



**“He shall have dominion  
also from sea to sea”**

**Psalm 72:8**

## A Time for Celebration

All of us have faced various challenges over the past 18 months with COVID-19 and all the changing rules and regulations that have been placed upon us. It is hard to know what to believe with all the conflicting reports and stats that are passed to us daily. We have promises that lockdowns will be opened when a certain percentage of people have been vaccinated, and then, when we reach that percentage, dates change as there is another variance to consider.

There is no doubt about the seriousness of COVID-19, but the stats tell us that “COVID-19 has not affected death rates in Canada” [www.jccf.ca](http://www.jccf.ca). It goes on to say that “death rates in 2020 in Canada are in line with 2019, 2018 & 2017”. No doubt pre-cautions taken for COVID have greatly reduced deaths due to flu, etc but they possibly have increased deaths in other areas.

Along with this, we should be concerned that the Christian community is, in the public media, attacking one another over theological issues, we also should be concerned about the manner in which some church leaders and churches have responded to government lockdowns and rules. So much time has been spent on these controversies that I am afraid that our focus may have shifted from our fulfilling God’s call “to make disciples”. We also should be disturbed that some Christian leaders have renounced their faith and others have been removed from ministry due to moral failure.

This is a time for prayer as well as celebration. With all of the past sins of the church being exposed (as with the residential schools), we do have to humble ourselves by praying and turning from our wicked ways for healing to come (II Chron 7:14). Yes, we need to acknowledge our past but as I Cor 6:11 says “Some of you

*were once like that. But you were cleansed: you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God” (NLT).*

We are blessed to live in Canada. We are blessed by the good things of the past.

So let us Celebrate God’s goodness in the midst of the horribleness of sin, and pray that **“He shall have dominion also from sea to sea”**.

(These are just some thoughts from the editor, so no need to begin any debate or response to this).

The remainder of this **CONNECTOR** gives various ways to celebrate.



## Celebrating Eternal Life in the midst of Physical Death

### **Daniel Goldsmith** (June 20, 2031 – May 4, 2021)

“Just a note to inform you of my husband's passing on May 4 following a major stroke on April 17th. He was just 6 weeks short of his 90th birthday on June 20.

We pastored for nearly 40 years mostly with the C&MA. These churches were Mirror, Vernon, Lethbridge, Rockyview, Calgary, Kamloops and Sevenoaks Alliance in Abbotsford, B.C. He served in Sevenoaks for 10 years before his retirement in 2000.



Due to COVID we had a small graveside service for close family members on May 7th. Besides myself he leaves two sons and a daughter.”

In Him

Leona Goldsmith

A link to the 33 minute service outside in the rain is here if you care to watch it. <https://vimeo.com/552625444>



**Dan Wrote:** I received Christ as my personal Saviour as a child of about 8 years of age. Dr. Oswald J. Smith, founder and first pastor of The Peoples Church in Toronto, spoke at a Family Bible Camp when I was 15. At that family camp, I dedicated my life to the Lord for ministry. Every step thereafter was to serve the Lord.

When I was ordained to the ministry over 50 years ago, the charge given to me was that there would be no options or alternatives to ministry. I was committing my life’s work to serving God.

Have there been bumps? Yes, lots of them. Have there been times when I felt like quitting? Yes. But I thank God that He kept me focused. I am nearing the end of the journey. The steps are a little slower; the body is slowing down; medication helps. The mind, though still functioning is not as quick as it used to be. Birthdays come around faster every year. But I can honestly say as I look back that I HAVE ENJOYED THE JOURNEY. Every step of the way....

I am so thankful that the Lord gave me the honor and privilege of being able to share His Word, to share with one at a time, to share with over one thousand at a time.

If I have one regret... I wish I had done better.

However, my prayer now is that I will finish well.

Several years ago, as I was driving home, having just visited one who had messed up a bit near the end of his career, a few thoughts went through my mind. When I got home I wrote them down. This is what I wrote: My life on earth will end,  
What day I cannot tell;  
My one desire and prayer is  
That I will end it well.

I wrote that in the flyleaf of my KJV Bible. I already had a poem there, which I found in a departed saint's Bible some years earlier. It summed up the desire of my heart and my JOURNEY on earth.

This is what it said: The desire of my heart is so to live,  
That people will say as I pass,  
Not what a wonderful Christian he is,  
But a wonderful Christ that he has.

We do indeed have a wonderful Christ, and it is wonderful to be able to journey together as brothers and sisters in Christ... LABORERS TOGETHER.

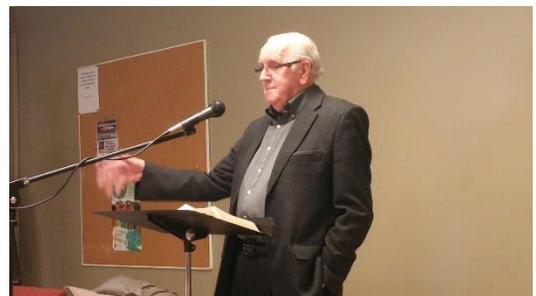
I trust that we will all ENJOY THE REST OF THE JOURNEY. It is NOT WIT'S END for the family of God. We're on our journey home.

May God help us to be faithful each step of the way and when we hit a bump along the way rest in our theme verse for these days: **"GOD IS ABLE TO MAKE ALL GRACE ABOUND TOWARD YOU, THAT YOU, ALWAYS HAVING ALL SUFFICIENCY IN ALL THINGS, MAY HAVE AN ABUNDANCE FOR EVERY GOOD WORK."** II Corinthians 9:8

May we all enjoy the journey and may we all end well.

You can read Dan's last recorded sermon: Enjoying the Journey at Dallas Valley Camp

[Papa Dan's Pastoral Days \(papadanspastoraldays.blogspot.com\)](http://papadanspastoraldays.blogspot.com)





## NO WRINKLES ON THE SOUL

My hands are trembling,  
My feet are slipping,  
My back is aching,  
But there's not a wrinkle on my soul.

My eyes are squinting,  
My ears are failing,  
My mind is groping,  
But there's not a wrinkle on my soul.

My things I'm dropping,  
My years are fleeting,  
My friends are dying,  
But there's not a wrinkle on my soul.

I've a faith that's unwavering,  
I've a hope that's persisting,  
I've a love that's enduring,  
There's not a wrinkle on my soul.

I've a joy that's unending,  
I've a peace that's long lasting,  
I've friends that are most caring,  
There's not a wrinkle on my soul.

Yes, my body it is aging,  
But my spirit is rejoicing,  
For my God He is so loving,  
There's not a wrinkle on my soul.

## Celebrating assistance provided after the death of a loved one.

We have mourned, yet rejoiced in the celebration of those **POWER Team** members who have entered their eternal home. In two previous issues of **CONNECTOR**, Jeannette Bucek celebrated the work husband Gord had done in leaving her great information as to the practical things one needs to deal with the issues of one's death.

You can find these in **CONNECTOR** 2021 February [connector-48-feb-2021.pdf \(cmaacan.org\)](#) & March [connector-49-march-2021.pdf \(cmaacan.org\)](#)

In our 50<sup>th</sup> issue of **CONNECTOR** we announced the death of Laurie McLean. As wife Nancy discovered, there are lots of things to care for after a death and many forms to fill out. Nancy has passed on to us some great assistance she received from a company called Peacehold Estate Documentation. "Peacehold provides executor assistance to help simplify a complex process and speed your time to claim and closure".

[How It Works « Peacehold Inc. ®](#)



The information here is by no means "approved" by the C&MA in Canada or **POWER Team** leadership. We are just passing this along to you, with a testimony of what they did for Nancy McLean after the death of Laurie in April.

Nancy said: "After you contact them for help they arrange a phone call with you in order that you can supply them with the necessary details - like numbers from health card, driver's license, S.I.N., tax credit details like pensions etc. They already know of all the govt. departments that need notification of the death but you can also add any other groups that need this information like insurance companies or memberships, or credit cards or whoever you need to inform.



They then prepare a personalized folder for you which you receive in the mail in about 2 weeks. Inside the folder are individual forms for each department or company. There are the official govt. forms which they have already filled in for you - all you do is add your signature. There is a covering letter which you also just sign. Then they tell you which documents to include in each envelope that is already stamped ready to send. They explain if the documents for each envelope need to be the original, a certified copy, a photocopy or whatever.

Some govt. forms say this too but not as clearly as this company does it.

For many envelopes you need a certified death certificate (available from the funeral home) and the Will (available from your lawyer).

It relieved all the stress of trying to get the govt. forms during covid and trying to understand how to fill them out! They speed up the time for your claims and benefits.

All I had to do was sign my name on various forms and letters, do some photocopying and fill the envelopes with the required documents. In one afternoon, it was all done and sent off. For every letter and form sent, they have prepared a photocopy for your own records too.

I do not have any regrets using this company - extremely accurate and professional.

Nancy McLean

# Celebrate Grandparents & Grandparenthood

In June we celebrated Father's Day. Every one of us had fathers and we are thankful to God for the input they had in our lives. Some of us are grandfathers and I could hardly believe that I celebrated 3 generations of Fathers (with son & grandson -also great grandson - see picture on right).

Here is an article for you to read for blessing, challenge and ministry.



## Beautiful Reasons God Created Grandparents

[Beautiful Reasons God Created Grandparents \(crosswalk.com\)](https://www.crosswalk.com) by **Ashley Hooker**

1. Grandparents Never Stop Being Parents
2. Grandparents Hold the Family Together
3. Grandparents Provide a Support System
4. Grandparents Deliver Wisdom to their Families
5. Grandparents Pass on the Family Legacy



## We Celebrate those who served behind the scenes so Faithfully



We are blessed with those who are bi-vocational and those who serve so often unnoticed by the larger family but are very significant to those they shepherd and disciple. Here is one couple **Dale & Janet Mackness -London, Ont.**

Most of you we do not know as we came to the Alliance later in life even though my (Dale) great grandfather had bought the Simpson Farm over 100 years ago and my Dad lived on the farm as a child maybe even sleeping in AB's bedroom...my grandmother and some aunts and uncles are pictured at the farm in the history book from a picture around 1919 before my Dad was born. I served part time as English Ministry pastor at London Chinese Alliance Church but did not attend many denominational gatherings as I was bi-vocational at that time and a little busy!

## We Celebrate new leadership

**New DS for Canadian Pacific District – Mark Peters** who has served at North Shore Alliance in Vancouver. We look forward to his support of our **POWER Team** ministry.

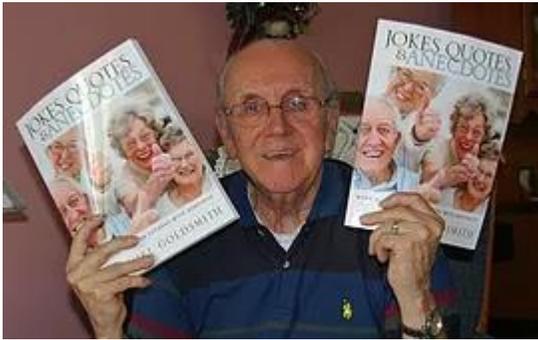
**New DS for Central Canadian District** -voting rules are that a candidate must have 51% +1 to be elected. This did not happen so the President will be appointing an interim person to serve until the next district conference in 2023

**WE Celebrate Joy & Lulu Tira's new mission field** -read about it

[Mission Fields in the Northern Hemisphere | The Exchange | A Blog by Ed Stetzer \(christianitytoday.com\)](#)



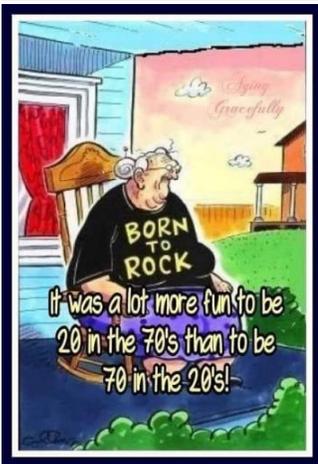
There is always room for some humour. Our dear departed Dan Goldsmith wrote a book called Quotes, Jokes and Anecdotes. Besides the joy of the Lord being our strength, it is always good to tell our face to smile.



Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me. I want people to know why I look this way. I've travelled a long way, and some of the roads weren't paved.

Strawberries came early in June in Ontario this year. Here was one helpful suggestion from a friend.

**A friend suggested putting horse manure on my strawberries... I'm never doing that again, I'm going back to whipped cream.**



**AS YOU GET OLDER YOU'VE GOT TO STAY POSITIVE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE OTHER DAY I FELL DOWN THE STAIRS... INSTEAD OF GETTING UPSET I JUST THOUGHT, "WOW, THAT'S THE FASTEST I'VE MOVED IN YEARS"**

I was walking home last night and decided to take a short cut through the cemetery...3 girls walked up to me and explained that they were scared to walk past the cemetery at night,so I agreed to let them walk along with me.I told them "I understand...I used to get freaked out too when I was alive."

Never seen anyone run so fast

**Boy aged 4:** Dad, I've decided to get married.  
**Dad:** Wonderful; do you have a girl in mind?  
**Boy:** Yes... grandma! She said she loves me, I love her, too...and she's the best cook & story teller in the whole world!!  
**Dad:** That's nice, but we have a small problem there!!  
**Boy:** What problem?!!  
**Dad:** She happens to be my mother. How can you marry my mother!!  
**Boy:** Why not?! You married mine!!!!

Compilers of **Connector** Wayne & Betty Kerr [waynebettyk@roger.com](mailto:waynebettyk@roger.com)  
 National **POWER** Team Volunteer Coordinators -Gerald & Dorothy Hogenbirk  
[hogenbirkgd@yahoo.com](mailto:hogenbirkgd@yahoo.com)