Seek first the Kingdom... Summer 2020



PARTNERS IN PRAYER





Timothy & Emma Condy

"Looking unto Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith ..." Hebrews 12:1/2



Dear friends. As we write to you in this latest Partners in Prayer we are, like you, still coming to terms with the dramatic change to our lives and ministries that COVID-19 has brought. Social distancing, staying at home, closed churches, events cancelled etc. has been our 'new normal' for some time now. Many have questions and sometimes few answers. Where do we turn? Who do we look to? Yet in the midst of it all, for the believer, we have this underling confidence in a God who can be trusted and one who is Sovereign in the affairs of this world. We look to Him like never before as the one who knows the end from the beginning and who is working out His purposes for our good and His glory. In the midst of uncertainly and change, we have been challenged over recent days to maintain a 'vertical vision' that looks up to Jesus, the originator and sustainer of our faith. As Warren Wiersbe once recounted: "When the outlook is grim, try the uplook"!

As a Mission, our regular ministry and events has either come to a halt or been put 'online'. Mission workers have been as much as possible using online platforms to communicate with contacts, youth etc. and reaching out in the mist of all the social isolation. Every 2 weeks we meet together as staff across Canada to pray and these have been precious times together. As Director I have been so encouraged by the resilience and resolve of our workers as they continue to *"hold forth the word of life"* and adjust their lives and ministries to face the challenge. As I have often said to them in our meetings, my prayer for us is that when we come through this period we will come through stronger in our walk with God, stronger in our witness and stronger as a Mission. Only because in our weakness is His strength perfected (2 Cor. 12:9).

As a family we have appreciated so many who have reached out to us and prayed for us in the sudden passing of my (Tim's) father in late April. With the present situation we were not able to travel to Ireland to be with family and grieve together, but we have been comforted in the knowledge that God is still with us and will not abandon His own.

Going forward, we very much covet your prayers and support as we navigate these waters and seek the Lord for the days ahead. Over the past 6 weeks we have hosted a Friday Fellowship on Facebook and have been so encouraged by the response. We interview past speakers and some new ones too (Charles Price, John Bennett, Phil Ruten etc.) and present a challenge from God's Word. For those not on Facebook you can also view on our YouTube channel after the LIVE broadcast. Both Ladies Retreat and the Thirsting for God at Campbellville have been cancelled but we are planning on using our social media platform to host Please contact the Head Office if you require further these. The summer camps at Campbellville are not looking details. hopeful at present but we are praying and discussing what other options might be possible for us as things begin to open up. Our prayer is that even though we cannot be 'physically' holding these camps or retreats, God will be at work and bring many to Himself. Thank you for standing with us at this time.

Online Events/Conferences:

Ladies Retreat - Speaker: Jessica McLean

• May 22 (Facebook LIVE), May 23 (YouTube)

Thirsting for God - Speaker: Dr Erwin Lutzer

June 12 (Facebook LIVE), June 13 (YouTube)



Sam & Nicholette Beaulieu

As we prepared for ministry and new opportunities, the Coronavirus pandemic arrived, and all ceased overnight. Although it has been a vastly different season of ministry, God has

used this for us to settle into the home and community. Our transition has been going well. We are becoming familiar with the area and meeting our neighbours. I (Sam) had the opportunity to connect again with elders from our church and was able to meet the precious people who make up the Simcoe prayer meeting. God visited that prayer meeting and touched my heart. Before the pandemic there were multiple prayer meetings planned with churches and pastor-brothers from Hamilton to Beamsville.

A series of meetings in churches spanning from Hamilton to Simcoe focused on prayer for revival and awakening had begun but was postponed until a later date. Nevertheless, these prayer meetings have moved to online platforms in some measure. May God hear our cry! We believe he is stirring his church to cry out for what He is about to do. Maybe it has already begun?

Thank you for praying for our family. On April 20, Rosealette Viola Beaulieu was born, weighing in at 8lbs 12 ounces.

We experienced God's sovereign hand when Nicholette's c-section turned into a full sedation. Mom and baby recovered and continue to recover well. Please keep

Nicholette in prayer for healing, strength, and patience. Our family and new community presents us with opportunities for joy and ministry. Our eldest daughter, Juliette, encourages us in her friend-making/ evangelistic efforts. She and her little sister, Aaliyah, have made friends, pray for them and share Jesus stories through the fence!





Con't....

Rosealette

As we look to things reopening please continue to pray for:

- •The Lord to stir pastors and congregations here to pray for God's transforming presence;
- •Connections with our community and open doors for the Gospel;
- •Clarity as to what we should do, how we should do it, and when.

Amidst all the change and hustle and bustle we are encouraged that our God does not change, and his everlasting arms uphold us (Dt. 33:27). We cling to Christ, knowing that his presence is with us (Mt. 28:20) and our God He will give us rest.

Thank you again for all your prayers and support, we need you beloved.



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Erwin W. Lutzer, originally from Canada, is Pastor Emeritus of The Moody Church where he served as the Senior Pastor for 36 years. A clear expositor of the Bible, he is the featured speaker on three radio programs that are heard on more than 1,000 outlets in the United States and around the world. Dr. Lutzer and Rebecca live in the Chicago area. They have three grown children and eight grandchildren. He wrote this article especially for our Partners in Prayer and we trust it will be a blessing. © 2020, Used with permission.

Laura-Anne Drake

"This vision is for a future time. It describes the end, and it will be fulfilled. If it seems slow in coming, wait patiently, for it will surely take place. It will not be delayed." Habakkuk 2:3



As I was wondering what I could possibly write for this Quarters PIP and if there was a verse I could share, this one popped into my head. We are living in uncertain times where everything has changed and it seems like we are doing nothing but waiting. Waiting to see if there are any new cases of covid-19, waiting to see our friends and family, waiting to see what kind of restrictions the government will either enforce or lift next, waiting for things to get back to "Normal" or waiting to see what the new normal will be once this is all over. Here in Napanee one of the things I'm waiting for is to see what my summer holds. I'm used to spending 8-9weeks of the summer helping at camp or Teaching at Vacation Bible Schools. It's hard to make plans when your normal is shattered and you have no Idea what restrictions you will need to work within. Please Pray for myself and the staff of the Faith Mission as we brainstorm ideas for summer ministry and "Wait patiently for the vision to take place." Both Verona and Wilton youth groups are now meeting via Zoom. There have not been many participants but please pray as I continue to meet with those few that do attend that relationships would be strengthened and they would have a deep desire to know Jesus for themselves.

Summer Dates

(Subject to change as we await government restrictions) July 20-24 St Mary Magdalene Anglican Church VBS, Napanee ON August 3-7 Delta Baptist Church VBS, Delta ON August 10-14 St Matthews Lutheran Church VBS, Cornwall ON August 17-2 Marlbank Community VBS

Conan & Julana Arndt

"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Colossians 3:17)



These past few months have been crazy for us all across the globe! With this pandemic we have of course shut down all programming and meetings. We praise God that we were able to welcome our son, August Hudson Arndt, to the world at the end of March! God continues to be loving and faithful in every circumstance even though we have a tendency to live more in the flesh in uncertain times. We have felt great peace with deciding not to run camp as normal this summer, even though the choice was not necessarily ours to make! The restrictions in British Columbia have loosened quite a bit allowing us to run a variety of programs for kids with a limit of 50 people.

At the time of this writing we are planning on running day camps, activities for the Falkland youth and are hoping to take advantage of our outdoor pool to reach out to the community! We are thankful to have a few staff here to help us keep the grounds and get ready for these programs. All of these things fit the restrictions that we are under and we will go beyond the restrictions laid down by the government in order to ensure that we are doing things safely, however we are still going to need to wait and make sure that the government allows us to move forward. Things change everyday and I am sure they will change

many times by the time you read this. We praise God for His provision and trust that He will continue to guide our paths. Our trust is in Him and we believe that the gospel can go out to the lost more effectively than ever in this time by the Holy Spirit. Whatever we are doing whether it is an event or something behind a computer screen, we desire for His name to be praised and glorified!



August

Myron & Janet Hoover

HOPE... "Then you will know that I am YAHWEH; those who put their hope in Me will not be put to shame." Isaiah 49:23.



I'm sure each of us who have experienced the faithfulness of God will be holding up the truth of who He is and who is in charge in these ever-changing days. Praise God for His perfect plan. Just like everyone else life has changed around the Campbellville Camp Centre. Not having any Faith Mission events or rental groups is strange. Our pre-booked rental groups have cancelled right into September 2020 and with every email or phone call we are no longer surprised when it's another cancellation. With spring here there is the regular work to keep up the grounds and there are always things that can be done in Centre upkeep that has not had the time to address. Myron continues to work on the various outstanding things, in and outside of the Centre. We both have also continued our weekly Men's and Ladies Bible studies but are now doing them on-line, via Zoom. Some may be wondering how Myron's health has been. Overall, he has felt good however he has been experiencing some back problems (which he has had for years) but it has been longer getting to the point of recovery. With the myasthenia gravis and it being a muscle and nerve disease, it may be part of the reason for his back problem and the longer recovery.

He has been given the advice by one of his doctors to slow down. For anyone who knows him that is hard so he asks for prayer for wisdom and discipline. All our children, their spouses, grandchildren and our extended family are all well and we are very grateful for this. Please pray for us as we look ahead at the summer months and the unknown.



"Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose." - Philippians 2:12-13



Mark & April Hardwick

We know that the Apostle Paul wasn't thinking about "social distancing" when he wrote these words in Philippians chapter 2, but how appropriate is it now in this time of "absence" from each other and from our normal ministry and life routines that we keep the main things, the main things! It is a timely and ever-present reminder that it is always God who is at work, even now. This also draws to mind Habakkuk 1:5 where God says: "Look at the nations and watch-and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told." We don't know the end from the beginning, or what God is currently doing in our world, but we know Him and we know He is at work! With that in mind, we continue to strive to be found faithful in serving Him by serving our community in whatever ways He calls us to. This has meant church from home, but also church and ministry together online. Currently Mark leads the prayer meeting and bible study over Zoom for Riverside Community Church and has been asked to preach on occasion as the Spirit leads. We have also had the privilege to be the channel of blessing through a church forty minutes south of us, to many families in need here in Kirkland Lake. This contact has been bringing truck loads of food into the town of Englehart each week and has been distributing it through one of the local evangelical churches. This has been a blessing to us as a large family, but also allows us to bless others by bringing supplies back north and then dropping off boxes of food to other ministry families, and those who may not qualify for social assistance but are still in need in our community. May the light, love and life of Christ continue to shine.



Hardwick's

Thank you once again for your faithfulness in praying for us and the work God has called us to. By God's grace we are all doing well. These are

strange times we are currently living in as you are all aware. There have been many changes at our end where ministry is concerned. With Québec having the highest Covid-19 infection rate in all of Canada, we have had to follow all government directives

Robin & Debra Perron



by staying at home in isolation. However, compared to many around us, life at home has been quite normal because we have always mainly worked from home and our children are not school age yet. We actually find the weeks quite short as we strive to keep up with two small active children who constantly desire our attention.

In our last update we had asked you to pray for Rob's first French sermon. With the confinement in place at that time, he was still able to preach online and it was well received. Thank you for your prayers! Up until now things have pretty much been at a standstill. We have been continuing our weekly youth group meetings through video conferencing and that has been going well. Con't page 11 Although technology is a blessing in that we can still be in contact with our youth, we miss being able to meet with them in person. The Bible Explorers program is done for the year. Kids in our area are heading back to school but all extra-curricular activities have been cancelled. We continue to pray for these families and their children trusting that God will continue to remind them of the truths they have been taught. We're trying to find ways to keep ministry going for the time being but it is difficult since we are still in the process of getting our feet planted in this new area. Most of our ministry involved building relationships with the Church in our area prior to the confinement and this has now become very difficult. All that said, God has been answering prayer in ways we could never imagine!

Another one of our prayer requests from our last update was that we would improve in our French language skills. This time of isolation has allowed Rob to be immersed in French biblical teachings which has enabled him to improve on his French speaking where the biblical language is concerned. It has been a blessing for him to have the time to do this and we trust that God will use this for His glory in the future. God has been giving us opportunities to serve Him and for that we are so thankful! Rob was asked to help lead a weekly prayer time for our church every Sunday morning and God has opened some doors for Debra to minister and encourage various individuals He has brought onto her path.

On a more personal note, please pray that we would draw nearer to Christ during this time in the midst of having stir-crazy children in the house! We trust we will come out stronger and more faithful coming out of this pandemic than we were when we went in. Also please pray that this crisis will continue to soften and open hearts to the saving gospel of Jesus Christ. We have seen glimpses of this happening already in Québec. We have no choice but to be still for the time being, but God's Word cannot be chained! We have peace in knowing that God is at work as He has always been and He is continuing to build His church and His kingdom for His glory!



Jeff & Jani Goudy

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." 2 Cor. 4:17

In the midst of everything that is going on in the world today, we want to share some praise reports with you. We have been very encouraged and amazed at how God has been working and drawing many believers closer to Himself and how He is creating a deeper burden for prayer, revival, and evangelism. We have seen many new prayer meetings start and continue to see God at work in hearts. Through prayer, we have seen many breakthroughs as people surrender afresh to God and submit to His Word. Thank you for praying for and with us as we minister to others. One friend and prayer partner told Jeff, with much excitement how God had touched him deeply and had given him such a burden for the lost that he started asking God for names of people who he was to call each day to talk about the Lord. And the calls have been received with soft hearts and ears ready to hear. God is truly at work all around us. We continue to be involved in many prayer meetings, Bible Studies, and discipleship times each week via ZOOM and phone conversations. The pastor/leader prayer groups continue to meet (following all of the social distancing rules). It is a joy to join with these godly men who have such a love for God, for their congregations and for the people of their communities. Each week they come together with one heart praying for revival and to see God glorified, His Kingdom furthered and His will to be done. Please pray for pastors as they are being stretched and challenged in new ways.

Jani and many other women also continue praying and trusting God for spiritual awakening and they are reaching out and serving in various ways as God opens doors in their communities. Please pray for us as we continue to seek God day by day and obey His leading. Pray for God's Spirit to be poured out on our nation.

"As long as we are content to live without revival, we will." -Leonard Ravenhill

Kevin & Janice Evans

"You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock." Isaiah 26:3-4

As we look out over the green grass and newness of Spring, the Camp is unusually quiet, as is most of the world, during these strange days of isolation. It was a sad day when our summer staff were notified that there would be no camp this summer. We reflect on the many lives changed through the past years of summer camp ministry, and remind ourselves, it's not the camp that changes lives, but God. He can, and still does impact lives, with or without summer camp. Please pray with us for the kids, youth, and families to continue to grow in the LORD.

Our calendar for the year was completely booked with churches and groups planning retreats here, but all have now been forced to cancel to at least the end of August. In BC, our maximum numbers for social distancing outdoors (50) is higher than most other places, possibly allowing us to be creative to run Day Camps, Family Swims, and outdoor church services if we can create safe ways of doing Please pray with us, as we SO. seek to reach out, especially to our neighbours and families in Falkland.

God has done much in our own lives during these quieter days, to remind us of His love, presence, and power. He's also given us



some new ideas of how to reach out with the Gospel, and strengthen those young in the Faith. He has been providing for our needs, and giving abundant peace and joy. We wait, not always patiently, for His wisdom, leading and direction. We can rest in Him because He is in control and has a good plan in all of this. Our help comes from the LORD, our Creator, Saviour, and friend.

This is a great time to complete a few projects as the LORD provides. Transforming the main Lodge from electric baseboard heat to a boiler system, began iust before the covid-19 closures. There are also a few things left to complete the Arndt's house, specifically a back deck for safe play for the kids. We are grateful for a few volunteers who faithfully come to work on outdoor areas of the grounds that need cleaning up: landscaped gardens, downed trees & branches, splitting firewood, and cutting grass. A couple has also offered to plant grass and install irrigation around Arndt's house, covering the costs.

We appreciate your prayers as we navigate unfamiliar territory, seeking to glorify God and point people to Jesus in these challenging days.

Why Can We Have Hope?

"I'll tell you, I have no hope. I see no hope for the world."



Those are the words of Sir Winston

Churchill to Billy Graham when they met after Graham's 1954 Greater London Crusade. Churchill opined that the headlines were filled with murder and the possibility of war; Communism, he said, might conquer the world. Then he asked more personally, "I am a man without hope...do you have any real hope? (1)

That's the question everyone is asking: Do we have real hope?

If COVID-19 has taught us anything it's that we can't predict the future. Who would have dreamed that a virus would be so contagious that it would kill tens of thousands around the world and result in our economy being shut down? Professional sporting events halted. Restaurants and businesses closed. Airlines grounded. Millions unemployed. There are as many dire situations as there are people reading this blog.

Turn anywhere and you will find blogs and sermons that tell people to "just trust God." Fair enough. But what does that mean? That the economy will be restored? That those who are unemployed will be rehired? That those who are ill will get well? That we will come out on the other side of this "stronger than ever"?

Not necessarily.

We need a hope that can withstand setbacks, personal losses, and unanswered prayers. We need a hope that endures when the pain is unending and the future progressively darker. "Trusting God" does not mean things will be better. Just ask Jesus as He agonized in Gethsemane.

So what is the basis of our hope? Hope in the Bible is not "I hope everything will turn out okay, but I'm unsure." Scriptural hope is "confident expectation." It means we have something to look forward to; and it is something that we can depend on.

Let's meditate on the promise that we "might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek" (Hebrews 6:18-20).

Here hope is described as a refuge disconnected from circumstances. It's impervious to the stock market or even our own health, important as those may be. It is unaffected by tonight's news or tomorrow's headlines. This doesn't mean that when we flee to this refuge all of our worries will be gone; peace is a gift that has to be accepted, but it also has to be won. Even as we flee to our refuge, we may still fret. But we also learn that we have an invisible friend who has gone before us and meets with us in the secret place. This "refuge" is not a physical place; it's a hope that resides within us, described here as "a sure and steadfast anchor for the soul." Our body is important, but not supremely important; our circumstances are important, but not supremely important. But our soul is where life makes up its mind; it is the captain of our ship and the means by which we connect to the invisible world.

Hope doesn't guarantee life will get easier; hope is the assurance that God will be with us whether it gets easier or not. Hope doesn't mean we will be healed; hope means that God is with us in our sickness and even in death. Hope doesn't promise a change in circumstances, it promises a change of heart. God has deliberately made it difficult to believe so that we might prove our faith which is best demonstrated not when things are going well, but when they are going unwell.

Biblical hope looks beyond this life to our forerunner "behind the curtain." We look to Jesus who has seen it all, endured it all, and won it all. And now He cheers us on as both as our Companion and Intercessor. Why did He run His race? He did it for the "joy" set before Him. No joy in Gethsemane; no joy being whipped; no joy on the cross—but He endured by looking beyond the present to the future.

On the morning of July 4, 1952 Francis Chadwick waded into the water on Catalina Island and began swimming toward the coast of California. She wanted to be the first woman to swim the 21-mile strait, but the fog was so thick that she could hardly see the boats in her own party. More than fifteen hours later, her mother and her trainer, in a boat alongside her, urged her to go on. But Francis said she simply could not and so was taken out of the water. Moments later when she saw that she was within a half mile from the shore, she said, "If I could have seen the shore, I might have made it." Two months later, despite heavy fog, she made it and said, "As I swam I kept the shoreline in mind."

Let's agree to look beyond the fog to the shore. The journey may be treacherous, but our destination is sure. Darkness comes before light, and resurrection after crucifixion. Like our Master, we run the race with an eternal goal in mind.

Billy Graham took out his New Testament and explained to Churchill that he too could have hope, but he had to look beyond the London headlines to Christ. Just so, let us watch the news tonight to get caught up on what's going on in the world, but if we want real hope, we have to look beyond this world to the next.

Jesus waits for us behind the curtain and assures us that with His help, we can make it.

1. Billy Graham, Just as I Am (San Francisco: Harper, 1997), 236.



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