



## 🇨🇦 NIAGARA FALLS, ON

Pastor Rich & Yukyung Bultje

### This past year [at River of Life URC] we have seen many ups and downs as a church plant.

We have had loved ones pass away, people make public professions of faith and join the church, others have decided to no longer worship with us, and we also have had covenant babies born to us as a church family.

We were also able to relocate to a new building and a new area in the city. A few years ago, we noticed that we were outgrowing our small store front that we were renting. Although it took a couple of years and some failed attempts to purchase other buildings, we are very thankful for the new building. The Lord, in His providential care, allowed us not only to purchase but renovate with much volunteer help from the wider church community. After many months dealing with government red tape and renovations, the bar/restaurant was transformed into a place where we could worship our Lord each Sunday and do our outreach activities and Bible studies. It is a great blessing seeing new people from the community come into our new church home, while those who were faithfully coming to our old place continue to be eager to come and worship in our new building.

Although it is a blessing of having new people come to worship with us, we also experience the fact that many who do come don't stick around. They see or hear something new and are excited for a season but then the excitement goes away, and they no longer come. Thankfully a few not only come but stick around and come to a living faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.



Ready to hand out flowers on service day

In our new building we also have more space for our monthly outreach community dinners and our weekly open houses. It has been great to meet new people and strengthen on-going relations with others at these outreach events. As time goes on some who come to our outreach events start coming to our worship services and Bible studies. It is always a great delight for us as church to hear those who come express these words, “The food and fellowship got me in the door, but the Word has kept me here and is feeding me beyond physical food and fellowship”.



In the last year or so we have also started an outreach to the youth in the area via an outreach basketball tournament every other month. Although they come to play basketball, both church and unchurched sit attentive as the gospel presentation is given halfway through the tournament. With the lifting of the covid restrictions we hope the numbers of those coming out will only increase as the word gets out.

Through the ups and downs in the last years, we as a church family have truly experienced the reality that our LORD and God works all things for the good of His people.

Rev Bultje can be reached at: [rbultje@icloud.com](mailto:rbultje@icloud.com)



Our new building

 **SCARBOROUGH, ON**

Pastor Mitch Persaud

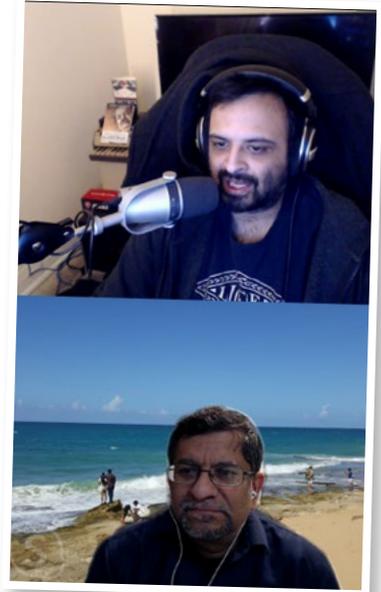


**A remarkable year this is turning out to be for New Horizon URC!** We thank God for his

continued blessings! Let's list some things and it will be obvious how you can pray for us.

Tom, a Chinese man from Hong Kong will do Profession of Faith this week. We received a letter of transfer, but he needed to learn more, so it took a while. Samuel, a man who was baptized as a child many years ago but spent many years wandering, including working carnivals, has completed his catechetical studies and will do profession of faith next month. A young lady, a former homeless drug addict, is quite excited about professing her faith soon. She knows Jesus loves her, but she also speaks of the love of the saints around her. A Filipino family, which we expected to have made profession of faith and have their three young girls baptized, had to delay because of health reasons. They all had Covid-19 and then the mother had a bunch of other health issues. Andrew, a young man from Hong Kong, will make profession next month. I met him at a university outreach and started to mentor him a few years ago. He comes from a liberal Anglican church. Recently we had a Christian Filipino immigrant young lady started attending. She visited Pastor Brian Zegers' house where our young people were meeting. Now she regularly worships here. What passion! (Maybe it was the Dutch food.) A couple months ago a Baptist couple (white and a Chinese from Mexico, of course) started attending! He has braids in his beard, a first for New Horizon! An East Indian man, born in Tanzania in a Muslim/Hindu home, has asked for baptism. He must complete his catechism classes first. On the evangelizing side, we have a multi-ethnic family

from a Roman Catholic background infrequently attending. Karthik, a Sri Lankan man who always attends worship, is starting to believe. Binh, from Vietnam, witnessed the evacuation of Saigon as a child. A "Christian" man from South Africa, who smells of booze, and a young Canadian named Mitchell (almost as wonderful), and a guy named Kyle, round out our present evangelism. A few others have disappeared.



About 90% of our membership had Covid, but thankfully, none had to see a doctor. Also, we really need another elder as one moved out of province for work. Pray also for some rest for me. Covid-19 killed my vacations but not my spirit. Being with the saints here is not a bad place to be!

Thanks for all your support. Please send support to Cornerstone URC in London, ON, earmarked for New Horizon.

Mitchell Persaud

