

Winter 2013

Joy Fellowship Newsletter



Praying that the joys and blessings of
Christmas be with each of you.



Luke 2:10 The angel said to the shepherds “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord”

Please join us in worship at the Joy Fellowship
Christmas service on **December 22nd**
10 AM 5880 Oak Street (42nd Ave. & Oak Street)

A Christmas Message by Dave Hayward Jr.

“And she gave birth to her firstborn, a son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger for there was no room for them in the inn.”

In a recent workshop a pastor I respect commented that that idea of an ‘inn’ may have been a medieval addition to the text, as Bethlehem (“House of Bread”) was likely a pretty small place in those days, and would not likely have had an inn – since it was not on the trade routes, where the camel caravans would go. His point was that Joseph had FAMILY in Bethlehem, and thus would have expected to find room with relatives, but due to the census, no one had any room – not even their family.

This struck me, and I thought of some of you, parents of children with disabilities, who have had a hard time finding a ‘place’ for them. In the early days there might have been **no suitable place** for them to go to school, or a day care where people with specialized skills could help you with ideas for supporting your children. Later it might have been **no place** for them in a day program or workshop, because there were long waiting lists for places, and once your child left school, there was **no place** for them to have meaningful relationships and suitable activities. For some of you it may have been church, where your children, and then YOU, felt there was **no place** for you. Then when it was time for your loved one to move away from you, to live more independently, again there was perhaps **no place**. All of you have been there, and some of you are still there, and here’s the good news. Jesus has been there too, and He understands what you are going through and have gone through. He is on your side, longing for you to find a place for the ones you and we love, and gladly keeping safe in heaven, the place that has been prepared **for you**.

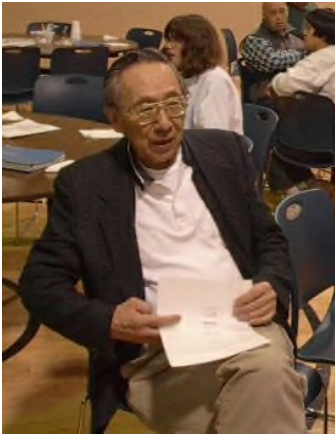
That’s part of what it means that the Word Became Flesh – He dwelt among us, and there was no room for him, and he even had to flee as a refugee to a foreign land, when life became too dangerous. He knows our sorrows, and he knows our struggles, and he hears and answers our prayers.

This Christmas we have been remembering another enormous group of people who have NO PLACE; the people in the Philippines whose homes and businesses and farms and fishing boats have been destroyed by the typhoon. We have been raising money to send to help, and I encourage you to join in that effort. All our donations will be matched by the government. Here again, it struck me that God has been good in preparing the world to be generous in this disaster, by sending loving gentle, sweet Christian women and men from the Philippines all over the world, to serve those who are weak and sick and suffering and disabled, with tenderness and love. All of us have known extraordinary examples of these great people who have blessed us, and so I believe the world will respond. I hope YOU will too.

God bless you this Christmas season, and let us all give thanks for this particular place and family God has provided us – Joy Fellowship.
David Hayward Jr

Kutch Imayoshi

by Pastor Dave Hayward, Senior.



With the recent death of Kutch Imayoshi, Joy Fellowship Fellowship has lost one of its most faithful supporters and Ruby and I have lost one of our best friends.

My connection with Kutch goes back to our younger years. Kutch was two years older than I. He was born in Summerland of Japanese parentage. When I was a boy, my maternal grandparents lived in Summerland and almost every year our family spent some time with them. I had a close friendship with one of my cousins who went to the same High School as Kutch. Kutch was a good athlete and at one point, I remember that he played catcher on a very good Japanese Canadian baseball team.

At a later stage, my uncle became manager of one of the Fruit Packing Houses in Summerland and one of his growers was Mr. Imayoshi, Kutch's father. This drew our family and the Imayoshi family closer together and one of Kutch's sisters, Mit, stayed with my parents during her studies at UBC. She continues to be a good friend.

Kutch's parents were not Christians and I believe he was the first in his family to decide to follow Jesus. This would not have been an easy step to take and it was just one of a number of tests in his life. As a young man, he faced the backlash against Japanese Canadians, which resulted from the war with Japan. Before undertaking his ministerial training, he developed T.B. and had to be hospitalized for a period.

Back in 1973, Kutch and I were candidates for ordination at one of our Baptist Conventions. The two of us waited together for this ordeal in a room adjoining the place of examination. We both passed!

Following this, Ruby and I went to India and I know Kutch prayed for us. On our return to Canada, I sought to enlist people to pray for our tribal friends, the Soras. Kutch was among those who committed themselves to do this. Not long before he died, he phoned to advise me how pleased he was that he had had a letter from the Sora family he prayed for.

Following some personal problems, Kutch felt it right to leave the ministry, which he did for a few years. He later took up the pastorate again and thus began one of the most fruitful periods of his life. It was during this stage that I had the privilege of leading the service of Memorial for his autistic daughter, Laura-Lynn.

Having a handicapped daughter no doubt predisposed Kutch to look with favour on the Joy Fellowship ministry. He was one of the first members of the Joy Fellowship Council and helped us in our camps and activities. He even volunteered to be the cook at one of our camps. His regular involvement made him a beloved friend to our flock and a wonderful encouragement to me. We all look on him as being "one of us" and we will miss him.

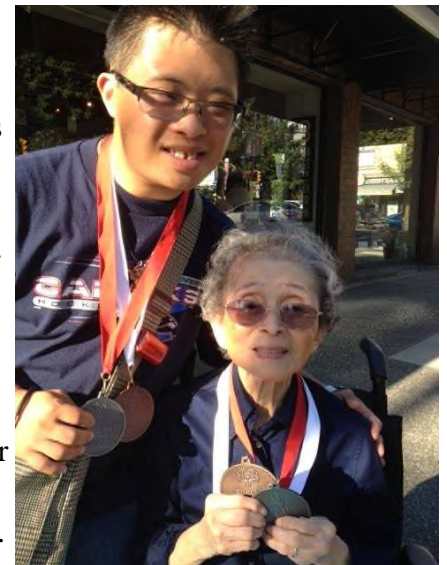


The Chan Family

services and was well known to our members. She was also a generous supporter of the Joy Living Society.

Our sympathies to the Chan and Li families.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Alice Li on August 7th. Mrs. Li is the mother of Eunice Chan and beloved grandmother of Nicholas Chan. Eunice and Nicholas are members of our worship team, providing beautiful music each Sunday. Mrs. Li often worshipped at our



Nicholas and his Grandma Alice Li

The World Market & Christmas Craft Fair

On November 30th, The World Market and Christmas Craft Fair took place at Trinity Baptist Church. The International Market, under the leadership of Carol Hansen, featured unique goods from many different countries. Yummy goodies, Pastor David's bread, rice mixes and different treats filled the home baking booth. Handcrafted scarves, socks, sweaters, and Christmas Stockings covered one table, while at the other end,



“Bearly Used Bears” brought smiles and hugs. A Children's Craft Table kept the little ones busy as their parents shopped and artist Richard Shorty was there to personally sign his Art.



The White Elephant

Room was a big success and in the hall, books, CD and videos were offered. All the while, music was played by our music team and everyone joined in the carol singing. A piper made a brief appearance, playing a selection of carols on the bagpipes and later Joan Lew's Harp Choir played. In in the Tea Room Eunice and Nick Chan entertained by playing the flutes. After a busy tour of the booths and many purchases, guests made their way to the Tea Room for lunch and to rest up for a final cruise through the Fair. Almost \$5,000 was raised to help further the work of Joy Fellowship.



Giving All Year Round

We are now in December. This is the month of GIVING. We receive our Christmas presents and give to those we love and will give a bit extra to charities we care for. Often there is an assumption that disabled people don't have a lot to give—either financially or through their actions. We thought it might be nice to look at the different ways our disabled people having been giving throughout the year



Walking the Wall

Almost 20 of us gathered with several hundred others at Stanley park on a September Saturday morning for the 6th annual Walk the Wall for ICC in China. It was supposed to be a VERY stormy day, with huge rains and winds up to 100 k., but the Lord protected us. We got wet, but not soaked through, and our team stuck together, We were far behind everyone else but made it to the end

Our Joy Fellowship Team raised over \$4000 for ICC. The money had been pledged by friends, co-workers and family and was sent to help support disabled children in China. Well done, Joy Fellowship Team



Making Rice Packs



On a Sunday afternoon, following the church service, the Leadership Team and other members of the congregation gathered

downstairs to package rice for the Joy Fellowship World Market and Christmas Craft Fair. Forming an assembly line, rice was put into packages, spices added, instructions attached and packages sealed. The many packages were then sold out at the Fair. A great co-operative enterprise.



Volunteering for Mission fest

Thank you so much to each volunteer who came to help us stuff thousands of

envelopes. The Joy Fellowship crew was faithfully and cheerfully helping again. - Missions Fest Vancouver

Visiting

Each November we are blessed by a visit from the Edmonton Mt. Carmel Bible College students. This year they joined us for the Tuesday night Bible Study and again for our Sunday worship. The students are seen here singing and dancing with Lori-Ann. These young people give their time and energy to come visit, participate , and share the love of God with us.

Volunteering



Janice Bavis is another one of our members who is giving back to the community through her volunteer work. For more than 20 years, Janice has volunteered at Family Centres and at Montessori Day Care. In August, she reluctantly “retired” from her volunteer position at West Side Family Place in Vancouver due to health problems. They presented her with this plaque, recognizing her contribution. Even nicer was the card with so many lovely comments about her positive attitude and warm smile. She has enjoyed being part of the West Side family and over the years has made many friends with the parents and their children. Janice continues to do her volunteer work at Mount Pleasant Family Place and Montessori in a limited capacity. So much progress has been made towards the disabled being accepted into the community, enriching the lives of families.

Sharing

Joy Fellowship recently received an unusual, but much appreciated donation from Pastor Allen Walker from Qualicum Beach. Pastor Walker has given us over \$1000 worth of old, but unused stamps. With the cost of mailing rising each year, it becomes expensive to buy stamps for our Newsletter and other mail outs (This is one reason we encourage our reader to receive their Newsletter via the Internet). However for those who do not have access to a computer or those who prefer the printed version, we still mail out over 300 copies of our Newsletter. Needless to say these stamps are very much appreciated. In January, we will begin to combine the stamps to make the current value required by Canada Post. We are planning a “Stamp Bee” after church one Sunday and together will label envelopes with these stamps. Many thanks Pastor Walker. We very much appreciate your contribution.

Pennies for Heaven

The recent disaster in the Philippines has been on the thoughts of everyone throughout the world. Prayers have been sent from Joy Fellowship, but along with our prayers and concerns, we were able to provide some monetary relief. Many members of the congregation have a “Pennies For Heaven” jar. Spare change goes into the jar and when it is getting full, it is brought back to church and exchanged for an empty jar to be filled up. Pastor David was able to send over \$500 to the relief funds for the Philippines. Think about how many pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters go in to make up \$500 and how many people have saved their coins to contribute to those needing help. Just one more example of disabled people able to help others.

At this time of year, we encourage everyone to think about giving to Joy Fellowship. A monetary donation is always appreciated and necessary, but donations of time, driving, helping with activities or camps are different ways of giving to Joy Fellowship. Our disabled congregation gives much of themselves and encourage others to do so as well.

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Facebook Group

For those of you who use FaceBook, there is now a Joy Fellowship group you can join! Keep up to date, share, and enjoy the pictures and videos

News from Away



Sonia, Isaac & Mark

We were all thrilled to hear that our former pastor Krishna Beyer Horn is returning to Vancouver. Krishna was married to David Horn this past summer and David has accepted a position as Chaplain at Mount St. Joseph's Hospital in Vancouver. We are hoping to see them in early January.

We had a wonderful visit from Sonia and Mark, from Macau, who came here looking for resources and for possible future options for their 2 year old son Isaac, who has Down Syndrome. They are concerned about his future, and how best to prepare for that. He sounds like a bright lovely boy, and we hope to meet him one day. They are returning hoping to start a parent support group – they have about 15 contacts with families there already, I believe and they really loved our Joy Fellowship group and worship experience. They are dreaming about starting something there perhaps. We may one day be planning visits to a Joy Fellowship in Macau!!



As October 30, 2013 (10 months)

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Total Income | \$131,059 |
| Total Expenses | <u>\$151,702</u> |
| Operating Deficit | (\$20,643) |

Your Joy Fellowship Board is thankful to the Lord for His many blessings including your faithful support. Please keep the Joy Fellowship ministry in your prayers, so it accomplishes the Lord's will.



Our congratulations to Pastor David on the arrival of his second grandchild, a baby boy named Timber (August 2013). This is also a great-grandchild for Dave & Ruby. Welcome little one!



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Upcoming Events

- Dec.22 – Christmas Sunday Service
Pearson Christmas Service
- 2014**
- Jan.1 – New Years Day pot luck meal and party 5:30-8:00 at Trinity Baptist Church.
- Jan.24-26 – Missionsfest
- Jan.31 – Chinese New Year
- Mar.22 – JF AGM at 7:00 at Trinity Baptist Church
- May 3 – Joy Jamboree- 10-2 at Trinity Baptist
- June 20-22 – Camp Sunrise
- Sept.19-21 – Camp Squamish
- Nov.29 – World Market – 10-2 at Trinity Baptist
- Dec.21 – Christmas Service

Income tax receipts will be sent early in the new year to acknowledge all gifts we receive over \$20.00.