

November 2020 Prayer Letter



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Dear Pastor and praying friends,

This 2020 year was for the books!

January was the best month of the year for Ruthie and I. We travelled to San Diego to visit friends and family (especially grandkids!). I had missionary Jim Roe fill in in my absence. We attended a "debut" in Toronto. This was a gala for one of our Filipina young lady's who turned 18 years old. If you are not familiar with this kind of an event, it is quite spectacular. The "queen for the day" sits on a throne and is awarded flowers by eighteen selected guests. They each present her a rose along with a testimony on her character and their fond memories her. There was a special song sung by the debutane along with great food.

In February, I had the privilege of preaching the chapel service at Faithway Baptist College and also got access to the Toronto Correctional Facility to visit a young man awaiting trial. Young people are the future. Time spent in these places is where Jesus would be.

The church also held our annual 'Couple's Night' for Valentine's Day. It is always a joyous occasion ministering to our married couples. Strong marriages make a strong church.

In March, the church celebrated 14 years. We also baptized John, who had been coming to church for two years now. He is blind was saved three years ago. His delay to be baptized was for various reasons but we were happy that he was ready now. Also, in March our reservations for meetings in the library were cancelled due to COVID-19(84)! The lock down had us scrambling to gear up for virtual meetings and adjust our ministry accordingly.

We were quickly able to set up the pulpit in my living room and livestream Sunday morning services via YouTube and Facebook. On our first livestream Sunday we had several people from church in our living room during the service. But then as provincial restrictions tightened we were not permitted to have any but those in our "bubble".

In April and May, there was a series of cancellations of youth conferences, and outreach ministry. Although we acquired some tracts that addressed the virus issue and the gospel. We used them where we could - in the parks, outside grocery stores, and daily encounters. We passed out over 3,000 tracts in the city proper.

In June, things were not that much different, except to say we were eagerly awaiting our getting back to in-person Sunday services. The library was informing us on it's closing on a month-by-month basis. This was frustrating as other places already were opening up.

In July, I was getting some feedback from our YouTube messages. I was able to meet with a few of these folks in their homes. Some were saved but I'm a bit uncertain on the others. But it was great to see that God was using the virtual media for ministry outreach. Pray for the salvation of Alex; Terry & Anita; Kelyn & Anita. Some of the viewers were from the Middle East, and Asia too.

I also had the honour of preaching the funeral at graveside for a dear Malaysian friend of mine (K.T. Gan). He helped me tremendously in the start of this ministry. He wasn't a preacher, but he had a passion for souls, and worked with me at the CNE and other outreaches of our church. He will be missed.

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. Revelation 14:13



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Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

Praise the Lord for His faithfulness as we continue to endure some extreme restrictions here in Canada. For the present time we feel a bit of a reprieve.

In August we participated in the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE). For the last two years it was cancelled because of COVID. I was a bit reluctant to jump in again to spend the money. I was not sure that people would be ready to come out and gather as in pre-COVID times. But after prayer and remembering that the Lord is “Lord of the Harvest”, and we are simply required to be available and willing to sow the seed, we plunged in – and boy, it was a banner year! The crowds came out all 18 days. Our gospel booth (Graceway Mission) is run by our church but includes volunteers and literature from two other churches in the city. Along with our 25 volunteer workers, we passed out 15,000 tracts. Bearing Precious Seed Canada also supplied John and Romans of which we passed out 500 J&R booklets. We were able to talk to dozens of folks from many different backgrounds, i.e., Muslims, Sikhs, Hindus, Catholics, Seventh Day Adventists, J.W.’s, Atheists, and some fortune tellers!! One Mexican gentleman, Saul listened as I shared the gospel to him. I saw his eyes welling up with tears. So I asked him if he would like to receive Christ as his Lord and Saviour. He nodded a yes, and I took him aside and spoke more personally with him and showing him Scripture. All he kept on saying was, “wow”. I had to give him a tissue as he was so broken hearted on what Christ had done for him in making salvation possible. He prayed and asked Christ to save him. I have his number and address and will be following up. There were a few others of similar testimony too. Many spoken to that never heard the gospel. And some that thought they knew the gospel but had their eyes open to the reality of a “know-so” salvation. Again, our purpose is to make sure folks have a thorough presentation of the gospel.

Ruthie also met a young lady from Mexico at the CNE. She was excited to speak with Ruthie as Ruth has a basic knowledge of Spanish. She asked if she would then teach her English. Well, they are now meeting each Monday evening on Zoom. She’s learning English and Ruthie is brushing up on her Spanish! Please pray for Violet’s salvation. Ruthie has also started a sign language class for our members. There is real interest to reach out to the deaf. We even had some deaf visitors come to church that we met at the CNE. It’s exciting to have all these opportunities to reach folks for the Saviour.

Ecclesiastes 11:1 (KJV): *Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.*

Another highlight was a dear Chinese woman with two small children joined the church. We had the whole church over in our backyard for baptism and barbecue. She is being discipled by Ruthie and is already serving by helping to pick up people for church. Her young boys call me ‘Yeye’. That’s Chinese for grandpa!

Again, it’s a thrill to see the US/Canada border open without any restrictions as of Oct. 1st. Ruthie and I will be visiting family in New York. Her sister passed away in September and we were not able to attend the funeral at that time. Being unvaxed and leaving the country would have prohibited our re-entering back into Canada.

We appreciate partnering with us in Toronto. May we be found faithful as we labor and wait for our Lord’s return. Your servants in Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,

Jim & Ruthie Bianchi

“Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake.” Psalm 115:1

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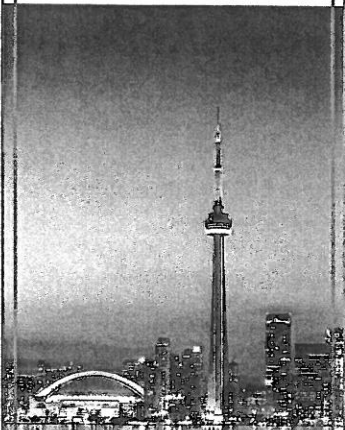
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Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

Praise the Lord! We have returned to in-person meetings! This is such a blessing to the church. As of March, we have been meeting at a church outside the metro area of Toronto (Markham). A pastor friend graciously invited our church to join them in their Sunday services (Eastside Baptist). He and I shared the pulpit for the month of March. Their church is sort of a “country church” and ours is a “city church”, but the fellowship was sweet and a great encouragement to us since not having a place to meet. In these meetings we had the privilege to baptized 7 people (4 adults and 3 children, these were all from our church!).

Psalm 133:1 *Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!*

The last week of March I was invited to speak at a revival for a sister church in Montreal. Since Ruthie was not up for the travel, and I was staying over night, I took along a new church member who is also a professional musician. I preached on prayer in our spiritual warfare, and together we did a music special. This church (Bible Baptist Church of Montreal) was a true revival – to me for sure! The spirit was electrifying! There was great congregational singing and a powerful main speaker (not me), and of course excellent spread of food for the luncheon. I was in glory!

Upon returning to Toronto my musician member came down with COVID, and I followed the next day. Then 3 days later Ruthie also got the virus. So, the whole month of April I was out of commission to preach. I’m so thankful for Pastor Matt Waskey of Eastside Baptist Church for covering for me for 3 Sundays. I still attempted to do our Zoom meetings on Wednesday evenings being not in the best shape.

The best news is that we’ve secured our own place to meet! It’s been a long time coming. But the Lord is faithful. We are now meeting in a private elementary school. We have lots of room. Sunday school is at 9:30am and worship service at 10:30am. We also have time for an hour fellowship luncheon after the services. Our first service was on May 1st. Our people are still a little shocked and wondering is for real or will this venue also be cancelled. I’m assuring them it’s for real. There is an enthusiasm that is returning to the church. It’s such a blessing!

It's also encouraging that some new adult members to the church have been faithful to the services and are willing to be involved in ministry, and I'm using them and planning the future of the church with their gifts and talents.

Psalm 100:2 *Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.*

We appreciate partnering with us in Toronto. May we be found faithful as we labor and wait for our Lord’s return.

Your fellow laborers and servants in Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,

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January 2022 Prayer Letter

Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

Greetings from "We the North", the cold North I may add. We sincerely hope this letter finds you all keeping the faith and thankful for all our God has blessed us with in spite of these trying times.

After an ordeal submitting our U.S. passports for renewal in July, we finally received them in October. We then quickly applied for renewal of our Canadian work permit. As of this letter, we are still waiting for approval. The immigration agency has emailed us and said that they received our application (they also cashed the application cheque) but because of COVID it could take up to 6 months to process. We expect it should arrive sometime in March or April. Hopefully sooner because our health insurance is dependent upon having a valid work permit. We ask for your prayers that the work permit arrives soon, and in the mean time we do not get sick and need medical attention.

Although the church hasn't met in a permanent place in almost 2 years, we have not lost any members because of it. We have a good core of 30 committed members who feel comfortable meeting in person. Since the fall, we've gone from meeting in the park to an evangelical church, a Baptist church, a United Church of Canada and even an art gallery. We can truly identify with Israel's wanderings in the wilderness! It would be too long a letter to go into the why of changing venues. But suffice it to say that government restrictions and church policy differences with these locations have compelled us to move on. Presently, we are only doing online services again. I have actively been looking for rentals in the inner city, but nothing is affordable. We may be forced to get something outside the city limits. Continue to pray for our dear people. Church is essential!

In spite of our roaming around Toronto, we have had several 1st time visitors come to church. There are now 5 people that have made a profession of faith and need to be baptized. I will be setting up a discipleship class for them. Pray for the spiritual growth for Neal, Christian, Franzel, Franzela, & Tina. Even though we don't like moving around, the Lord is blessing us with new people. I believe Satan means it for evil, but God means it for good!

Our children's ministry has been shifted to a Monday evening Zoom kid's fellowship. Ruthie has had 100% participation and even children from other churches have joined in. We had an outdoor kid's fellowship at our place in the summer and a also Christmas party in December.

There seems to be new ways opening up in evangelism too. Although we are always passing out tracts on the streets, we also have mailed out 7,500 tracts into homes, high rise apartments and condos. It is impossible to get into some of these places, but Canada Post has delivered these tracts for us! We could not do our gospel booth at the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) for 2 years now. So I think these mailings might be just as effective for about the same cost and reach many more. I do miss the interaction with the public though. Pray these tracts touch the hearts of the Torontonians.

This Christmas season we had several caroling outreaches. I played guitar and another newcomer to the church played the trumpet. We passed out 500 tracts and made a great impression downtown at Dundas Square. Many photographers were having a field day shooting. One such local photographer posted pictures on his Facebook page.

Over



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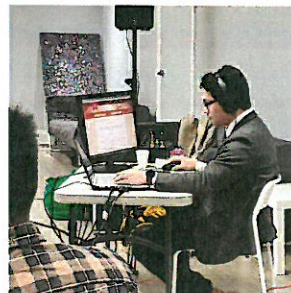
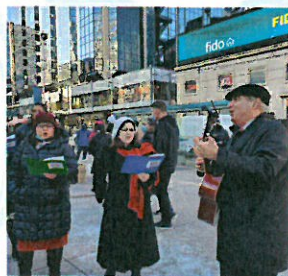
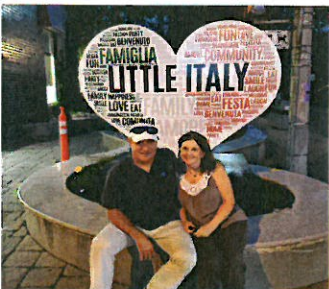
Additional news:

- I performed a funeral in August of a man who got saved in our church 2 years ago. I had great liberty in sharing the gospel. Then in September I was invited to a family's home for dinner where once again the Lord opened the door to share the gospel in this personal setting. The widowed wife and adult children are not saved but I plan to meet up with them again soon. Pray for Remy Fong and her children's salvation.
- The young man that got saved in prison has been sentenced to life. Taufiq is 24 years old. His mother is a faithful member of the church. This has saddened me greatly. The soonest for parole would be 25 years. I've been meeting with him every Thursday for 2 years and now he will be sent to a penitentiary in Quebec. There is an appeal in the process. I will be keeping in touch with him the best I can.
- Our next-door neighbor Selina, who had stage 4 cancer passed away in November. Ruthie and I had become good friends with her and have witnessed to her several times. She was Muslim, but actually held to many New Age beliefs. We miss her and hope she received Jesus before passing into eternity. We are continuing to witness to her sister and mother.
- Other neighbors across the street lost their fifteen-year-old son from a stabbing at his high school. He was a great kid who was just trying to break up a school yard brawl. Ruthie and I visited the parents and shared our condolences. You couldn't help but feel their grief. We embraced, cried, and prayed for them. They are devout Muslims. The mother has asked me about grief counseling for her other older son. Pray the Lord gives me wisdom and grace in this.
- Ruthie made some delicious Christmas cookies and we shared them with our neighbors along with the book, "Done" by Cary Schmidt. Pray for these to read the book and get saved. (Erik, Alex, Nancy, Bo, Tracy, Mushaan, Meb, Mohib, Burgess and Momma Selena)

We appreciate beyond words partnering with us here in Toronto. You are in our hearts and prayers always. May we all be found faithful as we labor and wait for our Lord's return.

Your servants in Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,

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July 2021 Prayer Letter

Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

It has been some time since the last prayer letter was sent out. I apologize for this. In Canada, our minds and hearts have been in disbelief in the government's oppressive restrictions that have been placed upon social gatherings. Since March 2020, our ministry complied with keeping within these restrictions. We are now over 16 months into doing video and livestream services and have only held 3 Sundays of in-person meetings this year 2021. Although I feel that the people and church are still connected (via Zoom), I don't think this is the way to do church long term. There have been a few people that have been heavily affected by the "lock downs". There are more but here are two.

"Susan" (not real name) was a crystal-meth addict got saved and had been clean for 6 years. After graduating from a community college in social work she got a job working 3 days a week in a group home. She then moved out of her mother's home into a one-bedroom apartment. Although faithful in attending our in-person services and even the virtual Zoom meetings on Sundays and Wednesdays, the lockdown was a challenge too great for her. She lapsed back into meth by calling some "old friend" on facebook that was more than willing to supply her with the drug. After confessing her fall, she told me that she had been backslidden for the whole last 12 months of lockdown. I advised her to move back to her mother's place. At first, she was adamant that she would never go back, but after 2 weeks and several more lapses, she made plans to move back. We all have weaknesses and more times than not need someone to be held accountable to. The Ontario lockdowns made a temptation for her that the Devil used for her fall. Any one of us given that right (wrong) circumstances could fall back into past sins. By God's grace she is happy and stronger than she's been in quite a while.

"Robert" (not real name) is married with 2 children and "one on the way". He is a responsible young man and has been used in the church in many capacities. One passion of his is "gaming". He has a network of friends (local and afar) that he joins weekly to play interactive games. Since the lockdowns, he has spent more time gaming. This proved to be a subtle temptation to fall into sin. His wife discovered some inappropriate chat messages between him and a female gamer. This sent his wife and marriage in a tailspin. Robert confessed all to his wife and myself and was repentant. I am presently doing counseling with Robert. He is a good man, but again, he was in a place of temptation that although not hopeless, has made significant damage in his wife's trust in him. The privacy and secrecy of online interactions can make one feel unrestrained from appropriate norms in our social relationships. His wife has forgiven him, and I have had removed him from any church ministry. He is looking forward to be used of the Lord again in our services.

I share these stories with you in hopes that you will understand that Satan has been attacking the church from within and without. We covet your prayers that this ministry remains strong. The Ontario lockdown has been lifted as of 2 weeks ago and in person meetings are allowed to resume with a 50% building capacity attendance. This is good news. There has been one man that has already joined the church via Zoom and is looking forward to future in person meeting. The Ontario lockdowns have distanced us from our church members as well as frequent visitors. We have lost use of meeting in the public library and are looking for another venue. Please pray for a venue to be secured.

In the meantime, we have reserved a Toronto park shelter for 5 weeks for in person services. There are less restrictions on outdoor gatherings. We did this last summer and had some first-time visitors show up. Pray for the church to rejoice in the Lord together again.



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These restrictions have not stopped some of our people evangelizing. This year we've passed over 6,000 custom COVID tracts. I usually say, "This will keep you safe, for now and for eternity!" Surprisingly, considering the fear in social distancing very few have refused these tracts.

The lockdowns, with nowhere to go and the hot summer weather has created some great opportunities speaking with our neighbors. Ruthie and I have had great witnesses with a Muslim, an atheist, and a new-ager. One dear lady has stage 4 cancer. Please pray for these dear folks salvation and more open doors to present the gospel.

As I see it, there is no going back to "normal". It looks to be that there is a target on Christian ministries in Canada. Some Christian pastors have been arrested for violating the lockdown in other provinces. Alternative news sources have questioned why these certain churches are being targeted when other groups are doing the same without notice by the authorities. We know that the Lord's return is soon, and things will get worse before they get better. But we sincerely hope and pray that the Lord keeps the doors open for ministry to the many groups of people from around the world who have come to Toronto for a better life. They may have come for a better temporal life, but their real need is eternal life! Please pray for Canada and its' government leaders to stop these oppressive measures on the churches in order to stay the COVID virus. Toronto needs the gospel more than ever.

<https://www.ipcprayer.org/ipc-connections/item/11834-canada-justin-trudeau-christians-worst-part-of-society.html>

<https://youtu.be/vp3fe3LQd9Y>

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November 2020 Prayer Letter

In August, my patience with the library opening had grown thin. So, I decided that if we can't meet indoors then maybe we should meet outdoors! I reserved several Sundays in a nearby Toronto park with a shelter. We were allowed 40 people, social distanced apart. Our People were greatly encouraged to have these meetings. Some of those we met by way of the livestream came. These Sundays in the park were carried well into the middle of September.

The park was filled each week with many different ethnic groups. There were Muslims doing worship bowing down on their blankets. There were Hindu's doing dances in costume. And then there were us Baptists - preaching, praying, singing; volleyball; bocci ball; barbeque and more preaching in the evening service. We were a witness to all these groups enjoying the park. We took this opportunity to pass out tracts among them too. These meetings were the highlight of the year.

In October, as the weather changed, we returned to our virtual meetings - Sunday morning on YouTube and Zoom on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. The library had now informed me that bookings for the auditorium are cancelled to the end of the year. This was a real discouragement. I am not expecting them to open up after the first of the year either.

The Toronto restrictions for religious services are now limited to 30% of the venue's room capacity indoors and physical distancing must be maintained at all times. The auditorium we were using is listed at 75 people maximum. Therefore, we would only be allow 25 people per service. Back in March our attendance was around 50-60 people per Sunday. Because of these restrictions I think it best for us to look for another church that we can partner with in sharing a large church building or auditorium. Churches are allowed to meet but they must follow the same restriction. Therefore, many have decided to close their doors and do virtual services instead. Please pray for the gospel to continue to go out in our city inspite of this disruption. Pray that we find a suitable meeting place.

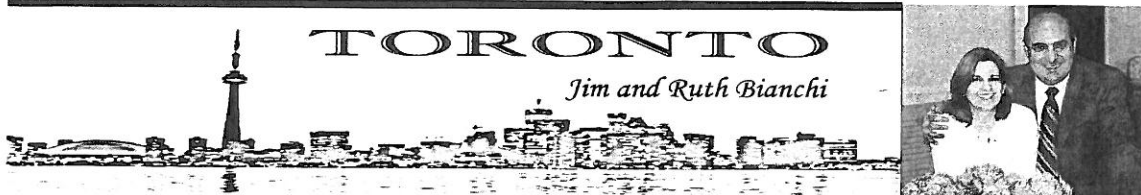
I'm glad I can say our church here is healthy and still in good spirits. These are very trying times for the church and there have been some young believers that have fallen away from the Lord. This is tragic. In these hard times we need to be flexible and compliant the best we can to the new government measures that are being imposed upon us. Restrictions are nothing new in the history of Christianity, even though we are not used to it in our generation. We will remain faithful in serving the Lord Jesus Christ and preaching the gospel to the lost in Toronto as we await His coming!

*Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy. **James 5:11***

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February 2020 Prayer Letter

Dear Pastor and praying friends,

Hope this letter finds everyone well. We have been blessed by the Lord in adding three men to the church. Fabio was saved in Brazil by listening to Bible preaching online and then immigrated to Canada in 2018 with his family. Mark, a single man, in his late thirties joined the church after the Bible-believing Baptist church he went to in our city disbanded. Adrian, in his early twenties was saved under our ministry in 2019. He came to church by invitation of one of our young ladies in the college they attended together. What a blessing!

I conducted a funeral of a 41 year single mom who was suspiciously killed by being run over by a car. I had never met this lady before but was asked by her family to conduct the funeral. They are neighbors of a faithful member of our church. At the time of the funeral the police had not concluded her death an accident or suicide. She left 4 children with many friends and extended family. The funeral was attended by over 100 people. This was a very diverse crowd of ladies arriving in bedroom slippers and gentlemen with mechanic rags hanging from back pockets. The gospel was preached, and we trust that the Lord's Word "will not come back void". It was a sad sight of folks who were generally irreligious and grieving with no hope. I told the mother of the deceased that I would not take any money for my services. But later I told her that she could do me a favor by coming to church some Sunday. She replied, sarcastically with a laugh, "During football season?" It is strange how the lost want God and His Word at the death of a loved one, but then are not awakened to their own need to be right with God themselves. Nevertheless, we don't know what God is doing in the hearts of men. I am humbled by the privilege to be able to preach God's word to these very needy people. It seems the Lord has opened up a door for me here in this gang related neighborhood, which is exciting and scary.

There have been other funerals also. To see the picture here a little clearer, let me share this incident of God's protection. In December I performed a wedding for a couple. After the wedding I drove two guests from our church back to their bad neighborhood. When we arrived, there was a suspicious character walking around dressed in all black with a hoodie. Immediately the lady from our church called the police and they found a gun on him. She later told me, if I wasn't with them they would have been the next victims in this territorial war going on. The Lord takes care of his sheep...and under shepherd's!

One man in our church who is visually impaired was led to the Lord two years ago in his living room. John has endured many difficult challenges in his life, but he has recently decided to be a soul-winning witness for the Lord. This Christmas he took a handful of tracts and knocked on every door on his apartment floor. John has been reaching out to his neighbors and a few have even visited church. He has even opened up his home for a Bible study. Truly, the fruit of a saved life. Amen?

Other folks have been reached for Christ through our Christmas play. Ruthie knocked herself out by making costumes, baking cookies, holding practices and directing the play. She also helped our teens make the props. Thanks for praying for her. Our people bought presents for the visiting families and children attending the play. Some visitors were homeless. The true meaning of Christmas was told with the gospel. It was not only by the actors in the play, but by our whole congregation. Our church's generosity truly showed a Christmas spirit of giving. The unity displayed and sweet spirit among all in attendance was a great testimony.

We also went Christmas caroling in our Muslim neighborhood with packages filled with tracts, ornaments and candy. We held a Christmas morning service at a nursing home and gave all who attended tracts and of course, Christmas cookies! Our "cup runneth over" with blessings in sharing Jesus.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Recent converts and new members to grow and serve the Lord
- A permanent location for our church. (the city of Toronto is reviewing it's library contracts for "haters.")
- Permanent Residence Visa in Canada (we are now eligible to apply)

Your fellow laborers and servants of the Lord in Canada, **Jim & Ruthie Bianchi**

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"Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake." Psalm 115:1

September 2019 Prayer Letter

Dear Pastor and praying friends,

Greeting from Toronto! The Lord continues to bless us as we serve Him. We've seen many new visitors at church, and many decisions to trust Christ and follow Him in believer's baptism. We had four single men and one single woman join the church this summer along with two baptisms. The baptisms were held in our backyard this summer after a Sunday morning service. Our Muslim neighbors could hear the preaching, testimonies and the joyful singing. A next-door Romanian neighbor commented how he really enjoyed it.

BAPTISMS:

Angela was one young lady who was baptized who we've known since 2007. She was only 6 years old then when she made a profession of faith at VBS. She is now eighteen. It was a great privilege to finally baptize her. She would have been baptized earlier, but her father forbade it. He told her that she could not make this decision until she turned eighteen. She comes from a broken family. Both her parents are atheist doctors. I notice that Chinese children are very submissive to their parents, and parents are very submissive to the communist government laws they've grown up under. But Angela's faith has stayed strong all these years. She even calls Ruthie and I as her adopted grandparents! She is now off to University in Manchester, England to study....medicine! We love this young lady and pray the Lord uses her in a great way for His honor and glory.

Yasin was another young man who made a profession of faith last year but was only recently baptized. He is 24 years old and comes from a broken home with 9 siblings. His father is Muslim but abandoned the family when he was young. His mother is now a Christian and a faithful member of the church. She was baptised last year. We are trusting God that this is just the beginning of the whole family getting saved. Many open doors here, and much prayer is needed. One down nine to go! Yasin has already led his niece to the Lord.

SALVATION:

Last October while passing out tracts outside a nearby grocery store, we met a lady that said, "I prayed last night God would send me someone to tell me who He is. And here you are!" Come to find out she has been involved in a mix of new age confusion. She is divorced, ex-Catholic, practiced Kundalini yoga and eastern meditation for years. She has been in and out of evangelical churches too with no understanding of salvation. Since the time we met her, Ruthie has ministered to her at great length and we rejoice to say she finally understands Biblical salvation in Christ alone, and has trusted the Lord as her Saviour. She still has so much demonic influence in her life and struggles with alcohol addiction. It is not an easy path, but she has real hope now. Please pray for her to be delivered from the spiritual oppression and alcohol addiction.

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Ephesians 6:12

COUNSELING:

Another young lady has been visiting church for over a year now too. She came to church by way of our website. She was from a Nazarene church. She questions her salvation - and so do I. She has expressed to us her real anger toward God for having a troublesome childhood. She finds it hard to believe God loves her. Although she attends church and prayer meetings quite regularly, it seems her bitterness with God has not been abated. Ruth and I have counseled her at length privately. Sometimes it is hard for people to understand God's love, if they have never experienced real family love before. Ruth and I, and the church family are trying to show her God's patient and enduring love and grace. Pray she finds comfort and peace with God.

"In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;" II Timothy 2:25

GOD TAKES CARE OF HIS SERVANTS:

My old 2007 Honda Accord finally “gave up the ghost”. The timing belt went and so did the engine (it had 235,000 km). I rented a car for the week while shopping for another car. A member of the church called me and said, “Pastor, don’t purchase anything or get into debt without first talking to me.” Not knowing what he meant I said, “OK, how about coming over for dinner and we’ll talk?” He came over and told me he wanted to either give me his 2011 Honda CR-V, or buy me the car of my choice. I was shocked! I told him that I would feel like I was taking advantage of his kindness and generosity. He said he had already prayed about it for a week, and God told him to do this. I said, “How can I argue with God?!” So, I have a “new” 2011 CR-V! God takes care of His servants. Amen?

GOD AFFLICTS HIS SERVANTS TOO!

On July 8th I broke my collarbone. Yes! I was walking to pick up our mail, and walking rather briskly, and my foot tripped on a sidewalk slab that was lifted about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch. With my momentum carrying me forward I really had no other choice but to accept that I was going down. I threw my right shoulder into the fall and rolled onto my feet. After getting over the initial shock I felt my collarbone was pushed up. I walked back home, and Ruthie drove me to the ER. I got x-rays and morphine for the pain – and yes, there was PAIN! Even though it was badly broken the surgeon said surgery was not necessary. He said, “You’re not an athlete and you are not going to be in any beauty contest. Right?” So, I just rested at home and was out of the pulpit for 4 weeks. I had a few of the men from our church and other assistant pastors from other churches fill in for me. In August I returned to preach with my right arm still in a sling. Right now, there is no pain and I seem to be gaining strength in my right arm day by day. This injury has made me lean upon others to “shoulder” the work of the ministry and has been a real blessing in disguise. Our college and career young people took over and ran the 5-day VBS this summer too. I guess the Lord has a strange way of stirring up the members of the church to leadership!

EVANGELISM:

Finally, the Canadian National Exhibition (C.N.E.) was held the last 3 weeks of August. The cost of the booth rental and tracts we’re paid for by three churches including an anonymous generous \$1,000 USD gift from the States. It was great to have many workers including our young adults helping. It was no easy task. The CNE is for 18 days straight, 12 hours per day. We passed out over 10,000 gospel tracts along about 100 J&R’s. There were many good witnesses to all walks of life. Many young men and women stopped to hear a thorough presentation of the gospel – Muslims, Hindus, Catholics, Sikhs, and atheists. I talked to one young turbaned Sikh gentleman (16 years old) who listened to the gospel for over 15 minutes. As he was leaving, he said, “You helped me a lot. Can I call you? You are a priest, right?” I told him I was a pastor, not a priest but would love to be of any further help to him. He took tracts with contact info on it. I hope to hear from him.

The vendors at the fair were also interested to hear the gospel. We had some Israeli vendors next to our booth. They were Jewish but secular and at the end we became jolly friends. I gave them each a booklet of testimonies of Israeli believers (all in Hebrew) and asked if they would just read one of the testimonies. The Israeli manager said, “I will read them all.” He actually knew two of the Christian people in this book!

But of course, we had our scoffers too. One man was offended being a little inebriated and started to swear at me. I told him to move along. He resisted and I told him I would call security if he didn’t leave. Where upon he spat at me and ran away. Praise the Lord!

We thank God for the professions of faith that were made, but eternity will reveal the full value of our labours and yours in this ministry.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- New converts at church and new members to grow and serve the Lord
- Patients in the ministry and dependence upon the Lord in all things.
- My wife, Ruthie’s health (we just celebrated 41 years together!)
- Fruit from our witness at the C.N.E
- Total healing of my collarbone

We appreciate your support and ask that you would please pray for the above requests.

Your fellow laborers and servants of the Lord in Canada, **Jim & Ruthie Bianchi**

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April 2019 Prayer Letter

Dear Pastor and praying friends,

Greetings from Toronto. My most heartfelt news is my 96 year old mother (Carmela) went home to Glory. The emotions are mixed. There won't be anymore home coming visits to see Ma, but there is a peace knowing she is much better at Home with Jesus. Praise the Lord! The funeral service was a celebration of a lady who lived four lives. 1. A fatherless peasant girl in Italy during WWII. 2. A naturalized US citizen, wife, mother of 8 kids. 3. Received Christ at 61 yr. old, married to my father who wasn't saved yet and was not happy about her conversion. 4. Then a widow who shared Christ and her testimony to all who would listen. I often told her, she was "a legend in her own time." It was my honor to preach the gospel to our many relatives and friends that day. Her salvation was an answer to prayer of many years. Don't stop praying for your loved ones to get saved. *Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.* Psalm 116:15

We held a New Year's Eve Watch Night service which was well attended. After a great pot luck dinner we were challenged by 8 of our faithful men each preaching a 10 minute message. This was such an encouragement to the church. The men were young teens to middle aged men. It was a great encouragement to see these men's ability's to study, prepare, and deliver a message from the word of God. We closed the evening with board games and prayed in the New Year 2019. That night revealed a deep commitment and ability of our men to share the Word. Pray God continues to lead our men into greater service for Him.

We have had two baptisms this year (2 adult men). There are a few other candidates we are still waiting on. One lady that made a profession of faith was reached by our weekly tract distribution. She has an addiction problem and has not been faithful in coming to church or Bible study. But I am convinced she got saved, when I see the joy she has when she's in fellowship with the saints. Ruthie keeps in daily contact with her. She recently texted Ruthie saying, "God's Word is so powerful. I love it. It truly gives life, help and courage." Pray for her.

I have been making regular visits to the East Toronto Detention Centre to see a 21 year old man who is incarcerated for first degree murder. His case has not gone to trial yet. His mother attends our church faithfully and lives in a neighborhood frequented by gangs. We have gone door-to-door and held VBS meetings there. It is sad to see the damaged and crippled lives that sin has ravaged. Even though there is concern by government agency's and religious social programs galore, crime continues to ravage these neighborhoods. We know that the ONLY answer for them is the gospel of Jesus Christ. I am grateful we reached this one faithful mom. What makes her special is that she knows everyone in this neighborhood, and is held in their eyes as a community leader. She now shares the gospel with them. For her birthday she told her 10 adult children that all she wanted was for them to be with her in church on Sunday. They all came. I am now respected as their Mom's preacher. I met all her adult children, their wives or girl friends and even the grandkids. This family has a strong Muslim influence. But since Mom's salvation and baptism another son now comes to church regularly with her. He has made a profession of faith. I am challenging him to get baptized now. We are not sure if her youngest son, is innocent of his conviction, but please pray that he will get saved soon and God will have mercy on him.

We appreciate your support and ask that you would please pray for the above requests.

Your fellow laborers and servants in Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,

Jim & Ruthie Bianchi

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October 2018 Prayer Letter

Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

In June we had our church's anniversary picnic on Sunday right after our morning service. It was held at a local park where we had a lot of open space for games and BBQ. We had fun and sweet fellowship, and for the first time in years weren't harassed by Muslim's groups trying to encroach on our picnic space. In the past we even had to call police, although already having obtained a city reservation permit for our picnic space. Why this year with no problem? My guess they got the message that we refuse to back down or given in to their demands!

Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

In June I also had the privilege of preaching the anniversary for the East Brampton Baptist Church. There were many lost friends and family in attendance and a thorough presentation of the gospel was given. Two people made a profession of faith in Christ that morning. Ruthie and I spent much of the church fellowship luncheon speaking with the Adult and teen visitors. Our discussions went from one to the next and were carried out to the parking lot.

2Cor. 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

In July we had missionary to the deaf, Jeremy Rings challenge our church on starting a deaf ministry. Bro. (Bud) Rings and his sweet family also ministered in song. Afterwards there were several in the church that felt that God might be calling them to work with the deaf. Ruthie and I know a little sign language to get by, but interpreting is a discipline that requires constant diligence and practice. I would love to see this ministry added to the church.

Psalm 144:1 Blessed be the LORD my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight:

July was also our VBS month. In the past we have had church youth groups come up to help us from the US. They've always done a great job. But this year was the first time we used our church members only! This was a mile stone for the church. We held two open-air meetings, one in a member's backyard, and the other in one of the most needy areas of the city. They were both 3-day events. I can't forget the hungry looks of those kids as I gave an invitation to accept Christ as their Saviour. There were a few Muslim adults that also came and listened. But after the invitation was given they left quickly. We tried to encourage them to stay for the fun activities, but the adults hurried their children to follow them out. The kids look back at us with huge smiles. I hope that it is because they found friendly people that knew God and also a Friend Who will "stick closer than a brother". Also this VBS experience boosted excitement and commitment to serve the Lord in our teens and college and career people.

Luke 18:16 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

In mid August we held the annual Graceway Mission booth at the Canadian National Exposition (CNE). This outreach is a great opportunity to speak with hundreds of people from all walks of life. Although I love doing it, it is exhausting because it is for 18 days straight and 12 hours per day. We had the participation of many from the church but also invited my dear friend Evangelist Tony Saxton to help the first weekend, then the second weekend, dear friends from our sending church (Lighthouse Bible Baptist Church) helped out. Their help was much needed and a blessing.

(BACK)

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At this year's CNE we passed out over 10,000 tracts and a couple hundred John and Romans booklets. There were several (5-7) who made professions of faith. Albeit we're always looking for better results, but we live in a day where more then ever there is a coldness to the gospel but also many are hurting. We had many come by our booth just for prayer and counsel. We are trusting God to bless our efforts in proclaiming His Word.

1Co 3:6, 7 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

Ecclesiastes 11:1 Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.

After the CNE we took two days off with some of our men to go fishing north of Kingston, Ontario. We had two lost friends join us as well and had some soul-searching discussions by our late-night camp fire. Pray for the salvation of Carl and Wendel.

On a last note, I'd like to say how much I'm blessed to have such a dear and valuable "help meet". On September 16th we celebrated 40 years together. The church sent us away for two days to a quite spot north of the city. It was a very relaxing time with my sweetheart. She is the love of my life and has been my encourager during trials. At my weak moments, she has been my strength when I've gripped and complained. God has used this lady in my life to stay right with Him on many fronts. Even her ill health issues have been opportunities for me to grow in grace and love. Jesus is always first but I can't even imagine a worth-while life or ministry without her. I married my best friend 40 years ago and she's still the one!

Proverbs 18:22 Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD.

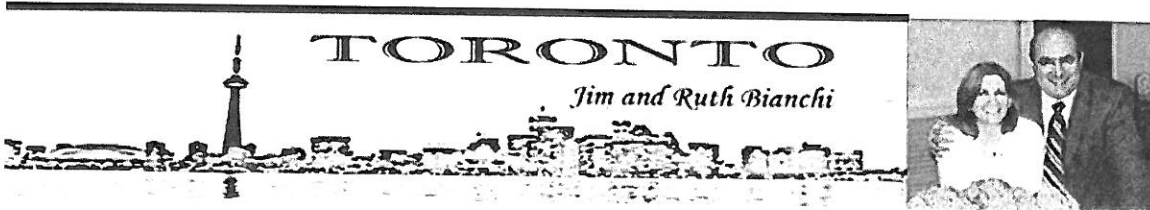
We appreciate your support and ask that you would please pray for the above requests plus:

- 1.) A new meeting location for the church with extra rooms for Sunday school
- 2.) Development of spiritual leadership in the church
- 3.) Ruthie's continued health concerns.
- 4.) Our landlord Karen, who is a Muslim, salvation.
- 5.) Salvation of souls witnessed to VBS and at the CNE (Niv, an Israeli vendor and Phil, a vendor from Montreal)

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April 2018 Prayer Letter

Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

The Amazing Grace Outreach was a ministry we started last January from our regular street preaching at a busy intersection of the city. We decided to rent an United Church basement for 2 hours on Sunday evenings during the cold winter months of January and February. The cost was \$100 per Sunday. Our plan was to get the lost off the street and out of the cold for some free coffee and refreshments along with preaching and some personal conversation about their soul's destiny. The fact of the matter was that of all the folks that showed up, we only had one gentleman from the neighborhood. He came 3 Sundays, but on his last visit he still claimed to be an atheist.

We were able to get a crowd of people coming though. There were many from our church that came out (around 12), although I told them that this was not church – but an outreach. There were also up to 15 people from other churches (or no church at all) that would show up too. During our coffee-break time, I'd talk to these people and I realized that they likely were saved but were not really interested in any commitment to a church. Most if not all, didn't believe in church membership. This was a sad reality and brought us to the realization that the Sunday evening outreach was not accomplishing the salvation of souls. It was just a hangout for lazy Christians with no interest in anything but themselves, "ever learning and never coming to the knowledge of the truth." Suffice it to say that this "outreach" was a good effort. I've notice that there are many forlorn and confused Christians in our city, yet they have no interest in living a life for the Lord. The church is "the pillar and ground of the truth". When Christians forsake the church, they forsake their own mercies.

We had four of our teenagers preach in our afternoon Sunday service in February. These young men each had 15 minutes to preach and delivered some good challenging messages from the Word of God. It was an encouragement to the whole church. I'm hoping to start a special "preacher boys" class with them.

The Library where the church meets has restricted us from using their storage room. We were storing our pulpit; sound system and decorations. Therefore, we had to set up and tear down and store our worship materials each Sunday at an off-site storage locker. This was costly and very labor intensive. Recently a dear family in our church purchased a new van and donated their old van to the church. This gifted van is now used as a cargo van to store all our stuff for church. It's parked all week long and just driven to church on Sundays. This saves us the storage cost and eliminates the labor of one loading/unloading routine on Sundays. Praise the Lord for this couple's generosity in thinking of the church first instead of just selling their van.

A husband and wife joined the church in March. The husband was saved last year while they were having some marriage troubles. He was eager to join the church right away, but I advised him to wait in order to avoid any further conflict in his home. The wife finally was led to the Lord by her husband in November and they once again started coming to church as a couple. She came forward for baptism in December. They have since joined the church together and are great source of encouragement to all.

We held a baby shower for a young 21 year old unwed mother. The father also is 21 years old but in prison for murder. (He claims to be innocent) I have witnessed many times to this young man before his incarceration. He was raised Muslim but is not too devout. The young mother is open to our witness but is not saved yet. Please pray for this young mother and father to get saved and for his deliverance from prison, if he truly is innocent.

We passed out over 600 tracts door-to-door recently with our church on the Friday before Easter. We went to three separate neighborhoods. I had a good witness with a Muslim man named Mohammad. After a respectful back and forth conversation I asked him, "Mohammad, are your sins forgiven?" He said, "Yes." I then asked, "How do you know?" He then turned sheepish and said, "I don't know." I then got to zero-in on the vicarious blood sacrifice of our sinless Saviour. No doubt, Mohammad understood, yet abruptly "had to leave". I hope to speak to him again soon since we plan to continue tract distribution in his neighborhood.

We appreciate your prayers and financial support. Please include in your prayers:

- 1.) A new meeting location for the church with extra rooms for Sunday school
- 2.) Ruthie's continued health concerns.
- 3.) Our landlord Karen, who is a Muslim, salvation.
- 4.) The salvation of souls we have witnessed to

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November 2017 Prayer Letter

Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

Praise the Lord we have received our 4 year work permit from Canadian Immigration. This is an answer to our/your prayers. Thank you for partnering in prayer with us for this.

The young couple who I baptized earlier this year had a baby girl this June. The young mother's mom (grandma) came from Italy to help her daughter as she was recovering from her delivery. Ruthie had the opportunity to lead the grandmother to the Lord! She is a sweet lady and we are trying to disciple her long distance and are seeking to find her a church in Italy. The closest big city she lives near is Milan, but it is still a 3 hour drive from her town. Please pray for the spiritual growth for Elena and also the salvation of her husband.

Lately, I have been ministering to many with health issues (i.e., MS, broken arm, cancer, etc.). These are people from the church. It is so important to provide encouragement and comfort in these times. It is probably the hardest part of the ministry though. I have found that a preacher's presence in a difficult time in a person's life seems to be a reminder of Lord's presence with them. At least they know someone cares. If you could remember to pray for: Irina – stage 4 cancer; Emy & Hong – breast cancer; John – psychiatric treatments; Lily – dangerous behaviour because of her autism. *“For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”* Romans 8:18.

The Canadian National Exhibition was held again last August. We had many volunteer workers that helped out and two other churches helped with the expense of procuring the booth and the purchasing of tracts. We passed out 10,000 tracts and saw around a dozen make professions of faith. The crowds are not as big as in previous years, but many heard a clear presentation of the gospel. We are still doing follow up on these professions.

We are still having many people who found us on the internet and listen to internet preachers coming to the church. This is an encouragement at the same time a challenge as many have bad doctrine taught to them. As we patiently and prayerfully deal with them. We are hoping they come out of these wrong teachings and grow in sound doctrine with us.

It is evident that we are in the last days and the Devil is attacking our camp of separated, KJV believers with a twisting of the Scriptures and a bad and unloving spirit. Case in point, I even had one man stand up and call me out during my preaching on a Sunday service. He was escorted out of the auditorium by one of our larger men. And all the while this man was cursing while quoting Scripture. Certainly not the spirit of our Lord and Saviour.

The many issues facing people today between what was just mentioned above and taking medications for everything under the sun, depression, anxiety, bi-polar etc. make the ministry a roller coaster ride of emotions. But praise the Lord for His grace and patience. We are so grateful to the Lord for the solid core loving, spirit-filled members of the Toronto church. In spite of the Devils attacks we enjoy a sweet spirit of loving unity.

We appreciate your support and ask that you would please pray for the above requests plus:

- 1.) A new meeting location for the church with extra rooms for Sunday school
- 2.) Ruthie's continued health concerns.
- 3.) Our landlord Karen, who is a Muslim, salvation.
- 4.) Street preaching ministry
- 5.) Healing for our sick

Your fellow laborers and servants in Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,

Jim & Ruthie Bianchi

“Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake.” Psalm 115:1



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March 2017 Prayer Letter

Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

Some of you might recall our last email about a young lady who has been delivered from a life of drug abuse. She is now a great witness for the Lord and a trophy of His grace. Late last year I've been spending a lot of time with her former drug dealer. He is a young man that has seen the transformation in this woman and told me, "I want what she got." I told him it's not mine to give. But if you want a new life, you can get it from Jesus Christ. He has come to church several times now and even came to our week day Bible study, but has not been saved yet. He has much baggage in his life but still believes he's a good enough person to go to Heaven. It always amazes me to see the pride of man. Even at his lowest point he can still cling to his self-righteousness, or should I say unrighteousness. Please pray for this young man's salvation and deliverance from the drug world in Toronto. (2Cor. 1:10 *Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us;*)

A real blessing in December was when a family that left the church three years ago returned. The father came to our home unexpected and begged my forgiveness for the things he said about me and our church. I forgave him immediately and told him that he made my Christmas. He has also made amends with others in the church and is getting involved in the street preaching ministry. I praise the Lord for the grace of God in my life and for the Holy Spirit that works to unite the brethren through forgiveness. (Psalm 133:1 *Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!*)

Ruthie and I have been discipling a young couple that we met at the Canadian National Exhibition (C.N.E.) last summer. I baptized them both in February. She is pregnant, so I told her that although the baby went down into the water with her, the baptism doesn't count for the baby – just her! :)

A Ukrainian gentleman (70 years old) that we also met originally at the CNE has shown up at church and has been coming quite regularly. He came forward one Sunday during the invitation and got saved. He did also want to be baptized, yet is reluctant because of health issues. He also is being disciple. Please remember to pray for Peter's health and spiritual growth.

(Matthew 28:19 *Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*)

Another middle age couple are being discipled. The husband came out of a cult called "Raelism". It was founded in 1974 by their leader, Rael. They claim that the population of the earth began from extraterrestrial beings. They have bizarre new age philosophy mixed with the Bible. Their mantra is to "Do as thou wilt." That meme is borrowed from the Satanists. He was 6 years in this cult and it was causing all sorts of problems in his mental and emotional stability which was affecting his marriage. Being troubled, he started searching the internet for preaching and came across a sermon with a sound presentation of the gospel and there, by himself, asked Christ to save him! After getting saved he knew he needed a church and again searched the internet and came across our church. He then contacted me and questioned me on our doctrinal stance (i.e., Eternal security; KJV only; Calvinism) I told him I was a KJV only believer but not a Calvinist. He liked that answer and asked if he could come to church. To shorten the story, he came forward at an invitation and I baptized him last month. His wife is still a professing Catholic yet is happy in the change in her husband. She has been coming to church and has also started joining him in the discipleship classes. Pray for her salvation and for his spiritual growth.

(Matthew 4:16 *The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.*)

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October 2016 Prayer Letter

Dear Pastors and Friends,

Back in the Spring, we baptized one and had 7 join the church. One lady who was baptized was a former Muslim. She made a profession of faith while attending a chapel service at a Christian food bank ministry. We were thrilled to meet her on visitation and challenged her to be baptized and join our local church. The others are another single lady from the Philippines and a dear couple with three boys.

We held a Mother's Day service at an apartment high rise in May. Many of those in attendance were not from our church but lived in the high rise. We had over 80 ladies in attendance. Our guest speaker was former missionary to Mongolia – Beth White. The event was filled with fun and food with a message from God's Word. Our ladies did a few Choir specials and Beth gave a heart-warming and challenging message to the ladies. It was a memorable afternoon. After the service many ladies were being dealt with for salvation and personal counsel. This will be a mainstay to do each year, for sure.

Vanessa, who got saved in our church about a few years ago, has finished her one year stay at the Teen Challenge home for women. There was a graduation ceremony held for her where her mother and son were in attendance. It was very emotional as Vanessa gave her testimony of deliverance from being a crystal meth user. She spoke discretely of how as a young girl she was abused and neglected and turned to drugs. But after coming to Christ she received power to overcome the addiction. She said she also received power to forgive those who've hurt her. Vanessa has now been rejoined with her son and is living with her mom. She is enrolled in college this fall. God has one a great work in repairing her life. She delights in living for the Lord and recently led her 14 year old son to the Christ. Hers is the kind of story that encourages one's heart that "your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

Most of the people in our church are working on getting permanent residence in the Canada. It is a long tedious and expensive process. For example, a faithful family in our church had made application for permanent residency for the mother and was turned down. She is married to a Canadian man and had two children born here in Canada. She then got notice that she was to be deported back to her native country. Our church took up a love offering to help with the cost of an immigration attorney. This brings to mind that Ruthie and I are in the country on a visitor's visa. We are seeking to change our status to a work visa by the end of the year and then after two years we will be eligible to apply for permanent resident status. Please pray for us in this endeavor.

In June we held our annual church camp. We had most all of the church drive 2 hours north of the city and spent 3 days tent camping in Muskoka, Ontario. The weather was perfect except for the last day where we were deluged with rain. I was a bit panicky but everyone else seemed to just bear down and enjoyed it! I'm just a poor city slicker, I guess.

(over)

Within the last couple of months we baptized (7) people and have been having new visitors every Sunday with most returning again the next Sunday! The strange thing about that is that most of these people coming have not been from our visitation efforts. Amidst very cold and snowy weather conditions this winter we have not scaled back our outreach. We have even added a street preaching ministry. We only have a handful of committed faithful soul-winners that come out on Saturday mornings but the Lord is blessing our efforts with new visitors anyway.

In the winter months, we've been going into high rise apartment complexes to share the gospel. In one such high rise complex there are many Muslims and Hindu people. We have been going here for several weeks now. Some of these visits have been 30 to 45 minutes and very intense. One interesting visit I made with one of our men, we were invited into the home by an immigrant family. They asked us to sit at the dining room table and allowed us to share a thorough presentation of the gospel. They were Bengali Muslims and had only been in the country less than a year. The Husband and his wife listened politely yet rejected Jesus as God or dying on the cross. So after a good 40 minutes we decided to close the visit in prayer and to possibly return again. I asked my partner to pray. So he made a very passionate and zealous prayer rehearsing all the gospel points we just shared. With our heads bowed and eyes closed along with our hosts (I assume), my partner added a plea for our Muslim hosts to turn from the demonic religion of Islam and for God to help them see that Mohammad was a pedophile and would be in jail if he was in our country. I wanted to stop him, but then I remembered Stephen's message in Acts chapter 7.

51 ¶ Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.

52 Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:

53 Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.

54 ¶ When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

I thought this is it! "I'm ready to see You, Lord". I expected to look up and see our gracious host with a machete in his hand ready to behead us! But to my surprise our host showed no animosity toward us and agreed that Mohammad had married a 6 year old girl. But he advised us that it could be dangerous for us to say that to some Muslims. I was glad and thankful he was NOT one of those Muslims.

We appreciate your support and ask that you would please pray for the above requests plus:

- 1.) A new meeting location for the church with extra rooms for Sunday school (It's so expensive here!)
- 2.) Ruthie's continued health concerns.
- 3.) Bianchi's Canadian work permit
- 4.) Our landlord Karen, who is a Muslim, salvation.
- 5.) Teachers and workers!
- 6.) Discipleship of new converts

Your fellow laborers and servants in Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,

Jim & Ruthie Bianchi

"Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake." Psalm 115:1

In July we celebrated the church's 10th year Anniversary with a picnic after our Sunday morning service at 2PM. We held it at the same park as we had last year. The park required us to get a permit for church use which we did. But upon arriving at the park we noticed our reserved spot was already being use by another group. Well this became a big delay to our picnic where we had to get security to give this group notice that we had rights to the spot. But after the park security informed the group to leave they refused. They were a strict Muslim group that felt they were there first and they should not be told to move. Long story short, the police were called and after some deliberation the Muslim group moved aside. We were thankful and told them so. After we all got settled with our food stuffs and games, they were still in good ear shot to hear me preach the gospel. Some of their children later played with ours kids and we shared candy and showed good will and gospel tracts too. I believe that although it was rough at first our encounter with this Muslim group was still a good testimony.

The Canadian National Exhibition was held in August. Our church hosted a gospel booth at the "Ex". The name of this ministry is called the Graceway Mission. We use this name instead of our church name in order to include several churches that participate in the staffing and financing of this outreach. We had five different churches help out this year. We passed out over 6,000 tracts, had scores of witnesses and saw 8 people trust Christ as Saviour. These may not be impressive numbers to some, but to me I am pleased with our presentation method. We give the gospel, focusing on the sinners understanding of the points of salvation before hurrying them to pray the sinner's prayer. Please pray for the follow up on many contacts. We have already seen fruit. There have been several individuals and couples who have visited our church since we met them at the CNE. Ruth and I are delighted in discipling a young couple on a weekly basis.

A special thanks goes to a dear family from Old Paths Baptist Church of Holly, New York. Their substantial gift made it possible to be debt free in the booth rental; tracts; and entrance passes for some of our workers. All in all with their gift and the churches involved the total cost of this eighteen day event was \$4,000. I greatly appreciate all the churches who helped us this year with man power and funds. Only in Heaven will we know the impact this had on the kingdom of God.

We appreciate your support and ask that you would please pray for the above requests plus:

- 1.) A new meeting location for the church with extra rooms for Sunday school
- 2.) Ruthie's continued health concerns.
- 3.) Bianchi's Canadian work permit
- 4.) Our landlord Karen, who is a Muslim, salvation.
- 5.) Teachers and workers!

Your fellow laborers and servants in Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,

Jim & Ruthie Bianchi

"Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake." Psalm 115:1



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March 2016 Prayer Letter

Dear Pastors and Friends,

Greetings from Toronto. The Lord is blessing and we are thankful. The Toronto church is running between 50-60 people on any given Sunday now. Friday night Bible study runs between 30-35 people. It is an honor to minister of these sweet people. They have a big heart for the Lord's work which shows in their sacrificial giving. Since our missions conference in January our faith promise has increased to where we are able to take on a few more missionaries to our already 13 missionaries. Glory to God! We also now have a growing number of teens which is a blessing and an important responsibility too, since they are the future of this ministry. We now see the need at this point in our ministry for a church building where we can have rooms to minister to the teens, juniors and nursery children. All we have now are two very small rooms, if you can even call them that. One is a hallway. The other is a break room for the library employees. As you can see this prayer request is essential for our growth.

In February we had a sweet time at our Couples night. There were 12 couples in attendance. With a spiritual charge on Biblical marriage along with an Asian pork rib feast and the "Oldie-wed game"! We all came away with a renewed hope and a refreshed appreciation for our mates and each other. One dear couple that attended has come to several past events yet are not believers. He is Jewish (Ron), married to a catholic woman (Jessie). The woman did make a profession of faith last year at our summer camp, but that's about it. Her husband is very friendly and seems to truly enjoy the fellowship with our people yet is still not saved. After the Couple's night he shared with me how he realizes that he believes more like us than he thought. Please pray for this dear couple to truly know Christ as their Saviour as we continue to love them and share the gospel with them.

In our visitation and witnessing we are encountering many Muslims. We have blitzed a few nearby high rise apartment complexes with 1,300 tracts and invitations to church. Some of our ladies have the best witnesses. One Muslim man asked, "What kind of religion is this?" and the women said, "Christian". Ahmed then said. "My four year old son wants to know about other religions, so because you invited us we will come to your church." Another one of our ladies approached a Muslim mother and son (Mohammed) who also expressed interest in coming to church. They said, "We will come." These simple responses to witnessing may seem trite but it is very, very rare to have a Muslim to even say they would come to church. It is even hard for them to take a tract but this Easter week many were receptive. They haven't come yet, but I hope I can say they came by our next prayer letter. On this same note, our Muslim neighbors next door are moving. We were depressed when we found out. We really love them and were looking forward to the summer where we would again have more contact with them to witness further. Please pray for Ali and his family to get saved.

One of our teen girls who goes to public school invited a fellow student to church in order to get his questions answered about God. He is a 9th grade Chinese young man who has come to church for three Sundays now. I shared a few words with him on Sunday but plan to have a one on one meeting with him in the next few days. It is a blessing to see fruit our teens witnessing.

We appreciate your support and ask that you would please pray for the above requests plus:

- 1) Vanessa completing her drug addiction program & finding an apartment and a job where she will safely grow.
- 2) Ruthie's continued health concerns and progress in regaining full use of her left hand.
- 3) Our landlord Karen, who is a Muslim, salvation.

Your fellow laborers and servants in Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,

Jim & Ruthie Bianchi

"Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake." Psalm 115:1

Sent by: Lighthouse Bible Baptist Church, 48 South Estate Drive, Webster, NY 14580 (585) 545-4025
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November 2015 Prayer Letter

Dear Friends,

I hope this prayer letter finds you all well. In June we had a church camp with 60 people. This was more work than relaxation. But it was “fun” work! Our people had a great spirit of unity and competition in the games we played. One of our members invited a family (non-believers) to join us at camp. This family was included in all our games and services. The greatest blessing was that the mother of this family made a profession of Christ at the end of camp. I am blessed to be working with people who have a desire to witness and see friends saved.

The Bible Baptist Church of Metro Toronto celebrated its’ 9th year anniversary. We had Pastor Doug Wood of Harvesters Baptist Church as our guest speaker. He is a great preacher and challenged our people to love the church! Amen! We had 6 first time visitors in the service. These were folks that were coworkers of some of our members. After the service I had a group discussion with several Chinese immigrants. They were interested to know more about the church and Christianity. I don’t know how much they understood. Much gets lost in the translation. Please pray for these precious visitors as well as the Lord to move the heart of a Chinese man in our church to take up the ministry of translating my English to Chinese.

Ruthie and I had our Canadian visa’s renewed again. This is always a challenging time for us. We have been in Canada for 10 years now and have renewed our visitor visa’s 3 times. At this point the government would normally require us to get a permanent visa instead of a visitor visa. There is a huge cost to getting the permanent visa as well as stiffer requirements. Our end game is to get the permanent visa but there are a few more hoops to jump through before we can acquire one. Please pray for the Lord to help us with these legal issues.

This August we hosted once again a tract table at the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE). We had thirty volunteer helpers, more helpers than any previous year. This made my job so much easier. We passed out over 5,000 gospel tracts along with around 500 Gospel of John and Romans. Our booth was surrounded by other vendors there we had great witnesses with. We had Israeli’s selling health products across the aisle from us. Each of these young people (20 somethings) after the 18 day exhibition became more than acquaintances. It was thrilling to share the gospel using a parallel Hebrew/ English Bible (Tanakh). We also had Muslim scholars come by our booth. One of our workers (Holly, who is a missionary to the Philippines visiting Toronto) spoke to a Muslim man for 20 minutes. His reply was, “You have given me much to think about.” We also had many professions of faith. Praise the Lord. My real surprise was to see a Chinese couple (Suli and Philip) and a single lady (Linda) who I met at the CNE come to church the next week!

On a personal note, this ministry has been, and is a great blessing to Ruthie and me. There is no other place we desire to serve the Lord. We love city of Toronto and the church plant ministry (50 people now) the Lord has allowed us to plant here. The Lord’s calling is to people. Building a church is building up people. In order to do that one must be patient, kind, and gentle, desiring the welfare of the people over one’s self.

“...for I have said before, that ye are in our hearts to die and live with you.” 2Corinthians 7:3

Ruth and I have been addressing some financial difficulties and are looking to reduce our expenses and also generate more income. The Lord has been faithful all in all. We have not, and are not behind in any of our bills. Please pray that the Lord gives us wisdom in all this. Along with our financial issues there are health concerns, a great desire for ministry growth, and spiritual growth in our selves.

Thank you for your faithful and generous support for us and this ministry. Your many prayers are felt and appreciated.

(over)

Sent by: Lighthouse Bible Baptist Church, 48 South Estate Drive, Webster, NY 14580 (585) 545-4025
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Please pray for:

- Vanessa in addiction rehab center
- Jessie for spiritual growth
- Ruthie's progress in regaining full use of her left hand and thyroid condition
- Souls saved through our evangelism efforts
- A permanent place for the church to meet

Your servants in Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,

Jim & Ruthie Bianchi

“Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake.”
Psalm 115:1

Things in Toronto have been changing drastically since our last letter: some good news, some bad. At this point there really is much to share.

I'll simply begin with several families that have joined the Toronto church at Christmas time. This has had a huge affect on our church here. The attendance now is around 50 people every Sunday. These new folks are family to another faithful couple in our church and have been saved for several years. Most were saved in the Philippines or in Hong Kong. They are sweet people and are eager to serve the Lord. Needless to say, this has been a real encouragement to all. We are working to train them for areas of service. Two of these new folks are single ladies that have recently told me they are committing to come out on visitation with us every Saturday.

On the subject of visitation, myself and two other men have been evangelizing through tract distribution in neighborhood areas in proximity of the library we meet at on Sundays. We have had some visitors to church because of this but there is one lady who has been coming faithfully every Sunday. She has made a profession of faith. She comes from a family of Muslims. We are praying that we might reach the whole family some day soon.

We have passed out several thousand tracts on the streets since the weather has been good. There is one street intersection down a ways from our library that we have had much success in tract distribution. There are two mosques in this area and many Muslims readily grab the tracts. It is puzzling why they look so devout to their religion (beard, hijab, etc.) yet are interested in getting a gospel tract. One Muslim man told me he wants to know about all the Christian denominations and what they believe. Another Muslim lady from Bangladesh, who has only been in the country for one year listened intently as I shared with her the reason "why Jesus (Isa) needed to die a Saviours death on the cross for our sins." She wanted to talk more but I felt that she needed to talk to my wife for any further discussion. She gave us her name and number and Ruthie will be contacting her.

Now about Ruthie. Back in February during a youth skating activity she fell and broke her left wrist. Although it has been several months now since the brake, setting of the bone, and cast she still has not regain full use of her wrist. Neither is she able to make a fist or grip anything tightly with her left hand. She has seen a specialist and is having therapy. But it is still possible that further surgery might be needed in order to regain full movement of that hand. This has been a real source of discouragement for her. I have had to take on some added duties because of this. I have been the "chief cook and bottle washer". It truly has been on the job training for me. I guess this is a new stage the Lord has for me in showing my wife I truly love her. (My Prayer: "But Lord doesn't she already know I love her?")

Another blessing has been a lady who we've been trying to help with a crystal meth addiction. She has lost custody of her son and also has been diagnosed with schizophrenia. I have mentioned her in previous prayer letters and her progress has been up and down. Well, last Christmas she was down. She would give in to the call of old friends to party and would get wasted for several days. She had made a profession of faith about a year ago. So I decided that in spite of her weakness to this addiction struggle she still needed to get baptized. I do believe that getting baptized made the difference in her drastic change. She has since quit smoking (10 cigarettes per day), she's been clean from any drugs for 5 months, and after talking to her Psychiatrist has been told she no longer needs the psychotropic medications she was on. We have enrolled her in a Christian Women's Centre north of the city It is run by Teen Challenge. It is a twelve month program and she is loving it. Ruthie and I visited her a week ago and were thrilled to hear her love and devotion for the Lord. We pray she will be used by the Lord in a great way when she finishes this program. We also look forward to her regaining custody of her son.

Things to pray for:

- * Discipleship for new members
- * Our outreach to Muslims
- * Ruthie's progress in regaining full use of her left hand
- * up coming outreach at the Canadian National Exhibition
- * our immigration status to become permanent residents.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and continual support for this ministry.

Brother Jim Bianchi
BMFP missionary to Toronto



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October 2014 Prayer Letter

Dear Friends,

- Church-in-the-Park Sunday (almost):

We planned a Sunday morning service in the park. We secured a park on the outskirts of the city that had a creek that would be perfect for baptisms. The one thing we could not predict was the weather. AND yes, it rained on our Church-in-the-park Sunday – a park with no shelters except the trees. But alas, the day was saved by our people. One of our faithful families invited the whole church (expecting 50 people) to their home for Sunday morning church. It was a quick scramble to get in touch with all our people with the new location for Sunday morning service - but it was done. That Sunday was a huge success. We had 10 first-time visitors, two professions of faith and two baptized. After the rain let up we haul out the baptistery and had a baptism service in the backyard. It was a great day! I was humbled to see that our people were so flexible and committed to our church and also worked to bring visitors. Praise the Lord for the church!
“So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.” Nehemiah 4:6

- Church camp:

In early August we had a church camping outing. Some families were in tents, but most were in cabins. Along with grilling, volleyball, swimming and fishing, we had some good old fashion outdoor preaching and singing too. We had a guest family join our camping group. The father was Jewish and the mother was Catholic. They are sweet people that we spent some special time with sharing the gospel. Please pray for the salvation of the Lieberman family.

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” Psalm 133:1

- Canadian National Exhibition:

Our evangelistic booth at the CNE had some great soul winning help from several churches around the greater Toronto area. We had 20 workers scheduled for this 18 consecutive days event (12 hours/day). The name of the booth was “Graceway Missions”. Our theme banner said: “Are You Good Enough for Heaven?” We made up a flagship tract with the same title and distributed it along with John & Romans. We would share the gospel and then try to listen to what folks believed about their eternal souls. We handed out 5,000 tracts and around 500 John & Romans. We also had at least 8 professions of faith. We were not so concerned to get people to “pray a prayer”, than to have a conversation with them making sure they had a good understanding of their need for a Biblical salvation. This year our booth was located across from a Canadian army display. We had some great talks with these soldiers that we would most likely never have had the opportunity. What I really like about working at this booth is that in a day of many false gospels, it’s a non-threatened venue, with the endorsement from the CNE that gives people a sense of security in listening to our message. Sort of like Paul at Mars hill.

“And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this matterHowbeit certain men clave unto him, and believed.” Acts 17:32-34

(over)

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- Eduardo Gabas funeral:
I had the honor of conducting a funeral service of a gentleman - the father of one of our members. He had made a profession of faith some years back, so it was easy to preach and share the good news. Much of the family came in for the funeral from the US, the Philippines, and the U.K. Those lost family members attending heard a clear presentation of the gospel. The Lord gave me much liberty in the service. It was a bitter yet sweet time.
"Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints." Psalm 116:15
- I need to thank the Grace Baptist Church, Medina, NY for coming up and doing a one day children's outreach in September. Their trained and accomplished teachers did an outdoor presentation in two different locations in our city. These were locations of the most needy in our city. We have been successful in seeing some of these children come to church too. Thank you Grace Baptist Church!
- We have seen some new visitors come on Sunday morning. While the weather is still good, we continue to tract the apartment buildings and follow up with a door step visit with a John & Romans to hand out. One couple and one single lady look like they will be joining the church. Pray that the church is established in love and righteousness.
- Please pray for Vanessa. She has made a profession of faith but desperately needs to go to the Pacific Garden Mission (PGM). I have been encouraging her to enroll in the Women's Bible Program at PGM. It is a 12 month program of strictly Bible teaching and separation or isolation (however you look at it) to transform ladies that have been addicted to alcohol and drugs to live a victorious drug-free life in Christ. Our church is doing all we can do to help her, but she needs to WANT IT! She is clean for a few weeks and then falls again. Please pray that she gets the fear of God in her and does this before it's too late.
"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2Corinthians 5:17
- I want to thank the churches and individuals that contribute to our ministry here in Toronto. I count it a joy to serve the Lord here and as clichéd as it sounds, we couldn't do it without your help. In spite of many challenges here, both Ruthie and I love ministering in Toronto.
One of those challenges are in our declining financial support. We have lost at least \$200/month this year from our supporting churches for varied reasons. I also foresee a future decline in our support in the coming year ahead. Pray that the Lord gives us wisdom with our limited finances and/or an increase in our support. I hate to think of having to temporarily leave the work to raise more support.
"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Philippians 4:11

Please pray for:

- Our permanent residence status in Canada
- Souls saved through our visitation efforts
- A permanent place for the church to meet
- Teachers for Sunday school
- Spiritual growth of our people (Vanessa)
- Ruthie's health

We greatly appreciate your prayers and faithful support.
Your servants in Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,

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June 2014 Prayer Letter

Dear Friends,

In April our men did a backyard tree clean up for an elderly couple that had frequented the church. There was a big storm/blackout last year and people still have downed trees in their backyards that need clearing. It was a great time to show compassion and a good witness. Honestly though, we weren't prepared for the task. We had rakes and a circular saw! Fortunately the homeowner had a chainsaw. All of the men took turns using the chainsaw and circular saw. No Canadian lumberjacks here! This was all new to most of us. The grand finale was felling a 25 foot limb with a monster girth. Whew! We did it *with fear and trembling!* It landed perfectly between the house and fence. We were sooo glad no one was hurt in the process. Praise the Lord!

Also in April, Ruth and I took a trip to NYC for a week to visit our 7 month old grandson, Hudson (oh! And visit our son and daughter-in-law too). It was a blessing to help babysit for Hudson while Joel and Faith were busy with conducting a high school robotics competition. Our absence here provided a good challenge for the Toronto church to exercise their gifts of administration, preaching and teaching. One of our men who feels called to preach took over most of my responsibilities that weekend. This was a great opportunity for him since I am training him in our Bible institute. He and his family joined the church the first part of this year and have been nothing short of a blessing.

Spring has sprung, and finally, since we did have snow in the month of May! The church has been going out regularly on Saturday mornings for visitation. We are trying to hit the several high rise apartments as well as the surrounding residential homes. We also came up with some new lawn signs (5) to post around the neighborhood. We've had three signs stolen so far. So, we are in hostile territory! Although we have had several visitors as a result of our visitation only one has continued to come back again. One senior lady decided the church was not for her because of no one there her age. One couple just came to check us out. The husband was a Church of Canada minister that lived in the neighborhood and was on vacation for that Sunday. He never came back.

We've had a South Korean young man visit our church. He made a profession of faith on visitation and has been coming to church regularly. He is studying English right now and plans to further his college education here. He has trouble understanding much of the teaching and preaching. Please pray for Terry to continue coming and get better understanding of salvation.

A lady that our secretary and I have been working with weekly in a drug rehab style Bible Study, has "fallen off the wagon". I know that it should be expected but she has been in and out of church now for over a month and has been going out with her "friends". I have impressed upon her the seriousness of having good Christian friends instead of the old partying friends. But it seems to fall on deaf ears. Can you help someone who refuses to listen? A willing heart to change and allowing yourself to be held accountable to others is what I have stressed to her. I do think she wants to change, but she does not have the resolve to say bye to the bad influences in her life. Please pray for Vanessa to make a 180 degree about-face on the old life.

Praise the Lord I got a car! Thank you to all who've prayed for us and also those who've helped in the purchase of this vehicle. I purchased a 2007 4 door Honda Accord. It has high mileage but from what I hear there is a lot of life left in this car for many years.
(OVER)

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We had a revival at the Toronto church! It wasn't planned or anything. We just had a guest preacher come the first Sunday in June and challenged our people to holy living and warned of the seduction of the world, the flesh, and the Devil. The congregation was about 30 people in attendance that Sunday morning with one visitor. The tender hearts of our people melted to the straight and direct preaching of the Word of God. At the end of the service, almost all of our people stood up one by one and gave confession of their lack or failure of commitment to the Lord. Most begged forgiveness from the church with tears and sobs. Upon this the church showed their forgiveness by lining up single file to console the penitent sinner with an affectionate hug. We had to extend the service in order to allow everyone the opportunity to publically confess their sin. (sins like: having a complaining spirit; hatred toward others; viewing pornography; being a hypocrite at church, work, and home; you get the picture). This was a catharsis for this small congregation. I was thrilled to witness this revival. There were issues this missionary also needed to settle with the Lord that I had been fighting for some time now. We have already seen the effects of a more regular and punctual attendance on Sunday and a new found unity among our multi-cultural congregation. On the following Sunday there were testimonies of folks who got rid of worldly DVD's in their homes and husbands that apologized to their wives for not being a good Christian example at home or church. Praise the Lord for His answer to our prayers and the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of these precious people.

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. James 5:16

A side note on Ruthie's health: Her doctor says she has metal toxicity in her body and needs to have some serious dental work in removing filling, root canals, etc.. Apparently, this toxicity could be the catalyst for much, if not all of her health problems. Pray for the wisdom needed and provisions in getting this work done.

Please pray for:

- Our permanent residence status in Canada
- Souls saved through our visitation efforts
- Teachers for Sunday school
- Spiritual growth of our people (esp. Terry, Vanessa)
- Revival fires to continue
- Ruthie's health

We greatly appreciate your prayers and faithful support.
Your servants in Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,

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February 2014 Prayer Letter

Dear Friends,

In this letter I will try to give you an update on the last 6 months of the ministry here in Toronto. There is always change here and the delay in not getting a letter out sooner is not due to the fact that things aren't happening up here. It is simply that sometimes it is difficult to share information that is incomplete and have it make sense. Does that make sense?

For starters, the Canadian National Exhibition last August was another great time of eighteen 12 hour days of evangelism at the largest fair in Canada. We had much help from others outside from our Toronto church. Some individuals came from US to help as well. We had around 40 professions of faith and handed out over 7,000 tracts. We have a consistent presence at the CNE now. I am grateful for the opportunity God has given us to be at this booth for over 7 years now. It is a testament to God's persistent love and outreach to the lost souls in Canada. I must say though, we have noticed that each year the attitude of the people has grown colder to the message. One could even say they seem more apathetic this last year than in the past. All in all, we did have many great opportunities to witness to many hungering hearts.

2Timothy 4:3 "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine;"

In September I took our men on a 2 day fishing trip to the Rideau Lakes. We had 15 men and did some serious fishing. At night around the bonfire I shared a few messages on manhood. I find it refreshing for our men to get away and enjoy "men stuff" while fellowshiping with their brethren. A splendid time was had by all.

Psalms 133:1 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Canadian Thanksgiving is in October. We prepared a special postcard with an autumn photo and church info on one side and a thought provoking statement along with a Bible verse on the back. We distributed 2,500 of these around the library where we meet. We are trying to do this kind of literature distribution on a regular basis (holidays) in order to prepare the people in the neighborhood for a personal door step visit. As a result of this distribution we did have 3 separate couples visit our church. That's the good news.

In October, Ruthie and I were able to be in a missions conference at Fundamental Baptist Church, Escondido, Calif. We thoroughly enjoyed the great preaching and fellowship. It was a refreshing time getting to know Pastor Ernie Merritt and his dear wife also. We praise the Lord for their faithfulness in supporting our ministry from its beginning.

Galatians 6:9 "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

November was filled with baby showers and babies born! One family in the church had a baby boy (Gideon Noah) and another couple who've been visiting for 4 month then had a baby boy (Emmanuel). The baby showers were a great opportunity again to share the gospel with the lost friends and relatives that came to our house.

Isaiah 11:6 "...a little child shall lead them."

In December we had to cancel our usual Christmas caroling due to bad weather. But we did get to hold our Christmas and New Year's fellowships. Ruthie and I made a trip to visit our grandkids in Florida also. It was a refreshing time to see these little girls again (Giuliana 3-1/2 yrs. & Gabriella 1-1/2 yrs.) and spend some quality time with Jake and Melissa.

Proverbs 17:6 "Children's children are the crown of old men;"

The month of January was 'missions emphasis month'. We challenged the Toronto church to renew their commitment to world missions. Each Sunday we had preaching on missions and our second service was devoted to just prayer for missions and missionaries. On the last Sunday of the month we invited Pastor James Gugino of Webster, NY to preach our final service. He preached on Mark 14:1-9, "We Can Do Something". This month we also had lady speakers for the women, Mrs. Lillian (Fred) Simpson, Rochester, NY and Yolanda (Romey) Tiamzon, Makati City, Philippines. These ladies are pastor's wives and challenged the ladies to serve the Lord in good times and bad. Sister Yolanda was visiting her daughter here in Toronto (one of our new mothers in November). She returned to the Philippines at the end of January.

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Mrs. Lillian Simpson is the wife of my former pastor (Fred Simpson) who went home to be with the Lord a year ago December. The church committed over \$6,000 for 2014. The church is committed to support 12 missionaries and we'll have a vote to take on one more this year.

1 Corinthians 3:9 "For we are labourers together with God:"

During the month of January we also had some special projects. One was a relief fund for Hurricane victims in the Philippines from last year's "Hurricane Yolanda". The church gave \$835 to this project. The other was a Relief fund for the family of a cancer patient - four year old Katie Herron. Katie is the niece of the security guard that is stationed in the library during our Sunday meetings. We have a good relationship with him and have been praying for his niece's healing. Katie's mother has had to quit work and basically now lives at the hospital while Katie gets intense chemo treatment. The Toronto church raised a gift of \$660 as a small token of our love and concern for this hurting family. We are praying that the Lord not only answers our prayers for Katie's healing but that our witness will be result in the family's salvation as well as the salvation of our security guard.

1 Peter 2:12 "Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles:...they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation."

On a personal note: Ruthie's health has been sustained by prayer, vigilance and a careful diet. We have had to be flexible with our daily schedule and with church activity but we are thankful for the strength and grace the Lord provides at all times. Your continued prayers for her are much appreciated.

2 Corinthians 12:9 "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

Another personal prayer need is for a car. I have known for over a year now with many repairs that I needed to get a newer car but was hesitant because of the cost of purchasing a newer vehicle that I could be assured to last me 4-5 years. I have looked around for less expensive vehicles with higher mileage only to feel more at ease with what I was already driving. Anyway, my 2000 Mercury Sable with 200,000 miles finally died. It was laid to rest in New York State where I bought it 7 years ago. I have been advised by a supporting pastor to send out a clarion call to my supporting churches to help me in this need. Because of international customs I have decided to buy something here in Canada instead of going through the registration hassles I would incur buying in the US. I have \$5000 so far and am looking to buy a vehicle worth \$7-9 thousand dollars. I am not interested in taking out a loan and believe that the Lord will supply the right vehicle at the right price. Please ask the Lord what you or your church can do. It is for the Lord and will be much appreciated.

Philippians 4:19 "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Please pray for:

Our permanent residence status in Canada; Souls saved; Teachers for Sunday school; Spiritual growth of our people; Ruthie's health; a reliable, economical vehicle for city and highway driving in all types of weather! ☺

We greatly appreciate your prayers and faithful support.

Your servants in Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,

Jim & Ruthie Bianchi
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Tract distribution



Unto thee, O God,
do we give thanks,
and thou shalt give thanks
for that thy name is more
thy wondrous works declare.

What are we thankful for?
Who are we thankful to?

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life." John 3:16

**Bible Baptist Church
of Metro Toronto**

Victoria Village Library Auditorium
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bbtoronto@yahoo.ca
(416) 917-2693

Come join us on Sunday 10:30 a.m.



Missions Conference 2014



Nursing Home Ministry 3x a week

Jim and Ruth Bianchi



Toronto, Canada



Sunday School



Jesus loves the little children
All the children of the world



Ruel future preacher



Baby Shower



Emmanuel born Dec 18, 2013



Ruth thankful mom of
Gideon Noah
Born Nov. 27, 2013





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July 2013 Prayer Letter

Dear Friends,

We hope this letter finds you well and serving our Lord and Saviour faithfully. Our Toronto church has had a few redirections recently. The Toronto public library we meet at on Sundays will be under renovation and we must vacate. So we changed our location to another nearby library. This all may work out for the best since it looks like our relocation is to a more residential neighborhood whereas the former was a bit too commercial. We're hoping that it's a more receptive neighborhood for the gospel. We have learned from the past that our disappointments are Gods appointments.

Another redirection was our Bible institute. Our preacher friend who was driving up from the U.S. every other weekend to teach our institute was told by Canadian border patrol officers that in order for him to continue traveling bi-weekly he would need a Canadian visa. Since we were unable to supply him with an invitation letter into the country, our institute has been canceled. Sunday is the only day everyone can all meet together and since I preach 3 times on Sunday already – an added 3hour afternoon institute would not work well for me. So in the fall I am going to try to meet one on one with the men who want training. Please keep it in prayer because preachers must be trained.

A bigger readjustment is that a very involved and loved family left our church after being with us for 3 years. To say they are greatly missed is an understatement. It's hard to bounce back so quickly when you put your heart and soul into people as some of you can understand.

As all of you who are busy with Jesus' business know, you always need a time of encouragement. For us encouragement came in the spring when Ruth and I were invited to a mission conference in Alabama to present our work. We stayed with good friends of ours, Larry and Judy Theros, former missionaries to Greece and Quebec. The services and the fellowship ministered to our hearts and we were smitten with good ole southern hospitality. The Lord didn't stop there. Just recently a couple from Florida who we met on deputation travels came to visit us up here. Their visit to Toronto was a touch of love from heaven. Praise the Lord for the people in our supporting churches who pray and care for missionaries. We need you and appreciate you more than you know.

We started a new tract distribution for special days. For Easter, Ruthie used her photos to make up a postcard and I put a simple message on the back that people were happy to take and keep. With a beautiful flower picture on the front stating "He is Risen", and quoting Romans 10:9, there was a message on the back that posed the question: "If I can get to Heaven by just doing my best and being a good person, then why did Jesus have to die and rise again?", then the answer given is: "No one is **good enough** to get to Heaven. A Holy God demands a perfect Saviour. Jesus' resurrection proves He is the Saviour." We passed out 2,000 of these in the neighborhoods of our church members.

One man in our church went door to door with these in his neighborhood. He gave the postcard to a lady who answered the door, only to find out that her significant other she was living with had passed away the night before. Come to find out, the deceased man's last name was Goodenough! And..."No one is "good enough" to get to heaven. It's sad to say that the message arrived too late for him. (John 14:6)

In July we had 25 people come to our family camp. We held an outdoor service with campers and the campground owner. Except for the mosquitoes and a sweltering heat wave (90's with heat index 108F!! and yes, in Canada), we all had a great time of ministering to one another.

Your servants in Toronto, Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,
Jim & Ruthie Bianchi

Please pray for:

Permanent Residence status in Canada; Teachers for Sunday school; Spiritual growth of our people; Ruthie's health; Upcoming Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) August 16th- September 2nd. We have a booth rented to share the gospel at the largest fair in Canada - where the world meets in one city!

P.S. We are Grandparents again - YeYe and NaiNai (Chinese for Grandfather and Grandmother). Our son Joel and daughter-in-law Faith blessed us with a grandson, Hudson Andrew Bianchi, born in NYC on July 19th, 9 lbs. 11oz. May he be another Hudson Taylor, amen?

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February 2013 Prayer Letter

Dear Friends,

In December, the man of God who led me to the Lord and raised me in the faith, went home to be with our Lord Jesus Christ. Pastor Fred Simpson entered Glory having "kept the faith". His 35 years as pastor of Calvary Bible Baptist Church has seen many saved as well as men and women called into the ministry. Pastor Simpson was admired for his effective yet simple gospel presentations. I was honored to preach his funeral. There were over 500 people in attendance. It was humbling and thrilling to share my admiration and love for my preacher, friend, and pastor. He is missed but heaven is getting sweeter all the time.

"His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant;....enter thou into the joy of thy lord". Matt. 25:23

As we've stated before in our last prayer letter, we moved into a Muslim neighborhood. We know the Lord placed us here for a reason and are excited to see how the Spirit will use us among this group. They are mostly from Afghanistan and Pakistan. The mosque sits right behind our house. This Christmas we took our church caroling from door to door, while we handed out gospel of John and Romans and ornaments our Sunday school kids made. Surprisingly enough they were very receptive to our outreach. It was very cold out and some came and stood outside to listen. Please keep us in prayer to have wisdom and love in reaching these lost people for our Lord. During one of our winter storms I helped one of our neighbors' daughter shovel their driveway and the father came over with a gift and thank you card. He was sincerely thankful and wants to get together when the weather breaks! So slowly but surely doors are opening. Praise the Lord. Pray for my neighbor, Afzel and his family.

"And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Matt. 22:39

Our Christmas service was special with several lost family members and friends in attendance. After the preaching we held a Filipino banquet with roast pig (litson!- the whole pig from snout to tail). It was followed up by a play put on by our Sunday school kids and two families. Ruthie wrote and directed the play. It was called "The Three R's of Christmas". The three R's (Repent - Receive - Rejoice). Not only was the gospel clearly presented again, but it ministered greatly to our kids as they participated in the process of making it. Please pray that what was sown that day will come to fruition. *"Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many day" Eccless. 11:1*

This January, Bible Baptist Church of Metro Toronto held its first missions conference. We have supported missionaries in the past but now we have a strong core where we are able to make a commitment on a monthly basis. Missionary Bruce Cook was our keynote speaker. He did an excellent job challenging us all on loving and serving the Lord. From all the missionaries that have come through our church we picked 13 to put before our church to pray about supporting. Each night of the conference a church family or individual member made a missionary presentation of their choice from the 13. They all did a marvelous job. The Holy Spirit moved in a great way and we were able to take on all 13 missionaries for support! A commitment of \$8,000 was promised for the year. The church is small but I've been impressed with their desire and commitment to world-wide missions.

We have also started a church institute in January for those interested in a more intense and academic level of learning the Scriptures. Missionary Scott Allis with BIO will be assisting us in getting the institute started. I am hoping to raise up preachers, teachers and missionaries through this endeavor.

Please pray for:

Permanent residence status in Canada; Teachers for Sunday school; Spiritual growth of our people; Ruthie's health.

We greatly appreciate your prayers and faithful support.
Your servants in snowy Canada for our Lord Jesus Christ,
Jim & Ruthie Bianchi

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