

The **Networks**

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The President's Letter

As I begin this message it is in searching out something which will both inspire and encourage us. The gospel message is always about hope. The hope that, we, as Christians, have in and through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The apostle Paul in speaking of the resurrection says that if

Christ is not raised then our faith is in vain... but ours is not a

vain faith. It is a living and vital faith giving hope, both life giving and life transforming. Day Camp teams are already involved in ministering as the Commissioning service was held last Thursday evening. One of the teams left early on the Friday morning. Senior Camp preparations are underway. Junior Camp has been cancelled due to low Camper registration. It is with regret that this is necessary, but this has been a trend in the past few years and we need to look at this age group and how best

to address their needs. A huge word of thanks to Pat Darling and all her team who have worked with her.

There is another thank you that I wish to express and that is to Bishop Barry as he heads to retirement. Although he has not been physically present with us in the past few years,

he has supported Crosstalk ministries and I would thank him for his

prayers and support on our behalf and wish him God's richest blessings as he heads into retirement.

One of the sources of inspiration for me continues to be the book of Psalms. The writers of the Psalms basically live out all of life's activities and there are times that their very words are words that give my own thoughts and struggles voice. They help me to know the reality of being still to know that God is... that He is... they challenge me that his word is a lamp to my feet and that His word is

eternal forever in the heavens. They are a source of praise and the words as the psalmist says: I delight to do your will O my God give me an occasion for spiritual stock taking... not introspectively but prayerfully delighting to know that I am loved and cherished by God, that His Son Jesus is both Saviour and friend and the Holy Spirit comes alongside as counsellor and guide. There is a huge gamut of emotional response couched in their words – from “why do you let them get away with this God... I hate them with a ‘perfect’ hatred” to a heart of longing for God and knowing his presence... the Lord is my shepherd... and God's delight in us as His children.

I have already had occasion for some holiday time as well as study time. I am grateful because I struggle with a weariness too profound for words and so in the process of resting I too am being renewed. It is my prayer that this summer whether you find yourself up to your ears in ministry or being able

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to spend time in quietness and a time of renewal that there is a renewing within your own heart a sense of the glorious gospel message of the deep love of God the Father, revealed in His Son Jesus and ministered to us by the faithful witness of the Holy Spirit.

I would ask that you remember prayerfully the Day Camp teams and Senior Camp and those who will be speaking, leading and praying and please bring each and every one before our Lord. For those who might be going to Camp but do not have the financial means... if you are able to assist in providing a bursary so that some might attend I ask that you consider a financial gift... please keep us in your prayers.

In Christ,

Linda Faith

**“... I am loved
and cherished by
God ...”**

Day Camps' Schedule

Team #	Training Day Camp June 27 – July 5	Training Retreat July 5 – July 12	Week One July 12– July 19	Week Two July 19 – July 26	Week Three July 26 – Aug. 2	Week Four Aug. 2 – Aug. 9
1 Montreal	First Filipino Baptist, Montreal	Isaiah 40 Foundation	St. James. Bedford	JOY Christian Center, Mtl.	St. Joseph, Brossard	CFB, Bagotville
2 Toronto/ Eastern Ontario	Promised Church, Knowlton	Isaiah 40 Foundation	Emmaus/St. Stephen's Westmount	St. Cuthbert's, Toronto	CFB, Borden	St. John's, East Orangeville
3 Regina Region/ Saskatchewan	All Saints, Two Mtns.	Isaiah 40 Foundation	Gordon's First Nation	Camp Harding, Sask.	St. Cuthbert's Dysart	Day Star First Nation
4 Alberta		Isaiah 40 Foundation	St. Timothy's @ Cold Lake AB.	St. Paul's & Christ the King, Edmonton	First Nations, Sask.	Fort Qu'Appelle. Sask.
5 Maritimes		Isaiah 40 Foundation	St. James, Moncton	St. Philip's N.B.	St. Mary's Hillsboro	St. Mark's, Westmoreland
6 Montreal Region/ Eastern Ontario		Isaiah 40 Foundation	St. James Bedford	CFB, Riche-lieu	St. David's Orillia	Parish of Prescott

Calendar

July

5-11: Day Camp Team Training Retreat Week

9: Day Camp Team Members' Commissioning Service, 7pm @ The Isaiah 40 Foundation, All are Welcome!

11-19: Day Camps Week 1

14: Retreat Evaluation Meeting

18: Senior Youth Camp Staff Meeting

19-26: Day Camps Week 2

26-August 2: Day Camps Week 3

August

2-9: Day Camps Week 4

8: Senior Youth Camp Staff Meeting

11: Day Camp Team Leaders' Wrap-up Meeting

13: CTM Prayer and Praise Service- 7pm @ The Isaiah 40 Foundation, All are welcome!

14-15: Senior Youth Camp Staff Precamp- Isaiah 40

16-22: Senior Youth Camp @ Camp Livingstone

Thank you for your Prayer Support. Please contact the Crosstalk Office @ 514-484-1414 for further information.

Day Camps' Blog

This past week I led a Day Camps travelling team at All Saints Anglican Church, Two Mountains, following the Something to Celebrate program (focused on Jesus' parables from the Gospel of Luke). Being in Two Mountains was a pilgrimage to a mother lode of Day Camps lore, and for me it was also a return, since I had briefly visited as Crosstalk office intern with Day Camps director Valerie Taylor in 2005. The program for that year had been On Fire (stories from the book of Acts), and our car, then on its last legs, was fittingly On Fire when we pulled in (personally I only remember smoke, but the story as it's locally remembered is more dramatic).

As Day Camps go it was a remarkably easy week this time around. I was grateful that we didn't flame in or flame out, and time after time I noticed that things went more smoothly than they should have. The team knew what it was doing, and the campers, or at least most of them, were rarely bent on derailing it. Day Camps is a perfect go-to for anyone who wants to experience prayer as a lifeline – it's varied, high energy, potentially chaotic, with lots that can go wrong and lots that can go right, and very obviously built and running on prayer – but here my main impression was of everything being taken care of in advance.

The beginning of the week was a case in point. A lot of the usual advertizing hadn't been possible this year, so at 9:00 on Monday morning we were told not to be disappointed if only 10 children showed up. Soon after 10:00 AM when we started, though, we had over 30 campers- most of last year's Day Camp was back in force. The story of the day, the parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders (Luke 6:46-49), seemed fitting, although the credit for solid building goes to last year's team, not ours.

The week was a blur of songs, parables, crafts and games. As always, I can think of any number of things that we could have done better, but I was impressed by the enthusiastic participation of all the campers, including those who were Jewish and Muslim. Over lunch the children would spontaneously do the liturgical dance and protested when the music was turned down. On Thursday they nearly mobbed one of the travelling team members when he was blamed for throwing out Lamb's grass in the Lamb script. On Friday afternoon when it was time to go home we were asked whether there were more days of Day Camps.

The week ended on a high with the Sunday closing worship service. There were songs from Day Camps as well as hymns more familiar to the congregation, a memorable retelling of the story of the Lost Son (Luke 15: 11-32) with giant puppet people, a moving liturgical dance (to the music of "Create in Me," from Rend Collective), and communion using bread which the children had made. I was reminded that the story of God's work in our lives is necessarily ongoing – during the Lord's Prayer one of the climber boys (finished grades 1 or 2) zoned out and poked his brother at the exact moment that we were saying "lead us not into temptation." But God was certainly at work this week, and that is something to celebrate.

- Christopher Lougheed

Senior Camp

Yes folks, it is indeed that time of the year! But... time for what you may ask?

It's time for personal spiritual growth, time to learn how to put your faith in action, time to explore how faith and life are intertwined, time to spend in quiet meditation and reflection, time to sing your heart out and then time to listen closely and feel the Holy Spirit move through you.

It's time to run as fast as you can and time to strategize with your teammates. It's time to throw your hands in the air as you speed down the waterslide and time to hold your breath as you jump into the freezing lake. It's time to run after a Frisbee or kick a soccer ball and time to create beautiful pieces of art.

It's time to hang out with other youth and to live in close, tight-knit community, with leaders who have been planning this adventure-filled week for a year. It's time for "People of all ages to become stronger disciples of Jesus Christ".

It is time for Senior Youth Camp 2015!

Senior Youth Camp is once again held at Camp Livingstone in the Eastern Townships, this year from August 16-22, 2015. The current camp fee is \$315 before July 1st (an early bird fee) and becomes \$365 after July 1st. We also have a bursary fund available for campers whose parents encounter financial difficulty when sending their child to camp. Application and bursary forms are located on our website.

<http://www.crosstalkministries.ca/seniorcamp/index-syc.html>

Many new and exciting things are happening at Senior Youth Camp this year! I can't give too much away but I've been hearing rumors of a new morning activity...? But you know what they say about rumors!

The theme this year is **March of the Unqualified** and our theme verse this year is **2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (NIV)**,

"But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

We have excited and dedicated staff who cannot wait to welcome campers to this once in a lifetime experience (because no two years of camp are every alike), a speaker, Amy Croy from the Diocese of Edmonton, who is excited to share her God inspired words with us and a program that will leave you exhausted while also wishing camp was longer!

All we're missing? The support of anyone who is willing to give it and most importantly, CAMPERS!

We ask to stay in your thoughts and prayers as we move into the final leg of preparation for Senior Youth Camp 2015. We look forward to your participation in any capacity!

- Victoria Huyer, Senior Camp Director

Urgent Need

Two days ago I received news that one of our Travelling Team Members had suffered a recurrence of a serious knee injury while serving on Team at a Camp for evacuated First Nations Children in Cold Lake Alberta. The doctor at the hospital there had sent a note indicating that the Team Member needed surgery as soon as possible.

Immediately the wheels were set in motion and, this Saturday, he will be flown from Edmonton directly to his hometown of Ottawa.

This unexpected flight will be costly (approx. 600\$) and the Day Camp Budget is very limited. If any of the Networks readers feel called to help with a donation towards this expense, we would be most grateful.

Thank you in advance,

Valerie Taylor, Day Camp Director

New Development Director

At the recent AGM, I was elected to the long mooted, but newly created position of Director of Development. This position is one that Crosstalk Ministries is in need of. I see the mandate as being to look at how to secure the long term future of CTM from a ministry, a financial, and most importantly, a people perspective.

In the coming year, I will be contacting alumni as well as organising fundraisers. In addition, conversations will begin regarding re-booting Focus. If you would like to help with any of these endeavours, feel free to e-mail development@crosstalkministries.ca I would also ask you to pray for the process.

In Christ

- Alex Richards, Director of Development

Summer Prayer Requests

Summer Prayer Roster-2015

(Pray for CTM throughout the week)

Sunday-Pray for the Closing Services of Day Camps, taking place in 5 Provinces and for safe travel for the Teams as they move on to their next Communities.

Monday-Pray for the Director of Development as he focuses on 3 key goals for 2015.

Tuesday-Pray for the Director and Staff of Senior Youth Camp and for the Speaker, as they prepare for Camp.

Wednesday- Pray for all the Campers as they attend Senior Youth Camp-August16-22.

Thursday- Pray for those who work behind the scenes to help with the ongoing Mission of Crosstalk Ministries- *"Helping People of All Ages to Become Strong Disciples of Jesus Christ"*

Friday-Give Thanks for all the volunteers who have given of themselves in Service to the Lord this Summer.

Saturday-Give Thanks for all the lives, which have been and will be, forever changed through the impact of this Ministry. To God be the Glory!

Amen!

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<http://www.crosstalkministries.ca/>



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