

Elder Update

Redemption Bible Chapel London

Q2 2023

"But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that He is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me." – 2 Timothy 1:12

GENERAL MINISTRY UPDATE

- Spring is here, and we are very excited for Easter. Don't forget to come early for our Good Friday services on April 7 at 9:00 and 11:00am, and Easter Sunday at our regular service times – 9:00 and 11:15am. We are expecting it to be full, so plan to arrive early!
- This ministry season has been a very encouraging time at Redemption. We have seen God's provision and working in our mid-week ministries and Sundays. We are seeing lots of new people plugged into discipleship, serving, giving, and worshipping.
- God graciously continues to save many, and the regular baptisms we saw through the pandemic has continued into 2023. We are planning three more baptism services this May and June. With these three baptism dates included, we will have close to 40 people baptized already in 2023!
- Our Soul Care Ministry, which is still a relatively young ministry, continues to grow. We currently have seven certified counsellors, with four more in the process of certification. Since we started this ministry two years ago, we have had close to 100 people receive biblical counselling. We are thankful to God for the discipleship that has happened and lives changed through the Soul Care Ministry. Please pray for faithfulness in this crucial area.
- Our Free Indeed Men's conference was held in February, and we saw about 260 come out to our London location and be fed from worship and the Word. Our Women's Conference, Radiant, is coming up June 2-3. We will be simulcasting the main sessions from Oakville, with our

own live worship and workshops. Registration opens April 1 at rbclondon.ca/radiant.

FACILITY UPDATE

- Thank you, God, for the lobby! It is such a wonderful sound on Sunday to hear our people gathered together in fellowship. This is just what we had in mind when we started down the path of renovations, and it has been wonderful to see the outcome.
- In recent weeks, we have opened up a new Information area in the lobby, specifically for new guests. If you are bringing someone new out on Easter, or anytime, please bring them by the Information area. We will continue to have an elder at the front of the Worship Centre following each service for any of our regulars who would like to talk about the sermon or ask a question.
- Work on our vestibule has been delayed, and may run into early summer, but it will get done!
- We are also still planning to do some renovations to the washrooms on the upper level, to provide a multi-use Men's washroom and a new location for an accessible washroom. It will likely be late 2023 or early 2024 before we get to this project, but it's on the radar.
- If you are eager to get outside this spring, and looking for something to do on a Saturday, we would love your help on our clean-up day, to do some lawn care, look after the gardens, etc. We are still firming up a date, but would love to hear from you if you are interested. Or, if you'd be interested in joining our regular lawn care team, we'd love to hear from you too. Contact lawncare@rbclondon.ca.

Financial Update

- After seeing a wonderful, miraculous provision by God to close out our fiscal 2022 year, we are thanking Him for a healthy start to 2023. We are falling behind budgeted income, but that is normal for our first quarter. There is not as big of a gap as previous years, so we are thankful.

- In March, we did a one-week Benevolence offering. These funds will be used to help people who have hit a season of suffering and have practical needs we can help with. We are thankful to God for your generosity that brought in over \$16,000 to use for benevolence. Thank you!
- Our annual audit is underway. The audit takes several months, but by late May or early June, it will wrap up and our members will receive our audited financial statements.
- Our Annual General Meeting is scheduled for June 11 at 6:00pm and will be open to both members and non-members.

OTHER UPDATES

Knollwood Baptist Church Update

- We asked Knollwood for an update on how things are going, and their Lead Pastor, Nate Klahsen, responded, "God has been and is good and kind."
- Knollwood is a church in our city that is in a revitalization, and we have partnered with them and provided some support. Although Knollwood is not a GCC church, nor do they have any intention of becoming one, they are a gospel church who we are joyfully aligned with.
- God is at work at Knollwood. They have recently had a baptism service and look forward to another one coming up with four more people who are professing Jesus Christ as Lord.
- Redemption was able to provide support to Knollwood to be able to (among other things) hire a new Associate Pastor, Chris Wood, who started in early February. Chris and his family have been a huge blessing at Knollwood as Chris oversees their Adult Discipleship and Evangelism.
- Chris, has been able to put an increased focus on evangelism as they have started a street evangelism ministry. A few of their Young Adults, including those new to the faith, are expressing a desire to participate and have gone out with Chris.

- Since the beginning of this new year, Knollwood has been blessed to bring in seven new members, and more are coming. Their Sunday attendance averages around 140. They are blown away by what God is doing and are humbled to be used by Him.
- As a church, they continue to pray for us and are thankful for Norm, the Elders, and members of Redemption.

Heritage College and Seminary Update

- Redemption is a partner church with Heritage, and it has been wonderful to see them also having a strong school year. God is at work in many ways through the school and in the executive, faculty, staff, and students.
- We rejoice that Heritage has received approval to start (Lord willing) construction on a new seminary building sometime in 2023 to allow for continued growth and expansion of the seminary.

GCC UPDATE

- GCC (Great Commission Collective, gccollective.org) is the church association we are a part of, and we now have 26 GCC churches in Canada.
- Additionally, there are 47 GCC churches in the US, and another approximately 40 internationally located GCC churches in the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, Nepal, East Africa, South Asia, and Scotland.
- GCC is actively planting churches around the world and numerous churches are transitioning in to join our network, including three just in the past month – one in California, one in Michigan, and one in Florida. GCC Canada is in conversation with numerous Canadian churches praying about joining our network.
- GCC is also beginning to train pastors and help churches who are in a revitalization process, which is exciting to us at Redemption London as we have seen this as a key area in the city of London where we could come alongside and prayerfully as well as practically help churches in undergoing a revitalization themselves.

- Our GCC network is healthy and growing and we are especially thankful for the wonderful relationships and partnership we have with other GCC Canada churches.
- This coming October the GCC National/International conference will be held at Hope Oakville, October 23-26. We are expecting a packed building, so watch in the next months for when we let you know tickets are going on sale as we would encourage you to consider attending. There will be some amazing main sessions of worship and the Word, as well as many workshops and a chance to see what God is doing in our association world-wide.

NEW MEMBERS

The following people were excitedly welcomed into membership in the first quarter of 2023:

- Galia Brown
- Tim Brown
- John Champ
- Pamela Champ
- Sara Griffioen
- Andrew Hill
- Clarey Hodge
- Steve Hodge
- Paul Karpovich
- Shira Krieger
- Tim Landry
- Doug Mercer
- Ruth Mercer
- Diana Prokhor
- Robbie Sparrow

- Rebecca Vanderform
- Scott Vanderform