

# Towers Baptist

A caring community bound by covenant on mission with God.

Pastor's Report January 2010

## WHAT GOD IS DOING

God has opened many opportunities to share the good news of Christ with people. Bryce led a coworker to the Lord and had another show interest, Richard led a coworkers wife to the Lord through sharing a Jesus movie, June led a neighbour to the Lord, a child came to the Lord through VBS and several others were interested in learning more about Jesus. God gave Stephanie the idea of opening the church at lunch time for McNair students. I believe God is showing us that He is working all around our church members and He wants to use us to bring hope and new life to through us as we share good news.

We prayed for God to bless the school next door to us. In April a fight broke out behind the church and several

McNair students began coming regularly for lunch. God brought us two summer missionaries, Ariel and Aaron as well as leading a Youth Evangelism team to come help us do a basketball tournament for local youth last July which resulted in two young men studying the Bible to learn who Jesus is. God also lead our church to be a blessing to the teachers and staff at McNair and in June by putting on a Teachers Appreciation lunch in the school. As we start a new year we are looking for how God will lead us to serve our community and He will work through us to show His love.

God taught us to walk by faith last year as we set our budget trusting God to provide about 40% more than we received in 2008. We met



*McNair Teachers Appreciation Lunch*

our budget, God provided \$24,000 in faith gifts which came from within our own church. I believe God is encouraging us and building up our faith so that we would be ready to step out more this year and trust Him to provide what we need to invest in the youth in our community. God loves the youth and wants to use us to help them. This is a big step for a church our size but we serve a big God who will provide all our needs.

## WHERE WE ARE GOING IN 2010



*Getting ready for the Olympics*

Being a **caring community bound together in love on mission with God** is our purpose. The next few weeks of the Olympics give us a great

opportunity to be on mission with God. We are serving and blessing the community around us by opening our building for Olympic Viewing Parties; showing the games on a big screen. This is a great opportunity to put into practice our study of Spiritual Gifts as help everyone discover their gifts and the significant part they have in God's plan. Through serving others we will increasingly become a caring community that makes a difference.

A major area of growth in the church last year was growing from two to six small groups of about 40 people

meeting regularly. This is where I hoped we would be this year; helping each other to walk in the Spirit by praying and studying the Bible together weekly. A major answer to prayer was the Mom's group being provided free childcare by the City of Richmond. God answered because He wants moms to meet with Him without distractions so He could strengthen and encourage them. We will pray more this year, learning to hear God's voice and recognize God's activity around us so the Spirit can lead us to serve with our gifts and function as the body of Christ to serve our community and share good news.

## 2010 MINISTRY FOCUS... THE NEXT GENERATION

As we look ahead, I'm excited about the plans the Lord has for us, because we've clearly seen His work in our midst and we can trust Him with



*VBS Boomerang Express: our future youth*

what lies ahead. In January 2009 we began to sense God was leading us to reach out to **youth** in our community. We believe God has placed us next to McNair Secondary School to invest in the youth to help them discover the abundant life in Christ; a positive alternative to drugs and violence. We believe God the Father is inviting us to be on mission with Him doing what Jesus would be doing. Jesus would be spending time with people helping them to understand

that there is a heavenly Father who loves them and wants to help them. As we volunteer in the schools and community centers, invest in supporting workers who can spend time serving and loving youth, forming Christian groups for young athletes, artists, musicians, gamers and others that God brings to us... we are helping future leaders build a solid moral and spiritual foundation. And as they come into Towers they breathe new life into us as well.

## SERVING ONE ANOTHER



*Men serving women at the Ladies Night*

*Mom's Group served lunch to Primetimers to express thanks to the Primetimers for watching the children so they could pray.*



*The Mom's Group is praying about starting a MOPS group this year to serve and encourage mothers in our community*

## WELCOME TO GOD'S FAMILY

This year we have welcomed Bruce and Peggy Hawkins and Ken and Patti Sorrell into membership. Bruce and Peggy got married in May! Congratulations! Ken and Patti moved to the Vancouver area at the beginning of 2009 and joined Towers in July. We also saw God adding some wonderful babies; Adam Yakiwchuk born last May and Zoe Yakiwchuk born last December. Welcome to Chico Trouwborst, Tanya Bone, Judy and Ben Friesen who came back to worship with our church family. And welcome to Rimon and Christine Tadros, Rianne Mercado and Ferdinand Milan who have started worshipping with us last year.



*Bruce serving at Ladies Night*

### PRAYING AND SERVING

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.

*1 John 3:16, 18, 21-23 NIV*

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