

• GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOOD NEWS TO ALL CREATION •



# YPBC News

June 2019





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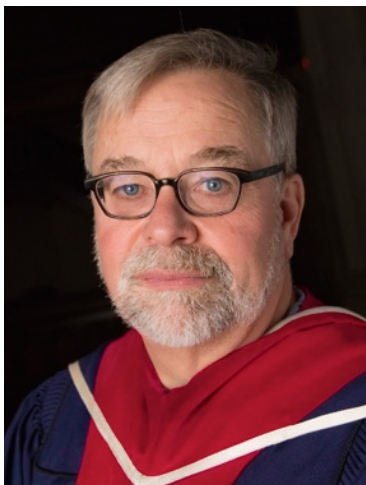
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## FROM PETER'S PEN

### Camp Kwasind

2019 marks the 75th Anniversary of Camp Kwasind, a marvelous camp on Skelton Lake in Muskoka which is owned and operated by the Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec. A special free day of celebration is being held at the camp on Saturday, August 19th. For more information and to register please visit

<http://75.kwasind.com>

Camp Kwasind was founded in 1944 by the Rev. Dr. Leland Gregory, who was serving as the CBOQ Director of Christian Education. He would later serve on the ministry team of Yorkminster Park. The funding for the property was made possible by two lay leaders from our church, Mr. E. Frank Wright & Dr. Withrow who made the purchase of the property possible. For generations the youth of our church have attended Kwasind as both campers and staff. The late John Stevens of Yorkminster Park became very active at the camp and contributed generously to the construction of the kitchen. Through the years many of our families have also attended the popular family camp. As a parent I am very grateful for the role Kwasind played in the life of our children.

On the 75th anniversary website there are hundreds of photographs posted and many of them are waiting for former campers and staff to identify themselves and tell their Kwasind story.

To learn more about our wonderful camp please go to <http://75.kwasind.com> As the summer camping season approaches let us remember Kwasind in our prayers. Pray for the safety and health of the camp and pray that all who attend will be drawn closer to Christ.

The summer is a wonderful time when many of us can slow down and enjoy the beauty of the world around. Winter was long and spring was slow. I pray summer will bring us all rest and refreshment.

Grace and Peace,

Peter

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Cover - the different colours of tulips symbolize different things. What is common to all is that they are one of the first splashes of colour we have at the start of summer season.

During "tulip mania" in Holland in the 17th century a single tulip bulb sold for more than a house; the most notorious speculative bubble in history.

We now simply enjoy the beauty of God's creation.

Comments and suggestions for future editions are welcome. Please send to: [pilgrim.h@sympatico.ca](mailto:pilgrim.h@sympatico.ca)

The next newsletter will be published in September 2019.

*Paul R Hill*

## MUSINGS FROM THE MINISTER OF PASTORAL CARE



*"Incline your ear to my sayings...For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flows the springs of life." (Proverbs 4:22-23)*

*"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." Mahatma Gandhi*

*Carpe diem* – seize the day. There is a wonderful scene from the 1989 movie *Dead Poets Society*. Actor Robin Williams portrays Mr. Keating, an unorthodox English teacher at a private academy for boys. The movie is a period piece set in 1959. The academy is an old school and models its teaching around four pillars: tradition, honour, discipline and excellence. But through his teaching and example, Mr. Keating shows the boys how to think for themselves, and he affirms that they are powerful individuals who should value freedom of expression. In this particular scene, the teacher invites the boys into the hallway on the first day of class. He has them gather around the old school trophy case. He invites them to look at the pictures and awards. They all represent faces from the long ago past. As they peer intently at the pictures, Mr. Keating begins to whisper behind them – *carpe diem, carpe diem*. The he gets louder and begins to shout "seize the day, boys!" For the rest of the movie, the teacher encourages the boys to find their inner poet, to express themselves uniquely as individuals, and to follow their passions in life.

*Carpe diem* – seize the day. Many historians attribute this expression to the ancient Roman writer Horace (65 BC to 8 BC). Over the years it has become a descriptive term in literature which urges readers to live for the moment. This theme was especially popular in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century love poetry. Perhaps these familiar words from the poet Robert Herrick sum up the *carpe diem* philosophy:

"Gather ye rosebuds while ye may, Old time is still a-flying, And this same flower that smiles today, Tomorrow will be dying." A decade ago the movie *The Bucket List* found its way into theatres. It captured one of the more recent fads or novelties out there: the desire to do, experience or accomplish certain things before you die (or before you "kick the bucket"). Sometimes called life lists, these lists contain both simple things (like reconnecting with an old friend or taking a home renovation course) and exotic things (going skydiving or climbing Mount Kilimanjaro).

Some Christians are uncomfortable about using the phrase *carpe diem*. They are concerned about its ties to the old Epicurean philosophy, or to modern hedonism, which advocates the mantra: "Eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we may die." However, I believe that Christians are called to live life to the fullest. I don't know what Jesus would think about a "bucket list," but I do know he is concerned about how we live. In John 10:10, he said: "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." The word "life" is used hundreds of times in the Bible. Many of the references include adjectives to describe life: "abundant life, good life, eternal life, a worthy life, long life, full life," and so on. I believe God calls us to live our lives cognizant of his presence and purpose. The scriptures challenge us to live well, to love well and to recognize God in every aspect of creation. One of my favourite authors, Frederick Buechner, in his book *Now and Then*, put it this way: There is no event so commonplace but that God is present within it, always hiddenly, always leaving you room to recognize him or not to recognize him....Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery that it is. In the boredom and pain of it no less than in the excitement and gladness; touch, taste, smell your way to the heavenly and hidden heart of it because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace."

The singer and composer George Beverly Shea was a fixture at Billy Graham Crusades for many years. Shea was actually born in Winchester, Ontario and died in 2013 at the age of 104. One of his signature songs speaks of the wonder of God's love, and living for God's glory:

*There's the wonder of sunset at evening,  
The wonder as sunrise I see;  
But the wonder of wonders that thrills my soul  
Is the wonder that God loves me.*

*There's the wonder of springtime and harvest,  
The sky, the stars, and the sun;  
But the wonder of wonders that thrills my soul  
Is a wonder that's just begun.*

*O, the wonder of it all! The wonder of it all!  
Just to think that God loves me.  
O, the wonder of it all! The wonder of it all!  
Just to think that God loves me.*

Today I invite you to experience abundant life – to live life to the fullest as God intended. More than anything else, this is not based on outward circumstances but on an attitude of the heart. So go ahead – *carpe diem* – seize the day for God.

## NURSES' NOTES FROM LILY



We shall soon be moving from Spring to Summer. It is hard to believe that June 4<sup>th</sup> will mark completion of my first year at YMPB Church as parish nurse. It has been a truly remarkable experience for me. I continue to learn that having a sense of belonging in a community

of faith is essential for all of us. It impacts our health and well being all around; physically, psychologically and spiritually. I am so grateful for this opportunity to work along with you.

My previous submission highlighted a few health related topics. I would like to follow up on the ICE document, which stands for “in case of emergency”. If you have not already obtained or downloaded the document, please do so. It truly is a very valuable document to be kept at home, and to have a photocopy available, especially when traveling. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding this document. Here is a sample copy for your review.

The health and wellness committee shall be offering its second Adult and Child CPR (basic) workshop for any one interested, sometime in June, likely on a

Saturday. We shall keep you posted via our Church Bulletin as well as the H and W Bulletin Board, outside the Friendship Room.

On September 15<sup>th</sup> we shall host a Lunch and Learn Session on Emergency Preparedness. More details will follow later in June.

I was recently given a book written by Joyce Rupp entitled “May I have this dance?” /An Invitation to Faithful Prayer Throughout the Year. It has a chapter on Prayer for each month of the Year. The May chapter is entitled, “A Rushing Wind”, and here is the Closing Prayer.

*“Spirit of God, you are the stirring in our hearts. You urge us to get going. You prompt us to follow. You encourage us not to give up. You call us to open our minds and our hearts to receive your energizing, transforming radiance. Make us receptive so that we will follow your loving movement within our lives. We trust in your powerful presence within us. Amen.*

Peace and Good Health,  
Lily

 <b>INFORMATION SHEET IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CALL 911</b>	
<b>CONTACT INFORMATION</b>	
First Name _____ Last Name _____	
Address _____ Apartment Number _____	
City _____ Postal Code _____	
Main Phone (____) _____-____ Alt. Phone (____) _____-____	
Health Card _____ Birth Date ____/____/____ Gender <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	
Primary Language(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Care Directive <input type="checkbox"/> On file with _____	
Emergency Contact 1 _____	
Main Phone (____) _____-____ Alt. Phone (____) _____-____	
Emergency Contact 2 _____	
Main Phone (____) _____-____ Alt. Phone (____) _____-____	
Primary Care Provider _____	
Phone (____) _____-____	
<b>RELEVANT MEDICAL HISTORY</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cardiac (angina, heart attack, bypass, pacemaker) <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetic (insulin / Non Insulin Dependent) <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer <input type="checkbox"/> Stroke/TIA <input type="checkbox"/> COPD (emphysema, bronchitis) <input type="checkbox"/> Alzheimer <input type="checkbox"/> Hypertension (high blood pressure) <input type="checkbox"/> Seizure (convulsions) <input type="checkbox"/> Dementia <input type="checkbox"/> Congestive heart failure <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma <input type="checkbox"/> Psychiatric Other _____	
<b>SPECIALTIES</b>	
Communicable Infection / Disease _____	
Other _____	
Hospital affiliation _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive history.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Specialty (Dialysis, neuro, etc.) _____	
<b>MOBILITY / SENSORY</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dentures <input type="checkbox"/> Visual (impairment / glasses / blind) <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (impairment / sid / deaf) <input type="checkbox"/> Mobility Issues (cane / wheelchair / walker / motorized scooter / prosthetic limb)	
<b>PET CARE CONTACTS</b>	
Contact 1 _____ Phone (____) _____-____	
Contact 2 _____ Phone (____) _____-____	
List of pets and pet care instructions _____	
Completed by _____ Date ____/____/____	
www.torontoparamedicservices.ca	



## IN OUR FATHER'S HOUSE

We have all heard the words "in Our Father's House"



referring to our eternal home in Heaven. But I have found my meaningful experiences in His House on earth - the church - especially the local church.

My local church is Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. Here I have found many priceless treasures that no amount of money can buy.

Treasures of fellowship, and friendships which have become my family. These dear sisters and brothers in Christ have been with me a long time and have walked beside me and supported me through many losses and difficult experiences in my life.

Just to be with them whether in Sunday worship or a bible study or just in fellowship is to me a heartwarming and comforting experience. I can feel the love and caring in their greeting or gestures, not to mention their prayers for me.

Longtime Christians, such as myself, can take church attendance at Worship or other activities for granted. But it really is a priceless treasure to be cherished, appreciated and given thanks for.

May God make all of us always grateful for one of his precious gifts.

submitted by Elizabeth Chamberlain

## LESTER RANDALL PREACHING FELLOWSHIP

The 2019 Lester Randall Preaching Fellowship will be held from Sunday evening, October 27th through Tuesday October 29th. This year there are nineteen different leaders who will be focusing on various aspect of preaching as they offer sermons, keynote addresses and workshops addressing the overall theme of 'The Faithful Imagination.' Among the

guest preachers is Otis Moss III widely regarded as one of the finest preachers in the English speaking world. Cheryl Bear an indigenous theologian who serves with Canadian Baptist Ministries will also be with us as a guest artist as will Dr. Stuart Blythe, the John Gladstone Professor of Preaching at Acadia Divinity College. While our preaching fellowship regularly attracts more than two hundred clergy from all across Ontario and beyond, it is also attended by lay people who find the preaching event to be a source of inspiration and encouragement. Why not consider joining in on this uplifting event? Learn more or register at [www.lesterrandall.com](http://www.lesterrandall.com)

Peter Holmes

## TRANSITIONS

Since the last newsletter there have been several milestones in the life of the church.

### Infant Dedications

George Geronimo Dalglish, *s of Swith and Geordie Dalglish*

June Elizabeth Morgan, *d of Robyn and Blake Morgan*

Violet Rachel Jenyee Leung, *d of Jena and Joe Leung*

Abigail Susan Holmes, *d of Jamie and Michelle Holmes*

### New Members

Yolanda Aguilera

Santiago Aguilera

Ruth Hands

### Deaths

Andrew Aikenhead

William Andrews

Tom Brand

Ray Parker

Margaret Torrance

David Zeidman

## YPBC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES ....

### BAPTIST WOMEN'S RECOMMENDED READING!

YPBC Women's Ministries are pleased to announce that we have acquired the 2019 Canadian Baptist Women of Ontario and Quebec's 'recommended reading' books for the YPBC Gladstone Library. For easier identification, the books may be identified by the green dots on the spines.

These books have been selected as resources related to the CBWOQ theme, **CHOSEN/HOLY/CALLED**.

**THE TURQUOISE TABLE** - *Finding Community and Connection in Your Own Front Yard* by Kristin Schell

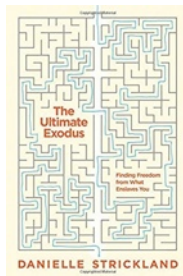
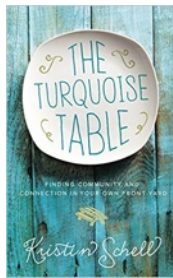
Seeking a way to slow down and connect, Kristin Schell put an ordinary picnic table in her front yard, painted it turquoise and began inviting friends and neighbours to join her. Life changed in her community and it can change in ours too.. Alongside personal and heartwarming stories, Schell gives us:

- Stress free ideas for kick-starting our own *Turquoise Table*
- Simple recipes to take outside and share with others
- Stories from people using *Turquoise Tables* in their neighbourhoods
- Encouragement to overcome barriers that keep us from connecting
- New ways to view hospitality

Today, *Turquoise Tables* are inviting individuals to connect with each other in seven countries. Community and friendship are waiting right outside our front doors!

**THE ULTIMATE EXODUS** - *Finding Freedom from What Enslaves You* by Danielle Strickland

An epic story that begins in tragedy, slavery and oppression leads ultimately to hope, kindness, and new life. While each of us may carry a story of oppression, we were created by God to be free and to change the world. Our journeys begin when we agree with God about who we are. Strickland weaves scriptural truth with powerful stories of transformation that



will free us from the things that enslave us, freeing us for the life God has planned for us.

Danielle Strickland serves as an officer in The Salvation Army in Los Angeles and is the author of several books. She is also ambassador for *Compassion International* and *Stop the Traffic*, a global coalition seeking to stop human trafficking.

**SIMPLY OPEN** - *A Guide to Experiencing God in the Everyday* by Greg Paul.

This book invites us to a simple practice of prayer and awareness that can turn each ordinary workday into a deepening spiritual journey. No matter where we are, our 5 senses are always "on" and our minds and hearts are responsive to what we perceive. These channels of awareness can take us deeper into God

if we practice the discipline of submitting them to the One who is closer than we imagine. The beauty of such a contemplative path is that we can follow it anywhere - alone or in company, in quiet meditation or amid the bustle of our craziest day. Moment by moment, we invite God to open us up. And moment by moment we can find ourselves closer to God's grace-filled and wide-open heart.

Greg Paul is a pastor and member of *Sanctuary* Toronto as well as being an author of several books.

**DEEPENING THE SOUL FOR JUSTICE** by Bethany H. Hoang

The challenges of global injustice can be overwhelming. The pain is real, the violence dark. Many well-intentioned Christians get burned out. What can we do?

Bethany Hoang, director of *International Justice Missions's IJM Institute for Biblical Justice*, has seen firsthand how spiritual formation can fuel our response to God's call to justice. She shares spiritual practices honed on the

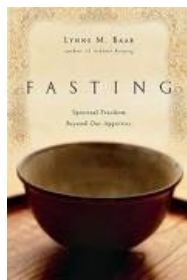
frontlines of the fight for justice - guideposts for an inward journey that can propel a disciple outward, empowering the difficult work of justice. Seeking the God of justice can be a catalyst for spiritual growth and deeper personal discipleship. Discover spiritual disciplines for the justice seeker and invigorate your own justice journey.



Deepening the Soul for Justice

***FASTING - Spiritual Freedom Beyond Our Appetites*** by Lynne M. Baab

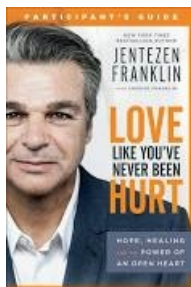
It's easy in this world of fast food, fast living and fast spirituality to forget that we are holistic creations who need to cease from our striving and spend some time fasting from the things that keep us enslaved. Baab helps us explore our appetites, discover the history behind 'the fast' and learn how to abstain and seek God. Combining biblical and historical data with the experiences of modern day people, she offers insights into the purposes, motivations, expectations and results of fasting.



Lynne Baab is a Presbyterian minister and lecturer in pastoral theology at the University of Otago in New Zealand and is the author of several books.

***LOVE LIKE YOU'VE NEVER BEEN HURT - Hope, Healing and the Power of an Open Heart*** by Jentezen Franklin

It's no secret that those who are closest to us can wound us the most profoundly. Reeling from betrayal, we build walls around our hearts to protect us from the heartache, yet these are the very walls that block us from seeing hope, receiving healing and feeling love. Sharing his own story of personal pain, pastor and New York Times best-selling author, Jentezen Franklin shows us how to find the strength, courage and motivation to love like we've never been hurt. Through biblical and modern-day stories, he discusses different types of relational disappointment and heartache, and answers questions such as, Why should I trust again? And How can I ever really forgive? We don't need to let someone else's actions control the condition of our hearts. Here is everything we need, to tear down our walls, work through our wounds, repair damaged relationships and discover the power of an open heart.



Jentezen Franklin is the senior pastor of Free Chapel and a NY Times best selling author and international speaker.

***WHISPER - How to Hear the Voice of God*** by Mark Batterson

The voice that spoke the cosmos into existence is the same voice that parted the Red Sea and made the sun stand still in the midday sky. One day this voice will make all things new, but it's also speaking to us now! That voice is God's voice, and what we've learned from Scripture is that He often speaks in a whisper. Not to make it difficult to hear him but to draw us close. Many people have a tough time believing God still speaks. Yes, in ancient times and in mysterious ways, God spoke to His people, but is He still speaking now?



Batterson believes so. And he wants to introduce us to the love languages of God, each of them unique and entirely divine. Some of them we might expect but others will be a surprise.

God is speaking - we can make sure we know how to listen!

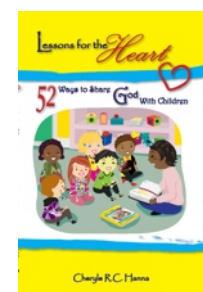
Mark Batterson is a New York Times best selling author and the lead pastor of National Community Church.

In addition to the CBWOQ recommended reading books, we've also purchased Rev. Cheryle Hanna's ***LESSONS FOR THE HEART - 52 ways to Share God with Children.***

This is a resource that takes seriously the repeated command to share God with our children.

*Lessons* is a resource which is part guide, part demonstration, part encouragement and will assist pastors, teachers and parents to

instill faith, confidence and courage into the heart of every child.



Rev Cheryle Hanna, formerly the Minister of Discipleship at YPBC, is currently the lead pastor at Fourth Avenue Baptist Church in Ottawa, Ontario.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All of these books may be purchased from CBOQ's READ ON Bookstore: 8 International Blvd., Etobicoke ON, M9W 6H3 -416 620 2934 - <https://readon.ca>.

The following books are also available as audio books at \$21 per CD: *Turquoise Table - Ultimate Exodus - Love Like You've Never Been Loved.*

submitted by Jonanne Fenton on behalf of YPBC Women's Ministries

# HARNESSING SERENDIPITY

## This Summer and Always

*...you don't reach Serendipity by plotting a course for it. You have to set out in good faith for elsewhere and lose your bearings... serendipitously.*

— John Barth, *The Last Voyage of Somebody the Sailor*

When I reflect on my career path, I whole-heartedly acknowledge *serendipity*—or put another way, “God moments”—God’s gentle hand nudging me in a different direction, whether or not I consciously heeded the call. I certainly wasn’t *planning* a career as a speaker and writer, but that’s exactly what happened. Twenty-two years ago the death of my mother prompted me to make haste in a new direction. How about you? What seemingly serendipitous events through the years have led you to “parts unknown” or unpredicted?

Consider these definitions below. Just how much serendipity has played a part in *your* destiny, in the beginning of your earliest of adult years, and through all the time since?

The Oxford Dictionary declares serendipity as: “The faculty of making happy and unexpected discoveries.” Wikipedia’s definition: “...the effect by which one accidentally discovers something fortunate, especially while looking for something else entirely.” And *Chambers Dictionary of Etymology* shares that *serendipity* was coined in 1754 by English author Horace Walpole (from the Persian fairy tale, *Three Princes of Serendip*, whose heroes “were always making discoveries by accident and sagacity, of things they were not in quest of.”) As a sidebar, “Serendip” was an old name for Ceylon (Sri Lanka), deriving from the ancient Arabic name “Sarandib.” Walpole went on to explain that the princes’ ability to manifest “accidental sagacity” and good fortune was closely related to their intelligence, cleverness, and reasoning.

So then, with Walpole’s further explanation in mind, along with thanks to God, credit a little serendipity for some of your good fortune and destiny through the years, by way of acknowledging your own sagacity. By this I mean gifted discernment, acute-mindedness, practical wisdom, intelligence, cleverness, reasoning, powers of observation, and

willingness to take action on what presents before you. *All* of these gifts and skills have helped you get where you are today.

What wonderful opportunities have come your way when you least expected? What treasured people have entered (or re-entered, after many years absence) your life thanks to serendipity? What discoveries have you made, *serendipitously*?

### Here are five serendipitous discoveries to muse:

**1. Silly Putty:** By James Wright, on the way to solving another problem: finding a rubber substitute for the United States during World War II.

**2. Penicillin:** By Alexander Fleming. He failed to disinfect cultures of bacteria when leaving for his vacation, only to find them contaminated with *Penicillium* moulds, which killed the bacteria.

**3. Law of Gravity:** Thanks to Sir Isaac Newton’s contemplation of the famed apple falling from a tree, his musing about the nature of gravitation was born.

**4. X rays:** By Wilhelm Roentgen. Interested in investigating cathodic ray tubes, he noted that some fluorescent papers in his lab were illuminated at a distance although his apparatus had an opaque cover.

**5. The first European to see the coast of North America** was reputedly Bjarni Herjolfsson, who was blown off course by a storm in 985 or 986 while trying to reach Greenland.

### Here’s one of my own serendipitous tales:

I’d never met any of my English family until my mum, Beryl, died. On my first trip to England after her passing, I met my mum’s little sister, Kay (who was only 11 years old when my mum emigrated to Canada in 1953). Kay had been heavy-hearted for 40 years that she’d never met her big sister as an adult. She remembered with great affection, and a little melancholy too, the day my mum took her on a day trip to Windsor, to tell her she was going to Canada *forever*. Kay recounted that my mum shared this heartbreaking news while crossing the footbridge over the Thames, which joined Windsor with Eton. During my visit I asked my aunt to take me to that bridge (a place she hadn’t visited since that sad day long ago). As we approached, I could feel our moods changing, getting quiet. We reached the crest of the bridge and took a few moments of



quiet reflection, looking down at the water, as pleasure boats passed underneath on that golden, glowing July evening. And what do you think happened *next*? A beautiful pleasure craft passed under, with the word “Beryl” painted on it’s back!!! My mummy/Kay’s beloved, “lost” sister there with us... floating right by—happily sailing into the literal sunset, her skipper broadly waving and smiling as we stood atop, gobsmacked (as the British like to say). Or more apropos, lovingly, gently and serenely *God-smacked*. ;) A serendipitous “God moment” at its very finest, indeed. Maybe *serendipity* is really just a synonym for *God intervention/God moment*. Or would that be the *other* way around???

Summer is a picture-perfect time for opening up to some serendipity of your own. How might *you* make some happy and unexpected/accidental discoveries, or fortunately bump up against something (or someone), while looking for something *else*?

**Here are five “miracle grow” suggestions for planting seeds to encourage your own summer of serendipity:**

**1. Set Aside Some Quiet Time in Nature Every Day:** Fertilize your thoughts. Let your mind have some regularly scheduled quiet nature time this summer—even if only in your back garden, balcony, or local park—so your “brilliant ideas” can rise, allowing lurking serendipity to follow. Getting quiet, even for only ten minutes a day—cuts out the chatter and white noise of daily life that will allow you to *hear* the creative and fortunate ideas you may have been trying to tell yourself for years (but perhaps were “too busy” to acknowledge).

**2. Keep Your Calm:** Extra stress and anger can “blind” you to what’s present and available. Serendipitous opportunities may be dancing all around you and you’ll never notice if you’re too stressed or angered. It’s a scientific fact... counting to ten when irritated really *does* help to keep you grounded and calm; your primitive brain flies off the handle and reacts in split seconds when presented with negative stimulus, but your *higher* thinking/more evolved brain centre responds more productively and positively if even a small amount of time, e.g., ten seconds, lapses *before* responding.

**3. Be First to Reach Out:** Be the one who extends the helping hand to another *first*, sincerely, and without profit or expectation. Be the one who says “yes”—the one who invites, who shares info, reveals

and self-discloses. Oftentimes, once *you* do, the *other* naturally follows suit—and from *there* serendipity may flow.

**4. Keep An Open Heart:** Although it may be true that *some* people may use your kindness against you, focus on the potential, serendipitous benefits of an open, trusting heart. The benefits of such a heart outweighs the disadvantages—especially when it comes to facilitating yourself to be ready to receive good things not sought after.

**5. Take a Honest Summertime Inventory of Your Strengths and Weaknesses, Belief Systems, Behaviours, and Blind spots:** Even though the experience of serendipity is, by definition, *not* expected, you *can* prepare yourself for the surprise of this good fortune more readily if you sincerely know these truths about your personal inventory. An honest personal inventory allows more of your authentic self to surface. The blessing of serendipitous doors swing open more easily and frequently with greater personal clarity.

Such blessings and “magic” are out there for us to experience *every* day—all around us. Like fish swimming in water and not knowing what “water” *is*! We are *swimming in it*! We know this *intellectually*, but still so often miss the cues. So then, take a hint; be on high alert this summer. Keep an eye out, an ear to the ground, and a heart open, too, to make *this* summer *your* best, most rewarding summer of serendipity ever. I look forward to hearing the amazing “unbelievable” stories we’ll share with one another come September, when we are all back together again! Happy days, and blessings to all, while enjoying your lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer.

*In the field of observation, chance favours only the prepared mind.*  
— Louis Pasteur

*I find that a great part of the information I have, was acquired by looking up something and finding something else on the way.*  
— Franklin P. Adams

submitted by Nina Spencer



Nina Spencer is a Conference Keynote Speaker, Speaker Coach, Voiceover Artist, and Bestselling Author of *Getting Passion Out of Your Profession*, and *A Time to Creep, A Time To Soar: Leadership Lessons from Climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro*

## REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

On April 12 we welcomed Hayan and Abir and their two daughters (4 and 2 years old) who were taking refuge in Lebanon after escaping the war in Syria. On May 17 we welcomed Hayan's sister Fatma, her husband Mohamed and daughter (4 years old). Hayan's and Fatma's parents live in Thorncliffe Park and are taking on most of the resettlement work. They are very grateful for the congregation's support and they hope to be able to express that at a reception at the Church on June 23.

Other families are waiting in the wings. Two young Eritreans, persecuted because of their Christian faith, and taking refuge in Ethiopia, have recently had their immigration interviews. A Pakistani family of four, persecuted because of their Christian faith and taking refuge in Thailand, are awaiting a decision after their recent interview. We have funds or committed pledges to cover their sponsorship costs.

Still unfunded however are the following: a Syrian family, persecuted because of their Christian faith taking refuge in Lebanon; and the half-brother and his family of Charlene and Chancella, victims of the violence between Christians and Moslems in the Central African Republic, taking refuge in a camp in Ghana.

The funding gap, based on a cost of \$40,000 per family, is about \$80,000. The Refugee Program will not be appealing to the congregation for these funds in view of the many financial challenges the Church is facing. Thank you for your support!

Mike Wills



## MISSIONS ANNOUNCEMENT

We look forward to welcoming Bill and Janice Dyck, our CBM representatives in Bolivia, to YPBC the morning of Sunday Sept. 29, 2019. There will be a reception following the morning service, offering an opportunity for everyone to meet them and hear their stories about how God is working through music, education and mentoring partnerships in Bolivia.

submitted by Esther Phillips



## 2019 | SUMMER PREACHING SERIES



**July 7 and 14**  
Rev. Richard Root



**July 21**  
Dr. Stacey Campbell



**July 28**  
Dr. Karoline Lewis



**August 4**  
Dr. Terry LeBlanc



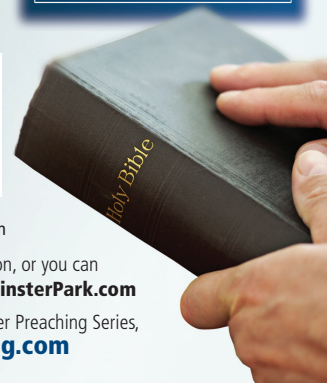
**August 11**  
Dr. Anthony Bailey



**August 18**  
Dr. Kevin Livingston

YPBC is pleased to announce our line-up of guest speakers for the 2019 season.

Don't miss this exciting, thought-provoking, and inspirational summer ministry.



We look forward to seeing you in person, or you can view our services live online at [YorkminsterPark.com](http://YorkminsterPark.com)

For more information about the Summer Preaching Series, visit [YPBCSummerPreaching.com](http://YPBCSummerPreaching.com)



## WEST WINDOW UPDATE

### Update from the Stained Glass Sisters

We are excited to be in the last steps of the fabrication of the west window. We have finished all of the surface treatments --- etching, painting and staining --- and have started leading the windows. Three are completed, and we have our heads down making steady progress on the rest.

The donor family came to the studio a few weeks ago to see the work under way. They were thrilled and a bit stunned by the painstaking method of construction. One of the family said that she had thought there might be some kind of machine used in the fabrication. There are two machines, and their names are Jane Irwin and Kathryn Irwin.

Because it is so messy, we carry the panels outside to be puttied. It gives us the opportunity to see the sunlight streaming through the stained glass and bringing the panels to spectacular life. We can't wait to see them in their intended home.

Jane and Katherine

*photos by Henry Regehr*





## AT THE GALLERY

**PETER ALBERTI – *Sacred Spaces: Romania & Bulgaria* – June 22 to July 31; reception Sunday, June 23.** Retired surgeon and ardent traveller, Alberti has taken his powers of observation around the world.

In 2017 I toured parts of Romania and Bulgaria to take photographs of important places, mainly places of worship and fortresses. I was amazed at the variety: Lutheran fortified Churches, Painted Monasteries and Orthodox Churches in Romania; Orthodox monasteries, in caves and freestanding, Orthodox Churches and Cathedrals, as well as Mosques and Synagogues in Bulgaria. They were colourful and moving, simple and grand, reflecting the changing fates of society over the ages, Roman, Bulgarian, Ottoman and Russian.

I like to share my images and am grateful to the Art Committee for the opportunity to show them.

Peter Alberti



Viscri White Church, Romania

Monastery of the  
Transfiguration, Romania



Rila Monastery, Bulgaria