

Grant Gazette

SPRING 2023

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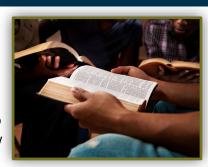
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BECOMING PEOPLE OF THE WORD

Exciting things are happening in the Vancouver ministry. The weekly Bible Study has more than 15 adults in the last few months. People are hungry to learn God's Word and apply it to their lives. The group is made up of young adults all the way to Seniors, new believers, mature believers, and those who have little



or no Christian background. It is a joy to teach them and see their hunger to know God. We have studied the Pastoral Epistles, and have seen what kind of people God wants in His church.

One of the exuberant new believers, David, is fun to watch. He is reading the Bible for the first time and learning so much. He eagerly tells me what he has read, and then often says, "Here I am telling Picasso about paint!" He has recently read the Minor Prophets, and asks great questions. He is also enthusiastic about inviting new people to church, and we have seen a significant increase in attendance on Sundays. It looks like we will be having a baptism soon, as two of them have asked to be baptized, renewing their faith which had been damaged by hurts and bad choices in their lives.

YOUTH MINISTRY

We praise the Lord for what He is doing with the youth of the church. Our youth director, Rebel, is leading them in Bible studies through the week and encouraging them to follow the Lord in the challenges of inner

city life. Several of them are looking forward to serving at camps this summer, joining programs to become leaders and counsellors at camp in the future.

We are praying for two summer interns to work with us at the church in day camps and recruiting children and youth to go to Bible camps. Pray that God will lead us to the right people and provide for their needs through the summer.



Adeline with Diane's famous cookie

PRAYER NEEDS

God answers prayers: As we began this year, the church experienced some health issues. One of the SAY YES! girls was taken to Children's Hospital because she was bruising easily when she would bump into something, and her mother saw that she looked yellow when sitting with her cousins in SAY YES! It was discovered that her bone marrow is not functioning properly. The doctors say it is not cancer, but are not sure what is the cause. She now goes in for blood transfusions twice a week. Prayers for Adeline are appreciated. She is a vibrant, kind, gentle, loving 8 year old.

Adeline's Grandfather, (Baba, in their language) is battling cancer again. It has been a 5 year battle and he is back in Vancouver for 4 months of radiation and chemo therapy. His faith in Jesus is strong, as are his

prayers for his family. He desires that they walk with the Lord. Pray that Glen will be healed if the Lord wills.

Philip, the son of Margaret from our church, finally received a liver transplant on Valentine's Day. We have been praying for him for over a year. He was on the wait list for a long time, so we are grateful to the Lord for answering prayers for him. He put his faith in Christ recently, as he saw how his mother and sister prayed for him and rallied others, including our church people, to hold him up in prayer. He is in the hospital, making sure the body doesn't reject the new liver.

In our Christmas letter we shared about Byron's brother losing his wife to ALS. In late January, he went into the hospital with severe abdominal pain, and the doctors discovered a hernia that caused half his stomach to turn black. They removed his entire stomach and recently attached his esophagus to the small intestine. He is recovering in hospital, and beginning to be able to eat solid food. We are grateful for all the prayers for Paul, and thank the Lord for bringing him through. The recovery will take time, but we know the Lord is with him.



GOD'S BLESSINGS

We praise the Lord for 2 groups of young people who are assisting us this spring. A group from Kaleo, a one year Bible school on Vancouver Island, helped us in February, working with the SAY YES! program and our Youth Ministry, and doing a lot of cleaning, repairs, organizing rooms, and leading worship on Sundays. In March we will have a group from Vancouver Christian High School coming to help with SAY YES! and assisting with other ministries of the church. It is good to have the enthusiasm and energy of youth to help us get some work projects done that have been on hold due to lack of time and strength!



May the Lord bless you for partnering with NAIM in the ministry to the hurting and broken First Nations people in East Vancouver, and to those who have been hurt by others who claimed to be Christians.

Thank you for praying!

Byron and Diane

To support this ministry financially, checks should be made out to NAIM and mailed to the NAIM Office. **Donations should be designated for Project #475**.

Donations can also be made online at www.naim.ca/donate