# CONNECTIONS

KEEPING YOU CONNECTED WITH WHAT GOD IS DOING AT OSAC



19 salm 100

A psalm For giving grateful praise.

1 Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.2 Morship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.3 Lnow that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.5 For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generation.

# Christian and Missionary Alliance History

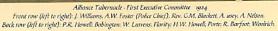
The Alliance Church in Owen Sound is the outgrowth of a series of cottage prayer meetings which began with a few people in 1924. The first Executive Committee was made up of Messrs Wm. Foster, A. Pusey, Wm. Leavens, W. Porte, H. Howell, M, Babbington, A. Nelson, J. Williams, C, Woolridge, Wm. Kellestine, Bar Flarity and A.M Bunt. Besides in homes, meetings were held in the W.C.T.U. Hall and the City Hall. Rev. W.W Roffe of Toronto was District Superintendent. Two events of significance that first year were; a call extended to Rev. Geo Blackett as pastor of the fellowship and special meetings held in the City Hall with Professor and Mrs. H. E Breg of Los Angeles, California. After this, Dr. Oswald J. Smith inspired the people to consider building a church. It was a time for much prayer and seeking guidance from God to know what they should do. It took money to build. Records show that in that year of 1924 the first annual report there was a budget balance on hand of \$2.48. Many prayer meetings lasted all day and many times an evening meeting would turn into a whole night of prayer. An evidence of the missionary vision shared by our founding fathers is seen in the annual report for 1925 when a sum of \$1,408.00 was given for Foreign Missions.

It was decided that on Sunday August 1, 1926 a special offering be taken. The congregation asked the Lord for \$500.00 to start their new church. That day \$666.00 was received. "Great reason for praising God who has done above what was asked or thought."

Prayers were answered, and the "big day" came August 30, 1926 when a cornerstone of the first Alliance Tabernacle in Owen Sound was laid. The cost of the building was \$12,472.00 and in the "good old days" of 4% per annum. The foundation was bathed and laid in prayer and faith trusting God to meet the needs.

This information was collected and typed for the booklet - *History of Owen Sound Alliance church 1924-1974 Gleaning* from Church reports, Letters, and minutes in 1974, by Laura Mac Nab, church office Secretory.







# A celebration of God's faithfulness through OSAC 1924-2024



Rev. Steve Kerr started our month of celebrations with a message titled, THE JOURNEY OF FOLLWING JESUS.

He congratulated us on 100 years of effective ministry in the GOSA... the Greater Owen Sound Area! He shared that looking back over the last 50+ years he was very grateful for everything OSAC the people have done for him. The church provided him with friendships that have lasted a lifetime. He attended programs where he could learn and grow and where he had some fun too. There were intergenerational interactions with folks of all ages here and some of you gently disciplined him when he needed it, and he thanked you for that. He was exposed to missionaries who came from faraway places to tell us what God was doing in the world. But, most important of all... this church introduced him to Jesus!

#### Some key takeaways from Steve's message:

- 1. God uses the ordinary faithfulness of a local church family to prompt people to take the necessary next step in their journey with Jesus... whether it be salvation, baptism, serving, their calling or something else.
- 2. Don't be discouraged for praying, giving and serving in your local church, but press on as you help others take their next step in the exciting journey of following Jesus. Steve turns our attention to Philippians 3:10-14 as Paul compares his life with Christ to a journey. Where you have to press on... place one foot in front of the other to follow Jesus into an unknown, unpredictable and at times an uncomfortable adventure.
- 3. If you are someone who has maybe thrown in the towel and given up on taking the next step, if you are discouraged about church or have taken your foot off the gas
  - pedal a little because of opposition, be encouraged take the next step. Because people like Paul prayed, gave, served and shared the ancient world heard about Jesus. Because of people at OSAC thousands of others all over the globe are in the kingdom if God because you all took the next step in following Jesus. So don't be discouraged today. Don't give up. Don't through in the towel. Let's strain toward what is ahead... let's put one foot in front of another.



#### Celebrating 100 years of God's faithfulness

#### **Sundays**

June 2

Guest speaker: Steve Kerr

June 9

Guest speaker: John Cook

June 16

Guest speaker: Bill Lobbezoo

June 23

Church Picnic at Kelso Beach

June 30

100 Year Celebration Service Guest speaker: Franklin Pyles

#### Wednesdays

June 5 / 6:30pm

Missions Night: The Burnetts

June 12 / 6:30pm

Alliance History Overview: Ken Draper

June 19 / 3pm

Young at Heart (55+) Strawberry Social

Saturday, June 29

Neighbourhood Ball Hockey and BBQ from 11am-2pm

Find more info at alliancechurch.net/100

June was jam packed with 100 year celebration services and events.

Thank you to the planning committee, Eve Edmonstone, Carol Seaman, Lisa Lambkin, Janet Gibson, Janice Reed, Angie Lyman, Bill Lobbezoo, Lloyd Kerr and Pastor Ryan Tudor. The Sunday morning services in June and Dr.

Draper's history lecture are available to be viewed on YouTube if you missed them.

# MISSIONS NIGHT

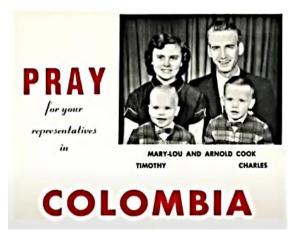
The Missions Committee welcomed the congregation to join them on June 5<sup>th</sup> to meet International Workers, Derek & Bonnie Burnett. The Burnett's shared their misssional vision with us "For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.' " (Acts 13:47) What a pleasure it was to hear of how God is on the move in Thailand and all the unique opportunities and ways He has opened up for them to do ministry. The Burnett's were happy to be in Owen Sound visiting old friends Bill & Ilana Lobbezoo as well as warmly remembering the family connections to OSAC. The Burnett's have served in Thailand since 1999.





### JOHN COOK

Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> we welcomed John & Beth Cook who presently serve as Global Member Care leaders with Alliance Canada, They were previously International Workers in Azerbaijan.



John began his time with us by sharing how emotional he felt returning to OSAC as he recalled his childhood, his grandparents, Jessie & Charlie Catto, and his parents Arnold & Mary-Lou Cook. Owen Sound Alliance Church played a key role in Arnold and May-Lou's lives as we were the sending church, for their overseas missionary work.



Key points from John's message titled: GROWTH

For 100 years God has established OSAC as a place of growth, Spiritual growth. He reminds us Spiritual growth doesn't happen by accident. For **GROWTH**, you need to eat, for eating you need an **APPETITE**, for an appetite you have to have a **SUPPLY** and the supply comes from the pure milk of the word of God.

#### 1 Peter 2:1

Therefore, rid yourself of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.

#### 1 Peter 2:2

Like a newborn babe, crave spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation,

#### 1 Peter 2:3

Now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

This idea of growth requires EATING, APPETITE, and SUPPLY.

#### THE DISCIPLES GUIDE TO FINE DINING

- 1. BE MINDFUL OF WHAT YOU'VE TASTED
- 2. BE CAREFUL TO AVOID JUNK FOOD
- 3. BE CAREFUL TO FEED ON THE TRUTH

Please Check out John's full message on our YouTube channel, you won't be disappointed.



### MR. LOBBEZOO



Bill Lobbezoo~ Former International Worker serving in Cambodia

There was one condition and one condition only for Mr. Bill Lobbezoo for him to come and speak, we needed to bring the old pulpit out of storage. Bill required the pulpit not to make himself look and feel more pastoral or more like Franklin Plyes he remarked but because it gave him something to lean on in his old age.

Two words came to mind for Bill during our month of celebration: 1. **Legacy** - Remembering the number of people sent out overseas, to other cities in Canada, and those here in our congregation who have ministered in their workplaces, to family, and neighborhoods. 2. **Community** - The legacy grows out of the community. When you sit and hear the stories of past Sunday school teachers they may not know the impact they've had on others this side of heaven and the impact they had on world evangelism.

Bill reminded us that as a city and a church, we are invested in reaching people with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We must complete the Great Commission. Owen Sound was the last stop on the Underground Railroad, and the rock band U2 wrote a song on our fair city called, "Where the Streets Have No Name" hahaha. Bill said he enjoys cultural clashes. One of the ways people clash is because of language barriers. "Who is our neighbor"? He asked. God created all cultures; therefore, all cultures are good. Scriptures gave us Luke 10:25-37. (Paraphrased) Jesus teaches this scholar that the Law doesn't cause someone to love one's neighbour. Nor does it define one's neighbor. The Law merely provides examples of how to act; love reveals that a neighbour can be anyone. "Bible Gateway

In closing, Bill prayed, "Lord thank you for 100 years, thank you for using the Owen Sound Alliance Church community, and how you have worked through us and in us in many parts of the world. Thank you the world is coming here. We pray that you will help us be prepared for them, and we welcome it. We look forward to OSAC's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary and all the people groups that will be here to celebrate with us. Amen". This is just a small overview of Bill's sermon, please check out his full message on the June 16 YouTube sermon, you will be encouraged.





Not only did Bill deliver a humorous and powerful message, he was the emcee for the month and served on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee.
Thank you Bill!

#### Picnic and Baptism Service

June 23, the 3rd Sunday of anniversary celebration

The rain may have kept us from heading down to Kelso Beach this year but it didn't steel the joy of the day. Special guest, Shane Gould, District Superintendent of the Central Canadian District (CCD) brought greetings and congratulations. It wasn't the day we were hoping or planning for Shane noted but we should be encouraged, rain is a sign of God's blessings. He adds, thanks be to the

Lord for his faithfulness through the body of believers of OSAC. He also thanked us for our faithfulness, for our testimony, sacrifice and obedience. 100 years of testimony of Jesus Christ and there are greater things to come.

Shane read Isaiah 61:1-3 as a blessing over the congregation. God has been faithfully growing us to extend his life to all those who would come to know him. We are called by God to serve him wherever we are planted (oak seeds). A Certificate was presented to Pastor Ryan as an acknowledgement of this milestone of God's faithfulness of 100yrs of OSAC.



#### The Year of the LORD's Favor

**61** The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,

and provide for those who grieve in Zion to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes,

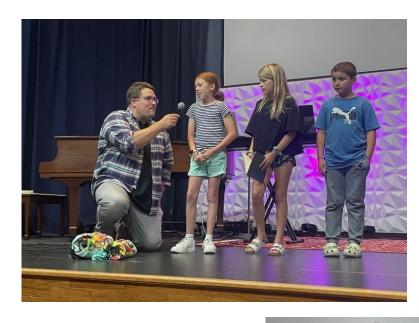
the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.

Shane Gould
District Superintendent of the CCD

During our annual church picnic and barbeque we have a special time honouring those participating in Believer's Baptism. We celebrated with Allister Corbiere, Sophia Kelley, Madeline Brown and Mack Hunter. At a later date Max Escario Blanco and Shane Slater enterd the waters of baptism. They all took the next step in their walk with Christ. Congratulations to you all. *You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in baptism and marked as Christ's own forever- Ephesians 1:13* 





Madeline Brown & Sophia Kelley



# Baptism



Max Escarío Blanco



Mack Hunter





Shane Slater













### 100th Anniversary greetings



Even though our experience and adventure with the Alliance Church in Owen Sound began almost 64 years ago, we still reminisce about the two years God led us to be part of the ministry there. It was May 1960, and we had just graduated as Missions majors at Nyack (Missionary) College. Just a few weeks later, we celebrated our marriage. Since two years of "home service" were prerequisite to an overseas assignment, we accepted an invitation from Owen Sound Alliance to serve as assistant pastor. In October of that year we were packing our bags and on our way to Owen Sound.

Looking back, we cherish the two years we spent in ministry at the Owen Sound Alliance Church. Just weeks after our arrival there, Pastor Bob Grey accepted a call to serve as Dr. Tozer's assistant in Toronto. His departure from Owen Sound left us temporarily with his former responsibilities at the church. Some of these were: preaching on Sundays, speaking on the Monday

to Friday "Good News Before Noon Broadcast", church office duties, youth ministries, music and visitation. Lorenda was equally involved in most of these ministry opportunities. All of these experiences served us well over the next 45 years of ministry in Ecuador, Canada and the U.S. Thank you for your continued encouragement to us via letters and prayers in the following years. Congratulations on the 100-year anniversary of service to the Lord.

With gratitude,

Bruce & Lorenda Jackson in Deland, Florida

#### **Dr. Ken Draper**



If you are a history buff then Dr. Draper's Alliance History lecture that was viewed over zoom Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> was the place to be. Dr. Draper began his lecture by drawing our attention back to 1887 when Alliance founder Albert Benjamin Simpson, organized a small group of believers devoted to experiencing Jesus in His fullness and making Him known to New York City's marginalized dock workers. Dr. Draper shared his personal connection OSAC as his parents, Lloyd and Irene, were members of our congregation. All who attended the Alliance History event were enlighten and engaged.

# HİSTORİCAL

#### ARTIFACTS ROOM









If you visited the Historical room you were quickly amazed by the rich history OSAC has in Owen Sound. Visitors enjoyed a power point video, old memorabilia such as newspaper clippings, scrapbooks (masterly created by Judy Pitt- nee Haines) art work, Boys Brigade apparel, old CD and cassette service recording, and many shared stories. A big thank you to all those that brought in some artifacts to share.









May His favor be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family and your children
And their children, and their children

Amen, amen, amen Amen, amen, amen



The room proved to be a great place to connect with old friends and reminisce about days gone bye.



Alliance Canada Four Fold Gospel Carved by, Mel Pointon

# Special Hellos & Wonderful Stories



2002–2011– Senior Pastor Rev. Kendall & Tamara Schmitke Special hello from Rosenort Manitoba



2013-2022- Senior Pastor Rev. Jeff & Fiona Sensenstein Special hello form Nova Scotia



1995-2001 – Creative Communications Pastor Rev. Tim & Jennifer Bergmann Special hello from Sylvan Lake AB





Thank you Ross & Beverly
Howell and Wayne & Lois
Lambkin for sharing with us
what Alliance means to you
personally and what a long and
rich history your families have at
Owen Sound Alliance Church.

# YOUTH

### MINISTRIES

#### SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT



Youth Pastor - 1986-1991 Mitch Curby

OSAC's vary first Youth Pastor, Mitch Curby, flew in from BC to join us for our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary service on Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. This was a blast from the past for him being back with us. It was a very formative place Owen Sound he shared. It's a place where he found lots of love. He cried for months when he moved away because he missed Owen Sound so very much. Owen Sound is where he had a life altering experience. Mitch was paralysed but by God's grace and the people of OSAC'S prayers he was healed. Dave Brotherton and he were here in the heydays of youth ministry. OSAC gave them both a great place to live out their faith. Mitch prayed for a new generation of young people to go out and to be sent out to make and impact for God. Thank you Mitch and Dave for accepting God's call to invest in the lives of youth.





Youth Pastor – 1991-1997 Dave Brotherton

# FRANKLIN PYLES

International Workers Gary and Sharon Howell were home from Senegal to join us for our 100th anniversary. One of their great joys was introducing Rev. Franklin Pyles. Franklin has held many titles they shared Pastor, Reverend, Professor, President and Mentor—the list can go on and on Gary adds but there is one secret gifts he holds and that is friendship.



Here are a few of the highlights from Franklin's message from Mark 10:46-49

#### **Blind Bartimaeus Receives His Sight**

<sup>46</sup> Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means "son of Timaeus"), was sitting by the roadside begging. <sup>47</sup> When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called to the blind man, "Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you."

Jesus was on the road. He knew where he was going, he knew why he was going. The writer tells us that there was something about Jesus' face, it was reflective of his journey ahead. His long climb to Jerusalem where the cross awaited him. Mark wants us to notice in his text that Jesus is still noticing others, people who were simply there, simply needing him.

Today brothers and sisters, Jesus is on the road, He is meeting all sorts of people. As we walk with him as a church, we must be ready, we must be committed to meeting those people that He is looking out for, those He sees.

Zooming in on Three Perspectives. (Looking at it through different eyes).

- 1. **The Crowd:** Composed of people who want to be a part of what Jesus is doing. They represent the church. The church when it is strong and when it is misguided. Those who walk with Jesu are under the assumption that one day he will reveal himself as king. This is the call of the church of the world...to bring in the kingdom.
- 2. The Lord: the blind man calls him the son of David; which scripture informs us that he is. The cry "Son of David" is a cry of faith Jesus we believe you are the one. Generations after generation you are the one they've been waiting for. Jesus accepts that title. The crowd changes their perspective once they hear the blind man on the side of the road call out "Son of David" (Mark 10:49) Jesus stopped and said, "Call him. "So they called to the blind man, Cheer up! On your feet! He is calling you." Jesus speaks and the crowd (church) obeys. The task of the church is to announce the gospel. Jesus the hope of the world. Jesus never lost sight of the people alongside the road to Jerusalem. Today brothers and sisters Christ NEVER loses sight of us NEVER.
- 3. The blind man: He is bold asking for mercy. It isn't easy, mercy can be hard to ask for. It is hard whoever you are to ask your brothers and sisters for help. It's even difficult to come to God to ask for mercy. Bartimaeus had enough faith to call for him. How does this giving of mercy lead us to the cross? The cross as a reality for the church and individuals... When we are honest and start giving mercy and ask for mercy when we need it, the reality of the cross looms in front of us. Then we'll see others in their time of need.

Franklin felt pleased and blessed knowing that this journey for Owen Sound Alliance is not over as we have reached this 100<sup>th</sup> year milestone but the ministry it has just begun!



TIME TOGETHER AS A FAMILY IS A GIFT

#### FAMILY IS EVERYTHING!



















# PRAYERS & SQUARES MINISTRY

This ministry has been active in our church for 20 years. We want to thank our church family for supporting this ministry through your prayers, for tying the knots in the quilts and for reaching out and asking your neighbour, friend or family member if they would like a prayer quilt. In the last 20 years we have prayed for 900. We have also sent quilts on many missions' trips and asked that those on the trip representing Jesus, to look for someone who needs our prayers – the stories they bring back are wonderful to hear about.

There are 3 chapters of Prayers & Squares in Owen Sound: ours, one at St. Mary's Catholic Church and one at the Lutheran Church of Our Saviour. The Lutheran church is closing their chapter now due to lack of help – two ladies in their 90's have been keeping this chapter going for the last few years and they are not continuing. These 3 groups have met twice a year to put quilt tops together and share our stories with each other. We are thankful for this opportunity to work with other churches to reach out to those that are hurting in our community. We hosted the spring workshop and look forward to the fall Sew Day at St. Mary's. These pictures are from the spring Sew Day. The day starts at 9:00, includes a light lunch and we sew until about 3:00. It is always a wonderful day of sewing, sharing, socializing and adding quilt tops to our cupboard.

If this sounds like something you might be interested in, please talk to any of our members for more information – we need help - our group is getting a little older and we would like to have some younger members to carry on this worthwhile ministry. Our group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoon from 1:30 – 3:00 in the Conference Room. Most of our sewing is done at home and if it's been awhile since you sewed, we'll be happy to help you get sewing again!



One of our "extra" activities is to have a challenge within the group. It is usually to keep us sewing through the winter months when we don't always get to meet for our regular meetings due to weather and health issues. Last winter's activity was to create a prayer quilt with some fabric that was a black background with yellow, coral, green and reds and the words "Be Thankful, Blessed, Grateful, Joyful".

How would you feel reading these words while getting over surgery, recovering from cancer treatments, after an accident – we hope it will remind them that someone cares and is praying for them. You could add as many fabrics as you wanted to make a quilt 50 x 60. This pictures show the results. These quilts will be used in the coming year to bless someone.

Please feel free to talk to any of our members about what we do, maybe joining us for a few meetings and see if we might be a fit for your free time. We would be happy to have you join us.

Pat McAllister, Edie Iles, Nikki Pointon, Heather Parkin, Elizabeth Lochbihler, Andrea O'Donaghue, Norma Byers, Elizabeth Shantz, Darlene Forrest, Carol Seaman.

### OSAC 100th Celebration Quilt

-Submitted by Carol Seaman



At our first meeting of the Anniversary Committee, Pastor Ryan said we would be using Psalm 100 as our scripture passage for the month.

In my New International Version it is called a Psalm for Giving Thanks.

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness, come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God, it is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

We talked about the Lord's faithfulness from the start of the Owen Sound Alliance Church back in 1924 and throughout the last 100 years to where we are today. God has been faithful to provide leadership, finances, board members, Sunday school workers, youth leaders and so many to be helpers in the different programs that have been so well run and received. We praise Him for his faithfulness to us.

Pastor Ryan suggested a signature quilt with the names of the families that have attended, and are attending OSAC. We did our best to contact the many families that were involved and came up with a very large quilt that would have been unmanageable as one quilt, so it became 3 separate pieces. It had hung in the former Resource library since mid-June and was seen by the many who attended the services. We hope you found your family's square. We included all of the pastors who have served over the years, our many missionary families and a lot of the original families who were here in 1924.

There is a written history of OSAC up to the year 1974. Now we will write the last 50 years of history so that it is available for our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. If you would like to have something included (special services, activities that were important (ie- craft night, musical presentation of the Music Machine, the Singing Christmas Tree, and Triple C, etc. or something significant for you or your family) please let Angie know before the end of September. You may have a program/pictures from one of these events that could be included.

Many thanks to the ladies from the Prayer Quilt Ministry who facilitated the signing of the squares, sewing them together and putting the quilt top together. This would not have happened without their time and support. We will keep you updated on the finishing and final hanging spot for this keepsake. Be sure to take in all the signatures on this memory piece and get to know someone new this next month.

.....for the Lord is Good and his Love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations .....you are a living testimony to this ......live like you believe it.

# ASSEMBLING OF THE ANNIVERSRY QUILT













#### **COMPETE QUILT**

Thank you OSAC family for adding your family name to the anniversary quilt. This special project was possible not just by our talented and gifted quilters but also all of you.



### STRAWBERRY SOCIAL

#### YOUNG @ HEART EVENT

Wednesday, June 19 Young @ Heart enjoyed some delicious strawberry treats, fellowship and entertainment by Sonlit music group form The Salvation Army church.























## DRUM ROLL PLEASE

#### An afternoon with Dave & Bev Brown

Dave and his lovely wife Bev came to OSAC through an invitation from their friend Ann Stain (a member of OSAC), to listen to the new pastor, Kendall Schmitke at the time. When Dave was asked, "why did they keep returning Sunday after Sunday?" he replied, great music, and we liked Kendall. We could feel the Holy Spirit moving. "It is a full Gospel church". OSAC presents God through scripture and the gospel wasn't watered down.

Dave has served in worship ministry for 13 years and was part Mailon Marshalls' worship team. He's played drums since he was 15 years of age. His father was a musician. When Dave was a boy he was known as the kid that would bang away on

cardboard boxes. Dave played on a worship team in Brampton for three years, and remarks that he loved being on a worship team playing and worshipping the Lord.

Q&A with Dave and Bev

Q. When did you receive Jesus into your heart?

A. Dave - When I was 40 years of age, I was at a cottage and my mother's best friend asked me if I wanted to know Jesus as my personal saviour? I had been around Christian people my whole life and my mom took me to church for most of it but I never heard about or was asked if I wanted to be born again. I absolutely knew that I wanted to be saved when asked. When I accepted the Lord, things changed in my life. I wanted to go to church, I wanted to see worship, anointing and laying on of hands just as the bible taught.

Q. Where do you see yourselves in the next 5 years?

A. Dave - A little older and more dependent on the Lord. A closer walk with the Lord. Bev- We have a lot more years ahead of us!"

Q. What makes you happy?

A. Dave - A lot of things, my wife, we are so blessed. Knowing that I'm a child of God makes me happy (my security blanket) Playing on the worship team makes me happy. Bev- the older we get we feel blessed and happy, the slower pace is a wonderful part of life.

Q. What did you aspire to be when you were a child.

A. Dave - no aspirations really... I didn't think of being anything.

Q. What are some of your hobbies?

A. Dave - Music, listening and playing. Painting. I see God's beauty and I try to capture it on canvas. Pastor Ryan asked us in one of his messages "Where do we find God? I would

say, nature, music, art and friendship.

These two are some of OSAC's dear saints and what an honor it was to visit them in their home and getting to know them much better. Make sure to say hello if you see then in the hallways, they truly are a delight.







Paintings by: Dave Brown



#### **Ecuador Update**

This summer, OSAC Youth led a team of four students and three leaders to Quito, Ecuador to serve with Inca Link.

Our team had a whirlwind first few days in Ecuador: we spent a whole day cleaning an apartment and building furniture, got a new ministry space ready, helped with English homework, went shopping at a "mega-market" (talk about culture shock!), and did a bit of sightseeing, and that was just in the three days before we started our main ministry for the week!



For most of our time in Quito, our students participated in a VBS-style program for the teenage girls who were a part of the Casa Elizabeth ministry we were there to serve. As leaders, we are so proud of them for the way they really got involved in their teams — Team Amarillo (yellow) and Team Morado (purple) — and made connections with the girls there.

I think we can all agree that we were so blessed by the ministry of Casa Elizabeth and their team, whether it was the food our chef worked so hard to make special (the DESSERTS), the fun outings, the devotional times, or the friendships we built.

#### **Returning Home: Fruit**

It can be hard to adjust to "normal" life after a shortterm mission trip. In just 10 days in Ecuador, our team was stretched emotionally, physically, and spiritually and made deep connections that have lasted beyond our time there.



In our post-trip debriefing meetings, we learned about the "5 Fs" of returning home: Fun, Fight, Flee, Fit In, and Fruit. Each of these represents a stage of adjusting to life after a short-term trip. Whether our team members decide to pursue cross-cultural ministry in the future or not, the hope is that this trip will have lasting fruit in their lives here and now.

If you get a chance to talk to someone from the team, ask them about their experience on the trip and how it continues to impact them even now!

Thank you, OSAC family, for your support and prayers! Please continue to pray for our team members as they grow in their walks with Jesus and seek out what "fruit" looks like in their everyday lives.

#### Blessings,

Nick, Julia, Bernice, Jessica, Summer, Mila, and Leah



Under his wings you will find refuge Ps 91:4

"I know I will be ok because I have a family again." A newcomer friend shared this with us as we visited in his home a week after he arrived. After more than a decade as a foreigner in a refugee camp, he finally felt reason to hope.

In Eph 2:19 Paul shares the hope we have for newcomers like our friend. "You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household". Most refugees arriving in Canada are not just physically foreigners but also spiritually foreigners to our church - household. We know Jesus longs to rescue them and bring them into his family just as he has done for us.

A year ago, God laid on our hearts an idea for how we might better welcome newcomers into God's household. A home, where refugee asylum claimants experiencing homelessness could stay for up to a year. After reading how God cares for the sparrow, we decided to call the home "The Nest". It represents a place of temporary support, safety, and empowerment. The house at 249 10th Ave E will allow us to host 6+ people along with ourselves (Jono and Rachel).

By providing housing it gives something very practical, but by welcoming people into our church community it can completely change their lives!

We are so thankful for you the community that is OSAC. You have prayed for, encouraged, and supported this endeavour since we started sharing the idea. Getting the house furnished, funded and operating is what we need to do to offer housing, but it is only the beginning if we as a church want to welcome these refugees into God's family.

Refugees more than anything else want to belong and it can't happen without a community ready to welcome them in. Pray with us that this home would be a launching pad... or should we say a launching nest, to being a part of God's household.

"Therefore, you are no longer foreigners and strangers but fellow citizens with God's people and members of his household. - Eph 2:19

#### Want to be involved?

- Please join us in prayer for the families/singles God will bring us.
- You can give to "The Nest Refugee House" here at OSAC.
- Talk to us about how you would like to "be community" to those staying at the house. Bring and share a meal, take someone to the grocery store, to the thrift store, or a hockey game!

Jono & Rachel Stanley





# It's good to have you finally join us

Our three newcomers are adjusting well to life in Canada. As Pastor Ryan mentioned in his recent message they are experiencing an overwhelming sense of gratitude for their new circumstances; they are thankful for our church, this beautiful country, ESL, and mostly to God. I love how they express their thanksgiving to the Lord. They repeatedly say "Thanks God". It seems so personal and intimate. They even say it to staff at various places such as the YMCA, Service Ontario, Food Basics etc.

The pictures express their happiness better than words can. They include the Fun Day at the Farm, apple trip, and at church. Yep, lots of new exciting experiences – but winter is coming. That will be very new! Thanks for your prayers and for your friendliness – it does not go unnoticed by these three cousins. ~ Donna Jansen Chair, Refugee Committee.



Fiyori, Selam and Biniyam







Enjoying their first Harvest for Hunger event

# Fun Day at the Farm Harvest for Hunger photo Recap













Thank you Pastor Nick and Sr. Youth for all your help at this year's Harvest for Hunger's Fun Day at the Farm event.



















#### Fire safety demonstration







Larry & Heather Parkin: thank you for opening up your home and hearts to support a great hunger relief project like Harvest for Hunger



THERE WAS NO SHORTAGE ON FOOD!
Thank you to those who cooked and served hot dogs, burgers, drinks, ice cream and pie. And a huge thank you to those who donated pies.





# Fun for the whole family













# FALL KICK OFF



Fall program kick off began with pancakes and prayer. We are so grateful for the team that prepare and severed us a delicious breakfast that morning. Fall Kick off is the time were we reset and ask the Lord to continue to guide our steps towards heaven as be begin a new ministry year.







Yes Spirit

Come and fill this place

Let Your glory now invade

Spirit come and fill this place

Let your glory now invade

Spirit of the living God fall fresh on us..

# HAPPENINGS



Ladies, please join us for an evening of worship, fellowship and food. Our sister in Christ, Amy Sloss will share from her new study book PASSAGES (Pruning You For His Glory). This study goes through ten areas the Lord wanted to chop in her life and what He wanted to grow in her instead. She had thought that she was a seasoned Christian and it was those around her that needed to change. The truth she found out was, it was her needed to change. We're very excited to hear how God has been moving in Amy's life. This event is for all ladies. Consider bringing your sisters, mother, aunts, daughters, neighbours and co-workers.

Cost: \$10 cash, cheque or e-transfer accepted (payment due at the door) we're looking forward to seeing you there! Please register online.



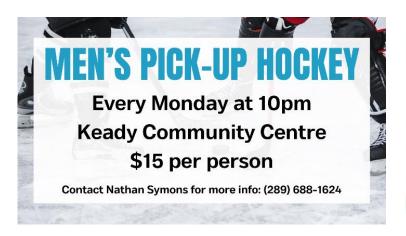
#### Grief Share support group

For those needing help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. A Grief Share support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Attending this group, you'll receive valuable guidance and tips, leading you to relief, comfort, and peace of mind. @ The New Life Centre 199 4th Ave West. For more info call the church.

# MOMS & TOTS A COMMUNITY OF MAMAS NAVIGATING MOTHERHOOD AND CHRIST-LIKE LIVING TOGETHER JOIN US WEDNESDAYS @ 10AM IN THE LOWER AUDITORIUM

#### Moms & Tots

Mamas, join us every Wednesday at 10am for a cup of coffee, snacks and fellowship. We are currently working through a study called The Good Gospel. Where we are reminded that because of the gospel, we can experience life with God. Because of the gospel, we are free from sin and death. Because of the gospel, we have an eternal hope no matter what happens. We would love to have you.



#### HYMN SING

Sunday, November 10th 2pm Sign up in the church hallway

Everyone is invited!



#### All skills levels welcomed



Emmaus Ladies Walking Group
Our group represents 3 local churches.
Ladies: meet us at the church Tuesday
mornings at 9:30am for relaxed
walking and conversation, combined
with recognizing that Jesus is always
with us. Invite your friends. On the
third Tuesday of each month we will
be bringing underwear and socks to
help support the downtown ministry
group (affectionately called The
Essential Emmaus Walk. Ladies If you
would like to join us or would like
more information about Emmaus Walk
contact Norah @ 519-372-8570

THANK YOU NOTE - Baby bottle Campaign.

"The Grey Bruce Pregnancy Centre had our most successful Baby Bottle Campaign ever in 2024! We reached a total of \$42,787.16! OSAC church contributed \$2,195.49 of this amount. We are very thankful for your continued support as we minister to families in Grey and Bruce! Please keep us in your prayers."

Blessings, Grey Bruce Pregnancy Centre

