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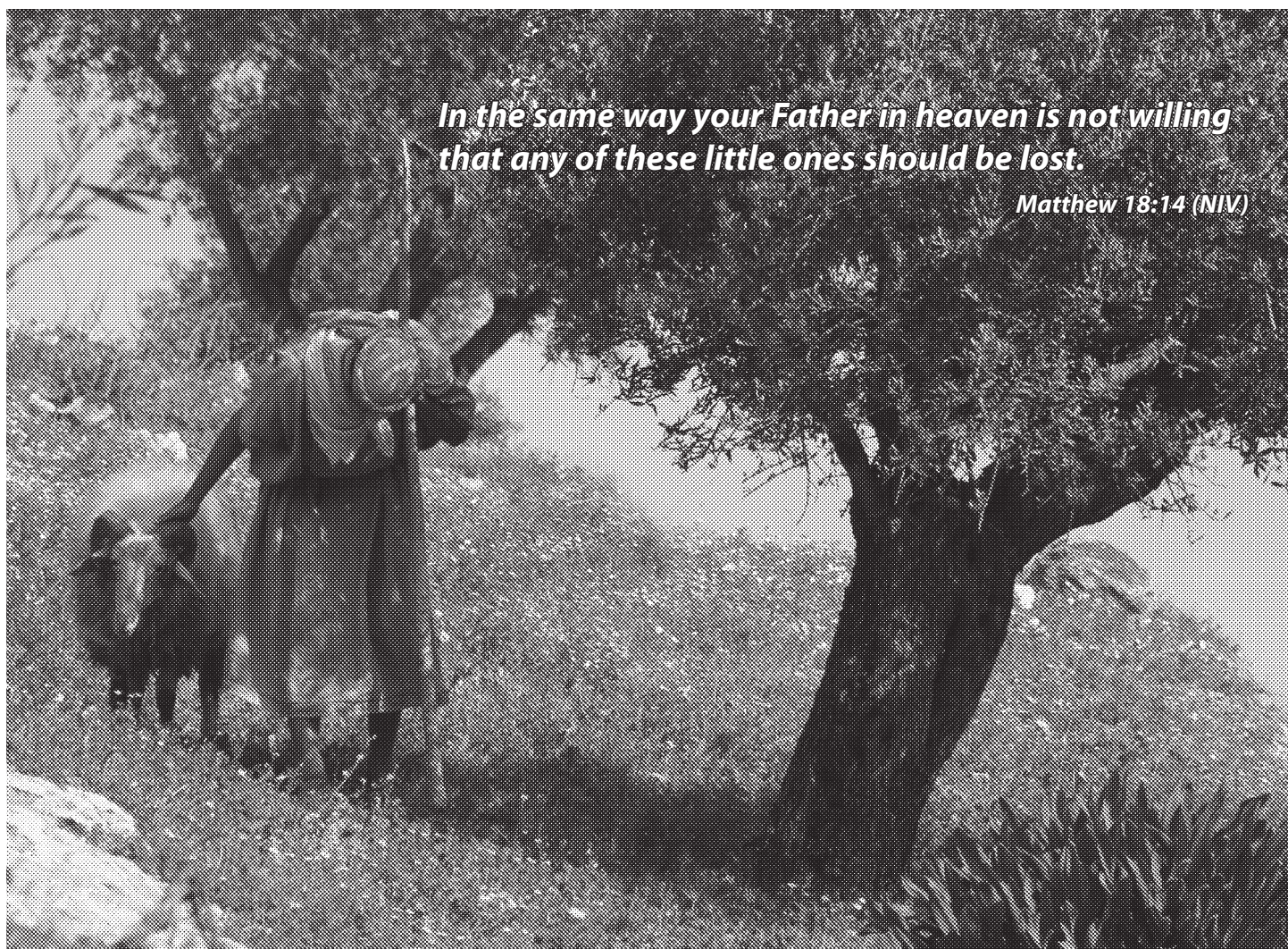
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In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost.

Matthew 18:14 (NIV)



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Shepherds Without Blemish

Stanley N. Helton

In his letter to the preacher Titus, Paul instructed Titus to appoint elders in the cities on the isle of Crete. The foremost quality expected of these leaders is that they be “blameless.”¹ The priority given this characteristic or virtue raises a question as to what it means in the context of church leadership both then and now. A sketch of the context of the letter to Titus provides the background that underscores why the reputation of an elder is so important.

The Literary Context of the Letter to Titus²

Paul states his purpose for writing his missionary mandate to Titus in 1:5. Here he (re)assigns Titus two tasks: (1) to set unfinished business in order and (2) to appoint leaders in every town (where a Christian community has been formed). The rest of the first chapter details this second task. In 1:6-9, Paul itemizes the virtues needed for leadership in Crete. The last quality in verse 9, the ability “to refute those who contradict,” prepares the reader for Paul’s assessment of Cretan society.

The populace of Crete lacks moral character, which the apostle maintains by quoting Epimenides, a Cretan poet, who lived in the sixth century BC. Not only does Titus minister to the likes of the Cretans, he also has to contend with “those of the circumcision” (see Acts 10:45; 11:2; cf. also Col. 4:10, 11). The latter is a Jewish Christian group committed to circumcision, who is exploiting the church by “ruining whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach” (v. 12). The situation in Crete is difficult; the gravity of the situation in Crete not only called this letter into being but also underscores why certain virtues are required of elders. Simply, one of the reasons we need good elders as models is because society is so bad and lacks such models.

In chapter two of Titus, the apostle expands on the first

of the two tasks (“to straighten out what was left unfinished”) mentioned in 1:5. In 2:1 Paul encourages Titus to teach “what is in accord with healthy teaching.” The content of “healthy teaching” (a better translation of the traditional “sound doctrine”) follows. In 2:2, Titus is to teach the older men, in verse 3, the older women, who are then to teach the younger women (vv. 4, 5). Why is Titus not to teach the younger women? The text gives no direct reason, but if the opponents are disrupting homes and the reputation of the Christian community is at stake, the suggestion safeguards Titus from false accusations. What’s more, Titus is to teach the young men (vv. 6ff.) and slaves (vv. 9, 10). In the case of the young men, Titus himself serves as model for the “blameless” life. Another goal of these virtues appears in the “so that” clauses at the end of vv. 5, 8, and 10:

v. 5 “... so that no one will malign the word of God.”

v. 8 “... so that those who oppose may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.”

v. 10 “... so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive” (NIV).

These ethical instructions are to have a profound effect on those outside the church, it has to do with, what we might call in today’s pervasive marketing parlance, public relations and image. The need to have something to say to outsiders informs Paul’s understanding of “blameless.”

Before explaining the relationship between the church and Cretan soci-

ety in the final chapter, Paul reminds Titus (2:15) of what he has already stated in 2:1, though ending with a surprising exhortation, “Do not let anyone despise you.” Again, this is a clue into the Titus’ situation: Paul anticipates opposition for Titus as well as for those who dare to be elders (see Tit. 1:9).

In 3:1-2, Paul shifts from relationships within the household/church to the relationship believers have with society. In 3:3-8, almost as a reminder that Titus must continue to have compassion on Cretan society, Paul recalls that believers too were once outside of fellowship with God, but now God had changed all that when he saved them, implying that he can do the same for depraved Cretans. The apostle finally returns to the problems arising from the Jewish Christian group described in 1:10-16, telling Titus to avoid them and their argumentative spirit (3:9-11). Titus is not to engage in intramural squabbles and arguments.

Final greetings fill 3:12-15, but in v. 14, the apostle can not dislodge from his mind the gravity of the moral problems in Crete. He points out one more time why it is so important that Christians do good, to provide for their daily needs and to live productive lives. We might ask: productive for whom? The letter has touched on this several times: for the good of those who do not know Jesus.

The Meaning and Use of “Blameless”

This brief overview invites a couple of observations regarding the word “blameless” and its function in Titus. The ethical state of the inhabitants of Crete is the opposite for what Paul is looking for in leaders for the church. This may suggest to Titus that finding good leaders may be difficult in that mission field—but also critical. This remains so even today.

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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.

Shepherd's Voice

Peter Morphy

There are a variety of associative terms that are frequently used to define those who are followers of God. We think of the relational implications of being God's children, bride, friends, disciples, citizens and priests. Perhaps the least flattering metaphor is sheep. In the Jewish mind sheep were dumb, dirty and defenseless animals, only outdone by those who tended them.

Sheep need good leadership. Without the oversight of the shepherd sheep will wander away from each other, roam into harm's way, stray away from their food source and be vulnerable to the attack of predators. Robert Robinson, who penned the hymn "O Thou Fount of Every Blessing," wrote, "O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee. Never let me wander from Thee, never leave the God I love. Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above." Since sheep are so prone to wander (the original wording from the hymn), the shepherd must be attentive, discerning and diligent.

Many leaders in the Old Testament were shepherds by occupation. Abraham and his sons had many sheep, even as they traveled toward Canaan. Moses learned the lessons of leadership through 40 years as a shepherd on the back fields of Midian. King David was also trained in skill and spirit on the lonely pastures with his father's flock. In Psalm 78:70-72 there is a description of God's plan and purpose, "He chose David His servant and took him from the sheep pens; from tending the sheep He brought him to be the shepherd of His people Jacob, of Israel His inheritance. And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them." Years with the sheep as a young lad, David learned some valuable lessons of faithfulness, decisiveness, trust, courage and leadership.

God often called the leaders of His people shepherds. One of the earliest

times mentioned is near the end of Moses' life, when he prays that God would choose a great man who will lead Israel, so the people will not be like sheep without a shepherd (Numbers 27:15-17). Moses knew the people were easily led astray by false teachers, personal appetites, sinful desires and pride. They had wandered in the desert long enough. It was time to move into the greener pastures of Canaan. The people needed to hear and follow the voice of God. The world has changed a lot since the days of Moses, but people haven't. Peter describes our own condition this way, "For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." (1 Peter 2:25)


King David writes and sings songs of praise from his own experience of shepherding sheep in one of the most famous chapters in the Bible, Psalm 23. He proclaims his allegiance and identity by proclaiming, "The Lord is my Shepherd." The following verses of this poetic psalm describe the details of that intimate relationship. The God of David satisfies, provides, protects, feeds, gives, guides, restores, comforts, blesses

and loves. Could a reasonable and rational person choose to follow, or even listen to, any other shepherd?

There are times when the shepherd takes a wounded or wandering sheep in his arms and carries it home. While we may immediately think of the parable of the lost sheep in Luke 15, David described their desperate need on God for salvation in Psalm 28:9, "Save Your people and bless Your inheritance; be their Shepherd and carry them forever." God tenderly cares for those who are lost and helpless. It is then that we recognize our own lost condition, our rebellious nature and are willing to humbly seek God's guidance and accept His grace. It was when Jesus saw that the people were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd, that He had compassion on them (Matthew 9:36).

The abundant love of our Lord is described in Isaiah 40:11, "He tends His flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart; He gently leads those that have young." At one time or another, we've all wandered away from the one who loves us most.

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Connecting to the Connected

Wayne Turner



Do Flickr, Blogger, Twitter, MySpace, Plaxo, Classmates, MyChurch, Bebo, Facebook, Tagged or Windows Live Spaces mean anything to you? These are all internet social networking sites. A social networking site is an internet community of people who interact with one another online by sharing information, videos and pictures through instant messaging, emailing each other and posting on the site. Wikipedia lists nearly 150 major social networking sites, some with over 200 million registered users!

In the early days of the internet, there were many who were concerned that it would create a culture of social recluses—people who sat alone in their rooms, isolated from almost all human contact, with their computers as their only companions. While there is a significant difference between face to face interactions between people and internet relationships, it seems that some people may now be better connected with other people than in the past. In our very transient society, social networking allows people to stay in touch (or even reconnect) with family, friends, former schoolmates, etc. around the world. And, it offers the ability to meet new people.

While people of all ages are involved in online networking, this has especially caught on with teens and young adults. Through sites like Facebook, young people can post moment by moment updates of their activities and thoughts, “poke” their friends (an electronic version of a friendly wink or nudge) and share pictures. Blog sites allow them to post more detailed information. Many young people have cell phones which give continuous access to these sites. It is common to see them busily texting as they ride buses, sit in restaurants and even classrooms. They are connected to one another, “24-7.”

Some older people might not understand the idea of social networking, but it highlights the importance of relationships for young people. Almost more than anything else, they want to be connected and stay connected. The internet enables this to happen. Earlier this year, Barna reported, “Younger adults rely on technology to facilitate their search for meaning and connection. These technologies have begun to rewire the ways in which people—especially the young—meet, express themselves, use content and stay connected.”

In the past, people networked in homes, churches, fraternal organizations and even the general store. The personal communities they built were small and limited to their immediate location. The telephone increased their range, but it was limited by cost and the ability to only connect with one or two at a time. Social networking

on the internet allows virtually an unlimited number of people to interact and can reach people around the world.

We have long known that the only way to reach people is to meet them where they are. The early church encountered people in the temple courtyard, on the road, in the marketplace, by the river—wherever people were. Today, one of the greatest opportunities to reach people, especially the young, is on the internet.

Many congregations have tried to establish their presence on the internet with a web page. Unfortunately, unless there is someone regularly updating the pages, they are passive and static. There is no incentive for web surfers to return, nothing to really catch their interest and attention. Sites like this are little more than signs advertising the congregation and its services. There needs to be more vision, especially if a congregation wants to reach out to younger people.

Some congregations have added digitally recorded sermons which are available for download as files or “streaming” (playing directly on the user’s computer). Podcasting (also known as an RSS feed – Really Simple Syndication) takes this a step further allowing the users to automatically identify and download new files. Podcasts can be downloaded either to a computer or a personal digital device, such as an iPod or MP3. (Judging by the seemingly ever present ear buds and headphones, it seems that almost every young person owns at least one of these devices.) However it isn’t merely the format that reaches them. The podcasts must be interesting and relevant.

Another possibility is to add a blog. This is a continuous series of messages, often updated daily. Some preachers use blogs quite effectively, posting daily messages which share a thought for the day—their own personal thinking and responses to events, books, etc.

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GOSPEL HERALD

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Delight in The Book

According to Victor Hugo, “England has two books, the Bible and Shakespeare. England made Shakespeare and the Bible made England.” I don’t know how accurate that remark is, however, I know that God’s people are made as they learn and follow the Bible. The Psalmist had it right when he wrote, “Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night” (Psalm 1:1, 2). If the people of God fail to read and obey the word of God, destruction will result.

Likely there is not a week goes by in our church assemblies without the Bible being read. Hopefully, the preaching that congregations hear is taken from the Bible and not simply some “self help” book or word of philosophy. (There may be good thoughts in such books or philosophies, but the message God’s people need to hear is God’s message inspired by the Holy Spirit.)

Often people will return to reading the Bible in times of trouble. However, in good times those who wish to fully honour God and live lives that please Him, will be readers as well. Remember when Israel captured Jericho and moved on to Ai, only to be defeated there? After taking care of the problem of the sin in the camp (sin of Achan) they went back to defeat Ai. Following that, when they arrived at Mounts Gerezim and Ebal, the people were divided, half on each mount and the law of God was re-read and acknowledged (Joshua 8:30-35).

It has been said that during the times when things are going well, when the church is “well off”, preaching of the word has declined. During these

times people are not being given the same challenge to live their Christian lives with emphasis on “thus says the Lord.” While this is surely not true everywhere, the question for each of us individually is, “Is this the case where I worship?”

When Nehemiah had succeeded in getting the wall rebuilt around Jerusalem following the captivity (a time when things were going well) he followed the lead of Joshua. Note the following from Nehemiah chapter 8.

“¹ And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel.

² So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³ And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. ⁴ And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose...” Note that here the book of God was brought and opened before the people of God and read to “those who could understand.” It did not end there.

“⁶ And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁷ Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the Law, while the people remained in their places.

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⁸ They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.” The word was read AND explained so all could understand. In teaching and preaching there must be a conscious effort to make sure the message is being explained so all can understand and draw near to God by faithful living.

“⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.” ¹¹ So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, “Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.” ¹² And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.” The word of God is joy giving. The joy given by understanding and living according to the Bible is everlasting. Entertaining preaching that pleases the “wants and will” of the masses, may give joy for a time but any preaching that distorts the gospel brings death not life.

In conclusion, remember the words of Paul. “I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed... For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ” (Galatians 1:6-10).

Is it time for the word to be re-read and acknowledged for what it really is, the only instruction that can save?

Articles for this page or reactions to it should be sent to:
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The Words of My Father *by Lisa Kay Smith*

I'll bet you're thinking, with a title like that, I'm talking about Scripture, the words of my heavenly Father. There are many of those that are written on my heart, but for this article, this time, I'm talking about the words of my flesh-and-blood daddy. The everyday words spoken in his deep bass voice that encouraged me, and reminded me and nagged at me, truth be told, still ring in my ears often.

My mother talked to me often. Very often. About being a lady, and sitting still in church, and eating my vegetables and watching my mouth, young lady! Poor Mama. She wasn't prepared for a child like me. She'd already had one child by the time I came along. He was a wonderful, quiet, compliant boy who was bright, sweet-natured and obedient. She must have thought child-rearing was a breeze. And then I came on the scene: a noisy, messy, stubborn, dig-in-your-heels-and-hold-your-breath-'til-you-turn-blue little girl, with a big vocabulary, a bigger voice and an opinion on every subject. Now, (as the parent of three very different children) I have an abundance of sympathy for my poor mom. I remember thinking she was so out-of-touch. Didn't she ever recall how it felt to be an adolescent? If she had, surely she would have been more sympathetic to my pleas for mini-skirts and hot pants when everyone got to wear them but me. Oh no. At the height of the mini-skirt age of the early 70's, I was wearing knee-length skirts and peddle-pushers. I felt like an alien being thrust among the normal earthlings. It was SO unfair, in my fourteen-year-old mind. And Mama just didn't seem to get it.

Daddy did.

I was always a "daddy's girl." Daddy made me feel special and important.

From my earliest childhood, I remember sitting on his lap, or perched on a corner of his big desk, discussing what was going on around us. Whether it was how birds built their nests, or how sedimentary rock builds up in layers, or the way a stalactite formed through the ages from tiny drops of calcium-rich water that dripped down-down-down from the roof of a cave, we talked. We discussed. We debated. When I was around thirteen I told him I couldn't ever remember not being able to read. I couldn't even imagine being illiterate. Wordlessly, he handed me one of his Greek texts. As I leafed through page after page of strange-looking symbols, I wondered if other girls had dads as wise as mine.

Daddy preached, and still does (at almost-seventy-seven) a couple of times a month in his native Kentucky, where he and Mama live now. I could always listen to Daddy preach. Because he's such a story-teller he could always hold my attention, but mostly I loved to hear him sing. His rumbling, pitch-perfect bass grounded whatever hymn was being sung. Singing was an incredible part of my growing up. Someone was always singing at our house—and often together. For awhile, before my brother's voice changed, (and he too became a bass) we had a phenomenal family quartet. Mama sang soft alto, my brother sang tenor, Daddy sang bass and with my soprano, the four of us could bend and blend those chords! There was no family tension, or teenage angst, or sibling rivalry when we sang together. Those are some of my favorite memories, the four of us harmonizing on the old Stamps-Baxter southern gospel quartet songs.

Daddy always encouraged my singing. He didn't gush about how gifted I was. He'd say, "I didn't know you could

hit that note!" Whether it was high or low I was determined that I would stretch a little higher, or drop a little lower the next time, just to hear him say those words again. And it worked! At one point my vocal range was just over three and a half octaves.

"Lisa, you're so independent," Daddy said one day while I struggled to put my first two-wheel bike away all by myself. Independent. When daddy said it with that proud timbre in his voice I just knew it was important to be independent.

Perhaps the words I remember the best from Daddy are, "Remember who you are." I couldn't walk out the door of our house without Daddy dropping a kiss on my cheek and saying, "Remember who you are." I knew he wasn't saying, "Remember that you are Lisa Kay Smith." Fat chance I was going to forget that. No, Daddy was reminding me of more than that. He was reminding me that every time I stepped out into the world I represented more than just myself: I represented a long line of Smiths on one side, and Hayes' on the other. One was from the coal fields of Kentucky, the other from northern Alabama. Both were poor, but each family was rich in traditions of family and faith. They served the Lord. They represented Christ and were His ambassadors to the world, whether it was in the depth of a dark coal mine, or in Honeycomb Valley, Alabama.

That's what Daddy wanted me to remember. I didn't walk alone. I carried that blood in my veins. Those words gave me strength to bear up under any hardships that came along as I grew up. I had a lineage: that just as I had inherited the high cheekbones and almost-black brown eyes and hair of my Cherokee great-great-grandmother on one side, and the square jaw of Daddy's English/Irish ancestor's, I am also, according to the apostle Paul, blood-tie bound to God as His child through the blood of Christ. An heir and co-heir with Jesus, Paul says in Romans 8:17. We're kinfolk. We matter to each other. In fact, my Abba Father loves me even more than my earthly father. As much as that is

continued on next page

Don Hipwell

Avril Keoughan, Medical Missionary

While Avril Keoughan was home on leave from Ghana, the congregation at Fenwick was pleased that she chose to worship with us. We got to know her quite well and discovered that Ralph Perry was one of the people who encouraged her to go to Africa. For those who may not know her background, Myrna Perry uncovered a few News East clippings from the Gospel Herald at the time she began her work. They follow...

Vol. 52, No. 12, December 1987, p. 11 Hamilton (Center): "The families of Wayne and Julia Page, Bob and Beth Hibbard, Chris and Barb Hoover, Brian and Gail Tolcher, Avril Keoughan and Ed Klassen have decided to start up a much needed work in the center of Hamilton."—The Sentinel, Stoney Creek. Vol. 54, No. 12, December 1989, p. 11

News East: Hamilton (West), ON: Avril Keoughan, of this church, a qualified nurse with almost 20 years of experience, has been preparing since July 1988 to enter the mission field. She hopes to use her experience and training by joining the Christians operating as a health care team in Kumasi, Ghana.

Vol. 55, No. 3, March 1990, p. 11 News East: Hamilton (West) ON: Avril Keoughan of this congregation was scheduled to go to Ghana, West Africa as a medical missionary early this year.

Avril returned to Ghana on Monday, January 19, 2009. Before she left we

asked what we could do concerning the work in Ghana. She presented us with the following letter and permission to share it with the hope that others might respond:

Churches in the rural areas of Ghana far outnumber those in the urban areas. However, it is becoming clear that most of them are dwindling and have become inactive. One of the reasons is that about 92% of these churches have no preaching equipment or materials to propagate the gospel.

It has therefore been decided that a 'Gospel Van', equipped with a generator, P.A. system, projector, VCD player, Bibles, tracts, materials for the Lord's Supper, etc., be purchased and sent on campaign trips at the request of the brethren, to boost evangelism and revive existing churches, as well as establish new ones.

How the project will be undertaken

- House to house evangelism.
- Screenings of gospel films in the evenings.
- Distribution of tracts and other religious material.
- Regular visits to congregations in remote places to worship with them.
- Regular meetings with leaders/preachers of the rural churches would be held to share experiences and other skills in church administration.

Objectives

- To undertake intensive evangelism in the rural areas of Ghana.
- To visit and encourage established congregations in these areas to strengthen them.
- To provide the village congregations with the Lord's Supper and other worship materials.

Supervising Body

Bonso Church of Christ would have oversight responsibility over the project through the church's Evangelism and Missions Committee.

We are therefore beseeching you to donate to this project, assist in soliciting funds or find someone who would be interested in this project. Listed are items needed and some current prices: New van – \$27 000; Used van – \$16 000; Generator – \$700; P.A. system – \$800; Projector – \$1200; DVD player – \$150; VCD player – 100; Lord's Supper materials; Bibles; Tracts; Digital camera; Video camera.

It is our prayer that we will have a positive response to make this project a success. Please send donations to: Bonso Church of Christ
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Kumasi - Ghana
OR

Bonso Church of Christ
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In His Service,
Gabriel Opong (elder)
Evangelism/Missions
e-mail: gakopong@yahoo.com

Continued from previous page

hard for me to imagine sometimes.

Before you take that next step outside your door, I hope you'll stop to remember, what you represent, and those who've gone before you to fight the good fight, those who inspire you, those who have helped to shape you into the special person you are now, and who you are becoming. As you step out that door into the world,

I hope you'll take a moment to be thankful for those people, and always, always, as I do even to this day, I hope that you'll feel a real connectedness to the inheritance you have from your Abba Father, and His love for you. You are precious in His sight—I hope you'll remember who you are.

(Lisa Kay (Smith) Hauser is an award winning Christian author,

singer and speaker. Lisa attended Great Lakes Christian College in 1974/75 and remembers it as her favorite year of high school. She and her husband, Richard, have three children and four grandchildren, and live in southern Wisconsin. She talks to her dad every night at 10:00. You can read more about Lisa at www.thefamilyminute.com)

When Justice Just Isn't Just

Richard Kruse

Victor Hugo's story, *Les Misérables*, reminds us that justice just doesn't always seem just. Hugo's story is about a French police officer, Emile Javert (whose life's focus was consumed by the laws of the land. We might say he had a Pharisaical outlook on life. He believed the laws must be completely obeyed without exception) and Jean Valjean (a Frenchman of good character and great strength.) According to the story, in 1800, Jean Valjean, who had no job, stole a loaf of bread to feed his sister and her babies. This action set in motion a life-time of misery for Jean Valjean. For that crime, he was sentenced to ten years as a galley slave (A galley was a ship whose source of power was oars pulled by slaves.).

After being a prisoner for years, Jean Valjean was released on parole. Emile Javert, the strict and unkind man of law, became the Chief of Police for the district in which Jean Valjean lived. Emile Javert was a continuous challenge for Jean Valjean throughout the story.

We all agree that stealing is wrong. Yet, the 10-year sentence for Jean

Valjean is just unjust to us. Yet, to people like Emile Javert, it seems just. "You do the crime, you do the time". Stealing a loaf of bread to feed the hungry is still stealing, and to make an exception for one person would be to set a dangerous example for others. Justice demands a consistent punishment for crimes committed.

Many people see God like that. They think of him sitting with anger in front of a big book, keeping a record of each and every one of our sins; he never misses even one. Perhaps that is one reason why so many people either live in fear of God or refuse to think about spiritual matters. No one wants to be judged and condemned for everything they've ever done. It would be hard to love a God who carefully records all the bad decisions you've made and bad things you've ever done and then sees if these balance out with the good you've done. Most of these people rightfully fear that their bad outweigh their good.

For some people, religion is all about balance: doing enough good to cancel out the bad. But it doesn't work like that at all. Jean Valjean did not receive credit for whatever good he may have done in his life. Whatever good motive Jean had was not important in the eyes of the law. Justice demands restitution, or punishment, or both. Thinking in terms of balancing your good deeds with your bad deeds is simply wishful thinking. Sin does not balance. Ask Jean Valjean, the Frenchman. It had effects that reach far beyond the initial act. If you doubt that, look around, read the newspapers and you will see the demands of victims for justice.

Don't you agree that we've often had more bad actions than good? The Bible reminds us, "You may be sure that your sin will find you out" (Numbers 32:23). Sometimes the full affects of what we do take a little time to be revealed in us. But revealed they most often surely are.

But where the bad news sounds so very bad, the good news sounds especially good. "Yet the LORD longs

to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him" (Isaiah 30:18).

God is slow to exercise his justice when that justice demands his people be punished. Many times the writers of the Old Testament used the phrase: "Gracious and slow to anger" to describe God. God desires to be gracious and bless his people. He gives us time to repent and turn to him. In Jesus, God even gave us the atoning (To reconcile; to bring people into a right relationship with God.) sacrifice for our sins. The challenge for us is to hear the heart of God and respond by turning our lives and our hearts to the God who loves us.

"God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them" (2 Corinthians 5:19). When Paul wrote about God "reconciling himself to the world in Christ.", he was saying that even though we're guilty, even though our sins separated us from God, God has chosen to make right the things between us. He does this by doing what the laws of 1800 France really couldn't do. God does not count our sins against us. He chooses to give us his grace and to forgive us. He gives his love and offers us mercy instead of justice. He bends the rules in our favour.

Notice, Paul tells us that God does all this "in Christ." There is a lot of meaning in those two words. Think about what it means to be "in Christ". How does Jesus' death and resurrection make right our actions which separated us from God? Is he our Saviour? Is he our substitute, suffering in our place? Is he an atoning sacrifice, making peace with God's justice? Does he give to us his righteousness? Does he include us in his victory over sin and death through our faith in him?

The answer is "yes" in all those ways of understanding Jesus' work. Yet, they're also all imperfect metaphors for something that's not to be

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Moncton, NB

Preacher/evangelist needed for the Riverview Church of Christ in Moncton, New Brunswick. Congregation is small but we have our own building. We can help a bit with support. Moncton is a booming town, full of souls to save. We pray that God will bless us with who He deems we need.

For information contact:

Roger Leger (506) 852-4143 or
Christian Maillet (506) 860-6177



College and High School

Changing lives... one student at a time!

Applications: The full specifics of the qualifications and job descriptions are available. All applicants must be a committed Christian and an active member of the Church of Christ. A clear criminal and vulnerable sector record check and credit check must be submitted prior to employment. For full consideration, submit your application including your resume, cover letter and references by email to: business@westernchristian.ca, drop off/mail: Western Christian College Attn: Dorothy Davis, Human Resources 100 - 4400 Fourth Avenue, Regina, SK, S4T 0H8 Phone: (306) 545-1515 ext 223, or fax (306) 352-2198. All information received will be kept in strict confidence and only for employment-related purposes. Only selected candidates will be contacted. Positions will remain open until a suitable candidate is selected. Salaries are set according to a salary grid based on education and experience.

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

Barrie: "In Tune," the Young Adult weekend, was held in Barrie on May 1-3, 2009. Speakers were Paul Hillier, Pinehill church of Christ in Sault Ste Marie, and Greg Whitfield, minister at the Cambridge church of Christ.

Beamsville: A special collection was taken by the congregation for Barry McBride, son of Chuck and Marylin, his wife Rachele and their three children, who experienced the loss of their Beamsville home in a fire recently. The church served a meal on Thursday, March 26, to needy individuals in the community through a programme entitled, "A Loaf of Bread." The Great Lakes Christian High School rally was held April 17-19.

Bramalea: Kim and JoAnn Huliganga, brother and sister (children of Dindo and Marilyn Huliganga) were baptized into Christ on Sunday, March 22, by Kevin Hunter. Two bales of winter coats were sent to Brian and BonnieLee Cox at the Neskantaga Indian Reserve for distribution to the people there. The Christian Chronicle, a newspaper for churches of Christ, featured an article in its April issue about Ontario churches. It was written by Bobby Ross, Jr. after his recent visit to Ontario. It can be seen at www.christianchronicle.org, pages 19-21. The congregation will celebrate its 40th anniversary on Saturday, October 24, 2009. Anyone with memories and/or pictures of the congregation during those 40 years are asked to send them to Bramalea Church of Christ, 750 Clark Blvd., Brampton ON, L6T 3Y2 - attention: 40th anniversary committee. All former members are invited to participate in that day's celebration.

Brantford: On March 15, Glen Robins spoke and brought young people with him to help with the morning worship. On March 22

a potluck lunch was held when Jamie and Bianca Azzoparde visited.

Fennell: The Bible School Day Camp, assisted by a group from Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee, was attended by up to 40 children.

Fenwick: Don Hipwell, preacher for the congregation, is recovering from a heart attack suffered on April 7, 2009. From April 24-26, the congregation offered a teaching workshop entitled: "Equipping the Saints for Service." Sessions included: "Equipping Oneself," taught by Dwayne Williams, and "Presenting Your Message," presented by Noel Walker.

Newmarket: 2009 "Training for Service" was held April 10 with 600+ individuals in attendance. A breakfast meeting was held the following Monday, April 13, with John York, David Lipscomb University, speaking.

Thessalon: The congregation has been quite active in the community. Various members are involved with local chapters of the Heart and Stroke Association and the Canadian Cancer Society. Others take part in the local Heritage Society and the food bank. One of its members co-ordinates the volunteer programme for the local public school; and several members are involved in various ways. During February, the congregation invited the community to join them for a skating party for Bible School children and also for a hockey game; and on March 15 they hosted a family skating party followed by visiting and a chili supper. On March 29 area singing was hosted and the community was invited to join us for praise and celebration.

Toronto (Strathmore Blvd.): Key To The Kingdom Day was May 3. Some facts concerning the Key work in 2008: Since May 30, 2008 Key has been on CHNU JOY TV, Channel 10, serving Vancouver, Victoria and the Fraser Valley. The programme is on Friday mornings at 8:00, Pacific Time. From January 16 - February 13, 2009, Neilson numbers set our viewing audience at an average of 5,000+. The number of calls averaged 73 per month in 2008. Many of these were from people who were seeking information about church locations or seeking answers to Biblical questions. An average of 62 new Bible courses were sent out per month in 2008. New Project: Filmed Bible discussions (involving 3 or 4 people) on various subjects to be offered on the programme for further Bible study. We pray these can be of special value to those in remote areas where there is no congregation of the Lord's Church. Finances: In 2008 we had two major contributions from congregations - \$24,990 and \$12,000 - which allowed us to pay off the equipment deficit we had carried since 2005

of \$28,000, and still finish the year on the plus side. We started 2009 with a balance of \$18,361.93. We can't expect such generous special gifts each year, so regular support is needed. Renewed television contracts: Since television time is the greatest single cost, we rejoiced that S-Vox, the owner of the stations Key is on, renewed our contracts on Vision and the Christian Channel through February, 2010, at no increase in cost. Television costs: Vision - \$947.00 per week, Christian Channel - \$470.00 per week, CHNU JOY TV - \$353.00 per week. * Church building pictures: We have been filming in various locations around Ontario and feel this is a good way of making people aware of the church in various parts of the country. Since we can't travel to every location across this great country, we want to obtain pictures from congregations across Canada this year so we can feature a different congregation each week. We will show the building, give the location, times of services and contact information for the featured congregation. Two or three digital pictures of the outside of the building, with a picture of the sign showing service times etc, along with the contact information can be sent to maxc@strathmorecofc.ca. Physical photographs can be sent to Strathmore Blvd Church of Christ, 346 Strathmore Blvd, Toronto, ON, M4C 1N3.

Waterloo: Mitch Muir was baptized by Paul Bisanti on Wednesday, March 18. Alison Verdonk was also baptized in March. The congregation is collecting notes of encouragement for a book to send with Carol and Larissa Pinczuk when they return to the Ukraine. A special collection to help the Narcic family, refugees from Bosnia, raised \$1,611.80. Wil Maddeaux and Murray Hibbard are planning a "Messiah" sing-along at the Waterloo church building on Saturday, May 9, 2009. Bill Schwarz has accepted the job of Academic Dean at Western Christian College in Saskatchewan. Donations by the ladies of the congregation totalled \$315 for the China Mission (\$250 in US funds), and was sent to provide four orphan children with basic necessities.

Windsor: April 25 was a work morning at the church building to sort and organize clothing donated by a second hand store, The Second Edition, that recently closed, as well as clothing donated by members of the congregation. Drew Chappados held a meeting at the Lincoln Park church of Christ the weekend of April 26 entitled "Day of the Lord." The congregation's second annual "Walk 4 Water" is planned for May 16. This programme is arranged by "Healing Hands International" in Nashville, Tennessee, and the congregation's donation was used to drill wells in Africa.

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(BC news supplied by Barbara Lewis)

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Burnaby: Following our March 15 Sunday evening Bible study Belisha Duan was baptized. About 35 friends and members of our congregation were on hand to welcome her into God's Kingdom. Trevor & Sheri Wise <<http://www.wiseones.net>>, and their two sons, who have lived in Calgary for the past several years, were involved in a special missions project in Venezuela in May. Our congregation is helping provide some of their financial support. Rey Playa is heading a Friday evening "Prayer and Praise" night at the building. The Canadian Red Cross sent the congregation a plaque expressing appreciation for our sponsorship and participation in the Young Musicians' Benefit Concert relief effort for survivors of the May 12, 2008 earthquake in Sichuan, China.

Delta: Raymond and Merle Fillion were guests on Mar. 15 when Raymond brought a power point presentation of the school compound and surrounding houses that have been built in Haiti through their efforts in the last few years.

Oakridge: A woman on her way from Fort St. John, BC, to the Dominican Republic, with her family, was baptized at Oakridge on March 4. About 15 gathered to witness Danyelle Edgar immersed into Christ by Milton Diaz before continuing her trip. Danyelle, who is 25 and has three children, had sent Brother Diaz an urgent message asking him to help her in her obedience

after her request was turned down by preachers in all the denominations in her town. She was told that they only baptized at certain times and she would have to attend their services awhile first. Having come to a belief in Christ as God's son and been persuaded that she needed to be baptized to be added to His church, she didn't want to wait. She said that she felt desperate. Finally, she found a church of Christ on the internet. She wanted to be sure it was not a denomination like the others because, she wrote, they all had conflicting beliefs.

She learned that the closest church of Christ was in Prince George, over 400 kilometers away. She wrote that she would be in Richmond on the 4th and asked if Brother Diaz could baptize her at 5 p.m. After asking her a number of questions about the meaning of baptism, he agreed. She arrived at 4:30 with a bathing suit and towels, and was overjoyed when so many were there to greet her and witness her baptism. Her family returned home a week later, grateful for all they have in comparison to what they found in the poor sections of the Dominican Republic. Notes of encouragement may be sent to Danyelle at: 8904 81 St Street, Fort St. John, BC, V1J 6T7. It would be a reassuring welcome if she received cards and letters congratulating her upon her obedience to the Gospel, and welcoming her as a sister in Christ. In so far as has been determined, there are no other members of the church living in Ft. St. John at this time. Norm Weir, who took her confession, promised to add it to their list of travels in the future.

SASKATCHEWAN

Western Christian College: Western Christian High School Homecoming was held April 3-5. High School classes of 1949, 1959, 1969, 1979, 1989, 1999, and 2004 were honoured. College classes of 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2005 were honoured. The Association of Christian Schools International

(ACSI) has selected Western Christian High School's REACH program as an Exemplary School Programme for the 2008-2009 school year. Over 140 programmes were considered. The criteria assessments were: 1. Unique, innovative, cutting edge, 2. Transferable, 3. Extraordinary, 4. Involvement, 5. Measurable, impactful and 6. Community. The senior girls' volleyball teams had their most successful season since the school moved to Regina. They completed regular season league play undefeated with a record of 12-0. They placed second at three tournaments. After advancing through conference playoffs to regional playoffs, the girls came within a game of advancing to the provincial tournament. The library has undergone a radical transformation. The computer lab, formerly in the basement, has been moved to the main floor of the library. The entire fiction collection was moved from the main floor to the second floor. The non-fiction collection was moved downstairs. The back room and "stacks" were also reorganized.

The mini mustang club has begun in which young lives are mentored live a Christian life. This club is for any student who would like to be matched with a mustang mentor (male or female student enrolled at WCHS), participate in quarterly quizzes and prizes, receive M&Ms VIP club card for passes to events and candy from The Bean, learn more about WCHS, attend M&Ms bible classes at Lectureship and Homecoming, attend sporting events to watch the Mustangs and visit the campus for a tour with their mentor. The chorus toured from March 25-29. The college graduation will be held April 25 and High School Graduation will be held June 26. The upcoming annual musical will be May 29-30.

Weyburn: Stan Helton, academic dean of WCC, will present several lessons on Spiritual Formations over the April 17-19 weekend. There was a training session for Friend Speak given by Andrea Muirhead.

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QUEBEC

Montreal: Marc Leduc was recently baptized into Christ. A 3-day seminar on the topic of creation with Kim Wall from literalgenesis.org was held recently. The congregation has broadened its online outreach with new applications to enable using handheld devices (e.g., iPods, iPhones, and Blackberrys) to access all the teaching material on its bibletalk.ca website. The congregation has developed a new tool for personal evangelism, called

"Evangelism toolbox." The envelope contains: a pocket size New Testament to give away; the "Christianity for Beginners" DVD set, an information package on the church, a sample Bible correspondence course; and member invitation cards. Michael Mazzalongo preaches once a month at the West Ottawa church of Christ, the newest congregation in the nation's capital city, Ottawa. Glen Robins, who will graduate this month from Great Lakes Bible College with a bachelor of theology degree, will head to Montreal in the fall to work and train with

Michael Mazzalongo at the Ville-Émard congregation.

USA

Detroit: Javier Cuarezma, minister for the Spanish congregation in Detroit SW, reports the recent shooting death of Julio Diaz, a 37-year-old young man who was baptized on October, 2004 - the first baptism in this congregation. His brother, Armando Diaz (52), who was baptized in 2007, was also shot but is recovering. Javier asks for prayers for the family of the brothers.

MISSION NEWS

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CHAD (AFRICA): A cardboard box is saving the lives of thousands of people in refugee camps in the country of Chad. More than 250,000 Sudanese who fled the genocide in Darfur have learned to use a solar cooker that is ingenious in its simplicity. As they will cook anything that can be cooked, and even boil water, they are making a huge difference in the camps, as it means that women and girls no longer have to go outside to find wood to build fires, thus escaping the possibility of rape and death. Made of two pieces of cardboard, tinfoil and sunlight, the women have been taught not only how to use them, but how to make them. This new skill is generating an income for their families. More than 40 women have been trained to teach others how to use them, and 20 in each camp hand-assemble the cookers in workshops. The refugee families receive two kits: one with which to cook millet, and one to use for a vegetable or sauce. Each cooker lasts from six to nine months if placed in a sunny spot outdoors that is protected from the wind. Being able to boil water has greatly reduced the number of water-borne diseases. Humanitarian projects have also introduced the solar cookers to Mali, Kenya and Tanzania in Africa, India, Vietnam and Nepal in Asia.

INDIA: Five newcomers accompanied Ron and Karen Clayton on their last trip to India. One was Bro. Scott Elliott from

Wilberton, Oklahoma, who reported, in part: "I cannot begin to describe what is happening in India with the Lord's church. Some have tried to tell about the success and growth of the church in India, and several have responded by saying the reports cannot possibly be true. I can tell you from first-hand experience that they ARE true. I have seen it with my own eyes. The people of India are eager to hear the Gospel and when it is preached, they are accepting and obeying it. This is a unique time in the history of India. It is much like what happened in the USA years ago. People were very religious and they accepted the Truth when it was presented.

This is how the church grew then in the USA and how it is growing now in India. We have a window of opportunity opened to us... As I see it, we have two options: we can sit around questioning the numbers until this opportunity passes us by, or we can do something about it. I would hate to go before God on the Day of Judgment and have Him ask, 'Why didn't you help the brethren preach the Gospel to the people of India?' And my only answer be, 'I didn't believe the numbers!' Brethren, the Gospel is powerful and it is time we start to believe it and preach it!" Another was Jim Kelly from Asher, Oklahoma, who wrote: "I went to India, not as a supporter of any group working there... so I was a very objective observer. Truthfully, I was very sceptical of the reports I had seen about how much is being accomplished. But I have come to see these reports are true. The reports of thousands being baptized and conversions of denominational preachers and entire congregations are TRUE! The spread of the Gospel is dramatic and must be something like the explosion of the Gospel from Jerusalem in the first

century... it is simply phenomenal."

CAMBODIA: Six Asian nations participated in a youth camp outreach to street kids near Angkor Wat in Cambodia March 15-20. For the third year, a camp in Siem Reap was used to "go the extra mile" for 150 to 200 children. The first three days were spent in creative learning activities. Two more days were given to training the children to do social service projects in schools and orphanages. The hands-on practice was helpful in giving the young people the opportunity to show leadership and responsibility. Each was encouraged to serve in whatever area they were gifted. However, in previous camps, even jobs like washing off head lice that they had never seen before did not deter some Japanese and Singapore children from taking on anything they were asked to do.

MYANMAR (Burma): On March 16, Bill and Marie-Claire McDonough sent out letters to participants in "Partners in Progress" that they would be leaving the work in Cambodia in April to move to Myanmar. They were undertaking this 500-mile move, they explained, because the several areas of help they started in Cambodia were going so well that they felt it would continue in the hands of others, but that there were no missionaries in Myanmar. A new radio program was to begin last month, and some 5,000 are continuing to study Bible correspondence courses in that cyclone-ravaged country. When the McDonoughs went to Cambodia six years ago, there were two congregations and they were the only missionaries. Today there are nine others, and dozens of churches. In addition, a sizable group of English Bible study teachers come over for one to six months annually to teach an average of 60 University students. The "Ship of Life" is treating 36,000



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patients a year with many of the doctors and dentists on board, volunteers who are able to help for a few weeks at a time. Others are feeding 1,200 children daily, and paying for the education of over 300 students who had dropped out of school. The McDonoughs will enter Myanmar aware of the oppression and anti-Christian policies of the government. However, although they will be the only American Christians, they feel that God cares about the lost and will continue to help them take the Gospel to this country of 47,000,000 people.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Ruth Zimmerman reports: "Here in Lae life goes on as usual. January saw her back into a more normal translating routine after a few months of disrupted work. I am making good progress with the World Bible School materials and hope to have them fully translated before my next leave in 2010. I have approximately 190 new song translations completed... and hope to have a new songbook put together before leaving... Please pray for Abednego Bugere, Miring's nephew. (Miring is Ruth's roommate.) We were overjoyed to witness his baptism recently and are excited to see the growth in him already."

JAPAN: Joel Osborne reports that, in less than three months Sendai's LST team will arrive from Ohio and West Virginia, and a FriendsCamp team from Richland Hills, Texas, and York, Nebraska, will also be in Japan soon. Joel plans to begin a cell group soon with several members and non-members in Sendai, focusing on prayer, study and discussion on becoming a community of faith in Japan. He expresses thanks to God for the Angkor of Faith 3 campaign in Singapore and Thailand. The 105 attendees at the AOF were from 6 Asian nations. Joel is still seeking ongoing monthly support. Funds can be sent to Bramalea church of Christ (attn: Joel Osborne/Japan), 750 Clark Blvd., Brampton, Ontario, L6T 3Y2 Canada or East Hill church of Christ (attn: Joel Osborne/Japan), 1225 East 10th Street, York NE 68467 USA. Sasha Ingle, Sendai intern, also

still needs more funds if she is to remain in Japan. Sasha's work is very valuable to the Sendai work as she follows up on LST contacts and assists the congregation in other ways. Funds can be sent for her to her sponsoring church: Cheyenne church of Christ, (attn: Sasha's Support), PO Box 2847, Cheyenne WY, 82003, USA. Ben & Erika Berry, and Jon & Michiko Straker recently completed another semester of their graduate studies in missions at Abilene Christian University. Yuko Kawamura, one of Sendai's first converts, is in Canada on a year-long working visa and is employed at Toshi's Japanese Restaurant in Brampton,

Ontario. Prayers are requested for all members of the team.

For information or reports of the Japanese work, please contact:
 - benberry@gmail.com or
 - <http://www.benberry19.blogspot.com>;
 - joelosborne4@yahoo.com;
 - <http://debihobelman1413.blogspot.com>;
 - <http://sashainsendai.blogspot.com>;
 - jstrake@yahoo.com,
 - <http://strakerhouse.com>, or
 - <http://hijimino.exblog.jp/>;
 Or contact the Bramalea church at
 - mail@bramaleacofc.ca.



Seeking Volunteer Board of Directors Applications

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.

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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

Please forward resume and letter of interest to:
 Russ Cosby, Chairman of the Board of Directors
rcosby@paddonyorke.com

234 Cook St., Barrie, Ontario L4M 4H5 • 705-726-1003

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explained as much as simply accepted by faith. Sometimes the language of logic and explanation must be replaced by the language of faith and praise. In the end, it is less important that we answer the question of exactly what God was doing "in Christ" than that we answer the question of whether or not we are "in Christ" and what it means to be "in Christ". "All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ" (Galatians 3:27). Paul means more than merely being immersed in water; he is also referring to the turning of our will and life (The will [spirit, heart, mind] affected by thoughts and feelings, is the internal source of character. The life is the external, the visible demonstration of character.) over to God, before being baptized. Being "in Christ", then, is a matter of surrender and trust. It's a matter of turning away from all the old ways of living, and replacing that, in which we once trusted, with trusting in Jesus. Even that, of course, is a gift of God. God responds to that faith in Jesus, as weak and unsure as that faith may be, by removing the charges against us, by replacing justice with mercy.

This is different and better than a picture of God looking for and taking delight in finding fault with his creatures. Such a frightful picture is a creation of human self-hating as well as self-righteousness. The God of the universe is beyond complete understanding and explanation. He revealed himself in his eternal Word, the Messiah (John 1:1-14), who shared our humanity, died and rose again so that our sin would not be counted against us. The Apostle Paul wrote, "If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17-18). And, he went on to say, "All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation." "All this is from God": the God of the new creation, the God of new beginnings, the God of life from death, the God of hope from despair, the God of loving mercy. This God who comes to his sinful, guilty children, raises our heads and gives us grace, mercy, and love—as well as a new purpose to take that message of reconciliation to others who need to hear it.

Yes, we must plead "guilty as charged". There's no way to truth-

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fully deny it and there is just no way to justify it. We see injustice in the world and cry for justice. We come to the Messiah and see something better for ourselves. When we come in faith and repentance, we find something far better than justice, we find mercy. We find a God who knows what we've done, and why we did it, but who chose to suffer through Christ rather than to let our sins come between us and him. Just think, we can continue to find new creation and new life full of hope and promise that can be more fully ours.

All this is from God for who will be praised forever.

Toronto, ON

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Shepherd's Voice... continued from page 3

Sometimes we drift away because of ignorance or apathy. Other times it is in rebellion and pride. Then there are times when we are tempted by the greener pastures across the fence. Yet, after all that we've done, it's hard to imagine a God who carries us close to His heart. But He wouldn't have it any other way. And there's no other place I'd rather be. When He gently wraps His arms around us, we feel accepted, safe and loved.

There comes a time when the sheep respond to the Good Shepherd by a decision to willingly follow. No need for more leashes, fences or fear. He doesn't need to pull, prod or poke us to move us in His direction. We know a good thing when we see it. We recognize a Good Shepherd when He calls. Finally, we see Jesus for Who He is. We eagerly anticipate the sound of His voice because He knows our need,

He supplies our feed and we follow His lead. We know His voice and He knows our name (John 10:3-4).

Now we eagerly anticipate the opportunity to tell others how good our Shepherd has been to us. The Psalmist wrote, "Then we Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will praise You forever; from generation to generation we will recount Your praise" (Psalm 79:13). Those who live under the staff of the Shepherd can't wait to give thanks, honor and glory. Again the Psalmist proclaims, "Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name." (Psalm 100:3-4) Don't be sheepish—give glory to God and tell of His grace and love to those around you.

What a Difference a Day Makes— The Day of the Lord—4

Drew Chapados

As a teenager I can remember feelings of fear concerning the judgment day that caused me to leave the light on in my bedroom so I could do what I needed to do to be safe with God, once I heard the trumpet sound! I find it interesting that so much of our thoughts about the end of the world tend to go to the side of destruction. While the earliest Christians spoke of it as something to be desired, 1 Corinthians 16:22, "...our Lord Come—'Maranatha'". Even in the book of Revelation, near the end of the book,—“Come, Lord Jesus” (22:20). One of the few who saw Jesus go back to be with God wrote at the end of God’s book for the promise to be fulfilled—for Jesus to come.

I don’t know what your thoughts on judgment day might be. We probably run a wide spectrum from being fearful to dreamy. But imagine with me; It is a typical Sunday morning, the alarm has just gone off and you realize it is time to get ready to go to the meeting of the church. Not ever wanting to give voice to such thoughts, however, you might wonder if it would just be better to get an extra hour of sleep or go shopping for the day. You remove those kinds of thoughts from your head and begin to get your household awake and ready for the day. Showers are all accomplished, hairdryers are going and you start getting yourself in the mind frame to worship. You sing some songs about Jesus pray about the coming day and maybe look over some scriptures. You get yourself and your kids all ready; clothes are picked out, breakfast is served, coffee is being swallowed or gulped and your family begins to discuss, “I wonder who is on for song-leading today?”,

“I wonder what the lesson will be about?” “I wonder how long it will be?” “I wonder how boring it will be?”

“Well, lets go” Dad says and you grab the diaper bag, the snack bag, the book bag and the extra outfits in case you need them. Oh yes, before almost leaving them behind you grab your Bibles and get into the car to begin the long journey to the church building. Why is it so difficult to get up and get ready for church service? It wasn’t always this way, as you remember. Shortly after your baptism, it was thrilling to “go to church” but now it seems like so much effort.

A Christian CD is turned on and more singing of songs about Jesus can be heard inside the car. You begin to think; “Jesus really is wonderful for dying on that cross.”

Then it happens! All of a sudden, you hear a noise that you have never

heard before. It seems like everything has suddenly come to a halt. Soon, the earth is quaking and it seems like people are beginning to rise, simply floating in the air. You look up into the sky and you do not believe it at first but you can’t not-believe it! It looks like angels with trumpets and hear a song that makes you feel like you are in an unreal place. You don’t remember leaving your car, but you are sure you are not in it anymore. All of a sudden, it’s like time isn’t moving, the angels are showing a great display, there is a circle forming and someone is coming right in the midst of them.

This “someone” is a person you know you have never seen before but you know it is HE! How? You just know. He comes and you can’t explain in a million years how it has come to be, but you are so close to Him, you bow your head, sink to your

knees and say “Oh, my King, my sweet, sweet King, Jesus. I have always dreamt about this but never imagined it would be this wonderful.” And he says, “my dear child, I have come” as I said.

John 14:1–3 fulfilled, what a glorious day that will be. I pray that your vision of the return of Jesus will be a day of great joy, instead of seeing His return as something to be feared. He is the greatest being in the universe and He paid the price to be your Saviour and Friend.

**What makes the
difference on that day?
It is:**

1) A Day to Surrender!
Most people think of the world as having 2 ages. In Romans 5 & 6, Paul speaks of three ages. In Romans 5:6,8,10, “while we were...” That is the first age of man when we were “sinners,”

continued on next page...

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The Day of the Lord... continued from previous page
 we were “disobedient,” we were “enemies of God.” In the next phrase, Romans 5:9,10, the key is “we shall be.” This is the third age of man. We will be “safe from wrath,” “saved by his life.” The second age is where Christians are now, in a saved relationship with Jesus. How did we get there? The death of Christ on the cross, Romans 5:6-9, in which Christ died shedding His blood to save mankind. What brings us into that death? Romans 6:3-4, the surrender to obedience in baptism. Notice how we move when we surrender to God in faith, repentance and baptism from the age defined by sin, disobedience and wrath, to the age defined by justification, obedience and life!

2) A Day of Salvation! To go from the realm of the lost to the realm of the saved is a remarkable transition. Note in John 3:16-21, that Jesus did not come to condemn the world but to save it! Jesus came so we might be saved. Our destiny is not death, destruction or damnation. Our destiny is life, hope and salvation. Here is an

important truth for Christians to live by. Everything we believe about God, if true, means we can live guaranteed about that great and Final Day! Joel 2:18-23

3) A Day in Security! Of all the things I want to feel about that great and final day it is security. I want to live confident with my standing with God! Joel 3:14-16.

Can you imagine not being moved with fear in spite of all the great tragedy that Day promises to bring? 1 John 4:16-19, 5:13

This is why the early church had their prayer, Maranatha! What had the early church discovered about the return of Jesus to make it something they wanted? Maybe it had something to do with the discovery of what the return of Jesus would bring! Gone would be death, divorce, cancer, pain, suffering, slavery, hardships and any other kind of loss.

Have you ever wondered who would not be disturbed or disappointed when Jesus comes? It might include the person who has to celebrate their anniversary alone. The person whose body

is filled with pain. The person who knows all too well the intricate details of disease. The person who goes to bed hungry and can't feed their child. The person who can't afford to clothe their family. The person who knows they belong to Jesus, or the person who cannot wait to experience the feeling of bowing before the great King and singing, 'sweet Jesus, how I love you more than I ever dreamed imaginable.'

How will we know it is the King? We just will! With this knowledge in hand, we live differently today. We live as a people who have a promise that is sure. In a way, we have been set free from the burden of the difficulties of the moment because we know God's tomorrow will be brighter than today.

And we say always, even so, come Lord Jesus!

Windsor, ON

Editorial... continued from page 4

Many Christians are already involved in social networking sites. There are a number of cases already where relationships with people have developed which ultimately have led to conversions. These sites have enabled Christians to be missionaries from their own computer!

The cost of being involved with these is nominal. Sound files and podcasts require digital recording equipment and programmes. Blogs and social networking sites are free. The greatest investment is time. Young people want to connect with those who are authentic, real. Perhaps that is why these podcasts, blogs and social networking are so popular. They don't come across as pre-packaged sales spiels. They allow the real person to show. They want to see who and what you are before they will listen to what you have to say.

Most of us, even seniors, now have computers and are connected to the internet. Research suggests that older people primarily use the internet for email and shopping. The internet offers much, much more, it can be a doorway to the souls of the world. Will we use it?

Vacation Bible School

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OBITUARIES

Seabrook, Mary Elizabeth “Betty”

Betty Seabrook was born in Thessalon, Ontario, on September 30, 1924. She was one of eight children, six girls and two boys, who were born to Jim and Mary Owens. Betty grew up and was educated in the Thessalon area. On November 5, 1943, Betty married Bert Seabrook. A special celebration was held last fall to honour their sixty-fifth anniversary.

Bert and Betty lived at various places throughout the Sault Ste. Marie-Thessalon area. Together they raised their family of ten children, two daughters and eight sons. Betty was a devoted mother and was involved in various activities, along with her children, including a 4 H horse club. About twenty-five years ago, Bert and Betty moved back to Betty’s family homestead in Thessalon to look after Betty’s parents; and continued to do so throughout the remainder of their lives. Following the passing of Betty’s parents,

Bert and Betty continued to live on the homestead. Throughout the latter years of her life, Betty faced various bouts of illness and every time, fought back to an active and productive life. Betty passed away peacefully on March 11, 2009, at the Thessalon hospital with her family by her side.

Betty was a quiet, kind, loving, compassionate, unassuming woman. She was a devoted wife and mother; and gave herself to looking after them. She was hard-working and actively served in the church and in the community. She was very capable; and happily and willingly shared her time, interests, and talents.

Betty is survived by her loving husband, Bert, with whom she shared more than sixty-five happy years. She will always be fondly remembered as a devoted mother by her two daughters, Carol (Larry) Warren and Julie (Bob) Hall, and her eight sons, Dale (Nellie), Dave (Nancy), Daryl (Noreen), Danny (Theresea), Kerry (Mary Ann), Paul (Dina), Andy (Wendy), and Shawn (Teresa). She will also be greatly missed

by her twenty-one grandchildren and twenty-eight great-grandchildren. In addition, Betty leaves behind four sisters, Colleen Ray, Ruth Mathewson, Shirley (Reg) Seabrook, and Myrla (Fred) Doherty and one brother, Val (Pauline) Owens. She is also survived by four sisters-in-law, Eunice (Lloyd) Whitfield, Verna Ray, Cora Klym, Colleen Seabrook, one brother-in-law, Ed Klym. She was preceded in death by one sister, one brother, by three sisters-in-law and four brothers-in-law. Her memory will be long cherished by numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends and by her church family in Thessalon, Sault Ste. Marie, and other places.

At her funeral, which was held in the Thessalon church building, two of Betty’s children and one of her grandchildren spoke on behalf of the family and told of the tremendous impact she had on their lives. Another grandchild read a poem of tribute that epitomized her. Betty was loved, respected and admired by those who knew her. She will be lovingly remembered and sadly missed.

~Randy Morritt

Shepherds Without Blemish... continued from page 2

This word translated blameless does not occur in the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Old Testament (OT) current in the first century, (except at 3 Macc. 5:31, where it is translated by the NRSV as “no ground for complaint”). Importantly, it does not come from the sacrificial language of the OT where animals were to be without blemish, or perfect. This word, instead, comes from the Hellenistic legal world and literally means “unaccused” and “indicates one whose character and conduct has not been called into question, or one who is free from accusation.”³ As Währisch notes, “The other adjectives used in this context indicate that the meaning is beyond reproach, in the ordinary sense of common respectability. Thus in addition to qualifications of a spiritual nature, ordinary standards of decency are made into a preconditions of office in the church, for the sake of the church’s good name in the world” (emphasis added).⁴

In Titus, “blameless” occurs at the top of the list of qualifications or quali-

ties Paul requires in church leaders and seems to be the premier quality explained by those that follow in the list. Verse 7 offers a strong theological rationale: the elder serves as God’s steward, God’s household manager and as such, he, and the other elders, represents God. They serve as God’s administrators in the church and ambassadors to the world (see v. 9).

Implications for Leadership Today

“Blameless”-ness connects closely with integrity. J. Robert Clinton defines integrity as “that uncompromising adherence to a code of moral, artistic, and other values that reveals itself in sincerity, honesty and candor and avoids deception and artificiality.”⁵ Consequently, integrity is the internal quality of what it means to be blameless. This virtue or quality is what others think of an elder. They can bring no charge against him, not in his “public” life or in his life in the church. To be blameless is to be concerned about not just what the church sees, but what the world

sees. “Blameless” then gets its force vis-à-vis the world—who should not be able to bring a charge against God’s household manager. How we need this kind of character in the life of those who lead in God’s church today!

¹ Paul uses different words for “blameless” in 1 Timothy and Titus; cf. also 1 Tim. 3:10 and synonym “above reproach” in 1 Tim. 3:2, 5:7, and 6:14. Another synonym, “of good reputation” can be found in Onosander’s *The General*, ca. ad 45. This last work describes what makes a good Roman general and uses several of the same qualities as Paul used in his lists.

² The material in this section is adapted from my article, “Titus 2.5—Must Women Stay at Home?” in Carroll D. Osburn, *Essays on Women in Earliest Christianity*, Vol. 1 (Joplin, MO: College Press, 1993), 367-77.

³ Alexander Strauch, *Biblical Eldership: An Urgent Call to Restore Biblical Church Leadership*, 2nd ed. (Littleton, CO: Lewis and Roth, 1988), 171.

⁴ Colin Brown, *The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology*, Vol. 3 (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1978), s.v., article by H. Währisch.

⁵ J. Robert Clinton, *The Making of a Leader: Recognizing the Lessons and Stages of Leadership Development* (Colorado Springs: NavPress, 1988), 58.

Regina, SK

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.

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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 Street T4V 1A2; Sunday AM Bible study 10 am; Sunday AM worship service 11 am; Thursday Bible Study 7 PM; Phone: (780) 672-1220 (Office); Evangelist: David Friesen; Email: cancofc@telus.net

EDMONTON NORTH: Meeting place in NW of city 13015 - 116 Avenue, T5M 3C9; Office 780.455.1049; Fax 780.454.9545; Sun. 9:30 am Bible classes; 10:30 am Worship; Wed. 7:00 pm Bible Study CAREgroups at the building and in various homes (phone for locations and other times); Elders: Henri Bouchard, Walter Hreczuch; Evangelists: Garth Johnson (Youth), Brian Salter (Young Adult), Nate Seecharan (Pulpit); 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

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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/cvccoc

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

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DELTA: Delta Christian School, 53rd & Ladner Trunk Road, Ladner; 9:45, 10:45; Midweek: Call for times; PO Box 18623, RPO Ladner, Delta, BC V4K 4V7; contact Jim Hawkins, (604) 581-2169.

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

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

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SALMON ARM: 2460 Auto Rd. S.E.; Sunday 10:00; Call for times and locations of other meetings; 250-804-3060; Box 51, V1E 4N2; Doug Kendig, John Murray and Gordon Parmenter, elders; Ray Fisher, ev.

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

VANCOUVER (City Church): Trout Lake Community Centre, 3350 Victoria Drive; Worship Sunday 12:30 - 2:30 PM; Phone: 604-327-9321; Mailing Address: 1969 E. 49th Avenue, Unit # 1, Vancouver, BC, V5P 1T5; Website: www.citychurchofchrist.org

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

MANSON: Bldg. in Manson Village; Sun. 10, 11; Box 2, R0M 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 Celaira, youth min. (204) 284-6280 (res) chad@winnipegchurch.ca

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NEW YORK STATE

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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

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

SHUBENACADIE: Mill Village Church, 3613 Indian Rd.; Sun. 10:15, 11; Wed. 6:30; R.R. 1, B0N 2H0; 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. sdredding89@rogers.com

BEAMSVILLE: 4900 John St., L0R 1B6; Sunday 9:30 am Bible classes and Discussion Groups, 10:30 worship, 6:00 pm Contemporary worship, Small groups meeting throughout the week.; 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; mail@bramaleaocfc.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 Whittified (226) 338-6720, Paul Moore (519) 635-7837; www.cambridgecofc.ca Mailing address: 315-150 Christopher Dr., Cambridge, ON N1R 4S4

COLLINGWOOD: 494 10th Street, Collingwood, Ontario L9Y 2H1; Email: cchurchofchrist@bmts.com; Phone 705-444-0010; Minister: Les Cramp, Phone 519-538-5184; Cell 519-379-8846; Sunday Study 10:00 a.m. & Worship 11 a.m.; Study Tues 2 p.m.; Please join us for worship, Bible study or fellowship at any time.

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

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

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

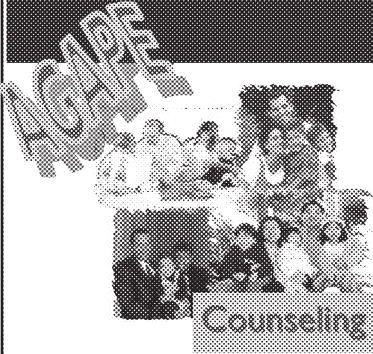
HAILEYBURY: Meeting at 607 Christian Avenue, usually Sundays at 4pm - but call to confirm place and time. Week day Bible studies by appointment, Mike & Judy Tinney 705-672-9241 or e-mail: can@parolink.net

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@churchofchristhamilton.com; Chris Gardner, sec., (905) 388-9174; www.churchofchristhamilton.com

HAMILTON (North): YMCA building, 79 James St. S.; Sun. 9:30, 10:30; Wed. 7; Joe Sandasse, 905-389-8308, 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.

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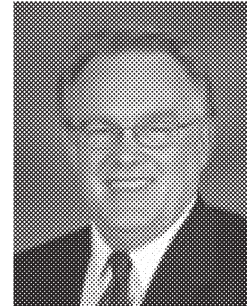
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