

## God's Faithfulness to our IT Team

I wanted to start this newsletter by sharing a couple stories of God's faithfulness to our team over the last year. On May 4th, my long-time co-worker Brent Nesbitt had a minor heart attack at work. In the investigation later that



evening, doctors discovered Brent had several major blockages in coronary arteries. Two surgeries and 7 weeks later, Brent was back to regular work and exercise and has been feeling well.

We are so thankful the heart attack wasn't more serious, and that doctors were able to catch and address the blockages! Another way God has been providing for our team is through the addition of a new staff member.

Gerald started as an intern with us in the summer of 2015, and was the most dedicated volunteer I'd ever worked with. We snatched him up after he finished his schooling in December, and he's given our team a much needed boost in capacity.



## What Have I Been Working On?

With Gerald joining our team, I've spent a fair bit of time training him on some of the tools and systems that I've worked on over the years. He has been learning things well, and as a result, I've been able to spend a little more time on some of the strategic, high-level aspects of IT. I still help our staff with day-to-day problems, but really enjoy when I get to step back for a bit and think about what tools and systems will enable our organization to be as effective as possible. I've been co-ordinating many of our IT projects, such as an online system to streamline the approval and processing of the 3000 invoices we pay each year to vendors across the country, and rolling out new tools to help staff with their fund raising.

Typically, we are only able to work on projects that will apply to most or all of the 11 ministries in Power to Change. We don't often have time to do projects for individual ministries, even though we know they each have

distinct needs. However, I've recently had Gerald tackle projects for P2C Students, Drime, and Christian Embassy which they have greatly appreciated. One Christian Embassy staff member shared that Gerald's work has automated processes that used to take a lot of administration time for their small team of 5, freeing them up to spend more time investing in ministry. Here are some highlights from a recent update I received about their work, which we have the privilege of supporting with our IT services.

## Christian Embassy Ministry Update

*From Darlene, the Christian Embassy director*

We praise God for granting meetings with busy parliamentarians at just the right time. With some it is simply a brief get to know you meeting and with others, a chance for them to share some of their challenges. In a recent meeting, I read Psalm 62 with an MP to give perspective in her situation. When I offered her a New Testament, she was so grateful that she jumped up in tears and hugged me. We rejoice that she is excited to be consulting God's word daily!



The deep emotions and heated debate on amending Canada's criminal code to legalize assisted suicide have added to the intensity of this first session of the 42nd parliament. We have shared God's word, encouraged many on the Justice Committee and prayed for God's will and purposes while attending debates. Our team has gathered and encouraged other believers to pray about the important decisions and their consequences.

*Quote from a Member of Parliament:*

"The Christian Embassy provides me and other MPs with a needed personal focus and an outlet to serve. Their team helps me make connections with ambassadors as part of my government service. They also offer opportunities for me to grow in my relationship with God as I reach out to encourage leaders in Ottawa and overseas. I doubt the Christian Embassy is aware of the full extent of their positive impact."

## Family Update

We spent much of last summer packing, moving and renovating, so felt like we didn't get to do the usual fun summer activities. So, we tried to make up for it this summer! Some of our highlights were going back to Ontario for 2 weeks and seeing family, and trying out family camp for the first time at Barnabas Family Ministry camp (Keats island). We also enjoyed camp-



ing a few times, the boys enjoyed gymnastics and VBS kid's camps, and we loved inheriting a used trampoline in the back yard.

As summer ended, we were thrown right into the busyness of fall, what felt like overnight. The boys both started full time school, our Church plant launched, and every other activity and commitment seemed to start at the same time. It's definitely been challenging finding a new routine with school, especially with two little girls who need naps and dislike car rides! We are still adjusting but are thankful for very caring teachers. We are also learning a lot about ourselves and what



Some of you may be wondering what is going on with our future in ministry. We are continuing to walk with MB Mission in discerning when and where we might be sent overseas. Our heart is still for the least reached, and we are learning a lot in this time of waiting for clarity. We trust God has us in His hand and that

this season will build in us character and skills necessary for the road ahead. Please pray that God makes the way clearer and that our faith grows as we wait upon Him. In the meantime, we are being reminded of the importance of daily disciplines in the Word, being stretched to reach out to those in our lives who don't know Christ, and are learning to accept the limitations we have on our time while raising a young family. We hope and pray that God will call us where our hearts desire to go, but continue to serve wholeheartedly where we are right now.

*Jason, Shannon, Silas, Toby,  
Fiona, and Naomi*



As we've mentioned in previous updates, we have been planning and dreaming with 14 other people for almost a year to plant a Church in a very densely populated area of Langley. After much work and prayer, this Church site launched mid September. We've been excited to help forge a new community and watch it take shape! We are leading the outreach team and have been planning events, making inroads with the school that we meet in, and have had some great open doors to the community. Please pray that our Church becomes a light and a bold witness in this ethnically diverse area and that many come to the saving knowledge of Christ!

## Prayer Requests

- For Shannon's knee. She injured it early in the summer and it continues to cause pain and immobility.
- For discernment and clarity for our future.
- For Naomi's hips— we will have a follow-up shortly and are praying everything will look good
- For boldness in communicating our faith!

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