

## Upcoming in the Lower Pacific District:

The **Church Boot Camp** is an intensive five-day training experience that covers the major issues church planters face in starting and launching a new church. Pray for those who will be attending May 7-11. Information is available on the LPD Website at <http://www.lpd-efcc.ca/>

- \* **Abbotsford Evangelical Free Church**, known by it's members as Abby Free is looking forward to celebrating their 50th Anniversary May long weekend, May 18-20th!
- \* **Pastors' Cruise** is coming! We have just begun the early planning for our late spring Pastors' Cruise. Our cruise line is the BC ferries! For many years the BC Ferries' staff have allowed us to meet on the ferry so all the pastors and staff from both the island and mainland can come together to encourage and strengthen one another. Encourage your Pastoral staff to join us for the next cruise for **Wednesday, May 30!**

### Want to know more?

Please call or email us at our office to be added to the "Friends of the LPD" email newsletter list. It will keep you up-to-date on all the news and prayer requests in our district. Also, please check out our website at <http://www.lpd-efcc.ca/>

**Please remember our District's need in your church budgets and giving.** It is our desire to invest Endowment Funds to support your local churches in church planting and ministry expansion and not to fund District operational expenses. **Thank you!**

Please pray for our **LPD Board** as we are committed to encourage and resource our growing family of churches to reflect Jesus Christ.

### Board members are:

Tom Hilchie - Island Church Link  
Evans Hundermark - Mainland Church Link  
Joshua Lok - Chinese Church Liaison  
Craig Murdoch - Innovative Ministries Liaison  
Bill Steller - Finance & Properties  
Rob Stewart - Superintendent  
Ken Strom - Member at Large  
Ron Unruh - Chairman  
Steven Sharpe - Church Planting and Development

### LPD Office:

c/o Johnston Heights Church, 9612-152 St. Surrey, BC V3R 4G4  
Phone: 604-582-1925 Email: [office@lpd-efcc.ca](mailto:office@lpd-efcc.ca) Web: [www.lpd-efcc.ca](http://www.lpd-efcc.ca)



# Lower S'Pacifcics

News from your Lower Pacific District Family  
April 2012

**By God's grace, we are committed to encourage and resource our growing family of churches to reflect Jesus Christ.**

One of my best memories in pastoring the North Delta EFC, were the school field trips. As part of the curriculum, students would study world religions, and as with this, they would take a field trip to visit the places of worship of various religions. It was only when our eldest son was in the class that I realized that the field trip did not include a Christian church.



I visited the principle and suggested that the field trip include a Christian Church, and I offered our church. They came!

After the students had heard of various man-centred pathways towards God offered by various world religions, they came to our church, and I was able to freely share with them the Christian "pathway," which extends, not from man towards God, but from God to man in Christ. Christ himself states, I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through me." (John 14:6). What wonderful news, and how distinct from any other faith!



An ocean baptism at North Delta EFC

As we approach Palm Sunday and Easter this year, we are once again reminded of the wonderful and also costly hope that we have received through Christ. District churches are planning Easter services that include Good Friday services, and on Easter Sunday, baptismal services, Sunrise Services and Easter Sunday Services. Expect visitors, and please share the good news!

At our recent district conference on the theme of "Standing in the Gap - a call to intercessory prayer," we were encouraged to both believe God and to ask God to do what only He can do. Pastor Ben (Anna) Crumback of Sointula Community Church

reports that his church leadership is committed to pray through the telephone directory on a regular basis, and already, they are both anticipating and seeing God at work in bringing people to them. For recordings of our conference sessions, please visit our district website <http://www.lpd-efcc.ca/> where these will be posted by the end of March.

Please join us in prayer!

Yours and Christ's servants,

Rob and Karen Stewart, LPD superintendent

**Highlights for Prayer and Praise in the LPD:**

**LPD Secretary:** there has been a slight shake up in the office and so in the last three months Rob has had to put up with three secretaries!

\* **The experienced secretary: Dawn Climie** has for the past five years kept Lower Pacific District office running smoothly by organizing Rob, contacting all board members and pastors, filing out hundreds of forms, answering the phone, and just over all keeping track of everything. Dawn's last day was in December of 2011, but in the new year Dawn could still be found in the office. Thank you Dawn Climie for all your hard work over the past five years, you will be greatly missed!



Dawn Climie at the Christmas Banquet in 2011

\* **The interim secretary: Shannon Burak (Climie)**, who happens to be Dawn's youngest kindly gave of her time to organize and run the LPD Conference Registration table. In amongst all the work of getting ready for the conference Shannon was also planning her wedding which was held on March 24th!. Congratulations Shannon and Caleb!



Josephine Papp

\* **The new secretary: Josephine Papp** started February and Dawn took great care in showing her how to keep everyone in line! She comes from Vancouver Island and recently moved to Greater Vancouver, and brings a wide variety of ministry experience. **Welcome Josephine!**

\* **Jesus is Our Salvation** meets at the Fleetwood Library in Surrey and although it holds its services in English, it is composed largely of Filipino-Canadians. Pastor Jun Orino and his wife Erna began ministering with the church in January and already, they are looking to birth a second fellowship in Chilliwack. At the LPD Conference **Jesus is our Salvation Church** was welcomed into our Fellowship. On Sunday, April 1, D.S. Rob Stewart will fellowship with them during the Sunday service and officially present them with their certificate of membership in the LPD/EFCC.



Pastor Jun and Erna Orino

\* **Jubilee Chapel** which meets at Trinity Western University was also welcomed into our fellowship during the LPD conference. D.S. Rob Stewart is looking to visit their church to welcome them into the LPD/EFCC family in the weeks ahead.

**LPD Conference 2012** was March 2 and 3. The theme of the conference was, "Standing in the Gap - a call to intercessory prayer." Dr. Alvin VanderGriend was our keynote speaker, and challenged individuals and churches to develop a culture of prayer. Some of the highlights from this conference were:



Dr. VanderGriend with Rob and Karen Stewart

- \* Close to hundred delegates attending
- \* A wonderful time of fellowship for the



The Ladies Tea Saturday morning

- ladies during the Ladies Tea
- \* Delicious Chinese food for our dinner Friday night
- \* Updates from many of our different churches
- \* Reconnecting with old friends and making new friends
- \* A new board member voted in, Steven Sharpe with his focus being in Church Planting and Development

\* **Fort Langley EFC:** it is with great joy that the Fort Langley EFC looks forward to welcoming Lorin and Jeanette Bergen as their new lead pastor May 1st. The Bergens come to Fort Langley from Surrey, BC.

\* **Parkdale Church:** Pastor Tom and Church Chair David O'Dell where involved with a team from Pacific Christian School (Victoria) for a 12 day trip March 14-26. They travelled 6000 km, to a town called Vincente Guererra, 170 kms south of Ensenada on the Baja Peninsula in a and built three houses and partly furnished them for the local people.



Pastor Tom, Eduardo, and Dave in front of one of the newly built houses

\* **Downtown Vancouver:** The LPD has it's very own missionary serving with Servants Vancouver on the downtown Eastside of Vancouver. Jonathan and Harmony Ng live and work with the people of the downtown eastside with their focus being friends to the friendless and in doing so, sharing Christ with them. In May they look forward to welcoming their first child.