



REACH VANCOUVER UPDATE

The Conner Family - Summer / Fall 2023

Dear Praying Friends,

Our family is so thankful for your faithfulness in praying and communicating with us, even while we have not been the best at communicating with you by letter. We are grateful for many who connect with us through social media and email, but we do apologize for not sending out letters as frequently as we should. To bring you up to date, this Summer and Fall have been full of unexpected challenges and blessings to put it lightly.

After a unique season of growth and development in the Spring, we were looking forward to a full Summer of ministry and outreach in our community. We had ordered 15,000 new outreach cards that we would be distributing in the neighbourhood, when we received the unexpected news that the church we were renting from wanted us to vacate the building by September 1st. As you can imagine, it was shocking and completely unexpected, we truly believed that the Lord had provided a long term location for us in that neighbourhood. We were seeing considerable growth, and a lot of fruit in the community. Especially with all of the hard work and investment they had allowed us to do in the building, it was very hard to hear that we needed to find a new location in just two months.

We did request that they reconsider, and if they would allow us an extension at least until the end of the year, but in the end, we were down to less than a

month, without a place to move the church into. It was very challenging, and certainly a

test of our faith, but like He always does, God proved Himself faithful in a miraculous way, as only He can. And in less than a month, on September 3rd, a week before our 9th anniversary, we had our first service in our new location. Through a series of situations, we were provided an opportunity to rent from another church in Vancouver, and they have been so gracious in working with us, allowing us to do some basic updates, have a Sunday and Wednesday service, and two offices. Ultimately, God provided so that we could continue to have a presence and preach the Gospel in this city.

We are now in a new neighbourhood, not that far from where we were, and it is very accessible by transit. Even though it was very stressful and



A recent service in our new location in Vancouver.



Our family before the 9th anniversary service.

chaotic season, now, a few months into being here, it really is easy to see how God has blessed us to have a place to meet, that is still large enough to meet our current needs, and have room for growth. With all of the difficulty, God has once again proven that He is worthy of our trust. It has also revealed how trusting and faithful our church family is, their response to this unexpected news was such an encouragement to our leadership as they responded with faith and a positive attitude.

Since the move, we celebrated our 9th anniversary in Vancouver, have seen some of our highest attendances since the church was planted. We re-ordered outreach cards with the new address and service times, and

our people faithfully got involved in sharing the Gospel in this new neighbourhood. We also were able to have a “Trunk or Treat” outreach at our new location, it was amazing to see around 250 people from the neighbourhood come to this event. We made a lot of good contacts, and were able to let the neighbourhood that something is happening in the building, and we are here for them.

Another blessing has been in seeing several saved, many new guests and contacts, and several follow the Lord in baptism. We have also had a record enrolment for our one-on-one discipleship groups on Wednesdays, and several families and individuals join the Church membership. As well, we just completed our annual Missions Conference, and our church family gave and committed more to the work of the Gospel through Missions than ever before in our history.

This season has been a reminder that even in the most unexpected of times, we are favoured and confident when we place our complete trust in the Lord. I think of Psalm 34:8 where we are encouraged to “...taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.” This has been our testimony these last months, and we are so thankful for your faithful prayers for the work of God here in Vancouver. Our city is so in need of the Gospel, and we are blessed to be a part of what God is doing at City Baptist Church through your financial support and prayers.

Please be praying for us as we head into the Winter months, that we would remain faithful and focused in the work that God has called us too. Our desire is to see many more come to Christ, baptised and growing in their faith and service. Vancouver has such need, and we greatly desire the Lord to work through our family. Thank you for your love and support.

Your friends,

Paul & Jenette Conner
Maximus, Myles, Owen & Royal

paul@reachvancouver.org



Those recently baptised on October 15th!



We are thankful for the many weekly Kid's Ministry volunteers.

sent by:

Greater Vancouver Baptist Church - Pastor Gordon Conner | 4440 Victoria Drive, Vancouver, BC V5N 4N6