

Brentview Herald

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A Pastor's Note

Communication - Isn't always that easy.

On the wall in many work place you will find the following quote:

"I know you believe you understand what you think I said, but I'm not sure you realize that what you heard is not what I really meant."

We all know from work, marriage and friendship situations that for a society who has more communication gadgets than at any other time in history, that more communication tools don't always make for flawless transfer of information. Today we have websites, email, facebook, twitter, plus cell phones which will do amazing things, and yet at times all of us struggle to clearly communicate important information concerning things which we are involved in and things which are near to our heart.

In a church setting one factor which can easily hinder good communication can be numerical growth. For example, if you attend a church whose attendance is under 60 people, we are told that you have to attend at least 2 hours a week in order to know everything that is going on. If that church grows to around 150 people, in order to know everything that is happening you will need to spend at least 12-14 hours a week at church. However, if the church attendance is over 450, the experts tell us that in order to know everything that is happening around the church one will need to spend over 75 hours a week at the church building. Herein lies the problem, at a church like Brentview which has numerous ministries, many people with varied passions for serving the Lord inside and outside the church walls, it is hard at times for any of us to know all that is happening.

In order to help us as a community of believers better understand what is happening and what God is calling us to do, we felt we needed to begin a monthly news letter to help us all 'keep in the loop' concerning what God is doing in and through the community of faith. If you have ideas or things which you feel need to be included in these up dates, if this is a ministry which you would love to be involved in, or if you have an idea for a great name for what we are currently calling the 'Brentview Herald' we would love to have you drop ideas and suggestions by the office. We will be producing 'paper copies' of this news letter which will be available monthly in the foyer, and it will be posted on our web site www.Brentviewbaptist.com. Our prayer is that this newsletter will make you smile, help you become more informed, give you things to prayer about and at times challenge your walk with your Jesus.

Blessings Dave Spate
Lead Pastor

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International Fellowship

In our efforts to define ourselves as growing church, the work of making disciples has not ceased. We have seen a steady increase of people go out to the field to find their place in God's plan for them. As an act of Global Discipleship, we are presently re-engaging our core values as they were expressed at our Missions Vision Forum in October. These values set the priorities in creating a balanced portfolio in our missional involvement all

over the world.

The Core values as they are being presently defined, will allow us to create a customized plan for our congregation, allowing every person present to express their love to God through missions. There truly are unlimited ways to show God we love Him and to bring that message to the world. We deeply desire to engage everyone in our Church community of believers into a

relevant and authentic opportunity to bring the message of Christ to the world in the way that God made them to.

Children's Ministries Growth

Over the past few years, the number of ministries available to kids has grown tremendously. We now have Streetwise, which is held on Thursdays, and the children have a chance to experience new things. This fall the experiences include making cars, ball hockey, chef school, art-works, and theatre.

We also have Shift, which is for grades 5 and 6. They meet on Sunday mornings and every third Thursday evening.

Sunday mornings there is Eden for ages 0-4, and Street 252 for grades k-4. Each Sunday, children will experience hands-on workshops, creative storytelling and



growing relationships within small groups.

FM Live is a special service at 10:15 am on Sundays that is geared towards families. It's a great opportunity for children to learn about God with their parents. They are also given the tools to continue learning about God throughout the week.

The Hub

In the beginning of October we held a one day seminar called residence. We had Steve McCready here from Northern Ireland to speak about God residing in our hearts. It was an amazing day, with about 80 people in attendance.

It was exciting to hear people sharing about their own lives in our breakout sessions.

The women were talking about how God views us, and who we are because of him. The men talked about what's hidden in our hearts. Psalm 119:11.

The sharing continued on during meals. Groups of people shared what they thought of the sessions and the topic during lunch and the snack

breaks.

Worship, was also a wonderful experience. Praising God for who he is and what he does in our lives. Together with some of our own band

"I'm glad that they covered Christian struggles. It's not something I hear about often within the church.

It's the openness that I enjoy. It makes it real."

-Ryan

Adult Ministries

An Adult Fellowship Event was held on Saturday Oct. 24th. The day's snowstorms deterred some from attending but those who were there enjoyed board games, cards and Wii Sports and Resorts. Pastor Dave can now hunt without seasonal restrictions as he mastered the Wii Bow Hunt option (although the video version may have less impact on his freezer)! There was intense competition and "creativity" at the Tile Rummy and Crib tables and a very VERY long bout of a German

game called Barricades. All enjoyed a pot luck of delicious appetizers and treats, as we still adhere to the Baptist sentiment that "where two or more are gathered – we EAT". Organizers Gerry and Penny Schuster, Tim and Vicki Park, Dale and Judy Cooper, John and Jocelyn Houston, Barry



and Lois Uptigrove and Pastor Dave are all open to suggestions for future events or share your ideas on the Ministry Evaluation survey online or in print. Adult Fellowships are designed to give the adults of Brentview more opportunities to build relationships than our short encounters Sunday mornings. We hope to see more variety in events and a growing chance to make new friends as we experience growth in the Brentview Church Body. See you next time.

Encore 55+

We are having a great start this year and have seen the blessings of the Lord in an awesome way. Our luncheon's have been well attended and a number of unchurched people have been coming and are enjoying this outreach event.

In Events many of our people went on a bus tour of Southern Alberta. It was a fun time as we toured a museum and saw many interesting sights of Alberta. We started two more small groups and are seeing many more of the ENCORE joining small groups. In Missions/Serving

we will experience mission trips, a missions luncheon, serving at the Mustard Seed, Samaritan's Purse and In From the Cold. Performing Arts has produced the ENCORE choir, comedy and other fun things at the luncheons.

Caring Ministries

Many of our people are visiting those who are in hospitals, shut-ins, in care centers and providing care for our people. We have also provided financial help when ever a need came to our attention.

GriefShare has provided strength and comfort to those who have lost loved ones.

DivorceCare has seen many individuals recover from the pain of divorce and start a new life in their journey.



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Touch the World*

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Missions

Over the past year, while all of us have had our financial struggles, the economic stability of the world has been felt within our International Fellowship. Not only have many of our international community lost jobs, but many others have been forced to return home or find other options as much of the funding to come to Canada has been coming through Government or University grants. Although this bump in the road has been real, we have seen some powerful things happening.

We have seen many new international students come to our Church. Our international Bible study has taken priority over our existing service by the choosing of the international students themselves, showing us that God is greatly at work and the thirst for His Word exists beyond ethnic and linguistic borders. FOCUS has also seen much growth. At our Thanksgiving event, there were over 160 people attending. Praise God for the lives changed.

Our Prayer Page

Hub

~ Please pray for Project Thirty Two which Steve McCready is working on with Youth For Christ in Northern Ireland.
www.projectthirtytwo.com

~ Pray for our winter retreat and Jason Jaggard who is coming up from Mosaic in Los Angeles to speak to us.

Children's Ministries

~ Please pray for the upcoming Children and Family Ministries Conference on November 6-7 and for our speaker's including Reggie Joiner.

H1N1

~ We would like to

encourage everyone to pray for the health of our community this flu season.

Christmas Craft Fair

~ Prayer for this event would be appreciated. The funds from it are going to charities such as Chain of Love, Mustard Seed and Inn From the Cold, so we are hoping for a good turnout.

International Fellowship

~ Due to the global economic situation, many international students have not been able to come to Calgary for their schooling, as a majority of their funding comes from Government/ University grants. Please pray that students will find other ways to come here so

that our global impact will continue to be felt throughout the Kingdom of God.

Prayer Chain

~ To receive emailed prayer requests through Brentview's prayer chain or to request prayer support or to update your email address, please contact Ron Fox at 403.251.1962 or prayerchain@

brentviewbaptist.com. To receive phone prayer requests, please contact Brenda Marsden at 403.247.3555.

