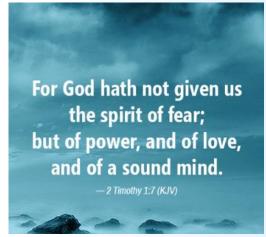




**LOVE IS ACTION – January, 2024** 

## "FOR GOD DID NOT GIVE US A SPIRIT OF TIMIDITY" 2 Timothy 1:7



Upon ordination, Timothy was given special gifts of the Spirit to enable him to serve the church. He did not need new revelations or new gifts; he needed the courage and self-discipline to hang on to the truth and use the gifts he had already received.

To live consistent with these teachings, Paul exhorted Timothy to fearlessly continue to preach the truth which he heard from Paul, and not be ashamed of Paul's chains in the gospel. But it was up to Timothy to decide whether to walk in the holy calling.

This verse is a good reminder for the New Year that God gifts His children with courage, power, love, and self-control and it is up to each of us to use these gifts for His Glory. As we begin a New Year the tasks ahead may seem daunting! It is easy to fall into discouragement and complacency with a desire to give up! Perseverance comes from calling on God's strength, praying for His wisdom, and waiting on His timing.

As we plan for the next CERT Summit in Mountain View County, it could indeed be an overwhelming endeavour if we try to do it in our own strength. We know that all things are possible for God, however, so we trust in Him to put this event together, for His Glory.

## **MOUNTAIN VIEW COUNTY UPDATE**



Our second road trip to Mountain View County proved to be another profitable and very enjoyable time. Meeting with the Emergency Manager, Ryan Morrison, the plans for a February CERT Canada Summit. were shared. He was receptive after learning more about Bridges of Love's Community Emergency Response Team training.

With a little detour to Cremona, we delivered CERT Summit posters and brochures to churches throughout this beautiful countryside before heading back to Sundre, Olds, and Didsbury, meeting with a few new churches that were missed on our first visit. Returning home, a brief stop was made in Carstairs to drop off a bag of candy for The Rock Church's Christmas celebration. It was a full two days of travel! We give thanks to the Lord for His protection, as we just missed the storm that hit that area with vengeance just hours after we passed through. God is good!

As you will see in the MVC CERT Summit poster, Laura Stewart, a wildfire specialist from FireSmart agreed to present this timely topic for our Friday evening session. With a very dry winter to date, the time is now to anticipate and prepare for another severe wildfire season. As with all disaster responses, we plan for the worst-case scenario but pray for the best!

Having local CERT instructors from Mountain View County is our goal, providing opportunities for other training sessions in this county, duplicating Bridges of Love's model by engaged residents.



We are very grateful to have Randy Smith, a retired Fire Chief who lives in Olds. instructing the Fire Safety and Search and Rescue modules. We are now seeking additional professionals to present the Disaster Medical Operations Units 1 & 2; Psychology of Trauma, CERT & Terrorism, and Personal Preparedness sessions. We will deliver the manuals to individuals who are willing to give back to their communities by volunteering their services as a CERT trainer with our heartfelt appreciation! Each module is 1.5 hrs. so the emergency training information is basic for Neighbours helping Neighbours!

REGISTRATION:

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