

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

March 25, 2016

Good Friday morning friends, Thanks for joining me for five minutes to update you on items of prayer and praise for our Lower Pacific District family.

What's God Up To In Our LPD Family?

Easter and Ministry are about Arnies! This week, Don Murdoch (Carolyn), assistant pastor at Abby Free emailed me about a baptism to be held Easter Sunday in their church.

Don is 77 years old. He served in the R.C.A.F., and after retiring from this, he and Carolyn pastored in the EFCC. Retiring from this, they moved to Abbotsford, where they have volunteered at Abby Free, as ministers to seniors.

Arnie, who will be baptized on Sunday is 80 years old. He had no Christian teaching growing up. His parents called themselves Lutheran but never attended church. His first marriage was to a Catholic lady and with this, he joined the Catholic Church and studied the Catholic doctrine but never learned about a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Later, he remarried, this time to a lady with children, and this immediately gave him a family of 2 step daughters, 5 grand children and 5 great grandchildren!

God has used people in Arnie's life from Abby Free in different ways over the years. One couple were his landlords. Another couple were his neighbors. He was invited to men's breakfasts, and also out to breakfast on several occasions by two men in the church where they shared Jesus with him.

Arnie joined a Bible Study, on the "Purpose Driven Life" at Pastor Don and Carolyn Murdoch's home, and over the next forty weeks, along with two other men, learned as he says "his purpose for being created and how he was created to serve God." He also started reading the Bible each day.

Arnie cannot give an exact date on which he received Christ, but as he says, "his eighty year old mind does not allow him to remember those things" but he felt his life change from the inside and knew he wanted to follow Jesus. A time when he wanted to make Jesus Lord of his Life. Arnie knows he wants to be baptized - "to die to his old self and proclaim his new life in Christ."

Christ came for people like Arnie - like you and me - and like our neighbours. May we have opportunity to share the good news of our risen Saviour with our families and friends.

We may never know until heaven what impact our sharing the Good News will have. Evangelism is a team effort!

Please pray for New Living Assembly, our EFC, our LPD Church of the Week - and the newest member of our LPD/EFCC Family of Churches.

Please pray for:

- Please pray for Allen and Hannah Chang and Daniel and Joyce Wong, who will undergo church planter assessments on Friday, April 1.
- Pray for Steveston/South Richmond, as we explore God's call to partner in a church plant.
- Pray for Port Alberni, as we explore God's leading for a church plant as well.
- Pray for God's fresh work and revitalization in those district churches that are needing to "reverse" their lifecycle.
- Easter services and outreaches at district churches.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- **E4H - Discipleship through Church Planting - May 13-16 - Here is the link: <http://efccm.ca/pdfs/2016E4Hbrochure.pdf>**
- **Watch for an upcoming LPD workshop on readying your church for the changes through the NEW BC SOCIETIES ACT.**
- **June 1 - LPD Pastor and Staff Cruise!**

We appreciate the gifts of many district churches and also of individuals, through both cheques and also through our website. See the new LPD website at <http://www.lpd-efcc.ca/> for more info. Gifts can now be received via PayPal. These enable us to partner with churches and church planters who are stepping forward in faith. Thank you!

May God bless and keep you through this weekend!

In Jesus,
Rob and Karen

Have you checked out the **LPD on Facebook**? We invite you to become a friend. Just click on the icon, and watch for updates!



NEW LIVING ASSEMBLY

LPD CHURCH OF THE WEEK



We praise God for the launch of our NLA School of Ministry held every Saturday and Sunday, as we Pursue God's Vision of Discipling His People.

We are excited to see the people learning and growing in their walk with the Lord and growing in passion to win the lost.

Prayer Requests:

- Please pray for our Easter service celebration (He Is Risen)
- Also for evangelism after the Easter celebration (practicum of NLA students to share Jesus)
- Pray for growth
- Pray for our application with CRA, to function as a member church of the LPD