

November, 18, 2008

## A word from the Chairman of the Board, RE: *New Interim E.D.*

In case you haven't heard, Elaine Young has asked to step down as E.D. of Wesley Acres as of October 14, 2008. We respect her decision even though we will miss her at the helm. She has given her time tirelessly over the past 6 years. Her courage, Godly wisdom, and professional excellence have helped to make Wesley Acres succeed spiritually and financially. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to this remarkable person.

Elaine isn't leaving the WA staff. She will continue on a part-time basis as office manager. In this position, she will be able to see things happen that weren't possible in the former role.

We welcome Rev. Mike Hogeboom as our new Interim E.D.. Mike comes to us with a wealth of experience as a pastor and administrator. In Mike's family are his wife, Julie, and three children. We value the skills that he will bring to the WA team. Please pray for him as he works with us to build a stronger ministry at Wesley Acres.

Our WA Board has formed a search committee to find the best Executive Director possible. The committee members are: Kim Appel, Rev. Fred Boom, Brad Fothergill, Rev. Bob Snider, and Floyd Steenburgh.

Our new Board is getting on with the work of Wesley Acres. Our most significant tasks are the preparation of the new three year Strategic Plan and the organization of the Harbour Ridge Operational Committee. We value your prayers as we make policy decisions about the future of Wesley Acres. Please continue to direct operational matters to the E.D..

Thank you for your trust, support and prayer for the board, the staff, the committees, and the much

### From the desk of Rev. Mike Hogeboom, Interim E.D.

It is great to be able to say hi to you as our year at Wesley Acres gradually winds down. I am amazed at the flurry of activity that remains after many folks have packed up the trailer and headed home for cooler months. The camp remains in use for conferences and retreats and many school groups come in to utilize the high and low ropes. Harvey and his staff in Maintenance have prepared the trailer park for winterizing, which is a major deal, and have moved on to the many tasks of maintaining our large facility.

Elaine has done such an amazing job positioning the camp for a bright future. Elaine, along with the staff have worked hard to live within the tight budgets, and we are proud to announce that Wesley Acres is now out of ministry debt and one year from now, if we meet our income projections will be totally debt free. There are many things that need to be done. We continue to work towards developing the Harbour Ridge Campus.

I have appreciated the years of ministry by Wesley Acres and look forward to serving you as interim Executive Director. Over the next few months I am looking forward to coming to a church near you to share the heart throb of our campground and retreat centre. We do believe that we are about Transforming Lives in Christ and are anticipating working along side the church to see this happen.

Thank you to those who have generously supported WA over the years. The Free to minister campaign is drawing to a close and has been very successful because of your obedience and God's faithfulness. For those who have fulfilled their pledge, thank you, thank you, thank you. Just a friendly reminder, if you made a pledge to the Free to Minister or made a pledge during family camp and haven't completed it yet, it would be great to receive that by year end if possible.

As we finish the year well from a ministry point of view we look to build on that momentum into 2009. Wesley Acres leadership has been very prudent in its financial management over these last few years and as we complete this season we are finishing better than we have in a long, long time. We are sensing some excitement as we begin to look at some ministry opportunities in the future, but it will take your help to move forward. Would you consider helping us celebrate this by supporting us with a one time gift? We have enclosed a card and envelope to help with your tax deductible gift.

Thank you in advance for your ongoing prayers for the ministry to children, youth and adults, and may God richly bless you and your families during these days.

## Harbour Ridge Summer camps—A Review

God was at work this summer, in the hearts and lives of those campers who attended one of our 4 exciting children's & youth camps. I am pleased to share that 58% of those in attendance indicated that they were committed Christians, of the remaining campers, 41% made first time commitments or recommitments.

Further to this God left lives transformed, as indicated by some of the personal testimonies included below:

"Wesley Acres is my favourite camp and not because of all the games and fun activities but because of God. I probably learn the most about God here. I feel the closest to God when I'm here. I feel so much love and warmth all around me. I look forward all year of coming here just so that I grow even closer to God. This

camp has helped me be able to talk to God and feel His love all around me. I am so glad God brought me here, because if He hadn't, I would not be as close to God."

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"God has brought me to this camp because through the worship He has opened my eyes to so much more than I realize. Chapel Chick has answered more of my questions than any one ever could and I believe God was talking to me. I love God"

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"Hey, oh my goodness I love Jesus. Like I thought when I left WA that I would forget about GOD and Jesus and everything, but what made me really

realize is that the last night of Teen Camp when you said God had told u to pray for someone struggling with an alcohol and drug problem you see before my life with God I had a HUGE alcohol and drug issue and I thought I'd take the time here to thank you for praying that night it really helped.

I use to hate the way I look and now that Jesus is in my life I believe it when I tell myself YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL. I am soo happy I can finally tell myself that without crying and thinking I was ugly anyways"

**STAY TUNED: MARCH BREAK CAMP—HORTON HEARS A WHO**  
*He meant what He said and He said what He meant—Our God is faithful*  
**100%**

## WACC Update

The WACC is appreciative for this opportunity to update the Wesley Acres lot-leaseholder community.

As you all know we have tried to be totally transparent about the finances since the inception of WACC and your collective response has been that of appreciation. In keeping with this we are able to inform you that the WACC debt is on track to be \$114,000 for year -end 2008 and the budget for 2009 allows for the COMPLETE retirement of the balance.

This should put us in the position of being able to start working on the

upgrading of the infrastructure at an aggressive rate starting in 2010. Engineers are already working on the sewer design and septic bed layouts. Electrical upgrades are also being reviewed.

We will be hosting the annual WACC meeting on the May long week-end this year and there exists the possibility of combining it with a very short membership meeting on the same day.

Exciting things are happening and the light at the end of the debt tunnel is starting to grow very large indeed.

We have had some constructive feedback on the boat launch and Harvey will be addressing the concerns shortly, when the water is at its lowest.

For all those who both STOOD UP & STEPPED UP, and who were willing to be part of problem solving this past year, we are very great-full. It was a display of people building God's Kingdom and not looking out only for themselves. A terrific example for all the people on the grounds, young and old.

## Maintenance

Harvey Cooper is looking to obtain a Ford 350 size, Dodge 3500 or Chevrolet 2500 size **Cab and Chassie** in good condition for replacement on small dump truck. If you have this available to donate we would be pleased to offer you a gift-in-kind receipt for it's value in exchange



*Servant Hearts Sowing Curtains for our Harbour Ride Youth Cabins*

## From the Treasurer

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We are truly blessed as we draw to the end of 2008 to say thank you to all of our constituents and supporters for your faithful giving. I know that many of you have done so in spite of your own financial challenges. As the end of 2008 draws near, and as the last of the Free to Minister donations are received, we can say that the Ministry side of Wesley Acres is now debt free. Praise the Lord, God truly is good. It is exciting now to look forward to what is to come, to see what God will do at WA.

As we look at 2009, we know that WACC will continue to pay down their portion of our debt, and by the end of this year all of Wesley Acres will be debt free. Our budget for 2009 will show some changes as we believe God, through His people, will continue to support our camps and our programs.

As Treasurer, I want to remind you of the opportunity to be a Builder/Booster for WA through monthly giving which helps us so much in the quiet months. I

can tell you that all of your donations are valued and appreciated, and that they are spent as we believe God leads, to bring Him the honour and glory.

God bless you all,

Kim Appel

## PLEASE REMEMBER

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### **PLEASE REMEMBER:**

**FAMILY CAMP RESERVATION DATE: JAN 7, 2009 @ 10AM**

**\*\*Have your credit card available for non-refundable deposit\*\***

**Email: wesley@reach.net Call: 613.393.3159 Fax: 613.393.1720**

*FC 1 (June 27—July 5):* In this camp, Dr. Walter C. Kaiser from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary will double as both camp speaker and Bible teacher. The Webb family will be here for a concert on the last Saturday night (July 4)

*FC 2 (July 25-Aug 2):* Steve Wingfield of Steve Wingfield Evangelistic Association will be our speaker and Dr. Howard Snyder, Professor of Wesleyan Studies at Tyndale Seminary, will be our bible teacher. The Collingsworth Family will be back again on the last Saturday night (Aug. 1) to minister in another outstanding concert of worship and praise

## VOLUNTEERS

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Wesley Acres would be unable to exist without the grace of God and the amazing volunteers who assist us each and every year with various activities and maintenance projects.

We have many opportunities to serve in the areas God has gifted you. Feel free to contact the office, for available opportunities or to let us know of your future availability should a project or

need arise. With that being said, Harvey Cooper, Wesley Acres' maintenance manager, is looking for some people who would be willing and able to perform lawn mowing services over the spring, summer and fall months. If you have experience operating industrial riding lawn mowers, the availability in the summer and a servant heart, we would love to hear from

you. With over 250 acres we have lot's of grass to cut. We have been blessed to have the servant heart and skills of Mr. George Macklin who has dedicated many of his summers to keeping our lawns cared for, and is now retiring from his volunteer position. Thank you so much George, your contribution and service has not gone without notice or sincere appreciation.

# A WORD FROM WACC

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There are two important items that we wish to address in this newsletter.

**First**, we solicit your prayerful consideration to participate on the Wesley Acres Campground Committee (WACC) by allowing your name to stand for nomination for a three-year term starting in the summer of 2009.

The WACC has four distinct sub-committees with different responsibilities:

1. **Lot Concerns** -- deals with complaints, safety and security as well as other general concerns that are brought forward by a lot-leaseholder.
2. **Strategic Planning** -- deals with long-medium-short term infrastructure upgrades including, but not limited to, grey water, black water, fresh water, sewer, electrical, lot development, new boat launch, etc...
3. **Lot Lease Applications** -- includes the development and maintenance of legally compliant lot lease forms and the qualifying of individuals who apply for a lease at Wesley Acres. This sub-committee also handles such items as the survey creation and analysis that was presented last year.
4. **Policy & Procedure** Manual amendments and concerns -- deals with the accuracy and maintenance of the P&P manual which in itself is a compilation of over 30 years of policies and procedures that were developed by previous Boards and Administrators. They also deal with questions pertaining to any modifications to the P&P and present all requests of same for consideration to the WACC.

WACC members participate in the preparation of the budget for the upcoming fiscal year as well as strategic planning for the long-term. All motions approved by the WACC are presented to the Board of Directors who can accept as presented, accept with modification, or reject.

Serving on the WACC requires a commitment of many hours as the trailer park is dependent upon each person fulfilling the tasks of their sub-committee. Nominations will be accepted until 60 days before the May 2009 WACC meeting.

**Secondly**, we are looking at the potential development of 16 additional lots with a minimum width of 50' and depth of 60', with some being deeper. They would be located at the end of Wesley Acres Rd. opposite the mobiles, on the south side. We are zoned for up to 18 more lots and an application has been submitted to the proper governing bodies from which we are awaiting approval.

Our **focus** will continue on **debt retirement** followed by the **upgrade** of the **infrastructure** of the existing park which means, all development costs for these new lots will be borne by the new lot-leaseholders. No monies will be allocated for these lots from any other source. The 16 new lots will have a 'set-up' fee that will be passed on to the first lot-leaseholder.

The present costing for this lot development is approximately \$20,000 per lot, however this cost may rise as material costs cannot be known for sure at this time. Applications for these lots will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you desire to put your name in for one, please contact Brad Snyder who will be keeping a record of the order in which any applications are received. Brad S. can be reached either via the office or through e-mail at [bsnyder@millinc.com](mailto:bsnyder@millinc.com).

If you have questions about any of the above, please don't hesitate to contact Brad Fothergill who is the Board representative on the WACC. Brad F. can be reached via the office or through e-mail at [Brad@Xwrp.ca](mailto:Brad@Xwrp.ca)

In His Service

Wesley Acres Campground Committee

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