



# New Church Canadian

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter of General Church in Canada

Issue 215

## TRANSFERRED

By Rev. Michael Cowley

Have you ever been carried away into a spiritual state of ecstasy? Have you meditated or entered a spiritual practice or deep exercise which removes you from this world? Do you have a way to be relieved from the anxieties and stress of time and space, to enjoy a state of bliss?

I'm not trying to sell you a bottle of Calgon to "take you away." And I'm not talking about strong drink or drugs.

Nor am I promoting escapism or irresponsibility.

The question could be rephrased to simply ask: "What do you do to take care of yourself?" Or, "What do you do to change into a better state?" Or, "What can you receive from the Lord to bring you closer to His Kingdom of peace, tranquility and happiness?"

This is transference as spoken of in the Word of the New Church.

The Easter story is one of transference, but that term has to be properly understood.

We like to remember that the Lord took away the fear of death as we trust in His promise that life is eternal, that He had overcome the world, that He would take away pain and sorrow and there will be no more tears.

He promised that He would raise us up: "And I, if I be lifted up I will draw all to me." (John 12:32)



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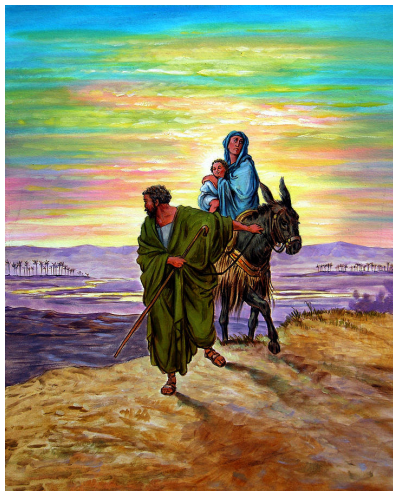
The celebration of Easter is the celebration of His resurrection, His Glorification, the full and final union of Himself with His Father, His Divine Soul. This is a transformation, a process of transference.

His journey was the removal, or transference from everything which was merely human with Him.

As we meditate on the life of Jesus we know He inherited an inclination to every and all evils which had been entered into up to that point in human history. All the deep evils of the fall from the Garden of Eden. All the evils of the Flood, the Tower of Babel, and all the wars and death mentioned throughout the history of the Old Testament.

This may be understood as another part of the meaning of "Transference." A baby was born at exactly the right time to be the recipient of worst of mankind. His gene pool could not have been worse! And it was planned that way.

As much as we love to remember the Christmas story and the innocence of a newborn when we think of that first Christmas Day, a full recount quickly reminds us that Harod was in charge and the Holy Family had to quickly escape from him in order to survive. Not only did Jesus inherit all evils, He entered a world with all evils as active around Him as they could possibly be.



Looking at His life we see the worst crimes committed against Him and His disciples. From those earliest times fleeing to Egypt, He was surrounded by suspicion, envy, contempt, enmity, cruelty and hatred leading to false accusations, a rigged trial and His murder upon the cross. All

the devils and satins of hell and the leaders of the Jewish church took part in a horrible conspiracy to accuse and condemn Him. And it worked!

And it was foreseen and provided that it would be just this way.

During His life Jesus was continually transferring His conscious thought and attention from the evils within and around Him to higher and more Divine awareness and Power. He conquered in all His temptations by means of what we may call Divine transference. But putting it in a simple term does not mean it was easy.

One of the advantages the Lord had, which He has shared with us in His Second Coming, was His ability to see the celestial or highest sense of the Old Testament narrative as His Life story. Perceiving the internal sense is a process of transference in leaving the natural and entering the spiritual reality of the Word.

There are so many examples which the Writings give us of how the Lord conquered the death of the literal sense, or the dead letter of scripture to see and give "the spirit and the life" in the work and words He shared. (John 6:63)

In His Second coming we are invited to see the deep internal states He underwent as He was transferred, by means of His own Divine power, from a lower self to a higher Self or more interior state. Just like all of us, Jesus early on believed appearances and accepted things at "face value" before He could come to perceive the deeper truth.

His "first rational" or this kind of thinking, was represented by Ismael. Jesus loved thinking this way as a way of communicating and relating to people. It grieved Him as He matured that He had to move beyond, or be transferred from that state. Ismael represented so many people He loved and came to save but in the literal narrative Ismael had to be banished before the higher Divine Rational could come into full operation. (See Arcana 2660-2667)

Jesus continually moved from one more natural or worldly human state of mind to celestial and Divinely Human states of being.

Easter was the final transference. The Lord left behind everything human with a small "h" to become the Divine Human with a CAPITAL H.

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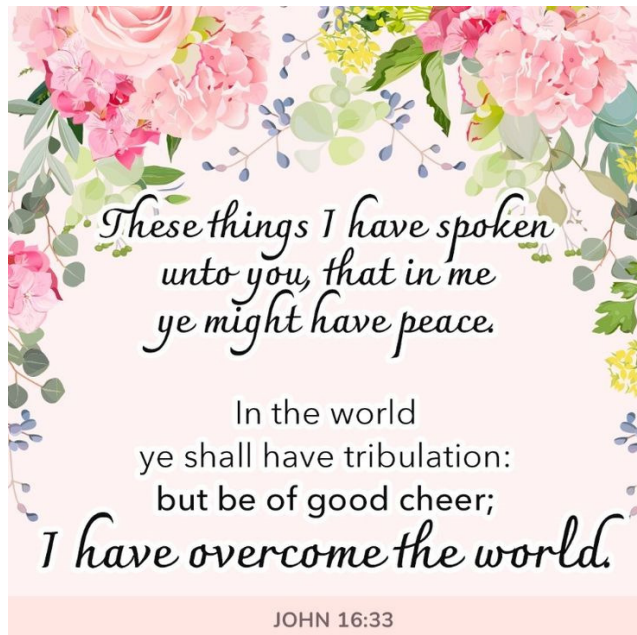
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We're invited into this transference process by means of what the Lord did on earth. We celebrate the Resurrection believing what the Lord achieved is within our own grasp if we hold onto Him and His Word.

We may not be easily brought into a state of ecstasy and bliss. The transference and transformations which the Lord does to and for us are most often in secret and beyond our perception. At the same time we should make the effort to reflect on our own states and struggles and reach out to the Lord for His help in moving us to a better frame of mind. We can enter a practice of meditation, reading the Word and spiritual exercises and church groups to help us. We are also invited by the pastors of our Canadian congregations to reach out to us if we can be of any help or comfort.

No matter how dark, the Lord of Light can transfer us to a better state. As the Lord said:

***"Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."***



## TRYING TO ENTOMB THE LORD

by the Rev. Grant H. Odhner

We all admire people who can't be stopped—that soccer player who always manages to get through the defensive line; the person who suffers unbelievable setbacks yet stays cheerful and still manages to do a lot for others; the hero in a movie who gets forced by his enemy to jump off a cliff (so that we all believe he's dead) who yet manages to escape alive.

Think of the Lord: surrounded by soldiers at night when only a few of His followers were around, captured by His enemies for no just reason, tied up, slapped and spit upon, struck on the head with a rod, teased and made fun of, lashed with a whip, then nailed through the hands and feet to a wooden cross, and left hanging there to die a horrible death—all this while there were soldiers around. He seemed to be completely beat. Not only this. Afterwards His body was put in a tomb with a large stone door. They sealed the

door and placed a guard of soldiers outside so that no one could get in or out!

Of course, the Lord's followers were utterly shocked and heartbroken. They could hardly believe that it all happened to the Lord. The Lord's special disciples (the eleven who were left) were sad and disappointed more than anyone else. They had really thought the Lord was going to become king. They had thought He was unbeatable. On top of this, because they had been with the Lord so often, they were scared that they would be captured and killed too. For these reasons none of the disciples had the courage (at first) to go to the tomb to pay their respects to the Lord. Besides, they were probably just too disappointed.



Meanwhile, the Scribes and the Pharisees must have been pleased with themselves. They thought that Jesus was dead, out of their way.

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They had gotten rid of Him. And His body was even sealed away in a tomb and guarded by soldiers. They wouldn't have to worry about Him any more. This would "shut up" His disciples, wouldn't it?

But what happened next? When Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to the tomb early Sunday morning, what happened? All of a sudden there was an earthquake. An angel appeared whose face shone like lightning and whose clothes were dazzling white like snow. He rolled the stone away, breaking the seals. The guards were so terrified that they fainted; they became like dead men. They had no power against an angel.

But what the angel showed them and told them was even more amazing. The Lord's body was not in the tomb! How had it gotten out? And the angel said, "He is not here; He has risen." He was alive! —not only as to His spirit but His body too!

A few minutes later the two Marys were greeted by the Lord. And He said to them, "Rejoice!" What a wonderful, happy thing. He was alive! His enemies could not kill Him, not even His body.

This story is one of the most important ones in the Word. It teaches us that the Lord Jesus (who came to earth and touched us with His great love and wisdom) is more than just a man. He is our God. Who else could have risen from the dead like He did? This story also teaches us that there really is a life after this one. Our eyes can be opened like the disciples' to see it. There is so much more to life than we can see with our earthly eyes. And finally it teaches that the Lord has all power. He cannot be hurt by evil people. Nor can they stop Him from helping good people.

It is this last point that we are speaking about now: the Lord could not be stopped. The scribes and Pharisees used soldiers and the power of a Roman governor to try to capture and kill Him. They shut Him in a rock tomb in the earth and sealed its heavy stone door.

So also evil people had used lies and tricks to "kill" the Lord in other people's minds. They had tried to shut His Word

so that no one would read it nor understand it, nor think it was worth understanding. They had tried to twist its meaning so that people wouldn't really see what it said nor do what it said. They had tried to block the way to heaven so that they could be in control.

We see all this pictured in our story. The tomb where the Lord's body was laid stands for heaven. It stands for heaven because when angels think of a tomb, they don't think about dying, but about going to heaven. The great stone door is the Word, which is the way to heaven. Evil people in the church had sealed up the Word and wouldn't let anyone near, so that no one could "open" it and get to heaven (see AC 2916, AE 400:14, 687:18).

But just as things seemed darkest, the Lord came. And with great power (like the angel's) He changed the way things had been in the church. His coming was like an earthquake! He pushed back the evil (they "became like dead men"). All by himself He broke the seal of falsity and opened the Word. Then people could see that He was still alive, and they could see the way to heaven (see AE 400:14).

All this is pictured in what happened on Easter morning. Think of that scene once more: it was still dark in the early morning as the two Marys came sadly to the tomb. The unfriendly-looking guards, with their swords and spears, were still keeping watch. It was quiet and lonely. All of a sudden the ground heaved and rumbled and shook. A dazzling angel appeared, and with great strength pushed away the rock and sat on it. The guards were terrified and helpless. Light shone from the angel as he showed the women the opened tomb and told them the good news. And moments later they saw the Lord with new eyes, never to doubt again!



The Lord said to them, "Rejoice!" And so should we rejoice. For we are lucky to know that the Lord is alive! He is strong! He has made His truth shine brightly for us in His Word! He has opened to us the way to heaven! And we know that no one can stop the Lord from bringing us there...if only we let Him.

Text: Matthew 27:57, 28:1

## HISTORY CORNER

Taken from the May/June Issue, 2021.

A Note From the Editor: This poem was randomly selected for re-publishing long before Denis passed into the Spiritual World on March 12, 2023. Maybe not so random as it would seem, eh? I am missing his steady hand and wise input with this newsletter, which we have loved doing together for about 23 years!

### COME WALK WITH ME

by Denis Kuhl

Come walk with Me. Come hold My hand  
As we explore this wonderland,  
Discovering the highs and lows  
Along the path that life bestows.



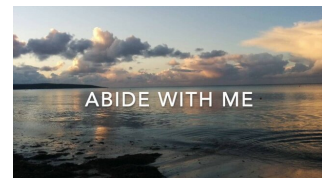
Come laugh with Me. Relax awhile.  
Relief from stress is in a smile.  
But if, by chance, you shed a tear,  
Remember I am always near.



Come sing with Me. Come raise your voice  
In heartfelt praise, with song rejoice.  
Prayer is strong when it is given  
As a hymn rising to heaven.

This voyage has been heaven-sent  
To help you grow with good intent.  
And yet, the journey never ends,  
For as you grow it just extends.

So live with Me, with Me abide.  
In your heavenly home reside.  
Experience with warm delight  
Great peace and joy, like bright sunlight.



Know that My desire is to bless  
You with eternal happiness.

I Am Your God!

# THE CANADIAN NEW CHURCH SCHOOLS

By Laura Braam & Steph Kuhl

Hello to All from The Canadian New Church Schools!

Since coming out of the pandemic, in this time of recovery the need for connection has become clearer than ever. In this spirit, Steph Kuhl at Carmel and myself at Olivet have committed ourselves to reconnecting the faculty and schools and be much more regular in our shared support of each other.

We thought that you might all be curious to know how things are going in the Canadian schools. Our hope is by sharing with you, the valued GCIC members, we will all come closer together in connection and support of each other.

We anticipate sharing both the large and small and anything in between in order to give you a window

into how the schools are dedicating themselves to New Church education.

Carmel New Church School and Olivet New Church School are such amazing places to work and I speak for both Steph and myself when I say that we are proud to be such an integral part of these schools.

We hope you enjoy staying connected with us!

Laura Braam, Olivet New Church School  
principal@olivetnewchurch.org

Steph Kuhl, Carmel New Church School  
principal@carmelnewchurchschool.org



## News from Olivet New Church School

For Olivet's first submission I thought I would share pictures of our teachers in action!

This year Kimberly Parker teaches JK; Kamila Zuk teaches SK; Britteny Wilson teaches grade 1; Elaine Lee teaches grade 2 and John Treptow teaches grades 3 /4. This year we don't have any 5th graders.

This group of educators is passionate and committed to New Church Education. As a group they are very supportive of each other. We really foster a teamwork approach and this group of stellar educators does a wonderful job of dedicated hard work for their respective classrooms, while at the same time holding each other up and supporting each other. I feel very privileged to work with them every day.



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## News from Carmel New Church School

We have had lots of action on the hill behind Carmel as our Forest Garden begins to take shape.

This spring we are looking forward to planting new trees and to watch the creation of the path. If anyone comes to visit Caryndale this summer or fall, be sure to check out the progress.

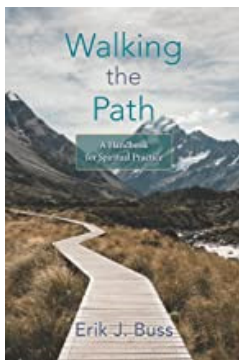
Our students and teachers are amazing of course, and I thought pictures might be the best way to share some of what we do!



New Church UK

## Two New Books on Spiritual Practice

Two recent books on spiritual practice by Erik Buss are available on Amazon.com. They explore how to become more loving people and offer the practical activities we should be engaging in to be happier and more peaceful. There are two versions of this work, both of them full of quotes and footnotes so you can clearly see what revelation teaches.



***Walking the Path*** is a shorter (128 page) treatment, focusing on the practical applications of these practices. ***Exploring the Path*** (298 pages) delves deeper into why these things are important as well as spending more time on some practical applications. The easiest way to find it on Amazon is to search for Erik J Buss. And as an extra bonus, Amazon is currently selling the shorter for less than half price!

Erik Buss,  
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National Pastor UK, General Church  
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**A New Church Camp for Teens**  
**Held at the Ecology Retreat Centre in Mono, Ontario**

We look forward to welcoming campers  
**Saturday, July 8 – Friday, July 14, 2023.**

This will be a week of friendship building, laughter, restorative relaxation, and spiritual growth for teens who will have just completed any year of high school.

After our unfortunate hiatus due to the pandemic, we look forward to  
at last exploring the theme of **LIGHT**.

*Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "  
I am the light of the world.  
He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness,  
but have the light of life."  
~ John 8:12 ~*



Want to register or get more information? Please visit the  
updated [maplecamp.com](http://maplecamp.com) or contact:

**Stephanie Kuhl, Camp Director**, regarding any questions  
at [gcic.mapleleafcamp@gmail.com](mailto:gcic.mapleleafcamp@gmail.com).

Maple has been serving New Church youth since 1969; it is  
sponsored by the General Church in Canada and  
staffed by experienced volunteers.

After GCIC contributions, regular camper fee is **\$300**,  
with discounts for early bird registration (before May 1)  
or for "junior staff" (returning campers finishing high  
school). A deposit of at least **\$50** (\$5 non-refundable)  
is required with registration and full payment is due by  
**June 16**.





## JACOB'S CREEK FAMILY RETREAT

July 27—30, 2023

Registration is now open for this year! It is online at  
<https://www.jacobscreekfamilyretreat.org/>

*This Year's Theme is*

### **Creation: Behold! I Make All Things New"**

*"A person must be born anew...by means of truths from the Word,  
and by a life according to them." (Apocalypse Explained 721)*

This year, we are utilizing the website for information instead of receiving numerous emails as information is updated! Please point your friends and family who you think might enjoy the retreat to the website. Not all the information is available at this time – it is still a work in process being done by Kirsten Cranch. Bear with us as we attempt to utilize the website to its full potential. Rest assured no personal information will be posted on the website. Address lists and assignments for the children's program will still be emailed out closer to the time to those who have actually registered for the retreat.

The dates for the retreat are July 27 to the 30<sup>th</sup> – please be aware that is Thursday to Sunday!

Please keep in mind that registration will be capped at 150 people and the cost of the retreat goes up \$25 *per person* after June 30<sup>th</sup>. So, register now!

Information you will currently find on the website:

- Welcome Letter
- Pastoral Staff – so far
- Online Registration – there are no more paper forms, however you will still need to mail the check to Jamie and Julie Uber (48 Collinwood Dr. Pittsburgh, PA 15215).

Come join us as we celebrate 30 years of Jacob's Creek this year!

**Andrea Cranch**  
[abcranch@cranchlandscapers.com](mailto:abcranch@cranchlandscapers.com)

**Jamie Uber**  
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*"This Camp is  
a little slice  
of Heaven!"*

# From the GCIC EVP / Regional Pastor

by Rev. James Cooper

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

I'd like to remind everyone that the Annual General Meeting of the General Church in Canada will be held on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be held in person at the Carmel Church, but we will also be providing a Zoom link for distant members or others who are unable to attend in person. The Zoom link will be sent by email to all members before the meeting.

Non members are welcome to attend the meeting, but will need to contact the Secretary, Karen Cooper (karenanncooper@gmail.com) for the Zoom link if not able to attend in person.

## GCIC BOARD MEETING

The GCIC board will meet in Caryndale and by Zoom at 3:30 pm

## SOCIAL SUPPER

The Carmel Church will be hosting a social supper before the meeting starting at 6:30 pm; and the meeting for members will start at 7:30 pm.

## WORSHIP SERVICES

Rev. Cowley has returned from his winter break and will be conducting regular services twice a month in Dawson Creek and Grande Prairie throughout the spring.

## ONLINE

Our website, [www.newchurch.ca](http://www.newchurch.ca) is also a good source of information for schedules. You can find the current copy of New Church Canadian there as well as some recent editions. And there are links to our three Societies that have live links to the Society calendars. It's a one-stop answer to all (well, many of) your questions!

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**and**  
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**General Church in Canada Worship Services**

**Carmel New Church**  
Kitchener, ON



11:00am  
In Person  
and  
Online

**Dawson Creek New Church**  
Dawson Creek, BC



**Olivet New Church**  
Etobicoke, ON

10:30am  
In Person and Online



**Editorial Deadline for the MAY / JUNE ISSUE**

**MAY 7, 2023**

*We always welcome your comments, letters and articles!*

Please send submissions to Sandy Kuhl, Editor NCC  
8 Marshall Avenue, RR #1, Ayr, ON N0B 1E0  
Phone: 519-696-2070 Email: [sandy.c.kuhl@gmail.com](mailto:sandy.c.kuhl@gmail.com)



