



CONNECTOR

#78 September 2025



It is hard to believe that we are now well into September. We all face the realities of a new season. Students are back to school, church programming is back into post summer schedule, and the roads may be a little less congested for us to travel.

We all have discretionary time in this season of our lives to steward what God has given us for letting our light so shine, that others see and causes them to want to put Christ in their lives.

This issue of the **CONNECTOR** includes:

- the joys of **POWER Team** members continuing to minister in their present "mission field"
- POWER Team** members gathering together
- the challenge of Finishing Well and
- the joy and sadness of Celebrating the lives of those God has called Home.

Canadian Midwest District Conference leveraged time to connect with POWER Team members

Merinda Enns, Member Care Facilitator Canadian Midwest District writes:

We had a lovely time with a few of our Emeritus workers prior to our district conference in Saskatoon. We shared with each other where we had lived over our years of service and President Darren and DS Bernie both gave words of thanks, encouragement and blessing over these folks. A good time was had by all who were able to attend. In attendance were Elfrieda Van der Bijl, Elviera Toews, Elsie Toews, Al Regier, Arthur Cooke, Dennis Keith and Robin and Katherine Haensel. Richard and I were blessed to host this coffee time.



Bob Keith (new assistant DS in CMD), Dennis Keith, Al Regier, Arthur Cooke, Merinda Enns, Darren Herbold, Elfrieda Van der Bijl, Elviera Toews, Elsie Toews, Katherine and Robin Haensel.



left to right in front - Elfrieda Van der Bijl, Elviera Toews, Elsie Toews.
Left to right back - Merinda Enns, Al Regier, Arthur Cooke, President Darren Herbold, Robin and Katherine Haensel.

Jonathan & Ruth Teo



Though
“retired”, Ruth
& Jonathan still
serve Israel.

They write:

“During a
recent visit to
Israel, we

brought our book "Love Beyond the Horizon", in English and Chinese, to the National Library of Israel and asked the administrator whether they would like to keep our books. They gave us a positive answer. There are more than six million books in the National Library of Israel. This book records the miracles and wonders God performed among the Chinese people in Israel in 1998-2004. Thousands of Chinese turned to Jesus Christ in the Holy Land and became the blessing to Israel.

Later, a friend in Israel searched the website of the National Library of Israel and confirmed with us that she indeed found our books! Our humble service becomes a small part of Israel's history. Thank God for giving us, including you, the opportunity to participate.

We printed 9000 copies, and it is almost all distributed. (less than 100 copies left now). Thank God for technology, we can distribute the e-copy now. jonruteo@gmail.com

Check out the following:

‘Love Beyond the Horizon’ (The Chinese in Israel)

Authors : Rev Jonathan Teo & Pastor Ruth Teo

Introduction video clip

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N1yrm5l6IRs&list=PLx0MuzhXddBg37F2HYDHAkhvv_WROi-yM&index=5

Free E-Book: 【 Love beyond the Horizon 】 :

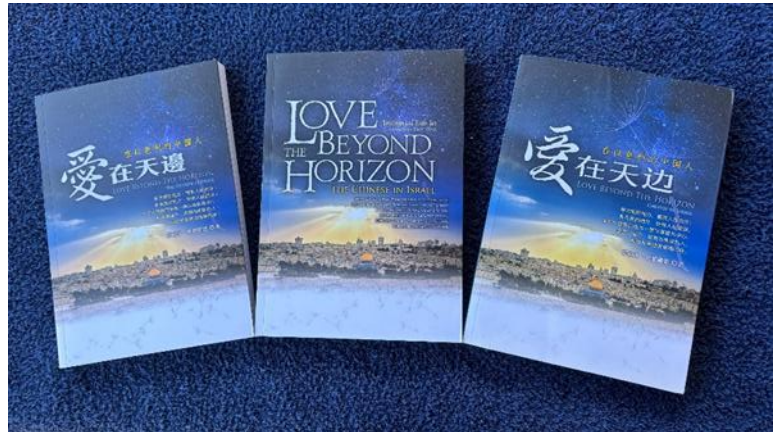
(English) <https://english.ccaca.org/ebook/>

(Simplified Chinese & Traditional Chinese)

https://chinese.ccaca.org/church_resource/ebook/

Please feel free to keep a copy & share it around.

POWER Team National Coordinator Gerald Hogenbirk wrote the forward





"Fulfilling God's Plan for Our Aging Years"

Here is a resource to encourage us as **POWER Team** members to be all that God has planned for us.

Embrace Aging With Purpose

"Equipping & Encouraging Seniors to Actively Pursue and Fulfill God's Calling" THE NEED



The landscape of aging has undergone significant changes in recent decades. Older adults are living longer, healthier lives. For many, these additional years are marked by isolation, a lack of purpose, and a sense of insignificance. Aging with purpose is essential to combat loneliness, which is an epidemic among the elderly.

The Bible speaks to the importance of finishing life well, but our culture often neglects the role of seniors in our communities and churches. Sadly, most congregations do not have an educational plan to equip and/or stir the imagination for the purposes God has for seniors.

Finishing Well Ministries is helping to fill this gap, providing a framework and encouragement for older adults to engage deeply with their faith, maintain meaningful relationships and contribute to their families, churches, and society. Aging with purpose is at the heart of our mission.

We believe every person regardless of age, can live a life that honors God and leave a legacy of faithfulness. Finishing Well Ministries believes we have an opportunity to reconnect these believers to God's call on their lives and encourage them.

Check this out: <https://www.finishingwellministries.org/>

Here are articles that address POWER Team's reason for being:

Step #1 **Preparing Our Workers Entering Retirement**

Step #2 **Providing Our Workers Excellent Retirement**

Step #3 **Providing Our Workers Excellent Recourses**

In this season of Life, what are we being and doing to have "His will being done on earth as it is in Heaven"?

This following link addresses all three steps and more specifically Step #2 for **POWER Team** members. This article contains some good challenges for our own lives and those God brings across our pathway who are heading toward retirement or are already in this season of life or whatever you want to call it -retirement, re-assignment, re-alignment,

[Should Christians' life goal be to retire and play golf?](#)

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POWER Team members caught in the action

Joy Tira being arrested for wheelchair speeding.

"This officer arrested me for speeding with my wheelchair?"



Tim & Nancy Moore -Retiring??

Tim retired or was realigned from service at Ambrose University and Nancy from Nursing in Calgary to a very effective ministry in Thailand for the past 6 years.



Now they are on Home Assignment in Canada, located in Calgary, for the next year at which time they will enter the realm of "re-....." when they will be confirmed as **POWER Team** members.

What a joy to have them connect with the head office in St. Thomas Ont. from which the **CONNECTOR** is distributed. This is only 30kms from London, the birth place of both Tim & Nancy.

Pray for them to have an effective year of making our Alliance family aware of what God has been doing and desires to do in expanding the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in Heaven.

POWER Team member Gives Medal of honor to another PT member



Nelson Annan gave a short speech on how **Stuart Lightbody** was #1 as Vice President of Canadian Ministries. He was always on the platform while wife Joanne was #2 by his side. Picture two is Nelson conferring on Stuart (on the day of his birthday in August) the "promotion/demotion", or prestigious position of being now #2 as he is the care giver of Joanne in this season of their lives, even as Wayne Kerr was to his wife Betty. The 3rd picture shows his medal of honor "2nd"

Graduands from the University of Life

now experiencing Eternal Life in God's presence

BOLDT, Doris Blanche

Mother of **POWER Team** Members Wayne (& Dawn) Boldt and Melanie (Ken) Driedger

December 7, 1929 — July 18, 2025

Doris Boldt's journey with Jesus recently led her to Kelowna's Hospice House, where she left her body behind to continue her walk with Him into the realm that she had only understood by faith but now knows by sight and in the fullness of joy. She was 95.



Doris was born in Hanna, Alberta in the late 1920s, and was the oldest of three sisters. Life at home was filled with music and warm relationships with friends and extended family. Faith in Jesus Christ became a reality during her early years, and Doris' social life revolved around the church youth group.

For several years, Doris worked at the local bank as a teller, which in later years served her well as the family bookkeeper. One of her first purchases was a Brownie camera, and taking pictures became a life-long interest.

Doris attended the Western Canadian Bible Institute in Regina, where she met Walter, whom she later married. Doris took her role as Pastor's wife seriously, serving alongside Walter in Dawson Creek, and Saskatoon at the University Drive Alliance

Church, which later transitioned to the Circle Drive Alliance Church.

While Walter related well to the larger crowds of attendees, Doris is remembered for being at her self-appointed post by the main door to shake a hand and give a first name greeting to the hundreds of individual attendees as they left the building after the services. Doris's memory for dates and family connections was encyclopedic and to this day many remember the warmth of her inquiries as to the well-being of their families, and her remembrance of birthdays and anniversaries.

Upon retiring from Circle Drive, the Boldt's moved to Kelowna and settled into a more relaxed lifestyle of winters in Arizona and summers in Canada. Walter spent several years speaking and travelling with the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada, during which Doris was his faithful support and companion. Doris loved their winters in Arizona and developed many precious friendships.

After Walter's death in 2011, Doris was faced with the challenge of creating a new normal. For several years she continued to winter in Arizona; she also journeyed to France, Mexico, Alaska, and made recurring trips to visit an Arizona friend in Nova Scotia. With the loving support of family and friends, her later life settled into a weekly routine of bowling, outings, attending church, volunteering at a "Care and Share" group attending a weekly seniors' worship service, musical "jam sessions", Canasta nights, coffee times, and nightly visits with friends at Gordon Park.

Her bodily decline over the last year had left her mostly confined to home, however, her mind, will, and faith remained strong to the end.

Doris was predeceased by her parents and an infant brother. She leaves behind her three children and spouses; eight grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; her sisters; many nieces and nephews; and a host of friends.

Doris was known as a sweet, friendly woman, always up for whatever was going on, and who chose to see the good in people and circumstances. Her oft-quoted maxim, "Things turn out the best for those who make the best of how things turn out" served her well. She leaves a legacy of faith and friendship.

A Memorial Service was held August 13 2025. You can view it with the following link:
<https://www.springfieldfuneralhome.com/obituaries/boldt-doris-blanche/>

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Betty Anne Kerr

October 24, 1944-July 30, 2025

Betty, one of the Co-founders of **POWER Team**, and one of the "correctors" of the drafts of the **CONNECTOR**, was called Home after her battle with pancreatic cancer.

Betty is a great loss to Wayne (me) after 58 years of marriage. She struggled at times and asked me to pray that the "Lord would take me home". He did that peacefully on our 59th Engagement Anniversary, July 30th 2025. This is a great loss of a wife of 58 years, a mother, a grandmother and great grandmother. We are rejoicing that to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.

Betty, who was born in Prince Albert Saskatchewan, is survived by her husband, Wayne of St. Thomas, son Paul (Haidi) Kerr of St. Thomas and daughter Jennifer (Jayson) Roland of Cincinnati Ohio. She loved her five grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Betty is also survived by her sister Barb (Tedd) Smith of Oakville and brother James (Barb) Stewart of Regina, Sask.

Betty came to faith in Christ the last year of her Medical Technologist training under the influence of her cousins, one is a **POWER Team** member, Eric (Gwen) Persson who served in Burkina Faso & his brother John (Wenda) Persson. Talking to Eric & John after the Celebration of Life Service, I told them that if they had not influenced Betty's life toward Christ, she would not have had to put up with me for 58 years.

Immediately after her graduation as a Lab Technologist, Betty attended Canadian Bible College, sometimes known as Canadian Bridal College. I prefer to call it the Shoe Factory, where they receive a bunch of heels, fix up their souls and send them out in pairs. That is where I met Betty. We married the summer of August 1967 and graduated from CBC in 1968.

During the summer of 1968 Betty worked as a Lab Tech in the Owen Sound Ontario hospital and I worked in the family welding business. We were appointed (no candidating) to the Truro Alliance Church in Nova Scotia. When we arrived and the first parishioner knocked on the door to welcome us, he looked past us and asked “are your parents in?”. We served for 3 years there, during which God directed us from our missions path to remain in a pastoral role.

Betty was known as a wonderful pastor’s wife for over 50 years, gracious, hospitable, loving, kind, generous. She encouraged women to be followers of Jesus, both in North America as well as on missions’ ministries in South East Asia and the Caribbean.

Betty loved to hike as well as travel. She reveled in participating in Ladies Bible Studies as well as co-leading LifeGroups right to the end.



A Celebration of Life service was held August 9, 2025. You may watch that in this link. **POWER Team** members Gerald Hogenbirk and Sunder Krishnan participated in the service.

[Betty Kerr - Celebration of Life Service, 2025](#)

Things I learned in this journey

Wayne writes: The Funeral Home automatically submitted into the Obituary page, for people to honor the deceased by purchasing flowers or planting trees in Betty’s memory. I phoned them for clarification since I did not pay them to do that. The answer was they automatically do that. Well over \$2000.00 was spent by people on flowers and trees. I felt I should find out where the trees will be planted since I could use one on our own property. I did phone the 1-866 # and found out they plant the trees in the “State” closest to the Funeral Home. I found out the lady answered in the Philippines. Maybe she thought I was in the USA’s 51st State so I corrected her. Not good.

Finding this out, I immediately had the Funeral Home add the opportunity to give to the **Alliance Global Advance Fund**, so monies given have some eternal value. Here I discovered, that at present, there is no avenue to donate such funds in memory of a person. I am thankful that the National Office is working on this, so that in the future, people are able to give this as an option in such a time as this.

I find that many Christians, in dealing with this season of their lives, tend to give “in memory of” donations to their latest care giver or health organization (which are all worthy causes), but nothing said about that which can make an eternal impact. May we **POWER Team** members not forget the Alliance ministry, as they gave us the opportunity and paid our salaries, to fulfill God’s call upon our lives.

Here is something given to me by the National Office so that people could make an investment in Eternal values. (see on next page)



In Loving Memory of _____, please donate to The Alliance Canada's Global Advance Fund to continue _____'s legacy in sharing the love of Christ with the world.

Give online, Scan the QR code or visit
<https://thealliancecanada.ca/gift/global-advance-fund/>
The Alliance Canada 2580 Matheson Blvd E, Suite 101,
Mississauga, ON L4W 4J





for Assembly 2026

June 8-12, in Calgary, at First Alliance Church

POWER Team leadership is planning a gathering of **POWER Team** members around General Assembly.

Plan now to attend. Further information will come when it is available.



Important dates for prayer. Why not join on the following dates?

Join us as we collectively pray and take time—in unity—to discern, to listen, and pray for the things God is doing in our movement.

- September 18, 2025, 1pm EDT: [register now](#) click here
- November 27, 2025 (time to be announced)
- February 12, 2026
- April 16, 2026

[Read the discernment notes and themes](#) from the previous prayer events



A Smile or two after the sorrow and rejoicing of those whom God has called to Himself

Pharmacist to a customer: "Madam, please understand, to buy an anti-depression pill you need a proper prescription. Simply showing your marriage certificate and husband's picture is not enough."

A bookseller conducting a market survey asked a woman, "Which book has helped you most in your life?" The woman replied, "My husband's check book!"

**AT MY AGE, ROLLING OUT OF BED IN THE MORNING IS THE EASY PART.
GETTING OFF THE FLOOR IS A WHOLE OTHER STORY.**

If you notice cows sleeping in a field, does that mean it's pasture bedtime?

I ASKED MY GRANDPA, "AFTER 65 YEARS, YOU STILL CALL GRANDMA DARLING, BEAUTIFUL, AND HONEY. WHAT'S THE SECRET?" HE SAID, "I FORGOT HER NAME 5 YEARS AGO AND I'M SCARED TO ASK HER."

**MIDDLE AGE IS JUST WALKING AROUND ALL DAY MUTTERING THINGS LIKE:
"WHAT WAS I GOING TO SAY?"
"WHY DID I COME IN HERE?"
"DID I ALREADY TAKE MY PILL?"
"HOW DID I GET THIS BRUISE?"**

A Police Officer came to my house and asked me where I was between 5 & 6. He seemed irritated when I answered: "Kindergarten"

Little boy sitting on his step eating candy just as fast as he could unwrap it. A man passing by saw what he was doing. He said all that candy is not good for you and will spoil your dinner. The little boy said I don't know about that but my grandpa lived to be a 102. The man said wow you mean by eating candy. The little boy said no, by minding his own business.



Do you want to catch up on past CONNECTORS?

Check this link out. Click on **POWER Team** Learn More, then click on CONNECTOR Newsletters



<https://thealliancecanada.ca/ministries/ministry-networks/>

Any contributions to **CONNECTOR** forward to waynebettyk@rogers.com