**LCA Quarterly Membership Report**

**Date** July 2018 Report from April 1 to June 30

1. **OVERVIEW**

Thanks for checking out our first QMR. We believe clear communication is helpful for families, so hopefully you find this helpful.

1. **NEWS**
   1. Lake Country Playoffs: Save-The-Date: Friday, August 17th at Beasley Park. Fun for all the ages. A low-key, playful way to see which Ward in Lake Country will come out on top.
   2. Mission Statement: Along with the really adorable babies being born, a highlight from this spring is that our Elders have developed and agreed upon the following “mission statement:”

**Freedom. Fullness. Family. You?**

This is meant to be a short statement that communicates to believers and unbelievers what LCA is about. We arrived at this through hours/days of discussion, prayer, and reading. Romans 8 and Ephesians 4 play a big part in the theology behind this mission statement. This fall, we will plan to explore together what this means, how we hope to use it, and how we want to live it.

The Elders have another statement called an “ends statement” that helps guide us in our leadership. Our aim is to be able to say, “In Christ, the LCA family is so free and so full that Lake Country itself experiences greater order, beauty, and abundance.” If you are looking for some summer reading, I’d recommend the book our Elders and Staff have read called *Futureville* by Skye Jethani.

* 1. LCA Youth Ministry is entering a season of change. The following was recently announced:

“Jeff, our Director of Youth Ministries, has submitted a letter of resignation. Jeff will complete his leadership of our youth ministries effective June 30th, 2018. This change is occurring because we are out of our depth and because Jeff is out of gas.

Jeff has a huge and growing heart for youth ministry. He has effectively communicated with our church leadership how much more needs to be done to meet the needs of the youth of Lake Country. Our Elders are more concerned than ever with how dark and difficult it is to be an adolescent growing up here Lake Country. We recognize that we can no longer departmentalize youth ministry, putting the weight on one person’s shoulders. Youth ministry can only be accomplished as a whole church and up until now, we have not lived into this well enough. We need to redistribute the weight and begin to redesign our entire approach to youth ministry. So, basically, we are out of our depth and are seeking God for how He would have us change our ways when it comes to youth ministry. This will take some hard work in terms of the whole church undergoing changes. This is our work of repentance.

But not only are we out of our depth, Jeff himself is out of gas. Jeff needs a season to prioritize rest and recovery. He has carried the burden and shouldered the weight of youth ministry in extraordinary ways and we need to acknowledge and celebrate the accomplishments of LCA youth over the last number of years. Jeff stepped up when asked and he deserves a mighty thank you and round of applause.

Jeff is entrusting the youth ministries to Pastor Aaron and I for the time being and we have an interim plan to move forwards. Come September, we are moving from a Tues-Wed schedule to a Tuesday Thursday schedule. Tuesdays will be youth focused and Thursdays will be youth integrated.

If you have questions about this leadership change, please speak with Aaron, myself, or John Geistlinger, our Vice-Chair.”

* 1. Neighbourhood Café got its beginnings, with the next one scheduled for July 22. Shelley Rhodes is the coordinator. The idea behind this is to take the concept of our beloved Connections Café out into our own homes and neighbourhoods.
  2. *Get Involved: A Celebration of Volunteers and Community Spirit* was our joint-effort with other local organizations to thank those of you who have contributed voluntarily to making Lake Country awesome. Thank you so much for contributing within LCA and/or within Lake Country.
  3. I, Sandy, have been working on a Health Hub Committee to help improve access to health care in Lake Country, which you may have read about in the media. We have successfully gotten funding for a feasibility study, which means things are moving in the direction we had hoped.
  4. On a global scale, we had opportunities to hear more about the following:
     1. the marketplace ministry happening in Nepal within a Tibetan settlement
     2. the ministry of MMF throughout India (overseen by Lake Country local, Chris Wiens)
     3. the next ministry assignment for Jon and Michelle Watland
  5. Elders: It was good fun to thank and celebrate Bill Clark and Dwain Black on June 3rd, eh!? On that day, we also welcomed Jacquie Weatherson as our newest Elder. (Because Jacquie begins the work of eldering, we will need a new International Workers Liaison, see “Needs” section below.)

1. **FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT**

Halfway through this fiscal year, we are on track with our budget. In our actuals, we are in the black. However, we are currently $10,000 behind in our approved budget. Check out the attached P&L for more info.

We aim to advance the Gospel with the finances given to the Lord. We put this commitment into practice through good stewardship and generosity. We continue to look for ways to encourage consistency in our giving to the Lord, rather than reactivity. Cash and cheque are still the most cost-effective ways to give, but we realize they are not as convenient for some. We have online giving, the Tithe.ly app, and the POS terminal in our foyer at the moment. We don’t lay down strict rules for giving and greatly appreciate the ways each member of our church family has chosen to contribute faithfully, cheerfully, and sacrificially.

We may need to hire some interim help in the fall to help offset some of the changes related to taking care of LCA Youth ministries. More info to come.

1. **STATS**
   1. Births – Lucia Joy Hiebert, April 19 and Benjamin Garmeson Main Blackman on June 22 (that makes 4 new babies in 2018!)
   2. Deaths
   3. Engagements / weddings – May 20th wedding here at LCA
   4. Average attendance:
      1. Sunday morning worship service - 128
      2. Futureland Kids - 24
      3. LCA Youth – Jr. Youth – 20 Sr. Youth – 10 Youth Wrap Up Event on June 9 - 40
      4. Thursday Night Church - 25
2. **NEEDS**
   1. We are looking for someone to replace Jacquie Weatherson as our International Workers’ Liaison. This person helps foster the connection LCA has with Jordan and Martina Weatherson and Steve and Heidi Maskell. It is a 2-4hrs/month commitment. Please contact Sandy in August for more info.
   2. Prayer requests:
      1. For summer, please ask God to increase our whole church family’s biblical literacy and to rest our church leadership. Pray for Lake Country Playoffs on August 17th as well as summer camp ministries that highly influence our children and youth (E.g. Eagle Bay, Gardem Lake, Maple Springs). We have people attending camp, doing leadership development programs, and serving on staff.
      2. For the fall, please pray for the youth of Lake Country and for our church family to experience a growing passion concerning our mission as LCA.
3. **LOOKING AHEAD**
   1. Thursday Nights:
      1. 6-7pm: Thursday Night Church (TNC) begins again in September and plans to have a more “youth culture” feel to it.
      2. 7:30-9p: Ridgeline is our new mini-school of Discipleship suitable for ages Grade 10 and older. Participation in Ridgeline will likely have the option to include an international short-term missions trip or the local mission to our children through Spring Break VBS. More information and application forms coming soon. Space is limited.
4. **GRATITUDE**
   1. Thank you to all who have read this report and seek to be in-the-know. We are grateful for a good ministry year together and appreciate the amazing opportunities for some down-time available right here in the Okanagan.

To conclude, we want to acknowledge the remarkable life of Ron Tyson who has passed away peacefully early in the morning on July 8th. It has been encouraging to see and hear many stories of LCA people going to visit Ron and Maggie and I have appreciated the opportunities to speak with these two via phone and post over the last few months. My girls speak of missing Maggie, and not just because they miss the mini-boxes of Smarties. Ron and Maggie Tyson—wow. These are two of the brightest lights I’ve met here in Canada. Although not physically present, they have remained with us in spirit and we are blessed to call them family. Please remember Maggie in your prayers, inviting God’s heavenly comfort through this time.

Respectfully and in the love of Christ,

Sandy Colero

Lead Pastor

Additional Contributors:

Sue Manning

Office Administrator