

Let us pray for one another! As you pray for the requests listed, perhaps you will be inspired to send an e-mail of encouragement to someone.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- 1st Our **AGC National Conference**, with guest speaker **Dr. Rick Reed (Linda)**.
- 2nd Safe travels as our **AGC National Conference** concludes at lunch time today.
- 3rd We rejoice today with **Grace Church, Newmarket, ON** as they celebrate the induction of their **Minister of Youth and Young Adults, Dwayne Copson (Jennifer)**.
- 4th **AGC West Regional Director, Rev. Russ Wilson** will be speaking at **Nipawin Bible College** this week at an event called **Encore**.
- 5th The **AGC Staff Meeting** taking place this morning.
- 6th **AGC President, Rev. Bill Allan (Michele)**. May God give Bill wisdom, discernment and guidance as he gives direction to our **AGC National team**.
- 7th **Waterford Bible Church, Waterford, ON** has a theme verse this year: ***"Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit says the Lord Almighty!"*** (Zechariah 4:6) Their prayer for 2018 is for a great outpouring of God's Spirit. Welcome to **Pastor George and Gayle Closs!**
- 8th Our Hope Project street ministry. Every Thursday we go downtown Hamilton and serve those in need. Please pray for the people we meet. We have met people who are homeless, others who struggle with mental illness and/or addiction. They are loved by God and as a church we want to share the message of the gospel with them.
Garside Bible Church, Hamilton, ON
- 9th **AGC East Regional Director, Dr. Tom Lamshead (Karen)** as he ministers to our churches.
- 10th Those who mourn, the ill, the least, the lonely and the lost. Pray for the family of **Pastor Daniel Winter** and his wife **Wendy** of **Calvary Church, Toronto**, in the recent passing of Wendy's father, Ed Allen.
- 11th **Rev. Russ Wilson (Sue)** in his role as **AGC West Regional Director**.

- 12th That **Rev. Charles-Henri and Lise Côté** will accomplish God's will for their missionary work in Quebec. Also pray that the **Blainville Church** will be blessed with more disciples. **Église Évangélique de Blainville, QC**
- 13th **Pastor Frank Humphrey (Daria) and family** from **Peoples Church in Montreal**. Frank is considerably weaker.
- 14th **AGC Quebec Director, Rev. Del Gibbons (Barb)** as he ministers to our pastors and churches.
- 15th **Rev. Jonathan and Carmi Edralin**, of **Outbound City Church, Mississauga, ON** as they follow God's call to ministry on Manitoulin Island by Sept. 2018. Please pray as we they will be making a trip in May to register the kids for school, connect with friends and prepare for the move.
- 16th **Countryside Community Church, (an AGC Church Plant), Oro-Medonte, ON**, as they continue to impact their community for Christ.
- 17th Our staff at **Fair Havens** under the leadership of **Executive Director Liz Thompson (John)** as we start the busy season at **Fair Havens**.
- 18th Continued wisdom for our leadership and clarity of vision and purpose among our congregation as we begin a time of transition and search for a lead pastor. **Northside Community Church, Kitchener, ON**
- 19th **Rev. Glenn Rider (Bonnie)**, ministering as **AGC National Coordinator of Doctrine and Credentials**.
- 20th The leadership of **Southside Bible Church, Winnipeg, MB** as they explore options for their future.
- 21st Churches preparing for **Day Camps** and **VBS** ministries.
- 22nd **Two Hills Fellowship Chapel, Two Hills, AB**, that our intern, **Caleb Semenyina**, will be led by the Lord as to what to do after his internship is completed at the end of this month.
- 23rd **AGC East Regional Director, Dr. Tom Lamshead (Karen)** as he facilitates a Leadership Development Conference for an international mission agency.



- 24th We rejoice with **Bridletowne Park Church** as they celebrate the induction of **Pastor Adi Caciula (Ana)**.
- 25th **AGC West Associate Director Rev. Lorne Meisner (Esther)** as he ministers to our churches in **Manitoba**. "Pray that I would be attentive to God's Spirit amidst the busyness of this month. The first half of the month includes my attendance at two national conferences." (*Lorne*)
- 26th **Donna** and **Susan** in their roles at **AGC National office**.
- 27th For the **AGC National Team** as they transition together, that God will unite them in the mission and ministry to which they have been called.
- 28th For churches involved in summer mission trips and for missionaries that are able to take furloughs.
- 29th **Delburne Gospel Church, Delburne, AB**, that there will be an increased commitment to Christ in our lives.
- 30th Safe travels for vacationing **AGC** ministry families and staff.

"Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

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

Abide

While working on our AGC Connect Magazine 2018, the message of abiding in Jesus resonated deep within my spirit. The theme rarely left my thoughts as I read and edited the submitted stories.

I kept humming the song, *If You Abide in Me*, a Maranatha Kids tune that my children had repeatedly listened to when they were young. Another tune that kept running through my mind is the much-loved English hymn, *Abide with Me*. The author of the hymn, Henry Francis Lyte, was an Anglican priest and vicar of All Saints Church in Brixham, England. For most of his life he suffered from poor health, including tuberculosis. In 1847, though very ill, he insisted on preaching once more to his congregation. He passed on the lyrics to *Abide with Me* to a dear relative before going home to be with Jesus.

Each verse of this beloved hymn ends with the plea "Abide with me."



Help of the helpless, O abide with me ...
 Come, Friend of sinners, and thus abide with me ...
 Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me ...
 In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Joshua Harris writes, "When we think about what it means to abide in Jesus our temptation is to do a checklist. But abiding isn't a program. Abiding is a relationship. We live in an electronic world and we want to treat this like charging an electronic device. How long do I have to be plugged into God through a quiet time of prayer or reading a book to get the charge I need to then go out and do my thing? But Jesus doesn't say 'I am the power cord, you are the cell phone.' He says, **'I'm the Vine. You're the branch.'** If you want life, there can't be any disconnect. Abiding is living in this constant awareness of total dependence."

If we fully comprehend Jesus' words, **"Apart from Me you can do nothing,"** we gain incredible freedom. The fruit we bear is His fruit. Jesus is the Vine. He is the One and only source of our fruit bearing. He said that **if we abide, we WILL bear much fruit**. That sounds like a promise to me! Think of the wonderful story found in Scripture about Jesus' dear friends, Mary and Martha. What was Jesus' answer to Martha's anxious "performing?" **"Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her"** (Luke 10:41,42). Mary knew how to abide at the feet of Jesus.

As we abide in Him, may we be filled with joy as the fruit of our labours builds God's Kingdom here.