



## YOUR MONTHLY BOARD UPDATE – November 2021

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### 1. A few good items from the Pastor's Report:

We continue on with our application series from Matthew 7 titled “**The Key to the Life of Righteousness in the World**”, followed by a Christmas interlude “**The Advent of Jesus**”. We then move into a new series titled “**The Christian Challenge**”. Here's what the next few weeks look like:

- November 21<sup>st</sup> – life's right decision – Matthew 7:13-14
- November 28<sup>th</sup> – life's real profession – Matthew 7:15-23
- December 5<sup>th</sup> – Bill Standish (Pastor away on vacation)
- December 12<sup>th</sup> – life's reliable foundation – Matthew 7:24-29
- December 19<sup>th</sup> – Christmas encountered – Luke 2:1-11
- December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve: Carol service with Christmas Bible readings
- December 26<sup>th</sup> – The Light of Christmas for Your Dark Days – John 12: 46
- January 2<sup>nd</sup> – Gord Hiscox (Pastor away on vacation)
- January 9<sup>th</sup> – Christian commitment – Psalm 37:1-7
- January 16<sup>th</sup> – Christian confession – Matthew 10:32-39

We are pleased with good attendance at our in-person Sunday services and continue to welcome a number of new attendees and visitors. There is living proof of God being in our services and people being transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Thursday evening prayer service (at 7pm) continues as a virtual meeting, to facilitate participation by some unable to get together in person. We would still really benefit by wider participation. Prayer, whether personal or corporate, is the real powerhouse of the church.

Please contact Pastor David to connect with a Life Group. Several groups are now operating again.

Our Pastor will be catching up on another week's vacation from November 29 to December 6<sup>th</sup>. During this time of absence, we invite you to contact the Chairman, Dave Clark, or the Vice-Chairman, Don Higgins, with any pressing matters.

Christmas is just around the corner. If you have something on your heart to share this year, please contact Pastor David, as he is planning this great opportunity to reach out to our neighbours. Be sure to invite them to the Christmas Eve service on December 24<sup>th</sup>.

2. Financial Report – income in October was fairly strong at \$16,800, bringing the 10-month general revenue total to \$151,800, compared to \$155,200 for the same period in 2020. By comparison, the 10-month general expense totals \$143,200 this year, versus \$145,400 in 2020. Overall, we compare pretty closely with last year (which we use as our general guidepost), with a current general fund surplus of \$8600 (\$9800 in 2020).

Concurrently, donations, for the roof renewal project, increased by \$22,300 in October. To date (November 18<sup>th</sup>), we now have in hand \$123,400 in donations, plus available working capital (bank savings) of \$18,000. We have borrowed \$48,000 from Stewards Canada as an unsecured loan, at 5.5% interest, to enable us to pay all expenses, for the now completed project. Despite some short-term cash flow constraints, the Board has decided that we can immediately pay back 50% (\$24,000) of the Stewards Canada loan.

We continue to thank God for His steadfast faithfulness to us, and trust Him to sustain the treasury of His Church.

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3. Property Maintenance – the roof renewal project is now complete and we should remain dry for many years to come. The anticipated extras (crane removal and replacement of heating units, replacement of rotted roof decking, electrical work and ductwork rebuilding/sealing) totaled just over \$12,800, which had been allowed for in our cost estimate. After the HST rebate is received, the total project cost will be \$140,000, compared to our estimate of \$150,000. However, the HST rebate (\$8500) will not be seen in our bank account until January.

We are now in the process of drywall repairs for internal water damage and will also be doing some fogging for mold control, together with replacement of some damaged ceiling tiles. Painting of repaired walls will follow shortly thereafter, together with some needed carpet cleaning and floor polishing. Other needy property maintenance issues included fixes to two roof top furnaces, Fall window cleaning and parking lot re-grading.

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4. **Invaluable Volunteers** – a church cannot work effectively without gracious volunteers participating in all areas of service. We are experiencing lots of volunteer support in returning the church building to good working order and freshening up its appearance. We want our church to be a welcoming place for our congregation, and for our neighbours. This opens up many areas of service - how might you respond? Please be sensitive to what the Holy Spirit wants you to be involved in. Whether participating in a formalized committee, or just lending a hand to one of the many needs, your

involvement is important and much appreciated. **A big thanks to all of our volunteers!!**

In the interim, the nursery has been opened up as a self-serve centre for nursing moms, or for parents with infants/toddlers.

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5. COVID-19 – it's easy to forget that we still need to be prudent in caring for one another and practicing the health protocols that our health authorities recommend. Thank you for caring for one another in this way.

As the cooler Fall weather has set in, Durham Health is now permitting us to hold our after-service coffee fellowship indoors, while our numbers are still relatively small, and provided we remain diligent with indoor masking (while not drinking or eating), social distancing and recommended hand sanitization. Please leave a clear path to the exit, for those who need to get away, and avoid clustering around the serving counter.

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6. Communications – please feel free to submit any **written** questions or concerns that you have, to the Board, before each Board meeting (to Pastor David, or to the Board Chairman, Dave Clark). The next Board meeting is scheduled for December 16th.
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“The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad.” Psalm 126:3

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” Colossians 4:2

“Let them give thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love and His wonderful deeds for mankind.” Psalm 107:21