Monthly Newsletter

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February Edition | HC Update

HOPE CHAPEL Centre of Community Care



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We Value Partnerships



The goal we have to become a center of and for community care is a large

one...too big really for our small membership. But with God's help we are finding partners to help us see our goal achieved. Our partners include a number of Christian organizations (local church congregations and ministries) as well as local community businesses.

We have also found a valuable source of partners in the students who choose to gain their Community Service Hours toward graduation from high school at Hope Chapel—serving their peers at lunch time, baking cookies, preparing meals for the Out of the Cold Shelter, painting picnic tables and sorting clothing donations for the Community Cupboard.

Partnerships are not just about receiving but also about giving. During the fall months, we were able to make space available for a couple of community choirs for practicing and concerts. A local music teacher has also made good use of our space for practice and music recitals.

This month we were approached by a group from the community to park a mobile soup kitchen at Hope Chapel a couple of times each week and to be able to use our inspected kitchen facilities. Because of our desire to partner with others, our answer was immediate, "Absolutely!" See the advertisement in this month's newsletter for more details. (Pg.3)

We are encouraged by the partnerships we continue to develop, the support we receive and the appreciation that has been shared. We look forward to the opportunities that partnership will provide—both for Hope Chapel and those who partner with us.

Chatting with Students...



Leon, Grade 12 Student



Leon's Artwork

How did you come to hear about the lunch program at Hope Chapel?

"Didn't hear about it, but rather saw all the students heading over to the church and decided to check it out."

What was your first impression?

"It was a much bigger space than expected with a comfy atmosphere. It was very different from my expectations...and very busy!"

Why did you keep coming back?

"Initially, it was for the free coffee which was also very good. I continue to come for the atmosphere, the people and because it feels like a safe place."

How difficult was it to get your friends over?

"It wasn't hard at all. Just told them what it was like, invited them to come over and they trusted me to try it out."

Why did you decide to complete some of your community service hours at Hope Chapel?

"No longer needed any more hours for graduation, but just thought it would be a good experience serving other students."

How have you found the adult volunteers? "Kind, open and sincere." (We love to hear that!)

When invited to attend "The Chosen" (television series about the life of Jesus) why did you decide to check it out? "Initially because it was being shown at Hope Chapel which was familiar space. I keep coming back because now I'm hooked...it's really well done."

Is there anything else?

"Hope Chapel has the most beautiful piano."



Word Around the Neighbourhood

At Hope Chapel, we love to hear from our neighbours...it is one of the best ways to gage whether or not we are achieving our goal of becoming a center of and for community care. Here are two written notes we received from our neighbours expressing their appreciation.

A note we received in September...

Dear Pastor Jane,

You don't know me, but I wanted to send this card to you anyways. Hello.... I live in the community surrounding Hope Chapel. I wanted to reach out and to tell you that I have appreciated the Chapel's messages, gifts, poems, prayers, etc. of Hope in my mailbox. In fact, your Christmas cookies last December were the first item I received in the mailbox when I moved in! So, thank you.

It is comforting to know that such kindness is at the very core, heart of your church. I can feel that, the heart of Jesus, of love and goodness, and sweetness in your messages to the community. Thank you for that and I wish you and the Chapel all the very best.



Word Around the Neighbourhood

A note we received this month...

Hi, Pastor Jane,

I wanted to send a little note back to you. Thank you for all that you are doing for the kids in the community. My son is one of the kids who enjoys hotdog days and enjoys hanging out with his friends at your church. I have heard him tell family and friends. I have signed up for your newsletter and look forward to hearing more about your activities and I hope that I too can help when an extra hand is needed.

As a new member to the area this is important to me and my family. We have been in the area less than six months. Thank you for the tablecloth, the invitations and the great newsletter that keeps us informed. You and your team are doing great work!

We owe a special note of thanks to all of our neighbours who have been supportive of the work being done at Hope Chapel. Your encouragement helps us to know we're on the right track!

Mobile Soup Kitchen

Hope Chapel has agreed to serve as a stop for this initiative begun by Holly McElroy- Holmes, Rhonda Day and Tina Marie. We are also pleased to be able to make our inspected kitchen available to these ladies as they put their finishing touches on food to be served through the mobile soup kitchen.

Currently, the mobile food truck heads out twice a week from 4-6pm making the following stops...

Hope Chapel @ 4pm TD Bank Collingwood Loft Planning Walmart Collingwood Library Busby Center (Out of the Cold Shelter) @ 6pm

Help them get the word out!



Student Thoughts about Hope

Why do you like to come to Hope Chapel at lunch?

Coryn – "*free food and couches*" (space for students includes tables, chairs as well as couches…lots ofoptions to choose from)

Noah – "nice hangout place"

Chris - *thumbs up * "it's comfy"

Jazmine – "nice place to hangout with friends" (a number of student groups come regularly each day to hangout and enjoy lunch)

Alvin – "*warm inside space and guitar*" (Youth Unlimited has made guitars available for student use at lunch)

Blaine – "*piano and chess*" (students are invited to play on Hope Chapel's baby grand piano and a number of games are made available, though chess is by far the favourite)

Wilson - "food" (students are provided with baked treats four days a week and a hotdog lunch on Wednesdays in addition to a variety of drinks each day)

Mohammed – "*noodles*" (ramen noodles are provided to the students at cost and the money collected is used to buy more)

Owen – "noodles & coolest people"

Tyson – "friends and a friendly place" (students enjoy the chance to connect with friends and adult servers)

Olive / Reagan / Myles – "friends and a warm place in winter" (many of the students appreciate being able to leave the school at lunch and still be ensured a warm place to hangout on cold days)

Devina – "fun"

Jaimie – "friends"

Kylie – "it's awesome, free food"

Nick – "good way to pass the time" (many of the students enjoy the break in the school day)

Jaxon – "get to play Roblox" (students are given free access to wifi)

Zach - "nice way to chill"

Dale – "*friendly place*" (many students enjoy the atmosphere created by the friendly staff)

Did you know?

Hope Chapel's website, hopechapelcollingwood.ca has recently undergone a major overhaul. The original website had been good, but no longer painted an accurate picture of what Hope Chapel is becoming—a center of and for community care. If you haven't checked it out recently, we encourage you to do so. It will continue to be tweaked and change as needed, but we are pleased with the overall results. Thanks Pastor David Dunn for all your hard work...and patience!

Other ways to connect with us online are through Facebook and Instagram:

FB – Hope Chapel Collingwood & Instagram – hope.chapel.collingwood contain all things 'Hope Chapel"

FB – Georgian Triangle Youth Ministry & Instagram – gt.youth.ministry focuses on the high school lunch program and our GTYM partnership

Hope Chapel (705) 445-4972

Office - hopechapeloffice@gmail.com Pastor Jane - <u>hopechapelpastr@gmail.com</u>

How to receive our newsletter? Go to...

<u>https://www.hopechapelcollingwood.ca/contact</u> and request to be put on the mailing list for community news.

Ways to Give



