

# Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday September 22, 2013

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Musical Praise & Worship

Junior Church

Family Prayer

Scripture Reading..... Acts 15:1-35

Message.....Pastor John Bellingham

## “THE SALVATION OF THE GOSPEL”

Final Song

Benediction

*Into the world to live and witness for the Lord*

### Memory Verses for Junior Church:

#### **Younger Elementary:**

“Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his.” Psalm 100:3a

#### **Middle Elementary:**

“God is Spirit and his worshippers must worship in Spirit and truth.” John 4:24

# Missionary of the Week

## FEB French Church Planters

**Gilles & Monique Saulnier** (Saint-Hubert) give praise for a new sister in Christ - a senior whose neighbour faithfully witnessed to her for 5 years

**Karl & Naomi Fortin** (Plessisville) planted a church 6 months ago and are rejoicing in outreach to the community. The Fortins thank Rosedale for sending a financial gift toward their new ministry earlier this year.

**Benoit & Lysianne Constant** (St. Leonard). Under the coaching of Rene Frey, the core group began this new plant on September 15<sup>th</sup>! Pray for a strong leadership team and a permanent place of worship.

*“Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.”*  
- John 16:24

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## Families of the Week

Please remember to encourage and pray for the following families this week.

**Monday** Morgan, Terry

**Tuesday** Morog, Matt & Pauline

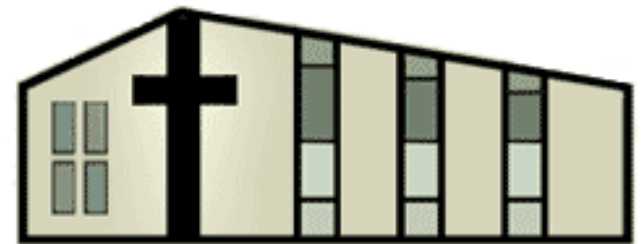
**Wednesday** Morey, Eric

**Thursday** Muir, Muriel

**Friday** Muller, Joe

**Saturday** Nagy, Joe & Anita

# Rosedale Baptist Church



Reaching up....

Reaching in....

Reaching out...

11 Rosedale Place  
Welland, ON L3B 1J2  
905-735-0788  
Pastor: John C. Bellingham

[www.rosedalebaptistwelland.com](http://www.rosedalebaptistwelland.com)

## This Week at Rosedale

Tuesday: Men's Study – 9:30am  
Family Play Time – 10:30am  
Ladies' Study – 8:30pm  
(Heather Arnold's House)

Wednesday: Prayer Meeting – 7:00pm

Friday: Young Adults – 6:30pm  
Men's Retreat Begins

Sunday: Christian Foundations – 9:00am  
Corporate Worship – 10:30 am

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**2014 Budget:** The Administrative Board has started initial planning for the 2014 budget. Members of Rosedale are invited to give verbal or written suggestions to our Treasurer, Melissa Kirkpatrick. The Board will meet again on October 7<sup>th</sup> to finalize the 2014 Budget.

**Junior High Youth Group:** A new Junior High Youth Group will begin this October. More details will follow!

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet:** Tickets for our anniversary celebration on November 16<sup>th</sup> are available for purchase today in the foyer. Cost will be \$10/ person and includes childcare (5 and under). Our guest speaker for the evening will be Pastor Frank Beerman.

**Nursery Volunteers Needed:** Please speak with Michelle Metcalfe for more information.

## The Salvation of the Gospel – Acts 15:1-35

- With a rapid influx of Gentiles coming into the Church, cultural tensions reach the breaking point in Acts 15 and the integrity of the gospel hangs in the balance

### **I. The Crisis (vv. 1-2)**

- 1) Jewish Christians from Jerusalem were teaching that Gentiles needed to be circumcised in order to be saved
  - a. Paul wrote 'Galatians' to counter this false teaching which was causing dissention
  - b. Peter himself was getting tripped up in hypocrisy (Galatians 2:11-21)
- 2) The Crisis was causing division in Antioch
- 3) The Crisis threatened to turn the Gospel of grace into a works based sect of Judaism

### **II. The Consensus (vv. 3-19; 22-35)**

- 1) Crisis in Antioch led to the First Church Council
  - a. Church leaders from Antioch met in person with Church leaders from Jerusalem
  - b. Historically, the Church has followed this same pattern of discussing and debating critical issues of theology when the gospel was threatened
    - i. **Council of Nicea** (AD 325) – reaffirmed the full deity of Jesus Christ
    - ii. **Council of Constantinople** (AD 381) – reaffirmed the full deity of the Holy Spirit
    - iii. **Council of Ephesus** (AD 431) – denied that the two natures in Christ could be divided
    - iv. **Council of Chalcedon** (AD 451) – denied that the two natures in Christ could be combined or confused into a single nature
- 2) Presentations at the Council of Jerusalem

- a. **Pharisees** (v. 5) – Gentiles must be circumcised to be saved
  - b. **Peter** (vv. 7-11) – God makes no distinction between Jew and Gentile
  - c. **Paul & Barnabus** (v. 12) – God worked supernaturally among the Gentiles
  - d. **James the Just** (vv. 13-19) – Inclusion of the Gentiles was predicted in the Old Testament
- 3) Church Councils are authoritative only insofar as their conclusions are rooted in Scripture!
  - 4) Conclusion of the Council (vv. 23-29)
    - a. Judaizers were insisting on circumcision without the approval of the Church
    - b. We are saved by grace alone, not by grace + works!
  - 5) **Application** – any religion which adds works to God's grace as a pre-requisite for salvation is a false religion!

### **III. The Compromise (vv. 20-21)**

- 1) Once the principle of 'grace alone' is established a compromise is made for the sake of fellowship
  - a. Gentiles are asked to refrain from some practices the Jews would find particularly offensive (cf. Lev 17-18; Rom 14; 1 Cor 8)
  - b. "Paul was a reed on non-essentials; an iron pillar on essentials" – John Newton
- 2) **Application** – the highest ethic for Christians is not personal liberty, but love!

Martin Luther's Paradox: "A Christian man is the most free lord of all, and subject to none; a Christian man is the most dutiful servant of all, and subject to everyone."  
- *On Christian Liberty*