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July 17, 2019

Baptist Beats

THE HEART BEAT

of the BGCC



Upcoming Events:

National Board Meeting:
October 21-22, 2019

2020 Leadership Summit
Feb 20-23, 2020
Cochrane, AB

Donations



Hello from Edmonton – I trust your summer is going well. I hope you are taking lots of time for reading and reflecting as you recharge for the upcoming season of ministry.

At our National Celebration in Banff last month, I got the sense from many of you that BGC can be better together. This is very affirming. In following up, I spoke this week with our guest speaker, Scott Ridout from Converge. He has offered to equip our leaders in a strategic, operational and financial visioning exercise. We will pursue this opportunity to build on the momentum coming out of Celebration.

My reading this summer has been good and covering a broad array of topics. One book I am reading is by Oswald Smith, former pastor of the great People's Church in Toronto. He writes on Leadership in **The Battle for Truth**: "God's plan is that His flock should be led by a shepherd. The Bible knows no other plan. Down through the centuries, it has been the same. When God wanted something done, He chose and equipped a person, placed them at the head of His people and told them to follow and obey ... Leadership is priceless. Money cannot compensate for the services rendered. Despise it not, therefore, but accept it from God. It is His plan ... When a vessel puts out to sea it is placed under the command of a captain, and his word is supreme. No ship would dream of sailing with a committee in charge ... To get things done requires a godly leader, worthy of responsibility. They will lead towards what the Lord intended His people to do."

My family has suffered loss this month - my mother and sister-in-law both went home to be with the Lord. One was 98 and the other only 58. Laura and I have been talking about using our time wisely for God and His kingdom. As you ponder about your ministry and what time is left for you on this earth to serve the Lord – please lead well!

Kevin Schular
Executive Director

Rob Laidlaw leading a Bible study at Explore Church in Eastern Passage, NS



Kevin visiting with our Nova Scotia pastoral couples - Steve & Debbie Savage and Rob & Julie Laidlaw



Kevin travelled to Dartmouth, NS in June to conduct the ordination of Pastor Steve Savage at Lifebridge Church.



Steve and Debbie Savage at ordination.



Kevin spoke at two churches on Vancouver Island

Pastor Christian Pye at Hammond Bay Baptist in Nanaimo, BC



Sunday service at Victoria Christian Faith Church





International Discipleship Training

Next month a team of 9 people from BGC will be travelling to a nation in the Caucasus to train house church leaders from neighbouring nations. We ask for your prayers and also support.



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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. Are you grieved by the findings from the Missing and Murdered Women Inquiry in Canada?

Another aspect of this issue is that Indigenous women are prime targets for human traffickers. The Indigenous community in Canada makes up under 5% of Canada's population but accounts for more than 50% of all sex trafficking victims across Canada. - [Read More Here](#)

2. 5 Things That Give Pastors A Bad Name With Unchurched People

So let me ask a pointed question: Is there anything you or I do as regular, average pastors—that hurts rather than helps the cause of the local church? I think so. This matters because the more we become aware of them and address them, the better we'll become at fulfilling our mission. But our blind spots can be our worst enemies. Identify them, and suddenly you can be more effective. So here are 5 traps I try to avoid as a local pastor who loves the church and loves the people we're trying to reach. - [Read More Here](#)

3. Good tips as you prepare for September and back to church - [blog](#)

4. Social Isolation And Loneliness

Did you know that extreme social isolation and loneliness affect almost one-quarter of Canadians? A new poll, commissioned in partnership between Cardus and the Angus Reid Institute, was recently released and reveals that 33% of Canadians say they're not sure they could count on anyone for emergency financial help. [Click here to learn more](#) about the survey results. To dig further into the survey results, check out [this Convivium interview](#).

5. **Evangelicals in Canada get lumped together with our American cousins** - [Article](#)
6. **Is this prophecy from Revelation is coming to pass?** - [Article](#)
7. **Solid support for those caught in Pornography trap** - [Resource](#)

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.

Spiritual Formation

BGCC churches are committed to disciple-making.

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