



Ready or Not Here I Come

One of the worst things that can happen when playing the game of hide and seek is hearing the words “ready or not here I come” and you still haven’t found a hiding spot. You look around and all your friends seem to have found that perfect spot. You, however can’t seem to find a place to hide, so you’re still standing in the open. Not ready. This is where the world found itself when the Saviour came to earth as a baby. Not ready. In the Desire of Ages Ellen White has this to say:

The Jewish nation had been preserved as a witness that Christ was to be born of the seed of Abraham and of David’s line; yet they knew not that His coming was now at hand. In the temple the morning and the evening sacrifice daily pointed to the Lamb of God; yet even here was no preparation to receive Him. The priests and teachers of the nation knew not that the greatest event of the ages was about to take place. They rehearsed their meaningless prayers, and performed the rites of worship to be seen by men, but in their strife for riches and worldly honor they were not prepared for the revelation of the Messiah. The same indifference pervaded the land of Israel. Hearts selfish and world-engrossed were untouched by the joy that thrilled all heaven. Only a few were longing to behold the Unseen. To these heaven’s embassy was sent.

I find it interesting that the shepherds, for the most part are the ones that, while they are out tending to their flocks by day and night, are talking about the coming of the Messiah. In fact, they were praying for it.

Isn’t it sad that the “church people” were so busy rehearsing their meaningless prayers and rites so they could impress people, that they were passed by? The Long awaited-for deliverer. The One who was promised in the Garden of Eden, was about to come and many of the professed religious ones had lost their focus of what they were waiting for.

Prêt ou pas, j’arrive

L’une des pires choses qui puisse arriver quand on joue au jeu de cache-cache, c’est d’entendre les mots « prêt ou pas, j’arrive » et que vous n’avez toujours pas trouvé de cachette. Vous regardez autour de vous et tous vos amis semblent avoir trouvé cette cachette parfaite. Mais vous ne semblez pas pouvoir trouver de cachette, alors vous êtes toujours à découvert. Vous n’êtes pas prêt. C’est dans cette situation que le monde s’est trouvé lorsque le Sauveur est venu sur terre alors qu’il était bébé. Pas prêt. Dans Jésus Christ, Ellen White a ceci à dire:

La nation juive avait été conservée comme une preuve du fait que le Christ devait naître de la semence d’Abraham et de la lignée de David; et voici qu’elle ne se rendait pas compte de l’imminente venue du Sauveur. Le sacrifice quotidien annonçait, matin et soir, dans le temple, l’Agneau de Dieu; même ici cependant, aucun préparatif n’était fait pour le recevoir. Les prêtres et les docteurs ne comprenaient pas que le plus grand événement des âges était sur le point de se produire. Ils répétaient leurs vaines prières, et accomplissaient les rites du culte pour être vus des hommes; mais à cause de leur soif de richesses et d’honneurs mondains ils étaient peu préparés à recevoir la révélation du Messie. Même indifférence dans le pays d’Israël, où les cœurs égoïstes et profanes étaient étrangers à la joie dont tressaillait le ciel tout entier. Quelques-uns seulement soupiraient après l’Invisible. C’est à ceux-ci qu’une ambassade céleste fut envoyée.

Je trouve intéressant que les bergers, pour la plupart, soient ceux qui, pendant qu’ils s’occupent de leurs troupeaux jour et nuit, parlent de la venue du Messie. En fait, ils priaient pour cela.

N’est-il pas triste que les « gens d’église » aient été si occupés à répéter leurs prières et rites dénués de sens pour impressionner les gens, qu’ils s’en sont trouvés être dépassés? Le libérateur tant attendu. Celui qui avait été promis dans le jardin d’Eden, était sur le point de venir et beaucoup de ceux qui se disent religieux avaient perdu de vue ce qu’ils attendaient.

They were not ready. Sister White says this:

With amazement the heavenly messengers beheld the indifference of that people whom God had called to communicate to the world the light of sacred truth.

Every year during the month of December many get a little more intentional in thinking about these things. We may start thinking, how could they have missed the coming of the Messiah. They had been waiting for their deliverer for so many years and yet most of the people at that time missed it.

Fast forward to 2020.

We once again find ourselves waiting for the soon return of Jesus. The question I want to ask is, how can we be ready for Jesus to come so we don't miss it? To find our answer let us look in Luke 12:35–40 (NLT).

35 “Be dressed for service and keep your lamps burning, 36 as though you were waiting for your master to return from the wedding feast. Then you will be ready to open the door and let him in the moment he arrives and knocks. 37 The servants who are ready and waiting for his return will be rewarded. I tell you the truth, he himself will seat them, put on an apron, and serve them as they sit and eat! 38 He may come in the middle of the night or just before dawn. But whenever he comes, he will reward the servants who are ready. 39 “Understand this: If a homeowner knew exactly when a burglar was coming, he would not permit his house to be broken into. 40 You also must be ready all the time, for the Son of Man will come when least expected.”

Jesus uses four word pictures to emphasize the same point:

Be ready for His return.

1. “Be dressed for service” is literally, “let your loins be girded.” An example of this is in, Exodus 12:11 KJV

¹¹ And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the Lord's Passover.

In that day, everyone wore long robes which were a hindrance if you needed to move quickly or freely. If a person planned to run or work, he would tuck his robe into a sash around his waist so that it would not interfere with his movements. The verb here indicates a state of perpetual readiness for action.

2. “Keep your lamps burning,” they had no electricity.

It wasn't as easy as turning the light switch on.

There were no streetlights, no city lights outside,

Ils n'étaient pas prêts. Soeur White dit ceci:

Avec stupéfaction, les messagers célestes virent l'indifférence de ce peuple que Dieu avait appelé à communiquer au monde la lumière de la vérité sacrée.

Chaque année, au mois de décembre, nombreux sont ceux qui se mettent à penser à ces choses de manière un peu plus intentionnelle. Nous pouvons commencer à nous demander comment ils ont pu manquer la venue du Messie. Ils attendaient leur sauveur depuis tant d'années et pourtant, la plupart des gens de cette époque l'ont manqué.

Avançons rapidement jusqu'en 2020.

Nous nous retrouvons une fois de plus à attendre le retour prochain de Jésus. La question que je veux poser est la suivante: comment pouvons-nous être prêts pour la venue de Jésus afin de ne pas la manquer? Pour trouver notre réponse, regardons dans Luc 12.35-40 (SG21).

Mettez une ceinture à votre taille et tenez vos lampes allumées. Soyez comme des hommes qui attendent que leur maître revienne des noces, afin de lui ouvrir dès qu'il arrivera et frappera. Heureux ces serviteurs que le maître, à son arrivée, trouvera éveillés! Je vous le dis en vérité, il mettra sa ceinture, les fera prendre place à table et s'approchera pour les servir. Qu'il arrive au milieu ou vers la fin de la nuit, heureux sont ces serviteurs, s'il les trouve éveillés! Vous le savez bien, si le maître de la maison connaissait l'heure à laquelle le voleur doit venir, il resterait éveillé et ne laisserait pas percer les murs de sa maison. Vous [donc] aussi, tenez-vous prêts, car le Fils de l'homme viendra à l'heure où vous n'y penserez pas.

Jésus utilise des images fondées sur quatre mots pour souligner le même point:

Soyez prêts pour son retour.

1. « Soyez prêts pour le service » est littéralement, « que vos reins soient ceints. » Un exemple de cela se trouve dans Exode 12.11 (LSG 1910)

Quand vous le mangerez [l'agneau de la Pâque], vous aurez vos reins ceints, vos souliers aux pieds, et votre bâton à la main; et vous le mangerez à la hâte. C'est la Pâque de l'Éternel.

En ce jour-là, tout le monde portait de longues robes qui étaient une entrave si vous deviez vous déplacer rapidement ou librement. Si une personne prévoyait de courir ou de travailler, elle rentrait sa robe dans une ceinture autour de sa taille afin que cela ne gêne pas ses mouvements. Le verbe indique ici un état de perpétuelle disponibilité à l'action.

2. « Gardez vos lampes allumées, » ils n'avaient pas d'électricité. Ce n'était pas aussi facile que d'allumer la lumière. Il n'y avait pas de lampadaires, pas de lumières

and no nightlights to help you find your way around the house in the middle of the night. If you were expecting a midnight visitor, you would keep an oil lamp burning so when your guests arrived and knocked on the door, you could see to let them in. The whole idea is, be ready for the Master's coming.

3. This picture is of servants who are awaiting their master's return from a wedding feast. Such feasts could last for days, often for a week. The servants would need to be ready when they heard their master arrive to open the door and serve him. The master could come in the middle of the night when you least expect him, so you must always be ready.

4. The fourth picture is of a thief breaking into a house in the middle of the night. I can relate to this one. Several years ago, I took my granddaughter out with me for a breakfast meeting. While we were enjoying breakfast someone else was enjoying going through my house. If I had known that the thief was coming, I could have taken actions to prevent my house from being broken into... I would have been ready and waiting.

In verse 40, Jesus ties all these together and gives us our application for today: "You also must be ready all the time, for the Son of Man will come when least expected." (12:40).

Are we doing all that we can so we can be ready, and joyful, to see Jesus as He comes in the clouds of glory? I challenge you that as we are about to begin a new year that you will make four items a priority in your lives throughout 2021.

- 1 Develop a closer walk with God through Bible study and prayer.
- 2 Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
- 3 Pray for a revival that starts with us individually and spreads throughout our conference.
- 4 Pray for God to show us individually how He wants us to be involved with sharing the gospel.

As we make these items a priority in 2021 I pray that God will bless us here in the Maritime Conference. ■

Moving forward on our knees,

Dave Miller, President
Maritime Conference

de ville à l'extérieur, et pas de veilleuses pour vous aider à vous repérer dans la maison au milieu de la nuit. Si vous attendiez un visiteur de nuit, vous gardiez une lampe à huile allumée pour que, lorsque vos invités arriveraient et frapperaient à la porte, vous puissiez voir pour les laisser entrer. L'idée, c'est d'être prêt pour la venue du Maître.

3. Cette image représente des serviteurs qui attendent le retour de leur maître après un festin de mariage. De telles fêtes peuvent durer des jours, souvent une semaine. Les serviteurs devraient être prêts lorsqu'ils entendent leur maître arriver pour ouvrir la porte et le servir. Le maître pourrait venir au milieu de la nuit quand on l'attend le moins, il faut donc être toujours prêt.

4. La quatrième image est celle d'un voleur entrant par effraction dans une maison au milieu de la nuit. Je peux m'identifier à celle-ci. Il y a plusieurs années, j'ai emmené ma petite-fille avec moi pour un petit-déjeuner d'affaires. Pendant que nous prenions notre petit-déjeuner, quelqu'un d'autre prenait plaisir à passer par ma maison. Si j'avais su que le voleur allait venir, j'aurais pu prendre des mesures pour empêcher que ma maison soit cambriolée... J'aurais été prêt et j'aurais attendu.

Au verset 40, Jésus relie tout cela et nous donne notre application pour aujourd'hui: « Vous [donc] aussi, tenez-vous prêts, car le Fils de l'homme viendra à l'heure où vous n'y penserez pas. » (Lc 12.40)

Faisons-nous tout ce que nous pouvons pour être prêts, et joyeux, à voir Jésus venir sur les nuées de la gloire? Je vous mets au défi, alors que nous sommes sur le point de commencer une nouvelle année, de faire de ces quatre points une priorité dans votre vie tout au long de 2021.

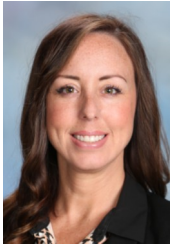
- 1 Développer une marche plus proche de Dieu par l'étude de la Bible et la prière.
- 2 Priez pour une effusion du Saint-Esprit.
- 3 Priez pour un réveil qui commence avec nous individuellement et qui se répandra à travers notre Fédération.
- 4 Priez pour que Dieu nous montre individuellement comment il veut que nous soyons impliqués dans le partage de l'Évangile.

Alors que nous faisons de ces points une priorité en 2021, je prie pour que Dieu nous bénisse ici, dans la Conférence des maritimes. ■

Allant de l'avant sur nos genoux,

Dave Miller, Président
Conférence Maritime
Translation par Guy Lacourse

"I have so much to do that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer." Martin Luther



Secretariat Report

Teresa Ferreira, Executive Secretary

Joy Everlasting

As the Christmas Season breaks upon us we are reminded of the lowly birth of our Saviour. Although the estimation of His arrival was actually some time in October, it never hurts to be reminded of His birth in a celebratory way (even if it's in December). But it doesn't stop with His birth, praise God. In the penned inspirational writings of Ellen White we find a beautiful treasure to be reminded of this Season that shares not only about His birth but reminds us of more...with Jesus, there's always more!

The ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. Isaiah 35:10. AG 358.1

When Christ came to this earth the first time, He came in lowliness and obscurity, and His life here was one of suffering and poverty.... At His second coming all will be changed. Not as a prisoner surrounded by a rabble will men see Him, but as heaven's King. Christ will come in His own glory, in the glory of His Father, and in the glory of the holy angels. Ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of angels, the beautiful, triumphant sons of God, possessing surpassing loveliness and glory, will escort Him on His way. In the place of a crown of thorns, He will wear a crown of glory—a crown within a crown. In the place of that old purple robe, He will be clothed in a garment of whitest white, “so as no fuller on earth can white” (Mark 9:3) it. And on His vesture and on His thigh a name will be written, “King of kings, and Lord of lords.”... AG 358.2

To His faithful followers Christ has been a daily companion, a familiar friend. They have lived in close, constant communion with God. Upon them the glory of the Lord has risen. In them the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ has been reflected. Now they rejoice in the undimmed rays of the brightness and glory of the King in His majesty. They are prepared for the communion of heaven; for they have heaven in their hearts. AG 358.3

With uplifted heads, with the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness shining upon them, with rejoicing that their redemption draweth nigh, they go forth to meet the Bridegroom.... AG 358.4

A little longer, and we shall see the King in His beauty. A little longer, and He will wipe all tears from our eyes.... Then by innumerable voices will be sung the song, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he shall dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God” (Revelation 21:3).... AG 358.5

“Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless” (2 Peter 3:14).²⁵ The Review and Herald, November 13, 1913. AG 358.6 ■

Rolling Out in 2021, the following Handbooks, Praise Book, Structure and Maritime Conference Calendar (pages 5-8).

EMPLOYEE POSITION DESCRIPTION HANDBOOK

Go Beyond the Standard



Seventh-day
Adventist Church

MARITIME CONFERENCE

CAMP PUGWASH HANDBOOK

To the Glory of God

CAMP PUGWASH PRAISE BOOK

To the Glory of God

"Whatever may be our situation, we have a Guide to direct our way; whatever our perplexities, we have a sure Counselor; whatever our sorrow, bereavement, or loneliness, we have a sympathizing Friend." EGW, Christ Object Lessons, p. 173.





There are many souls who wrestle for special victories and special blessings that they may do some great thing. To this end they are always feeling that they must make an agonizing struggle in prayer and tears. When these persons search the Scriptures with prayer to know the expressed will of God, and then do His will from the heart without one reservation or self-indulgence, they will find rest. All the agonizing, all the tears and struggles, will not bring them the blessing they long for. Self must be entirely surrendered. They must do the work that presents itself, appropriating the abundance of the grace of God which is promised to all who ask in faith. EGW, Testimonies for the Church, 165

Maritime Conference 2021 Calendar

Seventh-day
Adventist Church

MARITIME CONFERENCE

Conference/Camp/SLA Dates

General Dates

BOD Retreat	January/February
BOD	Feb 7/Mar 21/May 2/Oct 10/Dec 5
AGM (Moncton)	March 21
Workers' Meetings	May 17-20
Finance Committee	Jan 17/Apr 11/Sept 19
Leadership ThinkTank	Jan 17/Apr 11/Sept 19

Summer Camp Season

Leadership Camp	May 30-June 13
Camp Staff Orientation	June 13-20
Blind Camp	June 20-25
Adventurer Kit/Junior Camp	June 27-July 4
Teen Camp	July 4-11
Radical Camp	July 11-18
Camp Meeting Pitch	July 18-23
Camp Meeting	July 23-31
DiscipleTrek	August 1-15

Sandy Lake Academy Events

Spring Concert	June 17
Graduation	June 20

Conference Events

10 Days of Prayer	January 1-10
Spring Spiritual Emphasis	June 4-6
Fall Prayer Retreat	September 10-12

Department Dates

Coming Soon!

January 2021						
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31						
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28						
March 2021						
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April 2021						
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May 2021						
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30	31					
June 2021						
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July 2021						
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August 2021						
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September 2021						
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October 2021						
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31						
November 2021						
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28	29	30				
December 2021						
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Friday CLOSED

Legend

BOD = Board of Directors AGM = Annual General Meeting
F2F = Face to Face SLA = Sandy Lake Academy

	BOD Zoom		Summer Camp Season		Camp Pugwash Opens/Closes
	Conference Event		Workers' Meetings		Leadership ThinkTank
	BOD F2F		SLA Event		Camp Meeting
	Finance Committee		10 Days of Prayer		AGM

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Treasury Report

Ed Sharpe, Treasurer

We continue to praise God for His mercy on us during the Covid-19 pandemic. Our tithe, at the end of October, is 13.61% higher than last year at the same time. True, we have had 44 Sabbaths compared with 43 last year, but 2020 experienced many church Sabbath closures due to Covid-19 restrictions, so we are still far ahead.

Permit me to say this one last time: the current Conference financial surplus of \$258,000 is very unusual.

I have never witnessed it in my 12 years as Conference Treasurer. There are four main reasons for this: 1) Our tithe increase mentioned above, 2) Reduced travel expense due to Covid-19 restrictions, 3) No summer camp program, 4) a large bequest from an estate. We have budgeted as though summer camp programs will resume in 2021; if so, we are prepared. If the 4 savings mentioned are not repeated in 2021, our surplus disappears.

Sharon Salzberg states that we often have an initial impulse to be generous, only to talk ourselves out of it. We do this whether that initial impulse is to give something away or whether it's to contact a friend in need. Toni Bernhard J.D, shares an example of this behavior in her book *How to Be Sick*. "If someone admires a scarf of ours that we like but rarely wear, our initial thought may be to give it to the person. But then enter those second thoughts in the form of an inner

dialogue that can be far-fetched and even absurd: 'Hmmm, if I'm ever invited to the White House, I might want to wear that scarf.'"

Sharon suggests that we become mindful of this tendency and, as soon as the thought to be generous arises, resolve to follow through with it. Sounds like a good New Year's Resolution, if you're into those kinds of things!

"You cannot do a kindness too soon because you never know how soon it will be too late."—Ralph Waldo Emerson

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."—Winston Churchill

"It is the heart that does the giving; the fingers only let go."

—Nigerian proverb

"There is no grace to a benefit that sticks to the fingers."

—Seneca

Our prayers are not to be a selfish asking, merely for our own benefit. We are to ask that we may give. The principle of Christ's life must be the principle of our lives. 'For their sakes, He said, speaking of His disciples, 'I sanctify Myself, that they also might be sanctified.' John 17:19

The same devotion, the same self-sacrifice, the same subjection to the claims of the word of God, that were manifest in Christ, must be seen in His servants." *Christ Object Lessons* 142.3

May the God of mercy continue to bless us in 2021 as we continue to honor Him. ■



AdventistGiving allows you to return your tithe and give your offerings online to your local church or the Maritime Conference.

AdventistGiving.ca

Online Giving Debit is available

You can make OnLine donations with a Visa Debit or MasterCard Debit card. (This is not the regular bank debit card.) If you are already an Online Giving user simply add your Visa Debit or MasterCard Debit card information to your profile and choose it when making an Online donation.

If you have any questions email Ed Sharpe at ed.sharpe@maritimesda.com.

Do you have a Will?
The Maritime Conference believes having a Will is so important for your family that we are willing to contribute \$400 to ensure our Maritime Conference members get one professionally prepared.
For details contact Ed Sharpe
(506) 857-8722, Ext 205.



Sandy Lake Academy
Stephen Kibbee, Principal

“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen”
(*Ephesians 3:20, 21*).

Perhaps you are familiar with expressions such as “cut to the quick” or “the quick and the dead.” These idioms have nothing to do with speed. Rather, “quick” in this case refers to life, or living. Being “cut to the quick” means being reached to the inner most of your being; the “quick and the dead” becomes *the living* and the dead. So when God in His word reveals that the “word of God is quick [Greek *zao*]...” (Hebrews 4:12), we are being told that it is *living*, or *alive*.

I write to you, our Maritime family, to remind and encourage you that the word is alive and well and working ceaselessly at SLA to bring life to those who seek it. The living words quoted above from the Book of Ephesians are truth and they are life, and they best encapsulate some of the incredible things that are happening in the lives of people at SLA right now. God *has* been doing above all we have asked and can think; His power *has* been working through us; and these realities *are* bringing glory to Him through the power of Christ. I’d like to share a few faith-affirming stories that have happened at SLA as a way to encourage you in your journey, and to remind you of the power and reach of Adventist Education in bringing the gospel to the community and in strengthening the faith of His people.

The mother of a new student has been volunteering faithfully for our hot lunch program. One morning, I had the opportunity to join her and Pr. Sean in the kitchen. In the midst of flipping burgers and placing chips on trays, she began to open up about the faith journey her, her husband, and son are on because of the spiritual teaching at SLA. The purpose of the church, the Sabbath, and even miracles were all discussed in the ordinary course of the conversation. In fact, the entire family has been enthralled as they learn together about Jesus through the series *The Chosen*, and each in their own way are beginning to discover the deep love that He has for each of them. How else would this family in our community hear about these truths and believe?

A couple of weeks ago, the school treasurer Jill Kinney and I sat down for an unplanned and impromptu meeting to begin the day. We both had a particular family on our heart, as we knew that very real obstacles in life might necessitate the withdrawal of the child from the program. Neither we, nor the family, nor their church family wished this to be the result; but there did not seem to be any way forward. We brought the matter before God, and waited for Him to exceed our expectations. By noon that same day, a phone call came in from a long-time friend and supporter of SLA who ensured that the obstacle would be removed, and that the student could remain with us. Should we even be surprised when God moves so clearly like this? Not to be outdone, an almost identical scenario arose just this past week, with a near identical result. Yes, Jesus indeed *does* love the little children, and wants to place them daily where they can hear His voice learn to follow Him.

The SLA missionary program begins at a very early age, all the way down at our Jr. Primary/Primary program. One of our new children comes from a home where God is not worshipped or obeyed, but God has ways to reach these homes. Our little missionary, fresh from learning the lessons of God’s creative power, straightway returned home to inform mommy and daddy of this truth. As she pointed to the home, the trees, and even her parents themselves, she revealed to them plainly that God had made all of these things. Of course, you know the answer already to their inquiry, “where did you learn all of these things?” Truly, “out of the mouth of babes You have perfected praise” (Matthew 21:16).

It is my hope that these words have helped you to feel more connected to our SLA program, and have served as a reminder of the necessity of Adventist Education for reaching our communities for Christ, and for strengthening the faith of His people. You can also remain connected to us through our monthly newsletter, which you have hopefully received via email. If not, please contact us using the information below and we will direct one immediately to you.

Our deepest thanks to all of you who continue to labour in your own way to ensure that SLA continues to shine as a light in the Maritimes.

“For He will deliver the needy when he cries,
the poor also, and him who has no helper.”
Psalm 72:12



To keep up to date with what is happening at SLA, visit:

Website: www.sandylakeacademy.ca

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SandyLakeAcademy

Newsletter: <https://sandylakeacademy.wixsite.com/website>

To make a donation or to obtain program information, please visit our website or contact us as follows:

Steve Kibbee, Principal

Email: principal@sandylakeacademy.ca

Jill Kinney, Secretary/Registrar/Treasurer

Email: secretary@sandylakeacademy.ca

Phone: 902-835-8548

The SLA Scholarship form and the eSchool Scholarship form is available on the Maritime Conference website: maritimesda.com. ■

Being a Shepherd: 11/12 Chapel

- By Noah Al Gohri (Grade 12) & Zachary Shiferaw (Grade 12)



On November 27th, after completing their Encounter Bible unit, Grade 11/12 Bible Class hosted the Friday morning Chapel for the whole school. Students explained what it was like to live as a shepherd in both Bible times and today; and how shepherding relates to our relationship with God. Students started with a game about recognising the shepherd's voice, followed by a presentation on being a shepherd, and a short skit about their daily lives. 11/12 had a great time sharing with the school, and believe that the younger students learned a lot about shepherding in a biblical context.

“If in our ignorance we make missteps, Christ does not leave us. His voice, clear and distinct, is heard saying, ‘I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.’ John 14:6.” EGW, Christ Object Lessons, p. 173.

"In Everything Give Thanks"

- By Mr. Kibbee

Here is a challenge for you courtesy of the Apostle Paul – “In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thess. 5:18) In such a world as we live, it is all too easy to focus on the negatives of life. With November 2020 now come and gone, the SLA family has much to be thankful for: glorious weather that has allowed more outdoor schooling; delicious hot lunches; the overall good health of our students; games days; students praying and learning from the Bible daily, and; amazing parents, students, and staff. With one quarter down and three to go, let’s continue to not be driven by fear and worry but rather hope, faith, love, and thanksgiving.



ADRA News in the Maritimes

Cheryl Hamilton,
ADRA Liaison/Compassion Ministries/
Community Development Director

Colorful Rugs for ADRA Riches

A car slowed in front of her house, “Are those beautiful rugs on the line yours? Are they for sale?”

Sue smiled and cheerfully invited her to come and see them more closely. “I make the rugs from t-shirts and the proceeds go to the Adventist Development and Relief Agency. ADRA helps people all over Canada and around the world with their various needs whether it be for food, water, shelter, emergency relief, education, and much more. The woman excitedly choose two rugs and purchased them, then hopped in her car and immediately drove to the local craft and consignment store and purchased two more of Sue’s rugs from there. She was thrilled with the colorful, unique rugs, and loved the idea that all of the money was going to help others.

I called Sue Hummel, a member of the New Glasgow SDA Church, to ask her about her about her rugs. “It has been so much fun making the rugs and I use them as my ministry. I enjoy variety of colours and textures and each rug is different,” she explained. Many of the rugs have been given as gifts for those who have been going through difficult times, some were donated at silent auctions for a worthy cause, but most have been sold as a fundraiser for ADRA.”

Over the past five years Sue has sold her rugs in various local craft stores, at local exhibitions, and at the Pugwash Campmeeting. “I’ve made four rugs on commission and mailed them as far as Vancouver Island and Edmonton,” Sue reported. “Everywhere I take my rugs I share literature about what ADRA is doing.” **A local craft store “Crazy Crafter & More” displays Sue’s rugs and has a sign that reads, “The coolest handmade rugs you will ever own. Easy to wash and all proceeds go to ADRA Canada.”**

“I have found this to not only be a fundraising ministry, but it also helps the environment when we recycle items.” Sue continued, “T-shirts with stains would have been discarded, but I just cut that part out when making my cloth strips for the rugs. It takes about 15–20 t-shirts to make a rug, and it has been a blessing to me when people collect and donate t-shirts to me.”

During “Reuse and Recycle Week” Sue volunteered at her local library to teach the children and their moms how to knot rugs. While doing this she had opportunity to share about ADRA.

What can one person do in their community with some used t-shirts, an interest in artistic things, and a desire to do something for the Lord and be a blessing to others? Over the past five years Sue has made 60 rugs, and raised \$3,691 for ADRA!

What about you? COVID or other life circumstances may have limited you mostly to your own home, you might be on a fixed income, but there are still ways you can honor the Lord and be a blessing to those around you. Think about your talents and interests. Pray for guidance, and see what the Lord reveals to you. God has a way of taking our simple gifts and multiplying them as a blessing to others. ■



“You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.” Isaiah 26:3



Children's Ministries
Lorie Neily, Director

It is hard to believe we are now at the end of the year 2020. And what a year it has been as we adjust to our "new normal" in regards to every day life and how we worship. We look to 2021 with hope in our hearts and a continued desire to step forward in faith as God continues to lead our Conference and Children's Ministries.

In November, a Children's Ministries report was provided to those participating in the Quinquennial Session. And I look ahead with excitement to what God is going to provide for our children and young people. I would like to share the "visioning" part of the report; the direction we will be working together to achieve during the next 5 years.

CM Leader Support

All volunteers working with young children, especially leaders, receive education from the NAD Certification program. They are presently creating online materials and courses that we will be able to access in the comfort of our own homes. Excellent topics and tips as well a great resource of support and guidance. In person training sessions when permissible during Campmeeting.

Certification and team building online sessions will be available in the New Year. Yeah! I am waiting to hear back about dates and details.

District CM Sabbaths

Hosting a Children's Ministries calendar outreach event once a year in each district. Plans to be implemented in 2021 when permissible.

Children's Ministries Conference Retreat

Opportunity to re-charge, rejuvenate and empower those who have a direct influence on children of all ages. Network and learn from others. Care for You, Care for Others. To create further bonds with each other in friendship and a common goal.

Library

Creation of a Library of books and materials for Parents. Facilitators to host online format of Q & A sessions regarding parenting needs of today.

Communication

Greater communications between churches, children's ministries leaders, and children to identify needs, successes and provide more support through conversation, email, online "zoom" sessions and a monthly newsletter. Feedback to problem solve or brainstorm new ideas and approaches.

***If I could relive my life, I would devote my entire ministry to reaching children for God.
(D.L Moody)***

Stay tuned, more good stuff will be coming!

Children's Week of Prayer

The NAD Children's Ministries has united with the General Conference Children's Ministries Week of Prayer that will be happening in early January. For the 10 days of prayer, there will be an additional part designed just for children to encourage their personal prayer life and to encourage prayer for all children. More details will follow so you won't miss this special opportunity for your family. Just a reminder of the Conference Prayer Team's zoom prayer sessions the first Thursday of each month that is dedicated to our sons and daughters and families.

The Ticking Watch

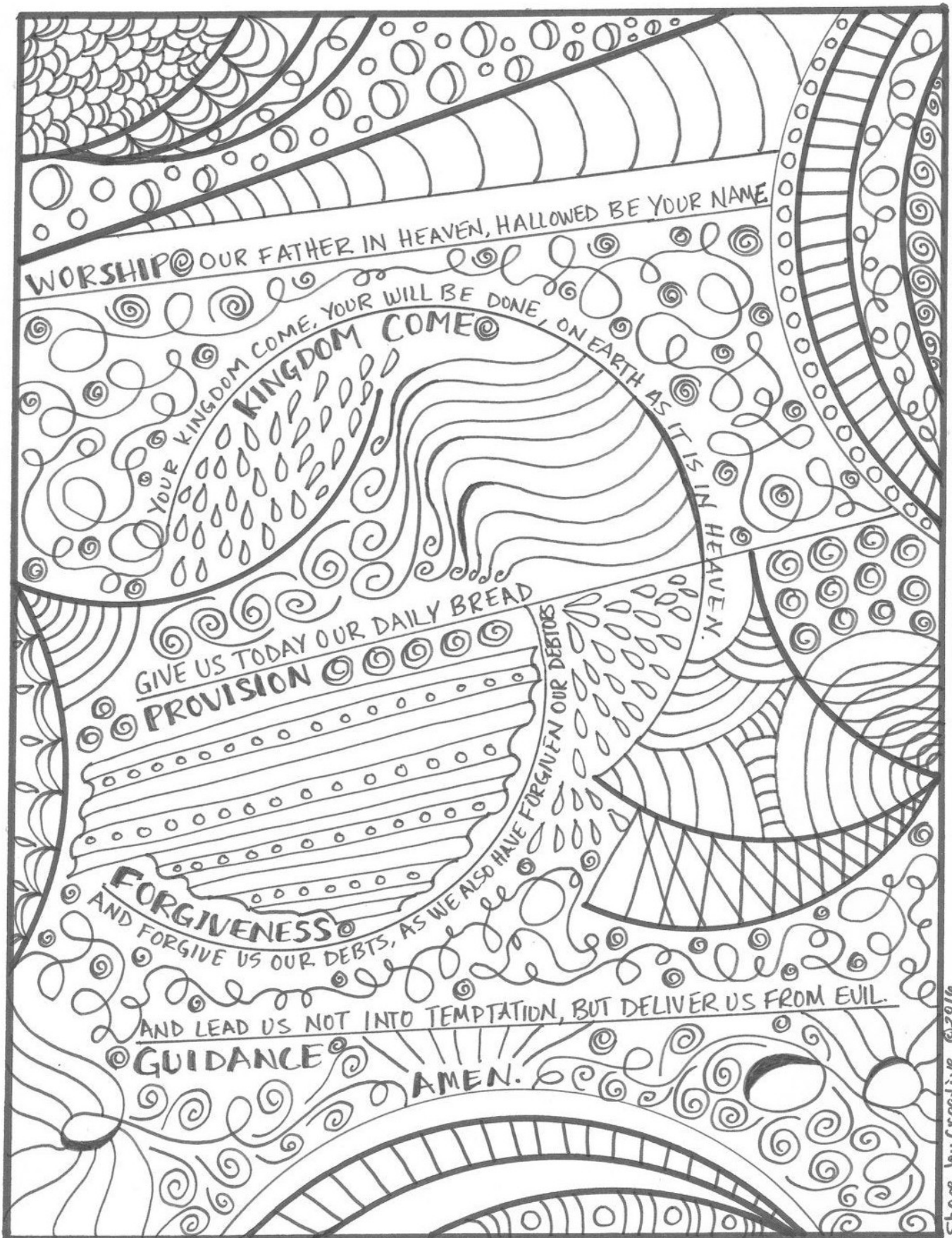
My dear Grammie was the sweetest lady you could ever know. She would send me little books of encouragement known as "My Daily Bread." Here is one of those stories.

A group of workers were cutting ice out of a frozen lake and storing it in a windowless icehouse when one of them realized he'd lost his watch. He and his friends searched and searched but could not find it in the dark.

After they gave up searching, they left the icehouse. A young boy who'd been watching went into the building. Soon, he emerged with the watch. Asked how he found it, he replied: I just sat down and kept quiet; and soon I could hear it ticking."

The Bible talks much about the value of being still. And no wonder, for God sometimes speaks in a whisper (1 Kings 19:12). If we spend some quiet time with Him and the Scriptures, we may hear His gentle voice in our thoughts. Spend some quiet time with your children, whether inside or outside. The act of listening is a much-needed skill for everyone. Read the memory verses and then quietly contemplate the words. Stay silent after a prayer for just a few minutes. Listen for God's voice. You may be surprised just how much you will hear in your heart. ■





**Health Ministries**

Catherine Walsh, Director
Holistic Health Practitioner

I feel quite honored to have been asked to be the Health Ministries Director for the Maritime Conference. Health for me has been a life-long journey. With each passing year I feel that I am beginning to understand what true health is. Beginning is the operative word. God keeps unwrapping precious gifts, one at a time, for me to utterly understand and appreciate what He wants me to learn about His health concepts.

I received my Doctor of Naturopathy in Original Medicine from the International Institute of Original Medicine and I am certified with AADP and APNN as a Holistic Health Practitioner. I do Live Blood Analysis, EDS, and nutritional consulting. I love using God's pharmacy and leading people to vitality.

I can remember reading and even sharing health principles of the world and figuring that that was truth. How wrong I was. Yes, I repented and committed myself to always measuring the integrity of the world with God's truth. I love sharing health and living health. Health means so many different things to people. It is quite rewarding when you can help people understand that health is freedom.

I feel very strongly about the eight laws of health for they are truth. All science, eventually, leads to these laws, whether they want to agree with this or not. God's way is the only way.

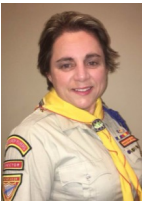
I am also learning that, even though we are bombarded with all sorts of natural health supplements, simplicity of diet is really the healthiest for us. This is what heals, really heals. Temperance is not something to be taken lightly, for in this concept there is total well-being.

I would like to introduce my partner in crime, Tarah-Liz Springer McPherson. She feels humbled and blessed to have been chosen for this role and has graciously accepted to be the Assistant Director. Tarah-Liz studied to become a Naturopath at the Naturopathic College of Quebec and specialized as a Lifestyle Coach. Tarah-Liz and I look forward to serving God through this ministry.

We have many exciting things planned. In the near future be sure to visit the Maritime Conference website to see our new page. This will be our main means of communication during these difficult times.

I would like to share one last thing. COVID-19 has been and still is on everyone's mind. However, even though it is, we must be mindful that, as Christians, our security is found in the Lord. Tarah-Liz and I will be exploring this truth in conjunction with the eight laws of health to show you how we can make it through this storm. Ça va bien aller!

"I will be honored before those who are watching for your failure. They shall see My word triumph gloriously. 'All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.' Matthew 21:22" EGW, Christ Object Lessons, p. 173.



Adventurer/Pathfinder Ministries

Brenda Henry, Director

With 2020 coming to an end and we get ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus we can look at his life and see that Jesus came to the earth with some adaptations. When Mary and Joseph made it to Bethlehem there was no room at the Inn so Mary and Joseph were told that they could stay in the stable. So they quickly adapted the manger into a place where Mary could give birth to her first son.

Luke 2:7 "And she brought forth her first born Son, and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

With new regulations in our Maritime provinces our Pathfinder and Adventurer Club directors have had to adapt to new rules and regulations. Meetings have been taking place on Zoom for some clubs while others have

stopped having meetings until the new year in hopes that they will be able to come together again in 2021.

We currently have clubs registered in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. Our Pathfinder and Adventurer programs have been blessed with dedicated directors, instructors and volunteers.

If your church is interested in starting an Adventurer or Pathfinder Club but are unsure where to start or what is involved, please feel free to contact myself, Brenda Henry for more information at brenda.henry@maritimesda.com or henryacreskennel@gmail.com.

Also, if there are families with Pathfinder aged children (Grade 5 and over) that are interested in Pathfinders but there is not a program in your church, also contact the Conference Office or Brenda Henry. We are looking at having a Virtual Club starting in the new year.



News from our clubs:

Bay of Fundy Flyers: started their 2020/2021 year with some adaptations. At the beginning of our year (September) our Zone in NB was Yellow.

We took part in World Pathfinder Day on Sept. 19 with a camp out at New River Beach from Sept. 18-20. Our club also held the Sabbath program where the club members told the story of the Prodigal Son and then hosted a potluck at the campground for church members and walked the New River Beach Trail. (pictured left and below)





In October as part of Global Peace Community Mentor Weekend, our club, with the help of our St. George church members, were able to make 55 hygiene kits for the St. George Elementary, Middle and High School backpack programs. (pictured right)



This year our club did not have any new members join but we did have one of our Pathfinders become eligible to participate in the Teen Leadership Training Program.

On October 30, we held our Induction program and inducted Tony Henry as a TLT. (pictured left)

During the months of September, October and November our club members have been taking Bible studies with Pastor John Fournier and working on their Small Group Bible Study honor.

"The arm of Omnipotence is outstretched to lead us onward and still onward. Go forward, the Lord says; I will send you help. It is for My name's glory that you ask, and you shall receive." EGW, Christ Object Lessons, p. 173.

Our club is currently not holding meetings because of our new Covid Zone allocation. We are praying in the new year we will be able to meet in person again. ■





Prayer Ministries

Welcome to the new Prayer Ministry Leaders, as well as returning ones!

A New Year is begun, with new challenges and opportunities. We know that prayer is the key in the hand of faith that unlocks the storehouses of heaven, where every blessing is waiting. Our goal is that each one of those blessings is received!

Resources for your ministry: pray for God's ideas and opportunities, <https://www.adventsource.org/store/adult-ministries/prayer-ministries>, and/or contact the prayer team at prayer@maritimesda.com.

Come Pray With Us!

We zoom in twice, daily: 6-7 am, and 9 pm. We also meet to pray for our families on the first Thursday of each month, at 7 pm.

Zoom Meeting ID: 150 256 885 or by phone: 1-647-558-0588 or 1-204-809-6080.

Please Note: the French Zoom group is no longer meeting.

See the Prayer Emphasis Chart on page 20.

"The Lord is disappointed when His people think they are not worth much. How much God values them is shown by the fact that He sent His Son to rescue them. He is pleased when they make great demands in prayer so that they can praise His name. If they have faith in His promises, they can expect great things." (Book Messiah, Chapter 73 Words of Hope, p. 358) ■

Book Review

Submitted by Wilma O'Dell

Pray BIG God Can Do So Much More!

Author Cindy Mercer

Another book on prayer? Yes! But not just another book on prayer. It's a storybook, too! It's the story of Rick and Cindy Mercer's journey to becoming who God wanted them to be when all looked hopeless. Their journey, sometimes together, sometimes not, is inspiring and spellbinding while at the same time instructive. You might be in danger of becoming so into the story, you could miss the instruction. It's there. You can find it—if you look for it. But, if you think you know enough about prayer, don't miss the opportunity to be captivated by the story!

"Pray BIG God Can Do So Much More!" is available from the ABC Christian Bookstore in Oshawa, Ontario. (800-765-6955)



CINDY MERCER

FOREWORD BY JERRY AND JANET PAGE

Daily Prayer Emphasis

Maritime Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

Day	Church	Conference Workers	Pastors	God's Grace
1	Barnesville, NB	David Miller (Cyndi) President	Gary Belhomme (Claudine)	Seniors: Esteem – Lev 19:32, Prov 16:31, 1 Tim 5:1,17
2	Bathurst Co., NB	Teresa Ferreira (Brian) Secretary	John Fournier (Janice)	Men: Respect – Eph 5:33, Gen 2:18
3	Boucoute Co., NB	Ed Sharpe (Treva) Treasurer	Ryan Fraser (Emily)	Women: Love – Eph 5:33, Gen 2:22-24
4	Dieppe Fr., NB	Francoise Ringuette Asst. Treasurer	David Hamilton (Cheryl)	Youth: Confidence – Luke 2:52, Ps 144:12, Jer 17:7,
5	Fredericton, NB	Julie Bannister (Bob) Admin/Deptal. Asst	Guy Lacourse	Faith – Mark 4:38-40, Isa 26:3,4, Heb 3:19, Matt 8:10
6	Harvey, NB	SLA Board of Directors	Donn Leatherman (Annette)	Trust – Ps 56:11, Prov 3:24-26, Isa 41:10, Ps. 23:4
7	Maranatha, NB	Stephen Kibbee, Principal	Zlatan Ljuljurovic (Jhaneil)	Humility – Ps 138:6, Jam 4:10, 1Peter 5:5, Isa 57:15
8	Miramichi, NB	Jill Kinney, SLA Secretary	Howard Paddock (Cynthia)	Forgiveness – Num 14:18, Col 3:13, Matt 6:12, Eph 4:1-3
9	Moncton, NB	Isabelle Tingley (Dave) Teacher	Carvil Richards (Alexandra)	Obedience – 2Cor 10:5, Heb 5:8,9, 1Sa 12:14,15
10	Perth-Andover, NB	Viktor Brunets (Andrey) Teacher	Metard Salomon (Sonia)	Spirit-filled – Luke 22:31,32, Eph 6:12, Jn 10:10
11	Saint John, NB	Jose Dias, Teacher	Ricky Schwarz II (Stephanie)	Lovingkindness – Ps 35:15-17, Jn 16:33
12	St. George, NB	Falisha Cherenfant, Teacher	Sean Todd (Kalie)	Purity – Ps 51:10,11, Rom 13:14, Rom 1:28
13	Zealand, NB	Shirleen Luttrell, Teacher	Ramon Triguero (Margarita)	Men: Leadership – Josh 24:15, 1Kings 18:21
14	Charlottetown, PE	Ron & Sharri Scott, Teacher (Asst.)	Franz Unger (Kia)	Women: Helpfulness – Prov 31:11,12,15, 20, Gen 2:18
15	Bridgewater, NS	Kalie & Sean Todd, Teacher (Chaplain)	Gary Belhomme (Claudine)	Youth: Prudence – Prov 1:8,9, 12:1,15, 6:6-11
16	Dartmouth, NS	Gina Walker (Jeremy), Teacher	John Fournier (Janice)	Seniors: Fulfillment – Job 42:10-17, Ru 4:14-17
17	Digby, NS	David Miller (Cyndi) President	Ryan Fraser (Emily)	Divine Identity – Ps 139:14, 1Thes 4:3-5, Job 10:10-12
18	Fox Point, NS	Teresa Ferreira (Brian) Communications	David Hamilton (Cheryl)	Eternal Values – 2Cor 4:18, 1Tim 6:18,19,
19	Halifax, NS	Ed Sharpe (Treva) Treasurer	Guy Lacourse	Integrity – Ps 31:23, 51:6, Prov 11:13, 1Pet 3:1-9
20	Middleton, NS	Francoise Ringuette Asst. Treasurer	Donn Leatherman (Annette)	Freedom – Rom 6:15-18, 8:1,2, 13:12-14, 2Cor 10:3-6
21	New Glasgow, NS	Conference Board of Directors	Zlatan Ljuljurovic (Jhaneil)	Love for God – Deut 10:12, Ps 119:10, Mar 12:30
22	New Minas, NS	Lorie Neily, Children's Ministries	Howard Paddock (Cynthia)	Peace – Jn 14:27, Phil 4:6,7, Isa 26:3,4
23	North Sydney, NS	Cyndi Miller, Financial Service Support	Carvil Richards (Alexandra)	Joy – Ps 5:11, Jn 16:20-22, Phil 3:1,3,4,8,13
24	Oak Park, NS	Guy Lacourse, French/Internet Ministries	Metard Salomon (Sonia)	Selflessness – Phil 2:3-11, Eccl 4:4, 2Cor 9:10,11,
25	Pugwash, NS	Metard Salomon, Pastoral Care	Ricky Schwarz II (Stephanie)	Men: Courage – Deut 20:3,4, 31:6, Josh 1:5-9
26	Tantallon, NS	Brenda Henry, Pathfinders	Sean Todd (Kalie)	Women: Gentleness – Prov 12:18, 31:26
27	Truro, NS	Erna McCann, Prayer Ministries	Ramon Triguero (Margarita)	Youth : Right Relationships – Eph 6:1-3, Prov 4:23, Ps 1
28	Woodside Co., NS	Catherine Walsh, Health Ministries	Franz Unger (Kia)	Parents: Wise Parenting – Eph 6:4, Prov 13:24, Ps144:12
29	Yarmouth, NS	Alexandra Richards, Summer Camp	Ken Corkum/team, NL	Contentment – 1Tim 6:6, Phil 4:11, Prov 14:30
30	11 Churches in NL	Cheryl Hamilton, ADRA/Community	6 pastors in NL	Noble Pursuits – Ps 119:36,37, Rom 13:11-14, Phil 4:8
31	11 Churches in NL	Richard Pangburn, Property Maintenance	6 pastors in NL	Prosperity – Ps 31:6-8, Deut 29:9, 1Kin 2:3, Prov 28:13

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES:

DARTMOUTH

Renovation Update

This is just a quick update on the Dartmouth SDA Church renovation project.

After well over a year and many unforeseen issues our project is finally nearing completion.

The tile is almost finished and then the stairs will be done. After that there are a few final items and we will be ready to open as soon as we get the go ahead from the NS government.

Due to both Covid 19 and other various issues the total cost of this project has risen dramatically.

If any feel called to help with this worthy cause you may go to Dartmouth SDA Church online giving.

Under the donations there is a tab for the Elevator Project.

God is good and he has been blessing us through this whole project.

We know He will continue to lead us. Please pray that He fills our newly improved church to overflowing.

"The Lord will fight for you,
and you shall hold your peace."
Exodus 14:14

HALIFAX

Recycling/Donations

Barry Boehner, a retired member of the Halifax church, has found a unique way to help keep landfills from filling up. He collects and then sells scrap metal and donates the funds to *Gospel Outreach Canada* which is a support organization to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. All administration are volunteers and all workers are indigenous who know the language and culture of each territory where they work in the 10/40 window of Africa. At present there are approximately 250 of these workers supported by Gospel Outreach Canada.



Besides this new project for Gospel Outreach, Barry collects recyclables and donates the funds to the work of several organizations, namely *ADRA, Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank, Dartmouth SDA Soup Kitchen and A Better World*. Also, local organizations benefiting from his project are *Beacon House, Brunswick Street Mission, Souls'*

Harbour, Margaret's House and Adsum House.

Last year Barry was able to donate \$5,500, with each organization receiving no less than \$200. God has abundantly blessed him in the four years he has been carrying on this work.



After experiencing the surprise baby shower you arranged for us, we cannot find words to thank you... We have no idea how to express our feelings in words because you all truly made us feel so special and loved. Thank you all for your gifts and presence, we really appreciate it.

Mr & Mrs Amuzu

The Women's Ministries dept under the leadership of Susan Mogae hosted a baby shower for one of our newer couples in the Halifax church. Bernice and Christian Amuzu moved here from Ghana in June. The shower was held at Sandy Lake Academy where Susan, assisted by Falisha Cherenfant, as usual did an amazing job of decorating. Because of COVID-19, all guidelines set out by the Department of Health were followed. It was well supported and made this young couple, who are here without family, feel loved and welcome!

Evening of Testimonies

On Friday October 30, as the sun sank below the horizon in the distant west, members and friends of the Halifax church gathered virtually and in-person for an Evening of Testimonies. The event, hosted by the Sabbath School department, was held under the theme “Do not Fear—God is in Control.” Despite the pandemic, attendance was heartening and praise and thanksgiving were offered to buoy spirits up, to thank God for his unfailing love and mercy, and to petition each other to keep trusting God during a time of great uncertainty. The highlight of the evening, a pastoral exhortation on reconciliation, was delivered by Pastor Gary Belhomme, and our hearts burned within us as we were called to reconcile with God and each other before it is too late to do so.

To crown the evening proceedings, Maci Ricketts presented a heart-felt tribute of pastoral appreciation to Pastor Belhomme and his family for their hard work and dedication to the congregants at Halifax church, and for ensuring the technology we needed to conduct virtual services was in place and working well. Three young girls beamed as they presented a token of appreciation and flowers to a pleasantly surprised Pastor B. We were truly blessed and uplifted and we thank God for His unfailing love and grace.



BAPTISMS

On Sabbath, March 7, 2020, our pastor Howard Paddock had the awesome privilege of baptizing his eldest son, **Jacob Paddock** in Perth-Andover SDA Church. What a blessed event to be baptized or to witness a baptism, especially if it is in your church family. Along with the heavenly throng, we greatly rejoiced and received him in our Perth-Andover church membership. Praise God for this young man's public commitment to follow Jesus and walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4).



A special duet was performed by Rachelle Potorieko and Cynthia Paddock. (pictured on left)



Andrew Hamilton Becomes a Soldier

Today was the day he had long looked forward to. Today was his baptism. Andrew smiled as he reflected back to the 2017 Pugwash Campmeeting. He was in Juniors listening to his father, Pastor David Hamilton, dressed in a pilot's outfit, leading out upfront. Every night was a new topic: the second coming; Sabbath; what happens to you when you die; why Jesus came and died for us; and tonight's lesson was on baptism. With tears welling up in his eyes he slipped from his chair and walked outside. Marlene Michael and his mom were assisting. His mom, sensing something special was happening, quietly slipped outside and sat down beside him. "Mom," he quietly said, "I want to be baptized. I want Jesus to live in my heart." Then, outside the Junior building, in the little grove of trees, he knelt down and asked Jesus into his heart. He remembered telling Jesus he wanted to serve him forever. Since that time he had studied the Bible a lot with his parents and on his own. When his dad asked him where he wanted to be baptized he knew the answer, at Pugwash!

Andrew looked around the camp grounds. So many memories. How he loved camp and campmeeting, but also he had attended the Pugwash church since he was 1 year old and all the members were like family to him! And wasn't this the church that Daddy designed (with the help of others) and managed the construction process? Andrew remembered the gutting of the old church and the building of the new church. Now, only a few hundred feet away from where he had given his life to Jesus, on Sabbath August 22, 2020, he was being baptised in the church's baptismal tank! Dad had the sermon—all about being a soldier for Jesus and putting on God's armour. Then he entered the waters of baptism. Dad did just as he had requested. "Hold me down under the water a little longer than normal," Andrew had previously instructed, "I want to make sure the 'Old Boy' dies." Coming up out of the water he felt exhilarated. With tears in his eyes, and a long hug from Dad, he was happy. He silently prayed, "Jesus, I'm your soldier forever!"

Andrew Hamilton was welcomed into church membership in the Yarmouth church on October 24, 2020.



"Prayer is the key that unlocks the door of God's treasure-house." [Unknown author, *Kneeling Christian*, p. 9]

Oak Park church is pleased to announce the recent baptisms of two of our young people who have chosen to give their hearts and lives to Jesus.

Sabbath, September 5, 2020 dawned with all the splendour of a warm and beautiful autumn day. This was the day Breanna and Jessa Sutter, age 11 and 9, had been eagerly waiting for! Diligently they studied their Bible lessons for about eight months with Pastor Dave Hamilton and had made their decisions to be baptized. After the main church service concluded, Breanna and Jessa donned their blue gowns, made their way to the ocean at Sand Hills Provincial Park. Finally, the moment arrived. As the congregation gathered and watched from a higher vantage point, the two young ladies, accompanied by their parents (Jesiah and Danielle Sutter) and siblings (Evelyn and Maya), entered the ocean waters. The gentle waves lapped against them in welcome. Pastor Hamilton lowered them, one at a time, into the water grave of baptism and lifted them up to a new life in Jesus. As Breanna rose from her watery grave, she leapt joyfully out of the gently rolling waves, throwing herself into her father's waiting arms, with Jessa to follow only minutes later. What a beautiful visual reminder of our Heavenly Father's loving arms, waiting to welcome us home! If we could only read our Father's heart or see His reaction of joy when we say "I want to be Yours forever!"



The baptism was followed by a "New Birth" celebration on the beach, which included a beautiful cake for each of the girls, small gifts, cards, and flowers to remind them of their special day. It was a perfect day for such an important milestone.

As an interesting side note, Danielle Sutter revealed she had been disappointed when sickness caused the baptism to be postponed, but later she excitedly realized that her children's baptism coincided with the anniversary of her own baptism. Also that the original date of the baptism ended up gloomy and cold, but this day had been glorious, perfect for the occasion. Do we sometimes wonder if God cares about the details of our lives? May I suggest that we never need to wonder again! What a comfort it is to see the hand of God at work, right in front of us!

Article by Lisa Atwood



BAPTISM

THREE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE PUBLICLY TAKE THEIR STAND FOR JESUS— Covid-19 prevented having a baptism in the sanctuary of the Halifax church but a delightful change was made by having an outdoor service at the Oakfield Park Lake on July 11, 2020. **Kevin Ritchen** studied with church elders Ben McBeth and Roderick Trotman. **Aleshia Walters**, in recommitment, studied with Ben McBeth and Pastor Gary Belhomme. **Lesley Uwitonze**, an engineering student at Dalhousie University, studied with the pastor. They were welcomed into the Halifax church fellowship on August 8, 2020. (Pictured from left to right are Pastor Gary Belhomme, Nice Lesley Uwitonze, Kevin Junie Ritchen and Aleshia Tashekia Walters.)



SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Halifax church members John and Saralene MacLean opened their home on Sabbath afternoons to older seniors who needed fellowship. All Nova Scotia COVID-19 guidelines are strictly followed. Prayer, praise and study bring great blessings to all who attended. ■

CHRISTMAS Catalog

*Gifts That Make
an Impact*

Christmas Hamper

\$60 for Small Family
\$150 for Large Family



Food Box

\$150 for Small Family
\$300 for Large Family



Oil or Power Bill

\$200 can help keep a family warm this winter



Fuel For Trucks

\$100 will keep our trucks on the road for one day



Or donate to "Where Needed Most"

Your gift will have a great impact on the people that we serve.

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P.O. Box 9227 | Halifax NS B3K 5M8
902-425-2125 | www.parkerstreet.org

Merry Christmas

On behalf of the families we serve at Parker Street Food & Furniture Bank we wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. We are grateful for your kind generosity and for helping us make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate. Thank you!

Moncton Church Livestream Music

We are in need of Christian music to play in the background during the Moncton SDA Church live broadcast video breaks. We are currently using paid music with copyright privileges, however these are not 100% Christian.

We are looking for music only, and it must be legal for us to use. The music can be from 15 seconds up to 5 minutes long. File format: MP3, MP4 or wav. The music composer will be credited at the end of the video. Please contact Andrzej Marciszewski by email at andrezprinting@outlook.com. Thank you.

MARITIME CONFERENCE OFFICE

The Maritime Conference office will be closed from

Fri. December 25, 2020
thru

Sun. January 3, 2021

Open January 4, 2021

Enjoy this holiday time with your family and friends.
Stay COVID safe.



Voice of Prophecy's Discovery Mountain is a dramatized audio program where listeners experience adventure, mystery, camp fire songs and, most importantly, get to know Jesus. For ages 5-12, but all are invited to enjoy it! www.discoverymountain.com

**Adventist Development & Relief Agency**

20 Robert Street West 1.888.274.ADRA (2372)
Newcastle, ON L1B 1C6 ADRA.ca



Dear Friends,

The year 2020 has brought new challenges to us all. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed our world in unexpected ways. People are overcome with worry and consumed with concern. Sadly many are struggling to survive.

Around the world, the suffering has been significant. As economies shut down, many have been forced into hunger.

God's word tells us in Philippians 4:6: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

God uses us to provide for the requests of others. It is a blessing to be part of this work.

In Canada we have assisted thousands from coast to coast to coast. Whether delivering food hampers, supporting food banks, connecting loved ones with isolated family, or providing mental health support, ADRA has been serving our communities.

Your gifts provide for the needs of others and ease the burdens of the vulnerable during these trying times.

GIVE GIFTS THAT CHANGE LIVES!

Included in this year's catalogue, you can find some highlights from the projects that we are currently supporting, and we need your help! Browse the catalogue at www.ADRA.ca / gifts and select gifts that really make a difference and change lives.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

ADRA Canada is looking for a Gender Equality Advisor.

The successful candidate will primarily be responsible for conducting gender analyses, gender equality training and capacity building for both emergency and development overseas programming.

*Interested parties are encouraged to submit applications to stayintouch@adra.ca by **January 4, 2021**.*

We thank all candidates, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Maritime Pulse

The Maritime Conference Pulse Committee recommends that we adopt as a mission statement "to encourage and nurture the Adventist Church Fellowship in the Maritimes by promoting and sharing personal ministry and evangelism tools and experiences." Do you have any personal ministry experiences to share with our readers? Email them to info@maritimesda.com.

Thank you to each one who has contributed. Please remember that the Maritime Pulse is posted on the Conference Website for public viewing. Check with the individuals your articles are reporting about for permission to use the story in the Maritime Pulse.

The next Maritime Pulse deadline is
March 1, 2021.

Distribution of Maritime Pulse

The Maritime Pulse is distributed electronically via email to the churches. A few printed copies are sent to the elders in the mail as usual.

We recommend you send this pdf file or the website link directly to your church members who have computers/internet access.

A reminder that the Maritime Pulse (present and past copies) is available for viewing online at www.maritimesda.com and is the easiest way to view the Maritime Pulse.

MARITIME CONFERENCE OFFICE HOURS

The Maritime Conference office is open
Monday through Thursday
7:30 am to 5:30 pm
Worship time 8:45 am

Please Note:

We are closed on Friday.

For your convenience we have a mail slot in the front door area for you to drop off any envelopes when we are not open.

Leave a message at 506.857.8722.

President David Miller Ext 202
Exec. Sec. Teresa Ferreira Cell 506.609.1386
Treasurer Ed Sharpe Ext 205
Asst Treasurer Françoise Ringuette Ext 206
Admin/Dept Dir Asst Jullie Bannister Ext 201

Our FAX is 506-853-7368

Mailing Address:
Maritime Conference of SDA
121 Salisbury Road
Moncton NB E1E 1A6

HAS YOUR ADDRESS CHANGED?

Please be sure to let your church clerk know if your address has changed or will be changing. This helps to keep our records up-to-date, as well as ensuring that you will continue to receive the Messenger and Adventist Journey magazines. If you're not receiving these magazines, please contact your local church clerk, or Jullie Bannister at the conference office by Phone 506.857.8722 Ext 201, Fax 506.853.7368 or Email info@maritimesda.com. Send us your email address to be included on the eAdventist message list to receive event and conference updates directly from us.

MARITIME CONFERENCE CALENDAR 2020-2021

December	Christian Hospitality Focus	
Dec. 12	Adv. Min. of Compassion-Canada	Offering
Dec. 25-31	Maritime Conference office closed	Moncton
Dec. 26	Maritime Advance	Offering
Dec. 26	13th Sabbath-Southern Asia Division	Offering
	Canadian & Southwestern Union Mission Investment Proj.	Offering
January	Friendship Evangelism Focus	
Jan. 1-3	Maritime Conference Office Closed	Moncton
Jan. 2	Day of Prayer	
Jan. 7	Clerk 4th Qtr Statistical Report Due	Conference
Jan. 9	SS & Church Attendance Count to be taken	
Jan. 9	Maritime Advance	Offering
Jan. 17-22	Religious Liberty Week	
Jan. 23	Religious Liberty	Offering
February	Family Life Focus	
Feb. 1-28	Black History Month	
Feb. 6-13	Christian Family Week	
Feb. 7	Board of Directors Meeting	Zoom
Feb. 13	SS & Church Attendance Count to be taken	
Feb. 13	It Is Written Canada	Offering
Feb. 27	Maritime Advance	Offering
March	Women in the Church Focus	
Mar. 1	Maritime Pulse Deadline	
Mar. 6	Women's Day of Prayer	
Mar. 6-13	Adventist Youth Week of Prayer	
Mar. 13	Adventist World Radio	Offering
Mar. 21	Annual General Meeting	Zoom/Moncton
Mar. 27	ARM Safety Sabbath	
Mar. 27	Maritime Advance	Offering
Mar. 27	13th Sabbath-Euro-Asia Division	Offering
2021 MISSION INVESTMENT PROJECTS		
Atlantic Union and Pacific Union		Offering



"Thank God for His Son—His Gift too wonderful for words" (2 Cor. 9:15, TLB).

Blessings from the office of the Maritime Conference.
Dave Miller, Teresa Ferreira, Ed Sharpe, Françoise Ringuette, Jullie Bannister.

When you plant a seed, you won't be eating fruit the next day, the next week, or even the next month. But, one day you will be eating fruit if you keep weeding, watering, cultivating the soil and believing in the harvest—believing in the LORD of the harvest.

Here is the YouTube link: [Wait on the LORD, and Be of Good Courage!](#) 🙏



Blessings to you and your family, Mike and René Lemon
Go to www.itiswritten.ca each week to hear Daily Living...