

your quarterly rag, for all things northgate



issue 2 2011



northgate
baptist



Photograph by Sophie Jensen

Come, I want to take you on a brief guided tour around some beautiful God ordained encounters and blessings we call Northgate...

Helen Pearson emailed me recently with this thought "We are liberated when we realise that we are not called to work FOR God, but to work WITH Him."

God is at work here

Physically we are growing

As a church we have grown in numbers. This time last year we were averaging a weekly attendance of 250 currently we are averaging 320 on any given Sunday. I agree numbers aren't everything – but if nothing else, they do form an indicator.

A better question to ask "As a church are we growing in spiritual health and maturity in the faith?"

Lets look at the fruit then - Emotionally we are helping

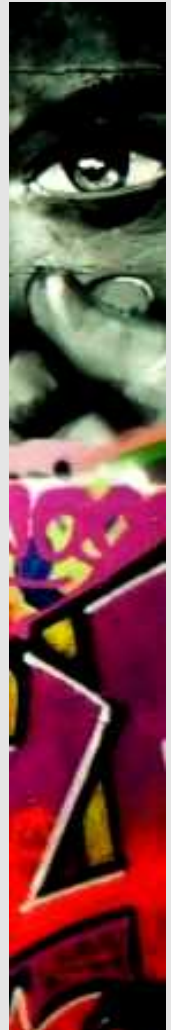
Pastorally we have seen some amazing developments, thanks largely to Michele Coombridge. For example, the pastoral care offered to families like the Copeland's and Fouquet's has made me proud as a minister. We have handed out literally hundreds of meals to many families, we are under way with a community garden, we are supporting and sponsoring missionaries.

Spiritually we are strengthening

We are seeing exactly what Paul talked about to the Corinthian church. **1 Corinthians 14:26**

What then shall we say, brethren? When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church.

During our services we are witnessing healings, prophecies, salvations, and the development of an incredible community. Ben, one of youth stood up last Sunday and said what he has loved most about this term has been the strengthening of this community and the ability to belong.



Easter camps – WOW

...celebration

To the Finlay Park e-camp we have registered 30 youth and another 7 parents.

To the Mystery Creek Easter Camp we about 80 teenagers, 15 leaders, another 14 parents.

We asked for \$3200 for tents and purchased 10 big tents called 'Retreat 120's'

A month ago someone in the church turned around and said here is another \$1400 can you buy more tents. So I researched through Shannon at Kathmandu can we purchase a couple of the whopper 'Retreat 360's?' Sorry you wont get them now until next season.

Two days ago I get a phone call from Shannon to say the Albany store has two 360 Retreats, the only two left in the whole country. They had them stored in the wrong place – but they are there if you want them – are you kidding - we got them!

Northgate Staff

Our staff are amazing, Krys and Phillipa and Natalie work well above and beyond the call of duty – every week. Their heart and desires to see God's kingdom advance is breathtaking.

Caroline is our welcomed new addition to the team. Already she has made a positive difference.

God has given us the privilege of being up close to see him at work here, and the even greater privilege of working with him in that process.

There is an endless amount of work to do and that prospect becomes rather daunting at times.

"The poor you will have with you always" said Jesus. We can't live our lives trying to meet every need or we will do ourselves in.

We need to see our work as our worship and not try to be the savior ourselves.

Success here doesn't depend on me – it is God's deal. If my yoke is uncomfortable and the burden unmanageable then I am out of kilter with God's desire.

I want to personally thank you for you amazing contribution to this exciting journey. I love being in team with you all. Have a great term and know this—HE IS RISEN! God Bless , Tony

Bolivian Youth Ministries

28 April 2011 update

Pete, Judith , Isaac, Jed & Erynn

Plenty of maintenance

There has been much to keep us busy here since arrival. Pete's managed to fix pumps, toilets and showers, mend mosquito nets and mow lawns, to name a few. As the photo shows, there are always plenty of helpers willing to lend a hand.

We are now settled into a good routine here and enjoying getting to know the girls. Photos on our pin board at home are becoming girls we now know. We very much value living in community with the children as it has helped us to quickly build relationships.

Picnic at the River

We had a fun day out at a river 6 hours return walk from the orphanage. None of the girls could swim but they loved playing in the water wearing all their clothes and shoes. A great day out!



Mending mosquito nets

6 weeks in..

Visas:

Although we had arranged appropriate visas in NZ these were not approved on arrival .Obtaining the correct visas continues to be a long, difficult and now expensive process. The bureaucracy to obtain the right documents is challenging with many delays. We are developing patience & perseverance!



Off to church



Local Church:

We have decided to keep attending the local Spanish speaking church the girls attend. On Saturday night two of the older girls from the orphanage were baptised.

It was a real privilege to share in this and see the fruit of many years of God's love being sowed into these girls. The eldest girl has been at the orphanage for 6 years whilst her father is serving a 15 year prison term. The other girl is from the Mts outside Cochabamba Valley. After her mother died, she was cared for by her father. She was in a difficult situation and has experienced much pain.

It is amazing to now see the love of Jesus fill her heart and create His joy there.

Thanks for your prayers, Melvin's



Baking 80 Hot Cross Buns
on Good Friday

We love what the Melvins are about in this Bolivian Mission. Although physically it is not possible for us to be with them, there are some very practical ways for us to help... financially, prayerfully and encouragingly. We invite you to support them in as many ways as possible. We have a special Bolivian collection Sunday on May 29th. Please give generously, and help bless this amazing ministry.

Prayer:

Give thanks for:

The baptism of these two girls.

Please pray for:

Jonathan & Linda Baker (Directors):. that whilst they are on sabbatical they are refreshed and encouraged.

The girls: that they all come to know and respond to God's love for them.

Our visas to be confirmed.

Our Pastoral Intern

Over the past few years we have taken on interns, from our congregation, who have gone into full time study at Bible College. Our latest intern is Dan Bedford. Dan is husband to Steph and father to Isaac and Sarah. An internship is about gaining experience in the workings of church life.

While reading a book for a Pastoral Care paper, I came across this quote:

“Grace that leads to true life transformation is one of unmerited favour – the understanding that God is truly for us and that he will provide what we cannot provide for ourselves.”

God’s unmerited grace says, whatever we struggle with, whatever we’ve done, God is for us. This view of grace is not just forgiveness of sin, but the power to overcome sin. Guilt and condemnation no longer holds sway. Grace gives us freedom to make mistakes because it is unmerited. Regardless of how many times you fall you cannot jeopardise your position in grace because you didn’t deserve it in the first place. It is never revoked, or diminished by over use. God is for you; He is on your side cheering you on to victory supplying you the gear you can’t get yourself, forgiveness is just one example of this. Blessings—Dan



Community Heart



We celebrated the receipt of a cheque from the lotteries commission for \$15,000 to go towards salaries, rental and equipment. This ministry is unique to Northgate and there is an amazing team of volunteers behind it.

The garden is in. Placemakers gave us the materials at cost. A working bee back in April resulted in the gardens being finished within a Saturday morning and now we are looking to set up a gardeners roster.

Salt trust is Northgate's practical community arm. It's a separate charitable trust established as a vehicle for funding and supporting key community projects in line with Northgate's vision plan.

Check out the new web site ...

www.salttrust.org.nz

Key dates for Term 2...

T2 CHALLENGE join a life group or start one up!

*Weekly prayer service, Tuesdays 6.45—7.30pm
@ the club.

May

- 21 Youth nite at Big-Ups
- 28 Meal Bank cook up
& NRG nite at Big Ups
- 29 Special Melvin BYM
mission collection

July

- 15 Term ends
- 22 & 23 Fridge Camp, YOUTH
- 31 Special Mission
collection

June

- 4 Conference:- Don't Look Back
- 5 Chris Deibaugh speaking
- 10 NG Vision Banquet -
- 12 Chris D again
- 18 Op Shop Ball (NG youth)
- 19 Jared Noel speaking
- 23 AKL Art gallery day trip

For details about these
events email Phillipa on
admin@northgate.org.nz
or go check the web site
www.northgate.org.nz

June Conference ...

DON'T LOOK BACK

A unique day of teaching, healing, and prophetic ministry. It's time to experience that manifest presence of God as He invites you to arise, and shine for your light has come, for the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.



with
Dianne McDonnell

Online payment to Northgate
Baptist church

Bank of New Zealand
North Shore Banking Centre

Account# 02-0278-0222118-002

Please put your surname as the code and
'WGI' as the reference

Date:- June 4th, 9.30am—3pm

Venue:- Salvation Army Auditorium,
Greenview Lane, Hibiscus Coast

Register at church or email admin@northgate.org.nz

Tickets cost:-\$20 (earlybird) or \$25 (door sales)

For more info check out
www.wavesofgloryinternational.com.au

KIDS MINISTRY

What an awesome church we have with awesome people!

I feel so privileged to be part of the Northgate Crew.

And am so blessed to have an incredible crew of people working alongside me. From the crèche, nest and children's church to NRG, I have been blown away with the high caliber of people working in each of the areas.

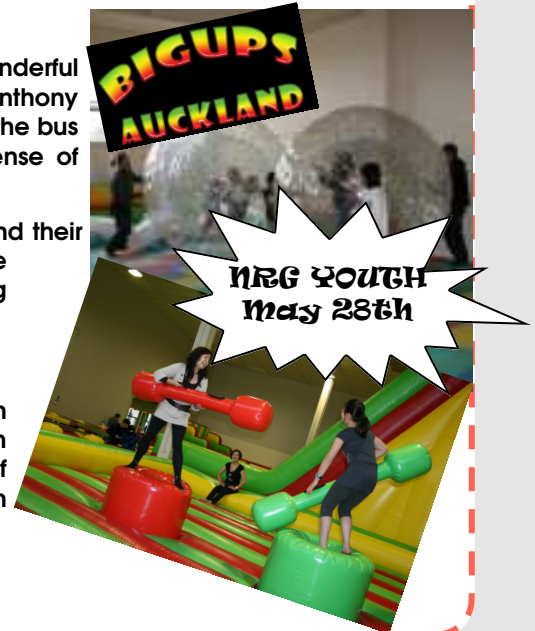
Their faithfulness and servant hearts are so evident in all they do! I feel so grateful, they have made my transition into Northgate so easy!

NRG had a wonderful time at Ecamp! Again I was blown away with the wonderful people who came along to assist at the camp! (Ian and Megan Lamont, Anthony and Sharon Wilson and Jenny Forlong were at the camp, and Tim Wills drove the bus for us.) The t-shirts we printed (thanks Craig H. for the design!) gave a sense of identity .

We have booked **Big Ups for the 28th May**. Aimed at all the intermediates and their friends! A notice is going home this week and info will be on the website. We are planning to have lots of outings for our NRG Youth this year including overnight camps. So watch this space!!

This term we will continue to teach and minister to the kids with excellence in all we do. We aim to provide a program that will facilitate teaching in a fun and relevant way! Please come and join us at any time and have a chat , if you would like to be part of the Northgate Crew ministering to young youth and children. The rewards are incredible!

Blessings from Caroline Borger.



2011 Vision Banquet

Mid Winter Feast

June 10th 7-10pm

Our annual vision celebration.

With gorgeous food,
outstanding company and
inspiring insight into what
we are about.

Check out the website for
details,

Buy your tickets at church.

Make sure you are part of
this fabulous evening.

from Kry's desk...

Musings about the cover page...

The urban art work adorning the cover and pages throughout this rag is from a wall in central Auckland. My niece takes photos of it and documents it's

frequent changes. It's contributors can be found at work on it in the wee hours of the night, spray cans in hand like a living work of art. But the one part of it that so far has not been painted over are the eyes. The focal point of this piece, whether we like them or not they are hard to avoid, they draw us in.

Other areas in this artwork are fun, some are confrontational and some are dark and scary, it's difficult to work out every individual mark but as a whole it works.

For me, I like this artwork and strangely I feel as if I'm part of it. Perhaps rather like being part of a community, it's where we find ourselves and others existing together each bringing our own uniqueness to the graffiti wall of life. We each have a special thing to do in our own unique way. Just like the artists who work on this artwork, I feel our Hibiscus Coast community is a living 'urban artwork' where everyday we have the choice to contribute to or stand back and watch.

Blessings and Peace, Kry's



Where the buck stops... or does it?

Northgate finance report : April 2011

A full financial report can be downloaded from our website www.northgate.org.nz

We ended the financial year with a \$15,000 surplus.

Although some months last year were very tight financially, the end result was wonderful.

We have a new budget—as voted in by members on May 1st. This is based on our history of income growth which has averaged 12% over the past 6 years. Our new budget projected spending 9% above our last years spending.

The areas receiving more money are kids, youth and pastoral care.

The averaged monthly running cost this year is \$26 500, our average monthly income last year was \$25,333. So we do have a gap to close to honor the budget.

The first month into this new budget saw that we were on budget which is a great start to the new year. You'll find weekly updates on our monthly status are recorded in the newsletter.

Peace and prosperity to you all. Natalie and Kryz

****NEW****

Mid-Week Prayer Service

6.45-7.30PM

AT THE RUGBY CLUB

The dishes can wait, corporate prayer can't.

This meeting to about upholding all aspects of Northgate from corporate to personal.

God has amazing things in store, but we need to seek him together.

So come and kick start your prayer life, mid week at the rugby club.

Northgate Care

Feed the sheep... spread the love

Northgate Care is a group of people who coordinate and facilitate the pastoral care connections to the Northgate family. This care involves meals, visitations, food parcels, support in crisis and mentoring. It is a caring word and a helping hand; in short- feeding His sheep.

Where is this love spread?

There are always plenty of people who can do with a bit of love and care in their lives (many sitting right beside us at church) and there are many times that we as a team, and as a church, miss the opportunity to show we care during a time of crisis. The many needs can't be met by a select few, or the pastor alone.

The words of Jesus to Peter to 'Take care of my sheep' are words we can all take ownership of. There are so many beautiful and creative ways we can show those we sit by and worship with that we care about them. When we begin to do this we begin to become the strong community that God intends for his people. Working together we can achieve so much more.

As a Care Team we are only just beginning to touch on all the incredible ways our church could reach out and bless others - and yet we have achieved some very sweet successes that have seen people's lives really encouraged.

What can you do?

You can partnership with Northgate in this by simply owning the spirit of welcoming. Warmly greet those who sit beside you in the church service and look out for those who stand alone at coffee time - draw these people in, reach out to them and introduce them to others. Remember names - make sure newcomers know they have been noticed, not ignored. We are all pastors in this sense; it is not just the job of Tony and Krys.

You can also help by becoming part of the Care Team or being on call for visiting or meal making tasks. Even just delivering meals can be a big help to all of us who have busy lifestyles. There are many ways you can be involved and there is so much more we can achieve when we all work together. Contact Michele Coombridge or Linda Braithwaite or email care@northgate to get involved. Please also feel free to contact us if you would like to talk with someone from the Care team.

Michele Coombridge



Northgate Youth has had a great start to the year!

NG YOUTH

As Tony has taken on the role of heading up the Youth ministry it has been a pretty busy and exciting term. Finishing on a big high with Easter Camp, the youth loved it and it was so awesome to see all the support that went into fundraising; the Quiz Night, Car Washes and Bake Sale were a huge success- thank you for all your help!

Another highlight for the youth was the Pizza Oven Night and Julia Grace Fundraiser concert which raised funds to help one of our youth members go on a missions trip to Vanuatu. Also on the list of events was Speedway and Waiwera which was great fun and a good time for people to make new friends!

The Engage Service, wow what can I say, you should definitely come along and be a part of the service.

On a final note again a big THANKYOU to all the support of our families and leaders that have just gone above and beyond this term!

X Chrissy **Special event dates... May 21st:- Big-Ups, meet at the club at 4.30pm \$15**

June 18th:- Opp Shop Ball @Orewa Community Hall \$15 7pm

July 23&24:- Fridge Camp Details to be advised

Life Groups...

group while it may seem like another thing to add to an already busy schedule, we'd like to invite you to give it a term of trying and then decide. Studies have proven the effectiveness of small group attendance in the spiritual lives of people and if our spiritual lives are healthy then we would expect our day to day lives would be too. Term 2 Challenge: Join a life group or start one up. Contact our office on admin@northgate.org.nz

We live crowded lives. Crowded with work, family and other stuff. Being part of a life

Life group contacts...

Orewa:

Pierre and Michelle Barnard

Ph 427 9558

Red Beach:

James and Renate Smith.

Ph 4248554

Totara Views:

Lleon Downes

Ph 426 0355

Ang and Glen Carter

Phone 4262025

Adrian And Jenny Snelgrove

Ph 473 1882

Vipond Road:

Richard and Sarita Wood

Ph 4247703

Stanmore Bay:

Richard and Irena Bayes

Ph 428 2334

Kaukapakapa:

Michele and Murray Coombridge

Ph 094205588

Northgate care

Know of someone going through a hard time?

Maybe they need to know they are not alone?

Want to arrange some meals or practical help?

This ministry is the people's ministry, no strings attached, just care, and mercy. Where we can extend the arm of hope.

Michele and Linda head this up.

Email [<care@northgate.org.nz>](mailto:care@northgate.org.nz)

Yr 13 Youth:

Tim Wood

Phone 421 0007

Young Adults

Tuesday nite @ the rugby club, 7.30pm contact

chrisywatson@hotmail.com

Membership

We love to welcome new members to Northgate. If you are interested in finding out more then contact Krys on krys@northgate.org.nz.

Baptism

We have the most beautiful local beaches at our door step. Anyone wanting to learn more about baptism can see any of the pastors. Our next Baptism Service will be planned for Wenderholm in Early October

Sunday offering

You may have noticed the change in our Sunday routine. No tithe baskets will be passed around. We felt that this tradition was getting a bit tired. In it's place we have installed a fabulous letter box. Its on the back table. You can't miss it.

The tithe envelopes are still on the back table and if you haven't got a tithe number email Natalie on finance@northgate.org.nz

She can advise other info regarding ap's and payroll giving too.



Love God. **E**quip ...each other. **D**emonstrate...where ever you are.

Classifie Wall ...

Happy Birthday...

Northgate on May 1st we are 6 years new!!!

- Kelly Scott - 3 May
- Leon Downes - 5 May
- Ruth Williams - 17 May
- Carlie Kennedy - 18 May
- Teresa Bruce - 21 May
- Julia Haythornthwaite - 26 May
- Chrissy Watson - 26 May
- Dan Bedford - 28 May
- Diane Manson - 29 May
- Bruce Scott - 1 June
- Caroline Borger - June
- Liz Marriot - 13 June
- Jo Clayton - 18 June
- Tim Wills - 19 June
- Jenny Dickson - 25 June
- Heather Tyler - 27 June

Baby sitters

Orewa

Brianna Keogh -ph 421 0425

Red Beach/Silverdale

Robyn Friis ph 427 5353 mbl 021 256 8388

Georgia or Kayla Versey ph 426 5429

Stanmore Bay/Manly

Eden Wood -ph 424 7703

Morgan Fletcher -ph 4283864

Waitoki/Kaukapakap

Bronte Coombridge

Ph 4205588

Congratulations...

Andy Vivian and Chrissy Watson - married on May 8th.
Grace Fletcher on her Baptism in April