

## BGCC Newsletter



### Upcoming Events:

**National Celebration 2016**  
June 23 - 25, 2016  
Friendship Community  
Church  
Saanichton, BC

**BGCC National Board  
Meeting**

**Vote on the Newsletter Name**

**God Stories from BGCC**

**Global Ministry Personnel**

**Interesting Reads**

**Donations**



### Kevin Schular, Executive Director

Hello from BC. I am here in Langley attending events surrounding the ACTS graduation this weekend. Training the next generation of Christian leaders in Canada is a great privilege and solemn responsibility. The Great Commission has Christ's directive that believers be taught "to observe all that I have commanded you". The Christian home, local church and institutions like Christian camps, Bible colleges and seminaries have a role in maturing God's people and preparing them for useful service in God's kingdom. Let's pray for God to guide and bless the BGC for excellence in discipleship!

Being in BC reminded me that our Annual Celebration is June 23-25 on beautiful Vancouver Island. We will focus on the theme of ***"The Changeless Word for a Changing World"***.

We live in a world where products are constantly being updated or upgraded. From computer programs, smart phone apps to hotel rooms – we are accustomed to everything being modified for better performance and enjoyment. What about God's Word? The Bible was written long ago so how can it possibly still be relevant millennia later. Shouldn't there be an update for 2016?

We look around and see a world full of tumult and upheaval. Increasing acts of terror create fear of others, affluence can distract us from the call of God and post-modernism is suspicious of certainty and objective truth.

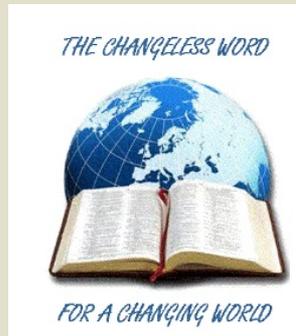
The Church in Canada, of which the BGC is part, is called to be the hands and feet of our Lord. Love, gentleness and grace can make a difference. Our message is built on the changeless truths from the Bible that guide us in our faith, ethics and ministry.

We welcome you to share in the ministry and life of BGC Canada. I encourage you to be with us in Saanichton on beautiful Vancouver Island, BC for three days of fellowship with others in the BGC, listening to God stories from Canada and around the world and being challenged to serve Him with grace.

It is a joy for me to serve as Executive Director. Please pray for me as I travel, learn, preach and direct our national team.

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## National Celebration June 23 -25, 2016



Friendship Community Church  
Saanichton, BC

[Registration](#) is now open until June 5th, 2016

Looking forward to seeing you there!

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## National Board Meeting March 21-22, 2016

BGCC board members gathered in Edmonton for the Spring meeting



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## Vote - BGCC Newsletter Name

Top three picks for the Newsletter:

1. BGCC Connect
2. BGCC Connexions!
3. Baptist Beats: The Heartbeat of the BGCC

Please vote on the new name for the BGCC newsletter by emailing [office@bgc.ca](mailto:office@bgc.ca) type in subject line: VOTE



Winner receives a gift card!!!!

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## God Stories from BGCC

### City Church - Winnipeg

In the fall of 2008, with about 300 former refugees from both Asia and Africa, City Church began as an Intentionally Intercultural church plant. In the first several years the leadership of the church observed how difficult it is for newly arriving refugees to adjust to life in Canada. They saw the need for a host family that could provide "cultural interpretation". Additionally the leadership observed that newcomers who have a Christian environment can often adjust better and more quickly than those who are without the benefit of meaningful relationships.

In 2012 the refugee organizations in Winnipeg were being overwhelmed with new arrivals and did not have enough space to accommodate them. Charlotte Taylor, a friend of City Church, suggested that the church start a refugee transition centre and to make it a place where meaningful relationships can be fostered between the evangelical community and newly arriving refugees.

A private foundation approached City Church and offered to buy a building for the ministry centre (now known as Naomi House). The church made an offer on a house but it was ultimately not the Lord's will for the church to buy it, as the seller could not meet the conditions of the sale. Further prayer and consideration was given to the project and it was decided that it would be better if the new building could also house the current refugee ministry programming and the church offices. Another building was then located, just a couple of blocks from City Church and was purchased. By faith City Church began to renovate the 6,300 square foot building. Men and women, from other evangelical churches, have stepped forward and have volunteered their services. The church stands back in awe of God, as it has seen the Lord provide volunteer designers, architects, engineers, carpenters, HVAC installers, plumbers, electricians and others to help the church complete the goal. All the funding for the project has come from friends of City Church and from the church itself. Lord willing, once the building is complete it will be free and clear of any loans for the renovations.

The church hopes that the new refugee ministry centre will open in September of 2016. Naomi House will be a seven bedroom transitional home, with an extra large kitchen to accommodate joint meals of church groups and residents, two large classrooms for refugee instruction and lots of "hang out" space for both the residents and church groups to mix together.

Please pray for continued safety, unity and strength of the volunteers, the needed donations to finish the project and wisdom for the launch team.

For photos please go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/NaomiHouseWinnipeg/> and select what photos you would like.

Pastor Tim Nielsen

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## Global Ministry Personnel - Field Trip

Diane Wiebe

On my recent field visit I was able to see the Myrholms in Uganda. Jessica is a busy mom and also serves at their boys' school. This puts her in touch with other parents and she has formed a friendship with a Muslim woman whose boys also attend the Christian school. Brian is working with Global Link Africa {GLA}. As far as we know this is the first and only mission sending agency in Uganda. They started up three – four years ago realizing they would not only serve in the area of sending but training as well. They soon discovered that they would need to assist local churches by helping them to see their role in sending. Uganda has been on the receiving end of missionaries for a long time and local churches have little to no concept of their role in the Great Commission.

Uganda is 80% Christian. Brian says that if .1% of Ugandan Christians were mobilized for missionary service it would be the largest sending force the world has ever seen!

Global Link Africa is currently sending young people out within the country but they are being sent cross-culturally (there are a number of people groups and languages spoken within Uganda). Their long term goal is to send people out beyond their borders. They have a number of different programs running but what I would call their biggest is the sending out of one year interns. I met one such intern on my visit. I'd like to tell you about Alice. Alice completed her one year internship in January 2016 and is hoping to go out again. She worked in the north close to the border of South Sudan. She would ride the bus all night to arrive at a certain location in time to get in a pickup truck and ride all day (until about 5 pm) to get to her assigned location. Alice is a nurse and was assigned to a clinic and a local church. She spent about 4 days a week at the clinic and other days working out of and on behalf of the local church. At the clinic Alice saw many young, pregnant Muslim girls who never completed their education. She ended up with a ministry to these young gals that involved helping them work towards completing more of their education, but there was a great deal more going on while she spent time with these gals.

The team at Global Link Africa have their work cut out for them and are doing a fantastic job with their limited resources. Please remember them in your prayers.



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## Interesting Reads

**Denominations would be in steeper decline were it not for entitlement and codependency that clergy and laity feel in regard to their denominational organization - George Bullard:**

<http://bullardjournal.blogspot.com/bullardjournal/2016/02/what-is-slowng-down-the-decline-of-many-denominations.html>

**Mentally ill need help, not assisted suicide:**

<http://www.lfpress.com/2016/03/24/batters-mentally-ill-need-help-not-assisted-suicide>

**Satire ... but possibly reality in some families:**

<http://babylonbee.com/news/after-12-years-of-quarterly-church-attendance-parents-shocked-by-daughters-lack-of-faith/>

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