



World Partners

Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada
Following Jesus Together

March 2018

The Bragg's Ministry Newsletter

Aanii, Hello from Saugeen! We hope this finds you well. We are thankful for the arrival of an early spring, although there may be a few flurries yet!?

We are always filled with awe and gratitude when we ponder the faithfulness of our great God, and the provision of wonderful, committed partners like you!

It is always overwhelming when someone tells you that they pray for you daily, we are so thankful for the prayers that go heaven bound on our behalf and those we serve, here on Saugeen! Your prayers make a difference! We have a God in heaven who hears and answers the prayers of His people!

It is amazing to me that our God desires a close, personal, intimate relationship with each one of us! It's always been His heart's desire and started at the beginning of creation when He met in the garden with Adam & Eve. He longs for us to spend time with Him, in His Presence basking in His love! At His feet is the best place to be, were you can pour your heart out to Him and seek His wisdom and direction. Life is full of bumps, detours, and cross roads yet God has provided a place, a refuge away from the pressures and burdens of life. We have a good, good Father who is never too busy, preoccupied, or distracted to meet with you. I'm so thankful for the promise of God that HE will never leave us or forsake us!

We want to send out a huge "THANK YOU" to each one of you that has provided funds to see a bus and driver hired to pick up the children for Kids Church each Tuesday! This has turned out to be a blessing in disguise as we no longer have to worry whether the bus will start, run, or be fixed. Stan gets picked up at our laneway and is able to monitor the activity on the bus a lot more since he's not driving! The icing on the cake is that the bus driver comes in and hears the gospel each week too! I love how God works!

The other thing that has really been thrilling is to see the hunger in the kids for the things of the Lord! We see something different this year and we have committed not just to teaching lessons each week, but to encouraging an environment where God's presence shows up! Head knowledge does not take us very far in our Christian walk but personally experiencing the living God makes ALL the difference! Pray for these kids that they will be spiritual warriors for this community and lead the way to a mighty move of God!

We as well meet with our youth team every Monday night. We are going through the youth Alpha course right now to really ground them in the foundations of their faith. They are not all believers yet, but are on a journey with Jesus.

We could not be here week after week without your faithful support, YOU are a part of what God is doing amongst these precious people! GOD, and God alone has given us the faithfulness, strength and ability to serve Him on Saugeen for these 18 years, and each of YOU have allowed us the privilege of serving the Lord in this capacity!

Of course along with the great things God is doing there is always opposition from the enemy. We are saddened to say the merger with the native church has not really worked out the way we hoped. Unfortunately we've watched most of those that transitioned with us not attending church any longer. Sadly it is not open or welcoming to families and unchurched individuals. We had to have an honest look and come to the conclusion that we really don't fit in a closed group that does not extend itself to those outside the church or families. So we are not attending that church either, and have continued to do what God has called us here to do with children, youth and their families. Although our hearts were deeply grieved we have realized it was necessary not only for those we work with but for our children as well. We continue to pray in how we can engage some adults on another level. We take people out for coffee and talk about life and faith. We desire that the adults within the sphere of our influence be made whole through the timeless truths of Christ, for it is the "truth that sets us free."

We have been investigating ways in which we can reach out to the native population in Owen Sound. Calvary Missionary church is our home church in which we can invite native people to come. The Lord has put us in connection with a couple of key people to investigate what can be done. Please pray.

In December we welcomed our 6th grandchild, Bennett Thomas Bragg! A beautiful, healthy baby boy born with lots of dark hair! We thank God for his little life and the blessing he is to his parents, and our family!

As well just a week before Christmas Stan's Dad, Bernie was transferred to the Southampton Care Center so thank you for your prayers on his behalf! He has adjusted well and seems to be happy to be closer to us! Continue to pray for his health concerns and salvation.

We would also seek your prayers for our neighbour, Roger. He is 86 and has just been diagnosed with lung cancer. He has been pretty closed to the gospel but we know God is able to do the impossible so we ask you to pray for his health and salvation! We know that no one is beyond the mercy and grace of our loving God!

We would also ask you to pray for the son & daughter of a man that passed away this morning from Saugeen. He had been in the hospital with kidney failure and developed complications. We were relieved to hear that in the hospital he received Christ as his savior and so we know he is in heaven today! Praise God, HE is so faithful! This man's ten year old son who comes to Kids Church has asked for Stan to sing a couple of songs at his dad's funeral.

As usual death always makes me contemplate, how quickly time here on earth passes and it helps me evaluate life and what we live for. All too soon friends our time on earth is passed and we will stand before Jesus, the One who made it possible for us to come into the Presence of God. The One who gave His all, his life so that we can be reconciled to the Father. How I long to hear these words from His lips, "well done my good and faithful servant," may our heart's desire be one that extends Christ's love to those around us!

We would ask you to pray for a young native man named Carmen who we have known for a few years. He is a young guy about thirty years old, and is a strong believer in Jesus who lives on the Cape Croker Reserve near Wiarton. He was in a school of ministry in Toronto two years ago and wants to finish this course. He will be taking the advanced module this time. Pray for him and His finances that are needed to see him complete his school of ministry. Because of his passion for the Lord and to see his native people receive Christ. He has begun a once a month house of prayer at the local community center on his reserve which is gaining attention in the community. We want to be a blessing to him and do whatever we can to support him on mission to his own people.

Just a reminder that we are now available to come Sunday mornings and share with our EMCC churches about the work here on Saugeen! We would love to connect and share how God is moving here and how HE desires to move across this great land of Canada!!

As we have shared life here is rarely boring, obstacles are plentiful, but we have always pressed on believing God is able to do " abundantly more than we could think or even imagine!" We are also spurred on by each one of you, your prayers and the knowledge of knowing that when God's people pray He hears and answers! For the churches who receive this letter would you please make sure it is passed on to your missions committees or representatives and available to the congregations!

If your church would like to visit us and tour the reserve, e-mail us or call and we will set this up.

We are attempting to send out our newsletters electronically. We understand that not everyone has e-mail access. Please contact us if you would like to be on our e-mail list.

Claiming this generation together for the Lord, and for His glory and honor,

Stan & Sally Bragg,

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