

Sept 30, 2011 (*updated Oct 12, 2011*)

To all Staff and Volunteers of 2011,

We continue to be amazed and retell stories of how God brought us together to serve this past season - thank you for your part in that! It was good.

No doubt about it - fall is here... For me it is a reminder of how things change yet stay the same. I know what is coming yet no matter how hard I might try I can't delay it or control it (flipping the light switch on is not the same as the sun shining in the window). The nights will get longer, hockey has started, and it will get colder. It is time to prepare for winter. On the surface it appears like our circumstances and environment control us, and on one hand they do.

Yet, on the other hand they don't. I have found that my attitude toward my circumstances has a far more significant influence on me than the circumstance itself. Often the real control is in my own attitude. As my attitude is submitted to the grace and discipline of God, my dependence on circumstances for contentment and satisfaction fades... maybe Jesus was touching on this when he said "those who hunger and thirst for righteousness will be filled" (Matthew 5).

On to other things...

We are excited to invite you to a **Celebration and Planning Faspa!*** What is a Faspa you might say? Don't worry about that part - the part that is amazing is the celebration and planning. There will be stories of summer (you may have one or two) and tables to facilitate feedback as well as future ideas and planning. We are planning for an event in Kingston and in Ottawa. The place is being confirmed and the dates are tentative. This is your FYI. Check the website for finalized details.

Kingston: Sunday, Nov 6, 2011 (*updated date*); 5-7pm; Location TBA.

Ottawa: Sunday, Oct 23, 2011; 5-7pm; Location finalized on Oct 14.

~~We are still looking for a few **volunteers for Thanksgiving Weekend**. Come for one or two days or stay the weekend. Monday includes a Celebration Service and one amazing Thanksgiving Meal. The website has more details.~~

Until next time... may the work of God in us continue to bear the fruit of His Spirit... with blessing.

* "Faspa" is a low German, Mennonite style Sunday evening eating experience shared by family, friends and sometimes even the pastor. The menu typically is cold meats, cheese, buns, pickles, pluma moos, or other leftover soup, and fruit preserves.