

# Dunamis Fellowship Canada

A Regional Expression of Presbyterian-Reformed Ministries International (PRMI)

*Exalting Jesus Christ! Igniting the Church in the power of the Holy Spirit  
under the authority of the Holy Bible as the Word of God*

*through Prayer, Leadership Development, Growing the Church and Mission Outreach  
so that the Church will be empowered to do all that Christ commands to the glory of God the Father*



Barb Ferrier  
Dunamis Institute  
Regional Dean

*Since I announced I'd be stepping down as volunteer Executive Director, the DFC Board has been praying and asking the Lord for his direction and leadership for the organization. God's opened doors and grown the organization across Canada and it's time for a part-time paid director to assume leadership. I'm pleased to announce that Trevor Payton has confirmed the board's discernment and God's call to the position.*

*Trevor was born and raised in Hamilton, ON and is an ordained pastor in the Christian Reformed Church. He has served churches in Ontario and New Jersey. He and his wife, Erin, and five children plan to move back to Ontario this fall. Your prayers are welcome as they make these exciting transitions.*

*I will retain the role of Regional Dean for Canada, working with the Canadian group of Dunamis teachers and track/event directors and look forward to having more capacity to put into that role.*

## Introducing Trevor Payton: DFC's new Executive Director

God is mightily at work in Canada, renewing his Church and expanding his Kingdom. He has called DFC to play a crucial role in that work: we equip people to cooperate with the Holy Spirit. Each one of us can attest to the life-giving transformation that we've found as we began to engage in that dance of cooperation. We've seen God do works of healing and restoration, both within ourselves as individuals and in the lives of those around us.

Now let's imagine what will start to happen when God expands that work even further: instead of a few people in the local church who are

learning how to dance with the Holy Spirit, we'll have *whole congregations* starting to learn! And when that happens, look out! Their communities will never be the same! People who were once filled with insecurity and trepidation, and who once said, "*Oh, no, I could never...*" will begin to find hope and confidence as they discover that yes, God really can—and delights to—build his Kingdom through them!

I know, because that's what God has done in me. My journey of learning to cooperate with the Holy Spirit really began with the Guelph Dunamis group in 2009 when I was pastoring my first church. Before attending seminary I had read Jack Deere's book, "*Surprised by the Power of the Spirit,*" so I knew that the Holy Spirit still works in power today, but I hadn't yet experienced it personally. I registered immediately when I heard that Dunamis was happening nearby.

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At the time I was struggling heavily: disillusioned and discouraged, even to the point of wanting to walk away from the ministry altogether. It was Friday evening and I was eating supper by myself because I had returned late from a prayer walk where I had been wrestling and lamenting with God. A soft-spoken carpenter named Harry, whom I had known for several years through my home church, asked if he could join me at my table. I nodded. He asked how I was doing. "Not well," I replied. He asked if I'd like to be prayed for, but I declined. He nodded, and just continued to sit there, quietly. (Harry later explained God was telling him to simply sit there with me.)

I was trying to hold myself together, because my soul was aching and it felt like my emotions were bleeding. Finally I said, "Yes, I actually would like to be prayed for." Harry smiled and went to find someone to join us. A few minutes later he introduced me to a kind woman named Barb. Harry and Barb listened and prayed as I poured out my heart. I don't have the space right now to describe *Continued on p. 2....*



Trevor Payton,  
DFC Executive Director

## Introducing Trevor Payton... continued from p. 1



everything that happened, but my Good Shepherd came into the room and restored my soul. The next day he baptized me with his Holy Spirit in the front seat of my car in the parking lot, and that's when things really started to change.

This was my first experience with a Dunamis project, and it was life-changing. I continued with the Guelph Dunamis track until I moved to a new church in New Jersey. I attended *Exousia* (PRMI's leadership course for teachers and event leaders) and since then I've taught at many Dunamis events in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Ontario, and most recently in New Jersey. I'm also about to begin the *Advanced Healing & Deliverance* course.

I love this ministry! At Dunamis I've found genuine community and developed lifelong friendships. I've learned the joy of dancing with the Holy Spirit so that I can now minister alongside God in the unique way that God has made me.

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A few months ago, the Board invited me to consider serving as the new Executive Director for DFC. I was thrilled, because I love the ministry and have long dreamed about doing this. And nervous, because I knew that God's vision for this ministry is so far beyond my ability to achieve. And finally bold, because God made it clear that he had been preparing me for a long time and was now calling me into it.

Jesus' Kingdom is advancing throughout Canada, this beautiful and sprawling country where we live.

What does that mean for the ministry of DFC? Let's

continue to ask King Jesus about that; he has given us visions and dreams and a love for our country, but he's the One who

calls the shots. Our role is to walk with him in obedience, to step into the dance when he invites us, and to bring others with us. There's plenty of space: Canada is a beautiful and sprawling dance floor!

## Finding Prayer's Place: Events on Oct. 20 in Thunder Bay & Guelph

DFC is all about equipping believers to cooperate with the Holy Spirit so God's Kingdom is advanced. We're doing a new thing this fall—in providing a one-day context to build your ability to intercede in prayer and to provide spiritual first-aid in prayer ministry within the body of Christ. Both Thunder Bay and Guelph events are on the same day—Saturday, Oct. 20. Prior attendance at a DFC event would be helpful, but is not required.

### Thunder Bay Teachers



Rev. Martin Boardman



Rev. Marg Rekman

We're pleased to offer our first event in Thunder Bay. Martin is DFC's Prayer Mobilizer and Marg is pastor of Bethlehem Christian Reformed Church in Thunder Bay.

### Guelph Teachers



Rev. Trevor Payton



Janet Lammers



Barb Ferrier

### Change of Location!

This fall our second *Finding Prayer's Place* event will be in Thunder Bay—not Edmonton as stated in the previous newsletter. Stay tuned... we do hope to offer one in Edmonton eventually.

## Pray to Impact the Youth of Canada



Pat Allison  
Catalyst for UC  
in Canada

This summer, Pat Allison led a group of youth and youth leaders to Upward Challenge (UC) at the Community of the Cross in Black Mountain, North Carolina. Upward Challenge is designed to present the core concepts of the Dunamis teaching to youth and give them an opportunity to encounter Jesus Christ and the empowering work of the Holy Spirit.

The Canadian team attended to learn and imagine bringing Upward Challenge back to Canada. They returned excited about the way the Lord was working in the youth who attended and with a growing desire to see this impact the youth of Canada .

For this vision to grow it will need the work of prayer. Prayer is necessary to discern the when, how and where the Lord would want this ministry to proceed. It's necessary to carry any project through from concept to reality. **If this excites you and you feel the gentle prompt of the Holy Spirit inviting you to join in, then please email Prayer Mobilizer Martin Boardman ([martinb@dfcanada.org](mailto:martinb@dfcanada.org)) who is gathering a group to pray further into this opportunity.**



Ashley Patton  
Youth Ministry  
Champion for CRC  
Classis BC NW

### Things Ashley Appreciated

- **Debriefing** - which created a safe place to know, understand and interact with the Holy Spirit. Leaders were willing to hit "pause", and ask "what just happened?" to make sense and wrestle with manifestations of the Holy Spirit.
- **The Trinitarian aspect** of this teaching in which the Holy Spirit is not isolated from God the Father and Jesus the Son. I grew in my love and knowledge of the Holy Spirit and how he fits and completes the Trinity.
- My favourite part of the day was **the 5 PM leaders meeting**. For someone who can over-think in planning, it was so freeing that we would take the time to discern the evening theme only two hours before the session started. After a time of listening to God, leaders gave each person opportunity to share what God gave them. By the end of going around the circle we had discerned the theme and point person for the evening. It was a beautiful thing to see how God had prepared me weeks before, without my realizing it, for the teaching he called me to give one evening. And beautiful to see what he brought from that teaching in the lives of those who responded to it.

## Comments from the Youth

### Zack (age 15)

- I loved how judgment-free it was; it felt very safe there, the whole week.
- Because of my time at Upward Challenge, I've really taken a closer look at how I perceive events. I've really thought more and taken a closer look at how Jesus always makes things work for the good of those who love him, so I've found myself thinking about how God will turn things for our good.
- The leaders at Upward Challenge all had a really good sense of what God was going to do. I thought it was cool how all the leaders went about the day, constantly listening to the Holy Spirit.



Youth leaders Brian Smith & Ashley Patton and youth, Catherine, Zack and Derek.

### Derek (age 13)

- I learned that there are all sorts of things that I thought I knew, but I didn't. And that I definitely need to go there again, to learn more and more about God.
- I now spend a lot more time praying to God.
- Going to Upward Challenge has changed the way that I experience life at church, at home, and with my friends. I also pay more attention to how I can become a better Christian.

### Catherine (age 14)

- I understand more about how the Holy Spirit works and how he speaks to us.
- I also understand more of what I read in the Bible and what goes on around me.
- I felt like I could be myself and I wasn't being judged, I felt free and safe.
- Upward challenge was definitely amazing, I didn't want to leave it was my comfort place. Best thing I ever been to. 😊 I loved it.

## Transition's Happening in the DFC Office, too!



Sheila Thomson  
DFC's Administrator  
2006-2018

After 12 years of faithful, part-time service to DFC, Sheila will be more available as part of her church prayer ministry team and have more time with her many grandchildren after she retires at the end of the year.

We're so grateful that she's been the point of first contact and a caring voice on the other end of the phone or email as she's explained our ministry or sorted out registration details. She was hired just after DFC received charitable status as a newborn organization. Early on God gave Sheila a vision of flames springing up all across Canada and she's had the privilege of seeing God open doors and grow this ministry from its beginnings.

We've arranged for a 4 month transition time in the office, as Patti Tan begins to shadow Sheila and learn the ropes this September. As you interact with them this fall, please add your own thanks to Sheila and welcome Patti to the DFC family.

### Introducing Patti Tan

Patti's involvement with Dunamis came through video course 10 years ago. Through a series of visions and journaling, God made it clear that she was to step into this role. *"Walk confidently, knowing that you are heading in a direction that I have laid out before you."* answered her question, 'Should I be taking on this Dunamis job?' She's in awe of how pictures that come in vision or dream or that she paints come back to her in a statement someone makes or a sermon she hears or a sentence she reads.



Patti Tan

Patti and her husband Vince are on the brink of empty nest life, with just the youngest of their three children still at home. She has 13+ years of experience in teaching her own children, then teaching another family of gifted kids in their home. She also has a small business helping families work through the reasons for home-schooling (or not) and how to make things work in their particular situation. She focuses primarily on children with learning issues such as ADHD or Autism or dyslexia and other such issues which often hide giftedness.

She writes, "I look forward to being immersed in Dunamis teachings and working with Sheila in learning the ropes for filling the administrative role for Dunamis Fellowship Canada. Keep us in your prayers as Trevor and I step in to fill large shoes! As trepidatious as this whole thing is, it is also very exciting. As I see over and over in my journaling, I remind myself to "Keep my eyes on Jesus."



As a faith based ministry, we are acutely aware that every gift of people and donations comes from the Lord's provision and we give him thanks. As we face an increasing number of invitations for ministry, the ministry grows and we start to pay an Executive Director, we rely on the Lord and the generosity of his people for those plans to go forward.

Monthly donations through *Sustaining the Flame Canada* have been a particular blessing to even out our income stream. If the Lord's nudging you to join those who support DFC with monthly donations, contact Sheila and/or Patti in our office. Each gift furthers this Kingdom work and allows us to expand this ministry across Canada.

### Upcoming Events

Oct. 20, 2018	Finding Prayer's Place—Thunder Bay, ON
Oct. 20, 2018	Finding Prayer's Place—Guelph, ON
Nov. 5-8, 2018	Dunamis Project VI—Listening Evangelism—Guelph, ON
Nov. 14-17, 2018	Dunamis Project II—In the Spirit's Power—Edmonton, AB
Mar. 23, 2019	Annual Conference—Guelph, ON
Apr. 10-13, 2019	Dunamis Project III—The Power of Prayer—Edmonton, AB
May 7-10, 2019	Growing the Church in the Power of the Holy Spirit—Edmonton, AB

See DFC website for more information

See [prmi.org](http://prmi.org)—for information on the Dunamis Institute and USA Events close to our border in Bellingham, WA, Alaska and Michigan

### Contact Information



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