



*The mission of the General Church is to help people live a heavenly life through the teachings of the Lord God Jesus Christ in His Second Coming.*

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## **Two Episcopal Ordinations**

by Rt. Rev. Peter Buss, Jr.

As many within the General Church are aware, I recently had the privilege of ordaining two colleagues into the episcopal degree of the priesthood. The ordination of the Rev. Bradley D. Heinrichs took place at the Carmel New Church and School in Caryndale, Ontario on January 13 ([viewable here](#)). The ordination of the Rev. David H. Lindrooth took place at the Bryn Athyn Cathedral on January 20 ([viewable here](#)). I couldn't be happier with how the services went. Both were well attended and had a wonderful sphere to them. A highlight was the declaration of faith and statement of purpose of each of these priests. It was also rewarding to see the outpouring of support for Brad and Dave, and for the Church. I was personally touched by the acknowledgment of Cathy Heinrichs and Aven Lindrooth by my wife, Teresa, after each service. I very much look forward to working with these two people when I take office as Executive Bishop in July.

A next step is the vote of affirmation by the General Church membership of the nomination of Brad and Dave to serve as Assistant Bishops. They can only hold this title if they are affirmed by the Clergy, the General Church Board and the General Church membership. The first two groups have affirmed them. We intend to send affirmation ballots to all General Church members on or about March 21, utilizing the same email and physical mail system used for my affirmation vote. **Members: if you believe that we do not have an updated mailing address or email address for you, please send that information to [susan.wright@anc-gc.org](mailto:susan.wright@anc-gc.org) or call (267) 502-4990. We would appreciate receiving it by February 28.** For an explanation of why the episcopal ordinations for these two priests happened before this affirmation process is complete, please see my letter dated January 11, 2019, which can be found [here](#).

Please join me in congratulating Brad and Dave once again. They will serve the Church well.



The Rt. Rev. David Lindrooth and wife, Aven.      The Rt. Rev. Bradley Heinrichs and wife, Cathy.

## **New Church Spotlight | Seoul New Church**

by Rt. Rev. Brian Keith

On January 12th, it was my honor to dedicate the new church building for the Seoul New Church congregation. David Frazier, executive director, also attended to show support for their accomplishment. This new building is the result of tremendous effort by the society in Seoul. They created a facility that will serve the New Church in Korea both now and into the future using locally donated money and then doubled by our Healthy Church Match program, and the sale of their previous building. It will also become a center for the development of the New Church in all of Asia.

The dedication service had over 70 people in attendance. This included friends from the southern congregation in Kwangju. The Rev. John Jin, the Regional Pastor, and I were on chancel for the service. After opening the old copy of the Word, John read lessons in Korean. A leading layperson brought forward a new copy of the Word, and I pronounced the words of dedication and placed it in on the altar.

This new building has produced excitement and hope. May this truly become a beacon of the New Church, a shining light for people to find the Lord God Jesus Christ and the life that stems from His truths. Pastor Soon Cheol Lee and the congregation are to be congratulated.

Look for a more extensive write-up in an upcoming *New Church Life*.



Pictures include the worship space of the Seoul New Church and the Building Committee: Rt. Rev Brian Keith, Rev. John Jin, Mugil Kim, Rev. Kyn Yang, Rev. Soon Cheoul Lee, Nang Hyum Kim and David Frazier.



The **36th General Assembly of the General Church** will take place in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania on **June 18-21, 2020**. Thank you to the staff and members of **Bryn Athyn Church** for their willingness to host this event. Look for more information as the event comes closer.



## Online Meetings

Last year GCED hosted six Sunday School gatherings online and in person. The forty people who attended were from the US, Canada, South Africa, Australia, Kenya, Ivory Coast, Ghana and Burkina Faso.

Participants said:

- *I really appreciated the time you spent with me yesterday. You showed me things I wouldn't have looked at. Barbara*
- *Thanks so much for your support of our people and program! Sharon*

We plan to offer online meetings in the New Year. Won't you consider joining us? To be notified of upcoming meetings, email [gced@newchurch.org](mailto:gced@newchurch.org).

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OUTREACH

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**16 congregations** have or are about to participate in the program *Love Over Ego*.

Being confident does not mean being cocky. Being humble does not mean being weak, or full of shame. True confidence and humility come from a place of knowing your worth, feeling grateful, and wanting to be useful.

*Love Over Ego* follows the story of Daniel from his early days as a child captive in Babylon, to becoming one of the most respected leaders of the nation. Throughout each chapter, we witness the clash between the ego of the Babylonian rulers and the humble confidence of Daniel and his friends. The story offers a rich narrative for exploring questions such as: What is the difference between arrogance and genuine confidence? What is our true identity?

Feedback from *Love Over Ego* Journey program:

- *Topic very useful and applicable to my life and easily adapted to marriage enrichment. John's sermons in the back of the book were awesome.*
- *[Strengths of my Journey group were] motivation to do the work, encouragement, greater understanding through others' perspectives, friendship.*

[Click here](#) if you would like to learn more or participate!

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## Free Online Resources

There are several ways to stay connected to the Church. We invite you to explore the following *free* online New Church resources:

- [Daily Inspirations](#)
    - Receive a spiritual inspiration each day from the Writings.
  - [New Church Vineyard](#): Highlights & Newsletter
    - Educational Resources for Families, Churches and Schools
    - You will be notified by email a few times a month about new highlights and other special features.
  - [New Church Life](#)
    - a monthly magazine devoted to the teachings revealed through Emanuel Swedenborg. It is the official journal of the General Church of the New Jerusalem and has been published continuously since 1881.
  - [New Church Audio](#) –now mobile friendly!
  - [Marriage Moats](#)
    - Put a little daily focus on marriage in your life
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## Meet a Minister | Rev. Mark Allais

Our lives have been blessed while serving since 2010 at the New Church Buccleuch, just north of Johannesburg, with a vibrant congregation and beautiful property.

Karen, my wife, married a Mechanical Engineer, my first career of 10 years. After choosing to follow the call to ministry, it has been a non-stop journey of learning new skills to cater for the needs of people and the church. Whether it is marriage counselling, grief counselling, leadership skills or church growth ideas, I have enjoyed improving my abilities so that others can benefit.

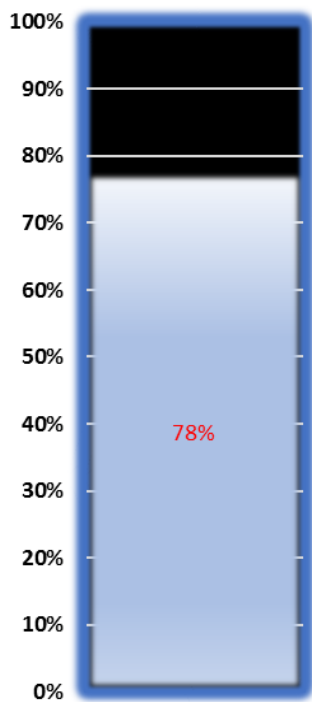
Karen has been on a similar journey of learning and discovery, as she finds ways to give her talents and energy to the life of the church. Out of necessity, Karen also researched home schooling for our three daughters Emma (14), Phillipa (12) and Vera (8) and we chose to follow that route. Karen has been their teacher for the last 3 years. The choice to home school has allowed our girls to enjoy horse riding, music lessons, Girls Scouts and more free time to just be children.

We served in Glenview for a year after my ordination in 2009 and have been serving in Buccleuch now for

over 8 years. Karen has grown in confidence of loves and talents, and I have also grown in my passion for growing the church, not just reaching out, but reaching in. Only in looking back can we see how the Lord leads and guides, how He has been with us through the hard times and come to see the blessings of where we are today.



### GC Annual Fund Progress To-Date



### Mid-year Fundraising Progress

The General Church Office of Advancement is delighted to share a mid-year fundraising report. The chart to the left illustrates our fiscal year target of \$606,500 for the Annual Fund. As of December 31, 2018, we have reached just over **\$470,000--that's 78% of our goal.**

Your gift to the General Church Annual Fund supports a variety of New Church programs and resources such as Sunday school lessons, visiting ministers program, publications, congregational support and so much more! We are grateful for the dedicated donors and their partnership that enables the General Church to continue to share the teachings of the New Church.

[Please consider making a gift today!](#)

Have you included the General Church in your will? Please let us know so we can thank you! Contact Mark Wyncoll at (267) 502-2423.

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If our newsletter is worthy, please share with others.



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Thank you!