



APRIL 2024

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**CANADA
WEST
DISTRICT**



From the desk of the DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT



Welcome to the Spring publication for Canada West District's 'In the Loop' newsletter!

In this edition, we celebrate 'new' – new believers in Christ, new members of families, new blessings in communities, new opportunities for ministry and for enrichment.

I tuned in to a recent podcast, and the listeners were challenged with the question, 'When was the last time you imagined your funeral'? For those in the throes of living, such reflections happen infrequently. For others, the topic is very relevant and touches their spirits as they consider how to say farewell for themselves or a loved one.

New York Times bestselling author Michael Hyatt stated, "What if we treated life like the gift that it is? What if we lived each day as though it were part of a bigger picture, a plan?"

The life of Jesus Christ was God's plan to bring us back into right relationship with Him. This life is the biggest gift of all, and it is why the Easter season should be such a celebration for the Church. Freely given, freely received. I pray every day for people to receive this gift of eternal life from their Heavenly Father.

May you treasure this gift of life, fully and truly live, rich in the understanding of His love and forgiveness. He is risen!

Rose Brower-Young
Rose Brower-Young

OUR VISION

**Here On Earth,
as it is in Heaven**

We see a movement of churches who are change agents with their neighbours creating thriving communities through partnerships that result in vibrancy, support, innovation, and belonging.

CANADA WEST DISTRICT

CHURCH & MINISTRY UPDATES

WINNIPEG NEW HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH (MB)

HIGH PRAIRIE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE (AB)

Congratulations to Rev. Tracy and Norm Stewart on her appointment as pastor to High Prairie Church of the Nazarene. Their first Sunday was March 17.

Tracy is currently district licensed and working towards ordination. Tracy and Norm have been members of Glenview Nazarene Church in Medicine Hat where they had leading roles in prayer ministry, and ministry to children and youth.



Canada West District looks forward to welcoming Rev. Annette Smith as the new pastor of New Hope Community Church of the Nazarene in Winnipeg. Annette and her spouse, Dan, are coming from Charlottetown, PEI, where Annette served as the Community Connections Pastor and Youth Director of the Sherwood Church of the Nazarene. She is also currently serving the [Canada] Atlantic District as District NYI President. Annette was ordained in 2022.

The Smiths' first Sunday at New Hope will be June 23. Please pray with the Smiths and New Hope as they make this transition. Many thanks to Rev. Alfredo Velasco and the New Hope Community for their work together in the last eight months.

SOUTHSIDE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE (AB)

Southside Church in Edmonton celebrated 5 baptisms on Palm Sunday! We celebrate with them as God continues to work and move among this group of people.



LETHBRIDGE "THE BRIDGE" CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE (AB)

On March 8 and 9, The Bridge Church in Lethbridge held their annual leadership weekend. It began Friday evening with private prayer and meditation, followed by a time of corporate prayer. Saturday morning, Pastor Todd MacDonald from the Sundre Church led a seminar on Conflict Resolution among the church family. Several folks from Claresholm were able to join in the morning seminar.



CHURCH & MINISTRY UPDATES

RISING ABOVE - GRANDE PRAIRIE (AB)

We are so grateful for the overwhelming support of the Grande Prairie community as they raised \$354,196 with 760 guests at the 2024 Rising Above Hope Lives Banquet. Grande Prairie Rising Above is set to start the construction of a new facility in 2024. Ministries in Fort St. John and Peterborough will open this Spring!



CELEBRATING TWO NEW FELLOWSHIPS IN WINNIPEG (MB) AREA

Happy Rock Christian Fellowship celebrated a new gathering in Steinbach, Manitoba. Please pray for Pastor Virgie Gayot, for her team and for all who will be a part of this community.



REACHING OUT SEMINAR



Canada West Clergy and Lay leaders spent two great days of learning and dreaming together under the leadership of guests Mark Bane and Peter Migner. A total of 41 leaders attended our Reaching Out Seminar in Calgary on March 22 and 23, even in the middle of a Prairie spring snowstorm!



Living Water Church celebrated the first Sunday launch service of their new church plant in the City of Selkirk, Manitoba. We are praying for Pastor Jun Ganancial, for those who are a part of leadership, and for everyone who will join in this community!



CHURCH & MINISTRY UPDATES

RIMBEY CHURCH (AB)

God has blessed the Rimbey Church in so many ways, even in a time of transition, including the celebration of twelve believers through baptism on March 17.



CAROLINE (AB)

The Caroline Church used funds from the Canada West NDI Grants Program to buy equipment, curtains and risers to create a more flexible space to host Gospel Arts and Messy Church Outreach Events in the community. We look forward to hearing about upcoming events.



(You can find info about NDI Grants on page 9 of this edition of *In the Loop*.)



RIVERTON COMMUNITY CHURCH (MB)

Rev. Menno Friesen baptized two new members at the Riverton Community Church of the Nazarene on Sunday, February 18, 2024. The church also celebrated the addition of two new members. Praise the LORD!



CALGARY FIRST (AB)

On February 24, as a part of Missions Month, a group of First Naz walkers participated in "Coldest Night of the Year". They walked either 2k or 5k in the cold to raise support for people experiencing hurt, hunger, & homelessness. The team raised \$2540 to support this vulnerable population.

CALGARY FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

* VBS *
Save the date

JULY 15-19

CHECK FIRSTNAZ.COM/EVENTS
AFTER APRIL 7 FOR MORE INFO



CHURCH & MINISTRY UPDATES

SILOAM MISSION - WINNIPEG (MB)

District Superintendent Rose Brower-Young recently went to Winnipeg for a weekend visit. Eight of our church leaders served breakfast for Siloam Mission community members and toured the new facilities.

Pastor Rose shares the following story:
Pastor Jun responded to a post on a Filipino neighbourhood website by a gentleman who said he was alone and wanted someone to talk to. Later that morning, they met at a local mall where they visited.

When Pastor Jun invited him to accept Christ as the Saviour of his life, the man did just that, tears flowing down his face, right in the centre of a busy food court.

It is exciting to hear stories of how God is on the move through His church. We are grateful for pastors who obediently answer the call to reach out to those who need Jesus.



WAINWRIGHT (AB)

Wainwright Church hosted their 16th annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30. There were 167 kids plus grownups who came to celebrate Easter together.



UPCOMING EVENTS



2024 District Reunion

Here On Earth. As it is in Heaven

Camp Harmattan, Olds, AB

Leadership Development Day

(Pastors and Lay Leaders are invited)

Thursday, June 13

District Reunion

Friday & Saturday, June 14 and 15



SAVE THE DATE
SOUL CARE CONFERENCE
for Pastors

October 18-20
Canmore, Alberta

Here On Earth. As it is in Heaven



HARMATTAN
SUMMER 2024

Click for [Info & Registration](#)

Daycamp 1:	June 29
Daycamp 2:	July 1
Grade 1-2 Camp:	July 22-24
Grade 3-4 Camp:	July 3-6
Grade 5-7 Camp:	July 9-13
Teen Camp:	July 15-20



Applications Open!

2024 Summer Staff Applications & Volunteer Positions are open at Camp Harmattan for

- Work Crew
- Student Cabin Leaders
- Adult Volunteers

To apply, go to:

campharmattan.com/staff-volunteers



AUGUST 2-11



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

[Click here to register!](#)

- Longterm site holders must register their sites by May 1.
- \$40 per site/night until June 15
- \$45 per site/night after June 15
- Our rates are based on each unit per site (except tents). Each unit must be registered and pay.
- Stay tuned for details on seminars and programming.

For more information: Contact Rose Graham at nazarene@telus.net or 403-912-3043

OUR FAMILY CAMP SPEAKERS

Rev. Albert Hung & Rev. Christine Youn Hung
District Superintendents of the Northern California District

[Learn more about our speakers here.](#)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

All family camp programs are run by volunteers. We need you! Please sign up when you register.

To volunteer for the leadership roles below, contact Family Camp Ministry Team Leader, Jenn Tattie at jennattie@gmail.com.

1. Teeny Tiny Program Director
2. "Heyday" Coordinator
3. Volunteer Booth Coordinator

FROM THE CAMP HARMATTAN BOARD

ANNOUNCEMENT ON LARGE DONATION

Camp Harmattan relies on the support and generosity of donors who share our vision and help us fulfill our mission. Because of faithful donations to Camp Harmattan, we are able to help people holistically rejuvenate, recalibrate, and refocus their relationship with God within an authentic and growing community.

We are thrilled to announce a One Million Dollar donation to Camp Harmattan! This major gift we received last fall is an investment in Harmattan NEXT and the future of the camp. It will have a profound impact on the lives we reach for many generations.

We are so grateful and appreciative for the generosity throughout this year by so many faithful donors. Your faithfulness has been instrumental in furthering the mission of this special place. Your belief in our mission is the foundation upon which we build a brighter future.

Sincerely, The Camp Harmattan Staff and Board of Directors

NAZARENE DISCIPLESHIP INTERNATIONAL



**CANADA
WEST
DISTRICT**

[Click for latest
newsletter!](#)

WE PRAY TOGETHER FROM EASTER TO PENTECOST

so we can hear how God
wants His people on Canada West
to be change agents with our neighbours.



Join us in the [Canada West Kids Facebook Group](#)



NDI Grant Application period is open!

Canada West NDI is looking for leaders excited to start
new ministries on District!
We offer \$500 grants
for Canada West district churches
to help offset the costs of beginning a new ministry
during the 2024-2025 church year.

Applications to continue a ministry are welcome but
priority may be given to new ministry initiatives.

Applications deadline: April 25, 2024

[Click to find out more & apply.](#)



It's beginning to look a lot like...

SPARK TIME!!!

coming May 23-25 to Camp Harmattan.

**HINT: YOU MIGHT NEED TO GET YOUR
FAVOURITE CHRISTMAS SWEATERS OUT**



Registration is open now at
[www.https://equiptoengage.org/spark/](https://equiptoengage.org/spark/)
(just scroll down and find Spark Canada - that's us!)

APRIL

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

VISIT [MINISTRYSAFE.COM/APRIL](https://ministrysafe.com/april) FOR
FREE TRAINING & RESOURCES

CONTACT PASTOR SHERI LYNNE
MARTIN FOR TRAINING OPTIONS
sherilynnemartin@gmail.com



WILLS & ESTATE PLANNING SEMINAR

Topics to be covered in this workshop include;

- Establishing clearly defined goals in planning for your future.
- Will and Estate planning (including power of attorney & health care directives).
- Understanding assets, liabilities and ownership issues.
- Family law considerations and trusts.
- Charitable giving through your estate.

The seminar is of significance to all age groups and will have special interest to young couples, parents of young families, as well as those reaching middle age and planning for retirement.

Interested in attending?

Email Dr. Coulter at richardrileycoulter@gmail.com
and you will be sent the Zoom link.



Speaker:

DR. RILEY COULTER

Stewardship Ministries Director



Saturday, May 11, 2024
12:00PM - 1:00 PM EST (1hr)



[1 pm Atlantic/11 am Central/10 am Mountain/9 am Pacific]

For more information, contact:
richardrileycoulter@gmail.com

INDIGENOUS RESOURCES CIRCLE

May 5, 2024 – Red Dress Day

You may have noticed in recent years red dresses or skirts hanging in trees, or on a house porch. These symbols are intentionally displayed to increase awareness of the dangers and harms that are done, particularly against Indigenous women and girls in Canada. According to a 2014 report by the RCMP, Indigenous women are 4x more likely to be murdered than non-Indigenous



women in Canada. These women and girls are disproportionately impacted by violence, including physical and sexual assault, homicide and human trafficking.

Honouring Red Dress Day (May 5, 2024) is one way we can acknowledge these issues. But as is often pointed out, awareness and signals are not enough. We need to address the root causes of why these harms continue to happen. We want to do what we can to support Indigenous communities in their efforts to heal, grow and thrive.

What can we do to ensure there is access to clean water, adequate housing and healthcare in Indigenous communities? How can we support Indigenous-led efforts to address violence, such as the National Inquiry Into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls?

Sadly, not everyone has a place of safety and belonging. May Red Dress Day prompt us to pray for all those impacted by such harsh treatments, and may we be willing to be used by God to bring peace, healing, and acceptance to our communities.



Second Annual
Truth and Reconciliation Gathering
May 30 & 31, 2024



Join the Siloam Mission community for Siloam's second annual Truth and Reconciliation Gathering. Several leaders from Canada West District and Church of the Nazarene - Canada will be attending this no-charge event hosted at The Leaf in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Healing and Reconciliation are rooted in Christ's call to us for repentance, for reconciliation and for peace with everyone. These virtues are building blocks as Siloam continues moving towards housing-focused care. Siloam will welcome us as we learn and reflect on how to further our commitment to truth and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. This Gathering is an opportunity to learn how to approach Reconciliation and put it into action in a Christian context. Registration is open now at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/zyppvc6k>

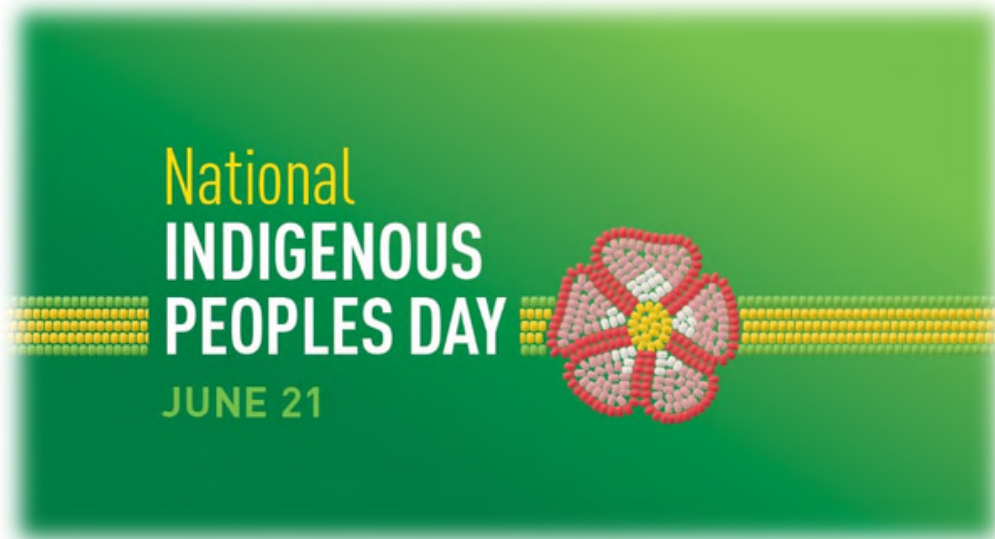
June is National Indigenous History Month, and is an opportunity for everyone to celebrate Inuit, Métis and First Nations peoples. Relationships and knowledge are essential for the wounds and divisions that scar our communities to be healed and to move us into a truly shared future.



National Indigenous History Month helps us learn about the rich heritage Indigenous people bring to Canada. Start planning now for a book study, a movie series, or a story circle in your congregation.

Suggested Resource:

Our Home and Treaty Land/Revised and Expanded Edition (Friesen Press, 2024) written by the Revs. Drs. Raymond C. Aldred and Matthew R. Anderson. Both authors are Christians and offer the perspective of a First Nations and Settler in conversation. The book also includes a helpful appendix of resources for starting this good road together.



June 21, 2024 – National Indigenous Peoples Day

Alongside participating in the special events in your community or surrounding area, plan to incorporate aspects of the rich contributions of Indigenous peoples in your Sunday worship service(s) on June 23. See your pastor for resources that could help you plan.



NMI



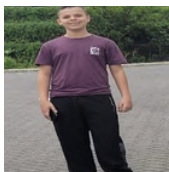
Please pray for the team preparing to join **ENCUENTRO MISSIONS** in Costa Rica July 6-13.

- Pray that we would be unified as ambassadors of Christ.
- Pray for our partner church, Iglesia del Nazareno Cartago.
- Pray we raise the necessary funds for the trip and projects to be completed.
- Pray for growth for the church.
- Pray for the health and safety of our team

We thank the CWD churches for prioritizing the World Evangelism Fund and Canada West District Work and Witness!



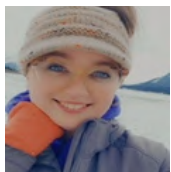
Rene & Carol Rajotte



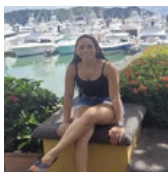
Brandon Montero



Keith & Aileen Brower



Angelina Lloyd



Giselle Jimenez



Sophia Fenwick



Ron & Eileen Rust



Taytum Dionne



Barb Sjoquist



Kylee Rain



Penny Ure



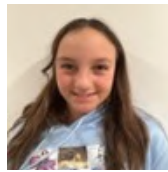
Jacci Wicks Eckstein



Marrietta Rainey



Liam Buick



Katelyn Lerwill

COMING SOON!

We have the privilege of hosting our LINKS missionaries,

Eliezel and Tammy Soto

for our Spring Deputation Tour. They are currently serving as Nazarene Missions Teams Coordinators in Panama and the NMI Coordinators for the Meso Central Field. They bring with them the wealth of experience and passion for the mission field, and we are excited to have them share their journey and vision with us. They will be in our district

from May 19, 2024- June 2, 2024.

Please continue to pray that the Canadian Visa for the tour is processed easily and promptly for Eliezel.



Stephanie Austin from Hope Pointe Community Church in Olds, Gail Visser from Calgary East Church, and Sam Lamirande from Winnipeg New Hope Community Church joined a learning tour to Malawi this February with other Canadians from the Church of the Nazarene. All members have shared with their churches their experiences in Malawi.

Stephanie showcased Malawi's culture with art, carvings, and Malawian cuisine. Stephanie highlighted NCM Malawi's community partnerships aimed at self-sufficiency, such as sustainable water projects and educational initiatives.

Sam spoke clearly that the call of short-term missions isn't project-centred, but to "join in His Work and enter the community to learn and offer encouragement". Sam saw how the church worked with the community to provide for physical needs to "demonstrate God's love to the community".

One takeaway from this tour is the necessity to go into communities with the mindset to learn from those they visited. All participants were inspired by the vitality of the Malawian Church, which could serve as a model for us.



DISTRICT FAMILY UPDATES

GRANDBABY ANNOUNCEMENT!



Meet
Murphy Kay

Pastor Mark and Kathy Noonan are thrilled to announce the arrival of their first grandchild, Murphy Kay Reger, born March 25 to their daughter Laurel and her husband, Eric.

MEET ORIENT "ORI" TEO PARRA-GREEN



Fabian and Britni are happy to announce the birth of their first baby, Orient "Ori" Teo Parra-Green, who was born February 18, 2024. Their baby boy weighed 8lbs 5oz and now has lots of smiles to share. Fabian and Britni have appreciated all the prayers and support from the church family.

Lorna Elizabeth Goudy passed away March 10, 2024. She is predeceased by her husband of 61 ½ years, John Wesley Goudy. John and Lorna attended the Drumheller Nazarene church since 1971.

LORNA GOUDY In loving memory



A memorial service will be held at the Drumheller Nazarene Church on April 20 @ 10:30 am, with a reception at 1 pm. 627 6 St E, Drumheller AB T0J 0Y5 ·

Please send cards and letters of condolences to:
The Goudy Family
c/o Drumheller Nazarene Church
Box 2760
Drumheller, AB.
T0J 0Y0
or
Email to johnh@albertatent.com



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