

MAY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Shift (Youth) 7:00 pm	4	5	6
7 Prayer Time-10:00 am Worship Service D6 & Beginnings 10:30 am	8	9	10 Shift (Youth) 7:00 pm	11 Senior Ministry 2:00 pm	12	13
14 Prayer Time-10:00 am Worship Service D6 & Beginnings 10:30 am	15	16	17 Shift (Youth) 7:00 pm	18	19	20
21 Prayer Time-10:00 am Worship Service D6 & Beginnings 10:30 am	22	23	24 Shift (Youth) 7:00 pm	25 Senior Ministry 2:00 pm	26	27
28 MOSAIC SUNDAY Prayer Time 10:00 am Worship Service & Beginnings 10:30 am	29	30	31 Shift (Youth) 7:00 pm			

Weekly Group & Events

Mondays	Café Drop In 10:00 am-1:00 pm	Sewing/Knitting/Crocheting Class 10:00 am-11:30 pm	ESL Conversation Class 7:00-8:30 pm
Wednesday	Café Drop In 10:00 am-1:00 pm	ESL Bible Study 10:00 am-11:00 pm	Beginner Sewing Class 11:00 am-12:30 pm

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TRAIL MIX

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 5 MAY 2017

ROCKYVIEW ALLIANCE CHURCH

WORSHIP GOD • LOVE ONE ANOTHER • SERVE

Hello, and welcome to Trail Mix – our monthly church newsletter at Rockyview Alliance Church! In each month's issue, you'll find a variety of articles and calendar items designed to help you stay connected to what's going on at Rockyview, and to stimulate some reflection and growth at home as well! I hope you enjoy this month's issue, as there's a lot to be excited about at Rockyview in the month of May!

First of all, the month of May should be the month where we see the long awaited work on our campus remediation begin! Exterior grading and water management will change the shape of church land, waterproofing the outside of the building and adding a new brick exterior on the church will change everything about the look of Rockyview as well as safeguard us from the elements for many years to come, and then inside – we will see the church basement rebuilt and redesigned into a useful, beautiful family ministry space once again!

I (along with so many of you) am committed to seeing the #wearerockyview campaign that began in 2016 through to completion over the next three years, and it will be so fulfilling to see new ministry taking place by the fall of 2017 in renewed spaces. If you're new to Rockyview – check out the heart of the campaign on our website @ <http://www.rockyviewalliance.com/wearerockyview> for more info!

Second, we have recently welcomed Nick Kennedy to the church as an Ambrose University intern. Nick's internship began in late April, and we're so looking forward to the year ahead with Nick and his wife Julia around Rockyview. With a focus on Family Ministries and Community Outreach, I'm sure Nick will have his hands full and I'm trusting God for a year of blessing in the Kennedy's lives! Check out Nick's article inside this month's Trail Mix and get to know the Kennedy's soon!

Then, there's the sabbatical season that Pastor Russ and the Clugston family have just begun – Russ' sabbatical runs from May 1 through to the end of July, so keep up with the Clugstons by reading the "Sabbatical Soundings" articles each month from Pastor Russ as he shares some highlights and lessons learned during his sabbatical.

And if that's not enough, I'm looking forward to the launch of Rockyview's new "Growth Track" this month, where we're encouraging every person who attends Rockyview to join us for a four week journey called "Growth Track". There's more information inside this month's Trail Mix, in the seat backs in the Sanctuary, or online at our website www.rockyviewalliance.com! I hope you're up for a new season of connecting into a deeper life in your relationship with Jesus and others at Rockyview. Sign up for Growth Track soon!

In any case, springtime is a great season at Rockyview, and I hope you'll see the many opportunities in the next month or two to press in and press on as a church community!

PASTOR SHAWN
LEAD PASTOR

In May I am going on Sabbatical. A Sabbatical is an intentional, extended period away from work for the purpose of rest, to be renewed physically and spiritually, to draw close to God and family. It's a period of time designed to reflect on the past years in ministry and to dream of the future. It's a time to be renewed and to prepare for the next season of ministry at Rockyview.

Leading up to Sabbatical I have developed an intentional Sabbatical plan that includes rest, reflection and renewal. We are going to be visiting some family. I'll be heading to a Family Ministry conference that will recharge me and give me some new idea's for Rockyview Family Ministries. I'll be meeting with some other youth pastor's, and leaders to get some wisdom on this next stage of pastoring can look like for me. I'll also be creating a personal vision/ministry statement and vision for the future. Mainly, though, I will be resting and connecting with God and with family and friends. Doing things that will breathe life back into me, and refresh me for the next season of working here at Rockyview.

I am excited for our intern Nick, to oversee Rockyview Family Ministries during my sabbatical. Nick has been busy connecting with some leaders, and getting oriented on our youth and children's programming at Rockyview. I have full confidence in Nick, and our Family Ministry teams, and look forward to reconnecting with them when I come back from sabbatical.

In May here are some specific things that you can pray for me and my family.

1. Pray that we can disengage from ministry life at Rockyview. As sabbatical it will take a little while to let go of my tasks and responsibilities at Rockyview. Pray that this process is quick, and that God gives me peace and rest as I let go of things.
2. Pray that my family and I can rest and make some great memories together. Pray that we can make the best use of this time together and that it is life giving, and full of lasting memories.
3. Pray that my time with God is refreshing and renewing.
4. Pray for my time spent at the Family Ministry conference. That god gives me fresh wisdom and insight, and a vision for the future of Family Ministries at Rockyview.

**FOR YOU, AND FOR YOUR CHILDREN,
RUSS CLUGSTON
PASTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRIES**



Rockyview Family Updates

May Birthdays

01 Brem Frentz (M)
 01 Cary Howden
 02 John Vannus
 05 Hope Hiebert
 05 Matheo Peters (M)
 06 Aaron Beal
 07 Debbie May (M)
 07 Shannon Smith
 11 Mark Lyons (M)
 13 Stephanie Little

18 Dora Lachmanetz
 21 Caleb Heywood
 24 Les Klemmensen
 25 Christine Watson
 25 Rosa Rambaran
 26 Anne Norris
 28 Debbie Pearce
 30 Arun Kurian
 30 Lori Steed

May Anniversaries

10 HILSABECK, Dave & Lois
 12 DE GROOT, Mike & Amanda
 20 HARDER, Brent & Ellen

(M) Denotes an international worker and/or their family members. If you want to be included on this page or would like to be removed, please submit your name and information to the office.

You're now able to download the latest Trail Mix, the current Sunday Bulletin, and Messages as well as keep up-to-date with news and events from our website at:
www.rockyviewalliance.com

ROCKYVIEW ALLIANCE GROWTH TRACK



Hey Rockyview we are so excited to announce an exciting initiative coming your way. You may have heard some people talking about "GROWTH TRACK" or perhaps you haven't and have seen us post about it "coming soon" on Facebook. What is Growth Track you might ask? Well, let us answer that for you. Rockyview Growth track (GT) is a new initiative we are launching to increase engagement, improve our discipleship model and get more people involved serving/volunteering at church. The initiative is primarily aimed at new-comers to RAC as a way to get new people involved and plugged-in to purposeful community right away.

One of the chief reasons people leave church or feel discontent at church is because they feel "disconnected". Rockyview Growth Track, will help get people on track and connected in a way that is deeply intentional. Throughout Growth Track we will intentionally invest in helping people discover their God-given gifts and talents and connect them to serve in areas of ministry where they are passionate to serve and are gifted. Growth Track will help shepherd people into meaningful relationships through serving and CONNECT groups (previously small groups). We want everyone at Rockyview to experience Growth Track, so it is not just for new people, and when Growth Track launches, new and existing people will be invited to sign up.

What will Growth Track look like practically for you and new-comers?

God has an incredible plan for your life, and the Rockyview Alliance Church Growth Track is designed to help you connect with that purpose in mind. Growth Track invites you to spend four Sundays after church connecting at church and diving into what it looks like to follow Jesus, discover your purpose and then make a difference with your life. Each of the four events is a step toward God's unique purpose and design for your life. We would be thrilled to get you started in Growth Track starting May 2017. Stay tuned for sign up information in the next few weeks.

Step 1 – Welcome Lunch (1st Sunday of the Month)

We want to welcome you to Rockyview and get to know you and your family more. Join us for lunch hosted by one of our pastors. RSVP required (*Fill out a connection card and RSVP with our CONNECT team out by the Fireplace starting in May 2017*)

Step 2 – Essentials: Rockyview Unpacked (2nd Sunday of the Month)

Learn more about Rockyview as we unpack some essentials about life and community here at RAC. We will explain why it is a part of our church DNA to worship God, love one another and serve.

Step 3 – Connect (3rd Sunday of the Month)

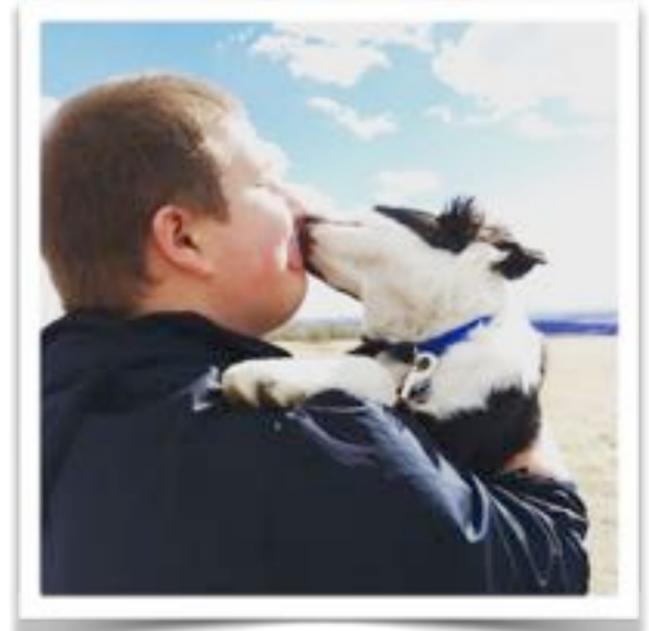
No one is designed to do life alone. At RAC it is our mission to see all people who attend here connect and engage in a meaningful way. This event explores all our different areas of ministry and gives you an opportunity to learn more about Connect Groups.

Step 4 – Discover and Serve (4th Sunday of the Month)

Discover your God-given talents and find great joy in your giftedness as you learn to bless others and lean into your passions at Rockyview.

We are so very excited to journey in Growth Track with all of you. You may have said to yourself over the last while, you feel disconnected or perhaps you just feel like you are going through the motions at church. Well, friends join the rest of our staff and board as we launch this new Growth Track in May 2017. We look forward to seeing everyone participate and grow.

I grew up in the town of Richmond Hill, Ontario, and for the better half of 10 years, all I wanted to be when I grew up was a national account manager for Motorola, just like my dad. Dad got to travel around Canada and meet with clients like Rogers and Telus, sell them phones, and go on company holidays with my mom. Oh the life. So by the time "Take-Your-Kid-To-Work Day" came around in the fall of my grade 9 year, you can bet I was very excited to work with dad at Motorola for the day and play on all the new phones; "maybe I'll be so good with phones that the bosses will hire me right on the spot!" And you will never believe what happened... they didn't offer me a job. In fact, I didn't even get into the office building. You see, Dad had to go to Vancouver for a sales conference. Mom worked in and led the Children's Ministry at our church, but I had gone to work with her before, old news. Luckily my youth pastor Joel was willing to take me into work with him, despite my pleas to stay home and sulk. It was a glamorous day working in the youth ministry, full of sweeping up flies from the youth barn floor, administrative planing, and meetings. Perhaps not the view of youth ministry that many want to see or experience, however, for some reason I was hooked. That night God spoke to me clearly, "that is what I want you to do with your life." In my head I thought, "GOD WANTS ME TO BE A JANITOR?" Of course the calling in my life was for youth ministry: the fun parts, the dirty aspects, and the challenging events, all of it. The year after when I was in grade 10, my youth pastor took me and two other youth from our church to Calgary and we stayed for a few nights with Pastor Russ and his family before heading south to Ambrose to attend the LYC conference. After the weekend was over, I had made up my mind, I would go to Ambrose.



My internship has taken many different forms over the last year and a half leading up to coming to Rockyview. Originally Julia (my wife) and I were looking into a Para-Church organization that ministered to multi-ethnic groups; after that was an opportunity to head north into the territories and travel between a few smaller towns and hamlets in the territories and study ministry in that context. After the northern option fell through this past winter, and a lot of prayer and discussion, Julia and I decided to stay in Calgary and I would look for a local internship while Julia switched into the Ambrose English program after almost 3 years studying cross cultural ministry.

So here I am now on my second day in the office at Rockyview writing my Trail Mix article. I'm currently in the middle of a Family Ministry and Community Outreach Ministry crash course. I am really excited to get to know all of you here at RAC and be able to serve and lead you and your families to the best of my ability. I am looking forward to the learning experiences I will have, to the mistakes I will make along the way, to teaching your children and seeing them grow, and to learning from your children as they help me grow. I am so excited to hear about what God has been doing here at Rockyview, and I am even more excited to see how God shapes this church over the next year.

NICK KENNEDY
PASTORAL INTERN

“Yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength...” Isaiah 40:31a. An aspect of spiritual growth that is often overlooked or under-appreciated is time. When I ask myself, “how can I grow in my walk with God,” time is often not on the list of answers I give. Without question things like prayer, meditating, studying God’s word, and engaging in God-centered community are vital to growth as a believer. A plant needs good soil, water, and sunshine to grow- but it also needs time. Ecclesiastes 3:11 “He has made everything beautiful in its time.” Time is a crucial aspect of growth.

I have had periods of my life when I seemed to mature quickly, but they have been exceptions to the rule. Most times, I grow slowly, as the word of God works into my mind, grows roots into my heart and then begins to shape my outer life. And I have come to appreciate, only recently, that slow change is enduring change. Almost without my being aware of it, my exterior life begins to mirror the internal dialogue with the Spirit and meditation on the word of God.

So why is it important to remember this? First of all, slow growth has a way of reminding us that change is not a result of our own effort, or study, or a particular book. Change is the work of the Spirit in our lives (Eph 2:2). Remember this also so that you may be encouraged. When we examine our lives day to day, week to week, it may not seem as though we are being transformed into God’s likeness (Rom 12:2, 1 Cor 3:18). But when we look back over months and years, we are more likely to see a difference.

Keep doing the good things you know you should do; pray, be in the Word and in God-centered community. These things give the Spirit an abundance of tools and raw material to build with in our lives. Remember that it is He who transforms us, and be confident of this: that He Who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion (over time) until the day of Christ Jesus (Phil 1:5).

KENT DUNHAM
ELDER



In early June every year the members of Rockyview meet for an important event in the life of the Church. The annual general meeting is when the membership of the Church gets together to conduct the important business of the Church, as well as make some key decisions.

As a congregation in the Christian and Missionary Alliance, we follow the policies and structures set up by the denomination. A key part of that is the Annual General Meeting.

A typical AGM has a few major components:

- A review of the agenda for the meeting and its acceptance or update by the membership.
- A review of the minutes from the last AGM and its acceptance by the membership.
- A presentation of the pastoral and ministry reports. Each of the Pastors and ministry leaders provide a summary and written report from the past year. It is often a time to reflect on what God has done in our midst and what He might be calling us to in the coming year.
- A presentation of the statistics for the previous year and associated discussion.
- A report from the treasurer on the last financial year with the chance for questions and discussion.
- A draft budget presented by the Treasurer and endorsed by the Board of Elders. There is a chance for discussion and the budget is voted on by the membership.
- A report from the nominating committee providing a list of nominees for the Board of Elders as well as nominees for the next nominating committee. A vote is held for the membership to make a decision on who will serve on the upcoming Board. Each Elder is elected for a period of two years with approximately half the seats open every year.

In addition to this, individual members can make motions that can be discussed and voted on and accepted or rejected by the membership. As we move into the new year I would like to strongly encourage each of you to participate in the AGM. While only members of Rockyview Alliance Church can vote, everybody is welcome to attend.

Even though the AGM is a business meeting, as Christians we can make everything we do an act of worship. Please pray for the AGM and all that attend. Please pray that we follow the voice of Jesus in the decisions we make. Pray that we elect the right people to serve on the Board. Most of all pray that we will continue to be true to the vision and mission we have been called to.

I look forward to seeing you there.

ARUN KURIAN
ELDER