

#### From Steven:



**ANTICIPATION** – It's a word we hear often as the Christmas season approaches. Families *anticipate* finding the 'perfect' Christmas tree to decorate with colourful ornaments and lights; we all *anticipate* a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Kids *anticipate* opening their gifts to find exactly what they'd hoped for. And for believers, we *anticipate* the celebration of Jesus' birth, which put in motion the greatest event the world has ever known. Salvation, healing and all the gifts of the Kingdom were released to us on that first Christmas day.

The root meaning of the word anticipation is: "taking into possession beforehand". It reminds me of the words of Psalm 2:8 which say, "Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, and the ends of the earth your possession," along with Mark 11:24 which says, "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask

for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." Bill Prankard took these verses to heart many years ago, and asked God to give us Canada, and the Arctic regions of the world. When Becky and I joined the team we made his vision ours as well, and began to anticipate how God would respond to our prayer. Of course, we had to do our part by joining in the work of reaching out with the life-changing message of Jesus Christ "from sea to sea, and to the ends of the earth."

It is so rewarding to see our spiritual *anticipation* (a.k.a. *steps of faith*) becoming reality! When Bill and I declared in January that 2018 would be a Year of Miracles, God responded by working supernaturally in lives throughout Canada as we've gone in obedience to His call. Whether in the big cities, little towns or remote communities in Nunavut, in each place we had the privilege of seeing exciting physical miracles and hearts cleansed, transformed and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

When we asked the Lord for our nation, and claimed it as our possession, we also recognized the awesome weight of responsibility that comes with it. Some parents can relate. Your children might ask for a puppy for Christmas, but when it becomes their possession, they not only have the "fun" part of owning a pet; they also have to take on the "responsibility" of caring for it.



In recent years we've watched many of the moral and spiritual values in Canada erode. The fault does not just rest with a particular political party in power. The spiritual health of our nation is primarily the responsibility of us, as believers, to pray, give and go, so that every citizen of this great land has the opportunity to hear the Good News, and to turn their hearts to God. As we've endeavoured to do our part, we've been encouraged to see people coming to Christ, and Christians rising to the responsibility of caring for the spiritual welfare of fellow Canadians.

# **ARCTIC HOPE TOUR:**

Our work at "the ends of the earth" went to a whole new level this year. We touched Arctic Russia and Nunavut in a unique, special way, as we took the message of hope through Jesus Christ to every single community in Nunavut that has a high school - 25 communities in all. My friend Braden Scharfenberg and I were able to give seven high school presentations in which we shared our personal testimonies and told the young people that God can help them overcome the serious challenges in their lives. At that point the Nunavut government stepped in and told us we were not to give another school presentation. We felt it was because we were making "waves" in Nunavut. When we moved our presentations to the community halls we were able to preach freely about Jesus' saving love and ability to bring freedom from all brokenness, bondages and baggage. Countless Inuit heard our stories of how God brought us through the darkness of abuse, and as we invited them to make Jesus their Lord and Saviour, they hungrily responded. Eternity alone will reveal how many were saved from suicide attempts and a lifetime of despair.

On top of this miraculous work of God among the youth, the Lord supernaturally provided the finances needed to fly to all these communities in the north where airfares are some the highest in the world. When He gives us *possession* of a nation or territory, He also gives the *provision*!

#### FRESH HOPE CONFERENCE:

After travelling across the whole territory of Nunavut, we thought it important to have a Leader's Conference that we called "Fresh Hope", to bring Inuit leaders and young people with leadership potential from each of these communities together in Igaluit, NU, to cast vision and inspire hope. It was one of the most memorable moments of 2018. brought over 45 pastors, elders, and young people to Igaluit, where Bill and I, along with very special guest speakers poured hope and fire into their lives. We also invited Inuit pastors who have had success in reaching the youth of their communities to share their insights. In addition to allowing the Holy Spirit to move freely among the youth, these successful pastors emphasized how important it is to make the young people feel welcome and valued as future leaders, and to equip them with both spiritual and practical tools for the task.

### **HOPE IS RISING IN NUNAVUT!**

Our *anticipation* of what God could do in Nunavut in 2018 was realized beyond anything we could imagine. In January 2018 we learned that suicide rates in Nunavaut have been steadily declining since 2014 – the year we launched the Arctic Hope Project! The gates of Hell are being pushed back and we are taking precious ground as our possession for the sake of His Kingdom!

We are now making plans to hold another Leaders' Conference with Rodney Howard-Browne in our Arctic Hope Centre in Naujaat in April, 2019. We're also taking the Arctic Hope Program that we've been conducting in Cape Dorset and Pangnirtung for the past few years to the next level in 2019, called "Help Hope Rise". This initiative will take specific youth who have been part of the Arctic Hope Program, and we'll begin replicating ourselves as leaders by instilling leadership principles in them and giving them practical tasks to develop these skills. The best people to reach broken, suicidal youth in Nunavut are other Inuit young people who have been rescued and released from the very same sense of hopelessness. We are anticipating 2019 to be the greatest year of Hope rising in the Arctic that we've ever known!

### **ARCTIC RUSSIA:**

What a blessing it has been to have BPEA'S missionary Igor Bogomol ministering to the Inuit in isolated villages scattered across the Arctic Russian tundra this year. This past summer he returned to many of the communities where Bill and Gwen and their teams reached Russian Inuit with the Gospel and established groups of believers several years ago. Igor found many not only still faithfully serving God but growing in faith and rising up to reach their own people. Addiction, crime, poverty and suicide are rampant in Arctic Russia, so the challenges are great, but Igor is making a positive impact as he takes hope, healing and practical help to each community he visits. He will return again this Christmas season, and many poor souls living in the harsh, remote parts of Russia will be touched with Jesus' love and with tangible expressions of His care. Igor wants to increase the work he is already doing among them next year, and we are believing God to supply the need so we can provide this additional support. Just as the Lord has demonstrated His faithfulness this past year, we *anticipate* His loving provision through partners like you in 2019.

What do you *anticipate* this Christmas? Whether it's restoration of health, family, finances or greater vision for the future, I pray that your *anticipation* will become reality as you trust Him and bless the people of Canada's north. Thank you for standing with Becky and I over these few years, but even more so with Bill and Gwen, who have prepared the soil for the bountiful harvest we are reaping today. It is also because of the army of partners like you that we are able to do all we do. Would you consider giving a sacrificial gift of \$100.00 this Christmas season, to show your appreciation for the years of sowing into our great nation, and to help us continue to bring Hope and Healing to the north? I look forward to your response and count on your prayers!

With love and appreciation,

Steven Carleton

#### PASSING THE LEADERSHIP BATON

## From Bill:



When Gwen and I entered full time ministry 51 years ago we assumed we'd spend our lives as pastors in whatever towns or cities God would lead us to. We could never have imagined that our lives would be so utterly transformed in 1972, when He thrust us into healing evangelism and gave us a worldwide platform to declare the supernatural, life-changing Gospel of Christ.

As we look back over the 46 years of traveling "from sea to sea, and to the ends of the earth," our hearts are full of gratitude for the thousands of lives that have found salvation, healing and Holy Spirit empowerment.

We'll also be forever thankful to God for bringing Steven and Becky into our lives. Steven has ministered alongside me for more than four years and carries a rich anointing for both ministry and leadership. He is a spiritual son in every way and shares the same vision and heart for revival in Canada and mission endeavours in the Arctic regions of the world.

It is with great joy that we announce that we are passing the baton of leadership of BPEA to Steven and Becky as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. He will assume the role of President and will oversee the day-to-day operation of the ministry, while I will continue to minister as Evangelist and Founder of BPEA. Steven is uniquely prepared to fulfill this calling, as he has walked so closely with me and has learned all the practical and spiritual aspects of leadership.

I ask you to embrace Steven and Becky in their new role just as Gwen and I are doing. Will you pray for them and support them as you have so faithfully done with us? This Christmas season is a fitting time to let us know that you are standing with us and with them as we enter this exciting new season of ministry. Would you demonstrate your wholehearted support by sowing a very generous gift of \$100. to launch Steven and Becky forth in strength? Just imagine how many more lives could be reached for Jesus if every partner sowed a special seed today!

Gwen and I pray that God's richest blessings will be poured out on you and all those you love this Christmas, and may everything you've been anticipating by faith be realized!

Yours in Christ,

Bill Prankard

