

# A Timeline of Great Events, Happenings and Decisions at Pacific

**(Sept 2018 to Aug 2019)**

## **A Final Report from Brian Buhler, Senior Pastor**

It's difficult limiting this report to the past year, when my head and heart are reflecting on the past 12 years...well, actually 40 years. I'm in that *once-in-a-lifetime* season of life where every event becomes "the last"; the last wet Easter benediction, the last Advent, the last Christmas Eve, the last baby dedication, etc. etc. Oh, and the last Annual Meeting!

A few of the highlights of 2019 include our neighbors attending Alpha with us, Jeff beautifully passing the worship ministry to Alex (what gifts), hosting another Living Free Conference with our friends from VIA, completing the final quarter of Surge with my 10 younger friends, our second trip to Israel with 24 PCC'ers, speaking at our District Pastor's Retreat, and preaching through Luke/Acts through most of the year. At the end of the day, Sr. Pastors are Event Planners, responsible for 52 Sunday services a year. Many of these Sundays would be considered *highlights* of my year for the simple reason that we encountered God together through Word and Sacrament; week after week after week.

I want to use this moment to say thank you to the pastors, staff, elders, and congregation at Pacific Community Church for loving Myrna and me these past dozen years. We have been so well cared for. I describe this past season to my ministerial friends as "virtually drama free". It's been a rare gift. A big part of this stability is the result of being governed so well by healthy boards led by Glen Forrester for all but one of those 12 years. Thank you, Glen. Jim Heuving's focused role in church operations and executive leadership has also allowed me the time and energy to focus on my passion for preaching. Thank you, Jim, for this gift.

I will look back on these years at PCC with fondness and gratitude. Though I doubted the fit for the first few years, it's become very obvious to me that God brought the Buhlers and PCC together for such a time as this. We needed each other. (-; I thank God for his faithfulness and provision. I believe the church is primed and ready for a new season and a new Sr. Pastor.

Finally, I want to thank Myrna. She's been the most influential person in my life and ministry, and certainly in the lives of our children. For those of you who know Myrna, this will not come as a surprise, but I can truly say that she is the most selfless, stable, consistent, optimistic, and emotionally resilient person I've ever met. In other words, God equipped her with a personality and character to thrive as a pastor's wife. She has created for me and the kids the most beautiful home life. I've always said that the best part of my day is when I get to go home. In retirement, however, Myrna has warned me that she's going to kick me out of the house on occasion! A new season calls for drastic measures. In any event, we celebrate these 40 years in vocational ministry *together*. We've been a good team. It's been a truly blessed life. God be praised!

## A Typical Week

### Sundays

- Worship Service (10 AM) that includes all of us singing and teams of people leading worship, hospitality, prayers of the people, Scripture reading, praying for those needing prayer, biblical messages, and communion.
- Children's ministry (10 AM) that includes up to 55-60 children and dozens of volunteer teachers and helpers.
- Impact Youth 5-6 (10 AM).

### Mondays

- Monday Night Café (6:30 PM)

### Tuesdays

- Pastoral Meetings from 8:30 to 9:30.
- All Staff Meetings from 9:30 to 11:30.
- Reach Rental (9-5)
- Pacific Youth Worship Band Practices
- Village Youth Rental

### Wednesdays

- Noon prayer gathering for Pacific and its ministries
- Young Adults Night
- Worship Team Practice (evening)
- Wednesday Night Cloverdale Community Kitchen (Sonrise Church and Hope Community Church)

### Thursdays

- Early Morning Surge Disciples Study
- Youth Nights

### Fridays

- Friday Night Cloverdale Community Kitchen (Shepherd's House)

### Saturdays

- Custodians getting the building ready for Sunday!

## **A Typical Month**

- Impact 7 (youth) on the first and third Sunday of the month
- 55+ Lead Team Meetings First Monday of the month
- Board Meetings on the second Tuesday of the month.
- Cloverdale Pastor Breakfast on the first Wednesday of the month.
- Missional Meetings - First Wednesday/Thursday morning of the month
- Youth Meal Night on the first Thursday of the month
- Youth Fun Night on the last Thursday of the month
- 55+ Group Gathering (starting in February 2019) on the last Thursday of the month.
- Youth Leaders Meetings at varying Thursdays of every month.
- Men's Growth Group on third Thursday

## **Highlights Through the Year**

### **2018...**

#### **September**

- 1 – Prince Thomas joined our team mid-August, but now launches into his first ministry year as Youth and Community Life Pastor at Pacific.
- 8 - Our annual leadership prayer breakfast kickoff event where 60 of us reviewed the four compass points and developed key focus areas – particularly community building. Diane Felgate and her team did an amazing breakfast, Brian talked about transition, and Jeff led us in worship.
- 9 – Fall Kick-Off of Children's Ministry and Impact Youth – We had a well-attended Sunday Launch (almost 75 kids). We also had a lot of people step up in teaching roles in Pacific Kids and Impact Youth this Fall.
- 13 – Pacific Youth Kick-off – The 2018-2019 youth year began with Pastor Prince inviting all teens in grades 8-12 and their parents to: play games together, worship, listen to Prince's heart for youth ministry, and converse/share with each other. The gathering was well-attended, and the year got off to a good start.
- 15 – Pastor Brian begins integral sermon series on Our Compass: Every Person Growing in Christ, Every Person Belonging to Christ's Community, Every Person Sharing Christ's Story and Every Person Loving their Neighbour.
- 15 - We approved our annual general budget at our always well attended Congregational Meeting.
- 15 – Youth Hot Dog Fundraiser raises over \$1000 for youth ministry.
- 19 – The Young Adults Kick-Off a new ministry season with a delicious Appie Night.
- 22 – Dave Ashton, one of PCC's board members, starts a men's sermon-based growth group that meets on the 3rd Saturday of every month.

- 28 to 30 – Pacific Youth had their 5th annual Fall Retreat at Camp Kawkawa. This was an incredible highlight of the year. Very well attended, and we made some really great memories. 28 - Fall Youth Retreat
- 23 & 30 - Update & Upload Campaign Photo Booth. A good effort to capture people's pics and upload into CCB.
- 28 - Men's Fall Harvest evening – Pork & Beer. A great crowd and a great time as we heard a great testimony challenging us men to keep on connecting.

## October

- 10 – Matt and Jim participate in the “Church for the City” collaboration lunch held at Peace Portal Alliance.
- 11- Jim hangs out with Executive Pastors from around Western Canada for the day learning and sharing what we know and what we need to know.
- 14- A few families risk a rainy day at the at the Family Pumpkin Patch
- 16 – The Alpha team launches and begins plans for the January launch.
- 18 to 19 – Ten staff and leaders attend the Global Leadership Summit hosted by Christian Life Assembly. A great environment to challenge our thinking and improve our leadership capacity.
- 21 - Special Congregational Meeting for Renovation Campaign where we approved the Black Forest Campaign of \$150,000 to renovate our building with flooring, painting, lighting, and other upgrades. Pastor Jim committed to celebrate each \$50,000 milestone with Black Forest Cake for all.
- 21 – 40 people attend the Women's Fall Harvest Potluck with Zipporah leading out with a talk and all enjoying typical fall favorites.
- 21 – Pastor Prince leads Volunteer Training
- 26 – Sky Zone Trampoline Park (Gr 5-12) tons of youths from Pacific and their friends enjoyed a great time at Sky Zone Trampoline Park.
- 27 – About 25 attend the Men's Ministry Evening w/Marlowe Janke hosted at Bob's place.

## November

- 5 to 8 – Pastors travel to Whistler to attend the annual Pastor's Retreat. We all land big door prizes but more importantly enjoy an engaging week of connecting, refreshing, and refocusing.
- 10 – Mentorship Sunday where students from youth and Children's Ministry work alongside adult volunteers who make Sunday's happen.
- 20 – Over 100 Seniors from Cloverdale attend the Cloverdale Christmas Hamper lunch. At the lunch seniors in need can register for Hampers.
- 24 – Christ the King Worship & Prayer Night – led by Jeff and the team and featuring an encouraging word from Jaclyn (Weidner?). An encouraging time for the church to engage in prayer and worship for an extended time.
- 25 - 29 - Cloverdale Ladies Night Out – CCHP/CCK raises over \$1,000 with the surrey firefighters charitable society
- 29 - Fast Track Go-Karts (Gr 8-12) this event was one of Pacific Youths major highlights of the year. We had an incredible time on the track and many of the youths made a conscious effort to beat their leaders in our races.

30 - Men's "Mo'vember" Movie and Meal night

## December

- 2 - CCK raises \$1,000 at the Santa parade in Cloverdale by enthusiastic volunteer salespeople who sold freshly baked cookies from the CCK kitchen. Prince is said to have been the top salesperson!
- 3 - Pacific Youth Christmas Caroling @ Zion Park Manor - Pacific Youth had the privilege of singing Christmas Carols, reading Scripture and interacting with the elderly residents and their families at Zion Park Manor.
- 4 - We host the annual Cloverdale Chamber Christmas Luncheon which ranks as one of the top two big events of the Chamber each year.
- 4 - Our Annual General Meeting where a whole bunch of you showed up. It is always encouraging to see so many come but you should ask a lot more questions!
- 5 - Men's Christmas Event @ Bob Oliver's
- 6 - Ecole Salish Secondary has toy drive for the Christmas Hamper Program organized by students.
- 15 - All the staff gather for an awesome Christmas celebration. Always good food and fun organized by Brian and Myrna.
- 14 - 100's of volunteers show up to sort Hamper donations at the Cloverdale Agriplex
- 16 - Kids and Carols Sunday Service featuring carols sang by different groups from Pacific Kids.
- 16 - Impact Youth Christmas party - all preteens in Impact 5-6 and 7 gathered for an awesome Christmas party. We watched a classic Christmas movie and ate delicious food.
- 17 - Almost 20 guests attend the annual CCK & CCHP Christmas Dinner
- 19 - Young Adults Christmas Party - approx. 20 young adults met to have a Christmas celebration. We exchanged gifts, played group games and enjoyed a potluck dinner.
- 20 - The Pastoral Staff take off to Arocha for one day mini retreat to talk about ministry and to set some key goals.
- 24 - A very full Christmas Eve Service
- 27 - Volunteer Appreciation Skate where Pacific has a chance to get a whole bunch of families together and celebrate a year of outstanding ministry in Youth and Children's Ministry.
- 30 - Pajama Jam (PCC Kids wear pj's/watch movie & popcorn)

## 2019

### January

- 1 - Pastor Jim reduces his Executive role to ¾ time and engages Food for the Hungry Canada as their Church Engagement Lead at ¼ time.
- 6 - Black Forest Cake Celebration as we reach the first \$50K milestone to raise funds for the Church renovation- 30 8" Black Forest Cakes, BTW.
- 8 to March 19 - Alpha launched for the first time in a decade with 130 guests.
- 10 - Pacific Youth Winter Formal - Pacific Youth enjoyed a night filled joy and laughter during our Winter Formal. We enjoyed a delicious meal, exchanged gifts, dressed in our best, enjoyed the dance floor, took many photos, and celebrated the new year together.
- 13 - Winter Parenting Seminar led by Children's Ministry
- 22 - Staff shifts from google platform to Office 365 platform! Pastor Jim mourns the google loss while Courtney rejoices in the coming of office.

27 – The Women at Pacific gather for the Humble Taco & New Wine Series – Part 1 led by Zipporah and the team.

31 - Pacific Youth Event @ Plant Lazer

31- feb 7 – Jim off to Uganda with Food for the Hungry

## February

2 – Via Apostolica lay the new flooring in the church.

3 - Community Burst – Superbowl Party

3 - Impact Mentorship Sunday

8 - Parents Night Off

15 - Men’s Vancouver Giants Hockey Night

22 to 24 – Alpha Holy Spirit Retreat Weekend at Stillwood Conference Center.

23 - Coldest Night of the Year where CCK passed the 100k mark for the first time in its history.

24 – Women of Pacific gather for the Humble Taco & New Wine Series – Part 2

28 - Launching of the 55+ Group – a brand new start for a great group of people.

## March

1 - Fast Track Indoor Go-Karting – Our trip to Fast Track in the Fall was so much fun that we decided to do it again in the Spring. It was just as incredible this time around as it was the first time. This will be an event we will continue to have during our youth year.

1 to 2 – Living Free Conference w/Via Apostolica

3 - Youth Pie Auction

6 – Ash Wednesday Service w/Via Apostolica

14 to 18 – Legacy Youth Conference. We had 13 youth make the trip out to LYC this year, and many of the youths who were present recommitted their lives to Christ. We had insightful conversations, impactful prayer sessions, and lots of fun! Great experience overall!

15 - Family Movie Night – Pacific Kids

18 - Free tax clinic at Monday Night Café

29 to 30 - Worship Central “Heaven & Earth” Conference w/Worship Team & Youth - held at Westside Church, the conference was an exciting time of equipping and empowering and training for our Worship Team and youth musicians who attended. The team enjoyed wonderful times of worship together with many other worship leaders from around the GVRD.

31 - Humble Taco & New Wine Series – Part 3

## April

4 - Pacific Youth Movie Night. During this event, we ate lots of pizza and popcorn, and we watched the classic movie *Remember the Titans*. It was a fun night!

6 - Resurrection Promise Worship & Prayer Night – led by Jeff and team, this night was an exciting extended time of worship and featured Melinda Appenheimer of Via as guest speaker. This was an encouraging night for the church to participate in.

7 - Volunteer Training

8 - Baptism Class.

- 18 – Matt and Jim meet with commercial real estate experts who always are keen to invite us into the market. Price valuation of our property – 13+ million. As the population of Surrey grows, the value of our industrial grows as commercial space diminishes in relation to the growing work force.
- 19 - Cloverdale Good Friday Service - featuring a mixed worship team comprised of musicians from a number of churches and pastors from said churches – this was a blessed time of inter-church worship, prayer, and celebration.
- 19 - Pacific Youth Easter Service @ Zion Park Manor. We had the privilege of leading the guests at Zion Manor in a Good Friday service. During our time at Zion, we sang hymns, read Scripture and interacted with elderly residents and their families.
- 20 - Holy Saturday Prayer Vigil
- 21 - Easter Sunday and Baptism Service
- 25 – Cloverdale Community Kitchen / Pacific Community Church wins its second Best Not-for-Profit recognition from the Cloverdale Chamber Clovie event.
- 25 - Pacific Youth Pool Party (Gr 5-12). Our pool event at Walnut Grove Community Centre was a hit for all those who attended. Many of the persons who came out expressed to Prince that this was one of their favourite events of the youth year.
- 27 - Leadership Prayer Breakfast - a positive time of dreaming, envisioning, and brainstorming with many who lead and serve at Pacific. Alex lead worship as part of his candidating process.
- 27 - Men’s Meal Night w/Brendan Weidner - this was a time of vulnerable connection for the men of Pacific. Brendan shared deep things from his personal journey that invited vulnerable conversation among the men.
- 28 - Community Burst – Spring Warm Up Ride
- 28 - Humble Taco & New Wine Series – Part 4

## May

- 9 & 23 - Ending Poverty Boot Camp
- 11 - Community Burst Family Hike
- 16 - Cloverdale Bed Races – Pacific Youth competes in bed races; our team represented us well!
- 17 - CCK Chili Cook-off
- 19 - Impact Mentorship Sunday – a great opportunity for the kids in Impact to shadow in some of our areas of ministry and learn what it means to serve and discover potential areas of future service they might engage in.
- 19 – 29 Jim off to Ethiopia with Food for the Hungry
- 26 - Humble Taco & New Wine Series – Part 5

## June

- 1 - Men’s Annual BBQ Summer Kick-off @ Bob Oliver’s
- 2 - June Church Picnic
- 9 – One Voice Worship & Prayer Night @ Sunrise Church - A Pentecost celebration of worship.
- 9 - Community Burst Columbia Valley Adventure, motorcycle ride
- 12 - Seniors Lunch (CCK partnership with Hope Community Church & United Way)
- 13 - Blanket Exercise, hosted by Pacific Youth. During this event, we had the opportunity to participate in an "exercise" that covered more than 500 years of history in a 90-minute experiential workshop

that aimed to foster understanding about our shared history as Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada. Those who attended were challenged both emotionally and intellectually. It was incredibly formative event.

- 16 – Operation Baby Bottle, a fundraiser for Pregnancy Options, where Pacific raised over \$7800 representing almost 10% of total funds for the initiative.
- 16 – Youth Worship Band Leads during Sunday Morning Service. We were blessed to have members of Pacific Youth lead us in our musical expression of worship unto God on this Sunday. This demonstrated that the future of our church is in great hands, as the teens that led were able to lead with skill and giftedness.
- 17 - Alex Toney starts at Pacific – Alex had the benefit of working with Jeff for 3 weeks before he finished in July which allowed for a healthy and thorough handoff.
- 21 - Impact Stay-Over Night. Impact 5-7 had an incredibly fun sleep-over at Pacific on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June. We played many games together, watched a movie, and we prepared breakfast together. Many of our preteens invited their friends, which made the event even more memorable.
- 23 - Impact Year End Summer Party at Cloverdale Athletic Park, Gr 5&6. We had an awesome time celebrating the Impact year playing games and eating subs at the Cloverdale Athletic park. We honored and prayed for our: volunteer teachers/helpers, the soon-to-be grade 7 students and the incoming grade 4's. It was a fantastic way to wrap up the year.
- 23 - Pacific Youth End of Year BBQ at Greniers'. Our end of year pool party and bbq was a blast! We honored our grads and youth leaders, plus we covered everyone in prayer going into the summer. We also welcomed the soon-to-be grade 8s.

## July

- 4 - Worship Team End of Year BBQ/Jeff & Maria Farewell @ Rennicks' - this was an enjoyable time of fellowship, getting to know each other, and eating together. We had the opportunity to spend some time with Jeff and Maria and say goodbye to them as a team.
- 7 – We say goodbye to Jeff Schroeder who led our worship life excellently for two and some years. At the same time, we welcomed Alexander Toney (Charlotte) as our new Worship and Community Life Pastor.
- 7 – We celebrate the completion of the Black Forest Campaign with \$150,000 raised. Jim and his boys bake their last batch of Black Forest Cakes that nicely also celebrates the Jeff's work among us.
- 8 to 12 – Pacific Kids Summer Camp, led by Pastor Sarah, where 60 kids attend.
- 17 to 20 – Mt Currie Outreach Trip. Twelve youth and some parents travel north to help prepare for a Vacation Bible School Event among our indigenous community neighboring us in the province. Tim Higginbotham, missionary of NAIM, leads and directs the team in what is becoming our initial efforts to grow in our awareness and understanding of the First Nation Communities.
- 31 to Aug 21 – Pacific Kids Summer Wednesday Day Camps led by Sarah Paulgaard our summer student.

## August

- 3 - Pacific Youth Hike & Lunch Picnic. Fun and meaningful event for those who attended our hike to Tavistock Point-Brae Island. We also enjoyed delicious meal in one of the Fort Langley restaurants.
- 8 - Pacific Youth Summer Slide. This was an AWESOME highlight of the year. Well attended, and we created some really memorable stories while enjoying the Cultus Lake.

- 17 – We bid farewell to Sarah Tilley our Children’s Pastor who led our children for two years. We created a new team led by Leah Hagerty, Mia Davison, and Shelley Petrunia.
- 18 – Loewen and Kruse Accounting meet with Pacific to renew our financial accounting systems to reshape how we do things. This year we are saving funds to accomplish a financial review and applying them to restructuring our bookkeeping process. Tracy is hard at work applying the new ways.
- 19 - Alpha Winter team debrief meeting
- 22 – Growth Group Leaders for Fall 2019 confirmed. During the month of August, 7 leaders in our church responded to the call to serve as Growth Group leaders in the 2019-2020 ministry year. This news brought a great sense of joy to many in our church because we believe that our Growth Groups will lead people to grow deeper in Christ and deeper in relationship with each other.
- 23 to 26 - Youth Leaders Retreat. During our youth leaders retreat at Fort Langley Camping we were able to: discuss how the prior youth year went in-depth, unpack ur visional goals/hopes for the 2019-2020 youth year, plan and prepare for Fall youth events, play games together, and pray for God to move in and through Pacific Youth. It was time well spent together!
- 25 - Ocean Baptisms & Church Picnic, Blackie Spit where Jim got to baptize his son Iain.