



CHANGE

Change can be both eagerly anticipated and dreaded. Whatever our emotional reaction may be to change, the one thing that we can count on is that change will greet us everyday.

Part of the recent change at Fairhaven is the departure of Heather Horton from our Guest Services. She has faithfully served alongside Fay for several years. Her positive presence and servant heart will be deeply missed. Her future plans include working more with her husband in his growing business. We hope to still see a lot of Heather and her husband, Ted, around Fairhaven. Recently Ted has been putting in the utilities for the new cottage and there will be many more projects to come where his expertise will be needed.

WELCOME

We were not sure how God would fill the need in Guest Services with Heather leaving. As always, God has once more demonstrated His faithfulness. Nothing escapes His loving attention and He is never caught unprepared.

God has brought to us an amazing answer in the person of Robyn Howes. Robyn is experienced in housekeeping as a career and, most importantly, she comes with a positive attitude and beautiful heart to serve.

She lives in Vernon with her 10 year old twin boys and husband, Brian.

NEW BOARD MEMBER

There has also been a change on our Board of Directors.

I am so delighted to be able to welcome Brenda Pue as our newest member. Brenda brings a wealth of ministry experience. Her current assignment is with the Arrow Leadership Program



Brenda Pue



Robyn Howes

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in Canada. She was instrumental in the formation of Arrow. Her husband, Carson, joined her in this endeavor and he became the Executive Director until he left to serve as Executive Pastor at First Baptist Church in Vancouver. Brenda still remains heavily involved in the Arrow Leadership ministry. Her experience in developing ministry leaders will bring much value to our board table.

COTTAGE DEVELOPMENT

Work is well underway on the next cottage.

The walls are framed up and the trusses are now being set in place. A number of volunteers have come alongside Gerry for periods of time to help with this important project as well as other service opportunities.

Some of these are repeat volunteers such as Stan & Linda Neufeld, Larry & Eileen Dent, Rob & Ruth McKerihan, Peter Wiebe, and Heather Wyman, brothers Jeremy and Sean Arnold, and their friend Nick.

Volunteers do make a huge difference in the final cost of a facility. We are immensely grateful for each one. We are pleased to have had Roy and Carol Unger back for a second season at Fairhaven. While performing a number of maintenance tasks, their main focus has been on yard work.

The next cottage is well underway.



WOMEN IN MINISTRY

Over the past year, pastors' wives and women in various ministry positions in Vernon would meet for lunch each month to network and encourage each other. The coordinator of this endeavor has asked if Fairhaven would spearhead this work for the coming season.

Sharon Watt, our adjunct counselor, has agreed to give leadership with the assistance of Fay and Jody Johnson. They envision a three level approach of a fellowship lunch, small prayer support groups and counseling made available for those who wish to access that service.

Please pray with us that real needs will be met through this format.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Throughout this newsletter, I have been highlighting some of the changes we are experiencing. One of the significant changes that must inevitably come to any organization is a change in leadership. At Fairhaven, we want to handle that change thoughtfully and prayerfully.

For some time, the Board of Directors and I have been discussing what this succession and transition might look like, including optimal timing.

For the past three months, we have been quietly contacting strategic people who might be aware of potential candidates for the position of Executive Director.

We want this ministry to move forward in strength and be able to seize the opportunities to effectively serve leaders in the coming years.

Would you pray for wisdom for myself and our board, and clear discernment for leading into the future.

MAILING OPTIONS

Much of our life in this culture is about options. One of these options is how you receive your information. For some time, we have talked about offering you the option of receiving the newsletter by email. With the addition of Jodi in our office, it seems a likely time to set this in motion.

If you would wish to receive your Fairhaven newsletter by email, would you let Jodi know this and give her your preferred email address. Simply email Jodi at: info@fairhavenministries.org

STATISTICS etc.

Our summer has once again been a very full season with numerous inquiries being turned away. Along with individual, couple and family retreats, we have had an increasing demand for group retreats. These have included staff team retreats and board retreats for church and parachurch ministries. As I write this letter, an advisory group of a relatively new church plant with their pastor and district superintendent are meeting in the lodge.

While summer has traditionally been a quieter time for counseling, this year has been an exception. There have been those come with significant issues for counseling, coaching or spiritual direction. It is always a holy privilege to walk alongside our guests in their stories. Though you do not know the names of our guests, we are so convinced that your prayers for them have a powerful impact.

It is encouraging to see our facilities well used. Our occupancy rate for the cottages has been increasing. From January to the end of September this year, our occupancy rate has averaged out at 71%. That is based on every cottage for every day. There are times we could increase occupancy, but times also when we are at maximum capacity. We look forward to the newest cottage being completed to broaden opportunities for ministry.

FOR YOUR ENCOURAGEMENT

Because of your partnership, hundreds of guests have had their lives touched this year. Listen to the words of some of these guests and hear the gratitude in their heart felt words.

“Thank you for the ministry of Fairhaven. This is such a great place to come and relax, rejuvenate and find Centre again. I have been blessed once again.”

“Thank you so much for again welcoming us ‘home’ to Fairhaven! It’s such a grace to come, stay here and to meet with God and each other.”

“A big thank you for our time at Fairhaven. This break was very timely...I was very exhausted from a full ministry year. This time was very helpful for rest, relaxation, clearing my mind to hear God’s whispers. He affirmed many things to me.. Thank you for your great vision to help leaders.”

“Just as last year, this has been a time of great healing and renewal for us both. We appreciate this ministry immensely, from the beautiful cottage which makes us feel both at home and spoiled, to the quiet inspiring setting, to compassionate and listening counsel.”

Gratefully,

Len Frank

Executive Director