**JON IMBEAU – BIO**

Jon and Debbie ImBeau have been married for 25 years and have four wonderful children: Benett (20), Abigail (18), William (15), and Charlie (9). They have lived in Cloverdale, BC for the last 18 years.

Jon was born and raised in London, ON where he grew up faithfully attending Wortley Baptist Church. Growing up in the church was incredibly significant for Jon. His years in youth group were especially formative for him, building a sense of calling into ministry starting with a specific direction to attend bible school in Chicago. After grade 13, Jon spent a year at Moody Bible Institute, one year in Northern Ireland at the Irish Baptist College, and another year at Moody. These early years in bible school confirmed in Jon’s heart that God was leading him to pastoral ministry.

At this time, Jon met the love of his life Debbie. They met while working at summer camp where they were both counsellors and were married soon after in Debbie’s hometown Tsawwassen, BC. Jon completed his Bachelor’s of Religious Education degree at Northwest Baptist College and Debbie finished her BA degree at Trinity Western University.

During this time Jon started pastoring at South Delta Baptist Church as a Youth and Associate Pastor and completed his Masters of Divinity Degree at Regent College. In 2001, Jon joined the pastoral team at Peace Portal Alliance church and also started teaching part-time at Columbia Bible school in the Quest program. Jon has taught Introduction to New Testament, Evangelism, Apologetics, and taught on the book of James during his 13 years at CBC. At Peace Portal, Jon served as a Youth and Associate pastor serving in many areas of the church including preaching, church planting, and missions. Jon and Debbie really value this season of working alongside the amazing pastoral team and staff of Peace Portal Alliance. They left the church with many strong relationships and wonderful memories.

Jon’s heart for missions led him to accept a call as Executive Director of Pacific Academy Outreach Society, overseeing the missional work in Kibaale, Uganda. This ministry focused on Christian education, child sponsorship, and health and medical care for the community. These years of ministry in Uganda were a real blessing for Jon and the family. His heart for Africa and for the global church grew significantly.

After 3 years with Kibaale, Jon was called by the Lord to lead the Awana ministry in Canada and work with Awana International globally. In his work globally, Jon’s heart for missions led him to visit and serve alongside leaders in many countries such as Cuba, Paraguay, Guatemala, Ukraine, France, Uganda, and Nepal. Awana was restarting in Canada and Jon worked with a fantastic group of people toward rebuilding a legacy ministry that has always been focused on the gospel, long-term discipleship and the word of God. Jon has seen the Lord reach out to so many children and youth, families and churches through Awana during the last 10 years.

Jon, always a pastor at heart, has continued to preach and teach during his time at various churches and as a member of the preaching team at his home church, Living Waters in Fort Langley. During his ten years leading Awana Canada, Jon directed his own passion for pastoring into the Awana ministry.

In the past year he has felt that the Lord was redirecting that passion back into a local church setting. He and Debbie have been praying earnestly for God’s direction and leading and feel that this is the right time to seek God’s will and move forward with candidating at Pacific Community Church. Jon and Debbie, together with their family are excited to be moving forward with the Church at this time.