

May 2013

Ferris Lane Community Church of the Nazarene



The Ferris Lane Community Connector

Your Ministry Staff

Reverend Mark Coulter
Senior Pastor

Reverend Carrie Tweedle
Administrative Pastor

Dave Potter
Worship Pastor

Wendy Rampold
Children's Ministries Director

Amanda Mayer
Youth Ministries Director

Krista Halbert
Outreach Ministries Director

Pastor's Sabbatical

Pastor Carrie asked me to write a bit about my upcoming sabbatical as your pastor which will be occurring from July 7th to September 8th. When our District Superintendent, Ian Fitzpatrick, proposed the idea of a sabbatical at my pastoral review last summer, I was a little surprised. I had never thought I would be blessed by ever being able to have a sabbatical! Let me start with a bit of history about what a sabbatical is and then share with you my plan for the time spent away.

A sabbatical, which is also known as Sabbath rest or a sabbatical leave, is a resource for pastors and their families. It is an extended time away from the routines of normal ministry and daily life. The sabbatical is to be given as a separate time away from the local assignment and not to be considered as the pastor's vacation time.

It is a time of special renewal for the pastor that will bring personal nourishment to his/her soul, a deeper relationship with the Lord, and a clearer understanding of God's vision for the church. A sabbatical helps to prevent ministry burn-out and may give the pastor a fresh perspective for his/her ministry.

Each church can create its own individual policy regarding sabbaticals. The length of the sabbatical is based on the tenure of the pastor. The following is the policy for the General Church of the Nazarene as outlined in the *Manual* 129.10: "In order to encourage the lifelong learning of the pastor in spiritual, emotional and educational dimensions, the church board may consider supporting a sabbatical/study leave for the pastor during the seventh consecutive year of service in one congregation."

Historically, sabbaticals are used in academia to allow the teacher time to write a book or push forward in his or her field in some way. Working alongside our church board, we have come up with three basic focuses of the time.

First, I will spend the time researching where I want to go next academically. For some time, I have thought about starting a Doctorate but I want to ensure that I am not taking a degree for the sake of calling myself a Doctor! So I am also considering some more education with *Strengths-Based Leadership*. I would love to be able to present leadership materials in a secular environment and to be able to bring the grace of Christ into a business situation.

Second, I will spend some time looking at where we have come from as a church and chart a course for the future of Ferris Lane Community Church. It is important to take a step back from time to time and get a bigger view of things and to seek what God would have next for our community.

Third, rest! Quite simply rest. I feel that proper rest can ensure long term ministry. It is shocking when I look around and see that around 30 percent of the peers who I went to seminary with have left the ministry and some left the church all together. The main cause as reported, is burnout, so a big part of this sabbatical will be rest. Part of that rest is a 10 day trip to Ireland. My grandfather came over from Magheraveely, a small town in the middle of Ireland. In fact, if you google "Coulter of Magheraveely," you can see my great grandfather standing in front of the homestead there. I also plan to make lots of sawdust! Most of you know I love woodworking and the plan is to build a few projects around the house, and if time allows, a grandfather clock.

Let me assure you that you all are going to be in good hands! Board member Kevin Magill will be overseeing the sabbatical plan for when I am away. He has a comprehensive plan that will ensure that everything will be relatively smooth for my time away. If you have any questions about the sabbatical, feel free to ask Kevin or anyone else on the board.

I feel extremely blessed to be given this opportunity. This is a great time to be a part of Ferris Lane Community Church. It has been a great 10 years together and I feel that God has great plans for us in the future!

God Bless,
Pastor Mark

May Birthdays

Ruth Strain	1-May
Olivia Strain	3-May
Shelley Pyke	5-May
Isaac Anderson	8-May
Linda Pascoe	8-May
Mary Crawford	9-May
Debra McLean	10-May
Karen Kumpula	17-May
Kenny Lazareuch	20-May
Ian Halbert	22-May
Carol Graham	22-May
Andrew Cormier	27-May
Lisa Potter	28-May
Marsha Totesau	28-May
Neal Willard	31-May



Ferris Lane Community Church of the Nazarene
49 Ferris Lane, Barrie ON L4M 2Y1
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We meet at 10:30 am Sundays.
Every one is welcome!

A BIT ABOUT....

...Our Daycare

I promised you some exciting insight into a different part of our daycare program, so this month I'm going to tell you a little bit about our teaching program. All of our daycare teachers work really hard to make sure the children have many different things to learn about while they are here with us! We run a theme-based program, which means the teachers from each classroom get together and choose a theme for their lesson plans each week. Once their weekly theme is chosen, they begin to build their week around it. They will plan a circle activity where they sing songs, read stories and play games. Sometimes they will use props, they may dress up in costumes

or uniforms, they might teach their circle with the use of flannel board stories or puppets. Next they will plan creative art activities each day — we use many different items to paint and glue with, as well as a wide variety of media to use in place of regular paint. We also love to glue all kinds of things together to make wonderfully creative masterpieces. The children are really proud of their creations, so we display them all over the classroom and hallways so everyone can enjoy them! We plan daily sensory activities as well. Sensory experiences can be anything the children can see, hear, taste or smell but most of all, touch. We use many different items in our sensory

bins - water, sand, cotton balls, dry or cooked pasta, pudding, jello, lentils, shredded paper.....the list is endless. We also take the children outside twice a day, one hour each time. We plan all kinds of different games and activities to do out in the playground with them—obstacle courses, hockey games, tennis, Red Rover, "What time is it, Mr. Wolf?", Ring Around the Rosie, toddler basketball, digging up dinosaurs, farm animals and many, many more. This list is also endless!

Hopefully this gives you a little bit of an idea about the kind of program we offer! Until next time.

*Michelle Goss, RECE
Daycare Supervisor*

...Salt & Light Ministries

A couple of years ago, Dave Potter asked me if I wanted to come to one of the Men's Breakfasts. I kept putting it off because I assumed that a church breakfast would be pretty lame; maybe some muffins and scones complemented by lukewarm tea. After finally relenting and getting up early on a Saturday and heading over, I was shocked to see more bacon in one sitting than I've ever seen before—it was beautiful. The amount of food was breathtaking and since then, every time I eat at a Men's Breakfast I am full for the rest of the day.

The food is only part of the story. There is great fellowship at our monthly breakfast meetings. There have been many stories shared that help newcomers and grizzled veterans understand their

place in the church and with God. The first time I ever stood up and spoke at our church was at a Men's Breakfast. I was nervous and wasn't sure if what I had to say would mean anything to anyone. There are a lot of men at our church that have had strong faith for many years and some "newbie" couldn't possibly offer any inspiration; that was my thought before I stood up. I really felt like an accepted member of our church after I was done and had shared my life's moments leading to God. I started a great friendship with someone else as we started set-up and talked about why we come to church. The fellowship is certainly an aspect of the day that creeps up on you and allows you to take something with you after you walk out the doors.

Breakfast starts at 9am, but its 7:30am that I look forward to. That's the time the men meet in the kitchen

to prepare the meal. Now, due to an unwritten code the morning crew has, I can't reveal too much of what goes on in the kitchen. All I can say is it's the best part of the day. The camaraderie, conversation, joking and music are what fuel the cooking process. It does not feel like work whatsoever and I've never heard anyone complain about being there early...not the Juice Man, the Egg Man or the Cut Man. While none of us would ever share the secret ingredient that goes into every dish, the entire group loves sharing the day and its humble two man roots are a shining example of how a ministry can grow and flourish in our church.

Shawn Gibson

A BIT ABOUT....

...NMI/Compassionate Ministries

Here's how Ferris Lane Community Church of the Nazarene helps two local organizations -

Barrie Food Bank - Fast Facts:

-The number of those coming for groceries has increased over 30% since last year.

-Some individuals and families are in desperate situations, due to the current economy.

-In addition to groceries, counseling is provided to help clients along the road to self sufficiency.

-Do you know how you have helped? Because you brought in your Zehrs grocery tapes and supported our other fundraising efforts, we have been able to supply the Barrie Food Bank with \$200 in grocery cards,

to supplement the donated items.

Youth Haven - Fast Facts:

-The only shelter in Simcoe County serving youth aged 16 - 21 yrs.

-20 to 25 homeless young people are housed nightly.

-Emergency and long term shelter, food and counselling services are offered to 700+ every year.

-Over 50 meals are provided each day and approximately 30 'Care Kits' are distributed monthly.

-Do you know how you have helped? Through your purchase of tasty treats at our Bake

Sales and prepaid FundScrip cards, we have been able to make quarterly donations to support the work of Youth Haven.

Prayer Requests for these two local ministries:

- encouragement for those needing the services

- strength and patience for the staff and volunteers

- that all would feel the love of God channelled through Ferris Lane Community Church of the Nazarene

*Linda Pascoe,
NMI President*

... the Weight Loss Surgery Support Group

I met recently with Sharrol Blakely-Vieira, to find out a bit about the weight-loss surgery support group which uses our chapel for their once-a-month meetings. This group came to our facility more than 3 years ago, when they encountered some challenges in space availability. Totally volunteer-driven, with no funding or revenue, they were unable to provide the required legal documentation to make their non-profit status official, which was required by their previous facility. Faced with the challenge of having people who counted on the group for much-needed support and information but no space to hold meetings, Sharrol looked around her neighbourhood and approached Pastor Mark about using our facility.

This group exists to provide information and support to people before and after weight loss surgery. They share experiences and details about

what to expect as a result of the surgery, providing support and advice about how to handle possible complications, side effects and changing attitudes about food and lifestyle as a result of the surgery. Before and after this surgery, physicians, nutritionists, dieticians and psychologists provide information to the patients. However, because the surgery is still relatively uncommon, this support group is an opportunity for those who have actually undergone the surgery to learn from one another about the ongoing challenges, issues and rewards of having had this procedure.

This particular group has grown to include 30-40 people, with two other support groups meeting in Toronto, and one in Guelph. Sharrol, who joined the group in 2004 (prior to her own surgery), shared with me the strong conviction she has from her own experience that this is

something that God has for her to do: to help others go through what she's gone through, and to achieve their goals for a better life.

Sharrol told me that she feels blessed to have this location available to use. It's convenient and accessible, and "everyone who comes feels comfortable and safe here." When we talked about their meeting space, she smiled and told me that she likes to meet in the chapel because, in a group that encourages total honesty and transparency, "People don't lie in front of the cross". As a concrete gesture of gratitude, members of the group bring unwrapped children's gifts to their annual Christmas gathering, which are given for the church and daycare to distribute to children in need. Sharrol's calling is summed up in this one simple statement: "If I can help one person, that's enough."

Pastor Carrie Tweedle

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...Tidbits from all over

Don't forget to check us out on Facebook! Why not join our group? Get the latest news and reminders about upcoming events, Our group name is **Ferris Lane Community Church**.

Stay tuned for more news next month about upcoming events and the ministry that's happening in our community through Ferris Lane Community Church!

Check us out on twitter
@FerrisLnChurch

Julie Craft is working hard to update our website. Check it out at www.ferrislanecommunitychurch.ca

News from Canada Central District

A new chapter in the history of Canada Central District Church of the Nazarene! Effective June 1, 2013, our District Superintendent Rev. Ian Fitzpatrick will assume leadership for Canada Quebec District, in addition to his present leadership of Canada Central District. To assist with the increased responsibility that comes with this change, General Superintendent Dr. J.K. Warrick and the Canada Central District Advisory Board have approved Rev. Steve Ottley as our new Assistant District Superintendent. Pastor Steve has been the founding pastor of Whitby Gateway Church since June 2000, and will have specific responsibilities on both districts, but the primary area of ministry will be in church development and planting. Be sure to read the April 28th bulletin insert for more details about this exciting news!

District NMI Convention will be held Tuesday May 28th (7:00pm) and Wednesday May 29th (8:30am-4:00 pm).

District Assembly will begin with the Opening Rally Service on Wednesday May 29th, 2013, continuing through Thursday May 30th and concluding with an Ordination Service at 7:00 pm.

News from Church of the Nazarene Canada

CONNECT NYI CONFERENCE AT AMBROSE

April 4 & 5 saw the third annual Connect NYI Conference gather at Ambrose University College in Calgary, Alberta. This conference is a partnership with Church of the Nazarene Canada, Nazarene Youth International (NYI) and Ambrose, with leadership given through Helen Thiessen, Regional NYI President.

Church of the Nazarene Canada partnered with Ambrose University College and invited Nazarene Youth Workers from across Canada to Connect - two days of training and networking. Helen Thiessen listened to our youth workers in their needs for training and connecting, and shaped the conference intentionally to "be a blessing" on our youth workers.

This year's speakers included Dr. Gordon T. Smith (Ambrose President), Rev. Stuart Williams, James Penner (author, speaker, sociologist), Alison Springer (youth worker and public speaker), Dr. Joel Thiessen (Ambrose Faculty) and Dr. Larry Dahl (DS of the CWD).

Many topics relating to youth ministry were discussed, from youth behaviour to the state of religion in young people, and included some practical time in district groups to plan and connect. Starting the conference with a focus on spiritual care and closing in communion and prayer together was just one way that we focused our time together.

John Crawly, Trenton Church of the Nazarene, comments, "The speakers were amazing. Meeting youth leaders

from across Canada and hearing what problems they face with their youth and how they deal with them was very helpful."

"I can't adequately express how much we benefited from the amazing weekend at Ambrose!!! It was an absolute delight!!! God is moving in our church and I'm excited for what is ahead," says Jodi Getson from Summerside Church of the Nazarene.

These youth workers are vital to our growth and ministry throughout Canada - please take a moment to encourage, pray for and bless your youth worker.

*Helen Thiessen
Regional NYI President*

If you have news that would be of interest to our church family and help CONNECT us, please contact Pastor Carrie Tweedle (tweedlecarrie@gmail.com) to discuss submitting that info for a future newsletter.