

Gina Cowan & Mike Wasyluk

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ROAR! Vacation Bible Camp is July 8 - 12! We have 80 spots available and they're filling up fast. Register your kids through the church website and remember to invite your neighbours.

This year's camp is ROAR! Our theme is "Life is wild but God is good". This message is especially relevant for kids at this time in history. Our children need to know they can depend on the unchanging goodness of God. At VBC, kids are given an opportunity to accept Jesus Christ as Saviour and encouraged to walk with Him. They hear Bible stories, memorize scripture and learn important Bible truths that they can apply daily. VBC not only teaches kids about God but stimulates growth in their faith. It's my hope that you'll get involved in VBC this year. What a great privilege to share the love and truth of Jesus with kids! With so many kids, we need lots of help and prayer.

Contact Gina Cowan to volunteer for ROAR!



(Continued on page 2)

Children's and Student Ministry Update - What we believe

At Country Hills Church, we believe that bringing children from the wonder and excitement of learning about Jesus to a faith that's strong and enduring by the time their post-secondary life starts is vitally important – and it requires an “all hands on deck” mentality from everyone.

For this reason, we strive to meet these goals when approaching Family Ministries at CHC:

**Be mission-focused, not method-focused.** We will always focus on **what** our goals in family ministry are more than **how** we accomplish them. We'll always be willing to shift and renew our methods when a more effective way of accomplishing our mission presents itself. This leads naturally into goal number two.

**Remain Christ-focused in all areas of ministry and decision making,** prayerfully considering each aspect of ministry and ensuring that we are continually seeking the mind of Christ rather than our own vision for ministry. This is Christ's church, this is His ministry, and these are His people. Serving His mission is the best way to build His kingdom.

**Promote ways for the church and family to work together daily, and weekly.** We want to be intimately aware of the daily, weekly and yearly

rhythms of families in our community, finding ways for families to engage with the gospel on a practical level by inviting Christ into the ordinary and extraordinary moments of family life.

**Never let parents parent alone.** Parenting is awesome, but it's hard. We believe that every parent has a role to play in God's plan for their children. We'll always try to create opportunities for parents to be in relationship with one another and promote resources for parents to grow in personal faith, and influence their children by example.

**Remember there's a lot at stake.** Our role in family ministry is to help people through their growing relationship with Christ, remembering that every parent, young adult and child that begins to follow Jesus in an authentic way will have an eternal impact on the lives of their friends, family, and surrounding community. That's a big deal!

If you'd like to get involved with Family Ministries here at CHC, please contact me so we can find a way to get you involved in some of the most important work our church has to do!

**Contact**  
**Mike Wasyluk**  
**mwasyluk@countryhillschurch.ca**

## Missions Update

### Chappels - World Partners, Mexico

Last month the Chappels celebrated 13 years of ministry in Mexico. The first three years were spent planting two churches. Since then they have been mentoring and training pastors throughout central Mexico. This month they will celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary! "It's hard to believe that we've now lived more than half of our married life in Mexico!"

Dan travels sometimes 10-12 hours to visit local pastors to train them as they teach their congregations. Most of these pastors continue to work full-

time in other jobs in addition to pastoring their churches.

Life in Mexico has many dangers that we in Canada don't have to face. Driving conditions are often hazardous and roads occasionally get washed out as weather can be quite severe.

The Chapples are currently looking at moving to a new neighbourhood hoping for more safety than their current location. Please pray for their ongoing safety and God's blessing for fruitful work in bringing glory to God!

### Worship Update - Where are we going?

Over the past year I've been preparing a vision document to help us define where we see God taking us in worship and practical ways to get there.

It's our goal and heart for our church family to actively worship God in their daily lives and to come before Him in all things, surrendering to Him. Worship is surrender. When we surrender, we allow God to move. It's important we understand what that looks like for our church, the standards we hold ourselves to as leaders and the desire we have for what our church body can achieve in and through the act of worship. Although we realize that we have no control over the response of any individual, when we

plan our Sunday Service around these measures, we are doing our part in helping our church to surrender and make way for the moving of the Holy Spirit. We do our best to prepare our hearts, minds and talents to give our best to our Church and God through our voices and instruments. We hold one another accountable for these things and have honest conversations about how we are doing. We realize that practice is important, not for the sake of perfection but to reduce distraction and to help our church worship. We believe that supernatural acts can occur through the power of worship. Surrender to God - worship Him and praise Him with us.



The past few mornings as I've spent time with God, walked out my front door, or stared out my office window I've been drawn to one reality. Some mornings are rainy, some sunny. Sometimes it's been warm, and sometimes it's been cold and dreary. Some mornings I feel rested and ready to go, and others it takes me a while. But, this one reality keeps rising to the forefront of my mind and it filters how I see the day as it's just beginning – it's new and full of life.

Easter is a reminder of life. Spring is a reminder of life. Mornings are a reminder of life. Each day is new and can be full of life flowing from the goodness of God. As I think about this, a passage of scripture rises to the surface of my mind along with the tune of a song I sang as a child.

*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." Lam 3:22-24 ESV*

I love the way the message paraphrases this. *God's loyal love couldn't have run out, his merciful love couldn't have dried up. They're created new every morning. How great your faithfulness! I'm sticking with God (I say it over and over). He's all I've got left. Lam 3:22-24 The Message*

## Rainy Gaze - Jeremy Shuart

### Life

God's mercies (love, grace, hope, renewal, life) are new every morning. If Jesus rose from the dead, then God can raise my life today. He can bring life where death seemed to overshadow me yesterday. As I rise from sleep I can rise in the strength of Jesus' resurrection power to experience a new day - a day filled with opportunities to stick with God, knowing He will never leave me and will give me a life that is full of hope.

As I drink deep all He has for me He is doing something new in me and through me. Life, hope and His mercy can flow through me to others, who can find God faithful too.

May you know life today, found in Jesus, reflected in creation, renewed in your heart, and shared with others!



## Student Ministry JR High - Gr. 7 – 8 High School - Gr. 9 – 12

**Junior High and High School students meet  
Wednesday evenings 7 - 9 pm at the church**

### Wednesday, May 1 - Sorry Not Sorry

This week we'll be talking about when we hold onto grudges it affects everything we do. Do you have any friends that are holding grudges? Invite them out this week!

### Wednesday, May 8 - Sorry Not Sorry

This week we'll be talking about when we are forgiven by people, we need to learn to forgive others. Do you know someone who just can't let stuff go? Invite them to CHC youth this week!

### Wednesday, May 15 - Mine

This week we'll be talking about how forgiveness takes time, and so does getting over something that's happened to you. Are you hurt? Are you wondering how long it will take to feel better? Come out and talk about it.

### Wednesday, May 22 - You're Invited

Is Our Group Welcoming?

### Wednesday, May 29 - You're Invited

Why Inviting Friends to Youth Is Important?

## Special Event - Friday May 31

You won't want to miss this Super Fun Night!  
Keep an eye on Instagram for details.

## Lighthouse Pro Events (Grade 5 & 6)

### Friday, May 10 - Hike & Hunt

6:30 - 8:30 pm  
Meet at Huron Natural Area for a hike, scavenger hunt, fun and prizes.  
Bring a friend.  
Please sign up with Gina Cowan if you're interested in attending  
Email confirmations can be sent to [gcowan@countryhillchurch.ca](mailto:gcowan@countryhillchurch.ca)



You're  
invited

You're  
invited



## Communication Form

We want to keep in touch and help you get / stay connected here at CHC. **Please complete, tear off, and drop this card in the offering basket or give it to one of our ushers or Pastor Jeremy at the conclusion of the service.**

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Children \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- I am updating information
- I would like a family mailbox
- I would like offering envelopes
- I would like to sign up for pre-authorized giving
- I would like to be contacted by a pastor
- I would like to be added to the church directory
- I give consent to receive electronic communication from the church (email)
- I agree to allow my name and/or photo and those of my family to be used in publications distributed within the church or on its website.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Due to privacy considerations, we cannot include any family in the church directory who has not given us written authorization to do so.

## Upcoming Sermons



### Sunday, May 5

"Hope Serves"  
1 Thessalonians 2: 1 - 20  
*CHC Gives Back*

### Sunday, May 12

"Strong Hope"  
1 Thessalonians 3: 1 - 13  
*Mother's Day*

### Sunday, May 19

"Pure Hope"  
1 Thessalonians 4: 1 - 10

### Sunday, May 26

"Hope Work"  
1 Thessalonians 4: 11 - 12

### Sunday, June 2

"Seeds"  
1 Corinthians 9: 6 - 8  
*THRIVE Celebration Sunday*

## Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain is available to receive prayer requests and/or for you to join.

Contact the church office  
519-578-7275  
[office@countryhillchurch.ca](mailto:office@countryhillchurch.ca)

## May Calendar of Events

**Wednesday, May 1**  
Growing in Grace  
7 - 9 pm

**Wednesday, May 8**  
Growing in Grace  
7 - 9 pm

**Wednesday, May 15**  
Growing in Grace  
7 - 9 pm

**Saturday May 4**  
Food Not Bombs  
11:30 am - 1:30 pm

**Thursday, May 9**  
Forever Young  
12 pm

**Sunday, May 19**  
CHC Welcome Time  
11:30 am - 12 pm

**Tuesday, May 7**  
Ontario Gleaners  
8:30 - 11:30 am

**Friday, May 10**  
Lighthouse Pro  
6:30 - 8:30 pm

**Tuesday, May 21**  
Photography Group  
7 pm

**Tuesday, May 7**  
Christian Horizons  
Evening

**Saturday, May 11**  
Men's Breakfast  
7:30 am

**Sunday, June 2**  
THRIVE Celebration  
Sunday  
10 am

**Wednesday, May 8**  
Sunnyside Home  
6-8 pm

**Sunday, May 12**  
Mother's Day

**Wednesday, May 8**  
Ray of Hope  
Evening

**Tuesday, May 14**  
Prayer Gathering  
7 - 8:15 pm

## New in the Library

### Fiction

The Calling - Rachele Dekker  
On Magnolia Lane - Denise Hunter  
Send Down the Rain - Charles Martin  
The Auschwitz Escape - Joel Rosenberg  
Merchant of Alyss - Thomas Locke  
The Golden Vial - Thomas Locke

### Christian Living

Relaxing With God - Andrew Farley

### DVDs

Miracle of the Widow  
Roots of Justice  
Closer to Home  
God is Closer Than You Think  
All Saints  
Rumors of Wars  
The Amazing Grace  
Accidental Activist  
In His Steps  
Karla Faye Tucker Story - Forevermore  
By God's Grace  
What Katy Did

## Prayer & Worship Gathering

**Tuesday, May 14, 7 pm**

**Join us as we lift our 2019 Prayer Points before God:**

- We will become a church of prayer not simply a church with prayer.
- We will know how to reach our community, friends, family, and neighbours.
- We will be deeply known, unified, and connected.
- Our staff & volunteer leaders will grow in passion & ability to lead.

## CHC Welcome Time

**Sunday, May 19, 11:30 am**

Are you new to CHC?  
Do you want to know more about us and how to connect?

Plan to join us at our CHC Welcome Time for dessert and coffee to discover your Next Steps.

## Forever Young

**Thursday, May 9, 12 pm**

Lunch, as usual will be wonderfully prepared by Chris Frank (cost \$10).

We'll have a time of fellowship and prayer as we "speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord."

Come share your favourite psalm.

**Contact Lucille Waito**  
[waitogoose@icloud.com](mailto:waitogoose@icloud.com)

## Men's Breakfast

**Saturday, May 11, 7:30 am**

Did you know that the men of Country Hills Church (all ages and stages) meet once a month to share breakfast, prayer and fellowship together?

Join us at:  
Omega Restaurant  
685 Fischer-Hallman Rd  
Kitchener

## Young Adult Service Night

**Wednesday, May 8, 6-8 pm**

**Bingo at Sunnyside Home**  
247 Franklin St N, Kitchener  
Help run a Bingo Night and visit with residents at Sunnyside Home. It's amazing what a game, a smile and some time can do to brighten someone's day. **Register online.**

## THRIVE Celebration Sunday

**Sunday, June 2**

Plan to attend this special service!

We'll take time to celebrate the goodness of God and what He has done over the past year in and through the lives of our CHC family.