

Eastview Link

Caring About Community Care Group Leaders' Mini Conference



Food and conflict; now there are two words to which anyone watching their waistline could relate. On Saturday morning, March 12th, the Eastview Fireside Room played host once again to the Annual Care Group Leaders' Breakfast and Mini Conference.

The feature topic, "Resolving Conflict in Care Groups," seemed to get off to a shaky start even before it began when the presenters, Bob & Sharon Boychuk became engaged in a verbal conflict. Of course, it was all in fun! Bob and Sharon presented an adapted version of a breakout session from a Willow Creek Small Group Conference last fall. Their presentation walked the Care Group Leaders through the process of resolving conflicts. Time was set aside for them to huddle together with their coaches to discuss the application of Conflict

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Senior Moments

The Eastview Seniors Ministry has already had a very eventful ministry year. Here are a few highlights of the good times we've shared.

We began the year in September with a delightful day of fun, fellowship, games and a BBQ lunch at the DeFehr cottage in Lac du Bonnet with some 30 seniors attending.

An afternoon in October was scheduled to be an outing of lawn bowling at Harborview. However, due to poor weather conditions, only 16 die-hards appeared, and spent the afternoon playing table games in the warm, cozy atmosphere of Harborview's restaurant. We missed the rest of you!

Next, we had the privilege of hearing the real life stories of several of our seniors.

In December, the Eastview Seniors invited the Albright Seniors to a delightful afternoon of music by the "Keenagers", a local choir which includes four of our very own.

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The Eastview Link Team

Cherie Dittberner, Terrance Klassen,
Mary Wachniak, and Philip Wiebe.
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Eastview
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Staff Changes

The winds of change are blowing through the ranks of the staff of Eastview. At the January 30th Congregational meeting, it was announced that both Marianne Enns and custodian 'Cosmic' Bob Heinrichs are leaving their positions to pursue other interests.

Marianne, whose resignation will not take effect until the summer, is looking forward to spending more time with her family and travelling/ministering with her husband Delbert (who is the director of the MB Conference's Family Life Network initiative). Bob on the other hand has already left his position but remains an important member of our church family. Both have served us well and deserve our thanks for the great work and impact they have had on the ministry of Eastview and upon each of us.

Myron Sawatsky has been hired in a temporary capacity until the summer to shoulder the custodial duties. He and his wife Cyndi (with new baby in tow, Lord willing) will be leaving us then to take on Program Director duties at Camp Evergreen, a Christian camp in the foothills of Alberta.

As has been announced in the bulletin, I am very pleased to announce the hiring of Phil Kaethler as Executive Pastor (effective June 1st, 2005). Phil will be closing his Christian counseling service here in the city in the intervening months and leaving his position of Vice-Moderator on the Church Council as he joins the staff team. To this new position, Phil will bring his visionary leadership gifts, his organizational talents, and his creative communication skills to enable us to enter further into the great adventure of Kingdom Building. You can learn more about Phil by reading the *Personal Link* at the right!

I am also pleased to announce that Trish Koslowsky, Children's Ministries Director, has accepted appointment to the newly created position of Equipping Director. Trish will direct all equipping efforts within the church, as well as oversee ministry to those 25 years of age and younger. She brings her considerable gifts and passion to this new effort and will help us move all our ministry efforts forward as we continue to seek to glorify God by leading people to Christ and on to maturity in Him.

~Pastor Lorne Pearson

Personal Link

Introducing you to people in ministry around Eastview

Phil Kaethler

Executive Pastor

Phil and Julie have been married

11½ years, and

have two sons,

Ethan, 9, and

Aidan, 7. Phil

always knew he

wanted to work with

people. After completing

high school he attended the University of Guelph and majored in Child Studies. He received his

Bachelor of Religious Education at Emmanuel Bible

College in Kitchener, Ontario. He also received his

Masters Degree in Biblical Counseling and Masters

Degree in Counseling and Psychology at Providence

Seminary.

Phil has been involved in numerous ministries over the years, including: volunteer youth pastor, assistant director at summer camp, working with Youth for Christ, leading a care group, speaking at retreats, delivering marital seminars, providing premarital counseling, volunteering in kids' ministry, performing dramas in Kids' Cove, teaching adult Bible classes, and running the Eastview men's hockey team. Phil has been a member at Eastview for 10 years, and was Vice-Moderator for church council until his recent appointment as Executive Pastor. Congratulations Phil!

Phil enjoys studying people in the Bible. His favourite character is Peter who was someone that had great leadership skills but who always put his foot in his mouth. However, with God's strength, he didn't give up.

Phil's favourite group is U2 because he feels there is depth and purpose to their lyrics. His favourite Christian artist is Steve Taylor. Phil enjoys playing "old man" hockey. His favourite author is Brennan Manning. He recently read *Walk On – The Spiritual Journey of U2*, by Steve Stockman, and is currently reading *A Generous Orthodoxy*, by Brian McLaren.

~Mary Wachniak



Still Laughing lol'05



On January 28-29, churches and organizations from all over Manitoba converged on Immanuel Pentecostal Church for a jr. high event extravaganza! This jr. high-targeted conference was called "lol" (an acronym meaning "laugh out loud," for those not up-to-speed with online lingo).

Being part of the Creative Team for lol proved to be a tremendous learning experience. Our ambitious event had big shoes to fill. It was to replace the popular lock-in that we had run over the last few years, which had peaked last year with an unpublicized appearance by hugely popular Christian rock band Thousand Foot Krutch. Yet despite the high expectations and a couple of misses programmatically, the one and a half days of lol'05 really went astonishingly well (supernaturally well, one could say).

Highlights for me were having Inner City Youth Alive send 10 students to stay with our Eastview students, and staying overnight at The Meeting Place was wild! Our students had a blast listening to one of the best communicators we have ever found, Phil Cann, who works with Greater Vancouver

Youth for Christ. The day was a full one, jam-packed with sessions, optional activities, a performance by Masterworks Dance Studio, and the stuffing of our faces with WAY too much pizza.

The conference concluded with an amazing concert. Local adventure metal band Dream Quest kicked the show off with a high energy 40-minute set filled with soaring guitar solos, flying drumsticks, and plenty of head-banging action. After a short break, our headliner, John Reuben, came out, and although the crowd was initially wary of this average white guy who seemed to think he was a rapper, he quickly won over the audience with his hip-hop beats and highly interactive showmanship. Soon the cheers of our 200 participants could've easily passed for a crowd of 500!

It was a great way to end; look for lol'06 at the beginning of next March! ~Thom Dick, Philip Wiebe

Below, acclaimed Christian hip-hop artist Jon Reuben gets the crowd into it at lol'05.

Mark Your Calendars! *Praise + Worship Dates*

- **April 16 – Praise and Worship Night**
All are welcome to come and enter into God's presence with us as we are joined by members of the Christian Motorcyclists Association.
- **May 8-14 – A Call to Corporate Prayer**
Watch the bulletin for more details!
- **June 4 – Love Winnipeg Pep Rally**
Eastview is hosting the kickoff to Love Winnipeg, which runs from June 4-5. Love Winnipeg involves churches from our city across denominational and geographic lines, all coming together for an intense two days of tangibly loving our city. Check out the website, <http://members.shaw.ca/lovewinnipeg> for more information! ~Malynda Zacharias



Believing God – Ladies’ Bible Study

Do you take God at His Word, believing what He has told us, or do you just believe in His existence and the salvation He offers? Nearly 65 women are being challenged to answer questions such as these in the Bible study “Believing God” that is held morning and evening each Wednesday. Beth Moore leads the video-based Bible study series and challenges us as we dig into the weekly homework assignments that provide useful, practical insights into how we can learn to believe God in daily living.

Beth believes her calling is Bible literacy: guiding believers to love and live God’s Word. Her style of teaching is Spirit-led,

passionate, enthusiastic and not without a sprinkling of humour. She has an obvious love for the Lord and a hunger for His Word that is inspiring and contagious. Scripture is the basis for all Beth’s teaching and in this particular study series she has us digging through Scripture to gain an understanding of some of the truths and promises we are invited to personally apply and believe God to fulfill in our lives. These have been categorized into an oft’ repeated five-statement pledge of faith:

- God is who He says He is;
- God can do what He says He can do;
- I am who God says I am;

- I can do all things through Christ;
- God’s Word is alive and active in me.

Participants in this study are learning “present active participle believing God”. That is, having believed in Him, we are called to *continually believe* all He came to do and say and that God exerts His incomparable power in the lives of those who continue believing Him (Eph. 1:19). Insight and understanding is being gained by all who are putting forward the time and attention to seek God through this study and who are exercising the faith to apply all that’s being learned.

~Sally Massey-Wiebe

...Caring About Community *cont’d from page 1*

Resolution in their groups. Sally Massey-Wiebe closed the breakfast morning in prayer. Thank you to all who attended and may you feel God’s warm smile of blessing on your lives as you serve Him in this ministry.

The morning was not limited to discussion of care group leadership. The opening icebreaker saw leaders scurrying around the Fireside Room making contact as quickly as possible with other leaders in order to get a match on their birthdays. Incredibly, the partners of Janet Armstrong and Helen Kroeker found their birthdays matched to the very day and both were rewarded for their efforts.

Of course, no recollection of the event is complete without mention of the sumptuous breakfast that was served. After Pastor Lorne opened the morning in prayer, it was on to the breakfast buffet, prepared by the Care Group Coaching team. The breakfast featured Lina Hamm’s specialty egg dish, Sally Massey-Wiebe’s delicious homemade cinnamon buns, and Ron Dacombe’s specially blended juice.

Important Upcoming Dates for Care Group Leaders

- Leadership Training: *Navigating the Stages of Group Life*
Sunday, April 17 and Sunday, April 24 at 11:00 in Room 108
- Love Winnipeg Events and Projects: May 28 – June 12, 2005

~Bob & Sharon Boychuk



Care groups are essential parts of Eastview’s efforts to build a connected church community. If you would like to join a care group, contact Bob & Sharon Boychuk or the church office.

Rest, Relax, Refuel, Retreat!

re-treat (ri-trɛt') *v.i.* to pull back; to withdraw; to spiritually reflect

Another spring has sprung, the perfect season for Eastview's College & Career to retreat to the cottages of Lac du Bonnet.

Over the weekend of March 11-13, over forty 18-25-year olds took up the challenge of relaxing and embracing some spiritual quiet, and some immediate community. With beds for only half the group, it was a really great time to know your neighbour.

The spirit of community was evident as we spent time alone, in groups and in worship. The weekend allowed us an opportunity to refocus on God, culminating with communion and a sense of refueled spirits. Of course, the weekend wasn't without its healthy distractions, including football, video games, and some of the best meals you've ever seen.

We thank God for the generosity of the cottage owners. We also thank Him for the time we had together (the only complaint I heard was that "this was too short") and for a church family that continues to support us through its prayers.

As a C&C community we want to celebrate the engagement of Kendra and Vince (*right*), lift up Sarah Treadwell on her move to Calgary, and encourage and support Myron and Cindy Sawatzky on the upcoming addition to their family! We love you all!
~Steve Dick



Vince, Kendra, Dave, and Matt find out what "roughing it" means at the cottages of Lac du Bonnet.



We Created the Internet!

Well, not really, but now that we've got your attention...

The Communications Ministry, the same ministry that brings you this snazzy newsletter (okay, we're a little biased), is developing and redesigning Eastview's presence on the world wide web.

We Need Your Help!

To paraphrase Uncle Sam, we want YOU to help us build a website ideally suited to Eastview's needs. Nobody knows those needs better than the people that make up Eastview, and lo and behold, that means you!

So What Can I Do?

- 1) Do you have web design or web development skills? If so, please consider adding your talents to our exciting web development team. E-mail me, Philip Wiebe, at philipwiebe@gmail.com for more information.
- 2) Keep your eyes open. The bulletin will soon be announcing an online survey, located at our existing website (www.eastview.org) that will help us determine what Eastview needs. Don't worry, no personal information will be required, and your privacy is guaranteed.

So until next time, keep fit, have fun, and keep enjoying the *Eastview Link!*
~Philip Wiebe

...Senior Moments *cont'd from page 1*

In January, Emmanuel Ali El-Shariff from Family Life Network, shared with us his fascinating journey from his Muslim faith in the Sudan, to Christianity and life in Canada.

Last month took us to Donwood Manor, which several of our members call "home". Thom Dick, our youthful and enthusiastic Jr. High Pastor, was our special guest, who shared with us some insights and encouraged us in our efforts to bridge the generation gaps. Some of us came away feeling a few years younger!

In keeping with the topic of Seniors in service, Erwin and Mary Penner from Fernwood Place in Steinbach, where Erwin is program director and Mary does visitations, were our most recent guests. They encouraged us to enjoy our senior years and to

finish well. Three of our seniors shared some of their experiences as volunteers.

You will not want to miss our April 13th meeting, when artist Kevin Mills from Family Life Network will treat us to an afternoon of Southern Gospel music.

Senior events are currently held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. We welcome any of you who would like to join us. Special thanks to Martha Wiebe, Karin Gilmour and Esther Dyck who head up this ministry. A special welcome goes to Eva Lester, who will be joining this team. Please watch the Sunday bulletin and/or the Seniors' Bulletin Board on the south foyer wall for further announcements.

~Abe & Erica Siemens

Valentine's Dinner for 54 Pairs

On February 22nd in the Fireside Room, 54 couples enjoyed the 4th annual Eastview Valentine's Dinner, consisting of a magnificent meal and the smooth saxophone and testimony of Walle Larsson. ~Greg Payne



Camp, Car Races Make for Cool Club

Camp is so much fun, who can wait until summer? The first weekend in February, about 30 boys, along with 10 adults, headed to Camp Arnes where they spent an awesome couple of days doing the things boys love to do. They played sponge hockey, went on a sleigh ride, played Bible baseball, went swimming, watched a movie, and ate lots of food. Packing that much fun into one weekend must have been exhausting, because the boys in my van all

fell asleep on the way home!

On March 16th, the pine car races brought out 37 boys and about 40 fans for some friendly competition. The three race winners were: Jordan W. (1st), Morgan P. (2nd), and Andrew R. (3rd); the top three for best looking were Jared W. (1st), Aidan K. (2nd) and Jordan F. (3rd). The final night is coming up on April 27th and will include awards and food.

~Kevin Dyck

You don't need to wear a hard hat to be a Library Builder

Check it out! The newly improved library, that is. And while you're there, you can check out a book or two (or a children's video, or a Christian CD). Thanks to the Library Builder Event, held on March 6th, we've got lots of new selections that just may be of interest to you.

We don't want our shelves filled with dusty books that nobody has read since 1981. A Library Builder Event is designed to allow us to fill up our library with items we really want in it.

Here's how it works: Julie Hiebert, our librarian, attends Library Nights held by Christian bookstores such as Hull's, Blessings, and Inspirations, where she can purchase items at a discount. She selects a good cross-section of books, CDs, and videos to appeal to a wide variety of tastes and ages. She also keeps track of suggestions from library users, and looks for those items as well.

Then, a Library Builder Event is held in the

foyer (just outside of the library) providing us with the opportunity to purchase an item we like (at the discounted price), be the first person to read, listen to, or watch it, and then be a blessing to others by donating our selection back to the library. We even get a tax-deductible receipt for the purchase amount. If there are items nobody purchased, Julie is able to return these to the bookstores. Or, if she feels that some of these would really make good additions to our shelves, the library budget is then used to pay for these items.

Keeping in line with Eastview's mission to "lead people to Christ and on to maturity in Him", the library ministry's contribution is to provide books that teach, equip, encourage, inspire, motivate, and challenge us, helping to shape us into who He wants us to be. There really is something for everyone. Stop in, and let the friendly staff assist you. And next time there's a Library Builder Event, consider this unique opportunity to give and be a blessing to our community.

~Cherie Dittberner

Becoming a True *Community* Church

When I was asked to write about a ministry as deep and wide as Community Outreach, it gave me the chance to reflect on the many stories of God's glory. I like to describe Community Outreach as "one foot in the church, one foot in the community, one heart and both feet for God."

A recent example is our third Blood Donor Clinic. Hosted right here by Eastview, not only was our congregation invited to donate blood, but our facility also welcomed the surrounding community to join in. What a great way to open our doors to welcome our un-churched neighbours, and to "give the gift of life" by donating much needed blood.

Others have been coming forward, whether individually or in teams such as care groups, men's ministry, and youth, asking to be sent

to serve in the community. At the Promise Keepers conference, a number of Eastview men and women served to help make this a significant event for God's glory. The list of servants from Eastview and the places they serve goes on and on.

Presently it is our hope to put together an Alpha hospitality and presentation team, where we would extend an invitation to the surrounding community to join our fellowship at Eastview. Alpha is a ten-week video presentation addressing such questions as "Who is Jesus?", "Why did He have to die?", and "How can I know Him personally?" The series would be open to anyone, whether they attend Eastview or not.

If you would like to serve on the Alpha team (see Hebrews 13:2; Romans 12:13) or would benefit from such a group, please call me at the church office.

~Greg Armstrong

Coming Soon to a Pulpit Near You!



The new message series from our Lead Pastor Lorne Pearson, based on the Cover-to-Cover Old Testament (C2C-OT) journey we're on...

Extreme Makeover: Inside Edition

- April 3 – The Wisdom Project
- April 3 (Faith Community) – The Folly Project
- April 10 – The Living Project
- April 24 – The Legacy Project
- May 1 – The Effort Project
- May 8 – The Passion Project
- May 15 – The Devotion Project
- May 22 – The Pain Project
- May 29 – The Authenticity Project
- June 12 – The Challenge Project
- June 19 – The Dreams Project
- June 26 – The Commitment Project

For those whose lives need full-scale renovation or just a little fix-up here and there, make sure to check out this exciting new message series.

~Philip Wiebe

How Great is our God

Our latest challenge and opportunity was this past Easter Sunday as we prepared ourselves through prayer for the greatest event of all, the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and what that means not only to us, but to a lost and waiting world. This was an enormous opportunity to pray not only for the service but for the many visitors that will come. All early indications show that God blessed us beyond all hopes or expectations.

I have been challenged by the words of Selwyn Hughes to take a “fresh look at the Cross” this year. He shares with all of us “how Christ did not die in a cathedral surrounded with a choir and ecclesiastical furnitures, but he drew his dying breath on a hill outside Jerusalem pinned to a Roman gibbet and surrounded by a jeering mob.”

“The starkness of the ‘old rugged cross’, he claimed, “highlighted the fact that sin would attempt

to bring God down to the lowest possible level, but God used those very dark and depressing conditions to display the brightness of His grace. Where mankind did its worst, God did His best. How have we covered up the starkness of the cross?”

“The only jewels on His cross were the knots of wood stained red by the blood of the most wonderful man in the world.” As we “meditate each day on the cross of Christ” may we “come to see in a fresh way that the glory of the cross lies in its very shame.” “An embellished cross is an ineffective cross. Its splendor lies in its very nakedness.”

Selwyn’s prayer, and mine is that “your eyes may be opened by the Spirit to see new things in an old truth.”

“May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Galatians 6:14

~Prayer Ministry