

News/Tidbits

JOINING OUR STAFF!

Pastor Rob Sharpe has been the Music & Worship Pastor at Innisfil Community Church since December of 2006, on a part-time basis. We are pleased to announce that, effective February 4, Pastor Rob joins our pastoral staff on a full-time basis as "Assistant Pastor", and will continue to lead in the area of worship/music. It is a blessing to have Pastor Rob, Caroline, Taylor, Victoria & Josiah as part of our Innisfil Community Church family.

PASTOR JUNE & JOHN WHITE

Pastor June & John have returned from the Mission Field and were with us the Sunday before Christmas. The following week they left for Florida and will be there for several months. We miss them and look forward to having them back!

BABY CONGRATS



We rejoice with Dale & Brenda Clair on the birth of their new granddaughter, Lucia Marie Clair Gauthier. Proud parents, Abby & Gillian (Clair) Gauthier welcomed their new baby on Saturday, January 5, at 2:58 am, weighing in at 5 lbs. 6 oz. Abby & Gillian now have three beautiful girls: Lacey, Lyla and Lucia! Congratulations!

REMOVAL OF PORTABLES

The second portable is ready to be moved off the property and all the clothing has been loaded onto the trailer and shipped. Drop-off donations are still being received at the church. We are seeking out a truck or trailer to store the bags but, in the meantime, the gym stage is being used temporarily.

FELLOWSHIP HALL PAINTED

The Fellowship Hall downstairs has been freshly painted and is now being used frequently for various functions. Thanks to Gayle Peck, Gerry Knapp, Tom James, and Pat Hoath for contributing to the upgrades by giving of their time and effort. It's so true: "Many hands make light work".

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WELCOME NEW FAMILIES!



With many families moving into the Innisfil area, and particularly the town of Alcona, we are delighted to see new faces join with us at Innisfil Community Church. It is our privilege to welcome visitors and those who have chosen to make ICC their home church. There is much work to be done and we anticipate great things ahead as we serve God together.

BUILDING EXPANSION UPDATE

At the beginning of this new year, we had hoped to be able to give you the report that we have the "go-ahead" to start building our proposed expansion. Unfortunately, we are not there yet! Progress continues to be very slow as the various levels of government review our Site Plan Application. Frustration is evident in the fact that when the County makes a change it has to be re-circulated to the Municipality and then when the Municipality makes a change it has to be re-circulated to the County. Seems like it just keeps circling the spectrum! I guess the good news is that it is moving, and hopefully it will soon land with approval of all. Our builder is still standing by and ready to go forward at our first opportunity.

The support and encouragement of so many has been wonderful. Thanks for standing with us in both your prayers and financial support. God is with us and we are moving forward at His direction. We WILL get there!

NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

Lord, let this year be filled with the things that are truly good—with the comfort of warmth in our relationships, with the strength to help those who need our help and the humility and openness to accept help from others.

As we make our resolutions for the year ahead, let us go forward with great hope that all things can be possible—with Your help and guidance." AMEN



NEWSLETTER JANUARY, 2008



A NEW YEAR

Well, here we are at the beginning of a brand new year! We trust you all had an enjoyable Christmas Season with family and friends. As we reflect on the year 2007, I'm sure all of us can say we have been truly blessed! Now we look forward, with anticipation, to what God has for us in 2008! His promise to us is found in Isaiah 48:17: "I am the Lord thy God which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go." Lead us on, Lord!

Beginning With Prayer

ICC started the New Year with a prayer meeting, held on Friday evening, January 4. More than ever we need to call on God to direct us; not only for Innisfil Community Church, but for our own personal lives. It was also a time to offer up thanks for the way He has led us over the past year. How Great Is Our God!

Body Building

Pastor Courtney delivered a series of sermons in the month of January on "Being A Body Builder". Just as we strive to take care of our physical bodies with exercise and good nutrition, God wants every Christian to be in the body building business. Building up the body of Christ, the church, should be a priority in our lives! Ephesians 4:16 says that the whole body is joined and held together by every supporting ligament and it grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Events/Activities

GROUND ZERO & THE GATE

The GATE resumed their weekly activities on Wednesday, January 9, with a games night. They always enjoy the worship time in the Youth Room and various speakers. One of the topics Pastor Kris shared during the month was "Loving Your Neighbour".

Ground Zero started their first activity on January 4, with DJ Lupo sharing from the Word. They had two guest speakers for the month: Brad Young and Mike Johnson. The youth love hanging out in the gym for music and good times. As well, at 8:45 pm on Wednesday nights GZ are continuing their Bible Study discussions in the Fireside Lounge.

BG'S & "BONNIE"

The Boys & Girls Club are off and running again for another year, meeting on Wednesday evenings, under the leadership of Bonnie Pereira. It's wonderful to see such an energetic group of kids! In a recent Sunday morning service, Pastor Courtney publicly acknowledged Bonnie for her hard work in BG's and for serving in other ministry areas of the church. He presented her with a Certificate of Recognition and a "Towel & Basin" as a token of appreciation for her service to God and to Innisfil Community Church. "THANK YOU" Bonnie!

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT



The Marriage Enrichment 6-week series, facilitated by John Koning, began on Sunday morning, January 13, as a Sunday School Adult Elective Class. This video teaching by Dr. Gary Smalley has been a tremendous guideline in helping better relationships and in learning to discover different personality types.

BOUNDARIES COURSE

The Boundaries Course is back by popular demand. Facilitated by Marion Boone, the course began on Thursday, January 10, and runs for 8 weeks.

Events/Activities (cont'd)



WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

"Soups On!" This event, planned and organized by Donna Seaton, was held on Saturday, January 19. Sharon Emmons and her daughter,

Sheri Lind, led in a couple of choruses and also sang a special duet entitled "The Power of Your Name". Donna (Seaton) shared an inspiring Biblical application on how she came to choose the theme "Soups On", and some of her own personal experiences of growth in her Christian walk. The ladies then enjoyed a selection of tasty homemade soups, pitas and wonderful desserts as they fellowshiped around the tables. Thank you, Donna!

MEN'S MINISTRIES

The "Innisfil Ironmen" held their first meeting of 2008 on Monday evening, January 7. The speaker was Aaron Tardiff, who shared on the topic "Servanthood to Your Family". Men's Ministries meet the first Monday of every month.

PRIMETIMERS

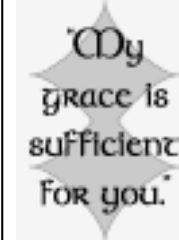
The monthly Primetimers (55+) luncheon meetings are temporarily discontinued and emphasis is now on the weekly seniors' meetings. This activity, which includes shuffleboard, board games, and fellowship, is held in the gym of ICC every Monday from 1 pm to 3 pm. We appreciate Gayle & Bob Peck and Sid & Ann Dejong for their diligence in overseeing the seniors' activities.

DESSERT CONCERTS

As this letter is written, preparations are being made for the next Dessert Concert with the Southern Gospel Group, "The Torchmen". This is a well-known quartet whose mission has been to spread the gospel through southern gospel music for over 38 years. Reservations indicate there will be a full house on Sunday evening, January 27.

Next month (February 24) ICC will be hosting another Dessert Concert with the gospel group "Reunion". Call 436-1611 to reserve a seat.

Remembering to Pray



Please join with us in interceding for the following prayer needs. We do appreciate all those who pray on behalf of others.

UPDATES

Dennis Fehr—liver cancer

Dennis started his chemo on December 24 and is now on his second round of treatment. It has been a rough month as he experienced side effects which caused fatigue and weakness in his body. Nevertheless, both Dennis & Tanya have placed their lives in God's hands and continue to trust Him for a miracle. He has promised to "never leave them nor forsake them."

Owen Dixon—stroke & paralysis

Owen was able to come home for a couple of days at Christmas and New Year's to spend time with his family. He has returned to the rehab center in Toronto where he is continuing his treatment. Unless God intervenes, there is little that can be done at this point. Owen, like Dennis, needs a miracle. This is a very difficult time for his wife, Marcian, and their two sons, but they live with the assurance that God is in control and He will look after them.

Gloria Fox—sick for a couple of months.

Gloria has a torn cartilage in her right knee and also a sprained knee cap. This has been very painful and has hindered her from walking.

Chrisantie Karanfilis—pneumonia

Chrisantie was hospitalized for over a month in RVH, suffering from pneumonia and kidney problems. She is now recovering at home but very weak in her body.

Bonnie Tsiourlis—pneumonia

Bonnie is recovering from pneumonia and fluid on her lung.

The most compelling reason for praying with others is Jesus' promise that : whenever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my Name, I am there with them." Matthew 18: 19-20