



Garden Park Tower Newsletter

June 2021

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The Chairman's Report June - Summer Solstice

Summer will officially arrive on June 20th at 8:32 PM in Abbotsford. This is the day that we enjoy the longest daylight of the year and it is known as the Summer Solstice. At this time the sun comes up to the Tropic of Cancer and then after this day the sun will start heading south. Actually, the sun does not move, it is the earth that tilts and gives us the different seasons. What a marvelous creation God has made to bless us with this variation in seasons. Of course this is only if you live some distance from the equator. The areas near the equator do not have the same seasonal changes that we enjoy. In James 1: 17 [NLT] we read "Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God the Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow." There is turmoil and storms happening regularly in the world, but God does not change. Whatever happens around us, the sun rises and sets on a regular schedule.

A few Housekeeping Notes

Security: Many changes have been made the last few years to provide a secure building, but there seems to be some way that an intruder finds a way to enter the building. The recent break-in and theft of mail was something that was never expected. The resident's entry door has been reinforced to prevent this from happening again and also the mail boxes have been improved to make them safer.

The renovation and expansion of the Rose Room is nearing completion. The renewed Rose Room will be open soon after you receive this Newsletter. Your understanding and cooperation while this was going on is much appreciated. The food services and maintenance staff have made extra effort to keep the service going smoothly and Jake Esau has organized the work. To each of you, a special thank you.

The provincial pandemic restrictions are being modified, but it is still essential that masks are worn and that we practice physical distancing until such a time as more people here have received two doses of vaccination and health restrictions are removed. Thankfully there has not been a viral outbreak in this building and it is our objective to keep it that way. May you enjoy health and this beautiful time of the year.

John Friesen

A Rose Room Report

The work is progressing well. The main construction has been completed. All the floors have now been installed. Painting is now underway and should be completed by noon on May 31. The baseboards will then be installed. Next Wednesday or Thursday the cabinets and display units will be moved back to the Rose Room. The rectangular tables will be placed in the addition to the Rose Room. New round tables will be placed in the Rose Room. We are also waiting for the two counter units to be completed but this will not stop us from returning the service in the Rose Room proper. Additional touch-up will continue as we enjoy the newly expanded room.

Jake Esau

A Flower Butterfly



Residents of Garden Park!!

YOU ARE INVITED

CANADA DAY * ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Thursday July 1, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. in the Rose Room
Rain or Shine!

Come meet your neighbors and enjoy your favorite Ice Cream!!

The Bathtub Test

During a visit to my physician I asked him, "How do you determine whether an older person should be put in a nursing home?" I am past 80 and wondered how such decisions are made.

"Well", he said, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup, and a bucket to the person and ask him or her to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand", I said, "A normal person would use the bucket because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No", he said, "a normal person would pull the plug!" After some embarrassing silence he turned to me and asked, "Do you want a bed near a window?"

"Temper makes a person speak his mind
when he should be minding his speech."

Quoted

"Grandparents can contribute a lot to a
young man's success, especially if they
are wealthy."

Quoted

Editorial

Redefining Marriage



"You should be allowed to marry the person you love." I've heard that expression repeatedly in recent months. I heard the Prime Minister say that – with passion. I've heard other politicians say that. I've heard columnists say that and I've heard many gay and lesbian people say that. It sounds good, even convincing. It's becoming almost a mantra in some segments of the population.

Shouldn't love be the one requirement for marriage? After all, consider what the Bible says. Numerous passages state that "husbands ought to love their wives" *Ephesians 5:28; Colossians 3:19; I Peter 3:7*. Similarly, in *Titus 2:4* we read that women shall be taught to love their husbands. Clearly, every marriage should incorporate love, it should be based on love.

But is the love requirement sufficient? If loving someone is the only requirement for society-approved unions, for legal marriage, then we open the floodgates. We then have no strong argument against pederasty, a marriage between a man and a pre-adolescent boy. If the man very much loves the boy and if the boy deeply loves the man, why should they not be allowed to have a sexual union? That is exactly the argument of the NAMBLA organization, the North American Man/Boy Love Association. If love is the only requirement, and if there is mutual consent, why should society not approve a sexual union between a 30-year-old man and an 8-year-old boy?

Consider also incest. If a father is divorced or a widower and is deeply in love with his daughter, a beautiful 18-year-old girl, why should he not be allowed to be sexually united with her and not be allowed to marry her? If they both love each other and there is mutual desire to be sexually united, what objection can there be if loving is the only requirement? Similarly, if a mother, widowed or divorced, wants to be sexually united with her handsome 20-year-old son, and there is mutual desire and consent, why should society object? Let them marry! Significantly, there are now on-line groups in both Canada and the US advocating for the legalization of incest-marriages.

It boggles the mind. Even more reprehensible is the assertion I recently encountered that a man or woman should be allowed to marry a dog if he or she truly loves that particular dog. Hopefully, that comment was not a serious one but if loving is the only requirement, then it is conceivable that such a case can be argued.

Stated succinctly, love is a necessary but not a sufficient requirement for marriage. Prime Minister Trudeau take note. Justice Minister David Lametti take note. All Members of Parliament take note.

John H. Redekop

Beware of Scammers

Editor's note: A software company, Infopackets, has issued a warning. It reports an owner's experience.

"I was using my computer the other day, then all of a sudden the screen turned red and started flashing, telling me my computer was at risk and I must call 1-855-551-6777 to find out the problem. I was on the phone for about an hour and a half. They told me that my IP address was open to anyone who wanted it and I must encrypt my IP address for the price of \$399, otherwise hackers would get into my machine. I reluctantly paid the fee and felt uneasy about it."

The lady was scammed. Infopackets states that during the phone call the hackers were scanning the lady's computer for financial information. People should handle such an attack correctly.

The first thing to note is that whenever you are asked to call an 800 number to "fix" a problem, don't. That's a sure sign of scamming. A person should then contact Infopackets for help at www.infopackets.com/contact. Other companies can be found by using Google or any search engine.

"It is foolish to fear what you cannot avoid."
Publilious Syrus

"By the time you find green pastures you can't climb the fence." *Quoted*

Guest Column Editor's Note: *This month the Guest Column consists of excerpts from an article published in The Christian Leader September 2, 1986. It is still timely. G. Roger Schoenhals, is a free lance journalist.*

Why Go to Church?

Twelve reasons why we should go to church.

1. Growing personally.

We need teaching and preaching that stirs our hearts, expands our minds, and challenges us to greater commitment.

2. Giving our gifts.

Our gifts are special talents or inclinations that give us a unique role in the church. Exercising our gifts not only benefits others, it's a way of honouring God.

3. Receiving each other's gifts.

If others are dependent on our gifts, we are dependent on their gifts.

4. Belonging to others.

We all need to be wanted and appreciated. The local church provides a network of relationships.

5. Being accountable.

Being open to others and with others helps us to overcome that which is not commendable.

6. Presenting a positive statement.

Regular church attendance is an important way of telling neighbours and others that spiritual matters are important.

7. Offering a support system.

It is commendable to develop support systems before the going gets tough or the bottoms fall out.

8. Sharing good news.

When the church gathers, the people share triumphs, trials, sadness and joy. We need to know about one another in order to pray for one another and be supportive.

9. Worshipping with God's people.

Collective worship is more than private worship. It creates a special sense of God's presence.

Did You Know? Did You Know?

The United Nations has issued a report which states it "estimates that 25% of all pregnancies end in abortion – between 40 and 50 million worldwide." The latest available Canadian statistics report 82,173 abortions in Canada in 2019.

10. Modelling for others.

At church we and others are models for our families and others.

11. Extending our ministry.

Through the local church we meet urban, emergency, and other needs and also support Christian organizations, schools, health agencies and missions.

12. Obeying God.

Christians worshipped God in Biblical times and the Bible instructs Christians not to neglect assembling to worship.

Health Hints Editor's Note: *Recently Zoomer Magazine featured an important article, Health for the Eyes. Given that virtually all seniors develop vision challenges. We will summarize and excerpt the first half in this issue. The second half will appear in the next issue.*

Six Great Foods to Feed Your Eyes!

Salmon

Wild salmon is one of the best foods for your eyes. Salmon has "a high amount of Omega-3 fatty acids, which are super nutrients for your eyes." The retina, which collects and sends visual information to the brain, requires "DHA, an essential fatty acid found in Omega-3. Eating salmon or other cold-water fish twice a week can support a healthy retina, as well as providing protection against macular degeneration and high eye pressures associated with glaucoma." Omega-3 also "reduces the risk of diabetic retinopathy".

Carrots

Carrots help to keep your eyes healthy because "they contain a lot of beta-carotene which our bodies turn into Vitamin A" which is needed for eyes to function properly.

Blueberries

Blueberries are very good for your eyes because they are rich in antioxidant. The blueberry "may be small, but packs a healthy punch! Vitamin A, C and E, plus zinc. Blueberries can really make a difference to your eye health."

"A decent society provides a ladder up which all may climb and a safety net beneath which none may fall."
Quoted