



Winter 2010

The
LIGHTHOUSE
Helping People | Changing Lives

Reflections on Our Annual Dinner and Silent Auction

I praise The Lord For The Lighthouse

Daisy Wai (annual dinner attendee)

My husband and I had the honour of working with Board member Alex Chan to prepare the Program Booklet for The Lighthouse Annual Dinner and Silent Auction. We also had the privilege of reading about the Mission Statement of The Lighthouse followed by a series of testimonials from participants and volunteers. I praise the Lord for this organization!

As I continued to read the report on the various programs offered by The Lighthouse and their focus on changing lives, I was touched by their sincerity and faithfulness to their mission.



gramming. Guests were all ready and willing to support The Lighthouse through the silent auction and generous donations. We were particularly fond of the dumplings that a team of volunteers made for the occasion. Each dumpling represented their teamwork, their commitment to contributing their shared ministry and their support of this great organization. My husband and I walked away with 6 boxes of them!

We were deeply moved by this event. Not only did we have an enjoyable evening, we were well fed spiritually and physically.



Attending the annual fundraising dinner further deepened this feeling. Everyone is friendly and sincere, all working towards a common goal. I was happy to see a group of Chinese seniors perform a singing and dancing routine for us. They were full of confidence, joy and strength despite their age. It clearly reflected the love and encouragement they have experienced from The Lighthouse.

The evening was filled with interesting and meaningful pro-

Food Bank News

6353 people received food from our food bank in 2009

This compares to 4763 people in 2008.

And words of thanks from a former food bank client ♦♦♦♦♦

"I appreciate all Lighthouse has done for me over the years. I had been in a tight spot and have now turned a significant corner."

Thanks for helping us help others.

Some Pleasant Surprises

The Lighthouse Fundraising Dinner and Silent Auction

Lorna Leung (annual dinner attendee)

Attending a vision sharing or fundraising dinner is not usually too exciting, especially if you know that you are expected to end the evening with a generous donation. However, there were some pleasant surprises at The Lighthouse Annual Fundraising Dinner and Silent Auction on November 7th 2009 held at the Toronto District Christian High School in Woodbridge.



The smiles on the dancers' faces and their enthusiasm as they eagerly moved to the beat of the music, was moving.

Family members and new-found friends of different ages demonstrated their skills as they happily showed their gratitude for all that The Lighthouse had done for them. They proudly showed off their culture and heritage.

Originally designed as a martial art, the Tai Chi exercise by another Chinese group was another example of their rich community and pride. The Chinese group presented the exercise integrating strength, flexibility, stretching and meditation, all without pausing or error.

It is amazing to see how two elderly women, each hold-

ing a three-foot long Tai Chi sword, moved in time with the Chinese music, flexible and lively. I can only hope that I too will be able to move with such ease when I am older!

The highlight of the event was the PowerPoint presentation by staff member Janet Elliott illustrating the focus and the purpose of The Lighthouse ministry. Once an immigrant myself and new to Canada, I understand firsthand the challenges and obstacles that many new immigrants face daily. Assistance in career development, job referral, spiritual life searching, activities for friendship development, and emergency food provisions are all critical services to support a person's integrity and dignity.

Keep up the good work!

After all, we love because God loved us first.



Mark Your Calendar

2010 Annual Dinner
Saturday November 6

Christmas Celebrations



Include The Lighthouse in Your Estate Planning TODAY

Everyone needs a Will. It is an important document that instructs others what should happen to your property after you pass away and who should distribute that property. If you have young children, a Will also nominates guardians to look after those children.

The making of a Will is an important act of stewardship since it enables you to provide for your loved ones and favourite charities according to your own wishes.

Whether you need to write a Will for the first time or update the one you have, **consider adding The Lighthouse**. We would be proud to use your money for God's work in the world. Your dollars can change lives!

Help us secure the future ministry of The Lighthouse.

CALL Christian Stewardship Services today
at 1-800-267-8890 or go to www.csservices.ca .



From the Desk of Rob

With the recent Olympics, I keep hearing how a nation came together to celebrate the accomplishments of our athletes. On the final day, with the last goal scored, the streets across Canada were filled with people cheering the success of our athletes.

Leading up to the Olympics, we heard the words "I believe" stating we believe in our athletes. We believe in our country. For some, this was the focus throughout these two weeks.

As I reflected on the magnitude of this event for Canada, I also reflected on the ministry of The Lighthouse. I can say with confidence "I believe" in the work The Lighthouse does. "I believe" because of the dedicated staff who spend hours helping people and changing lives. For the board, staff, volunteers and those coming through the doors, everyone takes pride in what The Lighthouse does.

With the conclusion of the Olympics, the question is asked "How do we move forward with the accomplishments we achieved?" At The Lighthouse we need to ask a similar question. With your support and encouragement, we look forward to helping more people in the year ahead. We look forward to being a positive influence to our community, to our friends, to our neighbours and to those who come to 1008 Bathurst Street asking for help.

Thank you for believing in the ministry of The Lighthouse.

Board of Directors

Alex Chan
Jennifer Glass
Jessica Miedema, Chair
Trudy Ormel
Diane Praamsma
Patricia Rodriguez
Jeanette Romkema

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If you believe that you or someone you know might contribute to The Lighthouse by being a Board member, please contact Rob for more information rob@lighthousecentre.ca or 416-535-6262.

Helping People Changing Lives

Thank you for being partners with us in this ministry.



Yes, I would like to help with a donation of \$ _____

☐ Cheque Enclosed

☐ Visa/Mastercard # _____ Expiry . _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Code _____

Other Ways to Help-Contact us for details

- ☐ United Way Payroll Deduction-just provide our CRA # and address
- ☐ Matched Corporate Giving-many companies match employee donations
- ☐ Monthly Visa or Mastercard Donation-makes it easy for you and for us
- ☐ Giving through Christian Stewardship Service
- ☐ Canada Helps on line at www.canadahelps.org
- ☐ PAR PreAuthorized Remittance

Please Mail Your Contribution
To:

The Lighthouse
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Toronto ON M5R 3G7

Receipts will be issued in the New Year Canada Revenue Agency #13036 3740 RR0001