

19th Annual Native Christian Conference

We had our 19th Annual Native Christian Conference in Ottawa on July 4–6, 2014 at the Metropolitan Bible Church. The Met is a new church building and its facilities are excellent for the size of our Conference. We have been using the theatre with its soft and comfortable cushioned seats, which is good because our services can go on for three and half hours. No one seems to mind because they really enjoy listening to the various testimonies, special music and the preaching of the Word.

The attendance was about the same as our last Conference. We had our regular attendees but every year there are always some new people who come. We had Native people at the Conference from British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, Quebec, Oklahoma and Los Angeles. It was a blessing for me to see my sister, Daisy, and my two brothers, Harry and Abraham, at the Conference. The people appreciated Harry's presence at the Conference because he makes everybody laugh with his unique sense of humour.

Our keynote speaker this year was Dr. Emerson Falls from Oklahoma City, OK. He is a graduate of Golden Gate Theological Seminary and has earned Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees. Dr. Falls has served as the pastor of churches in California, Arizona, and Oklahoma. He was the Director of Golden Gate Seminary's Rocky Mountain Campus in Denver, CO, and President of Cook College and Theological School in Tempe, Arizona. Dr. Falls is a second generation Christian and is of Sac, Fox and Choctaw Native heritage. This is the second time that we have invited Dr. Falls to be a special speaker at our NGM Native Christian Conference in Ottawa. We appreciate the great job he does in preaching the Word of God. We were glad that his wife, Shirley, was able to accompany him for the weekend of ministry. Dr. Falls and his



Dr. Emerson Falls
and his wife, Shirley.

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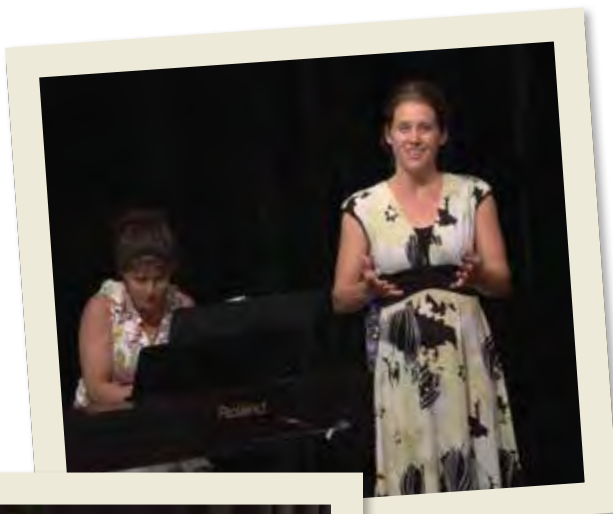
wife will be coming again for our 20th Annual NGM Christian Conference.

Dr. Falls shared four messages with us at the Conference. On Sunday morning, he preached at the Fellowship Baptist Church in Kanata and the people there were encouraged and blessed by his message. In the evening, he preached at the Metropolitan Bible Church and there was a very good response for the whole service.

For special music, we had Living Stone, which is a Christian pop/rock band characterized by smooth,

Mezzo-soprano Heidi Jost is a versatile musician with a passion for performance and music education. She gave the Conference guests a taste of opera music in a Christian setting. She did a great job and she definitely held her audience. Heidi described her time at the Conference this way: "I REALLY enjoyed singing at the conference. It was such a blessing to share my testimony with the warm and accepting faces of your Native clan. I also felt very free to enjoy singing my best – this is rare! It has a lot to do with the receptivity and love I felt from the audience. Thank YOU."

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Clockwise from top: Heidi Jost singing with her mother playing piano; Joseph Seth Jolly playing guitar, Abraham Jolly singing with Randy and Evangeline Jackson of Living Stone; group performing on stage.

soulful female vocals, innovative guitar work, insightful song writing and solid tasteful percussion. Randy Jackson is the lead guitarist and his wife, Evangeline, sings and plays the guitar. They write songs that reflect their beliefs in the power and relevance of their faith and that cover a wide range of themes related to the spiritual journey. Living Stone did a great job at the Conference and we have invited them again for our upcoming 2015 NGM Conference.



20th Annual Native Christian Conference

July 3–5, 2015, Ottawa, Ontario

The annual Conference is a wonderful time to be encouraged by the excellent preaching, testimonials, and singing. Be sure to attend!



Keynote Speaker

Dr. Emerson Falls is a graduate of Golden Gate Theological Seminary, earning Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees. He has served as pastor of churches in California, Arizona and Oklahoma. He was the Director of Golden Gate Seminary's Rocky Mountain Campus in Denver, Colorado. He also served as President of Cook College and Theological School in Tempe, Arizona.

In 2009 to 2011, Dr. Falls was elected as the first Native American to serve as President of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma. He currently serves as the Native American Specialist for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

Dr. Falls is married to his wife Shirley. They have two grown children and three grandchildren.

CONFERENCE MUSIC BY SPECIAL GUESTS:



THE MUSICIANS

Living Stone is a Christian pop/rock band characterized by smooth, soulful female vocals, innovative guitar work, insightful song writing and solid, tasteful percussion. Randy Jackson is the lead guitarist and his wife, Evangeline, sings and plays the bass guitar. They write songs that reflect their belief in the power and relevance of their faith and that cover a wide range of themes related to the spiritual journey.

Joseph Seth Jolly Jr.
and Shirley Falls will also be
performing at the Conference.



Metropolitan Bible Church
2176 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa, Ontario

Conference Schedule
Friday, July 3 @ 6 p.m.
Saturday, July 4 @ 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Sunday, July 5 @ TBA

Native Gospel Ministries of Canada

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www.nativegospelministries.org

On the Go with Dr. Joe 2014

May 13–18

I was invited by the Christian women's ministry which is based in Toronto to go with a team to Weagamow Lake, Ontario. Previously, the team had been composed of all women. My part on the team was to do individual counseling, conduct grief sessions and a leadership seminar with the Chief and Council. I was also scheduled to preach twice on Sunday at the Weagamow Evangelical Fellowship. One woman responded to the invitation to accept Christ as her Personal Savior in the evening service. I had very good sessions with the Chief and Council and I was able to teach and show how to apply principles on cross-cultural communications, leadership, management and administration. I told the Chief that I was open to coming back again and helping them with their Constitution and By-laws. I noticed that they don't write things down too much on paper but their custom is still to do things in their oral tradition. I found this interesting and this indigenous method needs to be preserved somehow.

May 29–June 2

Chief Swanson Kenequanash was quite impressed by the response to the grief sessions he attended. He invited me to come back within ten days for a special event that was set aside to commemorate those who have recently passed away in their community. He also purchased 230 copies of Sheila's book *My Grief Journey from Mourning to Dancing*. I took five boxes of books with me when I went to Weagamow Lake which was a job itself. The Chief took a head count of the people in his community and his plan was to place a book in every home. While

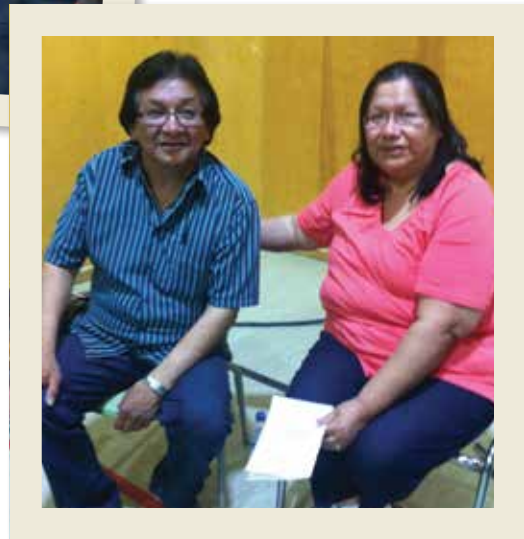
I was there, I had an opportunity to fellowship with Morley Beardy and his wife, Reta. In one of the workshops, they shared their grief experience of losing a daughter to suicide. I also had the unexpected joy of seeing Gary Quequish there. Both Gary and I preached a couple of times while we were in Weagamow Lake.

June 5–12

I went to Waskaganish to counsel and talk to the students at the Wiinibekuu School. Sometimes I talk to the students at the request of the parents. They are concerned for their children who are abusing alcohol and drugs. Like in other schools, I came across cases where there is bullying involved. The majority of the time I talk to students who have behavioral problems at school and at home. While I was there, I preached twice at the Waskaganish Cree Pentecostal Church where most of my family and relatives attend.

June 19–23

The graduation banquet for our son, Joseph, was on the 19th of June. He was so happy to know he had met all the requirements to graduate. At the banquet, he won a Timothy Award for his Grade 12 Co-operative



Clockwise from top: Chief and Council leadership seminar; team leader Jen Wilson (middle) with Chief Swanson Kenequanash and his wife; Morley and Reta Beardy; Morley and Gary Quequish.

Education. The award is given to one student from the class who shows faithfulness in effort, attitude and development of skills. He was thankful that at least he won one student award. I had his certificate award framed and it is hanging on the wall in my office. The graduation ceremony was on June 23. As parents, we were so proud of his great achievement because we knew he worked hard and had made an effort to

Left and below: Joseph's fellow graduates; Joseph receiving his graduation certificate from school principal, Chuck Schoenmaker.

Right: George Budd at the NGM Conference.

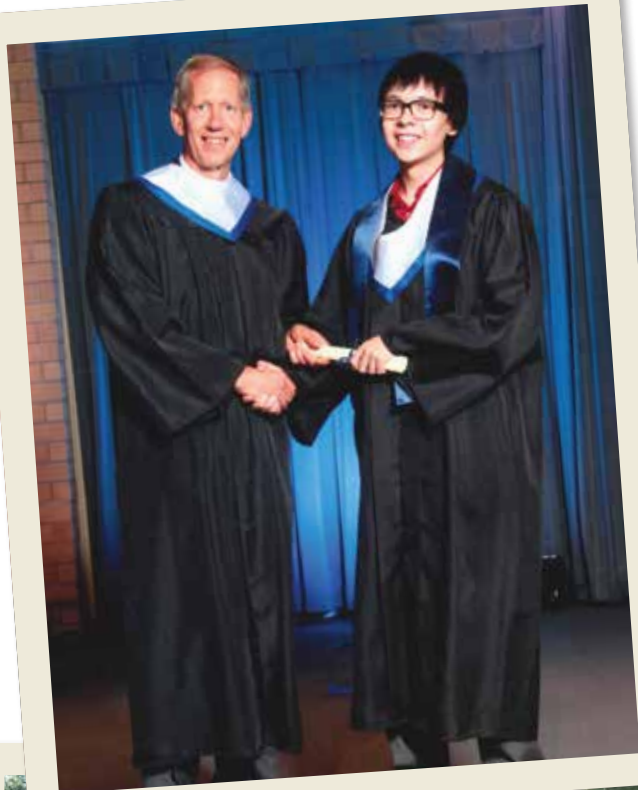


successfully reach his goal. Like other parents, we also worked hard behind the scenes to make sure our son met all the requirements to graduate. There were many days he didn't want to go to school and we had to be patient with him. We praise God for making all things possible for our son to graduate. After the graduation exercises were over, I spent the next ten days getting ready for our 19th NGM Conference.

July 4-6

NGM had its 19th Annual Native Christian Conference in Ottawa. There was a good attendance this year and many were encouraged by the preaching of Dr. Falls. I overheard one woman at the Conference saying how

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In Remembrance

Grand Chief Dr. Stan Louttit, 1950–2014

The Cree community on the James Bay Coast has lost a respected leader. Grand Chief Dr. Stan Louttit died June 10, 2014 following a two-year battle with cancer. He was 64 years old. Stan was born April 29, 1950 on his family's traditional homelands at Lake River, north of Attawapiskat. He was raised at Lake River and Attawapiskat and was a proud member of the Fort Albany First Nation. He made Moose Factory his home for the past fifty years and was made an honorary member of the Moose Cree First Nation in acknowledgement of his many contributions to the local community.

At the time of his death, he was serving his third consecutive four-year term as Grand Chief of the Mushkegowuk Council. He previously served as Deputy Grand Chief of the Nishnawbe Aski Nation and received a Ministerial Award and the Governor General's Medal of Bravery in recognition of his efforts during the Winisk flood in 1986. Stan was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Education by Nipissing University in 2011 for his leadership and service to the Mushkegowuk Peoples and all First Nations across Canada.



Stan loved life and had a good sense of humour, which made people around him feel comfortable. Because of his family's background, he loved the outdoors and always looked forward to the annual spring goose hunt with his family. He appreciated music and enjoyed singing and playing the guitar. He loved sports and was an avid hockey fan for the Montreal Canadiens. He was thrilled to meet one of his favourite hockey players, Guy Lafleur, in person when the Montreal Old-timers came to play an exhibition game in Moose Factory a year ago. Stan had a zest for life.

One of the things I share in common with Stan Louttit is that we both went to residential school back in the late 50s and 60s. We attended Moose Fort Residential School and Shingwauk Residential School in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Stan brought his guitar with him when he was at the Moose Fort Residential School and I can still play the short instrumental solo he taught me.

Over the years whenever I saw Stan in Moose Factory, I always took time to shake his hand and talk to him. He was the plenary speaker at the James Bay Native Educational Conference in Timmins, Ontario a few years ago when I was a facilitator for one of the workshops.

During the refreshment break, he told me that it is important that we stick together and support each other because of our shared residential school experience. He told me that he was very proud of what I had achieved in my work and education and wished me well for the future. I told him that I was also very proud of him in his work achievements and his important role as the Grand Chief of the Mushkegowuk Council. I considered him a friend and always felt free to approach and talk to him.

My most significant memory of Grand Chief Dr. Stan Louttit was the time I went to Moose Factory on January 23-28, 2013. While I was there, I made a home visit with Stan and his wife, Sharon. Stan had stomach cancer and had started taking chemotherapy treatments. He said that there were times when he was frustrated and angry. I assured him that this response is normal since dealing with



sickness is a form of grief. He was open to sharing his feelings with me. He wondered why God did not appear to be doing anything even though he was doing his part and many people were praying for him. He did learn a very important lesson through this experience. He came to the conclusion that it was not a question of what God

Stan loved life and had a good sense of humour, which made people around him feel comfortable. He appreciated music and enjoyed singing and playing the guitar. He loved sports and was an avid Montreal Canadiens hockey fan.

was doing but now the question was what he was doing about it himself. I considered that thought to be a profound insight on his part. Then he asked me what he should do. The first thing that came to my mind, and I believe it was of the Lord, was to tell him that maybe the first thing he could do is to get right with God. Then I shared the gospel message with him. After I was finished, he looked me straight in the eye, and in a loud voice said, "Well, that sounds simple enough! Let's go for it!" I had the joy and privilege to pray with him and his wife, Sharon, to receive Christ. "For everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved." (*Romans 10:13, ESV*)

Stan leaves behind his beloved wife of forty years, Sharon, four daughters, nine grandchildren and many, many friends. He will be greatly missed.

On the Go with Dr. Joe 2014 *continued*

much she enjoyed listening to Dr. Falls speak. The special music by Living Stone was also a highlight for many at the Conference. Most of the songs the group sang were written and composed by the lead guitarist, Randy Jackson. We also had different people sing and share their testimonies at the Conference. We had a cameraman recording the Conference sessions and we will be making DVDs available again. We will let you know when the DVDs are ready.

July 14–18

I went to the Amos Correctional Institute to visit the Native inmates from the Cree communities. I noticed there is always a turnover of inmates on the list for me to see because they keep moving them to other institutions within the province of Quebec. The other reason is that some of them have a short sentence and don't stay too long in jail. They are usually in jail to serve a court sentence because they violated breaches or they didn't pay their ticket fines. They don't like being idle in jail and are glad when they can do something constructive with their time. Some of the institutions and penitentiaries have excellent programs where the inmates can further their education or different workshops and seminars. The Cree Justice and Correctional Services purchased ten copies of my grief book and ten copies of Sheila's book for resource material to the jails. Sometimes the inmates will tell me that they read my book or they have seen my wife's book. Most of the inmates I talk to tell me that they have a Bible in their cell and that they sometimes pray.

July 26

I did the wedding for Julie Grace Matoush and Tommy Alphonse Neeposh at the Hotel Sacacomie in Saint-Alexis-des-Monts, Quebec. There was a good group of invited guests from Mistissini at the wedding, which was held at this lake resort hotel.

Julie Grace Matoush and Tommy Alphonse Neeposh



August 4–8

I went to Mistissini to do counseling services for the Social Development Program. While I was there, I went by boat to the site where the annual Cultural Gathering for the elders was held. I know most of the elders by now so I am not exactly a stranger to them when I go there. It helps that I speak the Cree language when I visit them. The majority of the elders are Christians so I have great freedom to share and talk about spiritual things with them. I visited two widows while I was there and they offered me tea and bannock, which I really enjoyed.

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Closed on Christmas



Dr. Joseph Jolly

Christmas is always a special time of the year. What does Christmas mean to you? To some people, Christmas means hard work. The stores are crowded with shoppers. The post office is overflowing with mail. The trains, buses and planes are full. People go through a lot of physical and emotional stress at Christmas. To some people, Christmas means a sad memory. Some people are still grieving the loss of a loved one. To some people, Christmas means partying. My life was like that before I became a Christian. I am glad that God delivered me from that kind of living. But to millions of people, Christmas means nothing. They do not know Jesus and Christmas for them is just another holiday. Most people miss out on the true meaning of Christmas every year. They observe the season because the culture says it's the thing to do, but the masses are not aware of or concerned about the reality of what they are celebrating.

When Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem, there was no room for them in the inn. “No room” — these shameful words describe more than the inn in Bethlehem. They apply just as aptly to today’s world. Sadly, in all the busyness of our Christmas celebrations, most people still make no room for Jesus. Without even realizing it, they miss Christmas just like most of the people in and around Bethlehem on that night that Jesus was born. *(John MacArthur)*

Not only was the inn closed that first Christmas but the people in Bethlehem were not receptive. Their hearts were closed when Jesus came. People are closed at Christmas — generally speaking. Check your heart. Are you closed or open this Christmas. What does it mean to be closed at Christmas and how can we be open?

The people who were closed on Christmas did not recognize Jesus for who he was. “He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.” *(John 1:10, ESV)* What happens to people when they close up? Those who are closed won’t recognize Jesus. In verse 10, the word “world” is mentioned three times. The global picture is that the nations of the world didn’t recognize Jesus.

When I was a student in the Indian residential school, it was mandatory for all students to go to church every Sunday. We also had a chapel period every day before classes began. I went to church all of those years that I was in school but I was blind and deaf to spiritual truths. I never understood the true identity of Jesus while I was in school. When I was twenty-two years old, I got saved and that’s when I knew who Jesus Christ really is. Christmas has never been the same for me since that time. What I appreciate the most about Christmas today is that I fully understand the message of salvation that is so clearly revealed in the birth of Jesus Christ.

Why didn’t the world recognize Jesus? The answer is because they were closed. They were spiritually deaf and spiritually blind. The world was closed in two ways. It had its ears closed and it had its eyes closed. Therefore it didn’t recognize Jesus when he came. “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.” *(John 1:1, 2 ESV)* Jesus came as the Word of God. He personifies the message of God. Jesus came to communicate God’s Word. Jesus is the Word but he also tells the Word of God. “Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father’s who sent me.” *(John 14:24 ESV)* The problem was that when he came as the Word and spoke the words of God, the world had its ears closed. The world wasn’t listening. What was true then is true now. Lots of people in our world just aren’t listening even though Jesus came as the Word.

People hear the Word during the Christmas season. They hear the Christmas carols that speak of the Word of God. To many people it is just music because their ears are closed.

Jesus came as the Word but he also came as the light. “All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was

John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. (*John 1: 3 - 7, ESV*) Jesus came to bring light to our darkened world. "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." (*John 9:5, ESV*)

Jesus brought light and truth but the world had its eyes closed. Why? "And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil." (*John 3:19 ESV*) The world shut its eyes because it loved darkness more than light.

A flippant youth asked a preacher. "You say that unsaved people carry a weight of sin. I feel nothing. How heavy is sin? Is it ten pounds? Eighty pounds?" The preacher replied by asking the youth, "If you laid a four hundred pound weight on a corpse, would it feel the load?" The youth replied, "It would feel nothing because it is dead." The preacher concluded, "That spirit is indeed dead which feels no load of sin or is indifferent to its burden and flippant about its presence." The youth was silenced. (Paul Lee Tan, *Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations*)

"He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him." (*John 1:11, ESV*) Verse 11 talks about the Jewish nation. His own people did not receive him. They didn't want him. The Jews should have recognized him but they didn't. For years they were looking for the Messiah to come. They had a hunch who he was but they didn't receive him. Rejection started in Bethlehem and culminated at Calvary. Is your heart closed or opened this Christmas? Those who are closed won't recognize or receive him.

There were people with open hearts. "But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." (*John 1:12, ESV*) Those who received him are the people who are open. Those who are open will believe in Jesus. Those who are open will receive him. There were some who had open hearts on Christmas. The shepherds' eyes and ears were opened. "And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told to them." (*Luke 2:20, ESV*) The Magi's eyes were opened. "Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?

For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.'" (*Matthew 2: 1, 2, ESV*)

What does it mean to receive Jesus? To receive him is to believe in his name. In the gospel of John, the word "believe" is used numerous times. John uses it again and again so that you and I might believe. "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book, but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." *John 20: 30, 31, ESV*)

Believing is something that is active. Believing is not something you do just in your head but it is something you do both in your head and in your life. Believing is something that moves you. "Those who believed in his name" literally means those who believed into his name. What is his name? His name is Jesus. What does it mean? The name means "Jehovah saves", God saves. It means Saviour. "She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." (*Matthew 1:21, ESV*)

To believe into his name is to personalize it. You can believe that Jesus is the Savior. To personalize it, you say "I believe that he is my Saviour." His name is also Immanuel which means "God with us." (*Matthew 1:23*) If you believe into his name, you can say, "I believe God is with me."

Have you believed into his name this Christmas? What's the sign on your heart today — closed or open? "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me." (*Revelation 3:20, ESV*) When we believe into his name — he places us into the family of God.

Have you a heart that is open to receive Jesus? How can you make Christmas more meaningful? Accept the Lord Jesus as your personal Saviour. Christmas will be more meaningful if we give our hearts and love to Jesus on his birthday. That is what he desires the most. To receive Christ you can say this prayer. "Heavenly Father I thank you for your love to me. You showed how much you loved me when you sent your Son Jesus Christ to die on the cross for my sins. I admit I am a sinner and I have sinned against you. I am sorry for my sins and I ask for your forgiveness. I want to turn from my sin and I surrender my life to you. By faith I invite Jesus Christ to come into my heart and make me His child. I pray in Jesus' Name. Amen!"



On the Go with Dr. Joe 2014 *continued*



Minnie Awashish

show them the greatness of our God. Most of the elders cannot read or speak English but they enjoy learning new things and they love hearing stories in the Old Testament.

Somehow I got on the topic of how fast the earth travels on its orbit around the sun and how long it would take to reach the nearest star when travelling at the speed of light. This was all new to them and they seemed very fascinated.

I just wanted to

August 17

On Sunday I preached at the Fellowship Baptist Church in Kanata. I have preached there a couple of times over the years and it was a blessing to be invited again. The church setting is quite informal so I felt free to sing a song before my message. I usually do this whenever I share in the Native churches.

August 18–23

For months our son Joseph had been talking about going to Los Angeles. He wants to become a full-time musician and he had some plans about what he was going to do in LA. This trip was part of his graduation present and he was very excited about it. While In LA, we made contact with a young man who lives there who is involved in the media and recording industry. Over supper, he talked with Joseph for one and a half hours about what he should do to get his music noticed. Joseph listened attentively to this man's sound advice because he was speaking from first-hand knowledge and experience. I told him afterwards that meeting with him made our whole trip to LA worth it. This man was referred to us by one of the youth Pastors at the Metropolitan Bible Church in Ottawa. It was interesting to find out during our conversation that he is an alumnus of Briercrest Bible College where I went for my Bible school training. Joseph is going to follow through with his advice and will be contacting him again when he finishes recording his album or single demo.

We had a breakfast meeting with Randy Jackson while we were in LA. He has been living in LA for some time now with his family. Randy himself is a prolific

Right:
Dr. Joe with
the famous
Hollywood
sign in the
background.

Below: Our
arrival in
Los Angeles.



songwriter and a great guitarist. He is an intelligent man with a law degree and he is very knowledgeable about the

music industry. He shared with Joseph his own personal views and cautioned him that it is not that easy to get recognition in the music business. We had good fellowship with Randy over breakfast and it was such a great blessing to spend time with someone we know from Canada. We stayed at the Hollywood Hotel while in LA. While we were there, we went to the mall in Beverly Hills a couple of times and went to a couple of guitar stores. The weather was perfect the whole time we were there. The greatest part of our trip to LA for me personally was just the joy of spending time with my son, especially engaging in something he is really excited about. It is so important for parents to create memories with their children.

August 30

I performed the wedding for Thomas Stephen and Cynthia Cooper at the Ottawa Marriott Hotel. Cynthia is the daughter of my first cousin, Christina Cooper, and she lives in Waswanipi.

There were quite a number of guests at the wedding from both Waskaganish and Waswanipi.

Thomas Stephen and Cynthia Cooper.



September 8–12

I went to the Amos Correctional Institution to visit the inmates from the Cree communities. Most of them are young men in their twenties and thirties so they look up to me as an elder. Some of them are going through emotional issues like anger, rejection, grief, stress, depression and unforgiveness. It is part of their healing to talk about it and I do my best be an attentive listener. During the session, I do offer some suggestions about how they can deal with their problem issues. Some of them have told me that they have read my book and Sheila's book on grief.

September 15–19

I went to Mistissini to do counseling services for the Social Development Program. While I was there, I counseled a number of people and made several home visits. There was a death in the community that week and I was asked to share a message at the memorial service for the late Suzanne (Petawabano) Matoush.

September 30–October 6

I went to Waskaganish to do counseling services for the Cree School Board. While I was there, I talked to a couple of elementary students who had recently lost a loved one. Their loved one was a believer so I felt freedom to share with them words of hope and encouragement from a biblical

Below and right: Harvey Blackned and Shelly Ann Stephen, and their wedding party.



Far right:
Waskaganish Cree
Gospel Fellowship.
Right: The Mistissini
people who attended
the grief seminar.

perspective. Most of the children I talk to still speak Cree as their first language. The main reason why I went to Waskaganish was because I had to perform a wedding for Harvey Blackned and Shelly Ann Stephen.

On Thursday evening I shared at the Waskaganish Cree Pentecostal Church during their mid-week Bible study and prayer meeting. The wedding was on Friday. On Sunday, I preached twice at the Waskaganish Cree Gospel Fellowship.

October 13–17

I went to Mistissini to do a grief seminar and individual counseling for the Social Development services. Mistissini is a Christian community so most of the people I talk to there have at one time made a decision to accept Christ. People know that I am a biblical counselor so sometimes they will ask me questions about spiritual matters.

October 19–24

I went to Kashechewan, Ontario on October 19–24 at the invitation of the Crisis Counseling Department at the clinic. It is hard to believe it but the last time I went there was seven years ago. It was good to see some of the people I knew from my previous visits and also from the residential school. While I was there, I stayed at *CC's Bed and Breakfast*, which is owned by a young Christian couple. I was grateful to eat some of the fresh moose meat they cooked while I was there. I spoke

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“The Christmas season was now upon us and I wondered how I would handle the celebration without my dear mom and loving sister. Grief escalates on special days like Christmas and my burden certainly seemed greater during this time. I was experiencing flashbacks of them lying on their sick beds. I have heard of people lashing out in anger while trying to cope with mourning and I reminded myself not to take that road. As I went down the memory lane of my grief journey, I tried to focus on the positive instead of the negative.”

— Excerpt from *My Grief Journey from Mourning to Dancing* by Sheila Katherine (Chilton) Jolly

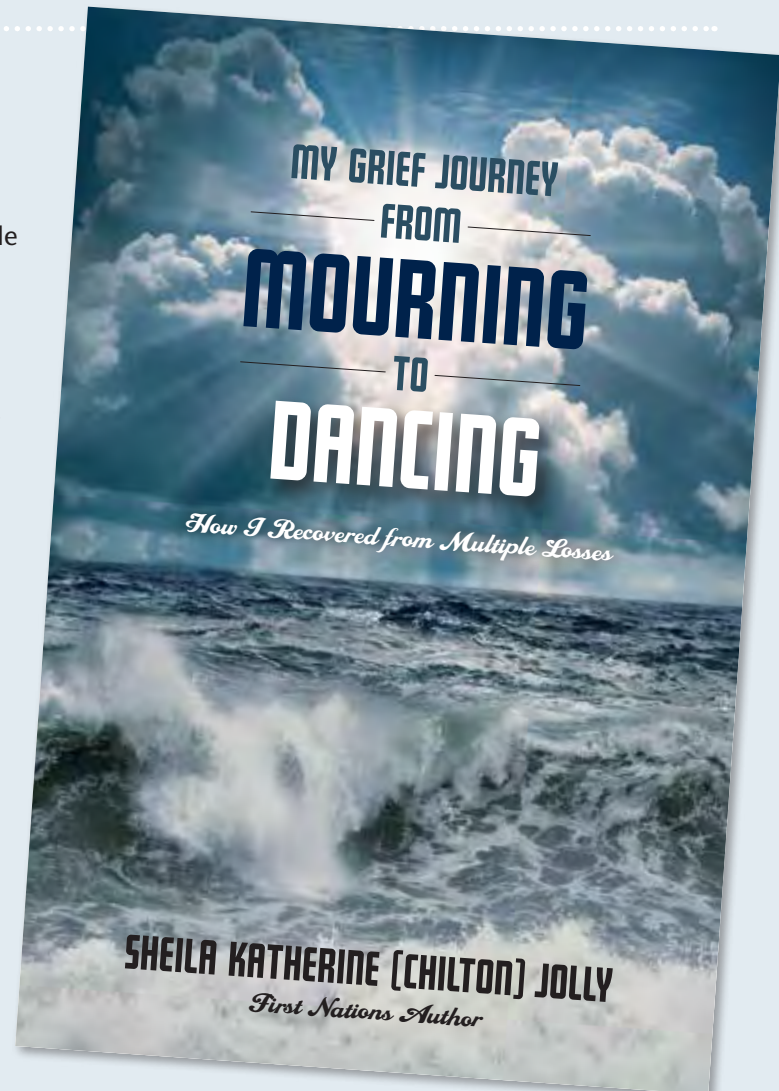
Sheila Katherine (Chilton) Jolly was born in Moose Factory, Ontario. She married Joseph Jolly on June 4, 1971. They have one son, Joseph Seth, who was born on October 26, 1995. A year after their marriage, they moved to Ottawa so Joseph could go back to school at Algonquin College. While they were living in Ottawa, Sheila and her husband accepted

Jesus Christ as their Personal Saviour at the Metropolitan Bible Church on October 13, 1974. Their conversion to Christ brought a dramatic change to their lives.

In the fall of 1976, Sheila and her husband went to Caronport, Saskatchewan to attend Briercrest Bible College. Sheila graduated with a Bible Diploma in

1978 and a Bachelor of Biblical Studies in 1986. After her son started school in 2001, she decided to pursue further studies and began work towards a Master of Arts degree majoring in Leadership and Management. It was a dream that came true for her when she graduated with an MA in April 2009.

Sheila and her husband have been married for forty-three years and since April 1980 they have worked together as a team in Native ministries. She worked as Office Secretary for the Native Evangelical Fellowship of Canada, Inc. from 1980–94, also serving a three-year term as Board Secretary/Treasurer for the organization. In addition, Sheila sat as a Board Member for Prison Fellowship Canada. Since 1995, she has worked as Office Secretary of the Native Gospel Ministries of Canada, Inc. Sheila’s thirty-three years in Native Ministries have given her a wide range of practical experience which is evident in this, her first book, *My Grief Journey from Mourning to Dancing*.



You can order your personal copy of Sheila’s book through our NGM office. The cost per book is \$25, which includes postage and handling. Make your cheque payable to:

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Ottawa, Ontario
K1G 5K9

On the Go with Dr. Joe 2014 *continued*

at the Faith Temple Church while I was there. It was good to have fellowship with Pastor Elkanah Hughie and some of the people from his congregation. I noticed most of the people I talked to in the community have suffered multiple losses recently so it was a good thing for the Crisis Counseling Department to purchase fifty copies of Sheila's book.

October 25

After my visit to Kashechewan, I stopped overnight in Moose Factory because I had to do a wedding the next day for my nephew, Michael Jolly, and his fiancée, Stacey Kapashesit. I had to rush right after the wedding ceremony so I could catch my 3:00 flight from Moosonee to Timmins. From there, I made flight connections with Air Canada to Toronto and then to Ottawa. I had good connections and was home shortly after 10:00 p.m.

October 26

I was very glad to be home for Joseph's nineteenth birthday. We always make sure we celebrate his birthday in a special way for him. This year he just wanted money to buy clothes for himself.

October 27–31

I flew from Ottawa to Val-d'Or, Quebec. I went to the Amos Correctional Institution for three days to visit the inmates from the various Cree communities. I always enjoy talking to the inmates in our Cree language and many of them have had contact with the gospel. While I was there, I prayed with one man to accept the Lord. This happened on my birthday so that was a special blessing for me.

November 1–5

Sheila and I were invited to lead a five-day grief seminar in Curve Lake, Ontario. The Native reserve is on the outskirts of Peterborough. The theme of the Conference was "A Step Towards Joy and Wholeness." This event was sponsored by the Curve Lake Christian Assembly and the

Continued on page 15



Left: Pastor Elkanah Hughie and the Faith Temple Church.

Top: Michael Jolly and his wife Stacey Kapashesit.

Above: Joseph on his birthday.



19th Annual Native Christian Conference *continued*



Above: Sheila Jolly at the Conference with two ladies from Ottawa, ON.
Right: a delicious buffet was enjoyed by all.



My son, Joseph, played an instrumental solo on Saturday night. He is open to do that again for our next Conference. It was sure a blessing to hear Abraham sing a couple of songs with Randy and Evangeline. They used to sing together with the Sonrise Gospel Band.

We had our fellowship meal on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. It was an excellent meal and it was nice to see so many people volunteering willingly to help in the kitchen. We had a surprise birthday party for my brother, Harry, who turned 60 on May 26, 2014. He was very happy about that.

The Conference, as always, was free of charge. We rely upon goodwill offerings and donations to cover the cost of the Conference. This year the total expenses for the Conference came to about \$15,000. We praise God that we were able to cover all the expenses for the Conference through the freewill offerings and donations that came in through our office. It is always a miracle to see how God provides for each Conference and we want to thank you for your part.

2013 Annual NGM Native Christian Conference DVDs Now Available

You can now order a set of DVDs for the **2013 Annual NGM Native Christian Conference** in Ottawa. You will enjoy watching and listening to the special music by various musicians we invited, personal testimonies and the preaching of the Word of God by Pastor Jerry Quequish. We taped all the main sessions of the Conference and each DVD is about two hours in length. The set of DVDs have been produced by Mushkeg Media Inc. and I am sure you will receive a blessing and encouragement as you watch the DVDs on your TV or computer. To cover some of our expenses for making the DVDs, we have to charge \$30 for the whole package, which has four CDs. This is one way you can also support NGM's ministry and get something in return that will bless your heart.

Make your cheque payable to:

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On the Go with Dr. Joe 2014^{continued}

Curve Lake First Nation. The first main session was held at the Seniors Residence and was followed by a community feast and gospel music concert. On Sunday morning, I spoke at the joint service that was held at the Curve Lake First Nation Community Church. In the evening, there was a regular service at the Seniors Residence. During the week, I shared a couple of topics on the grief process and Sheila shared her grief journey from multiple losses. My brother Harry was invited to do special music for Saturday and Sunday and I was asked to sing at all the sessions. I also did individual counseling while I was there for the five days. The Christians from Curve Lake always come to our NGM Conference so it was a blessing to spend the few days with them.



Left: Sheila Jolly
doing a workshop
on her grief journey.



Below: Gospel
music concert
in Curve Lake.



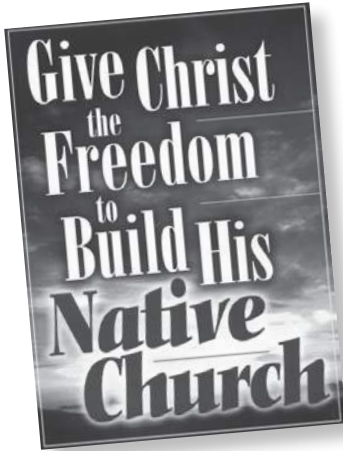
Bottom: Norma
Wager and her
sister Colleen.



DISSERTATION PROJECT:

Give Christ the Freedom to Build His Native Church

Give Christ the Freedom to Build His Native Church by Dr. Joseph Jolly is a review of cross-cultural principles that examines the strategies and methodologies of planting indigenous churches.

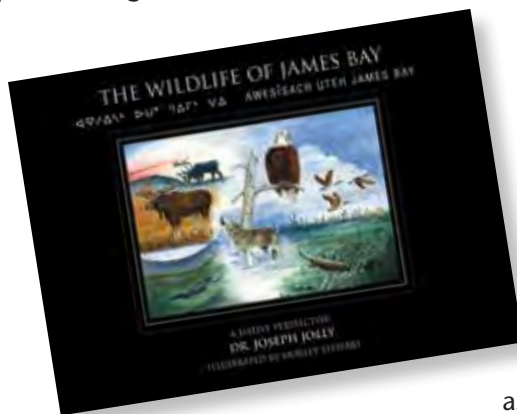


This dissertation is written, first of all, to provide a resource book for Native leaders, incumbent missionaries, and missionary candidates who are or will be working among the Native Indian people of Canada. It is also written to provide information to anyone who is interested in knowing more about Aboriginal people and their cultural values. The main emphasis in the dissertation focuses on the

strategy and principles of indigenization and contextualization in church planting.

The cost of the dissertation project is \$20.00, which includes mailing and postage. Send your cheque or money order to our NGM office:

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GRIEF BOOK ON SALE

The author Joseph Jolly is Native, so the book has a Native perspective, but it is applicable to everybody. Based on a biblical perspective, the grief book emphasizes that ultimately God is our greatest source of strength when we face the pain of sorrow and the hardships of life. The book informs the reader that people going through grief are affected emotionally, mentally, physically and spiritually.

The cost of the book is \$16.95, which also includes mailing and postage. If you order twenty copies or more, the wholesale price per book is \$12.00. Please send your cheque or money order to:

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