

What has God been doing in your life lately?
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YOUR STORY**
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Storyline

a letter from **Pastor Scott**



We exist to build lives that honour God. I know you have heard that over and over ... and if you haven't, you're going to. I'll even go further; we

connect with God through Jesus and with each other as the church; we grow to become more like Jesus in attitude,

character, and actions; we serve God by serving people; and we share the love of God throughout the world. That is a life that honours God. **We are a church that brings people in, builds them up, trains them for, and sends them out.** We do all of this to make Jesus famous! This is who we are. This is who we've been for 75 years.

How do we know this is happening? We know through stories of life change. Almost every week people come to me with their stories of how God is at work in them. Some of these folks are new to FAC and some have been around for years. In every story there is a common thread – the feelings of acceptance, excitement, and hope. God is working.

Throughout this publication you will read stories. It is my prayer that you will be inspired. During our elders' board meeting last December I challenged our leaders to not lose the "wow" of God. I challenge you with the same. We should always be impressed with what God is

doing. He is moving in, for, and through us in a powerful way. Don't lose the wow. Read – and embrace the wow.

One last thought ... this year we celebrate our 75th anniversary. We are planning to launch the love on Calgary in unprecedented ways. Don't lose the wow.

Scott Weatherford, Lead Pastor

First Alliance
a christian & missionary alliance church

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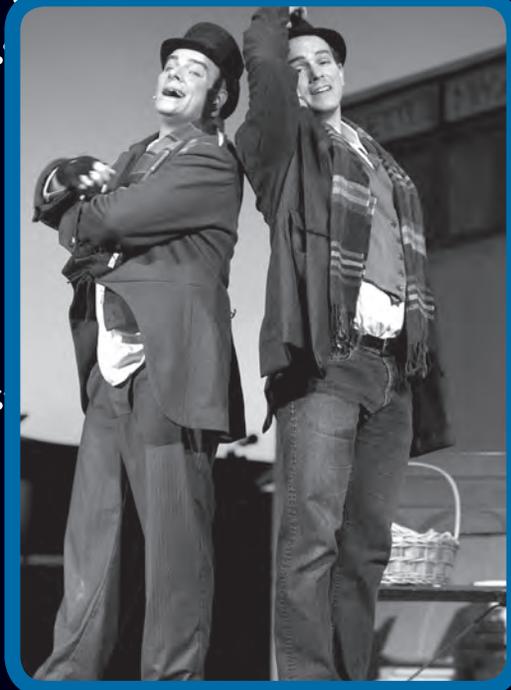
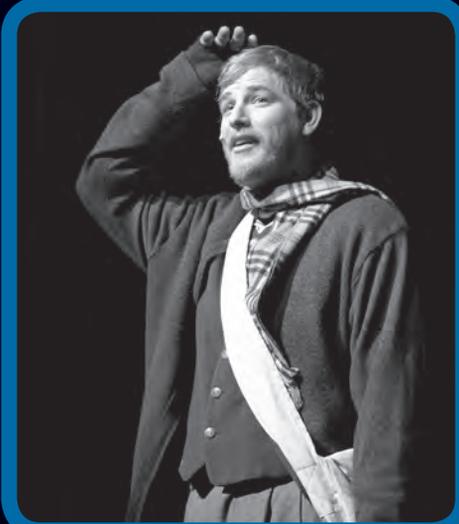
First Alliance Church ... building lives that honour God.

What makes us tick? In a nutshell, God – and you! Thousands of us come together each week, from all walks of life, with ethnic diversity and from all ages, to “build lives that honour God.” The Bible is our plumb-line ... the absolute truth that sets in motion our teaching, our music and how we relate to each other and to God. We want more than anything as individuals and as a church to impact the city of Calgary and beyond. As part of the Christian and Missionary Alliance of Canada, we also think it's very cool that we get to partner with some amazing people in other parts of the world as they also “build lives that honour God.”

Our Values ...

CONNECTING in Life Groups – small groups of people who meet regularly to study the Bible, pray, serve and build relationship together. **GROWING** in our understanding of who God is and who He wants us to be – learning through prayer and the Bible how to live in vital connection with Him. **SERVING** God by serving other people within the church and our community. **SHARING** the love and hope of Jesus Christ with others, both locally and globally.

{CHRISTMAS 2012}



Whispers

The sights and sounds of Christmas

The sights and sounds of Christmas greeted us at the door here at FAC on Christmas Eve. Warm and inviting was the atmosphere, the church so lovely and festive with the choir singing. But I must admit upfront that I was not in the Christmas spirit at all this year. Too much personal stress and doing to make the holidays just right overwhelmed me. I felt as though I was missing Jesus somehow, and that made me very sad. After all, is this joyous season not for Him? How could I possibly miss Him?

Our worship time was soothing and relaxing. It wasn't done in traditional Christmas style as one might expect, with silver and gold decorations, ceiling-high trees and poinsettias all about the stage. I am a traditional type of girl and somewhat longed for all that – but **God had already been telling me earlier that day to make new memories of Christmas instead of focusing on the “stuff” to make the “spirit” happen.** I welcomed the warmth of the simple stage and sat back and enjoyed the carols and hymns. What truly caught my mind were the screen messages that said, “How does Christmas sound to you? Hollow? How does it feel? Social, hectic, stressful, lonely?” And then, “What if it sounded so still you could hear a whisper?” I think I had been missing His whispers.

Pastor Scott spoke about hearing God not just through Christmas but hearing him always. It is

not about our feelings and expectations. It is all about His. And Pastor Scott reminded us God wants us to hear it. Hear Him.

After the service, my husband and I spoke with friends we hadn't seen in a long while. While we chatted, our daughter, Sarah, was dancing about the aisles with excitement as any child does on Christmas Eve. But **something caught her eye . . . and her heart.** As we were ready to leave the Sanctuary, she grabbed my hand and, with tears starting to well up, said, “Mom, I need to talk to you.” Of course I obliged and bent down to hear her whisper. **“You see that young man at the front of the stage? God told me to tell him that He loves him. I have to go tell him, Mom.”**

Naturally she wanted me to go with her, and so down to the front we went. The young man was sitting in the front row and I interrupted him quietly. “Excuse me . . . my daughter would like to tell you something that's on her heart. Do you mind?” The young man, a little puzzled, politely said, “Yeah, OK. Sure.” Sarah took a step forward and said, “God loves you very much.” He replied, “Thank you.”

Sweet and simple. God whispers to a little girl's heart with a message of His love for another. And the joy of obedience on my daughter's face was incredible for this mom to witness.

Let's not miss His quiet, still voice. Pastor Scott asked, “Do you hear what I hear?” Yes, most definitely. God loves you and me very much. | **Written by Lynn Hookway**

Brad's Blog

[An excerpt from Pastor Brad Young's NEW blog]

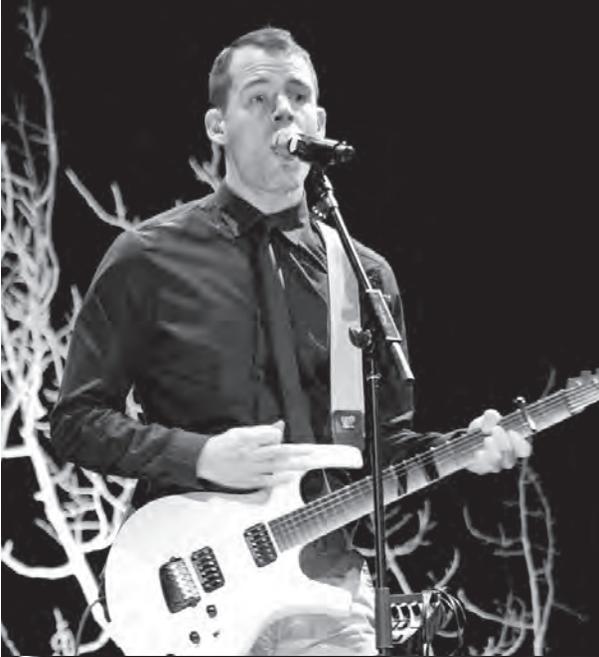


If you were king of the world...

[Posted on January 8, 2013]

“There is nothing more foolish than an answer to an unasked question, and nothing more powerful than an exposition from Scripture that is the Lord's answer to the urgent questions people really are asking.” (Lloyd John Ogilvie)

I've been thinking a lot about this quote lately and the question, “What questions are people *really* asking?” The answers to this question interest me greatly. As pastors/preachers/teachers, there are few things that would give greater insight than a definitive answer to that question from every person in our churches ... **Read the rest; visit www.pastorbradyoung.com** 



PHOTOS TAKEN BY CORY HUCHKOWSKI



DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

8 Christmas Eve services over the course of 3 days. Talk about Hark the Herald Angels Sing! It might not have been our "typical" candle-light service, but you can be sure that Jesus' birth was celebrated in spirit and truth, and the message of *The Whisper of Christmas* was heard by 7,535 people of all ages, ethnicities and life experiences.

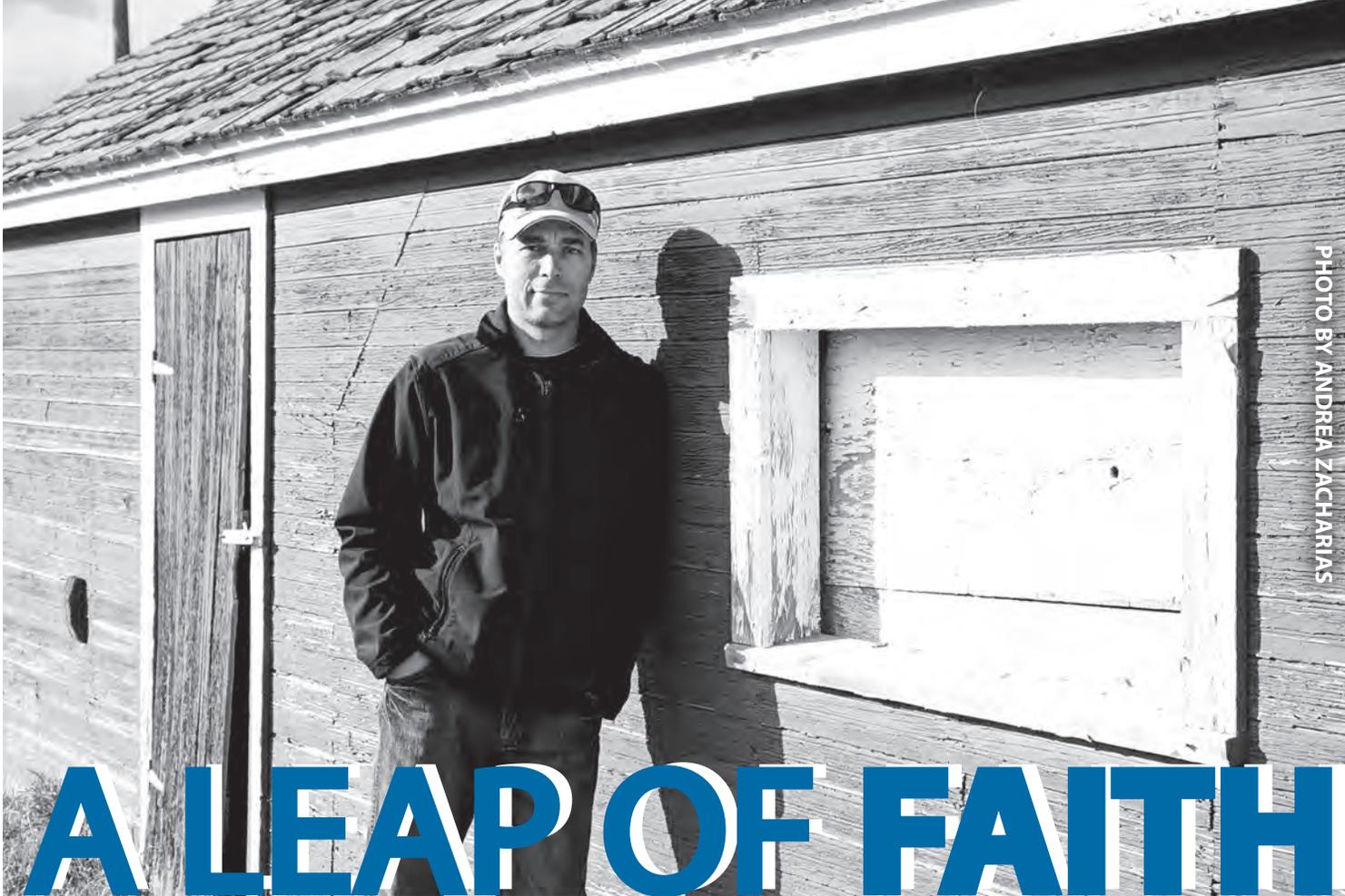


PHOTO BY ANDREA ZACHARIAS

I was in a comfortable job with a comfortable family – pretty much a comfortable life. I had always wanted to run my own business with all the excitement and potential upside it entailed. What I did not know about the realities of business I felt that God would teach me and get me through. He did, but not without many hardships.

My brother and his wife teamed up with my wife and me in bringing to Canada a new product and service that had never been sold here before. We had lots of energy, a good business plan, and just enough money to get going, so off we went. The first year brought lots of hard work with good results. Revenues were going up each month, people were being hired, our company was gaining exposure, but there was something drastically wrong. Before long it was decided that the partnership with my brother and his wife had to be dissolved. It was not amicable or clean or nice. It was rough. **The business kept on running fine. But we were not fine.** We learned many things about ourselves and our family through these years of “separation.” I remember thinking that we may never see them again and how we were missing our nieces and nephew. I recorded in my journal, “We are starting this business on our own. The Spirit has confirmed our direction and we have hope that relations will be healed one day.”

Through all of this, God was there. I believe He walked with us as couples and individuals through things we needed to learn. About a year later, we scheduled a time to meet. Many people were praying.

Praying for reconciliation. Praying for peace. The meeting went well and we talked about real stuff. Not just about the weather or how the kids were doing. A little while later, my brother came by the shop. We talked again.

“Through all of this, God was there.”

Meanwhile, the business was running well, but we felt that it was our time to do something else. We scheduled a time to talk with Pastor Ray and I remember him praying that the business would sell. Lo and behold, it sold about a year later. If I knew it would be that easy I would have gone to see him a lot sooner!

Throughout the years at the business I really did rely on my own strength. I would pray, but I didn’t really believe. If I was short of staff or having some other issue, I would try and do it all on my own. God wants us fully dependent on Him. He is in control and always has been.

Our relationship with my brother and his wife has returned. It’s at a different level of maturity and, I believe, is growing. This is only through God’s grace. It is very true that “God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” It is also true that God is near. He never left us. It is so comforting for me to know that God really only expects us to be obedient and then leave the consequences to Him. I don’t have to do it all. To God be the glory.

■ **Written by Trevor Zacharias**

THE BEST PLAN

Getting the most out of life ... God's way

I was about to start undergraduate studies

at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, when my family fell into terrible financial straits that shook us all to the very core of our sustenance. As a result, my hope for a university education and degree was threatened. My first-year tuition fees were barely paid for by funds garnered from relatives and well-wishers, so I started my classes with no clue where funds for my upkeep and the rest of my schooling would come from. I only had unrelenting faith that "He who began a good work in me will carry it on to completion."

One day during my first month on campus, **I was praying in my room, earnestly asking God why He brought me to the university.** God responded in an audible voice and pointed me to Exodus 19: 4-5. I looked around the room to be certain the voice was not a prank by some friend hiding somewhere in the room. After I had confirmed I was alone, I picked up my Bible and immediately flipped to the passage. It read, *"You have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession."* At this point, I needed no crystal ball to decipher my mission and future on the campus.

I joined two Christian groups on campus and became involved in the prayer ministry and evangelical outreach to high schools in the area. By the end of my first year, I decided to write four

undergraduate scholarship tests and passed all four, providing the funds needed to complete my studies! The rest is history. I graduated *magna cum laude*.

A year later, I moved to Canada to do a Masters program at the University of Regina. This also happened on the pedestal of God's marvelous provision through another scholarship. I graduated and now work as a Petroleum Engineer here in Calgary.

My wife and I, together with our one and a half year old daughter, first attended First Alliance in September, 2011 and immediately fell in love with the church. We kept coming every Sunday but had no real commitment. My wife eventually began volunteering in DiscoveryLand but I was hesitant to get involved and serve anywhere. **By revelation, God nudged me one day to actively commit to the church and look for ways to serve.** One brilliant Sunday a week or two later, I ran into Pastor David Kang on Main Street after the service. As if he already knew of my personal struggle with God, he talked to me about serving with him in the Ethnic Ministries here at FAC. So, here I am today, willing and ready to do what God will have me do in this area of ministry! | *Written by Etim Idorenyin*

On December 14, Ethnic Ministries hosted a Christmas dinner for our Iranian community, with special music by the Hovsepian family.

[Pictured below; photography by Jill Hopkins]



Special Delivery!

TO: Teen Challenge

FROM: Everyone at FAC



It was Christmas at Teen Challenge on December 18 when Georgina and Marinus Hus delivered the gifts generously provided by individuals from FAC. For the past several years, a Christmas tree on Main Street has provided people with requested gift items to bless the men working their way through the one-year, Christ-centred addiction recovery program. **This year there was more than \$3,700 in gift cards and two fully loaded pick-up trucks filled with tangible gifts.** There was even a canoe and kayak donated! Thank you so much from Teen Challenge – both staff and students – for your generosity and love in action. **[Submitted by Georgina Hus]**

{HELLO MY NAME IS}

Meet the NEW Team Player @ FAC!

pastor of leadership & serve ministries

RUTH ESAU



I Can't Live Without ...

Here are a few of Ruth's favorite things ...

1. Coloured pencils

There's even some on her desk!



2. Kaleidoscopes

And you thought they were just for kids ...



If you were going to spend a week on an island alone, what 3 things would you bring?

First, I just love people so I would have to take one of them along! Then I love beauty and colour and inspiration so I would have to take some coloured pens and/or pencils and paper to use them on. Thirdly I would have to take my all-time favourite book - God's Word (it is alive and always meets me where I am at). I so wish I could memorize more in less time, but it is just hard work ... so I need the real thing with me to keep it all straight.

What is your favourite food?

Coffee! I love what happens when I sit down with a good cup of coffee and a heart open and submitted to the Holy Spirit - WOW! Throw in a little chocolate for good measure! It was in one of those moments that I came to love kaleidoscopes and how they work. When you hold a kaleidoscope up to the light and turn it, the design and pattern change ... you've never seen it like that before. So too when I am stuck in my thinking or attitude, I just need to give one little twist or turn to my thoughts and something different and new appears.

What is your favourite childhood memory?

Only **one** of my favourite memories? ... 'Cause there are just soooo many! Playing checkers on the floor with my Dad ... I don't remember who won, I just remember how fun it was!

Most people would be surprised to know that ...

I have had the privilege and responsibility of God's gifting and call on my life being affirmed through ordination.

What word describes you best?

Intentional

When I need a good laugh, I ...

... look in the mirror, or I hang out with friends and family who get me!

When I need a good cry, I ...

My life has held way too many tears! The pain of losing loved ones to cancer, drunk drivers or heart attacks, and a myriad of other losses. God has crafted my heart for Him through grief and loss of many kinds. I don't seem to get to needing a good cry - life has moments all of its own!

Living a life that honours God

... in spite of a mental illness Written by Helga Lempriere

20% of Canadians experience mental illness at least once in their lifetime, according to the Canadian Mental Health Association. 1% are affected with schizophrenia. Elizabeth Anderson is one of the 1%.



PHOTO BY CHANTAL MILAINE

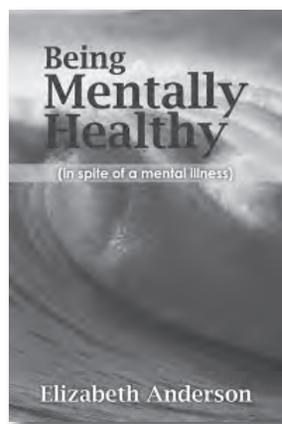
Elizabeth grew up in a nominal Christian home with three brothers, a mother who was a special education teacher and a father who was a union negotiator. Due in part to faithful church attendance as a child, Elizabeth accepted Christ at age 7. It wasn't until much later that Christ became a living reality in Elizabeth's life.

At age 15, Elizabeth was hospitalized with depression – the first foreshadowing of a mental illness. Fully recovered from that experience, Elizabeth carried on with her life, trying to pursue an education and getting married. It was only after her marriage to Wade that schizophrenia gradually manifested in her life. While Elizabeth was not aware of what was happening to her, others began to notice that something wasn't quite right. A friend who had gone to great lengths to locate Elizabeth after a ten-year separation very quickly knew that Elizabeth was psychotic. The friend (who had prior knowledge of psychosis) consulted with Wade, who then took Elizabeth to the hospital for assessment.

This assessment began a journey to wholeness, but it was by no means easy or straightforward. Elizabeth really struggled with trusting God; she felt that He had abandoned her and left her to deal with life on her own. A combination of drug therapy, meetings with psychologists and psychiatrists as well as a goal setting group have all been part of the process of becoming mentally healthy.

Elizabeth felt that one of the key factors in regaining mental health was to learn what the plumbline of reality was. She found this in the Word of God – His reality became her reality.

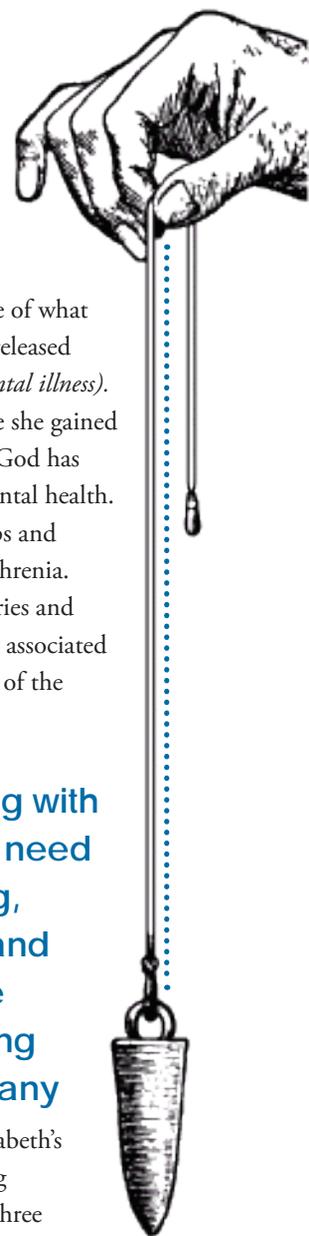
He truly was with her the whole time – she'd never been forsaken in spite of what she had once thought. In September 2012, Elizabeth released her first book, *Being Mentally Healthy (in spite of a mental illness)*. Drawing from her own experiences and the knowledge she gained through this incredible journey, Elizabeth shares how God has been working in her life, bringing her to a place of mental health. She shares very personally about a few key relationships and how they were affected by her experience with schizophrenia. Elizabeth considers this book one of her greatest victories and hopes that it will help people to realize that the stigma associated with mental illness is unfounded; it is simply a disease of the mind as opposed to a disease of the physical body.



People dealing with mental illness need understanding, compassion and grace just like anyone dealing with illness of any other kind.

Elizabeth's book is currently being used as a textbook in three

universities. Check it out for yourself at FAC's Cornerstone Bookstore under the "Wholeness" section. ●



// I have used what I have been through to inform my purpose in life ... I want to educate people about mental illness and, perhaps, help people be closer to God."
(Being Mentally Healthy page 105-106)

God places a song in the hearts of his children. It may not always be heard or even heeded but it is always there, lying below the surface of our personal unconscious.

I've been at it for years, suppressing this deep physical emotion attempting to draw me in as I couldn't fathom the outcome of when one begins to sing. Of letting our light shine before men.

But when we hear his voice, we see that we can know nothing.

I'm a sinner straight up and have worked long and hard at it to build up this inured unresponse to anything sensitive. To reach through my rough facade I need the tough truth, straight up. A blunt message that deals with the real is what draws me in.

I began attending our new Sunday night service – the exchange – initially just to gather some info for this story. But I found myself going back, and when I can't make it ... I miss it.

It's a small, informal community and the music and worship leans toward where your heart goes – improvisation. The root is Biblical discipleship and unsoftened gospel and the tough truths about us human beings and sin. **Jesus never sugar-coated anything.**

And with that, I can't say that every service leaves me feeling entirely happy – because as I've mentioned before, I am an unmitigated sinner and it is my nature to not like my sinning toes being stepped on.

Which is to say that I am being touched (how else would I know what's "my bad"?). But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:10).

And I am thankful to the unchained melody I've experienced at **the exchange** for lending a hand in helping me figure that out. For prodding and chipping away at those deepest walls and putting a new song in my mouth. ●

MY LIFE BE LIFTED HIGH

Written by Darcey Jerrom

PHOTOS BY ANDREA ZACHARIAS



FUN FACTS @ FAC

DiscoveryLand used over **2,000 cotton balls** for crafts in the past couple months!

There are **130 lights** in the Sanctuary

Last year 8,000 people considered FAC their "home church"

"Jesus Calling" by Sara Young is the best selling book at Cornerstone Resources

Pastor Scott owns approx. 25 patterned shirts

Last year, Student Ministries went through approx. **1,800** cans of pop!

TRIVIA

Question 1: What gospel(s) speak of the events surrounding Jesus' birth?

- a) Matthew, Mark, Luke John
- b) Mark and Luke
- c) Matthew and Luke
- d) Mark only

Question 2: According to the Bible, how many magi visit Christ after his birth?

- a) One
- b) Two
- c) Three
- d) Undisclosed

Question 3: What Does "Emmanuel" mean?

- a) God with us
- b) Son of God
- c) God in flesh
- d) God in the world

Question 4: Why was Jesus born in Bethlehem, according to the gospel of Luke?

- a) He wasn't; He was born in Nazareth
- b) His earthly father went to Bethlehem for a census
- c) His parents lived there
- d) His mother went to visit Elizabeth

Question 5: When was Jesus born?

- a) December 25
- b) September 2
- c) December 24
- d) Undisclosed

Question 6: How did the shepherds hear about Jesus' birth?

- a) They followed a star
- b) An angel told them
- c) There are no shepherds in the story
- d) The magi told them

Answers: 1 = c, 2 = d, 3 = a, 4 = b, 5 = b, 6 = b



Valentine's Day

Written by Melissa Abusow

I admit I'm a bit stuck when it comes to writing about Valentine's Day. If I focus on love and how wonderful it is, I alienate those without someone this Valentine's. If I cater to the singles then it may come across cynical. What to do, what to do... Let's just have some fun!

I was curious about what the top romantic movies of all time were. Well, I guess it's all a matter of opinion and which list you choose. A couple lists had 'Casablanca' at the number one spot, while another one had two of the 'Twilight' movies holding down spots one and two ... they're on the same level of cinematic perfection, right? 'Titanic' made the list on a couple as did 'Say Anything.' If you can't think of which movie 'Say Anything' is, you're probably familiar with this image: boy outside girl's window, holding stereo above his head playing 'In Your Eyes' by Peter Gabriel. I suppose it's movies like this that help keep Valentine's Day going strong. Doesn't every girl just want some boy to serenade her? Surprisingly the movie called 'Valentine's Day' was not on anybody's top ten... who am I kidding, that's not surprising at all. If you've seen this movie you're smiling at that last comment. My personal favorite is 'Love Actually' (the made-for-TV version, of course); what's yours?

Then I wanted to know how many books are out there about relationships. If you're looking to purchase, there are only a little over 16,000 to sift through. At the top of the list is good ol' Dr. Phil with 'Relationship Rescue,' and of course 'Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus' by John Gray. However, there were some other books that caught my attention. One is called 'What Men Want' with the subtitle "Three Professional Single Men Reveal to Women What it Takes to Make a Man Yours." My reaction to that? Maybe these three men should be more focused on what they can do to make the women in their lives theirs. I'm just saying. 'Making Marriage

Work' – brought to you by the 'for dummies' series. 'The Multiple Sclerosis Diet Book' ... I think that one may have been misfiled. 'Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man: What Men Really Think About Love, Relationships, Intimacy, and Commitment' by Dr. Steve Harvey ... whoops, that's not doctor – that's just game show host/actor Steve Harvey. First person I'm running to for relationship advice. **I'm poking fun, obviously, but there are some good books out there; just make sure you do your research.**

Lastly, a Valentine's Day article wouldn't be complete without some Valentine's quotes and rhymes. Here are a few that I came across that made me smile:

*"Nobody will ever win the battle of the sexes.
There's too much fraternizing with the enemy." (Henry Kissinger)*

*"I don't understand why Cupid was chosen to represent Valentine's Day.
When I think about romance, the last thing on my mind is a short, chubby toddler
coming at me with a weapon." (Anonymous)*

*"True love comes quietly, without banners or flashing lights.
If you hear bells, get your ears checked." (Erich Segal)*

*"I smiled, I winked, I have been quite a flirt.
So here's a Valentine because you're not too alert."
(Brownielocks)*

*"When asked what love means I say it's when
you like someone a lot. I like you a lot."
(Phil Abusow, to me)*

References

<http://www.timeout.com/newyork/film/the-50-most-romantic-movies-of-all-time?pageNumber=5> • <http://www.reelz.com/top-10/88/top-10-most-romantic-movies-of-all-time/> • <http://www.imdb.com/list/t4d7DvgUjzs/> • <http://www.totalfilm.com/features/50-most-romantic-movie-moments-of-all-time>

So, Happy Valentine's Day!

[Or not, for some of you, I guess – it all depends on your current Facebook relationship status.]

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Connect

Men | Women | Seniors | Singles

Sisterhood (Mentoring)

February 4, 7 pm, Action Ctr.

A once a month gathering of women young and old who want to build relationship while going through the book, *True Womanhood 101*. Contact Tara Weatherford tweatherford@faccalgary.com /403-258-8292.

Seniors' Luncheon

February 21, Harvest Rooms

Join us 11 am-2 pm for a delicious meal, community and more. Cost: \$15 at the door; RSVP to Pastor Ed Dyck edyck@faccalgary.com/403-212-8841.

Men's Mess Hall Breakfast

February 23, Harvest Rooms

Men – invite a buddy, come eat your fill and be challenged to live a life that honours God! Cost: \$15; register online. Contact Grant Sylvester gsylvester@faccalgary.com/403-258-7249.

Fly Fishing & Tying Group

Sundays, 2:30 pm, Prayer Ctr.

Love fly fishing? Come swap stories and learn new fly fishing/tying skills with us Jan.13- March 24. Beginners welcome! Led by Colin Callbeck, 403-938-1312.

Photography Group

Every 3rd Thursday, 7-9 pm

No matter your level of experience or age ... if you share our passion of photography, join us in Room 255 AB (upstairs). Contact Doug Van Staaldune [403-251-3017](tel:403-251-3017)/dougvans@shaw.ca.

Fuse@First Singles' Ministry Tuesdays, 7-9 pm, Prayer Ctr.

We're passionate about growing together in community through dynamic activities and meaningful service. We're from all walks of life (single, single again, single parents) aged 30 to 45. Contact fuse@faccalgary.com.

Serve

Opportunities to Volunteer

SERVE Weekend

February 23/24

As we talk about the church in Acts during our UNCOMMON series, we want to give you an opportunity to get plugged into an area of serving here at FAC! This won't be our typical ministry fair – so mark your calendar and don't miss out on this weekend.

Share

Global Impact | Ethnic Ministries

Nicaragua Mission Trip

Pray for our team heading down to Nicaragua Feb. 16-March 2! They will be helping out in practical ways in the local church and community. To get updates, contact Marinus Hus mghus@shaw.ca/403-278-9499.

Family Friday Nights

1x per month, Gym

Join us for multi-ethnic friendly games and community once a month in the Gym. Get involved! For a schedule contact Pastor David Kang dkang@faccalgary.com/403-723-6390.

Grow

Classes & Courses @ FAC

Preparing for Marriage

January 25-26, 2013

This 2-day workshop builds

the foundation needed going into marriage. This course is a prerequisite if married here at FAC. Cost: \$115/couple (includes meals and course materials). Contact Sharon Teichroeb steichroeb@faccalgary.com/403-212-8847.

Precept Bible Studies:

The Life of Joseph

Action Centre; Cost: \$15.

Afternoon Study:

Wednesdays, Jan. 23-March 20, 12:30 pm-3:30 pm.

Evening Study:

Wednesdays, Feb. 27-April 24, 6:30 pm-9 pm. Register online; for more info contact Janet Loewen jloewen@faccalgary.com/403-252-7572.

Interactive Prayer Study

Wednesdays, 5:45 pm in the

Prayer Centre This is an open group for men & women led by Dee Matheson. Come as you are able; no cost. For more info Contact Georgina Hus mghus@shaw.ca/403-278-9499.

Daniel Study

Sundays, 10:15 am, Southbend Rm.

Beginning February 3, join Elaine Pusch and Ken Keeler for this 7-week Bible study on *Discovering What the Future Holds* as revealed in the book of Daniel. No homework! Cost: \$10; must pre-register online. For more info contact Janet Loewen jloewen@faccalgary.com/403-252-7572.

Changes that Heal

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm, Rm 248

Beginning February 13, discover four steps to break free from your past; be encouraged to move ahead and experience true healing. Cost: \$5; required workbook available at Cornerstone Resourc-

es. Register online; for more info contact Janet Loewen jloewen@faccalgary.com/403-252-7572.

Preparing for Baptism

March 5, 6:30 pm, Harvest A

Learn all about baptism at FAC during this info session in Meeting Place 1, and be baptized March 16/17! Pick up a packet from the Info Desk prior to the class. Register online, or contact Janet Loewen jloewen@faccalgary.com/403-252-7572.

Support & Recovery

Being There for Each Other

Enduring Hearts

Every 2nd Thursday, Room 255

If you are a young mom who has experienced the death of a child, has a sick/terminal child or have suffered multiple miscarriages, this support group is for you. Join us 7-9 pm every other Thursday. Contact Janeen Robertson janeen.robertson@gmail.com /403-669-0753.

Widows' Connection

March 16, 2 pm, Prayer Centre

What is normal after losing your husband? What are your vulnerabilities? Join us for conversation and community, 2-4 pm. Contact Janet Loewen jloewen@faccalgary.com/403-252-7572.

DivorceCare

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm, Rm 247

Beginning February 13, this weekly video lesson and support group is a safe place for those who are separated or divorced. Cost: \$5; register online. Contact Janet Loewen jloewen@faccalgary.com/403-252-7572.

DiscoveryLand

Infants | PreSchool | Grades 1-4

Volunteer Brunch

February 9, 9:30 am, Harvest Rms

Do you serve somewhere in DiscoveryLand? Enjoy a yummy brunch, catch the vision of “kids world” and get some super vital training from Pastor Crystal and the team! RSVP to Cherie Merryweather cmerryweather@faccalgary.com/403-258-8287.

Students

Jr. High | Sr. High | Young Adults

elevation Grade 7-8 “Lock In”

February 1-2 @ FAC

There’s nothing like a sleepover at church! Drop-off at 8 pm Friday; pick-up at 10 am Saturday. Cost: \$10; contact Dennis V. dvel@faccalgary.com/403-212-8840.

Trip to West Ed Mall

***Grade 9-12; February 1-2**

Cost: \$75; must register online by January 25. Contact Sara Vanderveen svanderveen@faccalgary.com/403-212-8849.

Accelerate: Cops ‘N Robbers

(Gr. 5-6) February 22 @ FAC

Join us as we take over the church in search of bad guys in this fun large group game! Cost: \$2; for details contact Jon Caldwell jcaldwell@faccalgary.com/403-258-4353.

The Source (Young Adults)

Stay connected! Join our Facebook Group: *The Source*. For event info contact Jonathan Klein jklein@faccalgary.com/403-212-8851.

CommunityLink

A Little Bit of Everything

Need a Helping Hand?

Tool Team offers practical help for anyone with financial/physical challenges, including appliance & household repairs, basement/garage clean-up, snow removal & more. Contact Dave Bruce tool-team@faccalgary.com/403-256-1995 or drop off a request in the “help” box in the Action Centre.

WorldServe Thrift Store

Now open in Calgary, located on 58 Avenue! Net proceeds will support projects around the world

spreading the gospel, training pastors and providing humanitarian aid. Donation drop boxes are still located at FAC (south parking lot); gently used clothes and furniture needed. Call 403-805-0030.

Harvest

Baking & Breaking Bread Together

TUESDAY CAFE LUNCH

11:30 am-1 pm in the Atrium
Select from a variety of sandwiches, salads, soups and more. Hot/cold drinks also available, including specialty coffee!

WEDNESDAY FAMILY SUPPERS

5-6:30 pm in the Atrium/Harvest Rooms; Cost: \$8/adult; “Gourmand” Menu 1st Wed. of the Month (\$10). Upcoming menu posted online under SERVE.

SATURDAY CAFE SUPPERS

4-6:30 pm served out of Cornerstone Cafe; pricing and menu *à la carte* style.

HARVEST BRUNCH

1st Sunday of the Month

A delicious hot brunch after the Sunday services (Harvest Rooms)!
1st seating 10:30-11:15 am

2nd seating 12:30-1 pm
\$12 per adult plate, \$6 per child plate (age 4-10); Children under 4 yrs. old eat FREE.

WINGS ‘N THINGS

3rd Saturday of the Month

Stick around with family and friends after the 6:30 pm service and enjoy a finger-licking snack and pop for \$3, available in Harvest Room E.

COMMUNION

Next Service: February 2/3

We offer gluten-free wafers for those with dietary concerns available at the Sanctuary entrances at the beginning of the service.



IN LOVING MEMORY

Funeral Information Line

Find out details about upcoming memorial services here at FAC; call anytime: 403-258-4362.

For January sympathy notices, please refer to the January edition of the FACcommunity newsletter (available at any Sanctuary entrance or online: www.faconline.tv).

CHILD DEDICATIONS

The next Child Dedication service is scheduled for **February 2**, 1 pm in the Harvest Rooms. If you’re interested in dedicating your child(ren) to the Lord, pick up a brochure available at the Info Desk or contact Sharon Teichroeb steichroeb@faccalgary.com/403-212-8847.

BELONG@FAC

Membership Matters and is an important step of deepening your commitment to your church family! For more info, stop by the Action Centre after any weekend service or contact Heather Brown hbrown@faccalgary.com/403-212-8854.

BAPTISM@FAC

Our next baptism weekend will be **March 16/17**. If you’ve put your trust in Jesus and are ready to take this step in faith, join us March 5, 6:30 pm in Harvest Room A and learn about baptism at FAC. Sign up online or in the Action Centre and don’t forget to pick up an info packet at the Info Desk!

"I want to be baptized because God told us to. **I want to tell my friends and they can be closer to God too.**" - Christopher

"The first day I came to church was probably one of the best days of my life." - Kayla

"My parents gave me a firm foundation." - Debbie

"This is about planting a stake for me and allowing the seed to grow." - Helen

"I want the next years to be **a reflection of my love for Him.**" - Ivy

"I want to be a follower and not just a fan." - Michelle

"Jesus died on the cross for my sins. **Even though you're young, you can set an example!**" - Brayden

"Leave my old life behind and start fresh ... I want to provide that example for my children." - Maggie

"Jesus is #1 in my life." - Dawson

"I want to live to **make Him famous!**" - Tyson

"I want to seek God's will" - Jerome



Join the Storyline Team! Contact Andrea Zacharias: azacharias@facalgary.com/403-258-4353