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June 1, 2017

Baptist Beats

THE HEART BEAT

of the BGCC

Interesting Reads

BGCC National Board Meeting
June 22, 2017

National Celebration Camp Nakamun, AB
June 22-24, 2017

Donations



Have you heard about our 360 Strategy? BGC360.CA



Kevin Schular, Executive Director

Hello from Manitoba. Tomorrow I begin a tour of our northern Ontario churches with Lorne Meisner, BGC-CC District Coach. It is a beautiful time of year in this region and meeting the pastors and people in our churches is great. Now if I can only catch my limit of bass!

This has been a busy season of travel. I have been in six provinces in the last four weeks. Take a look at some of the pictures below from our churches and rejoice at all that God is doing in our BGC family!

All is not well on the Canadian scene though. Many denominations, including the BGC, are facing challenges with declining numbers and donations and overwhelmed leaders.

Our goal is to address this at our Celebration on June 22-24. This is Canada's 150th anniversary and our theme goes along with this emphasis: "O Canada, we stand on guard for thee". Fervent prayer, flourishing churches and faithful believers will be the best spiritual protection for our nation.

I hope you can be with us! If not, we are going to stream online our AGM and some other sessions too. Please email us for connection links and schedule of events.

Let's maximize these days for service to the Lord and our nation.

9:38

Twice a day my alarm goes off at 9:38. Why? To remind me to pray for new workers, more workers and strength for those working now. Why at 9:38? It was our Lord's prayer request in Matthew 9:38: "The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. PRAY earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Please join me and our

staff in the national office in this prayer request for Canada and the world!

Welcome Joshua

We are happy to announce the hiring of Joshua Lee as Communication Director in the BGC National office. He is looking after pastoral relations, church information, pensions and also developing our communication strategy.



Joshua is married with three children. He grew up in a Christian home and is actively serving the Lord in our BGC church in Edmonton: The Gathering. He is on the worship team, children's ministry director and serves on their elder board. Joshua started on May 16. Please pray for him and all of our office staff.

Interesting Reads

1. Is Preaching Stressing you Out? This is for You - [ChurchLeaders.com](#)
 2. 3 Evidences That Confirm the Bible is Not Made Up - [Answers in Genesis](#)
 3. Why do Churches wound their Pastors? [Article](#)
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National Celebration

Make plans to be with the Conference family at our Annual Celebration June 22-24 Camp Nakamun, Alberta. It won't be as special if someone from your church is not with us!

[Celebration Registration](#)

BCBC Annual Meeting - May 27



Panel Discussion at BCBC Meeting



John and Sue Wyness Honored by Abbotsford Baptist
25th Anniversary in Pastoral Ministry



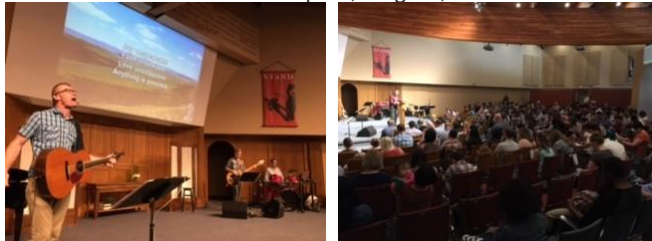
Worship on May 21 - Eglise LePhare, Laval, QC



Ordination Council for Tim Foster
Hillsdale Baptist, Regina, SK



3 Morning Worship Services Packed Full on June 4
Hillsdale Baptist, Regina, SK



Pastor Bill Danyluk - Hillsdale Baptist, Regina, SK



Is Your Church Poised for Renewal?

One of our sessions at Celebration next month at Camp Nakamun is on the question of Church Revitalization. As I travel across our Conference I meet many pastors and churches seeking the Lord for next steps in their congregation. Recent statistics say that of Churches that are 20+ years old: 60% choose to do nothing to change, 20% might try something, 20% will make effort and half of those will see transformation. What kind of church is ready to go on a spiritual journey that could lead to sustainable transformation?

5 factors a church needs to have for revitalization journey

1. The Pastor is key. They need to be ready, able, willing and leading. They have to know their gifting, talents and shortcomings. They need to be the initiating force.
2. A group of positive lay people who "get it" and who are willing to participate
3. The belief/conviction that God is truly up to something in the church.
4. They have adequate resources or practical support at their disposal to help them make forward progress.
5. A sense of God's timing. They need to recognize when doors are open, and when doors are closed.

The desire of my heart is to see our churches fulfilling all God has for them. If you want to pursue revitalization please contact us for information on how to intentionally engage in this process.

Seven Essentials of the BGC

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.

<http://bgc.ca/about-us/7-essentials>

We will highlight one Essential in each issue of Baptist Beats:

Creative Community Engagement:

BGCC church find ways to effectively engage their community, nation and world.

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