

News/Tidbits

WEDDING CONGRATS

Seaton/Breen

We extend our best wishes to Donna Seaton and Rick Breen, who were married on Thanksgiving Sunday evening, October 11. The marriage was jointly performed by Pastor Courtney and Pastor Steve Bradley, (Junior High Pastor, Calvary Pentecostal Church, Orillia). The ceremony and reception took place at the home of Blair & Sharon Swenor, long-time friends of the Seaton family. Both Donna's and Rick's family, as well as close friends, were in attendance to celebrate the occasion. Following the reception, the newly married couple spent a few days in Niagara Falls and also toured beautiful Niagara-on-the-Lake. May God's blessings be upon Donna & Rick as they begin a new life together.

HOMEGOING

Vanamerongen



On Tuesday, September 30, Diny Vanamerongen went home to be with the Lord, in her 89th year. The memorial service, held at Innisfil Community Church on Saturday, October 4, was conducted by Pastor Courtney. One of the moving moments in the service was when Pastor Courtney played a tape of Diny singing "No One Ever Cared For Me Like Jesus", accompanied by Carol Courtney on the piano. The recording was from a New Year's Eve Service held at the church approximately 20 years ago. Diny attended Innisfil Community Church for many years, served as the church organist, and was involved in other areas of ministry. She loved and served God with all of her heart. Diny was predeceased by her husband, Gerrit, a couple of years ago. Please pray for the Vanamerongen family.

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." I Tim. 4:7

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EXPANSION PROGRESS

The first leg of our building program—our three year Stewardship Campaign has just concluded. Thank you to all those who made a pledge and so faithfully contributed towards it. We have waited a long time but FINALLY we can actually SEE the building taking shape. The footings, the foundations, the drainage piping, the storm water sceptor, the water reservoir for fire protection, and the lobby floor are all completed. The problem is, you really can't see those things as they are below the ground for the most part. BUT NOW... you can see the steel structure in place rising high above those other parts of the building. By the time you read this, the trusses will be up and some of the walls in place. Excitement doesn't begin at Casino Niagara -- it begins right here! As part of our great support base, you are a part of our church family. As we continue to move forward with this project, we NEED your ongoing support and prayers. This project is bigger than any of us. But, together we can do it. If you made a pledge over the last three years, you can relate to how God blessed you in your obedience. Can we challenge you to continue giving as you have done over the past? And some are new to the church family. If you are new, join heart and hand with us as we seek to make a difference in this community and around the world. Why not elect to give regularly, over and above your regular giving, to help this capital project move forward. We are doing it because we believe God has called us to do it. Please join us and help lift the load! God has much for us to do! Let's do it together!

If you would like to view pictures of the progress to date, visit the church's website at www.innisfilchurch.com, then click on the "flickr slideshow" to see the various stages of construction.



NEWSLETTER OCTOBER, 2008



Happy Thanksgiving

***O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever!
I Chronicles 16:34***

AUTUMN/FALL/THANKSGIVING

In this season of Thanksgiving, what should you thank God for? The answer is anything and everything. Thank Him for your family, your friends, the food you eat and the roof over your head. But most of all, you can thank Him for the wonderful gift of His Son, Jesus Christ. Because of Him, we can face tomorrow with hope. What blessing could be greater?

A Reason To Give Thanks!

At Innisfil Community Church we endeavour to reach out to those in our community who are in need. One of the ways we do this is by providing non-perishable food. Nearly every week our benevolent team and/or office staff put together boxes of groceries for families who call in and request help.

Recently our food cupboards were nearly bare but, thanks to the generous donations from our church family, and Brad Young's (Men's Ministries) gentle reminders, we were able to continue to serve.

Just prior to Thanksgiving weekend, ICC was the recipient of food drives from two schools in the Alcona area: St. Francis of Assisi and Holy Cross Catholic School.

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A Reason to Give Thanks (cont'd)

Students from both schools donated and assembled the food in preparation for distribution. The amount of food that was picked up by our team was phenomenal! The very generous supply of staple food items not only filled our almost-empty cupboards but also provided a reserve for those times when the demand is high and the requests are more frequent.

Saying "Thank You" seems so inadequate, but, on behalf of Innisfil Community Church, we extend our sincere gratitude to those within our own church family and to the team leaders and students of St. Francis of Assisi and Holy Cross schools. Because of your generosity, together we are able to do our part in "feeding the hungry!"

PREACHING THE WORD!

All three pastors shared the pulpit in October. On Thanksgiving Sunday, both Pastor Courtney and Pastor Rob (Sharpe) delivered a message highlighting "reasons for being thankful". On Sunday morning, October 19, Pastor Mark (Quinlan) preached a sermon with emphasis on "Acts of Service". Preceding his message, the Youth Group (along with Brad Young as "Jesus") presented a powerful drama signifying how much God loves us, even when we go through difficult times.

TESTIMONIES OF FAITHFULNESS

Ever have trouble obeying God? Learning to trust Him with the decisions "He" makes for us can sometimes be some of the hardest things we do, but God blesses us for that obedience. Ultimately our main purpose should be to glorify God and the more we obey, the closer we will draw to Him. During the month, five people publicly shared of God's faithfulness as they practiced obedience in "giving". Darin Jackson, Anthony & Annette Langeveld, Ann DeJong, and John Koning—all testified of the lessons they learned, the blessings they received, and the peace of knowing you are in, and doing, God's will.

Events/Activities (cont'd)

GROUND ZERO/GATE

Pastor Mark has been teaching the Ground Zero (Sr. Highs) the importance of "worship", praising God not just with lip-service, but with passion and whole-heartedness. As well, the Jr. Highs (GATE) are enjoying praise and worship as part of their regular Wednesday night activities.

PRIMETIMERS

Pastor June & John White left for Kenya the end of September. A farewell luncheon was held in their honor on Monday, September 29, and a prayer of blessing, protection and provision was prayed over them. Everyone enjoyed a delicious variety of foods, including a special cake for the Whites, which was shared by all! Please continue to pray for Pastor June & John as they willingly minister in a variety of ways in Kusumu, Kenya.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Under the umbrella of Women's Ministries, a MOM-TO-MOM sale was held in the gymnasium of Innisfil Community Church on Saturday, October 18. Organized by Sheri Lind, the sale was all about helping moms in the community, either by providing a place to buy items and clothing at bargain prices, or by providing a place for moms to sell things their children no longer need. Details of the sale were posted in the local newspapers and the response was amazing! The vendors had an opportunity to purchase a table for their saleable items at a cost of \$5; the total proceeds to be later donated towards Christmas baskets for the needy. It was a "sold-out" sale, with 28 tables reserved and a waiting list of names for the next sale! Thanks, Sheri, for all your hard work in organizing this very successful event!

YOUNG LADIES BIBLE STUDY



Under the mentorship of Caroline Sharpe and Brenda Clair, a brand new Bible Study has begun for ladies from ages 16 to 26, with currently 15 in the class. They are also studying the book

Events/Activities (cont'd)

Young Ladies Bible Study (cont'd)

entitled "Authentic Beauty", a personal and practical book about becoming a set-apart young woman in today's perverse generation. The feedback has been very positive. It is anticipated the study will continue as others express an interest in participating.

MEN'S MINISTRIES

The ball season has concluded and the hockey season has begun! The event for October was a Men's Pool Tournament, held at Dooley's in Barrie on Saturday, October 18. As well, a group of our men have already signed up for the annual Promise Keepers, being held in Mississauga in November.

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

Amidst the flurry of construction and the busyness of regular church activities, the October Blood Donor Clinic was held, as previously scheduled, on Thursday, October 16.

CLOTHING DEPOT

We appreciate so much those who came out to load the clothing truck on Monday night, September 29. In about 3 hours the portable was completely emptied and the trailer was completely filled! Our used clothing operation is intended, first of all, to serve those within our neighboring communities on an "as needed" basis. The remainder is sold to a private firm and all funds received flow back into the children's and youth programs of the church.

PAOC CONFERENCE

Pastors Courtney, Sharpe, and Quinlan attended the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada Fall Conference (Western Ontario District) from Monday, October 20, to Wednesday, October 22. The "Holy Spirit" Ministry conference was held at the Glad Tidings Church in Burlington.

DESSERT CONCERT

As this letter is being written, we are looking forward to the evening Dessert Concert (Sunday, October 26 at 6 pm) with the gospel music group "His Season".