



CONNECTOR

#82 June 2026



General Assembly

June 8-12, 2026

First Alliance Church Calgary

POWER Team Gathering

Wednesday June 10th 3:30 p.m.

First Alliance Church Calgary



Especially for you who are not attending, please pray for General Assembly happenings on the following days:

Monday June 8 MISSIONS 6:30 p.m. International Dessert
7:30 p.m. International Program

Tuesday June 9 NEXT GEN 1:30 p.m. Lecture by Ken Draper at Ambrose -Ken Retiring

Wed. June 10 Evangelism
8:30 a.m. Prayer, Worship & Communion
11:00 a.m. & 4 p.m. Business #1 & 2
3:30 p.m. Break **POWER Team gathering & Dinner, then evening service**
7:30 p.m. Plenary: Shala Visser

Thursday June 11 ALL IN
8:30 a.m. Prayer & Worship
9 a.m. President's Report
11:00 & 4 p.m. Business #3 & 4
5:30 p.m. Dinner honoring DR. MEL SYLVESTER
7:30 p.m. Plenary: Terry Sanderson
10:00 p.m. Healing Service & Worship Night (until 12:01)

Friday June 12
8:30 a.m. Prayer & Worship
9:00 a.m. President's Report
11:00 a.m. Business #5
12:30 p.m. GA Adjourned

Canadian Pacific **POWER Team** Coordinators, Brian & Judy Thom, distribute the **CONNECTOR** to their district, and they introduce it with their own encouragement, blessing and helpful information.

Here is the latest: Power Team CPD Members

Judy and I have just returned from our yearly trek to Palm Springs. What a delightful time, especially at this time of year!

As we were away, I was thinking about what the Lord really wants of me as I am in these aging years of my life. It reminded me of something that I wrote years ago:



YOU ARE A VERY SPECIAL PERSON

When Judy and I were young parents, (many years ago now), we taught our children a song that included these words: ***"I am a promise, I am a possibility, I am a promise with a capital P; I am a great big bundle of potentiality"***.

We love that song because it conveyed a very important message to our children. Each of them was very special. Each was truly "one-of-a-kind" . . . a masterpiece in making. God had uniquely created each of them and each of us . . . you and me. As we've grown into maturity, He has brought many people and events into our lives that have contributed to the process of shaping us for a very special life and ministry, even in our retirement years. The process will continue.

What makes you special? In one of the former issues of TIME Magazine, we find this same question. The article skillfully picks up the old debate about nature and nurture. It makes the reader wrestle with scientists and philosophers to think and rethink the place of genes versus environment. The article, while presenting both sides, leans towards believing that the lifelong interaction of genes and experience contribute in shaping our lives. Not one or the other, but both.

What is that in your hand? This is the pivotal question in exodus 4:2 that God asked Moses when Moses was struggling to see his own adequacy to accept God's will for his life, all of us, at some time, need to answer the question: ***What do I have in my hand?*** Or, more literally, what has God placed within me and around me to prepare me to be and to do what He wants for my life even in these years of retirement?

Even as we begin the process of examining our personal estate in (everything that is in your hand) it reminds me of what Dave Hearn and I taught in our Turbo Launch seminars in our Pastoral Networks. By reflecting back in all that God has led us through over the years of our lives, we will see very clearly his fingerprints of guidance and direction not only for our present but for our future as well. This would include items like: *your home. . . your physical body. . . your natural talents. . . your spiritual gifts . . . your upbringing . . . your intellectual capacity . . . your spiritual background.* This is just to start but other items that could be included would be: ***your vocational background . . . your financial resources . . . your failures and your successes . . . your dreams and your visions . . . your family . . . your trials (even the toughest of them) . . . special people in your life . . . special opportunities . . . open doors and closed doors . . . and so much more.***

As you take time to thoroughly see the depth, the enormity, and the uniqueness of your estate you will readily see how very special you are. No two of us are alike. Aren't you thankful for that? Our creative God has been at work in us for a long time and He continues His work even today.

Each of us needs to thoroughly investigate and evaluate our own uniqueness. Today, even in retirement, God is grooming you and me for tomorrow. The best clue about God's will for you is found in and through understanding His estate committed to you, of the things He has placed in your hand. **What has God placed in your hand?**

Even as God spoke to the people of Israel in Isaiah 4:31 He speaks to us as well:

*I have created you,
I have formed you,
I have redeemed you,
I have summoned you by name,
You are mine.*

May you be encouraged today! You are a promise! You are a possibility! You are a promise with a capital P! You are a great big bundle of potentiality!

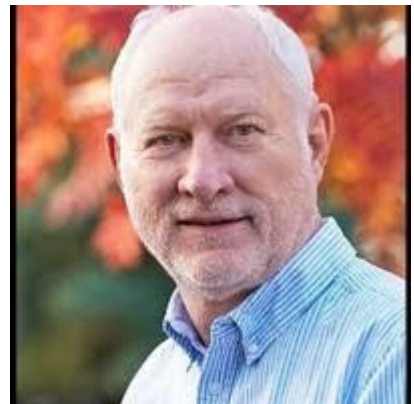
Cheerfully
Brian & Judy
CPD Power Team Coordinators



Ronald Brown -has established The Brown Blog

Check it out <https://canadahouse.wordpress.com/>

-there are articles of -Dr. Charles Cook Retiring after 37 years at Ambrose
-Dr. Mel Sylvester being honored and many more.



POWER Team member -Joy Tira attended his own Celebration of Life Service.



I have a friend, Joe Schuringa who was on the Board of Ambrose during the transition from Regina to Calgary. In his 90s, he had a Celebration of Life “Banquet” with many friends to thank them for the impact they had upon his life and spiritual journey before he died. Dr. -Geoge Durance was the key speaker for the event.

Personally, I have always said: “If you can’t take the time to come and see me when I am alive, don’t come to view my dead body.”

Joy Tira, did not want to delay the plans the family made, including the date for his Celebration of Life Service, since he was in the hospital with the medical people saying he had only hours to live. He didn’t want any party or celebration for himself to take place without his own presence, so, the following is the rest of the story.

Here is what wife Lulu Tira wrote:

Dear Friends

Hope you are all fine

Joy had experience God’s miraculous touch on the weekend of April 11-12. The doctor called us from the ER of UAH to come and say goodbye to him as his liver and brain were shutting down. So, that was what we did, but after saying goodbye (we did it one by one) the Lord woke him up, and he began to stabilize and talk not knowing what happened to him for 8 hours.

He said upon waking up; “why are you all here? Who coordinated this?”

We do not know how long is the extension of his life so we desire to glorify God by celebrating his life. You are invited to join us this Saturday at Beulah Alliance Church SW campus (Chapelle) from 2:30 to 5:00

Blessings,

Lulu Tira, Edmonton, AB

Joy & Lulu’s son wrote: This past weekend, his condition declined significantly. When moved to comfort care, he was unresponsive, his vitals had dropped to 70/14, his organs were failing, and our family was told he could pass within hours.

Today, his condition is a miracle in a series of miracles where God has extended his life. He has begun a new (“final option”) oral antibiotic, though how long it will remain effective is uncertain.

We recognise this time as a gift—an opportunity to number our days with wisdom and give thanks to God, not only for sustaining life, but because He is worthy of our worship in every season.



“Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.” — Psalm 90:12

We are grateful for this time and are choosing to gather while our dad is still with us, to give thanks together and declare God’s faithfulness. We would love for you to join us.

Maybe Joy is setting a trend for POWER Team members.



Margaret "Peggy" Violet Lee

August 30, 1939 – April 22, 2026

Peggy was born on August 30, 1939 in Ottawa. Peggy retired in 2006 from missionary ministry in Indonesia after 40 years of serving in the Alliance Office in Jakarta, Indonesia. Peggy was the mission bookkeeper and secretary. She was known to be a good listener and showed interest in the ministries of her missionary colleagues, and many of their children became like nieces and nephews to her. Peggy and her good friend, Judy Gaskin, lived together for 30 years.

Two Memorial Services will be conducted: May 2, 2026 at Emmanuel Alliance Church in Ottawa and the second at a

later date in Huntsville, Alabama, U.S.A.

Please consider a donation to Camp Good News in West Java, Indonesia. Donations can be processed online or by check to The Christian & Missionary Alliance, U.S.A. Peggy loved going to Camp Good News for relaxation. Camp Good News is a retreat center for the national church.



Recently **POWER Team IW Ruth Stanley** graduated to her eternal home. Celebration of Life Service will at Cedarview Alliance in Ottawa.

Also, **Gerry Clemenger Nelson** passed away May 30th in Ancaster Ontario. She served in BFA and Azerbaijan. June 12th is the Celebration of Life Service at Gateway Church, Caledonia.



Retiring, Relocating, Re.....



After 35+ years in Taiwan, **Lorne & Kathy-Lu White** are nearing the end of their international career.

Recently, 75 people gathered for a Thanksgiving service in Japan to celebrate what God has done through their ministry. Stories were told, appreciation was expressed, gifts were given and God was praised.

Lorne & Kathy-Lu will be returning to Canada and will be on a one-year home assignment before moving into retirement. Please be in prayer for them with all the transition that lies ahead, including many good-byes, the work of packing and cleaning, finding suitable

housing in Canada, and numerous other things to check off the to-do list. May God give them grace for all these things!

(Maybe they will be at General Assembly)

Retiring, Relocating, Re..... (continuing)

May 31 was a Sunday of Retirement Celebrations in Ontario

David Freeman was honored on retiring, having served with the Alliance for 50 years. The celebration took place at the Gateway Alliance Church in Caledonia Ontario, having served on staff there for 8 years. Miriam Charter was the guest speaker at the 3 morning services.



It was an honor to be present for this great Celebration Service.

We were blessed to have President Darren Herbold, DS of the CCD, Shane Gould (left in picture), David (center) and Wayne Kerr (right, representing **POWER Team**) support David on this special day

Many **POWER Team** members joined in this celebration.

Here is link to the service:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r2FALbtkKvY>

Garry & Pam James retired during the celebration service at Valleyview Alliance Church in Newmarket Ontario, where he has pastored for 25 years (45 yrs with the Alliance in Canada). He and Pam will be moving to Newfoundland where family members live.

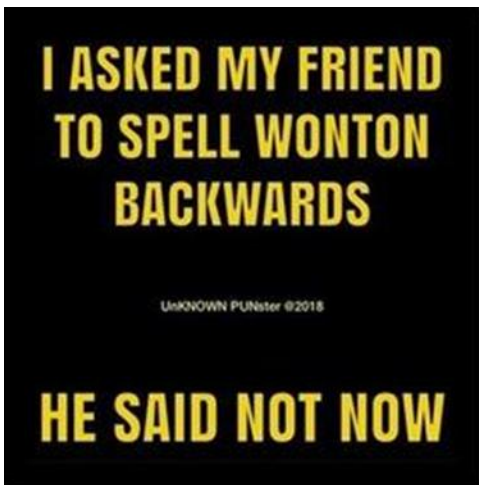
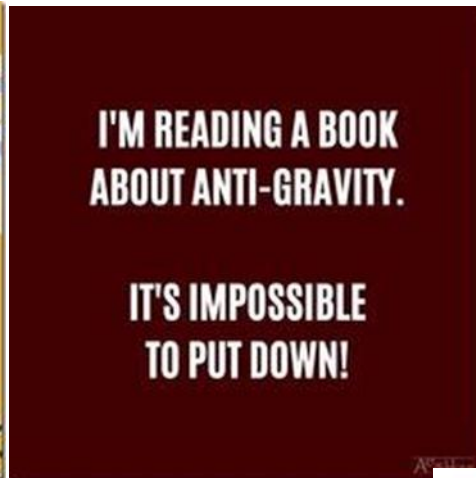


National Coordinator of **POWER Team**, Gerald Hogenbirk was present and connected with Chris & Phebe Perumalla who also retired recently. Chris will be mentoring the new lead pastor.

It was encouraging to have regular and soon to be **POWER Team** members present.

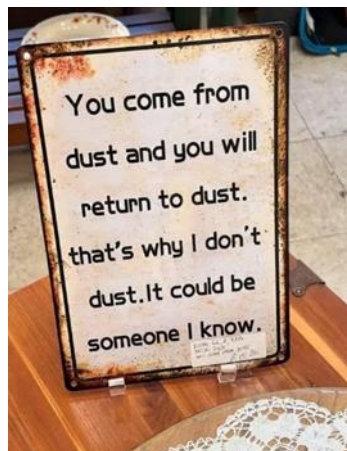
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Time for a few smiles.



• This getting old is a terrible thing. I blacked out for twenty minutes this morning, then I realized I'd put my hoodie on backwards

I used to look at my grandparents and think, 'I'll never be that old.' Yet here I am, livin' the dream.



Felt uncomfortable driving into the cemetery. The gps blurted out you have reached your final destination.



Send your contribution for the CONNECTOR to:
waynebettyk@rogers.com 647-408-4204