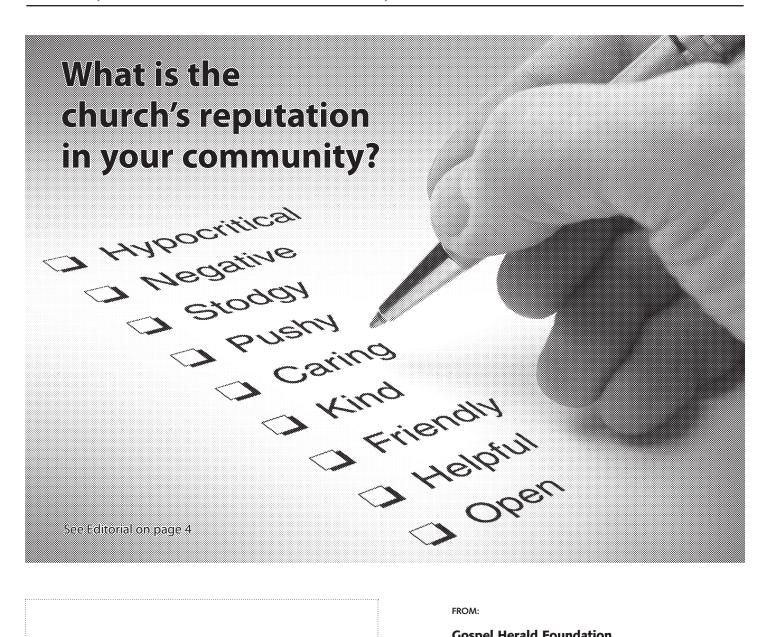


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Three Fatal Choices

Geoffrey Ellis

"alling away" (Heb. 6:6), or "apostatizing" (2 Thess. 2:3), is a serious matter. Eleven Muslim nations punish those who reject the Islamic faith with the death penalty and four others with imprisonment! Those Christians who reject Christ will lose out for eternity!

That which prompted the writing of the New Testament book of Hebrews was the real possibility of some Christians giving up their faith.

These had suffered persecution. But persecution was not what was threatening their about face. The writer asked them to remember their earlier suffering as an encouragement to their remaining faithful (Heb. 10:22-36).

Rather, the hesitant Christians of the Hebrew account were in danger of falling away because of their fatal choices!

Hebrews is an extended sermon. In the main, it contains a review of the central beliefs of Christianity. These center in Christ: Jesus Christ, the Son of God, superior to the angels, the incarnate son of man without fault, superior to Moses and to the Levitical priesthood, the mediator of the new covenant, the high priest who became the sacrifice that replaced the Jewish sacrificial system in a one-time sacrifice that had the true power to remove sin!

The writer's purpose in retelling these key truths of Christianity was to remind his hearers that they should reconsider these great truths of their faith. If they turn aside from God's final solution for man's sin problem, there was nowhere else where they could turn, but have only "a fearful expectation of judgment and raging fire that will consume the enemies of God" (Heb. 10:27).

The writer, following the practice of preachers everywhere, follows up his truth teaching with exhortation to live consistently with these truths. In fact, he does this three times in Hebrews: 3:7-4:13, 5:11-6:12, and 10:19-39.

What is consistent in these three exhortations is that in each case the move to reject the faith is a choice to be taken. Hebrews presents three fatal choices:

(1) Hebrews 3:7-4:13. Do not harden your hearts. Daily doses of neglect, resentment, carelessness, ingratitude,

Faithfulness is a daily choice and gratitude a daily motivation.

and questioning will result in unbelief and missing God's rest.

The example given is that of the ungrateful, grumbling Israelites in the wilderness after their deliverance from Egyptian slavery. Despite the visible evidence of God's presence (pillars of fire and smoke), plus the tabernacle in their midst, plus God's supplying food and water, as well as a generous and wise covenant for them to follow, they could only complain. God said, that generation would not enter into his rest, i.e. into the land of Canaan that flowed with milk and honey.

When Christians fail to "count their blessings," especially their delivery from slavery to sin, but rather mutter and grumble about what is wrong, they are engaging in a heart hardening process. God warns that the heart hardened Christian will not "enter my rest," i.e. heaven (4:1). "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your

hearts" (4:7). Faithfulness is a daily choice and gratitude a daily motivation.

(2) Hebrews 5:11-6:12. Do not stunt your spiritual life. Disdaining God's word, undervaluing present and future blessings, dishonouring Christ's death and failing to press on to maturity will bring one to the point of no return.

The writer, in his second exhortation, addresses his hearers' problem as that of "slow learning" (5:11). Sufficient time had elapsed from their conversion for many of his audience to have become teachers; instead they were still babies, craving only milk! This was not about capability, but rather about inclination, the unwillingness to expend the energy necessary to press on to maturity.

The problem of stunted growth for the Christian is the inability to process grace adequately. At the "elemental" (6:1) level, for the beginning Christian, grace is a matter of sin-repentance-forgiveness. For the mature Christian, grace includes forgiveness but also supplies empowerment for living the Christian life.

Everyone who comes to Christ receives the same rich blessings: "enlightenment, tasting the heavenly gift, sharing the Holy Spirit, tasting the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age" (6:4-5). Sadly, some fail to press into the full experience of these high privileges and are satisfied to remain at the a-b-c level of faith.

The Christian who stays stuck in Christian childhood is in danger of falling into "cheap grace," (cf. "shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?" Rom. 6:1a)—sin-repent,

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sin-repent, sin-repent! The problem with such one-dimensional living is that it becomes more and more difficult to experience genuine repentance. The fatal stage arrives: "It is impossible for those... if they fall away, to be brought back to repentance" (6:4a, 6a).

(3) Hebrews 10:19-39. Do not trivialize the spiritual privileges gained by the effective work of Christ. Willful, deliberate, persistent sinning boldly and insultingly rejects the very solution and sole means of rescue from spiritual death.

The first part of this passage, in vss. 19-25, has one "therefore..." two "since we have..." and three "let us..." The "therefore" gathers in all that the Hebrew writer has recounted heretofore about the supremacy of Christ. The two "since we have..." point to high privilege—entering the most holy place, in the very house of God, where our high priest, Christ, serves. The three "let us..." encourage drawing near to God with sincerity and faith, unswervingly with hope, while encouraging one another to love and good deeds. The question is: are these spiritual realities to be cherished or just fancy preacher's words to be brushed aside?

Clearly, for some of the preacher's audience, it was the latter. The result was that some were "deliberately sinning" (10:26). Clearly, these were neither valuing the privilege of faith nor recognizing the peril of their conduct.

To minimize the significance of the saving work of Christ and the present privilege of heavenly blessings has its counterpart in diminishing the seriousness of sinful conduct. On the other hand, to have a full perspective of the one gives clarity to the heinousness of the other. The Hebrew writer describes the latter—deliberate sin—as: "trampling under foot the Son of God, treating the blood of the covenant as an unholy thing, and insulting the Spirit of grace" (10:29).

Make Time for Worship, For Worship is a Time to...

Harold Bruggen

In Isaiah chapter 6, we can read of the call and consecration of Isaiah to his office as a prophet of God. In this vision, Isaiah gets a glimpse of the Lord's presence. Even though this chapter does not reference worship, there are many aspects of our worship in it, for in worship, we too come into the Lord's presence. I encourage you to read the verses referenced from Isaiah 6 and note the following concerning our worship:

- Worship is a time to revere God (vs. 1-4). Isaiah's vision begins with God lifted up and extolled by all present. In our worship, let us too give God all glory and honour. He is on the throne and lifted high. Our worship should be a time to praise God for His excellent greatness.
- Worship is a time to realize our needs (v. 5). In God's presence, Isaiah recognized his own human frailty. In our worship, we too must admit our inferiority and worthlessness without God. We need to realize

our true spiritual needs before Him. Our worship is a time to humble ourselves, mourn over our weaknesses, and pour out our hearts.

- Worship is a time to remember our cleansing (vs. 6-7). Isaiah in his vision was purged of his sins how thrilling that must have been! When we worship, we also ought to express thanks for our cleansing through Jesus and His incredible blood sacrifice. Our worship is a time to reflect on God's awesome and demonstrated love for us.
- Worship is a time to render service (v. 8). When asked who would go and do the work of the Lord, Isaiah responds with the now famous line, "Here am I! Send me." As we worship, each of us should be renewed and rededicated toward the work of the Lord. Our worship is a time to be inspired to keep on keeping on with the faith and going out and serving the Lord by serving others.

Welland, Ontario

To learn of, partake of and be benefitted by the sacred things of God, only to dishonour and desecrate them is the ultimate fatal choice. "No sacrifice for sin is left" for such (10:26).

The Hebrew writer clearly teaches that "falling away" or "apostasy" is a choice, truly a fatal choice.

The preacher's exhortations in the three sections studied are filled with imperatives to make the right choice. Check out these encouragements:

- (1) Encourage one another daily (3:13). Hold confidence firmly to the end (3:14). Be careful (4:1). Do not harden your heart (4:7). Make every effort (4:11).
- (2) Train to distinguish between good and evil (5:14). Go on to matu-

rity (6:1). Show the same diligence to the very end (6:11). Make your hope sure (6:11). Imitate faith and patience (6:12).

(3) Draw near with sincere heart and assurance of faith (10:22). Hold unswervingly to the hope professed (10:23). Spur each other to love and good works (10:24). Remember your early days of suffering (10:25). Don't throw away your confidence (10:35). Persevere (10:36). Believe (10:39).

Faith is a choice. Rejecting Christ is a choice. The fatal choice may creep up a little at a time, but in the final it is a choice nonetheless. Rather, since we have such wonderful blessings in Christ, let us make it the faithful choice.

Waterloo, Ontario

EDMORIAL

What Is Our Reputation?

Wayne Turner



ave you ever asked yourself, "What is the church's reputation in our community? What are we known for?" It's an important question and worth serious consideration.

Anyone who has travelled and visited other congregations is likely to understand

the question and its significance. For example, have you ever visited a congregation where no one spoke to you? Some churches come across as closed and unfriendly. Or, you may have visited where everyone was friendly, warm and welcoming. Occasionally, you might have visited a congregation where the whole tone seemed tense, suggesting that some issue or problem was creating a sense of tension. It might be, in such a group, that the members didn't even speak to one another, let alone a visitor. We could likely come up with many possible descriptions that could be used of churches: hypocritical, negative, stodgy, pushy, caring, kind, friendly, helpful, open, the list goes on.

However, there are larger questions to be considered about the church's reputation. It might be known as sleepy and inactive or passive and isolated. What about those churches known in the community for their inability to get along with each other, where there might be multiple congregations that are the result of various splits and have no contact with each other despite being in a small community. Or, is the church known for its involvement in the community, for having a warm, serving heart? What is its reputation for its worship and fellowship?

In October, Malcom Gladwell visited Winnipeg. Gladwell is a well-known journalist, author and speaker who presently lives in New York City and writes for The New Yorker. In 2005, Time included him in its list of the 100 most influential people. While in Winnipeg, Gladwell was interviewed by a reporter from the CBC. In the course of the conversation, he mentioned how happy he was to be in Winnipeg. His next project is on forgiveness. Though born in England, he was raised in Elmira, Ontario, and had learned that Mennonites have a reputation for taking forgiveness very seriously (as well, we should add, peace-making and conflict resolution). In particular, he had interviewed Wilma Derksen, whose 13-year-old daughter was murdered several years ago. Wilma, a former journalist, and her

husband, have become well-known for their forgiving attitude toward the murderer. Anyone familiar with the Mennonites knows that they have their problems and issues like any religious group. However, they are known, globally, for their forgiveness and peace-making work, and are respected for that. Wouldn't it be wonderful if the churches of Christ or your congregation were known for forgiveness, unity and peace-making?

Which brings us back to the question of what we are known for, or what the reputation is of any congregation in its community. For those interested in following the mandate to evangelize the world, and of being salt and light, it is important that we know how those around us see us.

Jesus told His disciples that all men would know they are His disciples by their love. In the New Testament, we see that churches were also known for their works, service, evangelism, etc. Yet, the letters to the churches in Revelation (and some of the other letters in the New Testament) help us see that even in the time of the Apostles, many churches struggled to have healthy, positive reputations. Some were lukewarm, had left their first love, were caught up in issues related to immorality, paganism, legalism and other things.

We all need to know how our congregation is seen by those around. If it is negative and unflattering, it will be hindering us from our God-given work. We need to change, possibly even repent and change, so that the community around can see Christ at work in us.

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MAXESMUSINGS

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The Question of the Ages – 2

ast month we suggested the question of the ages is, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is He?" Last time we noted some of the historical writers who gave proof of His existence. While this shows that a man named Jesus did live, that still does not answer who He is. For that we move to consider some scriptural proof.

The scripture tells of the coming of the Saviour of mankind in a promise made to Abraham. "Now the LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and

make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Genesis 12:1-3 ESV). This promise was renewed to the family of Abraham in a message to Isaac in Genesis 26:4, 5 "I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws."

Paul follows up on this promise in his letter to the churches at Galatia. When speaking about the promise of Genesis 12 and 26 he writes, "And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, 'In you shall all the nations be blessed.' So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith" (Galatians 3:8-9 ESV). In a desire to emphasize this truth Paul goes on the write in 3:16, "Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, 'And to offsprings,' referring to many, but referring to one, 'And to your offspring,' who is Christ."

In commenting on 3:16, the Gospel Advocate Commentary makes this statement: "The promise was: 'And the angel of Jehovah called unto Abraham a second time out of

heaven, and said, By myself have I sworn, saith Jehovah, because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son, that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heavens, and as the sand which is upon the seashore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies: and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice' (Genesis 22:15–18). The promise was of the increase of the family referred to all his seed. But the final outcome of the promise—'In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed'—was the spiritual and everlasting blessing and referred to Christ alone, and then through him to all the spiritual family of Abraham who shall be blessed in him. Abraham did not understand the meaning and reach of these promises." (A Commentary on The New Testament Epistles Second Corinthians and Galatians, By David Lipscomb, Edited, with additional notes, by J. W. Shepherd)

> There are a number of examples in scripture showing Jesus as the fulfillment of this promise given to Abraham. This proof begins with the very first words of the New Testament as the books are arranged in our Bible. Matthew agrees with Paul about the lineage of the promised blessing. In his genealogy of Jesus, his testimony is that Jesus fulfills this promise of a Saviour who would be born into the family of Abraham. "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers..." (Matthew 1:1, 2 ESV).

> Another example of prophecy as a proof of continued on page 7



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FOR WOMEN BY WOMEN

Warfare

Virginia Hipwell

ach November we are reminded of the cost of war. Lives lost. Bodies broken. Families fractured. In history classes we analysed the causes and effects of various wars. One view is subjective, the other reflective, but the goal of both is that we not repeat the mistakes of the past. Yet wars continue.

In a couple of conversations I have had recently, our shrinking manufacturing sector was mentioned. Many companies, it seems, have either closed completely or else moved their operations to other countries. What does this have to do with war? Much, I'm afraid.

In history classes we were taught that one major factor in the US Civil War was the location of factories. The North had manufacturing plants. The South had plantations. By blocking supplies from foreign sources, the North was able to cripple the South's war effort. Through the years I've heard from my parents and others about factories being retooled during War World II in order to produce equipment needed for the war. These history lessons should raise warning flags

as we see our manufacturing plants exported to foreign shores.

We should have a similar concern in regard to the church's ability to face her enemy. The Bible tells us that we are involved in spiritual warfare (Eph. 6:12). The forces of Satan are determined to capture us and take away our freedom. There are no neutrals in this war. One is either a soldier of the Cross or an agent of Darkness (Matt. 12:30). Are we capable of training and equipping strong soldiers or have our resources dwindled? Sometimes I wonder if we are fighting with cotton bolls rather than cannon balls.

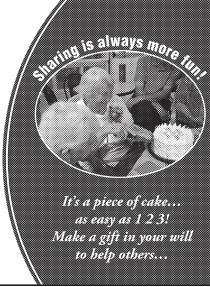
Paul tells us that to stand against the devil we must have on the full armour of God (Eph. 6:13-18). Belt of truth. Breastplate of righteousness. Readiness from the gospel on your feet. Helmet of salvation. Shield of faith. A shield and armour are for protection. They block "the flaming arrows of the evil one" (v. 16). But this is warfare and a soldier needs a weapon. Verse 17 says that weapon is "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God". Hebrews tells us that the word of God is "sharper than any double-edged sword" (Heb. 4:12). What an amazing, powerful weapon! Yet, how many of us stand on the battlefield holding a rusty or broken sword or none at all?

The sword of the Spirit—the word of God! Do you know God's word? Do you delve into it daily? Eagerly? Do you study it? Meditate on it? Memorize it? Is it as familiar to you as an old friend? And, like a good friend, do you find in it both companionship and correction? Has Bible knowledge slipped through our fingers in the same way manufacturing has drained from our country?

It seems our pre-packaged, fastfood society likes to have others do things for us. That attitude can also be seen in the church. We leave studying to the preachers and class teachers and just take whatever they give us. What they give us may not be very nourishing. It may do little to make us good soldiers. With busy schedules, it is easy for teachers to rely too heavily on pre-packaged materials rather than Scripture. These materials may be good supplements but are no substitute for real food. It is like having someone else eat the meal and expecting the food to strengthen your body. Preachers, too, may be guilty of serving up eartickling junk food rather than healthy helpings of God's word. Are you getting Chicken Soup for the Soul* or "the bread of life"? (John 6:35). Do vou know the difference?

Satan is delighted by swordless Christians. An unarmed soldier is easier to defeat. Peter warns us, "Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith" (1 Peter 5:8, 9a). *En garde!*

- *These books are wholesome, up-lifting reading but should never take precedence over Scripture.
 - Fenwick, Ontario



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Jesus' divinity has to do with His place of birth. Many years before the event, Micah wrote, "But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days" (Micah 5:2 ESV). Here Micah gives the place of the birth of the Son of God, the one referred to in the promise. No way could he have known this except by inspiration.

Matthew speaks about this in fulfillment of the prophecy. "Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.' When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him: and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet..." (Matthew 2:1-5 ESV).

In Psalm 78:1–4, there is reference to the fact that the Messiah will teach in parables. "...Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done..." (ESV).

Matthew again shows the proof of this prophecy when he writes, "All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable. This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet: 'I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world'" (Matthew 13:34–35 ESV). Jesus was the master at using this method of teaching and we learn a

great deal about living the Christian life, the value of the Kingdom and the serious need to walk daily with Him to be ready for the coming judgment. Thankfully, because of the fact that "that which is perfect", the Word of God is available to us, we can study parables in context and understand their important message.

When the Lord came to Jerusalem just before His death, He fulfilled another prophecy. "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your

"What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is He?"

king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey" (Zechariah 9:9 ESV).

Again we go to Matthew to see the fulfillment of this prophecy. "They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" (Matthew 21:7-9 ESV). Sadly, it is worth noting that a few days later that perhaps many of these same people would be calling for His crucifixion.

There are many more examples of scriptural reasons to believe in Jesus, His life and work for example. In the gospel of John, we read the very interesting account of some of the events following the resurrection of Jesus. The disciples have a visit from Jesus, convincing them and encouraging them in the work that was ahead. John wrote, "On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said

to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord" (John 20:19-20 ESV).

As often happens on Sunday evening, at least one disciple missed the evening meeting! When the others tell him the good news, he is a bit skeptical. "Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe" (John 20:24, 25 ESV). I guess his idea is "seeing is believing". He does not miss the meeting the next week and Jesus visits again. The result of his getting to see Jesus with his own eyes this time, he responds, "...My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28 ESV).

The response of Jesus to this confession is worthy of noticing. "Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed" (John 20:29 ESV). The Holy Spirit then has John write for all of us who did not have the privilege of being there that day... "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:30-31 ESV).

Again, because we live in the time when "that which is perfect has come" we are blessed by reading the testimony of those who "saw the Lord" and those who were inspired by the Holy Spirit to write of the Messiah and His work here on earth.

When asked, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is He?" we have good evidence, both from secular writers and the writers of the Bible to answer, "He is the Christ, the Son of the Living God and my Saviour and Lord."

EROMEHEBULEINS

The Secret

Thayer Salisbury

Several years ago Paul Harvey revealed the "best kept secret in the paint business." The secret was, "there are no secrets." I am going to reveal to you the best kept secret about drawing near to God. That's right, you guessed it, there are no secrets. The truth has been plainly revealed, we just need the will to study and apply it.

"For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off. It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it." (Deut. 30:11-14).

I have been agonizing over the question, "What is the best way to teach the foundational truths of the faith?" I have been thinking about various brothers I have known through the years who have made great progress in the faith. I have tried to remember how they were taught, what course of study they pursued. I find that there is no consistent answer. Some studied in one way, others in some different manner.

The only thing consistent about their study is consistency. I find that those who consistently read scripture, meditate on it and discuss it with a mature fellow Christian make progress—no matter whether they have class material or do not, no matter which part of scripture they begin with, no matter what kind of study they engage in or what time of day they do it. I find that those who claim to worship God, but who do not consistently engage in study of His word, do not make progress.

Bible study methods do make a difference, some are better than others, but there is no magic formula, there is no secret. Time consistently spent in seeking the Lord through His word will benefit, even if your

method of study is less than perfect. Failure to seek Him consistently will result in frustration, even if you have the best of teachers and the finest of study guides.

Toledo, Ohio

Obedience: What is it?

Bill Craddock

Obedience is a willing response to the instruction of another. It includes both doing what has been commanded and refraining from doing what has not been commanded. In many cases, obedience does not ask or seek a reason, but accepts demands without question. The motivating forces that God desires behind obedience are faith, hope and love.

Our salvation depends on our doing the Father's will and obeying Jesus (Hebrews 5:9). Jesus warned that He will speak that dreadful phrase —"Depart from Me"—to the utter surprise of many on Judgment Day (Matthew 7:21 - 23). Their condemnation will baffle them. Those featured in the judgment scene in Matthew 7 were not immoral, unreligious, unbelieving or lacking in their attempts to serve the Lord. They believed they had done miracles and wonderful works in His name. The evidence indicates that they were trying to serve Jesus. Their problem was that they were acting on their own - seeking to serve Him according to their own choices rather than following God's teaching.

Only those who do the will of the Father in heaven will enter the kingdom of heaven. Other statements of Jesus illustrate this truth: "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it" (Luke 11:28). "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him" (John 3:36). "He who rejects me and does not receive my sayings has one who judges him, the word I spoke is what will judge him at



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the last day...the Father himself who sent me has given me a commandment as to what to say and what to speak. I know that his commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told me" (John 12:48-50).

Jesus was careful to limit His teaching to the words of the Father. He gave these words to the Holy Spirit, who did not speak on His own but spoke only what Jesus gave Him (John 16:14). Jesus expects the same of those who teach in His name today. Those who teach another gospel are cursed (Galatians 1:8, 9).

The Apostle John writes that God's children show their love for Him by obedience. "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burden-some" (1 John5:3, 4).

Obedience is what pleases God. He accepts us if we do what He has commanded, the way He stated it should be done. Examples from the scriptures illustrate that He does not ask us what we would like to do or what we think of His requirements. Rather, in order to please God, we must have faith in His word. This faith must be expressed in careful obedience to him. Acting otherwise is rebellion against God.

North Canton, Ohio

Accepting the Challenge

Brian Thompson

Have you ever seen a giant? Likely any giants we've seen in our lifetime are only basketball players that are seven plus feet tall, but that's about it. However, can you imagine being challenged to fight a man that was approximately nine feet nine inches tall? The Bible records that when all the men of Israel saw Goliath they were very afraid and fled from him (I Samuel 17:24). To the children

of Israel this was a giant that represented FEAR.

However, David accepted the challenge to fight Goliath because he realized something Israel didn't and it was very important. This Goliath had taunted the God of Israel (the Creator of the universe, the deliverer of Israel from bondage in Egypt, etc.) and His people for forty days and forty nights. Israel was overcome by fear at his presence. Fear had so immobilized them that they couldn't even think properly or act correctly. So, having faith in God, David ran toward the problem that Israel refused to face, and it was there, with God's help, he prevailed over Goliath.

Are there any giants in our world today as big as Goliath? Yes, I believe there are and maybe some even taller, meaner and more aggravating than he was. Like Goliath theses giants challenge our faith in God and, because we allow them to do so, they also make us spiritually immobile. These giants are not born naturally but are created by us. Perhaps you recognize some of them. They are:

The Giant of LONELINESS

The Giant of FINANCIAL DEBT

The Giant of

MARITAL & FAMILY PROBLEMS

The Giant of **DOUBT**

The Giant of BITTERNESS & HATRED

The Giant of ANXIETY

The Giant of...

David was upset with Goliath because of the way he taunted God and because of the effect he had on God's people. Do we realize the effect our giants have in our service to God and one another? When we're facing those giants do we flee from them or do we accept the challenge of facing them like David did? Here are four points that will help us in our fight against any giants.

First of all, we need to admit we have a giant or two to conquer.

Secondly, we need to run quickly toward the battle line and meet those giants.

Thirdly, we need to run with the assurance of God's presence and the smell of victory.

And **finally** and most importantly, we need to let God see that our faith and trust are in Him. Without a doubt David could not have killed the giant without God's help.

Remember, our giant(s) are only as big as we make them and even though Goliath was a big giant it only took one small stone slung in faith to remove him forever.

Have you had any giants bothering you lately? Have your giants caused you to be spiritually immobile for quite some time, perhaps even longer than forty days and forty nights?

If so, then let's resolve to be like David and whenever our giant(s) come our way let's be a faithful servant and accept the challenge and give the sling a swing!

Owen Sound, Ontario

Pictures and Reports

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

- The editors



by Don Hipwell and Harold Bruggen Church of Christ, Box 416 Fenwick, ON LOS 1CO Email: donhipwell@aol.com or Harold Bruggen at hbruggen@gmail.com

ONTARIO

Bramalea: Gip Woothitha, from Thailand, is in school at South Pacific Bible School in New Zealand. She was financially assisted by the congregation with her tuition. Gip plans to return to Thailand to assist in that work when she completes all her courses in New Zealand. A.J. Star has been with the congregation for the past year for medical treatment following a motorcycle accident. He has now has returned home to Vancouver to continue that treatment. He is still in severe pain so needs the prayers of other Christians. The women's visitation group met recently to make further plans for visiting members and non-members. The Sunday a.m. women's prayer group's agenda is specifically praying for our young people but also others who need prayers.

Cambridge: The highlight of our summer, and maybe year, was loading our kids up in 3 vans and driving to Manitoulin Island to Strawberry Point Christian Camp (SPCC) for 5 days. It has great programs and a great property but the regular programs aren't conducive to the needs of our kids. It was decided that we would run our own week after the regular schedule was finished. The camp is in the middle of wilderness, with minimal amenities, such as propane fridges, stoves, compost toilets and no running water. It's totally dark at night with too many brilliant stars to count. The kids learned canoeing and archery. Half of them had fun picking up garter snakes and frogs while the other half screamed and ran

away. I was surprised it took until Wednesday night for the big blow up. (Sometimes it takes only 2 hours at the youth centre before our kids want to fight each other.) After a time of conflict resolution, the staff had a meeting. While we were praying, the two main instigators of the conflict literally walked right past us apologizing and admitting their wrong to one another. We were overwhelmed with God's goodness and timing. After everyone cooled down, I did

I drew a dividing line across the centre of the chalk board. I wrote PRIDE at the top and HUMILITY at the top of the bottom half. I said, as I wrote these out, "Pride says, 'I will be my own boss. I didn't do anything wrong. I don't need anyone's help. I'm not apologizing.' Humility says, 'God will be my boss. I did wrong. I am sorry. I need someone's help.' I threw in a couple of stories. In the middle of my talk, one of our girls who has been around for 4 years and knows the gospel asked out loud, "So I'm not a Christian?" "No" I answered. "I have pride..." She reasoned. "Yah" I said as gently as I could. "I'm an enemy of God then?" "Yah." "But I thought that God loves us no matter what...?" She asked. "He does, but He loves you too much to let you stay that way." I explained that non-Christians are in a prison and Jesus is asking them to come out but pride causes them to stay locked up. It was one of those nights that went so well... not through my wise and persuasive words, but by God's working and moving in the hearts of the kids. The most encouraging part was that two of our guys were baptized the next day! The first was Dan, who after the talk during a time of prayer, prayed for all the people locked up in a prison because of their pride. And, Matt, who has been with us for 2 years, and sitting on the fence as to whether to follow Jesus or not throughout that time. Mark Stromenberg asked him what following Jesus would mean in his life and his answer would make a good first sermon: "That when I am stressed, I look to Jesus for help. If I fall, Jesus can help me get back up. That I talk to you guys to help me keep it up". There were a lot of people who helped get Matt to this point. The girl who raised the questions during my talk has yet to accept the gift of salvation. The gospel is so simple yet so complex. She doesn't believe that the Bible is true. She is determined to get

an impromptu talk on pride and humility.

She doesn't believe she has sin. In my experience, the gospel breaks down walls little by little making it a little simpler to understand. The hardest blows to the walls are when the person comes face to face with his or her sin. This is true in my spiritual growth, why wouldn't it be true for someone's initial salvation?

Fenwick: Our booth at the Wainfleet Fall Fair was once again well received. We distributed approximately 50 invitations for Kids for Christ. Wellandport Church of Christ also had a booth at the

Fenwick: Our booth at the Wainfleet Fall Fair was once again well received. We distributed approximately 50 invitations for Kids for Christ. Wellandport Church of Christ also had a booth at the fair. Dave Stuart was guest speaker on October 7. Doug Wheeler spoke on October 15 regarding World Bible School. Jack Abels held a meeting entitled "Christian Assurance" on October 21-24 and we hosted the area wide meeting on Sunday evening, October 21.

Kenora: It was an excellent summer for the Church of Christ in Kenora, with visitors both new and familiar. Guests came from Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia, Indiana and Michigan, also from Queensland, Australia. The weekend of August 18/19, we hosted the Winnipeg congregation for the annual community outreach. Together, we raised the profile of the Church as we collected almost 30 bags of trash from the downtown core and shoreline. We were physically fortified by copious amounts of food provided by both the Kenora and Winnipeg folks through both days, however, the best part was the spiritual reinforcement and inspiring fellowship.

Stoney Creek: Many former Stoney Creek members returned September 22 and 23 to celebrate 30 years in Stoney Creek. Harold Parker, former minister of the congregation, came from Tennessee to speak at the Sunday morning service. About 90 people attended a roast beef dinner on Saturday evening as part of the anniversary celebration. We are happy to have David and Rosemary Lewis as new members of the Stoney Creek church.

Tintern: Ken and Rhonda Bever from Hope For Haiti's Children, an outreach of the Connecticut Valley Church, of Christ visited on August 12 and showed a brief video. Once again FriendSpeak will take place on Wednesday nights at Tintern. FriendSpeak is a wonderful way to share the gospel with those learning English. The BC Mission Team gave a presentation on their trip to Tsae Key and Fort



an adequate answer to who made God.

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

(BC news supplied by Barbara Lewis)

ALBERTA

Edmonton Northside: Welcome to Mark Addai of Kumasi, Ghana and Jeremy Bibaud. They wish to be identified with our congregation. October 7, we worshipped back in our building. The renovations are mostly completed and the building looks great. The Tabitha class is meeting again. The teen girls and their moms will take turns hosting. There will be a crafts and a devo each month.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Burnaby: Joel and Jessica Ruch, with their two children, left on Oct. 2 to make their home in Qingdao, China, where they will be working for the next few years. Joel's parents, Kirk and Lori Ruch, left on Oct. 17 for Donetsk, Ukraine, where they are teaching in the fall session of the Ukrainian Bible

Institute at the invitation of Institute Director Jay Don Rogers. It is a return engagement for both, as they also taught in the adult two-year Bible training course two years ago. We are having the bi-monthly Ladies Bible Studies, which started last month, in homes at three different locations this fall.

Delta: For the past several years, we have chosen a "Theme" for the year, and related our sermon and study topics to that subject as much as possible. Our 2012 year that is nearing its end has used "You, Before God" as our focus. A cake in honour of the 80th birthday of Jim Hawkins, who was born in the States but has spent most of his life preaching in Canada, was enjoyed following the service on Oct. 6.

Salmon Arm: We have been unable to have our usual Fall Lectureship here this year due to scheduling conflicts in Salmon Arm, but are already making plans for next year. We continue to contribute to the Women's Shelter here with food, household items and money each month.

Vancouver (Oakridge): There are families who seem destined to live with tragedies. Recently we mourned the death of the 28-year old niece of one of our members, whose sudden heart attack left two small children without parents, the youngest only four months old. Her husband died of a heart attack a year ago, which followed the death of her father in a car accident a few years earlier

Vernon: From "Quilting and Crafts" on Tuesdays to Wednesday "Praise, Prayer and Study" to "Ladies Class" on Thursdays, our schedule for the winter is in full swing as of last month. Our annual "Harvest Party" in lieu of other types of Halloween observances was held on Oct. 26.

MANITOBA

Winnipeg: We rejoice with Robert Boal who was baptized into Christ. This year's annual youth rally was held September 21–23. "Simply Jesus" was the theme and Jovan Barrington, youth minister from the Westgate church of Christ in Dothan, Alabama, was guest speaker. Our 17th annual clothing giveaway was held September 29. October 3 was the first night of Friend Speak. Our annual Thanksgiving Dinner was held October 8. November 3, we held a ladies day workshop. It was entitled "Once Upon A Time" and was presented by Lorna Bell, Janelle Ross and Dawn Mitchell, 3 sisters from Saskatchewan.

SASKATCHEWAN

Weyburn: (submitted by Laura Knibbs) The children have begun collecting mittens to help the work of the Gentle Road church in Regina. They have a goal of 100 pairs. Other warm clothing is also being sent. A workday was held at the building. We were blessed to have 9 students from the National Student Conference held in Weyburn this year, volunteer with us for a few hours. Much was accomplished.

News East... continued from page 10

Ware on Sunday, September 16. A special collection of approximately \$900 was raised which covered some of the expenses of the trip. On Sunday, September 30, we began a sermon series called "The Story". This is an eight month study through the entire Bible. Over 31 weeks we will look at what the Old and New Testament say about what God is up to in our world. We will integrate our learning during the sermon in two exciting ways: First, our children's and adult classes each Sunday morning will be based on the same Biblical text encouraging family discussion. Secondly, material for a weekly Family devotional with be distributed. Our goal is improved understanding of what the Bible is all about, the creation of better spiritual discipline of Bible study and family devotions, blessing the families.

Toronto (Bayview): At Bayview each Sunday the children share responsibility for collecting loose pocket change which is contributed to children's charities. We continue to support three children and

their communities through World Vision, the Mylavaram orphans, and the orphans in Haiti. Our children are enthusiastic and energetic and are learning some important lessons about giving and service. They also collect the communion glasses after service. Our children are a vital part of the family at Bayview, and we appreciate their assistance.

Toronto (Strathmore Blvd): We rejoice at the baptism of Stephen Suresh, son of Ruby and Daniel, on Sunday, September 23. The ladies from the area congregations have been invited to a Ladies activity on Saturday, November 10. Marni Bolland of the Niagara Falls congregation is to be the guest speaker. The theme is "Choosing Designer Clothes" – 1 Timothy 2:9, 10.

Windsor – West Side: We had our annual Back to Church Sunday, September 30. While many have the idea that 'church' is something you go to, and church does consist of meeting together (See Acts 20:6,7) the church is also something you belong to and a place where your uniqueness is celebrated and valued (Romans 12:4,5)!

We know that God's desire is for the world to be redeemed, saved, re-created and freed from the burdens pressing hard against her (See 1 Timothy 2:4, 2 Peter 3:9, Luke 19:10). The church becomes that reminder that God is fulfilling His desire through the continuous redemption He offers through the life, death & resurrection of Jesus. We are beginning a new sermon series: Beauty & the Beast, based on the book of Revelation and looking more at the sure victory that Jesus claims for His bride. Each week there will be a more detailed outline of the chapters of the book we cover for that week for any interested in deeper reading of the text.

Waterloo: We rejoice that Khatera Sadry was baptized on Saturday, September 15. A small group of us gathered on the banks of the Grand River to witness this decision. Welcome to God's family. Our planned church plant will take place, Lord willing, in the fall of 2013, in southeastern Kitchener. Do you want to be part of the team? Be praying and thinking about how you might be useful to the kingdom in this way.

MISSIONINEWS

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



MEXICO: The parents of the village of Ejido Ignacio Lopez Rayon dream has been a proper school for Grades 7, 8 & 9.

In the USA and Canada we assume that when our children are ready to attend school, a school will be there. The Mexican locations we build in do not take schooling for granted.

Parents, communities and teachers band together. They work with the government to prove the requirement for land and teachers' pay. The temporary buildings we see have been built by the parents. After building a temporary structure and acquiring land and teachers, their dream of having a proper building with good teacher supplies can be realized. That is where we help. This winter we plan to build a classroom, a washroom and fence in Ejido Ignacio Lopez Rayon, Baja. This small community is southwest of San Vicente. The local community has formed

Seeking Full-Time Minister

The Weyburn church of Christ is a stable, intergenerational congregation who is connected to the brotherhood and has a rich heritage of sound doctrine. We are looking for a loving, family oriented minister who believes in evangelism both locally and abroad and is willing to work with a diverse and talented membership striving to grow the kingdom. Weyburn is one of the fastest growing cities in Saskatchewan with an ethnically diverse population. Our community offers a broad range of opportunities for all ages while maintaining its small town appeal.

To learn more about our community, visit **www.weyburn.ca**

For more information about the position or to forward resumes please contact:

Ryan Fowler
Chairman of Search Commission
513 McGillvray Drive
Weyburn, SK
Canada S4H 1L9 or
Email: ryan.fowler@cornerstonesd.ca

Closing date for applications is November 30, 2012

a parents' association and worked with the government to gain a teacher and property. The classroom will be for grades 7 through 9. It is exciting to see this small community concerned about schooling for children this age. Join True North Helping Hands Volunteers, local workers and families. December 27, 2012, through January 5, 2013, we will be in Ejido Ignacio Lopez Rayon. We will be staying in a clean 0 star hotel in San Vicente. We will be working approximately 5k (3 miles) from San Vicente.

It is important that we supply the classrooms with equipment and supplies for children this age. We need to know how many are planning to join us by November 15, earlier is, of course, preferred. Applications and detailed trip information are available online. We exist only because you support us, and we thank you. If you are unable to join us but would like to financially support this work, please send donations to: 7485 Salisbury Avenue, Burnaby, BC V5E 3A5 ATTN: Liz Johnson, or on line: http://www.truenorthhh.org (Report on Plans from Patty Kunkle)

NASHVILLE, TN (Healing Hands **International):** The kind of facts that disturb our conscience are those which inform us that a child somewhere dies of hunger every six seconds, or 13,700 a day. And that malnutrition contributes to one-half of all childhood deaths. Yet hunger is preventable, not only for children, but for the millions of adults who go to bed hungry every night. There is not a whole lot we can accomplish individually, but together we can make an inroad in one country after another. The solution is by teaching Food Security to enable men, women and even children to farm their fertile soil to produce it. Often, in addition to feeding their families, what they raise can even provide an income for them. "Food Security Centres" have been established in over 25 countries around the world. In Africa, men learning to become preachers are also being shown how to teach drip irrigation, raised beds and other simple agricultural strategy when they return home. The Healing Hands Director of African Agriculture, Ebenezer Udofia, has conducted 16 Food Security Workshop[s with hands-on field experience for those with the desire to learn, teaching them how to survive even in times of drought and famine. He is well known in Kenya, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Uganda and Zambia, with entire villages now able to feed themselves with this proven regimen. Even in a nation as close to us as Mexico where land lies dormant, the process of educating people on how to help themselves is moving the poor to productive living. Not only does the program prevent starvation, but it also opens doors to thousands to hear the gospel and change their lives forever. For those who want to contribute to this work, the address is either to the Nashville office at 455 McNally Drive, 37211, or Rapha Centre in Fort Worth, TX, 414 Blue Smoke Court, 76105.

CUBA: Tim Archer speaks on a radio program that is broadcast into Cuba called "Leo La Biblia" (Read the Bible). He currently has over 800 subscribers who regularly download his talks. From them, he has discovered that there are many study groups which listen together. One is a group of teenage girls in the Peruvian mountains who meet at the time of the program. Others invite their friends and neighbors in, using it as an outreach tool. A Christian who lives in the eastern part of Cuba, Vladimir Diaz, was educated in Russia and spent several years in the military, fighting for different causes in various parts of Africa. The physical and psychological wounds he suffered eventually led him to turn from his political ideology. He heard this radio program and contacted the Herald of Truth office in Matanzas, Cuba. Tony Fernandez, Cuban representative for the Herald of Truth, put him in contact with a local preacher and he was eventually baptized. Vladimer began to encourage others to listen to the program, and through his contacts, at least 10 have been converted and several house churches started. Also, in a town near Guanabanna, a group of women meet together each Saturday in the house of one who has a handicapped daughter, inviting others to join them. They believe that this will result in a congregation for that city, which they have prayed for a long time. Brother Fernandez, who averages 100 letters per month from listeners and visits several mission areas, had his car totaled in September, but that didn't stop him from going. He continued to make his rounds by getting rides in police cars, hearses, trucks, ambulances, camellos (similar to a bus but pulled by a truck), horse carts, bicycles, motorcycles, tractors and even oxen. He feels it is a blessing to do something for Him who died to save mankind.

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Spirituality

Joe Cannon

(Editor's Note: Recently one of the inspirational servants of God passed from this life to his reward. Joseph "Joe" L. Cannon. He was a missionary for over 60 years to Japan, Okinawa, Papua New Guinea and Ukraine. He was the founder of universities, kindergartens, orphanages, preacher training schools and Mission 1000 in Memphis, TN. His passion for preaching good news was legendary, as well as his fearless ambition to reach anyone and everyone he could with the transforming power of Jesus Christ.

This article, written by Joe, first appeared in the Gospel Herald of September, 1955. We reprint it in loving memory of a life well lived in the service of God and his fellowman.)

"Tor the mind of the flesh is death; but the mind of the spirit is life and peace." (Romans 8:6)

The word "spirituality" is a much used and much abused term. Under the banner of spirituality Holy Scripture has been wrested and perverted. Under the same banner men have taught rebellions and unlawful things, and have practiced that which borders on the ridiculous. Noisy, chaotic and overemotional meetings have been called by some "great spiritual experiences." Rank disobedience has been justified as "broadminded spirituality."

On the other hand there is a real life-giving spirituality that should be found in all Christians. It is opposed to a dead, formalistic religion which overemphasizes the letter of the word and neglects the spirit. It is the antithesis of the Pharisaic approach to things divine, which focuses attention on the minute details of law (which things should be kept) and misses altogether the most important aspects of religion, the spiritual qualities of faith, grace and justice.

It is very important for evangelists, in fact for all Christians, to represent properly the gospel of Christ among those who know it not. Hypocrisy, worldly-mindedness and shallow spirituality is soon discerned by the critical eye of those who investigate Christianity, especially if the preacher or teacher is a foreigner. More than this, God who knows the hearts of all men understands

how spiritual we really are, and calls us to greater personal devotion.

Now we pose the question, "What is spirituality?" Answering in two words I would say "HOLY SPIRIT-uality". That is, the character, attitude and manner of living brought into our hearts and lives by the Spirit of God. When I say attitude as "Spirit of God", I do not mean just an attitude, such as adopting the same attitude as John Smith, although the Spirit of God does produce definite attitudes. But I mean the very living personal being of the third member of the Godhead making His home in our hearts, regenerating us and giving us life. Real spirituality is that manner of

Real spirituality is that manner of thinking and living that is produced by the Spirit's presence in us.

thinking and living that is produced by the Spirit's presence in us. Also, when I say "Spirit's presence", I do not mean portions of scripture committed to memory, although this is the "sword of the Spirit" (Ephesians 6:17), but, I mean the indwelling of the Spirit himself, "for the kingdom of God is not in word but in power". (I Corinthians 4:20) "Our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit, and in much assurance" (1 Thessalonians 1:5).

The Spirit takes up His abode with a man, not when he hears the gospel, nor when he learns some scripture, but when he obeys. The Spirit is given "to them that obey him", (Acts 5:32). In obedience to the gospel a man is "born of the Spirit" (John 3:5) and enters the kingdom of God.

In Romans 8, Christians are told that they are "in the Spirit". The same verse identifies it as the Spirit of God and also calls it the Spirit of Christ. This Spirit neither an attitude, nor the written word of God raised Christ from the dead (v 10) and shall give the same life to Christians. If any person does not have (possess) this Spirit he doesn't belong to Christ, (V. 9); he is still in the

flesh and therefore is at enmity against God, (V 7). If one is in the Spirit, then the Spirit is spoken of as dwelling in the believer, "the Spirit of God dwelleth in you", (V. 9), "dwelleth in you" (v. 11).

Now with the Spirit of God in us, we have a source of power to draw upon in living the Christian life. Fruit of the Spirit can be brought forth, (Galatians 5:22) if the Spirit is not "quenched" (1 Thessalonians 5:19) by our own ungodly desires and ambitions. Thus, we can develop the very mind of Christ Himself (Philippians 2:5). Our text speaks of the mind of the flesh, and the mind of the Spirit, the spiritual mind. Inasmuch as we give our hearts to the teaching (written word) of the Spirit - we are spiritual. Anyone over-emphasizing either the written word or the indwelling Spirit is in danger of becoming mechanical or emotionally rebellious, either of which extreme is sinful. But the one who devotedly seeks the guidance of the Spirit of God as he studies the word, and lives the Christian life, is one who can be called spiritual in the true sense of the term.

Spiritual growth takes place as the believer more and more gives himself over to the guidance of the Spirit of God. All of us need to recognize the Holy Spirit as the source of all true spirituality. Let it be understood that such spirituality is not found in disobedience to the written word, but let it also be understood that the source of living spirituality is the Holy Spirit dwelling in us. To not recognize the Spirit in this capacity could lead one to attribute all of his spiritual growth to his own ability to perfectly obey the written word and this would become a basis for boasting. But boasting is excluded by the gift of the Holy Spirit and all our growth must be attributed to Him, and God must be praised.

Thus Christ, through His Spirit, really is the vine and we are the branches that constantly draw succor and strength for growth and fruit-bearing. "For apart from me ye can do nothing" (John 15:5).

Let us then more and more walk by the mind of the Spirit which is life indeed and peace indeed.

Where did they go?

Earle Rattai

7ell, where DID they go? Perhaps a question we should focus on is "were they ever really here?" Let me explain. Something that has troubled me since the day that I first saw the light was; "why doesn't everyone else see that light as well?" Do you think that is a little naive? So do I...now. OK, but what about those who have made the good confession. who have professed faith and have even been immersed for the remission of sins. following confession and repentance? In the August, 2012, Gospel Herald, Wayne Turner's Editorial makes several excellent points about the empty nature of religious formality as opposed to genuine conversion.

Church attendance is in decline as the average age of remaining attendees continues to rise. That first fact is a result of the second and follows necessarily since people die when they age sufficiently. A study done some time ago by a popular denominational group found that if any one denomination in North America did nothing more in terms of growth than to keep its kids, they would instantly become the fastest growing denomination in North America. That would certainly apply to the Lord's own Church as well. We need look no further than Islam to see it born out.

Look around. In Canada the Lord's Church comprises a mere infinitesimal fraction of the population. And even that number contains some "simply nominal" members. Here's where the rubber meets the road on this particular point. Teaching the lost, making true disciples, and nurturing those who are young or weak in the faith, is not about seeing numbers grow. It is not about being able to look around on Sunday morning and feel good about having lots of company to worship with. Every single time an unsaved person (whether apostate or

never converted) passes from this life, they spend eternity separated from God in the Devil's hell. This comes as a huge surprise to the contemporary denominational world, but not everyone who has uttered the name of Jesus at some point in their life will be saved. Many will perish while clinging to a false hope.

Now if you are part of a congregation that has independent growth, that is able to keep a majority of its children, that is making disciples from the secular world, let me say this; Praise God! Bless you! Thank you! You are an exception and I yearn that you were the rule!

The reality is we live in a secular society where its people are largely self-sufficient and feel no need for a God in their life other than the gods of money, self-indulgence, technology and the person in the mirror. That package of attitudes very often affects even the

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BOOKEREVIEWS

Muscle and a Shovel by Michael Shank, 2011, paperback, 382 pp, Lightning Source Press, \$12.50 (less in quantities).

In a recent editorial in this paper we learned that at a convention of leaders of a large denomination the widespread acceptance of the use of the "Sinner's Prayer" was challenged. It was pointed out that such an approach to salvation did not appear in the New Testament.

This book, Muscle and a Shovel, presented as a narrative of factual events, tells the story of Bible studies shared by two employees at their workplace. Largely the studies consider the question of how one is saved, but in the process most known false doctrines are refuted in narrative format. The author finds himself challenged to defend his long and firmly held belief that he was saved by reciting the "sinner's prayer." Failing to

locate it in the Bible even with the help of "experts" he finds himself facing two alternatives. He could continue reading and studying or in anger close his mind to any further studies.

Likewise, it is promised that readers will either continue with interest or want to shred the book. We quote from another review: "WARNING:If you choose to read this book, your beliefs will be challenged in ways you never thought possible—from a vantage point you may have never considered! It is a true story, which is one reason why this story is so compelling".

Being of a good and honest heart and because of a growing admiration for and confidence in his fellow worker's knowledge of the Bible and his warm and winning lifestyle, studies were continued and the author and his wife "obey the gospel" 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10.

Beginning with the challenge to

find the "sinner's prayer" in the New Testament and a question of how one can obey good news (the gospel), a wide variety of topics from tongue-speaking to the concept of a personal relationship with Jesus are studied in forty short chapters. The closing chapter contrasts the "sinner's prayer" with the scriptures on salvation.

The discovery that religious leaders are repeating the "party line" and offended when such is questioned leads to the conclusion that we each need to put in an effort and dig into the scriptures to determine the truth, hence, the book's title, Muscle and a Shovel."

Written in an easy to read style, this book grabs the reader's attention. Some report finding it difficult to break off and hence read late into the night. This is an ideal book for every Christian to read and keep on hand for reference and to share with others who are searching or show an interest in those topics. It promises to be a powerful and effective tool for evangelism.

- Reviewed by Eugene C Perry

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Where did they go?... continued from page 14 most spiritual of saints. So, what will it do to the weakest?

What we are discussing here is the difference between the "churched" and the "converted". We cannot look at one another and tell the difference. Nor should we try. That's the Lord's prerogative. He will separate sheep from goats. We, however, are called to love one another. The greatest expression of that love is enough concern for a brother's eternal soul to teach the whole counsel of God; not just the palatable sections. If you have noticed, as time goes on, the politically correct portion of the Bible has shrunk to just about nothing. And as a person weakens spiritually, the noticeable tendency is to look to the unbelieving world for guidance and use that world's nonsensical logic in place of God's Word. This creates a snow ball effect whereas a person who becomes weaker also becomes less and less sensitive to the leading of God's Word. The process speeds up as it nears the bottom of that hill. Have vou ever wondered where vou are on that hill? Most likely it changes from day to day and from season to season in your life.

So... where they have gone is an easy one. The "how and why" they got there becomes the issue we who are left should strive to deal with. Here are some points to remember in counselling those who are in danger of falling (or have fallen) from grace; those who leave their relationship with the Lord will see their reasons as valid and justifiable. They almost always see their particular situation as unique and unavoidable. The truth is that when a person slides (not falls) back into the world, the process usually takes a very common and predictable path.

The best advice in this respect (I think) is given by Jude who said; "Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. Be merciful to those who doubt. Snatch others from the fire and save them. To others show mercy, mixed with fear" NIV. (erattai@sympatico.ca)

Kenora, Ontario

Rational Appeal to Ignorance

Kevin Cleary

ave you ever known someone who would make assertions that were doubtful but said it with such confidence that you didn't want to question their statement? Maybe you have been the one who, in an effort to make a point or win an argument, made some assertion that you knew could not easily be proven false.

I used to work in construction and often this involved some work that was up high. Many people who I worked with were less than totally comfortable with heights. I can remember on one occasion a high school student expressing doubt about the board he was standing on. To which one of the other guys on the sight responded by nailing the board to the house we were working on. He then stated with great confidence "a 31/4" ardox can hold 300 pounds and that's a lot more than you weigh." The student felt much better but I doubt that anyone on the job site actually knew the weight bearing capacity of a 16 penny nail. Especially considering everything from how far in the nail goes to the kind of wood to the angle would change this figure. No one questioned the figure probably because we all knew there was no way of proving it wrong. Just because we couldn't prove the figure wrong didn't mean it was right.

This tactic in an argument or discussion is called "appealing to ignorance". That is, you are asking people to believe your point is true and right because no one can prove it wrong. A slight variation on this is when you assert that your point is right because you can prove your opponents point wrong. Neither of these are rational or logical ways of proving a point.

An example of the first one could be someone who says; the Bible contains 300 prophetic references to Jesus. This becomes strong evidence that He is the Messiah. When no one questions the number used, the speaker moves on thinking the point has been made. In most instances no one is going to be able to test this claim when it is made. Why not look up and use some specific

passages that do predict Jesus' birth, life, death or other attributes. This way you are offering people real evidence rather than a large claim not easily tested. (I'm not saying there aren't hundreds of references to Jesus coming in the Old Testament, just that if you're going to make the claim it will be more meaningful if you know where the references are).

An example of the second variation is something I hear a lot in the discussion about creation verses evolution. Many a Christian has pointed to some problem with the theory of evolution only to say that this proves creation is right—I have also heard the opposite. A person may say for example, there is no good evidence in the fossil record for macro-evolution. Therefore God created the world. The problem is that evolution being wrong does not make creation right. While we, in our faith, have the conviction that belief in God is the only reasonable explanation for creation, others may not. Therefore, we need to offer positive evidence that backs up the claim that God created the world.

So in your search for truth remember that a point is not proven right simply because no one can prove it wrong. Instead, look for evidence to support any truth claim and make sure you offer evidence to support your truth claims in discussion with others. In the same way, just because you can prove someone else wrong does not mean that you are right. Again, the other person or position may well be wrong but you still need to prove your view right.

Remember Jesus' example (Mark 7:1-23; Matthew 22:23-33; John 5:30-47). He didn't just attack the Pharisees for being wrong (when they were) but He also pointed to what was true and right. He asked people to follow Him on the basis of what was right and true and loving, not because He could prove His opponents wrong. Let's call people to follow Him with us for those same reasons.

Meaford, Ontario

OBIUARIES

Hoover, Russell Jackson 'Jack'

Feb. 19, 1926-Sept. 19, 2012

Jack passed peacefully, at Regina Gardens, on September 19, 2012, at the age of 86.

He and his late wife, Dolly, were long-time members of the Fennell Avenue Church of Christ where they attended for worship and participated in many of the activities of the congregation. Jack and Dolly were predeceased by their son, Russell. Jack's loss is being mourned by his daughter Patricia and her husband Dan Pearson as well as their children, Aveline and Mirielle.

He was also predeceased by his siblings Lloyd, Lila, Warren and Ron. He is fondly remembered by many nieces, nephews and friends.

Jack spent much of his career at City Chev/Carter Chev in Hamilton. Rob Moore remembers Jack helping him and Ron get a job painting in the workshop area. Jack would come while they were working after-hours and work on restoring a vehicle of some kind.

In his younger years Jack was an accomplished motorcycle racer (among the best in Canada) racing both on dirt tracks and on ice. He was a member of the Blackhawks Motorcycle Club.

For anyone wishing to make a memorial donation, gifts to Great Lakes Christian High School, Kidney Foundation or the Heart and Stroke would be appreciated.

- Art Ford

Leadley, Winnie

Winnie Leadley passed away on Thursday, September 27, at the age of 75 in the comfort of her home with her family by her side. Winnie was the beloved wife of John for 55 years. She was the loving mother to Susan Dobell and her husband Russ and Tammy Begin and her husband Rick.

Winnie will be fondly remembered by Erica, Matt, Mackenzie and Abigail Taylor and Bob Begin. She is survived by her brothers Harold Windatt and his wife Joan, John Bell and Doug McAuley. Winnie was predeceased by her parents, George and Alberta Windatt and her siblings Edwin, Rusty, Ann, George and Betty. She is now also reunited with her infant son, John Junior.

Winnie dealt with a genetic heart disease for many years. She fought a long and hard battle, in and out of hospitals several times in recent years. She had a zest for life and in spite of her health problems always enjoyed a good laugh. She was noted for her smile and sharp wit. If there was fun to be had, Winnie would be in the middle of it.

Winnie's personality endeared her to the church family at Fenwick. She is missed but her faithfulness has led her home. Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:57.

- Don Hipwell

Perry, Arzettia 1907-2012

Arzettia passed away peacefully at the age of 105 in her care home with the family by her side. Arzettia was born in Texas, April 8, 1907. The family later moved to Montana where they ranched and Arzettia received her teaching certificate. She met and married Canadian Lynn Perry and moved to Wawota, SK, where the two farmed and raised their family.

After Lynn passed away, Arzettia returned to teaching and taught in many different places until settling in Medicine Hat, AB, where she enjoyed teaching special needs students until her retirement. She later moved to Cranbrook, BC, to be closer to her daughter and family. Then in 1994 she moved to Saskatoon to be close to her son and his family, where she resided until her passing.

Arzettia was baptized at age 18 and lived her life faithfully serving God. Arzettia was predeceased by her husband Lynn, son Marion and daughter Esther. She is lovingly remembered by her son-in-law Dene Grandberg, and daughter in-law, Margaret Perry. Grandchildren, Kelly Grandberg, Lisa (Pat) Bjorn, Pam Grandberg and Teresa (Tim) Bzowy. Also, six Great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

A life so well lived Appreciating Arzettia: Submitted by Ann Morgan of Cranbrook, BC

Arzettia Perry was born in 1907 in the northern panhandle of Texas; a town called Tepla. Her parents soon moved to Covville, Kansas, where they lived for six years and then on to Poplar in eastern Montana. Here they lived on a large ranch. Arzettia had two brothers and two sisters and they rode their ponies to school - even through the prairie winter when she and her brother rode seven miles daily to get their grades seven and eight. They all helped with the milking and farm work. She and her brothers hunted covotes and really enjoyed the outdoors. Arzettia was baptised at the age of eighteen by H.A. Rogers and has been a faithful, committed Christian since then. She attended Poplar High School and Billings Teachers College after which she taught school in eastern Montana for four years. She married Lynn Perry in 1932 and they lived on and worked a small farm near Wawota in Southern Saskatchewan. Their children Esther and Marion were both born there. Arzettia became a widow in 1955 after a time of nursing her husband at home during his struggle with cancer. The next year she went back to teaching and taught seven years in Saskatchewan and then eleven years as a special education teacher in Alberta. She also spent her summers at University doing courses and took a night class each winter. Arzettia was well travelled having toured Palestine, Egypt and Greece and in 1975 spent three months in Samoa in the South Pacific. She spent

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four winters in Arizona using her time productively by taking painting classes which proved to be a great blessing as she used those skills to paint some beautiful pictures even in her sunset years. Arzettia eventually moved from Medicine Hat, Alberta, to Cranbrook, BC, where she resided until her move to Saskatoon in 1994. Arzettia had a very busy life but was always confident that God was



with her wherever she went. How many ladies do you know of 80 years who stand on tables to help with the painting of the church auditorium as she did in Cranbrook? She was an example of service to us all whether in her baking for Pot Luck dinners; her sewing curtains, tending plants or helping out wherever she was needed. She never missed a service and was usually the first one to arrive.

Memories of Arzettia: Submitted by Allan Jacobs

In the 1950s my father, Manley Jacobs, traveled to Wawota many times to worship with the church brethren there and we would meet at Arzettia's house which was just across the road from George Husband's farm. I recall being at her house for a meeting when her husband had cancer and lay sick on a cot. I met Arzettia many times later at various church events. She was

a very God loving woman. In 1973 I moved to Medicine Hat and guess who was there? Arzettia. She was a teacher and when I began work for Bromley Mechanical, I met a student taught by Arzettia. She taught special education classes and Ron said she was the best teacher. Arzettia. along with Harold Ellis and Harry and Margaret Meakes, built the church building in Medicine Hat in 1957 and we worshiped there until it was sold in 2005 when we bought the Baptist Church building. Arzettia helped finance the building and when we got there in 1975, it was paid for. She lived on McIntosh Avenue and had apple trees and plum trees. She always wanted the best for the church and encouraged everyone by her presence and dedicated service. When she retired from teaching she went to Cranbrook, BC to be with her daughter. While she was there she was instrumental in purchasing and financing a building in which the church could meet. Several years later when I was in Saskatoon working for PetroCan I met Arzettia at church and she asked how it was going with the church in Medicine Hat. She was pleased to know that elders had been appointed. If I was to pick people in the church that were early pillars that helped bond a fellowship of God loving people, Arettia would be at the top. She lost her husband, son, daughter and I don't know how many others, but she loved God through it all. Arzettia, you deserve the best God has promised you.

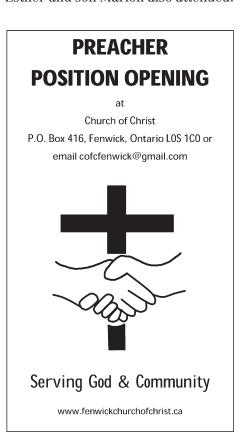
Saskatoon days: Submitted by Irene Lock

Arzettia Perry arrived in Saskatoon from B.C. in 1994 and lived in a little house on 9th Street. During that time she planted a good garden and baked goodies for family, friends and special events. She accepted rides to church and everywhere else but always wished she had brought her car with her so she could give other people rides to church like she did in B.C. and also be more independent. In 1998, at age 90, she moved to

Cosmo Court and enjoyed her little apartment where she painted some of her last pictures. Family and friends came and went. Again, she had a little garden and continued her baking sprees making more items for sale or to give away than anyone much younger than herself. Her fudge was very well known by many! Finally, her good health gave way to serious concerns and she was moved to Arbor Villa Care Home in 2005 where she was cared for with love for her last seven years.

Memories: Submitted by Doris Husband

It would be so nice to be with you today to celebrate the long life of Aunt Arzettia Perry. When I married George Husband in 1951, we had church services in their new stone house that they had built near Wawota and we would usually have a pot luck dinner after the service. George and Uncle Lynn worked together harvesting and raising their cattle. Arzettia was my oldest son, Donald's, teacher in grade one at Model School where their daughter Esther and son Marion also attended.



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

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

EDMONTON Church Of Christ: Meeting place in NW of city; 13015 – 116 Avenue, T5M 3C9; Office 780-455-1049; Fax 780-454-9545; Sun. 9:30 am Bible classes; 10:30 am Worship; Wed. 7:00 pm Bible Study CAREgroups in office basement and in various homes (phone for locations & other times); Elders: Henri Bouchard, Walter Hreczuch; Evangelist: Gerry Bibaud; Web: edmontonchurchofchrist.ord

E-mail: church5@telus.net

SOUTH EDMONTON: Southwood Community Centre 1880 – 37 street NW, Edmonton, AB; Minister: Roy Graneau; Contact: 780-902-1329

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 2Y8; Sun. 10, 11, (evening • call for information); John Smith, ev. (403) 347-3986

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

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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

CAMPBELL RIVER: 226 Hilchey Road V9W 1P4 Contact: Off (250) 923-5233; Charles Witty (250) 923-6396; Jim McGeachy (250) 286-3780; besijim2@hotmail.com

CHILLIWACK: Senior Citizens Bldg. Br 24, corner of Cook and Victoria St.; PO Box 327; Sun. 10:30, 11; Mid-week, call - John Forman 604-792-7806; Al McCutcheon, sec. 604-824-6703

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

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

DELTA: Delta Christian School, 53rd & Ladner Trunk Road, Ladner; 9:45, 10:45; Midweek: Call for times; PO Box 18623, RPO Ladner, Delta, BC V4K 4V7; contact Jim Hawkins, (604) 581-2169.

KELOWNA: Spring Valley Church of Christ, 847 Wayne Road, Kelowna, V1X 1A4. Sun. 10:30, Charlie McKnight, ev., Ph. 250-862-8739, email: ch8739@telus.net

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

NORTH BEND: North Bend Community Hall; Sun. 10:30 am; SS 1, Boston Bar, BC VOK 1C0; Bordy Krogsgaard 604-867-9420

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

PRINCE RUPERT: 977 Prince Rupert Blvd.; PO Box 324, V8J 3P9; Sunday Bible classes 11:00 am, worship 10:00 am; 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 250-833-0927; Mailing address: Box 51, V1E 4N2; Doug Kendig, John Murray and Gordon Parmenter, elders; Contact: Cliff Plummer ev.; website: sa4CHRIST.com

SOUTH BURNABY Church of Christ

(Metro Vancouver): 7485 Salisbury Ave., Burnaby BC V5E 3A5; Sunday worship: 10 a.m.; Bible classes for all ages: 10:45; Midweek groups meet in homes. Midweek adult Bible study at the building: 7 p.m. Kirk Ruch, ev.; K.M.Ruch@SBChurch.ca; Conor Wilkerson, youth; Office: our.office@SBChurch.ca; (604) 522-7721 Website: www.sbchurch.ca

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

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

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

VICTORIA (South Island Church of Christ):

Mailing address: South Island Church of Christ, c/o 108-800 Kelly Road, Suite 257, Victoria, BC, V9B 6J9; Meeting address: Westshore Chamber of Commerce, 2830 Aldwynd Rd., Lanford, BC.; Worship service 11:00 am – 12:00 pm, Contacts: Dick Morton 1-250-479-8480, L/S Walters 1-250-478-7275, Kent Malm 1-250-642-3460 (pls leave message); e-mail SICOC@shaw.ca

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

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

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

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

MANSON: Box 2, Manson, MB, ROM 1J0, Meeting Sunday Mornings – 10 & 11, (most Sundays) at Elkhorn Leisure Centre, 10 Richhill Ave E, Elkhorn, MB: Call to confirm meeting place or other information: Wilf Rogers, 204-722-2293 or Ken Starnes, 204-722-2085: email: kastar@xplornet.ca

WINNIPEG (Central): Sun. Worship 10, Bible classes 11:15, Eve. 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m.; (204) 475-6462; Fax: (413) 677-6165;

Mail: 170 St. Mary's Road, Winnipeg, MB R2H 1H9; website: www.winnipegchurch.ca; Jim Hobbs, sec. for elders (204) 261-9861; Wayne Turner, ev. (204) 257-7926 (res); wayne@winnipegchurch.ca; Chad Celaire, youth min. (204) 284-6280 (res) chad@winnipegchurch.ca

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

MONCTON: 365 Pine Glen Rd., Riverview (Moncton), E1B 4J8; Sun. 10, Wed. 7:30 p.m.; (506) 852-4143; Contact: Kenny Woodman (506) 380-4852; email: moncton.churchofchrist@gmail.ca

SAINT JOHN: Carleton Community Centre, 82 Market Place, Saint John, NB, E2M 1B5; Mailing address: P.O. Box 23021, 407 Westmorland Drive, Saint John, NB, E2J 2S0, Worship 10:00 a.m., Bible study follows. Wednesday night Bible study at 6:30 p.m., call for location. Contact Shawn Leblanc at (506) 832-5230 (Ev.) OR Fred Nelson at (506) 847-2802.

NEW YORK STATE

NIAGARA FALLS: 2011 Tennessee Ave.,
Niagara Falls, NY, 14305; Off (716)285-6534,
Home (716) 297-6563; Sunday Bible study 10 am,
worship 11 AM, evening 6 pm, Wed. 7 PM.
Minister Eddie J. Cornelius; cell:716-478-5278,
e-mail: niafallscofc@aol.com;
website: www.niagarafallscofc.com

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

SHUBENACADIE: 3557 Indian Road, Mill Village BON 2H0; Sun. 9:15 Fellowship Time, 10:00 Youth Classes, 10:15 Adult Bible Study, 11:00 Worship; Mon. 12:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study; Tues. 7:00 p.m. Bible study (call for location) Church building (902)758-4252 (leave message); J. Mackey (902)758-2633; email natbrown@ns.sympatico.ca

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

AURORA: 15216 Yonge St. S.; (entrance beside Benjamin Moore Paints); Sun. 9:30, 11:00, Wed. 7:30; P.O. Box 71523, L4G 1L9; Contact: Scott & Linda Harvey, (905) 473-5631 or leave message; e-mail: aurorachurchofchrist@hotmail.com or Clare Preston, (905) 895-0954

BARRIE: 345 Grove St. E. (at Cook), L4M 2R6; Sun. 10, 11, 6:30; Wed. 7:00; (705) 722-7155 (off.); Tim Johnson, ev. 705-718-0017 (cell); email: minister@barriechurch.ca BEAMSVILLE: 4900 John St., LOR 1B6; Sunday 9:30 am Bible classes and Discussion Groups, 10:30 worship, 6:00 pm Contemporary worship, Small groups meeting throughout the week; Don Smith, ev. 905-563-7655 (off); e-mail: beamsvillechurchofchrist@bellnet.ca website: www.beamsvillechurchofchrist.ca

BRAMALEA: 750 Clark Blvd., (south of Hwy. 7 on Finchgate Boulevard), LGT 3Y2; (905) 792-2297; mail@bramaleacofc.ca; Sunday worship 10:00, 6:00; Bible class 11:15; Thurs. 7:30; Kevin Hunter, ev (905) 455-5796 (res); Walter Straker, ev (905) 789-1632 (res); www.bramaleacofc.ca.

BRANTFORD: 267 North Park St., N3R 4L2; Sun. 10, 11, Mid-week, call for times; contact Ray Knight (519) 754-0401; Mike Gray 905-387-5680, email: thegrays1@shaw.ca office (519) 759-6630

CAMBRIDGE: Meeting place is across the street from 45 Brierdale Rd. Sun. 10:30, call for midweek small groups; Evs. Greg Whitfield (226) 338-6720, www.cambridgecofc.ca; Mailing address: 2-120 Dudhope Ave, Cambridge N1R 4T7

CHESLEY & AREA: Call for time and place of meetings. Padfield: 519-934-0441; David Vance: 519-507-5070; Ron Zavitz: 519-363-6952

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

CORNWALL: 105 third St W, K6J 2N9; Sunday Bible Study 10 am, Service 11am; Mid-week study Wed 7 pm; Allen Bojarski: evangelist/secretary, ph: 613-933-1825; Joel Bojarski: chairma; Mark Duperron: treasurer, ph: 613-932-3701; Fax: 613-933-2464; Mail: 1702 Dover Road, Cornwall, ON, K6J 1W1; email: abojarski@cogeco.ca; website: www.home.cogeco.ca/~abojarski/index.html

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

GRIMSBY: 63 Casablanca Blvd., south of Q.E. exit; Sun. Worship 10 am; Bible classes 11 am; Sun evening 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm; Box 181, L3M 4G3; (905) 945-3058 (off); George Mansfield, ev (h) 289-566-8963; website: www.grimsbycofc.org

HAILEYBURY: Meeting at 607 Christian Avenue, usually Sundays at 4 PM but call to confirm place and time. Week day Bible studies by appointment, Mailing address: Box 702, P0J 1K0; Mike & Judy Tinney 705-672-9241 or e-mail: can@parolink.net

HAMILTON: Fennell Ave. Church of Christ, 321 East 27 Street (at Fennell), L8V 368; Sunday 10:00, 11:00, 6:00; Wednesday 7:00; (905) 385-5775 (off.); Art Ford, ev., artf@churchofchristhamilton.com; Chris Gardner, sec., (905) 388-9174: Website: www.churchofchristhamilton.com

NORTH HAMILTON: YMCA building, 79 James St. S.; Sun. 9:30, 10:30; Wed. 7; c/o Joe Sandassie, 286 East 26th Street, Hamilton ON L8V 3E1; 905-389-8308, email: rjwss@cogeco.ca

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

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

ICE LAKE: (Manitoulin Island) (1-1/4 miles South of Hwy 540, Ice Lake, ON); Mailing address: Site # 2, Box 3, Gore Bay, ON P0P 1H0 Sunday: classes 10 am, worship 11 am; midweek - call for information: 705-282-2908 or 705-377-4019

KENORA: 101 Norman Dr.; Sun. 10, 11; P.O. Box 2905, P9N 3X8; Phone 807-468-7523 Earl Rattai, ev., 807-548-2245; email: erattai@sympatico.ca

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

LONDON: 1750 Huron St., N5V 3A2; (519) 455-6730; Sun. Worship 10 AM, Bible Study 11 AM

MEAFORD: 113 Nelson St.W. N4L 1G3; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Wed. 7:30; Kevin Cleary, ev.; (519) 538-1750; e-mail: meaford-cofe@brucetelecom.com website: http://www.meafordcofc.ca/
Check website for monthly changes

MISSISSAUGA: Mail address: Mississauga Church of Christ; PO Box 42264; 128 Queen Street S., Mississauga ON L5M 5Z5; Place of Worship: McKinnon Public School, 3270 Tacc Drive, Mississauga (10th Line & Tacc Drive); Worship: 10:30 – 11:45 AM; Bible Class 9:30 to 10:15 AM; Contact name: Phillip Brown, ev, cell 289-200-9160; email: phillkare@gmail.com. Tony Lourenco (905) 829-8312; tlourenco@cogeco.ca; Bill Currie, 905-826-4816, Email: wjc@7leaf.ca Web address www.mississaugacofc.ca Email: mail@mississaugacofc.ca

MISSISSAUGA (Port Credit): Port Credit Arena 40 Stavebank Road Mississauga, ON. LSG 2T8 Sunday Worship: 9.30 AM; Bible Study: 10.45 AM Contacts: Max D'Costa - Phone: 905-949-8793 Email: mnmdcosta@yahoo.ca Sabastin Daniel - Phone: 905-216-5344 Email: sabastin_daniel@yahoo.com ALL ARE WFI COMF

NEW LISKEARD: 554 Helmer Pedersen Drive, New Liskeard; Sun. 9:30, 10:30; Wed. 7:00; Contacts: Jim Robertson, PO Box 1556, New Liskeard ON; POJ 1P0; (705) 647-5488, Email: costone65@hotmail.com

NEWMARKET: 230 Davis Dr.; Box 21581, L3Y 8J1; Sunday 11:15 am Bible classes, worship 10 am, Wednesday, please call for time and location; Nathan Pickard, ev.; 905-895-6502 (off); email: 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.); Sunday Worship 10:30 AM, Sunday School 11:30 AM Wed. 7:30 Adult & Children's classes; Darrin Douglas, (minister) 905-356-3412, darrin@niagaracoc.com; Bruce Boland (youth/involvement minister) 905-356-3412, bryce@niagaracoc.com, website: www.niagaracoc.com

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

OMAGH: 9850 Britannia Road, Milton, L9T 7E8; 10, 11; website: http://omaghchurch.n3.net, Harold Ellis, Sec., 7435 Twiss Rd., RR # 3, Campbellville, ON L0P 1B0.

OSHAWA: Cedar Park Church of Christ 566 Simcoe St. N, Oshawa, L1G 4V3 Sun. 9:45, 11:00, 7; Wed. 7:00 pm; 905-434-1258 (Church) Shig Oikawa 905-420-8414 (res) Find us on face book-Cedar Park Church

OTTAWA (Riverview Park): 1515 Chomley Cres., K1G 0V9; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 6; Wed. 7; Robert J. MacRury, ev., 613-737-0701, 613-733-2580 (off); www.ottawachurchofchrist.ca

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

OWEN SOUND: 35 10th Ave. E., N4K 3H8; Sun. 9:45, 11:00, 2pm; Thurs. 7; Brian Thompson, ev. (519) 376-6702 (off.), 372-2155 (res.); email: oscoc@wightman.ca website: www.owensoundcofc.com

PETERBOROUGH: The Board Room, Parkway Place Mall, Landsdowne Street W.; Mailing Address: 323 Lindan Ave., K9L 1K9; Sunday 10 & 10:45; Wed. The Board Room, 7:00 pm, Peter McPherson (705) 742-5349

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. worship 10:00, SS 10:15, Adult SS 11:00; (905) 834-5775 (off)

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

ST. THOMAS: 60 S. Edgeware Rd, N5P 2H6; 519-633-2210 Sun 10,11 Call for midweek date and place; Bob Jackson, 519-633-1123.

SAULT STE. MARIE (Pinehill): 132 Cunningham Road, P6B 1N4; (705)949-4988; Sunday 9:40AM, 10:40AM; call for Sunday PM time; Wednesday 7PM; Elders: P. Bailey (705) 256-6789), L. Hotchkiss (705) 759-0649, C. Whitfield (705) 254-6153

SELKIRK: 1/2 km n. of village, 58 Haldimand Road 53, Sun. 10 & 11. Wed. 7:00; PO Box 247, Selkirk, ON NOA 1PO; Michael Toby: 905-776-0015; medt@xplornet.com

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

STONEY CREEK: 105 King St. E., L8G 1L1; (905) 664-1130 (off.); Sun. 9:45, 11; Sun.; Brent Olson, minister, Robert Priestnall, sec.; email: emailus@sccoc.ca; website: www.patchworkinthecreek.com

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

SUDBURY: 2663 Bancroft Dr. P3B 1T7; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7 PM; Edward Klym (ev), 705-560-3964, email: edklym@unitz.ca, Elders Wes Bailey, Don Stringer **SUNDRIDGE:** Hwy. 11 N.; Sun. 9:30, 10:30 Wed. 7:30 PM; P.O. Box 927, P0A 1Z0; (705) 384-5214

THESSALON: 8 Albert St. off Hwy. 17; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7 PM; Mailing address: Jim Kent, sec, Randy Morritt, ev; Box 708, POR 1L0; (705) 842-2344 (H), (705) 842-3340 (O/Fax); Email: randy.lois.church@sympatico.ca

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

TINTERN: 4359 Spring Creek Rd. Vineland ON LOR 2CO; Worship at 9: 45a.m. with classes to follow; Sunday pm call for times and locations; Wed. 7:00 pm; Noel Walker ev., Dylan Pyeatt ev.; (905) 563 6311 (off.).

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

TORONTO (Scarborough):

2035 Kennedy Road, Toronto, Ontario M1T 3G2
DELTA Toronto East Hotel, (Leaside Suite) Kennedy
& 401 East; Sunday 10:00am; 11:00;
Thurs. 7:00pm (in homes)
(Mailing Address: 300 Borough Drive,
P.O. Box 47011, Scarborough, Ontario M1P 4Z7)
Church Phone: 416-970-3835;
Website: www.scarboroughchurchofchrist.com

Devon Bennett, Minister, 905-686-2486, Cell: 416-970-3835;

Fax: 905-428-1579; email: devonben@gmail.com

TORONTO (Harding Ave.): 47 Harding Ave., M6M 3A3; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7; 416-244-9152; contact; Aikins Wiredu, 905-216-6896; Kaso Ramcharitar, 416-652-7266; Twi service available

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 905-237-3312; Max Craddock, ev. 416-461-7406, e-mail xmaxc@strathmorecofc.cax; Marlon Molina, ev., marlonm@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., PO Box 1196, 450 Countess Street S, Durham ON NOG 1R0; Phone 519-369-1731; Gordon Dennis, Box 274; Mount Forest, NOG 21.0; (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; David Dunn ev., 519-669-4319; Jamie Azzoparde, 519-578-8553 (res), e-mail: azzoparde@gmail.com

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

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

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

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

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

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

BENGOUGH: E. side Hwy. 34; Sun. 10:30, 11:15; 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. E-mail: estevan.cofc@sasktel.net website: www.estevanchurchofchrist.org

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

KENOSEE VILLAGE: Moose Mountain Church of Christ, Mailing address: PO Box 184, Kenosee Village, SK SOC 2SO; Sunday 10:00, Mid-week: call Jim Sedor, (306) 453-2088

LLOYDMINSTER: 56 Ave. and 47 St., Box 88, S9V 0X9; Sun. 10:00, 11:00; Off (780) 875-4056; Lee Patmore, ev.; res: (306) 825-2505 cell (306) 821-7446 e-mail: patmores@sasktel.net

MOOSE JAW: 901 James Street, Moose Jaw, SK S6H 3H5; (306) 693-4064 (off.); mjcoc@sasktel.net Website: http://mjchurchofchrist.blogspot.com; Call for times of worship, Darrell Buchanan, ev

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

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

SWIFT CURRENT: Church of Christ, Box 1103, Swift Current, SK, S9H 3X3; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 6:30; Susan Eidem, sec., 306-741-9925; (call for location of meetings).

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Please include Key to the Kingdom™ in 2013

This year we have been blessed with continued giving from many who support this ministry each year. Also, we received funds from 14 new contributors. We NEED all of you to continue in 2013. We began 2012 with a \$68,000.00 deficit. We cut costs by cancelling our contract with Grace TV. Also, Vision reduced our cost by \$300.00 per week for 2012. By

the end of August, the deficit had been reduced to \$16,000.00 so is still an issue. Looking to 2013, Vision is increasing our weekly cost by \$100.00, which is still \$200.00 per week less than our 2011 costs.

We pray you will help us in 2013 by including Key To The Kingdom in your evangelism budget with regular monthly or quarterly support or a onetime contribution. Key To The Kingdom Day in 2013 will be May 5.

Please contact us for any information regarding Key:
Strathmore Blvd Church of Christ,
346 Strathmore Blvd, Toronto, ON
M4C 1N3; 416-461-7406;
maxc@strathmorecofc.ca

(Cheques for Key should be made out to Strathmore Blvd Church of Christ with Key on the memo line)