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A "Filipino Inter-congregational Retreat" was enjoyed by the group pictured above, at Camp Omagh, near Milton, ON, Thanksgiving weekend. Bramalea, Mississauga and the Toronto Strathmore Blvd. congregations were represented

at the retreat. A wonderfully uplifting weekend of fellowship, Bible study and worship was enjoyed. The warmth of the weekend fellowship made the cool weather of the weekend bearable.



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Is God Holy or Compassionate?

Paul Birston

Is God holy or compassionate? Of course the answer is obvious to us. God is both holy *and* compassionate. How do we know? For one, He tells us: "I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy" (Leviticus 11:44). God is holy, 100% pure, without the slightest imperfection or sin. He "lives in unapproachable light" (1 Timothy 6:16). His pure presence there is deadly to all that is not holy.

At the same time, God is compassionate and merciful. God describes Himself as "compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth" (Exodus 34:6). James affirms that "The Lord is full of compassion and is merciful" (James 5:11). "His lovingkindness is everlasting" according to Psalms 106:1, 107:1, 118:1 and 136:1ff.

God not only tells us He is holy and compassionate, He shows us. Jesus felt compassion for the multitudes and healed and fed them (Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:33-44). Most profoundly, we see God's holiness and compassion meet together in Jesus on the cross.

While we know in our hearts and minds that God is holy and compassionate, do our actions as members of the human race always agree with what we know? Let me suggest to you that over the past several thousand years people have often tended to go to one extreme or another, emphasizing holiness without compassion or compassion without holiness. These tendencies to extremes have often polarized believers.

In their quest for holiness, some believers have become virtual hermits, cloistered away from suffering crowds who need compassion but are mired in sin. The righteous too often become distant critics of the faults and depravity of humanity. They see others as prone to tolerate wilful sin while neglecting sound doctrine.

On the other hand, some exercise compassion without

regard for God's holiness and see no need for His redemption. They see the holiness seekers as legalistic Pharisees. They feel confident that their good works are enough to please God and be assured of a place in His presence forever. From this viewpoint, Jesus to them was not so much a Saviour who died in our place for our sins. Rather, they see Him as a good man who died as an example of personal sacrifice (the moral influence view of the atonement).

How then do we as God's people find the balance, strength and patience to be holy and compassionate? The answer begins in the very nature of God. Consider the context of God's words to Moses in Exodus 34:6-7. The Exodus trail had been hard going. On the side of holiness, Moses was on Mount Sinai receiving the Law. Meanwhile, on the side of liberality, tolerance and (com)passion, the people were partying and worshipping the golden calf as a god at the foot of the mountain. In his anger, Moses threw down and shattered the tablets of the Ten Commandments. He punished the people but was left with questions. After all this, he needed to know that he would still have God's favour and know His ways, that God would still consider Israel His people, as "distinguished from all other people," and that He would go with them (33:13-16). On top of this, Moses wanted to see God's glory (33:18).

God assured Moses of His continued presence and responded to his request: "Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, 'The

LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations'" (Exodus 34:6-7). These are simultaneously encouraging and difficult words. Yet they are key words in Scripture through which God reveals His nature, highlighting and balancing His compassion and His justice. They link God's compassion with His call to holiness and give redemption and justice as a means to it.

This balance is hard for us. Yet ultimately, we mustn't sacrifice truth for compassionate action or vice versa. For the honour of God's name in the world and for the sake of His gospel reaching others we must be holy *and* compassionate. We must find the balance to care for others while upholding truth and personal integrity by God's grace, Word and Spirit. God's ultimate goal is to make us like Jesus. If we are going to be like God and be "conformed to the image of His Son" (Romans 8:29) we are going to be holy *and* compassionate. This applies to everyone, including the poor. In his helpful book *On Job: God-talk And The Suffering Of The Innocent*, Gustavo Gutierrez, who knows poverty firsthand, counsels the oppressed in need of compassion to honour God for who He is and to exercise personal holiness even amidst an absence of justice.

Resolving the tension between holiness and compassion is not an either/or choice, but a both/and necessity. God is calling us, commanding us, to be both holy *and* compassionate. According to Hebrews 12:14, we are to "pursue peace with all men, and the holiness without which no one will see

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The Nature of God (ISAIAH 65:1-16)

Thayer Salisbury

We put together lessons on the nature of God based on our own categories. We teach on the attributes of God using terms like omnipotent; omnipresent; omniscient. Then we turn to the moral attributes of God, His justice, mercy, and holiness. There is value in those lessons. But the Bible approaches the description of God in a different manner.

Let us just follow what the text tells us about Him. Instead of describing him in terms of abstract concepts, it presents the Lord in terms of His actions.

The Seeking God

This passage tells us that the Lord is a seeking God. He is not sitting in heaven waiting for us to seek him. Rather, he takes the initiative to seek us. He says, "I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for me; I was ready to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, 'Here am I, here am I,' to a nation that was not called by my name. I spread out my hands all the day to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices (Isaiah 65:1-2).

Despite their sin, despite their continual rebellion, the Lord still sought to draw them to Him.

The NT also shows us a God who is not hiding from us, but is seeking. Jesus told the woman at the well that God seeks worshippers (John 4:23). He does not just wait for them to come, He seeks them. As Jesus concludes the parable of the lost son, He tells us, "And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him" (Luke 15:20). The father was not just impassively waiting, he was actively watching for the son's return, and he ran to meet the fallen son. Such is the seeking nature of God.

The Saving God

The father did not run to meet the son in order to condemn him, but to bless him. The Lord is not seeking

Judah's return that He might punish them but that He might bless them. Our text tells us, "Thus says the Lord: 'As the new wine is found in the cluster, and they say, 'Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,' so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. I will bring forth offspring from Jacob, and from Judah possessors of my mountains; my chosen shall possess it, and my servants shall dwell there. Sharon shall become a pasture for flocks, and the Valley of Achor a place for herds to lie down, for my people who have sought me" (Isa 65:8-10).

The Lord's vineyard has been rebellious and unfruitful (Isa 5), but if there is a cluster of grapes that can be used it will be found. From Sharon in the west to Achor in the east, the land will be blessed. From Sharon, the well watered plain threatened with destruction in 33:9 to Achor, the barren wadi always known as a place of punishment, the land will be blessed. The Lord is not seeking because He desires to destroy, but because He desires to bless.

The NT also affirms that the Lord saves His chosen. They may be demon possessed like Mary (Lk 8:1-2); they

may be rash and undisciplined like Peter (Mt 26:73-74); they may be religious yet misguided like Paul (Philip 3:4-6), yet the Lord can save and use them all.

As He tells us in John 12:47, "If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world." Or, as we are told in 2 Peter 3:9, "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."

The Separating God

He desires to save, and he seeks in order to save, but, sadly, not all will be saved. There will be a separation made. Not all in Judah would be saved (Isa 65:2-7) and this remains the case today. Some chose to continue in their rebellion against Him and were left to the consequences of their choice. Those who made offerings to Destiny were destined to destruction. Those who chose what displeases God (12), were not among his chosen (Isa 65:11-12).

The Lord still separates. Universalism is a popular doctrine

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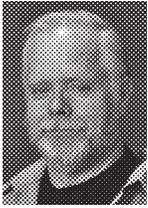
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It's a Different World

Wayne Turner



Baby Boomers were born into a pretty scary world. World War II was barely over, the Korean War was underway. The Cold War cast the menacing specter of nuclear war over the world. The Cuban missile crisis brought the world to the brink of disaster. It isn't surprising that it was also a time of religious interest and with it conservative family values and morals. Church attendance boomed. Television featured wholesome families like Ozzie and Harriet, Lucy and Desi and the Cleavers. Innocence seemed to be the theme of the day.

In the 1960's, all out war was being waged in Vietnam. Protests, peace marches, race riots, drugs and hippies marked the beginnings of a social and moral revolution. Young people spoke of "free love." General interest in faith and church peaked. Many people still reacted negatively to those who were seen as loose and promiscuous.

The decades that followed saw the relative innocence and domestic calm shattered by events like the Oklahoma City Bombing, the 9-11 attacks and war in the Middle East. HIV/AIDS became epidemic. Interest in the Bible and faith ebbed, as large numbers of people abandoned churches. Moral values took a radical turn away from their conservative past. Increasing sexual openness and activity gained acceptance from a greater part of the main stream population. The "sexual revolution" has especially attracted teens. In early December, 2009, CNN reported on a study published in *Pediatrics* which said that by the time the young people in the study reached 9th grade, one-third had already had intercourse. By grade 10, the number increased to fifty per cent! And, in a somewhat ironic note, the study found that by the time parents sat down with their children to have "the talk" about sex, 40 per cent had already had intercourse.

In an interview published in *MACLEAN'S* in March 16, 2009, psychologist and teen-expert Michael Bradley said that in an American study, one in four teens had an active Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) not including syphilis or gonorrhoea. Bradley describes a teen world that many adults couldn't even dream of—in their worst nightmares. He speaks of "party sex" where middle-school girls are "becoming the predators, sexually... approaching boys for party sex, telling them it's

fine and harmless." He mentions that even girls are watching porn, and that "we are beginning to see a new phenomenon of porn addiction and sex addiction even in teenage girls." Many teenagers know kids who are "potheads and pillheads and alcoholics at 15."

One might reasonably ask, "Where are the parents?" Bradley notes that teens are skilled at "flying under the radar." In other words, adults are generally unaware of the real world, the hidden subculture, in which their teens live. It is only natural for parents to assume that their children are growing up in the same world they did. The main themes—sex, drugs, alcohol—sound similar. Yet, the reality for teens today is much harsher and more difficult. Complicating the problem, according to Bradley, is that many parents are more concerned with trying to be friends with their children and overindulging them than teaching them responsibility, how to work and to learn resilience in the face of adversity and denial.

As Christians, we understand that this is not merely a social or moral problem. It is a spiritual war for the souls of young people, as well as their hearts, minds and lives. The loss of faith and Biblical values as well as the abandonment of churches in the parents' generation has led to a subsequent spiritual and moral vacuum. Satan is using this vacuum to persuade the following generation that moral absolutes are an outdated vestige of a narrow and repressive past. Many teens and young adults today have seldom, if ever, gone to church. They are unfamiliar with the most basic ideas, even something as simple as prayer. Churches

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and the people who attend them may seem irrelevant and unreal to parents and teens.

We are faced with a paradox. On one hand there is a great opportunity—a whole generation of people which needs, but has had little exposure to the Gospel. On the other, we are challenged by their distance from us. Stereotypes and pre-conceived ideas abound in both directions. The gap can only increase if we are unable to reach out effectively to them. The direction this will take is seen by the fact that there are already congregations with few people under 55.

Bradley suggests that adults treat young people with respect. Despite what may be seen as crazy, immature behavior, they are “developing an adult brain, thinking critically, making decisions, and the world is throwing a lot of challenges at them.” It is by communicating respect, value and love that adults can even begin to connect with them.

Working with today's young people can be very challenging. They are different from us and what we were when we were younger. They are being bombarded from every direction by ideas and values that come from a world without God. Yet, they are only in the early stages of being shaped as adults. Christians who are open, caring and sensitive can have a positive influence on the direction they ultimately take. May we see past the rough edges and occasional poor behaviour and choices to the eternal souls within.

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MAX'S MUSINGS

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In God's Service

William Clinton Brazle

Editor's note: "The following article is written by Clinton Brazle in response to my Musings in the November issue, "What is Primary?" (Retirement Thoughts) Many of the readers will know brother Brazle and his wife Delma who served here in Canada for many years. They presently reside in Bozeman, Montana. His thoughts provide good suggestions for continuing Christian services, even as one grows older. I pray that you will benefit from his thoughts and thank God for the opportunities to serve that are given us throughout our lives. I pray that God will continue to bless brother and sister Brazle as well as each one who serves faithfully through life." (mec)

In response to Max's article in November, I will reflect a bit on growing old in the Lord. I turned 85 last March 14th and resigned as an elder. (I had served in that capacity in four different congregations.) I guess the congregation in Bozeman, MT, thought I should retire so they threw a big party for me on my birthday. Six of our children were a big part of that. It was so thrilling! However, that is not the end.

For a decade, I have gone to four nursing homes weekly to pray and read scripture and touch old lonely people. (Sometimes it's only three or four and sometimes a dozen or more), and always worthwhile! Also, each Friday I go to Sacajawea Middle School over the lunch period. When each grade finishes their lunch, about ten of them find me in a corner of the library and each one gets to pick out 10 free postage stamps to start their own collection.

They choose their own Country or topic. Each semester they can hand in a page in a contest. Each one receives a ribbon and the first place gets a nice stamp prize, (Something worth working for). In all of this, they get a break from school and maybe a lifetime hobby. I've been at it myself for over 40 years. (Thank you, Dale Elford)

In recent months Delma, my wife has been slowing down in energy and memory. She turns 89 on Dec 30th, 2009. I took several hours of hospice training to be of help to her. I usually rise first, prepare and eat my breakfast and then I prepare her breakfast. She usually rises mid to late morning. Then I fix our lunch mid to late afternoon. (Two meals are adequate for us)

I am in the process of writing my life story. The title is "IN HIS HANDS". Much of my life could not have happened without His guidance and power! Our daughters, Marilyn and Melinda, will edit and print it for a publisher. I hope to have it ready by summer 2010.

Delma & I express our love for each other often every day. We are so grateful to God for all He does. He is in Charge! He is Sovereign! (By the way, I'm working on my next sermon - The Names of God!)

I continue to think of people who need assistance in some way. I may not be able to help but maybe I can point someone else to aid them. There are so many hurting people around us. Let us do what we can. May God bless them!



How Do You Feel About Sin?

This might seem like an odd question, since as Christians, we are to abhor sin. We know how God feels about sin. There are many scriptures that tell us who will not be in heaven (I Corinthians 6:9-11). We read these passages often, but do we really believe them?

There was a time when we were shocked and dismayed when we heard someone swear. We would often walk out of a movie if something was being shown or said that was contrary to God's teachings. We were offended when someone used our Lord's name in vain or made fun of His church and our beliefs. I fear that those days are behind us, however. We have allowed things to happen around us that would have shocked our grandparents.

When we look at the great example of Paul in the New Testament, we should be encouraged to stand up for God's truths. When he travelled to the churches to fellowship and teach them, he did not beat around the bush or tread softly. He was bold in his teachings and left no doubt in their minds of wrongs that they were doing. He probably wasn't liked by everyone, especially those at whom he pointed the finger when they were sinning. He even went so far as to name names and the sins that they were committing. Yet, he was respected and loved by many of the New Testament Christians.

Because of his teaching and refusal to comply with the instructions given to him by the leaders of the land to stop spreading God's Word, Paul suffered much at the hands of these men, for the cause of Christ. He was imprisoned, beaten, stoned, left for

dead, shipwrecked, spat upon and totally mistreated. This happened over and over again, and yet he continued to teach the truth and try to persuade people to make changes in their lives to comply with God's plan.

Would that we had just a hint of the courage and dedication that Paul had! We should be ashamed of ourselves for allowing so much wickedness and false teachings to creep into our world and even the church. As we strive to live a Christian life, we are to seek guidance from the Bible, our instruction book. Too often today, we try to change what the Bible says to fit what we want to do and how we want to live, worship, act, speak, etc. Instead of that, we are to change ourselves to fit the pattern that He has set for us in His word. As humans, we are resistant to do that. We somehow think that we know more than God about how we should live. We need to understand that there's a reason for us to follow His instructions. He can see the whole picture. He knows how being involved in various acts and activities will affect us.

Why should we not smoke or drink? Because it will harm our bodies. Why should we not gossip? Because it will hurt someone's feelings as well as us eventually. Why should we not commit adultery? Because it will result in severe damage to our families and friends and eventually us. If we would just stop and think about the ramifications of the sins around us, we might be able to see that there is a reason to stay away from sin.

We have just started a new year. It is at this time that most of us stop to think about what we have accom-

plished during the previous year and perhaps look ahead to consider what we would like to accomplish during this new year. Many of us make resolutions that we hope to achieve during the year. That is a good thing. However, most of us are not able to reach those goals, usually failing before the end of the first month of the year. We then give up and say we'll wait until next year to try again. We don't have to do that, though. Each new day that we are given should be a new day for us to make changes in our lives.

What a great world this would be if each of us made the resolution to speak out against the sins around us and to determine to remove all sin from our lives. Examine your life and decide what sins you have that need to be eliminated from your life. Strive every day through prayer and study to remove them. If you fail today, try again tomorrow.

What a better church we would have if every member made that same commitment to living and worshipping the way God would have us do, not the way we want to or in a way that makes us feel good. We are here on earth to praise and glorify God. Can you honestly say that you are doing that? Is everything you do and say done and said to the glory of God? That should be our ultimate goal! We need to think about this every time we make a choice.

As society and our culture seem to be changing to be more wicked and evil every year, and as the church seems to be accepting more and more things that are contrary to God's word, we need to be individually working harder and harder on our own lives. We need to have a strong relationship with God, spend much time in prayer and study with Him, and make a decision to live this year of 2010 as a better person than ever before. May God bless us all richly as we live in this world so that we can be shining examples for Him.



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Lessons Learned

BonnieLee Cox

Have you ever had a day when you felt that you absolutely had no control over anything that was happening? With the end of the day did the stark realization that no matter how badly you wanted things to work on your schedule, that it was not meant to be? I was provided with one of those days and a few lessons reinforced for me just how small a part I play in the game we call life.

That particular day of travel started out like any other. I woke to a clear sky and the news that the morning flight would arrive on time with the replacement nurse. Always a good sign when you plan on leaving even for a few days. Within minutes of the arrival of the first flight of the day the fog rolled in over the still open water. An unusual situation for late November in the north. By ten o'clock it was obvious that I would not likely be flying anywhere at eleven thirty. The agent's response to my question of whether we would head to the airport was, "How will we know the plane flew over if we aren't there to hear it!" Typical answer to an all too often question. Next call was to inform me that the plane was coming early, since it hadn't been able to land in the two previous communities, could I hurry just in case we were lucky. First we heard final approach, then, we are at 1000ft, followed by the roar of the engine, not a glimpse of the plane, and finally, we have missed and are on to our next destination. An

expectable outcome, and if the plane had been fifteen minutes later the fog on the runway had cleared.

Waitlisted for 5:15 today and confirmed for noon tomorrow was the agent's response to my disappointment. A missed connection in Thunder Bay, and the frustration of trying to get to where I felt I might be able to help my family in a time of medical crisis. First lesson learned; you have no control over the weather, live with what you get. The waitlist turned into a confirmed seat for five fifteen as the weather had cleared up nicely. Instead of an hour and a half flight to Thunder Bay I would now be taking the scenic tour through Sioux Lookout. No problem, I would be in Thunder Bay by 9:00 p.m. and could carry on to Toronto early the

next morning. Buy another ticket, book a room and be thankful there was another flight that day. Things would work out.

At 5:50 the twin engine plane with eleven passengers, including me, lifted off heading for the next community on the flight path. I had my seat with the window looking out over the left wing and engine. As we ascended into the night sky there was a spark from that engine, then another and finally full flames shooting from both exhaust stacks. At first it seemed surreal, and my mind told me that it wasn't real. As the fire shot from the engine, the passenger seated behind me undid his seatbelt and started towards the cockpit. Tapping the captain on the shoulder I heard him state in a very matter of fact way, "You better put this bird back down 'cause the engine is on fire." I tightened my seatbelt, closed my eyes to block out the flash of the flames, and the smiling face of my nephew appeared. A calmness that I would have thought

impossible overtook me. I have heard accounts of plane crashes and other disasters when people described the overwhelming calmness, no screaming, no crying, just waiting quietly to be given instructions. I prayed that God would guide the pilots to have control over the aircraft and put my faith in their abilities. Lesson number two, learn to trust in others, you can't do everything yourself.

For the next five minutes, which seemed like five hours, we made a hard turn at low altitude in order to get back to the runway. I have never been afraid of dying in a plane crash, but of surviving only to be lost in the bush or have to fight off the wildlife. Setting the aircraft down hard and fast and getting us all off the plane and to safety was the priority. Figuring out what went wrong would come later. Once we were

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Who Is The Holy Spirit?

Bill Craddock

Answering questions is one of the better ways of teaching. Jesus used this method often. Over the years I have received many questions and have answered them both from the pulpit and through bulletin articles. Here is one that is asked as much if not more than any other bible subject. "What is the Holy Spirit? What role does He play and I have heard and/or read that if you sin against Him that you will not be forgiven. Is this true?"

First, the Holy Spirit is not a "what" but a "who." There are three in the Godhead—Jehovah, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. He has been with the Father and Son since the beginning (whenever that was). In Genesis 1:26 Jehovah said, "Let us make man in our image..." he was speaking to Jesus and the Holy Spirit. One of his main tasks throughout time has been that of a messenger of God's word to mankind. Inspiration has always been the work of the Holy Spirit. He inspired the prophets of old as they proclaimed God's message to

the people of their day. "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scriptures came by the prophet's own interpretation. For the prophecy did not come in old time by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:20-21). After Jesus went back to heaven, the Holy Spirit played a great part in inspiring men to know the word of God to be taught as the gospel message spread across the known world. It started in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost following the resurrection of Christ and continued until the Apostle Paul said that the gospel had been preached unto every creature (Colossians 1:23). As the gospel spread, the Holy Spirit inspired men to write these words down and these writings have been collected into what we call the New Testament.

Until the word of God was in written form, the Holy Spirit played a direct role in its spread. "All scripture is given by the inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Not only did the Holy Spirit give men the gift of knowledge, but he also gave some the power to speak in tongues unknown to them, power to heal the sick, raise the dead, interpret tongues (languages), etc. There are a total of nine (9) gifts of the Holy Spirit. All of these powers were to convince people that those who possessed the gifts were representing the true and living God (Mark 16:17-19). After the word of God was written down, these gifts of the Spirit ceased to operate (1 Corinthians 13:8-10). Believers now have the written word to teach others about the love and grace of God.

The Holy Spirit continues to play a part in the lives of Christians today. When saved, Christians receive the

"gift" of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). This is not a gift "from" the Holy Spirit, but the Holy Spirit "is" the gift. The help from the Holy Spirit today is not as obvious as it was in days past. He no longer gives man the ability to heal the sick, raise the dead, restore sight and hearing, receive messages directly from God, etc. The need for all these things have passed with the giving of the written word, the Bible. We know that the Holy Spirit helps Christians today because God says that He does. We know this by "faith." By faith we know that He helps by uttering prayers for us that we don't even know to pray (Romans 8:26). We really do not have a clue as to all the ways that the Holy Spirit helps the Christian to serve God faithfully. I do not know all the ways He helps me, but I know that He does and thank God daily for that fact.

There is no "one sin" that a person can commit against the Holy Spirit that cannot be forgiven. Jesus was condemning those who said that He was casting out demons by the power of the devil when He was actually doing so by the power of the Holy Spirit. These people were "blaspheming" or "speaking against" the Holy Spirit (Matthew 12:31-37). The bible is very clear that there is no sin that a Christian cannot be forgiven of if he is willing to "repent" and "ask God to forgive" (1 John 1:8-10). John did not give any qualifiers or exceptions. If there was a sin(s) we could not be forgiven of since the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, God would have informed us of such so we could be aware. The sins that will condemn us are the sins that have not been removed by the blood of Christ. There is no sin that Christ's blood will not remove if we come to God in total obedience. But that is a requirement. We must obey God (1 John 5:1-3).

North Canton, OH

MINISTER WANTED

Established congregation looking for someone with the gifts of teaching and leadership to work alongside us as we strive to do God's work in the city of **London, Ontario**. We are located in a growing city of 375,000 people and are excited about the challenge God has placed before us! Support available. If you are interested please send covering letter and resume stating experience and education to:

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safely inside the terminal building and nerves were settled with some informal debriefing, the task of determining what the next step would be began. After several hours of examining the plane, and discussing the issue with the mechanic and manufacturer of the plane the pilot felt it was safe to proceed. The co-pilot did not. Lesson number three: it is okay to say I am uncomfortable with this plan and we need to make another one. Many times in life we are pressured by others to make decisions that we know do not fit into the plan that God has for us.

Several hours later the passengers would be divided into two planes and we proceeded on our journey. Twelve hours late and a missed connection, but safely delivered to Thunder Bay. God will work things out in his time, not necessarily on our timetable. Lesson number three, put your faith

and trust in God to work out all the details.

Five days later and now my return flight is cancelled due to fog and freezing rain. As I was being rebooked to the next day, my "better safe on the ground than in trouble in the air" philosophy was at work. Taking some time to rest and recover from a busy few days would not be such a bad idea. A warm comfortable bed provided that much needed rest. As our flight is called the next morning, and the passengers start their walk across the tarmac to the waiting aircraft, I feel the calming hand rest on my shoulder. My eyes are drawn to the blackened area along the exhaust pipes and I know this is the same flame-throwing aircraft. From around the wing comes the captain who so bravely set the plane down on the runway only a few days ago. Now all of a sudden I realize how important it is to let God

be the guider and director of my life. The master teacher was putting me back on the horse that tried to throw me off, to teach me to trust that he was in control of my life. I believe that we are all put on this earth for a purpose. I also believe that we must have faith. We need to trust and allow God to direct what that purpose is. He also expects us to live in such a way that when the last five minutes of our life begins, we can have a calm assurance in the place that we are headed, even if that means we will meet him in the air.

(BonnieLee Cox RN BN, works as an outpost nurse in north western Ontario. She is the Nurse in Charge of the medical clinic in Neskantaga, a small remote fly-in community where she lives with her husband. BonnieLee is highly respected by her peers and is often sought out for advice. The extra good works that she seeks to provide the community are much appreciated and widely recognized. Her words of encouragement and smiling face result in the community children wanting to visit her both at work and at home.) BMC

the Lord." "You shall be holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16 quotes Leviticus 11:44). Paul wrote: "Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God" (2 Corinthians 7:1). God calls us to be compassionate like Him, for "He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men" (Luke 6:35). In the next verse, Jesus says, "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:36).

So *are we* holy and compassionate? Are we pure and always merciful? If we are honest with ourselves, on our own, we cannot make ourselves pure enough to enter God's presence and we pass by opportunities to show His compassion. Yet God requires those who enter His presence to be holy. He cannot ignore sin. He is loving, yet He is just. He must deal with sin because we cannot. Fortunately for us, we see His holiness and His compassion meet at the cross.

From the nature of God comes this profound action of God in history to make us holy and compassionate. The beautiful hymn "Beneath

the Cross of Jesus" contains these meaningful words: "O trysting place where heaven's love and heaven's justice meet." A tryst is an agreement between two people, often two people in love, to meet at an appointed time and place. God's compassion and love for us drove Him to meet us at the cross. That was His time and place to satisfy His need for holiness and justice. There and then He offered Jesus as a sacrifice for our sin to make us holy: "yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach" (Colossians 1:22); "And by that will we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all" (Hebrews 10:10); "He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed" (1 Peter 2:24). As we are sanctified in our walk with God, "He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness" (Hebrews 12:10). We must embody both God's holiness and His

compassion to do genuine justice to living as examples of the gospel of Jesus' sacrifice so that others may experience God's grace and salvation.

Because Jesus took our place and sacrificed Himself for our sins there at the cross, we are 100% justified before God and we are clothed in His righteousness in God's eyes. Being 100% justified, however, does not mean we are instantly 100% sanctified and wholly compassionate. This is a life-long journey. Fortunately, when we are united with Christ in baptism, His Spirit's fruit of love and compassion begin to grow in our hearts. The Spirit of God strives with us so that we can become like Jesus, pure and compassionate. Every moment we exist, we live by His grace. Every day we have opportunities to share His compassion. Every week we have an appointment with God. We meet with Him and His people in the Lord's Supper to experience His love and show our love for Him. We share in Jesus' body and blood shed at the cross where His love and His justice, where His holiness and compassion, meet.

Winnipeg, MB



by Walter R. Straker
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Reminder: To be published in the following month's Gospel Herald, each congregation's information should be sent to Walter Straker by the 10th of the month preceding the date of issue, which is the first of each month. Please clearly mark the email or the envelope: "NewsEast."

Beamsville: On November 22, the congregation celebrated 20 years of worship and service in their current building. Operation Christmas Child was again undertaken and shoeboxes were packed with items for needy children. Christmas shoeboxes were filled for boys on the Neskantaga Reserve and will be sent to Brian and Bonnie Cox for distribution. Knitted items are being made for the "Out of the Cold Program" and the "Women's Shelter."

Bramalea: Spearheaded by Mark Knutson, 95 shoeboxes were filled by members of the congregation with items for children in the "Operation Christmas Tree" program. Five ladies enjoyed the day with women from Ottawa, Vandeleur and other places at the Barrie Ladies' Day, Saturday, November 7. The theme was "Enduring

the Winter," and guest speaker was Kathy MacRury from Ottawa. The men's monthly breakfast was held Saturday, November 28, 2009. The Thursday night girls' class baked and served cookies to the other class members on December 10, 2009. A New Year's Eve games/devotional night was scheduled for December 31.

Brantford: The ladies' class women met for dinner on November 8 and then returned to the building to make cards. Envelopes are available for encouragement notes to missionaries. Bible study night has been changed to Mondays.

Cambridge: Greg Whitfield is still in need of additional support. For information on how to donate to Greg, contact him at the_greggor@yahoo.com or check out the church website at www.cambridgecofc.ca for news of congregational events. Recently an older man who comes to the adult drop-in to drink coffee and to chat has been asking questions about pursuing wealth or pursuing God.

Fennell (Hamilton): The teens are considering meeting regularly on Sunday evenings. The congregation was invited to attend a "Planning for Seniors" meeting at the Piazza Banquet Centre to discuss issues relating to essential legal documents for families, information about resisting fraud against seniors and planning for funerals. This event was held by Dermody's Funeral Home. Donations are being accepted for the Mountain Kidz Klub which is collecting new hats, mitts, scarves, gently used winter outerwear, new unwrapped toys and non-perishable food items for Christmas hampers. The congregation contributed towards buying a dryer for a couple in the congregation, purchased gifts for two families they are supporting, and participated in the Angel Tree Christmas program.

Fenwick: The winter wear giveaway was a great success this year with 36 people receiving coats, hats, boots and other articles of clothing. Christmas presents were sent to 14 children at Lansdowne House. The congregation has taken on the responsibility of sponsoring Ruth Zimmerman as she plans her return to PNG. The meeting with Jerry Tallman was well attended, and he challenged all who attended to reach out to their communities. Grace Cook celebrated her 95th birthday. In lieu of gifts, donations were sent to the Pelham Cares Food Bank.

Mississauga: The congregation celebrated its first anniversary with a pot luck dinner and fellowship.

Sundridge: John Clayton was with the congregation in May to present his lectures on "Does God Exist?" In July the ladies held a special day with Violet Konkle giving lessons on "Transformation." A "Helping Hands" program has been started to help people in need in the community, as well as those in the congregation. The ladies held their annual pot luck at which boxes were packed for the shut-ins and others in need during the holiday season.

Toronto (Scarborough): The December monthly fellowship was hosted by Rick, Melanie, Matilda and Karen (Bernard) on December 13 and held at the building. The combined "Authentic Ethnic Fellowship" and the congregation's "End of the Year Fellowship" were held New Year's Eve, December 31, 2009.

Toronto (Strathmore Blvd): Kevin Cleary of Meaford presented three excellent lessons on the theme, "Postmodernism and the Church," November 28, 29. His lesson titles were, "What Does Postmodernism Look Like," "How Does This Directly Impact Churches of Christ?" and "How Can We Reach Out To Postmodern People Without Compromising the Truth?" The GLCHS Chorus visited on Sunday, November 22, and presented an uplifting programme following the evening service. Strathmore will be hosting the annual Training For Service programme on Friday, April 2, 2010. Watch the Herald for more details.

Waterloo: The University, College and Career group is hosting a weekend run for, and by, the 20s age group. The theme is "Perfect Fit: Our Responsibility and Involvement in the Life of the Church." Speakers for the event are Brandon Addison of Mentor, Ohio, and Micah Jones of Cambridge, Ontario. This programme will be January 15 - 17, 2010. For more information and to register go to: www.waterlooweekend.squarespace.com.

Windsor (West Side Church): The congregation's annual community giveaway was held on Friday, December 4, and Saturday, December 5, 2009. The Giveaway in 2010 will mark our 10th Anniversary Giveaway! This project has grown tremendously over the years as the needs in our community have increased. We plan to collect throughout the year on special drop-off dates and to have work days as needed. The church leaders have organized a "Seasonal Program" of collecting non-perishable food items for needy families in the city. On December 20, Lamarr Matthews, of the Flat Rock Church of Christ, spoke and led the Bible class.

Moncton, NB

Preacher/evangelist needed for the Riverview Church of Christ in Moncton, New Brunswick. Congregation is small but we have our own building. We can help a bit with support. Moncton is a booming town, full of souls to save. We pray that God will bless us with who He deems we need. For information contact:
Roger Leger (506) 852-4143 or
Christian Maillet (506) 860-6177



by Marion Waugh
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 E-mail: waughr1@shaw.ca

(BC news supplied by Barbara Lewis)

ALBERTA

Camrose: (Submitted by Dave Friesen) The month of November has proven fruitful in Camrose. We have had several first time guests attend our Sunday morning assembly. We also have had several one on one bible studies at this time. Dianne and I are slowly getting familiar with the community and they are getting to know us also. We are continuing to do a number of outreach events and writings in the newspaper when we have the opportunity so that the community knows we are present. We are all looking forward to the holiday season because it seems that people are more open during this time to hear about Jesus than at any other time of the year.

North Edmonton: November 6-8 the annual men's retreat at Rundle Mission was held. Michael King minister of the Lakeside church of Christ in Orange Park, Florida was guest speaker. The theme of the lessons was "Just a Closer Walk with Thee". Lesson titles were: David, A Man After God's Own Heart; Do You Want to See the Lord?; A Meeting at the Rock Piles; An Obedient Servant Walks with God; and We Will Seek Thy Face, Almighty God. Oscar Miles, pulpit minister of church of Christ at Brook hill, Killen, Alabama, led a series of lessons on sexuality "Slay the giant and cut off its head" to the young men and their fathers. Terri Fanning of Lubbock, Texas, presented a series of lessons to the young ladies and their mothers. November 20 and 21 Scott Laird of Great Falls, Montana, met with the leadership teaching and discussing on small groups. Scott taught the Bible class and gave the sermon Sunday morning.

South Edmonton: (Submitted by Tim Johnson) Just a few days before returning to China in September, Lin Zhongmao was baptized into Christ. He had been staying with his niece, Ying Lin (a sister in Christ), for almost two years in Edmonton and was introduced to the church through her. He is affectionately known to us as "uncle" Many played a direct part in his conversion. Now living in Dalian, China—northeast of Beijing—he has been put into contact with a small congregation meeting there. We are confident he will reach people for Christ. Isn't it true that there is no telling what our Lord will do when we reach out to people when the opportunity is there? Here's another: Rosemarie Gamut, a sister in Christ from the Philippines and living in Edmonton, told us about her sister, a Catholic, who lost her home in recent flooding in south-east Asia. We immediately put together some money to help her rebuild her house and sent it through White's Ferry Road Church of Christ in Louisiana, who do disaster relief work in the Philippines. Rosemarie notified her by phone from Edmonton about our wish to help her and insisted she find a local congregation of the church of Christ. She did, and soon found herself studying the scriptures with

a Filipino evangelist. He baptized her into Christ about a month ago. Meanwhile, her house is being rebuilt with funds we sent. We are thankful for this good fruit from our Lord, knowing we are incapable of such things on our own. Reach out to others and never give up! A brother in Christ here did, attempting to encourage a friend who had fallen away several years ago due to some heavy burdens. His love and care motivated Chris Escott to return to fellowship two weeks ago. The burdens are still there, but they're lighter now. Who will you reach out to in 2010?

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Abbotsford (Central Valley): The church near the compound in Haiti, started by Raymond and Merle Fillion over a decade ago, continues to grow, with 62 adults and 45 children, plus babies, in the assembly on November 22. However, this year only about half the number of last year is in the school, because many parents fail to understand the significance of an education for their children. Raymond points out that at 198, this is an ideal enrolment to have, considering the school's capacity. A strong wind this fall damaged the central building and the kitchen, as well as several appliances which had to be repaired.

When the number of families obtaining loans through the Mini-Loan project reached 700, it was thought wise to discontinue the offer for awhile, he said, although a few still come to register almost every day. With the spread of AIDS in epidemic proportions, Monique, the compound's director and overseer, was chosen by the district to educate women in the area about sexual abuse and prevention.

Burnaby: We contributed to food supplies delivered to the local church in Manadero, Mexico, which were sent for distribution to the very poor in that area. Many have been without employment for the past two years. The Young Women's Ministry hosted a "Christmas Tea" for our ladies of all ages on the Saturday before Christmas. The only catch was a donation for the local Christmas baskets in return for all the goodies. The Sunday evening service on December 20 was devoted to our

continued on page 13



Grove Park

HOME

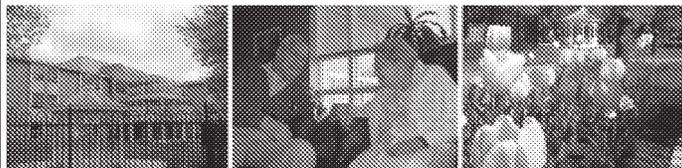
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Cambodia: On The Ship of Life, another 2,000 patients were seen in the two weeks that a medical team from the US was able to be there. In addition to those that were treated, referrals to a charitable hospital for surgery were given to people who needed more serious care. Children jump for joy on the shores as they recognize the ship from previous visits. The "Back-2-School" program has enrolled 411 children this year, a jump of 111 over last year's total. Twenty-one have already earned bicycles through the traveling Library Club which is now being carried to 11 locations. When the children were first approached with the idea of earning 200 points through either reading that many books or answering that many questions about the ones they had read, they said it was impossible. But after seeing two students achieve that goal and be awarded the bikes, they changed their mind. Most of these children are either orphans, abandoned, or "slave" children who have been sold by their families to work for others. They are given school uniforms, underwear, shoes and school supplies. They are also urged to participate in a nutrition program

where they may earn additional items like backpacks, toothbrushes, small toys and additional supplies that our children take for granted. At the end of the school year, they are given a reward and rice. The latter gives parents an incentive for seeing they remain in school. Not only are the people receiving health care, but they are also being taught the Word of God as students from the Phnom Penh Bible School minister to their spiritual needs.

YEAR END SUMMARY OF "PEOPLE TO PEOPLE" CAMPAIGNS

Cuba: The Herald of Truth began its work in Cuba in 1985 when Juan Monroy of Spain became the first preacher for the church to be allowed into the country after the 1959 Castro revolution. Three hundred young people from across the island attend the 11th National Youth Conference at the Versalles church in Matanzas in July, 2009. Brother Monroy and Tim Archer from Abilene, TX, were the featured speakers, along with Cuban keynote speakers from Santiago, Pinar del Rio and Havana. The event gives the young people a week of intense Bible study.

Honduras: The Herald of Truth help in this Central American country provides both work in the National prisons and training opportunities for local ministers to equip them to be able to better teach their home congregations.

South America: A follow-up evaluation of the year-long National TV programme by the Herald of Truth and local churches of Christ has been conducted. Utilizing the contacts and resources of Tim Archer, who was a missionary in Cordoba, Argentina, for 13 years, a new initiative in that country will be started this year. Tim is the director of Spanish-speaking programs for the Herald of Truth.

Africa: Campaigns using materials in the Chichewa tribal language which began in Malawi four years ago were extended to Mozambique in 2008. As a result, churches in Zambia have invited the Herald of Truth to bring this translated literature and Bibles to that nation also.

Spain: The Herald of Truth's International Office is in Madrid, where Juan Monroy continues his daily radio broadcast through 16 stations across the country, and by short-wave that reaches to the Caribbean, Central and South America.

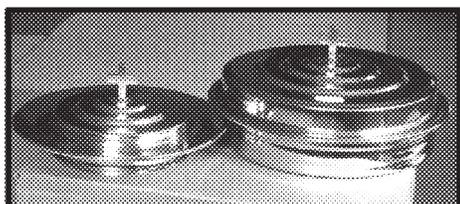
USA: In addition to two English, two Spanish and one Portuguese internet websites maintained by the Herald of Truth, one in Mandarin and one in Farsi are being

designed to reach the people of China and Iran. Thirty and 60-second radio spots are being enhanced by the creation of 2 and ½ minute series in both English and Spanish. Free evangelistic spots which can be used by local congregations in their communities were introduced in 2009.

Ethiopia: Called the "Water Well Plan of Evangelism", its continuation over the last eight months in the areas of Soro, Badewatcho, Kambatta and Sidama have produced 34 new churches with 469 people obeying the gospel in those congregations. Although Jajura had a new church building, there was not enough room when John Ed Clark from the Woodward Park Church Outreach in Fresno, CA, visited, and the meeting had to take place under an open-ended tent. Since the programme was started a few years ago, a total of 258 wells have been completed. Thirty new wells were completed in December, and brought on line this month. Woodward Park's goal is to be able to send native preachers who have gone through the Preacher Training Schools into every place where a well has been successful. They are effective because in the eyes of the people, they do not represent a foreign country or strange religion. They speak the language of the people, understand their customs and culture, eat the same food and dress like those to whom they minister. Not only is physical water that saves lives being provided for thousands, but also the "Water of Life."

Sendai, Japan: The Owen Sound ladies' retreat donated \$660 to Joel Osborne from their "Walk/Run for Missionaries." Intern Sasha Ingle's reports may be found on her website at <http://sashainsendai.blogspot.com/>. Joel and new convert, Gaku, meet weekly for prayers and scripture reading. Joel's health has improved but he still desires our prayers. Debi Hobelman plans to extend her stay in Japan. For reports on the Japanese work, please contact: Ben Berry: benberry@gmail.com; Joel Osborne: joelosborne4@yahoo.com; Jonathan Straker: jonathan@strakerhouse.com; or Bramalea church of Christ: mail@bramaleacofc.ca.

Papua New Guinea: Craig Ford has begun a ministry entitled "Money Help for Christians (MH4C)", which promotes a frugal, simple, debt-free and generous lifestyle so Christians can faithfully maximize their resources. For more information, visit Craig's website: www.moneyhelpforchristians.com.



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News West... continued from page 11

annual celebration of songs of the season, with refreshments afterward.

Delta: Delta ladies enjoyed a "Re-used" gift exchange the morning of December 5 at Mae Garland's home when they successfully rid themselves of something they did not have further use for. For seniors only, Chad and Lois Thorp hosted the "Ol' Geezer Gatherin'" the following week.

Oakridge: Monica Castillo Medina, who was married to Rafael Escobar on December 6 in a small ceremony at the church building, decided to make the merger complete and also said, "I do" to Jesus Christ—a young lady who knows a good man and a great God when she stands in His presence. Heaven rejoiced when Jayden Brunelle, the son of Michael and Terri Brunelle, was baptized on November 22.

Salmon Arm: Another young man here gave his life to Christ in November. Rob Shannon has been one of a number of young men who are attending services on a fairly regular basis. With other fellows, he is also participating in a small group called "The Barnabas Group", which is being led by our preacher, Ray Fisher. Making an opportunity to have friends join us, our annual Christmas party was a "Take Me To My Home or Country" potluck with all sharing food from their past or their country as part of the meal, along

with gift exchanges. Opportunities to serve each other in the coming months abound as several of our members are moving to different residences.

Vernon: Lucie Laidley followed Christ's example and was baptized Wednesday afternoon, November 4. Jason and Sheryl Moriarty from Calgary, lately of Papua New Guinea, were with us for our Wednesday evening service on November 25 to give a report on their work over the past 10 years and discuss plans for their future. The ladies have started several new projects. One is a quilting session on Friday mornings, and another, on alternate Thursdays, the study of "Becoming A Woman of Freedom".

MANITOBA

Winnipeg: December 5, the youth group held a breakfast and then delivered poinsettia plants. Seasonal baking was donated to be made into baskets to give to seniors and others. The quilters had a craft sale. The youth had a progressive dinner. There was no cost for the dinner but a donation was collected for the proceeds to go towards purchasing gifts for the babies involved in the Teenage Parent Program at Nelson McIntyre Collegiate. The ladies Bible study is held Sunday evenings. Each week we look at a different woman in the Bible and see how we can learn from their stories.

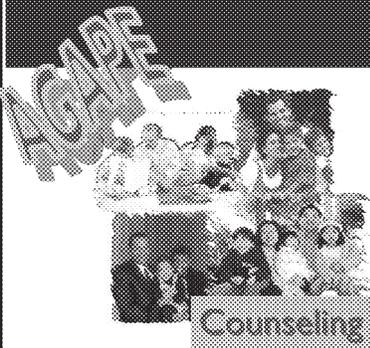
The Youth group went to the University of Manitoba to watch the Bisons Women's and Men's basketball teams take on the University of Victoria. This event was unique because attendants were given an opportunity to hear from various players about how their faith impacts their lives both on and off the court. This is an event that is sponsored by an organisation that Chad used to work for called Athletes in Action.

SASKATCHEWAN

Bengough: John McMillan visited Saturday evening, November 28 and Sunday morning worship November 29.

Weyburn: Shelley Jacobs presented sessions on the History of the Restoration Movement on the Prairies. Session #1 The Gospel to the Prairies, J.C. Bailey, H.A. Rodgers and Other Evangelists, Session #2 The Church in Weyburn and Surrounding Area. Sunday morning she taught restoration history to the teen class. WCC Women's Service Club have been busy with several activities. They have been collecting membership fees, pennies for projects and recipes for a new cookbook, *Pasta Supper*, and then care packages were made from donated items for the WCC students. WCC students are Braden Wade, Jordan Szeponski, Shiane Elford and Brooke Peterson.

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Ken Wilson, Ph.D.
ACC President

Special Day of Fellowship and Worship

Paul Dale

“On Sunday November 22, 2009, 70 brethren from Churches of Christ in Tillsonburg, St. Thomas and Stratford held their first “Tri-Worship”. Members from Selkirk, Waterloo, and London were also in attendance along with a few community visitors.

30 people in attendance on a normal Sunday morning.

The purpose of our worship was to praise God as one body of believers, to remember Jesus and his sacrifice for us, to encourage each congregation to continue in our commitment to the Lord by knowing we aren't alone.

our lives especially in the dark times. Michael has worked with the Selkirk congregation for nearly 18 years.

Following our formal worship time, Michael sang a seasonal song for us. Michael has been blessed with an incredible talent for singing. In addition to his work with the Selkirk congregation, he is a member of the “International Tenors”. They are a professional singing group and perform in the US and Canada.

The ladies in Tillsonburg hosted the pot luck dinner by providing the main meal, with the ladies



This fellowship of the three congregations for a joint worship service has been a dream of mine for about two years. I have had the blessing of speaking for Tillsonburg on a monthly basis the past year or so and I know what a great group of people they are. All three congregations have members who were members of at least one of the other congregations previously. All three congregations are currently without a full time evangelist and have from about 20 to

There are other Christians nearby who are also in small groups, but like us, are seeking to serve God to the best of our abilities. We wanted it to be a time of encouragement to each other on an individual basis.

Several men from each congregation participated in the worship through song leading, prayer, scripture readings and the Lord's Supper.

Brother Michael Toby, from Selkirk, spoke on the subject of “Light and Darkness” and how God can work in

from St. Thomas providing the salads and the Stratford ladies supplying the desserts. As with most pot lucks in the churches of Christ, no one went home hungry.

A time of singing was held after the pot luck.

Members from all three congregations have expressed a strong desire to meet again, possibly on a quarterly basis to encourage one another and to be encouraged in 2010.”

Paul Dale

The Nature of God... continued from page 3

today, but it is a false doctrine. Yes, Jesus said that He did not come to judge, but that does not mean that we will not be judged. Hear Him out. He said, “If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day” (John 12:47-48).

Yes, the Lord desires that all be saved, but not all will be saved. There will be a judgment, a separation. As Peter tells us, “The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed” (2 Peter 3:9-10).

We must get over our unrealistic and unbiblical notion of human sin. C.S. Lewis explains our situation well when he writes, “Now what was the sort of ‘hole’ man had got himself into? He had tried to set up on his own, to behave as if he belonged to himself. In other words, fallen man is not simply an imperfect creature who needs improvement: he is a rebel who must lay down his arms” (Mere Christianity, P59).

We must lay down our arms. We must stop our rebellion. If we refuse

to do so, His seeking of us will not turn out for our salvation, but for our destruction.

He seeks us, He desires to save us, but that does not ultimately mean that we will all be saved. He has granted us a degree of independence and he respects our decisions. If we reject him, we will be separated from him.

If He were not a seeking and saving God, we would have no hope, for we could never initiate our own salvation. But we must not presume on His goodness, we must not arrogantly impose on His mercy.

He is seeking us now. He is willing to save. He desires to save us. But He respects our independence. If we choose to cling to our own way, we will be separated from Him eternally.

Toledo, OH

Developing As We Grow (1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-27)

Ed Klym

Like our physical bodies the members of Christ's body 'the church' is interdependent upon each other. Our individual need for Christ in our own life is amplified in the body by our need for each other. As members of Christ's body we must realize that we cannot stand alone when we gather to worship. Consider the description Paul uses as he draws a relationship in the interdependent functions of our physical bodies and our purpose as members of Christ's body; "If the foot should say, 'Because I am not a hand I do not belong to the body,' it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body" (1 Cor. 12:15). The hand does what the foot cannot do but the foot does what the hand cannot do both independent members of the body yet interdependent in the form of one body.

Since, we as a body, are proven to be interdependent when we gather in worship with God, we cannot be private or individualized within our worship. We do not gather as individual cells in this form of worship for our own self. We must see our presence in worship as a means not only to strengthen the individual self but that we are also here to be strengthened by what we need from the body. For this reason, we should never devalue our presence or purpose in the body. We cannot say that because I am not a Sunday school teacher or a song leader or that I'm not very good at public prayer then I do not belong to the body. To look at our physical body we know that the development of our own body is dependent upon all the individual members or parts working and growing as programmed. So then we, as members of Christ's church, must realize that our individual development is imperative to the development of the body as a whole.

When we think of how a body grows we observe that some systems develop faster than others. As our physical bodies grow there is need for adjustments to our new height or new strength. This is where Paul helps in his encouraging words to the Christians at Philippi (Phil. 3:12 - 14). "...Forgetting what is behind and straining for what is ahead..."

Here as Paul observes in his journey of spiritual growth he continues to press on with an attitude to adjust his life as he grows and therefore encouraging us to grow. As a growing part in the body of Christ 'the church,' we must respond the same way. We must not be like the pre-teen yearning for the day that he or she can say; "Look I am all grown up." We must instead see the growth we experience in the body of Christ and adjust to that growth. Not thinking that we will never grow up but understanding that as members in the body of Christ that we are forever growing.

Our function and relationship to the body, which is the church, is interdependent on other members to help us develop in our purpose and function of the body. To stand apart from the body we cannot know our position in relationship to the body; without the eyes, the hand does not know where to touch; without our ears, the body may not hear the train coming to prompt the body to respond. Each member or part of our body needs to listen to what the other members or parts are saying. When we have a toothache is it only the tooth that suffers? No! Although the pain might be regional to that side of the face, left alone that pain will migrate to the head to incorporate other members of the body. A simple toothache would even cause suffering in the little toe because if the pain in the tooth is intense enough the rest of the body stalls in all activities. If the pains of a tooth ache can impede the whole of the body what about the pains of the body of Christ? First off, are we even aware of the pains the body—the church—is experiencing? How does the pain of a brother or sister impact my interdependence in the body? As members of the body of Christ are we truly aware of the aches and pains of our body and if not we must be asking ourselves why?

When a part of our own body is hurt the whole of the body cannot neglect that part. The body cannot say to the broken bone that you are the only part that makes bones cells fix your own self. The body responds to bring

nutrients to promote the growth of new bone cells. The body also looks to repair any other damage of muscles or other soft tissue in the area. If the whole of our body responds to fix or repair the injured body part should not the whole of the body of Christ respond to fix the injured member of the body?

To see ourselves as members of the body of Christ we must see ourselves as interdependent growing members in the body. "From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work" (Eph. 4:16). The growth of Christ's body is interdependent upon the growth of the individual members or parts in the body. We cannot be pulling or pushing other members of the body to catch up to members that grow at a faster rate. Rather, we must all become aware of our own purpose in the body and our rate of growth and adjust to the interdependency of the whole of Christ's body.

To be growing members of Christ's church we must become more reflective of what Christ is doing through each of us in our own life and how each of us grows not only individualistically within the body but to see how our individual growth functions in the interdependence of the body and to the growth of the body of Christ. I do not doubt that some gather each Sunday, wanting or waiting to discover their importance or function to the body. To do so let me encourage us all not to look merely for our own growth but to ask; "How is my growth in the body growing others members to maturity in Christ's body?" We can stand in front of the mirror every morning and remind ourselves that even if we notice parts of our body growing differently we also recognize that the focus of that individual growth is for the interdependent growth of the whole body. In the same way, we can stand in front of the mirror every Sunday morning and become aware that as part of Christ's body the growth of His body is interdependent upon my growth within His body.

Sudbury, ON

OBITUARIES

Bailey, Blanche

It comes with grief to share with our friends in Christ of the recent passing of our dear sister, Blanche Bailey. Blanche Pearl Bailey (nee Crawford). 81 years of age died Thursday, December 3, 2009, at the Maison Vale Inco Hospice surrounded by her loving family. Beloved wife of Bethel Bailey of Sudbury and loving mother of Dianne Robertson (Russ), Danny of Sudbury, Bob of Calgary, Stuart (Laurie) of Oklahoma, Bev Bojarski (Al) of Cornwall and Wesley (Rose) of Sudbury. Blanche was the cherished grandmother of 14 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. Dear sister of Ella Baker of Manitoulin Island. Blanche was predeceased by her parents Vincent and Amy Crawford and brothers Ivan and Harv. Blanche will be deeply missed by the many she took in over the years to whom she was a mother and grandmother.

To remember the beauty in the life of Blanche is to reflect on the inner beauty we should all aspire for as described by Peter when he wrote; "Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewellery or fine clothes. Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight." (1 Pet. 3:3-4). This beauty, as described in the words of Peter, is the very beauty Blanche modeled in her life as a servant to her Lord and Master Christ Jesus. It is out of her love for Him that guided her journey in this world as she shared her life with Bethel as his wife for more than 62 years. A little more than 40 years ago Blanche followed her husband to Sudbury where she encouraged her husband, Bethel, in his efforts to plant the church in this growing mining town. One thing I have learned of Blanche was that in those years of the work with her husband many a stranger gathered

around the dinner table of Bethel and Blanche only to leave knowing they would be welcomed back any time as friends.

So much can be shared about this beautiful servant in God's kingdom and as I share in memory of Blanche I offer the words written by Rose Bailey (daughter-in-law).

*"Life is like a highway
A path we all must tread
Full of potholes, hills and valleys
It's mankind's common thread
Blanche Bailey's road's well
traveled
With many bumps and stones
Through it all she never wavered
Her goal's our Master's throne
She never let a chance go by
To point lost souls God's way
She wants all her family gathered
round
Her on that judgment day
I know her wish for us all
Is to see her in that land
The place she finally has sweet peace
To join her will be grand
A great partner to her husband
Loving mom to all her clan
Her grand-kids were her jewels
A part of God's great plan
Her great grandchildren brought
a smile
And a chuckle could be heard
Whenever they spent time with her
Loving words were always shared
Thank you for your love dear
mother, a great example you have
been
Your crown's now filled and sparkles
bright, with precious jewels you've
gleaned."*

As a wife and a mother, Blanche has taught so many so much and it is through our fondest memories of our dear sister in Christ that we share in the sorrow felt by the Bailey family, always remembering the life Blanche lived was a life in service to those she loved because of her love for her Saviour, Christ Jesus. As a wife, mother, grandmother and friend Blanche will be cherished in the hearts of her church family here in Sudbury and all who know this

beautiful servant in God's Kingdom. Sing on Blanche... – Ed Klym

Bush, Marjorie

Marjorie Bush passed unexpectedly from this life on November 14, 2009, in her 88th year.

Marge had been a member of the Fennell Avenue congregation in Hamilton for many years, as was her husband, Douglas, who predeceased her in 1997. She is missed dearly by her children: Karen Pearson (Ed), Ron (Bonnie), Bev Edge (Dan) and Lori Halls (Pat). Cherished grandmother of Jennifer, Carey, Sheri, Tanya, Derek, David, Kevin, Bryan, Heather, Tara and Mark and great grandmother of 13. She was also predeceased by a great grandson. Dear sister of Jean Bassil.

Guy Stopard, a former evangelist with the Fennell Ave. congregation, officiated at the funeral.

Except for a time of illness this spring, one would see Marge sitting in her place for the morning service every Sunday. She is missed by those who have known her and worshipped with her for many years. When I would go to visit her home, I had first to get past her dog, Teddi, who was always at her side, and whom I came to realize was more bark than anything else. Marge, however, it seemed to me, was genuine beyond her words.

– Submitted by Art Ford

Peterson, Patricia Joy

Her earthly remains lie in the tiny, private cemetery which lies on the very ranch of which she and her husband were caretakers for the last 39 years. We have the glorious gospel, however, which sees her death as a portal towards life everlasting! And as expressed by her husband, Red, the theme of the memorial for Joy was not to be "This is a sad goodbye" but rather "See you soon, we will be There"

Born in Leamington, Ontario, in 1933, Patricia Joy Peterson passed

continued on page 17

BOOK REVIEWS

God-Centred Bible Study
by Thayer Salisbury, of Toledo,
Ohio, 2004, 158 pages. \$10.95.
Reviewed by Geoffrey Ellis.

Here is a somewhat different but valuable book. Written by Thayer Salisbury, former missionary to Nigeria, Namibia and Swaziland the book's title is God-Centred Bible Study. It is a book that gives both a general introduction to the Bible and principles of Bible study. Its uniqueness, at least for the Western reader, is that it was prepared as being culture-specific, namely in the African setting. But don't think, because of this focus, that it is without value for people in North America.

As you read Thayer's book, you will be reminded of two things: (1) Our local communities are becoming increasingly multicultural and our teaching and relations must be sensitive to that fact. (2) While cultural differences present their variables, the fundamentals of the Bible are universal and unchanging.

Thayer prepared this book for use in African Bible colleges. However, as a text for an introductory study, it is useful for adult study everywhere. Interwoven throughout the work is the story of Ben, a young man who moved from the country to the city in order to find employment. The story of his experiences in finding

a suitable congregation and becoming an active member is presented illustratively with the appropriate African nuances. While the settings are different from our experience, Ben's adventures, nevertheless, will cause the reader to reflect on his and her own circumstances.

Thayer Salisbury's writing is straightforward, lucid and logical in the central purpose of presenting a "God-Centred Bible study," and is valuable for Easterners and Westerners alike.

(You can order this book through Gospel Herald Books, e-mail address gospelheraldbooks@gospelherald.org. Special sale price, \$8.50 (plus S&H), for a saving of \$2.20.)

Obituaries... continued from page 16

away during the early morning hours of September 8, 2009, in Keefers, British Columbia. She is survived and very much missed by her loving husband, Lloyd (Red), son Ted and his wife Elaine, son Lindsay and his wife Alice, daughter Roberta and her husband Lindsay Krogsgaard, daughter Glory and her husband Glen Weavers, daughter Bonnie and her husband Terry Forman, 21 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

As evidenced by some 300 friends and family members who crowded into the community hall for her memorial in Boston Bar, Joy's life touched many in a very positive manner. Norman Weir officiated and long time family friend, Bordy Krogsgaard, led the songs that, over the 55 years since her immersion into the body of Christ, have been close to Joy's heart (Joy loved to sing and was blessed with a beautiful alto voice). Those from her family, her Christian family, missionaries from afar, friends and community members, cowboys and truck drivers, all expressed what she had meant to them over the years. One theme stood

out above all the rest and that was that Joy "walked the walk. She was a 'spiritual person', not religious just for show." Her children expressed the fact that 'scripture says to honour your parents. And we truly loved and honoured our mother!' At the family gathering while planning the memorial, her husband Red, told one of his precious memories. 'She used to go to bed many times before I would. I would look in to see her lying in bed, propped up on a pillow, Bible in her lap and fingers in her ears... praying! Fingers in her ears to block out the noise of the TV'. Although written by someone else, we can be assured that the following words were often prayed by our Sister and that her legacy of joy, prayer and servant hood will be left to all who knew her.

Thank you, Father, that prayer is not just a gift for me but a gift to all those for whom I intercede. And I thank you for the power of this gift, which is so great that it outlives my earthly life and will continue to bless those I pray for, even after my heart stops and I see you face to face...

– Norman Weir,

LISTINGS OF INTEREST

Great Lakes Christian High School Alumni Association
4875 King Street
Beamsville, ON L0R 1B6
School: 905-563-5374
Alumni contact:
Jodie (Codling) Cook '90—
905-563-9433
Email: alumni@glchs.on.ca

For getting materials some sources are:

Gospel Advocate, Nashville, TN
www.gospeladvocate.com

21st Century Christian,
Nashville, TN
www.21stcc.com

Lambert Book House,
Florence, AL
www.lambertbookhouse.com

The Bible House, Inc., Searcy, AR
www.biblehousesupply.com

Foundation Distributing, Inc.
Orono, ON
Bibles, books, Standard Publishing
Sunday School materials, communion
cups, etc.
Call Sarah at 1-877-368-3600-ext 255
(To open an account a credit card is
needed for first order)
Website: www.fdi.ca

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

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

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

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

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

CALGARY: 4030 Maryvale Dr. NE, T2A 2S8; Sunday 9:45 AM Classes for Children/Teens/Adults; 10:45 AM Assembly; 11:15 AM Youth Assembly; Care Groups - throughout the week; Phone (403) 272-2111; Email: info@calgarycofc.com

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: cancofc@telus.net

EDMONTON NORTH: 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 at the building & in various homes (phone for locations & other times); Elders: Henri Bouchard, Walter Hreczuch; Evangelist: Brian Salter (Young Adults & Campus) Web: edmontonchurchofchrist.org E-mail: church5@telus.net

EDMONTON SOUTH: Southwood Community Centre, 1880 - 37 St in Millwoods area; (Mailing address: 6320 - 12 Ave, Edmonton AB T6L 2G2). Sunday classes 10:00 AM; assembly 11:00 AM. Wed. 7:00; PM CARE groups in homes; phone for locations; Tim Johnson, ev. 780-913-8060; Peter Ross, contact 780-468-9272; E-mail: timoutwest2004@yahoo.ca

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

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

RED DEER: 68 Donlevy Ave., T4R 2Y8; Sun. 10, 11, (evening • call for information); John Smith, ev. (403) 347-3986

ST. ALBERT: Sunday Worship: 2:15 p.m. at the St. Albert Seniors Center at 7 Tache St., St. Albert; Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 at 16 Lafonde Cres.; Mailing Address: 16 Lafonde Cres., St. Albert, AB T8N 2N6; Telephone: (780) 690-9947, E-mail: stalbertcofc@hotmail.com

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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

BURNABY (Greater Vancouver): 7485 Salisbury Ave. V5E 3A5; Sunday 9:45 am, 6 pm, Sunday School 10:30, Midweek groups meet in homes. Call for times and locations; Kirk Ruch, ev. K.M.R@SBChurch.ca; Mike Parker, youth, FishFreaks@SBChurch.ca; Office, office.contact@SBChurch.ca (604) 522-7721 (off.); Website: www.SBChurch.ca

CAMPBELL RIVER: 226 Hilchey Road V9W 1P4 Contact: (250) 923-5233; (250) 923-6396; (250) 286-3780

CHILLIWACK: Senior Citizens Bldg. Br 24, corner of Cook and Victoria St.; PO Box 327; Sun. 10:30, 11; 7:00 p.m. at #102-8075 Mary Street at John Forman's house. Phone # 604-792-7806; Al McCutcheon, sec. 604-824-6703

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

CROFTON: 1288 Smith Rd. Box 45, V0R 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: 1317 Ethel St., Kelowna BC, V1Y 2X1; Building 250-861-9486, Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship; Evangelist: Barrie Forman, 250-860-4354 and cell: 250-469-2161, sonlover@shaw.ca, cell 212-0080; Elders: Wayne Muirhead, 250-861-4008, marwayn@hotmail.com; Ted Windmill, 250-763-8445, edward_windmill@telus.net

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

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

PRINCE GEORGE: 9465 Old Summit Lake Road, V2K 5S8, 250-962-6978

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; 250-804-3060; Box 51, V1E 4N2; Doug Kendig, John Murray and Gordon Parmenter, elders; Ray Fisher, ev.

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

VANCOUVER (City Church): Trout Lake Community Centre, 3350 Victoria Drive; Worship Sunday 12:30 • 2:30 PM; Phone: 604-327-9321; Mailing Address: 1969 E. 49th Avenue, Unit # 1, Vancouver, BC, V5P 1T5; Website: www.citychurchofchrist.org

VANCOUVER (Oakridge): 6970 Oak St., V6P 3Z6; English services: Sun. 10, 11, 6 Spanish Bible study Friday 6:30; Milton Diaz, ev., 604-432-1749 (res.). website: www.churchofchristoakridge.com

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

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: 1289 Parkdale Drive; Phone for time: D. Morton, 250-479-8480; 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. 7:30; Box 955, R0G 0J0; contact Ray Winkler (elder), 745-3226; Dale Etford, 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: 638-0872; Randy Foss, ev., email: wvyes@hotmail.com

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

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

WINNIPEG (Central): Please call for times and locations. (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) 866-1458; Royal Maillet (506) 532-2956; other contact: Kenny Woodman (506) 382-9409

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. Thursday night Bible study at 7:00 p.m., call for location. Contact Shawn Leblanc at (506) 214-4214 (Ev.) OR Fred Nelson at (506) 847-2802.

NEW YORK STATE

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

NIAGARA FALLS: 359 14th St., Niagara Falls, NY, 14303; Off (716)285-6534, Home (716) 297-6563; Sunday Bible study 10 am, worship 11 am, evening 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm. Minister Eddie J. Cornelius; e-mail: niafallscoc@aol.com

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

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

KENTVILLE: 177 Middle Dyke Rd. exit 12 off Hwy 101, Sun. 11, 10; Wed. 6; Box 26, B4N 3V9; Elders: Kevin Irvine, Jack Bearden; (902) 678-8881

SHUBENACADIE: Mill Village Church, 3613 Indian Rd, B0N 2H0; Sun 9:15•Kids for Christ and Adult Coffee Break, 10:15•Bible Study, 11:00•Worship; Ladies Class Mondays; Mid-week Tues. evenings in homes phone for locations and times; Church bldg. 902-758-4252 (leave msg); Darren Boehner 902-758-3020, J. Mackey 902-758-2633; email: sdboehner@gmail.com

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.); Shawn Redding, ev. (705) 792-5024 Home; (705) 718-6876 Cell. sdredding89@rogers.com

BEAMSVILLE: 4900 John St., L0R 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), L6T 3Y2; (905) 792-2297; mail@bramaleaocfc.ca; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Thurs. 7:30; Kevin Hunter, ev (905) 455-5796 (res); Walter Straker, ev (905) 789-1632 (res); www.bramaleaocfc.ca.

BRANTFORD: 267 North Park St., N3R 4L2; Sun. 10, 11, last Sunday of month 6:30; Wed. 7; contact Ray Knight (519) 754-0401; Roy Cox, 519-449-3239 office (519) 759-6630

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

BURKS FALLS: 51B, Ontario Street, Sun: 9:15 am to 12:00 includes 2 children Classes, Tues 6:30; Mailing Address: Church of Christ, c/o Eunice Johnston, 205 First Avenue; RR# 1, Burks Falls, Ontario P0A 1C0; 705-783-6476 (off); Evangelist: Hubert Lawrence 705-382-1414; e-mail: hubertlawrence@xplornet.com; web site: www.churchesofchrist.ca.

CAMBRIDGE: Meeting at Youth Unlimited across from 45 Brierdale Rd. Sun: 10:30, call for midweek small groups. evs. Greg Whitfield (226) 338-6720, Paul Moore (519) 635-7837; www.cambridgecofc.ca Mailing address: 315-150 Christopher Dr., Cambridge, ON N1R 4S4

COLLINGWOOD: 494 10th Street, Collingwood, Ontario L9Y 2H1; Email: cchurchofchrist@bmts.com; Phone 705-444-0010; Minister: Les Cramp, Phone 519-538-5184; Cell 519-379-8846; 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: chairman; 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, L0S 1C0; (905) 892-5661; email <DonHipwell@AOL.com>

GRIMSBY: 63 Casablanca Blvd., south of Q.E. exit; Sun. Worship 9:45, Bible classes 11 am Sun evening 5, Wed. 7 pm; Box 181, L3M 4G3; (905) 945-3058 (off); George Mansfield, ev (h) 289-235-9411 website: www.grimsbycofc.org; other contact (905) 945-8668

HAILEYBURY: Meeting at 607 Christian Avenue, usually Sundays at 4pm • but call to confirm place and time. Week day Bible studies by appointment, Mike & Judy Tinney 705-672-9241 or e-mail: can@parolink.net

HAMILTON: 321 East 27 Street (at Fennell), L8V 3G8 (Mt. Hamilton); Sunday 10:00, 11:00, 7:00; Wednesday 7:00; (905) 385-5775 (off.); Art Ford, ev., (905) 296-1560 (h), art@churchofchristhamilton.com; Chris Gardner, sec., (905) 388-9174; Website: www.churchofchristhamilton.com

HAMILTON (North): YMCA building, 79 James St. S.; Sun. 9:30, 10:30; Wed. 7; Joe Sandassi, 905-389-8308, 286 East 26th Street, Hamilton ON L8V 3E1

HUNTSVILLE: Huntsville Public Library, 7 Minerva St. E., Sun. 10:00, c/o Dave Preston, (705) 789-7697, 491 Fowlers Rd., R.R.#5, Huntsville, Ont., P1H 2N5. Other contacts: Ken Smith, (705) 789-8292, Steve Watson, (705) 788-2332.

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; Sunday: classes 9:45, worship 11 am; 7:30 pm Wed.; Contact: Joel Lock (705) 282-8531, wjlock@hotmail.com; RR #1, Gore Bay, ON POP 110

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

KINGSTON: 446 College St., K7L 4M7; Sunday School 10 am, worship 11 am; (off) 613-546-5409

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

LONDON: 1750 Huron St., N5V 3A2; (519) 455-6730; Sun. worship 10 a.m. Bible study to follow at 11 a.m.; Call for mid-week opportunities; FAX 645-8088

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

MEAFORD: 113 Nelson St.W. N4L 1G3; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Wed. 7:30; Kevin Cleary, ev.; (519) 538-1750; e-mail: meaford-cofc@brucelecom.com

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: 9:30 AM; Bible Class 10:45; Contact name: Tony Lourenco (905) 829-8312; thourenco@cogeo.ca

NEW LISKEARD: 554 Helmer Pedersen Drive, New Liskeard; Sun. 10:30; Wed. 7:30; Contacts: Jim Robertson, PO Box 1556, New Liskeard ON P0J 1P0 (705)647-5488

NEWMARKET: 230 Davis Dr.; Box 21581, L3Y 8J1; Sunday 11:15 am Bible classes, worship 10 am, Sunday pm small groups-call for information; Wednesday, please call for time and location; Nathan Pickard, ev.; 905-895-6502(off); e-mail-pickardnathan@hotmail.com

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

NORTH BAY: 73 Gertrude St. E.; Sun. 10:30; Wed. 7; Box 745, P1B 8J8; (705) 472-7040 (off.); David Lock, ev. North Bay; 705-840-0303, e-mail: davidrlock@sympatico.ca; WebSite: www.northbaycoc.com.

OMAGH: 1412 Britannia Road West, Milton,L9T 2X8; 10, 11; website: http://omaghchurch.n3.net, Harold Ellis, Sec., RR # 3, Campbellville, L0P 1B0.

OSHAWA Cedar Park Church of Christ: (formally Ajax) 566 Simcoe St. N, Oshawa, L1G 4V3 Sun. 9:45, 11:00, 7; Thursday Bible study 7:30 pm; Marlon Molina, ev., marlonm@strathmorecofc.ca; Malcolm Porter, 905-668-3346 (res).

OTTAWA: 1515 Chomley Cres., K1G 0V9; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 6; Wed. 7; Robert MacRury, ev., 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

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

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 Brando, Sec., RR 2, Uxbridge, L9P 1R2 (905) 852-5026

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

REXDALE: Meets Sunday for SS 9:30, worship 10:30 at 1485 Albion Road, Etobicoke, corner of Albion and Kipling, mail goes to Derrick Grant, 29 Revelstoke Place, brampton ON L6R 3G3, phone 416-628-9620 (D. Grant) or 416-656-9309 (Rupert Corrie)

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.

SARNIA: 796 Errol Road E., N7V 2G7; Sunday 9:30, 10:45, 6:30; Wednesday 7; Joseph Woodford, ev., (519) 339-1161 (off.), (519) 542-6071 (res.); E-mail: minister@sarniachurchofchrist.ca

SAULT STE. MARIE (Pinehill): 132 Cunningham Rd, P6B 1N4 (705)949-4988 Sun 9:40A, 10:40A, call for PM time, Wed 7PM Elders: C. Whitfield 705-254-6153 L. Hotchkiss (705)759-0649

SELKIRK: 1/2 km n. of village, Reg. Rd.#53. Sun. 10 & 11. Wed. 7:00; PO Box 247, Selkirk, ON N0A 1L0; Michael Toby: 905-776-0015; medt@xplornet.com Alt. Paul Ross: 905-7762644 or glorybound@xplornet.com

SMITHVILLE: 246 Station St. LOR 2A0, PO Box 451; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7:30. Chris Nicholson, ev. (905) 957-6039

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, church bldg. (705) 386-2551.

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

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; Contacts: John Brush (519) 625-1054; Paul Dale (519) 273-9063

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

SUNDRIDGE: Hwy. 11 N.; Sun. Bible classes & worship • 10:30•12:00; Wed. 7; P.O. Box 927, POA 1Z0; (705) 384-5214; Steve May, ev. 384-0597.

THESSALON: 8 Albert St. off Hwy. 17; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7:30; Jim Kent, sec. Randy Morrill, (ev); RR2 Thessalon POR 1L0, 705-842-5538.

THUNDER BAY: 501 Edward St. N. (at Redwood), P7C 4R1; Sun. 9:45, 11 (call for summer hours); Wed. call for information; (807) 577-2213 (off.).

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 2C0; Worship at 9: 45a.m. with classes to →

follow; Sunday pm call for times and locations; Wed. 7:00 pm; Noel Walker 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, sec., mhilborn@rogers.com; 63 Campbell Ave., M6P 3T9; (416) 489-7405 (off.).

TORONTO (Scarborough): 700 Progress Avenue, Unit # 14 Scarborough, Ontario M1H 2Z7; Sun. 9:45am; 11:00am. (Mailing Address: P.O. Box 47011, 300 Borough Dr. Scarborough, ON M1P 4Z7; Church Phone: 416-970-3835; Devon Bennett, ev. 905686-2486, cell: 416-209-2529, Fax: 905-686-0612; e-mail: devon.bennett@sympatico.ca Phillip Brown ev.905-231-9304, cell: 905-406-9160; e-mail: philikare@gmail.com. Website: www.scarboroughchurchofchrist.net

TORONTO (Harding Ave.): 47 Harding Ave., M6M 3A3; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7; 416-244-9152; Aikins Wiredu, sec., 905-791-0694; contact, 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 Dwornoh (416) 462-3616; Jean Volcy (416) 267-6820; Max Craddock, ev. (416) 461- 7406, e-mail <max@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 N0G 1R0; Phone 519-369-1731; Gordon Dennis, 240 Elgin St. N., Box 274; Mount Forest, N0G 2L0; (519) 323-2424

WATERLOO: 470 Glenelm Cres., N2L 5C8; (519) 885-6330 (off); Sun. 9:30, 10:30, and 6:00 (except 4th Sunday), Wed 7:30; David Dunn ev., 519-669-4319; Jamie Azzoparde, 519-578-8553 (res), e-mail: azzoparde@gmail.com

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

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

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

MONTREAL (English/French/Ashante/Ghanian): 785 Brault Ave, Verdun, QC, H4H 2B3, Sunday 10, 11, 6:30; Wednesday 7:00 (English) Ph 514-564-6780; Fax 514-564-6781, Leonard Amanatey, ev.; Email: churchofchristofgm@videotron.com, Website: www.greatermontrealchurchofchrist.com

MONTREAL (South-West • English/French/Spanish): Ville Emard Church of Christ, 6259 Monk Blvd., Montreal, QC, H4E 3H8 (2 streets east of the Monk subway station); (514) 765-8919. Simultaneous electronic translation: Sunday 10, 11, Wed. 7; Website: www.veccoc.org; Michael Mazzalongo ev. (514) 766-4911; e-mail: Mazzalongo@videotron.ca; Roger Saumur, ev. (450) 635-5105 e-mail: rogersaumur@sympatico.ca

MONTREAL (Spanish): 7378 rue Lajeunesse, Rm.#101, Montreal, QC H2R 2H8; Sunday 10, 11; Héctor Méndez info (514)948-0917, e-mail: 303012@gosympatico.ca; Roberto Herrera info (514)328-1467; e-mail: robertoro38@hotmail.com

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

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

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

BENGOUGH: E. side Hwy. 34; Sun. 10:30, 11:15; Norman Kemp, Box 134, S0C 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 S0C 2S0; Sunday 10:00, Mid-week: call Roland Bouchard at (306) 577-2477 or (306) 577-8418

LLOYDMINSTER: 56 Ave. and 47 St., Box 88, S9V 0X9; Sun. 10:00, 11:00; Lee Patmore, ev.; (780) 875-4056; email: patmores@sasktel.net

MOOSE JAW: 901 James Street, Moose Jaw, SK S6H 3H5; (306) 693-4064 (off.); mjccoc@sasktel.net Website: http://mjchchurchofchrist.blogspot.com; Call fro times of worship, Darrin Ashby, ev

RADVILLE: in private Residence at (810 Mann Ave.); Richard Thue, sec., Box 532, S0C 2G0; (306) 869-3103 (res.).

REGINA (Glen Elm): 1825 Rothwell St., S4N 2C3, Minister: Jason Bandura; Youth Minister: Blair Roberts; (306)757-1825; FAX (306)757-5727; e-mail: office@warmwelcome.ca, Website: www.warmwelcome.ca; Please call for times

REGINA: Northwest Church of Christ, 4400-4th Ave., S4T 0H8 • on the campus of Western Christian College; Sunday 9:45; Classes 11:15; (306) 539-2280; Kirk Hinnergardt, Minister; Website: www.thenorthwestchurchofchrist.com ; E-mail: kirkinsk@hotmail.com

SASKATOON: Sunday, Worship 10 AM, Wed,7PM; Phone for summer schedule; Office:343-7922; Ministers: Bob Parker; Mike Parker. Location & Mail: 134 Cardinal Cres. S7L 6H6; Fax: 343-1589; Email: stooncofcoffice@sasktel.net

SWIFT CURRENT: Church of Christ, Box 1103, Swift Current, SK, S9H 3X3; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 6:30; Susan Eidem, sec., 306-773-9043; (call for location of meetings).

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

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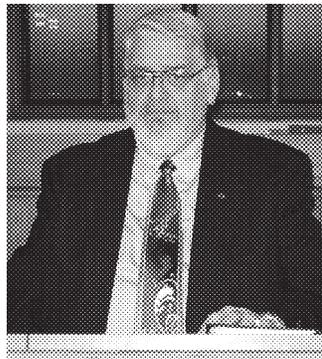
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