



# LACOMBE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH



**JANUARY**

Happy New Year 2026

# CONNECT

*Love God    Love People  
Equip the Church*

CONNECT with us ...

Website: [www.lacombepentecostal.ca](http://www.lacombepentecostal.ca)

Office Email: [lpcoffice@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:lpcoffice@churchonthehill.ca)

Phone: (403)782-2966

40331 Range Road 27-1, Hwy 12

Lacombe, AB T4L 0E3

# CONNECT

WITH OUR MINISTRIES

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# LPC Staff

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## Pastoral Staff

Rev. Bryan Darnell (Lead Pastor) \_\_\_\_\_ pastorbryan@churchonthehill.ca

Karla Budgell (Associate Pastor) \_\_\_\_\_ pastorkarla@churchonthehill.ca

Angela Stephenson (Children's Pastor In Studies) \_\_\_\_\_ kids@churchonthehill.ca

Paul Hildebrand (Youth Director) \_\_\_\_\_ youth@churchonthehill.ca

## Leadership Team

Stirling Bott \_\_\_\_\_ sbottsc@gmail.com

Al Rankin \_\_\_\_\_ rankinshouse@gmail.com

Stephen Friesen \_\_\_\_\_ stephen.friesen@v-mail.ca

Doug Gateman \_\_\_\_\_ dcgateman@gmail.com

Joanne Paquet \_\_\_\_\_ jpaquet70@gmail.com

## Support Staff

Barb Wilmot (Office/Financial Administrator) \_\_\_\_\_ bwilmot@churchonthehill.ca

Tracey Rimbault (Office Administrator) \_\_\_\_\_ lpcoffice@churchonthehill.ca

Les Stephenson (Property Management/AV Tech) \_\_\_\_\_ lpavtech@gmail.com

Karleen Hildebrand (Sound Director) \_\_\_\_\_ lpcoffice@churchonthehill.ca

# Welcome



**BRYAN  
DARNELL**

**Lead Pastor**

## CONTACT

PHONE:  
403-782-2966

WEBSITE:  
[lacombspentecostal.ca](http://lacombspentecostal.ca)

EMAIL:  
[pastorbryan@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:pastorbryan@churchonthehill.ca)

## THERE'S A PLACE DESIGNED JUST FOR YOU AT LPC

Lacombe Pentecostal Church relentlessly reaches out to people who are far from God by revealing the grace of God offered through faith in Jesus Christ alone.

We are also passionate to seek and strengthen those who already know God by igniting them to action in their faith.

We believe that by God's grace alone,  
those who repent from their sin  
and confess faith in  
Jesus Christ as Lord,  
Salvation is available

to all people by the loving,  
redemptive act of the triune God.

It is our joy to share this news with the world.

Here at LPC, we are committed to being passionately Biblical,  
overwhelmingly loving,  
and fully committed to the glory of Jesus.

**We would love to make this place your home too.**





# Purpose Statement

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## Lacombe Pentecostal Church

**"LPC purposes to see people become devoted believers in Jesus Christ."**

Who having received through Christ, forgiveness and eternal life and are becoming restored, healed, equipped and serving anointed worshippers of the Living God.

LPC is a place to belong to His family. LPC is place to become all that God has purposed for your life, actively serving in the Kingdom of God for the Glory of Christ Jesus.

We are prayerfully and intentionally seeking to raise a generation of believers, who are not afraid or skeptical of the supernatural workings of the Holy Spirit and are visible, verbal, and unapologetic of the glorious hope that is within them; who are living by God's faith, and are authentic representatives of Jesus Christ.

Does it give you a sense of direction, or empowerment for you to express your spiritual and natural gifts toward the purpose?

What things, events, or ministries might you identify that has helped to fulfill the purpose statement?

If we choose to, what two or three things could we all do to accelerate the above statement and subsequent paragraphs so that more people in City of Lacombe would become believers in Jesus Christ?

# Ways You Can *SERVE*

*Having a place to minister and serve is instrumental in truly belonging to a community.  
LPC wants to assist you in finding a place for you to use and grow in your spiritual gifts,  
which ultimately edifies the Body of Christ.*

*If you wish to get  
involved in any of  
these ministries,  
contact one of the  
Staff or Lead  
Team*



AMAZING GRACE  
ALTAR PRAYER  
ANCHOR KIDS LEADER/HELPER  
AUDIO/VISUAL TEAM  
COFFEE CORNER  
COFFEE  
COMMUNION  
CONNECT CORNER  
CONNECT GROUP LEADERS/HELPERS  
DEBIT  
DECORATING  
EZ WORSHIP  
GREETER  
GRIEF SHARE  
HANDS & FEET  
INTERCESSORY PRAYER  
LIBRARY  
MEN'S GROUP  
NURSERY WORKER  
PRAYER CHAIN  
STEPHEN MINISTRIES  
SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADER/HELPER  
USHER  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL HELPER  
WEE COLLEGE LEADER/HELPER  
WORSHIP TEAM/SOUND  
YOUTH WORKERS

# Connect Groups ...

## ✿ Lead a Small ✿ Group or Bible Study!

LACOMBE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH | CHURCH

Are you passionate about connecting with others, building community, and helping people grow in their faith?

We're looking for **Small Group Leaders** and **Bible Study Facilitators** for the upcoming season. Whether you love to host-teach, or simply create space for discussion – we'd love to hear from you!

- ✓ Help others grow – and grow yourself.
- ✓ Lead meaningful conversations.
- ✓ Foster connection and care.

### Interested? Let's talk!

### Pastor Karla

✉ [pastorkarla@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:pastorkarla@churchonthehill.ca)

☎ 403-782-2966

# ... Connect Groups

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## **FOR JANUARY**

### **MONDAY**

Stephen Ministries - Evenings

### **TUESDAY**

Intercessory Prayer - Evenings (1st & 3rd wk)

Ladies Bible Study - Mornings

Revelation/End Times (Pastor Mark) - Evenings

### **WEDNESDAY**

Life of the Messiah Study - Evenings

Men's Group - Evenings

### **THURSDAY**

Pray & Play - Mornings (Every 2nd week)

Celebration of Discipline - Mornings (Every 2nd week)

Praying parents - Mornings (When school is running)

Women's Bible Study - Evenings

### **FRIDAY**

Women at the Well - Usually Evenings (3rd Fri of the Month)

### **SATURDAY**

Pit Stop - Mornings

Platinum Friends - Dates announced

# Stephen Ministry

## Stephen Ministers: The After People

People often ask, “What exactly is a Stephen Minister?” One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the *After People*. *Stephen Ministers are there:*

... *after*

the phone call you hoped you’d never get.

... *after* the divorce papers are served and the bottom falls out of your life.

... *after* the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you’ve held at bay come crashing in on you.

... *after* the doctor says, “I’m sorry, but there’s nothing more we can do.”

... *after* the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, “Welcome to your new home.”

... *after* the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty.

... *after* the gavel goes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.

... *after* the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.

... *after* you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.

... *after* your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the “After People.” They are people from our congregation ready to come alongside you or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives—and provide confidential comfort and support for as long *after* as needed. If You need a Stephen Minister:



Email [stephens@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:stephens@churchonthehill.ca) or call (403) 782-2966 Mon-Fri. 9:00-3:00



©



# Grief Share



**Starting up again on Thurs, Feb. 5/26**  
**7-8:30pm**

GriefShare is a 13 week support group offered to those grieving the loss of a loved one.

To sign up or for more information go to: [griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org) under find a Group, type in Lacombe Alberta, more information and then register.

Or  
call/text/email:  
587-679-0602  
[griefshare@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:griefshare@churchonthehill.ca)

**We are very actively looking for a new leader for Grief Share. Please reach out to Kathy Oszust if you are interested.**

1	Is This Normal?
2	Your Grief Journey
3	Loneliness & Sadness
4	Self-Care
5	Fearful & Overwhelmed
6	Anger
7	Regrets
8	Grief & Your Household
9	Grief & Your Friendships
10	Questions for God
11	Stuck in Grief
12	Hope & Resilience
13	What Do I Live For Now?



# Next Generation Ministry



2025-2026

## Next Generation

Ministry Programs

### Sunday Mornings

Nursery (0-24 mo.) - downstairs  
Toddlers (2-3 yrs) - upstairs  
Preschool (4 yrs) - upstairs  
Gr. K-4 - main room upstairs  
Gr. 5-6 - upstairs

### Mid-Week Programs

**Anchor Kids (Gr. 1-6):** Wednesday nights from 6:15-7:45 pm. September - April. Devotions, worship, games, crafts, cooking and other life skills. Starting Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Anchor Kids Worship:** Student-led worship teams, serving every Wednesday night.

**Gr. 5/6 Bible Study:** Tuesdays from 4:30-6:00 pm, starting October 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Grades 7-12

**The Anchor Youth:** Friday nights from 7:00-9:30pm, September - June. Includes worship, games, small groups, overnight trips, and youth conferences.

**The New Life Ministry (Grades 10-12):** Student servant-leadership team meeting monthly from September-June and serving Friday nights.

**Redemption Worship:** Student-led worship team, serving twice monthly on Friday nights.

## Contacts

Pastor Angela  
(ages 0-Gr. 6)

[kids@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:kids@churchonthehill.ca)

403-782-2966

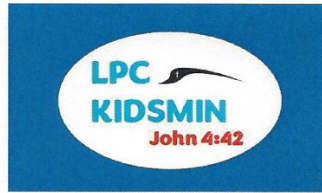
Youth Ministry  
(Grades 7-12)

[youth@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:youth@churchonthehill.ca)

403-782-2966

Leaders are needed in kids and youth ministries! If you are interested in serving in one of these areas, please get in touch!

# Children's Ministry ...



*The following article was taken from Christian Parenting Basics Oct. 23, 2025, blog.*

## **RAISING TECH-SAVVY CHILDREN: CHRISTIAN PARENTING IN THE AGE OF AI NAVIGATING AI**

Today's parents face challenges that previous generations would never have imagined. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is everywhere: in our children's classrooms, their games, their devices, and even their friendships. According to the Christian polling firm, Barna, nearly three-quarters of parents worry about AI's impact on children. And for good reason. AI shapes what our children see, hear, believe, and even how they feel about themselves.

As followers of Jesus, we shouldn't be anxious. Scripture reminds us, "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline" [2 Timothy 1:7](#). Our role as Christian parents isn't to flee from technology but to engage it in ways that assist our children in dealing with a rapidly changing world. The goal should be to raise truth-loving disciples who use technology wisely and for God's glory.

### **SEEING AI THROUGH A BIBLICAL LENS**

AI isn't inherently evil or good; it's a tool. Like every human invention, it reflects both the creativity God has given us and our fallen nature. AI can translate Scripture into new languages, help the blind "see" through image recognition, and support learning in incredible ways. But it can also deceive, distort, and distract. That's why discernment is essential.

Moses prays, "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" [Psalm 90:12](#). Wisdom, not ignorance, is what our families need most in the digital age. We must teach our children to recognize that while AI can predict words, only God's Word is Truth. While it can analyze data, it can't understand the image of God in a human soul.

### **REAL DANGERS IN A DIGITAL WORLD**

Many AI tools are designed to keep users, including children, hooked. The longer they stay online, the more data companies collect and the more profit they make. Some apps even act like friends, remembering personal details and responding with programmed emotions. But as Scripture reminds us, "A friend loves at all times" [Proverbs 17:17](#), and AI can't love. It can only imitate care to keep a child engaged.

Other risks are less visible but equally real:

- **Misinformation:** AI doesn't always tell the truth. It sometimes makes suppositions. Children may believe false or biased content because "the computer said it."
- **Data privacy:** Every chat, photo, or voice clip can be stored and sold. Even so-called safe apps may collect data in ways we'd disapprove of.
- **Deepfakes and deception:** AI can now generate realistic images or videos of things that never happened. This calls for supervision, conversations about truth and trust, and the development of skills to identify deceit.
- **Addiction and mental health:** The endless scroll can leave children anxious, lonely, and detached from genuine relationships.

Technology isn't neutral; it promotes ideas and principles. AI will shape children's beliefs, habits, and desires unless we intentionally root them in God's truth.





# ... Children's Ministry ...



## **RAISING TECH-SAVY CHILDREN: CHRISTIAN PARENTING IN THE AGE OF AI (pg. 2)**

### **BUILDING A FAITH FRAMEWORK FOR DIGITAL DISCIPLE-MAKING**

So how can Christian parents respond? With prayerful intentionality and practical wisdom. Think of it as a “tiered approach” to technology, adjusting your guidelines and counsel as your children grow:

- **Ages 0-5:** Keep screens minimal. Focus on play, imagination, and Bible stories. When using technology, stay beside your child.
- **Ages 6-10:** Begin simple digital literacy. Explain that people create AI and can make mistakes. Help them learn how to use God given wisdom (they need to know God’s Word) when they connect with AI.
- **Ages 11-13:** Talk openly about online influences, privacy, and AI’s moral implications. Encourage them to “test them all; hold on to what is good,” **1 Thessalonians 5:21**.
- **Ages 14-18:** Shift from control to mentorship. Guide teens in ways that help their faith inform their digital choices and future vocations.

Each stage is an opportunity for disciple-making; to teach discernment, responsibility, and faithfulness in a tech-shaped world.

### **PRACTICAL AI SAFETY TIPS FOR EVERY FAMILY**

- **Keep conversations going.** Ask who your child talks to online and what those chats are like. Engage in active dialogue and ongoing discussions.
- **Teach fact-checking.** Encourage children to ask, “Who created this? Why?” and to verify AI-generated answers with trusted sources or adults.
- **Protect privacy.** Use strong passwords, review privacy settings, and choose child-safe apps.
- **Stay alert to content bias.** Discuss fake news or false messages children encounter and connect them to biblical truth.
- **Set boundaries.** Create tech-free zones, plan family media times, and encourage play, reading, and outdoor activities.
- **Use AI together.** Explore Christian or educational tools as a family so you can guide their understanding firsthand.

These habits don’t just guard against danger; they create guardrails. They teach our children that technology exists to serve, not master us.

### **HOPE FOR CHRISTIAN PARENTS**

AI will keep changing, but God’s truth never will. We can’t predict every challenge, but we can prepare our children to face the future rooted in Christ. As the Evangelical Statement of Principles on Artificial Intelligence reminds us, “Nothing will ever supplant the image of God in which human beings are created.” That means no algorithm can define our worth. No chatbot can replace human love. And no artificial mind can outsmart God.

Let’s lead our families with courage, curiosity, and conviction. Let’s raise children who aren’t only tech-savvy but Spirit-led, who use every tool at their disposal to know Christ more deeply and make Him known more clearly in a digital world.



# ... Children's Ministry



Thank you to all who made our KidsMin CHRISTMAS PLAY a great success!

A special thank you, again, to our Director, Kendal Landry, and to the cast and choir for all their hard work, and to everyone who came out to support this ministry. Merry Christmas!

**ANCHOR KIDS MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**  
**Make a difference in a child's life...**



**Check-In Minister:** The person is responsible to greet, check-in and register our students weekly. Wednesdays, 5:45—6:30 pm, Jan. 7- May 6

**Special Class Leader:** We are looking for people willing to come for 3 weeks only to teach a smaller group of students a special skill. (Ex. knitting, soccer, floor hockey, baking, painting, origami, etc.) Helpers would be available to assist leading with you.

*IF YOU ARE INTERESTED OR HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT  
PASTOR ANGELA*

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

Jan. 5th — GR 5/6 BIBLE STUDY resumes. New students welcome!

Jan. 6th — ANCHOR KIDS resumes (PJs & Praise Sign-up Night)

Mar. 29th — WEE COLLEGE YR 1& 2 GRADUATION  
(following Sun. service)



**FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION,  
contact Pastor Angela**



# Things You Should Know ...

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**January 4, 2026**

Full offering will be donated to:



**Sunday, January 11, 2025**

See what LPC has to offer and get connected with our many Ministries.

Lots of volunteer opportunities as well.

*If you are in charge of a ministry or are planning a new study, etc., please let Tracey in the office know how much space you need & plan to have a tri-fold set out.*

*Tri-folds are by the office.*





# ... Things You Should Know ...

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Friday, January 16th

@ 6:30pm

At the home of Tracey Raimbault



For more information, please contact Salley Swett  
or call the Church office

You will be contacted by email with details

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## All Church Prayer Night

Sun., Feb. 1/26

6-7:30pm

Please join us!





# ... Things You Should Know



Over 2,000 Discipleship Videos for Kids, Youth & Adults are available to Church members & attendees.  
Bible Studies, Marriage Enrichment, Training Conference Sessions, Family Videos & More!

Right Now Media is a service provided to our membership & attendees. If you would like to sign up please call the office @ (403)782-2966



## LPC Mens Group

WhatsApp group

Join our LPC Mens Group

Scan this QR code with your camera to stay connected



## Did you know that we have a Prayer Chain?



This is a group of people who will pray for you from their homes, should you ever have a need. If you let our office know your request, we will contact the leader of the Prayer Chain and your request will go out to all who are on the team. You will not be contacted personally, unless you wish to be. Our office # is 403-782-2966.

If you would like to be a part of our Prayer Chain and have time to pray for others, please also contact the office and we will get you set up. This is a very valuable ministry and the more people praying, the better.

## Amazing Grace Ministries

AGM is a church ministry dedicated to helping individuals and families from LPC who are facing financial hardships. If you need help with the cost of food, rent, utility bills, vehicle repairs, house repairs or other necessities to live, please talk to us:



Kevin & Yvonne Reed  
Leroy & Lois Penrod  
[amazinggrace@lacombebaptist.ca](mailto:amazinggrace@lacombebaptist.ca)



AGM is fully funded by donations from our congregation. We are very appreciative of the continuing support from many of you. If you would like to contribute to AGM, please place your donation in a tithe envelope and mark it AGM.



Hands & Feet Ministry

The Hands & Feet was established to bridge the gap between our church and the local community's needs. As needs arise, the Hands and Feet contact list is notified, and leaders organize groups to make sure that needs are met. These needs could be anything from needing help cleaning the house/ needing some meals/ help moving. If someone is lacking support, the H&F community is here to help.

If you would like to join our team or know of someone in the community who needs a hand, please contact us at [handsandfeet@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:handsandfeet@churchonthehill.ca)



# Community News ...



We have reached our goal for our Fall Drive! Because of your generosity we have raised over \$161,000. We continue to see the Lord's faithfulness time and time again, and we are so thankful for the generous community that surrounds our school. THANK YOU!

If you still want to donate to our Fall Drive and would like a 2025 Tax Receipt, please have your donation in by December 30.

You're invited to our next fundraising event!



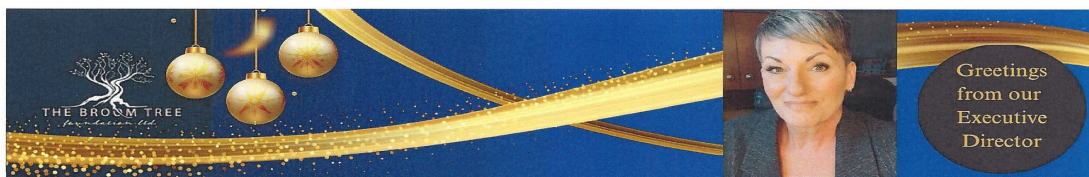
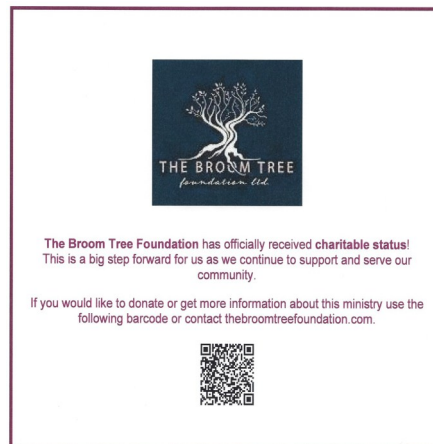
## **Lacombe Christian School Registration for Playschool and Kindergarten for the 2026/27 School Year Opens January 5th! Spots are limited.**

Registration for Playschool is open to children who will turn 4 by Dec 31, 2026. We have 2 classes available: Tue/Thu, 8:45am-11:15am (2.5hrs), OR Fri, 8:45am-11:45am (3hrs). Registration for Kindergarten is available for children who will be 5 by Dec 31, 2026. We offer 2-day Kindergarten, either M/W or T/Th, 8:40am-3:35pm, with busing included. If you would like more information, contact the office on or after Jan 5th at 403-782-6531 or drop in to pick up your registration package (5206-58 St.) or download it from our website: [lacs.ca](https://lacs.ca)

## **Lacombe Christian School Employment Opportunity: Business Administrator**

LCS is accepting applications for a Part-time (0.7FTE) Business Administrator starting in March 2026. The B.A. oversees the financial functions of LCS, ensuring stewardship, compliance, and smooth day-to-day operations. This role is vital in supporting a healthy environment where teachers can teach, students can learn, and Christ is honoured in all things. To learn more about our school or to view the job description and requirements, please visit [www.lacs.ca](https://www.lacs.ca). Your Resume, cover letter, and references can be sent to Derek Hoogerdijk, Principal, at [dhoogerdijk@lacs.ca](mailto:dhoogerdijk@lacs.ca) or to Lacombe Christian School, 5206-58 Street, Lacombe, AB T4L 1G9. Closing date is January 15, 2026.

# ... Community News



December 31, 2025

Dear Friends,

As 2025 comes to a close, I've been reflecting on the people and moments that shaped this year at The Broom Tree Foundation. Our work is rooted in community, and this year reminded us how powerful generosity, care, and shared purpose can be.

I am deeply grateful to the donors who entrusted us with their philanthropy, the charities and community organizations who show up every day for their neighbours, and the partners who believe in building long-term strength in our region. I also want to extend heartfelt thanks to our volunteers. Your time, wisdom, and steady commitment help guide our work and ensure that our decisions remain thoughtful, responsive, and grounded in community needs. We couldn't do this without you!

This year, we focused on strengthening the foundations that allow us to serve well, improving our systems, gaining our charitable status, and continuing to grow. These efforts support programs that foster belonging, lift families, and provide stability for organizations doing essential work in our area.

As we look to 2026, we remain focused on deepening donor relationship, strengthening community leadership, and continuing to build the capacity needed to support women and their families. When we build strong foundations, we build strong communities.

Thank you for being part of this work, whether as a donor, volunteer, partner, or supporter. I am grateful for all we've accomplished together and hopeful for what we will continue to build in the year ahead.

With deep love and gratitude,

*Donna Abma*

Executive Director  
The Broom Tree Foundation



# Missions (Ruttens) ...



## God is blessing in amazing ways

Across the nation, **countless people are coming to Christ** - hundreds of thousands reached through amazing outreaches in every region of the country.

These are remarkable days. It feels like Acts 4:33 **“And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.”**

Large numbers coming to the Lord is exciting, but every salvation story is unique and special.

One of those remarkable stories is **Fozia's**.

## From Sickness to Salvation

Fozia lives in the Bale region of Ethiopia, a strong Muslim area. At the age of 14 she was forced into an unhappy marriage. She now has two children, a boy and a girl.

For years she suffered from a serious sickness. Because of this illness, her husband rejected her, leaving her in serious difficulty. A Christian neighbour told her about Christ and invited her to a Bible study. She was resistant at first, but finally agreed to go, thinking she might receive money from the Church.

She described her first visit: “The teacher did not give me money as I expected, but she only taught me the Bible”. When they prayed in the Bible study demons manifested. They prayed for her and she was delivered. From that day forward she was **healed** from her sickness. She joined the discipleship class and is beginning to grow.

Though she has very little, she has her two children and she is rejoicing in the healing, peace and new life in Christ. She is growing strong in her faith and has become a **bold witness for the Gospel**. Today she hosts a Bible study in her small home and is leading others to Christ.





# ... Missions (Ruttens)



In many areas church planters are finding that the most effective strategy to develop and grow is to plant a church and to also support and oversee many house churches. People are being healed, delivered and won to Christ in these homes.

For all those who have come to Christ this year, this will be a very special Christmas.

Again, we thank you for your faith, your prayers and your continued support. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Brian & Val Rutten

## Donation Links

[https://weebly.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?  
u=ac046a95cb829152ec8328df4&id=9c8dde21cf&e=9c81c9324f](https://weebly.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=ac046a95cb829152ec8328df4&id=9c8dde21cf&e=9c81c9324f)



ethiopiachurchplanting.htm



**Mission  
Global**

**PAOC**  
THE PENTECOSTAL  
ASSEMBLIES OF  
CANADA



**APDC**  
LES ASSEMBLÉES  
DE LA PENTECÔTE  
DU CANADA

Our mailing address is:

PAOC Box 8876 Addis Ababa E. Africa Ethiopia

# Missions (Hertzogs) ...



*"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."* This first sentence of that masterpiece of English literature, *A Tale of Two Cities* (written by Charles Dickens, author of the classic *A Christmas Carol*) sums up well the type of year it's been in the Eurasia region. Just as the miraculous birth of Jesus that first Christmas was also accompanied by great sorrow (the killing of the babies by Herod in Matt.2:16) 2025 saw some great things happen, but not without real challenges:



First Christmas: Birth of Jesus in Bethlehem



Herod kills babies in Bethlehem

## Challenges

1. We still have three Eurasia Global Workers (GW's) battling incurable cancer
2. We had to say goodbye to two more GW units in 2025 (one couple returned to Canada at age 75, the other left to minister at a church in Canada) with no new ones deploying yet.
3. The war in Ukraine continues... with new death & destruction daily... after almost four years.
4. Although a tenuous ceasefire exists in theory between Israel & Hamas in Gaza... and the intensity of the fighting is greatly reduced, praise God...in reality the war drags on... people are still being killed on both sides every day.



War in the Middle East



# ... Missions (Hertzogs) ...

## Highlights

At the same time God has really been moving in Eurasia. ***Because of your prayers & support***, as we look back over the last decade we see a great trend in the region:

**1. The number of countries we are engaged in...** nations with PAOC global workers (GW's) or active national partners (NP's)... **has grown from 17 to 27**

**2. The number of national partners (NP's) grew from ten to 22... and the partners themselves are growing:**

- ***Israel: the King of Kings ministry family has expanded from 12 to 21 congregations***
- ***East Ukraine: the Pentecostal Assemblies of Ukraine (PAOU) has expanded from about 50 to 88 churches since the war began***
- ***Moldova: the Pentecostal Union (PU) has exploded... from 65 to 402 churches!***
- ***Siberia: the Word of the Cross (SOK) network has grown from 25 to 47 churches***
- ***West Ukraine: The Lviv Theological Seminary (LTS) church planting satellite school in Kovel has sent out 185 young church planters... 135 of whom are still on the field! (50 left due to the war) Working in teams they have planted churches in 32 villages that had no evangelical church!***



Steve teaching at the LTS Church Planting School in Kovel, Ukraine



Church Plants & Church Planters in West Ukraine

# ... Missions (Hertzogs) ...

- **Slovakia: the Apostolic Church of Slovakia (ACS) has opened ten registered Roma churches and another twelve preaching points that will likely develop into churches. Many are packed & we are helping them buy prefab buildings**
- 3. The Eurasia Regional Fund (ERF) grew from disbursing \$165,000 for ministry in the region in 2016 to giving away a record \$1.5 million this year!**



New Roma church building we helped buy in Slovakia



Steve speaking at SOK Russian pastors conference

***Because of your prayers & support***, this year the ERF was able to use these funds to:

- 1. Invest \$300,000 to partly support the salaries of 37 national workers** (in Kyrgyzstan, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Spain & Ukraine)
- 2. Invest over \$115,000 in training national leaders & church planters** (by supporting schools & training programs)
- 3. Invest almost \$700,000 to help national partners purchase/renovate/build properties & buildings** (in Croatia, Kosovo, Poland, Serbia: among the least-reached countries in Europe!)
- 4. Provide \$75,000 to help buy/repair vehicles** for our GW's & NP's



Young National Partner GW's we sponsor in Central Asia

# ... Missions (Hertzogs)



Vehicles for National Partners



Training Young National Leaders at LTS

So thank you again for all your prayers & support. Just like Christmas 2000 years ago, despite the challenges this year, because of you,

*"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned."* (Isa.9:2)

On a personal note Patti & I will be spending Christmas in Slovakia this year with all four of our daughters and all nine of our grandkids. It will be crazy... but it will be fun! It will also be the first time we will be together with all our kids & grandkids for Christmas... and our first Christmas ever in Slovakia. We are looking forward to it immensely.



(Left) Lighting Hanukkah Candles: Patti & Grand Daughter Zoya



(Right) Opening Christmas Gifts: Patti with Daughters Kat & Olya & Niece Masha

We wish you a very merry Christmas & very happy new year filled with all God's richest blessings. May it be "the best of times" for you & your family!

With love,

Patti & Steve

Kozicova 25, Bratislava 841 10, Slovakia OR  
36 Flint Crescent, St. Albert, AB T8N 1Y8 Canada



Eurasia Regional Director  
Mission Global



# Missions (Hilsdens)

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We are here in Jerusalem on a foggy, cold, wintry day and we want to wish you a merry Christmas. God's given us a vision to do three main things: to plant congregations, to train leaders, and be a catalyst for unity.

Well, in these recent months, the Lord has given us profound opportunities to bless a lot of people in a difficult time. You know, we've had war for more than two years - finally, a little bit more quiet. We're not rushing off to our bomb shelters like we have. We've been able to help people both on the Jewish and Arab side to get them through this difficult time. And we've got counselors, people out there on the front lines blessing with clothing and food and shelter. We've seen the gospel go forth with more openness than we've ever experienced in our more than 40 years of ministry here in this country, a firm fellowship of Israel related ministries. 81 ministries come together to collaborate to do God's work together and so 270 leaders of those ministries gathered and we celebrated what God is doing in and through their lives. It was a blessing.

## King of Kings

We're going to be hosting a conference for all the worship leaders and the artists from all over the country and it's quite exciting. Several hundred people have already signed up for it so we are expecting a great time together. Pray that it'll be a great success and an encouragement to the body of believers here.

God bless you from Jerusalem and Merry Christmas!



# Church Membership ...

## **What About Church Membership?**

"I don't have to go to church to be saved. I don't have to belong to a church to be a Christian. I can worship God in my heart." Have you heard this popular dodge? It's sometimes difficult to refute because it happens to be true ... to a point. Nothing you do and nothing you can join makes you a Christian. The Bible makes it abundantly clear that Jesus is the only Way; that no-one comes to the Father except through Him.

### **Q: What does the Bible say about church membership?**

**A:** The Bible is very clear that involvement in, and commitment to, a local church are essential for Christians. Throughout the New Testament the pattern of the Christian is to meet in local congregations (eg. Acts 2:46, 1 Corinthians 14:26, Ephesians 4:16, 1 Timothy 3:15). At some points we are commanded to do so (eg. Hebrews 10:25). Even Saul/Paul in Acts 9:26 – "When he came to Jerusalem he tried **to join** the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple." Having said that, it is true that the Bible nowhere **requires** membership in a church. In fact, in Biblical times there was no such thing. However, the Biblical principle is that the church is a family and a unit. The Bible speaks of the church as a family, or the household of God. Church membership is not like joining a country club; it is about joining an organic family. Church membership is a way of being accountable and becoming involved in the church and in demonstrating a commitment to Christ by participation in the church.

### **Q: I'm committed to our church, so what difference does it make if I am a member or not?**

**A:** "Times have changed from years ago when you could have a loose relationship with the church. Our society and our laws have changed." There are a number of key differences between people who just attend with no strings attached and the actual church member. There seems to be a deeper sense of belonging and often a higher level of commitment from the people who step out and want to be members. They are more ready to shoulder responsibility and encourage the ethos of the church. Members have the right to vote at church business meetings. This is possibly not the most exciting thing you've ever been able to do, but it does allow you to have a say in what the church does and how it functions. Only church members can vote for deacons (lead team members) and Lead Pastor when a new lead pastor is to be called. Only church members can raise queries and make proposals about issues at a church business meeting. They are able to vote and add input to the sale or purchase of land or buildings for the church. If you would like to have a voice in the way that our church is run and the things that it does you need to have a vote, and to have a vote, you need to be a church member. A knowledge of which people are willing to publicly associate themselves with the church by becoming members assists the church leadership in planning and effectively running the church. If you are a member of another Pentecostal Church and you have moved here to Lacombe, you can have your membership transferred.

### **Q: How can I become a member?**

**A:** See the Application for Fellowship on the next page or at the Welcome Desk. When you find yourself in agreement with those statements, sign and apply for membership and leave it in the office or with a staff member.

# ... Church Membership



## APPLICATION FOR FELLOWSHIP STATUS

### Article 6 Membership

#### **Section 1**

Persons desiring to become members of this church shall give credible profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. They shall give evidence of compliance with the Biblical standard of Christian practice and manifest spiritual growth by giving evidence of the Fruit of the Spirit: "Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." (Galatians 5:22,23 NIV)

They shall refrain from acts of sinful nature: "... sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies and the like..." (Galatians 5:19-21 NIV) Sexual immorality shall be interpreted to mean common-law marital relationships, pre-marital and extra-marital sexual relationships (1 Corinthians 6:15-18, 7:1-2, 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8, Hebrews 13:4), and all forms of homosexual activity, along with other practices deemed inexcusable for Christian conduct, and which place a person under God's judgment (Romans 1:26-2:11).

They shall indicate a desire to live in harmony with this body of believers, shall accept the doctrinal standards as set forth in the *Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths*, and shall be regular financial supporters of this local church.

#### **Section 2**

Membership shall consist of the following:

1. *Regular Members.* Persons 18 years of age and over who fulfill the requirements of Article 6.1 shall be known as regular members.
2. *Junior Members.* Persons between the ages of 12 and 18 who fulfill the requirements of Article 6.1 may be eligible for junior membership. Such membership does not qualify for voting privileges at congregational business meetings.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ am in agreement with the above statement and would  
(Please print full name)

like to apply for membership status for the Lacombe Pentecostal Church.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

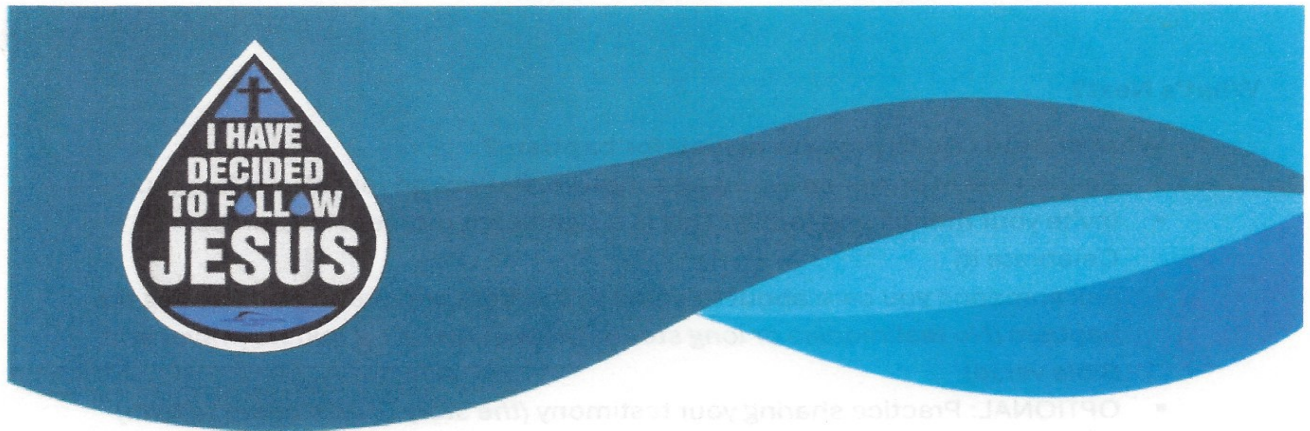
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Lacombe Pentecostal Church  
40331 Range Road 27-1, Hwy 12, Lacombe, AB T4L 0E3  
Phone (403)782-2966 or Fax (403)782-2961





# Water Baptism ...



## Water Baptism Information

Lacombe Pentecostal Church

### What Is It?

1. Baptism is a powerful, symbolic expression of the repentance that has happened, your acceptance of Christ as Lord and Saviour, and your commitment to being a dedicated disciple of Christ.
2. It is a public demonstration of a person's union with Christ and His death and resurrection. It comes from the Greek Word "*baptizo*," which means *to plunge, submerge or immerse*. It signifies that a person's former way of life has been put to death (*under the water*) and points to their new life, saved and redeemed by Jesus through His resurrection (*coming out of the water*).
3. Baptism does not save you. Salvation can only occur through the grace of Jesus Christ and His sacrifice on the cross.

### Why Be Baptized?

Baptism is a step of obedience, faith and commitment.

1. **STEP OF OBEDIENCE:** Jesus commands baptism for everyone who follows Him. Even Jesus, who had no sin, identified Himself with those who were repenting and was baptized.
  - Read Matthew 28:19, Mark 16:16, Acts 2:38, Matthew 3:16
2. **STEP OF FAITH:** You don't need to have everything figured out to be baptized. The act of baptism is a step of faith in what Jesus has done and is continuing to do in your life.
  - Read Acts 8:35-38
3. **COMMITMENT:** Baptism is an external act that signifies you are ready to embrace spiritual growth and transformation
  - Read 1 Peter 3:21

# ... Water Baptism ...

## What's Next?

### 1. What should I do to prepare myself for baptism?

- Spend time in prayer and reading scripture. Reflect on Jesus' love for you.
- Invite your friends and family! This is a significant moment in your life. Celebrate it!
- Ask someone you care about to come to the front and pray for you during the baptism (*No testimonies or long stories please. Just a 1-2 minute prayer and Bible verse*)
- OPTIONAL: Practice sharing your testimony (*the story of how came to faith*)

### 2. What should I wear and what do I need to bring with me?

- Bring shorts or pants that can get wet. Shirts are provided and you can keep them!
- Have dry clothes to change into after the baptism
- Consider asking a friend or family member to take pictures or a video.

### 3. Can my family or friends be baptized together?

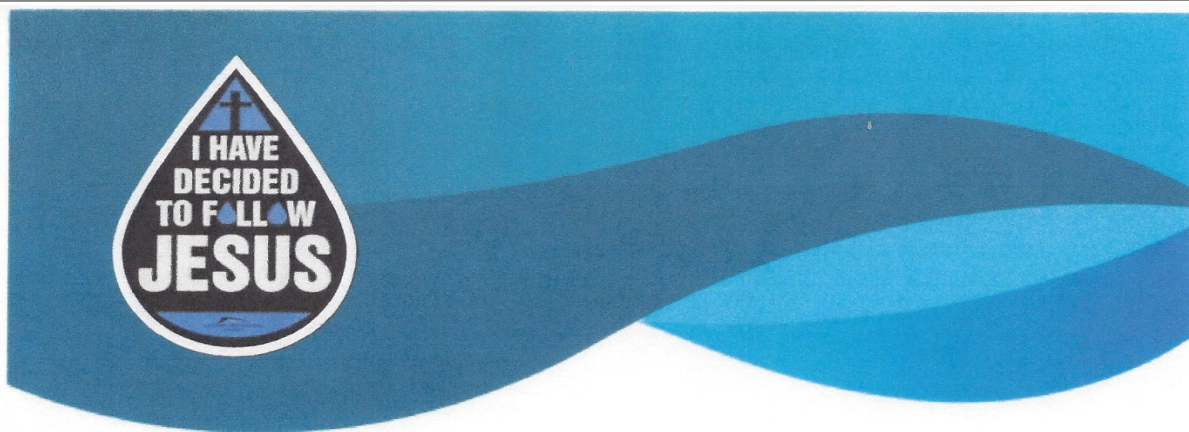
- Yes! If each family member or friend understands fully what it means to be baptized, we encourage it! Every person who wants to be baptized should.
- Remember this is a personal statement of faith, not a family tradition.

### 4. How will this look in a service?

- After the sermon, when the music starts playing, dismiss yourself and head upstairs to the baptism door. Come down the stairs carefully as soon as the person ahead of you comes up.
- Please ask someone ahead of time to come to the front microphone to pray for you and share a blessing/verse (*Please ask them to keep this to 1-2 minutes*)
- Those baptizing you may ask a few questions and then they will say "*I now baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*"
- You will be tipped backwards just enough to cover your face and then brought back up immediately. At no time will you be let go. Feel free to hold your nose with one hand if that will help you feel more comfortable.
- You will go up the stairs and can dry off, change your clothing, and celebrate this great moment in your life as a disciple with your friends, family, and the church.



# ... Water Baptism



## Water Baptism Application

Lacombe Pentecostal Church

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you believe that Jesus Christ, as God's only begotten Son, paid fully for your sins on the cross and do you choose to submit your life fully to Him? \_\_\_\_\_

When did you accept Christ as your personal Saviour? \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a short testimony below as to why you wish to be baptized, or write one below:

# Calendar of Events

## January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2	3
4 Pre-Service Prayer (9:15am) Worship Service (10am)  <b>FIRST FRUITS OFFERING TAK-</b>	5 Stephen Ministry Training (7pm)	6 Wee College (9:30am) Staff Mtg (12pm) Gr. 5/6 Bible Study (4:30pm) Revelation Study (6:30pm) Intercessory Prayer (7pm)	7 Wee College (8:30am) Anchor Kids (6:15pm) Life of the Messiah (7pm)	8 Praying Parents (8:40am) Prayer & Play (9:30am) Womens Bible Study (7pm)	9 Youth (7pm)	10 Pitstop (8am) Stephen Ministry Training (9am-4pm)
11 Pre-Service Prayer (9:15am) Worship Service (10am)  <b>MINISTRY FAIR</b>	12 Stephen Ministry Supervision (6pm) Training (7pm)	13 Ladies Bible Study (9:30am) Wee College (9:30am) Gr.5-6 Study (4:30pm) Revelation Study 6:30pm	14 Wee College (9:30am) Anchor Kids (6:15pm) Life of the Messiah (7pm) Men's Group (7:45pm)	15 Praying Parents (8:40am) Celebration of Discipline (9:30am) Womens Bible Study (7pm)	16 Youth (7pm) Women At The Well (6:30pm)	17 Pitstop (8am)
18 Pre-Service Prayer (9:15am) Worship Service (10am)	19	20 Ladies Bible Study (9:30am) Wee College (9:30am) Gr.5-6 Study (4:30pm) Revelation Study 6:30pm Intercessory Prayer (7pm)	21 Wee College (9:30am) Anchor Kids (6:15pm) Life of the Messiah (7pm) Men's Group (7:45pm)	22 Praying Parents (8:40am) Prayer & Play (9:30am) Womens Bible Study (7pm)	23 Youth (7pm)	24 Pitstop (8am)
25 Pre-Service Prayer (9:15am) Worship Service (10am)	26 Stephen Ministry Supervision (7pm)	27 Ladies Bible Study (9:30am) Wee College (9:30am) Gr.5-6 Study (4:30pm) Revelation Study 6:30pm	28 Wee College (9:30am) Anchor Kids (6:15pm) Life of the Messiah (7pm) Men's Group (7:45pm)	29 Praying Parents (8:40am) Celebration of Discipline (9:30am) Womens Bible Study (7pm)	30 Youth (7pm)	31 Pitstop (8am)