



Apostolic Church of Pentecost of Canada Inc.

Our Vision

To preach the gospel of the Kingdom to every nation.

Our Mission

To be an international network of ministers and churches providing fellowship, encouragement and accountability in the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Mercy Bears Fruit of Righteousness

North Battleford, SK - "If the church will reach out to its community with Mercy, then the community will begin to desire Justice of itself and for itself; the result will be Purity (Righteousness)."

That was the very clear message delivered to Living Faith Chapel (LFC) over a number of years through a series of unmistakable God moments.

It's become very clear to us that Mercy is the act of "absorbing the affects of sin". Therefore, our mission has been constantly focused and refocused on identifying the most obvious affects of sin in our community, and then spending our resources as efficiently as possible in those areas of need.

Over time, we've been able to develop some fairly typical

mercy ministries like our soup kitchen and youth drop-in centre. But we've also been privileged to partner with some of the social agencies in town (Social Services, RCMP, local schools, city council, etc) to develop some unique programs identified in collaboration with our partners.

Bridges for Children

Bridges for Children is one such partnership. Families are referred to this strength based diversion program when one of their children under the age of 12 has engaged in activities which would be chargeable under the criminal code if

the child had been 13 years or older. Our two full time facilitators can work with up to 6 families each at any given time. This ministry has a good reputation in town for helping families in crisis navigate into healthy lifestyles.

Crystal's Home

Crystal's Home is a home for girls who are 16 or 17 years old and are unable to remain in their parents' home for reasons of safety or support. A host family from the church lives in the home purchased by LFC and renovated with funds from

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Social Services and the National Homelessness Initiative. Three built-in suites allow us to host up to 6 homeless girls who become part of the family and receive the love God has for them as the host parents care for them body, soul and spirit.



The kitchen in "Crystal's Home."

There is far too much to say about the journey God has taken our church on than I could fit into an article like this; and since I'll have the privilege of presenting the theology and experiences behind our church mission more thoroughly at the ACOP conference at Eston in June, let me just make some point blank statements that we've learned from our experience. Perhaps some of them will trigger some beneficial self-discovery:

We believe we must develop our ministries and measure our success more by the opportunities we have to "absorb the affects of sin in our community" and less by "how many people respond to our message".

We Believe

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Historically, "spiritual" ministries and "social" ministries have been separated, and this ought not to be. Matt 7:15-27, 25:31-46.

Many churches errantly leave the "good works" of the kingdom up to missions programs or parachurch organizations; these things are the work of every believer as well as



"Hands of Mercy" soup kitchen.

the local church, not simply distant programs to sponsor.

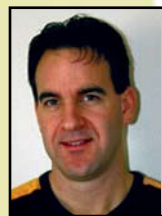
It is the call of every believer to spend their resources (time, talents, treasures) on the mission of the kingdom; therefore, the local church should only engage in those programs which are more efficient or effective when performed by the group rather than the individual. God buries part of the local church vision in the soil of the community, and it will be discovered only by engaging them in mercy.

God has given LFC favor with the many local social agencies in North

Battleford. This year, our local church, will again be receiving close to \$400,000 in grants and sponsorships as the various community agencies see us spending our own time, talents and treasures on the needs we see.

Although these funds greatly enhance our ability to run missions of mercy, the greatest motivation comes from a great appreciation for the mercy that God has shown us through Jesus Christ, and from the conviction that the church, his body, continues to absorb the affects of sin in our world through his power and his compassion.

-Rev. Dan Duncan



REV. DAN DUNCAN married his Bible school sweetheart, Darla (Smith), and they now have two teenage sons. Through a series of God events, the Duncans moved from BC to North Battleford, SK in 1996 to help pastor Living Faith Chapel. Dan's philosophy of church is that the institution only exists in order to efficiently facilitate spiritual maturity in the life of individuals, so that whether alone or together, they can more effectively reveal God's image to their community. It is his belief that true Mercy is the most important core value in the ministry of Christ's body to the world.

Dr. Rev. Stephen Nemeth in God's Presence



Dr. Rev. Stephen Nemeth passed into God's presence on February 13, 2008 at the age of 79 years.

Brother Nemeth was commissioned as an ACOP missionary to India in 1957. In September 2007, he was granted a Doctorate of Ministry from the International Institute of Arts and Theology in India in recognition of his 50th year of ministry as a missionary to India.

His dedication and undying passion for the people of India has left a lasting legacy. His life long investment as a teacher, encourager and apostolic mentor had eternal impact on that country, and he is widely regarded as their spiritual Father.

Rev. Nemeth leaves his dear wife, Florli and two daughters (Myrna & Sharon) and their families.

A fund has been established in his memory, to carry on the work of training and developing ministries in India. Contributions may be designated "In Memory of Stephen Nemeth" and directed to the ACOP office.

Eston College Press Release

We are very pleased to announce that on February 20, 2008 Eston College was granted full accreditation status with the accrediting firm ABHE (Association of Biblical Higher Education). We thank the Lord for this recognition.

After eight years of hard work putting together reports, assessments, processes and compliance with the standards of ABHE, it is finally nice to say that we have been awarded full accreditation status with this accrediting body.

This accreditation journey has helped the college put together quality programs, processes and outputs that help the student gain a level of education recognized by this accrediting body and other educational facilities. This status helps students to transfer more easily into other accredited colleges and universities. It means that Eston College meets or exceeds the standards of this agency in the following areas:

- Mission, Goals and Objectives
- Assessment and Planning
- Institutional Integrity
- Authority and Governance
- Administration
- Institutional Resources
 - Human Resources
 - Financial Resources
 - Physical Resources
- Enrolment Management
- Recruitment
- Admissions
- Financial Aid
- Retention
- Student Services
- Faculty Resources
- Library and Learning Resources
- Academic Programs
 - Curriculum
 - Ministry Formation Program
 - Academic Patterns and Procedures
 - Alternative Academic Patterns
- Student Learning Development

This is one major milestone in the life of this college.

WIDOW WATCH



Donations for the AWM project "Widow Watch" (Project #204)

can be made online at www.acop.ca or through the ACOP office at #119 - 2340 Pegasus Way NE, Calgary, AB T2E 9M5 Phone (403) 273-5777 Email: acop@acop.ca.

AWM: Apostolic Women's Ministries - Who Are We?

Over the past four years, Colleen Pilgrim, June Coté and I have asked that same question. Who are we? Where are we headed? And what do we see our face looking like in the mirror?

Well, hopefully I can give you a glimpse into some of what we've found to be important in these last numbers of years as we've sought the Lord's direction for AWM.

Newsletter

June Coté has been working at establishing an informative and interesting newsletter, sent to all the churches in their monthly packages. We are asking the pastors, assistants and ministry leaders to try to get these newsletters out to their women in a timely fashion. We are praying that these newsletters will become a means of mentoring, releasing and informing as we attempt to bridge the gaps across Canada and with our missionaries.

Missions

Last year, Colleen Pilgrim, under the umbrella of AWM, took a group of women to San Felipe, Mexico. This year, she will be taking a group to Santa Cruz, Bolivia to work with Diedrich and Anne Groening (ACOP missionaries) in their ministry to Mennonite women in Bolivia. The Mennonite women are lacking in basic health education as well as reading and writing. We are hoping that women from across Canada will begin to catch the vision of going out to encourage missionaries and assist them in any manner required. As these teams go out they also grow together relationally.

National Project

AWM is thrilled to announce our new

national project. We are in the process of raising funds to assist widows who have lost their husbands to the AIDS/HIV crises in the countries of Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. We are passionate about the call in our hearts to help other women - "women helping women" - who have experienced less fortunate life circumstances than we experience here in Canada. We have titled the project "Widow Watch."

For further information regarding project #204 "Widow Watch" go to the Women's Ministry link under Canadian Ministries at www.acop.ca

Pastor's Wives

Under the capable leadership of Darlene Buchanan, we have a wealth of resources to encourage Leadership wives.

Retreats

We are in the "fledgling stage" of beginning a retreat that we hope will grow beyond the bounds of Southern Alberta. The Southern Alberta ladies began a yearly retreat many years ago at the Circle Square Ranch in Halkirk, Alberta. This year, because no church was willing to step forward and host it, June, Colleen and I decided to "open the doors" so to speak - to the ladies of ACOP



Apostolic Women's Ministries - Colleen Pilgrim, June Coté and Director of AWM, Debbie Cooper.

- we sent out brochures to all the Alberta and Northern Saskatchewan churches, but we would be happy to have any of the women from ACOP join us - there is a limit of bodies that the ranch can accommodate, so register early to guarantee a spot.

So, we would like to see YOU reflected in the mirror. You can help us accomplish this by becoming involved with the mission of AWM:

- Send us an article about your women to the newsletter
- Sign up for a missions trip
- Sign someone else up for a missions trip and pay their way
- Give liberally to "Widow Watch"
- Encourage another Pastor's wife, and send Darlene your ideas on how to be more effective in this area
- Show an interest in the retreat or in a retreat in your area, and then write and tell us about it
- Pray for us that we would have vision and the means to carry out what we feel God is calling us to do "for such a time as this".

If you would like more information, please visit our website at www.acop.ca and follow the "Canadian Ministries" links.

-Debbie Cooper, Director of AWM

Breen Endowment Fund Rider

ACOP legal counsel has advised us that in order to create an endowment, the Canada Revenue Agency requires that individual donors must authorize the charity to use the donation as a "trust gift that shall be held for a period of not less than 10 years from the date the gift was received."

Please note it is our intention to preserve the capital of The Daniel Breen Memorial Church Planting Endowment Fund indefinitely, and to use only the earnings for church planting in Canada.

If you made a donation to the Breen Endowment Fund in 2007, you will have received, along with your tax receipt, a copy of the rider that was recommended by our legal counsel. Please sign the rider and return it to our office in the postage paid envelope provided.

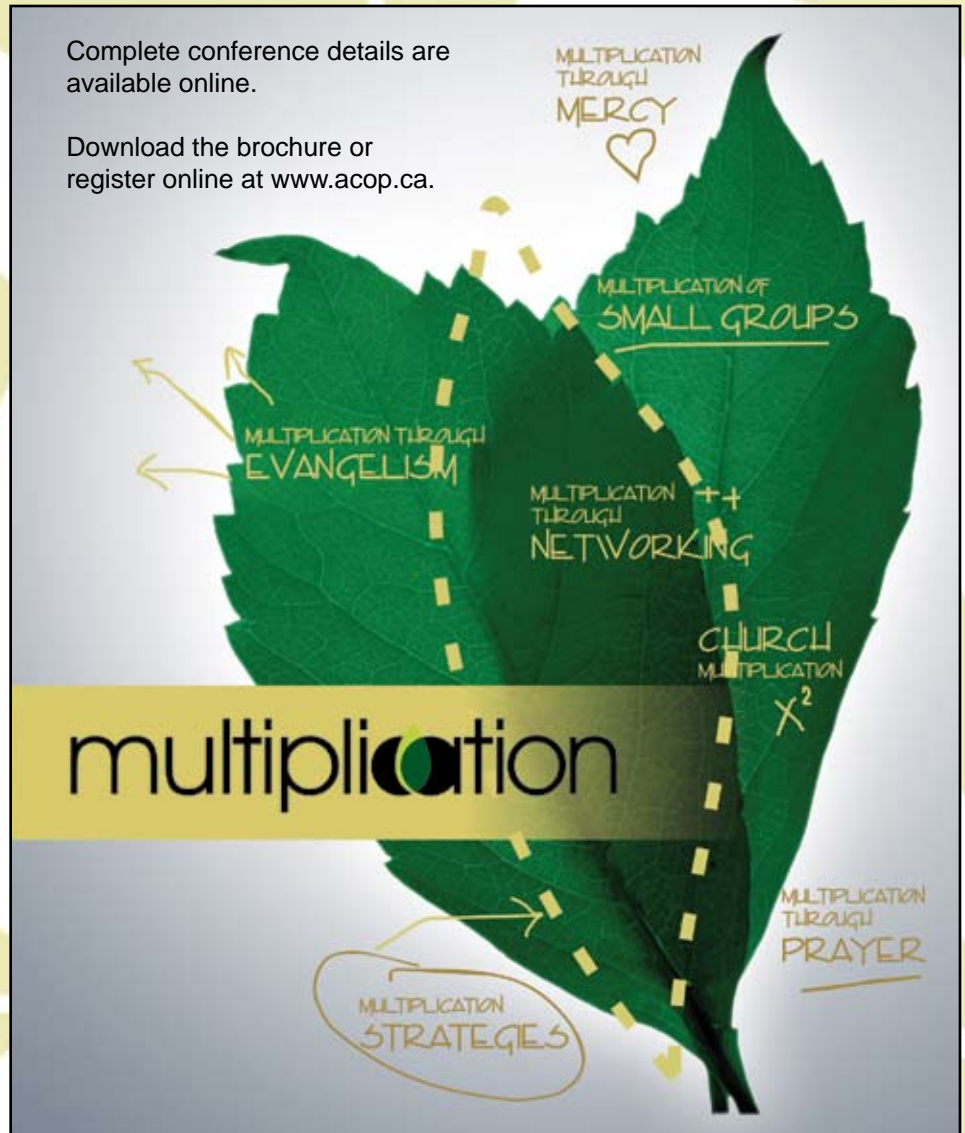
Pattison to Attend ACOP Conference

Jim Pattison of the Pattison Group of companies has agreed to match dollar for dollar, the monies we are able to raise from across our Fellowship of Churches, up to \$1 million. If we are successful at raising \$1 million by June of this year, Mr. Pattison has agreed to personally present a \$1 million cheque to ACOP on Thursday, June 5, 2008 at our Biennial General Conference in Eston, Saskatchewan.

Biennial Conference Special Speaker Aims at "Multiplication"

Complete conference details are available online.

Download the brochure or register online at www.acop.ca.



This year's special guest speaker for our Biennial Conference is Bob Logan, president of CoachNet International Ministries.

Bob is an internationally recognized authority in church planting, church growth and leadership development. He develops innovative strategies to cultivate healthy, reproducing church movements worldwide. His current areas of focus are coaching, speaking, and developing leaders

in missional, incarnational contexts. Among his written works are: *Be Fruitful and Multiply*, *Beyond Church Planting*, *Coaching 101*, *Beyond Church Growth*, *Raising Leaders For The Harvest*, *Releasing Your Church's Potential*, *Cell Church Planter's Guide* and *The Church Planter's Toolkit*.

Plan to be inspired by Bob and the many other speakers lined up for this event. More information is available online at www.acop.ca.

new

Prayer Matters in Africa

With the vision of “Preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom to Every Nation,” ACOP actively supports 25 missionaries around the globe. We invite you to join with us in prayer for their ministries.

This month’s prayer focus:

Jerry and Brenda Schuetz, Missionaries to Africa



Jerry, Brenda, Joshua, Samuel and Jared Schuetz, Christmas 2007.

JERRY and BRENDA SCHUETZ were on a short-term mission in Africa in 1989 when their hearts became burdened for the people and the work of God there. In 1994, doors opened for this couple to start a missionary work in Malawi. Since that time, they have been involved in church planting, Bible school training, and preaching and teaching in ACOP churches.

Their ministry expanded to Kitwe, Zambia in 2001 where they oversaw the development of the Heart of Africa Mission – a self-supporting bi-vocational training centre for men and women training for ministry in Bible, theology and practical vocations. In addition to teaching and training at the college for the mission, Jerry and Brenda supervise the micro-industries and development projects the mission is engaged in. These include a poultry project, banana plantation, vegetable garden, fruit orchard, bee apery and fish dams.

The Schuetz family asks you to partner with them in prayer for the local people as relief is currently an urgent need in Zambia – the country is experiencing serious flooding that has given rise to cholera and malaria. Another area that would benefit from your prayers is the situation regarding their restricted power supply. Planned load shedding cuts have resulted in power supplies being reduced 48 hours every week. While the family is adjusting, the power limitations directly affect their ministry. They also request that you pray for their immediate need of a reliable vehicle. Their two very old vehicles recently broke down and they haven’t raised sufficient funds to replace them yet. For more information, see www.schuetz.heartofafricamission.com.