



Church in Regina Newsletter

Meeting Place: 3860 Buckingham Drive E, Regina, SK, Canada S4V 3A1

Psalms 17:6, "I call on You, for You will answer me, O God; Incline Your ear to me; hear my speaking."

Church Address:

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Contact Numbers:

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Meeting Schedule:

Lord's Table Meeting

Lord's Day
10:00AM to 12:00PM

Prayer Meeting

Tuesdays & Wednesdays
Saints Homes
8:00PM to 9:00PM

YP Meeting

Fridays
7:00PM to 9:00PM
Brother Hedrick's Place

Small/Home Meeting

Friday Evening
Saint's Home

Seven Annual Feasts

1. International Chinese-speaking Conference, Anaheim, CA: February 17-19, 2017
2. International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (Spring) Anaheim, CA, USA: Mar 31 to Apr. 2, 2017
3. Memorial Day Conference New York, NY: May 26-29, 2017
4. Summer Training Anaheim, CA: July 3-8, 2017
5. International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (Fall) Leipzig, Germany: October 5-7, 2017
6. Thanksgiving Conference Phoenix AZ: November 23-26, 2017

THE HISTORY OF THE LOCAL CHURCHES (2)

Scripture Reading: 1 Tim. 1:3-7, 19b-20; 4:1-3; 6:3-5, 20-21; 2 Tim. 1:15; 2:16-22; 3:5; 4:3-4, 14-15; Titus 1:10-11, 14; 3:10-11

THE LORD'S PREPARATION OF BROTHER NEE THROUGH SISTER M. E. BARBER

After Brother Nee's conversion, he came in contact with an older sister by the name of **M. E. Barber**. Miss Barber was about sixty years old when Brother Nee met her. She was from England. When she was young, around thirty years old, she was sent by a Methodist mission to Brother Nee's province in China.... She was a person who knew the Lord in a living way, and she was always exercising to learn the lessons of the cross. ... She resigned from her post as a missionary in the Methodist mission.

Brother Nee came in contact with her soon after his conversion, and he received so much help from her. ... Brother Nee was among a group of young brothers and sisters who had just been saved and went to contact Miss Barber. Miss Barber was deep and also very strict. In her strictness she used to rebuke the ones under her perfecting. **Eventually, the only one who still went to see Miss Barber after a period of time was Brother Nee.** Brother Nee told me that whenever he went to her, he was always rebuked. He told me that the more she rebuked him, the more he sent himself to her for her rebuking. He said that he did this because he received the help from her.

Miss Barber went to the Lord in 1929. That was nearly the same year in which Brother Nee finished his writing of The Spiritual Man. Miss Barber, in her will, gave all her things to Brother Nee. Of course, she did not have many personal things, but she willed Brother Nee her Bible with all her notes in it. That was very precious. Later, Brother Nee told me that he was thinking of writing a biography of M. E. Barber, but he could not find the time to do it. It was a real loss to us that Brother Nee never found the time to write such a biography. If he had been able to do this, it would have been a great help to us even today.

It was through M. E. Barber that he received the foundation of his spiritual life. Brother Nee would tell people that it was through a sister that **he got saved**, and it was also through a sister that **he was edified**.

Brother Nee was a marvelous reader and an excellent discernor and selector of the things of Christ for the Christian life and the church life. He himself told me that in his early days of ministry **he gave back one third of his income to the Lord, kept one third for his living, and spent the other third to buy books to read.**

For more details of Brother Nee's life, I would recommend Watchman Nee's Testimony, compiled by Brother K. H. Weigh. This book includes three messages of Brother Nee's own testimony, which he gave in 1936. They cover the first sixteen years of Brother Nee's spiritual life. Brother Weigh was a classmate of Brother Nee's, he was saved through Brother Nee, and he was also a co-worker with Brother Nee. (The History of the Church and the Local Churches)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ▶ Victoria day weekend conference in Richmond on **May 19-22**. Brother Ron Kangas is coming. Registration deadline is going to be tomorrow - May 8.
- ▶ We still would like to get a rough count for the Red Berry Bible Camp, Saskatoon on **May 26-27**. Please let the serving ones know if you are interested in going.
- ▶ We received an invitation for a conference in Edmonton. This will be on **July 21-23, 2017**. Deadline of registration will be on July 9.
- ▶ Our Summer School of Truth (SST) for Grade 7-12 is set on **August 7-12** and the deadline for registration is May 28. The cost is \$385 both for YP and serving ones.
- ▶ For our HWMR - The Direction of the Lord's Move Today, we will combine week 3&4 (the bride) for next week's enjoyment, and week 5&6 (the kingdom) for the following week. And then we will start our next HWMR - The Crystallization Study of Ezekiel on May 22, 2017.

Upcoming Activities:

- ▶ May 14, 2017 - Love Feast
- ▶ May 22, 2017 - Church Pursuit (Experience of Life - msg. 9)
- ▶ May 28, 2017 - Brother's Meeting
- ▶ June 11, 2017 - Love Feast

PRAYER BURDEN

“be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength. Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil.”

1. Lord, all things are subjected under Your feet, and the Head over all things to the church which is **Your Body**. Make us realize that we need You as **our life** to become Your Body, we need You as **our person** to be the new man, and we need You as **our love** to be Your bride.
2. Lord, we thank You for blessing us with the threefold **dispensing**, making us the **many sons**, we become **Your heritage**, and You become **our inheritance**. Cause us to see also that this dispensing work and the **transmitting** of Yourself to the church, Your mystical Body making us Your **masterpiece**.
3. Lord, You are in us and we are in You. Open us to see that we are Your corporate Body, we take You as our **life** in our **moving**, and we take You as our **person** in our **living**. We are members one of another in the **new man** having **one mouth** to speak the same thing glorifying You.
4. Lord, **constitute** us with Your riches, strengthen us with power through the Spirit into our inner man that You may make Your **home in our hearts**, even deep down in our hearts, to settle in our hearts, increase within us, that we may **be filled** with Your **unsearchable riches**.
5. Lord, perfect us to do the **work of the ministry** to build up Your Body, by **prophesying** one by one to speak You forth and to minister You to others in our **speaking** that we may be **developed**, and will grow into a **full-grown man** holding the truth in love that we may grow in everything into You our Head.
6. Lord, thank You for Your grace and truth making us **children of light**, prepare us to be Your bride, **sanctify** us with Your **holy life** and **saturate** us with Your **holy nature**, and **cleanse** us moment by moment by the **washing of the water** in the Word.
7. Please pray for the churches throughout **Canada** and for the **strengthening** of every locality for the spread of the church life and the **establishment** of golden lampstands in many potential cities.
8. Lord, remember the church in **Regina**
 - the shepherding in home meetings
 - the perfecting in our group meetings
 - SST, gaining of young people
 - Sister Berly going to the FTTA
 - Sister Karen migration here in Canada
 - Small/Home meeting in Oxbow

This Weeks’s Pursuit: THE DIRECTION OF THE LORD’S MOVE TODAY (1)

The Intrinsic Building Up of the Organic Body of Christ (2)
The Revelation and Building Up of the Body of Christ in Ephesians
 Scripture Reading: Eph. 1:17; 2:10, 15; 3:16-19; 4:3-6, 11-16; 5:2, 8-9, 26-27; 6:10-13, 17-18

I. Each chapter of the book of Ephesians unveils the mystery of the Body of Christ as the organism of the Triune God from a particular point of view; we must pray for a spirit of wisdom and revelation so that we may see the Body of Christ as the top revelation of the Bible—Eph. 1:17-23; 3:3-5, 9-11.

II. Ephesians 1 reveals that the Body of Christ is the issue of the dispensing of the processed Trinity and the transmitting of the transcending Christ:

The **Father’s dispensing** in His choosing and predestinating issues in His many sons as His house in sanctification. The **Son’s dispensing** in His redeeming and saving issues in the believers as God’s inheritance in transformation. The **Spirit’s dispensing** in His sealing and pledging issues in God as the believers’ inheritance unto their perfection. The transcending **Christ’s transmitting** in His rising and ascending issues in His Body as His expression unto the believers’ consummation.

III. Ephesians 2 reveals that the Body of Christ as the new man is the masterpiece of the Triune God—vv. 10, 15-16:

The Body of Christ as the one new man is **God’s masterpiece**, His poem, created in Himself through His death and resurrection to express His infinite wisdom and divine design. On the cross Christ created the new man in Himself by abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, all the forms or ways of living and worship that divide mankind. The worldly people regard cultural differences as a source of prestige, but in the Body of Christ as the one new man, we have lost this prestige; now our only prestige is Christ and the genuine oneness. In the one new man there is only one person—the all-inclusive Christ; this one new man has one mouth to speak the same thing in one accord.

IV. Ephesians 3 reveals that the Body of Christ is the fullness of the Triune God by our being supplied with the riches of Christ and by Christ’s making His home in our hearts:

God has an economy to **distribute the unsearchable riches of Christ** into our being so that we become His fullness, His expression. Paul prayed to the Father as the source that He would strengthen us through the Spirit as the means into the inner man that Christ, the Son, would move and work to make His home in our hearts, issuing in our becoming the Body of Christ as the fullness of the Triune God. We need to pray daily to be strengthened into our inner man so that the Triune God may carry out His unique work to build Himself in Christ into our hearts for Him to become our intrinsic constitution for the mutual abode of God and man.

V. Ephesians 4 reveals that the Body of Christ is the mingling of the processed Triune God with the regenerated believers and that this one Body is built up by the one ministry:

The one **Spirit**, one **Lord**, and one **God** and **Father** are mingled together with the believers into one entity to be the organic Body of Christ. The oneness of the Body of Christ is the oneness of the Spirit, and the oneness of the Spirit is the Spirit Himself, who is in our spirit; in order to keep the oneness, we must stay in our mingled spirit. The Body of Christ is built up by the one ministry, which perfects us to grow up into Christ, the Head, in all things and to function out from Him in order to supply the Body for its building up in love.

VI. Ephesians 5 reveals that the Body of Christ is composed of the children of light to be the bride of Christ for the satisfaction of Christ:

We were once not only dark but darkness itself because we were one with Satan; **now we are not only the children of light but light itself because we are one with God in the Lord**. The lampstand signifies that the church as the reproduction of the Triune God is a living, golden tree, blossoming with resurrection life as the shining light, which is the fruit of the light for the full expression of the Triune God. As children of light, walking in love and light, we will be prepared to be Christ’s glorious bride by the life-giving Spirit’s sanctifying us, cleansing us by the washing of the water in the word.

VII. Ephesians 6 reveals that the Body of Christ is the corporate warrior of the Triune God for the defeating of God’s enemy:

Spiritual warfare is not an individual matter but a matter of the Body; the church as the Body is a corporate warrior, and only the corporate warrior can wear the whole armor of God. All warfare has its source in the conflict between Satan’s will and God’s will; we must have our will subdued and transformed by Christ through sufferings so that it is submitted to the headship of Christ to choose God’s will and to be rich in the defending power of Christ in resurrection. **Prayer is the unique, crucial, and vital means by which we apply the whole armor of God, making every item of the armor of God available to us**. We fight the spiritual warfare by being empowered in the Lord, God the Son, putting on the whole armor of God, the Father, and wielding the sword of the Spirit; this is our experience and enjoyment of the Triune God even in spiritual warfare.

WEEK	LORD’S TABLE MEETING	PRAYER MEETING	YP MEETING	HOME MEETING	OFFERING
April 23 - April 29, 2017	21	10	10	11	\$120.00
April 30 - May 06, 2017	24	9	10	8	\$

“One Life-Study a Day Makes One Holy”

LIFE-STUDY OF EPHESIANS

May 1, 2017, Monday

Message Seventy-Nine – **FIVE ASPECTS OF CHRIST**

Ephesians 5:25 says that Christ “*loved the church and gave Himself up for her.*” This verse indicates that **Christ is a church-loving Christ**. Galatians 2:20 says that Christ loved me and gave Himself for me. Although Christians pay attention to this verse, they may not also pay attention to Ephesians 5:25, where we are told that Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for the church.

In 2:15 and 16 we see that **Christ is also the new-man-creating Christ**. For centuries, Christians have spoken about Christ’s death on the cross without seeing the consummate point that He died for the creation of the new man. He abolished in His flesh the ordinances in order to create in Himself one new man. The cross is not only for salvation, release, and victory; it is also for the creation of the new man. The creation of the new man required that all ordinances be abolished. Praise the Lord that He is the new-man-creating Christ! By abolishing the ordinances on the cross, He has created the Jews and the Gentiles into one new man.

In 1:20-23 we see that **Christ is also the all-things-heading-up Christ**. God has seated Him at His right hand in the heavenlies and has subjected all things under His feet. Furthermore, Christ has been made Head over all things to the church. The headship over all things has been given to Christ as a gift from God.

Chapter four reveals that **Christ is the gift-making and gift-giving Christ** (4:7-8, 11-12). Because Christ is the Head over all things to the church, He is able to make gifts and to present them to the church. Ephesians 1:22 says that Christ is the Head over all things *to* the church. The little word *to* is crucial. It implies transmission. Whatever Christ, the Head, attained and obtained is transmitted to the church, His Body. In this transmission the church shares with Christ in all His attainments. Because all that Christ is and has is transmitted to the church, He is able to constitute us as gifts to the Body.

Finally, as 3:17 reveals, **Christ is the home-making Christ**. He is no longer homeless, for He is making His home in our hearts. The more Christ settles down in our hearts, the more He can boast to Satan that He has a home in His believers.

May 2, 2017, Tuesday

Mmessage Eighty – **PUTTING ON THE NEW MAN BY GROWING UP INTO CHRIST**

Simply having Christ as life does not produce the church life. **In order to have the proper church life, we must take Christ as our person**. Remember that the church is the new man as well as the Body. As the new man, the church needs Christ as the person. The main problem is not with the life, but with the person. There is no need to adjust the life, but there is the need for a change of person. Our mind, emotion, and will all need to be adjusted. With the church life, the problem is not only with our taking Christ as life; it is also with our taking Christ as our person. Very few saints take Christ as their person in an adequate way. To have Christ as our person is deeper, higher, and fuller than to have Him as our life. In Ephesians 3 Paul did not pray that the saints would have Christ as life. He prayed that they would take Him as their person by allowing Him to make His home in their hearts. This is our need today.

The church life is not a matter of good character or good works. It is altogether a matter of growth into Christ in particular things. By growing day by day in Christ, we gradually put off the old social life and put on the church the new man as the new community life. As we grow, we take Christ both as our life and as our person. Growth depends upon Christ making His home in our hearts. If we do not give Christ the opportunity to make His home in us, we can neither take Him as our person nor have the genuine growth in Christ. We grow in Christ only by taking Him as our person. The more we take Christ as our person, the more we grow up into Christ in particular things. The result is that we put on more of the church life.

May 3, 2017, Wednesday

Message Eighty-One – **THE CHURCH—THE EXPRESSION OF CHRIST**

The church is the expression of Christ. It is not the expression of such things as doctrine, gifts, or power. Nevertheless, subconsciously or unconsciously, many think that the church should be characterized by the manifestation of spiritual gifts. Some believe that whenever Christians meet together there should be the exercise and demonstration of the so-called charismatic gifts of the Holy Spirit. However, the book of Ephesians, a book on the church, does not mention this kind of gift. There is not a word in this Epistle about speaking in tongues or healing. When Paul speaks of gifts in Ephesians 4, he is referring to persons who are made gifts to the Body. For example, the apostles, prophets, evangelists, and shepherds and teachers are gifts. As we have pointed out elsewhere, every member of the Body is a gift to the church. Hence, in Ephesians a gift is not what we have or what we do; it is what we are. To be such a gift is to be constituted with Christ as life. This causes our very being to become a gift to the Body.

As Christians who live by Christ, whenever we come together we should follow the indwelling Spirit to express Christ. There is no need to have a set way in the meetings. The Spirit knows how to express Christ. In each meeting we should simply open to Him and follow Him. It is not always necessary to open the meeting with a hymn. Perhaps someone will stand and offer living praises to God. We should not come to the meeting according to our concept, for it is too much under the influence of religious tradition. However, if we would express Christ in the meeting, we need to experience Him in our daily life. Some have very little of Christ with which to function and to minister because they have little experience of Him. Hence, they are “pew members.” In the meetings of the recovered church life, the saints who live by Christ need to express Christ in a living way. Only the Spirit knows the way to do this.

May 4, 2017, Thursday**Message Eighty-Two - THE CHURCH—THE OVERFLOW OF CHRIST**

We have pointed out that the church is the overflow of Christ. In order to be in reality the overflow of Christ, we need to be transformed. Second Corinthians 3:18 says that as we behold and reflect the glory of the Lord with an unveiled face, we are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory. Yes, the saints still have their shortcomings and failures, but they are nonetheless undergoing the process of transformation. The more we are transformed, the more we become the overflow of Christ.

John 1:16 says, “*For of His fullness we all received, and grace upon grace.*” What is important is not that we merely learn about Christ or that we imitate Christ, but that we receive of His fullness. Christ is so rich that He has an overflow called the fullness. Of this fullness we may all receive grace upon grace. If we daily receive of His fullness, we shall eventually become His fullness, for we shall be constituted according to what we have received. This means that the more we receive of His fullness, the more we shall be constituted of His fullness and become His fullness. If we see this, we shall say, “Lord, save me from anything that is not Your fullness. Lord, I am willing to pay any price to enjoy You and to partake of Your fullness.” May the Lord be merciful to us that we may daily experience Him and enjoy Him and thereby become the church that is His very fullness, His overflow.

May 5, 2017, Friday**Message Eighty-Three - EXPERIENCING THE RICHES OF CHRIST**

Ephesians 3:8 speaks of the unsearchable riches of Christ, and 3:17, of Christ making His home in our hearts. This indicates that the very Christ who is making His home in us is the Christ with the unsearchable riches. The unsearchable riches of Christ are for our enjoyment. Day by day and even hour by hour we need to enjoy these marvelous, wonderful, immeasurable, unlimited, and all-inclusive riches.

Romans 10:12 gives us a clue as to how we may enjoy the unsearchable riches of Christ. In this verse Paul says, “*The same Lord of all is rich to all who call upon Him.*” The riches of Christ should not just be studied—they should be enjoyed. We do not enjoy them by meditating upon them. To meditate is to exercise the mind. In the New Testament we are not told to meditate. (The use of the word meditate by the King James Version in 1 Timothy 4:15 is not an accurate translation; the Greek word is better rendered “attend to.”) If we desire to experience the riches of Christ, we should call on the name of the Lord Jesus. Many of us can testify that such calling is much sweeter and more enjoyable than meditating. The more we call on the name of the Lord Jesus, the more we taste His sweetness.

If we all experience and enjoy the riches of Christ, we shall have much to speak concerning Christ whenever we come together. As we fellowship with others in the Lord, we shall speak of what Christ is to us. We shall not speak about doctrine or gifts, but about the genuine experience of Christ and the real enjoyment of the riches of Christ. The more the riches of Christ are dispensed into us, the more we shall be sanctified and metabolically transformed. As a new element discharges the old element, we shall be nourished, cherished, and, eventually, glorified. The **goal of the Lord in His recovery** is to bring His people into this experience. After the time of Paul, the enjoyment of the unsearchable riches of Christ was lost to a large extent. Praise the Lord that this experience is being recovered!

May 6, 2017, Saturday**Message - Eighty-Four - OVERFLOWING TO SPEAK**

Christians must be a speaking people. We should not be dumb, or silent, for the God we worship is the speaking God. Idols, on the contrary, do not speak; they are dumb. In 1 Corinthians 12:2 Paul mentions “dumb idols.” Because idols cannot speak, those who worship idols are also dumb. A dumb god needs dumb worshippers. If you visit a country where there is the practice of idol worship, you can see that idol worshippers worship their gods in a dumb way. But our God is not dumb; He is the speaking God. Therefore, those who worship Him must also speak. However, many who attend the so-called services in Christianity do not speak. Instead, they worship the Lord in a dumb way. What is our situation in the meetings of the church? Are we silent, or are we bubbling over with words about the Christ we have experienced in our daily life? In the meetings we should praise the Lord and speak of what He is to us in our experience.

The way to be spiritual is to speak for the Lord and concerning the Lord. The more we speak, the more we shall be filled in our spirit. However, if we remain silent, we shall find that we cannot be filled in spirit. In our daily living we need to be those who speak. We can speak concerning the Lord even when we are alone. If you speak in this way day by day, you will see that it produces in you a genuine spirituality and that it causes you to be filled in your spirit. When we have no other person to whom to speak, we can speak to our pets or even to inanimate objects. For example, you may say to a flower, “Little flower, you are very pretty. But your beauty is vanity. The real beauty is the Lord Jesus Christ.” How important it is that we all learn to speak!

May the Lord be merciful to us in the church life that we may contact Him day by day and live according to the index of His inner being. If we live by Christ, we shall be filled in our spirit unto all the fullness of God. Then spontaneously we shall overflow by speaking for the Lord. Through this kind of speaking we shall offer Christ to God and share Him with one another. **Meetings that are filled with this speaking of Christ will be the expression of the living Christ.** In principle, this is the proper way to have the church meetings.