

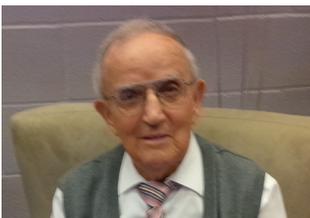
## Marvin's Ministry Update

April - June 2015

### Personal Overview

Since last December I have experienced new challenges in my journey which have been life-changing. As I have reported previously, it began with a "less invasive" surgery to repair a birth defect in my mitral heart valve. After two more major surgeries in March and living at times on the edge of death, sustained by the prayers of God's people and over 30 units of blood, I have been gradually returning to my former, active self. I am not the same person, however, because I now realize more clearly how fragile life truly is; I am more grateful for every day that God gives me. One lesson I learned during that period is that the primary gift one can give to the Master in times of illness is patience; this requires humility and perseverance. I am attempting to continue to practice this lesson now that I am experiencing good health.

I have been extremely encouraged by the love extended to me through prayer, cards, flowers, phone calls, emails, and personal visits. One of the encouraging emails I received was from the staff and students of the New Life Christian College in India with a picture of the students praying for me.



Another challenging experience in late June was the death of my father, Reuben Brubacher. His life was a continual blessing and encouragement to many people. Even at age 93 he was reaching out to those around him with love and prayers. He was my long-term mentor and greatest prayer supporter; I am missing his presence already.

### Ministry Overview

The first six months of 2015 have provided me with a series of unusual ministry opportunities, many of them among the staff and patients I met in the hospital. Three of the people that I met have continued to stay in touch with me. I would ask you for prayer as I share the love of Jesus with Susan (the wife of one of my roommates who has since passed away), Ted, and Peter. The MentorLink Board asked me to hold back from ministry activities during April and May. Since then I have been reconnecting with previous mentees; so far 21 men have indicated their desire to continue a renewed journey. I have already met with many of them. I have also reconnected with several local churches concerning their desire for a seminar on mentoring which we had to postpone because of my health. I am also continuing to develop a course on mentoring for the TIM Centre in Toronto to begin in late September.

## **Passing It On! (PIO) Seminars**

Last fall I conducted local church PIO seminar with leaders from the Mt. Zion Worship Centre in Toronto and from King Bible Church in King City, ON. Both pastors recently told about significant results with people now engaged in mentoring others. In one church, the pastor spoke of how their elders' meetings have changed positively from walking through The Leader's Covenant together. I will be conducting a similar seminar at Emmanuel Baptist in Chatham in October; two other churches are in the planning stages.

## **Ethiopian Church Projects**

Tim Jacobson (SIM Toronto) and I are very excited about a partnership with Ato Kursie, the new president of the Kale Hewyet Church in Ethiopia to bring the transformational values of Jesus into leadership training processes of this large evangelical denomination (8,500 churches with 8.5 million members). This will involve developing a training seminar using The Leader's Covenant and Passing It On! materials as a foundation which will be taught throughout their 125 Bible colleges by teachers we will train.



## **Rescheduled Tenth Anniversary Celebration**

On behalf of the Board, I am inviting you to join us in Cambridge on Friday, November 13, 2015 for a dessert and coffee evening, celebrating what God has accomplished through the ministry of ML Canada in the last ten years. Dr. Stacy Reinhart, our International Founder and Director, will be joining us. Watch for further information.

## **Upcoming Ministry Opportunities (Prayer and Praise)**

- a. Local church PIO seminars in several locations this spring.
- b. Potential Days With Jesus projects: Tigrigna (language of Eritrea); Russian (partnering with Slavic Gospel Association); Indigenous languages of Northern Canada; Amharic (main language of Ethiopia). Pray for funding for these projects.
- c. A new mentor training tool: the MentorLink Leadership Institute.
- d. Developing and teaching a course on mentoring for the TIM Centre, a non-credit division of Tyndale Seminary offered at Peoples Church on Mondays, Sept. 28 - Nov. 30, 2015.
- e. Leadership training project for the Kale Hewyet Church in Ethiopia.
- f. Week of ministry at Fair Havens, Aug. 30 - Sept. 4.

Thank you for your faithful, focused prayer support for this strategic ministry.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marvin".

*"You (Timothy) have heard me (Paul) teach many things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Teach these great truths to trustworthy people who are able to pass them on to others." (2 Timothy 2:2)*