



Edmonton Dunamis Track - a Firm Foundation

"I get to walk empowered!" exclaimed a participant attending the first Dunamis Project held in Edmonton last April. Another said, "I learned the necessity of having people who are equipped for this in my church.", and a third, "was ambushed by God's love pouring through the speakers and fellow Christians."

Mentoring church leaders and growing ourselves in



the empowering work of the Holy Spirit is an incredible privilege for us in DFC. Our conviction is that Jesus intends all Christians to live and minister in the

power of the Holy Spirit, yet this remains "news" to many within the church.

Gaining a strong theological understanding of the person and work of the Holy Spirit is important—especially for those of us raised in denominations which were more inclined to view experiences attributed to the Holy Spirit as mere emotionalism. Gaining practical

experience in hearing and responding to the Holy Spirit is also essential so that our knowing is rooted in not only head knowledge but also objective, verifiable experience, which we submit to corporate discernment.

Dunamis Projects are a little like dance studios—places where the steps of cooperating with the Holy Spirit are taught and practiced, and where we can try moving out of our comfort zone within a safe environment.

The first two Dunamis Projects—*Gateways to Empowered Ministry*, and *In the Spirit's Power* provide a biblical foundation. Those attending *In the Spirit's Power* in Edmonton this November will learn how to listen and cooperate with the Holy Spirit, developing "power tools" - spiritual gifts which the Holy Spirit distributes as He sees fit, in order to build God's Kingdom.

We're pleased that four experienced pastors are slated to teach in Edmonton this fall. Our lead teacher will be Presbyterian pastor, Chris Walker, with extensive experience teaching Dunamis principles throughout Latin America as Pioneer Faculty for Mission and Evangelism in the Americas. Three Christian Reformed clergy in Alberta: Tom Baird, Anne VanderHoek and Martin Boardman, will round out the teaching team.

Growing the Church in the Power of the Holy Spirit: Ottawa & Vancouver

We're pleased that Rev. Paul Stokes plans to return to Canada to be our lead teacher at two *Growing the Church (GTC)* events in Ottawa and Vancouver next spring, co-sponsored with Christian Reformed Church Home Missions (as were our GTC events in Guelph and Edmonton last fall). Paul's been applying Dunamis principles in his role as minister of Plymstock United Reformed Church in Plymouth, England, and also serves as the Academic Dean for the Dunamis Institute. He's co-authored the book, *Growing the Church in the Power of the Holy Spirit* with Rev. Dr. Brad Long and Rev. Cindy Strickler.



The Holy Spirit knows our congregational contexts better than we, and has plans to grow Jesus' church. Come learn with us how to listen and cooperate with the Holy Spirit to strengthen and grow your congregation.

Ottawa, ON: Monday, April 27—Thursday, April 30, 2015

Vancouver, BC: Monday, June 1—Thursday, June 4, 2015



Paul Stokes

Dunamis Around the World—Taiwan By Rev. Brad Long, Dunamis Institute President

Thanks for your prayers while we were in Taiwan offering Dunamis Project II. I'll share four high points - good illustrations of learning to cooperate with the Holy Spirit.

The first was preaching in a traditional, packed out Taiwan Presbyterian Church in Taipei. John Chang's preaching on the four works of the Holy Spirit was empowered and well-received. Among those attending



Dr. Brad Long greeting Dr. Li, former President of Taiwan

was the past President of Taiwan, Dr. Li. More than 25 years ago I invited Dr. Li to come to the Presbyterian Lay Training Center at the Bible College to lead a Christian businessmen's conference. He was Vice-President at the time.

There were lots of young people at the second service, so they asked me to preach in English. I was led to preach on how to receive and grow in the power of the Holy Spirit. John warned me that everyone was so conservative in that congregation that it would not be a good idea to lead them on into prayer. So even though I was aware the Holy Spirit was starting to move, I concluded my sermon without inviting the congregants to pray for the empowering of the Holy Spirit. To our surprise, the worship leader picked up right where John



Rev. John Chang interpreting into Mandarin as Rev. Brad Long preached

and I had stopped and stepped directly into the Kairos moment. He asked the Holy Spirit to come upon them and then directed them through the steps of asking, receiving in faith, and walking in obedience. Lo and behold,

the Holy Spirit moved in power! We remained quiet for another several minutes as the Holy Spirit moved on the group.

The second high point was in Taichung where again our focus was on how to cooperate with the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Most exciting was to watch those who got involved in Intercession. Mary Ellen Conners was joined by the Rev. Charity Chen, first filled with the Holy Spirit when she was my student at the Bible College. Of the 40 people who showed up the first morning for the Gateways make-up session, most stayed for the teaching on Intercessory prayer in the afternoon. Out of this group, many volunteered to provide the Intercessory prayer backup for the rest of the event. Mary Ellen and Charity did a great job forming them into a team

by giving them practical instruction in event intercession. It was due to this anointed and consistent prayer covering that we experienced such effective practice of cooperating with the Holy Spirit.

The third high point also took place on the first afternoon in Taichung. John and I had been teaching on the dynamic of cooperation with the Holy Spirit, and now found ourselves exhausted. Spiritual attacks had come against us in waves all day. Jet lag, no doubt, had also caught up with us.

How good it was to hand off the teaching mantle to Cindy Strickler and her interpreter, Ji Dong Shan, for instruction on how to receive guidance from the Holy Spirit. After teaching, Cindy moved the people into groups of 3 or 4 for an exercise in receiving guidance.

Cindy instructed them in their groups to select one for whom the others would pray. That one was not to share a



prayer request aloud. All were to remain in silent prayer before the Father. She encouraged those praying to trust the Holy Spirit to reveal to them how they should pray.

After a time of stillness, they were to step out in faith to pray. The marvel in this kind of exercise is that the Holy Spirit is gracious so often to put spoken words of prayer into their mouths matching exactly, or at least closely, the actual need. Both those who received words to pray and those who were ministered to were greatly blessed. In the testimonies at the end of the whole event, most all echoed that these exercises were their favorite parts of the equipping event!

The fourth highlight for me came after I taught on tongues and prophecy. At 5:00 pm, everyone was tired and hungry, ready to break for supper. Just as I noted my desire to end the session, the Holy Spirit impressed on me the clear guidance that we were to pray for the gift of tongues. With no worship as preparation, without preaching or testimonies to stir the emotions and the look of exhaustion on everyone's face, I simply announced that I thought the Holy Spirit wanted to give the gift of tongues. The next thirty minutes were amazing! It felt like a version of the first Pentecost.



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Guelph Dunamis Track Tackles Spiritual Warfare

Knowing the basics of spiritual warfare is a lot like having basic First Aid credentials. Life includes its share of scraped knees and even broken bones, so being able to recognize symptoms and respond appropriately is a healthy life skill to acquire.

It's not that we seek out spiritual warfare. But it comes with the territory as we live out our Christian lives and callings—whether or not we see it for what it is, or are very skilled to respond appropriately.

So this may seem like a daunting topic, but in reality, we have been grafted into Christ Jesus (Eph. 1:13-14) to whom is given all power and authority. In Christ we can stand in his authority against powers and principalities. There is nothing to fear. When need be we can take appropriate action to protect ourselves, our families and congregations and advance the Kingdom of God.

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. (Gal. 5:1) Jesus declared, as he read Isaiah 61 from the scroll in the synagogue, that he had come to set the captives free. And he invites us to join him in the ministry of healing and restoration, so his Kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven and his Father God gets the glory. Some of that involves setting the spiritual captives free, and utilizing spiritual warfare principles to do that.

We're pleased to have three experienced teachers from whom we can learn at the event in Guelph, Nov. 5-8. All are Presbyterian pastors. Bernie McGale and Stephen Dunkin both lead congregations in Ontario and serve as DFC board members. Debbie Kemp has co-pastored a Presbyterian congregation in New York state along with her husband Allen. Debbie and Allen have taught Dunamis Projects in Uganda and Central Asia (see DFC Feb. 2014 newsletter) as well as in various US locations.



Allen & Debbie Kemp

Once again we anticipate our pioneer Family Track as part of this event in Guelph, under the leadership of Rev. John and Nancy VanStone, providing age appropriate teaching of Dunamis principles to children.



Sustaining the Flame Canada

God is an amazing provider, and we give thanks to him for the provision he has made for this ministry. Your monthly *Sustaining the Flame Canada* gifts have been such a blessing to even out the income stream. Thank You!

If your church has been blessed by this ministry, perhaps your leadership—whether through deacons or your missions committee—would be open to the idea of



taking an offering for DFC, or adding us to your missions budget. Each gift furthers this Kingdom work and allows us to expand this ministry across Canada.



Guelph Dunamis Project participants, & Track Directors: Judy Cook & Nancy Mostert

The Power of Worship

Holy Spirit led worship ushers us into the presence of God, opens our hearts to the King of Kings and provides a context for sweet encounters with the Lord.



Toyosi Awesu providing Holy Spirit led worship at a Guelph Dunamis Project

It's also a powerful weapon in the arsenal we have at our disposal in dealing with enemy influence. Satan is "allergic" to praise and worship of the living God. So next time you sense a spiritual struggle, try routing the enemy by worshipping through praise and thanksgiving.



Dunamis Around the World—Taiwan *continued from p. 2*

We laid hands on people seeking to receive the gift of tongues or prophecy. As I did I would often get the guidance to, independent of whether or not they were showing any manifestations of the Holy Spirit, I would encourage them to lay hands on others to receive the gift. To me it seemed that as brothers and sisters in Christ laid hands on others, it was precisely then that they themselves received the gift of tongues. Joy flooded over all as we worshiped and praised the Lord! The dynamic of receiving spiritual gifts as we reach out in obedience to pray for others is consistent with the nature of all the gifts of the Holy Spirit: They are given as we need them to follow Jesus Christ in serving others.

Debriefing figured prominently throughout the event. We asked the four questions of discernment routinely at the conclusion of teaching and practice, when the Holy

Spirit made Himself known. When the Holy Spirit shows up in power to bestow spiritual gifts, we need to discern how He worked in our midst, and if, in fact, it was He in charge. Further, we make ourselves vulnerable to scrutiny to determine how we can cooperate with Him more effectively the next time, even naming mistakes we may have made along the way.



Rev. Cindy Strickler,
praying for a participant

We look forward to seeing even greater confirmation of the Holy Spirit's work among us as the fruit of this event grows to maturity among those who took part in it. We trust that this will be the case for the glory of Jesus Christ and the advancement of His Kingdom!

Ways to Pray

- For track directors of Dunamis Tracks and Growing the Church events:
 - Edmonton: Joanne Rozendaal and Martin Boardman
 - Guelph: Judy Cook and Nancy Mostert
 - Ottawa: Cathy & Leo VanArragon
 - Vancouver: Andrew Beunk
- For God to whet the appetites of those called to deeper equipping through the *Dunamis Projects* and *Growing the Church in the Power of the Holy Spirit* events, and that they find time and resources to attend.
- For the young people who've experienced God's love and Holy Spirit power this summer at Upward Challenge.
- For leaders who attended *Growing The Church* events to be encouraged as they dance with the Holy Spirit.
- DFC Board and Staff—for wisdom and discernment at we meet September 8 and October 27.
- For John and Nancy VanStone as they pioneer the Family Track development.
- For our denominations to be responsive to the Holy Spirit's leading, and for our witness within congregations and denominational contexts to be God-honouring and winsome.
- Against enemy plans or interference in any of God's Kingdom Advancement through DFC or those equipped by this ministry.



Upcoming Events

November 5-8, 2014	Project V— <i>Spiritual Warfare</i> , Guelph ON
November 12-15, 2014	Project II— <i>In the Spirit's Power</i> , Edmonton AB
April 8-11, 2015	Project VI— <i>Listening Evangelism</i> , Guelph ON
April 22-25, 2015	Project III— <i>Power of Prayer</i> , Edmonton AB
April 27-30, 2015	Growing the Church—Ottawa ON
June 1-4, 2015	Growing the Church—Vancouver BC
November 11-14, 2015	Project IV— <i>Healing Ministry of Jesus</i> , Edmonton AB

See DFC website for more information

See Dunamis Institute website—dunamisinstitute.org—for information on USA events close to our border in Bellingham, WA, Alaska and Michigan.

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