

The Way Forward at PGCC

September 2009

Welcome! New season, new look

September is the start of the new 'church year' at PGCC and I am delighted to share it with you. It's a new season and, thanks to the generous and skilled work of Kam Kozak, Big Wave Painting, our building has a great new look!



Affirming our Mission

Anticipating this new season, the Elders invested considerable time in prayer and discussion through the summer to seek the Lord for His vision and direction. God graciously met with us and unified our hearts with a fresh sense of vision. First, to get our bearings, our overarching Mission as a church is affirmed: "Being transformed by Christ, bringing His transformation to our city."

I love this mission statement: we are *all* being transformed, day-by-day AND we are *all* called, moment by moment, to bring the transforming presence and power of Christ into every situation.

Sharpening our Vision

God has a clarified vision for us as we pursue this mission. We believe that God's vision for our church for this next season is:

To "activate" each person's God-given potential for ministry, to the praise of His glory.

We feel led by the Lord to adopt these three terms to anchor this direction:



1. Enjoying (God and His community)

The foundation for this vision is the renewal of joy - the centrality of enjoying God and His community, the church. We envision the joy of the Lord freshly filling our Sunday

gatherings, our small group gatherings, our spiritual friendships, our marriages, our families, our ministry efforts – everything! Imagine what will happen when each of us is freshly activated with the joy of the Lord? Our awakened delight in worshipping God and relishing of His word will lead to our desire to grow in likeness to Him which will naturally foster our passion to share this with others.

2. Training

We envision renewing the culture of training and discipleship that is necessary to see our church become what God wants it to be. Our Elders are committed to train, encourage and develop people of all ages to grow in the joy and knowledge of God. We will activate specific small groups to catalyze development. We will prioritize the development our family ministry (please see the other side), worship/arts ministry and small group ministry.

3. Reaching

We envision our church bursting with joyful, Spirit-filled people. We are committed to foster the growth, confidence and empowering of each one to share the love of Christ to others. We will help to identify spiritual gifts for service (within and beyond the church) – we will foster specific opportunities for "holistic" ministry.

Preparing the Way

Our next preaching series, "A Heart for God," will press this visionary direction. Beginning Sunday September 20th, we will look at nine lessons from the life of David that will instruct, challenge and encourage our relationship with God. This will be a 'whole church' discipleship series, as our family ministry will track along with the same material.

The invitation is in your hand

God loves you and calls you to experience freshly activated joy. We love you and urge you to make the commitment to PGCC to enjoy His community. Give yourself afresh to God: enjoy His presence; receive His instruction; respond to His calling. **Activate: Enjoying, training, reaching.** This is our God-given vision – to God be the glory as we pursue Him and His vision with our whole hearts.

Greg Laing, Lead Pastor, for the PGCC Elders

Understanding our Context

The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada established PGCC in 1989 (Pastor Robb Powell) – we celebrate twenty years of God's faithfulness! We have been led by the Lord to pursue growth as a church through planting. At present our church is comprised of our Kitsilano location and our 2004 extension onto the UBC campus called UTown Church. We function as one church society with shared vision, values, budget, missionaries and Board.