

THE BODY OF CHRIST

In preparation for the completion of my final submission to the PEACEMAKER, as I hand the torch over to our very capable Vice-President, Andrew Cowan, I reflected on how effective our outreach ministry is at present. We enjoy great times of fellowship and have competent administration. We interact with our international partners and contribute to a very powerful prayer chain. Then I focused on a scripture passage that the Lord Laid on my heart. In 1 Corinthians, Chapter 12, Verse 27f (NIV):

“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And in the church God has appointed first of all Apostles, second Prophets, third Teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, **THOSE ABLE TO HELP OTHERS**, (emphasis mine), those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues.”

I believe we need to renew the emphasis on being available to help others. Our Brothers and Sisters in the Peace Officer profession need a contact number, toll free, that can be accessed from anywhere in Canada. Not infrequently, the safe-guards allow people to fall through the cracks. We are blessed with a wealth of trained chaplains in FCPO Canada. I would challenge our National Board to bring back the toll free access, as our Lord desires that none would perish.

Best regards and God bless,
Ron Seney

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS SUBMISSION

Somehow I have to get a better handle on who we serving. I sent out a questionnaire and received very few in return. We do however have a mailing list of over 1000. Now there is no question as to whether or not we send these out, we WANT to send them out. I have been know to say that there should be a copy of the Peacemaker in every Police washroom across the country, lovingly of course referred to as the "Library"!

We have received a record number of applications for new members and that is very heartwarming to know that we still have not yet reached ALL the Christian Peace Officers who are out there. We invite the rest of you to take the time to join, everyone else is "coming out of the closet" why not the rest of you "under-cover cops"?

Now it is the year 2005. We have a website www.fcpcanada.com, I have an Email heharley@golden.net, but we believe there is still a need to distribute "hard copies" of the Peacemaker so that it can be read not only by our members and subscribers but also by other officers who would not normally "log-on" to our Website or in fact any Christian Websites.

As you can read in the Masthead of the Peacemaker, we believe it is our mission to share Jesus Christ or Christianity with those who have not yet made a personal decision, and believe me, there are many Police Officers and Prison Guards out there who are searching for a purpose in their life.

Now that having been said, may I bring to your attention that I must recommend to the Board of Directors that we either increase our donations or decrease our costs because although I get Emails daily from all over Canada, Email does not have an "attachment" for donations. It used to be that our members would send a letter and drop in a cheque to assist us with the costs. Email is much easier but we're losing ground financially. Now there are some of you that say, "Where's your faith, God will supply ALL of our needs!" I have no doubt about that but if you had read your Bible closer you will notice that He often used "messengers" to "tell the people". Well, I guess I consider myself the "messenger". When I took the Technique of Instruction course at the Police College, they said that an Instructor not only has to tell the people the subject he is lecturing on but he has to make sure they have heard and learned by seeking communications in return from those listening that would indicate they had heard and would be able to act on what they had learned. My mailing address is at the bottom of the "Application for Membership", thanks!

I have also been requested to use the Peacemaker as a method of communicating meaningful information to our membership across the country. Ross & Jan Howlett found out about members who had lost their wives and had it not been for the Peacemaker they would have never know. Please, all of you, when something happens in your area, send me an Email so we can publish the information, Canada is a big country and many of our members never hear any of the new from your area. You can make a difference if you get involved.

In closing, the preacher's 5 year old daughter noticed that her father always paused and bowed his head for a moment before starting his sermons. One day she asked him why he did that. "Well, honey," he began, "I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon." "How come He doesn't do it?" she asked.

Hank

Where Two Or Three Are Gathered

For **where two or three** come together in my name, there am I with them." Matt 18:20

What a great comfort it is to know that God's word is true and that as He promises it will accomplish what He desires and achieve the purpose for which He sends it.

The June 24th, 2005 weekend was one of those times when His word accomplished the desire of His heart here in Saskatchewan.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors and the FCPO Executive for reconsidering their plans to hold the AGM in the east and move it to Saskatchewan for this year. I know it was a turn around in short period of time but I believe it is a decision that our heavenly Father will honor right across Canada for FCPO.

We had a great weekend with a small social and luncheon on the Friday night with about 18-20 persons in attendance. The evening began with introductions and we did learn some interesting facts about some people and had a few good laughs.

Andrew and Hank shared on the history of FCPO and some of their vision about the direction it needed to go in the future. It was truly a blessing and an encouragement to see the love, desire and burden they carry for FCPO and peace officers in general. I was also able to take a few moments to share my desires for FCPO in the SK/MAN region.

It was very gratifying to have the support of all those who turned out that evening. I also want to thank all who couldn't make it because of previous commitments that either returned the reply card, contacted me by email or phoned ensuring me of their on going support
Saturday morning began with the AGM and I was able to meet the remainder of the Board of Directors via telephone conference call. What a confirmation it was to hear them and know that we are of like mind and spirit in relation to FCPO. Let me say thank you to all who have over the years remained faithful to the vision so that myself and others like me have the opportunity to be involved in a work that I believe occupies a special place in the heart of our Father in heaven. Truly we felt his presence as we worked our way through the weekend.

The weekend culminated in a BBQ in Wascana Park on Saturday afternoon. In the morning the skies were overcast and it was cool, however, in answer to our prayers the skies opened and the sun shone through from 1400 to about 1700 hours just the exact time the BBQ was planned for. All glory to the One we serve for that and the whole weekend.

I am excited to be the new Director for Sask./Man., and to have Mr. Dave Scantlebury from the Regina Police Service working with me as the FCPO representative for the same area. We know we have a great deal of work ahead of us but we are pleased that many others are agreeing to come on board and form a planning committee to move us forward.

It is my intent working with Dave and many others not only to solidify FCPO in the Regina area but also to move it out across the province once again.

Many in Saskatchewan continue to receive the Peacemaker and I want to encourage you to contact me in any of the following ways:

Home phone (306) 543-5377

Work phone (306) 787-7156

Address:

407 Warwick Dr. Regina, S4Y 1J2

Current E-Mail:

mtippe@health.gov.sk.ca

This is a time when we as Christians need to rise up, come together and plan with God how we can best impact in a positive way our communities and those we work shoulder to shoulder with each day.

I look forward to meeting many of you on the current FCPO mailing list over the next year.

I would also like to extend a special invitation to members in Manitoba to contact me as I would like to meet with you at some point also.

FCPO can only thrive when we who are current or former peace officers decide under God that it is important enough to give our support. You see it is my personal conviction that becoming a peace officer is not a decision of the mind but a calling of God and I believe scripture supports that conviction. If that is so, then whether currently serving or retired, we have a calling to fulfill until Jesus returns.

Well, God bless all who will read this and may you be found in His care and service.

Merv Tippe
Director SK/Man

A LETTER FROM FERN

Several years ago I wrote a letter to the Peacemaker Magazine at the prompting of Durham Police Officer Bob Hooper.

I saw him singing in a restaurant and thought that he was a police officer that pulled me over several years before and I never had the opportunity to thank that officer. Bob was not that officer, but heard my story and asked if I would write in hopes that the officer might see it and read it , or that it might encourage other officers to continue to be bold for God.

*To make a long story short. I am **here today and saved** because of that unknown officer. He was bold enough to talk to me about Jesus and God. Not a lot, but what he did say was the perfect timing because unknown to him- I had just had a chat with God. He was my confirmation that God is, and that he was listening to me. I have seen many answers to prayer since that time as God is faithful.*

If we plant the seed God will water it and cause it to grow. The seed is the word of God and we have several opportunities to either pray or speak a word in season but we have to be bold and make ourselves available to God and take advantage of the situation when it presents itself. Always being ready for the work of the Lord. I believe that in everything we hear and see that God has allowed it for a reason, and usually it is so we will act. Prayer is also action.

God works in mysterious ways. Scripture states that the plans of a righteous man (meaning mankind) are ordered by the Lord. Today I presently work with the Toronto Police Service as a dispatcher and am able to pray for Officers, co-workers and individuals who are calling into 911. I have been here for several years and appreciate your prayers for his direction.

I was just packing and found an old Peacemaker and wondered if I would find it on line. I have one from 1986 and was not sure that I would find anything and was pleased to see what I have found.

Fern.

A WordStudy Moment:

There are moments that all of us find ourselves short of patience! Sometimes a demanding child wants some mediate attention and we are busy. We yell, “just be patient!” Why is it when we are in a hurry that the lights always seem to turn red? It would seem to me that people who are in emergency services would need to have an unusual amount of *patience*. They work shifts; they face challenging situations; they often face people who are either a danger to others or to themselves.

In the New Testament, the word “patience” is translated in different ways. Sometimes it is called endurance, or steadfastness, or perseverance, or longsuffering. But when you examine the word more closely, especially in its original language in the New Testament, which was Greek, you find that there are actually two main words for patience, each related to different needs that we face.

One word always relates to patience in difficult circumstances. Another word always is used to describe patience with difficult people. When you think about it, we really need two different kinds of patience.

Take your Bible for a moment and look some of these up.

[1] Patience in difficult circumstances. We find this in James 1:3, James 1:12, 1st Peter 2:20, Revelation 1:9.

[2] Patience with difficult people. This is the word used in Galatians 5:22 (which is the fruit of the Spirit), 1 Thess. 5:14, Ephesians 4:2. It is used to describe Christ’s patience towards us!

Both words are used side by side in Colossians 1:11.

“...being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great *endurance* and *patience*...”

Both kinds of patience are needed each day and each of them comes to us as we ask God for them.

Written by Tom Cowan who is the Senior Minister at First Baptist Church, Vancouver.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

I had so much to write about, at least in my head until August 28th. Then everything changed.

In early August I had the pleasant task of representing the Ontario Lodge at the Bi-annual Fraternal Order of Police Conference held in New Orleans Louisiana. What a city, what a people. This 'town' was a happening place. Music all the time, incredible food, atmosphere, smiling storekeepers and street huskers. Just walking the French Quarter was a trip into history and the present.

All that changed in 24 hours.

We saw the daily pictures of a city under water. People stranded on their roofs signaling helicopters for help, suddenly homeless wading in chest high polluted water and desperation on the faces of the sheltered in what became the squalor of a beautiful stadium and modern conference centre.

Our brother and sister Peace Officers did not escape the wrath of Katrina. All along the gulf coast from Mississippi to Louisiana they lost homes, family members and their sense of stability in their town. In borrowed clothing they went back out onto the streets to face rejection, fear, anger and resentment. While they walked through the sewage to rescue the elderly, the children, the infirm and their neighbours they were being shot at by thugs.

In spite of these problems we have read about rescues and help and prayer from responding Peace Officers.

Coping must have been (and continues to be) extremely difficult. We know this because of messages back and forth between Christian officer families and FCPO USA HQ. We also know now that at least two officers did not find an answer we would have hoped for and they took their own lives. So very sad!

How can we help? Prayer, donations of cash and needed items and, if possible, going south and helping out. Before committing anything please contact FCPO USA first for information and direction.

Thank you.

God Bless to All

Tom Huntley

**BOOM ROAD PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
PEACE OFFICER APPRECIATION DAY
JUN 2005 - MIRAMICHI NEW BRUNSWICK**

Following a very successful Annual Conference in Miramichi, NB, in 2004, the local Chapter of FCPO Canada assisted in a Peace Officer Appreciation Day Service at the Boom Road Pentecostal Church in June 2005.

Peace Officers from RCMP, Corrections Canada and Miramichi Police Service along with Natural Resources members and firefighters marched to bag pipes into the church where Rev. Fred Williams warmly welcomed them to the church and its community.

Guest Speaker for the event, Miramichi MLA John Foran, had served 28 years in the Miramichi Police Force. He thanked all in attendance and expressed his appreciation for the ongoing efforts of the officers. He ended his address by asking everyone to pause and bow their heads to show respect for all fallen peace officers noting specifically the four RCMP officers in Alberta who gave their lives in the line of duty earlier in the year.

Retired RCMP Sergeant Ken Smith took the podium and gave a moving testimony from his experience on the job. He tearfully spoke of one young man contemplating suicide and how he spoke to this man over the phone trying to calm him down. His efforts worked and when he arrived at the scene the young man was in the embrace of his father. Sgt. Smith then told the boy that God had plans for him. The congregation was moved to tears with this testimony.

Gospel music for the service was provided by the Night Watch Quartet. Following the service the church members hosted a roast beef supper as people hugged and shook hands in fellowship.

(from the files of the Miramichi Weekend newspaper)

PETERBOROUGH AND ALLISTON ONTARIO

Two more very successful church parades were held in Ontario in September. The first was in Peterborough at the Calvary Pentecostal Church. Pastor Frank Patrick, a former police officer, welcomed the guests and thanked them for their work in the community. The FCPO National Executive Director, Hank Harley, sang for the congregation and long time FCPO member, retired RCMP Staff Sergeant Steve Rowe, delivered a moving testimony. The congregation gave a standing ovation to the officers attending the service. The service was followed up by a fellowship reception in the church hall.

The second church parade was at the Alliston Pentecostal Church where Pastor Wayne Lucas warmly welcomed OPP officers, military personnel and firefighters, thanking them for their dedicated service to the Alliston community. Several standing ovations were given by the congregation to the speakers on the podium and to the peace officer guests. FCPO Director Irene Cassidy gave a moving testimony in song dedicated to the spouses of peace officers. The guest speaker, OPP Constable and FCPO member Kory Kostyra delivered a light hearted and active testimony on how Christians should be seen to be raising the bar making others feel happy by meeting them. Kory's quick sense of humour and love of motorcycles brought the message home. The service was also attended by MP Helena Guergis (Simcoe Grey) and Mayor Mike MacEachern, OPP A/Insp Leslie Rice and Fire Chief Paul Boissonneault.

FREEDOM LIMITS

(opinion)

Two people of the same church congregation were discussing a hot and current topic in Canadian politics and churches. One said he would not want his beliefs to be forced on another and cause unhappiness in that person. The other said he would not accept changing scripture to accommodate happiness, and in this case, lifestyle contrary to God's laws.

This scenario made me think of A W Tozer's comment of a long time ago on Freedom. He said that the only free being was God. Unqualified freedom is deadly and we must accept limits or accept perils in lieu. Mr. Tozer makes sense. As we look at the aftermath of crime from Katrina, we saw that some took freedom to act to disastrous consequences. How long can Canada continue to ignore God's word and not face disaster?

T.H.- Editor

Hello God,
I called tonight
To talk a little while
I need a friend who'll listen
To my anxiety and trial.
You see, I can't quite make it
Through a day just on my own...
I need your love to guide me,
So I'll never feel alone.
I want to ask you please to keep
My family and friends safe and sound.
Come and fill their lives with confidence
For whatever fate they're bound.
Give me faith, dear God, to face
Each hour throughout the day,
And not to worry over things
I can't change in any way.
I thank you God for being home
And listening to my call,
For giving me such good advice
when I stumble and fall.
Your number, God, is the only one
That answers every time.
I never get a busy signal,
Never had to pay a dime.
So thank you, God, for listening
To my troubles and my sorrow.
Good night, God, I love You too,

- Author Ukn