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Gospel

For the promotion of
NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIANITY

Herald

ISSN 0829-4666

Vol. 83, No. 5

TORONTO, ONTARIO

May, 2018



Finding God in Tragedy

See Editorial on page 6

Divine Likes and Dislikes OR What God Hates

Proverbs 6:16-19 — PART 3 of 3

Thayer Salisbury

Feet Quick to Evil

Thoughts must be clothed in actions. Too often people claim that their hearts are right, but, when evil is afoot, those same people can be found taking part. The talk and the walk must agree. That is the point of the closing words of verse 18 and the point of many other passages of scripture (1 Jn 2:4-6; James 1:22).

Even the apostle of grace makes this clear. Paul tells us that we must, “walk by the Spirit” if we would avoid gratifying the desires of the flesh (Gal 5:16). If we want a right relationship with God, we must be careful how we walk as well as what we think. The two cannot really be kept separate for long.

Eagerness

We must honestly evaluate the eagerness of our walk. What are the things in which we eagerly participate? What are the things done only out of duty?

Many ask themselves, “Do I sometimes have good thoughts and noble intentions?” They are satisfied to say “yes.” But the more important question is, “Was there any eagerness in the doing of good?” Most people do some good and some evil. Few are so corrupted as to never do anything good, none (save Christ) so perfect that they never do evil. But in which direction is eagerness shown?

Let us ask ourselves, “Do I sit in the front row at the concert? Do I

arrive early to get a good seat at the game? Do I arrive the same way for worship? Am I glad to hear that there is a work day, or an opportunity to give away clothing, or some other service opportunity? Where is the eagerness?”

Planning

We need a plan to change our walk. Physically, most of us learned to walk so long ago that we have forgotten that there was a learning process to it. Spiritually, we act as if our feet should require no training, but such is not the case. We need **information to guide** our walk (Hos 4:6; Mt 15:14; Rom 10:2). We need **examples to encourage** our walk (Mt 4:19; Mk 3:14; 2 Thess 3:7-9). We need **practice to perfect** our walk (Philip 4:1-9). We need **accountability to maintain** our walk (Heb 13:17). The Roman practice of confession is not wrong because confession to a church leader is a bad idea, but because of the claim that the priest stands in the place of God. Purified of that error, confession to a fellow Christian is an excellent idea, and a biblical one (James 5:16).

We need to be careful what we see, what we hear, what we think, because God cares what goes on in our hearts. We also need to be careful where we go, what we do, how we live, because God cares about our walk every bit as much as he cares about our talk.

A False Witness

Once there was a preacher who preached on baptism every Sunday. After a while the congregation was sick of it. The elders spoke to the preacher, but he kept preaching on baptism. Finally, the elders decided to assign the preacher a text and tell him that he must preach from this text. The first text

they assigned was Genesis 1. The preacher began with a reading of the text.

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters’, which brings me to the subject of baptism.”

It is comical, although often harmful, when a preacher harps on his own favorite theme. But when God keeps returning to a subject, we should return to it also. Sins of the tongue seem to dominate this passage in Proverbs. Three of the seven things listed as hated by God involve speech.

There are shades of difference between the three sins of the tongue mentioned in this list. A lying tongue could be carelessness about the truth in a general way. A false witness will actually go to court telling lies. One who sows discord may not even tell lies. He may speak the truth, but do so in a way that puts others at odds with one another.

Premeditation

To bear false witness is given separate treatment from “a lying tongue,” perhaps because bearing false witness will normally involve premeditation. Sometimes we speak untruths when taken by surprise. We do not know what to say and fear to say something that will hurt others, so we shade the truth. We should not do this. It is a sin, but, when compared to bearing false witness, it may not be as serious. For the one bearing false witness will have premeditated his falsehood. He has had opportunity to remind himself of the duty of truthfulness, and been reminded →

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of it by being placed under oath, yet has chosen to lie. He speaks out of malice. This is especially sinful (Lk 12:47-48; Num 35:20-21).

Willingness to Harm

Bearing false witness usually implies at least willingness, if not an eagerness, to harm another. It is a form of violence against others (Ps 27:12).

The superlative example of this would be the false witnesses at the trial of Jesus (Mk 14: 56). Note that not everything they said was false. Some of their words were true, but given a false context or implication (Mk 14:58). Such is true with most false witnessing.

Even in lesser cases, a person's reputation, and perhaps his property can be taken from him unjustly, not by physical force, but by the force of false words. This has become particularly easy in our era. An innocent person can be destroyed by legal fees, or even through a trial by mass media. Even if eventually found not guilty in court, many a person has had his life ruined by a false witness.

Deuteronomy 19:18-19 tells us how to prevent this. Those who tell lies designed to hurt others should be punished to the extent they attempted to do harm. A society, even a church, that fails to heed this instruction is headed for trouble. If those who want to harm others know that they will not themselves be punished, they have nothing to lose in making false accusations.

Arrogant Attitude

Bearing false witness also implies an arrogant attitude toward God himself. It is, in effect, lying to

God himself (Acts 5:3-4). It demonstrates a terrible attitude toward the institutions he has ordained. If done in court, it demonstrates disrespect toward his servant, the government (Rom 13:4). If done to church leaders, it shows disrespect to those trying to serve God (Heb 13:17). It often involves the willingness to misuse the name of God (Ex 20:7; Mt 26:63).

It might seem unnecessary to cover this subject. One might think that few readers of the Gospel Herald would perjure themselves either in court or in the church. But it is actually a highly practical lesson. We may tell ourselves that we would never do this, but we might. We say we would not have falsely accused Jesus as those false witnesses did at his trial; but I am not so sure.

Any sinful habit, including that of inaccurate speech, can grow on us. If we begin to speak false-

ly in "minor" matters, we may go on to the point of lying about Jesus (Lk 16:10). I have not known many church members who would bear false witness in an official setting, but I have known a few. They reached that point because they had so often gotten away with dishonesty in the past. All too often the church does not deal with it as we ought.

A hastily stated inaccuracy is bad enough, but false witness, is far worse. We must not condone such conduct; and we are condoning it anytime we continue in fellowship with one who commits it.

God hates false witness. We must hate it also.

Sowing of Discord

The last of the seven things God hates, and the last of the three sins of the tongue listed here, is the sowing of discord. This sin has always been among Satan's fundamental tools for harming the church. I do not think that I am exaggerating when I say that wherever you find the church, you will find those who are sowing discord. Satan will see to it.

The very nature of the church makes it attractive to dysfunctional and destructive people. Sociologists tell us that you will find a higher percentage of dysfunctional people in the church than in society as a whole. It is the one place they can find acceptance, and the one place where they might hope to even rise to leadership. That fact, and Satan's desire to harm the church, means that we must always be vigilant in dealing with this problem.



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Teach

We must teach on this subject. We may have sometimes avoided the subject, or trod lightly regarding it, for fear that someone would think that a certain individual was being targeted. But we must teach the whole council of God (Acts 20:27), all that he commanded us (Mt 28:20). We should do so routinely, not waiting for the problem to come up.

Rebuke

We must also rebuke cases as they occur, gently at first, for we should realize how easy it is to drift into such conduct (2 Tim 2:24-26), but firmly in blatant cases or if someone becomes a repeat offender.

Practice Church Discipline

And we must have the courage to practice biblical discipline. Now when I speak of practicing biblical discipline, I am not speaking of misapplying biblical texts to give troublemakers every possible advantage. The way we handle church discipline often does just that, it aids Satan.

There is no contradiction between Matthew 18 and Titus 3. The one indicates a three-step process of discipline (Mt 18:15-17). The other commands a shorter and simpler process (Titus 3:10). There is no contradiction because they are not addressing the same subject. Matthew 18 addresses a personal offense (18:15), a matter between two people. Titus 3 addresses someone doing wrong to the family of God (3:10). For too long we have tried to deal with Titus 3 offenses as if they

were Matthew 18 offenses. That is as logical as punishing a murderer according to the jaywalking laws. Paul did not approach Peter privately concerning what Peter had done publicly (Gal 2:14). We should not deal with sowers of discord according to Matthew 18. The proper texts in such cases would be Titus 3 and Proverbs 6.

Refuse to Accept Excuses

We must not accept excuses. Sowers of discord will use scripture as an excuse. Matthew 7 and Matthew 18 will be two of their favorites. But a scripture taken out of context is no excuse for stirring up trouble. The troublemakers rebuked in Galatians, and those confronted in Colossians, evidently used scripture, but they did not use it rightly. The same will be true today.

A frequent defense of those who sow discord in recent years has been to claim emotional problems

or dementia. I sympathize with genuine cases of dementia. I have had to deal with that in my family and I sympathize. But genuine cases of dementia do not become increasingly skillful at deception and prone to concocting elaborate tales. Yes, they lose touch with reality and say ridiculous things; but no, they do not skillfully warp the truth in an effort to make others look guilty.

Sowers of discord will sometimes hide behind the concept of congregational autonomy. It is not good when congregations interfere excessively in one another's business. But sin in the body of Christ is the business of every member of his body. The body of Christ has various local manifestations, but it is one body (Eph 4:4). What hurts one part of the body is of concern to all (1 Cor 12:26). Sowers of discord must not be allowed to cause trouble in one congregation and then run to another to escape discipline. Yet it has happened, frequently.

God hates the sowing of discord. Let us make sure that we do not engage in this hateful practice. Let us learn to deal with those who do engage in it in a firm and timely manner.

So ends the list of seven things that God hates. If we are going to support the things that he labels "blessed" (Psalm 1; 133; Mt 5) we will have to take a stand against the things he hates. We must be diligent in opposing the seven things listed here. We must learn to hate them, as does our God. We must seek to root them out of our congregations, out of our families, most of all out of our own lives.

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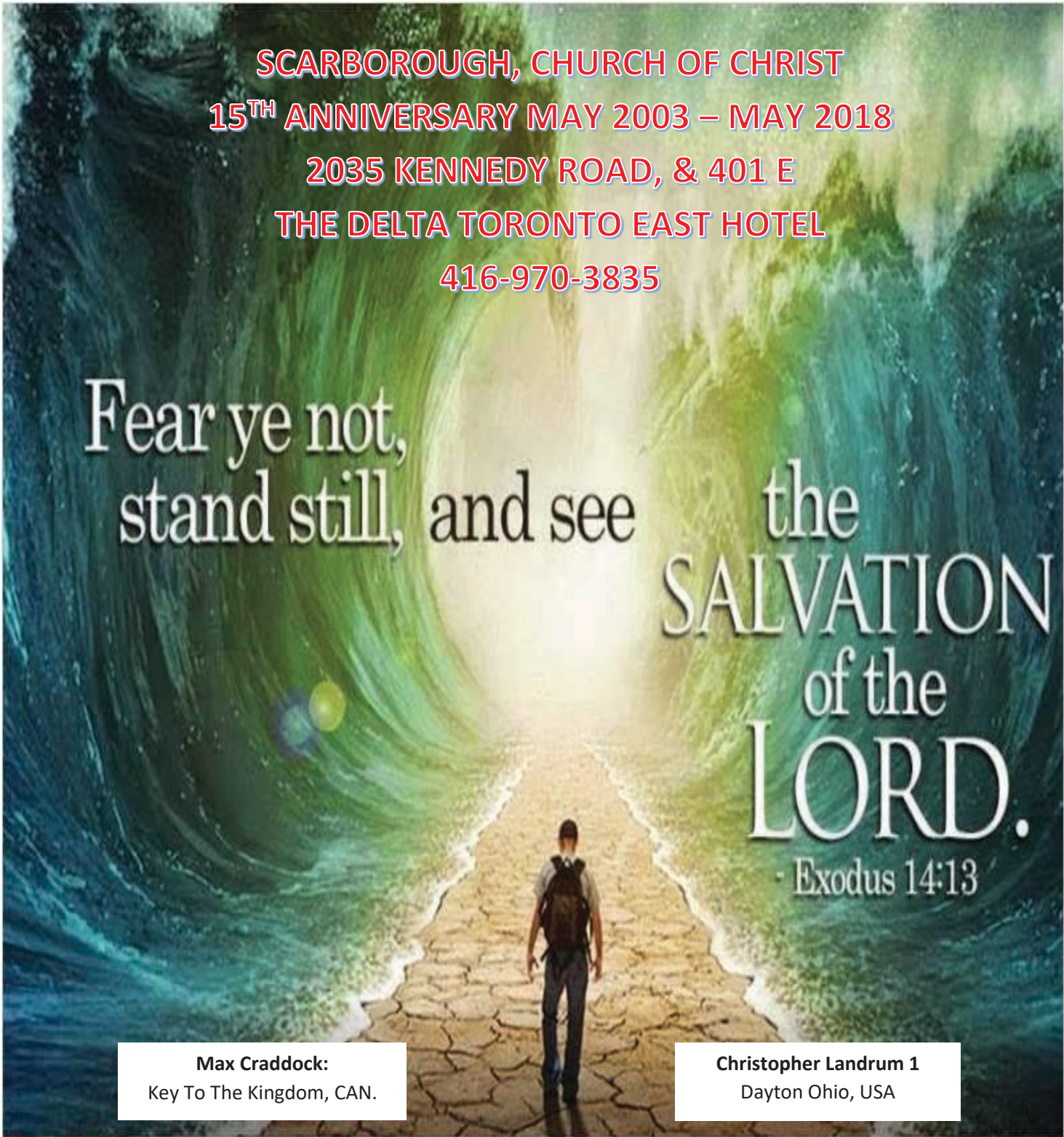
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A man with a backpack is walking away from the viewer on a stone path that leads through a tunnel of water. The water is a vibrant green and blue, with light rays filtering through from the end of the path. The overall mood is one of hope and journey.

Max Craddock:
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Christopher Landrum 1
Dayton Ohio, USA

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Lesson: Max Craddock

Worship Service: 11:15 am

Lesson: Christopher Landrum 1

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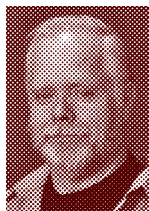
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Finding God in Tragedy

Wayne Turner



Humboldt—Until recently, this small community in Saskatchewan was relatively unknown. A collision between a bus transporting the Humboldt Broncos hockey team and a tractor-trailer put the town as the first news item across North America.

At the time of this writing, fifteen people were killed and many others hospitalized, some still in critical condition. Many of those killed were healthy young men looking ahead to future hockey careers. Indications are that one of the survivors is paralyzed from the chest down. The often heard question, as with other tragedies, is, “Why?”

Perhaps there is no time in our lives that prompts as much contemplation and discussion about God as a time of tragedy. Infamous events, like 9-11 or the Oklahoma City bombing, which caused devastation and loss of many lives, or personal events, like the loss of a child or other family member, cause grief and pain. There seems to be an unfairness to such loss, creating doubt about the place of a sovereign God in our world. Many have asked, “Where is God?” when we hurt.

Often, in a sincere attempt to console those who are mourning, people will say, “It is God’s will.” They believe that God is in control, that He knows even when a sparrow falls, and He directs the events of our lives. The question becomes, does God choose or cause tragedies to happen? Or is there something else we need to understand?

Jesus spoke of two tragic events of His day—a tower in Siloam that fell, killing people, and Herod ordering the murder of people who were offering sacrifices. At the time, He was challenging another misunderstanding of tragedy—that bad things happen to bad people. We see the reasoning in the book of Job as his friends suggest that his suffering was God’s punishment for his sin. Their poor comfort blamed Job as the author of his own disaster. Similarly, Jesus asked His hearers if the victims of the two tragedies were any more sinful than anyone else.

The attempt to explain pain and tragedy has led to some unfortunate reasoning. Many years ago, Harold S. Kushner, in his book, “When Bad Things Happen to Good People”, suggested only two pos-

sibilities. Either God is not all powerful or He is not all loving. This seems to be a very inadequate view of God or our suffering.

Are there other options? The writer of Ecclesiastes observes, “The race is not to the swift or the battle to the strong, nor does food come to the wise or wealth to the brilliant or favor to the learned; but time and chance happen to them all.” As Peter told Cornelius, God does not show partiality. Paul said that God brings rain on the just and the unjust. No one has a “get out of tragedy free” card. We all face pain, suffering and loss. Even God did when Jesus died on the cross. Bad things happen. As some have observed when people ask where God was when they encountered tragedy, He was in the same place as when Jesus died.

Our comfort does not come from being able to avoid suffering and trials. Those are a part of life. Rather, Romans 8:28 says that “in all things, God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.” Our comfort in tragedy is knowing that God will bring good to our grief. It is so encouraging to hear Christians express this in their loss as they say they are watching to see the good that God will bring.

There are no easy answers to why we suffer loss and grief—how we face tragedy. But, there is hope in our God who is all loving and all powerful, and who has promised to be with us whatever happens. Our comfort and strength are found in Him.

GOSPEL HERALD

Published Monthly by the Gospel Herald Foundation, a non profit corporation, for the Promotion of New Testament Christianity
— FOUNDED BY ROBERT SINCLAIR, 1936 —

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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.

“Publications Mail Agreement Number 4000 5401”

Indexed by Restoration Serials Index

Subscription PDF \$12 per year



Articles for this page or reactions to it should be sent to
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“Print Thine Image Pure and Holy”

It has been suggested that imitation is one of the highest forms of flattery. I am not sure that flattery is the best word. However, I am sure you get the idea. A person may walk, talk, play, study, work, etc. like someone they consider to be a good example and perhaps who has success in their life.

In the everyday world this may be the person who looks at a successful sports figure and tries to follow that individual's example of how they play the game. Maybe today, but for sure in the early 2000s, such a star was Canadian Mike Weir, a left handed golfer. Golfers around the world, especially Canadian golfers, saw him as an example to follow. He won the Masters, one of the major PGA tournaments, becoming one of the few left handers to do so. Many left handers looked to him for inspiration, watching him in warm up, studying his swing and trying to imitate it themselves. Who knew, they may have thought, if I can be like him I too could become good enough to play on the pro tour... and failing that, they could still become a much better golfer than before. Surely, looking to a good example can help one to be better.

I remember when I began preaching full time in 1960, I had opportunity to preach several times, as well as visit for worship services, at a congregation in Ohio before moving to Canada in 1961. At this congregation there was a young boy who seemed to like me very much

and we began to notice that he did several things that mimicked the way I walked, held my song book and my Bible when preaching etc. I have not thought of that young boy for many years and wonder if he continued to reflect me in some of his actions.

It should go without saying that if we have people who mimic us it is abundantly important that we give them a worthy example to follow. Paul reminds us of what this should include, “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ” – 1 Corinthians 11:1 (ESV). The highest goal we can have is to conduct our lives by following the example of the Master. Part of the reason for the writing of the gospels was

to allow us to see how Jesus lived and how He coped with the temptations of daily living. Daily He faced and overcame hardships to serve God without sin.

In many ways He had a much more difficult task than we do as He was marked as an enemy of the Jewish religion and as a threat to the relative peace the people enjoyed in the Roman Empire. For this reason, His every act was watched and judged publicly. Peter writes that if we can endure and live the Christian life it is commendable before God. *“For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.*

Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls” – 1 Peter 2:15-25 (ESV). →

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Note that in this text, Peter points out that Jesus "...also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps". Surely each of us should be working to imitate the Master in our daily living.

In 2003 I had the pleasant experience of attending the Great Lakes Bible College short course on Church Music taught by brother Leon Sanderson. It was a very rewarding week of discussing and singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. We looked at songs that had been written many years in the past that were filled with

wonderful and challenging messages for modern day Christians. In closing this "musings" let me share the words of one of these hymns with you.

Written in 1687 by Thomas Hansen Kingo, is a song that is the title of this article. It clearly expresses the idea of having the image of Jesus imprinted on us who are Christians. The words were impressive to me and I pray they will be so for you as well. May God help us to look to Jesus and have His image imprinted on us. The words of the hymn are:

Verse 1:

Print thine image pure and holy
On my heart, O Lord of Grace;

Verse 2:

So that nothing high nor lowly
Thy blest likeness can efface.

Chorus:

Let the clear inscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
And the Lord of all creation,
Be my refuge and salvation.

May we all make this our daily goal
as we live in a world that so needs to
see the Lord of all creation living in
His people.

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p.m. session – Jesus said to the Father: "Let this cup pass from Me" Matt. 26:39

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Virginia Hipwell, Editor



Spring Renewal

As Spring awakens the earth around us and refreshes our drab winter world with colour and warmth, many of us also get the urge to revive our surroundings by giving our homes a facelift. To do that, it is usually necessary to begin by doing a thorough cleaning. This spring, why not do some sprucing up of your spiritual house – which isn't just any house. It is the home of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19).

Sometimes we don't realize how much clutter has accumulated in our homes until we start cleaning. The same may be true of our spiritual house. We may not realize how much junk we have in our lives unless we stop and examine ourselves. It may be that our lives are overdue for a thorough cleaning and freshening up.

Any redo starts with cleaning. However, just getting rid of the trash and dirt is not enough. Repairs may be needed. It may be necessary to replace some things and, if you have not done so for a while, you will likely need to repaint. It is the same in our spiritual lives. We need to clean but we also need to redo—to refresh, revive and restore.

“Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God” – 2 Corinthians 7:1 (NLT).

“Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, throw off your old sinful nature and your former

way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy” – Ephesians 4:21-24 (NLT).

Scripture gives us several lists of things that need to be cleaned out of our lives.

“Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior” – Ephesians 4:31 (NLT).

If we have not done any spiritual house cleaning for a while knowing where to begin could also be a problem.

“Let there be no sexual immorality, impurity, or greed among you. Such sins have no place among God's people. Obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes—these are not for you. Instead, let there be thankfulness to God” – Ephesians 5:3, 4 (NLT).

“Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind” – 1 Peter 2:1 (NIV 1984).

When we look at lists like this, we sometimes forget that they were written to Christians—members of the church just like us—not to lost sinners. Bad habits do not disappear overnight and undesirable things can sneak in and build up without our realizing it. The contamination of the world can easily accumulate in our lives just as dust and dirt do in our houses. That is why they need to be cleaned regularly.

In recent months, my husband and I have spent numerous hours cleaning and fixing up our “bunkie”. (An empty house left by previous residents in a rather chaotic state.) In cleaning that house, we found it rather overwhelming at first because there was so much to be done that it was difficult to know where to start.

If we have not done any spiritual house cleaning for a while, knowing where to begin could also be a problem. In our house, we started with the kitchen and bathroom so that we would have access to sinks and water for further cleaning. With our spiritual cleaning I would suggest that since it is the root of nearly everything else in our lives, a good place to start is our thoughts and attitudes.

Jesus said it is what is in our hearts that spills out in word and action. We therefore need to make sure we focus our thoughts and attention on God and what is good.

“A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. What you say flows from what is in your heart” – Luke 6:45 (NLT).

“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will” – Romans 12:2 (NIV 1984).

“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things” – Colossians 3:1, 2 (NIV 1984).

“And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about →

things that are excellent and worthy of praise” – Philippians 4:8 (NLT).

One of the cleaners we may need to use on our spiritual house is confession. Confession cuts through pride and helps to repair relationships – both with God and with our brothers and sisters.

“But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness” – 1 John 1:9 (NLT).

“Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results” – James 5:16 (NLT).

Forgiveness is another very effective cleanser. It removes anger, bitterness, hatred, malice, discord, etc. This also improves our relationships as well as our emotional and physical health.

“If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins” – Matthew 6:14, 15 (NLT).

“Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you” – Colossians 3:13 (NIV 1984).

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you” – Ephesians 4:32 (NIV 1984).

With the bunkie, once the trash was out, the cleaning done, and repairs made, the next step was to brighten and revive with new floors and fresh paint. God’s word not only points out the cleaning that needs to be done, it also gives us instructions on improvements that need to be made.

“Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God” – Ephesians 5:1, 2 (NLT).

“Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends

you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful” – Colossians 3:12 – 15 (NLT).

“As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I [Paul] urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace” – Ephesians 4:1-3 (NIV 1984).

“Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe” – Philippians 2:14, 15 (NIV 1984).

“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality” – Romans 12:9-13 (NIV 1984).

If only one person had been working on cleaning and redoing the bunkie, it would probably still be in the cleaning phase. Thankfully, we have had many hands working on it and so much improvement has been made. We can also be thankful that when it comes to our spiritual house, we do not have to do it on our own. The Holy Spirit wants His house to be clean and beautiful and He will gladly help to accomplish that.

“So all of us who have had that veil removed can see

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and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image” – 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NLT).

“But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives. Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another” – Galatians 5:22-26 (NLT).

Not all houses need as much work as our bunkie did, but time and the environment take their toll on our houses so all need some freshening up from time to time.

Our spiritual lives are similar. They may not need a major overhaul but might benefit from some sprucing up. Satan may not be able to draw us into a life of sin, completely turning our back on God, but he has subtle ways to wear us down and dull our enthusiasm and tarnish our joy.

Some of the things he uses to do that are discouragement, grief, trials, stress, criticism, boredom, even prosperity. So how do we combat the dirt Satan tracks in and freshen up our spiritual house?

One way is prayer. “Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me” – Psalm 51:10-12 (NIV 1984).

Spend time in the Word. “The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul.

The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple” – Psalm 19:7 (NIV 1984).

Look outward. Help others. “The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed” – Proverbs 11:25 (NLT).

“So let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up. Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith” – Galatians 6:9, 10 (NLT).

We need encouragement and we need to encourage others. Therefore, we need to spend time with the saints. And as these verses tell us, that does not just mean at worship service on Sunday morning.

“Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that

the day of his return is drawing near” – Hebrews 10:24, 25 (NLT) .

“But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness” – Hebrews 3:13 (NIV 1984).

“But you, dear friends, must build each other up in your most holy faith, pray in the power of the Holy Spirit, and await the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will bring you eternal life. In this way, you will keep yourselves safe in God’s love” – Jude 20, 21 (NLT).

“So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing” – 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NLT).

No matter the extent of your Spring sprucing up, be sure to –

“Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him” – Galatians 3:10 (NLT).

CAMP OMAGH

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13th Annual



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James 1:27

May 26, 2018

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

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Fenwick Church of Christ

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(donations to defray cost gratefully accepted)

To assist with planning, please register by May 18, 2017.

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NEWS

-EAST-

by Harold Bruggen
Church of Christ, Box 416
Fenwick, ON L0S 1C0
Email: Harold Bruggen at
hbruggen@gmail.com

NEW YORK

Niagara Falls, NY – La Salle: On Tuesday, April 10, Sister Becky Rose from Vancouver, Washington spoke to our ladies bible class about her upcoming mission trip to Malawi, Africa. She has agreed to talk with us about her desire to share the Word of God and encouragement to one of the poorest countries in the world, Malawi. This will be Becky's second mission trip to Malawi. The mission team will be leaving for Africa, July 2nd. In addition to much needed prayers for the team, they are collecting men's ties and notes of encouragement to leave with the Malawi Christians.

ONTARIO

Barrie: Our Georgian College Friday Nights in January/February went well, but student guests were few this year. In comparison, Friends Day on Sunday March 4 was the best we've ever had, with 20 community guests. Some of these continue to attend, and studies with them are proceeding. Please pray for a harvest. David Johnson had his 92nd birthday in January, but he is not the oldest in the Barrie church. Eva Patrick turned 97 in April.

Beamsville: A student at Great Lakes Christian High School is needing assistance. The student, Vanessa Madera, is from Zimbabwe, Africa, has the opportunity to attend GLCHS. She is in need of a student visa by the Canadian government. Some money has already been pledged and more is needed. If you can help financially, please get in touch with Geoff Taylor at GLCHS and he will provide you with all the details.

Grimbsy: The Grimbsy congregation has moved to a new meeting place. They will be having a Grand Opening in the near future. Watch for details. The new address is 164 Mountain Rd., Grimbsy, Ontario. Their mailing address remains the same, Box 181, Grimbsy, ON L3M 4G3. Phone 905-945-2233.

Toronto (Bayview): On Friday, March 30, eighteen from Bayview attended the 56th Annual Training For Service program, hosted by Bramalea church of Christ. We benefitted from Jerry Tallman's three presentations, containing many practical suggestions of how to fulfill Christ's mission of "going into all the world" with His message. Our appreciation is extended to Bramalea for hosting this time of edification and fellowship. Bonnie Porter, Althea Branker and Gail Baddeley are work-

ing on updating Bayview's history in preparation for our 75th anniversary celebration in the fall. More details will follow.

Windsor – West Side: Tuesday March 13, 2018, Joyce Papineau went home to be with the Lord. She has been a member of the West Side family for over 45 years since she along with her husband Murray and four children moved here as Murray became the evangelist. Years later she would also serve alongside of him as he was an elder. Joyce was a hard worker, doing her best to provide for her children, very charitable and hospitable to others though never really having very much and she had a strong faith in the redemption provided by Jesus. We know despite our sadness to "depart and be with the Lord is far better" (Philippians 1:23).



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#7, 420 Hunters Green
Edmonton, AB T6R 2X3
Phone: (780) 637-0867
Email: waughr1@shaw.ca

(BC news supplied by Barbara Lewis)

ALBERTA

Camrose: We hosted a “Singing Get Together” and invited surrounding churches.

Edmonton Northside: A successful Alberta Spring Fellowship was held. C.L.Thomas from Sunset and Jason Rollins from Guelph, Ontario and Harold Eggar from Wolf Point, Montana were guest speakers. Theme for the weekend was Families of Faith. Issac Attoh was baptised. Ashley Johnson wishes to identify with our congregation. A Young Adult Ministry is being formed. Our 5th Sunday potluck honored the youth and young adults of the congregation.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Abbotsford (Central Valley): Norm Weir was able to resume his leadership the first Sunday in April after four weeks’ absence to recuperate from a hip replacement. Although he is still unable to drive (along with other restrictions,) he and Jen are hoping to restart their visiting circuit later this month. Jen has had to make up for his usual help with getting ready for worship in their rented room. One of the “chores” is getting their rolling cart carrying all the necessities for a service from the building’s basement to their room via an elevator, but she succeeded! It is an invaluable aid as it holds the Lord’s Supper, song books, tabletop pulpit stand, linens, etc.

Burnaby: Friday evenings have been chosen to invite members and friends to view an Alpha course which will be offered weekly until

June 15. The course is designed to interest people who are not Christians, but who have questions about the Bible they would like to explore. It will be monitored by our elders, and the congregation is encouraged to invite relatives, friends and neighbors. A 20-minute segment was presented to the church after the worship service last month.

Delta: A recent letter from the Rogers, arriving safely in Ukraine following a quick trip back to the U.S. to speak at the special dinners in Arlington, TX, (followed by a similar meal in Arlington, TN) mentioned that each one drew about 100 participants. The story of the UB Institute was presented by several speakers who have been involved over the years. The Rogers were accompanied by the Malugas, a Ukrainian family of three who were thrilled with their first trip to the U. S. As this congregation has had a special interest in the Rogers since their sojourn with us, our letter contained a personal note of rejoicing over the baptism of a grandson taking place here in the States on April 1.

Salmon Arm: “Although illnesses have taken a toll on our attendance this winter, improvement in the weather has brought an increase and we are thankful for visitors on a regular basis as well. The “Toastmasters” who were grateful for the use of our facility thoughtfully left donations in our “Milk for Zambia” container after one of their meetings. (news from Marie Taylor)

Surrey: Long-time members Chris and Christine Wagenaar were parted temporarily when Chris died peacefully as he slept on March 9. Originally from Ontario, they were converted in B.C. many years ago by Roger and Margaret Jeal. Memorial plans had not been completed at this time. Even though spring has been slow in coming this year, our men took on the job of doing a thorough cleaning job on our building from top to bottom, managing to find an

amazing pyramid of trash. Joann Simonsen, who has been hearing from a student in Pennsylvania for over a year, was surprised recently when the girl told her she had surrendered to Christ a year ago, but had not been baptized, and asking if this was necessary. Joann immediately responded with a series of scriptures assuring her it was. Another student Joann is corresponding with is from the Philippines. She was brought up in a Buddhist family, but although she still lives with her mother and siblings (who all are Buddhists), she is committed to God and His Son. She attends a denominational church and wants to know what the Bible teaches on many topics. Whenever she comes across something from reading her Bible or from the course, she challenges her preacher. Recently she asked me about ‘once saved, always saved’ because their preacher had given a lesson about this subject and she said “what do you think? - because that is not what I believe the Bible teaches: that we cannot fall from grace”. Another topic was “eating food sacrificed to idols” (that is what her family does). Joann’s response was “WOW! Who would ever have thought I’d have an opportunity of discussing these topics with anyone!” She proceeded to give her a thorough Bible study, both by e-mail and postal. “Recently she asked for two copies of some of the study material so that she could give a copy to her preacher. 2017 brought a total of 204 requests, the majority from the USA and Canada, with others from a total of six different countries,” Joann told us.

MANITOBA

Winnipeg (Central): Tom Tignor from 21st Century Christian taught a Teacher Training Workshop.

SASKATCHEWAN

Weyburn: An old-time acapella hymn sing was held. Family and friends were invited. May 5 an auditorium makeover was held.



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Kenosee Lake, Saskatchewan Canada



Fifty Plus Camp

(August 6-11, 2018 (Monday-Saturday))

Presenters: Evertt & Ileene Huffard, Memphis, TN

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Honour and Matthew 11 Declaring His Honour

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Honouring God Through the Church Honouring God in Worship

Evertt and Ileene have extensive backgrounds in educational training (several degrees) and decades of teaching and preaching. They have a wealth of experience in church leadership, mission work, church consulting, writing, tour guiding (over 30 Bible land tours), equipping churches, etc., etc. If you believe, as the poet Tennyson says, “I am a part of all that I have met,” then you will want to spend a week meeting these two people of faith.

Special for 2018

Leadership Workshop by Evertt Huffard, Monday August 6, 2018, 10:30-12:30 a.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Leading by Consensus, Healthy Assessment, Shepherding Skills

Registration \$25.00, including lunch

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All men and women interested in leadership are welcome!

MISSION NEWS

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



ZIMBABWE: “While I was in a vil-
lage I was tipped off by a reliable
source to get out of the country, but
unfortunately by now it was late in
the night and driving the roads is
just too dangerous. For those of you
who have visited me in Africa, you
will know Triangle Country Motel in
Zimbabwe, where I decided to seek
refuge for the night, planning to get
out of the country at first light. But
whilst I was there, a heavily armed
military group moved in and basi-
cally took over the motel. In the
chaos, the motel staff were shocked
and did not really know what to do.
I managed to slip back to my room
(which was in the back and out of
the way). I packed my things, locked

the doors and left the back bathroom
window open in case I needed a
quick escape. I could hear the group
talking and drinking until early hours
of the morning. When all was silent
I did a quick surveillance, noticing
everything seemed quiet and people
were sleeping. By now it was 4.30
a.m. I headed straight for the bor-
der, but was met by military at road
blocks all along the way. A trip which
should take about 3½ hours took 7½.
It was a shake-down at every stop,
but the Lord was with me and I was
not injured or harmed. It seems the
military are not really concerned
with the Zimbabwe citizens as they
have the president under house
arrest and a number of his ministers.
They were more concerned about
why a foreigner was in the country
at this strategic time. Thank you
all for your prayers as I believe the
power of prayer keeps God’s children
safe. I have been overwhelmed with
messages —thank you, I am home
safely and all is well. Please con-
tinue to pray for all our brethren in

Zimbabwe as this unfolds, that it will
all end better for them, that no one
is harmed and this does not end in
a civil war,” wrote Warren Sholtz in
his monthly report) (Editorial note:
Because of the severe drought in
this country, the Salmon Arm church
is sending a donation to Warren in
order to buy food for farmers whose
crops have failed.)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: “On
February 26, the P.N.G. highland
provinces suffered a 7.5 magnitude
earthquake. The main areas of dam-
age were in the Southern Highland
Hela and Enga Provinces. We didn’t
feel the quake at all in Lae, and I
actually found out about it from
an Australian news broadcast! One
of the hardest hit areas was Tari,
where I visited with my cousin last
September. I was able to get through
to the manager of the lodge where
we stayed, and he reported damage
to some of their buildings, and large
cracks, but no injury or loss of life to
any of the residents or staff. Ironically,
he is from the Christchurch area in



Evangelist Needed

The Church of Christ, located in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada, is looking for a full time Evangelist for the purpose of outreach to the community. Working together with the congregation to reach people with the gospel. Under the direction of the elders, who shepherd the flock, the evangelist will serve to reach into the lives of all who need a relationship with Christ.

The congregation is small, with about 25 families. There are active ministries within the congregation. The city is community focused with a population of approximately 100,000.

Salary and benefits.

Email resume and for more information to rdchurchofchrist@gmail.com

Check out www.reddeerchurchofchrist.com

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New Zealand, so this was not a new experience for him.

“Watching the devastation on the local news broadcasts has been difficult. The initial quake was followed by several more of 6.0-7.0 magnitude, along with hundreds of tremors, and the people were very frightened and upset. In the past few days fighting has also broken out in the same area with 7 deaths reported, including 2 primary school students, and many houses burned. The army has been sent in, and the aid workers are being removed for their safety. The last confirmed death toll (from the earthquakes) stood at 125, with many more missing as whole villages were buried as the mountains crumbled. Many of the areas are very remote, and the roads have been heavily damaged, so communication has been poor and overseas coverage very limited. The seismic activity in the area seems to have calmed down over recent weeks. However, there have been several large quakes in East and West New Britain in recent days. In Lae we have had a few very minor quakes, the kind that are easily missed if you are moving when they happen. Please pray for the church in the affected areas, as well as everyone suffering loss of family, property and lifestyle as a result. “March was an incredibly busy month. In addition to literacy and the library sessions, I have been teaching a class for the women from 1:00-2:00 p.m. as part of the second term curriculum. Our last class was today. In addition to the regular school schedule, we also had: our classes for the Indagen ladies, (which Miring and I started in September), the first Lae City combined ladies’ class for this year, at M.B.C. on the 17th; a birthday party for Rose’s younger brother, Pale (“Pa-ley”) on the 25th (who turned 17 and cut his very first birthday cake!); and the One Day Youth Camp, which the 3rd year students host annually as their practical, on the 31st. This year there were two baptisms during the camp:

Bikon Waia and Joelene Diring. So we have two new young sisters in Christ.” (Excerpts of Report from Ruth Zimmerman)



MBC Headstart Program 2018 class party. Three of our kids (the two boys at the back, plus another who was absent) will be leaving with their parents next week.



Ruth Waine (foreground) with friend during her 21st birthday celebration. This Ruth is the namesake of Ruth Zimmerman, our long-time missionary to Lae, Papua New Guinea, and very dear to her. It was thought that chemo had saved her from cancer, but recently it has returned, and both Ruths need your prayers as she fights for her life.

UKRAINE (UBI NEWS): Over 100 people in each city interested in keeping the Ukrainian Bible Institute alive and well enjoyed two fund-raising dinners and the amazing history of the school unfolded by three speakers each evening. Doug Reeves spoke on the need for such a school and how UBI was started. It was during his four years that they were able to purchase a building for the school and get the Institute legally registered with the Ukrainian government. Jay Don Rogers then summarized highlights of the next 16 years. After getting all the individual

rooms in the building (a 10-year effort) through the whole remodeling process, they were finally able to have a wonderful facility for their staff and students, but which they were able to enjoy only a short two years as then, to their horror, war came and everything that they had worked so hard and so long for in Donetsk was lost. After a few months of not knowing what to do, the decision was made by the Rogers and their staff to relocate in Kiev and begin again. He told how God has blessed this effort and now there are more students than ever, a loyal staff and a “sufficient” rented building.

Jay Don then introduced Sasha Maluga, the keynote speaker, who began his personal testimony, basically giving his life story of how he became a Christian and how attending UBI had changed his life. “It was a “tear jerker”, Mary Lou wrote, “We learned things we had not known, even after all these years. We knew he had served 12 years in prison after being involved in a crime which included a murder but that was about it. That night we learned that there were four people killed and he was actually on death row when just 19 years old. Only by God’s intervention was he spared from death, though sentenced to many years in prison. Later, people like Ed Sills and other Americans were eventually allowed into the prison where Sasha was taught and converted. He made a COMPLETE reversal of his life, becoming very serious about his faith and teaching many fellow prisoners. After 12 years he was eventually released for good behaviour. He began to minister for one of the local churches, where the leaders felt he should further his education in the Bible at UBI. This he did and became one of our best and most serious students. Upon Sasha’s graduation, Jay Don hired him to be one of our teachers where he has worked tirelessly for 13 years in addition to always preaching full time.” (Roger’s report of extra trip)

Lessons from the Life of Noah

Harold Bruggen

Noah's salvation reflects our own salvation today in that Noah was saved by grace, by faith, by obedience and from destruction. All should understand that God worked in the days of Noah just as He does today. God's dictates are the same today though His methods are different.

We often teach the story of Noah and the Ark to our children. The story also contains great lessons for adults as well. The principles that we find in this story of salvation are the same principles God uses today.

Noah was saved by grace – Genesis 6:8. The presentation of God's grace to Noah was through a covenant. Genesis 6:18 “But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you” (NIV).

The situation in our day is all have sinned – Romans 3:23. Our sin deserves eternal punishment - Romans 6:23. But, we are saved by grace. “God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8 NIV). It is through the unmerited favor of God's sending His Son Jesus that we can have salvation today. The presentation of God's grace to us today is through the New Covenant of Jesus. Jesus said, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins” – Matthew 26:28 (NIV). (see also Hebrews 9:11-15).

Noah was saved by faith. Noah had never seen a flood. Noah had likely never seen rain. Noah had never seen every animal in the world. Noah had never seen a structure like the one God told him to build. Noah had never seen a boat float. But God spoke

directly to Noah and he trusted in the word of God. The Hebrews writer says, “By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith” – Hebrews 11:7 (NIV).

We have never seen our own souls. We have never seen the stain of sin on our souls. We have never seen God wipe off that stain with the blood of Christ. We have never seen heaven or hell. We have never seen Satan. But just as Noah trusted in the word of God, so we do as well. God speaks to us today through Jesus, His Son – Hebrews 1:1-2. So we put our trust in the word of the Resurrected Savior – Romans 10:17. Today we are saved by and through faith. (see 2 Corinthians 5:7; Ephesians 2:8; John 3:16).

Noah was saved by obedience; his faith was not a deedless faith. “Noah did everything just as God commanded him” – Genesis 6:22 (NIV); see also Genesis 7:5, 7:9, 7:16). Noah did what God commanded for the purpose that God commanded it, to be saved. This is obedience.

We are saved by obedience today. John writes, “This is love for God: to obey His commands. And His commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith” – 1 John 5:3-4 (NIV). Although Jesus was the Son of God, He learned obedience from what He suffered; He became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him – Hebrews 5:8-9. Just as Noah obeyed for the reasons that God told him to obey, so must we.

Finally, we see that Noah was saved from destruction. Moses writes, “Every living thing that moved on the earth perished, birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind. Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died. Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; men and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds of the air were wiped from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those with him in the ark” – Genesis 7:21-23 (NIV). “In the ark only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water” – 1 Peter 3:20.

We are saved from destruction. Baptism saves us from destruction today – 1 Peter 3:21. What kind of destruction can we expect to come? Peter describes the destruction to come in 2 Peter 3:3-7. We can be saved from destruction today as well. “This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power” – 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 (NIV). We must know God. We must obey the gospel.

Noah has many lessons to teach us, but perhaps the lessons in salvation and the relationship between the different aspects of salvation is the greatest. Let us remember: Noah was saved by grace, just as we are; Noah was saved by faith, just as we are; Noah was saved by obedience, just as we are; and Noah was saved from destruction, just as we are.

Port Colborne, Ontario

2018

CENTRO AMERICA MISSION TRIP

Olancho, Honduras

July 6th – 18th

This year I will be going to the city of San Esteban, in the province of Olancho from July 6 to July 18, 2018.

I will be helping with renovation on their Church building and also be involve in preaching the Gospel for a campaign being held from July 12-16th

YOUR SUPPORT is very important
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The goal is to reach \$ 5,000 CDN

If possible, please donate prior to **JUNE 30, 2018** .

GOD BE WITH YOU ALWAYS!

The Bible says: *“How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?” Romans 10:14*

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What Is Your Life?

(A sermon by Shawn Redding, adapted for print by Don Hipwell)

As an old preacher lay dying, he sent for his banker and family lawyer to come to his home. When they arrived, the preacher held out his hands to summon them to sit at his bedside, one on each side. They were bewildered as to why they were called to be with him during the preacher's final moments. Finally, the banker asked, "Why did you ask us to come?"

The old preacher mustered up his strength and said, "All my life I have followed the example of Jesus. He died between two thieves and that's how I want to go too."

There are a lot of humorous stories concerning death but let's seriously consider our life. What is our life? Scripture says it is but a mist, a vapour, a very limited time – James 4:14.

Psalm 90:12 says, "So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom" (ESV).

How do we number our days? No one knows how many days one has left even though there are websites that claim to tell you. You put in your birthdate and a few other personal details, hit a button and a date pops up. Of course it is just an average based on the details you provided. Really, no one knows how long we have, except God.

God knows. Psalm 139:16 tells us, "Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there were none of them" (ESV). With that in mind, we need to live knowing that our future is in God's hands and not make the mistake so many people do.

We read about a businessman in James 4, beginning at verse 13, "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit'—yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.' As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin" (ESV).

It begins with a picture of a successful businessman. He has a plan. Today or tomorrow he will travel. He left room for contingencies. He might leave today but if something comes up he'll leave tomorrow. He has a location in mind. He'll go to such and such a town. He has a timeline. He'll spend one year there. He has a purpose. He

wants to make a profit. It was all good planning. There was nothing wrong with that. In fact, the Bible's wisdom books talk a fair bit about business practice and making an honest living.

He forgot one thing, however. He left God out of his thinking. He believed that he was master of his own fate and approached life as if he was in control. That makes him arrogant and foolish.

Life is uncertain and brief (v. 14). Seventy, eighty or even ninety years is not a long time in the grand scheme of things. Our life is a vapour that begins to disappear the moment we are born.

I remember being a child of seven, laying on my back on the living room carpet and chatting with my sister. We were fantasizing what it would be like in the year 2000. How old would I be? Forty-two! I could not imagine that. It might as well have been one hundred. And now here it is the year 2018! Where did the time go?

There is a poem that says it well. I do not know the author but it reads:

*When as a child I laughed
and wept,
Time crept.*

*When as a youth I waxed
more bold,
Time strolled.*

*When I became a full grown
man,
Time ran.*

*When older still I daily grew,
Time flew.*

*Soon I shall find, in passing on,
Time gone.*

If we are strong and healthy and blessed by God, we may live a reasonably long life but eventu-

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ally everyone dies. So James said, when we live our lives we ought to consider the Lord's will (v. 15). I will be honest with you. In my youth and arrogance, I have rarely uttered those words but that needs to change. Not just to say it as some magical formula but with sincerity. Why? Because those three words, the Lord's will, point us away from ourselves and to the God who made us.

Paul said in Acts 18:21, "But on taking leave of them he said, 'I will return to you if God wills,' and he set sail from Ephesus" (ESV). He is saying, "I might come back. I want to come back. I intend to come back, but I do not know what God has in store for me." We make our plans and set our schedules but we need to leave the unfolding of them in God's hands, the way Paul did. Proverbs 16:9 reminds us of that. "The heart of man plans his

way, but the Lord establishes his steps" (ESV).

I am sure no one reading this is suffering from delusions, thinking they are not going to die. We have that pretty much figured out and we know it can happen at any time. So the question is, "What are we going to do with the time we have?"

The man in James 4 was boasting about what he was going to do. He was arrogant, thinking he controlled the future. Such boasting is to usurp God's position. We need to recognize God as being God and surrender to His control. So to begin, my part is simply to live each day for God. We still need to plan, to set goals and to dream, but we need to do so considering God's will and as verse 17 tells us, it is God's will to do what is good and right.

Earlier we looked at Psalm 90:12 which suggested we should num-

ber our days to grow in wisdom. What the psalmist is really saying is that we need to think about the brevity of life to inspire us to live correctly. I like the way the Message interprets that verse. "Oh! Teach us to live well! Teach us to live wisely and well!" It is not how long we live but how we live that counts.

We should be willing to help others we meet in whatever way we can. We know what we ought to do! If God has put it in our hearts to do a kind act, to render a service to others or to restore a relationship, we need to do it. When we do, we will experience a renewed and refreshed energy in our Christian walk. It is God's will!

What is your life? Better yet, what are you doing with it?

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For I Am Not Ashamed Of The Gospel

Romans 1:16 – For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.



Cedar Park church of Christ
566 Simcoe St. North, Oshawa
Ladies Retreat

When: Saturday June 16, 2018
Time: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Registration: Please contact Melanie Harris 905-666-3212
(Lunch will be provided)

Speaker: Debra Hibbard (Strathmore Blvd. church of Christ)

Lesson 1 (am): For I Am Not Ashamed Of The Gospel
Lesson 2 (pm): Strategies For Sharing The Gospel

QUESTIONS PEOPLE ASK

Bill Craddock

What does the apostle Paul mean when he writes in 2 Timothy 3:7 “always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth?” Is he talking about people who never have the ability mentally to know the truth?

In Paul's second letter to Timothy he warns, the young preacher of the gospel, to be careful to not get caught up in the teaching of those who are not teaching the truth. He encourages Timothy, “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness” (2 Tim. 2:15-16). Just as today, there were many who went about teaching false doctrine and passing it off as the true word of God.

Paul encouraged Timothy to “flee youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart” (2 Tim. 2:22). Paul is encouraging Timothy to be faithful in his teaching of the gospel. He is telling him that there would be many times of hardship as he remained faithful to God.

At the beginning of 2 Timothy chapter 3, Paul

tells him that in the last days there would come perilous times because men would be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters and many other things that would keep them from believing the truth of God's word. Paul says these teachers have a form of godliness but are denying its power. From these Timothy is to turn away. Does that sound familiar? All you need do is tune in to the preaching one hears on radio and TV today and you hear everything but the truth of God's word. They read from the Bible but do not give proper meaning to the Scriptures they use. You can take Scripture out of context and make it mean about anything you want it to mean. This makes their teaching false doctrine.

This brings us to our question about those never coming to

the knowledge of the truth. In 2 Timothy 3:6-7 Paul writes, “For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.” Paul is not talking about people who are too young or have mental disabilities. He is talking about people who study and study but never come to understand the true meaning of the Bible. The world is full of these people. They listen to everything that comes along religiously but never come to an understanding of the truth of God's word. We have found many of these people when we offer Bible Correspondence Courses. They will take every course you have and want more. They love

to read the Bible and find the answers to the questions but never grasp the true meaning of the Scriptures. The same is true of those listening to different preachers on radio and TV. They will listen to ten different preachers give ten different meanings to the same scripture and the listener is thrilled with and agrees with each one.

I have found many of these people in my work for the Lord. You can give them the true meaning of Scripture and they will thank you for it but stay with their practices of listening to everyone. They just will not come to a true knowledge of the truth.

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DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

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

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

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

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: info@camrosechurchofchrist.org Website: www.camrosechurchofchrist.org

EDMONTON Church of Christ: meeting place in Northwest of city, 13015 – 116 Avenue NW; Ofc 780.455.1049; Mail: 11532 – 130 Street NW, Edmonton AB T5M 1A4 Sun 9:30 am Bible classes; 10:30 am Worship; Wed 7 pm Bible study CARE groups at the building And in various homes (phone for location and other times); Elders: Henri Bouchard, Walter Hreczuch, Kirby Salter; Evangelist: Emanuel Burnstad 587.599.9445; Email: church5@telus.net; Web: edmontonchurchofchrist.org

SOUTH EDMONTON: Southwood Community Centre 1880 – 37 street NW, Edmonton, AB; Mailing Address: P. O. Box 42126 Edmonton, AB T6K 4C4; Evangelist: Roy Graneau; 780-902-1329 Sun. 10:00 adult & children's Bible class, 11:00 worship; Midweek CARE Groups in homes (phone evangelist for details); Web: southedmontonchurchofchrist.org Email: southedmonton.churchofchrist@gmail.com

LLOYDMINSTER Church of Christ: 4702 56 Ave., Mailing Address: Box 88, Lloydminster, AB T9V 0X9; Sun. 10:00, 11:00; Mid-week in Homes, call for information; Off (780) 875-4056; Lee Patmore, ev.; res: (306) 825-2505; cell (306) 821-7446 e-mail: lee_patmore@me.com

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: Davenport Church of Christ, 68 Donlevy Avenue, Red Deer, T4R 2Y8, tel. 403-347-3986; (fax) 403.347.332, Edward Klym, Minister/Evangelist; Sunday morning worship: 10:00 am, Sunday School: 11:00 am; Wednesday Bible Class: 7:00 pm Email: davenportchurchofchrist@gmail.com Website: www.reddeerchurchofchrist.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/rdcoc

ST. ALBERT: Sunday Worship: 10:15 a.m. at the St. Albert Seniors Center at 7 Tache St., St. Albert; Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 at – call for address, Mailing Address: 20 Desmarais Cres., St. Albert, AB T8N 5X7; (780) 690-9947, E-mail: stalbertcfc@hotmail.com, webpage: www.stalbertchurchofchrist.org

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ABBOTSFORD (Central Valley): Sun. 10:30, 11; Please call for Thursday evening bible study and Wed. morning ladies class locations. Meeting place for Sunday mornings only is: 32026 George Ferguson Way, Abbotsford, in the Clearwood Room. Mailing address: #4 – 3292 Elmwood Dr.; V2S 6B2; Norm Weir, ev. 604-850-8670 (off); 859-5973 (res). If no answer 604-855-2394; email: normjen@shaw.ca

CAMPBELL RIVER: 226 Hilchey Road Campbell River. BC V9W 1P4; Contact: Office (250) 923-5233; Charles Witty (250) 923-6396; Jim McGeachy (250) 286-3780; besjim2@hotmail.com

COURTENAY: Tsloum Building, Lewis Park, Courtenay; Worship 10 am; Ev. Bill Pakosz, ph. 250-923-6176; Website: www.churchofchristcourtenay.org, Email: Churchofchristcourtenay@shaw.ca Mailing address: 2239 Oyster Garden Rd, Campbell River. BC V9H 1E7

CRESTON: Call for service times and place: David & Diane Phypers: 250-428-5937

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

DELTA: Delta Christian School, 53rd & Ladner Trunk Road, Ladner; 9:45, 10:45; Midweek: Call for times; PO Box 18623, RPO Ladner, Delta, BC V4K 4V7; contact Larry Hoff (604) 943-1468; Ron Bailey (604) 943-7517

KELOWNA: Spring Valley Church of Christ, #106 – 1580 Springfield Road, Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 5V4 Sun. 10:30, Charlie McKnight, ev., Ph. 250-862-8739, email: McKnight8739@shaw.ca

NANAIMO: 1720 Meredith Rd., V9S 2M4; Sun. 10:00, 11:00, Wed. meeting in homes 7:00 PM. Please phone for times and place. Wayne Peckett, (250) 758-6985, wjp.cc79@telus.net

NORTH BEND Church of Christ: North Bend Community Hall, 48846 Highline Road, North Bend; Sun. 10:30 am; Mailing address: 47220 Green Ranch Road, North Bend, BC, V0K 1C1 Borden Krogsgaard 604-867-9420

PRINCE GEORGE: 9465 Old Summit Road South, V2K 5S8, Sunday worship – 10 AM, 250-962-6978 or 250-562-6708

PRINCE RUPERT Church of Christ: 977 Prince Rupert Blvd.; PO Box 324, V8J 3P9; Sunday Bible classes 11:00 am, worship 10:00 am; Thurs. 7 pm; Contact: Meynard Carlow (250) 624-4449 (off) or (250) 624-3347

SALMON ARM: 490- 5th Ave, S.W. V1E 1V4; Sunday 10:00; Call for times and locations of other meetings; 250-833-0927; Doug Kendig, and Gordon Parmenter, elders; website: sa4CHRIST.com

SOUTH BURNABY Church of Christ (Metro Vancouver): 7485 Salisbury Ave., Burnaby BC V5E 3A5; Sunday worship: 10 a.m.; Bible classes for all ages: 10:45; Midweek groups meet in homes. Kirk Ruch, ev.; K.M.Ruch@SBChurch.ca; Conor Wilkerson, youth; Office: our.office@SBChurch.ca; (604) 522-7721; Website: www.sbchurch.ca

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

VANCOUVER (Oakridge): 6970 Oak St., V6P 3Z6; English services: Sun. 10, 11, Milton Diaz, ev., 604-432-1749 (res.).

VERNON: 4107 Pleasant Valley Rd, V1T 4M1; Sun. 10, 11; Murray Verwerda, ev., (250) 545-6892 (off) www.vernonchurchofchrist.com; email: vernonchurchofchrist@telus.net

VICTORIA (South Island Church of Christ): Mailing address: South Island Church of Christ, c/o 1600 Charlton Rd. Victoria, B.C. V9E 2C8; Meeting address: Westshore Chamber of Commerce, 2830 Aldwynd Rd., Langford, BC.; Worship service 11:00 am – 12:00 pm, Contacts: Dick Morton 250-479-8480, L/S Walters 250-478-7275, Don Knox 250-382-0824; e-mail: southislandsndchurch@gmail.com

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

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

CARMAN: Main Street S.; Sun. 10, 1:15; Wed. 7 PM; Box 955, ROG 0J0; contact Ray Winkler (elder), 204-745-3226; Randy Foss, ev. 745 6969 (office)

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

MANSON: Box 2, Manson, MB, R0M 1J0; Meeting Sunday Mornings – 10 & 11, (most Sundays) at Elkhorn Leisure Centre, 10 Richhill Ave E, Elkhorn, MB; Call to confirm meeting place or other information: Wilf Rogers, 204-722-2293 or Ken Starnes, 306-435-2512; email: kennyg1@myaccess.ca

WINNIPEG (Central): Sun. Worship 10, Bible classes 11:15, Eve. 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m.; (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; Shawn LeBlanc ev. (shawn@winnipegchurch.ca) Jay Manimtim youth min (jay@winnipegchurch.ca)

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

MONCTON: 365 Pine Glen Rd., Riverview (Moncton), E1B 4J8; Sun. 10, Wed. 7:30 p.m.; Stephane Maillet, ev., (506) 204-8365 (Office) (506) 872-3179 (H) (506) 988-0098 (C) Email: stephanemillett@rogers.com; moncton.churchofchrist@gmail.ca FB page: https://www.facebook.com/AddedMembersOfChurchOfChrist

SAINT JOHN: Meeting in the home of Fred and Linda Nelson at 10:00 AM. Call 506 847 1780 for directions Mailing address: 61 Bel-Air Avenue Rothesay, N. B. E2E 0L5 Thursday night Bible study at 6:30 p.m.

NEW YORK STATE

NIAGARA FALLS: 2011 Tennessee Ave., Niagara Falls, NY, 14305; Off (716)285-6534, Home (716) 297-6563; Sunday Bible study 10 am, worship 11 AM, Wed. 7 PM. Minister Eddie J. Cornelius; cell:716-478-5278, e-mail: niafallscoc@aol.com; website: www.niagarafallscoc.com

NIAGARA FALLS: LaSalle church of Christ 1121 North Military Rd, Niagara Falls NY 14304 Phone: 716-283-1214; Sun. Bible Study 9:45 a.m., Worship 11:00 a.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m. Evangelist: Mark R. Dailey (716-754-2752) Email: minister@lasallechurchofchrist.org Website: lasallechurchofchrist.org

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

HALIFAX: 48 Convoys Ave., B3N 2P8; Sun. 9:45 & 11 am; Tuesday 7 pm David Cariaga, ev. (902) 443-9628 (off), Cell (902) 410-8496 Wayne Taylor, 9sec. (902) 876-7402

KENTVILLE: 177 Middle Dyke Rd. exit 12 off Hwy 101, Sun. 11, 10; Wed. 6; Box 26, B4N 3V9; Contact Jack Berden; (902) 538-3329 or Ray Fisher rcfisherofmen@gmail.com www.live4jesus.ca

MILL VILLAGE: 3557 Indian Road Shubenacadie, NS B0N 2H0; Sunday Worship Times: Fellowship at 9:30 a.m., Bible class and Sunday school at 10 a.m.; Worship at 11 a.m. Tuesday night Bible study at 7 p.m. Ladies Bible study class at noon on Thursdays. 902-758-4252 (to leave a message at the church building), 902-758-2633 J. Mackey, natbrown@ns.sympatico.ca

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

Ajax Church of Christ: 75 Centennial Road, Ajax, Ontario L1S-4L4, 2nd floor, Duffins Room Sunday School 10:00 am-10:45 am, Worship 11:00 am; Wednesday night Bible class in different brethren homes; Steve Chubry, Minister, ↗

Residence 905-728-6125; Cell # 647-378-7231 e-mail: ajaxcocentennialroad@gmail.com Personal e-mail steve.chubry@sympatico.ca Find us on Facebook at Ajax Church of Christ Centennial Road

BARRIE: 345 Grove St. E. (at Cook), L4M 2R6; Sun. 10, 11, 6:30; Wed. 7:00; Tim Johnson, ev. 705-718-0017 (cell); email: minister@barriechurch.ca

BEAMSVILLE: 4900 John St., LOR 1B6; Bible Classes: 9:30 am, Worship: 10:30 am, 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., L6T 3Y2; (905) 792-2297; mail@bramaleacoc.ca; Sunday worship 10:00, Bible class 11:15; Adult Bible Study Thursday 2:00 pm, Kevin Hunter, ev. (905) 455-5796 (res); Walter Straker, ev. (905) 789-1632 (res); www.bramaleacoc.ca

BRANTFORD: 267 North Park St., N3R 4L2; Sun. 10, 11, Mid-week, call for times; contact Curtis Thompson, 519-504-6185; email: Godlovesfaithfully@hotmail.com Mike Gray 905-387-5680, email: thegrays1@shaw.ca office (519) 759-6630

CHESLEY & AREA: Call for time and place of meetings. Padfield: 519-934-0441; David Vance: 519-507-5070; Ron Zavitz: 519-506-6952

COLLINGWOOD: 494 10th Street, Collingwood, Ontario L9Y 2H1; Email: cchurchofchrist@bmts.com; Phone 705-444-0010; Minister: Les Cramp, Phone 519-538-5184; Cell 519-375-0559; Sunday Study 10:00 a.m. & Worship 11 a.m., Study Thursday 2 p.m.; Please join us for worship, Bible study or fellowship at any time.

CORNWALL: 105 3rd St W Cornwall, ON K6J 2N9 Mid-week study: Wednesday 7 pm Sunday Service: 10 am Bible Study/Children's Classes: 11 am Service website: churchofchristcornwall.ca ph: 613-933-1825; email: albojarski@hotmail.com Evangelist: Allen Bojarski Chairman: Jeremy Bojarski Treasurer: Mark Duperron

FENWICK: 765 Welland Ave.; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6:00; Wed. 7:30; P.O. Box 416, L0S 1C0; (905) 892-5661; email: cofcfeenwick@gmail.com Website: www.fenwickchurchofchrist.ca

GRIMSBY: 164 Mountain Rd. Grimsby, Sun. Worship 10 am; Bible classes 11 am; Sun evening 7 pm, Wed. 7 pm; Box 181, L3M 4G3; (905) 945-3058 (off); George Mansfield, ev. (c) 905-401-3482; website: www.grimsbycoc.org

GUELPH: Sun. 10:00, 11:00, Wed. 7:00 evs. Johnathan Ledbetter (226) 343-0925 Jason Rollins (519) 760-4694 Call for meeting locations. www.GuelphChurchOfChrist.com

HAILEYBURY: Meeting in homes, usually Sundays at 4 PM but call to confirm place and time. Week day Bible studies by appointment, Mailing address: Box 702, POJ 1K0; Mike & Judy Tinney 705-672-9241 or e-mail: can@parolink.net

HAMILTON: Fennell Ave. Church of Christ, 321 East 27 Street (at Fennell), L8V 3G8; Sunday 10:00, 11:00, 6:00; Wednesday 7:00; (905) 385-5775 (off.); Randy Morrill, ev. email@churchofchristhamilton.com Chris Gardner, sec., (905) 388-9174; Website: www.churchofchristhamilton.com

NORTH HAMILTON: Sun. Bible Study, 9:30-10:30; Worship: 10:30-11:30; meetings at YMCA building, 79 James St. S. Wednesday Bible Study 6:30-7:30 For information re. place of meeting, please call 905-389-8308 c/o Joe Sandassie, 286 East 26th Street, Hamilton ON L8V 3E1; email: rjwss@cogeco.ca

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

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

ICE LAKE: (Manitoulin Island) (1-1/4 miles South of Hwy 540, Ice Lake, ON); Mailing address: RR# 1, Site2, Box 3, 408A Robertson Rd., Gore Bay, Ontario POP 1H0; Sunday: classes 10 am, Worship 11 am; midweek - call for information: Bud Dearing 705 282-0406

KENORA: 101 Norman Dr.; Sun. 10, 11; P.O. Box 2905, P9N 3X8; Phone 807-466-1449 Earle Rattai, ev., 807-548-2245; email: erattai@sympatico.ca

KINGSTON: 446 College St., K7L 4M7; Sunday worship 11 AM; (off) 613-546-5409

KITCHENER (Southwest): Sunday 10:30 AM, Williamsburg Community Centre, 1187 Fischer Hallman Road, Building 600, Suite 620, Kitchener, Ontario. Church phone: (519) 496-2286 Mail to: Southwest Kitchener church of Christ, 1187 Fischer Hallman Rd, PO Box 48035 Williamsburg RO, Kitchener, Ontario N2E 4H0.

LONDON: 186 Gammage Street, London ON N5Y 2B3; (519) 672-2426; Sun. Worship 10 AM, Contact: M. Pennington, 519-872-7629; Email: mpennington40@gmail.com; P. Fewster, 519-672-2426; Email: peter.fewster@gmail.com

MEAFORD: 113 Nelson St. W. N4L 1G3; Sunday School 9:45-10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday night: home locations will be posted on the web page each month; Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Kevin Cleary, ev.; (519) 538-1750; e-mail: meaford-cofc@brucetelecom.com website: <http://www.meafordcofc.ca/> Check website for monthly changes

MISSISSAUGA: Mail address: Mississauga Church of Christ; PO Box 42264; 128 Queen Street S., Mississauga ON L5M 5Z5; Place of Worship: McKinnon Public School, 3270 Tacc Drive, Mississauga ON L5M 0H3; Worship: 10:30-11:30 AM; Bible Class 9:30 to 10:15 AM; Contact name: Tony Lourenco; tlourenco@cogeco.ca; Bill Currie, 905-826-4816, Email: wjcurrie65@gmail.com Web address www.mississaugacofc.ca Email: mail@mississaugacofc.ca

NEW LISKEARD: 554 Helmer Pedersen Drive, New Liskeard; Sun. 9:30, 10:30; Wed. 7:00; Contacts: Jim Robertson, PO Box 1556, New Liskeard ON; POJ 1P0; (705) 647-5488, Email: ccstone65@hotmail.com

NEWMARKET: 230 Davis Dr., L3Y 2N4; Sunday worship 10 am, Bible classes 11:15 am; Wednesday, please call for time and location; Nathan Pickard, ev.; 905-895-6502 (off); email: pickardnathan@hotmail.com www.newmarketchurchofchrist.ca

NIAGARA FALLS: 3901 Dorchester Rd. N., L2J 3A8, (905) 356-3412 (turn E. on Thorold Stone Rd. from QEW and left on Dorchester Rd.); Sunday Worship 10:30 AM, Sunday School 11:30 AM Wed. 7:30 Adult & Children's classes; Darrin Douglas, (minister) 905-356-3412, darrin@niagaracoc.com; Bruce Boland (youth/involvement minister) 905-356-3412, bruce@niagaracoc.com; website: www.niagaracoc.com

NORTH BAY: 73 Gertrude St. E.; Box 745, P1B 8J8; Sun. 10:00; (705) 472-7040 (off.); email: church@northbaycoc.ca; Website: www.northbaycoc.ca

OMAGH: 9850 Britannia Road, Milton, ON L9E 0E4; 10, 11; website: www.omaghchurch.org, Mailing address: Harold Ellis, Sec., 7435 Twiss Rd., RR # 3, Campbellville, ON L0P 1B0

OSHAWA: Cedar Park Church of Christ 566 Simcoe St. N, Oshawa, L1G 4V3 Sun. 9:45, 11:00, 7; Thursdays 7:00 pm; Church Phone. 905-434-1258 (Please leave a message) Santiago Molina, ev. 416-751-6879

OTTAWA (Riverview Park): 1515 Chomley Cres., K1G 0V9; Sun. Sunday School 10 am, Worship 11 am, 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm Robert MacRury, ev., 613-737-0701, Website: www.ottawachurchofchrist.com Ottawa church of Christ facebook

OTTAWA (West): The Olde Forge Community Resource Centre, 2730 Carling Avenue, Ottawa; Mailing Address: West Ottawa Church of Christ, c/o Bill Schlarb, 361 Viewmont Drive, Ottawa, ON, K2E 7R9; Sunday morning: 10 am. Bible study, 11 am; Worship service Contacts: Bill Schlarb, 613-224-8507; Bruce Veinot, 613-592-0291 email: westottawacofc@gmail.com, website: www.westottawacofc.ca

OWEN SOUND: 835 10th Ave. E., N4K 3H8; Sun. 9:45, 11:00, 6 pm; Thurs. 7; Brian Thompson, ev. (519) 376-6702 (off.), 372-2155 (res.); email: oscoc@wightman.ca website: www.owensoundcofc.com

PETERBOROUGH: The Board Room, Parkway Place Mall, Landsdowne Street W.; Mailing address: c/o Bob and Carol Myers, 2567 Dummer-Asphodel, Norwood, ON K0L 2V0. Sunday 10 & 10:45; Wed. The Board Room, 7:00 pm, Bob Myers (705) 760-2661

PINE ORCHARD: 16716 Warden Ave (just south of Vivian Rd.) 3 km east of Newmarket; Sunday School 10 am except July/August, Worship 11 am; Mailing address: Judy Yaksich, Sec. S12125 Sideroad 17, RR #1, Sunderland, ON L0C 1H0; phone: (705) 357-1224 Email: jayaksich@yahoo.ca

PORT COLBORNE: 700 Steele St., Port Colborne, ON L3K 4Z2; Sun. worship 10:00, SS 10:15, Adult SS 11:00; (905) 732-2465

REXDALE: Thistle Town Community Service Centre 925 Albion Rd, Etobicoke, ON Bible Class: 10:00 AM Worship: 11:00 AM Minister:Derrick Grant Contact: 416-893-2241 email: derrick.grant101@gmail.com

ST. CATHARINES: 439 Ontario St. N., L2N 4M9; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 6; Wed. 7:00; 935-9581 (off.); Jeremiah Cisco, ev.; Email: churchofchrist@bellnet.ca; WebSite: www.stcatharinescofc.ca

ST. THOMAS: 60 S. Edgeware Rd, N5P 2H6; 519-633-2210 Sun 10,11 Wednesday 7 pm; Bob Jackson, 519-633-1123

SARNIA: 796 Errol Rd E N7V 2G7 Bible Study Sunday 9:30 am Worship 11:45 am Bible Study Wednesday 7 pm mailto: sarniachurchofchrist1@gmail.com phone (519) 339-1161

SAULT STE. MARIE (Pinehill): 132 Cunningham Road, P6B 1N4; (705)949-4988; Sunday 9:40 AM, 10:40 AM; call for Sunday PM time; Wednesday 7 PM; Elders: P. Bailey (705) 256-6789), C. Whitfield (705) 254-6153

SELKIRK: 1/2 km n. of village 58 Erie St. N., Selkirk, On. N0A 1P0 Sun 10 & 11am. Wed.7:00pm.

SOUTH RIVER: Jaspar St. S.; off Ottawa St. W.; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7:00; Box 549, POA 1X0; Chris Nicholson, ev. (705) 384-5252

STONE CREEK: 105 King St. E., L8G 1L1; (905) 664-1130 (off.); Sun. 10, 11; (summer worship10) Contact: Ben Wiebe: website: www.patchworkkinthecreek.com

STRATFORD: 478 Brunswick St.,N5A 3N6; Sunday Worship 10:00, Wednesday - various activities 7:00 pm, please call for details; Voice mail (519) 273-5280; Greg Toohy, ev. 519-635-5921; Contacts: John Brush (519) 625-1054; Charles Kippax (519) 539-6931

SUDBURY: 2663 Bancroft Dr. P3B 1T7; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7 PM; 705-560-3964; Elders Wes Bailey, Don Stringer

SUNDRIDGE: #10500 Hwy. 124 N. Sunday School 10:00, Worship 11:00, Wed. 7:00 Robert Gieg (705) 380-0907 Email- rbgieg@gmail.com Don Preston (705) 384-7058

THESSALON: 8 Albert St. off Hwy. 17; Sun. 10-11, Wed. 7 pm; Mailing address: Rick Klazinga, sec. Bill Bunting, interim ev.; Box 708, P0R 1L0; 705-254-9012(Bill); 705-842-3340(O/F); email: rick.klazinga@gmail.com

TILLSONBURG: Mailing address: Box 331, N4G 4H8; Call for Service Time and Place: 519-875-2021; 519-688-8121

TINTERN: 4359 Spring Creek Rd., Vineland, ON L0R 2C0; Worship at 9:45 a.m. with classes to follow; Sunday p.m. call for times and locations; Wed. 7:00 pm; Noel Walker ev.; Cindy Whitfield, Children's Minister; Matthew Burrows, ev.; (905) 563 6311 (off.) tinternchurchofchrist@gmail.com.

TORONTO (Bayview Ave.): 1708 Bayview Ave., M4G 3C4 (1 block S. of Eglinton); Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7; Michael Hilborn, mhilborn@rogers.com; 609-319 Merton St. Toronto. ON M4S 1A5 (416) 489-7405 (office)

TORONTO (Scarborough): 2035 Kennedy Road, Toronto, Ontario M1T 3G2 DELTA Toronto East Hotel, (Leaside Suite) Kennedy & 401 East; Sunday Shool 10:15, Worship 11:15; Thurs. 7:00pm (in homes) (Mailing Address: 300 Borough Drive, P.O. Box 47011, Scarborough, Ontario M1P 4Z7) Church Phone: 416-970-3835; Website: www.scarboroughchurchofchrist.com Devon Bennett, Minister, 905-686-2486, Cell: 416-970-3835; Fax: 905-428-1579; email: devonben@gmail.com

TORONTO (Harding Ave.): 47 Harding Ave., M6M 3A3; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7; 416-244-9152; contact: Aikins Wiredo, 905-216-6896; Bernard Worloson, 416-742-8292; Twi service available last Sunday of the month, and Spanish Classes, Mondays 7:30 p.m., Santiago Molina (416) 751-6879.

TORONTO (Strathmore Blvd.): 346 Strathmore Blvd. M4C 1N3 (across from Coxwell subway station); 416-461-7406; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Wed. 7; Elders: Peter Dwornoh 416-462-3616; Stephen Gill 416-265-2496, Marvin Johnson 416-752-0325, Moises Velasco 905-591-0361, Jean Volcy 905-237-3312; Bob Hibbard, ev. 416-461-7406, bobh@strathmorecofc.ca; Max Craddock, ev. (Key To The Kingdom); 647-346-2076, e-mail maxc@strathmorecofc.ca; Marlon Molina, ev., marlonm@strathmorecofc.ca; Santiago Molina (Spanish) ev. 416-751-6879, websites: www.strathmorecofc.ca; www.keytothekingdom.ca

VANDELEUR: Now meeting in the home of Morgan and Diann Petch, 43 Brackenbury Street, Markdale. Phone 519-986-2449; Sunday 10 and worship at 11; Gordon Dennis, PO Box 274 Mount Forest, ON N0G 2L0, 519-323-2424; Email: gordot@wightman.ca

WATERLOO church of Christ: 470 Glenelm Cres., Waterloo, ON N2L 5C8; (519) 885-6330 (off); Sun, 9:30, 10:30, Wed 7:00 pm, Jamie Azzoparde, 519-885-6330, e-mail: Jazz.wcoc@gmail.com website: www.waterloochurchofchrist.ca

WINDSOR (West Side): 2255 Totten St., N9B 1X6 (E. of Huron Church Rd.); 254-6262 or 945-4851; Sun. 9:45, 11, 5:30; Wed. 7:30; Drew Chapados, ev., 785 Sandison Ave., Windsor, N9E 4T3; (519) 250-4407; Email: westsidechurch@live.com

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MONTREAL: (English/French/Ashante): 5611 RUE ANGRERS COTE-ST-PAUL (MONTREAL) QUEBEC H4E 4A7 Sunday 10, 11, 6:30; Wednesday 7:00 (English) Ph 514-564-6780; Fax 514-564-6781, Email: churchofchristofgm@videotron.com, Website: www.greatermontrealchurchofchrist.com

MONTREAL: (South-West • English/French/Spanish): Ville Emard Church of Christ, 6259 Monk Blvd., Montreal, QC, H4E 3H8 (2 streets east of the Monk subway station, 10 minutes from Downtown); (514) 765-8919. Simultaneous electronic translation: Sunday 10, 11, Wed. 7; Website: www.vcecc.org; Roger Saumur, ev. (514) 602-5105; e-mail: rogersaumur@sympatico.ca

PLESSISVILLE: Centre Communautaire, 1745 Ave. Fournier; Sun. 6.00 & 7.00 pm Ev.Yvon Beaudoin,(418)728 5240; e-mail: ybeaudoin@oricom.ca; Mailing Address: c/o André Coté, 2069 Ave. St-Louis, Plessisville, QC G6L 2N8

QUEBEC CITY: 2980 De Verteuil St (corner Jean-Noel St); Mailing address: PO Box 9041 STN Sainte-Foy, Quebec, QC G1V 4A8, Sunday School: 9:30 AM; Sunday worship: 10:30 AM (French); Wed. 7:00 PM (Phone in Summer) 418-651-3664 (of); Yvon Beaudoin, ev. 418-728-5240; email: ybeaudoin@oricom.ca; Roger Paradis, ev. 418-831-8690; email: rparadis1518@videotron.ca

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

BENGOUGH: E. side Hwy. 34; Sun. 10:30, 11:15; Doug Coroluck, Box 224 SOC 0K0; (306) 268-2062.

ESTEVAN: 1302 8th St., S4A 1H6; 634-3116; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7; Tim Pippus, ev., 634-8195, res. E-mail: estevan.cofc@sasktel.net website: www.estevanchurchofchrist.org

GRAVELBOURG: 300-2nd Ave. E., Box 507, S0H 1X0; Sun. 10:30; (306) 648-3435 Darrell Buchanan, ev

KENOSE VILLAGE: Moose Mountain Church of Christ, Mailing address: PO Box 184, Kenose Village, SK S0C 2S0; Sunday 10:00; Office (306) 577-2477 Mid-week: or Paul Moore (306) 575-0218 info@moosemountainchurch.com

LLOYDMINSTER Church of Christ: 4702 56 Ave., Mailing Address: Box 88, Lloydminster, AB T9V 0X9; Sun. 10:00, 11:00; Mid-week in Homes, call for information; Off (780) 875-4056; Lee Patmore, ev.; res: (306) 825-2505; cell (306) 821-7446 e-mail: lee_patmore@me.com

MOOSE JAW: 901 James Street, Moose Jaw, SK S6H 3H5; (306) 693-4064 (off.); mjcc@sasktel.net Call for times of worship.

REGINA (Northwest): 4000 4th Avenue Regina S4T 0H8 (in the Orr Centre) Sunday: 9:45am Classes: 11:15am Contact: Dr. Leslie Williams E-mail: leslejwilliams@gmail.com

SASKATOON: Sunday, Worship 10 AM, Wed,7 PM; Phone for summer schedule; Office: 343-7922; Lead Minister: Mike Parker; Senior Minister: Bob Parker; Location & Mail:134 Cardinal Cres. S7L 6H6; Fax: 343-1589; Bob Parker: stoonchurch@live.com Mike Parker: mike@skchurch.ca

SWIFT CURRENT: Church of Christ, Box 1103, Swift Current, SK, S9H 3X3; Sun. 11; Susan Eidem, sec. 306-741-9925; (call for location of meetings)

WEYBURN: 1115 First Ave. NE (Hwy. 13E), S4H 0N2; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 7; Wed. 6:30 p.m.; John Smith, ev. 306-842-6424 (off)

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