



What's Happened Since the Relaunch?

It is hard to believe that 4 months have passed since Westside Christian Fellowship (WCF) made its relaunch at Te Atatu Peninsula. This has been proved to be a positive move, particularly because of the connections we've been able to make in the community. We have had over 65 visitors since March (compared with 27 in all of 2006). Several of these recently completed a "Connections" class and committed to make WCF their church home. Doug and Danette Beisley continue to reach out weekly to young families in the community through a preschool music playgroup and a Christian program in a local elementary school. We are currently gearing up for Kids in Action (July 9-13), a VBS-style outreach to kids in the community. This continues to be a transition time as members adjust to some of the recent changes, but it feels like we are getting closer to accomplishing the mission to which God has called us.

Take a Look Inside

So...what would a typical Sunday look like if you visited WCF? If you arrived around 3PM, you might head out with some of the kids and adults for a game of soccer or, if it is raining, a bit of table tennis in the fellowship hall. At 4:30, you would head inside for the worship service (unless you're on Pacific Island time – 10 minutes later). Sitting down in the pews, you might notice the rustic beauty of this 100 year-old sanctuary, but you would also notice a worshipping community that is contemporary, welcoming and down to earth. After the service, you could stick around for a delicious meal (which still has quite the international flair) and get to know some of the others at the church. Interested? Stop on by when you're in the area ☺.



Setting up for worship practice at the Beisleys' house: Slightly chaotic (due to multiple instruments), and very snug!



"Growing Great Kids" Parenting Workshop May 5th and 6th, 2007

Are you a good parent striving to be a great parent? Come and enjoy two free informative evenings (childcare provided): Part of our flyer from the "Growing Great Kids" workshops in May that were lead by Epic Church.

This weekend, Chad launches into a new sermon series entitled "Dangerous Church", which will challenge people to pursue the ideal church model that Jesus had in mind when he said, "I will build my church" (Matt 16:18). Recently, Diane has also taken over the music leading in order to allow Alisa Wolsey (our previous worship leader) more time with her family and new job as a teacher. She has enjoyed the new challenge and has been pushing the worship team (and herself) to bring their finest gifts to God through the love of music.

Visitors from Lakeland, Florida, USA

A team from Epic Church¹ came in May to help with several projects. Although we originally planned some simple cleaning around the church, the team's resources and expertise allowed us give the old church a new makeover by painting the atrium and foyer, refurbishing the bathrooms and more. This went a long way in helping to build a positive relationship St. Paul's, the congregation we rent from. (One person from St. Paul's was so impressed, he slyly commented, "They charge 40 cents to use the toilets at the SuperLoo in Taupo². We could charge at least \$1 for ours.")

¹ See <http://www.epicch.com/>

² Apparently, this is one of the main visitor attractions in Taupo, along with the excellent trout fishing.



Diane and Missy taking some time off from training at the beach. It's a dog's life!

Tim and Cindy West also led our first parenting workshop for the community called "Growing Great Kids". On Sunday, we combined the workshop with a great time of worship led by Cindy and the worship team. We had six new families involved for the weekend events, and received positive feedback from all of the participants. We look forward to doing some similar events in the future.

On the Home Front

We are both wrapping up our first semester studies. Diane finished her last exam on June 27th, and she is missing school already (what a nerd)! Chad finished his first semester of Greek and actually enjoyed it (okay, also a nerd). Missy (and Diane) also went through a harrowing month of end-of-semester tests. Although obedience is not one of Missy's stronger points, she is shaping up to be an excellent sniffer dog³!

It has been a long time since both of us have taken a holiday together, so we are celebrating our 2 ½ year anniversary in Queenstown on the South Island of New Zealand. We look forward to posting some pictures of our winter ski adventures.

Additional Praises

- Our youth pastor recently stepped down as he is preparing to get married. Simultaneously, a young couple in our church offered to lead the youth group. This is a great answer to prayer. They already have a great rapport with the youth, and are making progress with them.
- A few weeks ago, we focused on the topic of sexual purity. At the end we had at least 7 out of 11 singles commit to remaining sexually pure until marriage. All of our married adults stood to commit to purity within their marriage. It was good to see people taking an active stand for the Lord.

Prayer

- Chad will be travelling to Southeast Asia to lead a worship workshop with a group of pastors (August 10-18). Please pray for Chad as he prepares. Please pray also that these pastors would grow and be encouraged through this time.
- Please continue to pray for the children's ministry volunteers as they prepare for the Kids In Action (VBS) community outreach, 9-13 July. Pray that this event will connect new families to Christ and the church.
- The Beisley family will be heading home for itineration for 9 months next year. Please pray for them as they make that transition. Pray for us also as we search for the right people to continue to move this ministry forward.
- We are continuing over the coming months to search for a long-term solution for a facility. The current facility has been very helpful in getting started in Te Atatu



Our new youth leaders, Stefan and Kathrin Marks, who were also former youth leaders at the Church of God in Germany.

If you haven't yet visited our new church website, visit www.westside.org.nz.

Ways to Help

- 1) Prayer – We would love if you would join us in praying for New Zealand, and particularly the many young unchurched adults of West Auckland. Also see www.chaddavenport.org.
- 2) Financial Support – Thank you to all our supporters. Because of you, we are able to focus on ministering in New Zealand full-time. If you would like to help us financially, please send support to: *Church of God Ministry, P.O. Box 2420, Anderson, IN 46018 (Memo: Chad Davenport, Project #42.11235)*

³ Like dogs that are used at the Auckland Airport to sniff out organic material, such as food.