



Dear Servant of the Lord:

Greetings in the Precious Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

GOD'S SPIRIT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE IN 2016

Zechariah 4: 1 – 10

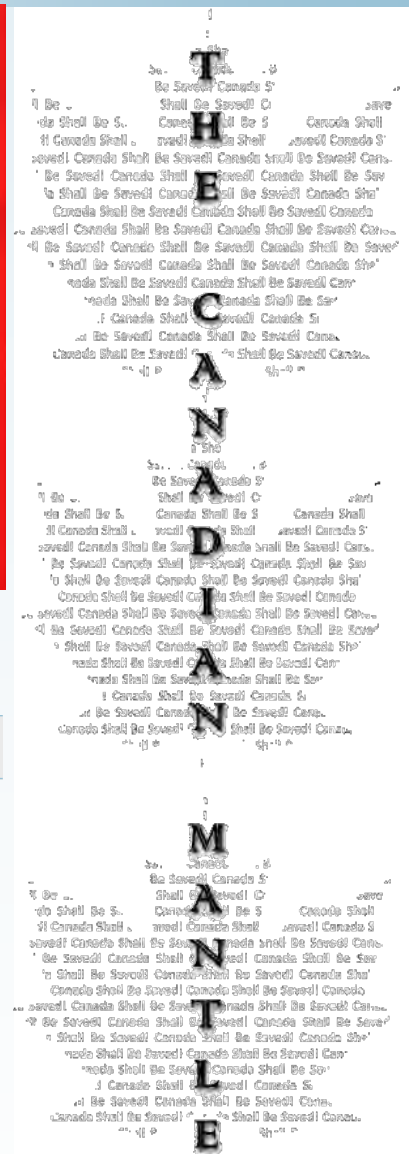
Zechariah 4:6 "Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying,

Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts."

When Haggai had been preaching two months concerning the need for rebuilding the Temple, a younger man appeared on the scene as a co-laborer. An optimist, he has been called "one of the brightest, the clearest, the most hopeful to be found in prophetic literature." The general background of his ministry was, of course, the same as Haggai. The small band of returned exiles were seeking, against terrific odds, to serve the Lord in a land where they were hemmed in with little or no breathing room.

The two prophets were varied in personality. Haggai was an activist, bustling with energy and practicality. Zechariah, being a priest, was a student of Scripture and one likely to see visions and dream dreams. One scholar contrasts them, "Haggai will handle the hammer and nails, but Zechariah will supply the blueprints of the Utopia. The spiritual insight of the idealist will be wedded to the practical drive of the realist." Both men, however, had one great consuming passion. The temple must be rebuilt so Jerusalem could become the center of universal religion.

To read and interpret the Book of this mystical man of God is not easy. A simple outline should help. The book opens with an earnest appeal for the people to return to the Lord (1: 1 – 6). Following this is a series of eight visions (1: 7 – 6: 8) containing words of encouragement to the



The Official Voice of the

Independent Assemblies of God, Canada

- Gen Secy1
- Prophecy.....4
- Member Article.....5
- Sanctification - Rev. Willner.....6,7
- National Convention.....8
- Gen Secy Itinerary.....9
- Reg Secy Reports.....10-11
- Member Article.....12
- Praise Reports14
- Editors note.....15

From the Desk of the General Secretary



people as they are in the land without a temple and discouraged by hardships. The third section (6: 9 – 15) has been called a historical appendix to the symbolic messages. The prophet is urged to crown Joshua as high priest and declare him as the “Branch” who will rule over the people.

A fourth division (7: 1 - 8: 23) deals with a question concerning the days of fasting. These days shall become times of celebration when Jerusalem shall become the center of true religion and a source of blessing to all the world. The final section (9: 1 – 14: 21) deals with a later situation where the nations are restless and threatening Jerusalem with attack. The small community in the city and the people dispersed among many nations are assured of God’s help in securing

victory over their enemies. The book closes with a graphic description of the Lord’s universal reign, with Jerusalem being the center of religion and holiness.

To cover Zechariah’s book completely in such a short message is, of course, impossible. We shall, however, point out several key teachings which seem to summarize the theme of the book.

Much of the church in North America is living common-law with the world.

THE PRIORITY OF REPENTANCE

2 Chronicles 7:14 “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land”.

Before anyone, either a nation or an individual, can be right with God, he must face the matter of sin in his life and decide to forsake it. Zechariah began his ministry with a strong pronouncement concerning sin. The children were warned against following the paths of their fathers. The precious generation had turned a deaf ear to the words of the prophets and failed to change their ways. The post-exilic community must avoid a repetition of this tragic mistake.

THE FIRST MESSAGE OF ZECHARIAH IS A CALL TO REPENTANCE.

He said, “Turn ye unto me, saith the Lord of Hosts, and I will turn unto you, saith the Lord of Hosts.” (1: 3). The result of the precious generation’s sin was their captivity. When one looks back at the blessings a precious generation has missed because of sin, he/she should be constrained to follow God in his/her own lifetime.

The disobedient predecessors of Zechariah’s generation once worshipped in Solomon’s temple and the song of the Levites rang through the arches of the Lord’s house. The banners of Judah, at one time, struck terror into the hearts of their enemies. But those days were gone forever!

IN ALL PROBABILITY, ZECHARIAH’S CALL TO REPENTANCE WAS FOLLOWED BY MESSAGES URGING THE PEOPLE TO BUILD THE TEMPLE.

Although we do not have a record of these words, since the first part of Zechariah’s ministry paralleled Haggai’s and preceded the temple’s construction, he must have delivered such utterances.

Repentance is necessary for any people in order to satisfy God in service. Activism alone can be shallow. Unless accompanied by a spiritual approach to life, all works of man’s hands will be futile as far as pleasing God and building His kingdom. Even building a building for God is a “vain work” unless it is done in the spirit of the Lord.

VISION KEEPS US FROM PERISHING

The visions following the prophet's call to repentance, although varying, emphasized God's presence with His people. Jonathan Swift said, "Vision is the art of seeing things invisible."

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote,

Couldst thou in vision see,
Thyself, the man God meant:
Thou never more wouldst be
The self thou art, content.

GOD WILL ALWAYS BE WITH HIS PEOPLE.

He had chosen Israel for a redemptive mission, to bring His Messiah into the world. They are a small people in a large world, but one must never despise small things. Although the work of God is of a feeble beginning, He will bring it to pass. Dr. Clyde Francisco says "It is not a question of your strength but of God's strength."

GOD CAN, WITH HIS GREAT POWER, BREAK THROUGH ENTRENCHED EVIL.

He will do this in order to bring salvation to His people and dwell with them. In order for this to be done, sin must be dealt with and God's holiness must be vindicated. God's righteousness must rule. Sin must be pursued and punished. Only God can break the deadly grip of sin and remove the contaminating presence of sin. An ideal land is one where sin is removed, but we cannot win the victory in our own strength. God must come into the arena for us. He promised Israel He would do this in the Messiah and He has done it in Jesus of Nazareth, our Saviour. The victory will never be complete until He comes in glory, but the promise is here.

GOD WILL WIN

The latter part of Zechariah's prophecy is difficult to understand. Scholars have disagreed as to the fulfillment of many things he predicted.

One thing, however, is certain. God will never be defeated. His purposes in history will triumph. In Jesus Christ, redemption has come to the world. Those who have received Christ are on God's side and will emerge triumphantly when history is consummated.

During the dark days of the Civil War in the U. S. A. someone asked Abraham Lincoln, "Mr. President, have you prayed for God to be on our side?" He replied, "No, I have not prayed that prayer. But I have prayed another. I have prayed that God will help me to be certain that I am on His side." This is what matters. God is righteous and righteousness will win eventually. The mark of wisdom is to find out where God is going and go with Him.

Throughout the entire Book of Zechariah runs the theme of our text. Human effort will not win the victory. Assyria, Babylon and Persia were nations that had built on might and power. The first two had already fallen and the third would fall soon. Those who followed their actions would likewise rise and wane.

God's kingdom, however will go on because it is a spiritual kingdom. That person is wise who builds his/her life, not on material things which will fade away, but on spiritual things which will abide forever (Luke 11: 13; Acts 1: 5; 2: 1 – 4; 8: 17; 10: 44 – 46; 19: 6).

Virginia and I are looking forward to seeing you at the I. A. O. G. I. (Canada) National Convention, May 2 – 5, 2016 in Montreal, Quebec.

*The Convention Theme is:
"POSSESS YOUR HERITAGE &
GO IN YOUR DESTINY"
Judges 2: 6*

*Your servant in Christ,
Rev. Paul McPhail*

From the Tent of David Ministries

As the Tent of David as a body waited on the Lord for a word from God for this year, these were the main themes that came forth on New Year's eve.

The Key words for this year are Restoration, Double, Gold, Jubilee, Fulfilment, , Divine, and Harvest.

Return to your fortress O prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you.
Zechariah 9:12

Restoration:

I will restore to you the years that the locust has eaten.. Joel 2:25

Also, the scripture that the Call was founded on is Joel 2! What impressed us about Joel 2 is that restoration has to come to the people of God before the great outpouring. Be expectant about what is about to do in the first quarter of this year!

Double:

God began to speak to us about this being the year of the double a week before New Year's eve at our women's watch. As we were worshipping, Cathy, one of our worship leaders began sing "doublin', doublin' doublin' " Her menorah was sitting on the fireplace mantle and she could see first its reflection in the mirror and then a reflection of the reflection as if it continued to double. Another lady is building a new kitchen and the name of the design is "Dublin". Kitchen speaks of provision.

Gold:

This year will see a tremendous release of finances into the Kingdom of God. For some time now we have had a theme of Gold. Our ladies prayer watch group was founded this year and we took the name, "Ladies of Gold" as ones who wish to press in for more of the Glory being manifested in our midst. This year, in the Christmas cards to the Tent we felt to include a gold wrapped chocolate coin from Israel, so each one got a coin.

Jubilee:

This is the year of Jubilee on the Biblical calendar. This is a very significant one in that it is the 70th Jubilee. Someone was given Daniel 9 as being important. This is a time when we will be given supernatural insight and understanding of the times that we are in. It will be a time when we do things differently, as the Lord reveals how to do it "better".

The year Jubilee means three things: a time when the captives are set free, the restoration of things lost and the entering into a year of the "rest of faith". Last year was the Shemitah year of rest and it is now cou-

pled with the Jubilee year which is also a year of rest. The double portion.

Fulfilment:

This is the year of "No more delay". God is about to fulfil what He has promised. The Lord says, "It is not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit" that these things will be accomplished. The promises you are standing on are going to be realized.

Attack on truth:

Coupled with all of these blessings, there will also be an unprecedented attack on the Truth that was once delivered to the saints. Several saw false prophets arising and coming as angels of light. As the glory increases many of these false prophets will be revealed this year.

Harvest:

A recurring theme for many was "harvest" for this year. The Lord is going to thrust out labourers into His harvest field beginning in their spheres of influence. This harvest is going to be compelled and known by the love that people manifest towards the lost.

Israel:

God is going after the lost sheep in Israel in a far greater measure this year. Houses of prayer will fan the flame of renewed faith and will extend their tent pegs in the coming season. We had a word over the Tent of David in Israel that we would go into the Holy of Holies in Israel. We believe that the season for this is now. Worship will go into a deeper dimension and holy ground will be established.

Divine:

Everything about this year is "divine": divine appointments, divine encounters, divine healing, divine love, divine knowledge. The church is going to see more of the miraculous being released as we spend time in the secret place. We are going to move increasingly into the divine realm as we press in to the Glory realm. Expect the divine to overtake you as you go deeper into God this year.

There was tremendous expectation released on New Year's eve this year. Get ready for 2016, the year of release of the double portion. It is going to be Divine.

Many Blessings
Tent of David, Canada & Israel

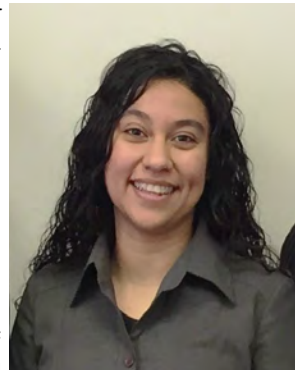
(**This article was edited for space)

Theological Framework by Dr. Yajaira Gomez

In this section, I develop a theological rationale—a reasoned justification from Scripture—for undertaking a project to develop best practices for my itinerant ministry working in cross-cultural contexts. In the first part of the chapter, I look at scriptural passages about itinerant ministry that informed my rationale for this project; in the second I use several major biblical/theological themes from the Old and New Testament that were relevant to this ministry.

The theological model of itinerant ministry that I develop in this chapter comes from the Apostles Paul and Peter, and the Lord Jesus.

Scripture: This project was built upon the biblical values of the Gospel. In the Bible, God works through various persons to preach cross-culturally in order that the Good News of Christ might be heard and received among all nations. Therefore, itinerant cross-cultural ministers must identify with and relate to their audience in culturally appropriate ways. They are to do this so that more people can accept the message of the Cross, as Jesus and his disciples did. Let us first turn to the biblical narrative of these cross-cultural ministers.



Christ for all Nations

God's mission to restore humanity's broken relationship with Himself begins in the Old Testament. When God calls Abraham to be a great nation through his descendants, the Israelites, He chooses them to be his special people (Gen. 12:12-3; Exod. 6:7; Lev. 26:13; Jer. 30:22). However, throughout biblical history the Israelites reject God's ordinances by neglecting them (Num. 11-31; Deut. 31:27; Isa. 1:2-20; Acts 7:37-43). Even though they rebel, the Jews are to serve as the Chosen People, a name for the people of Israel whom God chose as His special instruments through whom blessing will flow to all humanity (*Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary* 1995, s.v. "chosen people").

From this nation the Light of Christ will be born, offering salvation for all cultures to receive God as their Savior: "He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit" (Gal. 3:14). Then those who are non-Jewish, known as the Gentiles, will be able to come into covenant with God and become His children (Rom. 9:24-29).

Elwell and Beitzel affirm that the prophet Isaiah's vision reveals that God welcomes any person who will come to worship Him (Isa. 56:6-8). Isaiah further describes a hope for the future in which one day all nations will come to worship God: "Instead of nation warring against nation, all will live in peace, ruled by God" (Isa. 2:2-4) (Elwell and Beitzel 1988, 1527). This means that culture is not a barrier to accepting the Lord as God (Rom. 1:14-17). Thus the Old Testament is the foundation for inviting God to be Lord over all nations, and not just Israel.

In the New Testament, Christ comes as a baby to live among people while teaching and healing them. Eventually he offers himself sacrificially for the sin of humanity. God comes to earth through Jesus to reign in all peoples' hearts if they will accept Him. In John 1:1, the author describes the essence of God becoming human. God comes down from the throne to better relate to humanity. Christ, who was with God the Father from the beginning of time "took up residence among us" (John 1:1, 14; Rev. 1:8; 21:6; 22:13). Jesus thus became incarnate.

Philippians 2:5-8 describes this concept of incarnation well. When Jesus leaves heaven to come to live among the people, he is able to be the incarnate representation of God among humankind.

Since Jesus is able to live among people, he exemplifies for the Christian worker how he or she is to witness: as disciples who imitate a selfless attitude to help others (Hendriksen and Kistemaker 1953-2001, 103). Even when he preaches in places like Judea, Samaria, and Galilee, facing pain, sufferings, hardship, and cruelty, and yet does not sin, he shows people that "he that has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14:9).

From these passages, a biblical theme emerges: itinerant ministers leave the safe place called home to live among different communities for varied periods of time, to love these communities so they too might see God the Father. This theme guided this research project by motivating me, the itinerant minister, to continue serving cross-culturally.

Rev. Dr. Yajaira Gomez
President, Itinerant Minister
Illuminating His Word to the Nations

ihwnministry.wix.com/ihwn <https://www.facebook.com/Illuminating-His-Word-to-the-Nations-730852343593143/>

The Baptism of Fire:

"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that comes after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the barn; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." (Matthew 3:11,12)

The picture here shows how the chaff was separated from the wheat in Bible times. First of all, the sheaves of wheat were dumped on the rock surface of the threshing floor, and the oxen pulled a grinding stone wheel over the stocks. This separated the shocks of wheat from the straw stems. But then, in order to separate the covering shocks of chaff from the wheat, the wheat was thrown into the air or the mixture was fanned so that the chaff could be carried away from the wheat.

The wheat was then gathered into the barn. Again, we see that the chaff was burnt. The chaff had a purpose to protect the wheat until it was ripe or mature. But then its purpose was no longer beneficial: in fact, it had to be removed so that the wheat could be used as food.

John the Baptist calls this the baptism of fire. Most Christians do not want to listen to any teaching on suffering. It used to be taught that if there was suffering in your life, that there must be sin in your life, or that you were out of the will of God. But here we see that the teaching of ease and comfort in the Christian life is not Scriptural. In fact, it takes the Word of God to separate out the carnal nature from the soul and the spirit of man.

Becoming Perfect:

Jesus taught us that we should be perfect.

"Be you therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." (Matthew 5:48)

"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that comes after me is mightier than I, ... he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but

he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." (Matthew 3:11,12)

While much is taught concerning the baptisms in water and the Holy Spirit, there is not much heard these days about the sanctifying experiences of the baptism of fire. The early church experienced so much of this fire. The persecution of the Church is again returning with attacks against Christians here in America and in the Middle East.

Jesus said that He is come to send the fire of friction in a household between those who believe and those who do not. (Luke 12:49-53) Jesus said that He had a baptism to be baptized with, which described the suffering and anxiety that He would face before the cross. Jesus said that we would also face these times when our faith will be put to the test. (Matthew 20:22,23)

This was also the teaching of the apostle Peter

"But as he which has called you is holy, so be you holy in all manner of conversation;" (1 Peter 1:15)
"But the God of all grace, who has called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that you have suffered a while, make you perfect, establish, strengthen, settle you." (1 Peter 5:10)

Peter admonishes us that our character will be pure as gold.

"That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perishes, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ;" (1 Peter 1:7)

Later, Peter encourages us that if we are tested for our faith that we should rejoice. On the other hand, if we suffer because of sin, we should repent.

"Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as you are partakes of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, you may be glad also with exceeding joy." (1 Peter 4:12,13)

Perfection was the goal of the apostle Paul's ministry.

Sanctification - Rev Willner

"Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we present every man perfect in Christ Jesus." (Colossians 1:28)

Paul teaches that our afflictions are really working for us to bring us to perfection if we will watch our attitudes. *"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, works for us, a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;" (2 Corinthians 4:17)*

So actually, our afflictions are our servants! They are working the grace of God into our lives. When we go through affliction with a good attitude we can credit our difficulties to the perfection of our character. *"And that you put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." (Ephesians 4:24)* Paul taught that putting on holiness was a progressive work.

"Our afflictions are our servants.."

Throughout all of the adversities of Paul's ministry, even while he was in prison, he was pressing towards perfection, *"Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:12)*

He Who Dwells In You Is Perfect:

If we are going to believe that we can reach complete sanctification, and become perfect, we should take hope from the fact that He who lives in us is perfect. His perfection makes our perfection possible.

"If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." (John 14:23)

"And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; ... for he dwells with you, and shall be in you." (John 14:16,17)

"What? Know you not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which you have of God, and you are not your own?" (1 Corinthians 6:19)

"For in him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. And you are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power." (Colossians 2:9,10)

"And has put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him that fills all in all." (Ephesians 1:22,23)

"You are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." (1 John 4:4)

If we would only realize that He who lives in us is perfect, then it will help us to believe that the more we strive to be like Him, the more we will be perfected. It is only a matter of letting His life radiate out of our lives.

We need to be continually asking ourselves, "What would Jesus do?" Someone has said that if we truly believed that Jesus Christ is living in us, then there would be nothing that we could not do that is required of us.

PS: Charles Willner has been an ordained minister of the I.A.O.G.I.(C.) since January 15, 1976.

Open Word Ministries is a missionary Bible teaching ministry, ministering mainly in Kenya, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

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**** The last section of this article will be in the next Mantle ****

2016 National Convention Convention Nationale 2016

May 2nd to 5th

du 2 au 5 Mai

Dr. TRACEY MITCHELL

Conference Speaker

As one of the nation's leading conference speakers, Tracey travels 40+ weeks a year, sharing Biblical principles and wisdom with diverse audiences throughout America. Tracey's real life experiences – through painful and challenging have enabled her to identify with the hurting, lonely, and rejected. Whether speaking to men, women corporate CEO's or the homeless, Tracey's love and passion for re-writing the lives of the brokenhearted make her messages relevant and empowering.

Mentorship Founder

Born in adverse circumstances, Tracey is acquainted with the emotional chaos that accompanies abandonment and rejection. Although she suffered painful experiences she discovered one proven truth; with God's love and mercy, 'all pain can be transformed into purpose.'

As a life coach and mentorship founder of "The Winning Woman", Tracey's heart is to see lives changed, hearts healed, and dreams fulfilled. Her heart is transparent, her message simple & "Your Life Can Change – You Can Change!"

Author

A published author, Tracey's latest release "Downside Up" via Thomas Nelson is now available in bookstores.

Sharing Her Story

Enthusiastic, down to earth, compassionate, and humorous, Tracey impacts the lives of everyone she meets. She inspires audiences with wisdom, motivation, and hope. Her testimony is transparent, her message real & transforming ... Her life is a refreshing tragedy to triumph story ... one that will set ablaze the heart of any audience.

Media

Passionate about reaching the masses with the gospel message, Tracey is a frequent guest on national television programs, and is the television host of "Today with Tracey", which reaches millions via satellite, cable television, and the internet. She is an advocate of those who have experienced rejection, poverty or emotional abuse. Having conquered great pain by applying biblical principles she ministers the message of truth to those searching for wholeness and redemption.

Educational Background and Recognition in Ministry & Public Service

Tracey was awarded an honorary doctorate in divinity degree in 2006 and was presented with the "Dallas Exceptional Service Award in 2008" by Women in Christian Media. In 2014 She received the "Outstanding Woman Entrepreneur Award" presented on behalf of the GSWB Chamber of Commerce.

Conférencière

Comme l'une des principales oratrices de la conférence de la nation, Tracey voyage plus de 40 semaines par année partageant les principes Biblique et de sagesse avec différents groupes à travers l'Amérique. La vie réelle les expériences de Tracey, bien que douloureux et difficile, lui a permis d'identifier avec le mal, la solitude et le rejet. Qu'elle parle aux hommes, aux femmes de l'entreprise ou aux sans abris, l'amour et la passion de Tracey pour ré-écrire la vie des cœurs brisés rend ses messages pertinents et l'autonomisation.

Fondatrice de mentorat

Née dans des circonstances défavorables, Tracey connaît le chaos émotionnel qui accompagne l'abandon et le rejet. Même si elle a subi des expériences douloureuses, elle a découvert une vérité éprouvée; avec l'amour et la miséricorde de Dieu, toute douleur peut être transformée en but. » En tant que coach de vie et fondatrice de mentorat de «The Winning Woman», le cœur de Tracey est de voir des vies changées, des cœurs guéris et des rêves aboutis. Son cœur est transparent, son message simple, et "votre vie peut changer – Vous pouvez changer!"

Auteure

Une auteure publiée, dernière version de Tracey "Downside Up" par Thomas Nelson est maintenant disponible dans les librairies.

Partageant son histoire

Enthousiaste, terre à terre, de compatissante et d'humoriste, Tracey donne un impact certain sur les vies de tous ceux qu'elle rencontre. Elle inspire le public avec sagesse, motivation et espoir. Son témoignage est transparent, son message réel et transformant ... Sa vie est une tragédie rafraîchissante d'une histoire triomphante... celle qui va mettre le feu au cœur de tout public.

Médias

Passionnée pour atteindre les foules avec le message de l'Évangile, Tracey est fréquemment invitée aux programmes de télévision nationale, et est l'animatrice de «Today with Tracey», qui atteint des millions de téléspectateurs par la télévision par satellite, par câble et par Internet. Elle est une défenseur de ceux qui ont connu le rejet, la pauvreté ou la violence psychologique. Après avoir vaincu une grande douleur en appliquant les principes bibliques elle proclame le message de la vérité à ceux qui cherchent la plénitude et de la redémption.

Formations et reconnaissance au sein du ministère et de la fonction publique

Tracey a reçu un doctorat honorifique en théologie en 2006 et a été présentée avec le "Dallas Exceptional Service Award in 2008" par Women in Christian Media. En 2014, elle a reçu le "Outstanding Woman Entrepreneur Award", présenté au nom de la Chambre de Commerce GSWB.



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INDEPENDANT ASSEMBLIES OF GOD INTERNATIONAL CANADA

ASSEMBLÉES DE DIEU INDÉPENDANTES INTERNATIONALES CANADA

Itinerant Ministry of our General Secretary

Oct. 1 & 2/15 – PRAIRIE CONVENTION – Caronport, SK

Nov. 1/15 – 5th Anniversary of Cornerstone Christian Assembly and Faith Charities Of Ontario – Manitowaning, ON. They just purchased a resort with 2400 feet of Lake Huron frontage.

Ordination of Rev. Lynnette Deforge, Frank Trudeau – Licensed Minister

Joe Cawte – Commissioned Christian Worker

Nov. 15/15 – Wheatley Evangel Tabernacle, Wheatley, ON.

Ordination of Rev. Erica Pollett, Rev. Dorman Pollett Jr., and Rev. Matthew Pollett

Jan. 11/16 – Lead the Reset Our Generation Virtual Prayer Meeting

Feb. 7/16 - Prescott, ON. HARVEST CHURCH - Pastor Rev. James Kirby. Ordination of Rev. Bashir Anwar



Because of persecution of Christians in Pakistan Pastor Anwar found it necessary to leave Pakistan. He almost lost his life because of the persecution. He fled to Sri Lanka where he lived until he could get asylum in Canada. He came to Canada about 3 years ago. He has started a ministry in Brampton, Ontario

Report from Regional Secretary , Central Ontario



Rev. Lloyd Linton

Thanks to Almighty God for the privilege to be in the land of the living in the year 2016.

Much has happened in 2015. We experienced a sovereign move of the Spirit of God in all of our services – Sunday School, Bible Study, and both Morning and Evening Worship Services. The Lord is indeed “Building His Church.” Instead of having a lengthy fast once a year, we have chosen to continue a Chain Fast, which began in 2014. We have an 8-team rotation and as of today, February 5th, we are on day 656!

The year 2016 started very much the same way that 2015 ended. The Lord continues to grace us with His wonderful presence. We come to church on Sundays prepared to go through the order of our Worship Service. However, we are always prepared for what the Holy Spirit wishes to do with us. He does a far greater job than we can ever do.

The messages that God has directed us to preach since January 3rd have been about **Unity**. We have come to understand that unity is a much greater way than ever before! We saw the cross as the place of Unity. There, we see only one junction – where God and man meet. Also, it is the place where Satan’s attacks are most concentrated. When and if he succeeds, the result is discord; division; separation from that place (where the cross intersects). If Satan is successful, the reality is that we will be meeting with one another, but no fellowship will exist. Some of the scriptures we have examined on the subject of unity are *Psalm 133*, *Ephesians 4:1 - 4*, *John 17*, and *Romans 8:14 - 17*. According to *Mark 4* and *Matthew 12*, Jesus thought that without unity the house is doomed to fall. Paul, when referring to unity, encouraged us that we should ‘endeavour’ to “keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.” How important is unity? I will let you be the judge based upon the few scriptures I’ve mentioned, plus several others that haven’t been referenced.

Dearly beloved, let us be aware of the overt attack that is up against **Unity** at every level of the church, each household and beyond!

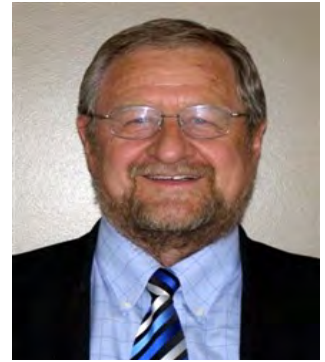
Our fellowship in Central Ontario continues to grow. It’s encouraging to see the participation of our ministers who attend our bi-monthly meetings which started in October 2015 and will close off in April 2016. We are wonderfully blessed to have Rev. Paul McPhail at our meetings when it is possible.

As it has been widely published, our National Convention will be taking place from May 2nd – 5th, 2016. I am looking forward to enjoying fellowship with all those who can attend. Convention is one of the highlights of being a member of the I.A.O.G.I Canada. We are greatly blessed to be a part of such a great organization. Thank you, God!

Blessings to you all!

Reverend Lloyd E. Linton
Regional Secretary, Central Ontario

Most of you are aware that this initiative began last fall. Since then progress has been made in the media section with the website up and running though we need to admit that we are not always updating it as frequently as needed. We also are on Facebook. We encourage you to check these sites out and to provide us with feedback and with ideas of resources that we can share with others.



Rev Gerrit Apperloo

This past January we were actively involved in a Virtual Prayer event sponsored by the PCCNA. This was a 21 day event focusing on prayer for revival and spiritual awakening in North America. Though the participation was not to as high a level as was hoped for, many joined in on one or more of the evenings of prayer. All the events have been recorded and can be listened to on-line at <http://americapray.net/recordings/>.

IAOGI Canada, under the leadership of General Secretary Paul McPhail, hosted a 30 minute prayer segment on January 11. There were three issues that were focused on and each issue had three IAOGI Canada members leading the conference call in prayer. It was an exciting time and the presence of God was clearly felt by those listening and praying along. Feedback from PCCNA indicated this was a "riveting session which included all of North America". You can listen to the recording at the website noted above. Why not gather your church together and have a listen? You may be inspired to begin a regular prayer group as a result.

We are still looking to establish the National Prayer team. Two Regions have named members to this team but we are awaiting the names of the others. If you feel called to this, talk to your Regional Secretary. If they cannot give you the information you can always email us at prayercoordinator@iaogcan.com. The goal is to have the members of this team also be the leaders in establishing Regional prayer teams.

As those in ministry, all of us long for revival. We see what is happening in our society and wonder what it will take for people to wake up and understand that complacency leads the nation down the wrong pathway as surely as deliberate turning away from adhering to Biblical teachings. We want a spiritual awakening, first in the churches, then in those who have wandered from the truth by having one foot in secularism and one in Christianity, and finally an awakening among those who so far have denied their need for Jesus.

Well, such revival and awakening begins with a dedication to prayer. Only God can stop the headlong plunge into destruction journey that many in the world are on.

Will you join in rescuing by praying?

You can contact us at prayercoordinator@iaogcan.com. Check out the website at prayerinitiative.iaogcan.com.

Be blessed and be a blessing.

Gerrit and Elisabeth Apperloo - IAOGI Canada National Prayer Coordinators

It's Only A Drill - Rev. Fern Chapman



I was contemplating buying a power drill for many years instead of continuing muscling a screwdriver into walls to install hooks etc to get the job done. I even passed up my opportunity as the eldest to inherit my Father's engraved steel power drill when he passed away. I gave it to

my younger brother who was a skilled journeyman in the construction trades already decked out with various power tools.

Admittedly I never knew what I needed anyway and was intimidated by the power of the tools and the prices. So I steered from the challenge in that area.

This week I went to Home Depot to return a mop and I felt impressed to turn back from walking out the door and to approach one of the floor clerks in order to deal with this ongoing dilemma. Behold two men were immediately walking down isles getting me the best drill and parts and for half price and teaching me how to use it.

I waltzed to my car rejoicing and told the Lord and my dog Lily, "I can't believe I just bought my first drill! It's just a drill but I feel I have to tell somebody!" That's the drive behind testimony....we are so thrilled we just have to tell someone!

The joy of owning my first drill suddenly deflated when I heard my dear old dad's familiar voice in my head say "Big deal, it's only a glorified screwdriver". Then I heard my Heavenly Father quickly add, "So don't be afraid of it!".

I'm used to screwdrivers and hammers to put things up or together. They were practically my only fallback tools in life. And my enthusiasm returned because I felt it was somehow spiritually symbolic of the pastoral work I was doing in virgin territory for the Lord the past two years.

I had heard rumors that some of my peers close by had commented that I was, in essence, wasting my time as a woman among a stubborn people in a heavily Catholicized First Nation. But yet I know God has specifically called and equipped me to start

with whatever He put in my hand. Even if it appears empty!

I agree with them that it is impossible! I just admit to the naysayers and myself, "I know I can't do it. But God can!" *With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible* ". Matt 19:26. He can through anyone who says yes to Him".

Our greatest vision often comes from grateful acknowledgement to God of the seemingly insignificant things. *Do not despise the day of small beginnings*. The minimal God gives us is to be received with thanks mingled a little faith. *"For without faith it is impossible to please God, but anyone who comes to God must believe that He is ... a rewarder of those who seek Him"*. Hebrews 11:6

A glorified screwdriver can fix small things until the greater things are ready to be built with others. We must start somewhere. It prepared me to handle a drill which one day will prepare me to work with people who use power saws and back hoes.

We may have to shovel the driveway and stack our own wood. Yes we may make the food for fellowship and services. We may also, pick people up, do our own administrative work without an assistant but one-day God will send someone to pitch in as the work grows. Somehow what is necessary gets done to some measure usually with many small miracles.

I have been teaching the people that now it is time to pitch in. That the emphasis must come off of the physical food they had come to expect over the years. The time has come to grow up so I can concentrate on giving them the best spiritual food possible without so many distractions.

When they come in to meetings they need to be greeted and to learn how to become a healing church family for each other then to the community. That's how they grow up to become leaders and true elders. *"...waiting on tables...and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the Word"*. Acts 6:2-4

The other day after Bible study, George and Frank came to my door upset that no one picked them up for Bible Study. New church plants in remote First Nations communities always start with the majority marginalized who don't seem to fit into other places

It's Only A Drill - Rev. Fern Chapman Con't

or have no phone or transportation, so there was no way for me to know why they were absent.

My heart was moved to hear George tell his story of being so disappointed. He had made a big pot of macaroni cooked in rabbit broth. He excitedly stretched out his arms open as wide as he could to amplify his thoughtful efforts.

Now George just buried his mother and is sick most of the time. It was just macaroni but God gave George the idea that since I give them spiritual food, he wanted to give to the Lord what little physical food he had.

It's time to begin to grow up from things that don't feed the soul to stretching the arms open wide with hands that have something to start with in them. I was encouraged that George was beginning to understand what was most important in God's eyes.

It's only macaroni and a glorified screwdriver, but it's a very good start and proof that God is at work building his Church. First in a family, then manifest visibly in the community. God is faithful. If we remain

simply faithful He will add to it. *"The blessing of the Lord makes rich (blessed, built up) and He adds no sorrow (regret or more than you can bear) to it". Prov. 20:22.*

Sometimes, Pastor, when all you have is a screwdriver, everything looks like it's just a wall hook! It is a hook – holding up stuff to make room for the greater things to come. God is tapping on shoulders of the least likely if you stay the course in His building plans. He first builds up people who can handle glorified screwdrivers only.

"We shall reap if we faint not". Gal 6:9. It's like a drill for bigger things to come while screwdrivers still get the little jobs assigned for now done!

Fern is an apostle in the early stages of planting a Mi'Kmaq church in Eskasoni Nova Scotia where she resides. She is the founder and President of Plant by Waters Ministries. For more information, please visit PlantByWatersMinistries.com

(this article was edited for space)

BC South Convention - June 23 & 24

Together we are Stronger

1 Cor 12: 25 "...that the members should have the same care one for another."



Revs Paul and Virginia McPhail will be our guest speakers for this convention.

Meetings:

Thursday Jun 23 - 7pm

Friday Jun 24 - 9am

Noon Luncheon

Afternoon session 1:30pm

Closing service - 7pm

Meeting Location: 7452 132nd St Surrey BC

Registration is free, an offering will be received!

Please confirm your attendance by email to:

pastorgwen@celebrationlife.ca

Praise Reports and Prayer Requests...

New Church in Labrador

Rev. Jack Skafte was up north again helping to build a new church. Rev. Patrick & Felicity Linklater moved to the Sheshatshui First Nations Reservation just outside of Goose Bay, Labrador in the fall of 2014 from Winnipeg. Shortly after arriving there, Patrick felt that the Lord wanted him to build a church building.



In the fall of 2015, Patrick's brother and his crew came from Moosonee, ON to start the church. In only 2 weeks they had the structure up and the roof on. That's when Patrick asked Jack to help.

With the help of one of the workers that stayed behind, they put the vinyl siding on 3 sides. Due to snow in October, they worked inside, putting up most of the drywall. On Sunday, he had opportunity to preach and the service was translated into the Innu language for the Innu people.

Jack will be there again on Feb. 19 for the dedication of the church.



Rev. Jack Skafte
Lead Pastor
The Living Word Fellowship
843 Clarence Rd.
Bridgetown, NS B0S 1C0
902-665-0406
www.thelwf.ca

***Please remember to pray for our overseas missionaries!
These two have reached out with specific requests:***

Thando Missions - South Africa: a truck, a visa for Eliana (child), breakthrough, prayer warriors, and a furlough to Canada

Grace Life Ministries: Odisha, India: recovery of good due to storm damage, safety in the midst of extremely dangerous persecution (Christians are being slaughtered there) provisions for a church building.

Moving from Need to Desire - Word from the Editor

2 Corinthians 7:11

For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort,
what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea,
what fear,

yea, what vehement desire,

yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge!

In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

One of the challenges that today's church faces is commitment. Many church goers attend when it suits their needs or fits their schedule. Priorities have changed. Football, dance classes, soccer, sports of all kinds have replaced Sunday morning worship.

Some churches have tried to solve this problem through multiple service times including Saturday evening service. Those are all great ideas and some really work. However, the underlying issue is yet to be resolved. Activities have replaced church.

I challenge you today to rethink some of the reasons this has occurred.

With a strong message of 'need' have we ourselves created much of this mess? When we, as leaders, preach a 'need' only message without realizing it we activate a subtle message that when that particular need is fulfilled the present solution is no longer required.

For instance: "You need a Saviour" – this is absolutely the case, but when they are saved, do they know that there is more to being a Christian than escaping hell?

We must rethink our messaging platform.

Can you remember the last time you ate something that was so good you had to tell everyone about it? Of course you can. Something happened that caused you to get so excited you had to share about it. Now, a hunger and thirst for a repeat was also created. You wanted to go back for seconds!

We want our members to come back for seconds, and thirds and so on!

Our delivery (if you will forgive the pun) must create desire.

Remember the time you experienced forgiveness when you knew you had done so wrong? It was glorious! It brought hunger and thirst for more of His presence, more of knowing about Him. Forgiveness and love is powerful.

Romans 2 tells us that it is His goodness that leads to repentance, not our bashing over people's heads of principles and doctrines. I love truth and I love doctrine, but doctrine is not easily digested by baby Christians or for the unbeliever.

I am not ashamed of the gospel – the good news – take time to emphasize the good part – the forgiving part and His power will manifest and do the work that brings conviction. It will create desire for change.

This is not about dismissing sin by calling it a mistake. NO! Sin is sin and love is love. This is about communicating in a way that brings an atmosphere for the kind of change 1 Cor 7:11 does.

We want our people to know that church is a place to grow, change and commit to His ways. A place for honouring God and worshipping together. This is higher than need, it is passionate pursuit of His kingdom!

Let's move forward from need oriented church to desire led service to our King!

Blessings to you all!

Rev Gwen Dreger
Regional Secretary BC South

The Canadian Mantle

THE COMPASSION FUND - Support for Our Members

A ministry of compassion to the families of ministers of the Lord Jesus who are promoted to glory.

This is not a life insurance:

But a Biblical way of ministering to a loved one with a gift of condolence in time of need. The ministry of Compassion function to collect gifts of money from participating members to give to the beneficiaries named by the participating member who has died.

One time registration fee of \$15.00:

A contribution of \$15.00 will be paid to the Ministry of Compassion Fund when you are notified of the death of a fellow participating member. Notification will be sent when a fellow subscribing member dies so that you may contribute as an expression of compassion and love.

Applications can be found on our website, or you can write to request registration.

**Compassion Fund
Box 653 | Chatham, ON | N7M 5K8**

Please remember to pray for the those friends and families who have loved ones who have gone on to their heavenly reward!

*The Independent Assemblies of God, Canada is . . .
A Fellowship Of Ministers And Churches United In Spiritual Fellowship
With Sovereign, Self-Governed Churches*

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March 2016