

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

January 13, 2017

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?

Change and Changeless...

As I write this blog today (Jan 12), I am mindful that this would have been my father's 99th birthday. Dad passed away almost 10 years ago, but I think of him almost every day.

As I was speaking at **White Rock Community Church** last Sunday, I was thinking of my dad. He helped construct that church - then known as White Rock EFC, using his summer vacation as a young teacher. He also served as a Sunday School teacher, a youth leader and as church chair. My mother served as well.

Over the years, the name of the church has changed. The building has been renovated several times. The leadership has changed several times, as has the congregation. The style of worship has changed, as has the music, the instrumentation and the provision of the lyrics - from hymnals to PowerPoint.

One thing has not changed however. That is the commitment to the relevance and authority of God's Word. The Bible, God's revelation, provides us with a knowledge of God, of his work in history, of his order of creation and thankfully also of his gracious plan of salvation through His Son and our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

I am thankful that some things have changed. I never did like the old plywood pews that pinched the back of my pants. The brown and beige tile floor has long been carpeted over, and the stage is much more accessible.

I am thankful for the continued legacy of the White Rock Church in my life. It was while there that I came to Christ and was baptized. It was also while there that an elderly man, "Mr. Wilson," first encouraged me, then a young boy, that God would one day call me to be a pastor.

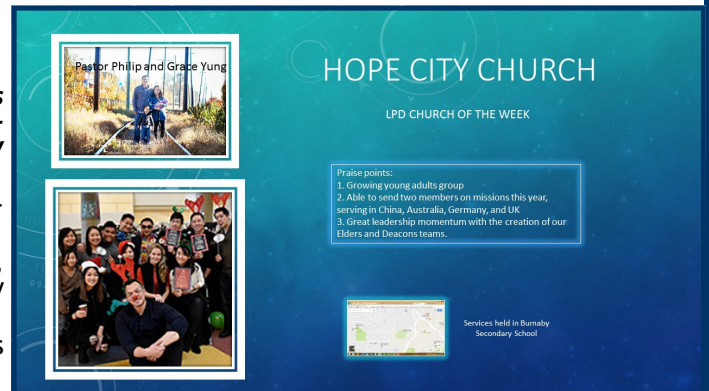
I am glad that some things that needed to change have. I am also glad that things that must not change have not! May we all have wisdom to discern the difference!



Your partnership with our Lower Pacific District and church plants through prayer and finances is appreciated. Thank you! Gifts can now be made via PayPal to LPD or to Church Planting Projects through our LPD Website. Please check "Donate" on the LPD website main page and under the "Designated Gifts" tab to donate to church plants. <http://www.lpd-efcc.ca/>

Please Pray for:

- **Hope City Church, our LPD Church of the Week. This Burnaby church plant is an intergenerational, multicultural church that meets at Burnaby Central Secondary. Pray for Pastor Phil and Grace and the entire leadership team!**
- **Quadra Island Bible Church**, in their time of pastoral transition.
- **Nori and Shelly Anderson**, church planters in Port Alberni, as they have launched their first service of Hope Community Church Sunday evening.
- **New Westminster EFC**, as **Ralph and Karen Hardy** serve as interim pastor through this period of transition.
- **Please pray for Ben and Anna Crumback in Sointula.** Ben and Anna have both had health concerns over the fall, (Ben again recently), and Ben's dad is recovering from cancer surgery and treatment.
- **Steveston/South Richmond.** Pray for the leadership team of **Steve and Gillian Sharpe, Allen and Hannah Chang, and Daniel and Joyce Wong**, as they prayerfully prepare for this in the months ahead.
- Pray for me (**Rob**), as I minister at **Vancouver Chinese EFC** this Sunday.



Upcoming Dates:

- **LPD Churches Transitioning to the new BC Societies Act Workshop at North Delta EFC on Wednesday, January 25 at 7:00PM.** At this, event, we will provide resources for your church to transition and also give opportunities to raise and answer questions pertaining to our proposed bylaw change.
- **LPD Conference - March 10,11- 2017** at Johnston Heights Church. Please look for info on our LPD website. You can also register online!

May God bless and keep you through this weekend and into 2017!

In Jesus,

Rob and Karen

