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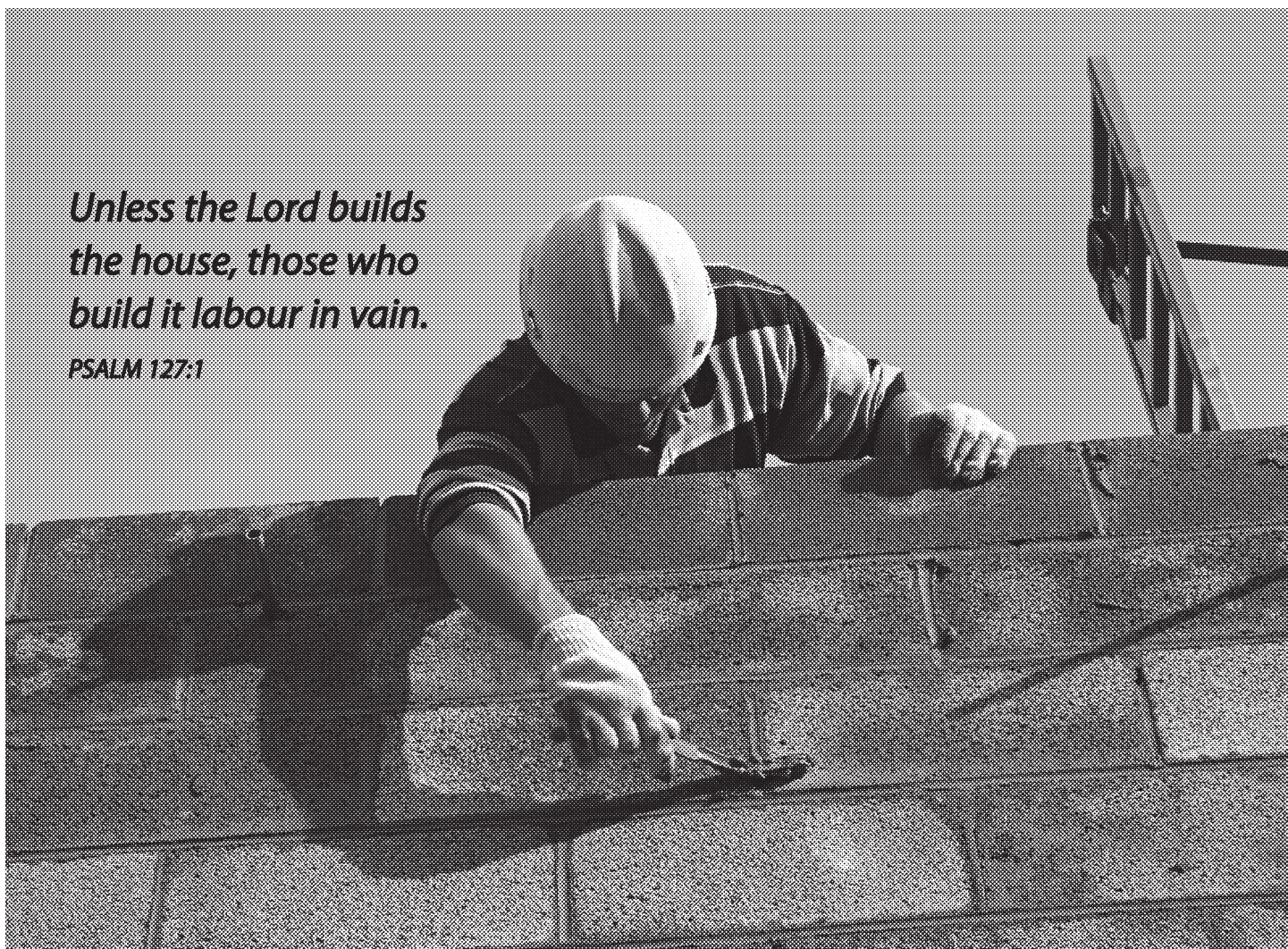
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March 2009

*Unless the Lord builds
the house, those who
build it labour in vain.*

PSALM 127:1



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John Menzies, “The Living Concordance”

Ed Broadus

Friday, June 9, 1843, Christians from several congregations in Ontario gathered at the site of a log meeting house a mile and a half outside the village of Norval, twenty-five miles northwest of Toronto. These churches were part of what we call the Restoration Movement, and the gathering was the first of scores of “June Meetings” convened intermittently for nearly 150 years.

The church building was on the farm of John and Isabella Menzies, Scottish immigrants, who came to Canada twenty-six years earlier. Joseph Ash, who knew John Menzies when the Scotsman was in his sixties, called him “a man of strong faith, warm zeal and deep piety.” He knew the Bible so well that from only part of a passage he could name the book, chapter and verse where it was found. Because of this, people called him “the living, walking concordance.”

Menzies was a farmer and a blacksmith. When he was working as a smith, he kept his Bible on his bench. He would read a few verses, and then while he worked he pondered what he had read—a practice he kept up day after day, year after year.

For those of us in Ontario Churches of Christ, John Menzies is one of our spiritual ancestors, and his story can inspire us to faithful service. He was born in 1778 in Perthshire, Scotland, in the village of Kenmore on Loch Tay. Like his neighbors, he was probably brought up in the Church of Scotland, but when he was grown, he became a Baptist.

From what we know, his life was changed when some itinerant preachers came to Loch Tay through the influence of James and Robert Haldane. These brothers had devoted their lives to taking the gospel of Jesus to the Scottish Highlands. Robert Haldane used his wealth to build places of worship and to maintain a school to train preachers. His brother preached for years throughout Scotland

and at the 3200-seat “Tabernacle” the brothers built in Edinburgh.

At first, the Haldanes and their associates were Independents, or Congregationalists, but in 1808 both brothers accepted believer’s immersion and became Baptists. One of their missionaries who came to Loch Tay by 1801 was William Tulloch, who had studied at the Haldane seminary. He was assisted by Archibald Cameron, and these men planted churches in two villages near Kenmore, where the Menzies lived. Like the Haldanes, they became Baptists in 1808, and the churches they planted followed in their footsteps. John Menzies was a friend of Archibald Cameron, and likely through his influence he, too, was immersed.

Like many in the Scottish Highlands, John and Isabella decided to move to Canada. Friends warned they might end up where there was no church, but Menzies said, “I was determined in the strength of the Lord not to be without a meeting as long as the Lord would enable me.” At first, matters did not work out as intended, for by the time John and Isabella reached Montreal in 1817 they ran out of funds and could travel no farther, so they spent a year in La Prairie, across the St. Lawrence from Montreal. When they could, they traveled nine miles by boat to meet with some other Baptists in Montreal, but, as John Menzies said later, it was “a long year” for him and his wife.

In 1818, Alexander Stewart, a Haldanean Baptist preacher from Scotland, arrived in Montreal with his

family. The two families were drawn to one another and determined to go to York (Toronto), where the Menzies helped Stewart plant a Baptist church. But soon the Stewarts, the Menzies and others sought a way to better support themselves, and most of the members left for Esquesing Township, where they obtained land near the future village of Norval. They purposely sought grants in close proximity in order to worship together.

The transplanted church began meeting at the Menzies’ farm in March, 1820. Two members were preachers—Alexander Stewart and Thomas Stephens, a Baptist from Ireland who, like Stewart, had studied at the Haldanes’ school. But two years later, the preachers had a falling out, and all but seven members left. By 1824 the Stewarts moved, another person was disfellowshipped, and only four remained. For nine years the little church continued with no more than three or four members. Menzies, who had no special training, became the church’s leader and preached to the handful who assembled during that discouraging time.

Finally, thirteen years after John and Isabella first moved to their farm, their persistence was rewarded, and in 1833 the church began to grow. Within a month four asked to be baptized, and rather than once again sending for Stewart to baptize them, the church asked Menzies to do it. In 1835, he immersed James Mitchell, who became an elder, and Alexander Anderson, who became an outstanding evangelist. Both were from Scotland, and Anderson, in fact, was from the Loch Tay region, where his parents were members at Alexander Cameron’s church. In 1838, William Trout and his family moved to Norval to operate the mill on the Credit River. Trout became an elder and then, a few years later, moved to the Meaford area.

Meanwhile, John Menzies

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NOTICE

All materials for publication must be in the hands of the editors by the tenth (10) day of the month preceding the date of issue. Date of issue is the first of each month.

The Day Huge Harry Met Hungry Harriet

(Subtitle: There is Power in Being Persistent)

Richard Kruse

It began as an ordinary day for Harry. However, Harry was not an ordinary African Bull Frog. Harry weighed over 2.5 kg and when he jumped, his outstretched body measured 30 cm. in length. When danger threatened, he could inflate his body to appear even larger. Therefore, throughout the swamp he was known as Huge Harry.

He spent his days feasting on insects and small fish. His song could be heard throughout the swamp. It was both a call for a female mate and a warning to males to keep away from the pond.

Hungry Harriet, a Yellow-billed Stork, had travelled a long distance before she discovered a swampy area where she hoped to find frogs. She was a metre tall and weighed barely more than Harry. It was hard to believe that her long, red slender legs could support her white rotund body. She heard Harry's love song announcing his location to hungry birds and

animals who like to eat frogs.

In the blink of an eye-lid, Hungry Harriet grabbed Huge Harry and hoped to swallow him head first. Quickly, Harry inflated his body and his arms reached out of her bill, grabbing hold of Hungry Harriet's throat

Persistence is what makes the impossible possible, the possible likely, and the likely definite.

so she could not swallow him. Try as she might, she could not swallow until he let go of her throat. But, if he let go of her throat, Huge Harry would become lunch for Hungry Harriet.

That day, both Huge Harry and Hungry Harriet faced a large challenge. There could be only one winner. Who do you think won? Who was successful?

1. **The Power of Persistence.** Nature demonstrates this story in many ways.

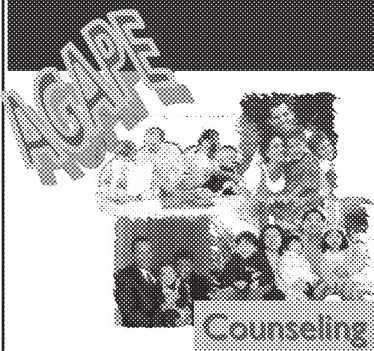
A seed from a tree will grow in the crack of a rock and eventually split it. Wind and rain move mountains and change shore lines. Successful people know the slogan that: "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again."

If you remember this slogan you can have permanent, positive results. For example, persistence has been shown to be the single most important part of any exercise program. Those who exercised very strictly, but not regularly did not do as well as those who exercised mildly, but were persistent in their practice. Even though the group exercised far less (but did so persistently) they received much better results than those who exercised, though very strictly, only occasionally.

In 1951, and again in 1952, Edmund Hillary, a beekeeper from Auckland, New Zealand, tried and failed to climb Mt. Everest. However, in 1953, Hillary and Tenzing Norguay, his

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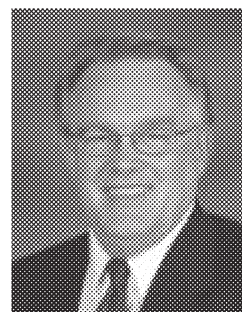
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Darwin at 200

Wayne Turner

February 12, 2009, marked the 200th anniversary of the birth of naturalist Charles Darwin. In 1859, Darwin published "Origin of the Species" which completely revolutionized scientific concepts of biology by presenting the theory that life on earth developed by evolution and natural selection. By providing a natural explanation for life, Darwin gave support to those who rejected any concept that the universe and its inhabitants were created by God. Since then, the battle between evolution and creation has been waged in school boards and courts, the media and the minds and hearts of people. What is happening with that conflict today?

For one thing, atheists have become more vocal and militant. Some, like Richard Dawkins, are prolific and very talented writers and speakers. In the latter part of 2008, atheists in the United Kingdom put signs on 800 buses proclaiming, "There's probably no God. Now stop worrying and enjoy your life." In January, 2009, Calgary Transit approved similar advertising signs for their buses. It seems that atheists may be doing a better job spreading their message than are believers. They have certainly become more vocal.

Despite the perception that atheism has replaced faith in North American thinking, recent surveys in Canada and the United States suggest otherwise. In Canada, only 29 percent did not think that God had any part in either "the creation or development of human beings." (15% in the U.S.) About 60 percent held that God had some role. In Canada, less than half of these (24% of the total) believed human beings were created by God, as they are now, within the past ten millennia. The majority (34%) believed that humanity developed gradually over millions of years in a process that was guided by God. In the U.S., these totals were higher, with 85 percent believing that God had some role: 45 percent holding the view that human beings were fully created by God, while 40 percent favoured the view that God guided the evolutionary process.

Some might try to suggest that the statistics show that there has been a widespread acceptance of evolution. Which is in part true. What it also shows is that despite the intense campaign to promote evolution and denigrate belief in creation as unscientific, most North Americans are not willing to totally reject belief in God and to a lesser extent, creation. In part, this may be the result of a new generation of apologists who, armed with science, reason and scripture, have shown that faith is still reasonable and has a sound scientific basis. There are some within the "Intelligent Design" (ID) movement who are trying to avoid religious overtones and the historical understandings of God, yet who believe that the universe and life are far too complex to understand in purely naturalistic and accidental terms. As we all know,

the suggestion of design leads to the necessary conclusion that there must be an ultimate designer. The "conversion" of once well-known atheist Antony Flew to belief in design and designer evidences the amazing complexity of the universe and that its origins cannot be easily explained in simply mechanistic ways. This is what Michael Behe, author of "Darwin's Black Box", meant when he used the expression, "irreducible complexity" to refer to biological systems which, while incredibly complex, could not be broken down into smaller parts that would still function.

On the occasion of Darwin's 200th birthday, perhaps we should take time to consider what this all means. Darwin is long dead and in his grave. Though his thinking has had a major impact, it has not displaced faith. The ultimate effect of Darwinian thinking may not be as catastrophic as some have feared. In some ways, Darwinism may have fuelled popular belief in God by causing both sceptics and believers to more openly and thoroughly investigate and think—to appreciate and understand more about the creation. Militant opposition by atheists has challenged believers to come out of their passivity and silence to explain why they believe, and has given greater opportunities for open and public discussion about God and creation. We need to welcome, not fear, such opportunities. Bus banners can spout slogans spouting the message of doubt, but it is unlikely they will cause anyone to change their mind.

As Christians, as we are constantly moved by the enormity, majesty and grandeur of the creation, we are reminded of the words of the Psalmist, "The heavens declare the glory of God..." We see the evidence of God's power, wisdom and design in every part of the universe around. As Paul wrote, "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made..." Our God is real and alive!

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What Would Jesus Do... for a Friend? (JOHN 15)

Paul Birston

What would you do for a friend? Here are some things people do for their friends: spend time with them (“hang out” together), help them move, buy them a coffee, make them supper, buy them lunch, write to them, call them up, listen to them, encourage them, cry with them, laugh with them, go for a walk with them, play sports or board games with them, help them with homework, help them get a job, perhaps even risk their lives for them to rescue them from danger, take them to the hospital, visit them when they’re sick, send them a card, mind their kids, be there for them through a difficult time, comfort them in time of loss, pray for them, wait for them, stay up all night with them.

Jesus stayed up all night praying for His friends. He fed them. He made them breakfast (the “Lord’s Breakfast” in John 21:1-14). He was there for them through difficult times. He listened to them. He encouraged them. He challenged them. He taught them. He gave them homework assignments. Jesus gave them rewarding jobs. He visited them when they were sick. He healed them. He comforted them in time of loss. He raised them from the dead: “Our *friend* Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I go, so that I may awaken him out of sleep” (John 11:11). He forgave them: “Seeing their faith, He said, ‘*Friend*, your sins are forgiven you” (Luke 5:20). He risked His reputation and overlooked their faults to bring them the hope of heaven: “The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Behold, a gluttonous man and a drunkard, a *friend* of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds” (Matthew 11:19). He shared His joy with them: “He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the *friend* of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom’s voice. So this joy of mine has been made full” (John 3:29).

Friendship is so important to Jesus that His followers became known as friends as John calls them in verse

15 of his third letter: “Peace be to you. The friends greet you. Greet the friends by name.” Friendship is one way to describe the close relationship between God and His people: “and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, ‘and Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,’ and he was called the friend of God” (James 2:23). As Job reflects on his life, He remembers: “As I was in the prime of my days, When the friendship of God was over my tent” (29:4 and context).

In a familiar and special passage Jesus calls His disciples friends and shows the extent of His love for them: “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:13). Jesus speaks with an emphatic “I” when He says, “You are My friends if you do what I command you”, versus what others command. (John 15:14). Jesus’ friends know what He is doing and what He has heard from our Father: “No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you” (John 15:15).

Of all the ways that Jesus proved His love for His friends, perhaps the most powerful is this: He gave up His life for His friends. He suffered and died in our place. He took our punishment. The reality and the pain of being nailed to a cross even for a minute is hard to imagine. Jesus knew this pain and endured it for us.

How long would Jesus wait, how long would He suffer for His friends? It is amazing that for His friends He would allow Himself to be nailed to a cross and to wait there for six hours. His disciples could hardly wait an hour in Gethsemane. Jesus waited six hours nailed to the cross.

The imprints of the nails were a turning point for one of Jesus’ friends: “So the other disciples were saying to him (Thomas), ‘We have seen the Lord!’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the

nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe” (John 20:25). He saw and believed.

Jesus did this amazing thing for us. He paid the debts we owed to God: “having cancelled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross” (Colossians 2:14).

Jesus calls us, His disciples, friends. He died for us. God raised Him from the dead for us. He took away our debts. He feeds us spiritually by His Word and Spirit and with a most wonderful meal week by week in the Lord’s Supper. He restores and heals our souls. He gives us things to do. He goes with us.

How long will Jesus wait for a friend? He waited six hours nailed to a cross. He is here with us today waiting before God as we do what He commands us to do. He waits in heaven eternally for His friends to come home. As Andrew brought Peter to Jesus (John 1:40-42), we can be a friend by bringing others to the best Friend of all. Heaven, and being God’s friends, are possible for us because of what Jesus did for us on the cross. What a Friend we have in Jesus!

Winnipeg, MB

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Stop Taking Your Life For Granted

I have recently been blessed with the opportunity to provide childcare for a beautiful four year old girl named Karoline. Karoline's home life was such that she needed to go to live with a great aunt and uncle. I have no doubt that she is in a better situation than she was at home, but also know that she misses her parents. There were some gaps in her childcare schedule and I offered to help out.

Karoline and I have a history. The first time she saw me in my role as the community Santa Claus she jumped into my arms and we were inseparable. After that, whether I had the Santa suit on or not, I was Santa and each and every time she sees me she shouts Santa and runs and jumps into my arms so we can have a visit. Not having any grandchildren of our own we have adopted Karoline as a grandchild; she comes to visit, we buy her presents and show her lots of love. She believes that Santa provides presents all year long.

Providing childcare for a four year old has been quite an education.

- I have learned that four year olds are busy. She leaves me exhausted and our house looking like a whirlwind just passed through it.

- I have learned that four year olds are endearing. Shortly after she leaves to go home and I have things properly rearranged, I find myself missing her.

- I have learned that four year olds are forgiving. I had done something to aggravate her and she had gotten upset with me. I apologized and she told me that it was okay and came over to give me a hug.

- I have learned to stop taking my life for granted and appreciate more my upbringing and background.

God favoured me by providing me with two parents who loved and cared for my brother, sisters and myself. Yet, too often, I take that for granted, assuming that it is the norm and that everyone grows up like that. God has been sending me some constant reminders that not everyone grows up like I did. My responsibility is to appreciate more my own home experience, and the way I was raised, while seeking to be a blessing to those who may not share that same experience.

God has favoured me by having me grow up with a loving and supportive extended family. It is only too easy to take this for granted and to again assume that everyone grows up in a similar situation. It is also only too easy to undervalue the blessing of a loving and supportive extended family. Grandparents who lovingly support and aid your parents in your upbringing, grandparents who teach the same values as your parents and who model this behaviour daily are a wonderful blessing. Aunts and uncles who hold to the same beliefs, who model this faith in their daily lives and cousins who share a similar experience and upbringing as well as brothers and sisters who accept and love you should never be taken for granted, but too often they are. We assume that most everyone has this same experience but often find out in adulthood how blessed we are.

I don't see too many people appreciating their families today. Many take their good upbringing for granted. Also, many blame their upbringing and their parents for most everything that is wrong in their lives. As long as families are made up of people they are never going to live perfectly. Parents are human and they make

mistakes. While your parents may be at fault for some of the problems you experience today, blaming them is not the magic fix that many expect it to be. Fixing the blame and fixing the problems are two very different things. It is only too easy to point out what was/is wrong with your upbringing, but can you also see what is right? A healthy perspective will see both.

God has blessed me with a loving and supportive church family, loving enough to correct me when I needed correction and to encourage me when I needed encouragement. Not just while I was growing up, but throughout my entire life I have received this love and support. Even in a remote area far away from others in my church family, I receive this love and support as many communicate through email, snail mail and the telephone, their love and encouragement. I know that I need to grow in my appreciation for this rich fellowship of love and support. Was my church background perfect? No, far from it and I find it only too easy to look back and pass judgment on the faults that I see and, I must confess, at times I have done that. Has it helped? No. My condemnation did not correct the wrongs of the past and I found it very discouraging. I have found that when I concentrated on the positive I was encouraged and was motivated to encourage others and be the loving and supportive church that I cherish very much.

I have learned that what I take for granted, I fail to appreciate and what I fail to appreciate, I too often lose. We must stop taking our lives for granted, as we so often do, and appreciate God's blessings before they are gone.

Pointing out what was wrong with our upbringing doesn't excuse our behaviour today. Focus on the positive from your past and God will help you eliminate the negative from your life.

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." (Colossians 3:15 NIV)

Lord, please help us to be thankful!

inTune

WITH CHRIST

Tune

Verb

- To put into proper pitch.
- To adapt or adjust, especially in order to bring into harmony.
- To adjust for maximum usability or performance.

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Session 4: In Tune with our Purpose Who should we resolve to be as young men and women following Christ? Discussions centering on Biblical examples

Session 5: In Tune with the Pattern Are we becoming who God wants us to be? An examination of our character and goals

Session 6: In Tune with Christ How can we strengthen our relationship with Christ and make sure that we are in tune with his will?

For young adults aged 18 to 30

A Day of Sorrow—Destruction from the Almighty The Day of the Lord—3

Drew Chapados

One of the things being said today is that for dads to be good fathers, they must learn to communicate well with their sons. The message needs to be stated so that the child can understand everything clearly.

When I first heard that, I thought my dad was one of the greatest fathers in the world. We never had a difficult time communicating since almost every day the message rang loud and clear—"Boy, you make one more move and you will meet your Maker!!!" I knew my dad loved me and was concerned about my growing to be the Christian man he wanted me to be.

The day you meet your maker is that day of the Lord. The great theme of Joel is the fact that the Day of the Lord is coming! In this little book of only 3 chapters, the actual phrase is used five times (1:15,2:1,2:11,2:31,3:14).

At first glance, the idea is that this was something which will not be enjoyed. "Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is near, and as destruction from the Almighty it comes. Is not the food cut off before our eyes, joy and gladness from the house of our God?" (Joel 1:15,16). The world had/has really gotten on such a bad track that the idea of God coming near or the day of God happening is more fearful than joyful!

In Genesis 3:8-10—when Adam and Eve had their mini 'day of the Lord', all that surrounded the original pair was fear of God. Sin is the main reason causing the idea of meeting God to be anything but joy filled. It is the fear of unholy people before a great and 'awesomely' holy God!

When the prophets then decided to write about the coming day of the Lord they were reminding their hearers

and readers that this was a day, not only when God makes good on all of His wonderful promises, but also on all of His dread-some threats! The idea was not one that pleased the prophets—but it was something of great concern.

One of the most difficult things I had to come to realize was this horrible truth: there are some people that I love who are going to hell and I can't do anything about it! The one thing I can do is to not follow them! It would not help them for me to be there as well.

So, as we look at this Day of the Lord in Joel, consider the following thoughts:

Life on earth will cease! 1:15— The day of the Lord is near and it is coming as destruction from the Almighty! For those who are disobedient, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Hebrews 10:31).

Now we all have moments when our lives are divided into two. For example, there might be something like a car accident and we, so we say, something was before or after the accident. Maybe we had an illness so we say before or after the illness. For Christians, baptism is the important before or after incident. The basic thought is the life you were once living before is really gone! For Christians it is really true, the old man has been put to death, or if he hasn't been, he needs to be! (Ephesians 4:22-24) The old man is dead and the new man has been created!

The amazing thing is that although the old life is over and a new one has begun, we still carry some effects from the previous life. The Day of the Lord is going to be the greatest divider one will ever have. For Adam & Eve, the Garden of Eden would never be experienced again. For

the Jews in Jeremiah's day, they would go to Babylon and never experience life in Israel the same way again. God's Final Day will be a day like no other and, life as you know it now, will never be seen again! It doesn't make a difference how many safety measures you put into place, life will never be like it is now. Revelation 18:10, 21-24, tells us what happened when Rome fell! It is simply amazing what God can do.

Many are in crisis! I love listening to oldies and there is one song that used to get a lot of play but it doesn't so much anymore, "Oh when I die, oh when I die, I'll swear there ain't no heaven and I'll pray their aint no Hell!" For Christians hell might be a scary thing but heaven is wonderful to think about. It makes it difficult for us to understand the following sentiment but it is true:

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many people won't mind if there is no heaven as long as there is no hell. There are so many in the world who live lives without thought or even care about the after life that they really are in crisis! I believe that one reason why some Christians are not quick to hope for the end of the world is because there are many loved ones who fall into that category. Matthew 7:13, 14—many enter the wrong way. Joel 2:3-10, destruction, destruction, destruction!

So, if this is the case—what is the point of going forward? What is the point of being joyful and glad?

The Righteous still will call! 1:19, 20—Notice how Joel is leading the people, to you, O Lord, I call! Why? All the devastation. What is really in God's heart? Is He so upset that He is out of control? Will God not know how to hold back? Has God become like those people who are always nice, always polite, always smiling but when one goes just a little too far, then bam, it's over Jack? They lose control! Has God lost control?

The Lord might Change! We have to be careful with this one. In 2 Peter 2:4-10, Peter talks about how God has shown His judgments in the past and certain peoples have faced His wrath. Peter is quick to show, however, that God can also preserve His people in the midst of all that destruction. The idea seems to be that as bad as it looks and as devastating as it appears, and it is, God is still in control. He is just in His actions and the righteous will be preserved and the wicked will be punished. This is one of the great statements of the Bible, Joel 2:14, "who knows?"

At heart is the question, "who is our God, what is He like?" Joel answers in 2:13, "Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity." Maybe more will repent—maybe more will be saved—maybe one!

Windsor, ON

"The Living Concordance"... continued from page 2

and the Norval church, were changed after a friend in Ohio sent him several copies of Alexander Campbell's Millennial Harbinger. Gradually Menzies gained a better understanding of the design of baptism and of the importance of being simply a Christian, or disciple of Christ. He also turned from the Calvinistic views instilled within him from childhood. After awhile he shared his new understanding with others at Norval, and by 1840 the church accepted Restoration views.

By then Menzies had developed a close relationship with some nearby congregations of similar persuasion. He preached frequently (in Gaelic) to a group of Scottish believers in neighboring Erin Township. He worked closely with James Black and the churches in Eramosa Township, east of Guelph. All this helped prepare the way for the June Meeting in 1843 at Norval. Sixteen churches with more than 500 members were represented, either in person or by letter, and plans were made to voluntarily support an evangelist in the field during the coming year.

In 1843 the Norval church had forty-six members and was part of a growing fellowship of churches. Menzies lived another sixteen years

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after the 1843, June Meeting. The Norval church has long ceased to exist, for like many rural congregations its members either died or moved away, but its influence lives on in other places. John and Isabella's son, James, moved to Toronto, where he helped plant the Bathurst congregation, which later moved to Bayview Avenue and continues as the Bayview Church of Christ. The Trouts moved to the Meaford area, and the church there has a long and distinguished history. This, and more, can be traced to these two Scottish immigrants who held fast to their faith in difficult times.

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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."

ONTARIO

Annual Meetings: Many Ontario congregations held annual meetings, presented budgets and appointed trustees the first quarter of 2009.

Beamsville: On January 26, Chuck McBride was baptized into Christ. Seniors enjoyed a dinner on February 7. Jessica Short, granddaughter of Mark and Marion McDonnell, plans to participate in a medical mission trip to Peru in the spring and needs financial support. Birthday gift boxes will be sent in March to children on the Neskantaga First Nations Reserve.

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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Great Lakes Christian High School open house was planned for Tuesday, March 3. A group of exchange students from Colombia will join the GLCHS student body for a month.

Bramalea: On January 18, the congregation rejoiced with Leo Rinomato, who was baptized by Angelo Aiello. The ladies of the congregation met January 27, to make plans for the group's spiritual growth, fun, fellowship and service in 2009. The "Wise Guys/Wise Gal's" dinner, for those over age 60, was held January 31. A "Sweetheart Dinner" for Bramalea and Mississauga couples was held on February 14, with the Young Adult group decorating and serving. A teachers' meeting/pot luck was held Sunday, February 8.

Brantford: The congregation sent a box of hats, mitts and scarves to Central Public School. Also, a thank you note was received from McMaster Children's Hospital for the knitted hats and outfits that some of the ladies made and sent to the hospital. On Sunday, December 21, a hot lunch was served and afterwards games were wrapped for the children next door. Eighty nine dollars and seventeen cents was donated for the month of December to the "change box." Two families were helped over the holiday season with food items for a holiday meal.

Cambridge: In January, more than half of the congregation started taking a New Testament Survey class offered by Great Lakes Bible College this semester via internet. The congregation's prayer is that God would make each member a willing servant to serve those that God has given them.

Fennell: Each week the congregation takes up a silver collection to sponsor children overseas. During March break 15 people will come from Nashville to help the congregation reach out to the community. All seniors are invited to meet on Tuesday afternoon for games. The congregation enjoyed a tobogganing activity on the evening of February 6.

Meaford: The congregation held its 48th annual youth rally from February 27 to March 1. The theme was "On Line with the Lord." Speaker was Scott Mansfield of Great Lakes Christian High School.

Newmarket: On Sunday, February 8, the congregation and the angels in heaven rejoiced at the baptism of Mark Leeman into Christ before morning service. That same afternoon the congregation held its annual business meeting and dinner.

Niagara Falls: Henry Boland celebrated his 80th birthday by "taking off his tie" (retiring) on January 24, 2009.

Tintern: The pre-teen group is looking forward to a mission trip to serve the Thessalon congregation from July 11-18.

Toronto (Harding Avenue): The Fourth International Women's Lectureship is scheduled for August 8-11, 2009, in Trinidad and Tobago.

Toronto (Scarborough): The Thursday evening Bible study is on the book of Romans. Prayers of thanksgiving were given that God allowed Paul Chimhugwe to rejoin his family here in Canada. The youth group meets every first and third Saturday at 1 p.m.

Toronto (Strathmore Blvd.): The congregation welcomed Lutgarda P. Quiban, from the Philippines, to the Strathmore family. Lois Churchill and her two sons, Fred and Art Moore, were baptized February 2. Bobby Ross Jr., Managing Editor of the Christian Chronicle, visited our men's breakfast and Bible study on Saturday, February 7, Sunday School and worship on February 8. A special class has begun again to teach the Bible along with conversational English to folks who do not have English as a first language.

Waterloo: The congregation is planning a Summer Vacation Bible Adventure for 2009. Three hundred and thirty one dollars (Canadian) was contributed for the winter quarter to assist with the China mission. The 20s group held its annual 20s weekend from February 20-22. The theme was "A Weekend with the Bible."

Windsor: On February 14, a Valentine's supper was held for the couples in the congregation. Rusty Campbell, former missionary in Japan, who is preparing to be part of a team going to the nation of Angola, presented the morning lesson and taught the adult Bible class on February 22.

Christian Chronicle Editor visits: Bobby Ross, Jr., managing editor of the Christian Chronicle in Oklahoma, spent a few days from February 6-9 meeting with leaders of several Ontario congregations. His purpose was to get an understanding of the churches of Christ in Ontario. The Chronicle can be read online at www.christianchronicle.org.

Camp Omagh: Needed for this coming summer: Individuals 16 years of age and older to help with the summer programme. Application forms can be retrieved at campomagh.org.



by Marion Waugh
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(BC news supplied by Barbara Lewis)

ALBERTA

North Edmonton: The theme for the 2009 Alberta Spring Fellowship is Leading Effectively in the 21st Century. The weekend will be held on April 10-12 with Dr. Ken Wilson and JJ Turner as guest speakers. The goal is to reach out to other congregations in Alberta and Canada. In November, we held a leadership workshop defining the difference between leadership and management. Twenty men attended. This is the first of three workshops to prepare men to become future deacons and elders. Four sisters from the Philippines have placed membership with our congregation.

They are Rosemarie, Devina, Wafreda and Elizabeth. The Sunset school has 7 students studying the course, Bible History II. Our third evangelist, Brian Salter, is focusing on campus ministries.

South Edmonton: Late in 2008, we rejoiced at the baptism of Ying Kuang, originally from China and has been an Edmonton resident for many years. Her uncle Lin (of Dalian, China), is temporarily living with her and has developed friendships with many members of the congregation; studies with him are ongoing. Farewells were expressed to several families who moved away: Derek & Angel Czeban to Toronto, and Jay & Linda Manimtim to Barrie ON. We had an encouraging gospel meeting in late September with Paul Hillier as our speaker. It was recently decided that the south Edmonton congregation will begin supporting Shawn & Chieh Leblanc when they move to Saint John NB to work with the small congregation there. Brothers and sisters, the Leblancs will be evangelizing in a relatively new area of the country for the Kingdom. He is a New Brunswick native, educated for 4 years at Great Lakes Bible College. He has proven himself as a preacher, and is willing to go. Can you help them, too? – Tim Johnson

Red Deer: A men's day is planned for

Saturday, March 28. The theme of the day will be "Take the Lead", men leading the way in a world gone astray. Guest speakers will be Kevin Vance, president of WCC and Leslie Williams, instructor of WCC and missionary to Papua New Guinea.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Burnaby: A new midweek marriage class was started the first week of February. It is directed by Aaron Etheridge, currently of the Delta congregation, who is an experienced marriage counsellor. Frozen meals were prepared last month to help out a young foreign couple expecting their third child. Because of the outside preparation required before each of 10 lessons, a new women's study group is meeting in homes every other week. Title of the course is "A Woman's Heart: God's Dwelling Place", by Beth Moore, well-known writer of Christian materials. Workbooks feature 20-25 pages of scripture, description, vocabulary, Greek and Hebrew meanings, etc., to follow some three hours of Bible reading. It requires individual responses to questions about the scriptures and how it relates to the life of each individual. After prayer and discussion, an hour-long video covers outstanding ideas

continued on page 16

2009 Alberta Spring Fellowship
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 Edmonton church of Christ
 Keynote Speakers:
DR. KEN WILSON - Washington
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John 14:16-17

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MISSION NEWS

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Spokane, WA 99206-4475
e-mail: ray-bjl@comcast.net



The Philippines: The “Give A Kid A Goat” program started last year under the direction of Salvador Cariaga has already accomplished extensive good toward helping hundreds, living in poverty, to become self-supporting. Most people living in rural areas make less than \$1.00 a day. Goat-raising is an ideal project in countries like the Philippines where there is an abundant supply of grass and leaves for the goats to eat. In addition to improving the livelihood of a family, it also benefits their health. Most Asians are lactose intolerant and are not milk drinkers. Their animals can provide a daily supply of calcium and protein lactose at the same time they are producing kids. Goat milk is the closest thing to that of a human mother. Their manure provides a steady and abundant supply of organic fertilizer to take the place of chemicals that have already damaged the soil and polluted the water supply in some rural areas. Cariaga says that the goats are monitored regularly and technical services are provided for the recipients. He believes that at least three local preachers will be self-supporting this year. A share from the goats distributed also helps pay for more animals to give to others. The project has been maintained so far under the auspices of Body and Soul (Bands), the ministry started by Dr. John Bailey. He believes it will be only a short time before their support is no longer needed, and these funds, along with others that are terminating this year, will allow them to go to other areas of need. Dr. Bailey invites those interested to view their improved web site at: www.bandsministries.org and also <http://www.youtube.com/bandsministries>.

Honduras: Dr. Hilary Motsinger, founder of New Life Behaviour Ministries, is scheduled to lead a three-day seminar on relationships and understanding one’s self, March 2-4, at the Mission Point Research Centre in Catacamas, Honduras. The seminar is for students and staff of the Bilingual School of Honduras (EHB), preachers, church leaders and those involved with prison and addiction ministry. Dr. Motsinger will also be

preaching at Las Casitas on his first trip to this country. Last year, Dr. Motsinger visited several European countries, including Russia and Ukraine, where he was allowed to visit a number of prison facilities and speak with government leaders interested in changing and preparing prisoners and their families for acceptance in the outside world upon their release. As an educator and family therapist, Dr. Motsinger joined a group of trained Christian volunteers in a meeting with Texas inmates in 1984. Over the next 18 years he developed the first seven courses and the “Children’s Edition” of the NLB curriculum. With the support and guidance of the Skillman church of Christ in Dallas, New Life Behaviour became a separate non-profit and tax-exempt organization in 1988, functioning under a Board of Trustees. It is supported by churches, individuals, businesses, foundations and grants. Impressed with the structure and results of the NLB curriculum, Texas Department of Criminal Justice officials requested an extension of its impact to families of offenders. A pilot effort was launched in 1993. Wives were invited to participate with their husbands in studies, integrating an essential facet of the prisoner’s behavioural modification--the family unit. Subsequently, FamilyNet has been added to the growing list of NLB programs.

In 1997, the Texas Department honored NLB with the Governor George Bush Award for being the Best State Jail Program in the state. In 2000, NLB began combining its efforts with “Christians Against Substance Abuse (CASA)” to magnify impact inside and outside of jails and prisons. A man named Buck Griffith authored Course VIII (CASA) to add to the NLB curriculum, which has also been approved and licensed by the State of Texas, as a faith-based alcohol and drug treatment program. In July 2002, Brother Griffith succeeded Dr. Motsinger as NLB’s President and the office was combined with the CASA office in Corpus Christi. It focuses on the States, leaving Dr. Motsinger free to devote his time to foreign countries. At the present time, his emphasis is being placed on works in Mexico, Zambia, Nigeria, South Africa and the Philippines. How life-changing material can be distributed world-wide in such unsuspecting ways can be attributed only to God. A lady from Seoul, South Korea, was serving as a house mother to Korean college students studying in China. Here

she met a man named Don Wright, who persuaded her to visit Dallas, where she became acquainted with Dr. Motsinger. He gave Anne Kim a copy of the NLB curriculum to take with her back to Korea. She showed it to a publisher, a university president, and Sang Yang of the Korean Bible Study Centre. The teacher wrote to Dr. Motsinger, inviting him to come to Korea to teach her students, and also asking if the lessons could be translated into Korean. In the meantime, Anne moved to Bangalore in order to place her two children in a high school for talented and gifted students. She showed the New Life Behaviour lessons to one of the instructors, who felt they would be very helpful in India. She was a professional speaker who immediately wrote to Dr. Motsinger for advice on how to use the material to teach Hindus and Muslims.

China: A new home for Chinese orphans was ready for its first occupants in Nannin last December. It is named the John Connor Brown Christian Care Centre for Dr. John Bailey’s grandson, whose tragic death at the age of 12 resulted in a Memorial Fund that also paid for the construction of a Vocational Training Centre in Nairobi, Kenya. This building, which has also been named for Connor, houses a facility for training food service and cosmetology students. It has been fully furnished and equipped by Caris Foundation International, and was operational by the end of 2008.

Japan: The Sendai team: Ben and Erica Berry, Jonathan and Michiko Straker are still in graduate school at Abilene Christian University; Joel Osborne and Debi Hobelman are back in Sendai; Crimsen Ruhnke remains in the US for the time being. Sasha Ingle, intern in Sendai, is back in Sendai after her fund-raising trip to North America. She is short of support so would appreciate your prayers and donations on her behalf.

For information or reports of the Japanese work, please contact: benberry@gmail.com or <http://www.benberry19.blogspot.com>; joelosborne4@yahoo.com; <http://debihobelman1413.blogspot.com>; <http://sashainsendai.blogspot.com>; jstrake@yahoo.com, <http://strakerhouse.com>, or <http://hijimino.exblog.jp/>; Or contact the Bramalea church at mail@bramaleaocfc.ca

Key To The Kingdom Day, MAY 3, 2009



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guide, became the first men to climb Mt. Everest and return. Remember, there is power in persistence.

2. Persistent Choices. Choices make a difference. Two people may be injured in the same accident. They did not choose to be in the accident. But they can choose to live the experience in bitterness or with thanksgiving. Such choices will influence their lives and the lives of their families and friends. We have very little control over what happens in our lives, but we have full control over how we remember what happens. Being persistent in making positive choices will greatly affect how successfully we live.

The people in cities who saw most of Jesus' miracles did not believe in him. Yet Jesus continued to teach and heal because he knew that God is in charge, and his work will never be fully defeated. When your efforts seem to fail, rest in the knowledge that God has an eternal purpose. No one will ever defeat God's plan for the salvation of all those who trust in him.

3. Persistent Goals. Powerful spiritual goals are worth seeking and will excite you to the depths of your being. A worthy goal must be something you emotionally want very much. (In the beginning, you may not even believe that you can accomplish that goal.) However, think about how you might reach the goal and begin working on your plans immediately and continue persistently.

Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all.

4. Persistent in your Decision. The greatest decision you will make is to surrender your life to God. Decide to follow the way of the Lord Jesus, the Messiah.

When God confirmed Jesus' identity and mission at his baptism, Satan called it into question in the

wilderness temptations. After each temptation, Jesus responded by saying, "It is written", and then quoted from the Scriptures. Fill your heart continually with the Scriptures. The Holy Spirit will use the words to encourage and strengthen you in times of temptation and testing by family, friends or others.

5. Persistent Supporters. Successful people avoid negative people and surround themselves with those who seek to achieve.

The most persistent supporter for believers is God. In the Garden of Gethsemane and again on the Cross, Jesus entrusted himself to our Heavenly Father's keeping, confident that death would not have the final word. Sometimes life gives no answers, no solutions, no escapes. But God is always faithful, and we can place ourselves in his care with full confidence. Our trust in him will never be in vain.

6. Persistent when Criticized. People who set goals, and proceed to work on them, face criticism. Some people don't understand the goals. Others are jealous because they do not have such goals and will seek to tear down your goals.

If it is a truthful criticism, learn from it. The people and organizations that fail are the ones that cannot hear truthful complaints. True friends will take the risk of speaking the truth because they care about you. A truthful complaint can provide insight for improvement.

If the criticism is mistaken or mean-spirited, rise above it. There is no victory worth winning that comes from giving back a negative, unfruitful response. If you must respond, just state the facts. Try never to yield to the temptation to respond in a negative manner. Jesus is the perfect example of turning the other cheek and returning good for evil.

When you are criticized, be persistent in keeping your goal before you and continuing to follow it. Critics win if you quit your positive efforts. You win if you are persistent until your goal is reached. The former USA

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President, Theodore Roosevelt had a saying about the criticism leaders take for their daring and boldness.

"It is not the critic who counts: not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled or where the doer of deeds could have done them better.

The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, and comes short again and again, because there is not effort without error and shortcoming; who does actually try to do the deed; who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who, at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly.

Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs even though checkered by failure, than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much because they live in the gray twilight that knows neither victory nor defeat."

Today presents the chance to do something significant. Don't let critics turn you aside from doing your duty and persistently working toward your spiritual goals.

"To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honour and immortality, he (God) will give eternal life" (Romans 2:7).

Toronto, ON

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Western Christian is a dynamic ministry that seeks to be faithful to the Bible, train young people for leadership and service and provide relevant resources for Christians in the twenty-first century. The strategic plan of the institution seeks to mature the school and extend our rich legacy of 63 years into the future. To help us with this mission, Western Christian seeks men and women who are committed Christians, who love Christ and the church, and who have a passion for Christian education, to help lead the school successfully into the future. Western Christian is located in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

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All applicants must be a committed Christian and an active member of a church of Christ. A criminal and vulnerable sector record check and credit check must be submitted prior to employment. For full consideration, submit your application including your curriculum vitae, cover letter, professional references, philosophy of education, transcripts and a sample of any academic writings by email to: business@westernchristian.ca, drop off mail: Western Christian College Attn: Dorothy Davis, Human Resources 100 - 4400 Fourth Avenue, Regina, SK, S4T 0H8
Phone: (306) 545-1515 ext 223, or fax (306) 352-2198.

in the lesson. Beth Moore is an excellent speaker who appeals especially to younger women. Kirk Ruch began a new "Roots" session for people who know very little about God or the Bible.

Delta: The Harding University Spring Break Campaign Team expects to spend the week of March 7-15 with us, doing service projects in the Greater Vancouver area. The Annual Missions Fest in Vancouver was devoted this year to a call for Christians to unite in prayer for the 2010 Olympics which affect, in one way or another, almost all of the 2,000,000 people living in the Mainland area. The general theme for 2009 was "If My People Pray". Over 120 free seminars were offered and visitors invited to browse through 230 mission agencies represented in the Exhibition Hall, in addition to attending special events and programs for all ages.

Oakridge: In preparation for the celebration of our 50th anniversary last year, we had to organize. Everything went so well that the congregation decided to not only keep capable organizers in place, but to add several ministries since we do not have an eldership to direct. At our potluck dinner once a month, each of the ministry leaders takes a turn informing the membership of what they have done and what their plans are for the future. The first to report was the family of Ferly and Alex Abella, whose entire family participates in the production of the weekly bulletin. They have upgraded its quality to becoming informative and dependable. In February, the Care committee made us aware of the opportunities and needs of their work.

Salmon Arm: "Evangelistic Women", a study of women's ministries by Pamela Stewart, is being used in our Ladies' class. It has encouraged us to have speakers to further help us understand and make use of the different roles for women that will make the church a stronger institution. A Ladies' Day for our community friends and sur-

rounding members of other congregations is being planned for the end of May. As a result of the lessons, we decided to call the special day "Coming Out of Our Cocoons", with butterflies as the chief theme of our decorations. The quarterly publication, "House to House, Heart to Heart", is continuing to be mailed out into the community with a schedule of our activities listed. Among these are plans already in the works for our August Vacation Bible School. We are hopeful of drawing children from our own area. The theme will be around a Hebrew village that will be built in the large yard of one of the members near the building where we meet.

Vernon: In the last week of January, a third elder was appointed to help oversee our growing congregation. He is Alvan Jacobs, a long-time member, who, with his wife, Patricia, are known for their hospitality, dependability and enthusiastic support of all that the church undertakes. Five deacons serve our congregation that averages about 80 in attendance. In spite of winter weather, we almost reached 100 when visitors brought our number to 96 one Sunday in January.

SASKATCHEWAN

Sister Triangle: Has organized "Live, Love, Laugh", the Kenosee Ladies Retreat to be held February 20- 22. Guest speaker, Gillian Swanson of Montana, is back by demand.

Clearview Christian Camp: Will be hiring four counsellors to work at the camp for the summer. A cook is needed for the entire summer as well. Pray that the right people are hired to positively affect the campers they will work with this summer. For more information contact Ryan Fowler at 306.842.4299.

Weyburn: The Women's Service Club of Western Christian College have bottles for collecting coins to use toward projects at Western Christian College. They also held a bakeless bake sale.

OBITUARIES

Jamieson, Audrey

Audrey Jamieson passed away in Hamilton, on Sunday morning December 8, 2008, in her 90th year. She was predeceased by her husband, Robert. Audrey is survived by two sons and a daughter: Keith, and his wife Lynn, of BC, Roger, and his wife Irene, of Hamilton, ON, Marion of Toronto, ON, and grandchildren: David, Michael and Candace. Audrey also had two great grandchildren. Audrey is also survived by her sister Dorothy, a niece Madelene, and her husband Terry, of Australia.

The funeral service was conducted on December 11, 2008, by this writer, assisted by Ed Van Alstine of the Fennell Avenue congregation and Chris Page of the Selkirk congregation.

Audrey was born in Hastings, England, in 1919. She came to Canada as a war bride. From an early age, Audrey had a love for music and was an accomplished vocalist. She taught piano for many years in Hamilton. It was through this activity that she first came into contact with the Lord's Church. One of Audrey's students was the daughter of an active church family, and Bible studies resulted. Audrey subsequently obeyed the gospel. She was a faithful member of the Fennell Avenue Church of Christ for almost 45 years, until her death.

Although Audrey had a variety of interests (she was a big fan of the Blue Jays baseball team), she was happiest when she was able to serve. She did secretarial work for the Fennell Avenue congregation for many years and was an active member of the local WAVES. She was especially known for her volunteer work at Camp Omagh where she spent the the summer performing a number of duties. Audrey never had to be asked to be involved in church related activities: she involved herself.

She wouldn't allow her physical ailments (which challenged her the past few years), to curtail her activities in the church.

An indication of Audrey's faith and faithfulness is a conversation the writer had with her in hospital a few days before her passing. After talking about spiritual matters, she said with great intensity and earnestness, "Bob, "I'm ready." May we all so live day to day to be able to say confidently, "I'm ready."

- Bob Hibbard



*You are invited to a
Come and Go Tea
For Roy Stewart White's 80th Birthday
March 14, 2009, from 2 to 4 p.m.
Church of Christ Fellowship Hall
113 Nelson Street W., Meaford, Ontario
Best Wishes Only*

47th ANNUAL TRAINING FOR SERVICE

“Proclaiming the Gospel in our Time and Space”

Hosted by: The Newmarket Church Of Christ

9:00	Registration
9:30	Singing
10:00 – 10:45	Lecture #1 Rethinking the Good News
11:15 – 12:00	Round Table Discussion
Lunch Break	Bring your own lunch (Refreshments provided)
1:30-2:15	Singing
2:15 – 2:30	Presentation: Living Incarnational Ministry
2:45 – 3:30	Lecture #2 Relocating the Church
3:30 – 4:00	Closing Events

Featured Speakers:

John York, professor of Preaching and New Testament at Lipscomb University. John has served churches in Texas, Tennessee, and Oregon. He is co-author of *The Jesus Proposal* and *The Jesus Community*.

Youth Speaker:

Darrin Douglas the preacher for the Niagara Falls Church of Christ will be preaching on the topic of being deceived by the world.

Friday April 10, 2009
9:00am - 4:00pm

Cawthra Park Secondary School
1305 Cawthra Road
Mississauga, Ontario
(2 blocks south of QEW)

Any questions? Contact the
Newmarket Church of Christ:
905-895-6502 or by email:
pickardnathan@hotmail.com

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 St. T4V 1A2 Sunday morning Bible Study 10:15; Sunday morning services 10:45; Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm; 780-672-1220 (off) or Dennis Lindstrand (780)672-4978

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 and in various homes (phone for locations and other times); Elders: Henri Bouchard, Walter Hreczuch; Evangelists: Garth Johnson (Youth), Brian Salter (Young Adult), Nate Seecharan (Pulpit); 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

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 Hilcey 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, wjpeckett@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 S1C0C@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 Elford, 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: wwyes@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 Celaira, 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: Meeting in the home of FRED NELSON, 5 Devonay Court, Rothesay E2E 6E2; Sunday meetings flexible; Phone (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: niafallscofc@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; Kevin Cleary (ev) 902-446-5818

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.; Sun. 10:15, 11; Wed. 6:30; R.R. 1, B0N 2H0; J. Mackey, (902) 758-2633; 902-758-4252 bldg, email:sdboehner@xplornet.com

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

AJAX (Serving Durham Region): Ajax Community Centre, 75 Centennial Rd., Ajax, ON, (mailing address: 290 Harwood Ave. S., PO Box 21018, Ajax, ON, L1S 2J1); Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 7; call for mid-week information; Marlon Molina, ev., marlonm@strathmorecofc.ca; Malcolm Porter, 905-668-3346 (res).

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) 841-2272

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 Whittified (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: 1702 Dover Road, Cornwall, ON K6J; Sun. 10,11; Wednesday 7:00; call ahead for worship times in case of any changes; Allen Bojarski, ev. Phone (613) 933-1825; Fax (613) 933-2464; Emails: abojarski@cogeco.ca or churchofchrist@cogeco.ca; Jeremy Bojarski, youth minister. Phone (613) 933-8445; Joel Bojarski, treasurer; Mark Duperron, chairman, Phone: (613) 932-3701; website: http://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>

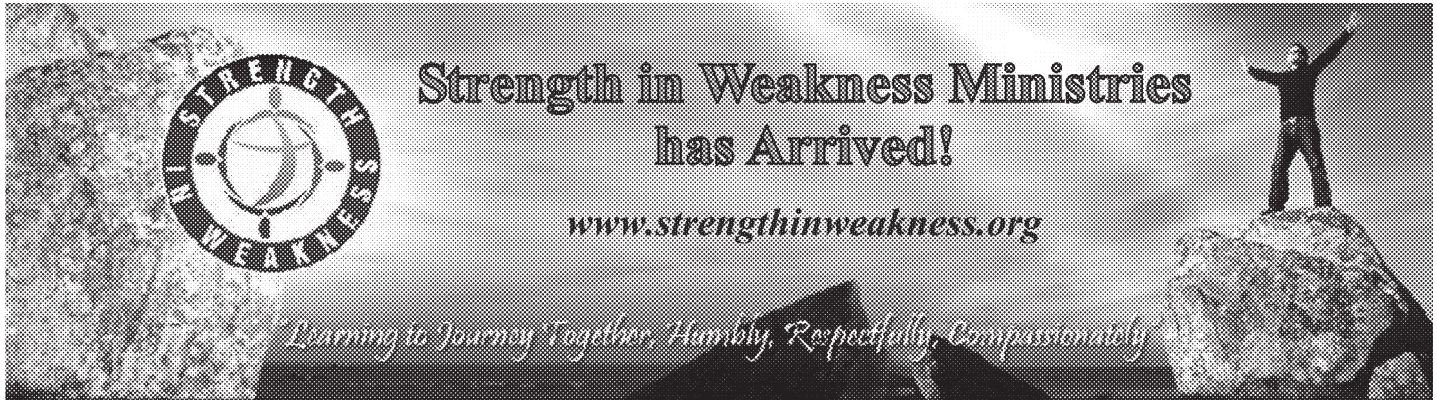
GRIMSBY: 63 Casablanca Blvd., south of Q.E. exit; Sun. Worship 9:45, Bible classes 11 am Sun evening 5, Wed. 7 pm; Box 181, L3M 4G3; (905) 945-3058 (off); George Mansfield, ev (h) 289-235-9411 website: www.grimsbycofc.org; other contact (905) 945-8668

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 Timney 705-672-9241 or e-mail: can@parolink.net

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

HAMILTON (North): YMCA building, 79 James St. S.; Sun. 9:30, 10:30; Wed. 7; Joe Sandasse, 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.



Do you have a friend who is homosexual? Do you have a loved family member who is gay or lesbian? Have you ever wondered what is safe and helpful to say to someone you care to help, but find yourself only frustrated, lost for the right words? Do you find the whole subject confusing? As a parent, do you know what you should be doing that can significantly lessen the likelihood that your child will ever be involved in homosexuality? Do you personally come from a homosexual past, but as a Christian you still live with sexual identity issues, and find yourself still attracted to the same sex? "Strength in Weakness Ministries" is a world wide-ministry that is helping Christians everywhere, and can assist you as well.

What People Are Saying

"This ministry is unbelievable! Never did I ever think that there would be such a thing in the Church of Christ. What a blessing this has been to my life. I am so encouraged. It is helping me in my battle for righteousness in an incredible way." *Toronto*

"I'm grateful for your openness on this site! It inspires me. I have been encouraged to be candid about my life. Finally, the internet used for holy purposes!" *South Carolina*

"My wife and I want to thank you so much for this website and for your encouragement!" *California*

"I am so excited that you have started this ministry. I am a professional counsellor who works with many Christians. We need this ability to be open about anything and not rejected, and your ministry is leading the way." *Florida*

"Pretty cool site! I have had counselling for my problems with homosexuality and God has changed much of my character but my temptations are still very difficult. Thank you!" *Maryland*

Advisory Board

**Michael Mazzalongo, F. LaGard Smith,
Douglas Jacoby & Andrew Lewis**

Due to the sensitive nature of this ministry, "Strength in Weakness" is being generously assisted and supervised by the insightful and spiritually discerning guidance of these mature and trusted individuals.

Michael Mazzalongo has been a Bible teacher for almost three decades. He has produced several television series & radio programs and was recognized by the National Association of Christian Broadcasters in the United States.

F. LaGard Smith has been a professor of law and best-selling Christian author of more than 25 books. He has been a District Attorney in Oregon and was Professor of Law for 27 years at Pepperdine University as well as Scholar in Residence for Christian Studies at Lipscomb University.

Douglas Jacoby is an internationally recognized authority in the area of Christian apologetics, and has taught tens of thousands in 85 nations, on every continent through his teaching ministry.

Andrew Lewis is recognized as a community leader as he works in grass roots settings, engaging people in all walks of life, diverse cultures and demographics. He has served in the ministry for over 16 years.

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