



# FCPO - CANADA

## The Peacemaker



May, 2024

From the President's Desk

[Version française](#)



Sometimes when I go to rummage through our 'Vault' looking to reprint articles from past issues of the Peacemaker, I sneak into neighboring vaults. So, on this occasion, in the RCMP Veterans' Association's vault I found an article about the [word-class singer](#) [George Beverly Shea](#) in their newsletter (The Spirit) which I have reproduced in our "Vault" segment (page 19).

We often hear of police and other first responders referred to as "heroes". I think that is a fair description for those who serve and protect. After my finding in the Veterans' vault, I thought it fitting to pay tribute to this Canadian Christian hero who faithfully served the Lord alongside the great evangelist Billy Graham for several decades. In 2013, I had the privilege to serve as an honorary pallbearer at his funeral in North Carolina. How I got there was just an inspiration I had, that we should pay tribute to such a man. As I have mentioned in the past – I applied the "Ten Second Rule" - **Just do the next thing you're reasonably certain Jesus wants you to do (and do it within the next ten seconds before you change your mind!)**.

I learned of his passing on the radio on my way home from work. I knew our local RCMP Veterans' Association had honoured him on his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. At that time, I was the Commanding Officer of the National Headquarters Division and thus had some ability to chart my own course. So, the next morning I contacted the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association to see if they would like a Mountie at Mr. Shea's funeral. I thought that would be a great symbol to recognize his Canadian roots (born in Winchester, Ontario), and demonstrate our love and respect for him. They said come on down! Next, I just sought and received the requisite permission to wear the Red Serge outside of Canada. I booked some time off, and the next day was on a plane to North Carolina (at my own expense). In my whole career, this remains one of my most cherished memories. What a privilege it was to pay tribute to this Canadian icon. He fought the good fight, and won the race! There was a true Canadian Christian Hero!

God bless,



Ron

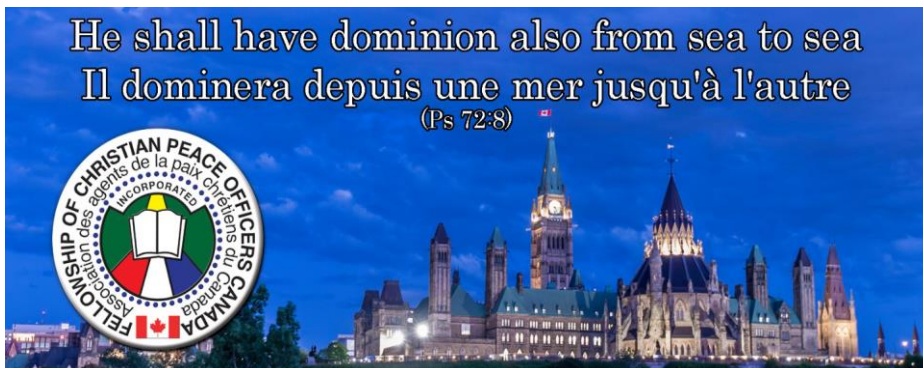
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# Walking in the Desert

*How can we possibly put on armor, a badge, and a gun each shift in the middle of a desert and still be the sun shining for others?*

Sgt. Jeff Daukas



Photo by [NEOM](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Roland Clee, a man for whom I hold deep respect not just for his twenty-six years serving in law enforcement or his unwavering voice for the policing profession highlighting the better way for every officer, deputy and agent who does the everyday work of keeping people safe through his [American Peace Officer substack](#), just published an article about the 30 X 30 initiative being presented in law enforcement which should be read by every officer in America for what it represents. I would do no justice summarizing in detail, so please click the link and read for yourself.

I can say that a broad view look for the purpose of what I am writing here showed again that in the absence of real courageous leadership willing to make tough decisions based on the backbone of integrity, some of our profession's "leaders" have knelt like apes with a palm outstretched giving obedience to Caesar with weak-knees and sweaty palms looking to appease paper-mâché' interest groups instead of setting us up for the future. It turns out that if you ask any police officer, they would choose competency and compassion as the trademarks for a partner and not race or gender. Roland expands that premise with a succinct treatment which needs to be read.

Why reference this here? Well, I was just flown out with my family to be a part of the presenter team at the Breaching the Barricade conference in Elkhart, Indiana last week. I was given the opportunity to address the absolute wonder of our God-given calling in law enforcement through two sessions: Walking in the Desert and Finishing the Bridge. One led to the other, but what was amazing was the response to both. I am convinced that the discussion in Indiana is for everyone in police work. The discussion focused on the intangible character of the heart and had nothing to do with the race or gender of the person wearing the badge. That was just the beginning. I will summarize the first talk and write again on the second.

## Set a Firm Foundation

We have to start here. I have been open in my writing on the struggles and triumphs I've experienced in law enforcement over almost twenty-five years and was equally open in my discussion last week with officers and deputies spanning the tenure range of a few years to retired after thirty or more. And it applied to all of them.

The opening picture is appropriate with where we are in our profession now. We look out regardless of time on and feel isolated, exposed, and anticipating exhaustion from the uphill nature of the work. Others

more knowledgeable than I have rightly shown the statistics that officer suicide rates have skyrocketed since the dumpster fire of a year in 2020, which was double than the bookending years.

The first key to walking through the desert and not being swallowed by it is to set a firm foundation. I tried using violence against crime, alcohol consumed at a rate that should have warranted an AA intervention weekly, and an insatiable need for power and rank by being “that guy” for the first three years on the job. To be clear, I wasn’t a criminal nor am I casting a shadow on anyone who wins a fight on the

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*The media’s credo, “If it bleeds, it leads” hasn’t even tried to mask their intentions. We are choked a diet of despair in our work, a lack of the public’s support, and a sickening mischaracterization of the righteousness of our calling. The reality is different and noble people simply show up to work and do the work to protect our family every single day. They do not engage with Joy Behar, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, or Dylan Mulvaney because they understand empty rhetoric doesn’t defend against someone breaking into your home or stealing your car - police do!*

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street, has a drink after work, or has a good career plan. My foundation, my base from which I defined who I was as a cop and really a person was not set on the right areas. And when I failed...regularly...I tried to reset with more intensity in those areas.

And then my life changed in 2005. I will save the long story but understand that I was a first-time dad with a four-month-old son, a seven-year average marriage, a stable of fake friends, and an inflated self-image on my own greatness. In what was probably the start of the water slide into depression, the Lord confronted me, showed me who He was, and consequently who I was in return. I got blown up. Everything in April of 2005

changed. My firm foundation proved to be extremely firm and the best foundation from which to launch a counterattack against a cowardly life and career. Which leads to the second point.

## Face the Threats

We all can relate to some sort of energy drink-inspired rejuvenation of effort towards something. Work, sports, family...whatever it may be, there have been times when your mind, body, and soul were all clicking together, and you just got after whatever you were doing in a way so far beyond how you acted prior that it was noticeable by everyone around you. That’s what happened to me. I looked and saw I wasn’t the man/cop/father/husband/friend I wanted to be, so I faced the threats trying to destroy my family and career.

Frankly, this should be what all of us do on a routine basis. Men like Dr. Travis Yates, retired Major from Tulsa PD and author/speaker, (Ret.) Sheriff Andy D. Hughes, speaker/teacher, and (Ret.) Chief Dave Funkhauser are examples of men I am mentored by and inspired by, that have kicked their threats in the face over and over because they attacked from a firm foundation. And their impact is felt quite literally around the world. The lessons I take from them that I built into others is to find strong mentors, understand

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*Treat people as more important than the uniform they wear, and you will revitalize your ability to see your own career as more than just a desert road marking time for someone else.*

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the character of your heart defines you, because you were created on purpose for a purpose, and if you are in law enforcement your values may not always align with the organization you work with. And that’s okay. As long as you stay away from turning into a chameleon to be something you're not.

Treat people as more important than the uniform they wear, and you will revitalize your ability to see your own career as more than just a desert road marking time for someone else. You have to see our world differently. We are on the very real precipice of a war between multiple countries right now. Yet, kids in our country still need to be protected from predators, drivers need to be reminded to slow down, and bad guys need to go to jail. The daily struggle is being made to seem insurmountable. It isn't.

## Step into Action

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*When good men stand up against injustice, idiocy, and complacency, then our country will run the way it was founded to do. As those who would destroy us work hard on a Great Reset, I offer to you the title of a book project on which I have in the works now, The Great Rebound. You do not need to have a national voice to nobly face threats and stand with courageous nobility. You need only to give your life away to others, stand on the firm foundation of your convictions, and look to make your little corner of the world better than it was the day before.*

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I challenged those who heard me speak, to step into action and I do the same now if you're reading this. In law enforcement, roll your windows down and say hi to people. Get out of your comfort zone and go talk to business owners on how to make them feel safer. Spend time with kids playing basketball, frisbee, or anything in the park just because you know that's the way to make real change. I had a Chief once say he would pay officers for a full day just to play with kids at the park because he understood the way to make today's change is to build into tomorrow's leaders.

And when the kids can't believe you would spend time with them, they will tell their parents and others. And then they will show up as well. And your desire to fulfill the mission of both serving and protecting will be put into practice as you change entire communities with character and compassion.

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*There is a weight that each one of us carries inside.*

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There is a weight that each one of us carries inside. Whether it's to be of use to the world, or to know that your work made a difference in people's lives, all of us seek to find our purpose

and live it out. Those desires inside are the ways YOU can step into action even today! Write a message of hope for a co-worker and leave it in their locker, bring a meal to a family in need, help kids cross the street safely on the way to school, write a book, get a degree...whatever it may be that is waiting to be explored in your life - get after it and do it! When you set a firm foundation, face your threats, and step into action serving the community, you will look back at the desert that was once in front of you to see the oasis that it now has become because of how you lived your life. Don't waste what our Creator has given you!



*Sergeant Daukas is committed to the principles of Courageous Leadership and is the lead instructor for the foundational principle of Courageous Nobility. You can listen to Jeff discuss this vital principle on a recent [Courageous Leadership Podcast](#). He has over 21 years in law-enforcement working through patrol, investigations, and special operations both at the line level and as a supervisor.*

# Do you need to be “One of the Boys”?

C/Supt. Ron Mostrey (Ret'd)



I recently reflected on this famous photo taken in Nazi Germany in the 1930s as the public was being captivated by a charismatic leader.

Out of that multitude, only one man, [August Landmesser](#), did not follow the crowd.

I wondered what each individual actually thought as they raised their hand in respect to Adolf Hitler. Did any have any doubts about him? Did any think that someday history

would record him as one of the most vial despots? Were they just going along with the crowd to fit in?

As you know, there is a unique culture we experience in law enforcement. Arguably it has evolved and changed over time, but without a doubt, a core part of the culture is comradery, and thus a desire to fit in. Sometimes we hear it expressed as “we work hard, and we play hard!”.

I never had an issue with the “work hard” part. The Bible tells us: *And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;* Colossians 3:23-24. The “play hard” part is often just a way of excusing excessive drinking and all that goes along with that.

As Christian officers we do stick out (or should). Our lifestyle and the way we conduct ourselves can be strikingly different than many of our colleagues. The Bible tells us that we should avoid adopting the values, behaviors, or attitudes commonly associated with the prevailing societal norms or cultural expectations. *And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.* Romans 12:2

In each of our careers, at some point, I guarantee that there has been or will be, a time when you just can’t go along with the boys. That may mean not covering for a colleague’s wrongdoing, or having to report that wrongdoing. It may simply be letting your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no. At that time, one needs to determine what is more important – “being one of the boys” or standing up for who you are and the principles you have.

Going along with the crowd is easy and a good way to stay “safe”. However, like August Landmesser, there may/will be a time when you need to stand alone. He did not worry about being “one of the boys”. I wonder what the others in the crowd felt after learning of Hitler’s legacy.

***The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.*** Deuteronomy 31:8 (NIV)

# Don't underestimate the power of the spoken word

Agent Guy Nadeau, Quebec Representative



If you want to be effective in God's kingdom, you have to recognize God's voice. How can you obey an order from your superior if you can't even hear it? How can you be truly efficient and

productive? This applies everywhere, at home, at work, at the grocery store, etc.... Also, if you hear him and you don't obey him, I'd say that's even worse. If your superior gives you a formal order and you don't do it, you're going to get yourself into trouble, possibly in the short term. If this happens regularly, you're setting yourself up for more serious consequences if it doesn't change.

As an officer, if you're in plainclothes and you see a serious crime or an accident with an injured person, are you going to miss out and not do the job you've been trained to do? By becoming a Christian, all the tools we need are at our disposal, we just have to use them. Are you going to leave your service weapon in your locker? Hopefully, you'll never need to use it. If you do, it'll be there.

Fortunately, we have a merciful God who loves us, forgives us and wants the best for us. He knows us better than anyone. Luke 12:7 He even knows the number of hairs on our head (For those who have some LOL 😄).

Once we recognize when God is speaking to us, the next step is to obey him. Fear not, the first thing when God speaks to us, whether to witness, pray for someone, or give a word of encouragement, at first there will immediately

be doubt. Satan doesn't like it when we do God's work. He tries every means to bring us down, to keep us from moving forward. His plan is: *The thief comes only to steal, kill and destroy. I have come that people may have life, and that this life may be abundant* John 10:10. Another thing that really stood out to me as I read the Word in Matthew 28:13, was when the soldiers saw the angel of the Lord coming to roll away the stone from Jesus' tomb, they were frightened. They reported the event to the chief priests. The priests meet with the elders. They decide to give the soldiers a large sum of money to tell them to lie in addition to telling them what to say: *Jesus' disciples came during the night and they "stole" his body while we were sleeping*. Imagine if the truth would have been told and the impact that would have had on humanity. The reason I mention all this is to tell you that when we talk about Jesus or do His little work, the impact is so great. If we are blessed, we will see the impact of our works on earth. But surely we'll see it when we get to heaven.

I live in an income property that I own. I live near a CEGEP (college). My clientele is mostly students. In the past, my wife would place verses under the tenants' mattresses, praying for them. She also prayed around and inside the CEGEP. The prayer of the righteous is very effective. (James 5:16) In 2015 I had a student, I remember him well. One day he said to me: "Guy the washer isn't working". He had put in so much laundry in that it wasn't even spinning. Louis was just another student who didn't know God personally. He had his experiences like others. At one point I grabbed a "bong" because he'd had a little party with friends and consumed cannabis. At another time I had to fix a door because it had been forced open. The building's router was contained in that room

(internet wasn't working) He wanted to reboot it instead of telling me. Louis didn't finish his studies and left the following year. In December 2023, Louis called me after 7 years. He said: "Hello Mr. Nadeau, do you remember me from when I stayed with you?" I remembered him very well. He said: "Do you remember what you said to me?" Well, not really it had been 7 years! He reminded me what had really touched him in the words I'd said to him.

I had told him not to forget that Jesus had died on the cross for him, that it was important to think about eternal life. Those words stayed with him for several years, without Louis even realizing it. He lived through many significant events. But most extraordinary of all, this word led him to give his life to Jesus, and to a desire to turn away from his sinful life.

Thank you Lord for the words you give us for people.

## Illuminate Nova Scotia

Sgt. Ken Smith (Ret'd)



On April 13<sup>th</sup>, I had the honour/privilege to participate in the annual Illuminate Nova Scotia event for special needs which is a ministry to reach those in our society who are very often forgotten.

I along with two serving RCMP members were dressed in uniform to [welcome the special needs guests on the red carpet](#) as each one was welcomed.

I was able to witness to the members and used [Cst. Ryan Daigle's](#) touching and powerful testimony as a lead to a prayer that I prayed over each member. (Read Ryan's testimony page 3, [August 2016 Peacemaker](#))

Out of this event, plans are in the works for the host Wesleyan Church in Shelburne to have a peace officer / first responder weekend Nov. 9-10. Tentatively, I plan to share my testimony sometime on Saturday and retired S/Sgt. Rev. Andre Bigras will share the Word on the Sunday morning service at Hope Wesleyan Church in Shelburne. More details to come as we move ahead with our plans but this is an opportunity to reach out to peace officers across the region.

## Before my Shift

Gary Gasser

I just wanted to share my routine before work. When I pull into the parking lot, I take 2 minutes to say a little prayer. I start by putting on the full Armor of God (Ephesians 6:11-17). I even go through the motions! Then I pray for my colleagues, management and even the inmates in our care.

On a few occasions, colleagues have seen me praying and asked me questions about what I was doing. This gave me the opportunity to talk about the Gospel.

Have a good day and may God bless you!

Note: Gary is a correctional officer in Quebec.

# Don't just look - but see!

Dino Doria, Ontario Director



Sgt. Dino Doria (Ret'd.)

**Every day of life is a new miracle!** The Lord is our keeper even as we fall asleep He blesses us with sleep so we have strength for the next day. Isaiah 26:3 ~ *You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.* As I open my eyes each morning I realize this is an amazing miracle to be able to experience a new day in the making. He blesses me with a heartbeat and breath. A miracle of life that is often forgotten. *With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!* Psalm 119:10 ESV. I give thanks to the Lord for daily miracles in my life! Open my eyes Lord to your presence and new miracles daily. *You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.* Jeremiah 29:13 ESV

When I seek the Lord with all my heart He gives me sight to not only look but “See”. The opportunities to serve Him abound each day. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a wretch; like me! I once was lost, but now am found, “Was blind, but now I see”. When we truly seek Him we realize that all that we are and hope to be are also a gift from God. A good example of His master piece is the human cell - How complex and wonderfully unique are the inner workings of the human cell. In Jeremiah 1:5 God says, *Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born, I sanctified you; and I ordained you a prophet to the nations.* This is

one of those verses that a lot of people hate because it clearly brings to our attention the sovereignty and control of God. All of creation - point back to the Lord the Creator of Heaven and earth. Don't just look but “See”! As long as I'm breathing I have a reason to praise the Lord! Every day of life is a miracle therefore I will praise the Lord for He wants us to experience Abundant Life!

Take time not only to look but “see”- and you will see that miracles are occurring all around us daily. God's creation reminds us in Psalm 19: that miracles are being displayed before us every day - yet they are missed. *The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun. It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course. It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth. The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes.*

*While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.* Corinthians 4:18

“Don't just look but take time to see!” May the Lord who knows you better than you know yourself give you His Peace and **open your eyes to the daily miracles of LIFE!**



# Your chance to help & have fun in Egypt!

Maher Khela



## Security:

I just came from Egypt in March 2024, and it is safe. My family lives in Egypt, my friends and their family live in peace with no problem.

## What you can do:

If you can speak English you can help, cooking, painting, very light skills in computer (e.g., how to send email) ....etc.



## Cost:

The organizations will help with a decent place to sleep (a room and bathroom) sharing with others.

You will need \$720 CDN for one month (\$300 for health insurance + \$300 for food + \$100 for Transportation + \$20 for phone and data). This does not include your trips or other activities.

I'll be there waiting for you in Egypt from the middle of September to middle of November 2024. I'll help you to settle, and plan for visits to the Red Sea and Mediterranean Sea. Visit the most beautiful places in the south of Egypt ...etc. For further information please contact me at [oceanwaydream@gmail.com](mailto:oceanwaydream@gmail.com)

Thanks

MK



Note: Maher is a correctional officer in Ontario.

# FCPO - Canada Member Reverend Mike Cassidy Has Crossed the Bar

Rev. Tom Huntley (retired S/Sgt. Toronto Police Service)



Dec 7, 1934 – Jan 14, 2004

Reverend (Maurice) Micheal Cassidy passed away and on to Glory quietly in his sleep on January 14, 2024, at the I.O.O.F. Long Term Care Home in Barrie Ontario. Mike was 89 and had been in poor health for a couple of years.

Born in Liverpool UK, Mike saw firsthand as a child the horrors of WWII bombing raids on his city. He lost two homes and close friends in those air attacks. When he was old enough, Mike joined the British Merchant Navy and served in UN Peacekeeping missions in the Middle East, often with his ship being attacked by hostiles. Again, he witnessed the death of a close friend and shipmate when they were hit by gunfire in the Suez Canal.

In the early 60s Mike and his wife Irene (1935-2010) sailed to a new life in Canada. Mike joined the CN Police and later served several

years with the Metropolitan Toronto Police before leaving there and joining the Whitchurch Police. Mike eventually left policing and went into Private Investigations and Security. During this time Mike recalled his love for the sea and singed up with the Royal Canadian Navy Reserves in Toronto.

Later in the 1970s a hard living and hard drinking (in his own words) Mike met Rev Burston from the Newmarket Pentecostal Church. Rev Burston was going door to door in their neighbourhood offering to take children to Sunday School. Mike and Irene consented and when Mike recognized the Pastor's English accent, they started meeting weekly to talk about soccer and politics, but not God. One day Rev Burston decided it was time to talk to Mike about God. It was during a difficult time in the family's life.

Whatever the pastor said made an impression on Mike. The next day, as he was pouring himself a shot of whisky at the Legion where he tended bar, he heard a clear voice ask him "why are you subjecting me to this?" He tried to brush it off, but he heard it again and this time Mike felt in his heart that the voice was coming from God. He knew he had been convicted of sin in his life and there he swore off the liquor. He immediately emptied his home of it and together with Irene in 1974, they accepted Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

It wasn't long before Mike and two serving police officers, one being Dick Hayward of the OPP, were sitting together for a Bible Study. This was in the mid 1970s and eventually more Peace Officers joined them. This small group of Christian Peace Officers became the beginning of the FCPO in Canada. Mike would spend years in this Christian team building the

FCPO through church parades, prayer groups and ministry.

Fast forward to February 1994 when I met Mike at a FCPO Board meeting. I was just brought on as the new Editor of the Peacemaker. My first impression of Mike was “WOW!” and this guy is a little over the top! Then, in April we attended a board meeting in Ottawa, and after the meeting I had the privilege of driving Mike to his home in Barrie. For five hours Mike talked about Jesus, his life without and with Christ, his wife Irene and two daughters, Michelle and Shauna, and the Bible. It was the longest sermon I ever heard and after dropping him off at his home I knew I was hooked on this fellow and that we would become lifelong friends.

Mike always had a heart for first responders with a greater focus on police officers. He also had a heart for seniors and wanted to minister to them. In late 2005 Mike, Irene and I talked about our mutual desire to serve Jesus Christ through expanded ministry and in January 2006 we formed Full Ahead Christian Ministries, a volunteer ministry dedicated to serving seniors and veterans of military and police.

For the next 16 years Mike continued as this faithful servant ministering as Long-Term Care Home Chaplain, Padre to the Canadian Association of Veterans of UN Peacekeeping (Missions), Chaplain to the Royal Canadian Legion, Chaplain to the Army, Navy, Air Force Veterans Club and, in his most cherished role, serving youth in the Navy League and Royal

Canadian Sea Cadets as Lt. Cmdr and chaplain to the Barrie Corps.

Throughout the 30 years I was with my now Brother, Mike, I constantly witnessed his devotion to serving Jesus in his hundreds of hours of volunteer ministry. He had the special gift from the Holy Spirit to be able to instinctively know when someone needed prayer or comfort in Christ, and he was quick to respond (even in a Tim Horton’s). He had the ability to organize First Responder appreciation church parades. He was blessed with the gift of vocal music ministry, and, with Irene, they were an inspirational team ministering through hymns and songs that worship and praise God. They were loved by our several seniors’ congregations in the homes we served.

When Mike ‘Crossed the Bar’ (naval term) he immediately went to where he was promised, to be at Jesus’ side. He left behind a tremendous legacy of love for Jesus, love for his family, love for Peace Officers, love for Seniors, and love for Veterans in his wake.

While we are sad at his leaving, his family, friends and peers in policing, military and ministry remain grateful that Mike was gifted to us as a blessing from God in his earthly walk. As we laid Mike to rest beside his beloved Irene, we gave him a final salute and said, with tears in our hearts, “Good work our trusted and faithful friend. Rest easy now. We’ll take up your mission from this point on.”

## **NOTICE**

### **2024 Annual General Meeting**

Our AGM will be held at New Hope Community Church, 47529 Homestead Road, Moncton, New Brunswick on June 15, 2024 at 1:00 pm (EDT). If you wish to connect from a distance, please let us know and we will make such arrangements.



# 10-33!

Chief Terry Pheby (Ret'd)

In February, I was honoured to meet and participate with Ron Mostrey, John Siderius and Wade Wiesner at Missionfest in Winnipeg. We had a nice display set up to inform the attendees about the FCPO, with pamphlets and such to share. I was thrilled and amazed at the fellowship and spirit of the event.

There are many, many people seeking the Love of Christ and helping and serving in this regard is so spiritually rewarding. I urge all to look for opportunities to share our ministry and help those in need. They are everywhere and they need our help, from small communities to the larger metropolitan areas. Please get involved and help spread the "Word"!

On that note, Ron asked me to write an article for the Peacemaker - a daunting task perhaps. But again a nudge and request to volunteer some time and share some thoughts.

I do not much like talking about myself but as an introduction I served 20 years in Toronto as a constable, 5 years in Manitoba as a constable and also a chief constable of a small rural police service. I am also an ordained minister, although currently semi-retired, residing in a remote area of southern Manitoba. There is much more to my story, my life, my trials and tribulations, but this should suffice for now, because I want this writing to be about victory in Christ. Peace in Christ, that surpasses all understanding and a Way that is Life.

In my older years I am realizing just how much Jesus has saved me, protected me and loved me, despite my imperfections. Despite my routine of following my will and trying to figure everything out myself. I tell myself constantly; "Lean not on your own understanding, but in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path" In all my ways. In tractor woes, in the many challenges daily looking after 4 horses on "Pheby Pharm", to the deep, dark spiritual battles, I give it all to Him in prayer and yes He answers, every single time. It is so humbling, so gracious and so glorious, despite the circumstances.

**IT IS A VERY DARK SPIRITUAL BATTLE THAT  
MANY SERVING AND RETIRED OFFICERS ARE  
FACING, ALONE.**

But my subject today is very dark, very disturbing and very sad. It is a very dark spiritual battle that many serving and retired officers are facing, alone. Alone because it is a dark journey of pain and suffering of debilitating proportions, to a place of mistrust, suffering and solitude. Which is of course from the enemy, to divide and conquer through fear and division. Please realize, this is not a sermon

from a pulpit, from some high place speaking to the masses. I believe any good teaching comes from love and empathy and it is a conversation to myself, which I share in the hopes of helping others.

I have been to this dark place of suffering, pain and solitude. I have participated in therapies and self-help from the world. That was good and it helped, but it never got to the root of the pain. Only the Love of Jesus can overcome evil, pain and suffering, just look to the cross. Really look at the cross, feel His pain and

suffering that was freely given, to give us victory from it, by His power alone. LOVE - not human love or understanding, but Divine. "Love conquers all things"

I still suffer and struggle at times, until I remind myself of the cross and truly do not rely on my own understanding, but give my pain, my insecurities, and my fears to Him, and truly allow Him to take it for me. At that moment I feel His power, His Love, His Grace and I feel the Joy that surpasses all understanding. Some days this is a continual battle, but the victories always come, I assure you.

**EVERY TIME I READ OR LEARN OF A BROTHER  
OR SISTER SUFFERING THE EFFECTS OF OUR  
SERVICE, IT PAINS ME TO THE CORE.**

So finally, my subject today is suicide in our policing family. Every time I read or learn of a brother or sister suffering the effects of our service, it pains me to the core. I believe this pain is a call to help and I am sure we all feel the spirit moving in us to help. I cannot seem to find the solution or even know where to begin, but I know I have to do something. I think we all share this sentiment and feeling deep down into our spirit.

When I feel this deep sense of urgency and despair, I go to God in prayer. That is my reason for writing



(L-R) Sgt. John Siderius, Ron Mostrey, Terry Pheby

this. It is an Urgent Prayer Request, I repeat - **This is an Urgent Prayer Request.** A prayer request for direction from God on how we can help our fellow officers and their tortured souls. I am asking for guidance and direction and Holy Spirit power to break the bondage to pain and suffering officers are feeling. That we at FCPO and all other Christian organizations can pray for solutions, from the only solution - Jesus Himself. And then go in Love and action to love and help those in need. Every miracle that Christ performed was from the action of Love from the Father. May we be so empowered and encouraged to do the same. The Lord gives us eyes to see, ears to hear and your Love to overcome this darkness.

**Let us not leave any souls behind. In Jesus name, Amen.**

In closing anyone reading this who needs Love and support - I am here and the Love of Christ is with me and I so want to share Him with you.

God Bless and Take Care;

Terry Pheby

Editor's note: On the Friday Youth Night, we met and prayed with several children and young people who are considering careers in law enforcement. That is always very special when we attend events such as this. We pray the Lord will guide them in their career decision and open and close doors according to His will. We advise them to place their trust in the Lord, and sincerely seek His will. I'm certain some will be our comrades someday!



# A Cop's Ultimate Award Commendation

Police Lt. (Ret'd) & Chaplain MC Williams

**“The master was full of praise. ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant...Let’s celebrate together!’” (Matthew 25:21)**



**Lt. MC Williams (Ret'd)**

As police officers, awards and commendations are given for valor, outstanding police work; length of service, being wounded in the line of duty (the police purple heart), retirements and more. Our award ceremonies are a big deal (well, at least for the brass and our families, of course). Sadly, we joke (sort of) that it takes 10 "atta-boys" to equal a single "rip" (write up; "Come in and shut the door" meeting with the Chief or IA, etc.)?

In my own career, I won a lot of awards but never really sought them (although, like anyone, I hoped to be recognized for doing good work). In fact, because of some really bad "leaders", positive recognition seemed to just get me in more trouble (sigh). But we should not be serving in law enforcement for "awards" (medals,

certificates, plaques...). Certainly in my case, my goal was never about recognition but rather seeking to make a real difference fighting against evil and for those who couldn't fight for themselves (each and every day). And I was very much aware that once my time on "the Job" came to an end, I would be forgotten pretty soon thereafter (a sad truth in our God-ordained but sin-sick profession that also has a nexus to police suicide).

Then, when I came to a genuine saving faith in Christ (the ultimate Servant-Warrior, "Police Chief" and "Command-in-Chief"), I finally had an "award" goal I truly wanted: to one day stand (kneel) before my Lord and hear Him say to me, *"Well done, good and faithful servant!"* (versus the "other side of the coin" that no one should ever want to hear and what I deserved had I not turned to Christ in faith - - stay with me).

**So, HOW CAN WE GET INVITED TO THE  
ULTIMATE AWARD CEREMONY FOR THE  
CHIEF OF ALL COMMENDATION LETTERS?**

So, how can we get invited to the ultimate award ceremony for the chief of all commendation letters? Where do these words of commendation come from (and mean)? And why should it matter (it does -- a LOT)? Well, glad you asked!


In **Matthew 25** of our "policy and procedure manual" we know as the Bible, Jesus shared a [parable](#) (the Parable of the Talents) about a "master" and three trusted servants (think a Chief or Commander, and three officers under his command) to paint a word-picture about how we should live as we wait for His return. In this case, the master in this story had to go out of town and left his three "officers" (servants) large sums of tradable cash to invest or

otherwise spend wisely. These are counted using the measure of "talents," which in the ancient world was an enormous weight of precious metals. A single talent might have been as much as a common laborer could earn in twenty years.

The master (chief) then returned some time later (the context seems to indicate that it was a long time) met with his servants to see what they did with their assignments and the money he gave them when he left.

The first servant made his report. He used his master's five talents to earn another five talents. The master trusted the servant with great wealth, and the servant earned the equivalent wealth for his master. How did the master respond? He called his servant "good and faithful" and exclaimed, "Well done!" He rewarded his servant in two ways. First, he told the servant that because he has been faithful over a little, he would make the servant responsible for a great deal more (think promotion and a raise). Second, he welcomed the servant to share in his own personal joy. In other words, the master welcomed the servant into a closer connection to himself, managing more of his own estate, and walking in joyful relationship with him. Jesus was showing us that those who use what He gives to them to increase what

is His (it is ALL His) will also be rewarded with greater opportunity and joy when He returns. Frankly, this is something that every true believer in Christ should strive and long for when we finally stand before Him in heaven after death or rapture.



**NOW AGAIN, LET ME BE CLEAR: WE CAN'T "EARN" HEAVEN (OR ESCAPE HELL) BY OUR SO-CALLED "GOOD" DEEDS OR SERVICE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT (REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF WORLDLY COMMENDATIONS AND AWARDS WE EARN IN LAW ENFORCEMENT) OR ANYTHING ELSE.**

Now again, let me be clear: we can't "earn" heaven (or escape hell) by our so-called "good" deeds or service in law enforcement (regardless of the number of worldly commendations and awards we earn in law enforcement) or anything else. On the

contrary, God is clear in His Word that we are NOT saved **by** any "work" we do, but rather by grace alone through faith in Christ alone ([Ephesians 2:8-9](#)). However, we ARE saved **for** "good works" ([Ephesians 2:10](#)). Jesus also spoke of laying up treasures in heaven ([Matthew 6:20](#)), and His Parable of the Talents also hints at [various rewards](#) (crowns, medals) for those who faithfully serve Him in this world.

But please understand, the ONLY way anyone can hear, "*Well done, good and faithful servant,*" from King Jesus is by first being **saved** (born again in Christ alone -- [John 3:1-21, 14:6](#)). Those unbelievers who reject Christ's free (for us) offer of salvation will NEVER hear those words! [Hebrews 11:6](#) assures us that without a genuine, saving faith in Christ alone, it is IMPOSSIBLE to please God (or receive any kind of reward).

So how can we serve God in such a way that, when our time comes (and it IS coming), we will in fact receive our "Well done...!" commendation? Consider the following:

(1) First, we MUST repent and come to a genuine, saving faith in Christ -- to answer Jesus' call to "*repent and believe*" ([Mark 1:15](#)) by being radically [born again](#) in Him alone (and see, [What does it mean to "repent and believe"?](#)).

(2) Then (and only then) once you've come to genuine saving faith in Christ (a Christian as only He gets to define it), begin to regularly pray (talking to God) and study His Word (the Bible).

(3) Get baptized AFTER you come to faith (baptism does NOT save you but it is an important act of obedience).

(4) Get planted in a solid body of other Christians (aka, "church") where God's Word is taught soundly and without compromise. Surround yourself with other believers. Start to SERVE in your church (including church security for which we are uniquely trained). No, church attendance is NOT "optional" and yes, many good churches have something going almost every day of the week (just because we work on Sunday does not give us a "pass").


(5) Ask God to send you a mature believer (think "FTO") to **disciple** (Christian mentorship, field training) you in your new faith.

(6) Begin to share your faith (the Gospel) with others (again, the [Great Commission](#) is not the little suggestion or some kind of "optional" thing for Christians). See ["How can I shared my faith with others?"](#)

(7) Serve and live obediently, righteously, courageously and honorably both on and off duty. Be the faithful spouse God has called you to be. Lead your children by example. For us in law enforcement, God has in fact ordained us to be His sworn "*ministers*" (the original Greek word is simply translated as "servant") for "*good*" (the law abiding) and a lawful *terror against evil* (the lawless and those who seek to prey on the innocent and weak) -- **Romans 13:1-4**.

Friend, it comes down to this: love God more than anything, and love/serve others sincerely ([Mark 12:30-31](#)). At the [Judgment \(Bema\) of Christ](#), those who are faithful to the Lord who saved them will rightly hear, "*Well done, good and faithful servant.*" No true servant of the Lord could ask for more (I in fact long to hear those words from my Savior and Lord). And know this: all glory for any "well done" commendations rests on Him alone. Frankly, without what Christ did for us on the cross, we all deserve an eternal "life sentence" in hell.

And speaking of hell, you do NOT want to hear the other set of words reserved for those who pass from this life having rejected Christ as Lord and Savior: "*I never knew you, depart from me you worker of iniquity*" ([Matthew 7:21-23](#)).



**FRIEND, GOD PUT US ON THIS EARTH FOR A PURPOSE (HIS PURPOSE). HIS DESIRE IS THAT "NONE SHOULD PERISH" (END UP IN HELL) BUT RATHER THAT ALL WOULD COME TO REPENTANCE AND FAITH (2 PETER 3:9).**

At the end of our lives, we will ALL stand before Jesus to give an account. Believer and unbeliever alike will one day kneel and confess that Jesus is Lord (the unbeliever will then "believe" but will not be saved -- and will ultimately face judgement and eternal punishment in hell -- see ["What is the Great White Throne Judgment"](#)). I beg you...please don't choose that path.



Friend, God put us on this earth for a purpose (His purpose). His desire is that *"none should perish"* (end up in hell) but rather that all would come to repentance and faith (**2 Peter 3:9**). He truly wants you to be at the greatest awards ceremony of all time so that you can hear, "Well done..." while giving Him all the glory and praise.

Yet tragically, many still reject Him. As I share often, ours is a true mission field of a profession. My heart aches for the lost, and part of my call is to do all I can to share the hope I have in Christ with them (and especially those in our very special profession).

Accordingly, and as I shared in this message, the key to hearing *"Well done, good and faithful servant"* starts with coming to repentance and a genuine saving faith in Christ alone (no "other way" -- **John 14:6, Acts 4:12**). Do you have that? Do you know Him as Lord and Savior? Are you sure? If not, it is again with a "Code 3" (lights and siren) sense of urgency that I implore you to get right with God today.



**WELL  
DONE,  
GOOD *And*  
FAITHFUL  
SERVANT! MATTHEW 25:21**

Questions? I'm here to serve -- [contact me](#).

Primary references (outside the Bible, of course).

- (1) [Bibleref.net](#).
- (2) Got Questions Ministries.
- (3) The commentaries of David Guzik and Warren Wiersbe.

MC



[The Centurion Law Enforcement Ministry](#) is a non-denominational, evangelical Christian outreach by, for and about law enforcement (police, deputies, investigators, probation/parole, corrections, etc.) and military personnel. TCLEM provides Bible-based support, fellowship and accountability for officers worldwide. We also seek to infuse Christian servant-leadership into our profession and equip the Christian officer to boldly share and live the Gospel.

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**Membership is free! Members receive this quarterly newsletter.** We have 2 types of membership: Regular Membership (voting) is for current or retired peace officers, while Associate Membership (non-voting) is for any Christian who agrees with our [Statement of Faith](#).

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# Believe in Redemption

Deputy Chief [Thomas Lemmer](#) (Ret'd)



In this life there is suffering and evil is real. We live in a world that struggles with peace. Our communities have peace officers, police officers, because of this reality. Yet, more than any other reason, those who pursue a policing career seek to help others. And, given that children

are among the world's most vulnerable, their safety is deeply held within the policing mission. At their best, our police officers protect the innocent, and they seek to bring peace. They can also help guide those who have wandered from peace back toward the path. At Christmastime, we remember a child and the path to redemption He provides.

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:11 (ESV)

## A Lesson on Men's Courses

Within A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens wrote of three ghostly spirits. They visit and instruct Ebenezer Scrooge on how his choices in life have had impact far beyond his own life. It is to the “Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come,” that Scrooge remarks, “I fear you more than any other specter I have seen.” Scrooge knows that the future can be fearsome. This is particularly so when our past choices have not been good ones.

Scrooge, upon being confronted with the consequences of his own actions, makes a desperate plea. In doing so, he draws out the tale's core lesson: “Men's courses will

foreshadow certain ends to which, if persevered in, they must lead. But if the courses be departed from, the ends will change. Say it is thus with what you show me.” In that moment, Scrooge is reaching for an opportunity to take an altered course as a pathway to redemption. In performing their duties, our police officers have the opportunity to change minds and touch hearts. Even with those who have strayed from the path of peace.

## A Chicago Redemption Story

Chicago has a lengthy history of gang violence. One that predates the infamous Al Capone, and continues to plague far too many of the city's neighborhoods. As I have previously written, the Chicago Police Department (CPD) formed its first dedicated gang unit in 1967. Since that time, the department has often expanded and reorganized its resources focused on countering the city's gangs. For several years, I was actively involved in those efforts.

In 1994, I was a CPD gang tactical officer. In that year alone, I had thousands of contacts with gang members on Chicago's southside, and I participated in many arrests. One involved a 14-year-old gang member, who I arrested moments after he discharged a handgun at several members of a rival gang. Fortunately, in that incident his shots missed everyone.

## When Courses are Diverted

On a snowy night eleven years later, I was reminded of that arrest when I ordered a pizza delivered to my home. A 25-year-old delivery driver came to my door. It was then I discovered that I only had a \$50 bill, which was much more than the cost of the pizza. Awkwardly, I began to explain this to the driver. With the larger bill, the driver was not able to make change. To my surprise, he began to tell me how he had tried to call. This really confused me, as I had only then realized I did not have any smaller bills.

How did he know? As he continued speaking, I realized he was not talking about the pizza or the payment. He spoke about how he had tried to call me at my old unit years earlier. He was talking about that arrest in 1994, and he remembered me clearly. When I had arrested him that night, I spoke to him. I expressed concern about his choices and their potential consequences. He explained that our conversation that night stuck with him. It made a real difference in his life, and he subsequently left his gang. He was now married and raising a child of his own.

That talk was one of hundreds for me, but for him, it was the one that made a difference. He thanked me for helping to guide him back to the

path of peace. That pizza delivery is one I remember very well. Dinner was special that night. There was a deepened appreciation about the reality of men's courses. What a blessing to have been able to play even a small part in someone's move toward redemption.

## Embracing Redemption

How we live our lives points each of us to certain ends. When we have the opportunity to help someone on their path to redemption, we should do so. Such is true to the policing mission, and far beyond. The power of redemption is real. It is a continuing blessing that comes from above.



## From our Vault

Articles from [past Peacemakers](#) make for a great second read. And for many of you - the first read. They are timeless. We opened the vault for this issue, and hope you will be blessed again by this contribution.

## Bev Shea — 100 Years Young

Supt. Alex Geddes (Ret'd), President RCMP Veterans' Association – Ottawa Division

This article is reproduced from the RCMP Veterans' Association, Ottawa Division newsletter "The Spirit" September, 2009.



Along with my wife, Beverley, representing the RCMP Veterans' Association Ottawa Division and Cpl. Richard Duval, Cornwall Detachment, we had the most wonderful and gratifying

opportunity to attend this birthday celebration of Shea's Winchester homecoming and to honour a man for more than 50 years of service with the Billy Graham Crusade.

You may ask – Why would the RCMP Veterans' Association Ottawa Division be part of this centurion's celebration? Well the answer is mainly found with RCMP Veteran, Garth Hampson's ongoing connection/friendship, through music, to the Shea family for many years and the wonderful relationship Shea has had with Hampson, the RCMP and Shea's love and support of the RCMP all his life.

My purpose was to present Shea with a Happy 100th Birthday Certificate as approved by the RCMP Vets Association Ottawa Division Executive. The Certificate reads in part – (George Beverly Shea, Heartiest congratulations on the occasion of your 100th Birthday. The Ottawa Division RCMP Veterans' Association commends and congratulates you on your dedication and commitment to Canada and its ideals. To quote your favourite hymn... "How Great Thou Art".) The Certificate is signed by President Al Rivard on the 31st of July 2009.

Cpl. Richard Duval of the RCMP Cornwall Detachment attended in Red Serge and really added to the overall tribute to Shea. Duval assisted me in making the presentation to Shea on behalf of the RCMP Vets Association, Ottawa Division. Shea was totally in awe of the Red Serge.

The Salvation Army Band from Ottawa was in attendance and the Salvation Army TV Staff from New York City had the service broadcasted live between the Salvation Army Camp at Orchard Beach, Maine, USA via Skype on a giant TV screen which allowed us to take part in the service between Canada and the USA.

Shea's father was the Minister of the Winchester Wesleyan Church where Shea was born on 1st, February 1909 and he grew up in this community.

The weather provided a beautiful summer night and allowed the dual hosts Winchester Church and the Salvation Army to present this gala affair which became a two hour marathon of tributes. If you grew up singing the old hymns and some of the great Billy Graham Crusade music it would have brought tears to your eyes. The church was packed and the congregation raised the roof with the anthem "[Great Things He Hath Done](#)" as Mr. Shea and his wife Karlene entered. Shea was escorted to the front and took a seat in a chair on stage. The Service was co-led by a Major from the Salvation Army and Pastor Thurland Brown, Winchester Wesleyan Church. The TV screen showed Shea in the corner with

the bigger screen showing a senior Salvation Army leader from Maine introducing the purpose of this tribute and mentioned that the RCMP were honouring Shea as well. This gentleman stated that Shea was being honoured by the Salvation Army for more than 50 years of Christian Service with Billy Graham and he asked Shea if he would honour everyone in Maine and Winchester with a song. It was really quite amazing that this man who was born in 1909 was able to readily pick up the microphone and instruct the organist "key of "G" for [Rose of Sharon](#)". He then sang another hymn and his voice is still very powerful.

Throughout the Service we were entertained by the Salvation Army Band in Orchard Beach, Maine and at Winchester by two lady soloists along with an organ / piano recital. All of these entertainers were extremely professional.

Several presentations were made by Mr. Alvin Runnalls, Mayor of North Dundas, Salvation Army and ourselves. During my presentation, Shea said he would like to tell the story of his connection with the RCMP. He said he completed his application for the Force when he was 18 years of age. Prior to joining he had a tour of Parliament Hill with the Staffing Officer from the RCMP. He asked the Staffing Officer where he might end up after training, and, in response the staffing officer said with your size probably up north in some restricted tough RCMP Detachment. With that, he thought a media career would be less stressful and the rest is history. He was thrilled with the Certificate. I gave him a RCMP Veteran's Pin and told him to wear it with pride as it would make him an honorary RCMP Veteran.

I presented a gift to his wife Karlene on behalf of the Hampson family. Mrs. Shea, grabbed my hand and told me that George was so thrilled to be honoured by the RCMP Veterans and to receive this Certificate from the Veterans' Association as he just loves the RCMP. It was indeed gratifying to know that the RCMP is held in such high esteem by a World-Class Singer as George Beverly Shea.



callin'  
**ALL POLICE  
FIRE  
PARAMEDICS**

**FIRST RESPONDERS  
APPRECIATION BBQs**

September 21, 2024  
12:30 - 7pm

Peel Police 11 Division - 3030 Erin Mills Pkwy, Mississauga ON  
Peel Police 12 Division - 4600 Dixie Road, Mississauga ON  
Peel Police 21 Division - 10 Peel Centre Drive, Brampton ON  
Peel Police 22 Division - 7750 Hurontario Street, Brampton ON  
Toronto Police - 11 Division, 2054 Davenport Road, Toronto ON  
RCMP "K" Division - 12 Clydesdale Avenue, Cochrane AB

These BBQs are a great way for the Christian community to show their love and support for First Responders. They are put on by a coalition of local churches. Maybe your local churches would like to put one on. The model is set. Just ask your church leadership to contact [Brian Prill](mailto:brill@blplaw.ca) [brill@blplaw.ca](mailto:brill@blplaw.ca)