

First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Toronto
QUARTERLY REPORT
PASTOR'S REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY- MARCH & APRIL-JUNE
DATE OF MEETING – OCTOBER 21 , 2018

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20

Annual Objective(s):

- Cast new vision for the Church
- Emphasize Great Commission as the unique ministry of the Church
- Implement a formal discipleship program

Report (looking backwards):

- The discipleship group completed the first unit in Discipleship Essentials by Greg Ogden. Leading this first official group has highlighted the need for more laborers; I believe some future leadership will come from this group.
- Continue to chair the Advisory board
- Continue to maintain the church website
- Launched first issue of a monthly congregational newsletter called ‘Pastor’s Perspective’
- Common Pastoral Duties
 - There were no baptisms
 - There were no baby dedications
 - No Funerals – but we did share in the grief of and sent condolences to several members who lost family and friends during this period
 - Continue to lead Communion Services
 - 8 week preaching series “The Issues of Life part 1” was not completed as planned; and may be revisited in the new year
 - Conduct Adult Sabbath School and Afternoon Bible study

Report (on-going ministry):

- Alignment is the key word for the year – in all our activity we seek to be in alignment with the Word with the mission of God and the Great Commission. I seek to accomplish this by aligning the preaching and teaching with our vision, encouraging true spirituality and equipping for greater commitment.
- Ministry in the Word includes Teaching Sabbath School and Adult bible study. Adult bible study continues to be very sporadic and sometimes poorly

- attended. Struggling to start on time detracts from the time needed to deal with the weightier topics. Over the remainder of this year, I aim to publish beforehand the exciting and important topics for study, and to improve the punctuality of Bible Study, that we may confidently invite people to share in the study of the scripture together. Coming topic requested by the young adults will include "What is Postmodernism – and why should I care"
- Preaching ministry will be enhanced by implementing regular preaching series, where we can better handle larger topics. Future series have been planned and will include "Issues of Life, Vision, Statement of Belief, and select topics from one book of the bible".
 - I will be working with the various groups and individuals to improve the flow of Divine Worship, that the quality of the time spent will promote deeper devotion and worship that is acceptable to God.

Remaining Opportunities (looking ahead):

- The future expansion of the Discipleship ministry to incorporate multiple groups including a Jr. discipleship group
- Work has begun and material is being evaluated to lay the foundation for a home group network, which for now will be called "20/20 Life Groups". Looking for three people to receive training and materials to lead one of the life groups.
- Implementation has begun for Members login to website, where members will be able to see and submit reports to streamline business meetings, have access to resources to aid in various ministry initiatives and opportunities, a place where vision updates will be posted. Online form to request dates for church functions is already operational on the site, as is the church calendar.

Needs/problems arising:

- My assessment of the spiritual temperature of the church in respects personal commitment and sacrifice to advance the kingdom of God leaves much room for improvement. Greater commitment is needed all-round, it will take no less than every member revisiting their membership covenant and taking seriously the work we are called to do. There is no shortage of ministry opportunities, just people willing to commit. If there is an area of ministry that you are interested in, please bring it to my attention.

In the Master's service,

Pastor Owen Lynch