



# Communicator

## December 2018

We encourage you to forward this update to faculty, staff, board members, or other interested parties.

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## **From the Director—Philip Hills**

### *A Message of Hope for an Oppressed People*

To those that still revered God and sought to live according to His ways, there was never greater reason to be discouraged. The moral climate of the nation was black. The world had invaded their once insular nation. New technology was flooding the nation with godless ideas and lifestyles. Those with power were totally committed to hedonistic values and power seeking. The educated class actively despised and disparaged the godly and members of a growing list of invading religions were influencing their people to question the exclusive claims of God.

More than this, the religious climate of their own places of worship had been corrupted. Their leaders were self-righteous and dehumanizing toward those they defined as ungodly. Their religious practices were joyless and their public posture condemning. Though there was still evidence of people committed to the 'old time religion', most participants were at best nominal in their lifestyle. There was concern for looking good in religious circles, but little attention was paid to authentically being righteous.

Finally, for the poor and working class it was a brutal age. Most lived their next pay cheque away from homelessness. There was little hope of just treatment for them. Most people carried debts that left them enslaved to their debtors. Women were exploited and sexually abused with little consequences for their abusers. And children were completely at the mercy of their care takers. They had no voice and little value save for that given by a loving parent. Unloved and unwanted children could be discarded. Those that survived filled the streets in a desperate attempt to survive.

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Into this setting came a message that seemed deeply offensive—"Peace among those on whom God's favor rests." How could there be peace in this broken, unjust and soul crushing age? How could there be peace when those who were most faithful to God were the most marginalized and oppressed? How could there be peace when faithless people ruled and influenced culture, while the faithful were ignored and actively silenced if they were audacious enough to speak? How could there be peace if the courts were corrupted by power and wealth? How could there be peace when the hedonists believed there was nothing more than *now*, justifying their pleasure seeking without thought of its impact on their future and others? And how could there be peace when the world seemed to be a daily witness to the unfulfilled and unfulfillable promises of God?

This message, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!", was first heard by one of the most powerless, marginalized and exploited groups of their time. It was given to them in the context of an utterly unanticipated event—the incarnation of God. On that historic night centuries ago, everything changed when Jesus was born. Note also that this peace was not a future reality but one that had at that moment become reality.

It is a message our students need to hear today. So much of the way the world was at Jesus' first coming, is going to be the way it will be before His second coming. 2 Timothy 3 tells us that the last days will be terrible because people will become *lovers of themselves rather than lovers of God*. He goes on to list other conditions that will exist, and it seems, when read today, as if he is writing a blog entry about the way the world is in our time. For those that are born again and passionate about Jesus, this 'last days world' can feel deeply oppressive and discouraging. Therefore, we need to help our students understand that despite the broken reality of this age, they can have Shalom right now.

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As I have tried to share this year, this promise of Shalom is a broad and complex reality. It is peace with God, the peace of God and the confidence that soon all injustice, pain and suffering, as well as death and decay, will be scrubbed from the universe as Jesus remakes it into a place of perfect peace.

So just like those shepherds whose external life circumstances did not change when this message of peace was declared to them, but who looked at themselves and the world around with new hope and joy, so our students can be led to experience Shalom even as they wait and work toward the culmination of Shalom at the visible return of Jesus.

This Christmas may the Shalom that Jesus came to bring give you great joy, as well as the courage to stand firmly in God's promises as you wait for the complete fulfillment of every single one.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE  
HIGHEST, AND ON  
EARTH PEACE AMONG  
THOSE WITH WHOM  
HE IS PLEASED.

LUKE 2:14

## Events

Find information and register for events on our [website](#). The ACSI Events Calendar for 2018/2019 is posted on our Home page.

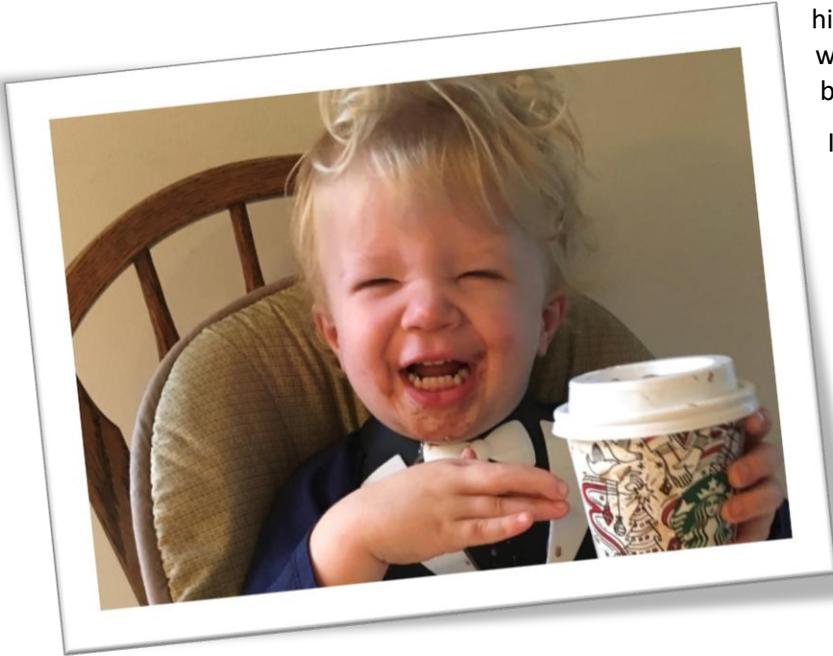
### Event Resources

Looking for the resources from ACSIWC events? Send a request to the ACSIWC office by email to [acsiwc@acsi.org](mailto:acsiwc@acsi.org).

### Administrator/Board National Conference

This year's **MB Administrator/Board Conference** will be February 14, 2019, at Linden Christian School in Winnipeg, MB. Check [here](#) for online registration and updated information.

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## District Meetings

The **MB meeting** will be held February 14, 2019, at Linden Christian School, Winnipeg.

The **BC meeting** will be held March 1, 2019, at Cornerstone Christian School, Abbotsford.

Agendas will be sent to member schools approximately one month before the scheduled meeting. Updated information is available on our [website](#).

## Professional Development

In keeping with our mission to enable Christian educators to effectively prepare students for life, ACSI offers professional development specifically designed to benefit teachers and administrators within our member schools. It is also a good opportunity to meet with colleagues and continue to build a support network for your school.

The **Island PD Day** will be on February 15, 2019, at Phil and Jennie Gaglardi Academy in Comox, BC. The **PD North Day** will be on February 22, 2019, at North Cariboo Christian School in Quesnel, BC.

Go to our [website](#) for online registration and more information.

## Student Activities

We want our students to find peace with God, peace with each other, and peace with themselves. We want to equip our students to live the Shalom lifestyle, bringing redemptive hope wherever God chooses to use them.

The Spring Musicale, May 2–3 at Prairie Bible College in Three Hills, is an opportunity to motivate your Junior and Senior High band or choir. Brochures have been sent to your school or check the ACSIWC [website](#) for information.

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## Teacher Conventions

The theme for this year's conventions is *Shalom* (Isaiah 9:6). We will consider what the Shalom worldview is and how we can reveal it to our students in all areas of school activity. We are excited at the prospect of being able to help our students see the real glorious future God will soon bring upon the earth and how they can prepare that world through their faith, gifts and works.

Brochures will be sent to your schools. Check our [website](#) for more information or to register online.

ACSI members, join the ACSI [Community](#) for discussion and information.

- MB: February 15, Linden Christian School, Winnipeg | [MB Teacher Convention Info](#)

## College Corner

If any of our member colleges have an upcoming open house or other event that would be of interest to our students, please let our office know so that we can include the information in upcoming issues of the Communicator. The deadline for submissions for the January Communicator is December 21.

## Peace River Bible Institute

**Freshmen \$3000**—PRBI's donor and friends strongly believe in investing in young people and want to support their desire to attend PRBI by giving them \$3000 towards their tuition. We have removed some of the financial barriers so that anyone can attend the 2019 school year! For more information go to our website [prbi.edu](#) or call 780.568.3962.

**March 8–10/19 eView College TakeOver**—Come experience more of PRBI by moving in for a few days! Come enjoy dorm life, classes, the college night life, and our annual Friday Night Live. More information to come!

## School News

Hearing about what other member schools are doing helps us feel connected as an association. We encourage you to [email](#) newsworthy information about your school to be included in this section of the monthly Communicator and on our Facebook page. The deadline for submissions for the January Communicator is December 21.

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# Global Outreach

## School Global Outreach News

One of the reasons our schools are so strong is because of their passionate concern for exalting Jesus among the nations. We highlight your stories to encourage one another. Please [email](#) stories and pictures to our office from recent mission trips and/or mission projects to share what your school is doing in support of reaching the world for Christ.

## School Mission Trips

Many of our schools will be sending student groups on mission trips this year. Please send us your school name and the dates and destination of your trip so we can pray for you as you travel and spread God's love around the world.

## 2018–19 ACSI Western Canada Project



Each year ACSI Western Canada chooses an education-based service project to support.

For the 2018–19 school year ACSIWC will continue to support the Dust to Desk Project. The goal is to raise \$20,000 which will provide seating for over 1000 students. For example, the cost of a four-student desk is approximately \$80.

The donations collected at the ACSI Teacher Conventions will go toward this goal. More information will be available at the conventions.

To donate online go to <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/6391>. Under the Funds option choose “Classrooms for Africa Desks”.

A promotional PowerPoint and a video are available for schools and teachers to use for their students and school communities. For more information please [email](#) or check out the C4A [website](#).

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## We Want to Serve You

### ACSI Canada Bookroom

This year ACSI has moved away from printing a paper Purposeful Design catalogue and is providing an online version only. Please visit our [Google site](#) to download the order form, catalogue, and samplers of new product. You can also visit our [website](#) to order online.

### ACSI Community

Connexus has been replaced with Community. Your new easy-to-use Community opens the door to ideation, collaboration, and innovation with your peers around the world making us all Stronger Together. Take a moment to check out the [new site](#). Please note that you will have to log in and reset your password.

### National House of Prayer

If your school would like to participate in praying for our Nation, the National House of Prayer is great opportunity to get involved, check out their [website](#) for more information.

### Keep Us Informed

Please notify us ASAP of administrative changes (principals, heads of school, email addresses, addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers) in your school. This is very important in helping us keep in contact with you.

**Your Feedback is Important to Us!** We welcome your feedback concerning this newsletter or any of the information in this newsletter. Please contact us with questions, comments, or suggestions by sending an email to [phil\\_hills@acsi.org](mailto:phil_hills@acsi.org).

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During this month of remembering the first coming of Jesus, the staff of ACSI Western Canada wishes you a renewed understanding of how all your problems were solved by the incarnation of God through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Because He lives not only can you face tomorrow but you can sweetly anticipate a future without trouble that will never end. Praise God for the gift of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Contact Us



### ACSIWC Office

44 Willow Brook Drive NW, Airdrie, AB T4B 2J5

Phone: 403.948.2332 Fax: 403.948.2395

[acsiwc@acsi.org](mailto:acsiwc@acsi.org) [acsiwc.org](http://acsiwc.org) [acsi.org](http://acsi.org)

### ACSIBC Office

PO Box #211 Stn Matsqui, Abbotsford, BC V4X 3R2

Phone: 604.851.6983 Fax: 604.357.5255

[acsiwc@acsi.org](mailto:acsiwc@acsi.org)

Executive Director—Phil Hills [phil\\_hills@acsi.org](mailto:phil_hills@acsi.org)

Assistant Executive Director—Cheryl Miller [millerajc@gmail.com](mailto:millerajc@gmail.com)

### Consultants

MB Consultant—Tim Reimer [timr@morweenaschool.org](mailto:timr@morweenaschool.org)

BC Consultant—David Arnold [dlarnold48@gmail.com](mailto:dlarnold48@gmail.com)

### ACSI Canada Bookroom

PO Box #211 Stn Matsqui, Abbotsford, BC V4X 3R2

Phone: 604.851.6983 Fax: 604.357.5255

[acsicanadabooks@gmail.com](mailto:acsicanadabooks@gmail.com) [acsicanadabooks.com](http://acsicanadabooks.com)

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