

## Second, a new perspective on labor.

Hard work pays off. The investment of time and energy pays off, even if it may not be immediate. So, take the time to plant seeds. Plant seeds of kindness. Plant seeds of the Gospel. The difficult and uncomfortable conversations matter and they make a difference. Paul planted seeds (1 Cor. 3:6). The Lord often used the imagery of planting seeds in His ministry. From the way people would receive the Good News (Matt. 13:1-23) to the way the Kingdom would grow (Matt. 13:31-32).

## Third, a new perspective on hope.

Let us be patient with God and His plan. Sometimes it is difficult to see past the storm clouds. However, without the rain, there is no growth. We must learn to trust God to bless us with blue skies after the storm. "He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him" (Ps. 126:6).

Plant seeds. Expect rain. Enjoy God's blessings.

~ Bart Warren

South Green Street church of Christ, Glasgow, KY

## MEAFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

Deacons: David Ellis, Al Whitfield  
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Sunday: Worship 10:00 AM  
Wednesday: Bible Study 2:00 PM

## MEAFORD MESSAGES MEAFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

### Planting Seeds

I'm no poet, but I certainly appreciate those who can create thought-provoking and vivid images with the words that they write. I came across an ever-so-brief poem recently that has made quite an impression on me. It is called, "Forecast" by Luci Shaw:

*"Planting seeds  
Inevitably  
Changes my feelings  
About rain"*

There are numerous helpful insights here, many of them theological in nature.

### First, a new perspective on adversity.

Commonly, rain is seen as a nuisance. Of course we all acknowledge that such is necessary for life, but rare is the person who is thankful the ballgame was rained out. Unusual is the person who picnics, ride bikes, drives convertibles, or plays golf in the rain. Many avoid doing much of anything if it happens to be raining. However, we should be reminded that disappointment and adversity can build character. We are all going to go through difficult stages in life. When we do, let us look for the good. "For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it" (Heb. 12:11).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CARING & SHARING

Paul Cramp has been dealing with some gastric issues since before Christmas and it came to a critical stage a week ago. He has been in Owen Sound hospital on IV antibiotics since last Sunday. Please pray for his recovery. His cell number is 519 374-5001. A call would sure relieve some of his boredom! Continue to remember Ada Binkley, Gord Cramp, Joyce Franklin, Jean Gonder, Fern Park, Isabel Petch, June White and Edythe Williams.

### SPEAKER THIS MORNING

Peter McDonald will be bringing us the lesson this morning.

### WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

Please join us for our Wednesday shuffleboard and Bible study. First shuffleboard at 12:30 followed by a social time (drinks and snacks) at 1:30, then Bible Study at 2 pm.

### FOOD BANK

The Meaford food bank is in need of the following items: Toilet paper, Rice, Fruit cups (school snacks), Crackers, and Baked beans.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Al Whitfield (19) Chad McDonald (21) Sue Cramp (22)  
Ruth Rennie (22)



**Friday morning 8:30 am -  
Vision TV**

Rogers cable 21

Bell 64

Star Choice 394

**Sunday 2:00 pm - Joy TV**

Rogers 173

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The next fellowship breakfast will be April 29 at 9:00 A.M. We will have a Mennonite singing group performing for us after the breakfast is served.

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The next congregational meeting will be May 6 at 10:00 A.M. If you have any items for the meeting please let Dave Ellis know.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May 7—Key to Kingdom Sunday, special collection

May 27—Fellowship Breakfast, Dave Knutson speaking

May 28—Area Hymn Sing in Collingwood

If God does not enter your kitchen, there is something wrong with your kitchen. If you can't take God into your recreation, there is something wrong with your play. We all believe in the God of the heroic. What we need most these days is the God of the humdrum, the commonplace, the everyday.  
~Peter Marshall

## WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

Week 16: April 16 — April 22 — **Peace**

16) Isaiah 9:6-7

17) Luke 1:76-79; Luke 2:14

18) Philippians 4:4-9

19) Mark 4:37-41

20) John 14:26-28

21) John 16:19-33

22) Numbers 6:22-27

Questions to consider:

1. How can you summarize this passage in two to three sentences?
2. What does this passage teach you about peace?
3. What is the Lord specifically leading you to do in response to this passage?