



◆ The Beacon ◆

A Monthly Publication of the Lighthouse Baptist Church



Volume 2004 Issue 4

September 2004



From The Pastor's Pen Pastor Robert Lindsay Gatto

Welcome to this month's Beacon. This newsletter is just a chance for our church family to get caught up on some of the events happening in and around the church.

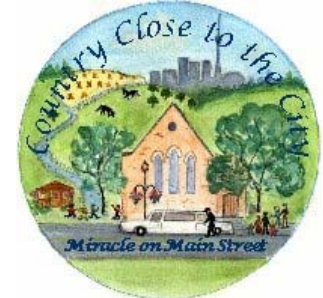
This September will mark 2 important events in our church. First, it is the 2nd Anniversary of our "Miracle on Main Street" when God brought our 2 churches together. Though Satan has tried to hinder and discourage this work, God has given us great mercy, strength and blessing. Personally, God has taught me so much over the last 2 years and I praise Him for it! He has been so good to me. We are seeing visitors regularly and people are hearing about us and learning about what we are doing.

This leads me to the 2nd event this month which is a Fall Sunday School Program. For all of September and October in SS the classes will be challenged and rewarded for praying every day with their family, reading the Bible daily, missions support, faithfulness to church and visitation. The program is a fun way of teaching young people all about serving God. The program is called "Reach For The Stars". Also during these 2 months in church we are emphasizing the great need our churches have for the fullness and power of God's Holy Spirit. Each Sunday afternoon service and Thursday evening service will be given over primarily to collective prayer. I

challenge you to make this a priority in your life - because of Christ.

This month we have also started a new College and Careers SS class which will be taught by David and Marie Belle Kapauan. They both are very qualified to teach and head up this class. They have been members of our church for 15 years. Also starting this month is a new SS lesson theme. We have been teaching all the Major Bible Stories over the last 3 years and will be starting a 3 year Bible study I wrote called "Following His Steps" which is a chronological study of the places Jesus went and the people He met and the preaching He did as recorded in the 4 gospels. I am really looking forward to these lessons.

Last month Mike Reid's father-in-law (Diane's dad) passed away. Mike had been praying for Eugen to get saved for many years but he didn't want to hear it. Over the years Eugen got older and became very ill recently. Mike would often ask if he would be willing to speak to a preacher but he would refuse. Finally, the day came about a month ago when Eugen decided that he would like to talk to a preacher. Mike called me up and we met at Eugen's house to help explain God's love, forgiveness and gift to him. With his wife June, Mike and myself in his room, he bowed his head and prayed as best he could to Jesus to save him! What a joy was in that room. What a relief and answer to years of prayers. Eugen died a couple of weeks later at his home. I was



asked to do the funeral. The message consisted of 3 stories. One from the Bible about the thief on the cross who was saved at the end of his life. One from History of a sinner who had lived a wicked, sinful life then also facing death, he turned to Christ for salvation. He went on to become a preacher and song writer. His name - John Newton. His song - Amazing Grace. The 3rd story I told was Eugen's story of salvation. The gospel message was plain to all present. God bless you Mike, and your dear family. We love you.

LIGHTHOUSE TIDINGS

The hot and hazy days of summer 2004 will soon be a memory as the fall season swiftly approaches. Speaking of memories, here is an update on some of the holiday memories our friends have been creating this month.

On the Civic Holiday weekend Nik, Josh and Jordan drove to Algonquin Park for a camping trip. They canoed for a several hours to reach their camp site on Teepee Lake. The weather was great - perfect for experiencing the Great Outdoors. They hiked, canoed, explored, even whittled, and enjoyed a relaxing time in the wilderness. David and Marie Belle Kapauan also travelled to Algonquin to their own campsite on Tom Thomson Lake. Camping at Algonquin has become a

Kapauan family tradition, where they enjoy the beauty that God created for us here in Canada. They paddled down the lake to visit the guys a time or two and brought them a little extra food when the boys' supplies ran low!

Right after the camping trip, David and Marie Belle flew to the beautiful Cayman Islands in the Caribbean for a week of sand, sun, and snorkelling. They stayed at the Morrith's Tortuga Resort in the quiet East End of Grand Cayman, the largest of the three islands in the Cayman Islands. David and Marie Belle spent a lot of quite time relaxing on the beach, swimming and snorkelling in the colourful reefs surrounding the resort as well as Seven Mile Beach. They saw an amazing variety of marine life and were always reminded of what a great God we have for having created so many different kinds of animals. They visited the Turtle Farm near Georgetown, the capital of the Cayman Islands, where they saw how turtles are raised. In the Caribbean, turtle is also used as a source of food, so David dared to try Turtle Stew in one of the restaurants in Georgetown! He said it was delicious and tasted like chicken. One of the highlights of their trip was taking a swim with stingrays in 'Stingray City'. David fed one of the stingrays with squid - stingrays don't have teeth so in order to eat, they suck their food in! David and Marie Belle visited a small town in Grand Cayman called 'Hell' and sent a postcard to Pastor Gatto from there. Pastor found it funny to receive mail postmarked from 'Hell'! Later in the week, Hurricane Charley passed close to Grand Cayman and caused some excitement. Part of the dock at the resort collapsed and some trees fell. But the following day, all was bright and sunny and back to normal, as if nothing had happened! The Caymanians seem to take hurricanes in stride! All in all it was an amazing trip for David and

Marie Belle and they plan to go back next summer!

Mary and Al Borisenko enjoyed two weeks in Wilmington, North Carolina, and also visited Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. They took daily trips to the Ocean, and relaxed on Wrightsville Beach with its white sand and clear, warm water. The R & R time also included golfing and shopping. The trip became exciting when Tropical Storm Alex came up the coast of Florida, and when it passed Wrightsville Beach, it became Hurricane Alex and caused a lot of damage just north of where Mary and Al were staying. Nearby the power was out, streets were flooded, debris all over, and there was damage to homes and vehicles from the strong winds. Thankfully, where they were, there was no damage! Both Mary and Al were interviewed by the television and radio news media who were doing live newscasts about the Hurricane from Wrightsville Beach, and had photos taken with some of the news crew. It really seems that God had His hand of protection on Mary and Al, as in addition to the hurricane passing over, they saw a lot of accidents on the interstate highways, a 13 year old girl was attacked by a shark in 3 feet of water at the next beach, nine people were rescued from their beach from dangerous rip currents in the ocean, and a woman on their beach was stung by a stingray ~ Praise the Lord for watching over our friends!

Rob, Coleen, Corissa and Josh Vivian recently travelled to Cedar Point, Ohio for their famous amusement park. Cedar Point is known for its roller coasters, and the Vivians all rode the newest very exciting ride called the Dragster. Plenty of thrills for everyone! Then they were off to a holiday at their friends' cottage for fishing, swimming and a great time fellowship. The Vivian four also spent a weekend in Quakertown, Pennsylvania for a wedding.

Isabel and Murray Couperthwaite drove to Ottawa to spend a few days with their son, Scott. They had a good visit with Scott, and enjoyed helping him out with some gardening and yardwork. On the way home they stopped in Perth, where they visited with friends.

Georgia, Kade, Ainsley and Emma Wood enjoyed a week at her family's cottage in Muskoka.

Paul, Lillian and Robert Wilson are in sunny Jamaica for two weeks with Paul's family. Just before the trip Paul had to have his leg put into a cast, due to a recent sports injury. The hospital had wanted to do surgery, but the trip could not be cancelled! We'll all be praying for speedy healing.

The church basement is looking much brighter these days, thanks to Aaron Wood's skills as a painter. The new blue and white colours make the room look so fresh. We're not finished painting yet, so look for more. We're gearing up for the fall Sunday School program, and want everything to look and feel inviting to the children.

September means Back to School

Yes, those dreaded words—at least they are dreaded by those who have to hit the books once again—not necessarily by the parents! In addition to the children returning to elementary and high school this fall, we have a number of “college and career” kids. Here is a little update on where and what they are studying.

Kay McKnight is entering her 3rd year at the University of Windsor. Kay is working on a double major in Political Science and Women's Studies. She lives in the residence at the U of Windsor, and will have a room to herself (better for all that intense studying!). Since she was a little girl, Kay has been intent on becoming a lawyer, and upon completion of her degree, Kay

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THE LIGHTHOUSE GALLERY



Vacation time! Raymond & Jakob in Collingwood, Madge in Hawaii, and David & Marie Belle in Grand Cayman!



Summer trips! Donna in North Cape, Jenna & Joanna in a park ride, and Adam & Joanna in Wheaton Illinois.



Here are some pictures to remind us of church events during the summer months. We will miss this summer!





The following very Special People are celebrating Birthdays soon!

- September 4 Aurora Guinto
- September 6 Reg Wheaton
- September 7 Jaclyn Polhamus and Brian Reid
- September 11 Madison Hammond will be 5 years old! How time flies!
- September 17 Bria Scott
- September 22 Isabel Couper-thwaite
- September 24 Norie Caringal
- September 27 Mary Leafe (Weeks)
- September 30 Gemma Lirio

What famous person shares your Birthday?



- September 4 Mike Piazza (baseball), Henry Ford II, Paul Harvey
- September 6 Joe Dimaggio
- September 7 Queen Elizabeth I (1533)
- September 22 Tommy Lasorda
- September 24 F. Scott Fitzgerald

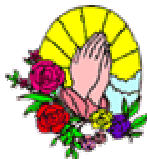
ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to **Aaron & Georgia Wood** who are celebrating their wedding anniversary this September 20!



OUR PRAYER PLACE

Please submit your prayer requests and allow your church family to help you pray for a need, a person or even a silent request!



- ✠ Please continue to pray for the Wright family as they continue to grieve over the loss of their son, husband, father, grandfather and brother, Wayne.
- ✠ Please continue to pray for Garrett's health, as well as his strength and wisdom, and for his faith to remain strong during this difficult time.

GAITHER CONCERT

Don't forget the Gaither concert on Saturday, September 25th – 6:00pm sharp. If you ordered tickets, they will be distributed by the end of July.

THE BEACON
 A Ministry of
The Lighthouse Baptist Church
 6273 Main Street
 Stouffville, ON L4A 1G5
 905-640-2911
www.lbc.on.ca
 E-mail: info@lbc.on.ca
Pastor Robert L. Gatto
 Editor-in-Chief
David Kapauan
 Layout Editor

Would you like to share your testimony? Do you have a special story, event, prayer request or any other information you would like to share with your church family?
 Please contact Mrs. Lillian Wilson at the church office or by email: family.wilson@sympatico.ca

Our Schedule of Services

SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday School
 for all ages 10:00 am
 Morning Service 11:00 am
 Afternoon Service 2:00 pm
we have fully staffed nurseries at all services

THURSDAY SERVICE

Bible Study and
 Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm

Pastor Robert Lindsay Gatto is the founding pastor of The Lighthouse Baptist Church and has been pastor since its beginning in 1986. The move to Stouffville happened in September 2003, affectionately known as the "Miracle on Main Street." He and his wife Joan have been married since 1983 and have five children, three girls and two boys.

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hopes to find employment in either Corporate or Entertainment Law—sounds very cool! Can we have your card?!

Nik Kapauan is going into his 2nd year at the University of Waterloo. He has just finished a summer co-op work term at the Toronto District School Board doing web programming. Nik's courses at UW cover maths, sciences, economics, programming, business, and electronics. Nik has always been a real science and math whiz (who can forget his 99% average in Math at Lighthouse Academy) and he's sure to take the computer world by storm!

Josh Gatto is starting his 2nd year at Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology (Seneca @ York). Josh is studying Television Broadcasting, and his courses include audio and video production, television production, and script writing. Josh's marks for the first year were among the best in the class. This year he and his classmates will make a short movie. Josh's creative mind and eye for detail are going to take him far - move over Peter Jackson!

Jordan Gatto is starting his 1st year with Durham College in the Automotive Apprenticeship Program. In addition to his studies at Durham, Jordan will continue to work for a Chrysler dealership as part of his apprenticeship training. Jordan enjoys all things auto - from engine to exterior - for an example, just check out his modified Cavalier! Looking for a good mechanic?

Our prayers and best wishes to all of our students—from JK through College/University, as well as the young people who are currently working and praying about their future course of study. God has a perfect plan for each one of you and we are so proud of you all.