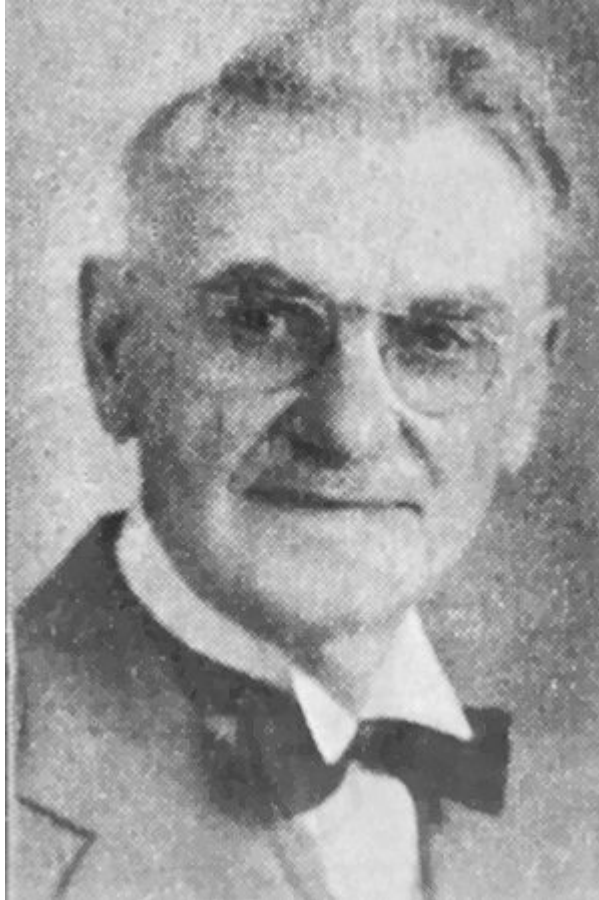

The ACOP Story

Open Door Retreats

Frank Small



- Born in 1873 in Collingwood Ontario.
- Rejected his mother's Methodist faith.
- Came to faith in Christ in 1905 in Winnipeg.

Azusa Street Revival



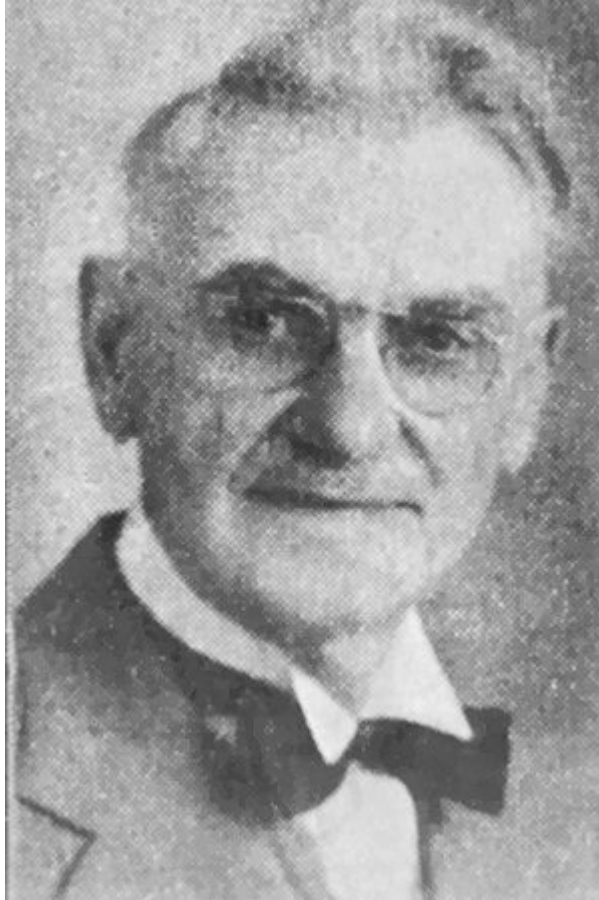
- The Azusa Street Revival began in Los Angeles in 1906.
- 1000's of people visited the revival at Azusa Street.

Azusa Street Revival



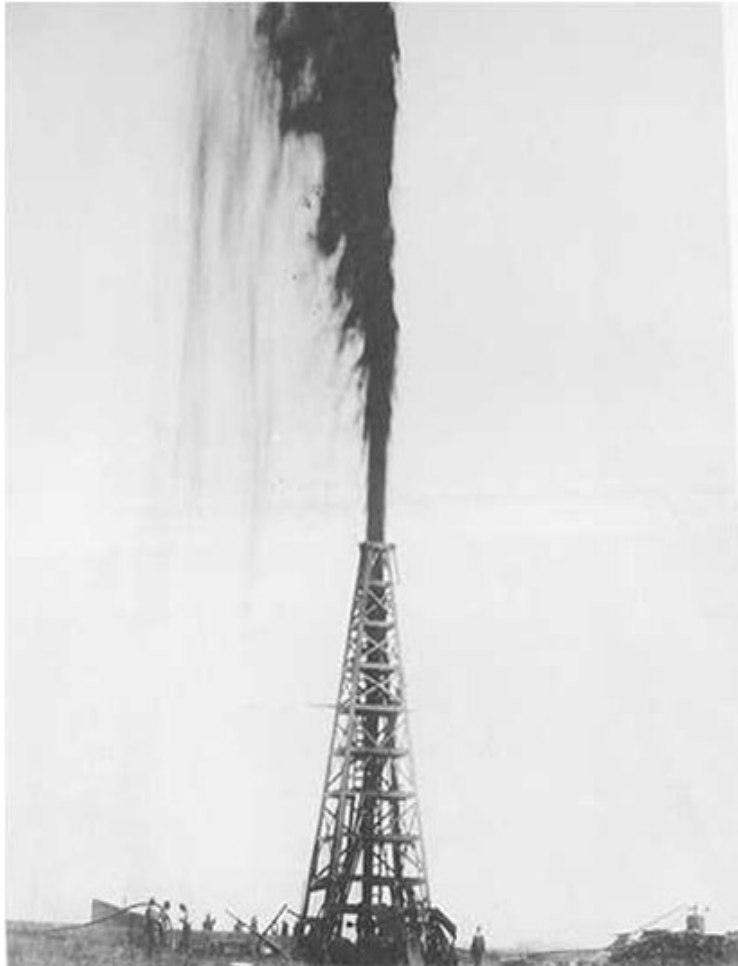
Ministers & pastors who received an impartation from the Holy Spirit at Azusa Street Mission travelled around the world, spreading the impartation.

Small's Journey



- At a store front mission in Winnipeg in 1907, both Frank and his mother were baptized with the Holy Spirit.
- This was very early in the Pentecostal movement.

Small's Journey



- 1913 attended a pivotal camp meeting in Arroyo Seco, California.
- Returned to Winnipeg.
- Extended season of prayer.
- 1915 vision of an oil gusher –
“Your time is up, get ready, revival is here!”

Winnipeg Revival



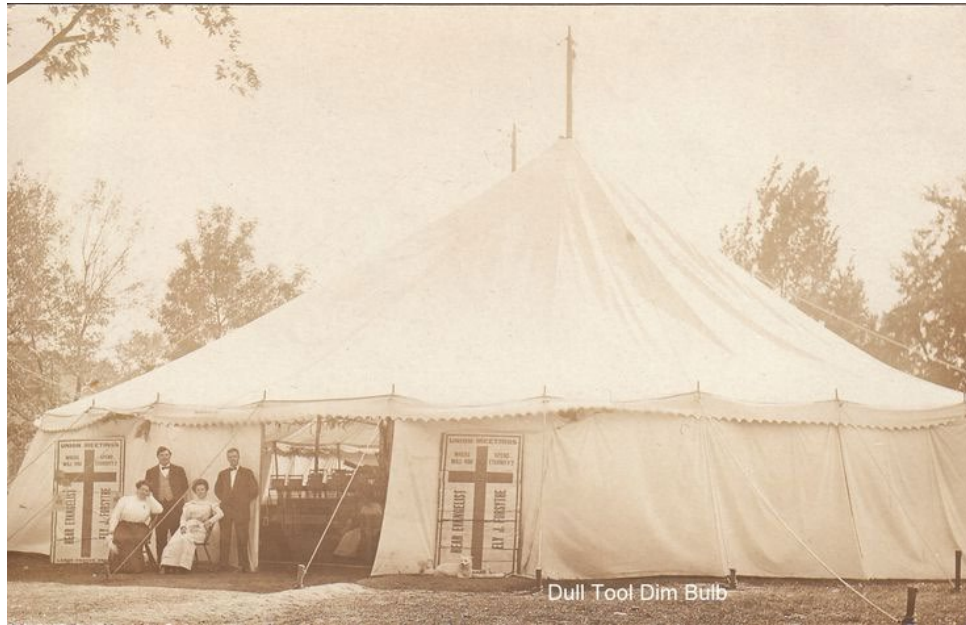
- In the summer of 1916, Small pitched a tent on the banks of the Red River in Winnipeg and revival broke out.
- The congregation moved to Old Knox Church in 1917 – the building seats 1,000 people, and they pack the place out.
- 2 services every day, 3 services on Sundays.

Winnipeg Revival



- 100's of preachers sent out to plant churches.
- 30 missionaries supported by the church by 1921.
- In 1921, Zion Church had a mission budget of \$8,000 – equivalent to \$125,000 in 2019 dollars.

Winnipeg Revival



- Lots of visiting speakers.
- Pentecostal Theology evolving.
- Revival continued from 1916 – 1926.
- Characteristics of the revival:
 - Conversions
 - Water baptism in Jesus' Name
 - Baptism of the Holy Spirit – speaking in tongues
 - Healings and miracles

Pentecostal Organization



- Early Pentecostals were suspicious of organization - they were concerned that it would get in the way of the ministry of the Holy Spirit.
- However they wanted their clergy recognized.
- PAOC was formed in 1919. Frank Small was a signatory on the PAOC charter.

Pentecostal Organization

- ACOP was founded in 1921 by Small and a group of other like-minded ministers.
- **There were doctrinal issues:**
 - Godhead
 - Water baptism formula
 - Eternal salvation



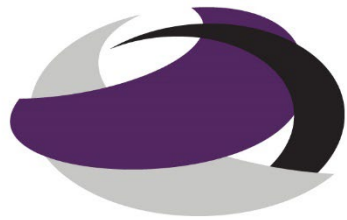
ACOP

APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF PENTECOST
OF CANADA

Pentecostal Organization

There were philosophic issues:

- Autonomy of the local church
- Role of Organization
- Are we a Fellowship or a Denomination?
- How much authority should the central organization have over the ministers? Over the churches?
- Are we a Fellowship of Churches or a fraternity of ministers?



ACOP

APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF PENTECOST
OF CANADA

Early Values

- Prayer
- Authority of the Word of God
- Baptism of the Holy Spirit – speaking in tongues
- Finished work of Calvary
 - The grace of God
 - Eternal Salvation
 - Baptist doctrine of salvation
- Autonomy of the local church
- Sending out missionaries
- Planting churches

Organizational Development

- Frank Small was the Moderator – not the bishop or the overseer. He remained the pastor of Zion Apostolic Church throughout his tenure as Moderator.
- No full-time Moderator for the first 55 years.
- Daniel Breen became the first full-time Moderator in 1976.
- The term Moderator was replaced with President in 2006.

Merger between ACOP and ECP

- In 1927 the Full Gospel Missions was formed in Saskatchewan.
- In 1944 it was incorporated federally to accommodate ministers in other parts of Canada, forming the Evangelical Churches of Pentecost.
- A series of joint conferences between ACOP and ECP were held from 1948 -1953.
- In 1953 the merger was completed.
- There were similarities and differences between the two groups. It took many years to integrate the two organizations.

Organizational Development

- Geographic districts were formed – overseen by a Presbyter.
- The Moderator and the Presbyters formed the governing body of the Denomination.
 - Some were strong in field work as presbyters.
 - Some were strong around the board table.
 - Few excelled at both.
- All were volunteers.

Organizational Development

- In 2000 the duties were separated. We formed a Board of Trustees and changed the title from Presbyter to District Director.
- In 2012 we began a transition from volunteer District Directors to full-time Regional Directors.
- The Regional Directors, along with the President and the Administrator, form what we call the Apostolic Team.
- The Canadian Leadership Team includes the Apostolic Team plus the Missions Director, Executive Director of United Youth Outreach, Church Planting Catalyst, and Next Gen Catalyst. This team gives operational leadership to the Fellowship.

Organizational Development

- ACOP began in Winnipeg and spread primarily to the western provinces.
- Geographic distance and limited travel between western Canada and central Canada resulted in ACOP becoming a largely Western Canadian movement.

Organizational Development

- There was a small pocket of ACOP ministers and churches in the Maritimes.
- ACOP did not have an official publication, so communication between the east and the west was limited.
- Distance from east to west prevented Maritimers from attending conferences that were held in western Canada.

Organizational Development

- Doctrinal differences about the finished work of Calvary – eternal salvation.
- Most ACOP members in the Maritimes eventually aligned with the United Pentecostal Church (UPC), which became more legalistic over the years.
- In the 1990's a number of UPC ministers reconnected with ACOP.

Missions

- Missions have always been a big part of ACOP.
- Corabell Small (Frank Small's wife) was a former missionary to China.
- She was a “missionary of the one way ticket” .
- Appointed the first missions secretary.

Missions

- ACOP's early missionaries went primarily to unreached people groups.
- Many early missionaries went to primitive places.
- Over the years, training centers and Bible schools were established.
- Leaders were developed and national churches emerged.
- The role of the missionaries evolved to one of teaching, training and consulting.
- Now we are once again starting to turn our attention back to unreached people groups.

Missions

- ACOP's approach to missions was for all local churches to send money to a central fund that was administered by a Missions Council.
- ECP's approach was for local churches to send and support missionaries. Smaller churches would often pool their funds to send a missionary.
- After the merger, both systems were allowed to co-exist.

Bible Schools

- The early Pentecostals tended to be anti-intellectual, but still recognized the need for training ministers.
- At the first ACOP Conference, they discussed the need for a Bible college.

Bible Schools

- ACOP never developed its own college, however a number of Bible schools were started:
 - Grenfell SK.
 - Yorkton SK.
 - Regina SK.
 - Eston SK.
 - Saskatoon SK.
 - Veteran, AB.
 - Port Coquitlam BC.
- These were unaccredited schools, whose primary text book was the Bible.

Bible Schools

- When ACOP and ECP merged, it was agreed that the Full Gospel Bible Institute (now Eston College) would be the official training center and the Apostolic Missionary Training Institute would be closed.
- Eston College received its accreditation from the ABHE in 2006.
- In the 1970's, Jubilee Bible College was formed at the West Coast
- In 1974, Eastern Canadian Apostolic Bible Institute was formed in Lindsay, ON then moved to Fenelon Falls in 1977 and renamed Shiloh Bible College.
- Both Jubilee and Shiloh are now closed.

Bible Camps

- Pentecostalism has been historically and intrinsically linked to Bible Camps: Children's, youth, family and adult camps.
- ACOP has had dozens of Bible camps across Canada.
- Many Pentecostals would identify a significant spiritual experience happened to them at a camp meeting.

Interdenominational Involvement

- Evangelical Fellowship of Canada (EFC)
- World Pentecostal Fellowship (WPF)
- Pentecostal & Charismatic Churches of North America (PCCNA)
- Empowered 21 (E21)