



OCTOBER 2024 | Issue #8

SEA TO SEA

Canadian RP News

West Vancouver RPC



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of the Lord Jesus

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EDITORIAL

As I write, much of the world finds itself in the throes reflecting on the recently held Olympic Games in Paris. When so many significant issues and concerns face us, some would object to giving much attention at all to what are, after all, “games”. But the quadrennial spectacle of the Olympics provides an opportunity for profitable contemplation on several fronts.

First, they are a lesson in depravity. The opening and closing ceremonies are vivid and disturbing evidence of the rotten, blasphemous fruit of secularism and humanism. Those are just two ways to describe the true anti-Jahweh, anti-Christ religion of all who refuse to kiss the Son, Psalm 2:2, 12. Paris prides itself as being the cradle of revolution. If you watched the opening ceremony, to see it is to believe it. But this was nothing new. The French Revolutionary atheist Denis Diderot is often quoted as originating the anti-authority goal of humanism, namely, “Men will never be free until the last king is strangled with the entrails of the last priest.” When men and women no longer worship the God of Scripture, or thank Him, they are given over to thinking that is dark, foolish and futile, Romans 1:21. What a reminder the Olympics should be of our need and of our only hope— that “the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

And secondly, the amazing accomplishments of those who are striving to go “Citius, altius, fortius”, (Latin for “faster, higher, stronger”) are a lesson in piety. The apostle Paul writing to Christians in ancient Corinth, who had their own version of the Olympics called the “Isthmian Games”, understood the value of the example of such athletes for believers in Christ. In 1 Corinthians 9, he wrote, “Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. (1 Corinthians 9:24-25, NIV). Let those “games” spur you on. “For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.” (1 Timothy 4:8, NIV).



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



NEWS: RP INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE RECAP

Recently, from June 25-July 1, 2024, on the campus of Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Indiana, over 1,500 members of the RPCNA, as well as RP friends from various nations around the world, joined together for RPIC 2024. Sam and Meg Spear, along with their planning committee, did a wonderful job organizing and then executing their plans for RPIC this year.

Pastor Warren Peel of Covenant Christian Fellowship, a Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland congregation located in Galway gave the main addresses each morning. These morning sessions were encouraging as we sang psalms, including the theme one of Psalm (93B), and then listened to Pastor Peel. Entitled "Glorifying God in Babylon," these messages from Daniel were rich in exposition and needed application as we live in the ungodly culture of the modern Western world.

An army of volunteers offered themselves to serve during RPIC, resulting in an enriching time for all ages. It was amazing to see so many children, loved and cared for so well in childcare and morning classes. Other fun activities during the day were provided so that families could enjoy time with their children.

Each day, the attendees church were given a rich array of workshops, allowing them attendees to learn about important topics of our day and hear about the Lord's work in the RP church's institutions and missions. One of the joys of the conference is meeting and reconnecting with people from all parts of the RP churches—w. Whether over cafeteria meals, on the lawn during breaks, or at a local ice cream shop,

Our thanks to Rev. Barry York for allowing us to publish the above slightly edited version, which contains the highlights of the article that he wrote for Gentle Reformation. This year there were over 80 members of the RPCC in attendance at RPIC, a first experience for many of them.





THE PERSON AND WORK OF THE LORD JESUS

Words used to describe the work of Jesus: Reconciliation

In our previous articles, as we've examined several words used by the Apostles to describe the Person and Work of Christ, we've found ourselves in the temple precincts (propitiation), the marketplace/mall (redemption), and the courtroom (justification).

The fourth word which illustrates for us a facet of the work of Christ is, *reconciliation*. For many, it is the most popular out of the words we've been considering, because it is the most personal.

It may be a cliché, but most of us have said it at least once, 'There's no place like home.' Why is there no place like home? Because, when we are in our own home, we find ourselves there with family and friends; we are in an environment in which we can be ourselves. Home has always been a gathering place, shelter, and sanctuary, providing escape from the busyness and intrusiveness of the world.

Home is that place where broken relationships are very often restored, and friendships are renewed. In other words, home is where we often experience and are thankful for the blessings that personal

reconciliation brings to us.

So, of what does the biblical doctrine of reconciliation consist in?

Firstly, reconciliation is restoration.

Reconciliation is the restoration of a relationship to a harmonious state after a dispute. As such, it presupposes that an original relationship has been broken and can only be recovered by Christ. It is the transformation of discord to accord between a Holy God and fallen mankind.

Indeed, it is not an exaggeration to say the whole Bible is the chronicle of Christian reconciliation.

Genesis chapters 1 and 2 teach that in the beginning, in the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve, were the friends of God. Daily, they were one another's delight. There was no place like this home.

Sadly, sin entered the world, and the perfect sinless relationship was broken. We became enemies of God (and he of us); we became alienated from God. One way this manifested itself and continues to do so in that fallen mankind continually seeks his own way and lives in open hostility to his

Creator and God. The whole of Scripture, then, is the record of God's reconciling us to himself.

As one writer says,

We ran away, and He pursued us. We were scattered as sheep, and He sent the Good Shepherd. We hid in darkness, and He sent the True Light. We were dying in a self-made drought, and He sent the Living Water.

Secondly, reconciliation necessarily involves change.

In Christian reconciliation, God does not change. He remains perfect. But he changes us. As a result, our relationship with him changes.

The means God used to reconcile us to himself was through his own Son, Jesus Christ:

As Paul writes:

2 Corinthians 5:18-19 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of 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.

He also reminds us that:

Romans 5:10 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.

And it is Jesus' death on the cross that makes all the difference:

Colossians 1:19-20 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Thirdly, reconciliation results in access.

The Fall had not only resulted in banishment from the Garden but also the impossibility of returning to the 'home' where Adam and Eve had once enjoyed blessings and intimate fellowship with God:

Genesis 3:8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day...

Genesis 3:24 He drove out the

man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

But now, because of the person and work of Christ, we have access, full and free, to God.

We read:

Ephesians 2:18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

Ephesians 3:11-12 This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

Jesus Himself declares:

John 14:6 I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

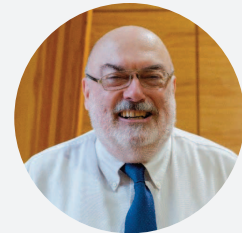
In Hebrews we read:

Hebrews 10:19-20 ... we have confidence to enter the holy

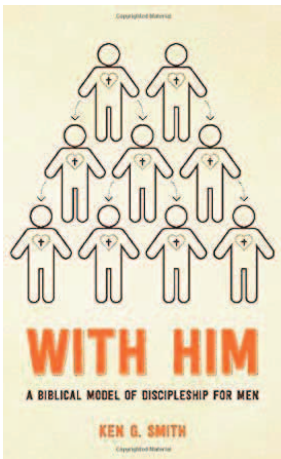
places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way.

Reconciliation between friends who became estranged is wonderful and heart-warming. But reconciliation between a Holy God and sinful men is not only wonderful and heart-warming, but it is life giving, God glorifying and Christ exalting.

After reading this, how is it between yourself and God? While he gives you the opportunity, make sure that you are reconciled to him and he to you. Why? The destiny of your soul depends on it!



BY REV. ALLAN MACLEOD
Minister of the Toronto RPC



BOOK REVIEW

With Him by Ken G. Smith
Reviewed by Rev. Matt Kingswood

Winston Churchill once remarked concerning an overlong document, "This report, by its very length, defends itself against the risk of being read."

One of the marks of genius in Ken G. Smith's book *With Him* is its brevity (60 pp.). Few will be the potential readers too intimidated to 'pick up and read'. But don't let the paucity of pages tempt you to think the subject matter, or the wisdom with which it is addressed, insubstantial. The very title of the book points back to the Lord's own discipleship approach, "And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him..." (Mark 3:14). From both Scriptural personal experience, Pastor Smith commends the "with him" principle as a "biblical model of discipleship for men" (although he is convinced our sisters in Christ will find the model applicable as well). Topics range from finding men and prayer to

friendship and the Great Commission (Christ with us!). Key areas such as doctrine, obedience, prayer, Church fellowship and union with Christ permeate the many clear and practical steps Pastor Smith presents for discipleship.

A group of men in our own congregation receive the book and many said they found it challenging and encouraging! We look forward to the blessings we trust will come from having Pastor Smith "with us" through the pages of his helpful handbook.

THE INTERVIEW

Rev. Vince Ward
Provisional Pastor of
Beckwith RPC

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

In God's providence, I was born in Quebec City—living in a French-speaking city for the first five years of my life, digging roots into the French language and culture. When we moved to Ottawa, I continued to build upon learning the French language by going to a francophone school through primary school, a bilingual high school and a French physiotherapy program at the University of Ottawa.

My family life as I grew up in Ottawa was typical of a mainline Christian family including attending St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Youth Group and Christian Camps, and being involved in music and sports. My great passion (idolatry) from the age of 10 to 20 was in competitive swimming. After years of rebellion against God, when I was 23 years of age, the Lord brought me back to the Pioneer Christian camp. This time, I was given a new heart to receive Jesus Christ as my true God and treasure. I zealously found the most committed Christian at InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at the University of Ottawa and invited myself to her church—the Ottawa Reformed Presbyterian Church. At the first worship service I



Samuel's graduation from Geneva Collage in May.
Vince's mother was able to attend.

attended I knew that this is where I would grow in Christ. I was baptized and came into membership of the Ottawa RPC in June 1997 and have remained a member ever since!

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

The Lord has blessed me with a beautiful and strong French wife and three young adult children who love the Lord. The Lord gave us a life-transforming experience serving in South Sudan from 2006-2015. Returning to Ottawa I was burdened to invest in the next generation of missionaries. The Lord has given me my heart's desire as I work with RP Global Missions and teach the mission courses at RP Theological Seminary, in Pittsburgh, PA. I am equally eager to be part of training the next generation of men for church planting in Canada and among the nations.

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

The greatest influence(r) in my life is Christ himself. As the Sovereign LORD, he has orchestrated the perfect combination of people and circumstances in my life to love him more and make me more like him. All glory goes to Jesus Christ for sustaining me through manifold trials and temptations to refine me ever more into his image.

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

The biggest challenge has been the dark valleys of discouragement. In these moments and seasons, I encourage myself in the Lord to persevere until I see his goodness in the midst of the challenges. Yet, coming out of these valleys, I have known the power of Christ to encourage

my heart, overcome these challenges, and persevere by his sufficient grace.

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

The advice I would give someone 40 years of age is to redeem these prime years of service in the Church. For the men, I would exhort them to live up to the qualifications of an elder or deacon (1 Timothy 3), by the grace of God. For the men who do qualify, I would exhort them to consider full-time service in Canada or overseas. At your age, you know what your spiritual gifts are, you know the Scriptures, and you may have decades of growth in wisdom. You are in your prime, so pour yourself out into the younger generation. I would exhort the women, as well, to train the young mothers and single women (Titus 2) to be women of excellence. You have so much to give back. Above all, let us all pursue first the kingdom of God for his glory.

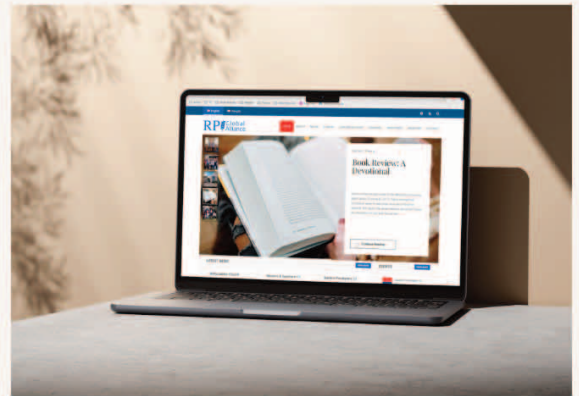
If the Lord continues to bless, what would you like to see happen in the RP Church in Canada?

As the Lord blesses the RP Church of Canada, I believe we will see unity in the church with a common vision to plant Christ-exalting churches that make disciples of the nations, within Canada and beyond. This is the time to look at the harvest of all the nations who have come to us in Canada and bring in the sheaves into the granary of Christ's kingdom. This will require earnest prayer, intentional discipleship, and intensive training of men for the ministry of the Word. We labour with longing to see Christ exercising his dominion from sea to sea (Psalm 72:8).

Addendum: At the time of publication, Rev Vince Ward and his family have joined the group being sent out from the Ottawa RP congregation to form a new congregation in Beckwith, Ontario. Vince will serve as the provisional pastor.



BY REV. VINCE WARD
Provisional Pastor of Beckwith RPC



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.

The RPGA Team also sends out weekly
prayer emails and a monthly newsletter
directly to your inbox.
Scan the QR Code below to subscribe.





“Stop taking Christ, the spiritually perfect manna, for granted!” Very important words that serve as an essential reminder for every Christian. These words help characterize the heart of the recent talks I had the privilege of listening to during this year’s RPCC Family Camp.

Over the second weekend in September, members, and friends of various RP churches in Southern Ontario, gathered at Wesley Acres to enjoy fellowship and encouragement and to soak in wonderful truths from God’s Word. The annual RPCC Family Camp was a great success, from the daily meals to the many hours spent reconnecting with friends and family. Though the weather tried its best to dampen the spirits of the campers with a mixture of rain, wind, and low temperatures, people I spoke with during the weekend were not discouraged by this, even if their tent had collapsed in the night, or their shoes had become sodden during a morning downpour! I was encouraged by the many smiles and laughs despite the chill and the winds, which grew so strong that they nearly blew the roof off the dining tent on Sunday afternoon! Thankfully, many helping hands prevented the tent from escaping.

Each day was filled with three delicious meals, provided by the very capable and organized kitchen staff and volunteers, a talk or sermon, and various other activities throughout the day including—sports, canoeing, board games, and campfires.

The heart of the camp, however, could be found in the wonderful messages delivered by Rev. Allan MacLeod, pastor of the Toronto RP congregation. Throughout the talks and sermons Pastor MacLeod reminded each one of us of the importance of the Psalms, and the centrality of Christ in them. They are the hymnbook that God himself has given us, not only as an encouragement through their depth and beauty in





relation to us, but how they point to and picture our Saviour within them. Mr. MacLeod warned against a problem that is sneaking into the church today, and the world at large--a forgetfulness of Christ. Christ is being forgotten, culturally, civilly and even sadly, in the Church. Part of the reason He is being forgotten is man's innate desire to stray from the means God has chosen to reveal himself. Jesus says of the OT Scriptures, "These are they that speak of me", (John 5:39), and the book of Psalms in particular reveals Christ in his humiliation and exaltation. The Psalms show the very thoughts of our Saviour and take us through his redemptive work and Sovereign Kingship. Mr. MacLeod provided the very important reminder that we must never take Christ, the perfect spiritual manna, for granted!



The RPCC family camp 2024 was truly an encouraging experience, and Lord willing shall be repeated again next year!

Thanks to Keziah Wilkinson, member of New Creation RPC for this article





CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

A Reformed Perspective on the Current Political Landscape

The political landscape always seems to stir endless speculation, especially in times of uncertainty like today. There's constant chatter about the next election, and predictions on how the parties will fare. Some people are even begin betting on outcomes. This is heightened now with the news that the NDP has effectively ended its support for the Trudeau Liberal government. For nearly two years, Jagmeet Singh's NDP has propped up the Liberals, allowing the minority government to function. The Liberal Party lacks the numbers to govern on its own, relying on the NDP to pass legislation and keep things running.

Now, the NDP is facing financial challenges and may be strategizing for a future election, which could come at any moment between now and October 2025. To some, it seems that Singh is making a tactical move to distinguish his party from the Liberals. If the NDP continues to be perceived as an add-on version of the Liberals, it may struggle to gain traction with

voters and donors alike. However, the bigger story here is that polls are indicating a massive Conservative win. In fact, projections as of when I write this suggest a Conservative "super majority" with over 200 seats, while the Liberals could end up with fewer than 70.

"Our trust rests in the Lord, who holds all things in his hands and directs the course of history according to his will."

Of course, the accuracy of these polls is always debated. My wife often points out the unreliability of polls, as they frequently let people down, and this isn't just a Canadian problem. In the U.S., both polls and candidates have been up and down, leaving Christians

especially unsure of where to turn. The truth is, we live in a time where godly leadership seems absent, and we must resist the human urge to place our trust in any one political figure as the political saviour of the moment.

From a Reformed Christian perspective, we're reminded of the futility of putting our hope in earthly powers. As Psalm 20:7 says, "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God." Our hope cannot rest in political leaders who shift and change, nor can we expect elections to fundamentally alter the moral direction of our nations. It is a poignant reality that our political leaders are not truly leaders, but rather followers of culture. Like a mirror, they reflect the moral degradation of our society. The real issue at hand is deeper—it's a matter of the heart and the need for a revival of God's Word in our society.

That doesn't mean we ignore politics or disengage. As believers, we are called to be

salt and light, challenging the world around us with truth, especially in a society that has embraced postmodernism, consumerism, and moral relativism. But while we engage with these cultural and political battles, we do so knowing that the ultimate change we seek must come from God. Elections may feel momentous, with every cycle touted as the most important in history, but we have a more solid foundation than that. Our trust rests in the Lord, who holds all things in his hands and directs the course of history according to his will.

So, as we navigate this politically charged time, let's keep our perspective clear. Ultimately, he is the one who guides our future. As the Westminster Confession of Faith 5.1 states, "God, the great Creator of all things, doth uphold, direct dispose, and govern all creatures, actions, and things, from the greatest even to the least, by His most wise and holy providence..." While we can engage with the issues and play our role in the public square, our confidence is in our unchanging God.



BY MR. COLIN POSTMA
Ruling Elder
in Ottawa RPC

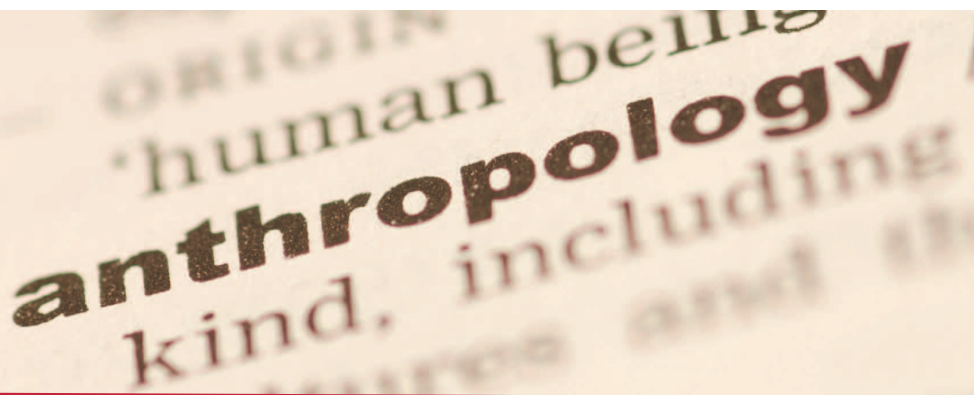
THE RPCC YOUTH EVENT

Winterlude WEEKEND

FEBRUARY 2024

Details coming soon!

ANTH NUMBER 8 IN THE SERIES ROPO MALE AND FEMALE LOGY



Biblical Anthropology – Man was Created to Work

It is ironic that many people today work so that they will not need to work—they work for the weekend or for retirement, when they can stop working. Others work hard at not working—they concoct schemes to milk and bilk charities or government welfare systems. As with everything good

that God created, men find ways to pervert work. Work is innately a good thing, since God himself works—by creating and then by providentially governing and sustaining creation. In his whole being, man was created to work (Genesis 2:15)—he was given a mind to work from, a body to work with, and a world to work on.

The appointment of work for man is not the result of sin and the curse on sin; mankind in paradise was not exempt from work. Productive work was given to man as a mandate and as a blessing, not something to be avoided or shunned. In the state of perfection work, and particularly the physical labour mentioned in Genesis 2:15, was challenging and delightful without being wearying. Man was not created to be idle. This is why we innately despise the 'idle rich' (the ancient aristocrat and the modern playboy), while at the same time envying them because of our souls' propensity to sin.

Consuming without contributing, partaking without producing, and eating and drinking without earning and diligence, are contrary to the created nature of man and to the eighth commandment. We need to work, because:

- God appointed productive employment as part of our created nature.
- Life without a productive purpose becomes life without meaning.
- We must provide for our own and family's needs (2 Thessalonians 3:10; 1 Timothy 5:8).

- Providing for the needs of others extends our focus beyond self.
- We gain true pleasure from doing a job well, for the glory of God.
- Without cultivation, the natural world would run wild. Even before the sin of Adam, man was to keep (cultivate) the garden; now it is even more needed because of the decay man introduced through his sin (Romans 8:22).
- It demonstrates that we are sub-sovereigns over the creation (Genesis 1:26).

God's intention at the time of creation was for mankind to be employed in meaningful, productive, work. Governments, corporations, and labour unions steeped in the swill of sin conspire to frustrate God's purposes. For example: minimum wage laws make employers not want to hire the unskilled; the able bodied are compensated for not working with unemployment 'insurance' and welfare disbursements, while jobs go unfilled and produce lies unharvested on farms because potential workers prefer to collect 'entitlements'; restrictive laws and labour contracts make it so difficult for firms to change workers' jobs that they automate functions rather than hire workers; manufacturers dissect jobs into highly specialized, dull, repetitive steps to increase productivity; corporations expect dedication from their employees, yet treat them as commodities which can be laid off at the whiff of an economic downturn, and make no

investment to retrain them with new skills; unions, with their closed-shop agreements, make it difficult for companies to hire novices; and unions and governments collude in restricting employment to those who carry particular credentials. All of these, and more, undermine God's mandate for man to work productively for his own good and to glorify his God.

The work that Adam was assigned was to cultivate the garden. From his efforts, he would be able to partake of the fruit and crops that the garden would yield. He and his descendants were to manage the garden so that its resources would not be neglected, dissipated, or spoiled but rather made to flourish. This mandate remains ours. Through diligent husbandry, we are to establish order and productivity in the physical realm that God has placed under our care. The word translated 'work' is applied elsewhere to tilling the soil. This is a significant consideration for our 'enlightened' age. The work that man was originally assigned to do included physical labour. This type of work is scorned today. If a person does not have a university degree or does not work in a profession, with a computer, or with his 'mind' he is considered by our society to be doing something less significant. Again, we have turned God's good order upside down. Christians have believed the same myth. In the Church, someone who works fulltime in preaching or missionary endeavours is considered to be more important than someone who works as an auto mechanic or construction worker. Yet, it was physical labour, given to man in the state of innocence, which was deemed by God to be the most meaningful and fulfilling form of work.

When we understand God's design for man, we realize that the sense of accomplishment that we receive from setting out a row of seedlings, completing a fine brick wall, or installing a well-made cabinet easily exceeds the financial rewards which the world associates with many jobs that often lead to stress, frustration, and burn-out.

It is interesting that the Hebrew word translated as 'put' comes from the same root as 'rest' (i.e., to rest on something). God rested, or established, man in his work of physical labour. Although physical labour would be cursed later (Genesis 3:17), being made painful and difficult, it is still what man was designed for and will find most rewarding. The ideal form of work seems to be that which permits us to labour with our hands and exercises our minds as we bring order and beauty into this sin-stained world. Only when we balance this labour with a weekly Sabbath for physical rest and worship can we fully satisfy our created nature. When we reach heaven, work will be restored to the blessing it is—since man was created to work.



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

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RP CHURCH OF CANADA www.rpccanada.org

**MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER**

A collection of news items from the RP Congregations across Canada





When was your congregation organized?

West Van Reformed Presbyterian Mission was organized in June 2019, by the Synod of the RPCNA; initially it was a Bible study group held in Pastor James Zhou's home. After for a few years, it moved to a friend's office. In October, 2018, we started our first worship service, on the Canadian Thanksgiving day, October, 7th, 2018 in the building of West Vancouver Presbyterian Church. After that, the congregation gained the support of the Pacific Coast Presbytery of the RPCNA at its Oct. meeting. James was taken under care at the next spring meeting in March, 2019, then at June's Synod, it was formally organized with the temporary governing body of Pastor Patrick McNeely, Sng Tang, Davie and James Zhou. In 2022, West Van RPC joined the proposed Reformed Presbyterian Church of Canada with other Canadian RP churches in the St. Lawrence Presbytery. In 2023, the RP churches in Canada were formally sent out be of the RPCNA to form the RPCC.

Who are the Elders/Deacons?

Rev. James Zhou is the Pastor of the church and currently the only elder on location. In addition, the Presbytery appointed Rev. Matt Dyck, Rev. Patrick McNeely, Rev. Kevin Jia, and elder Hugh Fraser to serve as provisional elders to the church.

How many people participate in Morning and in Evening worship?

There about 10-15 people participate in Lord's worship, also 6-7 persons on zoom. There are four Communion times per year.

What is your local community like?

We are in the North Shore of the Greater Vancouver area, and there are many Chinese immigrants and overseas students' families, several seniors, the oldest is over 80 years.

What does a typical Lord's Day look like for your congregation?

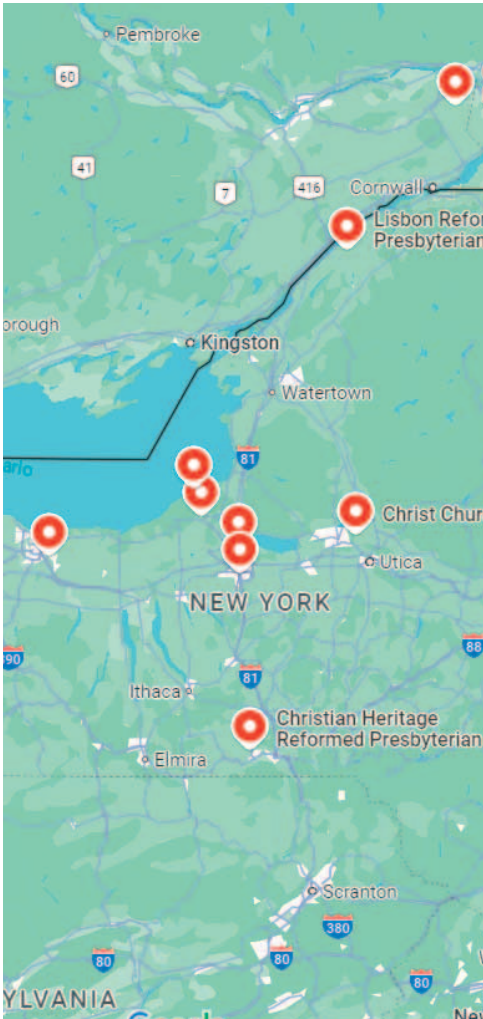
Lord's Day: worship, 3:00 pm, Sunday school 4:45 pm, fellowship meal 5:00 pm. Before worship, we practice singing Psalms around 2:30 pm.

What are the other regular weekly congregational activities?

Monday 7:30 pm, English Bible Study, Wednesday: 7:30-8.00 pm, Psalm singing, Thursday: 6:30-7.00 pm, 7.00-9.00 Bible study.

What specific challenges are confronting the congregation?

We are short of mature and committed Christian, elders and deacons. Also spiritually feeding the young English-speaking generation is a challenge. Please pray for us, that we can grow in love and peace, and live out the image of God in this community. hunger for God's Word, and love for his Church.



St. Lawrence PRESBYTERY

The RP Church in the United States is divided into six presbyteries based on geography. In our previous 5 issues we have covered: Alleghenies, Atlantic, Great Lakes Gulf, Midwest and Pacific Coast and we come now to the final one: The St. Lawrence Presbytery.

This Presbytery is made up of 8 organized congregations and 1 fellowship. It is the presbytery that the Ontario churches were a member of before the RPCC was formed in May 2023.

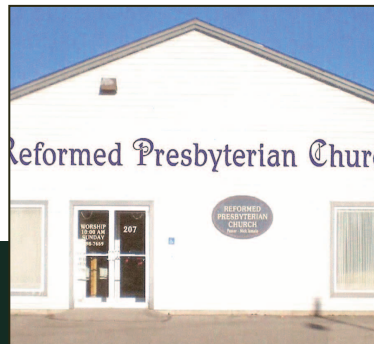
Give thanks that all of the 8 organized congregations have a full time pastor. Pray for the Glengarry Fellowship.

Pray for ...

the Lord to strengthen and bring growth to each congregation.

the upcoming presbytery meeting.

several men from the Syracuse congregation pursuing the ministry.



The 'newest' congregation in the St. Lawrence Presbytery is the Fulton RPC, which was re-organized in 2023 having been reduced to a preaching station in 2021 following the retirement of Pastor Iamaio after 27 years of faithful service. The Lord has blessed the Fulton congregation again with an undershepherd in Pastor Martin Monteith who was ordained and installed in July 2023

The oldest congregation in the St. Lawrence Presbytery is the Lisbon RP Church which was organized in 1840 and the building where they still meet today was built in 1844.

The current minister, Garrett Mann was installed in October 2020, Garrett grew up in the congregation as his father, Wade, was the pastor from 1991-2001.

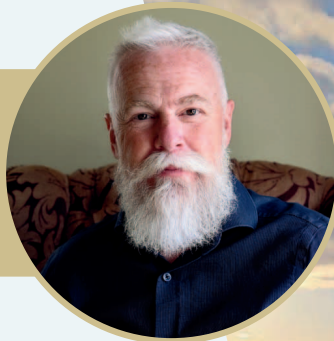


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Beckwith - Josh Zuiderveen (joshzuid@gmail.com)

Hillside - Bill Lowry (wlowry@hotmail.ca)

Ottawa - Eric White (eric_white_1@hotmail.com)

Russell - Mathieu Massicotte (mathieu.massicotte@gmail.com)