, is usually listed as Assembly of God, the largest Pentecostal denomination in the world. However, her present religious affiliation, while fitting under the general label of Evangelical, is a subject of discussion.

John Allen Jr., in the *National Catholic Reporter*, writes that Palin does not consider herself a Pentecostal. In Juneau, Alaska, she attends Church on the Rock, an independent church. Allen notes, "The initial confusion surrounding Palin's denominational identity, therefore, has a simple explanation: She doesn't have one." He goes on to note that she appears to be part of that rapidly expanding galaxy of "post-denominational" Christianity.

Post-denominational? We are familiar with terms like denominational, interdenominational, nondenominational and undenominational. Post-denominational is new. It refers to a growing number of people who are not interested in wearing or promoting denominational labels. Allen describes it as, "where old denominational loyalties are essentially dead." He cites a 2007 survey by LifeWay that showed "fully one-third American Protestants were contemplating attending a different church in the future

and only one in four said it would be important that their future church belong to the same denomination." Allen adds that the *World Christian Encyclopedia* "estimates that roughly 20 percent of the world's 2.2 billion Christians are part of what it calls independent Christianity." Typically, these folks eschew any label other than "Christian" for their religious identity. Palin's reference to herself as a "generic Christian" typifies this.

Many people are disillusioned by the division of denominationalism, with its emphasis on dogma, ritual, tradition, institutions and very evident flaws (apathy, moral sins in the clergy, money scandals, etc.). Yet, attempts at unity through interdenominational ecumenism have resulted in doctrinal compromise and lack substance. Post-denominationalists want to be Christ-centred and Biblical. It is a movement to get back to first things.

Saying that some things should have greater priority is not saying that other things are not important. In 1 Corinthians 15, Paul says the gospel is of first importance. Earlier, he speaks of the centrality and power of the cross. It is the cross that created and purchased the church. Without the cross, Christianity cannot exist. Postdenominationalists object that denominations preach themselves, not Christ. Paul said, "What we preach is not ourselves, but Christ Jesus as Lord."

Generally, post-denominationalism has not quite fully arrived at the concept of restoring New Testament Christianity, but it is certainly a step in the right direction. One danger it faces is in downplaying the concept of church in its reaction to denominations. But, it is a good start when people abandon nonbiblical names, organizations and divisions to simply become Christians following the Bible. It is our hope and prayer that they will come to a fuller understanding of scripture and of restoring the New Testament church.

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If I Die in Sin

This article assumes that we are going to die. However, we often live each day as though we do not. Some would like to know the date of their death so they could be sure to be ready. Since we know we will die, our concern in this article is how we die. Not whether we die a violent, slow or sudden death but rather, ones relationship with God at death. This is not a new concern.

Joshua took over for Moses and led the people of Israel into the Promised Land. Coming to the end of his days, he says to them, "Now fear the Lord and serve Him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped beyond the river and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the river, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:14, 15). Joshua speaks of his decision to live for God! His question to Israel is just as valid today. Let us say it this way, "What happens if I die in sin?" Consider some implications of such a death.

First of all, if I die in sin it will mean I have rejected the invitation of Heaven. God created us and He put us on an earth that will provide for our needs. He has kept the laws of nature in effect so that we can have the things that we need in this life to sustain life. However, He has offered us something that is far superior to this world—eternity in heaven with Him. Jesus made the promise that He was going to prepare an eternal home for those who walk with Him.

(John 14:1-3).

Who is invited to heaven? In Jesus' own words, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28). Jesus extends this invitation to everyone regardless of country or race. It is God's desire that all be saved. (2 Peter 3:9)

He will not force acceptance on us, He will not make us take it but He gives the invitation to all. Anyone who dies in sin has refused Heaven's invitation to receive pardon. A very sad choice!

Secondly, if I die in sin, it will mean that I did not put proper value on the most valuable possession I have. Now think about that for a minute. How would you answer today if I were to ask you, "What is the most valuable possession you have?" Some might answer, my house, my car, my stock portfolio or, being a little more thoughtful, my husband/wife (especially if he/she was close enough to hear the answer), or, my family.

In Matthew 16:26 Jesus says, "What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?" Our most valuable possession is the soul. The most valuable possession I have is my soul. It is of supreme value, over and above anything else that this world has to offer.

Sadly, many make time for the physical man but very little or none for the part of man that is eternal. Unfortunately it is easy to allow that

which is physical, which we see every-day, to get in the way. Many are like Demas, a friend and fellow brother of Paul. "For Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica..." (2 Timothy 2:4). What a sad thing! Demas was a co-worker of Paul, one who had been very much a part of the work that Paul was doing in evangelism. He was spending time with Paul and was a blessing to Paul because of their relationship with each other. What sadness must have been in his heart as Paul wrote to Timothy, telling him that "Demas has left me." What makes this so tragic is the reason why Demas left him... "because he loved this present world."

Most of those who have been Christians for some years have sad memories of an individual(s) who has started on the path of service to God, only to turn back because of love for the sinful things of this world.

Thirdly, if I die in sin it will mean that I have not known the real value of the joy of godliness. Paul writes, "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that" (1 Timothy 6:6). Paul had come to understand the value of being godly. He had come to understand that in this world, if we have just what we need, that's sufficient. That godliness is really what is important rather than wealth which can destroy. In the same chapter, Paul goes ahead to warn about the love of abundance. "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs" (1 Timothy 6:10).

Money itself is neutral. The problem is that it often brings one to see through earthly eyes, blinding them to the beauty of godliness. They have not tasted and seen that a true relationship with the Lord should be MORE highly valued. They have not understood that when all is said

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“Thank You Jesus”

“Are we going to say, thank you Jesus?” Sunshine asked as she sat at our table waiting for us to sit down for supper. Sunshine, our 7 year old precocious neighbour, had happened to stop by at supper time and asked if she could stay and eat with us. We had invited her to stay, but she didn’t like what we were having so BonnieLee had fixed her some “square spaghettis” (canned ravioli) while I finished cooking our supper. Sunshine was patiently waiting for us to sit down at the table so we could join hands and say, “thank you Jesus for our food.” She loved the family atmosphere and doing things together with us and knew that it was good to say thank you; she always gave us a smile after the prayer but would especially beam when we would thank God for bringing Sunshine into our lives.

Sunshine’s name suits her quite well; seldom do we ever see her without a smile and a happy disposition. When we have been away she is on our porch usually before we get the door unlocked to welcome us home with her beautiful smile. I sometimes wonder why she smiles like that because it would seem to me that she has little to smile about. To say her family life is difficult would be an understatement; her father lives in another community and has had little to do with her. Her mother had her quite young and has struggled with alcohol, pills and more problems than I could name. Her grandparents, at one time, a great support for her have recently broken up and Sunshine has been left adrift with no one to care for her. I am left to wonder where Sunshine’s smile comes from and why she would want to say, “thank you Jesus?”

Perhaps you have had a difficult time recently, with the price of gas continuing to climb and student loans piling

up. You worked hard all summer but by the time you paid for your tuition and books you didn’t have enough left to pay your rent. Just how long can a person live on Kraft Dinner anyway?

You may be hurting because of a broken relationship, to which you had given so much of yourself only to be rejected and time is not the great healer that you hoped that it would be. You may be one of the many who have lost their jobs in our shrinking economy, you loved that job and had budgeted based on that income and now it looks like you could lose everything.

It may be that you mourn because of the loss of someone close to you and just cannot see the hurt get any better. Blinded by your pain you find it difficult to say “thank you Jesus.”

“Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV).

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God” (Philippians 4:4 NIV).

How can we give thanks in all circumstances? Are we actually to be thankful for the trials and difficulties we face. While there is good that can come from our trials and difficulties (see James 1) I don’t think that is the entire answer.

When we pray to God bringing him our requests and petition, Paul teaches that we should do it with thanksgiving. When we begin those prayers by thanking God we will remind ourselves of how much we have and how many blessings still remain in our lives. Without that kind of thankfulness we, in our pain and loss, will focus on the pain and loss and forget the blessings that remain. For example if we are hurting as the result of relationship

breakup it is only too easy to focus so much on what we have lost that we can forget the friends and family we have who love and care for us. When we face financial difficulties we can so focus on what we cannot afford and what we have lost that we forget the blessings that remain, we can forget that life is more than possessions. When we lose a loved one to death, the pain at times can be overwhelming, it is important to thank God for the years that we had with our loved one who has made such an impact on our lives.

We do a lot of grumbling and complaining today. We grumble about the continual increase in the price of gas and how it has made everything we purchase more expensive. We grumble about the weather, we grumble about our houses and we grumble about our clothes, we say we have nothing to wear when it would require the Jaws of Life to get one more thing into our closets. We grumble about our political leaders and our boss at work. We grumble about our family and complain about our friends. It would seem that nothing at all suits us!

In truth we have more than almost any other generation in any other land. Contentment, the ability to rejoice and give thanks in all circumstances, is not based on having it all. It seems to me that those who have it all their way seldom rejoice or give thanks.

Giving thanks isn’t just for good times or bad times, it is for all times. We begin by simply thanking God for what we have. Do not thank God in broad generalities be specific, you will be amazed by the long list of blessings that you thank God for. Thank God for the people in your life and be specific, name those who mean so much to you and thank God specifically for the encouragement, love and acts of kindness they have provided. It is important to remember to thank God in difficult times as well, do not allow your prayers to be only prayers of request but also of thanksgiving. The thankfulness will help you to have a healthier perspective in times of loss.

This year at Thanksgiving I am saying thank you to Jesus for bringing a little Sunshine into my life.

THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE

John - The Gospel of Belief

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We look forward to seeing you in November!



Is Jehovah an Angry God?

Bill Craddock

While driving recently, I was listening to a programme on the radio that caught my attention. The programme host was interviewing the author of a book, and it seemed that the main theme of his book was his view of God. He spoke of how he viewed God when he was a child. His parents had taught him that God was an angry God that had to be appeased through obeying the commandments He had given to the human race. What a terrible misunderstanding of Jehovah God. Because of this view, the man no longer wanted to serve God and wrote the book explaining his actions.

Jehovah God, by nature, is not angry! The view of an angry god is the view the pagan has of his idol god. Idol gods are always considered angry and the worshiper is doing everything he can to make the god happy so it will not bring its wrath down upon the man. Worshipers of idols worship that which they do not understand. They did not understand thunder and lightning and they were afraid, so they worshiped the god of thunder and lightning and offered sacrifices to that god to keep it from harming them. Trying to appease an angry god is the object of idol worship.

Scripture teaches that Jehovah God is LOVE!

“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the

world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loves us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins” (1 John 4:7-10).

Verse 10 is a very key verse in understanding the true nature of God. The word “propitiation” is very meaningful. Propitiation was a word used when speaking of the pagan’s relationship with his idol. Because pagans considered their gods to always be angry, they were doing everything possible to please their gods. They offered sacrifices, even living sacrifices, to appease these idols. They offered all these sacrifices trying to make their god happy. They viewed their god as being angry and if it could not be satisfied it would hurt them. All this was done in ignorance.

Propitiation means “price paid.” Notice in verse 10 it says that the

Son of God is the propitiation for our sins. A price had to be paid for the sins of mankind. Man did not have the price to return to God that would be equal to or exceed the forgiveness of God. The price of sin was too expensive for man to ever pay. So, who paid this price? Who made the “propitiation” for the sins of man? Jehovah God Himself paid that price. He paid the price to Himself for us. Now, if Jehovah God were an angry God, who had to be appeased by people doing things for Him, why would He do a thing like that? Jehovah God is not angry with mankind and wants to see them suffer. Just the opposite. Even in our sinful mess, God looks at man and loves him. God does not love man’s sins, but God loves man’s soul. God loves us and wants us to be saved.

Can God be angry? Certainly!

There are many examples of this throughout the Bible. He can be a God of wrath, but that is not his nature. A good parent is not an angry parent, but if the children become overly disobedient the anger of that good parent will be aroused and many times a price has to be paid by the disobedient child. But that is not the nature of a good parent. God becomes angry because of man’s disobedience. After all God has done for mankind, if man does not respond favorably he will feel God’s wrath. The Hebrew writer says that it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. But if that happens, it will be man’s fault, not God’s.

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resurrection. I believe that this is why the Apostle Paul will elsewhere say: "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20 NIV).

A Game of Monopoly®

I completely understand how difficult it is to read the Scriptures with fresh eyes and to hear what it actually says, instead of hearing what we have always been taught and believed. When I was a kid my family played a lot of games together, including Monopoly®. For all of my life we had played this game strictly according to the rules—or so I thought. When I went to college I played Monopoly® with my new friends. Then one day one of my friends attempted to purchase some houses for his property... and it wasn't his turn!

For my entire life I had always been told that the official rules makes this very clear: You cannot buy houses or hotels unless it is your turn. All of my friends resisted my explanation. So I pulled out the rules and read them aloud and then said, "There. See. The rules say it has to be your turn in order to buy houses or hotels." If you want to have a little fun at my expense, just read the rules. There is absolutely nothing in the rules that says anything about whose turn it is when you buy houses or hotels.

My friends challenged me to read the rules again. When it finally dawned on me that there was nothing in these rules about what I had so confidently asserted was there. I was shocked. I was

incredulous. I responded, "I can't believe that they have changed the rules!" I was so convinced that this rule was there, that I had a very difficult time accepting the reality that it had never ever been there. I was a true believer, a purist, and I had been led astray!

I laugh about that moment now. But it taught me to be more cautious in how I read and what I hear. This is especially true of the Holy Scriptures. The Bible has not changed, yet the teaching about baptism changed radically in the sixteenth century. We need to go back to the official rule book, if you will, back to the Bible, and see what it says. Nothing else really matters.

John's Baptism

In Matthew 21 Jesus is pressured by the chief priests and elders to tell them by what authority he is doing everything that he did, including cleansing the temple of the animals and money changers. He responded by asking them the same question

about John the Baptist: "John's baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or from men?" They discussed it among themselves and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, 'Then why didn't you believe him?'"

This really is at the heart of the question today. Jesus' baptism, is it from heaven or from men? Did Jesus stand on the mountain and say, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:18-20 NIV)?

If you believe that this really happened, then the matter is settled for you. If you believe that Christ's baptism is from heaven, from God, then you obey Christ and receive his baptism. If for no other reason, we should accept Christ's baptism because he commanded it.

Grove City, OH

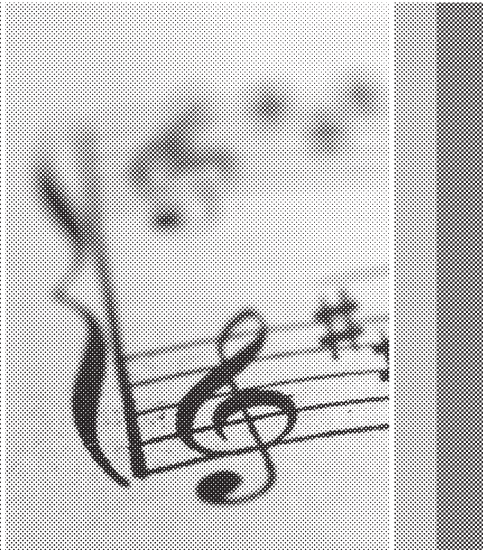
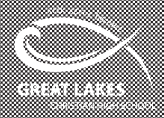
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Reminder: To be published in the following month's Gospel Herald, each congregation's information should be sent to Walter Straker by the 10th of the month preceding the date of issue, which is the first of each month. Please clearly mark the email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

ONTARIO

Beamsville: Jeff Whitfield was featured in an article in the St. Catharines Standard this week as a medal winner in the recent Canada Transplant Games. Dick and June Forsyth are now residents of Deer Park Villa in Grimsby.

Bramalea: Kingsley Adu, elder and preacher for one of the largest congregations in Ghana, spoke for the congregation on August 24. This was followed by the Ghana brethren's regular monthly pot luck. The congregation gathered school supplies that were distributed to some of

our young people returning to school. Ryan Currie, son of Bill and Lynn, was baptized into Christ by Mark Knutson on August 23 at Camp Omagh.

Bramford: Ralph Perry was the Sunday a.m. speaker on August 10. Items for the Food Bank and for a clothing giveaway are welcome.

Fennell Avenue: The congregation enjoyed a time of singing and fellowship at the home of Tracey Heuston on August 17. On August 24 the congregation began a 3-week video presentation relating to salvation, with Bill Bunting as the presenter. Week one was: "What God has done." Cassandra Woodhouse was baptized on Sunday, August 31. Louise Smart, mother of Beth Hibbard, passed away on August 20, just two weeks from her 96th birthday.

Fenwick: Ralph Perry has been appointed as an elder. Door knocking is being done in the village inviting children to "Kids for Christ." 24 attended the first session in September. The church also had a booth at the Niagara Regional Exhibition.

Kenora: August 9 and 10 saw an incredible weekend in Kenora. Saturday August 9 was the Kenora Church of Christ's 1st Annual Community Appreciation Day. About 30 brethren came from Winnipeg to help with the work. On Saturday, at our Church building on 101 Norman Drive, we had a free car wash and BBQ with face painting and an amusement ride for the kids. It was well received. From there 22 of us went to Pinecrest Home for the Aged and put on an acapella concert of traditional hymns. Both residents and staff of the home were very complimentary about the selection of old favourites and the acapella feature. Sunday was even better. The brethren from Winnipeg led the worship. Gary King presented a spirited Bible class on the "Attitude of Christ" (Phil 2). During worship, Chad Celaire led our singing, Wes Johnson gave a heart touching talk around the Lord's Supper and Paul Birston shared a well-prepared and thought-out sermon on "An Attitude of Gratitude". Worship was followed by feasting at our regular "stay for lunch Sunday". During lunch something wonderful came to light—two people requested to be baptized. So most of the people there went back to the Rattai home where Noreen Glasgow and Stephen Jacobs put on their Lord in baptism in Longbow Lake. Fellowship followed and sadly the weekend had to come to a close. We look forward to bigger and better things for the 2nd Annual Kenora Church of Christ Community Appreciation Day

in August 2009 (Lord-willing, of course). Earle Rattai

Owen Sound: Rejoice with us as two ladies were baptized into Christ: Amanda Smith on August 25, and Krista Halper on August 31.

Stratford: Barb Howard was Stratford's first baptism of the year. Chieh and Shawn LeBlanc will go over a 6-week course with Barb, designed to introduce her to the church and what she needs to know as a Christian. Also in July 1000 pamphlets were distributed in rural routes (phase 1) and another 500+ will be distributed in the vicinity of the meeting place (phase 2). Phase 3 will consist of a door knocking campaign. The congregation asks for prayers that they might plant a seed and more souls will be saved. Scott Mansfield was guest speaker on July 13.

Toronto (Bayview): The congregation will greatly miss a brother in Christ, Abe Nockie (92), who passed away and was a faithful member and encourager since 1953. The congregation held a Fall Spiritual Renewal Weekend on October 4 and 5. Michael Mazzalongo presented lessons from I Thessalonians on the topic: "Preparing for the Second Coming."

Toronto (Scarborough): The congregation extends a warm welcome to its newest brother, Jason Katso, who was baptized into Christ on Sunday, August 24.

Toronto (Strathmore Blvd): Alicia Martinez was recently baptized into Christ. The annual lectureship planned by the young adults was held October 3-4. The theme was "Alas for that Day!" - Joel 1:15, A Wake-up Call. Drew Chapados, evangelist in Windsor, ON, was the speaker. Key filming was done in Stratford and Waterloo, ON, on September 20. The ladies sewing club is back at work preparing clothing and other items to be sent to various mission points.

Waterloo: Great Lakes Bible College is now offering courses on-line. On August 17 the congregation enjoyed a backyard worship at the home of the Dales. Jackie Wall led a group of ladies on a camping trip from August 23-August 25 at Port Burwell on Lake Erie. Seventy three men attended the 29th Annual Ontario Men's Retreat from September 5-6 at Camp Omagh.

Windsor: Bill Reid was baptized into Christ on August 22. The congregation recently began a new Wednesday evening series entitled: "Restoring My Soul!" The ladies' meeting was held on September 30 at the home of Carol St. John. They continue to study the book, "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World."

MINISTER WANTED

Established congregation looking for someone with the gifts of teaching and leadership to work alongside us as we strive to do God's work in the city of **London, Ontario**. We are located in a growing city of 375,000 people and are excited about the challenge God has placed before us! Support available. If you are interested please send covering letter and resume stating experience and education to:

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(BC news supplied by Barbara Lewis)

ALBERTA

Camrose: The 2nd annual VBS was held in July. The theme was God is Love. The Waterview teens were here once again to help. The VBS was a success with the community children coming out and having fun, and their parents and friends coming the last night to hear their children sing the songs they learned and provide a drama. There are several new contacts that were made. During the evenings, elder Robert Taylor of Waterview presented an interesting and informative series of lessons called "Keeping the Fire Alive"

Edmonton North: There have been two baptisms over the summer. Both were youth within the congregation. Bodie Damo was baptized at the Rocky Mountain Wilderness Camp in July and Denis Latifi was baptized in August. The college/young adult group organized several fun activities over the summer. As of September, Brian Salter was hired part time as the evangelist in charge of working with the college/young adult group. This will include developing evangelistic studies on the different campuses in Edmonton, and leading the Yamyas and the singles in that age group. Nate will be leading a series of lessons on leadership training and development for the men. The care groups are starting up once more throughout the city of Edmonton and surrounding areas. Ken Wilson will be speaking over an October weekend on families.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Abbotsford (Central Valley): Rudy and Yvonne de la Rambelje have emigrated from Holland to be with us permanently. We also welcomed Steve and Shirley Clarkson who have moved to Chilliwack from North Bend, B.C.

Burnaby: The Shelbourne St. church in Victoria is organizing another con-

tainer of supplies to be sent to Zambia in October. Several of our young ladies are organizing contributions from our congregation for this shipment. Needed are health kits containing soap, deodorant, washcloths, toothbrushes/toothpaste, large-toothed combs, other personal hygiene items that come in non-liquid form, used clothing and towels in good condition.

City Church (Vancouver): During the months of July and August, we met in the Chapman's home due to a new summer policy at the Community Centre which raised the cost of renting for those two months. This fall, we face new challenges, as we will have to compete with another church for rental times and rates. Steven Hasbrouck, Jr. presented a series of sermons titled "On Loving God." Steven taught an intensive Old Testament History course to several Taiwanese students during the summer, meeting with the group four hours twice a week. Non-Christians were invited to give their lives to Christ, and those who were believers asked to put aside their denominational thinking and come into the church of Christ. He also continued to teach English to middle school students in Vancouver's Kerrisdale area. Campus ministry was on break, but Steven had Bible classes with a Chinese man, and stayed in touch with his campus contacts through email or personal visits. The Saturday evening Bible Class resumed in September. The

"Colloquimur" blog completed its dialogue series "On the Unknown God". Topics included "Who is God?", "God Exists", "The Scriptures", "On Science", and "Creation or Evolution?" These slide-shows were designed to be helpful for those who do not have any background in Christianity.

Delta: Our mid-week Care Groups started their fall schedule this month. A study of the book of Colossians was begun by Jim Hawkins for the North Delta group. The South Delta participants continued their study of the book of Acts under the direction of Larry Hoff, and those in New Westminster their study of "The Purpose-Driven Life", led by Peter Gardner. The Oakridge celebration was entitled "Upon This Rock". Isn't that a great title for a 50th anniversary party? We were reminded of the digging of the foundation on which the new church would be built. It was literally built on solid rock... so solid that it presented quite a problem to remove enough of it to get the space for Bible school classrooms in the basement. An interesting decree was established between God and His people at Mount Sinai: "Sanctify the fiftieth year; make it a Holy Year... Proclaim freedom all over the land to everyone who lives in it—a jubilee for you: each person will go back to his family's property and reunite with his extended family." (Lev 25—"The Message") On August 10, that's what

continued on page 14



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Myanmar (Cambodia): (Ed. note: Bobby Morse returned from another trip to Burma and was able to get into the delta area. Here is a condensed version of his report.) "Upon our arrival in Binzalu, we went up a tributary stream until a footbridge stopped us. Getting off the boat was a slight challenge. While I crawled through the collapsing bridge's railings and pulled onto the bridge, the villagers put up a plank for Joana, who was helped across it by men standing in knee-deep mud. Binzalu is one of our four project sites, a tract of land having 18 or so villages. Some are Karen Christian villages but many are non-believing Karen and Burmese villages. This tract is part of our 3,800-acre paddy ploughing and rice-planting project. Binzalu consists of several hundred houses and is projected to grow into the new commercial center of the south, as the government has some definite designs for the town.

The next morning, our group hired the same boat and traveled over to the Myit Pauk village tract. We stopped and visited the Christian village of Myit Pauk and were served lunch by the preacher's family. Our lunch there was once again fish, prawns, crabs and some very dark meat that almost looked like pork. We learned it was dog meat. What made me shake in my boots here, though, were all the stories I had heard about the living conditions and hygiene habits of this village. Our team had just installed a water purifier provided by IDES. The villagers were especially happy for this new palatable drinking water, yet we wondered how much it would prevent water-borne illnesses until they were taught about good hygiene. The rest of the day, we traveled to several villages where we distributed men's and women's sarongs (a wrap around cloth). We also gave them rice seeds and inspected the fields being ploughed by our team.

Our boat ride finally took us to

the confluence of the "River of No Return", and we arrived in Hlwaza, which is situated on the riverbank. As I concluded my survey trip of the Delta region in this county, I was convinced that we would accomplish and surpass our goal of ploughing and sowing 3,800 acres of paddy fields by the end of August... I was amazed to see the resolve, determination and spirit of hope in the people of the delta region. Men and women were trying to rebuild their lost and destroyed communities, although they had nothing left. They need everything it takes to rebuild their lives: rice, water, shelter, clothing, medicines and education for the children who survived. They further need knowledge of clean hygiene, food and how to mill their grain after harvest. Those who are fishermen need boats and fishing nets for different types of fishing. The smallest and cheapest are for crab fishing, then prawns and fish, canoe type boats operated by two persons with a large net, as well as mechanized boats with multiple nets which come in different sizes and costs."

Indonesia: "It seems that God opens more doors of opportunity for service than we can pass through, but by His grace, we are trying," wrote Dr. John Bailey in his third quarter report of the work being done by "BandS", the organization he

serves as president. "BandS sponsored 95 cataract surgeries at the St Lukas Hospital on the island of Nias "where we had gone to document and encourage the work... We also visited one of the feeding stations that is changing the lives of malnourished children. It seems that this program will close after the end of this year because of the lack of interested donors, since we are about \$25,000 under our budget for the project just for 2008. We are hoping the local government will take over this programme in January 2009. We were able to visit some of the burn victims that we have sponsored for corrective surgery over the past few months, and have offered to fund eight more cases in addition to eye surgeries in the village of Hilisamatano."

Philippines: "We have made several visits to Mindanao to visit the orphans we have there. Both the boys' and girls' dorms were damaged in recent storms and both are overcrowded. We are making repairs and adding rooms to each. Our experience in helping orphans in the Philippines has been so positive that we are planning to build a new orphanage within the next few months as soon as funds can be raised. Our representative in the Philippines, Dr Samuel Carriaga, has conducted numerous clinics over the past few months. He works

well with the small congregations and has them partner with him in each of these missions by providing both living quarters and food for the volunteers. Hundreds have been treated and we hear that it has strengthened churches in each location. His brother, Salvador Carriaga, is in charge of the 'Give a Goat' programme'.

China: "We were faced with numerous road blocks on our trip to, from and in China. We can attribute some of the problems to the tight security due to the Olympics in Beijing, but most of the problems were things we did not anticipate nor could we avoid. The hospital we had first contracted reneged on the contract. Ron Brown, president of Agape China, managed to get another facility after three days. This hospital presented problems each day and we found it impossible to do the number of surgeries scheduled. It was heartbreaking to see mothers on their knees begging us to operate on their children. We treated 57 under these difficult circumstances,

Full Time Ministry Position

The **Thessalon, ON, Church of Christ** is currently looking for a full time minister/evangelist. The Thessalon congregation has just celebrated its centennial and currently has about 100 individuals attending. It is a small town (pop. approx. 1500) located about one hour east of Sault Ste Marie, ON, on the shores of Lake Huron.

We are looking for a dynamic individual with a strong scriptural-based faith and devoted to the Lord who will not only preach and teach but also conduct Bible studies and outreach initiatives. The individual needs to have ability to work harmoniously with the existing membership and have a strong work ethic to independently develop and exploit new opportunities to build up the existing congregation as well as to spread the Lord's word in and around the Thessalon area. The candidate must enjoy working and encouraging people of all ages and backgrounds.

We offer a competitive salary, benefits, vacation and housing as part of the compensation package as well as a great area to enjoy the beauty and bounty of God's creation.

Please submit a resume to: Hiring Committee
c/o Eric White
RR#2
Thessalon, ON P0R 1L0

sending 8 patients to a nearby hospital and paid for their surgeries. We are also funding 45 surgeries that will take place in another city in China and completed by Chinese surgeons, monitored by one of Agape China's workers. By the end of the year we will have treated 100 cleft palate children." HOW YOU CAN HELP: Send your aid to :P. O. Box 1926, Colleyville, TX 76034, USA c/o 2008 Body and Soul Ministries. WWW.BANDSMINISTRIES.ORG

Japan (Sapporo): "When missionaries first came to Japan, they were confined to a two-square mile area of Tokyo, as were other foreigners at the time. Their first classes were with the police who were sent out by the government to keep an eye on the "foreign devils." When I went to apply for approval for a space to park the car, (in Japan you must have a place to park your car within 500 meters of your home before you can acquire one) I mentioned to the young officer helping me that I would be glad to teach some English to the folks at the police department as a volunteer, not for pay. When I returned home, I received a phone call asking me to come back because

of a mistake on the papers I had submitted. Evidently some discussion had taken place within the hour I was away and I was asked to meet with another officer about the possibility of an English class. I told him I would be happy to write a textbook specifically for the needs of police officers. As there has been quite an influx of foreigners in Sapporo, I think they would like to at least learn some phrases to be able to talk with them when something happens. Our hope is that this will lead to personal friendships that will develop into home Bible studies."—Steve Hasbrouck, Sr.

Ukraine (Donetsk): "The first week of August we spent preparing for school to start. Jay Don had interviews with eight new students and I sorted Bible school material that had been sent by the church in Vancouver, WA., along with many boxes of clothes and toys. We also had numerous boxes of clothes from the Fairmont Park Church of Christ in Midland, TX. that were sorted to give to those in need. The second term I am to co-teach with Arusik on 'teaching children'. I plan to have the ladies choose a Bible character or theme

and teach our ladies class as if we were the children in their classroom. They will be able to use the visuals that were sent from Vancouver for their classes. This probably seems foreign to you, but these ladies have never taught children's Bible classes and want to learn how. Remember, the church in Ukraine is only 14-15 years old. After the class is finished, these visuals will be delivered to various congregations in our area." – Report from Mary Lee Rogers

BC – First Nations Mission Trip: "Norm and Jen Weir have not been able to go up to the First Nations villages of Tsay Key and Fort Ware since last fall, and have been concerned, as are the people up there who have been calling to find out why. They were recently able to borrow a small motor home in which to make the trip in mid-October. Two needs are uppermost on their prayer list: that winter weather will not set in early and that the price of gas will go down. Help for either or both would be appreciated. Cheques may be made out to the Central Valley church of Christ, #4 Elmwood Drive, Abbotsford, BC V2S 6B2."



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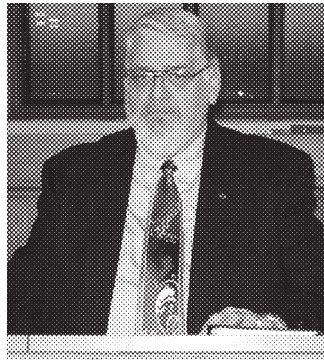
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we did! Oakridge celebrated its Jubilee year and we were there to celebrate with them. Historically, part of Delta's church foundation was laid by members of Oakridge who planned and planted our congregation here in Delta. So, just as God instructed the children of Israel to celebrate each 50th year as they looked forward to entering the promised land, it was the right thing to do to return to where we came from and join in the celebration with our brothers and sisters in Christ in the place where we had our beginning.

Oakridge: The congregation received numerous congratulatory comments and praise for making the 50th Anniversary Birthday Party an outstanding occasion. Former members traveled from the States and other Provinces to renew old acquaintances and enjoy the hospitality that the Oakridge church is becoming known for.

Rupert Soundings: We have sent out our fourth mailing of House to House. Though there has been no response as yet, people are being reminded that we are here, interested and concerned for them. As we continue to work in Rupert Soundings, we are helping the brethren in Terrace by preaching and teaching on Sundays and other means of encouragement. The young couple establishing a congregation in New Aiyanch have moved and we are planning to follow up with their work as well. A sister who had fallen away and moved to Prince George has been restored and two other brothers were restored with her help. Now her husband is studying the scriptures. Brothers within the congregation

are learning to and are taking part in the services. Two sisters—one with four children and the other with three and another on the way are sharing a two bedroom apartment and we are helping them with as many basics as we can.

Salmon Arm: Ray and Laurie Fisher have moved from Nova Scotia to assume the responsibilities of ministering to the needs of this congregation, and the people of Salmon Arm. They are ready and willing to be in the public eye, visiting at the hospital, not only with church members, but with any who would like to talk with them or be remembered in prayer.

The church had a booth at Salmon Arm's fall fair the last weekend of August to give people the opportunity to get to know who we are, where we meet and be assured that they would find a warm welcome at our services. We also encouraged individual Bible studies, either in person or by correspondence. The church has made a contract to clean the grounds and take care of the washrooms in our rental facility on weekends. Those participating in these chores are wearing aprons reading "Jesus washed feet: the Salmon Arm church of Christ—I can serve too." We have mailed out a brochure called "Heart to Heart... Home to Home". The front page discusses different situations in our culture, also giving our location and hours of worship. On the back is information pointing out what our congregation is doing. Inside are generic articles applying to any congregation of the church, with e-mail addresses for Bible correspondence courses, tapes, etc. The pamphlet will come out periodically through the year to get into homes and make the church better known in Salmon Arm.

MANITOBA

Winnipeg: Wednesday evening classes studied the book of Hosea. Leftover and extra Bible School materials are regularly sent to a congregation in Trinidad who are very grateful for the materials. The annual youth rally is being planned for the third weekend in September.

SASKATCHEWAN

Weyburn: The annual VBS was held in July. Many participated in the annual Clearview Christian Camps over the summer.

and done, it's going to be relationship with God, not the world, which matters.

Such people should remember the warning given through Haggai, "You have planted much, but have harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it" (Haggai 1:6).

While living a life in honour of God may sometimes be difficult, Paul reminds us, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength" (Philippians 4:13). The great thing is that you and I can as well, because God will give us His strength to overcome the sinful world. Trials will come but the rewards for accepting the grace of God through obedience to the gospel and walking daily in the light of His will is worth whatever the cost turns out to be. In commenting about the struggles faced in living a godly life, Peter says, "These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen Him, you love Him; and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls" (1 Peter 1:7-9).

Through faith let us recognize that relationship with God is more precious than gold. Do you know why? Because the relationship we have with gold does not last, whereas, the relationship we have with God is forever. If we believe this, we will not reject heaven's invitation, we will rightly identify our soul as our most precious possession and will value relationship with God more highly than any of the things Satan tries to trick us into valuing.

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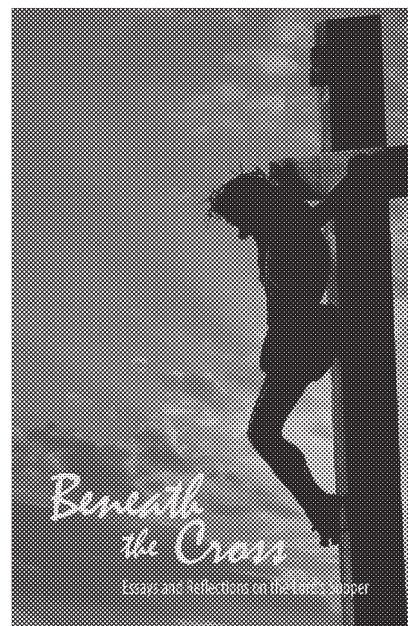
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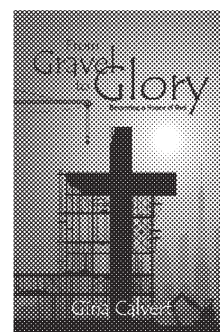
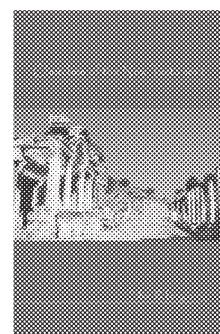
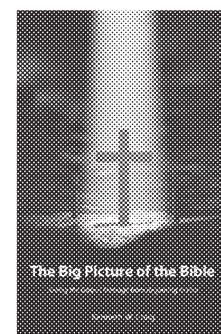
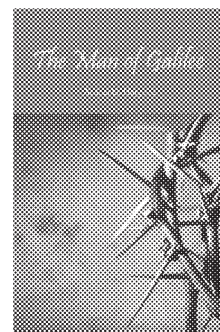
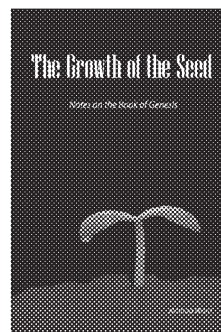
Churches of the New Testament, Ethan R. Longhenry

A study that investigates every local congregation concerning which the Bible provides information, considering the geography and history of each city and an analysis of the church based upon what is revealed in the New Testament.

From Gravel to Glory, Gina Calvert

Drawing on her studies of the tabernacle and temple, Calvert digs deeply into her own difficult spiritual journey to demonstrate how every experience we have is related to being a house of God. With surprising candor, Calvert takes us from our origins as "a pile of rocks and a promise" to a glorious temple.

Our books are available from a variety of retailers, including the **Gospel Herald Bookstore**. If you would like to order directly from DeWard Publishing Company, visit our website or call **Dan DeGarmo** at 800.300.9778.



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BOOK REVIEWS

Books to be reviewed in this column should be sent to
Keith Thompson, Editor, 348 Dixon Blvd., Newmarket, ON L3Y 5C4
(Books may be ordered from the *Gospel Herald*)
email: bookreviews@gospelherald.org



Beneath the Cross – Essays and Reflections on the Lord’s Supper,

Edited by Jady S. Copeland and Nathan Ward, DeWard Publishing Company, Ltd., Chillicothe, OH.

329 pages, Hardcover: \$27.99 Cdn, Paper: \$16.99 Cdn

The goal of this book, as stated in the Editors’ Preface, is: “You hold in your hands a book devoted to the Lord’s Supper and to the sacrifice of Christ it commemorates. This is not a book of Lord’s Supper talks, though it contains articles appropriate for using at the Lord’s Table. This is not a book of scholarly essays, though it contains essays of excellent scholarship. This is not a book of devotionals, though it contains meditations suitable for deep, personal reflection. This is a

book of all these things, written and compiled with the hope of bringing focus to the memorial feast so important to Christians.”

In this reviewer’s opinion, the editors of this book have accomplished their purpose very well. The book is divided into four parts that direct the readers focus to the Lord’s death and the Lord’s Supper from various standpoints. Part one is entitled, *Approaching the Lord’s Table*. Part two is, *Seeing Jesus through the Bible*. Part three, *Meditating on the Cross* and Part Four, *Singing with Understanding*.

Each of these chapters is filled with thought provoking articles that will inspire and encourage our thoughtful participation around the table. Part

four, which I really enjoyed reading, developed thoughts around some of the hymns often used in connection with the Lord’s Supper. When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, Beneath the Cross of Jesus, Tis Midnight, and on Olive’s Brow, O Sacred Head, By Christ Redeemed, in Christ Restored and The Old Rugged Cross are some of the well known hymns discussed. These essays will help give a greater appreciation for these wonderful hymns.

Some thought provoking quotes from the book

include: “As we partake in the Lord’s Supper, it must not be a casual snack in the middle of our assemblies. It must be a memorial. Let us remember what God has done for us. Let us remember forgiveness. Let us remember deliverance. Let us proclaim our faith to our children and others through our remembrance. Do this in remembrance of Jesus.” (Page 31)

“Christians are given a memorial to “do this in remembrance of me” (Luke 22:19). Sometimes I fear that this memorial is done in the memory of having a memorial – in other words, ‘We still do this today as the disciples did in the first century.’ But did the disciples break bread to remember they had a memorial? Or did they break bread to remember Christ and proclaim His death until He comes?” (Page 40)

“One hymn that encourages such reflection both feelingly and fittingly is “When I Survey” by Isaac Watts. Its power, in my opinion, results in part from its restraint. The hymn directs our gaze to the cross and its burden, to the crucified body and the spreading blood of the Prince of glory. The focus, however, is on the meaning, not on the horror, of the cross; because that meaning involves the sinners for whom Christ suffered, the gaze aimed at the cross becomes a probing look at oneself. The hymn asks us to remember, to reflect, and to react. Indeed, the hymn devotes more words to expressing a response than to painting the picture of suffering that prompts the response.” (page 246)

These are just a few random quotes from the book, *Beneath the Cross*, to give the flavour of its contents. The book contains articles and essays written by forty-one different writers. It is an excellent book and worthy of a place in your library. Order yours from the Gospel Herald Bookstore, toll free at 1-866-722-2264 or on the web at www.gospelherald.org.

Reviewed by Max Craddock

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

Search Committee
Tintern Church of Christ
4539 Spring Creek Road
Vineland, ON Canada L0R 2C0

OBITUARIES

Bien, Clarence Allan

September 28, 1916 –

August 25, 2008

It is with great sadness that the family of Clarence Bien announces his passing. Clarence passed away peacefully in hospital at the age of 91 years. He was predeceased by his wife, Pansy; his parents, William and Carolina Bien; a sister Leona; and brothers, Herbert, Robert and Roy.

Clarence will be lovingly remembered by his four children: Evelee (Paul) Wenaas of Moose Jaw, SK, Daryll (Diane) of Calgary, AB, Shirley (Les) Pederson of Calgary, AB, and Allen (Marilyn) of Regina, SK; ten grandchildren, sixteen great-grandchildren, as well as many nieces, nephews and friends.

Clarence and Pansy were married in 1940, and enjoyed 64 years of life together. He was a devoted and loving husband and father. Clarence was a devout Christian, and was very involved in Church work over the years.

His favourite pastimes included singing with a barbershop group, gardening, and in later years, playing horseshoes and shuffleboard at the senior's centre.

Funeral Services were held at W.J. Jones & Son Funeral Chapel on Thursday, August 28, 2008, at 1:30 p.m., with Eric Nyrose officiating.

Memorial donations to Western Christian College will be appreciated. In living memory of Clarence, a tree will be planted in Besant Park by W.J. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

Information provided by
Lew Young, Funeral Director

Hansen, Carol Anne (Baker)

Carol was born in Toronto, ON, on December 23, 1944, the daughter of Tom and Ethel Baker. She passed away on April 9, 2008, in Toronto after a long struggle with cancer. She is mourned by her husband, Fred, and her siblings, Stan (Leona) Baker, Betty Powell, Dorothy McKie, Jean Hastings and Bill (Dianne) Baker. She was predeceased by a brother Ken (Ella). She is also mourned by many extended family and friends.

Carol grew up on the Manitoulin Island. An event that touched her life was the fact that she went to Great Lakes Christian College in 1960, planning to finish high school there. However, financial and family matters prevented her from going back after the Christmas break. (A yearly scholarship in her memory has been established at Great Lakes, and is now available for a student who is in similar circumstances.)

She returned to Toronto to work as a mother's helper and to attend Business College, studying typing, shorthand and general Business Management. She excelled in school and became proficient in sales promotion and office management. She worked many years running one man offices, which gave her great experience in business management. She bought her first house at age 23 and started her own Bed and Breakfast venture in 1986.

She and Fred Hansen, whom she married on May 1, 1971, were blessed with one month short of 37 years of marriage. As a team they bought, fixed up and sold property and well as running a Bed and Breakfast business until they sold the house and retired from the B&B business in 1998.

Carol was an enthusiastic, kind, gentle, loving and positive person who willingly helped those who touched her life. She knew her Bible and always asked the Lord for guidance, which carried her through any difficulties she faced. She would ask, "What would Jesus do in this case?" when faced with important decisions in life.

In writing about Carol, Fred said, "We were a terrific team. My heart

is broken; I mourn her passing and will love her forever." He signed it, "Her team member and loving husband." May God bless and comfort all who mourn her passing and give them peace and strength for the road ahead. A memorial service in Carol's memory was conducted by the writer and her husband on April 15, 2008.

Max Craddock (from material supplied by Fred Hansen)

Oleniuk, Oliver William

Oliver William Oleniuk of Seneca Falls, NY, died at the age of seventy-four on Friday morning, August 22, 2008, at the House of John in Clifton Springs, NY, of cancer.

Ollie was born in Ottawa, ON, June 24, 1934, second son of the late Alexander and Olive Yeates Oleniuk. He leaves his devoted wife of forty-nine years, Norma Wallace. Daughters, Cheryl (Brian) VanMierlo of Brockville, ON, Patricia (Christian) Riegle of Victor, NY, sons Michael (Carol) of DeRuyter, NY, and Peter of Seneca Falls, NY. He also leaves ten grandchildren, a sister Elaine (Bruce) Robinson of Smithville, ON, brothers Donald (Norma) of Sarnia, ON, David (Diane) of St. Catharines, ON, Ronald (Judy) of Fonthill, ON, and sister-in-law Eva of Jordan, ON. He was predeceased by a brother, George.

Ollie became a Christian as a young man and was baptized by George Snure in Beamsville, ON. He worked for the C.N.R. in London, ON in the early years of his marriage and he and Norma helped to establish the new congregation in London, working with Ralph and Joyce Perry with meetings in the Oleniuk and Perry homes. He was employed by the Red Star Trucking firm in Syracuse, NY, for thirty-two years as a Freight Rate Technician, retiring in 2004.

Funeral services were held August 25 in Seneca Falls with eulogies written by son Peter and a poem dedicated to her grandfather by Melissa, delivered by son-in-law Brian and his brother David. Officiating were elders from the Syracuse congregation, Roy Terry, Bill Perkins and Glenn Olbright.

Information provided by
Elaine Robinson

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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. 780-913-8060; 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 Hilcey 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.

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): Please call for times and locations. (204) 475-6462; Fax: (413) 677-6165; Mail: 170 St. Mary's Road, Winnipeg, MB R2H 1H9; website: www.winnipegchurch.ca; Jim Hobbs, sec. for elders (204) 261-9861; Wayne Turner, ev. (204) 257-7926 (res); wayne@winnipegchurch.ca; Chad Cleaire, youth min. (204) 284-6280 (res) 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 Maillat (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: niafallscofc@aol.com

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

HALIFAX: 48 Convoey 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) 902-446-5818

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, B0N 2H0; (902) 758-4252 D. Hallett (902) 758-2133; J. Mackey, (902) 758-2633; 902-758-4252 bldg, email:sdboehner@xplornet.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. sdrredding89@rogers.com

BEAMSVILLE: 4900 John St., LOR 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; bramaleaocfc@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.bramaleaocfc.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 First Avenue; RR# 1, Burks Falls, Ontario P0A 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 Whitified (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@cocego.ca or churchofchrist@cocego.ca; Jeremy Bojarski, youth minister. Phone (613) 933-8445; Joel Bojarski, treasurer; Mark Duperron, chairman, Phone: (613) 932-3701; website: http://home.cocego.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) 945-8668

HAILEYBURY: Meeting at 607 Christian Avenue, usually Sundays at 4pm - but call to confirm place and time. Week day Bible studies by appointment, Mike & Judy Tinney 705-672-9241 or e-mail: can@parolink.net

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), art@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 Sandassie, (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.

HUNTSVILLE: 36 Hilltop Dr., P1H 1C5 (off Hwy. 118N); Sun. 9:45, 11, 7; Ken Skinner 705-382-2283 or Evelyn Preston, sec. 705-767-3237.

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Have you ever passed a homeless person and thought, *“I’d really like to help that person, but if I give them money, I’m afraid they will use it in some unhealthy way.”*

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Find out how – go to www.homelesspartners.com and use the search term “homeless partners” on youtube for a 2 minute video.

Please pray about it and talk to someone in your group – maybe someone who is already involved in helping the homeless.

Go to the website and send a message for more information.

A Gift of Hope for the Homeless

Jesus is our gift of hope and He wants us to pass that gift on to others. Whenever we communicate this message of hope to others, we are “doing” God’s love. Sometimes it’s hard to know how to help the homeless. If you give them cash they may use it for purposes that further compound their existing problems.

In this day of world food shortages and pending environmental disasters, there IS something we can do. Our contribution may not be large, but collectively, if we all do our part, we can make a difference and we can influence others to do the same. And our part is simple: take less for ourselves and share more. Eat less, drive less, buy less, use less. And give more to others who have none. Live more simply so others can simply live. Share what we have, including our time.

Each homeless person in our community has reasons for his or her

plight. We cannot be certain that if we were, ourselves, in their shoes, with the same disadvantages, the same spirit-crushing experiences, that our own decision-making would not also be impaired enough to land us in their situation. At any rate, as Christians, we are called to help those who have obviously reached the point that they can’t help themselves. There’s a saying that expresses the reality about the homeless: “Nobody in their right mind WANTS to live out in the cold and rain.”

Homelesspartners.com is a way to extend the love and hope that Jesus wants us to share with others. As one of the recipients said, “The most encouraging thing is knowing that people care. I find it really encouraging that total strangers could care so much about someone they don’t even know.”

The homelesspartners project costs

nothing but your time. With it, you can give the gift of hope and encouragement to many, many homeless people, while you hold up Jesus’ message of love to the community and show them what that love looks like in action. At the same time, you will build your own faith and the faith of others.

Please consider sharing your time to help the homeless and give the gift of hope.

Homelesspartners.com

Or go to youtube with the search terms “homeless partners” and see a 2 minute video.

All the details about the project are available by sending an email through the homelesspartners.com website or send it to homelesspartners@gmail.com

“The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me’ ” (Matthew 25: 40).