

SARNIA EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY CHURCH

"To partner with God in developing genuine, fully devoted followers of Jesus"



Welcome to the SEMC



Gratefulness overflows when a "thankful pumpkin" is transformed into an amazing pumpkin cheesecake. Creativity courtesy of Les & Julia Henderson

January 2021
Elevator construction continues
Please enter the building through the office door

The church building will be closed for services until the current lockdown is over. The Sunday morning worship service will be online with music @ 10am and the message @ 10:30am. Be sure to check the SEMC facebook page often for updates.

The SEMC office will be closed from January 1st to Jan 6th



Impact

Patrick Turvey

Our Impact 2020 year has come to a close, but not without some unique and amazing experiences. After beginning our first 5 weeks outside, we moved indoors for the remaining 6 weeks of the season. We've tackled many different and often difficult topics in this short period, which has opened some amazing conversations. We've also had the opportunity to serve our church by doing a Sunday Psalm reading together and contributed to the local Bluewater Health "Rocks of Encouragement" initiative as a group. One of our highlights was witnessing the in-person baptism of our very own Cedrik Atayde!

Lots has happened in these short 11 weeks. While we have certainly been limited in planning our Sunday night youth events, we continue to see God work in and through this ministry and our students. I'm thankful for both His faithfulness to us and also thankful to our church family for the prayer support that we've received over these past months. While we are unsure what the beginning season of 2021 will look like, we can continue to trust that Jesus is King, is on His throne, and will continue to be faithful to us in the New Year.



Theresa Siertsema

Thank you so much for tuning into KidJAM Star Trip and for those who joined us for our KidJAM Christmas evening! A huge thank you to Zach Chester and Pastor Deve for all their help with Star Trip! As we take a short break at the beginning of January, we are thankful for those who are watching Kidjam and being blessed by it! We hope that it is a useful tool as you disciple your kids and grandkids during this time! We will be back soon with a new series and new things to learn and discover about God! Here's to a new year and here's to growing deeper in our relationship with God!



The Star Trippers



SERVE

PRAY

RESPOND

From Deve's desk ~ The 2020 theme verse for the SEMC was Mark 1:15. "The time has come...the kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" Jesus' desire was to point people toward the good news of the Kingdom and invite them to follow Him in discovering the life-changing difference of His good news! As we look back upon 2020 we can see how God has been faithful in helping us, as individuals, as families and as a church family in shining the light of God's good news into our community! God is indeed with us! We have recognized this truth as we Serve, Pray, and Respond to His Grace (SPRinG). We have seen this truth, His Truth, come alive in our community in so many ways: subtle, small, and some spectacular. Yet all significant to the Kingdom work of God. Thank you for your prayer, partnership and participation with the SEMC this year!

Here are some of the ways in which God has been using our collective efforts, as the SEMC family, in our community during 2020:

- Blessing local Nursing home: Landmark Village and Vision
- Supporting Locally owned and operated businesses
- Generosity toward Community Organizations through Benevolence giving (almost \$16k)
- Monthly Food Drives to support local aid agencies (March thru September)
- Baking, crafting for one another and our neighbours to provide encouragement
- Generous Giving to the Empower Christmas Project
- Staying faithful in regular tithes and offerings, which allowed us to meet all our commitments in 2020.
- A high yield at our Community garden which was cared for by a great intergenerational team
- Adventure Bible Camp went back into homes and neighbourhoods
- 7 homes built for 7 families in El Salvador
- Thanksgiving Pumpkin Packs to families
- In person mid-week coffee breaks
- The September Outdoor service
- November-December in person services
- Online engagement (Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, Spotify, Zoom) which has developed a new community of connections and provided encouragement to many.
- The ability to begin our much needed Renovation to install a new 4 storey lift

On behalf of the SEMC Governing Board and the Staff, let me thank you for your continued efforts to be people who point out the good news of the Kingdom amid some of the worry and bad news that has occupied much of this year. May the Lord use these efforts as seeds that will grow to bring great yield for His glory. Let's enter 2021 with anticipation and expectation for the new growth that will emerge.