



Greg Paul at The Sanctuary in Toronto

Greg Paul talks social justice in Kingston

In November, nightlight brought author Greg Paul to Kingston, for a Q&A at our drop-in centre. In addition, we co-sponsored a lecture by Greg at Queens' University on the topic of Christianity and social justice.

The Lecture, entitled, *God and Justice: Redeeming the Word "Religion"* spoke on the topic of redeeming the often maligned word "religion" through social justice. Greg rejects the idea that all there is to being a Christian is believing, but that belief must produce action. Following Jesus, means going where he went, and doing what he did. A recording of the Lecture is available on the nightlight Canada website at <http://nightlightcanada.com/greg-paul-redeeming-the-word-religion>

Greg is the author of four books, including *God In the Alley: Being and Seeing Jesus in a Broken World* and *The Twenty Piece Shuffle: Why the Poor and Rich Need Each Other*. He is a founder of *The Sanctuary* in Toronto, a Christian mission to the most excluded people in downtown Toronto. ■



Mollie Sitwell joins Belleville as new Executive Director

We're pleased to announce that Mollie Sitwell will be joining nightlight Belleville as the incoming Executive Director.

Mollie gave her life to the Lord in 1989 in a very dark place. Ever since she has made every effort to love and help others to discover the incredible freedom that comes with walking with the Saviour.

Since 1992 Mollie has worked in full time Christian ministry as an educator and program coordinator. She has been involved in nightlight Belleville as a volunteer and supporter for the past three years. She is thrilled to begin a new chapter in her walk as the Executive Director of the Belleville site. She brings with her a deep love for people and a passion for the church and an ability to encourage and motivate people towards love and good deeds. Welcome Mollie!

Current Executive Director Kelly Oribine is stepping down from her post to concentrate organizing an emergency shelter in Belleville. We're very excited about this new opportunity for Kelly and wish her success and God's blessing in this new endeavor.



Wyatt and Serge at the nightlight Christmas dinner in Belleville in 2014

nightlight Christmas Dinners

Christmas can be a lonely time of year for those without close family and friends to connect with. While others experience the joy of close relationships, those who are alone are reminded that it's a joy in which they don't share. Perhaps they're far from home or maybe there is just no one to celebrate with. It's in this sort of situation that community becomes so important.

What are you doing this Christmas? Is there room for the alien, the orphan and the widow? Can we celebrate a family day while including others who are not, in the normal way of thinking, our family?

On Christmas we celebrate the incarnation of God, his coming down to be with us. In the incarnation, God took those who were far from him, alienated by sin, and brought them near. Pitching his tent in the midst of them (that's the literal meaning of John 1:14). Christmas was, at its very root, an occasion of God reaching out in mercy to those who were far from him. It's fitting that for Christians, whose objective is to represent God in the world, it should continue to be such an occasion.

We're making it our tradition to host Christmas dinners for our nightlight community for precisely this reason. This year, we're hosting Christmas dinner in Kingston on December 5th and in Belleville on December 14th. In addition, we'll be open there on Christmas Day from 11 - 2 in Belleville and from 2-5 in Kingston. If you'd like to join us and gain a fuller understanding of the true meaning of Christmas, you're more than welcome.

Of course, not everyone can do this. But during this Christmas season, we'd encourage you to find the lonely and the excluded person in your midst and invite them into your celebration. ■

Upcoming Essential Skills Workshops

This winter nightlight will be conducting training seminars aimed at equipping our volunteers with the essential skills needed for work at nightlight. If you've been volunteering at nightlight but have never attended one of these workshops, or if you're interested in volunteering and would like to know more we strongly encourage you to join us

If you're interested in attending email Adam in Kingston (kingston@nightlightcanada.com) or Kelly or Mollie in Belleville (belleville@nightlightcanada.com). Please note that in response to previous participants' feedback, we've changed the hours of the workshops. We've shortened them and we're starting a half hour earlier.

Kingston Dates

Sat. Jan. 30, 2016: 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

Belleville Dates

Sat. Jan. 23, 2016: 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

nightlight

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Open: Mon., Wed., Thurs. 6:00 - 9:00 pm