

ECCC Update – Fall 2008

As a community of churches, the Evangelical Covenant Church of Canada seeks to live into our Kingdom priorities and purposes. What I like about that is the focus on what we are supposed to do for Christ. At our Pastor/Spouse Retreat (October 6-8) Ruth Hill, Executive Minister of Women Ministries shared the following illustration: When we go to pick up our suitcase at the airport we see lots of baggage, but we are only responsible for OUR suitcase! So it is with ministry opportunities.



Suitcase #1: Leadership Development

On the weekend of October 3-5 leaders from three of our congregations met for the second ECCC Leadership Retreat. Participants were presented with material ranging from “Leadership at the Margins” to “A Theology of Leadership”. The material addressed issues of both character and skill. In addition, the value added component came as leaders interacted with one another and shared experiences and insights. This event is subsidized through the general budget of the ECCC.

Suitcase #2: Mission

Whether it is Haiti, Kenya, Toronto, Gatineau, Ecuador or Israel/Palestine, the ECCC is committed to ministry where we do more than just send money. It is exciting to see the opportunities that individuals and congregations are having as they seek to serve. One of the roles of the ECCC is to network strategic missional opportunities and to provide a structure that supports interactive ministry.



Suitcase #3: Discipleship

Phil Wright has spent the last five months meeting folks from the ECCC and listening to the range of ideas and desires related to a new day of discipleship ministry. At the November ECCC Executive board meeting we will be looking at some focused first steps in this new chapter of ministry. We are thankful for the CBC Legacy Fund that has been started through proceeds from the sale of CBC Canada. In 2009, we anticipate giving out around \$30,000 worth of “scholarships” that will support folks of all ages in their pursuit of following Jesus. For those who are “readers” check out our website for the fall edition of the ROUNDTABLE (Glimpses of Jesus):

www.canadacovenantchurch.org/Roundtable.pdf

Suitcase #4: Compassion/Mercy/Justice

Kernels of Hope is one very important way we seek to provide practical help and hope to those in this world who have so much less than we have. We don’t have the final figures in for this year but it looks like this will be another good year of deposits to the World Relief Canada account with Canadian Foodgrains Bank!

