Westbourne 75th Anniversary Celebration Service

Welcome to 75th Anniversary - Pastor John

Chorus #98       Let the Redeemed
Chorus #235      We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise
Chorus #175      Ah, Lord God
Chorus #18       I Will Enter His Gates
Chorus #66       I Will Sing of the Mercies
Chorus #163      Hosanna
Chorus #199      Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Bradley Family - Special Music

Jeanie Dougan - Share

Arve Wilkinson - History

Bradley Family - Special Music

Hymn #553       Sweet By & By
Hymn #542       When We All Get to Heaven
Hymn #554       I'll Fly Away
Hymn #354       Leaning on the Everlasting Arms
Hymn #515       Since Jesus Came Into My Heart
Hymn #190       Are You Washed in the Blood?
Hymn #191       There is Power in the Blood

Rod Wilkinson - Share

Fred Meyer - Tape

Listoes - Special Music

Ken Demoskoff - Scripture
Chorus #218  This is the Day
Chorus #1   All Hail King Jesus
Hymn #97   All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name
Hymn #106  Praise Him! Praise Him!
Chorus #130 Let There Be Glory and Honor and Praises

Pastor Burriss - Share

John Peters - Special Music
Hymn #66   To God Be the Glory
Hymn #10   O Worship the King
Hymn #4    How Great Thou Art!

Pastor John - Message
Chorus #43  Bind Us Together
Hymn #286  Blest Be the Tie That Binds
Hymn #282  The Family of God
WESTBOURNE BAPTIST CHURCH

1905 - 1974

(Compiled April, 1974)

During 1905 the congregation of First Baptist Church in Calgary built a mission church at 13th Avenue and 2nd Street E. About this time Rev. John Clifford of London, England, ministered to the congregation in Calgary and upon his return to London conveyed to his people the need for expansion, as well as the intention of the members of First Baptist Church to reach into the different areas of the city with the Gospel. The result was a gift of money designated for the mission church already erected. With no specific name chosen as yet, the members of this group decided to adopt the name of their benefactors, so Westbourne Baptist Church it became.

Later, the building was moved to 13th Avenue and 4th Street E., where the congregation continued to minister to the people in the area under the direction of different pastors.

About 1921 this group, under the leadership of the late William Aberhart, became independent of what was then known as "The Old Convention". Following this, the church was incorporated in 1923. During the following years the work continued to progress.

Perhaps one of the most fruitful, and certainly the most far-reaching, of Mr. Aberhart's ministries was his radio ministry. Each Sunday afternoon a service was held in the Palace Theater, with the Gospel reaching into the homes and hearts of many who, because of distance and lack of suitable transportation, were deprived of the privilege of church attendance. Roads in the 'twenties and 'thirties made travel prohibitive to many, especially during the winter. An oft-repeated phrase of Mr. Aberhart's as he sought to emphasize the truth of the message being proclaimed was: "Don't take my word for it, take your Bible and read it for yourself." Many wrote in to say: "We have done just that. We have seen our need and God's provision. Now we rejoice in our new life in Christ Jesus." Much of Mr. Aberhart's ministry was of a prophetic nature and a blessing to many.

The Radio Sunday School was a channel used to reach the boys and girls throughout the province. This too proved to be a source of blessing. Lessons were sent out to those who wished to join the Radio Sunday School. After completing the lessons, the pupil returned the answers to the Radio Sunday School superintendent who distributed them to members chosen to mark them and return them to the pupil. As a result of these studies of the Bible boys and girls accepted Christ and many followed the Lord into the waters of baptism in Calgary.
The Prophetic Bible Institute was erected in 1927 on 8th Avenue W. In October of that year the members of Westbourne decided to move to this new location. This meant that the children being ministered to would be without a Sunday School, since there was no other fundamental church in the area. However, it would seem that the Lord had these children in mind, for in the Spring of 1929 several of the church members felt they should return to the former location. This move was made, supplies for the pulpit ministry were obtained, and gradually the work became re-established with an increase in church membership, and Sunday School attendance reaching close to the three hundred mark during the following months.

Pastor Morley R. Hall came to Westbourne in February of 1930 to commence what proved to be a most fruitful ministry. The Regular Baptist Missionary Fellowship of Alberta was formed under his leadership. During the summer months Pastor Hall along with a number of the church members held meetings at Crossfield each Friday evening. Many of those in attendance professed faith in Christ as Saviour and expressed their desire to have an evangelical work established in the town. This was done. As well, a group of believers at Benalto expressed the same desire. A church had already been established in Edmonton known as Norwood Baptist (later changed to Fellowship Baptist because of change of location). Pastor Howard Phillips pionereed the work at Drumheller. These five churches became the basis of the Fellowship of Regular Baptist Churches in Alberta.

Again, the radio ministry proved fruitful as each Sunday evening the Gospel message went out from Westbourne Church into homes and hearts of many through the program "The Back Home Gospel Hour". Many accepted Christ through this ministry and several became active members of the church.

The need for a Baptist Bible college was felt by many. Under the direction of Pastor Hall and Rev. George Dave this too became a reality, with students attending from British Columbia, other areas of Alberta and locally. Many of the graduates served the Lord in pastorates while others were called to service in foreign lands. Because of conscription during the Second World War, the college ceased to function.

Pastor Hall ministered to the congregation at Westbourne for almost fourteen years, when he felt called of the Lord to once again serve in a pioneer work in the East.

Pastor J. B. Cunningham came to the church in 1944. His ministry extended over a period of fourteen years, during which several new members were added to the congregation. He was instrumental in the building of the Killarney work.

Several Westbourne families who lived in the Killarney area joined forces to form the nucleus of Killarney Baptist Church. Rev. W. C. Tompkins served the Lord as pastor of this church for nearly thirteen years.
Cambrian Heights Southern Baptist Church was established under the direction of Pastor Cunningham when again a number of Westbourne families left to assist in this new endeavour.

Rev. Fred Meyer ministered as pastor to the Westbourne congregation from 1959 to 1966. With two groups of the younger couples having left to assist in other works, the prospect for the future of Westbourne did not look particularly encouraging. However, Pastor Meyer accepted the challenge and he and the remaining membership carried on. His ministry was profitable as he faithfully preached the Word of God. During this time a visitation program in the district was begun on Wednesday evenings when we learned that the New Canadian population had increased considerably. Although they need the Gospel, as a church we were unable to meet this need sufficiently because of the language barrier.

Following a survey taken of the Thorncliffe area of Calgary where there was no evangelical work, Pastor Meyer and the church members, after much prayer, accepted the challenge presented to them by the Fellowship to go into this well-populated area. Sunday School and church services commenced in the community hall on April 4, 1965, with provision having been made for those left in the former location in south-east Calgary. Progress was slow, but gradually we were able to reach into homes in the district and attendance at Sunday School and church services increased. The need for a permanent church building began to be felt. Pastor Meyer and his family left for the East during 1966.

Rev. W. T. Adkins ministered to the Westbourne congregation during the summer of 1967, and then accepted a permanent call, arriving in Calgary with his family in September of that year. With growing interest in Sunday School and church services being evident, the members became increasingly aware that a community hall did not provide suitable accommodations for the establishing of a church. The former church building at 13th Avenue and 4th Street S.E. was sold, and with the proceeds property was purchased on 64th Avenue N.W. This proved to be inadequate due to lack of sufficient parking space. Property was available further west on 64th Avenue, but was more than was required for our immediate needs. And the price was prohibitive. After much prayer, it was decided to purchase this property, but, in order to meet the payments for the purchase of the land an income had to be established. A pre-fabricated building was acquired that not only was suitable for church services but could accommodate pre-school classes as well.

Prior to this, the need for accommodations for Senior Citizens in close proximity to a church had come to the attention of the Pastor and Deacons of Westbourne, and the construction of such a building by Westbourne seemed possible. After a great deal of investigation on the part of the Pastor, many consultations with government officials, and much prayer to overcome many seemingly insurmountable obstacles, it appeared as though the Senior Citizens' Residence would be a reality. At the time of writing, it is. Many residents have moved into their self-contained suites, and for many it means a church home next door where they can attend services regularly.
The next step is to build permanent church facilities. This we plan to do in 1974. The church will be attached to Westbourne Place to allow the Senior Citizens to walk from their own building to church without going outside. We feel this will be a definite asset to all concerned.

As a church family, we are very grateful to the Lord for all He has done for us over the years. Our prayer is that we may be faithful to Him in our service as we await His return.

"Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of His holiness."

Psalms 48:1
Mrs. Dawe and I were associated with Westbourne Baptist Church from 1934 to 1938.

Westbourne worshipped in an old red brick building at 1215 4th Street E. in Calgary.

The Order of Service then was as follows:

- 10 A.M., Communion every Sunday morning.
- 11 " Morning Service
- 12:15 P.M., Sunday School
- 7:30 P.M., Evening Service
- 9 P.M., Back Home Gospel Hour Broadcast

Prior to our association with Westbourne, the church and its pastor carried on an aggressive evangelistic ministry throughout Central Alberta. The Sunday evening broadcast was very popular and reached beyond provincial borders. Through this ministry a fellowship of churches was formed in the early 30ies including Crossfield, Drumheller, Benalto, Edmonton and smaller satellite works.

In 1933 the writer took a young man from his pastoral charge in Mission, B. C. to Prairie Bible Institute, and on the return trip called at Westbourne to meet Pastor Morley R. Hall for the first time. Our conversation centered around the necessity of a Baptist school to serve the needs of the young people of our expanding Baptist fellowship of churches. Out of that conversation came the impetus which led to the founding, in 1934, of the Western Baptist Bible College. It was a church-based school. Westbourne Baptist Church provided its classrooms. Pastor Morley Hall became its first president and Pastor G. R. Dawe its first principal. The deacons of Westbourne served as the college Board of Governors. Both Pastor Hall and I served on the faculty, Mrs. Evelyn Dawe taught New Testament Greek and Missions and Miss Jemima Ewing taught English. Among the first student body of 25 to 30 students were a number of school teachers. From the first graduating class came a number of outstanding pastors and missionaries: David Milligan, Wm. MacDonald, Jean Dougan, Mary Wylie, Helen Standerwick, Don Hills, Gilbert Clark, to name a few.

The College functioned from 1934 until the emergence of World War II in 1939 caused the suspension of classes for the duration. During this conflict one of our fine young students lost his life; his name was Arthur Foster. Through the ministry of both students and faculty, during these years, the Regular Baptist Missionary Fellowship extended its witness northward to the Athabascas, eastward to the Saskatchewan boundary, along the Jasper trail westward and into the Crow's Nest Pass to the south.

One couple, among many worthy of mention, came out of the College and Fellowship in Alberta. Pastor Morley Hall used to hold street meetings in down-town Calgary. One evening a young Welshman stopped to listen, and under the preaching of the Gospel, was gloriously saved. His name was John Pickford.
John attended Prairie Bible Institute and transferred to our College in its first year. He married Alberta Davis who was also one of our students that first year, and thus began a fruitful ministry. Mr. Pickford became an excellent pastor; furthered his education into university, and in process of time joined the faculty of our College. He rose to the position of President of the school, which post he held for 17 years. He was greatly used in many phases of our Baptist work and at one time was elected president of The Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada. Dr. Pickford became involved in the formation of the B. C. Baptist Foundation which has provided housing for seniors and assisted in financial support for various Fellowship agencies. Someone has said that the pen is mightier than the sword, and the Lord used His servant in this field also as the author of several choice volumes. After several years of ill health, Dr. J. H. Pickford was called home to be with Christ on June 27, 1995. He is survived by his wife and three daughters.

George R. Dawe.
HINDS' FEET

Psalm 18:33

Lord, make our feet like the feet of a hind,
Steady for the slippery trail;
Sure for the rocky, uneven way
That leads through the unknown vale.

Lord, make our feet like those of the hind,
Sensitive to others' need;
Sharp, to hold in the sudden shift
From slow to a faster speed.

Lord, make our feet swift like the hind,
To tell the gospel story;
To help a child with untried steps,
Or to aid the aged and hoary.

Lord, make our feet soft like the hind,
To stalk the devil's quarry,
But strong for the steady precipitous climb
Up the rugged steeps to Glory.

---George R. Dawe
Short History of

Westbourne Baptist Church, Calgary
By Raymond Hall - Second Son of Muriel Hall
As I can recall my father sharing
the beginnings of the church to us as a family in the early days of our childhood.

Westbourne was born out of a desire of the folks at Westbourne Park in Scotland in or about I would guess the latter part of World War II.

The Christians of Westbourne Park, felt the Great Commission of our Lord did include establishing a missionary work somewhere across the sea, in Canada.

Upon looking ever so closely at a map of Canada they came across the name Calgary, way out in Canada's Wild West, they were especially taken with the name of Calgary because it is a Gaelic word for clear running water.

Being as they were Baptists they figured that if there were a Baptist Church in Calgary, that it would be called First Baptist. So they set about to write to a First Baptist Church in Calgary
Their correspondence went well and necessary in due time they sent the necessary funds to start a missionary work in Calgary—thus Westbourne Baptist Church was born.

Through the 1920s to 30s the location of the church at 4th Street & 13 Ave SE was a very lovely middle class neighborhood with tree lined streets & boulevards. It was an area where most residents worked for C.P.R (ogden shops— or Round House at Alyth yards) Burns Meats—Royal Crown Cork Co etc. Some of Westbourne folks came from Elbow Park—Rideau Park and Crescent Heights.

In the early 1920s Mr. William Aberhart was invited to come over to Westbourne to teach a Sunday afternoon Bible Class. He was a member of Grace Presbyterian Church (a large sandstone building at 15 Ave & 95 St S.W. As time would have it, Mr. Aberhart took over Westbourne Church & became its pastor.
In the latter part of the 1970's, Mr. Aberhart decided to build the Prophetic Bible Institute near the T. Eaton Store on 8 Ave West.

This quickly leaving the Westbourne building empty. Upon finding the children of Westbourne Sunday School didn't walk up to save from 4th street to the new institute, a group of Mister Aberhart's People asked to go back to the Westbourne building to save the Sunday School. They asked and received permission to purchase the Westbourne Church & call a new Pastor to carry on the ministry.

The folks wrote to the Baptist Home Mission Board in Toronto and they sent out a young man to candidate. The Westbourne People were taken with the young man & called him to come.

I don't recall all the details, but it seems there came up a very pressing family need & he couldn't come. The Westbourne People were disappointed but asked the home mission board if they
MIGHT RECOMMEND ANOTHER CANDIDATE. THEY RECOMMENDED MY FATHER MORLEY HALL, WHO WAS PASTORING THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN THE GOLD MINING TOWN OF TIMMINS ONTARIO. DAD PLAYED MUSICH AND SANG THE LORDS WILL IN THE MANNER I GUESS TO USE THE LANGUAGE OF TODAY THE PAST WAS HISTORY. ON TO THE WILD WEST W CAGY V WESTBOURNE BAPTIST CHURCH. IT WAS FEBRUARY 1930. (TIL JUNE 1944)

P.S. ALONG WITH STARTING A BIBLE COLLEGE IN THE BASEMENT DAD HAD AN EXTENSIVE RADIO MINISTRY IN THE 30'S. IT WAS CALLED THE BACK HOME GOSPEL HOUR 9:00 TO 10:00 PM SUNDAY EVENINGS (AFTER THE EVENING SERVICE) CFCN 10,000 WATTS AT THE TIME, WOULD NOT ALLOW THE EVENING CONGREGATION TO STAY FOR THE BROADCAST AS IN THOSE DAYS PEOPLE COUGHING OR BABIES CRYING IN THE BACKGROUND WAS A NO NO ON RADIO. IT WAS ALSO NOT LEGAL TO MENTION MONEY OF ANY KIND FOR ANY REASON CFCN CHARGED WESTBOURNE 200.00 FOR ONE HOUR. I REMEMBER IT WAS ALL DAD COULD DO IN THOSE HARD TIMES TO RAISE 200.00 (REMEMBER IT WAS THE DIRTY THIRTIES (DEPRESSION YEARS) GOD HANDED HIS WORD TO MANY TO FIND THE LORD AS SAVIOR DAD GOT MAIL FROM THE TEXAS PARISH TO HAWAII.