

Convention July 2026

Summarising the 2026 Czechoslovak Convention reveals its stunning, transformative, energetic, and growing nature. Yet, it all lies beyond human endeavour, it is God starting a new thing. “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” Isaiah 43:19

Behold, I Am Doing a New Thing!

Isaiah 43:14-21

This passage from Isaiah expresses God's promise to bring renewal and restoration to His people, emphasizing His ability to create hope and new beginnings even in dire circumstances. Dire circumstances it was for them; they were in exile and lived under poor circumstances in another country. Under those circumstances God was giving this promise: “See, I am doing a new thing!”

1. Depend on Divine Deliverance – Isaiah 43:14-15

God is our Redeemer and Holy One, He is committed to lead and guide His people out of struggles. Here, God assures Israel of His sovereignty over creation and history, offering comfort and hope amid captivity. This is a reminder that God's nature provides a foundation for new beginnings, as He holds the power to change any circumstance. Trusting in His character gives us confidence that He can transform our current hardships into a new path for His glory.

2. Reflect on Remarkable Rescues – Isaiah 43:16-17

God's past deliverances, recalling the crossing of the Red Sea, as evidence of His ability to deliver His people miraculously. Here, recounting historical acts of salvation gives us faith in His current promises. Just as God made a way through the waters in the past, He promises to make a path through our present struggles. Think back to past successes, because they strengthen our confidence in God's power to bring forth something new.

3. Focus on Future Possibilities – Isaiah 43:18-19

God urges us to stop dwelling on the past and focus on the new things He is doing. Faith plays a key role in embracing this new way of working and letting go of the past. This is a call to trust in the living God who persists in bringing renewal and transformation. Jesus, the embodiment of God's newness, calls us to live in the renewal of life He provides, letting go of past constraints and embracing His future promises.

4. Celebrate Created Change – Isaiah 43:20-21

Isaiah concludes with the vision of God's provision in the wilderness, promising abundant life and hope. Here, even in places of desolation, God intends to provide, where all creation will witness His goodness. This provision points to how Jesus, the Living Water, satisfies our deepest needs. God invites you to celebrate His faithfulness and to live as witnesses of His transformative work in life, seeking to glorify Him as His chosen people.

No matter our past or present struggles, God is constantly at work in our lives to bring about transformation. It encourages us to trust in God's power to do the impossible and to be open to the new things He is doing.

God is not limited by our circumstances; He is a God of new beginnings. Sometimes it might be a challenge to recognise and embrace God's work in our lives and communities.

God doing new things appears throughout Scripture and points us to Jesus. His death and resurrection bring the ultimate new life. He makes all things new, offering salvation and hope to all who believe.

Accepting God's new work in our lives means having faith and trusting His promises. We see that He can turn our troubles into ways to show His glory.

Why say “new” when the Convention turned 113 years old this year? “New,” because after Covid, it seemed unlikely we would restart. Though this year’s Convention was a “Turning Point” and a “New Beginning.” Not only were there bigger numbers, but “*New-Young*” growth.



When you look at the Convention photo, the average age is significantly lower than before. We are thrilled to see all the young families.

No person could do what God is busy doing. God is doing a “New Thing.”

This year’s **113th** Convention was a true “turning point.”

Growth in numbers: Our attendance swelled beyond expectations.

Youthful renewal: The average age of participants has dropped dramatically, reflecting a surge of **young families and fresh perspectives**.

Spirit-filled worship: Services overflowed with joyous praise, echoing the psalmist’s call to “*sing a new song to the Lord.*”

These signs are not the product of human effort alone; they are **God’s handiwork**, orchestrating a **new beginning** that we can scarcely contain in words.

A Call to Embrace the New

Trust in the God who “does a new thing” even when circumstances feel barren.

Celebrate the ways He provides streams in the wilderness—whether through new friendships, fresh ministries, or renewed vision.

Witness to the transformation that Jesus brings, making all things new through His death and resurrection.

Let us, therefore, step forward with **optimistic hearts**, ready to **receive** and **share** the abundant life God is pouring out upon us.

In Closing

Our Convention stands as a **beacon of hope**, a testament that God is ever-present, ever-creative, and ever-ready to launch something spectacular in our midst. As we gather, may we be reminded that **God is not limited by our circumstances**; He is the God of **new beginnings**, and He is doing a ***new thing*** in our midst.

May the Spirit's fire ignite our souls, may joyful anticipation fill our gatherings, and may we reflect the glorious future God has prepared for the Czechoslovak Baptist Convention of Canada and the USA in every step we take.

In Christ's radiant hope,

Nico Mulder

On behalf of the Czechoslovak Baptist Convention

