

The Pastors Connection

Sept. 2011

Small Group D.N.A. Teams

Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ. Acts 5:42

At different times over the years Conestoga has given emphasis to small groups. Persons testify that small group connections have helped develop friendships, advance spiritual maturity and strengthen community outreach.

Our Pastoral Team has discerned it is again time to strengthen small group ministry. But we were unsure who might give leadership to the effort. Then God brought Wes and Lois Boyer to us with experience and passion for small groups growing out of the impact they witnessed of small groups in the three churches where Wes served as Pastor over his life. We are in awe of the gift of their enthusiasm and readiness to serve.

As many of you know, Wes was involved in an accident recently. With a broken sternum and six broken ribs he will need time to heal. But we praise God that Wes is on the road to recovery. And we celebrate that the injuries are not life altering. So, I write this Connection in faith and confidence that Wes and Lois will return to the task of leading our small group ministry.

In our monthly meeting prior to Wes's accident, the three of us began brainstormed how we might kick start small group ministry. This led us to set aside Oct. 9 through Nov. 27 for using 50 Day Adventure "The Church You've Always Longed For" material. Our weekly sermons will enlarge the theme. Small groups will form to meet weekly for seven weeks. No one will be required to participate but everyone will be encouraged.

We would love to have all ages involved for this seven week journey together. Watch for further details.

In the above title you note the initials D.N.A. They stand for **D**iscipleship, **N**urture, and **A**ction. We want our small group teams to disciple one another by recognizing Christ in their midst; nurture one another by sharing real life stuff; and to take action together that is rooted in relevant caring.

There are some activities that only a large group of people can experience together "in the temple courts". There are other activities best accomplished in a smaller group meeting "house to house." Pray our D.N.A. Teams will make a meaningful contribution to our life together. Give consideration to signing up when we shape our teams. Persons interested in leading a small group D.N.A. Team should speak with a member of the Pastoral Team.

With the early church we want to “never stop teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is Lord”. Meeting house to house can help us accomplish that goal!

Living His story with you, Pastor Bob Petersheim