



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2018**

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# Forward Baptist Church 2018 Annual Report

1891 Gerrard Street East, Toronto, Ontario M4L 2B9

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## STATEMENT OF FAITH

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**Bible:** We believe the Bible to be the complete Word of God; that the sixty-six books, as originally written, comprising the Old and New Testaments were God-breathed and were entirely free from error; we believe that God, in His providence, ensured the preservation of His Word so that the Bible is the final authority in all matters of faith and practice and the true basis of Christian union.

**God:** We believe in One God, Creator of all, holy, sovereign, eternal, existing in three equal Persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit who have enjoyed perfect love and community for all of eternity.

**God the Father:** We believe in one God, the Father almighty who is over all and who sovereignly works through all and in all according to His purpose. He shares the same divine essence as His Son and the Holy Spirit so that they are each fully God. We believe that He sent the Son to redeem the church, whom He chose and adopted to make them co-heirs with the Son and true children of the Father, blessing them with every blessing, and disciplining them, as a loving Father.

**God the Son:** We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of God. He shares the same divine essence as His Father and the Holy Spirit and is fully God. We believe in His eternal existence with the Father and Holy Spirit in preincarnate glory. We believe that He took on full humanity when He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin. He lived a sinless life, died a substitutionary death, was resurrected bodily, and ascended triumphantly. He is the head of the church and now sits at the right hand of the Father, mediating for His people until the day He returns to reign.

**God the Holy Spirit:** We believe in one Holy Spirit of God, who shares the same divine essence as the Father and the Son and is fully God. We believe He is a person and not merely a force. The Spirit spoke through the prophets and apostles so the Scriptures are the very words of God. He actively convinces of sin, of righteousness, and of judgement. He regenerates, indwells, and sanctifies those who put their faith in Jesus Christ. He also illuminates, comforts, unifies, and gives gifts to those who believe in Jesus Christ.

**Satan:** We believe that Satan is a spirit being who is an evil personality, the originator of sin, the archenemy of God and humankind, whose eternal destiny in hell is certain.

**Humanity:** We believe that God created humanity in His own image to glorify and enjoy Him forever.

We believe that because we were created in the image of God, we were created to work, to be creative, to care for and cultivate the earth.

We also believe that because we were made in the image of God, the value, dignity and personhood of human life comes from God; He knits us together in our mothers' wombs and numbers our days according to His will.

Furthermore, we believe that because we were created in the image of our Triune God, we were created for community. Friendship and family reflect this reality, as does the unity and diversity of the local church. This is also reflected in gender differences between male and female and in the covenant relationship of marriage, where one man and one woman are joined together as husband and wife. God created sexual activity to be practiced and enjoyed by a husband and wife in marriage to celebrate and deepen that union and for procreation. Therefore, sexual activity practiced outside of marriage is forbidden by God.

**Sin:** Sin was introduced into the world when Adam disobeyed God. The result of this first sin is that all humanity is alienated from God; every aspect of their total being is depraved. Humanity thereby incurred the condemnation of God, resulting in physical, spiritual and eternal death.

**Salvation:** We believe that salvation is by the sovereign, electing grace of God; that Christ voluntarily suffered a substitutionary death for sinners that completely satisfied God's righteous demands; that justification is by faith alone in the all-sufficient sacrifice and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and that those whom God has saved shall be divinely preserved and finally perfected in the image of the Lord.

**Future Things:** We believe in the personal, bodily and glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ; in the resurrection of the just and unjust; in the eternal blessedness in heaven of the redeemed and in the judgement and conscious, eternal punishment in hell of the wicked.

**The Local Church:** We believe that the church is a company of immersed believers, voluntarily associated for worship, instruction, fellowship, edification, evangelism and the observance of the ordinances. We believe it is an autonomous, independent body, under the Lordship of Christ, the Great Head of the church. Its Pastors and Board members are elected by the membership.

**Ordinances:** We believe there are only two ordinances for the church regularly observed in the New Testament and commanded by Christ:

**Baptism** which is the immersion in water, whereby a person publicly identifies with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection.

**The Lord's Supper** which is the memorial wherein the believer partakes of the two elements, the bread and the cup, which symbolize the Lord's body and shed blood, proclaiming His death until He comes.

**The Church And State:** We believe in the entire separation of church and state.

**Religious Liberty:** We believe in religious liberty; that every person has the right to practice and propagate his beliefs.

**The Lord's Day:** We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day and that it is the biblically normal day for corporate worship and spiritual exercise.

**Civil Government:** We believe that civil government is of divine appointment for the interest and good order of society; that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honoured and obeyed, except only in the things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience and Prince of the kings of the earth.





# Forward Baptist Church

## Our Mission



glorify God



grow in Christ



go with the gospel

## Our Vision

### *Loving God*

with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength,  
ready to serve Him in the Church — the Body of  
Christ, under the guidance of our Leaders

### *Loving Others*

as we love ourselves with Christ-like love for all

### *Share the Truth*

by communicating redemption in Christ; personally  
by word and action; corporately through our Church  
in local and worldwide missions

As we draw near to our 100th year celebration, we ponder God's faithfulness to us over the last 99. We have remained in this Beach Hill community, because it is where God has planted us to be a light to the City of Toronto.

We have not laboured in vain. God has built us up and has provided for us.

With the Apostle Paul as our example we can say...

... I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day. (1 Timothy 1:12 NIV)

Our hope alone is in the atoning work of Christ which was completed on the cruel cross of Calvary. In Him we have salvation and a restored relationship with the Father. We are sealed with the Spirit as a guarantee of a future hope that will be fulfilled at the end of time.

And so, we know that the one in whom we trust is trustworthy. We know that we will stand here as a local body of Christ, as long as the Father wills for us to do so. As his church, we continue to **Glorify God** together as evidenced in our corporate worship and our acts of service. We **Grow in Christ** as we study his Word and serve Him with all our might. And we sow seeds of righteousness as we **Go with the Gospel** and proclaim the good news in His strength.

On behalf of the Elders I'd like to thank you for making leadership a pleasure as we follow Christ together. We as your Elders and Pastors thank God for you.

The Elders Board consists of both pastors and laymen, all being elected by the congregation. The responsibility of the Elders is the spiritual oversight of the church, including:

- Overseeing all aspects of spiritual leadership;
- Teaching sound doctrine and refuting error (Titus 1:9);
- Interviewing applicants for membership;
- Attending ordinations and conventions as Forward's messengers;
- Visiting the sick (James 5:14);
- Participating in exercising church discipline as necessary;
- Overseeing others gifted in the above-mentioned ministries;
- Serving Communion at the Lord's Supper along with the deacons.

The Elder and Advisory Boards continue to meet for discussion and prayer during their monthly meetings. We, as your church leadership, entreat God to be the focal point our ministry here at Forward. We seek his direction as we lead the church.

The Elders meet regularly as an independent group. We use our time to encourage and develop one another as we share what God has been doing in each of our lives. We pray through the prayer requests submitted to us, as well as the known needs of the church body.

We continue to discuss vision and direction of our church as we try and understand how best to glorify God, grow in Christ and carry the gospel to a broken and hurting world. As Elders, we discuss church matters that have arisen throughout this year to decide how best to address or resolve them.

In addition to our elected Elders, we have also enjoyed the counsel of Advisory Board Chair John Deinum



and our Pastor of Student Ministries Mark Memije, who have both served alongside us as we seek to serve you.

We continue to garner your prayers as we seek God's direction for our church body.  
1 Thessalonians 5:23-25:

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.  
Brothers and sisters, pray for us. (NIV)

Yours in Him,

Shawn Freer  
Chairman, Board of Elders  
Elders: Pastor Stephen Lambert, Pastor Aaron Woodhouse, Brian Taylor

*The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord.  
All the ways of a man are clean in his own sight, but the Lord weighs the spirit. Commit your work to the Lord and your plans will be established (Proverbs 16:1-3 ESV).*

As I reflect on the 2018 year of ministry at Forward, it was the first year in the past five that our staff team was set and able to fully focus on ministry. Although we did add Mark Memije as our full-time Youth Pastor, he had been functioning in this role as an intern for the two previous years. Ironically, as soon as our staffing was settled, a new sabbatical policy allowed Pastor Steve Lambert to be granted a 6 week leave to rest, spend time in relationship with the Lord, with his family, read, and prepare for the next sermon series in Romans. As church leadership, we have committed to investing in our staff: to assist with their development and maturity as leaders and support them in their objectives in ministry. I believe God is blessing our church as we do so.

During 2018 we adopted a constitution for Forward Baptist Church. I would like to thank Pastor Steve Lambert, Pastor Aaron Woodhouse, Carol Bain and David Power for the significant amount of time and effort they put into preparing this document and communicating it with the congregation. The constitution is an important document for the governance of our church and was necessary to maintain the church's charitable status. In a show of unity, the constitution was virtually unanimously approved by the congregation.

Also during 2018, the Advisory Board was renamed the Deacons Board to align with the newly adopted constitution. We were able to increase the number serving on the Deacons Board from 5 to 7 which has allowed us to give more attention to other important operational matters. One project initiative that began during 2018 and is an ongoing project is the creation and monitoring of a compliance dashboard: essentially a document that tracks important issues and risk factors that we as an organization must maintain. For example, all volunteers who work with our children's programs and PA day camps must have a current and acceptable police background check and this is tracked on the compliance dashboard.

Although the preceding paragraphs may have a corporate tone, we have seen God continue to do amazing things in the lives of people during 2018. The testimonies of those who were baptized this past year are evidence of this. As the ministry at Forward continues to grow, we do not want to lose sight of our main objectives to present the gospel and make disciples of Jesus Christ, and by God's grace we will continue to do so. I would ask that you pray with us, and ask what God would have us do as a church as we continue to serve Him in the east end of Toronto.

Thank you to all who have given time and resources to serve in the various ministries of the church such as in the nursery, helping with Kid's Zone, preparing the elements for communion, co-ordinating and providing refreshments after the morning service, greeting people before our service, counting offerings or serving as an usher.

May you continue to be encouraged as we meet together and serve Christ as His church.

John Deinum,  
Chairman, Deacons Board



My mouth will tell of your righteous deeds,  
of your saving acts all day long—  
though I know not how to relate them all.  
I will come and proclaim your mighty acts, Sovereign Lord;  
I will proclaim your righteous deeds, yours alone.  
Since my youth, God, you have taught me,  
and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.  
Even when I am old and gray,  
do not forsake me, my God,  
till I declare your power to the next generation,  
your mighty acts to all who are to come.  
Psalm 71:15-18 (NIV)

These verses from the Psalms point us in a good direction as we begin a new year and look back on the previous year. God has faithfully guided us for another year, He has performed mighty acts and righteous deeds, He has not forsaken us. So let us remember what He has done for us and praise Him. Let us reflect on His goodness and declare His marvelous deeds to those around us. Whether we are still in our youth or “old and gray”, let us tell of His righteous deeds and saving acts all day long.

My hope for my annual report this year is that God will help me to do just that, to recount the many blessings He has poured out on us. I understand how the psalmist felt when he said “though I know not how to relate them all.” God has been good to us beyond measure, and I pray that this report will remind you of at least some of the ways God has been good to us in 2018.

### **Preaching Ministry**

One of the greatest ways that God has blessed us as His people is by giving us His Word so that we can know Him and be taught by Him. There are many ways that we are taught from God’s Word (small groups, personal reading, conversation, etc.), but the most significant is when God’s Word is preached to the gathered congregation. I am thankful for the way God has blessed our congregation this year and helped us to grow through the preaching of His Word.

We began 2018 by thinking about the vision and values we wanted to see growing in the ministry of our church. The church is God’s idea and Jesus is still the head of the church, so we want very much to be in line with what He lays out in His Word. In the two months leading up to our annual recommitment service, we spent our Sunday preaching time highlighting some of these biblical values as our “Gospel Vision”, our vision to be a church that values what Jesus values and is in line with the message of the gospel in every aspect of our church life. In that series, we discussed what it means to have gospel-centred worship, gospel-centred discipleship, gospel-centred preaching, gospel-centred church leadership, and gospel-centred outreach and missions. This focus helped us to get off on the right foot for the year.

When we talked about gospel-centred preaching as one of our values, we specifically spoke about expository preaching. This is the practice of letting the Bible determine the content of our sermons. Most Sundays, our sermons will be part of a series preaching through a book of the Bible. In 2018, we preached through 2 Thessalonians, Joshua, and the first 8 chapters of Romans (we are continuing Romans in 2019). We also did some one-off sermons, topical series (like our gospel vision series), or special occasion sermons (Easter, Anniversary Sunday, etc.), but each of these should also be focused on teaching and preaching a passage in the Bible (or occasionally several passages to draw out a theme). For example, in the Easter season, we spent several weeks in the Gospel of Luke, exploring the accounts of Jesus preparing to enter Jerusalem at the end of His ministry, the Triumphal Entry, His crucifixion, resurrection, and appearances to the disciples.

As we teach the Bible in this way, from both the Old and New Testaments, we allow God's Word to speak into our lives with authority, rather than just hearing what the preacher thinks that week.

The majority of the preaching was handled by myself, Pastor Aaron Woodhouse, Shawn Freer, and Pastor Mark Memije this year. I am thankful for these three men who work hard to study God's Word and present it to God's people. We are blessed to have so many gifted preachers at Forward. I am also thankful for our four missionary speakers for the year: Darryl Dash (church planter of pastor of Liberty Grace Church in Toronto, one of our supported ministries), Gbemi McDede (church planter and pastor in Scarborough), Don Webster (member and former elder at Forward who served for many years as a Bible translating missionary and pastor), and Aaron Bowes (long standing missionary of Forward who church plants and pastors in Germany with his family). It was a particular pleasure to have Pastor John McNeill (our former senior pastor) back to preach on anniversary Sunday. And I am also thankful to Tim Strickland (former senior pastor at Waverley Road Baptist Church, now working at FEB Central) and Josh Brake (former associate pastor at Maple Avenue Baptist Church), who filled in when schedule and sickness required us to have guest speakers.

Every year for the past several years I have had the opportunity to help some of our young men learn how to put together a sermon and then preach it on a Sunday at Forward. This is one of the highlights of my year each time. It is a blessing to be able to help young men who are seeking ministry develop their gifts and serve God and the church in this way. This year, Lemuel Tupas (one of our summer interns) preached on Psalm 51 and did an excellent job!

### **Discipleship & Small Groups**

Our Bible studies and small groups have continued to flourish and grow this year. These groups have provided a way for God to draw people into His kingdom, for men and women to grow to love Him more and to experience discipleship, significant community and accountability. There are currently four women's groups and four men's groups meeting. I also lead a co-ed small group and our Wednesday night prayer meeting & Bible study, which are both also co-ed. Last but not least is our 12-Step recovery group Bible study, which is also open to all.

I am thankful for all the hard work that Carol Bain, Debbie Michaud, Eunice Chaffey, Patricia Overholt, Sarah Quartel, Christine Woodhouse, Pastor Aaron Woodhouse, Pastor Mark Memije, Shawn Freer, John Deinum, Don Webster, and Byron Scott put into leading these groups.

### **Salvation, Baptism, and Membership**

We have been praying each year that God would use us to see 10 people turn their lives over to Christ and be saved. It's hard to know exactly how God has answered this prayer, but each year He has said at least a partial yes by bringing people into His family through the ministries and individuals of our church. This year was no exception. I know of two people who made decisions to follow Jesus this year through coming to Forward, hearing God's Word taught, and talking to some of you. I praise God that He used our church to bring these two - and perhaps more - into His family!

This year we baptized 12 people. Some of them had been Christians for some time, some had become Christians in the past year or two. We were very glad to welcome 16 new members into our church this year, as well as to welcome back one member who had attended another church for a while due to health issues and proximity. See the church clerk's report for full details on baptisms and membership this year.

### **Adult Sunday School**

This year, our adult Sunday school class finished their study in the New City Catechism, spent some time in Titus through a video series from Chip Ingram, and then went through a series on how to read the Bible, which I led. This class has been a blessing to a number of people on Sunday mornings and has allowed for some more training in Bible and theology. I am thankful to John Deinum, Shawn Freer, Pastor Aaron Woodhouse, Pastor Mark Memije, Charles Chaffey, and Lemuel Tupas who have helped to lead this class.



## **55+ Ministry**

This year the Forward Friendship Club's Chat & Chew ministry was disbanded and re-launched as the 55+ ministry. Chat & Chew was struggling to find people to organize and lead it, so we strategically launched it with a new vision. The hope for this ministry is that it will not only provide spiritual and social stimulation for our seniors, but that it will become outreach oriented and become a place that seniors from our community will come to and feel welcome. In the new format, the meetings include a soup lunch, which several people have generously provided on different months. We are incredibly thankful to all the people who worked so hard to lead Chat & Chew throughout the past. We continue to be thankful to those who have volunteered to help with certain elements of 55+. Please pray that new leadership will arise to take the reigns of this important ministry so that Pastor Aaron and I can be freed to just be in a support and oversight role.

## **Constitution**

We were very excited to ratify our new constitution as a church this year. This was a big step for us as Forward has never had an official constitution before in its 99 year history! This constitution will help guide the future of our church and help keep us faithful to our mission and purpose. It also protects us legally from possible lawsuits and also satisfies the government's requirements for our charitable status.

For the most part, the constitution codified things that we were already doing, but it also spells out some procedures that may help us in the future. There were two big changes that the constitution brought about. The first is an update and expansion to our statement of faith. We updated some of the language and fleshed out our statements on God and humanity. The other big change was that it allows for female deacons rather than "female representatives to the advisory board". This was an important change that we had been discussing for a number of years.

## **Pastor Mark Memije**

We were also very excited to call Mark Memije as our youth pastor this year. Mark served faithfully at Forward for a year when he was a student at Toronto Baptist Seminary. After he graduated, he worked with Scott Mission for another year before we offered him a position as the youth intern for two years. Early in 2018 we brought his name before the congregation for a vote to call him as our youth pastor. God has surely blessed us with his ministry to the youth and young adults, children, and many others. We are thankful to God for him.

## **Seminary**

I was able to finish my MDiv this year and graduate in April. Thank you so much for your support over the past seven years as I worked on my degree. I trust that the time and work I invested at school has helped me to become a better-informed and more mature pastor.

## **Sabbatical**

This past year I also was the first to take advantage of the church's sabbatical policy. I was granted six weeks of leave from my regular pastoral ministry so I could rest, connect with God, do some studying, and so on. I took those weeks from May 28-July 8. I appreciated very much the opportunity to be released from the pressures of ministry and God taught me much about myself and my relationship with Him over the course of those weeks. The opportunity to rest and connect with God will help myself (and the other ministry staff) stay fruitful and faithful in ministry in the long term.

Truly God has blessed us in 2018! As we continue in 2019 and approach our church's 100th anniversary, let us not be ashamed to proclaim His blessings and mighty deeds to each other and the world around us.

Yours in Christ,

Steve Lambert  
Pastor of Teaching & Discipleship

This year was another exciting year of ministry at Forward. I look back with great joy on all that has happened. I remember all the ways that the Lord has worked: celebrating new Christians, celebrating people publicly declaring Jesus as Lord through baptism, answered prayers, seeing people grow in following Jesus, watching our local body grow in serving in the areas that God has given them spiritual gifts, and watching as we connect with the community around us and make connections and proclaim Christ.

In these great events and experiences I'm reminded that Christ is the head of our church and he is sovereign and holds it all together.

The Apostle Paul after spending the first 11 chapters in Romans explaining the reason, depth, beauty, weight, plan and significance of the gospel concludes those chapters in Romans 11:33-36 by breaking into a song of praise for who God is and what he has done, is doing and will one day complete as he has promised..

Romans 11:36 reads: For from him and through him and for him are all things.  
To him be the glory forever! Amen. (NIV)

May this verse remind us of our purpose and existence as a church and as individuals created by God, through God and for God. May our lives and our Church bring God all the glory for what he did this past year in 2018 and in the year to come as we celebrate our 100th Anniversary.

### **Community Engagement**

As a church we are engaged in loving, serving and sharing the love of Christ with the people that live in the Beach Hill and East York neighbourhoods. We have done this by making connection points with various people and groups. We have also called our church to engage in participating in these various connection points. This past year our church was involved in a number of opportunities to connect, which were used as opportunities for us to be engaged with what the community is doing and also to engage those who live in the Beach Hill area with what we are doing. Some quick highlights:

- Beach Hill Neighbourhood Association Annual General Meeting, Mar. 2018 - opportunity to share about our church.
- Beach Hill Community Cleanup Day, Apr. 2018 - Forward co-hosted this event and approximately 40+ people helped clean up the neighbourhood on a Saturday Morning.
- Neighbourhood Street Sale with jumpy castle and popcorn, May 2018
- Bowmore School Fundraiser - Jun. 2018
- Halloween Outreach Event - Oct. 2018
- Community Christmas Carol Sing, Dec. 2018
- Toronto City Mission Christmas Meal - Dec. 2018
- A monthly fellowship meal following our Sunday services
- Beach Hill Choir - a community choir
- Multiple Summer Camps
- 12-Step Bible Study - Sunday evenings @ 6:00 pm
- Good Food Box Program - bi-weekly
- Above the Beach, PA Day Camps, Food Bank, and more

### **Outreach, Family, and Children's Ministry**

We have seen many exciting things happening in the Outreach, Family, and Children's Ministries at Forward Baptist Church this past year. Some of the initiatives included:

#### **Oasis Family Camp at Beacon Bible Camp**

For the fifth summer, John and Mary Deinum and Aaron and Christine Woodhouse directed this camp with

the help of 15+ amazing volunteers – many from Forward Baptist Church. We had some families from Forward attend and it was a huge success. We are looking forward to Oasis Family Camp 2019, please pray for it this summer. Pray that as we spend a week in the beauty of God's creation and in authentic community with others, families and individuals will be changed, come to know Jesus as Saviour and King, and grow in grace and love.

### **PA Day Camps**

This ministry was started during the 2014/15 school year and has grown to almost 60 kids at each camp. This past year we had over 45 different people volunteer for anywhere from four hours to 50 hours. At each camp we have the opportunity to share the gospel, serve families by caring for their kids, and represent Christ to the kids that attend the camp. We have had a great time building connection points with kids and families in our community. The hope is that we will make connections with families around the church and have the opportunity to model Christ and share the gospel. Each camp day requires 25+ volunteers. To all those who have volunteered: thanks for serving so faithfully and well; it has been a really fun year at PA Day Camps.

### **Nursery and KidZone**

We have continued using The Gospel Project curriculum on Sunday mornings. It is a three year chronological Christ-centered Bible study for kids that examines how all Scripture gives testimony to Jesus Christ. Our Nursery and KidZone programs takes place approximately half way through the service from 11 am - 11:45 am each Sunday morning. We have about 2-6 kids attend each week in the Nursery and 10-20 kids in Kidzone. Forward Children's Ministry requires a lot of volunteers to serve and love all our kids. We have 18-22 volunteers on a rotating schedule that have served faithfully this past year. You all are amazing!

### **Above the Beach Drop In**

We continue to see 50+ kids/parents/caregivers each Tuesday morning between 9:30am and 11:30am at this outreach ministry. Thanks to our wonderful, friendly greeter, Bertha Sharpe, as she welcomes everyone with a smiling face and help getting in. Also a big thanks to Mary Deinum, Terry Donaldson, Becky Lambert, Janet Theunissen and Christine Woodhouse for serving in this ministry. We are meeting a need in the neighbourhood. Pray that we would be able to meet the spiritual needs of people who come and connect with us.

### **Community Food Bank**

On the second Tuesday of each month, around 35 people gather together in our fellowship hall to participate in the food bank. Our time starts at 9:30 am with some tea, coffee, and light food. Around 9:45 am someone shares a gospel message or testimony, calling others to know God personally, see God at work in their lives and life situations and follow him in repentance and faith. We close with prayer and give an invitation to join the Forward Baptist Church Community on Sundays and at our various events. We also offer a free Bible to those interested - most months we will give away 2-5 Bibles. Pray that we will continue to love, serve and share of ourselves with people that live in the Beach Hill Community.

### **Summer Interns**

This past summer we had 3 interns working at Forward for 10 - 16 weeks. A big thank you to our amazing summer intern team this year. We had, Beth Lambert, James Power and Lemuel Tupas as our summer interns. Our summer interns worked hard from May-August serving in a variety of different ways and in different ministries. They were involved in many weekly ministries like A/V, Children's Ministry, Above the Beach and had many weekly responsibilities. They were also responsible for planning, implementing and running many events and projects during the summer. Some quick highlights: Community Street Sale and connection event (May), Volunteer Gala (June), Bowmore School Fundraiser (June), four Summer Camps, Food Bank, and a variety of other awesome things. I want to thank each of them for their team work, positive attitudes, leadership and love for Jesus: we would not have been able to do all that we accomplished in the summer of 2018 without your outstanding dedication. Thanks.



### **Forward Summer Camps**

Our camps continue to grow year after year for a number of reasons. We consistently offer a great, gospel focused, fun camp, with fantastic leaders. Our summer camps are just one part of our larger outreach into the neighbourhood. Many of our programs feed into each other and help to build momentum. Our Above the Beach, Jr. Youth, and PA Day Camps have been instrumental in building the summer camps and all other programs. I believe that you need many connection points over many years to gain opportunity, respect and a platform to share the gospel so neighbours will listen. Pray for those connection points in all our outreach programs.

Our summer half-day kids camp for kids in JK to grade 6 had about 70 kids, which is up from 58 in 2017 and 45 kids in 2016. We also had 30+ volunteers help. At this camp we also hosted and served alongside approximately 15 people from the Brazos Pointe Fellowship Youth Group from Texas. Our Cooking Camp had about 20 kids attend and Youth Camp had about 8 kids attend.

Please remember to pray for our summer camps in 2019. Pray for the volunteers, summer interns, kids, and families. Please ask God that we would clearly share the gospel and see kids come to understand that Jesus loves them and that we would effectively disciple Christian kids to grow in their faith.

I look forward to celebrating our 100 year anniversary as a church together. I'm praying for 10 people to become Christians through the people and ministry of Forward Baptist Church this year. As a Church, let us continue to "Glorify God, Grow in Christ and Go with the Gospel".

In Christ,

Aaron Woodhouse  
Pastor of Community Engagement

Alex took his two hands, placed them on the sides of his head, and then fluttered them away. “Mind blown” he exclaimed. Not because the popular Fortnite video game came out with the latest update, but because the Parable of the Rich Fool calls us to be rich towards God and says we shouldn’t worry about our wealth because God takes care of ravens, so He’ll take care of us. “The Bible isn’t a random bunch of stories, but it’s all connected, it all makes sense,” Alex quipped. This is just one of the many instances the kids at youth have dramatically displayed their enthusiasm for the Word. Kids don’t need fog machines, laser nights and the latest trends, to make the Bible appealing. We don’t need to wrap Scriptures in sugar-coat, we only need to unwrap the Bible and let them see it for the gift it is! 2018 has been a great time for youth & young adult ministry, and my own personal walk. I’ve had many opportunities to share the Word of God, teaching on average about 3-4 times per week.

### **Youth Group**

Last year was a turn-around for the youth group. In the beginning of the year, it was a rough time; we lost two key youth leaders and many of the kids were misbehaving enough that we could not really get to the Bible lesson without major interruptions. The environment was unhealthy. Though I love and still concern myself with the high-risk boys I brought from G.A Brown, I had to put my foot down and remove them from Youth Group with the condition that they are welcome back if they behave. Of the group, I believed two accepted Christ: one now goes consistently to another youth group, the other has started attending again, and I’m on good terms with both.

After putting my foot down, our numbers were very low for the first half of the year. We averaged 1-2 kids per week – three times no kids showed up. However, the kids that attended were there to learn about Jesus. During this time the Youth leaders (David & Katrina) and I prayed to God that He would work in his perfect time, measuring our worth not in numerical success, but in faithfulness, laying a foundation in which primacy was placed on learning about God in His Word and prayer. After a successful summer camp, we advertised the youth group and our numbers have increased significantly since September.

By God’s goodness we now average 10-13 kids per week. We have been going through the Book of Luke, expositing one story at a time. The kids have expressed excitement to understand the Word of God: they actively participate and are eager to read. I love seeing them go through “eureka” moments when they get the big idea of the story and how it applies to them. Some of the older kids now actively help out at PA Day Camps, and have expressed interest in helping out at Jr. Youth when they get older. Many don’t come from Christian backgrounds, but several have already vocalized their faith in Christ. Madison has expressed faith in Christ. Alex comes from a very difficult circumstance, but with an upbeat attitude he has found comfort in the truths of His heavenly father. Brydoven has a working understanding of the gospel. Other kids like Baron and Chase are active in the reading program and say their favourite segment is the Bible lesson. Youth Group is a program I too have become excited about. Pray continually for these young people as they learn about our wonderful God.

### **Summer Camps**

I was part of the various summer camps last summer. I helped out at the Kids’ Camp, leading all the lessons; the theme of the lessons was “Jesus rescues.” I helped out at Cooking Camp, teaching most of the lessons; the lessons were based on Bible stories with fruit involved. I lead the Youth Camp, running the program and leading most of the lessons; the lessons were on the Attributes of God: his majesty, jealousy, wrath, grace, and love. I helped out at Camp Oasis, leading half the lessons. The summer programs were very helpful in making connections with kids. Several of the kids from these camps have now attended youth group.

### **PA Day Camps & Jr. Youth**

Ministry to children has become very dear and precious to me. I consider it a privilege! “Jesus said, ‘Let the

little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” (Matthew 19:14 NIV) As such, I have made it my mantra never to underestimate children, because Jesus never underestimated children. There is wisdom and latent insight within them. At Jr. Youth, Aaron and I take turns leading the theme of the night. With both PA Day & Jr. Youth, I do the bulk of the Bible lessons. It has become a wonderful outlet for my creativity. I love to present the stories and lessons of Scripture in creative and engaging ways. Among the ones I enjoyed (and I hope the children did too!) have been role-playing as Jonah, reading a “fairy tale” story of Adam & Eve, presenting Allegories of the Gospel, getting kids to re-enact the story of Jesus walking on water, the story of David & Goliath, Elijah confronting the Priests of Baal, and performing a “Hallowed Spook” on Halloween about the Writing on the Wall.

## **Act II: Young Adults**

I ran our weekly Young Adults group every Monday. In the young adults group people have come and gone, but by God’s providence we have consistently had about 13-16 young adults every week. Last year we went through 1 Thessalonians, Titus, and the Book of Romans. I had the privilege of baptizing 3 young adults: Kevaughn, Jamie, and William. The environment of the young adults is one that is welcoming, humorous, and joyful when digging into the Word.

## **Small Group**

Last year Shawn and I started and led a Men’s Small Group Bible Study, whose members include Akilu, Jamie, Justine, Matt, Kevaughn. Though we average about 2-3 attendees apart from me and Shawn, we’re looking to build stability. We are going through the Book of Genesis. It’s a good time of discipleship and diving into the Word.

## **Misc. Events**

Young Adults Events – We have a few young adult events. The two main ones are Young Adults Retreat we had in January, and the group fasting in September. Apart from those two, we had a pumpkin carving event, and a Christmas Decoration event. And we usually eat out together after Sunday service.

Evangelism – During the Kid’s Camp Week, I led the Evangelism Module again, teaching the missionaries from Chicago the importance of evangelism, then going out and sharing the gospel at Woodbine Beach.

Preaching – I preached four times last year: twice on the book of Joshua, once in Genesis, and one Psalm.

Connections – I’ve made it a habit of connecting with at least one person each a week. This has included people from Youth Group, Young adults, random evangelism encounters, people from church, 12 Step people, etc. However, the focus has been people from Youth Group & Act II.

Food Bank – I have been in rotation with Pastor Steve & Pastor Aaron when leading the devotion to the Food Bank clients. This demographic has a special place in my heart because I worked at the Scott Mission Homeless shelter for three years prior to coming on staff here, and so I really connect with them. I also coordinate guest speakers from the 12-Step program from time to time.

Youth Group Events – We have had monthly youth group events, including the science center, cheesy movie night, Cooper’s Corn Maze, and a Christmas Banquet Party. We have also implemented a reading program (Sword-Book Readers) which, upon completion, entitles those who complete it to a free quarterly event: the last one was Virtual Reality Game station. Moreover, as of last year, we have been intentional in connecting with local evangelical churches. We have partner with Calvary Church, Christ Church Toronto and Chinese Mennonite Church for several youth events. This will culminate in a joint youth retreat this coming March.

## **Personal Life**

2018 has been a wonderful time of grounding and growth. I have gotten a better sense of my giftings and a better sense of how to cultivate and use them for God’s glory. Attending Heritage part-time for my MDiv has



been so instructive in equipping me how to faithfully teach God's word, while properly channeling my creativity. Engaging in God's Word in my life was both hobby and work, and they have become synonymous. Learning to trust in God's timing and His power to help me teach the truth of his word has been big. Though I made much progress in my organization skills, there's still a lot more growth needed. I also need to strive to teach volunteer leaders how to teach, equipping them for ministry after me.

In Christ,

Mark Memije  
Pastor of Student Ministries

*Be exalted in your strength, Lord;  
We will sing and praise your might.  
Psalm 21:13 (NIV)*

Each year as we worship together, I am delighted by the ways God is at work in his people here at Forward. Over the past year we have grown in wisdom, love, and knowledge together and I praise God for his faithfulness! I confess that it's really easy for me to get lost in the details and the day-to-day and week-to-week repetition of rehearsals, bulletins, emails, etc. I can easily feel discouraged by the to-do lists that only seem to get longer, or go to bed at night and find my brain spinning with everything that needs to be accomplished in the upcoming days. These things are real and sometimes frustrating tactile, but they are only small pieces of a picture that is so much bigger! And so we sing things like:

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King;  
He the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity.  
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come;  
Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

We invite each other to remember the glorious truth of who God is and what he has done for us. But we don't stop there! We take these truths and begin to act on them and let them transform our thoughts and actions. In speaking about the Christian life, Luther said,

This life, therefore, is not righteousness but growth in righteousness, not health but healing, not being but becoming, not rest but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be but we are growing towards it. The process is not finished but it is going on. This is not the end but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory but all is being purified.

So as we live and struggle with discouragement, frustration, anger, pride...we need to remind each other! Let's remember together that we as the people of God are in process. Together let hope in the glory of God and strive to know him more and to turn our knowing into action.

### **Worship Services**

One of the places we intentionally remember together who God is and call each other to action is in our weekly worship services. I am continually grateful for the many people who serve in the worship services through music, tech, scripture reading, prayer, preaching, greeting, ushering, etc. Pray for us, that as we lead we will lean deeply into Christ and grow in humility.

Each Monday evening the music teams meet to prepare for the upcoming Sunday. We have been working through a book called "Sing!" as a way of growing together and thinking intentionally about how and why we sing both as individuals and together as a church.

A few times through the year, I meet with the Worship Committee to plan worship seasons (i.e. Easter & Advent), help shape the music we sing, and pray for those involved in worship services and for our church as a whole as we worship together. Thank you to those who serve on this committee: Eunice Chaffey, Jerry & Denise Britton, and Karin Freer

### **Training Days**

Training Days are space created specifically to help equip and encourage those involved in the worship services. This year we focused on learning new music, reading scripture with purposeful expression, and building into the tech teams.

### **Easter/Advent/Christmas Seasons**

Each year these seasons in the church calendar are a delight to me. The depth with which they are rooted in both our daily lives and our faith gives a special weight to these seasons that helps us to focus intently on what Christ accomplished for us in his coming and in his dying. To each of you who took to the time to participate in music, readings, etc., thank you!

### **Summer Interns**

Summers don't slow down here at the church! This year we had the pleasure of having Beth, Lemuel, and James as summer interns. We set up a workstation for them in my office from May-August, so it was a full house! I enjoyed the space this gave me to build into their lives and specifically the opportunity to spend time with Beth in our one-on-one meetings.

### **Beach Hill Choir**

Together with Damaris Schmucker, I led the Beach Hill Adult and Kids' Choirs. We held concerts in April and December. Over the course of the year we had over 90 people involved in singing and many more who helped make the concerts possible. The community showed great support and donated over \$2000 in support of L'Arche (April) and the church Food Bank (December) as well as many food items. At the end of the December session we announced that the choir would take a break. The choir members were disappointed, but very supportive of the need for seasons of rest.

### **Together for the Gospel**

In April I attended the T4G conference along with Steve, Becky, David, and my dad. It was a refreshing few days of great teaching and resources!

### **Singspiration**

We continue to participate in evenings of worship together with other churches in Toronto. This year they were in June and November. In June we hosted the event here at Forward. It is always a joy to meet with brothers and sisters from around the city to praise God together!

### **FEB Toronto Pastor's Meetings**

I continue to serve on the Executive Committee for the Fellowship's monthly Pastor's meetings here in Toronto. (And yes! The meetings are for all church leadership...not only the pastors.) These meetings are times to gather and discuss topics of life and ministry, pray together, and fellowship with others serving in churches. I am deeply grateful for those who participate and the ways they encourage me!

### **100 Year Planning**

Through the course of the year David Power, Aaron, Steve, and I have put a lot of time into preparing for the 100 Year celebrations. This includes choosing events to include in the calendar, poster creation, choosing projects, planning church signage, volunteer recruitment, communication, etc.

### **Congregational Care**

Every season is unique, but here is a taste of some of the ways I participate in congregational care.

- Shut-ins – bulletins, congregational letters, etc. are mailed out regularly.
- Coffee/tea with new congregation members or members in need of conversation, prayer, or encouragement.
- Drop-in conversations with community members who need prayer, etc.
- Encouragement cards and phone calls.
- Ongoing phone/email answering and addressing needs as they come up.
- Discipleship with a few young women in the church who are keen to grow.
- Leading a Small Group



## **Communications/Publications**

Here are some of the ongoing tasks in this category.

- Bulletins: bi-monthly, weekly Sunday, and weekly prayer.
- Graphic Design for Posters/Slides/postcards as needed.
- Mass Emails – are sent out weekly/as needed to keep you updated and connected.
- Communications with BHNA and other neighbourhood connections to mention our events in their email blasts and help raise awareness of our presence in the community.
- Website – ongoing updates and changes.
- Calendar – continual updates to make sure it reflects the events at the church correctly.
- So many other things that come up and surprise me through the year.

In Christ,

Sarah Quartel

Director of Worship & Communications

## 55+ MINISTRY

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In June 2018 after much prayer and discussions with the group's leadership the Forward Friendship Club (aka Chat 'n' Chew ministry) came to a conclusion. Guntra Zarins had volunteered to be the coordinator for one year from June 2017 - June 2018. The other committee members assisted Guntra Zarins; we are thankful for all the ways Guntra and the committee faithfully served. Committee members: Terry Donaldson, Doreen Huard, David Iggulden, Cathy Little-Semple and Allister Walsh.

Forward relaunched this group calling it the "55+ Ministry" on Friday, Oct 12 2018. We had 40 people gather together at 11:30 am to enjoy two very delicious soups and some yummy bread. We played some games at our tables and talked about the vision of this relaunched ministry. It was wonderful to see many familiar faces and some new people from the church and the community attended.

The relaunch of this ministry has been done intentionally. The leadership team desires to see this ministry align with the larger mission of Forward Baptist Church. The 55+ group will gather the 2nd Friday of each month at 11:30 am. It is our intention that we would glorify God as individuals and together, we would have times of growing in Christ and spurring others on in the gospel and that we would be encouraged to go with the gospel or invite our friends to see the gospel in action at Forward.

We would like to express my thanks for those who have committed to leading, serving and helping monthly in various ways: Terry Donaldson, David Iggulden, Ron Picard, Brian and Elizabeth Taylor, and Allister Walsh.

Aaron Woodhouse, Pastor of Community Engagement, and  
Steve Lambert, Pastor of Teaching & Discipleship

### ***“SPEEDING HIS COMING”***

*“You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and **speed its coming**”  
(2 Peter 3:11b-12a NIV).*

Can we, individually and as a church, actually speed the return of our Lord? Can we contribute to God’s plan of the ages? The Apostle Peter writes (after detailing the end of history): we speed the coming of our Lord by letting the Holy Spirit inspire our every thought and action (Ephesians 2:10), by Spirit prompted praying (Ephesians 6:18), and by Spirit prompted investing in Kingdom ministries (2 Corinthians 9:6-9).

Imagine the whole world blanketed with the gospel! This is possible in our generation.

- The internet is global. People anywhere can download the Bible and supportive literature.
- Many internet sites are leading people to Christ and maturing them in the faith.
- Thanks to smart phones, individuals in communities hostile to the gospel can secretly be reached with the truth.
- Radio programming dedicated to the evangelism and church planting is available in many languages.
- Television is ministering to large sectors of humanity, again in major languages.
- Wycliffe Bible Translators envision every language having Scriptures by 2025.
- Thousands of “foot soldiers” are on the ground in all known languages proclaiming the truth.
- “Underground churches” are reaching out in their communities in spite of political opposition.

The above is a sermon summary as given by Pastor Donald H. Webster on Missions Signature Sunday, August 19, 2018. He further encouraged us to be aware of the gospel advancement worldwide, to be Spirit prompted in our praying, giving, and living, living daily in anticipation of Christ’s return and ***speeding His coming***.

#### **Signature events through the year were:**

Sunday, August 19: Pastor Donald H. Webster opened the Word with a view into the future and encouragement toward action to speed Christ’s coming.

Saturday, October 20: A Missions Dinner was held with an attendance of 80 friends of missions. Of particular focus was the recognition of the 28 years of missionary service by Aaron and Annegret Bowes.

Sunday, October 21: our Annual Missions Focus Sunday, with our missionary guests Aaron and Annegret Bowes.

We were also blessed by visits from Darryl Dash and Ghemi McDede, church planters in Liberty Village and Scarborough respectively.

Friends, be encouraged to pray, give and live in preparation for and to speed His coming.

Remember our below listed current active missionaries and their families in continuous fervent prayer.

Ray and Sandra Alary – Transworld Radio

Aaron and Annegret Bowes – Missions 3D Threshold, Germany

Daniel and Emily Ford, Hannah, Josiah, Tabitha – BMFP, Moldova

Bechara and Roula Karkafi, Jonathan, Robin – FEB International

Gilles and Irene Lapierre – AEBEQ, Province of Quebec  
Don and Erin Longworth, Mahayla, Mercy, Katelyn – SIM, New Brunswick  
Martha Oates – OMF, Taiwan  
Valera and Laura Strugov, Jacob, Luke, Oliver – MoveIn, Toronto

Also continue to remember and pray for our beloved missionary retirees;

Hugh and Jean Gordon  
Jo Grimshaw  
Paul & Diane Kerr  
Vi McKie  
Bob and Nancy Sheffield  
Donald Whiteside  
Jim and Barb Longworth  
Hugh and Carol Hamp  
Jessica Breski  
Brian and Elsabet Taylor

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Missions Committee: Gerald Britton, Patricia Overholt, and pastoral staff members.

Ray E. Repo  
Chairman of the Missions Committee

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE

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Our role and responsibility as a property committee is to maintain and improve the amazing facilities and physical properties that God has entrusted to us as a Church community. We are also entrusted with ensuring that the facilities are used to further God's Kingdom and bring glory to Him. We have so much to be thankful for when it comes to our facilities: the building is built well, has been maintained and is presentable. Still, it is an aging building and will require regular upgrading and fixing to ensure that it is usable for many years of fruitful ministry to come. A large part of ensuring you have good facilities is the ongoing, consistent maintenance and upgrading. By doing this it ensures the building does not become run-down or to far in disrepair.

We thank our Custodian Team that worked hard in 2018 in maintaining and cleaning our facilities. We are thankful for all the following people that have helped with custodian work in 2018 at various times and in different ways:

Full time custodians: Randy Hembruff, David Nunn, Jamie Cudao and Justine Cudao

Part time custodians: Peter Gittings and Paul Bowles.

Volunteers: Ken Chan, Eddie Fleury and Jim Sleep

### Highlights from 2018

The largest project we completed this year was the CE building roof replacement. This project cost approx. \$55,000. The CE Building roof was failing in dozens of little areas. This was causing damage inside the building and would have resulted in significant damage in the future if left. We also reduced utility costs by replacing all the toilets and some faucets.

### Looking forward to the years ahead:

- Update our outside signage - this will help in the overall presentation of our Church and the programs that we run in order to reach out and share the love of Christ with the Beach Hill Community
- Elevator retrofit project
- Fix foundation leaks in door frame near gym
- Finish the inside with better signage initiative (started in 2015)
- Continue to paint rooms that have paint peeling and are in need of some freshening up: i.e. Fellowship Hall, CE Entrance
- The property committee will also look at other needed repairs, updates and renovations that will help us to continue to best use our facility to the glory of God and that will enable us to best utilize our church facility for ministry purposes.
- Identify and implement ways to reduce utility costs in the Church: Finish replacing faucets on sinks, weather striping on outside doors, change old windows for energy efficient windows.

### Library Resource Center

The Church Library is located on the main floor by the Sanctuary and is readily accessible to all people on Sundays and throughout the week. I would encourage you to take advantage of the books and resources available inside. In addition to the many great physical books in the library we also have a great digital video library offered through Right Now Media which has 1000's of video resources available for streaming online. You can request access by contacting the Church Office.

I would like to thank the following people for their contributions in the library in 2018: Harry Legris, David Iggulden, Pam Kahloo, and Stephanie Taylor.

May we continue to be good stewards of what God has entrusted us with in 2019 and may we make bold plans for how our facility and material possessions can be used to further God's kingdom and proclaim the



gospel in the Beach Hill Neighbourhood, East York, and Toronto.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron Woodhouse  
Property Committee

Property Committee Members: David Power, Aaron Woodhouse

## **WOMEN'S MINISTRY AND WOMEN'S MISSION FELLOWSHIP REPORT**

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The Wednesday evening Women's Bible studies have continued this past year with between 10 and 15 women attending as they were able. In the winter/spring we studied the Book of Psalms using a study guide written by Tim Keller. We looked at the various types of Psalms and how to pray the Psalms in our personal prayer life. In the fall we used Francis Chan's book "Forgotten God", a study focusing on building our relationship with the Holy Spirit, understanding that He is a person and learning the ways in which He speaks to us personally and how to hear His voice.

This year Bridal Showers for Laura and Liam Freer and Kathrine and Sam Deinum were planned and hosted by the women at Forward to bless these new marriages with our love and practical gifts.

In September, nine women gathered at a cottage in Haliburton for a weekend Retreat. We had a wonderful time of mental, physical and spiritual refreshment and enjoyed a time to get to know each other better over good food, times of spiritual reflection and conversation, and walks around the lake.

The Women's Bible study met to bake cookies for the Christmas meal that Forward prepared for the Toronto City Mission St. James Town site.

Our women's ministry at Forward is a vital part of our Forward community. Please prayerfully consider how you might get involved!

Respectfully submitted by the Women's ministry team,  
Debbie Michaud, Carol Bain, Denise Britton, Mary Deinum, Becky Lambert, Sarah Quartel

### **Thursday Noon Hour Study & Women's Mission Fellowship**

The Thursday Noon Hour Study continues to meet each week for prayer and Bible study. Since the church installed Wi-Fi, we have been able to access RightNow Media and use some of the resources it offers. Our studies in 2018 were on "Becoming a Woman of Strength", by Cynthia Heald. The key verse was 2 Chronicles 16:9, "The eyes of the Lord search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him." (NLT) The videos were very helpful and we followed up by answering the questions in Cynthia Heald's book. Later in the spring, we used 2 Devotional Studies by Anne Graham Lotz called "Choices" and "Ready or Not." Our fellowship over lunch and tea is very enjoyable and all women are welcome.

The Women's Mission Fellowship met on the last Thursday of the month, January to November, with a break in the summer. At Christmas time we sent Christmas cards to 14 missionaries: some overseas and others in Canada as well as to our friends who are Shut-Ins. The Women's Mission Fellowship took the lead in organizing the Samaritan Purse, Operation Christmas Child project. 40 Shoe boxes were taken to the collection centre. I would like to thank Sarah Quartel for the bulletin announcements and Patricia Overholt and Terry Donaldson for collecting the boxes. During 2018 we invited the following speakers to tell us about their missionary work, Eleanor Hanna, Julie Maclean, Minka Graham, Elizabeth Shelton and Anne Bowes. It was a blessing to hear what God is doing as a result of these women's testimonies.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eunice Chaffey

## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

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God has once again provided Forward with the financial stability needed to help us focus on the task of listening to His voice. I look forward to seeing where He leads us next. The faithful giving of all of you once again ensured that the Church had sufficient financial means to support the mission of Forward to continue to Glorify God, Grow in Christ and to go with the Gospel.

We are grateful and praise God that the 2018 givings were 15%, or \$65,328, higher than last year. The increase was much needed as our 2018 expenditures were also 15% higher than 2017, mainly due to the repairs needed to the church building roof. We ended 2018 with a deficit of \$28,338 and the available funds at the end of the year were \$153,577, compared to \$171,915 at the end of 2017.

The 2018 expenditure once again mainly supported the following activities:

- Staff and Pastoral costs;
- Maintain the church activities;
- Maintain the building;
- Maintain the current support of Missionaries; and
- Improvements and repairs to the church facilities.

As a church family, we believe that:

- **God** has provided us with the staff members who serve at Forward.
- **God** wants us to reach out to the neighborhood.
- **God** wants us to be united.
- **God** wants us to be a church that takes care of its members, young and old, near and far.
- **God** wants us to support our missionaries.

Most important, we believe that **God comes first**, and I am grateful to be part of a church where it is evident from our givings that we often do place God first. Please continue to pray that as a congregation, together we would discern how God would direct us to use the resources He has given.

I would like to thank Carol Bain, our bookkeeper, for her unfailing diligence and care in maintaining the books and records of Forward. I also want to thank our regular tellers: Charles Chaffey, Allister Walsh, Marianne Potter and Richard Rawlins, our head teller, who faithfully count the money and prepare the deposits each week.

We are once again thankful for the way God's people have supported the work at Forward. May God bless you as you give cheerfully to the work of our Lord.

Respectfully submitted,

Maarten Theunissen  
Chair, Finance Committee

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

	2018	2017	2016	2018 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>				
Envelopes	15,907	20,068	25,238	22,500
Where Most Needed	127,265	179,083	115,185	165,000
Pre Authorized Gifts	131,120	116,250	102,910	114,000
Loose offerings	3,971	4,913	2,616	3,500
Anniversary offering	34,181	27,728	38,795	30,000
United Way	102,122	77,788	115,370	79,000
Other donations, inc Roof Fund	52,060	192	1,184	-
TOTAL INCOME	466,626	426,022	401,298	414,000
<b>MISSIONS INCOME</b>				
Envelopes	10,790	18,885	21,816	25,500
Special Mission Offering	28,741	20,850	22,864	25,000
Other Missions Donations	-	10	1,554	-
TOTAL MISSIONS INCOME	39,531	39,745	46,234	50,500
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>				
Rent - Glenmore	10,200	10,200	10,200	10,200
Rent - Korean Bible Baptist Church	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Rent - Rehoboth Baptist Church	-	-	-	-
Facility Rentals	7,518	2,196	4,715	1,700
Government Grants	-	3,023	10,042	3,600
Recoveries & Fees (mainly camp)	22,168	15,080	4,929	14,500
Interest Earned	884	166	529	150
Other receipts	390	150	1,349	150
TOTAL INCOME	51,160	40,815	41,764	40,300
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	557,317	506,582	489,296	504,800

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
 STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE (Continued)  
 FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

	2018	2017	2016	2018 Budget
<b>LOCAL EXPENDITURE</b>				
Staff and pastoral costs	337,436	305,133	263,608	320,151
Christian education	25,975	21,851	15,982	27,351
Worship	2,583	6,458	5,121	10,250
Communications and fellowship	13,870	9,566	8,930	9,251
Office and general	18,506	17,760	16,048	16,002
Building	89,269	98,820	98,048	101,200
Bus ministry	1,490	1,628	2,122	2,350
Capital Items and special projects	50,164	2,520	21,072	30,000
<b>TOTAL LOCAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>539,293</b>	<b>463,736</b>	<b>430,931</b>	<b>516,555</b>
<b>MISSIONS EXPENDITURE</b>				
Individuals	27,720	30,120	36,580	30,095
Mission Organizations	14,960	16,970	18,500	14,960
Other	3,682	13,730	19,414	10,500
<b>TOTAL MISSIONS EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>46,362</b>	<b>60,820</b>	<b>74,494</b>	<b>55,555</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>585,655</b>	<b>524,556</b>	<b>505,425</b>	<b>572,110</b>
 INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE BEFORE SPECIAL ITEMS	 (28,338)	 (17,974)	 (16,129)	 (67,310)
Bequest	-	1,000	325	-
BALANCE, Beginning of year	181,915	198,889	215,018	181,915
<b>BALANCE, End of period</b>	<b>153,577</b>	<b>181,915</b>	<b>198,889</b>	<b>11,605</b>



FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE - LOCAL MINISTRY FUND  
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

	2018	2017	2016	2018 Budget
<b>STAFF AND PASTORAL COSTS</b>				
Salaries	217,164	194,717	169,336	200,000
Employee benefits	42,340	39,170	30,317	38,401
Temporary help	41,555	34,136	32,621	41,250
Summer Career Placement	23,587	24,189	21,180	26,000
Book allowance (pastoral staff)	2,075	2,000	1,383	2,400
Work Clothes (custodial staff)	-	-	-	400
Staff Education & development	5,224	3,961	2,924	5,000
Travel	799	1,059	619	1,200
Pastoral costs	1,441	2,168	1,170	2,000
Conferences	3,251	3,736	4,063	3,500
	337,436	305,136	263,613	320,151
<b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>				
Department supplies	2,446	2,609	2,047	4,600
Bible school curriculum	914	892	619	0
Library/resource centre	112	75	10	100
Day camp	8,138	8,586	6,371	8,500
Developing Ministries	11,264	4,368	2,053	7,200
Men's Ministry	63	-	-	200
Family Ministry	144	2,059	2,111	2,500
Youth Ministry	2,657	2,207	1,988	3,000
Women's Ministry	237	263	784	1,251
	25,975	21,059	15,983	27,351
<b>WORSHIP</b>				
Organ & piano maintenance	1,018	1,104	1,800	900
Worship expenses	436	4,880	287	7,500
Special speakers	400	600	2,360	800
Song License	662	640	638	900
Ordinance	67	28	36	150
	2,583	6,458	5,121	10,250
<b>COMMUNICATIONS AND FELLOWSHIP</b>				
Communications inc Advertising	1,378	1,574	1,267	1,400
100 <sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary	3,971	-	-	-
Community Outreach	2,047	3,627	2,643	2,650
Church fellowship	5,616	3,441	3,689	3,701
Flowers	638	924	663	1,500
Auditorium decorations	220	-	669	-
	13,870	9,566	8,930	9,251

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE - LOCAL MINISTRY FUND (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

	2018	2017	2016	2018 Budget
<b>OFFICE AND GENERAL</b>				
Bank charges & interest	2,266	1,676	1,440	1,701
Cell Phones	2,208	2,208	1,809	2,400
Postage	1,276	684	1,131	901
Printing, stationery & office supplies	10,299	9,307	7,113	8,500
Telephone	2,457	3,885	4,555	2,500
	18,506	17,760	16,048	16,002
<b>BUILDING</b>				
Building maintenance, repairs and supplies	13,797	23,576	23,818	22,000
Gas	17,023	15,505	14,337	18,000
Hydro & Water	37,417	43,218	48,006	47,500
Insurance	6,349	6,344	6,156	6,300
P.A./ A.V. maintenance & supplies	1,056	3,573	571	2,400
Glenmore property	13,627	6,604	5,160	5,000
	89,269	98,820	98,048	101,200
<b>BUS MINISTRY</b>				
Bus insurance	1,381	1,396	1,600	1,300
Bus operating costs	109	232	522	300
Bus repairs & maintenance	-	-	-	750
	1,490	1,628	2,122	2,350
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>				
Capital Expenditures	1,104	-	1,109	30,000
Special Projects	49,060	2,520	19,963	-
	50,164	2,520	21,072	30,000

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
SCHEDULE OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE – MISSIONS  
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

	2018	2017	2016	2018 Budget
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Envelopes	10,790	18,885	21,816	21,500
Missions Offering	28,741	20,850	22,864	25,000
Other income	-	10	1,554	1,500
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>39,531</b>	<b>39,745</b>	<b>46,234</b>	<b>48,000</b>
<b>INDIVIDUALS</b>				
El: Brian Taylor	-	-	3,600	-
EBM: Aaron and Anna Bowes	18,120	18,120	18,095	18,095
YWAM: Jacob and Rachel Kollar	-	-	660	-
SIM: Don and Erin Longworth	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Trans World Radio: Ray and Sandra Alary	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
BMFP: Daniel and Emily Ford	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
SEMBEQ: Gilles and Irène Lapierre	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
GCLA: Laurie Fliestra	-	-	500	-
David & Julie Boonstra	-	-	3,625	-
Jennifer Oates	-	1,200	1,200	1,200
Martha Oates	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Valera & Laura Strugov (Movein)	-	1,200	-	1,200
Bechera & Roula Karkafi (FEBI)	1,200	1,200	-	1,200
<b>TOTAL INDIVIDUALS</b>	<b>27,720</b>	<b>30,120</b>	<b>36,080</b>	<b>30,095</b>

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
SCHEDULE OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE – MISSIONS FUND (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

	2018	2017	2016	2018 Budget
<b>MISSION ORGANIZATIONS</b>				
FAIR (FBC Int)	720	720	720	720
FEBC: General fund	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Fellowship Network Project (Feb Int)	720	720	720	720
FEB Central Church Planting Program	720	720	720	720
FLC: Myanmar	-	2,000	2,000	2,000
Liberty Grace Church	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Heritage College & Seminary	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400
Toronto City Mission	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
SAT-7 Canada	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
MAARIFA - Pioneers	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Designated Gifts	-	10	1,540	-
<b>TOTAL MISSION ORGANIZATIONS</b>	<b>14,960</b>	<b>16,970</b>	<b>18,500</b>	<b>16,960</b>
<b>OTHER</b>				
Conference & Special Speakers	1,082	1,262	3,519	3,500
Short Term Missions	-	10,000	12,995	16,100
Gifts to missionaries & retirees	2,600	2,400	2,400	3,050
Special Projects/Events	-	-	500	-
<b>TOTAL OTHER</b>	<b>3,682</b>	<b>13,662</b>	<b>19,414</b>	<b>22,650</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>46,362</b>	<b>60,742</b>	<b>73,994</b>	<b>69,705</b>
<b>NET INCOME (EXPENSES)</b>	<b>(6,831)</b>	<b>(20,997)</b>	<b>(27,760)</b>	<b>(21,705)</b>

*Abbreviations:*

BMFP - Baptist Mission to Forgotten Peoples

FLC - Frontier Laborers for Christ

GLCA - Greater Lisbon Christian Academy (Div. of ABWE)

YWAM - Youth With A Mission

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2018

	General Operating	Other Funds	Dec. 31 2018	Dec. 31 2017	Dec. 31 2016
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash	79,093		79,093	61,059	63,865
Investments (savings acct/GIC)	76,262		76,262	115,747	145,000
Petty Cash	326		326	197	93
Gov't Rebates	15,378		15,378	21,148	11,527
Accounts Receivable	-		-	-	2,188
Prepaid Expenses	1,236		1,236	3,791	5,085
Capital assets	-	1	1	1	1
	172,293	1	172,295	201,943	227,759
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
Accounts payable	195		195	1,702	6,961
Member loans payable	-	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Benevolent Fund	14,551		14,551	16,772	19,442
David Barr Fund	3,353		3,353	742	214
Women's Missionary Fellowship	(16)		(16)	145	235
Forward Friendship Club	628		628	667	519
	18,711	20,000	38,711	40,028	47,372
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>	153,582	(19,999)	133,584	161,915	180,387

**NOTE 1:**

**CHURCH INDEBTEDNESS**

Member loans, renewable annually at the lenders option, on October 31, with interest payable at the prevailing Canada Savings Bond rate.

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2018

	Benevolent Fund	David Barr Fund	Women's Missionary Fellowship	Forward Friendship Club	Total Fund Balances
Balance-Beginning of year	16,772	742	145	667	18,326
Receipts rec'd during year	13,035	3,710	606	311	17,662
Disbursements during year	15,256	1,099	767	350	17,472
Balance-end of year	14,551	3,353	(16)	628	18,516



## CHURCH CLERK REPORT ON MEMBERSHIP 2018

### Baptisms in 2018: 12

Anne Marie Boone	Alexandra Dobozanovic	Ping Mukai	Jim Sleep
Daniel Boone	Glen Green	Kevaughn Nickle	William Snieder
Jamie Cudao	Lisa Hodge	James Power	George Westel

### New Members in 2018: 17

Vicky Abellara	Tom Crosby	Monica Justice	Carol Rodgerson
Sarah Babalola	Jamie Cudao	Valerie MacKinnon	George Rodgerson
Olatunde Babalola	Justine Cudao	David Nunn	William Snieder
Anne Marie Boone	Gabriella Holland	Roland Peltier	Shawn Taylor
Daniel Boone			

### Members Removed in 2018: 12

<u>Deceased</u>	<u>Membership Transferred</u>	<u>Removed</u>
Eileen Barr	Austin Paul	Floyd Coggins
Bill Friesen		Shane Madden
Jennifer Gittings		Eldur Rahumeel
Ruthie Martens		Jamie Simpson
Ruth Webster		John Tietze
Laurolin Williams		

### Membership by Category 2018

	2018	2017	2016
Active Members	110	103	111
Member Missionaries	2	2	4
Inactive Members	16	19	15
Shut in Members	12	13	14
Total Membership	140*	137	144

\*Total Membership as of December 31, 2018