

Sept 14, 2017

Baptist Beats
THE HEART BEAT
of the BGCC



Interesting Reads

BGCC National Board Meeting
Oct 23-24, 2017

20/20 Leadership Summit
Feb 22-25, 2018

Celebration 2018
June 14-16, 2018

Donations



School of Orientation
Apr 23-25, 2018



Have you heard about our 360 Strategy? BGCC360.CA



Kevin Schular, Executive Director

Hello from Edmonton. I hope you have had a good summer and are ready for a new ministry season. I recently shared a verse with our staff at our prayer meeting from 1 Corinthians 15:58. I set a goal to read through the Bible annually and this year I am using the New Living Translation. The verse in the NLT

reads like this: "So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless." I love that! A command to serve the Lord with all our heart coupled with the knowledge and encouragement that everything done in His service matters. May all of us in the BGC live up to this standard this fall.

You may remember that our AGM in June a statement on Creation and Humanity was tabled. You can read it elsewhere on this email. Through the fall and winter there will be discussion on the statement as you meet in your districts. In the spring we will host some digital conversations where people from across the Conference will be able to join in the conversation. The article will be presented at the AGM in June, 2018 for a vote.

Also we have begun a series of discussions on Leadership Development in the BGC. How can we develop a culture of godly leadership in our Conference? Any thoughts you have on this topic are welcome! Email or call us at the National Office and we would be glad to receive your comments.

Articles of Faith

Our Affirmation of Faith has 13 excellent doctrinal articles. Each year our pastors are asked to affirm their support of them to maintain their credentials. However, we do not have a statement on the origin of the universe or humanity. The following two article have been approved by the BGC board and were tabled at the AGM in June. We will be having a cross conference conversation on these through the year and will present them at the AGM in 2018.

Proposed Addition to BGC Affirmation of Faith

Creation: We believe the Triune God created everything - both physical and spiritual - out of nothing (Genesis 1, Revelation 4:11, John 1:1-3, Colossians 1:16–17). We believe God created human beings, male and female, in His own image and likeness (Genesis 1:26-27, 5:1) and therefore with unique, intrinsic worth (James 3:7–10) from conception (Psalm 139:13–16) to natural death (Hebrews 9:27).

Humanity: We believe Adam and Eve experienced perfect relationship with their Creator (Genesis 1:31) and were appointed stewards (Genesis 1:28–30) of God’s good creation (Genesis 1:31). We believe they sinned by choosing to disobey God (Genesis 3) and thereby brought death to the human race (Genesis 2:17, 3:19, Romans 5:12, 1 Corinthians 15:21–22).

Interesting Reads

1. Have you heard of the Nashville Statement? This document was published in August and it has garnered a lot of feedback. Read it for yourself [here](#).
 2. Here is a good check-up for your “pastor’s heart” - [Christianity Today](#)
 3. Does your church do ministry outside of Canada – short term missions trips, etc? Be aware of these guidelines from CRA! [Check it out](#).
 4. EFC is following these three cases regarding religious freedom in Canada [Article](#)
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Starlight Mandarin Congregation @ Elliesslie Road Baptist Church

Pastor Edward To



Communion Sunday



The Congregation at Starlight



Kevin and my translator, Anthony



BGC National office staff and spouses attended the Eskimo/Stampeders Game Sept 9, 2017 - We have a great team too!



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:

Harmonious, Functional Organizational Structures:

BGCC churches develop and operate within a structure that brings out the best from our partnership with each other - regionally, nationally and beyond.

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