# MONTHLYNEWSLETTER

## **NEWS FROM WORKERS WE SUPPORT IN QUEBEC**



Work with News of Quebec **Tony Bissonnette Family** March ...Someone asked me what I found most difficult in my ministry. I did not know what to reply at the time but the question kept coming back to me for the following three weeks. After a while I realized that what I found most difficult in my ministry was: EVERYTHING! I love what I do and feel privileged to work full-time for the Lord, but the pastoral load, with all that this implies, becomes heavy to bear after a while, especially if we lose sight of the true priorities, which is what happened to me. For several months I had felt fatigued and had lost the motivation and zeal which drove me in the early years of our ministry. I had become irritable, impatient and was easily discouraged. I am not proud to admit

this, but this had been my state of mind for some time. The Lord used this question asked by a brother to make me realize that I was not fighting the good fight, and that I was fighting in my own strength which was quickly depleted. In his grace, the Lord showed me the way to get back to fighting the good fight: 'Come near to God and He will come near to you' (James 4:8). It is easy to be active in the service of the Lord and to forget that our true priority must be the Lord Himself! Refocusing on the Lord then became my one true priority. Thank you Lord for taking care of me and showing me what was wrong in my life. Help me to remain centered on you no matter what!

#### **Claude Vachon**

I'm touched concerning the faithfulness of your assembly about Quebec's work. [*News of Quebec*] We are aware that Quebec is still a mission-

March

nary land. Quebec's church often has difficulties, is unstable, much division, lots of tearing and home reunion. It's hard to build. Since a few years we have steady members. We are asking you to pray for Quebec and the Brethren Assemblies.

Rob MacGregorMarchOur work continues with a routine<br/>of three meetings weekly. We are<br/>finishing a study in I Timothy in the<br/>mid-week meeting. The Lord's day<br/>finds us in John's gospel for the eve-<br/>ning gospel meeting, and in the<br/>Psalms following the Lord's supper.The gospel meeting is well at-<br/>tended, and there continues to be<br/>interest among the unsaved, but

**no harvest yet.** We have had a good opportunity to **share the gospel in an assistedliving senior's residence**. Over 50 attended a hymn-sing put on by believers from the Assembly. We were able to proclaim the gospel quite freely, and Lord willing, we will try this again perhaps in May.

# Contact & Wedding info

#### Thomas & Emma Lewis

\*SEE PRINTED COPY FOR ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBERS\*

#### **Matthew Craswell**

\*SEE PRINTED COPY FOR ADDRESS & E-MAIL\*

Will be home in PEI from June till August then will return to China.

**Misty & Matthias** 

<u>Wedding Date:</u> July 19, 2014 <u>Registries:</u> Bed Bath & Beyond & Sears & Walmart gift cards.

> Matthias Bouter \*SEE PRINTED COPY FOR ADDRESS\*

Laura Schmidt & Ben Canfield \*SEE PRINTED COPY FOR ADDRESS \*

Wedding date: May 17th, 2014 <u>Registries:</u> Bed, Bath & Beyond + The Bay (both available online & can be shipped directly to their location) Hannah Canfield & Colin Burnett \*SEE PRINTED COPY FOR ADDRESS \*

<u>Wedding date:</u> June 21st, 2014 <u>Registries:</u> The Bay + Home Outfitters (both available online. They would prefer to have gifts shipped directly to Burlington.)

> John & Jean Philipps \*SEE PRINTED COPY FOR ADDRESS \*

**Dwight & Heather Houston** \*SEE PRINTED COPY FOR PHONE NUMBERS\*



#### THE THREE KINDS OF FEAR

In the Scriptures the word "fear" may be used to describe the reaction a person might be expected to have in response to at least three different situations. If surrounded by enemies it would be equal to terror; David said, "fear is on every side...they scheme to take away my life" (Ps. 31:13). On the other hand Moses commanded respect to be shown to parents by saying, "Every one of you shall fear his mother and his father" (Lev. 19:3), and Jeremiah was advocating reverence as being rightfully due to the Lord when he exclaimed, "Who would not fear You, O King of the nations... "inasmuch as there is none like You, O Lord (You are great, and Your name is great in might)" (10:6). Too often these days we hear of people who were abused by one or both of their parents. In such cases it is understandable if the mention of fear along with the word father might recall moments of terror. But the way the Holy Spirit has chosen to express things will not change. Scripture does not separate the idea of fear (respect) from human fatherhood or from the fatherly role of God. Malachi 1:6 makes this clear. The latter involves an awe expressed in reverence, worship, unquestioning submission, and separation from every form of evil.

When in the New Testament we read, "perfect love casts out fear" (1 Jn. 4:18), it obviously does not mean the one who believes in Christ as his or her Saviour should throw the idea of due respect to the winds and become chummy with God; thinking of Him as a pal. [...]

#### THE MEANING OF HOLINESS

Believers in Christ are called saints or holy ones; "it is not an attainment, it is a state into which God in His grace calls men; yet (they) are called to sanctify themselves (consistently with their calling, 2 Tim. 1:9), cleansing themselves from all defilement, forsaking sin, living a holy manner of life... and experiencing fellowship with God in His holiness" (W.E. Vine). This personal cleansing and forsaking or practical holiness, is our subject. You cannot convince me you are a saint by His calling if you are not, at the same time, also yearning to become more like the holy One you say is your Saviour. Peter charges us to act as "obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, 'Be holy for I am holy.' And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear ..." (1 Peter 1:14-17).

#### IS CHRIST EMINENT OR IMMANENT?

We do not often use those words but we should think deeply about their meaning. He is both in fact. Firstly, God has exalted Him far above all so He is pre-eminent. Secondly, He is ever with us and so also immanent. We confess both, but fail at times to live our lives in the light of the fact that the Lord of all is also Lord of us in a special way. And this One who is everywhere (Ps 139) and thus immanent, graciously comes to and abides with His own in a unique way (Jn. 14:22,23 & Heb. 13:5,6). [...]

#### THE PROBLEMS WE FACE

Our minds can easily become overwhelmed by thoughts that we intended to consider perhaps for only a moment - to become angry, to gossip or lust. We open the door to see who was knocking, so to speak, and find a visitor has entered and taken over control and it seems impossible to get rid of him; we keep on thinking about the same things over and over. This is a common human experience and often the outcome of what we have heard someone talk about, we have read, or watched on television. This ability to imagine doing something we consider (sinfully) desirable that has invaded the mind is fuel for our sinful flesh, rendering it impossible to make good moral choices. [...]

Before Jesus physically left His followers He told them it was actually to their advantage for Him to go away (Jn. 16:7). He would "ask the Father, and He would give them 'another' Helper". (He chose the Greek word for another that meant another One exactly like Himself). He would stay with them and be in them (14: 16,17). In this way He would be with them "to the end of the age" (Matt. 28:20). So the potential to become increasingly holy in conduct is yours. [...]

As for the the question heading this article, we will let one scripture give the final word:

"I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty. Therefore, having these promises beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." (2 Cor. 6:18 – 7:1.)

> --CONDENSED--Submitted by Bill Lewis

#### FEATURED DVDS FROM THE CHAPEL LIBRARY - Submitted by Bill Mooney





#### The Torchlighters Heroes of the Faith: The Corrie ten Boom Story Call Number: DVD.D16.11

Corrie Ten Boom and her family are masters of their craft; they repair broken watches and return them safely to their owners. But

as the evil of World War II sweeps through their city, a new kind of "watch" comes into their care: an innocent Jewish baby, desperately needing protection from the cruelty of the new Nazi regime. How will the ten Booms keep this baby and many others out of harm's way, and what will be the cost of serving God amidst unthinkable evils? When faith is tested, hope is tried, and love is strained, will Corrie's God prevail? See her amazing story of courage, sacrifice, and forgiveness anew through this gripping episode of The Torchlighters.

#### **Buddy Davis Amazing Adventures DVD Series:**



I Dig Dinosaurs: Dinosaur Fossils and Noah's Flood - Call Number: DVD.D21.1 Grab your gear and join adventurer Buddy Davis on an exciting dinosaur dig in the Badlands of Montana! This real-life dinosaur researcher inspires kids with his solid

creation teaching and infectious passion for the gospel. Buddy discovers a big dinosaur bone, and in the process shows the effects of Noah's Flood on the Montana landscape. Your kids will see a remote part of the USA where the floodwaters scoured the earth and left a mangled graveyard of dinosaurs, fish, plants, and more—a treasure trove of fossils! (answersingenesis.org)



# Swamp Man! Amazing Animals of the Everglades – Call Number: DVD.D21.2

Join adventurer Buddy Davis and discover amazing animals of the everglades! Kids will be spellbound as they learn about God's design in animals of the Florida

swamp lands and everglades. Learning Creation truths have never been so much fun (answersingenesis.org).



#### **Extreme Caving: Earth's Incredible World** - Call Number: DVD.D21.3

Join Buddy Davis as he explores an amazing world found beneath the earth. You will enjoy the hidden treasures of nature as Buddy climbs, crawls and squeezes through

several miles of subterranean passages, revealing clear evidence of Noah's flood (answersingenesis.org).

Please remember to SIGN OUT the BOOKS and DVDs that you borrow so that we can keep track of them. Thanks.



#### Sacred Marriage by Gary Thomas

Call Number: DVD.M13

What if God designed marriage to make us holy and not just happy? In this 6-week DVD curriculum, Gary Thomas helps you understand the Lord's intention for matri-

mony. Discover how respecting your partner, forgiving and accepting forgiveness, and building a history with your spouse can release the nature of Christ in your life! (christianbook.com)



### Sacred Parenting by Gary Thomas

Call Number: DVD.M14

Got kids? Parenting is a school for spiritual formation—and our children are our teachers. Welcome to a 6-session course on spiritual formation, expressly designed

by your heavenly Father to help you grow in ways you never imagined! In this soul-stretching study pack, Gary Thomas shows how everyday realities, from a toddler's tantrums to a teenager's silence, are used by God to transform us into His image (christianbook.com).

# **Missionary Work in Angola**

Letter from Doris Pitman - In Quebec - April 1,2014

I do appreciate your continued fellowship with me in the literature ministry for Chokwe believers. It motivates me to persevere.

This gift ... is being sent to The Angolan Literature Fund in England as **THERE ARE NO CANADIAN OR U.S. MISSIONARIES IN ANGOLA** and the young fellow who looks after these details in Luanda for Ruth Hadley who lives 600 miles inland says some of the Chokwe commentaries, courses and study books are out of print or nearly so. She will see to having them reprinted. ...

Apart from a Brazilian couple, **Ruth Hadley** is our only assembly missionary in Angola at the present time and has just returned to the field following a short period in England to have her broken ankle repaired. However, **Samuel Simonyi-Gindele** and family have just received their visas and are preparing to cross the border from Zambia where he has been assisting in the work while waiting. This is an encouragement. Also **Joel and Kaleigh Griffin** are in Portugal studying Portuguese prior to going on to Angola. How our hearts rejoice to know that there are younger couples exercised about serving the Lord in Angola. May 2014

\*SEE PRINTED COPY FOR BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES\*

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
APRIL 27 AM: David Clarke <b>POTLUCK LUNCH</b> 6:00pm Men's Prayer Meeting PM: David Boisvert	APRIL 28	APRIL 29 9:00am Ladies Prayer Meeting 10:00am Ladies Bible Study ends 6:25 pm AWANA ends	APRIL 30 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study	1	2 Youth Group 7pm	3 ANNUAL CHAPEL SPRING CLEANUP
4 AM: Leonard V 6:00pm Men's Prayer Meeting PM: <u>AWANA</u> <u>CLOSING</u> Victor Somers	5	6 9:00am Ladies Prayer Meeting 10:00am Ladies Mis- sionary Group	7 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study	8	Speaker: N	10 <b>S WKD</b> Iark Palmer Friday 6:30pm
11 AM & PM: Mark Palmer 6:00pm Men's Prayer Meeting	12 Men's Business Meeting 7:30pm	13 9:00am Ladies Prayer Meeting	14 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study	15	16 Youth Group 7pm	17 PROGRESSIVE DINNER 6:30 PM For couples with young families
18 AM: Dwight Houston PM: Rod Belyea 6:00pm Men's Prayer Meeting	19	20 9:00am Ladies Prayer Meeting	21 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study	22	23 Youth Group 7pm	24 <u>NEXTGEN</u> <u>CONFERENCE</u> <u>(AWANA)</u>
25 AM: Dwight Houston PM: Bob MacGregor 6:00pm Men's Prayer Meeting	26	27 9:00am Ladies Prayer Meeting	28 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study	29	30 Youth Group 7pm	31