



APRIL 2024 | ISSUE 6

SEA TO SEA

Canadian RP News

Vancouver RPC



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EDITORIAL

Martin Luther, the German Protestant reformer of the 16th century, once said, "Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime." The 'new' life that appears every springtime is a picture and pointer to the reality, blessing and promise of new life found in Christ, the resurrected Saviour and Lord. Of course, any 'theology' derived from nature must be truly found in and tested against the special revelation of Holy Scripture. It is in the books (the 'leaves') of the Bible that we learn authoritatively about the life, death and resurrection of the only mediator, the Lord Jesus Christ. We know with assurance that "He is Risen", not from a budding leaf in springtime, but from the inerrant and infallible Word of God. The resurrection of Jesus declared him with power to be the Son of God, (Romans 1:4). Our faith is not in vain, (1 Corinthians 15:17)! United to Jesus with a living, saving faith, means resurrection power and blessing is at work in our lives. By God's sovereign grace and Spirit, those dead in sin are made alive in Christ, (Ephesians 2:5). Union with the crucified and risen Saviour means reckoning ourselves dead to sin and alive to God, (Romans 6:11). The lives that we live as Christians are to be lived knowing God's incomparably great power, even resurrection power, for us who believe, (Ephesians 1:19). Our resurrected Saviour is the first fruits of all who believe. In Him we have the living hope that by His power He will one day "transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body, (Philippians 3:21). You don't need to wait for springtime to learn about the resurrection, or to receive the resurrected Saviour. Today is the day of salvation! But even as the snow can picture forgiveness, (Isaiah 1:18), let the leaves in springtime remind you of Christ and the resurrection. "I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. After my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes- I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me", (Job 19:25-27).



BY REV. MATT KINGSWOOD
Minister of the Russell RPC

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General Editor: Rev. Matt Kingswood
Features Editor: Mr. Jim Hughes
News Editor: Mrs. Karin Foster

magazine@rpccanada.org

All Bible quotations are from the ESV



NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS

The Lord in His gracious providence has provided two new deacons as well as a new elder in the Russell RP Church.

Since moving into our own building on one of the main streets in Russell in October of 2022, we have had a steady stream of visitors each Lord's Day. As well, we praise God for recent additions in the membership of the congregation.

Due to this recent growth, the Russell congregation was encouraged by Session earlier in 2023 prayerfully to consider nominating additional men for the roles of elder and deacon.



An election was held in November of 2023 and Mr. Jared Ayer and Mr. Jason Vedder were both ordained and installed as deacons on December 10, 2023;

Mr. Aaron Pol was installed and ordained as an elder in the congregation on January 14th, 2024.

We are so thankful to Christ for these men and their willingness to serve in His church. To Him alone be the glory!



THE PERSON AND WORK OF THE LORD JESUS

Words used to describe the work of Jesus: Redemption

Previously we considered something of the meaning of the word propitiation.

In this article we now turn our attention to the word 'redemption'. Not only are we considering a different word, but the locus in which the word redemption was coined is different as well. With propitiation we found ourselves in the temple court; now we find ourselves in the marketplace. In modern parlance we could say we find ourselves in the shopping mall. One writer summed it up as follows:

... the imagery changes from the ceremonial realm to the commercial, from religious rituals to business transactions.

So, what does the word, redemption, teach?

Rev. Professor John Murray writes:

The language of redemption is the language of purchase and more specifically of ransom. And ransom is the securing of a release by the payment of a price.

A sad reality in today's world is to read of kidnappings which have taken place. The families or institutions that are immediately affected are told

there is a ransom price they must pay for their loved ones to be released and set free. Without the ransom price being paid, there is no freedom for the individuals and more than likely their ensuing death at the hands of their captors.

Therefore, 'redemption' wherever it is used in Scripture implies that those it is used in reference to are in some manner not free. Their liberty has been taken from them and they are now held as captives. And that is because of the reality of sin.

Once the whole human race belonged to God, in Adam its federal head. But by his sin in the Garden of Eden, Adam took the whole race away from God.

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— (Romans 5:12)

So it was that all mankind was "sold under sin" (Romans 7:14), away from God and righteousness. And in the 'mall of sin' where we were bound and enslaved, in order to redeem us, to buy us back to himself, it was necessary for God to deal with the sin question.

And God does this by providing

a Redeemer who is the Lord Jesus Christ. He has redeemed us, ransomed us, bought us back for God, and unto God.

Listen to the testimony of Paul:

and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, (Romans 3:24)

Listen to the testimony of Jesus:

even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. (Matthew 20:28)

Paul also writes:

And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, (1 Corinthians 1:30)

The above, and many more scripture passages teach us that the purchase price of our redemption, the ransom price by which we have been bought back to God, is the shed blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, His life laid down in substitution for us.

As Peter reminds his readers facing imminent persecution:

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)

Not only so, but Jesus has redeemed us from the curse of the law; the ceremonial law; the law of works. Ultimately, He has redeemed us from sin.

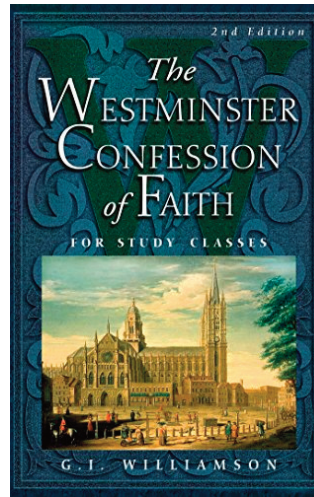
We close with words written by B.B. Warfield which convey how thankful we should be for this word and what and whom it points to:

There is no one of the titles of Christ which is more precious to Christian hearts than "Redeemer." There are others, it is true, which are more often on the lips of Christians. The acknowledgment of our submission to Christ as our Lord, the recognition of what we owe to Him as our Saviour, - these things, naturally, are most frequently expressed in the names we call Him by. "Redeemer," however, is a title of more intimate revelation than either "Lord" or "Saviour." It gives expression not merely to our sense that we have received salvation from Him, but also to our appreciation of what it cost Him to procure this salvation for us. It is the name specifically of the Christ of the cross. Whenever we pronounce it, the cross is placarded before our eyes and our hearts are filled with loving remembrance not only that Christ has given us salvation, but that He paid a mighty price for it.

I pray all who read this would be able to say that Jesus Christ is their Redeemer. For if you are not able to do so, you are not free. Why stay a captive when the ransom price has already been paid? Why not know of the glorious liberty that belongs to the sons and daughters of God?



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



REVIEWED

By Keziah Wilkinson
Member of the
New Creation RPC

Theology is an area of endless study. Other subjects may run dry with the passing of time, but theology provides ongoing edification and learning opportunities. Like a river of endless flowing water, is the study of God and his creation. This is because the object of the learning, the Creator of the universe, is infinite. However, it can often be a daunting task to determine which books to trust for theological accuracy. I know that there are times when I have the desire to read theology, but don't know where to turn in the sea of books. Furthermore, knowing which would be the most useful to me with my current level of comprehension can be challenging. However, there are several books that I have read and concluded are helpful as a starting point. One that I particularly enjoyed was the second edition study guide, *The Westminster Confession of Faith*, by G.I. Williamson.

In this book, Williamson clearly outlines the doctrine summarized in the Westminster Confession of Faith and the application of it. He begins each chapter, by presenting the text of the section of the Confession he will be discussing, and then breaks it up piece by piece into digestible bits of information. Though I cannot endorse every word of Williamson, as I disagree on some of his conclusions concerning creation and government, he is very clear and biblically sound. If you are like me and enjoy theology but are often overwhelmed with the amount of information available, or have trouble even remembering what the classic creeds uphold, Williamson's study on the Westminster Confession of Faith, is extremely helpful! I would place the book at a beginner level as a simple read, especially for new believers and as an encouragement and great resource for all Christians. At the very least, it is an excellent place to start if you desire to know a little bit more about the Confession!

THE INTERVIEW

Rev. Matt Kingswood
Pastor of Russell RPC in
Russell, Ontario

Give us a brief life history (where were you born, early family life, etc.)

I was born in 1964 in a town that no longer exists. Galt was swallowed by present day Cambridge in 1973. My parents had both come to Canada after the second World War from the Netherlands, so I had a very 'Dutch' upbringing. But even more I had a very Christian upbringing. Both my parents lived out their faith in Christ in our congregation which was a solid Reformed church. I am thankful for the preaching and the catechizing (from the Heidelberg Catechism) which grounded me in my faith. I am also thankful that I have not known a time when I didn't acknowledge and confess my need as a sinner before God, and trust in Christ as my Saviour and Lord. Our family included two adopted brothers, to make four boys altogether. A racially mixed family, with a black brother and an indigenous brother, made for a few stares along the way, but taught me the stupidity and evil of racism.

What is your current situation (location, job, family etc.)?

Skipping forward through a lot of different jobs and school experiences, and struggles with God's calling on my life, the Lord blessed me with Tara and



6 children, and has brought me to serving as pastor of an RP congregation in Russell, in eastern Ontario. I never would have imagined, but the Lord foreknew from all eternity! How humbling is God's grace through it all. What do we have that we have not received? (1 Corinthians 4:7). The older I get, now especially as a grandfather, the more I know how true Scripture is, how faithful God is, and how utterly dependent on him I am. I also cry more, which maybe is age creeping up on me, or maybe just the accumulated joys and sorrows of life.

What has been the greatest influence in your life for Christ?

In general, two things; God's Word and God's providence. I am growing in what I know from Scripture—things so infallibly, unchangeably, and comfortingly true. And I am growing as God's providence brings many things into my life

and the life of our family. So often, I am growing in what I don't know, Romans 11:33ff. But in everything I cling to Romans 8:28, as God's providence includes: a godly wife; beautiful children and grandchildren; a gracious and loving congregation; the deaths of an infant child, a father, a brother, and many dear friends; and life in a sin-crazed world.

What has been the biggest challenge in getting where you are today?

Well, I am not sure where I am, except to say, thankfully, that I am "in Christ!". But the biggest challenge, bar none, is myself. That is not false humility, it is sad reality. Except for Satan, I am my own worst enemy by far. It is my unbelief, my sin, my pride, my doubts and fears that plague me daily. I struggle greatly with indecision and second-guessing. At root, I am sure that reflects a lack of faith and trust in God, and a pride that thinks making a mistake is

the worst possible thing that can happen. Of course, we shouldn't want to fail, or fall, or sin, but we do, and we will ... Jesus came for a reason!

What advice would you give to someone 10 years younger than you?

Watch the small things in your life. The 'little' sins (no such thing I know, as there is no 'little' God to sin against), the little omissions of duty and discipleship. Everything is a seed, and what a man sows, he reaps. By God's grace that is overcome in and by Christ ultimately, but it applies so practically and so subtly in our daily lives. Ten years goes by in a flash. What did I do? What did I not do? Beware of procrastination—"Today has slain her thousands, but .tomorrow' her tens of thousands." And check out Presbyterian missionary Jonathan Goforth's *Rules for Daily Living* (Google it).

If the Lord continues to bless, what would you like to see happen in the RP Church in Canada?

That we would be able to say, not just of the RPCC, but of the Church of Christ in Canada, "but these .. where have they come from?" (Isaiah 49:21). I am praying for men for the ministry, and ministries for the men. I am praying in Jesus' name, "Your Kingdom come." And I am praying that our children and our children's children, until the Lord comes, would find a faithful, nurturing, loving, giving, joyful spiritual home in the RPCC.



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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

A collection of news items from the RP Congregations across Canada

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From Friday February 9th through to Sunday the 11th February 2024, 50 young people gathered from across the province of Ontario in Ottawa at the Ottawa Reformed Presbyterian Church for the annual Winterlude Youth Retreat. The weekend was full of fellowship, conversation, and encouragement and made for memories that will last for a lifetime. Many of the congregants of the Ottawa RP Church warmly opened their homes to provide a place for us to stay overnight. Their kind hospitality, mixed with the opportunity to spend time in smaller groups fostered a time of quiet fellowship and rest in the midst of busy days.

The Winterlude Youth Retreat gets its name from the long-standing annual winter festival that is held in the heart of the city. The closure of the main attraction, the Rideau Canal, due to warm weather caused a slight change in the way the

weekend has been run in years gone by. Yet, thanks to the creativity of the committee, we were still able to experience good fun with a scavenger hunt across downtown Ottawa. We explored the area with a list of unique items in hand that we were instructed to find and then take a picture of every member of your group standing around it. Examples of such items included, "Mad Radish", "Member of Security personnel" and "Beaver Tails", which as you can easily imagine, made for lots of fun and laughter. Additionally, the abundance of national treats such as maple taffy on the snow

and Beaver Tails, and the many booths set up along Sparks Street provided more entertainment. And any disappointment from being unable to skate on the famous canal was met with the chance to go for a skate on the smooth Rink of Dreams, located at City Hall.

Reverend Scott Wilkinson from New Creation RPC in Kitchener, Ontario delivered three powerful messages over the weekend on the gifts that God has given to us from the theme verse of James 1:17. Identifying three main gifts as: the Son, the Holy Spirit, and the Church. He brought us an





exposition of the power and blessing those things hold in our life. In addition to this, the story of his testimony and time spent in God's Word in small group discussions challenged us all to remember the power of our God.

A whole-hearted thanks to the many people who helped make this weekend possible, especially Mr. Spencer Clifton who provided delicious food for us all along with all the other volunteers who made this event so enjoyable for all those who participated. Can't wait to see you all next year, Lord-willing, for Winterlude 2025!

Elyssa Foster
Ottawa RPC





CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Positive developments regarding medical transition for minors.

Gender identity and gender expression have emerged as fast-changing issues in Canada recently. Federal, provincial, and municipal governments have been working to adapt legislation. Businesses and organizations of all types have rushed to incorporate 'inclusive' policies. Among the most pressing concerns is how policies apply to children. Two elements have sparked considerable debate: parental involvement in decisions made by school authorities regarding a student's gender self-identification (including use of pronouns), alongside the issue of medical transitions (using surgery or drugs) for minors.

Remarkably, the landscape has recently seen significant changes for the better. It began in New Brunswick where the government required parental consent for students to change their name or pronouns at school. This policy is being challenged in court and promises to be a focus of discussion in the upcoming election there. The New Brunswick premier has demonstrated a steadfast stance in the face of opposition.

In Saskatchewan, legislation was introduced to ensure that parents have a final say with regards to their children's expressed gender identity at school. This is also being challenged in the courts. Still, the Saskatchewan government has responded with the 'notwithstanding clause' which means they will continue with this policy regardless of what the courts decide.

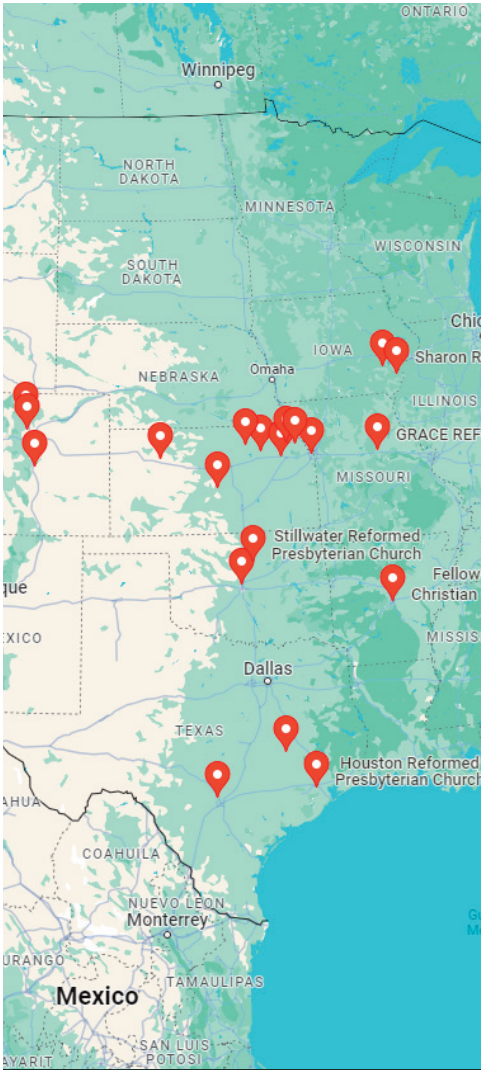
Premier Danielle Smith in Alberta has taken the most comprehensive approach thus far. She declared that Alberta would ban surgical transitions for those under 18 and ban puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones for those under 16. This announcement has been met with a firestorm of opposition, but the government has stayed strong, identifying the polls that show most Albertans support the policies. There is no doubt that this is a significant milestone in the national conversation around this topic. Since then, the federal opposition leader Pierre Poilievre has also indicated that his party will oppose medical transition for minors.

These are very positive developments concerning the physical well-being of Canadian youth. Life-changing decisions about surgery, puberty blockers, and cross-sex hormones must be taken off the table when it comes to our youth in the formative years of their life--or any stage of life for that matter. But that can't be all.

Canada is at a pivotal moment. This is a turning point where I believe we will begin to see the pendulum swing. This will be an opportunity where the Church can step into the void—offering the message of hope in Christ to those who have been physically and spiritually broken seeking their identity elsewhere.



BY MR. COLIN POSTMA
Ruling Elder
in Ottawa RPC



MIDWEST PRESBYTERY

The RP Church in the United States is divided into six presbyteries based on geography; in the previous issues we have looked at the presbyteries of the Alleghenies, Atlantic & Great Lakes Gulf and now we come to the **Midwest Presbytery**, which encompasses the central part of the country.

The Presbytery is made up of 28 organized congregations, across 7 states (Wyoming, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, Iowa, Kansas and Montana), 2 mission churches in Houston, Texas and Oklahoma City and 1 preaching station in Little Rock, Arkansas.

During their recent Spring Presbytery meetings almost half of their time was spent examining students under care.

This active presbytery hosts at least 3 annual events for its members, a Thanksgiving Psalm Sing, Women’s Retreat, and Family Camp.

The Midwest Presbytery Covenanter Youth is a well organized group that plans quarterly conferences and other activities for the young people of the church.

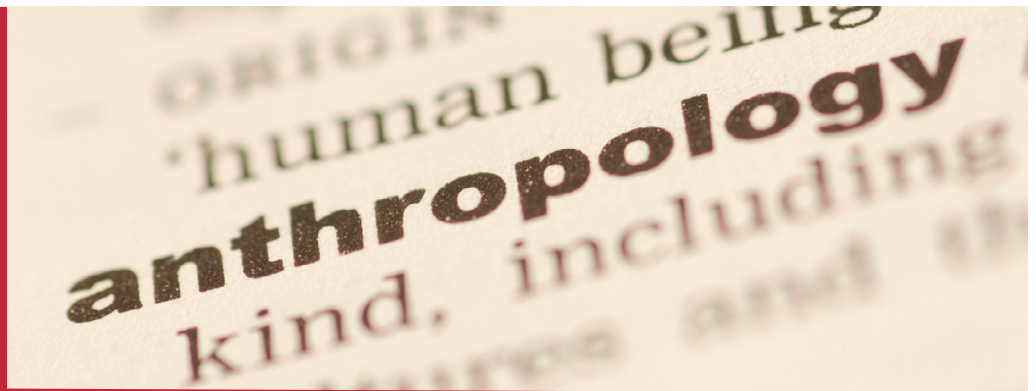


Founded in the 1960’s Camp Curry was donated to the Midwest Presbytery. It is located in rural Winchester, Kansas and is used for worship services, youth retreats, private family gatherings and more.

The first RP congregation in Iowa was organized in 1846 in Morning Sun as ‘Linn Grove and Cedar’. The name was changed to Sharon RPC in 1854. The newest congregation in this presbytery is the preaching station in Little Rock Arkansas

ANTH ROPO LOGY

NUMBER 6 IN THE SERIES
MALE AND FEMALE



Biblical Anthropology – Man’s Dominion

It is ironic that the seeds of the modern environmentalism movement were sown during the Enlightenment which, as Immanuel Kant claimed in his 1784 essay, was “Mankind’s final coming of age, the emancipation of the human consciousness from an immature state of ignorance and error.”

Answering the Question: What Is Enlightenment?). The irony can be seen in where the path has led, as Western Civilization has pursued its goal of denying man’s assigned role as the created image-bearer of God and of declaring man’s independent reason and moral autonomy. The end has not been the elevation of man but his diminution and demeaning. A child of the Enlightenment is the theory of evolution that claims that man is nothing more than a chance blip in a continuum of plant and animal life, with no more rights than a bug. A seminal work for environmentalism is Christopher Stone’s essay, *Should Trees Have Standing?* that was published in 1972. This work became a rallying point for the growing environmental movement as it advanced the claim that the voiceless elements in nature should be bestowed with legal rights. As the movement has grown, it has become anti-human, as exemplified by the following statements: “Human beings, as a species, have no more value than slugs.” (John Davis, editor of *Earth First! Journal*) and “Phasing out the human race will solve every problem on the earth, social and environmental.” (Dave Forman, founder of *Earth First!*)

In contrast to the doctrines of materialistic naturalism, God blessed man by giving him dominion over the created order (Genesis 1:26, 28). This dominion is a key aspect of what it means for man to be the image-bearer of God. It bestows dignity and honour on man. The blessing

was given to ‘them’, both sexes of man and all of mankind, regardless of ethnicity or covenantal status, descended from Adam—i.e., the blessing was given to Adam representing all mankind before the Abrahamic or Mosaic covenants were inaugurated. But not only is this dominion a blessing, it is a command. God commanded man to subdue the earth and rule over all the creatures that live in the sea and air, and on land.

What ruling and subduing mean has been debated for centuries, particularly from the mid-20th century. The word translated ‘have dominion’ in the ESV can also be translated ‘rule’ and even ‘trample’. The word translated ‘subdue’ can also be translated as ‘bring into bondage’, ‘trample on’ and even ‘attack’. Obviously, these words must be interpreted within the context in which they are used. In general, the two terms share the idea that man is to subject (as a king does his defeated enemies) the created realm under his feet (Psalm 8:5-8). Today, this interpretation makes us cringe. We have been so indoctrinated by a pervasive environmentalism that we cannot interpret the passage without deriving an idea of aggressive cruelty if the words are translated as ‘subject’.

Our dominion over creation authorizes us to use the entire inanimate and non-rational animate realm for our living and wellbeing. This means that we can eat plants (Genesis 1:29) and, since

the flood, animal meat (Genesis 9:3); use trees for lumber (Genesis 6:14) and other plant materials to manufacture products; use oil and coal for fuel and manufacturing feedstock; and dig from the earth metals and minerals for our benefit. However, we must not conclude that man's current use of resources is the way God intended them to be used—the current state is not the ideal state of what should be. Our dominion does not include the right to a wanton destruction or abuse. God clearly intended our dominion to be exercised as responsible caretakers (Genesis 2:15) of his creation. We are to use and transform the environment for God's glory and our enjoyment. This means that we are to be stewards and not plunderers; husbands not destroyers; caretakers not despots. We are not to be destructive, such as by overfishing a stock, slaughtering all representatives in a species (e.g., the rhinoceros), polluting rivers and the air with poisons, denuding hillsides, or mistreating animals.

However, as there is a strong tendency for sinful man to abuse his rights to dominion, there is an equally strong tendency for human governments to overregulate and deprive people of their right and obligation to dominion. Environmentalism has become a religious obligation in a society that has rejected God's laws. In the name of preservation of the earth, ridiculous rules and draconian legislation have been enacted which prevent people from exercising their mandate from God. We do not have space here to enumerate the hundreds (or even a few) of the ways that governments have overstepped their legislative rights and undermined individual responsibility. Rather, we should focus on a few basic principles:

- God cares about the world, which was very good when it came from his hands (Genesis 1:31) and created for his glory. We should care for it also.
- Environmentalism is a religion; we are to worship God, not nature.
- The world is no longer good. It has been polluted by man's sin and needs subjection in ways it did not originally (Genesis 3:17-18; Genesis 9:2).
- We do not need to worry about running out of natural resources. God has endowed the earth sufficiently to sustain a much larger human population than is present today, at a high standard of living.
- This earth and man's tenure on it are temporary (2 Peter 3:10-12)—we are more than halfway between the time of creation and the return of Christ.
- God will replace this tired world with a new one in which his righteous people will dwell forever (2 Peter 3:13). We need to focus on the vision of what will be, not on man's sceptical defeatism.



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

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VANCOUVER RPC



History: The history of the Reformed Presbyterian congregation in Vancouver is recent, having joined the new Canadian Reformed Presbyterian denomination in April 2023. However, the congregational history goes back about 100 years. In 1916, the Rev. Donald Beaton of the Free Presbyterian Church (FPC), Scotland was invited by Mr. Hugh Mackay and several other Scottish immigrants to come to Vancouver and conduct services. Then, in 1922, the Vancouver congregation was formally constituted. Mr. Donald Matheson (a lay missionary) and Mr. Hugh Mackay (elder) sustained the congregation and took the services for many years. Between 1922 and 1952, the local elders led most of the services with pulpit supply and other ministerial functions provided by ministers from Scotland. Some of the current members are descendants of the original members in Vancouver. The oldest member of the congregation is Rina MacKay, (born in April, 1925), a daughter of the first elder, Mr. Hugh Mackay.

In 1952, the Rev. Dr. MacDonald arrived in Vancouver after having served as a medical missionary for many years in Zimbabwe. He ministered in Vancouver until 1970. In 1975, Rev. Douglas Beattie came from Scotland to take up his pastoral charge in Vancouver the Lord blessed his lengthy ministry among us. He served our congregation until 2002 while also being active as a teacher and professor of Greek in several training centres in the region.

The congregation left the Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland in 1989 to join the newly formed Associated Presbyterian Church (Canada). The congregation's original home was at Fraser St. and Kingsway. This building was constructed by members of the congregation in the 1920s.

From 2002-2006, Rev. Jerold Lewis served as our pastor, and he was succeeded by Rev. Fletcher Matandika who served from 2008-2016. At that time the congregation worshipped at Olivet Baptist Church and then rented a space in an office building in New Westminster BC. In 2016 services were held at a community center for several months, until Cityview Church was found and arrangements for services made.

Rev. Norman Van Eeden Petersman served the congregation from 2017-2022 and continues to provide supply preaching assistance as we search for a new pastor. The congregation continues to gather for worship at Cityview Church in Vancouver every Lord's Day and regularly gathers for a midweek Bible study. It is a blessing to be able to meet in a building that meets our needs and gives us the opportunity for outreach and service in the city.

In 2019 Rev. Dr. Andrew Quigley wrote to the session informing us of his desire to start a new denomination in Canada. At that time, the session indicated that they would be interested in participating in the discussions. After a several meetings, followed by a visit from Rev. Quigley and Rev. Kingswood to the congregation in 2022, the congregation decided to join the newly forming Reformed Presbyterian Church of Canada (RPCC). A reception service was held in April, 2023 at which time the congregation became a part of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Canada.

Leadership: Mr. Hugh Fraser is currently the only ruling elder in the congregation. Along with Mr. Fraser, Presbytery has appointed Rev. Matt Kingswood & Rev. Dr. Andrew Quigley to serve as provisional session for this congregation.

Worship Participation:

Approximately 10-15 participate regularly in worship services at the Vancouver Church. Worship services are at 2pm and then at 4pm with memory work and catechism. Communion services are currently held about 2- 4 times a year.

Congregational Activities: There is a weekly Bible study held every Wednesday at 7pm. Congregational fellowship gatherings are held approximately 4-6 times throughout the year.

Challenges: Currently the congregation is without a pastor, that is the biggest challenge.

Prayers: Give thanks for the pulpit supply ministry over the past year. Pray for God to provide a pastor for and add several families to the congregation.



The RP Global Alliance website www.rpglobalalliance.org is the place to find news, information and prayer points about the RP Church around the world.



Spain
Pray for Isaac's mother (79) who has been living with them the last 2 months. Although physically well, she is forgetting things, and knows that she can no longer live alone. It is difficult being away from her own home. She had a stroke in that time, but we thank God He spared her. Had she been on her own, it is doubtful she would have survived.

The Gambia
Recently, three members, living in and around the church community in Brikama, have engaged in evangelism, each Wednesday, to reach out with the Gospel and the reformed faith. In addition, several members are also engaged in personal evangelism. These efforts have proved fruitful, as we are seeing new people attending worship almost every Lord's Day. For instance, last Lord's Day, we had three visitors, including a Muslim whom we invited along during the weekly outreach. We hope and pray that these visitors will continue in attendance and come to know Christ, as the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6).

USA
Houston RPC (Texas) - Give thanks and pray for their upcoming installation of Rev. Trace Turner tonight. Pray for the Psalms Conference at RPTS on Friday and Saturday and for Rev. Andrew Kerr as he speaks at it.

Australia
Frankston RPC - Continue to pray for God to provide local elders for the work at Frankston RPC.



USA - River Valley Becomes An Organised Congregation



On the 12th January, the Presbytery of the Alleghenies officially formed 'River Valley Reformed' as a particular congregation of the RPCNA and installed the officers of the church. Dr. David Whittie, RPTS Professor, preached the sermon with Elder Herb McCracken and Pastor Titus Martin giving the charges. Paul Kulgar, one of the new members of River Valley said this about the evening:

"Being a relatively new member of the River Valley Reformed Church, I was overwhelmed by the solemnity of the proceedings of the Organizational

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**REGISTRATION
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Family Camp, Wesley Acres, Price Edward Country

September 6-9, 2024



Rev. Allan Macleod
Minister of Toronto RPC

"Christ in the Psalms"

Come and stir one another up to love and good deeds!