

The background of the newsletter is a photograph of a city skyline at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and purple. In the foreground, there is a large green lawn. The city buildings are silhouetted against the bright sky. The church logo is centered at the top of the image.

*meadowlands*  
BAPTIST CHURCH

# *The Connection*

27 MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

## CONTENTS:

A HABIT OR A HOBBY  
SUNDAY SERVICE  
FAMILY RESOURCES  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
GIVING  
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS  
MINISTRY OF PRAYER  
CONTACTS

## **A HABIT OR A HOBBY?**

WRITTEN BY PASTOR JERRY ASCHER

I had the privilege of growing up in a church similar to Meadowlands. My parents were fairly new converts. Our church was our life, and that had a great impact on our family. One of the memories I had of church was the tradition of gathering around the auditorium after each of our communion services, linking hands, and singing the hymn, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds." At the time, I didn't really care about that tradition as I was of the age where holding hands wasn't my cup of tea! But that 'fellowship of kindred minds' was part of the blessing of being together as a church family, and gave a sense of what believers would enjoy for all eternity in heaven before the throne of God.



After September 11, 2001, church attendance grew as people considered their own spiritual condition in light of the events of that day and the days following it. Unfortunately, it didn't take long before many of those folks returned to life as it had been.

During this current crisis, for all of us at Meadowlands, it's been a wonderful blessing to sense a renewed desire to be together, a hope that our time apart will be short, and a realization that God's intent for our church is not to meet remotely. **But how do we keep thinking church gatherings are important even when all of this is over?** What can we do so that our meetings together don't lose their urgency in our minds? We must determine now to make our gatherings a habit, as the Bible instructs us in Hebrews 10:25. And we commit anew to make the meetings of the body of Christ a priority for our families over almost anything that would intrude on those times.

It was years before I realized the hymn "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" had more than one verse. The last verse puts into perspective what we face now as a church family.

*"When we asunder part  
It gives us inward pain;  
But we shall still be joined in heart,  
And hope to meet again."*

We pray that will be soon!





*Sunday's Sermon:*

*"Hardship Reveals the Heart"*

Philippians 1:12-26

Pastor Kevin Williams

**Each Sunday that we are unable to congregate, we will worship remotely with a pre-recorded video broadcast. You can find the video on Sunday morning at our website's sermon page:**

**<https://meadowlandsbaptist.ca/resources/sermons/>**

## **Sunday's Worship Service Broadcast**

29 March 2020

WELCOME

PRAYER: PASTOR JERRY ASCHER

HYMN: "COME, CHRISTIANS, JOIN TO SING"

HYMN: "O WORSHIP THE KING"

EPHESIANS 1:1-14: PASTOR MARK RICHMOND

HYMN: "'TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS"

SERMON: "HARDSHIP REVEALS THE HEART"

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-26

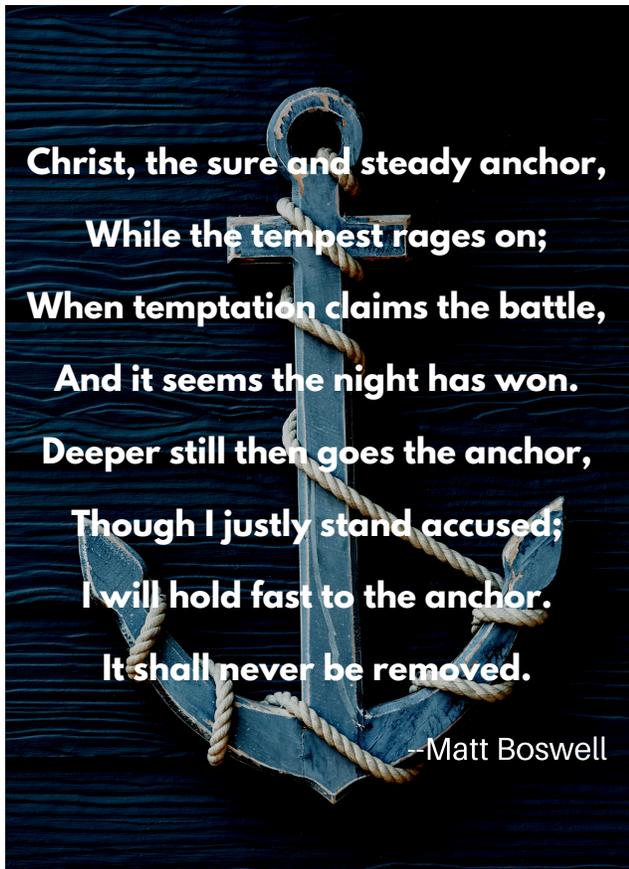
HYMN: "COMPLETE IN THEE"

## **FAMILIES REDEEM THE TIME**

WRITTEN BY PASTOR MARK RICHMOND

Connecting with others is certainly challenging as we practice social distancing and self-isolation. Parents, however, have a great opportunity to be intentional with children in their home. We can address their hearts, knowing that the heart is the source of all actions and attitudes (James 3:1-12; Luke 6:43-45). Our words and actions display what is going on inside. Parents can connect a little deeper by probing the heart through open-ended questions. Take some time to unplug technology, ask questions, and listen. Proverbs 23:26 says, "My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my ways." This is a great opportunity for moms and dads to win the hearts of their children through meaningful conversation.

Tedd Tripp wrote a [good article to help Christian parents communicate with their teenagers](#). Answers in Genesis offers a [good resource for discussing a biblical worldview with your children](#). Generations of Grace (publisher of our children's Sunday school) also offers some great [family activities](#). Don't miss the present opportunity to redeem the time for your family!



## Blood Donor Clinic

CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES  
BLOOD DONATION EVENT  
MEADOWLANDS BAPTIST CHURCH



Wednesday, April 22 2-7 pm

- Despite the current situation, the need for blood products doesn't stop.
- Added measures have been put in place to keep volunteers safe.
- PLEASE BOOK TODAY AT [BLOOD.CA](http://BLOOD.CA) OR CALL 1 888 2 DONATE

## Giving

Several people have inquired about giving while we cannot gather in person. Of course, you can always mail a cheque to the church. We also have e-transfer available, which is very easy. From your bank's website you can select the e-transfer feature. The email address that you transfer to is [donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com](mailto:donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com). Your donation will be automatically accepted and you will receive a confirmation of the transfer. Your bank may even allow you to set up reoccurring e-transfers as well.

## Ladies, Please Note:

The Western Canada Baptist Ladies' Retreat has been cancelled.

## Coming Soon!

New Sincere Hearts Facebook Group Page for MBC Ladies' Ministry



# Discussion Questions from Philippians 1:12-26

- What personal difficulties does Paul describe in Philippians 1:12-18?
- How did he respond to this hardship? Why? (Phil 1:12-18)
- What personal difficulties does Paul describe in Philippians 1:19-24?
- How did he respond to this hardship? Why? (Phil 1:19-24)
- What personal difficulties does Paul describe in Philippians 4:10-13?
- How did he respond to this hardship? Why? (Phil 4:10-13)
- The passion of Paul's heart was the source behind his responses to hardship. What does Philippians 3:7-11 tell us about the desires of his heart?



## MINISTRY OF PRAYER

IN THE NEWSLETTER, WE WILL TRY TO INCLUDE SUBMITTED PRAYER REQUESTS FROM THOSE IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY WHO WOULD LIKE TO SHARE THEIR REQUESTS IN THIS FORMAT. REQUESTS MAY BE EMAILED TO [INFO@MEADOWLANDSBAPTIST.COM](mailto:INFO@MEADOWLANDSBAPTIST.COM) BY THURSDAYS AT NOON.

- Diane Burdett requests prayer for herself and all the others from Meadowlands on the frontlines in the medical field. Also, her son, Stephen, is homeless and she is especially concerned for his well-being both physically and spiritually. Because of recent circumstances she has lost contact with him.

### General Requests:

- Several in our church have lost jobs or had hours cut.
- Many of our elderly in assisted living are shut away from contact with family.
- Some of our families are in isolation due to previous travelling.

## *Need to contact us?*

