

the Connection

05 JUNE 2020 NEWSLETTER

A WORTHY CALLING FOR GOD'S FAMILY

WRITTEN BY KEVIN WILLIAMS

"Walk worthy of your calling," commands Paul in Ephesians 4:1. We have a high and holy calling to believe in Christ and follow Him. This calling certainly has many blessings, but it also includes responsibilities. The calling is all the work of God's grace, but it makes demands on the way we live. Paul says, "Walk worthy." In other words, live up to your gracious standing in Christ; walk in such a way that the One who called you is honoured and praised.

So how do we live in this way? Paul lists some attitudes that are essential—"with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love" (Eph 4:2). The Gospel of Jesus Christ calls us to treat others very carefully. Gentleness and longsuffering are not natural

responses toward those with whom we disagree. We are more prone toward pride and selfishness.

These attitudes, Paul tells us, are a means to an end—"endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Eph 4:3). Unity among believers is an important priority for God's family. This unity is not created by us; rather, it is the work of the Holy Spirit. Our unity is in our common devotion to Jesus Christ and His Word. Our calling is to diligently guard this spiritual unity. It takes effort and self-denial, but it is what we are called to do. And our heavenly Father is pleased when His children take their calling seriously enough to live in harmony by displaying humble patience and gentle forbearance. "How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity (Ps 133:1)!



OH, HOW GOOD IT IS WHEN THE FAMILY OF GOD DWELLS TOGETHER IN SPIRIT, IN FAITH AND UNITY. WHERE THE BONDS OF PEACE, OF ACCEPTANCE AND LOVE ARE THE FRUITS OF HIS PRESENCE HERE AMONG US. SO WITH ONE VOICE WE'LL SING TO THE LORD; AND WITH ONE HEART WE'LL LIVE OUT HIS WORD. TILL THE WHOLE EARTH SEES THE REDEEMER HAS COME, FOR HE DWELLS IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS PEOPLE.

--Keith & Kristyn Getty, Ross Holmes, and Stuart Townend

FAMILIES REDEEM THE TIME

WRITTEN BY PASTOR MARK RICHMOND

2 Corinthians 13:5 exhorts, "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves." We need to pause and think about salvation and the Christian life. We need to examine ourselves and make sure that we have not become blinded by sin. Take some time this week to think about the following questions. During this pandemic, what have you learned about yourself and your family? As Alberta begins to reopen, what are some lessons that you and your family need to remember? As you look back over the last several weeks, what are some highlights and low points? Are there things you have discovered that need changing in your life? Have areas of sin come to the surface? What have you learned about God from His Word? Are there changes that the whole family needs to make as you walk together into the future? You can redeem this unique season of life by re-evaluating your priorities. Don't miss the opportunity to examine yourself and make the necessary changes before life gets too busy.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS/WEDNESDAY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY

We invite you to register to attend an in-person Prayer & Bible Study group in the gym this Wednesday at 7 pm. This group is strictly limited to 50 people. **A link to register will be sent out every Monday to those who have subscribed to our email list.** In addition, you may also participate in a Zoom group that will follow the same format at the same time (Please email kwilliams@meadowlandsbaptist.com for a Zoom invitation). For our Bible study we will discuss the following questions in the newsletter that relate to the Sunday morning sermon:



John 5:1-30

1. Which three words in this passage do you think are most significant?
2. What is being said about those three important words?
3. What does this passage say about Jesus?
4. How do people in this passage respond to Jesus?
5. How does this passage challenge or encourage you?
6. What from this passage can you share to encourage a fellow Christian?
7. What from this passage can you share with an unbeliever?

WORSHIP SERVICE BROADCAST & CHILDREN'S STORY

You can find the video and audio of the sermon and children's story broadcasts on our [sermon audio page](#).

"THE DIVINE WORKS OF JESUS"

JOHN 5:1-30

PASTOR KEVIN WILLIAMS

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: "ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME"

HYMN: "'LIKE A RIVER GLORIOUS"
HEBREWS 13:1-21

PRAYER

HYMN: "OH, HOW HE LOVES YOU
AND ME"

MESSAGE

HYMN: "COMPLETE IN THEE"

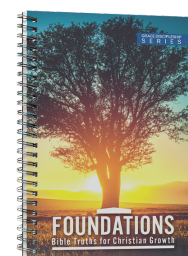
CLOSING PRAYER

This Sunday's children's story continues the 8-part reading of *The Big Picture Story Bible* by David Helm. Children of all ages will learn the Bible's message of "God's people in God's place under God's rule."

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

On Sunday evenings we continue our discipleship training using the book *Foundations: Bible Truths for Christian Growth*. Audio recordings will be posted on our website as usual.

Registration to attend in-person is available at 4 pm or 6 pm. There is a strict limit of 50 for each class. **A link to register will be sent out every Thursday** to those who have subscribed to our email list. **IF YOU ARE NOT ON OUR EMAIL LIST, PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBSITE AND SIGN UP!** www.meadowlandsbaptist.com



MINISTRY UPDATE FROM MBC MISSIONARIES: THE HAMMERMEISTERS, BC

The Hammermeisters are using Facebook Live to connect with folks and to conduct two teaching/preaching sessions per week. They have been in contact with other families who are searching for a church to belong to. They are scheduled to be in the United States on furlough this July and August; however they have no guarantees that international travel will open.

Prayer Requests:

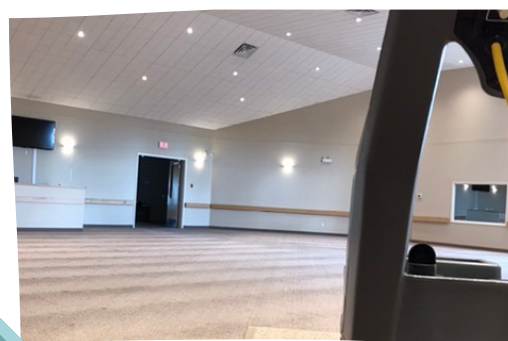
- Darren's health
- Community outreach
- Spiritual growth of people
- Support level (presently at 47%)



MBC BUILDING UPDATES

The auditorium carpet has been thoroughly cleaned, new lighting installed to provide higher efficiency and brightness, and the fireside room has gotten a facelift!

RE-OPENING PHASES



Small groups gather on Sunday evenings and Wednesdays. Registration links to attend are emailed out every Monday and Thursday. This was our Prayer & Bible Study group that met Wednesday night. Pastor Mark met with a Zoom group simultaneously.

Need to contact us?



Church Office

780-440-1195

Pastor Kevin Williams

587-635-2758

Pastor Jerry Ascher

587-635-2751

Pastor Mark Richmond

587-635-2752

David Treau

587-635-2753

GIVING

E-transfer is available. From your bank's website, select the e-transfer feature. The email address to transfer to is donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com. Your donation will be automatically accepted and you will receive a confirmation of the transfer.

2215-17 St. NW, Edmonton, AB T6T 1J1

www.meadowlandsbaptist.com

PRAYER REQUESTS

In the newsletter, we try to include submitted prayer requests from those in our church family who want to share their requests in this format. Requests may be emailed to info@meadowlandsbaptist.com by Thursdays at noon.

- Diane Burdett's son, Steven, is homeless. Pray that he finds the Lord, comes off the streets, and repents of his lifestyle.
- Several of our senior citizens are in assisted living homes and isolated from their friends and families.
- Laura Cook's dad has possible skin cancer on his head and her sister, Lee, is going through chemo treatments for breast cancer.
- Wisdom and discernment for churches and leaders in Alberta trying to re-open through the phases.
- Gospel outreach through these times of world unrest and chaos.