



MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Dear Beloveds,

We praise God for the new staff members that have been added to our Church Planting Team. Greg Armstrong and Armen Hakopian are focused on leading our New Canadian Church Planting movement, and we have Hiba Majeed as the new Executive Director Assistant. Please be praying for our Team as we continue to serve in our various roles.

We have our next Greenhouse Training coming up soon where we will have 6 church planting couples for 3 days of intensive training. Please be in prayer for these couples as they begin the steps to planting a church. We are looking forward to the upcoming Stronger Conference on April 28th and 29th! Our team will be leading a workshop on using church planting as a solution for the anti-aging ministry in our churches.

Everything we do flows from God's vision to see church planting movements that are mobilizing the gospel, making disciple-makers, multiplying church plants, and manifesting the Kingdom of God until every man, woman, and child belongs! We praise God for all He is doing. Thank you for reading these updates and for praying for our Planters! God bless you abundantly!

~ Bechara Karkafi

NEW CHURCH PLANTS



Jose & Stephanie Desravines **Calvary Baptist Church Haitian Ministry, Oshawa** **Launching April 14, 2024**

Calvary Baptist Church eagerly prepares for the official launch of the Haitian Church Plant in Oshawa on April 14th. As we anticipate this significant event, we seek prayers for attendees who have yet to know Christ, that they may encounter His love and grace. Additionally, we ask for prayers for the ministry's outreach efforts, that they may effectively reach the lost and boldly make disciples. Please also pray for strength and guidance for Steph and I as we lead this ministry.

NEW CHURCH PLANTS CONT'D



Phil & Jessica Coolbaugh **Hope Valley Church, Mississauga** **Launching: Fall 2024**

Over the last several months we have diligently worked to set in place the key foundations to see a new church planted in the Mississauga Valley neighbourhood. We are now excited to host our first prayer meeting later this month! This is one of the first steps in ramping up to a busy summer filled with camps, outreaches and new Bible studies, that God willing, will allow us to officially launch as a church later this Fall. Pray for us as we prepare for our first prayer meeting, inviting people to come and pray with us about a new church being planted in Mississauga. Pray for us as we continue to seek God's will in the building of a core team. Pray for us as we continue to seek out those who would partner with us both financially and prayerfully.

CHURCH PLANT UPDATES



Oliver & Marie Ipwanshek **Ajax Lighthouse, Ajax**

Our core families continue to be united as we serve our Lord Jesus Christ together every week. Our core families within our church family are beginning to develop genuine strong and deep relationships with one another, as we continue to love and serve God and one another. So thankful for the unity we have in our elders and church leaders as we continue to worship our Lord Jesus Christ and to shine his light to the people in the community. We have connected with a neighbour that has recently moved here from Africa, he has instantly connected with our church family and has a desire to serve in our church. Please pray for him to find suitable work here in Ajax in the IT field and continue to pray for us as we grow in Christ and encourage friends and family to join us on our Sunday services and future upcoming summer family outings.



Nathan & Elaine Kapteyn **Baden Central Church, Baden**

Baden Central has been continuing to have monthly services, and we have begun hosting regular community dinners in our home. We have seen many open doors for building relationships with our neighbours and friends in the community, and we are praying that these relationships will allow for many Gospel conversations to take place. Please also be praying for Baden Central as we are pursuing a possibility for a more permanent meeting space in our community.



Jordan & Olivia Wilcox
Emmanuel North Barrie, Barrie

We've had a really encouraging start to the Spring so far at Emmanuel North Barrie. Over the Easter weekend we gathered on Good Friday and Easter Sunday for worship. On the Sunday we baptized two new believers who both shared encouraging stories about the grace of God in their life, and their faith in Jesus. There were a number of families from the community present to witness this, and to hear the gospel, and so we're praying for the Lord to draw them to himself. Please pray that our church would be faithful to disciple the new believers, and those who have yet to follow Jesus that God has placed in our lives.



Harbour Church, Belleville

Please be in prayer for the leadership of Harbour Church as they are in a period of transition. May God direct their steps and pour out His wisdom during this time.



Jeremiah & Kathryn Thomas
Church of the City, Brampton

At COTC Brampton, we are in an exciting season of anticipation. We are in the process of getting our charitable status. We are excited about our new board and leadership development track. We hope to have three elders in training by this year's end. We had a fantastic Easter weekend. We had a potluck dinner after our Easter service. We had some friends and family who were unchurched join us. They heard the gospel and were able to experience fellowship.



Aaron & Nikki Ottaway
Restoration Church, Cambridge

It has been an amazing season at Restoration Church as we've seen the church slowly transition from church plant to simply...church! One of the greatest items of praise is the amount of people that have grown in their faith and character and have stepped into leadership. There are a number of important decisions that need to be made in the short term, but we have seen God answer many prayers in a big way. Continue to pray for faith as we follow God's leading.



Nick & Emily Heusterberg
Bethel Southwest, Glencoe

This Easter was such an amazing blessing at Bethel SW. We were able to serve our community by hosting a Pancake Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt that saw over 200 people come through. In our Easter service, we were able to see 5 people profess faith in Christ through baptism. We are continuing to pray to God to build relationships with people to help them see Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.



Arnel & Cherry Lidongan

Guelph Baptist Mission, Guelph

Praise God that our 2nd Easter Cantata went well. We are grateful to God for the growth we have seen in newcomers, salvations, baptisms and membership. We are supporting 3 church plants in the Philippines. We are celebrating our Church's 8th anniversary on June 16th. Please be praying for our leadership as we are preparing documents for legal independence. Our target date is 2026.



Kojan & Lajan Mohammed

Hamilton Kurdish Church, Hamilton

Thank you for your prayers; our planted church is growing. An essential part of the work of church members with evangelism and discipleship is to care for newly arrived families who have previously been in our planted churches in the Middle East. In May, we will have three more refugee families of faith join us. Please pray for their safe arrival. Please be praying for our baptism service next month in partnership with Elliott Heights Baptist Church in Hamilton.



Aaron & Holly Johnson

Cornerstone Church, Hensall

Cornerstone is in a season of growth, both in depth and reach. Please pray for wisdom as we take next steps with the many new points of contact we have among friends and neighbours, and pray for the new leaders we are currently training up to be released this fall.



Pablo & Angelica Aguilar

Kingsville Christian Fellowship, Kingsville

For the month of April part of the church will undergo renovation. Please pray that this renovation will be done on schedule and that our replant can begin. We are replanting because some attendees of KCF will start attending the morning service of LIFE Church in Leamington, a partner ministry of KCF. Please pray for God's continued provision and direction.



Aaron & Mariah Roeck
Heritage Grace Church, Kitchener

The Lord has brought and continues to bring new people through our doors. Please pray that we will be able to serve and welcome them well and that those who don't yet know Jesus will turn from their sin and put their faith in him. Through the Winter and into the Spring we began to work through considering "what we believe" in our pre-service Sunday School classes. Please pray for good fruit from this—that we would be a healthy church grounded in sound doctrine and the truths of God's Word. Please also pray that we will grow even more zealous in our evangelism and love for the community around us.



Mike & Amanda Kleinhuis
The Centre Community Church, Lindsay

We are encouraged by the continued growth from the neighbourhood. Over the Easter weekend we participated with local churches and held a combined service with close to 900 people in attendance - so wonderful to hear the Body of Christ sing in unity! We look forward to the warmer months where our prayer initiative for our neighbourhood will kick into high gear. Please pray for ongoing issues that plague our community - lack of affordable housing; struggles with addictions; mental health issues; food insecurity; broken/dysfunctional families.



Mark & Sura Namourh
West Park Arabic Site, London

Our Arabic-speaking church in London is doing very well. Praise God we have a new believer who's going to attend a few baptism classes and then get baptized! We're working on setting new goals for our Arabic congregation for the next year. We also need to work on a new outreach method on social media to reach more Arabic-speaking people. We're studying the book of Revelation in our Bible Study. Thank you for your prayers!



Chelsea Green Community Church, London

Please pray for the leadership team at Chelsea Green. Pray for wisdom, direction and that God will provide a Church Planter for this church family.



Samuel & Kelly Kim

God's Love Church, London

Please continue to pray for the 600 or so Yazidis living in London. Pray that the Holy Spirit would open their spiritual hearts to encounter the true God. We have had the opportunity to share the gospel with Akram and Ala, who have been attending the youth group for about 7 months now. Please pray that they will come to know Jesus as their Saviour.



Russell & Hannah DeGraaf

Boreal Baptist Church, Manitowadge & White River

It has been a season of many new events in the church. We just had our third men's ministry night; we are working through the book Disciplines of a Godly Man. Partly as a result of that event, we welcomed a new believer into the family of God last week, and we hope to baptize him as soon as the lakes unfreeze. We will also be starting a new ministry this week helping those in our community who struggle with addictions to overcome them through the power of the gospel, much like Celebrate Recovery, and we could really use your prayers that God uses this new endeavour. Meanwhile, I am preaching in a town called White River over an hour away every Saturday where there is no church, and our group there has tripled since we started last year! So, we could also use prayer that God would raise up more labourers for the harvest, as we are stretched quite thin.



Bill & Geri Morgan

Grace Baptist Church, Schreiber, Marathon

Praise God that our home church at Schreiber is going well. The ministry in Marathon is struggling so I ask for prayer that God would move and work powerfully in the hearts of the Christians, and show them their need to worship and the importance of sharing the gospel with those around them. Thank you.



Armen & Zina Hakopian

City Centre Baptist Church Arabic Site, Mississauga

Our recent Good Friday and Easter Sunday services were incredibly uplifting, with a significant increase in attendance. The Lord is moving mightily within our congregation, drawing more hearts closer to Him. In line with this growth, we've initiated baptism classes to guide those who feel called to publicly profess their faith through baptism. Additionally, we're thrilled to announce the launch of our men's sports ministry. This new avenue offers fellowship and an opportunity for outreach within our community. Through sports activities, we aim to reach out to those who may not yet know the love of Christ. As we continue to witness God's blessings within our congregation, let's persist in prayer, asking that the Lord's guidance and grace be evident in all that we do, as we pursue to share His message of love and salvation to all.



Luel & Annabelle Declarador

God's Kingdom Fellowship, Mississauga

We are finalizing our expansion plan and project. Please pray for us to have enough funds for this plan. Praise God we have additional pastoral staff to help support this ministry. We have 2 additional international students in our new membership group. By God's grace, we are slowly growing. Thanks and God bless.



Greg & Caitlin Armstrong

Saturate Church, Mississauga

This season we have seen a lot more opportunities to meet with people for evangelistic conversations: neighbours, people we have met at mosques, in the mall, and friends. Overlapping with this, we have been growing in our reach for training others with our resources and strategies for having conversations with Muslims. We also recently started a monthly women's group, which has really helped us as we work at building our community and has provided a comfortable space for friends and neighbours to connect with us.



Graeme & Julie Melvin

The Meadows Baptist Church, Mississauga

It is with great joy that we announce that we have officially "planted" as we now have been given membership status with FEB Central! God has been so faithful to us since launching in September 2014. Over these years, we have seen over 20 adults come to faith in Jesus and get baptized, dozens of families call The Meadows their first church in Canada, and sent out many leaders for His kingdom. We are also excited to announce that we will be launching another church plant out of The Meadows later this year through Phil and Jessica Coolbaugh. Our hope is that God will continue to multiply us as we never stop seeking to go make disciples.



Lendl & Mia Salangsang

Life Church, Pickering

Exciting updates from Life Church! We're thrilled to announce the launch of morning services beginning May 5th. Our congregation is flourishing through our outreach endeavours and have welcomed new families and individuals to our church community. As we gather for our planning retreat this month in preparation for 2025, we humbly ask for your continued prayers for wisdom and strength to guide our elders and leaders. We also ask for your prayers for our growing family as we look forward to welcoming our third child in September 2024. Your prayers and support are truly uplifting, and we deeply appreciate them.



Shannon & Melissa McConnell
Equip Church, Peterborough

We have moved to our new building, Living Hope Church in February. We praise God for providing this bigger space. We celebrated our 5th anniversary as a church in February as well! Praise God for all He has done! The ministries of Equip continue to grow and thrive and although this journey is never without struggles, this past season we as a church have grown in our faith and grown in our unity together as the body of Christ. We are so thankful for your partnership with us.



Dan & Jill Johnson
Anchor Hope, Port Dover

Please be in prayer for Dan and Jill as their son, Luke, is battling cancer. He needs a miracle. Pray for miraculous healing over this precious boy. Pray also for surpassing peace and comfort for Dan & Jill and Luke's siblings, Hosanna & Pearce.



Ben & Naomi Mills
Hope Community Church, Port Hope

Praise God for a great Easter weekend. We combined for Good Friday with 3 other churches in our town, and on Easter Sunday we were at max capacity. We are regularly feeling full on Sundays and so we are having to move and rent a larger church. So on May 5 we will be moving to a large Presbyterian church in our town. Please pray for the transition to this new location and for a good relationship with the new church. We praise God they are excited to rent to us, and they even moved their service time to accommodate us. Please also pray about our many community engagement opportunities as the weather gets warmer, including our town's most famous event, Float Your Fanny Down the Ganny.



Matthew & Erin Clever
Anthem Church, Sarnia

Things at Anthem Church are well. It has been a heavy season for us shepherding our people, as many of them seem to be going through difficult seasons. We are seeing God's goodness and kindness to us in the midst of it all. Our two year birthday as a church is April 20th, so we are excited to celebrate what God has done over these last two years. This year we've seen a couple of people come to saving faith and we have been doing some baptisms and have seen healthy growth - so we are very grateful to the Lord for His kindness. Please join us in praying for God's leading and revelation as we discern vision for the short and medium term and how God is leading our body.



Scott & Bethany Stephenson

Bluewater Church Devine Street Campus, Sarnia

The past six months have been an incredible journey and God has been so faithful. We have been blessed to have many of our people give their time and talents generously so that many of the needed renovations could be completed at the church site. We are continuing to see many new people attending services, several of which are directly from the site neighbourhood which is a huge answer to prayer. Last month we had one of the people who have been attending since the fall place their faith in Christ, which was such a joy. We are asking God for further direction on how to proceed with building needs and for His blessing on our upcoming alpha program this Spring.



Christopher & Angel Chung

Redeemer Reformed Baptist Church, Scarborough

We are really thankful to God for the birth of our son, Theophilus. We are especially thankful for the tremendous love and care we received from our church community. May the Lord remember their deeds of love and the good works they have shown in the service of Christ (Heb. 6:10). May our neighbours and unbelieving friends know that we are the disciples of Christ by our love for one another (John 13:34-35). On Good Friday, we had a combined service with Formosan Grace Christian Church Toronto. We praise and thank God for this partnership in the gospel and we pray that the Lord will be pleased to use the evangelistic labour to bring many to salvation.



Lucas & Hannah Nosal

Evergreen Chapel, Smiths Falls

Things are going well at Evergreen! Over the Easter season we had to move locations around a bit, but now we are back at the high school until the summer, when we will start to meet outside again for July and August. We just finished a 12-part series on marriage and family which has been a real blessing to many in the church. The church is flowing with life, literally and spiritually. We have many pregnant ladies in the church with a new baby coming each month from August to December! We are looking forward to getting back into our study through the book of Luke. You can pray for our church to continue to grow in number and in holiness, pray for us to find a permanent location to worship (maybe an old closing church to give us a good deal on a building), and pray for more elders!



Liberty Grace Church

Toronto

Liberty Grace is the only evangelical church meeting in Liberty Village. This neighbourhood desperately needs the gospel light. Please be in prayer for the financial needs to continue being met and the members of the church to be united and encouraged in this time of transition as they continue to look for a new Church Planter.



Charlie & Kristen Stokes

Village Church GTA, Toronto

Our church was planted in the summer of 2021 and started gathering for services in April 2022. Since then we have seen close to 15 people baptized and witnessed others come to put their faith in Jesus through Alpha. We are currently renting out of another church and meeting on Saturday mornings in Mississauga as we grow our core team. Our desire is to move to Sunday morning services within the next year and we continue to search for the right venue to meet our needs. Please pray that God will provide for us. Please also pray as we are looking to hire a Worship Leader.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR APPRENTICES



Dhiyaa & Hiba Naaman

Apprentice At
Emmanuel North Barrie,
Arabic Site



Ryan & Angel Oh

Apprentice At Church Of
The City Brampton



Fredie & Melissa Buen

Apprentice At Church Of
The City Brampton



Brad & Rebecca MacPhail

Apprentice At Willow
Creek Baptist Church,
Midhurst

CHURCH PLANTING TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION

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