

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

January 27, 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?

A church is born. As one who has witnessed and been a part of the birth of our four children (less a part than Karen), I have observed that while birth is both difficult and painful, the result can be wonderful! Somehow, when one holds the newborn son or daughter, all the hardships of pregnancy and birth are put aside. Joy overcomes the pain.

I also observe that no two births are the same. I have often felt sorry for expectant mothers when moms have shared their stories of labour and birth. Exaggerated or not, the stories can strike fear and dread in the expectant mother.

Perhaps this is also like church planting! Birth of a church can be both difficult and painful - but the result can be wonderful! Also, like childbirth, no two births of churches are the same.

Last weekend, I had the joy of ministering in Ucluelet on Saturday and on Sunday morning, and on Sunday afternoon, in Port Alberni, to join in the birth of Hope Community Church, with church planters, Nori and Shelly Anderson. Please join in us in prayer for them. Their special burden is for the "Happy Lost" - those who are pursuing all that life can offer, yet lack a relationship and hope in Jesus Christ.

It was great to meet people who can become their Core Team, to share the Word and to spend time with Nori and Shelly, and we pray for Nori and Shelly as they continue to build a team of people called to share the mission and journey with them. We are so glad to have Nori and Shelly aboard, and they appreciate the support of their team that includes Island Churches.



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:

- **Nanoose EFC** - for Pastor Chris and Verna Wilson and for the church leadership and family.
Praise: For several happy newcomers to our fellowship
For recent major upgrades to our audio / video equipment
Pray : For our upcoming AGM Feb 19th and for two people joining our membership and the appointment of a new elder
Events: Bible seminar with Dr. Jerry Benjamin, Feb. 24th-26th

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Nanoose EFC
LPD Church of the Week

Also, Nanoose EFC has been a great encouragement to Nori and Shelly and the Port Alberni church plant. They are a "supporting church," and have donated both a sound system and a video projector to them. Thanks, on behalf of us all, Nanoose Bay EFC!

- Christ Community Church, as they prepare to invite a pastoral candidate.
- Quadra Island Bible Church, in their time of pastoral transition.
- Nori and Shelly Anderson, church planters in in Port Alberni, as they launch Hope Community Church.
- 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 were down to Vancouver this week, where Ben underwent some tests for his heart. We praise God for a clean bill of health! Also remember Ben's dad, who 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 with Grace Community Church in Pitt Meadows on Sunday.

Upcoming Dates:

- **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 through the week ahead!

In Jesus,

Rob and Karen

