2019

ANNUAL REPORT

Princeton Baptist Church

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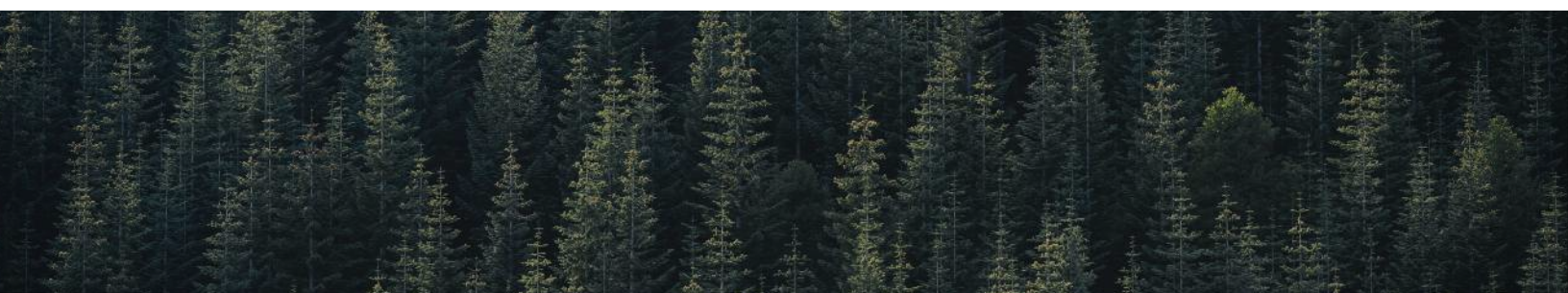
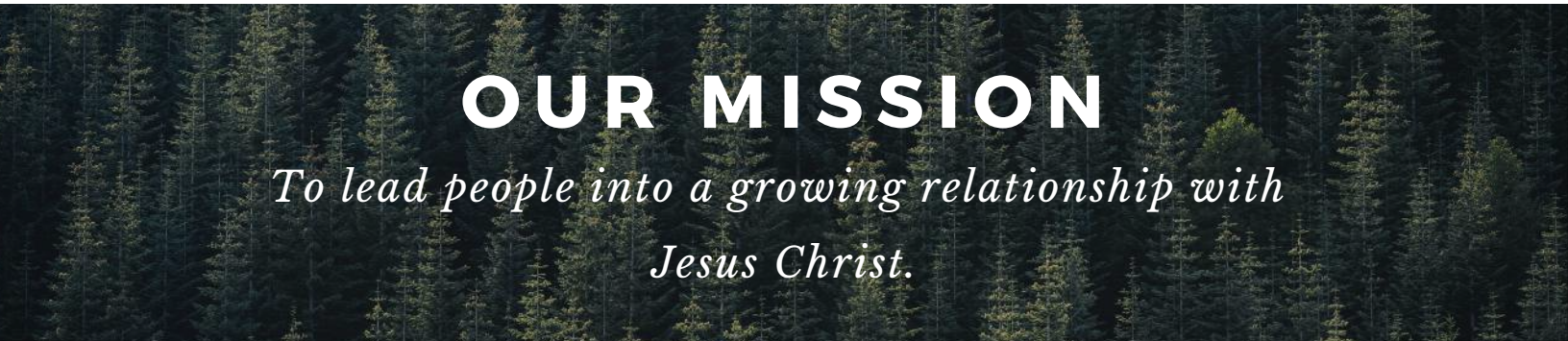


A LOOK AT GROWTH

I like to think of church growth in two distinct categories. Both are good. The first kind of growth happens when we are able to offer a new church family to folks who are new to town but who have been believers for many years. This is sometimes referred to as “transplant” growth, which makes it sound like a bad thing, but it’s not. It’s very encouraging to meet up with what feels like long lost brothers and sisters from other places. The other kind of growth which is more rare, but equally valuable, is Kingdom growth. This happens when a person turns from their sins and accepts Jesus Christ as their lord and saviour. This kind of growth often happens slowly, most frequently in the context of relationship, and is very rarely an overnight kind of thing. It’s harder to quantify this kind of growth, because it’s a process, and an exceedingly valuable one at that.

All of us are somewhere on this spectrum of growth. Growth or maturity in our relationship with Jesus, is not something to be completed by any one of us. This is why our mission statement as a church is to “lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.” This mission takes all of us to be a part of. We all have place to grow and we all have people who we are at various times leading toward growth as well. As a church leadership team, we cannot grow for you. We can only facilitate environments that are conducive to growth and try to grow within them ourselves. But the most conducive environment for growth is not a program the church offers. It is the relationship that you have to offer. It is through these relationships that both, our church, and God’s kingdom grow. Without you there are only numbers and statistics, not growth.



A LOOK AT GROWTH

Because we believe Christian community is a key part of this growth, we continue to meet together week after week here, and in smaller, family groups, called life groups. We know that having a community of fellow believers to whom you can bring hard questions to, and who can pray for you, and who give you accountability in your everyday walk with Jesus, is a very valuable thing. Our life groups are not perfect (we're growing), and this is the direction we're growing towards.

Every Ministry Making Disciples:

Not only are these relationships necessary for growth, they are central to Christ's command to every believer to make disciples - a disciple being anyone in a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Because of the centrality of this mission, it is our desire to see every program or ministry that this church runs, be viewed as an opportunity for discipleship. Whether it's the food bank, the music ministry, Sunday school, or our community outreach events, every ministry we do is viewed as an opportunity to lead others in a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. This is as true for the staff or volunteers as it is for the clients these programs serve.

Last fall, we met with the head of our Fellowship of churches to begin the process of laying out a 5 year discipleship pathway for this church. Our hope is to continue to foster environment where discipleship can happen and where we can continue to engage our mission to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus. We look forward to the years ahead as our church continues to grow in our capacity for discipleship and meaningful Christian relationship.

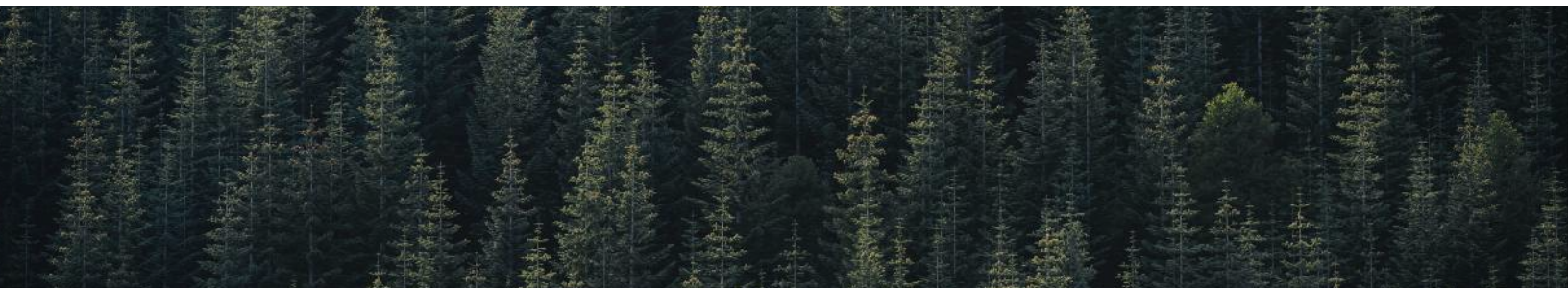
God bless,
Pastor Kyle

COMMUNITY EVENTS

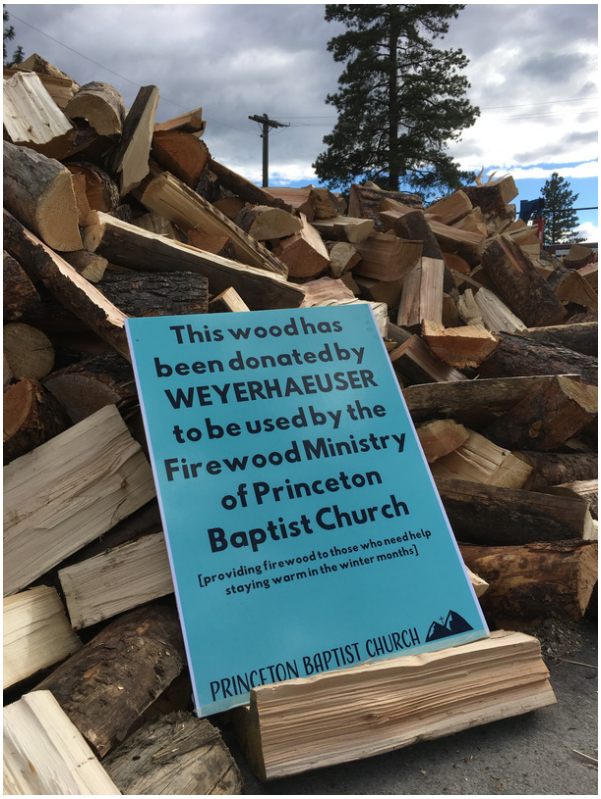
We long to be a church that is present in the town of Princeton as ambassadors of Jesus. One way we do this is through a variety of community events.

On Halloween night, hundreds of kids and their families came out to our Halloween Family Carnival, which took place at Vermillion Forks Elementary. The kids all had lots of fun, and many parents in our church hung out at the carnival to connect with people from the community. The town appreciated this event hugely, and even while buying prizes at the dollar store we were constantly asked by the staff if we were running it again so they could bring their kids. Thanks to Camp Tulahead and Rockridge Canyon for lending out all the carnival games and equipment. This was our second year running this event and we plan to do it again!

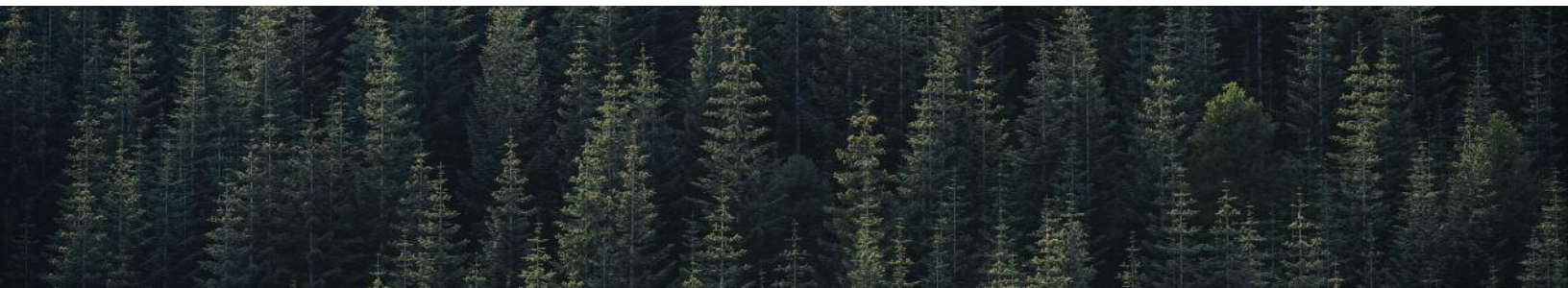
Near the end of November we ran a s'more booth at the Town Light Up. We gave away hundreds of s'mores and it was another successful way for us to show Jesus to the town of Princeton.



FIREWOOD MINISTRY



The firewood ministry remains a well utilized community service. Approximately 20 truck loads were delivered this fall to those in need. Thanks to everyone who pitched in splitting, loading and delivering. We are excited about the construction of the new wood shed and grateful for the generous and timely donations we received that made it possible to secure our wood supply and ensure those with the most need are provided for.



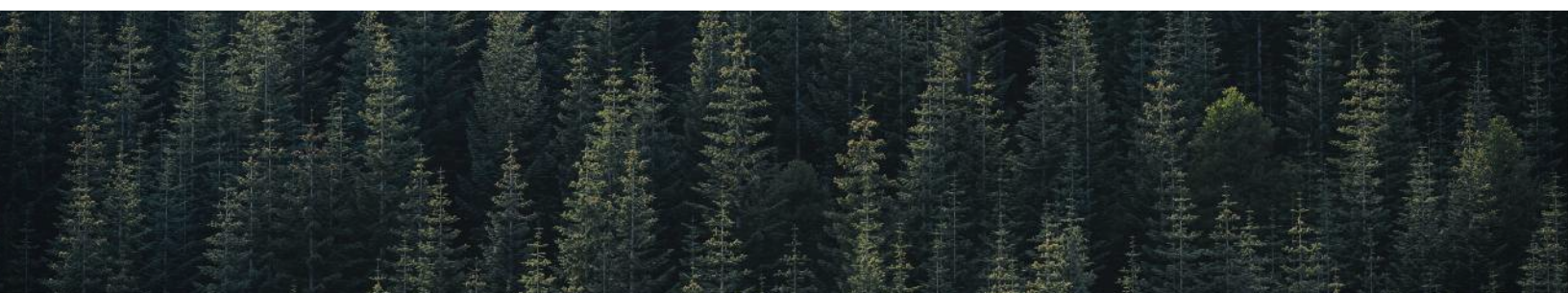
FOOD BANK

A hearty thank you to all who have helped this year at our food bank. It takes a number of volunteers to make a food bank function. Princeton food bank volunteers stand alone in their desire and energy to serve people in need and bring glory to our Heavenly Father.

We have a population close to 100 that we serve in our community and surrounding area. We gave out 1171 bags of frozen food and 1171 bags of perishables this past year. 37 single people and 32 family units of 2 or more we see come through our doors every month. It's a great opportunity to meet people and minister the gospel.

I look forward to working with a new committee of six. Pray for us as we make room for a new freezer and cooler donated by Weyerhauser and as we join together with Foodbank BC.

On a sad note, one of our regular patrons who has heard the gospel, has come to our worship service at least a couple of times, and was in attendance at our Christmas food bank dinner, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly shortly after Christmas.



JUNIOR YOUTH

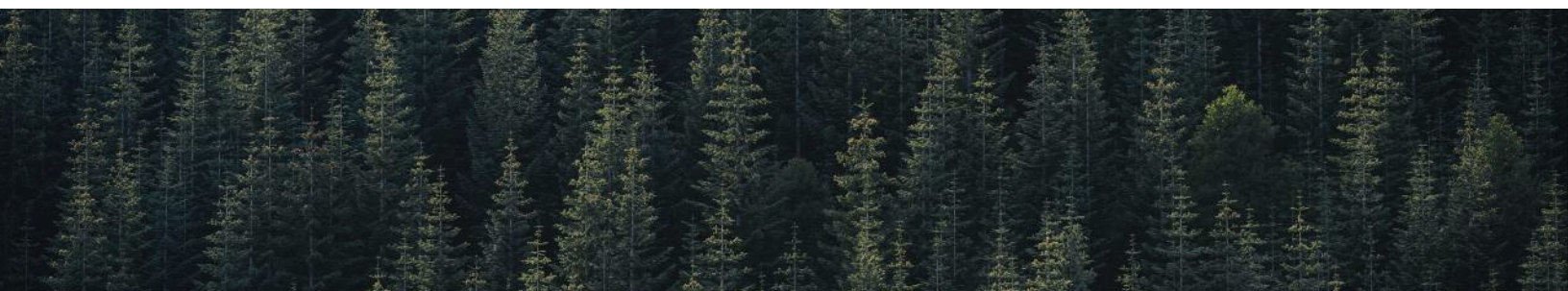
The mission of Junior Youth is to bring the youth of Princeton into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

There are two main places this mission is being accomplished. First, our weekly Jr. Youth nights on Wednesdays are a place where 30-40 kids from the community of Princeton come every week to play games, eat snacks, and listen to a short gospel message. Many of these kids never come into contact with the gospel outside of these nights

The second place is the Youth Core Team, which meets about every second week. Since September we have been working through the Alpha Youth video series. We believe this is an important place for all kids, whether raised in the church or not, to work through some of the biggest questions in life. Many kids who attend have no church background, and have grown in their interest in living life for Jesus.

This past fall we also brought a group of kids to Sunnybrae Bible Camp for the annual Edge retreat. One of our Jr. Youth boys decided to accept God's free gift of forgiveness, and is continuing to grow through the Youth Core Team and individual discipleship.

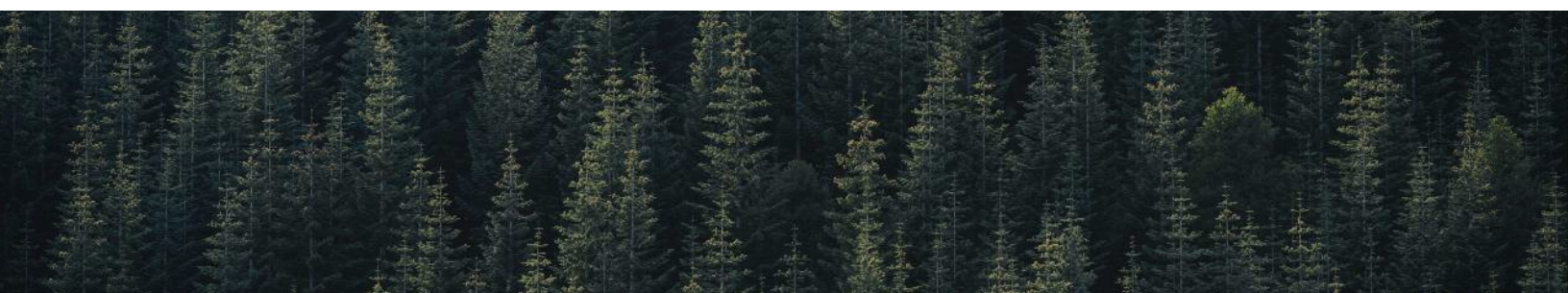
Special thanks to our faithful team of leaders! Their service is an encouraging fruit of the Spirit's work in their lives through this ministry.



KID CAFÉ

Kid Café is in its 5th year of operation! It was created to connect parents and families in the community to the church. Through Kid Café we have established relationships and friendships with many families that have continued over consecutive years. This relational contact with others is huge in sharing God's love! We enjoy serving these hardworking parents and in a small way sharing some of God's extravagant love with them. We have seen people who previously had never step foot in a church building a positive connection with the church. Families who have wondered about attending church have been invited and welcomed to come as they are. It is our great hope that we can form relationships built on trust and love that allow us an opportunity to point others to Christ.

This coming year in Kid Café we've been gifted a new espresso machine! Bree Howarth and Kyle Nichols are our committed baristas, we are thankful for them. We are hoping to put into action something called "Mom Cafe" where occasionally someone with insight into parenting, family, faith, or something relevant to attendees of Kid Cafe will come to lead a workshop. We would provide childcare during the regular Kid Cafe hours and allow the moms to attend the workshop. We want to build into families and encourage parents. Right now, we tentatively have a workshop on "positive discipline" scheduled for sometime in April. Running Mom Cafe will require some additional support providing childcare. If you would be interested in supporting Kid Cafe this way please let Shawna Scafe or Rachel Nichols know.



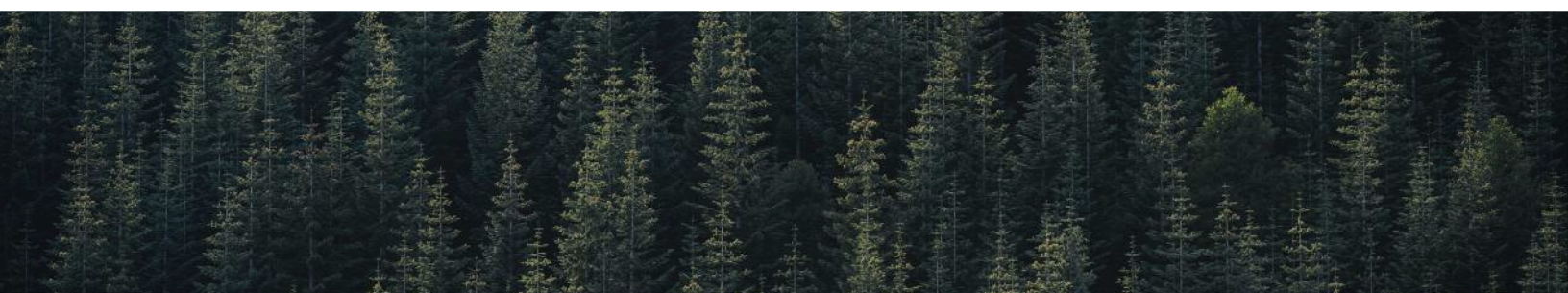
MARRIAGE & FAMILY MINISTRY

The vision of our marriage & family ministry is support, encourage and provide biblical counsel to couples and families through the everyday challenges of life.

Rob and Kelly Nicholls started the Marriage and Family Ministry in 2017 after several years of informal couples counselling. It soon became evident that the need for Christian-based marriage counselling far outweighed the supply of facilitators. Rob and Kelly are both certified facilitators for Prepare-Enrich, whose program provides relationship assessment tools for counsellors psychologists, social workers and clergy. They have both been continuing to upgrade their credentials, with Kelly graduating as a certified Counsellor with the Kelowna College of Professional Counselling, and Rob being credentialed with the Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches of BC as a Marriage Pastor.

2018 was a busy year which saw many challenged couples come to understand God's incredible desire for joy in their relationships by applying the Biblical principles of Faith, Hope, and Love (1 Corinthians 13:13).

Rob and Kelly are looking forward to continuing to grow the idea of "Returning Christian Values to Marriage" in churches and communities throughout BC. by inspiring healthy married couples to get involved in the much-needed field of Christian Marriage Counselling.



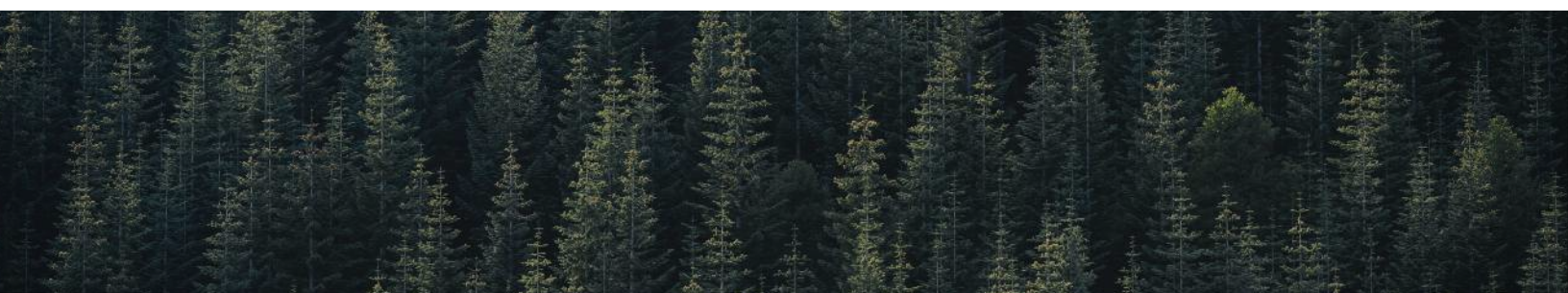
PRAYER MINISTRY

The prayer ministry is a network of people committed to praying for things happening within our church family, and in the community around us.

Believing God is faithful and good in all His ways can be difficult when the trials of life press in upon us and life's 'unfairness' seems to be winning – when our prayers for protection for the vulnerable seem unanswered, for healing and restoration of health and relationships sees no visible improvement, when people we love so dearly refuse to believe they need Jesus' salvation, etc.

We pray that in those times when we 'just don't get it', we will go deeper into the Word of our Father, to gain deeper insight and understanding of His character and nature. From the lives of Noah, Abraham, Joseph, Paul and many others may we gain perspective and cling to our blessed assurance that He really does work things out to His own good purpose, affecting lives for eternity.

Throughout this past year God has given us answers to our prayers that encourage us to continue to soldier on. We have been privileged to intercede on behalf of many in our church family, our community, our country and internationally. Through prayer we have upheld our church ministries, our staff and their families, upheld our brothers and sisters in persecuted nations. We joined New Hope Church in praying for all involved in the Alpha Ministry, for the youth and staff of our church.



SOCIAL MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

The past year saw an increase in online communications amongst the church congregation and the public.

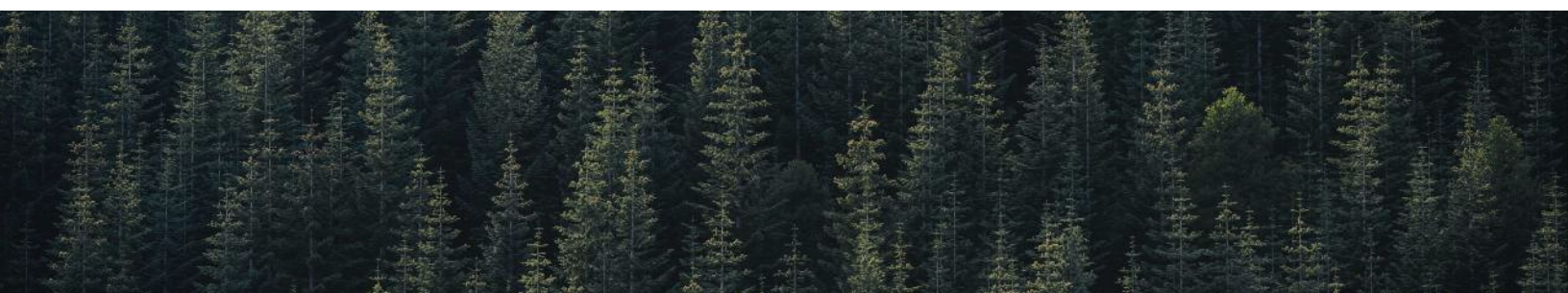
Online communication has become a staple in our society. It is used by virtually all demographics and is most often the preferred form of communication for many people.

Through various forms of online communication PBC has been able to stay connected with their congregation, share events with the public, and be available to those looking for information about churches in Princeton.

Our online communications strategy in 2018 included:

1. Establishing an email list and email newsletter (The Connector) for church family and friends of the church. In 2018, The Connector was sent bi-weekly. It contained a range of information on events, meet the staff, recent sermons and other important or encouraging information. Our email list is 123 subscribers and our email engagement rate is 56% (which is considered great by industry standards)In the past, the church has used gmail to send out emails to the congregation. Email management is now done through the Email Service Provider (ESP), Mad Mimi.

2. Improving the website and providing more content for the public through blog posts, faqs, meet the staff, etc. We moved over to a wordpress site which is more affordable, more flexible and allowed us to easily add in plug-ins that allow us to host a podcast.



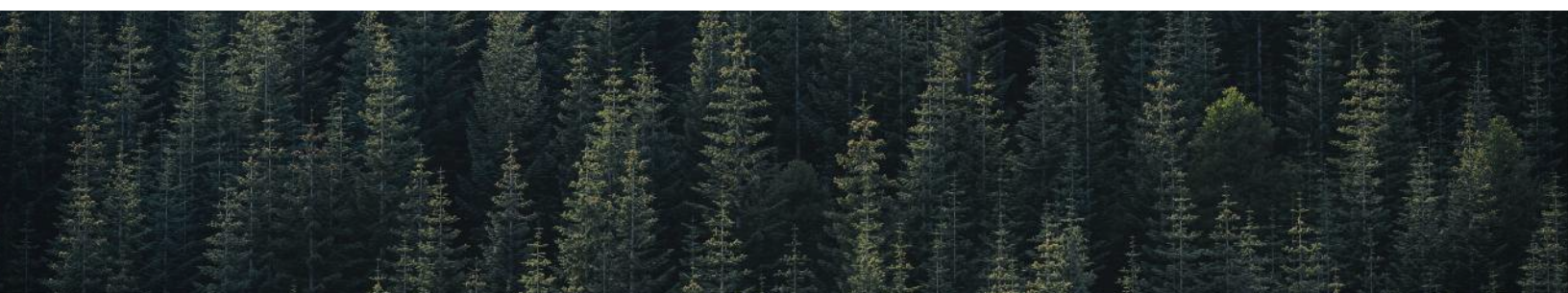
SOCIAL MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

The website is an effective form of connecting with those who are curious about PBC, people visiting Princeton and looking for a church, the public who utilizes many of the programs run through PBC, and for congregation members to keep up to date. The website receives between 300-400 monthly visitors. New content has been added to the site: an FAQs page for those who are curious about church and Christianity, a sermons page for to find all the sermon recaps and podcasts, meet the team, a page specific to the Food Bank, and a page for online giving. Videos have also been filmed featuring Pastor Kyle speaking about the gospel and life at Princeton Baptist Church. Those are expected to be up on the site when video editing is competed.

3. Moving the audio files to a podcast. As of February 2018 the sermons are now hosted on podcast players: iTunes, Google Play and Spotify. This allows various users to listen to the podcast through the website or through their preferred podcast player. In 2018 the podcast had a total 42 episodes. There was a total of 875 downloads.

4. Regularly posting on Facebook to share sermons, encouragement, and information with the public. Our strategy was to keep posting relevant and engaging content while paying to boost posts related to public events. In the year, our page followers organically (without paid promotion) increased from 149 to 194. The majority of our followers are women aged 24-54 in Princeton.

5. Establishing domain emails for the staff to use. These emails are more professional than personal email accounts and are easier for the public to remember.

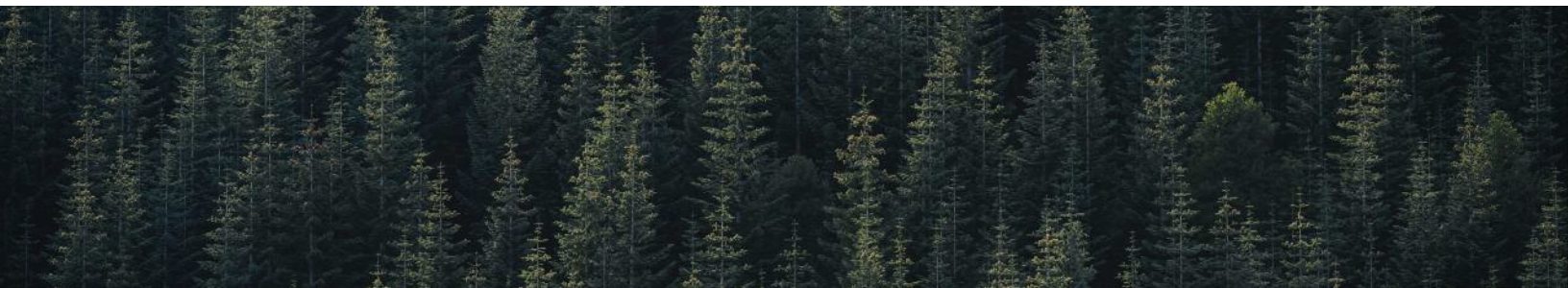


SUNDAY SCHOOL

The mission of Sunday School is to actively engage children in learning about the Bible. Teaching them about God's love for them, his plan for their life and his plan for people will build a foundation for the rest of their lives and their personal salvation story.

This year our goal was to implement consistency in classes, leadership, teachers, and curriculum. The first thing we did was transition to three classes. This has been a positive transition. Three classes provides more age appropriate classes and also smaller class sizes. Second, this last year saw a transition in leadership. Tanya stepped into a teaching role and Katrina took on the task of not only teaching, but also curriculum organization. Katrina brings a lot of Sunday School experience and a strong organizational skill set. This has allowed us to have a preset schedule of teachers as well as a list of substitute Sunday School teachers. The teachers are well supported through pre-prepared lesson plans, crafts and activities.

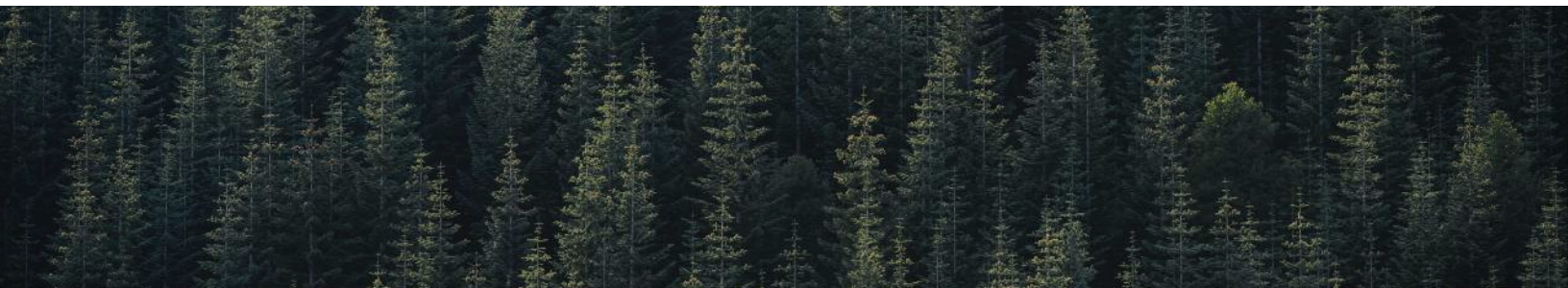
Looking forward to 2019 we are asking God to continue to grow our Sunday School program. We have a vision for a Sunday School program that is fun and welcoming, drawing families to Christ through their kids. We also hope that we can grow our Sunday School program to four classes through the addition of high school class. In order to work towards these goals we are asking for teachers to give input into curriculum and for members of the church to contribute their time and talents. If you would like to become involved in Sunday School as either a regular bi-weekly teacher, a substitute teacher, or in the creative aspect of curriculum development, please contact Katrina Wessel.



WOMEN'S MENTAL HEALTH

The Women's Mental Health Group for the 2018 season was started up again in October. (The 2017 season ended in April '18). The group is being led by Rhianfa Riel, Stephanie Vermette, and Karen Fulton and taking place at Rhianfa's home (a switch from the church basement last season). The group has 5 new members from the community and 7 returning members both from the church and community. The group demographics remain diverse, however, as the new members are all mothers ages 25-30. Childcare is being provided.

A slight change to the structure of the group was introduced this season; we are working through the Living Grace workbook every other meeting (same edition as new material has not been released) and doing a 'share and prayer' meeting on the off weeks. This allows more opportunity for deeper bonding between members, more time in prayer and a chance to reflect on tools and perspectives learned from the previous week's material. Feedback on the group continues to be very positive. We are excited to see discipling relationships forming within the group and invite you to join us in praying that we reach more women in need.



WORSHIP MINISTRY

The worship ministry at Princeton Baptist exists to lead the body of Christ into the presence of God. We minister to the LORD and the church family through praise and worship, not only with our music, but also with our lives. Let the words of our mouth and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to the Lord. (Ps 19:14)

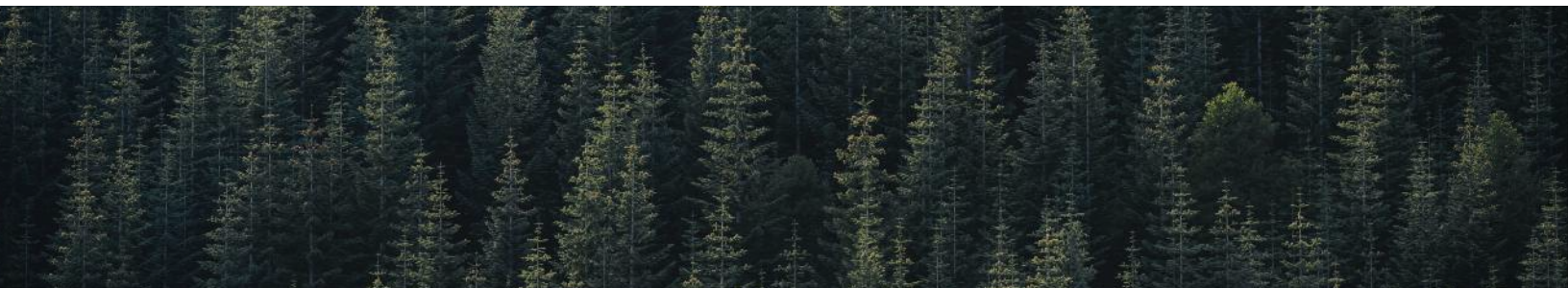
I thank the Lord daily for the opportunity I have to serve the church through music at Princeton Baptist. The continued efforts of the staff team towards improvements and excellence is very encouraging and helps us to keep open minds and reminds us to pursue with passion the glory of God. Our team has grown and diversified over the past year to include new singers, musicians, and technicians.

It is an ongoing goal of the Worship Ministry to to not only provide a comfortable and inviting environment for congregants to worship the Lord, but to also be an open worship team that is constantly looking for other motivated servants to contribute. We look forward to providing a place of opportunity for those in our midst who feel called to serve God's people as worship ministry team members.

In the year to come we will strive to serve the people of Princeton through Spirit lead encounters with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We will continue to work with Princeton Baptist leadership to grow from within a ministry team that is drawing ever closer to Christ and seeking out a true heart of worship.

If you are feeling led to serve on the Worship Ministry Team as a Power Point Operator, Musician, Vocalist, Sound Tech or in other ways, please do be in touch.

Call or email Chris Mortensen - (604)741-1102 chris@lucidimaging.com

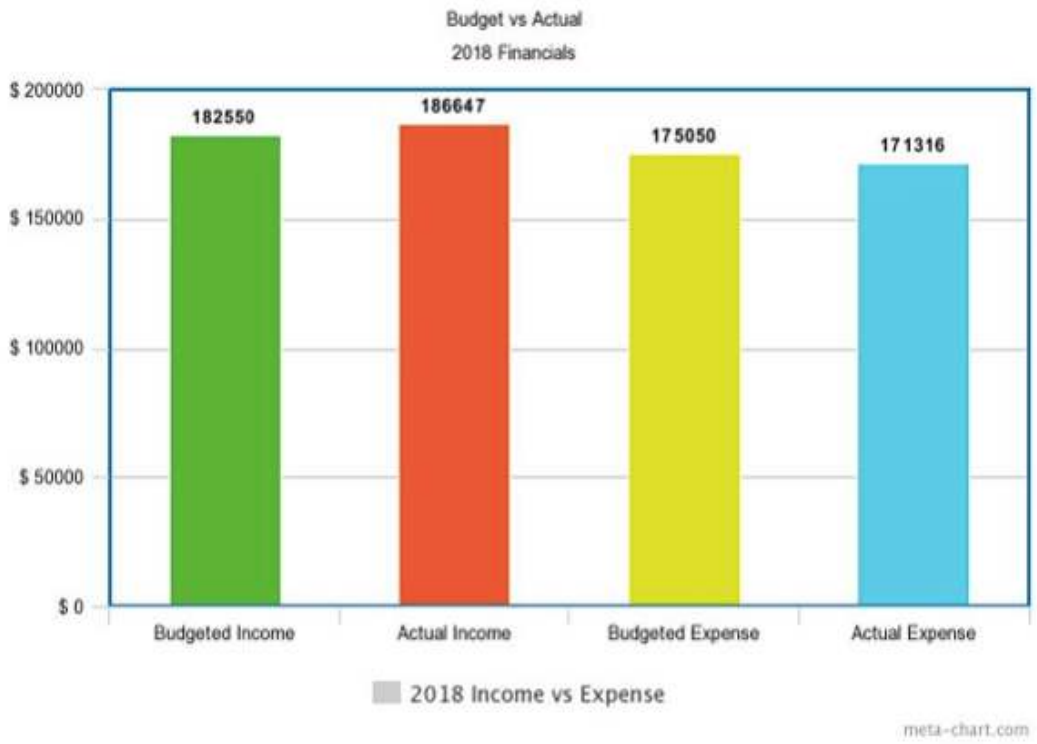


FINANCIALS

Profit and Loss
Last year
$15,343
NET INCOME FOR LAST YEAR
$186,659
INCOME
$171,316
EXPENSES

Expenses
Last year
$171,316
LAST YEAR
$91,712
Pastoral
$34,874
Ministry
$10,997
Christian Education
$33,733
Everything else

FINANCIALS



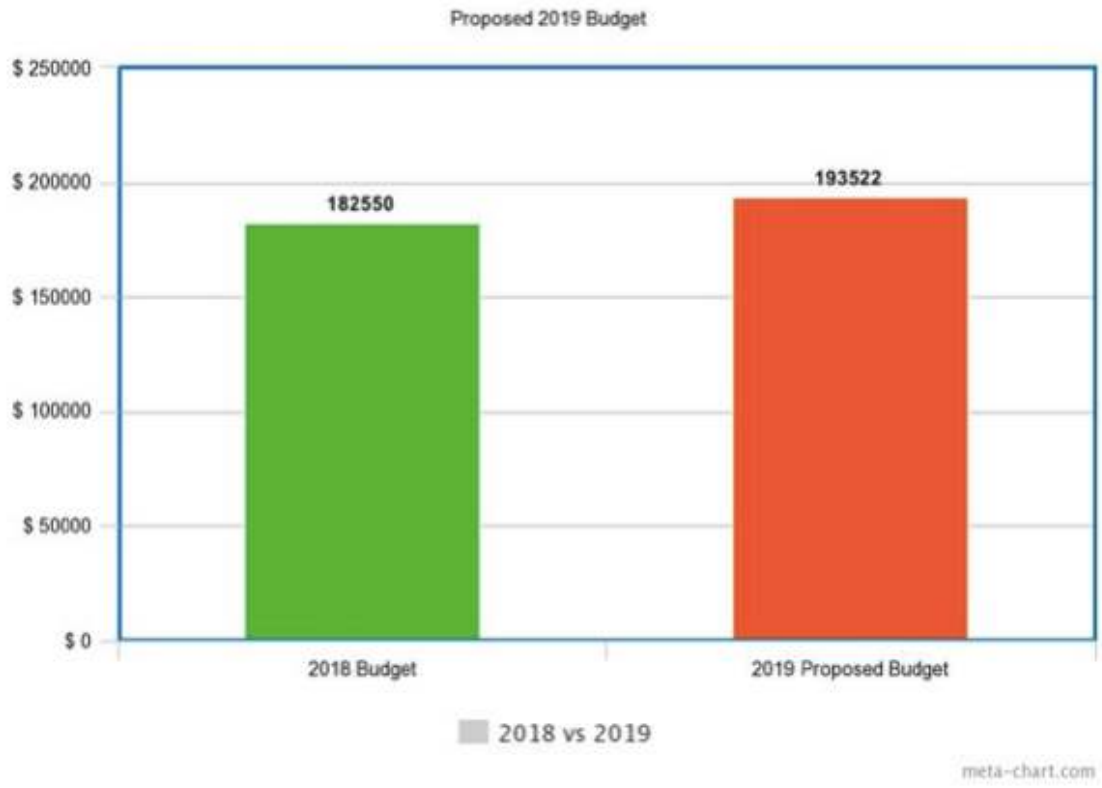
Notable differences:

1. Salary expenses were down due to Administrative Position vacancy and reduced hours.

2. Snow removal was limited in 2018.

3. Pastoral/Payroll expense down.

FINANCIALS



Notable Differences:

1. Pastoral salary increase.

2. Elimination of bus rental.

3. Minor line changes.

4. Church attendance increasing.