



# Groh's Return to Canada

In the dark on a cool October morning we asked Jesus for safety in David & Mary Groh's driveway before heading to Canada. We climbed into the U-haul looked at the clock and it significantly read 6:06 and we were on our way. It was a beautiful day with no wind and pleasant sunlight streaming through the windows.

We arrived at the Canadian border expecting some delay as the U-haul was full of household furnishings. Mary had written every item



down and had quite an extensive list. The guards did not seem very in-

terested. We needed to go inside and show passports as the Groh's were moving to Canada after 45 years in the states and were now returning immigrants. After 45 minutes we were allowed to cross the border arriving in Leamington after 12 hours on the road.

The next morning after breakfast in the motel Mary and I drove to the



Leamington Mennonite Home where David and Mary had

rented an Independent Living Apartment while the men proceeded to bring the U-haul. I was so impressed by the welcome given to Mary. We were shown to the apartment and suddenly the neighbor came over to say hello, someone Mary had known years ago. Three neighbors came to welcome the new neighbors one at a time during moving, one at a time. Dave and Mary were invited out for supper that evening.

That afternoon when we left we had a very good feeling that David & Mary are in a very nice place and they are glad to be there!

The Groh's new email address is [davmargroh@bell.net](mailto:davmargroh@bell.net).  
Julie Gingerich



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## Special points of interest:

- We looked at the clock and it significantly read 6:06 and we were on our way.
- This is a good time to discover a new author or reread a favorite series.
- I think the winter will be mild. I spotted a "wooly worm" last week that was almost all brown except for small tips of black!

# In Pursuit

There was a time in my life when playing basketball was a main focus. I loved playing. I loved thinking about it. I loved talking about it. It brought joy and challenge into my life. However, a few years later other things entered into my life and became like a fog over the joy and challenge of basketball. Those things dimmed my love of basketball. So during that time I went through the motions, but didn't really get the joy and challenge out of it. By my senior year in high school I decided to stop being a basketball player all together. Looking back I wish at times that I hadn't allowed the other things to dim my joy and challenge for basketball. But at this point in my life I cannot go back.

I was listening to a message I had downloaded from the internet this past week and at the end of the message an elder from that church spoke. He was at that time an elder of Cornerstone Church in Simi Valley California. He brought a challenge before the church that he had previously brought before their elder board. It has become a challenge for me and I can't get it out of my mind, so I decided to share it with all of you.

"Who are you? Are you like Joshua, the elders who served with Joshua or the following generation?" was his question. It seems like a simple enough question until you examine what the Bible says about these people and then you ask the Holy Spirit to show you where you are.

Let's start with Joshua. Joshua was Moses' assistant. He climbed up the mountain of God with Moses when God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. (Exodus 24:13-14) Joshua was the one who would remain behind in the Tent of Meeting after Moses would return to camp. (Exodus 33:11) The Tent of Meeting was where everyone would go who wanted to make a request of God. (Exodus 33:7) Moses was told by God to commission, encourage and strengthen Joshua. (Deuteronomy 3:28) God then gives these directions to Joshua, when he began to lead Israel, in the first chapter of Joshua:

1. I will be with you like I was with Moses.
2. Be strong and courageous.
3. Obey the Law.
4. Meditate on the Book of the Law day and night. Don't let it depart from your mouth.
5. Don't be frightened.
6. Don't be dismayed.

In Joshua 24, Joshua challenged the Israelites to choose whom they would serve. Then Joshua told

them that he and his household would serve God. In verse 19 he continues to tell the people that we are not able to serve God on our own power because God is a holy God and He is a jealous God. (This verse reminds me of the advantage we have because of the sacrifice of Christ on the cross that gave us the privilege of having the power of the Holy Spirit live within us and change us into what God intends.)

The bottom line of this is that Joshua knew God. Think about it. Knowing God is an active thing. It takes commitment. It takes dedication. It takes resolve. It isn't easy, but the benefits are beyond mind-boggling.

Now, let's look at the elders who served with Joshua. Judges 2:7 tells us this: *"The people served the Lord throughout the lifetime of Joshua and the elders who outlived him and who had seen all the great things the Lord had done for Israel."* The elders knew of God. They had seen the effects of God. But it doesn't appear that they personally knew God like Joshua did. They could very easily been going to heaven, but it may have been like I Corinthians 3:15 states *"... he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames."* Joyce Meyer often tells people of her earlier Christian life, "I believe I was going to heaven, but I sure wasn't bringing anyone with me." This is state I think the elders, who served with Joshua, were in.



Now, what about the following generation? Judges 2:10 tells us. *"After that whole generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation grew up, who knew neither the Lord nor what He had done for Israel."* This generation is lost. Not only do they not know God, but they don't even know of God nor do they know what God has done or is doing. So here is the elder of Cornerstone Church's question: Do you: 1) know God 2) know of God or 3) do you not know of God and His deeds? Here is where the Holy Spirit can help. Without the Holy Spirit's input it is impossible to get a completely true and honest evaluation. For myself, when I look at #3 I see some areas in my life where I don't see God's involvement. I also don't know the Bible nearly well enough. There are more acts of God there that I have yet to see. (Cont. on page 3)

Cont. from page 2)

When I look at #2 I have seen God in amazing ways in other people and events that I have yet to experience in my life. My snag here is that I haven't even accepted that it is a possibility for God to do that in my life.

A.W. Tozer makes a statement in the book A Disruptive Faith that really struck home for me. "A basic truth of the Bible is that the source of most evil is a low opinion of God." This definitely made me stop and think.

This comes to option #1. Can we really know God like Joshua did? God brought a couple verses to my attention this week. The first one is Romans 2:11. "For God does not show favoritism." The next one is James 5:17. "Elijah was as human as we are, and yet when he prayed earnestly that no rain would fall, none fell for three and a half years!" The last one is 2 Corinthians 3:7-8 "The old way, with laws etched in stone, led to death, though it began with such glory that the people of Israel could not bear to look at Moses' face. For his face shone with the glory of God, even though the brightness was already fading away. Shouldn't we expect far

**Knowing God is an active thing. It takes commitment. It takes dedication. It takes resolve.**

greater glory under the new way, now that the Holy Spirit is giving life?" The answer seems obvious to me once I relied on the Word of God. Yes, we can know God like Joshua did. Is it easy? No. But we have directions, if we would only follow them. Look back at what God told Joshua in Joshua chapter 1.

If we don't know God it's not too late to change our position, like it is too late for me to be a basketball player in

my senior year. Now the best I can do is to enjoy watching basketball. The consequences of my basketball choices weren't huge. The consequences of not knowing God are huge. We mustn't wait until we are standing before God to evaluate whether we know God, know about God or do not know about God or His deeds. I challenge you to do this right away. I know I am. I am pursuing to know God in all areas of my life. My prayer is you do too.

As always, in pursuit, Dawn



## Library Notes

Now that daylight time has changed back to central time, the evenings are perfect for a good book, and there are many to choose from in our own KMC library. Come browse the shelves and find a good book for such an evening. This is a good time to discover a new author or reread a favorite series. Some favorite fiction series authors include: Karen Kingsbury, Jane Kirkpatrick, Linda Shephard & Eva Everson (Potluck Club Series), Lori Wick, Effie Wilder (Over the Hill Series), Donna VanLiere (Christmas Series), Francine Rivers, Neta Jackson (Yada Yada Series), and my own personal favorite, Jan Karon (Mitford Series).

New books donated to the library include a Bunch of Books for the younger set: Berenstain Bears Learn to Share; Snow Friends; Rescue Action; The Crayon Box that Talked; My Mom is my Show-And-Tell; Rain, Rain, Everywhere; Gretchen Groundhog, It's Your Day; Late for the Library; A Tooth Story; The Very Sleepy Sloth; Never, Ever

Talk to Strangers; Coat of Many Colors; Sassafras; Penguin Pete and Little Tim; The Sleepy Owl; Johnny Appleseed; Born Again!; and If I Could Drive a Mixer.

New Books in the Christian Living, Grief/Death, Missionary and Womens categories include: For a Time We Cannot See by Crawford Loritts; A Hunger for God, and When I Don't Desire God, by John Piper; C. S. Lewis classic, A Grief Observed; Brother Andrew's The Narrow Road; Extraordinary Faith by Sheila Walsh; and the New Answers Book 2 by Ken Ham.

New Fiction Book titles include an Amish series by Mary Ellis: A Widow's Hope #1, Never Far From Home #2, and The Way to A Man's Heart #3.

Remember, books are due in Three Weeks, all other items are due back in One Week. Thank you for using your library at KMC!

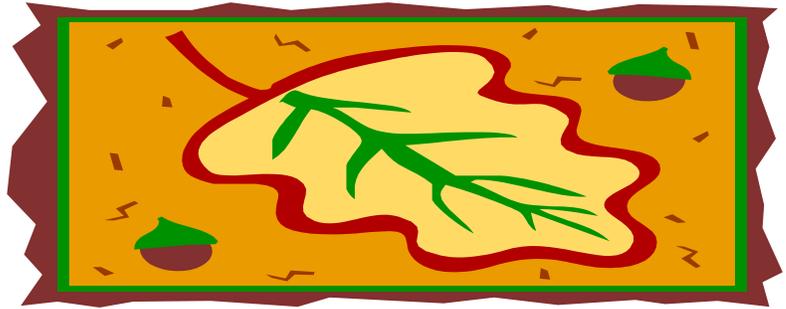
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*Have a good November and remember to be thankful.*

**We're on the web:**  
[kalonamennonitechurch.com](http://kalonamennonitechurch.com)

# WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!

Well our tomato plants finally died off this past week – we had a freeze here on F Avenue in Kalona. So much for our garden, now for the news!

We talked with Dave & Mary Groh on the phone last week and their trip to their new home in Canada went well. Two of their sons and John & Julie Gengerich helped move them to Leamington Mennonite Home. Their section has 38 units and there are only 8 men, so Dave feels a bit out numbered. They have no car, but the bus line is just steps away. And the cost of groceries is much higher than here. If only they could have taken canned goods across the border. They told us to tell everyone “hello”.

Well, two Murray kids went deer hunting together and Jordan (8<sup>th</sup> grade) shot her very first deer. Several days later Chase got a deer and it was his first bow hunting deer. So there were several firsts and the Murray's should now have meat for awhile. Just 2 less deer to hit on the highway!

Congratulations to Karen Schrock, who is now Assistant Manager at Crowded Closet!



We got to visit with Noah Miller and he told us he had a new baby brother. That his name was Kellen Crosby Miller and that he weighed 9 # 7 oz. So we asked how long is Kellen and Noah said “between 20-25” long”! Congratulations Noah, Rowan, Nate & Stacy Miller!

Recently several KMC'ers have had milestone surprise birthday parties. Frank Yoder was surprised for his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday with a party at IMS. Grant Egli thought he was going to a pear tasting party with the Seekers SS Class and instead it was a surprise 65<sup>th</sup> birthday party for him! What fun!



Ty Schillerstrom is still sporting a cast on his leg from a football pileup. The good news is he can still drive a tractor.

There sure are a lot of St. Louis Cardinal fans at KMC and they are all smiles right now. No matter how the season ends we will all have to hear about it all winter. I think it might be a long winter! However, I think the winter will be mild. I spotted a “wooly worm” last week that was almost all brown except for small tips of black! Time will tell.



Remember to get your pillows cleaned on Election Day, Tuesday November 8<sup>th</sup> at KMC. Have a good November and remember to be thankful.

*Blessings to all, Ed V. & Carol Miller*