

Alpha at Smoky Lake Baptist Church

Report for 2024 AGM



Alpha Canada's report for 2023 is linked to on the Alpha page on our Website. I suggest that folks read it when they have a chance just to see the exciting news about throughout Canada. The highlight of the year was when Shaila Visser the National Director was the keynote speaker at the 58th Annual National Prayer Breakfast in Ottawa attended by the Prime Minister, the leader of the Official Opposition, and numerous Canadian dignitaries.

Here are some highlights:

- 4569 Alpha Courses were held;

- 38 courses were held in Canadian prisons;

- 100,720 guests reported a profound difference in their lives;

- 42,348 Volunteers took part.

Our church held courses in in the spring and the fall of 2023. In each of the seasons, one was held in a home in the countryside and was flexible to suit participants' schedules. There were two held in town as well. Those were held on Thursday evenings with desserts at 6:30pm and a video shown at 7:00pm.

We had some folks who live in other communities and wanted to take the course. Arrangements were made for them to watch the videos on their own from links on our church's Website. They would then join our group on Zoom. Zoom has proven to be a powerful tool for those who cannot our church services in person. It also proved to be very useful for the course as we discovered whether people were on zoom or in our living room, we could see and talk with each other. Because the weekend is an all-day event, we scheduled it for a day that most could attend in person.

While our numbers were small, I believe that the course had a profound effect on those people who attended. We had the introductory video for the upcoming course on April 18 and the number of people who registered has increased.

Ross Whitelaw
Alpha Advisor