



# *the Connection*

MEADOWLANDS BAPTIST CHURCH

12 MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER

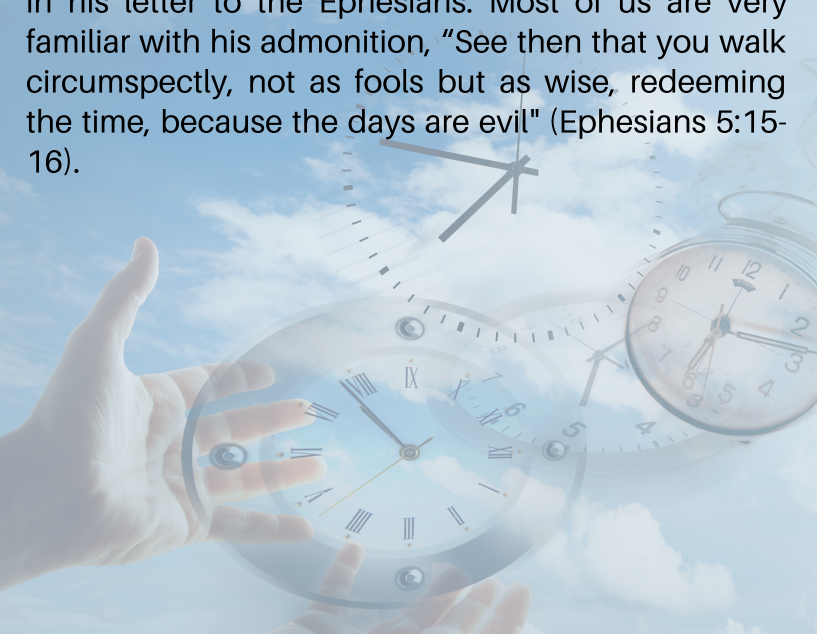
## REDEEMING THE TIME

BY JERRY ASCHER

It happens again this weekend – Daylight Saving Time. That's right. The word is "Saving" not "Savings," a mistake I found out I had been making all my life until I began to read the history behind why we turn our clocks ahead in the spring of every year (unless you live in Saskatchewan!). While the concept may have been discussed before, it wasn't until Englishman William Willet's 1907 brochure entitled, "The Waste of Daylight," that the debate really began. Willet died in 1915, a year before his efforts finally paid off, and the United Kingdom introduced what we know of now as "Daylight Saving Time."

The Apostle Paul discussed the reality of wasted time in his letter to the Ephesians. Most of us are very familiar with his admonition, "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15-16).

When Adam sinned, every day since has been characterized by evil. And because this is the case, Christians are exhorted to buy back as much of every day for Christ as we can. What is the currency that we use to do this? Our currency is obedience to Christ, taking up our cross daily, and following Him. This is what entails walking circumspectly. As we think about adjusting our clocks this weekend, perhaps we also need to permit the Holy Spirit to do a spiritual adjustment in order to live in a manner that exemplifies what Paul's instruction was to the believers at Ephesus two-thousand years ago. In a day when it is so easy to go with the flow, to spend our hours in things that have no Kingdom benefit, my prayer for all who make up Meadowlands Baptist Church is that we will redeem the time in order to "become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom (we) shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life" (Philippians 2:15-16).



Channels only, blessed Master,  
But with all Thy wondrous pow'r  
Flowing through us, Thou canst use us  
Ev'ry day and ev'ry hour.

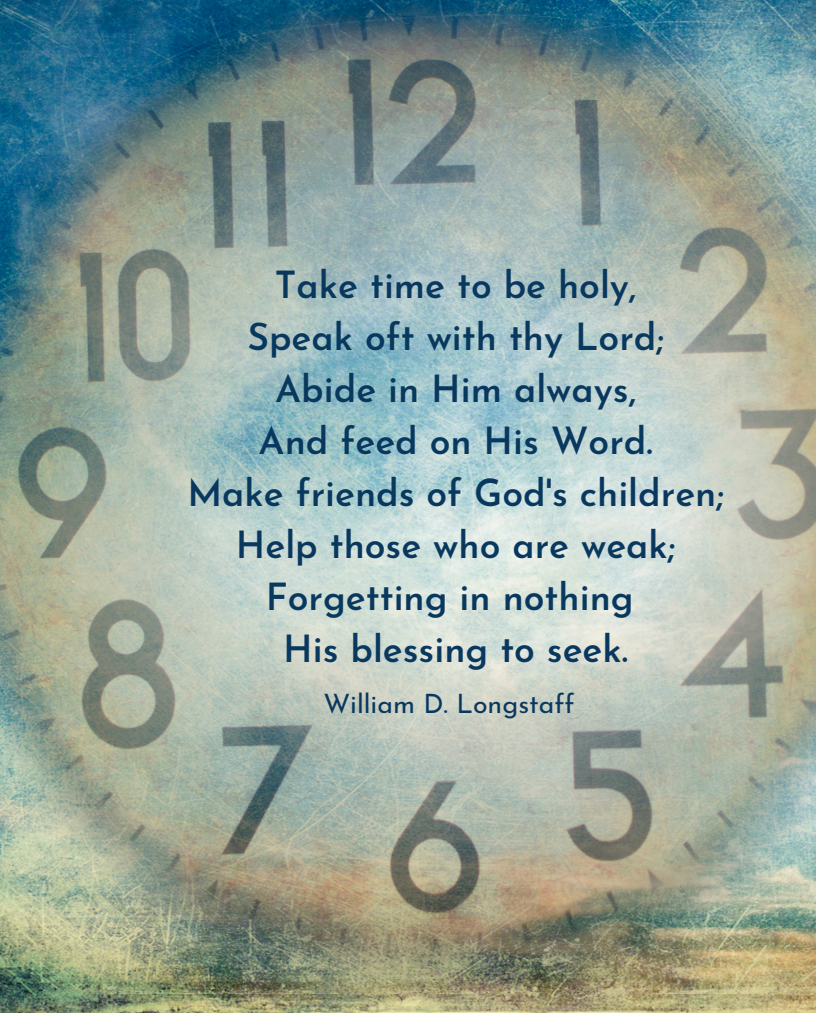
Mary E. Maxwell



## SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES: 9:30 AM, 11 AM OR 6 PM

In-person services (with singing) take place in the gym. Services are simultaneously livestreamed in the auditorium (no singing) or available to you at home.

- "WE PRAISE THEE, O GOD, OUR REDEEMER"
- "REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING"
- PRAYER
- "THE LOVE OF GOD"
- CHILDREN'S STORY
- "OH, HOW GOOD IT IS"
- MESSAGE: "GOD MEANT IT FOR GOOD"  
JOHN 18:1-19:16 PASTOR KEVIN WILLIAMS
- "BEHOLD OUR GOD"
- PRAYER



Take time to be holy,  
Speak oft with thy Lord;  
Abide in Him always,  
And feed on His Word.  
Make friends of God's children;  
Help those who are weak;  
Forgetting in nothing  
His blessing to seek.

William D. Longstaff

## WEDNESDAY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY/ KIDS 4 TRUTH 7 PM

This mid-week service takes place in-person in the auditorium. If you would like a Zoom link to participate, please email the church office.

## MEN'S PRAYER TIME MARCH 19, 7-8 PM

Pastor Mark is inviting men to join him in a time of purposeful prayer next Friday evening.

## 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](mailto:donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com). Your donation will be automatically accepted and you will receive a confirmation of the transfer.

## Lisa Elliot Pienaar

Born November 19, 2020  
Approximately 4 mos.



## BABY SHOWERS

Since no in-person showers are allowed at this time, please drop off gifts in church office by March 28. Gifts will then be delivered to each recipient.

## William Thomas Steenson

Born November 21, 2020  
Approximately 4 mos.

## Ella-Maria Lidia Lumsden

Born January 4, 2021  
Approximately 2 mos.



## MISSIONARY UPDATE FROM THE HUNTERS IN SOUTH AFRICA

According to Hebrews 13:16, we are to use what we have to do good to those around us. Paul goes even further in Titus 3:14, by teaching us that we guard against being unfruitful in our lives by doing good to those around us. Although Covid-19 has brought many challenges with doing ministry in usual ways, by God's grace we have found ways of doing good.

During the January lockdown period, Herb began delivering Maxwell porridge to feed hungry people affected by the lockdown. This, of course, reconnected Herb with many of the soup kitchen people that he interacted with when Covid began. Two of the ladies who run soup kitchens have since joined him at a Bible study in the community of Rheenendal. Pray for the Rheenendal Bible Study. There is a mix of saved and unsaved, and we are hopeful that maybe the Rheenendal Bible Study will result in another church being planted!?

Although the COVID-19 lockdown restrictions curtailed our regular church meetings and wreaked havoc on our regular Bible Studies, we were glad to be able to meet needs in other ways. One of those ways has been through hospitality. Janet has used her gifts to host several tea times with ladies from our church - and from outside the church. She has also baked numerous cookies and muffins, many of which have been distributed.

Finally, the van update! Over the past couple of months, God has brought along a buyer for our old van. We were able to sell it for the price we wanted. So, with the cash from the sale, money from our own savings, and the generous donations and contributions from friends and supporting churches, we have been able to purchase a new-to-us van.



*Last Sunday, the Hunters and their congregation signed their church charter and officially began Knysna West Bible Church. [You can read their entire newsletter here or by clicking the link below.](#)*

## MBC ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY



We appreciate all the volunteers who helped with our special service last week as we celebrated twenty-five years of God's faithfulness to our church. We appreciate so many special friends and co-labourers who sent video messages.

We also appreciate those who made cupcakes and decorated the building to make the day special. If you weren't able to pick up a commemorative magnet, you are welcome to pick one up at the Information Desk this Sunday.

*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

**Email:**

**[info@meadowlandsbaptist.com](mailto:info@meadowlandsbaptist.com)**