

What has God been doing in your life lately?

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Storyline



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



“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And

whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

(Colossians 3:15-17)

As we begin the fall season at First Alliance, there are many reasons to be thankful. We will certainly miss Pastor Scott's ministry, but Jesus Christ, the head of the church, has assured us of His presence and power. As we look to Him and allow His peace to rule in our hearts, we will find ourselves filled with gratitude to God for all that He will do among us and through us.

In September, we plan to focus on our life commitments as a church – connect, serve, grow and share. Dr. Ken Shigematsu, the author of the prize winning book, “God In My Everything” and the lead pastor of Tenth Avenue Church in Vancouver, has agreed to be with us on the September 20/21 weekend for the emphasis on spiritual growth.

The weekend series in October and November is planned around the Sermon On The Mount; Pastor Wade Paton from Sherwood

Park Alliance Church, Pastor Jeremy Peters from St. Albert Alliance Church, Pastor Mark Peters from North Shore Alliance Church and Pastor Brent Trask, our District Superintendent, are scheduled to be with us for four of those weekends.

God has given us an outstanding teaching team in Pastor Les Bon-Bernard, Pastor Brad Young and Pastor Grant Sylvester, so on the weekends we do not have a guest speaker with us, we can look forward to being ministered to by these men who know our church well and have proven themselves to be effective teachers of God's truth.

These are busy days as church staff and volunteers prepare for children's ministries, youth ministries, small group ministries and the many other facets of life at First Alliance. I believe God is going to do great things and our hearts will be filled with joy.

Ray Matheson | **Interim Lead Pastor**

First Alliance
a christian & missionary alliance church

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What makes us tick? In a nutshell, God – and you! Thousands of us come together each week, from all walks of life, with cultural 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 & Missionary Alliance of Canada, we also value partnering with some amazing people in other parts of the world as they also “build lives that honour God.”

What are we committed to?

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.

Stampede Breakfast

Sunday, July 13



Baptisms in the Bow

Sunday, July 27



Dog Days of Summer

July 5, 26 & August 30



“... God must have a plan for us to encourage other couples; to use our experience with an intercultural marriage...”

Janelle Gerestein always thought she'd marry a Canadian, a farmer perhaps. She never dreamed that God would lead her to her husband, Oscar Lima, in South America.

In hindsight, Janelle and Oscar's story was all in the details that God so clearly and meticulously planned. "It's really cool to see God's hand in everything," says Janelle. "How God brought me to this country that I wasn't even interested in going to, and brought us together."

Their story begins when Janelle was travelling in Argentina. She felt God leading her to learn Spanish. God spoke to her that she would return to South America one day. After taking a few classes, she applied for volunteer positions to help market local artisan handicrafts in Spanish speaking countries. A position in Bolivia was offered, and despite it not being her first choice, Janelle went anyway. Bolivia wasn't what she expected. She struggled with culture shock, food-borne illness and an unhealthy work environment. But in her last month in Bolivia things turned around.

Janelle was invited to a gathering at a church where Oscar was a member. He was a handsome musician and immediately caught her eye. She asked for Oscar's help to learn Spanish, and they became very close.

Once back in Canada, Janelle didn't think she'd ever go back to Bolivia or see Oscar again. The pair kept in touch via Skype and email, and Janelle found herself missing Oscar more than she thought she would. During this time she was looking for work amid the economic recession. Unsuccessful, she started applying for positions overseas, and was hired for a job in Guatemala. But God had other plans for her. "They called back and said 'There's another girl we hired for Bolivia who has experience in Guatemala, and since you have experience in Bolivia, we want to switch you two.'"

"I really didn't want to go back, but I felt God wanted me to go because I had such a bad experience and I kind of wasted my time," Janelle says. "So, I thought, well Oscar is great, his family is great and at least I'll have a friend."

But a friendship wasn't in the cards for the couple. Instead they embarked on a romantic relationship. Even though Janelle was only stationed in Bolivia for a year they still felt God steering them together and were married December 2010.

"Quite a few people tried to talk us out of getting married because of the cultural differences, saying it would be too hard," said Janelle. "But we knew God was leading us to get married."

Their first year of marriage was tough. Cultural differences created conflict, but they worked on it and came through stronger than ever. The newlyweds lived in Bolivia for about another year before God started opening doors for them to move back to Canada.

With a unique marital experience, Oscar and Janelle felt led by God to participate in the Marriage Matters ministry at FAC. They are facilitating a new program called First 5, offering encouragement and marriage enrichment for engaged or newly married couples in their 20s and 30s. With a unique marital experience, Oscar and Janelle felt led by God to participate in the *Marriage Matters* ministry at FAC. They are facilitating a new program called "First 5", offering encouragement and marriage enrichment for engaged or newly married couples in their 20s and 30s.

"We thought God must have a plan for us to work with other couples; to use our experience with an intercultural marriage," explains Janelle. "We want to minister to couples and help them in those first few years to help establish strong relationship."

And while Janelle didn't marry a farmer after all, she wouldn't change a thing. "You hear some people say, 'Oh, what would have happened if ...' and I can't say that because it was so clear that God wanted us to get married. I feel really blessed." •



marriage matters

learning to do life as a newly married couple?

You're not alone! Connect with other couples and be encouraged through relationship skill building, regular home gatherings and monthly fun nights out through **FIRST 5**.
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cornerstone resources

OCTOBER 9-12



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SPECIAL \$3.99

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Ever feel *alone*?

Do you feel like you're lost in the crowd and just looking for some way to connect? That's a problem!

The fact that you can come to church week after week and still feel alone or disconnected among so many people shows that we are designed to connect.

Meeting new people doesn't always come easy. It can be hard to step out of our comfort zone and go meet someone we've never met before. We often don't want to feel intrusive or pushy so we live passively and let these moments pass us by.

The first step of combatting loneliness is getting involved. Building relationships requires effort, but connecting with others needs to be a priority if we desire to sustain our faith till the end. We need to continually find ways we can be involved and serve with others. That's how community is developed!

Here at First Alliance Church we absolutely love building connections for the first-timers and even for those who are comfortable in the church. One of the many ways we can build community and connect is through small groups. Life isn't meant to be lived



"Some of us come to church week after week and still feel disconnected – that's a problem!"



alone and being involved in a small group helps build vital connections. Small groups help a large church like First Alliance feel a whole lot smaller.

There are so many ways you can connect with others. It's time to get connected. How are you going to get involved?

Contact Cory Harasym, Life Groups Associate

Email: charasym@facalgary.com | Phone: 403-258-4364

Hello, my name is ... Dayla Brown



What do you love about your job? I love meeting new people. I know what it feels like being new to a big church and not knowing how to feel connected. I love that every weekend I get to search for those people, with the same lost look I once had on my face, and help them integrate into our wonderful FAC community!

Tell us about your faith journey. I wasn't born into a Christian home and was in a lot of trouble growing up. There was a lot going on in my personal life that I didn't know how to cope with, and I turned to drugs. I got expelled from high school twice and was headed for homelessness when I accepted Christ into my heart. I was able to get my high school diploma with honours, and was

accepted to Mount Royal University. God provided scholarships and threw me into campus ministry. I've been leading a wonderful women's study for three years now, and am constantly reminded what it means to lean on Jesus. God has continuously been faithful in my life, and has really shown me what it means to live a life in His grace. I'm constantly amazed at the doors He keeps opening for me. Joining the team here at FAC is a huge blessing. •



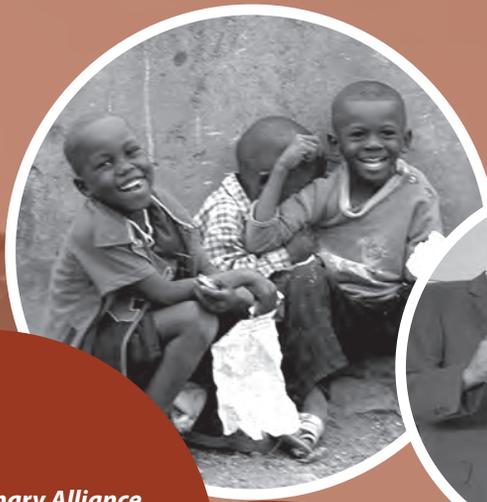
3 things you can't live without?

1. I can't live without **oxygen** ... (laughs)
2. I can't live without **chocolate** (Mmm.)
3. And I can't live without **Jesus!**

Meet Dayla at the Connect Desk on the weekends!
Email: dbrown@facalgary.com | Phone: 403-258-8289

YOUR KINGDOM COME

A small pastoral team from FAC went on mission to the Democratic Republic of Congo July 17-29 to teach, encourage and equip hundreds of men and women in the ever-growing local Christian & Missionary Alliance church. Photos by Pastor Brad Young.



Hundreds of pastors and their wives sitting in rows waiting to be ordained



Christian & Missionary Alliance National Office leadership team



Teaching through translators

1,500 pastors and wives crammed into church everyday during the retreat



Joseph (one of the translators) and his wife pastor a church in Kinshasa





KEEP CALM

“I have told you these things, so that you can have peace in me. In this world you will have troubles. But be brave! I have defeated the world!” John 16:33 (ERV)

“KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON!” The original poster was issued during World War II as a morale booster. Over time the idea has evolved into countless variations. Apparently there are more than six million images with the “Keep Calm” theme! To name a few, I’ve encountered “Keep Calm & Buy Shoes” ... “Keep Calm & Eat a Cupcake” ... “Keep Calm & Call Batman” ... “Keep Calm & Pray On.”

Last September I received a surprise package in the mail from my sister-in-law, Michele. It was a cheery, paisley fabric-covered treasure box. You have likely seen similar storage solutions and gift-giving ideas at Winners or HomeSense (I love those stores; they’re where I go for my retail therapy). The box was crammed to the top with goodies that prompted a smile and brought me comfort. The attached card read, “Yes, You Can Do It!!” One of the items in the box was this little red journal, “Keep Calm & Carry On.”

It had been a tough week of medical tests. The PET scan had produced an x-ray image of my body. The doctor explained that wherever a bright light appeared on the image, there was cancer in that area of my body. “Sadly,” the doctor said, “the entire image is lit up like a Christmas tree.” Even my skeleton was glowing; this led to the next test – a bone marrow extrac-

tion. Results showed cancer had spread to the bone marrow. Lymphoma. Cancer in the lymph nodes, head to toe. Stage 4.

I was 47. I was told there was no cure, but the disease could be treated. I signed up for the clinical trial.

The box of goodies from my sister-in-law was a “Chemo Care Package.” It arrived two days before my first treatment on September 12th of last year. My brand new journal titled “Keep Calm and Carry On” was appropriate for the occasion. I sobbed.

I understand trials and sorrows are part of life.

Jesus tells us it is a fact. We have all had our share. They come at different times for different reasons. My journey to wellness was not always easy. At times I was anxious and afraid.

The Lord wanted me to surrender my need for control and learn to trust Him, even though I could not trace His steps. I needed to “Let Go and Let God.” I learned that peace is a choice – not because our surroundings or circumstances are peaceful, but because our hearts and minds are at peace with God.

When I was tempted to tell God about how big the cancer was, God whispered to my heart, "TELL THE CANCER HOW BIG I AM!" His loving presence and divine care was revealed to my soul in creative and personal ways. He made me brave. I did not know what the future held for me, but I knew my hand was being tightly held on a path that felt bumpy and uncharted. Jesus WAS the Way, the Truth and the Life and I clung tightly to Him! On our walk together, I gained (and continue to gain) a deeper, more genuine understanding of God's abundant mercy and grace and love for me.

As I reflect on some of the stormy days of cancer diagnosis and treatment, I notice I mostly felt calm in a manner I could not have foreseen.

I recognize in a fresh way, how the peace of God transcends ALL understanding. During one of the biggest challenges of my life my Father in heaven filled my heart with true peace. He longs to do that for us. I shall "Keep Calm and Carry On"... • *Written by Patty Perrier*



"The Lord wanted me to surrender my need for control and learn to trust Him, even though I couldn't trace His steps."



Because it's impossible for my limited mortal mind to fully grasp the beauty of what God has planned for me in heaven, I tend to cling to my earthly life. I would like to grow old with my husband in this temporary place. I enjoy the idea of being "Mother of the Groom." I can barely contain myself when I dream about what it might be like to hold a grandchild and kiss its little toes. I am human. Jesus understands.

I recently celebrated my 50th birthday.

My spirit is joyful and grateful to my Creator. Some dear friends threw me a "Princess Party." The whole evening was an "over the top" Cinderella experience. As I was reflecting on the fun we had, I cut the leash from my imagination and a delightful vision occurred to me. Jesus is kind of like my Fairy Godmother and my Prince Charming all in one! He is my Hero and my Rescuer. He is cleaning me up and getting me ready for the Royal Ball where I will meet Him one day ... face to face in our Father's Mansion! Jesus ... my Prince of Peace ... my Knight in Shining Armour!

One day the clock will strike midnight and I will be swept off my feet from my earthly existence to the gates of heaven ... to a glorious and majestic realm ... where there will be no clocks. I think I might ask the question, "Has anyone seen my glass slipper?" Jesus will be holding it out for me, in all of its divine splendor! He will place it on my foot and I will be invited to dance with Him forever at the Royal Gala of eternity! My feet will never hurt; my bunions will be gone. I can only imagine!

God knows I love a Cinderella story. I'm thankful that Jesus is with me in a real and personal way, and that I can depend on Him whatever comes my way. I can find rest in His promises and lean on His Spirit knowing that one day I will enter a Heavenly rest where there is no cancer and no threat of cancer's return. My hope is in the Lord.

- *Patty*

"May the God of HOPE fill you with all JOY and PEACE as you trust in HIM, so that you may OVERFLOW WITH HOPE by the POWER of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13
(Capitalization added for emphasis).

SEPTEMBER

...The month of new beginnings and the return of organized, happy chaos!

I love reading all the trending articles like “How to make 10 dinners in 15 minutes” and “This is the year to organize your home top to bottom.” I’m lucky if I actually find the time to make a to-do list let alone actually do any of it.

The first week back to school starts off well. Clothes are clean, lunches are made the night before, including a special homemade treat, and I’m even at the school 5 minutes before the bell rings. What was I so stressed about?

Week 2 starts promising. The clothes are still clean, lunches were made the night before and I’m sure they won’t mind the lack of homemade treats. Pulling up as the bell rings isn’t so bad – it might even be a little more cool. It’s the weeks that follow that test your patience and you really find out what you are made of. Since we are already starting to sink, let’s add after-school activities and homework to the mix. Oh, and bring on the special school projects that you usually don’t know about until 9:00 Sunday night.

Don’t get me wrong ... Showing up at the school at lunch time with a Subway or A&W bag might make you look like a super mom. If they only knew it was because you forgot to buy groceries for lunch and you knew that another “picnic” lunch (basically including whatever you can possibly find in the fridge or pantry like a pickle and 6 crackers) won’t go over well. Those cute Tupperware cupcake

containers are perfect to transfer the ones you bought from the grocery store on the way to school for that special birthday snack. After you burned the 2nd batch and your icing resembled yogurt more than a fluffy whipped topping the night before, you promised yourself next year you’d accidentally forget to ask your children what they’d like to bring and just surprise them!

The truth is, if you can’t stop long enough to have coffee with a friend or laugh at yourself when you arrive at work with 2 different shoes or earrings on (yes, I’ve experienced both) or you don’t remember the last time you snuggled up with your kids and read a book, then you are missing out on the things in life you can never get back.

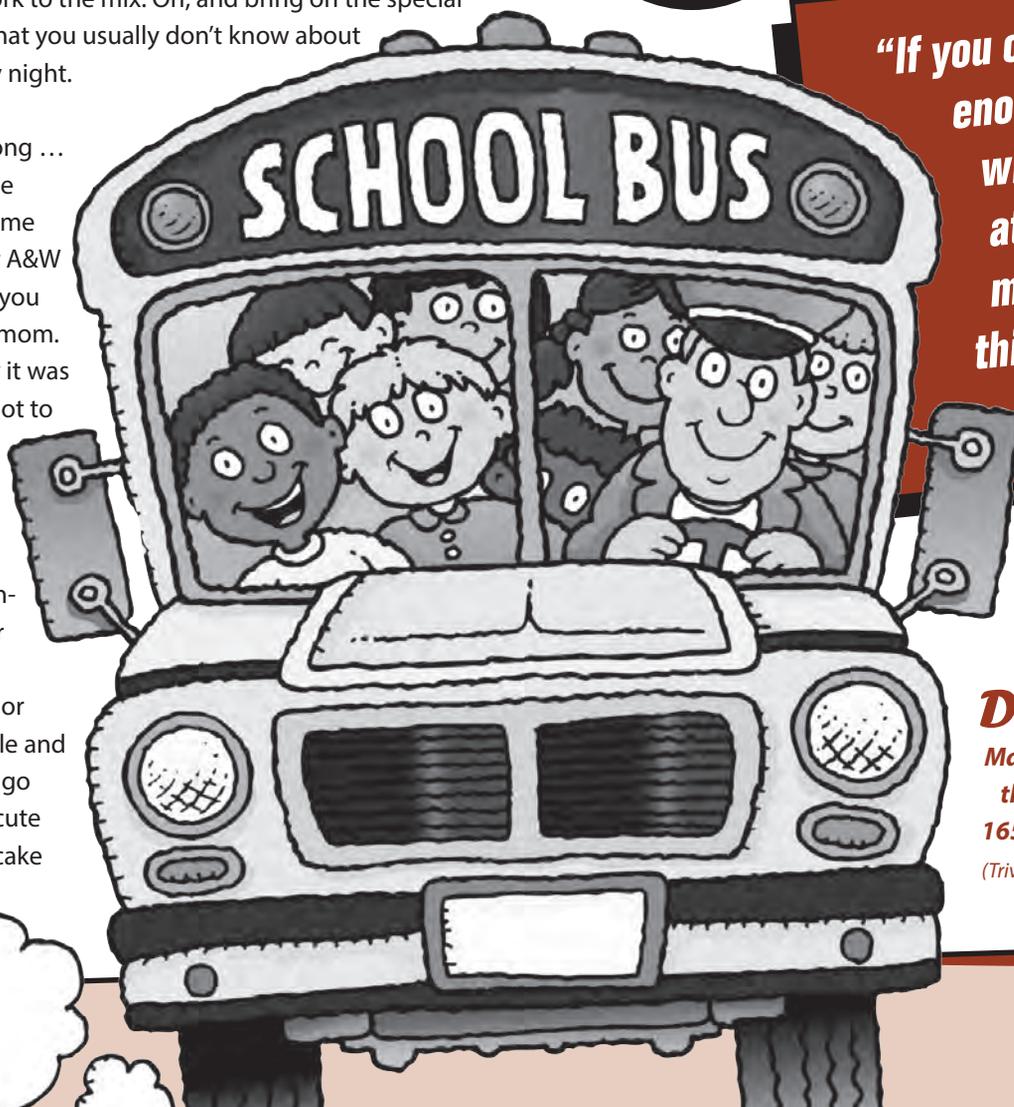
You will always have a never-ending to-do list.

Maybe this is your year to give yourself a break. Add “take a break and laugh” to your to-do list today. And then cross it off after, because we all know how amazing it feels when you get to cross something off the list!

| **Andrea Zacharais**



“If you can’t stop long enough to have coffee with a friend or laugh at yourself ... you’re missing out on the things in life you can never get back.”



Did You Know?

Marguerite Bourgeys opened the first school in Canada in 1658 in the colony of Montréal.

(Trivia source: www.studyincanada.com.)

WELCOME HOME



My daughter Leann and I often talk on the phone several times a day.

It was a fall day a couple of years ago when she surprised me with an invitation to go with her to “this church I found. You might like it.” I had not been to church for 58 years, but

I kept an open mind and said yes. Little did I know what was in store for me beginning the moment I stepped through the doors at First Alliance. All of my preconceived notions of “church” vanished after that first service. It felt like home and I knew in my heart this was where I belonged. FAC surrounds you with a feeling of welcome and belonging that is hard to comprehend at first because it is so foreign to our normal everyday life.

A couple of months after I began attending First Alliance, I suffered another near fatal heart attack and got a lot closer to heaven than I wanted to be at

that time. Pastor Ray Matheson came to see me and witnessed my acceptance of Christ as my Lord and Saviour. From that moment on, I began experiencing dramatic, life-changing events. For example, I swore I would never forgive those who abused me as a child. This was a huge, secret burden I carried every day of my life and was a source of hatred and bitterness only I knew about. Again, Pastor Ray was my witness as I forgave all of them with an open heart. The relief was a physical and spiritual experience beyond belief. Simply put, my prayers asking to end those horrific memories were answered. I was taught the lesson of forgiveness, not from what someone told me to do, but from my heart. Every day I have new experiences in daily living that are slowly but surely re-shaping my mind and soul.

Soon, my wife Alexis joined us and we shared spiritual growth together. The opportunities to learn by participating in ‘Christianity Explored’, ‘Alpha’ and ‘After Alpha’ have given us a new perspective and appreciation for the life lessons of the Bible and the teachings of Jesus. **On November 27, 2013 the three of us were baptized and “Jesus, I’m yours” took on a new meaning.**

Saturday at 6:30 is now the highlight of our week as we take in the service, reflect on how it affects us and then have coffee with new friends. The welcome we have been blessed with at First Alliance is like no other we have experienced and I know we are not the exception. • Dave Walterson



BAPTISM @ FAC

We make it easy for you to take this important next step in your faith. Learn how:

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Next Baptism Weekends:
September 27/28 | November 22/23



Living

in the

Truth



Maria* came to our missions base as a student in our Discipleship Training School for reasons I do not fully understand, as she was not a Christian and had a serious self-destruction problem. She battled an eating disorder and frequently cut herself. As the weeks went by, she began to realize the need she had for spiritual freedom and throughout that process, came to surrender her life to Jesus. She has since stayed on as part of our staff and is a completely different person, confident in the woman that she is. The truth set her free, just as Jesus promised thousands of years ago. Like many of the young people we meet in South America, Maria desperately needed hope, needed to know there was another way to live.

Whether we're discipling or ministering to our staff and students; teaching values and principles such as respect and non-violence to 9-to-14-year-old boys living in a high-risk neighborhood (Puerto Madryn's equivalent of our Forest Lawn) through our soccer ministry; leading worship or preaching in our worship services at the base; playing in a Latin band at public or private functions; singing a Bryan Adams song at the municipality's Women's Day event; cleaning up the streets and preaching in parks as part of an evangelistic impact event in Ecuador; or teaching a class on obedience in our DTS, we see how God's truth sets people free to be what He's created them to be, to have a better future.

Sprinkled throughout the highlights of ministry, there have certainly been an abundance of personal crisis moments. Moments

of disappointment, of frustration, of missing family and friends. Days have gone by where we haven't had water in the house, or long power outages have left us with a newborn baby and no heating for our home. More than once, we've found unwelcome visitors in the form of mice and scorpions inside of the house. And, in the last few years, we've seen Argentina's economy go down the drain, had to deal with the seemingly endless strikes and protests, and pretty much watched as the country just seems to fall apart before our eyes. In each one of these moments, the automatic reaction is the desire to pack up our bags and hop on a plane. Yet, in each one of these moments, we talk and pray and sometimes cry, but then, once again, choose the truth. The truth is that we need God, that we trust Him. We choose to allow God to form our lives around His truth and His principles through each one of these moments. We are so privileged to be a part of this process of transformation in so many lives, but more than anything, we recognize that the transformation has to happen in us every day. | **Jen & Tito Avilés serve with Youth With a Mission in Puerto Madryn, Argentina. To learn more, send an email to: tito_jen_aviles@hotmail.com. *name has been changed.**

**“The truth is that we need God,
that we trust Him.”**

See next page for Spanish translation ...

Maria* llegó a nuestra base misionera como alumna en la Escuela de Discipulado y Entrenamiento, por razones que no entiendo yo, ya que no era Cristiana y tenía un problema serio con la auto-destrucción. Luchaba con un desorden alimenticio y se cortaba frecuentemente. Mientras iban pasando las semanas, se empezó a dar cuenta de la necesidad que tenía por su libertad espiritual y durante ese proceso, rindió su vida a Jesús. Desde entonces, se quedó como obrera con nosotros y es una persona completamente diferente, confiada en la mujer que es. La verdad la hizo libre tal cual como lo prometió Jesús hace miles de años atrás. Como muchos de los jóvenes que hemos conocido en Sur America, Maria necesitaba esperanza desesperadamente, necesitaba saber que había otra forma de vivir.

Sea discipulando o ministrando a nuestros obreros y alumnos de la EDE; enseñando valores y principios como el respeto y la no-violencia a niños de 9 a 14 años viviendo en un barrio de alto riesgo (el Forest Lawn de Puerto Madryn) por medio de nuestro ministerio de futbol; dirigiendo la alabanza o predicando en nuestros cultos de adoración en la base; tocando en una banda Latina en eventos públicos o privados; cantando una canción de Bryan Adams en el evento para el día de la mujer organizado por la municipalidad; limpiando las calles y predicando en parques como parte de un evento de impacto evangelístico en Ecuador; o enseñando una clase sobre la obediencia en nuestra EDE, vemos como la verdad de Dios libera a la gente para que sean como Él los creó para ser, para tener un futuro mejor.

Regado entre los mejores momentos del ministerio, también hubo abundancia de momentos de crisis personales. Momentos de desilusión, de frustración, de extrañar familia y amigos. Han



Tito Avilés preaching in a local church in Argentina.

pasado días que hemos estado sin agua en casa, largos cortes de luz nos han dejado con un bebé recién nacido y sin calefacción para nuestra casa. Mas de una vez, encontramos visitas no deseadas en forma de ratones y alacranes dentro de la casa. Y en los últimos años, hemos visto la economía de Argentina caerse a pedazos, hemos aguantado paros y protestas continuas, y básicamente hemos visto mientras el país parece caerse a pedazos delante nuestros ojos. En cada uno de estos momentos, la reacción automático es querer empacar las bolsas y subir a un avión. Sin embargo, en cada uno de estos momentos, hablamos y oramos y a veces lloramos, pero después, una vez más, elegimos la verdad. La verdad es que necesitamos de Dios, confiamos en Él. Elegimos dejar que Dios forme nuestras vidas según su verdad y sus principios a través de cada uno de estos momentos. Somos tan privilegiados de ser parte de este proceso de transformación en tantas vidas, pero más que todo, reconocemos que la transformación tiene que pasar en nosotros cada día. | **Jen y Tito Aviles sirven con Juventud Con Una Misión en Puerto Madryn, Argentina.** Email: tito_jen_aviles@hotmail.com. Donaciones hacia su ministerio se pueden designar en tu sobre de ofrendas de FAC. *no es su nombre real.

ARTIST IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Khadijah Kroeker has been dancing since the age of four. Training and mentoring in a variety of styles including modern and contemporary (personal favourites), hip hop, ballet and Bollywood has resulted in growth in her skill and technique, but also challenged her spiritually and in her character, and provided an outlet through which to communicate story and connect with God. Khadijah says, "I love how I can push myself beyond what I think I'm able and with repetition and proper technique I can see the positive outcome of strong muscles and improved skills... Dance is an act of worship." **Let them praise his name with dancing. (Psalm 149:3)**

IN THE KNOW

GROW

REGISTER for any of these opportunities online: www.faccalgary.com or at **Cornerstone Resources.** To learn more, contact [jljoewen@faccalgary.com/403-252-7572](mailto:jljoewen@faccalgary.com).

Grief Support

Gain tools and resources to help you grieve the death of your loved one. Wednesdays, 7-9 pm in Harvest Room B. FREE (optional workbook available at Cornerstone Resources).

Changes That Heal

Learn to become a mature image-bearer of God as outlined by Christian psychologist Dr. Henry Cloud. Wednesdays, 7-9 pm in Harvest Room A. Required book available to buy at Cornerstone Resources.

Life Interrupted

A FREE ongoing adult support group that meets Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm in Room 255 (upstairs). It walks through 12 Steps and 8 Principles for moving through our hurts, habits and hang-ups towards wholeness in Jesus Christ. Drop-ins are always welcome!

DivorceCare

A weekly video lesson and support group for those who are separated or divorced. Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm in Harvest Room C. Required workbook available for purchase at Cornerstone Resources. Cost: \$20.

DivorceCare 4 Kids (DC4K)

Help your child(ren) (5-12 yrs. old) process the divorce, move forward, and rest secure in God's love. Program and topics match DivorceCare for adults, Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm in Room 149 (DiscoveryLand main level). Class size is limited; cost: \$20 per child (+\$10 per additional child).

Widows' Connection

Be encouraged and empowered

to move forward into a positive future with other widows. Attend as you are able: Sept. 27, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, 1-3 pm in the Action Centre; FREE.

Alpha

A discussion-based course for anyone checking out Christianity, newcomers to the church, new Christians, or Christians who want to brush up on the basics of their faith. Thursdays, 6-9 pm in Harvest CDE starting Sept. 25; each session includes dinner. Cost: \$45; NIV Bible required.

After Alpha

Already gone through *Alpha* and wondering what's next? Based on Paul's letter to the Philippians, *A Life Worth Living* is a 9-week Bible study examining the changed life of a Christian. Thursdays, 6-9 pm in Harvest AB starting Sept. 25. Cost: \$45 (includes meals and study guide). NIV Bible required.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Drop off donations of non-perishable food items here at FAC on October 11/12 for the Calgary Inter-Faith Food Bank. Pick up a "wish list" of most-needed items from the Info Desk. For more info, call 403-212-8847.

Operation Christmas Child October 18-November 23

FAC is an official drop-off site for Samaritan's Purse! Shoeboxes and brochures will be available for pick-up on Main Street beginning October 18; drop off your filled shoeboxes by November 23. For more info, contact Karen Fehr [operationchristmas@faccalgary.com/403-803-2969](mailto:operationchristmas@faccalgary.com).

Need a Helping Hand?

Tool Team offers practical help for seniors, single moms, widows and others with financial/physical challenges, including appliance

& household repairs, basement/garage clean-up, snow removal & more. Contact Dave Bruce [toolteam@faccalgary.com/403-256-1995](mailto:toolteam@faccalgary.com) or drop off a request in the "help" box in the Action Centre.

MOSAIC

Family Friday Nights

Families of all cultural backgrounds are invited October 17 at 7 pm for a free evening of community building and fun for the whole family. Contact Pastor Pat Worsley [pworsley@faccalgary.com/403-212-8845](mailto:pworsley@faccalgary.com).

ESL Classes

Improve your English and make friends Sundays, 11 am-12:30 pm in the Prayer Centre (FREE).

MARRIAGE MATTERS

REGISTER for any of these opportunities online: www.faccalgary.com or at **Cornerstone Resources.** To learn more, contact [marriage@faccalgary.com/403-258-8290](mailto:marriage@faccalgary.com).

Marriage 911

Learn healthy & productive ways to deal with your marriage crisis in this Christ-centred, 12 week study completed with a same gender friend.

Dynamic Marriage

Learn to make your marriage a priority in this in-depth course developed by the Family Dynamics Institute led by a trained facilitator couple. Offered Monday nights, September 22-December 1. Cost: \$200/couple (includes materials).

The Marriage Course

Covering a wide range of practical topics, gain tools as a married couple to build a stronger, healthier marriage. Offered Thursday nights, September 25-November 6. Cost: \$200/couple.

Preparing for Marriage

Develop a foundation for a healthy marriage that will last a lifetime at The Marriage Preparation Course (a prerequisite to being married at FAC) offered Thursday nights, Sept. 25-October 23. Cost: \$200/couple.

CONNECT

Life Groups

We'd love to get you connected into a smaller group of people for regular Bible study, prayer and community. No matter your age, gender or stage of life, there's a group for you! Contact Dayla Brown [dbrown@faccalgary.com/403-258-8289](mailto:dbrown@faccalgary.com).

Men@First Discipleship Groups

Join us Mondays at 7 pm for our "Sleeping Giant" discipleship groups: "Get Strong; Fight" led by Dave Bruce in the Action Centre or "Get Healthy: Friendship" led by Michael Forkheim in Meeting Place 1. No cost; for more info contact Pastor Grant Sylvester [gsylvester@faccalgary.com/403-212-8843](mailto:gsylvester@faccalgary.com).

Women2Women Bible Studies

Join us either Tuesday mornings for "Mark: Serving Others As You Walk with The Master Servant," 9:15-11:30 am, or Tuesday evenings for "Jesus The One And Only," by Beth Moore, 6:45-8:30 pm (both in the Harvest Rooms). For cost & registration details, go online or stop by Cornerstone Resources.

Sisterhood

Women of all ages & stages of life are welcome to connect the 1st Monday every month, 7-9 pm in the Harvest Rooms for encouragement and the building of friendships grounded in Jesus. No cost; contact Lynn Dutton Lynn Dutton [fairwyns@shaw.ca/403-279-6469](mailto:fairwyns@shaw.ca).

Stitching Post

Women are invited to connect over knitting/crocheting every Wednesday, 7-9 pm at the Atrium fireplace. (No cost.) Contact Pearle Gillett pearleg@shaw.ca/403-874-9446.

It's SEW Easy

Love to sew, or want to learn how? Join us 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 9 am-4 pm in the Action Centre in support of missions and Camp Chamisall. Contact Corinne Yuzek cyuzek@shaw.ca/403-236-1984.

Quilter's Corner

Another opportunity for women to connect over sewing! Join us every 2nd & 4th Thursday, 9:30 am-4 pm in Harvest AB (no cost). Contact Corinne Yuzek cyuzek@shaw.ca/403-236-1984.

Talk 'N Tots

A chance for moms to chat while their tots play; join us Thursdays, 9:15-11 am in the "Brown Bears" Room in DiscoveryLand Pre-School (FREE). Contact Jennifer Kasur talkntots@faccalgary.com.

HARVEST

Making & Breaking Bread Together

Tuesday Café Lunch

11:30 am-12:30 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

Enjoy a hot home-cooked meal 5-6:30 pm served out of Harvest Room DE. Cost: \$10/adult; Gourmand Menu 1st Wed. of the Month (\$12).

Saturday Café Suppers

5:30 pm-6:45 pm served out of Cornerstone Café; pricing and menu 'a la carte' style.

Sunday Harvest Brunch

1st seating 10:30-11:15 am
2nd seating 12:30-1 pm (Harvest

Rooms); \$12 per adult plate, \$6 per child plate (age 4-10); kids under 4 yrs. old eat FREE.

FAMILY LIFE

Children's Choir Auditions

September 27 at 5:45 pm and September 28 at 12:30 pm in the Rehearsal Room; open to boys and girls in grades 4-7; for more info please contact Michelle Fordham micellep@gmail.com/403-819-9519.

DiscoveryLand "Fall FX"

Families are stronger when God is at the centre! Join us Friday, Oct. 24, 6:45 pm in the Sanctuary for a high-energy family focussed night of worship, teaching, games and resources. No cost or registration; just pack up the whole family and we'll see you there!

Grade 5&6 Students

Kick-off Pizza Party: September 26, 7-9 pm in Room 255; cost: \$5. Contact Spencer Young syoung@faccalgary.com/403-258-4354.

LAUNCH Student Leadership

Overnight "Lock-in" October 24-25 in the Gym! For details contact Sara Vanderveen svanderveen@faccalgary.com/212-8849.

JHS (Jr. High Students)

Join us for worship Saturdays, 4:30 pm in the Prayer Centre or 6:30 pm in the Harvest Rooms. Dodgeball Night: October 17; for more info contact Jon Caldwell jcaldwell@faccalgary.com/403-212-8840.

SHS (Sr. High Students)

Join us Wednesdays, 7-9 pm in the Gym! Fall Retreat: October 26-28 at Southern Alberta Bible Camp; cost: \$125. Register online; for more info contact Dave Conrad dconrad@faccalgary.com/403-258-7248.

Young Adults

Ladies' Night: Sept. 26, 7 pm in Room 255. Serve Night: October 9; 7-10 pm (location TBA); for more info contact Jonathan Klein jklein@faccalgary.com/403-212-9951 or "like" [facebook.com/thesourcefac](https://www.facebook.com/thesourcefac).

Fuse@First

A Christ-centred community of singles from all walks of life (single, single again, single parents). Join us Tuesdays, 7-9 pm in the Gym/Loft for Bible study and social nights! Receive regular email updates: fuse@faccalgary.com.

Seniors & Friends

Join us for our monthly luncheons the 3rd Thursday of the month, 11 am-1 pm in the Harvest Rooms (\$15) and occasional special outings. To learn more contact Pastor Ed Dyck edyck@faccalgary.com/403-212-8841.

BAPTISM WEEKENDS

September 27/28 & Nov. 22/23. To learn more about baptism at FAC, pick up a Baptism Kit in the Action Centre or contact the church office 403-252-7572.

PRAYER GATHERING

Join us for a reflective night of prayer on Tuesday, Oct. 14, 7-9 pm in the Sanctuary. Contact Pastor Heather Brown hbrown@faccalgary.com/403-212-8854.

#WORSHIP TOGETHER

During long weekends, Grade 5&6 and JHS (Jr. High Students) join the adults in the Sanctuary during the main weekend services for our "Worship Together" weekends.

save the date

OCTOBER 11/12, 2014

(THANKSGIVING)

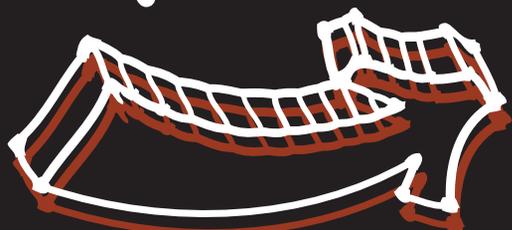
DISCOVERYLAND PRESENTS ...

OUR FAMILY IS STRONGER
WHEN GOD IS AT THE CENTER!



AN EVENT FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!
GAMES • WORSHIP • TEACHING • PUPPETS • PARENT RESOURCES

FRIDAY OCTOBER 24

 **FREE** 6:45-8PM
SANCTUARY