



BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION - Jan., 2005

I CHOOSE LOVE...

No occasion justifies hatred; No injustice warrants bitterness.

I choose LOVE. Today I will love God and what God loves.

Max Lucado

'WHO CARES ABOUT LOVE?'

by Win Arn, Carroll Nyquist &
Charles Arn

*How to bring together the Great Commission
and the Great Commandment*

To love, and to be loved...that is the challenge! Some people and some churches learn the secrets of love and live truly satisfying and fulfilling lives. Some search for and occasionally find love. Some live and die without ever experiencing the true meaning of love.

1. Love is the key to a fulfilled life.

Do you believe that? When all else fails, when other seemingly important things are gone...what remains and what ultimately affects lives...is **love**. Could anything, then, be more important than learning to love? Love--receiving it, and giving it--is the secret to unlocking and experiencing life at its very fullest

2. Love Can Be Learned.

Behind this assumption is our conviction that both individuals and churches can increase their ability to love. Learning to love can be one of the greatest and most difficult challenges of your life. But with the greatest challenges come the greatest rewards.

3. Christ wants us to love.

Jesus instructed his followers again and again..."Love one another," Love your neighbour as yourself," Love your enemies," Greater love has no one than one lay down his life for his friends," "My command is this: love each other as I have loved you...your are my friends if you do what I command...this is my command: love each other.

4. The source of love is God.

"God is love"...and as people are directly in touch with the Author and Creator of love, they are enabled...empowered... to be more effective in loving. This link with the Source becomes the extra "plus" for practicing the power of love.

**Loving God--like loving one another,
is first, last, and always our decision.**

'Who Cares About Love Seminar'

Before Christmas, I talked to Charles Arn about coming to Calgary to do a one day seminar on 'Who Cares About Love?' and one day possibly, on Church Growth.

Charles Arn is Vice-President of Church Growth and has directed the research and development of many of the most effective church growth resources available today and with his father Win Arn and Carroll Nyquist co-authored the book 'Who Cares About Love?'

Assumptions About Love in the Church

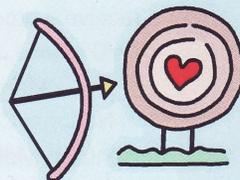
Church leaders that are seeking to lead their congregations toward more intentional and effective loving, should decide if they agree...

- ♥ Churches should make love a priority.
- ♥ Churches should be communities of love.
- ♥ Churches become more loving when their members become more loving.
- ♥ Loving Churches are growing Churches.
- ♥ Love is the means of fulfilling the Great Commission.

Without love, the Great Commission "to make disciples" is the great omission. Unless love is shared with non-disciples, it becomes selfish, and stops being love at all. The goal is to make disciples. The motivation is love...the message is love...the method is love.

Our lives, and our churches, can become the "love oases" which people are attracted to, and so desperately need because of the "love famine" that surrounds us.

**Love...delivered from God through
you...to others...is the answer.**



Everything We Do

We may not always realize that everything we do, affects not only our lives but touches others too. A single happy smile can always brighten up the day, for anyone who happens to be passing by your way. And a little bit of sunshine for both of you to share.

Yes, every time you offer someone a helping hand, every time you show a friend you understand. Every time you have a kind and gentle word to give, you help someone to find beauty in this precious life we live. For happiness brings happiness and loving ways bring love, and giving is the treasure that contentment is made of.

Author Unknown

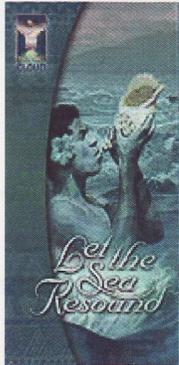
If your church would like to hear more on becoming a partner in bringing Charles Arn to Calgary to hold a seminar on "Who Cares About Love" and "Church Growth" please call me today at 263-5683 (LOVE)

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not Love, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains and have not Love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not Love, it profiteth me nothing. 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

As Christians we are called to stand for truth, righteousness, and justice. Others may disagree with our view, but we must take our stand regardless. God has given us a standard of righteousness, and we are the bearers of that standard. To be sure, others have a right to make their case, but so do we. In fact, we must!

Let the Sea Resound



In an earlier, but not so distant nation of Fiji groaned of superstition of stral spirits mising manding their was quent. Fuelled greed, violent warriors ds.

Today's Fiji bears no resemblance to its former self.

This 79-minute documentary covers the astonishing revival that is currently sweeping through the nation of Fiji. It is a moving and instructive testament of unprecedented Christian unity, contemporary signs and wonders, rapid church growth and genuine socio-political transformation. The breath of God has revived even the land and the sea.

Please consider a showing of this video in your church. It will be a life changing presentation. Please call for more details.

City Wide Prayer Rally

Why Should We Pray Together? The most authoritative prayer available to the body of Christ is unified prayer. Many miracles in the Bible occurred when God's people prayed together. Look at the miracle of deliverance in the book of Daniel: Nebuchadnezzar had threatened to kill the wise men (astrologers) if they did not tell him what he had dreamed and the meaning of his dream. In desperation, when Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah (Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego) prayed together (Daniel 2:17-19), God revealed both the dream and its meaning to Daniel. Please join for unified prayer at:

**Dalhousie Mennonite Church
January 21st, @ 7:00 PM**

The Micah Challenge

The **MICAH Challenge** is a global campaign of the World Evangelical Alliance and the Micah Network, and is offered as a gift to the world Christian community.

The World Evangelical Alliance (WEA), www.worldevangelical.org, was founded in 1951, and now embraces about 3 million local churches in 121 countries.

The Micah Network, www.micahnetwork.org, brings together more than 250 evangelical Christian organizations providing relief, development and justice ministries throughout the world, as a network of support to practitioners. The Micah Network's first International Consultation, in Oxford in 2001, developed the Declaration on Integral Mission which sets out the Biblical basis for the MICAH Challenge.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- ♥ Sign the MICAH Call
- ♥ Tell others about MICAH Challenge and encourage them to sign the MICAH Call
- ♥ Get informed - find out what your church is doing to support individuals and organizations working to reduce poverty
- ♥ Regularly check the Canadian National Campaign page on the MICAH Challenge website for events and activities and other ways you can work for and with the poor
- ♥ Pray regularly for the success of the campaign and about how you can be involved.



MICAH Challenge provides an opportunity for all Christians across Canada to respond to the poor.

For more information or to receive a brochure and CD/DVD please contact:

Marg Pollon
National Contact for
Church Mobilization
Micah Challenge

The Micah Call

This is a moment in history of unique potential, when the stated intentions of world leaders echo something of the mind of the Biblical prophets and the teachings of Jesus concerning the poor, and when we have the means to dramatically reduce poverty.

We commit ourselves, as followers of Jesus, to work together for the holistic transformation of our communities, to pursue justice, be passionate about mercy and to walk humbly with God. (Micah 6:8)

We call on international and national decision-makers of both rich and poor nations, to fulfil their public promise to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and so halve absolute global poverty by 2015.

We call on Christians everywhere to be agents of hope for and with the poor, and to work with others to hold our national and global leaders accountable in securing a more just and merciful world.

More information and sign-on at:

www.micahchallenge.ca
info@micahchallenge.ca

BRIDGES OF LOVE

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MOBILIZING CHRISTIANS TO DEMONSTRATE GOD'S LOVE



BRIDGES OF LOVE



IS ACTION - Feb., 2005

Peace

I CHOOSE PEACE...

I will live forgiven. I will forgive so that I may live.

Max Lucado

Peace

Reconciliation:

Seeking Restored Relationships

by Don Posterski

God the Reconciler

Our human nature makes us distrust God and alienates us from God in many ways--yet God keeps seeking reconciliation.

The divine vision for reconciliation reveals the patience and persistence of God. God's identity as the ultimate Reconciler can be seen in God's unrelenting pursuit of women and men as friends to be loved and in God's steadfast refusal to be ignored.

We can so easily be lured away from friendship with God and become trapped in multiple expressions of alienation. Tragically, the greater our distance from God and God's will and ways, the greater is the danger of our fracturing all other relationships and descending into worlds of darkness and disintegration.

The teachings of Jesus sometimes seem so idealistic that in human terms they appear to be impossible to put into practice. The directive to love your enemies is just one example.

The only possibility for followers of Jesus is to live out the vision that God has for all the peoples of the earth. God's action is clear: God pursues us relentlessly. God still invites us into friendship. The essence of the kingdom of God is the rebuilding of what has been broken. The nature of the love of God is to unite former enemies and to reconcile their differences.

Of course, the command to love our enemies is beyond our natural grasp and human capacity. It is only through the love of God, the grace of God's Son and the power of God's Spirit that such a breathtaking and impossible ambition can become a reality.

In our confession and repentance, we come to the Lord not to receive forgiveness--that was accomplished at Calvary -- but rather to once again fellowship with Him and delight in each other.

When Forgiveness Seems Impossible

by Tim Jackson

What comes to mind when we think of the word forgiveness? Forgetting? No more pain? No more anger? Letting bygones by bygones? Letting someone off the hook? Unfairness? Injustice?

Many believe that forgiveness requires us to unconditionally release others from past wrongs. They assume that we have to forgive in order to love. Others have adopted the "I forgive you for my own sake" attitude that advocates forgiveness as a means of releasing ourselves from the cancer of bitterness and the fire of anger.

I believe that the Scriptures teach that whether or not we should forgive depends on our answer to the question, "What does Christlike love require?" The answer, in turn, depends on the circumstances in which we are asking the question. Sometimes love requires us to say, "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they do" (Lk. 23:34). Sometimes love requires us to forgive again and again (Mt. 18:21-22). And sometimes love requires us to withhold forgiveness for the sake of the one who has harmed us. (Lk. 17:3-4)

The Cost of Forgiveness

A high price is required from both sides involved in the forgiving process. The prime example of the high cost of forgiveness was what God paid to extend forgiveness to each of us--He punished His Son for our offense. The Just One was executed for the unjust (1 Pet. 3:18)

For the offended, the cost is relinquishing the demand to seek revenge now (Rom. 12:17-21), canceling the debt owed, and seeking the restoration of the repentant person.

For the offender, the cost involves humble confession and repentance, refusal to hide what one did, taking ownership for what was done, accepting full responsibility for one's actions and the consequences of those actions, making restitution where possible, refusal to make excuses and brokenness that pleads for mercy and receives grace with gratefulness.

While the cost of forgiveness is high for both the offended and the offender, the price is well worth the joy of restoration and the release that comes because of the renewed relationships.

The Act of Confession

The Lord said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites: 'When a man or woman wrongs another in any way and so is unfaithful to the Lord, that person is guilty and must confess the sin he has committed. He must make full restitution for his wrong...'" (Num. 5:5-7)

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God and ask His forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Response: Forgive us, O Lord.

Leader: We confess that in our past relations we have not always worked together as we ought; we have sometimes withheld the help and praise do to others, and have not treated each other with pure motives and right intentions which would please You.

Response: Forgive us, O Lord.

Leader: We confess that all too often we were preoccupied with our own right and advantages and too little concerned the the needs and welfare of others, and we lacked the zeal and courage to advocate and strive for justice freedom and peace.

Unison: Forgive us, O Lord, as we forgive those who have wronged us. Forgive us the wrong we have done and the good we have left undone; we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

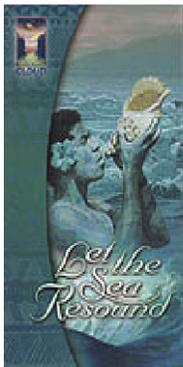
Amen

These were the words spoken at a recent Reconciliation Service at Hawkwood Baptist Church. I applaud their humility and commitment in obedience to follow Christ.

In a world of unequal distribution of personal, corporate and national wealth, the gospel of Jesus Christ compels his followers to step in the gap between rich and poor with acts of generosity and justice.

"But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" Amos 5:24

Let the Sea Resound



In an earlier, but not so distant age, the nation of Fiji groaned under the weight of superstition and sorcery; ancestral spirits roamed freely promising abundance, and demanding their due; tribal fighting was gruesome and frequent. Fuelled by revenge and greed, violent warriors depopulated entire villages—even islands.

Today's Fiji bears no resemblance to its former self.

This 79-minute documentary covers the astonishing revival that is currently sweeping through the nation of Fiji. It is a moving and instructive testament of unprecedented Christian unity, contemporary signs and wonders, rapid church growth and genuine socio-political transformation. The breath of God has revived even the land and the sea.

Please consider a showing of this video in your church. Hearts are touched and healed.
Please call to arrange a time.

Who Cares About Love?

Is the love we sing of in our hymns and speak of in our sermons only a mirage that vanishes when the thirsty come to drink? Or, is it a tangible love that grows purer, richer, and deeper, the more we drink from its Source?

We can be God's love oasis in the midst of this love famine. Learn the principles of love. Then begin to apply them right where you are--in your family, on your job, in your church, at your club, with your neighbours. When you do, you will find a **joy** comes with it of miraculous dimensions...for others and for yourself. You will see changes in the people around you, as well as changes in yourselves. Your relationships with family members, work associates, church members and visitors, friends and neighbours will blossom and grow...because you have become God's instrument--his oasis of love--for them.

Please call for more information on holding a "Who Cares About Love" Seminar in your church.



Bridge Builders

Jason Reister, one of the founding members of METRO Church shares a Christmas story that will touch your heart.

Each Christmas season, a group from our Church deliver hams, breads and information about the services, to those in our community, who are hungry.

At one particular house, myself and two kids rang the doorbell and got no response. We waited a minute and rang the bell again and knocked on the door. After a little while, we heard movement inside the house and decided to wait longer. A couple in their late 30's answered the door.

I proceeded to give my rehearsed spiel (altered if necessary, to fit the circumstance) about our church and why we were on their door step.

I said, "Hi, my name is Jason, and I belong to METRO Church. Every year we go out into the community and give out big hams and a couple loaves of bread to show God's love in a practical way. Would you like a ham?"

At this point, the couple were already taken back and were showing on their faces a look of disbelief. After a blank stare from the duo, a few seconds later, I saw a tear form in the eye of the woman. Then two...She tried to say something, but was visibly stricken, and she couldn't form any understandable verbage. The man stepped in, and with a broken voice started to thank us. He continued with the fact that they didn't know what they were going to do.

The woman contained herself, leaned in to me and gave me a hug. The hug wasn't a - nice to see you hug - it was a thank you for saving my life hug!

They really didn't know what they were going to do.

Before we left, I had the opportunity to share with them, the 'reason for the season'. I told them that Jesus loves us all, and that through the likes of a plumber and a couple of kids, He can bless the average joe in the city, fill their bellies, and tell them what Christmas is really all about.

When the emotion subsided, one sentence came out of her mouth that blessed me the most. "Y'know...there's enough here to invite my neighbours over for dinner!"

These people were touched to their innermost beings and they felt so very blessed that they wanted to share this miracle from God with others.

This story is true and it is not uncommon when God is working through His Agents of hope. Thank you Jason and METRO Church for sharing your heart and passion with others, who experienced a special touch of God's Love. Keep building those

Bridges of Love...

Celebration 2005

Ignite the Light

Spark a spiritual renewal across Canada. Join Celebration 2005 as churches pray and work together to celebrate the love of God by sharing it through creative and expressive acts in local communities.

Your church decides what activity best suits your own community and local fellowship. Maybe that's a community service, a picnic, a drama, a festival or something else. By scheduling the activities for May 21st - June 12, 2005, a chain reaction of God's love can be set off across the county.

www.celebration2005.ca

A Concert of Prayer

Saturday February 19th, 2005
7:00 PM at First Baptist Church,
1311 - 4th St. SW

You are invited to participate in this city-wide Concert of Prayer with people who long to see an out-pouring of God's Spirit in this area.

Admission is free (no registration)

Don't miss this opportunity to join with Christians in united, effective prayer with...

Dr. TV Thomas
Centre for Evangelism
and World Mission

BRIDGES OF LOVE

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BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION - March, 2005

Love is Something You Do

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength"

INSTALLING LOVE

Tech Support: Yes, ... how can I help you?

Customer: Well, after much consideration, I've decided to install Love. Can you guide me through the process?

Tech Support: Yes. I can help you. Are you ready to proceed?

Customer: Well, I'm not very technical, but I think I'm ready. What do I do first?

Tech Support: The first step is to open your Heart. Have you located your Heart?

Customer: Yes, but there are several other programs running now. Is it okay to install Love while they are running?

Tech Support: What programs are running?

Customer: Let's see, I have Past Hurt, Low Self-Esteem, Grudge and Resentment running right now.

Tech Support: No problem, Love will gradually erase Past Hurt from your current operating system. It may remain in your permanent memory but it will no longer disrupt other programs. Love will eventually override Low Self-Esteem with a module of its own called High Self-Esteem. However, you have to completely turn off Grudge and Resentment. Those programs prevent Love from being properly installed. Can you turn those off?

Customer: I don't know how to turn them off. Can you tell me how?

Tech Support: With pleasure. Go to your start menu and invoke Forgiveness. Do this as many times as necessary until Grudge and Resentment have been completely erased.

Customer: Okay, done! Love has started installing itself. Is that normal?

Tech Support: Yes, but remember that you have only the base program. You need to begin connecting to other Hearts in order to get the upgrades.

Customer: Oops! I have an error message already. It says, "Error - Program not run on external components ." What should I do?

Tech Support: Don't worry. It means that the Love program is set up to run on Internal Hearts, but has not yet been run on your Heart. In non-technical terms, it simply means you have to Love yourself before you can Love others.

Customer: So, what should I do?

Tech Support: Pull down Self-Acceptance; then click on the following files: Forgive-Yourself; Realize Your Worth; and Acknowledge your Limitations.

Customer: Okay, done.

Tech Support: Now, copy them to the "My Heart" directory. The system will overwrite any conflicting files and begin patching faulty programming. Also, you need to delete Verbose Self-Criticism from all directories and empty your Recycle Bin to make sure it is completely gone and never comes back.

Customer: Got it. Hey! My heart is filling up with new files. Smile is playing on my monitor and Peace and Contentment are copying themselves all over My Heart. Is this normal?

Tech Support: Sometimes. For others it takes awhile, but eventually everything gets it at the proper time. So Love is installed and running. One more thing before we hang up. Love is Freeware. Be sure to give it and its various modules to everyone you meet. They will in turn share it with others and return some cool modules back to you.

Customer: Thank you, God.

Choosing Love!

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. John 4:7-8

We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen.

And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother. 1 John 4:19-21

Everyone believes that love is important, but love is usually thought of as a feeling. In reality, love is a choice and an action, as 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 shows. God is the source of our love; he loved us enough to sacrifice his Son for us. Jesus is our example of what it means to love; everything he did in life and death was supremely loving. God's love always involves a choice and an action, and our love should be like his. His love is the source of all human love.

An Unexpected Blessing for Angela

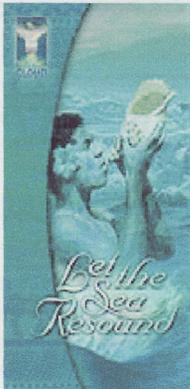
On Monday Feb. 14th, 2005, my friend Denise and I were downtown at court all day with a girl from church. I was unable to park near the court house, so I dropped them off and found a parking spot some distance away. During my walk later in the afternoon to pick up the car, a homeless man, who was sitting on the sidewalk with another homeless friend, asked me for some change. I apologized and told him I had nothing to give him. He was most gracious and accepted my apology. He then asked if we could have a group hug. I said, "Of course". This was the BEST Valentine's hug I have ever received. The man wished me a 'Happy Valentine's Day'. I thanked him and said "you to", and then with a smile he said "God bless you". I walked away with the warmth of that hug, filling my heart and a huge grin on my face. I thanked the Lord all the way back to the car for such a wonderful blessing.

Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love one another,
a tender heart and a humble mind. 1 Peter 3:8

The Revolution of Love

The Revolution of Love begins with **Humility**.

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin, and will heal their land: 2 Chronicles 7:14



This powerful video gives a strong message of the power of **humility**. The Church leaders and the government officials in Fiji, humbled themselves before the Lord, and great things began to happen in their nation.

Over the past month, I have shown this video to churches across Calgary. The impact has been great and many tears have been shed.

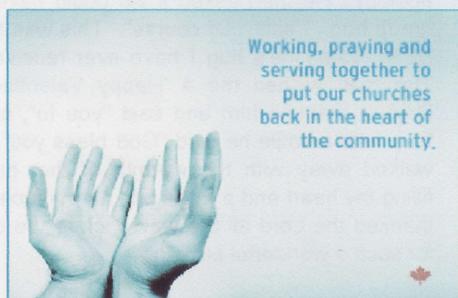
Please call, to reserve a time, to view
"Let the Sea Resound"
to your Church or Small Group.

Join Celebration 2005 - Calgary

Spark a spiritual renewal across Canada. Join **Celebration 2005** as churches pray and work together to celebrate the love of God publicly by sharing it through creative and expressive acts in local communities during the three week window of May 21 - June 12.

Plan an event on your own, join other churches in your community or unite with Centre Street in a City Wide Food Bank to impact our city with kind acts of Compassion.

For further details, please check out their web site at www.celebration2005.ca, or call Roy Alexander at Centre Street Church.



Bridge Builders for Christ

Overview of HART by Lloyd Cenaiko - President

HART is an interdenominational Relief Aid and Mission organization dedicated to serving the poor in Eastern Europe and equipping the National church in these countries. Our targeted countries are Ukraine, Russia, Moldova and Romania.

1) HART serves the poor in Eastern Europe by providing critically needed aid such as food, clothing and medical-dental care to orphanages, street children, invalids, hospitals, the elderly, those in prisons and the desperately poor.

2) HART serves the National Church - by equipping National Christian leaders and ministries; providing resources for the education, equipping, training and financial supporting of National pastors, missionaries and ministry leaders involved in church planting, discipleship, children, youth and prison ministries

3) HART serves the Church in North America & U.K. by challenging and providing opportunities for Christians there to become involved in world relief and evangelism.

HART has over 25 different projects in Eastern Europe. One of these is a Child Sponsorship program in some of the poorest regions of Ukraine. Families with 9, 10, 11 children all living in a one room house, without running water and using wood to heat the homes is typical.

One of the children in our project is Petro. His mother (Helen) has been deserted by her husband and struggles trying to raise their 4 children in the Carpathian Mountain region of Ukraine. Without a job she grows potatoes and a few other vegetables and hopes their supply will last the winter.

Many of the homes in these regions like Helen's, are shared with farm animals with hay stored in the attic. Recently, an electrical problem caused a spark and the house was soon engulfed in flames. Fortunately, Helen had woken up, realized what was happening and immediately rushed the children out of the house to safety, but was unable to retrieve anything from the house including any food.

She had no option except to move in with her mother, where there were now 10 people living in a house consisting of a kitchen and a bedroom. Her children slept on the floor. Helen became depressed and even suicidal.

It was at this point God allowed HART to intervene. HART's Child Sponsor Regional Director for this region heard about the fire and went to the village to check out the situation. Through her guidance we were able to provide Helen with \$500 to buy another old house and clothing, sheets, blankets and winter boots for the kids.

When Petro's sponsor in Calgary heard of this tragedy, she and her family members raised additional support to provide Helen with funds to purchase food for the next couple of months and also to buy a cow or goat to provide a milk supply for her children.

Helen is extremely grateful to the Child Sponsor project and for her caring sponsor in Canada. She has been impacted greatly by the love of strangers. One of HART's strategies is to use its Relief Aid to open up doors for the Gospel. In our Child Sponsor project about 30% of kids have accepted Christ,

through the Caseworkers who spend time with each family or through the Christian summer camps that all the children attend.

Another great example is our Play-System project. We build Playground apparatus for children in Orphanages. HART works through local ministries and give these as a gift to an orphanage on the condition that the local Ministry be allowed to come in on a regular basis to teach the children Bible stories. We have found this project to be an extremely effective strategy in opening up orphanages to ministry teams.

Our work can be summed up by two words... practical and effective. It is impacting the lives of thousands of children and youth in Eastern Europe for time and eternity.

Our mission for North America is to provide opportunities for Christians in the West to participate in Relief Aid and Missions projects. We have several projects specifically designed for individuals, families, Bible study groups, and Churches (especially young people or Sunday School children).

Examples: collecting shoes or Teddy Bears for children in orphanages. Raise funds to build a Play-System for a Children's hospital or an orphanage. Send a Christmas shoe box to a orphan whose name and picture you will have. Sponsor a poor child in Ukraine on a monthly basis. Sponsor a National Pastor or missionary for a fraction of the cost of a North American missionary. Raise funds to send orphans, street kids and handicapped children to summer camps.

For additional information on how you or your family or church can get involved, please contact our office.

Lloyd Cenaiko

President - HART 403-230-8263
Humanitarian Aid Response Teams
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Calgary, AB T2E 6P6

BRIDGES OF LOVE

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COMPASSION

Mobilizing Christians to Demonstrate God's Love



BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION - April, 2005

The Servant...As a Forgiver

Forgiveness is NOT an elective in the curriculum of servant-hood. It is a required course. Chuck Swindoll

ANSWERED PRAYER

This past week, God answered my prayer. I had asked Him to give me a story to share, about building Bridges of Love. The answer I got, however, was not what I had expected...

Monday afternoon, I was working on my April Newsletter. The theme, The Servant...As a Forgiver, taken from Chuck Swindoll's book, "Improving Your Serve" - The Art of Unselfish Living; became a reality and God provided an opportunity for me to practise this principle.

A girl came to the church where I have my office. She was looking for assistance. I invited her in and spent time trying to help. After she had left and I was ready to go home to my disappointment I found she had taken my wallet. Phoning to cancel my credit card, she had already charged over \$150.00 on my card.

My initial reaction was one of hurt, anger and disillusionment, that someone who I was trying to help, would do such a thing.

In Chuck's book, he says that it isn't long before anyone who gets serious about serving others, must come to terms with forgiving others. Yes, MUST. It is a required course in the servanthood curriculum.

When wrong has been done against another person, there are only two possibilities. But whether we are responsible for the offense or are the recipients of it, the first move is always ours. The true servant doesn't keep score.

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. Ephesians 4:31-32.

TELEVISION TELEPHONE MINISTRY (TVTM)

I recently read an alarming statistic that 95 percent of all Christians have never led another person to Jesus Christ. If you are like me, in the past I had come close to being in line with these stats. I have however, had the wonderful experience of leading many to the Lord through the TVTM Ministry with the Billy Graham Association.

Since 1981, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association Television Telephone Ministry has responded to more than 2.3 million people who have called their phone lines to receive spiritual guidance, and nearly 600,000 of them have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

I can truly testify from personal experience, that being a volunteer with the TVTM Ministry is a tremendous blessing. I remember the first night that I sat at the phones. I was so nervous and I wasn't sure what to expect. That evening, however, I had the privilege of leading 6 people through the believer's prayer. I was on such a high that night that it was hard to sleep.

Often our service to the Lord becomes dry and the excitement is lacking. If you want a spiritual 'high', then please join TVTM, at the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. For more information on how you can get involved contact:

Gary Higgs - 219.2300
or ghiggs@samaritan.org

Dr. Charles Arn

CHURCH GROWTH INC.

Researcher, Speaker and Author of 8 books

DATE: Sat., May 14th, 2005

TIME: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

HOST: KENSINGTON ROAD CHURCH

2404 Kensington Road, NW

\$100 - Church

Includes-'Growing in Love'
13 week course for small groups.
\$30.00 - Individuals

Includes hand-outs, lunch and snacks

R.S.V.P. by May 10th, 2005

Marg Pollon - 263.5683

margpollon@bridgesoflove.net



Bringing together
the Great Commandment and the
Great Commission to serve
together in Christ's

LOVE

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am **weak**, then I am **strong**. Corinthians 12: 9-10

Twenty Ways to Reach Out

1. Organize a fun festival in the church parking lot.
2. Deliver 'Welcome to the Community' baskets.
3. Hold an interchurch sports tournament for youth in the community.
4. Hold a community golf tournament.
5. Invite neighbours to a renewal of marriage vows event.
6. Go door to door with free batteries for smoke detectors.
7. Hold a 'Foods From Around the World'.
8. Gather food from the neighbourhood and fill the local food bank.
9. Have a single mom and child banquet, where kids are entertained separately and moms are made to feel special.
10. Do acts of kindness: mow the lawn for seniors; paint a women's shelter; wash car windshields for free.
11. Beautify a subsidized housing project.
12. Have an evangelistic banquet.
13. "Check out Christianity" home meetings.
14. Hold a one-time course on basic self-defence.
15. Raise money for relief work.
16. Run recovery programs for the community.
17. Offer a free parenting course.
18. Teach English as a second language.
19. Have a 'Celebration of Friendship" event. (87 percent of people find Christ through a friend or relative).
20. Hold a public event called: What was the Passion of the Christ really all about?

All evangelism must be rooted in much prayer; everyone should be retrained periodically in how to share their faith and to give their testimony; a strong follow-up track should be in place to help the new believers to grow.

Effective evangelism is a wonderful, exciting multifaceted team effort, as Paul says in:

1 Cor. 3:6: I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow.

David Macfarlane - Director of National Initiatives - Evangelical Fellowship of Canada

Bridge Building Internationally

Reaching the Urban Poor

Dr. Wayne Whitbourne

Canadian Director - Action Ministries Int'l.

Memor's story is a sad one. When both her parents died of AIDS the fifteen year old was left in charge of her four siblings. Action International Ministries' missionaries met her when she was in a desperate struggle to keep herself and her siblings off the streets in Lusaka, Zambia. It will not take much to keep them in their two room house and provide a basic education for the children. Think of the grief and sorrow they would be spared. This scenario is repeated day after day all around the world.

Daily thousands of people enter the cities of the world to add to the teeming numbers of poor, often exploited, people that try to seek out a living. They are the working poor in squatter areas, the unemployed, the street dwellers, those caught in various addictions. For the past thirty years Action International Ministries has been involved with the urban poor. The focus of the ministry has been in major cities in ten different countries. Whether it is ministry to families in squatter areas of Bogotá, homes for street children in San Paulo, or providing resources for poor pastors, Action International Ministries is committed to serve the underprivileged. We are involved in both the preventative aspects as well as helping those who have found themselves struggling to exist in these circumstances.

We see ourselves as working with local churches to express Christ's compassion to a hurting needy world. Christ cared for

the whole person. It is not enough to focus on the physical needs of the underprivileged. Evangelism and discipleship are important parts of our ministry. The Second Mile program in the Philippines provides discipleship and vocational skills like auto mechanics, cabinet making, and high speed sewing. These young believers are not only able to break the cycle of poverty but they are also equipped to be leaders in their local churches. Although there may be sorrows and disappointment in this type of ministry, there is the joy of knowing that some of these young lives, have been surrendered to the Lord and discipleship has taken place. This is a testimony to God's redeeming grace in the middle of human suffering.

If you would like to know more about the ministries of Action International Ministries go our website at www.actionintl.org or waynewhitbourne@actioncanada.net.



BRIDGES OF LOVE

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EFC PARTNERSHIPS
COMPASSION
MOBILIZING CHRISTIANS TO DEMONSTRATE GOD'S LOVE



BUILDING

BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE is Action - May, 2005

"For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His." 2 Chronicles 16:9

If you're a Christian who wants to be more Christlike, how do you handle your natural selfish tendencies? Is it really possible, in today's "look out for number one" world, to adopt the kind of servant lifestyle Jesus modeled for us?

"Painful though it may be for us to admit it, we're losing touch with one another. The motivation to help, to encourage, yes, to serve our fellowman is waning. Even our foundational values are getting lost in these confusing days. And yet, it is these things that form the essentials of a happy and fulfilled life."

IMPROVING YOUR SERVE

The Art of Unselfish Living - Chuck Swindoll

The thing that destroys a good many of us as Christians is our inability to relate to each other in a warm, honest, compassionate sort of way.

Four years ago, my husband and I lost our home which was also my love as our Bed and Breakfast. We moved back to Calgary to try and rebuild our lives and carry on with my husband's business that he had started in Calgary. To make a long, and painful story brief...we also lost the company and our means of support a few months later.

This experience has taught me so much and even though I would never have wished for such a life lesson, I would honestly, not trade it for anything. Hard to believe I know, but I have grown so much in my walk with the Lord because of my dependence on Him, for all things.

God stripped me of my 'pride' and 'broke' me of my independant nature. Chip Ingram, in his book **"Holy Ambition"**, says that in order for our life to make a significant difference for God, He will take us through six incremental steps that will prepare us and engage us for His service. They are, in order of experience:

- ♥ Developing a **dislocated heart**
- ♥ Experiencing a **broken spirit**
- ♥ Practicing a **radical faith**
- ♥ Creating a **strategic plan**
- ♥ Exercising **personal commitment**
- ♥ Growing a **courageous soul**

These six developmental phases represent essential and unavoidable components to a life of holy ambition.

What is the target of our Christian life? If we aim at nothing, we're sure to hit it. What are we aiming at as we follow Christ? What's our holy ambition? What do we really want God to say to us someday?

Holy Ambition begins with a dislocated heart. So how do you get one? Chip asked these questions in his book.

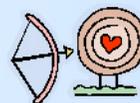
How do you react to bad news? How do you deal with those times when something is going on in the world that threatens your way of life or your comfort zone? When was the last time you prayed, mourned and fasted after hearing a report about God's Will not being fulfilled in His church? When was the last time you wept after news about the plight of people in need? When was the last time you were emotionally, even viscerally, disturbed when you heard about injustice, suffering, or God's people operating in a way that was contrary to the clear, written will of God?

These questions are not meant to shame us. They are meant to move us to seriously consider God's purposes in our lives. What we try desperately to avoid is having our hearts dislocated. We don't want to be disturbed by someone else's problems.

I know that God has allowed me to experience a dislocated heart which affects my life and then the world. Dislocation creates a strong drawing or pulling action which has propelled me out of my comfort zone to build 'Bridges of Love'.

If anyone had told me a few years ago, that Marg Pollon would be travelling down this road, I would never have believed it! It is the most rewarding yet hardest path I have experienced. I know however, that God has prepared me, by giving me **Holy Ambition**. Let each of us strive to hit God's target and experience the joy of a life that makes a difference as we take **ACTION** demonstrating

His **LOVE.**



"Cross the Bridge"

A tribute to Bridges of Love

Your willingness to unselfishly give your time and your commitment to others has not gone unrecognized. Your devotion in persuading individual Christians, Churches and Ministries to work together to build strong, caring and loving relationships is not only admirable, but honourable. The eagerness you have demonstrated will always remain in the hearts of our community and your dedication and commitment has set an example for others to follow.

Galatians 6:9-10

Art Hanger, M.P. Calgary NE



One by one He took them from me

All the things I valued most;

'Til I was empty handed,

Every glittering toy was lost.

And I walked earth's highways, grieving,

In my rags and poverty.

Until I heard His voice inviting,

"Lift those empty hands to Me!"

Then I turned my hands toward heaven,

And He filled them with a store

Of his own transcendent riches,

'Til they could contain no more.

And at last I comprehended

With my stupid mind, and dull,

That God cannot pour His riches

Into hands already full.

-Source Unknown

Bridges of Love invited Dr. Charles Arn (Chip) from Church Growth Inc., California; to share his seminar, "Growing in Love". On May 14th, six denominations participated in the seminar hosted by Kensington Road Church and I have asked a few attendees to share their experience.



GROWING IN LOVE



Churches across the country are uniting together to demonstrate Christ's love in practical ways. For three weeks, beginning Saturday, May 21, and ending Sunday, June 12, we invite you to take an active part in Celebration 2005. This initiative, developed by The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada (EFC), is encouraging believers in churches and ministries from coast to coast to put their faith into action.

It is expected that more than 15,000 Christians will be involved in some aspect of Celebration 2005 during the three-week time frame. Macfarlane doesn't expect that churches will only reach out to their communities this one time. "We hope this is the beginning of a new relationship between the Christian church and our communities. Our desire is that everyone involved will see how relevant God's love is for today's world, and will see that love expressed through Celebration 2005." www.celebration2005.ca

Press Release- David Macfarlane

♥ What a joy to be the host church for the "Growing in Love" seminar, written and engagingly presented by Dr. Charles Arn. "Chip" Arn presented a one-day overview of a complete curriculum for small groups or Sunday School. We were encouraged to find that godly love is absolutely key to a fulfilled life, while all of us can learn and grow in expressions of love with God's help and provision. Chip shared that the Great Commission and the Great Commandment challenge and direct us to love God and others. He outlined eight practical steps to grow in love, suggesting that churches and individuals can evaluate themselves in their love capacity toward others and move forward as needed in becoming more loving churches. Dr. Arn's material was warmly received by individual attendees and church reps from all over town. Our church is planning to use the curriculum in Christian Formation classes or small groups this fall. **Pastor Todd Harris, Kensington Road Church**

♥ I feel very thankful and privileged to have taken part in this seminar. It was wonderful to feel the genuine love and concern that people feel for their congregations. I pray that every church in Calgary will have the opportunity to bring this course to their members, and learn about the true meaning of God's love and sharing it with others. **Dorothy Schumaker, St. John Lutheran Church**

♥ Timely material for churches that want to experience a greater degree of love within their body and also want to reach out to their community in love. Dr. Charles Arn shows that creating more love is within everyone's reach. **Sharon & Wayne Schnell, Hawkwood Baptist Church**

♥ The workshop was a great experience for six people in our church. We plan to implement these concepts in all the areas that we serve. We strive to be a more loving church and people to each other and to our community and this material is practical in achieving that outcome. Thanks so much. **Ginny White, Crossroads Community Church**

♥ Dr. Charles (Chip) Arn presented the topic of "Love" in a way that everyone could relate. Using a real-life video drama, each of us could relate to things we do each day that tend to judge people we don't know and thus create barriers to prevent us from forming the loving relationships that God desires of us as Christians and our non-Christian friends and neighbours.

If you are like me, these types of stereotype feelings have created strong barriers for me reaching out to my neighbour. The video and supporting materials in the course pointed out practical ways that we, as Christians, can first identify feelings that create barriers and then systematically work to eliminate these feelings. By the end of this thirteen week course in a small group or Sunday school class, we will have a new set of tools for forming "Loving Relationships". **Tom Pollon, Eastside Community Baptist Church**

Ending the seminar, Chip gave us his 'Personal Love-Caring Inventory' to complete. This is intended to help us consider our personal strengths, as well as areas of needed improvement, in the important area of intentional Christian love. The Inventory is based on the characteristics of love identified by the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 13. If you would like a copy to determine your Love/Care Quotient, please let me know.

MICAH CHALLENGE STATS

WE SIGNED THE 'CALL'

Globally - 6559

Nationally - 550

LET'S GO CALGARY!!!

SIGN THE CALL...

www.micahchallenge.ca

BRIDGES OF LOVE

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BUILDING BRIDGES OF LOVE

Love is ACTION - July, 2005

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13

Tears shed for self are tears of weakness, but tears of love shed for others are a sign of strength. Until I have learned the value of compassionately sharing others' sorrow, distress, and misfortune, I cannot know real happiness.

Billy Graham

This past week I witnessed love being freely given to a family member who is in the final stage of cancer. What a precious gift this family has given as they say good-bye with hearts full of love. This family did not wait for graveside reflections to express their feelings. There was much laughter as special memories were shared. Young and old alike gathered to spend their last moments united as one.

It is loving through 'doing' that we eventually come to feel loving attitudes, and then to say loving words. It is a well known principle of behavioral change that we must act the way we want to be. Through practicing something, we eventually become it. Through doing loving acts, we become loving persons!

Is there love without action? **No.** We experience love only when someone else gives love. How is love given? Through **ACTION.**

How then do we put love into action? Dr. Charles Arn in his book, *Who Cares About Love?*, has identified 8 steps that will help put love into action. By seriously following these steps, the benefits to you and to others will be great. Because to love, in Jesus' name, regardless of the cost or consequence to oneself...will be the most important thing you have ever done.

Dr. Charles Arn -
Church Growth Inc.



Steps to Loving

1. **Make a "Love Covenant" with God:** It is your request for His help and strength in fulfilling this new priority in your life—love.
2. **Identify Those Who Specifically Need Your Love.** We are delivery systems for God's love to others—family, friends, associates, enemies, and those in need. These are the people God is waiting to 'deliver' his love to...through you.
3. **Act First:** Always act as though the responsibility for the initiation and growth of that loving relationship depends entirely on you. Make a life-style of acting first!
4. **Communicate:** Research indicates that people believe the most important ingredient for loving relationships is communication. As communication grows, love grows.
5. **Empathize:** Empathy means 'identification with, or vicariously experiencing the thoughts, feelings, or attitudes of another person. In a sense, you become that person.
6. **Identify a Love Opportunity:** Is there a hurt or an opportunity where your love can help? Matthew 25:35-40.
7. **Respond with a Caring Gift:** A well thought-out gift is a unique expression of love. Look at the greatest giver and gift of all...God and His Son.
8. **Share Yourself:** Sharing your most treasured possession is hard to do, because it's all you have...it is you. The ultimate step of love is to give yourself to another.

**In the final analysis, love is
nothing until it becomes ACTION.**

GROWING IN LOVE

Dr. Charles Arn presented his course, **'Growing in Love'** this past May in Calgary. The participants of this unique discussion/study course took a giant leap forward in their Christian life and growth. Growing in love helps integrate Christ's Great Commission with His Great Commandment
Phone for details: 263.5683 (love)

The Atheist & The Bear

An atheist was taking a walk through the woods.

"What majestic trees! What powerful rivers! What beautiful animals!" he said to himself."

As he continued walking alongside the river he heard a rustling in the bushes. Turning to look, he saw a 7 foot grizzly charging towards him. He ran as fast as he could up the path.

Looking over his shoulder he saw that the bear was closing in on him. His heart was pumping frantically and he tried to run even faster.

He tripped and fell on the ground. He rolled over to pick himself up but saw the bear raising his paw to take a swipe at him.

At that instant the atheist cried out: "Oh my God!..."

Time stopped. The bear froze. The forest was silent.

It was then that bright light shone upon the man and a voice came out of the sky saying: "You deny my existence for all of these years, teach others I don't exist and even credit creation to a cosmic accident. Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament? Am I to count you as a believer?"

The atheist looked directly into the light, "It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask you to treat me as a Christian now, but perhaps, could you make the BEAR a Christian?"

Very well," said the voice.

The light went out. And the sounds of the forest resumed. The bear lowered his paw, bowed his head and spoke, "Lord, bless this food which I am about to receive and for which I am truly thankful."



SIGN THE 'CALL'

This is a moment in history unique potential, when the stated intentions of world leaders echo something of the mind of the Biblical prophets and the teachings of Jesus concerning the poor, and when we have the means to dramatically reduce poverty.

We commit ourselves, as followers of Jesus, to work together for the holistic transformation of our communities, to pursue justice, be passionate about mercy and to walk humbly with God. Micah 6:8

We call on international and national decision-makers of both rich and poor nations, to fulfil their public promise to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and so halve absolute global poverty by 2015.

We call on Christians everywhere to be agents of hope for and with the poor, and to work with others to hold our national and global leaders accountable in securing a more just and merciful world.

www.micahchallenge.ca

Bridges of Love

Marg Pollon

Partnering with:

National Evangelism Partnerships, EFC
Micah Challenge, Chair - Mobilization

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BUILDING BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION - June, 2005

BBYSSIW...but because you say so I will - Luke 5:5

A few months ago I learned a valuable lesson, on being a 'Forgiving Servant'. A young girl who I was trying to assist, after inviting her into my office, had taken my wallet and then charged on my credit card.

Yesterday, I was confronted with a similar situation. Alone in the church, the door bell rang. I hesitated for a moment as I was on my way home and I was in a rush. Also, I was a little nervous of opening the door after my last experience, not knowing who was on the other side! I was tired and very tempted to escape out the back door...

I decided however, to answer the door and there stood a young girl. She asked if she could speak to a Pastor. The Pastor had left for the day, but I invited her in to talk. She said that she was wanting to renew her relationship with the Lord and she had tried herself but kept falling down. She needed a helping hand.

After a little talk, she invited the Lord into her heart. What an amazing experience and special blessing I had. To think I almost missed this opportunity that touched both of our hearts.

We never know when God is going to give us an 'open door' to share our faith and our hope in the Lord Jesus Christ. There is nothing that brings greater joy than knowing that we have had a part in someones eternal destination.

This girl asked for help with her new found faith. I am thankful to have taken the 'Basics' with Dynamic Churches International as I am now prepared to help her grow in her walk with the Lord.

This sounds like a commercial, but it is a real life situation. I too, was discipled as a new believer, and I know that this was a great gift that I want to 'pay forward'.



Dynamic Churches International

Our home church provided an outreach to share the gospel with those in our church community. The results of this outreach has been a husband and wife receiving Jesus through a home visit. They have also been followed up using the Dynamic Basics. Another lady requested that she wanted some one to take her through a study one to one. This same lady now wants to take some one else through the same study. Before we began the outreach, we had prepared people to share the gospel and to disciple new believers using the Dynamic Churches International process.

What is Dynamic Churches International about?

The ultimate vision of the church world-wide and for your church locally will always be the fulfillment of the Great Commission. It is our mandate and our strategy. The great commission says we are to "Make Disciples". We do that as we "go" (evangelize), "baptize" (identify with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection) and as we "teach to obey" (not just teach, but **teach to obey**. That means we must help people apply what we teach - that's discipleship).

Why was the 1st century church so successful? They made disciples! They got close enough to people to be able to meet their needs effectively. Jesus, Paul and others have modeled for us how to make disciples. They discipled others in small groups and one-to-one. We offer a system that will minister to more people, more effectively with less effort.

The staff of Dynamic Churches International is committed to your success and the growth of your church. We can provide both training and resource materials to help you develop a growth strategy for your church.

Ron and Bev Nelson 403 288-3427
rbnelson@dynamicchurches.org
www.dynamicchurches.org

Heart...

- ♥ The inner self that think, feels, and decides. In the Bible the word heart has a much broader meaning than it does to the modern mind. The heart is that which is central to a person. Nearly all the references to the heart in the Bible refer to some aspect of human personality.
- ♥ In the Bible all emotions are experienced by the heart: love and hate; joy and sorrow; peace and bitterness; courage and fear. The thinking processes of man are said to be carried out by the heart.
- ♥ Finally, heart often means someone's true character or personality. God knows the heart of each person. Since a person speaks and acts from his heart, he is to guard it well. The most important duty of a person is to love God with the whole heart.

Hayford's Bible Handbook

Everyday which passes brings us closer to the dawning of the kingdom of heaven. As we learn to walk in unconditional love, we will experience the reality of God's heart for His creation, a Global Heart. We become the extension of God's love to the world we live in.



Lord, make us one heart with You in everlasting love. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in our hearts, on earth, as it is in heaven.

Steven Lavaggi

Cause Canada - Bev. & Paul Carrick

Paul Carrick is the Founder of **CAUSE Canada** (CC). CC is a Calgary based ministry that supports poverty reduction programs throughout Central America and West Africa. Together with his wife, Beverley, the Carricks serve God by speaking out on justice issues and working very hard to end global poverty. The following testimony was submitted to Bridges of Love by Paul Carrick.

In 1984 I was strongly lead of the Lord to legally incorporate a new ministry that focused directly on poverty reduction initiatives within the developing world. I did this after working for many years as a foreign aid worker in both Latin America and Africa. When I returned to Canada after my overseas service, I was left with a burning passion to remember my many friends throughout the developing world who were trapped in either grinding poverty or terrifying conflict zones. I vowed at that time that I would never forget my colleagues and friends abroad and that I would continue to serve them in whatever manner seemed most appropriate.

After studying the scriptures a number of passages became increasingly important to me. The 4th chapter of Zechariah reminds us that it is: "not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of Hosts – you will succeed because of my Spirit, though you are few and weak". Later on within the same chapter God reminds to never give up and to take courage in modest beginnings.

"Do not despise this small beginning, for the eyes of the Lord rejoice to see the work begin, to see the plumbline in the hands of Zerubbabel." Zechariah 4:10

With courage inspired by the Word of God, CAUSE Canada was borne in 1985, and our ministry's first emergency program was launched in Mali, West Africa. We distributed \$20,000 worth of locally grown rice from an area of surplus and redistributed it to needy communities in a region of scarcity. And we did this in partnership with the Malian church. We then developed the new friendships made during the implementation of this program and turned our emergency intervention into a long-term development activity

designed to assist women farmers with the grinding of millet into flour.

Twenty-one years later CAUSE Canada is still replicating this formula. The ministry assists during times of crisis and then sticks around to assist with the real challenge of helping to make poor people less vulnerable to the many environmental, political and economic challenges of life. The most important lesson that we have learned throughout this process, however, is that people are far more important than projects. Honouring individuals created in the image of God by respecting their dignity is what our ministry is all about.

In Luke 9:48 the Living Bible reminds us that: "Your care for others is the measure of your greatness". Bridges of Love is an important ministry that dove-tails on the same Biblical themes that are so crucial to CAUSE Canada. Honouring Christ by loving others is paramount. Loving others by giving them access to clean water, safe homes, and formal education is what CAUSE Canada does. Bridges of Love honours people by reminding them of their worth as children of God - children for whom our Saviour gave His life for.

CAUSE Canada endeavours to manifest God's love through a ministry of social action and poverty reduction. However, our most important task, like that of Bridges of Love, is to point people towards the way to the person of Jesus Christ. For only Christ serves people by offering the free gift of salvation.



Paul Carrick recently returned from Sierra Leone where he participated in the graduation ceremony for 70 Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) trained by CAUSE CANADA.

contact - info@cause.ca

Micah Challenge

ARE YOU READY FOR THE CHALLENGE?

Micah Challenge is a dynamic new global initiative that equips Christians worldwide to grow in faith and awareness while taking action against global hunger and poverty.

Rooted in Biblical teachings, Micah Challenge worship and educational resources lift the words of Micah 6:8 off the page and into action--in your life and the life of your church. Young and old alike will deepen their spiritual understanding and apply their faith while learning about the Millennium Development Goals and current international efforts to halve global poverty of 2015.

This fall, join thousands of churches across Canada in responding to Micah Challenge by participating in Micah Sunday activities, including up to four weeks of multi-generational study.

For more information please contact
Monique Prevost-Gareau at
1.905.565.6200 or
info@micahchallenge.ca

Be prepared to take the challenge!

Bridges of Love

Marg Pollon

National Evangelism Partnerships, EFC

Micah Challenge Chair - Mobilization

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Web Site: www.bridgesoflove.net

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www.micahchallenge.ca

EFC PARTNERSHIPS
COMPASSION
MOBILIZING CHRISTIANS TO DEMONSTRATE GOD'S LOVE



BUILDING BRIDGES OF LOVE

Love is ACTION - August, 2005

'Trustworthiness lubricates social life'...Robert Putnam

Restoring Community in An Individualised World

One word that describes social capital is 'Trust'. Not the level of trust amongst people who have known each other for thirty or forty years, but the sort of trust that enables you to do business with someone you hardly know and to believe that you don't need too many lawyers involved. It's not close, long-established, proven-relationships trust - it's the level of trust that makes societies work. Trust is like society's oil can - the engine seizes up without it.

Social capital is both personal and social. You develop a personal qualities that make you trustworthy, and if enough people do that, you develop a sort of society where people know they can trust one another. It's therefore a very important **Bridge**. If one of the problems is that our society is being more and more individualised, here is one of the characters that is in itself a bridge. Social capital by definition has a personal and shared element.

American Robert Putnam says:

Trustworthiness lubricates social life

There are two sorts of social: 'bonding' and 'bridging'. **Bonding** Capital sustains existing community. It means that in relationships you do have - the structures you're already in, the place where you work, the community where you live, where you already have some sort of contact - trust deepens. We need that but what we need even more is bridging capital, that actually bridges you and your group into relationships with some other group - so that the fragmentation of society is reversed in some senses. Our greatest need as a society is for **Bridging** capital. The capacity to establish relationships of trust with people who are not like us - who are not defined by the groups we're in and by the choices we've made.

What can be done?

The critical question is what can we do about it? No one who believes in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, as something in which God's future for the whole world has broken into the present and starts to change it now, can be a determinist. No one can sit back and say there's nothing we can do about it, it's all great big social forces; individuals can't deal with systemic problems, and so on.

We need to recognise that faith based communities are an essential resource for wider community. Putnam wrote this: "***Faith based communities remain such a crucial reservoir of social capital in America that decays without a major religious contribution.***"

Everytime you plant a church or a new Christian community, you've got to think about 'bridging social capital', you've got to think about establishing the possibility of new relationships of trust with people you've previously had no relationship with whatsoever.

If the Gospel of Christ not only breaks down the barrier between you and God, but also reconciles you with others, as Ephesians 2 says, there is something inherent in the Gospel and in Christian mission that is about the building of community and the blessing of others.

If you want social capital, be a person who is trustworthy and start reaching out to make relationships with people you didn't know before. You literally start to turn the tide. It doesn't matter if your relationships are in one community where you commute, another where you shop, another where you play, another where you go to church. Wherever you are, people will start to trust you, because you have learned to be trustworthy.

The key to the reversal of the decline in social capital is people whose character makes them trustworthy. The church of Jesus locally, and on wider levels, is actually a production plant on faithfulness.

by Graham Cray

BRIDGE BUILDERS

Jim Phillips was watching a basketball game when it hit him. "My faith is a spectator sport; I watch it more than I live it." A successful CPA, Jim was involved in his church and had a wonderful family, but he felt restless. The most important thing was missing—PASSION. He talked to his wife and together they agreed it was time to step off the sidelines and into the painful reality of the world. After much soul-searching, they felt God was leading them to enroll their children in a school system that was struggling under mounting problems. Then they would get involved as parents in that school and look for opportunities to serve.

Eventually the Phillips paired up with another couple to develop and teach a sexual abstinence and mentoring program called Excel. The program is now in use in nearly all the public junior high schools in their district and beyond.

Jim and Connie Phillips are no longer spectators. They are fully deployed with a faith that not only has broken a sweat but is filled with the life-giving passion Jim once dreamed about.

Rob Wilkins and Robert Lewis

"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such way as to get the prize.

1 Cor. 9:24





SIGN THE 'CALL'

Are you up for the challenge?

Micah Challenge is a dynamic new global Initiative that equips Christians worldwide to grow in faith and awareness while taking action against global hunger and poverty.

Rooted in Biblical teachings, Micah Challenge worship and educational resources lift the words of Micah 6:8 off the page and into action—in your life and the life of your church. Young and old alike will deepen their spiritual understanding and apply their faith while learning about the Millennium Development Goals and current international efforts to halve global poverty by 2015.

This fall, join thousands of churches across Canada in responding to Micah Challenge by participating in Micah Sunday activities, including up to four weeks of multi-generational study.

Order the Micah Challenge Tool Kit, including all worship and education resources, by going on the Micah Challenge web site below.

Quantities are limited...

BE PREPARED TO TAKE UP THE CHALLENGE!!

www.micahchallenge.ca

Bridges of Love

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BUILDING BRIDGES OF LOVE

Love is ACTION - September, 2005

Evangelism is the BRIDGE we build between our love for God and our love for other people.

Recently I had the privilege of meeting Donna Kennedy-Glans, the lead author of "Corporate Integrity" and the principle of her organization, 'Integrity Bridges'. We don't often think of a person's integrity as an ingredient for successful Bridge Building, but as God's representatives, integrity is an essential character trait.

As Christians, we are being watched. Is our walk one that would exemplify to a watching world, that we are different? Please take a few tips from an expert on the subject of **INTEGRITY**. If you would like to learn more, please check out her new book, Corporate Integrity.

Beyond Platitudes: How to REALLY Talk about Integrity

As individuals, we often know when the gaps between what we intend to do, what we commit to do, and what we actually do in practice, get too wide. We feel uncomfortable. Disconnects may show up in our level of energy or state of health. With organizations, integrity gaps also congest the flow of information, ideas, management, communication, and ultimately impact profits.

Allow me to share with you a few tips to enrich your dialogue about integrity at your place of work. These guidelines can equally be applied in your home, in your church, and in your community:

1. Treat integrity dilemmas as inevitable

If integrity dilemmas are presented as inevitabilities, you will be more comfortable introducing questions and clarifications about your organization's integrity commitments in day-to-day exchanges with colleagues and others. At work, rather than using judgemental language cast in terms of "right" and "wrong", which will immediately place your colleagues and your boss on the defensive, talk about integrity dilemmas as being inevitable: *"There will always be occasions when the right thing to do is unclear; when two or more values conflict; or when people or the environment may be negatively affected by our corporate decision"*.

You may ask: *"I see that our company has a statement of Principles or a Code that*

prioritizes integrity in our relationships with host communities where we operate. But, I'm struggling to understand what that commitment means in practice when we encounter dilemmas, such as the impact of our big new store on "mom and pop" operations in this town. Can we discuss the grey zones so I can get clarity?"

2. Understand how changes in your external environment influence your integrity dilemmas.

Understanding the impacts of externally-driven changes in your environment is critical. Frequently, the integrity dilemmas faced by employees and corporate managers are not direct outcomes of their own actions, but rather, are triggered by circumstances or events that occur outside their own factory walls. For example, if a competitor is accused of "cooking the books" by overstating resources or reserves, it is likely that the public and the media, even advocacy groups, will scrutinize the financial reporting practices of an entire industry sector. Employees in the extractive sector have long been faced with these "guilt by association" implications, and employees within the banking and insurance sectors will no doubt be feeling the pressure of externally-driven mandates for transparency.

3. Focus your energy on your organization's most critical integrity gaps.

There are several types of integrity gaps that can emerge in organizations:

A. Gaps between organizational integrity intention and the integrity motivation of individual departments, divisions or business units.

B. Gaps between integrity strategies of individual departments, divisions or business units.

C. Gaps between organizational integrity intentions, talk and walk.

D. Gaps between organizational and individual integrity motivations.

Employees are encouraged to identify the widest and most critical integrity gaps in their own organization, and focus their energy on closing those gaps.

Most important of all: **bring your whole person to the task of managing integrity dilemmas.** Some people claim that they can compartmentalize their work life, their spiritual life, and their personal life. These same people claim that in a project, they can put government in a box, impacted citizens in a box, and corporate investors in a box. Compartmentalization is a very tempting theory. However, as many employees know, our seemingly watertight compartments have long been flooded.

When you work as an employee with a company, or work along a corporate supply chain, you are connected to that company and to its impacts on society. When you make decisions about integrity, inside a boardroom or at your family dinner table, your decisions are influenced by your values as a whole person.

To manage integrity dilemmas, in your role as an employee, you need to bring your whole person to the task. If there are disconnects between your values as an individual and your corporation's integrity commitments and practices, you must acknowledge these differences and identify how to bridge the gaps.

Donna Kennedy-Glans, Principal of Integrity Bridges, is the lead author of **Corporate Integrity: A Toolkit for Managing beyond Compliance**, John Wiley & Sons, 2005. See Integrity Bridges' www.integritybridges.com. Article not to be reprinted without accreditation to author.



ORTHODOXY & ORTHOPRAXIS

In his book, 'The Scandal of the Evangelical Conscience', author Ron Sider says that Jesus knew that his followers would live so differently from the surrounding society that the world would hate them: "Because you do not belong to the world,...therefore the world hates you" (John 15:19 NRSV; cf. also John 17:14-19). Today, unfortunately many people despise Christians, not for their unswerving obedience to Christ, but because of the hypocritical disconnect between Jesus's teaching and our actions. But precisely because Jesus expected his followers to live so differently from their neighbours, he could say that they would also be salt and light, preserving and even changing a corrupt, immoral world (Matt. 5:13-14).

Knowing that his disciples would enjoy the very presence of the living God at the centre of their lives, Jesus knew it was realistic to give them the radical command, "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another" (John 13:34 NRSV). In fact, Jesus prayed to the Father, surely expecting his prayer to be answered, that his followers would care for each other with such loving unity "that the world may believe that you have sent me" (John 17:21). Integrity and obedience in the body of Christ has powerful evangelistic results.

Anyone who claims to love God but refuses to love brother or sister does not know God (1 John 3:17). John insists that genuine Christians love others in practical ways. Since Christ is our model, we must "not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth" (3:18). Love of God, love of others, and obedience to God are inseparably intertwined: "This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his command" (5:2).

Obedience means unconditional submission to Jesus as Lord as well as Saviour. It means abandoning our one-sided, unbiblical conceptions of sin, the gospel, salvation, and conversion, and returning to the full-blown biblical understanding of these glorious truths. It means recovering the biblical reality of the church as community. It means living the truth that orthodoxy and orthopraxis--right theology and right behaviour--are equally important.

Evangelicals have used the image of Christ knocking at the heart's door as a symbol of our vigorous evangelistic programs. But in truth, it is we, by our behaviour, who have excluded him from our hearts and lives. He stands at the doors of our hearts, begging us to welcome his total Lordship.

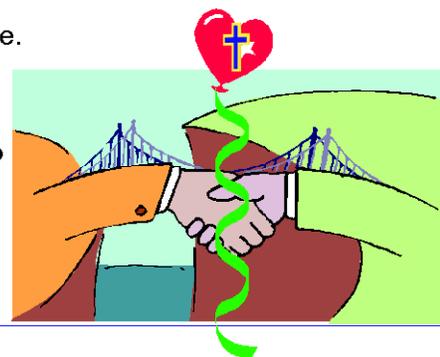
Weeping and repentance are the only faithful responses to the sweeping, scandalous disobedience in the evangelical world today. We have defied the Lord we claim to worship. We have disgraced his holy name by our unholy lives.

The Lord we claim to love and worship stands at the door and knocks. He longs to be truly invited in. We cannot invite only half of Him. But if today we dare to embrace and surrender to the full biblical Christ, he will perform mighty deeds that transcend what we dare ask or imagine. He will end the scandal of blatant disobedience in the people who call on his name.

Ronald Sider....The Scandal of the Evangelical Conscience.

Do Sider's words resonate with truth? Have we defied the Lord we claim to worship? Have we disgraced his holy name by our unholy lives? Are our beliefs strong enough to produce righteous lifestyles? Unless we repent, our Lord intends to spit us out.

**Let us beg our Holy God not only to forgive us
but to change us into the very likeness of Jesus.**



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BUILDING BRIDGES OF LOVE

Love is ACTION - October, 2005

Love talked about can be easily turned aside, but love demonstrated is irresistible!



FEED MY SHEEP...

I received an unexpected blessing when down in Ontario this month, staying with people outside of Cambridge, a neighbour came over and asked if we would like to see his new week old twins....lambs that is!! The message God gave us to 'feed my sheep' took on a whole new perspective...

In John 21:15-18, Jesus asked Peter three times if he loves Him. With Peter's positive response, Jesus gives three different commands.

1. Feed my lambs
2. Tend my sheep
3. Feed my sheep

Firstly, Jesus tells us to 'Feed the Lambs'.

There are young children and there are new believers – both are lambs.

Secondly, Jesus then says 'Tend my Sheep'. Who are the sheep? It refers to those believers who are under our care.

Thirdly, Jesus says we must also 'Feed the Sheep' from God's Word.

The Grace of God is the Heartbeat of Integral Mission

The Micah Declaration on Integral Mission, developed by participants (140 theologians, church leaders and relief and development workers from around the world) in the Micah Network's consultation on Integral Mission says:

Integral mission or holistic transformation is the proclamation and demonstration of the gospel. It is not simply that evangelism and social involvement are to be done alongside each other. Rather, in integral mission our proclamation has social consequences as we call people to love and repentance in all areas of life. And our social involvement has evangelistic consequences as we bear witness to the transforming grace of Jesus Christ.

If we ignore the world we betray the word of God which sends us out to serve the world. If we ignore the word of God we have nothing to bring to the world. Justice and justification by faith, worship and political action, the spiritual and the material, personal change and structural change belong together. As in the life of Jesus, being, doing and saying are at the heart of our integral task.

We call one another back to the centrality of Jesus Christ. His life of sacrificial service is the pattern for Christian discipleship. In His life and through His death Jesus modelled identification with the poor and inclusion of the other. On the cross God shows us how seriously he takes justice, reconciling both rich and poor to himself as he meets the demands of his justice. We serve by the power of the risen Lord through the Spirit as we journey with the poor, finding our hope in the subjection of all things under Christ and the final defeat of evil. We confess that all too often we have failed to live a life worthy of this gospel.

Feed My Sheep

I would give my all to God

My life is in God's hands

I would do a mighty work

Across the foreign lands

But God gently said to me

Feed my lambs

If God asked to give to him

My wealth or riches deep

I'd obey his every wish

Each promise I would keep

But God calmly said to me

Tend my sheep

Every mountain I would climb

However high or steep

Every canyon I would cross

However wide or deep

But God softly said to me

Feed my sheep

by
DavidHumpal



The MICAH Call

This is a moment in history of unique potential, when the stated intentions of world leaders echo something of the mind of the Biblical prophets and the teachings of Jesus concerning the poor, and when we have the means to dramatically reduce poverty.

We commit ourselves, as followers of Jesus, to work together for the holistic transformation of our communities, to pursue justice, be passionate about kindness and to walk humbly with God.

We call on international and national decision makers of both rich and poor nations, to fulfill their public promise to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and so halve absolute global poverty by 2015.

We call on Christians everywhere to be agents of hope, and to work with others to hold our national and global leaders accountable in securing a more just and merciful world.

Sign the Call

www.micahchallenge.ca

**I signed the MICAH Call
Have you?**

To receive a Micah Challenge 'Tool Kit' Please call:

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Wayne deJong,

Project Coordinator, Habitat for Humanity



BUILDING BRIDGES OF LOVE

Love is ACTION - November, 2005

And what does the Lord require from you? 'To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.'

Micah 6:8

What does it mean to be a faithful follower of God in today's world? How do we live out our faith in a world where many people go hungry while others have too much food?

These questions are not unique to our present day. The yearning to discover God's will in a complex world of need and injustice is an age-old quest.

The Micah Challenge is about applying Micah 6:8 teachings on justice, kindness and discipleship to our daily lives. It's also about "mobilizing Christians against poverty" -- discovering what we can do to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These eight goals were set by world leaders in 2000 as a promise to seriously work at reducing poverty and related suffering worldwide.

What does the Lord require of you? asks Micah 6:8. The answer given in that same verse is both simple and profound, offering an approach to life that has inspired people for thousands of years.

"To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

It is at once a calling and a guide, an approach to life that helps us to grow spiritually and to love in right relationships with our neighbours, with creation and with God.

Please log in to the Micah Challenge web site to order the 'Tool Kit'. These resources are for every age group and will bring the Micah 6:8 verse to life as it equips Christians worldwide to grow in faith and awareness against global hunger and poverty.

ARE WE UP FOR THE CHALLENGE?

The Eight Millennium Development Goals

1. **Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger**
2. **Achieve universal primary education**
3. **Promote gender equality and empower women**
4. **Reduce child mortality**
5. **Improve maternal health**
6. **Combat HIV/AIDS malaria and other diseases**
7. **Ensure environmental sustainability**
8. **Develop a global partnership for development**

Order you Micah Challenge Tool Kit and be ready to answer the 'Call'.

Rooted in Biblical teachings, Micah Challenge worship and educational resources lift the words of Micah 6:8 off the page and into action--in you life and the life of your church. Young and old alike will deepen their spiritual understanding and apply their faith while learning about the Millennium Development Goals and current international efforts to halve global poverty by 2015.

www.micahchallenge.ca

Whom Can I Serve?

by John Fischer

Whose needs can I meet?

Where can I serve?

What can I give you?

Why are you doing that

all by yourself?

Who needs something that I can give?

When do you need me?

Are you okay?

Let me serve you...in Love.



Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH IS BUILDING 'BRIDGES'

Pastor Doug Schroeder and his church are reaching out into their community to build bridges of Love.

I asked Pastor Doug to answer a few questions about their bridge building initiatives.

Do you feel that Crossroads Community Church is building bridges by linking God's purposes for the church with the real needs of the community?

We are beginning to see a relationship develop between us and the Community Association and other churches in the community. The Association has invited us to participate in their meetings and they give us time to discuss ideas that will create partnerships in events. We pray for the ministries of the churches in our community / Lutheran, Catholic, Independent. It's a beginning and we have a long way to go.

The church must be led into the world. In what ways has your church leadership providing opportunities for your congregation to be exposed to, and to successfully interact with, your community?

We have planned joint events with the community. We used to hold our Stampede BBQ independently from the Community Association. Now we are asking, "What are you doing?" and trying to recruit volunteers from the church to support community events. We do not do this to recruit for the church. We are just doing this to develop relationship with the people of the community and to come along side in service. What God will do with this we will leave in his hands. We are offering community seminars on things like gardening, computer use, "unplugging the Christmas Machine", etc. Attendance has not been good so far but we will try new ways of letting the community know what is going on. We also are affiliated with a community youth drop-in centre which provides a safe place for the youth in the local Junior High. We support them with a facility and volunteers. A "Read to Succeed" program is being developed in co-operation with the school administration. We are appealing to local churches and community to volunteer in the centre as well. We are well into a kitchen renovation that will make it possible to run a Community Kitchen program to the lower income residents of the community who are seeking to provide nutritious meals on limited budgets.

How is your church structure designed to process and move people into personal ministry?

We are a "belong to believe" instead of a "believe to belong" church. Whoever wants to come can come and if someone who is not a believer wants to serve with us we welcome this in appropriate ways. We want people to be a part of our community, worship and work with us and in this context learn who we are and who this God is who loves us and we love in return

How does your church overcome the personal roadblocks members have of fear, confusion, lack of direction, and questions of impact that so often hold them back from engaging in kingdom causes?

Good things take time and we are not in a hurry. We don't want to be productive as much as we want to be fruitful. Sometimes this fruitfulness takes time but when the fruit comes we know it is from the inside out. We are trying to take small steps and invite participation in events and community engagement. Hopefully, we can move people beyond fear with firm assurance of their full acceptance by God and his invitation to participate with him in practical service.

What do you know "as fact" about the needs of your community and the conditions of the churches in your area?

Probably the best way is through dialogue with the community leaders, churches, businesses, community agencies, police service, and schools. Each of them has a different view of the needs of the community and helps us to get a more well rounded view of community needs.

There is so much more that we could undertake but I don't want to weary the church in well-doing. We will take it slowly, watch for opportunities to engage and to serve and trust that God will give us wisdom in the process.

A Daring Dream

Jesus was a daring bridge builder. He imagined a bridge of unprecedented spiritual influence--one that could span a chasm roaring with skepticism, indifference, hostility, even persecution. He imagined a bridge able to connect his people-- 'my church', he called them--to a disbelieving, disinterested world.

Nothing, he believed, would prevail against the power of the church. By exhibiting, through everyday humanity, his life and love to the world, Jesus expected the church to supernaturally attract all men to God.

Bridges of Love is a Faith-based ministry and God has given me a Dream and a Passion to build bridges of Love within our churches, communities and beyond. I would appreciate your prayerful consideration of supporting this ministry financially. I have 'Crossed the Bridge' and I am totally committed to serving our Lord through building 'Bridges of Love'. With God we CAN... Receipts issued.

Bridges of Love

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BRIDGES OF LOVE

2005 IN REVIEW

LOVE IS ACTION

The Connections of Love

"Surely it stands to reason that only a fuller love can compete with the love of the world."

H. Drummond

Over the past 2 years while building 'Bridges of Love', I have been seeking God's formula for building love not only in His church but spreading it out into our communities.

I have learned much on the subject of 'LOVE' and have now come to the conclusion that we cannot love our neighbour and be truly effective reaching out into our communities until we totally love the Lord with our whole heart, mind, soul and strength. **THE GREAT COMMANDMENT.**

Is it possible for us to love more fully?

To love others as we, ourselves, would like to be loved?

To love the way Christ showed us to love?

Is it possible for our churches to love more fully?

To really practice Christ-like love?

...to 'love one another'? ...to 'love our enemies'? ...to 'love our neighbours'?

Dr. Charles Arn asked these questions in his book "Who Cares About Love". He says that many persons today feel inadequately prepared to express or share love. While the love famine ravages the secular world, it leaves its mark on churches, as well. Today people are leaving their churches for lack of love...

When we are commanded to 'love one another,' or to love our neighbours, or to love our enemies--what is meant by the word 'love'?

Dr. Arn defines Love as intentionally doing something caring or helpful for another person, in Jesus' name, regardless of the cost or consequence to oneself.'

I have learned that Love is a choice and love is **ACTION**. As we renew our priorities, God's love starts to grow and begins moving freely through us, and through our church, to others. I don't think God intended this to be a hard process. We need to be ourselves!!

A Prayer for our Journey Together

Holy Father, teach us to burn with the love of God given and grace infused.

Make us an obstacle for Your agenda and Your glory. Use us to bring hope and life and relief from suffering in ways beyond our wildest dreams. And yet, throughout this journey, do an even deeper work within our hearts. Sanctify us. Grant us pure motives.

And help us, every step of this journey, to long to please You more than in gress people.

© Holy Father, give us Holy An Ollion!

Lord, we want to change our world and honour You, but we fear we will do it in our own strength, in our own flesh, and do it to meet our personal needs.

© Holy Father, give us Holy An Ollion!

Even as we long to make an impact, we also long for comfort and grace. We're tempted to stay where it seems safe even though we know that our only real security comes only from You. We long for significance, but we fear stepping out to make a difference.

© Holy Father, give us Holy An Ollion.

By Only Ingress... Holy An Ollion



A YEAR IN REVIEW

Board - Herb Arnold, Tom Pollon, Louise Post, Pastor Todd Harris, Marg Pollon

♥ **National Evangelism Partnerships with the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada - Compassion Track Coordinator**
Working on a preparedness Guide & mobilizing churches for a possible 'Avian Flu' pandemic

Team: Dr. Tim Foggin & Dr. Wayne Whitbourne
www.nationalevangelism.ca

♥ **Micah Challenge Facilitation Team - Chair of Mobilization - Canada** Gathering a team across Canada consisting of Prayer, Media/Arts, Youth and Church.
www.micahchallenge.ca

♥ **'Cross the Bridge'**- First Fund Raising Event held at the Dream Centre.

♥ **Growing in Love Seminar** - Dr. Charles Arn from Church Growth Inc. presented his Growing in Love course to churches in Calgary representing 6 denominations.

♥ **Women in Leadership Conference 2006** - Hospitality Committee member for an EFC Calgary Conference in March at the Hyatt Hotel.

♥ **Calgary Evangelical Ministerial Association** - Treasurer

♥ **Alberta Council of Global Cooperation** - Board Member

♥ **Inn From the Cold** - Volunteer

♥ **TV/TM (Billy Graham)** - Volunteer

Bridges of Love

Mary Pat

Bridges of Love in Partnership with

National Evangelism Partnerships - EFC

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**EFC PARTNERSHIPS
COMPASSION
MOBILIZING CHRISTIANS TO DEMONSTRATE GOD'S LOVE**