



# REACH VANCOUVER UPDATE

The Conner Family / September 2015

**Dear Praying Friends,**

Our family would like to thank each of you for your prayers and financial support for our family and City Baptist Church. The past several months have been full of ministry and outreach opportunities for this new church plant, and we are thankful to say that God has been working and adding to His church. This Summer and early Fall we have been consistently seeing fruit for our outreach efforts in our community, and we are thankful to see our weekly attendance averaging in the high 30's as well as reaching into the 40's on a much more consistent basis. We are just now beginning to see some community recognition of our church, and we are seeing more and more guests in our Sunday services. It has been a blessing to see God bring us new people in almost every service, and we are working hard to follow up and visit each guest He sends to City Baptist.

Alongside all of the outreach that we have been involved in this summer, our church family was privileged to host a Community BBQ at a local park. For months we advertised in the neighbourhood, invited business owners, neighbours, and any connection we could for this event. We had many work meetings in preparation for it, and we mailed an invitation though the postal service to every home in our community.

We were prepared, and we were ready for God to bless on August 29th, as well, we had a special community Sunday planned for the 30th. To be honest, we felt ready, however, God had other plans. After an incredibly dry summer, the city of Vancouver experienced the worst storm of the year, complete with major downpours and extremely high winds. After a lot of prayer and counsel, we contacted the city, and they allowed us to move our permit, and bookings to the next Saturday. At that time, we were really unsure of what to expect, since much of the momentum for the event was centred around our online and mailed out invitations. It was a week full of inner turmoil and anxiety.

Well, September 5th arrived with a blue sky and God showing up in a big way. Despite our concerns and nervousness, we were blessed to see an incredible showing from the community for our event. To best of our estimations we had at least 300 people from the neighbourhood, and possibly even more than 350. God



A recent service at City Baptist with 47 in attendance.



Community BBQ on September 5th.

blessed us with many opportunities to connect with families in our community, and we heard countless comments of gratitude for the event, and interest in City Baptist.

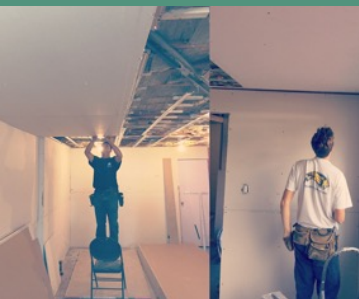
Because of all the schedule changes from the weather, we made the decision to combine our community Sunday with our one year anniversary service on Sunday the 6th of September. It was exciting to see as God brought 21 guests from the community, most of them walking in to join with us for the service. Since that Sunday, we have seen many return, and continue to be faithful for the last few weeks. Please keep these new attendees in your prayers as we continue to follow up with them, as several are still not saved, and are searching for answers. It was a busy and slightly chaotic few weeks, but through it all we learned that ultimately God is the one in control, and everything happens according to His plan and purpose. We are just thankful to be a part of what He is doing here in Vancouver.



Conner family on the one year anniversary of City Baptist.



Moving forward on the basement renovation project.



We would also ask that you continue to pray for the renovation project in the basement of the studio we are renting. As of our last letter we had the approval to move forward with the project, however, in late June, after beginning work, we received a “stop work” phone call from the owner of the building. To make a long story short, there was a particular board member within the society that was adamant about limiting and even removing our church from the building. After months of praying, waiting and meeting with the board, we were happy to finally receive the approval to move forward with the renovation.

Over the last 3 weeks we have moved quickly into this project, and we are grateful for our church family and local churches who have gotten behind this project in so many ways. We are looking forward to it’s completion in October, almost every week kids from our children’s ministry ask me if it is “done yet” so they can move their class there. Please pray with us that God would provide the resources and workers necessary to complete this project, allowing us to expand our capacity for reaching people in our community.

The last few months have been some of the most trying, while at the same time, they have been the most rewarding. We are so thankful to each of you who pray and give towards what God is doing here in Vancouver. Please know that your generosity and sacrifice are not in vain, God is using you to be a part of something great in the city of Vancouver.

Your Friends,

**Paul & Jenette Conner**

*Maximus, Myles & Owen*

*sent by:*  
**Greater Vancouver Baptist Church**  
Pastor Gordon Conner  
4440 Victoria Drive  
Vancouver, BC V5N 4N6



[reachvancouver.org](http://reachvancouver.org)



[paul@reachvancouver.org](mailto:paul@reachvancouver.org)



[@reachvancouver](https://www.instagram.com/reachvancouver)