



Our Maritime Conference has been experiencing a transforming change lately.

We are praying more! Every morning a group of diehard prayer warriors come together online to pray on our ZOOM prayer line. Our pastors come together Monday to Friday for prayer

at noon. Fifteen minutes of prayer for our churches, our people and for each other. I have even heard from some of our pastors that their churches' prayer meeting has been transformed into... guess what? a prayer meeting! And from what I hear it is transforming the churches that are praying. I firmly believe that our only resource to move our Conference forward is prayer.

Prayer does not twist the hand of God to answer us, instead it opens up our lives for the Holy Spirit to work through us. Prayer will always change us and it softens us to enable us to accept God's to answer even if the answer is contrary to what we might have been praying for. Jesus prayed this in the Garden of Gethsemane: "nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done."

The greatest area that needs changing is my own character. Prayer opens up our hearts to the work of the Holy Spirit to begin that work at the core of who we are. When the Holy Spirit begins to work, He begins to clean the house and replace the sinful traits found there with those of Christ's Character. In short, one of the greatest traits that will be transformed in our lives is one where we go from unloving people to loving people. The very life that Christ lived on this earth will become our life to live as we interact with others that we meet and know. His caring disposition will become our caring disposition. His hands will become our hands as we reach out to a dying world.

Notre Conférence maritime a connu un changement, même une grande transformation dernièrement. Nous prions davantage! Tous les matins, un groupe de guerriers de prière purs et durs se réunissent en ligne pour prier sur notre ligne de prière ZOOM. Nos pasteurs se réunissent du lundi au vendredi pour prier à midi. Quinze minutes de prière pour nos églises, notre peuple et les uns pour les autres. J'ai même entendu dire par certains de nos pasteurs que la réunion de prière de leurs églises s'est transformée en... devinez quoi? une réunion de prière! Et d'après ce que j'ai entendu dire, cela transforme les églises qui prient. Je crois fermement que notre seule ressource pour faire avancer notre Conférence est la prière.

La prière ne tord pas la main de Dieu afin qu'il nous réponde, mais elle ouvre notre être pour que l'Esprit Saint agisse à travers nous. La prière aura toujours pour effet de nous changer et nous adoucira pour nous permettre d'accepter la réponse de Dieu, même si elle est contraire à ce pour quoi nous aurions prié. Jésus a prié comme ceci dans le jardin de Gethsémani: « néanmoins, que ce ne soit pas ma volonté, mais la tienne qui soit faite. »

Le plus grand domaine qui a besoin d'être changé, c'est mon propre caractère. La prière ouvre nos cœurs à l'œuvre de l'Esprit Saint pour commencer cette œuvre au cœur de ce que nous sommes. Quand le Saint-Esprit commence à travailler, il commence à nettoyer la maison et à remplacer les traits de caractère mauvais qui s'y trouvent par ceux du caractère du Christ. Bref, l'un des plus grands traits qui seront transformés dans notre vie est celui où nous passerons d'une personne qui manque d'amour à une personne aimante. La vie même que le Christ a vécue sur cette terre deviendra notre vie afin que cette vie se voit dans nos interactions avec les autres; les gens-même que nous rencontrons et connaissons. Sa disposition à prendre soin de chacun deviendra notre disposition à prendre soin de chacun. Ses mains deviendront les nôtres alors que nous tendons la main à un monde mourant.

The evening before the crucifixion, Jesus took his disciples to celebrate the Passover supper together. One of the most moving acts outside of the cross was done that night. Jesus took off his outer garment, took a basin and began to wash his disciple's feet. This one act brought Christ's character into full view to all the universe. In heaven, Satan tried to elevate himself to a higher standing or position and here Jesus came to demonstrate the true character of heaven and he stooped down and performed an act that even the servants of that day despised.

A few times a year most of our churches come together to wash each other's feet as part of the Communion service. This has become a tradition for most of us; I have even seen that in some places this is the least attended service. I have had a few of my younger friends tell me that it just seems to be one of those services without any real meaning to them. They have even wondered why do we continue to do this. I think that if Jesus was here today that He would still use the grape juice and unleavened bread as an example, but he might just use another way to demonstrate Christian service. In order to bring deeper meaning to our young people regarding this act of humility that after the Communion service the church goes out to serve those that the rest of the world might look down on. There are people nearby all our churches that might be those disenfranchised or that Christianity has marginalized. What if our churches became known as a church that reached out to "those" groups of people. You know who did that real well and got called names for doing so?... Jesus.

This whole story is told by John in chapter 13. John was the disciple that seemed to see at a deeper heart level all that was taking place. After the meal and foot washing, John mentions in chapter 13:34, 35 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." This was the whole sum of what was taking place. Jesus was wanting to be so much a part of your life and character that it would show forth in one outstanding way, by loving one another. People will know us by our love for each other and that is not only talking about those in the church, it is also talking about those outside the church doors.

La veille de la crucifixion, Jésus prit ses disciples pour célébrer ensemble le souper de la Pâque. L'un des actes les plus émouvants autre que la croix a été vécu cette nuit-là. Jésus enleva son vêtement extérieur, prit une bassine et se mit à laver les pieds de ses disciples. Cet acte unique a mis en évidence le caractère du Christ aux yeux de tout l'univers. Dans le ciel, Satan a essayé de s'élever à un rang ou à une position plus élevée et ici Jésus est venu pour démontrer le vrai caractère du ciel alors qu'il s'est abaissé et a accompli un acte que même les serviteurs de son temps méprisaient.

Quelques fois par an, la plupart de nos églises se réunissent pour faire l'ablution des pieds dans le cadre du service de communion. C'est devenu une tradition pour la plupart d'entre nous; j'ai même vu que, dans certains endroits, c'est le service le moins fréquenté. Quelques-uns de mes jeunes amis m'ont dit que c'était un de ces services qui ne semblait pas avoir de sens pour eux. Ils se sont même demandé pourquoi nous continuons à faire cela. Je pense que si Jésus était ici aujourd'hui, il utiliserait encore le jus de raisin et le pain sans levain comme exemple, mais il pourrait simplement utiliser une autre manière de démontrer le service chrétien d'humilité. Afin d'apporter un sens plus profond à nos jeunes en ce qui concerne cet acte d'humilité, après le service de la Communion, l'Église pourrait sortir pour servir ceux que le reste du monde a tendance à regarder de haut. Il y a des gens à proximité de toutes nos églises qui pourraient être des personnes privées de leurs droits ou que le christianisme a marginalisées. Et si nos églises devenaient connues comme une Église qui tend la main à «ces» groupes de personnes. Vous savez qui dans sa vie a fait ça et s'est fait insulter en retour?... Jésus.

Toute cette histoire est racontée par Jean au chapitre 13. Jean était le disciple qui semblait voir à un niveau plus profond du cœur tout ce qui se passait. Après le repas et le lavement des pieds, Jean mentionne au chapitre 13:34,35 « Je vous donne un commandement nouveau: Aimez-vous les uns les autres; comme je vous ai aimés, vous aussi, aimez-vous les uns les autres. A ceci tous connaîtront que vous êtes mes disciples, si vous avez de l'amour les uns pour les autres. » Les gens nous reconnaîtront par notre amour les uns pour les autres et ce n'est pas seulement à propos de ceux de nous qui sommes dans l'église, Jésus parle aussi de notre amour pour ceux à l'extérieur de l'église.

Today friends, would it not be incredible if our churches around the Maritimes became known for our love for those inside and outside of our doors. True discipleship takes place when you and I can love each other with the same love that Christ loves us. Do you want to know why I think prayer is so important in our Conference, because it opens the door of our heart to His love and His love becomes our love. There cannot be an easier solution to our membership struggle in our Conference....Pray my friends....pray. Pray for God opportunities to meet other people. Pray for Christ's transforming power in our own life and that of all our churches. ■

Paul Llewellyn, President
Maritime Conference

Aujourd'hui, mes amis, ne serait-il pas formidable que nos églises des Maritimes soient connues pour l'amour que nous avons pour ceux qui sont à l'intérieur et à l'extérieur de nos portes? Le vrai dissimulât a lieu quand vous et moi pouvons nous aimer l'un l'autre avec le même amour que le Christ a pour nous. Voulez-vous savoir pourquoi je pense que la prière est si importante dans notre Conférence, parce qu'elle ouvre la porte de notre cœur à Son amour et Son amour devient notre amour. Il ne peut y avoir de solution plus facile à notre lutte pour faire croître notre Conférence... Priez mes amis... priez. Priez pour que Dieu nous donne des occasions de rencontrer d'autres personnes. Prions pour la puissance transformatrice du Christ dans notre propre vie et dans celle de toutes nos églises. ■

Paul Llewellyn, Président
Conférence Maritime
Translation by Guy Lacourse

Campmeeting 2019

Start making plans for this coming Campmeeting 2019.

We have formed a Campmeeting Committee that is making plans for a spiritually powerful campmeeting this summer. The dates are July 26 to August 3.

The first weekend of campmeeting will be filled with names that will be very familiar with you: Mark Finley, John Bradshaw (It Is Written USA), Gary Blanchard (GC Youth Director), Lee Venden (It's all about Jesus), Vadeon Griffin (NAD Associate Youth Director for the Youth/Young Adult speaker), Luca Marulli French Speaker.

Loren Seibold will be featuring a family seminar of "How to Achieve a Happier Family" from Monday to Friday in the afternoon.

Many of these speakers will stay for the entire week.

Our theme this coming Campmeeting will be "Give Me Jesus."

Lee Venden will be presenting 13 sermons on "It's all about Jesus."

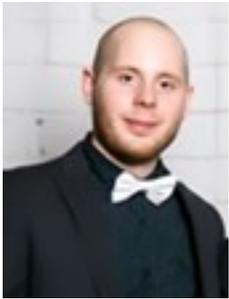
Pastor Schwarz brought Pastor Venden in last year and the members from his district requested that we do all we can to bring him in for the benefit of the whole Conference.

We promptly booked him for this summer and Pastor Venden rearranged his schedule so that he would be able to come to our campmeeting this summer.

The Conference he works for only allows him to speak at one campmeeting a summer. Since we are borrowing him from his conference for over a week, our Conference has to cover his pay, travel and benefits for him to come and speak. We feel that his message of Jesus is so important that we are taking the step of faith to bring him and his wife here for our campmeeting and we know that God will provide our small Conference the financial means to raise the funds to bring him here. Please consider assisting us in this financial endeavor.

Welcome to our new Pastors

We want to give a warm welcome to Pastor Zlatan Ljuljdjurovic. Pastor Z comes from a country called Montenegro. When he was 9-years-old his family immigrated to Canada to create a better future. In their journey they found God and joined the SDA church. Over the years God has inspired him to become a pastor and serve the church with all his heart.



Zlatan is a graduate from Burman University and holds a Bachelor degree in Religious Studies. He enjoys hanging out with people, working out and enjoying life to its fullest.

We are very pleased that he joined our pastoral team mid-June 2018 and wish him wonderful success in ministry. He has been assigned to the Fredericton/Harvey/Zealand church district.

We want to welcome Pastor Carvil Richards, his wife Alexandra and baby daughter, Vara (who was born on October 27, 2018), who joined our pastoral team August 1, 2018 and is assigned to the New Glasgow/Pugwash/Truro church district.

Pastor Richards is originally from Jamaica and Alexandra is from Saskatchewan. They met at Andrews University where Carvil was doing his MDiv and Alexandra was MS in Community & International Development. She ended up adding a MA in Youth & Young Adult Ministry. They



were married in May of 2017 and are growing in the love and grace of Christ in our marriage. They both enjoy outdoor activities such as walking, hiking, and cycling.

Carvil is passionate about preaching and has started a peer-preaching group in the seminary where he mentors fellow students on all types of preaching: expository, narrative, evangelistic, and prophetic. At the same time, Alexandra has a heartfelt desire for the churches to make an impact on their communities. Together, we are also enthusiastic about Bible study, multicultural ministry, sharing the word of God, small groups, fellowship, and discipling for Christ. Our desire in ministry is that through our leadership and lives people will see Jesus (John 12:21).

We welcome Peter McPherson, his wife Tarah-Liz Springer (who teaches at Sandy Lake Academy) and their five children to the Maritimes, as with open hearts and arms he enters ministry here in our Conference at the Tantallon/Fox Point church district, as well as chaplain for Sandy Lake Academy.



Pastor Peter McPherson believes that as water has the ability to form itself into all types of shapes, depending on the container it is placed, he sees himself over the years having the

essence of water. Its constant movement is toward the source of its existence, as he sees the ebb and flow of his life. You can call him Peter, you can call him Wayne; a son, a brother, a husband, a father, a servant of God. **“Nothing in my hand I bring but to the cross, I cling.”**

God has given Peter opportunities to be nurtured in very challenging environments over the span of his life. These have helped him to gain compassion and understanding for those in need, being empathic to the loss, pain and suffering life brings to others. These attributes enabled him to work for over 15 years with the Lester B Pearson School in Quebec. Peter fulfilled a variety of roles from teaching computer lab at the primary level and working with students with learning difficulties and behavioral issues in secondary school, as well as off-campus satellite programs, teaching life skills to students with special needs.

For many years, Peter had a consultant company that worked with various organizations and professionals (case managers, social workers, clinical advisors, nurses, doctors, etc.) to successfully implement programs relating to the health and well-being of clients who were in need of assistance.

Through the leading of the Holy Spirit, he continued to pursue additional educational studies. Peter completed his Diploma in Ministerial Studies in 2012. Realizing that we have an aging population, more families having challenges with mental health issues and other factors that place a lot of stress on families coping with the reality of a declining family network. Due to the realization that many families struggle with mental health issues and other stressors, he is currently pursuing a Special Care Counselling certification.



Secretariat Report

Teresa Ferreira, Executive Secretary

'In God's Time'

This idea of God's timing versus our timing became a real question to me as our Conference was faced with a difficult current events decision. Do we ever 'force' the Hand of God with the exertion of our will as opposed to succumbing to His Will and His Timing, was the imminent question that arose in my mind as I watched my 2-year old sleep, afraid for the world my husband and I will be raising her in.

My thoughts keenly go to Abraham stepping forward too quickly, outside of God's timing, and impregnating Hagar with the ripple effects of that decision echoing down to us still today! And of Joseph's rise to Egyptian rulership through the betrayal of his brothers – our lies, our deceit, our betrayal never honour God's plan. And of Rehoboam's hasty decision to follow the advice of his foolish contemporaries to chastise and oppress God's people even more, causing the division of 10 of the 12 Tribes of Israel, as opposed to the experienced counsel of his elder advisors.

Each of these, and many more stories smattered throughout the Bible, more often than I care to admit, present a human will 'forcing' a situation while God plays clean-up for our messy, sinful choices.

And then we are faced with the question what does God's timing look like in our Conference. Your Conference Administrative Team desires to partner and support each of our churches as we look forward to a vision for 2019. We read in Proverbs 29:18, "Where there is no vision, the people perish."

What is your church's vision for this coming New Year? What is your plan? How better can you serve the community around you and let your faith shine as a beacon of light. We are instructed...

Believers Are Salt and Light

13 *"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.*

14 *"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.*

15 *Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.*

16 *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.*

What IS a Mission-driven Church?

Churches can be motivated by all sorts of things. Some churches are **social clubs**. They aren't excited about adding new members who don't fit in. Some churches are motivated by **charismatic leaders**. Others are driven by exciting **events** and busy **activities**, or even **controversy**. Still others are driven by **tradition**. Their motto is "we've always done it this way." Finally, some churches are apathetic and complacent—they're driven by **nothing**. Those churches nauseate God (See Revelation 3:16).

Some Conferences within the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church are populated by some churches with a singular passion for **mission**. Matthew 28:19 and 20 is their theme song. They're excited about the commission to **reveal the true character of God** to the world in these perilous end times. They have no time for detours or petty distractions. These churches have decided to become "mission-driven" churches. But what does *that* mean?

Mission-driven churches have a mission-driven **culture**. Church culture can be thought of as a set of **ingrained habits** of thinking, feeling and behaving that characterize a congregation. The mission-driven culture remains even as pastors and members change. It's part of the congregation's DNA.

Culture is created in a church the same way character is formed in a person. The habit is practiced until it becomes "second nature" to the congregation. The North American Division (NAD) Office of Strategy and Research (OSR) has identified **TEN HABITS** that characterize a culture of **mission-driven excellence**. These habits are listed in a self-rating scale: the *Mission-driven Excellence Inventory*.



So what is a mission-driven church? A mission-driven church is a congregation committed to this set of 10 habits. Please see the following documents to be used by your church in your vision/mission for this coming 2019 New Year:

- MdX Inventory of 10 Habits – how is your church doing?
- SAMPLE #1 Annual RoadMap for Church Departments Template
- SAMPLE #2 Strategic Dashboard Template

Our Mission-driven Excellence (MdX) INVENTORY

Our PRESENT level of strategic preparedness: Church _____; Date _____

Are these habits currently in place in our church? Rate from “1” (not at all) to “10” (absolutely). Only give a rating of “10” if every part of the habit is in place. We do this inventory at least yearly to measure growth. NO NAMES PLEASE.

“Keystone” Church habits											
PREPARATION											
Habit 1. Inventory. At least once a year, we measure the “strategic readiness” of our church, using tools like this Rx Inventory, in order to determine our level of mission focus. We also assess other areas that tell how well our church carries out its mission.											
Definitely NOT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Absolutely YES
Habit 2. Decision. . . After a period of spiritual self-examination as a church, we publicly express our commitment each year to becoming a more strategic, effective, and mission-focused congregation.											
Definitely NOT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Absolutely YES
BUILD TEAM											
Habit 3. Climate. Our congregation is a model of a collaboration where every member feels part of our team. Departments work together closely. Humility, trust, and Christ-like discourse mark everything we do.											
Definitely NOT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Absolutely YES
Habit 4. Development. Our pastor and church officers receive coaching, performance feedback, and ongoing leadership development. This helps them exhibit peak performance in doing their best work for God.											
Definitely NOT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Absolutely YES
AGREE ON MISSION											
Habit 5. Mission. Just about everyone in our church knows our mission statement from memory. It guides how the visionary goals we set as well as our annual priorities.											
Definitely NOT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Absolutely YES
STRATEGY IN WRITING											
Habit 6. Strategy-in-writing. Our strategy, or Mini-strategy, is updated each year with a copy to each member. This strategy guides the totality of church life so that we work closely together as a system in accomplishing our mission.											
Definitely NOT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Absolutely YES
Habit 7. Roadmap. Every year, each church department or ministry submits the top three OUTCOMES (not just activities) it plans to accomplish for the year. These Roadmaps, when approved by the board, help guide the annual budgeting process.											
Definitely NOT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Absolutely YES
IMPLEMENT STRATEGY											
Habit 8. Collaborative projects. At least twice a year, all departments and members of the church band together in putting on a cooperative missional event. At least one of the events will be evangelistic outreach.											
Definitely NOT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Absolutely YES
Habit 9. Dashboard. Our church keeps an up-to-date “dashboard” that regularly reports <u>progress</u> to the board on baptisms, giving, attendance, missing members, community involvement, finance, and other information critical to evaluating our effectiveness.											
Definitely NOT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Absolutely YES
CELEBRATE A CULTURE OF MISSIONAL EXCELLENCE											
Habit 10. Model. We consistently score high on ALL items above to the point that they are all ingrained habits in our church culture. Our congregation is officially recognized as a demonstration site for missional excellence in action!											
Definitely NOT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Absolutely YES



SAMPLE #1

Annual Roadmap for Church Departments

Directions: Each department and ministry completes the roadmap each year to signal what it intends to accomplish as its contribution to the church's mission.

Mission Hills Seventh-day Adventist Church Ministry Roadmap for 2016			
Department/Ministry:		Director:	
Instructions: Your roadmap allows ALL OF US to know YOUR role so we may work together in true alignment in accomplishing our CHURCH'S mission. Show how your ministry advances our church's mission.			
Church mission: Our Church mission is To REACH every person in the Mission Hills metropolitan area with the distinctive, Christ-centered, Seventh-day Adventist message of Hope and Wholeness			
Your Department/Ministry Approved Mission Statement:			
Big, Healthy, Audacious Goal No. 1 (Multiyear 2016-18) This goal, if approved, will advance the church's mission/priorities.			
Goal No. 1 for <u>2016</u> to help you reach BHAG #1	Major activities planned for 2016 to accomplish a portion of Goal No.1	Outcome expected: <u>WHO</u> is to be changed as a result of this project, and <u>HOW</u> will this change be assessed?	Is special funding req'd?
BHAG Multi-year Goal No. 2: (Multiyear 2016-19) This goal, if approved, will advance the church's mission/priorities.			
Goal No. 2 for <u>2016</u> to help you reach BHAG No. 2	Major activities planned for 2016 to accomplish a portion of Goal No. 2	Outcome expected: <u>WHO</u> is to be changed as a result of this project, and <u>HOW</u> will this change be assessed?	Is special funding req'd?
BHAG Multi-year Goal No. 3: (Multiyear 2016-18) This goal, if approved, will advance the church's mission/priorities.			
Goal No. 3 for <u>2016</u> to help you reach BHAG No. 3	Major activities planned for 2016 to accomplish a portion of Goal No. 3	Outcome expected: <u>WHO</u> is to be changed as a result of this project, and <u>HOW</u> will this change be assessed?	Is special funding req'd?

SAMPLE #2

Strategic Dashboard

Mission Hills Seventh-day Adventist Church – Strategic Dashboard 2016-2018

<p>Our MISSION: To REACH every person in the Mission Hills metropolitan area with the distinctive, Christ-centered, Seventh-day Adventist message of Hope and Wholeness</p> <p>Our VISION: To double our membership every 10 years (10 percent per year) as a result of the compelling ministries we offer to our community and our members</p>				
Our Multi-year Priorities 2016-18 V	Our goals for 2016 V	2016 Indicators (KPIs)	2016 Progress to date	Person(s) Responsible
<u>Increased corporate and personal worship by 50%*</u>	<u>Sabbath school attendance up 25% using new format</u>	25% average increase		Worship Committee
	<u>Personal devotion % up by 50% using new study guides</u>	50% survey increase		Worship Committee
Increased Adventist school attendance by 18 students	New church support plan to result in six more students having Christian education	Increased enrollment six students		Education Committee
<u>Exceed 1,000 course completions at MHU</u>	<u>Design and staff a curriculum for "Mission Hills University" (community sch)</u>	No. 2 groups		Adventist Youth Council
Sample				
Departments/ ministries optimally integrated.	Family life, women's ministries, and health ministries unite in community health events	Self-ratings increase on collaboration		Church Board
Community awareness up 30%	TV ads increase awareness by 10%	Awareness Increase 10%		Communication Ministry
<u>Transformation evangelism each year*</u>	<u>Every department/every member involvement</u>	% of depts. & members involved		Pastor and 'Elders' Board
Mortgage burned*	Reduce mortgage by 15% this year	15% Mort. Reduction		Finance Committee.
"Our Church" survey results average >30% "great" overall	Improved results with a focus on the "leadership and management" section	Improved results on Our Church by 10%		Church Board

*Top three underlined

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If any of you have any thoughts or suggestions please do not hesitate to contact Teresa Ferreira at teresa.ferreira@maritimesda.com. ■

“SUCCESS IS ABOUT HELPING PEOPLE”

Cynthia Louis serves her community with food & love

By Erin Elaine Casey, Photo Erin Elaine Casey
My Halifax Experience August 24, 2018

Fourteen years ago, Cynthia Louis fell in love. She came from the Bahamas to study psychology at Acadia University in Wolfville in 2004, and by the time she graduated in 2008 she knew it was a love that would last forever.

“People ask me if there was a guy involved, and I say no, there was a country involved,” she laughs. Louis laughs a lot, and her huge smile is contagious.

Louis’s modest office at the Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank, where she’s Client Services Coordinator, is filled with paperwork and sticky notes. The registered charity distributes food, furniture, and clothing free of charge to families in need in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Louis has been with the organization for ten years, ever since she graduated from Acadia. “It was only supposed to be a six-month thing, I needed a job, but that changed and I stayed here,” she explains. “I started out sorting canned goods and breaking boxes in the back. It was hard, and one lady taunted me about being a university graduate breaking down boxes.” But she stuck with it, and soon started serving clients and filling in on reception.

“When you work in a place like this, it shows you who you are,” Louis says. “I thought I was a compassionate person, but I learned that I wasn’t. I had judgmental thinking, and coming from a developing country, I didn’t understand why there were poor people in Canada.”

Another lesson was learning to be empathetic. “Sometimes people project their anger towards you, but it’s not really about you. They might be dealing with mental illness, addiction, and other struggles.”

Louis runs a number of programs. Her role includes matching clients with individuals and organizations for Christmas sponsorship, organizing the school supplies backpack program, and dispensing emergency funds for clients who need help with things like power bills, oil, and prescriptions. Her favourite part of the job is meeting and helping new people. “Sometimes people just want a listening ear, and someone to talk to. There would be times when I would offer a prayer, just to uplift someone’s spirit. Some people’s spirits are broken because they’ve been through so much.”

Growing up, Louis didn’t even know what Canada was, but when she learned about it in her grade nine geography class, she knew she wanted to go there someday. Her mother had already taken the ultimate risk, making the dangerous crossing from Haiti to the Bahamas by boat when she was pregnant with Cynthia. “She could have died,” says Louis. “A single mom, doesn’t know a word of English.” But things slowly got better. “She met my step-dad when I was five years old. I could not have asked for a better dad.” Louis’s parents and six siblings are still in the Bahamas, and she visits when she can.

Louis credits her church family in New Minas with making her feel welcome when she first arrived in Wolfville. “They made me feel like a princess. They would feed me, they took care of me, and gave me a family away from home, and I want to be that for other people. A lot of the



time if you’re hurting or you’re lonely you don’t have anyone to go to. But when you have a community, you build relationships and you feel good.”

This has inspired Louis to serve newcomers here in Halifax. After service each Sabbath, which is Saturday in the Seventh-day Adventist Church Louis attends, she serves lunch in her small house next door. If the weather is nice, they picnic outside in the park close by. She feeds her guests a variety of food, which might include beans and rice, curry chicken, and salad. She sometimes stays up till midnight the night before, making it all.

Louis watches from the back of the church to see who comes in, and then invites any new people to share a meal. “International students in particular. Now I don’t even invite people anymore, they just come,” she laughs. “I’ll have 25 to 30 people, and they would be sitting on the floor and staircase with plates on their laps. Nobody minds the crowd and having to climb over each other.”

On top of everything else she does, Louis helps international students move, and often provides a temporary place to stay. She has also volunteered for the Nova Scotia International Tattoo for five years, and for the Busker Festival, CIBC Run for the Cure, the Bluenose Marathon, the Prismatic Festival, and with the CNIB.

“I just like to do. I feel like if I’m not doing, I’m not being.”

When she thinks about her loyalty to Parker Street over the years, and why she stays, the answer is simple and resolute: “It’s work that is needed. We’re told we should help each other. I’m here to be Jesus’ hands and feet.”

And she’d love to be doing more, including pursuing a Master of Social Work degree. “I have so many ideas in my head! I would like to run my own social enterprise, maybe a place where people can go shower and do laundry. We could have clean clothes, nice shower stalls, toilets, soap, and toothbrushes.”

Louis tells every single international student she meets to stay in Canada. “I tell them to give it a try and that home will always be there. It’s harder to leave and then come back.”

Even though she wishes she could see her family more often, Louis has no regrets about staying. “I love it. My sister still sends me job offers from the Bahamas, and I could actually make more money there,” she says, smiling. “But it’s not always about pay, it’s what your heart wants. Success is about helping people.”

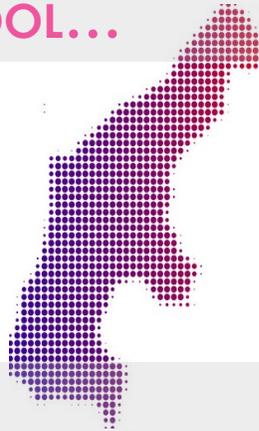


Education

Teresa Ferreira, Superintendent

The Guam-Micronesia Mission is now part of the North American Division (NAD), and all of the unions have been assigned an island/school to partner with for support. The island of Saipan has been assigned to our union, and the Saipan SDA School in particular. What you may not know is that the island of Saipan was recently devastated by Typhoon Yutu. This sister school has incurred many large additional expenses due to this most recent typhoon.

HELP A SISTER SCHOOL...



...GIVE TODAY

In the words of the current Principal, Mr. Mark Bugbee:

"We appreciate any and all financial help that you could give at this time. While we have sustained significant and costly losses, we praise God for His constant watch care and that by His grace we are operating and able to continue to serve His children and their families. Thank you for your concern and your prayers."/>

They are collecting donations for the following:

- \$48,000 — sustainable 80 kW generator purchase in order to operate in the future where storms like Yutu are more common
- \$2000+/mo — the cost for temporary staff housing as the school's subsidized housing was severely damaged
- \$8,000 — the cost of clearing the debris and running the generators

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada is asking that we consider donating to this school for a Christmas project. This is an excellent opportunity to show our compassion for a sister school. And whether or not you choose to give, thank you for remembering Saipan and the school family of Saipan SDA School in prayer!

To **DONATE** go to: <https://www.saipansdaschool.com/generator->
OR give to the Maritime Conference Treasury department

44.Schools

333.Educators
in Canada

3,974.Students

MARITIME CONFERENCE

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EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT



Adventist Education
A JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE

Thank you to SLA principal, Mr Stephen Kibbee, for putting together the news. ■

News From Sandy Lake Academy Our Exceedingly Abundant God

“Now to him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think...” (Ephesians 3:20).

For the past few months, I have been praying and seeking to catch a glimpse of just what it might look like if God were to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think at SLA. What limits have been placed on God concerning what He can accomplish with our 66 students and their families, a consecrated staff, an amazing church constituency, a committed School Board, a supportive local community, dozens of acres of land surrounded by water, radically generous donors, and a praying Maritime Conference family?

When I begin to weigh all that God has provided as building blocks for carrying out His will at SLA, I hear Him asking, “O Ye of little faith, why do you doubt?” Yet God does not leave us to doubt, but gives us glimpses of what He hopes to accomplish in order to inspire us to take up His cause heighten our expectations of Him. I will share a few of these glimpses here.

SLA held its **Fall Week of Prayer** from October 22-26. Pastor Ricky and Stephanie Schwarz joined our school family for the week. Not content to just come in to preach for an hour, they participated in the full school program, engaging in classes and getting to know our students on a deeper level. The High School was blessed learning the story of how God took the heart of a wayward acrobat and radically transformed it and enlisted Pr. Ricky in the gospel work. Ricky and Stephanie shared interesting and engaging object lessons with the JP-6 students, showing that nature provides an excellent backdrop for learning about our Creator. Imagine, a cohort of students at SLA transformed by the message of a loving

Saviour and equipped to rightly divide the word of truth. One might even call them “An army of youth, rightly trained...” Oh, that we would cooperate with God to see Him fulfill this promise.

“Lord, teach us to pray” (Luke 11:1). The disciples were not mere children when they learned this lesson from the Saviour; it took until they were grown men for some of the disciples to truly understand the power of Jesus to hear and save.

Think of the advantages SLA offers. Students, mere children, learning to pray to their Heavenly Father; some for the first time. Daily instruction in the word of God? Bright lights being ignited to share God’s light in their homes and communities. May we not give them and their families reason to turn away, but rather open up our arms wide as the Saviour does and bid them come to us.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart...” (Colossians 3:23). Hard work is becoming a lost art in today’s quick-fix, ready-made society.

For the past few months, a group of High School students have been removing roots, raking, pushing wheelbarrows, and moving mulch (a generous 15 yard donation) in preparation for our outdoor classroom. What might it look like if we expanded our vision to see our property as our outdoor classroom, a place where students learn to work, plant, cultivate, grow, harvest, build, explore, and to cooperate with each other and with God in all things? Did the Lord give His people chapters 23 & 24 of the book *Education* and not provide the grace and wisdom to bring His ideal to fruition?

What does God doing “exceedingly abundantly” at SLA look like to you? Email me at principal@sandylakeacademy.ca to continue this conversation.

Before closing I would like to share a few current highlights from our school.

Students recently participated in the **Christmas Shoebox campaign** and were able to collect 50 boxes in spite of a tight timeline.

Our **choir** has been touring throughout the Maritimes, sharing God's message through music wherever they go.

MasterPeace Bell Choir is excited to announce the purchase of a new octave of bells. The choir is looking forward to expanding its musical range with the addition of these bells. A great big thank you to all who contributed to this special fundraiser!

Our **Christmas Concert** will be held on Thursday, December 20 at 7 PM at SLA, and all are invited.

Of course, there will always be needs here that require hearts to overflow in generosity toward our school.

A recent **Fire Inspection** revealed a number of inadequacies of our physical plant that must be addressed before Jan. 21, 2019 to maintain the safe operation of our school.

This December, a **letter** will be sent out to our Maritime Conference church members outlining our financial and material needs based upon the Order to Take Action.

For one man, even one staff, it is an impossible task. Yet with God and His people working and sacrificing together, all things are possible. Please consider partnering with us in this matter.

Please remember SLA in both your prayers and finances as we continue to fight the good fight and prove that God is not finished with Adventist Education here in the Maritimes.

Here are some ways to stay in touch with what is happening at SLA

Website: www.sandylakeacademy.ca

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SandyLakeAcademy

SandyLakeAcademy

Twitter: @SandyLakeAcademy

Instagram: SandyLakeAcademy

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Christmas Concert

Sandy Lake Academy invites you to celebrate the birth of our Saviour at our

Annual Christmas Concert

on **Thursday, December 20,**
at **7:00 pm.**

There will be several opportunities for you to contribute to our music program:

A free-will offering will be collected during the program.

Immediately following the concert:

Selling—MasterPeace T-shirts (\$15),
Homemade Cards (\$2 each or 3/\$5),
Cookbooks (\$10),

Past concert DVDs (\$5),

Bake sale. If you are able to donate items for the bake sale, it would be greatly appreciated!

Please come prepared to generously support our music program.

We will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Parker Street Food Bank.



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

Tracy DeMerchant, Admissions

Email: secretary@sandylakeacademy.ca

Phone: 902-835-8548 ■



Health Ministries

Stephanie Schwarz, Director

Hope & Wholeness Health Summit in Pugwash

Written by: Elisa Osbourne, Health Ministries Coordinator, Quebec Conference

When you climb to the top of a mountain, it's to gain more than a spectacular view. It's about the hope of coming away positively transformed by the journey. And what a spiritual journey it was for the 150 people that gathered this fall at the SDACC's Hope and Wholeness Health Summit in Pugwash, Nova Scotia! The Summit began with a fast climb to a mountaintop experience in Christ Jesus, with a powerful prayer session asking God for His vision for Health Ministries and His church. We had inspiring messages from Dr. Angeline David, NAD Health Ministry Director, Stephanie Schwarz, SDACC Health Ministries Coordinator, Maritime Conference Health Ministries Director, and our other Conference Health Ministry Directors, Ern Brake, Darlene Blaney, Glenda Nischuk, Elisa Osbourne, and Maria McClean.

Distinct to the Summit was the highly spiritual culture it engendered. It was a weekend of much introspection and prayerful reflection. It was common to see folks huddled together with heads bowed in prayer.

The Summit provided certification opportunities in Depression & Anxiety Recovery, Mental Health First Aid and Addictions Recovery. Workshops were given on Wellness Coaching, Putting on Health Expos, Establishing Sustainable Health Ministries, Conducting In-home Health Retreats, and how lay people could become Community Health Advocates through the Beehives' CHAT program. Attendees also learned of Diabetes Undone's, diabetes reversal and management program.

Question & Answer Session and Open Forum Discussions allowed lay people to share ideas, concerns, and field questions to a panel comprised of the Summit's speakers and provincial health leaders.

Reaching Refugees, Christ and Cancer, Living the Anti-Inflammatory Lifestyle, Journeying to Wholeness, Unlocking your Heart were among the many topics covered by 23 speakers. Guest presenters

included Dr. Neil Nedley of Nedley Health Solutions, Dr. Eddie Ramirez, Director of Research of the Nedley Clinic and Weimar Institute, Drs Beverly and David Sedlacek of Into His Rest Ministries, Dr. Angeline David, NAD Health Ministries Director, Dr. Darlene Blaney of Total Health School of Nutrition, Pekka Maattanen, Professor, Burman University, Jon Betlinski, MD, Director Division of Public Psychiatry, Frank Kelemen, MSc Biology, Breck Lang, Msc, RN of Global Community Institute, Angela Poch, CN, Health Coach, Johnathan Zita, Lifestyle Education Canada Director.

While the mind got expanded, and the spiritual experience deepened, the physical was in no way neglected! You were well nourished with a wide variety of succulent plant-based meals, there were morning exercise sessions, free chair massages to enjoy, you even got treated to a 'Make and Take' spa where you got to make natural charcoal teeth whiteners, bath salts, nasal inhalers and face masks on the spot! Sunday you attended Bonney Musgrave, Assistant Professor, Vegetarian Culinary Arts, Southern Adventist University's cooking class and then you ran your meal off in the 5k Run/Walk charity event that raised awareness about human trafficking.

Between the singing toddler evangelist that reminded you that there's hope in Jesus who loves you, and the Divine hour message that made it clear that we can be "doing" many things for God, but missing the point that Jesus really wants our whole heart, to be our Saviour, and most of all our best friend. You couldn't leave the summit without the hope and wholeness you came for! We want to thank all of our many volunteers who made this possible, and the Maritime Conference, and Pugwash Camp for hosting this event. We had many people join us from all over the country, as well as many who came from the US. They were all blessed by our little piece of heaven on earth at Camp Pugwash!

The Lord blessed in many ways. Thank you to everyone involved in making this Health Summit a success. I have given you a recipe for Mushroom Wellington. Enjoy! ■

Mushroom Wellington

6 servings

Ingredients:

- 16 oz cremini mushroom (455 g)
- 3 tablespoons olive oil, divided, more as needed
- 1 onion, thinly sliced
- ¼ cup vegetable broth (60 mL)
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 1/2 tablespoons Bragg's Liquid Amino's
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme, chopped
- 1 teaspoon dried Rosemary (optional)
- 4 oz spinach (115 gm)
- nonstick cooking spray, for greasing
- 1 sheet puff pastry, sheet flour, for rolling out puff pastry (or pie crust of choice, can use vegan)
- 2 medium potatoes, thinly sliced
- 1 tablespoon non-dairy milk
gravy, for serving



Preparation:

- ~ Preheat the oven to 375°F (190°C).
- ~ Add the mushrooms to a food processor and pulse until crumbly, 10-12 times. Be careful not to over-process.
- ~ Heat 2 tablespoons of olive oil in a medium pan over medium heat. Add the onion and sauté for 3-5 minutes. Add the vegetable broth and sauté until the onions are translucent and most of the broth has evaporated.
- ~ Add the garlic and sauté for 3 minutes more, or until fragrant.
- ~ Add the mushrooms and soy sauce and sauté until most of the liquid has released from the mushrooms and evaporated, 10-12 minutes.
- ~ Push the sautéed veggies to the sides of the pan and add a bit more olive oil to the center. Sauté the thyme and rosemary if adding, in the oil until fragrant, then incorporate into the rest of mixture.
- ~ Add the spinach and sauté until wilted.
- ~ Grease an 18 x 13-inch baking sheet with nonstick spray. On a lightly floured surface, use a rolling pin to roll out puff pastry sheet to fit the baking sheet. Transfer the puff pastry to the pan.
- ~ In centre third of the pastry, add a layer of potato slices. Top with half of the mushroom mixture and spread in an even layer, about ¾-inch thick.
- ~ Add another layer of potatoes and the rest of the mushrooms, and top with a final layer of potatoes.
- ~ Fold one side of pastry over the filling, then the other side. Seal the top and bottom ends over the filling. Score the top of the Wellington diagonally with a sharp knife.
- ~ In a ramekin or small bowl, combine the non-dairy milk with the remaining tablespoon of olive oil. Brush over the Wellington. Decorate with more pastry, if desired. Poke air vents in the side of the Wellington.
- ~ Bake for 35-40 minutes; until golden brown and puffed.
- ~ Let rest for 10 minutes before cutting into thick slices.
- ~ Serve with vegan gravy.
- ~ Enjoy!



Prayer Ministries
Erna McCann, Leader

Book Recommendation...

E.M. Bounds on Prayer

This is an omnibus of seven of E.M. Bound's treatises on prayer. The seven titles contained in this volume are: The Purpose in Prayer, The Necessity of Prayer, The Possibilities of Prayer, Essentials of Prayer, Obtaining Answers to Prayer, Power through Prayer, and The Weapons of Prayer. Taken together, they form an excellent biblical description of prayer and a thorough and complete explanation of the power prayer can have in our lives.

To whet your appetite with regards to this book, below are excerpts taken from book 3, chapter 4.

'How vast are the possibilities of prayer! How wide is its reach. What great things are accomplished by this divinely appointed means of grace! It lays its hand on the Almighty God and moves Him to do what He would not otherwise do if prayer were not offered. It brings things to pass what would never otherwise occur (p. 206).

'The story of prayer is the story of great achievements. Prayer is a wonderful power placed by Almighty God in the hands of His saints, which may be used to accomplish great purposes and to achieve unusual results (p. 206).

'The only limit to prayer is the promises of God and His ability to fulfill those promises (p. 206). Alas, how the unbelief of men has limited the power of God to work through prayer! What limitations have the disciples of Jesus Christ put upon prayer by their prayerlessness (p. 207). When God's promises and man's praying are united by faith, then "nothing will be impossible" (p. 211).

Prayer Suggestions...

January—Personal revival and reformation, increased love for Jesus, a heart that easily cooperates with the Holy Spirit

February—Families, children, siblings, parents

March—Missing members, former members

Introducing...

Stephanie Baptiste from Moncton—the newest member of our Conference Prayer Team! She will be focused on the youth. Feel free to contact her for prayers, encouragement or just to chat via text: 506-229-5550 or email: safrane88@gmail.com. Welcome aboard, Stephanie!



Impressions from the early morning prayer time at Pugwash...

For two years the prayer chapel, now dressed in its finest, has been my favourite campus hang out. Why is this so? Several reasons. I have been so impressed by how many men choose to be there. And I truly love the depth of their spirit of confession as God is sought with great earnestness and intercession. Also, the atmosphere of the chapel is so welcoming, and I thrill at the newness of the ones claiming the blessing of the early morning hour in His presence. As I walk across the early dewed lawn, there is a joy in the hope of whom I may see on a similar journey.

Perhaps most valued are the expressions of faith, believing in the sure promises of God, to respond to the urgent prayers from loving hearts.

This year's chapel experience was unique as we had a prayer warrior (Alex?) from Fredericton, surrounding the chapel with prayers for those praying inside. God bless and see you next summer.—Bob ■



Choose prayer partners and pray together at least once/week for God-ideas, and God-opportunities!

Prayer of True Forgiveness...

“In Jesus’ name, because He forgives me, I choose to forgive _____. I hereby cancel their debt. Henceforth they owe me nothing; they never have to apologize; they never have to admit they were wrong. They never have to admit I was right. I let them off the hook. I cancel their debt. They owe me nothing.”
(Jeff Harkins, *Grace Plus Nothing*)

Zoom...

Opportunities to pray with others daily, are abundant!

We would love to have you join us:

Daily, 5-6 am, or 9 pm <https://zoom.us/j/150256885>

You can call in by phone: 1.647.558.0588 and use Meeting ID: 150256885

French Prayer Time...

Wednesday, 7 pm <https://zoom.us/j/5036448057>

Or by phone: 1.647.558.0588, Meeting ID: 5036448057

Maritime Pastors and Administration



Gary Belhomme



John Fournier



Pedro Graça



David Hamilton



Guy Lacourse



Paul Llewellyn



Donn Leatherman



Zlatan Ljuljdjurovic



Peter McPherson



Carvil Richards



Teresa Ferreira



Métard Salomon



Ricky Schwarz



Jordane Smith



Franz Unger



Ed Sharpe



Camp Pugwash

Teresa Ferreira,
Camp Ministries Director



Maritime Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church Inc.

121 Salisbury Road Moncton, NB E1E 1A6 506.857.8722

Camp Pugwash 2019

2171 Gulf Shore Road Gulf Shore, NS B0K 1L0 902.243.2097

Camp Pugwash Faithful Supporters:

Another Camp Pugwash Season has come and gone. As my first year in the Directorship of this treasured Camp, I just have a few questions for the constituency I serve. How has Pugwash served you this year? What have you contributed to our dear Camp? And what would YOU like to see happen at Camp Pugwash...what is God laying upon your heart for the needs or direction of our Camp? I invite you to have a conversation with me. Write to me, call me. I solicit hearing from the people of the Maritime Conference about your visionary desires for Camp Pugwash!

In the construction of an Alumni Committee - invites have been sent out to sit on this Committee - we will hopefully have a way to bring individuals together who have a history and a passion for our Camp. I'd love to share with people the positive things that are happening....

A Few Things to NOTE this year...

- We completed our Prayer Chapel thanks to those volunteers who were key in assisting;
- We included a Spiritual Period in our Summer Camp Program where on a rotation campers enjoyed fun, interactive focus time on Bible Study, Prayer, Science & the Bible, etc.;
- We started a show and tell for Summer Camp classes connecting to their spiritual theme for the week;
- We had our theme song for Summer Camp originally composed for our theme, *Blue Horizons*;
- We updated the Staff Lounge/Education Building;
- We 'spruced up' the Cafeteria to complement our feature fireplace;
- We revitalized the waterfront by eliminating a hazardous set of stairs and replacing them with a wheel-chair/walker accessible ramp overlooking the beach and replacing a 15-20 year old buoy line with a brand new one;
- We added a full Specialty Camp, which this year will be called RAD Camps with the addition of a Bible Training/Discipleship Camp;
- We added landscaping around the Division buildings;
- We did minor playground improvements - playset and wooden sandbox - with the ideas for walking paths, benches, wooden block encasement; AND
- We did a new numbering system across the Campground.

A Few Things to LOOK for next year (and in future years)...

- RAD Camps - the final week of Summer Camp we will host Horsemanship, Art, Gymnastics, Music, Waterfront AND a Bible Training/Discipleship Camp;
- Our theme for Summer Camp will be, *Consumed* (a passion to be in relationship with Jesus);
- The development of a bonfire, amphitheater designated area between our Prayer Chapel and Boat Shed, overlooking the ocean;
- Better Camp Pugwash Summer promotional materials and a longer promotional campaign; AND

- The potential Passion Projects (with donor support) for a ropes course, ATV Track, electrical upgrade, auditorium insulation and heating, storage facility, playground continued enhancement, birdhouse updates (sponsor a birdhouse and we'll match the funds), 'You Are Here' maps around the Campground, enlargement of the Freezer/Office/Nursing section of the cafeteria building, Youth Cabin and Barracks refresher of paint/flooring, etc. — Pick a Project near and dear to your heart or just pray for its development - your support is appreciated in any capacity!

...all with the idea that our Pugwash will become a year-round training facility for the discipleship of God's people across Canada!

Regardless of the initiatives in the future, Camp Pugwash remains as a hidden jewel, precious to our Conference and membership, and you are the most valued asset of our Camp - share about our Pugwash with your communities. Let them see the love of Jesus they will see by coming to our Camp through your words, actions and life! YOU are the best witness for our Camp!

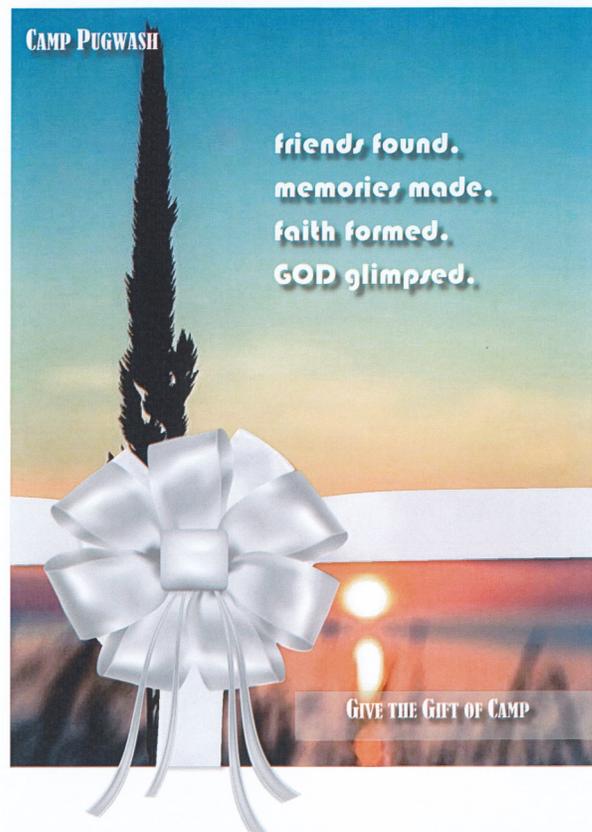
And most importantly, continue your prayer support of the ministries that happen at our Camp, for the glory and honour of our God!

Contact Teresa Ferreira at 506.609.1386 / teresa.ferreira@maritimesda.com OR Jullie Bannister at 506.857.8722 Ext 201 / info@maritimesda.com to secure a child's experience at Camp Pugwash for this upcoming 2019 Summer OR if you'd just like to donate to the facility's growth OR update our Alumni contact base with Name, Phone Number, Email and Address of any past Pugwash attendees, renters, participants and/or supporters. ■

Dates for Camp Pugwash for 2019:

Camp Open	mid May
Camporee	May 24-26
Spiritual Emphasis	May 31-June 2
Staff Orientation	June 18-23
Blind Camp	June 23-28
Junior Camp	June 30-July 7
Teen Camp	July 7-14
Specialty Camp	July 14-19
Bible Training	July 14-26
Workers' Camp	July 21-26
Campmeeting	July 26-August 3
Prayer Retreat	September 6-8
Camp Close	mid October

"He who is mighty has done great things for me." Luke 1:49



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CAMP.PUGWASH 2019

PUGWASH

PUGWASH

CALLING ALL
STAFF...



SUMMER.19

June 17.August 4

FAITH.FORMED
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MEMORIES.MADE
GOD.GLIMPSED



French Ministries

Guy Lacourse, Director

It's been a while since you have gotten news from us but this does not mean that nothing is happening! As a matter of fact, the Lord is moving in a variety of directions and things are taking shape slowly. Here are some news about how the Church is developing in the French speaking community.

In Bouctouche, the "business" of the brethren is showing results. Some are being baptized and others are drawn to assemble with us and participate to our latest series of Bible conferences. In November we will have completed a 5 weekend series of conferences on Jesus and Revelation. This series is meant to foster a desire in people to learn more about Jesus and the plan of salvation as it is portrayed in the book of Revelation. The conferences being followed by an in-depth series of meetings, Tuesday nights, where one of our brothers will go through Daniel and Revelation with more details. Others are being ready to start one-on-one Bible studies, if some would like that instead.

In Dieppe, we are now seeing the Moncton French SDA Church giving itself a new start with gatherings on Sabbath in one's house. In fact, a sister of the Bouctouche Company recently moved to Dieppe and is now involved with the brethren there and is opening her house for the gatherings. They are not many but they are targeted at spreading the Gospel and bringing people to God through Bible studies, etc. Please pray for them.

Another request for prayers would be for a couple of the Bouctouche Company who are feeling the call from God to sell their house here and move to Edmundston to start (restart) a Company there. Michel and Carmen, who were instrumental in helping raise the Bouctouche Company, are waiting for the Lord to open the doors for them to make that move. At some 70 years old, that will for sure be their last thrust in building the kingdom of our Lord. Please pray for the Lord to send workers in the field!

Cela fait un certain temps que vous n'avez pas eu de nouvelles de nous, mais cela ne veut pas dire qu'il ne se passe rien! En fait, le Seigneur est à l'œuvre de bien des façons et les choses prennent forme lentement. Voici quelques nouvelles de l'évolution de l'Église dans la communauté francophone.

À Bouctouche, l'action des fidèles porte ses fruits. Certains demandent le baptême et d'autres s'unissent à nous les sabbats et à participent à notre toute dernière série de conférences bibliques. En novembre, nous aurons terminé une série de 5 week-ends de conférences sur Jésus et l'Apocalypse. Cette série a pour but de susciter chez les gens le désir d'en apprendre davantage sur Jésus et le plan du salut tel qu'il est décrit dans le livre de l'Apocalypse. Les conférences étant suivies d'une série de rencontres approfondies, les mardis soirs, où l'un de nos frères passera en revue Daniel et l'Apocalypse avec plus de détails. D'autres de nos membres sont prêts à donner des études bibliques individuelles si certains le souhaitent.

À Dieppe, nous voyons maintenant l'église francophone de Moncton se donner un nouveau départ avec des assemblées le jour du sabbat dans une maison. En fait, une sœur de la Compagnie de Bouctouche a récemment déménagé à Dieppe et est maintenant impliquée avec les frères et sœurs, alors qu'elle ouvre sa maison pour les assemblées. Ils ne sont pas nombreux, mais ils se donnent pour but de répandre l'Évangile et d'amener les gens à Dieu par des études bibliques, etc. Veuillez prier pour eux.

Une autre demande de prières serait pour un couple de la Compagnie de Bouctouche qui sentent l'appel de Dieu de vendre leur maison ici et à déménager vers Edmundston pour démarrer (redémarrer) une Compagnie là-bas. Michel et Carmen, qui ont joué un rôle déterminant dans la fondation de la Compagnie de Bouctouche, attendent que le Seigneur leur ouvre les portes pour qu'ils puissent faire ce geste. A quelque 70 ans,

Last but not least, the Bathurst group is going well and needs your prayers as well so that Bathurst can be reached out for Christ with mighty power! And there is also a new group that is forming near Shédiac where a couple is having Bible gatherings at their house. Pastor Lacourse was involved in the beginning and is now letting the couple take over. Those gatherings have been going on for some time now and a new phase has started where more people will be invited to attend and participate. It is all made possible because people reach out to their friends and family members.

As you can see, efforts are spreading throughout New Brunswick to reach the French speaking people group. How is that all possible? Simply because people take hold of the Great Commission of Jesus-Christ: opening their hearts, their hands and their homes to those around them. May the Lord be blessed by their efforts.

The petitions must be offered in earnest faith. Then they will reach the mercy-seat. EG White, Early Writings, 73



Treasury Report
Ed Sharpe, Treasurer

The world, at least part of it, celebrates the birth of Christ during the month of December, in fact December has become known as the month associated with giving. The stores are certainly full of individuals trying to ensure they get all the gifts necessary for their special people.

ce sera certainement leur dernière grande action dans l'édification du royaume de notre Seigneur. Veuillez prier pour que le Seigneur envoie des ouvriers dans sa moisson!

Enfin, le groupe de Bathurst va bien et a aussi besoin de vos prières pour que Bathurst puisse être atteint pour Christ avec une grande puissance! Et il y a aussi un nouveau groupe qui se forme plus près de Shédiac où un couple organise des rassemblements bibliques à la maison. Le pasteur Lacourse a été impliqué au début et laisse maintenant le couple prendre la relève. Ces rassemblements sont en cours depuis un certain temps déjà et une nouvelle phase a commencé, à laquelle un plus grand nombre de personnes seront invitées à assister et à participer. Tout cela est rendu possible parce que les gens vont vers leurs amis et les membres de leur famille.

Comme vous pouvez le constater, les efforts se multiplient au Nouveau-Brunswick pour rejoindre le groupe francophone. Comment est-ce possible? Simplement parce que les gens prennent à bras le corps le mandat de la Grande Commission de Jésus-Christ: ils ouvrent leur cœur, leurs mains et leurs maisons à ceux qui les entourent. Que le Seigneur soit béni par leurs efforts.

One individual I know had the practice of setting aside a modest amount each month so she could buy something special for someone who truly needed it for Christmas. She prayed for God to guide her to the individual that He had chosen. Some very interesting matchups occurred with many good memories, enough to last a lifetime.

One last thing. Remember whose birthday it is and let Him guide you to the one, to the project, that He wants you to bless this year. "If you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto Me."

And please pray for the Conference Board of Directors as we consider God's plan for our Conference in 2019! ■



Children's Ministries

Lorie Neily, Director

Season's Greetings to everyone, especially the children of the Maritime Conference. I am sure the early snowfall this year has been enjoyed with little snowmen popping up here and there. We are so blessed with the wonderful changes in the seasons to see God's handiwork displayed again in a fresh and new way!

I will be in touch with all the churches in the New Year. I am sincerely hoping that a representative from the NAD Children's Ministries will be coming to offer training for SS teachers/ children's ministries leaders in the Conference. Certification is also something I am looking into for those that have expressed a keen interest in achieving it. 2019 holds the promise of lots of exciting happenings for those ministering to our children.

November 17, 2018 was dedicated to be Orphans/Vulnerable Children Sabbath by the General Conference. The sermon that was sent to children's ministry leaders fell short of truly describing the plight of orphaned children in the world. The statistics for these children is heart breaking! I contacted ADRA to see what we can do and I was directed to the ADRA catalogue. I encourage all the Sabbath schools to choose an item and make that a special project for your church and encourage our children to raise funds to help these orphaned children. I would also seek out organizations in your communities that assist children in particular. Love for others must be demonstrated in action and our children need to see it and be a part of it to make a lasting impression.

In closing, I would like to share a true story that can be told during your church's story time.

The Sailboat

It is about a brother and a sister. I don't know the original names so I will have to name the brother Tommy, he is 9 years old and his little sister Carrie, she is 4 years old. But this story is true and really happened. It begins during a time when toys were in short supply and they were not like they are today. In fact, if you could even find a toy in a store, chances were your mom and dad

could not afford it. So parents would make a toy for you out of wood or fabric. And you would not have very many.

One Christmas, Tommy received something he treasured with all his heart. It was a miniature sailboat, with real sails and real tiny ropes secured to the mast. It even had a tiny ship's wheel and anchors. It was special. Tommy admired that toy for hours and he selected a special place for it. He had a little shelf above his bed; high enough that his little sister, Carrie would never be able to reach it. And he told Carrie to never touch it.

That same Christmas, Carrie also received a gift that she treasured. It was a doll, just the right size for her little hands. It was made of burlap, a stiff fabric, but it had button eyes and a little embroidered mouth and yellow yarn for hair. It also had a little red dress. Carrie took that doll everywhere she went; oh how much she loved that little doll!

Well it happened one day that Tommy had to go out to the barn to help his dad. He was gone for quite awhile. His sailboat was safely sitting on its shelf. Carrie had been happily playing with her doll when she happened to notice Tommy's sailboat.

She put down her doll and went over to Tommy's bed. Oh how nice that little boat looked. She wanted to just hold it, just a few minutes. She would be careful she told herself. She climbed on to Tommy's bed and reached up toward the shelf on her tippy toes. She could just reach the bow of the sailboat. She was gently bringing the boat down when the cat jumped on the bed and startled Carrie. She fell on the bed, crushing the sailboat.

A little while later, Tommy came in from outside and after hanging up his coat went directly to his room. He looked up and his beautiful sailboat was not on the shelf. He saw something sticking out from underneath his pillow. His sailboat! The mast and sail were broken and tattered. Tommy carried it out to show his mother with tears streaming down his cheeks.



Pathfinder/Adventurer Ministries

Bill Harrington, Director

If anyone has some ideas about fundraising and could share them, several clubs are looking for ways to earn money to be able to go to the 2019 International Camporee in Oshkosh this coming August or if you are able to help out financially you can send the money to the conference.



camporee.org @[icamporee](https://twitter.com/icamporee)

Club News

Fredericton Adventurers: The Adventurer club has 7 children. In August some of the older Adventurers spent a weekend at Mount Carleton with the Pathfinders, climbing the mountain, setting up camp, cooking over an open fire, swimming and enjoying God's nature. For the Induction program they did a skit about Joseph that was thoroughly enjoyed by all who had attended, including relatives and friends. A community project they will be doing this winter is visiting shut-ins along with their usual activities.

Fredericton Pathfinders: The Pathfinders were the ones who sponsored the outing to Mount Carleton. They are finishing up the bird and physical fitness honors and then will tackle the first aid honor. We had a combined induction ceremony with the 2 Pathfinders in October. We performed a skit for the church at that time.

St George\St Stephen Pathfinders: Up to the end of October the clubs have been focusing on the story of the flood and building a paper boat that floated, I think the boat was probably covered in Duct Tape. Their future plans are to work on the Adventure for Christ, digital photography and tie dying honors.

Tantallon Pathfinders: In September the club, along with the Halifax club, did a weekend camp-out at Dollar Lake. They attended a cat show as part of a requirement for the cat honor.

Yarmouth: The club were part of the team that prepared and served the food for the Health Summit at Camp Pugwash in September. Helped in storing over 500 bales of hay for the horses at camp. Seventy-five hours of the clubs time was spent in doing several projects on the new addition of the Truro church. For the winter they will be working on the carpentry honor and building a barn for their many animals, along with other endeavors.

Charlottetown: A club was started there in May however after several months the leader had to move and they are still looking for a new leader.

Moncton: Is at present organizing their new club and I wish them God's blessing, it is always a pleasure to welcome a new club.

Halifax Pathfinders/Adventurers has no report at this time.

FUTURE CAMPOREE

The spring camporee is set for May 24-26, 2019 at Camp Pugwash. ■

Cont'd from page 23

Sadly, Carrie told them what happened with tears too. Tommy was very angry at his sister.

Carrie's little doll disappeared. Carrie and mother looked everywhere. Carrie cried every night for her little doll.

The next spring on a day that the snow had melted away, mother was hanging clothes on the line when she noticed something odd in the garden. A green patch was growing in the muddy garden in the shape of a cross. She went closer to see what it was and with a little shovel she uncovered something red.

There was a little meeting in the kitchen after that ending with tears, repentance and a prayer. You see Carrie's doll was filled with dry corn seeds. Tommy, in the spirit of revenge, took the doll and buried it in the garden. The winter snows had covered it. Tommy and Carrie never forgot that day.

To the Story Teller (this story has several themes, forgiveness, repentance, honesty, kindness) I encourage you to select a corresponding scripture. Also it is important that the listeners have an opportunity to comment. Enjoy! ■

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES:

DARTMOUTH

Mission Possible Book Give Away

A member of Dartmouth SDA Church was doing book fairs and people still track her down about taking books off their hands. After agreeing to what totaled 14 boxes of books, she wondered what to do with them. Having made a vow never to do another book fair, she decided to try something different: make literature evangelists. On October 14, in the Dartmouth church basement, a Mission Possible Book Give-Away was hosted. The idea was to load people with books so that they could enjoy them and then spread the books in various communities. She hoped they would take her suggestion of targeting areas around the province without an Adventist presence. With a map of the Nova Scotia churches, her volunteers, Nicole Luttrell and Lori & Paul Bowdrige, encouraged people to take all the books they could. They shared some easy tips of passing out the books. One is to keep some handy in the car to share. You might run into someone you know, even out in the middle of the woods. That happened to one! Another easy place is that enclosed wooden book box with a sign “take one, leave one” next to churches or community halls. Other handy places to leave books are a thrift stores, used book stores, and post offices where book donations go to different charities.

Operation Christmas Child

This year the Dartmouth church decided to support “Operation Christmas Child.” This is an organization that fills shoe boxes and sends them to children in impoverished countries around the world. For some of these children this is the first gift they will ever receive. But the most important part is that they are introduced to Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. In November we had a get together where many church members came together to donate gifts and to fill the boxes and pray over them. We even had a few visitors from the Halifax



church. We played Christmas hymns and had hot cider and sugar cookies. We filled a whopping total of 94 boxes! Sandy Lake also participated and added an additional 42 boxes and several people from the Halifax church added an additional 14 boxes. Between the three we did an amazing 150 boxes to send to children around the world! Please pray that these boxes have a huge impact on the precious children who receive them.



FOX POINT

Living a Non-Toxic Life

On October 30, Lunenburg County held a Caregiver’s Retreat to encourage and help those who spend their time and energy looking after a loved one who needs more than average care. Erna McCann and Brooke Zebeljan were asked to have a table of their natural products and do some demonstrations, as well as talk about living a non-toxic life and giving out samples for people to try. About 38 people attended the event, and there was great interest in all the natural products. We were able to advertise for our Naturally Pampered event, happening in Chester, in November.

HALIFAX

Family Ministries Weekend—Finding Peace

DID YOU KNOW? That in any given year 1 in 5 people in Canada will experience mental health problem or illness. And that 40-50% of all Canadians will have or had a mental health illness. So says the Canadian Mental Health Association.

We were fortunate to have had Jennifer Jill Schwirzer join us again at the Halifax church for another Family Ministries Weekend. She presented her FINDING PEACE SEMINAR on individual mental health on Friday evening, during the Sabbath school period and the church worship hour. She also offered a limited number of individual counselling sessions.



The Halifax church appreciated Jennifer’s seminar immensely. If other churches are interested in having her, contact Kelly Loxdale, family ministries leader at kloxdale@gmail.com.

Pictured right: Juliya Medvedchuk and Bill Estey ready to serve at the Halifax SDA booth at Vegfest 2018.

“If you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”
Matthew 6:15

Kid Nation

Dihlan Wilson of the Halifax church was a winner of the Kid Food Nation, Canada wide cooking contest, with her recipe “Flaky Potato and Vegetable Puffs. Dihlan won a trip to Ottawa to attend the winners’ gala. She got to experience cooking lessons with the chefs of Chateau Laurier, a photo shoot and special gifts. Her recipe will be included in a “Kid Food Nation” cookbook. She has also had the opportunity to appear on local TV and Global. Congratulations to this very young lady!



VegFest

On September 23 the Halifax church health ministries dept joined many other groups at the Halifax Forum who are interested in healthy eating. Many pots of chili were donated by church members and many hands made light work at this great event. The venture was a booming success with over 300 people served and donations amounted to \$800 raised for our Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank!



Halifax SDA Church Celebrates our God-Given Identity

Youth today have myriad options for finding both a sense of belonging as well as for affirming a unique sense of self. They participate in families, sports, business, philanthropy, and various civic engagements. On December 1, the Sabbath school department of the Halifax SDA Church provided another option when it celebrated its Community Guest day, a Day of Hope and Compassion, under the theme ‘Identity 2018: Who are you?’

The day, which started with the Sabbath school program featuring the Beginner, Kindergarten, Primary, Junior and Teen classes, allowed the youth to revisit the Biblical truth about God’s creative power, our value in God’s sight and our purpose in this world.

Interspersed with music, scripture and the spoken word, the young people plainly and confidently declared that ‘they were fearfully and wonderfully made’ by a God who loved us enough to rescue us from sin when our identity was stolen by the devil and we fell into crisis. It is a testimony to the power of God’s Holy Spirit that the congregants were blessed with many stating “they were uplifted” and felt they had truly worshipped that day. To God be the glory!

This is how the invitation looked for a special program presented by the Sabbath School children of the Halifax church. All performers did an excellent job as they spoke about being recognized by their actions— what we do tells who we are; actions should show Christ’s character.



Pictured above: 3 youth doing their part at Identity 2018: Brady Rose, Naomi Harun, Oratile Mogae assisted by Bill Estey.



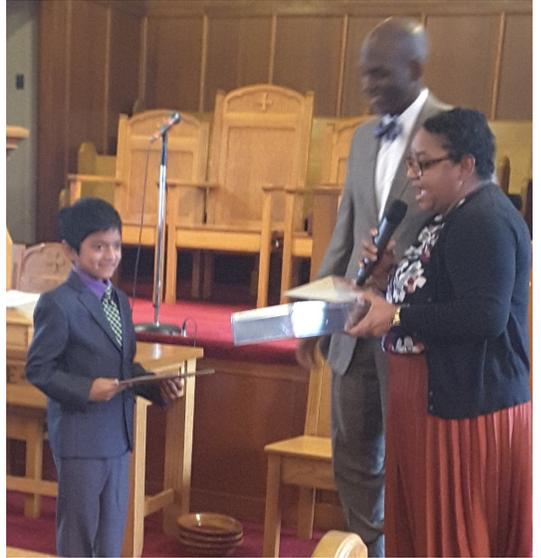
Pictured left: At least 25 children took part in the Identity 2018 program.



Pictured left: The Halifax Church Sanctuary Choir sings at the Identity 2018 program. Seated behind is Brady Rose of the youth Sabbath School as the main speaker.

I will contend with him who contends with you, And I will save your children. Isa. 49:25

Pictured is Lemuel Johnson, an accomplished trumpet artist and guest at Identity 2018. He is accompanied by Stuart Cherenfant on the piano.



Presentation of award to Joel Rajan (pictured above) and Lacy Walker (pictured below) who, among other students from Sandy Lake Academy, helped make "Love Soup" for the homeless shelters. Viktoria Brunets, a teacher at SLA, assisted in this program under the direction of the health ministries department.



Pictured is George Woodhouse, "Learn To Camp" coordinator, receiving recognition for his part in helping with the Halifax church outdoor activities.



Presentation to guest Caitlin Harlow, Vegfest organizer, at the Identity 2018 program, December 1. Pictured with her are Margaret Enniss-Trotman, Sabbath school superintendent, Natalie Wilson, health ministries leader and Pastor Gary Belhomme.

He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy. Proverbs 28:13

Idea shared at the Halifax church service by the personal ministries dept:
Have a baggie filled with items such as granola bar, trail mix, \$5 Tim Hortons card, Glow tract, etc, ready to give to people in need who ask for help at sundry traffic lights.



Adventist Youth

The Halifax Adventists Youth, under the leadership of Ziporah Nyanchama, stay extremely active. They continuously conduct programs in other churches in the Maritimes and recently had their own Week of Prayer each night in different homes, just to name a few of their activities. On October 27 they conducted the entire Sabbath school program and invited Pastor Richard Schwarz to speak at the church service. (participants pictured right and below.)



Night Under the Stars

On a beautiful evening in October over 50 members and community friends came out to “A Night Under the Stars” hosted by the Halifax church health ministries. The chosen site was the beautiful grounds at Sandy Lake Academy. Enjoyed a great evening of campfire songs, corn boils, and s’mores. In the morning we met deep in the woods for devotion time and prayer. David Hunt surprised everyone with a great hot breakfast of pancakes, roasted potatoes and more. A big thank you to the organizers and health ministries leader Natalie Wilson.



“Oh, [...] that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!” So God granted him what he requested.
1 Chronicles 4:10

FREDERICTON

District Sabbath Service

On November 24 a district Sabbath was held in Zealand church. We are thankful for David and Yvonne Raquil for their musical leadership. David is leading a men’s group who have blessed Fredericton and Zealand with their powerful singing. We were also blessed to have a singing group from St. George present a concert that afternoon.

NORTH SYDNEY

Bags of Love

The North Sydney SDA Church has a quilting machine. On Nov. 3, our members were reminded as to 'why' when we had two guests for our Community Services Sabbath. Michelle and Sandi, social service workers, were on hand to share stories of how the Bags of Love are impacting foster children and others in need in our area. Sandi even shared with us a poem written by one of her own foster children to thank us for his Bag of Love. These bags are put together by women in our congregation with donations and support from all our members. The handmade fabric bags contain a quilt made by the church ladies and quilted with our machine, and age appropriate gifts and toys, such as a stuffed animal, a storybook and/or colouring book. Over the last four years, approximately 130 of these bags have been put together and given, via social workers, to children in our area when they are taken from their homes into foster care. We are facing some difficulties with the program, such as a malfunctioning quilting machine and struggling to keep up with the overwhelming demand for bags, but we are praying, and encourage you to pray with us, that all needs will be met. We are so thankful that God has given us the ability to partner with Him in the mission of loving "the least of these."

BAPTISMS

Lincoln Heisler was baptized at camp-meeting on July 29, 2017 by Pastor Ricky Schwarz, and was accepted into fellowship of the Halifax church on October 27, 2018 during the Halifax Youth Sabbath service. Lincoln is a talented musician who shares his talent with the church and is currently studying flute.



Believe ye receive the things you ask for, and you shall have them," [said the angel.]
EG White, Early Writings, 73

BIRTH

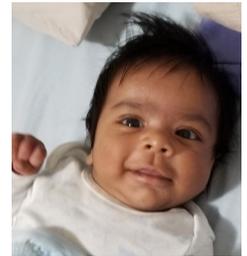
Ruby Cole was welcomed in September 2018, to Olivia and Jesse Cole of Harvey NB. Dede and Hans Sorensen were the gracious hosts for this fun event at the Fredericton church.

AnneLisa Pappoe was born October 11, 2018 to Priscilla and Jacob Pappoe of Fredericton NB. A sweet little girl and third child for this family. She weighed 5 lbs 1 oz, born at 37 weeks.



Baby boy Ouma was born early October 2018 to Belinda and Felix Ouma of Fredericton NB. We all enjoyed watching the guys struggle with balloons for bellies as they tried to bend over and perform simple tasks. Hopefully they can appreciate how pregnant women feel.

Harvey Manuel Kodali was born September 21, 2018 to Janet and Himanshu Kodali of Halifax NS. A little brother for his big sister Hazel. He weighed 7 lbs 8 oz.

**MARRIAGE**

A young couple, **Jesse and Aaron**, who have been attending Fredericton church for almost a year celebrated the arrival of their little girl in the spring. A fun shower was held and Chloe's safe arrival was celebrated. This fall the Fredericton church facilitated Jesse and Aaron's desire to be wed. The sanctuary, foyer and fellowship hall were beautifully decorated. A sumptuous dinner was prepared and served in the hall. Many grateful and happy comments were extended by their families.



OBITUARIES

COVEY, Victoria Blanch—was born June 3, 1917 in Hackett's Cove NS and passed away September 29, 2018 at Maplestone Enhanced Care Home, Halifax NS at 101 years of age. She was able to live on her own up to about a month before her passing. Victoria was the last surviving member of her immediate family. Predeceasing her were her parents Sherman and Laila (Boutilier) Covey; sisters Frances Hubley, Effie Rhodenizer and Evelyn Fraser; brothers William, Raymond, James and Harold Covey. Just a few days before her passing Victoria's keen mind enabled her to quote scripture and sing a favourite hymn. Always an avid reader and with an amazing knowledge of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy books, when some were unable to know where certain passages or quotes could be found, the answer was often, "Ask Victoria." She taught primary Sabbath school for many years and adults today remember her kindness and creativity when children in her class. She also held many other church offices. Even at 100 years, she was never late for Sabbath school or church and never failed to bring good food to the fellowship meal! Scarcely a Sabbath went by that she did not have people home for lunch, focusing on university students, even at 100 years young! Following her retirement from Royal Print as a proofreader, she volunteered for many years at the Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank. Many hours were spent rug hooking, knitting, crocheting and sewing, for herself and others, all beautifully created. Berry picking was always a joy for Victoria and at almost 100 she made her yearly trip to the Annapolis Valley to pick blueberries. Travelling to Europe, Western Canada and, more recently, to Bermuda, was a big highlight of her life. This dear "mother in Israel" is extremely missed by her family and church family. Victoria had 24 nieces and nephews of which 15 are left to mourn her passing. A service in her honour was held on Sabbath, October 13, 2018 at the Halifax Seventh-day Adventist Church with Pastor David Crook officiating. Her nephew, Ivan Fraser, gave a very interesting tribute which included many amazing pictures.



Doiron, John Baptiste,—76, of Miramichi passed away at the Miramichi Hospital on Sunday evening, September 30, 2018. Born in Eel River Bridge NB, he was the son of the late Pierre and Grace (Mazerolle) Doiron. John was a quiet man that was devoted to his family and loved spending time with his grandchildren. He was an avid hunter and fisherman, he loved animals and loved being outdoors in nature. He was a huge Montreal Canadians and Toronto Blue Jays fan. He is survived by his loving wife Dorothy (Moore), and daughters Grace Dick (Steven Moar) and Tara Hanscom (Daniel), granddaughters Josie and Laura Dick, sisters Annie Flaherty (Floyd), Claudia Russell, Maria Theriault (Norman), Albertine Theriault (Robert), brothers Michel Doiron, Albert Doiron, Paul Doiron (Irene) as well as many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his first wife Josephine (Lea), brother Antoine and brother in law Augustine Russell.



MacRae, Winnifred Mae—91, Winnie went to sleep with Jesus on Monday evening, April 16, 2018, at the Northside General Hospital. She was eagerly awaiting the resurrection morning, when Jesus returns to this Earth to take his faithful children home. She longs to be reunited with the people she loves most in this world. Born in Sydney Mines on June 2, 1927, Winnie was the daughter of the late Billy and Annie (Vickers) Reid. She was a member of the North Sydney Seventh-day Adventist Church. Winnie is survived by her children; Phylis Barrie, Joan Ingraham, Greg MacRae (Donna), Shirley Jardine (Lloyd), Colleen MacRae (Peter MacDonald), and Wanda MacRae. She also leaves behind to mourn her special sister Shirley Anne Snow, sister-in-law Rose Reid, and brother-in-law Billy LeBlanc, 20 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild, many nieces and nephews who she loved, special daughter Sheila Rudderham, daughter-in-law Nellie Reashore, and special friends Dale Boutilier and Clayton Smith. Besides her parents, she was predeceased by her loving husband of 63 years, Harry MacRae, children Harry, Flo, Elaine, Alan and Earl, all her sisters and brothers and her in-laws.



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, 2019.

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 8:30 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 Paul Llewellyn Ext 202
Exec. Secretary Teresa Ferreira No Ext
Treasurer Ed Sharpe Ext 205
Asst Treasurer Françoise Ringuette Ext 206
Asst Dept. Dir. 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/CONTACT INFO 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 are not receiving these magazines, please contact your local church clerk, or Jullie Bannister at the conference office at Phone 506.857.8722 Ext 201, Fax 506.853.7368 or Email info@maritimesda.com.

MARITIME CONFERENCE CALENDAR 2018-2019

December	Christian Hospitality Focus	
Dec. 20	SLA Christmas Program	SLA
Dec. 21-31	Maritime Conference Office Closed	Moncton
Dec. 22	Maritime Advance	Offering
Dec. 29	13th Sabbath-Southern Asia-Pacific Division	Offering
Dec. 29	Canadian Evangelism	Offering
January	Friendship Evangelism Focus	
Jan. 2	Maritime Conference Office Open	Moncton
Jan. 5	Day of Prayer	
Jan. 7	Clerk 4th Qtr Statistical Report Due	Conference
Jan. 12	Maritime Advance	Offering
Jan. 12	SS & Church Attendance Count to be taken	
Jan. 20-25	Religious Liberty Week	
Jan. 20-22	Maritime Workers' Meeting	Conference
Jan. 26	Religious Liberty	Offering
Jan. 27	Board of Directors Meeting	Video
Jan.	Summer Camp Staff Applications Available	
February	Family Life Focus	
Feb. 2-23	Black History Month	
Feb. 9	It Is Written Canada	Offering
Feb. 9	Christian Marriage Sabbath	
Feb. 9	Health Ministries Sabbath	
Feb. 9-16	Christian Home and Marriage Week	
Feb. 16	SS & Church Attendance Count to be taken	
Feb. 16	Christian Home Sabbath	
Feb. 23	Maritime Advance	Offering
Feb. 28	Summer Camp Staff Applications Due	
March	Women in the Church Focus	
Mar. 1	Maritime Pulse Deadline	
Mar. 2	Women's Day of Prayer	
Mar. 2-9	Adventist Youth Week of Prayer	
Mar. 9	Adventist World Radio	Offering
Mar. 16	Disabilities Awareness Sabbath	
Mar. 16	Day of Hope	
Mar. 23	ARM Safety Sabbath	
Mar. 23	Maritime Advance	Offering
Mar. 24	Annual General Meeting/FSR	Conference
Mar. 30	13th Sabbath-South Africa-Indian Ocean Div.	Offering
Mar. 30	NAD Evangelism	Offering
2019 MISSION INVESTMENT PROJECTS		
Columbia Union and Southern Union		Offering

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Halifax church: ENGLISH SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) classes are continuing at the Halifax church. The leaders went “beyond the call of duty” and hosted a Baby Shower for one of its students. Shima lives in Halifax with her husband, and since they have no family here and few friends, a Baby Shower was held in anticipation of their baby boy due in December. ■

Ten Days of Prayer

As you are making plans for the beginning of the new year, remember that resources are available for the *Ten Days of Prayer* from January 9-19, 2019.

The website has all the information you will need to lead your people in this prayer experience together. www.tendaysofprayer.org. This year the emphasis is *A Deeper Experience*. Check it out.

The Revival and Reformation website: www.revivalandreformation.org also has information to enable you to have a day of Prayer the first Sabbath of each quarter. There are other valuable resources on that site as well. Browse around and see what is available for your own spiritual walk.

10 DAYS OF PRAYER**A DEEPER EXPERIENCE**

January 9-19, 2019

“And this is eternal life,
that they may know
You, the only true God,
and Jesus Christ whom
You have sent.”

JOHN 17:3, NKJV

WWW.TENDAYSOFPRAAYER.ORG

**MARITIME CONFERENCE OFFICE**

The Maritime Conference office will be closed from

Fri. December 21, 2018
thru

Mon. January 1, 2019

Open January 2, 2019

Enjoy this holiday time with your family and friends.

Do you have your own copy-righted music and would like to share it during the Live Streaming Hour at the Moncton SDA Church? If so, please contact Andrzej Marciszewski by email at andrezprinting@rogers.com or phone 506.386.5821. Thank you.

Worthy Student Scholarship Fund

Christian education plays such a vital role in the character development of our children, preparing them for citizenship in Heaven. There are families who are struggling financially to provide their children with an education in a spiritual setting among Christian friends and teachers.

Let's all do our part to ensure that no student in the Maritimes is deprived of reaping these invaluable benefits.

Please contribute on a monthly basis to the Worthy Student Scholarship Fund. Make an investment in a young person's life that will offer eternal dividends.

Please make your cheque payable to Sandy Lake Academy and mail it to:

Treasurer, Sandy Lake Academy
435 Hammonds Plains Road
Bedford NS B4B 1Y2

Thank you. ■

De-Stressing our Churches...

As most of you will be reading this around the Christmas Holidays, I would like to bring a very important issue that weighs heavy upon my heart. Our pastors and teachers. Having worked in ministry in both realms, I see how much our teachers give and sacrifice in ministry in our schools and I also see how much our pastors give and sacrifice for God's end time church. I have increasingly become more concerned for the mental, spiritual wellbeing of our workers in our Conference.

Some might wonder why our Maritime Conference focuses so much attention on this topic of mental health for our workers and I want to give you a little insight into this topic. One, we need to understand what most of our workers go through on a regular basis and two, how the lay person can support our pastors and teachers.

When I started working as a teacher in 1992 at College Park Elementary School in Oshawa, Ontario, I was single and just starting my career in teaching. One of the aspects of being single is that you come home to an empty house and when the stresses of life start to build there is no one else there to support and help ease the weight that weighs heavy on a church workers shoulders. There was a reality that I experienced early on as a new worker in our school system, you will be asked to do more than you might be able to really accomplish on you own. The older staff at our schools have learned this over time, how to say no and some have maybe even fallen into a place complacency. As a young and new teacher, I had no idea how to balance my time at school and also how much I could do for our church.

I was a busy teacher my first and second years at College Park. I left my house at 7am (I lived a 1 minute drive or 5-minute walk to work) and usually did not return home till 11pm. I was a Sabbath school teacher, elder at our church, ran a Tuesday night group for children and teens, taught the largest class at our school, taught grade 7 and 8 students (that is enough stress on anyone), head of recruitment for our school, headed up the computer science fundraiser, lead a small group outside of church and the list goes on. I was a busy person!

Then one Friday, I was helping our students find their way to the exit doors after school and then I felt this extreme pain shoot across my chest. I went into Yvonne Chant's office and asked her to call 911. The first to arrive were the Fire Departments and they looked at me and said, "who is having the heart attack?" I promptly said "I am." Then they started to laugh and said "no you're not!" "Yes I am." They then proceeded to tell me that they had seen many heart attacks and could say just by looking at me that I was not experiencing a heart attack. They took my blood pressure, listened to my heart and began to pack up to leave. The Fire officer then asked if I was under a lot of stress and I responded "yes."

After getting checked out after driving myself to the hospital, the doctor told me to cut down on the workload I had. When I returned to work the next Monday, the staff were more willing to help out on duties I usually had to do on my own. My church started to help me out on the lay ministries that I leading out on. My third year of teaching was a little more balanced, but not by much.

I have found in my decades of ministry that the work or stress load of our workers is constantly growing and becoming a matter of deep concern. I want to share with each reader what we can do to help alleviate some of the stress that our workers carry and by every member doing a little more, we can help share the load together that usually our workers carry alone. I will focus mainly on our pastors, while not trying to isolate our teachers.

1. There is a well-known fact that within our churches that only 20% of the members will actually be engaged in the ministry of the church. Here in the Maritimes we have noticed that the number is closer to 10% of our members are actively engaged in church ministry. I have heard from many of the 10% and they are under much stress because so little are actively engaged in support of ministry within the church. We can help out by more people becoming active in their child's school or at their local church.
2. I have heard from many pastors all over North America that pastors are lonely people. Pastors don't tend to make deep friendships with their members. Since they tend to have to keep up the pastoral image at all times, they rarely get to let down that guard and really be transparent and open of what they might be going through. Since everyone comes to them for advice/counsel and help, who do they get to go to? This is one of the reasons I am very sensitive to the spouses needs of our pastors, because they are the ones that are there caring for the needs of the pastor. Who do the spouses go to for help? To this day, I only have one close friend in this conference. I can actually be very open with him and he with me. We are transparent with each other and that is not something I have found I can be with most I interact with. Our pastors need to have a few people they can honestly and openly talk with that will be a true friend like Jonathan and David. Be a friend to your pastor and your child's teacher.
3. Most of our pastors cover a huge district with most having three churches or areas of responsibility. Our Board of Directors is studying how we can reduce the burden that our pastors are spread thin. One area we are looking at is that we need to focus our resources and energies where the "fish" are. Jesus told the disciples to cast their nets to the other side of the boat. Why? Because that is where the fish were. If most of our churches honestly look at their baptismal records for the last ten years, we can say that the only growth areas are our urban populations. This is where we need to be focusing our resources on and most of our pastors could be more effective if the focused on where the "fish" are. We need to run more efficiently and reduce expenses. So how can districts work together to make this happen? Some churches might need to join together so the pastor does not have to be spread so thin. Yes, I know this is a volatile issue, but it is a reality we have to deal with and work through. I have walked into too many of our churches in which there is only a handful of members and in a short drive there is another church experiencing



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- the same dilemma. Why not work together or join together? Half of our churches in our Conference are on a short timeline to close their doors due to an aging membership. Can we work more efficiently and more responsibly with the funds that we have to do ministry? I believe we can, but it will take sacrificing our comfort in order to do ministry.
4. Churches need to have a yearly plan that the church board works together to plan for the year (not just the pastor). Every church in the Maritimes should have a yearly plan of how they will "till the ground," carry out "reaching the lost," and disciple our members to be active in ministry in the church and outside of our doors. We would love to move towards all of our churches having a three year plan for ministry that if our pastor is called away...the work of ministry continues on.
 5. Many of our ministries lack community. What can we do to build community in our schools and churches? We need social time together. Notice that Jesus spent so much of his time being with people. This is a great stress reliever for everyone. Psychologists are repeatedly now saying that if most people had three friends that actually just listened to each other, it would eliminate the need for "counseling." Be there for others and for your pastor or teacher. We can open our ears more to each other.
 6. Practice fairness more regularly and make sure our values match up with our behaviors. This is one of the main areas our youth have trouble with because they might not see fairness or balanced values with behavior within our adult membership. This can be easily remedied. Make Jesus your focus.
 7. Our pastors and many of our teachers work on Sabbath. They rarely experience the Sabbath Rest that others might have the opportunity of experience. We have made our church program and the church building more important in the real church, which is our members. Make our members and non-members the focus instead of a program or our buildings.

I want to leave you with the words of Gerald Klingbeil "Pastoring is hard and can be very lonely at times. Pastors live in the 'On' mode most of the time. They have to. They need to be shepherds caring constantly for a diverse and often hurting flock. We expect them to be an administrative genius, leading people from different walks of life with differing needs and experiences who don't always see eye to eye. They should be looking beyond the walls of their church buildings to reach the unreached and lost. They should be keeping an eye on the church building's structure and maintenance, while at the same time expanding their media presence in a world that expects full media coverage."¹

A new year is just around the corner and I want to challenge each and every member to get more involved in the ministry of their local church and school. Look to ways that you can help and support not hinder the work of your child's teacher and of your pastor. Encourage one another and build each other up. Get more into reading the Bible and not into a video or internet ministry that focused on working people up in a frenzy and not in seeking and saving the lost. This actually causes much added stress to our pastors and church leaders when they have to spend time dealing with issues that have little to do with bringing the Everlasting Gospel to the world. Practice the "method" that Jesus used to reach the lost... He mingled with the lost.

Last point, I promise! Support your pastor or teacher whenever possible. Be there to fill their cup too. Kind words and support go a long way with everyone. Acts of kindness are an amazing boost to the recipient and also to you the giver. The more we read about Jesus in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John the more we will see the one we are to most emulate. Have a wonderful Christmas and lift Jesus up to your neighbors around you. Let your light so shine and please pray for our workers and our churches.

¹ Gerald Klingbeil, "Calling Out the Majority: Why we need to talk about pastoral burnout, depression, and even suicide." *Adventist Review*, September 7, 2018. www.adventistreview.org/calling-out-the-majority.

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