

News/Tidbits

DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Kelly

Pastor Courtney conducted the funeral service of Kevin Kelly, a resident of Alcona, age 42, who was tragically killed in a snowmobiling accident. A memorial service in Kevin's honor was held at The Innisfil Funeral Home on Wednesday, January 21. He leaves behind a wife and three children. Please keep them in your prayers as this is a terrible loss for this family.

Willoughby

On Friday of the same week (Jan. 23), Pastor Courtney officiated the memorial service of Marie Willoughby, wife of Wes Willoughby and daughter of Bram & Rose Walbourne, who were founding members of Innisfil Community Church. Marie courageously battled cancer for 24 years and passed away in her 68th year. The celebration of Marie's life was held at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Oro. Please pray for the Willoughby family.

Oldford

Pastor & Beulah attended the memorial service of Willis Oldford, a long time resident of Alcona who attended ICC for a number of years. Willis passed away in his 98th year. His family shared a wonderful tribute of his life during the service, which was held at the Newediuk Funeral Home in Etobicoke on Saturday, January 31. We extend our love and prayers to this family.

Lupo

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the Lupo family on the passing of Pietro Lupo on Friday, February 6, in his 88th year. The late Mr. Lupo is the father of Donato (Liliana) Lupo and grandfather of Adria (Shawn) Brown, DJ, and Daniel Lupo. Mr. Lupo Sr. was a resident of the Victoria Village Retirement Home in Barrie, and served God faithfully. A memorial service, officiated by Pastor Courtney, was held in his honor on Monday, February 9, at the Scott Funeral Home. Friends and family later gathered in the Fireside Lounge of ICC for refreshments and a time of support to one another. Please pray for the Lupo family.

News/Tidbits

DEEPEST SYMPATHY (cont'd)

Tarling

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Edith Tarling, wife of Pastor Peter Tarling of New Life Fellowship Church in Mactier, on Sunday, February 15, in her 72nd year. Edith was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer only a couple of months ago. The Tarlings attended a number of our Dessert Concerts over the past several years and brought a group from their church along with them as well. In July of 2007 a team of men from ICC spent a "work project" day at New Life, assisting in renovations at the church. Please uplift Pastor Peter and his family during this very difficult time. The Tarlings had been in ministry together for 47 years.

Wells

Our love and sympathy is extended to the Wells family on the passing of Herbert Wells, on Thursday, February 19, in his 90th year. Mr. Wells Sr. is the father of Gary (Heather) Wells and grandfather of Melissa Simmons (Tim), Jason, Zachary and Ethan Wells. Please pray for Gary & Heather, who traveled to Newfoundland to be of support during this time, and for all the other family members.

"God is a very present help in time of trouble" Psalm 46:1



INNISFIL MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

On Wednesday, February 18, the Annual Innisfil Mayor's Prayer Breakfast was held at the Stroud Recreation Centre, with 90 in attendance. Pastor Courtney organizes this event every year, with help from the area ministers. This year's host emcee was Reverend Glen Eagle who officiates at the Churchill and Gilford United Churches. Biblical discussion and prayer was the focus around each table. Also, Mayor Brian Jackson brought greetings on behalf of the Town of Innisfil. As in previous years, a full breakfast was served by Colin's Catering.



NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY, 2009



GOD LOVES YOU!

God is love and the source of "true" love.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should

not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16. This was God's ultimate "valentine" to us. His love is not given on an annual basis, but unceasingly. There is no greater love!

PRAYER & GOD'S WORD

Pastor Courtney is continuing the sermon series on "The Stations of the Cross", depicting various events in the final hours of Jesus' life, and allowing us to more fully identify with Christ's suffering. The reflections covered this month included: "Judging, Wounding, The Burden of the Cross, and Sharing The Load".

In the evening service on February 1, following worship the congregation proceeded to the new auditorium for a time of prayer. As the groups stopped at each "station" of the building, a prayer of blessing was offered up to God, both in thanksgiving and anticipation of what He is going to do as we move forward in His plan and purpose for Innisfil Community Church.

On February 15, the pulpit was shared by Pastor Rob and Pastor Mark as they preached two great sermons: "The Power of Community" (Pastor Rob) and "Discipleship, Are You Up To It?" (Pastor Mark).

Prayer and God's Word—Two powerful components in our daily Christian walk!

Events/Activities

GROUND ZERO & THE GATE

The senior youth activities for the month of February included: "Overflow Tour" at Hiway Pentecostal Church; a Valentine's discussion on "dating"; and, a planned "Hello Kelly" concert in Orillia. The discipleship classes, with Pastor Mark, are ongoing on Sunday evenings. On Friday, February 6, the Youth Pastor and a number of youth from Bethel Pentecostal Church in Sarnia joined Ground Zero for their service. Hilary Chase was the speaker for the evening and did a great job. The Sarnia group were on an outing trip in the area and used the church facility as an overnight stop-over.

The GATE (junior highs) have a buzzing time on Wednesday nights and continue to learn the basics of God's Word. A movie night is planned for the last week of February.


PRIMETIMERS

The seniors went for an outing on February 9, touring the Gibson Centre for Community Arts & Culture in Alliston. The day concluded with shuffleboard in the gym. The Primetimers continue to enjoy weekly shuffleboard and fellowship every Monday afternoon.

MEN'S MINISTRIES

Men's Ministries hosted Super Bowl in the gym on Sunday evening, February 1. At the same time, the regular prayer and worship service was held in the sanctuary, and those wishing to join the festivities were invited to do so. Super Bowl was a family event open to the community, with board games, snacks, a chili cook-off, and of course the game on the Big Screen! Thanks to all who contributed to a successful evening.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

 The theme for this month's meeting, held on Tuesday, February 17, was "Expressions of Love". The Fireside Lounge was beautifully decorated with the Valentines theme and a lovely display of food

Events/Activities (cont'd)

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES (cont'd)

spread for all to enjoy. These expressions of love were shown in many ways throughout the evening: laughter from games and funnies, brief personal testimonies, praise and worship, a story of love from the Bible, and women-to-women sharing friendships together. In keeping with the theme there was also a lovely Valentine's cake, baked and decorated by Pat Stuckless. Thank you so much to Sharon Emmons for the planning, organizing and following-through of a truly great evening. Thanks, also, to Donna Breen, Elaine Heeringa and others who helped decorate, set up and clean up. Women know how to have a good time! ☺

WATER BAPTISM

On Sunday morning, February 8, Pastor Courtney and Pastor Mark had the privilege of baptizing three candidates: David Oldfield, Kevin MacLean and Kristen Running. It's great to see more Christians following in obedience and taking the next step in their spiritual growth.

CPR & MEDICAL TRAINING

A second medical training session was held in the Fireside Lounge on Sunday, February 8, covering CPR and the operation of the defibrillator device. Approximately 10 people attended the course, under the instruction of Keith & Kim Robbins and John Koning.

SERVING THE COMMUNITY



Several new programs are currently taking place in our facility. "Mothercare" is a drop-in program for pregnant women and new moms with babies up to 6 months, promoting healthy pregnancies/healthy families. They meet on Wednesday afternoons. Ontario Early Years "Moms and Tots" is a drop-in which provides opportunity for parents and their children to interact with each other. Parents can also take part with their children in a range of activities. Moms and Tots meet on Monday mornings.

Events/Activities (cont'd)



ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Annual Business Meeting was held on Thursday evening, February 19. Pastor Courtney opened the meeting with prayer and a devotional and expressed his gratitude to the Board and congregation for allowing him to serve such a wonderful body of believers. After walking through the various departmental reports, he called on Dale Clair (Building Chairman) to give an update on the new building progress and address questions from the floor. During the nomination process, two Board Members were elected for a 3-year term, and we congratulate Dale Clair and John Heeringa on their election. Continuing to serve on the Board as well are: John White, John Koning, Brad Young and Ron Emmons. May God guide us in our planning and decisions for His Kingdom work.

BUILDING UPDATE

Things are moving forward as we build! The two interior sound walls have been erected. The drywall has been installed in the sanctuary walls and ceiling. The brick has been completed up to about 9 feet on three sides of the building. The front brick wall is currently in process. We have faced a number of challenges with the local municipal Building Inspectors; they have requested numerous engineering reports that other municipalities do not require. We are trying to conform but it has delayed some of the work—in our opinion, unnecessarily.

At this point we are scheduling the Official Opening for June 14, the second Sunday in June, 2009. Excitement continues to rise as we get to see and feel what the finished product actually looks like!

Please keep praying for God's blessing and anointing to be first and foremost as we prepare to worship in this new facility.

"HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD!"