

PASTORAL ALERT

(From Pastor Howard Courtney)

The past few months have brought some added pressure financially in the regular expenditures of the church. We have experienced a variety of expenses that have increased the need for additional finances. Three of our six furnaces have needed significant repairs. The increased cold has no doubt made our energy cost higher.

Some regular tithes may also have not come into our general account because of our other special projects. The dollars needed for these special projects (like the "WHY" book distribution) are intended to come from offerings over and above regular tithes. However, there are those who redirect tithes to these projects from time to time, which in turn reduces the amount of funds available to pay the regular ongoing expenses of the church.

At this time we are approximately \$14,000 in the red. Moneys that are ear-marked benevolence, missions, or otherwise cannot be used to pay these bills. General tithes and offerings are the **ONLY** income we have. We have no subsidy, or government support to help us. We count solely upon the generosity of our church family in their regular tithes and offerings. If for some reason you have felt that Innisfil Community Church does not need your tithes and offerings, you happen to be **WRONG!** We are in need and trusting God to provide. We had hoped that this deficit would have been cared for by this time. That hasn't happened. Your help is needed. Thank you for catching up on your regular tithes, and for your special offerings over and above to help us catch up quickly.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following needs:

- Darlene Bedford—doing well. Please continue to pray for her.
- David King's sister, needs our prayers
- Ruby Hutchison's niece's husband (aneurism) - out of hospital, recovering at home.
- Muriel Roberts (Muriel is currently in a nursing facility in Newmarket, awaiting placement in the Barrie area)
- Kelly Mittler is recovering from a bone marrow transplant and is doing well. She has been transferred to "The Lodge" and can now have visitors. Please call her prior to visiting: 416-413-8045. She still needs and covets our prayers.
- Sandy Benson, recovering from a stroke. Please continue to pray.
- Baby Kourtney Farnell—desperately needs our prayers.
- Graeme McFarlane—home from the hospital and recovering
- Johanna Degraaf (Jolanda Galashan's mother). Johanna has recently moved into Kempenfelt Manor in Barrie. Pray that she will adjust quickly to this transitional change in surroundings.
- Bonnie Pereira—on a missions trip to India

MINISTRY TEAM IN PLACE

At the beginning of this year a Ministry Team was established for altar ministry. This has been an effective part of our Sunday services as so many have responded and come forth for prayer. It is wonderful to hear feedback of how God has answered so many prayers.

JESUS IS LORD!

Innisfil Community Church NEWSLETTER *February, 2004*

WEEK OF PRAYER & FASTING

We began the new year with a week of prayer and fasting. Stations were set up in the sanctuary identifying special prayer needs. We are believing God for another year of His anointing and blessing upon our church and church family.

KEY NATIVE LEADER SPEAKS!

Rev. George Gunner and his wife, Pauline, were special guests at Innisfil Community Church on Sunday morning, January 11th. Rev. Gunner is the Director of Aboriginal Ministries with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. He stirred all of our hearts as he shared an amazing and inspiring message of God's love. His wife, Pauline, sang and played the guitar with a rich anointing. Please pray for the Gunners and the native ministries.

TEACHING CLASSES HAVE

BEGUN

- "The Bondage Breaker & Victory Over The Darkness" Video Series, with Facilitator Betty Anne Taylor.
- "How To Walk The Walk You Talk", with Facilitator Kim Arnott
- "Crown Financial Ministries", with Facilitators Anthony & Annette Langeveld
- "Leadership Development", with Facilitators Dale & Brenda Clair
- "Precept Bible Study", with Facilitator Jessica Pereira
- "Adult Sunday School Class", with Gerry French/Bob Galashan
- "Weekly Adult Bible Classes", with Pastor Courtney
- "Weekly Bible Study for Guys", with Pastor Dwayne

For information on any of these classes, please contact the church at 436-1611

BONNIE PEREIRA ON A MISSION!

Bonnie left for India on January 12th. She is helping in an orphanage in Telegoan (west of Puna) for a month and will be returning mid-February. We have received exciting reports so far of how God has opened up opportunities for her and how her heart has been stirred as she has worked with these special children. We look forward to hearing more on her return. Please keep her in your prayers.

CONGRATULATIONS IN ORDER!



Congratulations to Joe & Jessica Pereira who are expecting their first grandchild in August. Simon & Sherri Pereira are the proud parents-to-be! And, of course, Bonnie, is the proud auntie-to-be!

PREACHING SERIES

Pastor Courtney has begun his Book of Solomon series on "Love". Coming up in February and, in line with this series, he and Beulah will share their merged life story of heartbreak and love.

USED CLOTHING

This week another FULL tractor trailer load of used clothing and other necessities was shipped to the missions field. We continue to be amazed at the faithfulness of our volunteers who diligently work in our portables every day, and, to all those who make donations. You are the ones who make this happen! Thank you so much to the Rejoice Academy students and all the other helpers who showed up to load the truck.

PRIMETIMERS

On Tuesday, January 13th, the Primetimers enjoyed a soup, sandwich, desert, and games fellowship time.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

TEACHING SEMINAR

On Saturday, January 17th, a training seminar was held, primarily for those who are in leadership in our children's programs. There was a great line up of Pentecostal leaders who came to challenge and enhance our volunteers. Presenters were Marilyn Stroud, The PAOC National Director of Missions; Pastor Tina Matthews, Children's Pastor at Gravenhurst Pentecostal; and Antonella, specialist in creative ministries at Alliston Pentecostal Church. There were 25 in attendance. Our thanks to the presenters and to Pastor Charlene for organizing this day. It is always good to obtain fresh ideas for our children's programs and to glean from those who are experienced in these fields.

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU!

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the following individuals for serving so faithfully:

- Brenda Clair

Brenda has been our Tithing Envelope Secretary for over 10 years and will be taking a well deserved break from this position. Annette Langeveld has been appointed by the Board to assume this role. During Brenda's entire tenure there has never been one leak of confidentiality in personal tithe envelopes. We applaud her for her faithful service. Thanks, Brenda!

- Byron & Marian Sweetland

Byron and Marian Sweetland (along with mom and dad Jonkman), have served In-nisfil Community Church, with excellence, as our janitors. Recently, due to personal circumstances, they have had to make a decision to discontinue this service. The Sweetlands have gone over and above their duties to serve this church and, more importantly, to serve God. Thank you so much for your faithfulness! Bonnie Pereira will be assuming the janitorial role upon her return from her missions trip to India.

- Gil & Delores Weston

Gil & Delores Weston have faithfully served as co-ordinators for our seniors for over 10 years. They have now retired from this role, but will still continue to lead the annual bus trip to Ladore. This couple has poured all their love and energy into our seniors lives and their activities. We express our heartfelt thanks to you, Gil & Delores, for your amazing leadership. May God's hand continue to rest upon you and may you be blessed with good health and good times.