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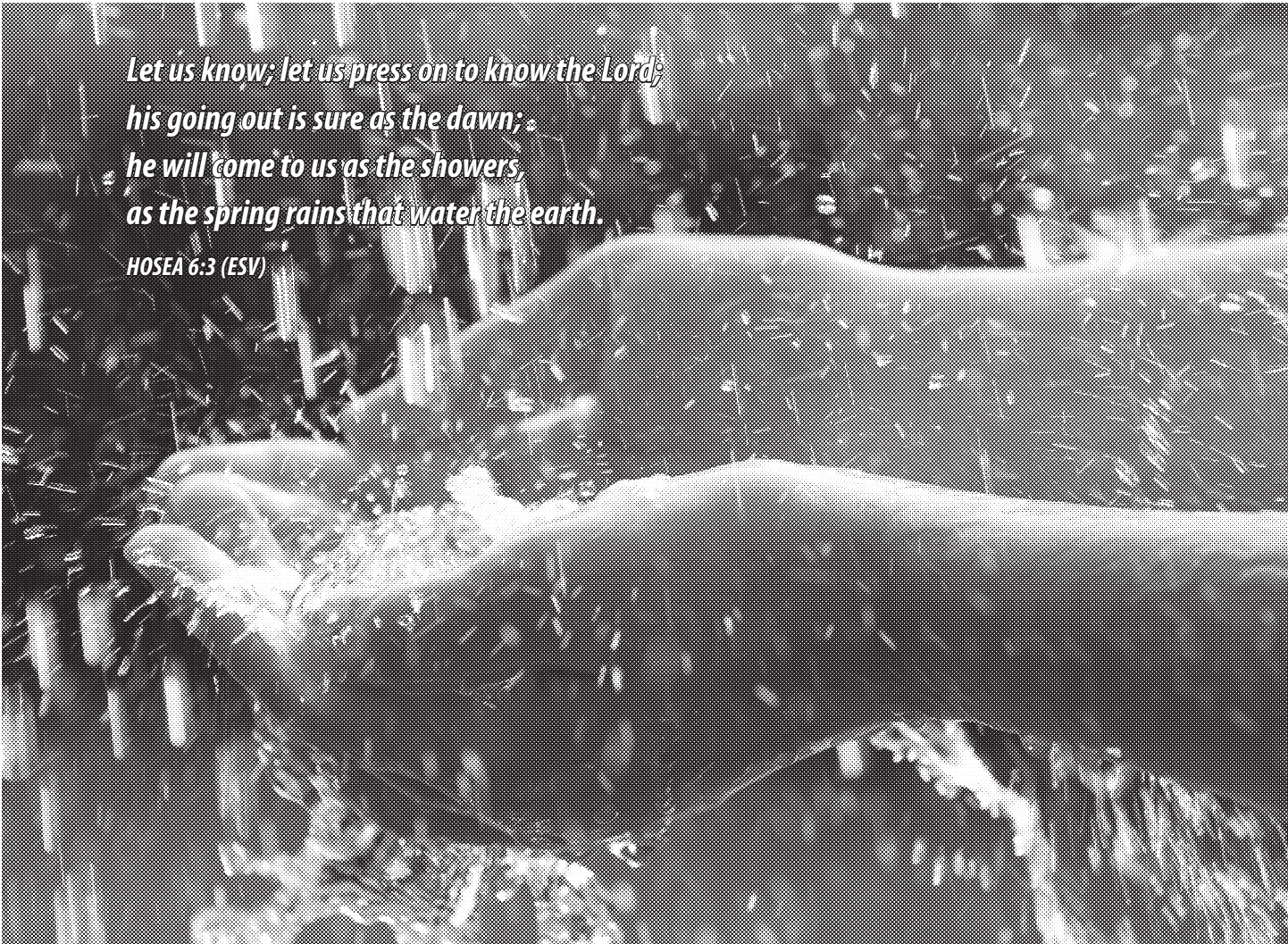
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BEAMSVILLE, ONTARIO

April 2009



*Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord;  
his going out is sure as the dawn;  
he will come to us as the showers,  
as the spring rains that water the earth.*

*HOSEA 6:3 (ESV)*

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# Historical Society Expands Its Offering

*Geoffrey Ellis*

The Canadian Churches of Christ Historical Society has updated its website offerings, including the texts of fourteen of its present publications plus four other items. Recent additions include "The Life of Charles W. Petch" (in slide show), by Shelley Jacobs; "A Short Story of the Life of J. W. Shepherd," by Ray L. Miller; and "Conjoined and Contrasted: Restoration in Michigan and Ontario," by Geoffrey Ellis. In addition, and of major interest, the publications of the Christian Quarterly (1916-1917), and the Christian Monthly Review (1919-1933) are now available for examination on the CCCHS website. All interested in the story of the Restoration Movement in Canada are encouraged to visit the website (ccchs.ca) and examine the contents of these documents.

All the publications of the CCCHS are available in hard copy as well and are made available at production costs. Also, a number of CDs are available. The publication list for all items is available on the historical society website.

The Newsletter of the CCCHS is available on-line (send your e-mail address to ccchs1@gmail.com) or in print form (write to CCCHS, 120 Moccasin Dr., Waterloo, ON N2L 4C3) for a free subscription. Copies of all past newsletters are available on the society's website as well.

The 2008 annual meeting of the society, held in August in Newmarket, Ontario, named Edwin Broadus, of Burlington, ON, "Historian of the Year, 2008." For the past several years Edwin has been immersed in researching Restoration beginnings in the Niagara region, on both sides of the border. His persistence has paid off in his solving the mystery regarding both Daniel

Wiers' identification and his whereabouts after his effort in establishing in 1832 the congregation from whence the Beamsville and Jordan Churches of Christ emerged. His research in preparation for his 2008 paper, "The Influence of the Christian Connection on the Restoration Movement in Ontario," was meticulous and his conclusions insightful. The information that his paper has provided will both inform and challenge students of our Restorationist past for years to come. Edwin is continuing his research on the early period, 1820-1843, focusing on York, Norval, and Eramosa, the identification and roles of such as David Oliphant Sr., James Beaty Sr, Alexander Stewart, John Menzies, etc. Edwin has been encouraged by the work being accomplished by the CCCHS and is an outstanding example of one who is identified with one of the society's three goals: "to encourage and promote the historical study of Restorationist churches in Canada."

The tenth annual meeting of the historical society is scheduled for Saturday, August 15, 2009, and to be held on the campus of Great Lakes Christian High School, 4875 King St., Beamsville, ON. The focus of the meeting this year will be on "Early Efforts in Christian Education in Canada," speakers and papers to be announced. The meeting will examine the history of the Carman Bible

School, the Beamsville Bible School, the Maritime Bible and Literary Institute, the influence of the Nashville Bible school in Canada and possibly the school in St. Thomas, Ontario. This meeting is open to all interested persons as well as society members and their guests.

The board of directors, at its November 29, 2008 meeting, set as a goal for 2009 the digitization of the publication, the Bible Student that was published during 1904-1913, and edited for the most part by H. M. Evans. This is a particularly important periodical record in that it covers the early years of the 1900s following the trauma of the end-of-the-century fellowship-wide division. Chronicled are the efforts of a small but vigorous band of workers. The cost of processing the printed material will be several thousand dollars. (Volunteers willing to do scanning will be welcome!) Donations are invited for this project. (Donations to the CCCHS, a registered charity, receive tax credits.) Friends everywhere are invited to join hands in accomplishing this significant venture. Contact any board member (listed at our website) for further information. Gifts can be forwarded to the address listed above.

The archival collection of the CCCHS is steadily expanding and will shortly reach 1000 items. An index of the materials held by the historical society will be available on its website in the near future. Items of value that record our collective past, as loans or donations, are welcomed by the society: church records, photographs, letters, diaries, periodical and institutional records, legal documents, etc. Direct these to: CCCHS, 120 Moccasin Dr., Waterloo, ON N2L 4C3.

Waterloo, ON

## 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.

# Unhealthy Doctrine

T. Pierce Brown

It is almost beyond comprehension that a few brethren who claim to be gospel preachers are teaching that doctrine is not important. Doctrine is simply teaching, and if teaching is not important, they should stop it. If it is important, they should stop teaching that it is not. However, we may need to do a little deeper study on the subject. Doctrine is important, but not all doctrine is equally important. Some wrong teaching will cause a person to be lost, but not every mistake in the meaning of a word or phrase will do so. For example, almost every preacher I have ever heard has spoken of the word "adoption" and said it is equivalent to "birth." That is, the two expressions are simply different ways of talking about becoming a Christian. How anyone can come to that conclusion and give a sensible exegesis of Romans 8:23, we do not know. Even in the English use of the words, adoption only refers to the legal coming into a position, whereas birth refers to having a new nature. So the word "adoption" in the Bible refers to one who is already a child of God being placed in a special position as a son. However, that misconception does not endanger anyone's soul, as far as we can determine. Another example is in 1 Thessalonians 5:22, "Abstain from all appearance of evil." Practically everyone apparently thinks this means, "Stay away from anything that looks like it might be evil." Since that is usually good advice, it certainly does not endanger one's salvation to assume

that is what the verse teaches, although it is not. It means "When evil appears in any form, do not practice it."

So when we study all the passages that relate to "sound doctrine" it seems apparent that they refer to doctrine that one must believe and practice in order to have the right relationship with God. 1 Timothy 1:10 casts some light on the subject. It says, "For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine." It seems reasonably clear that the kind of things that he mentions here that are contrary to sound doctrine are moral things that would cause the person who practices such things to

be lost. So first, we can understand that unsound doctrine includes any doctrine that would corrupt one's morals, if believed and practiced. 1 Timothy 6:3 suggests the same thing. Second, Titus 1:9-14 suggests another area of unsound doctrine. It has to do with those who teach for doctrines the commandments of men and subvert the faith of those who heed it. It is similar to the warning Paul gave in Galatians 1:8-9 when he was talking about a different plan of salvation. Those who were teaching that a person had to be circumcised to be saved were teaching an unsound doctrine that would cause them to be accursed as well as those who believed and practiced it. So the second aspect of unsound doctrine is that which will cause a person to be lost because it perverts the gospel plan of salvation.

Third, when Jesus said in Mark 7:7, "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men," surely he is emphasizing that anything that would pervert the worship and make it vain would endanger one's soul and would be in the category of unsound doctrine. We can think of no other area besides these three that should properly fall into the category of unhealthy or unsound doctrine for which we should withdraw fellowship from a brother. We should try to teach the truth about all matters, but some truths are more significant than others are.

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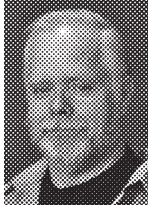
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## A Radical Idea

Wayne Turner



What comes to mind when you hear the word “radical”? Normally, we think of something extreme or very unusual. The term has often been applied to revolutionary political movements or leaders. It has also been applied to religious groups and individuals who are seen as extreme. It tends to suggest something so extreme that it almost has a negative connotation, something so divergent that it represents a complete rejection and upheaval.

Given these associations, we might, understandably, be surprised and a little confused by someone describing themselves as an “ordinary radical.” Ordinary and radical don’t seem to logically fit together. Yet, Shane Claiborne in *The Irresistible Revolution* speaks of “living as an ordinary radical.”

“Radical” comes from the Latin *radix* which means root. The first two definitions in Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary of “radical” are something pertaining to the root and the origin of something. Extreme appears as only the third definition. The Radical Reformation of the 16th century offers an interesting combination of the definitions. The leaders of the Anabaptists believed that the Protestant reformers had not been as extreme in their changes as they should and believed that a complete return to the Bible was necessary.

So what does Claiborne mean by “ordinary radical?”

In part, his book is a record of his own spiritual journey. Like many such accounts, his journey has been rooted in beliefs that are more subjective and experiential. What is of more interest and relevance for us are the perceptions that motivated his journey. He grew up as a Methodist in East Tennessee. He experienced a disconnect between the tedium of traditional religion and the inspirational stories of remarkable people from the Bible and history. He found the routine and often commercial world of “church” and “pop Christianity” unmotivating. “I had gorged myself on all the products of the Christian industrial complex but was spiritually starving to death.” When he learned the “fiery beginnings” of his Methodist faith, he asked “Where had the fire gone?” He noted that John Wesley was often driven out of town after he preached and had said he that if he died with more than ten pounds in his pocket, should be called a liar and a thief. Thus he was troubled when a church he attended built a \$120,000 stained glass window.

In one of his most serious observations, Claiborne writes, “...many of us find ourselves estranged from the narrow issues that define conservatives and from the shallow spirituality that marks liberals.” He quotes a letter from a young man, “I am alone, surrounded by unbelieving activists and inactive believers. Where are the true Christians?” Claiborne notes that a “growing number of folks are deliberately distancing themselves from the noise and arrogance that have come to

mark both evangelical Christianity and secular activism.”

Ordinary radicals are “ordinary people who choose to live in radical new ways” – who want to “get at the root of what it means to love... to get at the root of what has made such a mess of our world... to get back to the roots of Christianity.” A bit later, he says, “There is a movement bubbling up that goes beyond cynicism and celebrates a new way of living, a generation that stops complaining about the church it sees and becomes the church it dreams of.”

The Restoration Movement has also been about going back to the roots of Christianity—to the faith and church of the first century under the leadership of apostles taught by Christ and inspired by the Holy Spirit. Restoration has tended to focus on more visible aspects like doctrines and practices. For Claiborne, being an ordinary radical is seeking “a faith that has as much to say about this world as it does about the next.” He is not looking for the “social gospel” of the liberal denominations. While we have some significant differences with him in doctrine, we should acknowledge his desire to restore a more Christ-like lifestyle. For him, Christianity isn’t only what you believe, how you worship or what you don’t do. Morality isn’t just about abortion, immorality or the other usual issues. It’s also about helping the poor, feeding the hungry, caring for the sick—as a part of a lifestyle. It’s about engaging those around as those who represent Christ to share His love both in message and action. Claiborne speaks of a “groaning within us that things are not right in the world, and... the sense that they don’t have to stay that way.”

Claiborne’s message is especially resonating with young people from many different backgrounds. It appeals to their idealism and gives direction and a sense of mission to their faith. Through their activism, they believe they are really connecting with the Jesus in scripture.

Jesus had much to say about helping others—parables like the Good Samaritan and the Sheep and Goats (which spoke quite bluntly about helping those in need), showing love,

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# The Secret

Thayer Salisbury

justice and mercy, simply giving a drink of water in His name. Paul told Timothy to command those who are rich to “do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.” He told the Ephesians that we are “God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” To the Galatians, he said, “As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” James said that pure and faultless religion includes looking after orphans and widows. These passages are not about church programs. They are about the way Christians live and interact with the world.

Many church members are concerned about keeping our young people, as we all should be. As modern communications bring images of the world to our television or computer, many of our youth have a heightened awareness of famine, poverty, suffering and other needs and injustices both at home and abroad. They feel a strong compulsion to get involved and help. They are looking for older Christians who will lead by example as well as encourage and support them. They want to be “ordinary radicals” to bring Christ to the world. Do we?

Several years ago Paul Harvey revealed the “best kept secret in the paint business.” The secret was, “there are no secrets.” I am going to reveal to you the best kept secret about drawing near to God. That’s right, you guessed it, there are no secrets. The truth has been plainly revealed, we just need the will to study and apply it.

“For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off. It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it (Deut. 30:11-14).”

I have been agonizing over the question, “What is the best way to teach the foundational truths of the faith?” I have been thinking about various brothers I have known through the years who have made great progress in the faith. I have tried to remember how they were

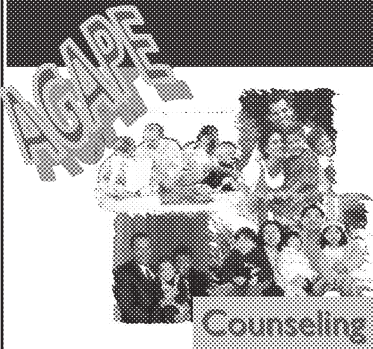
taught, what course of study they pursued. I find that there is no consistent answer. Some studied in one way, others in some different manner.

The only thing consistent about their study is consistency. I find that those who consistently read scripture, meditate on it and discuss it with a mature fellow Christian make progress—no matter whether they have class material or do not, no matter which part of scripture they begin with, no matter what kind of study they engage in or what time of day they do it. I find that those who claim to worship God, but who do not consistently engage in study of his word, do not make progress.

Bible study methods do make a difference, some are better than others, but there is no magic formula, there is no secret. Time consistently spent in seeking the Lord through his word will benefit, even if your method of study is less than perfect. Failure to seek him consistently will result in frustration, even if you have the best of teachers and the finest of study guides.

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Ken Wilson, Ph.D.  
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## Reconciliation

“Therefore if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.” (Matthew 5:23-24 NIV)

Jesus in his sermon on the mount speaks of the need to be reconciled to your brother before offering your gift at the altar. He does not say that offering your gift at the altar is unimportant, neither does he say that one should not go to the temple to worship if he knows that his brother has something against him. He does say that one should first go and be reconciled to their brother and then come and offer their gift. I have often wondered what this passage says to us today. I don't think that Jesus wants us to

stay away from worship if someone has something against us. Neither is he saying that meeting with God's people to worship is a lesser priority. He is saying make things right before you come together for worship. This is not to say that we should leave all of this until just before we come together for worship and then seek to be reconciled to our brother. We should seek to be reconciled to our brother whenever we remember that our brother has something against us. Even if we remember after we have already gathered with others for worship. Jesus says that we should excuse ourselves, go and be reconciled to our brother and then come together for worship. Jesus isn't saying that worship is secondary; he is saying that reconciliation should never be delayed. Failing to reconcile will hinder our worship and the worship of any who have something against us. Jesus' lesson is that when you know someone has something against you, go to him and seek to be reconciled.

“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of one or two witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.” (Matthew 18:15-17 NIV)

If your brother sins against you, go to him! If you remember someone has something against you, you are to go to them. Please notice that God gives both sides the responsibility of going to seek reconciliation. In a perfect

world they would meet in the middle and be reconciled quickly. In our less than perfect world, if even one makes the effort, reconciliation can occur.

Please note that in Matthew 18 Jesus is teaching us what to do when someone has sinned against us. This is not a plan for dealing with a situation where someone has upset us and wounded our ego; this plan is for reconciling ourselves to one who has sinned against us.

Unfortunately, we too often see this as a passage that only speaks of church discipline and that frightens us. We remember too many situations where the result of this being practiced was too many broken lives. I believe if we honestly and humbly give this a chance we might see God bless us with reconciliation.

Let's not get ahead of ourselves as we move through this passage but take it one step at a time. Jesus says, if your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault just between the two of you. This isn't something that we can do over the telephone, by letter, email or text message. This isn't something that we want to try to do at the back of the church building after a worship assembly. This is a quiet one on one conversation where we can have enough privacy to discuss it fully and pray together. We don't take anyone with us, neither do we tell anyone about it before we go. When we keep it between the two of us we can find a solution between the two of us. We go humbly confessing our own sinfulness, we pray before we go, we pray when we meet together and we pray when we get home. I find nothing within this passage or any other that suggests that this must be accomplished in one visit. Allowing them to think and pray about it for a while will benefit the situation greatly.

If your brother listens you have won your brother over, but if he won't, take one or two others along so every matter may be established by the testimony of one or two witnesses. In choosing witnesses try to find two individuals that your brother respects. perhaps he will listen to

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them. However, if he will not listen to them you tell it to the church and if he refuses to listen to the judgment of the church he cannot be part of the church. Remember the goal is not to tell someone a thing or two, or to settle a score, it is to win your brother over. We work and pray so that this last step of excluding someone from our fellowship will not be necessary.

We cannot be reconciled to our brother unless we are willing to forgive. "If you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins" (Matthew 6:14-15 NIV).

God expects us to forgive those who sin against us! Yet, too often we put up impossible expectation that must be met before we are willing to forgive. "If he comes crawling on his hands and knees and begs me for forgiveness, I may think about it." I don't know about you, but I have never seen anyone come crawling on their hands and knees and beg for forgiveness. We cannot withhold forgiveness until someone has made restitution or confessed their sinfulness and begged us for forgiveness. We are simply to forgive and allow God to be the judge. The longer we hold on to it the harder it will be to let go. The longer we hold on to it the more we allow it to erode our Christ like spirit.

Without forgiveness relationships are impossible because we all make mistakes and we all sin. Without forgiveness we can have no relationship with God. When we withhold forgiveness, God withholds forgiveness from us. Forgive and go be reconciled to your brothers and sisters!

## Advantages of Union in Christ

Roy D. Merritt

**C**hristianity must be Christ-centred or it is not authentic Christianity. At the risk of sounding narrow or even bigoted, this writer would agree with a bold statement of the Apostle Peter, as narrated by Luke in his history of the early church.

Peter had been brought from his prison cell to appear before the highest authorities of his race: Annas, the high priest; Caiaphas, who had formerly held the position and still wielded great power among the Jews, and other men of the high priest's family. This relatively-unschooled fisherman revealed to them the source of his authority and its unique nature: Speaking of his Lord, Peter declared: "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Amid the confusion and clamour, names and claims of competing religious entities, one Person and one authority are as uniquely valid today as they were in Peter's day. The Person is the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ. He spoke of His authority directly in what we commonly call the Great Commission: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me" (Matthew 28:18).

Several words stand out in this charge which He gave to His Apostles. The word "all" speaks of His completeness in meeting man's spiritual needs. The words "earth" and "heaven" reveal an authority which reaches beyond earthly bounds and encompasses heaven itself, where the Saviour reigns at the Father's right hand (Psalm 110:1, Acts 2: 34-36).

Various historical figures have ruled by the might of military power: Caesar, Hitler and Mussolini,

to name some of the noted ones. These, and others like them, exercised their rule over nations by a coercive force of arms. They were ruthless in their demands and considered that "might makes right."

On the other hand, Christ has come by reason of the Father's love to reveal a beautiful invitation to unite with him in a new race of individuals who will give loving obedience to His will. They come from every branch of mankind and every walk of life. They are united with their Lord to such a degree that they are a new spiritual organism which, by analogy, is best described as the spiritual body of Christ. These are incorporated into that spiritual body in such a manner that they are said to be "in Christ."

The Apostle Paul refer to this union—being "in Christ"—about 164 times. Some of these references are derivatives from the phrase itself, such as "in Him", "in the Lord", or "in whom." In a relatively few instances the context may require the translation "with Christ."

It is obvious that this union in the body of Christ, His church, is at the very centre of Paul's ministry, hope and even of his life itself. He proclaims in a letter to the church in Philippi: "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21). We can count 17 references in this joyful little Epistle—Paul's own "Ode to Joy"—to the author's awareness of this union with his Lord.

The Lord willing, we hope in future lessons to enlarge on the advantages of this relationship for the Christian in today's society. In the meantime, look up and meditate on Paul's location of "all spiritual blessings" as he gives it in Ephesians 1:3.

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# Something to Think About

Jim Hobbs

**H**ave you ever sat down and contemplated the world around you? You would be amazed by all that you see. The color of the sky and the color of the trees all seem to be the right shades to blend together and complement each other. When fall comes, the colors change to bring forth all of the signs of a harvest. The harvest comes at the right time to ensure that we have the means to survive the harsh winter. But even the winter is beautiful. Have you seen the sunlight sparkle off the crystals in the snow, and the snow itself speaks to you in the crunch under your feet.

Even children see the wonder of it all and seek to understand it. Their incessant questions, mostly beginning with "Why ..." indicate that even they believe that there is some rationale to be understood.

As scientists discover more and more of the way that all of the parts fit together it becomes harder for each of us to observe nature around us, without a sense of wonder. We look at the sun and moon going around the earth, and we think that we know the purpose of the sun, but why is the moon there? Scientists are telling us that throughout natural history, the moon has been shielding us from asteroids and other objects that are coming in from space, and point to the fact that there are more pock-marks on the far side of the moon than on the earth side. By studying the regular motion of these objects, scientists predict with

amazing accuracy when the moon will pass between the earth and the sun, and who will be denied minutes of tan when the moon's shadow falls on them. They can also tell us where to look in the night sky to see the planets (and dwarf planets.)

What place does man have in all of this wonderment? Man has the ability to study all of these objects far beyond just going out, looking up at the sky and being amazed at what is going on there. Man has been able to take himself to the moon and back again. He has also learned how to go several miles away from the earth, stay for extended periods and to return again to the earth at will. He has learned how to send machinery to these far away objects that we observe in the sky and to command that machinery to report back on what it finds there.

Why has man been given such an exalted position above the other occupants of this earth? What other earth occupant performs such amazing feats, and what other living being so easily demonstrates a mastery over all other living beings? Yet, when you consider all that is out there, it becomes apparent that in everything that man has done and can do, we still cannot make significant change in the outcome of that which we observe. As the scientists study the heavens, they discover that beyond the system that circles our sun, they cannot travel there, even in one, or

several lifetimes. We realize that we are so insignificant compared to all that we see.

Why do the trees change appearance with the seasons? Why does the snow sparkle today and melt away tomorrow? We learn much about what happens by observing the changes around us, but we begin to wonder like the child, "Why has it all been put in place to act the way it does? Who put all of these things in place?" It does not take much thought to bring us to the realization that there must be someone out there that is far superior to us. In all that we see, and in most things that we can't see, much has been placed there for our enjoyment and for our good. We begin to think like the psalmist, "What is man that you are mindful of him?" and, "You have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings."

It is truly amazing that man has so much power over all that we see, but we know that we do not have the power to duplicate what we see. We must conclude that there is a power much greater than us, and that we must also say, "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth."

I think that we could add, "And in the heavens as well."

The scriptures are taken from Psalm 8, which I recommend for your personal reading.

Winnipeg, MB



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**Women's Residence Director:** This is approximately a six month term position to cover a maternity leave. Applicant must be female and live in residence. The ideal candidate will have 1-2 years student services or other experience related to the duties and responsibilities. Candidate must have a quality of spirit that will be reflected in a growing relationship with God and interpersonal relationships, the ability to relate to high school and college age students, and a lifestyle attitude that views all successes and challenges from a Christian worldview. This is a salaried position that requires great flexibility of work hours, which includes weekend and evening duties. Work schedule will be discussed in advance. While the primary functions of the Residence Director are to look after the needs of residential students, oversee campus supervision and provide various activities for residential students, it should be noted that as a member of the Student Services Department some duties pertaining to the care of all current students are a part of this job as well. Tentative start date is August 1, 2009.

**Education Assistant:** This is a part-time position (24-30 hours/week) and may be a permanent position for the right candidate. A work year is as designated by the current school calendar. You will assist the Teacher with implementing the portion of the instructional program for which you have been specifically assigned. You will assist, direct, grow and mentor students in the classroom and all other aspects of their lives as directed in order to help them achieve the goals and tasks required of them. You will work in the high school department and report to the High School Principal. You will collaborate with your peers and the faculty members to provide a holistic Christian experience to the students. You will have a passion for youth and Christian education, have some organizational experience and demonstrate knowledge of educational instruction, and have a combination of education and/or experience to understand and assist with all areas of high school instruction. Attendance at high school chapel and professional development days is mandatory. Start date is August 26, 2009.

**College Recruiter:** This is a permanent full-time position for the right candidate. You will be responsible for the recruiting (and retention of) students to Western Christian College. You will positively represent the college within the local and extended church community as part of the public relations and recruiting responsibilities. Working as part of the college team and the enrolment team, the successful candidate will be responsible for reaching individual and group recruiting goals, focusing on relationship development with prospective students, families and alumni, and developing and maintaining detailed documentation for managing and reporting recruiting services. Must have strong computer skills or the capacity to learn technology, and will ideally have a post-secondary degree, but some successful post-secondary experience is a must. Must have a passion for young adults and Christian education. Must demonstrate the interpersonal skills to be able to work in a team environment and the relational skills to be able to connect with young people in meaningful and spiritually transforming ways. Start date is open until a suitable candidate is selected.

**About Western Christian College and High School:** Western Christian is a dynamic ministry that seeks to be faithful to the Bible, train young people for leadership and service, and provide relevant resources for Christians in the twenty-first century. The strategic plan of the institution seeks to mature the school and extend our rich legacy of 63 years into the future. To help us with this mission, Western Christian seeks men and women who are committed Christians, who love Christ and the church, and who have a passion for Christian education, to help lead the school successfully into the future. Western Christian is located in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.



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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:** The World Day of Prayer's programme this year has been written by the women of New Guinea. Janet Cope was scheduled to make a presentation. David Kashekele, a young Bible student in Zambia, is partially supported by the Beamsville congregation's Sunday school collection. David recently began serving

as a minister with the Riverside Church of Christ in Livingstone, Zambia. On March 3, Don Rose, president of Great Lakes Christian High School, presented the GLCHS Strategic Vision. GLCHS open house was also held that evening.

**Bramalea:** Ten of our young people attended the Meaford youth rally. The congregation recently sent two bales of winter clothing up to the Neskantaga Indian Reservation where Brian and Bonnie Lee Cox work with the Indian children.

**Brantford:** Sunday morning worship speakers recently were: Jim Holston, February 1 and March 1; Wayne Whitfield, February 8; Glen Robbins, February 15; Robert Moore, February 22. In January, the congregation collected over \$60 in its "Change Box for Food."

**Cambridge:** The small group met at the home of Tyler, one of the young men who attends the teen Bible study group at the Hibbard home. In his monthly report, Greg asks: "What is ministry?" and responds, "I feel the best ministry happens when it is not in the calendar and when I am not in my office... The ministry of presence is hard. The minister has to be 'on' all the time... But the ministry of presence is not

unique to paid ministers—every Christian is a minister. For paid ministers and non-paid ministers alike, Jesus' example is worth noting." Then he asks: "How is your ministry of presence going?"

**Fennell:** February 8 was City Kidz Miracle Sunday. From the congregation's efforts \$640 was given to City Kids that day and one child sponsorship was started. During March break, approximately 15 university students and two staff couples from David Lipscomb University were scheduled to be with the congregation for a Bible Day Camp. The programme will be for children from 5 to 12 years old.

**Fenwick:** Harold MacDonald was baptized on Friday, February 13, 2009. On February 14, the men not only cooked for the ladies but hired a quartet to serenade them as well. Six visitors from the community attended this Valentine party. On February 16, the church invited people to join as families and celebrate Family Day together. About 30 enjoyed the various activities. March 29 was set aside as a special contribution Sunday to help support the work in Ghana. A weekend meeting will be held April 24-26 with various speakers: Noel Walker, Dwayne

*continued on page 14*



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

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(BC news supplied by Barbara Lewis)

## ALBERTA

**Edmonton North:** A leadership workshop was held on March 14. Plans are being made for our Alberta Spring Fellowship. The theme of the weekend is "Leading Effectively in the 21st Century." Speakers will be Dr. Ken Wilson and JJ Turner. Hospital visitation has become a priority with several of the brethren. A wonderful family from England have moved here. Sanjay and Sanjeeta and 2 children found our congregation on the website and have been attending services regularly.

**Camrose:** We have had a number of visitors coming to services and we are working hard to have Bible studies with them and help them know Jesus. We are also working hard at practicing the "one another passages" in an effort to strengthen and mature the church family to grow together in our Lord (Eph. 4). We have refocused on reaching out to the community with a renewed effort and with some new ideas and tools through friendship evangelism.

**Red Deer:** The men's day, on March 28 was held with Kevin Vance (president of WCC) and Leslie Williams (Educator/missionary) as guest speakers. The theme was "Take the Lead." It was based on 1Corinthians 16:13-14. Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. The 5 session titles were: (1) Be On Your Guard: Ephesians 6:18 – Leadership in life and living – Competent. (2) Stand Firm in the Faith: Ephesians 6:13 Leadership in spiritual matters Consistent. (3) Be Men of Courage: Ephesians 6:19-20 – Leadership among

others – Confident. (4) Be Strong: Ephesians 6:10 – Leadership at home – Capable. (5) Do Everything in Love: Ephesians 5: 1-2 – Leadership in relationships – Compassionate.

**City Church (Vancouver):** In many ways we are the youngest church of Christ in British Columbia. Our congregation is only eight years old, and all of our core members are under the age of 40. This has both its blessings and challenges, but the biggest blessing is to know that the faith is being passed down to a new generation and thriving. One girl has brought her younger brother and younger sister to worship. Our newest members are a couple who have been Christians for a long time in Ukraine before coming here. The husband was invited to preach for us on Mar. 1. Sam Li has been influential in encouraging his friends by inviting them to Bible classes and worship, even as he grows in the Word. Stephen and Christiana Hasbrouck continue to search for alternative sources of income during this financial crisis. British Columbia, like most places in North America, is experiencing widespread layoffs and business closures, which makes their task difficult. Part of Stephen's time in February was with the homeless in Vancouver's Marpole district. A man explained that he had come to that area because he was terrified of other transients downtown where it is easy to be preyed upon. One of our members was asked to leave a fast food place for trying to buy lunch for a homeless man. After nearly being forced out as well when security guards escorted him to the door, she finally succeeded in buying a lunch to take outside to him. The man in question was clear that he did not need spare change or money-he just wanted something to eat. The truly hungry people are caught between an apathetic establishment and a violent underworld that makes survival extremely difficult. In their own neighbourhood, Stephen is trying to build upon the foundation of those they see often: people at the bakers,

coffee shop, and those in their apartment building.

**Delta:** The Harding University students with us Mar. 7-15 were provided with a variety of food items to convert to lunches to take to the homeless in downtown Vancouver by our congregation. Several of the 12 students making the trip from Searcy, Ark. conducted our services the week of Mar. 7. On Feb. 15, Aaron Etheridge & Paul McMullen gave a report on their plans to start a new congregation on Commercial Street in Vancouver. The two couples have moved to BC for this purpose. Aaron has been doing some preaching for Delta to help pay for their expenses.

**Oakridge:** We rejoiced with the Abella family as their daughter, Alyssa, was baptized on Feb. 15, one day before her 15th birthday, bringing a climax to a special weekend. The previous Saturday, the church had observed the "Fiesta de Rosa" (Pink Party) a custom brought from Guatemala (and most Central American countries) which celebrates the transition of girls from childhood to womanhood. It was in honour of Annet Hidalgo whose 15th birthday fell on Valentine's day. Milton Diaz gave a message directed to the youth of both sexes. He explained that while the custom originally signified the young woman's right to be called "Senorita", to change her style of clothes, date and even marry. For many in those days, to reach this age was half of their expected lifetime-30 to 40 years. He read a number of Biblical passages in which young people are cautioned to devote their lives to the Lord, be careful of their friendships and stay close to their families. The talk was especially well received by those attending who were not Christians, but who commented afterward that it made them conscious of their own relationship with God and how much their families should be valued. An evening celebration followed the religious ceremony in the afternoon. Our Caring Ministry was called to respond to our first crisis

*continued on page 14*

# MISSION NEWS

Barbara Lewis  
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**Quote for the Month:** “God is a missionary God. The Bible is a missionary book. The gospel is a missionary message. The church is a missionary institution. And when the church ceases to be missionary-minded, it has denied its faith and betrayed its trust.”—The Making of a Missionary by J. Herbert Kane (Thanks to Tobey Huff)

**(Ed. Note:** *The following is an editorial by Ron Clayton, missionary to India for the past 30 years. He notes that “one of the greatest discouragements in this work is the fact that when a church has financial problems, the first thing cut from their budget is mission work! The very thing the Lord commanded us to do, the most important command in his Word, the ‘Great Commission’ that Christ himself left with us, and we put it on the back burner! Have you ever wondered if God has blessed our churches financially for the express purpose of getting the Gospel to the world?”*)

**MISSIONS 101:** “The work of the Lord’s church is evangelism. In the past 40 plus years we seem to have been in a spiritual fog about this issue.

Not everyone or every preacher in our brotherhood—but far too many members of the church of Christ are simply not concerned about soul-winning. Not at home. Not overseas. In fact, while we have more opportunities than ever, simply because of the number of people in the USA (and the rest of the world), we have somehow shrunk our number of missionaries in foreign countries. Many congregations send a few members on mission trips to help with various works. This is good! The problem is that this has, for many of them, taken the place of supporting a missionary who is there all—or at least most—of the time. Who will see to these new converts? What follow-up work will be done? Who is helping to train native preachers of the Gospel? Are the local workers (whether from home or native) being given the resources to do the work that needs to be done year ‘round? Isn’t it time to ask some questions about mission work: who we support and where we do it? We have invested a great deal of money in some efforts with but little

to show for it. Let’s go back to (missions) school for a few minutes. The following are observations on my part as a Gospel preacher for 47 years and missionary to India for 30. I call it “Missions 101”.

**“Lesson #1:** – This is basic. We should do mission work where our mission dollars can do the most good! That means a fertile field. If there are few results (conversions), it is time to consider either changing our approach in that place or finding a field that is more receptive. A missionary who worked in a Scandinavian country for four years was not able to convert a soul and came home doubting the message. The message was not the problem. He was not working in a fertile field! If a farmer plants seed where conditions are not suitable to produce that particular crop and there is no harvest, he will change its location the following year.

**“Lesson #2:** – Train native preachers. Let them do the work in reaching the people of their own country. For the missionary, being a local preacher for just one congregation in a foreign country is rarely the best way to go about reaching very many of the lost. They need to be working with several churches, helping them to develop by preaching and encouraging each from time to time. If a missionary does all the work and makes all the decisions in a congregation without allowing the native preachers, (as well as the brethren) to take part, what happens when the missionary goes home?

**“Lesson #3:** – Do not support native preachers who are doing only local work. While most are hard-working and sincere, some local preachers have made a career of receiving financial support yet never developing their congregation to the point of being self-supporting. This is a problem in any country where American churches support men who serve only as local preachers. (In India we support about 100 men to be teachers and evangelists in our preacher-training schools—not to become local preachers.)

**“Lesson #4:** – Expect to receive reports from the missionary you support. If someone has been supported for a year or more without sending any reports in regard to his work, a church should not continue to provide his financial support.

**“Lesson #5:** – Know what your missionary is teaching. Just because someone is willing to go to a foreign country does not automatically mean that he will be teaching Truth. Some mission works are geared largely to programmes that provide bread, but not the Bread of Life. A man who went to South America proudly

boasted to me upon his return that he was ‘not a Restorationist’. So just what was he teaching? Certainly not the Gospel plan of salvation! If our message is the same as that of denominations, what is the point of sending people to the mission field?

**“Lesson #6:** – Check on the work you are helping by going, or sending someone you know and trust, to do so. It is a sad commentary in the life of any church to send financial assistance to a mission effort—and then never give the missionary help or encouragement by seeing his work firsthand. And this applies to native workers as well. A number of churches who help preachers in India (and have done so for years), have no idea what those preachers are doing—or anything about their work, other than what they report.

**“Lesson #7:** – Expect your missionary or native preacher to do the work: to stay active in seeking the lost, preaching and teaching the Word to the best of his ability. For converts in India who want to become preachers we follow a plan initiated by J. C. Bailey that we call the four T’s: “Teach them, Train them, Trust them, Turn them loose”. We are rarely disappointed in the results.

**“Lesson #8:** – If you are supporting a foreign missionary, keep in touch with him! Write! Send E-mails. Pray daily for him, his family and his efforts. It is hard to imagine how lonely it can get half-way around the world! Practice the “Golden Rule”. Put yourself in his shoes. He needs your encouragement—and he needs to know that you care as brethren in Christ! Get to know him personally, and remember him in special ways.

“With economic situations like they are today, we can ill afford to spend money for mission works that are not productive. This is not an indictment against the worker or his efforts. It simply is good business. And the Lord’s work demands such. If you work in the oil industry, you know it is not profitable to keep drilling a dry hole. If you make cars and they don’t sell because people don’t like them, you quit making that model. Why should it be different in the Lord’s business of bringing the lost to Christ and His church?” (From Ron Clayton’s February India Newsletter)

**JAPAN:** Steve Hasbrouck has been asked to speak at the morning chapel services at Shinaien, an assisted living facility in Sapporo, which means “The Garden of God’s Love. He will also be speaking across the street in a facility for intermediate and long-term care. The staff in both places

also participates in the worship time. Steve was asked to be a part of the regular schedule, and told to "preach very strongly on what he believes" by the administrators of both. They went on to say that most of the people in the facilities are not Christians but that they do baptize some from time to time. The homes were started some 40 years ago with contributions from all over Japan. It was established at the beginning that they would not be linked to any one particular branch of Protestant Christianity, but would allow preachers from all of the different denominations to serve. One of the men voiced his concerns, "Mr. Hasbrouck, why is it that so few Japanese have come into the Kingdom? I had hoped to see many more people turn to Christ, but even though many good missionaries and Japanese preachers have worked hard, it seems there is so little to show for it." "The challenge is before us. We have the opportunity to tell others about Christ but we should understand that it is God's field, His work and we are but His workers. 'Pray to the Lord of harvest to send forth reapers,' are the words of Jesus. I suspect we have been too sparing in the seed sowing department." Steve wrote.

**A NEW PROJECT IN INDIA:** A literacy project for the people in five Indian states: Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, and Karnataka, has been launched by the World Bible Translation Center in Fort Worth, TX. One-half of the people in these states do not know how to read or write. As a result the illiterate do not know anything about modern medicine and other things we take for granted. They rely on superstitions, even paying witch doctors for their remedies. The plan is for each village to have one "Literacy Center" which will be led by a teacher appointed by the WBTC and certified by the Indian government. There will be 150 centers in all, with each teaching up to 25 people. The centers will follow the "Each-One-Teach-One" policy of the Indian government. This means the teachers will motivate their newly-literate students to, in turn, teach the non-literate members of their families and friends in "Home Literacy Centers". It is hoped that over 2,500 home centers will be started in the first six months of the program. The main tool in the teaching effort will be "Easy-to-Read" Bibles, New Testaments, and Gospel portions, of which, over a half-million copies have been distributed over the past 15 years. Hundreds of thousands of people have learned to read and write and thousands of those have become Christ-followers after receiving water

baptism through the work of WBTC. For every gift of \$40.00 (U.S.), WBTC will be able to provide 10 Bibles for teachers to use in the Literacy Centers. Gifts of less than \$40.00 will be used to provide New Testaments or portions of the Gospel.

Address of the Translation Center is: PO Box 820648, Fort Worth, TX 76182-9967

**FIJI:** "The birds are singing, the sun is shining (for the moment), coconuts continue to rain down from the trees into our yard and pigs dug up holes in our back yard this morning.... We have slowly been getting the house back to liveable since we returned on January 27th. The first thing we had to do was get the furniture out of the house which was ruined by the water--bed frames and shelf units that came with the house were made out of pressed wood. The furniture which I had made from red oak was okay except for mildew which could be wiped off with white vinegar. The floors had to be scraped and mopped twice. The office/laundry floors had to be sealed and painted. "I noticed a musty smell in the car and found that the song books we take to services in the boot (trunk) of the car had been soaked during one of the times the car went through deep water. They were dried and made usable again. The

good thing is that I have been reprinting the songbook and the not-so-pretty ones were the first edition. The place we gather for services was under three feet of water during the flooding but has been cleaned and is useable again. Post-flooding rebuilding is continuing throughout the country as well. What I have heard and read is that the NGO's and government have responded in a very positive way to getting aid to the people who were most needful, although some villages were cut off by impassable roads. There seems to be ample finances to care for the emergency. With extra dishes and clothing we had saved for future school students, we were able to help one of the Christian ladies giving out donated clothes and items to those who had experienced total flood-out of their homes. We are continuing to advertise the World Bible School and external courses in the newspaper. We have received word that WBS partners in the U.S. are receiving new requests every week, as are we, with current students still progressing. An opportunity to get the courses advertised in all the local prisons is still a real possibility." (Report from Dr. Tobey Huff, Lautoka, Fiji Islands)

**Web Site:** <http://cibs-fiji.fiji.com/CIBS-Fiji/Index.html>

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News East... continued from page 10

Williams, Ralph Perry and Don Rose, with the theme on teaching those we meet. The ladies are planning their 4th annual ladies' day for May 30 with Amy Dale as guest speaker.

**Kenora:** Eric, Brittany and Connor Lundmark have moved to Kenora from Marathon and placed membership. They are a wonderful young family and we are delighted to have them. The ladies have begun an evening class during the week graciously hosted by Christine Ratcliffe. Jason Kehl continues to teach an interesting and educational class in Ephesians. The local newspaper has allowed one of our members to write a weekly apologetics column, which has sparked much debate within the community.

**Mississauga:** The attendance at this new congregation is around the 40 mark each Sunday, with visitors often in attendance. The group holds a monthly "Visitors' Sunday," combined with a potluck after the morning service. Kevin Hunter and Walter Straker each travel once a month to speak for the congregation. Rody Ostil, Mississauga member, recently began a Filipino Bible study in his apartment building each Tuesday at 2 p.m., in addition to the current one he holds every Thursday evening.

**Newmarket:** The 47th annual Training for Service, which will be held April 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., is hosted by the Newmarket congregation this year.

**Owen Sound:** On March 8, 2009, Shirley Lindsay renewed her membership with the church. On March 15, the congregation celebrated Hilda Thompson's 90th birthday. This year every member has been encouraged to bring a friend once a month on potluck Sundays.

**Sundridge:** The ladies again had their annual potluck and devotional in December. They prepared several gift bags for the sick or shut-ins and people less fortunate than they are. Billy Kerrivan was baptized on February 3. John Clayton will be with the congregation for another "Does God Exist" series from May 10-12.

**Tintern:** The congregation plans to host a conference May 22 and 23 on "Conflict, Peacemaking, and Difficult Conversations." Thirty-eight children attended the February Youth Night, with 9 new friends and 18 returning ones. Next event is April 17 when the group will celebrate Earth Day. Andrew Fulks, a 2nd year Youth and Family Ministry student from Harding University, will work with Noel Walker this summer as a

Youth Ministry intern for 12 weeks. Kerri Warren was baptized into the body of Christ on Wednesday, February 25. Bible Day Camp is scheduled for June 29-July 3. The attendees will be "traveling" to Rome. A youth group from Pleasant Valley Church of Christ is coming up to be with the congregation that week. The congregation is thrilled with the response to its "KidzBlitz Kids Programme" on Sunday morning. Twenty-three children were present the first week and 25 the next week. They hope to have more than 30 guests on Sunday morning before the summer.

**Toronto (Scarborough):** The Thursday Bible study meets at 7 p.m. and the congregation is studying the book of Romans. The ladies' class is studying from the book, "Caterpillars or Butterflies," by Jane McWhorter. Prayer meeting is every third Sunday, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

**Waterloo:** On March 3, the ladies' Bible study was held at the Dunn home in Elmira; the study was on "Meeting Your Best Friend." A special collection was taken March 8 and 15 in support of refugees from Bosnia. They have been in Canada for several years but recently lost their means of support. The mother developed cancer and the grandmother in Bosnia recently suffered a stroke.

**Windsor:** Rusty Campbell, a former missionary in Japan, presented the morning lesson and led the adult Bible class on February 22. Rusty and his wife, Laura, spoke about their planned upcoming mission to the nation of Angola. The congregation had a special collection for this work. The Sunday a.m. Bible study recently began a new series entitled: "WINGS - Women IN God's Sight). Sermon series will be "that Difficult Walk" and Wednesday evening Bible study will be on the book of Colossians.

News West... continued from page 11

when Nemberson and Brenda Cirilo's apartment complex was destroyed by fire on February 20. Diane Cirilo, who was living with them, also lost all of her belongings. Miguel Garcia, who is in charge of this ministry, called others and took immediate aid to them from the church family. Miguel knows how to respond to distress calls from practice in the Houston area. He and his wife, Evelyn, were presented with a plaque from the Westbury church of which they were members, which read "Amigos de las Americanos" (Friends of the Americas), as an acknowledgement of their help in numerous crises over the years in South, Central and North America.

**Prince Rupert:** A full-time worker is being sought to help with the teaching and outreach program of the congregation. House to House, Heart to Heart mail outs are continuing to be sent to the 1000 homes nearest to the church building. If there is no response by mid-year, some adjustment to the area will be considered. Trips are made weekly to Terrance to help with afternoon services, teaching and preaching. During the last quarter of 2008, all of the adult member classes were geared to enhance, renew and rebuild outreach skills. Training was provided in one-on-one and group studies with review and instructions in several study methods and hands on examination of material, available to help guide the study. Personal involvement was discussed and encouraged as a natural expression of daily Christian living. That is, it should be natural to mention Christ and share your faith with others. The 14 visitors at the fellowship dinner in February indicated the class is putting into practice what they had learned. Two thousand and nine will see additional newspaper ads in addition to increased efforts to enrol students in Bible Correspondence Course. We still believe the use of a BIBLE CALL system would be a great tool. While we have found several congregations using the system we have not been able to locate a computer system to buy. The thought of

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a church van has come to the forefront. Several members pick up visitors and at times even make two trips or both the husband and wife will and pick up visitors. With a 10-12 passenger van our outreach could be increased.

**Vernon:** After the service on Feb. 15, the ladies of the congregation were invited to be guests at a "Sweetheart Luncheon" prepared in their honour by the men. The following Saturday, a men's breakfast brought food for both body and soul in the morning, and families were invited to a toboggan party at Alvan and Trish Jacobs (providing there was snow!) in the afternoon. Perhaps inspired by Valentine's Day, Murray Ververda started a sermon series on "The Heart". These events were followed by a Chinese Supper on March 21, and the "Friends and Neighbours" service the last Sunday in March.

#### MANITOBA

**Carman:** Kristen Schott was baptized and added to the church on February 26. She is the teen daughter of Dwayne and Dale. We were favoured with the attendance of about 25 Cubs and Scouts along with their leaders and some family members at the February 22 morning service. The Cubs and Scouts try to attend a church service as a group once a year and this year they chose to visit us. Dale Elford presented a very appropriate lesson. March 21, a celebration was held for Sadie Dunn's 95th birthday. Six ladies from this congregation plus a friend attended the Sister Triangle Winter Retreat at Kenosse Lake, SK, in February. Good fellowship, good lessons and good food were enjoyed by all. Our annual spring lecture-ship will be April 10-12 with Jim Sedor and Wayne Turner as guest speakers. The theme is "The Lord is my Shepherd." The

ladies are planning the Ladies Rest and Renewal at Winkler Bible Camp May 22-24. The theme is "Peace of God" taken from Philippians 4:7. Mary Muirhead and her daughter, Andrea will be presenting the lessons.

**Winnipeg:** A small group continue with FriendSpeak. March 7 was "Can't wait for spring" banquet. Chef Joe Lindhorst cooked a delicious turkey dinner. VBS is being held in our new location this year. It is hoped it will be an outreach to families in the Norwood community.

#### SASKATCHAWAN

**Western Christian College:** The annual northern light youth rally was held March 6 to 8. The theme was "Price is Right" and the speaker was Scott Wade of Weyburn. Fundraising with a goal to raise \$8.5 million over 5 years was launched with boxing legend "Sugar Ray Leonard" speaking. Money raised will make improvements to the campus infrastructure and technology, the Reach program, annual operating funds and securing the Regina Campus.

## Seeking Volunteer Board of Directors Applicants

Grove Park Home for Senior Citizens in Simcoe County, winner of the "People's Choice Award" for Long Term Care Homes is seeking applicants for the position of Volunteer Board of Director.

We seek individuals who desire a unique Christian ministry opportunity. The successful candidates will:

- display a commitment to the Vision, Mission and Values of Grove Park Home.
- display strong Christian principles with an interest in enhancing the lives of Grove Park Home residents.
- have previous experience in one of the following areas: on a Board of Directors, relevant health care experience, legal, business management, human resources experience, or are familiar with Board Governance.
- live or work in Simcoe County or are able to travel to Barrie to attend a minimum of 8 meetings per year (travel allowance is provided).
- be willing to commit to a 2 year term.
- successfully complete a criminal reference check.

Further information about Grove Park Home for Seniors is available @ [www.groveparkhome.on.ca](http://www.groveparkhome.on.ca)

Please forward resume and letter of interest to:  
Russ Cosby, Chairman of the Board of Directors  
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# OBITUARIES

## Hoover, Larry

When Larry Hoover left his earthly sojourn, on February 22, 2009, for fairer regions beyond, his passing left many of us in a state of shock and disbelief. All those who knew Larry loved him. Those who knew and loved him are now grieving. As the wise man wrote, "man goes to his eternal home while mourners go about in the streets."

Our brother was at the Stratford Church of Christ, where he always could be found on any Sunday morning. He mentioned to his grandsons that he had experienced chest pains while at worship but assured them that all was well now. Larry and his grandsons went home after worship and he died suddenly in his own home.

He was the son of the late Elmo and Fannie Hoover. Larry and his wife, Marjorie (Wilson), were in their 53rd year of marriage. This exemplary couple brought a fine family of three into the world and reared them to be God's family as well. Steve is married to Diane. They live in Windsor where Steve is an elder in the church. Deborah and her husband, Paul Dale, live in Stratford and are active in the church there. Kelvin and wife Kathy, now live in Livingston, Montana, where Kelvin ministers with the local church of Christ.

In addition to Marjorie and the children, Larry leaves behind 8 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren as well as other family and extended family members.

At age 73 Larry walked and talked like he was in the prime of life. He was raised in Aylmer, ON, where he and his father ran a well drilling business. In 1975, Larry and Marjorie moved to Texas where he attended the Sunset School of Preaching to become an evangelist. He worked for churches in Thessalon, St. Thomas and Stratford, Ontario. Larry worked for Canada Post for 18 years and retired only recently. For most of that time the Hoovers were responsible for all the rural routes in Stratford.

A great friend and man of God has departed. Surely Larry would leave us with the words of Paul, "Be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord."

—George Mansfield

## Vine, Wilfred Bazil "Bud"

Bud Vine was born in Kirkwood Township on May 23, 1931. He was one of eight children, five daughters and three sons who were born to Bethel and Myrtle Vine. Bud was raised and spent his entire life, except for the time he attended Bible school in Radville, SK, in the Thessalon area of northern Ontario.

Bud had a real love for the land and made a life for his family and himself by farming. Bud also enjoyed hunting, fishing and trapping. He also had many stories and trophies to show for his efforts. One of his grandchildren told her class that "Grandpa and Grandma Vine lived off the land... What they didn't grow on the farm, Grandpa found in the bush and brought it home!" The making of maple syrup was also one of his specialties. Besides operating the family farm, Bud also worked at logging and construction from time to time.

In July of 1953, Bud married Lillian Seabrook. Together they would share forty-seven years until Lillian's passing in April of 2001, about three months short of their forty-eighth anniversary. Four children, three daughters, Karen, Shelda, Anne and one son, Michael, would be born to this loving couple.

On January 10, 2004, Bud married Shirley Merritt. Bud and Shirley spent five happy years together, mostly on the farm. In October of 2008, they moved into an apartment in Thessalon. Bud had been experiencing declining health for several years and was unable to look after things the way he would have liked. Happily for Bud, one of his grandsons and his wife took over the farm and are continuing on in the family tradition. Bud passed away on February 10, 2009, at the age of seventy-seven.

Bud will be fondly remembered as a loving, kind, caring, sweet man. He was hard-working and was loved

and respected by all who knew him. He was a dedicated family man; and was never happier than when he was with them. Especially, Bud loved his Lord; and committed every aspect of his life to serving Him. He was actively involved in the work of the Thessalon congregation and spent many hours serving in various capacities. He taught classes, preached, participated in various aspects of leading in public worship, served as an elder and was an encouragement to all, both in what he said and did. In addition, Bud spent countless hours working at various building projects around the building. Even when experiencing health difficulties, Bud seldom missed meeting with his brothers and sisters. Bud was able to share many reminiscences of the church in the Thessalon area at its one hundredth anniversary celebration in 2007.

Perhaps one of the greatest testimonies to Bud's commitment to Christ is the fact that all four of his children and his grandchildren have also become Christians and are actively involved in the congregations where they live. Bud and Lillian are to be praised as Christian parents and grandparents; and their example is worthy of emulation.

Bud is survived by his wife, Shirley, his three daughters, Karen (David) Lock, Shelda (Bernard) Hartung, Anne (John) Kirkland and his son Michael (Marlita) Vine. He is also survived by four sisters, Bette McKinnon, Colleen Seabrook, Barbara King, Lola King and two brothers, Les and Jerry and their spouses. He is also survived by a brother-in-law, Lionel Weir, the husband of Bud's sister, Glenna, who preceded him in death. Bud will also be lovingly remembered by thirteen grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, the members of Shirley's family, his church family in Thessalon and various other locations.

While it was a time for tears, Bud's funeral was a time for rejoicing and praise and thanksgiving to God, as well as a time for paying tribute to a man who was loved, respected and held in high esteem. Joel Lock and Emily (Vine) MacKenzie shared fond memo-



ries on behalf of the grandchildren. Also, a fitting tribute from Murray Smith, a cousin and long-time friend was read:

Soldier of Christ, well done!  
Your glorious warfare is past.  
The battle fought, the victory won,  
And you are crowned at last!

—John Wesley

We thank God for our brother, Bud. He was a worthy example and an inspiration to us all; and we will always lovingly remember him. We grieve over our loss; but rejoice in Bud's victory.

—Randy Morritt

### Whitehead, Hellen Jean

Jean Whitehead was born on July 25, 1938. She was raised by her parents, Roy and Emma Seabrook, on the family farm just outside of Thessalon, Ontario. She went to work at a very young age and helped various families with babysitting and various household tasks.

On October 24, 1956, at the age of eighteen, Jean married Kenneth Whitehead. They shared life together for forty-seven years until Kenny's passing on October 11, 2004, thirteen days short of their forty-eighth anniversary. Jean and Kenny had one daughter, Robin, who they loved very dearly and who was a great blessing to them.

Jean and Kenny lived in the Thessalon area all of their married life with the exception of about five years when they lived in Sault Ste Marie. For most of their married life Jean and Kenny worked together, first on the school buses and then on the rural mail routes for more than thirty years. Following Kenny's stroke, they moved to Sault Ste. Marie so they could be closer to larger medical facilities where Kenny could get the care and treatment he needed. While in the Soo, Jean took on the role of primary caregiver and encourager; and frequently gave Kenny the needed "nudge" to get him to go out and be with people even if he couldn't add much to the conversation. Within two months of Kenny's passing, Jean returned to Thessalon and moved into an apartment in a seniors' building that she enjoyed immensely and made into

a cozy home. In October of 2008, Jean was diagnosed as having cancer. This came as a shock to everyone because, other than having to struggle with poor eyesight, Jean had always enjoyed excellent health. Shortly after being diagnosed, Jean moved in with Robin so it would be easier for her to get to her appointments and so that she could receive help with her medications. On February 19, 2009, Jean passed away following a brief but courageous battle.

Jean is survived by her loving daughter, Robin MacDonald and her grandson, Craig. She is lovingly remembered by a sister-in-law, Ethel (Jack) Crawford, a brother-in-law, Morris (Goldie) Whitehead, several nieces, nephews, friends, her church family in Thessalon and elsewhere. She was predeceased by her husband, Kenny, a brother and sister-in-law, Elmer and Mabel Whitehead, and another brother-in-law, Earl Whitehead.

Jean will be fondly remembered as a friendly, caring, hard-working person who enjoyed doing things for others; and who was always putting others' concerns and needs above her own, even when she was sick. She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother who was devoted to her family and took pride in their accomplishments. She was renowned for her baking,

especially her butter tarts and home-made candy, which she enjoyed, making into gift packages and sharing with family and friends, especially at Christmas time. Jean enjoyed people and made a point of meeting family and friends for coffee, meals out and social events whenever she could. Particularly she enjoyed spending her summers at the Hilton Beach Trailer Park on St. Joseph's Island. Many of the friends that she made in the park were able to be a support and encouragement to Jean while she and Kenny were living in Sault Ste Marie.

Jean had a strong faith and was an active member of the Thessalon congregation; and it was her faith that sustained her and gave her hope during her illness. She was always interested in the activities of the congregation and regularly asked about various members, especially those who were experiencing various difficulties. Jean greatly appreciated the love and concern her brothers and sisters in the Lord showed for her; and wished that she could be ministering to them rather than being on the receiving end. Jean will be missed; but we rejoice that she has been victorious and that she now enjoys the rest and peace to which she looked forward.

—Randy Morritt



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# Key To The Kingdom Day, MAY 3, 2009



## **The Christian Channel**

Thursday mornings, 7:30 (Eastern Time)

## **The Vision Network**

Friday mornings, 8:30 (Eastern Time)

## **CHNU JOYTV, Channel 10**

covering Vancouver, Victoria & the Fraser Valley Friday mornings at 8:00 (Pacific Time)

Your support of the Key To The Kingdom ministry is needed daily in 2009

- **Pray** daily for this outreach...
- **Advertise** the programme to your family, friends and community...
- **Support** the ministry financially in your personal and church budgets...

On **May 3** we invite congregations to focus their worship service on evangelism in Canada and the Key To The Kingdom ministry in particular by:

Having **special prayers** offered in support of this work...

Taking a **special contribution** to help with the financial requirements of the ministry...

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