

HEROIC GENEROSITY

*Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.
"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this?
Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.*

1 chronicles 29:13,14

NASHVILLE ROAD COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWSLETTER MAR 27 - APRIL 3, 2020



THE CHURCH HAS LEFT THE BUILDING!

When Jesus said He would "build" His church we know He didn't mean with bricks, mortar and steel. The church is a people who ... rather than simply a place where. We are not limited to a building. To be able to gather as the church is awesome because our desire is to be connected; to engage and support one another because we are intended to do life together. We were intended to be in community as family.

We feel the need for community connection more acutely in these days even though we're wisely practicing social distance and self-isolation. As church family - we want to ensure no one feels isolated or alone. During this season when we're not able to gather under the same physical roof - we're excited that we can connect under a digital roof thru our phones, computers and TV's!

While technology has it's limitations - in these moments - it's super helpful and thanks to the super helpfulness of others and their generous gifts of time and online tech expertise - *especially Jason Martin* - we are going to be able to connect and engage this week!

Sunday morning at 10:30 we're joining together online to worship God - and continue to encourage each other as we grow in community and live out His love in practical ways as good neighbours in our communities.

Our gathering "place" this week is our new NRCC TOGETHER page! It will give us the chance to be together from our own living rooms around our city to connect, sing, pray, chat and engage together!

If you click the button below - you can head there and check out the interface anytime. We'll go live on Sunday morning at 10:30. There are other ways to stay connected as the NRCC family throughout the week - like Instagram and Facebook too. If you're not already connected on those social media platforms - [just click here](#) and you can head to our website where the links are posted to help you connect.

So stay in your PJ's if you want, grab some coffee, gather your fam, and click the button below and be NRCC Together!



FAMILY CELEBRATIONS:

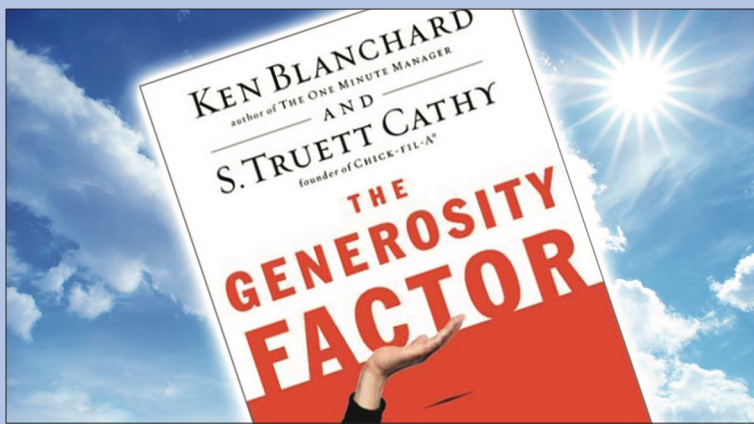
> **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to Norma Barker who celebrates her birthday on March 27th!

PRAISE + PRAYER:

There are so many ways to worship God and practice our faith thru praise and prayer. Here are just a few items we can focus on today:

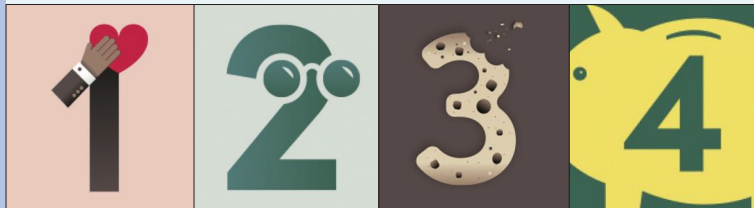
- > Praise God for how the church is being “essential” to our communities in new ways while still practicing wise social distance.
- > Pray for Dave Jordan. Dave is on the front lines when he’s driving a truck hauling produce and other essential items. Pray for health as he shares a truck with others and for safety on the road.
- > Pray for those who are ill and worried. Pray for wisdom and peace. Pray for those who are in self-isolation or are elderly and isolated from family or friends at this time. Pray for insights as to how to be the church in “*just such a time as this.*”
- > Pray for our sister church - Eucharist Church of Hamilton. Check out the [Eucharist Church of Hamilton](#) website for insights on how you can be praying for them
- > Doug Bowker serves as the Executive Director of Grace Village - a seniors home in Sherbrooke, QC. Please pray for the residents of Grace Village who are feeling isolated from family and friends due to the no visitor policy at this time.
- > Pray for Martha Lawson’s brother Jonathan as he is struggling with post-concussion symptoms that have greatly impacted his daily life. Please continue asking God to heal him and touch his heart with His love.
- > Pray for our healthcare workers - Nurses, Doctors, First Responders. Charissa and Mark Redlich and Judi Guaragna are all heavily involved: Charissa and Judi leading as nurses and Mark leading in the Peel Region emergency response. Please remember them and their families during this stressful time at work and when they return home.
- > Pray for our national and local government leaders making decisions. Pray for humility as they listen and for wisdom as they act. Pray for their families too.
- > Pray for Dan Gibson and the ministry of Regeneration Outreach in Brampton as they are setting up very needed physical support for those most vulnerable and feeling alone and excluded from society. Regen has set up an emergency food bank to respond to the overwhelming needs and it has stretched their financial resources. Consider how you might be involved supporting Regen - physically if possible and/or financially as well.
- > Pray for our students as they adjust to very different daily rhythms and transition to learning from home. Many students heard this week that their field trips, athletic banquets, semi-formals and proms have now been cancelled. Remember those students who are coming to the end of their semesters, many who are graduating.
- > Pray for missionaries in countries that are struggling during this global health crisis. Please read the letter from Joe and Loredana Antignani in Italy for ways you can be praying for them.

When you have an item for praise or prayer or become aware of items that we as a community can join together with in praise and prayer - please contact [Melanie](#) in the church office and let her know or [you can click here to share a praise or prayer request from our church website](#)



THE GENEROSITY FACTOR

We began a new series focusing on Generosity for the Lent season. The Generosity Factor is an excellent companion to the series and is written as a modern day parable that demonstrates the virtues of generosity. Available on Amazon.



HEROIC GENEROSITY CHALLENGE!

During our Lent series we're challenging one another to live out God's love in practical ways. In our current COVID-19 situation today, more than ever, we're going to have to be creative to offer an act of generosity. Be imaginative. Be kind. Be the church. Continue to be safe, continue to be generous. Thanks to our friends at 40acts - each day we're posting different ideas/actions on Instagram and on our web site to help you live generously! All you need to do is follow [NRCCLIVEOUTLOVE](#) on Instagram to get the daily update!



STILL CONNECTING:

Thanks to Gail Lister for sharing how Women's Connect & Grow is keeping in touch during current COVID-19 conditions.

"Group emails are frequent, but there have also been phone conversations and texts checking in on, encouraging and strengthening one another. As one shares scripture reminding us that God is in control and that he'll never leave us, another tells us to always look up rather than at current circumstances. Links for a couple of helpful pastor's messages have been forwarded to everyone. A poem reminding us there are different seasons and that spring always arrives giving us hope and new life was shared. Judi, as a nurse, has kept us educated about the virus, while another has called offering to grocery shop for a senior member. We received a prayer asking God to minister to us while isolated and Maria shared pictures of her baby daughter. We look forward to holding a shower for Abigail in celebration! Sounds pretty much like things a family would do in loving one another. Although COVID-19 has certainly caught the attention of the world, we have the help of God and His family that we may weather this storm together in His strength. All by His grace for which we are grateful!"

GENEROSITY = OPPORTUNITY: REGENERATION OUTREACH

As you are aware Regeneration Outreach Community in Brampton has started an emergency food bank to meet the needs during this health crisis. Doug and Gail Lister have an enclosed porch area at their front door and if anyone would like to donate and leave non-perishable food there between now and Wednesday, April 1st at noon, it will be delivered to Regeneration. That's awesome!

Their Address is:

23 Egan Crescent, Bolton

GREETINGS FROM JOE & LOREDANA ANTIGNANI SERVING AS MISSIONARIES IN ITALY:

We are doing fine. it was a little difficult knowing that we would have to remain at home for at least another two weeks. Then we discovered this will be extended till who knows when. Celeste will most likely not return back to school. I get out and do the shopping once a week with a mask and gloves. I must bring along with me a signed permission form indicating the exact motive for being out. There are no problems with food deliveries to the grocery stores but the items we pick up often have not even been put on the shelves yet, they are still on pallets. There were only some hoarding for a couple of days but then it tapered down. We must just get used to lineups.

The only problem is that we can't leave the town of San Marco in Lamis (13,000 inhabitants) where there is only one small grocery store for everybody. There are many corner stores, and fruit and vegetable vendors in the streets. The price in the smaller stores are higher, and we shop only about once a week so we cannot look for sales, and we buy whatever is available here in San Marco. The street vendors/farmers that sell fruit and vegetables are priced ok, but this is also changing. San Marco normally relies on the 4 very large grocery stores in San Giovanni Rotondo area which is about 6-7 kms away where food is economical and worth stocking up. The problem is we can't leave our town as there are police road blocks so we are forced to shop here and to be grateful for whatever we are able to get. We are nevertheless eating well.

I started teaching English in December to businessmen and engineers at a factory about 1 hour away. This was 1 day a week for 6hrs. I have always worked part-time. The support for the work in Europe is often underfunded due to the elevated costs compared to areas in the rest of the world. We are the only ones left with our mission in Italy. This work would provide from 35-40% of our support. Just before the Virus hit, Cambridge School got the part time contracts for two high schools, one in San Marco in Lamis and San Giovanni Rotondo, only minutes from home! This didn't ever get off the ground and all schools were closed, including the factory where I was already working. This is all from the 19th of February.

Thousands and thousands have been charged for gathering outside their homes. Young people who have drug or alcohol problems are caught gathering secretly. This is a felony and one can get fined, and also up to 3 months in jail. Over 60,000 have been charged already in Italy. Something that probably didn't happen in China which is why we feel they have Covid-19 under control today, but who knows. We don't want to condone all of China's strategies

The deaths in 24 hour periods have been sad - world record highs. Difficult to understand how those who lose their loved ones feel. They would not see their elderly (some not so elderly) parents again, from the day they are brought to the hospital often with simple flu symptoms, to the day they die. Sometimes 7-12 days pass by, where only in 2 or 3 of these days (not always) they receive phone calls from their parents in the hospital, then they are put on respirators and they don't hear from them or see them again. Some have lost mothers and fathers together within a 24 hour period and never saw or heard from either of them from the day they arrived to the hospital. They aren't allowed near the hospitals to see the sick, nor are there funerals allowed. Very sad situation.

We believe there is a tilling of the soil of the hearts of the Italians going on. I called the dentist office as they were treating and trying to save a tooth of mine. Obviously they were closed. I spoke to the dentist's wife and she knows what I do, and she asked (again) about the Lord, and permitted me to send her an audio biblical message. Things are happening, people are softening.

We are airing Biblical messages on our church's whatsapp group. I will be recording messages for Thursday night bible studies. We also do conference calls on whatsapp for up to 4 people at a time so people don't feel lonely.

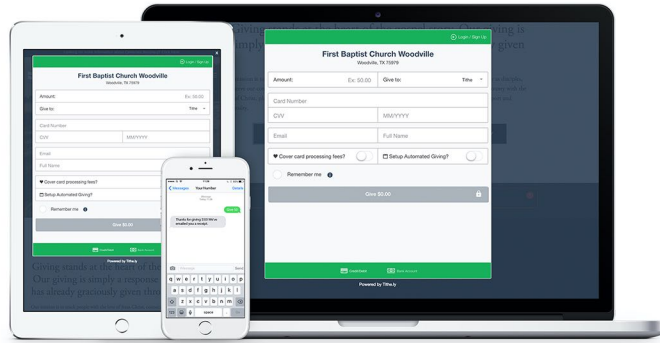
May the Lord use this all for His glory in Italy.

We are a little concerned about Joshua (in Hamilton) as he is alone and was laid off yesterday due to the virus. He says no problem he can handle it. If this carries on for a long period he could get lonely.

Thank you committing to praying for us. I appreciate this.

Please greet the congregation on our behalf. Very fond memories.

NRCC ONLINE GIVING



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

The heart of Nashville Road Community Church has always been to show the hope found in Jesus by living out His love to everyone. Generosity is an act of worship that expresses our gratitude, faith and love for others. We are grateful for how God provides for Nashville Road through your generosity of time, talent and finances!

As a church we offer ourselves to serve, and there is never pressure or expectation to give, however we know that it's natural to want to give to a church when you can see how your gifts are being used to benefit the community you live in, so we want to make it easy for you to be generous, should you choose to support the mission of NRCC financially.

We now have the ability to give financial offerings thru a partnership with [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) - an organization recommended by our CBOQ denomination. There are two new ways to give your offering in addition to regular envelopes:



Mobile Giving

You have the option to give from your mobile device via Tithe.ly. Just download the Tithe.ly app for [iPhone / iPad](#) or for [Android](#)



Online Giving

[You can give directly from this link to Tithe.ly](#)

You also have the option of setting up an automatic recurring gift if you prefer.



Envelope Giving

We have personalized offering envelopes available at the NRCC building.

During this season while we aren't gathering at the building you can still mail an envelope to the church building address.

[Click here to go to the GIVE page on our website](#) for more details, links and a helpful "how-to" video.

NASHVILLE ROAD
COMMUNITY **CHURCH**
Living Out the Love of God!

NASHVILLEROAD.CA
905.893.7277

6950 NASHVILLE ROAD KLEINBURG, ON



NRCC.YOUTH



NRCC LIVE OUT LOVE



@NASHVILLEROADCOMMUNITYCHURCH