

COUNCIL OF ELDERS REPORT

September 2021

We have so much to be thankful for!

- The new Foundations Class
- Discipleship opportunities and Bible studies
- Generous giving
- Abundant support for the East Asia Training Centre

We were blessed to have the Campus Pastors with us and to share reports from each around what is happening at their sites: Central Abby, Mission, Downes Road, Real Life in Surrey, and what is not happening yet at East Abby! Each one faces different challenges but has reasons for praise. Hopefully by the new year Abby Christian will be able to host East Abby services once again. Remember to pray for each.

We also said thank you and farewell to Vic Wiens who has served on the Council of Elders for a number of years but is now taking on greater leadership responsibilities with Multiply (formerly MB Missions) as their Interim General Director.

There are two challenges which we discussed and most importantly prayed for at our most recent Council of Elders meeting at the end of September.

1. Everyone is very concerned about what is happening with Covid-19 and the impact it is having on our world, our community, and our church. With the recent restrictions placed upon the eastern Fraser Valley we concluded that we, the leaders of Northview, needed to do more in leading by example around mask wearing and messaging. The result was the video that Mark released a couple of days later. There are no easy answers or solutions so we appreciate your prayers, and please be patient with those who have differing opinions!
2. Everyone is tired. As we have begun this new ministry season when all of the pastors and staff would usually be energized, everywhere we look we see tanks that are nearly empty and some who are running on fumes. The communications team who is responsible for filming Northview TV, Northview's website, and so many other things have done a great job with their creative ministry. In some cases learning how to do things they never anticipated. And it's more than the

communications team, everyone has gone the extra mile in uncharted territory and we owe them a debt of gratitude. The pastors are included in this but everyone on staff has done yeoman's service. Pray for them and encourage them. On the website, you can see the names, pictures, and emails of each member of our staff team. Why not take a few minutes each day to pray for one or two individually and send them a quick email of encouragement? I'm sure it would be appreciated.