

PARTNERS IN *Prayer*

Experiencing God's Faithfulness in Canada





Timothy & Emma CONDY

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*Where there is no vision, the people perish...
Proverbs 29:18*

Vision is essential for us all in the practical sense, for without it we are lost! But even more so when we think about having 'spiritual vision'; without that, we have no direction, no compassion and no life! We continue to covet your prayers that as individuals and as a Mission we seek fresh vision from the Lord and the purposes He has for us.

The Fall ministries were most encouraging this year as we visited different churches, held rallies and retreats and spent time with our workers in their respective areas. I (Tim) was able to spend some days in Eastern Ontario and Quebec doing meetings, visiting supporters and sharing with the staff there. It was great to see how people are rallying around Laura-Anne as she endeavours to reach youth with the Gospel in the Napanee and surrounding areas. Youth are hearing the Word clearly and coming back to church for the first which is an answer to prayer! It was then on to Quebec where we visited with the Perron family as they serve with FM from Saint-Sophie. Doors of opportunity are opening for them, but the needs

are great and there are still many communities in Central and Northern Quebec that still have little or no Gospel witness. Rob and I were able to spend time praying in these small towns and for workers to be raised up to reach the lost for Christ. It was encouraging to see 3 churches come together in Sainte-Jerome to reach the youth in that community. Pray for fruit that will remain to the glory of God! Emma had a wonderful time with the ladies at the Fall Retreat in October and to see so many newcomers and even those who are not yet believers attend. God is doing a great work through these Retreats and we rejoice in those who have really met with God.

By the time you are reading this the 'Christmas in the Country' banquets will be underway at Campbellville and we trust that all 6 Banquets will be a blessed time as we reach out with the 'real reason for the season'. Pray for those unsaved who are invited that they will hear and respond to the Gospel as it is shared through the program. After the Banquets we look forward to the Ontario and Quebec staff spending some days together (Nov. 26-28) for staff meetings. Pray for preparation for upcoming events in the New Year such as our Day of Prayer, Sno' Camps and Men's Retreats.

FUTURE EVENTS

Day of Prayer: Jan 6

Teen Sno' Camp: Jan 26-28

Junior Sno' Camp: Feb 2-4

Men's Retreat #1: Feb 16-17

Men's Retreat #2: Feb 23-24

Youth Leadership Training: Mar 10-13

*Full details online under 'Ontario Events'
or by contacting the head office.*

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*We would like to take the opportunity to wish
all our readers a blessed Christmas Season and
a sincere thank you again for your support over
another year; both financially and in prayer.*



Below: Toronto Fall Rally

Right: Fall Ladies Retreat





Robin & Debra PERRON

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*You will keep in perfect peace those whose
minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.*
Isaiah 26:3

Summer has come and gone and Fall is almost over! Summer was a whirlwind of ministry and we praise God for His Word that went forth. We pray that He would continue to use His Word in the lives of the children, youth and even adults who heard. We are looking to God for the work He has planned for us and He continues to show us how we can serve.

At the end of summer, Rob met with a young man from camp, and shared his vision to reach the youth and the young man caught a hold of the vision. An associate pastor that had helped us at our French Vacation Bible Camp also mentioned that he was wanting to start a youth group. He had tried the previous year but there were very few youths at his church. Rather than working on starting two separate groups we joined together with 3 evangelical churches (the same ones that help with our VBC) and youth group began the last Friday in September. Every week there are around 30 youth, although we have around 40 in total who are attending. There are also over 10 leaders, so if some leaders are unable to help on any given week the group is still able to run. We see this group as an answer to prayer! In a town of over 80 000, with multiple churches, there has been very little ministry directed towards children and youth. The youth

that are attending seem so happy to have a place to go and many have expressed that this is an answer to their prayers. They are really joining in and participating well in the discussion groups which take place after the teaching. We are praying that these would be special days of God working in young lives. We long to see these young people saved and living surrendered lives.

Apart from this new venture, we continue with some of the same ministry as before. Rob continues to preach, both in French and English, and is continuing to serve within the local prison as well. Debra continues teaching Sunday school and is starting up another Bible study with D, the young woman she mentors, who is also living with us. It looks as though the ladies Bible study that we started in the spring will not be continuing but even in this we know that the Gospel was presented and pray that God would remind these ladies of his truth. So long as God continues to lead us, we find our peace as we rest in Him.

Rob with Pastor Benoit when Tim visited in the Fall





Matthew & Susan MACFARLANE

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This Fall has been full of events. At each event the guests were presented with Christ and we are very grateful to be a part of that! Our Fall season started off with several Church rental groups with the majority of them requesting catering. A few of the groups came for their first time so it was nice to introduce them to the Faith Mission. For a few of the groups, this was their first time back since the Covid lockdown in 2020! And then a few of the groups came last year so it was nice to see them again and serve them in this way. We are so blessed with family and friends who are able to help us each weekend with catering and watching the boys. We truly enjoy catering for people, but we were almost a little too busy at times. Moving forward with 2 little boys now we will need to pace ourselves differently. We also started up our Young People's Hangout (YPH) with the beginning of the school year. YPH is for anyone ages 14-24. It is the last Wednesday evening of every month at our house. We love hanging out with this wonderful group of young people. The Fall Hymn Sing went well. Everyone always enjoys their time together singing hymns declaring how wonderful our God is. The ladies' retreat was also a success. Many of the women were attending for their first time. Looking ahead, we have our Christmas in The Country banquets in No-

vember. Many of our fellow Faith Mission staff will be coming to help serve at the banquets. We always enjoy our time together! Also, in January we have our kids Sno' Camp weekends. Thank you for remembering us in prayer!



Having lunch during Ladies Retreat



Jeff & Jani
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*Wilt thou not revive us again:
that thy people may rejoice in thee.
Psalm 85:6*

A wonderful pastor friend who is near retirement shared at one of the pastor prayer meetings that he had been touched by God in the 1970's revival here in Western Canada. After he met with God in revival, he felt called into the ministry and he said that many of the pastors in his denomination shared the same story and had experienced revival in their lifetime. This has had a tremendous effect on how they lead and minister. Many of these men also went on to be leaders within their denominations but are also retired or retiring. He is praying that there will be another great revival and a fresh touch from God in these days. "Will you not revive us again!" has become the heart cry of many men and women all across our city and surrounding areas. It is encouraging to go to the various revival prayer meetings each week, to see the unity of the people as they call out to God for Him to pour out His Spirit again. Over the past several months, we are thankful to report that we have witnessed several people

encounter God personally in revival and some have been saved by grace. What a joy to see God continually at work changing hearts, lives and families. We rejoice to hear these testimonies as we also see so many hurting and struggling in these days. It is clear that the greatest need for today is revival so we continue to cry out to God for an awakening to spread right across our city, our province, our nation and our world! Our weeks continue to be full with prayer meetings, discipleship, evangelism and Jeff is preaching most Sundays. Thank you for your prayers for us and our family, we depend on those prayers!



Mark & April HARDWICK

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*Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up;
do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the
wilderness and streams in the wasteland.
Isaiah 43:18-19*

I think it is safe to say that our whole family really felt that September was the true beginning of our ministry here in Huron County. Spring and summer were so busy that we barely had time to catch our breath let alone get to know our new district. Once school started in September, we were a little more anchored and fell back into routine. We have begun to settle in a little more now and are really enjoying learning about the different opportunities that already exist here for ministry and praying about the direction that God wants us to take. There are quite a few Christian homeschooling groups here which have led to some great connections for us and our kids. We've also found a wonderful youth group that our teens feel blessed to be a part of each week. Recently we have met with the Youth Unlimited worker for Huron North, God is doing some amazing things in their midst and we are excited to be able to come alongside them and reach youth and families in that area. We have both started attending bi-weekly Bible studies,

which has let us get to know a smaller group of local believers better. Mark's preaching schedule continues to be steady and we are thankful for the opportunity to serve churches here in that way. It's hard to believe that Christmas will soon be here and we are excited to be much closer to the centre this year to offer more practical help with Christmas in the Country. This winter we will also be at the centre for Sno Camp in late January and Youth Leadership Training in March. We are so thankful for all of you who continue to keep our family in prayer!



Mark & April at their Welcome Meeting in Exeter

JESUS, THE GOD WHO COMES NEAR!

By Randy Alcorn

Jesus said to him, "Have I been among you all this time and you do not know me, Philip? The one who has seen me has seen the Father."

- John 14:9

The baby of Bethlehem was Creator of the universe, pitching His tent on the humble camping ground of our little planet. God's glory now dwelt in Christ. He was the Holy of Holies. People had only to look at Jesus to see God, His permanent manifestation. In Hidden Christmas, Timothy Keller writes, "When you read the Gospels, you are seeing God's perfections...in all their breath-taking, real-life forms. You can know the glories of God from the Old Testament, but in Jesus Christ they come near." Jesus makes the Father known: "No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known" (John 1:18 ESV). John Bunyan wrote, "Christ is the delight of the Father. What solace must that soul be filled with, that has the possession of him to all eternity!"

*But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared,
he saved us. (Titus 3:4-5)*

The miracle of the cross was made possible by the miracle of the incarnation. The angels must have been stunned to see the second member of the triune God become a human being. The baby born in that Bethlehem barn was God, and He was born to die. His death delivers us from our fear of death. His suffering on the cross atoned

for our sins, allowing Him to understand and help us. And incredibly, the incarnation is permanent. Christ rose in a glorified human body that He'll have forever. It's not that Jesus suddenly stopped being a man after the ascension. No, the second member of the triune God will be a human being who reigns eternally on the New Earth. Augustine wrote, "He was created by a mother whom he created. He cried in the manger in wordless infancy, he the Word, without whom all human eloquence is mute."

The shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

(Luke 2:15)

In Jesus' day, shepherds were officially labeled "sinners"—a technical term for a class of despised people. Yet, it was the sinners, not the self-righteous, He came to save (Mark 2:17). Into this social context of religious snobbery and class prejudice, God's Son stepped forth. How surprising and significant that God handpicked unpretentious shepherds to first hear the joyous news: "It's a boy, the Messiah!" The image of the shepherd was immortalized by Jesus when He said, "I am the good shepherd" (John 10:11). No other illustration so vividly portrays His tender care and guiding hand. Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, "God is not ashamed of the lowliness of human beings...He chooses people as his instruments and performs his wonders where one would least expect them. God is near to lowliness; he loves the lost, the neglected, the unseemly, the excluded, the weak and broken."

A WORD OF APPRECIATION

from the Board of The Faith Mission (in Canada)

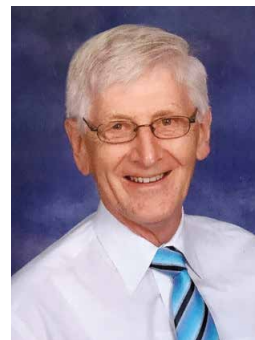
Since the 1970s, Raymond Thompson and his wife Sandra have been associated with The Faith Mission, having trained at the Bible College in Scotland, served with the Mission in the UK, and emigrated to Canada to serve with The Faith Mission here. After Raymond left the Mission to pursue further training and then pastoral ministry, he continued to have a heart and affection for The Faith Mission and was always supportive of the workers. In 1997, Raymond was invited to join the Board of The Faith Mission (in Canada), which he prayerfully and graciously accepted. Since then, Raymond has given much time, effort, wisdom and prayer support to the work. He was always a phone call away when a matter arose and gave solid, practical and Biblical insight to the Board, the General Director and the workers. His pastoral care and warmth of demeanor has been felt by us all. It cannot be overstated the tremendous impact that Raymond has had on us all and the wider ministry of The Faith Mission.

Raymond has experienced some health challenges for a number of years, yet none of these hindered or deterred him from serving. Recently, he was diagnosed with a rare form of lymphoma, and is now undergoing oral treatment for this. The days ahead are uncertain for both him and Sandra, and we continue to keep them in prayer for God's healing touch upon his body and God's strength to bear these trials. With this diagnosis he felt sure that it was time to step down from the Board of the Mission but still be a support and advisor as needed and able.

We are eternally grateful to God for Raymond's service among us and the labour of love he has given to see The Faith Mission (in Canada) flourish and thrive into the future. With gratitude to God we say "Thank You" to Raymond for his faithful service and fruitful ministry. To God be all the glory!

"May the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge, reward you fully for what you have done" (Ruth 2:12)

Raymond & Sandra's early days in Canada





**Sam & Nicholette
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For the past four plus months, we have been serving four congregations around Southern Ontario, which are without a pastor. These congregations are diverse spanning from: rural farming areas to small towns, from farmers to retired engineers, from young families to the elderly, and from growing numerically to on the verge of dying. Before we joined The Faith Mission in Canada, we were engaged in major urban city ministry. In such settings, the response to the need for growth was met with drawing on younger qualified members of the congregation or evangelism. It was like fishing in a lake. But now ministering in small rural areas is more like fishing in a pond, even a puddle! Thus, the challenge before us is: How do you respond to the need for growth for the natural longevity of the church in these smaller contexts? What do you do when the next generation isn't present in the congregation to assume the aged-out responsibilities? What does it look like to reach people who are few, far and scattered? And what does faithfulness, even faithfulness to the great commission, look like? This was a paradigm shift. The foundation and gospel conviction didn't change but the application needed to fit the context. Thankfully, the Lord has brought wisdom and counsel that has been of immense help as we seek to serve in these places. Somethings we have learned are:

1. There are no small places, just a big God who loves even the smallest group of people. Every soul matters.
2. When the place you are serving is a puddle or a pond, the focus is primarily on soul care. It's about equipping the people right in front of you, week-to-week, to live and die faithfully for the Lord in every area of life.
3. Take an interest in the people not just the task.
4. Sometimes congregations reach their purpose and end of life. You view them as palliative care, helping them to die well and continue to serve the Lord in the next phase of their lives wherever they go.
5. Keep the main things the main things.
6. Help equip and encourage people to live a big faith in the everyday interactions of life.

This new perspective has given us tools to help spur on faithfulness in these smaller contexts. Now the neat thing is, our community, and the older towns of Hagersville, Caledonia, and Jarvis near us are booming with growth; ironically though, more of the mainline churches are closing

(which is, in some sense, a good thing). This presents the desperate need for vibrant gospel ministry and a fresh encounter with God. We hope God will help us and use us to fill that void. So, please pray for us as we plan to do prayer walks and ministry in these communities.

Sam sharing at the Toronto Rally this Fall





Conan & Julana
ARNDT

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*For the Son of Man came to seek
and save those who are lost.
Luke 19:10*

God is faithful! We praise God that we have been able to experience seasons of fruitful, abundant ministry here in Falkland. We continue with getting together with our camp staff once a month which has been a blessing. This Fall, we took a group of them to a youth conference at Millar College of the Bible in October which was such a great trip and was wonderful to see our staff seek after the Lord. The church in Falkland has been growing fast! We have witnessed baptisms and people coming to know the Lord. Youth Group and Kids Club continue to grow bigger and we are seeing such a desire to hear the truth. Our theme verse for youth group is Luke 19:10 which has caused a lot of our youth to consider what it means to have Jesus seeking after you, even though you sin against Him. What love! We continue to prepare for our Winter Kids Camp in February and believe it or not we are starting to think about staffing for Summer 2024!! We are so thankful for those who pray for us and ask that you would continue to pray for the ministry of the camp and the church.

Falkland Youth





Laura-Anne
DRAKE

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*The LORD is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and rich in love. The LORD is good to
all; he has compassion on all he has made.
Psalm 145:8-9*

Thank you all for your faithful prayers! Verona Junior Youth started off this year with 8-12 students attending on a regular basis. The teens are eager to attend each week. One particular student has been asking all kinds of questions about God! One student's family has recently started attending the church regularly who was not attending anywhere. It's a direct answer to prayer to have another dedicated youth leader whose dedication and care for the students is evident. It is so encouraging to see God answering prayer and moving in teens' lives. We value your continued prayer for these students and for us as a team.

We as leaders at St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church took three youth to Camp Cherith (Lanark) for a youth weekend. The name of the weekend was 'Camp Cherith Collective' as the weekend was planned and executed by several different churches and the camp. It was an amazing show of unity within the body of Christ and many teens were impacted through the teaching, worship and testimonies presented. It was en-

couraging to see several teens share their testimonies within the services. This was St. Mary's youth's first time at a retreat and they are asking to go back next year!

I continue to look forward to teaching Chapel at Cornerstone Christian Academy each month. The students are so excited to hear about the lives of missionaries both from the past and the present. This year I have started the life of William Carey. Please pray these students will follow Jesus with their whole lives.

Teens at Camp Cherith Collective





Kevin & Janice EVANS

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*This is the LORD'S doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
Psalm 118:23*

We simply MARVEL as we reflect on all that God is doing in the Falkland area. Since the Falkland church officially began May 7, we have grown to almost 100, youth and adults have come to salvation, we have heard testimonies and witnessed 6 baptisms, 3 home Bible studies have begun, and we're starting to feel like a family. Praise God! He's doing far beyond what we could have ever imagined. New families are checking us out every week. 30 kids in Kids Church plus 10 in the nursery. Please continue to pray. Monday after-school Kids Club in Falkland is going very well. We praise God for new helpers, and many new kids who know very little about Jesus. Tuesday night Youth is also very busy with over 45 attending, plus very good help. Janice & Julana continue to serve hot lunch twice a month at the school, which has opened many doors in the community.

We have enjoyed a very busy schedule of rental groups at the camp as well: pastors retreat, moms & daughters retreat, youth retreats, weddings, as well as our own Ladies Retreat and Marriage

Enrichment Retreat this Fall. God has provided funds, excellent volunteers, and enthusiastic groups to enjoy our facilities. We stand in awe at the many times this past year that a need has arisen, and almost immediately, funds and help was provided to meet those needs. ONLY GOD!! And He receives all the praise! As we continue with upkeep around the camp, we're working at creating an irrigated soccer field in the lower field that has basically been unused. We need to re-build the exterior of our outdoor arena. The house trailer used for staff/volunteer lodging throughout the year needs new windows, insulation, and siding. We are removing a few trees dangerously close to the Lodge, and hope to one day build a very large roof for our picnic table area. We appreciate your prayers in all of this. Looking ahead, the winter is quite full with church retreats, as well as our own Events (see below).

FALKLAND EVENTS

Christmas in the Valley Banquets: Nov 22, 23
Winter Kids Camp : Feb 16-18
Marriage Enrichment Retreat: April 26-28

*Right & Below Right:
Falkland Ladies Retreat
Below Left: Falkland Baptism*





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