



New Church Canadian

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THOSE WHO WILL BE IN THE NEW CHURCH

By the Rev. Justin Schorran



*And I John, saw the holy city New Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
(Revelation 21:1-2)*

INTRODUCTION

What does it mean to be New Church? This question was the theme for this year's Living Waters Family

Camp, a review of which can be found in the following pages. The current article will attempt to answer this question, or at least give *an* answer, and will certainly touch on some things discussed at the camp.

We often think of “being New Church” as having some sort of affiliation with a church organization that is founded on the Heavenly Doctrine for the New Church. This affiliation could be historical — you were born and raised in the organization and your family has a history in the organization itself. Maybe you went to a New Church school when you were young. It could be that you just so happen to be living in a church town or nearby a church, and are involved in the life of the church. We might think someone is New Church because they have the Heavenly Doctrine and know many of its truths.

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There are probably other examples we can think of. If we ever want to know what it really means to be New Church, we have to go to the source itself — the Old Testament, New Testament, and particularly the Heavenly Doctrine for the New Church.

I suppose a good place to start would be the book of *Revelation*. In chapter 21, the Holy City New Jerusalem descends from God out of heaven. This city is made of pure gold, shining like clear glass. It's pictured as a perfect square with great and high walls. Twelve gates, three on each side, lie open, welcoming people in from all walks of life. There the tabernacle of God is with His people and He dwells with them and they with Him. They who live in this city do not experience grief or sadness, for those things have gone away. Within the walls are golden streets, and the Tree of Life yielding fruit every month. Its leaves are for the healing of the nations. Much more could be said, but the point is, this is a city that many people would love to live in!

The Holy City is symbolic of the New Church. Its description is so beautiful that we may automatically assume that it's referring to the life of heaven. There is truth to this of course, but it is important to remember that it's also referring to the New Church in this lifetime.

[In the spiritual sense, *Revelation* 21] has as its subject the state of heaven and the church following the Last Judgment, that through the New Heaven, **a New Church will afterward emerge on earth** which will worship the Lord alone... (*Apocalypse Revealed* 875, all emphasis mine)

We may wonder, "will I ever get to live in that city?" It is indeed idealistic. So much so that we may doubt whether we can live such a life that would be welcomed within those golden walls. But when the storm clouds of doubt begin to roll in, we can ask ourselves, why would the Lord provide something so wonderful if He knew it was forever out of our reach? Is it difficult to live such a life? It depends. Is it possible? Yes! But how?

The phrase "those who will be in the New Church" or some variation of it appears frequently throughout the Heavenly Doctrine. And when we look at these teachings we can build something of a profile

of the individual who will be in the New Church or in the Holy City. There are many things that could go into this profile, and we do not have the space for all of them, so please do not think that this article covers everything. In the meantime, we will expand on the two essentials of the New Church, which are the acknowledgement of the Lord and a life according to the Ten Commandments. These essentials form the inmost core of New Christian living and are the wellspring from which the rest of our life flows. So without further ado, let's take a look at some of these teachings and bear in mind that they have application not only to our future life in heaven, but also apply to life here on earth.

THE KNOWLEDGE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LORD

I believe the answer to the question of who will be in the New Church begins with our personal relationship with the Lord. All other aspects of being New Church depend on that relationship; without it, there is no New Church at all!



In the work *New Jerusalem and Its Heavenly Doctrine*, we have a short chapter covering the basic teachings on the Lord (see 280-310). In it are these two teachings. They read;

The first and primary principle of the church is, to know and acknowledge its God; for without that knowledge and acknowledgment there is no conjunction. ...those who will be in the New Jerusalem are all those who will acknowledge the Divine Human of the Lord. (296-297)

The first thing in the church is to know and acknowledge its God. This knowledge comes only from the threefold Word and nowhere else. Only there can we know and learn who the Lord is. Of course, knowledge alone is not the end, but it is still important. How do we acknowledge or come to love something we do not know?

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Acknowledgment on the other hand, has to do with a deep-seated recognition of something true. In the case of God, it's about recognizing that there is a higher authority that exists outside of ourselves. An authority that we worship and revere as Divine, as God. The recognition of something higher and outside of ourselves is our starting point. In the New Church however, the acknowledgment of God goes beyond a general recognition of merely something or anything outside of us. It's the acknowledgement of Someone, and Someone very specific—the Lord Jesus Christ in His Divine Human: The One Visible God of heaven and earth, the Creator and Preserver of the universe. A God with whom we can have a personal, eternal relationship.

Now, these ideas may not necessarily be new to us, but they truly are essential to New Church theology and thus being New Church. This, perhaps, is worth considering in some detail. What I wish to highlight now is the powerful way the Heavenly Doctrine speaks of even these simple truths about the Lord. For example, the knowledge and acknowledgement of One God is the “**highest and inmost of all** the doctrinal teachings of the church,” “the **very essence and soul** of the entire contents of theology...” (*Canons of the New Church* 4; *True Christian Religion* 5). In *Revelation* chapter 10, the little book that the apostle John is instructed to eat to “signifies the Word as to this point of doctrine therein, that **the Lord is the God of heaven and earth**, and that **His Human is Divine**”, a teaching that is called “the **very essential** of the New Church” (*AR* 469:1, 2). A simple idea, and yet “the very essential.”

In another place we are told that the doctrine of the Lord in a broader sense will hold the “the chief place” in the New Church (*Doctrine of the Lord* 61). The passage says further that “It is this Church which is meant by the “New Jerusalem,” and **no one can come into it who does not acknowledge the Lord as the God of heaven and earth.**”

These teachings are powerful! It seems that a knowledge and acknowledgement of the Lord is key to being New Church. Without it there is no entrance into the Holy City. The Heavenly Doctrine goes so far as to say that without such knowledge and acknowledgement there is no spiritual “safety” (*De Domino* 53). Without it we stand below heaven, at risk of being...

...bitten by serpents, that is, by infernal spirits, for whose bite there is no cure but that which the sons of Israel experienced by looking up to “the brazen serpent” (*Numbers* 21:1-9); by which is meant the Lord as to the Divine Human... (*AR* 469:3)

All of this is said to point out just how important a knowledge and acknowledgement of the Lord really is. Our salvation actually depends on it. We read, “[This is because] the whole heaven, and the whole church on earth, and, in general, all religion, is founded on a just idea of God; because by it there is conjunction, and by conjunction light, wisdom, and eternal happiness” (*AR* 469:2).

So if these teachings really are the “very essential of the New Church,” holding the “chief place” among the rest of the Heavenly Doctrine, and salvation depending, it would follow that if we wish to be in the New Church, we should continue to learn and deepen our understanding of Him! Not merely to know things about Him, but ultimately to strengthen our relationship with Him. And if we have the Heavenly Doctrine, we are blessed with a very unique opportunity to do just that.



Carmel New Church School
Come and let us go up to the
mountain of the Lord

One place I believe the church has excelled in teaching and learning about the Lord is in New Church education. With a quick look at the religion curriculum binders we see that students from Kindergarten onwards are immersed in an environment where concepts about the Lord and religion are taught, discussed and lived daily in the life of the school. For instance, in the religion courses, students read through the Word throughout their career and learn a variety of things about the Lord: that He is our Creator, Shepherd, Divine Provider and Lawgiver, Hero of War, King of Kings, Prophet and Preserver, God of All Nations, Teacher and King. In short, the whole of the religion curriculum is ultimately centered on and points to who the Lord is and how He loves and helps us throughout our life!

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Of course, even the best education does not guarantee that the individual is led to an acknowledgment of the Lord, but one of the highest values in this education is that it *provides* the important knowledge that *can* one day lead to acknowledgment.

But learning about the Lord isn't something that needs to happen solely at a school, or end at graduation. It can and should continue forever — in homes, at church, meetings, and among friends and family! In fact, continued learning about the Lord appears to be something of a hallmark of the New Church person. One passage says that those who are received in the New Church by the Lord “receive instruction from the Word, **especially respecting the Lord**, and who live according to it...” (*Apocalypse Explained* 865). Even the highest angels in heaven continue to learn about the Lord, and nothing makes them happier to do so (cf. *Arcana Coelestia* 5249:2, 5648:3).

Hopefully these reflections help us to see that those who will be in the New Church are those who have a knowledge and acknowledgement of the Lord and a heartfelt desire to keep learning about Him forever. This is the first essential of the New Church.

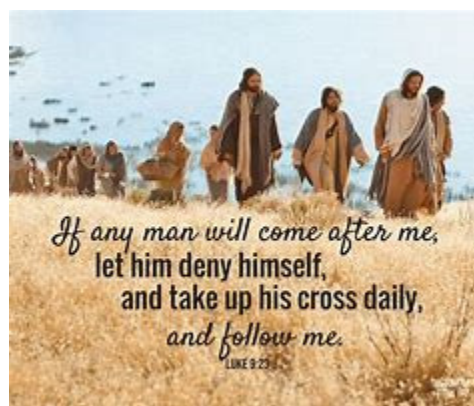
Repentance from Evil Works

The second essential to being New Church is repentance. The book of *Revelation* begins with the vision of the Lord as the Son of Man followed immediately by an address to the Seven Churches; in other words, it is the Lord speaking to His church. And what is the Lord's primary message to these churches? Repent!

The Seven Churches represent a broad range of people within the Christian world who have some element of religious life. These people are all invited to be in the New Church, *provided* they “approach the Lord alone, and **at the same time** perform repentance from evil works...” (*AR* 69). The message to the Seven Churches has clear application to our own lives.

Now, our response to the need for repentance is something that might make us bristle and cringe. It

implies a seemingly burdensome process that is difficult and painful.



“Take up your cross and follow Me” is the Lord's invitation (*Matthew* 10:38). That doesn't sound very fun. But I'm not confident this is how the Lord wants us to see repentance. Yes, it can be difficult, but hidden within that difficulty is spiritual freedom and joy! (cf. *Luke* 15:7, 10).

And the wonderful thing to think about is how no one can stray so far that they are beyond the healing of repentance. A great example of this is in the Lord's message to the Seven Churches. For a majority of these churches, the Lord highlights things they do well, as well as the things they need to work on. And some churches, when we read about them in *Revelation* and in the Heavenly Doctrine, have some serious problems that could lead to a most miserable eternal life! But their dire situation is never so dire that He cannot save (cf. *Isaiah* 59:1). Therefore, the Lord desires to rescue them, which is done by a warning and a promise. The basic warning is that if they persist in their evil, they will go to hell. He does not however, leave them hanging. He offers His hand and shows them a way out of the misery! He makes a simultaneous promise to His people that if they do repent, even those who are struggling the most will be included and blessed with eternal life in the Holy City.

Remember twelve gates lie open, open to all who wish to enter! But it is a clean city. Outside the Holy City are “the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars” who have their part “in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death” (*Revelation* 21:8). Nothing enters that city that “defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie...” (21:27).

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The message here is that the Lord wishes for all of us to be in the Holy City, the invitation is always there. But we must leave our spiritual baggage at the door for good. This is done through repentance; by shunning evils as sins against the Lord. Not because it is against the law or harmful to our reputation, but because evil stands in the way of our relationship with Him. But through repentance, these obstacles are pushed to the side with the help of the Lord.

Conclusion

There is much more that could be said about what it means to be New Church. In this article, we have briefly discussed the two essentials of the New Church: the acknowledgment that the Lord Jesus Christ is the One God of heaven and earth whose Human is Divine; and a life according to the Ten Commandments (AR 9, 490). This article focuses primarily on the first essential, but it should be known that the two essentials are mutually inclusive, and together form the inmost core of the life of the New Church. We cannot have one without the other, we need both!

There is so much more that could be said on both of these subjects, but for now the hope is that we have covered some of the basics, the essentials, of what it means to be New Church. These two essentials capture perfectly what the Lord has been teaching for thousands of years.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets. (Matthew 22:37-40)

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A New Church Camp for Teens
Held at the Ecology Retreat Centre in
Mono, Ontario

The first post-pandemic Maple Leaf Academy Camp was held from July 8-14. Teenage campers explored the theme of "Light" through worship services and learning sessions, as well as enjoyed many fun camp games and activities in nature. Most importantly, they deepened their connections to the Lord and to each other, building friendships that now span from Ontario to Illinois, to Michigan, and to Pennsylvania. Anyone who will be completing a year of high school should reserve the second week of July and join the Maple family in 2024!



You can visit www.maplecamp.com to learn more—it will be updated later this year.

From the GCIC EVP / Regional Pastor

by Rev. James Cooper

REST AND RECREATION

Now that we're in the heart of summer activities, I hope that everyone gets a chance to have some kind of pleasant break from the normal routine that will refresh and relax you, help you recover from the busy spring, and get ready for the fall activities ahead. Believe it or not, rest and recreation are uses of Charity and therefore to be encouraged.

Doctrine of Charity 190. ...There is an affection in every employment, and it strains the mind, and keeps it intent upon its work or study. This, if it be not relaxed, becomes dull, and its desire flags, as salt that has lost its savor, so that it has no pungency or relish; or as a bended bow, which, unless it be unbent, loses the power that it derives from its elasticity. Just so the mind, kept from day to day in the same ideas, without variety....

Doctrine of Charity 191. When the mind has been continually upon the stretch, at its work, it aspires to rest; and when it rests it descends into the body, and seeks there its pleasures, correspondent to its mental operations, which the mind chooses, according to its interior state in the viscera of the body. The interior things of the body derive their pleasures chiefly from the senses of sight, hearing, smell, taste, and touch, delights which are in fact drawn from outward things, but yet insinuate themselves into the single parts of the body, which are called members and viscera. From hence and from no other source have they their delights and pleasures....

ONCE AGAIN, SWITCH TO DIGITAL

Folks, as we explained at length in the last issue, we really need to significantly reduce the number of paper copies we send out by Canada Post. The New Church Canadian is produced in a PDF format which can be read on any computer, tablet, or phone, and also can easily be printed on your home printer if you really want and need to have it printed out. Or, you can even read the articles on your computer or tablet, and just print out the colouring page for your kids. (Editor's comment – Remember, we will make sure that everyone will have access to the newsletter...if there is no other way to get it to you, we will mail it! Just let me know by phone!)

Please, take a minute, and send the email address that you would like us to use to:
sandy.c.kuhl@gmail.com so we can save a lot of paper and postage.

And, as always, the current issue of New Church Canadian, and several past issues, are available on **www.newchurch.ca**.

REGIONAL PASTOR FOR CANADA

The travel schedule during the summer is a little lighter than the rest of the year because so many people are away on holiday (which is a good thing). We do expect to resume a full schedule of regular visits in the Fall. We are planning those travel assignments now.

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"NUNC LICET"

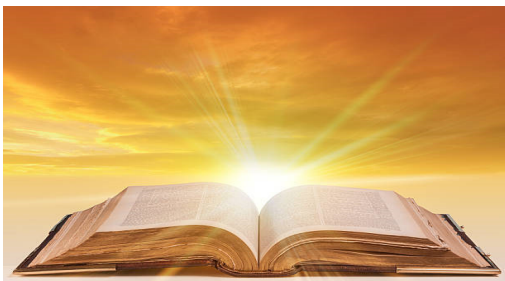
the Rev. James P. Cooper

(Mitchellville, MD – 2002)

**"Now it is Permitted to Enter into the
Mysteries of Faith with Understanding."
[TCR 508].**

Once, while Swedenborg was in the spiritual world, he was shown a tableaux or representation of the what the New Church was as to its spirit and life. The New Church was shown to him as a magnificent temple, its entrance a single pearl and the Word open and illuminated upon its pulpit. Over the doorway to this temple, the Latin words, *nunc licet* were engraved. These words mean "now it is permitted", and they represent that in the New Church it is permitted for each person to explore, think about, and understand all the doctrines of the church, even those that had been held as mysteries in previous churches. They mean that not only is it permitted, but it is intended that all people should read and understand the Word in its letter and spirit for themselves, without the need for priests to tell them what they should believe.

The Doctrine of the Sacred Scripture tells us that, "the Lord teaches every one by means of the Word, and He teaches from those truths which the man already has...." (SS 26:2) The more genuine truth from the Word that a person knows, the more prepared he is to receive influx from the Lord, and so an education based on Divine Truth derived from the letter of the Word makes the path to heaven easier. We read again from the Doctrine of the Sacred Scripture, "The Word in the sense of the letter is in its fullness, in its holiness, and in its power; and because the Lord is the Word (for He is the all of the Word), it follows that He is most of all present in the sense of the letter, and that from it He teaches and enlightens people" (SS 50).



This is key to our understanding of the true nature of the New Church now being established by the Lord, for it tells us that He requires us to learn truths from the three-fold Word in order to prepare ourselves for the life of heaven. The Lord does not want us to just accept what others tell us, but to learn His truth for ourselves. The process of learning the Lord's truth as taught in the Word is a life-long process, for the Word is a well of living water that can never be emptied. ***This life-long process of learning how to serve the Lord by serving the neighbor is New Church Education.***

The Lord came on earth to teach men, women, and children. He taught for about three years, and many of His lectures have been recorded and are available for our study in the New Testament. For example, in our brief lesson from Luke, He taught by performing a miracle (by healing the man with dropsy), by analogy (to our own practice of inviting guests into our home), and by a parable (where He told of guests being seated at a feast according to their importance). The Lord frequently used parables to describe His new spiritual truths in terms of what was common and known to His audience. He argued with and enraged the scribes and pharisees. He taught by example, by opposition, and asking questions. Every teacher, and parent should search the Old and New Testaments for guidance in how to teach the eternal truths to the children in their charge, rather than putting their faith in the popular gimmick of the moment.

New Church Education is intended to be an extension of the home, but we may ask, "What are the characteristics of a 'New Church Home'?" We might say that the ideal New Church Home is one in which the children are protected in innocence until they can be gently led out of their states of innocence into wisdom; a home without strife; a home without fear; a home where the Lord is always in the heart, and the Word always on the lips. As beautiful and ideal as that may seem to us, it is simply not possible in the circumstances we are faced with today. We have to cope with an

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information explosion that has introduced pre-school children to international tension. We also have to face the fact that while it may be ideal for the mother to teach little children and girls, and the father to teach the young men (See CL 176), most parents are not qualified to teach all the subjects that our children need to know today to be able to make a living. So, while we recognize the ideal of children being raised and taught in such an ideal New Church Home, and that the primary responsibility for their education rests with the parents (not the school), we also recognize that parents need professional help in providing New Church Education for their children.

This concept was developed in the early days of the New Church. The New Church school was to be an extension of the ideal New Church home, whether or not that ideal New Church home actually existed. What it really means is that there must be mutual co-operation and support between the home and the school. The school operates on the principle that the parents have placed the child in the New Church school because they want something special for that child and are willing to make the extra effort to provide that kind of education.

There is a danger that parents may feel that because their children are in a religious school that they are therefore freed from the responsibility to teach them morality or discipline. The Word clearly teaches that parents are responsible for teaching their children the Ten Commandments, and about the reality of the spiritual world. However, a New Church school sets out to assist the parents in doing this, and desires to cooperate fully in this important job, but the school is not to take away parental responsibility. This obligates the school to inform the parents of its program and obligates the parents to pay attention to what is happening in the school.

There is also the obligation of public support of the school and the teachers. It is destructive of the use of education for students to hear their parents and others enthusiastically criticizing their teachers. It teaches them the false idea that proper adult conversation centers around finding fault with other people and fosters this kind of discussion among the students. It is very difficult to teach

children who have been taught to disregard their teacher and their school. In the same vein, teachers must support the parents by speaking about them with respect. If all adults, both teachers and parents, involved in a school can maintain a public stance of support for each other in the important use of educating children, and make the necessary comments and criticisms in private to the appropriate individuals, then a New Church school can become closer to being an extension of the ideal New Church home, and it will benefit from the spirit of charity and cooperation that will be engendered.



The three-fold Word is the center of New Church Education. For this reason, each school day includes reading from the Word, for the beginning of a day qualifies and affects all the events that follow. It is also an important symbol that we order our lives around this simple ritual, to actually spend the time to reflect on the Word each day. It is our hope that this will establish a life-long habit of daily going to the Word for comfort and instruction.

Students may also receive regular religious instruction from a pastor. These meetings provide opportunities for several important things to happen: There can be formal instruction in the doctrines of the Church. There can be questions and discussion. There is the chance for the pastor to get to know the children as individuals, and for the children to know the pastor, and for a pastoral relationship to begin and grow that will last for many years. However, the most important thing that happens in a Religion class is that the students learn to read the Word with understanding. And as they learn from the Word itself, they begin to see things in it that apply to their own lives, and they can speak freely about God and morality without fear of embarrassment. They learn spiritual laws and find that they can answer their own questions by applying those laws to their individual situa-

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tion. Through religion classes, they become people who know how to read the Word to find the answers to their problems, they learn spiritual laws that they can apply to their own lives, they become spiritually free because they have the power to change the course of their lives through knowledge and understanding of spiritual truths.

The foundations for New Church Education are laid at home as the parents teach their child to say the Lord's prayer, to say grace before meals, to come to church regularly, and to obey the Ten Commandments. ***The walls and the roof are built upon the foundation in the Primary grades***, where, in the sphere of the home and the teacher as a mother, they learn age-appropriate songs and passages from scripture. In this sphere of love and safety during their first years, the children are affected with many lovely and gentle truths about the Lord, and worship. These things remain with them throughout their life, and they are some of the "remains" that the Lord uses to regenerate them.

We all know that "remains" are important, that they are implanted by the Lord, that everyone has them, that they counterbalance our hereditary evils and that they help us get ready for heaven. But how do they do these things? ***"Remains" are the glue that sticks truths into our minds. This applies to everyone of every age. You cannot receive truth unless you can be affected by it, or, to put it another way, unless you have an affection for it.*** Once you have the affection for truth which is a gift from the Lord, you then have the ability to acquire truth for yourself.

We all know that there is an infinite variety of truths. They do not come to us by accident or by magic. We must seek them out for ourselves, and the selection of which truths we seek out is a reflection of our own character and freedom of choice.

If you wish to prepare yourself for life in the world, you must seek out natural truths that relate to your chosen field. If you wish to prepare yourself for life in the spiritual world, you must seek out spiritual truths. The natural truths you need come from a great variety of sources, but the spiritual truths you need to prepare for a life in heaven

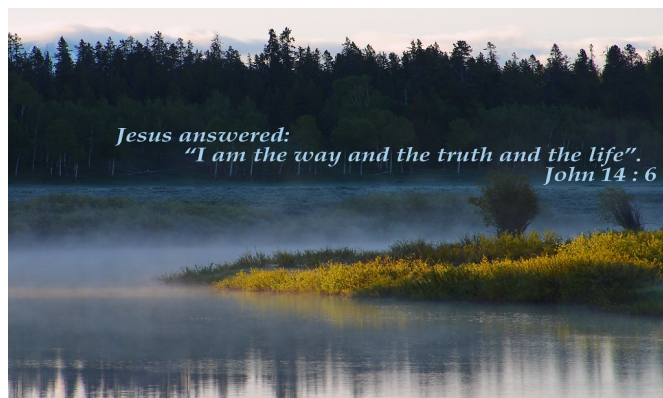
come from but one source, and that is, of course, the Word - in its letter, and in its internal sense.

It becomes obvious then, that learning how to read the Word with understanding becomes one of the most important tasks of human life, and because it is an exercise which requires both skill in reading and a degree of reason, it cannot be taught in the lower grades. ***The affection for reading the Word can (and must) be established in the first years of school, but the skill itself cannot. That comes with instruction and practice, later when the student's mind is ready for it.***

But schools are expensive and time consuming. Why do we go to all that trouble and expense? Because the doctrines of the New Church clearly teach that the only purpose of life in this world is to prepare ourselves and our children for life in the spiritual world. The Word has been Divinely provided to us for that reason, and it is our obligation to do everything in our power to learn its secrets, and New Church schools give powerful support to those who seek to enter into spiritual truths.

Nunc licet. Now it is permitted to enter into the mysteries of faith with understanding. The purpose of the New Church school is to cooperate with the New Church home in preparing the student's understanding so that he may freely enter into the mysteries of faith in the light of understanding from the three-fold Word, and therefore it is right and proper that we make this effort to lead ourselves and our children according to the ways provided by the Lord in His Word. Speaking as the Divine Truth Itself, Jesus taught us,

***"I am the way, the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through Me"
(John 14:6).***



Jesus answered:
"I am the way and the truth and the life".
John 14 : 6

Lessons: Isaiah 11:6-9; Luke 14:1-14; AC 1495:2



Living Waters Family Camp 2023

Review by Denali Schorran

Living Waters Family Camp is a camp where young and old come together to learn about the Lord and His church. Our theme this year at camp was "What does it mean to be New Church?"

This theme was divided into three separate doctrinal classes and discussions. The first class focused on what the Heavenly Doctrine calls the two essentials of the New Church. The first is the acknowledgement of the Lord in His Divine Human and the second is a life according to the Ten Commandments. The second class was on the distinctiveness of the New Church. We highlighted the fact that the New Church is indeed something different, distinct and special because it has the Heavenly Doctrine. We also emphasized the fact that while the New Church is something special and precious, having these teachings does not make us better than other people. The third class centered on the idea of the Church Specific and the Church Universal. We discussed what the focus of the church should be given the fact that we have something very special to offer the world. Something that other churches do not – access to the Lord's Second Coming!

In addition to the classes, the daily life of the camp is filled with many fun and meaningful traditions for all who attend. This year it was especially amazing to see the next generation of teens play and care for the little ones at camp. We also loved seeing people from different church communities connect in new ways. The children who have attended camp for a long time mingled with those new to camp. We hope this is just the beginning of new friendships.

Thursday evening as the majority of people arrived we enjoyed an exciting welcome game organized by one of our new campers! Every day of camp includes worship as an entire group; it is the focus and purpose of camp to gather together in worship to the Lord. In the morning after worship, the children break off to enjoy crafts and games provided by volunteers. While the adults stay and enjoy a presentation and discussion pertaining to the camp theme. A favourite tradition of ours is the little children in worship lighting the candles at the beginning and snuffing them at the end, supported by the help of the older girls.

During afternoon free-time there is a slip-n'-slide where the older kids and teens did an amazing job protecting the little ones from grass burn and collisions making it both fun and safe. On Friday evening we enjoyed the annual events night where young and old participated in competing for the great honour of bragging rights. Every evening the whole camp gathers for a campfire to enjoy conversation, laughter, many roasted marshmallows and s'mores. A favourite tradition of many of the adults at camp is the Saturday evening Holy Supper. Once again the teens and older children helped support the life of camp by caring for the little ones. The service was beautiful with music and candles, an intimate gathering of people coming together before the Lord.

Camp concluded with a final worship service and a slideshow to reflect on all the fun that was had and connections that were made. Throughout camp we were provided with wonderful home-cooked meals by the staff at the Hidden Valley Christian Camp. We feel so blessed to be part of this wonderful tradition and hope to continue seeing the communities coming together to learn about the Lord in a fun and nurturing environment.

*Next year we will be celebrating our 10th anniversary as a camp,
and we hope to see you there!*



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General Church in Canada Worship Services

Carmel New Church
Kitchener, ON



August:
10:00am
In Person
and
Online
September
11:00am

Dawson Creek New Church
Dawson Creek, BC



Olivet New Church
Etobicoke, ON

10:30am
In Person and Online



Editorial Deadline for the SEPT. — OCT. ISSUE

SEPTEMBER 7, 2023

We always welcome your comments, letters and articles!

Please send submissions to Sandy Kuhl, Editor NCC
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