



# hcf heartbeat

## Hamilton Christian Fellowship's Monthly Newsletter

MAY 2012

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- "Mother Heart" by Mary Cummings
- Profile—Dana Gils
- "Prophetic Insights" by Denni Roy
- Monthly Event & Prayer Calendar

## "Mother Heart"

By Mary Cummings

Mother's Day is coming soon, a day when we remember and honour our Moms. We thank them for their faithfulness, the way they cared for us and never gave up on us.

We honour their mother hearts. Just what is a "mother heart" though? - nurturing, caring gentle, loving, protective, tender, giving ...?

I wonder about some of the women in the Bible. Mary, the #1 mother, completely submitted to God. She had quite a few children born after Jesus. Wouldn't you have loved to be in Mary's kitchen with all those kids? But, I bet when Jesus fell, Mary ran and picked Him up, wiped His



tears, washed and bandaged His scraped knees. Her concern over Jesus never faltered. She and the family went looking for Him when it seemed He'd gone a little crazy, and again, there she was at the foot of the Cross.

She and Elizabeth had to release their sons into God's purpose. I wonder how old John was when he started living in the desert? Hannah, too, kept her promise and relinquished her son to God's care. These women trusted God with their sons' lives.

Deborah, a mother in Israel, was wise and discerning, and never sought honour for herself. The Prov. 31 Mum is hardworking, creative, trust-

worthy, kind, and fears the Lord. But, one of my favourites is Naomi, who, though she had lost a husband, and two sons, still had lots of love left for Ruth. And, finally, she became nurse to the child who became King David's grandfather.

There's really only one place to go to look for a good definition of a "mother heart". That, of course, is to the one in Whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. God is Spirit, and in Him are all the 'masculine' qualities of Sovereign, Defender, Warrior, Protector, Husband, and of course, Father. Yet He also has all the 'feminine' qualities of compassion, nurture and gentleness. He watches over us in the womb, [Ps. 139], He guards our going

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## Profile - Dana Gils

By Carol Cummings

*"Blessed are those who find their strength in you, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage."* Psalm 84:5

Dana Gils is a relatively new Christian, two years new actually. She has a heart set on pilgrimage...a heart in pursuit of the Truth, a heart desiring to know her Father, a heart open to things of the Spirit, a heart preparing for her Bridegroom's return.

Dana and her brother Tyler were raised in a single parent home after their father left when they were two and four years old respectively. Although things were hard financially, Dana's mom rose



Photo by Harry Gils

to the challenge and provided for her children's physical and emotional needs as best she could. Sharing about her child-

hood, Dana has many positive memories about her relationship with her mother and the

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## "Mother" ... cont'd from Pg. 1

out and our coming in, and even the hairs on our heads are numbered.

He is the great Shepherd who feeds us, who carries the lambs in His arms and gently leads those who are with young. He searches for us when we are lost and never lets us go. Even in death, He is with us in the shadowed valley. And, He prepares good things for us. He always has this huge heart of mercy, love and compassion towards us.

When I started to think about writing this, I had a picture of a large tear, dropping from the heart of the Father. Inside, it was blood red, and I thought it was a heart. But "No", it's His love and compassion. Later, I realized it was a small part of His broken heart, because He longs for us to draw from Him more of His deep wells of love to pour out on His children. So many not wanted, not

treasured, or listened to, many orphaned or abandoned.

I think the tear was because His resources are limitless, and He grieves when we don't come to the fountain of His love, to partake of His mother heart.

Jesus, Himself, wept over Jerusalem and longed to gather them as a hen gathers her chicks. After He had risen, He sought out Peter, then later restored him, and told him to feed His sheep, and feed His lambs. Was this His father's heart or His mother's heart? I'm not sure. If you doubt that Father God has a mother heart, hear this; Isa. 40.11, Ps.22.9 .."borne by Me from birth, carried from the womb, to old age I will carry you. I have made, I will bear, I will carry, I will save"

One of His names, [used extensively in the O.T. and 30 times in Job], is "El Shaddai" - the All Sufficient, the many-breasted One. [Gen.49.5]


God created man in His image, as male and female, Eve from Adam's side, and the two are one [Gen.2.24 ], even as God is One. A mother heart and a father heart perfectly one. In marriage, no longer two but one, perfectly reflecting His image.

I wanted to define a "mother heart" and I've just ended up by saying, "He is All, there is no other". He invites us to come, mother and father together.

Isa. 55.2 &3 "Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, buy and eat, wine and milk, money without price. Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good. Incline your ear and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live".

He has all we need to receive nourishment for ourselves and the children, and the lambs He would have us feed.

So, thank You, Lord, for all our wonderful mothers, who reflect You so-o-o well.

Mums, Dads, everyone, come 

A little child often runs to its mother and exclaims: 'Mother! Mother!' Very often the child does not want anything in particular, he only wants to be near his mother, to sit upon her lap, or to follow her about the house, for the sheer pleasure of being near her, talking to her, hearing her dear voice. Then the child is happy. His happiness does not consist in asking and receiving all kinds of things from his mother. If that were what he wanted, he would be impatient and obstinate and therefore unhappy. No, his happiness lies in feeling his mother's love and care, and in knowing the joy of her mother love." "It is just the same with the true children of God; they do not trouble themselves so much about spiritual blessings. They only want to sit at the Lord's feet, to be in living touch with Him, and when they do that they are supremely content.

*Sadhu Sundar Singh*

## Profile ... cont'd from pg. 1

love and care she and Tyler received from her. Dana's family didn't go to church, but she remembers from an early age knowing God existed and remembers as a small child of six or seven, being told by her grandmother that we all die. To combat that fear that crept into her little heart, she asked for a bible to sleep with, believing it would protect her from death.

Dana's young adult life was filled with a cycle of unsatisfying relationships which she thought were the norm, yet God had His hand on her life. He wanted her heart. Sam and Tyler, and Sam's mom Diane, came alongside Dana...they loved her and stood with her, prayed with her, ad-

ministered healing of generational strongholds, and shared the good news of God's love. But she knew that following Jesus meant giving up her lifestyle. She couldn't as she put it "sin anymore"...no turning back! By this time, Dana was attending HCF off and on. Unhappy with her present circumstances and tired of constantly crying at church, she agreed to meet with Pastor Dave and her searching heart finally yielded to God's wooing.

Then, surprise, surprise, Harry appeared in her life, for the second time...the Lord had been working behind the scenes to bring them together! A few years earlier, Dana and Harry sat together at a wedding reception, but hadn't really engaged in any conversation. Then while working in Miami, and praying for his

wife to be' one day, Harry 'saw' a tall woman with dark hair. One and a half years later, they met again and began a relationship! After just one week, Dana sensing what was in her heart, told Harry "I'm going to marry you" and the rest is history: Harry married his tall, dark-haired woman, and God has since gifted them with Maria.

As Dana and I shared our perspectives and ideas regarding raising children, her mother's heart was very much in the forefront. Looking to God and partnering with Harry to nurture Maria is Dana's highest calling right now... "I was made to be a mom-I love being a mom." She also shared that watching Sam and Tyler relate with their children has influenced and inspired her. When asked

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**JUNE'S THEME IS "Spirit of Adoption"**

Send us your dreams, poems, songs, quotes, thoughts before May 21st at [newsletter@hcfchurch.ca](mailto:newsletter@hcfchurch.ca)

## “On the Nest”

By Denni Roy

Matthew 23:37 “...how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings...”

This week a dove flew up to the second story of our house then perched herself on my office window sill. As I peered out from within, we were face to face. Watching, as she carefully surveyed the window sill as a potential home to nest her young, the dove was focussed in her task as if the future depended on it. She seemed to be checking if this place was high enough & secure enough from danger or predator. She checked if the leafy growth from the vine would provide a covering shade for her & the forthcoming vulnerable brood. Then she rapped on the window as if knocking to come in, it certainly got my full attention! As we looked into each other's eyes; I was drawn in. I was moved by her intensity, her tranquility and this living picture of a precious message.


The Holy Spirit is the dove of heaven. And like the dove at my window, He seeks a protected

place to lay then brood over His purposes & offspring as they develop. He searches for a secure setting in which the desires of God can be incubated until they break forth. And He truly seeks for the "eyes" and focussed attention of His people to watch & pray over what He is doing. The dove nature of God may speak several messages but one key message it reveals is the power of the tender, gentle & faithful characteristics of a mother's heart. The mother heart of God is warm, tender, alert and gentle. It is also fierce in its protection of its young, the future generation.

Can you hear the sound of God's desire in the words above from the gospel of Matthew? Jesus is releasing the sound of the Mother heart in Father God. He speaks in this verse of His heart over the people of Jerusalem whom He knew were about to reject Him. But His heart longed to embrace, to brood over and protect His people if they

could receive Him. Throughout scripture we catch glimpses & descriptions of the tenderness, kindness and nurturing heart of the Lord. Even the bold, intellectual apostle Paul would speak at times with the affectionate devotion & terms of a mother when speaking to the churches. Yes, the Father corrects the sons (& daughters) He loves, sometimes there is the sound of admonition in His tone but equally strong is His wooing love.

Can you hear the dove of heaven wooing you? He longs to embrace and take you under His protected wings, He longs for the purposes of His heart concerning you to be nurtured, broken forth and grown into maturity.

And it's our heart's desire at HCF that the Lord finds us a worthy "nest" to lay His purposes & His precious offspring. The longing of our heart is to see His longing to gather, protect, nurture and raise up a healthy strong brood whom are ready for the future. Come, O dove of Heaven. 

“Will we be like Elizabeth and Mary who had new, hidden, and unlikely life put within them and who co-laboured with the Spirit before that life was actually revealed to the world? A mother is an undervalued portrait of the prophetic move God is using to birth a reformation generation of sons and daughters of the King.”

Joey  
LeTourneau

## Profile ... cont'd from pg. 2


what having a 'Mother's heart' meant to her, she was quick to answer that it was having a servant's heart, being selfless, loving Maria unconditionally through all the stages of her life, protecting her, and teaching her about the Father's heart. As we talked, there was such a sense that no matter how tired she is, no matter what the circumstances, Dana is devoted to the mother's call on her life. Like most moms, Dana wonders at times if she's doing things right, but when Maria tumbles over, gives her a big smile and hug and Dana responds with a

heart filled with love, all doubts are removed. We're both reminded of what's most important!

And who hasn't been touched on Sundays when we get a glimpse of Dana's heart and the Father's heart revealed in her prophetic art. Dana is an accomplished artist and at this time in her life, with Harry's help, she's able to spend some time painting. Her art is displayed in a gallery in Toronto and on her website ...check it out!

It's interesting that Dana cited Psalm 91 as a scripture that's important to her...I am with you, I will protect you, you

need not fear, I am your shelter. Can you see the thread of a mother's heart being woven in Dana's life-compassion, selfless love, giving, trusting God, searching for the Truth. Dana feels that being a mom will even extend at some point to being a support to women who have had or want to have an abortion...a mother's heart ...His heart!

You see, Dana was born with a mother's heart already inside her, put there by God himself. Dana has chosen to water that seed, and as she pursues Him, her mother's heart continues to reflect God's heart more and more. 

# May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>NOTE:</b> All prayer watches are held in the Prayer Room EXCEPT for Thurs. a.m. corporate Prayer, Night Watch, Aliyah prayer and Devotional Prayer	<b>1</b> NRH 7 pm	<b>2</b> Corporate prayer 7 pm Focus: Hamilton	<b>3</b> Corporate prayer 9:30 am <b>Band of Brothers 7pm</b>	<b>4</b> Men's Prayer 6-7 am Devotional Prayer 7-8 pm	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Communion & Community Sunday 10 am Love Hamilton 6:30 p.m.	<b>7</b> Crisis Response Prayer 12-1:30	<b>8</b> NRH 7 pm	<b>9</b> Solemn Assembly 7 pm	<b>10</b> Nehemiah Prayer 11:30 am <b>Band of Brothers 7pm</b> Aliyah Prayer 6:30pm	<b>11</b> Men's Prayer 6-7 am Devotional Prayer 7-8 pm	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Sunday Service 10 am	<b>14</b> Crisis Response Prayer 12-1:30	<b>15</b> NRH 7 pm	<b>16</b> Corporate prayer 7 pm Focus: Hamilton	<b>17</b> Corporate prayer 9:30 am <b>Band of Brothers 7pm</b>	<b>18</b> Men's Prayer 6-7 am Devotional Prayer 7-8 pm	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Sunday Service 10 am	<b>21</b> Crisis Response Prayer 12-1:30	<b>22</b> NRH 7 pm	<b>23</b> Corporate prayer 7 pm Focus: Jessica / Missions	<b>24</b> Corporate prayer 9:30 am <b>Band of Brothers 7pm</b> Aliyah Prayer 6:30pm	<b>25</b> Men's Prayer 6-7 am Night Watch 8-12 p.m.	<b>26</b> Talent Show rehearsal 1-5 p.m.
<b>27</b> Sunday Service 10 am	<b>28</b> Crisis Response Prayer 12-1:30	<b>29</b> NRH 7 pm	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Corporate prayer 9:30 am <b>Band of Brothers 7pm</b>		



"Lullaby"

by

William Adolphe Bouguereau