

Children and Family Ministry Coordinator's Report for Oct. 2009

The beginning of October found me up in the BC peace district. I had been invited up by Alfred Reschke, Associate Pastor at Charlie Lake Church, to speak at Sunday School conference he was helping to put together for all the churches in the Fort St. John area. I saw it as a great opportunity to connect with people from our northern churches. Due to low registration the conference was cancelled at the last minute but as I already had my flights booked I went anyways and had more time to connect with our three churches up there.

Each of the churches expressed feelings of isolation from the denomination and great appreciation that I was there. It was exciting to see God's hand at work in each of these churches, (a personal thrill as it was 20 years almost to the day that we left the pastorate at Ft.St. John).

With each of these churches I was able to listen and celebrate some of their victories, but with each I was also able to listen and address some of the struggles. I believe that through dialoging together God brought some encouragement and ideas to each of these churches.

In Charlie Lake major discussion revolved around recruitment, and retention of volunteers, and of raising the visibility of children's ministries. God broke in and revealed that what was needed was to develop an active prayer support for the Children's ministry.

In Ft.St.John I spent some time helping the deacon of Christian Education figure out his role. I believe that through my visit he felt released to let others care for the details and hopefully burdened to share his passion.

In Taylor I had the opportunity to meet with their staff and main players in Children's Ministries. There was a desire to increase their family ministries and we talked about some practical things that could be done there. I also encouraged them to take their Sunday morning children's time up a step.

I have also started talking with Bowness Baptist about helping them get some summer ministry opportunities happening. On a good Sunday they have 6-8 kids present. They have new pastoral leadership and are anxious to see things happen.

I spent time with the Sunday school coordinator from Altadore Baptist.

I have also been encouraging our churches to send people to Infusion, a children and family ministry conference being held in Calgary.

I have also had a few phone check up calls with some of our churches.

Hope this give you a flavor of my last month.

May our wonderful Lord encourage and strengthen us all as we serve together,

Dawn Medgett

Children and family Ministry Coordinator for the Alberta Area

Canadian Baptists of Western Canada