

“The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.” (Romans 13:12).

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- 1st **Happy New Year!** May God bless, keep, grow, and stretch our faith and our influence for His Kingdom in this coming year. May His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
- 2nd **AGC West Associate Regional Director, Rev. Lorne and Esther Meisner** as Lorne gives leadership to our churches in Manitoba.
- 3rd The **AGC Staff Meeting** taking place today. May our team be guided by His Spirit and strengthened in their ministry roles.
- 4^t The community dinners taking place every Tuesday night at **Calvary Church, Toronto, ON**. *“Pray for the safety of our guests and for spiritual conversations to take place with our 30-plus volunteers from Calvary Church.”*
Rev. Daniel Winter, Senior Pastor
- 5th Our new **AGC Financial Administrator, Samantha Manaloto** as she serves our association in this vital role. Welcome Samantha!
- 6th **AOK Church, Aundek Omni Kaning, ON**. Pray that more people will hear and respond to the gospel message and know the love of Christ.
- 7th **Rev. Rob Cochrane** as he shares God’s Word today with the congregation of **Living Hope Bible Church, Prince Albert SK**.
- We celebrate with the friends and family of **Rev. Paul Lee** on his induction as **English Ministry Pastor** at **Milliken Gospel Church, Markham, ON**.
- 8th Our new **AGC Regional Quebec Director, Rev. Virgil Jones**, and his wife **Toni** as he serves our churches in Quebec. Welcome Virgil!
- 9th The **Canada West Council meetings** taking place today and tomorrow in Saskatoon, SK.
- 10th **AGC West Regional Director, Rev. Rob and Wendy Cochrane** as Rob gives leadership to our Western churches.
- 11 **Pastor Jeff and Alanna Peacock and family (Pastor of Somerset Bible Chapel, Somerset, MB.)** Pray for renewed health and strength for Jeff as he continues to struggle with serious health issues related to cancer.

- 12th **Rev. Dr. Paul and LaFaye Brittain** as Paul ministers in his role as **AGC National Coordinator of Doctrine and Credentials**.
- 13th **AGC President, Rev. Bill and Michele Allan**. May God give Bill wisdom, guidance, and strength as he serves our **AGC** National team and our churches. Bill will be sharing God’s Word tomorrow with the congregation at **Maple Creek Community Church, Dunville, ON**.
- 14th We celebrate the induction of **Andy Tse** as **Youth Pastor** along with, his family, friends, and the congregation of **Peoples Church Markham, ON**.
- We celebrate with the members of **Grace Bible Church, Dauphin, MB** on the induction of their new pastor, **Jarrod Clur**.
- 15th Pastors to fill roles that are vacant in the following **AGC** churches in the East: **Bethel Bible Church, Seaforth, ON, Milliken Gospel Church, Markham, ON, WestVillage Church, Ottawa, ON, Fair Havens Community Church, Beaverton, ON, New Life Christian Assembly, Toronto, ON, Calvary Church, Blind River, ON, Maple Creek Community Church, Dunnville, ON**.
- 16th **Susan Davis, AGC Compassion and Justice Coordinator**, as she serves our Lord. Pray for the sponsorship team at **Ferndale Bible Church, Peterborough, ON** as they walk alongside the Christian family they have sponsored.
- 17th Those who are enduring the hardships of war throughout this world. May God’s will be done.
- 18th The **AGC National Board Meeting** taking place via Zoom today under the direction of **Board Moderator, Rev. Win Bowman**.
- 19th Those who mourn, that they may be comforted.
- 20th **Rev. Bill Allan** as he shares God’s Word tomorrow with the congregation at **Westend Community Church, MacGregor, MB**.
- 21st **AGC East Regional Director, Rev. Dr. Tom and Karen Lambshead** as Tom ministers to our churches throughout Ontario and Nova Scotia. Tom will be sharing God’s Word today with the congregation at **Fair Havens Community Church, Beaverton, ON**.
- 22nd **The Regional Director’s and President’s** planning retreat taking place today through Wednesday in Winnipeg, MB.



- 23rd The **AGC planning committees and staff** who are meeting and planning the details for the **2024 AGC East** and **AGC West Regional Conferences**.
- 24th Church planting projects and for those who serve in missions.
- 25th **The Manitoba Pastor's Café**.
- 26th **AGC East Associate Regional Director, Rev. John and Peggi Garner** as John ministers to our churches and pastors throughout the East.
- 27th **Blainville Church, Quebec** (re-establishment) and **Rockland Church**, as in each case we need a worker/missionary to come along and support each French church project. Pray for the growing Rockland community, the outreach program for the year and the incorporation process.
- 28th We celebrate with **Rev. Jason Duermeyer, his wife Melissa**, family, friends and the congregation at **Grace Community Bible Church, Shawville, QC** on the occasion of his Ordination with the AGC.
- 29th **Alex & Amber Bojórquez (Pastor at Maryfield AGC, Maryfield, SK)**. Their son Leonardo is doing very well. Prayer is always appreciated for the medical decisions to determine the next steps toward surgery for Leo.
- 30th Pastors to fill roles that are vacant in the following **AGC West** churches: **Cornerstone Gospel Church, Mossbank, SK, Biggar Associated Gospel Church, Biggar, SK, Living Hope Bible Church, Prince Albert, SK.**
- 31st **AGC Church Relations Coordinator/Benefits Manager, Susan Page** as she serves our **AGC** staff and our churches.

Children of the Light

We're at the beginning of a brand-new year, but rather than focusing on some stereotypical New Year's theme, let's think instead on the topic of light. "Why this topic?" you may be asking.

Well, it's like this ... we've just come through the celebration of Advent, a time of waiting, followed by Christmas, a time of celebration of the birth of Christ Jesus our Lord, and now we're facing the deep dark days of winter - the time when all the festive lights are taken down, perhaps when we need their bright cheeriness the most.

The poem In the Bleak Midwinter by Christina Rossetti expresses how life can be in Canada during the long winter months. The haunting melody set to the lyrics can send chills down your spine. "Frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone ... snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow..."

*Consider frosty, not in reference to temperature but in terms of the world's indifference to the message of hope that came in the form of the Christ child. Jesus, the light of the world became flesh so that He could illuminate the darkness, and bring warmth to each soul who puts their trust in Him. Jesus is the only true source of light. His Spirit can turn a person's cold indifference into a warm acceptance of His gift, so freely given. Once hearts as hard as iron are softened by the Spirit's gentle prompting, then the darkness vanishes, and **"we are no longer people walking in darkness because the light has dawned"** (Isaiah 9:2). When we receive God's gift of salvation, He fills our hearts with peace, joy, light, and love. Jesus said, **"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life"** (John 8:12).*

*No one wants to live in the shadow of darkness, yet so many do. God promises us something much better, **"for He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves"** (Col. 1: 13). This kingdom is a kingdom of light. Despite the dark days of winter, the chill, or the harshness of this world, we can, as followers of Jesus **"walk in the light as He is in the light and have fellowship one with another"** (1 John 1:7). So, we are to let our lights shine, and sincerely pray that in some small way, we may be that light that draws others to Jesus.*

"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light" (Ephesians 5:9).

Do you have a prayer concern you'd like to submit to share with AGC churches nationwide? If so, e-mail it to the AGC Office at sue@aqcofcanada.com