

December 2016

happenings at MEADOW BROOK...

STREAMLINE

NEWS & EVENTS

Ministry Management Team

Women in Leadership

This year we have taken a bit of time to do some teaching on the topic of women's roles in the church, as well as do a survey on the matter with our voting membership. We would like to share the results of the survey with you on Tues, Dec 6th at 7pm! We will have the results available on the Sunday before this night, and will take the night to unpack the results together and talk about next steps. All are welcome to attend!

Week of Prayer

Every January, we like to start the new year off right with a week of seeking God together! This January, the leadership is calling the church to a week of prayer from January 16-20. There will be our normal lunch hour prayer time on Tues-Thurs that week, and every evening from Mon-Fri there will be prayer from 7-8pm. We would like everyone who calls Meadow Brook "home" to come out to at least one prayer session that week! Get it on your calendar!

Baptism / Celebration Christmas Dinner

On Sunday Dec 4, join us for the baptism service at 4pm with a full Christmas Dinner to follow at 5:30pm. **Tickets are needed.** Today is the last day for purchase (until sold out). For the dinner, doors will be open at 5.



Christmas Cards for Missionaries

In our main foyer, there are Christmas cards to sign for our missionaries! Please, everyone sign them! If you wish to contribute a cash gift, there is a basket available. This will take place on Sundays, Nov 27 and Dec 4 only.

Open House Worship



The last Sunday evening of the month at 730pm. Tonight, Nov 27 in the Youth Room, led by Merissa and others.

Open House – Renos!

Two areas of our church have seen a facelift this past year. Our Youth Centre upstairs (completed in late spring), and our well used and loved Café. There have been many volunteer hours by certain individuals as well as a couple of generous donations given to update, give more seating and functionality to these areas.

On Sunday, Dec 11 there will be an Open House when both areas are completely finished. Both rooms will be set up with coffee & treats the entire morning, from 830am until after the 2nd service. Please come and check them out!!



Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to all who participated in our shoebox collection. You contributed 373 boxes. Our distribution centre (for the area) collected 2903 boxes.



Join us for prayer Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 12-1pm



Community Events

World Day of Prayer 2017 - helpers needed!

This year Leamington's World Day of Prayer event will be held at Meadow Brook. The theme will focus on the 'Philippines' with a script written by the Philippine Christians. Representatives from each of the participating churches will take part in the program. The date is March 3, 2017.

Della Dyck needs helpers for a team to help plan the program and to arrange coffee and sweets after. Please call Della at 519 326 8809. Both men and women are invited to participate.

Salvation Army Christmas Kettle - If you are interested in helping out with the Kettle at Superstore or Giant Tiger, please call the Salvation Army for available time slots, at 519 326 4901.

Access Youth Support Centre - The Youth Drop In is in desperate need of volunteers. If you are able to help out during the day between 2 – 8pm, please contact them at **Patricia Fram** 519-733-8983 ext. 29 pfram@accesscounty.ca There are Volunteer Forms at the Community Connections counter in the Lobby.

Youth & Kids



Midweek Kids Program

We are super excited to announce that our new mid-week kids program, *MB Kids Club* will be starting on Tuesday January 10th! This program will be available every Tuesday for kids from SK up to Gr. 5. Registration will soon be available on our web-site!

New Sunday Mornings

Starting in December the kid's registration desk for Sunday morning service will be moved downstairs to the hallway in front of the gym and kitchen. We have decided that this will be a more central location for all of our kids who are registered in different classrooms, and it will be a much easier spot for our visitors to find!

If you have any questions please feel free to email, family@meadowbrook.ca



Sr & Jr High Christmas Banquet Thursday, December 15 at 7pm.
Jr High Winter Retreat- DEEP FREEZE on January 20-22.

Mission Focus

Somdy & Chanh Jusse – going to Thailand

- Somdy is thankful that his wife's permanent residency certificate was renewed without any issues. He is very thankful for all of our prayers on behalf of himself and his family.
- A missionary advocacy team is now in place but there is a need for one more member. Somdy is hoping and praying that he and his family will be in Thailand by early 2017.
- Please pray that the additional \$2600 support money that is still needed will come in soon.
- Somdy would appreciate our prayers for their daughter, Sarah, as she adjusts to another move, and to school in Thailand and for their waiting time in Canada.



For Your Consideration

Some Recommendations for You!

by Chris

So normally I write a short devotional for you in this section, but I thought I'd do this a little differently this month! It's that time of year when people are looking for gifts to give to loved ones (including beloved Teaching Pastors – WINK!), and I regularly get asked, "Can you recommend a book or a worship album for my spouse/friend/etc?" So, I thought I'd just make some suggestions here, based on some good reads and listens that I have enjoyed in the last little while! Enjoy! (I already have all of these books and albums, by the way, so you'll have to find something else when you buy me my awesome present this Christmas!)

"Jesus Is _____." by Judah Smith

This book explores the many different titles and attributes of Jesus, and engages in them with some rock-solid teaching by a funny and smart pastor named Judah Smith. It's a great read if you're new to Jesus, if you're unsure about Jesus, or even if you've walked with Jesus for ages – there is something rich here for everyone!

"Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy" by Eric Metaxas

For anyone who likes history or biographies or both, this is the fascinating story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German pastor who stood up for Gospel truth against the Hitler regime, and who also happened to be one of the most brilliant and profound theological minds of the 20th century. An incredible story of an incredible man!

"Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes: Removing Cultural Blinders to Better Understand the Bible" by E. Randolph Richards and Brandon J. O'Brien

"I'm just telling you what the Bible says!" is a pet peeve statement for me. The reason for that is that we *all* bring personal bias to the Bible...we read the Word through the eyes of our gender, our race, our culture, our upbringing, our life experience. As we mature, we learn to bring less of ourselves into the text, and see more of what God is really saying to us through His Word and His Spirit. This book is a great look at how easily we can misunderstand the Bible because of the personal biases that we inadvertently bring to the reading, and how we can avoid doing this moving forward!

"Godstories: New Narratives from Sacred Texts" by H. Stephen Shoemaker

If you can get past the introduction (or just skip it...it's a little nerdy and deep!), what follows is a really refreshing new look at Bible stories from the Garden through to the end of days – familiar stories for many of us, but with a fresh examination and retelling that I found opened my eyes to these old stories in a whole new way! Seriously – I'll never look at some of these stories the same way again – loved this one!

"Let There Be Light" by Hillsong Worship

This is the latest worship album from Hillsong, a ministry that I dearly love but have admittedly grown a little bit wary of recent years, mostly because much of the new worship seems to focus more on us, and what God has done or can do for us, rather than focus on Him and who He is (I am speaking very broadly here, and this is a trend that is much bigger than just Hillsong!). However, I was wonderfully surprised by this latest album, which recaptured what I've always loved about Hillsong – well-written and powerfully-worded worship music that glorifies God and draws us into His Presence! "What a Beautiful Name" and "Elohim" have become favourites! A great album!

"Live" by All Sons and Daughters

This worship album is a few years old, but is making a comeback due to the rise of the track "Great Are You Lord" which has really taken off in churches this year, including our own! I love these guys...simple, beautiful songs that anyone can sing, and that point upwards toward Jesus. Also listen to "Your Glory/Nothing But the Blood" – an amazing worship song that is now played regularly in my life!



Meadow Brook Calendar Highlights

- Sunday Nov 27 – 730pm | Open House Worship – in Youth Centre @ MBC
- Wednesday Nov 30 & Dec 7 – 9am | Baking for our community, come join the fun
- Sunday Dec 4 – 4pm | Baptism
- Sunday Dec 4 – 530pm | Christmas Dinner - \$5/ticket
- Tuesday Dec 6 – 7pm | Results Night (Women in Leadership Role)
- Sunday Dec 11 – Open House (our 'new' look!) Youth Centre upstairs and Café. Before and after both services.
- Sat Dec 24 – 6pm – Christmas Eve Service
- Sun Dec 25 – 10am – Christmas Day Service
- Sun Jan 1 – 10am – Pancake Breakfast/Service
- Jan 16-20 – Prayer Week here at MBC

Essex County Community Events

- Saturday, Dec 10 – 2pm – Connection Christmas Concert – First Baptist Church Leamington.
- **Mental Health Connections - LDMH** Leamington hospital is now providing Mental Health Connections. This program is for anyone diagnosed with a mental illness or moods disorder. The program runs Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. In order to participate you must contact the Mental Health Connections in Windsor and let them know you want to participate in Leamington. 519-256-4854 ask for Charlene.
- Dec 12 (Monday) 6pm – Ladies & Men are invited to a dinner evening at Colasanti's, presented by Leamington After 5. Tickets \$18. Guest speaker/musician is Tina Weidelich, Richmond Hill - "The Perfect Gift". Reservations by Friday, December 9 with Barb at 519-326-7631.

