

**Seek first
the Kingdom...**



**Fall 2017
90th
Anniversary
Edition**

PARTNERS IN PRAYER



**"If the Faith Mission ceases to be a
soul saving agency it does not
deserve to exist."**

John George Govan - Founder



**2017 - Celebrating 90 years of God's
Faithfulness in Canada**



John & Isabel Bennett

“...who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross....”
Hebrews 12:2



These words have challenged my heart over and over again. Rather than dwell on the cross Jesus dwelt on what would be accomplished through the cross. What a privilege to see beyond the battle all that is being and will be accomplished for the glory of God.

Ladies retreats, Thirsting for God conferences in Manitoulin and Campbellville, summer camps and Sunday ministry have all known God's blessing. It has been thrilling to see kids trust Jesus as Saviour at camp, and adults respond to the Gospel call at the close of church services. Looking ahead we look expectantly to a wonderful 90th celebration weekend September 30 – October 1 in Calvary Church, Toronto with guest speaker Charles Price. The week prior we anticipate all our Canadian staff meeting in Campbellville to seek God for His fresh touch and vision as we enter the 91st year. Rallies are planned for Kitchener October 4th, Mark Hardwick speaks, Wasaga Beach October 18th, Rev. William Bennett speaks and Mount Forest October 29th, John Bennett speaks. Prayer will be appreciated for all of these as well as the Ladies Retreat at Campbellville October 13 – 15 and Christmas in the Country outreach banquets November 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, and 25.

Hundreds of thousands of people in Canada have never had someone share the Gospel with them. We invite you to pray with us that God will send many more labourers into this needy harvest field.

Please pray as we commence our 90th year celebrations,
and for the Ladies Retreat October 13-15.

For further details please contact Jennifer Armitage.



Jennifer Armitage

Summer is always a busy time, and a time of meeting new people. In the midst the business I was reminded at camp that God is still the One who brings peace into every situation. I also enjoy the opportunity to work with our student staff. This summer **Susan Bearinger** came to help me at VBS and camps in Campbellville. I asked her to share how her summer has been.

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*"This summer, I have been blessed to work with the Faith Mission. In the two weeks of VBS with Jen and three weeks of camp at the centre, I've met many different kids. It has been a pleasure investing in their lives and coming alongside them as a friend. One little girl wanted to make friendship bracelets with me, and another wanted to spend time with me after the kid's program. I've had the chance to see their need of security and solid friendships. It's been neat keeping some of those friendships alive. I've learned many things this summer. Prayer was a big part of those weeks. Starting every day in prayer has been a huge blessing. I've also learned that worship isn't always a feeling. I need to worship my awesome Creator even when I'm too tired and worn out from a busy day. There have been many busy days, but the Lord has proved faithful for the joy of the Lord is my strength! I have no regrets in choosing to serve God this summer through kids ministry. All glory to Him!"*

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Myron & Janet Hoover

Praise the LORD, O my soul..... Psalm 103 1-5.

The Lord has been speaking to my soul through these verses - what benefits we have received in Christ Jesus - forgiveness, redemption, satisfaction and strength. This is God's Word in the midst of life's challenges.

The visible bulk of the Centre renovations have been completed but there remains many jobs that need completion. Thankfully, the fall season will allow for these to be accomplished. Thank you to all who came and helped out with the work and thank you to all who held us up in prayer! You have truly been partners with us in the work. We covet your continued prayers for strength and wisdom for each task. The summer camps were awesome! There was a great sense of the Lord's presence over them. We loved being a part through serving in the kitchen. Please continue to pray that God will continue His work in the lives of each child who came. The fall season has a fairly full calendar of bookings. Our prayer is that all who come on the grounds will meet with God.



Margaret Roberts

"Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always." 1 Chronicles 16:11.

The past quarter my heart has been filled with a deep desire to see God move and He has. Going from one busy schedule to another, I have needed fresh strength daily, and God has been faithful to supply. The more time I spend with God, the more strength I find I have and vice versa. God has been faithful and daily I have been given the strength and the wisdom that I have needed. A few of the weeks have been hard due to the lack of children in several of the churches. Yet, this gave some time for fellowship and I was encouraged with one church who, while disappointed in having no kids at their VBS, yet drew strength and encouragement from God as they remembered that He knows best and there is 'a time for everything' (Eccl.3:1). At another church, we spent time in prayer for the kids in the community and praised God for even one child that came. In all of this there is also the reminder of the need to fellowship with other believers; that we may encourage and bless one another in the Lord. Spending time at the Morningstar Mission in Napanee the past few months, has been an encouragement; subsequent to leading Christianity Explored, one woman had spoken of her desire to discern Biblical truth, her son is seeking to know who God is. Another woman missed many weeks of C.E. and has asked to meet us in the fall to discuss what the Bible says. Laura-Anne and I praise God for what He is doing, and ask for wisdom as we pray and consider the possibility of doing further ministry at the Morningstar.



After reading extracts from the 90th anniversary book in the summer Partners in Prayer, Larry and Sandy Hatch sent the following:

My husband's copy of Partners in Prayer was just on the dining table and I thought I would move it to his desk! The maple leaf and the words "Celebrating 90 years of God's Faithfulness in Canada" plus "Falkland" caught my eyes. (Falkland is very near where I live and where my father grew up. We have also come to know the Spences, the Evans, the Porters and the Faith Mission ministries.) I have especially enjoyed anything promoting Canada's 150th and sat down to read this prayer letter. Imagine my excitement as I read through to the center fold. The "Extracts from the 90th Anniversary book" especially "From BC... Jabez Kneller"! That was MY step grandfather on my father's side! This was about MY grandfather!!! I was thrilled to read how God had used his little donation to win these people to the Lord! To think that I should read of this some 90 years later!

Jabez was a poor farmer who is not spoken of highly in my family, most of whom do not honor the Lord, yet his name had always captured my attention. I knew about Jabez's Prayer and knew that "Jabez" means "born in sorrow". I have always wondered what was the situation that a mother would give her son such a name? I have since learned that he grew up in an orphanage in England and that he came to Canada in 1889 to take up homesteading in the Falkland area. His wife, Rose, died not very many years later. I also learned that he had taken in two orphan girls. I felt for him. In addition, this is the man who took in my grandmother and her five children including my Dad when she was widowed! I sure would have liked to have gotten to know him better.

It is so amazing to see God's hand in things. My grandmother, my grandfather and their first three children had tickets to come to Canada on the Titanic. They were to be immigrating with one of her sister and brother in laws, but they backed out so my family did not immigrate until the following year!

This extract about my grandfather was not included in this edition to bless and encourage only my heart, but to show how God has been at work over the years. May many more hearts be encouraged to continually, faithfully, prayerfully serve our God. We may never know how God will use us to further His Kingdom down the road years later.

God bless and encourage you more.

Jabez's 70 year old granddaughter



Laura- Anne Drake



Thank you all for your faithful prayers! In June we had our youth bash to finish up youth group for the summer. It was great to have the Odessa youth group join us along with one of our teen's mother who hung out with us most of the night and heard the Gospel message! Please continue to pray for this group as we start up again in the fall.

The summer has been jam packed with VBS and camps. One of the highlights for me was to teach at Discovery camp in Campbellville. The kids really loved singing! They also listened so well during chapel times. I actually stopped speaking for a minute just to make sure they weren't asleep, but sure enough they all had their eyes glued on me! Please continue to pray that the kids would remember what they learned and apply it to their lives. What a thrill to know of some who prayed to trust Jesus as their Saviour.



MORE SUMMER STUDENTS SHARE:

Jamie Houtby shares about her summer.

"This summer has been full of learning, spiritual growth and fun experiences. I am so thankful for all the blessings and opportunities that God has given me through working with the Mission. Each week of Vacation Bible School and camp introduced a new challenge and taught me very clearly that without God we can do nothing. As humans we are weak and helpless if left to our own strength, but if we rely on Him for strength we can do so much more. We could never get the same results as He does because He holds all the power. I hope to never forget the lessons learned and the fun that I have had at each place I have been this summer."

Joanna Schroder shares her experience.



"This summer I have had the privilege of being a summer worker with The Faith Mission in Canada. I have enjoyed doing VBS and day camps and being able to share about who God is. My favourite part of summer was my first week when I was helping out at Lanark. I was able to share Christ with two girls that were very interested and hungry to hear more about God. I guess the Bible story that we told to all the kids wasn't enough to satisfy their hunger to get to know more of who God is. They would ask me to tell them more about God during the group swim time. They would rather listen to me read God's word to them than to swim with the other kids. One of the girls told me that she went home and started reading the Bible with her cousin. I have been stretched out of my comfort zone a lot and I am so grateful for these new experiences. This has been a very worthwhile and God-honouring summer."

Abigail van Gent shares from her experience.

"This summer was such an uplifting experience. It has helped me grow more in Christ. Even when I think that I'm close with God, working with the Faith Mission and surrounding myself with people who love the Lord always makes me feel closer to Him. Working with kids and watching them learn about Jesus and His sacrifice is exciting. Seeing these kids, who may not have heard about God before, crave for Him and the stories we tell is encouraging. I have become friends with some of the campers from different weeks, and keeping in touch with them and hearing how they are growing in Christ themselves, makes every minute worth it. This summer has been such a positive experience, it's something I would recommend to any Christian. You never know how God can use you."



Pray for and participate when possible:

Campbellville, Ontario

Ladies Retreat ~ October 13-15

Christmas in the Country outreach banquets:

November 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, and 25.

Falkland Centre, BC:

Ladies Retreats ~ October 13-15 & October 20-22

Christmas in the Valley banquets: November 22 and 24



Past General Directors



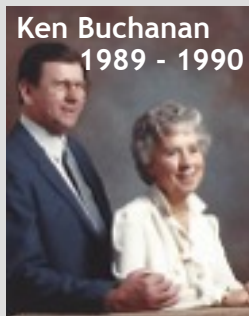
**John G.
Eberstein**
1930 - 1932



**J. Allan
Wallace**
1933 -
1980



Hugh Jamieson
1980 - 1987



Ken Buchanan
1989 - 1990

**Photos
from
the
past**

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**First
Canadian
Pilgrims:**

Helen Gibb

**Phebe
Rowden**

Youth Weekends!



**Buffalo Youth
Centre**
Camp Norwood

Niagara Christian College





MEMORIES



*The Faith Mission Family
Christmas 1981*



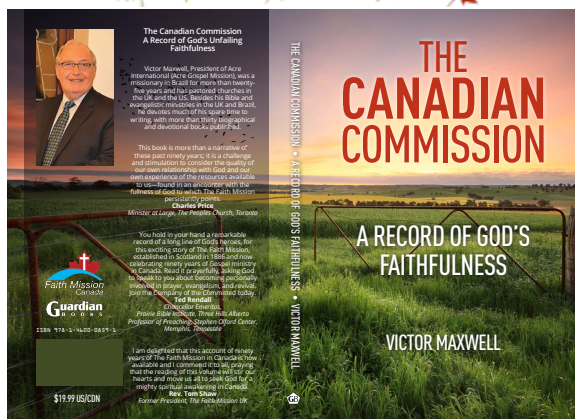
Graham & Melodie Ghent



Ministry in Boston Baptist church during the past six months was well received with some really poignant feedback. It was nice to see the Word of God speaking to peoples' hearts. Outreach with the Hamilton Challenge was encouraging, God was glorified and the gospel explained multiple times tenderly and graciously. Melodie's involvement with the ladies Bible study in Garside was a blessing and there was a good response to the outdoor service with the Dwelling Place church. We had two amazing weeks of camp at Campbellville. There was a real stillness in chapel times, and we felt that God was speaking to hearts. God proved faithful again supplying strength to us and moving amongst the campers. VBS's in Sherbrook and York saw a good number of kids attending. The singing was exuberant and they listened attentively. Our final week of camp ministry was at a family camp in Chapleau where Graham preached and Melodie did the kids program. In September we are doing a week of teaching on evangelism and continue through the fall seeking to encourage the church in the area of prayer, revival and evangelism. Thank you for praying!

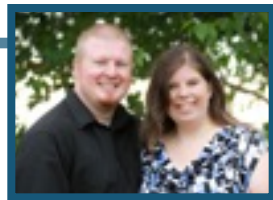


Book Launch, Calvary Church, Toronto
 Saturday September 30. "THE CANADIAN COMMISSION"
 A Record of God's faithfulness through 90 years.
 Author: Victor Maxwell
 To order your copy call or email any Faith Mission office.





"Oh Lord, You're beautiful,
Your face is all I see,
For when Your eyes are on this child
Your grace abounds to me."



Mark & April Hardwick

This song is often in my heart both as a
praise and a prayer that His face would be all I see.
The next stanza in particular speaks to our hearts here in the North,

"I want to take Your word and shine it all around
But first help me to just, live it Lord
And when I'm doing well, help me to never seek a crown
For my reward is giving glory to You."

We long that our ministry here will never be about our family or our persons,
but that God would continually have the glory wherever He chooses to let us
work alongside Him.

As we reflect back over our summer we can't help but praise Him for how he
worked in every small detail. Our first two VBS programs went well, both were
with churches we had previously worked with. Preparing to head to Powassan
to meet a whole new group of people we were unsure what to expect. Taking
our whole family to a brand new place for a week as well as making sure we
had everything with us to run a VBS stretched our packing skills! We got it all
in though, with a little room to spare! We were so blessed to arrive there and
realize that of course the Lord had prepared the way for us. Our hosts were
lovely and the church was extremely accommodating. Although the week got
off to a slow start with no kids attending the first two days, by the end of the
week we had 7 kids come and 3 youth volunteers! Four of the children were
from unchurched families and they were incredibly eager to learn their verses
and engaged in both the Bible and missionary stories with enthusiasm. One of
the little boys told us he wished we could come back for the rest of the
summer. We were also able to make a number of new connections while we
were in the area and do some visiting with churches we already knew.

Sunday continues to find Mark preaching in a different church almost every
week. The need for workers in the North is constantly growing as so many
churches are looking to fill their pulpits. We are praying for the men that God
will raise up to lead these congregations. We have been asked to begin a
local college and careers group which will start meeting in September. We
also look forward to ladies Bible study resuming. The possibility of a local kids
club is being discussed. We would really value prayer about this as it is a
much needed ministry. In October the first "Women of Courage" ladies retreat
will take place here in the North, with Faith Crosby as the speaker. This is a
ministry that April has worked on with a local pastor's wife. There has been
quite a bit of interest in a retreat closer to home for the ladies in the north so
we pray it will be a time of refreshment for them. We greatly appreciate all of
your prayers for our family.

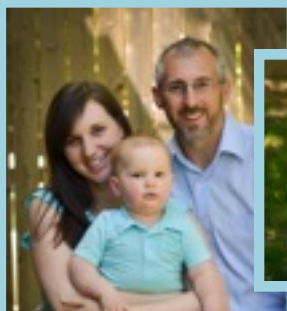
Jeff & Jani Goudy

"That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;" Phil. 3:10.



We want to thank you so much for your prayers over these past three months. There have been times of rejoicing and times of testing but through it all our God remains faithful. The soccer outreach ministry went really well. We were privileged to be able to show the love of God and to share the wonderful good news of Christ every week to immigrant young men. Many seeds have been sown, hearts have been softened and great new friendships have been made. One of the men from the Tuesday night prayer group invited all of our "new to Canada" friends to his lake home for a boat day and a barbecue and they all had so much fun together. Jeff continues to meet one on one with these men and it is obvious that God is at work in their hearts. The battle is strong and your partnership in prayer means everything. One of the immigrant men called Jeff today and said that he wants to start bringing his family to church each week starting in September. Pray for this family as they will influence many others if they come to know Christ. The pastor prayer meetings and the other prayer meetings continue to be such a blessing. Many of the churches represented by the pastors who come out are growing spiritually and numerically. One of the pastors asked Jeff to come and speak on prayer when he was away on holidays. He had been challenging his congregation in the area of prayer for several months beforehand. After Jeff spoke, one of the leaders came to the front and announced that he had felt challenged and that God spoke to his heart. He called a prayer meeting for each Tuesday night at 7:00 and humbly invited anyone else who was willing to come and join him. Several more people came to the front to say what an answer to prayer that announcement had been and how excited they were for Tuesday. What a breakthrough! It thrills our hearts each time that we hear of another prayer meeting starting up. There are other prayer movements going on in our area as well. There is a group in Sylvan Lake that shared their vision of having an all night prayer event this fall which is exciting. We pray for an even greater burden for prayer here and everywhere among God's people. It was great to be at camp for a few weeks again this summer and to see God at work in the hearts of so many campers and counselors. This fall we continue with the prayer groups, evangelism (including the ministry to immigrant families), and discipleship. We've been asked to lead several Bible Study groups and appreciate prayer for deciding which ones to take on. Jeff is also being asked to preach more at different churches which is another answer to prayer. The weeks are full and there are so many needs and good things to be involved in but we want to be led clearly by the Spirit of God. A verse that has been a blessing to us this month is, "Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His presence continually." Ps. 105:4.





Robin and Debra Perron

*"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye upon you."
Psalm 32:8*

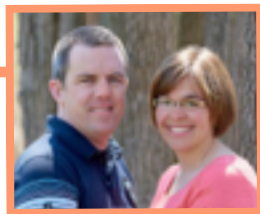
It is amazing how quickly the summer has passed and we praise God for His Word that went forth! We thank God for His help and strength. A number of our VBS's this summer had a high percentage of unchurched children and we are praying that those children will be able to share with their families what they learned about Jesus. We have no idea how God will continue to work, but we trust Him to do His work as only He can! We were particularly encouraged by a new area that has opened to us and the VBS's that were held there.

It is quite a rural area and we were really encouraged to hear what God has been doing through one of the churches there and how people who are unchurched are looking to the pastor for advice. We are in communication regarding

possible areas where we can serve in the future. This summer we were privileged to watch one of our youth get baptized. It is amazing to see young people taking this significant step of obedience! We would ask you to pray with us for wisdom this fall. We are really seeking to hear from the Lord and to be obedient to His will. We need to consider ministries that we have been involved with in the past and other new opportunities as well. We want to be faithful, but as a mother I also want to be faithful in ministering to the little one God has given to us. He is now more mobile and this adds a whole new level of exciting challenges. This summer Caleb turned one and we are thankful for him; God blesses us on a daily basis through him. Please pray that God would make His will known as we look to Him as a family.

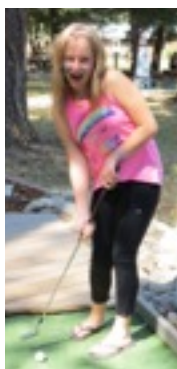


Andrew & Melissa Porter



Seeing the spiritual growth in kids who first came as campers, graduating to work crew, then junior counsellors and now serving as senior counsellors is a huge encouragement. To see these staff rise up and take leadership was very exciting. When two campers were dropped off at camp, we were told by their parents that they never went to church, they don't have a Bible and they don't know anything about God. Two other girls who come from a broken family aren't allowed any 'religious' influence in their life, except camp. What a privilege to teach these kids, but also what a

responsibility! Each week of camp, there were a number of kids who trusted the Lord. We look forward to two ladies retreats, October 13-15 and 20-22. Janice Evans is the speaker. Christmas in the Valley banquet dates are November 22 and 24. Please contact Melissa for more information. Thank you for praying for us, and the plans that God has for us.



Falkland Centre



Kevin & Janice Evans

As we catch our breath after a very full, busy summer, we praise God for all He has done. Sometimes we get so busy cooking, cleaning, and repairing behind the scenes that we don't see what God is doing in the hearts of campers and staff. That's why campfire and chapel are such special times to hear testimony of what God is doing. What a thrill to watch kids drink in His Word, and respond in worship or tears. We are grateful to joyfully serve in the background where He



has placed us. This summer we had the very special blessing of five Bible College students filling a variety of roles at camp, and they were a tremendous blessing!!! Rachel especially relieved Janice of sole responsibility in the kitchen, and was a

cheerful, efficient help. Many of you have specifically prayed for someone to fill this role. We will miss her, as well as all of our wonderful summer staff. Please keep praying for kids, crew and cabin leaders, that God will continue to bring to maturity the lives He has touched this summer. God has been teaching us more about trusting Him as it has been the toughest season financially, but God.... He is faithful! To God be the glory great things He has done. We are so excited to join in the 90th anniversary celebrations in Ontario at the end of September. Thank you for faithfully praying for us.



District Contact Details



Head Office & Western Ontario

John & Isabel Bennett
(General Director)

HOME: 783 Victoria Terrace
Fergus, ON N1M 3L5
(905)-636-0721
fmcanadadirector@gmail.com

OFFICE: Box 376
Campbellville, ON L0P 1B0
(905)-854-3284
www.faithmissioncanada.org

Office and Central Ontario
Jennifer Armitage
130 Tremaine Rd., Milton, ON
L9T 2X3
(905)-749-2247
faithmissionoffice@gmail.com

Campbellville Centre
Myron & Janet Hoover
10463 2nd Line
Campbellville, ON L0P 1B0
Tel: (905)-699-0008
fmccampcentre@gmail.com

Southern Ontario
Graham & Melodie Ghent
25 Longview Court Drive
Mount Hope, ON L0R 1W0
Tel: (905)-679-8588
fmsouthernont@gmail.com

Northern Ontario
Mark & April Hardwick
21 Broadway Avenue
King Kirkland, ON P0K 1K0
Tel: (705)-567-2956
hardwickhaven@gmail.com

Eastern Ontario

Laura-Anne Drake &
Margaret Roberts
395 Ginger Street,
Napanee, ON K7R 3X8
Tel: (343)-263-4642
fmeasternont@gmail.com

Quebec

Robin & Debra Perron
856 de la Falaise Pincourt,
QC J7W 0H4
Tel: (438)-888-8250
fmquebec@hotmail.com

BC and Alberta

Andrew & Melissa Porter
(Regional Director)
326 Inverness Drive
Coldstream, BC V1B 3W1
Tel: (250)-558-1805
fminterior@telus.net

Falkland Centre BC

Kevin & Janice Evans
4690 Hoath Road Falkland, BC
V0E 1W1
Centre: (250)-379-2422
Kevin-cell: (250)-540-2260
Janice-cell: (250)-540-2261
fmfalkland@telus.net

Alberta

Jeff & Jani Goudy
126 Lanterman Close
Red Deer, Alberta T4R 3N9
Tel: (403)-986-6746
fmalberta@shaw.ca