

**KAREN'S FLOWER SHOP**  
 Thanksgiving  
 October 11th  
 487 Laurier Ave.,  
 878-2881  
 "Family owned for over 30 years"

# Champion COMMUNITY Page

## ✓ Former banker becomes Baptist preacher

By IRENE GENTLE  
 The Champion

A career in banking taught Greg Macaulay a little about adding things up. Maybe that is why he didn't hesitate when the time seemed right to pack in his job at the Bank of Montreal and embark on a career serving God.

Prior to obtaining his masters degree in divinity, the new pastor at Milton Baptist Church had a marriage, children and a successful career under his belt.

In other words, he lived life before he began to preach it. "I think I was a good banker. I was rated quite highly," he said. "But there was a part missing. I used to pray, 'God, what do you want me to do?'"

The answer came to him after reading a newspaper story about a teenage girl found dead in a stairwell.

"It really touched me and encouraged me to ask God why," he recalled. "He said 'I have no one to send.' So I said, 'you can send me.'"

### Back to school

Within weeks, he had packed in his position at the bank and enrolled in seminary school.

He served at the Immanuel Baptist Church in Brantford before learning of the position in Milton.

And while Rev. Macaulay feels only joy at the prospect of serving in the house of God, he is getting a little antsy about where to house his own family.

Though their Brantford home has been sold, finding suitable accommodation here has been difficult.

Suitable, in this case, means reasonably priced with four or five bedrooms.

Until they find what they are looking for, the family rents a house in Brantford on a month-to-month basis.

"It isn't quite the move we had planned," said Rev. Macaulay.

But he is not one to back away from risk.

And he encourages his 80-plus congregation to be the same way.

"Are you willing to be risk-takers, and get out of the boat and start walking on water?" he asked them in one recent sermon. "I'm dreaming about different things that can be done here. I think the Lord has some wonderful things in store."

### Spiritual matters

Today, Rev. Macaulay is bent on finding ways to bring those who have felt isolated from church teachings back to the fold.

"I think people are interested in spiritual matters," he said. "I believe the Christian faith has a good, strong message to send."

All he asks is that the church, and faith, be given a chance.

"I think people bring with them disappointment from the church. They have been hurt before," he said. "It is my belief that it isn't the Lord who disappoints us. People disappoint us, but not the Lord."

Treating those wounds is one of the aims of Rev. Macaulay's ministry.

"I want to be about having an encouraging ministry," he said. "We need to be loving and accepting and encouraging of people. That is what we want to be about here."

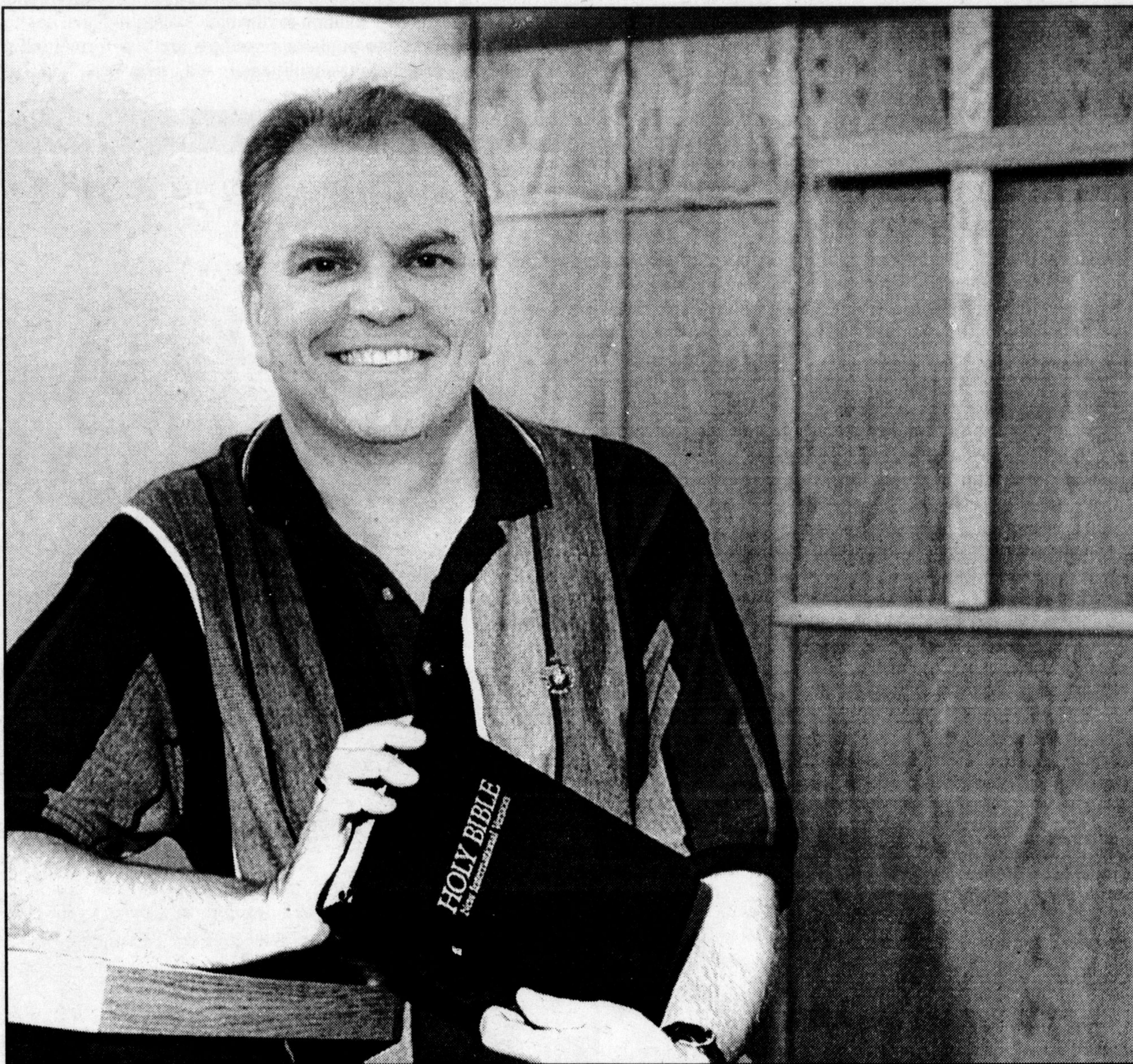


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Reverend Greg Macaulay changed his career path to pursue the word of God. Now the new pastor of Milton Baptist Church is looking forward to seeing positive changes arise in the 80-plus congregation.

And the backbone of the ministry, said Rev. Macaulay, is the Lord.

"I believe the Lord is still interested in people today," he said. "The Lord wants to have an intimate relationship with us."

He also believes that deep down, people want to have a relationship with God.

### Times have changed

But they may have been turned off by old experiences. "I remember sitting in a church, I was the youngest of five," he said.

"I remember we had to be quiet. We'd sit there with our hands

folded. But I think those days of just sitting there are over."

Today, the slightest vestiges of Rev. Macaulay's former career remain -- mainly the ones that aid in achieving his current goals, such as communication and marketing skills.

### About evangelism

"It seems callous to say you can market the church," he said. "But indeed that is what we are about -- evangelism."

That and revamping the church to include new ways of embracing faith.

"We want to keep ourselves open and not exclude things because we haven't done them in the past," he said.

**CABLEWORKS**  
 COMMUNICATIONS  
 Registered Name

Acton  
 21 Main Street North,  
 Acton, ON L7J 1V9  
 519-853-1270, or 853-4700

**Cableworks 14 Programming Schedule – October 5th - October 11th, 1999**

Tuesday, October 5th	Wednesday, October 6th	Thursday, October 7th	Sunday, October 10th	Monday, October 11th
10am, 11am, 12pm Yesterday's Plugged In!	10am, 11am, 12pm Yesterday's Plugged In!	10am, 11am, 12pm Yesterday's Plugged In!	4pm, 5pm, 6:30pm Plugged In! - Week in Review	Thanksgiving No Programming
5:30, 6:30, 7:30pm Plugged In!	5:30, 6:30, 7:30pm Plugged In!	5:30, 6:30, 7:30pm Plugged In!	4:30pm Classics Against Cancer	
6:00pm Seniors Showcase	6:00pm Cable in the Classroom	6:00pm A Different Time - Milton's Victoria Park	5:30pm Seniors Showcase	
7:00pm Swap Talk	7:00pm Swap Talk	7:00pm The issue is..	6:00pm A Different Time - Milton's Victoria Park	
8:00pm Halton Hills Council	8:00pm Milton Council	8:00pm Regional Council		

Feature of the week: Plugged In! \*New Season! \*New Look! \*New Features! \*New Show Each Day!

T a k i n g   y o u r   c a b l e   f u r t h e r