

# Gospel

# Herald

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Pictured above are the men who attended the **30th Annual Ontario Men's Retreat**, hosted by the men of the Waterloo congregation. The retreat was held at Camp Omagh, September 11, 12. These kinds of activities for men and women are a great blessing to all who can attend.



FROM:

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# WORKS FOR ME

Don Hipwell

## Time Tips...

Dr. Dale Jenkins

I live in two worlds (that's true in more ways than one), I live between "I don't know how you get it all done" and "what do you do all the time since you only work on Sundays."

The truth is I'm like most preachers you'll meet (Other than that I'm much weirder) I'm neither Superman nor a lazy man. But frankly I don't know too many lazy preachers, I'm sure there are some out there. Typically, someone will think a guy is lazy because he focuses his energies on something other than what the critic thinks a preacher should focus on. For example, the critic thinks the preacher should spend all his time visiting but the preacher in question spends most of his time in prayer and study. Or it could be just as likely the other way around. That gives the perception of laziness.

Most weeks I work 85–100 hours. I've charted it and can't find the last time I didn't put in that much time in a week. I thoroughly enjoy my work, I love it, BUT I do work a lot. Not bragging I just figure most folks are working that much nowadays. Whatever happened to the concept that technology would lead to us working less?

### Here is some advice on work that I've found helpful:

**1. Equip others:** In ministry your best work is most often not the work you actually do but is done when you equip, energize and empower others to do the work of ministry. This is biblical; check it out in Ephesians 4. But it is also practical for it multiplies your efforts as it frees you to do more.

**2. Realize timing is everything!** If you have children,

know that your primary responsibility is to those little ones. You will have time before and after they are at those key growing up years. We should have learned from some of our heroes who live in regret today because they, in a sense, sacrificed their families on the altar of church work. But you can double up here some. Let me explain: When my boys were little and playing ball, football, basketball, baseball I always tried to tie my church work into my parenting work. I would coach their little league teams—not only would I have time with them, time we really enjoyed, but I had 10-25 other children who I got to influence. If you want to influence parents, the best way is to show concern for their children. I would get to know a lot of "prospects" (i.e. I'd rather say people) in that setting.

As they got older I volunteered to do radio broadcasts or the PA—that got my name, and by virtue of influence, the churches name in front of people. One more note here: If your elders don't understand how important it is for you to have this time, help them!!

**3. When it comes to study—Double your time:** Most any time a college student majoring in Bible interviews me they will ask how do I find time for my personal spiritual life and for study for sermons. I'm always a little bewildered by that question. I see little difference. My best spiritual study ALWAYS leads to great sermon study. I listen to the

Bible being read on podcast, cd's, etc. I spent time in prayer and in study for my own spiritual strength and I will inevitably find myself also seeing something I want to preach.

Another note or two here: Challenge yourself. My dad used to say for me to take on responsibilities that forced me to study and work hard. Do things that forced accountability. I have OFTEN overbooked and put myself under the gun to "get it all done" but I can never remember ultimately regretting it. Be wise and, when possible, use stuff you've used when you travel or when you are traveling and are assigned a text or topic you've not used, use it at home too.

**4. Network:** You need guys who understand you and the pressures unique to ministry and they need you. Find time for other preachers. Make them your allies. They will understand you and in turn you can help them grow and be better. A side benefit from this should be greater unity among congregations. If someone is spreading something about a brother you know, or spend time with, you'll talk to him with greater confidence if you already know him. In the process, study them. What makes them effective, ineffective? Be a student of preaching, after all, it is what you do!

**5. Do more than is expected:** Just do!

**6. If you have office hours BE EARLY every day!** Folks will never know if you stayed up till 2 or 3 working on a project but they will know if you weren't in the office at 8 a.m. I know so many guys who get in trouble because they come in 15–30 minutes or an hour late two or three days a week. Guys this is such a small thing. Get there early. Be the first there; spend that time in prayer before things get hopping. And, if things aren't hopping, MAKE THEM!

**7. Wendell Winkler was**

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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.

# Justified

Bill Craddock

There are many who insist that the word “justified” in the New Testament is in the passive voice, meaning, it is something that God does, not man. Therefore, a human action, such as baptism, could be no part of the justification process. Some time ago a man sat in my office and stated just those thoughts. He said that if one would do one thing in an effort to be forgiven of his sins that it would make the grace of God totally null and void. The mention of baptism for the remission of sins really set him off. He said that baptism was a work and that would be an attempt to “earn” one’s salvation. Of course, he was totally wrong in his allegations.

Those who say that “justification” is a process accomplished wholly by God, and any “obedience” on the part of man is excluded, though sincere, are seriously wrong in their thinking.

While the passive form “justified” emphasizes the fact that ultimately only God can acquit sinful man, the passive voice does not nullify the fact that Jehovah may set conditions in His own plan for the justification of sinful humanity. It has always mystified me that those who are so strongly against man doing anything in the area of salvation will strongly encourage the sinner to have “faith” in Jesus Christ as the Son of God. In John 6:28-29 we read, “Then they said to him, what shall we do, that we may WORK the WORKS of God? Jesus answered and said to them, “this is the WORK of God, that you believe in him who he sent.” Faith

is a work that God has given the sinner to do!

Justification may be defined as the divine process by which God acquits the sinner and reckons him as righteous. There are some very erroneous ideas regarding justification in “Christianity” today. There are those who believe that salvation must be “worked out” totally. They believe salvation must be “earned.” On the other hand there are those who believe that salvation is by “faith only.” Both ideas are wrong. Incidentally, if the passive form, “being justified,” eliminates all human response, then faith itself would be excluded from the plan of salvation.

Let us look at the biblical facts involving justification.

1. All accountable people are sinners (Romans 3:10, 23), and deserve to be condemned, and if there is any hope of escaping hell, justification must be extended by the offended God.

2. No one can “earn” or “merit” justification (Matt. 18:21ff; Eph. 2:8-9).

3. Justification can be extended only on the basis of Christ’s death as the sinless sacrifice for man (1 Peter 1:19; Romans 3:24-26).

4. Justification will be bestowed only when man responds to God’s plan of redemption by faith (Romans 3:26; 5:1). In the book of Romans, as elsewhere in the New Testament, faith is not mere “mental assent,” or even just a disposition to trust the Lord. It is a willingness to “submit” to the

requirements set forth by God himself. “Through him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for his name” (Romans 1:5). Justification is the equivalent of being “free from sin” (Romans 6:18). However, freedom from sin comes only to those who have “obeyed from the heart” the “pattern” of the gospel (Romans 6:17). There is no question but that justification is based upon the obedience of the will of God through Jesus Christ (Hebrews 5:8-9).

5. The result of justification is “peace with God” and then one can rejoice in the hope of the glory of God (Romans 5:1-2).

There is no question but that salvation is totally by the grace of God. Only God can forgive sin. But it is also true that God will not forgive the sins of those who are not willing to obey his commands. When man obeys the commands of God he is not trying to earn or merit anything. Man must obey the commands of God concerning primary salvation and then must continue to obey the commands of God to remain in a saved relationship with God. Once saved, man does not obey God to be saved, but obeys God “because” he is saved. Works of man are worth nothing in the saving of the soul. But obeying the “works of God” is necessary to be saved and to maintain that saved relationship. All these things are clearly revealed to the student of the Bible.

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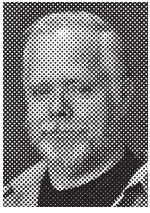
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## Voices of Concern

Wayne Turner



For the past several years, a number of evangelical writers have voiced their concern about the compromising influence of culture among those who claim to believe the Bible is God's inspired and authoritative word. Ronald J. Sider, in *The Scandal of the Evangelical Conscience* (2005) points to the disparity between their confession of faith in Christ and lives that are no different from the rest of the world. Many, "by their daily activity... commit treason (i.e. to Christ—WT)... with their actions, they demonstrate loyalty to money, sex and self-fulfillment." He refers to this as a "crisis of disobedience in the evangelical world today." He cites a study by Barna that showed the rate of divorce among evangelicals was slightly higher than in the overall population. He also pointed to problems with materialism, sexual immorality, racism and physical abuse in marriage among evangelicals.

More recently, Michael Horton, in *Christless Christianity*, said that Satan, "lulls us to sleep as we trim our message to the banality of popular culture and invoke Christ's name for anything and everything but salvation from the coming judgment." He speaks of people becoming "distracted from Christ as the only hope for sinners. Where everything is measured by our happiness rather than by God's holiness" and of becoming better people needing only "a life coach, not a redeemer."

Mark Galli, of *Christianity Today*, in an article, "In the Beginning, Grace," notes that this move to a more subjective faith has created a tendency for many evangelicals today, when dealing with an issue, to "frame the problem horizontally" – to look for answers on a human level and downplay the need and role of God in finding a solution. As this subjectivity downplays the place of the objective truth of scripture, it reduces evangelicalism to deism. Galli uses a study of the spiritual lives of teenagers by Smith and Denton to define his thesis. (i.e. seeking God through human reason rather than revelation.) Deism rejects the supernatural—miracles—while still claiming to believe in God. According to deism, people can save themselves, lead good moral lives and will eventually end up in heaven. Galli likens many evangelicals today to the teenagers in the study. He cites Smith and Denton's conclusion that "a new religion had emerged in America." Its five chief tenets include: "God wants people to be good, nice and fair to each other... The central goal of life is to be happy and to feel good about oneself... God

does not need to be particularly involved in one's life except when God is needed to resolve a problem... Good people go to heaven when they die." We've all heard messages like these from religious and secular sources. This is the popular religion of today. Galli calls it the "new evangelical creed."

We might legitimately ask two questions. First, why is this shift happening? One answer was suggested by Mark A. Noll back in 1995. In "The Scandal of the Evangelical Mind," he observed that "the scandal of the evangelical mind is that there is not much of an evangelical mind... evangelicals are not exemplary for their thinking." He finds this a "curious situation" because "Modern evangelicals are the spiritual descendants of leaders and movements distinguished by probing, creative, fruitful attention to the mind." Noll is not arguing for a deistic search for God through reason which minimizes revelation and scripture. Neither should the quest for God be mindless. Christians should not "park their brains at the door." William Barclay, in his commentary on the book of Revelation, described the church at Sardis as "untroubled by any heresy" because it was "too lazily lethargic for the effort of thought." When those who claim to believe the Bible do not study it or meditate and think about it, they lose their only defense and become vulnerable to unbiblical ideas—they lose the ability and the will to resist the effects of culture.

The second question is why does this matter to us? At the very least, we face the same pressures to conform to the world as the evangelicals. Even more, on the religious map, we sit closely by the evangelicals. While there are some differences, we share similar views of the inspiration and authority of scripture. We read books and articles written by evangelicals. Sooner

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### GOSPEL HERALD

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## What Is Primary? (Retirement Thoughts)

As a person grows older he/she comes to think of life from a different perspective. The choices made in earlier life will have an impact on the choices made when the years accumulate. I was interested in the following survey report: "As Americans age, 60 percent say they expect to enjoy life more. According to a Belden Russonello & Stewart poll of 1,000 people in May 2001, here are the activities they are looking forward to in their golden years:

- spending more time with family and friends: 81 percent
- having more leisure time: 65 percent
- pursuing hobbies: 61 percent
- traveling: 51 percent.

(Lori Joseph and Sam Ward, *USA Today* "Snapshots" August 7, 2001).

What do you think of these answers? If you are coming to the age of retirement and were asked this question, what answer would you give? Before you read on, take a moment to consider the survey question and think about your answer.

We have no way of knowing the backgrounds of the 1,000 surveyed. However, it is interesting that in the results there is nothing said about spiritual matters. While not finding fault with the general nature of the answers given, it seems to me that if this question were asked to a group of folks who were strong in their faith we might expect to hear something said about the opportunities for Christian service that comes with time made available through retirement.

While it is true that each generation of the church must turn over the leadership duties to those following behind, that does not mean that the church should lose the important strength and encouragement that can

be given by those who have served the Lord faithfully and have rejoiced in His strength. Joshua, for example, still had a lot to give when he became older. "Now Joshua was old and advanced in years, and the Lord said to him, "You are old and advanced in years, and there remains yet very much land to possess" (Joshua 13:1). Joshua still had a lot to give as he took leadership in seeing to the dividing of the land of Canaan among the tribes of Israel. He went on to complete this work.

Of course, his co-faithful-spy is also a wonderful example of one going on to serve and lead in later years. "And now, behold, the Lord has kept me alive, just as he said, these forty-five years since the time that the Lord spoke this word to Moses, while Israel walked in the wilderness. And now, behold, I am this day eighty-five years old. I am still as strong today as I was in the day that Moses sent me; my strength now is as my strength was then, for war and for going and coming. So now give me this hill country of which the Lord spoke on that day, for you heard on that day how the Anakim were there, with great fortified cities. It may be that the Lord will be with me, and I shall drive them out just as the Lord said" (Joshua 14:10 - 12). Caleb went on to take the land "And the land had rest from war." (Joshua 14:15). Both Joshua and Caleb are great examples of using the "golden years" to serve the Lord.

Why did these two men remain so strong in their later years? What is it that would make people, in speaking of getting older, list the using of their golden years in serving God? Solomon gives a clear answer to this question in his book of Ecclesiastes. This book is often referred to as the lab notes of one who has made many

experiments and comes to a conclusion based on that evidence. Solomon tries it all. Wealth, power, pleasure, wisdom! While each of these may have something to offer, his final conclusion is, "Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, "I have no pleasure in them" (Ecclesiastes 12:1).

So again the question, "why did these two men remain so strong in their later years?" Because they understood what was primary. And what is primary in youth will usually also be primary in old age! Those who are truly seeking first the kingdom (Matthew 6:33) in their younger life will do so in later years. If one is blessed with healthy retirement years, think of the force for good they can be as they influence, by example, those who are younger in the church! Thomas Morrell said, "The first great gift we can bestow on others is a good example." May those of us who are getting older realize this truth.

The sad thing is that many, who have been a part of the church for years, come to retirement and fall into the mould of the world and use all the extra time they have to fulfill the will of the fleshly man. Travelling, visiting family, pursuing a hobby, etc., are all fine in themselves. However, to use some of this time to help the church grow and become stronger is better.

Most who read this article will likely agree with that last sentence. After all, you would not be reading this if you did not care about the church and your relationship with the Lord. However, over the years I have known people who have talked about what they plan to do for the Lord at retirement when they don't have to punch the time clock any more. Yet, many of them have been no more involved in "church life" after retirement than before. Why? Hopefully, it is not because one then will say, "I have no pleasure in serving the Lord."

In thinking about what is primary, even in later years, consider this. Do not allow your involvement in spiritual activities to become borderline. Rather, make the commitment to use

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## What I Have Learned in My Fifty-Four Years

In celebrating my 54th year of life I have been reflecting on what I have learned over the years. I decided to write down some of what I had learned in order to better remember the lessons. I share these life lessons with you in the hope that you may also share in these life lessons. God Bless, Brian

1) You cannot tell a five-year-old that you love them too much.

2) Criticism is like carrying a large pot of boiling water, sometimes it is necessary, but one wrong move and everybody is in for a whole lot of pain.

3) Taking your wife out for dinner, buying her flowers, jewellery, etc... is the very best investment that a husband can make.

4) Holding grudges will destroy your life! Let go of the grudge and forgive as soon as possible, because the longer you hold the grudge the harder it will be to let it go.

5) Working hard doesn't cause one to burn out, but working without purpose will.

6) In adulthood you will find out that most of what your parents taught you is true.

7) Be generous with what you have and God will give you more so that you can be even more generous.

8) Be generous with your time, it will add years to your life.

9) Be generous with your words of encouragement and you will be encouraged.

10) Sitting with a child on your knee as she waits for the school bus is worth more than a years wages.

11) Life isn't always fun.

12) It is difficult to be as forgiving as Jesus is, but when we don't forgive we destroy our lives.

13) My judgments are often faulty because I judge on outward appearances and not on the condition of an individual's heart.

14) Bad things often happen to good people, and yes, it isn't fair.

15) When bad things happen there is no greater comfort than prayer, especially when others are praying with you and for you.

16) God is always teaching us but unfortunately we are not always learning.

17) Spending money on other people is more fun than spending it on yourself.

18) Get involved with projects/programmes big enough that if they were to fail, you would lose a few nights sleep.

19) Do all the good you can to all the people you can in all the ways you can for all the time you have.

20) Know that you are saved by God's grace.

21) The most destructive force in the universe is gossip.

22) Your friends will love you anyway.

13) Never be afraid to take on new challenges. Remember that amateurs built the ark, but professionals built the Titanic.

24) Worry is the darkroom in which negatives develop.

25) God does not call the qualified, he qualifies the called.

26) A mother can touch an entire generation of people by just loving her children well.

27) Do not believe in miracles, rely on them.

28) The greatest miracle is not of our trying circumstances, but rather a faith that sustains us through those trying circumstances.

29) Each day spend time counting your blessings.

30) Preach the gospel every day, if necessary use words.

31) God never promised us a life without pain, laughter without sorrow, or sun without rain. God did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears and light for the way.

32) We must let go of the life we have planned in order to accept the life that God has waiting for us.

33) True thanksgiving is thanking God for what He has done for us rather than telling Him what we have done for him.

34) Do not ask God to use you, unless you mean it.

35) It is easier to preach 10 sermons than it is to live one.

36) "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves." Philippians 2:3

37) "Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." Philippians 2:4

38) "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." Philippians 4:8

39) "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

40) "Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." Colossians 3:13

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# Missing: A Giving Theology

Craig Ford

“Separate and apart from the Lord’s Supper, as a matter of convenience, we take this opportunity to give (give back) to the work of the Lord. If you are visiting, please do not feel obligated to give. Would the servers please come forward.”

Over the last couple of months I have visited many different churches around Ontario and I want to tell you what I hear when those words are spoken. This is what I hear: “At this church we usually give money on Sunday. It’s something we are supposed to do every Sunday, but we couldn’t really figure out where to put it in our order of worship. We decided this is as good a time as any. The money given will be used for ‘the Lord’. By the way, if you are visiting there is probably not much point to your giving, unless you really want to.”

It seems as though many of our churches are growing increasingly unsure about the reason (theology) of the contribution.

## The fundamental question: Is giving a spiritual practice?

What is spiritual? Here is my definition for the purpose of this article: anything that affects, impacts, concerns, or pertains to your relationship with God. Thus, the question could be asked in this way: does what I do with my money (giving, saving, spending, earning) affect, impact, concern, or pertain to my relationship to God? The Bible answers that question with a resounding yes!

2 Cor. 8:7 speaks of the *grace of giving*. We love the word grace. Grace is spiritual. When we give, we both experience and offer grace. Paul encourages us to overflow in our giving.

In Phil 4:18 Paul calls their financial gifts *a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God*. When we worship we seek to please God. Indeed in our giving we rejoice because we know God is pleased with the fragrant scent of our gifts.

Acts 20:35 Jesus himself said that it is *more blessed to give than receive*. What joy it brings to our hearts to know that our gifts make a difference. Thanks be to God for allowing us to share in the grace of giving.

If we are embarrassed or ashamed about offering an opportunity to give, then we likely have not fully understood all the spiritual blessings associated with giving.

## What do we want to avoid communicating about giving during our services?

- This is a **practice for club members only**. We do not want people to think we are just paying our club dues when we put money into the collection plate. Furthermore, we do not want people to think that this money is only used to maintain our facilities like buildings and grounds.

- Avoid giving the impression that if visitors were to give **that giving would be of no benefit** to them. If we insinuate this we ignore the fact that they

would be blessed by giving. We should all remember gifts are not to a specific congregation, but instead to the kingdom of God.

- That people **are required to give**. Giving is a gift. Don’t force or coerce a person to give.

- Don’t insinuate that this is **simply a physical act** with no spiritual impact.

## How can we implement a spiritually healthier giving practice?

1. **Always commit to speak about giving in positive terms**. Use Bible words and phrases ‘the grace of giving’, ‘blessed to give’, ‘I pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel’. We are giving people the opportunity to be blessed with a spiritual experience. As we give we feel liberated from the tyranny of wealth. When we release money, we ourselves are released from its bondage. Money begs us to need it, but God begs us to release it. What a spiritual blessing.

2. **Share a clear understanding of why we give**. Consider the following as some sample words before the collection – “Jesus gives us the opportunity to share in his important work – his work of redeeming the world. His work of reversing everything contrary to the will of God. His work of delivering the world from famine and disease. This morning we seek to bless you by allowing you to share in the spiritual act of giving. Indeed, it is more blessed to give than receive.”

3. **To pray or not to pray, that is the question**. When we habitually pray prior to “spiritual” elements of worship we confuse members and visitors when we do not pray before the contribution. We pray to start worship, before the wine, before the bread, at times before the sermon, and at the end of worship. If giving is spiritual, we should enhance that practice by creating a spiritual atmosphere while we give.

Papua New Guinea



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# Humility

Thomas Moore

Recently I was watching a documentary on the construction of the Lions' Gate Bridge at Vancouver British Columbia. The man responsible for the design and erection was Philip Louis Pratley of Montreal, QC. He was also responsible for many of Canada's most outstanding long-span highway bridges: the Jacques Cartier Bridge at Montreal, QC, the Ile D'Orleans Bridge at Quebec City, QC, the Angus L. Macdonald Bridge at Halifax, NS and the Burlington Bay Skyway Bridge at Hamilton, ON. For over forty years he was at the forefront of his profession in Canada in designing and supervising the erection of bridge structures that embodied the latest state of the art advances in design theory, construction technologies and structural materials; his published technical writings conveyed the latest developments in bridge design and construction practice.

In my diary "Looking Back on a Christian's Experience in the Royal Canadian Navy 1955-1960," is an account of my meeting with Brother

Pratley during part of my training in 1956 at Ville La Salle outside of Montreal.

I attended church service in Verdun, QC, where brother Pratley preached to a small congregation. Brother Pratley lived alone, his wife had passed away. After service he invited me out for dinner. We went to a small French Café not far from where we worshipped. He then invited me for a visit in his home. His house was a nice brick building with well maintained gardens. Here we sat and talked. In his house, lining the walls were pictures of the bridges he designed and built.

Brother Pratley, a man of such great accomplishments in his field, was preaching the gospel of Christ to a very small group and was **HUMBLE** enough to invite me, a young sailor in uniform, out for lunch and then invited me home for a visit. Brother Pratley died in August, 1958, at the age of 73.

Just before completing my course I had a visitor. A new work was being started in Montreal by Brother Alvin Jennings. He visited me when I was

on duty and watched as the officer put us through some drills. After the drill was over Bro Jennings asked me if they always ordered us around in that manner. We had been so accustomed to taking and acting on orders, at first I did not know what he meant. The work in Montreal was quite a distance from the base. As I was near the completion of my course I did not get to the new work. My next posting was the Naval Air Base in Shearwater Nova Scotia and I attended the congregation in Halifax until leaving the navy.

Hamilton, ON

(Endnote: I think there are very few of our people who know of Bro. Pratley. I have told Geoff Ellis of my meeting him and he mentioned to me that Bro. Pratley had designed the Burlington Bridge built in 1958. Bro. Pratley also died that year. In 1959 I sailed under the bridge when we visited Hamilton during the opening of the St. Lawrence sea way. I was on H.M.C.S. Kootenay and we escorted the Queen on her Royal Yacht Britannia from the entrance of the St. Lawrence River to Thunder Bay. President Eisenhower represented United States. That was a historic event and we had to wear our white uniforms, first and only time for me. TM)



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Editorial... continued from page 4

of later, many of the ideas, fads and problems of the evangelicals will find their way into at least part of our brotherhood.

The voices of concern among the evangelicals should also speak to and warn us. A subjective "feel good" message shaped by culture is not the Gospel of Christ. It only can lead to what Horton's title suggests, a Christless Christianity. Our real need is not happiness. Our problem is not a lack of self-esteem. The answers don't come from within us. Our problem is that sin separates us from God. Our only hope for redemption is through the blood of Christ. Paul said that it is by this message we are saved. This is the one and only Gospel.



# Farewell Blessings

*Gloria Perry*

**W**ith great heaviness of heart we heard the decision of the May 9th Gospel Herald Board of Directors meeting to close the Bookstore, effective May 29th, due to declining sales and rising costs. I continued to work through June 25th to take care of as much of the closing business as possible.

After investing ourselves in this service for so many years, this has been a devastating time. I worked with and learned from Uncle Eugene for seven years, then was manager for eight years after he retired, but family involvement has been much longer. As with all businesses, there have been frustrations, but this has been much more than just a job: it has been a ministry and a service, involving our family, friends, community and church family across Canada and even around the world.

It has been a joy and a delight to

serve all of you and get to know you by phone, mail, email or in person. We enjoyed searching for special books, Bibles or gifts to meet a unique need and are so very sorry that we will no longer be able to serve you. If you need help finding suppliers, or have questions, comments or encouragement you may reach me through [gh-gloria@hotmail.com](mailto:gh-gloria@hotmail.com). Since I have no computer at home, it could be two to three weeks before a response.

We will miss the encouraging, spiritual conversations that were so meaningful in our lives, both professional and personal. Since the store ministry has been such a huge part of who we are, we are still struggling to adjust and to mourn the loss.

A special thanks needs to be given for Uncle Eugene's dedication to the Gospel Herald right up to the present time, and that he and Aunt Evelyn let the store function from their

house most of the time since 1956. Also to Sharon Osborne for helping at the store for several years, and to my daughter, Amber, who cared passionately for the work, and also lost her job.

Please keep us in your prayers as we look for work in these challenging times and continue to recover from the stress of closing the store, and grieve the loss of job, service and ministry, and the loss of contact with so many friends.

We have appreciated your support and encouragement over the years more than words can express, and pray that blessings of joy, grace and peace in Jesus rest on you always.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the opportunities to work with you in various ways.

With love in Christ,  
Beamsville ON L0R 1B6

Dear brothers and sisters in Canada,

We are writing this letter to you in order to commend Glen Robins, a young minister about to begin an internship with our congregation here in Montreal. Glen is a recent graduate of Great Lakes Bible College. He has an excellent academic record and Christian character that his teachers and preacher at the Waterloo congregation can attest to.

Brother Robins is in the process of raising funds for his initial 2 year commitment to the work in Quebec and we would appreciate any assistance that individuals or congregations could provide him. The Ville-Emard congregation will be sponsoring Glen and providing a portion of his support. Those interested in promoting his ministry in Montreal can either send their contribution to the Ville-Emard Church of Christ, 6259 Monk Boulevard, Montreal, QC H4E 3H8, (514)765-8919; or contact Glen Robins for a personal presentation and meeting. [glenadamrobins@gmail.com](mailto:glenadamrobins@gmail.com).

Thank you for your investment in ministers who are trained and based in Canada. Fraternaly,

Mike Mazzalongo  
Roger Saumur  
Ministers

Église du Christ à

**Ville-Émard**

Church of Christ



by Walter R. Straker  
750 Clark Blvd.  
Bramalea, ON L6T 3Y2  
Fax: 905 792-8623  
E-mail: mail@bramaleacofc.ca

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

### NEW BRUNSWICK

**Saint John:** Darrin Donaty from Plattsburgh, New York, moved to Fredericton and is now driving 1 hour and 20 minutes to attend. Also a family of five from Nepal, India, are now meeting with the church, as well as Elaine Bottcher, a "snow-bird" member who lives 20 minutes from Saint John in Grand Bay-Westfield. They now have 10 baptized believers, four children, and a few visitors meeting. A meeting place has been found and rented at the Carleton Community Centre. In July the group managed, by the grace of God, to acquire a PO Box, a case of 24 NIV

## MINISTER WANTED

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

**Church of Christ, 1750 Huron St., London, ON N5V 3A2**

Bibles, ordered 30 hymn books, visitors' package materials and teaching materials. Ads have been placed in two local publications (reaching approximately 20,000 plus homes north and west of Saint John), and the Telegraph Journal (Saint John newspaper) in the hopes of creating opportunities. A few Key to the Kingdom correspondence students have also been contacted. The church's new website is [www.saintjohnchurchofchrist.org](http://www.saintjohnchurchofchrist.org). Shawn and Chieh still can use some donations toward their support.

### ONTARIO

**Barrie:** A ladies' day was planned for Saturday, November 7, 2009, entitled: "Enduring the Winter."

**Beamsville:** One hundred and twenty-two individuals attended the Great Lakes Christian High School/Great Lakes Bible College Partnership Dinner on September 26. Gifts and pledges for GLCHS were \$13,500, and for GLBC \$4,500. Mike and Michelle Toohey and Lawrence and Lily Whitfield were honoured at this time. On Sunday, October 11, Jerry Rushford, professor at Pepperdine University, preached for the congregation. Jerry's story included attending GLCC 50 years ago. Jerry also presented at a luncheon at Great Lakes Christian High School on Thursday, October 8, commemorating when he preached his first sermon at Great Lakes on October 8, 50 years ago. The 2009 Great Lakes Lectureship was held October 29-31 on the theme: "Timeless Wisdom - Studies in Old Testament Wisdom Literature." The Omagh Bible School annual meeting will be held at Great Lakes Christian High School on Saturday, November 14, 2009, from 3-5 p.m., followed by dinner at 5:30 p.m. All corporation members are encouraged to attend.

**Bramalea:** The congregation celebrated its 40th anniversary on the afternoon of October 24, 2009. Several former members attended, along with current Bramalea members. Speakers were Walter Hart, Don Smith, John Spillett, Walter Straker, and Fred Whittington. Nine men are still taking the Great Lakes Bible College's eLearning course on Thursday evenings on: "Leadership and Church Growth." The ladies meet to study "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World" during that time. The Filipino brethren from Bramalea, Mississauga and Strathmore held a "Filipino Inter-congregational Retreat at Camp Omagh on October 10-12. Seventy-five individuals attended, plus a few drop-in visitors.

A special contribution was collected on Sunday, October 18, to assist the flood victims in the Philippines.

**Cambridge:** Micah Jones has been added as a half-time bi-vocational minister to the ministerial staff of the congregation.

**Camp Omagh:** The Omagh Bible School Annual meeting will be held Saturday, November 14, from 3-5 p.m., followed by a dinner at 5:30 p.m.

**Cornwall:** The congregation is purchasing a meeting house for worship and has begun worshipping there. They have raised the down payment of \$30,000; \$35,000 is still needed.

**Fenwick:** Rain drove the congregation's annual corn roast inside but the evening of the neighbourhood barbeque was great and very well attended. Our booth at the Niagara Regional Exhibition was well received with 49 requests for Bible studies or more information about the church. Many coats and boots have been collected for distribution to the community. Visitations to an assisted living facility in Welland, and a seniors' home in Fonthill, are continuing. The first Sunday evening of each month is dedicated to worshipping God in song. A special collection was taken for the work in Ghana on August 30. The evening of September 20 was set aside as a "prayer meeting." The congregation is participating in the Christmas shoe box program for Neskantaga.

**Ottawa (Riverview Park church of Christ):** The congregation had an evangelism workshop on October 10-11, 2009, with Jerry Tallman, entitled "Sharing the Gospel with Your World."

**Owen Sound:** The annual Owen Sound Ladies' Retreat was attended by 135 women - so many that several had to find sleeping spots other than the camp facilities. Twenty three churches were represented. The annual hike raised over \$1,000 to be split between missionaries Joel Osborne, Japan, and Roy Davison, Belgium.

**Stoney Creek:** On October 3 and 4, Rubel Shelley held a special series for the congregation. His lessons were entitled: "What is This Thing Called Church?," "Church - the Family of God," and "The Priesthood of Believers."

**Toronto (Scarborough):** The ladies enjoyed a "Ladies' Day Out" on Saturday, October 3, 2009.

**Toronto (Strathmore Blvd.):** The congregation rejoiced at the baptism of Mabel Dwomoh, wife of Kofi, on

*continued on page 14*



by Marion Waugh  
3427-82 Street  
Edmonton, AB T6K 0G7  
Phone: (780) 637-0867  
E-mail: waughr1@shaw.ca

(BC news supplied by Barbara Lewis)

## ALBERTA

**Camrose:** (Submitted by Dave Friesen): The summer months have been fruitful for us. We have had a lot of visitors to our services and interest shown in further fellowship and study. In our Thursday evening Bible study we have been looking at how the church grew and what the church was like and how it was organized in its infancy. This is helping to mature members here and our visitors also find this to be an interesting study. We are starting up our games nights again for the fall and winter months as an outreach tool to the community. We used the summer months to be outdoors to get to know more people in Camrose. We are slowly, (God's time and not ours) seeing some fruit starting to come from that. We are also seeing some fruit from the articles that I write for the local paper when I have the opportunity. Waterview church of Church in Richardson, Texas, continues to support us and help us in the work here in Camrose.

**Edmonton (North Side):** Gerry Bibaud presented a four-part series of lessons on "Loving God". "Singspiration—Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!" a time of singing with surrounding congregations was held. Song leaders from surrounding congregations did some of the song leading. Fellowshiping and snacks followed. Eno Damo has organized monthly "Meet and Greet Potlucks" for a special time where a meal is shared and the newest members to the congregation are introduced and welcomed. The Ross Haven Congregation Camp was held September 11-13. The purpose of the camp was to provide Christians and guests with an opportunity to enjoy one another's

company in a camp setting, spiritually encourage one another, to relax and have fun. In the "66 Club", elementary age Bible students are challenged to memorize: 66 books of the Bible, 10 commandments, beatitudes, model prayer, Matthew 6:9-13 and Psalm 23.

**Edmonton(South Side):** A gospel meeting was held September 25-27. Thaddeus Bruno of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, spoke on the theme "The Man God Sent to Save Us". The lessons given were entitled: "Is Jesus Really the Son of God?", "Offence: an Unaffordable Luxury", "What Does the Church Have to Do With Salvation?", "Discovering Our Gifts and Using Our Gifts to the Glory of God" and "Did One God Give Many Religions?". Also included in the weekend was a song leader's workshop led by Thaddeus. A ladies luncheon was held at the home of Dianna Johnson and Elaine Bruno gave a lesson on being a servant. Garth Johnson led a TNT for the teens on Saturday afternoon. It was a tremendous weekend for all in attendance. Three sisters from the Edmonton congregations attended the Yellowstone Ladies Retreat in Montana in September. Guest speaker was Latayne Scott of New Mexico. Her lessons were taken from her book "The Hinge of Your History" and involved an in-depth

study of Sarah and Abraham and faith. It was very thought provoking. The 90 sisters present provided much fellowship.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Burnaby:** It was a tribute to the faithfulness of his mother, Kim, when Richard Clark, her younger son, was baptized on Aug.30, so he would have two "birth" days on the same day. He had planned for a month to be baptized when he turned 14 on Aug. 30, and was immersed into Christ by David Ryzuk. Conor Wilkerson, our youth ministry intern, who is working with us part-time as he studies youth ministry at Columbia Bible College in Abbotsford, was our Sunday morning speaker while Kirk attended the Western Christian College Lectures in October.

**Nanaimo:** Derek and Jennifer King and family devoted part of their holidays to directing and teaching at Heritage Lake Bible Camp north of Prince Albert, SK. There was a parting of the ways when they dropped their son, DeVon, off to do his Grade 10 school year at Western Christian College.

**Oakridge:** Old-timers at Oakridge mourned the loss of two former elders this summer. Both Alex Clelland and Ray Sawyer were a part of the Blundell Avenue membership who helped make the decision to move to Vancouver and work in the construction of the Oakridge building. Alex died in the Surrey hospital on Aug. 27 at the age of 85, and Ray died in his bed in a care facility in Nanaimo on Sept. 18, having reached the age of 92. One of our members, Geovanny Morales, has spent several weeks working in the Yukon this fall.

**Salmon Arm:** "I Heard the Song and Strove to Join" proved to be a rediscovering of the power of forgotten hymns for three successive days, Oct. 16-18, under the direction of Dr. Jerry Rushford, Pepperdine Professor of Church History. "If, in our love for everything contemporary, we ultimately abandon the classic hymns which have stood the test of the centuries, we will be cutting ourselves off from a theologically-rich treasure that could still provide sustenance for our spiritual journey. When the church flaunts her contemporaneity and disavows her roots

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**Manila:** Manila had their worst flooding in decades on Sept. 25. Food was a priority, but only the government, at first, was able to deliver by boat or air. After five days, Sept. 30, Bonifacio Patricio and a dozen volunteers from churches of Christ around Metro Manila were loaned a dump truck by the government to distribute relief goods to brethren affected by the flooding. After preparing groceries until 3:00 a.m., they found thousands lined up waiting to get food, often in water that was waist deep. Children were playing in dirty water, even diving and doing somersaults. Even in these circumstances, people were laughing and smiling as they waded through chest-high waters. Patricio commented, 'Typical Filipino, who laughs at calamities and misfortunes.' After the water subsided, their primary need was help with repairing their houses or being relocated. With millions affected, some think this was worse than Katrina." I am going to Manila as soon as the initial funds for the Manila Disaster arrives. Right now, we are preparing for typhoons in Cebu in the future. Near and long term: The best way to deal with disasters, of course, is spiritual. The next best thing is to build up enough local resources to help our communities become more typhoon-resilient and have enough resources to recover locally. Outside help, both national and international, is slow and small. It is necessary and life-saving, but for the most part, it is a band-aid temporary resource. People are better off saving for rainy days. The Bible says, "Go to the ant, O sluggard, and consider her ways." (Prov. 6:6). I took 18 poor farmers to a 30-acre farm yesterday. It was lush and bountiful. There is enough food and fortune there for 100 local families. The hundreds of hectares of surrounding land was bare and unproductive. This 30 acres is farmed by ONE FILIPINO named Lauro. The size and success by a single farmer is unheard of in this country. He intercroops his farm. He practices organic farming. He has no machinery, except for a weed eater. He is also a college graduate. This man and his method

inspired my companions to do better, and work harder. He confirms my belief that if we have more people like him IN the country, we have a chance not only to survive, but also excel. This country cannot prepare and cope with disasters because the best and the brightest (like Lauro) have left. Young people here try to get education for the sole purpose of its being a ticket out of the country, not to build up their home base. Under this environment, even churches cannot grow and prosper because of the lack of quality leadership. Churches cannot be self-sufficient, because most members are not. – Report from Salvador Cariaga in Cebu

Rapha International received word from Chito Cusi, head of "MARCH for Christ", that he flew to Manila the day after the flooding to establish collection and distribution centres in seven cities around Manila. Contributions may be sent through Shepherd's Hill International, a non-profit organization with a board of trustees headed by Glen Dods, Hawley, TX, preacher. Mail to Shepherd's Hill International, PO Box 3131, Abilene, TX 79604 or to RAPHA, who will forward it to MARCH for Christ, in Cebu, Philippines.)

**Samoa Islands And Indonesia:** On Oct. 1, an earthquake and Tsunami hit the South Pacific southwest of American Samoa, quickly followed by one in Indonesia. Hardest hit was the capital, Padang, and rural villages around the perimeter of West Sumatra, where four villages simply disappeared under mud slides, including a wedding party of 400 people. Each major island in the Samoa chain, Tutuila, Upolu and Savaii had scores of people that were unaccounted for as they were buried in rubble or pulled out into the ocean. Jerry Blankenship, who is working in American Samoa, wrote that there are a number of members of the church in American Samoa, Samoa and Tonga. "Several live in Leone, a village on the west end of the island about 7 to 10 miles from American Samoa's airport. The low areas of Leone were hit, with many dwellings destroyed or damaged. In Samoa, the southern coast of Upolu was hit. Many of the villages on the southern coast were severely damaged, with numerous fatalities and more missing. Christians were asked to pray especially for Olataga Toa, a citizen of Samoa who is financial manager of the hotel in American Samoa. In Ola's

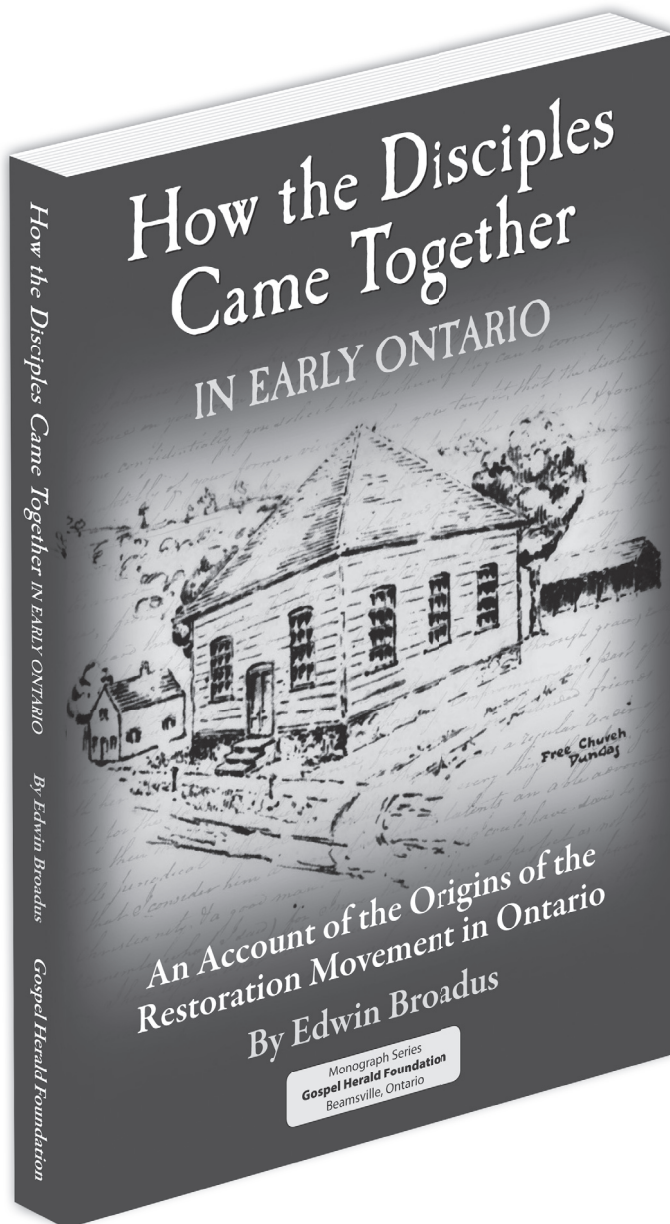
village on Upolu, out of 40 families, only two remain. Six members of his immediate family perished and others are missing. The tragedy of many villages is that they are made up entirely of inter-related families. "Currently there are four churches in American Samoa, Tafuna, Leone, Nuuuili, and Iliili. The primary areas of destruction are the village of Leone and the back portion of Pago Pago harbor, which had severe damage. Buildings were collapsed or gone, vehicles thrown about and boats washed into village areas. There was no electricity or water. As a side note, the western portion of the island, which includes a majority of the population and the power plant, did have electricity and running water. "Each major island in the Samoa chain (Tutuila, Upolu and Savaii) had scores of people that continued to be unaccounted for, feared to have been buried in rubble or pulled out into the ocean." – Report from Jerry Blankenship

**Donetsk, Ukraine:** "The TB Sanatorium at Dogichas has always been deeply grateful to the church of Christ, as we seem to be the only ones who help them. Last summer, they asked us for a commercial washing machine, costing \$4,000. They were receiving 85 little children in the fall and the machine that they had been using for years had broken down again and was not fixable. They were desperate for help. We were able to get the one they needed. When we returned from the States, they called to ask us to come out to see the new washer and give a 'tea' to thank us. "In October, four of us went out for the visit. When we got there we had the regular small talk, they showed us where they needed some help with replacing leaky pipes, we saw the new machine, and then went in to have our tea. After a few minutes of 'surface' talk, the director started asking questions about the Bible. After answering her questions, Jay Don encouraged her to go to the church here at Dogichas, as we have a graduate in this town. When she didn't feel comfortable with that, he agreed to her request to come there to teach her and her staff!" – Condensed from a report by Mary Lee Rogers

**Eastern European Missions:** Teams of Christians from U. S. churches went to Ukraine this past summer to teach, deliver Bibles, mentor and build lasting relationships with some 1,200,000 children in camps in Ukraine. EEM was

*continued on page 14*

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Edwin Broadus

# How the Disciples Came Together IN EARLY ONTARIO

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“I commend Ed Broadus for his extensive sleuthing into the Scottish backgrounds of Canadian Churches that became restorationist. Prior to Ed’s work this history has been essentially unexplored.”

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*Time Tips... continued from page 2*

**a master preacher trainer**, he had been there and understood preachers. He gave me some of the most freeing advice I ever received. I hope elders, members and preachers will listen to this. It is not an exact quote but it is how I have interpreted it: There are three time slots in every day and no healthy person works all three. Morning, afternoon and night. If you are going to be working that night, take the morning or afternoon off. If you are working in the afternoon take either that morning or night off.

Some days you will have to work all three, but don't make it a habit, it is not healthy, will sap you of spiritual strength, will make you more susceptible to temptation and will not set a good example. You will also lose your family. If your child is in an extra-curricular activity, be there. If your elders kids are, they will be there, they should expect you to as well. Take a vacation, even Jesus took His disciples apart for a time of rest.

Don't make working holidays a habit, no one will remember it fondly. You are not married to the church and if you save the world but lose your family standing before the Lord will be harder. He gave you THOSE first. Work hard, but don't be dumb about it. If you take care of yourself in these ways you will be more effective and for longer.

Make sure your elders understand this—if they don't, prepare your resume! They are the shepherds and should not hold you to a standard higher than they will live up to themselves and the above principles are ones they ALREADY follow in their lives if they are what they should be.

**8. I could go on but I will close with this:** Love the people of the Lord! They are the greatest people on earth.

(Editors note: Dr. Dale Jenkins was born in Hamilton and grew up in Birmingham, Alabama. He is an alumnus of Freed-Hardeman University and completed graduate work at Southern Christian University. He was awarded the LL.D. from Nigerian Christian Bible College in 2006. He is married to the former Melanie

Romine (also a preacher's kid) and has two sons, Philip and Andrew.

Dale served as the minister for Granny White Church of Christ located next to Lipscomb University for nine years and the Hamilton Church of Christ in Hamilton, Alabama, for 10 years. He has been preaching for nearly 30 years. His ministry has included work in television & radio, lectureships, mission work in several countries, personal counselling and community service. He has served as a board member for several church and community efforts. He currently serves on the Board of Maywood Christian Camp, the Freed-Hardeman Advisory Board and the Board of Directors of Heritage Christian University. Dale is the editor of "PowerPoints for New Life" the adult Bible school curriculum of 21st Century Christian. His work has been published in books and articles. In addition Dale directs the 21st Century Christian Middle Tennessee Ministry Luncheon.

In 2006 Dale made a decision that was totally out of character for him as in the prime of his career he left the security of one of the best known and most established congregations in our fellowship and moved to work with a 3 month old congregation in Spring Hill, Tennessee—the 14th fastest growing city in America... over the last two years the congregation has grown from about 80 to over 500 in attendance.)

*Mission News... continued from page 12*

invited to replace the former pioneer youth camps used to indoctrinate children into communism with Bible-based curriculum. The Missions team felt this opportunity to get God's Word into many families through the children who would be given Bibles to keep was one that only God could have provided.

**Belgium:** Roy Davison reports that, on August 31, a young man was baptized into Christ. His name is Jimmy; he is 24 years old, and has been attending services in Burcht (across the Schekle River from Antwerp) for about a year.

**Japan:** There was much rejoicing at the baptism of Gaku Osugi on September 22, 2009. Gaku came to the church to do Let's Start Talking in his freshman year of university. He studied further with Joel Osborne and the other team members. His parents and youngest brother traveled five hours to be at his baptism. Joel Osborne has not felt well for some time and has been in the emergency room and visiting doctors to try to determine why. He asks for prayers.

*News East... continued from page 10*

Wednesday, September 16. Key To The Kingdom is making the move to radio. The church in Kenora, ON, has made arrangements for the programme to be carried over their local station. This is the first of what we hope might be many opportunities to provide congregations with the programme for local use on radio. Some adjustments have to be made to accommodate radio. We will "advertise" the Kenora congregation at the beginning of each programme and the Bible course, phone number and website at the end of the message. We look forward to hearing from any congregations that might be interested in using the programme on radio in their community. The monthly ladies classes have begun for another year with the book of James as the topic of study. Also, plans are being discussed for various service activities for the year ahead.

**Waterloo:** On October 5, \$315 was deposited into Ron and Pat Brown's account for the care of the congregation's four orphan children. School children in China put in very strenuous hours.

They are also being taught the Bible as well. Next collection date is January 1, 2010. Speakers for the Waterloo Annual Men's Retreat were Geoff Ellis and David Knutson, as Paul Hillier was sick and unable to attend.

**Windsor (West Side church of Christ):** The Sunday school is still collecting loose change to benefit the less fortunate throughout the world. A "coin rolling" party is being planned.

#### QUEBEC:

**Montreal (Villé Émard):** Danilo and Angela Rissi were baptized into Christ in July. They were invited to worship by one of our members and, after studying with Roger Saumur, were baptized. Michael Mazzalongo has developed a new video series entitled "Sacred Families," which is available on the BibleTalk website. Also, he was scheduled to do a seminar on II Thessalonians for the Bayview congregation at the end of October. His sponsoring church in Choctaw, Oklahoma, has donated a 15-passenger van to the congregation.

News West... continued from page 11

with the past, she often limps when she was called to run," Dr. Rushford said, as he began relating the history of some of the world's favourite hymns. From 7:00 to 8:30, "Hymns from Scotland" were studied and sung the first evening. "Hymns from England" followed suit Saturday night. Dr. Rushford spoke Sunday morning on "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross", concluding the series after a pot luck luncheon with "Hymns from North America" in the afternoon. As a result of the VBS in August, a new family is attending our services, along with several other newcomers. Children at the VBS had a unique experience in more ways than one when a village scene appeared in the vicinity of the meeting place of the church. By going to a well, they could get the modern version of water--in a bottle. Snacks of goat's cheese, herbs, lentil soups and breads were to be found in various merchants' stalls, and learning how to make ropes, card wool, construct armour, or do wood crafting with wooden nails kept up their interest. On one day, small goats provided even more excitement. Or, a child could simply find a story teller to relax awhile. Six teachers and their assistants dressed in old Hebrew clothing represented each one of the tribes of Israel. A men's breakfast prefaced Saturday's

activities with Laurie Fisher speaking for a ladies' luncheon at noon.

**Vernon:** Men of the congregation walked off their "toonie breakfast" and devotional with a hike on Oct. 3. A Ladies' Seminar on "Stress Relief" was presented by Donna Carter on Oct. 24. Mrs. Carter, who lives in Calgary, has a unique ability to synthesize life experiences into digestible life lessons. She is sought as a speaker in Canada and internationally because of her clarity, humour and the light-bulb moments she triggers for women seeking help on their spiritual journeys. Her first book, "10 Smart Things Women Can Do to Build a Better Life," was released in the fall of 2007, and is now being distributed in five countries. The "Got Questions?" exploration continues to draw interest, with DVDs exploring the "Does God Exist?" theme last month.

#### MANITOBA

**Winnipeg:** We rejoice with Brian Cairns who was baptized into Christ. The young adult/college class theme this quarter is "Finding our gifts and using them". The quarter began with studying Psalm 139 where it was found we are fearfully and wonderfully made and it showed how God values and understands each one of us. The morning adult classes are "Living

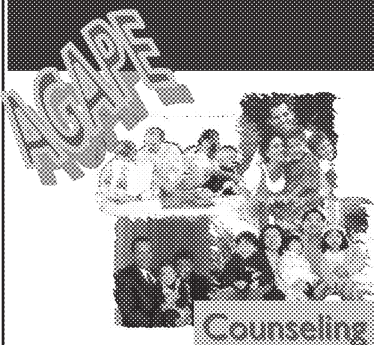
Victoriously" or the video series "The Life You Always Wanted". The Youth Rally Theme was "Go Ahead and Jump". Guest speaker was David Frazee of Dallas, Texas. Steve Adams was song leader. Activities also included a volleyball tournament. Included with the youth rally, Steve Adams held a free public gospel acappella performance on the Saturday evening. He led the congregation in praise and singing Sunday evening. Sunday morning sermon was given by Dr. David Frazee and entitled "It's A Different World Out There - Adult Involvement Required" In the afternoon he conducted a parenting seminar.

#### SASKATCHEWAN

**Gravelbourg:** (submitted by W.Bailey) Sunday, September 13 was another day of rejoicing for the congregation here as Colton Ross named Jesus as the Lord of his life and was baptized by his father, Lyndon. Our meeting with Mike Tackett was held October 24 and 25. There were five presentations on how Jesus viewed the Scriptures and progress through the series looked at how the Bible handles cultural issues and on to how we can improve our lives with what the Bible teaches.

**Weyburn:** Ken Brewer was recently baptized.

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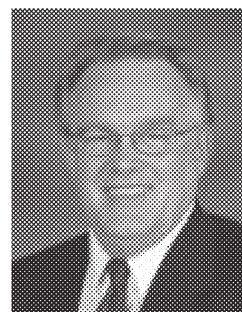
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Ken Wilson, Ph.D.  
ACC President

Kevin Cleary

### Lessons From the Eagle

Les Cramp

The eagle is one of the most majestic birds that God created. God uses them in the Bible as a symbol of power. God told Ezekiel to warn the Israelites that they would be conquered and carried into captivity because of their wickedness. He used the figure of the eagle to get their attention. "Son of man, set forth an allegory and tell the house of Israel a parable. Say to them, "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: A great eagle with powerful wings, long feathers and full plumage of varied colors came to Lebanon. Taking hold of the top of a cedar, he broke off its topmost shoot and carried it away to a land of merchants, where he planted it in a city of traders"" (Ezekiel 17:3-4) God uses similar language in

Obadiah. "Though you soar like the eagle and make your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down," declares the LORD" (Obadiah 1:4).

But a more positive scripture that makes reference to an eagle is found in Isaiah 40:31. "But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

There is a powerful word picture here. An eagle is known for endurance. It has the ability to stay in the air for long periods of time. God gave it the skill to catch the air currents and ride them. There is a huge lesson here. The eagle doesn't have any power to change the air flow. It just takes what it is given and rides it out while looking for its prey on the ground to maintain its survival. Wouldn't it be great if we could be more like that? Instead of using so much energy trying to change the impossible, if we could just ride out what we are given and depend on our God for survival.

An eagle is known for its strength. Eagles have been seen lifting large prey in its talons and soaring off to a tree or cliff. Just as God gave the eagle strength beyond what we would imagine, He gives us a spiritual strength well beyond what we can imagine through His Holy Spirit.

Yet with all its awesome characteristics the majestic eagle depends on God for its survival. It is awesome to stop and realize that this magnificent bird, in itself, has little more capability to survive than the tiny sparrow. Without God providing for it, it would surely die at any stage of its life.

The lesson is obvious. Isaiah says there are people like eagles. They are able to renew their strength, soar on mighty wings, run and not grow weary, walk and not faint. Who are these remarkable people? THOSE WHO HOPE IN THE LORD.

(Collingwood, ON Church of Christ)

As some of you know, Nancy and I follow a workout schedule that is based on the fitness ideals of crossfit. Crossfit sees fitness as a combination of things including: cardiovascular/respiratory endurance, stamina, strength, flexibility, power, coordination, agility, balance and accuracy. So a person would not be fit if, for example, they were just really strong, or just had great endurance.

To achieve some ability in all of these areas crossfit uses three principals. These are: Functional Movements – training with exercises that have practical application. High Intensity – whatever the workout for the day it needs to be done at the highest energy level possible. Constant Variation – never allowing your body to become accustomed to the exercise regimen. The purpose is to develop physically in all areas.

In our Christian lives balance and ability across the board is important. For example, it is important that Christians live Christ-like lives. But this can't be done without knowledge of who Jesus is and what His values and expectations are. In addition, the Christian needs some skill at sharing his or her faith with others. Many other principals could be listed but this is enough to demonstrate that Christians need to be developing on a number of fronts to be successful.

We could borrow from crossfit for a summary of what it takes to develop in this way. Our efforts should be: Functional, that is relevant and applicable to real life. Intense, pursued at our highest level of energy and dedication. Constantly varied, encompassing all that is pertinent to growing closer to God and being effective in his service. The writer of Hebrews stressed the importance of developing (growing) as Christians in Hebrews 5:11-14.

Let's make spiritual growth a priority in our lives and work toward ever more crossfit faith.

(Meaford, ON Church of Christ)

### We Want to Advertise Your Congregation on...



- We need pictures of the outside of your meeting place (four or five different shots would be useful)
- Picture of your sign
- If possible, a picture of a sign showing service times (or just print out the information you wish given on the programme)
- We need contact information (address of the meeting place, phone #s etc)

For best display, pictures need to be 800 X 600 pixel size and at least 172 dpi

Email pictures and information to:

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OR

Mail prints and information to

Key To The Kingdom,  
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346 Strathmore Blvd.,  
Toronto, ON M4C 1N3



# OBITUARIES

## Celland, Alexander Park

Alex Clelland, whose tenure as a Canadian soldier in Europe in WWII changed his life forever, died in the Surrey hospital on Aug. 27 at the age of 85. While stationed in England, he met his wife, Marie Ellen Smith, who was born and raised in East London. They married in London on Feb 23, 1946, returning to Canada the same year.

After coming to Vancouver, they eventually built a home in Richmond, where they learned about the church of Christ through studies with David Johnson, the preacher at Blundell Ave. at that time. When Alex became a Christian, he never looked back, but continued to study the Bible and devote his life to being a Christian. He was proficient, whether teaching a Bible class or preaching a sermon. He possessed the gentle and quiet nature of a poet, and put many of his observations and values down in that form.

A private service for a last good-bye was observed in September at the Port Coquitlam cemetery where Alex was buried beside Marie. He leaves his wife, the former Grace Neufeld, and his family of four sons: Anthony, Grant, Philip and John, their wives, nine grandchildren and six great-grand children.

Alex was born at Lethbridge, AB., on July 7, 1924, one of nine children. He was predeceased by all of his siblings, and, after 49 years of marriage, by Marie in 1995. He worked for Boeing Aircraft before joining the Canadian Armed Services at the age of 19.

Alex was chosen to be a member of the building committee from Blundell when it amalgamated with Vancouver's 12th Avenue church in 1959, eventually serving as an elder at the Oakridge church. He was married to Grace Neufeld on September 7, 1996.

– Barbara Lewis

## Sawyer, Raymond

Two Vancouver newspapers, as well as two Island publications, carried the announcement of the sudden death of Raymond Sawyer on September 18, at the age of 92, in a nursing home in Nanaimo, BC. Although he had not been well for some time, he had not seemed ill the previous day when visited by his daughter-in-law, Bonny.

He was predeceased by his wife, Elizabeth, in 2007, and a daughter, Beverly, to cancer in 1995. At his request, no funeral service was held. He is missed by his three sons, Larry (Bonny) of Nanaimo, David (Beverley) of Laredo, Texas, and Danny (Sue) who live in Grants Pass, Oregon. He also leaves a brother, Frank, in Keremeos, BC., seven grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Ray was born in Ashcroft, B.C. and lived all of his adult life in Vancouver and Richmond prior to moving to Nanaimo in 2003 to be near his son. He exchanged vows with Elizabeth Mitchell on September 15, 1952, the first couple to be married by David Johnson. Ray worked on the family farm during their first years and had young children. After it was sold, he delivered milk to support his family as they grew up.

Ray and his son, Larry, opened a service station at 54th & Oak St., working together for 15 years. He spent his last 10 years prior to retirement as a mail clerk for BC. Packers in Richmond. They were given an Alaskan Cruise to celebrate their 50th anniversary by their sons, and had another four years together before Elizabeth's death.

After being a faithful member of the Blundell church in Richmond for many years, Ray served on the building committee overseeing the erection of the Oakridge building in Vancouver. He eventually became an elder for the combined congregation, which he served as long as he was able. He is remembered by many friends in the Greater Vancouver area.

– Barbara Lewis

*Max's Musings... continued from page 5*

some of the time granted, first by God and then by retirement, to reach out with the love of God to others. Remember the wonderful blessings that are ahead for faithful Christians (1 Peter 1:3 – 6) and help others reach it as well.

Remember that, as the older generation, we must provide a good example for the generations to follow. Parents may feel a need to provide for the physical welfare of family for this life. However, they need to remember that spiritual guidance is eternal!

Finally, remember that we are never too old to make new conquests of faith in serving the Lord. Take the example of Caleb to heart and move those mountains and overcome those giants that stand in and way. Don't talk about the old days the what was accomplished in the past, but sow the seed anew and fight the battle afresh. Your example will inspire others. In the words of Thomas Carlyle, remember, "One example is worth a thousand arguments."

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## LISTINGS OF INTEREST

### **Great Lakes Christian High School Alumni Association**

4875 King Street  
Beamsville, ON L0R 1B6  
School: 905-563-5374  
Alumni contact:  
Jodie (Codling) Cook '90—  
905-563-9433  
Email: [alumni@glchs.on.ca](mailto:alumni@glchs.on.ca)

### **For getting materials some sources are:**

**Gospel Advocate**, Nashville, TN  
[www.gospeladvocate.com](http://www.gospeladvocate.com)

**21st Century Christian**,  
Nashville, TN  
[www.21stcc.com](http://www.21stcc.com)

**Lambert Book House**,  
Florence, AL  
[www.lambertbookhouse.com](http://www.lambertbookhouse.com)

**The Bible House, Inc.**, Searcy, AR  
[www.biblehousesupply.com](http://www.biblehousesupply.com)

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# Be the instrument...



Blair is a youth minister in Regina who runs a mid-week drop in for community kids, and heads up the local Homeless Partners Christmas Wish List ([www.homelesspartners.com](http://www.homelesspartners.com)).

*"At a time in my life when I was ready to walk away from God, someone told me that a central aspect of the gospel is reaching out to 'the least of these.' This struck a chord deep in my soul. I began to wonder what the world would look like if the Church lived this out on a deeper level. Western Christian College nurtured my faith in Christ and my passion for helping the poor and oppressed."*

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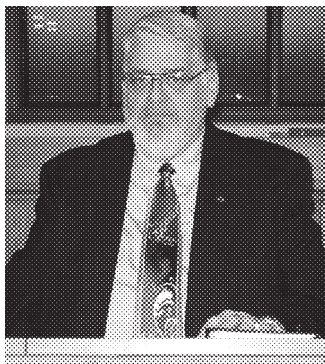
## On the Vision Network

Friday at 8:30 AM (ET)  
 (Check local listing for channel #)  
 Star Choice – 394  
 Bell ExpressVu – 65 (new #)

## The Christian Channel

Thursday at 7:30 AM (ET)  
 Rogers Digital Channel – 396  
 Star Choice – 399, Telus 158 & MTS TV 21

website: [keytothekingdom.ca](http://keytothekingdom.ca)



Max Craddock, Speaker

(Questions and/or support can be sent to:  
**Elders,**  
**Strathmore Blvd Church of Christ,**  
**346 Strathmore Blvd., Toronto, ON**  
**M4C 1N3**  
 phone: 416-461-7406  
 e-mail: [maxc@strathmorecofc.ca](mailto:maxc@strathmorecofc.ca)

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