

# Trulls Road Trumpet



Trulls Road Free Methodist Church, 2301 Trulls Road, Courtice, ON

June 11, 2017 Edition

*(An update from the desk of Pastor Brian)*

## *A Farewell Trumpet!*

This is the final edition of this version of Trulls Road Trumpet! Lori and I are heading into a new season of life. We are not leaving “the ministry” but leaving “a ministry.” Our time here has been so enriching it’s hard to know how to express it fully. I know some of you are wondering why it has to be that we are leaving the Lead Pastor position at this time. I’ve heard some say I am too young to be retiring. As we know though, age is not the only factor. So what are the factors, you ask?

- **Health** - I want you to know that I am feeling good physically these days and am very thankful for that. I will continue to be monitored for my kidney condition and my next appointment is in September. I do want to say though that I am sensing the need for rest because I am carrying a burden of weariness. I knew in this last year that I have had thin margins to work with both mentally, emotionally and spiritually. Gaining the needed rest to recharge the batteries is a part of the reason I am making this change.
- **Passing the Leadership Mantle** - As I survey the cultural landscape that the church is facing in these times, I believe leadership needs to be passed to a younger generation. I grew up and served under a certain set of expectations and understandings for pastoral ministry. Times have changed and the kind of leadership and gifting needed to meet the challenges are to be found in the younger generation. I have felt for a while now that I need to step aside to allow for younger leaders to move into place.
- **Serving in Other Areas** - As I have looked ahead I see a variety of ways for me to be serving the Church of Jesus Christ under circumstances whereby I can set the pace and also fill some niche opportunities. (See the back page for a brief description of what some of those look like.)

Here is a photo of Bishop Keith and Donna Elford on the occasion of the Retiree’s Luncheon at General Conference on May 21. Lori and I count it an honour to have served under Bishop Keith’s leadership. A marvellous and hilarious send off for the Elfords took place at Conference which represented 20 years of excellent service. It’s a joy also to be retiring at the same time. The Elfords are moving to Mission, BC but I don’t think it’s the last we’ll see of them in the Free Methodist Church.



## Plans & Dates:

- On May 31st we took possession of our new townhouse in Meaford, ON. All we need to do is some painting - it is in great shape. Meaford is northwest of Collingwood by 30 minutes on the shores of Georgian Bay. Our new mailing address is 278 Graham St., Unit 4, Meaford, ON N4L 1Y3. Our cell numbers will be our only phone connection - Lori - 289-685-0617; Brian - 289-685-4601.
- On July 10 we will be moving our earthly possessions to Meaford. Our house sale in Oshawa closes on July 12.
- On August 8 Baby Sarabando arrives through a planned C-Section.
- If you are driving through Meaford, please feel free to drop in for a visit and some apple pie!

## New Opportunities: Lori

- Lori is concluding her time at Canadian Tire in Oshawa on June 15. It's been a real encouragement to her to be in the workforce again and a real gift to Trulls as she has fulfilled her commitment to dedicate her wages to Project Caleb over these last 3 plus years.
- Lori has been a minute taker as well for a company that provides a minute taking service to Condominium Corporations. She will conclude that in June as well but keep up her work for them as an editor which can be done via the internet.
- On August 8, Lori becomes a Gramma for the first time!

## New Opportunities: Brian

- Broom Tree Pastoral Retreats Canada: It is hoped that Lori and I can help coordinate a new ministry in Canada for Pastors by offering a one week retreat. The plan is to start small with the first retreat being offered in 2018.
- Websites for Smaller Churches: I am talking now with an Oshawa computer software company who wants to make it possible for smaller churches to get a simple yet effective website up and running. I hope to help represent them as this initiative gets launched.
- Coaching with 3DM: I am working towards being recognized by 3DM to be a certified coach for huddles and missional communities.
- Pickleball: I hope to continue to play pickleball and to be certified some day as an instructor and a coach.
- Church Planting Coach: On June 26-28 I attend a Church Plant Design Shop to learn more about becoming a coach for potential church planters. This is under the auspices of Newleaf Network which is work that Jared Seibert does in his role with the Free Methodist Church in Canada.
- On August 8, I will become a Grampa for the first time.



Pedro, Jada, Jessica, Lori & I on the front porch at the Sarabando's home about 2 kms from ours.

**A heartfelt thank you to everyone for these years together at Trulls Road Free Methodist. We have loved being here and serving as your pastoral couple. You welcomed and loved us and we will dearly miss you. We are believing God for great things at Trulls. The Lord will watch over all of us - both now and forevermore.**