



Weekly eNews for July 8th-14th, 2017



THANKING GOD FOR:

> A great first two weeks of camp and the chance to minister to children by loving and caring for them each day!

PLEASE PRAY:

> For the chance to welcome our neighbours on Tuesday with hot dogs and freezies at Serve N' Soccer

> For Grace Kennedy who is having minor surgery on Friday at Sick Kids
 > For Maritta Maguire who is recovering from surgery on Sunday as a result of a fall. Pray also for Hugh as well as LeeAnn, Chris and Amy as they help care for her.

SUNDAY MORNING GATHERINGS: WE'RE GETTING *SHAPED BY THE STORY!*

We love stories don't we? We all have a favourite story that we love to tell or to be told. Stories are the most powerful form of communication we have. They're the language of our world and we learn about each other when we share.

Long before the printing press and the "bible" as we know it came to be - scripture was passed along in story form from generation to generation. The hebrews understood God, his character and their relationship with him by looking at the stories handed down to them. They likened scripture to a diamond and hearing and looking at scripture was like turning the diamond, letting the light hit the many facets to reflect further depth, beauty and detail.

This summer it's like we're gathering around a campfire and looking at the great stories of the bible and connecting them together to see God's plan to redeem mankind - from the very beginning to the birth of his church. As we look at those stories we'll also learn more about God's character as well as about who we are and how we are invited into his great story.

Eugene Peterson said *"The Christian life is not about us; it is about God ... the more there is of us, the less there is of God. We're called to join God and his actions in us and in the world, participating in what God is doing. When we get a picture of how our lives fit into the encompassing epic of God's Story, we begin to see our path in God's activity as his people in the world. Our focus changes. We move away from our own agendas to join God in restoring things to wholeness- -the way God created them to be. It's a focus that moves beyond personal growth to participation in God's kingdom."*

We'll learn by listening then dialoguing together about what we notice when we look at the greatest story of all. Each week we'll add another story that builds chronologically on the week before. It's great if you're new to the bible or have lots of experience with it. All you need is a sense of adventure and a desire to get to know God who loves mankind and desires to be known by his creation. **This Sunday** we're looking at the story called "Sacrifices" and it involves the cost for sin and rebellion. As you think ahead - what is one possession you would never be able to give up?

If you missed last Sunday - no worries, we'll retell the stories we've covered last and then pick up from there! You can also pick up the narrative we covered last week at Shaped By The Story table on Sunday.

DAY CAMP WEEK 2!

We've completed our second week of Day Camp and got our groove on with Music Camp! Thanks to Sarah & Grant for your key leadership and to our Directors Kristen & Alex and Counselors Nicholas and Yvette! We're stretching out and getting ready for Week 3 which is our VBS Sports Camp as we engage in various sports and hear what God says about practice, recharging, listening and competing courageously!

We're still taking campers if you or someone you know is looking for an awesome day camp experience! Day Camps are open all children and young people entering grade one to grade 8 for our entire neighbourhood and community! So invite your friends and neighbours to join in the fun! From June 26-Aug 4 there will be a whole ton of adventures each week including sports, Lego, sports, music, and more!! [Click here to download the registration forms!](#)

SERVE N' SOCCER!

We look at our soccer fields as our "backyard" and each week our neighbours come to our "backyard" with their families and when you have neighbours over, you want to give them something to eat, right?! Well that's what we're doing each week in the summer when our "neighbours" come over! We call it Serve N' Soccer!

So from **6:15-8:30** we're going to set up a tent and the grill on the following evenings throughout the summer as a small act of kindness:

Tuesday July 11 + Wednesday July 26 + Wednesday August 9 + Tuesday August 22

It has been really encouraging engaging our neighbours and they've mentioned how encouraged and amazed they are that we'd do this for free! We'd love to have you help in serving others. It's not complicated - all you need is a smile, a simple "hi" and "would you like a hot dog or a freezie"! If you can be part of our team for any of these evenings - please let us know by signing up at the welcome desk! Our first one for this summer is this Tuesday nite!

FILL A SUITCASE FOR THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC!

Christine Gerber leaves for the DR along with the Toronto Mass Choir in August. Each member on the team has the wonderful opportunity to take an extra suitcase of clothing and basic needs to the D.R. to leave as gifts to help the people they will be ministering to there. There is a need for both adult and children's clothing, toiletries etc. Please remember clothing donations should be appropriate for the warm climate in the D.R.

We've set up a suitcase in the lobby for your donations. This is a great way to be part of the mission and a practical way of blessing the needy people of the D.R while also stacking hands with the Christine and team. We'd like to have all donations in by **July 23rd** so that we can jam that suitcase closed!!

UPCOMING EVENTS + HAPPENINGS!

TEEN CHALLENGE + LUNCHEON:

Sunday July 16th

We're looking forward to having the Women's Ministry Team from Teen Challenge with us on Sunday morning July 16th! We'll get to hear their dynamic presentation featuring students sharing their amazing stories of freedom from addiction!

Afterwards we'll have the chance to break bread together for a pot luck luncheon!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Emma Fizzell

Make sure to see Emma and wish her the best as she celebrated her birthday on July 3rd!

PRAYER GATHERING:

Sunday July 9th - 9:30am

Join together to pray for the world around us - one another, our neighbours, community, and country.

HELP NEEDED!

Chair Crew:

We're looking for people who would be willing to help set up chairs on a Sunday morning for our gathering. We need 2-3 people per week who would be willing to arrive between 10:15 and 10:30 and take 15 minutes to set up chairs. If you are able to volunteer once or twice per month - please contact Melanie at the church office at 905-893-7277 or [email](#)