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September 27, 2019

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**Upcoming Events:** 

National Board Meeting: October 21-22, 2019

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





Hello from Edmonton – I hope you are well and excited about this ministry season! Jesus Christ is the hope of the world and the Church is here to impact our communities and the nations for His glory. I am glad you are serving in the BGC and am praying fervently for each pastor and church in this season. This is the time for bold, gospel-centred and relevant

ministry. May you fulfill your role as under-shepherd and leader with integrity and Spirit-power. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free," -Luke 4:18 NLT

This is an important moment in Canada. The federal election in October has many issues at stake for the nation but also for religious freedom. Please encourage your people to pray and vote. The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada has called for a day of prayer on October 6. Please read more at this <u>link</u>.

Our BGC team of 8 people has completed our training of house church leaders in Armenia. Thanks for praying and supporting this mission. We had so many incredible experiences of discipleship, healing and deliverance. The video is being prepared and will be available soon.

Also, our denomination's relief and development agency, Tearfund Canada, holds its World Relief Day in October. Normally it coincides with Thanksgiving weekend but a church could feature this at any time. Over 1 billion people remain trapped in extreme poverty. 82 million of those are refugees. Last week, I stopped in Turkey for a few days on my way back and had ministry with Syrian war refugees and Persians who are refugees of conscience. Has your church considered refugee sponsorship? Please contact BGC office for more information on how you can get involved in bringing Christians here.

Kevin Schular Executive Director Earlier this month, Kevin visited refugees in Turkey from the civil war in Syria. He distributed food cards and Jesus film in Arabic.







Kevin speaking at a house church in Turkey. These Persians are all waiting for their refugee claims to be adjudicated. They live in fear of deportation and the hardship of being exploited by their employers and the society in which they are now living.



Enjoying a meal with refugees - eating on the floor Persian style.



Something small can be mighty in God's hands...



Available to churches any Sunday from Sept 2019 to June 2020, the event will inspire your congregation and show them how God is working in the lives of the poor throughout the world in remarkable ways through the local church. The theme this year is *Less Is More*, emphasizing how God can take what we have and use it in miraculous ways to bring about His Kingdom on Earth.

You will receive a package which includes everything you need to need to run a Sunday morning, including:

- a full sermon with illustrations
- a PPT, video
- bulletin Inserts
- take-away 5-week devotional.

To learn more and book a Sunday please visit us here

Today is marked by student protests over climate change. Where do you land on this issue? Man-made problem or natural cycle? I recognize that there are local climate crises in many places on earth. But overall, I look at God's promise to Noah in Genesis 8 that "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

Check out the <u>Cornwall Alliance</u> for a very informed Christian response to the global warming agenda. Here is a recent <u>article</u>.



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## Interesting Reads

- 1. Good analysis of why churches don't move forward video
- 2. The Most Politically Incorrect Bible Passage Blog
- 3. A pastor becomes 'a casualty of your drive-by tweeting war' after Trump accidentally tagged him in an insulting tweet meant for a journalist. - <u>Article</u>
- 4. If this idea gets passed into law, churches could lose their charitable status for counseling people to leave the gay lifestyle <u>Article</u>

5. What should be in the minutes of your board congregational meetings? Take a look at this short piece for good information - <u>download</u>

## 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.

## **Multiplying Faith Communities**

BGCC churches strive to multiply their ministry through church planting and other innovative approaches.

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