



THE DOVERCOURT DISCLOSURE

A regular update from the Elders of Dovercourt Baptist Church

Issue # 1
November 2005

A New Newsletter

It has become very clear to the Board of Elders that communication within our church is an area that needs to be improved. So, in an attempt to open the lines of communication, we decided to create *The Dovercourt Disclosure*. This newsletter will help to keep everyone apprised of the work being done by the Elders, as well as inform of upcoming special events or various plans that are in the works. New issues will be published as required, and we will do our best to announce the release of each new edition.

CARE Card

While we hope the newsletter will assist in giving you a better idea of what the Elders are doing, we also want to continue hearing from you. So with this in mind, we have also created a multi-purpose communication card we call the CARE Card. This CARE Card will always be handy for anyone who wishes to communicate with the church leaders, staff, and other members. Simply fill it out and place it in the offering plate or hand it in at the Welcome Centre.

The CARE Card will serve many purposes. You can use it to help us update our database, voice your suggestions or concerns, ask questions, inquire about specific issues, and even to encourage the leaders and other members. If you choose to write a note of encouragement to another member, we will do our best to make sure it is delivered to that member. The word CARE is used as an acronym for **C**onvey Personal Data, **A**rticulate Suggestions or Concerns, **R**equest Actions or Follow-up, and **E**xpress Encouragement or Thanks. We are hoping everyone will make good use of this new and convenient way of sharing what is on your hearts.

Sunday Mornings

In September of this year, Dovercourt made some changes to our Sunday morning service. The worship service now begins at 10:30 AM instead of 11:00 AM, and the children's programs (Sunday School and Junior Church) are now combined into one new program which also begins at 10:30 AM. These changes were made for many good reasons, yet some of you are inquiring as to what replaces the College & Careers and Adult Classes. We knew from the beginning that these classes might be missed by some, but in this particular situation, the benefits far outweighed the drawbacks. And just because these two classes are no longer in operation on a Sunday morning does not mean we have permanently eliminated the spiritual benefit which many derived from them. Even though it may not be immediately evident, good Bible teaching has now become one of our highest priorities at Dovercourt. And with this in mind, we will eventually be introducing new opportunities for the adults to grow through the teaching and study of God's Word. So we ask for your patience as we work out the details, and we encourage you to continue using the fellowship time before the morning service to welcome newcomers and to encourage other members of your Dovercourt family.

Sam Bodapaty

Sam was married on October 1st, and is now living with his wife Marnie in Buffalo, New York. He continues to work for Wycliffe Bible Translators Canada until the end of the year. After this, he plans to continue working with the South Asian Community through Wycliffe Bible Translators USA. Our church support continues until the end of 2005, at which time we will re-evaluate the situation. We were unable to give him an official goodbye due to some extenuating circumstances beyond our control.

Youth Pastor

The position of Youth Pastor has now been broadened to encompass more of the role of an Associate Pastor. Dovercourt submitted a proposal to New Horizons Tower which suggested we combine our resources and hire a full-time Associate Pastor who would share the responsibilities of ministering to our church youth and the NHT students. The plan is to have NHT and DBC split the time and salary cost. New Horizons has now approved the idea, so the search committee will soon begin considering qualified candidates. We are looking for someone who will minister to the Junior High, Senior High and College age students at our church, as well as serving in the role of a Chaplain to New Horizons Tower residents (students and seniors) and staff. Our search committee members are as follows: Fanny Lavery (Chairperson), Kevin Noble, Nudge Biclár, Marion Alexander, Jessica Reynolds, and Pastor Arc. Please be sure to remember them in your prayers.

Ministry Leadership Team (MLT)

The Elders will soon begin the process of considering names for the roles of Deacons and Deaconesses (otherwise known as the Ministry Leadership Team). The church will then vote to affirm these men and women during the Annual Meeting. Please pray for us as we seek God's leading in this regard.

Areas of Oversight

The Board has just completed the process of assigning each Elder to specific areas of oversight. This does not necessarily mean that they have expertise in each area, but simply that they will oversee and be responsible for them. If you lead or are involved in a specific ministry, you will now know which Elder to approach with questions or concerns regarding your particular ministry. The breakdown is as follows:

1. **Teaching the Word** (Arc Da Silva)
2. **Worshipping the Lord** (Rob Lavery)
3. **Reaching the World** (Walter Kohut)
4. **Equipping the Saints** (Jim Beck)
5. **Strengthening the Body** (Amstrong Morvan)
6. **Supporting the Work** (Steve Stinton)

Teaching the Word (Arc Da Silva)

Areas of Responsibility

- Teaching
- Discipleship
- Bible studies
- Curriculum for all age groups including any small groups or fellowship groups
- Counseling & local agencies

Ministries Included

- Sunday & Wednesday sermons
- Membership classes
- Baptismal classes
- Prayer meetings of any kind
- The Prayer Team
- Vacation Bible School
- Children's ministries & Junior Church
- College & Careers / Young Adults
- Jr. High
- Sr. High

Summary

- Responsible for everything related to teaching and prayer, and includes all age groups
- Includes all ministries which are predominantly weighted toward teaching and prayer

Worshipping the Lord (Rob Lavery)

Areas of Responsibility

- Develop and maintain meaningful, biblical worship and praise services
- Liaise with Music Committee on substance and details of the worship music
- Liaise with Music Committee regarding special music
- Liaise with Music Committee regarding accompaniment & instrumentation
- Liaise with Music Committee regarding worship teams
- Liaise with those who make preparations for the worship services
- Insure effective communication regarding what constitutes true worship in the hearts and minds of members, adherents, and children

Ministries Included

- Music Committee
- Choir
- Worship Teams
- Organist
- Pianist
- Sunday Service preparation and co-ordination ministries
- Kids Worship
- Drama

Summary

- Responsible for everything related to Sunday worship services
- Includes all ministries predominantly weighted toward praise and worship to God

Reaching the World (Walter Kohut)

Areas of Responsibility

- Oversee ministries focused on reaching out to the neighborhood and the world
- Liaise with home or foreign missions organizations
- Work with others to arrange church-sponsored mission trips
- Oversee ministries which emphasize community outreach

Ministries Included

- Missions projects
- External message board
- Tract Box ministry & Welcome Kits
- Flyer or invitation distribution
- Welcome Centre
- Ushers
- Greeters
- Community Outreach events
- Oasis
- Adam House

Summary

- Responsible for everything related to outreach and missions
- Includes all ministries predominantly weighted toward evangelism

Equipping the Saints (Jim Beck)

Areas of Responsibility

- Work to create and maintain a list of ministry descriptions, responsibilities, and expectations
- Oversee any equipping or training seminars
- Work to provide adequate training for leaders and workers in ministries
- Help recruit workers for various ministries
- Liaise with Ministry Leaders to identify and document needs for ministry workers
- Oversee Abuse Prevention policies

Ministries Included

- Abuse Prevention Committee
- Abuse Prevention seminars
- Teaching Teachers

Summary

- Responsible for everything related to the training of those in ministry
- Includes all ministries predominantly weighted toward training

Strengthening the Body (Amstrong Morvan)

Areas of Responsibility

- Congregational care
- Various fellowship groups
- Welcoming newcomers
- Anything related to contacting or following up with those who attend

Ministries Included

- Newcomers Ministry & Luncheons
- Pre-service fellowship time
- Ladies' Fellowship
- Men's Fellowship
- Visitation programs
- Birthday Card Ministry
- Seniors' ministries
- Benevolent Committee
- Shower Committee

Summary

- Responsible for the general health and vitality of the Body
- Includes all ministries predominantly weighted toward caring for the membership, adherents, or visitors, and encouraging fellowship among believers

Supporting the Work (Steve Stinton)

Areas of Responsibility

- All administration and support ministries
- Liaise with Finance Committee
- Liaise with Church Secretary and/or Church Administrator
- Liaise with Audio/Visual ministries
- Liaise with Social Conveners and those involved in food preparation
- Liaise with NHT staff regarding church facilities
- Liaise with those responsible for the maintenance or preparation of various offices or meeting rooms, including the nursery and the auditorium
- Insure proper maintenance of church records and database
- Insure all curriculum and supplies are being ordered regularly
- Ministry calendar and various schedules
- Effective planning and preparation of church-sponsored events

Ministries Included

- Finance Committee
- Internal Auditor
- Baptismal Committee
- Communion Committee
- Church Secretary / Administrator
- Audio
- Video Camera
- PowerPoint
- Church Treasurer
- Envelope Secretary
- Social Conveners
- Church Website and/or Newsletter
- Tellers
- Tape Ministry
- Flower Conveners
- Church Library / Resource Centre
- Church Clerk
- Nursery
- Trustees
- Ministry Calendar
- Member / Adherent Database

Summary

- Responsible for day-to-day operations in the church which occur behind the scenes
- Includes all ministries predominantly weighted toward functional support