



JULY 2023 | ISSUE 3

SEA TO SEA

Canadian RP News



Ottawa RPC

The Person and Work
of the Lord Jesus

p. 4

Interview:
Rev. Scott Wilkinson

p. 6

Profile:
Ottawa RPC

p. 15

Alleghenies
in the RPCNA

p. 14

One of the sure signs of life is growth. That is true physically and also spiritually. In spiritual terms it is true both individually, as Christians, and corporately as the Church. We are all at different places in our walk with Christ, but are you growing? The apostle Peter's last inspired word to the Church was *"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."* (2 Peter 3:18) God has given us everything we need for life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3), and so we have everything we need for growth in our Christian lives. Beyond the primary means of grace (or "means of growth") of Scripture, sacraments, and prayer, it is our hope that "Sea to Sea" will be used for spiritual good and growth in the lives of God's people. We also trust that this magazine will be a record and testimony of how the Church is growing in maturity and in number. What a joy to welcome the former APC congregation in Vancouver into our RP Presbytery and Church family! Unofficially, I would venture to say that makes the RP Church the fastest growing denomination in Canada, year to date, with a 12.5% increase in congregations! Of course, we should never be "number" focused. Our God is the God of Gideon. But we should pray for growth and expect to see growth. Jesus said he would build his Church. Whatever your millennial view may be, it is simply a fact that the true Church of Jesus Christ has never gotten smaller. Every sinner saved by sovereign grace is added to the Church. The missions-minded Count Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, as a teenager along with four friends, formed a prayer group which was known as the "Order of the Mustard Seed." He understood and believed Mark 4:30-32! So should we. Yet, as we pray for the growth of the Church in Canada, we do not despise the day of small things, knowing that it will be *"Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord Almighty."* (Zechariah 4:6ff.). As the Spirit works may we have many occasions to ask, *"... but these—where have they come from? ... This place is too small for us; give us more space to live in."* (Isaiah 49:20-21) .Soli Deo Gloria.



BY REV. MATT KINGSWOOD
Minister of the Russell RPC

3 Formation Service

4 Person and Work of The Lord Jesus by Rev. Allan McLeod

5 Book Review: 'Gentle & Lowly' by Dane Ortlund

6 An Interview with Rev. Scott Wilkinson.

7 Ministry in Egypt

8 Precentor's Workshop & Presbytery Meetings

10 Running for Political Office by Mr. Gerrit Van Dorland

12 Biblical Anthropology by Mr. Jim Hughes

14 Presbytery of the Alleghenies RPCNA

15 Profile of Ottawa RP Church

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All Bible quotations are from the ESV





FORMATION SERVICE

May 12th 2023



Reformed Presbyterian Church of Canada

Following four years of work by the Canadian Sessions, the RPCNA Synod of June 2022 established a new Canadian Presbytery of the RPCNA and granted it permission to constitute itself as the RP Church of Canada.

At a special meeting of the Canadian Presbytery on Friday May 12, 2023 in Ottawa, it constituted itself as a separate denomination, the RP Church of Canada.

Greetings were delivered by fraternal delegates from the ARP, URC, Canadian Reformed & RPCNA churches. Rev. Harry Metzger, moderator of the RPCNA preached from 1 John 5:1-4; prayers were offered to God to bless the establishment of the RPCC.

Vows were reaffirmed by all the elders, deacons and members present. There were over 100 people in attendance from Russell, Almonte, Ottawa & Kitchener and another 50 participants watching via livestream.

Pray that God would bless the work of our hands as we labour for his glory in the nation of Canada.





THE PERSON AND WORK OF THE LORD JESUS

In the previous articles on the Person and Work of Christ we've examined, The Uniqueness of His Person, and The Uniqueness of His Life. We now consider, The Uniqueness of His Death.

How was Christ's death unique? What made his death stand out against the vast number who died before him, and the many who have died, and continue to die, after his death? Some elements the uniqueness of his death, are:

1. His death was prophesied.

Psalm 22, written one thousand years before his death, presents in detail what would be part of his experience on that dark day. Indeed, in this Psalm, we are allowed to have access to the thoughts of Jesus as he hung upon the cross. This is truly astounding. How often have we said of someone, 'I wish I knew what they were thinking.' In Psalm 22 we have access to the mind of Christ.

2. His death was paradoxical.

There are many facets to the paradox. One is that he died for his enemies. Paul brings out how amazing this is. We as

sinners are entirely unlovable. Yet: *For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:7-8)*

3. His death was procuring.

Through his death, he not only procured the possibility of salvation, but he purchased a people for his own possession. In fact, so great was this purchase that they sing about it in Heaven!

*They were singing a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals because you were killed, and **at the cost of your own blood you have purchased for God persons from every tribe, language, people, and nation.** You have appointed them as a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth." (Revelation 5:9-10)*

And in Heaven not only do they sing about the purchase he made, but they proclaim the cost of the purchase: the shedding of the blood of Jesus.

The Apostle Peter reminds us

how costly this purchase was:

... knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. (1 Peter 1:18-19)

4. His death was personal.

His death is not only to be understood in terms of what he experienced but must also be understood in terms of his dying on behalf of, and in the place of, others. In other words, Jesus' death was substitutionary. He died the death that we deserved. He took the place on the cross that was rightly ours. He bore the punishment that was justly ours. He alone felt the full brunt of the wrath of Almighty God so that those whom he purchased would never have to experience this.

That is why Peter reminds us:

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. (1 Peter 2:24)

5. His death was persuasive.

We read that his death was accompanied by miracles: the darkness, the earthquake, and the opening of the graves. After seeing Jesus on the cross and the events of that day, the Roman centurion who may have seen hundreds die, was filled with awe and said:

“Truly this was the Son of God!” (Matthew 27:54)

6. His death was piacular (sacrificial).

Propitiation, redemption, justification, are but some of the benefits accruing from the death of Jesus. But all the benefits, singularly and collectively, have as their one God-ordained purpose and function, reconciliation!

... that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. (2 Corinthians 5:19)

For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. (Romans 5:10)

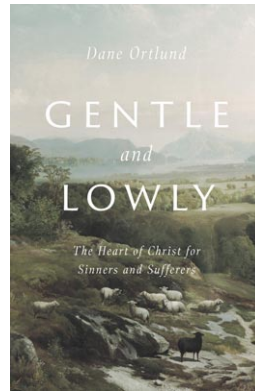
As Paul proclaims:

... being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (Philippians 2:8)

The question you must answer is: Will you humble yourself and bow your knee to Jesus?



BY REV. ALLAN MACLEOD
Minister of the RP
Congregation in Toronto, ON



REVIEWED

BY Kendra Finlayson and
Andrea Vandenberg

Members of the RP
Congregation in Toronto, ON

Many of us have grown up hearing all about Jesus and what he has done. We have read in countless books all about the attributes of Christ, have sought to understand his teachings and sayings, and have even dove into exploring his ministry here on earth and what it means for us as the present day church. Gentle and Lowly by Dane Ortlund helps us rediscover the heart of Christ, and who he is at his core. The one time in scripture that Jesus refers to his own heart he says, “Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls” (Matthew 11:29).

Each chapter plunges deeper into the heart of Christ, where we find a friend who will never leave us, one able to sympathize with all of our weaknesses, an advocate, and a Father who is rich in mercy. Often the Christian life seems like a list of dos and donts and a wrestling with the process of sanctification, but Dane Ortlund shows us the beautiful simplicity of following Jesus. He directs us to consider that it is through Christ’s power and the Holy Spirit, that we grow in our walk of faith, as we learn what it means to live and rest in the never ending well which is his heart.

Ortlund takes a bible passage or teaching from the puritans and considers what is being said about the heart of God and of Christ. Each chapter helps you dive deeper into the heart of Christ and in a very simple, impactful, and beautiful way, helps us better understand the beauty and goodness of Jesus’s love.

For anyone feeling lost, broken, defeated, or rejected. For those tired of the daily battle with sin. For the pastor who is seeking to shepherd their flock, and for the every day church goer longing to learn more. This theologically profound yet immensely simple book, will leave you feeling refreshed and at peace as you bask in the never ending, beautiful love of Christ for you.

THE INTERVIEW

Rev. Scott Wilkinson
Pastor of New Creation
RP Church
in Kitchener, Ontario

I was born of Canadian parents in Cleveland, Ohio in 1965. I am the youngest of five children. In 1973, when I was seven years old, our family moved to Scottsdale, Arizona. I lived there until I set off for seminary at Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary in the summer of 1992. My mother was a third generation Jehovah's Witness and so we children were taken to the Kingdom Hall and out to do door to door "service" until I was in grade six. When the world didn't end in 1975, as the Watchtower Society promised, my mother left the cult and was disfellowshipped on the way out. My father never had any spiritual beliefs and so we became a secular non-religious family. During high school I became a skeptic with respect to God and believed in evolution along with whatever secular science announced to be true.

Through the witness of a few Christian classmates and a teacher, I came to faith just after my first year at university. Shortly after my conversion I "felt" a desire to become a minister. I was starved of truth my whole life and was hungry to know theology. The first church I attended was Heart to Heart Bible Church. It was during the first year of my Christian life



that I discovered that Christians were divided into many denominations over different theological questions. After reading a book called "The Creeds of the Churches," and being given a copy of G.I. Williamson's study guide to the Westminster Confession of Faith, I soon entered the world of R.C. Sproul's Ligonier Tape Ministry. My second year as a Christian began in the Calvin PCA congregation. Over the two years at Calvin, I was taken under care as a candidate for ministry. I was even given the privilege one day of picking up John H. Gerstner from the airport and taking him to his hotel where I could ask him all kinds of questions for hours before he was to speak at a conference in Phoenix.

My first course at seminary was Introductory Greek, which began in the summer of 1992. I lived at the seminary which has a wonderful library and rare books room. This is when I began to seriously study the doctrine of worship, the

regulative principle, and its implication respecting songs and instruments in public worship. Once I was convinced of exclusive Psalm singing, the presbytery of the Alleghenies accepted my transfer to become a candidate in the RPCNA.

After seminary, I accepted a call to become the pastor of Walton Reformed Presbyterian Church, in July 1995. It was on the night of my ordination that I met my wife Elineke. She had come down from Owen Sound, Ontario to serve as a camp counselor at White Lake family camp. Since the camp was only an hour away, she and a few of the other counselors decided to attend the ordination service. A week later, we were debating exclusive Psalm singing. We were married the next year in August 1996. The Lord has blessed us with six wonderful children, four of whom have married, and two of these are expecting our first grandchildren.

If I were asked what the greatest influence has been in my life for Christ, the answer is very easy; my wife. Every day, for 27 years from morning to evening, Elineke's example has been one of selfless service; to me, our children, the church, and neighbors. God has indeed visited me with tremendous gracious favor in the gift of Elineke. "He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the LORD" (Proverbs 18:22).

The most important advice I could ever give to a young unmarried man or woman is: prayerfully marry well. Of all the decisions one can make, none will have more impact on oneself and the world than the choice of a marriage partner. This choice will not only have the greatest effect upon one's personal walk with the Lord; it will also directly set a spiritual course for thousands of other people, should the Lord give you the blessing of children. So, when it comes to choosing a spouse heed the Word, "Do not lean on your own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5). If the Lord tells us to seek first the kingdom of God (Matthew 6:33), then this purpose must also be the first priority in the heart of the one we would marry. This can be discovered within twenty minutes in a conversation.

One hope, desire, and prayer that I have for the RP Church of Canada would be to see our young families and young people enthusiastically embracing Biblical Christianity (the Reformed Faith) as the foundation for their homes.



BY REV. SCOTT WILKINSON
Minister of the New Creation
RP Church in Kitchener, ON



MINISTRY IN EGYPT

Rev. Dr. Andrew Quigley and Rev. Vince Ward travelled to Cairo, Egypt, for a week in mid-May initially at the request of the Ottawa Session and Deacons, to find out more about the possibility of investing in a Psalter translation project. However, it developed into a week of fairly intense teaching and preaching for both men.

Andrew taught a series of lectures on the Apostle Paul, preached at the Anglican Seminary Chapel, and at a Presbyterian Church of Egypt as well as speaking at a Presbyterian Minister's Conference. Vince also gave a series of lectures at the Anglican Seminary on Missions, led a Bible Study in the Presbyterian church and had a meeting with Sudanese Christians in the city.

The two men were also engaged in several informal counseling meetings.

The lecturing and preaching were genuinely appreciated and it seems that there will be an opportunity in the future to develop the relationship which was established.



KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE WORKSHOP:



The goal in Psalm Singing

That God's people would sing psalms in a fitting style with unity and understanding for his glory.



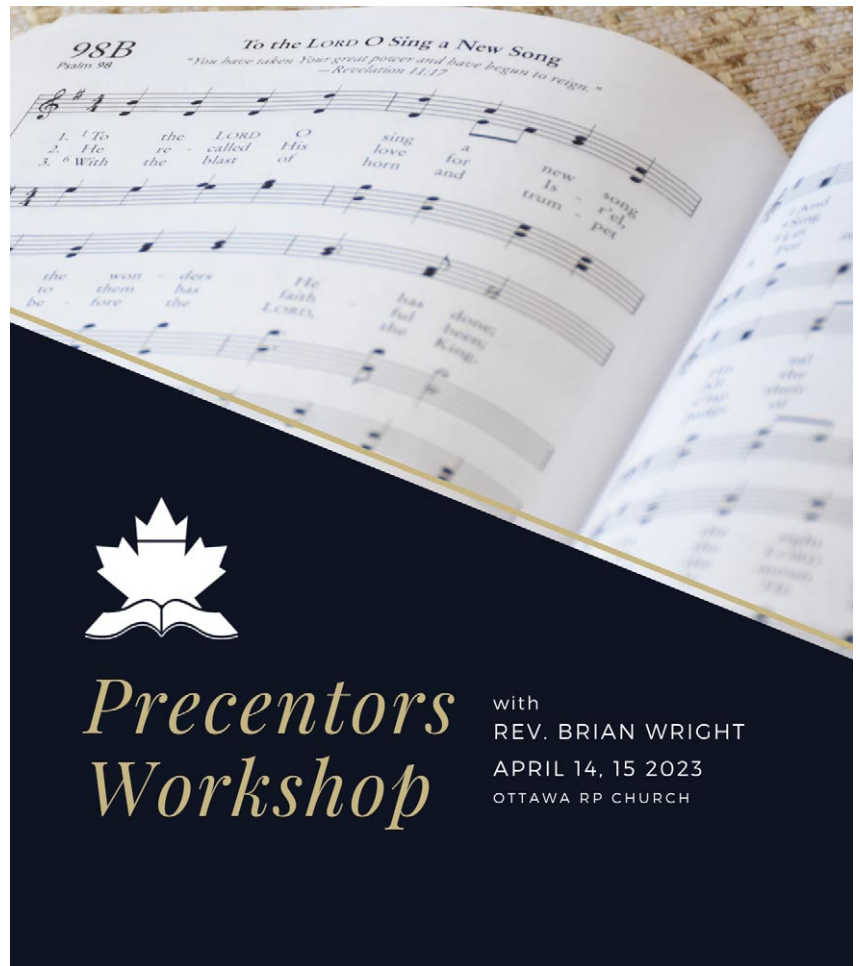
The Precentor's Job

is to help the congregation: Start together, Stay together & Stop together.



The role of the Congregation

Sound travels slower than light, so you need to look at the precentor to know when to sing, if you sing along to what you are hearing, you are going to be behind.



Precentors Workshop

with
REV. BRIAN WRIGHT
APRIL 14, 15 2023
OTTAWA RP CHURCH

PRECENTOR'S WORKSHOP

BY MR. COLIN POSTMA

In God's providence, we were thankful to be able to host the Precentor Training Workshop that took place here in Ottawa at the beginning of April. The event was led by the Reverend Brian Wright, from Sterling, Kansas. We were honoured to have around thirty people attend with several joining the live stream.

Over the course of Friday and Saturday, we were blessed with four informative talks that covered a range of topics related to leading the singing of the Psalms. We delved into the reasons why we sing the Psalms in the manner we do and considered various presenting and singing techniques.

We are grateful for the opportunity to have had this training workshop, and we pray that the knowledge gained will be a blessing to our churches and to the glory of God in our worship of him in our congregations across Canada.



Canadian Presbytery Meeting

The Canadian Presbytery of the RPCNA met on May 11th -12th at the Ottawa RPC building. The Moderator was Rev. Scott Wilkinson of New Creation RPC and a provisional Clerk, Rev. Matt Kingswood of Russell RPC, was appointed in the absence of Rev. Dr. Andrew Quigley who was with his family in Northern Ireland following the death of his father.

We were delighted to welcome Rev. Harry Metzger, Moderator of the RPCNA Synod, who preached God's Word at the opening of Presbytery, from Isaiah 12:1-6, with two main points: 'Expressing Gratitude to God' and 'Expressing a Testimony of God and the Gospel to the World'.

Presbytery rejoiced to note that Mr. James Zhou was ordained and installed as minister of the West Vancouver RPC mission church, and Rev. Kevin Jia was installed in the Nissi congregation in Surrey, both on November 29th, 2022. We regretfully accepted Rev. Dan Dupuis' request to be removed from the Roll of Ministers in the Canadian Presbytery. The Moderator was asked to write to Rev. Dupuis expressing our sad, yet open hearts to him as the Lord might lead him in days to come. Mr. Colin Postma reported on the Presbytery Precentor event that took place in Ottawa on the 14th and 15th of April, led by Rev. Brian Wright (RPCNA pastor in Sterling, Kansas). The Vancouver AP congregation was received into the Presbytery, with joy, on Friday, April 14th, 2023. Rev. Allan MacLeod from the Toronto congregation preached at the reception service. The elders also were happy to interview Mr. Ezra Wilkinson as he considers preparation toward gospel ministry. Presbytery asked the Kitchener New Creation elders to shepherd Ezra in this direction as he attends Gillespie Seminary in Woodstock. Rev. Matt Kingswood, as a member of the Training Men for Ministry Committee, was assigned as a mentor for Ezra.

Valuing the RP family worldwide, the Presbytery will soon petition the RPC Australia and the RPCNA to review a request from the RPCC for membership in the RP Global Alliance. As a means of maintaining connections with the RPCNA several men were appointed to represent the RPCC as non-voting members of the RPCNA Home Missions Board, the RPCNA Global Missions Board, and the RPCNA South Asia Commission, as outlined in Memoranda of Understanding with those boards.

The highlight of Presbytery occurred on Friday evening with the Formation Service of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Canada. Rev. Harry Metzger again brought the Word, from 1 John 5:1-4, to the newly constituted denomination, stressing the marks of a Christian being faith, love, obedience and victory! Thanks again to the Ottawa RPC for their warm and gracious hospitality in hosting Presbytery.

- Rev. Matt Kingswood, provisional clerk



CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Running for Political Office

In the first half of 2023, Gerrit Van Dorland, a member of Ottawa RPC, and a Parliament Hill staffer, made the decision to run for political office in his hometown riding of Oxford, Ontario. After running a long and challenging nomination for the seat, and with a large body of support within the riding, he was disqualified for reasons still unstated. The decision was appealed and the original decision was upheld.

In May, about a month after the disqualification decision, Colin Postma, an Elder at Ottawa RPC, asked Gerrit a series of questions about the race, which you can read below.

1. What inspired you to run for office, and what were some of the most significant challenges you faced during your campaign?

I ran for office out of a conviction to stand for truth in the public square. In Isaiah 59, we read the prophet lamenting that *“Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away; for truth has stumbled in the public squares, and uprightness cannot enter.”* (Isaiah 59:14). Those words may as well be describing our present day, where all around us we see evil being called good and good evil

and truth, as derived from God’s Word, is increasingly disregarded and discarded.

But of course, the story doesn’t end there. We are not called to wallow in darkness. God speaks to Isaiah in chapter 60, and says *“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising”* (Isaiah 60:1-3). He is calling his Church to stand up, to take action, and be salt and light in the darkness.

When the opportunity to run for office in my home riding came up, I prayed for God’s guidance and direction, and it was primarily with this passage from his Word that he called me to run for office and be a witness for him in the public square.

As for the second part of your question, the greatest challenge was running for office and knowing there would be forces to confound my campaign as a result of my values. When any Christian seeks to be a witness for Christ

in the public square, whether it’s in ministry, politics, or another sphere, Satan is stirred up and will do what he can to confound him. I encourage anyone reading this to keep the people God has called to these vocations in prayer. They need our constant prayers to ward off Satan’s attacks.

2. How did your faith and beliefs influence your decision to run for office, and how did they sustain you throughout your campaign?

My faith was the lifeblood of my campaign. I was given the advice to document in a journal the entire process, and I’m grateful that I did. Reading back through my entries now, I’m amazed at how God sustained me each step of the way, and especially when things got difficult with my pending disqualification. There was about a two-week window from when I first heard that there were efforts to disqualify me and from being disqualified. Those were two of the hardest weeks of my life, but also two of the richest. God drew near to me in that season unlike any other I’ve experienced in my life, to the point that I can say with the Psalmist, *“It is good for me that I was afflicted.”* (Psalm 119:71)

3. Even though you weren't successful in your bid for office, you seem to be at peace with the outcome. How did you come to terms with not achieving your goal?

Yes, I am generally at peace, and only by the grace of God. At times I do still feel a righteous wrath at the injustice perpetrated, but I've often gone back to Psalm 37 as a reminder that we're commanded not to fret about evildoers who prosper in their evil ways. Vengeance is his.

As Christians we are called to obedience, not to 'success' as we see it. He was faithful in walking with me in each step of the process, even up until the very end of the campaign. I so felt his presence that when the final email came that I had been disqualified, I was given peace knowing that this was his perfect plan. He allowed evil to prosper, but he had a plan amidst it all, and he works all things for good.

I will say however, that I was struggling with doubt and fear as we awaited the outcome of the decision. Satan was on the offensive, and I was left taking Martin Luther's advice: "Come, let us sing a psalm, and drive away the devil." Together with my mother and fiancée, we sang Psalm 90. We were only one verse in, when the email we were waiting for came in: I had been disqualified. I read the email briefly, shared the news, and we kept singing.

4. Some people might question whether it's possible to be both politically ambitious and spiritually grounded. What would you say to those who

might doubt the compatibility of those two things?

Certainly, it's possible to be both. God has called and used many God-fearing men in the past to advance his Kingdom in the political realm. I think of Daniel and William Wilberforce and even today there are godly men and women in office. It's important for any Christian in the political realm to stay grounded in prayer, and in feeding on his Word. As mentioned, Satan will have a large target on your back, so you need to really take Ephesians 6:11-18 to heart.

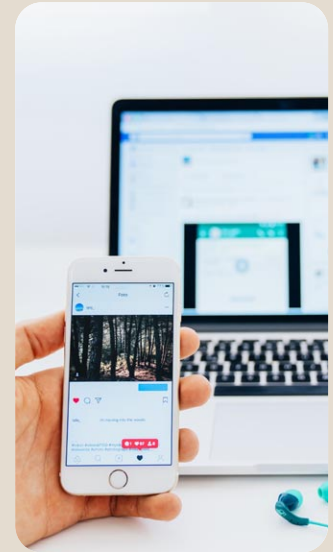
5. What advice would you give to someone who is considering running for political office but is worried about the potential disappointment and uncertainty that comes with campaigning? How can they find comfort and strength in their faith during that time?

I would say, if God has called you, then go. Draw near to him, and he will draw near to you. He never forsakes his people. He will sustain you. He calls you to be obedient, and that's all you can do, regardless of the outcome.



BY MR. GERITT
VAN DORLAND
Member in Ottawa RPC

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ANTH NUMBER 3 IN THE SERIES ROPO MALE AND FEMALE LOGY



Biblical Anthropology – Non-Ape Man

Adam and Eve were created, body and spirit, by immediate and direct acts of God. Adam's body was formed out of the dust of the ground (Gen 2:7; Gen 3:19), and Eve's from Adam's body (Gen 2:21, 22). Neither arose from an animal parentage. In a few verses, the Bible declares to be false the belief that man developed through an evolutionary process from an ape-like creature, as many people dogmatically proclaim today. Even many Christians believe that man developed his rational capacities either naturally as he became differentiated from a pre-hominoid, or God intervened at a particular point in the evolutionary process to breathe into a grunting beast the mind of man.

It is claimed that fossils show the increasing complexity of life through time and provide intermediate examples along the evolutionary path. From these fossils we are supposed to see a progression from an ape-like creature to man. Over the past two centuries many candidates for a pre-human ancestor to man have been proposed, including Neanderthal. Some of these have been frauds (e.g., conjectured from a pig's tooth). Neanderthal, in the 1920s was claimed to be an ape-like creature on the way to becoming human, but by the 1980s was acknowledged by paleontologists and anthropologists to be near human, based on evidence such as tool making, language, and religious rituals. Today, Neanderthals are considered to have been humans.

A favorite among evolutionists today is Australopithecus, for which Richard Leakey and a fossil named Lucy are famous. Australopithecine were supposed to be our evolutionary ancestors. However, Leakey himself reported to have discovered in Olduvai Gorge, below australopithecine remains, foundations of a circular stone habitation. Such a shelter is normally attributed to man. This means that man existed at the same time as (and before) the creature which is supposed to have been our ancestor! Of course, evolutionists claim that the co-existence of two evolutionary branches is

possible, as one gained ascendancy and the other died out. The latest attempt by evolutionists to save the australopithecine, or similar ape-like creatures, as our ancestors is to push back their dates by millions of years. In fact, the australopithecine may merely be fossilized apes similar to bonobos (pygmy chimpanzees), which are essentially the same size (skeletal frame and brain cavity).

Evolutionists often conjecture from a few bones and teeth (or part of a jaw) the evolutionary sequence of the supposed pre-hominoids and how they lived (e.g., what they ate, if they walked in a certain way, and if they made tools). It makes about as much sense as you or I guessing what is the picture on a 1,000-piece puzzle from a few pieces. If you think I am exaggerating about what evolutionary paleontologists do when they invent their stories of human evolution, I recommend that you do an internet search and read the article by Michael D. Lemonick and Andrea Dorfman, in Time (2001-07-23) entitled, "One Giant Step for Mankind—Meet your newfound ancestor, a chimplike forest creature that stood up and walked 5.8 million years ago". You will see how, from 11 bone pieces, apparently from five different individuals, the discoverers concoct a life history for the creatures.

A disconcerting aspect of the claims for the evolutionary development of man, is that they are based almost entirely on fossilized bones. Evolutionists seem to forget some key factors:

1. There are very few fossils which are purported to be human ancestors—bone fragments from fewer than 100 samples exist. It is futile to make the grand claim of human evolution on so little ‘evidence’.

2. A tremendous variety can be found within a single species. For example, full-grown horses can be big (almost 2m tall) and small (.7m tall). We all know of the variety that can occur among dogs, yet they are all dogs. So, the fossil bones of ‘pre-hominoids’ may be individual variants of apes.

3. The majority of an organism’s biology resides in its soft anatomy which is not preserved in fossils. So, it is merely guessing to suggest that the ‘pre-hominoid’ creatures were developing human capacities.

Yet, evolutionists take a few bones and fragments and conjecture a new species and claim them to be missing links! Every fossilized ape-like, or supposedly pre-hominoid, creature will eventually be classified either as an ape or as human. The missing links will always be missing because there are no pre-hominoid ancestors to man. Despite this, the textbooks and the popular media continue to spout the same nonsense about man’s supposed ancestors with blaring headlines—note an example, “Homo Naledi, New Species in Human Lineage, Is Found in South African Cave” (New York Times, 2015-09-10).

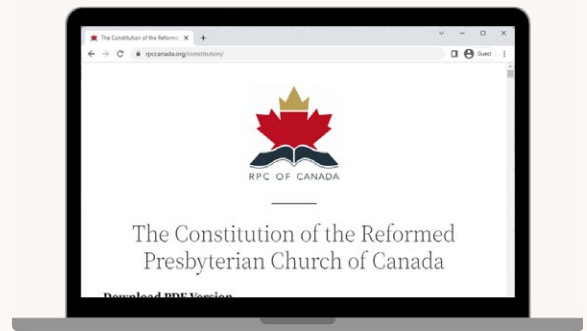
Materialistic naturalists entrenched in the modern academies try to attribute all human attitudes and preferences to evolutionary forces; claiming that man responds to inputs from his environment in a computer-like fashion or instinctively like an animal. For example, they claim that girls’ preference for pink is a result of early hominoid foraging patterns and that we find poetry beautiful because it stimulates certain parts of our brain. The silliness of all this is patently obvious to anyone not wedded to the religion of Darwinism. These claims have no resemblance to the reality in which human causation is more than passive responses to material stimuli, and they are supported by no empirical evidence which considers the complexity of man—man made to be the highest order among all creatures; man, who is sin-stained but is still the most magnificent creature that came from the hand of God.



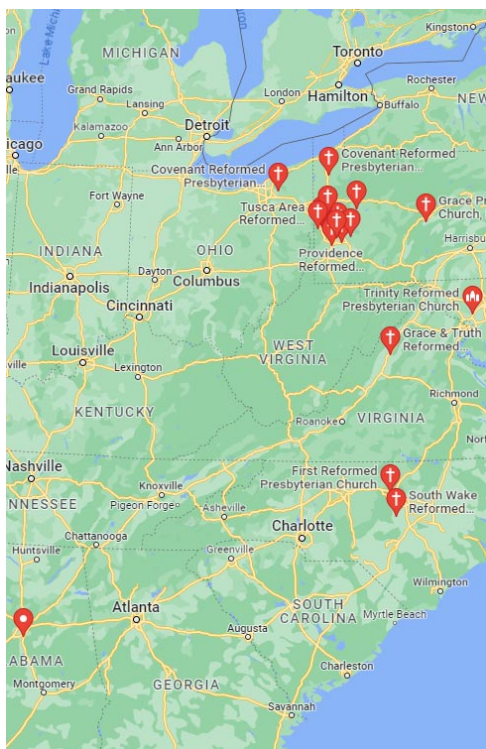
BY MR. JIM HUGHES
Ruling Elder in the RP
Congregation in Toronto, ON

The Constitution of the RP Church of Canada AVAILABLE ONLINE

rpccanada.org/constitution



PRESBYTERY OF THE ALLEGHENIES



The Presbytery of the Alleghenies (in the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America) was named such in 1985. It had previously been known as the Pittsburgh Presbytery, from 1833, and then before that as the Middle Presbytery, from 1809.

Since 1800 there has been an RP congregation in the city of Pittsburgh. Today there are 15 congregations and one exploratory work within a three-hour drive of the city of Pittsburgh. The other 3 congregations and 2 exploratory works that fall under the oversight of this presbytery can be found in

North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, and Alabama.

Additionally, this presbytery oversees a mission work in Chile, South America.

This presbytery hosts two youth conferences each year, one in the fall and one in the spring. In addition, it hosts a family camp each summer at a retreat centre located an hour southeast of the city of Pittsburgh. These presbytery-wide events are well attended and enjoyed by all participants.

There are four RPCNA institutions that find their home amid this presbytery.

Reformed Presbyterian Home

provides quality of care and offering a supportive living environment to older adults.

The Board of Education and Publication

oversees the production of material for the education and information of the RPCNA, including the RP Witness magazine and Crown & Covenant Publications, which produces the 'Book of Psalms for Worship' among many other titles.



Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary

is the training ground for many ministers in the RP community in North America



Geneva College

provides academically excellent, Christ-centered and affordable education to students for over 170 years.



Location and Formation

The Ottawa RPC was established in 1981 as a mission work of the Almonte congregation. We meet for worship each Lord's Day at 10.30am and 5:30pm. We are blessed with owning our own building on the west side of the city, which incorporates a large fellowship hall, classrooms, kitchen facilities and a theological library.



The Lord's Day

A typical Lord's Day starts at 9:45am with Bible Classes for all ages, The children, ages 5-17, are split into five different classes and are working through the shorter catechism and the adults are studying the Confession. Attendance at morning worship is regular over 140 and evening worship is close to 110. After evening worship, we have a time of fellowship and snacks. Six times in the year we celebrate the Lord's Supper during Morning Worship followed by a fellowship meal.

Leadership

Rev. Dr. Andrew Quigley has been the minister since 2018. We have four ruling elders: Mr. Colin Postma, Mr. Oliver Lam, Mr. Cory van der Meer & Rev. Vince Ward; and four deacons: Mr. Jason Braden, Mr. Josh Foster, Mr. Vince Giroux & Mr. Norm Fry



Activities

Weekly Fellowship groups met in eight locations across the city and study a Bible passage from material produced by the minister each week. We have a youth group that meets monthly along with a monthly women's book study. The men and women each have annual retreat times planned and occasional fellowship breakfasts.



September
8-11, 2023
Wesley Acres, Prince Edward County



**If you wish to attend
PLEASE BOOK SOON**

as we are setting a registration limit of 250 for this year as this is a new camp site for us.

Only trailer and tent sites left!

Book Online At:
rpfamilycamp.org