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

January 6, 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?

CHURCH PLANTING - to become a church planter takes a calling from God, a burden for lost people, a lot of courage and faith, the willingness to risk, the prayers and financial partnership of many, a solid Core Team, and the guidance and encouragement of resource people. Our LPD is thankful for each one of our church planters (LPD Church Planting Missionaries) and the church plants that they represent. Currently, we have our Steveston Project Team of Allen and Hannah Chang, Daniel and Joyce Wong, Steve and Gillian Sharpe, our Hope City Church Team of Phil and Grace Yung, our Hope Community Church Team (Port Alberni) of Nori and Shelly Anderson, our New Living Assembly Team of Noel and Lynda Macasaet. In addition, Jonathan and Harmony Ng are serving on our behalf in partnership with Servants Canada on the Downtown East side of Vancouver.



We desire to be a support to each one of these missionaries, and for this, we provide Assessment, Bootcamp (E4H) and Coaching. We also provide administration and receipting of funds and the guidance of an Advisory Team.

I am very pleased that our district has been able to bring Steve Sharpe onto our LPD Staff Team as Director of Church Planting and Development, effective January 1. This is a part-time position and, just like church planting, involves a big step of faith for all of us!

Steve is a true player coach. He and Gillian are part of the Steveston Project Team, and they are establishing a Church Planter Residency Program to train and equip church planters for the future. Steve will also both coaching church planters and serving with me in continuing the vision and resourcing of church plants. It is also our hope and expectation that Steve will serve the wider EFCC Family as we share resources with one another.

I am thankful for Steve and Gillian as family and as co-workers in Christ, and I am also thankful for the gifts, skills and passion that Steve brings to our district team. I invite you to join us in praying for Steve and Gillian as they serve, and for each of our church planting missionaries - may God bear fruit in and through each one!

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



Please Pray for:

• Christ Community Church, our LPD Church of the Week. This is our furthest west church and serves a diverse community of First Nations, locals and tourists. Pray for church chair Chris (Maggie) Bird and the leadership team as they seek the Lord for their next chapter and the pastor to serve with them in this.

• Quadra Island Bible Church, in their time of pastoral transition.

• Nori and Shelly Anderson, church planters in 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 White Rock Community Church. Pray also for Pastor Steve (Jodi) Doerksen and the team as they miss Pastor Ken Strom who suddenly passed away last fall.

NEW BC SOCIETIES ACT - The Act came into force on November 28, 2016. Please check our LPD website, where we have posted resources - under the "Administration Resources" tab. <u>Pastor and church chairs, please see the letter with steps for transition that was sent from our district this week</u>. <u>Our LPD has transitioned under the new Societies Act, and we have sent information to all pastors and church chairs</u>. Please watch for a workshop later this month!

<u>Upcoming Dates</u>: LPD Conference - March 10,11- 2017 at Johnston Heights Church.

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

In Jesus,

Rob and Karen