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# **Deadly Spiritual Deceptions**

(FOUR IN A SERIES OF SIX)

Thayer Salisbury

## "Baptism Is Only a Sign"

am not sure where this happened, or if it happened. Perhaps it is just an "urban legend." Supposedly, a policeman stopped a motorist for speeding, but when the driver explained that those were only signs, the deputy let him go. Do you believe that? I thought not. You do not believe that story. Neither do I.

No sign is only a sign. Signs exist only to point to a greater reality. No policeman would listen to such nonsense. Neither should we.

When Satan whispers, "It is only a sign" we should immediately smell the sulfur. The words "only" and "sign" do not belong together. Traffic signs point to the fact that the governing authorities have established laws and that there will be consequences for breaking those laws.

Symbolic actions, divinely authorized signs, like baptism, cannot be dismissed with words like "merely" or "only". Signs exist to signify something. What does baptism signify according to the scriptures?

## An Admission of Our Helplessness

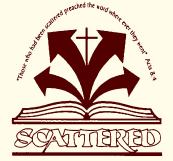
Baptism is an admission that we cannot save ourselves.

Many years ago I studied under a professor who had a clipping of a denominational preacher's question column from an old newspaper. This preacher was once asked, "What must we do to be saved?" The preacher replied, "I know of no better place to go for the answer to this question than the answer Peter gave to those who first asked. His answer was 'repent ... for the forgiveness of your sins.' So, you see, all we need to do is repent and we are saved."

I wish that were just an urban legend, but sadly that is true. Someone really had the gall to cut the middle out of Peter's reply in that way.

Very likely the preacher would have justified himself by claiming that he did not want people to think that they saved themselves by good works. But his tampering with scripture actually leads to the very error he would have claimed to be avoiding.

So many people think that they have saved themselves by saying a prayer, or by repenting, or by believing firmly. All of these are forms of self-salvation. The person saved by saying a prayer or the person saved by repentance has saved himself. But the person who sees that the forgiveness of sins is promised in baptism, sees that he has not saved himself. He has been saved by what was done to him and for him. In baptism, we are passive. Baptism, when properly administered, points clearly to the great truth that we cannot save ourselves but that we are saved by what is done to us and for us.



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### For a Good Conscience

Baptism is also an appeal to God for a fresh start, for a good conscience. "Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you,

### NOTICE:

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There is a translation difficulty associated with this verse. Is it saying that baptism is a pledge or an answer that we return to God because our conscience is good and we seek his blessing to keep it that way (KJV & NIV)? Or is baptism an appeal to God to grant us a clear conscience (ESV & NASV)? I prefer the latter, but when so many scholars have looked at this and confessed that the exact nuance is unknown, who am I to say?

Either way, it is clear that baptism involves God granting us cleansing, not of body but of the spirit. If we seek a clear conscience, surely we will not refuse

a means God has provided-whether that means is meant to obtain the goal in question or is meant to seal and continue a process already begun.

### **Entrance Into Christ**

Think of all the things that are said to be available to us "in Christ." Redemption is in Christ (Rom 3:24). Life is in Christ (Rom 6:11.23). Freedom from condemnation is in Christ (Rom Sanctification is 8:1). in Christ (1 Cor 1:2). The Grace of God is in Christ (1 Cor 1:4). In fact, all the promises of God are found in Christ (2 Cor 1:20).

Realizing this, surely we want to be in Christ. But how do we get there. Galatians 3:27 tells us plainly, "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ."

Early one Sunday morning I found a young man sitting on the ground outside our building. The temperature was well below freezing, and the wind was blowing. He was wearing light clothing, not suitable for Autumn let alone Winter. His eyes were open, but he was unresponsive when I talked to him. I took a blanket to him, but he refused to put it on. He stared at it and allowed me to lay it on the ground beside him, but he would not put it on, and as long as he refused to put it on, it did him no good.

In a case of physical danger like this we can phone 911, and we did. The paramedics took him to the hospital where doctors said he was minutes away from losing his fingers and toes, and not far from losing his life.

But in cases of a parallel spiritual danger we cannot dial 911. People may say that they appreciate Christ, but if they will not put him on, what is the use? How will they enjoy the benefits found in Christ while insisting that they have no need to get into Christ by putting him on in baptism?

## **Wash Away Sins**

Finally, we note that baptism is the God appointed means by which our sins are washed away. Saul of Tarsus believed on the road. He called Jesus "Lord" on the road (Acts 22:8). He entered the city according to instruc-

> tions, there he prayed and fasted for days (Acts 9:9-11). But his sins were washed away in baptism (Acts 22:16).

Satan has misled so many with the "only a sign" deception. He has caused people who did not want to fall into selfsalvation to fall into it. He has caused people who wanted to obey Jesus to resist something Jesus commanded. If vou believe in Jesus, but you have not been baptized, you certainly need to be. It is not a work by which you will save vourself. It is a means of submitting to Jesus to allow him to save you by what is done to us and for us.



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# EDMORIAL

# Restoration

Wayne Turner



ow long has it been since you have heard or read something about Restoration or the Restoration Movement. For some, Restoration seems only to be part of our heritage—an anachronistic remnant of an old and now irrelevant past. But, is Restoration now simply part of the

past? Or is it something for us today?

In January, 2018, the Christian Chronicle (CC), in an editorial, "In 2018, who are the Churches of Christ?" reported that several students at universities associated with Churches of Christ, "didn't claim to be part of our fellowship." These students asserted that the Churches of Christ, as a body, are "no longer non-denominational... we're not following the call to strip away man-made doctrines and practice simple, Bible-based, New Testament Christianity." The editorial understandably observes that "It is time—past time, really—for us to examine our identity, to dive into God's Word without the blinders or our preconceptions and ask what God requires of us." As part of this, the CC plans a series of reports and features on the Churches of Christ in the United States.

For many years, there have been ongoing discussions about whether or not the Churches of Christ are a denomination. Many have voiced the concern that non-denominational bodies can become denominations. Monroe Hawley, in "Redigging the Wells" (1976), challenged the Churches of Christ to be truly non-sectarian and non-denominational in their pursuit of Restoration. Without intending to, we can easily project a denominational, sectarian image, even in our use of "Church (or Churches) of Christ." Even with the best of non-sectarian intentions, we can sound denominational by referring to "Church of Christ" churches or schools. On the other hand, the Disciples of Christ, historically rooted in the Restoration Movement, formally evolved into a denomination. Elmer Towns, well-known Baptist, in "Is the Day of the Denomination Dead?" showed that many Baptists, who believed themselves to be autonomous and non-denominational. did in fact fit the definition.

We should keep a couple of things in mind as we consider this idea. First, movements can lose their edge—their attention and focus. Vital principles can morph into traditions. People can lose sight of why things were followed and done. What would happen if baptism was relegated to being merely a tradition? Or church leadership, organization or worship were determined by popular vote rather than Biblical teaching? Second, throughout history, especially in the Bible, there has been a recurring cycle as God's

people have drifted away then been restored only to drift again. In the Restoration Movement, people disturbed by religious division and non-Biblical teachings and practices have joyfully participated in a vibrant discovery of Biblical truth and a return to New Testament Christianity.

Jesus pointed out that the Pharisees of His day were very zealous for keeping God's law. The problem was that in the process, they missed the larger picture—as He called it, "straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel." They faithfully tithed everything, yet neglected the "weightier matters of the law—love, justice and mercy." The pursuit of Restoration has led to a zeal for doctrinal correctness. Is it possible to be doctrinally correct yet still swallow camels—to miss the heart of our faith and life?

Restoration is a very complex discussion and study. This was evidenced by "What Lack We Yet?" (1974), edited by J. D. Thomas, in which over 45 brethren identified points they felt were lacking among the Churches of Christ. (We might wonder how much division would be created trying to discuss these views.) In an interview with the Christian Chronicle, in 2007, Monroe Hawley suggested, "We need to shift our focus from doctrinal correctness to the person of Jesus Christ, and by our practice demonstrate to the world what it means to be Christians only."

The purpose of the Gospel Herald is the "Promotion of New Testament Christianity." It is to contribute to the work of Restoring the Restoration—helping all of us to see and be the body of Christ on earth, as it was in the time of the early church. Obviously, it is not to repeat the mistakes of the early church. It is to learn and follow the "faith once for all delivered to the saints." The Church is the body of Christ—we will not be content with anything less.

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# MAXESMUSINGS

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# Jesus is My...

ur life is about relationship. While a person can choose to live a life without developing what can be called "good friends" living without sharing with others is clearly second choice. As Cledith and I have gone though the "work" of down-sizing many things have been given away to places like Value Village so others, who may be able to use these items, can get them for a reduced price.

One thing we have been repeatedly reminded of in the process is that, big in the process, we do not want to jettison the wonderful friendships we have made over the years. Even though we may not see or visit with some of these people very often memory of them brightens our life. Recently I was thinking back to our wedding in 1961. That caused me to think of the brother who stood with me as "the second-best man" whom I had not seen for many years. I knew that his wife had passed away so wondered how things were going with him. I got his number and called. It was a wonderful hour spent on the phone catching up and I look forward to more conversations.

So, thinking about the value of friends, finish the title above. Describe your relationship with Jesus the Christ. There are several words that come to mind which are powerful and important. One of the first is likely, "Lord". Without question, in our daily life and walk, we must acknowledge Jesus as Lord and our daily walk must be with Him, 1 John 1:7, that keeps us properly focused in our life.

Hopefully every day we remind ourselves that Jesus is our Saviour. When we gather on Lord's day with brothers and sisters in Christ and commune at the Lord's Table, it is a very rich time of connection with our Saviour and with the family of believers in Christ.

In thinking of the continual love and care of the Lord for us we may think of Him as our shepherd. John chapter 10 gives the wonderful truth that Jesus is our shepherd with all that meant at the time. He said "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep...I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep" – John 10:11, 14, 15 – ESV.

Perhaps one of our sweetest relationships is what Jesus said to His disciples in "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved vou. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another" - John 15:12-17 (ESV). How many times do we sing the wonderful words of the hymn, "What a Friend we have in Jesus" but still overlook the joy of being able to sing such words, and know they are true!! What privilege to have been chosen by the Lord Jesus Christ himself to be His friend.

In singing this song and in thinking about this precious friendship, we are not into "name dropping". Some people take great pride in calling the names of people they know who, in the eyes of this world, are important. However, understanding that "our friend" is the Lord should cause us to bow down in humble thankfulness that this blessing is ours to enjoy and give us confidence for the challenges of the day.

Based on the message of Jesus to His disciples in John 15, He knows me and you and every sheep in His pasture by name. I do not have to key in my user name and password, HE KNOWS MY NAME.

Understand, friendship is born out of choice. When Jesus called His disciples to be "His friends", it was based on love, not obligation. Those He called, including us, could have decided to reject His invitation. Many did. Remember these words of Jesus, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing"! - Matthew 23:37 (ESV). Sadly for many, their friendship with the world will not allow them to commit to this friendship extended by the Lord, James 4:1-4. Sadly, Judas was such a one.

Jesus has been up front with us that there will be consequences in following Him. The sermon on the mount begins with a description of the manner of life necessary for any who would be His friend. He said, "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account" – Matthew 5:10, 11 (ESV). That does not sound very encouraging, however He goes on to say, "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you" verse 12.

Think about it. Jesus tells us going in that if we are His friendand thereby the friend of His Father—we will suffer sometimes. They persecuted the prophets, why? They persecuted Jesus, why? They persecuted the apostles and members of the early church, why? Jesus answers the question in John 15:25. "But the word that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: 'They hated me without a cause". Jesus knew that what would be most distressing about the approaching persecution was that it would make no sense! He foresaw that it would be "without a cause"!

Jesus gave reasons why His disciples, then and now, could/can expect persecution. First, since He has called His friends to come out of the world they/we are seen as different. Secondly, since the world does not know nor accept Jesus as Lord true believers are seen as odd and, by many, as judgemental and condemning. Jesus says it this way, "And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and

people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God" - John 3:19-21 (ESV). Perhaps the bottom line is that Christians have been mistreated in many different ways over the years, because a living sermon is hard to overlook. What can possibility be offensive about the Christian life? Why do people react so negatively to the Christian example? Jesus said it best, "those who love the darkness hate the light." (Perhaps this is why many people rejoice to see those who follow the example of those at Laodicea.)

Thankfully, as we live the Christian life today we have some advantages in our battle against the god of this world. We have the Holy Spirit to strengthen us for and in the battle. When we set our mind on doing the will of God, the Spirit will strengthen us for the battle. (1 Corinthians 10:13).

Also, to be forewarned is to be forearmed. We have been warned by the Lord that living for Him will not always be "a walk in the park". Later in the Bible we have the warning as stated by Peter, "Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange

were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you" – 1 Peter 4:12-14 (ESV).

Certainly, here in North America our tests of faith are different than those faced by the people of Peter's day, yet we need to hear his words about the trouble that we will face.

It is true that even today in some places in the world the opposition faced by Christians is severe. Some have been beaten and imprisoned. Some have had their homes burned, or their church meetings have to be held in secret. Sadly, sometimes the most intense "persecution" faced by Christians is in their own home and by their own family.

Every Christian should make every effort to have peaceful relationships with those with whom they interact from day to day. However, Satan is going to do whatever he can to see that pressure against Christians is as constant and strong as it can possibility be. Paul wrote to the brethren in Rome, "If possible, so far as it depends on you. live peaceably with all" - Romans 12:18 (ESV). This will not always be possible since some of our spiritual opponents will not let matters rest, and we will have to face persecution. An old expression is, "My mother always said there would be days like this." Well, as you commit to living for your friend, Jesus, remember that He said, "there will be days like this".

Remember also, when you face those days, "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us" – Ephesians 3:20 (ESV).

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# THROUGHALWOWANESTEVES

Articles for this page or reactions to it should be sent to: GHbywomen4women@aol.com
Virginia Hipwell, Editor



## The Best Valentine Gift

Tt's February. The shortest and possibly the most unpopular month of the year. February brings with it that annual quandary-what do I give my spouse (or future spouse) for Valentine's Day? Some might think, "I will just give him/her my love the same as I do every day." Actually, you can't really "give" love. The dictionary defines love as "a deep devotion or affection for another person or persons". And in listing the various synonyms for love (e.g. devotion, affection) states, "Love is the strongest term, describing the warmest, most intense regard of one person for another." What all that means is, love is internal. It cannot be given away, it can only be expressed and demonstrated in some way. Charles Swindoll points out the best way to demonstrate your love. "The greatest gift you can give to your marriage partner is your purity, your fidelity."<sup>2</sup> Why should this be considered the greatest gift? Purity and fidelity are godly character traits which, more than anything else, accurately reveal the depth of ones love for their spouse.

Marriage was the first relationship to exist between two people. It was ordained by our Creator for our benefit. God's plan for marriage can be seen in Genesis 2:24. "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh" (NIV 1984). That is what God meant for mar-

riage to be. One man, one woman united for life in a union that takes precedence over other relationships. Joined in a unique bond with such physical and emotional depth that the two are described as becoming one flesh. Sexual intimacy is an important component of this union and was intended to be exclusive to marriage.

"Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral" – Hebrews 13:4 (NIV 1984).

However, it did not take long for man to corrupt God's perfect plan. In Genesis 4:19, we see that Lamech married two women bringing polygamy into the world. Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed because of their sexual immorality and perversion (Jude 7). Leviticus 18 gives a list of sexual no-no's so that the Israelites would understand exactly what God meant when He said they were not to behave like the pagan nations around them.

The New Testament does not go into such a detailed list but rather tends to lump all sexual activity outside of the marriage bond as sexual immorality. New Testament writers had much to say on the subject as the Greco-Roman culture of their day was very much like ours in its lack of morals. Then as now, sexual purity and fidelity were ridiculed rather than esteemed as the valuable

qualities they really are. They are God's will for His children and the solid foundation of any truly happy marriage.

Jesus taught that sexual sins are not simply a physical act but start in the heart (Matthew 15:19). In fact, He said adultery may take place solely in the heart (Matthew 5:28). Sexual immorality was among the short list of things the Gentile Christians were told to avoid in Acts 15:20, 29. It is first on the list of acts of the sinful nature given in Galatians 5:19. There are many passages in the New Testament which warn us of the danger of sexual sins. Romans 13:13; 1 Corinthians 10:8; Ephesians 5:3; Colossians 3:5 and Hebrews 12:16 are some of them.

Our society has believed Satan's big lie that sexual activity is natural and should not be repressed in any way. Like many of Satan's deceptions, there is a small grain of truth to it. Sexual desires are natural. God intends them to draw a husband and wife into an intimate bond not shared with anyone else. To do otherwise tarnishes the union and cheats those involved out of marriage's richest blessings. Sex is more than a physical act. It affects our brain chemistry, our emotions and our self-worth. Outside of marriage, it is a sin which separates us from God and prevents us from entering the kingdom of Heaven. (1 Corinthians 6:9, 10; Revelation 21:8, 22:15).

Paul did not mince words when he wrote about the need for sexual purity. "Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body" – 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 (ESV).

"God's will is for you to be holy, so stay away from all sexual sin. Then each of you will control his own body and live in holiness and honor—not in lustful passion like the pagans who do not know God and his ways. Never harm or cheat a Christian brother in this matter by violating his wife, for the Lord avenges all such sins, as we have solemnly warned you before. God has called us to live holy lives, not impure lives. Therefore, anyone who refuses to live by these rules is not disobeying human teaching but is rejecting God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you" - 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 (NLT).

How does sexual purity and fidelity express your love for your spouse? It speaks volumes about you and what you value.

It says, I value God's will. I realize God knows what is best for me and those I love and that by following His will my marriage will be the best it possibly can be.

It says, I value myself. I will not allow the chance of momentary physical gratification to rob me of the rich blessings God has provided through marriage.

It says, I value my mate. I want my mate to know that I love him/ her above all others and want the best for him/her. Therefore, I will not hurt my spouse by contaminating our relationship through sexual immorality.

"Drink water from your own well—share your love only with your wife.

Why spill the water of your springs in the streets, having sex with just anyone?

You should reserve it for yourselves. Never share it with strangers.

Let your wife be a fountain of blessing for you. Rejoice in the wife of your youth.

She is a loving deer, a graceful doe. Let her breasts satisfy you always. May you always be captivated by her love.

Why be captivated, my son, by an immoral woman, or fondle the breasts of a promiscuous woman?

For the Lord sees clearly what a man does, examining every path he takes.

## **Guidelines for News Pages**

The News Pages give fellow Christians a glimpse into other congregations and their good works along with the spreading of the Good News in their little corner of God's kingdom. When you help and encourage God's servants, you become a fellow worker with them in spreading the truth. The brotherhood faces a challenging moment. Twisted doctrines fly from congregation to congregation. Denominational and postmodern influences flow freely.

We, as a board of directors and editors of the Gospel Herald, seek to serve a brotherhood that sets Scripture as its infallible and only guide, that finds in the New Testament its pattern for work and worship and that depends upon the power of God's Spirit to function in the world in following our Saviour. We also seek to highlight those congregations and saints who follow those convictions. It is a difficult task, one for which we are all too aware of our inadequacies.

Here are some guidelines we would like you to refer to when presenting news for the news pages.

- 1) Significant Birthdays 80 +
- 2) Significant Anniversaries 50 +
- 3) Baptisms
- 4) Deaths
- 5) Good news/Outreach that the congregation wants to share with others
- 6) Good works to share with others
- 7) Gospel Meetings
- 8) Special days (homecomings, friend days, etc.)
- 9) Results of your good works, gospel meetings, etc.

An evil man is held captive by his own sins; they are ropes that catch and hold him.

> He will die for lack of self-control; he will be lost because of his great foolishness."

### – Proverbs 5:15-20 (NLT)

- 1 Funk & Wagnalls Canadian School Dictionary; Fitzhenry & Whiteside, Ltd., Toronto, ON 1974
- 2 Wisdom for the Way by Charles R. Swindoll; J. Countryman, Nashville, TN, 2001, p. 81

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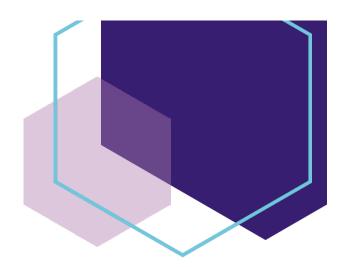
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by Harold Bruggen Church of Christ, Box 416 Fenwick, ON LOS 1C0 Email: Harold Bruggen at hbruggen@gmail.com

### **NEW YORK**

LaSalle (Niagara Falls): A New Year and a New Start! On January 21 & 28, in our Sunday morning sermon times we talked about the future. We shared matters regarding the church and the upcoming changes. We talked about some tasks and opportunities facing the LaSalle church. As we continue in the process of looking for a new pulpit minister, we realize this process is new and can feel mind-boggling to many of us, especially if we haven't been involved in one before. But as a family in the Lord, under the direction of the Holy Spirit,

we come together in prayer as we seek the minister the Lord is calling to LaSalle.

### **ONTARIO**

Barrie: We are preparing for this year's Georgian Night project in which we invite Georgian College students to four Friday night suppers and game sessions, starting January 26. Friend's Day is planned for Sunday March 4 with Peter McDonald as speaker, and planning is advancing for the Young Adult Weekend in late April. A busy winter and spring for us in Barrie, and we request your prayers.

Fenwick: A candlelight service, reviewing the life of Christ through prophecy and fulfillment, was held Sunday, December 24. Harold and Eva MacDonald held their annual Christmas open house and Ross and Gary Gilbert had an open house for the New Year.

**Tintern:** This past fall Tintern began hosting Friday Night Connect once a month. It's a time for any members to come and participate in a meal, with some social time and a devotional time. A mentoring program has started at Tintern with 12 mentors and 12 mentees participating. They will meet monthly until September and share encouragement and guidance with each other. The first weekend of December there was a marriage retreat in Clarksburg. Tintern members helped support three families through The Village of Hope during the holiday season. Sunday January 7 was Tintern's baby dedication. We welcomed Isaak Moore (son of Patrick & Katy), Knox Mogford (son of Jas & Justine), Kiana Dickie (daughter of Byron & Laura) and Kinsley Whitehead (daughter of Shawn & Samantha). Parents, grandparents and friends gathered to surround these kids in prayer. The Masumbuko family, a refugee family that we have adopted, continues to adapt to their new surroundings here in Canada. The adults attend English classes and joined our FriendSpeak readers on Wednesday night. For more information on what's happening at Tintern: www.facebook.com/TinternChurchOfChrist and/or www.tinternchurchofchrist.ca

Toronto (Bayview): Bayview has been blessed to have capable men, who have taught and preached when necessary. On December 17 Kaso Ramcharitar spoke, using Romans 6:12-23 as his text. And on January 7 Michael Hilborn consolidated much of the material presented by the Apologetics Press videos, being used on Wednesday evenings. He challenged the factual nature of evolution, presenting the theory as a hypothesis with many problems, and made suggestions on how to defend our faith. We have been happy to welcome many visitors to Bayview over the holidays, while some of our number have been away.

**Toronto (Strathmore Blvd):** Jean Volcy travelled to Haiti in December

to spend time with the congregation at Fond-Parisien and spent two Sundays helping the congregation with teaching, encouraging and preparing some of the men of the congregation to lead the mid-week services and worship services. They are also receiving help from the brothers in the church at Port-au-Prince with someone from that congregation coming to preach on Sundays. As usual a New Years Eve get together was enjoyed by the congregation as they joined in a time of games, enjoying snacks, a devotional period as they welcomed 2018. The theme for 2018 is "Be a Model of Good Works", which comes from Titus 2:7. This is an important theme for all of us as we realize the importance of presenting ourselves as a pattern of good conduct, holy living

# Anjul Enterprises

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## **Bookkeeping & Tax Preparation**

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"Andrea has filed Joyce's and my income tax papers the past several years promptly, effectively and cheerfully. No problems. I heartily recommend her services" Ralph Perry and integrity - Matthew 5:16. Starting January 6, the men will be gathering the first Saturday of each month for a breakfast a time of devotion and discussion/fellowship, helping build closer relationships and edify one another. The plan to begin filming for Key To The Kingdom, after taking December off to give the crew a break, was changed by the weather which did not allow for Max to make the trip to Toronto. The next filming date planned is Friday, February 2. Our latest report from Vision shows our number of viewing homes on Friday is holding between 15 & 16 thousand each Friday morning. Continue to pray for this outreach and support the work by telling your friends about the program, your prayers, and, if possible, your financial support. Cheques should be written to: Strathmore Blvd. Church of Christ and sent to Church of Christ, 346 Strathmore Blvd, Toronto, ON M4C 1N3 with Kev on the memo line.

Waterloo: We have begun a new study in the adult Bible class on Wednesdays staring this week on New Testament Doctrines. We are considering main teachings of the New Testament, beginning with lessons on the deity, humanity, death and resurrection of Jesus. You are welcome to join us! Congratulations to Geoff and Doreen Ellis who celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. Thank you for your example of enduring love! All were invited to a New Years Eve Party at the building. From 7:00 pm to Midnight we gathered at the building for games and a New Year's countdown. There was a kid's countdown earlier (around 9:00) so parents could get their children home, and also a midnight one for those willing to stay. We spent a month of fasting for the month of January. The idea was to give up buying things that we did not need, such as a daily coffee, and then contributing the money saved from this to help the people suffering in Venezuela. We are planning a Honouring Marriage Date Night on Saturday Feb. 17. This is an intercongregational and community event.



-WEST-



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

(BC news supplied by Barbara Lewis)

### **ALBERTA**

Edmonton northside: Congratulations to Marg Johnson and Harry Jacques who were married February 3. Sunday Bible Class is the study of Jude. The ladies are studying James. Our care groups are studying 52 weeks with Jesus.

### **BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Abbotsford (Central Valley): Upon Their return from three weeks of visiting the First Nations people and other stops along the way, the Weirs were surprised to receive a notice that they would have to vacate the Boy Scout facility the church has used for the past seven years as a meeting place. The owners of the building, "Big Brothers", said they had found a long-range renter, but offered them a very nice referral to present to anyone else who might be interested in renting to them. Norm and Jen immediately started their search for a suitable place not only for the worship services, but also social gatherings on occasion. In spite of Abbotsford's amazing growth as a city over the years, vacant buildings are hard to find. However, the first week of January, a space in the Columbia Bible College was offered to them and accepted, with their first meeting scheduled for January 7. Members all had to be notified, and given directions, but it was not going to add very much mileage for those coming in from Chilliwack or other parts of town. Another plus was that, although a bigger room, the price will actually be a little less than their former rental fee.

**Delta:** One of our elders, Larry Hoff, introduced the new theme for

the Delta church for 2018 on the second Sunday of the New Year, reading from Psalms 81:8 -16, in which God is speaking directly to His people, Israel, to warn them of the dangers of not listening to Him, followed then by promises of what all He would do to their enemies and how much He would reward them if they would only follow His ways. In a recent letter from the Ukrainian couple we are supporting, they included pictures of the burn unit of one of the hospitals they had been to visit.

Salmon Arm: We had new pictures and reports from the "Zambia Babies Milk Fund" as well as Warren Schultz in Africa and a request for prayers from Dane Bengard as he works as a chaplain in the High Desert Maximum Security Prison System in Arizona.

**Surrey:** Our annual New Year's Eve party had a new name this year: it is now called "Fellowship Fun Evening" and that's exactly what it was, with a larger number of people bringing friends, donated gifts, an abundance of food, and surprises for all.

### MANITOBA

Winnipeg (Central): Mountains of Fun on the Prairies Youth Ski Retreat was held. This year's theme is Holy Smoke! Meeting God on the Mountain. Kevin Vance, Phillip Kingsley and Curtis Abraham were guest speakers.

# **Pictures & Reports**

We are always looking for items concerning outreach and service activities of congregations across Canada. Pictures are worth a thousand words, they say, and we like to have pictures we can publish on mission outreach and service projects in evangelism, teaching and doing service. These may be of work done in Canada or by Canadian congregational groups who travel and serve outside of Canada. Good quality digital photographs allow us to see, be encouraged by and praise God for these activities of our fellow Christians. We look forward to being able to share these "good news reports" with readers of the Gospel Herald.



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



### **HEALING HANDS**

**INTERNATIONAL:** The year 2016 marked the 25th anniversary of the Healing Hands ministry, and it was noted as a milestone to remember God's faithfulness and how far He has brought us with the help of so many people. God challenged the Israelites that He had brought through the Jordan to build a monument to remember the spot where He had delivered them. In 2003, a door was opened for the water well ministry to begin. This year we will drill our one thousandth well. A milestone, as we realize that it means over 2,000,000 people in 11 countries now have clean water to drink.

ISRAEL: As a result of Erol Dogan's outstanding defense of the plan that God has had for two nations of people to live at peace with one another in the Holy Land from the beginning, he was invited to participate in a similar type of forum at Canada Place on January 29. Labeled "Missionsfest", he will share and promote what New Testament Christianity is all about, introducing the fact that it can be found in a few churches already in existence if one is diligent in comparing what a majority of protestant churches teach against what they will find written in the New Testament. When God's Word is put up against the creeds, laws written and promoted by men, and many of today's "modern" religious organizations built upon some man's foundation. honest people truly looking for God's truth to live by will be able to see the difference.

# ATTENTION!! What Churches In India Have Touched In Houston!

This is part of a letter from an American congregation that recently received a check from India Missions—for hurricane relief. The money that made this check possible came from a congregation of the Lord's church in India! "...we want to express our deepest gratitude for the recent gift to be used in relief aid for losses from Hurricane Harvey. We know that many of your members sacrificed deeply to help us. The fact that you would think of us and send such a generous gift, when your own members face so many personal challenges, is simply overwhelming. In II Corinthians 8, when Paul speaks of the love of the churches in Macedonia, he could just as easily be speaking of the church there (in India)." Some congregations in India have chosen to participate in the Macedonian Project, a plan to give congregations of the Lord's church in India (comprised mostly of very poor brethren) an opportunity to send aid to American congregations to assist with relief efforts in response to the rash of hurricanes in our country. I cannot overstate what a unique and ground-breaking act of faith and growth in Christ this is by Indian Christians. When have you heard of a mission field sending funds to those who provided money for that very work? How many times has this occurred since Bible times? I don't know of any until this one. Many Indian Christians have asked how they could help American brethren after the horrible devastation of FOUR hurricanes. We told them about the Macedonians in II Corinthians 8. (The Macedonians were very poor, but they sent help through Paul to aid churches in Judea that had helped the Macedonians to know salvation.) In the same manner, Indian churches are bringing rupees to us here in India—those funds are used for the work here. Checks in the equivalent US dollars are then mailed to American

congregations involved in areas affected by the hurricanes. More than 100 American churches have received help from Indian brethren; such gifts have been sent through our office to all churches in Texas & Florida that support our work on a regular basis. We now are sending aid from Indian churches to US churches (in the affected areas) that do not support our efforts. Often the amount given by Indian churches is very little (the smallest amount has been 400 rupees—\$6). This simply underscores how very poor many Indian brethren are. And yet, they wanted to do what they could to help. I am afraid the significance of this effort has been lost on some American brethren. This is not just another donation to help with relief efforts—it is a gift from a mission field, returning aid to those who have financially assisted that same mission field. This is no small thing the Indian brethren have done. If vour congregation has received a check from India Missions for hurricane relief, please read the 2 letters sent with the gift. We want you to be aware this gift comes from Indian brethren who truly were saddened by the losses suffered by American Christians. Please consider the sacrifice by Indian brethren to help those in the USA affected by these hurricanes—& the uniqueness of their gift. (From "India Ink" portion of recent Indian Newsletter)

### \* Hostile Brothers Shake Hands: Unity at Last in the Churches of Christ in Zimbabwe (A step in the right direction in Zimbabwe)

The Restoration Movement was predicated on unity, which, unfortunately, has eluded the movement since its genesis and divisions are found in every country where this fellowship exists, and Zimbabwe is not an exception. The first Church of Christ (Restoration Movement) in Zimbabwe (Southern Rhodesia/Rhodesia) was planted in Bulawayo in 1897 by John Sherriff, a stonemason-cum-missionary. From its

inception, up to around 1935, when Sherriff died, the movement was united. It started dividing after Second World War and pre-millennialism was the major doctrine that divided the a cappella branch.

This was pronounced around 1970 when Robert Garrett argued that the doctrine of pre-millennialism was salvific and a test of fellowship. Accordingly, for the past fifty years, the Church of Christ, a cappella, was divided into two branches: pre-millennialists—popularly known as Garrett's Branch and the mainstream, Nhowe Branch. Members from these two branches did not fellowship each other and in neighbourhoods like Mufakose and Highfields, high density suburban in Harare, some Christians did not even greet each other vet their church buildings were in close proximity.

However, some members started questioning the divisive doctrine after realising that, for example, the Avondale congregation, in Harare, was made up of members from the two branches who fellowshipped without any qualms. When Christians moved from Mbare and Waterfalls—where the pre-millennialists have congregations—into the northern suburbans like Mt. Pleasant and Avondale where the Nhowe Branch has congregations, such members from the pre-millennialists were gladly accepted. Therefore, since 2009, leaders from the two branches started overt initiatives towards unifying the two branches after realising that there was no substance in the doctrine that divided the fellowship. This finally led to a major meeting in 2016, where the majority of congregations from the two branches decided to merge.

Nevertheless, as expected from a movement that had been divided for fifty years, a minority from both sides did not accept this unification. Some leaders from the Garret group argued that pre-millennialism was a salvific issue that deserves attention. One brother said, "Pre-millennialism was taught by J. D. Garrett, Robert Garrett's father, in the early 1930s and he was responsible for all the churches [of Christ] in Harare and how can we dump this fundamental doctrine for falsehood." Along the same lines, another brother from the Nhowe branch said, "We can only accept the pre-millennialists on condition they first repent of their sin i.e. belief in this false doctrine."

However, the majority of leaders were in favour of unity culminating in the first ever combined Men's National Annual Lectureship that was held at Ruwa—Bible Rock Camp—which is owned by the premillennialist group. The meeting that was attended by close to 350 men was held from 31 August to 3 September 2017. Men, mainly leaders, came from cities like Bulawayo, Chinhoi, Chitungwiza, Gweru, Harare and Mutare, to mention a few. Prominent members of the church like Professor Chris Chetsanga and Dr. Washington Mhlanga, elders at the Avondale congregation, registered their presence and Prof. Chetsanga delivered a keynote address. The presence of Brothers Goodwell Nyakudya and P. Mawubire, leading members from the pre-millennialists gave credence to the meetings' proceedings.

The lectureship was held under an apt theme "Men of Action" using Nehemiah 6:1-4 as the rallying scripture. Most of the lessons were meant to encourage men to be exemplary while doing God's work. These lessons were relevant because Zimbabwe's economy is shrinking and corruption is now rampant; hence speakers were encouraging Christians to be men of action by living in accordance to God's Word. In addition to the moving sermons, representatives of the five mission centres affiliated to the Churches of Christ gave positive reports about the Lord's work in Zimbabwe. The mission centres are: Bear Valley Bible Institute, a Bible school located in Gweru, 25 kilometres south of Harare; Chivero Mission, which comprises of an orphanage and

clinic located about 140 kilometres west of Harare; Igava Mission, which comprises of a primary and secondary school located about 120 kilometres east of Harare; Mutare School of Preaching, which is located about 260 kilometres east of Harare, twenty kilometres from the border with Mozambique. Finally, Nhowe Mission, which was established in 1940 and is located about 120 northeast of Harare; the flagship of the Church of Christ in Zimbabwe with a 50 bed hospital, an orphanage, and a primary and secondary school.

Although the Church of Christ in Zimbabwe has been growing numerically and spiritually, during the past fifteen years despite economic hardships, the unification of the two branches will spur further growth. Members are going to share best practices. Edmund Gwazaza, a former preacher at Mufakose and ex-principal of Mutare School of Preaching, said, "United we stand, divided we fall; this unity is a big lesson for all congregations to work together in all areas like evangelism, building structures, fellowships, etc." This was echoed by the majority of members who were extremely optimistic about the future of the Lord's work in Zimbabwe, now that the church is united. For Joseph Mashika, "unification a dream come true."

\* (This news item was written by Paul Chimhungwe from Zimbabwe. He was sponsored to come to North America to study, arriving in Hamilton to complete his PHD at McMaster University about six years ago. His doctoral thesis was on the church in Zimbabwe focusing on the involvement of the local people. While studying in Canada Paul worked full time to support his family and was still able to speak for the Brantford, Ontario congregation on a monthly basis. Currently, he teaches at African Christian College in Swasiland South Africa. Supplied by Mike Gray of the Brantford congregation)

# **Key To The Kingdom Day**

# — MAY 6, 2018 —



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# Let's Bury the Hatchet Mark T. Tonkery

ave you ever heard someone say, "Let's bury the hatchet"? The phrase is an expression that comes from early Native Americans of New England when they ended a conflict. When a conflict had come to an end the two rival parties would meet on the battlefield and dig a deep hole. They would then take two tomahawks or hatchets and bury the hatchets in the hole. The expression we use today, "bury the hatchet" comes from this act and today means forgiving one another and letting go of those words, actions, and things that two people or parties have done to each other.

Forgiveness is never easy; especially when we have been deeply hurt by someone close to us. Sometimes it seems easier to gossip, criticize, and hurt those who hurt us, than it is to forgive. Forgiveness seems to be so many times unthinkable or at least the last resort. Yet forgiveness is the key to re-establishing our relationships and modeling the life that Christ would have us to live. As Jesus was being crucified, Luke 23:34, records Jesus saying, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do...." The example of Christ shows us that sometimes we must offer forgiveness to those who have hurt us and have sinned against us.

Not only is this Jesus' example, but it is also what the New Testament teaches:

• Matthew 5:23, 24, "So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift."

- Matthew 6:14, 15, "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."
- Matthew 18:21-35 Jesus even offers a parable on forgiveness. "Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times. "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their mas-

ter all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him. 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

• Ephesians 4:31-32, "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

The Bible is very clear that as Christians we are to be a forgiving people. The command of forgiveness comes straight from Jesus' example and teachings.

Garth Brooks once sang a song which stated, "We buried the hatchet, but left the handle sticking out." One great obstacle for many Christians is non-forgiveness. The hatchet might seem to be buried, but people continue to grab hold of the handle when they want to use it against another. In Luke 17:3-4, Jesus said if a brother repents, forgive himthat is, bury the hatchet and its handle. How many times, Peter asked? As often as the brother repents, we are to forgive. Don't grab hold of buried hatchet handles; let the past stay in the past. Think about it!

Parkersburg, West Virginia

# **Sharing Faith in a Faithless World**

### THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS

Kevin Cleary

That is the image that you most associate with Jesus? It's coming near Christmas as I write this and maybe many would say they think of his birth. Some may recall an event from the gospels that really speaks to them. I suggest thought that for most people the image that comes to mind when considering Jesus and what he means to them is the cross. It was and is the cross that defines Divine love for mankind. He so loved the world that He sent his Son not to visit or observe or even to teach

but to die. Jesus mission was one of sacrifice from beginning to end (Philippians 2:6-8). He made himself nothing to come to us and then let himself be further debased to

save us (John 19:30). During Jesus earthly ministry people thronged to Him because He continually made Himself nothing to serve them. Even forgoing a time of mourning to take compassion on a crowed who had followed Him when he wanted some time alone (Matthew 14:13). Jesus ministry was one of sacrifice motivated by compassion.

Today many Christians and Churches are rightly concerned about the state of the world, and even more concerned about what the church can do to move forward in an increasingly secular world. How can we reach people who know nothing and seem to care nothing of God? Who don't understand the concept of forgiveness because they reject the concept of guilt. Who think salvation is about saving the planet or correcting social injustice or some combination of the two. How can we reach peo-

ple who are told in school that faith is foolish and morality is a myth told by old men? Should we fight against the move away from a Judaeo-Christian worldview? Should we protest when immorality is praised and protected as a human right? Maybe, but first we should remember that the world has always been messed up and, contrary to Godliness, Jesus warned us after all "In the world you will have trouble." So maybe we should accept Jesus at His word and His example that the world will be contrary to those who seek to fol-

What if individual Christians followed Jesus example of sacrifice and allowed themselves to be put out and inconvenienced for the world?

low Him. Then instead of agonizing over the state of the world we can agonize over the souls of men for whom Christ died. Even this is not easy as many Christians and Churches wonder how to connect with and reach a world like this. I wonder how the world looked to Jesus before he left the glory of Heaven. Do you suppose it looked messed up and horrible? Probably, but He still came making Himself nothing to do it.

Maybe that can help us, His Church His body, see a way forward. I warn you that this is where things may become a little uncomfortable. Before we move on let share the words of a famous strength coach who was told by a trainee that the position he had them in to squat was uncomfortable. "That's good, if you're comfortable you're doing it wrong". Jesus would likely tell us the same thing about faithfulness.

Now to the point, If the Church is the body of Christ, and it is. If Christians are to take up the ministry of Jesus, and they are. Then we need to look at how Jesus would interact with the world and do the same. When we look what do we see? We know how Jesus responded to people who disagreed with Him, hated Him spit on Him ignored Him and abused Him; He loved them, He took pity on them, He felt compassion for them, He taught them and He gave Himself up for them. What if the Church loved the people of

> the world enough to become nothing for them? What if the Church embraced the poor and drug addicted and criminals? What if the Church loved its enemies like

militant atheists and those who pursue political agendas that are opposed to God and His people? What if the Church loved Militant Muslims and door knocking Jehovah's Witnesses? What if we loved those who want all traces of God removed from public life? Jesus loved people who were so determined to be rid of Him that they killed Him. Yes, we know their goal is wrong headed and in many cases should be opposed but can we only love those who we agree with and support?

What if individual Christians followed Jesus example of sacrifice and allowed themselves to be put out and inconvenienced for the world? He did. What if we gave our time and energy to serve the people who hate us? He did. What if we helped even those we suspected of nefarious behaviours? He did. I'm not suggesting we fund addiction or alcoholism, in fact

that would be the opposite of love, but we can make a sandwich or offer a coffee. We can listen, and maybe then we'll find some who will listen to the gospel. Sacrifice is hard, its messy and it's uncomfortable but when the world sees people who share in their suffering in an effort to lift them out of it they will at least have to acknowledge that good is being done. They may not like it (they certainly didn't like Jesus) but as Peter puts it "when they seek to accuse you as evildoers they will see your good deeds and glorify God."

Today you could argue that much of the world is at best tolerant or indifferent to Christianity and at worst totally against it. In that context reaching people is hard. Consider though that in the first century people had no use for Christians, their dislike was so strong that it often resulted in

martyrdom. Yet even in those antagonistic times the Church grew. How was that possible? Could it have had something to do with the way Christians rescued abandon children off the streets, staved to care for the sick when everyone else had fled, cared for the mentally ill and developmentally challenged? Could it have had something to do with their courage in the face of punishment and even death? Most church historians offer these exact sacrifices as the reason Christianity was so unstoppable. If we want to be as effective today, it's going to take the same kind of love that they demonstrated back then and that our Lord demonstrated on the cross.

If we want to have the kind of impact on the world that Jesus did, if we want to grow his body the way we say we do it's going to take sacrifice. You can't reach

people with a hook and a rope, you've got to touch them, be with them, get down and share their lives. Jesus gave up the glory of Heaven to come to us. He became nothing to do something for the people He loved. Can we get out of our comfortable church buildings and away from our peers who make us feel comfortable and affirmed to reach those that make us uncomfortable? Can we show the world we care by giving of ourselves to serve them? If not then it may be that the body of Christ is really not the body of Christ, His body was bruised and beaten for our transgressions. Is His body today willing to bear the hardship necessary to continue His mission? Let's pray that it is and let's show that it is by getting out there and doing it.

Meaford, Ontario

# Remember Someone Special

You may honour a friend or family member by making a contribution or you may want to make a memorial gift in memory of a special person. In either case, we will send an appropriate letter to the honoured person or to a family member acknowledging your thoughtfulness. You are welcome to use the convenient form below to let us know your wishes.

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# **Titus: Earnestly Serving the Master**

Tim Johnson

There is nothing quite like heroes to inspire us. Titus the evangelist is certainly one of them, although his story is a little obscure in the pages of the New Testament.

He's only mentioned by name 13 times, mostly in 2 Corinthians and, strangely, never in Acts. We don't know who his parents were or even if he was married. What we do know is that he was not Jewish, but a Greek. Sometime early in Paul's first missionary journey, he converted Titus (Titus 1:4, implied). With the apostle's training, Titus became one of the first Greek evangelists and remained Paul's associate for several

decades (2 Cor.8:23). The fact that a New Testament book was addressed to him shows us he was a man of character and strength.

One thing stands out right away: Titus was an outsider who was given a special role by God. Being a Greek, he was new to the mostly Jewish brotherhood. We first meet him when Paul made a longoverdue visit to Jerusalem, mentioned in Gal.2:1-2. A crisis had developed when some Jewish leaders insisted all Gentiles wishing to obey the gospel must first be trained in the Law of Moses, including circumcision (Acts 15). The Lord instructed Paul and Barnabas to meet with the other apostles in Jerusalem to settle the matter, and Titus was invited to come along. That made things interesting, for Titus was an uncircumcised Greek. The pro-Mosaic Jewish Christians must have looked on him with prejudice and impatience. It was quite an uncomfortable spot in which Paul had inserted Titus! He learned from Paul to stand up for what's right and not be pressured into that which is false. It's a lesson that would serve him well in the future, as we'll see.

The next time we encounter Titus was when he was sent to the trou-

bled Corinthian church. It all started across the Aegean Sea in Troas. Paul had sent his first letter to Corinth, but had become worried about its effect. Had the church become upset with Paul? Timothy was sent to find out, but Paul later worried that Corinthian troublemakers might have given him a hard time. Titus was dispatched to follow things up. When Titus delayed his return, Paul decided to rush off to Macedonia hoping to rendezvous with him (2 Cor.2:12-13). When they found each other, Paul rejoiced that the news from Corinth was positive (2 Cor.7:5-7). Titus had walked into a very difficult situation full of strife and ill-will, and through

It seems that Titus was destined to spend much of his life dealing with awkward conditions. And now, another big challenge loomed.

wisdom and skill managed to help the Corinthian church get back on track. Where Timothy may not have been mature enough yet to handle these things, Titus was. No doubt his earlier Jerusalem experience helped to prepare him.

That's two tricky situations into which Paul had inserted Titus, and he did well. He was tough, strong in character, devoted to the truth, and wise with people. It seems that Titus was destined to spend much of his life dealing with awkward conditions. And now, another big challenge loomed.

About a year later, Paul was involved in a fund-raising effort to help the famine-struck areas around Jerusalem. A plan was developed by which Gentile congregations could donate funds as much as a year in advance, and then the apostle would bring a delegation of trusted Christians to pick up donations. Fund-raising projects can be open to criticism, especially if they're not handled in a transparent

way. There's evidence in 2 Corinthians that Paul's critics in Corinth were already grumbling about fraud. So, the apostle was careful to put together a team of people the brotherhood trusted. In 2 Cor. 8, he mentioned two unnamed, respected representatives of the churches, and also revealed he was sending Titus (v16-17). Paul pointed out Titus was not only concerned for Jerusalem, but earnestly for them in Corinth too. To be earnest means to be serious, not distracted or foolhardy. His character was admirable and trustworthy, and they carried out this financial project without incident. There is always a right way and a wrong way to do things, and God

> can help us figure out how to work for the Kingdom wisely. Paul even mentioned that the lack of greed in the heart of Titus reflected well on the criticized apostle (12:17-19). So, once again, Titus proved himself to be sensitive to the dan-

gers of a difficult setting, the ability to promote unity and good works in the ancient brotherhood, and to carry great responsibilities well.

The final major role Titus played in the New Testament was on the island of Crete. Apparently, Paul took Titus with him there after the apostle had been released from prison in Rome. Several congregations across the island resulted, and Paul left Titus behind to work with them. We find his marching orders in Titus 1:5, "For this reason I left you in Crete, that you might set in order what remains, and appoint elders in every city as I directed you." Working in Crete was not easy, but, as usual, Titus was up for the job.

The Island was off the beaten path, and apparently, he was the only evangelist there. Men in such circumstances often suffer from loneliness, doubt and uncertainty. Paul's 3-chapter book would allow Titus to consult with an inspired document for comfort and direction when he

was in doubt. He needed to show himself to be a strong leader and appoint elders in every congregation there. Complicating matters, Crete was known the world over as a place full of unprincipled and undisciplined people (Titus 1:10-14). These people were outsiders, in the sense they didn't really fit into the cultures of ancient society. The task ahead for Titus was problematic, especially in finding new leaders mature enough to keep the church on track. He stuck to his assigned task faithfully, despite the difficulties. He was once an outsider himself, became an insider, then ended up working with outsiders in Crete. Do you see the great things God can do?

One of the last things we read about Titus in the New Testament was when Paul urged him to join him in Nicopolis, after the apostle sent him a replacement in Crete (3:12). It was a city on the Adriatic coast across from Italy. Later, he mentions that Titus was working in another nearby area:

Dalmatia (2 Tim.4:10). It may well be that Titus spent the rest of his life in this obscure place. I don't think he minded. He could have moved to Rome and enjoyed the company of many strong Christians; or Jerusalem, and rubbed shoulders with the last remaining apostles. He had a great resume and any congregation would be pleased to have him. But Titus just wanted to earnestly serve his Master; an obscure place was fine with him. He had become a man of wisdom, strength, and obvious humility.

Whether you live in an area with many Christians to fellowship with, or an out-of-the-way place where there are few—earnestly serve your Master. Titus did, and he has been admired for centuries.

Barrie, ON

# Thought-for-the-day

SEARCHING FOR GOD

Alan Smith

o doubt, you have received a sweepstakes notice at some time from American Family Publishers. You know how it works. You look over their magazine bargains—and the chance to buy a few for your office or waiting room. In return, they give you the opportunity to win large amounts of money.

In 1997, their mailing list included the Bushnell Assembly of God in Bushnell, Florida. The computer somehow twisted the name of the church and a sweepstakes notice addressed to "God of Bushnell" was sent to the church address.

The letter read, "Dear God, We're searching for you. You've been positively identified as our \$11,000,000 mystery millionaire!"

The letter went on to say, "What an incredible fortune there would

be for God! Imagine the looks you'd get from neighbors. But don't just sit there, God, come forward now and claim your prize!"

Wouldn't it be wonderful if they truly were searching for God? If they sensed what Pascal called a "God-shaped void" in their lives and realized their need to come to know God and to understand what God could do for them? If they understood that the "prize" God offers is so much greater than the prize they were offering?

The good news is that God is not hiding and that those who truly are searching for him can find him. "From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should

live. God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. 'For in him we live and move and have our being'" (Acts 17:26-28a, NIV).

It is humorous that someone would be searching for God in order to give him 11 million dollars. He owns the "cattle on a thousand hills" (Psalm 50:10) and needs nothing. But he has blessings beyond measure for those who would seek him out. May you be counted among those who "reach out for him and find him."

Cruciform Church of
Christ
Spring Lake,
North Carolina
www.cruciformcoc.com

The **Thessalon**, ON Church of Christ is seeking applications for the position of **full time evangelist**.

Thessalon and area has a population of about 2,500 and is located on the north shore of Lake Huron, about one hour east of Sault Ste Marie.

Our congregation of about 70 members wants to work with an enthusiastic and dedicated individual in ministering to our Church family and community. A three bedroom house with a finished basement is included.

Email applications to rpm186nlr@yahoo.ca or phone Roger Mulligan at 705-842-2933 if you have any questions.

## QUESTIONS PEOPLE ASK

Bill Craddock

The Bible commands us to "visit" others. Just what does it mean to visit?

hristianity is to be a life of service. Christ came to earth to serve. Jesus taught His disciples that the greatest among them was the servant (Luke 22:24-30). It is easy to settle into the routine of attending worship services and doing nothing else and calling it Christianity. Many evidence this because the only thing that looks like Christianity is the one hour we see them on Sunday morning. One can get very comfortable in a religion like that.

Jesus said His disciples have responsibilities to others as well as the Lord (Matthew 22:36–40). Our service to Christ is impos-

sible without love. It is impossible to love the Lord without loving the brethren. The apostle John wrote - "If someone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him; that he who loves God must love his brother also" (1 John 4:20-21). I cannot say that I love the brethren if I do not help care for their needs. "But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth" (1 John 3:17-18).

Visitation is one means of caring for the needs of those we love. The Greek word for visit is defined "primarily to inspect; signifies to visit with help; to visit the sick and afflicted; to go and see, pay a visit." Visiting is more than a social call. It means to go with the purpose of lending assistance. It is not the proper visit if we visit a mother who is ill and walk through a lawn that needs mowed, into a house that needs cleaned, see children that need to be fed and bathed, see laundry that needs done, set and talk for an hour and as you leave say, "If there is anything we can do to help just let us know."

A social call is good when visiting the care facilities to see the elderly. It lets them know that they are not forgotten and helps them pass the time.

When making a visit we should never ask if there is something we can do to help them if we do not mean it.

When making a visit we should never ask if there is something we can do to help them if we do not mean it. The story is told about a preacher who went to visit an elderly lady who had missed the Sunday worship service and he feared that she might be ill. She confirmed that fact saying she had been sick since Friday. They talked, the preacher read some scripture and had prayer. As he stood to leave, he asked the sister if there was anything he could do to help her. She replied, "Yes there is. I have not been able to wash my dishes since Friday. Would you wash my dishes for me?" The preacher replied, "Yes I will. I will be happy to wash your dishes." As he said that he took off his coat, rolled up his sleeves and washed that dear sister's dishes. Then he said. "I learned a valuable lesson that day. Since that day I have

never left a visit without asking if there is something they need and expecting to be told there is something I could do to help and taking care of it." But, if you don't mean it, don't ask.

Indeed, visitation involves more than a social call. Visitation involves providing for the needs of the one visited. "Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world" (James 1:27). Visit here means to help them resolve their trouble. In Bible times the two most dependent groups were children and widows. Neither group had a source of income. They depended

on receiving help from relatives or the church.

We will face visitation on the Judgment Day (Matthew 25:31–46). Jesus here pictures that day as the sheep,

the saved, are separated from the goats, the unsaved. The faithful will be saved because they are caring, loving and serving. They visit, inspect and provided for the needs of those they visit. They fed the hungry, gave drink to the thirsty, sheltered the stranger, clothed the naked, helped the sick and met the needs of those in prison.

The unfaithful will be banished from the presence of the Lord for eternity (v. 41) because they saw people with the same needs and did nothing to relieve their distress. They were not loving, caring, serving or visiting. They did not love enough to visit with help.

Some areas for visitation are new converts, the discouraged, physically ill, shut-ins, the bereaved or anywhere you see a need. Visitation is a necessary part of Christianity.

North Canton, Ohio

## **DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES**

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

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

### PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

CAMROSE: 4901 42 Street T4V 1A2; Sunday AM Bible study 10 am; Sunday AM worship service 11 am; Thursday Bible Study 7 PM; Phone: (780) 672-1220 (Office); Evangelist: David Friesen; Email: info@camrosechurchofchrist.org Website: www.camrosechurchofchrist.org

EDMONTON Church of Christ: meeting place in NW of city; 13015 – 116 Avenue NW; Ofc 780.455.1049; Fax 780.454.9545; Mail: 11532 – 130 Street NW, Edmonton AB T5M 1A4 Sun 9:30 am Bible classes; 10:30 am Worship; Wed 7 pm Bible Study CARE groups at the building and in various homes (phone for location and other times); Elders: Henri Bouchard, Walter Hreczuch, Kirby Salter; Evangelist: Emanuel Burnstad 780.678.5395; Email: church5@telus.net; Web: edmontonchurchofchrist.org

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

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

MEDICINE HAT: Crescent Heights Church of Christ, 655 Stewart Dr. NW, T1A 7C2; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7; Jamie Lobert, ev. (403) 527-7346 or (403) 527-7311 (off)

RED DEER: Davenport Church of Christ, 68 Donlevy Avenue, Red Deer,T4R 2Y8, tel. 403-347-3986; (fax) 403.347-332, Edward Klym, Minister/Evangelist; Sunday morning worship: 10:00 am, Sunday School: 11:00 am; Wednesday Bible Class: 7:00 pm Email: davenportchurchofchrist@gmail.com Website: www.reddeerchurchofchrist.com Facebook; www.facebook.com/groups/rfcoc

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

### PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ABBOTSFORD (Central Valley): Sun. 10, 11; Thur. 7 PM, Meeting at: Suite 200 - 2445 West Railway Street, Abbotsford, BC; Mailing address: #4 – 3292 Elmwood Dr.; V2S 6B2 Norm Weir, ev. 604-850-8670 (off); 859-5973 (res). If no answer 604-850-9001; email: normjen@shaw.ca

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

COURTENAY: Tslolum Building, Lewis Park, Courtenay; Worship 10 am; Ev. Bill Pakosz, ph. 250-923-6176; Website: www.churchofchristcourtenay.org, Email: Churchofchristcourtenay@shaw.ca Mailing address: 2239 Oyster Garden Rd, Campbell River. BC V9H 1E7 **CRESTON:** Call for service times and place: David & Diane Phypers: 250-428-5937

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

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

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

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

#### NORTH BEND Church of Christ:

North Bend Community Hall, 48846 Highline Road, North Bend; Sun. 10:30 am; Mailing address: 47220 Green Ranch Road, North Bend, BC, VOK 1C1 Bordy Krogsgaard 604-867-9420

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

### PRINCE RUPERT Church of Christ:

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

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

### **SOUTH BURNABY Church of Christ**

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

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

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

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

VICTORIA (South Island Church of Christ):

Mailing address: South Island Church of Ćhrist, c/o 108-800 Kelly Road, Suite 257, Victoria, BC, V9B 6.J9; Meeting address: Westshore Chamber of Commerce, 2830 Aldwynd Rd., Langford, BC.; Worship service 11:00 am − 12:00 pm, Contacts: Dick Morton 250-479-8480, L/S Walters 250-478-7275, Don Knox 250-382-0824; e-mail SICOC@shaw.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 PM; Box 955, ROG 0J0; contact Ray Winkler (elder), 204-745-3226; Randy Foss, ev, 745 6969 (office)

DAUPHIN: 220 Whitmore Ave. W; Mailing address: Box 70, Dauphin, R7N 279; Sun. worship 10:00; Sun. & Wed. nights call for details; 204-638-6321 (off), Fax: 204-638-0872

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

WINNIPEG (Central): Sun. Worship 10, Bible classes 11:15, Eve. 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m.; (204) 475-6462; Faz. (413) 677-6165; Mail: 170 St. Mary's Road, Winnipeg, MB R2H 1H9; website: www.winnipegchurch.ca; Jim Hobbs, sec. for elders (204) 261-9861; Wayne Turner, ev. (204) 257-7926 (res); wayne@winnipegchurch.ca; Chad Celaire, youth min. (204) 284-6280 (res) chad@winnipeacchurch.ca

### PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

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

SAINT JOHN: Meeting in the home of Fred and Linda Nelson at 10:00 AM. Call 506 847 1780 for directions Mailing address: 61 Bel-Air Avenue Rothesay, N. B. E2E OL5 Thursday night Bible study at 6:30 p.m.

#### NEW YORK STATE

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

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

### PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

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

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

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

### PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

Ajax Church of Christ: 75 Centennial Road, Ajax, Ontario L1S-414, 2nd floor, Duffins Room Sunday School 10:00 am-10:45 am, Worship 11:00 am; Wednesday night Bible class in different brethren homes; Steve Chubry, Minister, Residence 905-728-6125; Cell # 647-378-7231 e-mail: ajaxcoccentennialroad@gmail.com Personal e-mail steve.chubry@sympatico.ca Find us on Facebook at Ajax Church of Christ Centennial Road

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

BEAMSVILLE: 4900 John St., LOR 1B6; Bible Classes: 9:30 am, Worship: 10:30 am, Small groups meeting throughout the week; Don Smith, ev. 905-563-7655 (off); e-mail: beamsvillechurchofchrist@bellnet.ca website: www.beamsvillechurchofchrist.ca

BRAMALEA: 750 Clark Blvd., L6T 3Y2; (905) 792-2297; mail@bramaleacofc.ca; Sunday worship 10:00, Bible class 11:15; Adult Bible Study Thursday 2:00 pm, Kevin Hunter, ev, (905) 455-5796 (res); Walter Straker, ev, (905) 789-1632 (res); www.bramaleacofc.ca

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

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

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

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

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

GRIMSBY: 63 Casablanca Blvd., south of Q.E. exit; Sun. Worship 10 am; Bible classes 11 am; Sun evening 7 pm, Wed. 7 pm; Box 181, L3M 4G3; (905) 945-3058 (off); George Mansfield, ev (c) 905-401-3482; website: www.grimsbycofc.org

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

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

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

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

HUNTSVILLE: Huntsville Public Library, 7 Minerva St. E., Sun. 10:00, c/o Dave Preston, (705) 789-7697, 491 Fowlers Rd., R.R.#5, Huntsville, Ont., P1H 2NS. Other contacts: Ken Smith, (705) 789-8292

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

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

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

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

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

LONDON: 186 Gammage Street, London ON N5Y 2B3; (519) 672-2426; Sun. Worship 10 AM, Contact: M. Pennington, 519-872-7629; Email: pmpennington40@gmail.com; P. Fewster, 519-672-2426; Email: peter.fewster@gmail.com

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

MISSISSAUGA: Mail address:
Mississauga Churchof Christ; PO Box 42264;
128 Queen Street S., Mississauga ON L5M 5Z5;
Place of Worship: McKinnon Public School,
3270 Tacc Drive, Mississauga ON L5M 0H3;
Worship: 10:30–11:45 AM;
Bible Class 9:30 to 10:15 AM;
Contact name: Tony Lourenco; tlourenco@cogeco.ca;
Bill Currie, 905-826-4816,
Email: wjcurrie65@gmail.com
Web address www.mississaugacofc.ca
Email: mail@mississaugacofc.ca

NEW LISKEARD: 554 Helmer Pedersen Drive, New Liskeard; Sun. 9:30, 10:30; Wed. 7:00; Contacts: Jim Robertson, PO Box 1556, New Liskeard ON; POJ 1PO; (705) 647-5488, Email: costone65@hotmail.com

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

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

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

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

OSHAWA: Cedar Park Church of Christ 566 Simcoe St. N, Oshawa, L16 4V3 Sun. 9:45, 11:00, 7; Thursday 7:00 pm; Church Phone. 905-434-1258 (Please leave a message) Santiago Molina, ev. 416-751-6879

OTTAWA (Riverview Park): 1515 Chomley Cres., K1G 0V9; Sun. Sunday School 10 am, Worship 11 am, 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm Robert MacRury, ev., 613-737-0701, Website: www.ottawachurchofchrist.com Ottawa church of Christ facebook OTTAWA (West): The Olde Forge Community Resource Centre, 2730 Carling Avenue, Ottawa; Mailing Address: West Ottawa Church of Christ, c/o Bill Schlarb, 361 Viewmont Drive, Ottawa, ON, K2E 7R9; Sunday morning: 10 am. Bible study, 11 am; Worship service Contacts: Bill Schlarb, 613-224-8507; Bruce Veinot, 613-592-0291 email: westottawacofc@qmail.com, website: www.westottawacofc.ca

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THESSALON: 8 Albert St. off Hwy. 17; Sun. 10-11, Wed. 7 pm; Mailing address: Rick Klazinga, sec, Bill Bunting, interim ev; Box 708, POR 1L0; 705-254-9012(Bill); 705-842-3340(0/F); email: rick.klazinga@gmail.com TILLSONBURG: Mailing address: Box 331, N4G 4H8; Call for Service Time and Place: 519-875-2021; 519-688-8121

TINTERN: 4359 Spring Creek Rd., Vineland, ON LOR 2CO; Worship at 9.45 a.m. with classes to follow; Sunday p.m. call for times and locations; Wed. 7:00 pm; Noel Walker ev.; Cindy Whitfield, Children's Minister; Matthew Burrows, ev.; (905) 563 6311 (off.) tinternchurchofchrist@gmail.com.

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

### TORONTO (Scarborough):

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

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

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

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

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

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

### PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

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

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

PLESSISVILLE: Centre Communautaire, 1745 Ave. Fournier; Sun. 6.00 & 7.00 pm Ev.Yvon Beaudoin.(418)728 5240; e-mail: ybeaudoin@oricom.ca; Mailing Address: c/o André Coté, 2069 Ave. St-Louis, Plessisville, QC GGL 2N8 QUEBEC CITY: 2980 De Verteuil St (corner Jean-Noel St); Mailing address: PO Box 9041 STN Sainte-Foy, Quebec, QC G1V 4A8, Sunday School: 9:30 AM; Sunday worship: 10:30 AM (French); Wed. 7:00 PM (Phone in Summer) 418-651-3664 (of); Yvon Beaudoin, ev. 418-728-5240; email: ybeaudoin@oricom.ca; Roger Paradis, ev. 418-831-8690; email: rparadis1518@videotron.ca

### PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

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

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

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

KENOSEE VILLAGE: Moose Mountain Church of Christ, Mailing address: PO Box 184, Kenosee Village, SK SOC 280; Sunday 10:00; Office (306) 577-2477 Mid-week: or Paul Moore (306) 575-0218 info@moosemountainchurch.com

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

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

REGINA (Northwest): 4400 4th Avenue Regina S4T 0H8 (in the Orr Centre) Sunday: 9:45am Classes: 11:15am Contact: Dr. Leslie Williams E-mail: lesliejawilliams@qmail.com

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

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

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

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