

April 2015
Volume 28, Number 2

CNBC Horizon

stories that encourage, inspire and inform



Join us as we
Pray for the Harvest
in May



Strengthening churches has always been important to the CNBC.

Though we are ardently committed to planting new churches across Canada we are also equally engaged in doing all we can to strengthen the churches we already have.

Planting new churches and strengthening churches go together, and both help fulfill our responsibility to the Great Commission and the Great Commandment. The evident truth of this is that every church plant becomes an existing church within five to seven years.

We are happy to announce that Paul Johnson has been given the important responsibility of leading our church strengthening team. Already he has developed and implemented a church strengthening resource communications strategy to help our leaders and churches become aware of all the resources available to them. Help with small groups, worship, apologetics, preaching, and countless other church strengthening training are sent out to churches and leaders on a weekly basis.

We have also completely redesigned our training and equipping site e-quip.net to better serve our constituency and make free video training available to anyone who has access to the internet. Our e-quip.net now contains more than 1,500 video presentations, more than 15 programs of

training with multiple courses in each program. Training in children's ministry, community ministry, finances and money management, youth and student ministry, are just some examples of the kinds of training e-quip has to offer.

In addition the site offers more than 100 courses in everything related to church strengthening and church planting. Simply go to e-quip.net and look for the training that you need.

In the next few months we will be overhauling our Lead360 (e-quipU.net) leadership development site to better serve our churches and provide for them a curriculum path to train their leaders for ministry in the church.

The healthy church vitals signs of New Believers, New Disciple Makers, New Churches, and Transforming Communities, are our priorities in the CNBC. We will continue to invest energy and resources to help our churches see these healthy church vitals signs become a reality in each of our churches across Canada.

God has been so good to the CNBC. He has given us a great network of churches across Canada who are committed to giving themselves away to advance the Kingdom of God. As we work together we are better together, and we will see God grow His kingdom among us and around the world.

Planting new churches and strengthening churches go together, and both help fulfill our responsibility to the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.

Request for Intentions to Nominate CNBC Officers

All CNBC Officers (president, 1st vice-president, 2nd vice-president) are nominated from the floor at the CNBC Annual Convention.

Each year in the June *Horizon*, we publish notices of intentions to nominate CNBC officers.

If you would like to nominate a CNBC officer at the annual meeting and wish to publish your intention to nominate an officer, please send the nomination name and a brief statement (no longer than one paragraph) of why you feel this candidate would be a suitable nomination to

Debbie Shelton at dshelton@cnbc.ca.

Qualifications for CNBC officers

- A member in good standing of a CNBC church who gives to the Cooperative Giving Program.
- Willing and able to attend the National Leadership Board meetings in early November and late May.
- A person who supports the vision, mission and values of the CNBC.

CNBC Horizon • cnbcnow.ca
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Cover photo
"Prayer-walking"
by Sara Ramer.

CNBC Annual Convention • July 1-2 • Cochrane, Alberta



Online Registration opens April 15. All must register to participate.

Convention Times

Wednesday July 1

At the CNBC - 100 Convention Way

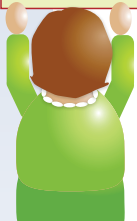
- 1:00 pm Registration
- 3:00 pm Celebration Fair Opens
- 5:30 - 6:30 pm Dinner is served (By donation)
- 7:00 pm Opening Ceremonies and Celebrations
- 8:30 pm Evening Activities

Thursday July 2

At Bow Valley Baptist Church - 54 West Aarsby Rd

- 7:30 - 10:00 am Pancake Breakfast (open to the community)
- 9:00 am Business Session and Reporting Fair
- 12:30 pm Ministry Wives & Women in Ministry Luncheon
- 2:00 - 3:00 pm Equip Session 1
- 3:25 - 4:30 pm Equip Session 2
- 7:00 - 9:00 pm Evening Celebration and Missions Service

Watch for
updates at
cnbc.ca



Children and Youth

Wednesday afternoon and evening, July 1, will be a time for the whole family to celebrate with fun activities. Dinner will be provided. Parents will be responsible for their children on this day.

On Thursday, July 2, childcare will be provided along with a fun program for preschool through elementary age children during the business session, the E-quip sessions and the evening celebration and missions service.

Youth events will be held during the business session and E-quip. Youth will participate with the adults in the evening celebration and missions service.

HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

Days Inn & Suites
5 West Side Drive
Cochrane, AB T4C 1M1
403-932-5588

Reservation Code:
Canadian National Baptist
Convention 838-117257

The Ramada Cochrane
10 Westside Drive
Cochrane, AB T4C 1M1
403-932-6355

Reservation Code:
CNBC

Reservation deadline at convention rate is May 15.

Cuban church-to-church partnership keeps growing

By Frank Stirk

EDMONTON, AB—During a CNBC vision trip to Cuba in January, the visitors and a local pastor were coming back from the easternmost part of the island when they crossed a little bridge over a creek.

“The pastor told our interpreter, ‘From here I walk an hour and a half to get to my church,’” says Michael McElroy, pastor of Grace Family Church in St. Albert, Alberta. “There are no roads to where the church is. So I said, ‘Would a horse help you get there?’ ‘Yeah!’ It cost us about \$450 to buy the horse and the tack.”

The trip was McElroy’s second to Cuba as part of a growing relationship between CNBC churches and the Baptist Convention of Eastern Cuba. The tours offer representatives of Canadian churches the chance to meet their Cuban fellow believers, and discover ways they can develop ongoing partnerships.

As McElroy found on his first trip in 2014, that was not hard to do. “They’re such a sincere people, friendly and kind. You can’t help but just love them,” he says.

That doesn’t surprise CNBC/Cuba Partnership Coordinator Mel Cruikshank, who leads the vision trips. “Every person that’s come, almost without exception,” he says, “has ended up adopting a long-term partnership involving different projects or ministries.”

are essential to building trust with people who’ve likely never met a foreigner in their lives.

“It’s really important that they know these people are part of our Convention,” he says. “I would not want to send people who didn’t have a missions heart or a basic understanding in how to relate cross-culturally.”

But once a partnership has been created, then it’s up to the partners to make it happen. This can include projects such as helping construct or repair a church building to children’s ministries to assisting deaf believers—to buying a pastor a horse or a bicycle.

“In some parts of the world, it would be very expensive to help,” McElroy says. “But in Cuba, we’re able to do a great deal with what little resources we have. So it’s kind of neat that a church like Grace Family, as small as we are and with what little we have, is able to make a really big difference in God’s work there in Cuba.”

One of the most impactful ways is to support financially the many missionary training schools in eastern Cuba that train church planters. Cruikshank estimates that in three of these schools supported by funds from CNBC churches, over 300 missionaries have been trained and have planted churches.

It’s also a way to participate in a movement of God that has been underway there now for about 15 years. “The number of churches is exploding. It’s gone from a couple hundred before the Castro regime to now thousands of churches and house churches,” he says.

In fact, McElroy believes these Cuban churches—some of them dating back to the mid-1800s—“have something to teach” CNBC churches about being truly on mission for Christ.

“I realize there are cultural differences,” he says, “but if those old, established churches can all of a sudden experience the moving of God after this many years, why can’t ours? Cuba is where we need to go to school.”

(Below) Mike McElroy rides the horse that was provided by members of Jasper Place Baptist Church and Worsley Baptist Church during last years vision tour for a pastor and missionary (church planter) in Puriales.



To date, Cruikshank says he’s helped between 20 and 30 churches enter into formal partnerships with churches and church plants in Cuba. These arrangements

New ways to serve in Cuba

Renaissance Church connects with the community

MONTREAL—Renaissance Church is a new CNBC church in Little Burgundy, a neighbourhood of Montreal, Quebec. The church's "roots" in the community go back a few years, when a couple of Christians starting blessing Little Burgundy, participating in community events, volunteering and generally trying to live out their convictions in the community.

Newlyweds, Aaron and Samantha Boswell, moved from Winnipeg, Manitoba, to Montreal in January 2014 to continue this momentum in planting Renaissance Church.

Renaissance continues to connect with the community by participating in organizations like Youth In Motion, as well as major events like St Jean Baptiste Day or the Little Burgundy Festival.

The church currently meets on Sunday mornings for a worship gathering and also on Wednesday nights for a gospel community gathering (small group.)



"We are currently building a launch team of men and women who yearn to partner with us in seeing the Good News of Jesus impact Little Burgundy through the planting of more gospel communities and churches in our neighbourhood and beyond," says Aaron.

For more information [email Renaissance](#) or visit the [church website](#).

Meet Renaissance Church.



New ways to serve in Cuba

Until 2013, the District of Maisí in the most easterly part of Cuba was totally out of bounds to foreigners. In February, our CNBC vision team became one of the first foreign missionaries to visit this impoverished and isolated land in over 50 years – and found that God is doing an amazing work there.

Team leader Mel Cruikshank says the churches of Maisí are in desperate need of Canadian church partners.

"On our next vision trip in 2016, I would love to get a group of people to go there for a week and discover opportunities for partnering," he says.

There is also a new opportunity for using English as a Second Language as an evangelism outreach. A pilot program initiated by Sharon Hionides of Scarborough, Ontario, is starting in Guantanamo City.

Contact Mel to discover how your church can be a part of these ministries:

cnbc.send.students@telus.net

Cuban Connection

Connexion cubaine



Click here for more information about the CNBC Cuban Connection

Mike McElroy, Mel Cruikshank, Sharon Hionides with Cuban host couple, Caridad Romero Castillo and her husband, Eliobin Rodriguez Leyva.



I recently traveled to South Carolina with Derek Jones, the catalyst for Atlantic Canada. We recruited partner churches to help resource new church planters willing and called to plant “game changing” churches in Eastern Canada. A common question was how to best train planters. Our answer: We take great care to assess and train planters before sending them into the field. Our assessment covers three major categories.

First, we investigate whether they are called and theologically mature? There needs to be a biblical foundation to their thinking of how to plant a church and a strong call to do it regardless of hardships and hurdles. A strong sense that “God wants me to do this”—affirmed by those who know them best—is a must.

This doesn’t mean they are ready to go, so we are willing to help candidates make up for gaps in their theological understanding. Ours is “baptistic” and as we walk with them in this early part of the journey, we want to see if their views are compatible with our family of churches.

Second, we examine whether they have been taught the skills needed to plant a church that will see many people come to faith, and see the community transformed in the process.

No one has it all together, but we want the basic skills present and evident before we let them begin to plant. We use classroom experiences to teach a variety of church planting approaches. Now we are adding church-based training that develops hands-on skill in planting.

This combination of knowledge and skill, under the leadership of Christ, gives us confidence that they will find success as they plant.

Finally, we explore whether the potential planter is teachable; a life-long learner.

Research shows that coaching by a veteran church planter is one key to effective planting. For this to work, the planter has to be open to input and willing to learn from others. Our coaching networks are an important part of helping church planters thrive and multiply their efforts into additional churches.

One of our commitments to new planters is to establish them in a coaching relationship right from the start of their plant. Research suggests that a well-coached planter will have grown their church to twice the size of an un-coached planter at the three-year anniversary.

Join us in encouraging the new planters who are in your area. It is a tough job with great Kingdom

rewards. It is also spiritual warfare and planting couples often face times of pressure and loneliness that wear on them. If you want to know who they are, ask your association, or the SEND City missionary or the church planting catalyst who is working in your area. Together we are extending the kingdom through church planting.



Five Canadian pastors attended training for SEND Network Coaches, February 24-26, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina: (L-R) Garrett Holmes (Richmond/Vancouver), Jason McGibbon (Toronto), Matthew Bond (Vancouver Island), Woody Wilson (Montreal) and Terry Branscombe (New Brunswick).

Church plants: 5 percent gain in 2014

By Kevin Ezell

ALPHARETTA, GEORGIA, (BP)—Southern Baptists planted 985 new churches in 2014—a five percent increase over 2013 church starts.

This is very good news as we work toward diminishing the church-to-population deficit that steadily grew larger over the last century in the United States and Canada. It is also good because new churches, on average, reach people for Christ at a higher rate than existing churches.

These are churches like **Mosaic** in Lloydminster, Alberta, Canada. They launched on Easter 2014 and have already seen 200 people give their lives to Christ, with 44 of them being baptized. They started giving to the Cooperative Program shortly after they launched.

Southern Baptists also saw 208 new churches affiliate with our convention in 2014. In all, that means 1,193 new congregations were added to the SBC.

And there are good reports in regions outside the South where Southern Baptists have not traditionally been as strong:

- In Ohio, 37 churches were planted in 2014, up from 17 in 2013.
- In New York, 42 churches were planted, up from 20 in 2013.
- In the Northwest Baptist Convention, which includes Oregon, Washington and some parts of Idaho, 27 churches were planted, up from three in 2013.

We celebrate when a new church is planted anywhere, but increases in these areas are especially encouraging.



More than 58 percent of the churches Southern Baptists started in 2014 were non-Anglo. This must continue as our society grows more diverse—especially in and around large cities where more than 80 percent of North Americans live. Our churches must reflect the communities they serve.

There is much more work to be done. We need many more churches and we must continue to make our existing churches healthier and more outwardly focused. My prayer is that the growth we saw in 2014 will be the starting point for a Southern Baptist church planting wave and that more churches and individuals will become personally involved in this effort to evangelize North America.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Kevin Ezell is president of the Southern Baptist Convention's North American Mission Board. Reprinted from **Baptist Press** news service of the Southern Baptist Convention.*

Zied, Jem and Macy welcome guests to Mosaic Church.

Photo by: Hael Espiritu.

Note: Zied has gone back to the Philippines to plant a church, which Mosaic helps support! They recently baptized 17 university students.

CNBC Church Plants: Number 4, 5 & 6 in 2015

Hopelink Church

Airdrie, Alberta

Pastor/Planter: Herwyn Tagle

Gateway United Baptist Church

Surrey, British Columbia

Pastor/Planter: Kallu Manzoul

Centre Tapickotc de Wemotaci

Wemotaci, Quebec.

Pastor/Planter: Marc Levasseur

That they may know You

Build relationships through ESL ministry

Marisa Spannagel
ESL/Literacy Consultant



Do you want an easy way to connect with others in your community as you seek to begin a church plant or to grow your church? Build relationships through an English as a Second Language (ESL) ministry.

If you are not doing some kind of ESL ministry in your church or church plant then you are missing out on a key tool for reaching people for Christ in Canada. Churches and church plants can be leaders in welcoming and integrating newcomers to Canada. Anyone and any size church can reach out in love to the immigrants and internationals in our communities.

Here are some things to explore as you think about this ministry:

- Is there someone in your church or ministry who is feeling led to minister to newcomers to your city?
- In order for newcomers to feel a sense of community, churches must be willing to welcome and embrace ESL students.
- Getting informed about their cultural issues will help your church know best how to show hospitality to ESL students.
- Learn about immigrants in your city by checking out your community profiles online.
- Spread the word about your church's ESL ministry.

The primary goal of ESL ministries is to intentionally share and demonstrate the gospel of Jesus Christ as we not only help people learn to speak English but also become part of a community that cares about their needs.

I helped start an ESL ministry at my church about

eight years ago. I had no training or experience but I did sense a growing need to connect with the changing face of our community. It has been one of the easiest and most rewarding areas of my ministry.

The cost is minimal, training and support are available, and it is a natural bridge to bringing people into your church and the kingdom of God!

This ministry is rewarding because I am challenged weekly on how to share Christ's love across cultural boundaries. I love seeing the members in our church inviting newcomers into their homes and building relationships. ESL ministry has changed our church by providing a simple avenue to create ongoing friendships. We have been inspired by the stories of courage and hope that newcomers share with us.

I am passionate about ESL ministry because I have seen over the years that ANYONE, ANYWHERE can do this.

In fact, I feel so strongly about this that I have agreed to be a volunteer for the CNBC Transforming Communities team as a resource contact for ESL ministries. I am available by email if anyone has a question about this ministry. I am certainly not an expert but I will support you by sharing with you from my experience, resources that I have used in the past, and by praying with you.

I am very interested in knowing if you are involved in an ESL ministry or if you plan to start one in the near future. I would like to create a network of support throughout our CNBC in this area of ministry.

Please contact me at spannagel@shaw.ca.



Marisa Spannagel
(back centre)
meets with her
ESL class.



Pray for the Harvest • May 2015

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest field" Luke 10:2 (NIV)

By Kathy Morales

Transforming Communities Team Leader

I encourage you to go deeper with Jesus Christ through prayer during the month of May. It is exciting to see God at work as we pray for salvation of friends, family, neighbours, co-workers and class mates.

A young lady I know said yes to God a few months ago. She recently told me: "Since confessing my love for Him I've felt so joyful."

A young man we have been praying for texted me, "I have some good news, I accepted God into my life and I've stopped running from Him."

In Luke 10:2, Jesus pointed out a terrible problem. He told his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few." As I read these words, I wonder, What's the solution? How can more workers be raised up to go to the lost across Canada and around the world?

Jesus gave the answer in the next sentence: Someone has to pray these workers into the harvest field. "Ask the Lord of the harvest" is our call to prayer.

As we pray, the Holy Spirit is at work, putting an urgency in the hearts of those who desire to be used of the Lord. He is touching people everywhere, setting them apart for his service.

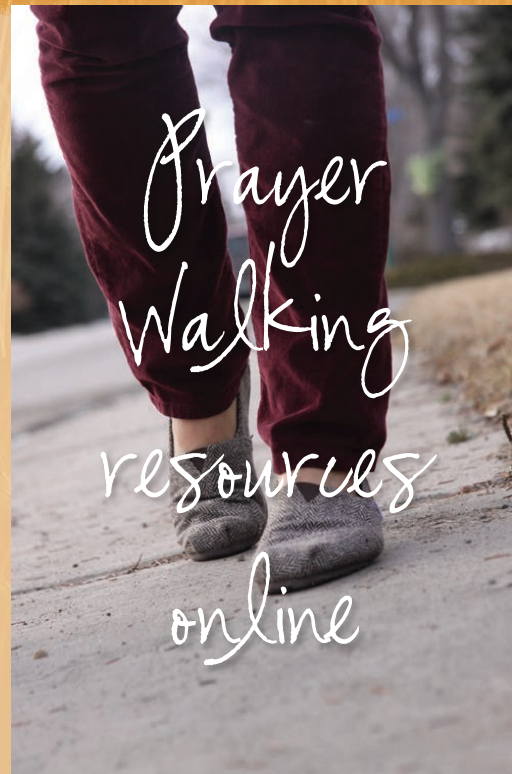
To reach people in the harvest field with the gospel we must pray. To see lost people enter into a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, we must pray for their salvation.

Our annual emphasis brings a much-needed focus to the role of prayer in evangelism. The powerful truth is, our prayers are being used to send workers into the harvest field and to bring people from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light.

You and your church are invited to participate in our third annual Canada-wide CNBC emphasis, "Pray for the Harvest." Kick off Sunday is May 3.

Set aside intentional time with God to pray for the lost from May 3 to 31. This is a call to individual and corporate prayer.

Join us in prayer daily and every Sunday in May during your worship service.



Set aside intentional time with God to pray for the lost from May 3 to 31.

Pray for the Harvest Resources

- Weekly inspirational videos
- Prayer calendars in 10 languages
- Interactive English prayer calendar with daily devotions (starts May 3)
- Prayer walking resources
- 30-minute audio prayer walking guide
- Printable prayer cards
- Clickart for your church bulletin or website

Never too young. Never too small. As long as God is in it!

By Peter Blackaby
Canadian Mobilization Director



I am grateful that my childhood church gave me opportunities to lead, grow, and develop from my earliest years. As a very young child, I remember tagging along with my parents as they led our church's youth group. As small and young as I was, I would contribute by helping to build the camp fire, set up the field for games, etc.

As I grew, I found roles where I could increasingly exercise and develop leadership skills. At times my efforts were clumsy and at times I got in way over my head. Amidst stories of great successes, I also have many stories of how I would now do things very differently.

Looking back, I realize that I never saw myself as too young, too small, or too underequipped to follow the Lord's leading. As He guided, He grew my capacity and He surrounded me with others through whom He provided what was needed.

The same can be said of churches. A church is never too young and never too small to be involved in church planting and missions, so long as God is in it!

No church is too small to be able to adopt the next community. Southwinds Church, in Calgary, Alberta, is about 7.5 years old, involves about 75 people in weekly worship, and is about to launch their next church. They were already ministering in the community where they met for worship, but then intentionally began praying and serving in a new community only five minutes away. Ultimately, leaders in the new community asked Southwinds if they would be willing to start a church in their community. Many churches came along-side Southwinds in the early days—now those churches and others are partnering with Southwinds to start the next church!

No church is too small to be able to send out a church planter. Bright City Lights, in Edmonton, Alberta, was a six-month-old church averaging 16 people when they sent out

their first church planter to Red Deer earlier this year. Bright City painted and repaired the new planter's house where they now host their church, even though Bright City still rents their own meeting space. I love the example of this young church who, from their very first days, is asking the Lord, "Whom among us are you sending out?"

No church is too young to start new churches. Fellowship Pickering in Pickering, Ontario, was four months old when they identified their next church planter and began preparing to send him out. Now, they are barely 15 months old and preparing to launch churches in two neighbouring communities. Their sending church (mother church) in Tennessee is not only a pillar of support to them but will also go with them as they start these new churches as well.

In all of these cases, the churches did not let their size or age deter them. They sought the Lord's heart, took ownership for starting a new church, and then partner churches were able to journey with them. Both NAMB and CNBC have come alongside to assist for a limited time with apprentice or intern funding for the future church planter.

No church is too small or too young to be involved in church planting. Every church can be involved in planting the next church in some small or large way. It's all about giving ourselves away to expand the kingdom of God!



(Bottom right)
Grace City, a new gospel-centered community in Red Deer, AB, currently meets as a small group in the home of church planter Chad Krahn and his wife, Heather.



Philippines: CNBC churches send CGR teams

By Dan Kazmaier

PHILIPPINES—
Typhoon Haiyan, known as Yolanda by Filipino locals, devastated Southeast Asia in November 2013. With winds reaching 315 km/h, the category five super typhoon killed over 6,300 people in the Philippines alone, striking Tacloban city the hardest.



Canadian Global Response partners were activated, with disaster response teams responding quickly on the ground. CNBC churches and members gave generously towards CGR disaster relief, and a two-to-one matching donation program through the Canadian government helped increase efforts.



In December 2014, Typhoon Hagupit wrecked havoc in the already disaster-ridden area, prompting a group of Alberta volunteers from Pathway Church in Calgary and Bow Valley Baptist in Cochrane to help rebuild houses and host a basketball camp for Filipinos impacted by the storms. Two teams formed, and fourteen volunteers were sent out during February 23 to March 14, 2015.

Working alongside locals, the teams completed three houses and started a fourth and fifth. Post boltholes were drilled and fastened on the last two, which will be finished by the Filipino workers. As volunteers put up walls of the first house for a young family with three boys, a local worker translated the mother's gratitude: "She feels really blessed that we are here and that we are helping to provide secure shelter for her and her family, as right now they live in a small shack made out of tin with her father. She said she's happy to finally have a roof over their heads so that when it rains her things don't get wet."

One of the team members shared, "This has been a wonderful experience. It was one thing to hear what happened with the typhoon on the news and another to see it with my own eyes. The Filipino

people are strong and resilient. Despite the tragedy they have experienced they continue to smile and rebuild their lives."

"It's been too short!" said Joel McGraw from Bow Valley, thankful of the time and progress on the houses he and other teammates experienced. Both teams dealt with rains and storms caused by a dry spell, which at times temporarily halted work. Joel shared that especially in the last couple of days, "Everything was running really smoothly. It was hard to leave that rhythm." Good camaraderie was felt—"Almost everyone has known each other for a long time," Joel said—so the team was tight knit.

Sara Ruiz of Pathway said, "spending time talking and getting to know the local families we were working with," were some of her most enjoyable moments. "Despite how little they had, they always wanted to make us food and get us anything we needed."

Apart from the Filipinos' resiliency, Sara shared, the team interacted and saw, "people emotionally hurt by their circumstances but [who were] optimistic for a better future. They were thankful beyond words and their gratitude for our teams and the help of Canadians was evident by their smiles, hugs, and tears ... It was hard to leave knowing there is still so much need. Knowing this, we have come home with a desire to let Canadians know that our help is still needed."

"Damo nga salamat!" (Filipino: "Many thanks!") to the volunteers and churches who initiated and made these disaster relief efforts a reality. For creative ways in how you and your church can partner with CGR, please visit us [online](#).

Alberta volunteers—
Tim Wuthrich, Matthew Eagles, John Gowans, Ed Allen, Lana Allen, Herb Seidler, Mike Doughlin, Joel McGraw and Brenda Ryan—from Pathway Church in Calgary and Bow Valley Baptist in Cochrane, enjoy a lunch hosted by local recipients of help from CGR.



Photos submitted
by Tim Wuthrich,
Sara Ruiz, and
Joel McGraw



The CNBC office has just come through another audit. Entries have been checked, documentation has been reviewed, policy has been verified, balances have been reconciled, and risk has been analyzed! The accounting staff spent a week looking back and remembering activity in 2014 and now with a “sigh of relief,” we re-file and box up the paper work and get on with the current year!

An audit is indeed a learning experience and although we may find ourselves missing a receipt or needing to develop a policy for handling a specific situation, we also are challenged to think about how we can improve our operation and provide accurate financial information to our members. We are reminded that as charitable organizations we must be above reproach and good stewards of our resources.

Each year the auditor has a basic checklist and will also focus on a specific area that is dictated by either the corporate world, accounting principles or Canada Revenue Agency compliance issues. Since accounting firms are also audited, they are interested in the details and in understanding the organization they are auditing. Here are some things your church might want to review.

Comparison to Prior Year: One of the first things the auditor does is compare the previous year's income and expense to the current year. This easily and clearly indicates any major changes that they will want to review.

For instance, the CNBC Cooperative Program gifts from the churches were significantly higher in 2014 than in 2013. The auditor was happy to hear that the convention is growing and that churches continue to work together to support ministry throughout Canada and around the world. A quick review for churches would be to compare year end figures to the prior year figures and verify what circumstances might lead to any significant differences.

Donation Receipts: Your master list of receipts issued for donations during the year should be reconciled to your income line items. This should

also match what your church will report on the T3010 for CRA. There is a list of required information that must be included on official donation receipts available on the CRA web site.

Financial Reports: Does your reporting give a good and accurate picture of revenues, source of revenue, and expenses for the period being reported? Are expenses in line with the budget? Are the bank accounts reconciled to the general ledger on a monthly basis?

Policy: Does your church have policy in place that indicates how the finances will be handled, limits on expenses reimbursed to individuals, authorization limits, signing officers? Does your church have policy on benevolence, use of facilities, designated gifts? Is your church following the policy?

Payroll: Is your church keeping up to date files on employees? Although a budget line item may well indicate and authorize the payroll amount, it is also a good idea to have a letter of employment on file. This letter should be updated each year outlining all details of remuneration and benefits for your employees and signed by an authorized person. Updated TD1s, Clergy Residence information, and work permits, if applicable, should also be kept in a personnel file.

I have been asked a number of times whether or not a local church should have an official audit each year. It is not a legal requirement unless stated in your organization's governing documents. You would need to consider the cost, the complexity of your church organization and church funding, and risk factors involved in the funding and operations of the church.

In general I think it is good to have some type of audit review on a regular basis. Maybe every two or three years you will review the records, or maybe every time there is a change in treasurers. You might consider appointing a team to review the books for accuracy and reconcile income and expense to the bank.

Another possibility would be to have a sister church treasurer or finance team serve as an audit review committee.

[more ...](#)

“As charitable organizations we must be above reproach and good stewards of our resources.”

'3 Circles' App, conveys the gospel

By Tobin Perry

JACKSONVILLE, ALABAMA (BP)—As Derek Staples prepared for a mission trip to Honduras, he was on the lookout for a visual way to express the gospel. The church mission team, in setting up a medical clinic at a local school, would be sharing the gospel with people in a pre-literate environment.

Staples' outreach got a lift at the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in June, 2014 when he heard a fellow pastor, Jimmy Scroggins, talk about the "3 Circles."

"I thought it [3 Circles] was an incredible visual representation of the gospel," said Staples, lead pastor of First Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Alabama, who led a volunteer team to the Central American country in July. "Most of the people in Honduras," he noted, "can't read or write."

Staples preached about 40 times and witnessed at the clinic using the 3 Circles as an outline. Nearly 600 people trusted Jesus as their Lord and Saviour during First Baptist's mission trip.

Staples now plans to train members in his church how to use 3 Circles to share their faith, noting, "I'm always trying to give my people as many tools as possible to help them effectively share the gospel."

"This is a memorable, easy way to explain how anyone can have a personal relationship with Christ."

Scroggins, lead pastor of First Baptist Church in West Palm Beach, Fla., who described 3 Circles during NAMB's presentation at the SBC in Baltimore, developed it to train and mobilize his congregation for personal evangelism in a post-Christian environment.

The tool helps people use three simple circles that represent God's design, brokenness and the gospel—which can be drawn, for example,

on a napkin during lunch—to communicate the gospel. Chase Smith of Fellowship Baptist Church in Shelbyville, Illinois, taught a three-week series on evangelism called "Go Tell It on the Mountain." The final sermon in the series focused on how to share the gospel. Having discovered the 3 Circles tool through Twitter, Smith gave the congregation copies of the 3 Circles: Life Conversation Guide before the training.

One of the things Smith appreciates about the 3 Circles tool is that churches of any size can incorporate it into what they're doing.

"This is something every church can do," said Smith, whose church averages 50-60 people on a typical Sunday. "You can present it in a way that's easy. Even if you've never stepped foot in a seminary class or you've only been a pastor for a short time, you can talk about each of these circles without much prep work. As a small church pastor, I love that it's so easy to do."

For more information about 3 Circles and other related evangelism resources from NAMB [click here](#).

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Reprinted from **Baptist Press** news service of the Southern Baptist Convention. Read the full story [here](#). Tobin Perry writes for the North American Mission Board.*



Search for Life Conversation Guide at the AppStore or GooglePlay.

Click here to go to the CNBC website for other evangelism helps

The Importance of Audit Reviews ... cont.

... from An official audit might be done when there is a change in treasurers, a specific concern over the handling of the finances, or certainly when the bylaws state the requirement.

Churches that have multiple programs and funding sources should consider a regular audit due to the complexity of their operation.

Our convention audit has been a good

experience. We have had a time to look at the organization, the systems, and the financial information and evaluate how we are doing.

Just as I am thankful for the CNBC finance team, I also appreciate the work of the treasurers in our CNBC churches. Remember to encourage and thank your church treasurer or finance team for their service. As God blesses, I do pray that we will be good stewards. Keep up the good work!

The American immigrant migrates to Canada to plant a church

By Jim Burton

TORONTO—Clint Eastwood directed, produced and starred in a film called “Gran Torino” in 2008. The film was about Walt, a retired Detroit auto-worker and widower whose neighbourhood was no longer homogenous. Gangs were wreaking havoc in the area. When an Asian teen refused to steal Walt’s treasured Gran Torino automobile under gang initiation pressure, Walt befriended the boy, who was Hmong.

Eastwood filmed the movie in Daniel Yang’s childhood neighbourhood.

“‘Gran Torino’ was glamorized compared to how I grew up,” said Yang, who is a second-generation American Hmong. “Jesus, rock and roll and the girls in my youth group saved me [from the gang experience].”

The Hmong are a minority people group from Southeast Asia, and they have no homeland. They reside in Vietnam, Thailand, China and Laos. Following the Vietnam War and the Laotian Civil War, many sought refuge in Thailand. By the late 1970s, many of those refugees resettled in Western countries. Detroit was just one landing spot.

The immigrant experience defined Yang both then and now. As he struggled to define God’s call upon his life after college and while starting his career, one thing became clear. “I made you for the Word,” Yang felt God saying. “I’m going to use your story of being a second-generation immigrant.”

Faith stabilized his family

Immigration is a jolting experience as families face language, culture and economic barriers. His parents made a profession of faith through a Lutheran church, then started attending a Southern Baptist church. By age seven, Yang had also professed faith in Christ.

“There was a strong awareness of Jesus in my life,” Yang recalled. “It set the trajectory of

my life and prevented me from joining gangs.”

By age 21, Yang sensed a calling to “some kind of missional ministry.” But first, there was the American dream.

Yang attended the University of Michigan on a full scholarship, majoring in computer science, then spent more than eight years as a software developer. But deep inside, he wanted to study the Bible and answer the question, “Do I believe this stuff?”

He enrolled in extension courses through The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and realized that God was redirecting him to vocational ministry.

“I didn’t want to be a pastor,” Yang said. “I thought I would be a missionary.”

He learned about church planting and saw it as a great merger of being a missionary and staying in North America where he felt led to help churches navigate cultural issues. Detroit seemed the natural place to do that. But even with a team and meeting place secured there, Daniel and his wife, Linda, realized that Detroit was not their destiny.

So he detoured to Texas.

Texas pit stop

After participating in an assessment process and deciding not to plant in Detroit, Yang received an invitation to Texas where he joined the staff of NorthWood Church for the Communities in Keller, a predominantly Anglo congregation where he developed a college and young adult ministry

[more ...](#)



Daniel and Linda Yang: Church Planter, Trinity Life Church, Toronto, ON



... from

while also serving as an associate worship pastor.

"God was orchestrating something completely different from what I would have ever planned for myself," Yang said.

He finished his seminary degree at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary while receiving mentoring at NorthWood. Senior Pastor Bob Roberts introduced Yang to NAMB's Farm System, aimed at assisting churches in discovering, developing and deploying the next generation of missionaries. Yang began looking for a city to plant a church. That's when Toronto came into view. After their second vision trip there, Yang recalled, "My wife looked at me and asked, 'Why aren't we doing this already?'"

Though just four hours from Detroit, the cities are vastly different. Detroit is 87 percent black. Toronto is vastly intercultural and rapidly on the rise as the financial capital of Canada, while Detroit has been in steady decline. Still, he found one similarity.

"I grew up in one of the worst neighbourhoods in Detroit, and Regent Park historically was the worst in Toronto," Yang said.

Trinity Church in Regent Park

Regent Park is a revitalizing area near downtown Toronto, a city of neighbourhoods. Today, Regent Park is fast changing as young adults, many of whom are college educated, are choosing to live there.

"Toronto is much like New York City," Yang said. "It's a thinking city. You engage people's hearts through their minds."

Fellow church planter Mike Seaman and his wife, Missy, joined the Yangs in planting Trinity Church. The families started a home Bible study as they began building relationships in a city where they knew no one.

"It's always tempting to do what is manageable and predictable," Yang said. "We could have stayed a house church for a long time."

Through a relationship with the Toronto Kiwanis Boys and Girls Club, a meeting space opened up. In September 2013, Trinity Life Church launched



with the motto, "Discovering identity and destiny in Christ, influencing the city and the world."

"It's helpful when immigrants see that God sent me to North America and I'm on mission here," Yang said.

As one of North America's most culturally diverse cities, Toronto is a natural platform for influence. One of many reasons it is one of 32 Send North America cities. But first, there's the matter of planting more churches there.

"We'd like to see multiple churches planted in different neighbourhoods," Yang said. Soon, a church planting intern will join them from NAMB's Farm System.

Yang has come to appreciate how Canadian and Southern Baptists do missions through the Cooperative Program and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering® (North American Mission Offering through the CNBC).

"We are NAMB missionaries," Yang said, who recognizes the advantage that support from the entity and Canadian Baptists affords him. "[It] allows us to have a level of stability in terms of me raising my family here in Canada."

He also likes the vision.

"We are part of something bigger," Yang said of Southern Baptists' cooperative missions method. "It's tempting to be a myopic church planter. The support encourages us to be more generous in the way we think."

The goal for the 2015 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is \$60 million. To learn more about the Week of Prayer, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and how your church can be mobilized to push back lostness in North America, visit www.anniearmstrong.com. The CNBC's North American Mission Offering goal is \$100,000.

Mike Seaman (L) and Adam Truax (R) baptize Phil Bottomley at Cherry Beach, Lake Ontario in downtown Toronto.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Jim Burton writes for the North American Mission Board.

*COOPERATIVE GIVING REPORT 2015

	FEBRUARY	YTD 2015	FEB 2014
BRITISH COLUMBIA			
CONGREGATIONS			
✓ Bethel Romanian Church, Abbotsford	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00
✓ Bethesda Karen Baptist Church, Surrey	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Blessed Baptist Church of Vancouver, Vancouver	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
✓ Bridge Baptist Church, Kamloops	\$0.00	\$330.46	\$0.00
✓ Chinese Christian Gospel Church, Burnaby	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Cityview Baptist Church, Vancouver	\$583.33	\$3,647.83	\$1,965.96
COTR Global Ministries, Pitt Meadows	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$316.27
Comox Valley Korean Baptist Church, Comox	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Coquitlam Chinese Baptist Church, Port Coquitlam	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$200.00
✓ Cornerstone Baptist Church, Kamloops	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ First Baptist Church, Grand Forks	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$586.00
✓ Gateway Myanmar Baptist Church, Surrey	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Great Commission Baptist, Aldergrove	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
✓ Immanuel Christian Fellowship, Vancouver	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$50.00
✓ Korean Baptist Church of Vancouver, Vancouver	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
✓ Korean Bethel Baptist Church, Delta	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
✓ Laotian Baptist Church, Surrey	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Living Word Chinese Baptist Church, Vancouver	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Logos Baptist Church, Coquitlam	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Mapes Baptist Church, Vanderhoof	\$0.00	\$945.00	\$1,257.00
Mien Baptist Church, Surrey	\$0.00	\$110.00	\$110.00
✓ Mountain View Baptist Church, Salmon Arm	\$666.40	\$1,503.85	\$1,299.26
✓ Okanagan Chinese Baptist Church, Kelowna	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,771.83
Open Door Community Ministries, Richmond	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Peace Korean Baptist Church, Langley	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Redeemed Baptist Church, Surrey	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Re:Generation, Langley	\$0.00	\$210.60	\$151.50
✓ Richmond Chinese Baptist, Richmond	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Richmond Chinese Christian Gospel, Richmond	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
✓ Richmond Gospel Baptist, Richmond	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Royal Heights Baptist, Delta	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Salmo Baptist, Salmo	\$107.00	\$107.00	\$224.00
Solid Rock Biker Church, Surrey	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$65.25
✓ Surrey Chinese Baptist, Surrey	\$450.00	\$900.00	\$900.00
✓ Tent of David Fellowship, Vancouver	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$463.78
✓ The Church of Loving People, Langley	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
The Point, Burnaby	\$0.00	\$601.40	\$318.48
✓ The Potter's House Community, Westbank	\$177.85	\$384.28	\$662.23
✓ Towers Baptist, Richmond	\$2,162.50	\$2,162.50	\$0.00
✓ Uplands Baptist, Terrace	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Urban Village Church, Vancouver	\$0.00	\$454.97	\$0.00
✓ Vancouver Chinese Baptist, Vancouver	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
✓ Victoria Korean Baptist, Victoria	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Vietnamese Baptist Linh-An Church, Vancouver	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
WestCoast Japanese, Vancouver	\$0.00	\$440.97	\$344.74
✓ Westlynn Baptist, North Vancouver	\$362.42	\$909.80	\$0.00
NEW CHURCH PLANTS			
Canvas Church, Victoria	\$0.00	\$471.60	\$245.42
Ekklesia, North Saanich	\$0.00	\$728.43	\$1,115.12
New Hope Church, Port Coquitlam	\$0.00	\$688.23	\$436.98
Origin, Vancouver	\$0.00	\$933.65	\$815.00
The Common Place, Coquitlam	\$0.00	\$26.67	\$54.71
The Crossings, Vancouver	\$0.00	\$819.00	\$409.83
Zende (Living) Church, New WestMinster	\$66.75	\$225.43	\$101.54
Zona Cero Baptist Ministries, Vancouver	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
OTHER PLANTS			
His Will Church, Burnaby	\$0.00	\$100.80	\$0.00
BC TOTALS	\$6,726.25	\$19,962.47	\$17,314.90
ALBERTA			
CONGREGATIONS			
Abundant Life Chinese Baptist, Calgary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Alpine Christian Church, Canmore	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Big Rock Baptist, Okotoks	\$192.16	\$3,044.18	\$1,615.85
✓ Bow Valley Baptist, Cochrane	\$2,887.08	\$5,101.66	\$6,603.22
✓ Bridge International, Calgary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Calgary Bangla Baptist Church, Calgary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Calgary Chinese Baptist, Calgary	\$0.00	\$2,428.50	\$2,225.93

	FEBRUARY	YTD 2015	FEB 2014
Calgary Korean Global Mission, Calgary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Calgary Woori, Calgary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
✓ Cambrian Heights Baptist, Calgary	\$980.64	\$4,642.38	\$4,453.34
✓ Christ International Assembly	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Connection Church, Fort McMurray	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Coram Deo, Grand Prairie	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cowboy Trail, Cochrane	\$517.85	\$1,796.74	\$1,569.64
✓ Dovercourt Baptist, Edmonton	\$908.20	\$1,783.70	\$2,505.10
✓ Edmonton Chinese Baptist, Edmonton	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
✓ Église Baptiste de la Rédemption, Calgary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Evangel Baptist, Edmonton	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Evansburg Baptist, Evansburg	\$0.00	\$1,155.00	\$2,254.00
✓ Fairview Cornerstone Baptist, Fairview	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Filipino International Baptist, Edmonton	\$0.00	\$4,692.96	\$2,291.00
✓ Grace Family, St Albert	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,618.06
✓ Jasper Place Baptist, Edmonton	\$1,099.11	\$1,099.11	\$1,841.36
Life-Touch Center Ministries, Calgary	\$0.00	\$2,944.00	\$1,843.98
✓ Newway Baptist, Edmonton	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Red Deer Korean Community, Red Deer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Richmond Hill Baptist, Calgary	\$4,073.89	\$13,068.48	\$9,148.67
✓ Southwinds, Calgary	\$0.00	\$3,510.00	\$1,732.00
✓ Tapestry, Tuscan, Calgary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ The Pathway Church, Calgary	\$0.00	\$4,096.30	\$952.02
✓ Trinity Baptist, Calgary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,917.58
✓ Truth Baptist, Calgary	\$0.00	\$5,766.10	\$4,829.80
✓ Vertical Church, Cochrane	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Vietnamese Community, Calgary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
✓ Westwood Baptist, Edmonton	\$0.00	\$2,600.00	\$2,666.71
✓ Worsley Baptist, Worsley	\$1,268.72	\$2,697.94	\$1,796.36
NEW CHURCH PLANTS			
Bright City Lights, Edmonton	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Genesis Church, Airdrie	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Life Renewal Chinese Baptist, Edmonton	\$73.26	\$73.26	\$0.00
Missional Life Church, Edmonton	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mosaic Church, Lloydminster	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$0.00
Noel, Cochrane	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Springbank Chinese Baptist Church, Calgary	\$402.00	\$950.00	\$0.00
The Open Door Community Church, Sherwood Park	\$1,552.52	\$1,552.52	\$0.00
AB TOTALS	\$13,955.43	\$64,102.83	\$56,314.62
SASKATCHEWAN			
CONGREGATIONS			
✓ Allan Baptist, Allan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$77.00
✓ Bethal Christian Fellowship, Prince Albert	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$100.00
✓ Calvary Baptist, Moose Jaw	\$228.48	\$518.55	\$249.95
✓ Community Baptist, North Battleford	\$0.00	\$1,083.67	\$1,003.00
✓ Discovery Baptist, Regina	\$0.00	\$1,414.37	\$2,017.98
✓ Emmanuel Baptist, Melfort	\$1,008.35	\$1,820.49	\$647.50
✓ Faith Baptist, Saskatoon	\$306.52	\$1,259.31	\$1,385.33
✓ Hi-Way Harvest Fellowship, Smeaton	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$152.80
✓ Muskoday Baptist, Muskoday	\$0.00	\$15.00	\$30.00
✓ Scarborough Baptist, Prince Albert	\$0.00	\$550.00	\$1,100.00
✓ Watrous Baptist, Watrous	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
✓ Woori Baptist, Regina	\$0.00	\$690.10	\$336.00
NEW CHURCH PLANTS			
Battleford's Cowboy Church, Prince Albert	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gronlid, Gronlid	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
SK TOTALS	\$1,743.35	\$8,051.49	\$7,099.56
MANITOBA			
CONGREGATIONS			
✓ Garden Park, Winnipeg	\$0.00	\$2,021.59	\$1,661.38
✓ New Life Sanctuary, Winnipeg	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$250.00
✓ SALT Community of Believers, Anola	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ St. Adolphe Bible Fellowship, St. Adolphe	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
✓ Tabor Baptist Church, Winnipeg	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
NEW CHURCH PLANTS			
Family Life Church, Winnipeg	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Renaissance Church, Winnipeg	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
MB TOTALS	\$0.00	\$2,521.59	\$4,361.38

*COOPERATIVE GIVING REPORT 2015

	FEBRUARY	YTD 2015	FEB 2014
ONTARIO			
CONGREGATIONS			
All Nations Church, Sudbury	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bantry Gospel Seed, Richmond Hill	\$160.00	\$280.00	\$80.00
✓ Baptist International Worship Centre, Brampton	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Beacon Baptist Church, Victoria Harbour	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Bethel Romanian Baptist Church, Kitchener	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Bible Centered Fellowship of Toronto, Toronto	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Celebration!, Gloucester	\$2,116.28	\$2,116.28	\$1,893.57
✓ Dixie Baptist Church, Mississauga	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Eglise Baptiste Haitienne Salem, Hamilton	\$0.00	\$298.99	\$352.75
✓ Eglise Evangelique Baptiste Eben Ezer, Ottawa	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Emmanuel Baptist Church, Etobicoke	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Good News Baptist Church, North York	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Greek Gospel Church of Toronto, East York	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
✓ Iglesia Bautista Betel, Scarborough	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Mississauga Southern Chinese Baptist Church, Mississauga	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
✓ Oakville Christian Fellowship, Oakville	\$0.00	\$737.62	\$252.10
Polish Christian Church, Mississauga	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Sequoia Community Church, Nepean	\$3,500.00	\$9,700.00	\$9,200.00
The Sanctuary, Kerr Village	\$0.00	\$539.00	\$796.25
✓ The Sanctuary, Oakville	\$2,038.00	\$5,818.00	\$4,438.00
✓ The Sanctuary, Milton	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
The Sanctuary, Mississauga	\$0.00	\$792.77	\$216.70
✓ The Vine Church, Mississauga	\$76.25	\$132.90	\$116.55
NEW CHURCH PLANTS			
✓ All Nations Southern Baptist Church of Toronto, North York	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ekklesia, Toronto	\$58.00	\$58.00	\$202.75
Fellowship Church, Mississauga	\$364.00	\$1,411.00	\$923.59
Fellowship Pickering, Pickering	\$885.70	\$885.70	\$0.00
Grassy Narrows First Nations, Grassy Narrows	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
Hamilton Ark Church, Hamilton	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hamilton Bikers Church, Hamilton	\$0.00	\$81.00	\$45.40
✓ Hamilton Fellowships, Hamilton	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Life Eternal Asian Fellowship Canada, Brampton	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mosaic Toronto, Toronto	\$198.00	\$469.00	\$268.48
Ohr L'Goyim Messianic Congregation, Maple	\$68.00	\$128.00	\$342.80
Ottawa Good News Community Church, Ottawa	\$162.00	\$652.50	\$2,274.34
Pathway Church Kanata, Richmond	\$0.00	\$1,358.49	\$989.23
Refuel Church, East York	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Rendezvous - Midtown, Toronto	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$0.00
SouthShore Bible Church, Barrie	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Starting Point Church, Oakville	\$0.00	\$467.00	\$0.00
The Gathering-Windsor, Windsor **	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
Trinity Life, Toronto	\$521.00	\$1,737.00	\$998.50
Vietnamese Baptist Church Mississauga, Mississauga	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Wabaseemoong Gospel Church, Kenora	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
OTHER PLANTS			
First Baptist Church - Orillia, Orillia	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
The Extra Mile, North York	\$12.00	\$48.00	\$0.00
ON TOTALS	\$10,577.23	\$30,229.25	\$25,861.01

QUEBEC			
CONGREGATIONS			
Arabic Baptist Church of Christ of Montréal, Montréal	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
✓ Assemblée Chrétienne de la Grâce, Granby	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Assemblée Évangélique bon Samaritain, St. George	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Connexion Montréal, Ahuntsic	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Église Baptiste Communautaire Béthanie, Montréal	\$75.00	\$150.00	\$60.00
✓ Église Baptiste Évangélique de Maniwaki, Maniwaki	\$0.00	\$1,018.64	\$0.00
✓ Église Baptiste Galilée, Saint Hubert	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Église Baptiste Haitienne Siloe, Montréal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,900.00
✓ Église Baptiste Nouvelle Jérusalem, Montréal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Église Baptiste Shéba, Montréal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Église de L'Amour du Seigneur	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Église de Rocher Vivant Communauté Chrétienne, St Félix	\$244.00	\$244.00	\$93.00
Église Évangélique Baptiste de Manahaim, Montréal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Église Évangélique de Pointe Saint-Charles, Montréal	\$165.62	\$246.37	\$159.49
Église Renaissance de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

	FEBRUARY	YTD 2015	FEB 2014
Église Renaissance du Long Sault, Grenville	\$0.00	\$780.00	\$572.50
First Romanian Baptist Church, Laval	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Greek Canadian Gospel Church, Montréal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ International Christian Community of Montréal, Montréal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ On Noori Korean Baptist Church of Montréal, Cote St Luc	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
✓ Renaissance Bible Church, Rawdon	\$235.99	\$529.68	\$590.70
NEW CHURCH PLANTS			
Antioch Baptist Church, Sherbrooke	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Centre Connexion, Eglise Chretienne la Rencontre, Montréal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Church of the Lord of Lords, Saint-Laurent	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Disciples Christian Fellowship of Montréal, Montreal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Eglise le Contact, Repentigny	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Eglise le Refuge, Pincout	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
Eglise Urbaine 180	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
Eglise Urbaine Axe21 (Magog), Magog	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Encounter, Sherbrooke	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$50.00
Initiative 22, Montréal	\$0.00	\$425.00	\$342.50
La Chapelle, Montreal	\$0.00	\$4,731.00	\$9,073.70
Source de Vie, Sherbrooke	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
The Village Church, Brigham	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
OTHER PLANTS			
Eglise Urbaine Axe21 - Sherbrooke	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
QC TOTALS	\$1,520.61	\$9,224.69	\$12,991.89

NEWFOUNDLAND/LABRADOR			
NEW CHURCH PLANTS			
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
NFL TOTALS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

NEW BRUNSWICK			
CONGREGATIONS			
Hillside Church, Blackville	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Hope Community Church, Fredericton	\$183.00	\$537.00	\$1,250.00
Miramichi Valley Church, Doaktown	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,225.00
✓ Providence Christian Church, Riverview	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
NEW CHURCH PLANTS			
Eastside Church, Miramichi	\$142.50	\$271.00	\$162.00
Eglise Cite de la Grace, Dieppe	\$133.80	\$133.80	\$0.00
Refuge Church, Riverview	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$520.00
NB TOTALS	\$514.30	\$996.80	\$3,157.00

NOVA SCOTIA			
CONGREGATIONS			
Baddeck Church Baptist Church, Margaree Valley	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Journey Community Church, Enfield	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Living Hope Community Church, Halifax	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
✓ Margaree Valley Baptist Church, Margaree Valley	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
NEW CHURCH PLANTS			
Christian Community Church - Cheticamp, SW Margaree	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
OTHER PLANTS			
Community Bible Chapel, Timberlea	\$223.02	\$223.02	\$0.00
NS TOTALS	\$223.02	\$223.02	\$0.00

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND			
CONGREGATIONS			
✓ Community Baptist Church, Charlottetown	\$819.19	\$3,681.56	\$2,001.54
NEW CHURCH PLANTS			
Center Point Church, Montague	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Center Point Church - Charlottetown, Montague	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Providence Evangelical International Church, Charlottetown	\$362.40	\$362.40	\$0.00
PEI TOTALS	\$1,181.59	\$4,043.96	\$2,001.54

YUKON/NORTHWEST TERRITORIES			
CONGREGATIONS			
Tli-Cho Baptist Church, Behchoko	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
Y/NWT TOTALS	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
OTHER GIFTS			
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$65.00
TOTALS	\$36,641.78	\$139,556.10	\$129,166.90

✓ Denotes those churches that are affiliated (voting members) with the CNBC.

* This report includes only churches that have contributed through Cooperative Giving in the past three years.

More Glimpses

Deen-Deen Vedoya

By Elaine Phillips

Deen-Deen Ignacio Vedoya grew up in a Christian family. She “learned facts about the Bible through religiously going to church and seeing my parents live out their faith,” but at the age of 12 her own faith became personal. Serving her Lord has led her on a lifelong adventure of faith and trust ever since—all the way to Church

in the Valley, the CNBC church plant she and her spouse, Nate, will launch in Edmonton on Easter weekend.

At pivotal moments in their lives Nate and Deen-Deen obeyed God’s call to church planting. Even before they met they sensed the Lord preparing them for what they are now doing.

The story of how Miss Ignacio met her future husband is worth retelling. Deen-Deen’s dad was called to pastor a church in Winnipeg. Nate’s parents were leaders of that church. When her family finally moved to Winnipeg from the Philippines, Nate’s family moved from Winnipeg to Calgary. *Fast forward a few years.* Their parents became good friends and “secretly” prayed for their children to consider each other

as life partners in the future.

They first met in grade seven and Deen-Deen later learned she had left an impression on his heart. *Fast forward a few more years.* Nate attended Prairie Bible Institute, while Deen-Deen attended college in New Jersey. For an assignment he had to write to influential people—and he chose Deen-Deen. They became pen pals. *Fast forward one last time.*

They both felt called to the Philippines to study at a seminary there—and specifically for Nate to go back to his Filipino roots. “There,” says Deen-Deen, “we finally found out that we were more than just pen pals ... and were engaged during our

last year in college. We got married after graduation. Our wedding day kiss was our first kiss ever!”

The Vedoyas have three children: Charis (11), Kai (9) and Jasmin (6). All three are an active part of the church planting team.

Deen-Deen describes church planting as “simple yet complicated: simple because it is a way to respond to the Great Commission, ‘going and making disciples,’ and complicated in that it is hard work, requiring constant flexibility while trying to be stable.”

Working with people can be unpredictable, yet also fulfilling. She says, “I am learning every day how to balance my task-oriented nature while valuing relationships. My prayer is that the Lord would use my life to inspire young women in ministry.”

Deen-Deen loves witnessing lives being transformed. “Seeing people come to know the Lord and grow in their faith is a great joy to me. Recently a mother shared that they had their first family devotion with their children playing their own instruments during singing time. It is wonderful to know that families are learning to worship together!”

A definite benefit is getting to work alongside Nate, the love of her life, and share the experience with their children. “Seeing our children loving Jesus and inviting their friends to church is wonderful; they are little missionaries.”

The couple has taken a bi-vocational approach. Early last fall Nate accepted a full-time position at Hope Mission, managing all the shelters in downtown Edmonton, a 24-hour, 365 days a year service. One of the realities of full-time ministry is that it bleeds into everything. It can be a challenge to set things aside. “If I’m not careful, church planting tasks can rob me of valuable rest and time with family,” says Deen-Deen, “and even time with the Lord.”

Deen-Deen is “learning how to listen to the Lord’s cues every day, looking at our priorities and making sure we have our ‘big rocks’ in place before we try and squeeze in more.” She says that when the going gets tough and she feels like



Clockwise from back-
The Vedoya family: Deen-Deen, Nathan, Kai, Jasmin and Charis.

more ...

Resurrection power fuels new church plant

By Kevin Ezell

ALPHARETA, GA (BP)—One of the things I like best about being at the North American Mission Board is hearing all of the great stories about how God is at work through our church planters in North America. From time to time I like to pass these stories along to you.

The story of Mosaic Church of Lloydminster in Alberta, Canada, is one such story. Jon Las and a group of fellow believers started the church last year at Easter after several weeks of prayer and preparation. Jon had never started a church before. He had never even been a lead pastor.

But Jon and his friends started sharing their dream with others in the community—a dream of initiating a multi-cultural church focused on making disciples in all nations. The community of 35,000 people has only 12 churches of any kind. The very first time they met—as practice two weeks before Easter—eight people became followers of Jesus. The next week 240 people

showed up for the church's first official weekend of worship services.

The church has continued to grow ever since. Most weekends about 400 people worship with Mosaic. In less than a year they've formed 22 small groups. Though mostly young, they're a diverse mix of ages and ethnicities.

And here's the best part—more than 200 people have come to faith in Jesus at the church over the past year, and 44 of those new believers have been baptized.

Thanks to the generosity of Southern Baptists, the North American Mission Board has been blessing Jon through our Church Planter Support Ministry. Jon is committed to serving alongside the Canadian National Baptists and Southern Baptists. The church gave its first gift to the Cooperative Program the month after its amazing launch.

Stories like Mosaic's don't happen every day. Many passionate, godly church planters labor in the tough soil of North American cities for years before seeing 200 people come to faith in Christ. We must celebrate their stories as well.

But as Mosaic approaches its first birthday, I challenge you to share its story in your church as a reminder of the power of the Gospel—and as encouragement to continue our work together to push back lostness through church planting. More than 2,000 years later the resurrection power demonstrated on that first Easter morning is still powering the miraculous growth of the church here in North America.

And that's something we can all celebrate!

Photo Left:
Church planter Jon Las preaches at Mosaic Church of Lloydminster, Alberta, a church he started last Easter (2014).

EDITOR'S NOTE:
Reprinted from **Baptist Press** news service of the Southern Baptist Convention.



MG: Deen-Deen Vedoya cont.

... from quitting (especially on Mondays), she is reminded of the hymn, "Burdens are lifted at Calvary"—and she finds refuge in Jesus alone. "What doesn't make sense when things are tough makes sense because of the gospel."

Ministry role models are in good supply: "My mentors would be my mother and my grandmothers," says Deen-Deen. "Both my grandmothers were prayer warriors and church planter/pastor's wives. And my mother is still in ministry after 'retiring'; my mom and dad have always been my greatest cheerleaders."

"I really want to live wisely and not foolishly. In the Lord alone I find wisdom and direction. Perhaps that is why I am currently drawn to Proverbs 3:5-6, 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take' and to this verse: 'Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom' (Psalms 90:12).

"My prayer is to live life from a godly perspective and with sweet surrender to my God."

"Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Ps. 90:12).

UASHTEU Light and Faith in the Heart of the First Nations of Quebec

By Genevieve
Bellemare

Recently, a collective called UASHTEU was launched. According to the National Library of Canada and the First Nations Assembly of Quebec and Labrador, UASHTEU, Light and Faith in the Heart of the First Nations of Quebec, constitutes a national literary premiere.

A work including authors from the totality of the First Nations of Quebec has never before been published. Éditions Jaspe is proud and thanks the Lord Jesus, who initiated this project. UASHTEU is a collection of testimonies written by members from the eleven native nations, including the Inuit nation of the Province of Quebec.

As Claude Tremblay has so well written: "Imprints of authenticity and faith, which allow the shadow of healed wounds, these authentic stories will not fail to provide you with great emotion or to inspire great thoughts. Far above the prejudices, which come from racism, these men and women extend their hands towards us in frankness and honesty. They have discovered the key of the treasure that we misplaced long ago." It is, of course, a book of Christian faith that desires to focus attention on the Lord Jesus.

Éditions Jaspe, in concert with the authors of UASHTEU, believes that this book will promote reconciliation and forgiveness for the numerous abuses committed against these peoples, especially in the boarding schools.

For Claude Tremblay, it was an honour to know each of the seventeen participants, to hear and to collect what they had expressed with such passion and conviction. This love, this welcoming, which he saw in the faces and the souls of these brothers and sisters of the First Nations, raised

them even higher in his estimation.

The desire of Éditions Jaspe is to distribute this book free of charge in all the native communities of Quebec and this distribution began on September 6, 2014, in the Amerindian Reserve of Wendake in Quebec. Since that time, Claude Tremblay has visited most of the province in order

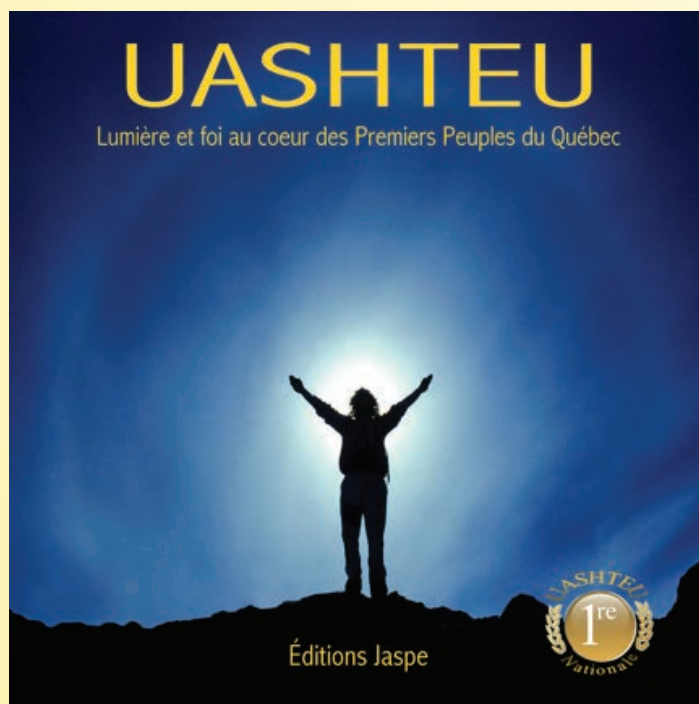
to distribute this message of love and hope that touches the heart of all, no matter their origin. This gesture of love is intended to redeem the evil that was committed against the native communities and to bring healing.

Find out more about this project and how you can help at the [UASHTEU website](http://UASHTEU.com).

An evangelism activity requires prayers as well as the participation of numerous volunteers. For the distribution of books at Wendake, Christians from several parts of Quebec province were involved, including Good Samaritan Ministries, which have worked alongside Claude Tremblay for a number of years. In all, the group included 47 persons united in the desire to see the First Nations peoples come to Christ.

For Claude Tremblay, it takes much preparation and involvement to distribute the book. He has to collaborate with several of the First Nations groups in order to do the evangelism work, and he must continue his travels to different parts of the province.

It should be noted that although the book was originally published in French, an English version is presently being prepared and should be available this spring. We believe that this book should be distributed to all the First Nations peoples of North America. It is possible to order it directly online from the [Éditions Jaspe website](http://ÉditionsJaspe.com).



"These authentic stories will not fail to provide you with great emotion or to inspire great thoughts. Far above the prejudices, which come from racism, these men and women extend their hands towards us in frankness and honesty. They have discovered the key of the treasure that we misplaced long ago."
— Claude Tremblay

International Connections

The Atkins: partners in sharing the gospel

Little did Trey and Elise Atkins know that their five years in Canada would ultimately lead to a lifetime of missions with the International Mission Board in central and southern Europe!

When they left for Winnipeg, Manitoba, from a small ranching community in southeast Colorado, they thought that was God's call to missions. Granted, it is the same language, but it is a different culture, eh?!

After pastoring at what was then known as Friendship Baptist Church, they concluded that Canada was just a stepping-stone to missions that did include a different language. They went to Sarajevo, Bosnia, for four years, and then on to Zagreb, Croatia, for seven years. They now call Bratislava, Slovakia, home and have lived there for two and a half years.

The Atkins want to thank you so much for your partnership in the gospel. International Mission Board (IMB) personnel who work in Central Europe thank God for the many ways you support them and the Kingdom work that God has called them to be a part of, from the countries of Poland to Bosnia!

God is at work in many exciting ways and they are convinced that much of what they are seeing is in response to the prayers of the saints. Trey and Elise have worked as cluster strategy leaders in seven countries in the last seven years. Central Europe is less than .5 percent evangelical, yet the Atkins have the privilege of seeing the fruit of IMB workers who have diligently laboured and

continue to work the fields through scattering, planting, and watering the seed of the Word of God in these countries. They have seen five churches planted in partnership with national leaders, many Bible study groups started, and countless opportunities for broad seed sowing in Poland, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, and Bosnia.

The Czech Baptist Union has received generous monetary gifts over the past two years from the Canadian National Baptist Convention and these funds have been a significant investment in establishing one of the newest church plants in Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic. Their second worship service took place on March 22 with 38 people present; the Atkins were thankful to have been able to attend this momentous event.



Elise and Trey Atkins



MISSIONS CONTACT

Do you need information about CNBC missions?

- Cooperative Giving
- Canadian Missions
- International Missions
- Missions Education
- Global Missions Offering
- North American Missions
- Guest missionary speakers and prayer cards for your church



Email: econe@cnbc.ca
Phone: 1-888-442-2272 ext 124

Remember to Pray ...

- ***Pray for special evangelism and church planting training events for national leaders throughout these seven countries in the late spring and fall.***
- ***Thank God for the many new believers that have come to Christ in the last few weeks; pray that they will grow in their newfound faith with hearts of obedience to the Shepherd.***
- ***Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit in bringing many Central Europeans to faith in Christ.***
- ***Ask that God would raise up more national partners throughout the EURO Central Cluster to joyfully partner with IMB personnel.***



Desperation of a foreigner among foreigners

By Laurie, CSBS&C student from Worsley, AB

INDIA—Desperation: this is the word I would use to summarize my time overseas and the

word that describes the reason why everyone would benefit from a cross-cultural mission experience.

North America was comfortable to me. My needs were met, I felt safe and secure, my work and finances were sustained, my health was maintained; the temperature of my life was “just right” at lukewarm. I wasn’t desperate for anything, not even God. I am a schedule, plan ahead, goal oriented, get it done kind of person and didn’t want to ever feel out of control by becoming desperate for any-

thing. Yet, how desperately I needed to become desperate for God.

India is the way the Lord did this for me the last five months of 2014. I became the most desperate I have ever been in every area of my life. At first I just tried to take each challenge in stride with my own pride, with an “I can do this!” kind of attitude. I wasn’t going to give up so easily so quickly, after all, I just began. Although I would say that usually my pride helps me to have great endurance, it ran out and I became desperate.

Lying on my bed one afternoon I can remember feeling completely burnt out, I didn’t even have fumes to run on anymore. I began asking God, “How?” to every area of my life. During this time, a pastor I was working alongside in the slum told me, “Laurie, you should pray more because you need more power.” I was offended at first,

but then the thought began to settle into my heart and mind. I gave everything that I could and ran out, that’s when God whispered, “Finally, Laurie, you got to where I want you, the end of yourself, now let me show

you through the power of MY Spirit.”

I know I would have been on my way home prematurely with no fruit from my time in India. Yet, because I became desperate for the Lord, He sustained me, guided me, protected me, encouraged me, counselled me, provided for me and finally became my all in all.

Within a matter of months most of the students in our English class in the slum were saved, a college-aged girl from a Hindu background chose to follow Jesus, more labourers came alongside us, a young believer’s family went from persecuting her to allowing Bible studies to be held in their home, and we were allowed to have a Christmas celebration in a Hindu/Muslim area. God provided in every minute detail for both my ministry and personal life. Being overseas allowed me to know God in a deeper way than ever before.

I am so thankful to be blessed with the support of such a great convention and mission board that prayed and supported me. How grateful I am and wish everyone could experience a season of life in a place that causes them to know God more.

It is through my desperation and need that God allowed me to go and make disciples and see His mighty hand. Now it is this same desperation that sustains me in my own country, city, work place, relationships, marriage and life.

Where are you today?
How are you managing?
When will you stop and become desperate for God, the maker of heaven and earth. He is desperately waiting for you, my brothers and sisters.

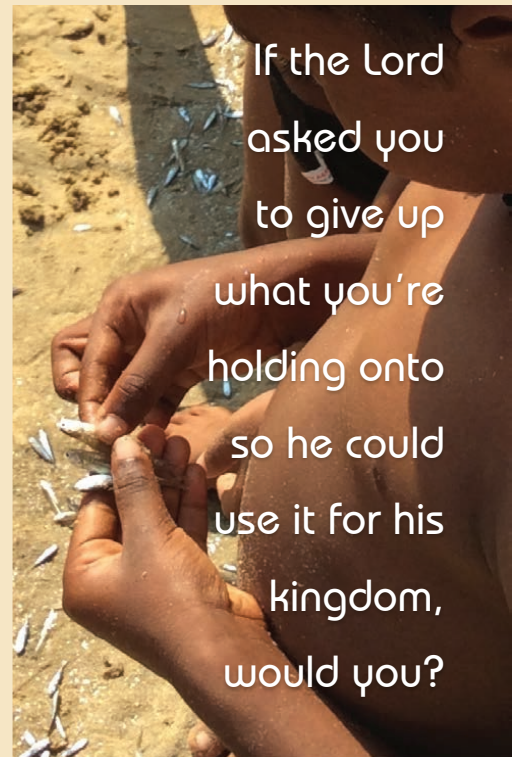
If the Lord
asked you
to give up
what you’re
holding onto
so he could
use it for his
kingdom,
would you?



An English student in the slum



A family picnic for families in the slum





卡城卫道浸信会

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Notice to CNBC pastors, convention staff, seminary staff: Please contact **Debbie Shelton** if you would like to publish a birth, wedding or new staff member announcement in the *CNBC Horizon*.

E-quip.net offers free online training opportunities

A free online learning community is capturing the training provided at many conferences and workshops throughout the Canadian National Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention and archiving it to view at any time.

E-quip.net was initiated by the CNBC to meet a need among leaders whose schedules or locations kept them from attending various training opportunities.

Today, **e-quip.net** offers hundreds of videos so that anyone anywhere can watch presenters and follow their PowerPoint presentations as if they were sitting in a conference room together.



Aaron and Samantha Boswell, announce the birth of their son, **Owen Taylor**, born February 10, 2015, in Montreal, QC. Aaron is church planter/pastor of Église Renaissance Church, Montreal.



Maurice and Nancy Tenkink announce the birth of their grandson, **Jack Marinus Tenkink**, born February 27, 2015, in Calgary, AB. Jack's parents are **Jeffrey and Michaela Tenkink**. Maurice is church planting catalyst for Saskatchewan/Manitoba.



e-quip to be small groups understanding **better together** Philippians

teaching/preaching share your faith church conflict current cultural realities God's fingerprints kingdom first

Session 1 – 2:00-3:00

Small Groups Make a Big Difference! ■ Paul Johnson

How can you make sure your small groups are more than just gatherings? This seminar will examine the ten essentials of a Disciple Maker small group.

Better Together: Maximizing Partnerships ■ Brett Porter, Bo Neal, Bob Shelton

What does a healthy partnership look like? How can we be a good host for mission teams and use volunteers strategically? How can we help partners pray intentionally? Join us as we discuss these questions and more in a panel discussion format. We truly are better together!

Church Conflict – Pre-sorted Opportunities for Change ■ Don McNaughton

Conflict is a set-up—it sets us up for changes that matter to God. Conflict is one of God's special opportunities, the place where he does some of his greatest work. We ought to treasure conflict as the place where we meet God in life-changing ways. Can you believe that? If so, how do we help that to happen?

Finding God's Fingerprints ■ Ian Buntain

Why is Christianity growing in the very places that are furthest from Christian resources? How does one reach a community with nothing but Christ and his Word? In this session we will learn how to direct individuals to evidences of God in their culture and context, how to apply the gospel to point of need, and how to develop evangelists even before they are believers.

Understanding Philippians ■ Steve Booth

In this session we will take a look at the setting, structure, and major teachings found in Paul's letter to the Philippian believers. This will lay the groundwork for a follow up session, in which we will consider how to teach or preach through this most beloved book of the New Testament.

Break – 3:00-3:30

Break – 3:00-3:30

Break – 3:00-3:30

Session 2 – 3:30-4:30

Impacting Your Relationships with the Gospel ■ Kathy Morales

In this session you will: Discuss starting points for spiritual conversations, learn simple ways to share your faith, overcome the fear of talking about Jesus, share ideas for hosting events that encourage conversations about the good news.

Responding to Current Cultural Realities about Homosexuality and Same-Sex Marriage ■ Rob Blackaby

How do we discuss homosexuality and same-sex marriage? How do we get beyond the rhetorical battle being waged in our contemporary culture, and the contemporary struggle it can create in church life? This session will seek to explore the challenges and provide help for churches and leaders.

Kingdom First: Starting Churches that shape Movements ■ Jeff Christopherson

Do you dream of being used by God to start a new community of Christ that brings the restorative gospel to a lost and broken city? What wouldn't you sacrifice to be a part of a God-honouring gospel movement – a spiritual landslide that starts with lostness and ends in an avalanche of new congregations multiplying and transforming community after community? This session will look at a biblical process for planting a movement that is truly Kingdom First.

Teaching/Preaching Philippians ■ Glenn Watson

We will discuss tips on planning your preaching/teaching ministry, and making the most of your limited preparation time—all in the context of discussing preaching ideas from Philippians. This session could be taken as a continuation of Understanding Philippians (In Session 1).