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Small Groups - Randall Benbow

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It is September already! I cannot believe we are about to embark on another school year and ministry season. I hope you were able to enjoy your summer and create some new memories with family and friends. I'm excited about the changes we have made to our Small Group Ministry this coming season. We all have a desire to be known, but sometimes we struggle with how to make ourselves known. There are numerous ways to do that in our church, but one of the best things you can do is join a small group.

We have four different goals in our small groups. The **first is that we develop a practice of praying together** during our meetings. Prayer requires vulnerability and helps break down walls between each other. We get to know what we are struggling with when we share with one another.

The **second goal of our groups is to care for one another**. This is an extension of prayer. We can support each other through meals, rides and other needs more easily when we know how to help. One group in our church really stepped up and helped out a woman in need this past year who was in their small group.

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The **third goal of our groups is to disciple one another**. Discipleship happens through the studies and through relationship building. The studies give us something to discuss and talk about, but our relationships give us accountability to help us grow over time.

The **final goal is to celebrate life with one another**. Many of our groups have been around for years and have an opportunity to celebrate major life moments together as a group.

Take a chance on small groups this year! How? Find the groups on our church website, at the Next Steps Kiosk or by speaking to me directly. Try a group for a session this year and make yourself known.

If you and a few friends are interested in starting a small group this year speak to me about that also. I trust you will find yourself known and you will come to know others this year!

Contact Randall Benbow
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Missions Update - Kara Arbon

Pinaaz-i Zibi Maamawi (Travelling the River Together) Indigenous Camp

EMCC missionaries Rob and Sharlene Dilts have recently completed a summer of camp ministries in Golden Lake, Ontario among the Algonquin people. Rob and Sharlene began their camp ministry five years ago.

This summer, Pinaaz-i Zibi Maamawi (Travelling the River Together) Indigenous Camp was held from July 29 - August 4. There were 33 campers, an increase from last year's 27 kids, with many new campers this year.



The theme this year focused on "Our Relationship with the Creator." The camp included dancing, stories, crafts, canoeing, skills, games, sports, archery, swimming etc. There was cultural and language teaching from the Kitchissippi-rini drummers from Pikwakanagan and the camp was blessed by the continued wisdom from their elder Dave Young.

A young lady volunteered to dance in her regalia to celebrate the closing ceremonies. She led the girls in a Fancy Shawl Dance to a song by an Indigenous worship band.



Fancy Shawl Dance

Rob had the honour of baptizing one of their staff who began as a camper when Rob and Sharlene started the ministry five years ago.



Camp Baptism

The camp continues to provide life-changing experiences and friendships for the campers in this area of Ontario.

Rob and Sharlene ask that you join them in praying for the following:

- Please pray for the counsellor who was baptized as he continues his walk in faith
- Pray for a particular camper going home to a difficult situation
- Continue to pray that seeds are planted in the community and that Rob and Sharlene continue to grow in this community with the campers, staff and their families



**Pinaaz-i Zibi Maamawi
Indigenous Camp**

"Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other." Romans 12: 4-5

Rainy Gaze - Jeremy Shuart

Slow and Steady.....

We all know the story of the tortoise and the hare - you know the one where the hare loses the race to the tortoise even though he is faster. The reason that kids fable is so well known is because there is truth found in the simple story.

This spring Country Hills Church began an initiative called "Thrive" and began to teach about generosity and how God can use our generosity to change the world around us. Through the generosity of our church family we have been able to raise funds for some much needed property repairs. People are still giving, and work is still ongoing, but progressing well. Thanks, to everyone who has participated and lived generously.

But that was just the slow... steady... beginning to more.

This fall we would like to pour into your life and into the lives of others so we can all thrive. Slow growth and small acts of service may not seem like much at the time, but they add up to great things...and those great things make it possible to live the abundant life Christ desires for us and others - to "Thrive!"

So this fall I want to encourage you to serve and to grow. There will be specific opportunities to serve and grow as part of the "Thrive" initiative



until next June, but let me just tell you about a few that are happening soon.

Ride for Refuge - On September 29, we're riding and walking to raise money for a project in Sire Ethiopia through Christian Horizons Global to help families become self-sufficient. You can join the team or donate here <http://ride.w-ith.us/chcyclists>

Thrive Learning Experiences

We will have these throughout the year, but there are 2 coming up in September and October.

The first is **"Introduction to Basic Budgeting Seminar"** on **September 25** and will help you manage your finances so that you thrive and can be generous at the same time.

The second is the **"Set Free Retreat"** **October 19-20** that is focused on our freedom in Christ. This will help you learn how to deal with sin, hurts, hang-ups and struggles that we all face on a daily basis.

For more information or to register for any of the Thrive Events, contact the church office or visit our website under the events page countryhillschurch.churchcenter.com/registrations/events

Jeremy Shuart

Student Ministry



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

JR High - Grade 7 – 8 High School - Grade 9 – 12

Wednesday, September 12

Youth Kick-off Night at the church

Wednesday, September 19

Youth Alpha
7-9 pm at the church

Wednesday, September 26

Youth Alpha
7-9 pm at the church

Wednesday, October 3

Shantz Family Farm Pumpkin Picking

Special Events

Jr Pitch September 21-23

Stayner Camp for Grade 7-9
\$85 before September 16, \$105 after
Registration forms on the back table

Sr. High Amazing Race, Friday September 28

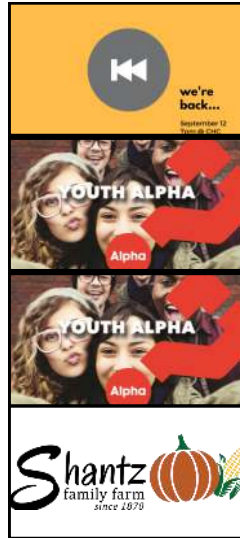
7 pm, here at the church

Lighthouse Pro Events (Grade 5 & 6)

Friday, September 21 - Laser Quest

Meet at Laser Quest, bring \$20 and consider bringing a friend.
6:30 – 8:30 pm

Please sign up with Gina Cowan if you're interested in attending.
Email confirmations can be sent to ginaacowan@gmail.com



For more details visit jrpitch.com

Communication Form

We want to keep in touch and help you get and/or 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



Broken

Sunday, September 9

"Shame - God Deals With Our Shame"
Jeremy Shuart
Next Steps Sunday

Sunday, September 16

"Regret - God Uses our Failures"
Jeremy Shuart

Sunday, September 23

"Release - Giving God our Brokenness"
Jeremy Shuart

Sunday, September 30

"Humpty Dumpty - Becoming Whole Again"
Jeremy Shuart
Grade 1 Bibles

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

To receive prayer chain requests by email, contact the church office.