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FROM:

## **Gospel Herald Foundation**

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## **God the Father**

Edwin Broadus

bout 240 times in the New Testament God is called Father, and in this portion of scripture Father is the preeminent designation for the first person of the Godhead. Jesus often spoke of His Father (see the Gospel of John in particular), and Paul often wrote in his letters of "God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." Based on this biblical usage, we are prone, more times than not, to identify the Triune God with the explicit words, "Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

God is called Father in the New Testament, first of all in relation to Jesus Christ, for God is His Father in a unique sense, just as Jesus is His unique (only) Son. But God is also the Father of all Christians—a relationship described metaphorically in terms of the new birth (John 3:3-8) and also of adoption into God's family (Ephesians 1:4-6). Because God is our Father, Jesus taught His disciples to pray, "Our Father in heaven" (Matthew 6:9). This spiritual sonship is distinguished in the Bible from the universal human sonship, mentioned but a few times, that exists because of divine creation (Acts 17:28).

As children of God it is vital that we know, as fully as possible, our heavenly Father. We can know God only to the extent to which He has revealed Himself. Paul makes the point that, unless one chooses to reveal Himself, no one knows the things of another person except that person's own spirit, and likewise no one knows the things of God except God's Spirit. But then Paul says, as a Spirit-inspired man, "We have received...the Spirit

who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us," things given by revelation that Paul said he imparted to others (1 Corinthians 2:11-13).

Thus, God has revealed Himself through the Spiritrevealed word, and for this reason much that we know about God is found in scripture. But we also learn important truths about God through His creation. Paul says that some attributes of God, such as His eternal power and divine nature, are clearly evident in what God has made (Romans 1:18-20). But as important the revelation of God in the Bible and in nature is to our understanding of Him, the supreme and perfect revelation is found in the person and nature of Jesus Christ, so much so that Jesus appropriately said, "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14:9). Because of this perfect revelation, Christians can know God more fully than any who do not know Jesus Christ.

What, then, has God revealed about Himself? To fully answer such a question would fill countless volumes, but we will summarize some of the important truths about our Creator and Sustainer in the few words that follow. To begin with, we must recognize that God is the absolute, ultimate, supreme Sovereign of the universe. He is perfect in power, wisdom and goodness. (See Isaiah 40:25-26; 44:6-8; 45:22-23; Romans 11:33-36; Revelation 4:8-11; 15:3-4). If He were not all this, He would be less than God. He is not bound by time, for He is eternal, the great I AM (Exodus 3:13-14). He was already there when the world and time began (Genesis 1:1), and He will be there at the end of this world and time and ever after, when he will be "all in all (everything in every way)." (1 Corinthians 15:24-28).

We also know that with Him all things are possible (Matthew 19:26), and His only limitations are those imposed by His own nature, for He cannot violate who He is (Hebrews 6:18; 2 Timothy 2:13). As Ruler over all, past, present and future, He works out all things according to His purpose (Ephesians 1:11-12).

Jesus reminded us that "God is spirit" (John 4:24). This not only precludes all human attempts to make God over into the likeness of humans or any other of His creatures; it also reminds us that there is no place where God is not, for He is no more limited by space than by time. As the psalmist recognized, there is no place, whether the heavens above or the depths below, where we can go from His Spirit (Psalm 139:7-10).

All people need to be impressed with the awesome majesty of God, for as Proverbs and other scriptures often point out, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." This surely includes wisdom to appreciate God's attributes, which include His holiness, His love, His justice, and His faithfulness. Some argue, with good reason, that holiness embraces all other attributes, for its root idea in scripture is separation, and hence describes one who is distinctive, or stands apart from all else. There is no one like God (Isaiah 40:25), and so the first of the Ten Commandments demands, "You shall have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:3). God is wholly different from His creation, including humans, and our urgent need is to know that He is God and we are but His creatures. Since there is no one like Him in His absolute moral and spiritual perfection, His

> holiness includes His perfect purity. Similarly, God's holiness encompasses the other attributes that He possesses, for there is no one like Him. We may be somewhat good, somewhat faithful, or somewhat loving, but God is all of these perfectly.

> God is unlike any of His creatures as far as love is concerned; so much so that John

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## **NOTICE**

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## Abba Father & Son of God

Peter Morphy

ll fathers have dreams, desires and destinies for their children, especially their boys. Some imagine their son being the quarterback or captain of the team. Others think of scholastic achievement or success in climbing the corporate ladder. The heavenly Father also had grand plans for His Son. They were spiritual goals that encompassed serving, healing, teaching, loving, forgiving and dying for people who desperately needed a Savior.

The Father confirmed His relationship with Jesus at His baptism. The Spirit descended upon Jesus and the Father spoke, "This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17). While we cannot fully comprehend the intimate relationship between the Father and Jesus, we know that Jesus often spent countless hours communicating in prayer and entrusting His entire life to the Father's will. The gospels show us how Jesus honored His Father in heaven by learning submission, living selflessly and loving sincerely.

We often ask our teenagers what they plan to do when they graduate. Our question is really about their future education and career choices. In previous generations most young boys didn't have to make these decisions. Families stayed together, lived together, shared together and worked together. If your daddy was a fisherman, you would learn the trade when you were eight or ten years old and that was your life's work. Since your friend's father and grandfather worked the land, your buddy was destined to be a farmer. Some men worked with a hammer and nails and their sons would learn the skill and take over the carpenter's shop. That's the way life worked. It was the way it had always been.

That's why the first recorded words of Jesus are surprising, even shocking. The family had made their annual visit to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. Jesus had stayed behind talking with the religious teachers at the temple. He didn't intend to upset

anyone; He just did what was natural for Him to do. Listen to the conversation between Jesus and His mother when they were finally reunited. "When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to Him, 'Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for You.' 'Why were you searching for me?' He asked. 'Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?'" (Luke 2:48-49).

Jesus was only twelve years old. He lived with His mom and dad in Nazareth and was taking on responsibility in the carpenter's shop. What did Jesus mean that the temple was His Father's house and why did He need to be there? The New King James Version reads like this "Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" But we all thought that Jesus' business was at the family carpenter's shop, not teaching at the temple. That's why the next verse tells us that His parents didn't understand His statement. Translators had a difficult time with Jesus' explanation because the Greek does not have the word "house" or "business". It reads something like this, "Didn't you know that I had to be about My Father." Jesus is not just about Abba 's house or even His dad's business. He is about God.

Just as His first recorded words were all about His Father, so are His last. When on the cross there are seven statements recorded. The very last words are in Luke 23:46: "Jesus called out with a loud voice, 'Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.' When He had said this, He breathed His last." Those final words of trust and confidence are not in isolation. They sum up everything Jesus did, said, thought, loved and lived for. Jesus invested His entire life with His spirit in the hands of God. These are not words of a death bed plea but an epilogue of a life lived well.

We remember Jesus' prayer to the Father just hours before being tortured, abused and brutally executed. "He fell with His face to the ground and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from Me. Yet not as I will, but as You will.'" (Matthew 26:39) This is probably the greatest temptation that Jesus faced. While He knew of the physical suffering and pain of the cross, His greatest agony would be the spiritual separation that happened when He took upon Himself the

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## EDIORIAL

## It's about God

Wayne Turner



ome people have a low view of the word "theology." To them, it represents something that twists and distorts the Bible. While there have been unbiblical theologies, this is not what the word really means. The suffix in words like

geology, criminology and biology or Christology simply refers to the study of something. As Christology is the study of Christ, theology is the study of God, especially His nature, character, and revelation. Would it not be reasonable, then, for God's people to want to study and learn as much as possible about Him and through this study to know and have a stronger relationship with Him?

In many ways, learning about and knowing God is a challenging pursuit for any of us. How can our finite minds even begin to grasp our infinite Creator, His power and majesty? For that matter, how can we know Him? Is it through our minds, emotions, intuitions, mystical experiences or something else? When we try to understand God, we have to struggle with what He is. Though the word "God" may roll easily off our tongues, what are we really talking about? For many, an anthropomorphic (God in a physical, human form) view comes to mind—an old man, a judge, a king on a throne. Physical images give way to the dazzling brightness, the supernatural energy, that transformed Moses and transfigured Jesus. Then we remember that God is a spirit, not a physical form. We interweave these understandings with words like all-knowing, all-present, all-powerful, timeless, invisible. Just as an idea, God is so great that our minds are overwhelmed and awed. Add to this the many designations used for God: el, elohim, adonai, YHWH (or Jehovah) which expand into compound expressions: God almighty, God is my peace, God is my banner, etc. God is infinitely so much more than our limited minds can comprehend.

Most challenging of all for us is trying to understand God's triune nature, the "persons of the Godhead"—Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Often repeated as part of a Trinitarian formula, these designations identify the complexity and wonder of God. At the same time, through these terms, we come to what may be the

most relevant and personal representations of God. To us, words like "father" and "son" speak of some of the most intimate relationships we have. Family is something we do understand. Even though we may know that God is creator and sustainer of the universe, sovereign and judge of all, our hearts most respond to Him as our Father.

In recent years, much attention has been given to learning about Christ (Christology) and the Holy Spirit (pneumatology). Jesus is a focus for our faith and lives. We want to be Christ-centred—to follow and know Him and be like Him. Similarly, many people have rediscovered the Holy Spirit—the One who sets us apart as God's people and connects us with Him. We hope, in later issues, to discuss each of these.

The articles in this issue of the Gospel Herald focus on God the Father. In "God the Father," Ed Broadus discusses the nature and character of God. He reminds us that we can only know Him as God reveals Himself to us through His word. Peter Morphy, "Abba Father & Son of God," talks about Jesus' relationship with the Father and how that relates to us. Richard Kruse brings us closer to God as he writes about "Our Heavenly Father." And Paul Birston helps us look ahead to our glorious homecoming when we will finally be with our Father. Again, we are thankful to Paul for his work planning and organizing this issue. It is our prayer that through this edition, your love and appreciation for our Father and studying about Him will be renewed.

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## **Our Heavenly Father**

Richard Kruse

The word for "father" is often one of the first words that a child learns. It is a word that can mean many things to a child: love, protection, security, authority - sometimes discipline and even punishment. We have read in the newspapers about a father giving up his life to save his child. That is something a real father is willing to do. Many little children want to be like their father and often think he is the most wonderful man in the world—the most loving, the most intelligent, the strongest, the best.

Many of us speak of God as our Heavenly Father. True, God is greater than all our descriptions of Him—for He is God and we are only humans. However, He does wish us to know about Him and about His relation with us. He therefore speaks to us in a language that every one of us can understand. One of the many beautiful names by which God calls Himself, perhaps for us the most meaningful,

is "Heavenly Father" (Malachi 2:10). Indeed, this name does help us to understand God and the wonderful relationship that He wants to have with us and wants us to have with Him. Can you think of a more beautiful name for God?

## A Father Loves and Cares for Us

A true father loves his children, provides for their needs, shelters and protects them from all harm and danger. A true father of a nation spends his life for his nation's welfare. The people of India call Mahatma Gandhi the father of their nation because they respect and honour his great service and sacrifice. Is there any nobler name than "father" that they could give to their great leader? Many leaders have admired him. Some do more than admire him. They desire to be like him in sacrificial service.

God, our Heavenly Father,

as the Creator and Preserver of the whole universe and of us, loves and cares for us in a much more wonderful way. Because of His love for us He sent Jesus the Messiah. Jesus pictures God's love by saving that no small bird falls to the ground without God's knowledge and that God even knows the number of hairs on your head (Matthew 10:29-31). Did your own father ever count the hairs on your head and keep an account of them? Could he? God our Heavenly Father knows each hair on our heads and even surrounds them with his love. An earthly father loves us and takes care of us. Often he does not have time to be with us, to listen to our questions and requests, to teach and train us. However, our Heavenly Father is always with us. always ready and willing to listen to our prayers, always protecting us from evil, He is always guiding us and leading us on His path. Even if our dearest ones leave us, He will never leave us.

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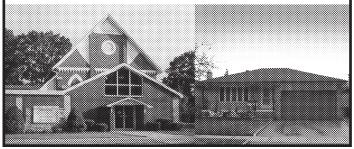
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## A Loving Father Sometimes Punishes

Our earthly father must sometimes discipline and even punish us. A good father does this out of love and for our good. Our Heavenly Father must also punish us, for we have done things that are wrong. "The Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son" (Proverbs 3:11,12; Hebrews 12:6). God has made known His ways in the Bible. God punishes us out of His great love for us, to lead us away from sin and back to Himself. His punishment might involve pain and loss for us, and yes, suffering for Him! But it is done for our good. We do not like the discipline and punishment of an earthly father. Neither do we like the discipline of our Heavenly Father. We may question His ways and even feel that He has forsaken us. But God continues to love us as a Father and to do what is good for us.

God may let things happen which

seem very bad to us. "How can a loving Father-God let my child die? Why does he permit war. famine and injustice among his children? I don't believe in God, or at least I don't believe that he is a loving Father!" We will not completely understand God's ways, for He remains God and we are only humans. "We know his ways are higher than ours, his thoughts far above ours" (Isaiah 55:8-9). However. He has revealed in the Bible that He is our Father. that He loves us and that He does everything for the good of those who love Him. If we believe these promises and put our trust in Him, we discover that it is really true!

## We Obey Our Heavenly Father

Some people talk about the "Fatherhood of God" as a general term that includes all men and women as His "children," since He is the Creator of all.

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This idea has some truth. However, the name "Father" also has a special and much deeper meaning, which we discover by studying the Bible. There we see that we claim to be God's children not because we have a right to do so, but only because God in His grace invites us. Since, by His grace, God made us His children, we in return are to give Him complete obedience (Ephesians 2:8-10). Obeying the Father is the best way to show we are truly children of God. Willing, loving obedience makes the difference between being a mere creature of God and being His child. By nature we are His creatures and in a general way He is our Father. However, by His gracious adoption we become His own children.

We are obedient to Him who, in a very special way, is our Father (Ephesians 1:5). Such obedience can be learned best by following Jesus, who practised perfect obedience to His Father during His life here on earth.

## We Imitate Our Heavenly Father

Many children want to be like their

father, to do the work that he does, to grow up and live like him. God tells those who are His children that they must not only obey Him but that they should also be like Him. We truly do want to be like Him. Jesus told us and showed us that our Heavenly Father is kind and loving, righteous and forgiving. When we begin to understand and see the Heavenly Father, we experience a strong desire to be like Him. As a mirror reflects our face, so we shall reflect our Heavenly Father when we really know and begin to understand Him. A mirror cannot reflect a face in darkness, nor can we reflect the nature of a hidden God. God has especially made Himself known to us through His Holy Word - the man Jesus the Messiah (John 1:1-14). Through Jesus we can know God and reflect Him, that is, be like Him in the way we live. This we do, not by our own power, but by the power that the Heavenly Father gives us as His children (Philippians 2:12,13).

## The Messiah, the Way to the Father

By following Jesus we can learn

what it really means to have God as our Father. Through a living faith in Him we become God's own children. The Bible tells us: "To all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12). It is through faith in Jesus that we receive the power to obey our Heavenly Father and to be like Him. It is Jesus who taught His disciples to say: "Our Father in heaven," when they pray. When we come to Jesus we learn how to pray to God as our Father. Yes, we can dare to pray that way. We can claim God as our Father, because Jesus has commanded us and has given us the right to do so (Matthew 6:9; Galatians 4:4-7).

## A Story: The Father Dying for His Son

There is a story about a father and his son who lived in a distant land many years ago. Both had the same name: Akbar. The father was good and kind, loving and righteous. The son was very much like the father at first. Then he became bad and no longer followed in his father's footsteps. Finally, he com-

# Be Just...



Darlene is the REACH coordinator at Western Christian High School and volunteers at a mid-week drop-in centre for community kids in Regina.

"I have always had a passion for the poor and oppressed in my community. Classes at Western Christian College have helped me better understand their plight and have shown me ways in which I can be involved in working towards equality, liberation, and social justice for all."

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mitted a terrible crime, the punishment for which was death. At the scene of the crime, the policemen found something with Akbar's name and address on it. They came to Akbar's house, searching for him. When they knocked on the door, the father opened it. The police said, "We are looking for Akbar. He has committed a terrible crime and must die." The father said, "I am Akbar, I shall come with you. I am willing to die for the terrible crime that has been committed."

Everyone was amazed at the terrible thing they heard that "Akbar" had done. They had thought the father named Akbar was good. Now he was condemned as a criminal. The people made fun of him and laughed at him, even spitting on him. He silently accepted all the shame. He happily died a terrible death, because he knew he was saving his son by his death. Many fathers are willing to die to save their children. Those that do so are considered great heroes. The father Akbar was a hero to no one except his son. The son knew his father was innocent. The son realised that it was he who should have died because he had committed the crime. The father had been willing to die as a criminal, not as a hero, to save his son. This is the greatest love of all!

## A Parable: The Forgiving Father

Jesus told a parable about our Heavenly Father. The younger son of a loving father took his share of the inheritance even before his father's death. The son went off to a far country and spent all of it in wild living. When his money was all gone, there was a famine in the land. To keep himself from starving, the young man had to take care of pigs. Suddenly, he realised how foolish he had been and how wonderful it had been back home in his father's house. He decided to return to his father and to beg to be taken back as a servant.

He knew he was not worthy to be a son. At the same time the father was suffering because of his son's selfishness and difficulties. He continually watched, waited and hoped the son would return. Finally, one day he saw his son coming home and ran to meet him. He hugged and kissed him. The father received him as his son with a great feast. The father had remained the same gracious father. He continued to love the son, even though the son had offended him, gone against his will, and caused him much sorrow and suffering (Luke 1:24).

This parable is a true story about God, our Heavenly Father, and us. It contains an accurate account of our sinfulness as well as wonderful news for us about God and His love. God's love for us causes Him to suffer when we leave Him and follow our own desires. Many think that Almighty God would destroy those who go against His will. However, God's way is greater than human thinking. He is willing to suffer for people because He loves them as a very good father loves His children.

Could it be that God might also be willing to come among us as a man to give Himself in death for us, as Akbar gave himself for his son? The answer to this question is found in Jesus. By reading the Bible you can learn how our Heavenly Father has made this supreme sacrifice of love in Jesus for you too! Here is your key to a blessed life now and in eternity.

**Do you experience God as your Heavenly Father?** Would you like to be His child? Could anything be more wonderful for now and in eternity? Jesus the Messiah is the one who leads us to the Father. He has said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6).

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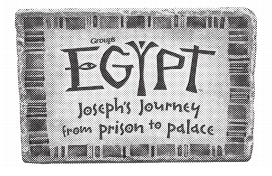
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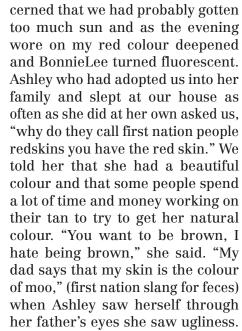


## Through My Father's Eyes

**7**e were explaining to our Sunday School Class in Wunnumin Lake that we were going on a holiday and that there would be no Sunday School for a couple of weeks. They asked us what a holiday was and what types of things we would be doing on our holiday. We shared some of what we did on a holiday, mentioning that one of the things that we enjoyed doing was eating out in restaurants. One of the girls asked us if we really enjoyed eating in a restaurant because she sure didn't. She told us that she and her sister were once in Sioux Lookout visiting their father (their parents no longer being together). Their dad had taken them to the chicken shack for supper, not a very fancy place, but your options in Sioux Lookout are limited. They had dressed up a bit for the occasion and were enjoying the rare treat of eating out. As they

enjoyed their meal they realized that the restaurant was filling up, they saw a couple of groups of "white" people waiting for table and there was not a table to be had. Their father told them they had to pick up their food and they would go out and eat on the sidewalk so that the "white" people could have their table. There was no patio or bench for them to sit on, so they sat on the sidewalk with their feet on the road and finished their meal. When they asked their father why they had to give up their table to eat outside. their father told them it was better to move before you were told to go eat outside so that a "white" person can have your table. I don't believe that anybody would have told them that they must move, but through their father's eyes they saw that they weren't as good as other people.

We had returned from a day at the beach in Wunnumin Lake con-



Please don't be too hard on these two fathers, because they too are a result of their own upbringing and the prejudices of their parents.

It would seem that few are happy with the way that they look. We are too tall or too short, too fat or too thin, too light or too dark. If our hair is naturally curly we straighten it and if it is straight we curl it. We too often have allowed the media to set the standard of beauty with images so computer enhanced that they would be impossible for anyone to achieve in real life.

It is clear that we need to change the way that we think. We need to find another way of looking at ourselves. "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at, man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7 NIV) Real beauty is found in the condition of our hearts not in how we look on the outside. When we see ourselves through our Heavenly Father's eyes we see the beauty of our hearts.

"Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewellery and fine clothes.



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Saturday, May 8, 2010

Details will follow in the next issue

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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 Peter 3:3-4 NIV)

There is certainly nothing wrong with our trying to look our very best. But seeking to meet the computer generated media images popular in our culture will at the very least frustrate us and at the worst could destroy our lives. Our time would be better spent in the spiritual disciplines that will improve our inner selves. We need to look at ourselves through our Heavenly Father's eyes.

Karoline, a five year old who is a frequent visitor in our home, likes to come for sleepovers most weekends. When she wakes up in the morning she likes to come to the living room and climb onto my knee as I enjoy my coffee and we have a little visit before the day gets busy. Recently we had been talking about birthdays when she said that if I had too many more birthdays I was going to be old. I asked her if she was still going to come and visit me when I was old and she replied that she probably wouldn't because soon she was going to mess up and then we wouldn't want her to come.

Not being sure if this was something someone else had told her or if we had done or said something to give her this impression, I tried to reassure her that while we might be upset with her if she did something she shouldn't, we would still love her and forgive her. When she saw herself through my eyes she saw that failure was inevitable and that rejection would soon follow.

Too often when children see themselves through their parent's eyes or the eyes of significant adults in their lives they see their own failure and rejection. They believe that sooner or later they are going to fail to meet the standard and be rejected. Perhaps we need to speak more of grace and forgiveness.

In Luke 15 Jesus tells a story of a son who rejected his father and wastes his entire share of the inheritance. He hits absolute rock bottom and is dirty, hungry and on the streets. He knows his only hope of survival is to go home, confess his sin and unworthiness and beg to be taken in as a servant. His father gladly welcomes him home as a son and orders that a celebration be prepared.

It doesn't matter what we have done, it doesn't matter what we have become, our Heavenly Father will forgive and welcome us home, He stands ready to forgive us and restore us. See yourself through your Heavenly Father's eyes and you will see love, acceptance and forgiveness.

## omagh bible camp CAMP OMAGH IS HIRING!

July & August 2010

Are you interested in working at Camp Omagh?

We are searching to fill the following positions:

Pool Lifeguards
Applicants must be 16 years of age or older

Registrar/Office/Kitchen Manager Applicants must be 18 years of age or older

## Head Counsellor (Male/Female)

Applicants must be 17 years of age or older

See the Job descriptions at the right. To get your Application go to www.campomagh.org

Return by March 31st, 2010

Apply to <personnelandprogram@campomagh.org> or mail to 50 Lakeshore Rd., Unit 45, St. Catharines, ON,

Job Posítion Descriptions

## Lifequards

Must hold a valid NLS Certificate

- Keep constant surveillance of pool activities
- Maintain a clean and safe facility
- Prepare and update appropriate reports
- Perform miscellaneous job-related duties as assigned
- Present positive attitude at all times, and hold a high standard of service

## Registrar/Office/Kitchen Manager

- Organize pre-registration applications starting in April
- Answer phones, process mail, manage office forms and other general office duties
- Order and manage kitchen food inventory
- Organization and Computer skills
- Present positive attitude at all times, and hold a high standard of service

## Head Counsellors (Male/Female)

- Leadership of weekly volunteer counselors
- Organize cabin devotionals and prepare campfires
- Supervise kitchen and dining hall clean-up
- Perform miscellaneous job-related duties as assigned
- Present positive attitude at all times, and hold a high standard of service



by Walter R. Straker 750 Clark Blvd. Bramalea, ON L6T 3Y2 Fax: 905 792-8623 E-mail: mail@bramaleacofc.ca

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."

### **NEW BRUNSWICK**

Saint John: In 2010, the congregation plans exciting events including mail drops and volunteer work. They finished 2009 with a series of Bible classes on the topic of "Jesus: King, Prophet and Priest." The LeBlancs were pleased to report that they now have health insurance coverage, and that Chieh found a full-time job working for Wyndham Worldwide Group as an administrative assistant. Her income will

be kept separate from the support funds they receive as it will cover health care costs, additional travel expenses and savings. So they can still use additional support funds. In January, the congregation finished its Thursday evening Bible study classes on "Waves of Change" DVD series. They are now watching a study of the World Video Bible School lessons on • Revelation by Gary McDade. On Sunday AM. the group has begun a series of lessons on "How to " Study the Bible." These lessons are designed to teach how to study the Bible with and without the use of resources (Bible dictionaries. concordances, etc.) Plans for a mail drop which was to begin near the end of February have been finalized. Instead of a brochure, the congregation is using a post card. Shawn LeBlanc now works . at the Saint John Westside Food Bank and has had the opportunity to give out a DVD entitled "Searching for Truth."

### **ONTARIO**

**Beamsville:** The worship series for the month of January was

entitled: "All On Board." In conjunction with this programme, the congregation is forming a prayer team to provide support for the congregation during its Sunday services as well as for individuals who need prayers. The congregation plans to participate in the "Loaf of Bread" program in which suppers are provided periodically for families using the Community Care services. The "Soaps for Charity" program is one in which personal products are donated to, and used by, agencies such as "Out of the Cold" and "Second Stage Housing." February 7 was "Vision Sunday," when the congregation and elders sought God's vision for 2010.

Bramalea: Juliet and her son, Timothy Boadu arrived from Ghana to join her husband, Richard. A Family Valentine's Day luncheon was planned for February 14. The congregation's annual meeting was scheduled for February 28. Special contributions to aid brethren in Haiti amounted to over \$2,760. A special contribution was also held to pay for upgrading the outside lighting and to replace one of the building's furnaces. A special "Prayer Meeting and Evangelism Discussion" was planned for February 21, 2010, to give members the opportunity to share about how Bramalea can become more evangelistic. Ten young men in grades 7-12 conducted the worship

service on Sunday evening, January 31.

**Cambridge:** On December 18, the congregation hosted a dinner at which they expected a few kids and perhaps a parent. Instead, the place was packed with at least 72 in attendance. Some of the girls from the after school drop-in did a couple of seasonal songs with the audience singing along with them. Six of the 7 parents representing 5 different families who attended had never come before.

Fenwick: Eight individuals decorated a float and entered it in the Christmas parade, in which 23 individuals participated. Fourteen shoeboxes of gifts were sent north to Lansdowne House for Christmas. The ladies prepared Christmas baskets and the men delivered them along with poinsettias to shut-ins and older members. Guest speakers have been Paul Moore, Donald Perry, and David Stuart. The congregation is still seeking funds to send Ruth Zimmerman back to Papua New Guinea.

**Meaford:** The 2010 Youth Rally was planned for February 26-28 for young people in grades 7-12. The theme was "Dream Big," and featured Kevin Cleary as speaker.

**Toronto (Scarborough):** the monthly fellowship gathering was held Sunday, January 24, and took the form of a minis-

ter's appreciation event. Heating was repaired at a cost of \$600 and contributions were being solicited to help with this amount. The congregation took up goods and a contribution towards assisting church members suffering from the Haitian earthquake.

**Toronto (Strathmore Blvd):** New contracts were signed for Key To The Kingdom on The Vision Network and on Grace TV (formally The Christian Channel) for 2010 at the same rate as 2009. Since the TV time is the highest expense, this holding of the rate by the stations is appreciated. Grace TV has been showing the programme a second time, at no extra cost, at 12 midnight (Eastern Time) on Sundays. We don't know how long this will continue but are thankful for this extra blessing. A major emphasis this year will be on the production of the "Key To The Kingdom DVD study series," producing 90 minute Bible discussions for sharing with people who are searching for the truth in their desire to serve God.

**Waterloo:** The congregation's continued on page 14

# GOSPEL HERALD BOOKSALE

To liquidate the remaining stock of the Gospel Herald Bookstore, a special sale will take place

## **At: Training For Service**

Cawthra Park Secondary School, 1305 Cawthra Road, Mississauga, ON

On: April 2, 2010

**TABLE 1** 

75% off the marked price of each item on table 1

**TABLE 2** 

Purchase a **bag for \$15.00** and fill with your selection from table 2

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

(BC news supplied by Barbara Lewis)

#### ALBERTA

Camrose: It is so awesome and wonderful when God blesses his church with growth. It injects energy and enthusiasm into the whole body to continue to do the Lord's work in the community. January 8, we rejoiced at the baptism of Greg Strilchuk. We continued rejoicing when David and Loretta Teichroeb were baptized into Christ. David and Loretta have two voung children, Kayleigh and Alayna. God has added 3 new souls to the church here and blessed us with their enthusiasm and fellowship. Another young family with two young children have started attending and are searching. We are continuing to reach out in the community looking for those who want Jesus as their Lord and to serve Him according to His will. We hosted a New Years Eve celebration at our building as an outreach event. We continue to get different families visiting our monthly Family & Games night outreach as well. We are excited about the growth God is blessing us with. - submitted by Dave Friesen

Edmonton North: A special collection was taken for the Haiti Earthquake Victims. "The Sunday Kids Club" are collecting favourite "tried and true" pot luck recipes to make into cook books. January 14 - 18 Scott Laird met with the elders, deacons, care group leaders and co-leaders and their wives for their second training session on leadership. The topic was spirituality. Grant Johnson will soon be beginning a two year intern program at Great Falls Montana Church of Christ. As the search continues for a full time evangelist, the men giving the lesson this month were Grant Johnson, Roland Latifi, Brian Salter, Scott Laird of Great Falls, and Kevin Vance of Western Christian College.

## **BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Abbotsford (Central Valley): Raymond and Merle Fillion spent some anxious hours while waiting to hear from the director of their school in Haiti after the first news of the devastation from the earth-

quake broke. Eventually Monique was able to get through to them briefly to let them know that everyone in the compound was all right, and it did not sustain very much damage. It is located 65 miles from Port au Prince. However, in Dufailly, the small town bordering, four people were killed, and several homes demolished. Monique immediately took the supply of medications she had on hand for the school to a hospital that was able to function in Port au Prince. On the return trip home, she found a mother with a 10-day-old baby and brought her back with her. Since that time, 12 other victims who had nowhere to turn have been taken in. The school has 5 buildings used as classrooms and two three-bedroom residences. When banks were re-opened, Raymond was able to get money to her to replace the medicines and food, as well as contribute to surrounding towns that were destroyed. He feels that since large organizations are primarily helping Port au Prince, many of the places outside that perimeter were overlooked. He has been advised not to make their trip to Haiti this month because of the spread of various epidemics, but Monique is a very capable manager of the funds entrusted to her, and can be relied upon to do the most good with what she has. For those who would like to contribute funds through this source, cheques may be made payable to "Partners for Haiti" and sent to #102—2410 Emerson St, Abbotsford, BC, V2T 3J3. Further enquiries or a request for reports may be had by contacting the Fillions at 604 850-9001, or email ray@ partnersforhaiti.org .

Burnaby: Three young people were baptized in January, all children of long-time members of the congregation. Trevor Yong, elder son of Felix and Sherry, was baptized on January 17, and Tuesday afternoon, the two daughters of Claude and Joanne Dionne, Roxanne and Juliette, were immersed. Speakers for the two Sundays that Kirk and Lori Ruch were away on a trip to China to visit family, were Michael Nienhuis and Aaron Etheridge. There was a record attendance of 160 on one Lord's day in January. A special contribution to send aid to Haiti was also given that month.

City Church (E. Vancouver): The church moved to a new location for worship last fall, and is now meeting in the Killarny Community Centre on 49th and Kerr Streets in Vancouver. There is also a new mailing address: #2 - 8820 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC V6P 4V4. Those traveling in the Vancouver area are especially welcome as our group is small, but doing what we can to further the cause of Christ

in this area, as well as participate in such projects as aid to Haiti. We have use of this facility from 3 to 5 p.m. on Sundays, which means that other congregations are able to encourage us with visits after their morning services.

**Delta:** A 40th Anniversary Reunion is being planned for the Spruston Road Bible Camp this summer by Secretary Carolyn Hawkins and Nanaimo Christians on Vancouver Island.

Salmon Arm: Our preacher, Ray Fisher, and his wife, Laurie, on January 31 met with the group in Corvallis, Oregon, that will be coming up to work with us in our VBS this summer. Our ladies are spending some time helping with Thrift Store shifts from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. once a month, giving them the opportunity to become acquainted with some of the townspeople involved. Those who can, meet on Thursday evenings to read Scripture, pray or just visit with people who live in Bastion House, a retirement assistance home. Last month, residents appreciated a song service by our group. Over \$1,700 was raised in a special collection in January for Haitian relief. The contribution was sent to an orphanage in Port Au Prince that is under the oversight of the Estes church of Christ in Henderson, TN. The orphanage had sustained some damage, but was feeding and housing people who were injured and/or homeless. Pictures of both individuals and happenings in Port Au Prince were sent to us by the Estes church. Medical teams and construction teams were going from that congregation and others in Tennessee to help with the relief effort. Teens (13-19) are invited to participate in "Mission 6:10" in Regina. It involves spending a week reaching out to those in need in Regina's inner city, with training provided in the morning, work in a mission effort in the afternoon and assisting in an evening VBS. Friends who were invited to view the film "Fireproof", on February 7 at the Scout Hall, were offered popcorn and pizza to enjoy afterward. The movie, which has been shown several times, is meant to give help to troubled marriages, giving possible solutions to their problems.

**Vernon:** One of our ladies attended a retreat at Western Christian College at the end of February. She carried Campbell's Soup and other qualifying labels, that had been collected to the school, which benefits from the "Labels for Education" program offered by Campbells and a few participating Canadian companies.

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# MISSIONNEWS

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



Haiti: Update on funds sent to Strathmore Blvd for Haiti relief from Jean Volcy, elder, Strathmore Blvd. Church of Christ: Since the Earthquake hit Haiti on January 12, 2010, and greatly impacted Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince, and surrounding towns, many have come to our aid. To all of you, we want to say THANK YOU! There's an old saying, "A friend in need is a friend in deed", and Haiti can take comfort in knowing that many care and have proven their love and compassion for her during this difficult time. So, as a Haitian, and on behalf of all Haitians, and particularly our church family down there, THANK YOU! We would also like to let you know how your donations are being used. We have one point of contact in Haiti, Jean Elmera, who is the Evangelist at the Delmas 28 congregation in Port-au-Prince. The church building and the school building collapsed and we lost several brethren. However, the congregation is being allowed to meet at a Catholic school nearby, and continue to win souls for the Lord. They have had dozens of baptisms lately. Jean Elmera said that the donations received are being shared among 6 congregations in total and

## 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:

Church of Christ, 1750 Huron St., London, ON N5V 3A2

to provide some assistance to some members of the community as well. They currently have 2 relief centres where they provide shelter and 2 hot meals a day for several hundreds of individuals (mostly Christians). The 6 congregations are located at Delmas, Croix-des-Missions, Cabaret (Duvalier-Ville), Cite Soleil, Carrefour, and Terre-Noire. The "Terre-Noire" congregation also has an orphanage that is currently taking care of about 30 children. Please continue to pray for us and support us in any way you can. Any who are able and willing to help are encouraged to send their donations to: Strathmore Blvd. Church of Christ, 346 Strathmore Blvd., Toronto, ON, M4C 1N3. (Make cheques payable to "Strathmore Blvd. Church of Christ" with "Haiti Relief" on the memo line.) - In His Service, Jean Volcy

WBTC: The World Bible Translation Centre in Ft. Worth, TX, reported that their Haitian Bible Translation team suffered no physical injuries during the earthquake, but that the Seminary campus where they worked was destroyed, as well as all of their computer equipment and their homes.

Rapha International: With a large warehouse full of many kinds of hospital equipment, surgical supplies and medications, volunteers were able to send five boxes of gloves, surgical masks, iodine, surgical gowns, tape and other items with a group from Caris/Bands who were on the ground in Haiti the same week on January 18. As reports from those on the scene indicated that the greatest need has been for clean water, we have provided large water treatment systems which will purify 50,000 gallons of water daily and family-size water filtration systems which will filter 300 gallons of water daily. When it was assured transportation was reaching Port au Prince, more medical supplies were ready for delivery by ship and/ or plane. RAPHA is partnering with Body and Soul Ministries, Healing Hands, International, Global Samaritan Resources, and Hope for Haiti's Children, assessing daily where best to use the funds that continue to come in to our Fort Worth office. The address is RAPHA INTERNATIONAL, 402 Blue Smoke Ct W, Fort Worth, TX 76105. See the web site maintained at www.raphainternational.org for further information.

Moscow, ID: Three young women from Moscow who spent the last week of December in Port Haitian, Haiti, working in a Children's Home, are making plans to go back to help with earthquake relief efforts in June. One of them, Ashley Corner, will become an RN with her graduation from the Walla Walla, WA Community College School of Nursing in May. She has been going to Haiti since she started her nurses'

training in 2003. Her sister, Gabby, has gone with her since 2005, and a friend, Feliza Strunk, since 2006. The orphanage is under the oversight of the Southwest church in Ada, OK, since its founding in 1989. Over the years, housing for children and guests, a school, kitchen, bathrooms, a clinic and a church have been added. At present it is housing 55 children, seven of whom, along with nine other people, were baptized shortly after the quake which did not affect their area. When in Port Haitian, Ashley, Gabby and Feliza assist with the children, take part in physical projects to improve the orphanage, and visit hospitals and prisons along with any other mission work being done by the church.

Diriamba, Nicaragua: Jackson Sanchez works as a preacher for the church in Diriamba, and also gives time to a school connected with the church. The congregation has 45 members and, in 2009, had 8 baptisms, 3 reconciliations and 60 evangelism contacts. They also participated in Medical Squad in July, worship for downhearted brethren in September, Agape worship, visits to the hospital, and baskets for church widows, obtaining toys for children of the church and lunch for children in the community. On August 22, they also participated with other congregations in the first Christian ladies' meeting.

Zimbabwe: PUTTING A SMILE ON THEIR FACES: With Zimbabwians in the midst of nearly impossible economic challenges daily, it is hard to find much to smile about, but when 26-year-old Kirsty Coventry was crowned "Female Swimmer of the Year for 2009", inherent national pride brought smiles to the faces of people in the streets. She was also listed among the Top Five Female Swimmers for the Year by the U. S. Magazine /Swimming World/.

Papua New Guinea: Craig and Jeri Ford report: "In 2009 they decided to structure their ministry around three words - simplify, equip and diversity. The goal for the future is to have a sustainable church life, passion and organization in place. This requires that the church activities be simple to maintain, that leaders are equipped and that the responsibility for the church is to move away from missionaries to local leaders. The year 2010 will involve a lot of weeding, watering, and nurturing. Recently there have been a half dozen baptisms and the focus is to help these new babes in Christ grow and mature. In 2010 the church wants to be attentive to God's leadership and obedient to His call.

**Tomobe, Japan:** Long-time missionary, Ray Marlin, was scheduled for heart surgery on February 3, 2010. He can be reached at marlinr@lapis.plala.or.jp.

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# God the Father Welcomes Us Home and Becomes All in All!

(1 COR. 15:20-28)

Paul Birston

any of us can remember the experience as small children of going with our parents on a trip to somewhere for the first time. It may have been the mountains, the ocean or just to town or downtown for an appointment. As young children, we often didn't know where we were going because we'd never been there before. We trusted our parents to know where to go and to get us there safely. In the big picture, we didn't even know we were going to be born, to arrive on earth, but our parents did. They wanted us. They knew we were coming in advance and made plans for us. There are some of us from homes for which this picture is too idyllic, the journeys were too painful. I hope the heart of the thoughts from our Heavenly Father that follow will bring hope for you.

Sometimes, the Corinthian church was like a group of young children

from a dysfunctional home on a journey, children who didn't know where they were going or even where they were coming from. Many of them didn't trust their father in the gospel to lead them. Thanks to the twists and turns in their journey we have some of the most beautiful teachings about what God the Father is up to for us.

God the Father and Jesus send their grace and peace to the Corinthians in the midst of their turmoil (1:3-10ff). Paul invests fourteen chapters addressing the importance of the grace and the wisdom of God in Christ crucified as they illuminate life's daily problems in the Corinthian streets and homes. In chapter 15, Paul gets to the heart of the matter about what God the Father has done for them in Christ to guide them on their

journey home, to get from not knowing to knowing where they are going. God erased the distance of separation from Him that sin caused through Jesus' death and resurrection.

Despite the power of this, "some among" the Corinthians still didn't believe in the resurrection or know where they were headed spiritually in time or eternity. Where did the gospel take them with God? Paul answers the doubters by making an amazing connection between the resurrection and God the Father's revelation of where they are headed in 15:20-28: "But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in His own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those

who are Christ's at His coming, then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be abolished is death. For He has put all things in subjection under His feet. But when He says, 'All things are put in subjection,' it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all."

Jesus died and rose so that after His people die they may rise. God the Father delegated to Jesus the task of bringing His people together into His kingdom, His community. In order to accomplish this God the Father subjected everything to Jesus:

> life, the power to give it and judgment. God the Father is not subjected. He is over all, watching Jesus from His conception to His baptism to His crucifixion and resurrection. Jesus is accomplishing the Father's task "as we speak" and preparing to deliver His kingdom home to God the Father. We can understand kingdom to be the reign of the King, the community of His people, and the reach of His realm. The last thing Jesus will subject to God's reign is death itself, the worst consequence of the Fall so long ago is finished. With this final enemy conquered, Jesus delivers God's kingdom to Him and is subjected to God the Father, as in life, so in eternity; yet one with Him.

> There is a beautiful vision of this transformation that Paul and John connect for us. Later in chapter 15:52, Paul

> > continued on page 14

# Celebrate the Renewal of Spring

We at the Riverview Park Church of Christ in **Ottawa** are organizing a



says this will happen "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eve, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed." In Revelation, John paints this awesome picture with sound of this moment: "Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, 'The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever" (Revelation 11:15). Right up front in his book John said that "He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father—to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen" (Revelation 1:6).

At the zenith of Revelation John describes the reunion of God the Father and Jesus with His people in the kingdom: "And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them'...I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb" (Revelation 21:3, 22, 23).

So both Paul and John reveal an awesome picture of God the Father welcoming His people home at the end of time and showing them how much He cares. Paul also draws our attention across the vast panorama of time and eternity through Scripture to show that God the Father's love and care were always there before time began. As our eternal Father, He wanted us before we were born. He conceived of us and deeply desires us to be with Him in His holiness: "He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him" (Ephesians 1:4).

In the beginning of time, God the Father through Jesus and His Spirit prepared a place for us to dwell, an incredibly beautiful jewel of a planet in an awesome universe. When people became anything but holy and blameless He acted to clothe Adam and Eve to cover their shame. He worked tirelessly toward His goal of redeeming us through centuries, patiently working through people He chose and covenants He made with them to prepare the way for Jesus to come at just the right time. The Father sent Jesus into the world. When He came, Jesus said, "My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working," and "the Father abiding in Me does His works" (John 5:17; 14:10). God the Father subjects everything to Jesus while the earth remains, atonement, judgment, and the preparation of the kingdom. God

the Father is guiding the events of history toward a conclusion, a consummation. Jesus draws together His people, defeats death, and will deliver the kingdom to His Father. God the Father welcomes us home and fills us all, infusing us with His very nature: love. We see God the Father on His throne receiving glory forever as we walk in His light and the light of the Lamb.

God the Father has unqualified power and sovereignty as Lord of our lives eternally.It is so good to know that He is love. He is worthy of our trust. To all who die and are made alive in Christ, God the Father becomes all in all. Paul echoes this truth in Ephesians 4:6; there is "one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all." The power and love of the all powerful One will be in all of His people all the time. Unity will be possible because God the Father binds His people together in Himself. In life Christians are filled with God's Holy Spirit. In eternity, God the Father Himself fills all in an especially intimate way. As Paul said earlier in 1 Corinthians 13:12, "then I shall know fully just as I also have been fully known.'

Life with God the Father may sometimes seem like those childhood excursions. As spiritual children growing up in Christ, we're not

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News East... continued from page 10

ladies who support the China Mission orphans sent their first quarter monies to support four children in China. A special collection to raise \$1,000 was taken up on January 17 and 24 for Danilo de Vera, a preacher in the Philippines. Danni is a minister serving a couple of works in that country and he lost much of his personal possessions in the 2009 typhoon. The congregation also supports Jackson Sanchez in Diriamba, Nicaragua. On January 17, \$1,600 was raised for victims of the Haiti earthquake. Carol Pinczuk anticipated a visit from Yura and Oxcana from the Ukraine. Yura preaches at the congregation where Rick and Carol were located.

**Windsor (West Side):** The "New Beginner's Celebration" was held January

31. The annual meeting of the West Side Church of Christ Corporation was held February 21. A special collection of \$2,155 was taken up for Haitian relief. A Valentine's supper and games night was held on February 13 and a Family Holiday Games afternoon was scheduled for February 15.

## **QUEBEC**

Ville-Émard Montreal: In the congregation's 2009 end-of-the-year report, Roger Saumur reports that they just finished their program "Coco and his friends," a puppet show for the neighbourhood. Follow-up is done by women in the congregation who make calls to every phone number from the programme and keep in serious contact. Roger then sets up a Bible study with them.

Fellowship activities in December included an "Orphans' Dinner" on Christmas day for those who have no place to go. The congregation began a new Wednesday night study series in January, 2010. Glen Robins, new intern for the congregation, is doing part of the preaching and teaching and, according to Roger, Glen has a real talent for this work. The congregation supplied 45 Christmas food baskets in the neighbourhood. Information about the church in Ville-Emard, as well as a 7-lesson DVD called "Christianity for Beginners," was placed in each basket. Statistics for 2009 included: 5 people were baptized, 6 individuals placed membership, 3 were restored, 6 people moved away; average attendance was 74, and average offering was \$1,300.

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always sure where He's taking us. The global scene can seem chaotic and frightening. Our personal lives can be filled with uncertainty and disappointment. From there He wants us to turn to Him (Romans 8:18-25). Through all this we have reason to trust Him. God the Father is in fact taking us places we've never been before but His assurance through the gospel is that He knows what He is doing and where He is going. God the Father assures us that He is in control. He has a purpose and He's always working on it: He sends us into His world to spread the good news of Jesus. With Jesus and His Spirit, He has prepared a place for us. When we get there we'll know we're back where we belong. We're home! As Luke 15 and Richard's article so profoundly show us, God the Father welcomes us home with open arms. We're there with Him, a kingdom of priests to serve our God forever. Like Jesus, we are one with God the Father who is all in all!

Winnipeg, MB

Abba Father & Son of God... continued from page 3 guilt of our sins and the punishment that we deserved. Yet Jesus put His Father's plan ahead of His personal concerns, fears and well being.

It wasn't only His first recorded words or the last words spoken, but everything about His life in between. The gospel of John constantly reminds us of Jesus' relationship with His Father. He was not only equal or one with God in essence, but He was also united with His Father in their work. Look at how John ties Jesus' position with His purpose when He said, "'My Father is always at His work to this very day, and I, too, am working.' For this reason the Jews tried all the harder to kill Him; not only was He breaking the Sabbath, but He was even calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God" (John 5:17-18).

Jesus could have pointed to His baptism, the great miracles or His teaching as evidence that He was from God. Instead, the proof of His divinity was in His faithfully accomplishing the task that His Father had given. "I have testimony weightier than that of John. For the very work that the Father has given Me to finish, and which I am doing, testifies that the Father has sent Me" (John 5:36).

Today it's easy to get caught up in working for our family, fortune and future and neglect the work that God has planned for us. Paul reminds us that we are saved by grace through faith, not because we are good or by our own good works. We are saved by God's good work accomplished through Jesus.

But God has hand crafted us for His very special purpose. "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10). Just as Jesus fulfilled God's purpose and plan for His life, we as children of God seek to identify and use the talents, gifts, time and opportunities for His glory. Jesus said that when we bear much fruit, we provide evidence that we are His disciples and in that "is My Father glorified" (John 15:8).

Royal Oak, MI

# Key To The Kingdom Day, MAY 2, 2010



#### On the Vision Network

Friday at 8:30 AM (ET) (Check local listing for channel #) Star Choice – 394 • Bell ExpressVu – 65 (new #)

### **Grace TV**

Thursday at 7:30 AM (ET) Rogers Digital Channel – 396 or 241 Star Choice – 399, Telus 158 & MTS TV 21

## **CHNU JOYTV**

Friday at 8:00 AM Channel 10 covering Vancouver, Victoria and the Fraser Valley • also on Rogers Digital Channel – 173

#### Now also on CJRL Radio

Sunday at 7:30 AM in Kenora, ON

Your support of the Key To The Kingdom ministry is needed daily in 2010

- > Pray daily for this outreach...
- Advertise the programme to your family, friends and community...
- > **Support** the ministry financially in your personal and church budgets...

On **May 3** we invite congregations to focus their worship service on evangelism in Canada and the Key To The Kingdom ministry in particular by:

Having **special prayers** offered in support of this work... Taking a **special contribution** to help with the financial requirements of the ministry...

Please contact the Strathmore leadership with any questions concerning the Key Ministry at: Strathmore Blvd Church of Christ, 346 Strathmore Blvd., Toronto, ON M4C 1N3 • Phone: 416-461-7406 Email: maxc@strathmorecofc.ca

Please send donations to: Strathmore Blvd. Church of Christ, 346 Strathmore Blvd., Toronto, ON M4C 1N3

Because of bank requirements, please make cheques payable to Strathmore Blvd. Church of Christ and Key To The Kingdom on the memo line.

# OBIUARIES

#### Bell, Elford

Elford Bell was called to be with the Lord on December 2, 2009, at the age of 89 years. Elford was born July 24, 1920, to Skip and Eva Bell of Shamrock. SK, the oldest of five children.

Elford will be greatly missed by all his family—his wife, Ruby; his children Gerry (Lorna) of Shamrock; Warren (Evelyn) of Vernon BC; Karen (Terry) Duffy of Nebraska City, NE, and Stanley (Maxine) of Shamrock. His sister Betty (Allan) Jacobs of Vancouver, his brother Bill of Weyburn, 13 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren and all of Ruby's children and their families.

He was predeceased by his first wife, Margaret (2000), daughter Frances (1974), brother Walter (1996) and sister Eva (1935).

Elford attended Standon School and was able to complete his Grade 10, some through correspondence. His athletic prowess as a young man was noted in some of Robert Collin's writings of the local history.

One of his first jobs was working on his Uncle John Bell's threshing crew in the

Bateman district. In 1938, he and his friend, Clarence Bien, headed to Manitoba in search of farm work there. He also worked on farms in the Harptree and Perryville districts.

He trained as a medic in 1944 at Petawawa and served at Kingston, ON. He was part of a group sent on the Muscox Expedition to Norman Wells, a mission to see how an army could function in the arctic.

Over the years, Elford attended various Bible Schools at Horse Creek and Radville. In 1947 he was reacquainted with a young lady there, Margaret Wright, of Bengough. On June 9, 1948, he and Margaret were married at Willows, west of Assiniboia, at the home of his sister Ruby Bond. They began their married life on the farm that he had bought from Walter Smart, just about a mile west of the Farm on which he had grown up.

Elford and Margaret, were blessed with 5 children - Gerry. Warren, Karen. Stan and their special daughter Frances. In 1960, they built a new home on their farm, and the old house was brought to Gravelbourg, where it still sits on the corner of 3 Ave E. Elford took great pride in his farmyard and worked hard to keep it neat and tidy.

Margaret and Elford enjoyed some traveling, including trips to the Maritimes, south-eastern United States, Cypress, Israel and many annual trips to see Karen's family in Nebraska and Warren's family in BC.

His children and grandchildren remember him joining in on pick-up ball games and were impressed at how he could catch fly balls without a glove. He always claimed that a glove just got in the way. Elford was known for his unusual strength and agility. Even in his 70s, he was able to scale the grain bins with unusual speed and dexterity. Elford was also an avid reader.

Elford enjoyed many years of farming. He was always interested in the new agriculture technologies. Wherever he traveled he had to examine the various farming practices. He took great pride in farming with two of his Sons, Gerry and Stanley, and was very pleased when his grandson, Tim, began farming. He retired from farming after 50 years, in 1996, at the age of 76. This allowed him more

time to care for Margaret, whose health was failing. His loving care and devotion to her was inspiring.

It would be impossible to speak of Elford without mentioning his love for the Lord and His church. He was a faithful member of the Church of Christ. He loved to be a supporter of good projects. Even when he could no longer be a part of the 'work crew', he would often stop by to see how the church building project was going. He also took great interest in watching all the combines working together during the Wiwa Growing Project (Canadian Food Grain Bank) harvest.

He married Ruby Elford in Cana of Galilee on a trip through Israel, March 2001. Ruby provided much companionship and care to Elford over the past eight years. He enjoyed having all her family as a part of his life also. Elford was able to live at home and remained fairly active until his passing. He enjoyed driving out to the farm many times this past summer.

A funeral service was held on Monday, December 7, at the Church of Christ in Gravelbourg, with Wendell Bailey officiating and grand-son-in-law, Robert Orr leading the singing. Grandchildren, Timothy Bell and Jennifer Jacobs, shared a narrated PowerPoint presentation of Grandpa's life. Daughter Karen Duffy

shared memories from the Bell family and Ruby's son-in-law, Dick Knibbs, shared memories from Ruby's family. Grandson, Stephen Bell, read numerous selected passages. Pallbearers were grandsons Daryl Bell, Kyle Bell, Stephen Bell, Timothy Bell and grandsons-in-law, Jeff Jacobs, Ian Muirhcad, Mike Muller and Robert Orr.

-submitted by Maxine Bell (daughter-in-law)



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## **Bromley, Alfred Dennis**

Dennis Bromley passed away suddenly at his home in Newmarket, Ontario on November 21, 2009, in his 79th year.

Son of George "Alfred" Bromley and Winnifred Lucas of Sheffield, England, Dennis was born June 19, 1931. A schoolboy in that city during the war years, he loved playing Cricket and riding his bicycle. He travelled with his parents to Canada aboard the ship, RMS Aquitania, arriving at Halifax in June 1948, at age 17.

Dennis met his future wife,

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Sheila Terrell, in Toronto, on a blind date at a youth group activity at the Strathmore Blvd Church of Christ. Sheila, having been baptized in 1950, was determined to marry a Christian. She encouraged Dennis in the Lord and he was baptized in 1951.

Dennis and Sheila were married at Strathmore, May 10, 1952, and made Toronto their first home and Strathmore their first church family. Their union was blessed with four children: Debbie (Murray Nelson), Michael, Allan, Tammy (Bill Fisher) and one grandson, Kevin Nelson.

In 1959, Dennis and Sheila moved to Newmarket and worshipped at Ajax and Pine Orchard for a time. Then, along with several other couples, they led in establishing the Church of Christ in Newmarket.

In the early 1970's, Dennis, Sheila, Debbie and Mike formed a musical quartet, singing at weddings and funerals and other events. When Allan and Tammy became old enough, they joined in and completed the family singing group.

Dennis worked in delivery at various times for Coke-a-Cola, Pepsi-Cola, and Canada Dry, and for many years for Muirs Transport. When he reached retirement age, Muirs insisted that he continue, creating a special job for him, a position that he held until his death. Dennis loved being behind the wheel, and lived out his

Christian faith by being trustworthy, honest and loyal to those he served.

"As a Christian, Dennis loved the Lord his God, and sought to participate in ministry opportunities, as opportunities arose. He was Sunday school superintendent for over 40 years, serving the Ajax, Pine Orchard and Newmarket congregations. He was often a leader of the young peoples groups in the same congregations. He led the congregations in their singing and served his Lord in various positions in the worship. He also served as a deacon during those years. When he wasn't leading in song, it wasn't difficult to pick out his baritone voice in the pew. Later, it was not unusual for him to be sitting in church, side by side with his only grandson, Kevin, demonstrating they both had a strong bond for one another. Just the day before his passing, Dennis went for his yearly medical driving physical with his doctor, where he was told he was 'as strong as an ox - good for a long time.' Well, our lives are in God's hands, and on Saturday morning, November 21, 2009, at 10 AM—while he was getting down the Christmas decorations for this Christmas season, he answered the call of God, to come home, that he had done well-God's faithful servant" -Debbie

Dennis was known and appreciated

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God the Father... continued from page 2

twice says, "God is love" (1 John 4:8, 16). One of the words by which this love is revealed in the Old Testament is *hesed*, sometimes translated "steadfast love." (See Psalm 136, where the word is repeated twenty-six times.) This is covenant love that never gives up, and it is perfectly manifested in Jesus Christ and in the cross. His love also amazes us because it does not necessarily follow from God's majesty and power that He would also love us so fully and so perfectly. Because of the manifestation of His love in Jesus, we can know that God is perfect in goodness as well as perfect in power, and we can be assured that God is always for us and not against us (Romans 8: 31-32). It is God's infinite love that, more than anything else, reminds us that our transcendent God, who is high above the heavens, is also immanent, present with us and concerned with our needs (Isaiah 57:15-16).

God is also the moral ruler of the universe whose justice is flawless, who, as Abraham recognized, is Judge of the earth and will do what is right (Genesis 18:25). This is often not apparent in the present, in our sin-cursed world, but ultimately all wrongs will be made right when God judges the world with justice by the man (Jesus Christ) He has appointed (Acts17:31). It is this assurance that sustains us when life does not seem fair.

Finally, we need to recognize His unfailing faithfulness. This faithfulness is affirmed in what we have already seen about His steadfast love, but it is also affirmed in other ways. After Paul prayed for the Thessalonians, he said, "The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it" (1 Thessalonians 5:28). "He will do it!" What a wonderful assurance that nothing will keep God from fulfilling His promises, for He not only has the will but also possesses the means to do it.

Burlington, ON

for his cheerful demeanour, his positive outlook, his industrious habits, and his genuine concern for the work of the Lord. Dennis is deeply missed by Sheila and the children and by all who have known and loved him over the years.

The service was conducted at the Taylor Funeral Home in Newmarket by Wayne Lucas, Alliston, who delivered the eulogy, by Geoff Ellis, Waterloo, who brought the encouragement of the Scriptures, and by Wes McLeod, Keswick, who led the singing.

-Geoff Ellis

## 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

News West... continued from page 11

## MANITOBA

Winnipeg (Central): Over three Sundays, collections were taken for the disaster relief in Haiti. The young adult/college class new Sunday class topic is "Jesus in His First and 21st Century Worlds. Chris and Betty Johnson spent 2 weeks in Lazaro, Mexico. They read the book of Luke with the local residents to help them improve their English language skills and to learn about Jesus.

### **SASKATCHEWAN**

**Saskatoon:** Bob Parker has retired after a 40 year ministry, 34 years of which were with the congregation in Saskatoon. The congregation held a celebration to honour Bob and Sharon on February 6.

**Weyburn:** A parenting class "Minding Children without Losing Yours" will begin in March. It will be led by Evan Burdan.

## 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: POSITION AVAILABLE 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) 527-7311 (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 2M6; 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/cvcoc

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, VOR 1R0; Phone for time: (250) 246-3659.

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

KELOWNA: 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 VOK 1CO; 867-9420.

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

PRINCE RUPERT: 977 Prince Rupert Blvd.; P0 Box 324, VBJ 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 Murrey 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, VSP 115; 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;

#### PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

e-mail SICOC@shaw.ca

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

**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 185; Mailing address: P.O. Box 23021, 407 Westmorland Drive, Saint John, NB, E2J 2SO, 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: niafallscoft@aol.com

#### PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

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

**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., LOR 1B6; Sunday 9:30 am Bible classes and Discussion Groups, 10:30 worship, 6:00 pm Contemporary worship, Small groups meeting throughout the week; Don Smith, ev. 905-563-7655 (off); e-mail: beamsvillechurchofchrist@bellnet.ca website: www.beamsvillechurchofchrist.ca

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

**BRANTFORD:** 267 North Park St., N3R 4L2; Sun. 10, 11, last Sunday of month 6:30; Wed. call for times; contact Ray Knight (519) 754-0401; Mike Gray 905-387-5680 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 POA 1C0; 705-783-6476 (off); Evangelist: Hubert Lawrence 705-382-1414; e-mail: hubertlawrence@xplornet.com; web site: www.churchesofchrist.ca.

CAMBRIDGE: Meeting place is across the street from 45 Brierdale Rd. Sun. 10:30, call for midweek small groups; Evs. Greg Whitfield (226) 338-6720, Micah Jones, (519) 722-5195; www.cambridgecofc.ca; Mailing address: 2-120 Dudhope Ave. Cambridge N1R 4T7

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, LOS 1CO; (905) 892-5661; email OnHipwell@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), artf@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 Sandassie, 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.

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

ICE LAKE (Manitoulin Island): 1-1/4 miles South of Hwy 540; 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 P0P 1H0

**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, M2A 445; 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@brucetelecom.com

MISSISSAUGA: Mail address: Mississauga Church of Christ; PO Box 42264; 128 Queen Street S., Mississauga ON L5M 525; 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; tlourenco@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 POJ 1PO (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: 9850 Britannia Road, Milton, L9T 7E8; 10, 11; website: http://omaghchurch.n3.net, Harold Ellis, Sec., 7435 Twiss Rd., RR # 3, Campbellville, ON LOP 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 Brandon, Sec., RR 2, Uxbridge, L9P 1R2 (905) 852-5026

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

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 Comrie)

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 NOA 1L0; Michael Toby: 905-776-0015; medt@xplornet.com Alt. Paul Ross: 905-7762644 or qlorybound@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 (619) 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 Morritt, (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 2CO; Worship at 9: 45a.m. with classes to follow; Sunday pm call for times and locations; Wed. 7:00 pm; Noel Walker ev., Dylan Pyeatt ev.; (905) 563 6311 (off.).

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

TORONTO (Scarborough): 700 Progress Avenue, Unit # 14 Scarborough, Ontario MTH 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: philkare@gmail.com

**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 Dwomoh (416) 462-3616; Jean Volcy 905-237-3312; Max Craddock, ev. 416-461-7406, e-mail <a href="max@strathmorecofc.ca>">max@strathmorecofc.ca>">max 416-424-1850; Santiago Molina (Spanish) ev, 416-751-6879, website: www.strathmorecofc.ca>

VANDELEUR: E. off Hwy #10 (2 km S. of Markdale) along Artemesia Township sideroad 10 7 km; Sun. 10, 11; Ian Boyce, sec., PO Box 1196, 450 Countess Street S, Durham ON NOG 1R0; Phone 519-369-1731; Gordon Dennis, 240 Elgin St. N., Box 274; Mount Forest, NOG 210; (519) 323-2424

**WATERLOD:** 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 NOG 2S0; email- gregory@gregoryonsmith.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; wwwgeocities.com/wsidecoc.

## PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

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

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

#### PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

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

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

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

KENOSEE VILLAGE: Moose Mountain Church of Christ, Mailing address: PO Box 184, Kenosee Village, SK SOC 2SO; Sunday 10:00, Mid-week: call Rolland 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.); mjcoc@sasktel.net Website: http://mjchurchofchrist.blogspot.com; Call fro times of worship, Darrin Ashby, ev

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

REGINA (Glen Elm): 1825 Rothwell St., S4N 2C3, 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. STL 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., 306-741-9925; (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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# 48th ANNUAL TRAINING FOR SERVICE April 2, 2010, 9:00 am-4:00 pm

# **Anchored in the Word**

John 8:32-36

## **SCHEDULE**

9:00–10:00 Registration

9:30 Congregational Singing (Auditorium)

**10:00–11:00 Hindrances to Truth** – *Kevin Cleary* 

Teen Class: Growing Up In A Truth Deprived World -

Dexter Philip (Class during two morning lectures)

11:00–11:20 Refreshment Break

11:20–12:20 The Truth That Sets You Free – David Knutson

12:20–1:30 Lunch

1:30–2:20 Congregational Singing & Announcements (Auditorium)

2:30–3:30 To Win as Many as Possible – Jim Holston

(\*Children's Classes will be provided during the three lectures)



**Kevin Cleary** 



Dexter Philip



**David Knutson** 



Jim Holston

**Kevin Cleary:** Currently preaching in Meaford Ontario. Married to Nancy for five years (6 in may). Originally from Port Dover Ontario. Graduated from East Tennessee School of Preaching and Missions in Knowille TN. Currently working on Masters in Biblical Studies from Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver.

**Dexter Philip:** A christian of ten years and a member of the Strathmore Bivd COC, Dexter adopts the principle of saying "yes" to doing the Lord's work. Married six years and a proud dad, Dexter hopes he can inspire all to be active for Christ.

**David Knutson:** David is married to Patricia Adams of Athens Alabama, and has three children and three grandchildren. His master's degree was taken at Harding University Graduate School of Religion in Memphis Tennessee. David serves as the academic dean at Great Lakes Bible College in Waterloo Ontario, as an elder in the Waterloo congregation and preaches part-time for the Bayview Avenue church of Christ in Toronto.

**Jim Holston:** Jim Holston teaches at Great Lakes Bible College. Prior to coming to GLBC, he served in full-time preaching ministry in the U.S. and Canada. He is a graduate of Freed-Hardeman College, Harding College, and Harding Graduate School of Religion. He has also completed Doctor of Ministry course work at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He is married to Kathy and they have two grown children: James and Marianne.

**Location:** Cawthra Park Secondary School, 1305 Cawthra Road, Mississauga, ON (2 blocks south of the QEW)