

# Olivet New Church

# CHATTERBOX

Volume 78

February 2012

Number 2

## Spiritual Crisis Management

Ever go on vacation and forget your bathing suit? How about your passport? We once forgot one of my brothers at a rest stop on the PA turnpike! Took us an hour to turn around and find him standing by the toll booth, crying, with the toll booth operator giving us one of those “you call yourself parents” looks. It’s hard to focus on the “now” when we’re busy getting “somewhere” or thinking about “something” else. Only when we notice a “seat is empty” do we hit the panic button and try to compensate for our lack of focus with a rush of activity or a deluge of regret.

We are busy. With the internet we’re getting more done in an hour than our ancestors got done in a week. We can shop, mail, schedule and visit all over the world without leaving our plugged in iPhones. We’re getting more done than any previous time in history....or are we?

We’re busier than a long tailed cat in a room full of rocking chairs we still may have left our “child” at the rest stop. We may have forgotten the goal, the purpose of our time here. My study on the problems of the aging has led me to believe that the chief cause of “outer” panic later on in life is an overlooked “inner” life today.

How’s your time awareness? As we develop our relationship with “time” we increase our sense of awareness about it. We become more aware of the limited linear period of time called earthly life. The time to spiritually become who we want to be. And if my “outer life” dominates all my time and effort, my “inner life” can be neglected, even abandoned. Crisis management becomes the norm and only too late, we discover that spiritual development can’t relate to crisis management. That hatred, adultery, revenge and anger are enjoying their accommodations in our mind and take years to eradicate, not days.

Fortunately, the cure for this lack of urgency is right at our fingertips! The word “educate” literally means to “lead” or “bring out.” This implies that we already have information that we need to bring to a higher state of awareness. The Heavenly Doctrines tell us indelibly etched on every person’s soul from birth is the idea that there is a God and that He is human in shape (HH82, CL 409, SE 5944).

Developing that urgency to go to Him, recognizing His value in our life, and calling on Him for assistance comes through concentrated study of what He teaches. Just like we learn how to plant a garden or fix a car, we take information into our understanding and then apply it. In the same way we learn how to think and act through quietly reading the principles in the Word. Mastery of these principles comes through their tedious repetition. This has been proven not only in the lab but by the Lord Himself. Jesus learned just like us! He had an affinity for the truth from His heredity so He learned much more quickly.

“And when He was twelve years old, they went to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast.” And it came to pass, after three days, they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were amazed at his intelligence and answers. (Luke 2:42-47)

The more we know about the Lord the more we can recognize our current state, the work we must do, and our urgent need for His help. Bristling at the thought of adding more to your day? Look at it as time spent with a best friend, a friend looking out for your eternal welfare! The word “friend” is mentioned over and over again in the doctrines and the Lord tells us directly “Ye are my friends if you do whatever I command you” (John 14:14).

How about fitting in a little reading today....btw, I’ve got an app for that!

Rev. Calvin Odhner

### **From the Pastor**

The Holy Supper will be offered following the sermon at the regular service on February 12. In preparation for the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, please consider the following teaching from the Heavenly Doctrine:

*A person who has the Lord in view and practices repentance is conjoined with the Lord and introduced into heaven by means of that most holy [sacrament of the Lord's Supper]. The bread and wine do not bring this to pass, nor is there anything holy in them, but material bread and heavenly bread correspond one to the other, also material wine and heavenly wine; and heavenly bread is the holy of love, and heavenly wine is the holy of faith, each of them from the Lord, and each of them being the Lord. Resulting from this there is a conjunction of the Lord with a person, and of the person with the Lord, not with the bread and wine, but with the love and faith of the person who practices repentance; and conjunction with the Lord is also introduction into heaven. (See AR 224:13)*

Karen joins me in thanking the Society for the generous gift of cash that we received following the Christmas Day service. There are a couple of nice dinners out and some upgraded furnishings in our future.

The six Canadian ministers meet for lunch once a month for fellowship, to talk about issues that affect all of us, and to check out each other’s doctrinal positions (Coleman joins us by phone or Skype). In February we are going to meet in Oak Arbor, Michigan, where we will be joined by ministers from Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois. That means that all three Olivet ministers will be out of town from Feb. 22 – 25. However, we will be only four hours away and easily reached by phone or email.

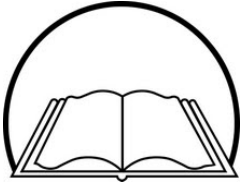
Elsewhere in this issue is an invitation from Göran Appelgren to attend a Regional Assembly in England in July. Please contact me if you would like to know more about the program, the location, or the purpose of the Assembly.

### **Pastors’ Pancake Breakfast**

Saturday, February 4, between 8 and 11am, start the morning off right at the Pastors Pancake Breakfast! Bring the whole family to this fun event where you can taste the pastor’s secret pancake recipe and chat with your friends. Fruit shakes will be available for the gluten sensitive. See you there!

## **News Notes**

### **January 2012 Board Update**



Some time was spent reviewing property issues at the beginning of our meeting. We are replacing or adding power outlets throughout the building when a need becomes apparent. A new outlet was installed in the school entrance to allow for the installation of a new video monitor for added security when parents or guests come to that entrance. In the next month or two, we will be installing a new mechanized locking door for added convenience, as well as replacing our entire security system and contract with ADT. More details will be provided once it is installed. Both the Smithwood and Lorraine manses have had recent basement flooding. No serious damage has occurred but this speaks to the likely need for remedial foundation work at some point. We must also face the task of replacing the aged boilers, perhaps this summer. We have been lucky with this mild winter, but they are on their last legs and date from the original building in 1958. At the same time, we will be getting quotes to update the school wing bathrooms on both floors. They are not configured for current school/society uses and are in dire need of updating. All these updates/repairs will take considerable funds but we must continue to invest in our building to maintain its usefulness.

Jim Cooper reported on promising developments with our school numbers for next year but reminded us that numbers can fluctuate at the last minute. Meanwhile, he and Sara Gatti are reviewing staff assignments for next year and will be meeting with teachers during January and February.

Our finances got a healthy boost during December and we are in line with last year. We're still not seeing what we would like to see, but we're trending in a better direction. Of special note was the delightful surprise from our special Tableaux fund-raising efforts to support our theological schools in Africa. Our target was \$1,500, but thanks to everyone for bringing this total to an excess of \$4,000! On behalf of the Board, we want to thank everyone who supported this use in 2011.

On behalf of the Olivet New Church Board,  
Lee Horigan, Chairman

### **New Church Young Singles Weekend**

A group of New Church young singles have been talking online and has come the conclusion that it's about time we come together to do something fun. This March 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, we will be coming together for a weekend of play in the snow, mental stimulation, good conversation, delicious food and spiritual inspiration. Hope you will join us!

Place: The Glenns' Cabin at Lake Wallenpaupack

Time: Arrival between 5:30-6:30 Friday, March 9 – Departure 1:00-2:00 Sunday, March 11

Cost: \$40

Food: Dietary considerations available

Contact Ron Schnarr for info on rides from Bryn Athyn or with any other questions at [ronschnarr@yahoo.com](mailto:ronschnarr@yahoo.com), or visit our webpage at <http://ncbv.org/get-involved/new-church-young-singles-weekend>.

## **JOY Sledding Party**

February 12<sup>th</sup>, 12:15pm – 2:00pm

All kids from Grades 5 through high school are welcome to join us for a sledding day at Olivet! Meet in the hall downstairs after the pot luck lunch, then grab your sleds and let's head out to the hill! Feel free to bring a friend. Looking forward to seeing you there!

## **Hot and Spicy Party**

Heat up the New Year with our Hot and Spicy Party, on February 11th, 5:30-10 PM! There are prizes to be won, dances to be danced, food to be eaten and piñatas to be smashed. Bring a *hot and spicy* dish for the exotic cuisine competition and compete for prizes.



Your \$10 tickets (\$5 for children) include 1 drink (alcoholic or non-) as well as a Mexican-style meal. Shorts, t-shirts and costumes are encouraged (80 degrees in the room). Bring a lawn chair. Bring a friend - all ages welcome; babysitters will be on hand. RSVP to Sandy Bradfield - 416-239-3054.

## **Volleyball Court**

Be on the lookout for the new Volleyball/Badminton court in the gym! We are anticipating serious competition in the near future.

## **James Morton**

Our hearts are with Mike and India and family as his father James (Jimmy) Morton transitioned to the spiritual world on Friday, January 20, 2012 following a brief illness. He was the loving father of Michael and Christopher, and father-in-law of India. He also was the cherished grandfather of Melissa and Keegan. James is now reunited in Heaven with his granddaughter Megan Grace. He will be forever held in the hearts of his extended family and friends. The service was held at the Lynett Funeral Home on Wednesday, January 25, 2012. There will be a burial at Sand Lake Pioneer Church Cemetery at a later date. .

## **Swedenborg Colloquium on Spiritual Practice**

Saturday, March 31st 2012, all day at the Philmont Country Club, Huntingdon Valley, PA

**SPEAKERS:** Rev. Dr. George Dole (Introduction); Rev. Susannah Currie (Moderator); Drs. Robin and Stephen Larsen; Sandra Amrita McLanahan, MD; Rev. David Millar; Peter Rhodes; Rev. Frank Rose; Rev. Dr. Jonathan S. Rose; Rev. Jane Siebert; Rev. Dr. Ray Silverman; and Dean Sluyter.

**ADMISSION IS FREE**, but **REGISTRATION** is required. Those interested may purchase a box lunch. Coffee, tea and water will be available all day long.

**BOOK SIGNING:** The program will conclude with a book signing session organized by the Swedenborg Foundation. This will enable participants to purchase publications by the speakers, meet with them, and have their books signed.

For more information please contact Doris Odhner Delaney at [swedenborgcoll@gmail.com](mailto:swedenborgcoll@gmail.com).

**Experience A Meaningful, Transformational Community Online.**  
**New Church Journey Unveils an Online Small-Group Ministry.**

Starting this February, New Church Journey will be offering online small groups to coincide with the launch of their current Journey program, Shift. Small Changes.

Big Difference.

**Want to sign up to participate a small group during the Shift program?**

Visit. <http://www.newchurch.org/activities/online-small-groups> or browse to see what other group content is available.

**Are you ready to lead an online group?**

Sign up for our Online Small Group Leader training.  
The first training course will be offered on Wednesday January 18th, at 9:15 pm EST.  
(All online small group leaders will be asked to participate in a training course.)

**Aren't Online Small Groups Complicated?**

Contrary to what you may think, online groups aren't all that different from in-person small groups. Once you sign up for a group, your group leader will contact you to help get you set-up on Google+ (all you need is a microphone, webcam, high speed internet, computer). After that, you will meet with your group for 60-90 minutes during the scheduled time, and enjoy getting to know each other and studying the Word from the comfort of your own home.

10 Things I Love About Online Small Groups

I get to be in a group with great friends from across the country.  
It's simple.  
It's screen time that is improving my life.  
I attended once in my bathrobe when I was sick!  
We don't have to coordinate a snack schedule.  
We hold each other very accountable.  
I don't have to waste time in traffic.  
I don't have to get a sitter.  
Meeting new people.  
It's one of the rawest, most honest group experiences I've ever had.



"I recently participated in an online small group, and had an incredible experience. In a very short time it became one of my favorite hours of the week. Thanks to the internet and webcams, small groups are no longer limited by geography."  
~Online Small Group Participant

**Who Might Benefit from an Online Small Group?**

Since you participate from your own home, there is no need to find a sitter for your kids or struggle with commuting in bad weather. If you're feeling ill, lack transportation or are otherwise stuck at home, no worries! Online small groups are also great for college-students who keep irregular study hours, and can even accommodate for international time zone differences.

Contact Michelle Chapin at [michelle.chapin@newchurch.org](mailto:michelle.chapin@newchurch.org) if you have questions about this exciting program.

**July 2012 European Assembly:**

A European Assembly will be held in England this summer, Fri-Sun July 13-15. It will be held at Purley Chase Centre, known to some of you as the home of the British Academy Summer School. Visit <http://www.purleychasecentre.org.uk> to learn more about the venue. The purpose of the Assembly is to gather

people from several countries around Europe in order to strengthen the bonds between dedicated New Church people and inspire us to do the Lord's work each in our own country and culture.

Of course, we welcome participants from countries outside of Europe, and in fact we would be delighted by your presence. For a small organization, all contact between members is for good, so do think about coming. England and Europe also have much to offer beyond the Assembly.

A brief summary of the offerings of the three days:

- There will be an opening and a closing session and three main sessions.
- Saturday afternoon we will have a three hour slot for a variety of activities you can choose from. Saturday night we will have a gala dinner with speeches and entertainment.
- Worship services will be moments to gather together to worship and praise our Lord Jesus Christ who is the One who brings us all together, and who sends us out to serve Him in our daily lives.
- Of course, there will be plenty of time to meet up with old and new friends, hopefully from several countries.

We hope you will be able to come. Heaven becomes a more perfect place the more angels there are. A fellowship on earth works the same way. The more we are, the more things we can do, and the more joy we will feel.

Prices will be as follows: £120 for adult's en-suite, £76 for young people, and £54 for children. With non en-suite accommodations, £100 for adults, £62 for young people, and £44 for children.

On behalf of the Bishop and the organising committee, Göran Appelgren, Regional Pastor for Europe

## **Have you had contact from the spiritual world?**

Tell us your story.

Dr. Erica G. Hyatt, Assistant Professor of Psychology at Bryn Athyn College, is looking to interview subjects for her upcoming book on near-death and spiritual experiences.

- Have you had a near-death experience?
- Have you been present when an individual passed into the spiritual world?
- Have you experienced a visit from the spiritual world?

If you are over 20 years old and you have experienced any of these, we want to hear your story! This is your opportunity to contribute to the growing interest in psychology and the spiritual world. We are hoping to collect many stories from people around the world.

To participate, contact Dr. Erica at [dr.ericahyatt@brynathyn.edu](mailto:dr.ericahyatt@brynathyn.edu) or 267-502-6081.

Interviews will be conducted in a private location and will be completely confidential. Your identifying information will be kept private unless you give us permission to use your name. Interviews will be at least 30 minutes long and may be scheduled more than once. Please feel free to pass along this information to others who might be interested. You can learn more about the Psychology Major at Bryn Athyn College on Facebook.

# February 2012

Olivet Church, 279 Burnhamthorpe Road, Etobicoke, ON M9B 1Z6 (416) 239-3054

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
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<p><i>5</i></p> <p>CAO 10:30 AM Visitor's Service</p>	<p><i>6</i></p>	<p><i>7</i></p> <p>7:00 PM Closed AA</p>	<p><i>8</i></p> <p>JPC 6:30 PM Supper 7:30 PM Doctrinal Class</p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p>3:45 PM Faculty Meeting 8:00 PM Men's Group 8:30 PM Open AA</p>	<p><i>10</i></p> <p>7:00 PM Forward Sons Dinner &amp; Program</p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>10:00 AM GCIC Board Meeting in Kitchener followed by Luncheon</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-top: 5px;">7:00 PM Hot &amp; Spicy Party</div>																																																	
<p><i>12</i></p> <p>Holy Supper JPC 10:30 AM Traditional Service 12:00 PM Pot Luck Lunch 12:15 PM - 2:00 PM JOY Sledging Party</p>	<p><i>13</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;">7:35 PM Board of Directors</div>	<p><i>14</i></p> <p>7:00 PM Closed AA</p>	<p><i>15</i></p>	<p><i>16</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;">10:00 AM Arcana Group</div> <p>3:45 PM Faculty Development 6:30 PM Beaver Scouts 8:00 PM Men's Group 8:30 PM Open AA</p>	<p><i>17</i></p> <p>Chatterbox Deadline</p>	<p><i>18</i></p>																																																	
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<p><i>26</i></p> <p>JPC 10:30 AM Traditional Service</p>	<p><i>27</i></p> <p>7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Adoption Support Group</p>	<p><i>28</i></p> <p>7:00 PM Closed AA</p>	<p><i>29</i></p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><th colspan="7">March</th></tr> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table>			March							S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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## Duty Roster

Date	Usher	Chancel	Organist	Sunday School	JOY	Greeters	Refreshments	Flowers
Feb 5	S. Cho	J. Parker	F. Raymond	K. Jutras	J. Nater	L. Holmes	A. Schnarr	G. Pulpan
Feb 12 Holy Supper	S. Horigan	I. Asplundh	A. Nater	K. Jutras	E. & K. Parker	S. Bradfield	<b>Need Volunteer</b>	S. Bradfield
Feb 19 Family Day Weekend	B. Powell	C. Powell	A. Nater	J. Smith	K. Jutras	<b>Need Volunteer</b>	<b>Need Volunteer</b>	S. Bradfield
Feb 26	M. Braam	L. Braam	A. Nater	J. Jorgenson	M. Hasen	G. & L. Whisen		S. Bradfield
Mar 4	E. Parker	C. Jutras	F. Raymond	K. Jutras	J. Nater	S. Bradfield	<b>Need Volunteer</b>	G. Pulpan

## Wednesday Supper Duty Roster

Date	Cooks	Dishwashers
February 8	Karen Cooper & Sandy Bradfield	Caelen Reid & Asher Odhner

## February Anniversaries

*Details are available in the printed and electronically emailed Chatterbox.*

*Everyone knows that a married pair who love each other are intimately united and that the essence of marriage is the union of spirits or minds. HH 375*

Olivet Church, 279 Burnhamthorpe Rd, Toronto, ON, M9B 1Z6 .....	416-239-3054
Olivet Church email address: <a href="mailto:contact@olivetnewchurch.org">contact@olivetnewchurch.org</a> .....	FAX 416-239-4935
Pastor, Rev. Jim Cooper, home.....	416-236-0841
Olivet New Church School Principal, Rev. Jim Cooper.....	416-239-3054
Chatterbox Editor, Claire Sheldon.....	647-203-5875
Visiting Team for those sick or "shut in", Doris McDonald.....	416-622-5424
Visitors to Olivet, Mieke Braam... ..	416-232-1476
Rides to Church, Karen Cooper.....	416-236-0841