

Gospel

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*"Jesus...had compassion on
them, because they were like
sheep without a shepherd. So
he began teaching them many
things". (Mark 6:34)*

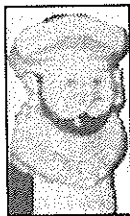
Picture courtesy of David Lewis, Grimsby, ON

The Parable of the Nursery Rhyme

By Mike Parker

*Rub-a-dub-dub,
Three men in a tub,
A Butcher, A Baker,
And a Candlestick Maker*

I'm sure most of you heard this little nursery rhyme several times while growing up. Although I'm not sure that this Mother Goose poem imparted any real value to my post-kindergarten years, I have recently seen in this little poem a golden tid-bit for us in our Christian walk. It seems to me that the above nursery rhyme serves as a good metaphor for our spiritual walk with each of the three men representing one aspect of the Christian life. Curious? Keep reading ...



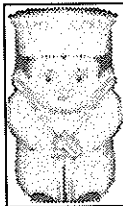
The first curious character we encounter in our little rhyme is the Butcher. The Butcher is the man who deals with the meat. No veggies in this guy's shop. No tofu hot-dogs here, just the real thing. Beef, chicken, pork - take your pick; but it's all meat.

What does that have to do with anything remotely spiritual? Well, there is a crucial part of our Christian life that calls us to be like the butcher. As we go along in our spiritual journey, we reach a point where we must be weaned off the soft stuff and begin to deal with the meat. The author of Hebrews addressed Christians who had reached this point, but didn't make the change. He writes, "In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature who, by constant use, have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity," (Heb. 5:12-6:1a).

So, the first thing we can learn from our three artisans in the tub is that there is a point in our spiritual walk when we must leave the milk and move to the meat. A point where we must consciously forget about small issues and debates. A point where we must dig deeper and address the real important things. A point where we intentionally move beyond the routine of Christianity and dedicate ourselves to

developing our Christlikeness. We must be people who process the meat.

Next, our little nursery rhyme introduces us to our second tub-bound character ... the Baker.



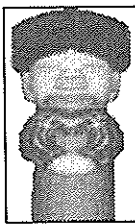
Ah, yes, the Baker. There is really nothing quite like the smell of a bakery is there? The second you walk in the door, you are captured by the scent of something delicious and fresh out of the oven. The Baker is a great mixer. He brings together all sorts of ingredients, some of which have little desirableness on their own, and he puts them all together to produce a wonderful treat. Sugar, eggs, milk, butter, water, yeast, vinegar, flour, baking soda, salt, baking powder, and various spices, flavors and fruits are thrown into the same bowl together and what comes out is delicious. But it's not just luck; the Baker has a specific art. There are lousy bakers out there who make baking that is not fit to eat. But the good baker is the one who knows how to mix all the ingredients together in just the right way to end up with the best product.

As with our butcher friend, the baker also serves as a metaphor for our Christian lives. Imagine for a moment that your city or geographical area is the kitchen cupboard. Also imagine that your congregation is the mixing bowl and each member of your church family represents an ingredient. The master baker in the sky has already placed all the right ingredients in the cupboard. He has even set them out next to the bowl. Now all He needs is for someone with a baker's heart to mix them together.

God wants you to be a baker. God wants you to be the person who makes sure that all the ingredients get put together in the right way. Just like bread doesn't turn out when the flour is left on the counter, every member of your congregation is a needed part of God's recipe for us. And God is calling all of us to both fill our role as ingredients and to make sure all the other ingredients are included and work together. One baker can make a big difference. Jesus himself noted that a little yeast can work through the whole batch of dough. Be that yeast in a positive, godly way - promoting love, cooperation and unity in our mixing bowl. Be a baker.

Finally, our little nursery rhyme introduces us to our third and final fellow floating in the frigate ... the Candlestick Maker.

The Candlestick Maker. A recreated occupation nowadays. Before Mr. Franklin discovered electricity, and Mr. Edison created the light bulb, the candle was the primary source of illumination. However, once society got a taste of electricity, the candle makers suffered a big dip in business. Today, there are possibly more candles than ever, but their purpose has drastically changed. In 1998, candles are used for mood setting, air freshening, birthday cakes and household decoration, but (aside from the times the power company goes on the fritz) the candle is rarely used for light. Nonetheless, that is still the true purpose and function of a candle; to give light. And for centuries, the candlemaker was the craftsman who made the lights that lit the world.



I suspect most of you have already guessed how our wax-working wizard parallels an aspect of our spiritual walk. Like a candlemaker, Christians are called to be light makers. We are to construct a device that will give off enough light that the world around us will be able to see. To see what? To see truth. To see love. To see God. What does this light giving device look like, you may ask? Well, just like candles, Christian lights come in various sizes, shapes, colors, and fragrances. However, also like wax in candles, Christian lights are made of the same material: a human life. You see your light is made out of your life. Jesus himself said, "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16). And just like the candlestick maker, we as followers of Christ are to shape and form our lives in such a way that they become beautiful candles, giving light to all those around us, so that they can see God. And just like making candles, it takes perspiration, patience and perseverance to get it right. But keep forming the wax.

At this point, I say "Thanks" to all of you who have stuck with me thus far. I appreciate your endurance and hope the ride has been worth the journey. However, it is now time for us to conclude our look at our spiritual nursery rhyme and let our three little sailors drift down the river, but hopefully during their time with us, we have been able to glean some kind of knowledge or at least a fresh perspective on things.

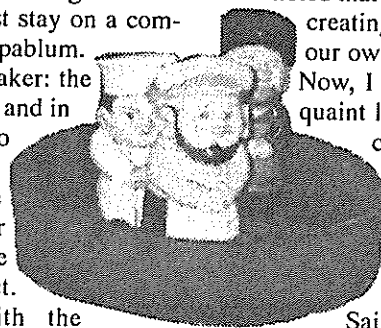
Just to recap. We began looking at the Butcher and suggested that there are times

in our spiritual lives where we have to become people who are willing to work with the meat and not just stay on a comfortable diet of Christian pabulum.

Then we examined the Baker: the great mixer of ingredients and in turn drew the parallel to challenge each of us to strive to harmonize all the various ingredients of our congregation to create the best possible product. Finally, we visited with the

Candlestick Maker: the light maker. We noted that we too have a role to fill in creating lights for the world out of our own lives.

Now, I urge you to remember the quaint little nursery rhyme as you continue on your spiritual journey. Let the three men in the tub be a reminder to you of the three aspects of your Christian life. Happy Sailing!!
-Wawota, SK



Our Lord is Coming Back

by Roy D. Merritt

The end of the first millennium of the Christian era was an exciting time. Many misguided individuals prepared for an immediate return of Christ. At the end of the second millennium there is an increased amount of speculation as to whether His Second Coming is imminent. Perhaps the apprehension caused by the so-called "millennium bug" in the computer world has added to this concern. Although I will not hazard a guess as to the time of His return, by faith I believe in that glorious event.

He promised to come back. He has always kept His promises. He will come back. The early Christians believed that promise and prayed maran-atha "our Lord come" (1 Cor. 16:22).

THE PROMISE

Near the end of His early life, Jesus gave a promise to a little group of ordinary men with extraordinary privileges - they had spent over three years of their lives being prepared for a great work. Now, as their Lord prepared to leave, they were given a beautiful assurance. "I am going to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am" (John 14:3). Three facts stand out in this verse: (1) He knew He was going to leave them in a matter of hours. (2) He was going to prepare a place for them. (3) He would come back for His own.

Angels repeated this promise of a return to a small group of eleven Apostles. The occasion was His ascension from the Mount of Olives just outside Jerusalem. Two heavenly messengers proclaimed,

"This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into Heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11).

Among those who believe in His return, are many who have made false speculations concerning its nature. These range from a militant Armageddon conflict to an invisible return. One main contention in some of the speculations has been the view that Christ failed in His first sojourn on earth because of Jewish unbelief. While it is true that "...he came to that which was his own, but his own received him not." (John 1:11),

"He promised to come back!"

this claim of failure on our Lord's part is clearly false. It does not square with what Christ declared as His mission to earth. Nor does it accept His claim among His dying words from the cross, "It is finished."

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

Christ claimed that He was doing the work which the Father had sent Him to finish. (John 5:36). John's Gospel supplies the information that among the last words of the suffering Saviour was this claim, "It is finished" (John 19:30). These words are not the pitiful cry of a disillusioned failure. They acknowledge in effect, "Mission accomplished!" John quotes this exclamation in the Greek perfect tense - the present result of a past action. Our Lord could claim that His work on earth stood complete at His demise. It appears to this writer, at least, that it was a triumphal report of a fulfilled mission.

What did the Christ come to do during His brief sojourn on earth? (1) He came to reveal God to man. (John 1:18). (2) He

came to give Himself as a perfect sacrifice to ransom man from sin (Matt. 20:28; Heb. 9:14, 15, 28). (3) He came to give man both marvelous teaching and a perfect example (1 Peter 2:21). (4) Finally, He came to establish His church, through which He would carry on His work after His departure and to the end of time (Matt. 16:18). These purposes were all fulfilled before, on the cross, He commended His spirit to the Father.

ATTRIBUTES OF CHRIST'S RETURN

What will the coming of our Lord be like?

(1) It will be sudden (1 Cor. 15:51, 52). (2) It will be unexpected like the coming of a thief in the night (1 Thess. 5:2). (3) It will be magnificently audible (1 Thess. 4:16). (4) It will be universally visible (Rev. 1:7). (5) It will be majestically powerful (2 Thess. 1:7, 8). (6) Finally, it will be to receive all those "in Christ," both the resurrected dead and those who are still alive at His coming (1 Thess. 4:16; John 5:28, 29).

REFLECTIONS ON THE PRESENT TIME

In 1000 AD, many misguided individuals prepared for an immediate return of Christ. At the end of the second millennium, there is an increased speculation as to whether we should expect His Second Coming in the near future. Although I cannot predict the date of His coming, by faith I hold to the expectation that He will come in His own good time. Whether as one previously raised from the dead, or as one who is still alive at His arrival, I long to be among the great host who will greet Him in the air. His promise of a heavenly home is most inviting.

St. Catharines, ON

EDITORIAL

The Grace of God

Wayne Turner



It is difficult to comprehend the devastation caused by Hurricane Mitch in Central America. From the relative comfort and safety of Canada, how can we even begin to fathom a natural disaster that causes such death and destruction? We have difficulty grasping the 229 deaths from the Swissair plane crash, the 168 deaths from the bomb explosion in Oklahoma City, the 5 deaths from the school shooting in Jonesboro, Arkansas or even the extent of the damage and destruction caused by the Red River flood in Manitoba or the Quebec ice storm.

The havoc unleashed by Mitch is staggering. In a very brief period of time, at least 10,000 people lost their lives! This is similar to losing the whole population of Weyburn, Saskatchewan, Kapuskasing, Ontario or Amherst, Nova Scotia in 72 hours. Parents and children were ripped apart by the flood waters; families were decimated. The ultimate death toll may never be known. Beyond this staggering loss of life, there are also countless individuals who have suffered injury or illness as a result of Mitch. How many more will have died from illness or starvation? The mental anguish of the survivors will be immense.

In addition to the death and suffering is the devastation to the homes, buildings and infrastructure of the area. Government officials have estimated that the disaster set back development by fifty years. People, already impoverished by unemployment that ran as high as fifty percent in some areas, now face life without food or fresh water or even a roadway or rail system to distribute the necessities of life. It was estimated that in Honduras alone, 700,000 people will need food for the next month after the hurricane. Mitch also destroyed many of the income-producing crops that the people depend on.

Relief and redevelopment in the affected countries are limited by the poverty and indebtedness of their governments. Before the hurricane, Honduras owed \$4.2 billion (U.S.) and Nicaragua owed \$6 billion. Only a massive international effort to forgive these debts, provide relief and finance recovery will allow the people whose lives have been so devastated by this hurricane to begin to rebuild what they previously had. Full recovery will take many years.

Those living in developed nations such as Canada or the United States find it difficult to understand the poverty and living conditions in developing countries. The victims of Mitch would be fortunate to live at a subsistence level now. They have nothing, literally. No shelter, no money, no food, no medicines, no fresh water. All of the things that we have and take for granted are gone, not likely to be replaced soon.

A disaster like this forcibly reminds us how privileged and fortunate we are. Even the poorest among us fares better than much of the world. We not only have ample for our needs, we have much more than we need. When compared with the poverty and desolation of those affected by the hurricane, our privileges and blessings stand out even more. The parable of the Sheep and Goats shows us that we are responsible for looking after those who are less fortunate. Our stewardship is to not

only look after our material blessings for our own or our family's benefit, but also to use what God has entrusted to us to help others. The parable of the Good Samaritan teaches that this care extends not only to people who are "just like us" but also to those people who are very different. There is an extra responsibility to look after our brethren. In Galatians 6:10, Paul wrote, "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."

Many of our brethren in Canada are familiar with Santiago Molina and his work with Spanish speaking people in Canada. Brother Molina is from Honduras and has been in contact with brethren affected by the hurricane. (He was visiting Central America when the storm hit.) We encourage individual Christians and congregations wishing to provide financial assistance to make contact with the Strathmore Boulevard congregation in Toronto. The elders there would be pleased to direct assistance to Central American brethren who are in need or to provide contact information for those who would prefer to send aid directly. It is our hope that, by the time this issue is in your hands, many Canadian Christians will have already responded.

At this time of year, many North Americans talk about the "joy of giving." This is an important time for family and sharing. May we also recognize that our family in Christ extends all over the world, especially to our brothers and sisters in Central America who are now in need of the very basic essentials of life. May our hearts open and respond to them. May the words of Paul to the Christians in Corinth, responding to a similar situation of need, be fulfilled by us today, "This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" (2 Corinthians 9:12-15)

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CO-EDITORS

Wayne Turner, Eugene C. Perry

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

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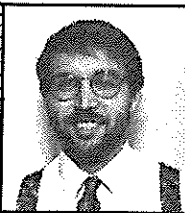
Send teaching articles to Wayne Turner, 45 Millfield Drive, Winnipeg, MB R2M 2N9
(204) 257-7926 E-mail: wpgwayne@aol.com
Send advertising and subscription information to
Gospel Herald, 4904 King Street, Beamsville, ON L0R 1B6 Ph/FAX (905) 563-7503
E-mail: Eperry9953@aol.com

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FAMILY TIES

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David Cornfield, Editor, 71 Hocge St. (back-upper), Buffalo, NY
 14222; Phone (716) 885-2667



Teaching the Names of the Lord

Do you have a plan? We have a plan for emergencies. Children are taught to dial 911 or use the appropriate escape routes. Most families have a financial plan. The cost of education is rising. We plan for that. The cost of retirement is increasing and we plan for that. We plan and plan and plan so many things, but do we plan how we're going to present the word of God within our own homes? The greatest role of parents is to point their children towards the Father and yet, we sometimes leave that to chance. Here's a quick idea on how to present a beautiful picture of God to everyone in your family. Teach them to know God by name.

I was born David Grant Cornfield. This is my name and I couldn't have picked a better one for David means beloved. What does your name mean? Do you even care? In today's times we give names because they sound good together or we simply like them. But rarely do we consider the meaning of the name. It used to be different for the names of God are used to describe his traits. The rest of this article is simply going to introduce you to the names of God. When they are put together, they draw a powerful and complete picture of God.

Elohim is God the creator! The God that we call upon is the God that spoke creation into existence. All the strength and might

needed to create this world is embodied in our God. Deuteronomy 10:17 speaks of the Lord our God. The reference is to God the creator. What an awesome thought to stop and consider that our God created everything.

El Elyon is reference to the God most high. This term designates God as the sovereign ruler of the universe. There is nothing

*"God is everything anyone needs;
 He is the great I AM".*

greater and there's nothing that can keep Him from completing His plan. When Abraham's enemies were delivered into his hand, they were delivered by the ruler that is above all else, the Lord most High. The God who said he is coming back cannot be kept away.

El Roi is the God who sees. When Sarah sent her servant away due to jealousy and anger, the servant, in her great need, discovered that God is always watching. Not watching to see us fall, but watching so as to be there in our time of need. It is disturbing to know that God sees all my sin, but it is comforting to know that he is watching over me in my time of desperation. Amazingly, the one so mighty that His plans cannot be thwarted always sees us when we are in our time of need. The

God who sees is the God who has the power to act.

I want so many things, but what is it that I truly need? Simply stated, what I need is God the all-sufficient one, God is El shaddat. This name declares God as being all-sufficient; there's nothing that I need that He does not provide. Not only is He all-sufficient, He is also self-existent. Jehovah means the self-existent one. Everything else was created by God, but He has always been; He is the source of everything good. He is all-sufficient and self-existent. Simply stated He is.

In your time of need, where do you run? Jehovah jireh declares that the Lord will provide. Whatever your need, God will provide. Do you need healing? God is Jehovah rapha, which means the Lord who heals. He mends hearts, bodies and souls.

Do you need somewhere to run to? Run to the Lord for He is Jehovah nissi; "Lord my banner." Do you need to be cleansed? God is Jehovah mekoddishkem, which means "the Lord who sanctifies."

Do you need the comfort of a sheltered place? Then remember that God is Jehovah shalom, which means "Lord is peace."

What I need most is a guide for my way; someone to take me step by step on the journey. The Lord is that guide, for he is Jehovah raah, my shepherd. That shepherd may lead me into the wilderness, but he will protect me and provide for all my needs, for he is God. During those times that darkness encompasses us, remember that God is Jehovah shammah, which means the Lord is there.

These are but some of the names of God. My prayer is that all of us parents will take time to consider how we plan to present God in the household. God is everything anyone needs; He is the great I AM.

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Editorial Notes

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Early Deadline: Because of the holiday season, all items for the January 1999 issue should reach us by December 8th. Your co-operation is requested.

E.C.P.



Love is Not Rude

We usually don't see it as a problem until someone has been rude to us. They butt in front of us in line. They purposely exclude us from a group activity when we think of ourselves as a part of that group. We have done someone a service and have not received the appropriate thank you and appreciation. We are speaking and someone butts in. We never like it when people are rude to us.

What are manners? The Greek Word translated rude in our English Bibles has two definitions: behaving disgracefully, dishonorably and indecently, to cause one to feel like they should be ashamed. These two definitions tend to go hand in hand, don't they? When people behave in a disgraceful, dishonorable and indecent way they tend to cause us to feel like we should be ashamed.

When we think of manners and common courtesy the picture of some old maid writing thick books listing rules and traditions may too easily come to mind. But think for a minute about the purpose of those manners. Manners are a way of being thoughtful towards others, being kind to them and considering their needs before our own.

The gift of courtesy is a gift of thoughtfulness. It is saying "please" and "thank you." It is holding the door open for another. It is offering your chair or seat to someone when there are not enough to go around. Manners means that we do not butt into a line but patiently wait our turn. The gift of courtesy even includes how we drive our cars. This may be the biggest challenge of all.

Whenever and wherever we see the "Gift of Courtesy", we are moved by the example of thoughtfulness, considering the needs of others before our own. Holding the door open for another and receiving a polite thank you gives a lift to one's day. A few years back, I was preaching in a small church building that was packed. Every

pew was jammed full. We had chairs at the back that were full. Some were even standing in the foyer. When another car drove in the parking lot, I began to wonder where we were going to put this large family. The only space available was the front pew. I could imagine their embarrassment at having to walk to the front to be seated after the worship assembly had already begun. Before they came into the auditorium, one of the elders who also saw what was happening, got up with his family and moved to the front pew so that the family just

"Jesus is the ultimate example of good manners. He was never rude".

arriving could have the pew they had vacated. The family just arriving never knew of this gift of courtesy, but the rest of us saw it and were moved by this example of good manners and thoughtfulness.

The Greek word that we have translated 'rude' in our English Bibles also refers to abusing ourselves and others by transgressing Biblical sexual standards. Sexual "rudeness" is a lack of consideration for others. Modern sexual attitudes do not consider anyone other than self. Modern sexual attitudes deny the value of the whole person. Others are portrayed only as physical sexual objects. This robs people of their personhood, and lowers them to the level of animals. Seeing sex as a purely physical relationship ignores the emotional, intellectual, and spiritual dimensions of a person. Seeing others as objects to be used for one's own physical gratification is the ultimate rudeness.

The world insults us by telling us that we cannot possibly control ourselves. They say that there is no use even trying, abstinence is nothing but a pipe dream. They say all one has to do is be sure that they are engaging in safe sex, ensuring that neither a pregnancy or a sexually transmit-

ted disease results. They ignore the emotional, intellectual and spiritual damage caused by ignoring God's Way and giving way to fleshly desires. We need to be practicing safe sex as God has described it, within the context of the marriage of one man and one woman who have committed themselves to each other for life.

We cannot overcome rudeness by obeying a long list of rules. Seeing manners as a long list of rules to be followed in a legalistic fashion will never overcome rudeness. We must seek to follow the spirit of God's Word as we live by the spirit.

We overcome rudeness by being kind and considerate like Jesus is. In considering others before ourselves, we overcome rudeness by being thoughtful.

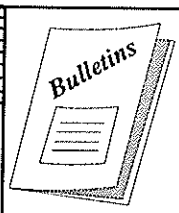
How can we overcome following the rules of etiquette in a legalistic fashion? Instead of noticing when I "must" say thank you or send thank your cards, why not look for opportunities to say thank you, to send thank you cards and express your appreciation as often as you possibly can? Instead of seeing holding the door open for someone as a chore, why not see it as an opportunity to serve another in a very practical way? Instead of seeing giving up your chair to another as a must of manners, why not see it as an opportunity to show respect for another? You get the idea now, don't you? Being polite and practicing good manners is not a burden but an opportunity to be considerate and thoughtful.

Jesus is the ultimate example of good manners. He was never rude. Jesus is thoughtful and considerate in all His dealings with mankind. Jesus did not want to die that painful humiliating death on the cross. Jesus prayed that if there was any other way that God's purposes could be accomplished, he would rather avoid that painful death. Jesus knew there was no other way. He bowed His will not just to the Will of God, but also to the service of man ahead of thought for himself. Jesus sacrificial death is the ultimate example of the thoughtfulness and consideration that good manners provide.

When, like Jesus, we learn to put others ahead of ourselves, we will have learned heavenly etiquette. Let us pray that God will bless us as we seek to serve Him and others with thoughtfulness and consideration. Then we will truly put others ahead of ourselves.

FROM THE BULLETINS

Short articles for this page are selected from church bulletins. Such should be sent to the editor at 45 Millfred Drive, Winnipeg, MB R2M 2N9; email: wpgwayne@aol.com



Tychicus

Peter Morphy

Many people in our world suffer from depression, despondency, and discouragement. Even in the family of God some continually struggle with spiritual depression and negativity.

We are often affected, effected and infected by the attitudes of others. Many of us are susceptible and vulnerable to the influence of others. It seems that negativity is extremely contagious. Attitudes are often ignited by a word or attitude of another which quickly spreads, leaving everyone in its path fired up or burned out.

God's children ought to have a positive and thankful attitude and outlook on life. We should be known for encouraging others, not discouraging. Building others up, not tearing down. Strengthening the weak, not weakening the strong. Accentuating the positive not magnifying the negative. Inspiring people to greater heights, not crushing them down to the lowest depths. Holding others up, not pushing them down.

One of the reasons we meet together as a church is to encourage each other in the faith. "And let us consider how we may

spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24-25)

The goal is toward daily encouragement and building up to keep each other stable in our faith, strong in our convictions and sincere in our love. "But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness." (Hebrews 3:13). Encouraging others requires a positive outlook on life, a faith that God is working His will and a heart of gratitude for all God has done, is doing and will do. As a reminder to grow in this grace of encouraging others, Paul said, "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

Paul had a companion that he loved and respected because of his ability to encourage others, even in difficult times. We don't know much about Tychicus but he is known for his commitment to encourage the family of God. Paul calls him a "dear brother", perhaps because he was so encouraging to him while he suffered in

prison. He is also called a "faithful minister". All faithful servants should be able to share encouraging words of God's provision, plan, purpose, power and promises.

Paul sent Tychicus to the churches in Colosse and Ephesus for the purpose of encouraging the church. "Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. I am sending him to you for the express purpose that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts." (Colossians 4:7-8; cf. Ephesians 6:21-22)

The source and sustainer of our positive attitude is God Himself. Paul wrote that God's great love and His infinite grace will give us eternal encouragement, sustaining us through all of life's mountains and valleys. "May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word." (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17).

We, as beloved children of God, have every reason and complete ability to rejoice in every circumstance, because God is working with us, in us and through us. Paul could write from his prison cell as he was being persecuted for preaching Jesus, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4). Since we know that nothing can take away our relationship with God or rob us of our salvation, we can rejoice throughout our life regardless of external pressure, problems, persecution or pain. *Sudbury, ON*

The Sermon of Our Lives

by Roger Lansdell

Some alarming statistics were reported in the August newsletter for "Focus on the Family".

"Attendance at weekly religious activities in the United States has continued to slip from 49 % in 1991 to 37% today. In Canada, the picture is even more bleak. According to Gallup, weekly attendance at church or other place of worship fell from 27% in 1991 to just 21% in 1996. Furthermore, 80% percent of church growth results from transfers of membership. In other words, relatively few new commitments to Christ seem to be occurring. These statistics tell us that evangelism is largely stagnant. Surprisingly, however, 6% of adults express a belief in God. Among Canadians, that figure is almost as high, at 86%. Something is wrong with this picture. Obviously people are dabbling at religion but are unwilling to commit them-

selves to a genuine faith in Jesus Christ."

The question that begs to be answered is why are we seeing these trends? In order for us to find a solution we need to understand why this situation is occurring. There probably are a number of factors that are contributing to this phenomenon.

One factor that impacts this situation is that many times what our community hears us professing is not what they are seeing in our lives. We need to understand that people will base their acceptance or rejection of the good news not as much on what they hear as they will on what they see, from you and I in our lives. This means that each day you and I are writing a gospel, a story of who Jesus is and what He means to us, that is being read by those around us as we write. There is no opportunity for revising, editing, or spell checking. Once it's written, it cannot be changed or taken back.

What does your gospel say to those around you? What story are you writing with your family, friends, coworkers? Are

your actions consistent with what you say and believe? For example around your friend, do you speak of equality for all and then participate in telling or simply listening to jokes that are racial, ethnic, or gender biased? Do you believe that stealing is wrong and then use your employer's resources for your personal use? Or do you believe that lying is wrong and then participate in gossip while talking on the telephone with a friend? As Christians, we need to realize that others are watching us and they compare our actions to our words to see if we truly live by what we say. I ask you again, what kind of gospel are you writing? Are your actions consistent with what you profess to believe?

The gospel we write could very well be the main factor in the eternal destiny of a person's soul. We always need to remember the words in 1 John 3:18, "Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth."

Sault Ste. Marie

Point by Perry:

"Lessons from the Wisemen"



"... when the time had fully come" (Gal.4:4) God became flesh and dwelt among men (John 1:4). God had worked out His plan through the centuries and had prepared, not only the Jews (Abraham's family through whom the "seed" that would bless all nations was to come, Galatians 3:16), but the other people groups of the New Testament world as well, to expect this special event. It was widely expected that a great leader would appear on the scene and improve the lot of mankind in some way.

The Jews were prepared by their prophets and by the hardships of their history. Their captivity by and scattering among several other nations had spread their expectations among them. Prophecy and history had worked together, in God's plan, to prepare the world for the coming of Jesus.

It seems that this benefactor was expected to be born of royalty in a palace in Jerusalem. Instead he came as the 'illegitimate' child of a poor peasant woman from a despised area and was born in a manger in a small town. It is not surprising that few welcomed Jesus as God's anointed one, destined to sit on David's throne and rule over God's chosen people. His parentage and the circumstances of his birth only identified him to a special few people of that time.

Among those, who welcomed Jesus for who he was, were the magi (wisemen)

from the east. Although we know little about them, we tend to speculate about their nationality, their number and the source of their information. They may have been Persians. There may have been the traditional three. They may have come to expect Jesus as a result of the Babylonian captivity of the Jews centuries earlier. None of these things are known or really need to be known.

Nevertheless, these wisemen have left us an example that can help us to be wiser men. Following are some lessons we can learn from them.

They sought Jesus: We are wise when we also seek Jesus. God provided these wisemen from the east with a guide that led to the newborn king whom they were seeking. They faithfully followed the star as it led them towards Bethlehem. Although their search was interrupted at Jerusalem they were not deterred. They returned to following the God given guide and their search was successful.

We need to imitate them in: 1) seeking Jesus, 2) following the guide provided by God, his word, and 3) making sure that, if we are interrupted by men, we are not diverted, but return to God's guidance. Thus we can find Jesus in God's way and not in man's way. Man's ways are many but God's way is one.

They worshipped Jesus: Their stated intent was to find Jesus that they might worship him. What they found when the star stopped over Bethlehem, the location and environment, did not discourage them. We are told that they "bowed down and worshiped him."

Hopefully, having followed God's word and found Jesus we will not be dis-

appointed or disillusioned. The lowly Jesus of the scriptures is our king. Let us recognize him as Emmanuel, God with us.

The magi found a baby born in a manger in Bethlehem. They worshiped him. We find a baby born of a virgin; a man who did all things well, teaching, preaching, working miracles and showing good will and compassion and also one who voluntarily sacrificed his life for our salvation. The birth, the life and the cross identify him as indeed worthy of worship

They gave gifts to Jesus: As part of their worship they gave to the child the noble gifts that they had brought from their treasures. The precious gold that they gave was a gift for Jesus the king; the incense they gave to him recognized his intercessory function as our high priest and the myrrh, used in embalming, pointed to his sacrificial death for us.

What place does giving have in our worship. Do we come with precious gifts out of our treasures, gifts that we planned, prepared and brought to give to our king, priest and substitute? Or, is giving a sort of peripheral, after-thought sort of thing made up of only the "crumbs" that we do not treasure highly. Love gives. The Macedonians "gave themselves first to the Lord" and then were richly generous beyond what was expected of them (II Cor.8:5).

Let us imitate the wisemen in seeking Jesus, worshiping him and giving precious gifts to him.



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FOR WOMEN BY WOMEN

Articles for publication and/or reactions to this page should be sent to Linda Hammett Rt. 1, Box 249AA, Vincent, OH 45784.



Who Is My God?

by Linda C. Hammett

Each and every one of us struggle almost on a daily basis with prioritizing our lives. It seems that we are almost constantly faced with making decisions about how to spend our time and what is most important in our lives. The demands placed on us by the world around us often interfere with the things that we, in our hearts, know we should be doing. Keeping our priorities in order is hard for us today in this fast-paced existence.

In Exodus 20:1-6 we read the first and second of the ten commandments. These are not as much a list of rules as they are guidelines for the kind of attitude that God wants his people to have. Our love for God, if we are loyal, will cause us to fulfill the first commandment, "You shall have no other gods before Me" (vs. 3), and if faithful will effect the second commandment, "You shall not make for yourself any idol. . . You shall not worship them or serve them. . ." (vss. 4a, 5a). In other words, obedience to these commands or any others should be based on our love for God as is written, "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments" (John 14:15).

So, my question is, Where is God in your life? If we stop and think about this question and its answer, it should become clearer how we can get our lives in order. In every person's heart there is a throne, and on every throne there is a god. Who or what is your god?

Is it your *job*? Many of us who now work outside the home may find that the job has taken over as a priority in our lives. We neglect other responsibilities because of work hours or work functions.

How about *money*? Has the desire for and need of money become your focus in life? Many of us have long since lost sight of the difference between needs and wants. We have gotten carried away with the desire to obtain things to the point that

materialism is our main focus.

Have even *church activities* and responsibilities become the god of our lives? This particular area is one that is very difficult to deal with. We each have areas of ministry in which we must be involved. We are to use our talents and skills for the church and the spread of God's will. But many of us might become overwhelmed with serving the church, perhaps thinking that we are the only one who can do this specific thing. And even though we are told, ". . . Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary" (Galatians 6:9), we must be careful that we don't neglect other things while doing good. I think at this point about preachers who have dedicated their lives to spreading the Word, ministering to the sick (spiritually and physically), studying with the lost, and serving the church to the point of neglecting their own families only to find their children become unfaithful by the time they reach adulthood. Their absence might not be the cause of unfaithfulness in their children, but there will always be that doubt in their minds.

One area of life that seems to have become a god to a growing number is *recreational activities*. Some lives have almost become controlled by the football games on TV or at the local high school, or the weekly/daily golf game with the guys, or the shopping sprees or movie nights with the girls—so much so that even when there's a special meeting at church, it is neglected for the recreational event. We do need recreation to keep physically fit and for other reasons, but we need to be able to control its importance in our lives.

Have *relationships* with other people become a god? It could be our children, our spouse or even friends who have taken over the focus of our lives. Relationships

are important, and we need to be using relationships to lead souls to Christ. But all too often that isn't the primary goal of spending time with the special people in our lives.

Now, please don't misunderstand. All of these areas of life are important. We need jobs and money in order to provide a living and plan for the future. We need to have recreation to help us relax and release tension and pressures. And we need people in our lives for very obvious reasons. We must always remember that the church should have a very important place in our lives.

But we must ask ourselves what has become number one in our lives? Who or what is sitting on the throne in the heart? All sins are a result of putting other or false gods on this throne. I heard a story about a woman whom I will call Alice. She had been converted to Christ about 35 years ago—had made a commitment to give her life to God. Now, at the age of 60, she had become involved in pitching for a slow-pitch softball team. She was very good and really enjoyed playing. She actually became obsessed with pitching and traveled to many places to participate. So obsessed was she that this god had taken over her life—she pitched for six different teams! She no longer had any time in her life for the true God.

If you are not convinced that you have a god sitting on your throne, realize that a god is anything that you put first, anything on which you put your trust and focus. Of course, we know that God is to be on this throne, but we are often guilty of allowing gods to usurp that position. God has told us throughout the scriptures that he will not accept any place in our lives but first place (i.e. Exodus 20:5). If we think about our love for God, there should be no question about who sits on our throne.

So, as each of us examines her heart, let us remember that when God is on the throne, we will love Him with all our heart, and our love for Him will lead us to obey Him. We need to face the fact that we won't live as though God is first, before and above everything else until we place Him before and above everything else. My prayer is that God is on the throne in your heart, and if he isn't that you will examine your heart and make the changes necessary to put Him there.

NEWS

- EAST -



by Walter R. Straker
750 Clark Boulevard
Bramalea, ON L6T 3Y2
Fax: 905 792-8623
E-mail: straker@echo-on.net

ONTARIO

Ajax: They are studying "Understanding Prophecy" on Wednesday evenings. A congregational meeting was held on October 18 and a paint-bee on October 17. Diane Schatzle and Jessica have moved in from New Brunswick. Approximately 25 attended the corn roast on October 12. Permission has been obtained to erect a proper sign.

Beamsville: The congregation is studying the eldership. Wanda Spiers is making an emergency return to her family and was to arrive home on November 16 from Ghana. Edna Tallman, in her 97th year was buried October 22.

Bramalea: John McMillan was a guest speaker on October 25. Thirty-six children attended the "Camp-In" October 30-31. Remember the ten Christian brethren who are still in prison in Laos. Charles and Jessamine Wong and family, Matthew, Esther and Daniel, have moved to Plano, Texas where Charles will work for Nortel. Charles was one of our deacons. Renee is planning to stay and finish her OAC year in Ontario. Fred Lockman is worshipping with the congregation. Rody Ostil and wife, Nancy, moved back to the Philippines on November 18. Rody hopes to begin a congregation in his native Palauig in Zambales. On November 1, Matthew Wong, age 15 and Wanda Diakouloukas, a mother of three, put on the Lord in baptism. November 8, Maria Bean, wife of Roy, mother of Teija and Colleen Dodder, daughter of Lisa were baptized. Placing Membership: November 1, Scott and Karen McKay, formerly of West Hamilton and Brantford. Thora Whittington, wife of Fred, has been disabled for several weeks with a torn ligament in her foot. A recent record Sunday School attendance of 137 was recorded.

Brantford: Guest speakers have been Dennis Shultz and Brian Cox. A fellowship breakfast was held on October 10. There are four active Key to the Kingdom students.

Brantford (afternoon group): "The

congregation has started staffing a nursery during assembly times to help deal with the numerous small children. Rehearsals have started for the Young Voices singing group that plans to visit some nursing homes during the holiday season. A teen group has started with about 15 members. An executive was voted in and plans made for fun, worship and service. Tom Edwards and Rick and Jim Gamble spent a weekend in Nashville at the Look to the Hills Leadership and Worship Conference and were greatly inspired and encouraged. A big first birthday party was held for Joshua Crewe. It often looked as though the little baby wouldn't make it to this benchmark in his life, and we are all grateful to God for His Mercies."

S. Gamble

Collingwood: Nine ladies met for their first class of the season. The congregation held a devotion at the nursing home on October 30. A preacher's exchange was to take place between Gordon Dennis of Vandeleur and Wayford Smith of Collingwood November 15.

Fenwick: For the first time Fenwick hosted what it is hoped will be an annual Youth Rally. It was on September 26, 27 with Don Hipwell as the speaker and concluded with a congregational potluck on the 27th.

The sudden death of Harry Gilbert on October 7 was a shock to us and our prayers are with his wife Rosemary and his brother Ross and their families.

Peter Morphy from Sudbury held a meeting on October 18-21. His topic was "Commitment" and the lessons were good and thought provoking. The average attendance was 50.

The men are beginning monthly studies of which the first was hosted by Felix Turner on November 10. Minor changes in our Bible classes and a VBS for next summer are being considered.

Grimsby: Ab Elmaudiane was baptized on September 2 and Ryan Jones has also confessed faith in Jesus Christ as God's Son and was immersed into him. Attendance on September 20 was 72.

African Christian School's Bible College attendance was 119 this fall. A new Bible College is planned for Western Nigeria. Over \$175,000 has been contributed towards \$200,000 goal. Ralph Perry took the contribution of \$443.40 US to the Derve, Oklahoma church to be sent to the Nigerian 'Akpan family.' Tony Bonsu left for Kumasi to visit family and churches, to preach and to distribute used clothes and other items that he shipped to

Ghana."

The ladies prayer group meets Thursday mornings at 10.

Hamilton, (Fennell Ave.): Tanya Dobrobaba became Mrs. David Montgomery on October 4. Guy Stopard officiated. *(Editors note: Tanya Dobrobaba first came to Toronto a year ago for the Christmas vacation. Her parents had just immigrated to Canada. Four years ago she was an exchange student to Montana where she became a Christian. For two years she attended college at Powell, Wyoming and has now transferred to McMaster. David befriended her when she first came and they have dated ever since. W.S.)*

Hamilton, (West): On September 9, Tammy and Rod Land were blessed with a daughter, Sierra. Six men attended the mens' retreat at Camp Omagh. Jessica Borre (Windsor) is studying "medical imaging" at Mohawk College and is worshipping with the West Hamilton brothers and sisters. Since September, Tim Page and other youth leaders have been leading a young peoples program of singing, social mix and study. They meet on the first and third Sunday evenings each month. The congregation enjoyed two Thanksgiving dinners. A Traditional Canadian Thanksgiving dinner on October 11 with foreign students invited from Mohawk, McMaster, and one other College. On the 18th we enjoyed a second dinner with young people from local and surrounding areas. There were 68 spontaneous, exuberant young people who enjoyed this fellowship.

E. Van Alstine

Meaford: Maurice Marritt, based on previous obedience to the gospel, has been welcomed as a member.

The house next door to the building is being purchased.

Newmarket: The ladies held a "progressive dinner" on October 19.

Pine Orchard: Nathan and Landon Whitfield, sons of Elgin and Melanie were baptized recently. Nathan is a student at Great Lakes this year.

St. Catharines: Gary Bumstead and wife, Sheila McLoughlin were baptized September 17 and Grace Bragger on October 11. Roy and Nelle Merriitt have moved from Winnipeg and have been welcomed. Guest speaker October 4 was Joe Worndle. 'Bring a friend day' was October 18. VBS is planned for March 14-19, 1999. On October 24 the brethren had a men's breakfast and a work day for the teens. On October 31, Erin Gray, eldest daughter of Warren and Jackie was bap-

tized by her father. John Clayton is scheduled for the first week of October 1999.

Sarnia: "The church in Sarnia has undergone many drastic changes in 1998. Drew Chapados left Sarnia for the work in Windsor. The men of the church have been filling the pulpit while we look for his replacement. The congregation 'down-sized' its property and building. Some of the property was sold to a developer and building renovations have taken place over the spring and summer, and the job is about 90% finished. In May, Charles Brown held a series of meetings and Opal Russell returned to Sarnia from St. Thomas. Darryl Collins obeyed his Lord in baptism in early June, as did Mark Halls while he was at Camp Omagh for teen weekend. His sister, Tara Halls, won two gold medals in B.C. for her involvement in track and field events. Recently, we have been receiving updates from Wanda Spiers about her involvement in her medical mission to Ghana. On October 8, 92 year old Clara Culley left this earth for a much better life where she knows no more pain. She leaves behind her daughter, Marion Williamson and her family, along with many friends and relatives. On Sunday, October 11, Terry Kingston came forward confessing sin, and asked for our prayers to help him in influencing his family"

Vern Hibbard

Sault Ste. Marie (Pinehill): The ladies held a retreat at the Whitfield farm, on Friday, October 2. On Sunday evenings the church is studying the series "Seven Habits of Highly Effective Churches." October 15 they held a singing at the Finnish Rest Home. A congregational meeting was held October 29.

Stoney Creek: "Our annual children's Christmas Programme is to be on Sunday, December 13. The play is entitled "The Very First Christmas Morning".

We are saddened by the passing of Ron Elley on November 2. Our prayers are with Audree as she copes with her loss. The funeral was on November 6 with Harold Parker officiating. He also conducted the funeral of Harold Palin on the 7th. Harold and Margaret were members of the Stoney Creek church in the past. Our prayers are with Margaret and family.

Michael Ensley

Stratford: Fellowship activities included a car rally on October 18 and a hay ride on the 23. Planning night for cell groups was on the 27. On November 6 they held a progressive dinner and a focus workshop was planned for 14 and 21. Average attendance for the second and third quarters

was 34 and 35. A year ago is was 33.

The brethren support Ifeoma at Nigerian Christian Bible College. This young man, who is taking his third year, has excellent grades and an outgoing nature.

Sudbury: The subject for 'bring a friend day' on November 8 was "Plugged In." A congregational meeting was held on October 25. The teens met for activities on the 30th. The ladies were preparing gift packages to be distributed to the elderly in the community. A games night is planned for all the adults. Disaster relief is being collected for the Christians in Honduras.

Thessalon: Emma Seabrook, mother of Jean Whitehead passed away in late July. The funeral was on August 2. The brethren had a pot-luck on September 13.

Thunder Bay: Matthew Gill presented a Bible study on Wednesday evenings October 7 & 14 and also spoke on Sunday morning, the 18th. The brethren prepare a meal at the Shelter House once each month. Eric and Erica Bailey and their son, Haaken have moved to Thunder Bay from Regina with Erica's job transfer with Ernst and Young.

Toronto (Bayview): The annual fall festival was held Friday, October 30. The worship and education ministry organized a brain-storming brown bag luncheon on the 25th to discuss how they might reach out to the community. Life groups have begun a study on "Evangelism and Outreach."

Toronto (Strathmore): Max Craddock held a meeting in Quaker City, Ohio on October 10-17, where his wife, Cledith is looking after her Dad. Max is scheduled to do a church music workshop in Edmonton and then in Red Deer the last of November.

A seminar held on November 6-8, entitled, "Equipping Through Prayer" with Bill and Vivian Craddock of Canton, Ohio was enjoyed by the congregation. Tapes of the Youth Lectureship conducted by brother Mahase Bissondath, on September 25-27 are available for purchase. For six tapes the cost is \$15.00, which includes postage and tax. You can order them through Strathmore congregation, but please order by December 31. A work-bee was held at the church building on October 31. John McMillan was a guest speaker on the 25th. Santiago Molina left to attend the "Preachers and Leaders 14th Encounter" in San Salvador, El Salvador. Ann Molina states that her brother had lost his home in the mud slides from Hurricane Mitch in Honduras.

Waterloo: John Barnes, husband of

long time member, Becky, committed his life to Christ on September 21. A good-bye dinner was held for John and Becky Barnes on November 5. The congregation is holding their bi-annual review and a search for additional elders and deacons. There are a good number of Key to the Kingdom contacts.

Geoff Ellis and Javier Cuarezma took in the Latin American Conference in El Salvador. Javier, who became a Canadian citizen on September 24th, made a fund raising trip to the US and raised \$625 monthly of the \$1200 needed. He is attempting to put together a relief package and will be approaching the Waterloo elders regarding possible coordination.

Esmerelda Portillo was baptized on October 4.

NOVA SCOTIA

Kentville: On October 16, 17 they held another clothing give-away. Over 150 people took advantage of the free clothes. Raymond Fisher conducted a worship service at the "Evergreen Home for Special Care" on the 25th. Jack Exum was to be in Kentville conducting his "Three Unusual Days" November 13-15.

Mill Village: The building project is on hold as moving the old building presents structural problems and the cost of a new one is a major hurdle.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Moncton: The church has shown some growth and has more visitors since having its own building. Advertising is being distributed in the area near the building on a regular basis. Walter Hart, of Owen Sound, is scheduled for a seminar in March.

Of 85 correspondence course requests in the province handled by this church, several dozen are active. Tim Johnson now receives 25% of his support from this church.

QUEBEC

Sherbrooke: Mary, another former member, has returned and the small group, after meeting as guests of the Plessisville church on October 11, began having its own meetings the next week. This effort needs our encouragement and prayers.

MICHIGAN

Ann Arbor: Jason Lutz was baptized by Ken Martin on Saturday, October 3.



by Wayne Turner
217 Osborne Street S.
Winnipeg, MB R3L 1Z4
E-mail: <gospherald@aol.com>

We want to express our appreciation to Jeff Harris who has been looking after this page. Jeff and his family are moving to Westfield, New Jersey. Jeff has decided that he wants to get back into pulpit work and also wants to be closer to Montreal, where his sister lives and is fighting cancer. We wish him well in his new work. Thanks Jeff! Until arrangements for a replacement have been completed, please continue to send bulletins and reports to the same mailing address: 217 Osborne Street South, Winnipeg, MB R3L 1Z4. E-mail can be sent to: gospherald@aol.com.

MANITOBA

Carman: On November 7-8, the congregation hosted its first Senior Rally with Danny and Dorothy Wieb. The theme for the weekend was: "Moving Forward Gracefully."

Sister Merle Bulmer passed away on Wednesday, September 23, at the age of 97.

A special collection raised \$2,825 for Rick and Carole Pinczuk's work in the Ukraine.

Dauphin: Elders were appointed on October 4. Those serving as elders are Bill Hart, John Harvey, Bill Ulrich and Jack Close.

The Ladies Ministry met on October 17. In September, they delivered two bouquets of flowers and thirteen meals.

Winnipeg (Central): The Youth Rally was held on October 16-18. Special thanks to Gerry Bibaud and Rolland Bouchard for their excellent lessons and to Rolland for his song leading. Eighty young people from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and North Dakota attended the rally. Combined attendance at the two Sunday morning services was 323.

We rejoice with four souls that have recently been baptized into Christ: Alanna Johnson, Denise Komar, Sharon King, Tracy King.

The congregation received word on November 8 that Bill Love, formerly an

evangelist in Winnipeg, had recently suffered a stroke in Houston, Texas. After the stroke, Bill was paralyzed on one side and unable to speak. Doctors were hopeful that he would, in time, make a good recovery. The doctors were also planning to implant a pacemaker.

The Saturday evening Spanish Bible study group has been transformed into an international-multicultural group. Over 33 turned out for a potluck on November 7, with people from Sri Lanka, El Salvador, Costa Rica, the Philippines, Hon Kong, China, and Zambia, with a token representation from Canada and the US attending.

SASKATCHEWAN

Moose Jaw: Summer has now passed here on the prairies, but we have been blessed with an unbelievably beautiful fall. We had a taste of what is to come, when we awoke on Sunday morning, Oct. 11th to heavy snow, but it melted away quickly. We are blessed in this part of the country to see God's handiwork through nature in the various seasons.

The summer months saw many of our members away for family vacations, but we were blessed each Sunday to have visitors among us. It's always a blessing to have people visiting whom we may not have seen for a while, or maybe not met before.

The congregation enjoyed the annual "Bar-b-que & Corn Roast" hosted by Paul Wenaas and George & Terri-Lynn Fowler at Paul's home on August 13th. This is always a wonderful time of visiting and great food.

We continue with an on-going collection of non-perishable grocery items for the Moose Jaw & District Food Bank. These donations assist people right here in our own city and surrounding area.

The last Sunday of each month is our "Monthly Fellowship Time," where we share a noon potluck lunch together following our morning service. If any are passing through Moose Jaw on the last Sunday of the month, please plan to share lunch with us.

During the summer months, our young people met together as a group for class, scripture reading, prayer and singing on Sunday mornings from 10:00 to 11:00. The first Sunday in September saw the individual classes resume. Meeting together over the summer makes it easier when our own teachers and the students are away now and then on holidays. We also find that it is good for the kids to interact with each other

on the various age levels. The younger kids sure enjoy and look up to the older ones.

Once again, we are participating in the services at the Senior Care Homes around town. The seniors in these homes really appreciate us reaching out to them and we are blessed in having so many of our group involved in this program.

With the beginning of the school year, we once again began supplying muffins and cookies once a month to the Hunger in Moose Jaw-Children's Muffin Program. These muffins are distributed to some schools in town where children have come to school having had no breakfast. If we have made the day of one child go better, being involved has been worthwhile.

Our hearts were deeply saddened on October 14th, when the Moose Jaw congregation lost a special sister and friend in Kathy (Dods) Oberg. Kathy was born in Moose Jaw 55 years ago, moved away, married, had children and grandchildren and completed the circle by returning to be part of the congregation here this past spring. Kathy was deeply committed to the Church and her family, and will be missed by all who knew her. Kathy had been having problems with her heart & artery blockages for some time. It's difficult to have someone leave us so suddenly, but we know that Kathy was prepared to meet her Maker. "I have always known that at last I would take this road, but yesterday, I did not know that it would be today." We pray God's healing hand to be on Kathy's family.

On Wednesday evening, October 28th, the adults were invited to share in a time with the young people who attend our Wednesday evening youth classes. We spent time in song, prayer, did a craft and then had a snack together. We have asked the adults to pray for all of the young people who attend our classes on Sunday morning and/or Wednesday evening, those of our congregation and those who attend from the city. Times have changed since some of us were young, and kids face things today at a very young age that some of us have never ever had to experience. Please keep children everywhere in your prayers.

Several of the congregation traveled to Bismark for their annual Lectureship program on November 1 - 4. This is always a special time of learning, study and fellowship.



by Marion Waugh
4727 15A Avenue
Edmonton, AB T6L 6J1
Phone & FAX: 403-463-7324

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver (Oakridge): October was the month of the formal appointment of deacons. This is an exciting time for us, as we begin to see some real goals being reached.

The Crosstown Church of Christ in Tulsa, Oklahoma, is the sponsor of our preacher and helps us with our work here at Oakridge. They would like to help train more brothers and sisters for service. Courses from the Sunset International Bible School (formerly the Sunset School of Preaching) are being made available.

We are looking at the purpose of the church. First we concentrated on the place of the Word of God in the life of the Christian. We are to be fully committed to the study of the word, but also to obedience to the word. We cannot be a light in the darkness if we do not have the word of God deep within us. It is also important to deal with sin. So we discussed the Christian's attitude toward sin and how to deal with sin. Lastly, the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives was discussed. Without the Spirit, we cannot do God's will on earth.

Ming Paul Lee: There are many suffering and painful situations in Kosaova/Albania. The good news is there have been 64 baptisms in Albania and new congregations have begun in nine cities. There are Christian workers sharing their faith and teaching English. Come and be a part of this. Contact Dick Ady, 1525 NW Division Street, Gresham, OR, USA, 97030 or Ming Paul Lee, 2635 Island Hwy. East, Nanoose Bay, B.C., Canada, V9P 9E5.

We have had a few high school and college students from Vietnam, Thailand and Japan in our home. Together we cook, eat, and have fun and games, and discussions on culture, Bible and sharing our love and faith. These times of fellowship enrich

and develop spiritual growth within the church.

Prince George: The building was sold almost three years ago and the church now meets in the Columbus Community Centre, 7201 Domano Boulevard. Blair Roberts is now working with this church.

Kelowna (Rutland): In a telephone conversation, Bill Forman informed us of eight recent baptisms and that Gordon Clarkson is helping with the preaching.

ALBERTA

Edmonton: October has been a very exciting month for the church in Edmonton. The labour of sowing and watering that has been taking place over the past few months has borne fruit. Wayne and Nancy Payne and Hilda Doerksen were baptized on October 10. Philip Killeen, (teenage son of Garry and Helen Killeen, one of our deacons) was baptized on October 11. Bob Twigge was baptized on October 14. Patty Roy was baptized on October 25. These six souls bring to nineteen the number who have been added to the kingdom here in 1998.

Eleven of our teenagers attended the youth rally in Winnipeg on October 16-18. The youth rally was well worth the long drive. Rolland Bouchard, one of our intern evangelists led singing at the rally, and Gerry Bibaud, one of our evangelists was the speaker. Both men did an excellent job.

A Ladies Day Out was held for all the ladies of the congregation on October 17. A men's business meeting was held on October 24, with an excellent turnout.

Sadly, we said farewell to the Watson family in October. Steve, Carol, Cindy and Cody will all be missed. Our loss will be Ontario's gain.

Our attendance has been climbing for the past couple of months. We have had 340 or more in attendance three times since September 1. This growth will prompt us to dust off our plans for coping with growth in the congregation.

In October, we finished renovations to the house immediately south of the church building, and moved the office and intern study room to the house. This will make room for additional classrooms or possible auditorium expansion in the building. The teens are renovating the basement of the house to make a classroom for themselves.

MONTANA

Great Falls: Dr. Gayle Napier, an eminent family therapist, conducted a timely and dynamic seminar entitled "Building Great Marriages and Families." Dr. Napier is Director of Counselling and Family Life with the Harpeth Hills Church in Nashville, Tennessee.

The ladies class is studying every Tuesday. At present, they are studying one book of the Old Testament each week.

Eleven Koininia Kin (fellowship) Groups are being started. Everyone in the congregation has been matched to a Koininia Kin Group. These are designed for fellowship. To help achieve this purpose, the study time will be along the format of a short Bible Discussion. This study will hopefully lead us into some good fellowship and the development of some great relationships in Christ.

Other weekly Bible Studies are designed to allow us to invite our friends to study the Bible in a non-threatening environment.

MOPS is off to a running start this year with a full enrolment of kids and moms. The theme for this year is "Feather Your Nest."

You are encouraged to
tune in to:



On Vision T.V.

- Thursday mornings
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BOOK REVIEWS

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



(The review of any book in this column does not imply endorsement of all of its contents or its author's teachings or activities.)

Directions For The Road Ahead: Stability in Change Among Churches of Christ, Edited by Jim Sheerer, Charles L. Williams., Yeomen Press, Chickasha, Oklahoma. 258 pages, \$10.00 (U.S.)

This is without a doubt the most significant book published on our brotherhood in recent times. It is must reading for every concerned member of the church. The relatively low price makes it affordable for everyone.

Howard Norton states in the preface, "This book grows out of strong desire to clarify and restate some distinctive biblical concepts that churches of Christ have tried to restore during the last two hundred years." He laments the fact that some of our preachers and teachers have almost quit teaching some of the most fundamental, biblical concepts that the Restoration Movement had rediscovered. He gives the example of a preacher giving a sermon on

baptism in one of the largest congregations in our brotherhood. One of the members said he had been attending that church for fifteen years and, in all those years had never before heard a lesson from the pulpit dealing with baptism. Some admire the Evangelicals so much that they are becoming more like them and less like the Restoration pioneers. The wide reading and application of this book will help combat these trends. Norton concludes "Our forefathers warned us repeatedly that we are never more than one generation away from apostasy. If we did not understand this when they first spoke the words, we now know the truth of what they were saying. Our challenge in churches of Christ is to avoid bowing either to the secular or the religious culture that surrounds us and devote ourselves to the task of finding what God said about the issues we face today. Then comes the greatest challenge of all : putting what He said into practice."

Another highly respected brother, Jack Lewis, says in the Introduction, "It is also hoped that the studies will be a stimulus to

each advocate of change to ask, what Scripture basis do I have for contending that what I want is also what the Lord wants?" Also, another well known leader says in the Christian Chronicle, July 1998, "Books like this assist us in defining the 'constants' in our faith that we must guard in times of rapid change all around us. We can come to a consensus of matters of essential faith. I am grateful for this mature re-defining of these things that we hold dear. This book is worth reading!" (Royce Money, President of Abilene Christian University)

There are sixteen chapters in this excellent book. Each chapter is written by a scholar who has devoted much time and effort in a particular area. One chapter that needs to be prayerfully considered is "The Role of Women in the Assembly of the Church" by Nancy Ferguson. Those who are advocating that women have a more active role in services need to read this chapter very carefully. I can hear someone saying, "You are inconsistent. You are saying we can be taught by this woman's article in this book." But as Sister Ferguson points out the restrictions of Scripture have to do with the assembly of the church. This does not mean that a woman cannot express her views in private or in writing. Other questions discussed include music, praise teams, baptism, The Holy Spirit; the inerrancy of the Bible, and many others.

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OBITUARIES

WINNIFRED AINSLIE CAMERON

Sister Ainslie Cameron passed away at the Grove Park Home in Barrie, Ontario, on Sunday, October 4, 1998. Ainslie (nee Campbell) Cameron, formerly of Calgary, Guelph and Ottawa was in her 91st year. Ainslie was baptized into Christ in 1949 at the Maplewood Avenue church building in Toronto. She was a retired University Professor.

She is mourned by her beloved husband, Dr. Colin R. Cameron, to whom she was married in October, 1950 and her beloved children, Carol McLeod of Ottawa and Colin of Nova Scotia. She is also mourned by her grand daughter Jennifer McLeod of the N.W.T. and her sisters, Mary & Florence, and brothers Gordon and Donald. She was predeceased by brothers Ross, Stuart and Norman.

A service of praise and thanksgiving for His blessings was conducted in her memory at the Barrie church building on Friday, October 9th by the writer and brother Claude Cox. Her children, Carol and Colin, shared their very moving remembrances of their mother.

I remember sister Cameron as a part of our first church family in Canada when we moved to Sanford Avenue in Hamilton in 1961. I enjoyed the visits in their home and the fellowship we shared at church activities. I remember her to be an encourager to a

young preacher adjusting to a new country. At these times one should give thanks for the blessings of those who have touched one's life in a positive way.

May God bless Colin, Carol, Colin and Jennifer along with all who mourn the passing of our sister in Christ. He will give strength for the days ahead.

Max Craddock

CHARLES ALEXANDER ROBERTSON

James, Peter and John, those reputed to be pillars, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship when they recognized the grace given to me. Gal. 2:9

Through the years people have been known to be pillars in congregations. Charles Alexander Robertson was a pillar in the Ice Lake congregation. He gave not only the right hand of fellowship but also the hospitality of his home to many who visited this congregation. An active teacher and worship leader, Charlie left an indelible print on those who knew him in both the church and community. One member of the community commended him as "a moral standard to our community."

Charlie passed away June 14, 1998 at the age of 91 years. He lived most of his life in the Ice Lake area farming and applying his trade skills. Many will remember him as the one who started the Rock Shop. In his retirement he and a group of seniors made beautiful jewelry from stones that they carefully chose and meticulously polished. Perhaps it reminded Charlie that God can take our rough lives and make them beautiful by His gentle, loving, shaping and polishing.

Charlie is especially missed by his wife

Dorothy, daughter Marion (Mrs. Charles Sheppard), son Jim and his wife Jacquie. He also leaves several grandchildren and great grandchildren, many of whom continue to support the Ice Lake congregation.

Charlie's life is summed up in one of his own innocent but meaningful statements. He became confused, especially about time, near the end of his life. One time, when his wife was away, he came to the building at the wrong time for worship. I saw him there and stepped in to tell him it was not the time for worship. His response was simply, "Well, I guess it is better to be here at the wrong time than not to be here at the right time."

Les Cramp

CLARA CULLEY

Clara Culley was a wonderful Christian lady. Having lived her life to the fullest, our dear Sister in Christ departed this world to be with Christ on October 8, 1998. She was born Clara Jane Purves on February 27, 1906 in the city of Sarnia and there she would remain her entire life. She was baptized into Christ in 1943 by J.C. Bailey and remained a faithful member of the church in Sarnia until her death. Clara married Bill Culley in 1930, a union that would last 42 years before he was called from this life.

She leaves to mourn her passing a daughter Marion Williamson (husband Don) and two grandchildren, Craig & Laura.

She was a favourite to many, such a loveable personality, a refreshing presence and always an encouragement. While we hate to say good-bye to such a one as this, we celebrate her life, a life of victory because of the faith she placed in Jesus Christ.

Drew Chapados

John looked at Jesus and said, "Look, here is Jesus, the Lamb of God!" Two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned around, saw them and said, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi, where do you live?" He replied, "Come and see." They came and saw. (John 1:35-39)

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Brown, Sandy	S	17	"Powerful Prepositions"	S	8	Original Sin	A	2	WOMEN'S RIGHTS		
Cameron, Winnifred Ainslie	D	15	Powerful Prepositions #2	O	8	SLAVIC EVANGELISM MINISTRY			Women's Rights	Jn	10
Comfort, Elsie L.	Ag	17	The New Year Begins Volume #63	J	8	Rick Pinczuk	S	8	Yurk, Larry R.		
Culley, Clara	D	15	"This Should Not Be"	N	8	SEM Receives Official Canadian			A Tribute to a Worthy Couple--		
Gilbert, Harry	N	16	PERSECUTION			Charitable Status	F	16	Cecil and Lavine Bailey	A	1
Gladwell, Jack	F	16	The High Cost of Discipleship	Jl	7	Smith, Murray					

16th Iberoamerican Encounter to Target Canada in Year 2000

by Geoffrey H. Ellis

Santiago Molina and Javier Cuarezma, Spanish speaking evangelists from Canada, extended an invitation for the 16th annual meeting of the Iberoamerican Encounter to gather in Toronto, Canada in the year 2000. Molina and Cuarezma were participants at the 14th annual meeting held in San Salvador, El Salvador during November 3-7. Those assembled responded enthusiastically to the proposal. As well, they affirmed their intention to gather for the 15th annual event in the Dominican Republic in 1999.

The "Encounter" is planned and hosted each year by church leaders in one of the Spanish speaking countries in Central and South America as well as in North America. The event has characteristically a double emphasis: a program of lectures directed to evangelists and church leaders and a campaign conducted by participants among the churches in the host city. The

two most recent Encounters were held in Puerto Rico and Medellin, Columbia. The meetings are noted for the fellowship that draws brethren from throughout the Latin American world and for the encouragement they provide for evangelism throughout the regions represented. In preparing for the San Salvador gathering, the planning committee worked for a two-year period prior to the 1998 event in some one hundred and eighty meetings.

The San Salvador Encounter drew one hundred people from eleven different countries including: El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Columbia, the United States and Canada. The theme for the 1998 Encounter was The Transcendent Vision of the Evangelist.

Hurricane "Mitch" hindered this year's meeting as well as creating havoc for the

areas nearest to the San Salvador host city: eastern El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua. Some sixty-five and twenty-five participants had planned to attend from Honduras and Nicaragua respectively but were unable to because of the devastating storm.

A growing fellowship of Hispanic brethren is developing in Canada where now one out of every nine citizens speaks Spanish. The Toronto encounter will have two objectives: to encourage all Hispanic workers and members in Canada in their evangelistic endeavors and to awaken the Canadian church in general to the growing challenge before it in the next century to win Hispanic Canadians for Christ. Church leaders across the country are encouraged to begin making plans to attend the 16th Iberoamerican Encounter in the fall of 2000.

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 \$8.00 per year and changes are \$4.00 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.

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

CALGARY: (Northside): 803-2A Ave. N.E., T2E 1S1; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7; recorded message; 276-8088; Wayne Bailey, 247-6337; Brian Guilbault, 264-9232.

CALGARY: 4030 Maryvale Dr. N.E., T2A 2S8; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 6; Wed. 7; Small Groups (Fri. - Mon. eve.) Phone: (403) 272-2111; E-mail: ccofc@cadvision.com; Larry Yurk, ev., 547-2046.

CAMROSE: 4901-42 St., T4V 1A3; Sun. 9:30, 10:30; Wed. 7; Will Hart, ev. (403) 672-1220.

EDMONTON: 13015-116 Ave., T5M 3C9, 455-1049; FAX 454-9545; Sun. 9:30; Wed. 7:00; C. Eric Limb, Henri Bouchard, Herb Anderson, David Hotchkiss elders.

FORT MCMURRAY: Beauregard Edu. Community Centre, Abasand; Sun. 10-12; Thurs. Bible Talk 7:30 in homes. Mon. ladies class 1:30-3:00 in homes (phone (403) 790-0109; Terry Mullins, Treas., 399 Thicket Dr., T9H 4H7; (403) 790-3537; Billy McMillan, ev.

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

MEDICINE HAT: Crescent Heights Church of Christ, 402 12th St. N.E., T1A 5V3; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7; Herb Carnegie, ev., (403) 527-5406 (res.); 527-7311 (off.).

RED DEER: 4519 53rd St., T4N 2E4; Sun. 11:15, 10, (evening--call for information); Wed. 7; John Smith, ev. (403) 347-3986.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ABBOTSFORD (Central Valley): Columbia Bible College Chapel, 2940 Clearbrook Road; Sun. 11:15, 10; midweek class 7:30 in homes; #4-3292 Elmwood Drive, V2S 6B2, Norm Weir, ev. (604) 850-8670 (off); 859-5973 (res). If no answer 852-5052.

BURNABY (Greater Vancouver): 7485 Salisbury Ave., V5E 3A5; Sun. 10:45, 9:30; Midweek (groups meet in homes. Call for times & locations); Jeff Floyd, ev. 526-3895; Kirk Ruch, ev., 951-4102; (604) 522-7721 (off).

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

CHILLIWACK: Senior Citizens Bldg. Br 24, corner of Cook and Victoria St.; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7 at 9687 Windsor St; Mail P.O. Box 327, V2P 6V4, 24 hr. phone (604) 792-4940; George Sillman, ev., Al McCutcheon, sec. 792-0046.

CRESTON: Corner of 5th Ave. and Cook St.; Sun. 10, 11; Box 2329, V0B 1G0; 428-7411 (off) or 428-5937.

CROFTON: 1288 Smith Rd. Box 45, V0R 1R0; Phone for time; (250) 246-3659.

DELTA: Ladner Community Centre; Sun. 10, 10:50; Wed. in homes 8:00; 205-1318 - 56th St. V4L 2A4 (off); 56th St., V4L 2A4; Jay Don Rogers, ev., (604) 943-7280 (res.), 943-0515 (off).

KAMLOOPS: 110 Mohawk Cres., V2H 1J6; Sun. 10:30; Thurs. 6:30 pm; Contact Dan McLean (250) 374-4624, Rob Harper, (250) 554-6721; FAX 554-6728.

KELOWNA: 1317 Ethel St. V1Y 2X1; Sun. 10:45, Bible study 9:30; Charles McKnight (250) 861-9486 and Barrie Forman 763-2103 (pager 717-8043), evs.; Wayne Muirhead 861-4008 and Ted Windswill 763-8445, elders.

KELOWNA (Rutland): #209-120 McIntosh Rd., V1X 7E8; Sun. 11. Call for directions/other services, Bill Forman, ev. (250) 765-3643.

NANAIMO: 1720 Meredith Rd., V9S 2M4; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7:00; Grant Hannan, ev. 758-9412 (off.); Les Beamish, sec. 758-6929.

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

PENTICTON: Penticton Retirement Centre, 439 Winnipeg St.; Sun. 9, 10; Wed. 7:30; Box 24082, V2A 8L9.

PRINCE GEORGE: Columbus Community Centre, 7201 Damana Blvd.; Sun. 10; for other meeting times and places call David Forman, (250) 962-2058 or Blair Roberts, 962-0800; 4343 Highland Dr. V2K 2C7

PRINCE RUPERT: 977 Prince Rupert Blvd; Sun. 4, 3; Thurs. 7; Dick Brant, Bob Turner, evs.; (604) 624-4449 (res.), 624-5834 (off.).

RICHMOND: Call Gary Marrs, ev. (604) 271-6197 or Carlos Castillo (604) 273-0506.

SALMON ARM: Community Center, 2550 TransCanada Hwy. N.E., Rm 1; Sun. 9:45, 10:45; 7:30; Wed. 7:30 at Shuswap Christian School, corner of 5th & 5th SE. Call 832-3828; P.O. Box 51, V1E 4N2; W. Bailey, John Murray, M. Taylor, elders. Shuswap Christian School, Box 789, V1E 4N9, 832-7994; Doug Kendig, adm. 835-8529 (res.).

SURREY (Greater Vancouver): 15042 92nd Ave., V3R 5V8; Sun. 10, 11; Tues. 7:30; Ron Beckett, ev., 594-1796.

VANCOUVER (Oakridge): 6970 Oak St., V6P 3Z6; English services: Sun. 10, 10:40, 5 (Spanish Bible Class 10 and Fri. 6:30); Wed. 7:30; Stephen C. Hasbrouck, ev. (604) 241-7544 (res); Spanish services: Sun. 5; Fri. 6:30; Milton Diaz, ev., 432-1749 (res.).

VERNON: 4107 Pleasant Valley Rd.; Sun. 10, 11; Box 541, V1T 6M5; Bruce Tetreau, ev., 503-0112.

VICTORIA: 3460 Shelbourne St., V8P 4G5; Sun. 8:30 or 11:00, 10:00; midweek in homes; Kelly Carter, ev. (250) 592-4914 (off), (250) 472-3775 (res.).

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

BRANDON: 943 7th St., R7A 3V1; Sun. 10, 11; (204) 728-0957; Charles Muller, sec. 726-4723.

CARMAN: Main Street S.; Sun. 10, 6; Wed. 7:30; c/o D.B. Laycock, Box 266, Miami, R0G 1H0; 435-2413; or contact Ray Winkler (elder), 745-3226; Hugh Gannon, ev., 745-6969.

DAUPHIN: Multipurpose Room, Dauphin Regional Consolidated Secondary School, Mountain Road; Sun. 9:15, 10:00; Sun. & Wed. p.m. call for class locations; P.O. Box 701, R7N 3B3; (204) 638-6321 (off); William Hart, elder, 638-5283.

MANSON: Bldg. in Manson Village; Sun. 10, 11; Box 2, R0M 1J0; Gilbert Jacobs, (204) 722-2148 or Lloyd Jacobs, (204) 722-2278, elders.

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

WINNIPEG (Central): 217 Osborne St. S., R3L 1Z4; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7; Jim Hobbs, sec. for elders (204) 261- 9861; Wayne Turner, ev. (204) 257-7926 (res); Jeff Harris, ev. 261-5360 (res); Bible Call 284-9506; 475-6462 (off), 475-5302 (fax).

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

MONCTON: 365 Pine Glen Rd., Riverview (Moncton), E1B 4B8; Sun. 10, Wed. 7:30 p.m.; (506) 852-0919; Royal Maillet (506) 532-2956, Tim Johnson, ev., (506) 386-1682, elders.

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

PROVINCE OF NEWFOUNDLAND

STEPHENVILLE: 13 Florida Loop, A2N 2W9; Sun & Wed 7:30 p.m.; Daren & Kim Simmons, (709) 643-2629.

NEW YORK STATE

BUFFALO (Linwood): 481 Linwood Ave., 14209; Sun. 9:30, 10:45, 6; Training Class 5; Wed. 7; John Smiley, ev. (716) 882-5434.

NORTH BUFFALO: 350 Kenmore Ave., 14223; Sun. 10, 11, 6:30; Wed. 7:30; Drop P.O. Box 128, 14223; David Cornfield, ev.; (716) 835-6010.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

YELLOWKNIFE: 516 Range Lake Rd., X1A 3A7; Sun. 10; Wed. 7:30; 873-3875. Elders: David Lidbury, Barnard Straker; Steve McMillan, ev.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

HALIFAX: 48 Convoy Ave., B3N 2P8; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:30; (903) 443-9628 (off.); Keith Brumley, ev. (902) 445-4194 (res); Wayne Taylor, sec., (902) 876-7402.

KENTVILLE: Middle Dyke & Mee Rd.; Sun. 11, 10, 6; Wed. 7; Box 26, B4N 3V9; (902) 678-8881 or 582-1227.

SHUBENACADIE: Mill Village Church, 2 miles w. of Shubenacadie; Sun. 10:15, 11; Wed. 7; R.R. 1, B0N 2H0; D. Hallett (902) 758-2133; J. Mackey, sec., (902) 758-2633; 758-3215 (off.).

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

AJAX (Serving Oshawa, Whitby, Pickering): 1 Cedar St.; Sun. 9:45, 11, 7; Wed. 7:00; Box 162, L1S 3C3; Ph. (905) 683-2477 or A. Langford, sec., (905) 683-6735; Devon Bennett, ev. (905) 686-2486.

BARRIE: 345 Grove St. E. (at Cook), L4M 2R6; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:30; 722-7155 (off.); Claude Cox, ev. (705) 737-2272.

BEAMSVILLE: 4900 John St., L0R 1B6; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 6; Wed. 7:00; Don Smith, ev. (905) 563-7655 (off).

BRAMALEA: 750 Clark Blvd. (south of Hwy. 7 on Finchgate Boulevard), L6T 3Y2; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Thurs. 7:30; Walter Straker, ev. (905) 455-3263 (res.); 792-2297 (off).

BRANTFORD: 267 North Park St., N3R 4L2; Sun. 10, 11, last Sunday of month 6:30; Wed. 7; contact Roy Cox (519) 753-6051; office (519) 759-6630.

BRANTFORD: 267 North Park St., N3R 4L2; Contemporary services Sun. 2 p.m., classes 1 p.m., prayer, praise and studies, Sun. 7:30 and Wed. 7:30 in homes; contact Rick Gamble (519) 753-5353; 759-6630 (bldg).

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

COLLINGWOOD: 494 Tenth St.; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7; c/o Frank Kneeshaw, 317 Hume Street, L9Y 1W4, 445- 3252; 444-0010 (office); Wayford Smith, ev. 444-2701.

CORNWALL: 1702 Dover Rd., K6J 1W1; Sun 10, 11; Wed. 7; Allen Bojarski, ev. Phone (613) 933-1825, e-mail: allenk@cnwligs.net.

CORNWALL: 205 Tollgate Rd. E.; Sun. 10, 11 plus home Bible studies; Wed. 7; Box 42, K6H 5R9; Randy Downton (613) 936-0718; e-mail downtown@cnwligs.net; Ann Hotchkiss, sec. (613) 932-5053; bldg. (613) 933- 4999; for bus pick up (613) 932-8819.

FENWICK: Welland Ave.; Sun. 9:45, 11, 7; Wed. 7:30; P.O. Box 416, L0S 1C0; Felix Turner, ev. (905) 892-9020.

GORE BAY: W. Manitoulin church; (Gore Bay waterfront, past docks); Sun. 10:30; Box 85, P0P 1H0; Contact John Robertson (705) 282-3499; Bill Baker (705) 282-2095.

GRIMSBY: 63 Casablanca Blvd., south of Q.E. exit; Sun. SS 11:05; Worship 9:45, 6; Wed. 7; Box 181, L3M 4G3; (905) 945-3058; Dave Cox, sec. (905) 945-3833.

GUELPH: The Evergreen Senior Center, 683 Woolwich St.; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:30 (phone for location); c/o 428 Cole Rd., N1G 3J8; David Azzoparde, sec. (519) 821-9179.

HAILEYBURY/NEW LISKEARD: Meeting in homes. Times flexible. Mike Tinney, Box 702, Haileybury, P0J 1K0, 705-672-9241.

HAMILTON: 321 East 27th Street, L8V 3G8 (at Fennell) (Mt. Hamilton); Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7:30; (905) 385- 5775; John Dennis, sec., (905) 389-0717; Guy Stopard, ev. (905) 318-0102.

HAMILTON (West): Mohawk College, Fennell Ave./West 5th St.; Sun. 10, 11, (Please phone for Sun. p.m. and midweek information); P.O. Box 78041 Westcliffe PO, L9C 7N5; Wayne Page (905) 648-5100.

HEATHCOTE: Sun. 11; Larry Elford, R.R. 1, Kimberley, ON N0C 1G0.

HUNTSVILLE: Chaffey community Hall, Muskoka Rd. 3, one km. N. of Hwy 60; Sun. 6:30 p.m.; Eugene Preston (705) 789-7630; David Preston, sec., R.R. #1, GR Box 174, P0A 1K0; 789-7697.

HUNTSVILLE: 36 Hilltop Dr. PIH 1C5 (off Hwy. 11BN); Sun. 9:45, 11, 7; Wed. 8; Contact John H. Preston, sec., (705) 767-3237.

ICE LAKE (Manitoulin Island): 1 1/4 mi. S. of Hwy. 540; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Mon. 7:30; Les Cramp, ev. (705) 282-0974; Peter Tallman, sec., R.R. #1, Mindemoya, P0P 1S0, 377-4555.

KENORA: 101 Norman Dr.; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7; P.O. Box 2905, P9N 3X8; Earl Rattai, ev., 548-2245.

KINGSTON: 446 College St., K7L 4M7; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7; (613) 546-5409 (off.).

KITCHENER SOUTH: Kitchener City Hall (Learning Room), 200 King St. W.; Sun. 11:15, 12:30; Wed. 7:30 in homes; Gregory Smith, sec., 480 Drummerhill Cres., N2T 1G4; (519) 884-2449.

LONDON: 1750 Huron St., N5V 3A2; (519) 455-6730; Sun. 9:30, 11; Call for mid-week opportunities. Harold Byne, ev. 645-0575; FAX 645-6037.

elson St.W. N4L 1G3; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Wed. 7:30; Bill Scharz, ev., (519) 538-1750 66 (res.), 895-6502 (off.); e-mail: meafordcof@bmts.com.

1 Davis Dr.; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6:30; Wed. 7:30; Upper Canada P.O. Box 21581, L3Y 8J1; ritannia Ave., Bradford, L3Z 1A4; Ph/Fax (905) 778-0366 (res), 895-6502 (off)

3901 Dorchester Rd. N., L2J 3A8, (905) 356-3412 (turn E. on Thorold Stone Rd. from hester Rd.); Sun. 10:30-12, 5:30 (last Sunday of month 10:30, 1); Wed. 7:00; Henry 37 and Darrin Douglas (905) 371-1581, evs.

ertrude St. E.; Sun. 11:15, 10:30; 6:30 in homes (call for information); Wed. 7; Box 745, 340 (off.); David Lock, ev. 78-345 Mulligan St. P1A 3S3; (705) 475-0911, e-mail-; WebSite-http://www.geocities.com/Hearthland/Meadows/8939.

inia Road W. at 4th line, Milton, L9T 2X8; Sun. 10, 11; Thurs. 7:30 in homes; c/o t. #3, Campbellville, L0P 1B0; (905) 878-7565; Bryan Meneer, ev. (905) 383-5259;

mley Cres., K1G 0V9; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7; Robert MacRury, ev., 733-2580 (off);

i 10th Ave. E., N4K 3H8; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Thurs. 7; Walter N. Hart, ev. (519) 372- (off), e-mail wn.hart@bmts.com.

The Lions Center (corner of Hunter St. & Burnham); Lord's Supper/Classes, 10-11, Lindan Ave., K9L 1K9; Peter McPherson, ev.(705) 742-5349; Shaun Parks (705) 876-

un. 10, 11; Bruce Brandon, sec. 852-5026, RR 2, Uxbridge, L9P 1R2.

700 Steele St., L3K 4Z2; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 6:30 Potluck every first Sun.; 834-5775

439 Ontario St. N., L2N 4M9; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 6; Wed. 7:30; Steve Cardle, ev.; (905) 581 (off.); contact David Carruthers (905) 227-8972.

Garden City): Ina Grafton Gage Home (Elm Room), 413 Linwell Rd.; Sun. 9, 10, 11; ikamp, ev. 123½ Keefer Rd., Thorold ON L2V 4N1, ev. 227-8336.

Edgeware Rd. N5P 2H6; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7; Brian Thompson, ev., (519) 633-2210

d. E., N7V 2G7; Sun. 9:30, 10:45, 6:30; Wed. 7; Len Dennis, 542-3260; Contact Vern 8; E-mail:sarcocf@ebtech.net

.(Eastside): 99 Melville Rd., P6A 5J6; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7:30; (705) 946-1930.

.(Pinehill): 132 Cunningham Rd., P6B 1N4; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7; Roger Lansdell, 9-4988 (off.); R. Whitfield, sec., 949-7612.

of village; Sun. 11, 10; Wed. 7:30; Box 13, N0A 1P0.

station St.; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7; Art Garner, Box 144, L0R 2A0; (905) 957-7745; 23.

ar St. S.; off Ottawa St. W.; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7:30; Box 549, P0A 1X0; Jim 4-5215, 386-2628, church bldg. 386-2551.

15 King St. E., L8G 1L1; (905) 664-1130 (off.); Sun. 9:45, 11; Sun. & Tues. evenings Darrell Buchanan, ev., (905) 664-7583(res); Robert Priestnall, sec.

runswick St., N5A 3N6; Sun. 11:15, 9:45; Wed. 7:30; George Mansfield, ev. (519) 14 (res); e-mail: grmansf@quadro.net; David Ross, 744-2872; ing.com John Brush, 625-1054; Larry Hoover, 271-9545; Joseph Kippax, 744-3439;

croft Dr. P3B 1T7; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7:00; Peter Morphy, ev., (705) 524-3944 emails: pmorphy@cyberbeach.net; Wes Bailey, sec. 523-0933..

1 N.; Sun. 9:45, 11; Wed. 7; P.O. Box 927, P0A 1Z0; (705) 384-5214.

rt St. off Hwy. 17; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7:30; Eric White, RR 2, P0R 1L0 (705) 842-, 842-2741.

Edward St. N. (at Redwood), P7C 4R1; (807) 577-2213; Sun. 9:45, 11 (10:30 Anne Toews, sec. (807) 577-4081 (res).

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

er Public School, 200 Victoria Ave.; Sun. 10-12; Thurs. 7:30-8:30; Box 1396, P4N on call Larry Frost, sec./treas., (705) 268-4526.

159 Spring Creek Rd., Vineland, ON L0R 2C0; Sun. 11, 9:45, 6; Wed. 7:00; Jim 348 (res), 563-6311 (off).

Ave.): 1708 Bayview Ave., M4G 3C4 (1 block S. of Eglington); Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 13 Campbell Ave., M6P 3T9; Ph (416) 534-3033; Darrell Buchanan, ev. (416) 489-

Ave.): 47 Harding Ave., M6M 3A3; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 8; Dick Forsyth, ev., lupert Comrie, sec., 656-9309.

st): 7 Elinor Ave. (meets at Wexford Presbyterian bldg., Lawrence Ave. E. between n); Sun 5, 6; Thurs. in homes. Melanie Wright, treas., 1093 Kingston Rd.#611, 699-4116; R. Kruse, sec., 20 Bernice Cresc. M6N 1W6, 762-5668.

re Blvd.): 346 Strathmore Blvd. M4C 1N3 (across from Coxwell subway station); Marvin Johnson (416) 752-0325, Stephen Gill (416) 265-2496, elders; Max 86, e-mail maxc@sympatico.ca; FAX (416) 424-1850; Santiago Molina (Spanish)

LLE: Clarion Inn, 211 Pinnacle St., Belleville; Sun. 9:45; 10:45; p.m. in homes; i. Box 22049, Trenton Center, Trenton, ON K8V 6S3; M. McDonnell (613) 969-

Iwy #10 (2 km S. of Markdale) along Artemesia Township sideroad 10 7 km; Sun. t.R. #6, Markdale, N0C 1H0; (519) 986-2143. Gordon Dennis, RR3; Mount Forest, y 334-3077

ry St. W. (at Hazel), N2L 3J4; Sun. 9:30, 10:30; Wed. 7:30; Bob Sandiford, sec., eoff Ellis, ev., 885-6330 (off.); 885-3702 (res.).

WELLAND: 72 Summit Ave., L3C 4G6; Sun. 11, 10, 6:30; Wed. 7; S.F. Timmerman, ev. Box 193, Beamsville, L0R 1B0; 563-8765; Magnar Knutson, 65 Graystone Cresc., L3C 4G6, (905) 788-3248.

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., 1179 Harrison Ave., N9C 3J4; (519) 253-3932 e-mail: <drew@wincom.net>

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MONTREAL (French): 2500 Charland, H1Z 1C5; Sun. 10:15, 11:00; Wed. 7:00 (Fr. class); 1st Sat. 5:30 p.m. 4PhoebeV women's class; 1st Sat. 6:00 youth meeting; Silvio Caddeo, ev., 387-6163 (off.); 337-9344 (res.); email: caddeo@total.net.

MONTREAL (English/French/Spanish/Chinese/Ghanian): 1650 De Missionneuve, O., Suite 500, H3H 2P3; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 6:30; Wed. 7; 934-0400 (off.).

MONTREAL (Verdun): 503-5th Avenue, Verdun, QC H4G 2Z2; (514) 765-8919; (Fr.) Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7; Roger Saumur, ev. (514) 635-5105; rsum@total.net; (English) Sun. 10, 9; Wed. 7:30; Chris Blackwell, ev. (514) 639-6432; chrish777@videotron.ca.

PLESSISVILLE: Centre Communautaire, André Côté, CP21, G6L 2Y6; Sun. 11, 10; Yvon Beaudoin, (418) 653- 3493.

QUEBEC CITY: 2980 Veriteuil, Ste-Foy (corner Jean-Noel); Sun. 10:45, 9:30 (French); Wed. 19:30; C.P. 9041 Ste-Foy, G1V 4A8; (418) 651-3664.

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

BENGOUGH: E. side Hwy. 34; Sun. 10:30, 11:15; Norman Kemp, Box 134, S0C 0K0; (306) 268-4522.

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

GRAVELBOURG: 300-2nd Ave. E.; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:30; Box 507, S0H 1X6; 648-3435; Larry Elford, ev. 648- 3106.

HORSE CREEK: Sun. 10:30 (May-Nov.); 11 (Dec.-Apr.); Lonnie Goodwin, Box 58, McCord, S0H 2T0; (306) 478-2516.

LLOYDMINSTER: 56 Ave. and 47 St., Box 88, S9V 0X9; Sun. 10, 11; (403) 875-4052 (off).

MOOSE JAW: 901 James St. S6H 3H5; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7:30 (CST); Ron Hegdahl, ev. (306) 693-4064 (off.).

NORTH BATTLEFORD: 1462-110 St., S9A 2J2; Sun. 10-11; Wed. 7; Glen Davies, (306) 445-4231; Jelsing Bailey, 446-2630.

PERRYVILLE: 20 mi. s. Wynyard on Grid 640; Grid Rd., 7½ mi. W., 2 mi. S. of Wishart; 15 mi. NE of Punichy; Sun. 11, 10; Box 158, Wishart, S0A 4R0; 835-2681.

PRINCE ALBERT: 264-23rd St. W., S6V 4L6; Sun. 10, 11; 763-3057 (off.); contact Bob Jenkins, 764- 6187.

RADVILLE: 714 Beckwell Ave., Sun. 10 (Winter: 817 Beckwell Ave.); Richard Thuc, sec., Box 532, S0C 2G0; (306) 869-3103 (res.).

REGINA: 1825 Rothwell St. S4N 2C3; (306) 757-1825; FAX 757-5727; Sun. 10; Ray McMillan, ev., 949- 0969; Bernard Krogsgaard, 352-5621.

SASKATOON: Hours may vary; Please phone to be certain; Office: 343-7922; Bob Parker, 343-7884; Jason Bandura, Youth Minister, 343-8540; mailing address, 1589; e mail <stoconcof@sk.sympatico.ca>

SWIFT CURRENT: 400 2nd Ave. S.E., S9H 3J6; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7:30; Susan Guskoski, sec., 773-1185.

WAWOTA: Hwy. 48 W. of town; Sun. 9:30 a.m.; Mid-week call; Box 454, S0G 5A0; (306) 739-2103 (off); Michael Parker, ev.; or contact G. Husband, 739-2915 or G. McMillan, 538-4654.

WEYBURN: 1115 First Ave. NE (Hwy. 13E), S4H 0N2; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7; Russell Ferris, ev., (306) 842-6424 (off); 848-0645 (res).

WHITEWOOD: Legion Hall, 738 Lalonde St.; Sun. 11; Midweek call; Box 82, Broadview, S0G 0K0; Contact Merle Nelson for more information; 735-2862.

YORKTON: 550 Parkview Rd., S3N 2C7; Sun. 10:15; Wed. 7:00 p.m. (call for locations); Randy Fiske, ev. (306) 782-4662 (res); 783-6877 (bldg); Harry Meakes, sec. 783-6850. (Inclusion in this listing does not mean complete endorsement of all teaching and practices.)

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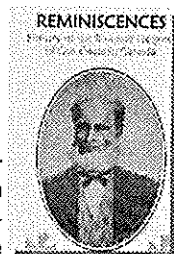
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