

BAPTIST BEATS



March 25, 2021



Hello from Edmonton

I hope you are doing well in life and ministry. We are approaching that joyful event in the Christian calendar when we celebrate our Lord's death, burial and resurrection. I pray you will make this a special season for your congregation this year. It is hard to believe we are in the 2nd Easter under the grip of COVID. How long will this last?! I got my first vaccination today and asking questions got me more frustrated. The variants that are popping up now are not affected by the vaccination I received – since that was made before the variants started showing up. Who knows how long this will last and what will be the outcome for our Canadian society and the church.

We also have to recognize the changes coming to our nation's laws. C6 and C7 are working their way through Parliament and the Senate. Both will be detrimental to religious freedom and ministry. See Interesting Reads below for more details.

So, is the sky falling? No, of course not. Whether or not these bills pass in Ottawa, we should recognize that it is simply another step in the progression of the culture around us. I'm not panicking. I've always viewed myself, and have taught my family, and our church, that we are members of another kingdom. The kingdoms of this world are temporary and doomed to failure. We should aspire to be a light and blessing to the world around us, and help them to understand the pathway to flourishing. But they are not under the same moral obligations as those of us in God's kingdom. Life may get harder for us. We may eventually endure very real persecution. But millions of committed followers of Jesus have shown us the way through that. For all of us, this life will eventually end. It's the next life that really matters. It's God's kingdom that we should be most concerned about.

In the meantime, we will keep presenting the truth, loving all people, but bent on honoring our God, no matter what. If Christian morals fall apart around us, we can still uphold God's standard as a shining light. And light is always more illuminating and attractive in the dark. If that is what God has for us, we will

embrace his calling and remain faithful. Easter reminds us of what is eternal and the hope we have in Christ alone.

Executive Director

Kevin Schular





BGCC /
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

June 8, 2021
10:00 AM MDT
ZOOM
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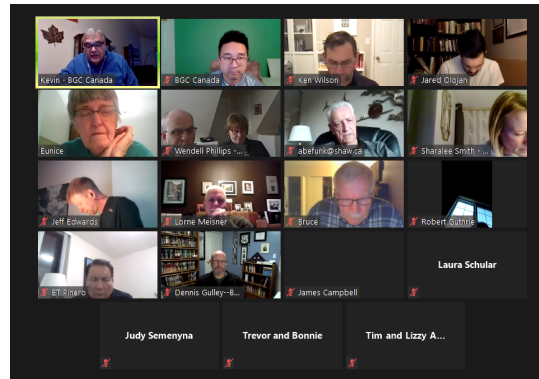
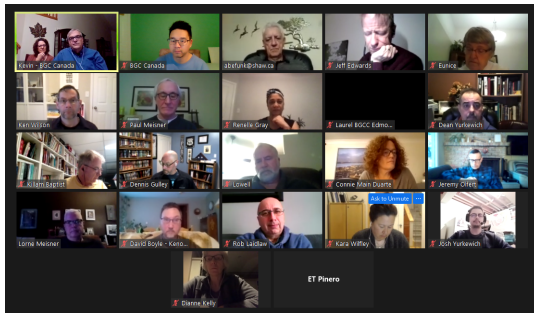
Report on Day of Prayer

DAY OF Prayer

Quick Stats

MARCH 3, 2021

People	99
Churches	32
Provinces	7
Sessions	6



Screen-shots of participants during Day of Prayer

Please read the comments from Eunice Erickson below

Hi Kevin and staff,

I just want to comment about the Day of Prayer. Thank you so much for arranging it all. I was so pleased to be able to be there to add my voice to all that we would ask God for regarding our country, our denomination, our seminary, our global missionaries,,,,, Since being a missionary under our conference and since visiting so many of our churches I still feel very much a part. I'm so happy to be a member of the prayer teams for conference and for the seminary. I do wish that many more churches would feel free to give their heart-felt needs for the prayer team to support them. Also, I was hoping to see many more faces of those for whom I pray.

This morning I was thinking of so many who are discouraged in ministry (pastors and missionaries) who may think they are a failure or have missed opportunities that they had been working toward. But I was thinking of PC (post covid) and all these extra seeds that have been planted via internet and caring projects in communities. These are ripening by God's grace and we need to be preparing for the harvest. We shall reap if we do not faint and grow

weary. We may need to redefine and refine ministry and need God's wisdom for all in their places of ministry. And then my mind went to the disciples who had worked hard all night with no results. But Jesus knew where - on the other side of the boat- and there was more than they could handle. Be ready for when Jesus shows up with His plan for abundance as He hasn't given up.

God bless all of you this day,

Eunice Erickson

Canadian Baptist Seminary

CBS

Canadian Baptist Seminary



Presenting the MA in Church Planting and Revitalization

Board Meeting



On March 23 the BGC National Board gathered via Zoom. We are thankful for the support and prayers of our Conference in this last year.

Interesting Reads



New Metrics for a New Season

How can you evaluate your ministry in this time of COVID? We are used to looking at attendance, budget and other traditional metrics. Take a look at this new way of measurement



Churches fear Bill C-6 could expose them to criminal sanction

C6 could affect your pastoral ministry



The EFC laments the passing of Bill C-7

Read the lament on C7 by the EFC

Seven Essentials of the BGCC

Our motto and mission:

"A Network of Churches that make disciples who live and spread the

*Gospel of Jesus Christ in their Communities, throughout Canada,
and out to the Nations."*

Together, we have identified seven essential areas where God is at work among our church families. These seven areas are also critical to the future growth and health of our churches.

We highlight one Essential in each issue of Baptist Beats



Spiritual Formation

BGCC CHURCHES ARE COMMITTED TO DISCIPLE-MAKING.

7 Essentials of the BGCC

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