



The mission of the General Church is to help people live a heavenly life through the teachings of the Lord God Jesus Christ in His Second Coming.

Dear members and friends,

Summer in the northern hemisphere is the time for family vacations, church camps, and general recuperating in preparation for school openings in the fall. Among them are the British Academy Summer School, Jacob's Creek, Laurel, Maple, and several other family camps in Canada and US western states. One newer camp has become wildly successful—a preschool camp in Bryn Athyn led by the Rev. Phil Schnarr. And that's not to mention all the Academy camps just before the start of school.

In addition, there was a European Assembly, held at a retreat center about an hour and one half north east of London. It drew people from Great Britain, Norway, Sweden, Netherlands, Ukraine, France and even two couples from South Africa. Nearly 100 people, including 12 ministers, enjoyed many interesting and useful presentations, great human connections, and a sphere of charity and fun.

These are wonderful opportunities for people to grow their New Church religious beliefs and re-establish or begin new friendships.

Sincerely,

Rt. Rev. Brian W. Keith

brian.keith@newchurch.org



GENERAL CHURCH EDUCATION

A new New Church Vineyard!

General Church Education has combined material previously available in various places into a new version of NewChurchVineyard.org. More than 5,000 resources for religious education and inspiration are searchable by topic, Biblical reference, age level, activity type and several other filters. Look for stories from the Word, videos, Sunday school lessons and more. Visit www.newchurchvineyard.org to see what's new.



GCED Continues Professional Development Project

A generous grant provided by the Glencairn Foundation will assist General Church Education in continuing its teacher professional development plan. Since its launch in 2015, Rebekah Russell was hired as Assistant Coordinator of General Church Schools to help develop and implement an enhanced professional development plan. Phase one of the plan included professional development seminars (to date, 11 have been delivered to several General Church schools, including the Academy), increasing teacher support visits, and more effectively engaging with Senior Teachers. Phase two will move forward

with continued improvement of teacher support visit protocols, curriculum development and implementation processes. There will be further training and mentoring for administrators, senior and apprentice level teachers and continued development of New Church professional development modules, all while updating the General Church Teacher Career System. The project is on track as envisioned and is receiving positive feedback from administrators and teachers.



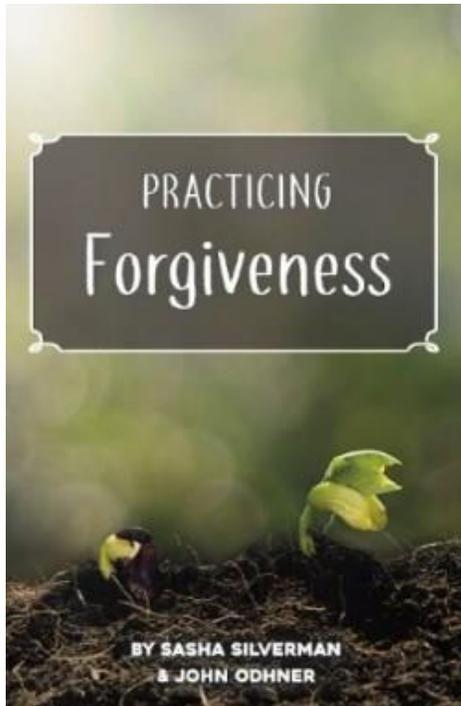
OUTREACH

Humor & Faith

Stay connected with Journey Video by subscribing to the [New Church Journey YouTube channel](#) and liking the [New Church Journey Facebook](#) page. The YouTube channel has over a dozen videos available covering topics such as forgiveness, grief, gratitude and more. Click on the video below which explores humor and faith.



Upcoming Journey Program | Practicing Forgiveness



Mark your calendars for the newest Journey program, ***Practicing Forgiveness***. The fall launch date is **October 1, 2017**, with the second, winter launch on February 4, 2018.

Workbooks and Sunday School materials are available to order at

newchristianresources.org. One of Jesus' strongest messages was that we forgive one another. We have based this year's program on various stories Jesus tells about forgiveness. **General Church Education** has gathered an amazing array of projects for Sunday school students to accompany each of these stories.

We invite you to take advantage of these resources to provide a rich experience of worship, growth and community for your whole congregation.

Interested in organizing a small group? Please contact campaignteam@newchurch.org for more information!

Meet a Minister | The Rev. Bradley D. Heinrichs

Brad was born in South Africa, where his father, the Rev. Daniel W. Heinrichs, was pastor of the Westville Society. He attended the Washington New Church School, graduated from the Academy Boys School and completed one year at Bryn Athyn College. Brad graduated from the University of Florida in 1989 with a degree in Landscape Architecture. He spent seven years running a Landscape Design, Build and Maintenance company. He was asked to serve on a committee to counsel the Bishop on who should replace his father, who was retiring as pastor of the Boynton Beach Society. "During the meeting," he remembers, "I kind of zoned out and clearly heard the Lord telling me that I should be doing this kind of work myself. After that, my wife and I decided to sell our share of the business and use the money to pursue theological training in Bryn Athyn."

He completed Theological School in 1996. Upon ordination he was called to the Carmel

New Church in Canada, where he and his wife, Cathy (Stewart), and family have lived happily ever since. He was assistant to the pastor until 2002, when he became pastor. He also serves as the Executive Vice President of the General Church in Canada, the Regional Pastor for Canada, and as the Bishop's Representative for Cuba.

Among the major influences in his life were his father and mother and their parents. He is proud to say, "Their amazing dedication to the New Church has always been an inspiration in my life."

He loves to travel with his family on long road trips through the United States and Canada. His personal interests include hiking, canoeing, backpacking and photographing landscapes and wildlife.



Left to right, back row: Reyana, Linnea,
In front: Calvin, Brad, Cathy, Denali, Joram, Deacon

New Church Spotlight | Live-streaming Congregations

Several congregations offer live worship services over the internet for those who would like a New Church service but who do not have a congregation nearby. Services are typically archived so that they can be viewed later as well. Thank you to the volunteers and hard work of those who make these services available.

[The New Church at Boynton Beach](#)

[Bryn Athyn Church](#)

[Carmel New Church](#)

[Ivyland New Church](#)

[New Church of Boulder Valley](#)

[NewChurch LIVE](#)

[Kempton New Church](#)

[Glenview New Church](#)

You can also search audio recordings at [New Church Audio](#) by specific topic, book, location, and speaker.

***New Church Life* / Half off for new subscribers**

Have you seen the current *New Church Life*, which was transformed six years ago into a vibrant new bi-monthly publication for the Church?

Some people who stopped reading it years ago say they now read it cover to cover and love the broad range of New Church thought and application. The *Life* includes an expanded section on Church News—the only church-wide news available. Thanks to low-cost digital publication the magazine is brightened with a color cover illustration and four pages of color photos from around the Church in each issue.

One New Church minister exclaims: “This is the best *New Church Life* magazine that has ever been!”

One reader hails it as “a useful, entertaining, thought-provoking publication—a phoenix risen from the ashes.” Another says it is “an outstanding publication that truly reflects New Church thought” and should be “a must read for every New Church man and woman.”

**NEW
CHURCH** *Life*

A bimonthly magazine devoted to the teachings revealed through Emanuel Swedenborg, as they apply to life.
JULY/AUGUST 2017



The New Understanding of the Word

Reading the Word can be daunting, challenging, confusing. But the Rev. James P. Cooper says that with the new understanding we have been given by the Lord, we can see that the Word is full of teachings ever pertinent to our daily lives. [Page 284]
(Image: The open Word on the altar of the Bryn Athyn Cathedral.)

Thanks to a generous contribution, **first-time subscribers pay just \$15** – half the regular price. Contact Susan Wright: susan.wright@anc-gc.org or 267-502-4990. Editor Bruce Henderson (bruce.henderson@newchurch.org) and Spiritual Editor the Rev. Walter Orthwein (walter.orthwein@verizon.net) always welcome submissions, comments and suggestions.

[Subscribe to New Church Life magazine](#) (\$30 per year), to have the magazine mailed to you.

Alternatively, [subscribe \(for free\) to receive email notifications](#) when a new issue is available to read online.

SAVE THE DATE | Boynton Beach Retreat

Mark your calendars! The Boynton Beach Retreat in Florida is set for **January 29 - February 2, 2018**. This year, speakers include the Rt. Rev. Tom Kline, Chara Daum and the Rev. Barry Halterman.

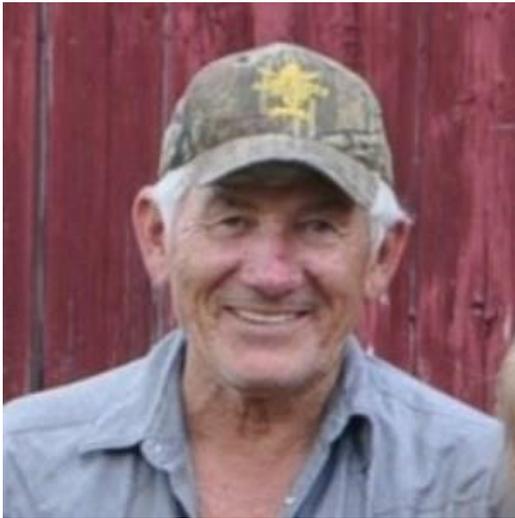
And here's more good news! For the third year in a row the rate for the Retreat will be the same: **\$235 per person if you pay by October 15** (and will increase to \$260 after that date).

Information can be found on the [Boynton Beach Retreat Facebook page](#) or contact bbretreat@newchurchboyntonbeach.org.

Retiring Board Members

The Administration and membership of the General Church thank these four retiring Board members for their service, dedication and insights. We are blessed to have volunteers of such caliber step forward to offer their expertise to the General Church. Thank you!

Top left: **Hugh Brown** served on the Resource, Real Estate, and Finance committees. Top right: **Mark Elder** served on the Executive Review & Compensation and Resource committees. Bottom left: **Charlotte Gyllenhaal** served as Chair of the Education Committee and also on the Executive and Human Resources committees. Bottom right: **Ron Nelson** served on the Advancement, Education, and Human Resources committees.



Please follow link to see a [complete list of the General Church Board of Directors](#).

Fundraising Church-to-Church

There are so many worthy needs both locally and worldwide. It can be difficult to choose which charity or organization to support. The Freeport Society counts on their

basket contributions and investment income to support their church, The Sower's Chapel. Their fundraising events are dedicated to serving others in their community and abroad.

Over Labor Day weekend, The Sower's Chapel and Birdsfoot Golf Club co-host an annual Charity Golf Scramble. The funds raised this year benefited local charities--Freeport Meals on Wheels and the Cabot Food Ban--and "Nouvelle Eglise Chretienne de Cote d'Ivoire" in the Ivory Coast, West Africa.

The Ivory Coast New Church group is building a church building and hoping to build a school in the future to serve their community. They are now conducting worship on the rooftop of Rev. Roger Koudou's house. A portion of the net proceeds of The Sower's Chapel/Birdsfoot Charity Golf Scramble will be contributed to assist them in completing the construction of their church.

Last year, the Freeport Society raised \$1,750 for the Ivory Coast church. This year they raised **\$2,000!**

Congratulations to Freeport on a successful church-to-church fundraiser!



Strategic Plan Highlight | Participation

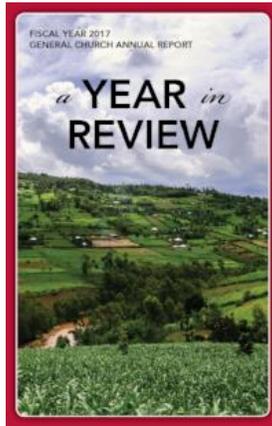
In the [Winter 2017 e-newsletter](#), we reported on the Participation Strand of the General Church Strategic Plan ([view full plan here](#)) which aims to provide avenues for greater involvement and participation in the life of the church. Women's and youth task forces have been formed as strategies to support more engagement. Here are some updates regarding these two task forces.

Women's Task Force: At the May 2016 General Church Board meeting, it was planned that within one year the task force will complete its initial report, containing recommendations for specific activities that can enhance the roles of feminine wisdom in the Church, along with suggested measures to determine whether such activities are implemented. A follow-up report will be submitted after an additional year to assess the uptake and impact of these recommendations. This report of the Women's Participation Task Force was prepared for the General Church Clergy and Board meetings in June 2017. [Click here to read the full report.](#)

Youth Task Force: Rev. Coleman Glenn has been hired to help connect with college students and young adults throughout the Church. He will work closely with local pastors to strengthen connections between young adults and their local congregations, as well as reaching out to those who live further away. He is also teaching at the College and Secondary Schools.

Up next...

The General Church Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2017 is due to land in mailboxes by the end of the month. Highlights include a balanced budget, 10% increase in donor participation and more from the General Church central office.



Daily Inspirations is a daily email subscription featuring quotes from the Writings. [Subscribe here.](#)

“Truth does not shine from itself, because there is nothing flaming in it alone. But Truth shines from Goodness, for Goodness is like a flame which gives light.”

Emanuel Swedenborg, Arcana Coelestia 4742.2

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If our newsletter is worthy, please share with others.



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