

# Renewal News!

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The Renewal Fellowship Within The Presbyterian Church in Canada is a means to contact and encourage those concerned about the evangelical renewal of the PCC.

We believe in the need for authentic witness and consistent obedience, fresh power and authority of the local congregation.

We share a deep hunger for the teaching of the Bible and its authority, and a recall to lives of biblical purity.

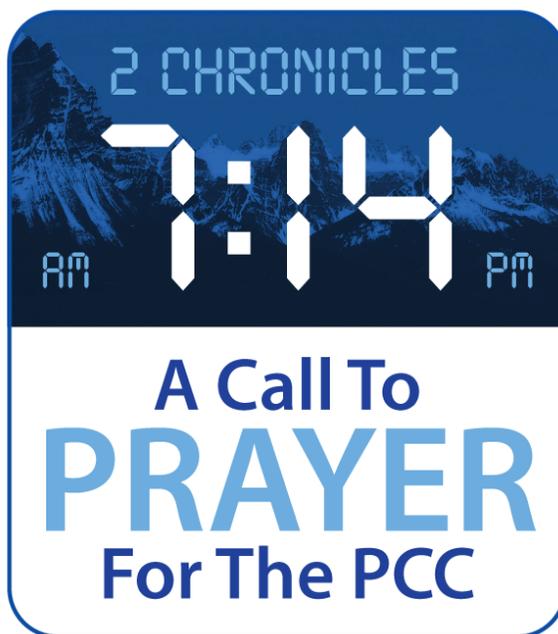
We believe in the power of prayer.

We are here to share stories of hope.

Our executive director is available to speak at no charge to congregations and groups across the PCC.

Renewal News is a quarterly publication of The Renewal Fellowship.

We welcome your stories.



**CALL TO PRAYER:** Do you hear the call to prayer? Then perhaps you need to set your watch or phone alarm to 7:14 a.m. and 7:14 p.m. daily to pray. “If my people, who are called by my name, humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” Amen!

## Thriving in Babylon

Two-day evangelical celebration planned in April

The Evangelical edge of the Presbyterian Church in Canada is alive and well – and we’re letting everyone know!

The Renewal Fellowship is working with our friends at PSALT to stage a two-day event in April to encourage and equip the church. It’s a departure from Renewal’s practice in recent years to hold a one-day event to coincide with our annual general meeting. (The AGM Renewal Day will still

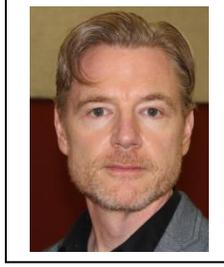
be held, but on March 3, see inside for details.) Rather than one day with speakers from within the PCC, we are looking beyond our borders and inviting speakers with a positive message for all renewal-minded evangelical churches.

“There is so much to celebrate in the evangelical church today,” said Andy Cornell, executive director of Renewal Fellowship.

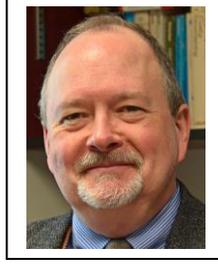
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**Peter  
Bush**



**David  
Haskell**



**John  
Stackhouse Jr.**



**Carmen  
Laberge**



**Bruce  
Clemenger**

## Thriving in Babylon: 2 days of encouragement

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“Churches and ministers who adhere to orthodox biblical theology stand a greater chance of being spiritually healthy than those with more liberal views.”

Martin Kreplin, chair of PSALT leadership, agrees: “When the Israelites were exiled to Babylon – they found themselves spiritually and morally challenged in a land in rebellion against God and His truth. Similarly, Christians in this uncertain period of a post-truth Canada feel increasingly isolated from culture and their community.”

Hence the name of the event: Thriving in Babylon. The purpose is to explore the opportunities evangelical Canadian Christians have in our present-day context and

how we can thrive within it.

The event takes place at Vaughan Community Church in Thornhill, whose senior minister, Peter Han, is a nominee for moderator of 2018 General Assembly.

The theme for **April 20** is “Christians living in a secular world.” Organized by PSALT, speakers include Evangelical Fellowship of Canada executive director **Bruce Clemenger**, The Peoples’ Church pastor **Warwick Cooper**, McMaster Divinity College professor **Lee Beach**, author and speaker **William Webb**, radio host, author and president of the Presbyterian Laymen (PCUSA) **Carmen Laberge**, Open Doors Canada executive director **Gary Stagg** and Toronto Chinese Evangelical Ministerial Fellowship Chair **Wes**

**Chang**.

**April 21** is presented by Renewal Fellowship and will operate under the banner “Good news for these times.” Speakers include **John Stackhouse Jr.** of Crandall University, **David Haskell** of Wilfrid Laurier University and **Peter Bush**, moderator of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Although the event is organized by Presbyterians, people from all churches are encouraged to attend.

Both days are intended to inspire and equip all Christ followers. There will be several opportunities for Q&A, small-group discussion and making connections within the wider evangelical community.

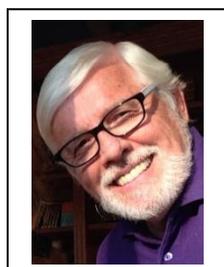
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**Lee  
Beach**



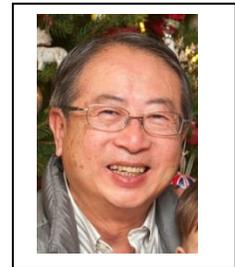
**William  
Webb**



**Warwick  
Cooper**



**Gary  
Stagg**



**Wes  
Chang**

## November 1-2 board meeting highlights

The Renewal board of directors met at Kortright Presbyterian Church in Guelph.

- Nan St. Louis has stepped down as chair for health reasons. Ian McWhinnie is now acting chair. Rev. Pye Chew is slated to join the board, subject to approval by the membership.
- Steps are being taken to increase our Knox College evangelism bursary to \$250.
- Our “Living The Name” logo

will fade into history once our envelopes are used up. The RF burning bush name will be our only logo.

- We spent considerable time discussing plans for our April event.
- We discussed possible amendments to our doctrinal basis and constitution. A sub committee will continue discussions and report back.

- We discussed ways to broaden our membership outside Ontario.
- The Prayer Calendar continues to be a success, but more prayer requests are needed.
- We held a 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner prior to the installation of the new executive director.

## Thriving in Babylon

Continued from Page 2

**Cost:** For both days (includes two lunches, refreshments, Friday dinner and evening coffee house): early bird \$125 to Feb. 15, regular \$135 from Feb. 16-March 31, last minute \$145 from April 1-16. Single day \$85 Friday, \$60 Saturday (includes lunches, Friday dinner and refreshments). A gluten-free option is available to choose upon registration.

**Register via Eventbrite:** Go to [renewal-fellowship.ca](http://renewal-fellowship.ca) and click on the “Thriving in Babylon” link.

**Register via telephone, email or mail:** Call 416-233-6581,

[renewalfellowshipcc@gmail.com](mailto:renewalfellowshipcc@gmail.com) or mail cheques made out to PSALT to Thriving in Babylon, 3819 Bloor St. W., Etobicoke ON M9B 1K7.

**Accommodation:** Sheraton Parkway has a block of rooms available for \$119 per room double or king. Quote “Thriving in Babylon.” Reserve by **April 3**. Call the hotel 905-695-2882.

**Shuttle:** For those traveling by air we will provide transportation to and from the hotel to the event site. Please indicate this at the Eventbrite registration site.

**Questions?** Anything not clear, call Renewal at 416-233-6581 or executive director Andy Cornell at 226-229-1695 anytime.

### Cost of credit card convenience

For those who make online donations to Renewal using plastic, the limit has been raised to \$1,500. A small percentage goes to process the payment, which means on a \$1,000 donation, we might receive \$970. A cheque ensures that 100% gets to Renewal. **No matter what the method, we are grateful for all your financial support.** If credit card is your preferred method – by all means continue! (Paying by plastic is a great way of accumulating frequent-flyer points, and who are we to get in the way of that?)

## Annual General Meeting Renewal Day

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Saturday, March 3

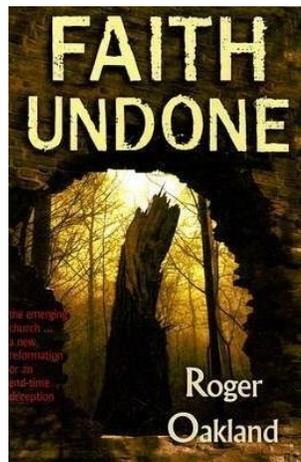
Cornerstone  
Community Church  
Kleinburg, Ontario

Speaker:  
George Anderson

Cost: \$25, includes lunch and snacks. Early Bird rate is \$20 until Feb.12. RSVP by phone at 416-233-6581 or email [renewalfellowshipcc@gmail.com](mailto:renewalfellowshipcc@gmail.com). Register online at [renewal-fellowship.ca](http://renewal-fellowship.ca) through Eventbrite. Let us know of all dietary restrictions.

# Faith Undone: a book review

By Don MacMillan



Is the emerging church movement just another passing fad, a more contemporary approach to church or a bunch of disillusioned people looking for answers? In fact, it is actually much broader and is influencing Christianity to a significant degree. This movement is powerful, yet highly deceptive, and it draws its energy from practices and experiences that are foreign to traditional evangelical Christianity.

Roger Oakland is an author-lecturer and founder of [www.understandthetimes.org](http://www.understandthetimes.org). He has authored and co-authored numerous books that have been translated into several different languages worldwide.

This book addresses the emerging church's view of hell and the atonement, how the emerging church considers biblical prophecy, the key catalysts of the emergent church, purpose-driven ecumenism (part of the emerging church's new reformation), contemplative spirituality and mysticism, how emerging spirituality is altering missions/evangelism and understanding the emerging church in light of Bible prophecy.

All of the truths presented by Oakland are backed by Scripture. This is a very thorough work on the emerging church. We need to be deep in the Word and not just read devotionals and other peoples' perceptions on what the Bible says and how a Christian should live. This is a rare book full of spiritual discernment in a day in which the church seems to be slipping into deceptions that undermine the faith of individual believers. It presents information about apostasy and how it worms itself into the church.

*Don MacMillan is a member of the Renewal board of directors, a Presbyterian elder since 1986 and a retired electrical engineer. He just completed a 16-course Certificate in Theology and Interfaith Dialogue from University Saint-Paul in Ottawa.*



## Board of Directors

**Rev. Duncan Cameron**, Scarborough, Ont. (sect'y)  
**Karin Cowan**, Parry Sound, Ont. (treasurer)  
**Rev. Stan Cox**, Waterford, Ont.  
**Rev. Timothy Ferrier**, Chesley, Ont.  
**Bill Harrison**, Hamilton, Ont.  
**Rev. Germaine Lovelace**, Kenora, Ont.  
**Don MacMillan**, Gloucester, Ont.  
**Rev. Ian McWhinnie**, Oakville, Ont. (acting chair)  
**Janie Robertson**, Mississauga, Ont.  
**Leslie Ruo**, Saskatoon, Sask.  
**Rev. Ian Shaw**, Simcoe, Ont.  
**Rev. Nan St. Louis**, Durham, Ont.

Members normally serve for two terms of three years each (six years total) but this is often extended. Board members are elected at the spring annual general meeting. The board meets at least three times a year.

## Staff

**Rev. Andy Cornell** Chatham, Ont. (executive director) call/text 226-229-1695 or email [amcpastor1@gmail.com](mailto:amcpastor1@gmail.com)  
**Bill Harrison** Hamilton, Ont. (administrative assistant) 416-233-6581 or [canoebill@sympatico.ca](mailto:canoebill@sympatico.ca)  
**Robin Ross** Mission, BC (webmaster) [ross@telus.net](mailto:ross@telus.net)  
**Linda Shaw** Simcoe, Ont. (prayer calendar editor) [ianandlindashaw@gmail.com](mailto:ianandlindashaw@gmail.com)

## Financial Status

The bank balance on Dec. 1, 2017 was \$39,513, compared to \$42,457 at the same time in 2016. Our expenses continue to exceed income. We place this in the hands of the Lord.