



Bridging the Gap

Many congregations in Canada have a post-Feast social that some have called Feast Memories. It is a great joy to meet on a Sabbath shortly after the Feast, share a pot-luck meal and then share experiences and memories of the Feast sites we attended.

Some congregations distribute mementos from Feast sites near and far that members have purchased for that purpose. In some areas the menu of the pot-luck meal prescribes that dishes be prepared which reflect the Feast site that was recently attended.

By doing something like this in our respective congregations, the Feast after-glow burns longer and burns brighter. There is pre-Feast excitement and there can be and should be post-Feast excitement. Too often we have to wrestle with post-Feast blues and this is understandable. But there is an antidote.

It is easy to come away from the Feast and all too quickly forget the messages, the music, the fellowship, the functions, the meals and the many other experiences we will have shared with brethren during eight wonderful days. How would you define the word 'education?' One definition I've come across is that education is what a person has retained after they have forgotten

actually missed the winter season. On one occasion the entire student body went to Palm Springs and then took a tram to the top of Mount San Jacinto where we were able to be in the snow and do some genuine tobogganing. What a thrill it was to be in the cold, white, clean snow again. I must admit that I have lost my enthusiasm for winter and I dread it more and more each year.



God gives us what we need to get us through the winter and to bridge us over to Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. This issue will bring back precious memories from each of the Canadian sites. You will also see beautiful photographs that will give you a visual glimpse of each Feast location.

Additional articles in this issue will benefit us in other ways. We have a theme in each issue of the *United News Canada*, but we also have articles that are helpful that are outside the theme. Please be sure to read each article and send us your thoughts and comments as you are able. Each author works hard to write each article. The reviewers work hard to review all of the articles. The layout people work hard to put together each issue as artistically and adeptly as possible. May each article in this issue give us the spiritual lift we need at this time of year.

everything they've learned! Similarly, what have we taken home from the Feast of Tabernacles that we continue to retain?

The span of time between the conclusion of the Feast of Tabernacles and the beginning of the Feast of Unleavened Bread appears unending to most of us each year. Those six months usually seem like such a long time. This happens to us especially when we become older. Winter was a season that I actually used to look forward to as a young person. When I attended Ambassador College in California as an 18-year-old, I

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Anthony Wasilkoff

Abbotsford, BC

While cooler temperatures brought a touch of autumn during this year's Feast, we experienced sunshine almost every day on Canada's west coast. Close to 100 gathered in Abbotsford. The attendance averaged 98 with a high attendance of 112 on the final day.



Nicolas Sherry

As in years past, several visitors came from across the United States, including the states of Indiana, Minnesota and Washington and the cities of Pittsburgh, Kansas City, Phoenix, Chicago, Salt Lake City and Los Angeles. Also in attendance were Canadian brethren from all four western provinces (Manitoba,

Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia). This allowed for a wonderful opportunity to make new friends during lots of warm friendship and fellowship.

Three visiting elders, Jim Cowell from San Diego, California, and Bruce and Leif Anderson from Minnesota joined local speakers to provide strong messages with an emphasis on preparing today for the soon coming Kingdom of God. This year's Feast video received very positive comments.

We were also blessed with special music each day including performances by the Abbotsford festival choir. Each day the hymn lyrics were projected on a screen.

All activities were well attended. Some of our American brethren tried a type of bowling new to them: five-pin instead of 10-pin.

Both the dance and the buffet dinner were highlights at this festival site. The dance featured a nine-piece orchestra with music reminiscent of the Big Band era.

We had close to 100 percent attendance for the buffet on the evening of the seventh day, allowing for one last chance to dine together as members of God's family before the Eighth Day and final annual Holy Day observance.

Festival greetings from other sites were read each day and very much appreciated. While God's people may have been many miles apart, the spirit of unity was very evident among His people.



Vera Mathison

There were lots of handshakes and hugs as brethren departed after another wonderfully uplifting Feast of Tabernacles in Abbotsford.

David Palmer



Ghyslaine Palmer

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Canmore, AB

This is the third year that we have held the Feast of Tabernacles in Canmore.

The weather was good except for some occasional light rain. Even this slight inconvenience was positive because it put a nice dusting of fresh snow on the surrounding mountain peaks.

The attendance was consistent, with a high of 254 on the Sabbath. The attendance was almost 50 over the number registered.

Activities included a Friday night Bible study, children's festival lessons, a teen study, a family day activity which included a lunch of hot dogs and a boat cruise on Lake Minnewanka. Additionally, we had a group booking at the "Oh Canada Eh" dinner theatre, a seniors' luncheon, a variety show and a

local flood relief. This has been spear-headed through the Rotary Club and the town of Canmore.

It was a bonus to have John and Merrie Elliot attend. He gave two very fine messages. The congregation was able to send a collective hello wave to those keeping the Feast in Kenya.

Because of extenuating circumstances, we had the blessing of children for two families on the

speakers onto a ten-foot screen on the stage. The hotel staff



Rainer Salomaa

commented on the warmth and friendliness of the group. Members commented on how much they enjoyed the messages and special music. There was very little sickness and God's spirit in action was evident.



Rainer Salomaa

From the Housing

Survey forms, some overall comments said: "It was fantastic!" "We love Canmore!" "Amazing site." "This is a great venue!" "Spectacular scenery and very nice people!" "Three years and we haven't seen it all yet!" "Fantastic, picturesque, beautiful, millennial setting!!" "Thanks to all those who made things run so smoothly!"

From the Housing Survey forms, some overall comments said: "It was fantastic!" "We love Canmore!" "Amazing site." "This is a great venue!" "Spectacular scenery and very nice people!" "Three years and we haven't seen it all yet!" "Fantastic, picturesque, beautiful, millennial setting!!" "Thanks to all those who made things run so smoothly!"



Rainer Salomaa

Our wonderful crew of volunteers pitched in to help make things run very smoothly. We

ministerial dinner. We also had a donation box to help out with

were able to project the hymn lyrics as well as a video image of the

Thanks most of all goes to our loving Father and His beloved Son who give us these beautiful festivals!

Midland, ON

Like lyrics from the song “Memories” sung by Elvis Presley, memories of this year’s Feast held in Midland, Ontario, “will forever be pressed between the pages of the minds” of those who attended there.

It began with 75 brethren at the opening night service, many of whom traveled from areas far and wide – California, Washington, Arkansas, Western and Eastern Canada, to mention a few. They heard a message comparing the present world to a company which has gone bankrupt, forcing it to close its doors until it could be reopened under the new management of God and Jesus Christ.

The first and last Holy Days saw 90 and 109 respectively with a 99.3 average attendance for the eight days. Enthusiasm was evident and



Kathy Sammy

could be felt by the sound of ongoing conversation from the brethren, who were treated to uplifting and inspiring messages throughout the Feast.

Seniors enjoyed a wonderful lunch on the Sabbath with a heartfelt message given by Mr. Keith Haab. During a “name that hymn”



Kathy Sammy

game with music played by Garry Lucas on the keyboard. The first person who correctly named the hymn received a handmade scarf, pair of slippers or a flower arrangement made and generously provided by Emmie Lucas.

Family day at Little Lake Park proved a big success as 66 of those young and young-at-heart came together for a pizza lunch followed by games and fellowship beautifully wrapped by sunshine and pleasant temperatures.

A boat cruise aboard the Georgian Queen through the Thirty Thousand Island area was equally enjoyed by 73 of the brethren. Once more God provided warm, sunny and calm weather for the three and one-half hour cruise allowing brethren to see more of the area than usual.

Other activities experienced by the majority of the brethren included a presentation on Friday evening entitled “The Seven Churches of Revelation,” a “Special Partners” presentation about guide dogs and learning to live with blindness, a PowerPoint Bible study on the tabernacle, and an evening hymn sing-

ing. The Variety Night lived up to its name and kept everyone laughing and entertained.

After a well-attended lunch between services on the last day, Anthony Wasilkoff gave the closing sermon entitled “The Amazing Second Resurrection.” It reminded us that there will be billions of people who have never known God’s way of life and who will need to be taught by those of us who have been given the privilege of knowing it now.



Trish Romero

Services concluded with the hymn “God Be With You.” With many warm words and hugs exchanged, members of the family of God that had come together in Midland, Ontario, began to head



Kathy Sammy

home with a renewed desire for God’s Kingdom, the hope of seeing each other again next year and with new memories to add to the pages of their minds.

Patrick Read

Sherbrooke, QC

Many brethren from the Montreal congregation were faced with health or financial difficulties which prevented them from travelling the long distance to their assigned Feast site this year. As a result, it was determined that a satellite site would be necessary. In the early spring, the Sherbrooke, Quebec, satellite site was organized and booked. With an initial registration of 16, interest in this site grew to 32 including children.

The Feast took place in the picturesque tourist region of the Eastern Townships (Cantons-de-l'Est) of Quebec. The scenery is breathtaking, especially in the fall when the foliage waves its myriad colours throughout the rolling hills drenched in the bright fall sun.

The Townships have a host of attractions, activities, restaurants and accommodations to satisfy every taste and a variety of activities for everyone. This area is the getaway region for large numbers of city folks who spend a day or two or several days of vacation there.

The Feast of Tabernacles site was at the "Hôtel-erie Jardins de Ville" (City Gardens Hotel) situated near the outskirts

of the charming city of Sherbrooke. The hotel has a country look and charm. It offers a choice of regular rooms, condos or rooms with kitchenettes.

Overall attendance (excluding opening night) averaged 29, with a high of 35 on the weekly Sabbath. Services were received via the Internet webcast from Panama City Beach in Florida. The time zone difference meant that services were held one hour later than normal in

a wonderful family time in a reserved section of the enormous



Christina LePage-Morgan

restaurant that features dishes from different continents.

Tuesday night was movie night. One of the brethren suggested a movie and others prepared popcorn bags, candy bowls and an assortment of chocolates with refreshments. It was truly a family movie night atmosphere right in the meeting hall for the 25 who attended.

On the Eighth Day, 24 adults and children enjoyed a luncheon in the hotel restaurant reserved for our group. The food was excellent and was served in a relaxed and family atmosphere. You know everyone is having a wonderful time when the waitress takes the time to pick up a seven-month-old child so that mom and dad get to enjoy their meal.

The 2013 Feast of Tabernacles in Sherbrooke was peaceful, friendly and filled with a willingness to participate and serve. Everyone enjoyed the physical food and togetherness, but also appreciated the variety of spiritual food made available from the Panama City Feast site.



Beve Hebert

Sherbrooke. This allowed for extra time in the morning to prepare for the service but also influenced the type of group activities planned for after services. Everyone kept busy with invitations for fellowshipping at one another's dwellings for lunches and suppers.

Suggestions for group activities were open to all who attended the site. A group dinner after the

weekly Sabbath took place at the "Buffet Des Continents." Thirty-one adults and children had



Beve Hebert

Gros Morne, NL

Forty-five brethren from the United States and Canada attended the Feast in the beautiful Gros Morne National Park in Newfoundland.

The Park is a World Heritage Site located on the west coast of Newfoundland. It is renowned for its Long Range Mountains, an outlying range of the Appalachian Mountains, stretching the length of the island's west coast, and Western Brook Pond, a fresh water fjord that has become landlocked.

The scenery of the west coast of Newfoundland is spectacular, making it a perfect location for the Feast. Some of the brethren, before the Feast, drove four hours north to L'Anse aux Meadows to visit the site of a Viking village dated A.D. 1,000. Others travelled the roads in search of lighthouses, waterfalls and remains of sunken ships.



Arnold Egbert

All the brethren stayed on site at the Shallow Bay Motel and Convention Centre. Shallow Bay offered brethren the option of a motel room, a guest house, a two-bedroom cabin or a Bed and Breakfast home. The meeting hall featured a wall of windows opening up onto a balcony overlooking the ocean.

Three elders, Ken Skorseth (from South Dakota), Lonnie Johnson (from Missouri) and Larry DeLong



Sarah Squibb

(from Alberta) shared the speaking assignments along with Neil DeLong, a deacon from Alberta.

The messages dovetailed together to describe what to expect in the Millennium and the Kingdom of God, what our roles as Kings and Priests will be and how we are preparing ourselves for those roles and responsibilities.

Special music was very much appreciated with a combination of vocal solos, duets, piano solo and choir pieces.

Activities included a meet and greet, Bible Study, ladies tea, boat trip on Western Brook Pond, dinner dance, variety night and a hymn sing.

The dinner dance included entertainment featuring local professional singers, singing traditional Newfoundland songs, as well as members of the local community offering to join us to teach the brethren to dance the Figure 8 Reel. The variety night lasted two hours and featured 24 separate "acts" from the 45 brethren attending.

Our service project this Feast was to donate funds for the maintenance of the local botanical garden.

Gros Morne proved to be popular with the brethren who spent most of their time eating, touring, and fellowshiping together. One of those attending commented that "I reserve the term awesome for describing God; however the Feast in Gros Morne was awesome." Another said, "This Feast was so tranquil and peaceful, even when you went outside the motel you felt the peace and tranquility of the area. This Feast was truly the best ever." The tranquility and peacefulness of the area truly gave us a picture of the Kingdom of God.



Larry DeLong

As we were checking out, the motel staff gave us good-bye hugs, saying that we were all very special people and asked us to please come back.

The level of tranquility and peace we had experienced became evident as we arrived at the airport (a one-and-one-half hour drive south) and heard the sound of airplanes, big trucks rumbling down the highways, helicopters thumping overhead and sirens wailing.

God truly gave a small glimpse of the Kingdom.

Larry DeLong

September National Council Meeting

The third National Council meeting of the year was held by WebEx on September 9. Rainer Salomaa welcomed the new Council members Bill Dimovski and Lloyd Teetaert.

As has been the custom for several years, during the first meeting after new Council members have been selected, the National Council Code of Ethics and Job Description were read. Each Council member is required to sign the Code of Ethics, which is then kept on file.

The next item on the agenda was to approval of the minutes from the June Council meeting. While this may seem to be a superfluous business item, it is important since the minutes become our legal documents.

Anthony Wasilkoff, Director of Operations, gave a short update on what is happening in the National

Office. This was followed by a report from the Treasurer (Edwin van Pelt). There was a discussion on how the financial reports might be improved to assist in future planning.

Rainer Salomaa gave a snapshot of what the Council of Elders has been working on. One large project is a complete review of the UCGIA Constitution.

Each time there are new members on the National Council, they must be assigned to a Council committee. The Council appointed Bill Dimovski to the Strategic/Finance Committee and Lloyd Teetaert to the Governance/Ethics/Pastoral Committee. They also had previously been assigned to be members of the Compensation Committee.

Lloyd Teetaert gave an update on behalf of the newly formed Compens-

sation Committee. This Committee consists of all Council members not employed by the church: Lloyd Teetaert, Larry DeLong, Bill Dimovski and John Erickson. The Committee has begun work on reviewing the pay scale for employees.

Larry DeLong presented the proposed Strategic Plan 2014-2015 for Council approval. It was approved to be presented to the National Conference for their ratification in March 2014. This plan gives the structure for the creation of the Operations Plan and Budget for the next year.

Because of a change in federal regulations, the Council now must approve Form T3010 (Charities Return) prior to it being submitted to the government. Two corrections were made to the Form prior to its approval.

Linda Wasilkoff

Office Employee Retirement

Tuesday, July 2, 2013, was an occasion of mixed emotions as the Canadian National Office staff gathered in the boardroom for a farewell luncheon to honour Kevin Ford. We walked down memory lane as Kevin recalled his many work experiences. At the end of the meal, a special cake and laptop computer complete with personalized screen saver were presented to say "thank you" to a long-time staff member.

Kevin is now retired after many years of faithful service as the Church's Accountant. Kevin not only knows his way around the

keys on a calculator but also often tickles the ivories for the enjoyment of many a listener. He has also been our in-house translator answering letters and taking phone calls from French-speaking callers.



Anthony Wasilkoff

Kevin loves hot weather, beaches, sand, water and travel. He also has a passion for NASCAR racing. His dry British sense of humor was appreciated by all who were fortunate enough to have worked with him.

Gary and Barb Antion reminisced: "Kevin was a lifesaver for us when we underwent our first UCG-Canada audit. I didn't know some of the financial terminology and neither did Ed at the time. When the audit took place, Kevin was hired on a contract basis and put all the finances in an order that was fully acceptable to the auditing agency. We then brought his possi-

ble hiring to the Canadian Council who approved his working full-time for the Canadian Office. Besides being a great Chartered Accountant, he was also an accomplished pianist and added greatly to our Church services with special music and accompanying the hymns. He is a gentle man and a gentleman and a dedicated Christian. He cared for his daughter, Rose and her rabbit for the years we were in Canada. Rose has grown into a beautiful woman and the rabbit has since died, but had good care until then. Kevin's counsel and work ethic were always appreciated and he did much to help establish the United Church of God in Canada. I hold him in high esteem and give

him the honour he deserves for a job well done!"

David Palmer said of Kevin: "I have had a long and wonderful working relationship with Kevin. He was an accountant in a former affiliation at the time I was an elder in that same church. We have known each other since the early 80's, when his daughter was a little girl. We shared many good times and went through some trying times together. We both became members of the United Church of God around the same time. I recall some very humorous times with Kevin as well. One dark, rainy night during the Feast of Tabernacles, Kevin was driving

a group of us back from an evening out. Visibility was poor and he was not familiar with the route. I said to him 'You turn right here.' Kevin immediately drove over the sidewalk and on to someone's front lawn. Eventually we got out of the predicament and back home unscathed. I have always considered Kevin Ford more than a colleague in the church. He was, and always will be, a good friend."

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank-you and wish Kevin all the best in his retirement years. He will be missed in the National Office.

Paula Horlick

Office Volunteer Resigns

Earlier this year, *United News Canada* ran an article highlighting the volunteer work of Susan Wells. Anyone who has called the office on many Wednesdays or Fridays since 2001 probably heard "United Church of God – Susan speaking." Recently, Susan came to the conclusion that she needed to "retire" from this volunteer work. The office staff will greatly miss her. She not only answered phones, but also did filing and data input. Her dedication and help has been greatly appreciated.

When asked what she found most interesting about working in the Church office, she replied: "I suppose that answering the phones was the most interesting job." She added that speaking

to different people and hearing someone who had just discovered the Church and wanted to learn more was a real pleasure.



National Office Staff

Her special memories were the times she was included in staff luncheons, meeting the various ministers and their wives when they came in for meetings. Perhaps one of the high points for her was to meet and chat with

Dennis and LeeAnn Luker when they visited the office. She said, "I very much liked contributing what little I did at the office. I was always made to feel welcome and appreciated – 'one of the gang' so to speak and will miss the work and the staff very much."

Susan will still keep busy with her many interests and hobbies. She often looks after her granddaughter, Cyeira, after school. Of course, she will also be invited back for an occasional staff function. Perhaps that will give her another opportunity to answer the office phone.

Thank you, Susan, for your dedicated service.

National Office Staff

New Office Employee

Dale van Zant joined the team at the UCG-Canada National Office in the role of Accounts Manager on July 1, 2013. Dale was brought onboard following the retirement of long-standing employee, Kevin Ford.

Dale comes to us with a background in project management, career counseling and working with people and organizations during periods of transition. This experience was garnered in both the private and not-for-profit sectors.

He has worked in such diverse areas as dealing with services to seniors, dealing with cultural awareness and English improvement for newcomers to Canada and career counselling.

We look forward to drawing on Dale's background, education and experience. They will be an asset in the different duties and tasks which he now is responsible for at the church office.

Dale is responsible for looking after areas of bookkeeping, purchasing and human resources. He will also be involved in editing *United News Canada* as well as other documents and letters.

As an added bonus, we have discovered that he can make a good strong pot of coffee, which is greatly appreciated by several staff members the first thing every morning!

Dale was raised on in northern Ontario in the town of Little Current on Manitoulin Island. Manitoulin Island is a Canadian lake

island in Lake Huron and is the largest lake island in the world. The settlement was small so Dale knew not only all 1,600 inhabitants by name, but also their pets and cars.



Anthony Wasilkoff

Dale left Little Current to pursue his education, which includes a B.A. in Political Science and a Masters of Theological Studies.

He began attending the Church of God in 1992. There he met his wife, Amy. Together they began attending the United Church of God in 2002.

Dale serves as a deacon in the Toronto congregation. He was also Chairman of the UCG-Canada Amendment Committee last year.

He remains a strong follower of sports with a special interest in football and sled racing. In the past, he personally competed in these. Dale will apply the lessons learned from his background in sports to his work: being results oriented and endeavoring to find better ways of winning and improving. In this case, he will apply the principles to furthering God's work.

A recent achievement has been to file the annual Charities Return.

His next major task will be to put together the 2014-2015 Budget for the National Council to review and approve to be presented to the National Conference. Doing this will require him to study the income and expenditures of the past year and then project what might be reasonably expected for the next fiscal year. That will determine what programs or projects might be planned or put on hold.

While the National Office staff does miss Kevin Ford's presence and wonderful abilities, we appreciate this new employee. Kevin spent several weeks teaching his replacement the varied elements needed for this key position in the office. The office greatly appreciated Kevin's careful tutoring of his replacement and now is appreciating this new employee.

UNC

We Need Your Photos

Here are some tips for taking photos to be published:

1. Check the background. Is there anything that will be distracting?
2. Get clear shots of faces. Nobody wants to look at the back of heads.
3. Be aware of lighting. Are faces in the shadow?
4. Close-up shots are clearer for publication than those taken from a distance.

UNC

What is Preaching the Gospel?

The gospel (good news) has been available to this world since the very beginning. God has always called individuals to deliver His message. “God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds” (Hebrews 1:1-2). The gospel was preached even as far back as Noah’s time.

When we move forward in history, we come to understand that Jesus Christ was a great prophet, who came preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom. “From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (Matthew 4:17).



Clint Porter

We also realize it took a special miracle from God during the first New Testament Pentecost to begin what today we commonly call “The Church of God,” the church that Jesus built (Matthew 16:18). And, like the prophets of old and in the footsteps of their teacher and mentor (Jesus), guided by God’s Holy Spirit, the New Testament Apostles applied the teachings of Christ to preach the gospel. The results were at times astounding (Acts 2:46-47).

Now nearly two thousand years later, this weary world still needs the Gospel of the Kingdom.

When the modern 20th century Church of God began to preach the gospel, radio gave opportunity to spread the “word of God” in a way that had never been available before. The growth in those early years allowed the “Church of God” to move from radio to television, and the world could not only hear the gospel preached, but see it as well.

But just what do we mean “preach the gospel”? Is publishing magazines and booklets preaching the gospel? When a minister delivers a sermon at Sabbath services is the gospel being preached? Some might say yes, but some would say preaching the gospel means being on television or having a regular radio program, or at least some form of reaching the public.

Several years ago the National Council of UCG-Canada assigned the term “Media Outreach” to our efforts of getting the gospel out to our nation. This term allows all of us to understand exactly what we mean when we refer to preaching the gospel in Canada.

While a Sabbath sermon, visiting the sick and publishing Bible-based material may encompass preaching the gospel, Media Outreach defines a specific work of UCG-Canada. Like Gideon’s army, with our limited resources, we must rely on God’s guidance to utilize the media available to us.

After using various methods of outreach, including print media, household mailings such as Open

& Save, and the Internet, which we still utilize, UCG-Canada was finally able to consider the opportunity to air the Beyond Today program on television. Our TV outreach began small, with a limited number of responses, partially because the only air time we could purchase was at 2:00 a.m. in the eastern time zone.



United Church of God - Canada

A little over seven years later, after building a faithful audience from coast to coast and improving our airtime, responses often top 100 per week, adding dozens of new subscribers to our database. Those responding to the Beyond Today television program receive the material offered, and a subscription to our flagship publication *The Good News* magazine. Some of those subscribers are now regular attendees at our Sabbath services.

As well as having our media outreach on television each week, we also utilize the internet, with various keyword campaigns designed to lead an individual searching the net to our newly designed Canadian website at www.ucg.ca. Several local congregations also have websites that allow contact with a local pastor or elder.

Jesus encouraged His disciples to take the gospel to the world. “Go you therefore, and teach all nations,

baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:19-29).

Our Canadian Media Team firmly

believes that when the opportunity to broadcast the message of God's word from the east coast to the west coast through the medium of television became possible, that Jesus Christ was "opening a new door" (John 10:7-10) – a door that would allow UCG-Canada to expand an outreach that could conceivably

reach into almost every household in this country.

As we analyze responses and results over the last seven years, there is no doubt God has certainly blessed our efforts.

Media Team

New Congregation Started

The lovely city of Windsor, Ontario, is the southernmost city in Canada and is located directly across the Detroit River from Detroit, Michigan. As such, it is the only Canadian city that looks north to the United States.

Patrick Read, pastor of the Kitchener, Strathroy, and Hamilton congregations, began meeting with a few brethren in the Windsor area for a twice-a-month midweek Bible Study on April 10, 2013.

Many inquiries to both the Canadian National Office and Home Office in Cincinnati for literature and information about the Work of UCG prompted this venture to "test the waters" regarding a pos-

sible establishment of a permanent congregation in the area.

Mr. Read often referred to Psalm 127, emphasizing that it is God who raises up a church and not man. We were urged to pray fervently for God's will to be done. Randy D'Alessandro, pastor of the Detroit and Ann Arbor, Michigan, congregations and Keith Haab, elder in the Ann Arbor church, assisted Mr. Read throughout the summer months.

Before the Feast of Tabernacles, a decision was made by the National Office to step out in faith and begin Sabbath services the first and third Sabbaths in October, November, and December. On October 5,

Mr. Read began the first service at 10:30 a.m. at the Comfort Inn on Huron Church Road in Windsor.

God blessed us with 13 in attendance. Two were new to UCG. Mr. Read emphasized many times that mankind must follow the Word of God as the only manual that will provide an entrance to the Kingdom of God. As instructions in the manual of any new purchase are vitally important to long lasting results, so is the Holy Bible vital to direct us in the path of righteousness.

Mr. D'Alessandro and Mr. Haab will help Patrick Read on each of the third Sabbaths during the three months.

The prospect that God will choose to bless this new congregation, and in due time show us that He is pleased to grow from this modest beginning, has brought joy and happiness as we continue to seek the will of God. The Windsor area is in need of an awakening to the Truth of God's Plan of Salvation.



Patrick Read

Marilyn Anderson

News From Across Canada

Camp Wildrose

July 21 to 24 marked the fourth anniversary for Camp Wildrose in Darwell, Alberta, with 30 campers, eight tag-alongs and a staff of 24. Families travelled from various parts of British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Alberta to enjoy this four-day children's camp for ages 5 to 13.



Campers enjoying time on the water
(photo by Wayne Ward)

The weather was perfect, warm and sunny, allowing us to enjoy all of our outdoor activities. This is the first year we have not had severe weather at camp!

Campers enjoyed canoeing on the lake, archery, a sand candle craft, orienteering or map reading, teamwork challenges, parachute games, beach ball activities, theater, soccer and cooking classes. The children made cookies and muffins in the cooking class and sampled their wares at snack time. They also participated in a wilderness survival class where they trudged out to the bush to build real weather-proof lean-tos.

Every day featured two Christian Living sessions that taught the children concepts in resisting temptation, dealing with peer pressure, choosing the right path, seeking forgiveness,

the effects of sin, God's protection, and the power of our words.

One hot afternoon, the children were divided into two age groups to play a variation of the traditional duck-duck-goose game involving water! This was listed as a favorite activity by many campers!

One of the highlights of the day was fireside time in the evenings. Special campfire snacks such as s'mores and bannock were enjoyed. One evening a demonstration of lariat roping was given. Many children enjoyed the chance to try a skill they had never experienced before. Another evening featured a charade-type game where each group had to create a machine using their bodies.

On the last day, for our camp finale, we had a hotdog barbeque and picnic games. Young and old(er) participated in a blindfold watermelon eating contest, shaving whip cream balloons, tossing water balloons, a sack race, and of course, the traditional tug-of-war.

Many said this was the best camp yet. We can definitely attribute that to a well-knit, unified group

of volunteers, each performing his or her duties with joy. A group of lovable, well-behaved, enthusiastic, and fun-loving campers also made



Taking aim requires concentration
(photo by Wayne Ward)

Camp Wildrose absolutely wonderful! Experience and cooperative weather were also key factors. This family oriented experience is so important in the work of unification. It gives our youth a base in Christian living by example and practice, and the opportunity to form strong bonds of friendship. Every year we look forward to seeing each other again as well as meeting new people.

We are most definitely looking forward to next year's camp and the opportunity to make it the best camp experience yet!

Susan Davis



Campers and staff showing how much they enjoy Camp Wildrose
(photo by Wayne Ward)

Ottawa Baptisms

The Ottawa congregation was again blessed with the addition of two new members to their church family.

On the afternoon of Sunday, August 18, 2013, the Moulton family gathered at the home of Richard and Michelle Moulton to witness the baptisms of their son, Ben, and his wife, Samantha. The outdoor pool accommodated the occasion, which was conducted by Dennis Horlick and Ben's grandfather, Joseph Moulton.



Joseph Moulton, Samantha and Ben Moulton, Dennis Horlick
(photo by Paula Horlick)

To complete this special event, a lovely outdoor lunch was served giving ample opportunity to extend congratulations to the newest members of God's family. It was another very joyous occasion for the Ottawa congregation and especially the Moulton family.

Paula Horlick

Post Feast Potluck

The last Sabbath in October, (October 26) was a special event

for the UCG-Vancouver congregation.



Potluck fellowship
(photo by David Palmer)

That day a post-feast Sabbath and potluck social was held giving additional fellowship for the group.

David Palmer

Birth Announcement

Rudy and Judy Rangel of the Cincinnati East congregation, are thrilled to announce the birth of their son, Harrison Patrick Rangel.



Harrison Patrick Rangel
(photo by Judy Rangel)

Harry was born on May 7 weighing nine pounds and two ounces. He likes eating, sleeping, giggling and his big sister, Edie. Proud grandparents are Rudy and Caro-

lyn Rangel of Illinois and Patrick and Jo-Anne Read of Ontario.

Judy Rangel

Obituary

On March 26, 1927, in Smithers, British Columbia, a baby was born to Joseph Edgar Panter and Marie Irene Beatrice (Holmes) Panter. They named him William (Bill) Douglas.



William Douglas Panter
(photo by Laura Stanzel)

Bill, as everyone knew him, grew up in Smithers working in a wide variety of jobs: in the coal mines, bartending at the local hotel, playing in a band and, best of all, playing baseball. Just as he was about to be drafted by a professional team, he injured his pitching arm and could no longer play ball.

While working at the hotel, he met a young nurse from Ontario, Laura Winnifred Gerundin, and was smitten. After a brief courtship, Bill and Laura were married on July 27, 1948. They soon relocated to Ontario where they began raising their family of three girls (Barb, Heather and Kathie) and a boy (Mark).

Bill was a jack of all trades, including a police officer for the

Toronto Metro Police and a Class A mechanic. He graduated from teachers college in 1967 and started teaching in Moosonee, Ontario. In 1970, Bill and his family moved to Prescott to start teaching at South Grenville District High School. Shortly after having to take an early retirement due to health reasons, Bill and Laura started their own driving school business and taught driver's education for many years.

In the late 1950s, Laura and Bill began listening to a radio program by Herbert W. Armstrong. They were quite impressed by what they heard and the two of them started attending services in 1963 when Toronto was a Bible Study group. They remained faithful members of God's church until her death in 2007 and his on August 22 of this year. Bill even hoped to attend the Feast this fall.

Bill loved animals, people and life in general. He stayed busy as a referee for hockey and baseball games, wood working and was also sang in the Brockville Melodymen Barber-shop Chorus. He was on the Board of Directors for Crime Stoppers for a number of years, as well as many other organizations. He was a true testament to courage, dedication and commitment and never lost his zest for life nor his love for family and friends no matter the heartache, obstacle or health battle. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

A memorial, conducted by Dennis Horlick, was held for Mr. Pantner on Friday, September 6, in Maitland, Ontario.

Heather Foster

Church News Needed

When you receive either the *United News* or the *United News Canada*, which section do you read first? Some people are methodical and start at the first page and work their way through the issue from there. Others like to start at the back. Still others skim the whole issue before deciding what to read.



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For many, the favorite section is News From Across Canada. In this section, we learn about people we have known from across the country. We may get ideas for socials and activities that would be of interest in our own congregation. We can know when a dear friend has had a baby or lost a loved one. In short, it is a tool for staying in touch with the rest of our church family in this vast country.

Don't you like to hear what is happening in all congregations across Canada? Before that happens, someone has to take the time to write about the activity, birth or death. Could you help?

While we prefer that feature articles should be no longer than

1,000 words, updates in this section could be as short as one or two paragraphs. You do not have to be a professional writer – our editors can help smooth out any rough edges. We would, however, ask that you get your submission approved by your Pastor before submitting it to us. We prefer that the article be submitted electronically, but if that is not possible, handwritten will also be accepted.

Photos are very much appreciated. Be sure that they are not blurred. When photos are sent electronically, send them full-size. Some e-mail programs will automatically try to reduce the file size.

We look forward to hearing from additional congregations in the near future!

UNC

Recipes Needed

What dishes do you especially look forward to during the Days of Unleavened Bread? Do you make fancy meals using matzos?



Hemera/Thinkstock

Please share your favourite recipes with the brethren by submitting them to *United News Canada*.

UNC

Faithfulness

Jesus had brothers and two of them were Apostles (James and Jude) so why did Jesus put his mother, Mary, in the care of John.

Most Bible readers can figure out a couple of reasons why Jesus put Mary, his mother, under John's care.

First of all many conclude from the Bible that John was the youngest apostle. They deduce from the fact that John was leaning on Jesus' bosom at the time of Passover just before crucifixion. It was customary of the Jewish family in those days for the youngest to lean on the bosom of the head of the family. Being the youngest he is expected to live longer than the others.

Also Mary was a very young mother. Some even suggest she could have been as young as 15 when she conceived Jesus. Many scholars deduce that word "virgin"

be martyred. Peter was anxious to know how John would die in the last chapter of John (John 21:20-23).

Further, Jesus may not have wanted his mother to experience a cruel death of her protector as she



had already suffered much going through Jesus's crucifixion.

The above two reasons are fairly easy to see, but if they were the only reasons, why did Jesus not put Mary in John's care much earlier? After all he had already an-

During the crucifixion only the women and only one apostle was present ... and that apostle was John. John was the most loyal of all the apostles and passed the test. We now understand why Jesus did not appoint a protector of Mary until he was on the cross. He could have done so otherwise much earlier (John 19:25-27).

From the above we also understand that our God is a God of perfect timing. He does not act a minute too soon or a minute too late.

Our God is always in charge no matter what the circumstances. The most important quality God wants to see in his people is not knowledge, nor wisdom, nor the gift of prophecy but faithfulness.

Mehernosh Damania

Why did Jesus wait until He was on the cross to put Mary in John's care?

used in original text usually refers to a very young teenage girl rather than a full grown woman. It was also a practice in those days for girls to marry young. Therefore Mary at the time of crucifixion would have had many more years to live.

There may be another reason. Jesus knew that John would die of natural death after living a long life while other Apostles would

nounced that he would soon die. Why did Jesus wait until He was on the cross to put Mary in John's care?

At the time of the Passover it was not just Peter who vouched his loyalty to Jesus. All the other Apostles joined Peter in vouching their loyalty to Jesus and yet deserted Jesus for the fear of the Jews (Matthew 26:35, 56 "... Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled.").

Correction

The article, "A More Perfect Tabernacle" in the July-September issue of United News Canada mistakenly indicated that the more perfect tabernacle was the physical body of Christ. The "greater and more perfect Tabernacle not made with hands" (Hebrews 9:11) actually refers to the Temple and dwelling place of God Almighty in Heaven into which Jesus Christ entered as our High Priest (see Hebrews 8:1-2). While the intent of the article was valid, the explanation that was given was in error in this respect.

Citizenship

Some time ago, I filled in the necessary forms to apply for Canadian citizenship. It has been an interesting process from start to finish. One surprise was the many parallels between this process and the process of becoming a citizen of the Kingdom of God.

First, there were many months of waiting. Similarly, it requires a lot of waiting for the Kingdom to arrive. We know that ultimately it will and we hope it will be soon, but still don't know exactly when it will be!

Just about two weeks before the Feast, I received a letter informing me that I had an appointment for an interview. I was not asked if it would be convenient for me, but just given a time. The letter said that if I didn't show up for that appointment and didn't call with a valid excuse, the application would be discontinued. Talk about pressure! Likewise, we need to be ready for the return of Christ – we will not be given the opportunity to schedule a time convenient for us.

During the several hours I had to wait on “interview day,” I had plenty of time to think and reflect. I realized that what I said to the interviewer and how I said it would be used to determine if my application was legitimate. The best course of action was to be honest – thankfully, that is something the church has taught us well through the years.

As a citizen of the United States of America, I had mixed emotions about applying for Canadian citizenship. However, after living in Canada for so many years I strong-

ly identify with Canada. Then I wondered what my emotions would be regarding becoming a citizen of the Kingdom of God. Would there be something that would pull me back and make me hesitant to fully commit to that?

Once the interview was over, small groups were called into a smaller room. There we were given the day and time when we would become Canadian citizens. There was one caveat – the judge would review each application and would reserve the right to require more information if he was not satisfied with the documentation given. Our spiritual Judge reserves that same right.



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Before leaving the room, we were given final instructions as to what we needed to bring on the day of the citizenship ceremony. What I found interesting was that there was also a dress code. No jeans or running shoes would be permitted. People were instructed to wear business attire. We know the parable of those who were turned away from the wedding supper because they were not wearing appropriate attire. Church services also have a dress code.

With this as a backdrop, many of the Feast messages were put into a different light for me this year. I

was looking forward to a new citizenship in the World Tomorrow. Right now I am doing the preparation work – filling in the application forms as it were. I'm studying the history of God's Kingdom so that I know and understand what is required.

The day scheduled for my citizenship ceremony was six days after the Feast. On that day, each person participating in the ceremony was assigned a seat, given a Canadian flag and lapel pin. Later I discovered there were 105 of us from 32 different countries.

The court clerk then explained what would happen during the ceremony. He required everyone chewing gum to get rid of it before the judge came into the room. We were asked to stand when the judge entered the room. Why? To show respect to the authority of the court. Likewise, we stand when there is a prayer at church. When we are home, we usually show reverence to God by bowing our heads during prayer. We know that He can hear us even if we don't, but it is a symbol of our respect.

As each of us went to the front of the room and received our citizenship papers from the judge, he and the rest of the dignitaries congratulated and welcomed us as a new Canadian citizen. Many people came from third-world countries and were overwhelmed with emotion. It gives me a slight indication of how great the emotion will be when we are all welcomed into the Kingdom of God!

Linda Wasilkoff