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April 9, 2019

Baptist Beats

THE HEART BEAT

of the BGCC



Upcoming Events:

National Board Meeting
May 29, 2019
Calgary, AB

Celebration 2019
May 30 - June 1, 2019
Banff, AB

Donations



Hello from Edmonton. This is a wonderful time of year for Christians as we celebrate the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! Proclaim that truth with joy and conviction as you minister to your congregation this month. May the Lord use your life and ministry to bring people to faith in Christ.

I am looking forward to our Annual Celebration next month in Banff. Two great speakers will be sharing with us: Marv Brubacher from Mentor Link and Scott Ridout, President of Converge USA. Our theme is BGC is Better Together. Our focus will be on what is happening in Canada and how to minister effectively to this culture. See the details elsewhere on this page.

Celebration 2019

Our Celebration will be held in Banff on May 30-June 1.



Special guest speaker is Scott Ridout, President of Converge

Registration is \$199 that includes conference materials, gifts and books. **For those who register by April 30**, it will also include a \$50 meal card that could be used in Banff restaurants. Please see the list of **hotels that must be booked by April 30** to get the Conference rate.

LAST MONTH TO GET SPECIALS!



CELEBRATION 2019

Guest Speaker: Scott Ridout - President, Converge USA
Marvin Brubacher - Executive Director, MentorLink

When: May 30 - June 1, 2019
Where: Banff, AB
Registration Cost: \$199
What else do I need to know?
The BGC Rate for hotels will not be available after
APRIL 30, 2019.
THERE WILL BE NO EXTENSIONS AFTER THIS DATE.
For more information: www.bgc.ca/events/celebration



Hotel Booking Information [here](#)

We just completed School of Orientation. New pastoral staff in BGC churches gathered in our Edmonton office to learn about our Conference, Baptist church governance and how to serve well in this season of Canadian church life. Thanks to District Ministers Lorne Meisner, Bernard Mukwavi and Roger Helland for leading along with me.





Earlier in April I attended the Denominational Leaders Retreat in Mississauga. Pictured below are the leaders who were able to be at this year's gathering. One of the presentations we heard was from EFC and how they advocated for Religious Freedom at the Senate in Ottawa. You can read the document below in Interesting Reads. This is a reminder of how far into secularism Canada has drifted when the government needs to be reminded why religion is a good thing for the population.



Last month I was in Montreal to visit our churches. Had a great Sunday with Pastor Mesene and Bethesda Baptist Church



While in Montreal we met with a team from Converge USA who are looking at bringing a team to do cross-cultural ministry in Quebec. Thanks to Scott Campbell and Yves Alarie for hosting us so well.

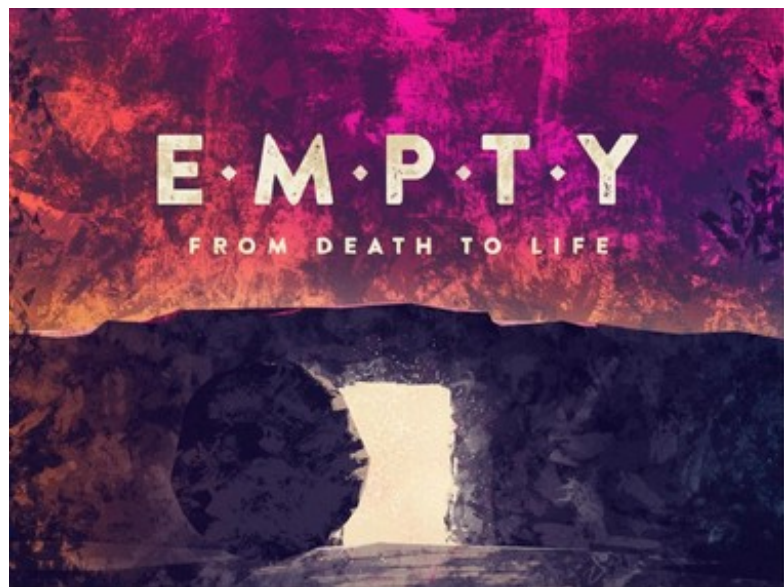


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Pastor's Fishing Trip



Calling all BGC pastors and leaders. Come fishing with your co-labourers on August 12-14, 2019 at Loon Lake, Saskatchewan. We will stay at the beautiful Camp which is operated by our BGC church in Loon Lake. More details to follow.

Interesting Reads

1. **EFC Presentation to Senate of Advancing Religion** - [Click here](#)
2. **Last month the world was shocked by the killing of Muslims in New Zealand as they prayed at their mosque. But Christians are being persecuted and murdered around the world in increasing numbers. Why is there not more of an outcry?** - [Article](#)
3. **As you may have read, the United Methodist Church held a special conference in February to determine whether it will retain its biblical heritage or become more apostate. The address in link below by Dr. Jerry P. Kulah, Dean of Gbarnga School of Theology, in Liberia, is a praiseworthy and courageous model of a biblically faithful response to this whole issue.** - [Article](#)
4. **Are your church people getting good theology from their favorite author?** - [Article](#)

Seven Essentials of the BGC

Our motto and mission: "A Network of Churches that make disciples who live and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their Communities, throughout Canada, and out to the Nations." Together, we have identified seven essential areas where God is at work among our church families. These seven areas are also critical to the future growth and health of our churches.

[7 Essentials of the BGCC](#)

We will highlight one Essential in each issue of Baptist Beats.

Creative Community Engagement

BGCC churches find ways to effectively engage their community, nation and world.

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