

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

April 14, 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?

Stepping out in faith... One year ago (to the day) our district church planter assessment team met with **Nori and Shelley Anderson** to determine their readiness and call to church planting. Their sense of calling to Port Alberni and their heart for the people there was infectious.

Though they were experienced in both pastoral and missionary ministry, church planting was something brand new to them. By God's grace, and the generosity of many of his people, Nori and Shelley were able to go to **Port Alberni**, to meet with many people and to seek the Lord for what He desired to do.

Over these past months, they have met with some wonderful people. They have been used of God to touch several lives. They have been stretched in their faith and have grown in their walk together with God.

As they have journeyed through this year, they have come to know of other church planting works also beginning in Port Alberni. They have found it a financial challenge. They have come to see that their gifts are perhaps best suited more towards serving and shaping an existing church towards God's purposes than in beginning a fresh work. Through it all, they have come to sense that, while God has laid on their hearts the spiritual needs of the people of Port Alberni, He intends to meet these through other works.

As a result, Nori and Shelley are again stepping out in faith. This time, it means to leave the church planting work in Port Alberni, and to trust God for the next steps in their life and ministry. They will be concluding their ministry in Port Alberni this month. Charitable gifts to their support can be received through our LPD Office until April 20, and after this, people are free to give unreceipted gifts as God lays on hearts to do so.

Please pray for Nori and Shelley in this transition and step of faith on their part. They are dear to us as family and co-workers in Christ, and we trust God to guide their steps in the days ahead. Thanks to the many of you who have supported Nori and Shelly with your gifts and prayers.



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: Richmond Chinese Evangelical Free Church - our LPD Church of the Week.

Pray also for:

- **Evans and Donnae Hundermark and family**, as they prepare to transition from **Mountain View Church** towards **Foremost EFC** at the end of May, and for the church leadership and family, as they too prepare for transition.
- **Phil Harris, Dave Penner, Neil Bassingthwaighte**, and the team that has left for a short-term mission to the Philippines. This is an extension of the EFCC "Revitalize" and includes members from several churches in the EFCC.
- **Our LPD Board** - Randy Lemke (Chair), Charles Labun (Vice Chair), Patrick Chan (Director of Property and Finance), Steve Sharpe (Director of Church Planting and Development), Tim Stewart (Innovative Ministries), Ben Crumback (Island Church Liaison), Anthony Yeung (Chinese Church Liaison) - and me.
- **Christ Community Church**, in their pastoral search.
- **New Westminster EFC**, as **Ralph and Karen Hardy** serve as interim pastor.
- **Dan and Erico Wu**, who have been called to serve at **Burnaby Chinese EFC** as pastor of English Ministries.
- **Dan Nicholson**, our EFCC Leadership Catalyst, who is undergoing treatment for cancer. PTL for an encouraging CT Scan.
- **Quadra Island Bible Church**, in their time of pastoral transition and in securing a transitional pastor.
- **Nori and Shelly Anderson**, as they transition from their church planting ministry in in Port Alberni.
- **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.

Richmond Chinese EFC

Prayer

- ~ God's guidance with the search process for a pastor of English Ministries.
- ~ God's guidance in leading the leadership & congregation in the restructuring process towards "1 church, 2 congregations" model.
- ~ Monthly evangelistic outreach to seamen on April 20 at Lighthouse Harbour Ministries Centre in North Vancouver.
- ~ A Short Term Mission team of 7 people are going to Williams Lake, 100 Mile House & Clinton BC on April 10-12 reaching out to Chinese people in the vicinities with the gospel.

Praise

- ~ Five people (2 from Chinese Ministries, 3 from English Ministries) are getting baptised on Easter Sunday.

Upcoming Dates:

- **Island LPD Churches Transitioning to the new BC Societies Act Workshop at Wildwood Community Church on Thursday, April 20.**
- **LPD Pastors and Staff Cruise - Wednesday, May 31 - please mark your calendars.**

May God bless and keep you through this weekend and through the week ahead!

In Jesus,

Rob and Karen

