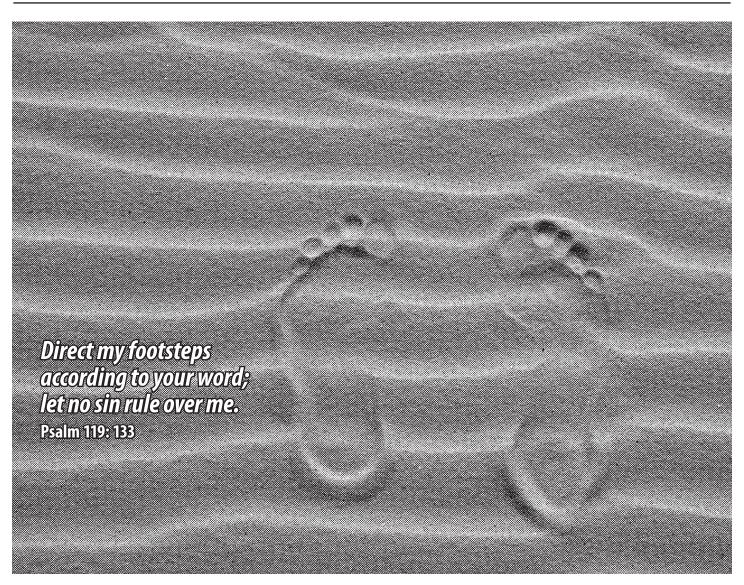


Vol. 70, No. 6 BEAMSVILLE, ONTARIO June 2005



What is involved in "Promoting New Testament Christianity" Do we really need the Church? Is it not enough to simply preach Jesus since salvation is through him? See the editorial beginning on page 4 for some thoughts on these questions.

Father, Forgive Them – PART 1

Cecil T. Bailey

Te are Jews of the latest dispersion by the vicious Seleucid ruler, Antiochus IV, who dared to entitle himself as Epiphanes, the Enlightened One. My name is Abiud, and my wife's name is Esther, in old Hebrew she would be called Hadassah. We are descendants of the Jewish prince Zerubbabel. Many of our fellow Jews in his day, hoped that he would restore the Davidic Kingdom to Israel, since he was in direct lineage from King David. Instead, the Maccabeans, who later become known as Hasmoneans and were of the priestly tribe of Levi, led the revolt against the infamous Antiochus, but because we were descendants of Zerubbabel, our family was suspect as rebels, and we were rounded up with a band of our fellow Jews and expelled far away into Pontus, where I and my family have succeeded in making a good living, which has enabled us to make this long dreamed of pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

Our journey was long and arduous, but much easier and safer than in former times. The new Roman government has done a great deal of road building, and their armies patrol the highways

Collingwood Church of Christ

is seeking a full-time evangelist. Collingwood is nestled between the escarpment and the southern shore of Georgian Bay and sits half way between Owen Sound and Barrie. The church is seeking an evangelist who will work with the aging congregation here to help grow and strengthen the Lord's church.

Resumes can be sent to Church of Christ, 494 Tenth St., Collingwood, Ontario, L9Y 2H1. to keep them relatively safe for the caravans and other traveling groups. We have taken along sufficient funds to provide for ourselves in or around Jerusalem for many days before we will need to return home again.

After coming so far, we were quite determined that we should not only celebrate the Passover, which includes the Feast of Unleavened Bread, but also the Feast of Weeks, which follows 50 days later. In consequence, the Greeks, as well as many Jews, who have imbibed too much Greek culture, call that feast day, Pentecost. During the interval between the two feasts, we hope to do considerable sightseeing, as well as revive our knowledge of the many places made sacred in the history of our forefathers. En route to Jerusalem we became friends with a couple pilgrims about our own age, from close to the Roman province of Bithynia, which lies just west of Pontus. Their names are Jude and Judith. Now we are camped side by side on the outskirts of Jerusalem.

We had no sooner secured lodging than we were caught up in a fierce turmoil among our people. It appears that a real troublemaker has arrived in Jerusalem from Galilee with a small band of illiterates, and quite a number of rowdy women, and even undisciplined children, who keep lauding this man as the Son of David. Those less kindly disposed to him call him a Nazarene. I asked someone what the inference was in calling him by that title, he responded that the citizens of the town of Nazareth were despised by other Jews in Galilee. They have a derogatory expression about it, saying, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?"

The Sanhedrin has determined, and rightly so, that this renegade must not be allowed to flout the authority of our divinely appointed leaders. He has challenged the authority of this august body, and even makes blasphemous claims that he is a son of our God.

Moreover, I sense already that he is demonically clever, and has outwitted those who have tried to ensnare him in his speech. But they will overcome, and, when the opportunity arises, we will help them to do so. The Romans could easily suspect that this is some sort of an insurrection, and come down on us pretty heavily. I hope that early action can prevent this.

Last night our leaders caught up with the renegade on the outskirts of Jerusalem in a garden called Gethsemane, on the Mount of Olives. They had made a deal with one of his followers to identify him to them when they caught up with him. Apparently not all of his followers were that loyal to him. I was told later that another one of his followers was carrying a sword. and made a pass at one the guards, but, rather strangely, the Nazarene told him quite sternly, to put his sword away. After that the rest of them fled into the darkness of the night. They almost captured one young man who was watching the events from the edge of the crowd, but he scampered off into the darkness minus his robe.

The soldiers then brought their prisoner back into Jerusalem to the large house occupied by the two high priests. Why are there two high priests, when there is supposed to be only one? The Sanhedrin actually chose one as high priest that was feared by the Romans as being too seditious, so they selected his son-in-law Caiaphas to rule with him jointly. Both high priests live in the same house. In deference to the older man, and since he was their own choice, they took the Nazarene for his first trial into Annas' part of the house.

We were not allowed into that part of the edifice, so we all sat around a bonfire in the priest's court during the whole trial, but when that trial was over, and the Nazarene was brought around to Caiaphas' place, we sat with the guards and soldiers on the lawn around a bonfire where we could see the proceedings in Caiaphas' court,

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even though we could not hear what was said.

A bit of a rumpus occurred when one the Nazarene's followers was discovered to be sitting with us around the fire. When one servant after another identified him as a fellow-Galilean, things became too 'hot' for him, and it wasn't the bonfire either, so he unceremoniously left us and went off, but he was no longer cursing and swearing.

About the beginning of the second watch of the night, this trial, too, ended. After everyone else had cleared away, Jude and I made bold to climb the stairs into the now vacated courtroom, where the second trial had been held. To the side of this courtroom was a sunken enclosure, which apparently, was a 'holding cell' for prisoners during their trials, when they were not actually being tried.

As Jude and I neared this sunken cell, we heard a slight moan. Cautiously, we peered into the darkness of this strange dungeon-like hole. There we saw the face and figure of a man, whom we concluded was the despised Nazarene. He was being held securely in this cell from which there was no possible means of escape. There was no need to post a guard.

As we gazed into the cell at this help-

less and hapless young man, a twinge of pity touched our hearts. Why would one who was still so young, and apparently quite clever, be so deluded, and make himself so obnoxious to others that he must die for his folly? "You are the Nazarene, are you not?" queried Jude. "Yes," he responded, but my proper name is Jesus, and although I was reared in Nazareth of Galilee, I was born in the city of David, Bethlehem of Judea. "Is that why you let the crowds call you the Son of David? Jude asked. "Not really," he replied. "Some day vou will know who I really am, when I ascend to David's throne. Then you will know that I am all that I claim to be."

With that we concluded that he was indeed a madman, and hastened down the stairway, and back to our compound, where they were all sleeping soundly. Jude and I didn't try to sleep again. Our thoughts were troubled. The quiet earnestness of the Nazarene's voice sounded so genuine, and so convincing that we were sorely puzzled.

As soon as the sun rose, we hastened back into the city and joined the throng that had converged on the residence of the governor, Pontus Pilate. The chief priests and scribes had already taken the Nazarene to the courtroom of the Sanhedrin to legitimize the decisions

they had made concerning him in the night's trials. The Sanhedrin agreed that he was worthy of death. We dismissed our temporary misgivings concerning the Nazarene, and joined tumultuously in demanding his immediate death. It particularly enraged us that Pilate seemed so determined to set him free. Time and again he declared that he found no fault in the Nazarene.

Pilate then sent the Nazarene over to Herod Antipas to get his verdict on the prisoner. Herod liked that show of deference on Pilate's part, and his antipathy for the Roman was considerably lessened. Herod just had some coarse fun at the Nazarene's expense. and then sent him back to Pilate. He was annoyed, however, that the prisoner would not answer any of his questions. Again Pilate tried to convince us that the Nazarene should be set free, but that just made us the more determined that he should die. He even enlisted his wife's dream about the criminal in an attempt to substantiate his arguments.

He told us that he was prepared to set one prisoner free according to the established custom, at the season of the Passover, as a gesture of good will by the Roman authorities. He put before us the name of a well-known

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EDMORIAL

Jesus Only

Wayne Turner



uring the "flower power" era of hippies, free-love, anti-establishment protests and "Jesus freaks", there were signs and bumper stickers that proclaimed "Jesus Yes – Church No!" For many young people of that time, while Jesus was important, church was an irrelevant jumble of clergy, ritual and tradition. As they rejected the "establishment" they also rejected

its religious equivalent, organized religion. Over the years since then, most of those who shared this view have either been assimilated into the secular world, into fringe religious groups (cults) or into the religious establishment they previously rejected. In time, some came to understand and embraced the Biblical importance of the church as God's design and the body of Christ.

Throughout history, generations of young people have challenged and rejected the beliefs and practices of those who went before them. Many of us have gone through similar times of investigation and examination. We should not be surprised to learn that those coming after us are doing something similar. Recently, the Gospel Herald website received a message that shows how even the concept of Restoration is being scrutinized today. It asked, "Shouldn't promoting 'New Testament Christianity' be a lower priority than teaching people Jesus? Christianity is not the saviour, Jesus is!" Before we react too quickly to this, perhaps we need to really hear what this young person is saving.

To many of us, the attempt to make a distinction between New Testament Christianity and Jesus Christ is unthinkable. We see the two as synonymous and inseparable. Christianity is the way of Christ. Part of the problem is that "Christianity" is not used in the Bible, while "Christian" is only used three times: of the disciples at Antioch (Acts 11:26), in Agrippa's response to Paul (Acts 26:28) and Peter's encouragement to those who suffer in that name (1 Peter 4:16). This leaves us with a word that is open to many different views. Even the dictionary has somewhat different definitions, leaving the possibility of some ambiguity between the formalized, institutionalized concept of a religion and the idea of having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

This suggests there is an ongoing need to restate what we are trying to do and why – that we should not just assume everyone knows what we mean. When we define our terms, we may discover that there is not as much difference between our goals and what this individual wrote as first appeared.

By "promoting New Testament Christianity" we want to go back to what it means to teach and follow Jesus as He taught and the inspired writers recorded in the New Testament. While there is much teaching in the New Testament that addressed how early Christians lived and worshiped together, the core

was always "Jesus and Him crucified." (1 Cor. 2:2) Paul told the Corinthians, "For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake." (2 Cor. 4:5). The church was not an organization as we might see a corporate institution; it was the community, family, body of those who, by faith, had come to follow Jesus. It is very easy for us to lose sight of the centrality of Jesus for a "churchianity" that does more to promote institutional survival goals rather than a real relationship with Jesus Christ. Even our study of the Bible should lead us to know the One who revealed it, rather than simply gaining factual knowledge of its contents. Literally, "Christianity" means "the state or condition of being a Christian" (Biblically, a believer, a disciple of Christ). That the word "Christianity" may have become muddied does not change its intent or significance. It is neither a substitute for nor anything less than following Christ.

New Testament Christianity then is the way revealed by Christ and the Holy Spirit to the disciples of the first century. It is our conviction, with Peter, that "His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness." (2 Peter 1:3). In 3:15,16, Peter referred to what Paul had written to them "with the wisdom God gave him," noting that there were some who distorted these, "as they do other scriptures, to their own destruction." Jesus promised the apostles that the Holy Spirit would guide them into all truth (John 15:13) as Jesus also prayed for the unity of all who believe in Him, and that God would set them apart in the truth of His word. (John 17:17). Paul showed Timothy (and us) the chain of teaching the way of Christ when he told him to take what he had heard Paul teaching and teach it to faithful men who would teach others also. Following Jesus today, therefore, must look, act, and sound just as it did in the New Testament era. If it doesn't it cannot be Christ. Through the scriptures, Jesus is telling us, "This is what I 'look' like - what

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GOSPEL HERALD

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Thank You Holy Spirit (Old Testament, New Testament, Today, and Forever)

From the beginning the Holy Spirit was hovering over the waters. (Genesis1:2) The Holy Spirit was as active in the past as He is in the present and as He will be in the future. The Hebrew writer says this too concerning Jesus, "He is the same, yesterday, today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8)

The Lord (Father, Son and Spirit) has always lived to engage us in daily communication and relationship with Him. Christ said that those who do will discover that the Father, Son, and Spirit will make their home in that believer. (John 14:15-23)

It really isn't confusing. Peter encourages us to remember that God's divine power has and is giving us everything we need so that we might participate in this divine nature. Isn't it incredible that we can have daily relationship with the Father, Son, and Spirit? They choose to live IN us! Wow!

Many Old Testament writers recognized the work of God's Spirit in their birth – physical and spiritual. Psalm 104:30 "When you send your Spirit they are created, and you renew the face of the earth." Some scholars suggest the

book of Job is the earliest written biblical book. Job said, "The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

I have often wondered if the New Testament writers weren't influenced by Old Testament writers and their experience of spiritual renewal brought individually by the Holy Spirit. In fact, Paul's writings concerning the Spirit's work in us is incredibly similar to Ezekiel's, Zechariah's, Joel's, Haggai's, and David's writings.

Paul teaches that, "no one can say 'Jesus is Lord', except by the Holy Spirit" (1 Corinthians12:3). He reminds Titus to teach believers that God has changed our hearts and nature by the working of the Holy Spirit in us, "when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour" (Titus 3:4-6). Ezekiel similarly declared,

Don Smith

"God will sprinkle clean water on you and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a new heart of flesh (tenderness). And I will put my Spirit IN you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws" (36:25-27).

Both Paul and John remind believers that the Holy Spirit lives IN us (as Ezekiel wrote) and we need to recognize Him, and embrace Him, and never to grieve Him, or put out His fire but always to allow us to be filled by Him.

Paul said, "The Holy Spirit testifies with our spirit that we are God's children." (Romans 8:16) John says, "We know that we live in Him and He in us because he has given us His Spirit" (1 John 4:13). "And this is how we know that He lives in us: We know it by the Holy Spirit He gave us" (1 John 3:24).

King David experienced such a close relationship with the Holy Spirit that he said he would be lost without Him. In fact, he begged God not to remove the Spirit from Him. Listen to David's plea. It is so similar to Ezekiel and John and Paul. "Create in me a pure heart O God and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast your presence from me or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me" (Psalm 51:10-12). We are reminded one more time that the Holy Spirit is always nudging us closer to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

A struggling and divided congregation needed some hope and encouraging words. So, the apostle wrote, "Now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all" (2 Corinthians 13:14). Paul reminded his readers that the Holy Spirit did not come to them through words. i sometimes think we believe it does. MY understanding, MY intelligence, MY interpretation, and MY abilities. No. Paul said, "Our gospel came to you not simply with words but with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction... you welcomed the mes-

sage with the joy given by the Holy Spirit" (1 Thessalonians 1:4-6).

"My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power so that your faith may not rest on men's wisdom but on God's power." (1 Corinthians 2:4,5)

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Let's dig deeper.

The Hebrew writer said that the former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless; and we now have a better hope by which we draw near to God. In fact we are encouraged to die to what once bound us. (This might be a good time to stop and ask ourselves what it is that might be binding us). We have been released from the law so that we serve in the NEW WAY OF THE SPIRIT. (Hebrews 7:18; Romans 7:6)

But, do we ever get the feeling that much of our preaching and teaching "bind's us" and does not set us free? And, that we haven't served anything new? That our

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PONSBYPERRY



"Forgiving as the Lord Forgave" No. 6 (Forgive - Reconcile)

s noted throughout this series of studies, there

is the very real possibility and danger that we might deceive ourselves, – convince ourselves that we have forgiven an offending brother when, in reality, we have not done so. When I say to my brother who has offended me, "You are forgiven", what does this mean? Does it involve any change in our relationship?

These questions lead us to consider the meanings of the two words, "forgive" and "reconcile". Does forgiveness occur without reconciliation? Does the first require the second? If I make it known that I have forgiven my wife, my neighbour, my brother, does this signify a relationship improvement or is no change expected?

Some of the bitterest estrangements occur in families between those with close ties. Sadly this also seems to be the case among brethren in the family of God, the Church. Sometimes through prayer, mediation and/or humble discussion an estranged couple, who have hurled very hurtful words at each other, are led to apologize and forgive. The experience, although extremely painful, has led to a new openness and humility that results in a closer, more intimate, open, trusting relationship than existed before. They now know each other better and realize that in sharing their weaknesses they become

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closer and stronger.

In the Church, having been forgiven by God, we, as individuals, sometimes succumb to pressures and temptations resulting in a loss of meaningful fellowship with him, – we "fall away". Again, humble acknowledgement of the wrongs in repentance should and often does lead to a closer, more intimate and stronger relationship than previously existed. It becomes a building and growing experience.

These observations lead us to ask whether there are generally similar results when estranged brethren announce that forgiveness has occurred. Does the experience result in a warmer, more understanding and trusting fellowship or in a continuance of suspicion, distrust and avoidance?

According to Webster, to forgive means: "1) to give up all resentment against or desire to punish; stop being angry with; pardon. 2) to give up all claim to punish or exact penalty for (an offence); overlook 3) to cancel or remit (a debt)". It would thus seem that forgiveness means deciding to treat the situation as if the offence never happened. It may not be easy for us, as humans, but we are to forgive AS God has forgiven and God assures us, "I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more" (Isa.43:25). We must not hold forgiven behaviour against a brother.

The dictionary defines "reconcile": "to restore to friendship or harmony, to settle or resolve". Basically, this is about estranged parties, individuals, husband/wife, father/son, sinner/God getting back together, a restoration of a former relationship.

In the matter of the relationship between man and God, the entire Bible, indeed, the ultimate sacrifice of God's son, is all about reconciliation. God, obviously wanted reconciliation, - a restored relationship (fellowship) with man. God made this possible by arranging for the removal of the cause of estrangement. (See Eph.2:12, 13; Rom.5:8-10; 2 Cor.5:18-20; Col.1:20-22). The sacrifice of Christ on the cross accomplishes this when we, in penitent faith submit to baptism wherein our sins are "washed away" (Acts 22:16). The preaching of the gospel (the "word of reconciliation") is spoken of as the "ministry of reconciliation" (2 Cor.5:18). Thus the message of the good news of forgiveness through the death of Christ is called the "word of reconciliation". The above scriptures tell us that when God forgives our sins, the barrier that separated us from him is removed resulting in a restoration of fellowship. The reconciliation cannot occur without or before the forgiveness. Conversely, it would seem, real forgiveness can hardly be considered to have occurred if it does not result in reconciliation. These two words, although not synonymous, are very closely related. It is difficult to conceive of one occurring without the other.

The ministry of reconciliation is about persuading men to accept God's offer of forgiveness resulting in the restoration of fellowship with God. Prior to the preaching of the "word of reconciliation", not only were both Jew and Gentile alienated from God; they were also very much alienated from each other. However, both were reconciled to God in one body, the Church (Eph.1:22, 23: Col.1:18) and at the same time the enmity between them was destroyed. It is sad that men who seek and claim reconciliation with God through Christ are so prone to being estranged from one another. Can one be in fellowship with God and not with his brethren who are in the same body?

Since we are to be involved in the ministry of reconciliation how can it be that we sometimes seem to do better as ministers of estrangement?

Reconciliation, although it might be difficult, can be very beautiful and rewarding. Considering all of the "one another" scriptures in the New Testament, the tendency to go separate ways, to avoid, to not fellowship at the least provocation is surprising indeed. Christianity is supposed to be about forgiveness, reconciliation, unity, love, grace, and fellowship.

Beamsville, ON

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CHRISTANIYOUTH

Articles for this page or reactions to it should be sent to: Brian Cox, Lansdowne House, ON e-mail: youthpage@gospelherald.org



Set An Example For The Believers

4. They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love

new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35) When we learn to love as Jesus has loved us we will be an example to all, and we will stand out against the darkness that is in our world. We need to learn about love.

We need to know that we are loved by God, "This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we

loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." (1 John 4:9-10) In the beginning it wasn't about our loving God but about God loving us, he made the first move. He sent his one and only Son to live among us and then to die for us. Through Jesus' sacrifice our sin is forgiven. Not because we love God, but because he loves us. Love first and foremost is about God loving us!

We need to know that love for God requires obedience. "This is love for God: to obey his commands and his commands are not burdensome." (1 John 5:3) We will probably find the commands burdensome until we understand how much God loves us and how, by his grace, we are saved. We cannot say that we love God unless we are making every effort to obey him.

We need to know that God

wants us to love others, "Dear friends, since God so loved us we also ought to love one another." (1 John 4:11) Our love for others must be sincere (Romans 12:9) our love must be honest and without hypocrisy, a love that is faked is repulsive. If someone claims to love you but their actions say otherwise their love is not sincere.

In our relationships with those we love we must learn to hate what is evil and cling to what is good (Romans 12:9). Hate is a strong word, one that is very forceful; it implies a loathing, abhorrence, and disgust over the evil in our

world. We develop this hatred for evil by clinging to what is good; because of our love for good we can no longer passively ignore evil, but must actively oppose it. We are to hate the evil, not the people that do the evil.

Friends or family that participate in evil might suggest that if we love them unconditionally we must accept them and that accepting them means approving of all that they do. Jesus loves us unconditionally but he will not accept or approve of the evil that we do and neither should we. What some describe as unconditional love is more like co-dependency. We are to love, even those who practice what we believe to be wrong, but we are to hate the evil that they do. The very best that we can do for them is to continue to love them while encouraging them to make a change in their life.

Loving one another means, "Honour one another above yourselves." (Romans 12:10b) To honour someone is to treat

them with a genuine respect. It isn't something we can fake, and we must develop an honest respect for those for whom Jesus died. We are to honour others above ourselves; we are to go first in honouring others, not to wait until we have been honoured. When we are honouring others above ourselves, we will not be waiting for them to love us, but we will love them first. We won't wait for them to say hello, we will speak first, we won't wait for their telephone call, we will call them first, we won't wait for their invitation. but we'll invite them first. We won't keep track of whether they sent a card for our birthday, we'll just send one when it is their birthday. We won't concern ourselves as to who had who over for supper last time; we'll just invite them.

Real love is not conceited.

"Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of continued on page 16

Great Lakes Christian College



Loyalty

Paul Birston

oyalty is a virtue that is often in short supply these days. Over the past twenty-five years, for example, loyalty in the workplace, as I have seen it, has fallen off dramatically. Through two deep recessions, many employers quickly dismissed people who had been loyal to them for many years. Many employees in turn are now more likely to leave for apparently greener pastures at the earliest opportunity.

Other areas are hard hit too. We all know what has happened to loyalty in many marriages. We see governments quickly renege on promises. One study of patriotism notes that now people are more loyal to their own interest groups than to their countries. It is common for people today to "shop" churches and move from place to place when things don't make them feel good. Loyalty through thick and thin is just not that popular anymore.

It's not as if disloyalty is a new thing. In the wonderful book of Hosea, which has a lot to say about loyalty, God makes this amazing observation about the loyalty of His people:

"What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? For your loyalty is like a morning cloud, and like the dew which goes away early."

This kind of loyalty evaporates quickly like early morning dew and blows away like a cloud. It is a fair weather loyalty. In the New Testament Jesus' closest friends forsook Him. When he most needed their support, "all the disciples left Him and fled" (Matthew 26:56). Demas and "all who are in Asia" deserted and turned away from Paul (2 Timothy 4:10; 1:15). "What shall I do

with you, O Ephraim?" What shall we do?

God has taken several measures to help us with the problem of disloyalty. He has proven Himself loyal. He was loyal to His people when they least deserved it. God is the best example of loyalty. Israel and several of the churches of Asia were less than fully

God is the best example of loyalty

loyal, but God, with His prophets, reached out to them and encouraged them to reinstate their loyalty, "Come, let us return to the LORD" (Hosea 6:1). He gives us examples of loyal relationships: David and Jonathan, Abraham and Sarah, Ruth and Naomi. All faced difficult times when it would have been easier to let the relationships dissolve

in disloyalty, but they stuck together. They were loyal to one another.

God has let us in on His perspective on loyalty: "For I delight in loyalty rather than sacrifice, and in the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings."

God has said that he "delights" in loyalty and the "knowledge of God" (Hosea 6:6). Loyalty pleases Him. In staying loyal to God we have the knowledge that He is happy about our faithfulness. We need to grab on to this promise, let it sink into our minds and hearts, and let it encourage us when we are tempted to pack it in.

Nowhere is God's loyalty more plain than in Jesus' death on the cross. From the cross, Jesus looked down at God's disloyal people and said, "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34). Amazingly, because of Jesus' loyalty on an instrument of torture and death, the cross has

> become the point where death ends and life begins. We begin our new life in Christ by dying with Him.

> Paul writes this beautiful "trustworthy statement" to encourage Timothy to be loyal to God in tough times: "For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him; If we endure, we shall also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us; If we are faithless, He remains faithful; for He cannot deny Himself (2 Timothy 2:11-13).

Dying with Christ in the waters of immersion (Romans 6:3-11) and bearing with Him through struggles by faith entitles us to live with Him. Enduring entitles us to reign with Him. According to Bauer's lexicon, enduring involves "staying in a place beyond an expected time," to "stand one's

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ground," "to wait with persistence." Reigning comes from the same root word as king. What a privilege to reign jointly with Jesus!

God has proven He is faithful to us. If we deny Jesus, however, He denies us. Disloyalty may separate us from God, but He cannot deny Himself and be unfaithful to His promises because His character is completely faithful, completely loyal to His goals. At the centre of His promises is the resurrection of Jesus who stayed loyal to God through life and death. He could do this knowing that God was there to receive His spirit and welcome Him into joy on the other side of the cross. His death and resurrection became the foundation of forgiveness and eternal life. Paul begs Timothy and us to remember these things and endure, to stay loyal (2 Timothy 2:13; 4:5).

Loyalty to Christ is something that should never change once we have found Him. In the words of the hymn, "To Christ be loyal and be true." The "knowledge of God" and His promises can help us see beyond immediate difficulties. His Word builds faith and loyalty. His loyalty as we see it through the cross can empower us to stay loyal in tough times. It can permeate our relationships, strengthen our marriages, and our churches. It can help us die and endure with him and so live and reign with Him. Our loyalty can bring God delight!

Winnipeg, MB

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Thank You Holy Spirit... continued from page 5

preaching and teaching grinds away at us instead of setting us free and encouraged? That when the Holy Spirit is discussed it is usually with a zillion disclaimers? That He is someone too difficult to understand and embraced?

Old and New Testament writers implore us to know Him and enjoy Him. We are safe in His arms. He is our home. It is His joy that infiltrates us. When was the last time you had a good conversation with Him? (I don't mean a conversation with another person discussing the Spirit, rather a conversation with the Holy Spirit)

Let's develop this Spirit talk further.

When Paul encouraged believers in the province of Galatia to enjoy their freedom in Christ, he further motivates them to stand firm in their freedom. He warns them to not get trapped in their former tradition of legalism (law binding) or

anything that diminishes their faith walk. The Spirit of God will empower them (and us) to keep walking in the light. When we set our minds on what the Spirit desires, we will enjoy our own spirit being made anew and alive. When the Holy Spirit is received by our own spirit (Romans 8:16) His personality will shine through us... love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. In fact, Paul says we are sons of God when we are led by the Holy Spirit. (Romans 8:14)

.....

A religious man may be a powerful man but that power comes from his own resources... his wisdom, his strength, his ingenuity, and thus is limited. However, a spiritual man has a power that is unlimited, because it comes from the Spirit Himself, who lives in us and does more than we can ask or imagine. (Ephesians 3:20,21) It is humbling to experience the daily indwelling of deity. Zechariah wrote

about the Spirit's unlimited resources, "Not by might nor by power but by my Spirit says the Lord Almighty" (Zechariah 4:6). Haggai encouraged Zerubbabel to be strong and not to be afraid because the Holy Spirit "remains among you" (Haggai 2:5). Jesus told his disciples not to fear because the Holy Spirit was among them. (John 14:15-23) God is poring out His love into our hearts by His Holy Spirit." (Romans 5:5) As we talk things over with the Father and the Son let's remember that there is another part of God who loves to be in conversation with us... God's Holy Spirit.

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the LORD, WHO IS THE SPIRIT" (2 Corinthians 3:17,18).

Beamsville, ON



by Walter R. Straker 750 Clark Blvd. Bramalea, ON L6T 3Y2 Fax: 905 792-8623 E-mail: bramaleacofc@bellnet.ca **Reminder:** To be published in the following month's Gospel Herald, each congregation's information should be sent to Walter Straker before the third last Tuesday of the month. Please clearly mark the email or the envelope: "NewsEast."

NEW BRUNSWICK

Moncton: The ladies participate in a class each month. On March 13, the congregation had a special collection for Shawn LeBlanc, who

attends Great Lakes Bible College. \$110 was collected and presented to Shawn. Taking turns at the pulpit are Royal Maillet, Kenny Woodman, Alan Peters, and Christian Maillet. On April 24, a special collection of \$94.37 was collected and added to the education fund. A fellowship meal was planned for May 22.

ONTARIO

Beamsville: Audrey Meneer passed away Tuesday, April 12. Her funeral was the following Thursday, April 14. Ruth Zimmerman, missionary recently returned from Papua New Guinea, is visiting. GLCC held its annual Work-a-thon on May 10. On May 17, the Rochester College A Cappella Chorus performed at the Beamsville Church of Christ. A garden tour and luncheon is scheduled on June 25 for the W.A.V.E.S. Trish Pauls is on medication, but doctors are considering an operation to relieve pressure in her brain to see if she can regain some of her deteriorating eyesight. She is waiting for a specialist's appointment.

Brantford: A men's dinner and devotional was enjoyed on Sunday, April 10. The congregational meeting was held on Sunday, May 1, right after a potluck meal.

Bramalea: Bring-a-Family Day was held April 17. The Toronto International Church of Christ and the Ontario Church of Christ meeting was held April 16. Twelve brethren representing nine congregations met. The next meeting was scheduled for May 28 at the Bramalea building. A youth games' event was planned for May 28. Ashley Whittington, daughter of Evan and Debbie, recently graduated from Harding University and is participating in a 6-week mission trip to Capetown, South Africa, this summer.

Grimsby: Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the first week in August.

Jordan: From May 16-18 an evangelism workshop was held at the

Beacon Harbourside Resort and Conference Centre with Harold Comer and Jason Moore speaking.

Kingston: In March the congregation held a pancake breakfast and a "Friend's Day," with both well attended. A new sign has been purchased for the front yard. The women have begun a ladies' class. Space has been given in the building to a daycare program, which is being run by a woman from the community, to help supply affordable daycare and as a reach-out project. Plans are being finalized for a VBS in June. The brethren are working on a gospel meeting for late August.

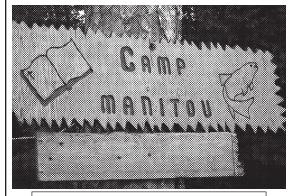
Newmarket: In April Jean Volcy spoke to the congregation about the work in Haiti. Nathan Pickard, minister for the congregation, spoke at the Beamsville youth rally. The ladies' class is supporting an orphan in China. The congregation's mission theme for May and June is helping Christian camps. Wednesday evenings in the summer are planned to reach out to the community.

Toronto (Strathmore Blvd.): Production has begun at Strathmore on the Key To The Kingdom programs. Starting the second week of June, the programs filmed at Strathmore will be on air. Several from the congregation have become involved in this work and it is providing an opportunity to learn new skills and also enjoy good fellowship as the programs are being recorded. Jean and Marie Volcy travelled to Haiti for another campaign in Fond-Parisien. This young congregation is doing well and plans are underway to secure a parcel of land where and mission centre can be constructed.

Tintern: A Women's Health Day was held on Saturday, April 16. The congregation's Bible Bowl was held on May 1.

Waterloo: The Great Lakes Bible College graduation ceremony and promotion dinner was held Saturday, April 30, at Carmen's in Hamilton. Being honoured were: Philip Brown and Derek Czeban, with the Bachelor of Religious Education Degree; Greg Whitfield, with the Diploma of Biblical Studies; Shawn LeBlanc, Glen Robbins, and Micah Jones, with the Certificate of Biblical Studies. Walter Straker was guest speaker. An Encouragement Team meeting and potluck was planned for May 1. Bill Schwarz, Waterloo preacher, has resigned effective the end of July to pursue further education in completing his master's degree and then working for his PhD. A special ladies' class was scheduled for May 10 with the Region of Waterloo Public Health Unit, to hear a free Women's Health Presentation.

Windsor (West Side): On April 28 the Keenagers met to study the return from exile in the books of Ezra and Nehemiah. Colleen & Anas Raja are leading a new service project for grades 1-3 to collect pop-can tabs. Monday Night for the Master is held each week.



August 6 - 12, 2005

Featured Teacher:

Bill Schwarz

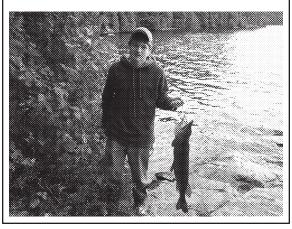
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Space is limited, and early application is encouraged.



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by Marion Waugh 6931 Farrell Bay Regina, SK S4X 3V4 Phone: (306) 545-0550 E-mail: waughr1@sasktel.net

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

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Central Valley (Abbotsford): Norm and Jen Weir, with travel partners John and Willodene Wedler, plan to leave June 16 for the two First Nations Villages in B.C.'s Far North as they continue to make use of a motor home in the enlarging of the borders of God's Kingdom. Norm says that now that they know what to expect, he hopes to concentrate on conducting numerous home Bible studies. They may also be able to hold group studies during the evening in a small log church building in Tsay Keh that they used some last September. They are hoping that construction of one in Fort Ware will have been completed by the time they arrive, and that they are permitted to use it, as well. Through the winter they have

been able to maintain contact with several who have come to Vancouver for surgical procedures. A number of others have continued their correspondence studies. The first outing for a new children's class was a Nature Walk around Hicks Lake on May 15, which was followed by a wiener/marshmallow roast at the home of Kurt and Eroca Wedler in Agassi. Raymond Fillion, who served as leader, taught fire starting, knife throwing, and tomahawk tossing skills to those participating. Curtis and Corinne Freeman are teaching the study called "God Made It All Perfect". In an invitation to parents to share in the excitement of their children, a worksheet is sent home each week so that they can see what their child is studying and help reinforce it. Although a study verse is given, students are not expected to memorize all of them, as some are long and sometimes unusual, but these are reinforced during the study period. Students must have 1) A good attitude toward each other, and 2) An apron or large shirt to cover their Sunday clothes since experiments are done during a number of classes. Several Field Trips planned include gardening every other week, camping on the Vedder River, and fishing for Salmon this fall.

Burnaby: Four new deacons assumed their duties in May. They are Mike McClure, who will assist Stewart Noel in taking care of Education; Felix Yong, in charge of Finances; Tyler Knibbs and James Lamond, to look after Facilities. Garnet Andrews, who has been in charge of Finance, will assume John Clelland's duties as Missions Director. Several ladies have been asked to coordinate events under a new plan that will create teams to work together for three to six months. This will take all of the responsibility off of one person. Burnaby's two ministers and their wives chaperoned three vans of young people to the Pepperdine lectures in early May. A total of 19 went from this congregation. Mac Stewart was added to God's family on May 24.

City Church (E. Vanc.): Steven Hasbrouck, Jr. continues to do most of the preaching for this congregation in order to give Steve, Sr. more time for Bible classes through the week. Steve, Sr. was a speaker at the Pepperdine lectures, and also made a trip to Tennessee in an effort to obtain enough additional support to be able to stay in Vancouver.

Delta: Larry and Rose Waddell hosted a dinner and Harding Information evening on May 2. A number of local students and parents attended. Guest speaker was Chad Tappe, a recruiter for the University. Harding is located 60 miles northeast of Little Rock, AR., on a major U. S. highway. Enrolment now tops 5,000 students.

Oakridge: One of the original members

of the Oakridge congregation, Kay Saunders died on May 25. Kay had been a victim of Alzheimers for several years. She was the wife of Deed Saunders, whose mother willed the property that the Oakridge building is on for that purpose. Through the efforts of the Saunders family, and the Blundell and 12th Avenue congregations, the dream was realized in the early 60's. (See obituary elsewhere in this issue.)

Nanaimo: We welcomed Shawn Jewell, David's brother, who was baptized in March. Both live in Parksville.

Kamloops: Our preacher, Dane Bengard, and his family left Kamloops on May 15 for Susanville, CA., where he will be preaching for a congregation in the area for a period of time before they move to Mexicali, Mexico, to work with his brother. Dane studied the Spanish language in preparation for a mission trip to Cuba two years ago.

MANITOBA

Winnipeg (Central): A Kid's Rally was held May 13 and 14.We rejoice with Nathan Trout and the angels in heaven in his baptism on March 20. A family service day is to be held June 18.Our youth group has adopted a section of the TransCanada Highway to pick up the trash. Following the clean up, a barbecue and fun night was held.

SASKATCHEWAN

Regina (Northwest): Having made the deci-

sion to move with Western Christian College from Dauphin, MB to Regina. SK, several staff members dreamed of planting an outreaching church "to serve God with devotion and seek the lost with compassion [Mark 12:30; Luke 19:10]" (excerpt from our Strategic Planning Document). Having met and planned for over a year, the Northwest Church of Christ was launched during the summer of 2003. The past two years have been a roller-coaster ride of trial-anderror. Our primary focus to achieve this mission is the cell church model where all members participate in a cell making the work of ministry and evangelism light with many hands. Our dream is to build a community where people grow in Christ-likeness, commit deeply to one-another, and invite the lost into living God's life. - Reported by Mike Coghlin

MONTANA

Three Forks: Our average church attendance has grown to over 50. The interns at Bozeman, Belgrade and Three Forks planned a youth retreat for the teens from area churches in May. A class on Revelation is being taught Wednesday evenings. Summer plans include Sojourners coming in July to help plan a Ladies Day for July 9.

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Israel: Two amazing things took place during the Passover in Jerusalem. A young Orthodox man who was sent a few years ago to spy and sabotage the Lord's work in the Netivyah Bible School called Joe Shulam and repented. He expressed his regret for the damage that he has caused and was baptized into the Lord, participating in the Passover Seder with the Jerusalem Congregation. A second young Orthodox man, who was sent to harass together with the first, has also called and expressed his desire to study matters of faith in the Messiah. Brother Shulam met to study with him the following week.

Island of Nias: "The 8.7 earthquake that hit this island in Indonesia had a far greater impact in terms of deaths, injuries and property damage than the Tsunami," wrote Dennis Cady, the "Partners in Progress" man who was in a hotel that collapsed. "Our people were doing so much good, and things were going so well," he said, pointing out that the impact of the

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earthquake, fortunately, was only on the one island.

Cambodia: Dr. Rick and Gail Northern, from Hot Springs Village, AR., will be moving to Cambodia this fall to manage the Mekong River Clinic Boat. The boat, which is under construction, is being especially designed for the mission of the church in providing health care for hundreds of people who are without any, along with introducing them to Christianity. "This is a dream come true," Dr. Northern said. "We have taken our family on short term medical mission trips since our children were small, and made taking the gospel to those who have never heard it a priority for our lives." He has been working toward going into full-time missions for more than 20 years, and will leave his thriving dental practice prior to his 50th birthday. In addition to aiding suffering people, local health care professionals will receive training, and churches will be planted all along the banks of this mighty river which runs from one end of Cambodia to the other.

Ukraine (Donetsk): Students in the Bible Institute so wanted May 9, the day of celebrating victory over Nazi Germany, off to be with family and friends that they were willing to come to school Saturday to make up the day! Some of the boxes shipped from Lubbock, TX., containing medical supplies donated by Jay Don's niece, Angela Witherspoon, arrived. Idong, a Nigerian doctor who has treated Mary Lee, was thrilled to receive part of them, and is using it for poor people in need of help. In Marioupol, Tim and Mina Burow have done a great job of turning a run-down kindergarten building into a fine facility to house the church, with a second floor to be used as a "half way" house for orphans. Orphans normally have to leave the orphanage at age 16. Most of them have nowhere to go or anything to do, resorting to drugs, crime, prostitution, and the like, or suicide. Two young single men here have made it their work in Ukraine to start establishing "half way" houses where these kids can live and be taught about Jesus while learning a trade. It was thrilling to the Rogers to see and learn about other works going on in Ukraine. Dr. Hillary Motsinger, who works with the New Life Behaviour Ministry and had been in Russia in April, spent two days with the school to hold a Seminar on Prison Ministry. Several students are ex-prisoners who were converted in prison. Many already work in the Prison Ministry, so material he presented was of great benefit to them." One Sunday at 'Cup of Life', three were baptized. As we were sitting there singing, "How Great Thou Art" in Russian and English, chills ran all over me as I thought how truly remarkable this all is. We, as Americans/Canadians are singing praises to God after three have

just been "born again" in a former atheistic Soviet country, where just a few short years ago this would have never happened. But God is more powerful than man's laws, walls have come down, and we now have brothers and sisters in former Soviet countries and people who once didn't acknowledge God are bowing down and obeying HIM! "Mary Lee wrote.

International Bible Correspondence School Report: In 2004, the school sent courses to 56 different nations, 14 of which are basically closed to missionary activities, or severely limit them. Some 9,000 individuals were taught from Toronto, while thousands more were taught from other cities in Canada and the USA. The names of 90 students who requested baptism were sent to missionaries for follow-up from Toronto alone. A new website Darrell Buchanan set up which will enable the reaching of many others: ibcschool.ca/>. In addition to all the grading involved, seven tracts were revised, as well as the studies in the courses of Matthew, Mark. and John. A study of the book of James was nearing completion. Over 60% of the students taking the IBC courses live in Islamic nations or where there is a strong Muslim presence.

Japan (Sendai): Please praise God for: 1. York Choir Mission Trip. 40 students and three adults with the York College Choir visited Japan for 18 days in May and June to. See Dr. Clark Roush's report on the York College's website at www.york.edu. Excerpts follow: a. Sendai: 1st concert: "It was very different trying to bond with an audience through an interpreter. This was my first attempt at doing so, and Jonathan's first attempt at translating in public like that. He did stupendously! It is difficult to judge how an audience is receiving you when the language barrier is there. I guess the music spoke sufficiently. When the audience started clapping in unison, we returned for an encore and closed with 'Lord, Make Me Thine Instrument.' The mission team was absolutely thrilled with the attendance and the result of the evening. 2nd concert: "We sang to a packed house (600 seats available!). The Japanese people are SO appreciative and gracious. The mission team is ecstatic about the contacts and connections occurring because of our concerts." b. Hachinohe: "The church is only around 10 members. What we found was one of the most incredible groups of God's people we have ever met. Those who were not busy with cleaning, scrubbing, etc., were downtown passing out flyers advertising LST and our concert. I had prepped the students to sing for a few no differently than they sing for many - that the important thing was to encourage a struggling congregation. We walked out on stage and there were over 200 people in attendance! We returned to Sendai and spent 3 hours in prayer for the church in

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Japan, the church at large, and the nation of Japan. I could not possibly have known the richness this trip would hold for us spiritually, emotionally, educationally, and musically." 2. 2005 LST teams: 18 LST teams will work in Japan this summer. 3. Ben Berry's support: Ben's support has been lagging for some time. To alleviate this situation, the York, Nebraska, Church of Christ (the Sendai team's US sponsoring congregation) recently had a special contribution on Ben's behalf. They hoped to raise \$9,000 but instead collected \$14,000! The Sendai team appreciates the many Christians - in both Canada and the US - who support the Sendai work so generously. Urgent Prayer Request: Kimiko Usami-san, member of the Tomobe, Japan, congregation who has been attending Oklahoma Christian University, was recently diagnosed with aggressive breast cancer and had to return to Japan for urgent medical care. Marlin Ray, Tomobe missionary, says Kimiko is desperately needed in Japan, and asks prayers for her. Marlin may be contacted at marlinr@lapis.plala.or.jp. To receive information or reports, contact Bramalea Church of Christ - 905-792-2297, or bramaleacofc@bellnet.ca; Joel Osborne - joelosborne@yahoo.com; Jonathan and Michiko Straker - jstrake@yahoo.com; or the Sendai website - www.sendaimissions.com.

SENDAI BIBLE CHALLENGE

June 2005						
1	Wednesday	I Kings	14-15	I Corinthians	1	
2	Thursday	I Kings	16-18	I Corinthians	2	
3	Friday	I Kings	19-20	I Corinthians	3	
4	Saturday	I Kings	21-22	I Corinthians	4	
5	Sunday	II Kings	1-3	I Corinthians	5	
6	Monday	II Kings	4-6	I Corinthians	6	
7	Tuesday	II Kings	7-9	I Corinthians	7:1-19	
8	Wednesday	II Kings	10-12	I Corinthians	7:20-40	
9	Thursday	II Kings	13-14	I Corinthians	8	
10	Friday	II Kings	15-16	I Corinthians	9	
11	Saturday	II Kings	17-18	I Corinthians	10:1-18	
12	Sunday	II Kings	19-21	I Corinthians	10:19-33	
13	Monday	II Kings	22-23	I Corinthians	11:1-16	
14	Tuesday	II Kings	24-25	I Corinthians	11:17-34	
15	Wednesday	I Chronicles	1-3	I Corinthians	12	
16	Thursday	I Chronicles	4-6	I Corinthians	13	
17	Friday	I Chronicles	7-9	I Corinthians	14:1-20	
18	Saturday	I Chronicles	10-12	I Corinthians	14:21-40	
19	Sunday	I Chronicles	13-15	I Corinthians	15:1-28	
20	Monday	I Chronicles	16-18	I Corinthians	15:29-58	
21	Tuesday	I Chronicles	19-21	I Corinthians	16	
22	Wednesday	I Chronicles	22-24	II Corinthians	1	
23	Thursday	I Chronicles	25-27	II Corinthians	2	
24	Friday	I Chronicles	28-29	II Corinthians	3	
25	Saturday	II Chronicles	1-3	II Corinthians	4	
26	Sunday	II Chronicles	4-6	II Corinthians	5	
27	Monday	II Chronicles	7-9	II Corinthians	6	
28	Tuesday	II Chronicles	10-12	II Corinthians	7	
29	Wednesday	II Chronicles	13-14	II Corinthians	8	
30	Thursday	II Chronicles	15-16	II Corinthians	9	

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

The Land of the Rising Sun A Land of the Risen Son

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

Bramalea church of Christ 750 Clark Blvd. / Brampton, ON L6T 3Y2 (905) 792-2297 Or you can clip and mail the form below.

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Father, Forgive Them... continued from page 3

and extremely vicious criminal that he was holding prisoner, and asked us to choose between him and the Nazarene. At the prompting of our gracious leaders, we chose the criminal Barabbas to be thus ransomed, rather than the despised Nazarene. When Pilate asked us what he should do with the Nazarene, in concert we shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate finally capitulated, and, after having him flogged, he turned him over to a small band of Roman soldiers to be crucified.

As he was being led through the narrow streets of Jerusalem, physically exhausted from the long night's ordeal, the Nazarene stumbled beneath the cross he was carrying. Forthwith, the soldiers grabbed a visitor who was standing nearby, and compelled him to carry the cross after this so called King of the Jews. We were told that this hapless man was a pilgrim to the Passover just as we were. He had come from the south coast of the Mediterranean Sea, from a city called

Cyrene. His name, we were told, was Simon, and we watched his two sons, Alexander and Rufus, follow anxiously behind their father. We spoke to the boys and sought to console them for the shame they must feel for their father's humiliation. The soldiers had them bear the cross to a place called Golgotha and there they crucified him along with two desperadoes, one on each side of the Nazarene. Pilate placed three placards over the Nazarene's head, which, mockingly, I suppose, declared that he was "King of the Jews" The declarations were written in Latin, Greek and Aramaic.

When I asked one of the chief priests why it was so important that the Nazarene be killed by Roman crucifixion, instead of our own commonly used method of capital punishment, namely, stoning, he explained that there was some fear among our leaders that the

disciples of this renegade from Galilee might descend en masse upon us and stone some of us in retaliation for getting rid of their leader. We felt it was safer to have the Romans actually do away with him. This sounded sensible to Jude and me.

Our wives wanted to go to the scene of the crucifixions, but not until after the gory part was completed. When we arrived at the scene, the only sign of the suffering was the excruciating looks on the victims' faces, and the drops of blood oozing from their wrists and ankles. We could hear mumbled mutterings from the two desperadoes, then suddenly in a clear and resonant voice we heard the Nazarene cry out in tender tones, "Father, forgive them, they do not know what they are doing!"

We lingered there a while longer, and we heard him speak to one of the by-standers, whom we presumed must be one of his followers, and give instructions in the same tender tones, about taking good care of his mother, who was standing near the foot of the cross with a dozen or so other women, all weeping copiously.

Judith and I were completely dumfounded! How could a man, whom we knew to be such a scoundrel, speak so tenderly to his mother, and indeed, to all of us? We returned to our encampment at the city's edge, and confided to other friends our emotional dilemma, but they were of no help. There seemed to be no rationale for such contradictory behavior.

We felt certain that time would bring some explanation to this puzzle, but strangely the situation grew more and more complex. A few days later the word was out that two of the members of the Sanhedrin had turned traitor, or at least, had become so sympathetic to the Nazarene that they gave him an honorable burial in one of their own rock-hewn tombs. But that wasn't all. Soon we were apprised of the fact that his followers had stolen his body from the tomb, and were proclaiming that

he had risen from the dead. In fact, a woman from Magdala on the shore of Lake Galilee, testified to all and sundry, that she had talked with the Nazarene after he rose from the dead, and that he had told her that he was returning to Galilee to meet his followers on a certain mountain, which they knew.

It seemed incredible to believe that this woman's tale could be true, but it was also extremely difficult to believe that Roman guards would so casually let a corpse escape from their custody. Surely when everything had settled down, perhaps the real truth would come to light. When days had passed, and we had no clarification of what had taken place, we decided that some of us should go to Galilee, and especially to Nazareth, to learn more about this stranger.

However, before we were ready to go north, Jude and I recalled that the Nazarene had



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told us that he was not a Nazarene by birth, but rather that he had been born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the city of David. Since Bethlehem was so near by, we decided that we should go there first to learn what we could about this Jesus, before going to Nazareth in Galilee.

Just before we reached Bethlehem, we passed by Rachel's tomb, where she was laid to rest after the death of her second son, whom she called Benoni, but Jacob, his father, not liking the meaning of Benoni¹ changed the name to Benjamin.² Rachel's tomb was one of the sights that we had eagerly wished to see, and now we had. Of course the town of Bethlehem was itself one of the prize places to visit for its own sake. Was it not the birthplace of Israel's greatest king, and the scene of the story of Ruth, the Moabite girl, and her dearly loved mother-in-law, Naomi?

As soon as we arrived in Bethlehem, we went directly to an inn to see what we might learn. When we enquired of the innkeeper if he was aware of the story that a baby called Jesus had been born in this town about thirty years earlier, he eagerly informed us that his father had been the proprietor of that very inn, when this marvelous event occurred. He told us a man named Joseph from Galilee, had come all the way from Nazareth to register for Roman taxation purposes. His young wife was on the verge of giving birth to their first child. However, so many were there to register for this tax, that there was absolutely no room for any more in the inn. Consequently, my father tried to make them as comfortable as possible in the cow stable. There she gave birth to this remarkable baby boy

The next day we were introduced to an aging shepherd who told us that he was one of the shepherds keeping watch over their flock that memorable night, when they were suddenly visited by an angel, announcing the birth of a descendant of David that very night in the town of Bethlehem. We hastened into the town, he said, and found everything just as the angel had told us.

We spoke next day to an elder who

was sitting at the gate, and we asked him if he knew anything about what became of the baby that was born here so mysteriously many years ago. There were tears in his eyes before he finished telling us his story. This Joseph, he told us, set up a carpenter shop in Bethlehem and seemed prepared to make this his home. They had just settled into new lodgings and were quite prepared to make Bethlehem their future home when, one day, a little less than a year after they had arrived in Bethlehem, they had strange visitors. They were wise men, or magi, from Persia who declared that a star had guided them to Bethlehem to see a little boy who was, they said, destined to be the King of the Jews. Among the numerous gifts they presented to the little fellow and his parents was some gold. This must have proved most helpful to them in the light of the event that immediately unfolded.

He continued his story, saying, "As soon as the magi had hurriedly left, bypassing Jerusalem this time, because they seemed to be afraid of the temperamental King Herod. Joseph anxiously bundled up his wife and little lad, and headed west for Egypt. A couple of days later, some of Herod's soldiers rode into the town and seized and murdered all the small children, two and under." Joseph must have had some news or premonition of this dastardly event to have escaped so successfully before it occurred. "He and his family never returned to Bethlehem, as far as I know."

"We have heard rumors," he continued, "that they returned to Nazareth from Egypt, and that lately while visiting Jerusalem, he was tried and crucified, as a seditionist by the Romans authorities." We made our way back to our compound in Jerusalem, just as confused as ever. We wondered, if what we had just learned was known to the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem.

Macoun, SK

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¹ Benoni means son of my sorrow

² Benjamin means son of my right hand.

Editorial continued from page 4

I am – what I want my people to be and how I want them to live." It is our conviction that teaching and following anything less than this cannot be faithfulness to our Lord.

By promoting New Testament Christianity, we are trying to put forward to our world the pure, simple message of the Gospel of Christ and His Way, as was done by the early believers. We do not seek to be exclusive or foster elitism, as human beings often do. However, we also understand that the teachings of scripture come from Jesus, not man. To teach less would be to deny the teaching of Christ. Many people do not want to hear the Word of God. They want the religious pluralism of our post-modern world. They want the right to create their own spirituality and way to God. They want subjective emotionalism and entertainment rather than truth. As Johann Baptist Metz wrote about the religious slogan of today, he said it is "Religion, yes – Church, no."

To truly promote New Testament Christianity, we must first understand the idea ourselves of the Way of Christ. We need a vision for what it means to follow Christ. Second, as the saying goes, we must "practice what we preach" and live the way Jesus lived. We need to identify ways we may have drifted away from the life and community taught in scripture. Third, we need to pass on this vision to others. To those outside of Christ, this means telling them the good news of the cross. To believers, it is challenging them to hear the full voice of Jesus through His word and giving Him pure, total devotion.

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Christian Youth continued from page 7

low position. Do not be conceited." (Romans 12:16b) If we look at people as being of either high or low position we are already under Satan's influence and will find this passage difficult. The problem with seeing people as being of either high or low or even medium position is that we are judging by superficial standards, we are judging by what we see. Generally we like to associate with those who are successful so that we will appear successful as well or perhaps we are hoping that some of their success might just rub off on us. We want to be part of the "in crowd" - even adults want to be part of the "in crowd" - but if we want to be a part of the "in crowd" for what they can do for us aren't we being selfish? Jesus loved those who were the "in crowd" of his day and he was often found in their homes sharing a meal, celebrating a wedding, or just visiting. Jesus loved them and sought to include them in his kingdom. He wasn't looking to get something from them but to give them something. There is nothing wrong with developing friendships with popular people unless we are doing it for what we can get out of it. Jesus also associated with those that his culture had entirely rejected, he touched and healed the lepers, he stopped a crowd from killing a sexually immoral woman, he went to eat at the home of a hated tax collector, and these people were never the same again, rather they made positive changes in their lives. Don't be conceited, associate with those that our culture says have a low position, share Jesus' love with them, share yourself with them and God will bless your for it.

If we are going to love like Jesus we must love our enemies. "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." (Matthew 5:43-44) We don't like to think of ourselves as having any enemies, so why don't you think of it this way: When someone insults you instead of responding with an insult of your own give them a compliment. When someone seeks to do you harm, don't strike back but instead do something nice. When someone cuts you off in traffic, look for an opportunity up the highway to let him or her in. I know how hard that is but with the love of Jesus in our hearts it becomes possible.

When we love others like Jesus loves us the light of our example will shine brightly and they will know that we are Christians by our love. BMC

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OBITUARIES

Allen, Doris Joan

Known by most Christians in the Vancouver area for her faithfulness, Joan (Humberstone) Allen went on to her reward on May 12 after a brief illness. She was found to have pancreatic cancer and it was too advanced for teartment. A memorial service was held at the Burnaby building on May 14, with Don Johnston and Andy Aaron of the Maple Ridge church, where Joan was a member, officiating.

Joan's nine children and many of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren were present for the service. They had all come to celebrate Mother's Day with her the previous Sunday. Two pictures of what would be their final complete family gathering were a tribute to her determination to be a part of it.

Joan was born on August 16, 1930, in The Pas, Manitoba, of English parents. She was a direct descendant of King George III, as a result of his first marriage to a commoner that was not recognized by the nobility. Joan graduated from Grade 13 in The Pas, later working in a Winnipeg hospital. She also worked in Rossland, Cranbrook, and Victoria,

B. C., where she met Bill Allen in 1952. They were married the following year. After several years of service in the Salvation Army, Joan was baptized into Christ in 1974 during a door-knocking campaign in Coquitlam, B. C. In spite of not being able to drive, she always found a way to the services of the church.

She was known for her sharp witticisms, resourcefulness, and generosity. When asked by her doctor if she had a will, she instantly replied, "Oh, I've got a strong will." Her life was dominated by her determination to serve God and her devotion to her family. She loved reading, gardening, and playing Scrabble. Her four sisters and one brother, all of her nine children, 27 grandchildren and three greatgrandchildren, survive Joan.

Information provided by Barbara Lewis

Saunders, Kathleen Kay

On April 25, 2005, Kathleen Kay (Taylor) Saunders, adored Wife, loving Mother, special Grandma and Great Nana passed from this life. Her time here was filled with joy, good friends and happy memories. Her parents, brother and sister-in-law, Ray and Betty Taylor, and one daughter, Mary-Kay Brady, predeceased her. Kay closed her eyes with a smile on her face for her husband, Meredith Deed Saunders.

She also leaves a daughter, Diane (Arnie) Poetker; son, Robert (Trish) Saunders; son-in-law, John Brady; nine grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Kay was raised in the Kerrisdale section of Vancouver, and attended Magee High School. She graduated from UBC in 1938 with three degrees: Bachelor of Science, Registered Nurse, and Public Health Nurse. She was married to Deed in 1938, and continued to be active in many organizations. She loved cooking, sewing, knitting and bridge, along with entertaining and travel.

She was a gentle, smiling lady who moved the hearts of those who were in contact with her. Her influence and love will be felt forever. A Memorial Service commemorating her life will be at 2:00 p.m. on June 25, 2005, which would have been her 67th wedding anniversary, at the Oakridge church of Christ with Dr. Jim Hawkins officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to A.S.K. Friendship Society, 2733 W. 41st Ave, Vancouver, BC V6N 3C5, who cared for her daily and made her feel special, or Delta View Volunteer Society, 9321 Burns Road, Delta, B.C. V4K 3N2, where she was shown compassion, love and gentle care during her last eight years.

Information provided by Barbara Lewis

BOOKEREVIEWS

Books to be reviewed in this column should be sent to **Keith Thompson**, Editor, 348 Dixon Blvd., Newmarket, ON L3Y 5C4 (Books may be ordered from the Gospel Herald) **email:**bookreviews@gospelherald.org



Getting Through The Tough Stuff by Charles R. Swindoll W Publishing Group, A Division of Thomas Nelson Publishers, \$22.99 (U.S)

Here is another superb book from the prolific pen of Charles R. Swindoll. The cover of the book has a car with the hood up and smoke coming from the engine, an appropriate picture for the many "tough" things can happen in life.

Swindoll has written a number of very helpful books. He has a great gift for writing on great Biblical themes in a very clear fashion. He uses many classic illustrations to bring out the concepts he is discussing. I suppose I have more books by him than any other evangelical author.

This may well be his best book yet. We all have to go through many tough situations in life. Most people who have lived for very long will have faced many of the same "tough stuff."

The Introduction begins: "Life and tough stuff go hand in hand. They typically appear as gradually intensifying storms. Sometimes sudden winds of adversity hit hard against us as our barometers take a dive to the bottom of the gauge."

The book deals with the following:

Temptation, Misunderstanding, Anxiety, Shame, Doubt, Divorce, Remarriage, Confrontation, Pain, Hypocrisy, Inadequacy, Disqualification, and Death. If this book helps you deal with any of these problems it will be worth the price of the book many times over.

Finding God In Unexpected Places by Philip Yancey, Waterbrook Press, 272 large pages, 26.95 (Can.)

This is a "Revised and Updated" edition of a book that was published several years ago. Yancey is an extremely capable evangelical author. He has written seventeen books, including "Soul Survivor", "What's So Amazing About Grace?", and "The Jesus I Never Knew." He has also written for the evangelical magazine "Christianity Today." He was in Toronto several years ago and I was able to hear him speak and was not at all disappointed.

The book has seven sections. First, "Finding God Without Really Looking." Second, "Finding God On The Job." Third, "Finding God In The Rubble." Fourth, "Finding God In A Fractured Society." Fifth, "Finding God Among the Headlines." Sixth, "Finding God In The Cracks". Seventh, "Finding God Within The Church."

In the Introduction Yancey says that "Christians under duress often show a tendency to withdraw from the world, pull up the drawbridge and retreat behind a protective moat. I feel sad about this trend because it directly contradicts Jesus' command to act like salt and light in the midst of darkness."

Yancey will make you think. You don't have to agree with everything he writes to get this result. Any author who accomplishes that is well worth reading.

Get Real, Real Teens Making A Real Difference In The Real World by Glenn Cilley & Chuck Webster, 108 pages, \$7.95 (U.S.)

This is one of the best books for teens that we have ever seen. Wendell Winkler, well known Gospel preacher, says "I pray every congregation of the Lord will include "Get Real" in their teenage curriculum. Every student needs a copy."

The authors present seven characteristics of believers for Christians, young and old, to follow. "They are committed to obeying God rather than men. They can't help talking to people about Jesus. They live pure lives that are difficult to criticize. Their best friends are Christians. They believe in prayer. They work hard to be bridge-builders in the church. They know living as a Christian has a price and they love it when being a Christian costs them something. See Acts 4.

In addition to their very powerful use of Scripture, they give Excellent illustrations on all their points.

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

This listing includes most but not all of the churches of Christ in Canada along with a few in bordering states. Please help us to keep it useful by updating the information regularly. Listings are \$9.00 per year and changes are \$4.50 each. The information, unless otherwise specified, is in the following order: Place of meeting; times of Bible Class, Worship and mid-week gatherings; mailing address if different from meeting place; (Post Office is at the beginning unless otherwise indicated); preacher; phone.

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

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

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

CAMROSE: 4901-42 St. T4V 1A2 Sun. 10:30 am. Thurs. 7:00 pm 780-672-1220 (off); Elders: Bob Watts, 780-672-3671; and Dennis Lindstrand, 780-672-4978.

EDMONTON: 13015 - 116 Avenue, T5M 3C9. (780) 455-1049; FAX 454-9545; Sun. 9:30am, 11:00am; Wed. 7:00pm CARE Groups at the building and in various homes. Evangelists: David Friesen, 460-4258 and Tim Johnson, 461-0323. Elders: Henri Bouchard, Vern Hibbard, Walter Hreczuch, Peter Ross; www.edmontonchurchofchrist.org, e-mail: church5@telus.net.

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

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

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

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ABBOTSFORD (Central Valley): #5 – 2580 Cedar Park Place V2S 6B2; Sun. 10,11; Tues. 7:30 at address above, Norm Weir, ev. (604) 850-8670 (off); 859-5973 (res). If no answer 852-5052; email: normjen@shaw.ca; website: http://allann.dyndns.org/cvcoc

BURNABY (Greater Vancouver): 7485 Salisbury
Ave. V5E 3A5; 9:45 & 11:15; Sunday School 10:30
(Midweek groups meet in homes. Call for times & locations.) Kirk Ruch, ev.: Kirk@SBChurch.ca;
Mike Parker, youth: FishFreaks@SBChurch.ca;
office: welcome@SBChurch.ca (604-522-7721)
Website: www.SBChurch.ca.

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

CHILLIWACK: Senior Citizens Bldg. Br 24, corner of Cook and Victoria St.; Sun. 10, 11; 7:00 p.m. at #102-8075 Mary Street at John Forman's house. Phone # 604-792-7806; Al McCutcheon, sec. 604-824-6703

CRESTON: Box 866, Creston, BC, V0B 1G0. Phone: 250-428-5937 or 250-428-4376.

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: (604) 943-0515 (off)

KAMLOOPS: Meets at 655 Holt Street (The Chris Rose Therapy Centre for Autism) Sunday 10:00 am; Mailing address: PO Box 971, V2C 6H1; 250-374-3512; Dane Bengard, ev., 250-377-3386

KELOWNA: 1317 Ethel St., Kelowna BC, V1Y 2X1; Building 250-861-9486, Sunday 10:45 a.m. Worship, Evangelist: Barrie Forman, 250-764-4313, sonlover@shaw.ca, cell 212-0080; Elders: Wayne Muirhead, 250-861-4008, marwayn@hotmail.com; Ted Windmill, 250-763-8445, edward windmill@telus.net

NANAIMO: 1720 Meredith Rd., Sun. 10:00, 11:00, Wed. meeting in homes 7:00 PM. Please phone for times and place. Grant Hannan Min. Office 758-9412 Cell, 729-1893; Wayne Peckett Sec. 758-6985.

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

PRINCE GEORGE: 4337 Ewen Dr.; Mailing Address: PO Box 2437, V2N 2S6; Sun. 10; For more information contact Grahame Somerville 562-6708, Leo Selzer 964-9102 or Office (250) 562-0502.

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

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

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

Vancouver (City Church): Trout Lake Community Centre, 3350 Victoria Drive; Worship service 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; (Mailing address: 6669 Granville Street, Vancouver, BC V6P 4X1) Stephen C. Hasbrouck, Sr., ev.; Ph: 604-263-3470

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

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

VICTORIA: 3460 Shelbourne St., V8P 4G5; Sun. 9:00 traditional service; 10:30 contemporary service; midweek in homes; (250) 592-4914 (off); contact Mr. Martin Moore; email: secretary@shelbournestreet.com website: www.shelbournestreet.com

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

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

CARMAN: Main Street S.; Sun. 10, 1:15; Wed. 7:30; Box 955, R0G 0J0; contact Ray Winkler (elder), 745-3226;

DAUPHIN: 220 Whitmore Ave. W; Mailing address: Box 70, Dauphin, R7N 279; Sun. worship 9:00 & 10:00; Sun. & Wed. nights call for details; (204) 638-6321 (off), Fax: 638-0872; Randy Foss, ev., email: wwyse@hotmail.com

MANSON: Bldg. in Manson Village; Sun. 10, 11; Box 2, R0M 1.J0; Wilf Rogers (204) 722-2293 or Lloyd Jacobs, (204) 722-2278, elders; Ken Starnes, sec. (204) 722-2085.

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

WINNIPEG (Central): 217 Osborne St. S., R3L 124; Sun. 10 worship, 11:15 Bible School, Wed. 7; Office: (204) 475-6462 Fax: (413) 677-6165 web site: http://www.winnipegchurch.ca; Jim Hobbs, sec. for elders (204) 261-9861; Wayne Turner, ev. (204) 257-7926 (res); wayne@winnipegchurch.ca Chad Celaire, youth min. (204) 284-6280 chad@winnipegchurch.ca

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

MONCTON: 365 Pine Glen Rd., Riverview (Moncton), E1B 4J8; Sun. 10, Wed. 7:30 p.m.; (506) 854-6887; Royal Maillet (506) 532-2956; other contact: Kenny Woodman (506) 525-9628

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

NEW YORK STATE

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

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

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

SARDINIA: Rt. 39, (1 mile west of Rt. 16), Sun. 10 & 11, Wed. 7 PM, mailing address: PO Box 186, Sardinia, NY, 14134, Glen Mueller, ev., (716)-496-5143, Cell (716)-560-6304, qemsar@adelphia.net

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

HALIFAX: 48 Convoy Ave., B3N 2P8; Sun. 10, 11; Midweek, check for day and place; ev. (902) 443-9628 (off), Wayne Taylor, sec. (902) 876-7402

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

SHUBENACADIE: Mill Village Church, 3613 Indian Rd.; Sun. 10:15, 11; Wed. 6:30; R.R. 1, B0N 2H0; D. Hallett (902) 758-2133; J. Mackey, (902) 758-2633.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

or Clare Preston, (905) 841-2272

AJAX (Serving Durham Region): 1 Cedar St.; Sun. 9:45, 11. 7; Call for mid-week information; Box 162, L1S 3C3; Ph. (905) 683-2477(off); Malcolm Porter, (905) 668 3346 res,

AURORA: 15216 Yonge St. S.; (entrance beside Benjamin Moore Paints); Sun. 9:30, Wed. 7:30; P.O. Box 71523, L4G 1L9; Contact: Scott & Linda Harvey, (905) 473-5631 or leave message; e-mail: cm **BARRIE:** 345 Grove St. E. (at Cook), L4M 2R6; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:00; (705) 722-7155 (off.).

BEAMSVILLE: 4900 John St., LOR 1B6; Sun. 9:30, 10:30 am, 6:00 pm small groups in various places (small group in library at building, Visitors welcome); Wed. 7:00; Don Smith, ev. 905-563-7655 (off); e-mail: don093@sympatico.ca

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

BRAMALEA: 750 Clark Blvd., (south of Hwy. 7 on Finchgate Boulevard), L6T 3Y2; (905) 792-2297; bramaleacofc@belnet.ca. Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Thurs. 7:30; Kevin Hunter, ev (905) 455-5796 (res); Walter Straker, ev (905) 789-1632 (res).

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

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

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

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

CORNWALL: 1702 Dover Road, K6J 1W1; Sun 10,11; Wed 7; Allen Bojarski, ev. Phone (613) 933-1825; Fax: (613) 933-2464; Emails: churchofchrist@cogeco.ca or abojarski@cogeco.ca; Website: http://home.cogeco.ca/~abojarski/index.html

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

GRIMSBY: 63 Casablanca Blvd., south of Q.E. exit; Sun. SS 11:05; Worship 9:45, Sun evening – 1 small group at building, 6 pm, during week – small groups; Box 181, L3M 4G3; (905) 945-3058 (off); other contact (905) 945-8668

GUELPH: The Evergreen Senior Center, 683 Woolwich St.; Sun. 10:30, 11; Wed. 7:30 (phone for location); c/o 25 Keys Crescent, N1G 5J7; David Azzoparde, sec. (519) 821-9179.

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

HAMILTON: 321 East 27th Street (at Fennell), L8V 368 (Mt. Hamilton); Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7:00 p.m., (905) 385-5775(off); Mike McCabe, ev., (905) 574-3022(h), mike_p_m@yahoo.com; Chris Gardner, sec., (905) 388-9174

HAMILTON (North): YMCA building, 79 James St. S.; Sun.10, 11 Wed. 7; Joe Sandassie, (905) 389-0714, 286 East 26th Street, Hamilton ON L8V 3E1

HAMILTON (West): Mohawk College, Fennell Ave./ West 5th St.; Sun. 9:30 and 10:30 (Please phone for Sun. p.m. and midweek information); P.O. Box 78041 Westcliffe PO, L9C 7N5; Wayne Page (905) 648-5100.

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

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HUNTSVILLE: 36 Hilltop Dr. P1H 1C5 (off Hwy. 11BN); Sun. 9:45, 11, 7; Wed. 8; Ken Skinner 705-382-2283 or Evelyn Preston, sec. 705-767-3237.

ICE LAKE (Manitoulin Island): 1-1/4 mile S. of Hwy 540; classes 9:45, worship 11:00, Sun; Les Cramp ev; 705-282-0974; PO Box 3, Mindemoya, ON POP 1S0.

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

KINGSTON: 446 College St., K7L 4M7; Sun. 10, 11: Wed. 7; (613) 546-5409 (off.); e-mail: kingstoncofc@aol.com; Richard Maddeaux, ev., Gordon Gibsdon, ev.

KITCHENER SOUTH: Kitchener City Hall (Learning Room) 200 King St. W.; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:30 in homes; Mailing address: Kitchener Church of Christ, P.O. Box 25040, SDM Hiway Centre Postal Outlet, Kitchener, ON, N2A 4A5; Hugh Pitcher 519-699-5263 or Julian Smith 519-742-8626.

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

LONDON (East): 380 Adelaide North, Tolpuddle Building Common Rm., entrance off of Adelaide at King St. S. Parking in Marshall Street Lot behind building. Sun: 9:45 a.m. Exhortation; 10:05 a.m. Bible Study; 11:00 Worship; contact Gordon Worrall (519)434-1981

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

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

NEWMARKET: 230 Davis Dr.; Sun. 9:45, 11:00, 6:30; Wed. 7:30; Box 21581, L3Y 8J1; Nathan Pickard, ev.; 905-895-6502(off); e-mail-pickardnathan@hotmail.com

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

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

OMAGH: 1412 Britannia Road W. at 4th line, Militon, L9T 2X8; Sun. 10, 11; 7 pm at church building; c/o Harold Ellis, Sec., R.R. #3, Campbellville, LOP 1B0; Bryan Meneer, ev. (905) 383-5259; 875-2939 (off).

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

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

PETERBOROUGH: The Board Room., Parkway Place Mall Landsdowne St.W. Sunday: 10 & 10:45 Mid-Week Study contact Peter McPherson at 705-742-5349 or Fred at 705-741-4031.

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

PORT COLBORNE: 700 Steele St., L3K 4Z2; Sun. 11, 10, 6:30; Wed. 6:30; (905) 834-5775 (off). ST. CATHARINES: 439 Ontario St. N., L2N 4M9; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 6; Wed. 7:30; 935-9581 (off.); Email: cofc@mergetel.com; WebSite: churchofchrist.n3.net

ST. THOMAS: 60 S. Edgeware Rd. N5P 2H6; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7 Midweek meeting in homes. Call for location. (519)782-4902.

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

SARNIA: 796 Errol Rd. E., N7V 2G7; Sun. 9:30, 10:45, 6:30; Wed. 7; David H. Dunn, ev.; (519) 542-4108 (res); (519)-339-1161 (off); email: dhdunn@sympatico.ca

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

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

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

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

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

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

STRATFORD: 478 Brunswick St.,N5A 3N6; Sunday Worship 10:00, Wed. Bible Study 7:30; voice mail (519) 273-5280; Larry Hoover (519) 271-9545;

SUDBURY: 2663 Bancroft Dr. P3B 1T7; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7:00; Edward Klym (ev), 705-560-3964, Wes Bailey, sec. 523-0933,

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

THESSALON: 8 Albert St. off Hwy. 17; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7:30; Guy Stopard, ev. 705-842-3340; Eric White, RR 2, POR 1L0 (705) 842-6533.

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

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

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

TORONTO (Bayview Ave.): 1708 Bayview Ave., M4G 304 (1 block S. of Eglinton); Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:30; Michael Hilborn, sec., mhilborn@rogers.com; 63 Campbell Ave., M6P 3T9; (416) 489-7405 (off.).

TORONTO (Scarborough): Scarborough Y.M.C.A., 230 Town Centre Court; Sun. 9 a.m., 10 a.m.; (Mailing Address: PO Box 47011, 300 Borough Dr., Scarborough, OM M1P 4Z7); Devon Bennett, ev., 905-686-2486, cell: 416-522-6237, Fax: 905-686-0612; e-mail: devon.bennett@sympatico.ca

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

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

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

WATERLOO: 470 Glenelm Cres., N2L 5C8; (519) 885-6330 (off); Sun, 9:30, 10:30, and 6:00 (except 4th Sunday), Wed 7:30; Javier Cuarezma, ev. (519) 743-2587 (res); Bill Schwarz, ev. (519) 885-2938 (res).

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

WELLAND: 72 Summit Ave., L3C 4G6; 11, 10, Wed 6:30 pm, call 905-732-2465 for alternate locations; David Steward, 834-5652; Harold Bruggen, ev. 732-2465

WEST MANITOULIN: Meets in homes, call ahead; Sun. 10:30. Mailing address: 10787 Hwy 540, R.R.1, Gore Bay, POP 1HO. Contact Bill Baker 705-282-2095 or Dieter Nollert 705-282-2908

WINDSOR (West Side): 2255 Totten St., N9B 1X6 (E. of Huron Church Rd.); 254-6262 or 945-4851; Sun. 9:45, 11, 5:30; Wed. 7:30; Drew Chapados, ev., 3713 Shinglecreek Crt., Windsor, N8W 5T8; (519) 250-4407; email: wsidecoc@wincom.net; www.geocities.com/wsidecoc.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MONTREAL (French): 2500 Charland, H1Z 1C5; Sun. 10:15, 11:00; Wed. 7:00 (Fr. class); 1st Sat. 6:30 p.m. "Phoebe" women's class; last Sat. 6:00 youth meeting; 387-6163 (off.); Fredeick Feruzi, ev e-mail: feruziki@hotmail.com

MONTREAL (English/French/Ashante/Ghanian): 598-5 th Avenue, Lachine; Sun. 10, 11, 6:30; Wed. 7:30 (English); Fri. 7 (French); PO Box 66 Westmount Station, H3Z 2T1; 514-637-7604; Leonard Amanatey, ev; email <churchofchristmontreal@hotmail.com>; website: www.churchofchristmontreal.com.

MONTREAL (Verdun - English/French): 503-5th Avenue, Verdun, OC H4G 2Z2; (514) 765-8919; English: Sun 10, 11; Wed. 7; Michael Mazzalongo, ev. 514-766-4911; email: Mazzalongo@videotron.ca; website: www.verduncoc.org French: Sun 11, 10; Wed. 7; Roger Saumur, ev. (450) 635-5105; email: rogersaumur@sympatico.ca

PLESSISVILLE: Centre Communautaire, André Côté, CP21, G6L 2Y6; Sun. 6 & 7 pm; Yvon Beaudoin, (418)728-5240; email: ybeaudoin@oricom.ca.

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

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

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

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

GRAVELBOURG: 300-2nd Ave. E.; Sun. 10:30, Box 507, S0H 1X0; Wendell Bailey, ev (306) 648-3435; Marvin Bandura, Sec. 648-3629

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

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

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

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

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

REGINA: Glen Elm, 1825 Rothwell St. S4N 2C3; (306) 757-1825; FAX 757-5727; Please call for times

SASKATOON: Sunday, coffee & fellowship 9:30, Worship 10, Wed. 7; Phone for summer schedule; Office: 343-7922; Bob Parker, ev, 343-7884; Outreach: Bernard Krogsgaard 373-3651; location & mail, 134 Cardinal Cres. S7L 6H6; Fax: 343-1589; e-mail: stooncofcoffice@sasktel.net

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

WAWOTA: Hwy. 48 W. of town; Box 454, S0G 5A0; Sun. 10; Mid-week call; Brent Olson, minister, 306-577-4992 or contact Cam Husband, 306-538-4585

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

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

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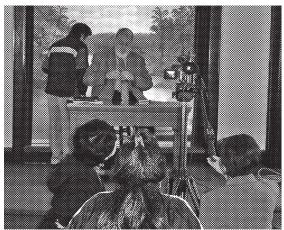
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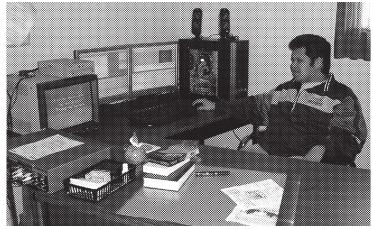
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The new Canadian production of Key to the Kingdom





The Canadian program is now being produced at the Strathmore Boulevard Church of Christ and the speaker is Max Craddock. The first of the new series is scheduled to be broadcast starting on June 10. We pray God will bless the continued outreach of Key.

Your support is needed to carry on this work. Please contact us with questions or comments.

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

website: keytothekingdom.ca



On the Vision Network

Friday mornings at 8:30 am (Eastern Time)