

Upcoming Events

- September 27: Bonfire and BBQ at the Norman's, 4:30PM, 1530 Fish and Game Club Road, Frankford
- September 28: Ride for Refugees dinner at The Dugout, 644 Dundas Street East, Belleville, call Jan Harris for details
- October 16: Missions of Tears fundraiser, 7:00PM, Kingston Alliance Church
- October 18: The Ride for Refugees

The Gathering

Connecting people and God

Cell Groups

(2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays)

- * Springbrook: 9:30 AM at the Springbrook Municipal Building
- * Stirling: 11:00 AM at 25 Demorest Rd
- * Belleville: 9:30 AM at 39 Cooke Crt
- * Kingston: (Monday evenings) 1338 Princess St
- * Youth: (Wednesday evenings), 7:00 PM at the Hub, downtown Stirling

Other Opportunities

- * Study of Daniel, Tuesdays 7:00 PM, 38 Mount Pleasant Rd, Stirling

What are we doing when we're doing what we're doing?

I remember when I heard Peter Robinson quote this question. It came to him from a friend who had a leaning to continuously examine his actions in order to make sure he invested his time and energy in helpful ways.

I have to admit that I've used quite a few times since with managers and leaders to get them to think about their actions and intentions as they try to engage others in making companies or organizations successful.

I would like to ask us the same question as a group of followers of Christ: What are we doing when we're doing what we're doing?

When I think of the choices we've made over the past few years as we've come together, some have been quite deliberate:

We use public venues to have our Sunday celebrations so we don't have to use funds and energy to maintain structures.

We meet in large groups every second week in order to break the traditional mindset that church happens on Sunday mornings.

We meet in cell groups to BE church 24/7, to deepen our relationship with God (Communion), to learn how to be authentically involved in loving relationships with one another (Community), to band together to reach into our networks of relationships with the love of Christ (Commission) and to encourage one another to keep on growing in our faith in Christ (Commitment).

The choices we have made together are all focused on our desire to see

"The Kingdom of God here and now" and all tie in to help us contribute to that ultimate reality together.

Our challenge is to continue to keep our eyes on Jesus in this process and to deepen our resolve to be his hands and feet in each others life as well as in the Quinte area. Let's keep on asking ourselves the question, valuing the choices that helps us move towards the goal and letting go of the habits that slow us from experiencing the fullness of life Jesus has for each one of us.

Mark Norman



How can I support the Ride?

- Sign up to ride, find some sponsors
- Sponsor a rider or the team
- Come along for support
- Come to the dinner at The Dugout on Sept 28 (644 Dundas Street East, Belleville)
- Pray for Refugees



Robin's Nest Children's Home, Webuye, Kenya

Jackson and Grace Ongeru have a lot on their hands. Besides Jackson being a Church planter and Grace being a nurse, they raise their daughter Joy and oversee a ministry to orphans in Webuye. Along with housemother Leah and house father Jotham, they care for eight children who have lost their parents for various reasons.

These kids have a few things in common, they are now loved and cared for and they share a love of learning.

During our last visit, we had great fun with them reviewing geography and learning country names despite the fact that they were on a school break.

These little Robins are but a first wave of children to be supported. God has now seen fit to provide a plot of land in the countryside near Bugoma which, when fully developed, could provide a home for a hundred orphans.

Construction of the first home on the property will begin in January 2009. The first phase will provide a new, more spacious home for the current Robins, subsequent phases will see the construction of additional homes for orphans. Each home will replicate a family environment with house parents and a limited numbers of children. The goal is to "provide children with a family atmosphere of love" according to Pastor Ongeru.



Please thank God for the new location and the lives that will be affected

5 Ways To Wake Up Your Quiet Time Pam Farrel

Behind closed doors, many of us yawn through our quiet times. Somehow, our routine time with god slowly and quietly degenerates into a boring, predictable rut. As spiritual cataracts grow over our sleepy eyes, we may grow disinterested and frustrated. Such seasons demand a fresh view of the creator. Like any good relationship, quiet times with god need a little variety. Instead of rolling over and hitting the snooze button, try one of these ideas for your next quiet time.

1. WRITE A LETTER TO GOD about your life. Give it to a friend to mail back to you in three months. In the letter, talk to God about the areas of your life that are bothering you. Write about how you'd like to grow and what

attribute of His you'd like to see more clearly.

2. WRITE OUT AND PERSONALIZE Scripture by inserting your name into promises relevant to your life or current struggles. For example, I would personalize Ps. 84:11 in this way: "No good thing does God withhold from Pam when she walks uprightly." Many of the Bible's promises come to life and seem more powerful and relevant when personalized in this way Spend some time meditating and praying over verses that you personalize. I once copied a set of verses and strung them together as a personalized love letter from God's heart to my own. I have it framed and hanging in my room. Those personalized verses help me keep a

trig view of God.

3. GO ON A PRAISE WALK. Thank God for everything you see. Take the opportunity to look closely at God's creation, praising Him for His creativity and the beauty of the world He's crafted. After hiking for a while, find a quiet spot to read one of the many psalms that describe His creation. Isaiah 40 and Genesis 1 are two other chapters that will help you focus your heart and mind on God's creative character.

4. READ THROUGH THE BIBLE, mark it up, and give it as a gift to a child. If you begin early, you can plan to give the Bible as a gift to your child before an important transition, such as when

he or she enters high school, leaves home, enters college, or gets married. Try to picture God through his or her eyes. With that season of life in mind, mark verses you think will help your child see and trust God in the transition to come. You might also make notes in the margin to help guide and direct the child's thinking about a passage or explain how the passage is relevant to this stage of life.

5. SPEND YOUR ENTIRE TIME WITH GOD SINGING and praising Him. Church hymnals and books of choruses are great resources to enliven your quiet time with personal worship. You might even try creating a song of your own!

Who is doing what at The Gathering?

Working with the youth: Beth Devries, (613) 395-0227

Intercession: Jane Aman (613) 395-3869

Pastoral care: Alicia Lott (613) 395-5342 , Jan Harris, (613) 967-6419

Phone Chain: Esther Noel (613) 395-3402

Worship/Music: Sandy Norman (613) 398-8695, Bill Devries (613) 395-0227

Technical Gear: Kevin Kehoe 613-395-4346 , Barry Cooper (613) 395-5990

Projection and computers: Vince Brintnell (613) 395-0613

The Gathering

PO Box 411,
Stirling, ON K0K 3E0,

phone: (613) 395-4438

www.the-gathering.ca