

# the Connection

MEADOWLANDS BAPTIST CHURCH

15 OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER



## "LOOKING TO HIM WHO ENDURED"

by Jerry Ascher

Here in western Canada, we have the wonderful blessing of living close to some of the most beautiful scenery in all the world. I was reminded of this during a recent trip Lori and I took to the Canadian Rockies, a trip that many in our church family have often enjoyed. During this trip, I began to think again how wonderful it would be to live right in the middle of it all, to wake up to those magnificent views every day and never have to leave. But not far from my mind was the reality that I would soon have to come down from the mountains, back to Edmonton, back to the routine of everyday life. We all have heard of and even experienced the spiritual mountaintops in our Christian life, and we often wish those times would continue and never end. But the Bible never indicates that this is normal for the believer. In fact, as one pastor put it in a recent article I read, "The challenge we have is that God typically dispenses the blessing of sanctifying, persevering grace in a gradual way, in the midst of a life that is filled with spiritual conflict and that includes some measure of difficulty and even defeat. Like Peter on the Mount of

Transfiguration, however, we long for a sustained mountaintop."<sup>1</sup>

A life full of spiritual conflict, difficulty and even defeat is certainly not something we desire, but it is a reality we often must face. How do we respond at those times? The Apostle Paul gives us a helpful clue in Romans 2:7. He writes of God's promise to give "eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality." This is what should characterize the life of every Christian. You and I are called to a life of "patient continuance in doing good." This is accomplished, the writer of Hebrews reminds us, by looking to Jesus Who endured the cross for our salvation (Heb. 12:1-2). If He did that for us, we can live for Him, even when we're not on the mountain tops!



<sup>1</sup> <https://seminary.bju.edu/theology-in-3d/it-didnt-work-for-me-part-1/>

## SUNDAY 9:30 OR 11 AM

In-person services take place in the auditorium. Services are simultaneously livestreamed in the gym or available to you at home.

- "How Great Our God's Majestic Name"
- "How Awesome Is Your Name: Psalm 8"
- "Join All the Glorious Names"
- Prayer
- Scripture Reading: 1 John 3:1-9
- "Near the Cross"
- "God of Grace"
- "My Worth Is Not in What I Own"
- Message: "Justified by Faith or Works?"  
James 2:14-26 Pastor Kevin Williams
- "My Hope Is in the Lord"

### *Ladies are invited to...*

Baby Shower for Kayla Derksen & Baby William

Sunday, 17 October, 6:30 pm in Room 207

Gift suggestions are posted on the bulletin board

### *Thanksgiving Offering Results:*

#### **Land Purchase:**

\$17,385

#### **Missionary Needs:**

\$9,621

If you want to contribute to this special offering, please designate accordingly.

## ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

---

9:30

### ***Forerunners of the Faith*** (Church History)

Pastor Jerry | Room 207

11:00

### **College & Career**

Jeff McConnell | Room 221

### **Young Couples: 20s & 30s**

Will Breckenridge | Room 207

### ***Epistle to the Philippians***

Manuele Russo | **Gym Foyer**

## CHILDREN'S/TEEN MINISTRIES

---

9:30

### **Nursery (0-1)**

### **Nursery (2-3)**

11:00

### **Nursery (0-1)**

### **Nursery (2-3)**

**Ages 4-5** Room 209

**Grades 1-2** Room 212

**Grades 3-4** Room 211

**Grades 5-6** Room 309

**Teens** Room 308





## **MISSIONARY UPDATE: JOSH & ERICA BURRILL, MALTA**

We thank you for faithfully supporting the work God has called us to in Malta. June was a month of much study. I spent two weeks in class via Zoom for Doctor of Ministry modules. In July, we had four people baptized over two Sundays. We anticipated the arrival of my parents the first week of September, but the current reality of travel restrictions means their trip is delayed for now.

### **Blessings:**

We have desired to see leaders trained and taking responsibility. We have added more Scripture readers in our services, a young man leads the teen class, and another young man and his wife have stepped in to help lead our young adult ministry.

Our new teammates, Luke and Ann Tanis (with Theo and Layla) have been fully provided with their monthly support needs. They are making plans to move to Malta mid-November.

We have had many local visitors coming to the church. Some are believers and are faithfully attending. Others are unbelievers and skeptical, but have still come multiple times.

Our Gozo Bible study has enjoyed a stable group of eager learners who look forward to the fellowship each week. We have new "regulars" in our group.

We have seen the Lord supply in big ways for our building project. We are within sight of the end.

### **Needs for Prayer:**

We have people (some members) who have not returned to our church services since we began meeting again over a year ago. Some have been in contact and speak about resuming normalcy soon. Pray God turns their hearts toward the things of the Lord.

We need our ministry to further mature by installing qualified men as deacons. We also desire to see those who are qualified and willing to consider pastoral ministry.

Pray for the remaining funds needed for our building project. We need to see 56K USD supplied to cover the work that will be completed before Christmas.

### **HELPING OUR COMMUNITY**

A fire last week destroyed most of the winter supplies that Hope Mission gives to needy families in Edmonton. They are accepting donations of gently used or new items such as toques, mittens, boots, snow pants, sweaters, and jackets. You can drop off items in the bin located in the church lobby anytime. All collected items will be delivered to Hope Mission on October 25.

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

*Coming up:*

### **UPDATE ON FINANCES & UPCOMING PROJECTS**

Sunday, October 31, 12:30 pm



### **MOVIE NIGHT: "THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS" (2019)**

Sunday, October 31, 6 pm

- Free admission
- Sign up on the bulletin board
- Complimentary popcorn
- Snacks and drinks available for purchase

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