

AGM March 29, 2020

Ignite Children's Ministry

Submitted by Deanna Peters

Psalms 8

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth! You have set Your glory above the heavens.

**“From the mouths of children and infants
You have ordained praise”
on account of Your adversaries,
to silence the enemy and avenger.**

When I behold Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place

**“what is man that You are mindful of him,
or the son of man that You care for him?”**

“You made him a little lower than the angels’ - You crowned him with glory and honor. You made him ruler of the works of Your hands; You have placed everything under his feet: all sheep and oxen, and even the beasts of the field, the birds of the air and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

It has been a joy to be involved with Ignite Children's Ministry. One of my greatest passions is to see children (of all ages) grow in the knowledge of how Christ sees them. Throughout 2019, I was able to walk alongside our various teachers and leaders and serve under the leadership of Gateway Christian life Centre. Both as a volunteer myself – then moving into a paid position in Late September 2019. Though the various teachers and helpers we have seen in our classes has changed – a few steadfast observations I have had are as follows:

1. Those that serve in Children's Ministry at GCLC have a passion for our kids. They get excited to plan and execute lessons. We have been using the Dig In Curriculum that has proved quite easy for all teachers to use. Note: for 2020 we are moving onto different curriculum and I am excited to talk with our teachers of where we want to go this year!
2. Our teachers aren't just passionate about our kids growing in their faith BUT they too

want to grow in their own faith. I'm just as excited to see our volunteers desiring to grow in their faith and commitment to God and in their service at GCLC. I'm looking forward to having some opportunities in 2020 to celebrate our volunteers.

3. Through out 2019 the number of children that attended all of our classes; Embers/ Sparks/ Flames/ Ablaze was around 60.

Our average Sunday had about 28 children. Due to the shift in our teachers and volunteers in 2019 – near the end of the summer into the fall. We combined our Sparks and Flames classes. Meaning we could have around 25 kids in 1 classroom.

This can seem daunting BUT is actually quite amazing BECAUSE it shows that GCLC is a welcoming place for our families. Our teachers and staff are trusted to instill the Biblical truths of who God is and who Jesus wants to be in our lives to their children. This is not something that I take lightly.

Thank you, parents for bringing your children to us!

Thank you to our volunteers – Those that Teach / those that Help / those that make coffee Sunday mornings – because Coffee is vital to Children's ministry Teachers! Those that greet our families as the come in the mornings! THANK YOU

Thank you, Krista Scott, for going above and beyond what your job entails. You are vital to this ministry.

Thank you, Pastor Shaun, for showing the true character of a leader – something we can all aspire to be like and letting our ministry team roll with things more often than may be comfortable.

To highlight Psalms 8:2

“From the mouths of children and infants You have ordained praises on account of Your adversaries, to silence the enemy and avenger.”

We must learn from children, who sing the Lord's praises and spread his wisdom willingly and without fear. When we do the same as adults, we will defeat our enemies, such as those who tempt us into sinning. Let us learn from our kids!

Youth Ministry

Submitted by Owen Plaxton

The Brighter Youth Group for 8-12-year old's, as it was initiated in 2016 by Beth Hanna, resumed in September 2019; this time headed by Cory Allen and Owen Plaxton. Additional youth leaders for the events are Hilary Coupland, Joel McNinch, (and prior to her missions' trip) Katy Dann; the junior leaders are Blake Plaxton, Avery Rieberger,

and Abigail Romano. The group was nearly disbanded following a transitional phase in 2019 which left the group without a leader, however the positive effects for the youth in our community were deemed too important to let the program cease entirely. As such the group was resumed with new leadership and some functional developments as well as retaining some of the familiar feel for the youth.

The group met in September for the first time where the leadership and the youth worked together to create a “Code of Conduct”, to provide the ground rules for behaviour and accountability for the group. Designed as a living document, the rules are posted at each meeting and reviewed periodically. In addition to this, a positive behaviour reward program that sees the youth rewarded for good behaviour and participation has produced great results with the group virtually removing the need to discipline anyone which, in turn, creates an environment of increased fun, leader availability, and learning potential.

The Group generally meets every other Friday at GCLC. Each meeting begins with some meet & greet for the youth to socialize, and for the leadership to meet the parents of youths new to the group. There is opening prayer for Gods work to be done and for the safety of all involved. At this time any other concerns for the evening can be addressed with prayer as well. There is typically an “ice breaker” game to get the kids all familiar and reduce shyness. Following that a video lesson is played for the group; this year we have adopted the Superbook series as our preferred program. The series appeals to the entire age group and has resulted in some good post-video lesson discussions and modern application for Biblical teachings. A snack is generally served as the video plays and special thanks go out to some of the GCLC members for providing that snack.

Following the lesson, a more active game is usually played by the group. This will encompass most areas of the church and promotes a feeling of familiarity and belonging. Following the events of the evening there is often a closing prayer and the youth are released to attend their parents or aid with cleanup from the activities while they wait.

On some occasions the GCLC Brighter group has planed co-operative events with the Alliance Church youth group, this promotes positive relationships between the local Christian Youth, reduces overhead cost, and builds a connection with the community. Such events include but are not limited to: skating at the arena, swimming at the aquatic center, sledding and bonfire night in Fruitvale, and an upcoming bowling night. These nights are beneficial to the social networking and fellowship of the youth and have garnered some wonderful connections with other youth as well as invitation to other related Christian events.

The youth and the leaders of Brighter would like to take this opportunity to thank the GCLC membership for their continued support, without you all of this would not be nearly as successful. We would like to take this time to ask that you include us all in your prayers. As always, we would love to have your additional support via snack

provision, program donation, and of course volunteering to lead should you feel compelled; we are always in need of additional leaders. If you know of a local youth that could benefit from this program, please feel free to contact one of us or simply have the youth/s attend the next meeting or event.

ISAIAH 54:13 – “All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children.”

PROVERBS 22:6 – Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Hospitality Ministry

Submitted by Jessee Allen

The hospitality ministry at Gateway Christian Life Centre consists of our Greeters, Ushers, Connection Desk volunteers, and Coffee Ministry volunteers.

Kevin West is the team leader of the Ushers and Greeters. Jessee leads the Connection Desk team and Coffee Ministry team, since June 2019.

Leanne Mulder led the Coffee Ministry prior to June 2019.

Our Greeters and Ushers are a proven valuable component of our Sunday morning service. They greet everyone who enters the church with a smile and a handshake, helping everyone feel welcome. The greeters hand out bulletins, hold doors open, and help find seating for those looking.

The Connection Desk, located in the church foyer, is meant to be the go-to place for visitors, newcomers, and current members. Directions, information about the service, and Ignite Kids sign-in are all available at this desk. Goals for 2020 for improving the Connection Desk, and overall visitor experience, include Connection Cards, where we can collect visitor's contact information, as well as Welcome Packs for first-time visitors. Gateway's Coffee ministry is a hub for many, during a morning service. We serve dark roast coffee, as well as various types of tea, and cold water. When we have leftover baking/food from an event, that will often be put out for people to enjoy.

I'd like to say a very special thank you to all the volunteers who serve in our Hospitality ministry

Worship Ministry

Submitted by Karson McNinch

Last year at this time I was appointed worship director, taking over the position from Angela Leonard. It has been a long year. We've seen team members move away, lose touch, and pass into the presence of the Lord. Numbers have dwindled to the point that

I no longer have enough for a full team; a far cry from complete separate teams that we enjoyed a few short years ago. At times, this apparent emptiness has been very discouraging.

But loss does not define our story. There has been growth. Not growth in quantity, but in quality. Confidence has increased, musical skills have developed, voices have gotten stronger, and we've grown closer as a team and a family. The Lord has proven his faithfulness over and over again, constantly taking us at our weakest and turning what we bring into something glorious. It's what he does. All I want is to give him honor, and glory, and praise with all of the strength that I have.

I want to thank you all for your grace and patience with me in this time of learning. I am so proud to see the change in you over the time that I have served. No longer do we let what is or is not on stage take away from our ability to worship God.

Moving into this year, I hope that we continue with this momentum that we have gained and continue to go deeper into the presence of the Lord. You all are just as much a part of the team as anyone on stage. Don't be discouraged by the lack of numbers, but instead be thankful that the Lord is fully in control and knows what He is doing. Thank you for your continued support.



MOPS

MOPS International

Submitted by Tasha Bussell

MOPS (Moms of Preschoolers) Report Back

- Start Date – End of December 2017-current (we have been running Mops for 2 full years)

- o Every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month

MOPS exists to meet the needs of every mom; moms all share a similar desire to be the very best they can be. MOPS recognize that the years from infancy through kindergarten are foundational in a mother-child relationship and are filled with unique needs. MOPS helps moms through relationships established in the context of local groups that provide a caring atmosphere for today's mother of young children.

Better Moms make a Better World - is our mantra through

- Self-care
- mothering skills

- Relationships
- Marriage and family
- Faith

Here is a reflection of our history as well as our current MOPS Year

2019/2020

- 21 registered moms
 - 11 are non church members
 - 6 unchurched members
- 11 volunteers
- Average 15 kids in childcare

We have scholarships put aside for ladies that may not be able to afford MOPs international fees.

Community Events

- MOPS attended the teddy bear picnic, health and wellness expo as well as the Santa Claus parade.

- Through these community events we were able to find some wonderful ladies who were desperate for a mom group and now are fully involved in the group. There are costs to be involved in these activities, we have been fundraising to pay for registration fees, handouts, candy or whatever is needed to attempt to get the community aware of our group.

MOPS has only been going for 2 year however I feel that we are heading in the right direction. We have doubled in size and seems like it won't stop growing. The only difficulties is that mothers going back to work for sure makes our MOPS group have large turn overs during the year.

MOPS is a unique group that caters for moms in a unique way. I am truly thankful that Gateway has partnered with us in this journey of reaching our community through moms. This year we have fundraised in order to pay a once-off fee for our MOPS group to become a MOPSNEXT group too. This opens us up to host all

moms no matter their stage. We are though having to do research on how we want to set our group up in order to cater for all these ladies.

•2019 Christmas community outreach

- as a group we collected goodies for a Christmas bags of hope. Items like makeup, perfumes etc. We made 50 bags and gave them to FAIR to give a gifts to moms that are leaving abusive homes, or other woman in the community that are financially pressed.

• Financially

o Last year we sold pies at the wellness expo to pay for the stand and for a little extra money. We fundraised by doing a Christmas photoshoot as well as collecting cans from members and some community members.

We raised \$400.

We used the money to provide a “change station” for moms at the teddy bear picnic (which included refreshments for the moms). We also purchased sweets to hand out at the Santa Claus Parade. And we purchased two bar chairs for our annual panel (that the church will also be able to use for panels/worship team)

Also paid for the MOPSNEXT once off fee and information package. (for the 2020/2021 year)

We have also been blessed to be getting money from the church. We use our budget sometimes to assist struggling mothers by buying diapers or food for mothers. We also use out budget for mothers by creating games for icebreakers or crafts, and sometimes gifts. Milk, creamer and other goodies. We also take the MOPS Leadership team away for the weekend (MOPS pays for the meals, however the ladies pay the rest of their way)

Thank you for supporting us in everything that we do.

Tasha-ann Bussell this year became part of the MOPS Speakers Network. Which may be a very interesting way to connect to other MOPS groups in Canada,.



Our MOPS group is going strength to strength. Thank you to all the church members who have helped, volunteered, or even joined MOPS.

Here's to an even better 2020/2021 year



Goose Poop Clean up

Submitted by Murray Duclos

As in past years, the volunteer group from Gateway Christian Life Centre gathered together each Thursday at Gyro Park for the purpose of picking up goose droppings in the grassed areas as well as the beach at Gyro. This year's activities commenced on April 4, 2019 and the last clean up by our group was done on September 5, 2019.

A total of 9 different volunteers were utilized this year with a core group of 4 or 5 volunteering each Thursday; 79 person hours were used this year with a total of 154 pounds of goose droppings being picked up. The group attended a total of 23 Thursdays for this effort.

Thank you to the City of Trail for providing our volunteers with rubber gloves and plastic bags again this year.

Once again, our group enjoyed assisting the City of Trail in this clean up effort and many favorable comments were received from park users.

Chaplaincy Ministry

Submitted by Bruce Taylor

This will be the fourth season that I have been the Chaplain of the Smoke Eaters. Each year for the past three years Gateway Christian Life Centre have funded the expenses for the actual Chapels. In each of the past years the expenses have been in the neighbourhood of \$1200.00. These funds are used to purchase 6 large pizzas and about 24 cans of pop for each Chapel. Each year the number of Chapels vary from 6 - 10. I am once again asking the Church to provide funds so the Chapel Program can continue and be a part of the community outreach for our Church. Papago Pizza in Trail have once again agreed to extend a 10% discount for the Pizza purchases.

Feed the Need

Submitted by Andrea MacInnis

Feed the Need has been successful in the delivery of many meals since starting in 2017. This service is for anyone that requires meal assistance, such as losing a loved one, surgery, welcoming a baby or just a tight financial month; feed the need is a ministry that is continuing to grow here at Gateway. Please contact myself, or the church office to access these meals.

