



February 2024 COE Report

Thank you for being a part of our Northview family and for caring enough to read this monthly report. As your Council of Elders it's a privilege to serve both you and the Lord by giving leadership to His ministry, for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

As always, it's a privilege to meet with members of our congregation as they bring their concerns to us for prayer. If you, or someone you know, would like to meet with the elders for prayer, please email Carrie - cklassen@northview.org.

Our Senior Leadership Team reported that Ezra Okoti, Executive Pastor of Ministry Development, is now devoting 50% of his time to Multiplication while Mark Burch, Lead Pastor, had limited his involvement to 25%. A recent info night regarding a church plant in Chilliwack was attended by 80+, and is very well supported. The plan is for a recommendation to come to COE in March to move forward. At the same time, Ezra is in conversation with Matt Glezos concerning a possible joint venture church plant in Maple Ridge, where Tri-City Church would take the lead.

We're hoping to relaunch the Church Planter Residency program in the near future, as it was side-lined during Covid. If you know of any individuals who are feeling called to church planting ministry, please have them contact the church.

With so much activity in and around church planting, SLT will be forming a Commission to collaborate in the screening and endorsement of new planters, planting agencies, and partnerships. More on that when information is available. Our involvement in City to City church planting partnership has been strengthened.

Plans for building our new worship centre continue to be fine-tuned so that when presented to the city of Abbotsford, they don't send them back to us and we can hopefully enter the construction phase this summer.

Meanwhile, we're looking at ways to accommodate the incredible growth at our Mission Campus. There is strategic planning work underway that will consider the future development of the Mission campus site and how Northview will need to plan for the incredible growth in Mission. There is so much opportunity for us to advance the Gospel, so many unreached people and we are so excited for the way the Lord is leading us.

With so many needs and so many opportunities we have decided to establish a new society for the purposes of holding charitable assets and for supporting, improving, and enhancing the work of groups involved in the delivery of charitable programs. The charitable programs will need to be





consistent with the religious ministry and charitable objectives of Northview Community Church, and registered as a charitable organization. Details of the governance of this society are being finalized.

Stewardship reported giving at the end of January reached \$6 million, \$200,000 more than last year. We trust the Lord, working through our congregation to continue to give, so we will balance at the year end and still meet all of our church planting and outside support initiatives God has brought before us. Based on historic trends, we currently project giving will reach \$9.6 million by year end, \$400,000 below budget. Of course our aim is always to cover all the expenses we planned for, and to balance the budget.

This month, we received a report from Joshua Scott, Campus Pastor of our Central Abbotsford campus, which has now existed for nearly four years. These days, 280 people are in attendance most weekends, which is nearly 80 more than a year ago. This has caused challenges with seating, and especially with parking, so discussion is taking place with the Lutheran church across the corner to use their lot. With 220 meals being served before worship, and dessert following, the opportunities for fellowship and community have greatly contributed to the warmth that is evident everywhere. Since we only have use of Mill Lake Church on Saturdays, all other activities are either on Downes Rd. or in homes, and that arrangement is working really well. Could they have to begin holding two Saturday evening services? Stay tuned! Thanks to everyone who is making Central Abby a resoundingly effective ministry.

We've been working with the Senior Leadership Team on an important new policy which focuses on Local Outreach Workers - members of Northview who are raising funds to work with local ministries, in much the same way our global missions people do. The policy is now having its final edit.

And finally, we're considering ways that we can enhance Northview's shepherding ministries. As we continue to grow, it's imperative that we don't have members of our congregation who fall between the cracks when they are in need of pastoral care. You'll be hearing more about this important ministry in the months to come.

May the Lord bless you and yours as we share in this blessed local church that is Northview!

Phil Routly