



November 2017

Professional Development Day

For you! Rooted!!!

It really was a day of fun, fuel, fellowship and fantastic food - just as we promised!
Thanks again to GFHE for all their hard work!









"Let your roots go down in to Him and let your lives be built on Him." Colossians 2:7

HSLDA Update

Prayer for our friends in Quebec

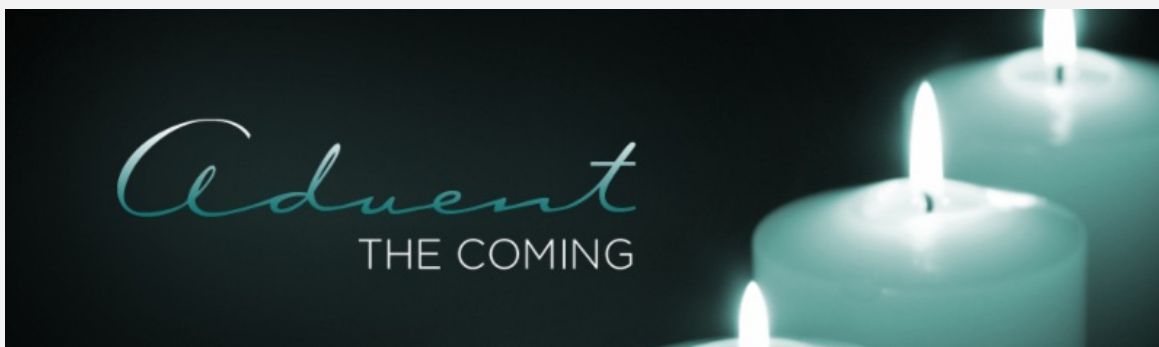
[Update on the revised Bill 144](#)





Advent Season

So many ways to celebrate!



*He came first as a baby, our Messiah
next in His glory, our King*

From calendars to candles, there are many tools to help us focus on Jesus.

Here are a just a few:

- [Bible verse countdown](#)
- ["5 Terrific Christmas Advent Devotionals"](#)
- [Names of Jesus](#)
- [Christmas Adventure Box](#)

And courtesy of [Ann Voskamp](#) , a few words as the season begins.

Empowering our youth to lead!

What a great idea!

As a follow up to our successful youth retreat this past September, we would like to plan other HENB Youth events. We request any youth, grades 8-12, interested in participating and organizing events to get back to us. The idea is to create an **HENB Youth Council** to organize, with oversight from Ian Gray, quarterly activities which could include ski trips, hikes, camps, mission projects, and possibly a trip to Washington or Ottawa at the end of the school year. Apply [here!](#)



Canada 150

Winding down



[Canada 150 Skating Day](#) -

The coolest skating party of the year!

And from the website,

**Share your Canada
150 moment**

*To keep Canada 150 alive for all
Canadians and for future*



generations... Share your favourite Canada 150 moment on social media with a photo or video, and encourage others to do the same.

Use the #150Moment!

Christmas Favourites

Your HENB board give you their top picks!

From **Rod** - One of my favorite parts of Christmas is taking an opportunity to really bless someone less fortunate. Last week a panhandler was outside of the superstore panhandling and I asked him how he was. He said he was very cold. I had a nice warm ECHO fleece under my Carhart Jacket and I remembered the passage of scripture where Jesus says when we give to those in need we have done these things for him. The thankfulness on this poor man's face was a real blessing - we should all take these opportunities and make the most of them when they come our way.

From **Dawn** - I love the traditions we have built as a family. So much down time together - cutting the tree (some years in the dark) and later sleeping under it, that first carton of egg nog, Michael W. Smith's album the first to be played, the decorating, the baking, the watching of Christmas movies while eating the baking! The time spent choosing or making that perfect gift. Time with extended family! And the culmination of Advent - the reading of the Christmas story and a birthday cake for Jesus!

From **Chris** - Growing up in Switzerland, it was traditionally known that the Christ child brought the presents, not Santa. However, on December 6th, Santa Claus would come to each house, sit the kids and parents down around the table and read out of a big book what the kids did well throughout the year and what they could do better on. Then Santa would leave a bag of nuts and chocolates, dried fruit and mandarins for each of the kids.

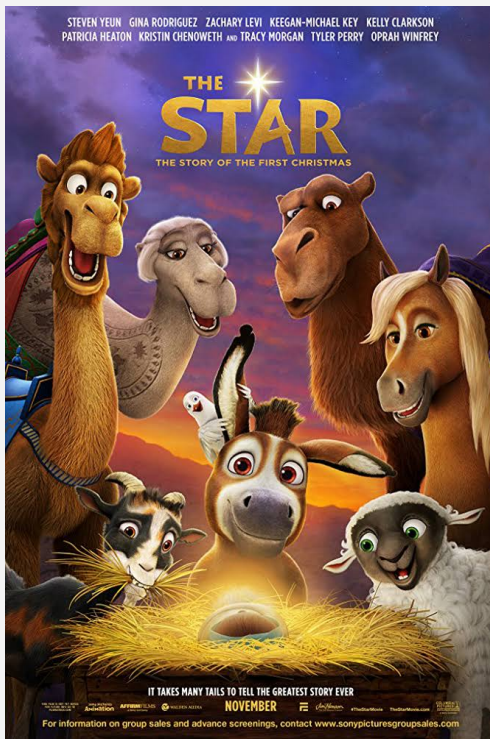
To this day, on December 6th, we get a burlap bag mailed to us by my mom, full of nuts, chocolates and mandarins. As our family grew, bags were added and now each of our 3 children now has their own "Santa Claus Bag". It has become a treasured tradition in our home, especially by Melanie who usually eats everyone's peanuts.

From **Melanie** - We got married in Oct and a wedding guest gifted us a very "interesting" looking Christmas tree ornament. Not quite knowing what to do with it, or where to put it on my very color coordinated and matching decoration tree...so for fun I put this "interesting" decoration front and center of the tree...which lead to the creation of our annual ugly tree ornament. Every year we go to the store and pick out the oddest/weirdest/tackiest/ugly tree decoration that we can find, bring it home and put it front and center of the tree. After Christmas it is then demoted to the mini tree of ugly ornaments that proudly display these wonderful tree decorations....this year we are picking out our 15th decoration and the kids now help and vote on the "ugliest tree decoration" .

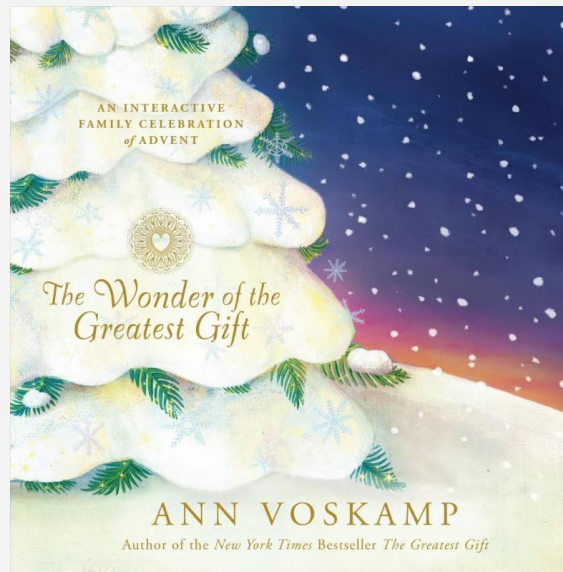
And for those on the board who opt to bow out of all activities, we are blessed by and thankful for *their* convictions!

Some soon to be favourites!

New or newish this year!



May still be in theaters!



The Jesse Tree, ornaments, and readings all together in one!

Finger food - Called [Thanksgiving rolls](#), but could easily work with Christmas dinner leftovers.

And a new release from Casting Crowns - [Somewhere In Your Silent Night](#)

Already looking to the finish line!

Our year end conference

Mark your calendar! [Todd Wilson](#) will be here May 25, 26, 2018!



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"Do not let the endless
succession of small things
crowd great ideals out of
sight and out of mind"

- Charlotte Mason