



# the beacon



## What's in it for me? A few thoughts from Steve Authier

There are events that happen in our lives where we are not necessarily expecting them to have a significant impact on us. I have to admit that Landon Wideman's recent reception into Heise Hill membership could easily have been one of those events. However, it did not end up being just another event for me. It is not a reflection about Landon that I might have expected it to be just a regular type of event, but it definitely is a reflection of who Landon is as a young man that his reception into membership did turn into a memorable moment for me, and for others too I have since learned.

It is good to celebrate who Landon Wideman is and the manner that he chose to step into membership at Heise Hill. Many of you have taken the time to share with me how you were also touched by the authenticity of how Landon shared about his journey with Jesus Christ



and his desire to continue in that journey

as a member of Heise Hill. The warmth, joy, and peace of God was evident to most of us there on that Sunday morning.

Landon is a very modest and humble young man so I know that he likely feels a certain sense of discomfort from this spotlight. Landon please know that my intent is not to bring you discomfort but rather to celebrate your journey, acknowledge your unselfish commitment to Jesus Christ, and to give glory to God, so please forgive me.

A lot of time was spent by both Landon and I preparing for that moment which eventually struck my heart as it did. That time of preparation and the moment itself turned it from merely being a routine membership reception to something memorable. I mentioned in my opening section of the membership ceremony that when I first came to an evangelical church I was surprised by this new concept of membership, new to me that is. My background of membership was quite different. My culture had

been that we became members of God's church at our baptism as children, and even then it was not membership in the same sense as we understand it by membership in a local church.

Once I gained a better understanding of church membership I did not hesitate to seek membership in the church I was attending at the time. Then over the next few years I did not necessarily pay a lot of attention to

the membership issue until I became the senior pastor here at Heise Hill. In my

first few months here I looked at our membership list and there were people on it that I did not know. At first I thought it was a function of my not yet being familiar enough with our congregation. Then as I became familiar with our active

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Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another... ~ Hebrews 10:25



# What's in it for me?

A few thoughts from Steve Authier (cont'd from page 1)

congregation I realized that it was also a function of us not yet having a membership list that reflected our covenant or who our regular attendees were. I also noticed we have people who clearly play an integral part of our church family and are not members.

As I started to think about membership at Heise Hill I realized that we had two options. We could merely maintain a loose membership, which makes it really hard to value membership and encourage others to consider it, or we could continue the work started by the board to try and create an authentic membership.

I shared with the board that I was reluctant to encourage membership unless we continued the work that they had already begun to have our membership reflect our active church family and the membership covenant. The board is committed to putting forth the effort required to create a membership that honours God and the membership covenant. I specifically say honours God because I am a firm believer that a membership that does not honour the covenant does not honour God. The creation of the

*Membership Requirements and Expectations* policy and the *Membership Review Policy* are examples of this board's commitment to have a membership everyone can authentically value.

One of the recurring themes that I have come across over the years when people consider membership, or even simply attending a given church, is to ask what's in it for them. When we look at church membership it is not any different than my favourite line from Rick Warren's *Purpose Driven Life*, "It's not about You." Wanting to be a church member is not about what you get out of it, it's about what you

bring to it. Sure, we get something, but we get to give much more than we get.

In my preamble at Landon's reception into membership I talked about the fact that church membership does not bring you salvation, that only God's grace does that. But it does provide us with an opportunity to step forward and declare that we are willing to make an unyielding commitment to our brothers and sisters at Heise Hill, that we are in this with them, and that this is *our* church and not just

the church we attend. Supporting the local church is a very biblical concept. No, becoming a member does not bring salvation; there is no biblical support for that, but healthy membership does solidify unity in a local church. Unity in this day and age is important. It is good to be able to stand among fellow brothers and sisters in Christ and know that we are not only united as God's church but that we are united in this part of that body too.

I invite all those who are members of Heise Hill to review the membership covenant and continue to work at making it an integral part of their life. Those who consider Heise Hill Church their home and are not yet members I encourage you to prayerfully consider joining your brothers and sisters in membership. Together let us all move forward in our desire to honour God and bring him glory. Let us all be united in Jesus Christ as we strive to be a place where lives are changed.

~ Blessings, Steve

... I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.  
~ Ephesians 4:1



## Urban Promise kids in your home...

Urban Promise in Wilmington, Delaware are bringing a group of 20-30 kids, grade 4 and 5 (ages 9-11) and 9 or 10 leaders to Toronto for a reward trip from a speech contest.

It will be from Tuesday, April 26, until Saturday, April 30. They are hoping that would be billeted in homes with approx 3 students and 1 leader in each home.



They need to know ASAP if they can pull this off, otherwise, they'll make other arrangements. If you think that your family could host a group, or two, please let Jenn Blair know by Monday morning, April 4<sup>th</sup>.

**We are committed to being culturally relevant.**

*We will strive to offer ministry that is meaningful to the people who are part of our local community.*

**A Heise Hill Core Value**

## April Birthdays and Anniversaries

<i>Birthdays</i>	<i>Anniversaries</i>
01 ~ Steve Watson	09 ~ Kevin & Lynn Todd
03 ~ Vernon Taylor	19 ~ Keith & Maureen Steckley
06 ~ Carol Patton	29 ~ Jim & Kim Wideman
07 ~ Amanda Deacon	
11 ~ John Reesor	
15 ~ Ashley Patton	
15 ~ Lynn Todd	
20 ~ Caileigh Pettifer	
25 ~ Tina Roberts	
30 ~ Vera Hall	

*Birthdays still to come in March...*  
 March 28 ~ Denis Charron  
 March 29 ~ Erma Sider

**On April 22 the Good Friday service with Oak Ridges BIC will be held here at Heise Hill at 10:30 am. Keith Montgomery will be speaking.**

*Give praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. In His great mercy He has given us a new birth and a hope that is alive. It is alive because Jesus Christ rose from the dead. ~ 1 Peter 1:3 NirV*

*On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame; and I love that old cross where the dearest and best for a world of lost sinners was slain.*

*~ George Bennard*

Our souls were created to crave Him and love others to Him.

— Lysa TerKeurst

**Thursday, April 21 @ Heise Hill at 7:00 pm**

You are invited to a **Tenebrae Service** sponsored by the Preston Lake Home Church.

The purpose of a Tenebrae Service is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story. The candlelight service includes Scripture narratives, solemn hymns, a Scripture reading and Communion. Talk to Kevin or Lynn Todd if you would like more information.

## KIDZ WORSHIP

Here's what kids are learning at HH in April. Pray for our kids!!

The virtue: **Humility**

~ Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve.

*(Bottom Line) Treat others like they're more important than you.*

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Memory Verse: Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Philippians 2:3

# Gospel Tide International



Friday evening,  
**May 6**  
at 6:30

Heise Hill will be hosting a complimentary dinner highlighting Gospel Tide's extensive ministry in India, Nepal, Zimbabwe and Zambia. A presentation will be given following the meal and an offering

will be received for this overseas work, involving primarily the spread of the gospel by radio. Reservations should be made by phoning Harvey Sider 905.642.5623 no later than **May 1**.



Reaching Hearts  
on Shores  
Worldwide

Give thanks to the Lord,  
because He is good. His  
faithful love continues  
**forever.**

1 Chronicles 16:34 NIV

## HOPE 55+ April 18 (note date)

Susan Reesor who has spent the last 7 years in Afghanistan will share some of her story and the country's culture in a visual presentation at noon on April 18 at Heise Hill Church.

Please note: this is not the regular last Monday of the month to avoid Easter weekend.

A meal will again be provided at 12:00 for a time of enjoyment and fellowship. Invite a friend and reserve a place at the table by phoning Margaret 905.640.3522 by April 12.

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ~ Romans 15:5-6

Teach me your way, O LORD,  
and I will walk in Your truth;  
give me an undivided heart, that  
I may fear Your name. I will  
praise You, O LORD my God,  
with all my heart; I will glorify  
Your name forever." Psalm 86:11-12

Any concern too small to be turned into a prayer is too small to be made into a burden.  
~ Corrie ten Boom

*The price of prayerlessness far exceeds the price of prayer.* ~ Anonymous

Pray for a tough hide and a tender heart.  
~ Ruth Bell Graham

*Too busy; O forgive, dear Lord, that I should ever be too much engrossed in earthly tasks to spend an hour with thee.*  
~ A.B. Christiansen

Prayer is my chief work, and it is by means of it that I carry on the rest. ~ Thomas Hooker

## SAVE YOUR MILK BAGS FOR HAITI...



Did you know that people all over North America are using milk bags to make bed mats to help our brothers and sisters in Haiti? Please bring your bags in to church on Sunday and deposit them into the *Help Fill the Box* bin in the foyer. We're looking for

the large milk bags that that hold the three smaller bags—the 4L package of milk.

It would be great if you could collect them, making sure that they are free of any milk residue and then bring them in. It takes approximately 300 bags to make one matt, so every bag you bring it really helps. Ask your

friends, family, and neighbours to save them too. We'll make sure they get to our mat makers.



April 2011		
3	10:00 am 10:30 am Noon	Time of prayer for Heise Hill Worship Service ~ My God Why? DVD Bridal Shower for Vernon Taylor and Sarah Quinn
4	6:30 pm	Deacon's Meeting at Authiers
8-9		Heise Hill Youth 30 Hour Famine
10	10:00 am 10:30 am	Time of prayer for Heise Hill Worship Service ~ My God Why? DVD
17	10:00 am 10:30 am	Time of prayer for Heise Hill Worship Service ~ My God Why? DVD
18	Noon 7:30 pm	HOPE 55+ Seniors Luncheon Church Board Meeting
21	7:00 pm	Tenebrae Service sponsored by Preston Lake HC
22	10:30 am	GOOD FRIDAY service with Oak Ridges at Heise Hill ~ Keith Montgomery will be speaking.
24	10:00 am 10:30 am	Time of prayer for Heise Hill Easter Worship Service
25	7:00 pm	Home Church Leaders Training (date yet to be confirmed)

## Any room at the Inn?



On May 2-5, 2011 Heise Hill Church will be hosting a four day Brethren in Christ Core Course called the *Theology of the Church*.

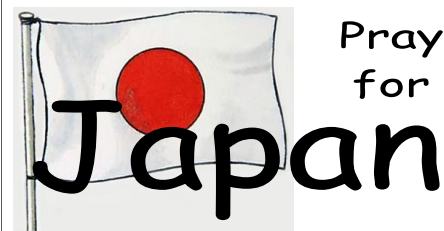
This particular course depicts the role of the people of God in the world, including the implications of brotherhood and peace. Core courses are an ongoing part of developing men and women as workers and leaders in our denomination. These interactive courses teach the Brethren in Christ doctrinal convictions and applied values.

Lay people are welcome to take these courses as well. If you would like more information about taking this course please contact Steve Authier.

### We need Heise Hill families to billet participants.

They'd be arriving in your home Sunday evening, May 1<sup>st</sup> and would stay overnight for three more nights (last evening Wednesday). With the exception of breakfast the participants will be responsible for their own meals.

If you can host one of our brothers or sisters please contact Jenn Blair in our church office.



- for the survivors and families of victims; for the opportunities Christians have to minister in the name of Jesus and for God to use this awesome disaster to soften the spiritually hard ground of Japan and open multitudes of hearts to Him.
- for Christian workers and local Christians as they meet to come up with plans on how best to plan and implement relief efforts. Pray that they will know how best to serve the Japanese during this time of crisis, that these relief efforts will minister to the hearts of those in need.
- that those who hurt will receive aid and comfort. Pray that all will recognize there is only One Rock who will never be shaken.

~ Carlton Walker

*IMB missionary to Japan for nearly 30 years.*



2 options when prayerfully considering a financial response:

- BIC World Hunger Fund
- Mennonite Central Committee (please note "Japan" in the memo section of your cheque)

**HELP**  
**Fill the Box**  
*Heise Hill Cares*  
Weekly Food Collection



heisehillchurch  
LIVES CHANGED HERE

In partnership with  
UAC'S MASTER'S PANTRY

# Camp Kahquah 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration...



Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Port Colborne BIC Church, there will be a special program in celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Camp Kahquah, our BIC camp near Magnetawan, ON.

This will be an evening to celebrate lives changed by Christ through this important ministry over the years - a time of worship

and hearing what God has done and vision for the future.

A special focus will be the release of a book written by Harvey Sider covering the 50 years of the Camp's history. A time of refreshments and interaction to follow.



April 16, 2011

**Canadian Conference Annual Meeting**

Port Colborne, Ontario  
BRETHREN IN CHRIST  
CANADA



He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west.  
~ Psalm 103:12 NLT

*Prayer is lifting up empty hands to an abundant God. ~ Harvey Kneisel*

*Pray, asking God for kingdom perspective and worldwide vision. ~ Jerry Rankin*

*I live in the spirit of prayer; I pray as I walk, when I lie down and when I rise, and the answers are always coming. ~ George Mueller*



In your anger do not sin: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.  
Ephesians 4:26-27

We'll be collecting gently used winter coats and boots on Sunday, April 24th and Sunday, May 1st.

There'll be a "Coat/Boot Giveaway" in the early Fall 2011 at Kin Village Community Centre.



Thanks for Caring!  
Glenda



Bring someone before Jesus in faith.



Some men came, bringing to Him a paralytic... Jesus saw their faith...  
Mark 2:3, 5

## Ministry Staff:

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