

THE 500 JAMES STREET PROJECT UPDATE

Members of the Hughson Elders Board stand in area that will become our new gymnasium. (l to r: Andrew Miedema, Pastor Dwayne Cline, Gareth Hay and Tim Laws)

About 10,000 square feet of pre-cast concrete floor panels were lowered by a 180 ft crane, one section at a time onto the completed basement steel and supporting masonry walls in March. This means that our main floor is now in place, or the basement ceiling had arrived depending on how you want to look at it.

Suddenly we were able to really get the feel for how our ministry rooms were going to function. The Children's Ministry centre, classrooms for the Scooters Nursery, SK/JK and grades 1-5 Kingdom Kidz are laid out. The Youth area is at the north end of the building and will have lots of room for all kinds of activities and gatherings.

Finally there is another large gathering room that we picture our Karen Church using on Sunday mornings as we continue to look for ways to support and partner with them. Not to mention open foyer space, hallways,

washrooms, storage, electrical, mechanical and elevator rooms.

Once the floor was on it seemed like the walls for the new gym/auditorium began to rise almost immediately. Once they are completed the wooden glulam structure will arrive and the roof added (this should be happening in July). Stairwells and elevator shafts are next, and then the second floor will be laid down, the starting feature for the 3 floors of affordable housing that we are creating in our new facility. The schedule has it that by August the entire superstructure could be completed and we will be moving onto closing in the exteriors of the building.

If you haven't been by lately, be prepared for a lot of differences as the building seems to rise to new heights daily. We can't help but give God thanks and praise as we see His great plans developing.

PARTNER WITH HUGHSON

HUGHSON STREET

BAPTIST CHURCH

383 Hughson Street North, Hamilton, ON L8L 4N2
905.527.3972 | office@hughson.ca | www.hughson.ca

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Donations will be used as restricted with the understanding that when the need has been met or changed by the HSBC Board, the remaining funds will be used where most needed.

My Donation for Hughson

- ☐ \$_____ for Capital Campaign
- ☐ \$_____ for CrossTrainers
- ☐ \$_____ for Camp Widjiitiwin
- ☐ \$_____ for Soccer League
- ☐ \$_____ for the General Fund
(Wherever it is most needed)

DONATION OPTIONS

Email transfers: send to office@hughson.ca
Direct Deposit: Email office@hughson.ca for a direct deposit form for pre-authorized gifts
Online: through Canada Helps
Mail a cheque: Payable to Hughson Street Baptist Church



A NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF HUGHSON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH SPRING 2019

PASTORAL PERSPECTIVE

Pastor Dwayne Cline



God is at work. 'It was like I hit a wall,' Kyle told me. 'I'd tried everything to be happy and ended up being more miserable. It felt like life wasn't even worth living... then Jesus showed up and He saved me. He's changed everything.'

God is at work. 'I'd been contemplating suicide,' Susan shared. 'I'd never been so low in all my life. I had nothing to live for. Then a friend shared with me this incredible love God has for us and Jesus gave me a joy and a peace I didn't know I could have.'

God is at work. 'It just made sense,' Jonathan explained. 'I grew up in an entirely different religion but experienced no hope or real answers there and when I studied Christianity God opened my eyes to see how much He loves us and has demonstrated that love in what Jesus has done for us.'

These are three of about a dozen conversations I've had in the last few months with friends and neighbours that God is saving through our ministry. We are thankful for His incredible work.

His work among the Portuguese people has been so profound that we are starting a Portuguese Bible Study

as we continue to share His saving love with them. We have a couple of youth Bible studies happening each week with well over a dozen unchurched youth in each study. We have a number of unbelievers each Sunday who are trying to sort out if God exists and His love for them is real.

We're thankful for a new facility that is being built where we will be able to minister to even more neighbours and friends, but we are more thankful that He is at work in the lives of those around us.

He can take a soccer league, some groceries handed out to a family in need, a youth ministry, a children's ministry or a camp experience all where the gospel is clearly proclaimed and transform hearts and lives by extending His love and grace. God is at work.

Thank you for your prayerful support of Hughson Street Baptist Church. We're delighted to be a part of God's mighty work in the lives of those He is saving.

Because of grace,
Pastor Dwayne

Progress on construction of Hughson's new building is exciting and encouraging. We are seeing major changes every day. Project update on page 4.



HUGHSON DENIED SUMMER GRANTS

Once again we find ourselves in a somewhat tenuous situation as we recently discovered that Hughson did not make the list of employers to receive a summer student employment grant. Our summer ministries start in just under two months and we are now in a position where we are unable to hire any students.

The challenge for Hughson is the number of programs that we run in the summer. Summer students provide support for our North End Soccer League, our CrossTrainers Summer Camps and our overnight Escape Week at Camp Widjiitiwin. Finding out this late in the game that we will not be receiving the funds we need to hire students is discouraging news.

In the past we were able to hire eight students for seven weeks during July and August to help with our 14 weeks of soccer and 5 weeks of camps. We are praying for \$15,000 to assist with the staffing of our Cross-Trainer camp as well as our week at Camp Widjittiwin in Muskoka. Our CrossTrainer day camp is gospel centred and packed full of fun activities for the campers where they hear of God's love for them. This works out to \$75 per camper per week.

NORTH END SOCCER LEAGUE

We are praying we will have between 270 and 300 children participating in our soccer league this summer. We offer a fun, skill-building league where we have the opportunity to share the gospel with the children and



youth each week. Some Tuesday evenings between participants, coaches, parents and grandparents, there are over 500 people at the park, most of whom are from unchurched backgrounds. We are praying for \$10,000 for funding for Soccer. The league costs us about \$100 per participant and as we charge \$55 per player we are in need to sponsor every child as well as those who couldn't afford to pay anything toward the league.

CAMPWIDIJIWITIN

We are thankful for our continued partnership with Muskoka Bible Centre and how they welcome 80 children and youth from our neighbourhood to the Muskoka's. At Widjii they can experience an amazing week at camp and hear about the incredible love God has for them. They cover \$250 of the necessary \$500 per camper (which includes the week at camp, tuck and transportation to and from the camp) but we must prayerfully provide the remaining \$250 per camper. We are praying for a total of \$15,000 in camp sponsorships.

In total, we are asking God for \$40,000 for our summer ministries. Thank you for prayerfully considering your part in helping us bless so many children, youth and families this summer.

I am happy to report that God has blessed our Youth with a time of celebrating. There are still challenges, and lots of prayer needed, but God has revealed to us some of His amazing work in the last few months, and we want to praise Him for that.

Over the course of the year we have celebrated four baptisms of students in our youth ministry. Now, through the incredible work of the Spirit, God is moving in the lives of three more teenagers who are thinking about baptism. It has been great to watch these students mature over the course of the year, and see them really engage in God's Word, and what He is leading them to.

There are more students who are seeking guidance in their faith. Just this past

month six individuals from the high school group have approached the leadership team to express their desire to have a mentor in their lives. This is a big step in an age where the culture

teaches teens to focus on themselves. There has also been increased interest in our summer study group focussed on discipleship this year. God has revealed His mighty work in the lives of our youth over

and over again this year. He is drawing people closer to Him. Would you please join us in prayer that we would continue to see His redeeming work, and to celebrate all that He has done for us.



Under the leadership of our Youth Pastor, Derek Hisson (centre), our youth play a critical role in the delivery of our summer camp and soccer programs. Many of our Junior and Senior High youth volunteer the better part of their summer as soccer coach assistants and group/activity leaders for CrossTrainers. Last year 21 members of our youth group sacrificially served, many of whom could have been employed elsewhere. Because we received no government grants last year, these young people made it possible for us to continue providing our neighbourhood with five weeks of amazing camp experiences. Since we face the same plight this year, please be praying that God would again raise up another faithful group to serve in the absence of government student grants.



Camp Widjiitiwin Escape Week

North End Soccer League

CrossTrainers Summer Camp