

He has made everything beautiful in its time. Ecclesiastes 3:11

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- 1st The **Niagara/Burlington/Hamilton area Ministry Leaders Gathering** taking place today at **Redeemer Bible Church, Niagara Falls, ON.**
- 2nd The **GTA Ministry Leaders Gathering** taking place today at **The Campus, Aurora, ON.**
- 3rd **Alex & Amber Bojórquez (Pastor at Maryfield AGC, Maryfield, SK).** Their son **Leonardo** had surgery for the closing of his palate. The initial report is that there is a hole in Leo's palate, and he will need to have surgery again. Please pray for complete healing for Leo and for God to direct the next steps for this family.
- 4th **AGC West Regional Director, Rev. Rob and Wendy Cochrane** as Rob gives leadership to our Western churches.
- 5th We rejoice with the family, friends, and congregation of **Bethel Bible Church, Seaforth, ON** as they celebrate the induction of the new pastor, **Andrew Brown.** Welcome to Andrew, Melodie, and family!
- Rev. Rob Cochrane** as he shares God's Word today with the congregation of **Grace Bible Church, Dauphin, MB.**
- 6th **AGC East Regional Director, Rev. Dr. Tom and Karen Lamshead** as Tom ministers to our churches throughout Ontario and Nova Scotia.
- 7th The **Manitoba Area Pastor's Café** taking place today.
- 8th **AGC Regional Quebec Director, Rev. Virgil Jones,** and his wife **Toni** as he serves our churches in Quebec.
- 9th The **AGC Canada East Council** meeting as well as the **Canada East Conference** planning meeting taking place today.
- 10th **AGC West Associate Regional Director, Rev. Lorne and Esther Meisner** as Lorne gives leadership to our churches in Manitoba.
- 11 **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.

- 12th **Happy Mother's Day!** – We give God thanks for the women who have influenced us or others for Christ.
- Our **Quebec** churches and pastors as they share in the **AGCQ Annual General** meeting over this weekend under the direction of **Rev. Virgil Jones.**
- Rev. Bill Allan** as he shares from God's Word at **Onward Gospel Church, Verdun, QC.**
- Rev. Tom Lamshead** as he shares from God's Word at **Bible Fellowship Church, Sault Ste. Marie, ON.**
- 13th More people to hear and respond to the gospel message and know the love of Christ. **AOK Church, Aundek Omni Kaning, ON.**
- 14th **Calvary Church, St. Catharines, ON** as they partner with a church in Asia Minor, putting on a Cultural Exchange from **June 29 to July 14.** They are sending 8 university-age young adults to work with the believing students. Pray for effective witness of our team and the local believers and that eyes will be opened to the needs of the world.
- 15th Pastors to fill roles in these **AGC** East churches: **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, Peoples Church, Wyoming, ON.**
- 16th **Rev. Dr. Paul and LaFaye Brittain** as Paul ministers in his role as **AGC National Coordinator of Doctrine and Credentials.**
- 17th **AGC Financial Administrator, Samantha Manaloto** as she serves our association in this vital role.
- 18th **Pastor Jeff and Alanna Peacock and family (Pastor of Somerset Bible Chapel, Somerset, MB.)** We are thankful for answered prayers for renewed health and strength for Jeff.
- 19th We rejoice today with the family and friends of **Anna Bowman, (Kid's and Media Director),** along with the congregation at **Grace Church, Newmarket** on the occasion of Anna obtaining her Ministry Certificate in the AGC. Congratulations Anna! **Rev. Bill Allan** will be officiating.
- 20th **Happy Victoria Day.** AGC National office is closed.



- 21st The **AGC Staff Meeting** taking place today. May our team be guided by His Spirit and strengthened in their ministry roles.
- 22nd **AGC East Associate Regional Director, Rev. John and Peggi Garner** as John ministers to our churches and pastors throughout the East.
- 23rd **AGC Board Meeting** taking place today under the direction of **Board Moderator, Win Bowman**.
- 24th **AGC Church Relations Coordinator/Benefits Manager, Susan Page** as she serves our **AGC** staff and our churches.
- 25th 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.**
- 26th **Rev. Rob Cochrane** as he shares God's Word today with the congregation at **Bridgewater Open Bible Church, Bridgewater, NS.**
- Rev. Tom Lambshead** as he shares God's Word today with the congregation at **Ferndale Bible Church, Peterborough, ON.**
- 27th **Susan Davis, AGC Compassion and Justice Coordinator**, as she serves our Lord. Pray for **Philpott Bible Church, Hamilton, ON** as they welcome a refugee family.
- 28th **AGC National Staff** and many others who are travelling to Nova Scotia for the **Canada East Conference**. May God prepare our hearts for a wonderful time of teaching and reconnecting.
- 29th **AGC East Regional Conference, - "Behaving the Gospel"** – please be in prayer for Conference speaker, **Dwayne Cline**.
- 30th **AGC East Regional Conference, - "Behaving the Gospel"** – please be in prayer for all delegates, pastors, ministry leaders and families who are in attendance. Also pray for our host churches, **Bridgewater Open Bible** and **The Peoples Church, Truro, NS.**
- 31st **AGC East Regional Conference, - "Behaving the Gospel"** – pray for safe travels for the many conference delegates, pastors, wives, guest speakers, and **AGC** staff who are travelling home from Nova Scotia.

Beauty Out of Ashes

There comes a time when we all experience change and loss. We get to a stage in life when we pass a mirror and take a quick second look because we don't quite recognize the person in the reflection. Things change and we feel a loss. *"Where did my youth go"*, we might ask, and *"How did it happen so quickly?"* Those who have gone before shared these same life experiences with us, but in our naiveté, we didn't quite believe them. The losses add up and can weigh quite heavily on our hearts. It's all part of living in this fallen broken world. Eventually, each of us enters the season when loved ones pass away and good friends relocate. Add to that, dear ones get diagnosed with cancer or dementia and it's hard to discern which situation to lament at any given time. Yet, God is there in it, and He knows. Yes, ***"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble"*** (Psalm 46:1).

God gives divine blessings even in the hard things. We could call it, *"Beauty Out of Ashes"*. He uses trials to shape and refine us into all that He wants us to be. Even in the bleakest and darkest circumstances, He will make a way. He is doing a new thing! ***"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland"*** (Isaiah 43:19). God will bestow on His own loved ones, ***"a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor"*** (Isaiah 61:3). Yes, there is a beauty that arises from the ashes, nature illustrates this. Even the most devastating destructive forest fire can ultimately bring renewal because out of those ashes, new life will begin.

Beauty Out of Ashes

Loss, sorrow, hardship, disappointment
Nothing is wasted, beauty out of ashes

The oil of gladness, instead of mourning
A garment of praise, not a spirit of despair

Joy out of sorrow, peace out of adversity
The strength of an oak, rooted deep, firm, secure

Sorrowful, yet rejoicing, poor, yet so rich
Having nothing, gaining all, beauty out of ashes

Susan Page, Church Relations Coordinator

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@agcofcanada.com