

Gospel Herald

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NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIANITY*

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BEAMSVILLE, ONTARIO

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Red letter day in Red Deer

Pictured here is the church building in Red Deer, AB. After approximately two years of preparation, planning, and construction, the congregation moved into their new 10,000 square foot building on the East side of the city in December, 2001. The first worship service was held in the building on December 16, 2001. A month later, on the weekend of January 18 – 20, 2002, they held the “official” opening at which members, past and present, came from across Canada to celebrate the event.

The congregation has been in Red Deer for 40 years and currently has a membership of 82 adults. They are blessed for the future with 42 children in their number. The goal of the congregation is stated in their mission statement which reads, “To glorify God, embracing his word, Spirit and Son”.

They are using this new facility as a God given tool to reach out in a new way in the city and area to those who are without Christ.

Barriers to Discipleship

Thayer Salisbury

The word “Christian” appears three times in the Bible. We are called members of the body about ten times. The followers of Jesus are called disciples two-hundred-ninety-four times. If the Bible places such emphasis on discipleship, how has this emphasis been lost among us?

Most of our “members” claim that they want to follow Jesus. Many claim to study the Bible. Why are there not more disciples among us? What is it that keeps us from true discipleship?

The Cost is High

Then Jesus said to his disciples, *“If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it.”* (Mt 16:24–25 NIV)

Most people would rather drive a Mercedes than a VW, but they find that the cost of the Mercedes is too high. Most church members would find greater satisfaction in being true disciples, but they are not willing to pay the price. Membership is simple. Discipleship is costly. Most accept the less costly, less satisfying, option. What will discipleship cost us? What are the barriers that we must overcome to be true disciples?

Pride

The true disciple must give up pride. Pride is the basic human sin.

Satan appealed to Eve’s pride in the garden (Gen 3:5), and he has continued to use pride as a major temptation ever since (1 John 2:16).

We can see that pride is a barrier to discipleship in the example of Peter. As a disciple, Peter had one big problem. He wanted to be the leader, not the follower. When Jesus taught some-

thing Peter did not like, the disciple rebuked his Lord (Mt 16:22). To become a great disciple, Peter needed to learn his proper position. He needed to learn to say, *“Silver and gold have I none.”* He needed to admit that what was accomplished through him was not accomplished because of his own godliness, but rather despite his sinfulness (Acts 3:6, 12).

We also must learn to sacrifice pride if we are going to be disciples. Pride is always an obstacle to a living

What are the barriers that we must overcome to be true disciples?

relationship with God (Prov 3:34; James 4:6; 1 Pet 5:5). One who desires to stand in a discipleship relationship must be willing to give up pride.

Tradition

The true disciple must be willing to give up tradition.

We can see the truth of this in the story of Paul. He was very attached to the traditions of his culture (Gal 1:14). Many of those traditions were good.

Some were neither good nor bad. A few were keeping him from the Lord. Paul could not be a disciple of Jesus until he made a break with his tradition (Phil 3:3–8).

We are all attached to certain traditions. We are comfortable with familiar practises, phrases, and beliefs. It is painful to submit these familiar traditions to the test. We want to cling to them, even to those that may be hindering our walk with Christ. But they must go. Discipleship demands that we keep only those traditions that are acceptable to our leader. Those that run counter to his word must be abandoned (Mk 7:1–13; Col 2:8).

Fear

The true disciple must face the fact of fear, and overcome it.

Our discipleship will be opposed by the world, and this will sometimes cause fear. Many failures in discipleship are related to fear.

The most damaging fear is not the fear of physical violence. The fear of rejection seems to effect many of us more than the fear of violence. Peter is a clear example of this. In Gethsemane, in the face of a heavily armed mob (Mt 26:47–51) and a band of soldiers (John 18:3), he was ready to defend Jesus. But the scorn of a servant girl was too much for Peter. The brave disciple of Gethsemane denied his Lord and joined the Lord’s enemies as they warmed themselves by the fire (John 18:17f).

Later in life Peter reflected on the problem of fear. He wrote, *“Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear ; do not be frightened.”* (1 Pet 3:13–14 NIV) Peter’s actions, as described in Acts, show us

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GLCC
Ministry Opportunities

Amazing Grace (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Bill Craddock

Truly, grace is one of the most important topics discussed in the bible. Grace is what saves man from sin. If God had not extended his grace to man there would be no salvation. *"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast."* (Ephesians 2:8-9.) The plan of God for our salvation is outlined in the phrase "by grace you have been saved through faith." "By grace," summarizes all God did for us, sending Christ, giving the bible, revealing the plan of salvation, etc. "Through faith" summarizes all we do to appropriate God's gift-trust, love, and obedience.

Many great passages of scripture focus on God's grace. *"...being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."* (Romans 3:24.) "In him (Jesus) we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace." (Ephesians 1:7.) *"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men."* (Titus 2:11.) The common theme is God's grace.

If we are saved by grace we need to know what grace is. Many definitions have been given for grace. Mainly we hear that grace is "unmerited or undeserved favor." That is certainly true. However, I read a definition that I believe is even more descriptive. "Grace is receiving what you need, but don't deserve." This definition was from a story about Dr. S.M. Lindsay trying to teach a group of boys about grace in his bible class. He was having difficulty getting the point of grace over to the boys so he said, "Grace is what you need, but don't deserve." The boys still struggled. The next day Dr. Lindsay was dressed in his best on his way to a tea. One of his students, Bobby, saw him and threw a snowball at him, knocking off his hat and hitting him in the ear. He saw Bobby running away. Instantly angry, Dr. Lindsay wanted to see that Bobby was punished, but as he thought about the situation he thought of a plan to help Bobby better understand the subject of grace. He knew Bobby did not have a fishing pole because he had loaned him his fishing pole. He went to the store and purchased a jointed

fishing pole and took it to Bobby's house. Bobby saw Dr. Lindsay coming and hid in his room. Bobby's mother answered the knock on the door and Dr. Lindsay asked her to give Bobby the fishing pole telling him, "I know this is what you need." Later a very sorrowful Bobby knocked on Dr. Lindsay's door and confessed that he had hit him with the snowball. Dr. Lindsay said, "I know you hit me. That is why I gave you the fishing pole." Bobby did not understand. "Grace is what you need but don't deserve. Now you deserve a spanking, but you need a fishing pole. This is an illustration of grace. I am giving you what you need, but do not deserve," said Dr. Lindsay. "Now, Bobby, can you tell me what grace is?" "Sure," said Bobby, grinning from ear to ear, "grace is a new jointed fishing pole." Bobby still did not have it, but he was getting closer – grace is what you need, but do not deserve.

Sin is a terrible thing and if God had given man what he deserved he would be lost eternally in Hell. Adam and Eve died spiritually that day in the Garden of Eden when they ate of the forbidden fruit. They were separated from God. Sin separates man from God today. God knew man would sin even before he created the world or man. He knew that he would have to send his Son into the world to die for the sins of the world. This is known as the grace of God. God gave man what he needs, but does not deserve. The Apostle Paul made reference to grace eighty-seven times in his epistles. Reference is made to grace twenty-four times from the book of Hebrews through Revelation. The many times grace is mentioned in scriptures speaks to its importance in God's scheme of things.

The Apostle Paul said that man could not be saved by the Law of Moses. *"I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."* (Galatians 2:21.) If salvation could be achieved under the Law of Moses then Christ would not have had to die. In Hebrews 10:1-4 the writer explains that the blood of animals could not take away sins, but those sacrifices were a shadow of something better that was to come. The something better that was coming was the Lord Jesus Christ and the sacrifice of himself for sin. Man

could not be saved under the Law of Moses because he could not keep the Law perfectly and the blood of animals could not take away sin.

Man cannot be free from sin by his own efforts. Man cannot do enough good works to earn the forgiveness of sins. There is misunderstanding about this even among Christians. There are Christians who are afraid to go to sleep at night because they fear they have not done enough good works during the day and if they should die during the night they would not go to heaven. The truth of the matter is, they have not. If we are going to depend upon our works to get us to heaven we will never make it. Less I be misunderstood, works of God are necessary for salvation and we will notice this shortly. The works referred to here can best be referred to as works of men or works of merit. The simple truth is that one cannot do enough good works to be saved.

Let us notice the relationship of grace and works. As previously noted, the key to this is found in the phrase *"by grace you have been saved through faith."* (Ephesians 2:8a.) This really says it all. The only way to be saved is through the

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The Canadian Pew

Wayne Turner



Let's start with a quiz. On May 13, Statistics Canada released the Religion data from the 2001 census. What religious view gained the greatest number of Canadians (over 1.4 million, an increase of 3.9% of the country's population) since the 1991 census? It has grown from 12.3% of Canada's population to 16.2%. Think about it for a moment while we look at some of the other statistics.

As expected, the Roman Catholic Church is the largest religious body. Since 1991, it has grown by about 590,000. Despite that growth, it dropped from 45.2% to 43.2% of the total population. StatsCan states that the six largest Protestant churches (United, Anglican, Baptist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, and Pentecostal) dropped by 8.2% losing over 750,000 members and dropping from 34.9% to 29.2% of the population. Of these groups, only the Baptists grew (10%) from 1991-2001. The Lutherans lost least (-4.7%), followed by the Anglicans (-7%), United (-8.2%), Pentecostal (-15.3%) and Presbyterian (-35.6%). The bleeding also included groups like the Mennonites (-7.9%), Christian Reformed (-9.5%), Salvation Army (-21.9%), and even the Jehovah's Witnesses (-8.1%).

In addition to the Baptists, other bodies grew. These were reported by StatsCan as "Christian, not included elsewhere." Collectively, these groups increased from 1.3% of the Canadian population to 2.6% (an increase of 427,410). The Jewish community grew by 3.7%.

Have you figured out the answer to our question yet? What religious view gained the greatest number of Canadians since 1991? By now, you know who it is not! It isn't the Catholics, Anglicans, United, Orthodox, Pentecostals, or charismatics. It isn't the interdenominational churches, nor is it the big mega churches.

You might be thinking that immigration would help provide the answer. In part, it does, but not as you might expect. From 1991 to 2001, Canada's Muslim population more than doubled, from 0.9% of the population to 2%. Both Buddhism and Hinduism grew from 0.6% to 1%. Sikhism rose from 0.5% to 0.9%. Collectively, these four world religions grew from 2.6% of Canadians to 4.9%, an increase of 2.3% of the total population. Thirty percent of those who immigrated to Canada during 1991-2001 belonged to one of these four religions. Compared to the growth of those groups from the Judeo-Christian background, these religions enjoyed phenomenal growth (Buddhist: 83.8%; Sikh: 88.8%; Hindu: 89.3%; and Muslim: 128.9%).

Have you figured out the answer to the quiz? What reply did census takers receive from nearly one out of every six people in Canada (16.2%)? "No religion." In 1991, just over 3.33 million said they had no religion. By 2001, this had grown by 43.9% to almost 4.8 million! (Western Canada led the way, with 35.1% of

those in British Columbia and 23.1% of those in Alberta giving this response.) Immigration partly contributed to this change, as 21.3% of those moving to Canada during this period also indicated they had no religion. Since the census question only asked about religious affiliation, not active membership, the actual number of Canadians with no religion is likely much higher. The real beliefs (or lack of belief) of Canadians is partly seen in the drop of the number of people (age 15 and over) attending weekly religious services - from 28% in 1986 to 20% in 2001. The best indicator of the religious beliefs of Canadians is the number of people who said they had not attended a religious service in the twelve months prior to the survey, which changed from 26% in 1986 to 43% in 2001!

Despite the nearly 84% of Canadians who profess some religious affiliation, their actual commitments and involvement with faith appears largely nominal. We are again reminded, as we have seen before, that Canada, overall, is a secular society where religion (often termed "spirituality") is something that is private and is pursued through personal rather than corporate activities. While a few, relatively small religious groups are growing, in most cases, their efforts only appear to have realigned people who already believed, rather than reaching out to those who do not. Unbelief is growing faster than belief!

What does this say for us? Statistics tend to be very dull and boring, yet they can teach us some very important lessons.

1. Immigration is influencing the religious landscape in Canada. We need to be increasingly ready for the challenge and opportunity this presents. We need to be ready to welcome these new Canadians into our communities, to help them get settled in their new home, to share Christ with them, and for those already Christians when they arrive, to actively welcome them into our fellowship.

2. Since the vast majority of Canadians do not attend religious services, waiting for people to flock in our doors and programming our worship assemblies to attract them to a

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Rewards of a Closer Walk with God

In the April issue we wrote concerning the cost of a closer walk with God and ended by saying, "Is it worth the cost? Absolutely!" The cost pales in light of the great rewards that belong to the disciple of Christ. Consider and rejoice in the promise of these blessings.

There are the future blessings that will come to the faithful Christian. "Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life" (Rom. 5:9,10 English Standard Version). The return of the Lord Jesus to judge the world does not need to be feared by the Christian since his sins have been forgiven and he has been reconciled to God. While many may be calling out for the rocks and mountains to fall on them, the Christian will be saying, "welcome Lord Jesus" since he is returning as Saviour, friend, and elder brother.

The ultimate future blessing will be living with God and all the faithful in that place Jesus has gone to prepare. There will be no feelings of sorrow, pain, or loss as eternity is enjoyed with all those who have loved and served the Lord during life. There is much to rejoice about when reading the words of John's revelation, "And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down our of Heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying

nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away'" (Revelation 21:2-4 ESV).

One comes to appreciate the promise of that place of eternal peace the longer he lives in this sinful place of conflict. As the days come and go the difficulties associated with living in the sinful world become more apparent. Pain, sorrow, suffering, and death are a continual trial in this life. The Christian rejoices that God, in his grace, has provided a release from the guilt and consequences of sin so he can look forward to being with God in Heaven. This is a truly wonderful blessing that he looks forward to enjoying.

Besides the future blessings the Christian also enjoys many blessings here and now. Of course, there may be times when the Christian will have problems with family and/or friends but these troubles are small when weighed against the blessings. As the Christian matures in his Christian walk he will come to understand the truth of that statement more clearly. For the new Christian these problems with family and/or friends can be very disheartening. Understand that God has never expected his people to face problems alone. In the Christian age the Holy Spirit has been given to the Christian to help him survive

even in the face of opposition from family or friends. The best encouragement at these times may be the words of James, "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing" (James 1:2-4 ESV).

Jesus assures his disciples a peace of heart that will give support through troublesome times. Like a bird that finds shelter and peace in a crevice in the rock during a storm, the disciple finds that peace in the indwelling strength provided by the Lord. Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid" (John 14:27 ESV). This peace comes as a result of the trust that the disciple has in the promises given by and through Christ Jesus.

Consider promises like "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those
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All applications will be reviewed in strictest confidence and each will receive a reply.

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Commitment or Interest, You Choose

We live in a world with many diversions and sources of entertainment yet many grow increasingly bored. We have so many opportunities to involve ourselves in worthwhile endeavours yet so many find themselves unfulfilled. We have gadgets that provide us with instant communication with anyone on the planet yet many find that they have no real meaningful relationships. All these opportunities to connect yet so few real connections, so many opportunities for meaningful involvement yet lives that lack meaning, why?

I believe that the answer may be found in the lack of meaningful commitment in many lives today. Many people are interested, perhaps very interested, but they don't take their interest further and make commitments. Many appear to be interested in Jesus and interested in the church but they don't take that interest further and make a commitment to Jesus. Interest will motivate people to attend church activities when it is convenient, commitment will motivate them to attend even when it is not convenient. Interest may motivate some to serve when they are getting something out of it, it is convenient and all is well. Commitment will motivate us to serve even when we appear to be get-

ting little in return and things aren't going all that well.

Interest in Christ, spiritual things and the church will come and go with how we feel at the moment; commitment surpasses or overrides our feelings. Commitment will grow and deepen as we mature, while over time we tend to lose our interest in something, as we grow bored.

I have yet to see a church that grows, either spiritually or numerically, because people are interested in the church or interested in Jesus or interested in the gospel. The church grows because individuals

are willing to commit to Christ and to each other (the church) and to the spreading of the gospel. That commitment then inspires and guides their lives and God blesses their commitment with positive results.

I have yet to see organizations like our Christian schools or Bible camps grow and prosper because people are interested, the interest of thousands never produces what the commitment of a few will. These organizations grow and prosper because individuals are willing to make long-term commitments to the mission and ministry of these institutions. Again, God blesses the effort of those who make these commitments and the result is good service to God and the church.

In marriage, the most intimate of human relationships, we pledge our commitment to remain faithful until death separates us. We pledge a lifetime commitment not an expression of interest. God blesses those who remain faithful to that lifetime commitment with wonderful partners to serve with in His service.

The struggle is not to remain interested in what really matters in life; the struggle is to move past interest to commitment. This doesn't just happen; neither does commitment fall on us from heaven. Commitment is a decision that we make and a promise that we pledge to which we remain faithful. What gets in the way of our making healthy commitments? What prevents us from taking our interest further and making commitments? There are some barriers to commitment that appear to be common to many.

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Finding The Reality of God

Peter Morphy

It's the latest fad. Are you tired and worn by all the newest reality shows every night? From living on an island with a group of strangers in the south pacific to marrying a millionaire wannabe to finding America's newest idol or communicating with a deceased relative, television networks are frantically scurrying to come up with the intriguing twist to capture the viewers attention and loyalty.

This is not the first time that Hollywood has turned people's reality upside down. Let's face it, the reality of life is not in the living room to meet the folks or seeing if a fear is a factor. Nor is it watching COPS or ER. While some of these shows are scripted, and all are edited by the producers, they have very little in common with the reality of our lives.

Let's be real. The true test of life is not when things are going well or in competing to be the best or win the cash prize, but it is attaining victory over the challenges and difficulties of life. Our lives are more about loving and caring for the family we are in, having hope when the economy has forced us to lose our job, learning

to be content with what we have, knowing peace when war is on the horizon, keeping faith when our loved one has a terminal illness, and putting all our hope and trust in God when life is at its end. Paul reflected on life and times of the Colosseum culture. They were concerned about keeping up with eating and drinking, religious festivals, New Moon celebrations, Sabbath Days, and communing with angels. Paul

God has a plan to make you a winner

said these were simply shadows, but reality is found in Christ (Colossians 2:17). A shadow is an impression of something far greater than itself. Shadows are two dimensional images and illustrated in black and white. God is multidimensional and in full color. Today many people are deceived when they focus only on and live in the shadow of God: His creation, design, sustenance, and power. Masses of people worship and serve the creation instead of the Creator (Romans 1:18-25).

The reality of God: His love, grace and

person are found in Jesus. God took on flesh and bones and lived among us so that we could see, know, and have a relationship with Him (John 1:14). As we look at the words, actions, love, and grace of Jesus, we are drawn closer to God. As we emulate the attitudes and actions of Christ, God's will is being perfected in our lives.

As Christians, we don't need to be counter culture, we are called to be cross-culture. *"With eyes wide open to the mercies of God, I beg you, my brothers, as an act of intelligent worship, to give Him your bodies, as a living sacrifice, consecrated to Him and acceptable to Him. Don't let the world squeeze you into its own mold, but let God re-mold your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all His demands and moves towards the goal of maturity"* (Romans 12:1-2 - J.B. Phillips, 1958).

It's not an old show and it's not a new game. You will not be applauded by the masses on media television, but God has a plan to make you a winner! That is a reality.

Mesa, Arizona

GLBC
Church Music Ad

What Can We Know?

Richard Kruse

In this shaken world so full of uncertainties and fears, we deeply desire to hold on to something solid and secure. Read on, dear friend; we can have assurance and confidence.

We do not know what tomorrow will bring, but we know from the Bible the larger picture which includes earthly history and beyond.

We have surrendered our lives to God through trusting in Jesus as Saviour and Lord. Therefore, let our hearts feed on these eternal certainties and be comforted. May these verses of Scripture give us courage.

LOOKING TO THE PAST in faith, we know our Lord Jesus was full of love and kindness in becoming poor to make us spiritually rich: *“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich”* (2 Cor 8:9*). [*Scripture quotations are from the NIV.]

We know that the price paid to free us from the bondage of sin was not with mere money: *“For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers,”* (1 Pet 1:18).

We know that we are coming more fully to recognize and understand God: *“We know that we have come to know Him if we obey His commands”* (1 Jn 2:3).

We know that we are living in a loving relationship with God through Jesus: *“But if anyone obeys His word, God’s love is truly complete in Him. This is how we know we are in Him: Whoever claims to live in Him must walk as Jesus did”* (1 Jn 2:5,6).

We know that because Jesus the Messiah came, we have a greater understanding of God: *“We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know Him who is true. And we are in Him who is true – even in His*

Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life” (1 Jn 5:20).

LOOKING TO THE PRESENT in love, we know that we have passed from spiritual death to spiritual life: *“We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death”* (1 Jn 3:14).

We know that we are of the truth: *“Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in His presence whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and He knows everything”* (1 Jn 3:18–20).

We know that we are of God: *“We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one”* (1 John 5:19).

We know that through His Spirit we live in God and He lives in us: *“We know that we live in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit”* (1 Jn 4:13).

We know that as believers in the Messiah we have eternal life: *“I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life”* (1 Jn 5:13).

We know that God listens to our prayers: *“And if we know that He hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of Him”* (1 Jn 5:15).

We know that no one who is born of God continuously practices sin: *“We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him”* (1 Jn 5:18), ... and **we know** that no immoral person has any part in the kingdom of God: *“For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person – such a man is an idolater – has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God”* (Eph 5:5).

“My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense – Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world” (1 John 2:1–2).

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE in hope, we know that this is the last period of time for this world: *“Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour”* (1 Jn 2:18).

We know that creation waits in hope for the completion of God’s final redemption: *“We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time”* (Rom 8:22).

We know that from eternity to eternity, God causes everything to work together for good: *“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose”* (Rom 8:28).

We know that the Lord values our service. That confidence gives us courage to stand firm: *“Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain”* (1 Cor 15:58).

We know that when this physical body is destroyed, a new, eternal, spiritual body awaits: *“Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands”* (2 Cor 5:1). When Jesus appears, **we know** we shall be like Him: *“Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is”* (1 Jn 3:2).

Toronto, Ont.

Church Membership?

Eugene Perry



The subject of church membership raises many questions. Some claim that they can be Christians but do not need to be part of a church. Others appear to believe, and the automobile makes this quite possible, that it is okay to have a sort of floating membership. They want to be a part of the church universal and attend and worship with, if not work with, a different congregation each week, – some sort of rotating visitation. Some seem to believe that a congregation is to be made up of a loose fellowship of worshippers. I was recently given an article in which the writer strongly argued that maintaining a church membership list was sinful. Apparently such was viewed as judgmental and exclusive.

We have situations varying from those where no formal action, initiation or request for recognition of membership is in place to others where public initiation of some kind is required and detailed information is entered in a computer data bank; from a loose community of people of “faith” meeting for worship and mutual edification to highly structured and closely supervised arrangements.

It is not difficult to understand the reasons for some of the statements made in the first paragraph or to discover abuses that might have produced the attitudes shown. However, our desire, as churches, is to function in the manner that the Lord intended. What was the situation in the early church while it was under the leadership and instruction of inspired men? Do the scriptures provide the answers or must we resort to human judgement and opinion?

The very fact, that the numbers added to and becoming a part of the church in the earliest accounts in Acts were recorded, provides strong evidence that those who became Christians were recognized in some way as now being Christians. There may not have been a church register, a roll book or a computer file but mention is made of numbers as growth occurred. They appear to have kept some kind of count.

Elders were soon appointed in these

churches and are likened to shepherds. They were to “*Be shepherds of the church of God,*” and to “*keep watch over all the flock*” (Acts 20:28) and to “*keep watch... as men who must give account*” (Heb.13:17). The Bible picture rules out any idea of a shepherd that does not know his own sheep. In fact, this picture seems to demand very close and personal knowledge. Elders must be very well aware of who their sheep are in order to properly care for them. Can you imagine a shepherd not knowing how many sheep he is responsible for or saying that he is not sure whether some individual sheep belongs to his flock or not?

Further, in Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12 the church is described as a body with each member finding an area of service. Each is to contribute to the well-being of the whole and to be empathetic with the hurts and joys of other members. Can we picture a body with parts (members) that come and go or that is uncertain whether some part, say an eye, belongs to it (is a member) or is perhaps a member of some other body? The picture we get is of a functioning body (community) of Christians with each member participating towards its health and growth (Eph.4:16). Such can hardly happen if the members are not regularly attending, functioning, recognized parts of the body.

Also, there is evidence that Christians, who traveled or moved, took with them letters identifying them as Christians. Such a practice served the purpose of protecting from false brethren who might do harm or putting the newcomer into active service in his new location more quickly. The letter validated his “membership” in the previous congregation and helped to integrate him into the new one.

A further evidence that congregations in New Testament times knew who “belonged” and who did not and thus had some kind of recognized membership is the use of the words: “those outside of the church”, “those inside?”, “from among you” and “towards outsiders” (1 Cor.5:12,13; Col.4:5).

The congregation is a community, flock, body of believers. Each one is added by the Lord and recognized by the community when that individual “obeys the gospel”. There is “the family of God”, “us” and “those who do not obey the gospel of God” (1 Peter 4:17, Cp. 2 Thess. 1:8). Those who complied with Peter’s instructions (Acts 2:38) knew who they were and the church evidently knew who they were.

Beamsville, ON

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Bramalea, ON L6T 3Y2
Fax: 905 792-8623
E-mail: bramaleacofc@bellnet.ca

ONTARIO

Barrie: May 24 a ladies' day was held on the theme, "Women in the Bible." Speakers were Debbie Klemm, Darlene Lee, Phyllis May and Shirley Straker.

Beamsville: The Papua New Guinea team of 7 young people left from the Toronto airport on April 30 and arrived safely in Sendai, Japan, 27 hours later. Following 2 weeks assisting the congregation to refurbish their building inside and out (pews included), the group left for Papua New Guinea on May 15. Cortney Woods, from Toronto, a cousin of Jenny Chow, was baptized April 28. Adam Courson, son of Steve and Becky Courson, was baptized April 30. On Friday, April 11, Briar Webb and Morgan Tite, from Sarnia, were baptized by Josh Lourenco. An 80th birthday open house was held April 26 in honour of Harvey Parker. Family and Children's Services need foster parents for children (infants to teens), as well as a home for a young teen mom and her infant. Financial support and training will be provided. On Saturday, May 3, the

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L3Y 8J1

WAVES annual meeting was held at the Beamsville church building with Eileen Dale as guest speaker.

Bramalea: Summer camp directors met May 24 at the Bramalea building. GLCC was also to have a dinner there that afternoon. Kevin Hunter and Lane Hamm have been appointed as new deacons for the congregation. David Moon, who teaches English in Sendai, Japan, was hit head-on by a truck while he was riding his moped. He suffered a broken arm and wrist, but is recovering well. The Twi speaking brethren from Ghana meet at the church building from 6-7:30 p.m. every second Saturday for Bible study. On May 4, GLCC's choral group sang Sunday morning during class.

Brantford: The congregation recently celebrated the arrival of Roy Cox and his new bride, Sylvia. On April 13, a potluck meal and a congregational meeting were held. A ladies' brunch was held Saturday, May 17, with Phyllis May as guest speaker. The congregation planned a "Spiritual Renewal" spring meeting May 16-18, with Steve May as guest speaker.

Grimsey: The congregation celebrated the birth of three new Christians into their church family: Mike and Connie Payne and Ethnae Devine. The brethren had a very successful Bible Bowl on the book of Matthew and plan to have another next year on the book of Genesis. A special teen night was held March 29. Jonathan Halls and some of his fellow Great Lakes students won the all Ontario Championships.

Kingston: David Galloway, formerly an elder in North Carolina, is in the area on business and will help the congregation for about two years, after which he hopes to be able to see that a preacher is available.

Newmarket: The congregation looks forward to having Stephen Johnson, teacher at Abilene Christian University, who will work on his PhD at the University of Toronto, as their preacher for a year beginning June 2003.

North Bay: The congregation is asking for special prayers on behalf of Teresa Nantel, who is the hospital with a recurrence of cancer.

Toronto (Strathmore Blvd): The congregation welcomed Amy Dietrich to Strathmore. A singing group from Great Lakes Christian College visited and sang following the evening service on May 4. A well attended and beneficial men's training class is being conducted on the first Friday evening of each month. The Third

Annual Great Lakes Spanish Fellowship weekend was well attended in Chicago, April 18 - 20. Twenty one brethren from Ontario attended. The Thursday evening conversational English Bible class continues to be a good outreach. The Key To The Kingdom program, Sunday nights at 12:30 Eastern time on Vision, is resulting in about 20 calls per week for the Bible course.

West Hamilton: The 20s group, that meets monthly for a social time and devotional with young people from several congregations, planned their next activity for May 31. Contact Brian VanAlstine at 905-575-8994 for times and activities. Matt Van Beveren and Sarah Gosling left May 4 for an 8-week mission trip in India. Ten to thirteen workers from Sunset International Bible Institute plan to be in Hamilton June 6-15 for Canada Campaign 2003.

Sarnia: David and Sally Dunn, the congregation's new preacher and his wife, recently purchased a new home and moved in on May 1. Sewing classes take place in the all-purpose room at the church building from 7-9 p.m. on Thursday evenings.

St. Catharines: Healing Hands International, a Nashville group associated with churches of Christ, is included in the St. Catharine Standard's report on Christian groups ready to provide humanitarian aid for Iraq. Hunger, hopelessness and disease threaten the country's 24 million people. Kits contain soap, shampoo, bandages, washcloths, and toothbrushes.

Stratford: The brethren took a special contribution on April 13 for Rick Pinczuk and the work in the Ukraine. The GLCC chorus was to sing in Stratford on May 24. A talent show, preceded by a potluck meal, took place on May 4.

Waterloo: 200 attended the Great Lakes Bible College graduation ceremony and promotional dinner May 2 at Carmen's in Hamilton. Approximately \$12,000 in gifts and pledges was given.

Windsor (Westside): June 7 will be ladies' morning out beginning with a continental breakfast and a talk from Connie Tallman of the Rochester church of Christ, on the theme, "A Recipe for Godly Living." The congregation's vacation Bible school this year will be conducted July 14-18. David Stovall has moved to Amherstburg from the Detroit area. May 18 was designated "100% Day." The congregation was looking forward to a full house and a new series "At the Grace of God."

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by Marion Waugh
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E-mail: waughr@telusplanet.net

(The help of Barbara Lewis in gathering news is appreciated.)

ALBERTA

Calgary, AB: The Annual Ladies' Retreat was held May 23-25, with the theme "Living a Life of Worship." Pine Lake family camp was May 16-19. 5 different youth camps are being organized for the month of July. The Calgary church of Christ family camp will be on July 11-13 with Vacation Bible School on July 14-16.

BRITISH COLOMBIA

Abbotsford (Central Valley): Norm and Jen Weir made several trips to 100-mile House to visit Audrey Burch, who is very ill with cancer. She is the mother of Carol Burfoot (100 Mile House) and Diane Beckett, Murray Beckett's wife (Prince George). Following a Continental breakfast together, ladies participated in another hand-out of invitations to the Parents n' Tots program in May. Rynar Catling was baptized April 21 in the Freeman's hot tub. He and his wife, Lori, are the parents of Emilia, who had her first birthday last month.

Burnaby: We lost another song leader in May when Cyrus and Christi Crook moved to Regina. The younger women of the Burnaby congregation were invited to participate in a "Let's Get Better Acquainted" evening with the older ladies on May 3. A "Grace-Gift Analysis" test was taken by each. Small groups made up of a combination of both ages then discussed their findings. The purpose was to discover strengths as opposed to what is lacking, as well as give the two (or more) generations a chance to know each other better. Youth minister, Mike Parker, spoke at the morning assembly in the absence of Kirk Ruch on May 4. He also led a worship time in the evening which was followed by the presentation of a new idea called "STEPS". Mike Nienhuis gave an outline of the program being developed to offer a discipleship training project for young adults, ages 18 to 25, in the transition

period between their finishing high school and making decisions about what to do with the remainder of their lives. The congregation hosted an area-wide singing on May 10th, in conjunction with an update on the progress being made toward Western Christian College's move to Regina this fall.

City Church (E. Van.): "When you are tired, in the middle of a move and hungry, try doing a little work for the Lord. I was standing in line at the Superstore, buying sandwich fixings for the gang helping us move when the lady in front of me starting asking questions. She is from India. We talked a bit and then she said, "So you're an American?" I then told her I was from Japan before coming to Canada and she asked what I did. She said, "So you're a pastor?" I told her I was a preacher and she told me she was born again, but not going to church now. I invited her to worship with us and she took my name and phone number. I hope she will follow up and call as she lives very close to where we live. I have been praying that God would open a door to the East Indian community for us and perhaps this will be the first step" - Steve Hasbrouck

Delta: John Clelland, from the Burnaby congregation, spoke for us the last week of April, and Larry Hoff the following Sunday, while Darren Willimson and his family were attending the Pepperdine Lectureship, where Darren was one of the speakers. Our men and boys went over to Spruston Road on Vancouver Island en masse on May 24th for an all-day work bee at the camp, bar-b-que and fellowship.

Maple Ridge: Andy Aaron, Don Johnston, and Ray Mansell filled in for Todd Brunner while he and Jamie were away to spend time with family in Texas and Illinois. Patti Johnston continued the studies with the Young Ladies' class on Thursday evenings.

Prince George: Several individuals have helped with financial contributions over the last two months, so it is hoped Garth Hilton will be able to carry on his work here past July. It will be another year before he is granted "Landed Immigrant" status which will enable him to work in Canada.

MANITOBA

Western Christian College: A Grade 12 student from Hong Kong, Roy Ng, came to Western in Grade 10 for the purpose of learning English. During a recent chapel talk, Roy told how he has grown during the last three years as he struggled from

accepting the existence of Jesus to finally realizing God's grace and love. Using examples from his Physics and Chemistry classes, Roy also examined the power of God in his talk. Matt Goud, another Grade 12 student, baptized him. The school has noted the strong impact Roy has had as a class leader and among their international students. Andrew Tucker, Roy's roommate and also a Grade 12 student, was baptized on April 24. Andrew is from Estevan, Saskatchewan. Michael Coghlin, a college student, baptized Andrew, who is involved in athletics, Sonshine and SRC. He will be attending SIAST next year and expects to be taking some Bible classes from the college program.

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NOVA SCOTIA

Halifax: On April 20 Joshua Dennis and Matthew Colgan were baptized into the Lord. June 19-29 is the date that a group of Christians (led by Jerry Humphries of Alabama) plans to assist the Halifax Christians in an effort to reach out to the community. July 13, 2003 is the date that a native Nova Scotian, who is taking his masters at David Lipscomb University in Tennessee, plans to preach and teach at 48 Convoy Avenue, Halifax.

NEW YORK

North Buffalo: Jeff Able, from the Amherst congregation, who has filled in teaching and preaching at North Buffalo, died April 1 in a car accident. He left behind a wife and three children and had no insurance, other than eternal life insurance. The April 6 bulletin has a picture on the front: "Saving in the Sand: Baptisms in Kuwait," and the statement: "They are baptizing our soldiers in the desert before the war! Pfc. David Kurns is baptized by Task Force Chaplain Capt. Ron Cooper and 1st Lt. Brian Case in the desert north of Kuwait City, Wednesday, March 12. Eight members of the 3rd Infantry Division were baptized in the desert on Wednesday." The picture is courtesy of the New York Times.

Buffalo (Linwood): On June 1, the congregation will celebrate the 29th anniversary of their minister, John Smiley, 81 years young. Dr. Eugene Lawton of Newark, NJ, will be the visiting preacher.

The **Bayview Church of Christ**, 1708 Bayview Ave. in Toronto will be celebrating its 60th Anniversary on Sunday, June 22, 2003. Please join at 10 a.m. for Bible Study and 11 a.m. for Worship. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the Worship Service.

MISSION NEWS

Barbara Lewis
1478 Mary Hill Lane
Port Coquitlam, BC V3C 4C3
E-mail: rayel@compuserve.com

Taiwan: Taiwan opened 3,000 paid positions for Americans/Canadians to teach English in public schools. The Mormon Church has offered and signed a contract to send 60 "Free" teachers to teach in elementary schools. This is a big concern of many of our conservative Taiwanese churches. We are asked to pray for them, and also that Christian teachers can be found to fill many of these positions.

Donetsk, Ukraine: "Mid-April saw the start of a seminar week with Jay Don teaching 'Christian Counselling.' Although he has done a lot of counselling in the last 36 years, he is not "trained" in this field, so was feeling a bit apprehensive about the class. As always, God provided help for him. A young man, Steve Taliaferro, moved to Donetsk this past December to devote his life to working with older orphans as a mentor once they have to leave their orphanages and also doing youth camps in the summer. He has a Master's degree in counselling and is assisting. Jay Don taught two classes during the last three-week term, one on the 'Minor Prophets' and the other on 'Conflict Resolution'. He was able to use extensive notes I took in a similar class under Chris Swinford last spring. We had been contacted by our landlord about a little two-and-a-half year-old girl who needed heart surgery immediately in order to live. Through your donations, we had the money to pay for this surgery and offered it to the family. On April 21, the family was on the train to Kiev. When the train stopped in Donetsk for 20 minutes, Jay Don, Julia, our landlord and I went out to meet them. The little girl, Lily, was precious and the parents couldn't stop talking about how wonderful and unbelievable it was that their baby was going to get a chance to live because of loving, caring Christians they didn't even know! Rhett and Julia Rogers are now working with a congregation full time, so we have had to find a new interpreter." - edited from Mary Lee Rogers's April newsletter

Ethiopia: Three preachers conducted a Bible Seminar at the new church facility in Shone in April. Brother Moges spoke on the subject of "Speaking in Tongues and Miracles" because of the influence of other faith systems in that district. Brother Alemayehu's lessons were on the authority of the scriptures, and Brother Behailu pointed out the "Oneness of the New Testament Church and the Church of Christ". They were attended by some 60 preachers, and more than 300 members living in the area. The local preacher is Brother Molla, who spearheads the congregation in teaching hundreds of families how to raise their food by using the drip system to grow their gardens, even in times of drought. It is proving to be an effective tool in bringing people to the church. A man who had served as an elder in a denominational group most of his life was baptized by his son at the age of 97, and remained faithful until his recent death. His family donated the land on which a small church building of bamboo poles and a thatched roof was built in the Wollietta district. Growth of the church has required building a new meeting place. Brother Bahailu signed a short-term agreement with the UN to drill five to 10 more wells. Under the next agreement, the UN will pay 80% of the cost, leaving only 20% for us to raise. Last month, Brother Roger Walker completed his first year at Ghana Bible College, and returned to Addis Ababa to be with his family for two months, and to help build up the work among the refugees from Sudan. Chris Perry and John Ed Clark left on May 16 for Awasa where Chris is working to make the World English Institute Bible and Computer Center operational. He is a Harding student majoring in Computer Engineering, and expects to return full-time following his graduation.

Mission Printing: Located in Arlington, Tx., Mission Printing was founded by Guy Caskey and his wife, Jessie Lee, after their return from many years of service in S. Africa and Jamaica. They recognized the need for printed material for people searching for God's guidance in their lives. Brother Caskey died in January, but Mission Printing is carrying on his work of printing tracts, booklets, and Bible literature sent free to an ever-increasing number of grateful countries. Accomplished

entirely by volunteer help, the pounds of material sent out each year amounts into the millions. Sometimes as many as 100 letters arrive in a single day. These are all personally read and the needs evaluated. Then the printed materials requested are put into boxes, labeled and put into mailbags picked up by a postman for delivery to the postal outlet. Most take about three months to arrive at their destination. Cost of this work is accomplished entirely by individual and church donations.

Zambia: (Dr. Matayi, Witch Doctor) Sumbwe is an area of enormous potential, about ten kilometers from Samfya, and now has a congregation of the Lord's church. Ken, the team leader, told me, "In Sumbwe, God worked a miracle in order for people to see Who He Is!" "Demons and satanic agencies cannot come near God's holiness", Ken went on. "This is because Jesus defeated them a long time ago on the cross. The story of Dr. Matai proves God still defeats Satan's evil spirits. Dr. Matayi was the most terrifying witch doctor in Sumbwe, and he was feared in many other villages in the area. Even we Christian preachers gulped a bit when the dreaded man summoned us on the second day of our campaign. "... 'I cannot sleep,' he told us. 'My matayi, my familiar demon messenger, has troubled me all this night because of you. My struggle with this spirit is still so great that I cannot bear it any more. I want to reject satanic power. I want to do it right now. Help me make a public confession. Baptize me.' "People at a nearby beer party came to listen. Dr. Matayi brought all his medicines and poisons, calabashes and bones, and animal skins and instruments, and even the sign that announced his trade. He chopped and burned them before everybody. I am sorry the film in our camera ran out before we could record this wonderful display of God's power. "News spread like a storm." Ken laughed and shook his head. "Within hours the whole district heard the story, Dr. Matayi's conversion amazed and shocked many people. Hundreds came in wonder to ask questions and listen to God's Word. The new church at Sumbwe started with 32 adults. If Northreach campaigners can return here soon, this church will quickly become the largest congregation in Samfya district."

Roy Merritt

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that he had learned to overcome his fear (Acts 4:1-13). Yet we must never imagine that we have completely overcome our fears. Peter continued to struggle against a tendency to give in to popular opinion. He acted hypocritically in the presence of certain brothers and was rebuked by Paul (Gal 2:11ff).

Fear, especially fear of popular opinion, remains a tremendous barrier to true discipleship. But there is a means of overcoming it. Peter and John overcame it in the presence of the Sanhedrin by relying on the strength of their Lord (Acts 4:13; cf Mt 10:19). When Peter writes of the problem of fear in First Peter three, his emphasis is on Christ-reliance, not self-reliance. He tells us, "in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord." (1 Pet 3:15 NIV) If Christ fills our hearts, we will have little fear of the world. If the world fills our hearts, we will have little fear of Christ.

Impatience

There may be dozens of other barriers that keep us from discipleship, but we will examine only one more, impatience. The true disciple must learn to work without reward.

Once again we find that there was an apostle who found this a barrier to his discipleship. Judas wanted the rewards of discipleship to be immediate rewards in this lifetime. As the apostolic treasurer, he sometimes took the money for himself (John 12:6). Some have even suggested that he betrayed Jesus believing that by doing so he would force the Lord to become the kind of earthly Messiah that Judas may have wanted him to be. Whether that is true or not, it certainly is true that many followers of Jesus expect an instant reward. They are not truly his disciples, for the way of Christ is the way of the cross.

Following Christ does lead to blessing, but not always as we expect or when we expect. Those who come to Christ impatient for results are often disappointed. We are told to expect persecution (John 15:18f; 2 Tim 3:12), and we find that Christians are effected by the tragedies of this world, nearly as often as worldly people.

Those who are in it just for reward soon give up. They cannot be called disciples. The true disciple is waiting for a city with real foundations (Heb 11:10), not focusing on an earthly reward.

Overcoming

Pride, tradition, fear, and impatience are all sizeable barriers. They are stubborn barriers. We will not overcome them on our own, but with the Lord's help we can overcome them. Let us face these obstacles, but let us focus our hearts on the Lord. It is from him that we will draw the strength to be true disciples (1 Pet 3:15; Col 1:27; Phil 2:12-13).

Manzini, Swaziland

Please help the Sendai team in God's work to make

THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN A LAND OF THE RISEN SON

Joel Osborne and Jonathan Straker are still in need of support for the mission work in Sendai, Japan. If you would like to find out more about this work and how you can help, you can check out their website at www.sendaimissions.com, or contact the

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BOOK REVIEWS

Books to be reviewed in this column should be sent to
Keith Thompson, Editor, 348 Dixon Blvd., Newmarket, ON L3Y 5C4
(Books may be ordered from the *Gospel Herald*)
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Alpha Teach Yourself
***The Bible in 24 Hours* by W. Terry**
Whalin, 412 large pages,
\$ 29.99(Cdn.)

This extremely helpful book goes through the entire Bible with summaries, historical facts, people to know, geographic, and cultural background. For example it gives a very clear description of what the Bible says about baptism.

continued from page 5

who are called according to his purpose” Romans 8:28 ESV, or “No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it” I Corinthians 10:13 ESV. There is great reason for peace in knowing that the Christian is never left to fight the battle alone. On a daily basis, God provides the strength to walk in his way when one submits.

Further, Jesus promises that the Christian will be a continual recipient of the love of Jesus. Every person needs to feel loved. Many suffer various emotional illnesses because they do not feel loved. There is great joy for the Christian who understands that Jesus loves him. It is important to understand that this love comes as a result of the Christian obeying the commands of Christ. The grace of God overcomes (forgives) the occasional failures as the Christian repents of sins. “If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full” (John 15:10,11 ESV). In a world that is often filled with depression

The author has the goal of simply describing what the Bible itself says about any topic. Another example of this is seen in comparing the birth of the church with that of a child. Also there is a chart on the Sermon on the Mount which shows the contrast between Law and Spirit.

This book will help us all in personal reading and in preparation for classes and sermons.

and hopelessness, what a wonderful blessing this love is.

A third blessing in walking with God is the provision that has been made in the Church family. This Church family can, if need be, replace the physical family on earth. Leaving traditional family beliefs to become a New Testament Christian can often result in broken family ties. Jesus understood the potential for this result and spoke of it in a conversation with Peter resulting from the events surrounding Jesus discussion with the rich young man in Mark 10. “Peter began to say to him, ‘See, we have left everything and followed you.’ Jesus said, ‘Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life’ ” (10:28–30 ESV). The blessing of the fellowship, support, and encouragement found in the Church will sustain the Christian in the face of opposition.

There are other blessings and rewards that could be noted, however, hopefully these will serve to demonstrate that while walking with God may be costly in some ways the rewards far outweigh the cost.

Toronto, ON

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spectator-driven format would appear to be a misplaced strategy. We need to maintain the Biblical view that our assemblies are a time for Christians to gather together to teach, encourage, and strengthen one another. While visitors may be present, this is intended primarily as “family” time as we come together to worship our Father.

3. To connect with people, we need to go out to where they are. As Jesus said, “Go.” Non-believers will be reached when they see the lives, character and love of Christians shown in their daily lives. They will be drawn to those with a genuine faith in Christ and who are real and relevant to their world. As we have often heard, “they won’t care what you know until they know that you care.” Further, our actions and methods must be totally consistent with our message. This includes evangelistic “techniques” which are manipulative or coercive.

4. The evidence seems to suggest that most Canadians distrust religious institutions. As a result, those institutions have lost influence in Canadian society. One example of this is the widespread rejection of moral standards promoted by those institutions. People appear to be more open for relationship than membership. Evangelism and growth will occur as individual Christians influence the people around them. Each Christian needs to see that he or she is a servant of God and has a vital place in the work of the church.

5. As the country continues this direction, Canadians will increasingly become a nation without either a spiritual foundation or a moral compass. The momentary sense of freedom to “do as I please” will increasingly give way to boredom, hopelessness and despair. People will need the direction and hope that only God can truly offer. Christians must resist the winds of cultural change and hold fast to the foundation of God’s word. We must continue to study, learn and teach the truth. Our task is to sow the seed; God’s role is to provide the harvest. Is our faith in Him and His word, or in ourselves?

The tide of secularism and unbelief is sweeping across Canada. When Jesus returns, will He find faith here?

grace of God. Man cannot remove one sin by his own efforts. You may have heard the statement that goes something like this, "man has to do all he can to be saved and God will make up the difference by his grace." I personally have made that statement to those with whom I was studying scripture. One day I got to thinking about that statement. The obvious became clear. If I can go so far in the process of forgiveness on my own, this of course would include hard work and goodness, then I must be able to get rid of some sins on my own without the help of God. This indicates that I can do some it on my own, but need God's help to get all the way to completely saved. Folks, every sin that is to be forgiven must be forgiven by God through his grace. Let us say it again. Every sin is forgiven by God through his grace.

Now let us look at the "faith" side. Are there works that must be done for God's grace to forgive sins? YES! God's grace is available only to those who are willing to obey his will. How is the grace of God activated in the lives of men and women? OBEDIENCE! Jesus told his disciples to go into all the world and preach the gospel (good news) to every creature. What is the good news? That Jesus Christ died on the cross and shed his blood to pay the price for the forgiveness of sins. Jesus then said, "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." (Mark 16:16.) Not only must man believe and be baptized, but must also repent of sins. A commitment to the Lord must be made. These are works, but they are works of God in that these are commandments that the Lord gave man for him to take advantage of salvation by God's grace. God's grace does not stop at the waters of baptism. The blood of Christ cleanses the faithful Christian daily (1 John 1:7). Faithfulness involves obeying the commands of God daily. "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments." (1 John 5:2-3a.) Paul said Christians are to work out their own salvation with fear and trembling (Philippians 2:12). Grace and faith will get the deed done. Not one without the other. Man is saved by God's Amazing Grace!

Plantation, Florida

OBITUARIES

Margaret Jewell

A Memorial Service for Margaret Jewell was conducted April 21st at Stephen's Church in Qualicum Beach. Mrs. Jewell died the evening of April 17th after a short, but courageous bout with advanced breast cancer.

Her last days were shared with her husband of 46 years, Roy, two sons, David and Shaun, who live in Parksville, her daughter, April, and husband, Scott Blayney, whose home is in Ottawa, and two sisters, Vi Beech and Della Charles, from The Midlands, England. She also leaves a brother in England. She is survived by six grandchildren: David's daughters, Leah and Mariah; Shaun's

children, Rachel and Spencer; April's boys, David and Matthew.

Mrs. Jewell, who was born in Essington, England, was 65. She and her husband were married and the parents of three children before coming to Ontario in 1971. They moved to the West Coast a few years later. Mr. Jewell and David live at 832 Breakwater Road, Parksville, B. C., V9P 1Z8, and Shaun and his family live next door.

Mrs. Jewell is described as a gracious and caring lady who was a great source of encouragement to her family, and especially to her grandchildren.

Submitted by: Barbara Lewis

2003

CAMP OMAGH

*Show me your ways, O LORD,
teach me your paths;
guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my Saviour,
and my hope is in you all day long.*
Psalm 25:4,5



CAMP OMAGH PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOR 2003

Plan now to spend an exciting time at Camp Omagh!

20's WEEKEND	July 4-6
PROGRAM DIRECTOR - Brad Cook	
PRIME TIMERS	July 8-11
PROGRAM DIRECTORS - Walter Straker & Mark Heuston	
WEEK 1 (ages 7-9 years)	July 13-19
PROGRAM DIRECTOR - Scott Mansfield	
WEEK 2 (ages 8-10 years)	July 20-26
PROGRAM DIRECTOR - George Mansfield	
WEEK 3 (ages 11-13 years)	July 27 - August 2
PROGRAM DIRECTOR - Michael Toohey	
SINGSPARATION	August 3
PROGRAM DIRECTOR - Bob Sandiford	
FAMILY WEEK	August 3-9
PROGRAM DIRECTOR - Dwayne Williams	
WEEK 4 (ages 11-13 years)	August 10-16
PROGRAM DIRECTOR - Jamie Azzoparde	
TEEN WEEK (ages 14-19 years)	August 17-24
PROGRAM DIRECTORS - Don Rose & Brad Cook	
SHARPENING THE SWORD	August 30 - Sept. 1
PROGRAM DIRECTOR - Max Craddock	

Register early to avoid disappointment. Spaces will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis.

COST

The camp fee is \$155 per week per camper, \$170 per camper for Teen Week. This charge covers all costs for the week, including daily tuck and craft materials. This charge includes a \$30.00 non-refundable deposit (see application form).

COST FOR SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Prime Timers\$75
Sharpening The Sword\$45 (Child Care \$20/child)
Family Week\$110/person (max. \$330/family)

Financial assistance is available for those in need. To apply, contact Karen at 905-892-7859 or email scholarships@campomagh.org

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

ARRIVE AT 3 P.M. FOR REGISTRATION ON SUNDAY AND ARRANGE TO LEAVE BY 10 A.M. ON SATURDAY (2 P.M. SUNDAY FOR TEEN WEEK). Our program structure does not accommodate campers staying at the camp for a weekend between sessions. Please make alternate arrangements as required.

73 Years Married

On June 17, 2003, Frank and Edith Kneeshaw will celebrate their 73rd. Wedding Anniversary.

This wonderful couple has been a great blessing to the church in Collingwood, ON where, for over 60 years, Frank was secretary and treasurer and Edith made the communion bread and served in so many other caring ways.

For some time over the years Frank was the only man in the congregation and did some of the speaking and most of the song leading (his favourite form of praise). Most Sundays a speaker would come from Meaford and their meals were hospitably provided by Edith. (Frank helped, of course!) Many visiting preachers have experienced the warm hospitality of Frank and Edith while conducting a gospel meeting in town.

God has blessed their union. It is a rare blessing when a couple, Frank at 95 and Edith at 93, still live together in the same home in which they raised their two daughters, Ruth and Sylvia. As well, they have been blessed with five grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

At this writing it appears that Frank will once again be renewing his drivers license which, at his age in indeed a blessing, giving them the ability to get themselves to worship and Bible study as well as grocery shopping, etc.

May God continue to bless and keep them and we pray they have a wonderful 73rd. anniversary together.

Submitted by Peter Dale

continued from page 6

• **We don't like to fail.** So we are careful to make our commitments only in areas where we are assured of success. We do risk failure when we step out in commitment, but choosing to not make a commitment guarantees failure.

• **We are not willing to devote the time.** Time and space do not permit a full discussion of our "busyness culture" today, but it does seem that we don't have time to do all that we would like to do. So we are careful about making commitments because each commitment comes with a cost in time. Managing time is managing our priorities; are there less important items that could be removed from our schedules to allow time for the commitments that are more important?

• **We are not willing to engage in the give and take necessary to work together with others.** When we work with others we cannot have our way all the time. There is a give and take to it that some find difficult. Yet, the closest relationships often develop when we work together with others.

• **We don't like to be criticized** and when we make commitments and get involved criticism is all but assured. Perhaps we should try to learn from the positive criticism we receive and learn to be thicker skinned in order to deal with the negative criticism that may come our way.

• **We are not sure that we have the talents/abilities to carry out the commitment.** I don't believe we can know this for certain until we give the commitment an honest try. Few talents/abilities are ever developed without risk.

I think that it is wise that we count the cost before we move from interest to commitment. Each commitment that we make in life will come with a cost to us and our unwillingness to pay the cost in these areas may actually cost us even more. The lack of fulfilment, purposelessness and few meaningful relationships, that we mentioned at the outset, are often the result of our unwillingness to make commitments. It is impossible to know all the answers even after we have carefully counted the cost. It is good that we test the waters with our interest, but eventually we must jump in.

There are rewards for those who make commitments.

- "Well done good and faithful servant" from our Lord.
- A sense of accomplishment and a recognition that we worked hard on something important.
- A fulfilled life free from boredom.
- Wonderful relationships with those we have committed to and those we have served with.

Are you just interested or committed?

Wunnumin Lake, ON

1884 DEBATE REPRINTED

There was high excitement in Meaford in 1884 when "Elder J. A. Harding, (Disciple) of Kentucky debated Rev. T. L. Wilkinson, (Methodist) of Brantford, Ontario." Brother Harding was a well known preacher and educator in the U.S. and is recognized as one of the founders of what is now David Lipscomb University. The 6 day debate was stenographically reported and published in book form in 1886. The title is, "Debate on Baptism embracing Mode and Subjects."

An exact reprint of the original has been published in paper binding by brother Perry Cotham of Grand Prairie, Texas. He has done this because he feels that it is a valuable and needed book that should be available to the brotherhood. His introduction, giving extra information about brother Harding is included. With 406 pages, it is reasonably priced at \$14.95 USD.

This book gives an interesting look at the "religious culture" in this part of Canada over 100 years ago. The nature of debates of the time is seen. At the same time much useful information on the subject under discussion is provided.

Copies may be ordered from the
GOSPEL HERALD BOOKSTORE

4904 KING ST., BEAMSVILLE, ON LOR 1B6

ph/fax 905-563-7503, 866-722-2264 email <eperry9953@aol.com>

Either send \$21.95 plus \$6.00 shipping and handling,
plus \$1.96 GST or we will bill you the exact amount.

W C C
Two New Faculty
Ad

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

This listing includes most but not all of the churches of Christ in Canada along with a few in bordering states. Please help us to keep it useful by updating the information regularly. Listings are \$8.00 per year and changes are \$4.00 each. The information, unless otherwise specified, is in the following order: Place of meeting; times of Bible Class, Worship and mid-week gatherings; mailing address if different from meeting place; (Post Office is at the beginning unless otherwise indicated); preacher; phone.

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

CALGARY: (Northside): 803-20A Avenue N.E., T2E 1S1; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7; recorded message; 276-8088; Derek Chambers, ev..

CALGARY: 4030 Maryvale Dr. NE, T2A 2S8; (June – August) Sun. service 10 am, (Sept – May) Children's Bible Classes 9:30 & 11:15, Worship 9 & 10:45, Wed. 6:45 p.m. Small Groups (Fri – Mon, eve.) Phone (403) 272-2111; E-mail: info@calgarycofc.com

CAMROSE: 4901-42 St., T4V 1A2; Sun. 9:30, 10:45; Wed. 7; Ted Archbold, ev., (780) 672-1220 (off).

EDMONTON: 13015-116 Ave., T5M 3C9, (780) 455-1049; FAX 454-9545; Sun. 11, 9:30; Wed. 7:00; Kevin Carson, ev 454-9097; Dave Friesen, ev 460-4258; C. Eric Limb, Henri Bouchard, Herb Anderson, David Hotchkiss, elders.

FORT MCMURRAY: Centre Boreal School, 312 Abasand Drive., Sun. 10-noon; Box 5094, T9H 3G2; Billy McMillan, ev., (780) 790-0109.

LETHBRIDGE: 2720 21st Ave. S., T1K 1H8; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7:00; Mike Gray, ev. (403) 328-0855.

MEDICINE HAT: Crescent Heights Church of Christ, 402 12th St. N.E., T1A 5V3; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7; Jamie Lobert, ev. (403) 527-7346 or (403) 527-7311 (off)

RED DEER: 68 Donlevy Ave., T4R 2V8; Sun. 11:30, 10, (evening—call for information); Wed. 7; John Smith, ev. (403) 347-3986 email: <davenportcoc@aol.com>

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ABBOTSFORD (Central Valley): #5 – 2580 Cedar Park Place; Sun. 10,11; Tues. 7:30 at address above, Norm Weir, ev. (604) 850-8670 (off); 859-5973 (res). If no answer 852-5052; email: normjen@rapidnet.net; website: http://www.members.shaw.ca/allanjn/cvcofc/

BURNABY (Greater Vancouver): 7485 Salisbury Ave., V5E 3A5; Sun. 10:45, 9:30; Midweek (groups meet in homes. Call for times & locations); Kirk Ruch, ev., 951-4102; (604) 522-7721 (off).

CAMPBELL RIVER: 226 Hilcey Road, V9W 1P4; (250) 923-5233.

CHILLIWACK: Senior Citizens Bldg. Br 24, corner of Cook and Victoria St.; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7 at 9687 Windsor St; Mail P.O. Box 327, V2P 6J4; Al McCutcheon, sec. (604) 792-0046

CRESTON: Corner of 5th Ave. and Cook St.; Sun. 10, 11; 130 5th Ave. N. V0B 1G3; 250-428-7411 (off) or 428-5937.

CROFTON: 1288 Smith Rd. Box 45, V0R 1R0; Phone for time; (250) 246-3659.

DELTA: Delta Christian School, 53rd & Ladner Trunk Road, Ladner, Sun. 10; Midweek: Call for times; PO Box 18623, V4K 4V7; Darren Williamson, ev., (604) 943-0515 (off)

KAMLOOPS: 1110 Tranquille Rd., Sun. 10:30; Tues. 7:00; PO Box 2129, V2B 7K5; Dane Bengard, ev. (250) 377-3386

KELOWNA: 1317 Ethel St. V1Y 2X1; Building 250-861-9486, Sunday 10:45 a.m. Worship, 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (excl. July – Aug). Evangelists: Charles McKnight, 250-765-8739; Barrie Forman, 250-764-4313, sonlover@shaw.ca, cell 212-0080; Elders: Wayne Muirhead, 250-861-4008, marwayn@hotmail.com; Ted Windmill, 250-763-8445, edward_windmill@telus.net

NANAIMO: 1720 Meredith Rd., V9S 2M4; Sun. 10:00, 11:00, Wed. 7:00 meeting in homes, please phone for time and place; Grant Hannan, min. 758-9412 (off.); Les Beamish, sec. 758-6929; cell phone 729-1833.

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

PENTICTON: Penticton Retirement Centre, 439 Winnipeg St.; Sun. 9, 10; Wed. 7:30; Box 24082, V2A 8L9.

PRINCE GEORGE: 4337 Ewen Dr., V2M 5Y8; Sun. 10; For more information contact Grahame Somerville; 562-6708 or Leo Selzer, 964-9182

PRINCE RUPERT: 977 Prince Rupert Blvd.; PO Box 324, V8J 3P9; Sun. 4-5 pm, 3-4 pm; Thurs. 7; Dick Brant, ev. (250) 624-4449 (off), 624-5834 (res)

RICHMOND: 5800 Kartner Rd. V6V 1R9; Call Gary Marrs, ev. (604) 271-6197 or Carlos Castillo (604) 273-0506.

SALMON ARM: 2460 Auto Rd. S.E.; Sunday 10:00; Call for times and locations of other meetings; (250) 832-3828 or 804-4833; Box 51, V1E 4N2; Doug Kendig, John Murray, Gordon Parmenter and Blair Robers, elders.

SURREY: (Greater Vancouver):15042 92nd Ave., V3R 5V8; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Ron Beckett, ev., 594-1796.

Vancouver (City Church): Trout Lake Community Centre, 3350 Victoria Drive, Worship 4:30 to 6:15 p.m., Bible Study 6:30 p.m.(mailing address, 483 East 51st Ave, Vancouver, V5X 1C8), Stephen C. Hasbrouck, Sr. ev., (604) 263-3470

VANCOUVER (Oakridge): 6970 Oak St., V6P 3Z6; English services: Sun. 10, 10:40, 5 (Spanish Bible Class 10 and Fri. 6:30); Wed. 7:30; Spanish services: Sun. 5; Fri. 6:30; Milton Diaz, ev., 432-1749 (res.).

VERNON: 4107 Pleasant Valley Rd, V1T 4M1; Sun. 10, 11; Murray Ververda, ev., (250) 545-5256 (res); 545-6892 (off).

VICTORIA: 3460 Shelbourne St., V8P 4G5; Sun. 9, 10:15; midweek in homes; (250) 592-4914 (off); website: www.churchadmin@sscoc.bc.ca

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. 7:30; Box 955, R0G 0J0; contact Ray Winkler (elder), 745-3226; Bob Norris, ev., 745-6969.

DAUPHIN: 378 River Ave. E. (Corner of River & Bond) R7N 0H8: Sun. worship 9:00 & 10:00; Sun. & Wed. nights call for details; Darin Ashby, min. (204) 638-6321 (off), 638-6025 (res.), Fax: 638-0872; email: <ddashby@mts.net>

MANSON: Bldg. in Manson Village; Sun. 10, 11; Box 2, ROOM 1J0; Wilf Rogers (204) 722-2293 or Lloyd Jacobs, (204) 722-2278, elders; Ken Starnes, sec. (204) 722-2085.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE: Contact Gerald McCutcheon, 239-1817.

WINNIPEG (Central): 217 Osborne St. S., R3L 1Z4; Sun. 10 worship, 11:15 Bible School, Wed. 7; Office: (204) 475-6462 Fax: (413) 677-6165 web site: http://www.winnipegchurch.ca; Jim Hobbs, sec. for elders (204) 261- 9861; Wayne Turner, ev. (204) 257-7926 (res); wayne@winnipegchurch.ca Chad Celaire, youth min. (204) 284-6280 chad@winnipegchurch.ca

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

MONCTON: 365 Pine Glen Rd., Riverview (Moncton), E1B 4J8; Sun. 10, Wed. 7:30 p.m.; (506) 852-0919; Royal Maillet (506) 532-2956, Tim Johnson, ev., (506) 386-1682, elders. <preacher-tim@rogers.com>

SAINT JOHN: Meeting in the home of FRED NELSON, 3 Charleston Court, Quispamsis, E2E 4W9; Sunday meetings flexible; Phone (506) 847-2802 or Tom Goud, 847-2199.

PROVINCE OF NEWFOUNDLAND

ST. MARYS: Meeting in the home of Robert D. Ryan, Main Rd. Time flexible. Call (709) 525-2680 or address Robert at Box 198, St. Marys, NF A0B 3B0

NEW YORK STATE

BUFFALO (Linwood): 2523 Main St., 14214; Sun. 9:30, 10:45, 6; Training Class 5; Wed. 7; John Smiley, ev. (716) 832-7171.

NIAGARA FALLS: 359 14th St., Niagara Falls, NY, 14303. Off (716)285-6534, Home (716) 886-2871. Sunday Bible study 10 am, worship 11 am, evening 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm. Minister Eddie J. Cornelius. e-mail BROCNFCC@juno.com

NORTH BUFFALO: 350 Kenmore Ave., 14223; Sun. 10,11,7; Wed. 7:30.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

YELLOWKNIFE: 516 Range Lake Rd., X1A 3A7; Sun. 9, 11; (867) 873-3875.

Elders: Doug Ashby, Craig Robinson, Randy Straker; Steve McMillan, min.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

HALIFAX: 48 Convoey Ave., B3N 2P8; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7; ev. (902) 443-9628 (off), Wayne Taylor, sec. (902) 876-7402

DARTMOUTH: 19 Killikee Gate, Dartmouth, NS, B3B 1A7; Neil Prokop (902) 463-3629/430-9543cell, neilisaprokop@hotmail.com. Please call for Sunday worship times and midweek information

KENTVILLE: 177 Middle Dyke Rd. exit 12 off Hwy 101, Sun. 11, 10; Wed. 6; Box 26, B4N 3V9; (902) 678-8881 or Ray Fisher, ev; 582-3457; Toll free 1-866-236-7891

SHUBENACADIE: Mill Village Church, 3613 Indian Rd. 2 miles w. of Shubenacadie; Sun. 10:15, 11; Wed. 7:30; R.R. 1, B0N 2H0; D. Hallett (902) 758-2133; J. Mackey, sec., (902) 758-2633; 758-3215 (off.).

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

AJAX (Serving Durham Region): 1 Cedar St.; Sun. 9:45, 11, 7; Call for mid-week information; Box 162, L1S 3C3; Ph. (905) 683-2477(off); Edward Jermakowicz, ev., (905) 426-8465 res, <e.jermakowicz@sympatico.ca>

AURORA: 15216 Yonge St. S.; (entrance beside Mac Flemming Paints); Sun. 9:30, Wed. 7:30; P.O. Box 71523, L4G 1L9; Contact: Scott & Linda Harvey, (905) 473-5631 or leave message; e-mail <rsharvey@sympatico.ca> or Clare Preston, (905) 841-2272

BARRIE: 345 Grove St. E. (at Cook), L4M 2R6; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:00; (705) 722-7155 (off.); Claude Cox, ev. (705) 737-2272.

BEAMSVILLE: 4900 John St., L0R 1B6; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 6; Wed. 7:00; Don Smith, ev. (905) 563-7655 (off); e-mail: <don093@sympatico.ca>

BRACEBRIDGE: 14-4 Manitoaba St., P1L 1R9; (705) 645-3356; We worship at home each Sunday.

BRAMALEA: 750 Clark Blvd. (south of Hwy. 7 on Finchgate Boulevard), L6T 3Y2; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Thurs. 7:30; Walter Straker, ev. (905) 789-1632 (res.); 792-2297 (off).

BRANTFORD: 267 North Park St., N3R 4L2; Sun. 10, 11, last Sunday of month 6:30; Wed. 7; contact Ray Knight (519) 754-0401; office (519) 759-6630; Jamie Azzoparde, ev. (519) 770-4814 (res)

BRANTFORD: (Costain/Johnson Community Centre) 16 Morrell St., N3T 4J2; Sun. 10 & 11., Wed. 7; call for information on various other mid-week classes; 519-758-5673 (75-U-LORD); Rick Gamble (min.); 519-753-5353 (res.); www.followers.ca or e-mail followers@bfree.on.ca

BURKS FALLS: Seniors Building above library on Young St.; Sun. 6-7:15 p.m.; c/o Hubert Lawrence, R.R. #2, P0A 1C0; (705) 382-2026.

COLLINGWOOD: 494 Tenth St.; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7; C/O Peter Dale, 75 Peel Street, L9Y 3V5; (705) 444-0010 (office)

CORNWALL: 1702 Dover Road, K6J 1W1; Sun. 10,11; Wed. 7; Allen Bojarski, ev. Phone (613) 933-1825; Fax: (613) 933-1879; Emails: churchofchrist@cogeco.ca or abojarski@cogeco.ca; Website: http://home.cogeco.ca/~abojarski/abojarski

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

GORE BAY: W. Manitoulin church; (Gore Bay waterfront, past docks); Sun. 10:30; B14, POP 1H0; Contact John Robertson (705) 282-3499; Bill Baker (705) 282-2095.

GRIMSBY: 63 Casablanca Blvd., south of Q.E. exit; Sun. SS 11:05; Worship 9:45, 6; Wed. 7; Box 181, L3M 4G3; (905) 945-3058; Jeff Cobb, ev. (905) 309-1979

GUELPH: The Evergreen Senior Center, 683 Woolwich St.; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:30 (phone for location); c/o 428 Cole Rd., N1G 3J8; David Azzoparde, sec. (519) 821-9179.

HAILEYBURY/NEW LISKEARD: 554 Helmer Pedersen Drive, New Liskeard; Sun. 10:30; Wed. 7:30; Contacts: Jim Robertson, PO Box 1556, New Liskeard ON P0J 1P0 (705)647-5488 or Mike Tinney PO Box 702, Haileybury ON P0J 1K0 (705)672-9241

HAMILTON: 321 East 27th Street, L8V 3G8 (at Fennell) (Mt. Hamilton); Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7:30; (905) 385- 5775; Chris Gardner, sec., (905) 388-9174.

HAMILTON (North): 75 MacNab Street; Sun.10, 11 Wed. 7 Joe Sandassie, (905) 389-0714, 286 East 26th Street, Hamilton ON L8V 3E1

HAMILTON (West): Mohawk College, Fennell Ave./West 5th St.; Sun. 10, 11, (Please phone for Sun. p.m. and midweek information); P.O. Box 78041 Westcliffe PO, L9C 7N5; Wayne Page (905) 648-5100.

HEATHCOTE: Sun. 11; Larry Elford, R.R. 1, Kimberley, ON N0C 1G0.

HUNTSVILLE: Huntsville Public Library, 7 Minerva St. E., Sun. 10:30, c/o Dave Preston, (705) 789-7697, 491 Fowlers Rd., R.R.#5, Huntsville, Ont., P1H 2N5. Other contacts: Ken Smith, (705) 789-8292, Steve Watson, (705) 788-2332.

HUNTSVILLE: 36 Hilltop Dr. P1H 1C5 (off Hwy. 11BN); Sun. 9:45, 11, 7; Wed. 8; Contact John H. Preston, sec., (705) 767-3237.

ICE LAKE (Manitoulin Island): 11/4 mi. S. of Hwy. 540; 9:45, 11 a.m. Sun. & 7:30 p.m. Wed.; Les Cramp, ev. (705) 282-0974; Peter Tallman, sec., R.R. #1, Mindemoya, POP 1S0, 377-4555. email <ljcramp@manitoulin.net>

KENORA: 101 Norman Dr.; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7; P.O. Box 2905, P9N 3X8; Earl Rattai, ev., 548-2245.

KINGSTON: 446 College St., K7L 4M7; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7; David Galloway, ev.; (613) 546-5409 (off.).

KITCHENER SOUTH: Kitchener City Hall (Learning Room), 200 King St. W.; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:30 in homes; Hugh Pitcher, 171 Broken Oak Cres., Kitchener, N2N 1N8, Ph: (519) 745-2713. Other contact: Julian Smith, (519) 742-8626.

LONDON: 1750 Huron St., N5V 3A2; (519) 455-6730; Sun. 9:30, 11; Call for mid-week opportunities. Harold Byne, ev., 645-0575; FAX 645-8088

LONDON (East): 380 Adelaide North, Tolpuddle Building Common Rm., entrance off of Adelaide at King St. S. Parking in Marshall Street Lot behind building. Sun: 9:45 a.m. Exhortation; 10:05 a.m. Bible Study; 11:00 Worship; Tuesday afternoon at 1 p.m. in Board Room. Brian V. Sullivan, evangelist 905 892-6247 or bvsprchr@computan.on.ca Web site: <http://www.computan.on.ca/~bvsprchr/>

MEAFORD: 113 Nelson St.W. N4L 1G3; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Wed. 7:30; Randy Morrill and Scott Mansfield, evs; (519) 538-1750; e-mail: meafordcofc@bmts.com..

NEWMARKET: 230 Davis Dr.; Sun. 9:45, 11:00, 6:30; Wed. 7:30; Box 21581, L3Y 8J1; Clayton McLeod, sec. (905) 473-9447 895-6502 (off)

MISSISSAUGA: Living Waters Christian Fellowship. Rody and Nancy Ostil; 2305 S Millway, Unit 108, Mississauga ON L5L 3P8; Bible study and prayer every Thursday 7:30pm.; Lord's supper offered on Sundays - call for time; 905-608-2508; cell - 647-887-7794.

NIAGARA FALLS: 3901 Dorchester Rd. N., L2J 3A8, (905) 356-3412 (turn E. on Thorold Stone Rd. from Q.E. and left on Dorchester Rd.); Sun. 10:30, Wed. 7:30; Henry Boland, (905) 356-0107 and Darrin Douglas (905) 371-1581, evs.

NORTH BAY: 73 Gertrude St. E.; Sun. 10:30; Wed. 7; Box 745, P1B 8J8; (705) 472-7040 (off.); David Lock, ev. 78-345 Mulligan St. P1A 3S3; (705) 475-0911, e-mail: davidlock@acncanada.net; WebSite: www.northbaycofc.com.

OMAGH: 1412 Britannia Road W. at 4th line, Milton, L9T 2X8; Sun. 10, 11; Thurs. 7:30 in homes; c/o Harold Ellis, Sec., R.R. #3, Campbellville, L0P 1B0; (905) 878-7565; Bryan Meneer, ev. (905) 383-5259; 875-2939 (off).

OTTAWA: 1515 Chomley Cres., K1G 0V9; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7; Robert MacRury, ev., 733-2580 (off); 737-0701 (res.).

OWEN SOUND: 835 10th Ave. E., N4K 3H8; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Thurs. 7; Brian Thompson, (519) 376-6702 (off.), 372-2155 (res.) <osoc@bmts.com>

PETERBOROUGH: Chapel, Rubidge Retirement Residence (Sherbrooke & Rubidge); Sun. 10 and 10:45; Tue. 7:00 at 220 Gallagher St.; Peter McPherson, ev phone705-742-5349 or 876-7104; <petermc@peterboro.net>

PINE ORCHARD: 16716 Warden Ave (just south of Vivian Rd.) 3 km east of Newmarket; Sun. 10, 11; (905) 953-9386. Mailing address: Bruce Brandon, Sec., RR 2, Uxbridge, L9P 1R2 (905) 852-5026

PORT COLBORNE: 700 Steele St., L3K 4Z2; Sun. 11, 10, 6:30; Wed. 6:30; (905) 834-5775 (off).

ST. CATHARINES: 439 Ontario St. N., L2N 4M9; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 6; Wed. 7:30; Steve Cordle, ev.; (905) 934-3862 (res); 935-9581 (off.); Email: churchofchrist@on.aibn.com; WebSite: www.churchofchrist.n3.net

ST. CATHARINES (Garden City): UNF Hall, 77 Facer St.; Sun. 9, 10, 11; Wed. 7; c/o Roy Diestelkamp, ev. 1231/2 Keefer Rd., Thorold ON L2V 4N1, ev. 227-8336.

ST. THOMAS: 60 S. Edgeware Rd. N5P 2H6; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7

ST. THOMAS (Southside): 15 Hepburn Avenue, N5R 4J4, (519) 633-4180 Contact: David Langeman. Please call for times. email: langeman@bellnet.ca

SARNIA: 796 Errol Rd. E., N7V 2G7; Sun. 9:30, 10:45, 6:30; Wed. 7; David H. Dunn, ev.; (519)-339-1161 (off), Other contact: Steve Rastall, (519)869-2003

SAULT STE. MARIE (Eastside): 99 Melville Rd., P6A 5J6; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7:00; 705-942-9283.

SAULT STE. MARIE (Pinehill): 132 Cunningham Rd., P6B 1N4; Sun. 9:30, 10:50; call for Sun. pm time; Wed. 7; Roger Lansdell, ev. (705) 256-1977 (off/res), <r.s.lansdell@sympatico.ca>; Rob Whitfield, sec., (705) 949-7612, <rwhitfield@sympatico.ca>.

SELKIRK: 1/2 km. N. of village; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:30; Box 13, NOA 1P0.

SMITHVILLE: 246 Station St. L0R 2A0; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7. Chris Nicholson, ev. (905) 957-6039

SOUTH RIVER: Jasper St. S.; off Ottawa St. W.; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7:00; Box 549, P0A 1X0; Jim Nicholson, ev. (705) 384-5215, church bldg. (705) 386-2551.

STONEY CREEK: 105 King St. E., L8G 1L1; (905) 664-1130 (off.); Sun. 9:45, 11; Sun.; Wkdy evenings call for time and place; Darrell Buchanan, ev., (905) 643-7853 (res); Robert Priestnall, sec. email: emailus@sccoc.ca; website: www.sccoc.ca

STRATFORD: 478 Brunswick St., N5A 3N6; Sun. 10:00, Wed. Bible Study 7:30; (519) 273-5280, George Mansfield, ev. 272-1714; <gmansfield@quadro.net>; John Brush, 625-1045; Larry Hoover, 271-9545; Joseph Kippax, 744-3439.

SUDBURY: 2663 Bancroft Dr. P3B 1T7; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7:00; 566-2898; Wes Bailey, sec. 523-0933..

SUNDRIDGE: Hwy. 11 N.; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7; P.O. Box 927, P0A 1Z0; (705) 384-5214, Steve May, ev. 384-0597.

THESSALON: 8 Albert St. off Hwy. 17; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7:30; Eric White, RR 2, POR 1L0 (705) 842-6533.

THUNDER BAY: 501 Edward St. N. (at Redwood), P7C 4R1; Sun. 9:45, 11 (call for summer hours); Wed. call for information; Eric Bailey, ev. (807) 473-5353(res.), (807) 577-2213 (off.); email <ebailey@baynet.net>.

TILLSONBURG: 1 mi. N. on Hwy. 19; Sun. 9:30; Wed. 7:00; Box 331, N4G 4H8; 842-7118.

TIMMINS: 15 Cedar Street N.; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:30; Box 1396, P4N 7N2; for more information call Larry Frost, sec./treas., (705) 268-4526.

TINTERN: R.R. #1, 4359 Spring Creek Rd., Vineland, ON L0R 2C0; Sun. 11:15, 9:45, 6 (call to confirm); Wed. 7:00; Jim Holston, ev. (905-563-6348 (res), 563-6311 (off).

TORONTO (Bayview Ave.): 1708 Bayview Ave., M4G 3C4 (1 block S. of Eglinton); Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:30; Michael Hilborn, 63 Campbell Ave., M6P 3T9; (416) 489-7405 (off.).

TORONTO (Harding Ave.): 47 Harding Ave., M6M 3A3; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 8; Dick Forsyth, ev., Beamsville, 563-7874; Aikins Wiredu, sec., 242-8731

TORONTO (Strathmore Blvd.): 346 Strathmore Blvd. M4C 1N3 (across from Coxwell subway station); 416-461-7406; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Wed. 7; Marvin Johnson (416) 752-0325, Stephen Gill (416) 265-2496, Peter Dwomoh (416) 462-3616; Jean Volcy (416) 267-6820, Elders; Max Craddock, ev. (416) 461-7406, e-mail <maxc@strathmorecofc.ca>; Fax (416) 424-1850; Santiago Molina (Spanish) (416) 751-6879, ev, website: www.strathmorecofc.ca

TRENTON-BELLEVILLE: Sun. 9:45; 10:45; p.m. in homes; Canterbury Hall, Trenton; Tues. p.m. in homes; P.O. Box 22049, Trenton Center, Trenton, ON K8V 6S3; M. McDonnell (613) 969-0741; Don Snure (613) 392-8088

VANDELEUR: E. off Hwy #10 (2 km S. of Markdale) along Artemesia Township sideroad 10 7 km; Sun. 10, 11; Ian Boyce, sec., R.R. #6, Markdale, N0C 1H0; (519) 986-2143. Gordon Dennis, 240 Elgin St. N., Box 274, Mount Forest, N0G 2L0; (519) 323-2424

WATERLOO: 470 Glenelm Cres., N2L 5C8; (519) 885-6330 (off); Sun. 9:30, 10:30, and 6:00 (except 4th Sunday), Wed 7:30; Javier Cuarezma, ev. (519) 743-2587 (res); Bill Schwarz, ev. (519) 571-1047 (res).

WALKERTON: Victoria Jubilee Hall; 111 Jackson st.; Sun 10 a.m. and 11a.m.; Gregory Smith (519) 392-8128; Mailing- RR2 Teeswater, ON N0G 2S0; email- gregory@gregorycnsmith.com

WELLAND: 72 Summit Ave., L3C 4G6; 11, 10, 6:30; Wed. 6:30 David Stewart, 834-5652; Harold Bruggen, ev. 732-2465

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., 3713 Shinglecreek Crt., Windsor, N8W 5T8; (519) 250-4407; email: wsidecoc@wincom.net; www.geocities.com/wsidecoc.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

Laval (French): 670, J.-J. Joubert, Laval, Quebec, H7G 4J1; Sun. 10:00, 11:00; Wed. 7:30 (French class); Sylvain Arseneault, ev. (450) 668-3133 eglise.laval@bellnet.ca

MONTREAL (French): 2500 Charland, H1Z 1C5; Sun. 10:15, 11:00; Wed. 7:00 (Fr. class); 1st Sat. 6:30 p.m. "Phoebe" women's class; last Sat. 6:00 youth meeting; Silvio Caddeo, ev., 387-6163 (off.); 337-9344 (res.); email: <caddeo@sympatico.ca>.

MONTREAL (English/French/Ashante/Ghanian): 2401 St. Jacques; Sun. 10, 11, 6:30; Wed. 7:30 (English); Fri. 7 (French); PO Box 66 Westmount Station, H3Z 2T1; James Bell, ev. (514) 683-1638 (res), (514) 934-0400 (work).

MONTREAL (Verdun): 503-5th Avenue, Verdun, QC H4G 2Z2; (514) 765-8919; (French) Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7; Roger Saumur, ev. (450) 635-5105; rogersaumur@sympatico.ca; <http://www3.sympatico.ca/rogersaumur/>; (English) Sun. 11, 10; Wed. 7

PLESSISVILLE: Centre Communautaire, André Côté, CP21, G6L 2Y6; Sun. 11, 10; Yvon Beaudoin, (418) 653-3493.

QUEBEC CITY: 2980 Vertheuil, Ste-Foy (corner Jean-Noel); Sun. 9:30, 10:30 (French); Wed. 19:30; C.P. 9041 Ste-Foy, G1V 4A8; Yvon Beaudoin, ev. (418) 728-5240; office 418-651-3664.

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

BENGOUGH: E. side Hwy. 34; Sun. 10:30, 11:15; Norman Kemp, Box 134, SOC 0K0; (306) 268-4522.

ESTEVA: 1302 8th St., S4A 1H6; 634-3116; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7; Tim Pippus, ev., 634-8195, res.

GRAVELBOURG: 300-2nd Ave. E.; Sun. 10:30, Box 507, SOH 1X0; Wendell Bailey, ev (306) 648-3435; Marvin Bandura, Sec. 648-3629

HORSE CREEK: Sun. 10:30 (May-Nov.); 11 (Dec.-Apr.); Lonnie Goodwin, Box 58, McCord, SOH 2T0; (306) 478-2516.

LLOYDMINSTER: 56 Ave. and 47 St., Box 88, S9V 0X9; Sun. 9:30, 10:30; Roland Bouchard, ev.; (780) 875-4056; email: lloydccoc@telus.net

MOOSE JAW: 901 James St. S6H 3H5; Sun. 10, 11, 2; Wed. 7:30 (CST); (306) 693-4064 (off.).

NORTH BATTLEFORD: 1462-110 St., S9A 2J2; Sun. 10, 11; Box 804, Wilkie, S0K 4W0; Contact: Owen Davies, (306) 843-2210

PERRYVILLE: Meetings in the home of Sheldon Perry; Phone (306) 835-2681; Mail to Box 496, Wynyard, S.

PRINCE ALBERT: 264-23rd St. W., S6V 4L6; Sun. 10, 11; 763-3057 (off.); Dean Hotchkiss, ev. (306) 763-2218. Contact Bob Jenkins, 764-6187

RADVILLE: in private Residence at (810 Mann Ave.); Richard Thuc, sec., Box 532, SOC 2G0; (306) 869-3103 (res.).

REGINA: 1825 Rothwell St. S4N 2C3; (306) 757-1825; FAX 757-5727; Please call for times; Ray McMillan, senior min., 949-0969

SASKATOON: Sunday, coffee & fellowship 9:30, Worship 10, Wed. 7; Office: 343-7922; Bob Parker, ev. 343-7884; location & mail, 134 Cardinal Cres. S7L 6H6; Fax: 343-1589; e-mail: <stoncofc@sk.sympatico.ca>

SWIFT CURRENT: 400 2nd Ave. S.E., S9H 3J6; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 6:30; Susan Eidem, sec., 306-773-9043.

WAWOTA: Hwy. 48 W. of town; Sun. 10; Mid-week call; Box 454, S0G 5A0; (306) 739-2103 (off); Brent Olson, minister, 306-739-2546 or contact Cam Husband, 306-538-4585 or G. McMillan, (306) 538-4654.

WEYBURN: 1115 First Ave. NE (Hwy. 13E), S4H 0N2; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 7; Wed. 7; Scott Wade, ev. (306) 842-6424 (off); (306) 848-2032 (res).

WHITEWOOD: Legion Hall, 738 Lalonda St.; Sun. 11; Midweek call; Box 1798 Esterhazy, S0A 0X0; Contact Merle Nelson for more information; (306) 745-2311.

YORKTON: 550 Parkview Rd., S3N 2L7; Sun. 11:00; contact Garth Ennis (306) 728-3369.

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To apply (resume and references required) or for more information, please contact:

Deanna Cook, Principal
Western Christian High School
PO Box 5000
Dauphin, Manitoba R7N 2V5
Phone: (204) 638-8801 ext 234
Fax (204) 638-7054
Email: dcook@westernchristian.ca