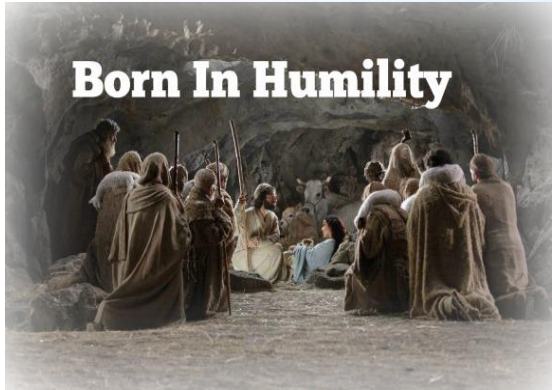




BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION – December, 2017

“DO NOTHING OUT OF SELFISH AMBITION...” Philippians 2:3



“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus. Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Philippians 2:3-11

MORE LIKE THE MASTER

More like the Master I would ever be,
More of His meekness, more humility;
More zeal to labour, more courage to be true,
More consecration for work He bids me do.

More like the Master is my daily prayer;
More strength to carry crosses I must bear;
More earnest effort to bring His Kingdom in;
More of His Spirit, the wanderer to win.

More like the Master I would live and grow;
More of His love to others I would show;
More self-denial, like His in Galilee,
More like the Master I long to ever be.

Excerpt from a hymn by Charles H. Gabriel (1906)

2017 CANADA'S VOLUNTEER AWARDS (CVO)



Canada's Volunteer Awards program is about recognizing the enormous contributions that volunteers, not-for-profit organizations and businesses across the country make to help people and their communities. The Awards are about people working in partnerships to find new solutions to strengthen our country.

There are countless organizations across Canada who serve and give sacrificially without recognition for their valiant efforts. Those who accepted awards at this special event had humble and very grateful hearts as they know they are only a cog in the wheel, with thousands of others, who serve our country.

2017 Award Recipients

CALGARY FIREFIGHTERS BURN TREATMENT SOCIETY



CVO SOCIAL INNOVATOR AWARD - PRAIRIES

Since 1978, the Calgary Firefighters Burn Treatment Society has engaged citizens to volunteer countless hours in support of burn victims. They bring together community partners to raise funds for Foothills Medical Centre's Burn Treatment Centre to help burn victims go through multiple surgeries, prolonged recovery, profound anxiety and depression. The Burn Treatment Centre ensures burn patients from southern Alberta, south-western Saskatchewan receive the best care possible.

To date, the Calgary Firefighters Burn Treatment Society has raised over \$8 million to support burn survivors in their community. Through their dedicated efforts, the Society has purchased rehabilitation equipment, supplied hundreds of pressure garments, sponsored the Burn Survivor Support Group and sent young survivors to the Alberta Fire Fighters Burn Camp.

info@cfbts.org



BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION – November, 2017

"THEREFORE, MY DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS, STAND FIRM." 1 Corinthians 15:58

"Therefore my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

1 Corinthians 15:58

Paul says that because of Christ's resurrection, nothing we do is in vain. We might hesitate to do good as we cannot see immediate results. If we maintain a spiritual perspective, however, we understand that we may not see the good that results from our own efforts. Christ won the ultimate victory.

To stand against a crowd and to stand for Jesus requires a firm conviction of the truth of God's Word and the courage to act upon it. A *trusting* faith is willing to obey God regardless of the outcome putting God between us and the problem.



The recent cancellation of our Rocky View County CERT Summit was one of those instances where after many months of preparation and excitement in anticipation for a successful event, one is left asking the question...WHY Lord?

We have learned valuable lessons through this time of preparation, however, that will be helpful for future CERT Summits. Firstly, the more time that lapses after a disaster event, the more difficult it is to capture people's attention to participate. Secondly, and most importantly, since Bridges of Love and our training is not well-known by many, it is essential that community leaders and professionals, affirm the training to their locality.

Trusting God through difficult circumstances is not always easy but we know His timing is not our timing and no life is free from disappointments. God wants us to know that He accompanies us through the troubling times, however, and if we remain strong in our faith taking God at His word -- the best is yet to come.

PRAYER

Pastor Joe Wright

1996, Kansas House of Representatives

Heavenly Father, we come before You today to ask Your forgiveness and seek Your direction and guidance. Lord, we know Your Word says, "Woe to those who call evil good," but that's exactly what we've done. We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and inverted our values.

We confess that we have ridiculed the absolute truth of Your Word and called it *moral pluralism*.

We have worshipped other gods and called it *multi-culturalism*.

We have endorsed perversion and called it an *alternative lifestyle*.

We have exploited the poor and called it the *lottery*.

We have neglected the needy and called it *self-preservation*.

We have rewarded laziness and called it *welfare*.

We have killed our unborn and called it *choice*.

We have shot abortionists and called it *justifiable*.

We have neglected to discipline our children and called it *building esteem*.

We have abused power and called it *political savvy*.

We have coveted our neighbors' possessions and called it *ambition*.

We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it *freedom of expression*.

We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our fore-fathers and called it *enlightenment*.

Search us oh God and know our hearts today; try us and see if there be some wicked way in us; cleanse us from every sin and set us free. Guide and bless these men and women who have been sent here by the people of Kansas, and who have been ordained by You, to govern this great state. Grant them Your wisdom to rule and may their decisions direct us to the center of Your will. I ask it in the name of Your Son, the Living Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

PULSE ATTACK

Anthony Furey

Bridges of Love was very pleased to host Anthony Furey, national columnist and editor for Postmedia, Canada's largest chain of newspapers and news sites. Anthony's newly released book,



"Pulse Attack" explores EMP (Electromagnetic Pulse) and the catastrophic effect an attack could have on North America.

It is possible we may have a small scale EMP attack to forewarn but there are no guarantees. The research and information shared in Pulse Attack does not tell us an attack is imminent. It gathers evidence that shows the necessary elements are coming together.

Facilitating discussion for this timely topic precipitates public awareness and action. There are technical and legislative measures that can be undertaken to alleviate a catastrophic event.

**South Centre Mall
Emergency Fair**





BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION – October, 2017

“THAT YOU MAY KNOW THE HOPE TO WHICH HE HAS CALLED YOU...” Ephesians 1:18

“I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe.”

Ephesians 1:18

The world fears the power of the atom, yet we belong to the God of the Universe who not only created that atomic power but also raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Nothing is too difficult for Him, and nothing can separate us from God and His love.

God did not promise us a stress free life; one that is void of challenges and troubles. The hope given to each of us, is the complete assurance of certain victory, through Christ Jesus our Lord.

In an effort to raise awareness for an upcoming CERT Summit, a call was put out to a local television station, to place an ad on their community events calendar. When the person who took the call heard we were offering emergency training she commented - “I am sorry but our Community Calendar only advertises happy events...!”

Are we like the Ostrich who appears to bury his head rather than face his predators? Would we rather bury unpleasant happenings rather than face difficulties head on?



Knowing with complete assurance of certain victory through God, His Holy Spirit gives peace, helps eliminate fear, and gives confidence that nothing can separate us from God's love.

ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE

EMP

THE END OF TECHNOLOGY? ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE

WHAT IS ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE (EMP)? SHOULD CANADA BE CONCERNED ABOUT AN ATTACK?

ANTHONY FUREY, NATIONALLY SYNDICATED COLUMNIST & BROADCASTER SHARES THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE ISSUE, PREVIOUS EMP ATTACKS, WHERE WE'RE AT WITH IT NOW, AND WHERE WE SHOULD BE

PULSE ATTACK

The Real Story Behind The Secret Weapon That Can Destroy North America

ANTHONY FUREY

Nationally Syndicated Columnist and Broadcaster

DATE: October 13, 2017 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

LOCATION: BRAGG CREEK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, 23 WHITE AVE.

COST: \$20.00 PER PERSON - DESSERT INCLUDED

REGISTRATION: Event Brite @ www.bridgesoflove.ca - 403.616.0536

SPONSOR: ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

An electromagnetic pulse attack could destroy so much of our electrical infrastructure life would come to a shuddering stop.

Menace of war is the “hermit kingdom’s” stock in trade. For the first time, two weeks ago, North Korea threatened an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) attack on North America that could cause disaster on a scale we can barely imagine—yet a disaster that, unlike an actual nuclear strike, would not directly kill a single human being...

The meat of the book is disturbingly comprehensible to my high functioning imagination.

“An EMP attack could destroy our civilization, but we don’t talk about it”

Barbara Kay, National Post Columnist

Rocky View County's CERT Canada Summit

DATE: October 13, 14, 28

LOCATION: Bragg Creek Community Centre - 23 White Ave. Bragg Creek, AB

REGISTRATION: Event Brite - www.bridgesoflove.ca

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

CERT

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

NEIGHBOURS HELPING NEIGHBOURS

IF ONLY THERE WAS A WAY OF GETTING TRAINED DISASTER-RELIEF RESPONDERS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, WHO WOULD MAKE PREPARATIONS, THEN SPRING QUICKLY INTO ACTION, ARMED WITH EXPERTISE AND SOME EQUIPMENT, AND WILLING TO WORK AT LITTLE COST?

Campbell Clark, Ottawa - Chief Political Writer, The Globe & Mail

CERT CANADA SUMMIT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2017 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Key-note - **ANTHONY FUREY**, Nationally Syndicated Columnist & Broadcaster **“PULSE ATTACK”** The real story behind the secret weapon that can destroy North America. “OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC”

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

- CERT Fire Safety & Utility Controls
- CERT Search & Rescue
- Terrorism
- CERT Organization/ICS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

- CERT Medical Disaster Operations
- Food Safety
- CERT Psychology of Trauma
- CERT Emergency Preparedness

LOCATION - Bragg Creek Community Association, 23 White Ave.

\$199 (Adult), \$149 (Senior), \$99 (Student), “Friday Evening Only - \$20”

Summit Includes - CERT Equipment, T-Shirt, Cap, Literature, Certificate, Photo ID, Friday Evening Dessert, Saturday Lunch & Snacks

SPONSOR: ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

REGISTER: by Oct 6 www.bridgesoflove.ca 403.616.0536

BE READY TO ASSIST YOUR SELF, FAMILY, & COMMUNITY

**COORDINATED - EQUIPPED
TRAINED - READY**

SPONSORED BY:





BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION – September, 2017

“LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED, AND DO NOT BE AFRAID” John 14:27

“Never before in my lifetime have I read such jarring headlines, distressing news analyses, or dire predictions for America and the world.

Things are getting so chaotic that many pundits are using the term “perfect storm” to explain the confluence of wide-ranging food shortages, record-high fuel prices, and natural disasters.”

Dr. David Jeremiah

*What in the World is going on? 2008
10 prophetic clues you cannot afford to ignore.*

The end result of the Holy Spirit's work in our lives is deep and lasting peace. This peace is confident assurance in any circumstance; with Christ's peace we have no need to fear the present or the future. God says He will give lasting peace to those who will accept it.

The Bible has proven to be absolutely dependable with over-whelming evidence of prophecies that have been fulfilled with complete accuracy. Therefore, we can trust it as the source of reliable information about the meaning of the events of our day.

We have a clear and certain promise that the Lord will return. Ours is not a mere longing or a desperate hope, for our Lord is the Creator and Master of all. His promise is as sure as His very existence.

The signs that tell us the second coming of the Lord is drawing near should motivate us as never before to live in readiness. Studying prophecy provides a compelling motivation for living the Christian life. The immediacy of prophetic events shows the need to live each moment in Christ-like readiness and expectancy.

No one can deny the world is in trouble and we are in climactic times. We do not know the date or time of Christ's return but when we believe knowing Christ is coming again to this earth, we cannot ignore the signs. The handwriting is on the wall. Those who trust the Lord as their Saviour need have no fear as He protects His own.

KEY-NOTE SPEAKER

While man-made and natural disasters cannot be prevented, the wise remain alert to signs of their approach, so they can take protective measures. When signs are recognized and appropriate warnings are issued, disaster can often be avoided or the impact lessened.

On the other hand, signs of a potential disaster that are ignored, can bring catastrophic results. The events unfolding in today's world are ominously threatening so people everywhere are beginning to live in a state of fear and anxiety.

Our purpose is not to make you fearful, but to make you aware so you can be prepared. Anthony Furey has conducted extensive research on a very real threat for an EMP attack. We invite you to hear more. Friday evening's Key-note speaker is open to the general public. Register on-line www.bridgesoflove.ca

ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE

EMP

THE END OF TECHNOLOGY: ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE

WHAT IS ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE (EMP)?

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The Real Story Behind The Secret Weapon That Can Destroy North America

ANTHONY FUREY
Nationally Syndicated Columnist and Broadcaster

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REGISTRATION: Event Brite @ www.bridgesoflove.ca - 403.616.0536
SPONSOR: ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

Rocky View County's CERT Canada Summit

DATE: October 13, 14, 28

LOCATION: Bragg Creek
Community Centre - 23 White
Ave. Bragg Creek, AB

REGISTRATION: Event Brite -
www.bridgesoflove.ca

COST: Adult - \$199.00;
Senior - \$149.00
Student - \$99.00

INCLUDES:

- ✓ Friday Evening Key-note Speaker + dessert
- ✓ 2 Saturday training sessions (8 modules- trainers who are professionals in their field)
 - Fire Safety
 - Search & Rescue
 - Terrorism
 - CERT Organization
 - Medical Disaster
 - Food Safety
 - Psychology of Trauma
 - Personal Preparedness
- ✓ CERT PowerPoints (Binder) and Student Manual (Flash drive)
- ✓ Friday dessert, Saturday lunches and snacks
- ✓ CERT Cap, Shirt, Kit (equipped), Photo ID, Certificate

SPONSOR





BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION – August, 2017

"FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD..." John 3:16

"For God so loves the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:16

The entire word of God comes to a focus in John 3:16. God's love is not static or self-centered. It reaches out and draws others in. Here God sets the pattern of true love, the basis for all relationships. When we love someone deeply, we are willing to give to the point, of self-sacrifice.

Eternal life is God's life embodied in Christ given to all believers now as a guarantee that we will live forever. This life then is indeed just an introduction to eternity. Once we believe and receive this new life by faith, we can begin to evaluate all that happens from an eternal perspective.

We cannot put our faith in good deeds, skills or intelligence, money or possessions. Only God can save us; so that we might live in light, rather than darkness.

My husband and I will never forget the day two elders came to visit our home. We attended their church the Sunday before so they asked if they could come and share a little more about their church. We responded positively as were searching for a church home after a recent move to a new city. Little did we know, that evening, our lives would be changed for eternity.

After engaging in casual conversation, one of the gentlemen asked if we died that night, would be know without a doubt we would go to heaven? We responded with "Well, we attended church all our lives and try to be good people..." But we honestly could not answer this question with the confidence they were looking for. They asked us if we would like to know with certainty where we would spend eternity.

These two men were willing to give up their own comfort and security so that we might join in receiving God's love. We are eternally grateful!

ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE (EMP)

A topic we have never addressed with our emergency focus is that of "Electromagnetic Pulse." I was introduced to this very important topic through Dr. Arthur Bradley, NASA Senior Scientist and Author, who shared his expertise and passion for Disaster Preparedness, with us several years ago. His book **"EMP Attacks and Solar Storms"** was my first introduction to this very important issue.

Anthony Furey, International Columnist for the Sun Media chain of newspapers, Journalist, and now author of his new release **"Pulse Attack"** will be our Key-note Speaker for Rocky View's CERT Summit this fall. He has done much research on EMP attacks, a threat which he feels has not yet taken a firm grip on our collective conscious.

What is an EMP and why is this such a concern to North America? An electromagnetic pulse (EMP) also called a transient electromagnetic disturbance; is a short burst of electromagnetic energy. Such a pulse's origination may be a natural occurrence or man-made and can occur as a radiated, electric, or magnetic field or a conducted electric current, depending on the source.

Canada is vulnerable to a crippling attack. The worst case scenario is that our water, food, transportation and communication systems could all go down. This would halt our way of life as we know it, bringing our economy to a standstill.

This is not science fiction or a thriller novel. With rogue states like North Korea on the rise, the few experts who know about this issue are sounding the alarm. Anthony will share his extensive research, looking at the science behind the issue, previous EMP attacks, where we're at with it now, and where we should be heading.

ROCKY VIEW'S CERT CANADA SUMMIT

After a disaster, people want to help. Bridges of Love's Community Emergency Response Team training, CERT, assures a **SAFE "Neighbours helping Neighbours"** response.

CERT is a grass roots strategy that is both practical and realistic strengthening community safety and preparedness through increased civic participation. CERT trained and equipped community volunteers **CAN** save lives and protect property.

Bridges of Love promotes community resilience, connecting people, churches, and networks through coordination, resources and training.

Churches helping Neighbours,
Neighbours helping Neighbours –
a **BRIDGE** to community.

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

CERT
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY
RESPONSE TEAM

NEIGHBOURS HELPING NEIGHBOURS

"IF ONLY THERE WAS A WAY OF GETTING TRAINED DISASTER-RELIEF RESPONDERS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, WHO WOULD MAKE PREPARATIONS, THEN SPRING QUICKLY INTO ACTION, ARMED WITH EXPERTISE AND SOME EQUIPMENT, AND WILLING TO WORK AT LITTLE COST!"
Campbell Clark, Ottawa - Chief Political Writer, The Globe & Mail

CERT CANADA SUMMIT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2017 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm **COULD EMP ATTACK TAKE DOWN CANADA?**

Key-note: **ANTHONY FUREY**, Nationally Syndicated Columnist and Broadcaster **"PULSE ATTACK"** The real story behind the secret weapon that can destroy North America.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

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SPONSOR: ROCKY VIEW COUNTY
REGISTER: BRIDGES OF LOVE
www.bridgesoflove.ca
403.616.8936



BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION – July, 2017

“SPEAK LORD FOR YOUR SERVANT HEARS” 1 Samuel 3:10



One would expect God to give an audible message to Eli, the Priest and not to the child Samuel. God's chain of command is based on faith,

however, not on age or position. Even though Eli was older, more experienced, and held the proper position; God choose Samuel to receive His special revelation.

God may not speak to us in the likely place we expect; such as churches, or in formal acts of worship. God will choose His own place, using his own instrument for His Glory. Samuel was dedicated to God's service given to him by his Mother, Hannah. He was a man of prayer and became one of Israel's greatest prophets.

How then do we respond to God's call? Is not Samuel's answer, "Speak, Lord, for Your Servant hears," in the childlike simplicity, faith, and submissiveness of it, a most beautiful and perfect type for what our answer should be?

Our greatest revelations come from our communion with God. The nearer to Him we live, the fuller we shall be of His light, goodness and love. Listening and responding is vital in a relationship with God. To receive His messages, we must be ready to listen and then to respond when He calls us to action.

The men who have done the most for God are men who have stood in Samuel's attitude, and said with Samuel's submissiveness, "Speak, Lord, for Your Servant hears."

YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN

The Government of Canada defines emergencies as incidents that happen when we don't expect them, and often when families are not together. Suddenly, you need to think about your kids at school or elderly parents across town. If phones don't work, or some neighbourhoods aren't accessible, what will you do?

Having a family emergency plan will save time and make real situations less stressful.

The Government web site (<https://www.getprepared.gc.ca>) shares excellent information on...

- Your Emergency Preparedness Guide
- Emergency Preparedness Guide for People with Disabilities/Special Needs
- Emergency Preparedness for Children
- Pets and Service Animals
- Staying in Touch during Emergencies.



Rocky View County's Community Benefits Initiative Grant



Bridges of Love is very pleased to recently been awarded a \$5000 Community Benefits Initiative Grant from Rocky View County for CERT training.

We have appreciated the opportunities to engage with Rocky View on several occasions, through various events, over the years so look forward to this additional opportunity.

Fire Chief, Randy Smith has been a great encouragement for CERT as our main trainer for the Fire Safety and Search and Rescue modules.

Please watch our CERT web site www.bridgesoflove.ca for information on dates and location for our 10th training Summit in this vibrant community.





BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION - June, 2017

"LET US START REBUILDING. SO THEY BEGAN THIS GOOD WORK." Neh. 2:18

*"They replied, Let us start rebuilding.
So they began this good work."
Nehemiah 2:18*

Spiritual renewal often begins with one person's vision. Nehemiah had a vision, and he shared it with enthusiasm, inspiring Jerusalem's leaders to rebuild the walls. When we encourage and inspire others, we put teamwork into action to accomplish God's goals.

Building relationships with others takes intentionality and usually hard work. Love is the only effective motivation for our actions. We love because God first loved us (1 John 4:19). Love transcends any sense of duty. When improperly motivated, people may speak of duty, responsibility, and obligation. Love speaks of opportunity to express itself. This love transcends any sense of duty and throughout Scripture is characterized by action.

Building bridges of love into a community can be as diverse as the beautiful architectural bridge structures. God gave Nehemiah a huge task using one man to change the history of his world – that of rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem. He organized, managed, supervised encouraged, met opposition, confronted injustice, and kept going until the wall was complete. Nehemiah had a radical faith that compelled him to step out to fulfill God's clearly defined agenda, at great personal risk and sacrifice.

Most visions never get off the ground as we believe that we need to see the ways and means before we take action. Christianity is not complicated. We simply love God and man with our entire being. If we love God, we do what He commands. If we love others, we serve without reserve.

When God does something great, He starts with one person who has an idea, a dream, a vision, and a heart that is completely His. Are we ready and willing to be renewed, centered, and strengthened in our calling displaying a heart of compassion and love – the essence of faithfulness and the foundations of our Christianity?

The challenge is indeed daunting, but with God at the helm, we can accomplish all that He purposes.

LETHBRIDGE EVANGELICAL MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION



We appreciated the opportunity to share Bridges of Love's vision with the Lethbridge Evangelical Ministerial Association. They have a strong group of Pastors and Ministry Leaders who support one another in their various endeavors.

Rocky View County Wildfire Exercise



CERT Grads, Heather Green and Altus van Tonder, were on hand to answer questions in the Reception Centre at Rocky View's recent Wildfire Exercise. From the debriefing reports, the exercise went very well and was an excellent learning session, for all those who participated. We appreciated Rocky View's invitation to attend as exercises are so very valuable for testing the emergency structures.

CEMA'S DISASTER ALLEY



Emergency Preparedness Week kick-off "Disaster Alley" was blessed with a beautiful day for their event at McMahon Stadium. Many visitors participated in our emergency CERT wheel of fortune. It proved to be an excellent learning resource as well as great fun for all ages.



South Centre Mall Emergency Fair

Cameron Nikitiuk, CERT Grad had non-stop traffic to our booth at South Centre Mall's Emergency Fair. He appreciated the support from many visitors and from the South Centre Mall organizers. He looks forward to attending other events.





BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION - May, 2017

"BE READY IN SEASON AND OUT OF SEASON" – 2 Timothy 4:2

"Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction."

2 Timothy 4:2

"Being prepared in season and out of season" means to always be ready to serve God in any situation, whether or not it is convenient. Being sensitive to the opportunities God gives us.

Do we suffer from the unbalanced tendency to "be ready" only "out of season?" The season does not refer to time; it refers to us. We should be ready whether we feel like it or not.

There are many similarities between being ready in our spiritual life and being prepared for a crisis. A crisis tends to reveal our character so having a strong spiritual foundation that is grounded in truth and knowledge; will be evident when confronted with high-consequence, low-probability events.

¹Professors Robert Meyer and Howard Kunreuther have done extensive research on biases that lead individuals, communities, and institutions to make grave errors that cost lives when disaster strikes. Our abilities to foresee and protect against natural catastrophes has never been greater; yet, we consistently fail to heed the warnings and take steps to protect ourselves, family, and community.

There is, however, hope, and a possible solution. Through their "*Behavioral Risk Audit*" the professors give four steps of analysis for a given hazard context providing a tool for envisioning hazards and existing preparedness measures through the eyes of stakeholders.

- Step 1: List the biases.
- Step 2: Describe impacts on beliefs.
- Step 3: Analyze manifestation in preparedness.
- Step 4: Design remedies.

¹Robert Meyer & Howard Kunruther; The Ostrich Paradox, Why we underprepare for disasters; 2017

DISASTER ALLEY

Saturday, May 6, 2017
11:00 am – 3:00 pm
McMahon Stadium

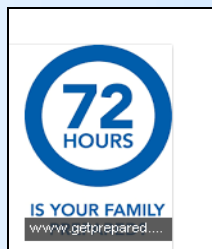
Do you know how to take care of your family in an emergency?

Disaster Alley is a free event for all ages; for families and individuals alike. It's an annual preparedness event that occurs in Calgary every May. As Calgary's largest preparedness event, Disaster Alley showcases over 30 exhibitors who provide assistance in emergencies and disasters. These exhibitors educate guests about what they can do in an emergency or disaster.



Emergency Preparedness Week

Disaster Alley happens during Emergency Preparedness Week – a national event in May that aims to build a culture of preparedness in Canada. The event is coordinated by Public Safety Canada, in close collaboration with the provinces, territories and partners.



HOPE 150

June 30 – July 1, 2017
Canada Hope Stage,
Shaw Millennium Park

HOPE150 is a free event for the whole family.

June 30 – July 1, 2017

- ✓ This is a public event. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- ✓ Location is Shaw Millennium Park, west end of downtown Calgary.
- ✓ Great Christian Music with compelling stories of Christian HOPE.
- ✓ Featuring local and out of town artists including Tim Neufeld and The Glory Boys
- ✓ Learn how to connect, promote, and share the prayer and vision for this event.

Information: Jason Caldwell
jcaldwell@HOPE150.ca





BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION - April, 2017

"...BUT IT DID NOT FALL, BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN FOUNDED ON THE ROCK" Matthew 7:25b

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock."

Matthew 7:24-25

The parable of the Wise and the Foolish Builders, illustrates the importance of building one's life in obedience to the teachings and example of Jesus Christ.

The two lives Jesus compares at the end of the Sermon on the Mount have several points in common. Both build, both hear Jesus' teaching, and they both experience the same set of circumstances in life. The difference between them isn't caused by lack of understanding but by one ignoring what was taught. Externally their lives may look similar; but the lasting structural differences will be revealed by the storm.

We are all builders, constructing a life. We do this by the choices we make. Every character trait we develop, every commitment we make, every skill we develop, becomes part of our house. We are each responsible for our own house. No one else's.

Rain, floods, and winds, signify the calamities and afflictions that we all experience. The description of the storms that came to the two men is identical. You cannot build a house where there will be no storms. It is in the storm, however, where the soundness of the house is tested and revealed. The foundation is not a feature that garners much attention so no-one even notices it until the storm.

Everyone builds a house—both the wise and the foolish man. Everybody faces a storm. The one who builds a house on a true understanding of Jesus' words will have a strong foundation in which to stand.

WHY PREPARE?

"Effective preparation requires prioritizing our needs based on the likelihood and impact of events."

Dr. Arthur Bradley
Handbook to Practical Disaster Preparedness for the Family.

Dr. Bradley believes we should prepare for what makes sense and for the challenges we might actually face – harsh weather, power outages, loss of income, being stranded on the road, radioactive contamination, and so on.

It takes commitment and a clear understanding for why we should take steps to prepare. If we don't know the answer to why we should be ready for any disaster we will lose our dedication and determination along the way.

Being prepared is an integral part of being responsible. Just as a wise man builds his house on the rock, being prepared provides assurance that we have done all we can, to care for our family when disaster strikes. We know there are many threats and life is very unpredictable.

Just as there are varying degrees of disasters, there are many levels of preparedness. We have to know what we are preparing for - the greatest threats in our locality, and meeting the needs of our family during the most likely disaster events.

Preparing should be motivated more out of love than out of fear. Things done out of concern for others is Bridges of Love's motivation for Emergency Preparedness. Being ready with a preparedness plan is only sound planning as it provides a solid foundation on which to build. Knowing your family is better prepared to handle life's challenges will give peace amongst the storms of life.

GOD SAID NO!!

I ASKED God to take away my habit. God said, no. It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole. God said, no. His spirit is whole, his body is only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience. God said, no. Patience is a by-product of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is learned.

I asked God to give me happiness. God said, no. I give you blessings; happiness is up to you.

I asked God to spare me pain. God said, no. Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me.

I asked God to make my spirit grow. God said, no. You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful.

I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life. God said, no. I will give you life, so you may enjoy all things.

I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as He loves me. God said...Ahhhh, finally you have the idea!

Author Unknown



BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION – March, 2017

"YOU ALSO MUST BE READY..." Luke 12:40

"You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

Luke 12:40

Our Lord taught that we should not be anxious about tomorrow (Matt. 6:34), but he did not teach that we should ignore tomorrow. In fact, Jesus taught that our view of the future should be foremost in our thinking for how we should live today. As followers of Jesus Christ, we know that He will return. We must be ready as every person will stand before Him to give an account.

Doubters may say it has been 2000 years since Jesus spoke these words and we have not seen it happen yet. With the Lord, a day is as a thousand years and a thousand years are as a day. His view of time and our view of time are vastly different. He graciously delays judgment to wait for more to come to repentance.

How can we be ready for Jesus' coming?

1. Ask the Lord to forgive our sins and accept Jesus as our personal Saviour.
2. Daily love and serve Him.
3. Live in expectation for His return.

Are we living for today only, with no regard for Christ's return? Are we putting it out of our mind thinking, "We've got time"? Jesus says we should live each day with an eye on that future day. We will be blessed if God finds us ready when He returns.



THE OSTRICH PARADOX

WHY WE UNDERPREPARE FOR DISASTERS

Robert Meyer & Howard Kunreuther

We fail to evacuate when advised. We rebuild in flood zones. We don't wear helmets. We fail to purchase insurance. We would rather avoid the risk of "crying wolf" than sound an alarm.

The Ostrich Paradox, Wharton professors Robert Meyer and Howard Kunreuther draw on years of teaching and research to offer six reasons why disaster preparedness efforts consistently fall short. They address:

- ✓ Why are we humans so poor at dealing with disastrous risks, and what can we do about it?
- ✓ How people make decisions when confronted with high-consequence, low-probability events—and how these decisions can go awry.
- ✓ The 6 biases that lead individuals, communities, and institutions to make grave errors that cost lives.
- ✓ The Behavioral Risk Audit, a systematic approach for improving preparedness by recognizing these biases and designing strategies that anticipate them.
- ✓ Why, if we are to be better prepared for disaster, we need to learn to be more like ostriches, not less...

Our ability to foresee and protect against natural catastrophes has never been greater; yet, we consistently fail to heed the warnings and protect ourselves and our communities, with devastating consequences.



Dear Mrs. Pollon,

On behalf of our member insurance companies, I am very pleased to confirm Insurance Bureau of Canada's support for the Bridges of Love - Community Emergency Response training you have planned for Southern Alberta.

We know from experience that when people are suddenly forced to leave their homes, they often escape with little more than the clothes on their backs and they desperately need the help of organizations like Bridges of Love. Insurers have helped Canadians rebuild after disasters for more than 200 years. When significant weather related events happen, insurance representatives may be considered the 'second responders'.

Insurance Bureau of Canada and our member insurance companies are very pleased to support this initiative. We know you will continue to build on your successful track record and make our province even more resilient in the face of disaster.

Sincerely,

Rob de Puis

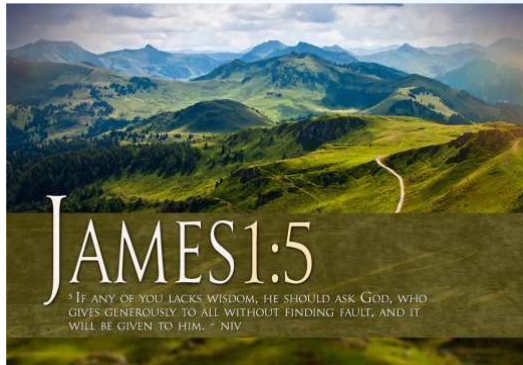
Director, Consumer & Industry Relations, Western & Pacific



BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION – February, 2017

"If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God..." James 1:5



"If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him."

James 1:5

By wisdom, James is talking not only about knowledge, but also about the ability to make wise decisions in difficult circumstances. We don't have to grope in the dark, hoping to stumble upon the right decision. We can ask for God's wisdom to guide our choices.

The Life Application Bible shares three distinct characteristics for the wisdom we need:

1. It is practical – The wisdom from God relates to life even during the most trying times. It is not a wisdom isolated from suffering and trials. This wisdom is the tool by which trials are overcome. An intelligent person may have profound ideas, but a wise person puts profound ideas into action.
2. It is divine – God's wisdom goes beyond common sense. Common sense does not lead us to choose joy in the middle of trials. This wisdom begins with respect for God, leads to living by God's direction, and results in the ability to tell right from wrong.
3. It is Christ-like - Asking for wisdom is ultimately asking to be like Christ. The Bible identifies Christ as the 'wisdom of God'. 1 Cor. 1:24; 2:1-7

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING (CERT)

**WE CANNOT PREDICT...
BUT WE CAN PREPARE!**

After a large-scale disaster, local governments do not have the capacity to manage the over-whelming needs of an entire community.

If a major disaster occurs, the first responders will most likely be deployed to major incidents. This is why you constantly hear..."You **MUST** be prepared to care for yourself for a certain time period when the incident is of a magnitude that the normal systems are overwhelmed.

Networks of prepared individuals and local agencies that collaborate effectively reduce dependence on municipal services and mitigate the damage caused by large scale events. A wise man does not wait until disaster strikes, but prepares for whatever storms of life might bring.

When you are prepared and trained, you are far more equipped to deal with your circumstances, without needing aid from outside sources. Community Emergency Response Team members are trained in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, search & rescue, team organization, disaster medical operations, etc. You learn how to prepare for emergencies, what supplies you should have in your home, and most importantly, how to protect your family in a disaster.

Be proactive and take action today. How to be self-sufficient when the unexpected happens is not only wise planning for individuals, families, and communities alike, but readiness will save lives.

We cannot predict...but we can prepare!!

PUBLIC SAFETY CANADA

November 29, 2016

"First, allow me to congratulate you on the progress that you have made in developing a successful community training program and on hosting nine CERT summits over the past two years. Initiatives to strengthen emergency preparedness and response at the local level are critical to building resilient communities. Every one of us has a role to play in building safer and more resilient society, and I sincerely commend your contribution to this collective responsibility."

*The Honourable Ralph Goodale, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Public Safety*

INSURANCE BUREAU OF CANADA

January 20, 2017

"We know from experience that when people are suddenly forced to leave their homes, they often escape with little more than the clothes on their backs and they desperately need the help of organizations like Bridges of Love."

Insurance Bureau of Canada and our member insurance companies are very pleased to support CERT training. We know you will continue to build on your successful track record and make our province even more resilient in the face of disaster."

Rob de Puis - Director, Consumer & Industry Relations, Western & Pacific Insurance Bureau of Canada



BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION – January, 2017

“PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU; MY PEACE I GIVE YOU.” John 14:27

“It is easy for us to imagine that we will suddenly come to a point in our lives where we are fully prepared, but preparation is not suddenly accomplished. It is a process that must be steadily maintained. It is dangerous to become settled and complacent in our present level of experience. The Christian life requires preparation and more preparation.”

Oswald Chambers

There is indeed a correlation between preparing for disasters and spiritual preparedness. We have seen and felt the suffering of men women, children, and the vulnerable who are caught in unexpected and disastrous events. There are tangible things we can do however, and resources we can stockpile for such calamities.

There is another, more important preparation, we must make. This type of preparation cannot be bought, or borrowed. It does not store well and has to be used regularly and recently to be effective.

Spiritual preparation can only be developed by our faith in Jesus Christ. Unfortunate events happen to unsuspecting people. Having our spiritual life in order is for eternity.

Emergency preparedness is not intended as a gloom and doom scenario. Being physically and spiritually ready is only sound planning for oneself and loved ones.

As we begin a New Year, may we encourage you to spend a little time mapping out a plan that will ultimately give peace of mind; before and after disaster strikes?

“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

John 14:27

JUST IN CASE

How to be self-sufficient when the unexpected happens

By Kathy Harrison

In the aftermath of a nearly month long period with no power, the Miller family decided they needed to pursue a family preparedness plan. The purchased several books on the subject and settled on the OAR program of organizing, acquiring, and rotating as the system that offered them the best chance of success.

On occasion, a relative or acquaintance made a negative comment about the Miller family's decision to make crisis preparedness a family priority, but the Millers remained firm in their commitment to preparedness.

The following February, when a three-day blizzard followed by an ice storm knocked out power to their neighbourhood for nearly two weeks, the Millers were glad of that resolve. Not only were they able to remain at home and comfortable, they were also able to offer help to those who were not prepared.

Kathy Harrison has devoted her book to advice on meeting the needs of an average family such as the Millers during short-term emergencies, specifically those lasting less than a month or two.

There are greater challenges facing our global community so we need to assess our ability to be self-reliant and self-sustaining should we find ourselves without the comforts and luxuries that we have come to rely. Several recent events locally as well as globally have brought us to the unpleasant realization that we have allowed complacency to override our common sense. It is the essence of family preparedness, taken to the community level which will provide sustainability, to survive a major disaster.

DISASTER CAN STRIKE AT ANY TIME~

"Life has always been uncertain but this is the first generation that has allowed itself to become totally dependent on a fragile web of interdependent systems. If one piece goes down—whether food, transportation, communications, finance, power, workforce, fuel, or weather—the whole system will collapse in a domino effect that could bring our usual lives to a screeching halt. The shelves will be empty, the money will dry up, the lights will go out, the cars won't run, and the people will be forced to stay home..."

Kathy Harrison

Be one of the prepared few by following Kathy Harrison's practical plan for emergency self-sufficiency. Learn how to evaluate, organize, and rotate your food supply; pack an evacuation kit; protect important documents from fire; develop a communications system; make nutritious soup with canned and dried pantry items; and entertain the kids for several television-free days. Everything you need to know to survive when public services fail is covered in this essential guide to family preparedness.

Keep a cool head and plan well; your family will be able to settle in, stay warm, and eat well when the unexpected happens.