



For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
(Isaiah 9:6)

I, Paul Loewen, am very glad that the weight of government is not on my shoulders (think bylaws!), or for that matter that the President of all presidents is also my personal Ruler! This has been a year of challenges, frustrations, joys and many blessings. I'm reminded again that "our God reigns!"

By now most of you have heard that Willy Reimer is no longer with the national conference.

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I have had some time now to reflect on this reality and what it means for Willy and Gwen along with us in the ABMB. Just to be clear, there was no impropriety, ethical or moral failure. While we may have many questions, one thing is sure—God is still in charge and he will take this situation and turn it for his glory if we journey closely with Him in what he now wants to do.



I know God is continuing to lead Willy and Gwen to an ever-greater leadership opportunity in the future! Continue to pray for them through this process.

When Moses led his people to the Red Sea, with the Egyptian army at their backs, the

people were complaining greatly about the situation (see Exodus 14:13,14). Moses instructed them to not be afraid, to stand firm, and the to be still and to see the LORD fight for them. The very next verse God instructs Moses to move on!

As leaders of our churches, may I encourage you to “be still” for a little while and “see what God will do.” Our national leaders (Bruce Enns, moderator of the national board, and Ron Toews, short-term interim executive director) are doing a great job of leading in this transition. One way to “be still” right now is to keep on with the mission, which the Executive Board continues to clearly affirm: To multiply Christ-centered churches to see Canada (Alberta) transformed by the good news of Jesus Christ.



“Healthy boards, holy people, and happy pastors—is it possible?”

The ABMB office is hosting an Executive Lunch and Dialogue to explore board health in our churches. This is NOT A SEMINAR, but rather an opportunity to explore together what works (or doesn't) in your churches. All Church Board Chair's along with one additional board member are invited (sorry, no pastors).

Date: January 7, 2017

Time: 11:00AM -2:30PM

Location: ABMB office in Calgary (209-240 Midpark Way SE)

RSVP: ruthie.kopp@abmb.ca before January 5, 2017



Camp Evergreen hosts MB camp directors from across Canada! About 10 camp directors and spouses from our MB Camps came together on Dec 3-5 to encourage and learn from each other. Ron Toews led the time and I was asked to provide a Sunday morning message of encouragement for them. What a rewarding time of prayer and sharing we experienced together! Sunday afternoon the Clydesdales were hitched up to the wagon (thanks Lendrum MB for donating a beautiful wagon!) and we all enjoyed the “sleigh ride” together.

Bylaws Meeting

Can you imagine playing soccer without any boundaries or rules? While rules and boundaries don't ensure a win (you need good players, coaching, strategy, and hard work), they become foundational in successfully accomplishing your mission. The “bylaws” is to an organization what boundaries and rules are to a sport. Our fully revised bylaws will be reviewed in detail on January 16, 6:30pm–9:00pm. We will be “live-casting” this meeting if you can't be on site (at the ABMB Office in Calgary), with access to the discussion through text and email. Details to come!



REMINDER: We had sent an email on November 14 to all churches with the proposed bylaws and asked for

your feedback to be submitted to us by December 9 so that in the effort to respect everyone's time at the January meeting the ABMB Board could process it beforehand. Since today is already December 8, we can add another week to that, but please get it into us as soon as possible. Thank you!

