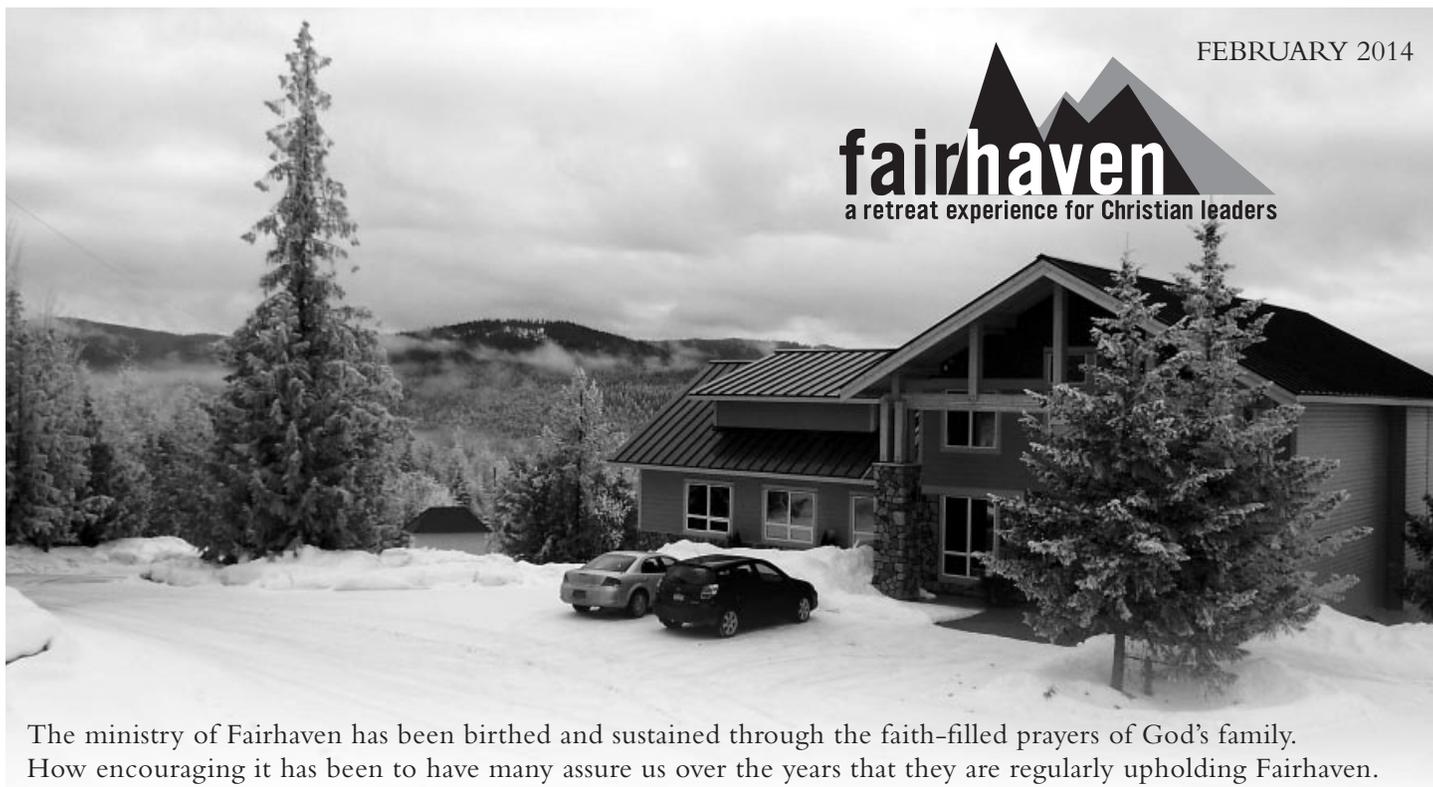




fairhaven

a retreat experience for Christian leaders



The ministry of Fairhaven has been birthed and sustained through the faith-filled prayers of God's family. How encouraging it has been to have many assure us over the years that they are regularly upholding Fairhaven.

In this newsletter, I will highlight some current opportunities for prayer within our Fairhaven family.

Charles Shepson (Colleen): *Founder of Fairhaven*

In January, Dr. Shepson, at the age of 85, underwent open heart surgery involving a triple bypass and valve replacement. The procedure was successful and Charles is now recovering at home after four weeks in two hospitals. He has been experiencing spasms of the diaphragm which are expected to stop. This has been a challenging time for Charles and his wife, Colleen. Your prayers for them will be most welcome and appreciated.

Brenda Pue (Carson): *Board of Directors, Fairhaven*

This past September, Brenda Pue joined our Board of Directors. Though she has not been part of our team for long, it soon became evident that she had much to offer.

During a routine check up in January, it was discovered that Brenda has developed advanced lung cancer. Further testing showed that she also has lesions on her brain. This is what the medical team decided to treat first. They have also done a biopsy of the lung mass. At the point of writing this report, she has been receiving radiation as well as medication to reduce cranial swelling.

I would urge you to join the many already in prayer for Brenda, her husband, Carson and their family. They are demonstrating much spiritual courage and trust and welcome the support of the family of God.

You may follow their journey at www.caringbridge.org/visit/brendapue

Gerry Wyman (Heather): *Fairhaven Staff*

Gerry has been facing two physical problems lately. He is undergoing several procedures to remove malfunctioning veins from his legs. Previously he had a serious blood clot in his leg and is on medication for this.

Secondly, he is waiting for the call to have cataract surgery on both eyes.

All of this is a challenge for Gerry who carries much responsibility at this time for the construction of the new cottage.

David and Virginia Fairbrother: *Fairhaven guests*

Many of our guests are traveling through deep waters. One such couple, David and Virginia Fairbrother, are facing cancer. They have faithfully served as a pastoral couple for many fruitful years. During their recent retreat at Fairhaven, Virginia wrote the following article which is reprinted by permission.

My Deliverer

By Virginia Rose Fairbrother

January 7, 2014



About ten years ago, after dropping David off at the airport and while driving alone from Kelowna to Vernon, I found myself instantaneously immersed in a random, blinding snowstorm. It was the kind of driving snow that seemed to come directly at eye level. My heart started pounding as I realized I was driving alongside the lake just a few feet to my right and there were no barriers. I couldn't see any lines on the road nor could I see any cars in front of me or behind me. I was absolutely and terrifyingly alone! I began to repeat, "Help me Jesus! Help me Jesus!" over and over without stopping. I had no idea where the many twists and turns in the highway were, and I was going in complete blind faith that God would deliver me from this perilous situation.

Suddenly to my right I heard what sounded like a booming voice saying, "Get over here!" I briefly glanced out of the corner of my eye and saw a large transport truck with the driver frantically motioning me to come his way. I realized with a start that my car had wandered across the highway line to my left and I was about to drop off into an embankment in front of one of the larger hills I was passing through. Going completely by faith, I steered the car to the right towards the truck. It then roared ahead and was immediately out of sight, not even leaving any red tail lights to follow.

No other cars were coming towards me and I was again alone repeating "Help me Jesus, Help me Jesus!"

About five minutes before entering the city of Vernon, the snow instantly stopped as suddenly as it had started. I was still shaking when I reached home. Later I heard on the news that a "freak" storm had unexpectedly passed "like a large ribbon between Winfield and Vernon at the exact time I was driving.

I have thought many times about God saving me from harm and possible death that night, and each time I am so grateful to God my Deliverer for sparing my life.

Life is full of many situations, some smaller, some critical, where we call upon the name of the Lord to deliver us from them. Sometimes we or those we love are spared from them, but other times God chooses to leave us in the middle of the storm, asking us to trust Him to see us through.

I don't know what God has in store for us with David's cancer, but I have times of feeling complete helplessness, of coming close to the edge, of sensing the lurking danger beside, behind and in front of me. So many times I pray, "Help us Jesus, help us!"

The path ahead is unknown, and at times like today I am blinded by tears, wondering if we will ever return to Fairhaven on Silver Star Mountain, the place we love and where we have found rest, renewal and refuge many times over the years. However, I choose to say, "God, help me to accept Your plan for me in the future, whatever it is. You are my Rock, my Refuge, my Hiding Place, my Hope, my Comfort, my Peace, and my Deliverer. Save me from living with fear and anxiety. Cover me with a blanket of Your peace. Help both David and I to live with hope and courage, and to be thankful for and cherish each day You give us. Amen."

Psalm 34:4 *"I sought the LORD and He answered me: He delivered me from all my fears."*



NEW COTTAGE UPDATE

We are pleased with the progress on the new “Hermitage” cottage.



The exterior is just waiting for warmer weather for the stone work. Railings are also needed for the rear deck.

The interior has been painted by Garry and Gerry is currently working on the finishing touches on the woodwork. The order has been placed for the kitchen cabinets and flooring is selected. Again, we are grateful for those who have recently donated time and skill to help.

As the cottage progresses, we are increasingly excited about seeing the finished project and having it add great value to the overall ministry.

ANNUAL DINNER TOUR

Far too seldom do we have the opportunity to meet face-to-face with our valued team of supporters. One of these prized opportunities is at our annual dinners in four areas. While this does not cover all areas sufficiently, it does allow us to connect with a good cross-section.

This year, again, we invite you to join us at a dinner near you. We also encourage you to bring guests with you who may have an interest in the ministry of Fairhaven.

There is no charge for the dinner as it is simply our way of saying thank you for your interest and support. It is very important, however, that you do reserve early so we can plan the events with the caterers.

We trust we will get to see you this year.

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

I am always so aware of how much we need your prayerful support. Each day that we can serve God's leaders through Fairhaven is a precious gift. For 16 years now, we have been receiving guests in our Canadian location. This is a strong testimony to the faithfulness of God and the faithfulness of His people who have stood with us throughout these years. Thank you!

With Gratitude.

Len Frank

Executive Director

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DINNER SCHEDULE 2014

Sherwood Park / Edmonton Area

Monday, April 7

Location: Sherwood Park Alliance Church

1011 Cloverbar Road, Sherwood Park

Time: Dinner served at 6:00 P.M.

Reservations: Thelma Dubbeldam 780-922-5336

or Toll Free: 1-888-732-1544

Calgary

Friday, April 11

Location: Ambrose University College

150 Ambrose Circle SW, Calgary

Time: Dinner served at 6:00 P.M.

Reservations: Faith Jalving 403-686-4652

or Toll Free 1-888-732-1544

Lower Mainland (Surrey)

Thursday, April 24

Location: Cedar Grove Church

10330 – 144 Street, Surrey

Time: Dinner served at 6:00 P.M.

Reservations: Toll Free 1-888-732-1544

Okanagan (Vernon)

Sunday, May 4

Location: Best Western Vernon Lodge

3914 – 32 Street (Hwy 97) Vernon

Time: Dinner served at 5:00 P.M.

Reservations: Local 250-260-1616

or Toll Free 1-888-732-1544

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