



Marvin's Ministry Update

July - September 2013

A Ministry and Family Overview

The months of July to September were filled with a variety of activities related both to MentorLink and to our family. With respect to MentorLink Canada, the activities included speaking for five churches, many mentoring meetings with various people, participating in another CREST cohort, beginning to share mentoring concepts with AGC pastors at their regional gatherings, and preparing for other seminars in the fall. I also visited with several of our ML Canada donors and was pleased to add three more people as prayer partners.

Many of you were aware that our middle son, Dave, his wife, Martina, and their two sons, Nathan (8) and Matthew (6) were living with us during their five-month home assignment. They serve with SEND International



in Ulan Ude, Siberia and just returned on Oct. 7. Our house seems very empty again, but we are grateful for the time together. We have also been involved in helping our oldest son, Dan, and his family, as they experienced the birth of another daughter, Emma Grace, and made a ministry transition from London to Barrie. In the midst of these changes and blessings, Kay experienced several very difficult months of health issues. She has now nearly recovered her former health for which we are very grateful. I have included a new family picture taken in early October which reminds us of God's abundant blessing on us.

Personal Mentoring

My personal mentoring activities have increased since we signed a ministry agreement with CREST Leadership. In addition to the continued blessing and privilege of mentoring and/or coaching about seventeen men on a regular basis, I now have another eight men who are participating in the Ontario cohorts of CREST. The variety of age and experience they bring to our conversations is quite broad so our interactions are always engaging. A review of my DayTimer revealed 51 personal visits and/or Skype/phone calls with various people during the last three months. I am also finding an increase in the number and variety of people who desire to speak with me one time about issues they are facing in their lives and/or ministries.

Recently, one younger man, who is in the early stages of his growing family and seeking God's direction about his future career, wrote me from a "greasy spoon" restaurant to share the good news about the birth of his second child. He reflected on the many times we had eaten breakfast in similar restaurants before they moved away and thanked me for what we had learned together and the encouragement of those meetings.