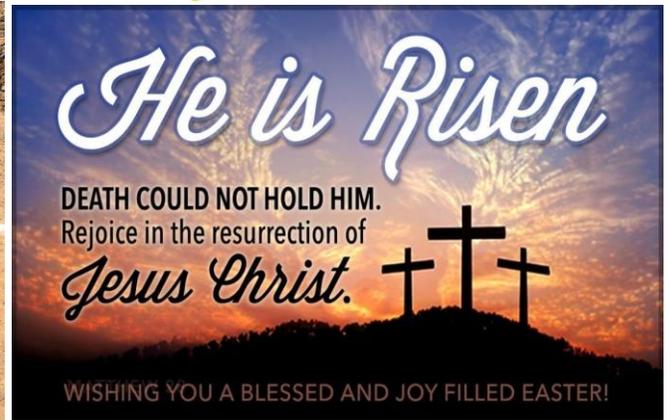


POWERteam



Our world is in constant change and so lifelong learning is essential. Proverbs 1:5, ***“Let the wise listen and add to their learning.”*** Moses was eighty years old and still willing to learn.

In reading through my Leadership Matters notes. I was arrested once again by the study on leaders in the Bible who finished well. Professor Clinton from Fuller studied leaders in the Bible and found that only 30 percent of them finished well. Yikes!! I sure do want to finish well !!

Characteristics of those who finished well:

1. They had a perspective that enabled them to focus
2. They enjoyed intimacy with Christ and experienced repeated times of inner renewal
3. They were disciplined in important areas of their life
4. They maintained a positive learning attitude all their lives
5. They had a network of meaningful relationships and several important mentors during their lifetime.

As Dorothy and I are entering this stage of “refinement” it has been wonderful to be able to journey with some former and new colleagues, old and young. Perhaps you do not have a meaningful relationship that can help you along in this stage of life. If not, let us know, or perhaps risk again and reach out to someone in your district or across the country. Join or start a small group of Power Team members to talk about these 5 points.

Wishing you a Christ-filled Easter!

Gerald & Dorothy Hogenbirk -National **POWER Team** Volunteer Coordinators
hogenbirkgd@gmail.com



Marie Ens still racing to Finish well after

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS

Marie turned 86 recently and is determined to remain in Cambodia active and in service until she reaches 100! It's good to have goals. She works with an excellent Cambodian director and has handed most of the heavy lifting over to him. The future

of Rescue is in good hands.

In 1957, Norman and Marie Ens began to pastor a small church in rural Saskatchewan. Their hearts were already set on serving overseas and in 1960 they were appointed by the Christian and Missionary Alliance as missionaries to the nation of Cambodia.

They boarded a ship in the fall and after 7 long weeks at sea, they arrived in Cambodia in February 1961 exactly 60 years ago.



Marie Ens honored for serving 60 years with the Cambodians. She continues to serve and is always surrounded by the younger generations.



Take a moment and enjoy this video of memories from a remarkable journey through 60 years of time! God has been and always will be, faithful!

[Home](#) | [NGO](#) | [Rescue Cambodia](#)

Younger pastors and IW's want to Finish Well

Gerry Gould is the son of Bob & Louella Gould. Bob was one of the founding members of our leadership **POWER Team**. Gerry, like most of us have had leaders we looked up to, to advance our own effectiveness for the Kingdom of God. The Apostle Paul said ***“Follow me as I follow Christ. Those things that you have learned, and heard, and seen in me do, and the God of peace will be with you.”*** Gerry writes.....

I have been thinking deeply over this year's revelations concerning two very influential leaders from whom I have learned so much. On the other side of "reeling" at these discoveries (and others), I have reflected on my own heart and its potential for sin of many kinds. Not that I have any desire nor intent to be unfaithful to Christ, Leah, my kids, my calling or Summit. But it gives me pause to examine my inner world, my practices, relationships and accountabilities that help me desire and foster increased purity, righteousness, integrity, holiness and faithfulness.

I sensed the Holy Spirit encouraging me in my commitments. ***“Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.”*** (Proverbs 4:23 NIV); ***“Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed, lest he fall.”*** (1 Corinthians 10:12 ESV); ***“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.”*** (1 Thess. 5:23-24 ESV).



I believe it is the personal, private, 'small' compromises over time that build the stage from which our public falls are proclaimed to the world. Therefore, I pray that the Lord will continue His deep sanctifying work in me. I also pray that I will continue to be responsive to the Holy Spirit, not only being ruthless to flee from that which leads to sin, but also to increasingly pursue the cultivation of godly desire for holiness.

I thank God for others who have made deliberate decisions to walk with me in this path, for we will not be able to do so alone. I thank God for Elders who also pursue renewal, and who are attentive to accountability. So, in order that I finish well and not harm the name of Jesus, I join the Apostle Paul in His exhortation to the Church, ***“Brothers and sisters, pray for us.”*** (1 Thess. 5:25).

CONNECTOR leadership asks that each of us as **POWER Team** members hears Gerry's plea to us, ***“Brothers and sisters, pray for us.”*** This fits right into Step #3 of the **POWER Team**, **Providing Our Workers Excellent Resources**. We as **POWER Team** members are the **Resources** and the **Workers** are those still active in day to day ministry. To further the conversation, we have attached the following link from Martyn Iles. <https://fb.watch/3KmCcn7bQD/> We realize that a short video like this cannot cover all the aspects of such a presentation, so let it speak for itself.

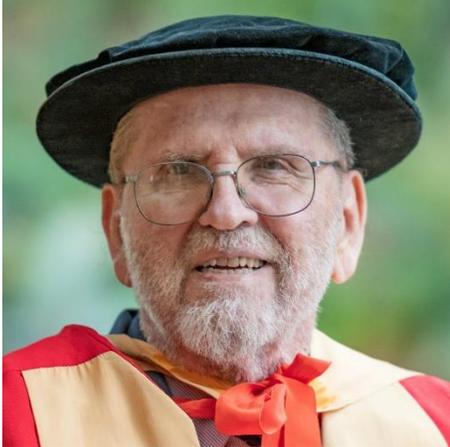
POWER Team member Finishes Well

Dr. Ward Gasque, worker emeritus, passed away on Dec.29, 2020.

Here is an obituary from Regent College:

<https://www.regent-college.edu/about-us/news/2020/remembering-dr-w-ward-gasque>

W. Ward Gasque, Professor Emeritus of Biblical Studies at Regent College and a long-respected scholar on the Acts of the Apostles. Ward died in Vancouver on December 29, 2020. He was eighty-one years old.



Ward was a founding member of Regent's faculty, teaching New Testament at the College for twenty-two year. (much more in the obituary link if you want it.)

In 1998 he took on his final academic post as President of the Pacific Association for Theological Studies in Seattle. Following his work in academia, he served the Richmond Chinese Alliance Church in Vancouver, BC, first as English Pastor and then as Pastor for Education and Outreach.

Lena Brown, wife of Bill

On March 6, 2021 Lena Brown was called to her home in glory. Lena served alongside her husband Bill Brown in seven of our Alliance churches in B.C. and Alberta over a period of 52 years. Over that time, Lena was a strong supporter of women's ministries, including providing leadership within the Women's Missionary Prayer Fellowship. She loved to sing in choirs and, perhaps even more than singing, she loved teaching children. The many years she volunteered her time as a Vacation Bible School teacher and Sunday School teacher (many say the best one they ever had) are testimony to her passion of teaching and caring for children. She was a kindergarten teacher's aide for many years and later on in life she served as a food demonstrator for Safeway. She was particularly known for her demonstrations in the seafood department. Patrons would ensure they did their shopping on



days when Lena was present because they loved her and the food she prepared! When most of her friends were retired, Lena's entrepreneurial spirit led her to start up her own small business of providing grocery shopping services to seniors. Her generosity, kindness and loving approach to all she encountered will not be forgotten and she leaves a legacy that many seek to emulate; especially her children and grandchildren. She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Bill, two daughters and a son. They have eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She taught them how to love unconditionally and they all long for the day when they will see her again.

Happenings in POWER Team members lives who desire to “Finish Well”



We do like checking in on our POWER Team members. We like to hear from you, so please do not hesitate to “connect” with us. The following items are from a number of our members we have heard from/received info on.

Laurie & Nancy McLean are still on track in “Finishing Well”. Not only are they faithful servants in their Cedarview Alliance Church in Ottawa and founding leaders of POWER Team, but by the pictures Laurie’s smile has not changed.



We trust that these two will keep smiling. The day before this was distributed they were both diagnosed with COVID-19 and both have been admitted to the hospital for a day and now home.

Pray for their recovery

Dan & Leona Goldsmith -Abbotsford

The pandemic has shut us down a lot but not stopped us from living. We haven't been idle. We're not couch potatoes. We have many things to keep us busy. We usually manage to have a daily walk. Leona has done a lot of crocheting of afghans and toques for the homeless, plus reading. Dan has spent quite a bit of his time downsizing. Figured we need to do it and not leave it to our children when we're no longer here. Dan emptied one four drawer file cabinet several years ago, but still had another. The family/ministry keepsakes from the file cabinet are now in three ring binders. He has filled nine such binders. Most of the remaining contents has/is finding its way into a shredder. He has also recorded some old radio broadcasts that he had on reel-to-reel tape, dating back to the 1960's, plus a sermon or two and family trivia on flash drives for his family.



With the internet and ebooks etc. It has been difficult to find any pastor who is interested in any of his books. Dan had probably a couple thousand books or more. For the past few years, he has gradually been giving them away. Some have ended up with a mission and our immediate family. We've been happy to see some grandsons eagerly take some. One day one of our grandsons and son-in-law walked out of here with about sixty books between the two of them. That grandson took the David Jeremiah books plus others. Another grandson has and will receive all of the books by John MacArthur. A relatively new Christian, in his late twenties, he has gladly received several, but has no room for any more. So today, we have boxed up many of the remaining ones and they will go to an organization that will distribute to those hungry for such.

We trust that your days are not too boring. Volunteer to mark sermons and papers for the ordaining council. You will probably be blessed and feel confident that the Alliance will be in good hands for a long time to come. The D.S. will probably appreciate your help. Continue to prove that God is sufficient for all that you're facing.

Dan & Leona celebrated their 61st Anniversary

Jack & Pat Mulholland - CMD Retired now



Jack and Pat made a deliberate decision this past year to fully retire. This is the second time round and as much as Jack still encourages people, he was feeling drained. He did find out that his meds kept him sleeping lots and now his back is in severe pain a lot of times. He keeps going as he just finished building a manger scene for our front yard.

Pat handed off Quizzing to a quizzer that went through the program and graduated, now taking the lead. Pat is now her assistant.

Jack & Pat have a taxi ministry to their grandchildren which they greatly enjoy. Pat also likes to bake and take them over some goodies from time to time.

They daily pray for family friends and ourselves for keeping our eyes on God to lead and direct us where he wants us to encourage.

Psalm 119:105. ***“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.”*** This is a verse that keeps them directed in His way on their pathway to life with Him.

Muriel Entz -Abbotsford

Before the Covid-19 started and when our church was functioning I had a ministry with ESL students. It did not involve teaching them English but it was called "The Word for ESL" The internationals who were learning English and wanted to know about Jesus and the Bible were invited to The Word for ESL class. I was one of the Table Leaders and had up to 7 or 8 students from various countries at my table. It was my favorite ministry. Two of them who were from China are back there at present and have been corresponding with me in their broken English. They hope to come back to Canada. The Word for ESL is a simplified Alpha course and another lady gives the lecture part. I am one of the Table Discussion Leaders. It has been my joy to lead a few to the Lord.

I look forward to the day we can start again. I am living in a 3 storied building of 62 Suites so I have a lot of neighbors.

Stewart & Dot Coutts -CPD

I retired from the pastorate in 2011 and we were in Prince Albert Sask. at the time. We moved to BC in 2012 and now live in Tsawwassen. We attend the Tsawwassen Alliance Church. I have been working part time for Adesa Vancouver (a vehicle auction company) for 8 years now. We are in good health and enjoy living close to 2 of our grandchildren (in the same house actually).



Rose Badham. -CMD Brandon Manitoba. "I was Rose Nickel when attending CBC 1973/74 and 1977/78 and CTS 1980/81. I was a missionary to Mali with the C&MA for 3 terms. I helped with translating the Bible into Boomu while there. I have been living in Brandon, Mb. I was married for 18 yrs. My husband passed away suddenly almost two years ago. I have been working as a nurse in dialysis since being back in Canada.

I have been active at McDiarmid Dr. Alliance and been serving as missions coordinator. After retirement, one yr. ago I started serving in a ministry for the people in downtown Brandon. Garry who is now my husband, and I serve there together. God is faithful and gives us many blessings. Rose Donogh (now)

-Congratulations Rose in this new season of your life.



Jake & Marg Buhler -CMD



Marg and I have never communicated with the district connector but will today since we do need something to do to keep us busy and connected in this very different covid-19 time of our retirement life.

We began our ministry with a 2 year stint with Wycliffe Bible Translators in their Calgary office printing dept. Then we accepted a pastoral spot in the Killarney Calvary Baptist for four years. From there we accepted a pastoral position with Western Canadian District at Ponoka Alliance Church for ten very good years and followed that with six years of ministry at Beaverlodge Alliance Church. We retired from ministry to move to Morden, Manitoba to look after my aging Mother, known to many in Morden as Grandma Buhler who along with my late Father, Frank were a part of the origin of Morden Alliance Church while it was still a "Gospel Mission" and were a part of the founding of that congregation back in 1940. My father was the lay pastor of Morden Gospel Mission until it hired its first pastor in 1953. I had the privilege of growing up in the "Gospel Mission" as well as serving on its Board and as the church treasurer for many years, starting in my late teens.



Moving back to Morden for our retirement and as primary caregivers to Grandma Buhler, soon gave us the opportunity to accept the invitation and leadership of Doug Girard to be the pastor to seniors for the next six years until Mother passed away in 2006. We ended our ministry in April of 2007 moving to the farm where Marg grew up. The farm had been a part of Marg's family since 1897 and we purchased it from her mother 1997-- the hundredth year in the McGill family. We call home "Huntly Oak".

We have lived here since 2007, the longest place of our abode in our 52 years of marriage. The nearest Alliance Church to our present farm address is either Brandon McDiarmid Alliance, (where we fellowshiped for 5 years, long ago) or Morden Alliance where we had just pastored, so we found a small church at Glenboro that reminded me of Morden Gospel Mission days to give our support to the "Gospel" there.



We celebrated our 50th anniversary a couple of years ago and we are still very much in love. It's a good thing too, because Marg is the only person I have to talk to these days of lockdown, except for some e-mail communication with some seniors from our winter residence church at Qualicum Beach. We do appreciate our Glenboro pastor's virtual church service ministry.

We do have all the modern electrical conveniences and communications, but we heat our farm home with wood cut from our own woodlot and its deadfall. Marg's cousin Keith owns the farm next door and is a volunteer caregiver to his cousin and her 86 year old husband. He sharpens my chainsaws, and looks after our house when we go west for the winter. However, we are not going this winter because of Covid-19, and because my medical prompts a colonoscopy December 14. Otherwise, we are in good health barring a few arthritic pains. We haven't had the flu in years and pray that it won't catch up to us in Covid 2020.



Our God is so Good ! We pray for His Blessing on you all.

P.S. and we don't golf, what a pity!

Michael & Darlene Gagnon -Sainte-Flavie sur Mer, Québec



We are into our 8th year here in the Eastern regions of Quebec.

Since, September of 2019, we have been pastoring only one of the two churches that brought us to the region. With my resignation from the church in Rimouski, our pastoral engagement has been focused on the work in Matane. Our role, in that situation, has transitioned to one of lead pastor/coach. Our pastoral team includes two gals from the Lévis church, Claire Morin and Chantal Germain.

In 2018, we

took the congregation (12 to 15 active and mostly elderly) through a process of searching the face of God about the future - to close the work or not? It was our conviction that God had not closed the door to the church and that we needed to move toward renewing the work. At that point, I recruited Claire and Chantal who had been instrumental in preparing for a church plant out of the Lévis church (Montmagny).



Through this latest test of COVID-19 restrictions, ministries have been delivered via zoom and phone calls, with a couple of 'in person' gatherings outdoors, this summer. We have been much encouraged by God's working in lives of the majority of the faithful during this period and are hopeful for the next steps.

A major involvement (especially for Michael) is Simply Mobilizing/Kairos courses. Michael is Quebec region/French language coordinator for Simply Mobilizing. So, many meetings on Teams and several zoom courses have kept our calendar active. Presently we are both involved in facilitating an English online Kairos course - Mondays (10:30am - 1:30pm Eastern) and Michael is on the facilitating team for a French online course Mondays (6pm - 9pm).



We have both been involved with another online course: Transform Prayer course since 2019. This year, we helped launch and facilitate three French language cohorts for this course. The French courses are on hold for the moment, but should restart later this Fall.

Michael still serves on the Board of ETEQ (École théologique évangélique du Québec) as secretary. So, more zoom meetings involved there.

Once the COVID-19 restrictions let up, we are hoping to reconnect with our six children and 19 grandchildren 😊, of course at different moments. The fact that we live on

the sea shore (banks of the St Lawrence, which is 45km wide here), makes our place like a cottage for the family. We have some great moments together 😊

Michael & Darlene Gagnon
Sainte-Flavie sur Mer, Québec

Mix of the PT Leadership -by Ray & Viola Downey

(Laurie & Nancy McLean, Ray & Vi Downey, Ron & June MacKinnon, Gerald & Dorothy Hogenbirk, Wayne & Betty Kerr, Al & Judy Hack mentioned below)

McLeans and Downeys are contemporaries, graduating the same year from CBC, also were married the same day, August 24, 1963, and both couples spent many years in Africa as IWs – McLeans in Gabon and Downeys in the DRC. The Kerrs are our good friends from the late 60s. Our paths have crossed many times beginning as our pastor in Regina, and then in Ontario. The Hacks, the Hogenbirks, and the MacKinnons are all GMs, (PQ, CI, and the Philippines), and the Hogenbirks ministered with us on the GM Leadership Team (2002-06). It's a small world out there, and now we are together again as PowerTeam cheerleaders and desiring to Finish Well.

Prayer for Growing Old with Grace (& Finishing Well)

Lord, you know better than I know myself
that I am growing older and will someday be old.
Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking
I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs.
Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy.
With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all,
but you know Lord that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details;
give me wings to get to the point.
Seal my lips on my aches and pains.
They are increasing and the love of rehearsing them
is becoming sweeter as the years go by.
I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of
others' pains, but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility
and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to
clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious
lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint
– some of them are so hard to live with – for a sour old
person is one of the crowning works of the devil.
Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places,
and talents in unexpected people.
And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so.

Amen



President Dave Hearn's Report 2021 to District Conferences.

Take time to read what God is doing during this pandemic time. Pray for our president

[Microsoft Word - President's Report to District Conference 2021.docx \(squarespace.com\)](#)



Did you hear about the new branding for the C&MA in Canada?

Here is the sign "The Alliance Canada" now firmly planted in the new NMC office just across the highway from the Toronto International Airport.



Some lighter things.

Here is a collection of "who is that?" to good thots, to a smile or two



Here are two pictures of the past. Can you name them?

Billy Graham

Someone once asked Billy Graham "If Christianity is valid, why is there so much evil in the world?" To this the famous preacher replied, "With so much soap, why are there so many dirty people in the world?"

Christianity, like soap, must be personally applied if it is to make a difference in our lives."

DON'T YOU JUST LOVE THE BRILLIANT MIND THAT CAN THINK UP SUCH A SIMPLE BUT EFFECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM???

TEL AVIV, Israel - The Israelis are developing an airport security device that eliminates the privacy concerns that come with full-body scanners.

It's an armoured booth you step into that will not X-ray you, but will detonate any explosive device you may have on your person.

Israel sees this as a win-win situation for everyone, with none of this crap about racial profiling. It will also eliminate the costs of long and expensive trials.

You're in the airport terminal and you hear a muffled explosion. Shortly thereafter, an announcement:

"Attention to all standby passengers, El Al is pleased to announce a seat available on flight 670 to London . Shalom!"

Boy aged 4: Dad, I've decided to get married.
Dad: Wonderful; do you have a girl in mind?!
Boy: Yes... grandma! She said she loves me, I love her, too....and she's the best cook & story teller in the whole world!!
Dad: That's nice, but we have a small problem there!!
Boy: What problem?!
Dad: She happens to be my mother. How can you marry my mother!!
Boy: Why not?! You married mine!!!!

A LITTLE GIRL WAS SITTING NEXT TO HER GRANDFATHER AS HE READ HER A BEDTIME STORY. FROM TIME TO TIME, SHE WOULD TAKE HER EYES OFF THE BOOK AND REACH UP AND TOUCH HIS WRINKLED CHEEK. SHE TOUCHED HER OWN CHEEK AFTER SHE TOUCHED HIS. AFTER A LITTLE WHILE OF THINKING SHE ASKED, "GRANDPA, DID GOD MAKE YOU?" HE LOOKED AT HER AND SAID, "YES, SWEETHEART, GOD MADE ME A LONG TIME AGO." SHE PAUSED FOR A FEW SECONDS AND THEN ASKED, "GRANDPA, DID GOD MAKE ME TOO?" HE REPLIED, "YES, INDEED PUMPKIN, GOD MADE YOU JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO." FEELING THEIR RESPECTIVE FACES AGAIN, SHE WHISPERED TO HIM, "GOD'S GETTING BETTER AT IT, ISN'T HE?"



Words to heal the soul

Don't Mess with older women

An old lady handed her bank card to a bank teller and said,

"I would like to withdraw \$500."

The female teller told her,

"For withdrawals less than \$5,000, please use the ATM."

The old lady then asked, "Why?"

The teller irritably told her, "These are rules. Please leave if there is no other matter. There is a queue behind you."

She then returned the card to the old lady.

The old lady remained silent... But then she returned the card to the teller and said,

"Please help me withdraw all the money I have."

The teller was astonished when she checked the account balance.

She nodded her head, leaned down and said to the old lady,

"My apologies, you have \$3.5 million in your account and our bank does not have so much cash currently. Could you make an appointment and come again tomorrow?"

The old lady then asked,

"How much am I able to withdraw now?"

The teller told her, "Any amount up to \$300,000"

The old lady then told the teller that she wanted to withdraw \$300,000 from her account.

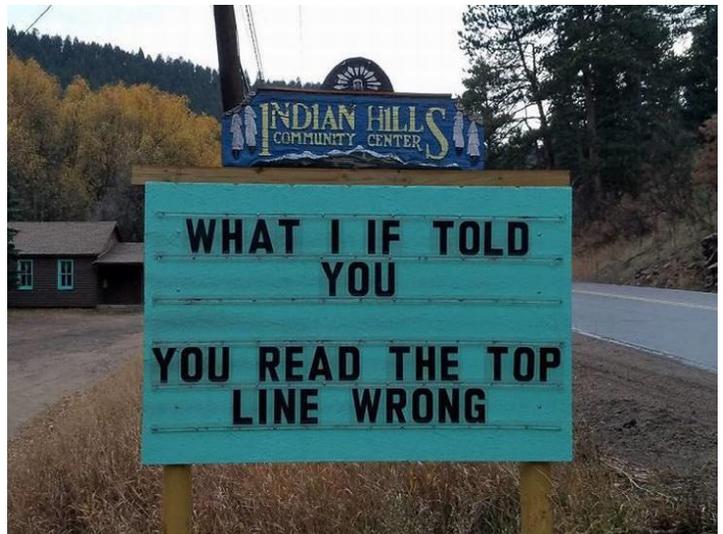
The teller did so quickly and handed it to the old lady respectfully.

The old lady kept \$500 in her bag and asked the teller to deposit the balance of \$299,500 back into her account.

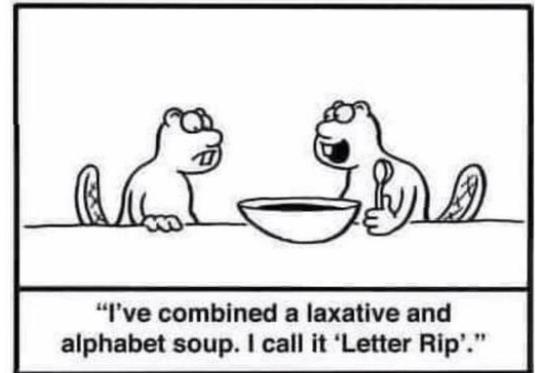
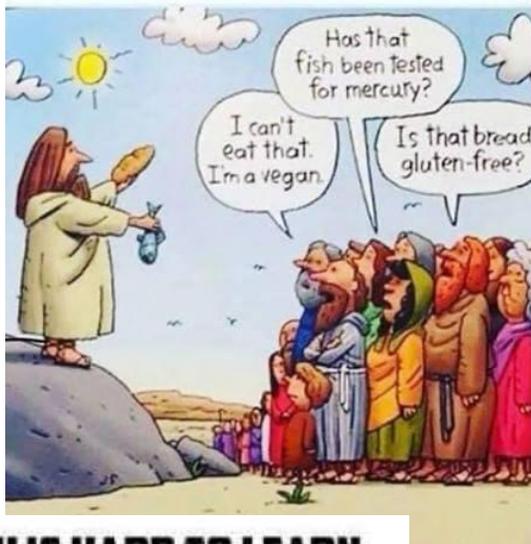


I'm not going to be caught out again by lockdown. I'm moving in with my hairdresser'

**I'm proud of myself.
I finished a jigsaw puzzle in 6 months,
and the box said 2-4
years!**



If Jesus tried to feed the 5000 today... :)



WHY ENGLISH IS HARD TO LEARN

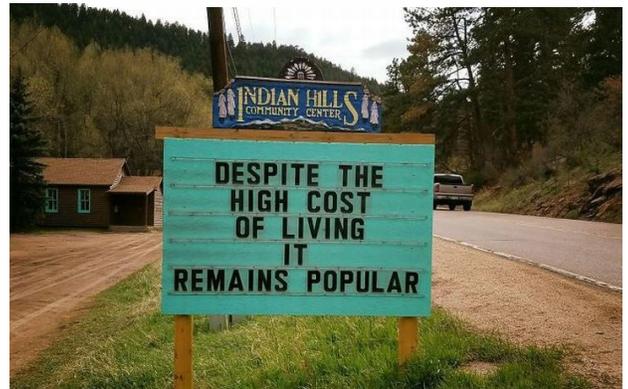
We'll begin with *box*; the plural is *boxes*,
But the plural of *ox* is *oxen*, not *oxes*.
One fowl is a *goose*, and two are called *geese*,
Yet the plural of *moose* is never called *meese*.

You may find a lone *mouse* or a house full of *mice*,
But the plural of *house* is *houses*, not *hice*.
The plural of *man* is always *men*,
But the plural of *pan* is never *pen*.

If I speak of a *foot*, and you show me two *feet*,
And I give you a *book*, would a pair be a *beek*?
If one is a *tooth* and a whole set are *teeth*,
Why shouldn't two *booths* be called *beeth*?

If the singular's *this* and the plural is *these*,
Should the plural of *kiss* be ever called *keese*?

We speak of a *brother* and also of *brethren*,
But though we say *mother*, we never say *methren*.
Then the masculine pronouns are *he*, *his*, and *him*;
But imagine the feminine . . . *she*, *shis*, and *shim*!



We are looking for your input to the requests asked of you in our February **CONNECTOR** issue.
See [connector-48-feb-2021.pdf \(cmacan.org\)](https://www.cmacan.org/connector-48-feb-2021.pdf)

They were:

- Thoughts on retirement -from the Pulpit to the Pew
- Research Project to help POWER Team in the Future.

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